

Historic Georgetown, Inc. Newsletter

February 2017

Editor: Sherrie Lichtenwalner

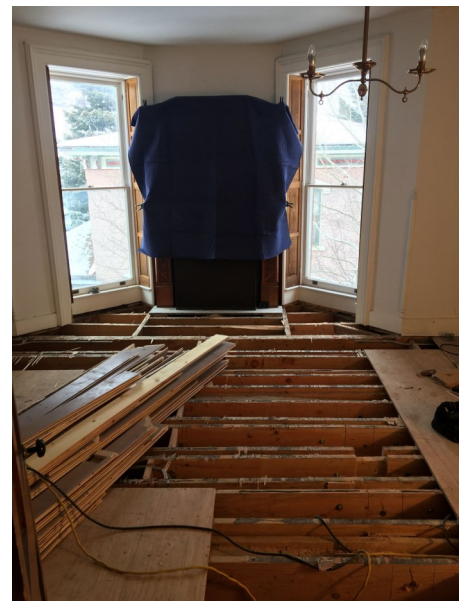
JOURNEY TOWARD RESTORATION

CHANGE IS HARD AT FIRST, MESSY IN THE MIDDLE AND GORGEOUS AT THE END.

~ROBIN SHARMA

If there is one thing HGI has become familiar with in recent years, it would be change. As reported last year, we have begun the journey toward restoration for the Hamill House museum. It is not a short journey, nor will it be an easy one. According to the Structural Assessment Report released to us in early 2016 by architects Tim and Kris Hoehn, there is over \$600,000 worth of repairs to be made to the museum. The report was a bit overwhelming, to be sure, but that didn't stop Executive Director Nancy Hale along with the HGI Board of Directors from jumping right into the project. With the help of Cindy Neely, Nancy Hale applied for a grant from the State Historic Fund to repair the ceiling in the parlor, the first and most urgent step in the restoration project. In August 2016 HGI received word that we had received the grant, and work immediately began to raise the necessary matching funds of \$35,500.

HGI is still working on coming up with these funds, but in the meantime work in the house has already begun. The floor of Hannah's room (directly above the parlor) has been removed, and an engineer has looked at the building and given his recommendations as to the best way to proceed. It is expected that this project alone will take almost the entire year to complete. There is no doubt that we are in the "messy" part of this change, but we look forward to the beauty we know will be there at the end.



Hannah's Room



Scaffolding holding up parlor ceiling

There is without a doubt still a lot of work ahead for us in the coming years. "Hard" and "messy" seem an accurate description for what lies ahead, and yet we are devoted to seeing it done. We would not be where we are without the support and encouragement of our donors and members. The generosity of the community and HGI membership has been instrumental in getting us where we need to be. At the time of this writing we have raised well over half of the required funds and look forward to reaching our goal sometime this year. For ways to get involved or to check on the progress of this project you can visit our website at www.historicgeorgetown.org.

Amount Raised to date: \$22,502.00

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JAMES GRAFTON ROGERS AWARD PRESENTED TO MIKE AND JANICE MOORE



This past summer HGI presented the prestigious James Grafton Rogers award to Mike and Janice Moore for their dedicated and generous service to HGI and the town of Georgetown over the years.

Mike and Janice have supported the preservation of historic assets and cultural traditions of Georgetown

for more than forty years. Mike served as mayor of Georgetown for several years and was a leader of downtown revitalization and historic preservation. Janice has always been instrumental in the planning and presentation of the Georgetown Christmas Market. We are fortunate to have such an amazing couple as ambassadors and guardians of our town!

GEORGE AND DAVID GRIFFITH INDUCTED INTO THE COLORADO BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

For those of you familiar with Georgetown, you will immediately recognize the names of George and David Griffith. They were two brothers who discovered gold in the valley at the base of Guanella Pass, and are credited with the founding of George's town, a mining camp later to become Georgetown. In January 2017, George and David were inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame. An awards reception was held at the Hyatt Regency in Denver, and several representatives from Georgetown attended the event.

SAVE THE DATE!

Back by Popular Demand, HGI will once again be hosting our First Fridays on the Lawn at the Hamill House.

JUNE 2, 2017

Mad Hatter Garden Party

5:30 PM-7:30 PM

Wear your craziest, funniest, fanciest, or most Victorian hat for a chance to win a great price. Enjoy food, drinks, games, and live entertainment.

Price: \$15 adults, \$5 children (4-12)

JULY 7, 2017

**Three Cheers to the Red Queen, White Rabbit,
and Blue Caterpillar**

5:30 PM-7:30 PM

Come enjoy games on the lawn, fine food and drink, live entertainment, and much more. It's a garden party you don't want to miss!

Price: \$15 adults, \$5 children (4-12)

AUGUST 4, 2017

Through the Looking Glass Dinner & Auction

5:30 PM-8:30 PM

Come treat yourself to dinner with friends on the Hamill House Lawn, then browse through our large supply of silent and live auction items and make your bids.

