

THE RIO BLANCO COUNTY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION
proudly presents

THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY CENTENNIAL + 2 CELEBRATION OF
THE OLD TIMER'S REUNION DINNER AND DANCE
HOW THE WEST WAS FUN

TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY,

~ JUNE 7, 2014 ~

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THE FREEMAN FAIRFIELD
COMMUNITY CENTER
3RD AND MAIN ST. • MEEKER, COLORADO

IF YOU ARE AGE 30+, AND GREW UP IN RIO BLANCO COUNTY OR HAVE LIVED IN THE COUNTY FOR 30+ YEARS, OR IF YOU ATTENDED SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY, YOU AND YOUR GUEST ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.

Centennial + 2 Celebration Events Schedule

**THE NEW
OLD TIMERS**

*The Next Generation:
Family Reunions and group tables*
The future is NOW: You are a part of creating today's Rio Blanco County history that future generations will want to know about, just as we seek to know the stories of our ancestors over the past century. We need participation from the younger members and families of the White River Valley to share their life experiences and to enjoy the memories with the more tenured members. We urge you and your families to join in this once-in-a-lifetime experience to start the next century of old-timer's reunions. Please Join us to make the circle complete!

MEEKER ARTS & CULTURAL COUNCIL
AND RBC HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

"Capturing our Culture"

ORAL HISTORY STORYTELLING
& VIDEOTAPING SESSIONS

Please plan to join your family and friends and former classmates in a fun session of remembrances and recollections of your family's and friends history and notable events in their lives. Bring scrapbooks, photo albums and family memorabilia. These sessions will be videotaped and possibly transcribed for stories in the "This is What I Remember" publications of the Historical Society and made available on DVD and written text formats.

Please indicate your participation on the reservation form.

**MHS
CENTENNIAL
ALL CLASS HIGH
SCHOOL REUNIONS
RHS**

Class Reunions

Classes of RHS & MHS: All classmates of **ALL** classes of Rio Blanco County High Schools [**Meeker and Rangely**] are invited to join with their classmates of their graduation year for a Centennial + 2 reunion. Efforts will be made to seat you in areas by decade of graduation and with your classmates, if you wish. **Please specify your year of graduation on your reservation form and who will be coordinating your reunion.** Please share this information with your classmates to get a good attendance. Bring your yearbooks, photos and other memorabilia. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to commemorate the Centennial + 2 of Old Timers.

**CAPTURING
OUR
CULTURE:**

**Oral history family
group discussions and
interviews on video**

**3:00 P.M.
DOORS OPEN**

VISITATION *and*
SPECIAL EVENTS
and EXHIBITS IN THE LOBBY
AND ADJACENT ROOMS.

meekerpalooza
Arts and Music Festival

*Join the Meeker Arts and Cultural
Council's Meekerpalooza Music and
Arts Festival at City Park all day
before the reunion begins.*

**PERIOD
COSTUME
CONTEST**

you are invited to wear any period costume dating from 1885 through the present. There will be an audience vote for the most creative costumes and prizes awarded.

◆
1885 ~ PRESENT
◆

**THIS WILL BE
GREAT FUN!**

NEXT PAGE 

CENTENNIAL + 2 CELEBRATION EVENTS SCHEDULE

6:30 P.M. DINNER *and* PROGRAM

INVOCATION *and* OPENING CEREMONIES

CO-PRESIDENTS

Sandra Bradfield & Robert Amick welcome you to the Centennial + 2 Old Timer's Reunion

PIONEER COSTUME CONTEST

*Dress up in a costume
representing any period*

1885 ~ PRESENT

Win a prize for the most creative costume!

CELEBRATING LIFE:

Remembering Family and Friends
by **Historian Sandy Shimko**

Recognition of Centennial + 2
All Class High School Reunion,
and family reunion participants.

BUSINESS MEETING

elections, minutes
and reports

DANCE WITH PERIOD MUSIC FOR ALL ERAS

LATE EVENING SUPPER

A *Welcome* FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS *and* RBC PIONEERS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

DEAR RBC PIONEERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS, FAMILIES *and* FRIENDS

We welcome you to the 100th Anniversary Centennial + 2 Celebration of the Old Timer's Reunion Dinner and Dance. This year's theme is "How the West was Fun" and it is our goal to make this year's reunion the most fun for you! Be sure to participate in the period costume contest and wear any costume representing the era anytime between 1885 and the present. Please note that the Meeker Arts and Cultural Council is concurrently hosting the "Meeker-palooza," their annual arts and music festival at Circle Park on Water Street for your added enjoyment before the reunion. So come early and enjoy! The Committee has worked very hard to bring you the most memorable and exciting program worthy of this "once-in-a-lifetime event. We are reminded of the lyrics from an old song, "...I will pass this way but once; if there's any good that I can do,

let me do it now, for I'll never pass this way again..."

