

GRAND LAKE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Report June 8, 2022

Exhibits

Kathy Means and her team have installed several new exhibits in the Gallery of the Kauffman House Museum. There is a very large display of Grand Lake artists of the past and present, covering fascinating



works of pottery, pencil sketches, sculpture, water colors, print making, wood burning and more. Truly a joy for the eyes, and a remarkable display of the breadth of Grand Lake talent. Especially featured is the work of Alexander

sculptures. You'll discover how many other varieties of art he enjoyed and mastered, and get a sense of how his life in Grand Lake influences his life



work. There's also information in the Gallery about the Colorado River Compact, a sort of bookend to tonight's presentation topic. Kathy has added new films to the TV in the Gallery, in addition to the comprehensive general history of the area in the many films and notebooks displayed.

Kathy also worked with the Town to install a small display of items from when the Community House was the site of the Almeyer family's Lake Theater; look for them as you enter the building.

Volunteers who have helped Kathy with Kauffman House displays and exhibits, including the holiday decorations include Melody Anders, Sandia Bruton, Jim Capps, Jim Cervenka, Julie Cunningham, Carol Goscha, Bob Means, Linda Ray, Patti Stahl and Alan Walker, and the Grand Lake firemen.

Come by the Cottage Court Museum with your friends to enjoy its local artifacts and the amazing story of our community's response to early auto-tourism. The Cottage Court and all inside it are a little quirky, and offer surprising details about how we came to be a fast food, fast tripping economy to this day.



Collections and Accessions

Kathy Means chairs this committee. She has begun the enormous work of refurbishing the Historical Society's large collections storage area. With help from Melody Anders, Sandia Bruton, Carol Goscha, Melinda McKinney and Linda Ray, Kathy is inventorying every item, recording its details in our computers, and ensuring that it is stored correctly. The Society has purchased additional shelving, acid-free or other appropriate containers, and other materials to support this process. Once work in the storage area has been completed, she'll work to update inventories and details of items within both museums. Kathy is also checking through our vast accumulation of historical photographs and documents to be sure they are correctly and completely captioned.



Items that were added to the collections in the past year include family memorabilia of Fran Needham, of the Holzwarth family, and Gay Shaffer, as well as remarkable photographs, and Grand Lake history from Michael Elliott, a member of the Captain McCarty/Millinger family. Many other single items have also been accessioned, adding to our community's lore, and available for future display or research.

Outreach and Education

The Mission of the Grand Lake Area Historical Society is to preserve, protect and promote the history of the Grand Lake, Colorado area. To advance our mission, the Society has established a program to recognize those people, structures and places that epitomize the community's unique historic character. The intention of this program is to promote compatible development and uses that meet the spirit of historic preservation and to foster civic pride in the beauty and accomplishments of the past. This should not preclude or discourage business or commercial development, but is intended to further the public interest in preserving the community's unique historical character. Two types of recognitions will be announced annually: for a building, site, people or event of historical importance, or for a person, or business, whose efforts preserved the historic character of Grand Lake. The long-term goal is to eventually recognize all the historic sites, people and events of Grand Lake. The first such honors will be presented at this evening's annual meeting.

Our Spring printed newsletter was delivered to Grand Lake post office boxes, Highway 34 boxes, and some folks not living in Grand Lake. Our monthly E-Blasts are an important way for us to keep in touch and share what's happening at GLAHS. If you are not receiving our monthly emails, please send a note to historygrandlake@gmail.com so we can include you in the future.

Both museums, the Kauffman House and the Cottage Court, participate as Blue Star Museums, offering free admission to active military and their families.

GLAHS board members are stakeholders or consult with the Town Municipal Lands Master Plan Committee, are on the list of referral agencies for Planned Development, and represent us in many other community organizations; the Colorado River Headwaters and Scenic By-Ways Committee, the Grand County Heritage Coalition, the Grand Lake Creative District, the Grand Lake Rotary Club, the Grand Lake Women's

Club, efforts to revive the Grand County Preservation Board, and more. The GLAHS holds memberships in the Grand Lake Chamber of Commerce, Grand Lake Fireworks, and the American Association of State and Local History. Members are available as historical topic presenters or to confer with other community organizations; most recently, a member enjoyed talking with the Grand Lake Women's Club, and Board President Cervenka was recently invited to provide an update of our work for the Town Board of Trustees.

