

# Historic Highlandlake

Preserving the history  
of the Highlandlake/Mead area



Volume 1, Issue 2

December 2005

## Inside this issue:

History Bits	2
Cemetery Tour 2005	3
84th Reunion	3
Centennial Exhibit	3
Sponsors	4
Join Us!	5



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### Published by:

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## Building Bridges Across Time

### Rare, Early Mead Photo Discovered

Hidden away in the Longmont Museum and Cultural Center's, not so dusty archives, is a photo of probably the first Denver Great Western train to come to Mead.

Pictured in front of the engine is a welcoming brass band, composed of three or four Coronet players, two Drummers, two French Horns, and rounded out with a couple Trombone players. In the cab of the engine is what appears to be three railroad dignitaries watching the festivities.

This photo is very possibly one of the very first photos taken in the fledgling town of Mead. Mead was first conceived in 1906 when the Denver Great Western railroad established a beet dump on the eastern border of Paul Mead's farm.

Mead's son, fifteen year-old Leslie, is standing forth from the left, holding his Coronet. Paul is standing just behind and to Leslie's left, Coronet tucked under his arm. Both Paul and Leslie were accomplished musicians.

The coming of the railroad heralded prosperity for local farmers, but also led to the early demise of neighboring Highlandlake.



### Final Stage of Church Restoration to Begin

Work on the interior restoration of the church will begin in early January, according to HHI executive director, Pauli Smith. Smith reported that the final grant of \$77,251, was approved by the Colorado State Historic Fund (SHF) in mid-October, and that all contracts for the next phase of the work are now signed.

This phase includes: complete renovation of the interior, including plaster work and paint, repair and refinishing of the wainscoting and floors, repair or replacement of interior door hardware, restore all the stained glass windows (with the exception of the top front windows, protective glazing on all windows, stabilization of the bell tower including installation of a drainage system, recreation of original stained glass windows for the bell tower, stripping of all exterior paint, followed by painting of the structure in the building's historic colors.

The work on the interior will proceed first, with the exterior painting planned for April or early May, when the weather has warmed up. It is hoped that all work will be completed by

June 1, 2006, in time for the annual reunion and rededication, on June 11. Once completed, this phase will mark the end of a three year process to repair, restore and save this valuable resource in our community.

We still need to raise about \$4,000 to cover our part of matching the grant, so please dig deep this Christmas season, and remember, as always, your cash donations to us are tax deductible!





Winter 1918. Mark Kiteley Farm, Liberty, CO. Image donated by Nancy Kiteley



*"I think that it is important that we preserve the histories of our farming communities, especially since now so much of our farmland is being sold for development."*

*-Nancy Kiteley*



Jimmy and Mikey Bridge portrayed L.C. and Elizabeth Mead's sons, Malcolm and Rufus, at our 84th Annual Highlandlake Reunion and Community Gathering. Photo courtesy of Sheila Koenig



### Joyful Gathering December 21st

The annual Country Christmas Joyful Gathering will be held at the Highlandlake Church at 7 pm, Wednesday, December 21, 2005. The Bible text and inspirational message will be delivered by Rev. Phil Mitchell, and the Roberts' family of Longmont will provide musical accompaniment for the carol singing.

After the service there will be hot coffee, cocoa and cookies. Dress warmly, as the church isn't heated.



### Volunteers Needed!

Prior to the interior renovation of the church building, everything in it, including the organ, piano and kitchen stoves will have to be moved to a nearby storage unit.

To save paying a professional moving company, it is hoped that enough people will volunteer for this job, on Saturday, December 31, 2005.

Yes, that's New Years Eve, but we'll get started about 10 am, which will leave plenty of time to rest and cleanup for the evening's activities.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the annual Christmas program, or you can call Pauli Smith at 970-535-4936, to let her know that you care enough to send the very best—yourself.

### Pre-school Christmas Program

The Country Care Pre-School which is owned and operated by Cheryl Senesac, just north of the church, will hold its holiday program at the church at 6:30 pm, December 13, 2005.

This is the fourth year that the pre-school has held its program at the church.

"Programs such as this is a great example of how the church building can be used as a community center," said HHI Executive Director, Pauli Smith.

Thirty children will participate in the program, which is open to the public.

