



The Estes Valley Genealogical Society will meet on April 10th at 1:00 in the Library's Hondius Room. This month we are delighted to have Dr. Nancy Pickering Thomas give a presentation on researching her soon to be published book, *A most Peculiar Lady: The Life and Legacy of Flora J. R. T. Stanley of Newton and Estes Park*. Nancy's program will focus on the research processes and resources she used to find out about Flora and the challenges she faced in that effort. Nancy became interested in Flora Stanley as a docent at the Stanley Home Museum. Said Nancy, "We had a great deal of information to tell visitors about F. O. but realized we had very little to say about Flora. Flora Stanley was a well-

educated and talented woman who was an equal to her more famous husband in many respects and his delightful companion in making Estes Park the resort community it became in the early years of the 20th century. I began researching Flora a few years ago, and the book I have written is currently at the publisher's."

Nancy continued, "I've been an Estes Park resident since 2020 -- and my story is the same one that you hear over and over in EP. My brothers and I were brought here for the first time by my father in 1946 or 1947 and we all fell in love with this special place. Living here has been a lifelong dream. In the first years, we were the guests of Fred and Jessie Sanders, who built a wonderful cabin on the Twins Sisters up in the Tahosa Valley. I was born in New York City and raised in the suburbs -- and it was a long trip on blue highways to Estes Park in those early years. Our parents took us to visit many historic sites on the east coast- and I suppose my interest in the history of things, places, and people was born in those early trips -- to Colonial Williamsburg, Old Sturbridge Village, Gettysburg, and more."

Dr. Nancy Pickering Thomas received her undergraduate education at the University of Nebraska in Political Science and English, and at Northwest Missouri State University in Social Studies and Library Science. She received an M.A. from Northwest Missouri State University in History, and a Ph.D. from Rutgers University in Communication, Information, and Library Studies. In addition to academic books and articles, during her career as a Professor of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University, she has written (or edited) the following: *If I Ever Grew Up and Became a Man: William Allen White, The Moraine Park Years* (co-authored with her brother and EP Historian Laureate James H. Pickering), *The Memoirs of Eleanor E. Hondius of Elkhorn Lodge* (ed) and *A Slice of History and a Piece of Pie: Recipes and Remembrance - A Cookbook of Family Favorites from Early Estes Park*.

Please join us April 10th for an engaging program by Dr. Nancy Pickering Thomas on researching Flora Stanley for her new book! The EPGS meets on the second Thursday of every month from January through November in the library, offering a wide variety of free programs and workshops. For more information visit <https://estesparkgenealogicalsociety.weebly.com>.