



# The Goldfield Historical Society

## Newsletter, Goldfield, Nevada

John Ekman, President  
www.goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com

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Joan Sieber, Editor

We're ending this year with 199 members. We really appreciate your support. And a very warm welcome to our new members:

Dean & Darcy Caldwell, NV

Michelle Garcia, CA

Philip Henrick, NV

H&R Block (Cindy & Don), NV

Patty Karlen, NV

Light Solutions (Ken & Diana), NV

Edward Raleigh, NC

**Dues are due** - Our dues run from January to December. Our members are our most important asset – we need all of you. If you've already renewed, thank you and if you haven't, would really appreciate your taking the time to send in your renewal. You can either renew on line at [www.goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com) using Paypal or through the mail – P.O. Box 393, Goldfield, NV 89013. We don't have a renew button on line but check your level of membership and use Paypal – the system will let us know.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, we're running the half price offer for new members only. A new **individual** member can sign up for \$10 and it'll be matched. Or, you can sign a friend up for \$10 —makes a great gift! There are only 10 offers. Don't wait.

**High School Update** – The State has just reimbursed us \$75K for our recent expenditure of \$125K in Society reserve funds that were required to cover our FY 21-22 project (roof replacement) costs over and above available State grant funds. We'll apply for the remaining \$50K early next year. We keep those funds in reserve to cover unexpected additional project costs not covered by grant funds. State grant funds for our FY 23-24 project (metal cornice/eave replacement) should be available by the first of the year with work to start in the Spring.

**Yearly Overview**— The big news this year was the re-roofing of the High School—no more

leaks! The steel roof covering replacement was completed, the chimneys were rebuilt and the rain gutters were done. The front T&G boxcar has undergone a complete transformation—it still needs some hardware pieces installed but fortunately we have them.

We've received several grants this year. The big one for the high school comes from the **Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation (CCCHP)** who continues to support our efforts thanks to the hard work of our President, John Ekman. **Travel Nevada** granted us funds to reproduce our Walking Tour Booklet. **Centerra Gold** granted us \$9,900 to repair/restore 11 more windows on the west side of the High School.

Goldfield and our cemetery appeared in a couple of articles in the Las Vegas Review Journal and the Tonopah Times Bonanza and Goldfield News. We participated in Goldfield Days, represented the Society at the 3rd annual Tonopah Mining Park Soiree and celebrated Goldfield's 121st birthday.

As usual, a busy year for the Society. Thanks to all our volunteers who've helped make this year a success.

### Donations—

**Gina Greenway**, life member and owner of the Mozart Tavern donated \$100 to help pay for the Walking Tour Booklets. This is very much appreciated since we had to pay extra for changes which I didn't plan for when requesting the grant.

**Jeri/Steve Foutz** - Donated \$560 which is 100 percent of funds they received from school tours, etc. resulting from Main Street event on the 19th (after Birthday Party). All for High School restoration. Really appreciate your time and generosity.

**John Rudderow** donated \$1,000 for the Building Fund. Thanks again for your generous support.

**Deana Glatz** generously donated \$2,500 to our General Fund. Thank you again for your significant donation.

**Brian Norden** sent \$1000 to be used for our Building Fund. Thank you once again.

**Request for Identification Help!** - One of our members, John Rudderow found these photos in his Grandmother's photo album of the Baseball team in Goldfield in 1908 . He is trying to find more information about the team and to identify the people in the photos. If anyone has any information about Baseball in Goldfield or can help identify anyone in the photos, please contact me and I'll put you in touch with John or pass along the information. He knows which ones are Justin McCarthy and Archie McDonald—just hoping to identify the others.



**Travel Nevada Rural Marketing Grant—JPJ Marketing** printed and delivered the Walking Tour Booklets. We're now set for a few years. Once again, thanks to **Travel Nevada** for their support and to **JPJ Marketing** for printing and delivering the booklets. Also to **Sharon Artlip** of **Goldfield Art and Business Services** for printing up the membership form stuffers.

**Nevada Land Trust**— The Nevada Land Trust has purchased the Gans-Nelson Fight Site/ LV&T railroad yards and was on site recently to begin determining property boundaries and historic assets. The Society is helping them locate these assets.

The trust protects and preserves - Trails & Parks, Wildlife, Water and Nevada Heritage which is the category that we fall under. They are very much in line with our Historical Society's mission and purpose.

**KGFN**—The former Colorado & Wyoming Railroad caboos arrived in Goldfield in September, and is being outfitted to be the new radio station studio. Carl Brownfield and others in town are working on getting it ready.



