

Saratoga Museum Newsletter

S u m m e r 2 0 1 7 V o l u m e 2

Medusa

By Kathleen Martin

Karl Nessler ushered in the era of long-term curls. Nessler, a German man who started cutting and styling hair early in life started dabbling in ways to create a long-term curl and, using a human guinea pig (who just happened to be his wife) created the first permanent hair waving machine. His initial invention was clunky and the rollers were so heavy and hot they would often burn the woman's hair and scalp to the point of hair loss.

The first U.S. patent for a permanent wave machine was given to Marjorie Joyner in 1928. Joyner, an African-American woman who owned a beauty salon in Chicago, unknowingly came upon a way of improving Nessler's design while looking at the rods that went inside her pot roast. The permanent wave machine looked rather strange with tentacle-like wires and rods hanging from a hood.

Mary Katona came from Rock Springs to open the town's first professional beauty shop. It was located on the bottom floor in the Sisson Hotel (presently the Hotel Wolf). The entrance to the shop was to the West, on First Street, and was the second door down from the northwest corner of the building. The permanent wave machine looked very strange, but the townspeople were thrilled with the results. When the tie-hacks from the woods came to town for a drink,



Fondly called "Medusa" the wave curler receives many questions, especially from children.



CJ Box Trivia: Where in Wyoming is Joe Pickett?

August 12th @ the Platte Valley Community Center
4-5 signing 5-8pm Trivia Event

***\$350 in cash prizes *live auction *Brunch with CJ and his wife**

Meal by FireWater

Tickets: \$40 per person

Must Purchase Tickets by August 5th to participate!



they would sometimes step accidentally into Mary's shop, since the door to the bar was just north of hers. They would say something like, "Oh, she's electrocuting that lady!!"

Mary married J. Earls Moore in 1942, and she sold the beauty equipment to Mrs. Helen Matson, who in turn sold the equipment to Lillian Lohs who had a shop several doors down from the Sisson. Lillian gave the permanent wave machine to the museum where it can be admired today.

C.J. Box Trivia turns 5!

By: Mikayla Larrow

Our fifth annual CJ Box Trivia Event is happening this year! It's hard to believe that Joe Pickett is getting ready for his next adventure in book 18! In partnership with CJ the Saratoga Museum celebrates the adventures of Joe and the Saratoga Museum at this annual fundraiser. This year's theme is "Where in Wyoming Is Joe Pickett?" and is on Saturday, August 12th at the Platte Valley Community Center, starting at 4pm with a book signing. After the signing we'll move into the great hall for dinner and the fun stuff!

Firewater, the soon to be newest restaurant in town, will be catering and has put together a spectacular menu of Fried Chicken, andouille rice, sautéed asparagus, squash, and blistered tomatoes, with Cajun cream sauce. This will be followed by dessert of a key lime pie twist.

Sounds delicious right?! In order to make sure we have food for everyone tickets must be purchased by August 5th either over the phone or at the museum. Tickets are \$40 per person and all proceeds go to the Saratoga Museum to preserve the valleys history.

Don't have a team? No worries, we can place you with others who are ready to win! Cash prizes are being offered this year with first place receiving \$200, second \$100, and third place \$50.

This year we will be having a live auction that many of our local businesses have generously donated to. We have items that range from abalone-blue shell earrings to a hand beaded hat band. CJ has also generously provided one lucky person the chance to win the naming rights of an upcoming character!

This years door prize has also generously been provided by CJ and his wife. One lucky couple will have brunch the following morning with CJ and his wife!! Anyone feeling lucky?

We hope to see you all on August 12th for the 5th CJ Box Trivia fundraiser!



Last years wining team of CJ Box Trivia! The group on the left was from Casper and the group on the right from Laramie.

'Chase Your Trails' to Emigrant's Crossing

By: Dick Perue

History buffs and adventurers are invited to chase the Overland Trail to the historic Emigrant's Crossing Saturday, July 29, where the Saratoga Historical & Cultural Assn. will be hosting a trek to the secluded site 12 miles north of Saratoga. Interested persons must meet at 8:30 a.m. in front of the Saratoga Museum, located at 104 E. Constitution Ave., across from Saratoga airport. The motorcade will leave at 9. Tickets are \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. RSVP by July 27th.



Pictured is covered wagon train along the Overland Trail 12 miles north of Warm Springs (now Saratoga), Wyo., in the late 1870s.—Photo from Bob Martin/Dick Perue collection donated to the Saratoga Historical & Cultural Assn., and on file at the Saratoga Museum.

Guest speakers will join tour guide Dick Perue as trekkers do a two-hour, more than a mile walking tour of the trail, river crossing, graveyard, natural stairway, and registry cliffs.

Participants will receive a booklet with photos and history of the Overland Trail, Emigrant's Crossing and Cemetery, compiled by Perue from the "Historical Reproductions by Perue" from the Bob Martin/Dick Perue collection.

Participants are encouraged to car pool in high profile vehicles, bring walking sticks and wear boots and appropriate clothing, as it is rattlesnake country. For those staying for the question and answer session, bring lunch and a lawn chair. Because of high temperatures and dusty conditions, trekkers should bring plenty of water, wear a hat and dress in layers.

Several points of interest will be seen along the trail including covered wagon ruts, stage and wagon train crossings of the Upper North Platte River, a ferry site, a child's grave, names carved in a cliff by the travelers in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and a hidden rock staircase. Other sites include the Coal Banks, Cathedral Rocks, Johnstone Island and trail leading westward to Bridger Pass.

To sign up for the trek, call the Saratoga Museum at 326-5511, email saratogamusum@gmail.com, or visit the museum in the old Saratoga & Encampment Railway depot.

2018 Saratoga Museum Exhibit

What Exhibit would you like to see in 2018? Please select one and return to the museum. Items listed for examples of what exhibit may include

Comments:

Beauty Supplies of the Day

Vintage Toys

- Straight Razors
- Wave Curler
- Beauty Compact

- Miniature house set
- Dolls
- Iron toys

World War (please select)

Fashion Through the Ages

- One
- OR
- Two

- Shoes
- Women's Clothing
- Men's items

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

S u m m e r s H a l f W a y G o n e

B y : M i k a y l a L a r r o w

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over! It has been a busy time at the Saratoga Museum! We are currently getting ready for our two remaining treks, one to Emigrant's Crossing and the other to Big Creek Ranch. The museum, for the first time, also started a summer camp for kids! Lead by one of our newest board members, Linda Fisher-Perue, the camps are filled with history and art. Our first camp involved the history of denim and how old jeans make a great, and affordable, canvas for different art mediums. Our next camp is on July 22nd where the kids will learn about our forests and how to turn discs into decorative wood clackers.

Please remember to RSVP for our treks as space is limited. Call the museum at 307-326-5511 today. Also check out our website or Facebook page for more information on our summer camps.



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