



Thursday, January 9, 2020

Castle Rock Town Council  
100 Wilcox Street  
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Dear Mayor, Members of the Town Council and Town Manager,

2019 was another wonderful year for the Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum (CRHSM). A report on the activities of the museum by the Director is attached. November 2019 brought a transition of Board leadership for the Society. Our former President's tenure expired and several additional Board members relinquished their seats after serving for years in various seats. The current Board is grateful for the exemplary work done in prior years and will continue to walk on the solid foundation set in 2020. We are well staffed and well managed with caring custodians.

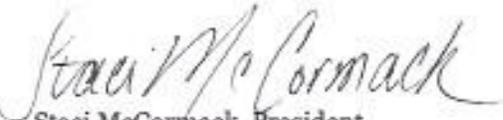
The Society celebrates well-attended events in 2019. Historic, dusk ghost and Cedar Hill and Bear Canyon cemetery tours were hosted in October with more than 100 persons in attendance per event in this 9<sup>th</sup> season. The number of local folks attending surpassed any in prior years where local citizens are featured. Our 2019 Historic Victoria's Tea was a sold-out event and will continue to feature the Colorado reenactors, The Legendary Ladies in May 2020. Our BBQ fundraiser was enjoyed by all in attendance and we are still tasting the 'Q' on our palate.

The Society continues to provide interesting and entertaining monthly historic programs at the Philip S. Miller Library. Readership in our monthly newsletter and website continues to expand and serves as another vehicle to provide information on the history of the town. Membership has increased in just the past two months.

We plan to expand our outreach and partnership with Douglas County School District in supporting the meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> grade history state standards. In an effort to grow, sustain and attract future supporters of the CRHSM, we are creating strategic plans to incorporate additional avenues to communicate. Using more social media, growing our connection to youth and children, reaching farther to connect to our growing local senior population and our many visitors that come to Castle Rock to see relatives is a mission of ours in 2020. Town staff has been most helpful in supporting our work in the past and we look forward to continuing our partnership in the future.

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

Thank you again for your support! We invite you to attend any of these monthly activities and you are always welcome to visit the museum.

  
Staci McCormack, President  
Castle Rock Historical Society & Museum

## Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum Report, 02-2019

The Castle Rock Museum had another busy and exciting year. The museum operates four days per week, five hours per day as stated in the contract. However, the museum does serve additional groups such as school visits and civic programs at hours beyond the usual operating hours. The museum staff is continually engaged in curating and preserving museum artifacts related to the history of Castle Rock. The artifacts are principally acquired through donations. ( This meets our objective 1 and 2.)

As a prime objective the featured rotating exhibit for this year is the CDR, the Continental Divide Raceways race track that operated here throughout the 1960's. The track featured road racing, drag racing and even motorcycles. The most famous racers in the world raced there such as Mario Ancretti and Carroll Shelby. Evel Knievel even came and jumped 10 cars on his motorcycle. The track was also the site of an air show. The exhibit opened on May 18th with four race cars thundering in the parking lot. The day also featured the unveiling of the Cindy Welch watercolor painting of the museum, provided jointly by the Town Historic Preservation Board and Public Art Commission. Prior to our main exhibit we did a short fun exhibit of the jails, locks and handcuffs of Douglas County including the Courthouse jail featured during Castle Rock's 100th anniversary celebration. (This meets our objectives 3 and 4)

This was the tenth year of our very popular historic Trolley Tour. The theme for this year's tour was History in Your Neighborhood. The town trolley enables us to point out places of historic interest outside the downtown area. The museum provides walking tours of downtown Castle Rock during the summer months to educate, entertain and bring folks to downtown. Both the tours are popular with new residents and also bring visitors from outside of Castle Rock. The museum has been receiving more request for trolley tours. We supported a trolley tour for Town staff, the Senior Center and downtown merchants. The museum provides history programs and tours for local church and civic groups. Last fall we initiated Ghost walking tours. Based on the favorable response we plan to continue them. (These programs are designed to meet our objectives 5, 6 and 7.)

Children from public, charter and homeschool groups continue to visit the museum during the spring and fall. A walking tour of downtown Castle Rock is also available as a part of the visit. We added some optional hands on projects. We have done gold panning and cattle branding. The museum participates in other community events like the Car Show and Festival of Trees to build community awareness of the museum. New technology has enabled visitors to find our out-of-the-way location. We completed our first on-line exhibit and have plans to add more so that we can reach a larger audience. (This meets our objective 6 and 8.)

We also enjoy the services of talented volunteers who work as docents, provide exhibits and do restoration repairs at the museum. Our IT department is principally volunteer. Society members sponsor our fundraising events such as our Tea and Barbeque. Operating expenses for the museum for the year were nearly \$80,000.00. The funds are used for salaries, utilities, maintenance and exhibits. Other funds which support the museum come from personal donations, fundraising events, gift shop sales, business support, recycling and donated services.

Angie DeLeo, Director, Castle Rock Museum

Many School visits during the year.



Many visitors from Community Groups

Ghost Tours



Annual Trolley Tour

Summer Walking Tours



Annual Tea Event

Western BBQ

