

Museum TIMES

November/December 2017



Museum, Colorado Mesa University Enjoy Longstanding, Productive Partnership

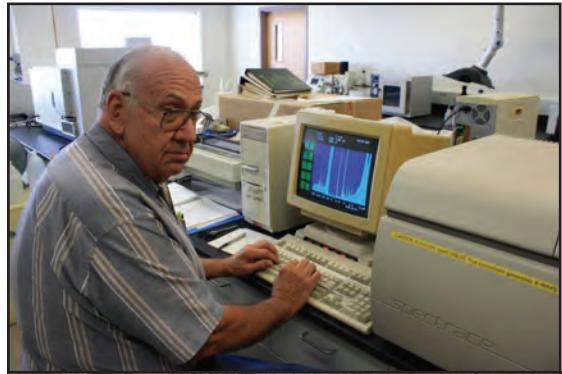


Two of Western Colorado's largest and most acclaimed institutions — Museums of Western Colorado and Colorado Mesa University (CMU) — have, for decades, maintained a strong and ever-evolving relationship that has grown the impact and credibility of each.

"Our cooperative arrangement connects the goals and curriculum of CMU with the local resources provided by the Museum," says Museum Executive Director Peter Booth. "This greatly enriches both institutions and, in turn, enhances CMU students' education and the Museum's visitor experience."

Dating from the early 1970s — when the community established its "Historical Museum and Institute of Western Colorado" and then-Mesa College began offering baccalaureate programs — the partnership has had many forms:

- CMU is a key collaborator on the Western Investigations Team, providing expertise and scientific equipment to help solve "historical mysteries." Museum Curator of History David Bailey says, "CMU professors and interns have been invaluable in assisting us on many projects, and even helped to prove that Alferd Packer, The Colorado Cannibal, was innocent of murder. We've unveiled more of CMU's great work with the new Packer exhibition now open at Museum of the West in downtown Grand Junction."
- Julia McHugh, CMU Adjunct Professor and Museum's Curator of Paleontology, was recruited to the community and is jointly employed by the two institutions. CMU President Tim Foster says, "Dual employment has allowed both organizations to prosper from a caliber of expertise that otherwise would not be here." The partnership also gives CMU students the opportunity for hands-on work alongside professional paleontologists in one of the country's most prolific areas for discovery of dinosaur and other pre-historic animal fossils.
- A study of the economic impact of Museum visitorship and similar surveys have been designed and conducted by students and doctoral-level expertise at CMU's Business Department. Recent findings report an annual total \$16 million contributed to the Mesa County economy as a direct result of non-county residents' visits to Museum sites.
- In a typical year, four or more CMU students in history, anthropology, business, mass marketing, and even Spanish have the opportunity for on-the-job training and insight through Museum-hosted internships. Current CMU Student and Museum Public Relations Intern Conner Travis says, "For me personally, the CMU-Museum partnership has actually helped me to graduate early, and to grow immensely."



President Foster, who personally has taken on significant volunteer roles with the Museum says, "CMU values an active and viable historical museum. It's a pleasure to cooperate with and support one another."

Programs

Oral History Program

Every 3rd Thursday at Noon

Whitman Educational Center, 248 S. Fourth St.

November 16

Terry Hammer, Jr., a lifelong student of military history and army veteran, will be our guest speaker. A variety of original artifacts will be exhibited and discussed will include period uniforms and equipment. This program will be in remembrance of the 100th anniversary of the Great War.

December 21

Presenter to be announced

Oral History Programs are jointly sponsored by the Museums of Western Colorado and the Mesa County Historical Society and are free to the public.

History, Science Combine to Create Museums' Educational Programming

"Museums are education's greatest asset," says Carly Jones, Education and Volunteer Coordinator for the Museums of Western Colorado. "Every visit and every event offers something new – you get to interact with history, and see science in action."

The Museum's Education Department works particularly hard to make sure that young visitors have access to kid-friendly collections and documents, and special kits for school groups include those on Native American cultures, early American pioneers, and paleontology. Jones also is working to create innovative adult educational opportunities through historic crafts classes, a film series, and annual lecture series. "And I want to reach out to millennials and encourage them to get involved, while continuing to please our traditional member base," says Jones.

