

CELEBRATING EIGHT YEARS AT SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING

The Palisade Historical Society was incorporated as a non-profit in March 2010. At the Annual Meeting February 22nd, the board and members marked its official 8th year of operation. Discussion centered on the many accomplishments of the past year, a draft budget, and electing Ralph Branch, Barb Hampton, and Charlene Weidner to three-year terms.



Left to right, Frank Nemanich (holding "Max the History Dog"), Dave Cecuga, Ralph Branch, Matt Darling, Priscilla Walker, Charlene Weidner, Gary Hines and Jaime Cox. Kent Brown took the photo.

Founding Director and Treasurer Bill Beckwith retired from his official position on the Board and was presented a certificate of appreciation for his dedicated service to preserving Palisade's history.

Bill Beckwith, left, with Ralph Branch who presented the Certificate of appreciation. Ralph rejoined the Palisade Historical Society board at the Annual Meeting.



March 2018

GUIDED WALKING TOUR – Riverbend Park March 19

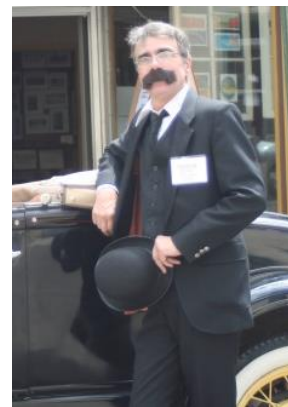
Charlene Weidner - 10 a.m. at the Park

Our tours for the Town of Palisade Recreation Department continue with the warmer weather. The first tour—**Monday, March 19th**—is **Charlene Weidner's** Riverbend Park tour. It starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Pavilion at the Park. Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared to walk about three miles.

Charlene will show the site of the former Civilian Conservation Corp. Camp, built in 1935 to house young men who worked on local irrigation and road projects. Later, German Prisoners of War lived at the CCC Camp in 1944 and 1945. Riverbend Park, located south of Palisade, is now the location of Palisade's many festivals, a boat ramp, walking trails and a disc golf course. Further west, Charlene will show you where the 200 cabin Migrant Labor Camp was located. It housed migrant laborers and their families for peach harvests from 1941 to 1961 when it was closed.

Wed. April 4th – 10 a.m. "Col. Bower"

The second guided walking tour is Wednesday, April 4th. Colonel Bower is portrayed by our own thespian, **Dave Cecuga** for "An Hour with Colonel Bower" tour of Third Street in downtown Palisade. "Colonel" Christopher Columbus Bower was a pioneer of Palisade. He brought his family here in 1894 and set some of the first fruit trees in what is now known as the Vineland east of Palisade. Dave's tour will start at **10:00 a.m. at the Kiosk** across from the Post Office. He explains the history of many of the buildings and people who are important to Palisade's history, including the site of Col. Bower's blacksmith shop and home.



Dave Cecuga

To register, call the Town at 464-5602. A \$5 donation is suggested for adults who take the guided tours. Proceeds benefit the Palisade Historical Society.



The Palisade Historical Society is participating in the Cross Orchard's event to plant new apple trees. Historical Society volunteers will talk about work done in orchards to maintain healthy, fruit trees which produce award-winning fruit. Come see an orchard hoopie, and learn about orchards.

HERITAGE AWARDS TO THE HIGHTS AND BILL ELLICOTT

Steve and Denise Hight were named 2018 Historians of the Year at the March 6 Heritage Awards event. Another Palisade Historical Society Member, Bill Ellicott, was presented with the 2018 Preservation Award. The Awards are held annually by The Museums of Western Colorado to honor leaders and organizations in several categories who significantly contribute to the community's heritage.

Steve and Denise are both members of the Fruita Historic Preservation Board (FHPB), and Steve serves as chair.

(Photo courtesy of Terri Ahern)



Steve and Denise accepting their award

Bill Ellicott with his Award



Bill was recognized for his work on the Uinta Railroad exhibit at Cross Orchards. He has also shared photos and Clifton history as well as being an invaluable resource of information.

