

JANUARY – MARCH 2026



The Broomcorn Express

The Journal of the Broomfield Historical Society



Broomfield 2026! Events

Flying Historic American Flags

The Backwards Time Traveler

The 1976 Bicentennial Message from President Ford

Cow Pies and Quilts

Lloyd L (Lew) Moir, Jr.

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President's Notes



**Sam Taylor, President,
Broomfield Historical Society**

As I begin my term as the President of the Broomfield Historical Society, it is only natural to look back at the past years of Broomfield and our organization. Broomfield Historical Society works closely with the Depot Museum and together we have preserved many of the memories that make Broomfield what it is today. We have recorded the voices of those who helped build our community, put on informational seminars on how Broomfield came to be, and supported the Sister Cities affiliation with the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes—people who were here long before anyone called this area Broomfield. While looking back is critical to know who and what we are, it is looking forward that is the most exciting part of being a member of the Broomfield Historical Society.

And 2026 promises to be a very important year for the Broomfield Historical Society and Broomfield as a whole. This marks the 65th anniversary of Broomfield becoming incorporated into a city, and the 25th anniversary of the City and County of Broomfield. Also, I guess we have to say, it is the 150th anniversary of Colorado becoming a state,

and the United States semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary. All these milestones call for a year long celebration, and the Broomfield Historical Society is working with the City and County of Broomfield, Daughters of the American Revolution, History Colorado, and the 250/150 state commission to commemorate these anniversaries.

As 2026 rolls out you will see the results of the many hours of work that these organizations have put in. From the Speaker Series put on by *Our Broomfield* magazine, Trivia nights in conjunction with the Erie Historical Society, and many other events to celebrate our shared history, we will be celebrating who we are and where we came from. And we aren't done yet. We are looking for new ideas on how to honor and remember our past, and how to express that in an inclusive way that makes everyone feel like they belong to our community. Feel free to come to one of our meetings, volunteer for one of our events, or just reach out and ask how you can get involved. We would love to hear from you.

Broomfield Historical Society

Broomfield 2026! Activities

[Visit our online calendar for times, locations, updates and new events!](#)

Note: Some events are still in the planning stage, so times and locations are not listed.

- March 3 - Trivia Night, 6 - 8 p.m. at Rocky Mountain Tap and Garden
- March 14 - Celebrating Women's History Month 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Frances Perkins – 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Broomfield Depot Museum
- April 18 - Shep the Turnpike Dog Look-Alike Contest - 2 - 3:30 p.m. at the Broomfield Depot Museum
- April 21 - The Zang Story - 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Crescent Grange
- May 2 - MMIW Broomfield Native Art Market - 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Brunner Farmhouse
- June 16 - 65 Years of Broomfield - 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Crescent Grange
- July 11 - Glorieta Pass - 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Veterans Museum
- July 21 - The Making of Broomfield County - 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Crescent Grange
- September 15 - Water Runs Back: Open Space and Native Americans
- October 3 - Broomfield Historic Sites Tour
- October 20 - Broomfield Mayors - Panel discussion
- November 17 - The Role of Immigrants in Broomfield

CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



at the Broomfield Depot Museum
MARCH 14, 2026, 11 AM - 2PM

Featuring trivia, games and a special appearance from the first woman to be appointed to a US Presidential Cabinet position, Frances Perkins, this event will inspire and engage the whole family. Performances from local historian Colleen Sawyer as Frances Perkins will take place at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Program activities run from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Broomfield Depot Museum and are presented in partnership with the Broomfield Historical Society. This program is also part of the Broomfield2026! Commemoration Anniversary year program roster.



Visit broomfieldhistoricalsociety.org for more information

Flying Historic American Flags: Etiquette and Modern-Day Associations

By David R. Feineman
Treasurer, Broomfield Historical Society

Introduction

Today's American flag stands as a powerful symbol of national pride, history, and unity. While the current 50-star flag is seen almost daily, many historic American flags can also be flown to commemorate specific periods, events, or ideals. In this semiquincentennial¹ year, it seems obvious there will be opportunities for individuals and groups to acquire and fly historic American flags. Understanding the etiquette involved in displaying these flags, as well as their modern-day associations, is essential for honoring their significance and respecting their place in American culture and avoiding misinterpretation of your message and intent from their use.

Use Etiquette

The U.S. Flag Code (Title 4, U.S. Code, Chapter 1)² provides guidelines, not strict laws, and states that any previously official U.S. flag is still considered a living flag deserving respect. Therefore, you can fly them on any day. It is traditional in the USA to fly flags from sunrise to sunset, and if flown at night they should be properly illuminated.

Most people choose to fly historic United States flags on days of national significance, such as



A Betsy Ross flag from the Broomfield History Archives.

Independence Day, Memorial Day, or Flag Day, as well as during local commemorations of historical events and anniversaries relevant to the flag's era. During this particular year, it will be especially appropriate to display these flags at *Broomfield 2026!* events where there will be historical reenactments, educational programs, and patriotic ceremonies to honor the specific period or ideals they represent.

When flying a historic American flag, proper etiquette should be followed: the flag should be displayed respectfully, never touching the ground, and if flown with the current 50-star flag, the modern flag should take the position of honor (typically the highest or most prominent spot). Historic flags should be clean and in good condition, and when displayed with other flags, they all should be of similar size.

Historic American Flags: Overview³

Perhaps the most famous American flag is the Betsy Ross Flag, featuring 13 stars in a circle, representing the original colonies.⁴ (There is some controversy over who created this design.)

Other notable historic American flags include the Grand Union Flag, which was the first national flag of the United States and combined the British

FLYING HISTORIC AMERICAN FLAGS

Union Jack with thirteen stripes to symbolize the colonies. The Gadsden Flag, featuring a coiled rattlesnake and the phrase "Don't Tread on Me," became a prominent symbol during the American Revolution. Additionally, the Star-Spangled Banner, with its 15 stars and 15 stripes, inspired the national anthem after flying over Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. The Bennington Flag, recognized for its "76" in the canton⁵ and unique arrangement of stars and stripes, is also frequently displayed to commemorate the nation's founding era.

