



KOKORO KARA

Winter 2013

HEART MOUNTAIN WYOMING FOUNDATION

"from our heart"



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PILGRIMAGE 2013

A Sneak Peek at What's in Store

The 2013 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage will take place the week-end of July 19-21 in Cody, Wyoming. This year's event will celebrate the pending acquisition of the Heart Mountain Root Cellar, the restoration of the Hospital Chimney and the dedication of the new James Ito V3 Garden. V3 celebrates three victories: the end of WWII, the challenges of farming inhospitable land, and upholding everyone's constitutional rights. Additional contributors to agriculture at Heart Mountain including Eiichi Sakauye, Kumezo Hatchimonji and others will also be recognized. Lance Ito, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge, will be Keynote Speaker for the event. Ito's late father, James, served as Assistant Superintendent of Agriculture at Heart Mountain.



Judge Lance Ito

Events will begin on Friday, July 19, with a cocktail reception at the Holiday Inn, Cody. Pilgrimage attendees are encouraged to attend this informal event with HMWF Board, Advisory Council and Youth Council members. Immediately following the cocktail reception will be the annual pilgrimage dinner, featuring Judge Ito



OKUMOTO COLLECTION

A Heart Mountain internee tends a garden outside his barracks.

HEART MOUNTAIN PILGRIMAGE EVENT

July 19-21, 2013

Registration for the 2013 pilgrimage will begin on April 1, 2013

at www.heartmountain.org or by calling 307-754-8000.

Check our website often for updated information and specific details!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Date/Time	Description	Location
Friday, July 19 4 to 5 pm	Cocktail reception	Holiday Inn Cody, WY
Friday, July 19 5 to 7 pm	Pilgrimage Dinner	Holiday Inn Ballroom Cody, WY
Saturday, July 20 10 am to 4 pm	Heart Mountain Interpretive Center Activities and Dedications	1539 Road 19 Powell, WY
Saturday, July 20 Late Afternoon and Evening	Evening Activities	TBD
Sunday, July 21 Various Times	Additional Activities (Specific Information TBD)	TBD

Registration will include entry to the above listed events.

as Keynote Speaker. All events on July 19 will take place at the Holiday Inn, Cody.

On Saturday, July 20, events will move to the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center (between Cody and Powell). Opening ceremonies will include remarks by HMWF leadership and national dignitaries. Events throughout the day will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Heart Mountain Hospital Chimney, a dedication for the James Ito V3 Garden, and viewing of the exhibit *From the Ground Up: Agriculture at Heart Mountain*. Films, presentations and book signings will round out the day.

On the evening of Saturday, July 20, and the afternoon of July 21, several activities are being planned throughout the Cody/Powell area for those wanting to add a little adventure to their pilgrimage experience. Activities currently being considered are the Cody Nite Rodeo, tours of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center and Old Trail Town, golf, fly-fishing, whitewater rafting and horseback riding.

Heart Mountain Hike

yLoop Road Trips will once again offer guided hikes to the top of Heart Mountain for pilgrimage participants. These hikes will depart from Cody hotels at approxi-

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Hotel Information: The following hotels have rooms blocked for the July event.

Hotel	Location	Phone	Discount Code
Holiday Inn	Cody, WY	1-800-527-5544	ZVZ-Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
Comfort Inn	Cody, WY	1-800-527-5544	Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
Buffalo Bill Cabins	Cody, WY	1-800-527-5544	Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
The Cody	Cody, WY	307-527-3360	Heart Mountain Reunion
Super 8 of Powell	Powell, WY	307-754-7231	Heart Mountain Foundation
America's Best Value Inn	Powell, WY	307-754-5117	Use ONE of the following numbers: 26978, 26979, 26980, 26981, 26982

Air Travel: Both Cody and Billings airports offer car rental services.

Airport	Location	Time to Cody
Yellowstone Regional Airport in Cody (COD)	Two miles from the central business district of Cody.	The Cody hotels listed above all provide shuttle service to and from the Cody airport. Time to the hotels from the airport is roughly 5 minutes. If staying in Powell, the drive is approximately 30 minutes.
Billings Logan International Airport (BIL)	Billings, Montana – 109 miles from Cody	The drive from the Billings Airport will take approximately 2 hours. You will need to rent a car.

mately 8 AM on July 18 and 20. We will take a four-wheel drive vehicle to the base of Heart Mountain, then walk to the top, where a healthy lunch will be waiting. We will return to Cody before 4 PM. If you have

questions please call yLoop's Chief Guide, Lee Nellis, at 307-250-7605. You may also register on-line at <http://ylooproadtrips.com>. Access to Heart Mountain is provided by The Nature Conservancy. ■

CHIMNEY REPAIRS NEARING COMPLETION

Repairs and permanent stabilization of the Heart Mountain Hospital boiler house smoke stack began in the fall of 2012 by Enola Contracting Service, Inc. and are anticipated to be completed by early summer 2013.

