



# Headwaters Interpreter

A periodic publication of the  
Three Forks Area Historical Society and the Headwaters Heritage Museum      Nov. 2013  
PO Box 116 · Three Forks, MT 59752 · [www.tfhistory.org](http://www.tfhistory.org)

## Successful Summer for Depot Defenders

The Depot Defender project, which is raising funds for the renovation of the Northern Pacific Trident Depot in Milwaukee Park, is moving into its fourth year with the ultimate goal of housing the Railroad and Trident Heritage Center. The Center will be a museum operated by the Three Forks Area Historical Society.

The most recent fundraiser culminated with the drawing for a hand-made quilt and two sets of hand-made Raggedy Ann and Andy Dolls. The quilt and dolls were made and donated by Society member Roberta Williams. Winners of the drawing were: quilt to Richard Townsend and a doll set to Gayle Clifford, both of Three Forks, and a doll set to LeNeta Holloway of Amarillo, TX. The raffle added over \$600 to the Depot Defender project fund.

There was an excellent turn-out for the third annual Depot Defender Ice Cream Social, helped with music by the Blue Moon Band and in conjunction with the Three Forks Chamber of Commerce Farmers' Market. Three Forks Area Historical Society members and friends supplied home-made ice cream, hot dogs and refreshments, and the community responded by donating over \$1,100 toward the Depot Defender project.

The community response to the Depot Defender project this past summer has been outstanding. One of the highlights of the campaign was when local veteran Ray Lau dropped by the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Society and presented a \$1,500 check from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Ollney Douglas Hacker Post #7621.



## Curator's Corner

By Robin Cadby-Sorensen

The 2013 season has been a busy one with visitors from every state but New Hampshire, including Washington D.C., and many countries. By year's end, after the Christmas Stroll, the estimated number of visitors should be approximately 2300-2400. The museum is greatly appreciated by all those who visit.

Recent acquisitions include an old metal file cabinet on wheels from the Three Forks City Office, a display cabinet from the Bart Thompson family of Bozeman (former owners of the Thompson Rental store) and a collection of Steingruber family documents donated by Bonnie Steingruber.

Thanks go to the Quilt 4 Fun Guild who donated hand crafted pot holders last June to be sold in the museum gift shop. They quickly became our "hottest" items and nearly sold out!

This summer, Carol Jablonski accepted the job of acknowledging our memorial donations, taking over for Evelyn Brainard. Thanks to both volunteers!

As Curator, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the support, help and encouragement of the Historical Society officers, board and membership. I also want to thank new Assistant Curator Cheryl Lehr for her help in restoring exhibits. The artifacts had been moved to make space for the new cabinet donated in September. Her husband, Jerry, has given us lots of help as well. Thanks to everyone who donate their time and energy to help keep the museum up and running!

The museum is closed for the winter but can be seen by appointment by calling 285-3644.

## CHRISTMAS SEASON EVENTS

**Dec. 5** (Thursday) – Stuffing of Christmas stockings, 10 AM, Methodist Church Annex

**Dec. 6** (Friday) - Annual Christmas Stroll, museum open 4-8 PM

**Dec. 12** (Thursday) - Historical Society Christmas party/potluck dinner, 6 PM, Methodist Church Annex. Please bring three wrapped "White Elephant" gifts and a Food Bank donation.

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon for the docents, sponsored by the Three Forks Area Historical Society, was held at the Sacajawea Hotel, Sunday, October 1.

Thanks to all the following docents for the time they have worked at the museum: Evelyn Brainard, Joan Burwell, Robin Cadby-Sorensen, Gayle Clifford, Joan Dorsey, Jean Farnam, Bev Finnegan, Patrick Finnegan, Cheri Fulcher, Alice Gottlob, Jeannette Hetu, Carol Jablonski, Heidi Jones, Robert and Pat Jones, Pam LaBlanc, Terre Langan, Cheryl and Jerry Lehr, Dorothy LeTempt, Karin McCarver, Rosalie McCormick, Mae McDonald, Dolores McKenna, Betty Montgomery, June and Boots Myers, Bobbie Peccia, Mary Lou and Don Pickering, Tom Pyfer, Kathie Satake, Alice Southworth, Bonnie Steingruber, Mary and Don Stockburger, Richard Townsend, Vicki Veltkamp, and Linda Wilcox.

## RAILROADERS RAIL OF HONOR

A new honoree has recently been added to the Railroaders Rail of Honor...Robert E. Haigh, sent in by June and Vi Haigh of Ennis. Bob hired out on the Milwaukee Railroad as a fireman in 1947 for six months and again in 1961-62 as a brakeman until 1980.

The Rail of Honor is a way to honor railroaders and is also a fund raiser for the museum. Honorees have a brass nameplate on a section of rail that is on a trestle at the entrance to the museum. They also have brief biographies and photographs on display. To donate to this fund raiser and to honor a railroader, simply request a form be mailed or emailed. Contact [museumthreeforks@aol.com](mailto:museumthreeforks@aol.com) or call 406-285-3644.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The museum will be open for the Christmas Stroll, Friday, December 6, from 4 to 8 p.m. Join us for a cup of wassail, cookies and Christmas stockings for children 12 and younger, handmade by the museum volunteers.



## Missed the Rendezvous?

There is still time to get a copy of  
*Selected Papers of the 2010 Fur Trade  
Symposium at the Three Forks.*

Call 406-285-3644 or e-mail [museumthreeforks@aol.com](mailto:museumthreeforks@aol.com)  
\$40 + S&H Sorry we can't take credit cards.



This full-color hardbound book published by the Three Forks Area Historical Society contains papers, maps, letters, and illustrations related to the fur trade era in Montana.

Original photo by  
Melissa Tiffe

## Got Gifts? We do!

Books, souvenirs, CDs, greeting cards,  
postcards, walking sticks, jewelry,  
stamps, and did we mention books?

**The Gift Shop**  
**Headwaters Heritage Museum**

The shop offers a good selection of books about Lewis and Clark, the fur trade and Native Americans. There are also books by local authors, such as Patrick Finnegan, Walter Steingruber, Bud Lilly and the late Dave Miller. Beautiful handcrafted jewelry by Cheryl Lehr, note cards by Betty Montgomery, Pat Gibson and Don Pickering, wooden canes by Chuck Williams and leather pillows and wall hangings by Mary Lou Pickering are locally made items that make great gifts!