



## UTE PASS HISTORICAL SOCIETY & Pikes Peak Museum

P. O. Box 6875 / 231 East Henrietta Avenue

Woodland Park, CO 80866

(719) 686-7512 • [uphs@utepasshistoricalsociety.org](mailto:uphs@utepasshistoricalsociety.org)



### Green Mountain Falls Says Goodbye to Local Icon

*A message from Rocco Blasi*

Such a loss, not only for the person Dick Bratton was, but for the void he has left in our GMF community and the larger regional trails community.

Following his military retirement as an Air Force Major in 1982, Dick settled in the Town of Green Mountain Falls, bringing with him his commitment to public service.

First, a little about Dick Bratton, the man: he was a professional architect, avid Dodgers baseball fan, accomplished downhill ski racer, and - surprising to some of us - a passionate community theatre actor, lending his booming



baritone to many productions and also using his skills to design stage sets. Dick reveled in social settings, often stopping to chat with neighbors or to make new friends, handing out hiking maps as he made his way to and from his second home, Green Mountain Falls' Pantry Restaurant. His love for Green Mountain Falls was incalculable and many will miss his friendly "*whoop*" to passersby headed for the trails, as he sat on his deck with a Martini, feeding peanuts to the jays.

From town-to-region, state-to-country, Dick Bratton's trail legacy is monumental. He founded and chaired GMF's trail committee for many years, leading the design and construction of a 'legendary' 12-mile hiking trail network in and around GMF, all at no cost to the taxpayer. He contributed to the greater Pikes Peak region in many ways, serving as chair of the El Paso County Parks Board, initiating action to create the first Parks Master Plan in 1997. Dick was instrumental in establishing the Ute Pass Trail, currently under development, championing the project's benefits before the El Paso County Commissioners. At the larger level, Dick served on the Colorado State Trails Committee for 5 years and was a director of the American Discovery Trail Society for 20 years.

Above and beyond his myriad official contributions, Dick added joy to our community, volunteering countless hours over many decades to ensure the success of GMF's annual Bronc Day community celebration, coordinating many events and activities to keep children and families smiling. He was an extremely generous benefactor to GMF, shoring up Town infrastructure from the public swimming pool to Gazebo Lake to purchasing fire mitigation equipment to make our community safer. He also authored six successful grant proposals that benefited GMF.

*Continued on page 2*

Continued from page 1

As the waves of sorrow wash over those who knew Dick Bratton, we know that we will not sink, but swim, for Dick Bratton taught us how. He left this world as he lived: on his terms. I know he is at peace knowing there are so many people he guided and mentored, fostering a generation of dedicated trails supporters committed to preserving and expanding his legacy. It is no surprise that Dick Bratton continued to give until the very end: the night before he died he could be found participating as a member in the town's fire mitigation committee, a group formed at his urging.

Peace, Rocco Blasi,  
Friends of Ute Pass Trails

A celebration of life will be held at GMF's Church of the Wildwood Wednesday, June 16th, time TBD; casual dress.

The family requests no flowers and suggests donations to the Bratton Trails Fund, online at <https://www.ppcf.org/donate/> by clicking "Give" under the Bratton Trails Fund. Or, checks may be sent to: Rocco Blasi - BTF, PO Box 194, GMF CO 80819, payable to "PPCF", Memo: *For Bratton Trails Fund.*



Dick had a very special talent for recruiting volunteers. He chose folks for what they were good at, and put them on projects that needed to be done. He trained them to do the jobs better, or sent them to special training so they could excel. He recruited huge numbers of workers for building trails and then rewarded them with a great lunch and drinks and follow up fellowship. They came from far and wide, and volunteered on a regular basis.

*Claudia Eley, GMF*

Dick was a wise man. He always made the most of our trails committee monthly work days. He would plan ahead what we needed to accomplish, provide us with the expensive tools we needed, supervise the work (as long as he could make it up the mountain), provide us with trained crew leaders, and then meet us at The Pantry to provide us with lunch and beverages and great friendships!

He was also wise enough to train others to step into his shoes...He loved the town and gave of his heart, soul, and resources to continually care for it. He will be so dearly missed!

*Dorrie Guyan*

**Thank you to ...  
Our new and renewing  
Family and Associate Patrons**

Allen County Public Library \* Betsy Anderson  
Pam Banta \* Margaret Blume  
Nancy and David Brittain \* Marsha Carra  
Cynthia Chandler \* Joan Compton \* Kathleen Clifton  
Marilyn Cummins \* Paul Edwards, CDR., USNR  
Penny Edyvean \* Katie Davis Gardner  
Doug and Karen Gilliam \* Charles and Pamela Giraud  
Sue Greene \* Don Hamilton  
Paul and Janice Hamlet  
Douglas and Deborah Hydeman  
Jim and Evelyn Irving \* Susan Janicki  
Irving and Joyce Johnson \* David and Billie Kilman  
Callie and Jacob Knapp \* David Martinek  
John McClelland \* David and Lynne Murray  
David Nossaman \* Daniel and Terry Odell  
Ginger Patrick \* Mary Lou Penny  
Dale and Judy Perkins \* Bill Phelps  
Toni Busch Ratzlaff \* Mel and Sally Riley  
Inez Ripley \* Renee Rowcliffe \* Melanie Rowlison  
Darlene Ruth \* Susan Penny Schmidt  
Keith and Mary Anne Sheldon  
Brooke and Karolyn Smith \* Julie Snyder  
Gene and Carol Sperry \* Lisa and Steve Stanton  
Kathy Stockton \* Abby and Ken Sutton  
Eric Swab \* Jean Taylor \* Jim and Natalie Unruh  
Anne Urish \* Bill and Janet Ward \* Gunnar Williams  
Dan and Nancy Woods \* Doug and Marianne Young