### Kiteley Family Donates Scanned Photos

Nancy Kiteley has donated the scans of several dozen photos from her family's photo albums. The Kiteley's were early settlers in the Liberty community, located along what is now Colorado Highway 66 between Weld County Roads 5 and 7.

Included in the Kiteley collection are photos showing farming before tractors, the old Liberty Highline Beet Dump, the second Pleasant View School shortly after it was built (now the

Liberty Hall Grange), and even one of several Kiteley family members lounging on top of a caboose.

Thanks, Nancy, for your valuable contributions to our digital project!

### Glen Keller Donates Artifacts

Glen Keller whose family lived in the Highlandlake/Mead area since about 1900, recently donated several artifacts to our collection. Included are two, white 1928 era, dresses worn by his sister Geneva Keller Gettham for her 8th grade graduation and confirmation, a green feather corsage and program book from her 8th grade graduation, a souvenir book listing all the students attending the Highlandlake school in 1901-02, a record book for Mead Consolidated School grades 1-8, dated 1920s to 1940s, and several photos for our digital collection.

Thank you Glen for thinking of us and for your generous donations!

### Maul—Oun Wedding Held

In spite of the ongoing construction at the Highlandlake Church this past summer, Amanda Maul chose to be married in the church of her ancestors. Amanda, who is the great granddaughter of HHI president, Mary Mead Jensen, and the 3rd great granddaughter of Highlandlake founders, Lorin and Elizabeth Mead, was married on July 1, 2005 to Chann Oun.

### Local Artist Donates Drawing

Local artist, Elaine Swenson, a student at Front Range Community College, Boulder Co., Campus, donated a pen and ink sketch she drew of the Highlandlake church as it appeared in 1897, shortly after the building was dedicated. Her drawing is based on photos from the time period, and we plan on possibly using it for the promotional materials for the rededication of the church building to be held on June 11, 2006. Thanks, Elaine, for your generous gift!

### Church Closed for Restoration

Starting January 1, 2006, the Highlandlake Church building will be closed for the final phase of restoration. While tours for people interested in the restoration process will be available, for the most part, the building will not be available for any public use until sometime in mid to late June of 2006.



## Cemetery Tour Draws History Buffs

The Second Annual "Voices From the Grave" on August 20, drew a small but dedicated group of Historic Highlandlake members and area history buffs, who listened to five Highlandlake settlers tell of their lives in the community during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Lorin Mead, portrayed by Loren Reimer, related how he first viewed the lake in the summer of 1871, and naming it Highlandlake, from his readings of Sir Walter Scott. He then introduced his neighbor, George Davis, portrayed by HHI Board Member, Stuart Barnes. Davis first came to Colorado in 1860, moving to Highlandlake in 1879. He built a home that later became the parsonage for the church, now occupied by Jeff and Pauli Smith.

Next was Isadora Terry True, who moved to Highlandlake as a bride. True, portrayed by HHI Board Member, Pat Jorgenson, told the audience

of her sorrow in burying two young sons at the Highlandlake Cemetery, and her anguish at seeing the railroad bypass Highlandlake, creating the new town of Mead.

Bertha Mae Kerr, portrayed both by Megan Arellano and Emily Sprouse, died of a ruptured appendix at age 17, in 1906. In addition to telling the story of her own short life, she introduced four of her young friends who also died in childhood.

Finally, Paul Torres, portrayed by Kevin Sampron, related how his family and other Latinos came to the Highlandlake area as field hands, but stayed on and lived to see members of their



## Cornerstone Ceremony

An estimated 100 people attended the 84th Annual Reunion and Community Gathering, featuring the relaying of the church's original cornerstone. While the day itself was cold and rainy, this did not appear to dampen the anticipatory spirits of the crowd as they gathered around to watch the centuries old Masonic ceremony, marking the halfway point in the \$250,000 restoration of our historic building.

During the ceremony a new time capsule was placed inside containing copies of the original papers (now in the Longmont Museum's archives), copies of deeds, our first newsletter, and a list of the names of our current board of directors.

The formal cornerstone ceremony was conducted by Past Master, David Holiway, of the American Federation of International Co-Freemasonry, Le Droit Humain.

Appropriately, Holiway was also the master stonemason who supervised the repairs and restoration of the Lyon's sandstone foundation, originally laid in April of 1896.