Old Flags Can Carry New Meanings

Some historic American flags have become associated with specific groups or political movements in modern times. For instance, the Gadsden Flag ("Don't Tread on Me") of 1775 that was a Revolutionary War flag is now frequently used by libertarian and conservative groups, as well as some grassroots political movements advocating for limited government control over individual rights. It has also appeared in protest settings and on merchandise related to these causes.

The Pine Tree flag of 1775 ("An Appeal to Heaven") like many other flags has taken on multiple meanings and has been used in different situations. It has recently been associated with various groups spanning the far-right, Christian nationalists, and "Stop the Steal" supporters. Its use by Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito and House Speaker Mike Johnson has been the subject of recent news reports.

The Sons of Liberty flag of 1767 was created by a patriot organization formed to protest "taxation without representation."

Similarly, the Betsy Ross Flag of 1776 has been adopted by some groups as a symbol of traditional American values and patriotism, though it has

occasionally been used in political contexts that seek to evoke the nation's founding principles.

A CBS News poll for the 4th of July 2025 found that while the American flag is often linked to making a political statement and representing conservative values, for most people, flying the current flag really does not communicate a specific ideological stance.⁶

While most historic flags are flown to honor American history, sometimes their use today can reflect contemporary political messages, making it important to be aware of possible modern associations when acquiring or displaying them. If you want to fly a historic flag, this can be a way to honor our heritage, show the evolution of the country, and participate in the America 250 celebrations. But it's worth reflecting on the messages you may be sending when you do so.

Endnotes

1. July 4th, 2026 is, of course, the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence
2. "United States Code Title 4, Chapter 1 – The Flag." American Flagpole & Flag Co., June 24, 2025. <https://aflag.com/flag-etiquette/united-states-code-title-4-chapter-1-the-flag/>.
3. Ken, H. (n.d.). *Historic flags for America's 250th*. <http://passionforthepast.blogspot.com/2025/05/historic-flags-for-americas-250th.html>
4. Betsy Ross Flag, *Broomfield History Collections*, <https://hub.catalogit.app/broomfield-history-collections/folder/entry/f994fc80-47ef-11ed-bbc8-4585eef376c9?query=bicentennial>.
5. A canton is a square placed in the upper corner of a flag. The stars on the current US flag also sit in a canton.
6. Salvanto, A. (2025, July 4). "CBS News poll on why Americans fly the flag." *CBS News*. <https://www.cbsnews.com/amp/news/cbs-news-poll-on-why-americans-fly-the-flag/>.

The Backwards Time Traveler: Revisiting the 1976 Bicentennial and the American Freedom Train

By David R. Feineman
Treasurer, Broomfield Historical Society

In 2026, we will celebrate the founding of the United States 250 years ago, and 150 years of Colorado statehood. Most people will recognize these as important anniversaries that should be marked with some memorable national and local events (which should be well along in their planning—or maybe not). But having been around for the bicentennial celebrations in 1976, I thought it might be worth a trip in the wayback machine¹ to revisit that year and see if there are any lessons for us today.

Life in 1976

In 1976, my wife and I were in Tulsa, Oklahoma: my wife was working as a nurse, and I was in graduate school. There was a great deal of turmoil going on nationally at that time: the war in Vietnam had ended, but the division between groups was still apparent; the investigation into the Watergate break-in that would ultimately end Richard Nixon's presidency had begun; the rise of OPEC and its market interactions had created an energy crisis that produced long lines at gas station pumps across the USA; and economists puzzled about remedies for stubborn stagflation when we had a recession coupled with high inflation.

Culturally, things were also quite different. In a conservative state like Oklahoma, people with long

hair (men or women) were often labeled as hippies, and people from the East Coast were called "Yankees" in a less than positive way. The 1921 race riots that occurred in Tulsa were just not openly discussed. There was no cable TV: major broadcast networks served up shows like *Happy Days*, *Laverne & Shirley*, *M*A*S*H*, and *All in the Family*, which mined nostalgia for the vision of an earlier, simpler time, but also began to provide some social commentary on the current changes in America.

If you listened to pop radio, you would hear the disco music craze in full flow, though in between you might hear Elton John & Kiki Dee doing "Don't Go Breaking My Heart," or Wings performing "Silly Love Songs." But in Oklahoma, I found some of the FM stations were playing progressive country that suited the time better: the song "Up Against the Wall, Redneck Mother" on the *Viva Terlingua* album by Jerry Jeff Walker takes me back to that time and place far better than "Disco Duck."

If you went to the movies, you might have seen *Taxi Driver*, *Rocky*, or *Network*. The key quote from the last one was, "I want you to go to the window, open it, stick your head out and yell, 'I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore.'"² Perhaps that gives you a sense why people yearned for the "happy days" of the past.

Bicentennial Happenings

In the run up to 1976, I can't say I remember much federal effort to prepare for the bicentennial: given the turmoil, it just didn't seem like the divisions could be breached or that there was truly anything much to celebrate. But we could see signs of slow change on a local level. The most obvious and ubiquitous of these was driven by individuals and low cost: people put up flags. We saw a proliferation of historic flags, like the Betsy Ross flag, or the Don't Tread on Me flag. In more recent years these flags have become more controversial as they've been adopted by fringe political groups, but in 1976, people were using them as historic symbols of independence.

The American Freedom Train

A private effort with corporate sponsorship created a memorable element of the bicentennial: the American Freedom Train.³ The idea was to collect key artifacts from 200 years of American history and install them in train cars that were drawn by steam locomotives. The exhibit would reach most cities in the USA over the course of two years. It would be a true multimedia experience (for the time), in which visitors viewed exhibits from a moving walkway—a technological innovation that helped ensure the maximum number of visitors each day. The exhibits spanned sports, the arts, history, historic events, and scientific inventions inside a train painted in patriotic red, white, and blue livery. Tickets were required, and attendees often reported that the moving walkway didn't give them adequate time with the exhibits, but it was a unique and extraordinary show. On the next page, you can see the author's own copy of the American Freedom Train Commemorative Program.⁴

Even before it arrived, the organizers tried to create a buzz about about the Freedom Train. I can still remember the advertisements that had Dolly Parton and Porter Wagoner singing, "All aboard America!

