

John Lindstrom Honored as Archaeologist of the Year

We are thrilled our member, volunteer, and Historic Walking Tour Guide John Lindstrom was officially recognized for the prestigious Archaeologist of the Year award by the Museums of Western Colorado.

The Museum annually designates leaders and organizations in several categories who significantly contribute to the community's heritage.

David Bailey, the Museum's Curator of History, nominated John for his many accomplishments as an archaeologist and because John "is one of the most beloved characters in Palisade." John was one of the Museum's first staff archaeologists and among his memorable investigations are George Crawford's Ranch in Rapid Creek, and Alferd Packer's 1874 campsite near Lake City. Bailey also shared a cute story about how the staff working at the accused cannibal's campsite appreciated the catering talents



John Lindstrom, right, holds the hand-carved Aspen wood Archaeologist Award presented by the Museum's Curator of History, David Bailey, left. Photo courtesy Marsha Kasteva

of John's wife, Charlene Weidner. She served the Slice 'o' Life Bakery's finger-shaped cookies with almonds for fingernails! Bailey noted John's humble teaching style inspired many of his former Mesa College students to become accomplished scientists and forensic investigators.

Others given recognition at the March 1 Heritage Awards event were Dr. Martin Lockley, who received the George Callison Pale-ontological Award, and Emma McCreanor and Annamae Richmond who both received Museum Service Awards. The Architecture Preservation Award was given to Ed Chamberlain of Chamberlain Architects for their work on several Grand Junction historic buildings. Bob Silbernagel received the Museum's Historian of the Year Award, and Fruita's Family Health West was given the Heritage Enterprise Award for their support of Dinosaur Journey, in particular. New this year, the Director's Choice award went to Herb Bacon and the Bacon Family for their generous philanthropic community support.

Fun and Games at Heritage Rendezvous Opening

This year's Heritage Rendezvous Exhibit is titled "Fun & Games on the Western Slope," and opened to the public March 4th. It runs through May 3 at the Museum of the West, 462 Ute Avenue in Downtown Grand Junction. For these two months, members of the Palisade Historical Society will receive free admission to the exhibit.

Unique Palisade Fun and Games exhibit will be on display at the Museum's Heritage Rendezvous event through May 4th.

Palisade Historical Society's Charlene Weidner created "Unique Palisade Fun" which is one of the interesting displays from museums around the Western Slope. The centerpiece artifact is Theo Eversol's uniform and memorabilia which he used while playing on various Palisade baseball teams beginning in 1946. Another fun artifact is the winner's trophy for the Naeve Brothers Garage stock car, 4X, which had the fastest time in the 100 lap race at the Grand Speedway in 1954.

Featured photos in the display of amazing local adventures include Mae Purdy hiking on the palisades at the turn of the last Century, and Frosty Tilton surfing on the Grand Valley canal. There is also a photo of Nibbs and Miriam Kerr ice skat-

ing near the Roller Dam, Earl Swisher's friends and family ice skating on irrigation canals, and Palisade's First Concert Band from about 1904.



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2nd Graders at Taylor and Chatfield Elementary Schools Enjoy Palisade History

Second grade students at Chatfield Elementary learned about Palisade history from the Historic Palisade Coloring Book and a discussion with Historical Society Board Members Bill Beckwith, Charlene Weidner, and Priscilla Walker.

The presentation included photos and props, including a pair of stilts, a picking sack to demonstrate how peaches could be emptied into a basket without bruising, and a real piece of coal.

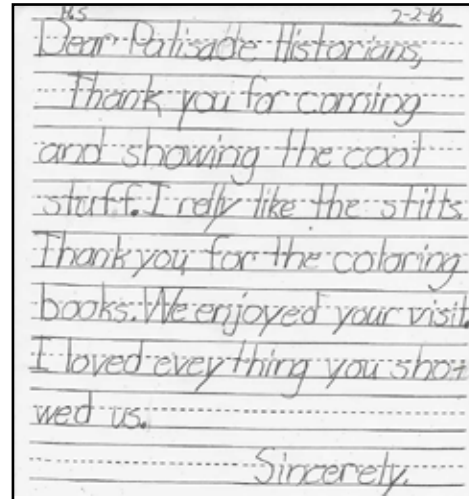


Charlene Weidner points to a photo of Cameo Coal miners in the Palisade history presentation for Chatfield second graders.

We appreciate the support from area Rotary Clubs whose generous donations made it possible to expand to Chatfield students this year, and Robyn Carmine the 2nd grade teacher who reached out to us to expand their history curriculum.



Taylor Elementary 2nd graders learn about Palisade history. Photo courtesy Carla Pitton



Thank you note from an appreciative student.

