



Spring 2011 Vol. 5, Issue 2

www.ConiferHistoricalSociety.org

# CHSM

## Conifer Historical Society and Museum

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### \* DID YOU KNOW \*

CHSM was featured on local TV Channel 9's *Colorado and Company* on March 29?

And...

If you are reading this issue online, click once on certain name/words or even some pictures to be taken to a related online site. *Let's have some fun!*

CHSM's mission 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.

This issue of CHSM can be found at: [www.ConiferHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ConiferHistoricalSociety.org)

Call us at 720.333.0223

## It Had To Be You

by Elaine Hood



[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

Isham Jones Road, northwest of Shaffers Crossing, is named for the famous orchestral leader.

[Isham Jones](#) (1894-1956), a famous early 20th century composer and orchestral leader, spent the World War II years living north of Shaffers Crossing. There is even a road named in his honor in the area where he lived.

Jones is most famous for his song, *It Had to Be You*, written in 1924. He wrote the melody, while Gus Kahn wrote the lyrics. We're sure you know it.

Isham helped his brother run the general store at Shaffers Crossing while living in Colorado. After the war ended, Isham moved to California.

Join CHSM at the *Swing n Sock Hop* (information on page 4) to listen – and dance, if you want – to golden oldies from this era through the 1960s.

### [It Had To Be You](#)

*It had to be you, it had to be you  
I wandered around,  
and finally found  
The somebody who  
Could make me be true,  
And could make me be blue  
And even be glad, just to be sad  
Thinking of you*

Click here if you are reading this online.

# A Letter to the Community

by Janet Shown, CHSM President

CHSM is pleased to announce that it has chosen [Gerou & Associates, Ltd.](#) to conduct a Historic Structure Assessment of the Norm Meyer home on US 285 in Conifer. Funded by a noncompetitive grant from the State Historical Fund and monies donated by community members for the project, the Historic Structure Assessment is a first step in helping CHSM to determine whether a public museum is a viable use for the Meyer home.

A proposal from Gerou and Associates was chosen from a field of six architectural firms in a competitive bid process to answer the following major questions:

- What will it take to bring the Meyer home up to code standards for public use?
- Is the structure sound, including exterior and interior structural systems, roofing and waterproofing, windows, doors, interior finishes, and foundations?
- What is the state of the mechanical, plumbing, foundation, and electrical systems?
- What hazardous materials, if any, are in the home and will need to be removed?
- What zoning, building code, and accessibility issues will need to be addressed?
- How will public restrooms, parking, and other issues be addressed?



- What will be the estimated cost of construction and renovation?

A team of highly skilled and dedicated members of the Conifer Historical Society and Museum deliberated for many weeks before awarding the opportunity to Gerou and Associates from a field of seven bidding architectural firms. The firms had received Requests for Proposals from the Conifer Historical Society and Museum as part of a competitive process initiated in January.

A full service architectural firm located in Evergreen, Gerou and Associates has rich experience statewide in historic needs assessments and historic preservation, including local historic preservation projects related to the Evergreen Lake Warming House, the Church of the Transfiguration/St. Marks in Evergreen, the Humphrey Memorial Park and Museum, the Central City Masonic Lodge, and the Hiwan Barn. Principals Phil and Cheri Gerou have lived in the area for more than 25 years and performed

architectural work in Colorado for more than 35 years. They are active members of the mountain community, donating time and service to numerous local boards and organizations. Phil Gerou will lead and manage the project, as Cheri's current role as a Colorado State Representative prohibits her involvement on projects receiving state funding.

Having chosen the architectural firm, CHSM is now ready to submit the noncompetitive grant proposal to the State Historical Fund requesting funds for the Historic Structure Assessment. It is anticipated that funding will be approved by June, and project work will be conducted throughout the summer and fall. A Historic Structures Assessment report from Gerou and Associates will be submitted to CHSM and the State Historical Fund by December 2011, with time allowed for questions and answers from the Historical Society and State Historical Fund.