Membership

We are all volunteers who receive support for our work in part through your memberships. Sandia Bruton is Membership Chair, and continues to encourage and record new as well as renewing memberships. Additionally, Sandia with Melody Anders made a special and successful effort to visit with the owners and employees of many new businesses in town to share what we do and why their business memberships are important. Sandia also monitors distribution of our 50¢ "Walking Tours" available at many locations, and updates the business member cards displayed on the Kauffman House veranda.

GLAHS annual Memberships are: Individual \$35, Family \$50, Business \$50, and Benefactor Level \$100-\$1,000. Members receive free admission at our museums. Business Members are also offered discounts on any books or other merchandise purchased for resale.

You can join, update or renew your membership by PayPal at our website, www.grandlakehistory.org, or by returning a form often attached to our monthly E-Blasts, or with a membership envelope or newsletter membership form. Give us a call for more information. We'd love for you to join the team.



Smith Eslick Cottage Camp

The indoor-outdoor Cottage Court Museum at the Smith Eslick Cottage Camp is open daily, 11:00 - 5:00, weather permitting this summer. The ca. 1915 Cottage Court is thought to be the oldest original-



condition "motor court" in the region, and possibly anywhere. It was built by Clyde Eslick and his father Alfred, with help from Clyde's grandfather Preston H. Smith, who operated a large sawmill and construction company. This unusual museum is full of truly fascinating facts about living in the 1915 thru 1950s era, the people who worked so hard to build our community, and how they responded to the advent

of automobiles and auto-tourism. We're continually adding displays, so come on by to take a look! Admission is by donation.

Last summer, we lacked volunteer tour guides and opened the Cottage Court to visitors only a few days a week. Still, 554 guests signed in, including some from Korea, Spain and Zimbabwe. This season, we are almost fully staffed. THANK YOU to Steve Batty, Jim Capps, Joe and Julie Cunningham, Lucy Fitch, Joe Mark, Kirk McCoy, Alex Nordlinger, Joan Ophaug, Richard Pierson, Jan Reddy, Dave Sauer, Linda Troute, and Jan Wharton. Steve Thompson and Karen Wojtak will arrive soon, and substitutes Dawn Kabak, Layla Schancke and Alan Walker are also very important, but we still need more history-loving, community-cherishing volunteers. Contact us: 970/509-9556, historygrandlake@gmail.com. You'll receive training and support, meet lots of interesting people, and be truly an essential worker.

The small building adjacent to the Cottage Court is called the Eslick Store and Office. It was built in 1933 by Loren Eslick, another member of the Smith-Eslick Family. The structure was intended as a mercantile and visitor check-in, sort of an early "KOA" store. Unfortunately, Loren died soon after he completed his work, and the building was moved to its present location some 20 years after he died. Now, all these years later, we have big plans for the building, and already have the necessary engineering and construction plans funded in part by History Colorado State Historical Fund. We're working to be able to stabilize the structure, restore the once-lovely exterior, and rehabilitate the building almost as it was once intended - as a visitor welcome center, tour guides base, and small gift shop, complete with a restroom. We'll keep you advised, so stay tuned!



Nominations to the Board

The three-year terms of Sandia Bruton, Lucy Fitch and Kathy Means have been completed at this time. Sandia and Lucy have agreed to continue as board members. Kathy Means, following 24 years of service to the Historical Society as board member, secretary, vice-president, Kauffman House docent, and successful manager and designer of many more challenges and projects, is retiring from the Board. The GLAHS Board is truly a working group of volunteers, and we are very grateful to those who have given of their time but must leave the board, as well as those stepping up to fill open seats.

After many years, the Board worked to update our GLAHS Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. Copies of the proposed changes were sent to members by email or USPS, and members present for the Members' Annual Meeting following today's presentation will be asked to adopt them. Particular thanks goes to board member Melody Anders and Attorney Georgia Noriyuki for their hard work and guidance in this matter.

