

A BRAND NEW LOOK FOR ECHS!

Over the summer the Elbert County Historical Society stationary received a new look! While the hand drawn image of the historic school building will always be closely tied to the museum and its formative years, it was time for a new emblem that better represents the entire county and it's early history. The new logo consists of a pine branch and outline of Elbert County.

The pine branch is representative of the vast pine forests that are native to Elbert County and the importance lumber had to the settlement of the area. "It was not gold that attracted the first white settlers to the area of Elbert County; it was the money to be made there. The large forests of Ponderosa pine growing along the Divide were quickly recognized as a source of lumber for the mushrooming town of Denver. Several sawmills were established within Elbert County in the early 1860s. One of these, the Weber Mill, was the site of present-day Elizabeth. The mills drew individuals to the area to work them, and other settlers began arriving to farm and ranch."



ELBERT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

515 COMANCHE STREET • PO BOX 43 • KIOWA, COLORADO 80117

Ever wonder how Elbert County got its shape? "Elbert County did not exist when Colorado Territory was established by Congress in 1861, and it was not among the first counties to be designated by the territorial legislature later that year. It was not until 1874 that the county was officially born. Carved out of Douglas and Greenwood Counties and named for the territorial governor appointed by President Grant, Elbert County took in a huge section of the Colorado plains, stretching all the way to the Kansas border. The boundaries of Elbert County were to change once more before 1900. In 1889, the eastern portion of the county was sliced off to form Kit Carson and parts of Cheyenne and Lincoln Counties. This left Elbert County as it is today."

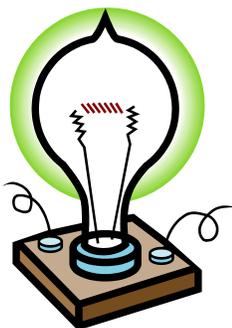
excerpts taken from *Elbert County: Window to the Past*

2012 SEASON EXHIBIT

The 2012 Season's main exhibit will explore the coming of electricity to Elbert County--it will feature the impact on rural areas and on daily life, power plants in the county, and artifacts from the early days of electricity.

We are interested in any stories you would like to share on how electricity changed your daily life out on the plains.

If you worked at any of the early power plants or if you have any old electrical appliances or tools to loan for display, please contact Carla at 303.621.2229, or email: elbertcountymuseum@gmail.com, or write to us at ECHS, P.O. Box 43, Kiowa, CO 80117.



EASTERN COLORADO MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES MEETINGS

The Eastern Colorado Museums & Historical Societies meetings began as a way for the museums and historical groups out on the plains to share ideas, support and information on their activities. Board members and representatives from organizations in Arapahoe, Cheyenne, Douglas, Elbert, Kit Carson and Lincoln Counties have attended.

The Elbert County Historical Society and Museum hosted the gathering for a second time on April 2nd. There were 30 people in attendance, representing 12 different groups. This fall, several ECHS board members were able to attend the Oct. 1st meeting in Hugo hosted by Lincoln County's Hedlund House Museum. The time together continues to be of great benefit to all who attend.

These twice yearly gatherings have become a productive way to see what other museums and historical societies are doing in this part of Colorado. In addition to presenting updates on their respective organization's activities, attendees are also able to ask questions, share new ideas with each other and come away knowing their museums are part of the fabric of maintaining the history of eastern Colorado.

MAIN STREET EXHIBIT



Banking came to the museum this summer with the addition of the teller cage from the Stock Grower's Bank.

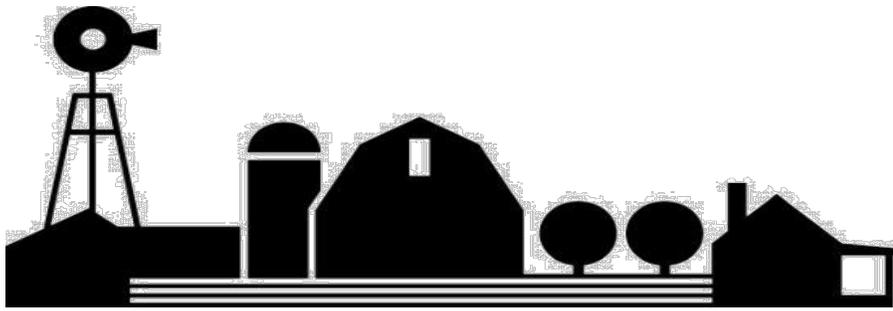
A barber shop opened up too, and items will be added as business picks up.

