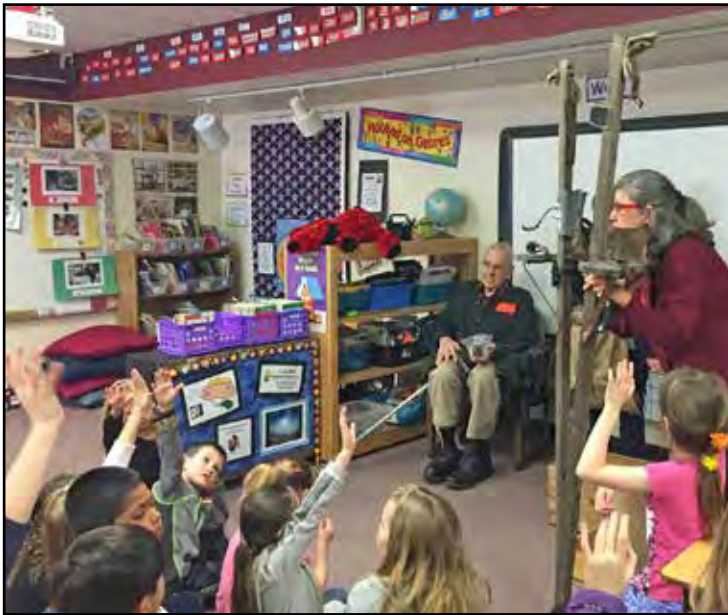




## District 51 New Curriculum Brings Coloring Books to 2nd Graders

With the local history study unit moving to the 2nd grade level, the Historic Palisade Coloring book is now part of how 2nd grade students learn about Palisade. Historical Society Directors Bill Beckwith Charlene Weidner, Priscilla Walker, and Jaime Cox, who is also a member of the Palisade Sunrise Rotary Club, met with Taylor Elementary students from Kami Kragenbring, Carla Pitton, and Connie Zemke's classes.



*Charlene Weidner holding stilts and Bill Beckwith, sitting in background in Mrs. Zemke's 2nd grade classroom at Taylor Elementary. (Photo courtesy Jaime Cox)*

This year, the Historical Society presenters brought props, including a pair of stilts and a picking sack to show how faux peaches could be easily emptied into a box without bruising, and how peaches were packed in rows in a wooden box for shipping. "We hoped having some actual items would help students connect with the illustrations in the Coloring Book," said Charlene. In previous years, 3rd graders at Taylor Elementary received the Coloring Books. This year, 3rd graders at Taylor will also get Coloring Books so they don't miss out on this wonderful resource.

Chatfield Elementary is also including our Coloring Books in their 2nd grade history unit, thanks to area Rotary Club's generous donations. Teacher Robyn Carmine was looking for something to fulfill the need for her class's new history unit and found our website.

## Heritage Rendezvous Opens to the Public Thursday, March 4



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

Charlene Weidner is creating "Unique Palisade Fun" which will be one of the more interesting among the dozen displays from museums around the Western Slope. Our entries include photos of hiking on the palisades, surfing on the canals and Palisade's baseball teams. The artifacts include a trophy from the Naeve Brothers Garage stock car which won races at the Grand Speedway in Grand Junction in 1955, and Theo Eversol's baseball uniform and memorabilia.

## Gray Gourmet Weekly Lunch in Palisade will Feature Historical Program in April



Gray Gourmet, Mesa County's Senior Nutrition Program, began offering low cost lunches for seniors every Tuesday at the Palisade Community Center, 120 W. 8th St. in February. The Historical Society will present the program for the April 26th lunch.

We were thrilled to be part of the inaugural test lunch last year which drew record attendance, and appreciate the opportunity to present another program this spring.

Reservations are important, so please call 243-9844 ext.1 a day in advance each week. More information about the programs and monthly menus can be found at [www.stmarygj.org/senior-services](http://www.stmarygj.org/senior-services) or activity guide on the Town of Palisade's website, [http://www.townofpalisade.org/images/Recreation/Rec\\_Guide/winter-spring\\_2016.pdf](http://www.townofpalisade.org/images/Recreation/Rec_Guide/winter-spring_2016.pdf).



## Palisade, Colorado (2016) Hints for the Hurrying Traveler

by authors, *Kent and Rita Brown*

(Available through Kindle Books and download-able to a Kindle or mobile phone)

### REVIEW

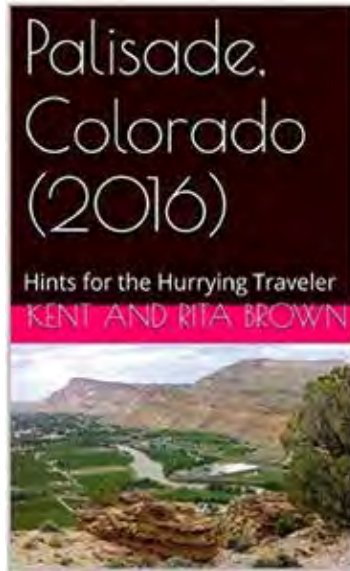
by *Gayle Madden*

I'm one of those people who own a Kindle, but don't use it for 'pleasure' reading. If I have a tasty novel to relish, or an art book to skim through, I'll opt for a 'real' book.

