

FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM AND HISTORY CENTER

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

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Memberships to the Museum

Become a member to support our history & history to come.

Individuals cost is \$10.00

Couples cost is \$15.00

Families cost is \$20.00

Organizations cost is \$25.00

Life members cost is \$150.00

Friends of the Museum &
History Center, P.O. Box 481,
Cañon

Bushels And Barrels

The Friends of the Museum and History Center annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 1st at 1:00 p.m. at the museum. **Bushels and Barrels** will be the first of four presentations throughout 2020 featuring Agriculture's Deep Roots in Fremont County. An historical overview, discussion among three present-day growers and audience participation will be presented.

At the start: Garden Park, Florence, Cañon City and other Fremont County locations supplied early mining camps beginning in 1859.

William Lee planted the first orchard in Colorado along Spring Creek in what is now Brookside in 1862.

Jess Frazer planted a larger orchard in Florence in 1867 and started Colorado's first nursery.

Captain B. F. Rockafellow purchased trees from Frazer and began the second commercial orchard in Colorado in 1869 with 80 acres planted to apples.

Today, restaurants in Cañon City and Florence delight diners with locally sourced items on their menus and beverages from several award-winning wineries, breweries and apple-cider bottlers that tantalize the palate.

Fall corn mazes and pumpkin patches follow summer's Farmers' Markets with their abundance of local produce, grass-fed beef, bread and baked goods. The area's agricultural heritage is visible in a series of canals and ditches that radiate out from the Arkansas River to irrigate agriculture land.

Join us to hear the history and some first-hand accounts of growing in the local area.

History in the Making

There will be no **Old Timer's Coffees** during the months of December and January. They will resume meeting the first Thursday of February (6th) at 9:00a.m. focusing on DFC Ceramics.

Volunteer Christmas Party -

Volunteers are invited to attend the annual Christmas party on Friday, December 13th from 4:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. There will be food, games, and fellowship.

Recognition at City Council -

Loretta Bailey will be recognized and honored on Monday, December 16 at 6:00p.m. for over 20 years of volunteer work at the museum. Join us to thank Loretta for her service.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Officer Zach Holder will be

presenting a program in January.

Check the museum's calendar for the schedule of all activities, registration and waiver forms.

<https://museum.canoncity.org>

Triceratops



Look who came to visit! Friends Lifetime Member Shirley Carey learned woodworking as a child and has been staying out of trouble by creating fabulous creatures out of wood for decades. She has graciously donated one of her special dinosaurs to the Friends for fund raising purposes. Thank you, Shirley, for this generous and truly wonderful gift.

We will be conducting a silent auction starting immediately and ending July 25. Our triceratops will be on

display at the museum during regular business hours for you to view and place your bid. For anyone who wishes to make a bid of \$500 or more, you can pick up your rocker immediately along with a lifetime membership to the Friends of the Museum and History Center.

Historic Bike Tours



The 2019 season ended on a warm evening exploring the various architecture styles on display in downtown Cañon City. The tour started at the Fremont County Municipal Building. Kathleen Eaton described the architectural details

that distinguish Pueblo Revival, Mediterranean, Italianate, Classic Revival, Second Empire, Mission Style, Queen Anne, Post War Modern, and Richardson-Romanesque from one another. If you are feeling old, just realize that buildings built in the 1960s are now eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places!

Thursday Nights At the Movies

Romance, comedy, and good versus evil were highlighted in our old time westerns screened during the month of September. Film devotees came each week to watch pieces of cinema history and to catch a glimpse of Cañon City scenery, buildings or town's people. Murmurs arose from the crowd each time a notable feature was recognized.



The Canon City sign was prominently displayed in “A Matrimonial Deluge” when a group of prospective brides, each invited by a letter from one of Dan’s friends, arrives at the train station. While Dan already had a sweetheart, all ended well as his friends each found love.

The Fremont County Courthouse which once stood on 4th and Macon was almost the sight of a hanging in “Pirates of the Plains”. Fortunately our hero was exonerated at the last minute by his brother’s written confession.



The Rudd House appeared in a dusty scene in “The Duchess and the Dirtwater Fox”. Scenes filmed at Buckskin Joe’s were also recognizable. You would not believe the machinations George Segal and Goldie Hawn went through to keep their ill gotten gains.

On the introduction to Hollywood, Colorado, David Emrich recounts the formation of the Colorado Motion Picture Company here in Cañon City in 1913. The museum hosted an exhibit in 2017-2018 honoring the Colorado film industry.

Honoring Our Lifetime Members



A members-only reception honoring the Lifetime Members of the Friends of the Museum and History Center was held at the Gibson Mansion on Friday, September 20th.

Many of the members and guests wore period dress. A variety of “history based” foods from the local area along with signs documenting their time period and significance was displayed.

Kathleen Eaton gave a brief history of the Gibson family and their lumber business as well as the list of owners of the home.

The afternoon’s hostess, Ann Zelinski, talked about the background and mission of the Friends organization and read highlights of the special interests and contributions of the Lifetime Members. She recognized each of the Lifetime Members and presented them with certificates and gift bags.

