

Roots

ASPEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE
SUMMER 2008

JULY 5
KICKOFF PARTY
DETAILS INSIDE!

Aspen
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A (GREEN) JOURNEY THROUGH ASPEN'S HISTORY

The Aspen Historical Society introduces THE HISTORY COACH. The COACH, a Gem e6 Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV), is the centerpiece for the Society's new summer tour offering, "Journey through Aspen's History." The quiet, comfortable Gem e6 is expected to travel 15-20 miles on a typical day of touring with energy to spare. The program is made possible by the generous contribution of Coates, Reid and Waldron/ResortQuest.

This street-legal, alternative-energy vehicle will transport five guests at a time. The tour begins in Aspen's Downtown Core and moves through the Victorian West End for a stop at the Wheeler/Stallard Museum. The next leg of the nostalgic journey heads out to the Holden/Marolt Mining

and Ranching Museum before returning to town. The tour is two hours and 15 min. It begins at the Wheeler Opera House at 12:15, 1, 1:45 and 2:30 every afternoon Tuesday-Saturday. Admission is \$25 a person, \$20 for seniors, and children under 12 are \$5. Members receive one free tour each year.

Reservations are strongly recommended; call Nina at 925-3721 ext. 104.

Aspen visitors and locals alike will gain a totally new and entertaining perspective of Aspen's ties to her past and her transformation from a mining town to ski town to year-round, world-class resort.

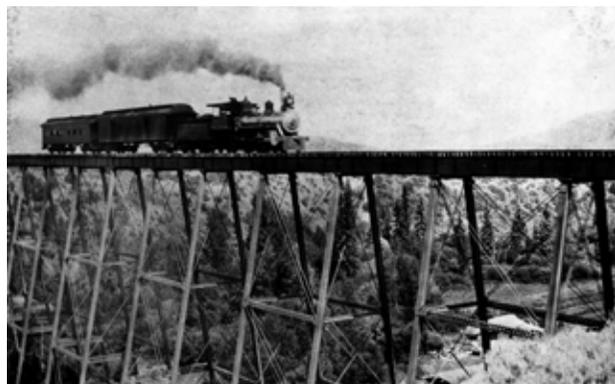
Look for us in the annual Fourth of July parade — and please join us for our Summer Kickoff Celebration on Saturday, July 5.



THE HISTORY COACH stops traffic on a tour through downtown Aspen. Our slick new coach is fully sponsored through the generosity of Coates, Reid and Waldron/ResortQuest.

Exhibits GO WEST YOUNG MAN! BUT PARK AT THE INTERCEPT LOT

The Aspen Historical Society's new exhibit "Go West, Young Man! But Park in the Intercept Lot" opened on June 10 at the Wheeler-Stallard House Museum. This compelling new exhibit highlights the history of transportation in our valley. Subtitled "Aspen's Transportation Dilemmas", the exhibit covers the various modes of transportation used



The 120 year old Maroon Creek Bridge was originally built as a railroad trestle. The 651 foot long, 90 foot high steel bridge is the oldest bridge in Colorado that is still in service.

in traveling to Aspen and around the Roaring Fork Valley from the horseback journeys of the Ute Indians to the story of our airport. Included are actual journals from Charles Armstrong (an early pioneer who arrived in Aspen on foot in 1880), a full-sized replica of a Ute "travois" used to haul belongings and a display of Colorado's license plate dating back to 1917. (The first license plate was issued in 1913.) Visit a unique and lively area devoted to the "Entrance to Aspen" controversy, and set yourself down in an 1890 train station waiting room.

Calculation of each mode's "carbon footprint" is featured to demonstrate how small or large an impact transportation in Aspen has made. This exhibit has broad appeal and makes for an engaging, interesting and visitor-friendly experience for all ages.

"Go West Young Man! But Park at the Intercept Lot" will be showing in the Second Floor Gallery of

the Wheeler/Stallard Museum through the summer season. The museum is located between Fifth and Sixth streets on Bleeker in Aspen's historic West End neighborhood and is open from 1 to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Admission to the Museum is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, free for children under 12 and also includes entrance to the nearby Holden/Marolt Mining and Ranching Museum. For more information please call the Aspen Historical Society at 925-3721.



Driver shortage?

Summer in Aspen at the Historical Society

A SUMMER CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Playing with the Past

The Aspen Historical Society is dedicated to providing quality educational opportunities for all ages. Playing with the Past is a free summer program that brings history to life for children, ages 3 to 6. Hands-on-learning opportunities take place Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the grounds of the Wheeler/Stallard Museum.



THIS SUMMER OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

JULY 12 - Candle Making – Children will understand what it takes to make candles, as well as some secrets of candle making. Participants can choose from a variety of colors and take their candles home.

JULY 19 - Butter Churning – Children will experience the time and effort it takes to make butter and be able to taste and enjoy their homemade creations.

JULY 26 - Ice Cream Making – By cranking an old-fashioned ice cream maker, children will create a special treat with the added bonus of getting to eat it!

AUGUST 2 - Puppetry – Jane Jenkins, author of "The Little Fir Tree," will entice children with her puppet theater and a magical musical performance.

AUGUST 9 - Victorian Garden Party – Children will dress in Victorian clothing, play with toys and learn games from the late 1800s.

