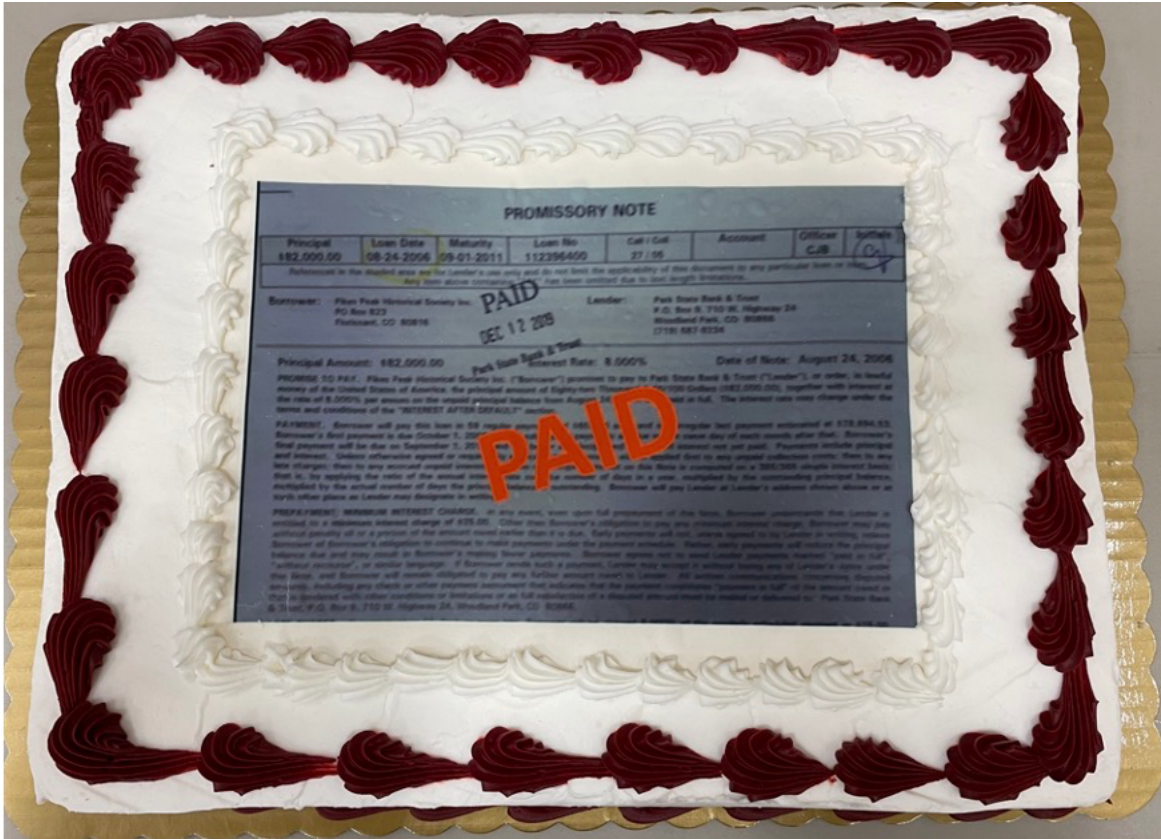


Summertime Living

A Refreshing Return



The birds are chirping, the frogs are croaking, and the grass is growing! I think we might have our seasons straightened out this year.

While I was sad to miss the annual meeting (and the mortgage cake!) I was able to attend my first PPHS in-person event since we moved up here (with the kids in tow) and it was so much fun. It was great to see how many members of the community came to learn and connect. I'm looking forward to hearing about the visitors that start coming in as the season kicks off too. Whenever we go into town we take a drive by

the teacherage to check out the progress, and the restoration is coming along so well. If you haven't made a donation to this great project yet, now is the time!

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Community Happenings

June

June 18, 2:00 pm

Lake George Charter School

Chautauqua: Castello Family Stories and
Historical Novel Signing with Bob Cox

Teacherage Update



Funds

We had a successful mini silent auction at the April Chautauqua, raising \$945. We have raised a total of almost \$14,000 to complete work on the teacherage.

The work that remains is small, but will make a big difference. This includes things like rebuilding the ramp, updating the handrail, and installing new locks. We lack about \$1000 which will come out of general funds unless we receive additional donations.

Your donation of any help – \$5, \$10, or even \$50 moves us closer to our goal! Donations to PPHS marked “TEACHERAGE” may be mailed to us at PO Box 823, Florissant, CO 80816.



Construction

In May, we had the new windows and doors installed by Oros Home Enhancements, and things are looking great!