After a series of engineering analyses conducted by Wiss, Janey, Elstner Associates Inc. (WJE) in April 2012, it was concluded that the lean of the smokestack is entirely within the brick masonry. This was good news for the project team, which consisted of the National Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, Wyoming State Parks, Historic Sites and Trails, and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office.

The team was relieved to know the foundation of the smokestack is sound. The primary lean is west to east and the Secondary Lean is north to south. It appears that the lean has increased in recent years.

WJE, Inc. and architectural and engineering consultants Tobin and Associates have recommended a series of treatments for the structure. First and foremost is to install flashing to prevent water penetration and grout the brick stepped collars and a vented cap on the top of the structure. They have also recommended the installation of a series of pins to stabilize the brick, the installation of a metal and concrete support up to the first collar, and the installation of helical pins to reinforce and

stabilize the brick. The entire structure will be repointed and the lighting protection system will be restored.

Funding for this project is being provided through a Japanese American Confinement Sites grant awarded to the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office in cooperation with the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation in 2011. The project is also being supported by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), which owns the property and manages the National Historic Landmark in cooperation with the HMWF. In addition to these partners, funding was provided through the Blackburn Family Trust.

The HMWF is planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony for July 20, 2013. ■

IN MEMORIAM: Senator Daniel K. Inouye

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation mourns the passing of Senator Daniel K. Inouye, an American hero, who died on December 17, 2012.

Whether fighting on the battlefields of Europe, working for his constituents from his beloved home state of Hawaii, coolly questioning Executive Branch officials about Watergate, or forging bipartisan coalitions for landmark legislation, Senator Inouye embodied American bravery, patriotism, and fair play.

We consider ourselves so fortunate to have hosted the Senator just sixteen months ago at the Grand Opening of the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center, where he gave a speech that ranged from riveting personal memories of watching Japanese warplanes attack Pearl Harbor, to an inspiring exhortation to protect the rights of minorities even at moments of great alarm and fear.

The United States and the world have lost a true hero — one of the few people who can fairly be thought of as a conscience of

the twentieth century. The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation extends its deepest sympathy to Senator Inouye's family. In his memory, we commit ourselves even more firmly to speak for the values of fairness and justice that the Senator held dear.

The HMWF Board has set up a planning committee that will create a memorial at the Heart Mountain site honoring the Senator's life and service to the United States. We are working toward a dedication that will happen in the near future. ■



PHOTO BY KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI

Senator Inouye speaking at the Heart Mountain ILC Grand Opening.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Stevan Leger, HMWF Executive Director, has announced his plans to retire this spring. Mr. Leger was recruited to head up the Foundation in May 2011, at which time he oversaw the final construction and the formal opening in August 2011 of the Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center. Under Leger's leadership, the Center has welcomed more than 20,000 visitors and won widespread critical acclaim for its depiction of the wartime experience of 14,000 Japanese Americans who were confined at Heart Mountain between 1942 and 1945. He has also been instrumental in recruiting key staff and laying a solid financial floor for the Foundation's future. While Mr. Leger will be stepping down from his post as Executive Director, he has agreed to stay on as a Senior Advisor for

the Foundation's major gift and endowment program.

"Our organization is in great shape, and we are on track to continue with the important work of the Foundation and the Interpretive Center," Leger said. "It has been a great honor to serve as the Executive Director and to work with an extremely energetic and talented Board of Directors committed to making Heart Mountain's Interpretive Center a world-class institution." According to Board Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi, "We were extraordinarily lucky to find Steve two years ago. His experience, commitment, and talent put us on a solid and positive path for the future." Vice-Chair Douglas Nelson added that "Steve has earned the affection and respect of the entire Board, and although his thoughtful and steady

leadership as Executive Director will be missed, we look forward to his continued work as an advisor to the Foundation."

The Board has begun working on selecting a successor for Leger. "We hope to find another great Executive Director—one who can build on the strong momentum Steve has helped create for the Foundation," Nelson said.

Steve is planning on pursuing his interests in photography and writing and enjoying the Yellowstone area fishing, hiking and skiing. He will remain in Cody with his wife Zann Liljegren, a psychotherapist at West Park Hospital.