Contact Museums of Western Colorado's Education Department to learn about new programs and opportunities!

**Our doors will
be closed for
these holidays:**

**Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day
New Year's Day**



Through strong stewardship and relevant programming, the Museums of Western Colorado strives to inspire the community to preserve its heritage and tell its story.



Dinosaur Journey collects, preserves, interprets and displays evidence of the history of life and environments of western Colorado and geologically related surrounding areas.

The Loyd Files Research Library provides learning and research opportunities for exploring and interpreting western Colorado's past, present and future.

The Museum of the West is dedicated to the collection, preservation, exhibition and interpretation of artifacts that represent the rich heritage and history of western Colorado and contiguous areas of the American West.

Cross Orchards Historic Site utilizes living history to preserve, interpret and educate the public on agriculture, transportation and the social history of the region.

Museums of Western Colorado

P.O. Box 20000

Grand Junction, CO 81502-5020

(970) 242-0971

www.museumofwesternco.org

Subscribe to e-news and more at

museumsofwesternco@gmail.com

or on our website.

Museum Times is the bimonthly newsletter of the Museums of Western Colorado informing members and supporters of news, programs, and events.

Museum membership entitles you to free admission to all of our sites, as well as discounts for various programs. Check our website for updated membership fees.



**Find us on
Facebook**

@MuseumsofWesternCO
@DinosaurJourney
@MuseumoftheWestGJ
@CrossOrchards

2018 Heritage Awards

Museums of Western Colorado Seeking Nominations for Sixth Annual Heritage Awards

Museums of Western Colorado currently is accepting nominations for its 2018 Heritage Awards, with selected individuals and organizations to be honored at an awards ceremony scheduled for March 6, 2018. Recognition will be given for distinguished and long-term contributions in seven categories:

- **Archeological Award** – Recognizing an individual, group, or organization for furthering public understanding and appreciation of the archaeological heritage of Mesa County and Colorado's Western Slope.
- **George Callison Paleontological Award** – Recognizing an individual, group, or organization for furthering public understanding and appreciation of the paleontological heritage of Mesa County and Colorado's Western Slope.
- **Historian Award** – Recognizing an individual, group, or organization for furthering public understanding and appreciation of the history of Mesa County and Colorado's Western Slope.
- **Preservation Award** – Recognizing an individual, group, or organization for preservation of Mesa County's architectural treasures.
- **Heritage Enterprise Award** – Recognizing a business enterprise for preservation of Mesa County's heritage.
- **Partners in Heritage Award** – Recognizing an individual, group, or organization currently working in collaboration with Museums of Western Colorado in the preservation of Mesa County's heritage.
- **Museum Service Award** – For meritorious efforts by an individual, group, or organization in support of the Museum's mission and vision.

Museum Executive Director Peter Booth says, "The Museum's mission is to help the community preserve its heritage and tell its story – a significant undertaking that relies on the involvement of others in the community, either as individuals or collectively. It is an honor and privilege for the Museum to recognize the community's leading individuals and groups contributing so significantly to protecting and preserving our community's heritage, and we invite and sincerely encourage nominations for these awards from the community at large."



2017 Heritage Awards Recipients

Written award nominations must be submitted via postal delivery by Friday, January 19, 2018.

Museums of Western Colorado; Attn: Heritage Awards; P. O. Box 20,000, Grand Junction, CO 81502-5020

Nominations are to include the following:

- Award category
- Name of nominated individual, group, organization, or business
- Contact information for both the nominee and nominator (mailing address, email address, daytime phone number)
- One-page description of why the nominee should be honored.

Museums of Western Colorado staff and board members are not eligible for **Heritage Award** recognition. For more information on the awards and nominating process, visit the Museum website at museumofwesternco.org or contact Booth at 970.241.0971. ext. 2204.

