



The Goldfield Historical Society

Newsletter, Goldfield, Nevada

John Ekman, President
www.goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com

2nd Quarter 2024, Issue No. 48
Joan Sieber, Editor

Welcome back to our returning members. We're starting this quarter with 182 members. We really appreciate your support. I want to give a shout out to **Dr. Roderick "Doc" Myers**. He's been a member since 1983! Thanks Rod. We really appreciate your continued support. That's dedication.

A warm welcome to our new members:

Elizabeth Bland, NV

Larry Berlin, CA

Esmeralda High Desert Institute

Stephanie Iiams, AZ

High School Update – Our general contractor, Spectra, has now completed the rebuild of the seven chimneys, gutters and perimeter walls. The sub-contractor, Cooper Roofing, has finished installing the new sloped steel roof covering. And sub-contractor, Vertical Access has removed the scaffolding. The sloped roof restoration grant phase is now complete. It looks SO good!

John Ekman has completed the next grant application. This will be used for soffit, cornice and downspout reconstruction. We'll find out in the Fall if this will be granted. If successful, work would start next Spring.



Photos by Jim Price

Donations—Donna Norvell sent a package that included::

- 6 period postcards
- 1 Dedication program of Goldfield Public School 1906
- 1 Commencement Week folder 1909
- 2 small pictures
- 1 1905 "Christmas Ride" picture
- 1 Kindergarten Class picture from 1908
- 1 dance card from the Shriners
(From her Great Aunt Nell and Signed by her Great Uncle Dan)
- 1 wooden clock (made from the floor of a school that was torn down)

Our webmaster, Edie Koepnick will be posting the kindergarten class picture on our website. You can look for that soon.

Jim Price and I had the kindergarten class photo professionally scanned and printed. It is hanging in the room that is set up as a classroom. We believe it's the same room.

The Esmeralda High Desert Institute donated \$200 in Sydney Martinez's name and Gigi of Gigi Living History donated \$50.

Edie Koepnick & I each purchased a display case from Barbarossa & Bear and donated them to the Society for our display room (which hasn't been set up yet). Barbarossa & Bear are closing their doors and selling off as much as they can.



Boxcar—We finally accumulated all of the pieces and parts needed to build the doors and do some repairs to the boxcars. However, we did run out of lumber and had to make a trip to Pahrump so we could finish the doors. **Rich Gartman** and I worked on building the doors for a couple of days. He then replaced some of the boards that were disintegrating. The front boxcar is almost completely done with this phase. Great progress has been made.



Photos by Jim Price

One of our members, Kim Henrick wrote the following article and provided the pictures. Hope you enjoy it.

Goldfield in 1940

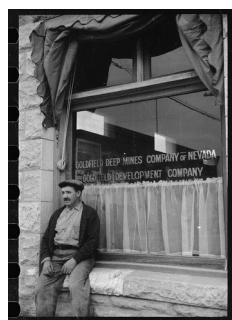
by Kim Henrick

Arthur Rothstein (1915-1985) was considered one of America's premier photojournalists. Between 1935 and 1940, Rothstein took tens of thousands of photographs across America for the Resettlement Administration (1935-1937) and the subsequent Farm Security Administration (FSA). The FSA was a New Deal agency created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt "to aid poor farmers, sharecroppers, tenant farmers and migrant workers," according to a National Archives summation. Alongside other talented photographers such as Dorothea Lange and Walker Evans, Rothstein captured the raw and haunting realities of those most affected by the Great Depression. After leaving the FSA in 1940, Rothstein worked as a photographer for *Look Magazine* until 1981.

In his last year with the FSA, Rothstein visited Goldfield and chose to take several photographs of the town's dilapidated boardwalks (in addition to more typical subjects like abandoned headframes and miners' shacks). The photo with the ore cart is taken from the northwest corner of Fifth and Ramsey avenues, looking west down Ramsey toward the Consolidated Telephone-Telegraph Company building and the larger Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company building on the southeast corner of Ramsey Avenue and Columbia Street. The next two boardwalk photographs show a stretch of the nearly 1/2-mile-long boardwalk on N. Fifth Avenue that ran from the Santa Fe Saloon at Pearl Street south to Crook Street. These photos appear to have been taken south of where Gold Street crosses Fifth Avenue. I couldn't find any information on the F. E. O'Neal store, but there was a Frank Edward O'Neal who joined the Army in September 1918, according to the *Goldfield News and Weekly Tribune*, Sept. 21, 1918. This is likely the same man.

Rothstein also photographed a thoughtful scene of a man sitting on an outside window ledge of the Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company building. Note the signage in the window behind the man. The *Goldfield Deep Mines Company of Nevada* incorporated in 1920 and operated for several years out of this building. The *Goldfield Development Company* incorporated in 1919 to operate all the holdings of the Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company. Today that window—displayed behind window model Phil Henrick—announces the building's original occupant, the Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company.

Source Collection: Farm Security Administration Photograph Collection (Library of Congress). The Goldfield Deep Mines Company records from 1919 to 1944 can be found at the University of Nevada, Special Collections department.



Goldfield History Fundraiser— On June 1st, **Sydney Martinez** from Finding Nevada Wild presented an afternoon of Goldfield Histories as a fundraiser for the High School. There was a live silversmithing demonstration, private tour of the High School and guided expeditions to Gemfield and our Historic Cemetery. Sounded like everyone had a great time. It netted us a total of \$710. Thank you Sydney!



Photo by Jonathan Martinez

Monthly Meeting—The next meeting of the Goldfield Historical Society will be on July 9, 2024 at 7 p.m. Please attend if possible.

Please let me know if your e-mail or address changes, so that I can update the membership list and you'll continue to receive our newsletter. For those who continue to receive a printed newsletter, if you can provide an e-mail address we would appreciate it as it would save us money on postage to send you the newsletter by e-mail.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter, please send them to Joan Sieber at jcsie@pacbell.net.

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Rural Nevada Grant—I submitted the paperwork for a grant to reprint our Walking Tour Booklet. It was granted and should get started sometime in July. In the meantime, we're also having a few updates made to it—nothing major. Fortunately, we were granted the full amount as the High School roof project pretty much depleted our funds.

KGFN—After reporting in the last issue that KGFN was building a new home for themselves. Things have changed. They're not going to build the cute little house that I posted a drawing of in the last issue, but instead, they've purchased a caboose to house their studio. It will be placed in the same location as mentioned in the last issue on the corner of Columbia St. and Crook St.

Goldfield Main St.— Apparently, we have joined the Main St. America. Some members of the Chamber are getting this up and running. The Main St. organization provides a framework for revitalization of Main Streets.. It'll be interesting to see what changes occur. Looking forward to it.

Goldfield Days—Just a reminder that Goldfield Days is approaching. It'll be held on August 2-4. The Historical society will once again be doing our poker walk which is always a success. Jim Price & I will be in the parade carrying the Historical Society banner. Hope to see you there.