

PALISADE Historical Society

THE ORDINARY FELLOW WINERY HISTORY TALK - Steve Schulte – “Congressman Wayne Aspinall’s Early Life and Career”

Thursday, July 20th - 6 p.m.

Former CMU history professor Steve Schulte will talk about Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall who grew up in Palisade and then served as a teacher at Mt. Lincoln and Palisade schools before being elected to Colorado State Senate and Representative positions. He later was a 12-term Congressional Representative from the Western Slope’s Third Congressional District.

Steve published *Wayne Aspinall and the Shaping of the American West* in 2002 which detailed Aspinall’s political career that encompassed some of the most crucial years in the development of the twentieth-century West.

The Ordinary Fellow Winery is located at 202 Peach Avenue in Palisade. The program is open to the public and Le Snack Fine Foods will have food available for purchase at 4:30 - so come early and enjoy learning interesting history in a comfortable setting!

Next month’s history talk is Bob Sweeney, former publisher of *The Palisade Tribune*



For the August history talk, Bob Sweeney, publisher of *The Palisade Tribune* for two decades from 1992-2012, will present the “History of Newspapers.”

(continued)

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Bob has incredible newspaper publishing credentials and gave a history talk last August as well. He founded the *Craig Daily Press* and was Mayor of his hometown of Craig. Presently, he is the publisher of *The Villager*, a weekly paper in Arapahoe County, and the *Gilpin County Weekly Register-Call*, the oldest newspaper in Colorado, founded in 1862. Bob is a past President of the National Newspaper Association, the largest newspaper organization in the United States. He was an exchange journalist to the Soviet Union in 1975.

The history talk will begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, August 10 at the Ordinary Fellow Winery - 202 Peach Avenue in Palisade.

Last month’s talk was Bruce Talbott “History of Our Fruit industry and Where We are Headed”

The June history talk at The Ordinary Fellow Winery was Bruce Talbott, a fifth generation Palisade fruit grower, who shared the history of fruit in Colorado. It started on the Eastern Slope in the 1860s and blossomed in the late 1800’s in an attempt to get peaches to the silver mining towns like Leadville where they sold for \$1 each. Settlers began building irrigation systems in the Grand Valley in 1883. The height of our local fruit industry was after World War II when home canning was popular. Palisade growers shipped 1.5 million bushels of peaches via refrigerated railroad cars-mostly to Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois -in 1949.



A standing room crowd heard Bruce Talbott at the June 22 history talk at the Ordinary Fellow Winery
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Palisade peaches are still "cool" because they are delicious and only available seasonally. Our local peach industry has rebounded from the severe freeze in 1963 which killed half the trees in the valley. Thanks to hard work and the success of the first ever agricultural Land Trust which saved orchards from development, Palisade growers now ship 600,000 bushels of peaches in a good year.

Check our website: www.historicpalisade.org Facebook and Instagram posts, and The Ordinary Fellow Winery's social media for future programs.

NEW FLAG AT REEDER POINT NORTH OF PALISADE



On Memorial Day, Riley Parker, Mike Kennedy, JoAnn, and Kirk Rasmussen climbed up the Stagecoach Trail and placed a new flag at Reeder Point on the palisades north of Palisade. The Town of Palisade's donation of a nice 4x6 flag and these volunteers make John Reeder's dream of Old Glory live on!

Credit for the original installation was attributed to John D. Reeder, based upon an article published in the Palisade Tribune, May 7, 1915. In keeping with this discovery, the promontory has been unofficially christened as "Reeder Point."

GUIDED WALKING TOUR

Karrol Lankford traveled to Palisade and asked for a guided walking tour. Priscilla Walker offered to lead a "Fire and Brimstone" tour. JoAnn Rasmussen and Jean McMahon thought that sounded like fun and joined the tour. Karrol was especially interested in the Purdy Hotel location – just east of the Palisades National Bank building – as Samuel Purdy was her great-great grandfather.



JoAnn Rasmussen, Jean McMahon, and Karrol Lankford pause at the end of the walking tour

A BIRTHDAY VISIT TO THE HISTORY MUSEUM



The Gentry clan above, with members from Texas and Kanas, traveled to visit their Palisade family and came to the Palisade History Museum in June. A scheduled Pali-Tour - with a stop at the History Museum - was a birthday present for Cindy, second from left.

Volunteer Laura Mockler at the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast



Laura Mockler, wearing a blue cap in the front row center, is a History Museum host on Thursdays and an active volunteer – and former officer - of the Palisade Lions Club. Last month, she hosted at the Museum and helped serve the Pancake Breakfast as a fundraiser for the Lions Club, after celebrating her 90th birthday! Thank you, Laura.

Colorado River flow was 14,800 cfs on June 16, 2023



This photo was taken looking south from the U.S. Highway 6 Bridge just east of Palisade. . The diversion dam for the Grand Valley Canal is barely visible, as the Colorado River was lower than the May 25 measurement of 16,900 cfs at the monitoring location near Cameo. The River has since risen from the record-breaking snowpack on Grand Mesa.

In 2022, June 13 was the highest flow at 10,700 cfs and the month ended with 4,280 cfs.

Follow Us on Social Media!



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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 be a host at the 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.

2023-2024 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

Ralph Branch – branchcolorado@gmail.com

Jaime Cox – jaimejcox@gmail.com

Nancy Eighmy – eighmyn@bresnan.net

Gary Hines – gwhines@msn.com

Nancy Morrison – nancykmorrison@gmail.com

JoAnn Rasmussen – joannrasm@gmail.com

Priscilla Walker – pbwalker630@acsol.net

Become a Member!

If you or your business aren't one of the current 100 members 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 send your contact information on the contact tab at www.historicpalisade.org



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 the Palisade History Museum for maintenance and creating displays about our unique agriculture and coal mining past. Help us engage with 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 3,347 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

Please 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.**

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