



FORT CASPAR MUSEUM Newsletter

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CASPAR COLLINS DAY IS JULY 26TH

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC • 10AM TO 5PM

Fort Caspar Museum is reviving a favorite local tradition this summer with *Caspar Collins Day* at the Fort.

Join us as we commemorate the city of Casper's namesake Caspar Collins on the 149th anniversary of the Battle of Platte Bridge. You will experience living history demonstrations and hands-on activities.

Interact with 19th-century characters including cavalry and infantry soldiers, pioneers, and frontiersmen. Watch firearm and cannon demonstrations and mounted cavalry drills. Enjoy toys and games popular 150 years ago.

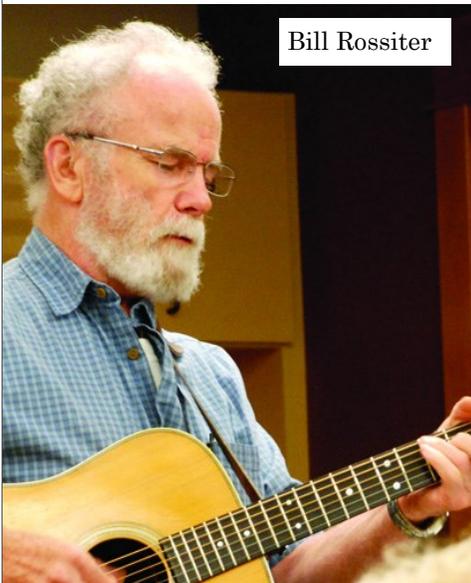


11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry perform mounted drills at Fort Caspar, 2013

Stroll through our period vendor mart where you will find 1800s-type items for sale. We will also have contemporary craft vendors as well as food concessions.

This event promises something fun for everyone!

Join us Saturday, July 26th from 10am-5pm. This event is open to the public, and admission is free.



Bill Rossiter

FREE MUSIC PERFORMANCE ON MAY 22ND

Enjoy a **FREE** music performance by Bill Rossiter at 6:30pm on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at Fort Caspar Museum.

"Stories, Songs & Sodbusters" features homesteaders' songs of hope—then disappointment—as they traveled through the "Great American Desert."

This program is presented in conjunction with the exhibit "Journey Stories," a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition that will be on view at the National

Historic Trails Interpretive Center from May 24 to July 20, 2014.

Rossiter will accompany the songs with guitar, banjo, autoharp and harmonica, and he encourages audience members to share family stories about life on the range.

This performance is presented by the Wyoming Humanities Council as part of its Humanities Forum.

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Debra Webb * Megan Royer

FCMA Field Trip Planned

The Fort Caspar Museum Association is planning a field trip for later this year. We are collecting feedback from our members to see which location to visit first. The sites we are considering for this year are: Medicine Wheel, South Pass City, Oregon Trail Sites, and Ft Laramie.

Summer Things

Casper Museum Consortium

The Casper Museum Consortium has two fun programs again this summer.

PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE

From May 27 thru August 25, you are invited to pick up your free Passport to Adventure booklet at any Casper-area museum and visit 6 of the sites listed in the passport. Answer a question at each museum, get your passport stamped, and turn in your An-

swer Sheet at the last museum you visit. Correctly completed Answer Sheets will be entered into a drawing to win prizes featuring all the best things to do in and around Casper.

MUSEUM ADVENTURE QUEST CAMP

WHEN: July 21-25, 2014
8:30am to 3:30pm

WHO: 1st-3rd graders

WHERE: 10 Casper Museums

COST: \$95 (includes snacks & transportation)

We are both pleased and sorry to announce that this fun summer activity for kids is **SOLD OUT**. Keep it in mind for your kiddos next summer and register early.

Volunteers Needed at FCM

We are in need of volunteers to help with activities Summer. Please consider these volunteer opportunities:

In May, we need **Tour Guides ("Docents")** to help with school tours of the fort buildings &/or the museum galleries. Two hours a day, once or twice a week; training provided.

Beginning in May and ongoing thru September, we need **Front Desk**

Volunteers to help greet visitors, sell items from the gift shop, and take admissions.

We will also need **Gardeners** to help plant and tend an heirloom garden at the Fort beginning in late May.

To learn more about helping out at the Museum, please contact Anne Holman at 235-8462 or aholman@cityofcasperwy.com



Members of Troop 1028 model Girl Scout uniforms from years past.

Girl Scout Program Rescheduled

Please join us on Sunday, June 1st at 2:00pm for the rescheduled talk on *The History of Girl Scouts in WY & MT* with Desiree Young.

Following the presentation, there will be a show of Girl Scout uniforms from across

the years as well as some hands-on Girl Scout-type crafts for kids.

