



# MNHG Newsletter

Fall 2021

Member of the Great Northern Railway  
Historical Society since 2014

**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.*

**“The dedicated efforts of the Monarch Neihart Historical Group allow the Monarch Depot to once again welcome people to the town of Monarch.”** 2021 Montana Historic Preservation Award Ceremony.

## Board of Directors

Janet Enloe  
Director/Secretary

Hugh Enloe  
Director/Treasurer

Bob Majerus  
Director/Vice  
Treasurer

Alyson Stober  
Director

Jonathan Stober  
Director

MNHG plans for the summer never materialized. For the second consecutive year, our annual fund raiser, Monarch Rocks! Festival, was cancelled. In 2020, Covid-19 altered MNHG plans but 2021 brought the Ballsinger Wild Fire, five miles southeast of Monarch, forcing the cancellation. Monarch residents received a pre-evacuation notice from the Cascade County Sheriff’s Office and roads were over run with fire trucks and fire fighters. The town was heavily protected by fire fighters from around the country for which all residents are grateful. The Monarch Great Northern Depot, Drover Car Caboose, and GN privy were protected with five sprinklers mounted around the perimeter. Everything and everyone in Monarch came through the ordeal intact.

**New Board Members.** We welcome Alyson Stober and Jonathan Stober to the Monarch Neihart Historical Group board of directors. The Stober siblings are third generation Monarch property owners. They both bring new ideas and a great deal of energy to the board and have a keen interest in local history and recognize the need to save it.

**Monarch Great Northern Depot Restoration.** The final large Depot project is underway. We are currently laying donated used hardwood flooring covering a concrete pad. To see our progress check online photos at mnhg.org. The waiting room is covered with 2 ¼ inch maple and the office floor is covered with 1 ¾ inch oak. Unfortunately we don’t have enough to complete the project. We will be purchasing 935 square feet for the depot agent’s living quarters and the freight room at a cost of \$4125. With your financial help, we can complete this project.

**The Great Northern Historical Society Goat.** The Monarch Great Northern Depot restoration and the impact the railroad had to Neihart and Monarch residents in the 1890s were featured in the Great Northern Railway Historical Society’s quarterly publication, *Goat*, in 2020. A follow-up article appeared in the September 2021 *Goat* informing readers of the GN Depot, Drover Car Caboose, and the GN Privy’s listing on the National Register of Historic Places as the Monarch Depot Historic District. Also mentioned was the Montana Historic Preservation Award MNHG received in 2021 from the Montana Historical Society.

**What’s next?** Because of your support, we have been able to tackle a sizable restoration project in the Monarch Great Northern Depot. With the depot restoration about complete, we are challenged by projects waiting in the queue for funding. Those projects are: interior maintenance in the Drover Car Caboose (paint, flooring, doors), restoration of the Monarch Cemetery, Barker Cemetery, and a cemetery up Harley Creek. These cemeteries are over grown with weeds and shrubs and have broken or toppled headstones.

**Monarch Rocks! Festival.** Join MNHG August 13<sup>th</sup> for our annual fundraiser. The Depot and Drover Car Caboose will be open. Crafters will be selling their handmade items at the Monarch Market and much more. Our spring newsletter will have more information.

**Just in time for the holidays, menu ideas from 1892. From the Neihart Herald:** “Christmas is well observed by our hotels and their menus show they are not behind in providing for the wants of the inner-man. We give below those of the Frisco Hotel: Soup: Cream Barley. Fish: Fried Herring; Boiled Perch, Celery Sauce. Boiled: Ham, Champagne Sauce; Ox Tongue, Mustard Sauce. Roast: Rump of Beef, Champagne Sauce; Pork in Potato Dumplings; Stuffed Turkey in Chestnuts; Tenderloin of Beef with Mushrooms. Entrees: New York Taunts, Fried; Peach Fritters, Wine Sauce; Chicken Pot Pie; Fruit Tarts. Vegetables: Potatoes, French Peas, Carrots, Hot Slaw. Pastry: Green Apple Pie, Grape Pie, Mince Pie, Snow Pyramid, Spanish Cream. Dessert: Grapes, Apples, Oranges, Nuts, Candies.” *The Neihart herald. [volume] (Neihart, Mont.), 01 Jan. 1892. Should be enough to fill a tummy or two.*

**New addition to museum collection.** A generous donor gifted MNHG with a porcelain ‘Railway Express Agency’ sign measuring 1’ X 10’. The Railway Express Agency was the UPS in its day.

**Testimonials:** “Looking forward to another project from MNHG, you guys are great. Thanks for making our home a better place to live.”

David Peters, Deputy District Ranger  
Belt Creek Ranger Station  
Monarch Resident  
2020

“The preservation group did a bang-up job restoring the old depot building and it’s a real showcase for the community.”

Jon Axline,  
*Historian* | Rail, Transit & Planning Division  
Montana Department of Transportation  
2021

“Your efforts serve as a model to all who wish to engage in historic preservation within their communities.”

John Boughton  
National Register Coordinator  
Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Montana Historical Society  
2021

The Monarch Neihart Historical Group want you to know how much we appreciate your support. We have accomplished a good deal in the last six years and it couldn’t have happened without you. THANK YOU!

Please feel free to use the form below for your donation. 501(c)(3)Tax ID 46-1853767

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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