



Newsletter

4th Edition Fall 2009

MPHCA HAS A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP



For the last decade, it has been my pleasure to work with many fine people in the visioning and creation of a world class historical center to be located at the main entrance of the Mountain Post. We have journeyed far but current job responsibilities necessitate “passing the baton” to LTG (Ret.) Ed Soriano, US Army, Commanding General, 7th Infantry

Division and Fort Carson, September 1999 to June 2001.

Ed Soriano has agreed to assume the role and responsibilities as the volunteer President of the Mountain Post Historical Center Board and I now serve as the Past President. I intend to remain involved in all activities as I know our continued efforts will achieve success. My commitment to the project remains forever strong.

I wish to extend my appreciation to LTG (Ret.) Soriano for his willingness to assume the responsibility as Board President and look forward to our combined efforts that will lead to opening the doors at a World Class historical center.

Sincerely and Regards,

Lou Mellini
Past President, MPHCA



This past May, it was my honor to be elected President of the Mountain Post Historical Center Association (MPHCA). I want to thank Lou Mellini for his dedicated years of service, and look forward to continuing to move this worthy project forward.

From 1942 to the present, our Fort Carson Soldiers have answered our Nation’s

call to duty. Relocation of the 4th Infantry Division to Fort Carson has added momentum to the MPHCA’s goal of preserving the history of this great Army post and honoring the men and women who have served — Past, Present and Future.

The Mountain Post Historical Center (MPHC) will provide a stirring tribute to the thousands of men and women whose service and sacrifice significantly affected the way our Nation enjoys its Freedoms today. For those who have fought, for those who have fallen, for those who will continue to serve and defend, help us make the MPHC a reality. Help us tell their story...

Sincerely,

Ed Soriano
LTG, US Army (Retired)
President, MPHCA

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“ARRIVAL” OF FORT CARSON

By COL (Ret.) Dave Hughes

The period between 1968 and 1972 were the years that Fort Carson “arrived,” after having been regarded, from 1942 on by career officers and NCOs, as a second class Army Post. Fort Carson held Infantry Divisions during World War II and the Korean War. It grew and shrunk according to the world scene. It had its Colorado appeal but was not highly regarded professionally.

Then Secretary of Defense McNamara was looking for posts to eliminate to save money and sent out senior officers to evaluate many of them. LTG Heintges reported back that, with empty private land to the south, Fort Carson could become a Post of the future, not of the past. Fort Carson was not only saved, it became the home of its first Mechanized Infantry Division, the legendary Normandy 4th Infantry Division. Construction of many new facilities followed.

With the Vietnam War winding down the decision was made to create an All-Volunteer, not Draft, Army. Fort Carson was made a test Post. The perfect commander to lead it arrived in 1970 – Major General Bernard Rogers – who implemented a radical series of ‘Support the Soldier’ measures that tapped the new 60’s generation of young men. He formed a series of Councils – Enlisted, Racial, Junior Officer and even junior Wives Councils – which, during serious rap sessions debated how to improve the Post and Army. The social climate was transformed; crime went down, support went up. The Volunteer Army was launched and Fort Carson became legendary.

Field training, the core Carson mission, became exciting as soldiers who had never seen a tracked vehicle in Vietnam engaged in challenging ‘Adventure Training’ that brought commanders from across the Army to see the new ‘Iron Horse Division’ training methods.

By the time Rogers left to eventually become Army Chief of Staff and NATO Supreme Commander, Fort Carson was THE place for the professional officer and NCO Corps of the combat arms Army to request to be assigned. It had “arrived.”



American Soldiers

By: Cali Overcast, age 12

American soldiers brave and strong,
fighting for our freedom all day long.
Some are wounded some are not.
Others gave their lives without a thought.

Their safety they do not heed,
for there are others in need.
A helping hand is always lent to a comrade
or a stranger, no matter the danger!!!!

Their families and friends worry and wait,
not knowing their loved ones fate.
American soldiers brave and strong,
My Heroes all day long!!!!



Progress Report – Recent Developments Propel Mountain Post Historical Center Forward

By Hal Alguire, Design/Build Committee Chair

Two recent decisions by the U.S. Army in support of the MPHC have added great momentum to the project.

First - to build an artifacts display building with \$750,000 of stimulus funds provided to Fort Carson. The facility will be built this winter/next spring adjacent to the current visitor center just outside Fort Carson's main gate. It will provide approximately 4,000 square feet of viewing space for 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson artifacts until the MPHC is built.