Persons interested in the position can send their resumes and a cover letter to: Personnel Committee, Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, 1539 Road 19, Powell, WY 82435. ■

JUDGE UNO RECEIVES COMMENDATION

On August 29, Judge Raymond Uno, HMWF Advisory Council member, received a commendation from the Foreign Minister of Japan, an award given to individuals who have contributed “to the promotion of friendship between Japan and other countries.”

Uno has been very dedicated to helping the Japanese American community and to the conservation of the history of Japanese immigrants in Utah. He helped to revitalize Japantown Street in Salt Lake City, and is currently working to restore the Japanese garden in Utah’s International Peace Gardens. In addition, Uno acts as a resource to minorities through the Utah Asian Chamber of Commerce and the Utah Minority Bar Association, both of which he helped co-found.

According to the Japanese embassy in Denver, Uno “played a pivotal role in promoting Japanese culture and enhancing Japan-U.S. exchanges in Utah.”

“I was surprised and a little shocked because it has never occurred to me that anything I have done may be deserving of such a high honor,” stated Uno upon receiving his commendation.

In 1942, at the age of twelve, Uno and his family were forced to leave their home in El Monte, California, for Heart Mountain Relocation Center. Uno’s father, a World War I U.S. Army veteran and naturalized American citizen, died in 1943 while still imprisoned.

Uno volunteered for the U.S. Army when he was seventeen years old. He graduated from the Military Intelligence Language School and was assigned to the 319th Military Intelligence Unit in Tokyo, Japan. He later joined with the 441st Counter Intelligence Corps as an interpreter, interrogator, and special Counter Intelligence Corps agent. After his discharge, he decided to pursue his interest in government and enrolled in the political science program at the University of Utah.

It was only when Uno began taking



Raymond Uno addresses the Pilgrimage Dinner attendees in August 2012. PHOTO BY RICHARD BRADY

constitutional law courses in college that he began to understand the implications of the internment of Japanese Americans. “It became pretty clear to me—the violation of our rights,” he said.

Uno received his Juris Doctor and a Masters in Social Work from the University of Utah. Uno says that he “somehow fell into the civil rights area and became very active in it.” “I struggled,” he notes. “The one thing that has gotten me through this life is that I like to work hard and I like to work long and that’s exactly what I did and I still do.”

While working at the state’s attorney’s office in Utah and later in a private practice, Uno volunteered for the Japanese American Citizens’ League. He rose through the

organization’s ranks, becoming the Salt Lake City Chapter President and later the National President.

“What happened to the Japanese and the fact that this should never happen again really stuck in my mind,” he said.

In 1976, Uno became a judge in Salt Lake City, a career that would span over twenty years.

Uno became involved with the advisory council after returning to Heart Mountain for the first time a few years ago. “It just reminded me of the loss of my father and the hardships that my mother and the whole family had to endure,” Uno said. “It was sort of a heart-rending thing in terms of, jeez, we were here for three years and we survived.” ■

TOPAZ MUSEUM TAKES SHAPE

After the internees of the Topaz Relocation Center left the camp in the mid 1940s, it like many others was dismantled. Similar to the fate of the Heart Mountain barracks, Topaz's buildings were sold to local families. Barracks that used to house many families were converted into homes for one. One such family purchased half of a recreation hall from Topaz. For fifty years this recreation hall became nothing more than a storage shed. The past seemed to have been forgotten.

In 1991, however, things began to change. The family donated their half of the recreation hall back to Topaz and thus began a movement for the preservation of the site of the Topaz Internment Camp. A committee in the nearby town of Delta, Utah, contacted former internees for donations to restore the shed. In an overwhelming show of support, over \$50,000 was raised, and by 1995 the shed was finally completed.

Since the mid-1990s, an organization headed by Jane Beckwith, Executive Director of Topaz Museum Board, has been working to buy back the land and build a museum dedicated to the unlawful incarceration of over 8,000 Japanese Americans at the Topaz Camp. In twenty years, 626 acres of the original 640-acre site have been reacquired, and a recent National Park Service (NPS) grant in the amount

of \$700,000 has allowed the museum to be built.

This past November, during a recent Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Board meeting in Salt Lake City, invited members from the Topaz Museum Board attended a reception at Advisory Council Member William Higuchi's home. Rick Okabe, a member of the Topaz Museum Board, attended the reception and gave a report on the board's activities and progress.

