

1944 60th Anniversary Year 2004

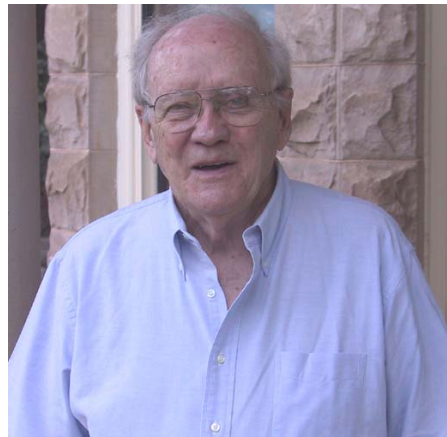
Continuum

Newsletter of the Boulder History Museum

60 Years of Preserving History

This October 10th will be the 60th anniversary of the first meeting of the Boulder Historical Society. Below is a short history of the Historical Society written by Laurence T. "Laurie" Paddock 10 years ago, when the society turned 50.

The Boulder Historical Society was organized on October 10th, 1944. The first official meeting of the society was held in the library room of the Central School building. That structure was at what now is 15th between Walnut and Canyon. Walnut was then known as Front Street and Canyon as Water Street. Water Street paralleled the railroad tracks into the city. That land earlier had been the site of Boulder's first schoolhouse – which also was the first schoolhouse in Colorado. Central



Laurence T. "Laurie" Paddock

had started as Boulder's school building much as what now is Old Main on the campus for some years was "the University of Colorado." In 1945, however, Central was the administration building for Boulder School District No. 3, later to become part
Continued on page 2...

Summer/Fall 2004

Inside this issue:

- Executive Director's Report 5
- SCFD 6
- Program Notes 7
- Collection's Corner 8
- Wish List 9
- Calendar 10

President's Message

As you will see, this has been an extremely busy nine months for the Board of Trustees. I could not have imagined, when I agreed to fill in for the balance of Jim Hanifin's term, that so much could occur in such a short period of time.

Many know that we investigated the potential of acquiring the Howe Mortuary. Bill Howe, I and many others believe that the best use of the building

would be as a museum. Our Board also agreed. However, in a careful study of our needs, we reluctantly concluded in June that although the location was superb, the size was insufficient.

The space on one floor is barely larger than the space we now have, but there is no room for growth nor is there space for our increasing educational programming needs. Additionally, there are physical constraints to any potential expansion of the building. Much to the disappointment of many of us, we

thanked Bill Howe for his interest and we continue to look for more space at a better location. In the interim we have begun discussions with the city for the renewal of a new lease on Harbeck House. The current lease expires at the end of 2004.

Continued on page 6...

Preserving History cont...

of the present Boulder Valley district. The razing of Central, to be replaced by the present U.S. National Bank building and more recently an office building on Walnut Street, was a major impetus for the formation of Boulder's other preservation organization – Historic Boulder.



Central School at 15th between Walnut and Canyon (1884-1891) with the original cupola and after the west addition was built.

A principal reason cited in the 1940s for the formation of an historical society was that the city needed an organization and a facility to preserve and display the history of the area. In a broader statement at the time, the object was to have a group which would establish a museum; acquire and hold such real estate as might be suitable for that purpose; to receive, acquire, collect, own and show pioneer and pioneer-related objects, and to receive and use such gifts, contributions and bequests that might be made for such purposes.

Actually, Boulder had had at least one museum before 1945. When the then new county courthouse was opened in the 1930s, space on the ground floor in the northwest corner was made available. At that time, many items, which had been in private and business collections, were put on display there.

However, when the county needed the space (it was used for some years thereafter as the driver's and vehicle licensing center), the historical items were placed in storage. Many of the materials donated for that "Boulder County Museum" are still among the society's collections. Much of the

storage was in a former laundry later automobile garage structure that was on 11th Street, south of the Daily Camera office. That site now is part of the newspaper's building.

