



The Miner's Pick

Raton, New Mexico

March 2008

WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION!

Everyone (no exceptions) must sign the Waiver of Liability form to enter Dawson! This means each person must sign a separate form. If under 18 years of age, that person must sign a form AND the parent or guardian must also sign the same form. All signatures must be legible.

This takes time, and your patience is required, but we have to comply and do it correctly.

We have made plans to speed up the process by having extra people on the gate for this purpose. There may still be short delays, so please understand and accept this situation.

CLEANUP DAY!

We will be in Dawson at 8:00 a.m. on the Friday before the Picnic (August 29, 2008) to do some cleanup work at the cemetery and at the picnic site. We will welcome anyone who wishes to help with this work---it's important!

SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL...

We have changed the place to have our Social. We have arranged to have this event at the Holiday Classic Hotel on the Clayton Highway in Raton. This will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Parking will be much better than prior years and the party room is ample to accommodate our group. (Consider staying at this hotel as it will be convenient. This Social has become a very popular get-together over the years. If you haven't been attending, you are really missing out! It always seems easier to find an old friend in this more confined space than it is on the picnic grounds in Dawson. Dress up or dress down and enjoy an evening of wonderful memories with your old friends. See all of you there.

DANCE ANYONE?

Some of our Dawson group has arranged to have a dance, also at the Holiday Classic Hotel, from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Tickets will be on sale during the social for \$8.00 per person. Net proceeds from the dance will be donated for the Dawson Cemetery and improvement projects.

DAWSON MEMORY QUILT RAFFLE

Vivien Andrews has made a quilt which has photos of Dawson scenes and buildings. The photos are actually printed on the fabric. The pictures are framed with the colors red and black—the high school colors of Dawson. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Need not be present to win. Drawing will be held at the reunion. Tickets can be ordered by mail. Send checks to:

Vivien Andrews – Ph. (575) 376-2955
425 W. 19th Street
Cimarron, NM 87714

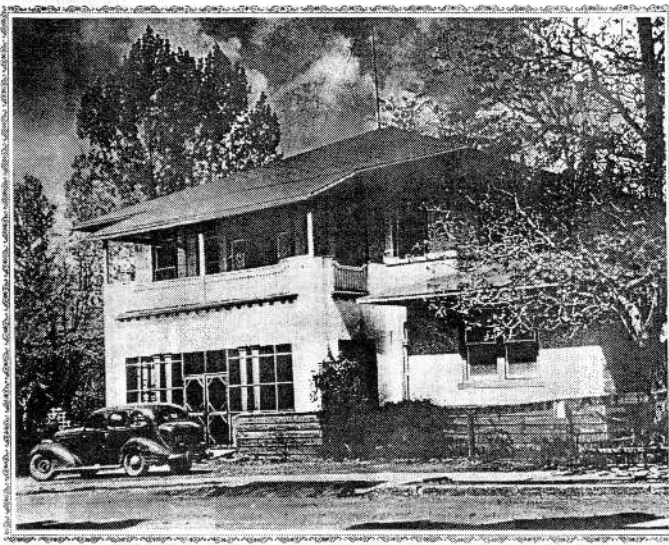
Tickets will also be sold at our social in Raton on Saturday night. Proceeds will be donated to the Dawson Cemetery project.

DAWSON ASSOCIATION WEB SITE

The Dawson Association has wanted to develop a web site where friends of the Dawson Reunion can post their old stories and recollections of the days when Dawson, NM, was one of the busiest coal mining towns in the southwest. Although many old Dawson photos have been placed on various web sites in the past, there has never been one repository on the web where someone could share their stories and old photos so that everyone who had access to the web could see them on one location. The Dawson Association has also wanted to be able to post their announcements and newsletters (Miner's Pick) for everyone to access on a regular basis and to download to their own personal computers. Chuck Speed of Amarillo, TX, whose wife's ancestors (Mattivi and Merlo) once worked at the Dawson mines, has been working on developing a temporary web site to see if there might be enough interest to post Dawson Reunion and Dawson Association information. That web site is located at:

http://chuckspeed.com/Dawson_Association/index.html

If you would like to have your family stories and photos added to this web site, e-mail them to Anna Salvo Weybrew at sjweyaw@msn.com; or Joe Bacca at baccaj2000@msn.com. They will send them to Chuck so they may be added to our site. Chuck's e-mail address is: speedo@chuckspeed.com and telephone: 806-359-9177. If you have any questions about this new web site project, give him a call or e-mail him.