For additional information, volunteer opportunities and schedule of events, check out our website: www.elbertcountymuseum.org

MUSEUM SEASON SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Starting in 2012 the Pioneer Fourth Sponsorship program has been expanded to include the whole year! Sponsors financially support all of the museum's seasonal activities and events, preparation of exhibits and restoration of artifacts, development of new educational and outreach programs and the on-going renovation and maintenance of the historic museum building.

The benefits to your business or organization will depend on the level and when you become a sponsor, and Corporate Sponsors will be listed and included in more publicity than in the past. We are looking forward to a great 2012 Season as we continue to develop and expand the family oriented programs and exhibits of the museum.



BUILDING ROOF PROJECT

You may have seen the Spruce Up Roofing and Construction signs outside the museum building this summer. The building has more than just a new roof covering. All the old roofing material was taken off down to the decking, and any weak spots and any damage caused by leaks in the previous roofs were repaired. Additional work included: old vents replaced, construction done to install a new gutter and downspout system to allow the water to run off the back of the building, and the skylights were removed, covered over and sealed off. The roof covering material was upgraded to a thicker covering to last longer and handle hailstorms better.

All the work was done in such a conscientious manner, including the work on the skylights over the main exhibit area, so that the museum was able to remain open even as the additional work needing to be done extended the work schedule. The project was overseen by ECHS member Hank Smith, as well as Joe Todor, the owner of the company, and everything was done to insure the roof is now in great shape.



2011 ACTIVITIES

The Society hosted:

- Eastern Colorado Museum & Historical Societies Spring Meeting
- Kiowa School Alumni Open House
- Special tours for schools--including Simla and Kiowa
- Special tours for other groups --including the Parker Historical Society
- Co-hosting the November 3rd program on the Cherokee Trail by Lee Whiteley

The Society participated in:

- The *Our Journey* train ticket program, in association with Prairie Development Corp.
- Informational and educational booths at Elizabash, Simla Days, Elbert Day and Kiowa Street Fair
- Eastern Colorado Museum & Historical Societies Fall Meeting in Hugo

VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIPS

Over the summer the Board of Directors created a new category for membership into the Historical Society. The "Volunteer Level" was presented and approved by the general membership at the September Annual Membership meeting.

An active member of the Historical Society, able to vote at the Annual Membership meeting in the fall, is someone who has paid the membership fee for the calendar year OR has opted to volunteer for at least 6 hours or attend 2 functions/events (this includes hosting and any meeting(s) prior to the annual fall meeting).

Membership will follow the calendar year from January through December.

The Historical Society recognizes that our committed volunteers are an important part of the present and future of the Elbert County Museum and would like everyone to have the opportunity to be part of the decision-making and future planning of the ECHS.

Start the new year out by becoming a member or renewing your membership as we look forward to a great 2012 Season! Membership forms can be printed off the website: www.elbertcountymuseum.org

SUMMER WINNERS!

This year the museum gift shop gave away a \$15.00 gift certificate in a free drawing at the Elizabash, Simla Days, Elbert Day and Kiowa Street Fair as part of the museum's informational/educational booth. Thanks to all of you who participated in the drawing, stopped at the booth to look at the old tool displays, showed interest in the exhibits and activities of the museum and shared stories with the volunteers at the booths.

The following names were drawn immediately at the close of the respective booths. We congratulate the winners, and trust you will enjoy (or have enjoyed) choosing from the variety of handmade gift items and books carried in the Gift Shop.

Elizabash - Chantel Schindler, Elizabeth
Simla Days - Kitty Whitworth, Ramah
Elbert Day - Kathy Andrews, Sedalia
Kiowa Street Fair - Jacque Gerken, Pueblo

BROCKMAN FAMILY BIBLE

Descendents of Henry Brockman and Dorothea Folster made a special presentation to the museum on June 5th of their family Bible, published in Germany in 1777.

Dorothea Folster, an immigrant from Germany, wed Henry Brockman, also a German immigrant, on September 26, 1869 in Central City, Colorado. In 1878 they moved to the Bijou, 10 miles east of Kiowa, where they homesteaded and raised their family, descendents of whom still reside in Elbert County.

**Jan Erker and
Ruth Hulsey
descendents of
Henry and
Dorothea
Brockman
presenting their
family Bible to
ECHS President,
Joe Martell.**



MUSEUM FUNDING

The Elbert County Museum operates on the financial support of those who believe in its purpose and those who enjoy its exhibits and activities.

So how can we financially assist the museum? Let us count the ways.

