

SAGE OF THE ROCKIES IS NOW...

WEST OF 50

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July 2022 newsletter

Its official SAGE of the Rockies is now West of 50. After months of gathering community feedback, The Center hosted a name reveal party. The event boasts a crowd that enjoyed cupcakes, drinks, and candy. To learn of the name, the community members had to crack open a piñata that was packed with candy and the updated name. Richard noted that he *“really enjoyed the event and it was nice to be able to talk with so many people”*. For many years, SAGE of the Rockies has been an affiliate member of the national organization SAGE, an organization based in New York City and dedicated to serving LGBTQ elders. In the winter of 2022 SAGE National revealed its strategic plan. This new plan changes the affiliate relationships from a centralized model to a collaboration model. This new model ceases the participation requirements placed on organizations and allows for programs outside the national organization to have the freedom to expand, create, and be the programs they choose to be. The tradeoff means affiliates are no longer able to use the SAGE name. To gather community feedback, we hosted four Name Change forums and published an online and paper survey. Once completed we then hosted a two-week voting process to select a new name.



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Lunch and Learn - Preventing Hate and Bias-based Violence

Date: Wednesday, July, 13th 12:00pm – 1:00pm. Lunch provided. RSVP to Jason or Bryant

During this discussion, we’ll focus on building awareness of issues related to the prevalence and trends of targeted violence in Colorado. We’ll talk about the similarities and differences between hate crimes, targeted violence, and other relevant terminology, and focus the time on dialogue on the barriers, resources, and tools available for individuals and communities to support those who are targeted. We’ll also spend some time discussing different strategies in place for preventing and interrupting the process of radicalization to violence, and how that process can be recognized.”



AARP This course is aimed Driver Safety at drivers who are 50+ and will provide you with a review of defensive driving skills and current rules of the road. Check with your insurance to see if this course entitles you to a discounted insurance premium. The cost for AARP members is \$20 and Non-members is \$25. **Date: Wednesday, August 10th. 10:30 am—2:30 pm. To RSVP contact Jason or Bryant.**

The Art Space Needs

Your Love... It's time to clean out the art space and get ride of old art supplies and unneeded items. We welcome all who have a passion for cleaning and organizing. Date: Thursday, July 7th, 1:00pm – 3:30pm. Contact Jason or Bryant with questions.



Sweet Summer nostalgia-Summer gifts us with hot days to spend in the sunshine, mountains, and under shade of our cool Colorado trees. Here we celebrate this brief -valuable- window of time with a list of ideas to help you get out and about...

- Take a road trip – Glenwood Springs in September!
- Dance under the stars
- Go to the Zoo—join us July 27th
- Puddle-jump after a storm
- Make homemade ice cream
- Go Camping
- Eat a peach
- Host an outdoor BBQ
- Try a food new truck
- Read under a tree
- Find a county fair to explore
- Spend a whole day outside
- Enjoy an outdoor concert
- Rock on a porch swing
- Plan a potluck with neighbors
- Go treasure hunting at a flea market



May's Trip to Georgetown -During the last week of May we took a trip into the



mountains to visit the Georgetown Railroad Loop. On our way up we stopped at an amazing Mexican restaurant named Hacienda Colorado. From there our driver Darry took us on a beautiful drive to Georgetown. When we arrived, we spent time in the quaint downtown and explored local art shops, ice cream parlors, and general goods stores. From there we boarded the open-air train cars and were taken on a trip through Georgetown's historic mining sites and gorgeous mountain views. After a brief stop where we had the opportunity to see original mining trains and learn a little of their history, we were on our way back.- Bryant



Let's go on a trip to Glenwood Springs!!!



Glenwood Springs is known for its mineral-rich hot springs, terrific restaurants, and charming downtown. This small mountain town is home to some of the best mountain living available. The Community Group has partnered with Galivant Colorado to take a 2-night trip to Glenwood Springs for 10 people. To ensure that this opportunity is economical we asked Galivant Colorado to find us the best group.

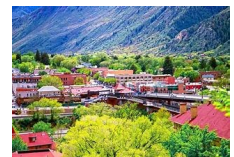
The most Economical dates this year are:

- ⇒ **Wednesday, September 7th and Thursday, September 8th**
- ⇒ Total Cost per person is **\$290.00 (this trip is non-refundable)**

What is included:

- ⇒ 2 night stay at the Glenwood Springs Inn. Every person will share a double queen hotel bedroom to keep the cost as low as possible.
- ⇒ Breakfast at the Glenwood Springs Inn is included
- ⇒ Round-trip travel provided by Galivant Colorado.

