

"Hide not your talents, they for use were made. What good is a sundial in the shade?" Benjamin Franklin

JUST IN ... via SPECIAL DELIVERY

To Summit Historical Society and Friends: From: ????

I have a riddle for you. Can you guess who I am? I am 231 feet tall and 5,844 feet long. It took 12 tons of fill to build me. I hold back 85.5 billion gallons of water. Okay. If you identified me as **the Dillon Dam**, you are correct.

Now, can you guess what this is? It is 23.3 miles long. One end lies at 8,844 feet above sea level. The other end is 174 feet lower. Construction began on September 17, 1942, but water did not flow through it until July 17, 1964. If you said the Roberts Tunnel, you are right again.

If you want to learn more about me or the tunnel, you will have that opportunity each Wednesday from July 16 to September 3. Sandie Mather, the author of *Dillon, Denver and the Dam*, tells people about building the dam and tunnel and then leads the participants on a walking tour of new Dillon, to show them some of the buildings that had to be moved before the reservoir flooded the former town site.

You will learn about the reasons for building the dam and why the Summit County site was chosen, as well as some of the problems the workers experienced while constructing the tunnel and me. She has pictures taken during the process and several maps to help you understand the story. You will also learn about the problems encountered when the residents of new Dillon tried to move their buildings. How do "old" and "new" Dillon differ? You'll have to come to discover the answers.

Because of construction along Dillon's waterfront this year, the group meets at the Dillon Schoolhouse Museum at 10:00 am to begin the program and walking tour.

Come join the fun ... and bring some friends!

Sincerely,
Dillon Dam

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**Don't miss the
OPEN HOUSE &
ANTIQUE SALE
June 13, 14, 15
at the Briggie House
in Breckenridge**

A few words from the SHS president

Recently, while moving the Society's office from the Carter Museum to the Dillon Schoolhouse, I spent some time browsing through some of the old files. I was especially attracted to documents



TERRY MERRICK

and news clippings describing acquisitions and renovations of our various historical sites. I found it especially interesting to learn not only the original histories of the buildings, but the process of acquiring, repairing, and furnishing them in recent times as well.

What impressed me the most was the incredible amount of volunteer energy that made all of these preservation projects possible.

Today, the need continues for volunteers to tend the sites and artifacts, show them, and assist the Society in many other ways to carry out its mission of historic preservation and education. There are many opportunities for helping. There is a need for giving summer tours and selling books at the Dillon Farmers Market on Fridays, or helping out with archival work. Of course, there is always a need for cleanup and maintenance. You can offer just a day or a few hours if you like. Every little bit counts.

The schedule of summer events will provide a lot of opportunities for volunteering. Coming up is our "Night at the Museum," on May 23rd, an open house at the Dillon Schoolhouse, with the addition of the Dillon Dam slideshow and refreshments. On June 19, we'll have a Boarding

House Bash at the Gold Pan Restaurant in Breckenridge, with a presentation featuring actors Mary Jane Bradbury and Richard Marold. A fantastic free concert at the Dillon Amphitheater on July 6 will undoubtedly provide many opportunities for volunteers, from setting up, serving refreshments, and collecting contributions, to cleaning up afterward, all the while enjoying the great music. An Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social will take place on July 19 at the Dillon Schoolhouse. Any special talents you could bring to the party? Clowns, face painters, balloon artists and other entertainers are welcome. On August 30 the Arapahoe Café will sponsor a great BBQ fundraiser for the Historic Society.

These are some great events to look forward to. Even if you are not able to assist,

“What impressed me the most was the Incredible amount of Volunteer energy”

do plan on attending. You will be supporting the Society and you will have a wonderful time.

Last, but definitely not least, you can serve the Society by offering your time as a member of the Board of Directors. There are openings available now, and some terms will expire in August. We welcome new talents and ideas to assist the direction of our organization in promoting the history of Summit County.

Cordially,
Terry Merrick, President

SUMMER EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, June 13, to Sunday, June 15

Open House and Antique Sale at Briggie House in Breckenridge

Thursday, June 19

The Boarding House Bash and Dinner, 6:00 pm, at the Gold Pan Saloon in Breckenridge

(see ad on this page)

Thursday, June 26

Summit Historical Book Club, 3:30 pm, for visit to Dry Gulch Mine and a picnic

Sunday, July 6

SHS "Evening Under the Stars" Concert by Sal Mancini band, 7:00 pm, at Dillon Amphitheatre

(see ad below)

Sunday, July 13

Summit Historical Book Club visit to South Park Archeological Project, time and details TBA

