

Volume XIV Number 2
August 2020 through November 2020
Website: www.palmerdividehistory.org
Email: plhs@palmerdividehistory.org
Museum: 719-559-0837



Palmer Lake Historical Society

2020 Board of Directors

President – Su Ketchmark
Vice President – Wayne Russert
Secretary – Patricia Atkins
Treasurer – Maggie Williamson
Museum Director - Rogers Davis

2020 Directors-at-Large

Susan Kuehster
Barbara Morehead
Two at-large director positions open

Tentative Program Schedule: September 2020 — November 2020

There are no PLHS programs or events scheduled in August.

September 17, 2020, 7:00 PM – "10th Mountain Division" – Col. Tom Duhs

October 15, 2020, 7:00 PM – "The Long Expedition" - John Stansfield

November 19, 2020, 7:00 PM – "Colorado Glass Slide Collection on a 1914 Projector" – Ed Bathke

November 29, 2020*, 4:00 PM – Chili Supper and 7:00 PM Star Lighting

**This a Town of Palmer Lake event.*

NOTE: Program schedule is tentative because of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**During bad circumstances...
disasters remind us we are
world citizens. Whether we like
it or not.**

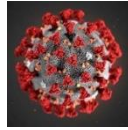
Maya Angelou

Contributing to this issue:

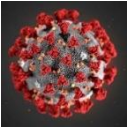
Su Ketchmark Patricia Atkins
Mike Walker Sigi Walker

Thanks to all who reviewed and commented!

A Newsletter of the Palmer Lake Historical Society and the *Lucretia Vaile Museum*



COVID-19 PANDEMIC: *Living in Historic Times*



"Flatten the curve" "Stop the spread" "Practice social distancing"
"Wear a mask" "Don't touch your face" "Wash your hands"
"Develop drugs to treat COVID-19" "Develop a COVID-19 vaccine"

These are words we have heard—and debated—every single day since the latest coronavirus, a brand-new virus to which no one is immune, reared its ugly head on our shores in early 2020. In contrast to the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic, the event has unfolded daily, in real time, on our TV screens, tablets, and smart phones. We have witnessed horrendous scenes in the U.S pandemic epicenter, New York City, elsewhere in our country, as well as the whole world.

Purported to have originated in Wuhan, China, as of July 27, 2020, there have been 16,296,635 COVID-19 cases worldwide with 649,662 deaths; the US is reporting 4,238,500 cases to date with 146,968 deaths.

On average, the world experiences at least one devastating pandemic each century. All have appeared suddenly and then mysteriously disappeared.

As a historical society, we understand what it means to "listen to history." How well did we learn the lessons that the 1918 Pandemic taught us? And how different is this pandemic from the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic?

The 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic began in a remote area of southwestern Kansas, then appeared among the troops at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas. It was then likely carried to Boston, the principal shipping point for men and materials to Europe for the Allied war effort against Germany.

In late August 1918, it was a serious problem at Fort Devons and in Boston, spreading to Philadelphia and the Naval Shipyards in October 1918. The first outbreak on the Pacific Coast did not appear until late in September at Camp Lewis, Washington, following the arrival of a trainload of troops that had come west from the Boston area. Within six weeks of the time it became prevalent in Boston, virtually every part of the United States and Canada was infected.

To fight the 1918 outbreak, there were daily public announcements in newspapers and directives by state and local governments. Issued at various times and in various places throughout the country, these directives included:

- Theater owners were to eject all persons who coughed or sneezed.
- Military personnel were banned from theaters.
- The public was to limit streetcar riding to a minimum.
- Railroad employees were given instructions on how to handle passengers.
- All mass activities were shut down, schools closed, theaters closed, no church services, and lodges, clubs, pool halls, and bowling alleys closed.
- The importance of fresh air in prevention was stressed.
- Football games were played – without spectators.
- Court sessions were halted.
- Celebrations were called off.
- Cafeteria customers were required to maintain a four-foot distance.
- All persons were to wear masks outside their homes.
- Public Library patrons were required to maintain a four-foot distance.
- Merchants were requested to keep decreased business hours.
- The use of alcoholic beverages was to be avoided.
- Shipyard workers were required to wear masks while workday hours were shortened.

(continued on page 2)

President's Message



Greetings to all! We hope you're all staying safe and practicing the governor's guidelines. I know we all want to get back to "normal" in the near future, however that may look.