For the group to be able to go, 10 people must sign on and pay upfront the **\$290.00 by July 15th.** **The Center on Colfax is not part of this event & will not be accepting any funds.**



Loss

I've been involved with Telling Your Story for over ten years now. For a number of those years, as I saw this little community build and bond together as we got to know each other's stories very well, I would wonder how will the death of a member affect us. How will we get through that process of missing and grieving? We have actually been through that a number of times as the years increase and as our years increase. I can count eight members we have lost and I'd like to remember each of them in their uniqueness and their unique contributions to all our lives. If there are others whom I've neglected, please say so and feel free to add any memories.

The first was Stephen Kraus. I remember his elfin shape as he told us many times of the elves in his heritage and DNA. I remember how he read to us long and elaborate tales from his experience, some fantastical, some very ordinary stories of growing up in Ohio. He took our story telling seriously and would work on pieces weeks in advance. And he coined nick names for others in the group. Mine was Ray of Light—which I hated. Stephen's health problems finally got to be too great and he elected to end all treatment and passed quietly.

I remember Gail Klocke and the stories she told about the Colorado Peaches and her challenges and joys in being a PE teacher, coach, and mother and grandmother. I remember her valiant battle against cancer a couple of times and how she struggled at times to make it in on Monday afternoon.



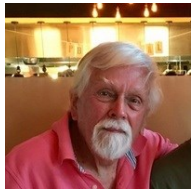
I remember Randy Wren who came from a prominent Denver family and told us stories about his family's history and Denver's that he scribbled into notebooks. He also delighted in recalling his New York days and going to the famous disco Studio 54. Randy's passing was totally unexpected and a shock.



I remember Tom Hurley and his colorful scarves and his zany stories including tending to the needs of the Pope when he visited Denver one time.

I remember the Cecils whose last names I forget. Black Cecil whose stories I sometimes had trouble following as he rambled on and then wrapped it up, saying, "that's all I have to say about that." And white Cecil who told us long tales about his youth in Alabama and how he and Carl moved to Colorado.

I remember Ray Sylvester who lived to be 95. He and I got to be friends. I loved his very wry sense of humor and even though his body was growing weaker, his mind was sharp as a tack to the end and he didn't mind telling you just what he thought. I remember his black Chrysler convertible which he loved and then the bright red Mustang which he didn't like. After the age of 90, he began to tone it down some.



And finally, our most recent loss: Louis Brown who was the most New York New Yorker I think I've ever known. He would ramble over his notes about books he'd read and sometimes even lapse into song. Louis couldn't sing a note, but that never phased him if he thought we needed to hear a tune from a Broadway show or two.

Those are some of my memories of those we've lost over the years.

By Ray O'Loughlin

Queer Creativity Through the Ages—Artist Spotlight- Michael King has been exhibited numerous times in



juried art shows. Further more his work has been housed at The Art Museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico in the 1950s. Several items were awarded and featured in exhibitions in the United States and Europe. His work has been the feature of many galleries found in Phoenix, Colorado, and Hawaii. Several pieces of artwork are now found in private collections. In early 1960's his work was shown in an art magazine. In addition to creating art, Mr. King is skilled in textile design, teaching, and art therapy. He is active at the Center on Colfax and has been participating in the open art studio for many years. Kings work along with other West of 50's participants work is now on display at the Denver Art Museum. –Michael King



In the Eye of The Beholder: My Heroine Claude Cahun-In our third and final presentation in the Eye of the Beholder series, we had the opportunity to hear artist Sherry Wiggins discuss the life and the art of surrealist photographer, writer, and sculptor Claude Cahun. Audience members enjoyed a selection of drinks and snacks as the listened to Sherry detail Claude's life and experiences as a queer Jewish person and as an anti-Nazi activist. Sherry presented the visual self-portraits of Cahun, their surrealist writing, and their work and ultimate imprisonment during the Nazi invasion of France. This series started thanks to Kathleen Kelleher, who gave the first two amazing discussions on the lesbian perspective, and it's influence on modernism and Hollywood. - Bryant



Tech Support - 101 at the Salesforce Tower— Provided by their own Q Force Team. The Q Force team has graciously opened their doors to help you work through common tech issues and answer any questions you may have. Should you struggle with one of your devices feel free to bring it and they will provide you with one on one support to help you learn your tech. Breakfast will be provided as well as tours of their tower. Attendees must have a email address to be able to attend as this is part of the registration process.



