

Over the Fence...

Musings from the editor

Heritage. A word that can mean different things to a variety of people. "I love to sail. It's part of my Viking Heritage." Or "The region has a Heritage of gold mining." It's common to hear the word used in these ways.

The word Heritage is often used to describe cultural traditions that have been passed down from one generation to the next. It can refer to a person's ethnic background. It can also be used to describe the history of a region or peoples.

With the advent of DNA testing and in-depth genealogy being done, people have a greater chance of finding out who their relatives are and what part of the world their ancestors came from. Their Heritage. But does that really determine our Heritage?

With today's Global Community, customs and traditions are merging. Old ways are continued but new habits and beliefs are often added, creating a slightly altered or even an entirely new way of doing something. And thus a new Heritage may be created.

At the end of July is Florissant Heritage Day. A time to celebrate the rich and varied history of our area. A time to celebrate the men and women who helped to settle the region. But it is also a time to celebrate our current Heritage – the people and organizations who make our 'neck of the woods' such a great place to live.

We all have our own unique relationship with the Heritage of the Pikes Peak region. Some of us were born here, many of us are transplants. But we all have a connection to this majestic country we call home. Each one of us is part of this Heritage.

I encourage you to get out this July and enjoy the many activities that have been planned on Florissant Heritage Day – July 30th. And even better, volunteer to help the PPHS with one of the many activities they have planned. What better way to enjoy and appreciate **Our Heritage**?

From the past.....

THE FAIRPLAY FLUME

*Fairplay, Park County, Colorado,
Thursday, March 25, 1880*

From responsible gentlemen living in the Park we learn that the symptoms of an earthquake and four bona fide "quakes" were experienced in the neighborhood of Florissant postoffice not many days ago. The phenomena occurred during the night, and one family that had had an almost dry well the day before, awoke to find a bubbling spring in the place of it, the water having risen to the surface, and it still continues to flow.

The Pikes Peak Historical Society would like to say **THANK YOU!** to **Peak Internet** for "hookin' us up"! The PPHS Museum now has internet! www.peakinter.net

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Calendar of Events

Isabella Bird
Christine Ford
Sunday, May 15, 2pm
Florissant Library

Geocaching 101
Kathy & Rudy Perry
Sunday, June 19, 2:00pm
Florissant Library

Heritage Day
Saturday, July 30, all day
Various Locations

The Vendetta of Felipe Espinosa
Adam James Jones
Sunday, August 7, 2:00pm
Florissant Library

Tabeguache Ute Dance
* Information pending *

PPHS Annual Volunteer Brunch
Saturday, September 17, 12:00pm
Florissant Library

PPHS Annual Auction
Saturday, October 15, 2:00pm
Lake George Charter School Gym

Veteran's Day Ceremony
Friday, November 11
Florissant Pioneer Cemetery

Ute Legends
Celinda Kaelin
Sunday, November 20, 2:00pm
Florissant Library

PPHS Christmas Party
Saturday, December 17, 12:00pm
Florissant Library

Chautauquas are a public service of the Pikes Peak Historical Society. There is no admission and refreshments are served. Chautauquas are normally held at the Florissant Library unless otherwise noted.

2016 Pikes Peak Historical Society Board of Directors

John Rakowski, President
Scott Adams, Vice President
Rudy Perry, Secretary
Carolynne Forster, Treasurer

Linda Appelbaum, Board at Large
Allan Appelbaum, Board at Large
Jeanne Gripp, Board at Large
Wayne Johnston, Board at Large
Kathy Perry, Board at Large
Brian Stewart, Board at Large

Advisory Board:

AJ Hotchkiss	Lenore Hotchkiss
Celinda Kaelin	Sally Maertens
Andy Weinzapfel	Susan Weinzapfel

Thank you to the following newsletter contributors –

Ed Held (photos) Wayne Johnston (photos)

Did You Know...

March 1st is the deadline for ALL DUES
PAYING Members to have their
membership fees paid? It is.

Have an idea for a story?

Got a tidbit or two you'd like to share?

Or maybe you just want to say "Hello!"

Email the Editor at woodespryte@gmail.com

Don't forget to **Like** us on Facebook!



Colorado Encyclopedia Project



THE COLORADO ENCYCLOPEDIA provides a vetted platform for Coloradans to tell their story, instead of leaving it to Wikipedia or the random results of a Google search. Qualified members of the public are invited to submit topic ideas, write articles, and provide feedback on existing entries. The prototype site is available now at coloradoencyclopedia.org. By the end of 2016, the Encyclopedia will deliver an informative cultural experience as diverse and colorful as the state it serves.

The site includes **articles on Colorado's diverse people and places—past and present—vetted by top Colorado scholars.** William Wei, professor of history at the University of Colorado-Boulder, serves as Editor-in-Chief for the Encyclopedia. All articles are organized under categories of “People,” “Places,” “Events,” and “Things.”