The Board of Directors meets at 7:00 pm on each second Wednesday of the month. Meetings are generally held at the modular office facility, 610 Center Drive, just south of the post office. The offices, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, are filled by sitting board members.

Property Maintenance

Perhaps you are the “property maintenance” person for *your* house. Our “houses” the Kauffman House, the Smith Eslick Cottage Court, and the Eslick Store and Office, need to have someone watching



over them. Alan Walker is the Property Maintenance Chair, and has helped organize and complete a range of projects in the past year; checking the overall condition and maintenance plans of the properties, dealing with small repairs, and advising the Board of any concerns. This year brought some interesting projects. At the Cottage Court Museum, the entire exterior was sprayed with protective, penetrating linseed oil. Unnecessary items were removed from the Eslick Store and Office, the cellar of the Kauffman House, and the GLAHS modular office storage space; sounded easy, but was

complicated and hard work. Thanks to Melody Anders, Richard Pierson, and others who helped with this. Taking care of historic structures has its mysteries. Lights in portions of the Kauffman House suddenly weren't working, and Alan arranged for an electrician, who discovered the outage was caused by a wire running inside a pipe, but no longer connected, outside the House. The solution; run new wiring and abandon the old.

Continuous snow removal at the modular office, and the Kauffman House veranda and back walkway, was a problem this winter; after years of volunteers shoveling, we at last hired folks to do most of the work. Volunteers painted the House veranda, the kitchen side of the dining room passthrough cabinet, and replaced bulbs. Some projects remain, including repairing some veranda floor boards and a portion of the railing, and whatever else needs be done over the summer.

Thanks to Karen Rempel who keeps the interior of the Kauffman House looking good. Thanks too to the tour guides at both museums who take care of small issues and, at the Cottage Court, special thanks to Steve Batty, Jim Capps, Joe Mark and other Guides who keep things together and clean for our visitors. You are invaluable!

Gardens



Lois and Dave Sauer work diligently to make sure the gardens surrounding the Kauffman House are lovely and appropriate. It's a lot of work, but the results are spectacular. There are still many plants, nurtured over the years, in good condition, but the Sauers recently have determined

that several bushes near the museum's veranda will be replaced. Always something.

If you would like to help, send your name with email address or phone number to mloissauer@gmail.com. Jim Cervenka mows and maintains the lawns at the Cottage Court Museum. It's hard work, very much appreciated, and the lawns look good!



Website

Carol Goscha is the web master of our site, www.grandlakehistory.org. Carol has been doing a remarkable job putting valuable information and materials into the website, including fascinating biographies and histories. Carol is now engaged in a complete revision of the website with the folks at Firebird Design Works, making it more secure and efficient. There's still lots to be done to get it just right, so stay tuned!

Kauffman House Museum

Docents/Tour Guides at the Kauffman House are valuable people, the very reason the museum can be open. They welcome and enhance the history experience for each visitor. Tour Guides at the House this season include: Melody Anders, Steve Batty, Kay Bergquist, Bill Bruton, Sandia Bruton, Elin Capps, Paul Carlson, Susan Carlson, Jim Cervenka, Merrie Coolen, Bob Means, Kathy Means, Kirk McCoy, Mike McGuffey, Nancy McGuffey, Melinda McKinney, Malene Mortenson, Muffin Pierson, Linda Ray, Frank Reardon, Patti Stahl, Kathy Weydert, and Jan Wharton.



Come by to see the delightful new displays, and take a rest on the lovely veranda bench donated in memory of, and by the children of, Jim and Barbara Kehoe.

The Kauffman House received 2,637 visitors last year. By far, most folks came from Colorado, but every other state was represented, as well as visitors from Mexico, Guatemala, Switzerland, Spain, Poland, Scotland, Canada, Montenegro, Paraguay, Norway, Cambodia, Bolivia, China, Ecuador, Nigeria, and the UK.

The Museum is open daily 11:00 - 5:00 during the summer, and weekends in September. Admission is \$5 for adults, Free to children 12 and younger as well as GLAHS members. The Museum participates in the Blue Star Museum program, offering free admission to active military and their families, and National Trust for Historic Preservation members receive discounted admission.