The Topaz Museum Board expects the museum to cost roughly \$2.3 million. The NPS grant gave the organization about a third of the money required to complete this museum. Since receiving this grant, they have also received subsequent grants from other organizations in Utah, including the Izzy Wagner Foundation. Wagner, a businessman who owned a commercial bag company, hired internees from Topaz to work for him after they left the camp. His foundation recently donated \$200,000. The Topaz Museum Board still must raise about \$600,000 to complete this project.

The board is confident that it will be able to raise the money and is moving forward with plans to build the museum. It has bought land on Main Street in Delta and has hired a contractor. Construction is due to begin this spring. When completed, the museum will exhibit artifacts from

the camps, including a set of four wood chairs made at Topaz out of a shipping crate, original potbelly stoves, and artwork from the internees. The museum will also include an exhibit about life at Topaz and internment in general.

The need for this museum becomes more pressing every day. "The Topaz internees have been passing away—they pass away every year," said Okabe in an interview. "We absolutely want their stories to be remembered and to be retold through our museum. It's important that our children and our children's children do not forget what the internees went through."

Delta, the town where the museum will be built, is about 15 miles away from the original site. The site itself is in the desert and very isolated. Because of this, it is difficult for the board to maintain staff and security at the site. This issue is a familiar one to the Topaz Museum Board. In the 1990s, the plaque on the original site was shot with firearms on numerous occasions, forcing the board to build a new plaque.

Over time, however, the attitude towards the museum and towards the memory of Topaz has shifted considerably. More than half of the board members are Delta locals. The mayor of Delta has helped the Topaz board in their efforts and will be building a city community center next



David Driggs
(Topaz
Board),
Shirley
Higuchi
(HMWF
Board Chair),
Stevan Leger
(HMWF
Executive
Director),
Rick Okabe
(Topaz
Board),
Doug Nelson
(HMWF Vice
Chair), Tak
Hoshizaki
(HMWF
Board
Member)

to the proposed museum. The buildings will share facilities and resources. During Topaz reunions, the town of Delta has welcomed back the internees and participated in the activities organized by the board.

“We are very appreciative of the residents of Delta,” Okabe said. “Particularly since there aren’t any Japanese still living in that area. We are going to be very much dependent on them to help run the museum.”

Both the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation and the Topaz Museum Board feel that it is important to engage in a dialogue and to support one another. Heart Mountain can lend the knowledge it has gained through its own experience of creating and running a museum.

Okabe said, “We’re following in Heart Mountain’s footsteps and we were very gratified to see that Heart Mountain was able to plan and carry through with its museum and learning center. Perhaps there’s possible ways where we could learn from some of the things that the Foundation’s board is going through.” ■



PHOTOS BY KIM BARHAUG

Topaz Board Member, Rick Okabe talks with HMWF Board about the future Topaz Museum.

ROOT CELLAR TO BECOME PART OF INTERPRETIVE CENTER SITE

The Heart Mountain Relocation Center Root Cellar will soon be a part of the Interpretive Center due to a planned gift to the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. The owners of the root cellar, Rudy and Dawn Jolovich, intend to donate it to the Foundation as a memorial to Rudy’s father and mother and in honor of the Japanese Americans that were held at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center from 1942 to 1945. “I did not know what to do with the cellar, but then decided I would like to make it available for people to see and appreciate it and as a remembrance to Mom and Dad,” Rudy said.

Rudy and Dawn have a hay farm near the Center and also own the property which includes the root cellar which was near his boyhood home. Rudy’s father, Rudolph Walter Jolovich, Sr., was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII and a homesteader here following the war. He had a homestead property near the HMRC and was able to purchase the root cellar, locker plant and slaughter house property in 1962. Rudolph and his wife Doris (Kawulok) Jolovich grew grains, peas, beets and potatoes and used the root cellar to store potatoes until they could be

sold. They also raised pigs, sheep, cows and chickens.

Rudy remembers his dad as a hard worker. “He was an oak tree, the backbone of the family,” Rudy said. Rudolph and Doris raised five children on the farm—Judy Frisby, Sheryl Morris, Rudy Jolovich, Anthony Jolovich and James Jolovich—where they all worked hard alongside their parents as they made a successful enterprise of farming. Rudy and his siblings grew up in one of the barracks from the Heart Mountain camp.

The Heart Mountain Root Cellar is located adjacent to the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation’s Interpretive Center. Largely unchanged for more than 65 years, the cellar is still a noticeable feature in the topography of what was once the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. With its iconic wooden venting system that is still visible from Wyoming Highway 14A and from the Interpretive Center, the Root Cellar continues to be a topic of inquiry for many Interpretive Center guests. In fact, many visitors comment that the very presence of “those little wooden boxes” prompted their visit to the Interpretive Center.

