

NIWOT GAZETTE

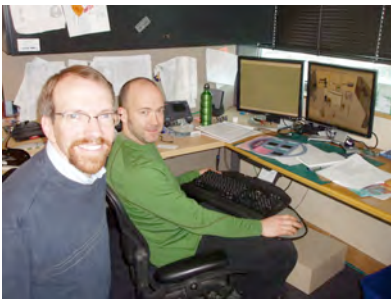
Newsletter of the Niwot Historical Society

January 2011

PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR OUR NIWOT EXHIBIT

Although our Niwot exhibit doesn't open until March 26, brainstorming sessions have been going on between the Longmont Museum exhibit staff and the NHS for several months now. In fact, we first approached the museum to host this exhibit back in 2006.

Although we are responsible for loaning our artifacts and photographs for the show, actual construction and design work is handled by the museum staff.



Longmont Museum's acting director and archivist Erik Mason and exhibit designer Jared Thompson tweak the layout for Niwot's upcoming exhibit.



If you look closely at this artist's concept, you will see our school desks, depot sign and blacksmith shop doors.

THANKS TO OUR EXHIBIT DONORS

With a projected budget of \$3800, both the museum and the NHS will share expenses for the exhibit, The historical society has received donations of time and money to help our treasury cover our share of the costs. Thanks to the following for their generous contributions:

- * The Niwot LID committee for their \$1500 grant,
- * The NBA Historical Projects Fund for their \$100 donation,
- * Ed McGill of Canvasback Fine Art and Framing for matting and framing matting 35 of our historic photographs,
- * Curtis Jones for photographing Niwot as it appears today
- * Euvaldo Valdez for offering the use of his truck and flatbed trailer to move the largest artifacts to the museum prior to opening day.

WEBSITE UP AND RUNNING

Check out our new website at
www.niwohistoricalsociety.org

After months of work by president Laura Skaggs and Zach Thomas and Kit Goncharov from Niwot High School's International Baccalaureate program, we are at last online and ready for your comments. Look us over. Does the website answer all your questions about our organization, our collections, our volunteer opportunities and activities?

What else should we include? Please send comments to info@niwohistoricalsociety.org.

ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, April 2
10am until Noon
Longmont Museum meeting room
400 Quail Road, Longmont
(next to the Longmont Rec Ctr)



Our annual meeting this year will be at the Longmont Museum and will be followed by refreshments and a tour of our exhibit in the museum gallery.

Elections are scheduled and our current board members have indicated they are willing to continue serving for another year. There is room for one more board position, so if any of you wish to throw your hat in the ring, fresh faces and ideas are always welcome.

This is a great time to bring guests whom you consider as prospective members,

If you'd like to help with refreshments and/or setup, please contact Laura Skaggs at 303-682-0468.

DUCK RACE WINNERS

Thanks to the Left Hand Valley Courier for choosing the NHS as recipient of last fall's Nostalgia Day duck race profits. Thanks also to our "Duck Lady" (president Laura Skaggs) whose tireless efforts netted \$3,335 for our treasury.

A total of 667 plastic ducks were released into Dry Creek that day, with duck #666 crossing the finish line first. Following are the names of the winners:

1st Place: Jeannine Dyche – Catered duck dinner for four, prepared by Chef Dale Lamb

2nd Place: Volker Heilmann - \$50 gift certificate to Niwot Tavern and a "quacking" duck waste basket

3rd Place – Brian Burrell - \$25 gift certificate to Happy Hounds Daycare and two duck yard ornaments from the Berry Patch.

Last Place – Dana Guadagnoli - \$20 gift Certificate to Niwot Jewelry. five rolls of colorful duck (duct) tape, and a copy of the *Duck Tales* movie.

TIME TO RENEW

Now that we have our own website, it is easy to join or renew your membership online. Just type in www.niwohistoricalsociety.org and click "Join" at the top of the home page. Instructions will tell you how to proceed.

For those of you receiving this newsletter by regular mail, an application form is attached.

RECENT DONATIONS

We continue to receive donations from folks who share our interest in preserving Niwot's history. Jason Midyette recently donated documentation of the Whistle Stop Park caboose. Included are photos and files tracing the history of the caboose that today serves as Niwot's iconic gateway.

Also new to our artifact collection are four liquor bottles which were among many found under the Left Hand Grange floor during its renovation in 2009. The space apparently served as a speakeasy, or "blind pig", during Prohibition. Access was through a trap door on the first floor that over the years had been covered over.



Blind Pig bottles

BOARD OF DIRECTORS **2010-2011**

President: Laura Skaggs
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Vice President: Rob Gordon
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Members-at-Large:
Donna Sinor
303-652-2196
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303-665-6932

MISSION STATEMENT

The Niwot Historical Society exists to preserve, collect and protect the history of Niwot, the surrounding area and Chief Niwot, through the preservation of artifacts, documents, photos and other documentary sources relating to their history. It also encourages the conservation of these resources through publications, programs and other related activities, and brings people together who are interested in the history of Niwot.