

# CASTLE ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY CASTLE ROCK MUSEUM

Phone (303) 814-3164

*Established 1991*

P.O. Box 1572  
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Castle Rock Town Council  
100 Wilcox St.  
Castle Rock, CO 80104

11 January 2017

Dear Madam Mayor, Town Council and Town Manager

2016 was very fulfilling year for the Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum. A report on the activities of the museum by the Director is attached. The Society and Museum will mark an important milestone in 2017. It will be the 20th anniversary of the museum which we plan to celebrate in August. We are indebted to Starr and Lionel Oberlin for their vision and leadership on this project and we honor their memory.

The Society hosted its first Historic Tea as a fundraising event this year. We are proud that it sold out and that it will be an annual part of the society's fundraising activities. The Tea featured reenactors of important Castle Rock citizens to enliven the proceedings.

The Society continues to provide interesting and entertaining free monthly historic programs at the Library. The ghost stories of Douglas county was particularly popular. Readership in our monthly newsletter and website continues to expand and serves as another vehicle to provide information on the history of the town.

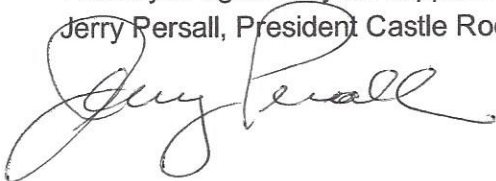
The Society again sponsored a historic cemetery tour of Cedar Hill Cemetery. Attendance at the tour has continuously increased with over 100 people for the tour last October. Different notable citizen are featured each year.

We plan to expand our activities with more tours and programs such as bus tours and local sites of interest. The Society board has added an event planner to facilitate these events. The Town staff has been most helpful in supporting our tours such as the rhyolite quarries and the annual historic trolley tour.

The society has qualified and participates in the annual Colorado Gives day with increasing donations every year.

Thank you again for your support! You are always welcome to visit the museum.

Jerry Persall, President Castle Rock Historical Society & Museum



## **Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum Report, 2016**

The Castle Rock Museum has had another busy and rewarding year. The featured exhibit for this year was the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. The Castle Rock Museum was the original railroad depot in Castle Rock built to serve the D&RG Railroad. The exhibit tells the story of the importance of the railroad to the life and commerce of the town. The railroad provided reliable transportation for people and goods of the town and county until it was closed in 1965. It was especially important to the rhyolite stone industry that flourished for many years. The exhibit illustrates the forward thinking of town fathers who had to put up money and land in order for the depot to be built.

This year marked the completion of a major grant activity. A State Historical fund grant provided for a new climate control system and the replacement of the metal roof. The new HVAC system provides near constant temperature and humidity control which is a benefit to artifact preservation. The 45-year-old rusted roof was replaced by a heavy gauge metal roof, snow guards and gutters. This was the largest grant for the museum since the purchase of the building by the Historical Society. The museum is currently raising funds to restore large artifacts donated to the museum.

The museum has been asked to support the naming of the second Medical Office building for Castle Rock Adventist Hospital. A local Castle Rock nurse will be the designated name for the building and the museum will provide an exhibit on her career and community connection. The museum did the same for the first building, named for Dr. George Alexander. The opening ceremony has been scheduled by the hospital for May 4th during National Nurses Week when the name will be revealed.

This year marked the seventh annual Trolley Tour with the town trolley. This year's theme was, "History in your Neighborhood". The trolley allowed us to explore the history of Castle Rock beyond the downtown area. It featured locations such as the CDR racetrack, the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp and the towns of Douglas and New Memphis which are now part of Castle Rock. The Society and Museum Staff provided five full tours.

The museum enjoys participating in Town sponsored activities such as the Scavenger Hunt and Festival of Trees. Over 100 costumed families came to the museum during the Scavenger Hunt and at least 1000 toy train whistles were provided to children through the Festival of Trees. The Car Show is also another great event for the museum's CDR Raceway exhibit. The museum provides walking tours of downtown Castle Rock during the summer months to educate, entertain and bring folks to downtown. It also provides Castle Rock history programs for local church and civic groups.

Large groups of children from public, charter and homeschool groups returned to visit the museum during the school year. A walking tour of downtown Castle Rock is now a part of the visit.

In addition to local and state visitors the museum had visitor from 38 additional states and nine foreign countries. Many of our local visitors are new residents who want to learn more about their new home town. New technology has enabled more folks to locate the museum.

Operating expenses for the museum for the year were \$73,200 .00. The funds are principally used for salaries, utilities, maintenance and exhibits. Other funds which support the museum come from donations, fundraising events, gift shop sales, recycling and donated services.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angie DeLeo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Angie" being more prominent than the last name "DeLeo".

Angie DeLeo, Director, Castle Rock Museum