



CELEBRATE THE “ROLLER DAM’S” 100TH BIRTHDAY!

— June 27th in Palisade —

The 100th birthday event for the iconic Grand River Diversion Dam, locally known as the “Roller Dam” because of its unique design, will be held Saturday, June 27th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Veteran’s Memorial Community Center at 8th and Main Streets in Palisade.

Please join us for this fun and free 100th birthday celebration for this wonderful and historic dam located eight miles east of Palisade in DeBeque Canyon.

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. you can see the “Dam Art Show” with works for sale by local artists, and continuous showings of documentaries about the Roller Dam and Colorado River. One documentary, “How the West Was Watered,” from Larry Seibert (InFilms & Design, Inc.) and video photographer and editor Scot Stewart, includes the history of the Grand Valley Diversion Dam. Another documentary, “Water in the Desert” from the CMU Water Center and Gen 9 Productions, explores the evolving relationship of the Grand Valley and the Colorado and Gunnison Rivers.

At 10:00 the speakers will begin with Master of Ceremonies Mark Harris, General Manager of the Grand Valley Water Users’ Association. Other speakers include Ed Warner from the Bureau of Reclamation, Congressman Scott Tipton, Bill Fitzgerald, great-grand nephew of Wayne N. Aspinall, and others who have connections to the Roller Dam and stories about its interesting history.

The Palisade Art Lovers will also announce winners of the “Dam Art Show.”

Following the speakers will be cutting and serving the Slice’O’ Life Bakery’s “dam” birthday cake by Dorothy Carver Hines. She grew up at the Roller Dam as her father, John Earl Carver, was caretaker of the Dam for one-third of its 100 years.

Music at the birthday party begins at 9 a.m. with pianist Jeanie Thomas playing vintage music. The Bookcliff Harmony Barbershop Chorus will sing at 1 p.m. and Bluegrass band, Way Down Yonder, will play at 3 p.m. Its lead guitarist, Carroll Quarles, was also featured in a music video, “That DAM Water Keeps US Green” produced by Maggie Fellman of littlemargie productions to highlight the importance of the Roller Dam to our life and agriculture economy in the Grand Valley.

“Irrigation water is the lifeblood of the Grand Valley, and we’re pleased to shine a light on this historic, wonderful dam which

has successfully used Colorado River water to grow food locally for the last 100 years,” said Priscilla Walker, chairman of the Palisade Historical Society. “Since the official congressional dedication of the Dam was June 29, 1915 when members of the Congressional Appropriations Committee were present, it’s appropriate Congressman Tipton will join us for the festivities,” she added.

In addition to the Palisade Historical Society’s display of historic photographs and information about the Roller Dam’s design and construction, other information booths include the Bureau of Reclamation, CMU Water Center, Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Recovery Program, and Luke Gingerich, PE, Water Engineer from Olsson Associates.

This celebration is being hosted by the Palisade Historical Society in cooperation with Grand Valley Water Users Association, which has operated the Diversion Dam since 1949, the Bureau of Reclamation, Palisade Irrigation District, Orchard Mesa Irrigation District, and Mesa County Irrigation District as well as the Grand Valley Drainage District.

web link: <http://www.historicpalisade.org/index.php/100-years-ago/>

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Grand-River-Diversion-Dam-Celebrates-100-Years-1915-2015>

REMINDER TO ARTISTS

— Entry Deadline is June 15 —

There is still time to participate in the June 27th “Dam Art Show.” Click below to learn more and fill out the entry form.

<http://palisadeartlovers.org/node/484>

Registered artists should bring their artwork to the Palisade Memorial Building, 2nd floor, 129 E 8th St., in Palisade, CO. on Friday, June 26th from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Artwork will be displayed all day, Saturday, June 27th. All artwork needs to be picked up between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on June 27th after the show closes unless prior arrangements have been made with the Show Chairman. Winners, except for the “People’s Choice” category will be announced Saturday morning after 10:00 a.m. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Lewis, show chairman, at 970-462-7370 by phone or e-mail: nancy@nblewis.com.

Elementary Students Enjoy Historic Palisade Coloring Book

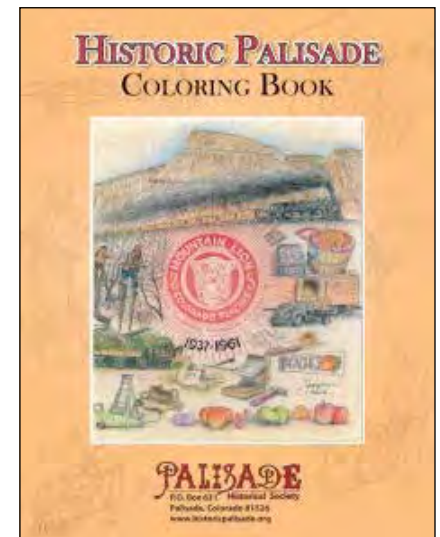
Again this year, thanks to the generosity of the Palisade Sunrise Rotary Club, the Palisade Historical Society was able to present Historic Palisade Coloring Books at no cost to students at three local schools.

In April, Historical Society board members Bill Beckwith, Doris Butler and Priscilla Walker presented the coloring books to Taylor Elementary third graders from Mrs. Broe, Mrs. McEvoy, and Mrs. Tobin's classes.

Also in April, the three answered questions from students at Holy Family Catholic School from Mrs. Hurt's and Mrs. Segrest's 5th grade classes and second graders from Lara Wilkinson's and Suzanne Larkowski's classes.

The Historical Society praised Mrs. Hurt as the only teacher who has used all three editions of the Coloring Book - plus

the prototype created in April 2011 when she taught at Taylor Elementary. "Mrs. Hurt recently announced she is retiring, and we will miss Mrs. Hurt's support and interest in Palisade history" said Priscilla Walker. Her encouragement, editing, and suggestions for the prototype made the final version better," Walker continued.



Taylor Elementary third graders from Mrs. Broe, Mrs. McEvoy and Mrs. Tobin's class. Mr. Wallace, on the far right, was a substitute teacher when the coloring book presentation was made.



Holy Family Catholic School presentation with Mrs. Hurt (far left) and Mrs. Segrest (far right). Palisade Historical Society's Bill Beckwith and Doris Butler are standing in the middle of the back row.

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. New this year, are 10-year memberships for \$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 81226.**

Guided Walking and Bus Tours

Palisade Historical Society Tour Guides Charlene Weidner, Bruce Walker, and Priscilla Walker recently gave guided walking tours to a bus load of residents from the Atrium in Grand Junction. The route was modified to accommodate construction on Main Street which closed off access to some historic buildings.

Later in April, Charlene, Bruce, and Priscilla gave guided walking tours to sixty-six third graders from Mrs. Tobin, Mrs. Broe, and Mrs. McEvoy's classes at Taylor Elementary.

The classes, teachers, and parent volunteers eagerly went on "field trips" to learn more about Palisade's interesting history. The tours were also modified to accommodate Main Street construction.



*Top: The Atrium bus is welcomed into Palisade on a modified route.
Right: Charlene and Priscilla on board talking to attentive Atrium residents.*



Third graders from three Taylor Elementary classes enjoyed guided walking tours that ended at the Wayne N. Aspinall Memorial in Palisade Park.

HISTORIC PHOTO OF THE MONTH Working on the Government Highline Canal 100 Years Ago



Tamping the Government High Line Canal bottom. (National Archives Photo 115-Je-248 courtesy of Ken Plandel)

The first work on the High Line Canal began July 1, 1913. By August, about 240 men were employed in tunnel work and sixty-five men were working for contractors to excavate connecting canals. By the end of 1914, over 600,000 cubic yards of earth had been removed. The final contract for the main canal was completed June 15, 1915 six weeks ahead of schedule.

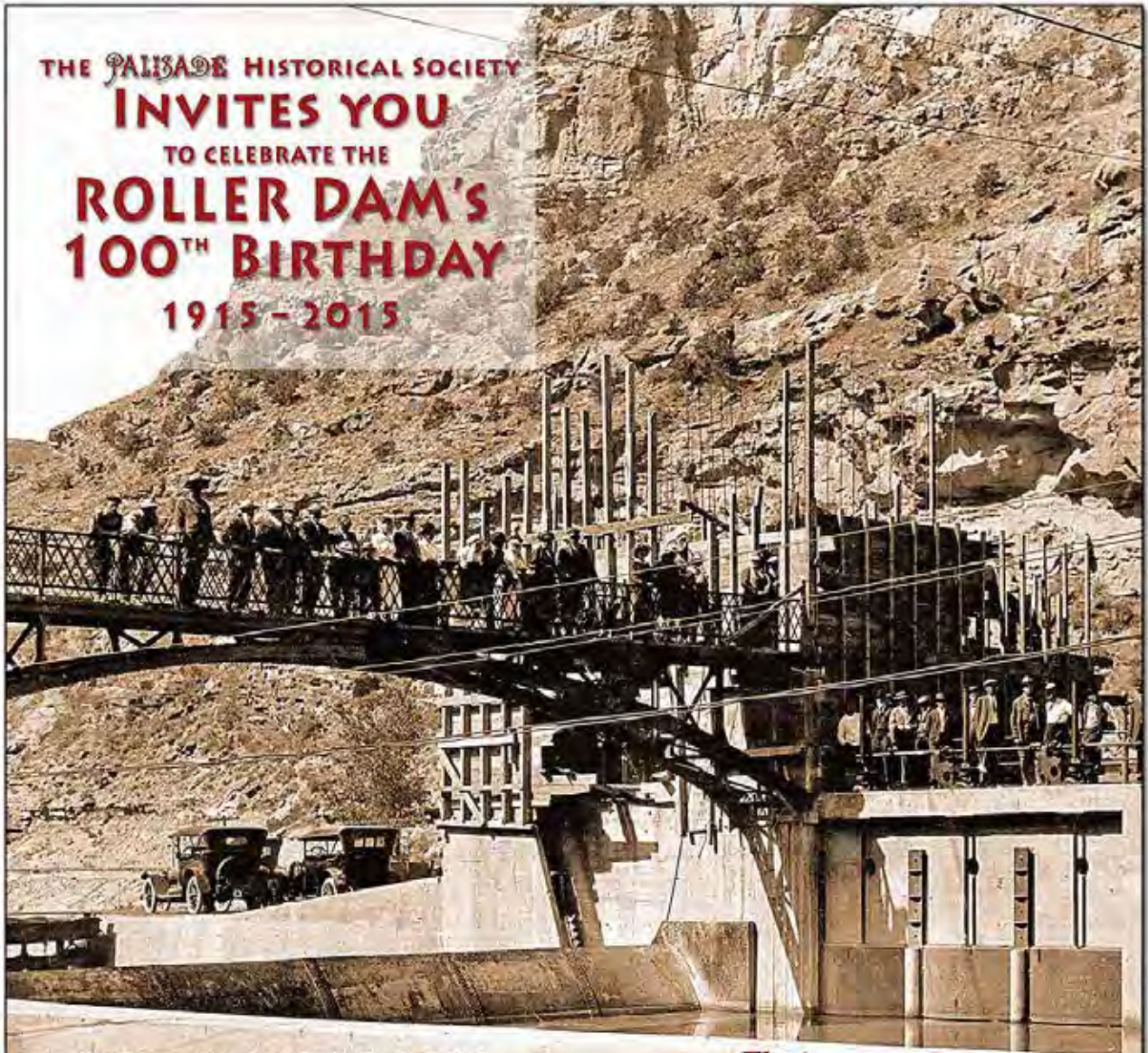
Volunteers Needed

If you'd like to be part of the historic, "Roller Dam" Centennial Birthday Party — especially at the June 27th event — please contact one of the directors listed in this issue, or call (970) 464-2177. 1915 attire optional.

2015-2016 Palisade Historical Society Directors

Bill Beckwith — blbeckwith@gmail.com
Doris Butler — johnanddoris@q.com
Gary Hines — gwhines@msn.com
Ralph Branch — branchcolorado@gmail.com
Nancy Morrison — nancykmorrison@gmail.com
Priscilla Walker — pbwalker630@acsol.net
Charlene Weidner — charw@acsol.net

THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INVITES YOU
TO CELEBRATE THE
ROLLER DAM'S
100TH BIRTHDAY
1915 - 2015



SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2015
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER
MAIN AND 8TH ST., PALISADE, CO.

- ★ SPEAKERS BEGIN 10 AM
- ★ THE BEST DAM CAKE WILL FOLLOW
- ★ "DAM ART SHOW" 9 AM - 5 PM
- ★ VIDEOS & MUSIC 9 AM - 5 PM
- ★ INFORMATION BOOTHS 9 AM - NOON

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



PALISADE
Historical Society
www.historicpalisade.org

Coordinated with: Bureau of Reclamation • Grand Valley Drainage District • Grand Valley Water Users
Orchard Mesa Irrigation District • Mesa County Irrigation District • Palisade Irrigation District

GRAND RIVER DIVERSION DAM OFFICIAL CONGRESSIONAL DEDICATION — JUNE 1915 (courtesy Grand Valley Water Users' Association)