

# *News From the Palisade Historical Society*

*June 2012*

**Next Program Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> - 9:30-11:00 a.m.  
"COAL MINING IN PALISADE - PART 2"**

**features Bennett Young**

The topic for our next "Palisade Reflections" program is back by popular demand! Bennett Young, Palisade native and professional geologist, will present new information and photos about the nearly 20 coal mines in the Palisade area. This program is free and open to the public. It will be held **Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.** at the **Veteran's Memorial Community Center at 8<sup>th</sup> and Main Streets in Palisade.**



If you missed *Coal Mining in Palisade - Part 1* last October, or want to learn more about our interesting coal mining past, plan to attend this program. And, as part of our on-going effort to expand knowledge on local history, everyone with information and photos of coal mining in Palisade is invited to share their stories as well. Breakfast pastries, compliments of Mary Lincoln's world famous Slice O' Life Bakery, will be provided.

The April "Palisade Reflections" program featured local archaeologist Curtis Martin presenting "*Ute Indians and their Prehistoric Ancestors*" and drew a record crowd of 98 people.

## **HISTORY CENTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED THIS SUMMER**

With this influx of tourists and former residents visiting Palisade in the summer, we would like to have regular hours for our 311 South Main Street location--which we call the History Center. Located in the Palisades National Bank building in downtown Palisade, there are historic items and displays of interesting Palisade memorabilia. If you would like to donate a couple of hours of your time each week in this valuable volunteer opportunity, please contact one of the Historical Society board members listed below.

The History Center will be open to the public during **Peach Fest, August 16 - 19. Guided Walking Tours** of Downtown Palisade will be offered at **10:30 and 2:30 on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.**

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## **PHOTO ALBUM SHOWS CCC CAMP/PALISADE IN 1939**

The newest donation to the Palisade Historical Society collection is a photo album which belonged to William "Bill" Peska, a member of the 2120 Company stationed at the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp in Riverbend Park for five months in 1939.

This 120+picture album is a treasure trove of information and new photographs which provide insight into CCC Camp life, Palisade buildings, and surrounding areas.

### **CCC Camp Mesa 1939**



*(Courtesy of the Peska Family Collection)*

Palisade's CCC Camp is an especially interesting part of Palisade's history, as the barracks and buildings – just five years after the photos in this album – housed German Prisoners during World War II.

The Palisade Historical Society is creating displays and presentations with the photo album, and we will forward information about upcoming programs as they are scheduled. Or, if your volunteer group would like a presentation, please contact one of the Palisade Historical Society board members listed below.

## **OTHER HISTORIC PHOTOS AND BOX LABELS ADDED**

We are also grateful to have photos from Ann Stokes' photo album which were donated by her niece, Shirley Reese Ryan. The Stokes Coal Mine operated near the entrance to Rapid Creek until 1943. Hugh Coachman, long time marketer of Palisade peaches, has also shared original box labels from his extensive collection of Western Slope brands. The Palisade Historical Society was able to enhance the Coal Mining in Palisade program with several photos from the Stokes album, and is creating a permanent display for the box label collection at the History Center.

## **PHOTOS NEEDED FOR PALISADE HISTORY BOOK**

Thanks to the Palisade Tribune for its continuing series of "Historical Photos of the Week," people have opened up their family albums to share interesting historical photos of Palisade for a planned history book.

If you have historic photos of Palisade to donate, please let the Historical Society know by calling (970) 464-2177 or by sending them to P.O. Box 631 Palisade, CO 81526. We can scan and return the original photos as you wish.

*(more)*

## **RENEW YOUR PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**

Our work is made possible only through the work of volunteers and donations. Annual Membership in the Palisade Historical Society is just \$25.00 for Individuals, \$50 for Families, \$100 for Businesses, and \$500 for Patrons. If you haven't signed up or renewed your membership, please do so today. **Mail your tax-deductible checks to the Palisade Historical Society P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526.**

Everyone is invited to join the Palisade Historical Society-through volunteer time with committees and projects-and with annual memberships.

LINK: [www.historicpalisade.org](http://www.historicpalisade.org)

### **ABOUT THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The mission of the Palisade Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and communicate the unique history of Palisade, Colorado, and to foster, encourage, stimulate, and develop public appreciation of this history.

### **Directors of the Palisade Historical Society:**

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