

# A Ghost's Tale

The Unexpected Company Senior Theatre presents



All performances are at the Van Oss Stage, Alice Hardie Stevens Event Center, Laramie Plains Museum 603 East Ivinson Laramie, WY

Historic Ivinson Mansion  
Laramie Plains Museum  
Newsletter

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Autumn Arch on west side of the Ivinson property.

**WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY CAROLE HOMER**  
**MUSICAL DIRECTION BY SUSAN SHUMWAY**



*In this year of the Wyoming Woman we remember that in 1908, Mayor Markbreit of Cincinnati, Ohio declared that women are physically unfit to operate an automobile.*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A Bewitching View  
of Laramie High  
School in 1952  
from those  
whooooo know

**Friday, Oct. 25**  
**7:00pm**  
**Sunday, Oct. 27**  
**3:00pm**  
**Friday, November 1**  
**7:00pm**  
**Sunday, November 3**  
**3:00pm**

**Children 12 & Under \$5.00**

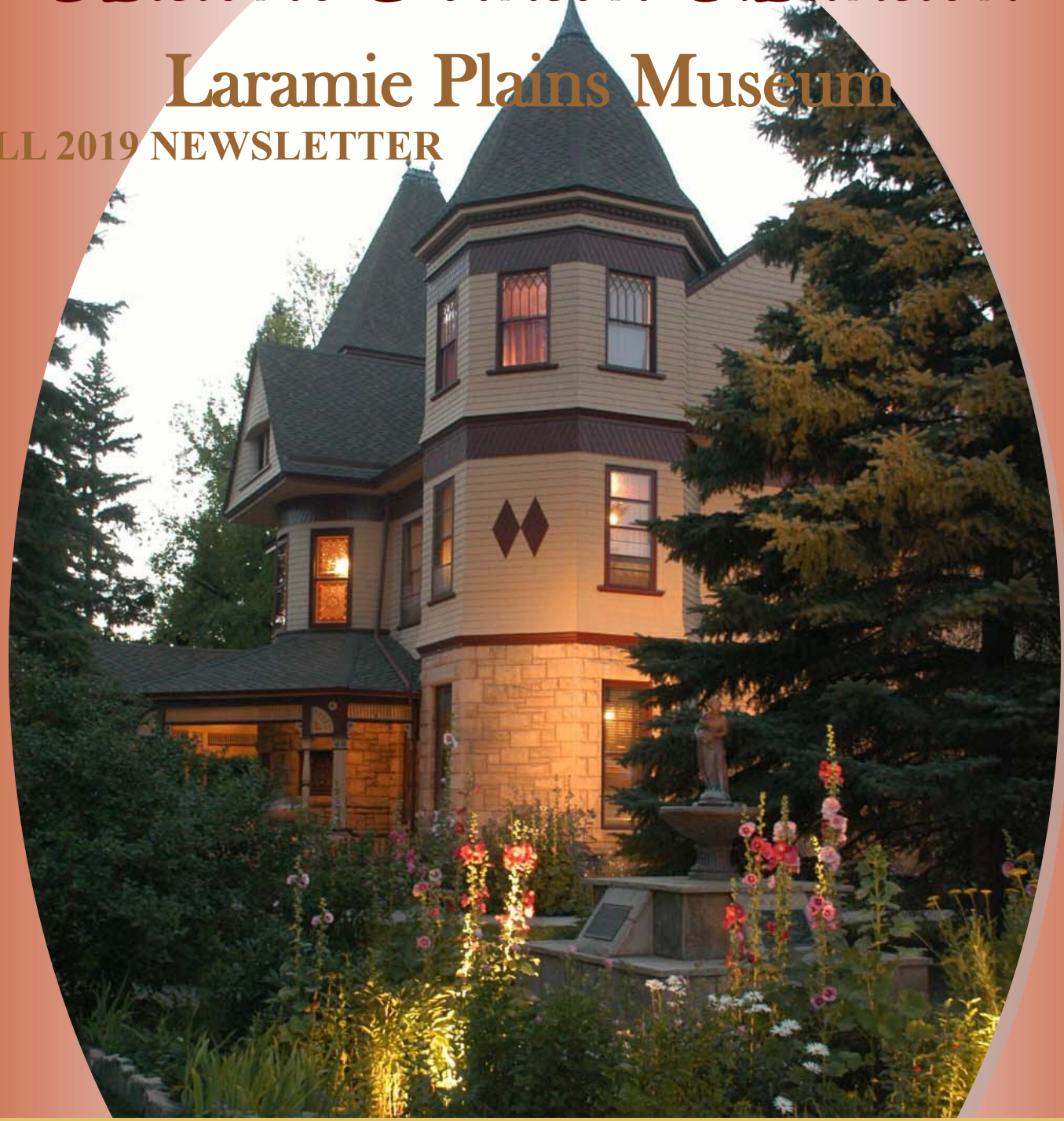
**Advance Tickets  
at these locations:**

