

# PALISADE

## Historical Society

### THE ORDINARY FELLOW WINERY HISTORY TALK

**Dan Bean - "History of the  
Palisade Insectary"**  
**THURSDAY, JULY 11th - 6pm**

On July 11th, Director Dan Bean will present the history of the Department of Agriculture's unique Palisade Insectary. Colorado's biocontrol program has been centered at the Palisade Insectary since 1945, making it one of the oldest in the world. Dr. Bean will present how Palisade plays a key role in pest management in Colorado and the United States and how the history of the Palisade Insectary is tightly tied to the peach industry. He will discuss past successes, biocontrol in development, and the future of biocontrol.

**Albert "Peanuts" Merlino, left, and Jim Hampton examine trays of laboratory host potato tuber moth larvae in the 1950s.**



*(Courtesy Museums of Western Colorado,  
Peach Board of Control Collection)*

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.

## July 2024

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### CELEBRATE PEACH DAYS & PEACH FEST IN AUGUST

This year, Peach Days starts August 8th, and Peach Fest starts August 16th. Instead of the August History Talk at the Ordinary Fellow, the Palisade Historical Society will be giving a fun talk about the History of Peaches on August 16th at 4pm at Peach Fest, so come find us!

Check out the Schedule of Events at:

<https://palisadecoc.com/events/palisade-peachfest/>

We'll see you at July's History Talk about The Insectary, and save the date for The Grand Valley Irrigation District History Talk at the Ordinary Fellow on September 26th!

### LAST MONTH'S TALK "Ute Water History" by Andrea Lopez

The June History Talk was presented by Andrea Lopez, who leads Ute Water's External Affairs Department, and detailed the history of the Ute Water Conservancy District. It was formed by dedicated farmers on April 4, 1956, and just celebrated its 68th birthday! The farmers wanted fresh snowmelt water piped to their homes. Ute Water now has 1,500 miles of pipeline serving 90,790 customers with domestic water in rural areas from DeBeque to Fruita and the Utah Border. Its water treatment plant is located in Rapid Creek east of Palisade.



**The audience enjoying Andrea Lopez's  
interesting talk on the history of Ute Water**

## HELP US REACH OUR MEMBERSHIP GOAL!

In honor of Palisade's 120th Birthday, we're trying to reach a goal of 120 members this year! Please join us. (We currently have 112!) 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](http://www.historicpalisade.org)

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

## JULY 1904 NEWSPAPER ADS

Throughout this Newsletter, you will see ads from past issues of *The Palisade Tribune*. The ads in this issue are from July 1904. It's a small glimpse of life in Palisade from 120 years ago!



*The Palisade Tribune - July 2, 1904*

To browse topics & search for more history, check out [The Palisade Tribune tab at HistoricPalisade.org!](http://ThePalisadeTribune.tab.at.HistoricPalisade.org)

## PHS CLASS OF '64 REUNION

On June 1st, members of the Palisade High School Class of 1964 and their guests attending the 60th class reunion met at the Palisade History Museum for an afternoon of catching up and reminiscing. The group enjoyed the many displays, and we even researched what high schools their relatives attended!



Class members standing at the History Museum - left to right - are Gary Bizer, Marcia Moorhead-Finke, Mike Steadman, Carla Phillips-Gardner, Carol Vickstrom, Charles Bowman, Darlene Cutts-Merritt, Rodney Bauder, Vera Edlen-Creager, Buck Bracken, Ernie Young, Alpha Smith-Sorter, Jill Young-Delavan, and Bob Madden.

## Peach Packing Display at the History Museum



Chas Bowman demonstrates how peaches were wrap-packed in Palisade 60 years ago at a wooden stand that was used in the Bowman family's packing shed. Watching him were his wife, Ann, left, and sister, Priscilla Walker, right.



## 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 [info@historicpalisade.org](mailto:info@historicpalisade.org) to learn how you can be part of this organization.

## YOUR PURCHASES BENEFIT

### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Palisade Historical Society is grateful to participate in the Kroger Community Rewards



Program. If you have a Loyalty Card and have used the City Market, King Soopers, or Kroger website or app, just log-in and search for the Palisade Historical Society under Community Rewards. Select us as your designated charity of choice. It's free and a great way to support 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! Questions? Just ask!

### PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2024-2025 DIRECTORS

Ralph Branch – [branchcolorado@gmail.com](mailto:branchcolorado@gmail.com)

Joe Burtard – [jrcarriage@gmail.com](mailto:jrcarriage@gmail.com)

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Priscilla Walker – [pbwalker630@acsol.net](mailto:pbwalker630@acsol.net)

