Eastern Colorado Museums & Historical Societies Meeting
Saturday, October 10, 2015
Russell Gates Mercantile Building - Elbert, Colorado

Joe Martell opened the meeting at 10am and welcomed attendees to Elbert and the historic Russell Gates Mercantile building. Prior to launching individual introductions, he asked that everyone update their name/contact info on the sheet being circulated. Please note that the attendees are listed on ATTACHMENT I to these minutes.

Wanda Randall gave

After a delicious Soup lunch, Joe Martell acknowledged the Elbert Women's Club for their program and hospitality in allowing the group to meet in their building. He also acknowledged members of the Elbert County Historical Society for providing the lunch, and turned over the floor alphabetically to an update by the groups represented.

A. **Castle Rock Historical Society & Museum - Angie DeLeo**
   - The museum building (DN & Rio Grande depot) celebrated its 140th birthday this year with walking tours, a joint trolley tour with the town of Castle Rock and an exhibit dedicated to the 1965 Flood.
   - The museum had a garden depot with historic models of town buildings.
   - Hosting and leading cemetery tours.

B. **Cherry Creek Valley Historical Society - Shirley Miller**
   - Melvin Schoolhouse and 17-Mile House will celebrate their Fall Festival next weekend. It is a VERY well attended event.
   - Schoolhouse has been opened once a month for tours/programs. CCVHS received a grant from DAR for archiving their collection.
   - CCVHS received a $10,000 grant from the National DAR to restore the milk house at 17 Mile House.

C. **Elbert County Historical Society & Museum - Joe Martell**
   - Smoky Hill Trail Phase Two unveiled.
   - Successful Pioneer Fourth celebration with record attendance.
   - Increase in museum attendance and website traffic for 2016.

D. **Highlands Ranch Historical Society - Paul McKeag / Mike Stevenson**
   - Good attendance to their monthly meetings -open to public and members. Programs this year featured: Rocky Mountain National Park, Eleanor Roosevelt, early days in Littleton, Sand Creek, and John Denver
   - Working to publish a picture book on the Highlands Ranch area that will go on sale next year.
   - HRHS members toured Cherokee Castle, Castle Rock trolley ride, and Cheese Ranch.
   - Highlands Ranch days -cater to kids, dress up in vintage clothes, early memorabilia of the area.
   - Interviews with oral and video histories. Highlands Ranch website contains snippets of these interviews. Douglas County library assisting.

E. **Kit Carson County Carousel and Museum - Jo Downey**
   - Best attendance year for the carousel museum because they no longer have to close during the week of Kit Carson County Fair.
   - Worked to replace a fire suppression system but still needing a new roof on the carousel.
   - New carousel website launched with a grant.
   - Carousel Christmas event coming up this December.
- New booklet being produced for next Spring.

F. Limon Heritage Museum & Railroad Park - Mary Andersen
- New addition to be finished this Winter with plans to officially open the new space next Spring.
- Museum will celebrate its 25th anniversary next year.
- This year’s Heritage days included the addition of Scandinavian dancers.
- Working to secure a Parade buggy for parades and historical events.
- Almost 4000 museum visitors for 2016.

G. Our Journey - Jo Downey
- Website upgraded this year. Promoting all the museums!
- Publicity continues to be performed by Danielle Dascalos. She continues to secure good media coverage.
- Off the Beaten Path signs to be replaced.

H. Parker Area Historical Society - Jan Truskolaski
- Heritage Center museum opened this summer located in the Parker Consolidated School house. The open house was very well attended with town dignitaries, school alumni and community members.
- Sandy Welchel is working on a new Parker book.
- Next monthly meeting is November 10. Rick Crandal, Denver radio personality will give the program.

I. Roxborough Historical Society - Linda Goodrich
- Monthly programs have included: Lockheed-Martin, Roxborough geology, Lamp Spring homestead, Buffalo Bill experience, and Abe Lincoln scheduled for their annual meeting.
- Grant from History Colorado to archive historic documents.
- Archeology study of their Brick kiln.
- Two members are writing a new book on the Roxborough area.

General discussion
Lee Whiteley announced that the annual Smoky Hill Trail Association meeting will be in Atchison, Kansas next week. The Association is looking to bring their annual meeting back to Colorado in 2017. Burlington could be a potential venue.

Peter Faris gave an update on the State Historic Fund and how current leadership of History Colorado will not affect the program. He also announced that there is a lot of competition for State Historic Fund grants and while numerous organizations apply each year, the SHF is not able to fund every project. He encouraged groups whose projects have been denied to not give up and reapply in the next grant cycle.

Joe announced the 2016 meeting dates: April 30 (location to be announced) and October 1 (Highlands Ranch Historical Society).

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 PM.
### Eastern Colorado Museums & Historical Societies Meeting

**Saturday, October 10, 2015**

Russell Gates Mercantile Building - Elbert, Colorado

### Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angie DeLeon</td>
<td>Castle Rock Historical Society &amp; Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Faris</td>
<td>Cherry Creek Valley Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Sandburg</td>
<td>Cherry Creek Valley Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Miller</td>
<td>Cherry Creek Valley Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee &amp; Jane Whiteley</td>
<td>Cherry Creek Valley Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Martell</td>
<td>Elbert County Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carla Martell</td>
<td>Elbert County Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Hoffhines</td>
<td>Elbert County Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monty Ashliman</td>
<td>Elbert County Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna Smith</td>
<td>Elbert County Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Stevenson</td>
<td>Highlands Ranch Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul McKeag</td>
<td>Highlands Ranch Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Downey</td>
<td>Kit Carson County Carousel Museum/Our Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary &amp; Bob Andersen</td>
<td>Limon Heritage Museum &amp; Railroad Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan &amp; Jim Truskolaski</td>
<td>Parker Area Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Goodrich</td>
<td>Roxborough Area Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Wilkerson</td>
<td>Roxborough Area Historical Society</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>