**Carriage House Gifts & Office  
behind the Ivinson Mansion  
First Interstate Bank  
211 Ivinson  
Eppson Center for Seniors  
1560 N. 3rd**

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# Historic Ivinson Mansion

Laramie Plains Museum  
FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER



*Evening at the Ivinsons' 2019* was a perfect finishing touch to a busy, captivating summer season: Victorian Teas, Weddings, Receptions, *Marry Me in Laramie*, Art Fest, Downey Days, Suffrage coverage, teens leading tours of the Ivinson Mansion and a Museum complex that continues to shine in myriad ways.

# ~ WOMEN MAKE A DIFFERENCE ~

The Alice Hardie Stevens Event Center transforms into all kinds of design and welcoming environments on a regular basis. Its beautifully expanded and enhanced reception areas showcased 24 wedding receptions and 36 other special events from May through September this year, not counting meetings and rehearsals for various groups. The Events Center is very popular as the go-to place for mid-sized affairs, just as we had hoped for continued use and sustainable income for the Laramie Plains Museum. We held our *Teas on Tuesday* in there for up to 150 attendees; the *Marry Me in Laramie Robert Fuller* reception was held there for about that same number. The *Art Fest* and the marvelous *Downey Days Exhibits* reception also used the accommodating space, and finally, the auctions and dinner of this year's *Evening at the Ivinsons'* gala put a wonderful exclamation point on the events to the summer season. See photo collages of those events in this issue. See how vibrant *your* Museum is!

2019 is designated as *The Year of the Wyoming Woman* because of the 150th Anniversary of Wyoming's **Act of 1869** that gave our women so many opportunities for participation on equal status with men. Therefore, we used the welcoming Alice Hardie Stevens Event space for activities that have embraced women and Wyoming women in some way. In May, our first Tea on Tuesday recognized *Women Homesteaders* through an insightful presentation from author, **Marsha Hensley**. In June, we learned about the girls and women of *Jane Ivinson Girls' School* from LPM Curator, **Konnie Cronk** as a prelude to the Girls School theme of this year's *Evening at the Ivinsons*. In July, we tipped our Tea hats to women everywhere who choose to move out of their comfort zones and into vision and action that ultimately changes the world around them. The opposite page shows how women in the Laramie Plains Museum realm stepped up to help with the Teas and with telling the stories of our Wyoming women. The facts below offer more insight and smiles about women making a difference.

In 1805, **Sacagawea**, a young woman from the Shoshone tribe, with her baby son on her back, broke trail and interpreted for the Lewis and Clark expedition across the West.

In 1832, **Louisa May Alcott** was born. When asked about her views on marriage, the talented author said, "I would rather be a free spinster and paddle my own canoe."

In 1837, **Victoria** became Queen of England. She ruled for 63 years, the longest reign of any British monarch. Her "Victorian era" influenced the United States and the world.

In 1846, **Sarah Bagley** became the first woman telegrapher. Her one flaw was that she tended to correct the grammar of her customers.

In 1847, **Elizabeth Blackwell** began her medical studies at Geneva College. She wrote home, "The professors don't exactly know in what species of the human family to place me." **Lillian Heath** became Wyoming's first female physician in 1893, packing a pistol as needed.

In 1848, **Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton** orchestrated the first Woman's Rights Convention that was held in the United States. From the convention came the Declaration of Sentiments, the Charter of Woman's Rights, and the beginnings of the entire women's movement in the U.S.

In 1850, suffragists attending a lecture in Ohio, learned that Siberian women were not allowed to step across the footprints of men or reindeer. Luckily reindeer were not a problem in the United States.

In 1853, scientist, **Helen Gardner**, disproved the theory that women's brains were smaller and, therefore, inferior to men.

In 1854, fourteen year old, **Mattie Freeman**, debated a male editor's article on the inferiority of women. Mattie won.

In 1855, the Women's Hospital of New York City opened its doors. It was the first women's hospital in the world founded by women for women.

In 1868, **Jane Wood Ivinson**, arrived on the first train into Laramie City, Dakota Territory. Mrs. Ivinson and her husband, Edward, ultimately were highly influential to the thriving growth of the town of Laramie, Wyoming.

In 1869, the men of Wyoming toasted women of the Territory, saying, "**Lovely ladies, once our superiors, now our equal,**" as they granted women the right to vote, hold political office and property on equal terms with men—the first actions of such equality in the world.

In 1870, **Esther Hobart Morris** became Justice of the Peace in South Pass City. The first woman to ever hold judicial office.

