

## To preserve for future generations the history of the American West and our railroad heritage.

# Roundhouse Preservation, Inc. hugoroundhouse.org

Board of Directors:

Chris Fox,, president • Dee Ann Blevins, vice president • Jessica Weeks, secretary • Roxie Devers, treasurer • Megan Hohl, marketing

April 08, 2022



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

#### Welcome Members, Donors, and Friends

Things are finally loosening up from the crazy COVID nightmare. But through it all, RPI continues preparing for the next phases of interior construction. With the historically accurate exterior structure complete, our focus is now to complete the installation of the gas, water, electrical, and sewer. Then we can focus on the event center (bays 1-4) and the kitchen, restrooms, and mezzanine (bay 5). We are working with our architect to keep the plans and costs updated. As with everything, inflation is raising our costs too. The goal posts keep moving and we have to keep up.

But there is sunlight. Roxie is still pounding away at grants with several in the works and we just hired grant writer Jamie Giellis with Centro to pursue large available federal grants for rural development projects. This would get us off and running to start construction of the interior sections. Jamie felt the roundhouse was a very good fit for the qualifications, and she was optimistic for success. We are providing drawings, plans, or anything she might need to go into battle.

Last year we again enjoyed the massive crowds in Hugo that came with another visit from Union Pacific "Big Boy" #4014. We opened up the roundhouse to tours for hundreds of people who left with roundhouse literature, T-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, burritos, and beverages. I did tours and the rest of the board and volunteers sold the merchandise. We are watching the Union Pacific Steam schedule hoping for another visit in the next few years.

We at RPI will continue to promote the future of the roundhouse. Our popularity is on the rise as more and more tours are given to tourists and investors. My hope is we have a usable event center soon so we can celebrate with another one of our famous fish & chicken fry

dinners.

Wish us luck as we grind on.

Christopher Fox President The 2022 Annual Meeting will be held by mail. Directors Megan Hohl and Chris Fox are seeking reelection. If you wish to write in a potential director, please make sure the individual is willing to serve and is a member of RPI. This letter will allow you to vote for a director, renew your membership and/or make a donation. The Annual Fry is once again rescheduled for a future time.

Please note that donations and renewals should be sent to our Cheyenne Wells address. Thanks!

BALLOT	Please help by renewing your membership and/or sending your donation.
Please Vote for two directors: Megan Hohl Chris Fox	We appreciate your support! I would like to make a tax deductible contribution in the amount of:
Name(Write-In)	I would like to join or renew my membership with RPI: Individual \$25 Business/Organization \$50Lifetime Member \$500
Address City, State, Zip Signature	Please Mail to RPI, ATTN: Roxie Devers, PO Box 604, Cheyenne Wells, CO 80810 We would appreciate receiving your ballot by April 30, 2022

### **PROGRESS CONTINUES**

Have you noticed that sometimes progress doesn't move at the pace we want it to? Maybe at those times it's best to look at what's been done and to realize that work is continuing. Phase One, getting the utilities to the round-house, has been completed! The gas meter will be installed once work begins on the interior. RPI and Lincoln County worked together for funding this work.

In the meantime, searching for grants continues. In February 2021 notice was received from Senator John W. Hickenlooper's office requesting that information be submitted for costs to complete the interior of the roundhouse. The funding source was Congressionally Directed Spending. Regardless of the lengthy, involved process, it was well worth the effort to potentially receive all or a portion of the \$1,700,000 funding needed. Our request made it through the first cut, but unfortunately went no further. An application is being submitted this year and will be prepared by Jamie Giellis, Founder and President of Centro Inc. The Commissioners contracted with her to apply for this grant and other large ones. We are happy to have her on board and helping with this tremendous project!

I applied for several grants in 2021, with the following funding received. In August 2021, Roundhouse Preservation, Inc. received \$5,000 from the Edmund T. and Eleanor Quick Foundation to be used for interior work. A grant application submitted to the El Pomar Foundation was approved for \$10,000. We won't receive the money until half (approximately \$270,000) of the total amount for the heating system and the mezzanine construction is raised. The Wells Fargo Philanthropic Services also awarded us \$500 to assist further with interior work.

Roundhouse Preservation, Inc. has talked to several other foundations that are very interested in the roundhouse and the plans we have for its use, but would like to wait on funding until the project is closer to completion. We aren't giving up though until our beautiful roundhouse can be a venue for so many activities! Thanks to all of you for your support!

> -Roxie Devers Treasurer



September 5, 2021

**Big Boy Visits Hugo Again...** (and a few train fans, too!)

Photos courtesy of Jeannie Foster Kinnaman

## Looking Back

In 1894, train stations, depots, and roundhouses were very busy places in towns such as Hugo and Limon, so Owney would have had a chance to make many friends during his travels by train along the Union Pacific Railroad. Owney was a celebrity dog who would have been labeled a "hobo" had he been human.





RPI Members of the Board: Megan Hohl, Dee Ann Blevins, Jessica Weeks, and Roxie Devers