2017 Jack Snow Award: Outstanding Volunteer of the Year

Museums of Western Colorado Volunteer Kay Fredette Honored as Colorado's Outstanding Tourism Volunteer of the Year

As a retired dental hygienist, she used to clean people's teeth. Now, as a 78-year-young superstar volunteer at Dinosaur Journey in Fruita, she cleans dinosaur teeth, bones, and other fossil specimens. For her 31 years of volunteer work with the Museums of Western Colorado, Kay Fredette was honored in October at the annual *Colorado Governor's Tourism Conference* with the 2017 Jack Snow Award for Outstanding Volunteer of the Year.

"I cannot imagine anyone more worthy of this award," says Julia McHugh, Curator of Paleontology for the Museum. "She gives so much of herself to help us each and every day, both in the lab and in the field. There is no project she is not willing to try, and she succeeds time and time again – from measuring serrations on hundreds of teeth with millimeter precision, to experimenting with new tools in the lab, to sifting through a cramped one meter-by-one meter hole in 100 degree summertime weather."

Fredette started working at Dinosaur Valley in 1986, and in 2000 helped Museums of Western Colorado move its paleontological program from Grand Junction to Fruita with the facility then renamed Dinosaur Journey.

"Typically putting in 800+ hours a year, Kay has been a significant force in Dinosaur Journey's status as one of the leading paleontology museums in the nation," says Museum Executive Director Peter

Booth, who worked with Visit Grand Junction (a department of the City of Grand Junction) to make the successful state-level award nomination of Fredette.

As the Volunteer Laboratory Supervisor, Fredette directs the cleaning and preparation of fossil specimens for study and exhibit – a highly time-consuming process that can require months for some specimens. She also is responsible for training new lab volunteers and helps with fossil identification, a task that takes years of experience to develop.

"Her skill and knowledge in all of this work is exceptional," says

Booth. "During the summer dig season, Kay helps direct our program that brings in visitors from all over globe to help with fossil excavations. Her efforts have paid off with some internationally noteworthy finds that have significantly expanded understanding of the ancient Jurassic world."

For more information on volunteer opportunities at Dinosaur Journey and other Museums of Western Colorado sites (Cross Orchards, Museum of the West), visit our website or call Volunteer Coordinator Carly Jones at 970.242.0971.



Above: Kay with her husband, Dick Fredette, and Julia McHugh, Curator of Paleontology at MWC
Left: Kay and Dick Fredette
Right: Kay with State Tourism Office Director Cathy Ritter

2018 Trips and Tours Spotlight

Great American Cities: Chicago

August 6-11 • Register by July 6

Explore one of America's great cities, historic Chicago. We will journey to the Windy City and explore its rich art and architecture, museums; tour Wrigley Field; discover the world of infamous mobsters and gangsters like Al Capone; and, of course, visit our own Grand Valley legend, *Brachiosaurus*, at the Field Museum of Natural History, excavated from Riggs Hill in 1900. Come with us and experience Chicago like never before!

Led by: Julia McHugh

\$2,750/Museum member; \$3,000/Non-member

Single supplement: \$750

Includes: Airfare, lodgings, ground transportation, admissions, most meals, and traveler's insurance.

Minimum Age: 8 (guests ages 16 or under must be accompanied by an adult)

Minimum Participants: 7

Maximum Participants: 14



2018 Digs Preview

Dinosaurs of the Western Slope: A Four-Day Paleo Expedition



Summer 2017 is over, but at the Museums of Western Colorado we already are planning the 2018 'dig' season.

One of the new experiences to be offered in 2018 is a longer expedition, designed for the most avid dinosaur lover! Those for whom one day out at the quarry or in the lab simply is not enough will spend four days fully immersed in paleontology of the Western Slope. We'll visit historic dinosaur quarries and learn about the geology and history of the area. Two days will be devoted

to digging for dinosaurs in a real "Jurassic Park" at the Mygatt-Moore Quarry, and participants will learn how to prepare and restore dinosaur bones in the paleo prep lab at Dinosaur Journey Museum.

The four-day paleo expedition is scheduled for June 26-29, with the complete 2018 expedition schedule now available at www.dinodigs.org.



SUPPORT YOUR MUSEUMS!



MUSEUM OF
the WEST



We are asking you to please recommit your support for Museums of Western Colorado as part of your year-end giving. Your gift of \$50, \$100, \$500, or more goes a very long way in continuing the impact of your Museum.