The Palisade Historical Society appreciates the many photos and interest in

all things historical and support for us which the Hights have shared. Denise's family, the Capps, operated a garage in Palisade for many years.

TAYLOR ELEMENTARY 2nd GRADERS ENJOY COLORING BOOKS

Mrs. Kragenbring's second grade class with Historical Society volunteers in the classroom.



We presented *Historic Palisade Coloring Books* and answered questions about Palisade's history to the three classes of 2nd graders at Taylor Elementary in February. We appreciate their teachers, Mrs. Kragenbring, Ms. Zemke, Mrs. Anders—and student teachers Allie Suppes and Ms. Gould's—interest in using information in the coloring book for their local history curriculum. A picking sack, a pair of stilts and a piece of coal are used to illustrate Palisade's interesting history. Among the students favorite illustrations were the nail stripper, pruners on stilts, and the Grand Valley Diversion Dam. Thanks to area Rotary Clubs, students in seven elementary schools receive the Coloring Books for free.



Mrs. Ander's class and Historical Society volunteers
(Continued on next page)



Historical Society Volunteers Billie Herman, Priscilla Walker and Debbie Tsakalos.

Jaime Cox took the photo.



Historical Society Member and volunteer Billie Herman demonstrates how the Palisade-invented Picking Sack was used to reduce bruising while picking peaches

CHANGES IN PURCELL BUILDING BUSINESSES

Ginger Collard purchased A Country Cupboard and brought it to her location in the Purcell building on the east side of Main Street in Palisade. It is open daily and offers spices, nostalgic candy, and unique Colorado made gifts in addition to popular lavender products the store has carried for years.



Ginger Collard, owner of Country Cupboard, now located in the Purcell Building.

The Purcell Building was built in 1905. In the A Country Cupboard space was initially the Palisades

National Bank. Later, it was home to Best Clothing Company. In 1923, Rowland Bancroft and Paul Rice began operating a grocery store.

Bancroft's Grocery in the 1950s (Photo Courtesy of Chuck Park Persons)



Bancroft Grocery was purchased in 1958 by Bill and Lillian Floryancic who moved the store across the street in 1962 into a new Bill's AG building where Family Food Town now stands.

Bill celebrated his 100th Birthday on March 9th.

Bill Floryancic



HISTORIC PHOTOS AT 357 GRILL

The restaurant in the former Post Office location of the Purcell Building, 357 Bar and Grill, recently added a display of historic photos of the building on their front wall.



Sign Up or Renew Your Membership Today!

We are an all-volunteer, non-profit organization. Everyone is invited to belong to the Palisade Historical Society—through volunteer time with committees and projects—and by membership.

Annual memberships in the Palisade Historical Society start at just \$25 for Individuals, \$50 for Families, \$100 for Businesses, and \$500 for Patrons. There are also 10-year memberships for \$200 and Lifetime memberships for \$400. If you haven't signed up—or it's time to renew your membership—please do so today! Mail your tax-deductible checks to the **Palisade Historical Society, P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526.**

Look for us on two Facebook pages:

**The Grand River Diversion Dam
Celebrates 100 years 1915-2015
and
Palisade Historical Society**

2018-2019 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

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AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES CAN BENEFIT THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For your on-line shopping on Amazon Smile, please designate the Palisade Historical Society as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases. Start shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com>



Thanks to generous donors, and grants from CHRAP, we have raised funds to digitize 1,707 issues of *The Palisade Tribune* for the Colorado Historic Newspaper database website: www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org

Please help us get more issues digitized!

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Please enclose check or money order payable to the Palisade Historical Society and mail to the:
Tribune Newspaper Digitization Project
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P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526

Volunteers welcome!

Please contact us if you're interested in meeting and talking with people, want to learn more about Palisade history, and/or work on committees and projects.

We are also undertaking a major capital fundraising campaign to secure a home for Palisade history. Contact a board member to find out how you can help.