

The Hotel Register

The Newsletter for the Historic Hotel de Paris Museum in Georgetown, Colorado/Spring, 2011

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57th Season Opens with Fresh Exhibits and New Amenities

by Holly Buchan



Sample Room I now "This Little Souvenir" Museum Shop

shelves again full of authentic bottled and canned goods from the turn of the 19th century, The massive furnace appears to be in use, and the workbench-area opposite, displays repair projects in progress.

For people seeking a lovely place to read, compute or enjoy their sack lunch, the courtyards will be open to the public free of charge during business hours. WiFi access will be available. Entry through the Lion's Gate leads behind the building to the west courtyard where we have chairs and tables with umbrellas amongst the Harison's yellow roses. A garden of herbs will be re-planted this year outside the kitchen where it was once located. Interpretive signage explains the historic uses of these once rugged staging areas, now places of pleasure and reflection.

In the public rooms, previous visitors will find changes as well. Some pieces of furniture and artwork have been moved to locations better reflecting the 1901 inventory. Come and see if you can tell what has changed.

Perhaps the most noticeable change is that there are fewer velvet ropes separating the viewer from the exhibits. We know that the Hotel de Paris is unique in its power to transport you back to the 1890s. The atmosphere and furnishings are even more evocative when you can move freely about. Security of the collection is maintained by the presence of the tour guide and the enhanced appreciation for the objects that the tour emphasizes. We believe people take care of the things they value, and if we can successfully excite visitors about this place, its history and the work of preservation, they will behave accordingly.

The Hotel Register Editor and Designer, Barbara Kelly

(Cont'd on page three)

*The Hotel de Paris Museum is owned and maintained by
The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the State of Colorado*

Director's Digressions

Now that the snow has receded and Steller's Jays and other birds are again foraging in Georgetown, I am excited that the Hotel de Paris Museum will open daily in June.

Those of you who know me understand how much I value tourists and other visitors. I do not subscribe to the thought that tourist season should include hunting permits. Our seasonal schedule was a test for me, as I have worked with properties open every day of the year and enjoyed knowing our efforts at those historic sites were appreciated daily.

I understand the practical reasons for Hotel de Paris Museum being closed during a Rocky Mountain winter, as there were nights of -24 degrees Fahrenheit and winds that could knock a person to the ground. Yet, I did not want to lose the momentum we created for the museum last year. Instead of hibernating like so much of our local wildlife, winter for me was not a time of rest but a time for work.

While surrounded by heaters and at times working in a coat and gloves at my computer, I "plowed" into plans for 2011. I successfully submitted grant applications focusing on conservation projects, scheduled visits for tour companies, hosted groups of VIPs, formed partnerships with local businesses and expanded our presence on the internet through the use of social media and other venues. At this time, we are involved in every social media site recommended by the Colorado Wyoming Association of Museums.

I recognize the power of exposure, and our profiles on many free sites (MuseumsUSA.org, VirtualTour.com, etc.) not only keep our mission before the public, but also help fill the gap for our visitors during our winter season when our doors are closed. At a National Trust site directors' meeting I recently attended in Tarrytown, NY, my peers observed that our web presence may have more importance than at other National Trust sites due to our seasonal schedule and our semi-isolated location. It was then I began to realize we are not really closed at all; indeed, we are offering new and improved opportunities for people (in-person and remotely) to appreciate our museum daily.

In addition to our work to spread the word of our mission on-line, we will also be open 22 more days in 2011 than in 2010. Another expansion of hours will take place during the summer tour season, when we will open earlier and close later. These additional opportunities for the public to visit the site will accomplish another goal for us: serving as a catalyst for heritage tourism in Georgetown, thereby helping other local institutions and businesses in their quest for more customers.

Programming of our town is not too different than the programming I've established for our historic site. At Hotel de Paris Museum, I triangulate an experience using place, imagery and experience. I believe a triangulation of private and public organizations providing souvenirs and foods that reflect our local stories is what visitors to Georgetown seek, and I am proud Hotel de Paris Museum is taking responsibility for its role in the community.

