March 2013 Volume 11, Issue 2

# PIKE IS COMING!!

PROGRAM IN MARCH – ZEBULON PIKE AND HIS WIFE WILL BE HERE. . . . ARTIFACTS – STORIES – INTERACTIVE AND INFORMATIVE



#### **FAMILY FACTS:**

Zebulon M. Pike married Clarissa Harlow Brown in 1801. They had one child who survived to adulthood, a daughter. Clarissa Brown Pike married John Cleves Symmes Harrison, a son of President William Henry Harrison. Zebulon died without a son, so left no male descendants.



## Legacy Trunk Program

The Legacy Trunk Program is offered by the Southeastern Colorado Heritage Center and Museum in Pueblo. All trunks meet state history standards and can be adapted to class time schedules. The Zebulon Pike trunk is appropriate for grades 3 and up, and adult audiences. The presenters, Doug (Zebulon Pike) and Jeannie Baxter (Clarissa Pike) dress in time period clothing made by Mrs. Baxter. Students will learn about Pike's life as a soldier and explorer, as well as his mission and journey to explore the southeast part of the Louisiana Purchase, including Colorado. For a taste of the everyday life of a soldier/explorer in 1806 and the essentials needed on the trail, students have the opportunity to examine and handle many replicated artifacts of essentials that would have been used in the time period of Pike's journey. A few of these artifacts include a brass telescope, a wooden canteen, brick tea, a mouth harp, fire starting tools, and a writing kit. They will also have the opportunity to sample hard tack (a staple food of the time). Presentations take 45 to 60 minutes, depending on class size.

## FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Zeb & Clarissa Pike

PROGRAM MARCH 17, 2013

801 Sheridan Avenue Canon City, Colorado 2:00 pm

Refreshments furnished -Public Welcome

## NEWSLETTER

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### FREMONT COUNTY HISTORY - CLAIM CLUBS - 1860

[1] Many times members of the local claim club became government officials and, later, territorial officers. Anson Rudd, of Canon City, is a good example of the transition from claim club to legal official. [2] One major problem faced by what was then called "Pike's Peak" was that this place represented the western-most part of Kansas Territory. Administration lines extended hundreds of miles over unsettled plains and, clearly, miners of the Rockies did what was necessary for survival. National politics created further tensions. By 1860 the nation was on the verge of civil war. The Kansas-Nebraska controversy made creation of new territories difficult. Further, 25,000 persons were required to create a territory, and, by 1860, with many "go-backers" leaving Pike's Peak, there was considerable question as to whether there were enough souls to create an independent political entity. [3] Election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency in 1860 changed things greatly.

On the eve of Lincoln's inauguration, President James Buchanan, a Democrat, signed a bill that created the State of Kansas, with its western border fixed at the present location. On February 28, 1861, Buchanan also signed legislation that created a territory from what was left of the old Kansas Territory. After considerable wrangling over what the place should be called, including suggestions like Jefferson, Idahoe, Yampa, Arapahoe [sic], Tahosa, Lafayette, Columbus, Franklin, Weapollao, Nemara, Lula, San Juan and Colorado; the latter won and Pike's Peak became Colorado Territory. [4] When President Lincoln came to office, he appointed Colorado's first Territorial Governor, William Gilpin, Gilpin, an old Colorado hand, arrived during a particularly troubled time. Civil War racked the nation, the South seceded, and the country was torn asunder. William Gilpin faced a series of problems ranging from the creation of new counties to suppressing Confederate activities in Colorado. Upon his arrival in May 1861, Gilpin set up his cabinet, and by September of that year the first territorial legislature convened. This body elected Hiram P. Bennett as delegate to Congress, and Colorado Territory was in business. [5]

Gilpin also had a strong interest in the San Luis Valley. From his earlier days of promoting Colorado during the gold rush, Gilpin touted the Valley as a land that held considerable agricultural promise. He proposed a transcontinental railroad that would cross the area while, at the same time, he wrote a guide book that praised the Valley. When Colorado Territory became a reality, the San Luis was taken from New Mexico and included in Colorado. On the east side of the Sangre de Cristos, Fremont, Pueblo, Huerfano, El Paso and Park Counties represented local government. County seats were established at Fairplay, Canon City, Fountain City (Pueblo), San Luis (actually west of the Sangres), and Trinidad. As Colorado settled into its territorial status, Governor Gilpin was faced with not only the Civil War, but increasingly difficult natives on the Eastern Plains. The most immediate matter was war between the states.

Anson Rudd planted an orchard in 1864, with little success. It took until 1867 when W.A. Helm set out apples, pears, apricots and grapes to begin a local fruit industry. Jesse Frazer planted tree near future Florence in 1868, and in 1869 he established the State's first fruit tree nursery. [13] B.F. Rockafellow bought some trees from Frazer and planted the second orchard in Colorado during 1869, \*(the Abbey property, today) proving that the area east of Canon City could be used for fruit growing despite its high altitude.

Excerpted from the Book written in 1878 by Hartwell and Binkley "History of the Upper Arkansas Valley and surrounding communities" Numbers in parenthesis refer to bibliography notes online.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE MEMBERS OF THE FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

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#### **MEMORIAL MEMENTO**

MEMORIAL DONATION IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Charley A. Anson and
Elsie L. Anson
Gone Home
But Not Forgotten

Paid by: Sharon McIsaac

## BEQUEST from THEODORE JAMES

To enhance and further the mission of the Fremont County Historical Society We thank you.

We appreciate any donations to the Society. Please consider a gift to this organization when planning.

