

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MAY 19, 2019 VOLUME 17, ISSUE 3

EDITOR: CAROL MCNEW READERS: MARGARET STORM, BARBARA HOBSON
WEBSITE: www.fremontheritage.com Facebook page: Fremont County Historical Society - Colorado

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE PROGRAM ON MAY 19, 2019
SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
801 SHERIDAN AVE., CAÑON CITY, CO 81212
2:00 P.M. PUBLIC WELCOME

THE GRANGERS PRESENTED BY BETSY DENNEY



Betsy Denney is the current Chairman of the Fremont County Heritage Commission and Treasurer of the Western Fremont County Historical Society. She is a retired teacher and actively working with the Conservation Service as a crop adjuster. She is also a Fremont Cattlewoman and works with the Cotopaxi Lions Club.

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PAGE 1: THE GRANGERS
PAGE 2: Posters, stamps and meeting room layout
PAGE 3: The story of the Patrons of Husbandry, the Grange
PAGE 4: Remember When?
PAGE 5: Membership info, Augustus Macon well
PAGE 6: Our Advertisers who help send this newsletter to all our members

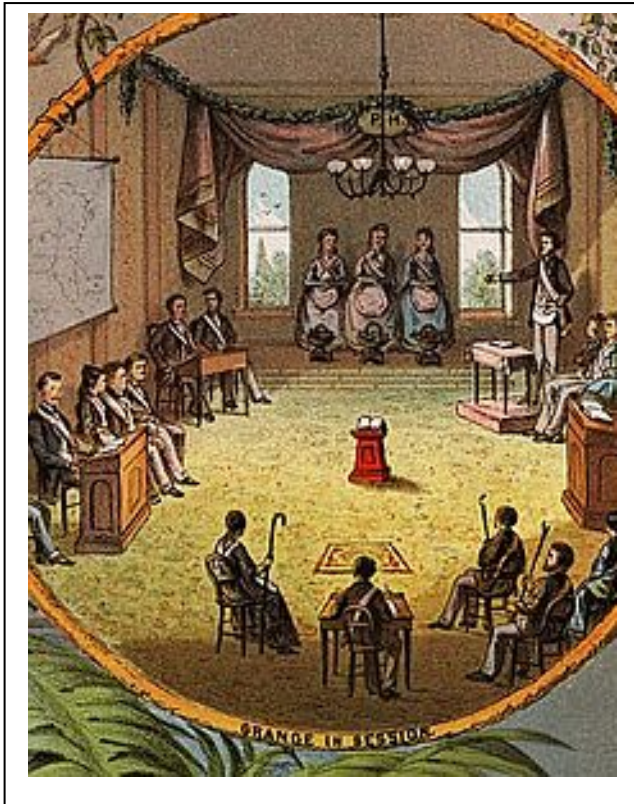


The Hillside/Cotopaxi Grange was housed in their own building for many years. It was built by the members and furnished by the State with the ritual paraphernalia that was necessary to conduct the business of the Grange.

The building is now in private ownership, but being preserved.



SYMBOLS AND POSTERS OF THE GRANGES FROM AROUND THE U.S.A.



The Grange Movement: Patrons of Husbandry

Oliver Hudson Kelley was an employee of the Department of Agriculture in the 1860s. He made an official trip through the South and was astounded by the lack of sound agricultural practices he encountered. Joining with other interested individuals in 1867, Kelley formed the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, a fraternal organization complete with its own secret rituals. Local affiliates were known as "granges" and the members as "grangers." In its early years, the Grange was devoted to educational events and social gatherings.

Growth was slow in the early years, but the attraction of social events was considerable. Farm life in the 19th century was marked by a tedium and isolation that usually were relieved only by church functions and the weekly trips to town for supplies.

Following the Panic of 1873, the Grange spread rapidly throughout the farm belt, since farmers in all areas were plagued by low prices for their products, growing indebtedness and discriminatory treatment by the railroads. These concerns helped to transform the Grange into a political force.