The essence of this special occasion is to bring together as many participants as possible to share and enjoy memories and rekindle friendships spanning many decades. Time is fleeting and the opportunity to see family and friends we may have not seen for a long time is so very important and not to be missed. Please see the special appeal to make this traditional event more welcoming and inclusive of current and prospective new members on the back of the registration form. We want to reach out to the younger families with current or past connections to the White River Valley, inviting you to attend and participate as you are the future of the association, and are creating the history of today. A new feature this year is family and friends area reunions. We hope to join these groups with a the Rio Blanco County Historical Society's "Capturing our Culture" oral history program to join family and friends in a reminiscing and story-telling session to video and document those great stories and memories. We ask that you sign up for and participate fully in those fun

sessions. An additional opportunity is the All Class Reunion for classmates of Meeker and Rangely High Schools. Alumni are invited from every class to join their classmates and friends in this special opportunity. Please sign up for this on the registration form as well. Please also sign up for our new RBC pioneers association e-mail list serve to be kept advised of information and to share ideas with other members. Most of all we look forward to seeing all of you and invite you to make this the most wonderful and special occasion in tribute to our pioneer heritage, families and friends over the past century. Please use our new on-line website for registration or mail in your reservation on the form provided. Please contact us for any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you on June 7th!

Sincerely,
**Sandra Bradfield
and Robert Amick**
Co-Presidents,
RBC Pioneers Association

LODGING

LOCAL HOTELS *and*
MOTELS ARE OFFERING
DISCOUNTED RATES
*for those attending the
Old Timer's Reunion*

MENTION OLD TIMERS
WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR
RESERVATION.

Contact the Meeker Chamber
of Commerce at 970 878-5510
or e-mail
director@meekerchamber.com

www.meekerchamber.com

REGISTRATION *and* RESERVATIONS

please choose **only one method** of registration, either by mail or by electronic website

TO REGISTER BY MAIL:

- ❑ Please fill out the enclosed registration form [please print clearly or type] Return form with your check or money order by mail to the RBC Pioneers Association Registrar, Haley Kracht, to be received no later than **May 24, 2014**.
[MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO RIO BLANCO COUNTY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION]

TO REGISTER ONLINE:

- ❑ RBCPA Website: <http://www.rbcpioneers.org>
Please complete electronic registration form and enter credit card number for payment.

RBCPA e-mail list serve: rbcpioneers@lists.colorado.edu

To subscribe for e-mailed information and information sharing send an e-mail to amick@spot.colorado.edu. And include your e-mail address and your name. Subscribers will be sent bulletins and updates, and may post messages that other subscribers will receive for discussions and information sharing.

CONTACT US:

CO-PRESIDENTS
**SANDRA
BRADFIELD**
SBRADFIELD@WILDBLUE.NET
& **BOB AMICK**
AMICK@SPOT.COLORADO.EDU

REGISTRAR/SECRETARY
HALEY KRACHT
970-878-4607 | BHKRACHT1500@GMAIL.COM
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TREASURER **CONNIE THEOS** THEOSLLP@WREAWILDBLUE.ORG

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SPARKY PAPPAS
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& **MARY K.
KRUEGER**
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THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY CENTENNIAL + 2 CELEBRATION



REGISTRATION FORM



{FOR MAIL-IN ONLY}

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE:

IF YOU ARE REGISTERING ELECTRONICALLY VIA THE INTERNET, PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT A PAPER FORM.
This form must be received not later than May 24, 2014, for reservations and dues/dinner fees. Please make and keep a copy for your own records.

GUESTS & MEMBERS ATTENDING DINNER:

Name _____ @ \$35

Name _____ @ \$35

Name _____ @ \$35

Name _____ @ \$35

- I/we cannot attend but am enclosing \$5 per person annual membership dues and wish to remain on the mailing list
- I/WE CANNOT ATTEND THIS YEAR but may be able to attend in the future
- PLEASE REMOVE ME FROM THE MAILING LIST

address _____ city _____ State _____ zip _____

phone [_____] _____ e-mail _____

- Method of payment:
- check/money order [please do not send cash] | **[MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO RIO BLANCO COUNTY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION]**
- amount paid \$ _____

EVENT PARTICIPATION REGISTRATION:

- I/we will participate in the **CENTENNIAL + 2 ALL CLASS HIGH SCHOOL REUNION [MHS,RHS]**
- meeker high school year[s] of graduation or attendance _____
- rangely high school school year[s] of graduation or attendance _____
- I/we would like to be seated with our classmates and/or grouped in the class year/decade: yes _____ no _____
- name of class reunion coordinator _____ e-mail _____ phone _____
- is this a special reunion anniversary [e.g., 10,25, 50, etc.]?specify number of years _____

I/WE WILL PARTICIPATE IN OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS, OR AREA REUNION GROUP:

- name[s] of family or families/friends [e.g. smith and jones families] _____
- name of area [e.g. piceance creek, buford, et al] _____
- I/we would like to be seated as a family and friends, Or area reunion group yes _____ no _____
- number of family and friends in your party _____
- name of person coordinating the reunion group _____
- e-mail _____ phone _____

- I/WE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CAPTURING OUR CULTURE** family history session and videotaping at 3pm or later
- I will coordinate with family and friends to organize a group for the interview
- time[s] I/we would like to set up an appointment for the interview _____
- name of person coordinating the capturing our culture interview group _____
- phone _____ e-mail _____
- comments: [use back side if more space is needed] _____

PLEASE PLACE THIS FORM AND PAYMENT IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO:
HALEY KRACHT, RBCPA, P.O. Box 1103, MEEKER, CO 81641



YOU

ARE A

PIONEER



21st-Century Young "Old Timers"

**A Special MESSAGE FOR FRIENDS and FAMILY
FROM THE RBCPA COMMITTEE**

**DEAR RBC PIONEERS
ASSOCIATION
MEMBERS, FAMILIES
and FRIENDS**

For the past 100 years, Rio Blanco county pioneers, families, and friends have annually commemorated their special cultural heritage and notable history at the "Old Timer's Reunion." This year's event will celebrate the Centennial + 2 Anniversary occasion. However, over the years, attendance has gradually been lessening, and members of younger generations have not been actively participating even though they are welcomed and encouraged to do so. We need your help and your ideas to change this trend and encourage greater participation by those who could enjoy the special camaraderie and friendships afforded by this opportunity to share stories, to document your family stories and history, to make or renew friendships and connections in the common heritage that we all share. A number of Rio Blanco County residents and those who may have at one time lived in the county, attended school, or otherwise had some connection with the White River Valley have expressed a concern about not feeling welcome to participate in the Rio Blanco County Pioneers Association annual reunion. Still others have said they had the impression that the event was "just for the seniors" and did not hold appeal for potential younger participants. The Association leadership wishes to ask your help in changing that perception, by participating in this great

event, and by encouraging your family, friends, and others who could and should attend and enjoy this wonderful occasion. A series of new program opportunities has been added to further encourage participation and serve to attract participation to preserve the history and cultural heritage of families and friends. The Rio Blanco County Pioneers Association has joined with the Rio Blanco County Historical Society and the Meeker Arts and Cultural Council in the "Capturing our Culture" oral history project to interview family and friends of Rio Blanco County residents. This project seeks to interview families and friends about their family history, remembrances and special events of their lives that have been a part of the colorful history of the White River Valley. Perhaps the most effective way to capture and preserve this priceless information is through videotaped oral history interviews with families and groups where the spontaneous group discussions trigger many memories and anecdotes [through a group synergy] about special occasions and events in that long progression of notable events. These valuable remembrances may otherwise be forever lost as folks move on and eventually pass away. Before modern technology such as photography, video taping, printing, computers, etc., ancient civilizations recorded their history through story telling, and each succeeding generation was carefully taught those pivotal stories to commit to memory and then pass on to their children in succeeding generations. In later times, some of

the information was transcribed in writing on papyrus scroll documents, engravings and images on cave walls, clay tablets and many other means of preservation and archiving, that today serves as the keys to unlock priceless clues to the ancient history of civilizations. Nearly everything that we, as individuals do each day of our lives, somehow write a new page of what becomes history, no matter how seemingly insignificant. Someday, succeeding generations will want to know how their ancestors [those of us who live in present times] lived, who they were and what they did, just as we seek to know about the many generations of our own ancestors who preceded us in this succession and family lineage of long history. We invite you and your family and friends as a group, to attend the Centennial + 2 celebration of the Old Timer's Reunion, and share your stories and your family history with many others whom you may know, and with those whom you may not, but would very much enjoy meeting and visiting! For example, a group from Piceance Creek and another group from the Buford School area would join many individuals together to provide a great conversation circle of friends. Making friends and sharing stories is one of the most meaningful experiences of life, which is not to be missed. The Old Timers Centennial + 2 Reunion is the perfect venue for that opportunity. Call or e-mail us with your ideas and thoughts! We ask you to indicate your willingness to help.

The RBCPA Committee