Starting in the early 1920s, my father, Alva A. Paddock, not only solicited donations of pictures and other materials for "The Daily Camera Collection," but he also encouraged the continuation of the "Territorial Pioneers" and the organization of other groups such as a history club.

(Incidentally, he was often known as "Gov." Paddock. That derives from that fact that he was named for Alva Adams, who was elected governor of Colorado in 1886 and 1896 and who was a good political and personal friend of my grandfather, Lucius Paddock).

Gov. was elected as the first president

of the society. Trustees were elected at the organizational meeting and, in turn, elected the officers. That practice continues today. Other early officers were Francis Geck, first vice president; Mrs. H. M. Pollard, second vice president; Francis Stryker, secretary; and O. D. Neill, treasurer. Four other trustees also were elected and became chairmen of committees: C. Raymond Bitter, buildings and grounds; Eben G. Fine, membership; H. C. Hickman, publicity, and Harold N. McConnell, exhibits.

Mesdames Pollard and Stryker were active women in the community. Neill was an official of the Boulder school district. "Frank" Geck and Bitter were University professors. Fine was a retired drug store owner and widely known travel speaker. Hickman headed a land title company. McConnell was a postman. The board thus represented a spectrum of the community.

It was agreed that everyone joining the society before January 1st, 1945, would be considered as a charter member. Dues were \$2 for adults, 50 cents for those under age 18, and \$10 for clubs and businesses. Monthly meetings were held during the early history of the society. These not only were a forum for reports on the progress of the organization but also featured talks on a variety of subjects. LeRoy Hafen, then with the Colorado Historical Society; Professors Percy Fritz and Colin Goodykoontz of the University faculty, and many others were speakers. Among the programs were talks on early toll roads by Martin Parsons, an early stage driver and later mountain parks ranger; on Boulder pioneers by Henry O. Andrew, long time resident; and on Boulder history by Eben G. Fine, who also had managed the Commercial Association-Chamber of Commerce for many years.

One of the featured programs during

the first years of the society was a pageant presented in May of 1945 at the Boulder High School auditorium. Entitled "Mr. and Mrs. Hardrock," it featured members of the society in costumes and roles typical of early residents of the area. Florence Bedell of the University faculty wrote the script. A square dance followed.

The first annual meeting of the society was held in November 1946. It had apparently taken somewhat longer than expected to formally organize the society. While a constitution was approved in 1944, it was not officially adopted until September 1946.

Meanwhile, the society sponsored the writing by Lynn Perrigo of "A Municipal History of Boulder, Colorado." Perrigo, then with the Extension Division of the University, researched various phases of local government history from the beginnings of the city and including such matters as water supplies, jails and street paving. The work also included historical materials on local institutions such as churches, schools and newspapers. The society and city could not afford to actually publish the work. An original and carbon copies, however, were placed in the city and University libraries and other locations. A number of excerpts from the manuscript were also printed in the Daily Camera under the title "The Early Years."

From the beginning, as evidenced by the creation of a buildings and grounds committee, the society sought a place to display and keep collections. At the first annual meeting, A. A. Paddock asked the members to help secure some adequate and, importantly, fire proof facilities. He pointed out that neither the Camera building at that time nor any of the city or other buildings then available met those requirements. "A fire might wipe out artifacts that can never be replaced," he commented. That fear would become reality in

1958.

The society already had had hopes for such a facility. In 1945, the organization and many of its members were active in the promotion of a bond issue to build a new city hall for Boulder. Plans were made to acquire the present Municipal Building site and to float a \$225,000 bond issue to provide a building there. There was a reservation – that the building would be erected "as soon as conditions permit."

The drawing for the proposed building showed a structure similar in style to those on the University campus. It was to have a flagstone exterior and a tile roof. Not only would it provide larger and adequate offices for all city operations, including the police department, but was also to include a new library and the historical museum.

surge of postwar building of houses and other structures. Of course, the latter never happened. Costs went up, not down. The result was that when the city hall went forward, many things that had been included in the election-time proposal were eliminated.