The Root Cellar played an important role

in the life of the HMRC during its operation from 1942 to 1945 and holds significant historical value for the Camp and for the agricultural development of the Big Horn Basin. While largely still intact, the Root Cellar has fallen into disrepair, with some sections beginning to collapse. There is an urgent need to evaluate the structure and to plan for interim and long term measures for its stabilization, preservation and interpretation. The Foundation has applied for funding with the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program to conduct the necessary legal and survey work for transfer of title and to conduct initial study of the historical and structural elements as preliminary steps to detailed plans for stabilization, conservation and interpretation. The project will also provide immediate stabilization activities that are necessary to prevent further damage to the structure and for safety.

More information will be available to the public regarding the root cellar and agriculture at Heart Mountain this summer, with the opening of the temporary exhibit: *From the Ground Up: Agriculture at Heart Mountain* in the Ford Foundation Temporary Exhibition Space. ■

Message from the Chair: Shirley Ann Higuchi

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation is strong and growing stronger, thanks to the diligent efforts of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers. A huge thanks goes out to all our donors—we have made great strides in ensuring the Foundation's sustainability for the future.

One of the critical volunteers that has contributed to our success is the law firm of Holland & Hart. The firm has generously donated hundreds of hours of extraordinarily valuable legal and public policy support to the Foundation. In addition, the firm has graciously hosted the Foundation's board meetings over the years in their Salt Lake City office.

While 2012 was a great year for the HMWF, I am really looking forward to 2013. Wonderful developments are underway at the Interpretive Center and for the Foundation. With the pending charitable acquisition of the Heart Mountain Camp's root cellar site, we will be able to preserve this important historical treasure for future generations. While the acquisition of this asset enhances the Center immeasurably we will need to work hard to find the resources to appropriately preserve it and make it accessible for further research. Nonetheless, the HMWF leadership is delighted by the chance to meet that challenge.

In late spring, we will begin repairs to the internee-built stone wall surrounding the Heart Mountain Honor Roll. Over the years, the stone work has weathered and begun to collapse. With the guidance of Board Member Kris Horiuchi and Horiuchi Solien Landscape architects, the Bighorn Canyon

National Recreation Area, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office and the Bureau of Reclamation, we will be able to make repairs so that the Honor Roll is more accessible and safer for visitors.

During the 2013 Pilgrimage (July 19-21), we will also celebrate the completion of extensive stabilizing repairs on the site's

iconic Hospital Boiler House Chimney. This is a major accomplishment, and it is a relief to know that this historic site and striking regional landmark is secure for decades to come.

As we celebrate all of our accomplishments during the past year, I was saddened to learn that our beloved supporter, Senator Daniel K. Inouye, passed before the new year. I am so grateful that

he was a part of my life. He became a significant role model for me on perseverance through difficult times.

At our Grand Opening in the summer of 2011, I had the honor of introducing the Senator as our keynote speaker. This great American hero said, "This Center will play an important role in reminding people that it [internment] did happen in this great nation and if we don't watch ourselves it could happen again."

Another beloved treasure of the Heart Mountain family departed last October—Jim Ito, 95 years young, was an inspiration to all of us. He will be remembered for his steadfast dedication during the early stages of the Interpretive Center's development through his service on the HMWF's program committee. Jim's ties to Heart Mountain were strong. As Assistant Superintendent of Agriculture in the camp during the

war he successfully kept the root cellar full of much needed vegetables, and pioneered a host of agricultural innovations on the camp's land. I am sure that Jim is smiling down at us knowing that the Foundation is now able to preserve the cellar as a historical resource for scholars, historians and the general public.

With change comes new opportunities. Many of you have learned that our Executive Director plans to retire this spring. With Steve Leger's stellar leadership, the Foundation reached several milestones, including building the groundwork for our financial sustainability and recruiting key staff to stabilize the Center's operations. Steve is working very closely with the Personnel Committee to ensure that we identify another superb replacement, and he has agreed to stay on as Senior Advisor to our Major Gifts and Endowment Program to ensure our continued financial growth.