#### The Massacre story:

Upon striking, the miners and

their families had been evicted from their company-owned houses and had set up a tent colony on public property. The militia, company men and others shot and burned to death 18 striking miners and their families and one company man. Four women and 11 small children died holding each other under burning tents. Later facts re-vealed that kerosine had intentionally been poured on the tents to set them ablaze. The miners had dug foxholes in the tents so the women and children could avoid the bullets that randomly were shot through the tent colony by company thugs. The women and children were found huddled together at the bottoms of their tents.

# NEW Life members: Robert & Catherine Sounart Doreen Webb Bernie & Sharon Yetter Tim and Julie Payne Shirley Carey



Thank you for your support of the Historical Society!!

## FACTS YOU MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN: MINING DISASTERS - LUDLOW MASSACRE

# Federal mediator Ethelbert Stewart comments on the situation -- October 1913

Theoretically, perhaps, the case of having nothing to do in this world but work, ought to have made these men of many tongues, as happy and contented as the managers claim ... To have a house assigned you to live in ... to have a store furnished you by your employer where you are to buy of him such foodstuffs as he has, at a price he fixes ... to have churches, schools ... and public halls free for you to use for any purpose except to discuss politics, religion, trade-unionism or industrial conditions; in other words, to have everything handed down to you from the top; to be ... prohibited from having any thought, voice or care in anything in life but work, and to be assisted in this by gunmen whose function it was, principally, to see that you did not talk labor conditions with another man who might accidentally know your language -- this was the contented, happy, prosperous condition out of which this strike grew ... That men have rebelled grows out of the fact that they are men.

THIS EVENT WILL BE CELEBRATED AND ADVERTISED ON THE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY APRIL 20, 2013-14

## **NEWSLETTER**

# FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

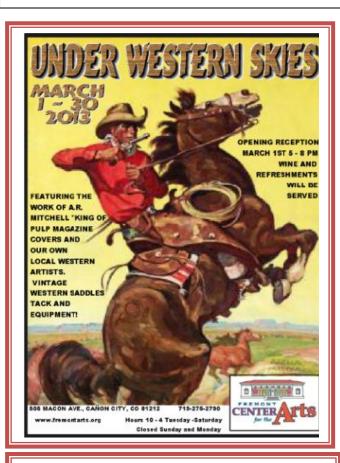
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"I ask, Sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people. To disarm the people is the best and most effectual way to enslave them."

George Mason, 2<sup>st</sup> Amendment co-author during Virginia's convention to ratify the Constitution, 1788.

Firearms are second only to the Constitution in importance; they are the People's Liberty's teeth — George Washington







505 Macon Avenue Cañon City, Colorado 81212 276-2790

April -

Use Your Artistic Talents with Canned Goods and Support Charities with Food Donations CANTASTIC IS COMING.

APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH THE 30<sup>TH</sup>.

Call for more information on these and all other programs.

## DO YOU KNOW A GRADUATING SENIOR?

Scholarships of \$500 are available from the Fremont Historical Society for local seniors headed for a University or College of their choice.

Scholarships are available in 2013. If we don't have more seniors apply, we will likely discontinue our scholarship program. Only one application has been tendered (and approved) to the board in 2011 and 2012.

If you know of a student who would like to apply for this scholarship this year, make sure they see their counselor for details at school

## **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Thank you to all the new members who have joined this year - we are glad you have joined us. Dues cover Jan. 1, 2013 to Jan. 1, 2014.

We always accept donations in any amount, and are very grateful for any Memorial gifts you may wish to give - this is our pledge to you - good programs, historic interest in the landmarks of the County, and scholarship awards that will help some young person attend college.

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Group	
Lifetime	

## **NEWSLETTER**

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## HISTORICAL INFORMATION YOU CAN USE!

PROSPECT HEIGHTS JAIL GRANT FUNDERS:
PITCH IN - IF YOU WANT TO HELP PRESERVE THE
PROSPECT HEIGHTS JAIL!!!



# BROOKSIDE -SPRING CREEK PARK

The Spring Creek Park Project is located in the Town of Brookside south of Canon City, Colorado. The 18.62 acre parcel was purchased by the Town of Brookside in 2006 with the intent of creating a park. The site was the previous location of the historic Brookside Mine and contained numerous coal waste piles as well as several abandoned mine openings. The park is a natural wildlife sanctuary as it is frequented by elk, deer, bear, fox, coyotes, and a variety of birds. The plant growth is predominately native species, well established, and suitable for wildlife observation. Spring Creek runs the length of the park, and is fed by springs from south of the area. The south park boundary lies high on the rocky bluffs, giving a panoramic view of the Sangre de Christo Mountain Range. The master plan for the park included preserving the native flora and the man-made remnants from the mining era, while constructing hiking paths that highlight its natural and historic attributes. The other goal of the project was to involve the community and create a space that would provide access to the natural environment for future generations.

#### **History**

The Town of Brookside, a small town located on the south side of Canon City, was founded in 1888 by the Canon City Coal Company as a community for the Italian miners and their families. Brookside became an incorporated town in 1913 and has persisted in keeping its own identity since then. Many of the descendents of the original mining families still live in the town today and can remember the mine when it was operating. The Brookside Mine was one of the largest mines in the town, and operated from the late 1800's through 1947. Over 2,000,000 tons of coal was extracted from the site during its operation.

In 2006 the Town of Brookside purchased the land containing the Brookside Mine with funds from a natural resource damage settlement. Prior to the purchase, the town approached the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety (CDRMS), Inactive Mines Reclamation Program with a request to address the mining related problems on the site. Concurrently, the town solicited funds for the development of a park from the Department of Natural Resources, in the form of a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant.

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## <u>PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE BUSINESSES – THEY HELP PAY NEWSLETTER COSTS!</u>



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The City of Cañon City is pleased to print the Fremont County Historical Society Newsletter as a contribution to the Society.

Thanks for all you

do to keep the history of Fremont County alive!

Fax: 719-269-3718





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