Saturday, July 19

SHS "Old Fashioned" Ice Cream Social, 3:00 to 5:00 pm, at Dillon Schoolhouse Museum, details TBA

Saturday, August 30

SHS Labor Day Barbeque at Arapahoe Café in Dillon, 3:00 to 5:00 pm

The Summit Historical Society Presents

The "BOARDING HOUSE BASH" DINNER

Thursday, June 19, – 6:00 PM

at the

HISTORIC GOLD PAN SALOON

103 North Main Street

Price of \$35 Includes One Alcoholic Drink

**The Pasties are Back! But You Must Reserve With Your Check
if you Want Some!**

***Enjoy history coming alive, a fascinating visit with two of Colorado's most famous
19th century stalwarts, Augusta Tabor and Winfield Scott Stratton in***

“RUSH TO THE ROCKIES”

Acted and Presented by Mary Jane Bradbury & Richard Marold

For Information and Reservations Call Patty Wahtera 970-453-8332

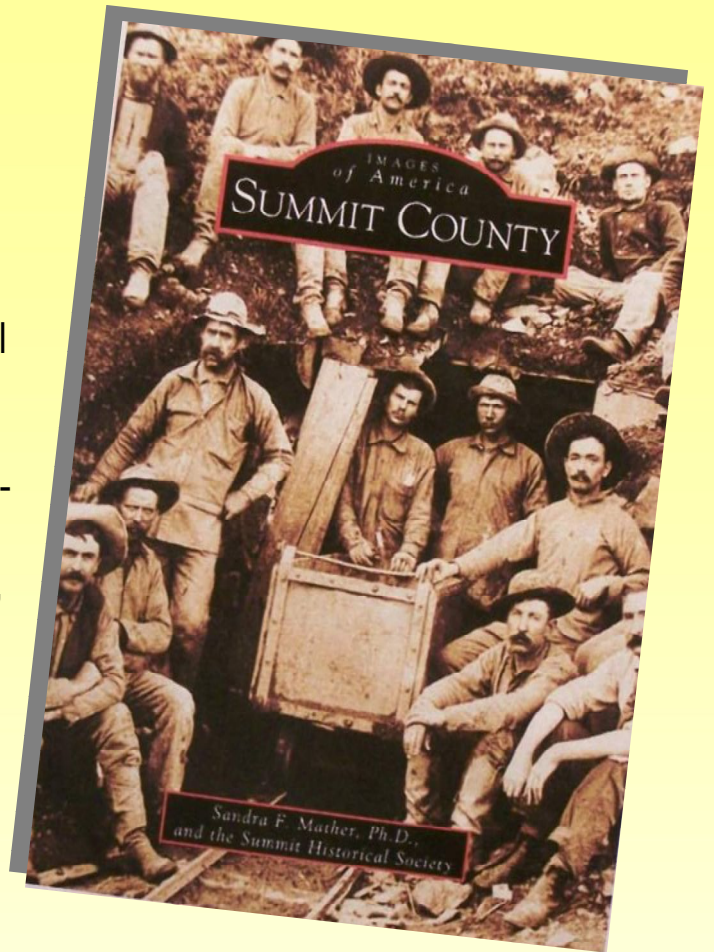
Send Your Check Payable to The Summit Historical Society by June 12th to:

Patty Wahtera, P. O. Box 1957, Breckenridge, Colorado 80424

SHS photo history of Summit County makes its debut

After months of preparation, the Summit Historical Society's newest book, and the latest addition to Arcadia Publishing's popular "Images of America" series, is now available. It offers a unique presentation of the fascinating history of Summit County in 193 vintage photos from the Society's archives, each accompanied by text carefully researched and written by SHS historian, Sandra Mather.

We are pleased to offer copies of this new book to our Society members (and possibly additional copies as gifts for friends) at an introductory 20% discounted price of \$15.99.



SHS members can obtain copies at this special price by visiting the Dillon Schoolhouse Museum, 403 La Bonte Street in Dillon, any time after June 3, Tuesday through Saturday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. For inquiries and phone orders , please call 970-468-2207

Please click the "Books" button on the SHS website (<http://summithistorical.org>) for listings and descriptions of this and other books available for sale by the Summit Historical Society

*FREE**



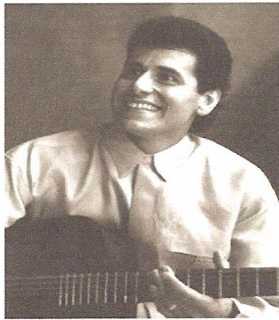
CONCERTS

Presents
An Evening At The Amphitheatre
Music Under the Stars

Sunday, July 6, 2008

7:00 P.M.

