



Annual dinner to be held Jan. 17

Presentation:
River's history through Moab Val-

The annual membership drive is so rewarding, as evidenced by the fact that some of you sent in your dues before receiving any reminder message. That is definitely supportive! Your membership cards will be arriving soon. We hope you like them. And we hope to see you at the Annual Dinner set for Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at the Grand Center.

The social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Menu: Roasted rosemary lemon chicken or roasted stuffed loin of pork. Mixed green salad with cranberries and walnuts, and garlic roasted potatoes will complement the entree. Dessert will be carrot cake. (Please call 259-7985 with your entree choice by Jan. 10.)

At 7:30 p.m. the election of board members will take place. Those standing for office are Jeannine Wait for a second term, and Cary Cox, Suzanne Lewis and Wayne Hoskisson.

This year's dinner presentation will occur at 8 p.m., as John Weisheit speaks on "The Last Two Thousand Years of the Colorado River through the Moab Valley--The Latest Research on the Flooding and Droughting of the Colorado River."



Eleanor Inskip, left, Jim Lindheim and another volunteer are engaged in the early stages of the Museum's inventory process.

Inventory effort underway

Volunteers are welcome to help!

Starting in January, the Museum will be conducting a complete inventory of its collections. Financed by a grant from the Office of Museum Services in Salt Lake City, we will be confirming and, when necessary, correcting our new accession database, by reviewing our records against our collections. We will also be photographing our entire collection and putting the photographs in our database.

This is a major effort and we can use the help of members who would like to volunteer for this effort. We will be working in groups of two or three. The

process will be to take each object in our collection and 1) confirm our accession records, 2) determine the state of the object, and 3) take photos of the objects. We will be doing this work on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 1 to 5 p.m. Whether you can only come in for one day or every day, all help is appreciated.

Give a call and get on the schedule. 259-7985.

Inventory dates are January 6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27 and 30.

"It's a totally new way to experience the museum," said Jim Lindheim, who volunteered for the test phase of the project. "You're focused on each and every object as its own thing. The exhibits come alive through the pieces that compose them."

Museum heads attend Boise conference

In October, Museum Director Eleanor Inskip and Museum Board Chair Jim Tharp attended the annual Western Museum Association conference in Boise, Idaho. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet with other museum professionals and to attend professional development workshops to learn about the best practices to bring back to Moab.

Eleanor attended sessions to further her understanding of museum operations and exhibit design and development. By meeting with other museum directors as well as curators, educators and registrars, she learned that her job--which rolls everything into one position--is truly an amalgam of responsibilities.

Jim, who had spent the last year as a member of the program committee for the conference, attended sessions on board operations, ethics and finance. In addition, he helped present a session on "Governance as Leadership."

Both Eleanor and Jim took advantage of opportunities created by the conference organizers to explore the rich heritage of Boise and its culture

of arts. Boise is home to the largest community of Basque people outside of Spain. Part of the Basque

Museum there is a renovated boarding house where one can experience the life of the Basque shepherds when they came down from the mountains in the winter.

The Museum of Art is a leading institute of modern art in the Intermountain West. At The Discovery Center, a hands-on science museum, Jim found himself unable to perform many of the experiments designed for grade schoolers.

Eleanor and Jim returned from the conference energized and full of ideas they hope to implement here at the Museum of Moab.



Museum of Moab Board President Jim Tharp and Museum Director Eleanor Inskip share conversation with an important figure at the Boise Art Museum.

The mission of the Moab Museum is to preserve and display artifacts and information, and to promote research and education which accurately reflect the natural and cultural history of the Moab area.

Three directors leave Board

Three of our Board members completed their terms and have left the Museum of Moab Board of Directors as of the end of 2006. Their service will be missed.

Jeff McCleary served on the Board for six years. As the longest current serving Board member, his vision and counsel have been invaluable. We especially thank him for being the driving force behind the creation of the Mesozoic Room.

Tamsin McCormick has served as Treasurer, and we may just have to hire an accountant to replace her expertise and focus!

Marcus LaFrance did everything from repairing a leak to reminding us to support our MOM, to helping us visualize an expanded future. He largely was responsible for pulling off perhaps the Museum's biggest membership drive, which occurred in 2005.

We wish them all well and thank them for their service and many contributions.

The following people have been proposed for Board appointments: Cary Cox, Suzanne Lewis and Wayne Hoskisson. A formal vote will be taken during the Annual Dinner on Jan. 17 at the Grand Center to confirm their appointments.

Advisor examines Museum

Assessment is step towards accreditation application

In November, the Museum hosted Tony King from the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

King is our expert advisor for the Museum's assessment program. He reviewed all operational aspects of the Museum, including such areas as collections management, interpretation, facilities, governance, and more. This wide-ranging review was stimulating and instructive.

While we won't receive the final report for another month, King intimated that we are well on our way to being able to begin the process of applying for accreditation. Many thanks to Rusty Salmon, former Museum Director, for doing so much work to prepare us for this evaluation before she left her position at the Museum and moved to southwestern Utah.



Volunteer Natalie Dickerson serves mulled wine during ArtWalk.

Old, original ornaments deck the halls

The Museum was all decked out for the holidays this year with six Christmas trees elegantly covered with ornaments on loan from community members.

The exhibit was inspired by the discovery of www Christmas ornaments in the permanent Museum collection. To round out the display we invited the community to share their unique, historic and oh so precious holiday ornaments, and the response was wonderful.

The result was lovely and educational. Many of the shared ornaments were hand-made and very beautiful. Parents and teachers discovered ways to make ornaments with their children and learned some Moab Christmas tales as published

in the 1896 and 1897 editions of the *Grand Valley Times*.



This ornament was made by Ophelia Davis and was donated to the Museum in 1956. It is a painted silver and blue egg.

Each loaned item was tagged with names, dates, and as much information about the object as possible. The trees were bare branches in pots of dirt; the addition of all the ornaments was beautiful.

Hot cider and mulled wine were served at the Art

Walk event in early November. Five school groups visited the museum in December enjoying the festive feeling as well. This is an event the Museum would like to repeat next year, so please, as you put away your ornaments, make a special box to bring to the Museum next year to share with the community.

Moab Information Center & Museum of Moab
Co-sponsored Lectures

January 12 - Friday, 6 p.m.
Avalanche Awareness

February - TBA

March 22 - Thursday, 7 p.m.
Brad Dimock:
The Life and Times of Bert Loper



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Dorothy Rossignol is pictured here at a gala event in Leadville, Colo., wearing period costume.

Our hero, Dorothy!

Museum employee Dorothy Rossignol is our hero for the very important role she recently played in helping to rescue a Moab woman from a dangerous outing.

Early in December, Dorothy noticed that her neighbor, Danelle Ballengee, seemed to be missing, so she called the woman's parents, who then called the police. Authorities subsequently launched a search, and the story that unfolded made national headlines.

Danelle was found near a popular recreation trail, miles from her vehicle with a broken pelvis and severe frostbite after spending two nights in below-freezing weather. What was most interesting was the fact that Danelle had been on the outing with her dog. After her vehicle was spotted at a trailhead, search-and rescue personnel began combing the area and spotted the dog. Although the animal was elusive, the canine ultimately led the searchers to Danelle.

Following the incident, Dorothy described herself as a nosy neighbor, but her observations may have saved Danelle's life. Thank you Dorothy.

Our Vision: The Museum will be a dynamic presence, recording the history and enriching the experience of living in and visiting Southeastern Utah.

Museum Board of Directors: President Jim Tharp, Sena Hauer, Nick Eason, Jeannine Wait, Chris Goetze, Mike Arehart.