

PALISADE

Historical Society

THE ORDINARY FELLOW WINERY HISTORY TALK “Reading Yesterday’s News Online Today” by Leigh Jeremias THURSDAY, MAY 9th - 6pm

The May 9th History Talk will be Leigh Jeremias, Digital Collections Senior Colorado Consultant at the Colorado State Library. She will show tips and tricks for searching the Colorado Historical Newspaper Collection website. Currently there are 3,753 issues of *The Palisade Tribune* on the database of four million pages of Colorado newspapers! This important community history is often not recorded in any other source for students, teachers, genealogists and general research.



These History Talks are open to the public at The Ordinary Fellow Winery, 202 Peach Avenue. It is a relaxed and comfortable setting to learn about Palisade’s unique history and enjoy a glass of wine. The tasting room opens at noon.

JUNE HISTORY TALK THURSDAY, JUNE 13th - 6pm Andrea Lopez - “Ute Water History”

On June 13th at 6 p.m. at The Ordinary Fellow Winery, Andrea Lopez, who leads Ute Water’s External Affairs Department, will talk about the history of the Ute Water Conservancy District. It was formed April 4, 1956, and just celebrated its 68th birthday! It supplies domestic water service to the rural areas of the Grand Valley. Its service boundaries encompass approximately 260 square miles in Mesa County including areas around Palisade not served by the Palisade Municipal Water system.

May 2024

LAST MONTH’S TALK

“Historical Puzzles” by Bob Silbernagel

The April History Talk speaker was by local history author Bob Silbernagel. He reviewed local historical questions and mysteries from his book, “First Draft,” including the failed Elk Mountain Mission settlement in nearby Moab in 1855. He also gave details about the Diamond Mountain hoax in Browns Park near Green River, as well as the Castle Gate Robbery where in 1897, “King of the Outlaws” Butch Cassidy successfully robbed \$7,000 from the mines’ payroll.



Bob Silbernagel talks to an attentive audience

120 YEAR AGO COLUMN

For decades, one of the most popular columns in *The Palisade Tribune* was the “It Happened Here” with news of interest from issues in the past.

Palisade was incorporated in 1904

In as much as Palisade was formally incorporated as Palisade in April 1904 – making the Town officially 120 years old this year – we found some interesting articles about the Town’s founding. The first Palisade municipal election was held May 2, 1904. The candidates running for office were from two parties - the Citizens and the Republicans. The ballot also included “the saloon question.”

From *The Palisade Tribune* May 7, 1904 issue:

The first municipal election held in Palisade last Monday was an interesting affair, both parties working hard for the success of their respective tickets.

Almost the entire registration was polled and the result was practically a victory for the Citizens – H.W. Kluge, the candidate for mayor on the latter ticket winning by twenty majority. The saloon question, as

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was stated it would be by this paper, was voted down by forty-five majority.

Those elected were as follows; Mayor H. W. Kluge, Citizens, Trustees, W.A. Powell, W. E. Bell, Dr. G. R. Brown, and D. M. Landreth, Citizens; J.A. Pierson and George W. Sawade, Republican.

The board met in Bancroft & Reed's office Tuesday forenoon and appointed C. H. Martin, clerk, and decided to hold their first regular meeting Wednesday, May 11, at 8:00 o'clock, in the banquet hall of the Mercantile block. The public is cordially invited.

Dr. G. R. Brown was appointed to act as mayor pro tem.

Who were these officials? From our research:

George Sawade was the manager of the Palisade Fruit Growers' Association. W. A. Powell, who came to Palisade in 1895 from Des Moines, Iowa, was a fruit grower who helped organize the Palisade Fruit Growers' Association in 1903. Later he helped organize a new association, the Peach Growers' Association.

Dr. G. R. Brown, mayor pro tem, came to Palisade in 1900. William E. Bell came to Palisade in 1903 and built the first brick house on the corner of 5th and Peach. Like Powell, he helped organize the Palisade Fruit Growers Association and later served as its secretary. In 1905, he was offered \$3,250 for his ten-acre orchard across the river which he bought for \$400. By 1909, the Bells had moved to Idaho.

D. M. Landreth was a fruit grower and real estate developer. The Landreth Addition in town was named for him. It had been a six-acre orchard which he purchased from Benton Canon in 1904. In 1909, he sold eleven acres of a bearing orchard east of town for \$20,000. Landreth purchased the tract a little over three years before for \$10,000 and harvested nearly \$25,000 of fruit from the trees in those three years. Palisade's success attracted much attention as these were profits unheard of in other agricultural areas at the time.

Clint H. Martin, the first Town clerk, came to Palisade in 1902 and began publishing *The Palisade Tribune* in 1903. Clint was the newspaper's editor on and off until 1909 when the paper had a circulation of 1,100 copies.

Mayor Herman W. Kluge operated his successful general mercantile business in Palisade for several years. Kluge (pronounced Kloo-ghee) was born in Illinois and came to Palisade from Denver in 1901. He operated the mercantile store and the Palisade Coal & Supply. After serving three terms as Mayor, Kluge was elected to the State Senate in 1914 as a Democrat. His obituary in 1933 described him as "one of the merchant princes" of Colorado.



First Palisade Town Board Meeting, May 1904. (l to r.) D. M. Landreth, Dr. G. R. Brown, C. H. Martin, (clerk), Mayor Herman Kluge, W. A. Powell, George W. Sawade, John A. Pierson, and William E. Bell.

To search or browse for more history in *The Palisade Tribune*, click on this link:
<https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org>

2024-2025 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

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DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Need more deductions this year? Whether you become a member or donate to the Palisade Historical Society, your donation is tax deductible. Our non-profit tax ID is 27-246812.

BECOME A MEMBER!

If you or your business aren't one of the current 113 members of the Palisade Historical Society, please join us. 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

There is a membership & donation form at the end of this newsletter that explains all of your options.

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 being 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.



STOP BY IN PERSON!

The Palisade History Museum is open four days a week: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10am to 2pm. Stop in and see us at 3740 G Road. Every time you visit, something new (and old!) will catch your eye!

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 Palisade 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.

You do not have to be a member of the Palisade Historical Society, and you don't have to live in the area to participate!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US. WE APPRECIATE YOU!

PALISADE
P.O. Box 631 Historical Society
Palisade, Colorado 81526
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 3,753 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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