Because of the COVID-19 outbreak, we canceled the March, April, May and July Monthly History Series programs and the Annual Father's Day Ice Cream Social. We hope to present the remaining three 2020 programs listed on page 3.

Your board, despite all, has held monthly board meetings. We will be unveiling a new and improved website in the near future; we're restoring an original Palmer Lake streetlamp, which will be installed near the museum; and the Vaile Museum will be opening a new exhibit of vintage radios and related advertising from the 1920's to the TV age, which includes a children's activity. When we are able to re-open, please stop in!

According to Wikipedia, "A historical society is an organization dedicated to preserving, collecting, researching and interpreting historical information or items. Originally, these societies were created as a way to help future generations understand their heritage." With these words in mind, we invite you to participate in a project to record the history of what we are experiencing now to share in the present and to leave for the future. We would like to gather journal style entries of your personal story of how you are navigating life during this pandemic. You may include your name or remain anonymous but do state your age as that would be relevant to future historians. If you would like to be part of this project, you can mail your entry to Palmer Lake Historical Society, Attn: COVID-19 Project, PO Box 662, Palmer Lake, CO 80133 or email PLHSPresident@gmail.com.

Please use the PLHS membership form on page 4 to join us, renew your membership, or make a donation. Memberships and donations are very important to the operation of our Society and Lucretia Vaile Museum. Volunteers are invaluable, as we have no paid staff. If you are willing to volunteer, contact me at the above email. We need two board members as well as someone experienced in publicity and social media.

Thanks to all for your support in keeping the history of the Palmer Divide alive!

Su Ketchmark, President
with thanks to Patricia Atkins, Secretary

"COVID-19" sources (abbreviated) include:
Englewood Historic Preservation Society Newsletter,
Vol 8 Nos 8 & 9

"History of the 1918 Flu Pandemic," CDC/NCIRD
Influenza 1918, 1998 PBS film

"Loosening Public-Health Restrictions Too Early...";
Nancy Bristow, *MSN Health Voices*

"One Man Knew," *True West* magazine, June 2020
"Pandemic," Wikipedia

"The 1918 Spanish Influenza Pandemic in Oregon,"
Ivan M. Woolley, M.D., September 1963

(continued from page 1)
Actions taken/problems encountered in fighting the 1918 outbreak included:

- Traction (streetcar) companies used open cars and opened all windows on conventional cars and were directed to prohibit crowding.
- Companies engaged in extensive cleaning measures: hard floors were cleaned with a germicide; carpeted area were vacuumed daily; elevator shafts were fumigated each evening; telephones were swabbed with a germicide; and ventilation in buildings was improved.
- Appeals were made for all graduate nurses to make themselves known.
- Civic auditoriums and gymnasiums were converted to city hospitals.
- Army-type hospitals and circus-type tents (later replaced by portable buildings) were erected to serve patients from rural communities.
- Mortuaries and undertakers were hard-pressed for embalmers and grave diggers, causing a serious health problem.
- School teachers were enlisted to canvas districts to find those needing medical care and to distribute literature describing prevention.
- Ambulance companies were kept running around the clock, often finding patients left alone after being directed to their location.
- Vaccines that were developed were for bacteria and so were ineffective; the Spanish flu was a virus too small to see with a microscope.
- Doctors who transfused antibodies harvested from recovered patients' blood reported a 50 percent drop in patient deaths from the Spanish flu.

The state and local government directives had not been imposed hastily or arbitrarily. During the fall and winter of 1918-1919, influenza raged around the globe in one of the worst disease outbreaks in human history. By pandemic's end, an estimated 500 million people, roughly one-third of the world's population, had been infected with the virus. Of the startling 50 million or more people worldwide who died, some 675,000 were American. Mortality was high in those under five years old, 20-40 years old, and 65 years and older. The vulnerability of healthy young adults created a major public health crisis.

In San Francisco in 1918, protestors fought against the hated mask, but their act of gathering helped spread the disease, resulting in much higher numbers of those sickened and those who died.

Right: An emergency flu hospital staffed by U.S. Navy Hospital corpsman set up to help care for those stricken by the influenza outbreak, San Francisco, 1918.

© Getty Images



In November 1918, the end of World War I enabled a resurgence, or second wave, of influenza as people celebrated Armistice Day and soldiers began to demobilize. Then, in the winter and spring of 1919, a third wave of influenza occurred, killing many more. The third wave subsided in the summer of 1919.

