

SALIDA MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Serving Chaffee County and Visitors for Over 60 Years

Spring 2015

Salida Museum

406½ West Hwy 50
Salida, CO 81201
719-539-7483

Salida Museum Board

President: Susan Jesuroga
Vice Pres: Bob Campbell
Secretary: Earle Kittleman
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John Skinner
George DeRoos
Robin Rockney
Judy Micklich
Kathy Moore

Museum Grand Re-Opening: May 9

Join us for a free day at the Museum on Saturday, May 9, 11 AM to 5 PM, and see the changes. Snacks and tours will be available.

Remodeling Activity and Exhibit Restructuring: Over the winter, the museum has undergone some remodeling, and a new reception area has been built. The result gives the museum a more modern look. Many thanks to **Phil Sasso** and **Dan Schmidt** for donating their time and labor in this construction effort, as well as the volunteers who did a lot of the work. Additionally, many of the artifacts in the museum have been reorganized into thematic exhibits, with the emphasis being on telling a story about the history of the various subjects. We think you will find the arrangement more pleasing to the eye and a more appealing way to experience our local history.

2015 Summer Schedule: The Salida Museum will be open every day, Memorial Day to Labor Day, from 11:00AM to 5:00PM. Daily fluctuations may at times be dependent upon the availability of volunteer docents.

Long-Time Museum President Retires

Judy Micklich, president of the Salida Museum Association Board of Directors for almost four decades, has retired. Judy went to work for Harriet Alexander in 1967 at the Frontier Museum, located in two small rooms at the Salida Swimming Pool. She started learning about museum operation while she cleaned and rearranged the objects. When Mrs. Alexander passed away in 1971, money was allocated in her estate for a building to house her collection. The current building was eventually constructed with funds from the Alexander estate, the City of Salida, a grant from the Centennial-Bi-Centennial Committee, and money raised by the newly organized Salida Museum Association. Mrs. Ara "Hoppy" Randolph was the first president of the Association, and Judy took over when she retired in the late 1970's. Judy busied herself with learning museum cataloging, artifact restoration, running a non-profit organization, and everything else that went with keeping the museum afloat. Her encyclopedic knowledge of Salida-area history made her a natural at creating dynamic displays and entertaining visitors to the museum. Judy handled enquiries of all kinds, helped authors with their books, managed the acquisition and maintenance of the Smelter Smokestack and the Maysville School, and kept the museum open with an all-volunteer staff. This was no easy task in a small town without a consistent budget. Thank you, Judy, from the current Museum Board, for all you have done throughout the years. You are the reason the Salida Museum has endured. [Judy poses at left with her plaque at her Honorary Luncheon.]



Goodbye from Judy. Dear Friends: This is a letter to say thank you for the surprise and kind gesture you bestowed upon me. All the words in the dictionary cannot articulate what this means to me. As I have expressed before, it is the volunteers I have worked with that made the museum continue to be the custodian of our valuable history. Each board member has contributed and worked in unison throughout the museum's existence. This is the reason that the museum will hold an important position in the history of our town. The museum will carry a little portion of each of us as it continues to thrive, moving through time and adding new history with each passing decade, becoming more enriched with the history that has been carefully preserved. I am very proud to have been a small part of this. Thank you.

Judy Micklich

Salida Museum Association
406 ½ W. Hwy 50
Salida, CO 81201

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Salida Museum – Where the Present Meets the Past

Hello From the New President

Just a quick introduction from your new Salida Museum Association President. I moved to Salida in 2011 from the Front Range after retiring from 30+ years of developing and managing national software projects supporting the advancement of science. I have many interests in life, and some that keep me busy these days include singing with and accompanying The Noteables and You've Got Male on both piano and bass. I also enjoy hiking with my husband, Rich, along with our dogs and my camera. I've always loved reading about the history of the West and experimenting with various art supplies, so when Vice President Bob Campbell asked me to join the Association in 2013, I not only joined but offered to work on exhibits. So now you can find me digging through the local archives and stories to create new exhibits and posters, with the help of our great volunteers.

So, if we haven't met yet, stop by the museum and introduce yourself – I'll be there on Fridays during the summer, and I'd love to hear about your connection to Salida. Finally, I'd like to thank Judy Micklich for her many years of dedication to the museum. It's a big job, and she worked tirelessly behind the scenes to keep our local history alive. Very important work, indeed!

Susan Jesuroga

Museum News

Support the Salida Museum Association

- Donate to the Museum. Send a check to the address on the front page. Amount donated _____.
- Join the Salida Museum Association. Annual membership is \$10, lifetime membership is \$100.
- Volunteer for the Museum and help with ongoing projects. We will contact you.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail this coupon with your payment to:

Salida Museum Assn., 406 ½ W. Hwy 50, Salida, CO 81201



Maysville School Open House & Garage Sale, June 5 & 6: Reserve these dates on your calendar for the Maysville School Open House and Garage Sale in Maysville, CO. The historic red schoolhouse is located ten miles west of Salida on Hwy 50 at exit 243. Proceeds from the garage sale will go towards remodeling the interior of the school. Volunteers will be available to give you a free tour of this well-preserved piece of Chaffee County history. We hope to see you there!

Salida Museum Website & Facebook Page: Visit the Salida Museum Website, www.salidamuseum.org, for articles on local history, events, photographs, quick facts, and other useful information. Also check out the museum Facebook Page, where you can search Salida Museum and then peruse photographs of museum artifacts along with historical photos. You can also access our Facebook page from the museum website. We extend our grateful thanks to the **Salida Chamber of Commerce** for their assistance with our website and newsletter activities.

**MUSEUM GRAND RE-
OPENING
SATURDAY, MAY 9
11AM – 5PM**