We are grateful for the community's support in this exciting project, and hope you will continue to offer your suggestions, ideas, financial support and volunteer time as we work together to find out if the Meyer home will one day become the museum home for the Conifer Historical Society and Museum!

*Janet Shown*

## Board of Directors

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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

# Upcoming Events! Read All About It!

The Conifer Historical Society has a full schedule of events, summer lectures, and tours! Mark your calendars! For more information about any of these events, lectures or tours, visit [www.ConiferHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ConiferHistoricalSociety.org) or call 720.333.0223

## Swing N Sock Hop

May 21, 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Remember your favorite songs of the 40s, 50s, and 60s? We do, too! Join us at the *Swing N Sock Hop* and dance to your favorite oldies, or listen (and reminisce) at the Soda Fountain. White sport coats, pink carnations and poodle skirts optional! [The Zone at the Mountain High Christian Center](#) will be transformed, and your memories of the 40s, 50s and 60s will come alive!

Tickets are \$15 each, or \$25 per couple. Add a corsage for just \$5.00!

Tickets are on sale *now* on our website.

## Rocky Mountain Oyster Festival

July 16

Don't miss the Rocky Mountain Oyster Festival at Meyer Ranch. The entire family will enjoy a variety of western food, music, and activities at the back of the ranch. Boots and spurs optional.

You'd be nuts to miss it! This is certain to become another annual event.

## Community Picnic

August 14, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Our annual Community Picnic is a family reunion for old timers, new timers and everyone in between!

This very popular annual event will be held at the historic Pleasant Park School and Grange.

Lunch will be served from 12:00 to 1:00. We provide the food; you provide the conversation.

Introductions and awards begin at 1:30. Stay and visit!

## Summer Lectures and Tours

*Summer Lectures are free to members and \$5.00 for non-members.*

*Tours and Receptions are by reservation with a separate ticket price.*

*Please check our website for dates and times.*

**Bradford Junction and the Yellow Barn.** Bradford Junction was the intersection of two toll roads that met at the Yellow Barn. This small community later became known as Conifer. In addition to a brief history of Bradford Junction, we will also enjoy the stories of family members who lived at the Yellow Barn property in the middle of the 20th century.

**An Evening with Abraham Lincoln.** This year marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. In this Chautauqua-style program, Abraham Lincoln will speak to us and answer questions from the audience.

The talk and a reception prior to the program will be held at a historic restaurant. Be sure to visit the Civil War exhibits presented this summer by our co-sponsor at the Hiwan Homestead Museum.

**The Bradford Toll Road Begins** is a tour and talk with the Ken Caryl Historical Society. The toll road began in Denver, passed by the [Bradford-Perley House in Ken Caryl](#), and headed up over the foothills to Bradford Junction (now Conifer). The tour will include the history of the Bradford-Perley House and the Bradford Toll Road.

**The History of the Clifton House.** Join us for a fascinating talk about the early pioneer family who built the Clifton House. The talk and the reception prior to the program will be held at the Aspen Creek Winery.

**Conifer Cemeteries Tour.** Due to many requests, we are offering a respectful tour of Conifer Cemeteries in September. The tour will be led by local residents who know about the families buried here.

**Remember to check our website to purchase tickets or call 720.333.0223**

*Proceeds from these events and programs will benefit the Meyer Ranch Museum Project.*

If you are reading this online, click once on the underlined words to be taken to a related link.

# Swing n Sock Hop

Saturday May 21

6 -10 pm

Mountain High Christian Center  
8444 US Highway 285, across the hwy  
from Inter-Canyon Fire station

Live entertainment from  
**Peak Academy of Dance**



**\$15**/ticket

**\$25**/couple

call 720.333.0223  
to reserve your tickets

Beverages and munchies  
included with admission.  
Corsages and premium  
refreshments available.

## Listening/Dancing to the Oldies, but Goodies

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| May 21  | Swing n Sock Hop; Mountain High Christian Center |
| June 18 | IMHS Dog Walk                                    |
| July 16 | Rocky Mountain Oyster Festival; Meyer Ranch      |