In 1870, three more firsts in the world came from the new Territory of Wyoming: **Louisa Gardner Swain** became the first woman in the world to cast her own vote in an election that embraced full voting and ownership rights with men. **Martha Symons-Bois-Atkinson**, also of Laramie, was the first woman bailiff appointed in a court of law; and six Wyoming women were allowed on a jury for the very first time. Those ladies with a eye for justice were from Laramie, Wyoming: **Eliza Stewart Boyd** (the first woman asked), **Amelia Hatcher**, **Jane Hilton**, **Mary Mackel**, **Agnes Baker** and **Sarah Pease**.

In 1872, **Victoria Claflin Woodhull** became the first woman presidential candidate.

Born in 1875, **June Etta Downey** was one of the pioneering psychologists who focused on personality and handwriting as a way to learn more about individual will and temperament. Her father, Colonel Stephen Downey is considered the father of the University of Wyoming.

In 1904, **Caroline Lockhart** settled in Cody and became one of Wyoming's nationally recognized cowgirls. An actress, author of popular western novels and movies, owner of impressive land in the western states, she is known for the Cody Stampede. Caroline represents the vibrant spirit of the West!

In 1911, **Mary Godat Bellamy**, of Albany County, in the fledgling state of Wyoming, became the first woman elected to the Wyoming state legislature.

In 1920, **Carrie Chapman Catt**, president of the International Suffrage Alliance, organized the first National League of Women Voters. Ms. Catt had visited Laramie in earlier years so that she could join with other suffragists to stand at the site of the first jury that had allowed women.

In 1924, **Nellie Tayloe Ross** assumed the role of Governor of Wyoming—the first woman in that position in the world.

In 1931, the first woman pitcher in the history of professional baseball, 17 year old **Jackie Mitchell**, was signed by a Tennessee team. The very next day, she also became the first and only woman pitcher to strike out Babe Ruth.

In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed **Nellie Tayloe Ross** the first woman to be named director of the U.S. Mint.

The list can go on and on, thanks to women who choose to make a difference in their corner of the world. As Jane Ivinson said when she reflected on her early days in Laramie City:

*"One of my former ambitions had been to have a field in which to labor where help was needed and unlimited good could be done. I realized that I now had reached that place."*

*"We are planting the winter wheat that others will reap and enjoy..."*

On December 10, 1869, the Wyoming territory passed the first unconditional law in the United States guaranteeing women their inherent right to vote and hold public office – more than 50 years prior to the U.S. ratification of the 19th amendment. *On September 6, 1870, the first woman to vote in an election on equal terms with men, cast her ballot in Laramie, Wyoming.* Twenty years after the 1869 law passed, Wyoming sought statehood and famously refused to enter the Union if women's suffrage was not upheld. In 1890, Wyoming officially entered the Union as the 44<sup>th</sup> state and the first state to fully grant women these inherent rights.

As the nation prepares for the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment in 2020, Wyoming will continue to celebrate its milestone anniversaries well before that. Here are some of the notable dates that will be celebrated:

- \*\* Dec 10, 2019 - 150th Anniversary of Governor Campbell signing the Women's Suffrage Act into law, officially making Wyoming the first place in the U.S. granting women their inherent right to vote, to serve on a jury or to hold public office without restriction (i.e. without property, ownership, monetary or marital requirements).
- \*\* Jan 27, 2020 - 100th anniversary of State of Wyoming ratifying the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- \*\* July 10, 2020 - 130th Anniversary of Statehood Day - Wyoming enters the Union as the 44th state and the only state to have Suffrage Act ratified into their state constitution.
- \*\* Aug 18, 2020 - 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, thus making women's suffrage legal in all of the U.S.
- \*\* Sept 6, 2020 - 150th Anniversary of the Women's First Vote - In Laramie, WY, Louisa Swain became the first woman in the world to cast a ballot under new democratically enacted suffrage laws. Laramie's Wyoming House for Historic Women be a center point for celebration of this stunning achievement.

Karen Bard, a relatively new member of Laramie Woman's Club, has tackled a wonderful project in support of these significant women who stepped up because of Wyoming's stance on suffrage. Bard led the charge to produce a spectacular **Historic Women of Wyoming Calendar** that is immediately available via the Carriage House Gift Shop and Laramie Woman's Club members around the state. Cost is \$15 per calendar and, as always, LPM members receive 20% off their purchases.