Dillon Amphitheatre



Sal Mancini

Sal Mancini
Nancy Cook
Dave Nichols
Jim Shaw
Sal Mancini School
of Music



Nancy Cook

Dance, sing and
sway to some old
favorites

A fundraising event for the Summit Historical Society.

**Contributions will be solicited at the concert.*

5/13/2008

Recollections and a “partial” farewell from loyal schoolhouse museum manager

Lee Harrison, a Board member and one of the Society’s most active volunteers, has relocated with her husband to their home in the Denver suburb of Arvada. While intending to remain involved as much as possible with the SHS, Lee has decided it is time to relinquish the duties she has handled so well in managing the operations and docent activities of the Dillon Schoolhouse Museum.

Here, at our request, she sums up a few of her thoughts and experiences...

I’ve enjoyed the two summers during which I managed the Dillon Schoolhouse Museum and worked with Sandie Mather on the Farmers Market book sales. I regret having to resign these jobs, but my husband and I have decided to move back to our Aurora home after nine years of living in Dillon. This last winter was especially difficult due to a hip surgery and being forbidden by my surgeon from skiing. Of course, having our grandchildren living in Denver helped make our decision to move.

We had a very good summer at the Dillon Schoolhouse Museum in the 2007 season. Our visitor attendance totaled 597, compared with 557 the previous year. We received income from donations of \$1,491 last year, compared with \$884.61 the previous season. The decision not to charge a set amount

for admission to the museum last year, but to put greater emphasis on building attendance and relying on income from increased donations proved beneficial.

I was very fortunate to have 13 excellent volunteers as guides, plus six additional volunteers to help in maintenance at the museum. We could not have run these programs without their dedication and hard work.

We had a somewhat unusual and exciting incident during the past summer in the museum. One of our volunteer guides called

me in some disbelief and alarm, saying that while in the general store section of the museum, she looked down at the heating grate and saw some funny faces and bright eyes looking back up at her. She then immediately closed the building and a few minutes later we both returned to discover that we had a family of raccoons who had crawled under the building and into the large heating duct in the general store.

We put heavy barrels on top of the grate so the critters couldn’t make their way up into the museum area. Then a telephone call quickly brought SHS volunteer David Spencer (Spence) to the scene. He soon discovered that the intruders had been able to enter the building through some loose boards around the east foundation. He then proceeded to erect a hatch through which they could escape without entering the premise. Before long the plan worked, the visitors left and the problem was solved.

The new museum coordinator for this season will be Charles (Charlie) Bond. I’m sure he will do an excellent job, since he has been a valued guide for several years and is quite familiar with the building and tour requirements.

Linda Kelly will be working with Sandie this summer on the Farmers Market.

These individuals are excellent choices for continuing our summer programs in Dillon. I wish Charlie, Linda and Sandie, and all the volunteers, a very successful summer in 2008.

... Lee Harrison



Lee Harrison

Thanks ...



...but, no thanks!

Pictured here is a load of “stuff” that was deposited recently at the entrance of the Society’s Dillon School-house Museum, most likely in the dead of night. Possibly, the anonymous “donor” thought these items would

be welcome additions to the SHS archives. But, more than likely, it was just a convenient way to dispose of spring-cleaning residue without the bother of taking it to a disposal center.

This illegal event was reported to the county sheriff and the Dillon police, with the hope that the culprit may be identified and penalized. In the meantime, it appeared that it would be necessary for a Society volunteer to haul everything to the local landfill at an unbudgeted expense to the organization. However, luckily, good fortune intervened when SHS volunteer, Jim McNaul, advised Scott O’Brien at the Dillon Public Works Department of the situation. Mr. O’Brien quickly volunteered to remove the pile at no charge. So, our special thanks go to him and the Town of Dillon for, once again, performing a good deed for the Summit Historical Society..

We remind all that the Summit Historical Society certainly welcomes contributions that conform to the stringent guidelines of its mission to preserve, protect and interpret the county’s history. But potential donors are reminded that it is important to make a phone call first to 970-468-2207 and leave a phone message with our archives experts, either Ann Rutledge or David Spencer...one of whom will then return your call to discuss the appropriateness of your donation..

What about you
becoming a
VOLUNTEER
for the
**SUMMIT HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**
?