Second – the decision to add a 32,500 square foot museum support facility project to the Army's program in fiscal year 2011. By adding this to its construction program, the Army is demonstrating a strong commitment to the community's effort to build the MPHC. Construction should begin in the summer of 2011. When completed, the Army's museum support facility will integrate with the community's MPHC project. This will create a historical complex and site at Gate 1 for Fort Carson and the entire community to enjoy. While there is still planning and design work to be finalized, we are well on our way to creating a 'Mountain Post Historical Center' of which the Front Range community can be proud. A fitting place to tell the stories of Fort Carson and its Soldiers, past, present, and future.

Interested in helping the design committee?

MPHC project meetings take place the third Friday of each month at 7:30 a.m. in the offices of HB&A, 102 East Moreno Avenue, in downtown Colorado Springs. Anyone interested in helping the MPHC design committee is welcome to attend.

Fort Carson Facts

Fort Carson is the second largest employer in all of Colorado. In fact Colorado Springs was smaller than Pueblo by a long shot before the Fort opened its gates in 1942. Here are some amazing facts about Fort Carson and its impact on our community.

Population

- **Military:** 18,106 (which by the end of this year will be 24,600)
- **Family Members:** 27,600 (growing to 37,400 by end of 2009)
- **Civilian Employees:** 4,500
- **5th largest military retiree community in the U.S.** (18,940)

Economic Impact (Based on FY08 Data)

• Military Payroll	\$950M
• Civilian Payroll	\$67M
• Local purchases/GPC	\$192M
• Utilities	\$18.6M
• Military Construction	\$428M
• Tuition assistance/Grants	\$4.7M
• Rent & Lease Payment	\$57.6K
• TRICARE Payment	\$141.5M
TOTAL	\$1.8B

Fort Carson and its soldiers have a huge, positive impact on our community! A donation to the MPHC tells them just how much you appreciate their service, commitment and sacrifice.

We are very excited about our recently updated and improved website.

Please visit www.MountainPostHistoricalCenter.org and sign up to receive this newsletter electronically.

Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado \$25,000 challenge grant matches funds raised through February 24, 2010



The challenge grant awarded to the Mountain Post Historical Center Association by the Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado will help to build the Mountain Post Historical Center (MPHC).

Money raised will help operations, stimulate donor base

The \$25,000 challenge grant will be used to raise operating support funds. It will also act as a catalyst by adding to the Mountain Post Historical Center's base of contributors so vitally needed to build the state of the art facility. The deadline for this challenge grant is February 24, 2010 so donate now to "double" your donation.

For more information about participating in this matching grant opportunity, contact Becky Bayer-Hughes, Executive Director at (719) 633-2867 or go to www.MountainPostHistoricalCenter.org



Enterprise zone designation makes honoring the military even more rewarding!

With the MPHC's Enterprise Zone designation, individuals and business who make cash contributions of \$250 - \$100,000 will receive a 25% state tax credit for their donation. In-kind contributions of \$250 - \$50,000 qualify for a 12.5% state tax credit.

Send your check to:

Bank at Broadmoor
Mountain Post Historical Center
c/o 515 S. Cascade Ave
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

If your donation qualifies make your check payable to "El Paso County Enterprise Zone," write "MPHC" in the memo line.

Note: You will receive Colorado Department of Revenue form DR0075, "Certification of Qualified Enterprise Zone Contribution," in the mail from MPHC in time to file with your Colorado State Income Tax forms.

For more information on the Colorado Enterprise Zone, consult "Tax Information Index for Contribution to Enterprise Zone" at www.TaxColorado.com

For more information on the MPHC call 719-633-2867, email Info@MountainPostHistoricalCenter.com or visit www.MountainPostHistoricalCenter.org

The Mountain Post Historical Center Association (MPHCA) is a 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is to support the efforts to build the Mountain Post Historical Center (MPHC), a dramatic, State-of-the-art facility to be located outside the gates of Fort Carson.

To be removed from the MPHC newsletter mailing list—email becky@mountainposthistoricalcenter.com or call (719) 633-2867. Provide your name and address to be promptly removed.

HELP the MPHC go GREEN—To receive future editions of the MPHC newsletter via email visit our website at www.mountainposthistoricalcenter.org

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THE MOUNTAIN POST HISTORICAL CENTER

C/O
515 S. Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



"Supporting the Mountain Post Historical Center through the Combined Federal Campaign Fund is a great opportunity for me to give back to Fort

Carson. The Mountain Post has a long and important history from WWII through the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The historical center, once completed will tell the story of the men and women who have served our country at Fort Carson."

Tom Wiersma,
Community Planner, Directorate
Public Works, Fort Carson, CO