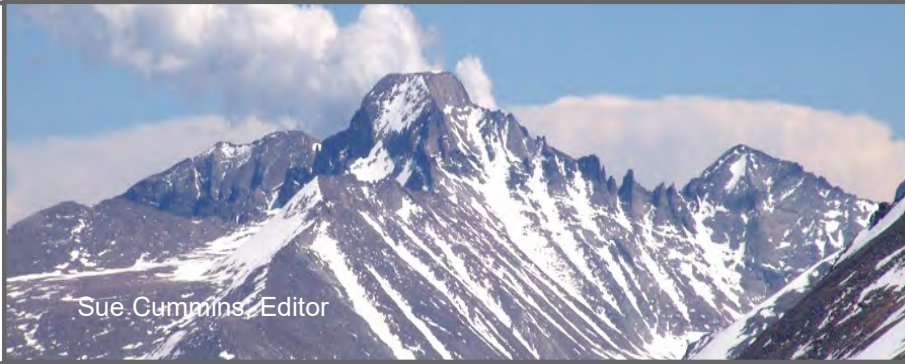




friendship force
NORTHERN COLORADO



Sue Cummins, Editor

April - June
2022

Estes Park, Fort Collins, Greeley, Loveland, Windsor and Surrounding Areas

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Zoom Meeting
6:30 p.m., MST
Friday, April 8

NORWAY
Heritage
&
Climate Change
See page 2.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Does anyone think that Spring is actually around the corner? Or is the weather just fooling with us. It seems like I am hearing about more people getting out and about and enjoying themselves both at home and out traveling, finally. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy.



During our last meeting, we voted to amend our club's bylaws. Most of the changes were tweaks, but one change made was to include several people as honorary members. These are members who have moved away or are no longer able to physically attend, such as **B J DeMersseman** and **Kay Thomas**. We hope to honor their long-time service in this way. We also reduced the cost to members who request the newsletter be mailed to them. Our mailing cost decreased when we decided to have quarterly rather than monthly newsletters.

For our last two general meetings, on Zoom, we were joined by two very knowledgeable people who shared a wealth of information. On February 11th, **Mary Borg** summarized the waves of migration through telling stories about some of those people. I found her talk very interesting and learned a lot about people who ended up settling here in Colorado. On March 11th paleoanthropologist **Bob Brunswig** shared his experiences and work associated with how climate has changed over millennia in Northern Colorado. He compared our Rockies to the French Pyrenees; very interesting and so knowledgeable.

Our **CLEO** plans have been scheduled on the 3rd Thursday of the month unless there is a conflict. The February 17th CLEO was at Young's Cafe, with 14 people showing up. Then we met on March 17th, St Paddy's Day, at (of course) **Sol de Jalisco**, 1345 Water Valley Pkwy, Windsor Colorado, hosted by Debbi Jones.

Don't forget to look inside this newsletter for information about a great mini-journey to Wyoming that LaDonna has planned for us. This is new for us, so let's try it out.

Susan Mathre



APRIL 8TH MEETING ON ZOOM, 6:30 P.M. MT NORWAY—HERITAGE AND CLIMATE ACTION

Continuing our theme of immigrant community contributions in Colorado, **Anita Halvorsen** will inform and educate us about Norwegian heritage and about Norway's climate action today. And consistent with our 2022 sub-theme of the influence of weather and how having to adapt to changing environments has transformed agriculture and commerce in Northern Colorado, Anita will tell of her work on climate change law and Norway's current response.

Anita earned a law degree from the University of Oslo and a Doctor of the Science of Law from Columbia University. For 30 years a Colorado resident, Dr. Halvorsen has taught Sustainable Development and Climate Change Law at the University of Denver College of Law and at CU Boulder. She now lives in New York City.

Ken Weaver

Ambassadors Coming To Us from Lake Simcoe, Ontario, Canada May 7-13

Our ambassadors from Canada will be coming from a much different topography and climate, although they will have been with our Western Colorado friends before they arrive. We'll need to take care to keep them hydrated and also protected from the sun. They are interested in learning about our water source and supply.



