

Brief (HA) History Of Friends of Castlewood Canyon State Park

In ~1995, Susan Crick and Dave Shipley began discussing the formation of a Friends group.

1997 A steering committee for the Friends of Castlewood Canyon State Park began meeting to establish the structure and intent of the organization.

1998 The park, with financial and advocacy support of the Friends group, purchases 397 acres on the north rim of the East Canyon Preservation Area.



2001 Friends began conceptualizing a new environmental education center to be located north of the existing Visitor Center. Funding issues intervene and the idea is downscaled to a Visitor Center makeover in 2006.

2001 Welcome Back Turkey Vulture Day proposed.

2002 First TV (the bird) Day held.

2002 Metzler parcel was acquired with the financial support of the Friends group, adding 167 acres of a buffer zone to the west side of the park.

2004 The slide show that used 3 carousel projectors is copied to DVD, and the equipment is replaced by a DVD player and digital projector. Friends provided funding and labor.

2007 Contributed to the construction of the East Canyon Preservation Area Trail.

2008 Hosted East Canyon Trail ribbon cutting. The Parks Director attended.



2008 Visitor Center makeover conceptual plan provided to Friends by Advanced Resources Management (ARM). Unfortunately, the downturn in the economy has put obtaining funding via grants on hold.

2008 A mountain lion appeared at the Visitor Center.

2010 Friends a member of the team to create Friends of Colorado State Parks. There were about 25 in attendance, various Park Managers and other staff members, with 3 folks from Friends groups.

2013 New logo.



2014 Friends contributed \$30,000 for the purchase of the Kleinert property.

2014 First Dam Run.

2014 CPW awards Friends the Blue Spruce Award to recognize extraordinary commitment in support of volunteerism by an individual staff member, a successful partnership (like a community business, boy/girl scout troop, or a Friends group) or an individual Park, Program, Fish Hatchery or Wildlife Area. This annual award will honor long-term consistent results by those who model best practices, utilize innovative and creative approaches and exemplify leadership regarding the effective utilization of volunteers.

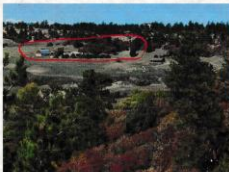

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE
EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD NOMINATION

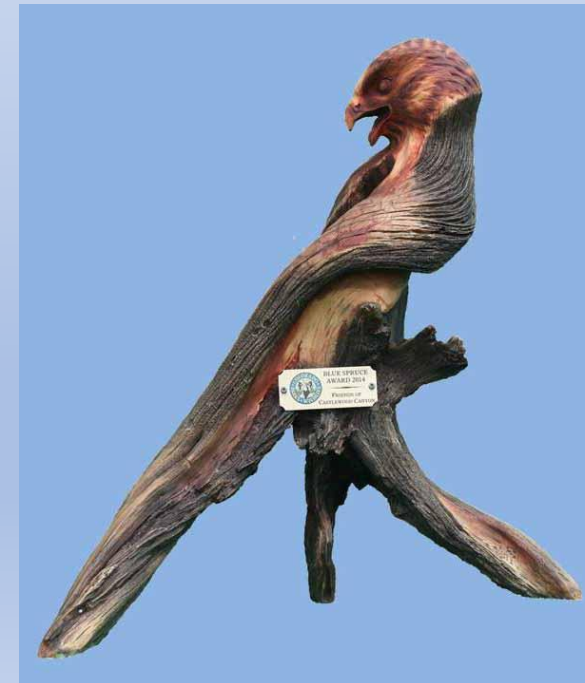
Award Category of Nomination: Blue Spruce Partnership Award
Name(s) of Nominee(s): Friends of Castlewood Canyon
Nominee(s) work Area: Castlewood Canyon State Park
Your Name(s): Vicki Leigh, Statewide Volunteer Program Coordinator
Today's Date: 02/03/2015

Why I/we think this person or team deserves an award:

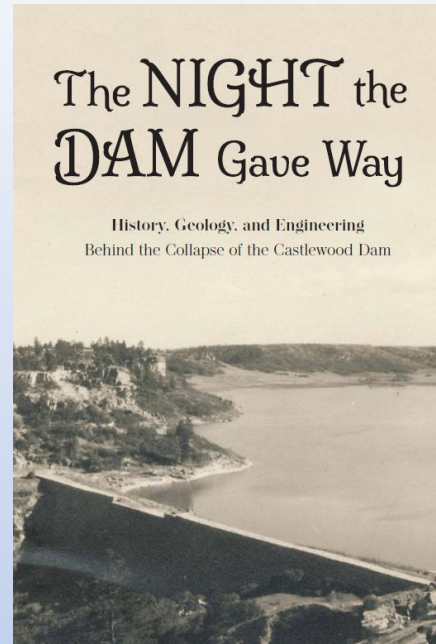
I would like to nominate The Friends of Castlewood Canyon for the Blue Spruce Partnership Award. In 2014, The Friends of Castlewood Canyon went to extraordinary efforts to support the purchase of the 1887 Kleinert Homestead, a 15 acre parcel of land, by raising over \$30,000 in less than seven months. The amazing partnership efforts made significant contributions in furthering CPW's mission and utilized innovative and creative approaches along the way.

"On Oct. 2, the RE Section closed on the purchase of a 15 acre parcel located adjacent to Castlewood Canyon State Park. The property will greatly improve staff access to the NW portion of the park and the historic barn, house, and 4 other outbuildings will provide excellent storage of park equipment and vehicles and housing for volunteers to rent. And as you can see from the attached photos, it is a beautiful addition to the park!" Jackie Corday, Real Estate Section.





2023 New dam book published.



2024 Wildcat Canyon Bridge

2025 Plans for education center at Canyon Point Parking Lot

2027 30th Anniversary of Friends