## Historic Women of Wyoming Calendar for 2020

**\$15**

**Dr. Lillian Heath (1858-1962)**  
Modeled clothes for the Daniel's and Fisher's Department Store  
Began her medical practice in Rawlins in 1893 at 27 years old  
Encouraged by her father  
Helped perform plastic surgery before that practice was ever named  
She assisted with over 30 surgeries required to rebuild a man's destroyed face  
Became a perfect anesthetist  
Practiced medicine for approximately 15 years  
Carried a .32 caliber revolver for protection on house calls but never had to use it

Re-enacted by Amy Allen - Laramie Plains Museum  
Photo by - Dave Nelson

**Girl Guards (1889-1890)**  
First all-women ceremonial drill companies  
Direct ties with the military: the active Army 32 original "G" had 22  
City's elite families,  
ard of Honor for  
ted for Wyoming's  
ard of Honor for  
", a float carrying  
g Idaho and  
float with 42 little  
the states of the  
with swords drawn  
arched to the  
Governor Warren  
message: women

Re-enacted by Modern Girl Guards of Cheyenne  
Photo Donated by the Girl Guards of Cheyenne

**Jane Ivinson**  
**Caroline Lockhart**  
**Esther Hobart Morris**  
**June Etta Downey**  
**Louisa Gardner Swain**  
**Mary Godat Bellamy**  
**Agnes Wright-Spring**  
**Girl Guards**  
**Ernie Shriner**  
**Estelle Reel Meyer**  
**Mary Brooks**  
**Eliza Stuart Boyd**  
**Dr Raymond Hebard**  
**Dr Lillian Heath**  
**Iva Dale Pickett Gay**

Following the robust *Evening* we held in commemoration of Jane Ivinson's Memorial Girls School, we thought it very appropriate to rerun this special memoir.

## Reflections from a Girls' School Girl

by Elizabeth Adair Davis

The rector of my church in San Antonio, J. Wilson Hunter, was consecrated Bishop of Wyoming and asked me to move to Laramie to be his secretary, an exciting adventure in my young life, but I refused. "I have two more years of college, but if there is some job there that will provide room and board while attending the University of Wyoming, I'd love a new experience." He found that job and so I went as a monitor to an Episcopal girls' school called Ivinson Hall. In 1948 I left my family and my home, a nice but unpretentious bungalow, to live for two years in a most impressive place.

Ivinson Hall provided for daughters of rural Wyoming families and others, a school with unique characteristics: Religious training and cultural emphasis on manners and social graces with academic and physical education at the University High School.

The school was a three-storied Victorian mansion built in 1892 by Edward Ivinson, a wealthy Englishman. After his wife's death he deeded the stone and wood home and carriage house to the Episcopal Church for a school. Each room on the main floor was in a different wood: The drawing room-maple, the parlor-mahogany, the reception room-oak, and the smoking room converted into the school office-sycamore. Here I was Miss Whitehead's secretary for three hours each Saturday morning. The foyer had a beautiful winding staircase to the chapel, the principal's suite, a room for Miss Bacon, helpful to Miss Whitehead, a vacant maid's room, and a small dormitory. The third floor housed a ten-bed dormitory and a four-bed dormer room, both for junior and senior girls under my care, and my adjoining six-sided tower room, which fascinated me. I was pleased when I visited the Ivinson Mansion in August, 2013, sixty-three years later, and was able to mention the names of each girl's bed in the years of 1948-50. Virginia Cottage, with an auditorium on the first floor, a freshman and sophomore dormitory on the second floor and monitored

by my friend, Marilyn Keane, assisted by Mrs. Drew, a dear motherly woman. The lower floor of the Carriage House was home of the University's Canterbury Club for Episcopal students. The principal, Miss Josephine Whitehead, a very intelligent woman wearing pince-nez (eyeglasses clipped on her nose), was respected by all and feared by some, as she was a stickler for manners and lady-like behavior. I admired her. Interesting times were when her sister, Lucretia, and brother-in-law, John, came for visits. The girls entering the front door smelled pipe smoke and gleefully searched for *Uncle John*. He was pleased with Josephine's girls, so pleased that to the girls' delight he placed an enticing large bowl of candies on the mail table.

My job was being a monitor for the fourteen junior and senior girls, conducting a study hall; acting as a chaperone on weekend nights to movies, ice-skating, concerts, and plays; and being or attempting to be a model for correct table manners and social graces. I loved the job and very much liked the table-manners and social graces part, I guess thanks to years of my parents' diligence in these areas. I later learned that at one dinner when I was out, Miss Whitehead made an announcement that if any girl felt ill-at-ease at the dinner table, she should watch Miss Adair. I appreciated her confidence in me, but surely she knew that I watched her every move at the adjoining table. When later I taught in a public high school I said that if the administration someday were to say I could teach anything I wished, I would have a course in manners and social graces. Most students' question would be *social graces? What are they?* The course would be cancelled after one day due to lack of interest with the thought: *Mrs. Davis is some sort of nut.*

There are many memories of my two years at Ivinson Hall: Making angels in the snow for the first time at age nineteen; hovering around the wood stove in the shed at the ice-skating rink; sitting up all one night with Miss Whitehead waiting for one of the girls to return up the fire escape and through the dorm window after a tryst with her boyfriend; the once-a-month teas in the drawing room; the many chats with



Miss Whitehead in her suite; and my six-sided tower room with three windows and a radiator that clanked on at 6:00 a.m. after I had studied in bed with my coat on to keep warm two hours earlier; and attending services at St. Matthew's Cathedral. I liked Saturday noon's mutton stew, which the ranch girls hated; the salmon salad served with cornbread; and my favorite simple dessert—saltines, cream cheese and currant jelly.

