



Heritage Notes

from the Teller Historic & Environmental Coalition

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Colorado's Heritage Tourism Experience

Park County, Teller County's neighbor to the west, is just one county that has long touted its historic and cultural landmarks and promoted them to tourists visiting the area. Recently, the Teller Historic and Environmental (THE) Coalition initiated an effort to create similar recognition of its numerous historic sites and landmarks.

On March 14, representatives of several local organizations met to discuss potential heritage tourism efforts in Teller County. Featured guest speaker Laura Libby, Heritage Tourism Program Manager from the Colorado Tourism Office, demonstrated online tools created for all Colorado counties to promote their unique assets to the public, while sharing ideas and successes of other counties that have initiated heritage or cultural tourism strategies.

"In essence," said Libby, "history can be used to help guide modern economic development in Colorado." Park County, for example, has mapped out its agricultural, historical, and natural assets for visitors and has made it easy for them to plan activities in the area—along with overnight stays and shopping opportunities.

See Heritage Tourism continued on page 3

Midland Days are Here Again!

by David Martinek

The Teller Historic and Environmental (THE) Coalition and the Divide Chamber of Commerce are proud co-sponsors of "The 2011 Midland Days"—the second annual symposium on the "Midland" railroads. This year's event will again take place at the John Wesley Ranch on Saturday, April 16, from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

The symposium will include conversations charting specific aspects of railroad history that still exert a lasting influence on the area. Learn about the history of Divide and the Midland Depot at Divide and its preservation plans. See plenty of historical photos of all the other depots, stations, and eating houses along the Colorado Midland route, and enjoy a comprehensive presentation of the various steam locomotives and steam engines employed during "the Midland days."

Seating is limited. Advanced reservations are strongly encouraged at \$60 per person (reduced from 2010), which includes lunch. RSVP for reservations on or before

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Heritage Notes

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THE Coalition's board of directors meets on the fourth Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November at the Midland Depot in Divide.

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About THE Coalition

THE Coalition is committed to preserving the historic, cultural, environmental, recreational and scenic resources in and around Teller County, and to broadening public understanding regarding the significance of those resources.

Working with member organizations, THE Coalition board has achieved much in the organization's ten-year history: THE Coalition has—

- ▶ Helped member organizations identify funding sources to obtain grants, including funding for "The Locals," a public art project of the Two Mile High Club that honors the role played by donkeys in the Cripple Creek gold mining days.
- ▶ Managed the five-year collaborative effort among the Rural Land Preservation Group (RLPG), Palmer Land Trust and Teller County Parks to preserve 1,300 acres of scenic landscape and wildlife habitat, completing the 5,000 acre Pikes Peak Conservation Corridor along Hwy 24 between Woodland Park and Divide.
- ▶ Serves as fiscal agent for the Victor Penguins, the Two Mile High Club, RLPG, Woodland Park Hockey Association, and others.
- ▶ Co-sponsors RLPG's popular series of forums for ranchers, landowners, and other interested Teller County residents.
- ▶ Co-sponsors workshops and The Nonprofit Resource Center at the Woodland Park Public Library in collaboration with the Rampart Library District.
- ▶ Works to preserve the Midland Depot, part of the Colorado Midland system. It is only one of four surviving depots of the system and the only one that will be open to the public when completely refurbished.

Despite the progress, there is still much to do. Join us as we continue to preserve this—and other—priceless Teller County resources.

Current and future projects

Contact any board member for more information about THE Coalition and its mission and current projects, such as its Heritage Tourism plan.

Midland Days continued from cover

April 11. Call David Martinek at (719) 687-1516 or email him at MidlandDays@yahoo.com. Reservations may be paid in advance by mail in care of THE Coalition or upon arrival (checks or cash only, please). Attendance without advance reservations may also be purchased the day of the event for \$70, as long as seating is available (and includes lunch as long the food lasts).

The event begins at 9:30 AM to allow for arrivals, followed by introductions and announcements beginning around 10:00 AM. All contributions are tax deductible in support of the Midland Depot at Divide Preservation Project.

