

# Newsletter

6th Edition Spring 2010

## Phase I of Mountain Post Historical Center Complex Begins!

The weather may have been cool, but the excitement at the groundbreaking for Fort Carson’s new artifacts facility was anything but. On April 29, MG David G. Perkins and LTG (Ret) Edward Soriano helped break ground for an artifacts facility that will eventually be incorporated into the overall design of the Mountain Post Historical Center (MPHC) complex. The new facility will be used to display 4th Infantry Division artifacts while design continues for the MPHC.

MG Perkins, Commanding General, 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, commented on the importance of Fort Carson to both the Army and to the defense of America. Pointing to the memorial markers that stand in Kit Carson Park, he noted that, for hundreds of brave men and women, a view of Pikes Peak was “one of the last things they saw in the rear view mirror” before going off to fight.

LTG (Ret) Soriano, Chairman of the MPHC Board, agreed and remarked that, “Today’s a milestone for us... We have a 3-phase operation here. This is Phase 1. Phase II will be a larger, historical operations building and Phase III will be the

final 30,000-square foot MPHC facility... Thousands of soldiers have come through Fort Carson - Camp Carson – during its 68-year history, making lots of contributions, lots of sacrifices.” He concluded, “What better way to recognize what they’ve done for us than to build a long-lasting, enduring (historical center) – physical evidence of our commitment and our support to our Soldiers.”



Left to right: Ms. Barbara Myrick, Owner, B&M Construction; MG David G. Perkins, Commanding General, 4th Infantry Division & Fort Carson; LTG (Ret) Edward Soriano, President, Mountain Post Historical Association; COL Robert F. McLaughlin, Garrison Commander, Fort Carson

The new artifacts building is expected to open in early 2011. Phase II, a larger museum support facility constructed by the Army at an estimated cost of \$10 million, is scheduled to begin in 2012. That facility will house curation, conservation and storage of historical artifacts functions.

In Phase III, the community MPHC project will complete the Historical Center complex, providing permanent display and ceremonial space, an auditorium and gift shop. When completed, the entire Historical

Center complex will serve as an icon for Fort Carson and the Front Range community, as well as a proud tribute to all the Soldiers who have served at Fort Carson.



MG David G. Perkins, Commanding General, 4th Infantry Division & Fort Carson



LTG (Ret) Edward Soriano, President, Mountain Post Historical Association

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# Fort Carson's Military Heritage

By COL (Ret.) Dave Hughes

There is often a tendency for El Paso County residents to think that local military history began with Fort Carson. In fact, the military was a vital part of the Colorado Springs area long before that time. Even the very name selected for the 1941 post, "Camp (Kit) Carson" after the famous western Frontiersman, reflects that heritage.

A decade before Colorado Springs was founded, the earliest settlements in the Pikes Peak region were directly involved in fighting two wars, the Civil War and the Indian wars. Did you know, for instance:

- That Kit Carson was a commissioned volunteer Regimental Commander at the Battle of Valverde against Sibley's Confederate Texas Army and that Jeff Davis attempted to invade the Colorado Territory to capture our gold?
- That the original Colorado City was the capital of Colorado Territory when the first Colorado volunteer infantry regiment marched through, en route to Fort Union, New Mexico? The regiment then decisively defeated the rebels at the Battle of Glorieta Pass, 'The Little Gettysburg of the West,' in 1862.
- That the 1st Colorado – which later became the Colorado National Guard - encamped and trained right on Fountain Creek next to Old Colorado City in 1863 as it was outfitted with horses to become the 1st Colorado Volunteer Cavalry to deal with the Indian threats that had sealed off Denver?

Some of these local wars mirrored today's insurgencies in Iraq and Afghanistan. Confederates in southern Colorado ran guerilla campaigns, Indians raided settlements, and the US Army had to learn counterinsurgency. So, oh yes, there were plenty of soldiers around these parts long ago and they helped shaped Colorado and the West from its earliest 1858 gold rush days to today.