One of my memories was the many rehearsals for the 400th anniversary of the 1549 Book of Common Prayer pageant that Miss Whitehead wrote. It, with everyone in costume, was held in Virginia Cottage before a full house. The cottage also was the scene of several dances and get-togethers. Another memory was seeing the girls dressed for dinner each evening and at *Tea* on Sunday afternoons. One of my friends, a pianist, was given permission to play several times at tea in the drawing room. What pleasant afternoons!

When I met Kenneth, Miss Whitehead said, "It would be nice to have a young man walk with you and the girls to the movies," and our first date consisted of Ken with me and fourteen of my girls. We did this often, and the girls and I enjoyed the walks. So did Ken.

I have felt privileged to have spent two years at Ivinson Hall with Miss Whitehead and the young ladies enriching my life. An additional plus was marrying a young man named Kenneth Davis, a Canterbury Club officer, who became an Episcopal priest.

I am pleased to realize that the Ivinson Mansion, now a special museum that I have visited, will still be a place for my children and grandchildren to visit. They will love my six-sided tower room.

One Tea hat works for two friends:



The July Tea heralded women who made a difference in Wyoming. Above, we see **Judy Knight** telling the *true tale* of **Esther Hobart Morris**, 1st woman justice of the peace; **Karen Bard** as **Eliza Stewart Boyd**, Laramie teacher and 1st woman asked to sit on a jury; **Amy Allen** as **Dr. Lillian Health**, Wyoming's 1st woman physician; **Germaine St. John** as **June Etta Downey**, a pioneering Wyoming psychologist; and **Jennifer Clark** as **Caroline Lockhart**, Wyoming cowgirl, actress and author.



**TEA SMILES**



**Left: Jennifer Clark**  
**Above: Jeanie Mahaffey & Polly Wade**  
**Below Left: our Tea Room tiers of delights!**



**TEA HELPERS DOING DISHES!**  
1. Annie Nelson  
2. Connie Palmer with smiling junior docents: Samantha, Parker, and Grace.  
3. Jr. docent, Sophia with Konnie Cronk and longtime Tea lady, Jeanetta Schmidt.



# Marry Me in Laramie



The 60th Anniversary of the TV show, *Laramie*, brought Jess Harper—**Robert Fuller, Bobby Crawford, and Dennis Holmes** to Laramie for fishing, “Fandom” and fun. The television cowboys were our special guests at the *Marry Me in Laramie* event held in the Ivinson Mansion gardens and in the Alice Hardie Stevens Event Center on July 12th. **Mike Gray, Design & Operations Manager** for Albany County Tourism, was the coordinator of this special affair where 30+ couples renewed their wedding vows with a certificate signed by Fuller. Characters from *Laramie*’s colorful history were represented by the talented actors and singers of **The Unexpected Company Senior Theatre** troupe and **Chuck Dennison** was the travelin’ preacher who made sure we all

behaved and understood all the *to have and to hold* parts. It was a fun time with Fuller’s agent and all of the fans who follow him to new places and events orchestrating everybody wanting to meet and greet the stars. Mike Gray pulled off another great promotional set of activities for Laramie and Albany County with *Marry Me*. His graphics and inspired ideas have brought some great kinds of focus to our neat little town! His next big coup is helping to coordinate and stage Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition models and photographers here in Laramie and up Brush Creek. Wyoming’s Suffrage Act Anniversary is a mighty fine lure. Pretty cool—huh?

# Evening Recognition of Great Folks!



This historic museum property has a very special historian, keeping us, visitors, and Facebook on track with our facts and insight to history, authoring books and articles that share notable, historic information for all kinds of publics, and giving some of the best-of-the-best tours of our LPM collections as a Museum docent. There’s no denying that **Kim Viner** has graced our work here with his intellect and cordial interactions. Every museum should have a Kim.

We recognized Viner’s incredible gifts to the Laramie Plains Museum and the Ivinson Mansion Complex as our **2019 Evening Honoree**. Figuring Viner didn’t need “one more award hanging on his wall”, we gave an engraved clock to sit on his well-used desk. Small thanks for a very fine benefactor to this special place.

