



NEWSLETTER

FALL 2026

It's hard to believe Summer is ending! Thank you to all the dedicated and super volunteer docents who gave of their time so freely to serve in the museum this summer. And thank you to Marianne Mogon and the team from the FFPD, Grange and Lake George who so successfully recreated the Flo-Geo Heritage Day theme. I can't imagine how long that "Flo-Geo" hat John Rakowski wore had been sitting in a closet! I...think...he washed it?! It was great to see John and Debbie back for the day. Summer might be ending, but Fall is not lacking in activities. The museum will be open on weekends through September and we have some fantastic Chautauquas on tap for October and November. Make sure you check out the previews of those on pages three and four. Then mark your calendar or set the reminder on your phone- whatever it is you do!

I want to say a special "THANK YOU" to and recommend to you the Healy House and Dexter Cabin Museum at 10th and Harrison in Leadville. Julie Blanda who is presenting "Soiled Doves" will give you an incredible tour, and Hannah Cary, the administrator is providing Julie to us at their expense. We are so grateful for their generosity!

As a younger man I'd hoped someone would invite me to join the AdAmAn Club. Alas, I've only climbed the peak with family and friends, and never on New Years. But I am looking forward to hearing Don Sandborn.

- Scott Adams,



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GEOCACHING NOTES | BY KATHY & RUDY PERRY

Attending Geocoinfest with coaster_cacher this weekend. We drove out Saturday and are doing some cleanup around the area of caches we need for challenges and that just look fun. Thank you to PPHS for your contributions to this wonderful hobby that we share!

Thank you to the wonderful Kathy and Rudy not just for their efforts maintaining and monitoring our geocache sites, but for sharing these notes from visitors!

Nice little history lesson for this. I enjoyed reading the story in the description very much. Thank you for setting it up. Beautiful here in the cemetery.

Check out the smoky quartz crystals! Thanks for the cache!

Museum Cache

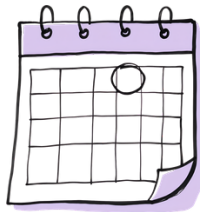
Yay! This was fun, and it felt good to pay respect to those who made a difference. Thank you!

I love discovering places that I didn't know were there. Thanks for bringing me to this one.

We stopped in to check out the free museum and learn more about the area. Nice Museum!

Pioneer Cemetery Cache

Thanks, Pikes Peak Historical Society, for placing this for us to find. Howdy from Texas!



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

October 18

Chautauqua | 2:00PM Lake George Charter School
Soiled Doves: The Working Women of Colorado's Boom Days

November 15

Chautauqua | 2:00PM Lake George Charter School
Pikes Peak AdAmAn Club

2026 PPHS Board of Directors

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Soiled Doves | October 18 2:00 p.m. at Lake George

Charter School

Prostitution in the Old West was widespread. In every mining camp, railroad stop, trading outpost, boom town, or military fort, a lonely man looking for love could find a woman willing to tend to his needs ... for a price.

The stories of the often-forgotten women who came out to the Wild West inspired Julie Blanda, an avid history enthusiast, to create her Soiled Doves presentation. Blanda enjoys researching various aspects of Leadville's past.

The Soiled Doves presentation encompasses a brief mining history of Leadville and Summit and Chaffee Counties, and those who came out West to seek riches, including the women, and many who did not find fortune. Blanda will discuss the varied aspects of prostitution in the mid- to late-1800s and into the 1900s, from their day-to-day lives to an in-depth description of differences between a parlor girl and a crib girl, and from their clientele to their housing. There will be numerous fun facts and humorous accounts throughout the presentation. This presentation is not suitable for young children.

Blanda hails from Indiana and her parents still live in her hometown of Mishawaka. She is a docent at the Healy House and Dexter Cabin Museum in Leadville and works at Ski Cooper in the winter. She and her husband, John, live in Leadville in a 1870s miner's cabin with their dog, Brody.

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Blanda will have some books for sale following the presentation.

A big "Thank You" to Hannah Cary and History Colorado for facilitating and sponsoring Julie Blanda's Chautauqua appearance.

She can accept cash or credit card. Chautauquas are free and open to the public with no reservations required. For more information call [719-748-8259](tel:719-748-8259) or [719-291-6563](tel:719-291-6563)





Pikes Peak AdAmAn Club

November 15 2:00 p.m. at Lake George Charter School

At the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve, the AdAmAn Club presents a spectacular fireworks display, which, on a clear night, can be seen for hundreds of miles along the

Front Range of the Colorado Rockies and eastern plains. On November 15, Pikes Peak Historical Society is hosting Don Sanborn, a member of the AdAmAn Club, at their Chautauqua.

The AdAmAn Club has been a Pikes Peak Region tradition since 1922. It is a unique group of mountaineers, who each year on December 30th and 31st, climb the icy slopes of Barr Trail on the east face of Pikes Peak.

Then, at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve, AdAmAn members and their guests ignite a glorious fireworks display from the summit to usher in the New Year.

The club is dedicated to the memory of the original "Frozen Five", Ed Morath, Fred Morath, Fred Barr, Willis Magee, and Harry Standley. Their idea was that each year, one new member would be added to the Club, and as a result, the name AdAmAn (add a man) was chosen. Every year, members choose one new member from a list of applicants.

Don Sanborn, a second-generation Colorado Native, was raised in Cascade, graduated from Manitou Springs High School, and obtained a B.S. in Agricultural Engineering at Colorado State University.