Thanks to the Steller's Jay outside my window, I feel I can begin packing away my winter clothing. And perhaps more exciting than that seasonal rite, I will now begin watching for this year's flocks of tourists.

Kevin Kuharic,
Director



New Tour Times

In May: Weekends only. Thirty-minute tours are given every 45 minutes and start at 10:15 am on Saturday and 12:15 p.m. on Sunday through 5:00 pm.

From June Thru September, thirty-minute tours are given daily every 45 minutes starting at 9:15 a.m. and ending at 5:30 p.m. during the week. On Sunday, tours start at 12:15 a.m. and finish at 5:00 p.m.

Hotel de Paris, An Enduring Brand

by Holly Buchan



When Louis Dupuy opened his new hotel and restaurant in booming Georgetown, the name he chose was not an original one. He did not name it after himself or in reference to the local area, as many other establishments had. The name implied a destination beyond the typical. It suggested luxury, sophistication, and *au courant* amenities foreign to the new town. “In this land of gold and silver, we should live like princes. We should have a great hostelry and the best of wines. While we cannot have the masterpieces of Michelangelo and Cellini, we can at least have the reproductions,” stated Louis Dupuy.

Although our Hotel de Paris is unique, the brand it bears is one shared by many around the world. Some are still in operation and located in diverse places such as Le Mans, Benares, Portugal, San Remo, Greece, Spain, Denver and even Tijuana! Of course they are all referencing the legendary Hotel de Paris de Monte Carlo.



Built in 1863 by Charles III of Monaco, the enormous building resides on the Golden Square of the Place du Casino in the heart of the principality on the French Riviera. Appointed in the finest furnishings and fixtures of the time, it was built to set the standard for excellence. Indeed it has succeeded. The wine cellar is the largest



in the world and the restaurants within are five star. The hotel boasts 106 rooms and 74 suites divided into groups based on the view, décor, and level of luxury. Rates presently run between \$540.00 to \$3,697.00 per night.

While trolling the internet for postings about our museum, we ran across one which mistakenly paired our location with a photo from Monte Carlo. Very flattering. If only we could also get the \$540.00 per person to visit!



Fresh Exhibits and New Amenities

(Cont'd from Page One)

The tour content this season will be focused on more than the story of Louis Dupuy. The public was fascinated by the restoration work conducted last year. Clearly, TV shows like “This Old House” have fostered an educated audience hungry to know how historic buildings are restored and conserved. It is valuable to point out examples of the excellent attention the Hotel and collection have received over the years along side examples of those yet to be restored.

In order to allow tourists to plan their day and visit as many local attractions as possible, we will conduct guided tours on a timed schedule. In this way, one can also plan to ride the train, tour other museums and shop and dine while in Georgetown.

Aficionados are familiar with Louis Dupuy’s famous speech in which he lovingly refers to the Hotel as his “...little souvenir of Alencon.” Our expanded museum shop now bears the name “This Little Souvenir” Museum Shop. It will stock not only familiar items but also carry unique products inspired by objects in the collection and decorative motifs found throughout the property. Entry into the museum will continue to be through the front door into Sample Room One, which historically served as a retail space for the drummers (traveling salesmen) who dominated the guest register through the turn of the century.

Whether you are an old friend of the Hotel de Paris Museum or a new acquaintance, there is plenty in-store this season to inspire your imagination. Come visit us again!

Chairwoman's Report: An Update

Although the continuous mountain snows belie the fact, spring is indeed in the air. This is shown quite concretely by the flurry of planning, changes and new offerings at the Hotel de Paris Museum.



This year we opened to the public on Saturday, April 30, with extended summer hours and a longer tour season. We are open just on weekends in May, but in June - September we will open daily. This schedule change is due, in part, to the increased number of tourists in Georgetown at those times, plus a closer cooperative relationship with the Georgetown Loop Railroad. In addition, we will offer \$1 off each admission price with a train ticket stub and partner with the Railroad on special events in the Hotel dining room. Finally, the public will have free internet access and seating in the newly renovated courtyards.