Here comes the Freedom Train." I'm afraid it was what people would call an "ear worm"—one of those songs that is hard to get out of your brain once you hear it. When the exhibit rolled into Tulsa in April of 1976, we might not have had much money, but we certainly had our tickets. You didn't need to be a train buff to be impressed by the size of the steam locomotive on the tracks in front of you, at a time when steam locomotives had been out of regular service in the USA for 20 years. I know I left feeling more of a sense of pride about being American and having a better view of our collective accomplishments over the country's short history.

I found out that Denver wouldn't put up money for the train to stop there, but the train did make a stop in Colorado Springs, which gained notoriety for being the first place where there was a protest about the train's visit. A group called the People's Bicentennial Commission complained that the entire thing was too commercial and a corporate cash grab. But the train continued to roll through the country until the end of 1976, as planned. Along the way, it intersected with a bicentennial wagon train pilgrimage, suggesting the presence of other large-scale, cross-country events occurring at the time.

What About Now?

After 50 years, I still remember the American Freedom Train's run as a special experience linked to the bicentennial. In retrospect, motivating people to prepare for the 1976 bicentennial might not have been any easier than it is today. Apparently, there were unsuccessful discussions about having the train run again in 2026, but limitations on railroad infrastructure, changes in railroad regulations, and the difficulty in accessing artifacts appear to be more significant hurdles today than fifty years ago. At this point, a rerun of the 1976 experience seems unlikely, and because of the dramatic changes in multimedia and entertainment experiences that we



The American Freedom Train



Official Commemorative Program
1975/1976

are used to today, everything on the train might seem antiquated to a new audience.

I'd like to think that here in Broomfield, we can create positive and memorable experiences of our country, state, and local history that emphasize our shared values and the best qualities of American life, without hiding from the difficult challenges from our past and present. The Broomfield Historical Society is acting as the local organizing committee for national and state anniversary celebrations under an umbrella called Broomfield 2026! As you can see from the activity calendar, we

have been engaging with other groups on history related programs that are running throughout this year, and we look forward to you joining us in attending those 2026 commemoration events.

And if your own feelings about America are complicated right now, you might take some comfort in knowing that this is a common sentiment around many of our country's significant milestones.

Endnotes

1. Wikipedia contributors. "Wayback Machine (Peabody's Improbable History)." *Wikipedia*, March 3, 2025. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wayback_Machine_\(Peabody's_Improbable_History\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wayback_Machine_(Peabody's_Improbable_History)).
2. "Network (1976) - Quotes," *IMDb*, https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0074958/quotes/?item=qt0447862&ref=ext_shr_lnk.

3. Peter Dibble. "Bicentennial on Tour: The American Freedom Train," YouTube, June 23, 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rZlooVmv5w>.

4. The American Freedom Train Foundation and TRI AD, Inc. "The American Freedom Train: Official Commemorative Program 1975-1976." Columbus, Ohio, United States of America: Jerry L Kaltenbach Enterprise, Inc., 1975.

From Broomfield's Past: The 1976 Bicentennial Message From President Ford

By David R. Feineman
Broomfield Historical Society

In reviewing the archives contents from 1976, I found a bicentennial message from President Ford to the people of Broomfield, a framed document that hung in the city offices in 1976.

It is important to recognize this document as a significant artifact of Broomfield's local history and its relationship to a major national occasion—the United States Bicentennial in 1976. The message, sent by President Ford expressly to the citizens of Broomfield, formally acknowledges the community's involvement in the national commemoration of America's 200th anniversary. Significantly, as we prepare for *Broomfield 2026!*, the sentiment President Ford expressed then may still resonate for us today.

The text of the document reads:

A Bicentennial Message

*By the President of the
United States of America*

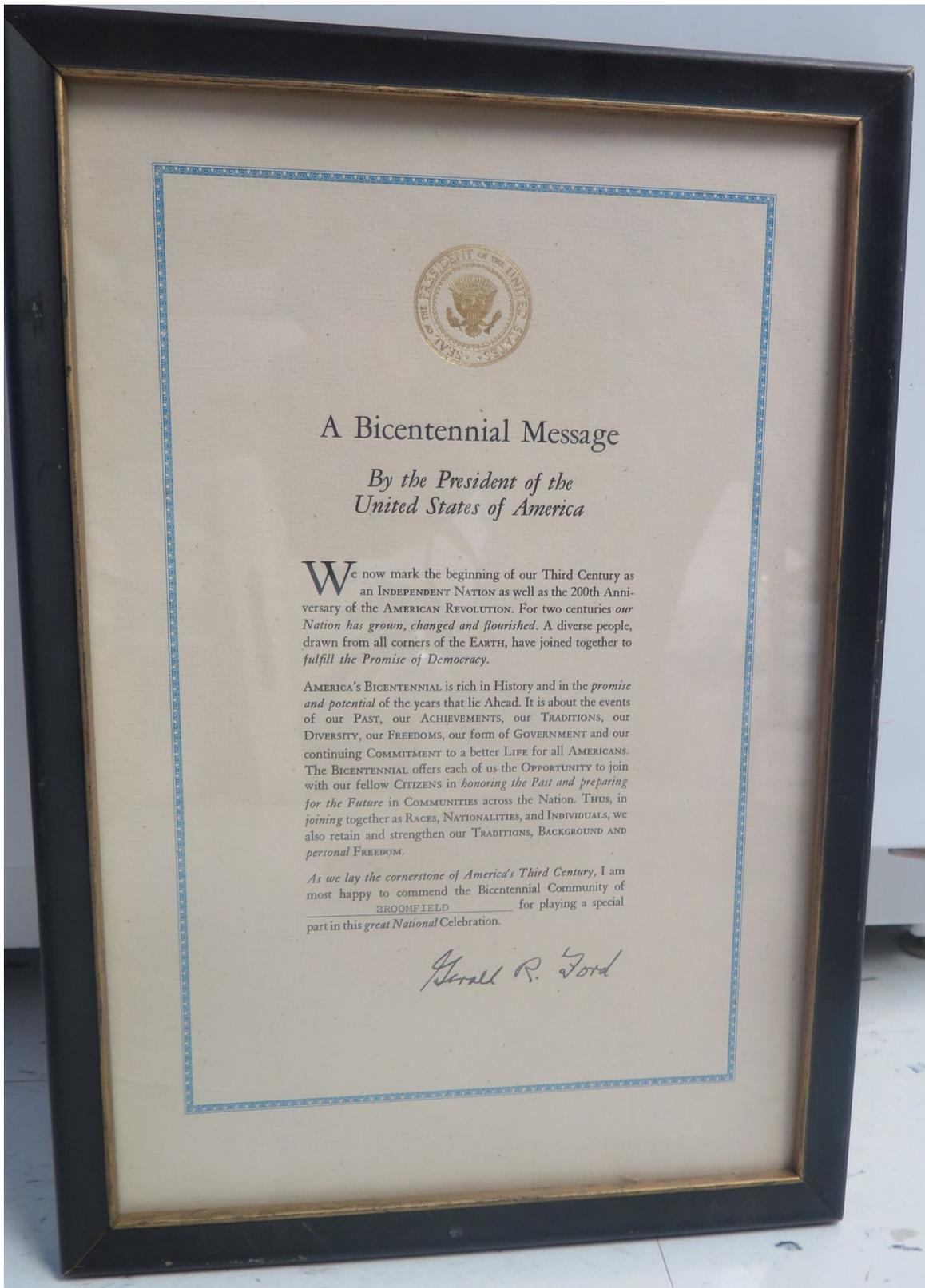
We now mark the beginning of our Third Century as an INDEPENDENT NATION as well as the 200th Anniversary of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION. For two *centuries our Nation has grown, changed and flourished*. A diverse people, drawn from all corners of the EARTH, have joined together to *fulfill the Promise of Democracy*.