That said, the content for this type of book is a match made in heaven, or should I say, Amazon. The information contained in a printed travelogue often becomes outdated. And who wants to pack a book for every stop along your travels? However with an e-book the information can be changed and updated, including physical addresses, URLs, and business status at the drop of a hat; and all that information is available from a mobile device you probably have close at hand. Also photos look stunning on an electronic screen, and can be used in wild abandon with no concern for print quality or cost. And let's talk about cost. How can you possibly go wrong for \$2.99?

Don't be dissuaded by the words Kindle Book. I won't give instructions on how you would get this book to your particular smart phone, but I would suggest it is possible without too much technical expertise. I easily synced this title to my Android phone from my Kindle reader and can read it from either device. On the download page on Amazon, there are options on where you want to install. It can go to a computer – PC or Mac. From there, you are a hop, skip and free app to moving in to your mobile smart phone.

Now, about the content. The preamble is a flattering stroll into the Palisade area, introducing it in a manner that should delight local businesses. The table of contents is a road map of ways to discover the area. You can pick 15 minute tours, flexible, two-hour tours, or even longer ones that include biking and hiking. It also contains sections on Things to Do, so you can customize your tour for a particular area of interest, whether it is art, agriculture, or the town center. It provides a section on



Places to Eat with a picture sampling of actual plates offered. We were pleased to find they included a photo and description of the History Center and a link to our website.

The hyper links from Table Of Contents to the inside content are another plus. Interspersed throughout are links to websites for more specific information.

History lovers can tap into the section that advises how to take one of the Historical Society's walking tours either by grabbing a brochure, checking into the centers office, or connecting with the website. A helpful photo confirms you are in the right spot in front of the center's display windows.

All in all, you get a nice overview of Palisade you might miss whizzing by on I-70. I am a Palisade resident, so I know many suggested stops, though this book offers new ideas. It is a five-star addition for the hurried traveler and for harried local residents who need a jump start to entertaining guests.

Thank you Kent and Rita!

## Jeff Widener Gets His Ph.D.

Congratulations to Palisade Historical Society Member, Volunteer, and Expert Resource Jeff Widener who completed his dissertation and received his Doctorate of Philosophy degree from the University of Oklahoma last fall.



*Jeff Widener, left, with Kim Henderson and Doris Butler, serving peaches at the Mesa County Historical Society potluck in 2014.*

Jeff's dissertation entitled "Holding True: Agriculture in Colorado's Upper Grand Valley" is a wonderful "outsiders" perspective about land and life here, with special emphasis on Palisade. He based the 254-page story on three years (2012-



2015) of extensive research and interviews, including our own Historical Society Founding Directors, Harry Talbott and Doris Butler, who also co-founded the Mesa County Land Trust.

Jeff credits the Land Trust, which has preserved nearly 800 acres of agricultural land, as well as efficient irrigation technologies, and agritourism for the success of “farmers in the Upper Grand Valley being able to preserve their way of life, their landscape, and their industry” instead of yielding to various pressures to subdivide prime, irrigated agricultural land. Jeff details the history and challenges of farming in the Upper Valley from the extraction of kerogen, in particular oil shale, and other natural resources, as well as “amenity migration.” Each of these pressures, of course, have led to population growth and urban sprawl.

Though we know history is interesting, we were encouraged to see references to the Colorado Tourism Office’s three-year plan which includes ranch heritage and history activities as being important to tourism. Jeff cites agritourism as being Colorado’s 4th largest tourism industry. Agritourism, he argues, combined with the demand for locally produced foods will contribute to making farming, no matter the scale, viable in an era of uncontrolled development. Indeed, we are pleased with his note about the Palisade Historical Society that it “works hard to preserve the community’s heritage.”

Jeff has been a great help to the Palisade Historical Society since he first contacted us in 2012. He was a resource for recent publications, and volunteered for programs, including bringing his entire family to help with the 100th birthday party for the Grand River Diversion Dam last summer. He is currently revising his dissertation, hoping it will one day be published as a book. We appreciate Jeff’s sharing a signed copy of it for our reference and collection.

## Annual Meeting - February 17th

The Annual Meeting of the Palisade Historical Society will be held Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 3 p.m. in the Big Conference Room at the Palisade Public Library, 119 W. Third Street, Palisade.

The Agenda includes reviewing 2014-15 and 2015-16 accomplishments, board member elections, treasurer’s report, and discussion of the budget for the coming Fiscal Year, April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

## 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.

## 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.