# FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM **AND HISTORY CENTER**

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

#### Contact your board of directors for more information

Gerrie Colette- Chair

Kris Dittmar-Vice Chair

Paula McFarland- Treasurer

Terri Meeks - Newsletter

Ann Zielinski - Activities

Penny McPherson

Aaron Malejko

719-269-9036 www.fremontheritage.com

# Memberships to the

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 City, CO 81215-0481

# **Old Timey Movies**

If it's September, it must be time for Old Timey Movies. Once again we will be featuring two movies made in Cañon City. On Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. join us to watch Charles Bronson in Mr. Majestyk. The following week, Thursday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m. we will be showing Our Souls at Night starring Robert Redford and Jane Fonda.

Charles Bronson fans will delight in the action and suspense as Colorado watermelon farmer, Vince Majestyk fights against gangsters to save his farm.



If romance is more your cup of tea, come watch the touching story of two lonely people develop a loving relationship and deep bond of friendship.

A \$4.00 donation is suggested and the popcorn is free.

MR. MAJES

#### **History in the Making**

**Morning Line** - Remember to tune in to 1400 KRLN the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month to hear news, stories and information from the museum.

**Community Coffee and Conversation -** Watch the museum's calendar to join the conversation about Cañon City's history, its people, buildings and institutions.

Virtual Genealogy Classes - Join us for our Zoom genealogy sessions on September 9 "Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps", October 7 "The Pony Express" and November 11 "World's Fairs and Expos". All presentations are at 9:00. Registration can be completed via the museum's calendar.

Follow the museum's activities on facebook.com.

If you are interested in viewing photos from the museum's collection, follow us on instagram at rgrmhc.

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

https://museum.canoncity.org

# **Equine Digit Tour**

It's right around the corner. You pass it every time you drive to Colorado Springs. You see their sign. But have you ever stopped to visit EDSS: Equine Digit Support System and E.L.P.O Farrier School? If not, now is your opportunity. EDSS will be hosting us on **Saturday**, **October 14 at 10:30 a.m.** for a tour and an opportunity to watch a class.

"What do they do"? you ask. Everything that deals with hooves. Founded by farrier, clinician and researcher Gene Ovnicek, he and his multigeneration family have developed horseshoes and associated products for



treating and preventing equine lameness.



They soon recognized the need for farrier training and for a farrier certification process and established the non-profit Equine Lameness Prevention Organization (E.L.P.O). They have developed an 8 week farrier curriculum that covers everything from anatomy, horsemanship, forging, shoeing,

lameness identification and treatment as well as business practices. Come meet the Ovnicek family, see their design and manufacturing process and witness first-hand farrier training.

And afterwards, join us for lunch at the Gooseberry Patch. Meet at **9:45** at the museum to join the car pool. Call the museum to register or register online at https://museum.canoncity.org under the Calendar.

#### **Thank You Master Gardeners**

Have you taken the opportunity to visit the former fish pond? After much work clearing the area of weeds and debris and researching native and drought resistant plants, the Master Gardeners have completed the first stage of their new installation. The simple spacious design will allow plants to get established in their new habitat. Weeding will continue throughout the summer and fall and mulch will be added. Our profound thanks to this wonderful group of hard working volunteers.



# Jr. Paleontologist Fossil Activity Day

The fossil mobile from the Florissant Fossil Quarry was a big hit with folks young and old on Saturday, June 17th. Patrons were able to walk through the school bus to see exhibits and volunteers eagerly shared their knowledge about finding and identifying fossils and the skills and tools required to crack shale in hopes of finding a fossil.

Jessica Ashton and Joshua Broussard had tables full of activities and children were encouraged to select a shell or toy dinosaur to create their own trace fossil. A few fossils from the museum's collection were on display. Volunteer Loretta Bailey was on hand to help young folks understand the different facets of two particularly interesting turtle fossils.



### **Bike Tours are Back!**

Jessica Ashton led a packed group of 25 bikers on a tour of the Lakeside Cemetery on Wednesday, July 12. Originally part of the Dall Deweese estate, the Lincoln Park Cemetery was created in 1900. The first official burial took place in 1901 even though 10 people had snuck in before that date! The name changed to Lakeside Cemetery in 1905. We heard the life stories of Lady Blythe Marvin, The Original Mechanical Doll; her



chiropractor sister, Dr. Myrtle Childers; Olen Nichols who had the top producing dairy in Colorado and Ferdinand Stockder and his son Hagen who took 20 bottles of their famous soda water to the 1904 World's Fair. Civil War veterans Joseph B. Smith and Eunice Vipond were profiled as were



Purple Heart recipients Albe Baca and Ray Archuleta. A silent film actor, professional football player, philanthropist and locally known citizens were profiled.

August 23 was another fabulous historic bicycle tour along the Cañon City Riverwalk. Hosted again by Education Coordinator Jessica Ashton, she talked about the Sells Fruit Farm and Pleasure Resort, brick making, the Santa Fe Depot and the history of the railroad wars, the pickle packing plant, Centennial Park, as well as Lyman Robison and his mansion. There were a few entertaining stories along the way and everyone enjoyed the evening ride along the river.

Thanks to the Cañon City Colorado Government facebook page for posting this photo.

### **Coffee and Conversation**

It was a small group of coffee enthusiasts that gathered on June 21st to share stories of camping in the local area. Folks shared fond memories of family camping trips from their childhood years as well as more challenging trips during their scouting days. Jessica Ashton provided a humorous story from the museum's oral history collection provided by Robert Crosby about his 1934 trip camping with a donkey. Mix four teenaged boys, chocolate laxatives, pinto beans and adventure. I cannot do this hilarious story justice; you will have to come into the museum to read it for yourself. (R1992.079.001)

Everyone shared stories of memorable storms of snow and rain on July 26. Thirty-two days below freezing was something not to be forgotten. Several people recalled how there were blizzards all around Cañon but no snow in the city - and vice versa. Jessica Ashton read a newspaper article about the July 1886 installation of the Centennial Weather Station at the territorial prison. Bob Salmon talked about the August 1991 7.5" of rain that threatened the storm water management system and a small funnel cloud sighted over the hogback in 1991 were just a few stories that left indelible memories.

## **Bricks and Banners**

The museum still has Royal Gorge Bricks and Sesquicentennial Banners available for sale. Stop in to see what is available and to make your purchase. They make great gifts.

Used bricks - \$15.00 Unused bricks - \$20.00

Main Street Banners - \$30.00 Large banners - \$50.00 -\$100.00

# Cattlemen, Cattle Ranches and Cowboys

Members and guests packed the research room to hear Shari Mohr and Deb Hildebrand present a great program on Saturday, July 22. They have worked tirelessly to pull together the history of many of the local ranching families and to share the information with us. Shari introduced the audience to the history, milestones, developments and families that each decade brought to the area. Starting in the 1850s through the early 1900s, she presented short biographies of some of the ranchers and more in-depth stories of others. It was interesting to hear humorous anecdotes, as well as stories of industry and loss. When husbands died, women took over. In addition to cattle,



several built other businesses. William Murray served as postmaster and his wife ran a prosperous boarding house. Charles Nachtrieb ran a grist mill producing Pride of the Mountain Flour while Charles Hall made and sold Pikes Peak Salt. Louis Guiraud started as a French wine importer and in 1906 had the most valuable ranch in Colorado. Henry Beckham was known for his 40 hour faro game walking away with \$2000. A

wonderful way to celebrate the National Day of the American Cowboy.

# **Historic Main Street Walking Tour**

July 29; a perfect day to walk down the shady side of Main Street to hear about the history of the buildings along the north side. The tour started at 301 Main Street where much of the town was centered in the 1860s. Jessica Ashton brought copies of old photos of the area for comparison and explained how Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps provided valuable documentation for the development of the city.





The town developed

from the west to the east with most buildings constructed from 1860 to the early 1900s. An assay office, hotels, library, post office, the First Baptist Church, livery, lumber yard, a Chinese laundry, the Rex theater were all once located along the north side of Main Street. Did you know the six gray granite columns on The Annex came from Quincy, Massachusetts or that the Arthur Block had a clock out front which was the official timekeeper for the city and the railroad? We all learned so many tidbits and

unique aspects of our city's history.







#### **The Artist Gallery**

416 Main Street, Cañon City (719) 345-4070







