

Grand Lake Area Historical Society
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Grand Lake, CO 80447

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The volunteers of your Grand Lake Area Historical Society... and we're all volunteers... work diligently because we love our town. Many of us live outside the Town proper, but we cherish our unique Grand Lake, with its historic architecture, its welcoming people, businesses and boardwalks, and its unsurpassed natural beauty.

We do our museum, archival, exhibits and educational work, but we also partner with all sorts of community groups determined to increase the sustainability of our community; the committee to update the Town Comprehensive Plan, as founding members of the Heritage Coalition marketing heritage tourism, with Grand Lake Heart & Soul gathering stories, opinions and all our voices, as well as many other volunteer and governmental groups essential to keeping the Grand Lake spirit alive.



We like to say "Our History is Our Future". Our community is strengthened by our amazing and still existing historic qualities, and that's why the volunteers of your Grand Lake Area Historical Society are working so hard. We'd love and benefit greatly from your help, so please do consider taking on one of the very many important positions and tasks in the GLAHS!



Grand Lake Area Historical Society

Our mission is to preserve, protect and promote the history of the Grand Lake area.

Keeping History Alive





Visit our Websites:

www.grandlakehistory.org

Facebook: Smith-Eslick Cottage Court

www.cottagecourt.wordpress.com

Send us your e-mail address so we can send our monthly E-Blasts: historygrandlake@gmail.com

Contact us:
970/627-8324

P.O. Box 656 Grand Lake, CO 80447
historygrandlake@gmail.com

Kauffman House Museum
407 Pitkin Street
Grand Lake

Smith Eslick Cottage Camp
729 Lake Avenue
Grand Lake

GLAHS Board of Directors

- Jim Cervenka- President
- Kathy Means – Vice President
- Patti Stahl – Treasurer
- Elin Capps – Secretary
- Steve Batty – Newsletter, BLOG
- Frank Reardon – Docent Chair
- Mark Mix – Property Chair
- Gary Calder – At Large
- Sandia Bruton – Membership
- Ken Fucik – At Large

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- Lois & Dave Sauer - Gardens

Cottage Camp Committees

- Elin Capps Jim Cervenka
- Paul Harrington Sandy Kukoy
- Lesley Janusz Kathy Means
- Pat Raney Dennis Humphries
- Patti Stahl Layla Schnacke
- Sandia Bruton Steve Batty

Grand Lake Made Famous in Postcards



July 8th, 7:00pm, at the GL Community House, presentation by historian John Meissner: “The Sanborn Collection of Grand Lake Photo Postcards” which reflect our rich history. It’s free, social distancing and safety precautions in place, and will be followed by the GLAHS Members Meeting. Treats served too!

New at the Kauffman House

The Kauffman House Museum, located at 407 Pitkin Street overlooking the beach in Grand Lake, is opening a bit later this



summer, July 1st, daily 11:00 – 5:00, with protections in place for our wonderful tour guides and visitors. New exhibits inside the House and on our website will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Grand Lake Lodge, Rocky Mountain National Park’s Fall River Road, and Circle Tours. Do plan

to check these out. So many amazing stories and artifacts! The 115 year-old geraniums are ready to be placed in the dining room window, and the gardens will be blooming. Come by this summer for fascinating local history in this restored, 1892 Victorian rustic hotel. A treasure! The Kauffman House is now a Distinctive Destination; National Trust members get a 20% admission discount.

News from the Cottage Camp

The Smith-Eslick Cottage Court Museum will open 1:00 – 4:00 daily beginning in early July. In addition to the wonderful, professionally produced exhibit panels throughout, the museum will feature guided



tours and great stories of the unique history of Grand Lake’s early auto

tourist days. We expect visitors once the word gets out! Please contact us if you’d like to join the tour guide team.

Tour Guides – Very Important People!

Visitors love to learn about our area’s rich history when they come to our museums. They are warmly greeted by volunteer tour guides, sometimes called “docents”, who are ready to answer questions and share interesting stories. We Need YOU to Become a Tour Guide! Volunteer tour guides work a three hour per week shift, either 11:00 am–2:00 pm or 2:00 pm–5:00 pm at the Kauffman House. Tour guides at the Smith-Eslick Cottage Court will work a three hour shift per week, 1:00 pm–4:00 pm. You’ll receive some training, and the sincere appreciation of the Historical Society and countless visitors! For the Kauffman House, give Frank a call at 301/980-9081 or email frankreardon@gmail.com. For the Cottage Court, call Elin at 970/509-9556 or historygrandlake@gmail.com. Thanks!

THREE FAMILIES SHARE HISTORY

On the Shore of Grand Lake

By GLAHS Board Member Steve Batty

It's interesting how some early property-owning families in Grand Lake are connected. For years I wondered how my grandparents managed to find their way to Grand Lake in 1908. I suspected it had to do with the Craig Adams family, who owned the large two-story summer log cabin at the southeast corner of the lake. I believed this because I had the 1908 deed of sale for 100 feet of lake shore property for \$300.00 from Jay E. Adams (1862-1923) to my grandparents, Earl and Anna Batty and Riley and Nora Keester, but exactly how the Craig Adams family and my family became connected was still a mystery.