2023 PPHS Board of Directors

John Rakowski, *President*

Scott Adams, *Vice President*

Carolynne Forster, *Treasurer*

Barbara Hickok, *Secretary*

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F. Martin “Brownie” Brown and His Trust

By Scott Adams

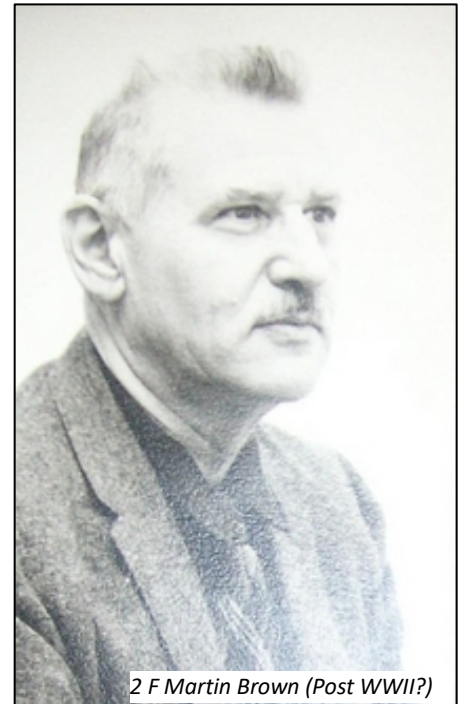
Tucked in the southwest corner of the Florissant Pioneer Cemetery you'll find a simple bronze grave marker with the name Brown. F. Martin “Brownie” Brown is buried there alongside first wife, Hazel *Heffron* Brown and second wife Grace *Kemper* Brown. Brownie's grave is such a peaceful, pleasant resting place and so very fitting.



1 Photo of the Brown grave.

Born March 24, 1903, in New York City, Frederick Martin Brown attended NYC public schools and entered Columbia University to study mathematics, geology, and engineering. He left after three years to take a job as an entomology assistant at the American Museum of Natural History.

Then he taught school in Rhode Island and Connecticut during the Roaring 20's and spent summers in the Caribbean as a pilot and mapmaker. A founding faculty member of the Fountain Valley School in 1930, he was known to generations of FVS students and faculty as “Brownie.” Brownie quickly achieved a reputation as an outstanding science teacher, and entomologist. With his first wife, Hazel, he travelled in Ecuador (1938 - '39) gathering insects for research.



2 F Martin Brown (Post WWII?)

He also taught part time at Colorado College and was a driving force behind the Broadmoor hotel's first ice rink and the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo.

He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942, and taught at the Army Air Force's Intelligence School attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

After the war Brownie returned to FVS and chaired the science department. He continued his own research with entomological expeditions to the Yucatan and the Lesser Antilles with trips through Colorado on a variety of geological and biological studies.



4 Samples of publications

After retirement in 1973, he continued writing, research, and part-time teaching at CC and CSU. Brownie began his long association with the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in 1976, identifying and comparing fossil and modern insects. Much of the FFBNM's insect collection was collected by Brownie in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Brownie also continued educating, teaching in the ***Stalking Education in the Wild*** program at Sanborn Western Camps, Florissant, CO. Brownie had “good jobs,” as he's quoted in the Gazette Telegraph, saying, “I've never given a damn what I did for work as long as it was interesting. And if you go about it that way, you'll always have a good job.”

He co-authored over 250 scientific papers in entomology, geology, paleontology, archeology, anthropology, and the history of science as well as a number of junior high, high school and college textbooks. He was published in every decade from the '30's to the '80's by the New York Entomological Society, the American Museum of Natural History, and Denver Museum of Natural History, among others.

Brownie established the F. Martin Brown Trust. In addition to supporting Sanborn Western Camps, the fund helps support publications, knowledge, and education "of the natural history of the Florissant area, especially as it applies to the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument and/or the adjacent areas." In a Friends of the Florissant Fossil Bed's eNewsletter article Jerry McLain of the Sanborn Western Camps showed how grants to the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds from the FMBT that have helped to fund many valuable publications and projects— the Geologic Guide map, the Birds of Florissant Fossil Beds book, thousands of Junior Ranger books, hiking guide site bulletins, rack cards, and several editions of trail maps. FMBT funds also support visitor center films and exhibits, Junior Ranger music albums and badges, and the purchase of art show display panels.



3 F. Martin Brown, Later in life

Little known outside the PPHS Board is that the FMBT also makes an annual contribution to the Pikes Peak Historical Society's Cemetery fund.

Brownie died in Colorado Springs on May 30, 1993. Inurnment at the Florissant Cemetery followed a memorial service in the chapel at Fountain Valley.

