



President, John Ekman

www.goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com

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Hope everyone had a nice summer – it turned out to be a rather warm one. As you know, we sent out the postcards and membership cards this last quarter. Just a reminder that if your mailing address or e-mail address changes, I'd really appreciate it if you would send me an update. Our current membership is now at 137 members. Welcome to our new members!

The society met three times since the last newsletter. Typically meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. However, due to personnel schedules, that hasn't been the case the last three months. If you plan to attend, please check first. You can e-mail me to inquire. All members are welcome to attend.

Goldfield Days – First, our President, **John Ekman** was chosen to be the Grand Marshal of the parade. The Chamber of Commerce selected John for his many years of dedication to the preservation of Goldfield history. He was listed as a valuable resource to people working on their own restoration projects and as I reported in the last issue, his efforts toward restoring the High School. He was driven by **Glenn Praiss** in his Model T. Congratulations John! Well deserved.



Photo by Joan Sieber

Again, a lot of effort went into making Goldfield Days a success. **Edie Koepnick** staffed the Goldfield Historical Society Booth along with member, **Stewart Luce**. Stewart took care of the sales of t-shirts and license plate frames. Edie did the GPS White Elephant challenge and our poker card shark, **Brenda Gleffe**, took care of the Poker Walk. Brenda was spelled by **Sandy Beltz**. My husband, **Jim** and I provided Edie and Stewart with lunch breaks. Thanks to Richard and Edie for setting up both of these events plus the shade cover and tables and to all who helped.

Photos by Richard & Edie Koepnick



Edie in front of the White Elephant Booth



Ron Payne with his grandson picking up their white elephant prize

Photo by Jim Price



Carolyn & Tim conducting a tour of the High School

Carolyn and Edie also spearheaded a group - **Carolyn Dyson, Richard and Edie Koepnick, Chris Wagenseller, Carol Miquez, Patty and Carl Brownfield** - to clean up the grounds around the high school and sweep the inside before Goldfield Days. It looked good. Thanks so much to all who helped.

There were three tours of the High School given by **Carolyn Dyson** and **Tim Hipp**. We received a lot of good feedback on the tours and people were most generous with their donations. Thank you Carolyn and Tim for an excellent job. The Historical Society netted over a \$1,000 over the weekend for all of our efforts. We also met a few of our members who came up to the table and introduced themselves. It's always nice to have a face with a name.

Dick Ruiz organized the car show. There were quite a few interesting cars to view, as you can see on the right, and they were all years and conditions. Well done Dick!



Photo by Jim Price

For the first time, we had a mucking contest organized by **Tim Hipp**. Five teams competed. Golden shovels were given to the winners. Thanks for your help with this Tim!

The Las Vegas Review Journal reporters were also in town and took quite a few very good photos which you can view on line. They reported the following in the August 5th issue:



Photo by Jim Price

"Hundreds of attendees, some from as far away as Searchlight and Northern California, made their way to Goldfield for the community's annual three-day celebration in Esmeralda County.

In the early 1900s, the boomtown of Goldfield, about 180 miles northwest of Las Vegas, was the largest town in Nevada, catering to prospectors and miners, among others. It quickly reached its peak population of around 20,000 in 1907, but the boom didn't last long, and in 1923 a large fire destroyed much of the town.

Visitors to Goldfield Days had a chance to experience and explore some of the community's Old West charm, most notably with tours of the historic Goldfield Hotel, which opened in 1908 and had one of the first operating elevators west of the Mississippi, as well as Goldfield High School, which graduated its final class in 1952."

Photo by Jim Price



Attendees at the land auction

Photo by Joan Sieber



Judges, Rod Myers, Richard Johnson & Jim Price waiting for the Parade to start

High School Restoration – **Amanda Elsea**, Goldfield Librarian, has updated the info at the kiosk in front of the High School. She did the original info sheets. It's been a long time since this has been done. Thanks Amanda.

The balusters for the front stair steps outside were delivered. Newel posts and hand railings are next on the list of things to be ordered.

The State Rural Marketing Grant applications are due the end of September. We're hoping to obtain one of these grants to pay for reprinting our Walking Tour Booklets and information trifolds. **Carolyn Dyson** (Interim Treasurer) and **Sherry Huffman** (Goldfield Emporium) have agreed to do the grant application paperwork. Sherry is now the grant-writer for the county, and has taken the lead on this effort. Again, thank you Carolyn and Sherry.

To those of you who subscribe to Nevada Magazine, the results of the Great Nevada Picture Hunt 2018 were shown in the September/October issue. One of the winners, on page 43, shows an interior shot of our high school. Very interesting perspective – more publicity.

Goldfield's 115th Birthday Party – Once again the Historical Society will be observing Goldfields birthday on Saturday, October 20, 2018. It will be held at the Goldfield Community Center between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cake and punch will be served at no charge. Plan to stop by if you're around.

