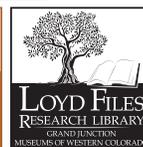


MUSEUM TIMES

September/October 2019



Wish Granted

In July of this year, we had a very special family join our dig crew at the Mygatt-Moore Quarry. The young, six-year old Vincenzo was battling cancer. It took a long time, but his doctor said it was okay for him to travel and the family reached out through a law firm to the museum – Vincenzo had a wish. He wanted to dig up a dinosaur. The firm was taking care of the family and providing them everything they needed to make his wish come true and the Museums of Western Colorado was all to happy to do our part. They joined us for a half-day dig at the quarry. Vincenzo loved it! We gave him a magnifying glass (called a hand lens) and he was so excited to look through it at each and every piece of bone and rock. He would proudly declare to his father what was and was not a bone after he examined it. We wanted to make it extra special for the family, so we surprised them with ice cream after their dig. According to Vincenzo: it was a great day, and he didn't have to even be brave like he does for shots. We were so happy they chose to share this little boy's wish with us. We wish him a speedy recovery!

Another wish granted was for museum staff - funding to go towards new computers and software! At our last staff meeting, Curtis Hadley, (back row, purple shirt) a member of the museum board of directors and retired manager of Chevron, presented a check for \$10,000 to the museum staff for computer hardware and software upgrades.

Thank you, Curtis and Chevron! Your support is most appreciated!



Program News

Oral History Program

Whitman Educational Center 248 S. Fourth St.

September 19 • To be arranged

October 17 • To be arranged

The Oral History Program is jointly sponsored by the Museums of Western Colorado and the Mesa County Historical Society. We feature a different speaker each month, showcasing the broad width of history in the Grand Valley and surrounding areas.

Fall Day on the Farm

Cross Orchards Historic Site

October 19 • 9 am-3 pm



Our annual harvest celebration is coming up October 19. Watch for eblasts and check our website for details as we get closer to the date!

And remember, on Wednesdays and Saturdays through October through October, F.A.R.M. is at

Cross Orchards. The Farm and Ranch Market is a non-profit organization for local farmers and ranchers who are dedicated to bringing the community the finest fruits, vegetables and meats. From 7:30 am-Noon



Monster Mash Dinosaur Journey October 31 • 4-7 pm

Thanks to KOOL 107.9 FM for presenting this annual favorite for years! Dress up for Halloween and come celebrate with the dinosaurs! FREE admission



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
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(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.



@MuseumsOfWesternCO
@DinosaurJourney
@MuseumOfTheWestGJ
@CrossOrchards

Trips and Tours 2019

Fall Colors Tour to Plateau Valley

September 17 • Register by September 2

Led by Max Stites of the Colorado West Land Trust

The Colorado West Land Trust has arranged for this guided tour of conserved farmland in the Plateau Valley. We will be immersed in the region's rich farming and ranching heritage while enjoying the vibrant fall foliage. The tour will stop at various points along the way as guides explain the role that conservation has played in preserving the vision of farmers and landowners in the valley.

\$95/Museum or CWLT member; \$120/Non-member

Includes transportation, guide, lunch, and exclusive visits to conserved farms



Eagle Rock Shelter by Raft

September 28 • Register by September 14

Led by John Seebach, Ph.D., Colorado Mesa University, in cooperation with the Colorado Canyons Association

Find out what life was like for humans in the region nearly 13,000 years ago by exploring the Eagle Rock Shelter site with Colorado Mesa University Anthropology Professor Dr. John Seebach. Although accessible by land, this site is best visited by river as you can get a sense of the landscape and how it shaped its inhabitants so many years ago. Don't miss this unique day-long rafting trip on the Gunnison River through Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area. Some hiking and light paddling involved

\$225/Museum or CCA member; \$250/Non-member

Includes transportation, lunch, and expert guide



Introduction to Fly Fishing in Gunnison Gorge

October 12 • Register by September 28

Led by Chris Herrman of the Colorado Canyons Association

Heard about the amazing fly fishing on the Western Slope but don't know where to start? Learn how to fly fish or just come to fish a world-famous local's spot on the Gunnison River in Gold Medal waters. We will spend the day in Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area with local fly-fishing experts learning about river ecology, fly fishing approach, casting, and fishing. Bring your valid daylong Colorado fishing license, fishing equipment, and sense of adventure!

\$150/Museum or CCA member; \$175/Non-member

(additional fee for fly fishing equipment rental)

Includes transportation, fly fishing lessons, and lunch



Red Mountain Ghost Town Tour - August 16, 2019

On August 16, 2019, Curator of History David Bailey and 30 participants traveled to historic Ouray and had lunch on their own at one of the many fine eateries in town. The group then traveled to the Red Mountain mining district and rode over the Highline route to stunning views at 12,220 feet with the San Juan Scenic Jeep Tour Company. Participants also visited the ghost towns of Red Mountain City, Congress, Guston, and Ironton.

