

Conifer Historical Society and Museum
PO Box 295, Conifer, CO 80433

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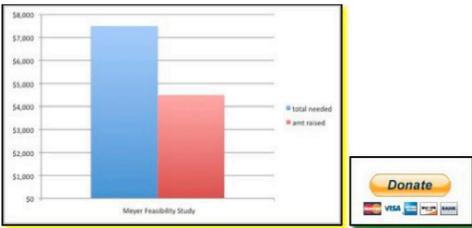
A Museum for Conifer ?



The Mission of the Conifer Historical Society and Museum is to share the region's legacy by collecting, preserving and exhibiting historical and cultural materials and providing public access to services, collections, exhibits and a research library.

Old Timers' Picnic
A Family Reunion for the Conifer Community
Third Annual

Help us make a Conifer Museum a reality--> [Click here](#)



Conifer Historical Society [Contact Us](#)

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McIntyre had four children. Their youngest, Emily Elizabeth McIntyre (1894-1968) was John McIntyre Bevan's mother. Emily Elizabeth was born on her parent's cattle ranch in Olathe, Montrose County. She moved to California at a young age and lived the rest of her life there.

John McIntyre Bevan was born October 18, 1933, in Los Angeles. John and his wife, Constance Mae (Mickelson) Bevan reside above Los Angeles in the city of La Cañada Flintridge.

John's ability to weave his family history into a fascinating narrative for a spellbound audi-

ence was remarkable. Like almost all CHSM events, his story was video recorded for historical archives and will be available for public access soon.

Do you have your family history in the Conifer area researched? If so, please contact CHSM to share your story.

IMHS Dog Walk



photo by Chuck Baker

Once again CHSM partnered the Intermountain Humane Society for their annual Dog Walk on the Meyer Ranch, held June 26. CHSM placed nearly 40 historical signs along the trails so hikers could learn about the local history during their enjoyable jaunt with their favorite pooch.

**Meyer Home
Tour and Chat
September 12**

Norm Sr. and several of his children will provide tours of their historic home.

**\$50/person
Limited tickets**

Call CHSM now to reserve your tickets for this unique opportunity.

720.333.0223

Proceeds will go toward the Meyer Feasibility Study.



CHSM
Conifer Historical Society and Museum

McIntyre Family History

by Elaine Hood and John McIntyre Bevan



photo by Elaine Hood

John McIntyre Bevan recently spoke about his family history to an attentive audience at the monthly CHSM Summer Lecture Series. His great grandfather Duncan McIntyre homesteaded the land on which the Norm Meyer, Sr., home now stands.

Circa 1860, the Duncan McIntyre family homesteaded the land on which the Meyer Ranch now stands. Duncan's great-grandson, John McIntyre Bevan, presented the family history to a rapt audience on the evening of June 17.

While John was careful to distinguish the difference between fact and conjecture, he presented a fascinating story of how his family immigrated from Scotland to Ontario, Canada, in the early 1800s and then to Conifer circa 1860.

Duncan McIntyre was born on October 22, 1806, in Scotland. His wife, Elizabeth (Brush) McIntyre was born on February 11, 1816, also in Scotland.

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*** DID YOU KNOW ***

As of August 1, 2010, CHSM is more than 1/2 way to meeting its \$10,000 goal for the Meyer Feasibility Study?

This issue of CHSM can be found at www.ConiferHistoricalSociety.org

Call us at 720.333.0223

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 15	Old Timers' Picnic, Pleasant Park School	Questions? Call us at 720.333.0223
September 12	Meyer Home Tour and Chat	
November 13	CNN Holiday Boutique	

A Letter to the Community

by Janet Shown, CHSM President

In the past year, four significant opportunities for preservation of historical properties and culture have become available. With so many options, how does a community decide what the priorities should be?



It is this question with which several groups in the Conifer community have wrestled. They have noted these important occurrences:

- The property affectionately termed the **Yellow Barn** corner is for sale;
- The **DeLaCastro** property across Highway 73 from the Yellow Barn, possibly a part of the original ranch on which the Yellow Barn stood, is also on the market;
- The State Park Service has indicated it would like to partner with a group to turn several historical **cabins at Staunton State Park** into museum sites;
- The Norman Meyer family has teamed up with CHSM to pursue a feasibility study to determine whether the **Meyer home site** might one day become a museum.

Thankfully, the Conifer area community has champions for the preservation cause!

- The **Conifer Area Council**, under the visional leadership of *Shirley Johnson*, recently conducted a new survey that queried residents about their

preservation priorities. Analysis of the results from 1,329 completed surveys showed that the preservation of the Yellow Barn and the Meyer home site are the community's top preservation priorities.