Lake Simcoe is in southeastern Ontario, Canada, 40 miles north of Toronto. It lies between Lake Huron's Georgian Bay and Lake Ontario. Fed by numerous small streams and joined by the Trent Canal, the lake is 30 miles long and contains several islands. The largest of those islands is an Indian reserve named Georgina. Now a popular summer resort serving metropolitan Toronto, Lake Simcoe is situated in a rich farming region.

Those who aren't hosting are welcome to join in the following Journey events:

Monday, May 9, at 9 a.m.: Colorado Model Railroad Museum, Greeley; \$9.00.

Monday, May 9, at noon: picnic lunch at the Weaver home, Greeley; \$10.00.

Monday, May 9, 1:30 p.m.: Poudre Environmental Learning Center visit, Greeley; no cost.

Tuesday, May 10, 11:00 a.m.: Sculpture Foundry Tour; five spaces left at \$5.00 each (RSVP to Ken required).

Tuesday, May 10, 12:30 p.m., picnic lunch at Benson Sculpture Garden, Loveland; \$10.00. Bring a chair.

Wednesday, May 11, 9 a.m., Global Village Museum of Arts and Cultures, Fort Collins, no cost to members.

Wednesday, May 11, 11 a.m., Sylvan Dale Ranch, Daddy J's Pavilion. No cost, bring your lunch and drink.

RVSP to Ken Weaver if you are willing & able to participate in any or all of these activities.

Also contact Ken if you are would like to join a small group dinner on Monday, May 9th, with one or two Ambassadors, their hosts, and several other members, if space is available.



February Program Many Were Here and More Came to Make Colorado What She Is

Mary Borg, UNC Historian, spoke at our February 11th meeting via Zoom. She first told us about the immigrants who came to Colorado. Up until 1859, only Indian tribes lived here. Then the gold rush brought many ethnic groups into Colorado. Also, when Spain was requiring Muslims to become Catholic, the Spanish Jews were caught up in this; many came to Mexico, New Mexico, and southern Colorado. The Spanish Jews stopped telling their story because of the wars.

Stanley Hordes was a historian and author on the history of the Crypto Jews and their settlements in New Mexico. In their cemeteries, he found grave stones with the star of David on them. This was proof that many Spanish settlers were Jewish but didn't openly show their faith.

Our speaker then told us about the Russian Germans who came to Colorado and why they came. In 1760, Catherine the Great of Russia, who was from Germany, invited German farmers to come to the southern borders of Russia to farm and settle there. They were told they would never have to fight in the Russia army. These farmers lived and farmed along the Volga River for six to seven generations, and by about 1880, half a million Germans lived there. Then the Russian military told the farmers they would have to fight in the army, and they refused.

At about this same time, Americans became addicted to a white grainy substance called sugar, and the Great Western Sugar Company was started. The Russian Germans were asked to come to Colorado to raise sugar beets. By 1920, all sugar beets in the United States were grown and processed in Weld County and along the Platte River. In 1980, the sugar company went bankrupt, and now corn is the main crop of farmers in Weld County.

Mary also told us why the men of the 10th Mountain Division came to Colorado. In 1939 - 1940 when Russia invaded Finland with tanks and bombed cities in Norway, Finnish soldiers were trained to shoot while on skis in their mountains. When Army Chief of Staff General George Marshall became aware of this, he ordered the formation of the 10th Mountain Division, which trained in Colorado. The men trained for six months in various locations from 1943 to 1944, including at Camp Hale, near Leadville, Colorado. In 1944, the 10th Mountain Division soldiers were shipped to Italy, arriving on January 6th, 1945. They fought against the Nazis, who were entrenched in some of the toughest terrain and mountains of Italy. They saw 114 days of combat and took over Mt. Belvedere and other mountain areas.

After the war, many of these men came home to the United States and continued to ski. One of them purchased 600 acres in Aspen for \$20 an acre, and a ski resort was born. Many of the ski resorts in Colorado were started by these men of the 10th Mountain Division; Vail, Beaver Creek, Eldora, Breckenridge, and Steamboat.

Rosemary Donovan

Thank you, Rosemary, for so faithfully reporting on your assigned meetings.