History Alive! Colorado West Chautauqua (Formerly Two Rivers Chautauqua)

MUSEUMS of WESTERN COLORADO
HISTORY ALIVE!
COLORADO WEST CHAUTAUQUA

In collaboration with
COLORADO HUMANITIES
Present a walk down memory lane!

*That's the Way it Was:
The Baby Boom Years*
September 13 and 14, 2019
The Historic Avalon Theatre
More info: museumofwesternco.org

KICK THE EVENT OFF AND
ROCK
THE WAY IT WAS!

GEORGE GRAY
AND THE ELVIS EXPERIENCE BAND

THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12
GATES OPEN AT 6 PM
SHOW STARTS AT 7 PM

LAS COLONIAS
925 STRUTHERS AVE.
GRAND JUNCTION

\$9.50/PERSON FOR AGES 13 AND OVER
TICKETS ON SALE AT TICKETMASTER.COM

ONE SEALED OR EMPTY WATER BOTTLE TO FILL AT FOUNTAIN IS PERMITTED.
OTHER OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES MAY NOT BE BROUGHT INTO THE FACILITY.
SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.
LIMITED NUMBER OF CHAIRS AVAILABLE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE OR BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR.

HISTORY ALIVE!
COLORADO WEST CHAUTAUQUA

MUSEUMS of WESTERN COLORADO
present

*That's the Way it Was:
The Baby Boom Years*
September 13 and 14, 2019
The Historic Avalon Theatre
645 Main Street, Downtown Grand Junction

With David Skipper
as Walt Disney

Karen Vuranch
as Julia Child

Introducing Young Chautauquans
and The Grand Valley History Players

And... Larry Bounds
as Walter Cronkite

Daytime performances - Free to the public
Evening performances - \$9.50/per evening, 13 and over
Doors open at 6 pm - Performances start at 6:30 pm
AvalonTheatre6J.com • (970) 263-5757
Avalon Box Office • Ticketmaster.com
Snacks and drinks available for purchase.

For schedule and more information • museumofwesternco.org

Brought to you by:
Edward and Lois Gardner

COLORADO HUMANITIES

WHITewater BUILDING MATERIALS
970-242-4843

Grand Junction
St. Mary's MEDICAL CENTER

Dr. Sigma and Bobbi Alpha

STRIVE

History Alive! Colorado West Chautauqua invites you to take a nostalgic look at the 1950s and 1960s, *That's the Way It Was: The Baby Boom Years*. Join us in exploring the years before there was a Disneyland, before French cooking became a part of our culture, and when we all sat in front of our televisions to listen to "the most trusted man in America."

When it came to learning what was happening in our world, Walter Cronkite was the man we trusted. His connection to and love of the news came from an early age and continued throughout his life. At the forefront of political and social happenings, Walter was a professional newscaster who let us know, "And that's the way it is..."

A pioneer of animation and film, Walt Disney is best known for creating Mickey Mouse and dreaming up one of the first theme parks in America, a place synonymous with fun, Disneyland! A gifted storyteller, Walt shares the early life stories that shaped and inspired him to create his many films, TV shows, and an Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow (EPCOT).

Another visionary who changed our world with her belief that anyone could be a gourmet cook, Julia Child came into our homes and showed us step-by-step how we, too, could serve up French cuisine to our families and enjoy ourselves in the process. Having lived for 20 years in France, she wanted to share the French people's love of food with Americans, and did so with passion and joy.

Kicking off the Chautauqua event will feature **George Gray and the Elvis Experience Band** on September 12 at Las Colonias Amphitheater. **History Alive! Colorado West Chautauqua** performances will be Friday, September 13 and Saturday, September 14 at the Avalon Theater.

Tickets for both the concert and the Chautauqua performances are available at ticketmaster.com.

Western Slope Cowboy Gathering



Saved and Prospering!

November 1 and 2, 2019

When everyone found out the Grand Junction Cowboy Gathering was not going to happen in 2016, Terry Nash, Nona Kelley Carver, and Peggy Malone said, “No way can this happen!” It was a real challenge to save it and rename it at the last minute. It is now called the Western Slope Cowboy Gathering!

The Museums of Western Colorado and some loyal sponsors jumped in to help. Everyone knew how important this family friendly event was to the community. Boy, has this event taken off! Last year the auditorium of the Whitman Educational Center was bursting at the seams with sold out crowds every night! The word is out that we bring in top notch and world famous cowboy poets, western singers, and musicians.