One goal of the Colorado Encyclopedia is to **aggregate and link to the state's rich collection of local histories, websites, and resources, currently strewn across thousands of books and web pages.** The site offers an **unprecedented opportunity for worldwide exposure to small communities** and local voices, and invites them to join a broader conversation about Colorado. The Encyclopedia will **support tourism** with detailed information on the state's most popular resorts, historic sites, and attractions. Information on the site can draw tourists and their money into little-known localities, providing them with a unique experience that may encourage them to see what other previously hidden wonders Colorado has to offer.

For more information visit the website, <http://coloradoencyclopedia.org>. Interested in submitting a written article and/or pictures, please contact Nick Johnson at njohnson@coloradohumanities.org or call 303.894.7951 x21

Florissant Heritage Day – Saturday July 30

Set aside Saturday July 30th to come out and enjoy the Florissant area and its history. Start the day out with a delicious breakfast provided by the Florissant Volunteer Fire Department on US Hwy 24 with donations to be used in bolstering their equipment and personal safety gear. Then the PPHS Museum, the Florissant Grange at the 1880's School, the Florissant Library and the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument will have daylong activities starting at 9 AM.

The PPHS Museum will be open with the permanent displays supplemented by discussions of the historic interaction of Florissant and Cripple Creek, a gold panning demonstration, general discussions of the mineral resources of the area and discussions of the Ute history of our area. The PPHS will be providing free updated historic walking/driving tour maps of the central Florissant area.

The Florissant Library will feature pioneer folklore and crafts, such as quilts and discussion of pioneer quilting, discussion and displays about pioneer cooking, washing and other household

chores along with pioneer kids games that modern visitors can play.

The Grange will have music, food and local vendors in and around the main School built in the late 1880's. The School House Museum to the side of the main building will be open with the ability for kids to see what school was like more than 100 years ago.

Even the Florissant Pioneer Cemetery will see involvement in the day's activities with volunteers on premises to discuss the Cemetery's residents dating from the late 1800's including some Civil War Veterans.

Several local businesses in the core area of Florissant will be having additional displays or vendors on premises. The Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument less than five minutes south of Florissant will have informative nature walks and discussions about their rich historic heritage.

John Rakowski, President

PPHS Geocaching

The Pikes Peak Historical Society now has a third geocache published on Geocaching.com. This is the third in a series of several planned caches to be placed in the area. They are all related to historical places and events and include history and photos courtesy of Celinda Kaelin.

The first geocache was placed on June 8, 2015 and since that date, it has been found approximately 100 times. The most recent geocache (second) was found at 5:36 am the morning after it had been placed. It was found by a very enthusiastic geocacher from Woodland Park who enjoyed the history lesson and the amazonite trade item.

Board members Rudy and Kathy Perry are currently working on the next three caches, which may be placed by the time of this newsletter's distribution. Their purpose in placing these caches is to share the wonderful history of our area in a fun and different way.

Any members interested in being on the geocaching committee, which would adopt and monitor a cache, or if any members have questions, please contact Kathy Perry at kathy.perry4@gmail.com. Rudy and Kathy will be presenting Geocaching 101 at the Chautauqua on June 19, 2016 as well as sharing geocaching information at Florissant Heritage Days on July 30, 2016.

ATTENTION!

The Editor is looking for articles, old clippings, old photos for upcoming newsletters. Email the Editor with your submission. Thank you.
woodespryte@gmail.com

Hwy 24 Clean-up

Save the Date! Saturday, June 11th.

Hwy 24 Clean-up Day is rapidly approaching. This is a great opportunity to get to know some of your 'neighbors' and have some fun. Let's help keep Florissant beautiful by getting out and lending a helping hand.

In case.....

You haven't been by the museum lately, there is a new showcase on display. Be sure to stop by and check it out! And don't forget to sign the guestbook.



Membership Information

If you have any questions or need to make changes to your contact information, members may call [719-748-8259](tel:719-748-8259) and leave a message for a call back; or call Pres. John Rakowski at 719-748-3861; or contact Brian Stewart, Membership Chairman, at jbcstewart@msn.com; or use the 'Contact Us' form via the website www.pikespeakhsmuseum.org.

March 1st is now the expiration date for all dues paying members. Your expiration date is shown on the address information of this newsletter.

Memberships may be renewed either online through the PPHS website using PayPal or via the U.S. mail (PO Box 823, Florissant, CO 80816).

2016 PPHS Annual Meeting



The 2016 PPHS Annual Meeting took place on March 19th. A scrumptious buffet of barbecue and all the fixin's was to be had by those in attendance. Thank you to everyone who brought such delicious dishes!

Committee updates were given along with a general update on the museum and the annual election of board members took place. Two vacant positions on the board of directors were filled. Carolynne Forster took over the treasurer position and Jeanne Gripp filled the empty board member-at-large spot.

Pam Adams, after serving ten years, retired from the Board of Directors. Her hard work has been greatly appreciated and may she enjoy her new found free time.

