



Pony Homecoming Club

Newsletter

Spring 2019

Pony, Her Place in the Sun

Pony Days August 3rd, 2019

This year's theme is compliments of Mrs. Katharine O Adkins (Mrs. W. Henry Adkins).

In the 1920's, she wrote an article as **Historian of The Pony Women's Club** that was published in the Three Forks Journal and also sent to the Historical Archives in Helena. It was titled "Early History of Pony".

Her final line of the article read:

With the coming of the **Northern Pacific Railway in 1890**, Pony has felt secure of her "place in the sun."

Mark your calendars for the Pony Days celebration.

There will be a parade, booths for Art in the Park, games, Bar-B-Q, ice cream social, raffle drawings, music, school museum tour, evening street dance, and more. A more detailed schedule of events will be posted on our website ponyhomecoming.com and at the post offices as soon as plans are finalized.

Anyone interested in assisting in various aspects of the event, you can contact any of the PHC board members.

Invitation to Pony, Harrison & Norris Communities

Wildfire Risk Reduction Meeting

presented by Gallatin County

Montana State University Extension's Office

Saturday, May 18, 2019

🔥 10:00 AM 🔥

Pony Gym, Pony, MT

Be Prepared for Fire Season!

Preventing Tragedy like that in Paradise, California

This meeting will cover ways our community can reduce risk of fires and and discuss emergency preparedness!

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE: Pony Harrison Norris Fire Chief Boice Atkinson, Madison County Sheriff's Deputy Doug Young, Madison County Deputy Director of Emergency Management Joe Brommell, Gallatin County MSU Extension's Office Natural Resources Agent Dominique Woodham

REFRESHMENTS SERVED



Gallatin County Extension Office

HOSTED BY:
Pony Homecoming Club,
Harrison, Pony &
Norris Fire Dept.

Pony Public School Historic Preservation

The MSU Historic Architecture and Preservation class 522 presented their report to PHC board member August Ore and member Anne Ore on April 29.

In addition to Dr. Janet Ore, associate director of public history outreach, report authors include: Austin Anderson, Colin Friese, Dan Hanson, Jack Ross, Jakub Galczynski, Matt Chambers, Sydney Pfarr, and Tyler Trudnowski. All provided **compelling testimony to Pony Public School's value** as the town's community gathering place and historical landmark.

Authors presented project data and recommendations, including developmental history that addressed the school's historical background, environmental context, significance today, and condition assessment. **They reviewed historic preservation objectives and work options.** Specifically, project authors noted Pony Public School's national significance for architectural design and constant community connection, serving families supported by mining and agricultural.
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Building Program for the PHC

The Pony Homecoming Club received a generous donation from the former Pony chapter of the Masonic Lodge to help improve and preserve our historic buildings. These include the school, gym and white church.

The current board is evaluating the condition of each building and planning a schedule for upgrading each facility to make it more attractive and better suited to serving the needs of our community.

Being considered for the **school** is repairing the front steps, upgrading the plumbing and restrooms, getting all books and texts on shelves and extensive cleaning and painting of the interior.

The **gym** has a new ramp for the back door, but the door needs work and the interior needs to be painted.

The **White Church** needs substantial repairs and improvements. Our plan includes the following:

- Repair water damage to the entry area.
- Restore the original ceiling.
- Paint the interior and do some additional exterior painting.
- Add some insulation to the ceiling and upgrade the heating system.
- Improve or replace some of the flooring.

We would like for some of the work to be done by volunteer help, but unless people are willing to help out, much of the work will have to be contracted.

We welcome input from all people in our communities concerning these and other issues that need to be addressed.

Historic Preservation

continued

While the Pony School house structure is in remarkable shape, **it needs urgent attention**, the authors stated. For example, deteriorating steps, brick walls that are getting water saturation and loose ceiling plaster are all areas that must be addressed in order to preserve the building. New electrical wiring, bathrooms and ADA provisions will be necessary to update the building for usage. **A full report will soon be available on our website.**

PHC wishes to thank all those involved for the hard work and care that went into creating this detailed and very important snapshot of the building's condition and importance. **It will establish a baseline for future planning and help keep this landmark standing.**