Because of this, we have moved the 2019 location to accommodate our growing audiences. On Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2, the event will be held at the Grand Junction Event Center, aka the Masonic Lodge at 2400 Consistory Court in Grand Junction. It’s a much larger facility with lots of parking!

This year our headliners are: Gary and Jean Prescott from Abilene, Texas; Floyd and Valerie Beard from Kim, Colorado; Dale Page from Oklahoma; Dale Burson from the Texas Panhandle; Jerry “Brooksie” Brooks from Clear Creek, Utah; Rocky Sullivan from Kansas; Rod Taylor from Cimarron, New Mexico; Dennis Russell also from Cimarron, New Mexico and who also ranches in Red Wing, Colorado. Don’t despair – our very own Nona Kelley Carver from Mesa, Colorado; Terry Nash from Loma who recently was named the IWMA (International Western Music Association) Cowboy Poet of the Year; and Peggy Malone will be there to wow the audiences as they have for many years.

Please check out their IWMA Western Slope Cowboy Gathering website to read more about the artists. Their awards are too numerous to list! westernmusic.org/

Come one, come all to our Fourth Annual Rip Snorting Cowboy Gathering!! You won’t be disappointed!

Ticket information:

Daytime performances are free to the public.

\$10/per evening for 13 years and over • Kids 12 and under admitted free
museumofwesternco.com/event/western-slope-cowboy-gathering-2019/

For additional performer information: westernslopecowboygathering.com



Museum of the West

- Metal storage cabinets
- Wall mounted metal shelves
- Quick dry Plaster of Paris
- Modeling clay
- Sidewalk chalk
- Tempera paint
- Construction paper
- Large screen tablets (for docents, outreach, and interactive displays in exhibits)
- All-in-one touch screen computers (x4) with keyboards
- Rolling collapsible handcart with lid (x4)

Cross Orchards Historic Site

- Plywood
- Corrugated metal
- Life size plastic cow
- Railroad ties
- Golf cart

Dinosaur Journey Museum

- Flathead screwdrivers
- Bookshelves
- Office/task chairs
- Wheelchair

Please contact Mattie in the Loyd Files Research Library or the curators of individuals sites if you'd be interested in donating!

Thanks for your support!

Hero Rick Arrives Just in Time to Save the Day!

It's the end of dig season at Dinosaur Journey. We've taken down the tents, tarps, and tables, put away all the tools and shovels... but we had two more big jackets to bring into the museum. Usually, this is no problem. We have a very nice flatbed trailer (the decking was rebuilt this summer by volunteer Gary Verdick); we have great trucks to haul loads; and we have a crane hoist mounted on the trail that can pick up most anything we dig up. Occasionally though... we have some BIG items to remove from the quarry. Remember the giant femur from 2014? City of Fruita lent us a backhoe to hoist that beast. This year, the two field jackets (burlap and plaster wrapped packages of rock and fossils) left were very large. We hoisted the first (the smaller of the two) onto the trailer early Friday morning, no problem. But the second one... it was not budging. It was too heavy, and we were out of time. Dig season was over, we were taking everything down and back to the museum... we had to get it out. We sat and pondered the fate of this huge jacket for several minutes before the crew realized there was no way around it. We needed a stronger hoist. We needed help.

There is no cell phone service at the Rabbit Valley Quarry, so we decided to bring the crew back into town with the smaller jacket and call a friend of the museum, Rick Charlesworth to see if he could lend us a hand. Our spirits were pretty low, we had such hopes to get both jackets brought back to DJ that day, and we had no idea if Rick was even around and had time to help us. But our spirits were not low for long.



Head of Maintenance Cecil Wilkinson came into the paleo lab as we finished unloading the first jacket. Rick was available ... that day! We cheered and drew a huge sigh of relief. Meeting us back at the quarry, just a few hours later, we watched spellbound as the hoist on his welding truck lifted the huge package of fossil bone and rock from the quarry pit, high in the air before placing it gently into the bed of the truck. Our curator of paleontology, Julia McHugh, and our Field Coordinator, Casey Dooms, held their breath as it lifted up higher and higher.



Was this really happening? Were we going to get the field jacket back to the museum? Yes. Rick and his wife came to our aid and with almost no effort pulled our burden off the ground and returned it to the museum. We are very thankful to have such a friend as Rick. He was truly the Hero of the Day!

Planned Giving: Join the Legacy Society

Your generous donations, no matter what size of gift, support everything you love about the Museums of Western Colorado — especially the Museum's ability to spark curiosity in all ages, generate awe, encourage exploration, and sustain a love of learning through exhibits and hands-on activities. MWC inspires all ages to experience and value our region through the collections and preservation of historical artifacts and fossil resources.

