

Rail Tales

November 2008

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

If interested in joining All Aboard Westcliffe, call Doris Porth at 719 783-2217.

Visit the All Aboard Westcliffe website:

www.allaboardwestcliffe.org

B-I-N-G-O

The summer session of playing bingo ended September 16th with an almost full house. The games have been held every Tuesday night. The doors are always opened at 6:30 p.m. with the games starting at 7:00 p.m.

Bingo may continue through the winter after a short break and will only be held one night a month. A schedule will be posted.

So, if you are interested in CASH PRIZES! BAKED GOODS! and FUN TIMES!, then come to the AAW Interpretive Center located at 110 Rosita Avenue. Bingo cards are \$10 each, 10 games are played each night. One card can be played for all ten games.



Bingo is a fundraiser for All Aboard Westcliffe. AAW members should make an effort to at least attend some of the games. Besides...it is lots of fun!

Several All Aboard Westcliffe members recently attended a one-day training session to become Bingo Masters. Bingo Masters are required by the Colorado Dept. of Revenue in order to hold raffles and Bingo. The all day session began with training for holding Raffles.

The afternoon session focused on requirements for

holding Bingo games.

The new Bingo Masters for AAW include Addie and Carl Heck, Dianne Zarra, and Pat Ramer. Tim Thrun attended as well to renew his Bingo Master's license. Three other members of AAW have current licenses as Bingo Masters. They are Maria Thrun, Mary Lou Koch and Delores Stoesser.

Special THANKS to these volunteers for their time to help keep the Raffles and Bingo games going for AAW!!!

Volunteers are always welcome to come help with the various activities of All Aboard Westcliffe. Call Tim Thrun at 783-0423.

Raffle Winners

600 Raffle ticket were printed for the Raffle Drawing to win either a hand quilted wall hanging or a stand up tool chest. 274 tickets were sold for the tool chest and 221 were sold for the quilt. Mel Porth sold the most tickets of the AAW volunteers for a grand total of 176 tickets.

(Drum roll please... The winner of the tool chest was Dave Tonsing and Bob Joslen was the winner of the quilt. CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH OF YOU!

A special thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket to help support All Aboard Westcliffe!!

Summer Work Plans Reviewed

Several projects are continuing through the winter and new projects being added to the list of things to do:

- COMPLETED - Lettuce shed forge installed to help rebuild cabooses

- Restoration of the freight wagon display continues
- COMPLETED - Baggage cart display repainted
- COMPLETED - Mining kitchen roof replaced
- Engine House Museum work continues
- Cataloging contents for display in Engine House Museum continues
- COMPLETED - Parking lot work of split rail fence
- Forklift caboose onto track (Two failed attempts)
- COMPLETED - Seed and establish lawn in front of Interpretive Center

If you are available to help out with any of these projects, give Tim Thrun or Mel Porth a call.

Work Sessions A Success

On July 3 and August 2, AAW members were asked to help build the split rail fence on the new Westcliffe public parking lot. The town of Westcliffe provided all fencing supplies and AAW provided the manual labor.

The fence has been completed and is a great improvement and Kudos to all who helped including Don Kaufman, Carl Heck, Ron Zarra, Mel Porth, Jim Schulz, Tim Thrun, Dave Stubbs and John Whatshisname!

Interpretive Center Summer Hours

The Interpretive Center closed the end of September for the season.

Over the summer season, 164 visitors were recorded from states all over the country. Visitors came from other areas of Colorado and CA, FL, GA, KS, ID, IL, MI, NE, NM, OH, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, VA, and WI.

Just think...this was with the huge increase in costs of fuel and economy woes. WHEN THE ECONOMY IS BETTER AGAIN, just look at the potential for visitors to our area.

Railroad Museum Grand Opening in Planning Stages

A grand opening for the Railroad Museum is in the planning stages for the first weekend in

May, 2009. Several AAW members have expressed an interest in helping with the organizing and planning of this event. Anna Stubbs, Marie Thrun, Addie Heck, Beverly Goertz and Delores Stoesser agreed to serve on this committee.

It will be a great community event. Railroad Memorabilia is always accepted. If any AAW members, members of the community and interested parties with railroad memorabilia, photos, etc. would like to donate items to the museum, please call Tim Thrun or Mel Porth.

Bookkeeper Needed

AAW will be hiring (YES, a paid position) a bookkeeper for the organization. If any of the members are qualified and would like to be considered for this position, please contact Mel Porth with your qualifications, etc.

The position will require knowledge and experience in accounts payable and receivable, bank deposits, statements, state and federal taxes, and financial reports.

Galloping Goose Excursion

AAW members participated in a once in a lifetime adventure by riding the Galloping Goose for a round trip ride from Antonito to Osier on Monday, June 30th.

Members participating in the event were: Doris and Mel Porth, Marie and Tim Thrun, Beverly and Kenneth Goertz, and Jim Schulz.



The weather cooperated for an excellent outdoor adventure and everyone had a good time!

Model Rail Road Club

The Westcliffe Model Rail Road Club (a wholly owned subsidiary of All Aboard Westcliffe, Inc.) is located in the basement of the AAW Interpretive Center. This loosely organized small group of highly intelligent individuals meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm to play with toy trains from October through May. Their mission is to build a HO scale model of the 1920's era Denver and Rio Grande RR main line from

Canon City to Salida CO. through the Royal Gorge with a spur line up Texas Creek to the small valley hamlet of Westcliffe.

This gargantuan project is underway now and will most likely be a life long "work in progress" for most of the old fossils who currently have worked on it. However, your mission (if you choose to accept it) is to get involved and help build a rail road. Men, women and children of all ages.... if you enjoy playing with paper mache, or painting small objects, or are detail oriented or a modeler, come join in the fun and really see the rewards of your labors grow into something you can actually play with again and again.

That's right, I said fun! Remember when you were a kid with big eyes as you watched that small model train chug down the track and through the mountains? Well this is it brothers and sisters.....your chance to help build a rail road! Come see for yourself. Downstairs in the basement of the Interpretive Center.

Storage Building at Caboose

A storage building will be constructed on Main Street to the north of the caboose. It will be used to store the tables, chairs and other miscellaneous



equipment used for the pancake breakfast events.

The building will be ready before the Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast. Or sooner, if the WEATHER PERMITS!!

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!
We hope you can enjoy friends and/or family this Turkey Day.

The 2008 AAW annual Christmas Party will be held on Monday evening, December 15th. MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Watch your mail (E-mail or snail type) for details of exact menu, location, time, etc. There will also be a festive gathering of members, probably during the first week of December to collectively decorate our Interpretive Center for the Holidays. AAW supplies the decorations and egg nog if you will supply an hour of your time. Once again, details of exact date and time to follow soon.

Featured Recipes

Chicken Enchiladas
From Anna Stubbs

10 tortillas, (I've used whole wheat, wheat, or corn)
Oil for frying

Filling:

2 1/2 cups shredded cooked chicken or turkey
1 4oz can diced green chiles
1/2 cup sour cream
1/2 tsp cumin
Salt & pepper

Sauce:

1 10 3/4 oz can cream of chicken soup
1/2 cup milk
1/4 tsp cumin

2 cups grated cheddar cheese

Lightly fry tortillas in med-hot oil to soften & drain on towels, takes only a few seconds each. Combine chicken, chiles, sour cream, cumin and S & P to taste. Add 2 rounded Tbsp. filling along each tortilla, roll closed and place seam side down in a 9"x13" baking pan. Mix together soup, milk and cumin and pour over enchiladas. Top with cheese and bake in a 350 degree oven for 30 minutes. Serves 6-8.

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