Sanborn is a past President of the AdAmAn Club, past Chairman of the Board of Directors of Barr Camp, has been on the board of the Pikes Peak Hill Climb, has been Timing Director and Information Management Officer for the Pikes Peak Hill Climb, has been on the Pikes Peak Marathon Race Committee, is President of the Pikes Peak Hill Climb Historical Society, and is a member of the Pikes Peak Hill Climb Museum

Committee. He has also been an announcer as part of the KRDO radio live coverage team for the Hill Climb: at the starting line the past eleven years, and once from the finish line before that. He has served as commissioner of the Pikes Peak Highway Advisory Committee and the Telecommunications Policy Advisory Committee for the City of Colorado Springs.

Chautauquas are free and open to the public with no reservations required. For more information call [719-748-8259](tel:719-748-8259) or [719-291-6563](tel:719-291-6563)

Flo-Geo Day 2026

After hearing about Colorado's 250/150 initiative, the communities of Florissant and Lake George wanted to present a day of fun activities while emphasizing our culture, our history, and our everyday mountain life to participate in the state's initiative. Several of us got together and started tossing ideas around. After the event information was sent to the state's 250/150 calendar, they were impressed with the proposed event and submitted it to the National 250 Calendar.

Flo-Geo Heritage Day was launched, and fourteen local businesses donated money to cover expenses. High Country Realty covered the cost of all the banners and yard signs. The day began with Florissant Fire Department's annual Pancake Breakfast. The Cripple Creek Donkeys were there and Smokey the Bear and Sparky the Fire Dog also made appearances. The museum was open all day, and the staff of the Florissant Library presented Storytime and Crafts at the Tipi. The Teacherage at the Grange showcased an Art Contest featuring students at Lake George Charter School. Also at the Grange there was a craft show, quilt show, art gallery, ice cream and live Old West Gunfighters reenactors. Florissant Fossil Beds was open along with the Hornbek Homestead. Our dear Adeline Hornbek aka Linda Johnson of the Gold Camp Victorian Society, appeared there, as well as visiting other locations. A special treat was that Adeline's great, great granddaughter Angie Davis hosted the open homestead for the National Park Service, fostering a wonderful 'reunion' between 'Adeline' and Angie. There was a presentation at the cemetery about the Civil War Heroes resting there. Visitors at the Granite Canyon General Store in Lake George saw presentations about the store and it being one of the original buildings of Lake George. They were also shown where the Frost Mansion once stood. Over at the Community Park, people could view the Snare Cabin and Ice Business display, and watch the competition of a Gymkhana. Lake George Library sold used books and there were two hydration stations; Teva Cultural Arts and Visitor Center and High Country Realty.

We even created Passports that people could get stamped at the various locations they visited. All locations were visited, and the overall comments were positive. The event was a success and there has been discussion about doing it again next year. If anyone is interested in helping or has ideas, please let us know.



A VERY BIG THANK YOU, AND WELCOME

Twenty years ago, Sheila Naviasky fell in love with our museum and, with help and encouragement from Scott Adams and Susan Weinzapfel, she put her organizational skills to work and has been working with and scheduling docents ever since.

"I love the museum and enjoy the visitors; it's just a wonderful place," Sheila said.

But she has decided that it is time to step away from the task she has been doing so well all these years.

"We are extremely grateful for all her efforts and contributions to our museum, the visitors, and the docents. She will be sorely missed," said Scott Adams, President.

"I may be stepping down, but I'll still be around," Sheila said.

Sheila has been working with her replacement, Lisa Eisenhardt. Lisa was born in Nebraska, but moved frequently as a child until they settled in Wyoming, where she graduated from Cheyenne High School and then attended the University of Wyoming earning a BS in Psychology. She got married and moved all over California. They came to Colorado for three years, then back to California before returning to Colorado and settling in Glen Eagle. After nine years there, they moved to Florissant and have been here eight years.

She visited the museum and was very impressed. She met Scott at one of his talks at the cemetery.

"I wanted to learn more about the area and became a docent," she explained.

Volunteering was not a new undertaking as she has volunteered for other places before. She said we live in a wonderful community and she is anxious to be a part of the community and learn more history.

"I just want to do a good job for the docents and generate more interest in the museum," said Lisa.



THANK
YOU



ANNOUNCEMENT

Future emails to the membership will come from *membership@pikespeakhsmuseum.org* with the name **Membership**. You may need to add the new address to your contacts to prevent messages going in spam folders.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you have questions or need to make any changes to your contact or mailing information (including receiving this newsletter by email or regular mail), call 719-748-8259 and leave a message for a call back. Of course, you can always contact Robyn Williams, Membership Chair, at *membership@pikespeakhsmuseum.org*.

With any questions, you can visit the website and use the **Contact Us** form to get in touch. Our website is www.pikespeakhsmuseum.org

Membership may be renewed either on our website using PayPal or via U.S. Mail at PO Box 823, Florissant, CO 80816

FLORISSANT PIONEER CEMETERY

The PPHS Cemetery Committee is in need of volunteers to help with various aspects of maintaining our cemetery to honor those who rest there now or will in the future. Our cemetery is of vital importance to our loved ones and the community. We need volunteers to help our friends and neighbors choose their special spot, keep the records in order, and clean up grounds, to name a few possible activities. Funeral planning is difficult and stressful, but being able to help them during that time is of the utmost importance. We need volunteers who are willing to help with this process. Help us continue to provide a clean, attractive, welcoming place of honor for all who come to visit their loved ones and those who are considering it as a final resting place.

If you are interested, please call the museum at 719-748-8259. Thank you.

Kathy Gue, Cemetery Chair



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