### CONTACT US:

970-812-3064

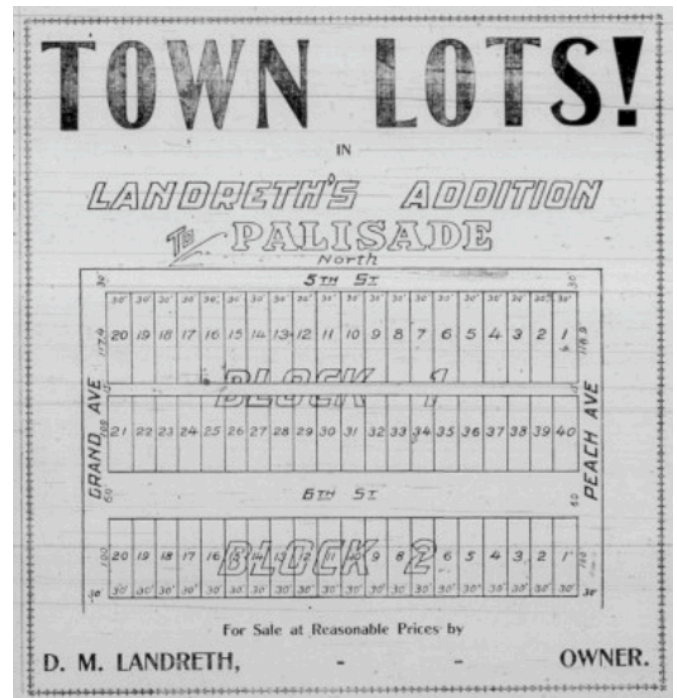
[info@historicpalisade.org](mailto:info@historicpalisade.org)



## 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!

**PALISADE**  
P.O. Box 631 Historical Society  
Palisade, Colorado 81526  
[www.historicpalisade.org](http://www.historicpalisade.org)



*The Palisade Tribune - July 2, 1904*

**Editor's Note / Fun fact: Iowa Ave was called Grand Ave in 1904!**

## HISTORICAL SOCIETIES MEET & GREET

On June 15th, Board Members JoAnn Rasmussen and Priscilla Walker had the opportunity to attend the Plateau Valley Historical Preservation Society Meet & Greet in Collbran, CO.



(Photo collage: Each attendee received a beautiful homemade card. "Historians unlock the door to the past. Communities are the accumulation of the dreams of generations.")

In addition to the Plateau

Valley Historical Preservation Society and the Palisade Historical Society, other historical societies in attendance were the Montrose History Museum and the Mesa County Historical Society.

It was a fun day of great food, conversation and collaboration. Thank you to Plateau Valley Historical Preservation Society for spoiling us!



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## COLORADO RIVER REACHES 11,440 CFS AT CAMEO ON JUNE 9th



This photo was taken just two days shy of the traditional high mark for the Colorado River which reached 11,470 cubic feet per second at the official USGS monitoring location near Cameo on June 9th at 10 p.m.

Looking south from the U.S. Highway 6 Bridge just east of Palisade, you can see the diversion dam for the Grand Valley Canal is barely visible to the right as water fills the Colorado River just east of Riverbend Park. Last year's high mark of 10,200 cfs at Cameo was early- on May 25th at 7:30 am. (Source: [www.waterdatausgs.gov](http://www.waterdatausgs.gov).)



*The Palisade Tribune - July 2, 1904*

## NEW CONTACT INFO

The Palisade Historical Society has new contact information! As always, you are welcome to contact any of the Board Members directly (see page 3), or you may now email us at [info@historicpalisade.org](mailto:info@historicpalisade.org). You can also reach us at 970-812-3064 or via our [Contact Us Page](#) at [HistoricPalisade.org](http://HistoricPalisade.org).



## GUIDED WALKING TOUR FOR FRUITA GROUP



**Fruita Community Center members led by Terri Ahern began their tour at the Historic Palisades National Bank building.**

On June 18th, a group from the Fruita Community Center took Priscilla Walker's "Fire & Brimstone" guided walking tour. They plan to come back in July, August, and October for three other routes of historical guided tours offered by the Palisade Historical Society. Board members Ralph Branch and JoAnn Rasmussen also joined in the fun.



**Ralph shows the group historic photos, while Priscilla explains the history of one of the first stops on the tour - Jordan's Inn - which burned in 1915**

## IRRIGATION DAMS WAS THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S WELLSPRING PROGRAM

For the third year, the Palisade Historical Society was asked to present at the Wellspring Project. This is a four-day river and art program for middle school students from all over the Valley. The program addresses the complexities of the Colorado River and provides students with the opportunity to respond artistically to that experience.

This year, Historical Society Board member Gary Hines presented photos and information on the importance of irrigation for agriculture, especially the Grand River Diversion Dam, also known as the "Roller Dam" in DeBeque Canyon.



**Gary Hines presents photos and information about local irrigation dams for the Wellspring Project at the Fruita Community Center**

For the art aspect of this year's program, students created dams out of air dry modeling clay. One student was inspired to create a "roller dam" including a tower where mechanical equipment raises and lowers the rollers to control the water level.

The theme of the Wellspring project is sharing information from stakeholders interested in how the Colorado is allocated and protected. Students engage in a myriad of opportunities to learn more about river health and water use in the West.

RiversEdge West believes that these experiences should be accessible to all and raises funds so the Wellspring Project can remain free to students.



## 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.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (for newsletters) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_