

Historic Highlandlake

Preserving the history
of the Highlandlake/Mead area



“Building Bridges Across Time”

Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2005

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News from Historic Highlandlake, Inc.

This is the first issue of “Highlandlake Highlights,” the official newsletter of Historic Highlandlake, Inc.

As HHI grows, so will this newsletter, both in distribution numbers and frequency — perhaps to a quarterly or monthly publication. If, in the past, you traditionally have received our postcard reminding you of the annual Highlandlake Reunion and Community Gathering, this newsletter takes the place of that postcard this year.

During the past year, the Board of HHI, formerly known as Historic Highlandlake Church, Inc., has been busy, submitting grant applications, overseeing Phase I of the restoration work on the Highlandlake church building, coming up with ideas for future fundraising events, and approving changes to the structure of the organization.

We are looking forward to completing the church restoration sometime in the next year, and becoming more active in preserving the history of our area in the years to come.



Board of Directors

Mary Jensen—President
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Pauli Driver Smith—Executive Director & Historian
Pat Jorgenson—Membership & Publicity
Barbara Logsdon—Programs
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Stuart Barnes—Alternate Director
Sheryl Senesac—Director
Steve Senesac—Alternate Director

Editors:

Pat Jorgenson
Pauli Driver Smith

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84th Annual Community Gathering June 12

Cornerstone Ceremony highlight of this years event.

The 84th annual Highlandlake Reunion and Community Gathering will be held Sunday, June 12, on the grounds of the church, at 16896 Weld County Road 5. A feature of this year's gathering will be the relaying of the cornerstone of the church, which was first placed on May 10, 1896.

The day's events will begin with a social hour at 11 a.m., followed by a potluck picnic dinner at noon. The cornerstone ceremony will begin at approximately 1 p.m. Governor Bill Owens and Senator Ken Salazar are among the invited dignitaries.

Those planning to participate in the potluck should bring a dish to share with at least seven others, and their own table service. Historic

Highlandlake will provide cups, orange drink, iced tea, and coffee.

Following the setting of the cornerstone, the gathering will move inside the church for musical program and memorial for deceased members. The afternoon will continue with socializing for the adults and games for the younger set.

Among the planned activities, Mel Shubert will provide some safe carnival rides and Jeff Smith will be offering rides on his 1.5"-1' scale live steam train. Additionally, Jimmy Bridge, portraying 13 year-old Charlie Waite, will acquaint the kids with games that he and his friends played at the Highlandlake School during the 1880s.

For more information or directions to Highlandlake, call Pat Jorgenson at 970-535-4294; Pauli Smith at 970-535-4936; or visit our website at www.HistoricHighlandlake.org.

Historic Highlandlake Changes Name



Two visitors to Highlandlake—late 1920s.

In mid-year the Board of Directors of Highlandlake Church, Inc., voted to change the name of our organization. When we were originally founded in 1921, our sole stated mission was to protect and preserve the Highlandlake church building. Since that time, our mission has grown and changed to that of a full-fledged historical society. As a reflection of our expanding mission and goals, we changed our name to Historic Highlandlake Inc. The name change was unanimously approved by the board of directors.

In other board news:

At our first annual board retreat on January 8, 2005, the board unanimously approved appointing Pauli Driver Smith to the position of Executive Director. Pauli has been an active member of our board since 1990 and most recently has served as the organization's

historian as well as the project manager for the Highlandlake Church restoration project.

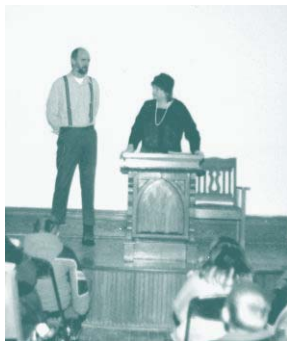
We would also like to extend a hearty welcome to Stuart and Cathy Barnes and Steve and Sheryl Senesac who have graciously accepted our invitation to serve on our board. Last January, the board also regretfully accepted the resignations of Carla Brossman, and Ron and Margaret Wood. Carla, who ably served as our treasurer for several years, is moving on to become the treasurer of the new Mead Chamber of Commence. The Woods are taking some time out to travel, but assure us that they will remain actively involved as volunteers.

Thank you Carla, Ron and Margaret for your dedicated service to Historic Highlandlake!

You will all be sorely missed.