The MWC had its earliest roots in 1949 when a group known as the Memorial Museum Association purchased 24,000 adobe bricks and began construction of a building in the Intermountain Veteran's Memorial Park. The building was never completed, but in 1953 the Memorial Museum Association reorganized as the Western Slope Museum Association, and the artifacts the group gathered would later constitute a major portion of the Museum's present-day collections.

After these early efforts, the MWC finally got started when it incorporated as the Museum of Arts and Sciences in 1965. It opened its doors on May 1, 1966 in the former Whitman School. In 1968, it was renamed the Historical Museum and Institute of Western Colorado.

This regional history museum moved from the Whitman School in 2000 to the renovated C.D. Smith Warehouse at its present location. Renamed the Museum of the West, it contains exhibits on Western Colorado within a regional perspective, a space for traveling exhibits, and the Sterling T. Smith Observation Tower. The Museum of the West now offers a thousand years of history that can be experienced. All of the positive changes and moving MWC forward sparked an era of philanthropy that continues today.

Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, the MWC is able to host first-class exhibitions, present valuable educational programming, and delight visitors from around the globe with everything from dinosaurs to trains and a stagecoach to an airplane! We could not do it without your support.

The simplest way to support MWC is through cash gifts. However, creative gifts of assets can include stocks, bonds, and property (real estate and personal property). These can not only provide you with charitable deductions, but often offer additional tax savings as well.

A bequest or charitable trust to the MWC provides an enduring legacy and will help to ensure the long-term financial stability of the Museum. If you wish to leave a lasting legacy or have already included MWC in your estate plans, please let us know that with your permission we may recognize your future gift by confirming your membership in the *Museums of Western Colorado's Legacy Society*. For additional information about planned giving to Museums of Western Colorado, or to explore other giving options, please email Catherine Robertson, MWC Board of Directors, at catherinehikes@icloud.com. Most importantly, your donation continues *your* legacy.

Honoring Your Support

All *Legacy Society* members are invited to a variety of Museum programs and special events, such as exhibition openings, the annual *Legacy Day*, guest lectures, and Curator/Director's Dialogues. Members are also publicly acknowledged in the Museum's annual Donor Roll, published annually in the newsletter. We are happy to discuss with you other ways to honor and recognize your heartfelt planned gift!

Grand Heritage Society

Becoming a Grand Heritage Society member is a wonderful way to increase the power of your support by providing critical funding required for staff and volunteers to continue our extraordinary exhibits, preservation projects, and educational programs that bring our mission – preserving history – to life. Grand Heritage Society members are true ambassadors for the Museums of Western Colorado and receive recognition as a result of their \$500.00 or above annual support. Please consider becoming a Grand Heritage Society member today. An exclusive event for members will be held in early October!

Grand Heritage Society membership includes all the great benefits of general membership plus: 20% discount in all Museum shops and invitation to special *Members Only* events.

Please note: Donations to MWC are tax deductible and eligible for Enterprise Zone Tax Credit. The Museums of Western Colorado is a 501 (c)(3) not for profit organization.

Thank you for your support!



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

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Grand Junction, CO
 Permit No. 194

Cross Orchards Historic Site

3073 F Road • 970.434.9814
 Wed • 9am-Noon; Thurs-Sat • 9 am-4 pm

Dinosaur Journey Museum

550 Jurassic Court, Fruita • 970.858.7282

October 1-April 30

Mon-Sat • 10 am-4 pm; Sun • Noon-4 pm

May 1-September 30

7 days a week • 9 am-5 pm

Museum of the West

462 Ute (5th & Ute) • 970.242.0971

October 1-April 30

Mon-Sat • 10 am-4 pm; Sun • Closed

May 1-September 30

Mon-Sat • 9 am-5 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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Calendar of Events

Through September 15	<i>Fantastic Fossils of the Grand Valley</i> exhibition	Dinosaur Journey
Now open!	<i>Famous, Framed, and Folk Art</i> exhibition	Museum of the West
September 2	Free First Monday - to Grand Junction residents	Museum of the West
September 12	George Gray and the Elvis Experience Band	Las Colonias
September 13 & 14	History Alive! Colorado West Chautauqua <i>That's the Way it Was: The Baby Boom Years</i>	The Avalon Theatre
September 19	Oral History Program	Whitman Educational Center
October 7	Free First Monday - to Grand Junction residents	Museum of the West
October 17	Oral History Program	Whitman Educational Center
October 19 • 9 am-3 pm	Fall Day on the Farm	Cross Orchards Historic Site
October 31 • 4-7 pm	KOOL 107.9 Monster Mash - FREE admission to the public	Dinosaur Journey

Please note: Dates and times of events, meetings, and programs are subject to change. Please call to confirm or check our website for details.