

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

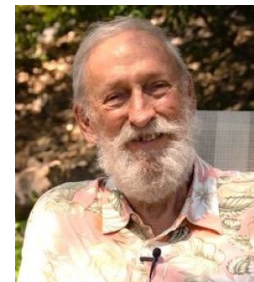
Your Society is busy!!! In May, 360 people visited your History Center. Volunteers gave 171 hours of their time to the museum in May. Thanks to everyone!

A “hard” copy (PDF) of this newsletter with photos is attached to this email for you.

HOW WE ALL GAINED THE RIGHT TO VOTE In Montana and across the United States from the Revolutionary War until today will be presented on Tuesday evening, June 9th at 7 p.m. at your History Center - 618 Helena Avenue in the Steamboat Block. This interactive program about voting rights in this country for men and women is part of the celebration of our 250th Anniversary as a nation. The program will be presented by the Helena Area League of Women Voters. Women in Montana, for example, gained the right to vote in 1914, some 5 years before most women in the U.S. were able to vote. This will be an interactive, fun and dynamic program. Refreshments will be served. Admission and parking are free! See you Tuesday evening for this celebration of our right to vote.



GALLERY DEDICATION – The Dennis McCahon Memorial Gallery will be dedicated with festivities starting at 1 pm and a ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, June 6th at 2 p.m. Come and join us as we celebrate Dennis’s life as a historian, author and artist. Dennis was a founder of your Society. See you on Saturday!



WELCOME PROFESSOR KAREN HENDERSON - Karen is your new executive director. Karen recently retired as a professor of Writing at the University of Montana’s Helena College. Stop by and say hi!

EXTENDED HOURS - Karen has made it possible for your History Center to expand our hours. Your History Center is now open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.



STROLL HELENA'S HISTORY – Bring family and friends for a nice Sunday afternoon guided stroll through downtown Helena in June. Guided walking tours are held every Sunday afternoon this month. Meet at the Lewis and Clark Library (120 S. Last Chance Gulch) parking lot at 4 p.m. A donation of \$5 per adult is asked: children are free! Bring a bottle of water and wear comfortable shoes.

UP AND RUNNING ON INSTAGRAM - You can now find your Society on Instagram (www.instagram/lcchs_1989). Your Society's Facebook page is also fully active; www.facebook/l-cchs1989.

NEW EXHIBIT OPEN - Stop by and learn about Helena's long and colorful history of live theatre! Check out actual seats and other items from the Marlow Theatre, the Ming Theatre and the Steamboat Block Auditorium (yep, there was a 90 seat theatre in the Steamboat Block Building for several decades!). Chicago Joe's Coliseum Theatre was a very early venue for actors "playing the boards" in Helena.

VIGILANTE DAY PARADE – Thanks to your support, LCCHS offered two prizes for the best floats that reflected the history of the people of Lewis and Clark County in this year's Vigilante Day Parade. The first prize winner (\$500) was a float featuring the original Belmont



Mine (who knew!). The float was the creation of Helena High students Cash Neal, Wesson Stein, Adaric Davenport, Robert Wheeler, Luke Battiate and Edin Jerstad. Second prize (\$250) was awarded to students from Capital High celebrating the decades of local television station



KTVH. The student broadcasters were Kami Pippin, Maggie Arnold, Madeleine Austria, Taylor Burton and Annabelle Nes. There were lots of WOWS! from the students when the prizes were announced.



THE HARRIETT MELOY SPIRIT OF HISTORY AWARD FOR 2026 – The highest award given by your society this year has been awarded but the winner’s name is secret! The award will be made in July; keep a lookout for date and time! Harriett was a founder of your Society and passionate about preserving our history for those who followed her.

STATE-WIDE CONFERENCE - Your Society hosted its first state-wide conference in May. The Big Sky Scribes spent a weekend sharing calligraphy ideas and friendships. It was a successful and fun event!

A COMPUTER TIP! – If you find your computer acting up it’s probably not gremlins but it may be caused by static electricity due to very low humidity! Your Society “lost” two computers to low humidity two weeks ago. Fortunately, we were able to salvage the computers and data BUT we had to install humidifiers in the History Center to prevent further episodes. Evidently computers can be very fussy when the humidity falls below 40% as it does often in Helena.



SEE YOU THIS SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND TUESDAY EVENING!

OPEN THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS FROM 10 AM UNTIL 5 PM AND SATURDAY FROM 10 AM UNTIL 3 PM.

Thank you for your support!

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Karen Henderson, Executive Director, John Shontz, President, Ray Read, Vice-President, Barbara Smith Secretary-Treasurer. Directors: John Barrows, Kathy Macefield, Ron Pearson, Mark Luther and visiting member Bill Gilleland.