In 1918, 50% of Americans lived in rural rather than urban areas. Today, those numbers are 17.5% rural and 82.5% urban. The implications are obvious. The 1918 Pandemic taught us many things: wear a mask, wash hands frequently, and practice social distancing. Until we have effective therapeutics and an effective vaccine, our most effective tool is our behavior.

ONE MAN KNEW — But No One Was Listening

In the June 2020 issue of *True West* magazine, executive editor Bob Boze Bell reminds readers of the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic's origin. It first appeared in the small town of Jean in Haskell County, Kansas. Dr. Loring Miner, the physician who treated the early cases, was alarmed that many of his patients were dying and issued a warning, published in *Public Health Reports*. Then the disease disappeared, and attention returned to fighting the war in Europe.

After a young soldier on leave from Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas, returned from a visit to his home in Jean, 1,100 men were sick and admitted to the post hospital; 48 died. Those without symptoms were shipped overseas!

AFTERWARDS, THE PANDEMIC WAS NOT IN OUR COLLECTIVE MEMORY!

Upcoming PLHS Programs and Events August 2020 through November 2020

Social Hour at 6:30 PM, Presentations begin at 7:00 PM in the Palmer Lake Town Hall

NOTE: Programs are tentative due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Check PLHS website or Facebook page for updates.

Thursday, September 17, 2020

"Colorado's 10th Mountain Division"

Presenter: Col. Tom Duhs



The Colorado 10th Mountain Division, a World War II group of skiers and mountaineers, was trained to fight the Germans in Italy. The Division was established in July 1943 at Camp Hale, located in central Colorado near Leadville, and trained for fighting in harsh terrain. The 10th went to Italy at the end of 1944, fighting in the mountains of Italy in some of the roughest terrain in the war.

Retired from the USMC, Col. Duhs used his own experience training troops and his research into the official regimental history to co-write two books about the 10th Mountain Division. Now he's working with people in Hollywood to try to bring the story to a broader audience.

Thursday, October 15, 2020

"The Long Expedition"

Presenter: John Stansfield



Two hundred years ago, on June 6, 1820, Major Stephen H. Long and 19 men set out west from the Missouri River to explore the Platte River and its sources. The expedition included soldiers, artists, naturalists, a zoologist, and a physician, Dr. Edwin James, who discovered the Colorado Blue Columbine. They would be among the first Europeans in the Pikes Peak area.

For more than thirty years, storyteller and author John Stansfield has recounted stories of notable people from Colorado history. He portrayed Dr. Charles Fox Gardiner for PLHS in 2014 and Enos Mills in 2015 and participated in PLHS Chautauquas. John and his wife are residents of Larkspur.

Thursday, November 19, 2020

"Colorado Glass Slide Collection on a 1914 Projector"

Presenter: Ed Bathke



In 1850, two Daguerreotypists in Philadelphia, William and Frederick Langenheim, invented a transparent positive image of a photograph in the form of a glass slide that could be projected onto a wall or screen using a "Magic Lantern." Join us for a unique experience viewing scenic Colorado glass slides projected with a 1914 glass slide projector.

In 1977, Ed Bathke was the founding sheriff of the Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners and has presented over a dozen papers to the Posse and to Pikes Peak Library Symposia. He has an M.S. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Colorado and is a retired computer analyst.

Honoring Healthcare Personnel, First Responders, and Essential Workers



Every one to two days, between mid-April and mid-May, the Navy's Blue Angels and the Air Force's Thunderbirds performed joint flyovers - "collaborative salutes" - to honor healthcare workers, first responders, military, and essential workers on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic in cities across the U.S. Named "Operation America Strong," they have flown simultaneously in their signature Delta formations over the northeastern U.S., including Washington, Baltimore, New York, Newark, Trenton, and Philadelphia as well as the southern U.S., including Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, and Austin.

The Blue Angels separately have flown over or will fly over Miami, Tampa, Tallahassee and Jacksonville, Norfolk and Virginia Beach, Detroit, Chicago, Indianapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, Kingsville

and Corpus Christi. The Thunderbirds separately flew over or will fly over San Antonio, Oklahoma City, Phoenix, San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Oregon, and Seattle.

On April 18, 2020, following their flyover at the Air Force Academy's graduation ceremony, the Thunderbirds honored healthcare workers in Colorado by performing flyovers in Greeley, Windsor, Fort Collins, Loveland, Longmont, Boulder, Denver, Denver International Airport, Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Fort Carson, and Pueblo before returning to their home in Nevada, Nellis Air Force Base.

