

100 Years ago

(from an article by Barrett Silverstein)

The 1920s was a Decade of Change. You have heard of the roaring twenties and it was also known as the Jazz age. The decade of the 1920s featured economic prosperity and carefree living for many. The decade began with a roar and ended with a crash. It was the best of times and sometimes the worst of times.

The 1920s began with the last American troops returning from Europe after World War I. Their experiences changed their perspective of life around them.

Many Americans owned cars, radios and telephones for the first time. The cars brought the need for good roads. (Fall River Road was completed in September of 1920.) The radio brought the world closer to home. The telephone connected families and friends.

In 1920 the 18th Amendment to the U S Constitution was passed creating the era of Prohibition. The amendment forbade the manufacture, sale or transportation of alcoholic beverages. Many ignored the ban and in 1933 the amendment was abolished and became the only Constitutional amendment to be repealed.

On August 18 the 19th Amendment passed giving women the right to vote. (As early as 1901 women were able to vote in Grand Lake elections.) Women shortened or “bobbed” their hair, flappers danced and wore short fancy dresses, and men shaved off their beards. (In Grand County again the fashions of the day were slow to make it here.)

In November of 1920 the first commercially licensed radio broadcast was heard and radio became a family experience, however Grand County probably didn’t receive radio communication until much later.

William Taft was President and in November Warren G. Harding won the election becoming the 29th president in 2021.

In 1920, the American Professional Football Conference was founded, in a meeting at a Hupmobile car dealership in Canton, Ohio. Jim Thorpe was elected the league's first president. Initially the new league consisted only of the Ohio League teams, although some of the teams declined participation. After several more meetings, the league's membership was formalized. One month later on September 17, the league was renamed the American Professional Football Association and added more teams. The original teams were: Akron Pros, Buffalo All-Americans, Canton Bulldogs, Chicago Tigers, Cleveland Indians, Columbus Panhandles, Decatur Staleys, Detroit Heralds, Hammond Pros, Muncie Flyers, Racine Cardinals, Rochester Jeffersons, and Dayton Triangles.

Grand County population in 1920 was 2,659 . There were 1660 males and 999 females. One black man lived in the county, 363 were foreign born from Sweden (77), Canada (40), Switzerland (36), Mexico (31), Great Britain (19), Germany (26), Greece(24), Austria (19), Ireland (19), Norway (19) and 42 other countries.

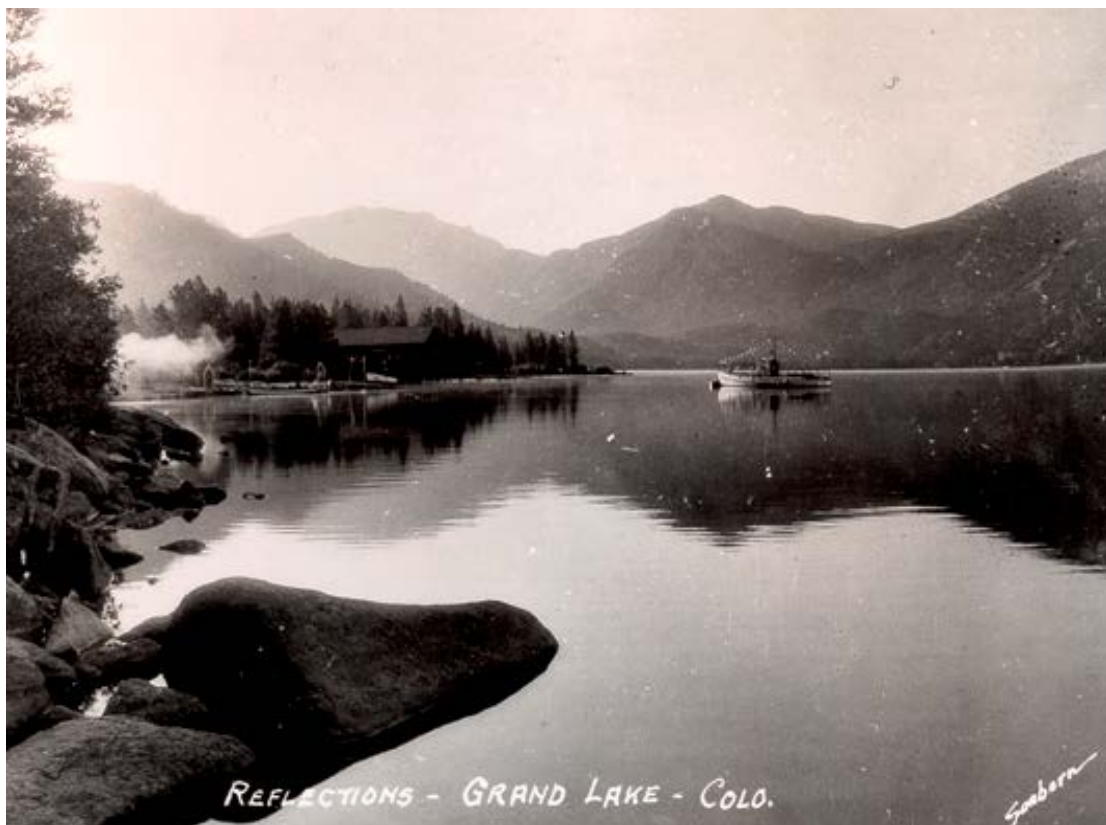
Grand Lake in 1920

(Information from the Colorado Business Directory 1920)