Pony Park Cleanup

Come help get the park ready for summer

The annual park cleanup will be on **Saturday May 11th** starting at 9am. Bring gloves, rakes, wheelbarrows, and lots of enthusiasm so we can get the park ready for another great season. Hot dogs and drinks will be available

16th Annual Pony Homecoming Poker Ride

The 16th annual Pony Homecoming Club Poker Ride will be held on **June 15, 2019**. It will once again take place on the beautiful and scenic Sitz Ranch. Entry fee will be \$30 with lunch and your first hand included. Extra hands up to 2 are available for \$10 per. Children ride for free. Lunch is \$10 for adults not riding and \$5 for kids not riding. You must be 18+ to play the poker hands. Registration for the Poker Ride will start at 8:30-9:30 am. The ride will start between 9:00-10:00 am, with 10:00 being the firm cutoff date. Water will be available at the stations. The Ride will be approximately 10 miles long. Dress for weather because well you just never know what Mother Nature is going to throw at you.



Registration will be at the main headquarters of the Sitz Ranch. It is located 7 miles West of Harrison on Norwegian Creek Road. The physical address is 37 Sitz Road, Harrison, MT 59735. Signs will be out at the Cardwell Road junction to Highway 287 and through Harrison.

You are now able to prepay on our website: ponyhomecoming.com

Pony Trot June 23

The Pony Trot races take place in beautiful Pony Montana. Course are a bit hilly with stunning views. Both races are run on dirt roads. The 5K is a out and back and the 10K is a loop. Starting elevation for both races is 5400 with the 10K peaking out at 6300-ish. Unique awards are given for each top age group finisher and overall winners. Snacks and treats are provide at the finish. All proceeds go towards the preservation and promotion of historic Pony Montana.



Montana Veterans of Foreign Wars

District 4

On August 17th District 4 of the Montana Veterans of Foreign Wars will be holding their 8th annual picnic (4th time in Pony). There will be members from all 15 posts and 5 auxiliaries in the district present. This is open to the community so come on out and enjoy the food music and comradery and

Thank the Veterans for their Service.



THE MONTANA OLD TIME FIDDLERS & THE PONY HOMECOMING CLUB
PROUDLY PRESENT

THE 13TH ANNUAL PONY FIDDLEFEST

at the Historic Pony Schoolhouse & Gym in Pony

Saturday, May 25 th

1 to 4 PM - Open Mike Session

Music Workshops - 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Workshops Include - Fiddle, Mandolin, Banjo, & Guitar

4 PM - Big Jam in the gym

5 PM - Potluck Dinner

(Burgers & Hot Dogs provided by the Fiddlers)

6 PM - Evening Concert

Bring your Family & Friends, a Potluck Dish,
your Dancing Shoes,
and Your Jubilant Smile! Admission is FREE, and the
Public is Welcome.

THE MONTANA OLD TIME FIDDLERS DISTRICT 3 IS DEDICATED
TO THE PRESERVATION OF OLD TIME FIDDLE MUSIC IN
MONTANA,
PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES
FOR ALL.
FOR MORE INFO CALL 685-3481

Time to Renew Your Membership

Dues are paid for the calendar year. Not many people have paid for this year, so please fill out the form and mail it in with your check.

Pony Homecoming Club Membership Form

Send dues to Pony Homecoming Club, P.O. Box 654, Pony MT 59747

We appreciate your continued support of our mission of promoting a sense of community for Pony, Harrison and Norris, and of preserving the historic buildings of Pony. Annual dues are **\$10 per person.**

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Pony Homecoming Club General Meeting

June 27th in the Pony Park

Please plan to attend the General Meeting for everyone at the Pony Park.

The PHC Board will furnish meat, buns & drinks. Side dishes or desserts greatly appreciated. In case of rain, the meeting will be moved to the Gym.

EVERYONE WELCOME!



The Pony Homecoming Club of Pony was established in 1961

It was to provide a sense of community for Harrison, Pony, and Norris and surrounding areas, and to preserve the historic buildings in Pony, Montana.

Current board members are Zachary Dyk president; Kari King treasurer; Brian Rumsey, Christine Sitz, Daryl DeFrance, Kay Von Bergen, Dean Booth, and August Ore.

Mail Correspondence to: PHC PO Box 654, Pony, MT 59747.

Newsletter editor: Anne DeFrance

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PO Box 654, Pony, MT 59747.