Price: \$35

MUSEUM TOUR DATES

MAY 29, 2017

MUSEUMS OPEN FOR TOURS

*Hamill House is undergoing construction and may not be available

Alpine Hose Available daily from 10AM to 4:00PM

SEPTEMBER 4, 2017

MUSEUMS CLOSED FOR SEASON

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THE ALPINE HOSE #2—THEN & NOW

By Tom Mensik

The Alpine Hose #2 was open for daily tours June through August of 2016. This iconic Georgetown landmark was the site of one of four of Georgetown's earliest fire departments. During the height of Georgetown's prominence there were roughly five thousand people living in town, so a reliable fire department was a necessity.

One of the most important factors in the creation of the four departments was community involvement. After the Barton Boarding house caught fire in 1871, members of the community rallied together and purchased a pumper engine and leather buckets for the town to fight fires. The pumper engine was considered top of the line technology for its time. The town also installed an early water system that fed hydrants from Clear Creek. Once the hydrants were well established in town around 1875, the pumper engine was not used as much. Faster and lighter hose carts were utilized in its place. The Alpine Hose #2 housed several of these hose carts and was a central meeting point between the four different departments.

One of the most notable features of the Alpine Hose #2 is the hose tower, which provides a commanding view of the town. The lookout at the top of the tower allowed firemen to watch for any fires in town. The bell in the tower was funded by William Arthur Hamill himself. He made a deal with the town in 1880. He said if the town built and funded the tower, he would have a bell cast and installed there. In 1881 the project was complete, and the tower has since become one of the hallmarks of Georgetown.

The Alpine Hose #2 defended Georgetown residents from the ravages of fire from the mid-1870's all the way into the 1950's. After decades of wear and tear, the town of Georgetown established a committee in 1971 to investigate the restoration needs of the Alpine Hose #2. A partnership was forged between the Town of Georgetown, the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department, and HGI to restore the old icon into a museum. That plan was realized in 2013, when the Alpine Hose #2 was open for visitors to tour. The Alpine Hose #2 is on the list of National Register of Historic Places.



One of the best parts about giving tours at the Alpine Hose this summer was speaking with firefighters that came to visit. Firefighters from St. Louis, Green Bay, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, and Evergreen were just a few of the cities represented. One fireman told me that most of the items shown here are still being utilized today except that they have been attached to trucks. This experience further solidified my respect for the men and women that do this line of work every day. We hope to see you for a tour during the 2017 season.

Historic Georgetown, Inc. Newsletter

A YEAR TO REMEMBER



In 2016, HGI hosted the Golden Jubilee House Tour, our biennial Georgetown tour of homes. The tour featured 7 private residences, four museums, three churches, the old 1874 brick schoolhouse, and the historic Masonic Lodge. In addition to the tour, visitors were invited to attend a picnic lunch fundraiser at the Hamill House. Hundreds of visitors came to our small town for this exciting event, and over a hundred volunteers helped make the tour a smashing success. One visitor wrote "We have come to this tour many times and have never been disappointed. Excellent job." The next tour of homes is scheduled for the summer of 2018.

In addition to the house tour, HGI once again hosted the annual Georgetown Christmas Market. This past year marked the 56th year of the Market, an event that brings hundreds of visitors to the town each December. With free entertainment, outdoor European style market, roasted chestnuts, Santa Lucia children's procession, horse drawn carriage rides, bonfire, and traditional Saint Nicholas, this beloved tradition is one no one wants to miss. Last year Georgetown was rated as one of the top ten Christmas Markets in the Country by Time Magazine. This year our Special Events Committee is already planning how to make the 57th Georgetown Christmas Market the best one yet.

Christmas at Hamill House, another long standing Christmas tradition, was a little different this year due to restoration work going on at the Hamill House. This year guests started out the evening with the traditional program at the Hamill House, but then finished the evening with a full course meal offered at the Hotel De Paris. As always it was a magical evening filled with friends and good food.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

In October of 1966, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall announced the designation of fifty-seven National Historic Landmarks. Number eight was the Georgetown-Silver Plume Historic District of Clear Creek County. Last year we celebrated our 50 year anniversary of that designation.

In an article written for this occasion, Christine Bradley stated, "National Historic Landmarks represent outstanding aspects of American history and culture and possess exceptional value in illustrating the history of the United States. The approximately 2500 historic places that bear this the highest designation bestowed on properties outside National Park Service ownership, are recognized as nationally significant buildings and sites important to telling the story of the nation and worthy of preservation."



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VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR—MARY LOU RUTHERFORD

As a non-profit organization, HGI relies heavily upon the support of members and community volunteers. These volunteers help with tours during the summer, assist with fundraisers, and work to make our other special events throughout the year run smoothly. We can honestly say that volunteers are the life blood of HGI and as such, we have decided to honor a volunteer each year with a 'Volunteer of the Year' award.

This year our Volunteer of the Year is Mary Lou Rutherford. Mary Lou assisted HGI with tours all summer at the Alpine Hose #2, and was always a cheerful and enthusiastic ambassador for HGI. In addition to her work with HGI, Mary Lou is also very active with other organizations in town. She volunteers for the Georgetown Trust as well as the Georgetown Community Center. It is for this dedication to our town, and selfless service to our organization, that HGI is proud to name Mary Lou Rutherford our 2016 Volunteer of the Year! Thank you so much for your service!



A LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NANCY HALE



Dear Member,

Welcome to 2017, our New Year. The Board of Directors and the Staff once again send our best wishes for a happy and healthy year ahead. When you think of the Hamill House, remember history doesn't end with the 19th century...as the Hamill House is diving into a restoration project this year the 21st century. The project will guarantee to create a sturdy environment that will teach our visitors the history of Georgetown, silver mining, who lived here and the role all played in our States growth. You all are the STEWARDS that have made this possible, your dedication has enabled us to achieve this goal. Funding this essential historic preservation project is a true investment in American's legacy.

All of us at HGI marvel at the vision so many of you had in 1970. We express our appreciation for your support through volunteerism, membership fees, sponsorships and donations. Without that we would not be able to maintain our active role in the community.

If you are locals, come up and see the progress, visitors call and stop in anytime. Most of all we want all of you to know that you mean so much to Historic Georgetown, Inc.

Sincerely,
Nancy S. Hale
Executive Director

Historic Georgetown, Inc. Newsletter

2016 DONORS PAGE

Dawn Anderson	Henry Anderson	Lindsey & Rosa Ashby	Hartman Axley	Jim & Dee Blugerman
Christine Bradley	Vivian Buckly	Tyler Buckner	Emory Bundy	Anne Marie Cannon & Bob Nix
Robert Carper	Mary Riddle Clark	Ivor Clark III	Sandra Dallas	Pat Dennehey
Tom & Ellen Elliott	Patricia Fraley	Robert & Karin Gibbs	Elizabeth Gottschalk & Julie Scott	Libbie Gottschalk
Grizzly Creek Gallery	Norma Hafenstein & Keith Holmes	Tom & Nancy Hale	Margot Hamill	Hannah Hamill
Ruth Hamilton	Jeff & Cinnamon Hawks	Karen Hickey	Holland & Hart	Sally Hopper
Hotel De Paris	Ted Jones & Diane Dieter	Kaffenhuset	Kevin Kuharic & Paul Boat	Diana Mackie
K.J. McCorry	Pamela McCoy	Elizabeth Montgomery	Mike & Janice Moore	Stan & Anne Moore
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Karri Richardson	Sandra Roe	Ruth Rosenfeld	Mary Lou Rutherford	Beth Sagstetter
Robert & Marilyn Schroeder	John Schulz	Robert Shaklee	Jan Shirlaw	Doris Shockley
Shoppe Internationale	Silver Plume Home Services	Jim Stahlhut	M. Kay Stefan	Linda Stowe
Renee Tewell	The Alpine Restaurant & Bar	The Buckskin Trading Company	Sarah Walen	Walter & Susan Weart
Janine Weeds & Tim McDonough	William Wilson	Carle Zimmerman		

**Thanks for
Donating!**

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2016 MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

HGI would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the Golden Jubilee House Tour, Summer museum tours, and Christmas at Hamill House. This year HGI saw over 100 volunteers help with Special Events! Your service is so very much appreciated!

Donor's Circle Members

Jim & Dee Blugerman
Tom & Ellen Elliott
Tom & Nancy Hale
Jeff & Cinnamon Hawks
Ron Lundquist
Dane & Debe Owens
Gregg & Janet Pederson
Sandra Roe
Jan Shirlaw
Richard & MaryAnn Woods

**Thank you
for your
generosity!**

Merchant's Circle Members

Blackwell Oil	Kneisel & Anderson
Cake LLC	Shoppe Internationale
Cooper's on the Creek	The Buckskin Trading
Dusty Rose Tea Room	Troia's Restaurant
End of the Line	
Georgetown Energy Museum	
Georgetown Trust/Gateway VC	
Hotel Chateau Chamonix	

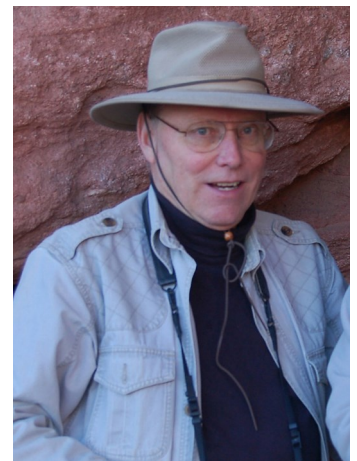
Thank you for making Christmas Market great!

HGI BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Ellen Elliott (Chair)	Pam McCoy
Sarah Walen (Vice Chair)	Ruth Rosenfeld
Gregg Pederson (Treasurer)	Jan Shirlaw
Norma Hafenstein (Secretary)	
Jim Blugerman	New Board Members
Robert Gibbs	Mary Smith
Jeffrey Hawks	Michelle Washburn
Edward Hoover	
Kevin Kuharic	

IN SPECIAL MEMORY OF
FORMER BOARD MEMBER
AND FRIEND OF HGI, BILL
SAGSTETTER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SERVICE BILL. YOU WILL BE
MISSED!



HISTORIC GEORGETOWN, INC.

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