

## HISTORIC MATERIAL SAVED AT THUNDERBIRD LODGE AS LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY CLOSES

*Thunderbird Lake Tahoe acquires the assets and educational programs of the Incline Village-Crystal Bay Historical Society.*

**Incline Village Lake Tahoe, NV. February 27, 2017** – Incline Village-Crystal Bay Historical Society has conveyed its assets, programs and exhibits to Thunderbird Lake Tahoe. The Historical Society is a Nevada non-profit corporation, having a mission to preserve and interpret the history of Incline Village and Crystal Bay. The Historical Society ceased operations on December 31, 2016.

“We could not have chosen a more perfect organization in which to entrust our valuable collections. Thunderbird Lake Tahoe has the considerable support from the Lake Tahoe community needed to protect the historic material and carry our mission forward,” said Richard Miner, President of the Incline Village-Crystal Bay Historical Society. “Having a rich history of its own paired with similar goals made the decision to tap Thunderbird easy for us.”

With its growing collection of historic material from throughout the region, Thunderbird is repositioning itself as the de facto museum of Lake Tahoe’s art and history. Thunderbird is also constructing one of the first digital museums to share its vast material with researchers and the public on-line.

“We’ve put significant time and energy into preserving Lake Tahoe documents, maps, film, artifacts, and images,” said Bill Watson, Curator of Thunderbird. “With the help of our members and supporters, we have saved the beautiful Thunderbird Lodge and *Thunderbird* Yacht and we are doing the same with art and artifacts that will tell the story of this amazing Lake Tahoe region for generations to come.”

The small museum operated by the Historical Society adjacent to Starbucks in Incline Village is now closed. This summer, Thunderbird will reopen that exhibit featuring items from the Bonanza TV show at the Incline Village-Crystal Bay Visitors Center at 969 Tahoe Blvd in Incline Village. A public opening reception for the history exhibit will be announced at a later date.

(continued)

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Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society (d.b.a. Thunderbird Lake Tahoe) inspires appreciation and understanding of Lake Tahoe's cultural heritage through preservation of regional treasures including the George Whittell Estate National Historic Site, Thunderbird Lodge, and *Thunderbird* yacht. Built in 1936 by the late San Francisco capitalist Captain George Whittell Jr., Thunderbird Lodge is Lake Tahoe's Castle-in-the-Sky and open by appointment for public, private, and group tours. In addition to community education and conservation programs, the George Whittell Estate hosts summertime wine and food festivals, weddings and family events, executive and corporate functions, and is home to the Castle Preservation Club, an elite group of preservation-minded families, foundations, businesses dedicated to saving Lake Tahoe's art, history, and environment. Thunderbird Lake Tahoe is a Nevada non-profit corporation having IRS 501(c)(3) status as a public charity. PO Box 6812, Incline Village, Nevada 89451. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by Law. IRS Tax Id 88-0434866.

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