



To preserve for future generations
the history of the American West
and our railroad heritage.

SPARKS FROM THE ROUNDHOUSE

Roundhouse Preservation, Inc. News

March 18, 2019

News

Lincoln County Commissioners accepted the \$338,136.00 bid from Spectrum G.C., Inc. to finish the remaining windows and doors on the roundhouse. Once finished, the exterior will be completely restored!

Theodore Roosevelt, Special Guest

Definite information was received from the President Theodore Roosevelt's private secretary to the effect that the President has granted the request of our committee and will have dinner with the good people in Lincoln County on April 6, 2019 at the Hugo V.F.W. Post 6612,

419 4th Ave.

The Roundhouse Preservation, Inc. committee wants to have an old-fashioned fish fry in readiness for President Roosevelt, a plan we feel certain will receive his hearty approval, and hundreds of people will no doubt assemble in Hugo.



"Our last get together was in 1903.

It's about time I was invited back!"

RPI Annual Meeting/Fish Fry April 6, 2019

"In consideration of the honor bestowed upon the Hugo Roundhouse by our illustrious President, we take great pleasure in extending a general invitation to the citizens of Eastern Colorado to join with us in greeting the President in Hugo on Saturday evening, April 6, 2019."

In addition to greeting the President, folks will be treated to Carroll Schroeder's famous fish fry. This is an occasion you won't want to miss.

For those of you who don't eat fish, be assured that you can still join in the fellowship. Phil Hurst and Jackie Phelps with Rochells at the local V.F.W. Post in Hugo will

be serving chicken strips. Food will be served beginning



at 5 p.m. and continue until 8 p.m. or until the food has run out.

The meal will cost \$10 per plate and you can pay at the door. Children up to 12 years of age will be charged \$5 per

plate.

The informal Annual Meeting will take place the same evening. Handouts will be available to provide members with information from the past year.

Election of the board of directors will be done by mail with the ballot in this newsletter.

The terms of directors Chris Fox and Megan Hohl are expiring. Both have agreed to serve again if elected. If you are interested in serving, you can enter your name on the ballot as a write-in candidate.

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Meet Chris Fox

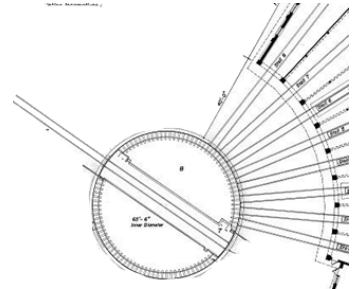
Chris Fox

What do I bring to the restoration project?

I am hoping to apply my passions for railroading, both in modeling and real trains, to promote the roundhouse project. For railroad fans, restoring the roundhouse is preserving something from what train buffs and historians hail as the days when steam locomotives were the muscle of this nation.

For everyone else, restoring the roundhouse will provide a unique and historic events center for all kinds of things like weddings, dinners, musical shows and exhibits. It could be a fine source of additional exhibit space for county fair week. I also want to channel my connections with other museums and railroad historical groups to promote the roundhouse.

For the last nine years I've taken the Lincoln County HO scale model train exhibit to large crowd events like the Colorado State Fair to promote the roundhouse and Lincoln County. The roundhouse preservation project is admired and applauded by many.



Meet Megan Hohl

Megan Hohl

I was born and raised in Hugo, and like most kids growing up in this area, I didn't fully appreciate all of the wonderful and unique things we have to offer. When my husband, Lucas, decided to get out of the Air Force, after serving eight years, we knew we wanted to go back home to Hugo. I always wanted to run our family-owned grocery store, and I knew when we had children, it would be important to raise them with family around. We bought Osborne's Supermarket from my parents, who had owned it for 30 years.

When we became official business owners, I realized the potential for economic growth that the Hugo roundhouse could offer. This was a gold mine sitting in our backyard! If the roundhouse could be restored as a museum and event center or even a restaurant or hotel, what could that do for our main street businesses and growth of the town? It was at this point that I knew I had to be a part of it!

What I bring to the restoration project of the roundhouse is the vision of tourism and economic growth. It will help our entire town by providing a much needed economic boost—more tourism, more jobs, more money coming to Lincoln County. How many people wanting to see this iconic and one-of-a-kind building will stop at a local restaurant to have lunch, or fill up their gas tank at the local gas station? Maybe they would grab a drink at the VFW or Plains Bar before they head to their hotel. These are all reasons that made me want to help bring the roundhouse to its full potential. I hope once the roundhouse is fully restored and open, we will see the boost of economic growth that Lincoln County needs.

On the Preservation Treadmill

March 19, 2019

By Dee Ann Blevins

Anyone who has ever watched the World's Strongest Man competition has seen the super-body-builders towing semi-trucks and airplanes with nothing but the strength in their legs and large ropes. They plod slowly along, one tortured step after another, punishing their backs and their sweat glands in pursuit of the title.

Restoration of the Union Pacific Railroad Roundhouse at Hugo, Colorado resembles this competition very much.

Roundhouse Preservation, Inc. (R.P.I.) has been working out for the past 17 years, building strength and endurance. The weight of the initial project of roof stabilization, masonry work, replacing and restoring doors and windows was almost smothering. Trainers and support came to aid R.P.I. in the form of individuals with the State Historic Fund and Colorado Preservation, Inc. Good people with Colorado Department of Transportation outlined a plan with its Transportation Enhancement Grant. Even Walmart provided a little perk.

