



NEWSLETTER

Fall, 2017

Over the Fence...

Thoughts from the Pres:

The Pikes Peak Historical Society has been lucky to have so many great volunteers in our efforts to keep the Museum open, manage the Florissant Pioneer Cemetery, maintain our Museum and Teacherage, clean the local highway and our Kiosk on US 24. We just completed the refinishing of the exterior of the Teacherage, did a US 24 cleanup from the Park/Teller line into Florissant, and our Cemetery mapping is underway. In each case we've had from 5 to 8 member volunteers along with 2 or 3 non-member volunteers.

In too many of these efforts there are repeats of the same Member volunteers, people who volunteer many hours per month. We can use some new faces, some other members who want to continue the outstanding efforts of the PPHS and get to know fellow members better. All skill levels are welcome to come out to help with the efforts.

This abbreviated newsletter is because we have no regular volunteer Editor, its being done as a side project by others who are heavily committed to other projects. If we want a newsletter with

interesting items, we need a volunteer to help put it together.

We have had good efforts by our Docent/Greeters at the Museum and have seen attendance by the public up about 20% this year. The visiting public has been very impressed by our exhibits and the wonderful friendly attitude of our Docent/Greeters. Some visitors are locals but many interesting visitors come from sites throughout the country or from overseas. Volunteering at the Museum needs just a friendly attitude and a few hours free.

Come see the "Prayer tree" that grew between here and Crystal Peak and died two years ago and was moved in July to the PPHS Museum. We're working to refine the dating on the tree but it appears to have started growing in about 1815. The lower trunk was originally diverted toward Pikes Peak while a little higher the trunk was turned toward Crystal Peak. We'll have it oriented that same way at the museum.

Sincere thanks are due to those super members who help out on our various projects, you keep our PPHS moving on the right paths!

John Rakowski, President

PPHS Newsletter Editor

Help wanted!

If you can type at least 5-10 words a minute, can communicate with PPHS Board Members and general members in conversations, can read through scattered archives at the Museum to find interesting tidbits of local history – WE NEED YOU! The newsletter is done on MS WORD software so you can do a lot of cut, copy and paste. This can be a fun project for you and your significant other or for you and friend(s). Contact John Rakowski (719)748-3861

AUCTION !! Don't forget our Annual Auction 2 PM on Saturday October 21 at the Lake George Charter School. Lunch available for purchase as you preview the items starting at noon.

**2017 Pikes Peak Historical Society
Board of Directors**

John Rakowski, President
Scott Adams, Vice President
Barbara Hickok, Secretary
Carolynne Forster, Treasurer

Diane Burton, Board at Large
Jeanne Gripp, Board at Large
Wayne Johnston, Board at Large
Brian Stewart, Board at Large

Advisory Board:

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

PPHS Annual Volunteer Brunch
Saturday, September 16, 12:00pm
Florissant Library

PPHS Annual Auction
Saturday, October 21, 12:00pm
Lake George Charter School Gym

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

Mining Reclamation
Newmont Mining Corp.
Sunday, November 19, 2pm
Florissant Library

PPHS Christmas Party
Saturday, December 16, 12:00pm
Florissant Library

Thank you to the following newsletter contributors – Pam Adams, Kathy Perry, John Rakowski (photos); Scott Adams (story)

Did You Know...

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

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 Rakgeologist@yahoo.com

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



ATTENTION!

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

Hwy 24 Clean-up

Save the Date! Saturday, Sept. 6th The second 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.

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.

New Togs for the Teacherage, by Scott Adams, Vice President

Members and non-members volunteers have helped with projects such as mapping in the Cemetery, maintenance of the museum and kiosk, accession records maintenance, culturally modified tree documentation, and the Teacherage repainting. The Schoolhouse Museum, originally the teacher's residence, or Teacherage, was added to the schoolhouse sometime after 1907. This picture Pam Adams took last summer shows just how badly the Teacherage needed repainting.

Eight volunteers contributed more than 100 hours of work to finish the painting. The project included a power wash, scraping, and priming. Even the doors and windows got caulked and painted.