DAR Chapter Members Learn About Our Irrigation History

About 40 members of the Mt. Garfield Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) learned about irrigation history and the importance of the Grand River Diversion Dam at their February lunch meeting. Gary Hines, whose grandfather was caretaker at the "Roller Dam" in DeBeque Canyon from 1926 until 1959, presented a program which included showing the documentary "How the West Was Watered" and a question and answer session.

The group also viewed the "mobile museum" with photos and details about the construction and operation of the Diversion Dam which began operating more than 100 years ago in June 1915.



Gary Hines, standing right, and DAR members looking at the Roller Dam "mobile museum" at the DAR February meeting at Wine Country Inn.

The Post Office is 125 years old

William A. Pease was appointed Postmaster of the Palisades Post Office April 7, 1891. In the application, he described the proposed location as 100 feet south of the railroad station called Palisades. The Denver and Rio Grande Western extended its standard gauge rail line to Palisades in November 1890. Postmasters of the Palisades Post Office included John L. Oliver, Oliver A. Hampton and John H. Parton who was appointed on September 23, 1896. The post office may have been in two or three locations before 1916 when it settled in the Purcell building location.



The Parton's house, hotel, and post office was located about where the Palisade Branch Library on 3rd street is currently. Courtesy of Museum of Western Colorado Palisade Library Collection.

Grace Songer was Postmistress when Palisade was incorporated as a town in 1904. The Town dropped the "s" from Palisades, though the name of the post office wasn't changed from Palisades to Palisade until November 1, 1924. At that time, Postmaster Roswell Bancroft placed the post office 410 feet south of the tracks.



For 50 years, the Post Office was located in the Purcell Building on the east side of Main Street, just north (left) of Bancroft's Grocery store in this 1940's photo. This former Post Office location is currently the new 357 Grill. Photo courtesy of Gordon Stewart

A Palisade Women's Club committee, which included Margaret Talbott, Rena Mary Taylor, Rena Nisbet, and Helen

Bowman, successfully lobbied for a new post office when the one on Main Street became too small and had been there for 50 years. The current Palisade Post Office was built on 3rd Street in place of what had been blacksmith shops. The Post Office dedication ceremony was held almost 50 years ago on November 4, 1966.



Palisade's Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall, at the podium between the flags, addresses the crowd gathered for dedication of the "new" Palisade Post office almost 50 years ago. Courtesy of the Bowman Family Collection

Out West Books Now Carries Our Publications

Our popular Historical Society publications are now available in Grand Junction from Out West Books, located at 533 Main Street. Owner Maria Johnston gets a lot of requests for local history and is pleased to have new local history books for customers.

You can purchase copies of the Historic Palisade Coloring Book, Coal Mining in Palisade, Colorado and The History of Irrigation in Palisade and East Orchard Mesa, Colorado, as well as the book and CD of the Grand Valley Water Users' Association Newspaper Archive From 1904-1910 at her book store. Previously, our publications have only been available in Palisade from Lupita's Bizarre, Bazaar, Too! and at the History Center. Proceeds from the sales benefit the Palisade Historical Society.

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.

Gary Hines and Priscilla Walker Elected to Three-year Terms at the Annual Meeting



Priscilla Walker and Gary Hines at the Palisade Historical Society's Annual Meeting in February.

As part of the business conducted at the February 17 Annual Meeting of the Palisade Historical Society was the election of two board member positions. Gary Hines, who also served as secretary the past year, and Priscilla Walker, chairman, whose current terms expired, were elected by acclamation. Other items on the agenda were accomplishments, priorities, and a draft budget for the fiscal year, April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

Attending members had questions and good suggestions, including making the guided walking tours into e-books. The Palisade Historical Society is celebrating its sixth year, as it was incorporated as a non-profit in March 2010 it was incorporated as a non-profit in March 2010



Enthusiastic Palisade Historical Society members who attended the Annual Meeting included Kent Brown, Arden Blatter, Dave Cecuga and Gayle Madden.

1910 School Painting by Marion Merlino is at the History Center

One of the newest acquisitions on display at The History Center, 311 South Main Street is this painting by Marion Merlino, thanks to Al Merlino who donated it to the Historical Society last month.

It was entered in a Palisade Art Lover's Peach Blossom Art Show several years ago and purchased by the Palisades National Bank. It depicts the building before the fire escape was added. The building was torn down in 1970 and the Palisade Fire Station, built near the site, has a similar tower architectural feature.