AMERICA'S BICENTENNIAL is rich in History and in the *promise and potential* of the years that lie Ahead. It is about the events of our PAST, our ACHIEVEMENTS, our TRADITIONS, our DIVERSITY, our FREEDOMS, our form Of GOVERNMENT and Our continuing COMMITMENT to a better LIFE for all AMERICANS. The BICENTENNIAL offers each of us the OPPORTUNITY to join with our fellow CITIZENS *in honoring the Past and preparing for the Future* in COMMUNITIES across the Nation. THUS, in *joining* together as RACES, NATIONALITIES, and INDIVIDUALS, we also retain and strengthen Our TRADITIONS, BACKGROUND AND *personal* FREEDOM.

As we lay the cornerstone of America's Third Century, I am most happy to commend the Bicentennial Community of BROOMFIELD for playing a special part in this great National Celebration.

Signed by Gerald R. Ford

FROM BROOMFIELD'S PAST



Cow Pies and Quilts: Broomfield's 1976 Commemorations in the US Bicentennial and Colorado Centennial

By **David Allison**

History and Museum Supervisor, City and County of Broomfield

In 1975, Broomfield organized a Centennial/Bicentennial Commission that was tasked with finding ways to celebrate and commemorate the 100th anniversary of Colorado's statehood and the 200th anniversary of the US becoming a country.

The Commission focused first on purchasing (in conjunction with the Broomfield Jaycees) the Broomfield Depot from the Colorado and Southern Railroad and moving it to an open site near the Lac Amora development. The Depot building had been a tax burden for the Colorado and Southern since it ceased operation earlier in the 1970s, and the Jaycees were excited to preserve a "landmark" of the recently-passed history of Broomfield. The proposed park where the Depot would be located was described as "Zang Centennial Park." Today this park is known as Zang Spur Park, with "Centennial" dropped from the name.

The Centennial/Bicentennial Commission planned a number of events throughout the year 1976, with a big kickoff for the year occurring on Feb. 26, 1976 at Broomfield High School, with patriotic music sung by choirs, speeches, and an official designation of Broomfield as a Centennial-Bicentennial City by the State of Colorado.

Activities culminated in Broomfield on July 4 with a large parade and the groundbreaking for the new location of the Broomfield Depot. The Honorary Queen of the Community, Viola Crooks, was honored at the parade and the opening of the Broomfield Depot. The day rounded out with a cow pie-throwing contest between the mayors of Lafayette, Louisville and Broomfield and (of course) fireworks.

Emerald Elementary also had a patriotic event at the school and created a large patchwork quilt commemorating the Bicentennial. This quilt is in the Broomfield History Collection, along with numerous other flags, memorabilia, and documents.

As 2026 and the planned activities to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Colorado statehood and the 250th anniversary of the United States round into form, it behooves us to "look back" on what our community was doing in 1976 and to know that the footprints we leave, in the way we choose to remember the past, matters for the future.

Here are some photos of objects we have in the Broomfield History Collection celebrating the 1776–1976 Bicentennial, and we've included some images of when Broomfield became a county in 2001. Digital newspaper clippings are from Colorado Historical Newspapers.

Bicentennial Flag in Broomfield Collection, (we have lots of flags from the Bicentennial)



This is a Bennington flag given to commission by the A.A.R.P. for the museum. The flag has red and white stripes and a blue square in the top left corner. In the blue square is an arc of white stars and the number "76".



1976 flag flown over state capitol. This is a 3' x 5' nylon fringed American flag flown over the United States Capitol in honor of the Broomfield Centennial-Bicentennial Commission on 03/01/1976.



Bobbie Spader, wife of Mayor Walt Spader, watches as His Honor (right) tosses a chip in competition last Sunday.



Everybody should attend a cow-chip pitching contest once in a lifetime!

Broomfield vs. Lafayette



Tossing for Lafayette here is Councilwoman Phyllis Thieme. She was accompanied to the event by fellow councilmember Charles Bransford. Louisville didn't show up, making the tri-city contest a quick bi-city duel. The Lafayette team finished only one foot short of the Broomfield team total.



"Winner and new champeen" of the contest was City Manager George DiCiero. Here, a little body language helps as he makes his final toss which netted him a total of 327 feet. Coming in second in the contest was Mayor Spader, and Sheila Linderholm, student representative from the high school, finished third.

Officially Centennial



Dick Bocard (left) recognizes former Broomfield Mayor Jack Elliott as Grand Marshall for the Broomfield Centennial-Bicentennial celebration.

Joe Cerquoni, left, presents the mayor with a plaque officializing Broomfield's status as a Bicentennial city. Cerquoni is public information officer for region 8 of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration.