Above, **Kim Viner** speaks about Wyoming’s significant **Suffrage Act of 1869** to visiting national journalists earlier in 2019. His insight and information have been quoted extensively in articles throughout this 150th Anniversary year.

Left, **Laramie’s favorite and longest in business florist, Janet Killian**, was recognized at this year’s *Evening* for her generosity of spirit and unique design stylings for the Museum and so many organizations and individuals in our Laramie area. Janet has donated flowers for the Teas on Tuesdays for as long as anyone can remember and creates lavish bouquets for events and benefactors we want to thoughtfully treat or remember. She also was on our Board of Directors for six years, holding the position of President of the LPMA for much of that time. She knows this Museum well and has always been a grand benefactor. Janet loves cats and cats love her so we found a stained glass hanging reflecting a feline at the window as her gift from LPM. You can see it hanging in her **Killian Florist** shop window!



Right, **Danny Walker**, one of our ever-ready “Ivinson Mansion Press” photographers poses jauntily beside this flashy **1950 Studebaker Commander** from the Girls’ School era. **Bob and Mickey Routson** brought this beauty to the grounds for the *Evening*.



# It is Laramie Plains Museum's pleasure to partner with these fine folks for our signature summer event: *Evening at the Ivinsons'*

Bob & Judy Adams/Newell Wine & Spirits  
 Albany County Tourism Board  
 ALSOCO Linens/Brenda Schriener  
 Sherrie Anderson/Two Cut Framing  
 Jake & Stacie Anfinson  
 Aspen Family Chiropractic  
 Augusta Muzzlewitt's Back of the Wagon Antiques  
 Senator John Barrasso  
 Cheri & Bill Bellamy  
 Butcher Block  
 Checker Ice  
 Danno/Dan Brain  
 Ray & Chris Hall/ Hillbilly Hallow  
 Rhetha Davis & John Holladay  
 Jake Felton  
 Alice & Doug Freeman/Wind & Roses  
 Gateway Liquor  
 Hilton Garden Inn  
 Hood House in Saratoga  
 Kirby Hornbeck  
 Dave & Jo Lynne Johnson  
 Kathy Keenan & Mike Scott  
 Killian Florist  
 Judy & Dennis Knight  
 Steve & Lissa Maki  
 Linda Lillegraven  
 Ludwig Photo/Anne Brande  
 Ginnie & Jon Madsen  
 Martin Barber Shop  
 Martindale's Western Wear  
 Ethan MacDougall & Mary Mountain  
 Scott Morton  
 Daniel Nelson  
 John Nutter & Suzanne Lewis  
 Deb Olsen/Laramie Travel  
 Debi Ockers & Ivinson Home for Ladies  
 Night Heron/Julie Church  
 Joyce Doug Powell  
 Barb Rouse  
 Bob & Mickey Routson  
 Sue Sandeen  
 Jeanetta & Jerry Schmidt  
 Germaine St. John  
 Stacy Clark/Smith Beverage  
 Laramie Toyota  
 Brandi Tweeter  
 UW Jacoby Golf Course  
 Cal & Lorraine Van Zee  
 Vee Bar Guest Ranch  
 Christel & Dave Walrath



## Evening Sponsors

Albany County Tourism (ACTB/LAVC)  
 Guthrie Family Foundation  
 ANB Bank  
 Judy and Dennis Knight  
 First Interstate Bank  
 Germaine St. John  
 Debi Ockers  
 Newell Enterprises Wine & Spirits  
 Dennis Cook & Associates  
 Western States Bank

## Donors and Guests



Left: RJ and Samantha Lara are back in Laramie and looking dashing at this year's *Evening* Garden Party. RJ, one of our favorite employees as he attended UW in Museum Studies, finished his Masters work back east at Winterthur so the popular couple are back for Samantha's Masters in Social Work at UW.



Above: Ron Olsen and Bob Mountain took the dress-up theme to heart: Ron looking dashing as a gentleman rancher from Albany County and Bob wearing his Dad's WWII uniform, circa 1945. We have some delightful photos of Ivinson Hall girls at special affairs with their soldiers and cowboys.



Above: Bob & Sylvia Hansen fabulously represented the flashy 1920's! The Girls' School opened in the Ivinson Mansion during that decade.



Left: The Bar sat under the trees this year with our talented *Evening* tenders: Doug, John, Rhetha, Kathy and Mike. Thanks, you faithful volunteers!!!!!! Cheers!



Laramie Woman's Club always has bright, shining representatives on our grounds during the Art Fest as they troll for new members and tell of the Club's ongoing work in our Laramie community.



