



Kit Carson Home and Museum  
113 Kit Carson Road  
Taos, NM 87571



"Kit Carson was a man among men, a type of the real American pioneer, not only fearless but clear-headed, as gentle as he was strong."  
Mrs. Jessie Benton Fremont, 1897



## FRIENDS OF THE KIT CARSON HOME AND MUSEUM

### Become a Member and Invest in History!

All membership categories include membership card, free admission, notice of upcoming events and **The Carson Courier**, the Museum's semi-annual newsletter.

- Senior (62+), Student or Youth (18 and under).** \$20
- Individual or Freemason** receive a complimentary Kit Carson lapel pin. \$35
- Corporate and Nonprofit** receive a complimentary Kit Carson lapel pin plus mention of sponsorship in the Carson Courier. \$45

- Donor** receive a complimentary Kit Carson lapel pin plus a 10% discount on all Museum purchases. \$100 - \$499
- Patrons of the Museum** receive all the above benefits plus a copy of *Blood and Thunder* signed by author Hampton Sides. \$500 - \$999
- Lifetime Museum Benefactor** includes all benefits plus a private tour of the Museum with a local historian. \$1000
- Donation**—I would like to make a donation to the Museum. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes!** I want to be a member! I will pay by  Check (payable to The Kit Carson Museum)  Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_ AmEx

Name (as it appears on credit card) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (MM/YR) \_\_\_\_\_

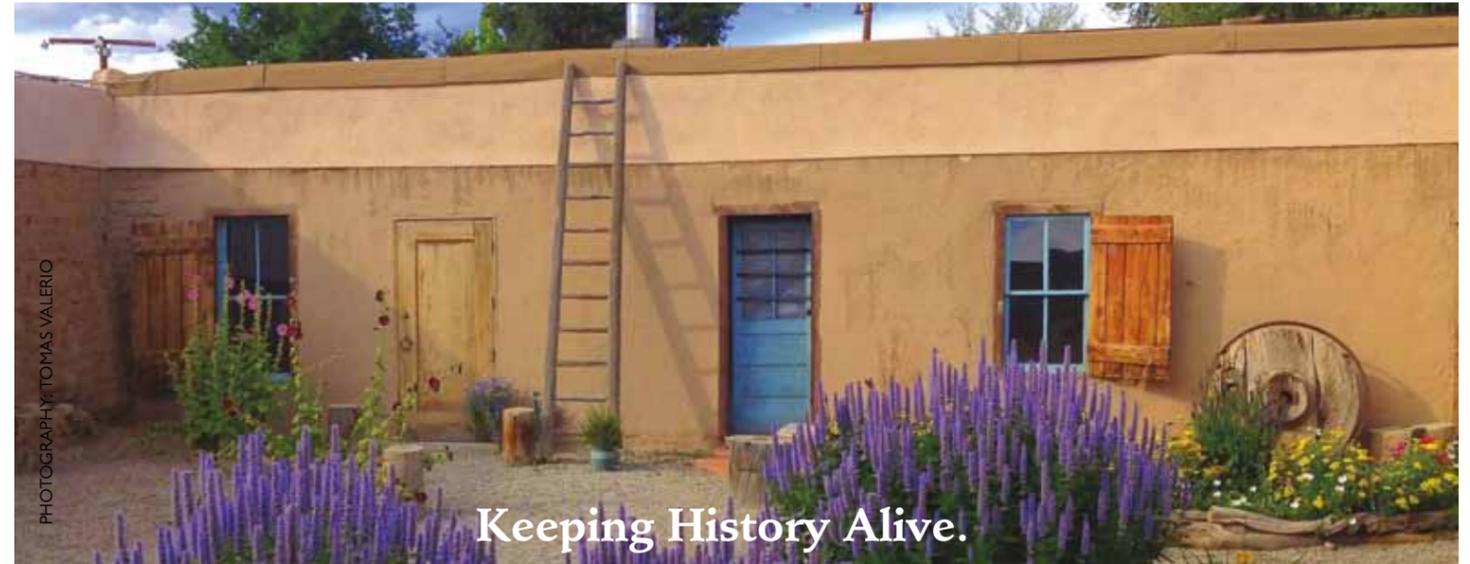
Thank you for your support! All memberships are annual (except Lifetime Museum Benefactor) and commence from date of purchase. The Kit Carson Home and Museum will never share or sell personal or financial information. The Kit Carson Home and Museum is a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit organization and your membership and donation are 100% tax deductible.

