



Past to Present - Discover Central Wyoming

# FORT CASPAR MUSEUM Newsletter

Spring / Summer 2016

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## IMPRESSIONS ON WYOMING 2016

FREE SUMMER LECTURE SERIES • WEDNESDAYS IN JUNE & JULY AT 6:30 PM

Fort Caspar Museum's annual summer lecture series will again be on seven Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in June and July.

The lectures are offered to the public FREE of charge and are sponsored in part by the Wyoming Humanities Council and the Fort Caspar Museum Association. Please plan to join us for all seven lectures—or even just one!

### June 8th

Matthew Burchette:  
*Lonely Hearts and Lofty Ladies: A Short History of Aircraft Nose Art*

### June 15th

Jessica Robinson:  
*Women & Horror: WY Movies & Beyond*

### June 22nd

Miss "V": Amelia Earhart:  
*Angel of Flight*



Amelia Earhart poses on a rail in the 1930s with Absaroka Mountains in the background. Collection of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West.

### June 29th

Ray Maple: *Tom O'Day*

### July 6th

Tom Rea: *Wyoming Bone Wars*

### July 13th

Phil Roberts: *Wyoming Prohibition*

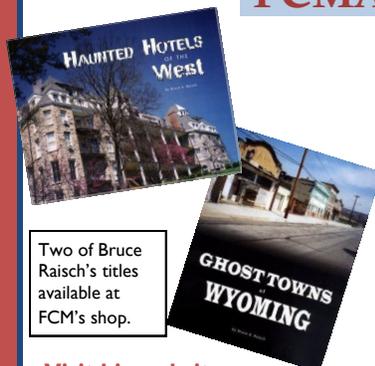
### July 20th

John Farr: *Wyoming: Shepherders State*

Hope to see you at the Museum!



## FCMA Lunch & Learn Features Travel Writer



Two of Bruce Raisch's titles available at FCM's shop.

Visit his website:  
[www.theghosthunter.com](http://www.theghosthunter.com)

Please join us Saturday, **June 4th**, for *Wyoming History for Fun & Profit*, or, 'How I Turned Traveling Through Wyoming Into a Job.' Writing from the travel/adventure point of view, author Bruce A. Raisch will talk about the in's and out's of U.S. western history. The

optional lunch will begin at 12:00 pm and the lecture will follow at 1:00 pm. The cost for the lunch and lecture is \$5 for FCMA members and \$8 for non-members; RSVP by June 1st. The lecture alone is free with Museum admission, which is free for members.

## CASPER MUSEUM CONSORTIUM NEWS



MAQ Camp kids visit Fort Caspar and meet FCM volunteer & FCMA Board President "Private" Con Trumbull.



### "PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE" PROGRAM

2016 marks the 15th anniversary of this fun, family-friendly, and educational activity!

Get ahold of a Passport (all NCS D school kids will receive them, or at any participating Casper-area museum). Then, over the summer, visit six of the Consortium sites. Answer a question at each location, and get your passport stamped. Turn in your Answer Sheet for a chance to win great prizes!!

### DOUBLE "DATE NIGHTS AT THE MUSEUMS"

Grab your sweetheart—or even a friend!—for a fun-filled evening of good food and exclusive access to some of Casper's finest cultural venues. This summer there are two dates:

#### Friday, July 29th

Science Zone, Trails Center, Veterans Museum, & Werner Wildlife Museum

#### Friday, August 12th

Fort Caspar Museum, The Bishop Home, The Nic, & The Casper Planetarium

### MUSEUM ADVENTURE QUEST CAMP

WHEN: July 18-22, 2016  
8:30am to 3:30pm

WHO: 1st-6th graders

WHERE: 9 Museums

COST: \$100 (includes snacks & transportation)

Register online (see below), or in person at The Science Zone. Hurry! This program fills up quickly.

**For more information, or to sign up for Date Night or the MAQ Camp, please visit the website: [www.caspermuseums.org](http://www.caspermuseums.org)**

### On Exhibit This Summer:

*Wearable Wyoming: Fur as Fashion*



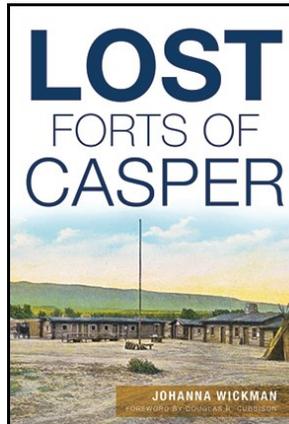
*Hollywood in Wyoming Movie Posters*



*Smile for the Camera!*

### 2016 CWAM Conference

The annual conference for the Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums (CWAM) was held in Casper this year. Organized by FCM's own Rick Young and Michelle Bahe, the April event brought over 100 museum professionals to visit our city and explore our local museums.



### ← New Book on Casper's Forts

FCMA Board Member Johanna Wickman has written a book about three Casper-area forts: Post at Platte Bridge, Camp Dodge, and Platte Bridge Station (later Fort Casper/Casper). Published by Arcadia, it is due out at the end of June. We will carry the book in the gift shop and will invite Johanna to do a special book signing at the Museum.

## FOR SALE: FCMA's BBQ Trailer



The FCMA has decided to sell its Professional BBQ Trailer to raise money for Museum programs. It is being offered exclusively to FCMA Members until June 15th. Then it will be offered to the public.

#### Details:

- Four new tires (May 2016: \$450 value for the tires alone!)
- Freshly cleaned & painted
- Overhead awning frame (no canvas; buyer would need to replace), rear steps, and adequate work space to prepare food on both sides of station
- Large capacity natural gas tank

and two gas burners (We recommend replacing this tank and gas fixtures/burners.)