In closing, I hope you will join me for our annual Pilgrimage Celebration this summer and I look forward to celebrating with you all our successes in 2013. ■



PHOTO BY KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI



HONORARY ADVISORS

Norman Y. Mineta
Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation
Alan K. Simpson
U.S. Senator (ret)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shirley Ann Higuchi - *Chair*
Douglas W. Nelson - *Vice-Chair*
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Takashi Hoshizaki Pete Simpson
Alan Kumamoto Shigeru Yabu
Eric Muller Kathleen Saito Yuille
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STAFF

Stevan Leger - *Executive Director*
Bethany H Sandvik - *Executive Assistant*
Kim Barhaug - *Facilities Manager*
Hana Maruyama - *Newsletter Contributor*

SECOND ANNUAL Holiday Open House

We opened to a winter wonderland of snow on December 8 for the Holiday Open House. Joining us was Polly Richter, our paper crane artist from Red Lodge, MT. She set up a table to help anyone who wanted to try their hand at a variety of origami patterns. We also had Robyn Cutter displaying her photo creations made from original barrack floor boards with photos of Heart Mountain attached.

Our guests braved the Wyoming winter to enjoy hot tea or cocoa with an assortment of cookies supplied by staff and volunteers. After the featured movie, they viewed the exhibits and bookstore. It was wonderful to see so many local families and friends.

All of us at Heart Mountain would like to extend our thanks to the Powell and Cody residents, our great volunteers and friends for making 2012 such a success. We hope 2013 will be a wonderful year for everyone! ■



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CODY ENTERPRISE

Polly Richter, Origami artist, teaches Tayten Barhaug the art of paper folding at the Holiday Open House.

MEMORY AND JUSTICE ENDOWMENT FUND OFF TO A GOOD START

Last fall, the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation began collecting donations earmarked for the “Memory and Justice Endowment Fund,” which was created to help ensure the long term financial sustainability of the work of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. With an ambitious goal of raising \$2-plus million over the next two years, the Foundation is off to

a good start. With significant pledges and donations already received, the HMWF continues to urge our supporters to consider making a donation to the Memory and Justice Endowment Fund. According to Foundation Board Member Tak Hoshizaki, “the Endowment Fund will go far to guarantee that what happened at Heart Mountain to 14,000 Japanese

Americans will not be forgotten, and the memory of those events will help ensure it never happens again.”

Tax-deductible donations, pledges and bequests can be directed to:

Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
Memory and Justice Endowment
1539 Road 19, Powell, WY 82435

☐ **YES!** I would like to help ensure the long-term sustainability of the HMWF by making a donation to the Memory and Justice Endowment Fund.

Name: _____ ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms.

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ ☐ H ☐ W ☐ C Email: _____

Amount of tax-deductible gift to the HMWF Memory and Justice Endowment Fund: \$ _____

Method of Payment: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Name: _____
(exactly as it appears on your credit card)

CC#: _____ Exp Date: _____ Signature: _____

WALTER EGGERS: Thank You

As a young boy growing up in Wyoming, Walter Eggers had heard of Heart Mountain and knew a little bit about the Wyoming internment camp from World War II. But it was during law school at the University of Wyoming that he began to really learn about the injustice of the imprisonment of over 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans by the U.S. Government. It was also in law school where Eggers met Professor Eric Muller who was writing a book about the draft resisters at Heart Mountain.

Years later, Muller joined the Board of Directors of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation and became the program chair, putting together exhibits for the Foundation's Interpretive Learning Center. In October 2012, he reached out to his old student, asking if Eggers' law firm, Holland & Hart, would be interested in lending legal support to the Foundation.

Since then, Eggers has been involved in many facets of the Foundation; he has attended HMWF board meetings and the Grand Opening, provided legal assistance and coordinated Holland & Hart's work

with the Foundation. "I had heard about [the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation] and I had read a little bit about it before getting involved," he notes. "But talking with the board members, listening to their conversations, going to the ILC—it's just been eye-opening to me and so incredibly educational."



Walter Eggers

Having been involved with the Foundation as it worked to build the Interpretive Learning Center, Eggers has watched the Foundation grow and evolve over the past two years. The Grand Opening, Eggers states, "was a turning point for the Foundation from a group that was trying to open the ILC to a group that is now trying to develop, expand, and main-

tain the ILC."

One part of developing and expanding the Center has been the effort to preserve the land and the remaining buildings. Eggers and other members of Holland & Hart have been very involved in that process. For instance, the chimney, a key feature of the Heart Mountain Hospital, is on Federal land. Because of this, Eggers has been working with Federal agencies to discuss

the chimney's repair and refurbishment. "As with any historical preservation project, it has some challenges. But I would say the Board has worked really hard on it, and I think they've gotten a really good response from the Federal agencies that are involved."