Please return form to **The Kit Carson Home and Museum, 113 Kit Carson Road, Taos, NM 87571.**



# The Carson Courier

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KIT CARSON HOME AND MUSEUM SPRING/SUMMER 2015



## Keeping History Alive.

The mission of the Kit Carson Home and Museum is to inform the public about the life, accomplishments and experiences of Christopher "Kit" Carson during America's expansion to the West and to preserve the Carson family home and artifacts for visitors and future generations.

Please join us this summer for the 3rd Annual Kit Carson Home and Museum Summer Lecture Series. With all new speakers, the KCHM 2015 Lecture Series is made possible by the generous support of the New Mexico Humanities Council.



### SATURDAY, JULY 18 @ 6:00PM IN THE KIT CARSON MUSEUM COURTYARD

#### Edward Wallace – From Slave to Superstar: The Life of James Pierson Beckwourth

An inspiring and historically accurate portrayal of Jim Beckwourth, an African-American born into slavery, who became a major influence during the exploration and settlement of the American West. Actor Edward Wallace brings to life the adventures and achievements of this enigmatic contemporary of Kit Carson's.



### SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 @ 6:00PM IN THE KIT CARSON MUSEUM COURTYARD

#### Jon Hunner - Becoming A State Different: New Mexico's March To Statehood

"New Mexico's March to Statehood" could just as easily be called "The Stumble to Statehood." New Mexico faced many obstacles, both internal and external, to winning its official status as a state. This lecture, illustrated with photos and documents from the time period, surveys the history of New Mexico's progress from a territory of the U.S. established in 1850 to a state in 1912.



### SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 @ 6:00PM IN THE KIT CARSON MUSEUM COURTYARD

#### Stefanie Beninato - The Indian New Deal In The Southwest

The Indian New Deal marked a major change in relations between Native Americans and whites. Policy went from assimilation and integration to cultural preservation and self-government. John Collier, Indian commissioner, who created the policy, took the reforms from the Mexican Revolution and applied them to Native American groups here.

## OUR NEW PRESIDENT



New President of the Board, John Smedly Jr., took the reins of the Museum in January of this year. John, along with other board members has met with Taos Mayor Baronne to discuss Museum issues, participated in the purchase of the new acquisitions for the Museum's collection and has supported the appointment of a Kit Carson Home and Museum Advisory Board. John is a supportive and dynamic leader - we are thrilled to have John as our new Board President.

## OUR VOLUNTEERS

Barbara Schultz became a friend of the Museum in early 2014 and soon afterward donated historic items for display in the Museum. Barbara, a retired educator, wrote and produced the successful book, *The Couse Collection of Santos*.

Barbara is now writing a book about Josefa Carson. The Museum wishes to thank Barbara for her commitment and generosity to the Museum. Funding opportunities to produce the book, "Josefa" are available.



Kit Carson Home circa 1870

## NEW ACQUISITION

The Museum has acquired two new items for the collection. A Belgian-made double barrel shotgun circa 1860 was purchased from a relative of Kit Carson, Jr. Beautifully engraved with animals and floral motifs the gun came with an old family album containing photos of the children of Kit Carson, Jr. There are several photos of Nettie Carson, Kit Carson's granddaughter, whose portrait hangs in the Museum. These new acquisitions were made possible in part by donations from Wayne Rutherford, John Smedly, Dan Irick, Charles Randall, Martin Jagers, Greg Smith and Mark Yule. We wish to thank these supporters for their help in acquiring items of historical importance to the Museum.