Broomfield Junior High School's Concert Choir sang . . .



Robert Pulcifer and Mayor Walt Spader hold up Broomfield's Colorado Centennial flag. The city is now officially a Colorado Centennial city, too.



. . . and so did members of the high school girls' choir.

With due pomp and ceremony last Thursday night, Broomfield was acknowledged formally as official Centennial and Bicentennial city.

The evening, featuring music both vocal and instrumental and including a dramatic reading of the

"Battle of Trenton," was a night resplendent in historical remembrance.

On the front cover, Viola Crooks, long time Broomfield resident, begins her official reign as queen of Broomfield's Centennial-Bicentennial year and the year's activities.



Cindee Estes helps the Westlake Elementary choir render a song about Colorado.

1966
Enterprise
PAGE SEVEN
March 3, 1976

and Bicentennial . . .



*Bicentennial . . .
Mesa Court style!*

Parents watch in the foreground as residents of Mesa Court in Broomfield perform their original Bicentennial program. The youngsters on the block decided this was the year for a show, and originated a performance opening with an appropriate flag ceremony and which included singing, dancing, and a play

about a family without fireworks. Those responsible for the 40-minute production include Debbie and Nancy Jackson, Cathy Cobb; Tommy and Debbie Nanney, Joe Floyd, Holly and Susan McGrath, Michael Miller, Christine Miller, Kimmie Frank, and Cathy, Beth and Anne Brey.

From the Bicentennial Commission

Page 2-The Tri-City Journal, August 11, 1976

The Broomfield Centennial Commission has announced the receipt and deposit of a check for \$200 from the Broomfield Women's Republican Club for the "Circle of Flags" project at the depot-museum located in Zang's Spur Centennial Park. Chairman Richard Boccard has ordered 10 of the necessary flags.

At the July 20 meeting, Terry Cole, City of Broomfield, joined the commission as liaison and was appointed treasurer. He will assist in accounting and coordinating with city council.

Four organizations are coordinating the work on Zang's Spur Centennial Park. They include the City

of Broomfield, the Broomfield Centennial-Bicentennial Commission, the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Broomfield Historical Society. A contract of agreement has been signed by all involved.

At the last July meeting, the commission met Vicki Carnes and Steve Markel, 1976 Broomfield High School graduates who will leave Saturday, Aug. 21, for Brasilia, Brazil where they will spend almost a year as exchange students. The commission donated five belt buckles and five copies of "Gem of a Mountain Valley" to both students to take as gifts to their host family, school and other dignitaries

as momentos from Broomfield.

Donita Markham, Sandra Miller, Sherry Beesly and Leslea Stringer of the Plant and Pray Garden Club attended the meeting to learn of the plans for landscaping Zang's Spur Park in Lac Amora, particularly the plans for the Circle of Flags project. They met with Dick and Bruce Boccard on July 24 at the park to begin formulating ideas for types of plants and possible color combinations.

The Broomfield Centennial-Bicentennial Commission extends its gratitude to Broomfield citizens for their outstanding support and participation in the Fourth of July Parade. VFW Post 9565, John and Leota Nielsen and Mary Bales were members of the coordinating and planning committees and are to be congratulated for their fine job.

Broomfield Centennial Bicentennial Commission schedule of events

Wednesday, Aug. 18: Square dance in the library parking lot from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Aug. 18 through Aug. 21: Centennial-Bicentennial sale table manned by commission members.

Saturday, Aug. 28: The first Viola Crooks Garden and Lawn contest. Those wishing to enter should contact Veva Johnson, 466-2836. Viola Crooks and members of the various garden clubs will serve as judges.

Sept. 4-5: Table tennis tournament at Broomfield Junior High. Interested persons, call Pat Kalny, 469-1549.

Saturday, Sept. 11: Koshare Indian Dancers, BHS gym, 8 p.m. Tickets available soon.

The Broomfield Centennial-Bicentennial Commission will meet Tuesday, Aug. 17 and 31, 7:30 p.m., at No. 6 Garden Center (the City Offices). Interested citizens are cordially invited.

Mayor signs 'Honor America' proclamation for Bicentennial

In keeping with the national Bicentennial Committee's "Honor America" program, Broomfield Mayor Walter Spader signed a proclamation with consent of City Council last week declaring the period from June 14 to July 4 as Honor America Weeks. The 21-

day period begins with Flag Day and ends with Independence Day.

Residents are urged to fly the American Flag daily in keeping with the special proclamation.



*Bicentennial . . .
Mesa Court style!*

Parents watch in the foreground as residents of Mesa Court in Broomfield perform their original Bicentennial program. The youngsters on the block decided this was the year for a show, and originated a performance opening with an appropriate flag ceremony and which included singing, dancing, and a play

about a family without fireworks. Those responsible for the 40-minute production include Debbie and Nancy Jackson, Cathy Cobb; Tommy and Debbie Nanney, Joe Floyd, Holly and Susan McGrath, Michael Miller, Christine Miller, Kimmie Frank, and Cathy, Beth and Anne Brey.

Mesa Court Bicentennial play
performed by kids

Pepsi bottle
celebrating the Bicentennial



Council helps save historic depot

In Monday night's Council meeting, Council voted to expend \$700 on a temporary basis to the Centennial Bicentennial Commission to financially assist in the moving and relocation of the Broomfield depot.

The depot must be moved by Dec. 5, otherwise the Colorado and Southern Railway Company will dispose of it.

When restoration has been completed, the depot will serve as a historical museum and a permanent meeting place for the Broomfield Jaycees.

Resolutions commending former Council members Paul Cui, Jean Duvall, Donald Miller, and James Nanney for their distinguished service as councilman were unanimously approved.

Liquor license renewals were granted to the Broomfield Drug Co., Broomfield Liquor Store, Broomfield Manor, Go-Go Liquors and Blanche's Snack Bar.

In other action, Councilman Norman Smith, Ward 4, indicated he did not feel financial support for the Broomfield Public Broadcasting, Inc. in the amount of \$500 should be a city Council concern at this time, even though he felt it was a worthwhile project.

David Jackson, councilman from Ward 3, said he thought it would be more constructive if BPB would put forth a definite membership plan and then come to city council with a project which would definitely "get off the ground."