You will find in this newsletter a listing of the Hotel's planned events for this season. We will have an enjoyable and interesting time in early June in the Alvarado Cemetery, with a tour and historical lecture, along with a "Luncheon with Louis" at his grave site on June 11. Also on June 17, the "Ride the Rockies" event will be in Georgetown. So with the increase in visitors, our tours will be self-guided. As usual we will be celebrating Bastille Day on July 14, with delicious food, plentiful drink and an exciting silent auction. On October 1 we will hold our first annual "Spirit of..." event: A Centennial Wedding Reception in memory of Hazel McAdams, the Hotel's last private owner. As usual we will open the first two weekends in December for the Georgetown Christmas Market.

Of special interest is our sale of Harison's yellow roses, like those yellow ones growing in the Hotel courtyards which, they once said, were the "miners' wives' gold." There is information on how to order these roses on page five in this newsletter. Now these beautiful flowers can become part of your own gardens.

Finally, we are just starting to gear up for *Colorado Gives Day*, to be held once again on a single day the first part of December. Last year's event was unbelievably successful, raising more than \$8.4 million by some 539 participating organizations. The Hotel's share, including the prorated matching funds, was almost \$16,000. We hope to surpass this amount in 2011 and increase participation.

As always, we so very much appreciate your participation and interest in the Hotel. Do come and visit us this summer. Kick off your shoes, soak up the sunshine and enjoy the stupendous mountain views from our courtyard. Later, perhaps, you might like to step inside and take in "a little souvenir of France".

Polly Flobeck, Chairman

Museum Blog Features Oddities

A new web log or blog called "Odd Hostelry: Odd Host" focuses on little-known facts about Hotel de Paris Museum's collection of over 5,000 original artifacts. The title of the blog was influenced by *The Illustrated American* magazine, which in 1898 called Louis Dupuy and his inn "the oddest host and hostelry in America."

"A Hermit's Hospitable Home" (December 2010) discusses Dupuy's showmanship and promotional skills; "Dupuy Promoted Use of Art Reproductions" (January 2011) examines the museum's small collection of English Parian-ware and related photography; and "All That Glitters Is Not Necessarily Gold" (March 2011) highlights the hotel's outdoor statuary by J. L. Mott Iron Works.

In addition to informative articles, the blog features a slide show of interior and exterior images by Synergy Photographics, as well as tools to help researchers find more information about Hotel de Paris Museum. The blog may be found at hoteldeparis.blogspot.com.

100 ANTIQUE ROSES FOR SALE



**EVERY SUMMER SINCE 1872,
THESE YELLOW ROSES HAVE
BLOOMED IN THE ROCKIES.**

Harison's (or Harrison's) Yellow roses are rated "excellent." Bright yellow flowers are cupped and semi-double. Blooms are long-lasting, showy, and edible. Shrubs are approximately 6' by 4' and have small fern-like leaves, which are deer tolerant. These roses do best in sun to full sun.

Reserve your potted 5-gallon roses for \$25 + \$1.75 tax each. Proceeds help support Hotel de Paris Museum.

Plant Pick Up

- ▶ Saturday, July 23 (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)
- ▶ Sunday, July 24 (12 p.m. – 3 p.m.)
- ▶ Hotel de Paris Museum, 409 6th Street, Georgetown, CO
- ▶ With tax, 5-gallon roses are \$26.75 each
- ▶ Pre-orders only
- ▶ Please send checks to Hotel de Paris Museum, PO BOX 746, Georgetown, CO 80444-0746
- ▶ Master Card or Visa payments may be made by calling the Hotel de Paris Museum office at (303)569-2311
- ▶ Unclaimed plants will be considered a donation to Hotel de Paris Museum