This is not someone else's museum; it is our museum, your museum. None of the Museum's tremendous efforts are accomplished without your generosity.

Let's ***Discover Together*** the treasures that are uniquely ours in this western Colorado home.

Thank you for your belief in this work,
Museums of Western Colorado Board of Directors

TWO WAYS TO GIVE!

The quick and easy way:

On Tuesday, December 5, visit Colorado Gives Day: coloradogives.org/museumofwesternco/overview

Remember that more dollars given to the Museum on Colorado Gives Day means more funding to the Museum from a \$1 million Incentive Fund!

The old-fashioned way:

Send your tax-deductible contribution via check: Museums of Western Colorado
P. O. Box 20,000
Grand Junction, CO 81502-5020

All gifts...

Are eligible for State of Colorado Enterprise Zone Tax Credit

Are eligible to win a 36" x 62.5" Navajo weaving, valued at \$2,175 and donated by Old Friends Trading Company



(drawing to be held on January 2, 2018)





SUPPORT THE MUSEUMS OF WESTERN COLORADO ON COLORADO GIVES DAY!

Colorado's largest day of giving, Colorado Gives Day, is taking place on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. On this day, thousands of people come together to support Colorado nonprofits like ours.

When you donate to the Museums of Western Colorado, you're helping us inspire the community to preserve its heritage and tell its story.

Please help us reach our goal of 50 donations via Colorado Gives. Thanks to the \$1 Million Incentive Fund from Community First Foundation and FirstBank, your donation goes further on Colorado Gives Day.

To donate to us on Colorado Gives Day, go to www.coloradogives.org/museumofwesternco/overview. Or, beginning November 1, schedule your donation early!

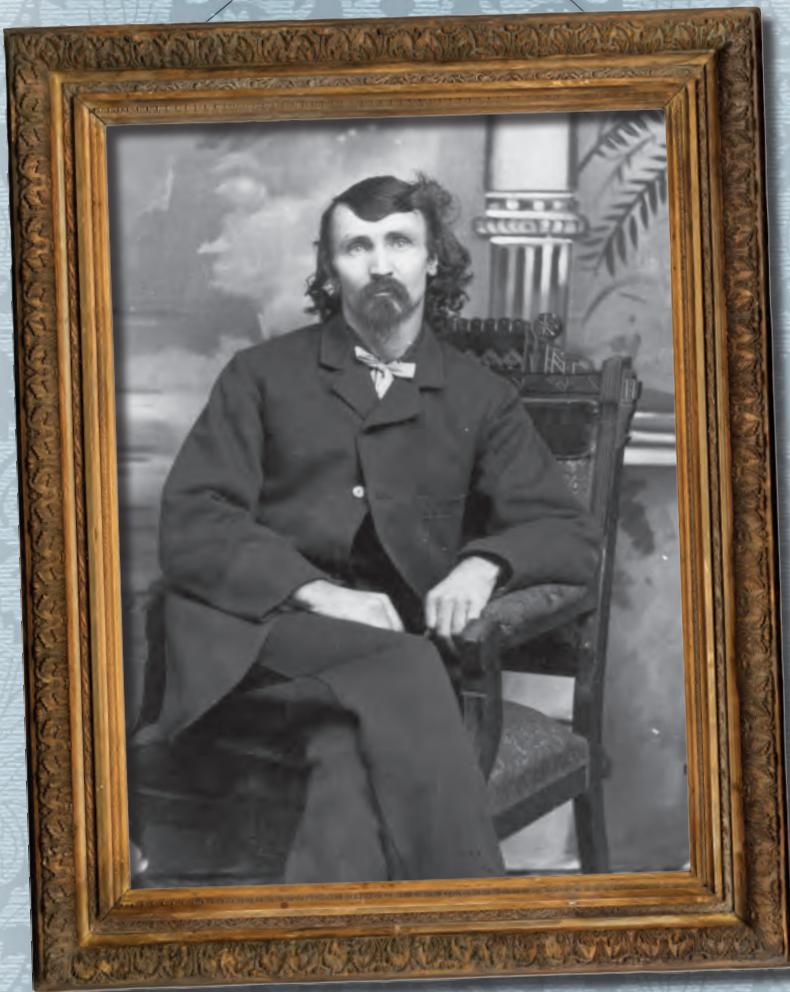
About Colorado Gives Day

Colorado Gives Day, presented by Community First Foundation and FirstBank, is powered by ColoradoGives.org, a year-round website featuring more than 2,000 nonprofits.