Sources, with thanks to Jerry McLain of Sanborn Western Camps:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/21510061/frederick-martin-brown>, 02/19/2023

<https://www.fvs.edu/about/history>, 03/01/2023

Gazette Telgraph, July 14, 1992, Page D1, "SENIOR LINE Experiences mean more than age to paleontologist."

https://species.wikimedia.org/wiki/Frederick_Martin_Brown, 03/01/2023

<https://www.fossilbeds.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/e-newsletter-46-Jan-2021.pdf>, 02/19/2023, p. 11.

Highway & Cemetery Cleanup Updates

Scott also provided this awesome update about some spring cleaning! Huge thanks to everyone who has dedicated time and energy!

John Rakowski, Wayne and Debbie Orlowski, Dave Groat, John Kurth, Barbara Hickok and Scott Adams worked about 3 hours. We got all but about one mile done, and lightning chased me away as I was starting that. We picked up along US 24 from the PPHS Kiosk to County Rd 46 and from the Bollinger's Ranch gate to the Park County Line. CDOT has already picked up the bags.

John, Kathy Gue, and Scott and Pam Adams worked on the cemetery for about 2 hours Monday morning prepping it for the Memorial Day ceremony. We packed a full trailer load of downed limbs and John trimmed around several areas. The cemetery is greening up nicely for the Spring.

The Crystola Bridge

By Steve Plutt



The Crystola Bridge carries TC21 over a drainage into Fountain Creek, 0.6 miles north of Crystola in northern Teller County. The bridge was completed ca. 1920 to serve State Highway 18 (which later became State Highway 4, U.S 40 South and is now U.S. 24) and carry it over the drainage ditch. The bridge is an early twentieth-century design of a reinforced concrete arch bridge built in the style of Daniel B. Luten. It is one of the few noteworthy examples of historic highway arch bridges remaining in the state. The entire structure is 24' in length, 20' in width, and composed of one 13' 6" deck that spans the ditch.

Historically, this area was homesteaded in the 1870s by Henry Childs who was a former Speaker of the House in Illinois. A Spiritualist, he and his wife Catherine often held séances in their Crystola home. At one of those séances, the spirits told them of the presence of gold on their homestead land.

Fountain Creek (historically known as The Fontaine qui Bouille) runs along the west side of the Crystola Bridge. The bridge spans a drainage tributary into the Fountain Creek floodplain. Fountain Creek and the Crystola Bridge drainage are normally dry except during moderate to heavy rains.

U.S. 24 serves as the major east-west road through the northern end of Teller County. The highway was rerouted through Woodland Park proper in 1936 while its former route over the Crystola Bridge on the historic Pikes Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway (PPOO), became TC21. The Crystola Bridge is a reinforced concrete barrel arch that allows water to pass under it. It has a concrete reinforced deck, covered with compacted decomposed granite gravel. The road leading to and from the bridge is also gravel. The span of the bridge is 13' 6" with an overall length of 24'. Its width is 20'. The balustrade on each side of the bridge contains thirteen ornate molded concrete balusters. Its concrete abutments have decorations on each side, molded when the concrete was poured, as well as a concrete-filled spandrel arch with incised panels on the spandrel walls.

Above the arch is a cornice form that projects from the side of the bridge. There is no date anywhere on the bridge that can be found. The bridge abutments and balustrade have spalling and deterioration from weather and there is a lot of lichen growth on the exterior sides of the bridge. The interior of the bridge also has "scars" from contact with snowplow blades and other vehicles.

Eight of the thirteen balusters on the easterly side have fallen out of place in years past with their whereabouts unknown. In February of 2022 the remaining five had fallen from the bridge into the ditch below. At the time of this nomination, two of those ornamental balusters in the ditch are missing.

The setting of the bridge appears much as it was during its period of significance of ca. 1920 to 1936. The surrounding area is rural with a grass-covered valley in between hills of Ponderosa Pine. The town of Woodland Park is but two miles north on TC21.

The integrity of the bridge is good as it retains its original appearance and setting and continues to be recognizable as an early highway bridge. Furthermore, when U.S. 24 was realigned and moved to the east of TC21 in 1936, the new road was paved while this stretch of TC21 and the bridge were unaltered and retain the feeling of traveling on Colorado's early gravel highways.

The property also speaks to the historic contexts that led to its construction and the type with which it is associated.

As State Highway 4, the route carried a section of the transcontinental PPOO that stretched from New York City to Los Angeles during the 1910s and '20s. In 1920, the Pikes Peak Region, which includes the Crystola Bridge, felt the economic impact of no less than 50,000 automobile tourists. Automobile tourist "camps" were up and down Ute Pass which brought dollars to local residents of Cascade, Green Mountain Falls, Crystola, and Woodland Park. By 1922 the Ute Pass Region was declared a "favorite with vacationists for years." These automobile tourists crossed the Crystola Bridge in masses.