Calendar 2011

April 30th	Tour Season Begins: weekends only in May; Daily, June - September.
June 11th 10:30 a.m.	Luncheon With Louis: Cemetery Arts Lecture with Dr. Annette Stott, Professor of Art History, University of Denver, and Chris Bradley, Archivist of Clear Creek County. Tour of Cemetery and Box Lunch by Louis' Grave. Details to follow.
June 17th	Ride the Rockies: Annual Bicycle Tour. Come see our booth in Strousse Park.
July 14th 4 p.m.- 6 p.m.	55th Annual Bastille Day Celebration at the Hotel de Paris. Silent Auction, reception, cash bar. Pre-auction bidding through Blacktie Colorado.
October 1st	Special Event: Spirit of 1911: A Centennial Wedding Reception
December 3-4, 10-11	51st Annual Georgetown Christmas Market



SPRING WISH LIST

- 3 dozen bags of manure for courtyards
- 4 dozen 1-gallon pots of Columbines, Delphiniums, Larkspur, Dianthus for courtyards
- 6 flats of Violas for courtyards
- 6 dwarf crabapple trees for parking lot
- 3 Par-A-Sol hummingbird feeders
- 5 Costco 3'x5' dark gray indoor door-mats for museum and annex
- Acrylic risers for museum shop
- Indoor concrete floor paint (brown) for annex
- Roman shades for office windows
- Impruneta terra cotta pots for courtyards
- 4 dozen fluorescent light bulbs for fixtures in annex
- 2 portable folding cane seats for visitors



Thank you to the relatives of Kate and Mary Frantz for this hilarious photo of teenagers having fun in Sample Room Two in approximately 1910. Kate and Mary came to the Silver Plume/Georgetown area with their family from Eastern Europe, seeking opportunity. They subsequently came to live with the Burkholder family here in the Hotel de Paris. Pictured clockwise are Kate Frantz, unknown man, unknown man, Ned Burkholder, unknown man, unknown woman, Dorothy Allen, and Hazel Burkholder.

Donors to Colorado Gives Day

The first Colorado Gives Day on December 8, 2010 was a great success for the Hotel de Paris Museum. Over 100 donors made contributions totaling more than \$15,000 toward the work of the museum. We offer our sincere thanks to each donor who participated. The recognitions extended to those listed in this publication is one of the small ways we say “thank you” to our supporters. Every effort has been made to ensure this list is accurate. If your name has been omitted, misspelled or misplaced, we sincerely apologize. Please contact us with any questions or corrections.

LOUIS DUPUY PATRON

(\$501-\$1,000)

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Pam Mathews
Constance Primus
Alice Dodge Wallace

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(up to \$25)

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Dana Crawford
Katherine Dines
M.M. Elliott
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*Mission Statement: Hotel de Paris
To collect, preserve and share history associated with Louis Dupuy's Hotel de Paris and serve as a catalyst
for heritage tourism in Georgetown, Colorado.*

The National Society of The Colonial Dames
of America in the State of Colorado

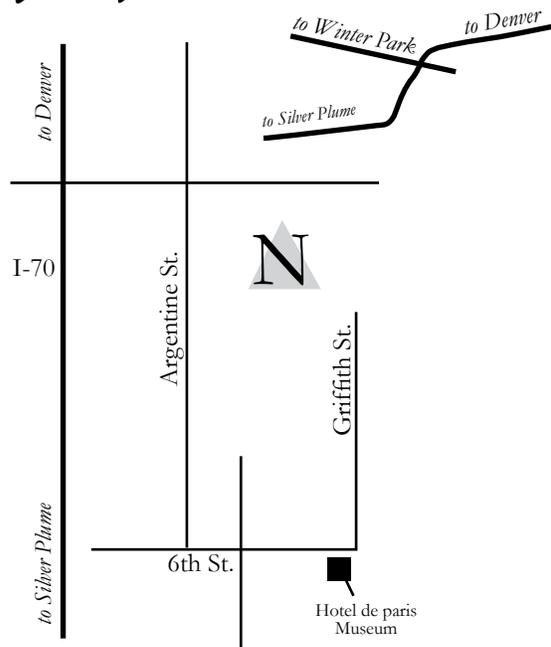


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