In addition to local history buffs, sponsors, and interested community members, several area dignitaries were also in attendance, including representatives from the State Historic Fund, Town of Mead, the St. Vrain Historical Society, and Weld County.

However, not only 21st century friends of Highlandlake attended. We were also treated to visits by the community's favorite re-enactors: Loren Reimer, portraying Lorin Mead; Kelly Jorgenson, portraying his wife, Elizabeth; Jimmy and Mikey Bridge, portraying their sons, Malcolm and Rufus; and Kris Maldonado, portraying the Rev. Mary Elizabeth Bumstead.



The cast pose by Pat Jorgenson's 1921 Model T Ford, during the break.

In addition to Emily Sprouse and Megan Arellano, children participating in the event were, Katy Sprouse, Lauren Rarden, and Morgan and Jordan Barnes.



David Holiway, Right, conducts the cornerstone relaying ceremony marking the halfway point of the building's restoration.



Jerry Fruth of Mead recently shared this beautiful scarf with us. Originally owned by Mary Ann Mulligan, it features 10 images of early Mead. This rare scarf probably dates to the mid 1920s

## Mead Centennial Photo Exhibit

As many of you already know, HHI and the Longmont Museum and Cultural Center are partnering together to celebrate Mead's Centennial birthday in the fall of 2006.

This photo and artifact exhibit will feature about 75 photos of the Mead area from the 1870s to the present and will also include artifacts originally owned and used by Mead area families, businesses, schools and organizations. Special events are planned to coincide with this exhibit, including a family orientated open house, and presentations and programs throughout the exhibition period.

In order to cover the costs of this joint effort,

HHI, the Mead community, and the Longmont Museum need to raise about \$4,000 to help underwrite the expenses of this exhibit. As of December 1, about \$3,100 has been committed by the Town of Mead, local businesses, HHI and the Museum. We hope that the remaining \$900 will be secured by early spring of 2006.

The Town of Mead will be our one and only, Centennial Sponsor, and the new First National Bank of Mead will be one of our four, \$500 Contributing Sponsors. Other Supporting Sponsors at the \$100 level are: Quality Turf, Butch & Karen Sekich, and the Mead Café.

See page 3 for a complete list of all our sponsors.

## Sponsors-Highlandlake Church Restoration

### Deacon L.C. Mead (\$20,000 and up)

- Colorado Historical Fund
- Seeley Family Foundation

### Rev. Mary Bumstead (\$10,000-\$19,999)

- the Collaborative, inc.

### Judge F.P. Waite (\$5,000-\$9,999)

- Modefferi Construction, Inc.
- Stuart & Cathy Barnes

### Highlandlake Ladies Pleasure Club (\$1,000-\$4,999)

- Truecraft Masonry
- Mead Area Community Foundation
- Brenda Logsdon
- Walt & Barbara Logsdon
- Territorial Daughters of Colorado-Greeley Centennial Chapter
- Highlandlake Inc.
- Lawrence Jensen
- JVC Engineering, Inc.
- Mead Café
- Pauli Driver Smith
- The Schramm Foundation

### Supporting (\$100-\$999 Level)

- Cynthia J. Campbell
- Jim & Cathy Campbell
- Loren Coates
- Front Range Ready Mix
- Ghost Town Club of Colorado
- Hank & Nyla Geisman
- Pat Jorgenson

- Donna King Family
- Newton's Carpet Care
- Jay Mead
- No Turns Trucking/GCB, Inc
- REMAX - Carol Cizek
- Judy Jensen Sargent
- Sharpnet Solutions
- Sherwin-Williams Co.
- Jeff Smith
- Sprouse Family
- Linda Jensen Spurlock
- Leroy and Helen Swenson
- Delbert & Vivian Temple
- Territorial Daughters of Colorado-Denver Chapter
- Vale View
- Gary A. Wolfe - Photographer/Photojournalist
- Ron & Margaret Wood

### Sponsors for the Mead Centennial Exhibit (As of this printing)

**Centennial**  
(\$1,000-only one)  
Town of Mead

**Contributing**  
(\$500-four only)  
First National Bank of Mead

**Supporting**  
(under \$500)  
Mead Café  
Butch & Karen Sekich  
Quality Turf

**Additional Support provided by:**  
Longmont Museum & Cultural Center  
Historic Highlandlake, Inc.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the Centennial Exhibit or for more information contact Pauli Smith @ 970.535.4936



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!



