



**BUTTE CITIZENS FOR PRESERVATION AND REVITALIZATION**

P.O. Box 164, Butte, MT 59703 ❖ 406-490-3216 ❖ [www.buttecpr.org](http://www.buttecpr.org)

E-NEWSLETTER ❖ SEPTEMBER 2008

# CPR



## SALVAGE SALE & ARCHIVES SALVAGE WORK UPDATE

**B**utte CPR believes that demolition or stripping of historical materials should only be a last resort—but we know it must occur sometimes. As a result, one of our missions is to salvage re-usable architectural building material (and to accept donations of it) and sell it with the hope it stays in the community and provides an authentic historic fabric for restoration of historic properties.



Volunteers and shoppers sort through the dozens of doors available.

Recent major donors have included Jimmy Doohan (Hummingbird Café) and John Richen.

The latest garage sale of CPR's salvaged and donated materials took place August 23. Twenty or so volunteers helped guide several dozen interested buyers through the maze of wood, windows, doors, plumbing fixtures, and more in two storage spaces.

Revenue estimated at \$3,000 will support CPR's ef-

orts, including the upcoming 2009 Historic Improvement Program Grants, and outreach and educational programs. HIP grants that provide \$100 to \$1000 to individuals or businesses for façade work on historic properties will be awarded next spring.

### Archives project

Butte CPR responded to the Archives' request for proposal to remove historic building materials that must come out of the Archives structure as part of

See 'SALVAGE' on Page 5

### WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Windows Workshop—TBA

Brick Workshop II—TBA

Hot Water Heat Workshop—October 8

For more information on any workshop, contact [info@buttecpr.org](mailto:info@buttecpr.org) or call 490-3216 to be referred to workshop organizers



CPR's 2008-09 workshops are supported in part by a sub-grant from the State Historic Preservation Office's Preserve America Grant.

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# OFFICE HOURS & UPDATES

Nicole von Gaza, CPR's Public Relations Coordinator, has office hours **Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Please stop by the office on the second floor of the Museum of Fine Arts—Butte (405 W. Park St.) to



- browse our preservation library (members can borrow),
- discuss your historic home improvement projects,
- learn about tax incentives for preservation,
- get details of upcoming programs that you can volunteer for or participate in,
- join Butte CPR or make a donation,
- and talk to fellow building-huggers.



**Brick by Brick**, our weekly series of articles in the *Montana Standard* is well underway. Topics have included ghost signs, brick repair, windows, the Dumas, calcimine pain, granite, Italianate architecture, and Sanborn maps. If you've missed an article, they are all linked on our education web page at [www.buttepr.org/edu.htm](http://www.buttepr.org/edu.htm). Got an idea for a story (or want to write one)? Contact Nicole. **Without more articles, the series will likely end in September.**



We still seek volunteers to give talks to **Beyond Assisted Living** once a month. Contact Dick if you are interested.

**NEW:** We're working on a grant application to **Tourism Cares**, which supports education of local host communities and the traveling public about conservation and preservation of sites of exceptional cultural, historical, or natural significance. Current plans call for a request to prepare and print various flyers, maps, and booklets. If you want to contribute or help, contact Dick. The submission deadline is October 1.



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## MEMBERSHIP

CPR's membership is on a calendar-year basis, with annual dues in January. For the complete list of each level's associated benefits and discounts, please visit our web site: [www.buttepr.org/membership.htm](http://www.buttepr.org/membership.htm). THANKS for your support!

**Rooming House Level** (students): \$10 annually

**Miner's Cottage Level** (Individual): \$25 annually

**Bungalow Level** (Family – up to two active members at one address): \$40 annually

**Italianate Level** (Supporting – up to two active members at one address) \$80 annually

**Queen Ann Level** (Underwriter – up to two active members at one address): \$150 annually

**Copper King Level** (Patron – up to two active members at one address): \$500 annually

**Butte Preservationist Level:** \$1000 and more annually - up to four active members at multiple addresses

For businesses:

**Basic Corporate Membership:** \$150 annually

**Business Project Supporter:** \$25 to \$100 – specific support for smaller projects

**Corporate Dust to Dazzle sponsorship:** \$95

**Historic Improvement Program Grant underwriting:** \$750

**NEXT CPR MEETING**  
**Tuesday Sept. 9**  
**CPR Office, MOFAB**  
**(405 W. Park)**  
**7:00 p.m. — 3rd floor**

## MEMBERSHIP

**Reminder:** Dues are now payable for 2008. Please refer to the web site, [www.butte.cpr.org](http://www.butte.cpr.org), or call Nicole at 406-490-3216 for details of membership levels outlined above. **Dues received after Oct. 1 will apply to 2009 memberships.**

## CPR MEMBERS SUPPORT REWARD FUND

# THEFT AT PILOT BUTTE

In mid-August, thieves stole metal parts from the historic Pilot Butte headframe. The hoist engine was cut apart to remove the copper inside, and the hoist engineer's levers were destroyed or taken.