One of Eggers' main responsibilities for the Foundation is to coordinate the legal work that needs to be done and to reach out to other lawyers at Holland & Hart for assistance in legal matters in their areas of expertise. "It's been really great to see the reaction that the attorneys have had around the firm and support and interest that attorneys from around the firm have had working on Heart Mountain issues," Eggers said.

Other lawyers from Holland & Hart who have worked with the Foundation include Joanna Vilos, Holly Olson, and Kelly Johnson. Johnson is a specialist in U.S. affairs and has been instrumental in working with Board Chair Shirley Higuchi on the Foundation's matters in Washington, D.C.

"This is an important place for the world, for the country, and also for Wyoming," Eggers emphasizes. "It's an incredible asset for this state in that it's a place where people can really do some deep thinking and learning about this era in this country's history." ■

PARTNERSHIP IS "KEY" FOR UPCOMING SMITHSONIAN EXHIBIT

The Wyoming Humanities Council is sponsoring *Key Ingredients: America by Food*, a Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) exhibit that explores the cultural and historical forces that shape American regional cuisine and the connections between Americans and the foods they produce, prepare, preserve and serve. The exhibit, a component of the SITES *Museum on Main Street* program, will tour eight Wyoming communities, including Powell, Wyoming, where it will be on display at the Homesteader Museum.

As a partner institution, the Heart Moun-

tain Wyoming Foundation has been working closely with the Homesteader and serves on the outreach committee charged with developing surround activities throughout 2013 based on the *Key Ingredients* exhibit. Events include panel discussions, documentary viewings, book clubs, local food tastings and more. In addition, Heart Mountain staff will offer support to the Homesteader for installation, education and interpretation. As Rowene Weems, Executive Director of the Homesteader Museum notes, "We are thrilled to be working closely with HMWF to celebrate *Key Ingredients: America by*

Food and the area's cultural food history!"

In conjunction with the *Key Ingredients* exhibit, the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center will host a "sister" exhibit: *From the Ground Up: Agriculture and Gardening at Heart Mountain*. The exhibit will run June 7 through October 6, and will be on display during the annual Heart Mountain Pilgrimage.

Key Ingredients opens at the Homesteader Museum on August 24 and will run through October 6, 2013. For more information, visit www.homesteadermuseum.com and www.keyingredients.org ■

HEART MOUNTAIN INTERPRETIVE CENTER RECEIVES MEDIA AWARD

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation was awarded the 2012 Interior Exhibit Award from the National Association of Interpretation at their National Workshop in Hampton, Virginia, on November 17, 2012. The award was presented to Split Rock Studios, the exhibit design team responsible for creating "Across a Wire: Voices from Heart Mountain" at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center. The Interpretive Media Awards Competition is conducted by the National Association for Interpretation and its Interpretive



Media Section to promote excellence in the delivery of natural, cultural, and historical non-personal interpretive services.

This is the third award the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center has received. Also in 2012, the Alliance of American Museums awarded Heart Mountain the Excellence in Exhibition Award for Eloquent Presentation of Topic. In addition, the Wyoming Education Association honored Heart Mountain with the 2012 Harriett "Liz" Byrd Award, which annually honors an organization that has made an

outstanding educational contribution in the areas of human relations, multiculturalism and diversity. ■



PHOTO BY STEVAN LEGER
Interior barracks exhibit at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center.

HEART MOUNTAIN WEBSITE TO GET NEW LOOK!

If you have visited the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation's website recently, you may have noticed some changes beginning to happen. Indeed, *www.HeartMountain.org* is on its way to being a more professional, user-friendly, fun and informative site than ever before. With the help of a grant from the National Park Service's Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) grant program, Heart Mountain has hired Big Idea Advertising, based in Cody, Wyoming, to update our current website as well as create more interactive online features including virtual tours and interactive educational components.

The website will attract new visitors and enhance and amplify their experiences to the Interpretive Center while offering information to a wider audience for a more complete understanding of the internment story and constitutional issues. When completed, the redesigned Heart Mountain website will better feature the Interpretive Center, provide user-friendly educational and historical content, explain the origins and mission of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation and host an online store.

Rob Garrett, Director of Marketing at Big Idea is thrilled to be working with the Foundation. "We at Big Idea Advertising are proud to be chosen to work with Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation on their website project," he said. "When we received the [Request for Proposals] we were

immediately excited because of our affinity for our state, and the history that is here. We feel that we are able to contribute, in our small way, to that history by putting the professionalism, integrity, and hard work that we strive so hard to achieve into every page of this incredible project." Big Idea is co-owned by Rob and his wife, Kelly Garrett, creative developer.