Above, Ray Hall stands by his great collection of rustic bits of wooden carts, wagons, coolers, trunks—you name it; Ray and wife, Chris, create some stunning heritage pieces for Art Fest and *Evening at the Ivinsons*.



We are very fortunate to have Kirby Hornbeck with his eye for the beauty found in our neck of the woods and throughout Wyoming. His photos on canvas, framed under glass and on metal, capture outstanding views for your home, office and gifting. Hornbeck will be back with another selection at our Holiday Open House, December 14, 15. We're also always fortunate to have Beth Rulli with her exciting *Dumpster Glass* creations at the Art Fest and the Christmas showcase. Come see Beth and Kirby and other inspiring artists. The Holiday Open House is always the 2nd weekend in December: Saturday—3:00 to 6:00 and Sunday—1:00 to 4:00.

# ART FEST

This stunning quilt, on raffle to raise funds for *Laramie Family Promise*, a group helping families and individuals in our area needing an extra hand, was one of the showpieces found in the Alice Hardie Stevens Event Center during the Art Fest. Drawing for the quilt is Oct. 19, 2019.

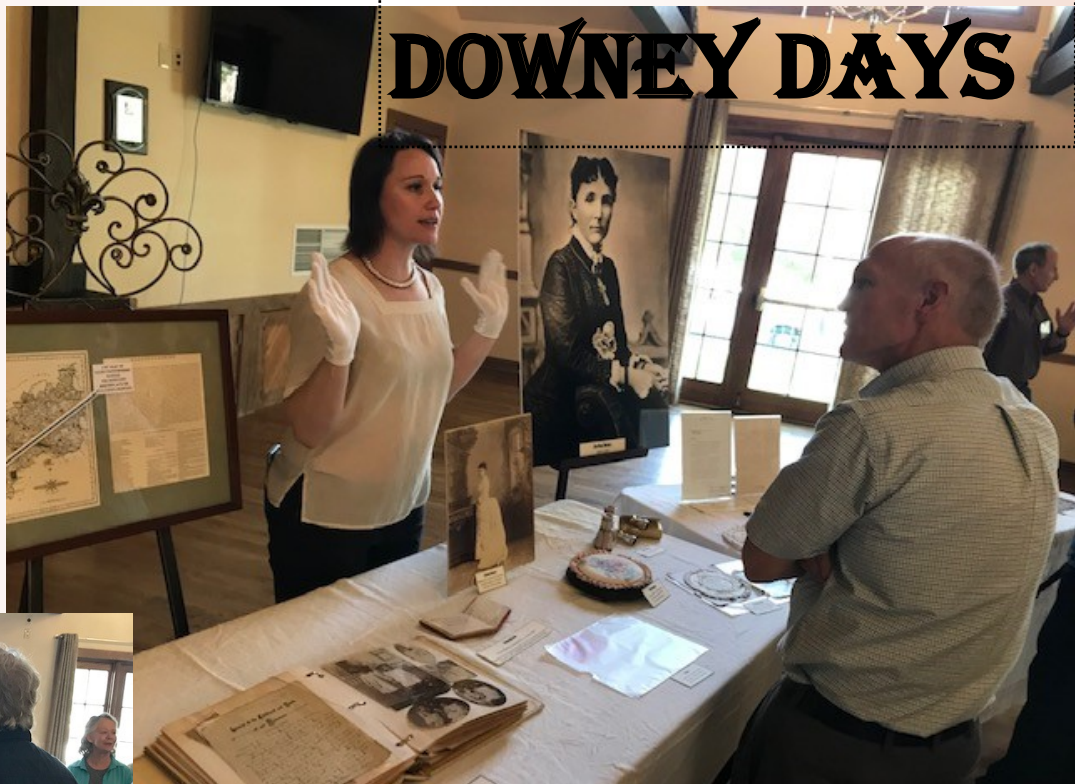


Left: LPM Garden Angels, Sharon Leder and Annie Nelson, are all smiles as they make sure things look great for the *Marry Me* and Art Fest weekend! Our volunteer gardeners not only work their regular Tuesday mornings, but some come back at the end of each week to make sure the grounds are looking good for the special events and weddings.



We love ANB Bank and the smiling faces (and free snow cones!!) they bring to the Ivinson Mansion grounds each Art Fest! Here we have Lisa Secrist and her daughter, Aislyn, joining Libby Schaefer to bring snow cones and sparkle to the center of things on Art Fest Sunday, the last day of all of the Jubilee Days festivities. We love the Laramie Plains Museum's Art Fest because it is an artsy, comfortable day in contrast to all of the hustle and bustle and "crazeee" of Jubilee Week.