The museum went first, followed by the library, etc. etc. Ultimately, too, there was no resemblance between the buildings proposed in 1945 and the one actually started in 1951. Meanwhile, beginning in 1949, the Boulder School district made half of the second floor of the Central School building available to the society. Selected artifacts and pictures then owned by the society were displayed. In 1952, the rest of the top floor was made available. This museum was



Safeway store at Arapaho and Broadway, 1940s

Conditions at that time included the fact that World War II was still under way, that no building could or would be started until the war was over, and that construction costs could be expected to decline after the initial

enjoyed by the public at large, many school groups and the 167 members of the society.

Five years later, however, the society had to give up Central

Preserving History cont...

School when the district administration needed the space for its own uses. 1957 also was the year in which the society sponsored the publication of "Remembered Yesterdays," by Eben Fine.

Artifacts owned by the society again were placed in storage. Most of the major items were placed in the Boulder Ice and Cold Storage building at the northeast corner of 21st and Pearl.

With the renewed interest in history spurred in 1958 by the coming centennial activities, the Boulder Historical Society finally was able to secure its own, long-sought facility. Aided by a bequest in the estate of Mr. Fine, the society negotiated the purchase of a former Safeway store at the southwest corner of Broadway and Arapahoe. The work of preparing that building and moving the society's collections into it was under way, when on May 15th, 1958, fire destroyed the Boulder Ice and Cold Storage building. Many valuable items from Boulder's past were lost in that fire. A few days later and the collection of musical instruments – including a double belled euphonium; a working model of a mine, and other artifacts might have survived. A short time earlier, much more of the collection would have been destroyed.

Colorado had a "Rush to the Rockies" celebration in 1959, which



Hygienic Ice & Locker Co. renamed the Boulder Ice and Cold Storage Company in 1955 destroyed by fire in 1958.

marked the century since the discovery of gold had set off the beginning of major settlement and development of what became the state. Boulder citizens participated in a number of activities during the observance, including the production of a pageant at the Boulder High School athletic field.

The 1959 annual meeting of the society was the first held in its own facilities. That building also helped the society add to its collection because interested persons were able to see items they donated – some artifacts were shown for the first time in the various booths and other display areas of the Pioneer Museum. Frank Geck was responsible for conceiving and even constructing many of the displays.

By 1976, when Colorado celebrated the centennial of statehood, the society not only had the Pioneer Museum free of debt, but also was able to acquire the Squires-Tourtellot-



Squires-Tourtellot-Malick house at 1019 Spruce St., circa 1865.

Malick house as an adjunct facility. Somewhat later the society expanded the Squires-Tourtellot house and moved out of the old Safeway store (now Wild Oats.)

In 1985 the Historical Society moved into the Harbeck-Bergheim House on 12th and Euclid, and in

1987 opened the Boulder History Museum to the public. While most of the Museum's collections of historical artifacts are housed in an off-site warehouse, the hundreds of photographs and documents are housed at the Carnegie Branch Library for Local History.

Most of those materials had been stored for years at the Daily Camera office for lack of any other facility.

Additional notes:

Today the Boulder History Museum contains exhibits that tell the story of Boulder's past and offers a variety of educational programs to the public.

We are actively collecting and preserving items that represent the history of the Boulder region. In particular, we are focusing on collecting Boulder's more recent history to insure it is not lost to future generations.

From the Executive Director:



October 10th marks the 60th Anniversary of the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Boulder Historical Society. This October 10th we are celebrating that anniversary with a gala event, *Celebrate Boulder! 60 Years of Living History*. In addition to wonderful food and good company, highlights for the evening will include a talk and a silent auction of spectacular art by local artists. We will be presenting the first "Gov Paddock Award" in honor of A. A. "Gov" Paddock who was a key player in rejuvenating the Pioneer Society in the 1930s and founding the Historical Society in 1944. The generous contributions of his family, including the photographs now housed at the Carnegie Library, started our collection. His family has been invaluable in seeing the organization through both difficult and joyous times. We are excited to use this celebration to honor citizens who have been instrumental in forming and preserving history in the Boulder Valley; those people who, over the years, have contributed to and become a part of the history of our community. I hope you'll join us on October 10th at the Hotel Boulderado to honor the following "unsung heroes" of Boulder:

HONOREES

Joanne Arnold, Educator Extraordinaire
Steve Bosley, Co-founder of Bolder Boulder
Bill Bower, WW II Doolittle's Raider
Scott Carpenter, U.S. Astronaut
Frank Day,
Entrepreneur & community supporter
John Echo-Hawk,
Native American Rights Fund
Long Family, Long's Iris Gardens
& Boulder Community Gardens
Bob & Diane Greenlee,
Founders of KBCO radio
& I Have a Dream Foundation, Boulder
Dave & Dee Hight, McGuckins Hardware
and community supporters
Panayoti Kelaidis,
Internationally proclaimed botanist
Gary Neptune, Neptune Mountaineering &
leader in outdoor recreation community
Mildred Nilon, Co-founder of United Black
Women of Boulder
Laurence Paddock, "GOV" PADDOCK
AWARD for contribution to preserving
Boulder's history
Al Ramirez,
Supporter/host of Latino students
Frank Shorter,
Co-founder of Bolder Boulder
Oakleigh Thorne II,
Founder of Thorne Ecological Institute
Kumiko Yoshihara, Lafayette Florist &
community supporter

Continued from page 1...

On Boulder History Day, May 22, a new exhibit 'Opening Doors, Opening Eyes; Revealing Boulder's Treasures,' opened upstairs in the Harbeck House and we have received excellent publicity in the local press, including an article in "5280" the Denver Magazine. Our staff has displayed the diversity of our collection as well as the diversity of the citizens who have resided in the Boulder Valley now and in the past. Be sure not to miss this exhibit on display through January 2005.

Additional exciting news: As many of you know the Boulder Historical Society was organized on October 10, 1944. We are celebrating our 60th anniversary on October 10, 2004 with a dinner and presentations at the Hotel Boulderado. Please mark your calendar.

Two years ago, in order to more closely coincide with customary financial reporting we changed our fiscal year to end on December 31. Our first professional financial audit is now in progress. We will be changing our annual meeting and election of Trustees to a date in the second calendar quarter of the year at which time our membership can have a full copy of an audited financial report. We will have a brief Annual Meeting in November 2004 at which time new Trustees will be elected to hold office pending re-election at a more formal Annual Meeting in April or May of 2005. You will receive notice in late September. We are soliciting nominations for the Board.

Karl

Karl F. Anuta, President
Board of Trustees

SCFD is up to the Voters

Fall 2004 is significant not just because it is the Boulder History Museum's 60th anniversary. This is also a major election year. And while this is not a forum to endorse candidates, there is one important issue for our cultural community that will be on the ballot in November, the SCFD (Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.) The SCFD was created in 1988 by majority vote of the people in the Denver metro area to provide a consistent source of unrestricted funding to scientific and cultural organizations. Since then, the SCFD has funded over 300 organizations via the 0.1% retail sales and use tax (one penny on every \$10.) Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson are the seven counties that comprise the district.

Qualifying organizations are assigned a Tier based on their annual operating budget. Tier I includes regional organizations: the Denver Art Museum, the Denver Botanic Gardens, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, and the Denver Zoo. This year they received 59% or \$20.5M. Tier II currently includes 20 regional organizations, each having an operating income of \$923,512 or more. Tier II receives 28% or \$9.7M. Tier III has over 280 local organizations such as small theaters, orchestras, art centers, museums and community groups. Tier III organizations apply for funding

to the county cultural councils via a grant process. This tier receives 13% or \$4.5M.

The Boulder History Museum, a Tier III organization, submits a grant every February to the Boulder SCFD commissioners. In the past few years the Museum has received between \$10,000 and \$15,000 annually for general operations and special programs. The SCFD funding is essential to our Museum and many other scientific and cultural organizations throughout the region.