2020: Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote and the 200th Anniversary of the Long Expedition

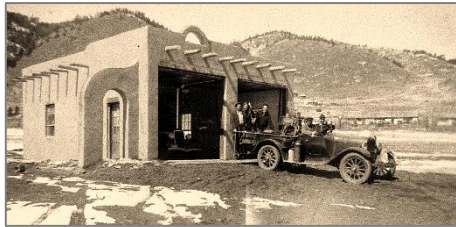
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PALMER LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Mike Walker

Palmer Lake Historical Society monthly history programs and special events receive considerable help from our neighbors next door to the Town Hall – the Palmer Lake volunteer firefighters. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, they are our local first responders, helping to keep us safe and provide assistance. To show support and provide hope for the local community, they have kept the Palmer Lake Star lit. So, first, a **THANK YOU** to the PLVFD!

In the beginning, Palmer Lake’s firefighting “equipment” consisted primarily of a “bucket brigade!” A series of devastating fires, culminating with the 1921 explosion and fire at the Rockland Hotel, precipitated action. In 1921, the town council authorized the purchase from the Julius Pearse Fire Department Co. of a 1921 Dodge firetruck for \$574.37. It was equipped with a 40-gallon chemical tank for fire retardant and had a hose reel mounted on the chassis. Over the years, it was stored at various local garages.

Rockland Hotel ca 1893, photo from Vaile Museum collection



Above: First firetruck, a 1921 Dodge, purchased for the PLVFD, shown in 1938 outside the WPA-built firehouse Vaile Museum collection

In 1937, a fire at the Higby Mercantile store in Monument led the town council to vote to form a committee to obtain prices on equipment and to organize a fire department. Within two weeks, the fire department was established, and officers were elected. Shortly thereafter, regulations were drafted and approved. Also, in 1937, the town council authorized development of plans for a permanent fire station. Approval was obtained from the WPA to build the fire house, which was completed in 1938. Several additions to the original structure, still in use today, were subsequently made.

After completion of the fire house in 1938, the town council authorized the purchase of a new fire engine: a Ford V8 chassis from the J. M. Unger Garage in Monument which was then sent to W. S. Darley & Co. in Chicago, where the body and firefighting apparatus were installed. The fire district was now certified as a class 9 fire insurance classification. This truck served Palmer Lake until 1968. It was sold to the Rock Creek Fire Department in October of 1969, where it operated until the early 1990s. It is stored to this day on the property of what is now the May’s Museum.



Above: 1993 photo of Ford-Darley truck in Rock Creek

Lucretia Vaile Museum Hours:
 Open Wednesday 1:00 – 4:00
 Open Saturday 10:00 – 2:00
 Tours: Call 559-0837 and leave message

In the early days of Palmer Lake, the fire department was one of the few community organizations in town. As a result, in the late 1930’s, the fire department played a large role in organizing many of the town’s celebrations. These included the annual chili supper and Christmas Star lighting ceremony and support of the annual Yule Log Hunt. The PLVFD still oversees or supports these same activities. Today, there are three full-time staff and eight volunteers to answer Palmer Lake calls.

Note: Portions of this article were excerpted from *The Beginnings of the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department (PLVFD)*, 2012, by Dan Edwards. Copies are available in the Lucretia Vaile Museum.

 Like us on Facebook

Visit the PLHS website by scanning our QR code with your smart phone.



Palmer Lake Historical Society publishes this newsletter at
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 Palmer Lake CO 80133-0662
 Layout and Editing: Sigi Walker

Note: All submissions may be edited for content, grammar, and space allocations, and become the property of the Palmer Lake Historical Society unless other arrangements have been made. Digital word submissions in .doc or .docx, photos in .jpg format, please. Submit pieces and photos to Editor at mikensigi@comcast.net

Palmer Lake Historical Society 2021 Membership/Renewal Form

Annual membership in the Palmer Lake Historical Society is available in the following categories:

- Individual \$ 20.00
- Family \$ 30.00
- Student \$ 8.00
- Supporting \$ 25.00
- Benefactor \$ 50.00
- Curator \$ 75.00

YES, I would like to support the PLHS. My payment of \$ _____ is enclosed. ___ New ___ Renewing

Method of payment:

Cash \$ _____
 Check No. _____

Name as you wish it to appear on your membership card (please PRINT):

Name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Contact Phone _____

E-mail _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return this completed form with your payment to:

Palmer Lake Historical Society
 PO Box 662
 Palmer Lake CO 80133-0662