

*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 S. Wilcox St.

Castle Rock, CO 89104

28 January 2016

Dear Mr. Mayor, Town Council and Town Manager,

2015 was another great year for the Society and Museum. A report on activities at the Museum provided by the Director is attached. Here are some the exciting activities undertaken by the Society.

Our interesting monthly historic programs at the library have attracted new residents eager to learn about their new home and new members to support the work of the society. In addition the society has conducted annual cemetery tours for large crowds. The society supports the museum with funding and volunteers. The society conducts several fund raising events and has grown its participation in Colorado Gives. Readership to our website and monthly newsletter has grown steadily. The newsletter always features historic buildings of Castle Rock and interesting personal stories. The society works with other community groups to do and provide interesting programs. The society sponsors local tours of interest in addition to the Trolley. The town staff has been most generous in supporting these when we need their help. A trip to the old Santa Fe quarry has always been very popular.

We greatly appreciate the strong support of the Town Council to help us operate the museum. We believe that it is a great treasure for the community our organization is dedicated to its preservation.

You are always welcome to visit the Museum individually or as a group. We always try to accommodate the schedule of visitors. Thank you again for your support! We look forward to seeing you!



Dorothy Kelly

President, Castle Rock Historical Society

Annual Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum Report 2015

The featured exhibit for 2015 was the devastating flood of 1965. 2015 was the 50th anniversary of the flood which occurred on June 16th 1965. Historic pictures, film and personal stories illustrate the impact to the town. After a wet spring 14 inches of rain fell in 4 hours according to government reports causing the deluge. The most serious impact to Castle Rock was the loss of all the bridges including access to I25. The flood was also the theme of the Historic Trolley Tour in May, Historic Preservation month. We appreciate the support of the town for these tours. Five full capacity tours were conducted on 16 May.

Several smaller exhibits were also prepared. We have displayed the Castle Rock wooden water pipe on loan from the Water Department. It has fascinated visitors. In addition we loaned an exhibit from the county on Russellville, the first settlement in Douglas County. In November we honored Castle Rock veterans of World War II. A book prepared by the Castle Rock community which featured Castle Rock's WWII veterans was donated to the museum to compliment that exhibit.

The summer historic walking tours in downtown Castle Rock were more popular than ever. With crowds of 20 to 45 people wanting to learn about the history and origins of Castle Rock. People from around the county have been attracted to these tours. Following the September walking tour the museum celebrated the 140th Birthday of the Denver & Rio Grande Depot. The Historical Society provided a G-Scale model train for use on the grounds of the museum. The model railroad will ride several times during the summer along with models of Castle Rock historic buildings which were donated to the museum several years ago. The train proved a delight for children and adults. The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad in Castle Rock will be the focus of an exhibit in 2016.

Visitors continue to come from all parts of the country. The museum had visitors from 41 states and seven foreign countries last year. We attracted visitors from new elementary schools in the area. One of the 2nd graders adopted the museum for its sustainability project by collecting aluminum cans for recycling and donated over \$50 to the museum. Museum visitors also include church social and civic groups from around the area.

As indicated in our last report a railroad shed that once belonged to the depot was donated and moved to the museum grounds. The building was made from an old wooden railroad box car.

Our volunteers provide vital services to the museum. They entertain and provide walking tours for school children. They are a source of many donated artifacts. They have prepared exhibits, restored photographs, helped us participate in community activities and donated funds.

Operating expenses for the museum for the year were \$74,600. The funds are used for salaries, utilities, maintenance, exhibits and training. Other funds which support the museum come from donations, gift shop sales, recycling and donated services. Reserve funds are also maintained to provide for unexpected problems. Grants are used for one time preservation projects. Our current State Historic fund grant is being used to replace the heating and air conditioning system and replace the roof.


Angie DeLeo, Director, Castle Rock Museum