Photo by Jim Price

Our member, **Kim Henrick**, has once again provided us with an interesting article. This time it's about Joseph Stimson. Thank you Kim for your research and interest.

### Joseph Elam Stimson Visits Goldfield in 1905

by Kim Henrick

A Goldfield Historical Society member by the name of Susan recently contacted our newsletter editor Joan expressing a desire to learn more about a particular historical photograph of Goldfield she had come across. The photo was taken by Joseph Elam Stimson (1870-1952) in 1905 and captured a trash heap in front of the Peerless Café, which sat on the east side of Main Street between Crook and Myers Avenues. Looking north beyond the Peerless, other important Goldfield establishments can be seen: the Red Front Saloon, the Nye and Ormsby County Bank, and the Palace Saloon. Stimson's *trash-heap* photo (# 863) is the first one shown below.

Based in Cheyenne, Stimson photographed every aspect of life in Wyoming during his career—landscapes, people, industry, transportation, civic events, buildings—but he also visited and photographed in Nevada, California, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Utah and Idaho. The Wyoming State Archives has acquired over 8000 negatives of Stimson's work and smaller collections of his photographs can be found at Brigham Young University and Yale University. For this article all images used are from the Wyoming State Archives Historical Photograph Collection, which holds approximately 30 negatives of Goldfield and a few of Columbia and Tonopah, all taken in 1905. Based on the many photographs with snow on the ground, and the large number of tents, along with the early progress on the Brewery buildings, I believe Stimson was in Goldfield the first quarter of 1905. Image titles shown within quotation marks are Stimson's own descriptions of his photographs. Some historical facts came from Hugh Shamberger's "Goldfield" book (1982).



Image 1 (Stimson # 863): "Main Street."

**Image 2** (Stimson # 880): "A portion of Goldfield as seen from point near the 'January' Mine." Notice the small boy running toward the photographer.



**Image 3** (Stimson # 858): “Stage and Livery Corrals, Goldfield, Nevada.” This is the Goldfield Feed Yard, on the east side of Main Street between Myers and Elliott Avenues.



**Image 4** (Stimson # 883): "Adobe Row & Electric Plant Farther End." These adobe buildings in Goldfield's red-light district, sat on the west side of Main Street, across from the Goldfield Feed Yard shown in image 3.

**Image 5** (Stimson # 860): “Birdseye View of Goldfield, Nevada.” This photograph, looking toward the east, shows the Gardner Mill in the center. It sat at the base of the Malpais Mesa, north of Rabbit Springs.



**Image 6** (Stimson # 861): “Bird’s eye View of Goldfield, Nevada, showing Water Works.” This image shows the Goldfield Water Mining and Milling Co. buildings and the two water tanks the company installed on the bluff above Pozo Canyon during the second half of 1904.

**Image 7** (Stimson # 865): New Brewery. This is an early photograph of Max Stenz’s brewery, built near the mouth of Pozo Canyon. See Hugh Shamberger’s “Goldfield” book, page 60 for a photograph of the brewery taken after this Stimson photo.



**Image 8** (Stimson # 878): "Prospectors leaving for Bullfrog District, Nevada."



**Image 9** (Stimson # 887): "View of Columbia, showing Goldfield in the distance."

**Image 10** (Stimson # 859): "Miners Dwellings."



**Image 11** (Stimson # 884): "Street Scene in Goldfield," Nevada

**Image 12** (Stimson # 876): "General View Florence & Jumbo Mines."



**Goldfield Birthday**—The 121st birthday of Goldfield was celebrated on October 19, 2024. There was cake and punch at the Community Center for all who stopped by. Thanks again to **Edie Koepnick** for organizing this yearly event.

Photos by Edie Koepnick



**Bullfrog and Goldfield Railroad Yard Sign**—The Railroad Yard sign has been repainted by Richard Gartman. It was definitely showing signs of deterioration. Thanks Richard.



Photo by Jim Price

**Goldfield Main Street**—Wanted to mention that the **Goldfield's First Annual Spooktacular!** was a huge success. I suspect they'll be doing it again next year.

They were also awarded funds to provide improvements to the Colvin Town Square - a covered seated area and to plant trees which is next to the High School. Because its on County property, it required obtaining authorization from the Esmeralda County Commissioners. In October they gave the go ahead. This is good news for the town.

Keep an eye on their website too [www.goldfieldmainstreet.org](http://www.goldfieldmainstreet.org) for their upcoming events. They're becoming a very active group in the Community.

**Monthly Meeting**—The next meeting of the Goldfield Historical Society will be on January 14, 2025 at 6 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 [jsie@pacbell.net](mailto:jsie@pacbell.net).

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