

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2015 VOLUME 13, ISSUE 4

WEBSITE: fremonthistoricalsociety.com

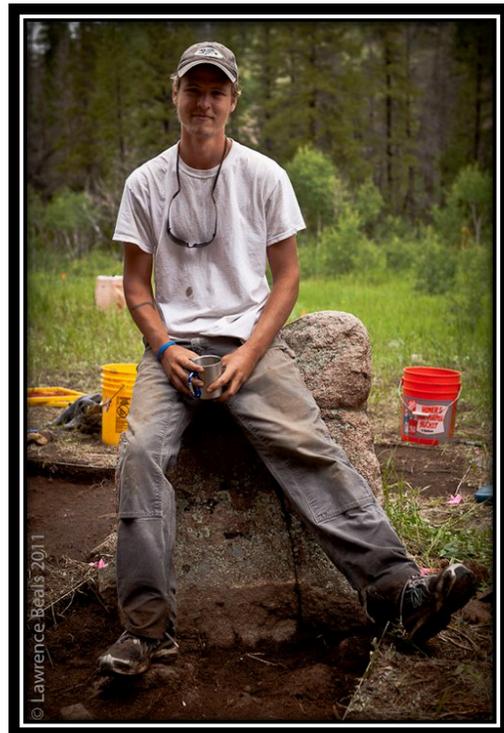
WE ARE ON FACEBOOK, TOO: Fremont County Historical Society - Colorado

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE PROGRAM ON
JULY 19, 2015 @ 2:00 p.m.**

MORE INDIANS, INDIANS AND:
Hearths and cooking pits are a focal point for the organization of prehistoric hunter-gatherer activities, and can reveal a wealth of information regarding past subsistence, settlement, chronology, and technology. Please join us for a discussion of prehistoric cooking practices in Colorado, and the way in which patterns in cooking technology can help us understand past cultural and environmental adaptations. The presentation will discuss patterns in cooking technology from northern and southern Colorado and include over 300 radiocarbon-dated hearth features dating between 150 and 10,000 years old.

Continued on page 2

**OUR PRESENTER FOR JULY IS:
BLM Archaeologist, Mike Troyer
Hearths and Cooking Pits**



IN THIS ISSUE:

PAGE 1: Mike Troyer, the FCHS program for July 19, 2015

PAGE 2: Membership; MAJOR supporters; Ride the Rockies pictures

PAGE 3: Western Fremont Historical Society event; Cañon City Geology Club; Cara Fisher; National Day of the American Cowboy

PAGE 4: Bents Fort Stockade; Board members; Museum Book Sale

PAGE 5: Captain John B. Russell

PAGE 6: OUR ADVERTISERS: They help us mail your newsletter - please support our local businesses.

**PROGRAM JULY 19 -
SUNDAY**

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran
Church,**

**801 Sheridan Avenue,
Cañon City**

**2:00 p.m. - Public Welcome
Refreshments served**

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FREMONTHISTORICALSOCIETY.COM

facebook: Fremont County Historical Society - Colorado



The hardest working crew at the Ride the Rockies fund raiser, in conjunction with Pizza Madness and the best Garlic Roasted Chicken Pasta we ever ate!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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 \$25.00
- Lifetime \$150.00

Please send your email address with your membership check in the envelope, or contact Pat Nelson email: pat@econstrategy.net
Fremont County Historical Society
P.O. Box 965, Cañon City, CO 81215

FROM PAGE 1 – OUR PRESENTER:

Michael Troyer was born and raised in Pueblo, Colorado. He attended Colorado State University and was awarded a Bachelor's degree in Cultural Anthropology in 2007 and a Master's degree in Archaeology in 2013. He has been doing archaeology in Colorado since 2009 and presently works as an archaeologist for the Bureau of Land Management - Royal Gorge Field Office. His research interests include hunter-gatherer subsistence, lithic technology, settlement and mobility patterns, paleoclimate, and behavioral and cultural evolution.



Major Contributors to the FCHS:



**Cripple Creek & Victor
Gold Mining Company**
www.ccvgoldmine.com



Pizza Madness helped us achieve a major goal in our fundraising in 2015. Beth Katchmar - Thank you so much and we hope to partner with you again in the future.

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

WESTERN FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS:

PROGRAMS - SAVE THE DATES: This year programs will put the spotlight on 4 different areas of western Fremont County. These programs are all still in the planning phases and flyers for the first program will be distributed soon.