Grand Lake – a favorite summer resort in Grand County. Inspiring and sublime beyond the power of words to tell, without an equal or peer in all the wonderland of Colorado, is this gem of the Rockies – beautiful Grand Lake. Like a mighty jewel nestled in the breast of the mountains by the hand of the Almighty its sparkling surface reflecting the blue of the sky and the green of the fringed forest; its ever-changing beauty and silent grandeur, guarded forever by the faithful hills, whose rock domes reach up, ever upward, toward the eternal stars – such is Grand Lake.

Grand Lake is proud of its yacht club, has a fleet of 30 boats operating in the highest elevation in the world. J. R. Kirkpatrick is commodore.

Oh no! You know nothing of it until you have stood upon its wave-kissed shores and listened to its sweet song. The lake is a mile in width and is two miles long. Its greatest depth has never been sounded. Its waters, as well as the streams running in and out of it are alive with the finest mountain, rainbow and brook trout. The United States fish commissioner, Charles Dowdell, is now operating a fish hatchery at Grand Lake. There are numerous drives and horse-back trails leading to points of interest. The fishing in Grand Lake and surrounding streams is unsurpassed anywhere in the state. Summer population - 2,000. Population of Grand Lake precinct is 97. (1920 census)



Two General Merchandise stores on Grand Avenue are operated by H. M. Harbison and James Cairns. John Zick operates a grocery store and lunch room where the county seat used to be.

H. M. HARBISON

Dealer in

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

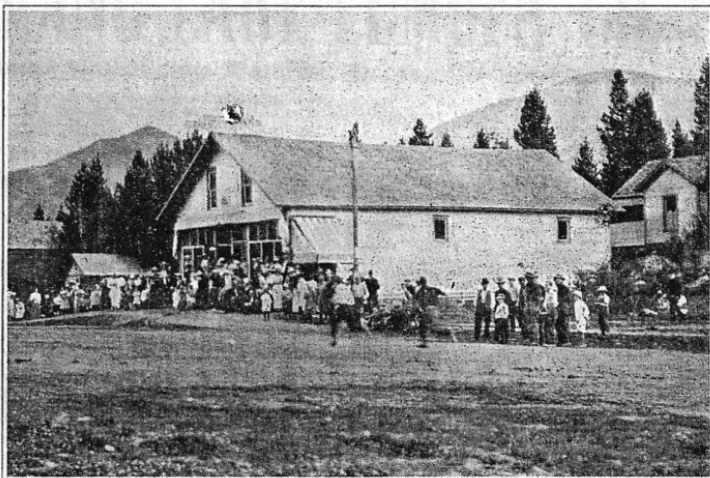
Specialties:

FINE FISHING TACKLE
FRESH MEATS, FRESH FRUITS
FIRST CLASS LINE OF TOURISTS' SUPPLIES

POST OFFICE

GRAND LAKE

COLORADO



J. CAIRNS, GENERAL MERCHANDISE NOTARY PUBLIC

Everything for the tourist and those occupying cottages. Staple and fancy groceries, fishing tackle and ammunition. Dry goods, clothing, hats, boots, shoes, Eastman Kodaks and Kodak Supplies.

CAIRNS ADDITION TO GRAND LAKE—Desirable Buildings Lots for Summer Cottages

Situated on the Lake Shore.

Public Phone at Cairns Store

GRAND LAKE, COLO.

Fred N. Selak

ON WEST SIDE OF GRAND LAKE

Dealer in

GENERAL MERCHANDISE
AND RANCH PRODUCE
GASOLINE

BOATS TO RENT

Grand Lake

Colorado

Fred Selak has a merchandise and ranch produce store on the west side of Grand Lake.

Two dairies are in operation by George Carr & Son and the Harbison sisters.

Grand Lake Launch and Boat Livery

Launches and Boats rented by month, week, day or hour. Parties taken to all parts of the Lake and to Adams Falls.

