

www.basalthheritage.org (web site courtesy of sopris surfers)



From the Presidents Quill

As you are well aware we at the Basalt Regional Heritage Society are pursuing a Colorado General Grant from the Colorado Historical Society (CHS) to restore the Arbaney Barn into a living museum. The BRHS would like to see letters of support from our members, the community, the schools, businesses, individuals, the chamber, etc. What I am asking is for you to write and address a letter of support to:

**Mark Wolfe, Director State Historical Fund
Colorado Historical Society
225 E. 16th Ave. Suite 950
Denver, CO 80203**

We will include this in our next application packet. Once the Arbaney Barn is restored, the BRHS plans to open it to the public as a living museum. We intend to work closely with the Basalt Schools history programs to present a landmark of Basalt as it was in the 1880's. We will accomplish this through live demonstrations and narratives presented by the children and grandchildren of Basalt's early pioneers.

This is in keeping with our mission statement:

"To define the future by preserving the past".

Our community will benefit from this restoration in its educational system; its economy through heritage tourism and its preservation of Basalt's history. Please feel free to call me if you would like more information about the Arbaney Barn Restoration. I really appreciate all of the help you can give us by writing a letter.

Once you are done, please send it to us at:

BRHS
PO Box 3008,
Basalt Colorado 81621

We will be resubmitting by October 1, 2006 and would like to have the letters in hand by September 25. Thank you for your help and support by preserving the past for future generations.

Sincerely,

Diana C. Cordova Elliott



Calendar of Events

Fireside Chat: Date: November 2006
Town Hall 5:30 p.,.m.
Subject: To be determined

Arbaney Barn Restoration Public Meeting:

Date: October 5, 2006
Basalt town hall 6:00 pm
Open presentation to the citizens of Basalt

Holiday Stroll - December 2006

BRHS/Nieslanik horse drawn hay wagon rides, visit with Santa, BMS Holiday band, bon fire, cookies and hot chocolate. BRHS Chili dinner: \$5.00 per person with homemade bread, cheese and onions.

Basalt, Colorado Midland Town

Clarence's Memories *Contagious Disease Prevention*

I recall with some amusement and yet with affectionate remembrance our mother's employing the time-hallowed custom that prevailed in old Basalt school days of wearing 'medicinal necklaces.' Most of the mothers in town and in the country prepared little bags containing both camphor and asafetida for their boys and girls to wear to school in wintertime.

They were fastened at the chest to our long underwear with a safety-pin or else tied to a string and worn as a necklace under our clothing. These malodorous gums were held in high repute for their supposed power to ward off diphtheria, scarlet-fever and other contagious diseases as well as colds and "grippe" we might catch from our school-mates. I venture to say that the preventive action, if any, was in the fact that the preventive action, if any, was in the fact that others, well and sick, kept their distance from us who wore the smell bags.

Before the discovery of "shots" for babies to make them immune, there existed a real and terrifying worry over whether an epidemic might come to our town which most certainly would have brought death to a number of children and adults.

Editors note: In this column we will be reprinting excerpts from "Basalt, Colorado Midland Town" by Clarence and Ralph Danielson. We hope to re-publish this book in the coming years.