- July 11 - a program held in the Cotopaxi school, about the “Outlaws, Desperados and Shysters” of the Cotopaxi area culminating in a visit to the Cotopaxi Cemetery.
- August 22 - a program in Coaldale conducted at several historical sites on Hayden Creek Road - including the Julius Parker Homestead, Coaldale Cemetery, charcoal kilns, and the Coaldale Community Building; perhaps some tales about Hayden Creek Pass Road, Barnes City, and the TB Camp.
- October 3 - a program for the Fremont Fall Heritage Festival focusing on Wellsville history.
- October 4 - a program for the Fremont Fall Heritage Festival focusing on historic Howard.

Canon City Geology Club
Affiliate of the Historical Society
Program lineup for 2015

The Geology Club is taking the summer (July and August) off to do some serious Rockhounding, and they will be having their next member meeting in September. See you then:

2nd Monday of the month
United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
9th and Main Street
Cañon City, Colorado

Cara Fisher honored by a brass plate on the Distinguished Fremont County Citizens plaque in the Admin. Bldg.



Marv Chamberlain, Marv Donahue, Carol McNew



The National Day of the American Cowboy July 25, 2015
Celebrating at the Royal Gorge Regional Museum 1:00 p.m.

Bunk House Burgers is a locally owned, family partnership that is proud of its ranching history. The Chess Shoemaker ranch began as a homestead in 1899 in Garden Park located north of Canon City. This working ranch has remained in the family for four generations!
**COME HEAR THE STORY OF "FROM GRASS TO BEEF"
THE REAL COWBOY SAGA OF THE INDUSTRY THAT
MADE THE COWBOY THE HERO WE KNOW.**

**1:00 P.M. SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2015
MUSEUM EVENT ROOM.**

THE ORIGINAL BENT'S FORT - STOCKADE WAS IN FREMONT COUNTY

Charles and William Bent were looking for a place to trade with the Indians, and be close by the trappers and hunters who frequented the Arkansas River foothills and prairies.

They settled upon a stretch of land marked by the landmark "Saddlehorn Mountain", which is adjacent to three different streams in Fremont County and Pueblo County's north boundaries. Turkey Creek was one of those streams providing water and pasture for the animals that were kept near or in the Stockade.

The area is now the Fort Carson Military property, and used for training. It is inaccessible for the casual visitor or even the researcher, since there is little there except a few posts, and deep wagon ruts which mark the entrance into the Fort.

We have always considered "Bent's Fort" to refer to the reconstructed building at Las Animas which we have visited many times, and admired the effort to re-create the buildings exactly as they once were from drawings and essays that were written at the time of their existence.

Did you know that Fremont County was the original site for a 'Bent's Fort'? The entire story is available in a book written by Robert L. Brown, "*Jeep Trails to Colorado Ghost Towns*".

FCHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Helene Blake	Cindy Smith
Mary Chamberlain	Margaret Storm
Beverly Harris	Gloria Stultz
Kit Kederich	Christina Taylor
Larry Linscott	Carol McNew
Pat Nelson	

We are always open to your input. The bylaws will be updated in the next two months, as well as committee assignments. Please volunteer for program help (refreshments, set-up) if you have time.

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 for Fremont County History!



FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM AND HISTORY CENTER INVITE YOU:

BOOK SALE BOOK SALE

The museum has received some wonderful estate items in the last year, we are so grateful for the donations people want to make to our history.

However, there are some items we already have (duplicates) and some items which do not relate to Fremont County in any meaningful way – therefore:

The Book Sale will be ongoing in the Event Room for the next two months (or until all are sold). This is a donation only price list; however, we do expect you to pay a fair price for books that you choose. (Some books are \$200.00 bargains, be generous.)

Please come in and see the selection now, while it is still fairly large. You can browse at your leisure and determine your cost and pay one of the staff as you leave.

CAPTAIN JOHN B. RUSSELL

1868 – 1913

John Brown Russell was probably born in Arkansas in 1868, one of thirteen children born to Joseph Allen Russell and Mary Caroline Brown Russell. John, with his parents and siblings, appears in Texas on the 1880 federal census.

Russell was a night captain of the guards at the Colorado State Penitentiary in Cañon City at the time of his tragic death. He was a close friend of Warden T. J. Tynan and had joined Warden Tynan's staff in 1909, after serving 14 years as town marshal in Lamar, Colorado.

Captain Russell was killed in the line of duty on June 12, 1913, in an attempt to recapture an escaped convict, Conley Baldwin. Baldwin had escaped from the penitentiary on November 15, 1912, and had eluded law enforcement for several months.