Jackson said he felt BPB's request was made at the wrong time. It was his opinion it would be best if Council added the finishing touch rather than "putting in seed money."

Council agreed and it was moved not to support Broomfield Public Broadcasting, Inc. at this particular time.

The second reading of Ordinance 282, which allows vacating a portion of Commerce Street in the Cloverleaf Industrial Park, was postponed indefinitely.

Nomad Contractors of Boulder was awarded the contract for the Broomfield Industrial Park Water Transmission Line. Nomad Contractors submitted the lowest bid: \$67,464.

The memorandum concerning award of the bid recommended the city staff be authorized to refund \$11,863 of the excess funds deposited by developers Jim Van Buskirk and Robert Levy for the project.

Council unanimously approved Contract Change Order No. 7 with the Colorado Pipeline Constructors in the amount of \$3,195.06.

Newly elected Councilman Robert Kelly, Ward 5, was unanimously elected to serve as council liaison to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

In other business, the proposal of Broomfield High School's Future Business Leaders of America to paint 100 fire hydrants red, white and blue as part of a Bicentennial project was approved.

Local activities slated to mark bicentennial.

by Jan Heath

Broomfield's Fourth of July Bicentennial celebration promises to have something for everybody, including a parade, an art show and even something for the history buffs.

June 24-July 15: Art exhibit at the City offices. Artists participating are Ruth Turner, students of Ruth Turner, and Richard Brown. Use the police department entrance on weekends.

Friday, July 2: "Two Hundred Years of Dance," presented by the Boulder Stake of the Church of Latter Day Saints as a Bicentennial gift to the community, 8 p.m., BHS gymnasium. No admission charge. (Call 449-6900 or 494-9606 to arrange for club and service organization performances.)

Sunday, July 4: Parade at 2 p.m. Parade participants should meet at 6th and Daphne, north of Midway at 1:30 p.m. The parade will begin at Sixth and Daphne, proceed to Midway, down Midway to Nickel. The reviewing stand will be in the Pizza Hut parking lot.

Those who have not made arrangements to be in the parade may still participate, however, they will be

assigned to last positions. Children with decorated doll buggies, bicycles, and pets are still welcome. Broomfield residents wishing to carry their own flag



are welcome to participate in the "Massing of the Colors." Meet at 6th and Daphne, 1:30 Sunday.

Approximately 55 entries will march in Sunday's parade. Participating will be the Broomfield Youth Band, the Color Guard from Fort Carson, the Fort Carson Fourth Division Band, drill teams and marching units, and floats. The Broomfield Chorale and the BHS Show Choir will also lend their talents.

Viola Crooks will be Parade Queen and former Broomfield Mayor Jack Elliot will be Grand Marshal. Dedication ceremonies for the Broomfield Depot-Museum will follow the parade at 4 p.m. Broomfield Centennial-Bicentennial Commission Chairman Dick Boccard, Rob Lewis and Mayor Walt Spader will officiate at the dedication to be held at Zang's Spur Centennial Park, Highway 287 and 10th Avenue.

At 4:30 p.m., also at Zang's park, Broomfield City Council will challenge the Louisville and Lafayette councils to a cow chip throwing contest. Have a happy Fourth of July. (And next year, with any luck at all, we may have our own fireworks display!)

Commission announces gift receipt

The Broomfield Centennial - Bicentennial Commission has announced the receipt and deposit of a check for \$200 from Broomfield Women's Republican Club for the "Circle of Flags" project at the Depot-Museum location of Zang's Spur Centennial Park. Chairman Richard Boccard has ordered 10 of the flags needed.

At the July 20 meeting of the Commission Terry Cole, Broomfield City Offices, joined the Centennial-Bicentennial Commission as liaison and became the new treasurer. He will aid with accounting and coordinating with City Council.

Four organizations are coordinating the work and responsibilities for Zang's Spur Centennial Park. They are City of Broomfield, Broomfield Centennial - Bicentennial Commission, Jr. Chamber of Commerce and Broomfield Historical Society. A Contract of Agreement has been signed by all groups.

The Commission also met Vicki Carnes and Steve Markel, Broomfield High School graduates who are exchange students next year to Brasilia, Brazil. The Commission donated five of the belt buckles and five copies of the book "Gem of The Mountain Valley" to each student to take as gifts to their host, school and other dignitaries as mementoes of the good will from our country in commemoration of our Centennial - Bicentennial celebration. The books were inscribed by the authors Laura Spitzer and

Lou Walther with a message of commemoration and friendship. The students leave on August 21.

Donita Markham, Sandra Miller, Sherry Beasley and Leslea Stringer of the Plant and Pray Garden Club were present to learn of the plans and area of the Zang Spur Centennial Park to be planted, particularly the Circles of Flags project. The ladies met with Chairman R. A. Boccard and Bruce Boccard at 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 24 to walk the land involved and to begin the forming of ideas for types of plants and color combinations.

The Broomfield Centennial - Bicentennial Commission extends its gratitude to the Citizens of Broomfield for their response in participating and observing the July 4 Parade. The VFW Post 9565, John and Leota Nielsen and Mary Bales were the coordinating and planning committee.

The Commission wishes to announce to citizens that there are more events to come and continued support is desired.

The schedule for August is as follows: August 11: Square Dancing in Library parking lot 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

August 18 through August 21: Centennial-Bicentennial Sale Table manned by members of the Commission.

August 28: First Viola Crooks Plant, Garden and Lawn Contest. Those wishing to enter may do so by calling Vieva Johnson at 466-2836. Other numbers to call will be added later.

Crooks and members of the Garden Clubs.

September events: September 4, 5, 7: Table Tennis Tournament at the Broomfield Junior High School. Interested persons call 469-1549, Pat Kalny.

September 11: Koshare Indian Dancers, at the Broomfield High School Gym. 8 p.m. Tickets will be available soon.

The Commission has these items for sale: The National Bicentennial Medal (in plastic and boxed), \$5; Sun Bonnets (custom made), \$5; Composition Belt Buckles (depot logo), \$5; Solid Brass Belt Buckles (Broomfield depot logo) \$12; "Gem of The Mountain Valley" (Stories of Broomfield), \$5 (price increase).