The museum had numerous visitors over the winter months, playing host to several large groups consisting of both adults and children. The museum is now open for the season (weather permitting, it is Colorado after all!) and members are encouraged to sign up to be a docent.

A 'Spring Cleaning' group was organized to freshen the museum for the upcoming summer season. Plans are underway to re-surface the museum parking lot to keep the cracks from becoming craters.

The 2015 auction saw a new venue at the Lake George Charter School Gym. The new location allowed for a bigger crowd, easier parking, and great sales! Thanks to all the hardwork of the Auction Committee, a total of \$9147.00 was raised from sales and donations.

Plans are currently underway for a larger involvement in Florissant Heritage Day. A variety of talks and displays are being lined up. Members are encouraged to volunteer a bit of their time to help make this a wonderful day for all.



February Chautauqua - Wildlife Officer Tim Kroening

The topic of the February Chautauqua was "Wildlife Management in the Pikes Peak Region". Teller County Wildlife Officer, Tim Kroening, spoke to an avid audience who were filled with questions about the local wildlife.

Officer Kroening works for the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife with his primary patrol area being the region on the western slope of Pikes Peak. He spoke about the variety of wildlife that lives in this area as well as on the various ways wildlife can be kept from causing mischief around residences and dwellings. Officer Kroening went on to stress how bad it is for people to feed the wildlife. The food given by people to wild animals can upset their digestive systems as well as get the animals used to human interaction, neither being a good outcome for the animal.



The audience was also advised to contact the local office of the Colorado Dept. of Parks and Wildlife if any problems are encountered with the wildlife in the area. The Southeast Regional Office is located in Colorado Springs; phone number 719-227-5207. Their website, cpw.state.co.us has a great deal of information about living with wildlife as well as information on hunting, fishing and camping. Much of the information available can be downloaded for future reference.



The April Chautauqua, **The Vendetta of Felipe Espinosa**, has been rescheduled for Sunday, August 7, 2:00pm at the Florissant Library.

Chautauqua videos can now be seen online!

PPHS Chautauqua videos may be accessed via a link on the PPHS website or by searching YouTube for Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum. Subscribe to the PPHS channel on YouTube!

FLORISSANT PIONEER CEMETERY

Florissant's cemetery received its first permanent "guest" in 1874. This is not surprising, since the town of Florissant was established by Judge James Castello in 1870. What is surprising, however, is that Frank, James' son, waited until 1886 to incorporate a Florissant Cemetery Association. This was probably in anticipation of the boom that would come to the area with the arrival of the Midland Railroad. The Pikes Peak Historical Society maintains this tradition of stewardship with its management of the Florissant Pioneer Cemetery on behalf of Teller County. If you meet the residency requirements; you may also secure a final resting place in this historic cemetery. Donations of \$300 are requested for a full burial, and only \$150 for cremains.

Call Pikes Peak Historical Society at 719-748-8259 to secure your future at this historic site.



MEMBERSHIP

The Pikes Peak Historical Society (PPHS) is a non-profit corporation organized under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3). The purpose of the Society is to encourage the preservation of the history of Florissant and the West Slope of Pikes Peak, and to educate the public regarding this historical legacy.

Pikes Peak Historical Society is funded solely through memberships and donations, and supports its mission through volunteers who serve on its numerous committees.

PPHS owns and operates two museums: The Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum, at 18033 Teller County Road CR1 (across from the Florissant Post Office) and the Schoolhouse Museum, located at Teller County Roads CR31 and CR3 (Wildhorn Rd.).

Our Cemetery Committee manages the 1874 Florissant Pioneer Cemetery on behalf of Teller County. Our Beautification Committee sponsors an area-wide clean-up each spring and plants flowers throughout the town of Florissant. Our Chautauqua Committee sponsors free educational programs during the year and our Ute Tree Committee researches and records Ute Culturally Scarred Trees. In addition, we maintain a fund for returning the Ute Indians to the sacred mountain, Tava, each year. If you become a Docent (Museum Volunteer), you act as host at the Museum, and meet wonderful, exciting people from all over the world.

The volunteers and members of the Pikes Peak Historical Society make all of these community projects possible. Your membership entitles you to our tri-annual newsletter. Life Members receive a 10% discount on all items at the Museum Gift Shop.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (please print):

NAME(S): _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ e-mail1: _____

e-mail2: _____

I prefer Newsletter by: Email____, US Mail____, both Email and US Mail____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

___ Sustaining \$20/year
___ Family \$30/year
___ Supporting \$50/year
___ Castello Life \$200

COMMITTEE INTERESTS

Auction____ ANZA____ Beautification____
Cemetery____ Chautauqua____ Geocaching____
Heritage Day____ Kiosk____ Museum____
Trails____ Ute Trees____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____ DATE: _____

MAIL TO: PIKES PEAK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 823
FLORISSANT, CO 80816

OR JOIN ONLINE AT:
www.pikespeakhsmuseum.org

For more information, call John at 719-748-3861. Thank you.

(Updated 4/16/2016)



Pikes Peak Historical Society
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