UPCOMING EVENT: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
  Lunch and Chapter meeting - El Burrito, 404 Linden Street, Fort Collins

- 1:15 – 4:15 p.m.
  Car pool tour conducted by Wayne Sundberg

Wayne will guide us on a visit to the preserved and excavated Fort Collins Water Works, Lions Park, an Overland Trail marker, the Cache (powder) marker, the Janis marker, a log cabin, Bingham Hill and Pleasant Valley overlook in LaPorte, the Flowers House in Bellvue, and a stop for coffee at the old store there.

In addition, members may want to attend the opening ceremony of the new Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, 408 Mason Court, at 9:30 a.m. Wayne will be a participant in this ceremony. For further information about the museum and directions: www.fcmod.org or 970-221-6738.

NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS

Sharon Danhauer is our new chapter President and Berl Meyer is our new Vice President, as of September 29. Berl continues as the chapter webmaster and will share the President’s duties with Sharon during the summer months.

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NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS  
Continued from page 1

• Sharon has devoted much of her life to the preservation of local and regional history as a volunteer and more recently through her business, Danhauer’s Tours. Her passion for learning, preserving and sharing history began while she was in elementary school, listening to an outstanding teacher read aloud from Ralph Moody’s Little Britches, an autobiographical account of his life in the early 20th century in Littleton, Colorado. She commented, “It was better than a serial on the radio or television to me and I became hooked on history.” Her family lived in Littleton near where “Little Britches” lived with his family on their 80-acre hardscrabble farm. “It was so exciting to see what he described in the book and walk where he had walked.”

She has served multiple terms on the Board of Directors of both the Berthoud and Loveland Historical societies. She is also a member of the Rocky Mountain Map Society. Sharon has two sons and five grandchildren.

• Berl grew up in Jeffersontown, Kentucky. He attended the University of Arizona School of Mines and the University of Louisville, from which he received bachelor’s and master’s degrees. A Navy veteran, Berl was an Aerographer’s Mate 2nd Class and served on board the USS Constellation in the Tonkin Gulf during the Vietnam war.

He had a long career in Kentucky as a Middle School teacher of Earth Science prior to his retirement. He has been the Geology Coordinator for the Kentucky Society of Natural History since 1976 and is also the webmaster for the USS Constellation CVA /CV 64 Association. Berl and his wife, Pat, reside in Fairdale, Kentucky during the winter and in Cotopaxi, Colorado during the summer.

VOLUNTEER HOUR FORMS

Be sure to send your volunteer hour information to Carol Osborne. If you have not been doing so on a monthly basis, it’s important to submit your 2012 hours to Carol prior to year-end, so that they can be included in OCTA’s annual report. Please send this information to Carol at: vcosborne@dishmail.net. Further information on how to compile and submit this information is on the chapter website.
On October 2, 2012 the Loveland City Council presented a Proclamation of Appreciation (left) to Jess Rodriguez for his donation of property to the Loveland Historical Society to preserve the Medina Family Cemetery. The Proclamation was read by Councilman Daryle Klassen (third from left below).

A committee of our chapter, chaired by Susan Kniebes, has been working on the creation of signage for this site. The text of the sign and the accompanying trail map were recently finalized by the committee and read by Sharon Danhauer (second from left above) after the presentation of the Proclamation. The signage will be embedded in a stone donated by the City of Loveland.

Sharon Perry (center) holds the Historic Loveland Landmark plaque presented by the City Council to the Loveland Historical Society for the cemetery site. Photos by Diane Littlefield
NEW BOOK BY DAVID JESSUP

Mariano’s Crossing

David Jessup, a member of our chapter, has written an historical novel, Mariano’s Crossing, based on the life of Mariano Medina and other settlers of the Big Thompson Valley. David is a co-owner of the Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch in Loveland, Colorado.

David is donating a portion of the proceeds from the sale of this book to the Loveland Historical Society for the Medina Family Cemetery project and he is working on a second book involving Medina’s earlier life. Further information about Mariano’s Crossing and how to order autographed copies is available at www.davidmjessup.com. His blog, Beef, Books and Boots containing stories of ranch life and related topics, appears on the Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch website: www.sylvandale.com.

CHAPTER MEETING AT THE OCTA CONVENTION

August 8, 2012 – Lawrence, Kansas

Clockwise (from top/center): Bruce and Peggy Watson, Rod Podsuzs, Lee and Jane Whiteley, Gary and Ginny Dissette, Mary and Chuck Martin, John Mark Lambertson, Phil and Camille Bradford, Berl and Pat Meyer.
Help Save the Trail!

OCTA created a new membership brochure this year and we need your help in distributing it.

Please think of museums, historical sites – and other places in your area where trail enthusiasts are likely to visit – where you would be willing to drop off brochures.

Many motels, restaurants and event venues also have display racks for brochures of interest to visitors.

Please let me know of places you would be willing to drop off brochures and the number you would like to receive.

Many thanks for your help!

Berl Meyer, Vice President
Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter
webmaster@octa-colorado.org
502-368-4378
CHAPTER MEETING AT FOUR MILE HISTORIC PARK
September 29, 2012

The chapter held an outdoor meeting and picnic on September 29 at the Four Mile Historic Park in Denver. This was a joint event with the Cherry Creek Valley Historical Society. Four Mile House, on the banks of Cherry Creek, was the last stop on the Cherokee Trail for travelers headed west into Denver. Lee Whiteley gave a presentation on the Smoky Hill and Cherokee trails, which was followed by a tour of the historic site. Bill Shanks conducted the tour.

Chapter Officers:
Sharon Danhauer, President sadanhau@gmail.com
Berl Meyer, Vice President and Webmaster webmaster@octa-colorado.org
Peggy Watson, Treasurer bgwatson@comcast.net

Committee Chairs:
Bruce Watson Preservation Committee bgwatson@comcast.net
Susan Kniebes Trail Marking Committee skniebes@localnet.com
Gary Dissette Event Coordinator gdissette@hotmail.com
Jane Leche Youth Committee imageonstage@yahoo.com
Camille Bradford Newsletter Editor bradford@usa.net