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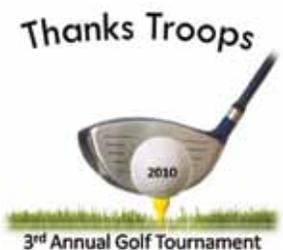
Colonel Kit Carson (left)  
1861 Colorado City Journal Recruiting Ad (top)

## Thanks Troops Golf Tournament – August 6

The Mountain Post Historical Association and Thanks Troops Foundation will partner once again at this year's Thanks Troops Golf Tournament, on Friday, August 6, at the Valley Hi Golf Course in Colorado Springs. The golf tournament offers a day of camaraderie, friendship and fun with the military and local civilian community. There will be all sorts of prizes and contests, as well as plenty of food and refreshments for players and sponsors.

Proceeds from the tournament support projects such as recreational activities and equipment for wounded Soldiers and their families, scholarships, MPHCA, and Home Front Cares.

Sponsorships are available and are a perfect way to let the wounded warriors know how much you appreciate their sacrifice. Sponsorship opportunities range from Hole and Player sponsors to Scorecard sponsors. For information about how you or your company can tangibly show our Soldiers how much you appreciate them, log on to [www.ThanksTroopsFoundation.org](http://www.ThanksTroopsFoundation.org) and sign up as a player or sponsor today.



# Check Out the MPHC Airport Display!

Travelers passing through the Colorado Springs Airport have the opportunity to see some of the artifacts that will eventually be displayed at the Mountain Post Historical Center. Memorabilia and an “Old Willy” jeep are on display at the airport until the end of June.

The “Old Willy” jeep draws lots of attention in the concourse. Lightweight and maneuverable, Jeeps were workhorses during WW II, performing transportation, reconnaissance, and evacuation duties. Research indicates that the Jeep displayed at the airport was built late in WW II. With a little over 9 miles on the odometer, and having several modifications, it probably was used for ceremonies and displays. It is from the 4th ID and Fort Carson Museum collection, and configured to represent the Jeep used by Major General Raymond Barton who led the 4th at Utah Beach on D-Day, 6 June 1944.

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Artifacts and photos courtesy of the 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson.

## MPHA Thanks 2009 Donors

The Mountain Post Historical Association wants to thank and recognize our 2009 donors. Each contribution helps bring the Mountain Post Historical Center closer to reality; we are very grateful for their support.

- Mr. Hal Alguire
- Mr. Tom Allee
- Ms. Lucy Allen
- LTG (Ret.) Edward Anderson
- Mrs. Julie Antuzzi-Rueffert
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- Thanks Troops Foundation
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- Mr. & Mrs. Philip Winslow

## MPHA has moved!

The Mountain Post Historical Association has a new office! Come visit us in the Copper building, 1631 Mesa Avenue, Suite A.

## Enterprise Zone: A Less Taxing Way to Support Our Soldiers!

With the MPHC's Enterprise Zone designation, donors 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.

To make a contribution, make your check payable to "El Paso County Enterprise Zone," write "MPHC" in the memo line and send your check to:

**Mountain Post Historical Association**  
1631 Mesa Avenue, Suite A  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

In addition to your receipt, you will receive Colorado Department of Revenue form DR0075, "Certification of Qualified Enterprise Zone Contribution," from MPHC in time to file with your Colorado State Income Tax forms.

For more information on the Colorado Enterprise Zone tax credit, consult your tax advisor or check out "Tax Information Index for Contribution to Enterprise Zone" at [www.TaxColorado.com](http://www.TaxColorado.com).

The Mountain Post Historical Association (MPHA) is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to support the efforts to build the Mountain Post Historical Center, a dramatic, state-of-the-art facility to be built outside the gates of Fort Carson. The center will honor the history of the Soldiers who served at Fort Carson, past, present and future.

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Email [info@MountainPostHistoricalCenter.org](mailto:info@MountainPostHistoricalCenter.org) or call (719) 633-2867. Provide your name and address to be promptly removed.

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### **Mountain Post Historical Association**

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