SCFD is slated to "sunset" in 2006. This November 2004 voters in the seven counties will once again be asked to vote for this tax. The tax is small, one penny on every \$10, but it is critical to many non-profit organizations. The SCFD has made it possible for science and culture to flourish in Colorado.

Please consider your vote carefully. Next time you visit a scientific or cultural entity like an art museum, the Colorado Music Festival, Chautauqua or the Boulder History Museum, think about the benefits this small tax is providing to the people of Colorado.



Scientific & Cultural
Facilities District

Making It Possible.

Program Notes



Left: Come & visit our latest exhibit 'Opening Doors, Opening Eyes' now through January 2005.

Right: Laura Martin, education intern, coordinated our Girl Scout badge program in the Spring.



Right: Red Feather Woman strumming a folk tale performance during Boulder History Day in May.

Below: Paulette Reading from the Denver Art Museum giving a Textile Conservation and Preservation Workshop in June at the Carnegie Branch Library for Local History.



Right: Lou Sickler and his son demonstrate trapping and pioneer fire making skills to a captive audience on the lawn at Boulder History Day in May.

“ In all my studies and in seeing the nations’ museums, I’ve never seen better! ”

One visitor's reaction to our exhibit 'Opening Doors, Opening Eyes; Revealing Boulder's Treasures'

BURIED TREASURE FROM THE COLLECTION...

By Laura Lee, Collections Manager

We'll begin where we left off in the last newsletter- having discovered that our sculpture was indeed by the famous American folk artist, Asa Ames. We had yet to prove that the little girl in the sculpture was Ames' niece and figure out how she made her way west to our museum...

The original deed of gift for the sculpture indicated the piece had been donated to the museum by Mrs. Arch Hogue, Sr. on May 18, 1963. The description simply stated, "Wood carving of mother-in-law of Mrs. Hogue – carved by her uncle in 1849 – when she was 3 years old. Presented by her daughter-in-law Mrs. Arch Hogue."

I was admittedly skeptical of the "uncle" part and figured that, since Ames was known by scholars to live with people while he carved them, it was possible that "uncle" was used as a term of endearment rather than that of familial relation. My skepticism ended when a mortuary record for Arch Hogue, Sr. identified his mother as being Susan Ames. This was a good start, but I had to verify, was the donor's mother-in-law even from New York?

I contacted Jack Ericson, the author of the 1982 *Antiques Magazine* article on Ames. He put me in contact with the curator at the Abbey Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Center in Colonial Williamsburg where he had donated his research notes. She looked through Ericson's notes to find a record of a Susan Ames.

It turns out there was a Henry G. Ames, age 28, listed as the head of household in an 1850 census for Evans, Erie County, New York.



Gathered around the Susan Ames Hogue sculpture on exhibit are: (l to r) Julie Schumaker, Carol Baummeister, living relative of Asa Ames, and Laura Lee.

Additionally, Tryphina, age 24, Susan age 2, and Susan Babcock age 59 were also listed as being part of the same household. I wondered at the time if Susan Babcock was Henry's mother, or mother-in-law. Either way, it seemed the more I discovered the more questions I had: Was this Susan Ames the one in the sculpture? How could I prove that it was?

Following the trail of information left by obituaries, census, death and marriage records, I was able to confirm that Susan Ames had moved with her family from Evans, New York to Illinois sometime between 1852 and 1859 where she married Joe D. Hogue in 1864. Their son, Arch Hogue, was born in Shelbyville, Illinois in 1869. (Nearly 100 years later, his wife would be the one to donate the sculpture to the museum.) In 1870 both the Hogue family and the Henry G. Ames family moved to Sherman, Texas.

This is where Susan Ames Hogue would die in 1926. Her son Arch and his wife Laura moved to Boulder in 1919. Whether they took the carving of Susan Ames Hogue with them then or after she died remains a mystery. But that is how the carving made its westward migration to our museum. I had managed to develop a fairly clear picture of that branch of the family tree, but still could not prove that Henry Ames, Susan's father, was the brother of Asa Ames, the artist.