## KIT CARSON HOME AND MUSEUM

Kit Carson Home and Museum, Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of New Mexico and governed by a Board of Directors. The home of Kit and Josefa Carson has been supported by Bent Lodge #42 AF and AM since 1911, when the Freemasons purchased the property.

113 Kit Carson Road, Taos NM 87571  
575.758-4945, [kitcarsonmuseum.org](http://kitcarsonmuseum.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Smedly Jr., *President*  
Dee Dee Vick, *Vice President*  
Dan Irick, *Treasurer*  
Wayne Rutherford, *Director*  
Noah Shapiro, *Director*

## STAFF

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575.758.4945  
Janet Van Sky, *Sales Associate*  
575.758.4945

## THANK YOU

The Museum extends its sincere appreciation to our members, donors, volunteers, Bent Lodge #42 and all of our supporters - we would not be able to do the important work of preserving history without your help - thank you.



## Painting in the KCHM Courtyard

Notecards of Walt's painting will be available for sale in the Museum shop soon - thank you, Walt Gonske!

## THE KIT CARSON HOME AND MUSEUM LAUNCHES NEW WEB SITE!



The Museum has a new web site! Designed by the Media Arts Department of the University of New Mexico, Taos, the new site is modern, interactive, has a shopping page and can take donations online. We wish to thank Enrico Trujillo and Louis Moya for their vision and hard work on this project. Please visit the new site at [www.kitcarsonmuseum.org](http://www.kitcarsonmuseum.org). The old url still works but will be replaced soon by the .org address.

Visit the Kit Carson Home and Museum FaceBook page and leave a comment!

## SECOND KIT CARSON HOME AND MUSEUM TAOS RENDEZVOUS FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED FOR SUMMER OF 2016.

The Museum will host its second Taos Rendezvous next summer. But there is still a lot going on this summer. We will be writing appeals and grants for much needed building repair funding and our summer lecture series features all new speakers and topics. Please check our website frequently for new events happening this summer.

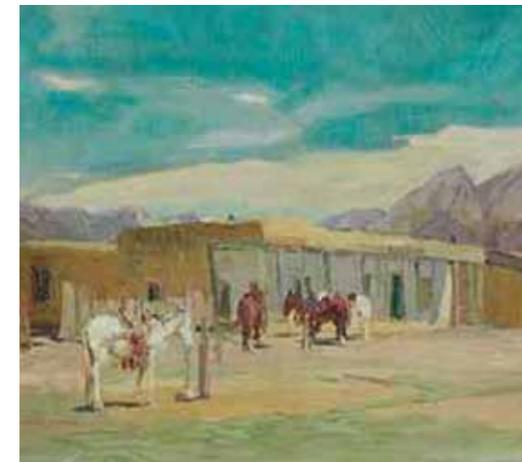


## SPRING WEDDINGS IN THE KIT CARSON MUSEUM COURTYARD

The Museum's Historic Courtyard is the perfect place for a wedding! Christine and Aaron exchanged vows last week at the Museum. They chose the Kit Carson Museum Courtyard because "we wanted to be married in a place we would always remember." History tells us Kit and Josefa had a long and loving marriage - what better place to get married than at their home. Call 575-758-4945 to arrange your historically memorable wedding.

## 100 YEARS OF ART IN TAOS

The Kit Carson home was the subject for several famous painters who belonged to the Taos Society of Artists at the turn of the 19th century. Artists like Walter Ufer, Oscar Berninghaus and Joseph Sharp all used the famous Kit Carson house as a subject for paintings. Visit the Museum's website at [www.kitcarsonmuseum.org](http://www.kitcarsonmuseum.org) to see images of these paintings. Please check our site often for updates on new events related to the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Taos Society of Artists.



Oscar Berninghaus

"I remained in Washington some time, received the appointment of Lieut. of Rifles U.S. Army from President Polk and was ordered back to California as bearer of dispatches." From, *Kit Carson's Own Life Story*, as dictated to Col. D.C. Peters in 1856-57