Figure 1, Florissant Teacherage, Summer 2016



Figure 2, Florissant Teacherage, 7/24/2017

Stop in and thank the folks at Woodland Park Sherwin Williams as they sold us quality outdoor paint at below wholesale prices. Two volunteers, Bob Nigh and Rita Lipinski, not members, also contributed their time and skill to the project.

Sheila Naviasky put in finishing touches to clean the interior. There is still more to do. PPHS member Deb Henderson has offered to paint the interior next year! Wouldn't you like to be part of that project?

Celinda Kaelin recalls the building was moved back to the old school house area (now the Florissant Grange) in 1991. The Grange leased the foundation for the

building to the PPHS for \$1.00 for 99 years. According to Bill Manuel in the original 1989 Florissant Walking Tour map, the Teacherage had been a post office and located south of what is now US Highway 24 before its first move to the schoolhouse.

When the Florissant school closed in the 1960s, the Teacherage was moved to Woodland Park for use at their middle school which is now the Cultural Center. In 1992, the RE-2 School District donated the building to the Pikes Peak Historical Society for a nominal \$1.00.

Celinda and her husband, Harold, describe a hair-raising night-time drive on Highway 24, after-which the steel beams broke through the rotted floor beams as the building was being placed on the foundation. PPHS volunteers then set to work then also. They ripped up the original hardwood floors to repair the rotted support beams, and then replaced the wood floors. They also replaced the roof, as it leaked badly.



Figure 3, Teacherage Interior

The PPHS installed phone service to the museum and simply added the Grange as an extension. On a "handshake" and in exchange for the phone service, the Grange provided electricity for the museum. The Teacherage served as the primary Museum until we were able to purchase our current building in 2005. The Teacherage then became the Florissant Schoolhouse Museum with displays of the original desks, books, and other items authentic to the school.

Besides schoolhouse memorabilia, the Teacherage is home to a beautiful collection of over 50 miniature historic buildings by well-known artist Ken Goehring. Goehring, born in Evansville, Wisconsin, came to Colorado Springs in 1948 to study at the Fine Arts Center Art School. Goehring has lived and painted in Colorado Springs since then. His abstract expressionist works have earned him a nationwide reputation and several prestigious awards. His work has been exhibited nation-wide, in cities from San Francisco to Washington, D.C. and Miami to Boston.



- | |
|--|
| <p>2017 Repainting, By the numbers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 tubes caulking • 3 gallon green trim paint • 4 Gals primer • 4 Gals of white finish coat • 8 Volunteers • 100 Volunteer hours • \$350 Approximate Cost • 550 Gals water for powerwash, • \$2500 - \$4000 Pro Estimates |
|--|

The Teacherage is often open during Flea Markets and other Grange and community-wide events. You can also schedule a tour by calling the museum (748-8259) and leaving a message.

Thanks to all the volunteers and Sherwin Williams for returning the Teacherage to a look to be proud of. If you haven't found your volunteer niche, check the minutes Brian Stewart sends out from the monthly board meeting or search this newsletter. Opportunities exist

with the Auction, Newsletter, and in the museum. Take a look, take a dive and get involved-you'll like it!

Sources: Heritage Day Notes by Celinda Kaelin, PPHS Web Site (multiple sources), Geocache Web Site by Kathy Perry, Walking Tour Map by Pam Adams



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 Tree Committee researches and records Native American Culturally Scarred Trees. In addition, we maintain a fund for returning representatives of the Ute tribe to their 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

COMMITTEE INTERESTS

<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$20/year	<input type="checkbox"/> Auction	<input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery	<input type="checkbox"/> Chautauqua
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$30/year	<input type="checkbox"/> Geocaching	<input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Hwy 24 Cleanup
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$50/year	<input type="checkbox"/> Kiosk	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Trails
<input type="checkbox"/> Castello Life	\$200	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 6/8/2017)



Pikes Peak Historical Society
P.O. Box 823
Florissant, CO 80816

BUILD RATE
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.
00000

Addressee or Current Resident

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321