Life, liberty and the pursuit of history!

The Carson Courier
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KIT CARSON HOME AND MUSEUM
SUMMER 2016

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.

Keeping History Alive.

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
- **Patrons of the Museum** receive all the above benefits plus a copy of Blood and Thunder signed by author Hampton Sides. $500 - $999
- **Corporate and Nonprofit** receive a complimentary Kit Carson lapel pin. $45
- **Donor** receive a complimentary Kit Carson lapel pin plus a 10% discount on all Museum purchases. $100 - $499
- **Donation** I would like to make a donation to the Museum. $500 - $999

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.

SATURDAY, JULY 2 AT 6:00PM
Ed 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 Ed Wallace brings to life the adventures and achievements of this enigmatic contemporary of Kit Carson’s.

SATURDAY, JULY 16 AT 6:00PM
Rosalia de Aragon – Hispanic history and traditions are brought to life with the popular performance and songs of Rosalia de Aragon, a multi-talented native actor. Rosalia is from a family of accomplished visual and literary artists. This evening’s performance will include an announcement by the Museum about an exciting new book project.

SATURDAY, AUG. 13 AT 6:00PM
Ralph Estes – The West Singing Its Story. Take a trip through a thousand years of the American West, from Anasazi Indians to the Atomic Age. Singing and songs were the way the stories of the West were told. Join us for an evening of singing the West. Ralph Estes is a troubadour and a member of the Western Music Association, The Wild West History Association, and the Western Writers of America.
This year the Museum will embark on a campaign to restore and rehabilitate these original historic walls. The Museum has engaged an historic preservation architect from Santa Fe to start the delicate process of restoration. It will be the first time since the 1800s that the original adobe bricks of the home will be examined and tested for viability. The Museum adheres to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, which can be read in full at www.nps.gov/tps/about.htm.

We appreciate the support all of you have given to this small historic jewel in Taos over the years. It is difficult for us to ask you to give more, but the process of preserving our important American heritage never stops. Every dollar donated to this campaign will go toward repairing and restoring this important historic home.

Preserving our history for younger generations can only mean the preservation of America itself. We are proud to participate in this important preservation project.

Sincerely,
John Smedly, Jr.

**NEW MUSEUM LOAN FROM THE GRAND MASONIC LODGE OF NEW MEXICO**

For the first time ever Kit Carson’s Masonic apron will be on display at the Museum. The apron, worn as a symbolic gesture by Freemasons, is a simple white square of kid leather with “Christopher Carson” written under the flap in blue ink. We thank the Grand Lodge for this generous loan and Board member, Noah Shapiro, for obtaining the loan.

**THE KIT CARSON HOME AND MUSEUM TO RESTORE ORIGINAL WALLS OF KIT’S HOME**

The Kit Carson Home and Museum will begin restoration work on the exterior walls of the historic courtyard. The Museum will remove the old, damaged and crumbling cement stucco from the original walls of the home, and with the guidance of an historic preservation architect, test the original adobe bricks underneath for structural soundness. The adobe bricks will then be repaired and reinforced and exterior mud plaster will be applied in the traditional manner.

The scope of work will be:
- Removal of the cement stucco on the exterior courtyard walls
- Subsurface adobe masonry restoration of the original adobe bricks
- Mudding of exterior adobe walls with traditional adobe mud plaster
- Waterproof foundation of the south and west courtyard walls

Help us preserve our American history and ensure the continuation of America’s stories for future generations - become a benefactor of history!

**Please Help the Museum in Its Historic Preservation Efforts**

I want to contribute:

Name, 

Address 

Email and phone 

Credit card information 

The KCHM will never share personal information. All financial information will be destroyed upon process of donation.

Mail to: KCHM Fund to Restore the Courtyard Walls, 113 Kit Carson Road, Taos, NM 87571

Please call the Director at 575-758-4082 to discuss ways to help with this important preservation project.