When writing our proposal to the JACS program, the Foundation stressed that we needed to present three levels of information for three very different audiences. Our highest priority is to reach potential visitors/tourists and people wanting to learn about the Interpretive Center as an attraction—with the goal to get them to visit our Center and the Cody/Powell area. Park County, Wyoming, is rich with tourist activities. From Yellowstone National Park to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, to the Homesteader Museum, there is much to see and do. The Heart Mountain Interpretive Center can and should appeal to people wanting to visit these other attractions, and we must make it easier for them to do so.

Our second priority for the website is education. Teachers and students interested in Wyoming, American and/or WWII history need to be able to quickly find information about our educational programming and the history of the Japanese Internment. It needs to be clear what the Center can offer students who visit as well as providing con-

tent for those students and schools that are unable to be here in person. Virtual tours, study guides, book recommendations and curriculum ideas will all be part of the education component of the site.

Finally, scholars, descendants and other invested parties wanting detailed information about the Japanese-American Internment and/or specific people and events that occurred at Heart Mountain will be able to access certain archival information through a password-protected area of our website. Over time, this aspect will be especially important as we continue to digitize our collections, including personal papers, news articles, letters, photos, and other fragile materials that have been entrusted to the Center.

An additional component of the new site will be the ability to purchase items from our gift shop online. We have had numerous requests from HMWF members and friends to make this process possible. This past holiday season, the ILC gift shop took over two dozen orders over the phone, each time requiring several calls back and forth with the customer. An online store will allow anyone to purchase books, DVDs and other Heart Mountain items at any time of the day.

The newly designed website is scheduled to go live on March 31, 2013. Please click onto www.HeartMountain.org to check it out! ■

From The Executive Director: Stevan Leger

In many ways, 2012 was a milestone year for the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. While the excitement and hard work of getting the Interpretive Learning Center finished and completing a marvelous grand opening in August 2011 was very fulfilling, that was just the beginning. In 2012, we began to chart a new course for the future of the Interpretive Center and the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. For me, it was both challenging and very fulfilling.

There really was very little time for the Board of Directors or staff to catch their breath in 2012. The thrill of seeing years of planning come to fruition was quickly replaced with the need to reenergize, regroup, and make solid plans for the future. The staff took on the task of daily operations of the Center, welcoming thousands of guests from around the world. We were fortunate to have a dedicated group of full-time and part-time staff who really love their work and enjoy welcoming people to the Center. We also were lucky to have a great first summer of the "Advisor in Residence" program with Bacon Sakatani and

Sam Mihara volunteering their time to make presentations to visitors while interacting with them as they explored the Center. The visitors let us know that the hard work is worthwhile and is helping to fulfill our mission. "This affected me as much as my tour thru the Holocaust Museum in DC," wrote one visitor. Another wrote "Well done! Thanks to all who made this center possible. The displays are remarkable and tell the story of the American Citizens who lived here in a personal way." The many former Heart Mountain internees who visited in 2012 brought heart-breaking and inspirational stories that they often shared with the staff and visitors here.

In November 2012 the Board of Directors launched the Memory and Justice Endowment Fund to help ensure the Foundation's long term financial stability. In the words of Foundation Vice-Chair Doug Nelson "We have succeeded in building a



world class museum. Now our task is to make sure it thrives, grows and inspires visitors for generations to come." We are already receiving generous gifts and pledges to the Memory and Justice Endowment Fund and are on a good start toward achieving our two million dollar goal in the next few years. The Foundation Board of Directors contin-

ues to work tirelessly to raise funds for the Interpretive Center and our programs, plan pilgrimage events, and chart a steady and inspirational course for the future.

This past year could not have been successful without many people listed in this issue of our newsletter who donated generously to support the Foundation and many others who have volunteered countless hours in support of the Foundation and the Interpretive Center. Our donors, volunteers, Board and staff all have helped assure that 2012 was a milestone year and deserve our heart felt thanks and appreciation. ■

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We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please notify us in writing of any corrections

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MEMBERSHIP: Thanks to our generous donors, the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation officially opened our Interpretive Learning Center on August 20, 2011. We need your help to continue our journey toward assuring a world-class Interpretive Learning Center. We invite you to join our membership at the most generous level with which you feel comfortable.

General Membership Benefits

- Free Admission to the ILC
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