

Palmer Lake Historical Society, July 18

Museum a treasure of mining history

By Bernard L. Minetti

Western Museum of Mining and Industry Director Richard Sauers discussed the history, activities, and educational function of the museum at the July 18 Palmer Lake Historical Society presentation. He noted that the building in which it is housed, located at 225 Northgate Blvd. in Colorado Springs, opened in 1982. The museum was incorporated as a nonprofit corporation in 1970. Its purpose is to preserve and to provide understanding of the



mining history of Colorado and the American West. During the 31 years that it has been open to the public, the museum has presented many mining-related programs. The three primary sections of the site are the Mine Reclamation Exhibit, the Reynolds Ranch House, and the Stamp Mill. Two burros that live on the grounds represent the animals used to pull the mine ore cars. The Mine Reclamation Exhibit was designed to provide an understanding of the process utilized by the mining companies to restore the land to productive use after mining it. Sauers noted that environmental science is integral to the reclamation of the mine sites. The Reynolds Ranch House is the last of the once-thriving community of Husted. The museum intends to restore the home as an 1894 Queen Anne farmhouse. Sauers said that the Stamp Mill is a set of machinery that provides for ore extraction and was typical of the equipment in use in the 1890s to 1920s. It is still in operation today and is frequently demonstrated for those who come to the museum. He said the museum building contains many items utilized in the mining industry such as stampers, trams, steam shovels, and panning equipment. There are jaw crushers, amalgamating tables, and other machinery typical of what was used in the Western mills in that era. Their functions and uses are described in detail for visitors. Sauers also noted that the museum had accumulated much equipment peculiar to the mining industry of those times and was willing to consider disposing of it to other museums or agencies with similar aims. He also briefly

**Left:** Western Museum of Mining and Industry Director Richard Sauers is pictured with some of the equipment at the WMMI. Sauers made a presentation July 18 to the Palmer Lake Historical Society. *Photo provided by the Palmer Lake Historical Society.*

discussed the effect of the future Powers Boulevard and I-25 intersection on the museum property and stated that it would have a great impact on the site. The museum, he continued, is open to all and is especially equipped to provide tours for schoolchildren. It has accommodated classes from the Tri-Lakes area and Denver and has drawn many tourists. He issued an invitation for interested persons and groups to visit the museum.

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The August meeting of the Palmer Lake Historical Society will feature a free presentation titled “Pikes Peak as Seen in Early Postcards.” Mel McFarland will be the presenter. The society invites the public to hear this noted speaker at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, at the Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake.

Bernard Minetti may be contacted at [bernardminetti@ocn.me](mailto:bernardminetti@ocn.me).

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Special Events and Notices

By Judy Barnes, Events Editor

Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double-check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the info number for that event.

Wednesday Senior Lunch at Big Red August Menu

- Aug. 7: Turkey, stuffing & salad.  
Aug. 14: Meat loaf, baked potato casserole, and salad.  
Aug. 21: Bratwurst, potato salad, and pickle.  
Aug. 28: Lemon chicken, garlic mashed potatoes, and salad.  
Rolls and butter are served with each meal except sandwiches. Dessert is also provided.

An activity of Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership. Meals are provided by Pinecrest Catering, Palmer Lake; Nikki McDonald, executive chef, 481-3307.

Craft Fair Vendors Wanted

The fair is scheduled for Oct. 19-20 at Palmer Ridge High School, Monument. Reserve a 10-by-10 booth for \$80. For more information, call 487-7351.

Tax credit available for wildfire mitigation work

Taxpayers with property located in a wildland-urban

interface area can receive a tax credit up to \$2,500 for performing wildfire mitigation measures. Information regarding community wildfire protection plans and wildfire mitigation measures can be found online at [www.wescottfire.org](http://www.wescottfire.org) and [www.csfs.colostate.edu](http://www.csfs.colostate.edu). For information about the tax credit, check [www.taxcolorado.com](http://www.taxcolorado.com).

Black Forest Slash and Mulch Site reopens  
Tree and brush trimmings accepted, including charred materials

The Black Forest Slash/Mulch site has reopened and resumed normal business hours: Saturdays, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sundays, noon-4 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 5-7:30 p.m. The site is on the east side of Herring Road just south of Shoup Road. Items accepted include tree and bush trimmings (can be charred), pinecones and needles. No stumps, roots, weeds, grass, sod, lumber, trash, etc. Size limitations on tree branches are 6 feet long, 8 inches in diameter. Loads must be securely tied

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