Refreshments will be served: Girl Scout cookies, of course!

FREE with Museum admission.

IMPRESSIONS ON WYOMING 2014:

FREE SUMMER LECTURE SERIES ANNOUNCED

Impressions on Wyoming, Fort Caspar Museum's annual summer lecture series, will again be on **SEVEN Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm** in June and July.

The lectures are offered to the public **free** of charge and are sponsored in part by the Wyoming Humanities Council and the Fort Caspar Museum Association. Join us for one lecture—or all seven!

June 18th

Bill Rossiter: *How the West Was Sung*. This presentation will examine how music was used as propaganda for the westward migration and will feature period and contemporary songs.

June 25th

Jeff Broome: *The Fletcher Family Indian Captivity Story*. While doing research for a book, Broome un-



Jeff Barnes lectures on the "Forts of Wyoming" at Fort Caspar Museum in 2010.

covered the forgotten story of the Fletcher sisters who were captured by Indians and experienced very different fates.

July 2nd

Monte Henrie: *The Battle of Little Big Horn*. Henrie will discuss events leading up to the largest gathering of American Indians in world history.

July 9th

Richard Ewig: *The Mysterious Suicide of Senator Lester Hunt*. Hunt was a popular politician in

Wyoming, but various events—including a family scandal—led to his death.

July 16th

Danny Walker: *The Power of Place: Legend Rock Petroglyph Site*. Professor Walker is the lead archaeologist for Legend Rock and will share recent discoveries made at the site.

July 23rd

Heyward Shrock: *Rest & Refuel Along the Lincoln Highway*. Using historic photographs, he will discuss the history of early automobile travel across Wyoming.

July 30th

Jefferson Glass: *Reshaw*. Jean-Baptiste Richard (known locally as "Reshaw") led a fascinating life and is the subject of a new book by Glass.

Hope to see you at the Museum!

UPCOMING TRAVELING EXHIBITS

Fort Caspar Museum brings in new exhibits every few months, so there is always something new to see. Here are some of the traveling exhibits planned for the summer and fall:

Our current exhibit *Girl Scouts at Heart Mountain Relocation Camp* will close on Saturday, June 8th.

It Takes Weather, Water, Work: Farming in WY will be here from the WY State Museum June 11th to August 10th.

Following this exhibit, we will bring you *Please Give Us One More Boom* from the American Heritage Center. It will be on view from August 13th to October 11th.



Image from the upcoming exhibit "It Takes Weather, Water, Work: Farming in WY"

Thank you to the Members of the Fort Caspar Museum Association! The FCMA supports much of our programming. Call the Museum for membership information.

Fort Caspar Museum
4001 Fort Caspar Rd
Casper, WY 82604
307-235-8462



www.fortcasparwyoming.com

Currently on Exhibit

*Cabinet of Curiosities:
Odds & Ends from the Museum Collection
On view thru October 2014*

*Girl Scouts at Heart Mountain Relocation Camp
April 9 to June 8, 2014*

Mission:

Fort Caspar Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits materials related to the history of Fort Caspar, the City of Casper, Natrona County, and central Wyoming.

Hours of Operation:

October - April: Tuesday thru Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm
May & September: Daily, 8 am to 5 pm
June - August: Daily, 8 am to 6 pm

Fort Caspar Museum Events Calendar—Spring/Summer 2014

May 22	FREE Musical Program: <i>Bill Rossiter-Stories, Songs & Sodbusters</i> , 6:30-8pm
May 24	Hands-On Workshop: <i>Fremont Family Funday</i> : "Paper Cranes & Girl Scout Crafts," 1-3pm
May 24	Casper Museum Consortium's <i>Passport To Adventure</i> program begins
June 1	Summer Hours begin: Museum open daily 8am—6pm; Fort daily 8:30am-5:30pm
June 1	Fun Program: <i>History of Girl Scouts in WY & MT</i> ; talk, crafts & refreshments, 2-3pm
June 8	Traveling Exhibit CLOSES: <i>Girl Scouts at Heart Mountain</i>
June 11	Traveling Exhibit OPENS: <i>Farming in Wyoming</i> (thru August 1)
June 17	Annual Pony Express Re-Ride: mount & rider change at Fort (call Museum for details)
June 18	FREE Summer Lecture #1: "How the West was Sung" with Bill Rossiter, 6:30pm
June 25	FREE Summer Lecture #2: "Fletcher Family Captivity Story" with Jeff Broome, 6:30pm
June 28	Hands-On Workshop: <i>Fremont Family Funday</i> , 1-3pm
July 2	FREE Summer Lecture #3: "Battle of Little Big Horn" with Monte Henrie, 6:30pm
July 9	FREE Summer Lecture #4: "Suicide of Sen. Lester Hunt" with Richard Ewig, 6:30pm
July 16	FREE Summer Lecture #5: "Legend Rock Petroglyphs" with Danny Walker, 6:30pm
July 18	Summer "Date Night at the Museums" (<i>various locations; pre-registration required</i>)
July 22-26	Casper Museum Consortium's "Museum Adventure Quest Camp for Kids" (SOLD OUT)
July 23	FREE Summer Lecture #6: "Lincoln Highway" with Heyward Schrock, 6:30pm
July 26:	Caspar Collins Day at the Fort, 10am-5pm—FREE
July 30	FREE Summer Lecture #7: "Reshaw" with Jefferson Glass, 6:30pm
August 1	Traveling Exhibit CLOSES: <i>Farming in Wyoming</i>
August 13	Traveling Exhibit OPENS: <i>Please Give Us One More Boom</i> (thru Oct. 11)
August 23	Hands-On Workshop: <i>Fremont Family Funday</i> , 1:00-3:00pm
August 31	Casper Museum Consortium's <i>Passport To Adventure</i> program ends
Sept 1	Fall Hours begin: Museum open daily 8am—5pm; Fort open daily 8:30-4:30pm
Dec 5 & 6	<i>Candlelight Christmas at the Fort</i> —FREE evening event: mark your calendars!