Finance

The members of the Finance Committee are Treasurer Patti Stahl, with Frank Reardon and Melody Anders, and occasional support from local experts. The committee monitors the GLAHS finances overall, advises the Board, and continues to revise and update policies and records systems as needed. A special effort has been made this year to integrate QuickBooks updates, and to increase our insurance coverage of replaceable items at both museums and the Society's modular office.

Special Projects

Kathy Means with Brook Mark, Melinda McKinney, Jim Cervenka, Patti Stahl and others are again offering Guided Walking Tours on Saturdays. Information is available at historygrandlake@gmail.com and by calling 970/627-8324. Tickets are available at the Kauffman House Museum.



The Historical Society will be working with the Grand County Photo Club, Neal Cross, and Mary Beth Lagerborg to provide professional high-resolution photography of historical photos at the Grand Lake Yacht Club in early autumn.

We are close to completion of a very special project supported with funding, in part, from the Town of Grand Lake and Grand County Board of Commissioners. We have digitized old films and audio tapes, and will soon have them available for viewing and listening on a portable desk and chair, with laptop and headsets. We can take this set-up anywhere, and eagerly await the receipt of the last of the digitized materials.

We continue to support the Town Park marquee replacement, preservation of the iconic, neon-lighted Humphrey's sign, now designated a Historic Landmark Sign, as well as the AA Barn along the Colorado River.

Office

Elin Capps manages the office, with continuous help from everyone else who works there, particularly Kathy Means, Jim Capps, Carol Goscha, Jim Cervenka and Heather Bishop. We publish materials such as museum booklets and annual reports, order supplies, record volunteer hours, deal with computer issues, respond to incoming questions, handle the mail, and tackle seemingly endless other chores. We're especially grateful this year to Heather and Erick Bishop for their donation of a mirror TV set up making for amazing Zoom meetings and other presentations, and to Robin Donner for resolving some computer issues.

Books and Sales

Malene Mortenson serves as Chair of this committee. She inventories and restocks books as needed. Something unusual that is available at the Kauffman House Museum is a limited edition, signed by the artist, giclée print of a Donna Lyons watercolor, "Grand Memories" which shows the Yacht Club, the Lake, and people of the past. All proceeds of this print benefit the GLAHS.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2nd, 11:00 – 4:00, *Saturday* Sundaes and Pie Sale at the Cottage Court, 729 Lake Avenue
Homemade pies, \$20, make your own ice cream sundaes \$5, cookies \$1

July 21st, 5:30 , Volunteers Appreciation Dinner at Heckert Pavilion in Town Park
For information, historygrandlake@gmail.com

July 31st, 5:00 – 9:00, Stars at the Barn for the Cottage Camp - a mellow evening of delicious food, great music, adult beverages, and an auction, at the iconic AA Barn. Limited to 50 guests, \$50. Call 970/627/8324 for information or to purchase tickets.

August 1st, 11:00 – 5:00, Colorado Day at the Kauffman House, \$1 admission

August 12th, 10:00 – 2:00, Farmers Market at the Cottage Camp, 725 Lake Avenue
Such fun! To become involved, or for information: bishopheatherj@gmail.com

August 14th, 5:30 – 9:00, Seventh Annual Community Picnic at the Cottage Court, 729 Lake Avenue. Great olde-timey music, brats & dogs and lots and lots of side dishes made by our wonderful Grand Lakers. \$15 Adults, \$5 kids 10 and younger.

September 6th, Museums begin "open weekends only" thru September

November 25th, 26th, Kauffman House open 1:00 – 4:00 Tours and treats

December 26th, Kauffman House open 1:00 - 4:00

Our Grand Lake Area Historical Society is a completely volunteer organization. In the past 12 months, folks have logged thousands of hours working as tour guides, on special events, collections and exhibits, fundraising, planning committees, property enhancement, board membership, office work and more. Heroes all!

GLAHS VOLUNTEERS - The World's Best!