Member organizations associated with THE Coalition

Catamount Institute
City of Cripple Creek
Coalition of Pikes Peak Historic Museums
Coalition for the Upper South Platte
Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company
Divide Chamber of Commerce
Gold Belt Scenic Byway
Gold Camp Victorian Society
Gordon Jackson Foundation
Palmer Land Trust
Rampart Library District
Rural Land Preservation Group
Teller Park Conservation District
Trails & Open Space Coalition
Two Mile High Club
Ute Pass Historical Society
Ute Pass Trails Committee
Victor Heritage Society
Victor Penguins Hockey Club
Woodland Park Hockey Association

Heritage Tourism continued from cover

THE Coalition hopes that efforts to duplicate the success of other Colorado counties will keep “pass-through” tourists engaged in Teller County long enough to recognize its authentic historic, cultural, and natural destinations. The key,



Laura Libby presents to THE Coalition members at the March 14 meeting.

according to Libby, is to inventory the County’s assets, create meaningful partnerships with all parties involved, and to combine strategic marketing efforts to create “purposeful visits” to Teller County. The end product is sure to be a plan we can all be proud of.

Watch for THE Coalition’s summer issue of *Heritage Notes* for continuing discussion about heritage tourism efforts in Teller County.

Introduction to Grant Proposal Writing

The Woodland Park Public Library will present a free workshop on April 14, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM for people interested in writing grant proposals. The workshop, “An introduction to the fundamentals of grant proposal writing for nonprofits,” will help participants learn about the process of grant writing and the elements of a proposal, including tips from foundations. This workshop is geared to novice grant writers.

Amy Rodda, El Pomar Nonprofit Resource Center Librarian from the Pikes Peak Library District, will teach the workshop. Please call Lynn Harrison at 687-9281 x103 or email lynnh@rampartlibrarydistrict.org to register.

Listen to Teller Tales on TellerNetcast.com

The Teller Tales Oral History Project, developed by David Martinek and Mel McFarland, is a locally-produced radio show featuring conversations with a historian to create a number of oral records to document the story of the region. Martinek and McFarland have recorded several 30-minute programs that can be heard live on Tellernetcast.com.

“Enough money has been donated to produce twelve 30-minute programs,” explained Martinek. Each 30-minute show features two segments. The programs can also be heard on Woodlandpark.com. The Ute Pass Historical Society will collect CDs of all the programs for its oral history archives.



THE Coalition office
P.O. Box 368
Woodland Park, Colorado 80866

Check out upcoming events on our website!

www.TheCoalitionCO.org

Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 14

10 AM to 2 PM
Grant-writing workshop
Woodland Park Library
lynnh@rampartlibrarydistrict.org

April 16

9:30 AM
Midland Depot Days
THE Coalition & Divide Chamber
MidlandDays@yahoo.com

May 8

Victorian Tea & Social Gathering
Gold Camp Victorian Society
goldcampvictoriansociety.org

May 28

Tour of Ajax Mine site
Victor Lowell Thomas Museum
9:30 AM
\$10 per person
stcfg@victorcolorado.com

May 28—Opening weekend Victor Lowell Thomas Museum and Victor's Ag and Mining Museum

Victor Ave
Entry fees vary; bring water!
More details at www.victorcolorado.com

May 29—September 5 – Modern Mine Tours

Leaving from the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum
10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, Daily except Thursdays
\$7.50 per person; bring water!
Reservations recommended www.victorcolorado.com, or (719) 689-4211
Tour the modern mining operation and experience large scale surface mining up close. This guided tour includes an opportunity to view mining equipment in operation. Tours are approximately two hours, some walking involved.

June 24-26—Donky Derby Days, Cripple Creek

FREE
Information at www.VisitCrippleCreek.com
The 80th annual Donkey Derby Days celebrates Cripple Creek's colorful past and exciting future. Events all weekend, along with vendors, donkey race, outhouse race, and more!