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# Historic Georgetown Inc. Newsletter

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February 2015

## HGI WELCOMES NEW STAFF



Historic Georgetown, Inc.

Summer 2014 brought many exciting changes for Historic Georgetown, Inc, including the addition of several new staff members. My name is Nancy Hale, and it has been a privilege for me to become the Interim Executive Director for HGI. When I started over 6 months ago, so did the following people as listed below: Janine, Sherrie, Anne Marie, and Pat. They have been such a joy to work with. [Let me introduce them to you...](#)

Janine Weeds is the new bookkeeper. Originally from New Zealand, Janine has lived between Silver Plume and Georgetown for 35 years and is also the bookkeeper for the Georgetown Trust. She has a Bachelor's degree from Metropolitan State University of Denver and has been a Teacher, Town Clerk for the Town of Silver Plume, and has worked in the Restaurant business. She brings many years of experience with bookkeeping for the small business, non-profit business and small municipality. Currently her son is a senior at Clear Creek High School and her daughter is grown and lives in Cleveland. She enjoys skiing, bicycling, hiking with her dog and loves to cook. ([jw@historicgeorgetown.org](mailto:jw@historicgeorgetown.org))

Sherrie Lichtenwalner is the new Membership/Special Events Coordinator. She is new to Georgetown, having moved here in May with her husband and two young sons. She brings with her over ten years of Administrative Assistant Experience, including work with other non-profit organizations. She has a Bachelor's degree from Southwest Baptist University in Missouri. She enjoys hiking, exploring, and just taking long drives to experience the beauty of the Colorado Rocky Mountains. ([sl@historicgeorgetown.org](mailto:sl@historicgeorgetown.org))

Anne Marie Cannon has been a member of the Georgetown community since 2013. She completed studies for her MFA in creative and professional writing with a specialization in historical fiction at Western Connecticut State University in 2012. She also has a background in vintage and antique costume research and preservation. She is our new manager of archival collections and looks forward to digitally cataloguing HGI's collections as well as curating interpretive exhibits for our members and the community at large. ([amc@historicgeorgetown.org](mailto:amc@historicgeorgetown.org))

Pat Russell was born and raised in the Denver area, but he and his family have had property just below the Georgetown dam for over sixty years, so Georgetown has always

been an important part of his life. He graduated from CU, went to seminary in Berkeley, CA, and then served for over forty years as a United Church of Christ minister in churches from California to North Carolina, and from Minnesota to Texas. Pat has two adult children, two grandchildren, and three cats, and moved back to Clear Creek County after he retired three years ago. He became a Tour Guide at Hamill House last May and loves everything about his job.

Now that I have given you an introduction, come in and say hello!

Nancy S. Hale  
([nsh@historicgeorgetown.org](mailto:nsh@historicgeorgetown.org))



Left to Right: Nancy Hale, Janine Weeds, Anne Marie Cannon, Sherrie Lichtenwalner, Pat Russel

## 2014 Winter Costume Exhibit

When couple Sandra Dallas and Bob Atchison's children played dress up they dug into an old trunk of clothes passed down through their father's family. At least one of the items (a pair of black silk woman's shoes) dated back to 1826. Not many can boast such a toy chest of costumes.

In 2014, I curated a winter costume exhibit for the Hamill House. Of special interest to me was the trunk of costumes donated to us in 2013 by Sandra Dallas and Bob Atchison. The same one their children use to play dress up with. The collection includes costumes spanning the nineteenth century all the way up to the short but distinctive Edwardian period. I spent the fall and early winter researching the items and decided to curate a small exhibit that would showcase the evolution of the female silhouette throughout the Victorian period into the Edwardian. Most of the dresses in the exhibit were from the Dallas-Atchison collection. Several other family heirlooms from other donors were also included. One particular item of note being a breathtaking brown silk, glass-beaded, bustled Victorian wedding gown worn by HGI board member Bob Gibb's grandmother. Also included in the exhibit were items donated by Charlotte Van Brunt.

Written By Anne Marie Cannon

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## Archival Collections

With the hubbub of the holiday season at an end, it may seem to have quieted down here at the offices of HGI. Don't be fooled, for we are hard at work planning for 2015, taking inventory, assessing 2014 (acknowledging our successes and identifying our opportunities for growth) and learning...always learning.