It’s interesting ** It’s worthwhile
It’s enjoyable

TAKE YOUR CHOICE OF ACTIVITIES

- Being a tour guide
- Doing light clerical work
- Answering phones
- Assisting with the archives
- Helping with member services
- Developing new programs
- Coordinating special events

Whatever you wish to do, you’ll be welcomed and included with a group of dedicated individuals ...and you may do it at your convenience...at your pleasure

**For more information, please call Terry Merrick
at 970- 453-2667**

Whatever happened to the “one dollar” fire department cabin in Breckenridge?

by MAUREEN NICHOLLS

Those who recently visited the Breckenridge post office on the 300 block of South Ridge Street might have been surprised to realize a cabin's absence, as if it had melted with the winter's snows. Although its removal had been planned for several years, most locals and visitors stare with surprise at the vacant lot at 304 S. Ridge, the former location of the fire department-built Quandary log cabin. Residing there, in its never-remodeled humbleness, an anomaly for Breckenridge, it was one of the very few 1950s building projects. The fire department's old cabin reminded residents of a quieter time before Breckenridge turned ski town.

Up until the 1950s, the Breckenridge Volunteer Fire Department relied on archaic fire paraphernalia to fight fires. At their meetings the subject of acquiring modern equipment to combat Breckenridge fires was frequently on the agenda. The men fought fires with no motorized equipment and hoses hooked onto oft-times frozen fire hydrants in the winter, usually with a shortage of manpower whenever disaster struck. The Breckenridge Women's Club had installed a signaled noon ever day, but struck terror in the entire town when it sounded at any other time. Fires were well heralded in Breckenridge!

At the regular meeting of the Breckenridge Volunteer Fire Department on April 7, 1952, discussion and motions were presented for the firemen to build a “fishing cabin” on Lots 27 and 28, Block 9, Abbett Subdivision in the town of Breckenridge.

That same year the townspeople set August 9 and 10 for the annual “No Man's Land” celebration, an event started in 1947 as a fundraiser and homecoming for those sons and daughters who had moved away from he town. The big attraction that year was a raffling of the newly built structure on Block 9.

A fee of \$1.00 was charged for admission to the event, which allowed one chance to be included in the raffle drawing for the cabin. The winning ticket, purchased by Dorothy Reibold of Glenwood Springs, caused some hard feelings. In the previous June, Dorothy stopped for a cup of coffee at the Antler's Café in Frisco on her drive from Denver to her home in Glenwood Springs. She bought one ticket for a dollar from a Breckenridge fireman who was also in the café. When her name was later drawn at the celebration in August, many people in Breckenridge felt disgruntled. Some of the disappointed hopefuls had spent up to \$200, a considerable sum, on raffle tickets. Nevertheless, the cabin raffle proved to be a successful fundraiser, enabling the firemen to purchase a surplus Willy's Jeep with a pumper that remains

a revered piece of equipment today for the men of the Red, White and Blue Fire Department.

The following year the fire department received the two lots to the north, 29 and 30, donated by Zoe and Charles Perrin of Philadelphia and Breckenridge. These lots became the following year's fundraising project, and a second cabin was built and raffled at the No Man's Celebration in 1953.

Jim and Maureen Nicholls, next door neighbors to the Perrins since 1963, and owners of the second fire department cabin, purchased the “fishing” cabin in 1980 from the estate of Luna Shumacker of Texas. It is recognized as the “Quandry Cabin” and named after Maureen Nicolls' antique business located there from 1984 to 2002. After 56 years at 303 S. Ridge Street, the cabin was picked up by a crane in April of this year, placed on a flatbed truck and moved one block north to the Breckenridge Arts District. At this location it will be remodeled for a ceramics studio, and be remembered as an on-going asset and a reminder of Breckenridge's much slower paced past.

The SHS welcomes appropriate editorial contributions for consideration in the VOICES newsletter. Submissions are subject to editing for style, grammar and length. Please submit manuscripts and photos to mail@summithistorical.org ... or to Summit Historical Society P.O. Box 745, Breckenridge CO 80424

SORRY TO SEE A GREAT EVENT COME TO AN END

Sad to say, but after 10 years the Blue Spruce Brunch & Hikes has come to the end of its run. It's always been an event people looked forward to as the Blue Spruce Inn did such an outstanding job of serving an incredible array of delicious food. Loved the Eggs Benedict!

The Blue Spruce for a number of reasons has decided not to do brunches in the future. Many to Annie & Travis Holton for doing such a great job for 10 years!! The event will definitely be missed, but it is hoped that something will come along to take its place as it was a nice benefit for the SHS. If anyone has any thoughts for something to take its place or for a venue that would work, please contact Terry Merrick. ... terryelizam@yahoo.com

Summit Historical Society

P.O. Box 745 **Breckenridge**, CO 80424 970-468-2207 mail@summmithistorical.org

OUR MISSION: To identify, preserve, interpret and disseminate the history of Summit County, Colorado

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