“Thirteen year-old Charlie Waite regaled students with his stories of his life in early Highlandlake”



L. C. Mead (Loren Reimer) and Pauli Smith regale the second grader's with tales of Old Highlandlake.

Second Grader's Visit Highlandlake Church

As part of their study of local history, 80 second graders from Mead Elementary School, along with their teachers and several parents filled the church, on January 12, for a “living history” lesson.

Following a review of Highlandlake's early days, by historian, Pauli Driver Smith, the students were introduced to three of the early residents of Highlandlake, namely, Loren Mead, the Reverend Mary Bumstead, and 13-year-old Charlie Waite.

Deacon Mead, portrayed by Loren Reimer, and the Reverend Mary Bumstead, portrayed by Kelly Jorgenson, appeared in character as they might have, in January 1897, when Bumstead preached her first sermon in the new church.

Rather than being in formal dress, as he was at last summer's presentation at the Highlandlake Cemetery, Lorin Mead appeared in his work clothes, having come over to the church from his barn. He told the students about his family's trip by covered wagon, from the Missouri River to Highlandlake, in the spring of 1872, and all the things they had to do to establish their home on the northeast shore of

the lake.

Rev. Mary Bumstead gave the students a brief review of her life, the circumstances that brought her to Highlandlake, and her great joy in helping build the “new” church. Following Pastor Bumstead's presentation, Smith, informed the students of Miss Bumstead's tragic death, just a little more than a year later. All were saddened by the news.

Charlie Waite, who drowned in Highlandlake in December of 1884, appeared, via Jimmy Bridge, as a ghost, since he died twelve years before the church was dedicated. Charlie told the students about growing up in Highlandlake and how he died by falling through the ice. Giving the children a stern glance, he finished his tale with a bone-chilling warning to not to go out on the ice until Deacon Mead says it's safe!

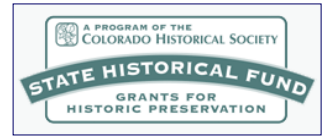
All three re-enactors held the student's interest and elicited numerous questions from their audience. This presentation is just one example of how Historic Highlandlake can play a continuing education program of the community.

Major Sponsors of the Highlandlake Church Restoration

(\$1,000 or more)

- Colorado Historical Fund
- Seeley Family Foundation
- the Collaborative, inc.
- Modefferi Construction, Inc.
- Truecraft Masonry
- Stuart & Cathy Barnes
- Mead Area Community Foundation
- Brenda Logsdon
- Walt & Barbara Logsdon
- Greeley Centennial Chapter
- Territorial Daughters of Colorado
- Highlandlake Inc.
- Lawrence Jensen
- Mead Café
- JVC Engineering, Inc.
- Pauli Driver Smith

**If we have missed anyone,
please let us know!**



The Historic Highlandlake Church restoration project is partially funded by the State Historical Fund. Without their help, we would have lost this valuable community resource.
Thank you SHF!

Second Annual Cemetery Tour Set for August 20

If you enjoyed last year's Highlandlake Pioneer Cemetery Tour, complete with portrayals of some of our early-day pioneers, mark your calendar for August 20, the date for this year's event. We are still recruiting volunteers from among the residents of the pioneer cemetery. However, we have retained C. A. Pound and his wife Allie, who provided the land for the cemetery, George Davis, the Congregational missionary who built the parsonage and whom along with L. C. Mead helped found the UCC of Highlandlake Church. Additionally, Loveland's Allnut Funeral Home has agreed to bring their antique horse-drawn hearse to help lend an air of antiquity to our affair. More details will follow as we get closer to our event.



Rev. Mary Bumstead talks about her life in Highlandlake in the 1890s.

Digital Photo Project

Mary Litzenberger Shares Historic Photos -- More Needed



Mary Ellen Nygren Litzenberger has added to our historic photo archives by loaning us two photos, one of her grandfather, Rev. D. A. Strong, and another a photo of the Highlandlake School dated 1907. Mary Ellen's grandfather was pastor of the church from 1898 to 1901, and again from 1903 to 1907.

Mary's photos were scanned into our database and possibly will be used in our upcoming Historic Highlandlake and Mead photo exhibit to be held at the Longmont Museum and Cultural Center starting in October 2006. This exhibit will be a photographic journey through 137 years of history in the Highlandlake/Mead area as well as a celebration of Mead's 100th anniversary.

If you have historic photos to share (originals will be returned unharmed), please call Pauli Smith at 970-535-4936, or email her at historic_highlandlake@msn.com.



Do you have any historic photos you would like to share?

We are especially looking for photos of Paul Mead, whom the Town of Mead was named after, and interior photos of pre 1950 businesses in the Highlandlake/Mead area.