To See Grand Lake

"Take a Trip Around the Lake"

W. J. McCARTY, Prop.

GRAND LAKE

COLORADO

Grand Lake Launch and Boat Livery is operated by W. J. McCarty. A. B. Christiansen has a garage and Henry Lehman has a garage and livery. The Grand Lake Stage and Mail Line is operated by Captain J. F. Kingston. Alfred Eslick is a shoemaker and Mrs. Eslick operates a laundry. W. S. Thorne is a barber and Ezra Kauffman is also a barber and shoemaker. C. H. Bunte sells cigars.

The Grand Lake Lumber Company owned by P. H. Smith has building materials and offers contracts for cottages. W. C. Gregg, W. R. Hodges, L. W. Palmateer, A. A. Eairhart and Henry Schnoor are local carpenters, brick & cement layers, sawmill contractors, painters and builders.

THE GRAND LAKE LUMBER CO.

All Kinds of Building Material, Doors, Windows, Paints, Oils, Building Paper, Cement, Lime, Nails and all Builders' Hardware

**CONTRACTS FOR COTTAGES
REAL ESTATE**

P. H. SMITH, Mgr.

GRAND LAKE, COLO.

J. N. Pettingell has building lots and bungalow sites on the lake shore with new bungalows for sale. James Cairns offers desirable building lots for summer cottages on the lake shore. Henry Schnoor built many buildings in Grand Lake and the surrounding area.

J. N. Pettingell

**GRAND LAKE BUILDING LOTS
AND BUNGALOW SITES**

On the Lake Shore

New Bungalows for Sale

Get a Summer Home in the
Beautiful Summer Resort at
Grand Lake

Grand Lake

Colorado

Henry Schnoor

**LUMBER AND SAWMILL
CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER**

Builder of Summer Cottages. Fine Log Residences
a Specialty.

GRAND LAKE

COLORADO



LUMBER

All Kinds of Building Material.

DOORS, WINDOWS AND BUILDERS' HARDWARE

Also Contractor for Building Cottages.

P. H. SMITH,

Grand Lake, Colo.

Hotels and Cottages for rent included Camp Wheeler in Rocky Mountain National Park, the Kauffman House on Grand Lake Beach, Rustic Hotel, Rapids Hotel, Nowata Cottage – Mary Smith, proprietor, Lehman's Cottages, Harbison boarding house, and Zick's furnished rooms.

Good Fishing and Hunting Rates \$4.00 per Day and up

Camp Wheeler

ROBERT L. WHEELER
Proprietor

Half-way Between Grand Lake and Estes Park on
Fall River Road

GRAND LAKE COLORADO



Grand Lake Lodge opened in July of 1920 in Rocky Mountain National Park. (The lodge is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2020.)

A POPULAR SUMMER HOTEL

KAUFFMAN HOUSE

On Grand Lake Beach

Good Board and Clean Rooms. Special Attention given to Family Parties. Excellent Fishing and Hunting. The Most Home-like Accommodations. Guides Furnished for Hunting Parties.

RATES: \$2.50 per Day; \$15.00 per Week

For Particulars Address
MRS. E. H. KAUFFMAN, Prop.

GRAND LAKE COLORADO

The Rustic Hotel

ON GRAND LAKE BEACH

If you want first class accommodations write at once for room reservations. The Rustic is famous for its fine table. This is the ideal spot for your summer outing. Hotel opens June the first. Rates very reasonable.

JOSEPHINE LANGLEY, Proprietor

GRAND LAKE

COLORADO



NOWATA COTTAGE

Lehman's Cottages

Mrs. Henry Lehman, Prop.

FURNISHED COTTAGES FURNISHED ROOMS

LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TOURISTS

LIVERY AND GARAGE IN CONNECTION
Saddle Horses

GRAND LAKE COLORADO

The Grand Lake Mining Company is managed by C. Tanner . Isaac Alden and A. A. Eairhart are mining promoters.

Mrs. G. L. Couch is principal of the local school. The picture was taken in 1920 of the students in the Grand Lake School with Miss Quinn as teacher.

Left to right:

First row: Elwood House, Margaret Kauffman, Chester Miller, Vernon House

Second row: Kirby Miller, Rosemary Kauffman, Ben House

Third row: Miss Quinn, Mary Schnoor, Helen Schuster, Ruth Kauffman, Gerold Wescott



Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company is in operation with Mrs. E. H. Kauffman as the exchange manager. A telephone was available in the Kauffman House hotel and Cairns store.



Grand Lake Water Company had James Cairns as president. The water supply for Grand Lake is supplied through a water ditch from the Tonahutu and North Inlet and running along Grand Avenue and through town to the outlet of Grand Lake.

Established in 1920 was **Grand Lake Plumbing** with Gus Spitzmiller as plumber. (This business is still in existence and celebrating 100 years of service to the area.)

Established in 1920 by Henry and Carolyn Rhone was the **Corner Cupboard** tearoom. (This business continued into the 60s operated by the Rhones and was then sold and operated by others until the building was demolished in 2000.)