Jane Adams	Lucy Fitch	Muffin Pierson
Melody Anders	Ralph Fitch	Richard Pierson
Steve Batty	Ken Fucik	Linda Ray
Kay Bergquist	Carol Goscha	Donna Ready
Erick Bishop	Larry Goscha	Frank Reardon
Heather Bishop	Paul Harrington	Jan Reddy
Bill Bruton	and Landscapers	Sue Rogers
Sandia Bruton	Dennis Humphries	Russel Rowe
DiAnn Butler	Lesley Janusz	Dave Sauer
Gary Calder	Dawn Kaback	Lois Sauer
David Capps	Jayne Kriofske	Greg Schnacke
Elin Capps	Jim Kroepfl	Layla Schnacke
Jim Capps	Stephanie Kroepfl	George Sedlacek
Paul Carlson	Mary Beth Lagerborg	Brendan Skelcey
Susan Carlson	Susan Larson	Erica Skelcey
Jim Cervenka	Donna Lyons	Jason Skelcey
Sarah Clements	Suzi Maki	Steve Skelcey
Merrie Coolen	Brook Mark	Dennis Stafford
Neal Cross	Joe Mark	Patti Stahl
Joe Cunningham	Jim McComb	Janet Thomas
Julie Cunningham	Nancy McGuffey	Steve Thompson
Robin Donner	Melinda McKinney	Linda Trout
Geoff Elliott	Kirk McCoy	Lynn Turnquist
Keith Everhart	Bob Means	Alan Walker
Fire Department Volunteers:	Kathy Means	Larry Ware
Mike, Hans, Patrick, Drew,	Malene Mortenson	Bill Watters
Michael, Luke, Lt. Jarred	Alex Nordlinger	Kathy Weydert
Nelson	Joan Ophaug	Jan Wharton
	Cassidi Peterson	Karen Wojtak
	Jim Peterson	

We Were Saddened...

... by the deaths of Patricia Raney, Kenn Johnson and Elaine Arguien, long-time members who were docents at the Kauffman House and supporters of the Historical Society in many other ways, long-time member Wayne Todd, and friends of history Gordon Scheer and Zez Ready. We will especially remember Patricia "Patty" Madison, for years the president of the Historical Society's Board of Directors and so much more. Patty's art is displayed in the Kauffman House Gallery "Artists" exhibit.

Our Members and Recent Donors

Jane Adams
 Carolyn Alcorn
 Betty Allen
 Kasy Allen
 Guy Almeyer
 Melody Anders
 Linda Appelhans
 Travis Appelhans, Grand Lake
 Plumbing
 Marilyn and Gene Applequist
 Paul Arguien Family
 Steve Armstead
 Larry Bacon
 Clarence and Robin Baer
 Linda Barry and Mike Hopkins
 Steve Batty
 Katie Beeson, Mt. Market
 Cecelia and Jack Bender
 Richard and Kay Bergquist
 Sally and Ted Bertoli
 John Bevins, Amphicar
 Adventures
 Beyond Blessed
 Bighorn Bagels
 Heather and Erick Bishop
 Ed and Barb Bittle
 Ernie and Susan Bjorkman
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 Ben Blair and Marice Kane
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 Jane Bodmer
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 Brewster and Helen Boyd
 Roger and Susan Boyd
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 Leigh and Tom Brightwell
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 Angela Brown
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 Judy Burke
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 Guy and Wanda Bush
 Don and Toni Campbell
 Elin and Jim Capps
 Judy Capra
 Sue and Ed Capra
 Bill Carle, Out West Giftfitters
 Laura Carlock
 Susan and Paul Carlson
 Liza and Jim Cervenka
 Beth Chambers and Bill Adams
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 Charlotte Clifton
 Colorado Lighting
 Merrie and George Coolen
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 Andrea Cox, ReMax
 Mark Cox
 Elwin Crabtree, Crabtree
 Company
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 Bill Daniel
 Shawn Davis
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 Jack and Diane Dinkmeyer
 Jill Dohr
 Olivia Edwards
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 Michael Elliott
 Mary Ellis
 Peter Esmonde, Painter
 Sharron and Greg Finch
 Marv Fischer
 Lucy Fitch
 Forget Me Knot
 Mimi Fowler
 Norma Frank
 Dave Freeman, Sagebrush BBQ
 Peter and Marion Fries
 Ken and Linda Fucik
 Heidi Gardner, Manes to Tame
 Linda Gardner
 Herrick Garnsey
 Ann Gibson
 Gifts Unlimited
 Stephen and Donna Good
 Good to Go Portables
 Larry and Carol Goscha
 Chelsea Gould
 Grand County Library District
 Grand Lake Chamber of
 Commerce
 Grand Lake Lodge
 Grand Mountain Rentals
 Rick and Kathy Groshong
 Cynthia Hajost
 Gail Hamilton
 Paul Harrington
 Douglas and Karen Harris
 Bobbie Heisterkamp
 Roy Highland
 Roscoe Hill
 Sylvia Hites
 Wes House, Winding River Resort
 Dennis Humphries
 Jay and Dee Jackson, GL Pizza
 Lesley Janusz
 Christine and Jeff Jarvis
 Graham Johnson
 Jim and Ann Johnson
 Muriel Johnson
 Paul and Mary Johnson
 Dawn Kaback
 Dave and Jean Kafer
 Mitch and Rebecca Kauffman
 Barbara Kehoe
 Jane Kemp & Richard McQueary
 James Kenney
 Sharon King
 Scott and Jane Kingser
 William and Patricia Knapp
 Jayne and Kris Kriofske
 Stephanie and Jim Kroepfl
 Frank Kuffer
 Glennette and Don Kuhs