The Internet and sites such as *Ancestry.com* provided access to information that would have taken years to compile. One of the most important breakthroughs I made via the Internet was connecting with a living relative of Asa Ames. I had posted a message on the Ames Family website at *Rootsweb.com* asking for any information on Henry Ames from New York and gave some dates.

Months later, I received an email from someone who said she was descended from the same family. Her records showed the parents as John Ames and Susan Gates; their children were Emeline, John T., Henry and Asa. This living relative was a descendant of John T. Ames, Asa's older brother.

How was I sure that this was the same family? Two significant facts stood out from the living relative's original email: Susan Ames Hogue's middle name was listed as Gates on her death certificate- the same name as Asa's mother's maiden name. If this wasn't enough proof, the living relative said that she knew Asa's father had died around 1830 and that his mother, Susan, had married a man whose last name was Babcock. *Bingo!*

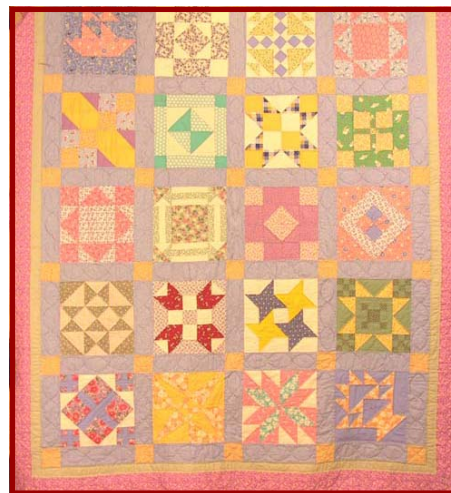
That explained why there was a 59 year old woman named Susan Babcock living with Henry Ames and his young family in the 1850 New York census. She was his widowed mother. The connection was complete. Our sculpture is definitely the likeness of Asa Ames' niece, Susan Ames Hogue. ♪

Quilt Raffle

This year's beautiful quilt, 'Sue's Gift' (73" x 90"), handmade by our very own quilting group, the Museum Piecers, will be raffled at our Holiday Open House on Saturday, 11th December, 2004.

Buy your tickets today!

\$1 each or 6 for \$5



Wish List

Old sheets (dust covers)
Rags (such as old t-shirts)
Objects from 1950
to the present
New or used pick-up truck
Dolly
Bike Pump
Call 303 449 3464 to donate!

With special thanks to...



ARGOSY FOUNDATION

CALENDAR

Dates for your diary...

**60th Anniversary
Cultural Programs
Fall, 2004
To be announced**

**CELEBRATE BOULDER
Our 60th Anniversary Gala
Sunday 10th October, 2004
5:30 - 9:30pm
Hotel Boulderado**

**Holiday Open House
& Quilt Raffle Drawing
Saturday 11th December
Noon - 4pm**

**NEW EXHIBIT
'A Sporting Good Time'
Opens Spring 2005**

Board of Trustees

Karl Anuta, President
John T. Sullivan, Vice President
Sally A. Burlingame, Secretary
Dennis Channer, Treasurer
Nancy Blackwood
Paul Enright
Barbara Gigone
Marilyn Haas
James C. Hanifin
John H. Layman
Patricia Limerick
Polly McLean
George Ray Russell
Michael Smith
Courtland Spicer
James W. Swaebly

Staff

Nancy Geyer,
Executive Director
Julie Schumaker,
Programs & Volunteer Manager
Nichola Lake,
Media Relations
Laura Lee,
Collections Manager
Tara Williams,
Bookkeeper

The Boulder History Museum fosters understanding and appreciation for the unique history of the Boulder region and the resourceful and innovative people who have chosen to live here - a living history that grows with each new generation.

Exhibit coming Spring 2005...
'A Sporting Good Time!'



1206 Euclid Avenue
Boulder, Colorado 80302
Phone: 303 449 3464
Fax: 303 938 8322
Email: info@boulderhistory.org
Funded in part by...

**Newsletter of the
Boulder History Museum**

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 74
Boulder, CO 80302