- Huge, adjustable-height, double charcoal grill with access on both sides
- Covered warming bin
- Covered space to hold utensils
- Minimum bid is \$2,000.00

With a little bit of effort and minimal expense, this trailer could easily be functioning as a revenue-generating business by Summer 2016.

Please contact Con Trumbull for more information: [contrumbull07@aol.com](mailto:contrumbull07@aol.com) or 307-277-1695.

## FCMA POSTS WYO HISTORY TRIVIA WEEKLY ON FACEBOOK

Did you know that the Fort Caspar Museum collection covers not just the history of the Fort but all of Central Wyoming?! From agriculture to education, oil to Native Americans, the Museum documents hundreds of years of history.

The Fort Caspar Museum Association's Facebook page does weekly posts regarding Central Wyoming history. To receive them, we invite you to "like" the FCMA's page: [www.Facebook.com/](http://www.Facebook.com/)

**FortCasparMuseumAssociation.**

One of our recent posts



Train wreck near Cole Creek. Collection of Fort Caspar Museum.

detailed a September, 27, 1923 train wreck that occurred 15 miles from Casper.

Unbeknownst to authorities, heavy rainfall had taken out a bridge over Cole Creek. Tragically, a passenger train departing Casper for Denver was unable to stop. The locomotive and the first five cars plunged into the high water and were submerged.

Of the 66 passengers, 30 perished that day in what is still the worst rail disaster in Wyoming's history.



## CASPAR COLLINS DAY 2016 IS JULY 23RD

Join us as once again as we commemorate the city of Casper's namesake Caspar Collins on the 151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Platte Bridge. You will experience living history demonstrations and hands-on activities.

Interact with 19<sup>th</sup>-century characters including cavalry and infantry soldiers, pio-

neers, and frontiersmen. Watch firearm and cannon demonstrations and mounted cavalry drills. Enjoy toys and games popular 150 years ago.

Stroll through a contemporary craft vendor area, and grab a bite to eat or a refreshing drink from one of the food con-

cessions. This event promises something fun for everyone!

Join us **Saturday, July 23rd from 9am-4pm**. This event is open to the public, and as always, admission is **FREE**.

Hope to see you there!

*Casper  
Collins Day  
promises  
something  
fun for  
everyone!*

## FCMA Murder Mystery Fundraiser

On April 22nd, the FCMA and the National Historic Trails Center Foundation teamed up for "Murder in the Sand Bar," a fundraising event held at the Ramkota Hotel.

After the success of last year's murder mystery, "Death in Them Thar Hills," FCMA Board members Con Trumbull and Doug Cubbison joined forces to write an original mystery play set in Casper's own notorious Sand Bar district. Based on historical

events, "Murder in the Sand Bar" was set during World War II and contained characters based on actual Casper residents. Ticket holders to the event became a part of the play as they witnessed a murder and then questioned the cast of "suspects" to determine the identity of the murderer.

The event sold out, and a great time was had by all. Make a plan to join the fun again next spring!



The cast of suspects from "Murder in the Sandbar" held at the Ramkota in April. Can you tell which one is the murderer?!

# FORT CASPAR MUSEUM

## Mission:

Fort Caspar Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits materials related to the history of Fort Caspar, the City of Casper, Natrona County, and central Wyoming.

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
[fortcasparwyoming.com](http://fortcasparwyoming.com)

**WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!**  
[Facebook.com/  
FortCasperMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/FortCasperMuseum)

## Hours of Operation:

**October - April:**  
Tuesday thru Saturday  
8 am to 5 pm

**May - September:**  
Daily  
8 am to 5 pm

**Fort Caspar Museum**  
4001 Fort Caspar Road  
Casper, WY 82604

Phone: 307-235-8462

Fax: 307-235-8464

E-mail: [ftcaspar@casperwy.gov](mailto:ftcaspar@casperwy.gov)



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Fort Caspar Museum  
4001 Fort Caspar Rd  
Casper, WY 82604

## Fort Caspar Museum Calendar of Events

### May

28 FFF: *Make a Tiny Heirloom Garden*, 1-3pm

### June

4 Lunch & Learn: *Wyoming History for Fun & Profit* with Bruce Raisch, 12-2pm \$

8 Lecture #1: *Lonely Hearts & Lofty Ladies: Airplane Nose Art* with Matthew Burchette. 6:30pm FREE

15 Lecture #2: *Women & Horror* with Jessica Robinson. 6:30pm FREE

22 Lecture #3: *Amelia Earheart: Angel of Flight* with Miss "V". 6:30pm FREE

25 FFF: *Make a Paper Parfleche*, 1-3pm

29 Lecture #4: *Tom O'Day* with Ray Maple. 6:30pm FREE

### July

6 Lecture #5: *Wyoming Bone Wars* with Tom Rea. 6:30pm FREE

13 Lecture #6: *Wyoming Prohibition* with Phil Roberts. 6:30pm FREE

20 Lecture #7: *Wyoming: Shepherders State* with John Farr. 6:30pm FREE

**23 Caspar Collins Day, 9-4pm FREE**

29 *Date Night at the Museums, #1*, \$

### August

12 *Date Night at the Museums, #2*, \$

27 FFF: *Dress Up & Photo Booth*, 1-3 pm

### September

24 FFF: *Make Animal Tracks & Scat*, 1-3pm

### October

21 & 22 *Ghost Tours of the Fort*, \$

22 FFF: *Make a Historic Mask*, 1-3pm

28 & 29 *Ghost Tours of the Fort*, \$

#### SAVE THE DATE:

**Dec. 3rd is Candlelight Christmas at the Fort**

Please Note: All events are subject to change, so please call or check our website for up-to-date information.

FFF = Fremont Family Funday Hands-On Workshop