Earl Batty (1879-1920) was a dentist and Mr. Keester (1863-1944) an attorney/business man. The Battys did not own a car but the small farming community of Alma, where both couples lived, was a whistle stop on the C.B. & Q. RR located half way between Omaha and Denver. When I was a boy, I remember my father telling me that each summer, around the first of August, Anna and her two sons boarded the Number 5 train, arrived in Denver mid-morning, then boarded the Denver & Salt Lake to Granby, and finally either went by touring car or bus to Grand Lake. "Captain" McCarty would take them across the lake in one of his large wooden boats. The two families would stay until after Labor Day, then leave before school started.

About twenty years ago I became interested in Grand Lake history and my own family genealogy. One day, I discovered both sides of my grandparents' families and also brothers Lee and Jay Adams in the 1885 Alma, Nebraska census, so Alma must have been the connection between the families. It turns out, *four* families from Alma eventually purchased property on the south shore of Grand Lake.

According to the deed, the original Adams cabin was about 300 feet east of the Batty/Keester property. That cabin was at the east end of Jericho Road on a large rock and consisted of a main room with fire place and a smaller bedroom on the west side. From what I have been able to learn, Jay had the cabin built around 1889, probably making it one of the first permanent summer cabins on the lake.



In the early 1890s, Jay Adams moved his family to San Antonio, TX because it was thought to be a better climate to keep from contracting tuberculosis. In 1900, Jay Adams sold the cabin to a Mrs. Cook and moved to a newer, larger one near the southeast corner of the lake. Unlike Jay's cabin on the rock with a sharp drop off into the cold lake, the new area had a sand beach and shallow water. In 1910 Jay built a third summer cottage just south of the second one, and that is the one I grew up knowing back in the 50s and 60s.



John Kirkpatrick (1864-1953), also from San Antonio, was in the real estate business with Jay Adams who sold Kirkpatrick lots on Grand Lake. John then built, around 1912, what is known today as the Hallmark House. Joyce Hall rented the Kirkpatrick cottage starting in 1922 and purchased it in 1929. It has remained in the Hall family except for a few years in the '60s when it was gifted to Denver University.

Adams and Kirkpatrick built a fresh water system for their properties. Adams tapped into a stream of water above his house, used a large wooden barrel to collect the water, and then piped it down to the two houses. The Hall water tank still exists to the southeast of their original servants' quarters.

Want to read more? Go to the GLAHS Blog, www.cottagecourt.wordpress.com, where Steve Batty will publish more fascinating information about homes along Grand Lake's south shore later this summer.

GRAND LAKE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (GLAHS)

MEMBERSHIP, DONATION OR PLEDGE CARD

I wish to support the GLAHS by **becoming a member.**

Name _____

New Member Renewal

Mailing Address: _____

- Individual Membership \$35
 Family Membership\$50
 Business Membership \$50
 Benefactor\$100 - \$1,000
 Heritage Coalition Master Membership
includes membership in four organizations. \$175

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

I wish to support the GLAHS by **contributing or pledging.**

Method of Payment (Please check.) Enclosed Pledge amount \$ _____

Please bill me monthly quarterly yearly for a one two or three year period

Charge my credit or debit card \$ _____ Visa Master Card Discover

Cardholder's Name : _____ Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ 3-Digit Verification Code: _____

GLAHS may publicly acknowledge my contribution. Gift in honor of in memory of

Cardholder Signature: _____

Please apply my contribution to the Cottage Camp Project.

Make checks payable to GLAHS. Mail to GLAHS, POB 656, Grand Lake, CO 80447

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

**IF YOU PREFER, YOU CAN ALSO DONATE OR BECOME A MEMBER AT THE GLAHS WEBSITE:
www.grandlakehistory.org. Check it out... fascinating photos and historical information.**

2020 coming events – Mark your calendars!

**More Information at 970/627-8324 or
historygrandlake@gmail.com**

If dates or formats need to be changed, we'll alert the public ASAP!

June 24th 5:15 pm Tour Guides training for all new and experienced volunteers, Kauffman House

June 25th 12:00 pm Tour Guides training for all new and experienced volunteers, Kauffman House

July 1st Kauffman House opens for the season, 11:00 – 5:00 Daily thru Labor Day, Weekends in September

July 8th 7:00 pm, GL Community House, GLAHS Annual Meeting and Community Presentation

July 18th Super Stars for the Cottage Camp! A wonderfully fun, musical and delicious fundraiser. If you haven't received information, would like to attend, or have questions, contact us at 970/628-8324 or historygrandlake@gmail.com.

August 1st Colorado Day at the Kauffman House

August 16th Community Picnic at the Cottage Court Delicious food, music, fun 5:30 pm

September 5th Kauffman House begins open weekends only thru September

Happenings – story sharing events will begin again in September. Stay tuned!

Kauffman House open 1:00 – 4:00 pm on Nov. 27th-28th, December 26th-27th, and 10:00 pm – 12 Dec. 31st