- Being a yearly sponsor for the museum, whether an individual or a business.
- Becoming a new member or renewing yearly membership to the Historical Society.
- Leaving a contribution in the donation jar.
- Purchasing books and gift items in the museum Gift Shop or at the museum's booth at the

Carriage Shoppes in Elizabeth.

- Participating in the Annual Pioneer Fourth--games, food, pie auction and silent auction.
- Honoring a loved one's special occasion, a historic moment in their life or in their memory with a donation to the Historical Society.
- Create a bequest with the Elbert County Historical Society and Museum as the beneficiary.

Thank you for having the Elbert County Historical Society and Museum be part of your financial giving and for helping the museum be an active part of our educational and historical resources.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

What would the museum be without volunteers?

The Elbert County Museum with volunteers is an educational and creative place...

- to come and view artifacts of the past,
- to learn the history and ways of life of earlier county residents, and
- to enjoy the companionship of neighbors at family and community events.

Please know your commitment to the museum and its activities is important. A **big thank you to everyone** who donated his or her time this season to host, to participate in the Pioneer Fourth, to help with the exhibits and to keep the museum's operations running smoothly!



YESTERDAY'S TOOLS WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

The words below can be found straight across, up and down and diagonal (spelled left to right and right to left).

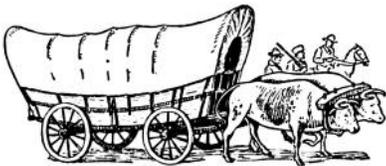
anvil	D F O R G E B I F E N C E S T R E T C H E R S R O X R L
apple peeler	E O U D O G T B X P R E M M I R T T S U R C E I P I I A
awl	B E Y R X W D L C P Z B D A E H R A E P S U Y C Z V I N
blow torch	L L R I R G K O A E T A T E M Q A Z G B A J T X N S M O
butter paddle	U D N L R Y Y W T Y T K P Y F K C I P F O O H A W A S R
button hook	D D K L D Y P T T N W C Z V F J D Y Q I Q S R B I V L I
cattle dehorner	A A L P V F H O L W E R E P P I D H F M R S L C K B Q G
darning eggs	R P N R E T L R E R E D N I R G T A E M K T O A K L E N
dipper	N R Q E A S D C D R A H T J C M E T A L C R I M P E R I
drill press	I E A S J I H H E A W L B U T T O N H O O K W T B H N R
fence stretchers	N T W S V C C Y H H A Y C J U F S R A E H S P E E H S E
forge	G T V J R E W G O Z R E P A R C S L L I W D D V F M O D
hoof pick	E U U C F P M O R L A W X W F Q V X V R T Q R K F A H L
ice pick	G B U M T I Z R N K N Y L C A P P L E P E E L E R N R O
ladle	G P A V L C C R E M A H L F H H B H F J N C G P G O Q S
mano	S R J N T K M H R J E V X A V F W G S A R M L A D L E P
meat grinder	
metal crimper	
metate	
pie crust trimmer	
saw	
scraper	
sheep shears	
soldering iron	
spearhead	

HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual membership meeting was held on Sunday, September 11th. Here are some of the highlights:

- The volunteers were recognized with appreciation for all the ways they give of their time and resources.
- The new membership level was approved.
- The Museum Season Sponsorship Program was introduced and will be presented to sponsors for the 2012 Season.
- The 2012 Season exhibit will be about the advent of electricity in Elbert County.
- The existing Board of Directors was reelected, and the constitutional amendment was approved to delete the line that "Membership meetings shall be held at least once every three months."
- There will be a program on November 3rd at 7:00 p.m. on the Cherokee Trail by Lee Whiteley at the new Elizabeth Library, co-hosted by ECHS and Elbert County Library District.
- Ideas shared by those present touched on lowering signs over the trail dioramas for easier reading, having an educational flier on Elbert County for children and families to take with them, listing suggested books and websites for volunteers to learn more on local history, including a program at the Host Orientation meeting in May and additional ways to promote the museum throughout the communities in the county.

**The museum
had over 700
visitors during
the 2011 Season!**



ELBERT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DIRECTORS

Joe Martell –President
John Hoffhines –Vice President
Lucy Hoffhines –Secretary
Donna Smith –Treasurer
Carla Martell
John Metli
Cindy Taylor

MISSION STATEMENT

To record and maintain the history of Elbert County, Colorado from the earliest settlement.

To work for the establishment of appropriate vaults and archives for the preservation of original manuscripts, documents, photographs and artifacts which may come into the possession of the Society.

To maintain, preserve and house the above stated articles in the Elbert County Museum.

The Elbert County Museum is owned and operated by the Elbert County Historical Society, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

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