By the 1930s and 1940s, the route had become one of the state's most popular tourist highways, helping fuel the industry that sustained many mountain towns and was a central feature to the Colorado economy. According to news reports, the improved Ute Pass highway will "see motors purring into the Pikes Peak region at intervals of

but a very few minutes during the height of the summer attraction." Again, the Crystola Bridge witnessed these motorists. The CHD declared in the late summer of 1931 that Ute Pass was the most traveled mountain pass in the state. CHD said that there were "2,400 cars a day using the route." This undoubtedly brought many tourist dollars to the communities of Ute Pass, from the town of Divide down to Cascade. Even before Colorado was admitted to the Union in 1876, roads and road building were a concern to Colorado businesses and politicians. But when the "horseless carriage" era came to be, the "Good Roads Movement" picked up speed. Gasoline-powered carriages soon became the preferred vehicle. At first, wealthy families and then a growing American populace across the country were motoring around towns and cities using their new individual modes of transportation to travel and vacation. Automobiles were the new and modern mode of travel. Before that, those traveling the state used wagon roads or simply took the Colorado Midland Railroad. Construction of the Colorado Midland began in 1886 and eventually reached Aspen from Colorado Springs in 1888. The railway made its way through the mountains, which helped facilitate the development of towns such as Cascade, Chipita Park, Green Mountain Falls, and Manitou Park (now known as Woodland Park).

It was in 1899 when the new "automobile tourist industry" came to be in Teller County and the Ute Pass region. That was when the first gasoline-powered carriage to climb any mountain road occurred, and it happened to be up Ute Pass. On July 21, 1899, Dr. Edward J. Cabler and his wife Eugenia along with inventor Robert Temple, loaded 1000 pounds of food, clothing and automotive supplies into their Temple automobile and left Denver for their destination of Victor, Colorado. They traveled south to Colorado Springs, west up Ute Pass, through Cascade stopping at Ute Park and on through Green Mountain Falls, Woodland Park and Divide. The journey took a total of six days to reach Victor.

Gee, Thanks!

We always have people and businesses to thank for their contributions to PPHS in the form of money, time, energy, and materials; so:

Thank you to those who donated items to our silent auction.

Thank you to our docents! The more that are available, the more we are able to keep the museum open.

Thank you to those who came out for the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup event. We're grateful to those who enjoy keeping our town clean.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who did a great job cleaning up the cemetery in preparation of the Memorial Day event.

Thank you to everyone who has helped contribute to this newsletter! Feedback and ideas are always welcome – we love to showcase our wonderful members.

Thank you to those who have been attending our events – it has been wonderful to see you!



Smiling Faces of Oros Home Enhancements



L to R: Barbara Hickok, John Rakowski, Elaine Godsoe, Betty Merchant Debbie and Wayne Orlowski.

Thank you to our awesome cleaning crew, who came and helped get the museum ready for visitors.

Membership Information

If you have questions or need to make changes to your contact information, members may call 719-748-8259 and leave a message for a call back; or call President John Rakowski at 719-748-3861; or contact Lois Voeltz, Membership Chairman, at PPHSMembers@gmail.com; or use the 'Contact Us' form via the website:

www.pikespeakhsmuseum.org

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

Remember you have the option of receiving your Newsletter by email or regular mail.

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 \$400 are requested for a full burial, and only \$200 for cremains. Call Pikes Peak Historical Society at 719-748-8259 to secure your future at this historic site.



February 2023

Membership Dues Renewal Time

Dear PPHS member,

March 15, 2023 is the date for your yearly membership renewal. The PPHS Board is **GRATEFUL** for your continued support of the Pikes Peak Historical Society and we're hoping that your yearly support will continue. If this is impossible for you this year, please let us know. We are looking forward to 2023 being a great year for all of us to celebrate the wonders of the Pikes Peak region!

~Lois Voeltz Membership PPHSmembers@gmail.com (719) 650-7984

Dues payment may be made on-line by choosing "Get Involved" at: www.pikespeakhsmuseum.org

Or print the form shown below; include all information and mail with your check to:

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

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME(S) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

PPHS NEWSLETTER: ____email ____US mail ____email and US mail

CHECK MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

____SUSTAINING \$20/YEAR

____FAMILY \$30/YEAR

____SUPPORTING \$50-\$100/YEAR

____CASTELLO LIFE \$200

CHECK COMMITTEE INTERESTS:

____AUCTION ____MUSEUM ____CEMETERY ____BEAUTIFICATION

____GEOCACHING ____HWY 24 CLEANUP ____TEACHERAGE

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____ **DATE** _____



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