ColoradoGives.org encourages charitable giving by providing comprehensive, objective and up-to-date information about Colorado nonprofits and an easy way to support them online.

ALFERD PACKER

Solving one of the West's Great Murder Mysteries



David Bailey, Curator of History and Director of Western Investigations Team, will explain the complex forensic investigation of Alferd Packer, the Colorado Cannibal, and the notorious murder site. The exhibition will feature Jack Murray paintings of the investigation, forensic evidence that has never been shown to the public, and one of a kind western relics and historical memorabilia.

NOVEMBER 3, 2017-MARCH 1, 2018



Museum of the West

4th and Ute, Downtown Grand Junction



Fall Events



Old Fossil Classic, October 21



Fall Day on the Farm, October 23



KOOL Monster Mash, October 31



Authors' Party and Book Signing, November 4



Alferd Packer Exhibit Opening, November 2



Western Slope Cowboy Poetry Gathering, November 3 and 4

Photos courtesy of Bill Patterson



BREAKFAST with SANTA

December 2
9 - 11 am

Dinosaur Journey Museum
550 Jurassic Ct., Fruita

It's almost time!

Join us for a festive event with both Santa Claus and dinosaurs!

You will enjoy breakfast among the prehistoric giants, holiday performance by the Adagio Dance Academy and, of course, a visit from Santa Claus!

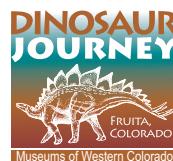
Only 130 tickets are offered for this popular event, so don't wait!

\$8 per person

Pre-registration is required!

Register online: museumofwesternco.org

Or call 970.242.0971, ext. 2206.



The Grand Valley Model Railroad Club
presents its 29th Annual

CHRISTMAS TRAIN SHOW!

Cross Orchards Historic Site ★ 3073 F Road, Grand Junction

\$1/Kids under 12

\$4/Adult

\$7/Family



December 9 & 10

December 16 & 17

December 23 & 24

December 30 & 31



10 am - 4 pm

In addition, the Rio Grande Chapter of National Railroad Historical Society
will have their Uintah display open!



Museums of Western Colorado
P.O. Box 20,000
Grand Junction, CO 81502-5020
www.museumofwesternco.org
museumofwesternco@gmail.com

Non-Profit
Organization
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Cross Orchards Historic Site

3073 F Road • 970.434.9814
Closed for the season

Dinosaur Journey Museum

550 Jurassic Court, Fruita • 970.858.7282
October 1-April 30
Mon-Sat • 10 am-4 pm; Sun • Noon-4 pm

Museum of the West

462 Ute (5th & Ute) • 970.242.0971
October 1-April 30
Mon-Sat • 10 am-4 pm; Sun • Closed

Loyd Files Research Library

Second floor of Museum of the West
Tues-Thurs • 10 am-4 pm
Mon and Fri by appointment only

Calendar of Events

Thru March 1	<i>Alferd Packer: Solving One of the West's Greatest Murder Mysteries</i>		Museum of the West
Nov 16	Noon	Oral History Program	Whitman Ed. Ctr.
23		Thanksgiving Day - All sites will be closed.	
Dec 2	9-11 am	Breakfast with Santa	Dinosaur Journey
5		Colorado Gives Day	
9 & 10	10 am-4 pm	Christmas Train Show	Cross Orchards
16 & 17	10 am-4 pm	Christmas Train Show	Cross Orchards
21	Noon	Oral History Program	Whitman Ed. Ctr.
23 & 24	10 am-4 pm	Christmas Train Show	Cross Orchards
25		Christmas Day - All sites will be closed.	
30 & 31	10 am-4 pm	Christmas Train Show	Cross Orchards
Jan 1		New Year's Day - All sites will be closed.	

Please note: Dates and times of events, meetings, and programs are subject to change; please call to confirm.