

Volume XIV Number 1  
 April 2020 through July 2020  
 Website: [www.palmerdividehistory.org](http://www.palmerdividehistory.org)  
 Email: [plhs@palmerdividehistory.org](mailto: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  
 Pat McCarthy  
 Barbara Morehead  
 Sharon Williams

## Program & Events Schedule: April 2020 – July 2020

Thursday, April 16, 2020, 7:00 PM – "A  
 Treasure of Local History" – Brett Lobello

Thursday, May 21, 2020, 7:00 PM -  
 "Helen Hunt Jackson" – Doris McCraw

Sunday, June 21, 2020, 2 – 4 PM  
**ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY  
 ICE CREAM SOCIAL**  
**FREE pie and ice cream!**  
**Music on the Green and  
 Special Antique Car Show**

Saturday, July 25, 2020, 9:00 AM –  
 2:00 PM - "Walking Tours of the Former  
 Monument Tree Farm" – Eric Swab



Chilly Night on the Palmer Lake Town Hall  
 "green" the evening of February 20, 2020  
 Ron Oatney photo

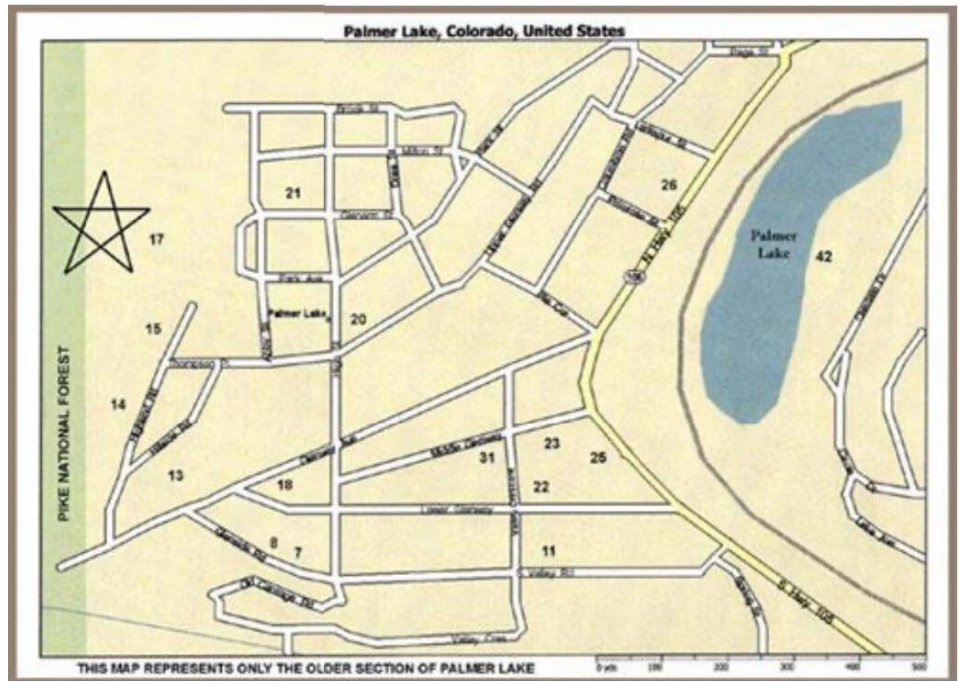
# A Newsletter of the Palmer Lake Historical Society and the Lucretia Vaile Museum

## Hiking and Biking the Palmer Divide

With Spring not far off, we thought our readers might like to stroll or bike through the historic towns and countryside of the Palmer Divide and discover some surprising sights.

## Palmer Lake Walking Tour

Enjoy a suggested walking tour of a few of Palmer Lake's historic buildings and sites. For more information about these and other historical points of interest, check out the Historical Society's publication *Palmer Lake Landmarks*.



- 7 Pillsbury Store
- 8 McIntyre Cottage/Carriage House
- 11 Electric Company/Powerhouse
- 13 Estemere Estate
- 14 George W. Palmer House
- 15 Vaile Log Cabin
- 17 Palmer Lake Star
- 18 Telephone Office/Switchboard
- 20 Little Log Church
- 21 Countess Murat's Cottage
- 22 Lucretia Vaile Library-Museum
- 23 Old Jail
- 25 The White Kitchen Cafe
- 26 D&RG Station Agent's House
- 31 Fire Station
- 42 Palmer Lake

Rock House Ice Cream,  
 former White Kitchen Cafe



Palmer Lake, ca 1905

(continued on page 2)

### President's Message



As we mark the Palmer Lake Historical Society's 64<sup>th</sup> year, I am excited to share with you the publication of the new edition of Marion Savage Sabin's book, *Palmer Lake: A Historical Narrative* as well as the near completion of the update of our website. I am grateful to our members and volunteers who supported these efforts.

In addition to our monthly history programs, the Lucretia Vaile Museum will open two new exhibits this year: Wayne Russert's "The History of Radio and its Pioneers" and a celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment which gave women the right to vote, "The Women's Suffrage Movement". Both are under the direction of museum director/curator Rogers Davis and will include many unusual historical displays. Be sure to plan a visit.