Meetings for August will be at 7:30 p.m. at #6 Garden Center on August 17 and 31. Interested citizens are welcome and invited to attend.



Broomfield Days button, '76'

Broomfield Business & Professional Women discuss American freedoms

Fort Collins was the site. June 13, 14, 15 were the dates. The participants were Broomfield Business and Professional Women's Club officers and committee chairpersons Melva Sparks, president; Dee Michalak, first vice president; Velda Tanguay, state legislation chairman and candidate for state second vice president; Betty Taylor, immediate past president and by-laws chairman; Lillian Palmer, delegate and state nominating committee; Jean Bailey, membership chairman and state nominating committee; Inez Flint, recording secretary and state program committee.

The event was the annual State Convention of Colorado Business and Professional Women.

The program theme, Bicentennial: Perspective

for Women, served as a kick-off for the 1975-76 program of Business and Professional Women nationally, statewide, and locally. This year's program coincides with two major events—the American Bicentennial and International Women's Year.

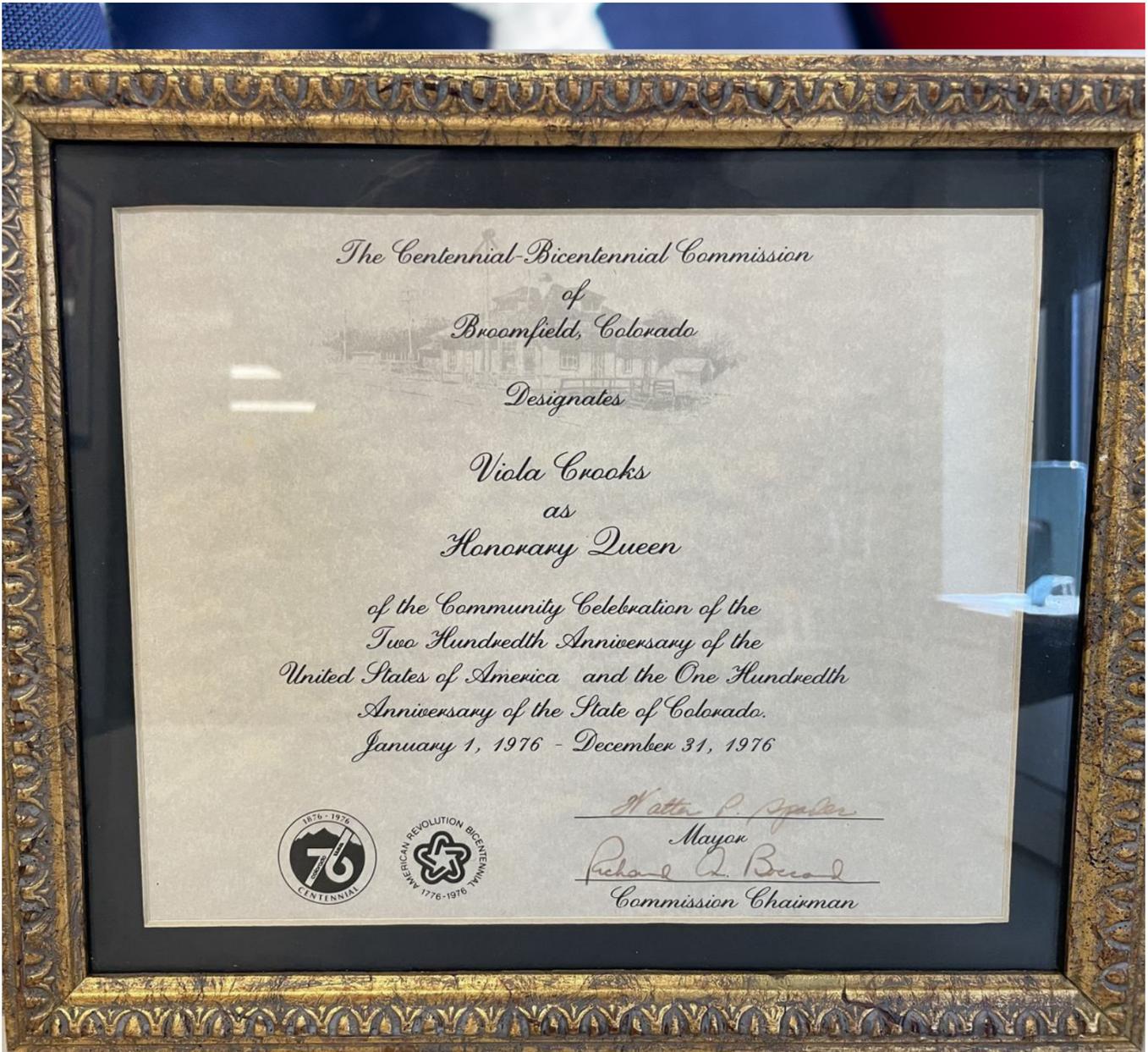
Behind the National Program this year is the concept that people are entitled to certain rights and certain freedoms, among these being the right to travel in our society unafraid, the right to grow old with dignity, the right to equal pay for equal work, the right to quality health care, the right to develop and grow

as an individual; the right to make our own life choices. While people may be entitled to those rights, it doesn't necessarily follow that those rights are readily available. Making them more readily available is a job BPW can participate in.

In Broomfield, the local club will be developing a program consistent with these concepts with an emphasis on "Women Helping Women." Anyone desiring further information about Business and Professional Women, its objectives, programs, membership, is urged to call Miss Melva Sparks, 466-3805, or Mrs. Mary Mock, 466-6292.