- Aably led by *Jacque Scott and Karl Dise*,

the **Conifer Area Council's Historic Preservation Committee** is working to create a Historic District stretching from the Norm Meyer property along Sutton and Barkley Roads to the Yellow Barn. The committee also facilitates communication and collaboration between several preservation groups, keeps the community informed about historical properties which may qualify for preservation, and facilitates action planning among interested parties to accomplish preservation of the area's most important historic structures.

- The **Preserve the Yellow Barn Committee**, presided by the tireless *Angela Bassano*, has signed a Transaction Agreement with the real estate broker for the commercial corner that includes the Yellow Barn. The group is gathering information to determine whether it will make an offer and begin fund-raising to purchase the corner with its iconic Yellow Barn and other historic buildings.
- In the past two months, the **Conifer Historical Society**

and Museum has raised more than half of the amount needed to conduct a feasibility study which will help the committee and the Meyer family determine whether a museum is a viable use for the Meyer home, historic barn, outbuildings and surrounding 10 acres. An additional \$4,500 is needed to reach the \$10,000 goal to cover the cost of a structural assessment and feasibility analysis.

The next fund-raising event is scheduled for **Sunday, September 12 at the Meyer home** on US Highway 285. The \$50 ticket will allow guests to tour the Meyer home and hear about its history and family life from Norm, Sr. and several of his children.

All of these projects will require a great deal of human and financial resources. And all of these projects are worthy of the community's support. I invite you to join with us – or with one of these other groups – to reach these important goals. What a legacy we will leave to the next generations if we can preserve what's best about our community's heritage!

For more information about the Meyer project or other CHSM activities, be sure to visit our newly revamped web site at www.conifer-historicalsociety.org.

Janet Shown

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CHSM is published quarterly for the Conifer Community, past, present, and future. It is intended to be an online publication with limited hardcopy distribution. Story ideas and contributions are encouraged. The photo of Norm Meyer's yellow house on the front page was taken by Lana Turner. Editor: Elaine Hood hood1959@yahoo.com

McIntyre continued from page 1

Duncan was shanghaied and forced into the British Navy around 1825. Family lore states he received lashings for interceding on behalf of a fellow sailor and it was shortly thereafter that he jumped ship along the Saint Lawrence River. He worked for the Hudson Bay Company near Pembroke, Ontario, Canada, which was involved in the lumber trade. Duncan sent for his sweetheart, Elizabeth Brush, who was still in Scotland. Elizabeth's ship was intercepted on the high seas by a privateer and she subsequently spent three years in a convent in Spain before ultimately arriving in Ontario. They had six children, the first five were born in Pembroke, Ontario, and the youngest was born in Montreal.

The family migrated to Colorado around 1860, most likely with a wagon train of other Canadians. John believes the Legault family was part of this early migration to Conifer and some people in his trove of photos are perhaps Legault family members.

Early 1860s historical records identify Duncan McIntyre as a Justice-of-the-Peace in Conifer.

The barn that still stands on Norm Meyer's property was undoubtedly built by Duncan McIntyre. Norm Meyer, Sr., had the wood tested and it was determined that the trees used for the barn had been cut down in 1870. Wooden pegs were used instead of nails.

The McIntyre family's influence was felt beyond Conifer. Duncan's brother John W. McIntyre was



photo by Elaine Hood

This barn, still standing on the Norm Meyer ranch, dates back to the 1870s, when it was built by the Duncan McIntyre family.



photo provided by John Bevan

John Bevan's mother, Emily Elizabeth McIntyre, is the baby in this photo, sitting on the lap of her father, Dugless McIntyre. Her mother, Isa Belle, shown at left, had an identical twin who married Dugless McIntyre's brother John. It was Dugless' and John's father, Duncan, who homesteaded in Conifer in the 1870s.

a lumberman and contractor who was listed in Denver telephone directories in the 1870s. John W. McIntyre's son, John D. McIntyre was a draftsman and surveyor who drafted the plat map for the city of Castle Rock in July 1874. Duncan's daughter Elizabeth married Enos Throop Hotchkiss, who homesteaded the land in what eventually became the Colorado town bearing his name.

Sometime in the 1870s, the Duncan McIntyre family migrated from Conifer to Castle Rock, Segua-che, Gunnison, Powderhorn, Lake City, Montrose, Delta, Hotchkiss and the Crawford/Maher area.

Duncan McIntyre died September 14, 1884, in the Crawford/Maher area and was buried there. Elizabeth Brush McIntyre died February 16, 1887, and was buried next to her husband.

Duncan McIntyre and Elizabeth (Brush) McIntyre had six children. Two of their sons, John Brush McIntyre and Dugless Duncan McIntyre married identical twin sisters, Rosa Belle Lemon and Isa Belle Lemon, in a double wedding ceremony on the young ladies' father's ranch near Crawford.

Dugless Duncan McIntyre and Isa Belle (Lemon) McIntyre continued on page 4.