At the January annual membership meeting, the following 2020 Palmer Lake Historical Society Board of Directors Officers were elected: Su Ketchmark, president, Wayne Russert, vice president, Patricia Atkins, secretary, and Maggie Williamson, treasurer. Rogers Davis continues as the Lucretia Vaile Museum director. At large board members are Susan Kuehster, Pat McCarthy, Barbara Morehead, and Sharon Williams.

If you are not a member of the PLHS, please consider joining us. Both the Society and the Lucretia Vaile Museum operate exclusively through membership dues, donations, and the efforts of volunteers. We have a variety of jobs for willing hands. For more information, call 719-559-0837 or email [PLHS@PalmerDivideHistory.org](mailto:PLHS@PalmerDivideHistory.org).

All PLHS programs and events are free and open to the public. Refreshments and time for fellowship follow the program. We hope you will participate as often as you can.

Su Ketchmark, PLHS President

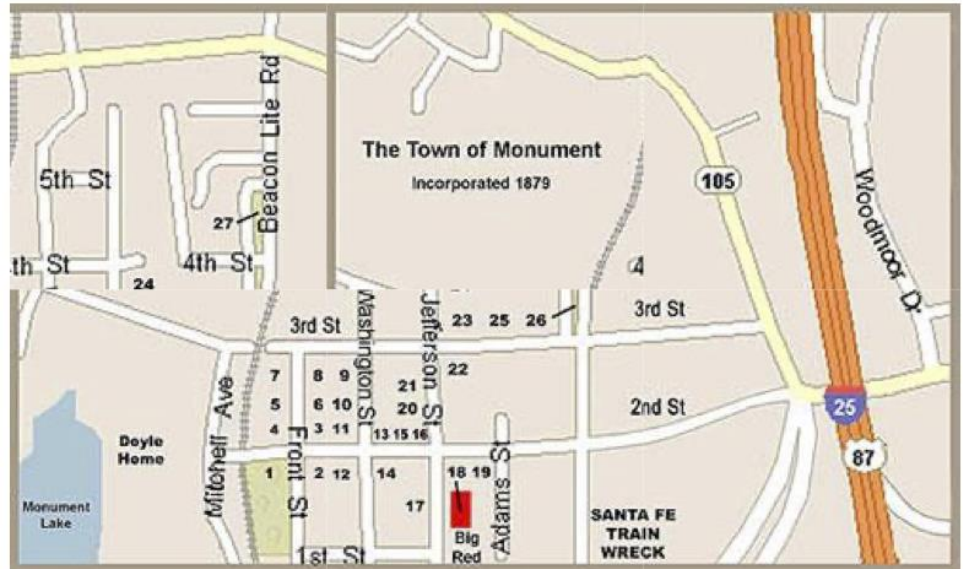
Below: Your hard working 2020 board



Front row, from left: Pat McCarthy, Maggie Williamson, Patricia Atkins, and Su Ketchmark  
 Back row, from left: Barbara Morehead, Wayne Russert, and Sharon Williams  
 Not pictured: Roger Davis and Susan Kuehster  
 Sharon Williams photo

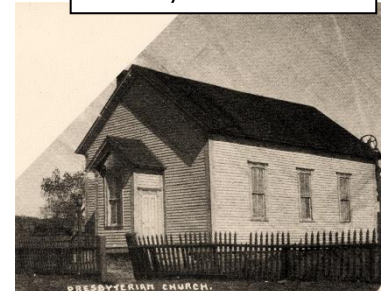
### Monument Walking Tour

The following is a suggested walking tour of a few of Monument's historic sites. For more information about these and other historical points of interest, visit the Vaile Museum or purchase a copy of *Through the Years at Monument*.



- 1 Limbach Park
- 2 The Monument Hotel
- 3 The Walker Store
- 4 Mrs. Limbach's Millinery Shop
- 5 The Limbach House
- 6 Limbach's Saloon & Barber Shop
- 7 Elliott's Store
- 8 Elliott's Carriage & Wagon
- 9 The Schubarth Home
- 10 Will Lierd's Store & Caskets
- 11 Betz Family Meat Market
- 12 Dr. Rupp's Home & Drug Store
- 13 Higby Mercantile
- 14 First Post Office
- 15 J.W. Higby Garage
- 16 Colonel Ford's Home
- 17 1st Catholic Church
- 18 "Big Red" or the "Lewis School"
- 19 Site of the Monument Creamery
- 20 Site of Father Dyer's Parsonage
- 21 Santa Fe Section Crew Bunkhouse
- 22 Sheldon Jackson Memorial Chapel
- 23 1st Presbyterian Parsonage
- 24 Santa Fe Agents' Home
- 25 Santa Fe Depot
- 26 Lavelett Park
- 27 1st Town Hall
- Santa Fe Train Wreck

Presbyterian Church



Monument Rock, ca 1885

Even after the arrival of the railroad, bicycles were a popular means of getting from one place to another. The Palmer Divide area was no exception.