For a few hundred dollars worth of copper, one of Butte's most important and historic resources has been damaged forever. CPR member Julie Crowley is spearheading an effort to create a reward fund leading to arrest and conviction of the thieves.

Anchored by a \$500 pledge from Jeff Francis, individual members of Butte CPR, the Butte Restoration Alliance and the BSB Historic Preservation Commission have pledged at least \$400 more toward this fund.

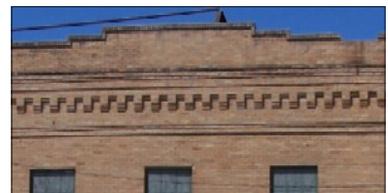
Ironically, the same week the theft occurred, Butte-Silver Bow had just finalized the arrange-

ment to transfer the Pilot Butte to county ownership, with provisions for guided tours of the site. That deal was months in the making, engineered by Historic Preservation Officer Chuck Carrig and involving Arco, Montana Resources, and EPA, as well as county and citizen groups including the Restoration Alliance and the Historic Preservation Commission.

## BSB'S CLG REVIEW: POSITIVE, IMPROVING

In August, Butte-Silver Bow's Historic Preservation Commission participated in the 4-year review of the city-county's Certified Local Government status. Rolene Schliesman, with the State Historical Preservation Office, indicated pleasure that BSB has come a long, long way and we're on the right track. There's room for improvement, of course, but on the whole the evaluation was a very good one. 

The Pilot Butte is among the oldest headframes on the Hill, and although it shows its age and is being buried by sediment eroding from the surrounding waste piles, it is the only one with a wooden encasement around the headframe structure itself. Several elements of the mine yard are also intact, and the nearby air plenum (fan platform) is the only accessible one now that the Corra has been demolished. 



# DONATIONS: CPR'S BACKBONE

By Nicole von Gaza

**D**onations are the backbone of any non-profit organization, and Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization (CPR) is no exception. Donations come in the form of money and time, both of which are precious commodities in everyone's lives. How we choose to spend our time and money speaks to who we are and what we believe in.



Nicole von Gaza

People are often shocked to discover that their volunteer time has financial value, from an average of \$60/hr to lead a tour, to a whopping \$2,500.00 for producing a 4-page newsletter. Our monthly meeting attendees accrue \$17.50 per hour even if all you do is sit there! You can see how fast these totals add up. To a non-profit like CPR, these hours are crucial, for we need to match certain grants dollar for volunteer dollar.

But the fact is without financial donations CPR would not exist. Now in its 14<sup>th</sup> year, the CPR is fortunate to have an ever-widening member base, and many donations from non-members.

The late Jim Warner gave several gifts of \$500 to the general fund as well as his time and expertise in the Protect-a-Gate effort. The Board of Realtors has graciously given three gifts of \$500 each, specifically earmarked for CPR's Historic Improvement Projects Grants (HIP). These grants are

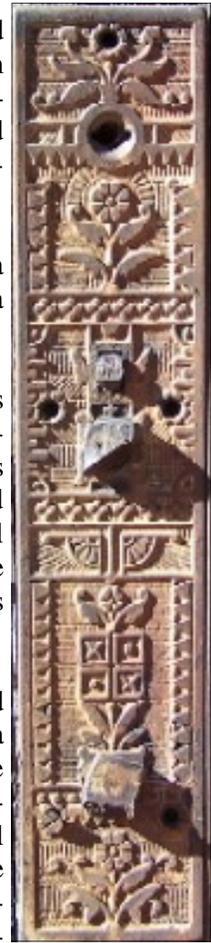
available to all historic home and business owners and range from \$100 to \$1000. Through this program, Butte CPR has returned more than \$23,000 to the community.

A few people have donated as a memorial to a loved one, and as a wedding gift.

But CPR member Curt Buttons has humbled us all by contributing \$10,000 more to his previous donation of \$16,000, earmarked to help save the Dumas Brothel on Mercury Street. It's what he believes in, and he's showing us the money.

It makes us feel like we should up the ante, that we can all give a little more. We in the CPR are not afraid to do so. Butte's designation as the largest National Historic Landmark District in the nation, a new Historic Preservation Ordinance, and a new Historic Preservation Officer, prove we're on the right track. □

*Nicole von Gaza is an archaeologist, stained glass manufacturer, and professional tour guide. She currently serves as CPR's Public Relations Coordinator.*



Historic door hardware, South Arizona Street, Butte. Photo by Dick Gibson.