**The City of Laramie and LPM recognized the significant contributions of Stephen & Eva Downey to the Laramie community. June Etta & other Downeys were noted as well.**



# DOWNEY DAYS

On July 28 and 29, The City of Laramie and the Laramie Plains Museum celebrated the many contributions of Stephen and Eva Downey. Downey descendants gathered at LPM facilities to share family insight and artifacts, after presenting a plaque to be posted at Albany County Courthouse in recognition of Downey contributions to Laramie and Wyoming. Many Downey family descendants came for the event from all across the nation. **Left: Peter Boutin**, center, a Downey descendant, always had an interested crowd around him, hoping to learn and share more about the family.



**Above:** Museum enthusiasts, **Anne Levig and Susan McGraw** enjoyed the festivities.



**Left:** Eva Downey's hand painted dishes. This photograph was taken by her (Eva's) brother William (Billy) Owen, the surveyor. Photo was scanned from Alice Downey Nelson's scrapbook about the Downey family ancestry. The scrapbook will be donated to the American Heritage Center; the donor and Downey descendant, **Valasini** gave LPM permission to scan for our records and research.

**Above:** You can see those LPM historians who orchestrated this special showing of Downey artifacts and the reception that gathered Downey descendants and friends to view this special heritage of our Laramie community, **Amy Allen**, LPM Registrar, **Kim Viner**, LPM docent, historian, and author, and **Konnie Cronk**, LPM Curator. Our Museum staff is hoping we can continue to shine lights and hold gatherings on the family histories that have built our city, county and state.



**Above:** Up for the festivities from Colorado were descendants, **Tom and Amy Russell**. Amy is also a direct descendant of **Martha Symons Bois**, the first woman bailiff in the world from Albany County, Wyoming.

It was another exceptional *Evening at the Ivinsons*, **August 17, 2019!** A touch of ominous clouds and a bit of a sprinkle threatened but moved on and our Ivinson Mansion and the attendees made us all feel the special event at hand as we celebrated the four decades that Jane Ivinson Memorial Girls School graced this historic property. The flower gardens were colorful delights, thanks to the special work and touches of **Laramie Garden Club**, the appetizers and formal dinner were tasty and plentiful from **Hilton Garden Inn**, and the décor and setting was top notch, because of a wonderful *Evening Committee* of volunteers led by **Joyce Powell, Debi Ockers, and Mary Mountain**. Hosted by the LPMA Board of Directors and held on the grand expanse of the Ivinson Mansion's East Lawn, this signature event is always held on that third weekend in August so that Laramie Plains Museum and history enthusiasts can gather in awareness and support while the mild weather and the summer foliage can showcase the outstanding Ivinson Mansion property. Mark your calendar for this time next year—the popular event at the end of a Laramie summer, full of great food, libations, music, auctions and friends rallying in celebration and pride in our history. This year we saw flappers and a UW president and his charming wife from the 1920's, school principals, ladies in day dresses and ball gowns the girls might have worn to special affairs in the 1940's, military garb from the war and post war years, and 1950's poodle skirts and saddle shoes from the era that Ivinson Hall was wrapping up its time as a school for girls from local ranches and outlying areas. Note the fun costumes and photos from the *Evening*, then read actual reflections from **Girls' School girl, Elizabeth Adair Davis** at the back of this issue.



**Dave Van Oss** and his bride of 51 years came to the party on their anniversary. He wore the same military dress uniform he was wearing when they met! Sharp looking—eh?!



**Ruth Ashton and Aven Nelson**, aka **Judy and Dennis Knight**, *Evening* sponsors representing notable UW botanists and UW president in the 1920s.

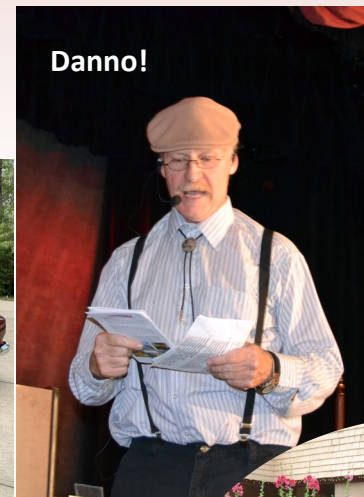


The musical stylings of **Alice Freeman**



**Snazzy gangster, Greg St. John**, with his beautiful "moll" (his mom) **Germaine**, a special *Evening* Sponsor.

**Mary Mountain** interviewed **Vera Reid**, posing as **Miss Wurtz**, the Ivinson Hall principal who successfully fought off a robber who had her at gun point when she was in her mansion bed!



**Danno!**



**Donna Thompson**



1940's beauties: **Amy Allen and Joyce Powell** with **Scott Morton's** stunning 1927 **Buick Brougham**.



Longtime, outstanding benefactor, **Don Adams**, was in from Salt Lake City with a beautiful lady on each side: his wife, **Val** and daughter **Jayne**.