Rev. Mary Elizabeth Bumstead Coates. This etching is the only known picture of her.

*Special thanks to all of you who have donated your \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$75 contributions. While there are too many of you to mention individually, we know that without you we would never be able to reach our goals!*

## Join Historic Highlandlake!

Our organization is open to anyone who has an interest in the past history and future vitality of the Highlandlake/Mead Communities. We have two designations of membership —General and “Pioneer,” with the latter designation reserved for those individuals who are descended from anyone who lived in the Highlandlake Community prior to 1906.

Annual memberships are \$15 for individuals and \$25 for families, whether General or “Pioneer,” and \$100 for a Supporting Member. \$500 will buy you a lifetime membership. Additionally, one-year, individual memberships will be conferred on those individuals or businesses that have donated \$100 or more to the church building fund per year.

The money collected from membership dues will be used for the regular, ongoing expenses of the organization, such as printing, mailings, newsletters, programs and other day to day expenses of running the society.



L. C. Mead  
Founder of Highlandlake



*Historic Highlandlake, Inc.*  
*C/O Lawrence Jensen - Treasurer*  
*717 W. Fifth Ave*  
*Longmont, CO 80501*  
*303.402.1031*

*Enclosed is my tax-deductible membership contribution for 2006.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Sign me up as a:*  
 *Individual (\$15)*  *Family (\$25)*  *Supporting (\$100)*  *Life (\$500)*  
 *I am a direct descendant of a pre-1906 Highlandlake Pioneer\*.*

\*Pioneer memberships are restricted to those members who can prove direct descendancy to a pre-1906, Highlandlake settler. Please contact us for more information.

*I am contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Highlandlake Church Restoration*  
*I am contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Historic Highlandlake’s Operating fund*  
*I am contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Historic Pioneer Cemetery*  
*I am contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to wherever you need it most*

*I would like to help with:*

*Membership Committee*  *Church Restoration*  *Pioneer Cemetery*  
 *Programs & Tours*  *Annual Reunion & Community Gathering*  
 *Oral History*  *Highlandlake and Mead Digital Photo Project*  
 *Educational Outreach*  *Centennial Exhibit*



### *New Members*

- Stuart & Cathy Barnes
- Cynthia J. Campbell
- Loren Coates
- Kay Evatz
- Steve & Cheryl Goshia
- Larry & Joyce Green
- Dan Holland
- Lawrence Jensen
- Pat Jorgenson
- Donna J. King family
- Brenda Logsdon
- Walt & Barbara Logsdon
- Mead Area Community Foundation
- Esther McCrumb
- Edward L. Minch & Family
- Charlene Orr-Webb
- Judy Sargent
- The Schramm Foundation
- Pauli & Jeff Smith
- Jane & Terry Sprouse
- Linda Spurlock
- Leroy & Helen Swenson
- Delbert & Vivian Temple
- Ron & Margaret Wood
- Alice York

Please let us know if we missed anyone.





Pauli Driver Smith —Executive Director  
16778 CR 5  
Mead, CO 80542

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We are on the Web!  
[HistoricHighlandlake.org](http://HistoricHighlandlake.org)

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*Published by Historic Highlandlake, Inc.*



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HIGHLANDLAKE  
HIGHLIGHTS

Cost of printing this newsletter was donated by:  
Pat Jorgenson and Pauli Smith

## Upcoming Events

### **December 13, 2005**

Country Kids Pre-School Christmas Program Historic Highlandlake Church - 6:30 pm.

### **December 21, 2005**

10th Annual Country Joyful Gathering  
Come help us celebrate the season. Refreshments provided. Dress warm as the church has no heat. 7:00 pm.

### **December 31, 2005**

Volunteers needed to help move everything out of the church building. Meet at the church at 10:00 am.

### **January, 2006**

Final phase of church restoration officially starts.

### **June 11, 2006**

85th Annual Highlandlake Reunion & Community Gathering. This year we are celebrating the completion of the church restoration and Mead's Centennial.

### **August 19, 2006**

Voices From the Grave - 2nd Annual Highlandlake Pioneer Cemetery tour.

### **October 28, 2006**

Mead Centennial Photo exhibit at Longmont Museum and Cultural Center.