Historic Markers - We have 82 markers placed around town. **Larry Bennett** will place plaque No. 39 on the Alva D. Myers house. **Richard and Edie Koepnick** have replaced plaque No. 68, a 1908 adobe house.

More Restorations News – Work continues on some of the historic structures around town. The Burner Resource Center (BRC) owners of the Elk's Building report major progress on their roofing project. They ran into some issues but have now got them worked out and are progressing. The Stanton House (Jim & Sandy) now has a new roof. It just looks better and better. The brothel (Richard & Edie Koepnick) continues to show progress. It was on the Poker Walk during Goldfield days and received a lot of good comments. Lyric Theater's owner, Terry Bergman, was in town recently to inspect progress on the theater and to plan the next step in its restoration.

Donations – **Susan Lock** from Pahrump has donated a beautiful quilt to be used as a fundraiser. Tickets will be sold soon and the drawing will take place at next year's Goldfield Days. You will definitely want to buy some tickets. In addition to potentially winning the quilt, you'll be helping to further support the Goldfield Historical Society. Thank you so much Susan! More information to follow in the next issue.

Photo by Jim Price



Other News— Our member, **Bryan Smalley** received a very nice write up in the July/August 2018 issue of Pahrump Life magazine. The article is in the section “busy living” by Susannah Morgan. It was very well written and well deserved. Congratulations Bryan

--As a result of the Society's hard work years ago in getting Goldfield designated as a National Historic District, the county has received **\$196,000** to pave the streets in the historic district. If we were not a Historic District, that money would not have come to Goldfield. Being designated as a Historic District opens doors that would otherwise be closed.

A quick side note, because of historic building demolition and subsequent new construction, the Savannah Georgia National Historic District has been downgraded to “Threatened” by the National Park Service. They have lost quite a few of their historic buildings. We definitely want to keep our Historic District rating by maintaining our historic buildings. So, thanks to everyone for helping to preserve our historic structures.

--The Goldfield Emporium has agreed to carry and sell our Historical Society T-shirts at no cost to us. We really appreciate **Sherry, Bill** and **Deborah** for this generous offer.

--**Jeri** and **Steve Foutz** reported that they now have 3 overnight units available at their Goldfield Stop. They can be booked on Air BnB.

--A video crew arrived in August to film the life of Jim Casey. Mr. Casey was born in Pick Handle Gulch near Candelaria, Nevada. He was a telegram messenger during Goldfield's boom years. He moved to Seattle and started his own company and named it UPS. You can watch the 17 minute preliminary version of the video titled "Before 1907: The Origins of Jim Casey" on YouTube at https://youtu.be/_OtD3vHV4_4. **Allen Metscher** appears in the video with his wealth of knowledge about Goldfield. More publicity for Goldfield!

--A Japanese video team, Sparks Pictures, Inc., were in town on September 3-4 to film a music video of "Glay". They are the #1 rock band in Japan. They spent most of their time at the Car Forest.

-We had a class from Battle Mountain in May who toured the High School.

Chuck Yeager Visit - During early September **Allen Metscher** had a prearranged meeting with Chuck Yeager, his wife Victoria and their camera crew at the WWII Tonopah Air Field. Chuck Yeager was the first person to break the sound barrier in 1947. Allen guided them to the site of the aircraft hangar that Mr. Yeager remembered when he was taking gunnery training at the base during 1943 – (he was shipped to Europe after that training.) The camera crew took some GREAT photos of the sunset with the hanger remains in the foreground. Previous to that they filmed at the Stone Cabin ranch which he was familiar with during his training near Tonopah.

The next day Allen met them at the museum and helped Victoria, Mr. Yeager's wife, research the photo collection and documents for use in Mr. Yeager's docudrama of his history during WWII. They also filmed at Mina, NV where he had an event that occurred during 1943. That event is mentioned in one of his books.

Visitor Center— Jeri Foutz has arranged for a couple from Washington state to be the greeters at the Visitor Center until the end of August. **Richard Johnson** and **Astrid Larsen** seemed to be enjoying their time in Goldfield and have joined our Historical Society. They were there most days from 9 a.m. -2p.m. We're hoping they'll be back soon.

Central Nevada Museum – **Allen Metscher** reports that things are improving with the Museum. The microfilm reader is old and has failed. Parts are no longer available. So, Nye County is paying to digitize the microfilm. This will make it easier to search for specific items of interest. Allen has also changed out some of the displays. So, if you haven't been there for a while, you'll probably see something new. They're also working on installing LED lights which will help with the electricity bill. He also reported that they're averaging 20 visitors a day. We're so glad to hear that things are improving. It is such a great resource.

Please let me know if your e-mail or address changes, so that I can update the membership list and you'll continue to receive our newsletter. For those who continue to receive a printed newsletter, if you can provide an e-mail address we would appreciate it as it would save us money on postage to send you the newsletter by e-mail.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter, please send them to Joan Sieber at jcsie@pacbell.net.

The Goldfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 393, Goldfield, NV 89013

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