Event Details:

- 9:00 am - Group arrival and check-in
- 9:00-9:30 am - tour of the space
- 9:30-10:00 am - Breakfast
- 10:00-11:00 am - Presentation and tech support
- 11:00-11:30 am - Questions and final tours

Date: Monday, July 25th

Time: 9:00am

Location: 17th Street Place, 1225 17th St. 500 Denver, CO 80202

RSVP: You must RSVP to Jason or Bryant by 18th.

Have questions about technology? Let Jason or Bryant know and we will have them add your question to their prestatation.

Example: -What is a QR Code?

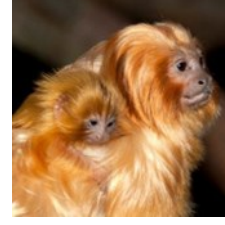
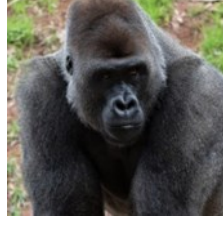
-How do I use a QR Code?

-How do I save a zoom link to my calendar?

-What is a cookie?

-Why does my computer want to track the type of cookies I eat?

Field Trip—Denver Zoo Home to more than 3,000 animals representing more than 450 species, Denver Zoo is the city’s oldest advocate for the natural world. The Zoo is among the most visited cultural destinations in Colorado and accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The Denver Zoo is home to Animals such as the African Lion and Black-Footed Penguin, Aye-Aye, Blue Poison Arrow Frog, Clouded Leopard, False Percula Clownfish, Red-Ruffed Lemur and thousands more animals. The first 18 RSVPs will be provided a free ticket to the Zoo. Meals are **not** included. Thank you to the Denver Zoo for donating the Tickets! **Date: Wednesday, July, 27th 11:00—Whenever RSVP to Jason or Bryant**



Cow Poke Avi's Game Extravaganza PRESENTS!

Scataqueeries-

Join Cow Poke Avi as he maneuvers players through a hilarious game of Scattergories. Players are encouraged to dress in HOT Couture!

Date: Wednesday, July 20th from 1:30 pm—3:00 pm. Treats provided!



Spark the Change is Colorado's Senior Companion Program that engages individuals

Are you 55 years or older?

Do you...



have 5-40 hours in a week to volunteer?



want to feel more connected to your community?



like to meet like-minded neighbors that would welcome your companionship?



have skills, talents and experience that could be of service?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, our Senior Companion program would love to hear from you!

Senior Companions must:

- Meet our income eligibility
- Complete the application process
- Pass the State & FBI fingerprint check & National sex offender check
- Be vaccinated for COVID-19

Senior Companions can receive:

- A small, hourly compensation of \$3.00/service hour & \$5.00 for lunch
- Mileage reimbursement
- Paid holidays for helping a neighbor out
- You can receive \$60 to \$600 a month, dependent on the number of hours you serve
- Money earned is not considered income, is non-taxable by law and does not affect any benefits.

55 years and older to realize the independence of older adults in their home and as a team and continue to be vibrant, contributing members of our community. Meet Emily as she talks about how you can access this awesome program that fosters community engagement and **compensates** you for that engagement.

Support other older adults in many ways including, but not limited to:

- Offering companionship and friendship
- Providing transportation to medical appointments or to social events

- Helping with grocery shopping and other shopping

- Assisting with simple chores like putting away groceries, preparing meals, washing dishes

Benefits of your work include, but not limited to:

- Opportunity to use life experiences, time and talent to enhance the lives of others
- Assistance with meals and travel reimbursement

Contact Jason or Bryant to learn more or visit: [https://](https://www.sparkthechangecolorado.org/senior-companion-program)

www.sparkthechangecolorado.org/senior-companion-program to learn more.

July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Center Closed	2
3	4 4th of July Center Closed	5 10 men's coffee 1:30 Trans Support	6 10:30 Yoga 1:30 Community Group	7 10 Open Art	8 10:30 Movement	9
10 Non-Binary Awareness Week 11th— 17th	11 10:30 Meditation 1:30 Story	12 10 men's coffee 1:30 Trans Support	13 10:30 Yoga 12 Lunch & Learn 1:30 Community	14 10 Open Art	15 10:30 Movement	16 International Drag Day
17	18 10:30 Meditation 1:30 Story	19 10 men's coffee 1:30 Trans Support	20 10:30 Yoga 1:30 Scataqueeries	21 10 Open Art	22 10:30 Movement	23
24	25 9 Tech-101 10:30 Meditation 1:30 Story	26 10 men's coffee 1:30 Trans Support	27 No Yoga or community Group 11:00 Zoo	28 10 Open Art	29 10:30 Movement	30
31						