March Program Comparing Our Rocky Mountains to the Pyrenees in France



Bob Brunswig, professor at the University of Northern Colorado, provided the program for our March meeting. He shared findings and information from his research of the patterns of climate and cultural change in two separate world mountain regions: Colorado's Rockies, and the French Pyrenees in the Late Ice Age and Early Post-Ice Age Eras, including plant and animal (including human) life from 30,000 years ago to the present day.

(Reporter Cindy Paulson includes here only the information about environmental and cultural changes in the Colorado Rocky Mountain regions during the last 16,000 years.)

Climate variations throughout the millennia have caused dramatic changes to our Colorado landscape.

Glaciation, deglaciation, and corresponding temperature changes have resulted in ecosystem transitions (i.e. forest, grassland, tundra), creating or eliminating animal habitats. Transition from glaciated, to warmer, plant-covered land, brought animals. Return of colder temperatures brought arid shrub land and led to the decline and extinction of some animals.

The Pleistocene Era (Great Ice Age) is a geological time period which began 2.6 million years ago and ended 11,600 years ago. Our Colorado regions experienced maximum glaciation 26,400 to 16,000 years ago. During the end of the Great Ice age, 16,000 to 11,000 years ago, deglaciation (receding & melting) occurred, creating plant valleys and habitats for a wide variety of animals.

A very warm period from 13,000 BCE (Before Common Era) to 11,000 BCE, was the end of the Great Ice Age. Temperatures during these two thousand years were actually WARMER than our present day climate. Wide varieties of plant and animal life appeared and flourished. Professor Brunswig noted that the beginning of human presence in North America occurred during this time, around 11,500 years ago.

Cindy Paulson

Thanks to Cindy for resending this article when this editor couldn't get Outlook's search function to actually search by name or subject. I know she is a busy lady, and I appreciate her.



Outbound Journey to North Carolina

April 20-30

It's not too late! You can still sign up to join our Journey to North Carolina from April 20-30. The Ambassador and Host Matching Form even lists two hosts with the ambassador listed as TBD – just waiting for your name to be added.

We will be traveling first to visit the Central North Carolina club in the Greensboro area. There we will be treated to museum and garden tours, the International Civil Rights Center, the Underground Railroad, *Hamilton* (the play), and more. On April 25, our hosts will take us halfway to Raleigh, where we will meet the Friendship Force of Raleigh for a picnic with both clubs. In Raleigh we will be treated to a picnic on a sheep farm during lambing season, a naturalist-led boat tour, a trolley tour, the Whirligig Park, and more history, art, and gardens. Weather in North Carolina in late April should be in the low 70's, and flowers should be in full bloom

Our last outbound journey (not including the aborted journey to New Zealand and Australia) was in 2018. Why not dust off your luggage and come with us to North Carolina? If interested, call **LaDonna Palm at (651) 302-2014 or email her at dnlpalm@aol.com.**

Or join the Southwest Florida FF for a journey to Sacramento California.

They'd like more ambassadors, and you can be one. They had five ambassador spaces available at last notice. You'll need to register at my.friendshipforce.org. to get that going. Contact in Florida is Joanne Collins, eagleswingsj@yahoo.com or 281-543-9018

Or join us for lunch at a restaurant nearby for what we call CLEO

Colorado Let's Eat Out

as several of our members did in February, at Young's in Fort Collins.



Carol, Jan, LaDonna, Marcia



Sue & Debby



Ann, Kay, & Gary



Ken, Cathie, & Marcia

It's a rarity to see our intrepid photographer, Cathie McCallum, in these photos. Thanks for always being there for us, Cathie.

Join us for CLEO on Thursday, April 21st at 11.30 a.m.

Bjs Restaurant, 2670 E. Harmony Road, Fort Collins

RSVP to Susan Mathre,

smath3@hotmail.com or 970-420-0362



Join Us In Sunrise in June

On the National Register of Historic Places

Discovered for us by LaDonna Palm

A journey to Sunrise, Wyoming is probably not on your bucket list, but maybe it should be. Interesting things are happening in this little Wyoming town, and the entire town is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We are planning a mini-journey in June to check it out.

