

FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM AND HISTORY CENTER

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

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719-269-9036
www.fremontheritage.com

Friends Memberships

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

- Individual cost is \$10.00
- Couples cost is \$15.00
- Family cost is \$20.00
- Organization cost is \$25.00
- Life member 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 26 at 6:30 p.m. join us to watch Claire Trevor and John Wayne in the 1939 movie **Stagecoach**. Adapted from the 1937 short story "The Stage Ride to Lordsburg, the film follows a group of strangers through dangerous Apache territory.



Saddle the Wind will be our second presentation on Friday, September 27 at 6:30. A complex story of a retired gunslinger, a hot-head younger brother, a girl friend, a ranch and plenty of tension.

See if you can discover the Cañon City scenes. Hope to see you

The popcorn is free but a \$4.00 donation is suggested.

History in the Making

Morning Line - Remember to tune in to 1400 KRLN the 3rd 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 "When the Black Sheep Was a Ewe", on September 14, "World's Fairs" on October 12 and "Seamen's Protection Certificates on November 9. All Zoom presentations are at 9:00 am. Registration can be completed via the museum's calendar at canoncity.org/museum.

Follow the museum's activities on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com).

If you are interested in viewing photos from the museum's collection, follow us on instagram at [rgrmhc](https://www.instagram.com).

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

<https://www.canoncity.org/museum>

Historic Bike Tours

Summer means historic bike tours are on the schedule. The season started on June 22nd with a tour to Point Alta Vista. Our first stop was at the trestle where Jessica Ashton discussed the Royal Gorge Scenic Railway miniature train and its 15" wide track which took visitors out to the point. Started in 1954, it operated for 52 years with its last run on September 12, 2012. We heard about the collaborative effort to refurbish the train route to create an 8-mile hike or bike "One Track Mind" trail.



The establishment of the Royal Gorge Park in 1906, the construction of the bridge in 1929, the work of U.S. Representative Guy U. Hardy, the photography of Glenn Gebhardt were all highlighted.



Buckskin Joe's was the final chapter of the ride. The frontier town/theme park and its use as a movie set were all discussed. Some of the riders even shared their adventures and remembrances along this route.



Lakeside Cemetery was the site of the July 18th bike tour, a favorite venue to learn the history of Cañon City and its people. The stories of Prospect Heights founder Anton

Adamic, prison warden Roy Best, football Hall of Famer Earl Dutch Clark, first burial James Goodlett, first official burial Frances Pressey, three generations of the Rockafellow family, mason Ernst Sell, Civil War nurse Eunice Vipond were among the biographies presented by Jessica Ashton.

Community Coffee/Day of the Cowboy

The museum has sponsored a full summer of activities for people of all ages. The July Coffee and Conversation also coincided with the celebration of the National Day of the Cowboy. Ranchers, descendants of ranchers, and history buffs attended and participated in the conversation. Calving, branding, harvesting and the always present need to fix fencing were among the topics discussed. 80% of the ranches in Colorado are family owned, many of which are cow/calf operations. With the improvements in breeding and feed, the same amount of beef is produced with 62% fewer cattle. Virtual fences, those that are entirely based on the internet with no physical presence, were also mentioned. Cattle rustling, even today, is still a big issue.



Panel members Betsy Denney, Kathy Uhland, and Kathleen Strickland provided fascinating stories of their ancestors who settled in the area and started ranches. Dual milk/meat cows, grazing associations, and the “little red book” of daily tasks always available in the rancher’s pocket were all topics with expanded conversation. It wasn’t all work; there was time for playing horseshoes,

organizing baseball teams, putting on plays, and grange activities.

The August 21st coffee featured Dustin Elliot, Jessica Shideler, and Randy Sarge from Fremont Search and Rescue. Organized in 1967 by the local ham radio club, they are the only back country team in Fremont County. With about 24 active members, they spend hours training, performing missions, providing mutual aid assistance to other counties and doing outreach programs in local schools and libraries. An all volunteer organization, they rely on grants and donations to provide and maintain their equipment. They are involved in alpine, avalanche, swift water, and canine search and rescue activities. Headquartered at 1901 E. Main Street, they meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30. They will be hosting their trivia event along with the Noon Lions on October 19th at Pathfinder Park.



Kids Fossil Day

The excitement was palpable as children went from table to table sampling the various activities on August 3rd's Kids Fossil day. Staff and volunteers were manning tables to assist children in showing how dinosaurs left their footprints, digging for fossils as well as talking about and touching the many fossils in the museum's collection.



Apparently there were some jaw-dropping exhibits on display! Each table had coloring pages and everyone went home with multiple souvenirs.



Honoring Purple Heart Veterans

August 7th is Purple Heart Day when Americans pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. Jessica Ashton told those assembled at Lakeside Cemetery the history of the award. Established by George Washington in 1782 as the Badge of Military Merit, it was awarded to three Revolutionary War veterans. It was then forgotten for 150 years. Resurrected by Douglas MacArthur in 1932, it was renamed the Purple Heart. Jessica also acknowledged the dedication and work done by Luise Barton in finding, researching and documenting the veterans in Lakeside Cemetery. In honor and remembrance of these brave men and women, Jessica read off the names of those in Lakeside who have received the award.



Welcome Hannah Plummer

A native of Arvada, Colorado, Hannah graduated from Colorado State University-Pueblo with a degree in History in 2019 and just recently graduated from Missouri State University with a master's degree in History. She enjoys research on any subject, but has an affinity for Colonial American History as well as some Military History. While she did not grow up in this area, she has a lot of family that are from and still live in Fremont County. Her mother's side of her family is from Florence, and her grandparents (Bob & Marge Herrera) owned and ran Conyo's Taco House on Main Street for many years before retiring in 2010. Her parents recently moved back to the area and take part in the weekly farmer's market, and are enjoying everything Fremont County has to offer. In her free time, she enjoys reading, swimming, and learning everything that she can. In her words "I am excited to be a part of this amazing team at the museum and look forward to getting more acquainted with the community and the rich history of the area".



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* Based on information from the Royal Gorge Association of REALTORS®/MLS for the period 1/1/12 through 12/1/17 interpreted by JoAnn Grenard of Home Town Real Estate

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