150th Anniversary Planning News

BUY A \$25 RAFFLE TICKET FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A \$2,500 RIFLE!



The 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Platte Bridge and the resulting death of Caspar Collins is next year, 2015. Efforts to raise money to fund this city-wide event are underway.

One of the fundraisers is a raffle

for this limited edition Gettysburg Tribute rifle. It is a replica of an 1860s-era Henry Repeating Rifle by the artist Mort Kunstler valued at \$2,500. It can be yours for as little as \$25!! (\$25 each or 5 tickets for \$100.)

Purchase your raffle tickets at Fort Caspar Museum or at Advanced Family Dental (1431 S. Beverly St.). The drawing will be held on *Caspar Collins Day* at Fort Caspar on July 26th. You need not be present to win.

Sponsor A Mile! Would you run 26.2 miles in wool pants, wool jacket, cotton long johns, wool socks, a loaded knapsack, and a full canteen of water in leather shoes?!

Well, Steve Dacus—local reenactor and FCMA Board Chair—will!!

In an extraordinary fundraising effort, Steve will run in the 2014 Casper Marathon on June 1st. He will be dressed in the uniform worn by some of the soldiers stationed at historic Fort Caspar in the 1860s. He is raising funds and awareness for the July

2015 celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Platte Bridge—the battle that gave Casper its name.

Please consider sponsoring a mile. All sponsors will be mentioned in the program for the 150th Event. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated.

Sponsor Rates

- 1 Mile: \$350
- 1/2 Mile: \$175
- 1/4 Mile: \$90
- General Sponsor: any amount

Mail or bring your donations to Fort Caspar Museum. See: [Facebook.com/11thohiocavalry](https://www.facebook.com/11thohiocavalry)

Join the 150th Planning Effort

The 150th Anniversary Committee continues to look for people to help with everything, from historic re-enactors to fund raisers to research and more.

Please contact Steve Dacus at 307-262-1725 or steven@caspersafety.com.

To learn more, you may also visit the website:

www.11thohiocavalry.com

or look on Facebook:

[facebook.com/11thohiocavalry](https://www.facebook.com/11thohiocavalry)

Arizona reenactor Troy Groves runs in a Civil War uniform in the 2012 Phoenix Marathon. He ended the run with bloody feet!



The picture displayed is of Troy Groves running the Phoenix R&R Marathon in 2012.



Fort Caspar Museum
4001 Fort Caspar Rd
Casper, WY 82604

We're on the Web
www.fortcasparwyoming.com

We're on Facebook too!
www.facebook.com/fortcasparmuseum
& www.facebook.com/fremontferret



What's Going On Over There?

If you've driven along Wyoming Boulevard lately, you may have noticed workers taking out a tree and mounding up dirt across from the back of the Museum. This is all to prepare for the installation of Casper's latest monumental bronze sculpture. It will depict an Indian hunting a bison, and it should be installed by early summer. There is also a tunnel planned for under Wyoming Boulevard to make the Platte River Parkway Trail safer for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Fort Benefits from Eagle Scout Project

Fort Caspar's garden fence was lucky enough to be chosen as the project for a local Eagle Scout, Peter Snyder.

Peter, scouts from troops 94 and 335, and their families descended on the fort one Saturday in May to refurbish the fence and its south gate. After years of harsh weather, they were in very bad shape. Now they look great, and the gate has an ingenious new latch system. Thank you, Peter & gang!