When news reached Warden Tynan that Conley Baldwin had returned to Huerfano County, he assigned Captain Russell to recapture him. Captain Russell arrived in La Veta at about 3:00 a.m. on June 12th. Three men met him at the train to assist him. At the Conley Baldwin home, Captain Russell and Huerfano County Deputy Harriman entered the house with guns drawn. Deputy Harriman poked the barrel of his rifle between the heavy curtains which separated the two rooms of the cabin to look into the back room. As he did, Baldwin fired and hit Captain Russell. Mortally wounded, Captain Russell fired twice toward the flash from Baldwin's gun, leaning on Deputy Harriman to remain on his feet while shooting. Then his gun dropped from his hand and he fell dead. But his shots were accurate and both bullets hit Baldwin in the abdomen. Baldwin's injuries were also fatal. Amazingly none of the men who accompanied Captain Russell was hurt, even though Deputy Harriman was walking beside Captain Russell when gunfire was exchanged.

Dr. Lamme, ex-coroner of Huerfano County, examined Captain Russell's body and reported that Baldwin's bullet had entered the officer's left arm, passed through his body, pierced both lungs and ruptured the large blood vessels in his heart, and emerged through his right arm. Dr. Lamme further reported as follows: "Almost any man would have dropped instantly upon receiving such a mortal wound and I cannot understand how Russell remained on his feet and kept his mental faculties together long enough to shoot his man." Warden Tynan called Captain Russell one of his best friends and one of his best men. The Warden praised Captain Russell as "a fearless and undaunted officer and was unerring in his duty." He recalled that Captain Russell had worked with him during a 1910 prison break and had demonstrated bravery and coolness in coping with that situation. Captain Russell was eulogized as a man of sterling character and praised for his courage and manliness, as well as his kindness and thoughtfulness. He was a member of the Masonic Order and the local Elks Lodge (Member No. 678), which handled his burial arrangements. He was laid to rest in the Masonic section of the Greenwood Pioneer Cemetery.

This story is particularly tragic because Captain Russell and Miss Anna M. Cooper had been married less than two months at the time of his death. They were married on April 16, 1913, at the home of her mother, Mrs. Margaret Cooper, in Cañon City. When Captain Russell accepted the assignment to recapture Baldwin, he and his bride had just returned from their honeymoon and settled into their new home.

Anna Cooper (1870 -1949) was described as popular and well liked, with many friends in the community. She was shocked and prostrated with grief at the news of her husband's death. She remained a widow the rest of her life. She is also buried in the Greenwood Pioneer Cemetery.

Captain Russell's grave has no headstone. A fundraising effort is currently underway to have a suitable marker erected at his grave in recognition of his bravery, service and sacrifice. Donations may be addressed to the John B. Russell Memorial account, Great Western Bank, 110 S. 9th Street, Cañon City, CO 81212.

Researched and written by Barbara Hobson, June 2015. (Sources: historical newspapers; Ancestry.com; findagrave memorials; Elk's Lodge; Museum of Colorado Prisons and the Royal Gorge Regional Museum and History Center.)

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FREMONTHISTORICALSOCIETY.COM

facebook: Fremont County Historical Society - Colorado



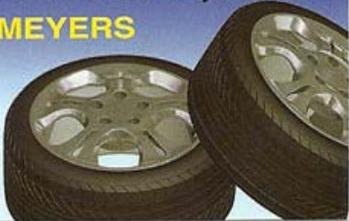
Austin Automotive

2625 E. Main Canon City, CO 81212
719-275-5055
Paul and Karen Austin/Owners

NEW and USED TIRES
CUSTOM TIRES and WHEELS
MICHELIN - BF GOODRICH - GOODYEAR - MULTI-MILE

JIM'S TIRE SERVICE, Inc.
J. D. MEYERS

1005 South 9th Street
P.O. Box 1005
Cañon City, CO 81215
275-1886 or 275-1576



EMBROIDERY IS OUR SPECIALTY!

We Customize Everything



CRYSTAL APPLIQUES CERAMIC MUGS CUSTOM PRINTING Monogram-Linens

Dee's Pace
624 Main St - 275-6482
FREE DELIVERY - FRANKLIN COUNTY AREA

deespace2001@yahoo.com **Dee Stubbs, owner**

Contractors Homeowners

CANON RENTAL

John & Sandy Howard
Owners

401 South 9th Street Tel: (719) 275-0615
Canon City, CO 81212 Fax: (719) 275-1355

**Royal Gorge Regional
Museum and History Center**



Reading Room
for local history

Exhibits

Free admission

719-269-9036

612 Royal Gorge Blvd

www.royalgorgehistory.org

The Kitchen Pantry
Commercial Kitchen for lease

613 Main St.
Canon City, Co 81212

719-357-1796
www.kitchenpantrycc.com

kitchenpantrycc@gmail.com



Gloria Stultz
Owner

B & D AUTOMOTIVE
"Experience Eliminates Experiments"
Factory Trained & Certified Technicians

Bob Koester
601 Main Street
Silver Cliff, CO 81252

719-783-4222
bdautomotive@centurytel.net