Foundation funding from the Gates Family, the National Trust, Union Pacific and Omaha Track, and Cooper Clark, along with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding provided the preservation gymnasium where professionals could get to work preserving the roundhouse.

Conditioning of mind and body was critical if R.P.I. was to throw off the extra bricks that might cause a train wreck. Overcoming hazardous material concerns, preservation easement difficulties, negative public perception, county politics, and contractor mishaps and delays required more than dumbbells and good nutrition! Perseverance was key to progress.

R.P.I. was burning fat and retaining muscle when injury struck.

High winds out of the south blew down part of the north wall in 2008. What a setback! Fortunately, Lincoln County's insurance policy covered the repairs and the re-built wall was even stronger than before.

It was back to bench pressing, squats, power-lifting, and a little running for good cardiovascular health. Still, considerable juggling expertise also was required when R.P.I. was the recipient of two railcars, with



no way to get them home and with no track available for them to sit on! Efforts were successful, though, without dropping the ball (thanks to our very own Lincoln County Tourism Board). R.P.I. has a winner's mentality.

It's not easy explaining to the skeptics that R.P.I. will bring in this restored roundhouse and take first in the competition. It will take a lot of money, time, hard work and faith to accomplish this goal. But when the trophy is given, the physical reality of the restored roundhouse will prove that the R.P.I. team was up to the challenge. The building will be admired, and even adored, and ALL of us will be the winners. The north bay will serve as a museum with the hope of housing a working steam locomotive. An event center will meet the needs for special gatherings such as weddings, conferences, productions, etc.

In the meantime, R.P.I. and the County Commissioners com-

pleted all the intergovernmental agreements to be processed and signed before moving forward to finish the remaining doors and clerestory windows located above all 16 doors. With representatives



of the State Historic Fund and CDOT, the engineer, architect, contractors, and county staff involved, R.P.I. had to step back and let the process run the race—even if it seemed like an extremely long marathon!

Currently, R.P.I. and an architect are consulting about the interior of the building. This project becomes more exciting as the finish line comes closer and closer!

This organization has come a long way and secured grants and matching funds. It has the reflexes to face a variety of problems and has never thrown in the towel on its dream. It has the vision to bring back the railroad heritage of the community. It has the heart to not be discouraged for long.



"This project becomes more exciting as the finish line comes closer and closer!"



BALLOT

Please Vote for two directors:

- Chris Fox
- Megan Hohl
- _____ (Write-In)
- _____ (Write-In)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____

I have read and approve the 2018 Minutes from Annual Meeting.

Please help by renewing your membership and/or sending your donation.

We appreciate your support!

I would like to make a tax deductible contribution in the amount of:

I would like to join or renew my membership with RPI:

Individual \$25 _____

Business/Organization \$50 _____

Lifetime Member \$500 _____

Please Mail to RPI, PO Box 343, Hugo, CO 80821

We would appreciate receiving your ballot by April 4, 2019

ROUNDHOUSE PRESERVATION INC.
2018 TREASURER'S REPORT
APRIL 6, 2019

Checking Account Balance as of January 1, 2018		\$ 6,058.79	Money Market Account Balance as of January 1, 2018		\$ 73,550.53
Income			Income		
Donations	\$ 965.00		Interest	\$ 99.51	
Memberships	950.00				
Fundraisers	1,169.12				
Postage - Paypal	11.11				
	\$ 3,095.23			\$ 99.51	
Expenses			Expenses		
Fundraisers	\$ 1,401.98		Martin/Martin	\$ 8,553.52	
Advertising	39.00				
Miscellaneous	35.88				
	\$ 1,476.86			\$ 8,553.52	
Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2018		\$ 7,677.16	Money Market Account Balance as of December 31, 2018		\$ 65,096.52
Balance of Both Accounts as of December 31, 2018		\$ 72,773.68			
Submitted by: <i>Roxie Devers</i> Roxie Devers, Treasurer RPI Annual Meeting April 6, 2019					

Minutes From Annual Meeting, 2018

Memorable Highlights

- R.P.I. Directors met with Kim Grant, Endangered Places Program Director for Colorado Preservation, Inc. (C.P.I.) in December to discuss funding and grant opportunities. Once the exterior of the building is finished, the State Historic Fund will not be an option for funding the interior, with the exception of the north bay, which will become a museum.
- The roundhouse was featured in part in C.P.I.'s Colorado Gives Day solicitation that went out statewide and was posted on Facebook.
- In January, the directors met with architect Bret Johnson to determine the scope of work for the interior of the roundhouse. R.P.I. will need to fine tune the space allotted to the events center and the museum. The work will take place in four phases at an estimated cost of 1.3 million dollars.
- R.P.I. then attended an informational meeting with the Lincoln County Tourism Board, Hugo Improvement Partnership, Hugo Economic Development Group, Lincoln County Economic Development, and other interested parties concerning the progress and use of the roundhouse. There was a tour of the building afterwards.
- Multiple tours have been arranged with various groups, with another large one set up for April 9th. History Colorado is bringing approximately 40 people to the site.



Are you keeping up with our collectible mugs? This sunshine yellow mug is our 2018 model. We have sold out of two colors.