Sunrise was a mining town, entirely owned by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. As a reaction to the Ludlow Massacre in 1914 (a mass killing of striking miners and families by the Colorado National Guard and mine guards) the company decided to make Sunrise a model town. Brick houses replaced wooden ones, a YMCA and a hospital was built, and a park with playground was created, along with other improvements. The mine and town were closed in 1980, the company filed bankruptcy, and the town was put up for sale.

A teacher in the town found a mining site, along with numerous artifacts in 1940, but he didn't report his findings until 1986, when he returned to the town for a high school reunion and discovered the site was about to be demolished. He took a sack full of artifacts to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, and they were amazed at his finds. He had tools and projectile points from the Clovis period, roughly 11,000 to 13,000 years ago.

The owner at that time declared it to be private property and wouldn't allow any archeological digs. Around 2010 John Voight (not the actor) bought the entire town and allowed the archeologists in. This ochre mine is thought to be the only one of its kind in both North and South America and is believed to be the oldest known mining operation. It is especially important because of the large number of artifacts there.

Now Voight has donated the old YMCA building to SHAPPS (Sunrise Historic and Prehistoric Preservation Society); it houses the Western History Center, recently moved from Lingle, WY, along with artifacts from the Powars II Paleoindian Archeological Site. SHAPPS is hosting a three-hour tour of the ghost town and the mine on Saturday, June 25, starting at 1:00. Cost is \$20 per person (no credit cards), and a lunch will be available for about \$12.

Old Fort Laramie and the Oregon Trail Ruts Historic Site are located in the same area as Sunrise, so we will include them in a mini journey from **June 24 –26**. Lodging and camping is available in Guernsey and Torrington. **Call LaDonna Palm (651) 302-2024 or email her at dnlpalm@aol.com if you are interested in going.** She will help to coordinate lodging and arrange carpools.

Hope to see you in Wyoming!!

**SUNRISE MINE, WYOMING
GUIDED TOUR
SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022**

**PALEOINDIAN RED OCHRE MINE &
HISTORIC TOWN OF SUNRISE TOURS**
3-hour mine & town tour leaves at 1:00
\$20 for ages 19 and over • Under 18 free
Gates are open at 11:30

No-host Lunch on site
Please No Credit Cards

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
THE SUNRISE HISTORIC & PREHISTORIC
PRESERVATION SOCIETY (SHAPPS)

Don't miss this once in a life-time opportunity



In Northern Colorado

Outbound

JOURNEYS & EVENTS

2022 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS



Colorado Let's Eat Out

CLEO

11:30 a.m., Thursday, April 14
BJs, 2670 E. Harmony Road
Fort Collins
RSVP to Susan Mathre
970-420-0362

April 20-30
To Central North Carolina
Ambassador Coordinator
LaDonna Palm
651-302-2024 or dnlpalm@aol.com
There still space for you.

May 7-13
From Lake Simcoe, Ontario, Canada
Host Coordinator
Ken Weaver
Hosts chosen, activities available.
See page 2.

September 9-16
From New Mexico
Host Coordinator
Ken Weaver
Hosts needed
970-381-3611 or interweaver@gmail.com

September 28-October 5
To Hartford Connecticut and TBD
Ambassadors Needed
Host Coordinator, Debby Jones
970-686-0303

Global Inbound Journey?
"Grasslands to Glacier"
or
"High Plains to High Alpine"

PRESIDENT: Susan Mathre
VICE PRESIDENT: Ken Weaver
SECRETARY/HISTORIAN: Marcia Ross
TREASURER: Ann Lohmeyer

Programs:

Ken Weaver

Journey Coordinator:

Debby Jones

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Publicity:

Anne Brown

Promotion:

Thelma Slocum

Membership:

Cathie McCallum

Social Committee:

Marilyn Garner

Ways and Means:

Rick Lohmeyer

Welcome to our new members!

We welcome new members from Loveland: Karen Cox, Lorraine Janson, Pamela Morrison, and Rochelle (Rocky) Padden.

And from Fort Collins, Gail Washecka and Susanna Garner (Marilyn's daughter).

Rumor has it that LaDonna gets the recruiting reward for a few of these.

Welcome back to others who have hung on through thick and thin.

Our club is now 49 strong.