**President: Larry Smith ♦ Vice-President: Andrea Stierle**

**Treasurer: Mitzi Rossillon ♦ Secretary: Dick Gibson**

**Board of Directors: Larry Smith, Mitzi Rossillon, Andrea Stierle,  
Robert Edwards, Carrie Kiely**

**Public Relations Coordinator: Nicole von Gaza**

**Webmaster & Newsletter Editor: Dick Gibson**

**Membership Directory: [www.buttecpr.org/directory.htm](http://www.buttecpr.org/directory.htm)**

**Would you like to see something in the e-newsletter?**

**Please send ideas and constructive criticism to Dick at [rigibson@earthlink.net](mailto:rigibson@earthlink.net).**

*Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization*

## SALVAGE (from Page 1)

its renovation. The removal is necessary to accommodate both standard building codes and to ensure that the renovations will be at the level mandated by the new Archives plans.

We were awarded the project on August 20, in part because we are sensitive to the historic nature of these materials. This is a huge effort, including abundant wainscoting, interior windows, doors, and more. CPR salvage volunteers began removal on August 28. The work must be finished by Sept. 18, so we are calling for **additional volunteers** to help out—watch for e-mail announcements.

## Salvage still available

The garage sale is over, but we still have plenty of stuff you can buy. Call Robert at 723-1219 to make an appointment. Typical prices:

- doors—\$10-\$40 • trim—50¢/ft • toilets—\$25
- maple flooring—\$1.50/sq ft • beadboard—\$1/sq ft
- single-pane windows—\$1 • multi-light—\$20
- radiators—\$30 • light globes—\$4
- pine timbers—\$2/ft • door hardware—\$1



## HPC SPONSORS ARCHITECTURAL WALK

The BSB Historic Preservation Commission has organized a free public walk focusing on Butte's unique multi-family housing known as walk-up-flats. The tour through the Historic District is led by Mr. Brian Shovers, Librarian with the Montana Historical Society Research Center. Brian has decades of experience with Butte's history and architecture.

**Saturday, Sept. 6. Meet at the BSB Court House steps at 2:00 p.m.**



Mark Reavis



Butte's unique architecture finds many expressions, including these up-the-hill step houses on North Idaho Street. The middle unit (upstairs, 211½) was home to the notorious Chief of Detectives Ed Morrissey, implicated in Frank Little's murder in 1917 and in the beating death of his own wife in the back yard in 1919. Morrissey was found dead in his bed here in 1922, ten days after dying from injuries suffered in a fight. These row houses were designed by Butte architect Charles M. Prentice around 1900.

# VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE FORUM UPDATE: SAVE THE DATE! (JUNE 2009)

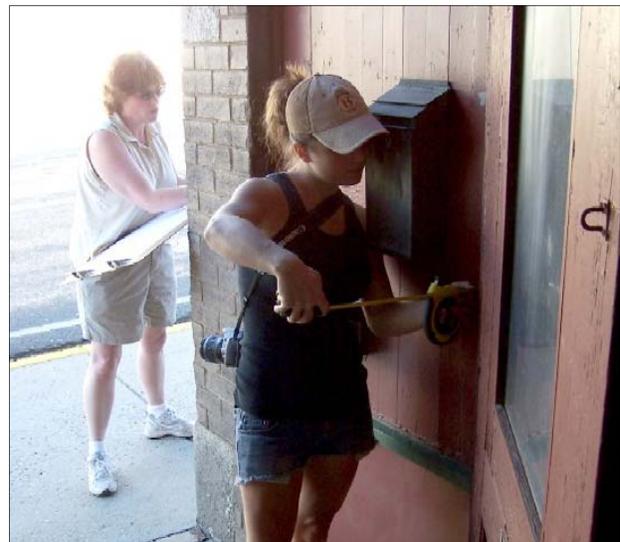
Plans continue for the national VAF conference, slated for Butte and southwest Montana **June 10-14, 2009**. In August, teams of professors and students from Montana State University and the University of Delaware were in Butte and Anaconda continuing the documentation of historic structures begun earlier this summer by students, professors, and professional architects from Bozeman and Salt Lake City.

Rebecca J. Sheppard (Associate Director, Center for Historic Architecture and Design, University of Delaware) and her students measured and drafted floor plans and elevation drawings for Tony's Tin Shop and Myra Brothel, Dellinger Block, Hirbour skyscraper, and private homes on Copper Street. VAFers are interested in these details of structures as they relate to their use by people, whether for living, business, entertainment, or otherwise.

The Butte and Montana VAF program has a new website: [www.vafmontana.org](http://www.vafmontana.org). Details are still being filled in, but the outline of the schedule is available.

Vernacular architecture was the topic for CPR's *Brick By Brick* article in the *Montana Standard*

on August 24. Organizers are expecting 200 to 250 participants in next year's conference. As the date approaches, CPR members can expect to have their arms twisted to be volunteers, especially for Butte Day (Thursday June 11) when several dozen places will be open to conference attendees and need to be manned.



*Becky Sheppard (left) and student measure and document details of construction at Tony's Tin Shop.*



*Tony's Tin Shop and Myra Brothel (1914-1920) on South Arizona St.*