(continued on page 4)

*Palmer Lake Historical Society -  
 Making history more than a memory!*

*Upcoming PLHS Programs and Events April 2020 through July 2020*

Social Hour at 6:30 PM, Presentations begin at 7:00 PM in the Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent Street

**Thursday, April 16, 2020 –**

**“A Treasure of Local History”**

**Presenter: Brett Lobello**



This presentation will i Peak Library District. well as highlight stories breadth and possibilitie

**CANCELLED**  
*due to Coronavirus*

istoric material held by the Pikes ion about Special Collections as These collections will illustrate the

Brett Lobello is originally from the Midwest and became Director of Regional History and Genealogy at the Pikes Peak Library District in September 2018. Previously, he held positions in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Kenosha, Wisconsin, Charlotte, North Carolina, and Beloit, Wisconsin.

**Thursday, May 21, 2020 –**

**“Helen Hunt Jackson”**

**Presenter: Doris McCraw**



Helen Hunt Jackson, American poet and writer, became an activist on behalf of improved treatment of Native Americans by the U.S. Government. She described the adverse effects of government actions in *A Century of Dishonor*, while her popular novel *Ramona* dramatized the mistreatment of Native Americans in Southern California after the Mexican-American War.

Doris McCraw is an author, speaker, and historian specializing in Colorado and Women's History. Born and raised in West Central Illinois, she “grew up on history.” After moving to Colorado, she traveled the state, soaking up the history. She has presented at three of the Pikes Peak Library District's History Symposia.

**Sunday, June 21, 2020, 2 – 4 PM**

**SPECIAL EVENT – FREE**

**Annual Father's Day Ice Cream Social**

**We continue a decades-old tradition.**

The Palmer Lake Historical Society, with support from the Rock House Ice Cream Shop and the Speidel Foundation, invites Dads and their families from the local area to join us in this annual community event.

- Special music
- Special private antique car show

Bring a lawn chair or blanket  
Relax on the green



**Saturday, July 25, 2020, 9 AM – 2 PM**

**"Walking Tours of the Former Monument Tree Farm"**

**Tour Guide: Eric Swab**



After an unsuccessful tree nursery attempt on Pikes Peak, the Monument Nursery (located just west of the town of Monument) ended up successfully producing over 72,000,000 tree seedlings between 1906 and 1964. It was one of the first in the forest system and the most important in the Rocky Mountains.

Eric Swab has presented programs on the Forest Service's Monument Tree Nursery and has also written about the subject. In May of 2016, he led the first Palmer Lake Historical Society tour of the former tree nursery and is back by popular demand.



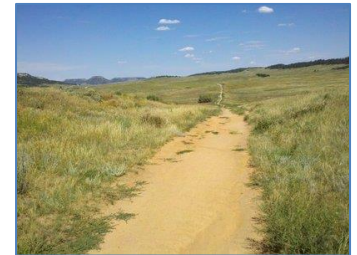
## Palmer Divide Bicycle Trails: Historic and Modern (continued from page 2)

**Today** the bicycle is mainly known as a recreational vehicle and is enjoyed by people in every corner of the world. But at its outset, this “controversial” machine caused inroads into society that revolutionized politics, fashion, and social policy as well as paving the way for the mechanized world of motion to come. *Victorian Cycles, Wheels of Change* (Documentary copyright, Jim Kellett 2004) is a fascinating documentary about the bicycle’s coming of age and its tremendous impact on society. It is filled with images of a by-gone era, and the people who embraced its change.

The first bicycle craze swept Colorado and the nation more than a century ago. By the 1880s, thousands of Coloradans, women as well as men, pedaled around the state’s cities and towns and sometimes ventured out onto country roads. These early cyclists established clubs such as the Denver Ramblers, the Colorado Wheel Club, and the Social Wheel Club. The wheel clubs crusaded for building bicycle paths through urban areas and out into rural areas. For example, in 1897, a club headed by Gov. Alva Adams and some prominent businessmen built a 50-mile path between Denver and Palmer Lake.

There is a story about a young woman who tried to ride her bicycle the 50 or so miles from Denver to Palmer Lake - in one day. When darkness fell and she could no longer see the bicycle path, she knocked on the door of a ranch house and was invited to spend the night. She continued on the next day.

The Old Territorial Road Mountain Bike Trail (right) is rated as “easy.” The gravel path connects Palmer Lake to Greenland and follows the route of the Old Territorial Road, paralleling the railroad tracks. The Greenland Trail splits off from Old Territorial Road approximately 4 miles north of Palmer Lake.



Above: Riding bicycles around the turn of the century

### Palmer Lake Historical Society Membership/Renewal Form

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

- Individual \$ 15.00
- Family \$ 20.00
- 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

**Lucretia Vaile Museum Hours:**  
Saturday 10 AM–2 PM all year  
Wednesday 1–3 PM September–May  
Wednesday 1–4 PM June–August  
1st Thursday of month: 10 AM–noon  
Tours: Call 559-0837 and leave message

**Notice**  
The Vaile Museum is closed until further notice because of the Coronavirus.

**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  
PO Box 662  
66 Lower Glenway  
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

**Contributing to this issue:**

Su Ketchmark    Sharon Williams  
Vaile Museum    Mike & Sigi Walker  
Thanks to all who reviewed and commented!