I am pleased to announce that HGI is officially moving into the digital age! Actually, the work began several years ago when HGI member Elaine McWain began the daunting task of painstakingly cataloguing the organizations holdings which include objects such as furniture in the Hamill House, original images from the Victorian era of the Hamill family, costumes/textiles and so on. Thanks to Elaine who also donated the PastPerfect cataloguing software, we have a leg up on the project. We have upgraded the software and are excited to continue with this project.

PastPerfect is a collections management software used by over 9,000 museums that will enable HGI to streamline and automate accessions, exhibits, condition reports, loans, and many other common museum practices.

We have already begun digging into collections at the Hamill House and plan on taking complete stock of the entire HGI catalogue, displayed and stored throughout our properties in Georgetown. You can keep up on our progress by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

## An Eventful Year

2014 saw many special events sponsored by Historic Georgetown Inc.

On July 26, the Brides, Bells, and Barons House Tours brought guests from near and far for a chance to tour 16 of our historical sites, including several private homes that were generously opened to the public for this event. Despite rainy weather, we had nearly a hundred visitors, and with the help of a multitude of volunteers, the event went smoothly and was a great success. HGI gave a party for all of the volunteers at the end of the event.

In December, we celebrated the 54th annual Georgetown Christmas Market. This beloved holiday tradition brought hundreds of visitors to the town to participate in the festivities, which included horse drawn wagon rides, roasted chestnuts, the Santa Lucia Children's Choir, special

entertainment, holiday museum tours, and a traditional outdoors market.

The 43rd annual Christmas at Hamill House was another successful holiday event. This year we saw over 130 guests over the two nights. Kat Coffield from Cake LLC provided the yummys, the Silver Plume singers and Hart Axley delighted guests with carols, and Ken Nelson and Frank Young upheld the traditional roles of Butler and St. Nicholas, respectively. With the lighting of the Christmas tree and the wassail toasts, the night was truly magical.

In addition to the above events, HGI hosted two weddings, two private receptions, including the annual Fireman's Christmas party, and helped with the annual Hot Rod Hill Climb.

We look forward to another year of exciting events in 2015.



Hamill House Christmas Tree 2014

## Walking Tour Guide Gets A Facelift

Almost ten years ago, HGI in conjunction with author Bill Wilson, created the Historic Georgetown Walking Tour Book. This book has been a great success and has brought many visitors to our town. The book includes information on around 81 historic sites, including commercial buildings, residences, parks, churches, mines, mills, museums, and the railroad.

In 2013, it was decided that the tour book needed updating. Bill Wilson has worked tirelessly to reorganize, update, and expand the original book, making it more of a comprehensive guide to historic sites rather than just a walking-tour book. Each site will have updated pictures and information, and several maps will help guide visitors to historic destinations.

HGI is nearing the point where we are ready for the updated guide to go to the publisher.

If you would like to be a part of this amazing project that benefits everyone in our community, please consider donating to our "Walking Tour Book" Fund. All proceeds will go to the publication of the updated book. For a gift of \$50 or more, you will receive a free copy of the published guide once it is completed.

You can donate by calling the office or sending a check to HGI by March 31, 2015. Checks should be made out to Historic Georgetown, Inc., and should indicate that it is for the "Walking Tour Guide."

Thank you for your consideration.

## Ellen Elliott Elected as HGI Chairwoman

In August of 2014, the Board of Directors of Historic Georgetown Inc. unanimously elected Ellen Elliott to serve as Chairwoman of the Board.

Mrs. Elliott graduated from Loretta Heights College of Denver with a Bachelor of Arts in English and Educations and earned her Masters degree from the University of Colorado, Denver, in Library Media. Mrs. Elliott has taught elementary school throughout the Denver Metro area for over 30 year. She is a fourth-generation Georgetown resident. She Volunteers at the Georgetown Visitor Center and serves on the following boards: George-

town Friends of the Library, Georgetown Parks and Recreation Committee, the Regis University Crest Club, and the International Footprint Association. She currently serves as the librarian at the Georgetown Community School. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott have been members of HGI since 1989.

