

News From the Palisade Historical Society

October 2011

COAL MINING IN PALISADE - PART 1 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 - 9:30 a.m.

The topic for our next program in the "Palisade Reflections" series is **Coal Mining in Palisade**. It will be on **Saturday, October 22** from **9:30 until 11:00 a.m.** at the **Veteran's Memorial Community Center in Palisade**.

Coal mining is an integral part of our history. In the early 1900s, it was a big business—and as important as fruit growing to the area's economy.

Palisade native **Bennett Young, Jr.**, a registered professional geologist who worked for two years with the U.S. Bureau of Mines, and for six years in the Department of Interior Office of Surface Mining, will present an overview of coal geology, how local coal mines operated, and a history of coal mining in the area. Bennett's extensive knowledge includes exploring Palisade coal mines as a youngster and in a professional capacity.

Because coal mining history is an expansive topic, and not everyone whose families were involved in coal mining can attend this meeting, we envision more programs in the future. This could be just the first of several programs, depending on interest and participation.

As part of our effort to expand our collection and knowledge, **everyone with information and photos of coal mining in Palisade is invited to attend and share their stories. Breakfast pastries, compliments of Mary Lincoln's world famous Slice O' Life Bakery, will be provided.**

THE ASPINALL ROOM NOW IN STORAGE

With the relocation of the Palisade Branch Library to downtown Palisade, Wagner Galloway Architects generously agreed to temporarily provide storage space for the contents of the Aspinall Room.

The collection includes a desk, credenza, law books, typewriter, and other items which belonged to Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall and were displayed at the Palisade Library on 7th Street until September. Aspinall, considered to be Palisade's most famous citizen, was the U.S. Representative from Colorado's 4th Congressional District from 1949-1973.

The Palisade Historical Society is **looking for a permanent place to display the Aspinall Room** so residents and visitors will be able to better appreciate the many contributions he made to Palisade and our country.

DORIS BUTLER ELECTED TREASURER OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

At its regular August meeting, the Board of the Palisade Historical Society accepted Bill Beckwith's resignation as Treasurer and elected Doris Butler to the position. Bill will continue as a Director on the board, and Doris has already assumed the Treasurer's duties.

Doris is also a founding member of the Palisade Historical Society Board of Directors. She has served as Treasurer of the First Baptist Church in Palisade for more than 30 years. Doris has been a member of the Church since 1956, and has lived on East Orchard Mesa since 1958.

She was part of the group which formed Mesa County Land Conservancy (now Mesa Land Trust) in 1980. The group has now conserved several hundred acres of land around the Palisade area. Doris also served on the Mesa County Planning Commission.

THE HISTORIC PALISADE COLORING BOOK APPEALS TO KIDS AND ADULTS

Since its publication in July, the *Historic Palisade Coloring Book* has been well received by an enthusiastic audience of kids as well as adults. The coloring book has more than 20 original illustrations by local artists Ron Jaynes, and Melanie Kerrigan, and Illinois artist, Sarah Walker, and interesting details that capture Palisade's rich history.

Thanks to a generous \$1200 donation from the Palisade **Sunrise Rotary Club**, the Palisade Historical Society will provide these coloring books at no cost to all third grade students at Taylor and DeBeque Elementary Schools in the Spring.

If you haven't gotten a copy, **you can still pick up a Coloring Book at several downtown Palisade locations**, including the **Slice O' Life Bakery**, the **Palisade Tribune**, and the **Palisade Chamber of Commerce**.

The *Historic Palisade Coloring Book* is **also available directly from the Palisade Historical Society for a \$5.00 donation**. Please send your check, payable to the Palisade Historical Society, to P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526. Proceeds from donations will be used for Palisade Historical Society projects, including finding secure, climate-controlled storage for our growing collection of items.

**"LOCAL AUTHORS, COOKIES, AND PALISADE HISTORY" at THE NEW PALISADE LIBRARY,
plus GUIDED WALKING TOURS of DOWNTOWN
PALISADE - DECEMBER 10th**

The Palisade Historical Society is again working with the Palisade Branch Library Auxiliary on a **"Local Authors, Cookies, and Palisade History" program on Saturday, December 10th**. The event coincides with the Auxiliary's traditional patron appreciation **Open House and Book Sale** during Olde Fashioned Christmas. The similar event last year was very successful, and we look forward to an even better event in the Palisade Branch Library's new location in Downtown Palisade

We will have the expanded "mobile museum" with old photos and information about Palisade on display. Also, we will offer guided walking tours of downtown Palisade at two different times during the day. For a \$5 donation, you can select from **four tours** offered, depending on the information you want, the part of downtown you want to see, and the time you have to spend.

Look for more details about these events during the **Olde Fashioned Christmas** event in the Palisade Tribune and coming to your inbox soon.

**RENEW YOUR PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**

Annual Membership in the Palisade Historical Society is just \$25.00 for Individuals, \$50 for Families, \$100 for Businesses, and \$500 for

Patrons. 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. 81526**. Everyone is invited to join the Palisade Historical Society-through volunteer time with committees and projects-and through annual memberships.

LINK: www.historicpalisade.org

ABOUT THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The mission of the Palisade Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and communicate the unique history of Palisade, Colorado, and to foster, encourage, stimulate, and develop public appreciation of this history.

Directors of the Palisade Historical Society:
Bill Beckwith blbeckwith@gmail.com

Ralph Branch Ralph@stairliftrentalsinc.com
Doris Butler johnanddoris@q.com
John Galloway john@wagnergalloway.com
Richard Mathews
Harry Talbott harry@talbottfarms.com
Priscilla Walker pbwalker630@earthlink.net