**Thanks to our Amazing Volunteers!**

Larry Black \* Marsha Carra  
Jack and Mary Ann Davis  
Nancy and Paul Desilets \* Claudia Eley  
Donna Finicle \* Doug and Karen Gilliam  
Suzie Graf \* Sue Greene \* Michelle Harris  
Mike Hazelwood \* Pat Hyslop \* Sue Janicki  
Dick and Jane Lass \* Paul Loyd \* Betty Merchant  
Joe Olds \* Ginger Patrick \* Jason Pearce  
Dale and Judy Perkins \* Steve and Kim Plutt  
Mel and Sally Riley \* Jean Rodeck  
Renee Rowcliffe \* Ted and Karla Schweitzer  
Julie Snyder \* Wayne Stewart \* Eric Swab  
Jean Taylor \* Jon Van Sant \* Jon Woods

**Our Business/Supporting  
Patrons**

Jay Harshe \* Ian and Pat Hyslop  
Ellin Jensen \* Larry and Corliss Miller  
Glen and Lois Sill

**Our Benefactor Patrons**

Anne Esch \* Tom S. Headlee  
Jim and Meg Huber \* Jody Gayler Jones  
Pat Kimble \* Mary Kokosky, M.D.  
Jean Rodeck  
Jane and Dick Lass, Silver Springs Ranch  
Michael and Kathryn Lockwood  
Patricia Doiel McLean and Children  
Joanne Smith \* Dave and Nancy Spradling

**Our President's Club**

**Dick Bratton, Architect**  
Newman and Bonny McAllister

**Special thanks to our  
Historical Club Patrons**

Larry Black \* I.R.E.A.  
Christian Keese Charitable Trust  
Kirkpatrick Family Fund  
Paul Loyd \* Peak Internet

**And UPHS recognizes our  
Honorary Lifetime Patrons**

Larry Black \* Paul and Patricia Crowson  
Jack and Mary Ann Davis \* Donna Elder  
Claudia and Jim Eley \* Donna Finicle  
Anne Foster \* Marg Ed Kwapil  
Sandy and Daniel Lampe  
Gary and Anna Litchenberg \* Paul Loyd  
Betty Merchant \* Mel McFarland  
Louisa Moore \* George and Jeanne Parkhurst  
Claude Wiatrowski

### UPHS Gift Shop Reopening...slowly

The UPHS Gift Shop will reopen regular hours, Wednesday through Saturday, from 10 to 3, beginning April 15.

UPHS has tons of history books, cookbooks, Indian art, handmade jewelry, art and vintage photo reprints. Phone us at 719.686.7512 or e mail us at [uphs@utepasshistoricalsociety.org](mailto:uphs@utepasshistoricalsociety.org) and set up an appointment for a free tour of the five historic buildings in History Park. We are located at 231 E. Henrietta Avenue, next to the Woodland Park Public Library.

Please, wear a mask!

Check out the trailer for the new UPHS movie on YouTube—*Our Story -Dude Ranches above the Clouds-* coming out later this year

<https://youtu.be/4sOJaBAyzUQ>



### Upcoming Events, 2021

- July 4: Annual Cemetery Crawl
- July 31: 83rd Annual Bronc Day Festival
- October 22: Potato Soup Supper
- November 6 and 7: Marcroft Hall



### Green Box Arts

The winter Lake Street art display is here! Stop by and take a moment to appreciate our past with this historical photo taken of Green Mountain Falls in 1907.

This display is located at the end of the road, near The Pantry. Photo supplied by the Ute Pass Historical Society.



## “Moose is Loose” Window at the Cowhand



Window designed to emulate the original grocery store, located near this spot.  
Decorators, from left: Pat Hyslop, Julie Snyder and Karla Schweitzer



## 2021 Marigreen Pines Tours Rescheduled to 2022

Due to pandemic concerns,  
the dates of the 2021  
Triennial Marigreen Pines  
Tours are moving to  
July 16 and 17, 2022

Tickets to go on sale  
April 14, 2022

Ute Pass Historical Society  
& Pikes Peak Museum  
P.O. Box 6875  
Woodland Park, CO 80866-6875



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

***Dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of Ute Pass families and communities since 1976***

**2021 Board of Directors**

Donna Finicle, President  
Jon Woods, Treasurer  
Suzie Graf and Jane Lass, Secretaries  
Pat Hyslop, Board Member  
Paul Loyd, Board Member  
Michelle Harris, Board Member  
Jean Rodeck, Board Member  
Renee Rowcliffe, Board Member  
Julie Snyder, Board Member  
Sally Riley, City Liaison

**Committee Chairpersons**

Finance and Budgeting: Paul Loyd and Jon Woods  
Research/Inquiries: Larry Black and Jean Taylor  
Oral Histories: Larry Black  
Photo Librarian and Sales: Paul Loyd  
Webmaster: Sue Greene  
Newsletter/Patronage: Judy Perkins  
Curator: Katie Davis Gardener

**Office Telephone: 719.686.7512**

**Email: [uphs@utepasshistoricalsociety.org](mailto:uphs@utepasshistoricalsociety.org)**

**Website: [utepasshistoricalsociety.org](http://utepasshistoricalsociety.org)**

***UPHS is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization***

***THANK YOU!***

*The Ute Pass Historical Society's Board of Directors is grateful to our loyal patrons and enthusiastic volunteers. Without your generous financial contributions and dedicated volunteer service, we would not exist. Thanks to all of you for supporting our mission to preserve and share the history of the families and communities of the Ute Pass area of Colorado.  
It is an honor to serve you!*