National Grange Headquarters Building,
Washington DC

Grange influence was particularly strong in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois, where political pressure yielded a series of "Granger laws" designed to give legislative assistance to the farmers. Those laws received an initial blessing from the Supreme Court in *Munn v. Illinois* (1876), but a later counteroffensive by the railroads brought the *Wabash* case (1886), which wiped out those gains.

During the 1870s, the Grangers advocated programs such as the following:

- Cooperative purchasing ventures as a means to obtain lower prices on farm equipment and supplies
- Pooling of savings as an alternative to dependence on corrupt banks, an early form of credit union
- Cooperative grain elevators to hold non-perishable crops until the optimal times to sell
- An abortive effort to manufacture farm equipment; this venture depleted the Granger organization's funds and was instrumental in its decline.

A major shortcoming of the movement was the failure to address what was probably the root cause of many farm ills — overproduction. There were too many farmers and too much productive land; the advent of new, mechanized equipment only exacerbated the difficulties. A few perceptive individuals recognized that flooding the market with produce only depressed prices further. Mary Elizabeth Lease of Kansas, one of the nation's first female attorneys, traveled to Grange halls and urged the farmers to "raise less corn and more hell." Such pleas went largely unheeded, since most farmers preferred to blame the politicians, judges and bankers for their plight.

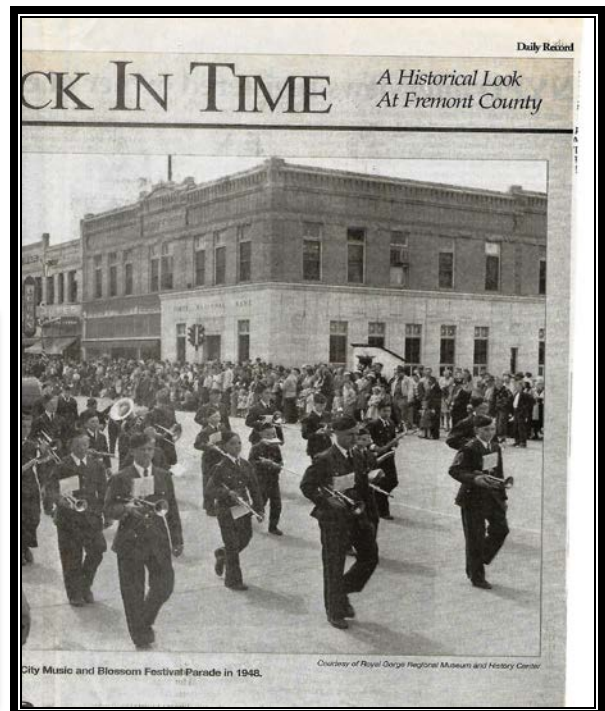
Continued from Page 3:

The Grange had played an important role by demonstrating that farmers were capable of organizing and advocating a political agenda. After witnessing the eclipse of its advocacy efforts by other groups, the Grange reverted to its original educational and social events. These have sustained the organization to the present day.

Excerpt from the internet: <https://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h854.html>

JUST FOR FUN (right)

Blossom Festival was the first weekend of May and here is a *Look Back In Time* article showing a band marching past the First National Bank at 6th and Main. The face of this building has changed a great deal since the original Baker and Biggs Mercantile was in that building in 1904. The new Valley Wide façade is again changing the face of Main Street.



Above Left: BLOSSOM FESTIVAL highlights: the bands used to gather around and on the grounds of the old Guards Armory on 2nd and River Street (now Royal Gorge Boulevard). This is located where the new Cañon City City Hall now is located, along the old Mill Ditch and across the street from the Veterans Park. Remember when??



Left:
CCHS - now
Middle School as
we knew it

Right:
Days gone by
when we were a
motion picture
city. See this at
Tailored West!

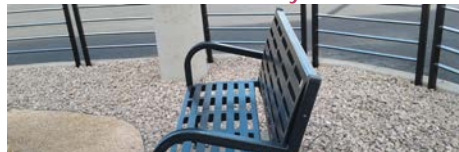




The City of Cañon City is pleased to print the Fremont County Historical Society Newsletter as a contribution to the Society. Thanks for all you do for Fremont County History.