DAWSON HOSPITAL & DISPENSARY

Phelps Dodge Corp. provided Dawson with a modern hospital built in 1906 having 32 beds, professional nurses, and qualified doctors. Next to the hospital was a dispensary building (pharmacy) which also housed the dental offices, the town engineering department and an office (seldom used) for the Justice of the Peace. A "socialized medicine program" at a cost per family of \$2 or \$3 per month was provided for everyone. This included complete medical and dental care and medicine. Old timers will remember Dr. Diver and Doc Hart (affectionately called Peanuts). Dentists were Dr. Hoover and Dr. Saul. Let's not forget nurses, Miss Anderson and, of course, Flora Peppin. (A Raton Museum photo)

TRIBUTE TO RETIRED DAWSON REUNION PICNIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

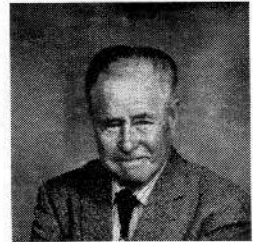
CHARLES (BUMPS) BUTTRAM: Bumps was born in Dawson in 1924 and graduated from Dawson High School in 1941. He served in World War II in the Coast Guard from 1943 to 1946 when he returned to Dawson. He married Lorraine Caldarelli in 1946. They live in Raton and have been married for 62 years. Bumps was a plumbing and heating contractor and retired in 1988. He is a prominent citizen in Raton and served as Mayor Pro Tem; the Raton Public Service Board; Raton City Commission and Exalted Ruler of the Elks. Bumps is retiring from the Picnic Committee after serving for the last 10 picnics.

CAROL McCLARY MYERS: Carol's family moved to Dawson in 1918. Carol was born in Dawson in 1928 and graduated from Dawson High School in 1946. Carol's mother taught school in Dawson until 1925. Her aunt, Hannah McGarvey, also taught in Dawson until the town closed in 1950 and then in Raton—a teaching

career of 45 years. In Albuquerque, Carol and her husband Dwight had careers associated with books. They were the authors and publishers for 30 years of a newsletter called "Book Talk". Carol also worked for the University of New Mexico Press. She retired from this position in 1989. We need to remember Carol's contribution to the "Coal Town" book. She and her husband, Dwight Myers, gave impetus to this work and were involved as consultants in the actual production and publishing of this volume. Carol did the layout, furnished most of the photos from her own collection and typed up 100% of the book. THANKS CAROL! Carol has been on the Picnic Committee since 1988.

JERRY SCANLON: Jerry was born in the Dawson Hospital in 1931. He graduated from Dawson High in 1949. The Scanlon family moved to Dawson in 1917. Jerry was the last of 10 children in this family and all 10 graduated from Dawson High School from 1926 to 1949. Jerry became a CPA and had an office in Albuquerque for 35 years and retired in 1998. Jerry and his wife Mari have been married for 52 years and raised seven children. He has served on the Picnic Committee for the last 10 picnics.

BILL (POODLE) HANCOCK: Poodle was born in Dawson in 1917 and graduated from Dawson High School in 1936. He served on the Dawson Picnic Committee from 1981 until 2007. Poodle worked as an electrician in Dawson, and ran the movie projector at the "Opera House" until the town closed in 1950. He also worked for Phelps Dodge in Arizona from 1950 to 1981 when he retired and moved to Ute Park. Poodle loved his memories of Dawson and was a most important, long time member of the Picnic Committee. Poodle died in the Miners' Hospital in Raton in 2007.



EVA MARY (SMOCK) SCOTT: Eva Mary was born in Dawson in 1921 and graduated from Dawson High School in 1939. She married Earl Scott, the son of Dawson's barber (also Earl Scott, Sr.) and they had 3 children. She worked for Phelps Dodge Mercantile Co. in the "Company Store" for several years. Eva and Joe Scanlon were founders of our



Picnic Committee in the 1970's, and she was the guiding light for this group for many years. She loved this work and her fond memories of her life in Dawson. She is in an assisted living facility in La Junta, Colorado, where her daughter Karen looks after her.