Sandy and Steve Kukoy
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 Michael Ladefoged,
 Lupine Village
 Mary Beth Lagerborg, Retelling
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 Ken and Nancy Larner
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 Nancy Lavington
 Keith Lawson, KBL Services
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 Melinda and Robert McKinney
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 Ellsworth Mills, III
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 Malene Mortenson
 Julie Neukomm
 Ann and Canton O'Donnell
 Will O'Donnell
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 Richard and Penny Potter
 Jean Powers
 Carol and Mike Quirk
 Yvonne and Bob Raiford
 Tim and Marilou Randall,
 Never Summer Mt. Products
 Linda and Don Ray
 Donna and Scott Ready,
 Mt. Lake Properties
 Gus and Dawn Really
 Frank Reardon
 Peter and Karen Rempel
 Susan and Bert Rewold
 Brian & Gretchen Reynolds,
 Meandering Moose

Rockies Restaurant
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 Roger Rood
 Russell and Daviana Rowe
 Karen Rugen
 Ray and Hope Rupel
 Laurie and Chris Ruske
 John and Alicia Salisbury
 Dave and Lois Sauer
 Scott Schell and Stewart Thomas
 Jennifer and Richard Schliep,
 Sloopy's Grill
 Ron and Verona Schmidt
 Layla and Greg Schnacke
 Brenda and Jim Schoenherr
 Bonnie Severson
 Gay Shaffer
 Bob Scott, Indian Jewelry & Fine
 Gifts
 George Sedlacek
 Dominick Sekich
 Marie Silverthorn and Bill Giolma
 Suzanne Silverthorn
 Keith and Victoria Simon
 Leigh Sinclair
 Erica and Steve Skelcey
 Ingrid Smith
 Carl Sniffen
 Cindy and Hoppe Southway
 Linda Spaet
 Patrick Spieles
 Spirit Lake Lodge
 Patti Stahl
 Phyllis Stephens
 Rosemary Stoffel
 Jane Stotts
 Larry Strashein and Pam Newan
 Ann Stricklin
 Henry Sykes
 Courtney Thomas
 Deborah Thompson
 Robert F. Thompson
 Stephen Thompson
 Sue Thompson
 Patricia Thorpe
 Ellen Todd
 Jackie and Mike Tompkins,
 Western Riviera
 Jean Wagner
 Alan and Linda Walker
 Steven Warden
 James Warner
 Dot Weber and Fred Schroeder
 Bob and Polly Wellman
 Jan and Willie Wharton
 Russell Wheeler
 Jim and Amy White
 Quinn Wicken
 Bob Wiebe
 George Wilcinski
 Daniel Wilhelm
 Jaclyn Yelich and Greg Thielen
 Martin Zieff
 Barbara Zinanti

And ALL the folks who donated food for events! Can't do it without you!