

# A Letter From the Editors

*Thoughts from two graduating seniors who have spent all three years in Three Wire Winter since its inception.*

by Cindy Sandelin

In my third, and final, year in Three Wire Winter, I recall the first day of class three years ago. The project was still unnamed, the two teachers and the students were still adjusting themselves to the idea that they would publish a magazine, and no one knew what was in store for them.

On that day no one thought of nor expected that they would one day, in the not too distant future, be hassling out such items as: color cover or not? price of subscriptions and single issues? Who gets first dibs on the darkroom? What do you do when the deadline rolls around for typesetting and you're still working on transcribing? and even, whether or not we should string up a pesky underclassman?

However, on that day, three years ago, no one realized that they would feel so proud when they saw all their time and work had assembled an actual magazine. Their interviews, research, and pasting pieces of a narration together had resulted in a printed story. The hours in the darkroom had resulted in printed pictures.

Printed — that is the key word. It is one thing to envision your story printed in a magazine and quite another to actually see it. No one can experience the glowing sensation unless they are involved with the production from the start.

Now, it's almost time to leave the Three Wire Winter project. I shall leave the actual part I played in the production of the magazine behind me when I graduate, but I will not leave the essence of Three Wire Winter behind.

It would be impossible, after three years, not to have formed some attachment for the magazine, and especially when the project is as meaningful as Three Wire Winter is. I can honestly say that I have never before gained so much from doing or being involved with one project as I have through Three Wire Winter.

by Melanie Grillo

I have been in Three Wire Winter for three years since its beginning and am proud of its progress. It hasn't been an easy road, although definitely worth it. I have gotten so much out of Three Wire Winter that can't be expressed in a magazine article. I would like to take a moment out to share with you the experiences I have gained.

When we began I knew not the first thing about putting out a magazine. In one week two Ptarmigan staff members along with project

coordinators from IDEAS taught us the skills needed for a project like this, modeled after the Foxfire concept. I think we were all amazed with the amount of work it takes.

Each year as we lose and gain new students a similar workshop introduces the tasks involved and the project ahead. It's surprising how many students feel like dropping the class after the first day, but we all keep with it and hopefully gain as much from the class as I have.

One of the greatest and most enjoyable experiences I have ever had was a trip I took as an exchange student from Three Wire Winter to Hawaii. I visited the magazine Mo'Olelo on Kauai which is one of the most beautiful of all the islands. I went to school and lived in a number of homes where I was treated like "one of the family". Not only did I learn of their culture, tasted many exotic foods, helped write an article for Mo'Olelo, hula danced for the traditional May Day program and went to their senior prom, but I also had the time of my life.

Another way in which Three Wire Winter has meant a great deal to me is the education stimulation in high school which will carry through to college. Because of my involvement in such a diversified class, I have been accepted in three colleges on the west coast. If it hadn't been for Three Wire Winter, I would have gotten very little encouragement towards my academic future.

Thank you Three Wire Winter



"Three Wire Winter Fever"



# Three Wire Winter's next issue

Eleanor Bliss, a resident of Steamboat Springs, once traveled to Denver on horseback in a blizzard, and was the first woman in the internationally known Explorer's Club, played a vital role in getting the Arts and Humanities Council started in Steamboat Springs, along with many, many other accomplishments. Read all about her life in our next issue of Three Wire Winter.

by Lana Webb

Mr. Guy Bennett, a resident of Steamboat for over 20 years, tells of his life, his worm business, and days in Oak Creek in the coal mines. Although it is a good deal over 25 years old, Mr. Bennett still drives his Model A car, which is kept in tip-top shape. He starts his story as the son of a blacksmith in Kentucky and works his way toward Colorado.

By Cindy Sandelin

Si Lockhart was born in 1901. He's lived in Steamboat Springs since 1935. Si starts his story back in the horse and buggy days, and tells of his love for horses, and how he got his work done using them. At 77, his optimism for the future is boundless. "I have a fondness for the old days, but I know the future is great. There's an opportunity around every corner today. I've had a long life that I appreciate. I have made it, and I know everyone who studies and learns new things, that there will always be work for those who know how."

By Jill Lockhart

Maude Compestine :

In this story you can read about Maude's life, and how he went to work in the coal mines at the age of 11. His father was a sharecropper and a coal miner. Maude moved here from Iowa to take over the "Milner Mart." Though he's been through some hard times, he still has a good word for boxing matches, street dances, and the Milner Dance Hall, which he helped build.

By Luke Tellier

Horseshoeing is a trade that has been done for years and will keep on going as long as the horse is around. A few of the things I will cover is how some of the blacksmiths got started, and the problems they ran into. Find out about the equipment used, and how the methods have changed.

By Ron Snowden

Did you know that a brand can range anywhere from \$2.50 to \$1400.00? Branding has been around for many years with very few changes. We will tell how it's done and many stories about the Good Ol' Days. Included is a story about Ray Pederson, the brand inspector, and why the law requires brand inspecting.

By Guy Stees and Debi Davidson

"Tradition-Windows of the Past" is an upcoming story about the 65 years of Winter Carnival. It shows the people and how they work for the annual festivities, a brief look at the street events, and night show. Pick up the next issue, and relive the events of the three-day festival in Ski Town, U.S.A.

By Karen Chesler



George and Francis Wheeler live on the Lazy L Ranch, just off the Elk River road. In our next issue, they will tell of their experiences in Steamboat, and of the way things used to be.

By Terry Groblebe

Traveling by covered wagons, getting scarlet fever, being part of Steamboat's "Dirty Dozen", walking to school at 54 degrees below zero, and working on the Panama Canal is just part of the life of a long time Steamboat resident, Bob Swinehart.

By Jolene Stetson