In the photograph above, our honorees are (front row): Walter Shepp, Shirley Carey, Gerrie Colette, Carol McNew, Dan Grenard, JoAnn Grenard and Paula McFarland; (back row): hostess Ann Zielinski. Not pictured are: Bev Embry, Jim Felton, Maizy Myers, Leonard and MaryLou Nelson, Kay Perrin and Roscoe Stuber.

We would like to thank Brendan Pardue for the use of his beautiful home, those who provided refreshments, and all those who support the mission of the museum as members and as volunteers.

Hike With a Paleontologist



On October 19th, the museum hosted its second “Hike With a Paleontologist”. The participants had the chance to visit three different quarry sites during the hike and learned all about the Garden Park Fossil Area. There were many excellent questions and plenty of enthusiasm. Participants were even shown small fossil pieces found by Andrew Smith, the paleontologist leading the hike. While these tiny pieces were too small to know from which dinosaur they came, the hikers learned about the giant creatures that once roamed the land during the Jurassic era such as the Stegosaurus, Allosaurus, and Apatosaurus.

Sand Creek Massacre

Dr. Jeff Broome delivered another standing room only presentation on Saturday, October 26th. He explained that there are three voices to this history: the Cheyenne, the military, and the pioneer. His study focuses on that of the pioneer. Broome gave a chronology of Cheyenne history, the many treaties and events that caused friction which ultimately led up to the fight and the massacre on November 29, 1864. On more than one occasion, he emphasized the importance of researching original evidence rather than repeating undocumented stories. As an example, Broome gave an in-depth study of the Hungate Massacre, the misinformation which has been repeated in articles and books, and the search for original documents and the truth within. Even today, there are many varying accounts of the numbers killed both on the Cheyenne side as well as the military side. Three government investigations into the massacre all concluded that the atrocities were heinous and without justification. Further attacks occurred until the Cheyenne were defeated at Summit Springs on July 11, 1869.



Marshall Felch's Ghost Story



Who doesn't like a ghost story especially one surrounded by mystery? Dan Grenard played Marshall Felch; Loretta Bailey, his wife Amanda; and Jim Nelson had dual roles as a placer miner and Dave Griffin. The story was written in the first person by Felch in 1883-1884 for a journalist with the pen name Fitz-Mac. The story has appeared many times over the decades under different titles: Dead Man's Cañon and Canyon of Ghosts. We're not going to give away the story. Suffice it to say, it involves a young couple very

much in love, Oliver Kimball and Gertrude Osborn, but separated by social position and distance. Letters between Gertrude and the Felchs, Yankee Maje, a dawg, gold, Cañon City, hail storms, Dead Man's Canyon, apparitions, foul play and justice all appear in the telling. For those who must know the rest of the story, www.dinosaursofgardenpark.org/in-life-and-death-yours-gertrude/

At the close of the program, JoAnn Grenard treated everyone to scrumptious ghost cookies and root beer. Thank you, Dan and JoAnn for a delightful afternoon.



Old Timers Coffees



In keeping with the Halloween theme, members of the community met for coffee on October 3 to share local ghost stories and legends. Dave Batchelor recounted stories of dolls mysteriously moving from shelves to beds, paper coming off the wall and dancing in mid-air, red eyes, and white swirling things in the house where he grew up. Loretta Bailey told of her experience with a nightly visitation by a white glowing form in her attic bedroom. The family heard tapping sounds in the attic and her mother always asked, “why don’t you reveal yourself instead of just tapping”? A dark aura over Cañon City was reported by Paula Johnson and some of her acquaintances. Legends surrounding the Territorial Prison, local cemeteries and the Strathmore Hotel were also discussed.

Retired employees of the Cañon City Daily Record reunited on November 7th to share memories and relate stories. Reporters, photographers, and editors Davalyn Spencer, Tracy Harmon and Geoff Normandy and pressman Chalmers Porter gathered around the table to reminisce.



Chalmers talked about the switch from linotype to offset printing and the multiple publications besides the Daily Record that were printed. Newsprint rolls weighed 900 lbs and black ink came in 50 gallon barrels. The first presses printed 4800 per hour and as newer presses were added, the capacity rose to 18000 per hour.

They all recounted stories that stuck with them throughout the years like prison escapes, use of dynamite to keep the water flowing in winter, meeting and interviewing Hollywood stars, and a mountain lion in the chapel at the Abbey. Geoff had everyone stitches telling about his experience attempting to photograph John Wayne at his birthday celebration at Buckskin Joe’s. The key is to remember to put film in the camera!

Family Craft Day



You didn't have to be a child to have fun making a lantern for your holiday pleasure. A steady stream of children and adults came in on Saturday, November 23 interested in hearing the history of lanterns, choosing a design to punch, and then actually working with nail and hammer to craft the design. A physics lesson was also part of the presentation. The cans had to be filled with water and frozen in multiple stages so that expansion would not blow out the can's bottom and so the can would not collapse when nailed.

Renew Your Membership

As we approach the end of the year, it is once again time to renew your membership. Envelopes are enclosed for your convenience. Do you know someone who would like to support the activities and ongoing mission of the museum? Membership makes a wonderful gift.

We on the board would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported us this past year with your attendance at museum programs, your financial support, and your volunteer work. **We want to wish everyone a joyous holiday season and all best wishes for 2020.** See you in the new year with more exciting programs.

Merry Christmas!





The Artist Gallery


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