

Signs of Spring



The pasque flower is the first to peep out of the rocky soil in the Spring.



Aspen produce small flowers on catkins that are 1-2 inches. Male and female flowers are "borne" on separate trees. Photo taken by N. Remmler

Message from our President, Gretchen Darlington

Dear Friends,

I found the first Pasque flower today in my yard! That's a sure sign that we're getting close to the 2019 summer season at Mueller State Park. Our first major Art in the Park fundraiser, the **Spring Art Festival** (a mixed media show) will be May 25 - 27. We have 18 fantastic artists participating and the Art will all be in the auditorium at the Visitor Center, so come on out even if it rains! Each artist donates a portion of their sale to the Friends. This money will be used for youth programs, Park improvements and preservation of the Park resources, history and culture.

Now that the ground is beginning to thaw, we are getting back to another project; the Entry Garden on the north side of the Visitor Center. This poor plot of land has been neglected long enough! With the help of park staff, Barry and Dan, we should be able to get the hardscape down in May and then move on to the planting of native shrubs and flowers.

May will be busy for our Program Coordinator, Linda Groat and our volunteers too. School children will be coming to the park for field trip programs that are offered there. This is a chance for young people to learn about the Montane

ecosystem and the need to preserve our natural spaces. In June, the **Outdoor Skills Day** event will be on Saturday, the 22nd. Put that date on your calendar as it is a great opportunity for kids and adults alike to learn about a host of activities such as archery, fly fishing, target shooting, rocks and gems, and wildlife viewing.

Hope to see you soon at the park,

Gretchen Darlington

Mueller State Park Programs for May 2019

SAVE THE DATES: May 25 - 27
Spring Art Festival



Art in the Park

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

Friends of Mueller State Park Fundraiser

Spring Art Festival

May 25-27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Visitor Center

18 Local Artists



Woodworking • Jewelry • Oil Paintings • Batik • Fused Glass • Cards
Pencil Drawings • Giclee Prints • Photography • Acrylic Paintings

www.FriendsOfMuellerSP.com

Sponsored by



Pikes Peak Rotary Club



For more information about the Spring Art Festival, email [Susan Grina](mailto:Susan.Grina).

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE SPRING ART FESTIVAL. If you can volunteer on May 25, 26 or 27, please send email to [Barbara](#).

Did you ever wonder how the trails got their names?

Grouse Mountain.--The old timers named the highest point (9,843 ft.) in the Park for the presence of the stealthy Spruce Grouse. These fat little cousins of the Prairie Chickens were the masters of patience. Sitting still in the shade of a shrub, they would move only if you were to step right on them---then, in an explosive blast of wingbeat and feathers, they'd take to the trees. If the shotgun toting homesteader recovered quick enough, there'd be good eatin' that night.

This information was provided by **Annie Carter**.

Next Friends Meeting is 05/22/2019, 3-4:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center.

We need your support and input for park projects and programs. Even if you cannot attend a meeting, please email your suggestions and ideas to FriendsOfMuellerSP@gmail.com.

Have you taken an amazing **photo** at the Park that you would like to share on our Newsletter or Website? Email it to us at FriendsOfMuellerSP@gmail.com.

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