



The Palmer Lake Historical Society & Lucretia Vaile Museum

What is the Mission of the Society & Vaile Museum?

The Palmer Lake Historical Society promotes, preserves, and protects the history of the Palmer Divide area of Colorado; and sponsors, maintains, and is responsible for the activities and commitments of the Lucretia Vaile Museum.



Estemere Mansion, in Palmer Lake

What are the Society's goals?

The primary goals and objectives of the Palmer Lake Historical Society are to assemble, preserve, display (as feasible), and interpret historical objects and printed material pertaining to the Palmer Divide area that includes Palmer Lake, Monument, School District 38, the United States Air Force Academy, and as far east as Table Rock. The secondary goal and purpose—no less important—is to sponsor, maintain, ensure the continuance of, and be responsible for the activities and commitments of the Lucretia Vaile Museum.



L. Vaile Museum

What is the history of the Society?

In 1956 a group of citizens recommended that a manuscript written by Marion Savage Sabin, detailing the founding of Palmer Lake, Monument, and the surrounding Tri-Lakes region, entitled "*Palmer Lake, A Historical Narrative,*" be published. To accomplish this, they also recommended that a Historical Society be formed to continue the preservation of the area's history. The Palmer Lake Historical Society was subsequently founded by Marian McIntyre-McDonough and was incorporated with a full slate of officers and directors.



Marian D. McIntyre, ca 1919

The Society established a museum which later became the Lucretia Vaile Museum and expanded its scope now collecting the history and artifacts from the Palmer Divide area. The Society publishes histories of Monument, Palmer Lake, and the area surrounding these towns with additional research and historical publications planned.

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The Santa Fe Depot in Monument ca 1935

What are the accomplishments of the Society?

- **1964.** The Society opened a museum housed in the present Palmer Lake Police Department offices (originally the AT&SF Section Foreman house).
- **1981.** The Society helped fund construction and moved to the new Lucretia Vaile Library and Museum.
- **1998.** The Society provided a lake fountain to replicate a fountain that existed at the turn of the century.
- **2001.** The Society and the Town of Palmer Lake completed a memorial honoring William (Bill) J. Crawford who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for action during WWII.
- **2006.** The Society commissioned a bronze statue of "Dizzy" a German Shepherd as a gift to the people of Palmer Lake. The statue commemorated the Society's 50th anniversary and the 70th anniversary of the Palmer Lake Star. Dizzy helped build "The Star."
- **2008.** The Society presented the first Return of the Rocky Mountain Chautauqua Assembly to Palmer Lake.
- **2009.** The Society commissioned a bas-relief panel to commemorate significant historical events and people of The Town of Monument. The panel, along with additional historical art works, on display in the new Monument Town Hall represent a gift of the Society to the people of Monument and the Palmer Divide area. The Chautauqua revival expanded to three days.
- **Future.** Vaile Museum building and exhibit expansions, and new publications are projects under consideration.

Become a Member!

We are a 501(c)(3) Educational Non-Profit and the only organization dedicated to preserving the History of the Palmer Divide area. Visit the Museum and our Website to learn more and obtain a membership form. We are supported by the people of the area and have no paid fundraisers or staff.



The Society serves our greater community by publishing books, pamphlets, the commissioning/sponsoring of historical DVDs, and by placing historical markers throughout both Monument and Palmer Lake.

Two significant public-art history sculptures have been placed with “Dizzy” the German Shepherd being in the Palmer Lake Village Green and the “Monument 1879” bas-relief panel located in the Town Hall of Monument. Both were a gift from the Society to the people of the two towns.

Please help us in our effort to preserve the irreplaceable historical heritage of our area. The Society and Museum need your donations of time and money to operate. We can't survive without your support!



Above: The Star of Palmer Lake built in 1935. It is lit for the month of December & Memorial Day weekend.

Above: Prominent pioneers of the Town of Monument. Learn their names and deeds at the Museum.

Dizzy: (r) Helped build the Star



Palmer Lake Historical Society
Serving the Palmer Divide and Tri-Lakes Area Since 1956

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*“History enables us
to understand the past and sometimes,
the future.”*



*“History should be more
than a memory.”*