“As Interim Executive Director, it was quite a joy for me when Ellen was selected as Chairwoman. Both she and her husband Tom live directly across from the Hamill House. She always participates in the activities we put on, and is a great friend of HGI. We are so lucky to have her.”

Nancy S. Hale



Chairwoman Ellen Elliott and husband, Tom

## Membership Changes

In January of 2015, HGI integrated a new Membership system in the hope that the changes would make membership with HGI more attractive and easier to understand. Current members will begin the transition into the new system over the next year. Below is an explanation of the new levels of Membership and the benefits therein:

*Timberman's Level \$20 (Seniors and Students—Individual)*—One ticket to tour the Hamill House and Alpine Hose #2.

*Miner's Level \$35 (Individual)*—Two tickets to tour the Hamill House and Alpine Hose #2.

*Prospector's Level \$70 (Dual)*—Access to our museums at no cost.

*Overman's Level \$100 (Family)*—Access to our museums at no cost, 10% discount at Priscilla's Closet and Gateway Visitor's Center, NARM membership.

*Alpine Circle \$250 (Family)*—Free museum access and 20% discount at Priscilla's Closet and 10% discount at Gateway Visitor's Center, NARM membership. Recognition in yearly newsletter.

*Saxon Circle \$500 (Family)*—Free museum access and 20% discount at Priscilla's Closet and 10% discount at Gateway Visitor's Center, NARM membership. Recognition in yearly newsletter. Private tour for members and up to five guests. (Must call for reservations)

*Silver Circle \$1000 (Family)*—Free museum access and 20% discount at Priscilla's Closet and 10% discount at Gateway Visitor's Center, NARM membership. Recognition in yearly newsletter. Private behind-the-scenes tour. (Must call for reservations).

*Gold Circle \$2500 (Family)*—Free museum access and 20% discount at Priscilla's Closet and 10% discount at Gateway Visitor's Center, NARM membership. Recognition in yearly newsletter. Private behind-the-scenes tour. (Must call for reservations). Two free tickets to Christmas at Hamill House.

For more information about membership and how your funds are used to help preserve a little history, visit our website at: <http://www.historicgeorgetown.org/Membership.html>

## Summer Gala

With an exciting year behind us, we can now start looking forward to the year to come.

Plans are in the works for our Summer Gala. This special event will consist of dinner on the Hamill House lawn and a silent auction. The purpose behind the Gala is to help raise funds for the maintenance and upkeep of the Hamill House Museum.

The Museum is in desperate need of painting as well as some interior work. Keep an eye on our website for more information and ways you can help with this special event.



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## February 2015

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**We're on the Web!**

**[HistoricGeorgetown.org](http://HistoricGeorgetown.org)**



## Donor's List

HGI would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following individuals and businesses who made donations in 2014.

Coralue Anderson  
Henry Anderson  
Wendy Anderson (Kneisel & Anderson)  
Anonymous Donor  
Hartman Axley  
Jack & Arleda Ballard  
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Robert & Carol Joy Carper  
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Britt & Kerstin Gusterman  
Tom & Nancy Hale  
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Al Shepard  
Renee Tewell  
Danny & Amy Tomlinson  
Tracy & Terry Troia (Troias Restaurant)  
Sarah Walen  
Janine Weeds  
William Willson

## HGI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dana Abrahamson  
Lee Behrens  
Robert Gibbs

Jeffrey Hawks  
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Mickie Newman  
Bill Sagstetter

In addition to the above, Jan Shirlaw was voted in as HGI's newest Board Member this past June.

## NEW MERCHANT'S CIRCLE

Beginning in January 2015, HGI is extending an invitation to all merchants to join with us by becoming a member of our Merchant's Circle. This group covers businesses and corporations who would like to set up a yearly donation to HGI. Donations can be in any amount, but for those who give \$150 or more per year, their names will be listed in the annual newsletter. All funds received through Merchant donations will be put aside in a special account to be used for the Annual Christmas Market.

If you are interested in more information, please contact Sherrie at 303-569-2840 or by email: [sl@historicgeorgetown.org](mailto:sl@historicgeorgetown.org).

Current Merchant Circle Members:

Troias Restaurant

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