



# Old News

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## The Women's Club of Cheyenne Collection

The Woman's Club of Cheyenne had its origins in the Queen Anne club, which was organized in 1888 by Mrs. E. Mason Smith, and so named in honor of the reigning Queen of England. Mrs. Smith was described in a Club history as "a cultured woman, wise, witty, and inspiring." She also had a strong literary background (she was the first Laramie County librarian), which probably greatly influenced the group's decision to study English literature. In 1894, the Club reorganized as the Woman's Club of Cheyenne. It joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1896 and the Wyoming Federation of Women's Clubs in 1904.

While the Club sought to maintain its social and cultural purposes, it also supported civic improvements and charitable causes. Many prominent women, including several governors' wives and one governor, Nellie Tayloe Ross, were Club members, and actively contributed to the realization of civic improvements sponsored by the Club. The collection documents these efforts with minutes of the Club's executive board and general meetings. Project files, annual reports, and scrapbooks provide additional information about the Club's activities. The history of Cheyenne is reflected in these records, and in the biographies and reminiscences of some of the Club's members. The club served Cheyenne and other communities until 2000 when, citing declining membership and aging leadership, it disbanded.

The records of the Woman's Club of Cheyenne are maintained under collection number H67-105. An inventory of the collection is available.

# George Haywood Collection

George Haywood (1854-1937) was an English mining engineer. He started out in Rock Springs in 1883 and moved to Carbon in 1887 and Cambria in 1890, where he was superintendent of the Cambria Mining Company. In 1904 he worked as a mining consultant, examining mining ventures and enterprises and promoting mineral development in northern Wyoming. He died in Sheridan on January 25, 1937.

The collection consists mainly of correspondence files. Topics include mining in Wyoming and the Mountain West, evaluations of property and metals, personal investments, promotional work, and social correspondence with family, friends, and former managers and employees. Other records relate to mining work, personal finances, and social activities and organizations, including a notice about a German community meeting in Sheridan in 1912 and Knights of Pythias of Carbon lodge cards.

The records of the George Haywood Collection are maintained under collection number H55-43. An inventory of the collection is available.

## Traveling Exhibits

The Wyoming State Archives and Museum offers traveling exhibits to other museums, libraries, schools and other cultural institutions throughout Wyoming. These exhibits cover much of Wyoming's cultural heritage, such as military history, ethnic history, community documentation, and social history.

An institution may schedule these exhibits for a one-month period or for a longer period of time if the schedule allows it. Borrowing institutions are encouraged to use materials from their own collections to create an ancillary exhibit of artifacts, books, or other materials in conjunction with the exhibits from the Wyoming state Archives and Museum. Hopefully, these exhibits will expand a local institution's ability to attract new visitors and encourage return visits from those who have been there before.

All the traveling exhibits consist of photographs and text, which are then matted and framed in a 16" x 20" format. These are then crated and shipped in

two crates, which consist of 30 panels. The museum pays the shipping to each institution and in turn, the receiving organization pays shipping one-way to the next borrower or back to the State Museum.

Some of the titles in the traveling exhibit program include: Sioux Indian Ledger Drawings; J.E. Stimson's Wyoming; Portraits of a Community; Wyoming in World War II; Miss Yamanashi-Wyoming's Friendship Doll from Japan; Growing Up in Wyoming; Wyoming Women in Public Life, 1869-1995; Hispanics in Wyoming (available late fall 2005); and Wyoming's Rural Landscapes.

To schedule an exhibit, please call 307.777.7025

## Calamity Jane Book

The University of Oklahoma Press has recently published *Calamity Jane: The Woman and The Legend* by James D. McLaird (cloth, \$29.95). Calamity Jane is well-known in western history and popular western culture for her raucous, itinerant and often enigmatic lifestyle and her amorous association with Wild Bill Hickok. Numerous publications exist about Calamity Jane, but none have been truly definitive and most have merely recounted her legendary status, that is until now. Dr. McLaird, professor emeritus at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, South Dakota, is well known for his work on myth-making in western history. One subject of long interest has been Calamity Jane. McLaird spent many years researching her life, sorting out in the process fact from fiction, and has now written a new, critical biography of one of Western America's most legendary figure.

## Additional New Publications on Wyoming and Western History

*Army Architecture in the West: Forts Laramie, Bridger, and D.A. Russell.* By Allison K. Hoaglund. University of Oklahoma Press. \$49.95.

*Delivering Aid: Implementing Progressive Era Welfare in the American West.* By Thomas Krainz. University of New Mexico Press. \$37.50.

*Goodbye Judge Lynch: The End of the Outlaw Era in Wyoming's Big Horn Basin.* By John C. Davis. University of Oklahoma Press. \$32.95.

*Gunsmoke and Saddle Leather: Firearms in the Nineteenth Century American West.* By Charles G. Worman. University of New Mexico Press. \$55.00.

*Silver Fox of the Rockies: Delphus E. Carpenter and Western Water Compacts.* By Daniel Tyler. University of Oklahoma Press. \$34.95.

## Recent Accessions to the Wyoming State Archives

Cheyenne Municipal Court dockets, 1998.

City of Sheridan, building plans, 1978-1995.

Albany County District Court, probate records, 1983-2002; criminal case files, 1987-1994; and probate case files, 1983-1989.

Platte County District Court, civil files to 1995, criminal files to 1999, probate files to 1998.

Laramie County District Court, civil case files, 1975-1999; and criminal case files, 1978-1983.

Information and Technology Coordinating Committee minutes, 2004-2005.

Democratic Party records, including photographs, primarily concerning Gale McGee and Teno Roncalio, 1960s-1970s.

John Arp, Cheyenne, business records, 1941-1946.

Ledger for "Callaghan and Svendsen," Laramie blacksmiths and wagon makers, 1882-1884.

O.J. Smyth furniture store, Sheridan, financial records, 1894-1904

Hi Neighbor Republican Women's Club of Laramie County, 1970s-1990s.

The Symphony and Choral Society of Cheyenne, publications, 1957-1983

I need your feedback! If you have questions, comments, suggestions, or complaints, please contact Carl Hallberg by phone at 307/777-6423 or by email at [challb@state.wy.us](mailto:challb@state.wy.us).

**Wyoming State Archives**

**Barrett Building - 2301 Central Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82002**

Reference requests: [wyarchive@state.wy.us](mailto:wyarchive@state.wy.us)

WSA website: <http://wyoarchives.state.wy.us/>

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Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources