

PALISADE Historical Society

“IN WITH THE OLD” RIBBON CUTTING AND OFFICIAL DEDICATION HELD AUGUST 18TH!

The Palisade Historical Society officially dedicated the Palisade History Museum with the “In With the Old” Ribbon Cutting ceremony honoring major donors and volunteers who made it possible. The Museum informally opened two days a week in May and has already begun making history “in” again. Early visitors’ comments were encouraging, so it was time for a formal “grand opening week.”

In just over three years, the Historical Society raised over \$129,000 in cash plus in-kind donations to renovate the pre-1939 log building at 3740 G Road. It was formerly George H. Bunte, Jr’s “Shop” for his freight hauling business.



Volunteer Deb Tsakalos, left, hands out name tags and food and drink coupons to attendees. *(Karla Roxanne Oglesby photo)*

Among those being honored at the Wednesday ceremony were graphic artist Gayle Madden who

August 2021

donated time to create displays throughout the Museum and whose husband, Dr. Hugo Madden, was the first donor to the History Museum’s capital campaign. Janet Hawkinson, Palisade Town Manager, represented the Town which was another large donor. Town rustees Thea Chase and Bill Carlson were also recognized as major donors.



Founding Chair Priscilla Walker and Graphic Artist Gayle Madden who created videos, 75 PHS senior class photos and other displays for the Museum. *(Jim Cox Photo)*

The Bacon Family Foundation and Goodwin Foundation were major donors. Over \$19,000 came from current volunteer board members. including Priscilla Walker, Jaime Cox, Gary Hines, Nancy Morrison, Ralph Branch, Charlene Weidner, Susan Barstow and Gay Hetland. *(continued)*



Holding the ribbon, left to right Gayle Madden, Tammy Craig, Priscilla Walker, Kirk and Cyndy Bunte, Janet Hawkinson, and Russ Bell. A vintage pair of pruning shears used in the Messing orchard in the Vineland was used to cut the ribbon.

(Jim Cox Photo)

Page 1

Gay also donated her Total Moving Company's cost to move the Museum's collection from where it had been stored for years in a house owned by Ralph and Nancy Eighmy. Founding board member Harry Talbott who passed away in March was also recognized. He and Bonnie were major donors to the Museum.



Charlie and Bruce Talbott and Illene Roggensack at the ribbon cutting ceremony (*Jim Cox photo*)

Doris Butler, another founding board member, was unable to attend. She and John were also major donors. Their granddaughter, Gwen Hittle, attended the ceremony on their behalf.

Jaime Cox was recognized as the architect who had the vision for how to turn the historic log building into a museum. She and Matt Darling, Cross Orchards curator and liaison with the Museums of the West, were enthusiastic about this museum opportunity from the beginning. Priscilla also thanked Museums of Western Colorado Director Kaia Michaelis for the Museums' support, photos, and advice for museum operations.

Another visionary recognized was Illene Roggensack, non-profit consultant who said "no problem" when informed the Historical Society would need to fundraise \$125,000 for the building's renovation. Illene and other Jaynes family members donated the cost for GJ Fusion Food Truck's hand-crafted Palisade peach snacks and beverages at the ribbon cutting and dedication day-long event. Dave Smith of Pali-Tours shuttled guests to and from the Bank lot and nearby spaces.

The first business to pledge a major donation was Tammy Craig's Fruit and Wine Realty. Other major donor businesses include Clark's Family

Orchard, Kokopelli Farm Market, Colorado Cellars, Parker and Mary Carlson—founders of Carlson Vineyards, and Grand Valley National Bank. Individuals included Charles and Ann Bowman, the Kercheval Family who were long-time friends with the Bunte family, Bob and Linda Cutter, and John and Sandy Lorenzen. All major donor names are displayed on the Legacy Donor plaque in the front room of the History Museum.

In-kind donors honored include Russ Bell for his extensive plumbing and general help, and Gary Rupp for many hours of electrical work before he passed away in March 2020. Gayle Rupp was included in the ribbon cutting festivities to honor his legacy.

Other in-kind donors were Whitewater Building Materials which has been family owned since 1948 by Ed and Lois Gardner. We are grateful Carpetime, Your Sign Company, Gutters by Juan, and Locksmith Rick Fox also donated time and materials to the History Museum.

Local organizations recognized for their support of the Historical Society from the beginning included the Palisade Library Auxiliary, the Palisade Lions Club, and the Palisade Sunrise Rotary Club. Photographers Jim Cox and Karla Roxanne Oglesby—who is also a major donor—attended the ribbon cutting and shared these photos.



Rotary Club Treasurer Jane Parker and Town Manager Janet Hawkinson enjoyed the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (*Karla Roxanne Oglesby photo*)
(continued) Page 2

Long-time volunteers recognized at the ceremony included Joan Forrey, Deb Tsakalos, Dave Cecuga, and Kent Brown. Kent and Rita are also major donors. Of course, the History Museum would not be possible without Building Owners Kirk and Cyndy Bunte's generous lease to the Society.



Kirk Bunte, left, and Cyndy Bunte and Historical Society Board Member and Secretary Gary Hines enjoy a moment at the ribbon cutting ceremony
(Jim Cox photo)



KREX reporter Cora Dickey (right with camera) covered the ribbon cutting. (Jim Cox photo)

Her August 20th video of the official dedication can be seen on-line on the KREX TV website: <https://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/palisade-celebrates-its-history-with-new-town-museum/>

The History Museum is filled with displays featuring Palisade's unique agriculture and coal mining history. The Historical Society continues to welcome donations for additional building improvements, including outside chinking and creating additional displays.

The History Museum is now open year-round on Tuesdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We continue to recruit and train more volunteer hosts and hope to be open more days soon. Check the website: www.historicpalisade.org for the latest hours and information.

Historical Society in the Peach Fest Parade

For the final event in the Grand Opening Week at the History Museum, the Historical Society drove its two popular vehicles in the Peach Fest Parade on August 21st. "Dale" the 1951 Chevrolet Orchard Hoopie—with a new banner encouraging visitors to the History Museum—was driven by Ralph Branch. Kent Brown, Gary Hines, and Dave Cecuga walked along the parade route through downtown Palisade. Priscilla's 1930 Model A Ford is also a popular parade vehicle.



Posing in front of the 1930 Model A Ford are Historical Society members Wanda Robinson (sitting in the rumble seat), and Dave Cecuga, with Board Members Gary, Priscilla, and Ralph. (Bruce Walker photo)



The Orchard Hoopie was loaded with ladders, picking sacks, a smudge pot, stilts, and bushel baskets. Kent Brown walks on the left side. The new sign promotes the History Museum location.
(Bruce Walker Photo) (Continued) Page 3



Posing in front of the Orchard Hoopie was Peach Queen Kyla McClary, third from the left and her court. They were in the parade, riding in the Clarks' Family Orchard horse-drawn wagon. The court toured the Museum in July to learn about Palisade history. Peach Princesses Bailee Taylor, and Ryan Napoleon are on the Queen's right. Senior Ambassador Gabriella Yanowich is on Kyla's left with Junior Ambassadors Lili Taylor and Lexi Taylor, and Peach Princess Daisy Helmer on the far right.

More photos from the Palisade History Museum's Grand Opening Week



Some of the major donors and volunteers gathered for the ribbon cutting ceremony. (Jim Cox Photo)



Lois and Ed Gardner in front of the irrigation history display at the History Museum *Jim Cox Photo*



Historical Society's Gary Hines and Palisade Lions Club's Jane McFarland in front of Bill Floryancic's Lions Club vest display. (Jim Cox Photo)



Palisade Chamber's Dixie Burmeister and new Executive Director Bonnie Davis, with Bonnie Talbott (Jim Cox Photo)



Palisade Sunrise Rotary Club's Jane and Riley Parker. (Karla Roxanne Oglesby photo) Page 4



Pianist James Baird and Ralph Branch at the conclusion of the dedication event.

If you aren't a current member of the Palisade Historical Society, please send your check to P.O. Box 631 Palisade, CO 81526. For credit cards, call (970) 464-2177 or include your information on our contact tab at www.historicpalisade.org

2021-2022 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

Susan Barstow – susanbarstow.ak@gmail.com

Ralph Branch – branchcolorado@gmail.com

Jaime Cox – jaimejcox@gmail.com

Gay Hetland – ghetland@outlook.com

Gary Hines – gwhines@msn.com

Nancy Morrison – nancykmorrison@gmail.com

Priscilla Walker – pbwalker630@acsol.net

Charlene Weidner – charw@acsol.net

Volunteers Welcome!

Please contact us if you want to meet interesting people, learn more about Palisade history and/or work on committees, projects, fundraising, or creating displays for the new Palisade History Museum. Send an email message with your contact information to historicpalisade@outlook.com to learn how you can be part of this organization.

**Look for us on Facebook and Instagram:
Palisade Historical Society**

YOUR PURCHASES AT CITY MARKET BENEFIT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Palisade Historical Society is grateful to participate in the City Market Community Rewards Program. If you have a City Market loyalty card and have used the City Market's website, just log into <http://www.citymarket.com> and search for the Palisade Historical Society. Select it as your designated community non-profit. It is another painless and amazingly effective way to support the Historical Society.



If you do not have an account, you will need to create one by providing some basic information, a valid email address, and a City Market/Kroger loyalty card number. You can get a loyalty card at any Kroger, King Soopers or City Market store's customer service desk. You must swipe your registered loyalty card or use the phone number attached to the card for your purchase to benefit the Palisade Historical Society.

AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES ALSO BENEFIT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For your on-line shopping, please go to:
<https://smile.amazon.com>

On your first visit, you can use the same email and password as you set up for Amazon. Then, select the Palisade Historical Society from the Charity Lists. If you bookmark Amazon Smile, you will automatically be taken there instead of the regular Amazon site when you shop. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases. **You may need to renew or update your charity choice before your next purchase. It just takes a minute to update.**





Become a part of History - Donate to the Palisade Historical Society.

The Palisade Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

The Historical Society relies on donations to facilitate projects that enhance our community by documenting local history and promoting our heritage. You can join us with your support in a targeted way that interests you most. Make a donation for any or all of the following categories:

- Become a member and enjoy notification of events and news
- Contribute to the **Palisade Tribune** Digitization Fund that will save invaluable Palisade history
- Donate to complete renovations for the Palisade History Museum at the Bunte Shop. It will feature displays and educational media to engage locals and visitors year-round.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Annual Memberships (check one)

Individual \$25 ☐ Family \$50 ☐ Business \$100 ☐ Patron \$500 ☐

Extended Memberships

10-year (Family or Individual) \$200 ☐ Lifetime (Family or Individual) \$400 ☐

PALISADE TRIBUNE DIGITIZATION FUND

We have raised funds to digitize 2,650 issues of *The Palisade Tribune* for Colorado Historic Newspaper Newspaper database website. Please help us get more issues online for browsing and searching from anywhere!

\$1,000 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other ☐ \$_____

PALISADE HISTORY MUSEUM AT THE BUNTE SHOP

We are in our final fundraising phase to open the Museum. Help us at any level.

\$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other ☐ \$_____

\$2,500 (receive a "Proud Supporter" sign) ☐

\$5,000 (advertise in the Museum for your business) ☐

For credit card payments, call (970) 464-2177.

For checks or money orders payable to Palisade Historical Society, mail them with your confidential contact information to: **Palisade Historical Society, PO Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail (for newsletters) _____ Phone _____