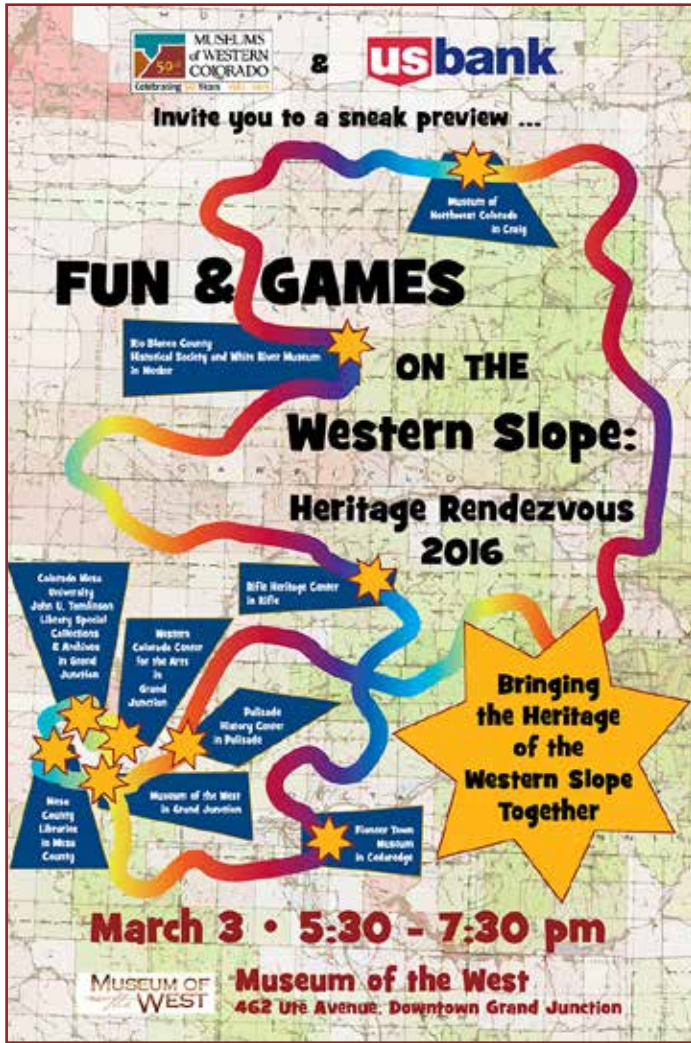
Don't forget Gray Gourmet Weekly Lunch in Palisade every Tuesday at noon

Gray Gourmet, Mesa County's Senior Nutrition Program, offers low cost lunches for seniors every Tuesday at the Palisade Community Center, 120 W. 8th St. Reservations are important, so please call 243-9844 x 1 a day in advance each week. More information about the programs and monthly menus can be found at www.stmarygj.org/senior-services or activity guide on page 12 of the activity guide on the Town's website, http://www.townofpalisade.org/images/Recreation/RecGuide/winter-spring_2016.pdf.



Entry Free to Members

Entry to the Heritage Rendezvous exhibit at the Museum of the West, 426 Ute Avenue in Grand Junction, is free for Palisade Historical Society members from now to May 3



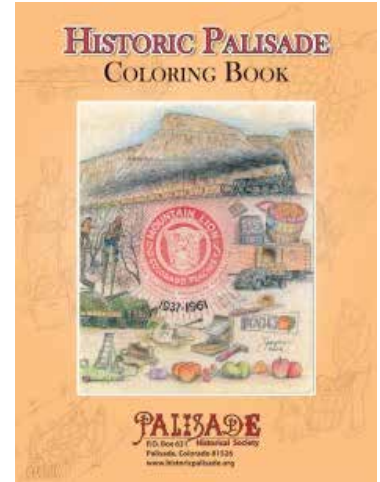
Renew Your Membership Today!

Our success is made possible only through the work of volunteers and donations. Everyone is invited to join the Palisade Historical Society – through volunteer time with committees and projects – and by membership.

Annual membership in the Palisade Historical Society is just \$25.00 for Individuals, \$50.00 for Families, \$100 for Businesses, and \$500 for Patrons. 10-year memberships are \$200 and Lifetime Memberships for \$400. 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.

Adult Coloring Book Artists Take Note

Palisade history is not just for elementary students as shown on page 2. Try your skills and learn about Palisade history. Available locally at the Palisade History Center, Lupita's Bizarre Baazar, Too! or Out West Books in Grand Junction. You can also contact the Historical Society directly at (970) 464-2177.



Coming in May, Photo Restore Roundup

The Palisade Historical Society and the Palisade Library Auxiliary are sponsoring a photo restoration service for **Historic Preservation Month** in May.

Bring your damaged or aged photos for professional digital restoration. We can scan while you wait. Restoration will be provided by Gayle Madden, Adobe Certified in Photoshop with over 15 years experience. She is a working member of Operation Photo Rescue, an international group of professionals who help restore photos from around the world that have been damaged by disaster.

The Historical Society is also interested in any historic Palisade photos you have to share. Originals will be scanned and returned to donors.

Look for more information in future newsletters.



Before



After