The Augustus Macon Well at the new Starbucks at 1315 Royal Gorge Boulevard
Stop in and take a look at a piece of our 1860 history.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Thank you to all the new members who have joined this year - we are glad you have joined us. Dues cover Dec. 31, 2018 to Jan. 1, 2020.

- Individual \$15.00
- Family \$20.00
- Group \$25.00
- Lifetime \$150.00

Fremont County Historical Society, P.O. Box 965, Cañon City, CO 81215
Fremontheritage.com

FCHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Helene Blake | Patricia Freda |
| Margaret Storm | Sue Buchanan |
| Beverly Harris | Carol McNew |
| Larry Linscott | Kathy Uhland, Sec. |
| Pat Nelson | Gloria Stultz |

Address:

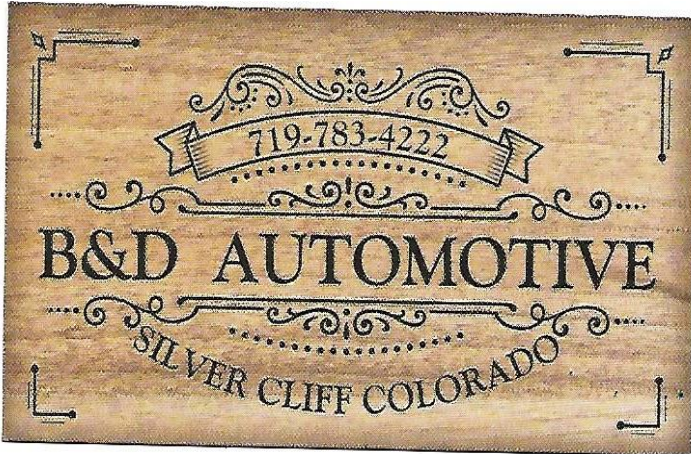
P.O. Box 965, Cañon City, CO 81215

Paul and Karen Austin/Owners

2625 E. Main Cañon City, co 81212

719-275-5055





ROYAL GORGE
REGIONAL
MUSEUM & HISTORY
CENTER

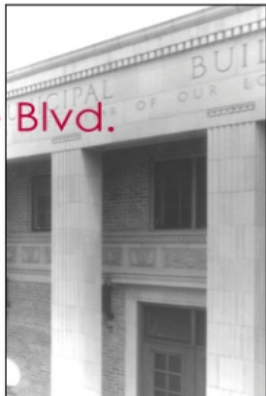
EXHIBITS

READING ROOM

FREE ADMISSION

612 Royal Gorge Blvd.
Cañon City, CO
719-269-9036

rgmhc.org



Golden Age Council, Inc.
Cañon City Senior Activity Center
728 Main Street

GAC Transit Program Call 276-5200 for a ride!

GAC NUTRITION PROGRAM

Lunch served @ noon Monday – Friday
Call 345-3064 prior to 9:30am for reservations
\$2.00 per persons age 60 & up, \$11.00 under age 60

FIRST FRIDAY DANCE PARTY

With Larry Pickens & Friends Band
7:00pm-9:00pm - \$2.00 per person
Call 275-5177 for details



GAC SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Cards, Bingo, Educational Seminars, Exercise Classes, Line Dancing,
Evening entertainment, Casino Trips, Special Events

DEE'S PACE

WE CUSTOMIZE EVERYTHING
305 MAIN STREET, CAÑON CITY, CO
81212

PHONE: 719 276 9020 or 719 429 6848
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Weekday
And 10 to 4 on Saturday, too!

NEW and USED TIRES
CUSTOM TIRES and WHEELS
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JIM'S TIRE SERVICE, INC.
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P.O. Box 1005
Cañon City, CO 81215
275-1886 or 275-1576



Contractors

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CANON RENTAL

John & Sandy Howard
Owners

401 South 9th Street
Canon City, CO 81212

Tel: (719) 275-0615
Fax: (719) 275-1355