Bicentennial Flag presentation

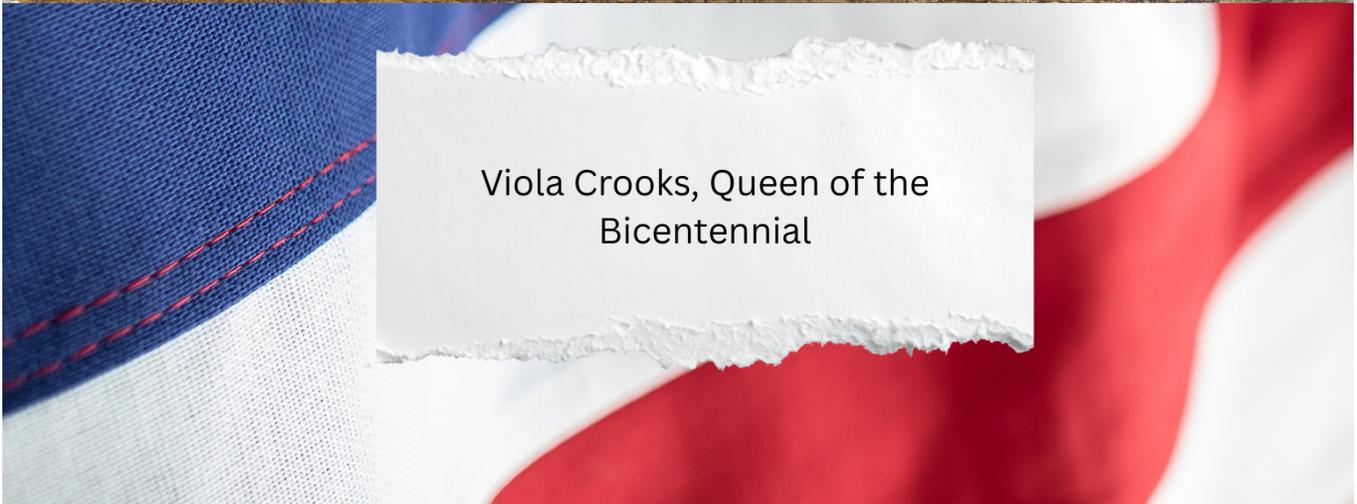




*The Centennial-Bicentennial Commission
of
Broomfield, Colorado
Designates
Viola Crooks
as
Honorary Queen
of the Community Celebration of the
Two Hundredth Anniversary of the
United States of America and the One Hundredth
Anniversary of the State of Colorado.
January 1, 1976 - December 31, 1976*



*Matt P. Spalden
Mayor
Richard A. Bernal
Commission Chairman*



Viola Crooks, Queen of the
Bicentennial

Freedom Plane Tour to Visit Denver in 2026

By David R. Feineman
Treasurer, Broomfield Historical Society



A 3D rendering of a Boeing 737 in Freedom Plane livery, to be used during the “Freedom Plane National Tour” (Courtesy of the National Archives Foundation)

You might not have gotten to see the original Freedom Train in 1976, and there is no plan for a steam-powered train to cross the United States this year. (If you happen to be in Baltimore in July, you can visit one of the steam locomotives and train cars that were used in 1976 without their exhibits at the B&O Railroad Museum). However, it might be more practical to view the contents of the Freedom Plane National Tour during its two-week residence in Denver from May 28 to June 14 at the History Colorado Center. The National Archives and Records Administration and the National Archives Foundation have created a traveling exhibit called "Documents That Forged a Nation." The collection

includes historic artifacts, such as an original engraving of the Declaration of Independence and a tally of votes approving the U.S. Constitution. History Colorado Center is one of only eight museums receiving this special collection.

For more information on the Freedom Plane National Tour's stop at the History Colorado Center, visit historycolorado.org/freedom-plane.



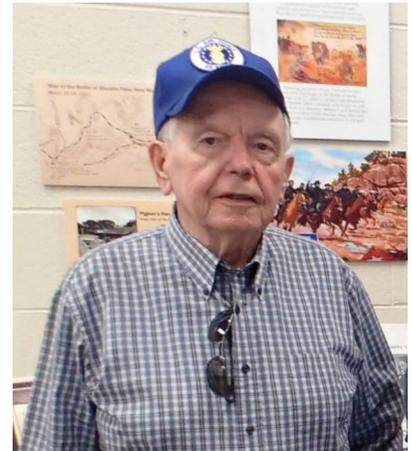
Celebrating the Life of Lloyd L. (Lew) Moir, Jr.

January 19, 1936 - February 12, 2026

Lew was a former president of the Broomfield Historical Society, as well as a longtime volunteer and lecturer at the Broomfield Veterans Museum. This excerpt from a 2023 Veterans Museum presentation provides an excellent overview of Lew's life and career.

BROOMFIELD VETERANS MUSEUM COFFEE AND CONVERSATION 13 May 2023 #248

Lloyd L. (Lew) Moir, Jr: Colonel, USAF Active Duty: 20 August 1956–30 September 1984. Lloyd (Lew) was born in Le Mars, Iowa on January 19, 1936. He was raised on the family farm outside of Orange City, Iowa. During his youth, he attended public schools; his first four years were in a one room county schoolhouse. While in high school, he participated in football, baseball, softball, choir, dramatics, and student government.



After two years in college at Northwestern College and Iowa State University, he entered the Aviation Cadet program. On February 4, 1958, he received his pilot's wings and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. As a Cadet he flew the T-34, T-28, and T-33 aircraft. Following graduation, he entered the advanced fighter training program flying the F-86F. With a follow-on assignment to fly F-100's at George AFB, the unthinkable happened: President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles made the decision that a sizeable tactical air force was no longer needed. National policy went with a strategic nuclear force. Six hundred tactical pilots were reassigned to the Strategic Air Command to fly the B-47, and Lew was one of them. The good thing to come out of this turn of events is that he met his wife of 63 years.

After a 28-year career in the Air Force, Lew retired on September 30, 1984, and joined IBM (International Business Machines) as a Program Manager. In that capacity, he led the development of the Battle Management/Command Control architecture for President Reagan's "Star Wars" program. He went on to manage the upgrade of satellite ground systems, British Air Traffic Control System, and the consolidation and modernization of the British Ministry of Defense Voice and Data Communication Systems. During this period, Lockheed Martin purchased the IBM Federal Systems Division. He retired an executive manager from IBM and Lockheed Martin in March 1999.



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The Broomfield Historical Society is dedicated to sustaining the history and heritage of Broomfield through our relationship with the Broomfield Museum, our members and other community partners. Your membership or contribution bolsters all our work, and we greatly appreciate your support. "Be in! Be appreciated! Be connected! Join today!"

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Visit our website at <https://broomfieldhistoricalsociety.org/shop> to donate online or use the form below.

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