



MNHG Newsletter

Spring 2019

Our Mission: *The Monarch Neihart Historical Group was established to promote and preserve the rich history of the settlers, miners, loggers, ranchers, and the railroad industry that served them well.*

Board of Directors

Janet Enloe
Director/Secretary

Hugh Enloe
Director/Treasurer

Bob Majerus
Director/Vice
Treasurer

Construction time as arrived and the restoration of the Monarch Great Northern Railroad Depot will continue. Fund raising will continue for the Neihart Fire Alarm Bell Tower.

Historic Great Northern Depot Restoration. Remaining projects include: interior and exterior trim around windows, bead board removed for repairs to the walls and electrical wiring will be nailed back in place in the waiting room and living quarters for the station master, office walls will get bead board, wood flooring laid, a window over the east freight door replaced, and pockets for the freight doors built. Exterior stairs to the boarding platform need handrails and the handicap ramp will be built.

Neihart Fire Alarm Bell Tower. Fund raising continues to erect a tower for Neihart's 450 pound fire alarm bell. Purchased in 1894 to replace an inadequate bell in use, the original 30 foot wood tower stood until 1945. To date, 36% of the \$20,000 cost has been raised. MNHG hopes to get the base of the tower constructed this summer. Donations for this project can be made to MNHG, P.O. Box 924, Monarch, MT 59463. Please make a notation on your check for the 'bell tower'.

National Register of Historic Places. The MNHG Board of Directors is working with the City County Historic Preservation Officer and the Montana State Preservation Office on the Monarch Depot application for a listing in the National Register. Updates on the application will be offered in the fall newsletter.

Wanted! Anyone having **old pictures** of Monarch, Hughesville, Barker, Carpenter Creek, or Neihart and are willing to share, MNHG is requesting scans of the photos. Photos can be of people, buildings, scenery, wildlife, or whatever. If you are unable to do the scans yourself, they can be made during the Monarch Rocks! Festival, August 10.

Wanted! Oak four-drawer file cabinet. MNHG has an oak roll top desk and an oak crank phone for staging the Depot office. The filing cabinet will be used to store MNHG documents currently kept in Board members' homes.

From the *Neihart Herald*:

July 31, 1891. "Fred McGibbon was prospecting last Saturday near the miners' cemetery and had sat down to eat lunch. Two small cub bears came out of the brush, and attracted his attention by whining and growling. He seized his pick and struck at one of them but missed it; at this the young bear set up a cry which called the old bear out of the brush who at once started for Mr. McGibbon as if to foreclose a mortgage on this life. Mr. McGibbon ran as if he wished to live a few days longer, and yelling at the top of his voice so frightened the bear that she chased him only a short distance. His brother Chas. McGibbon came up shortly with a team and discovered Fred crawling with a sprained ankle and almost frightened to death. On his approach the bear fled." *The Neihart herald.* (Neihart, Mont.), 31 July 1891.

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. Lib. of Congress.
<<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85053323/1891-07-31/ed-1/seq-3/>>

August 7, 1891. "Paul and Max Rochl fished Sunday and caught 204 fine trout, about 40 pounds in all. Other records are now out of sight." *The Neihart herald.* (Neihart, Mont.), 07 Aug. 1891. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers.* Lib. of Congress. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85053323/1891-08-07/ed-1/seq-3/>>

Monarch Rocks! Festival. The sixth annual Monarch Rocks! Festival will take place **August 10th, 2019**, in Monarch. Vendors have already signed up for space to sell their crafts including a few new people. We will have a classic car display, tours of the Great Northern Depot and Drover Car Caboose, and history exhibits of the area. The Branding Iron of White Sulphur Spring will provide concessions. Join us for a day of fun in the mountain air with great views.

Testimonial:

MNHG has done a great job raising additional funds, working with historic preservation experts, and bringing their communities together.

Montana History Foundation

MNHG mails 2700 copies of this newsletter with a cost of .29 cents per copy for paper, printing, and postage. Written by volunteers.

Please join us for our meetings on the second Saturday some months. Email MNHG to find meeting locations and time. Email address: mnhg@3rivers.net.

MNHG Board of Directors is looking for people to fill vacancies on the Board. If you like history and want some fun, you can apply to the MNHG Board of Directors by contacting mnhg@3rivers.net. The Board of Directors meets the **second Saturday of the month**. Email to find date and location of the next meeting: mnhg@3rivers.net

Please visit our website for photos of all MNHG projects. Also on our web page is a link to a Great Northern train making the trip from Great Falls to Neihart. ALL ABOARD!
<http://www.mnhg.org/monarch-history.html>

Restoration projects are funded by grants and your donations. Your tax deductible donations are greatly appreciated and your dollars are well managed. Please feel free to use the form below for your donation. Tax ID 46-1853767. All donations are used for the restoration of the Monarch GN Depot unless otherwise noted for the Bell Tower. **THANK YOU!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State Zip _____

Email _____ Donation Amount: _____

Mail to MNHG, P.O. Box 924, Monarch, MT 59463

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