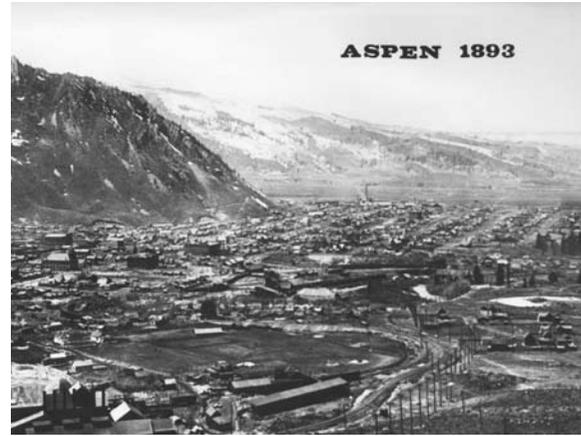
Reservations Required. Call Liza at 925-3721 ext. 107

SUMMER CAMP IS FOR

Adults, Too!

The Aspen Historical Society will be offering three exciting two-day adult camps this summer that are sure to satisfy even the most rabid consumer of all things historic.

We will be kicking off our program July 8 and 9 with "From Ore to Lore: Aspen's Rich Mining History." On the first day participants will follow the silver-mining process from start to finish by stepping inside the Smuggler Mine for a tour and then visiting the Holden-Marolt Mining and Ranching Museum to see how the ore was processed. The second day will begin with a gondola ride up Aspen Mountain for a walking tour of silver mining country at the top, followed by lunch at the Sundeck restaurant. Gondola tickets and lunch are included in the price of the camp.



On July 22 and 24 we will offer "Capturing Today for Tomorrow: Archiving Aspen in Photos." Participants will work with accomplished local photographer Stu Huck as well as in our archives to compare their own photography with historical photos

of the Aspen area. They will learn different ways to compose their photos and ultimately achieve a better understanding of how important photography has become in preserving our history. A basic knowledge of photographic techniques and your own camera equipment will be required for this camp.

The third and final camp on August 5 and 6 focuses on the history of environmentalism and conservation in the Roaring Fork Valley. This outdoor program will trace the environmental movement and the history of water use in the valley by hiking with Roaring Fork Conservancy guides.

Cost for each camp is \$120. Please contact Ben Taylor at 970-925-3721 ext. 114 or ben@aspenhistory.org.

A GENEROUS DONATION



This quilt artwork is now hanging in the Wheeler/Stallard gift shop for all to enjoy. It is a wonderful likeness of Holden/Marolt caringly crafted in pieces of fabric by Jeanne Taylor. Dr. Art and Jeanne Taylor, long time visitors to the area, have now retired full-time in Basalt. Art is a stalwart volunteer docent at Holden/Marolt and the couple devised this idea as a means to stimulate conversation and interest in the Holden/Marolt Mining and Ranching Museum. It is working and we are most grateful!

SAVE THE DATE

Aspen Historical Society's 1st Annual
Haunted History Bash

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2008

Celebrate Aspen's favorite holiday with your preferred ghosts and goblins and give homage to the snowmaker shrine on the haunted grounds of the Wheeler/Stallard Museum & Estate.

For more information call (970) 925.3721.





Exhibits

THE BUCK STOPPED HERE

How much is Aspen's history worth? How about one dollar? That's what local rancher Mike Marolt paid for what was left of the Holden Lixiviation Works in 1940. Now the site of the Holden/Marolt Mining and Ranching Museum, the plant opened in 1891 and sprawled over 22 acres on the west bank of Castle Creek. It is still the largest industrial structure ever erected in Pitkin County. Imagine a building the size of a football field and five stories high, and you begin to get the picture. The then state-of-the-art silver mill was designed to use a variation of the Russell Lixiviation process to leach silver from low-grade ore by a combination of crushing, heat, and chemical salts.

It's interesting to note, given the current "green" climate of business in Aspen, that the plant spewed fumes from its furnaces into the smoky skies, dumped concentrated salts into the fouled waters of the creek and shook the ground as the stamp mills thunderously pulverized the ore, adding to the din of an industrialized Aspen whose citizens were generally proud of how mechanized and modern their community had become. The exhaust from the "highest stack in Colorado" was invisible because it passed through a high-tech water jacket, not for environmental reasons but in an effort to recover the 10 percent of silver lost to the lixiviation process.

Unfortunately for investors, the plant was in operation for only 14 months when the Sherman Act was repealed in 1893, dropping the price of silver below viability. The mill never turned a profit, and all that is left of the extensive millworks is the sampling house (Marolt's "barn"), part of the "salt shed," the assay office (now a private residence) up on the western hill, and foundations along the hillside down to the creek. The land reverted to ranching and agriculture during Aspen's "Quiet Years" and beyond. Luckily, through the efforts of the Aspen Historical Society and local Carl Bergman,

visitors to the museum can take a peek into those bygone industrialized days and the rural ones that followed.

The Holden/Marolt Mining and Ranching Museum is part of the History Coach Tour, or can be visited in tandem with a trip to the Wheeler/Stallard Museum. The ruins along the banks of Castle Creek can be explored on foot from the Marolt trail, a nice shady adventure into the past on a hot Aspen summer afternoon.



The Holden/Marolt Mining and Ranching Museum



Susan Jackson

AHS's Tom Egan and Su Lum (2006 Fishwit Award winner) present a plaque to Jim Brested the 2008 Freddie Fisher Fishwit Award winner for excellence in "Letter to the Editor" writing. Greg Poschman, originator of both Freddie Fisher Day and the Fishwit Award, joins in the celebration. The award is on display at the Wheeler/Stallard Museum.



Susan Jackson

June 12, 2008: Happy birthday, Freddie Fisher. Walt Smith, who played music with Freddie for years, regales attendees, including Pam Moore and Eve Homeyer (foreground). The annual celebration keeps growing as more people learn about one of Aspen's singular characters.

Keep the revelry going!

CELEBRATE HISTORY KICKOFF PARTY, JULY 5

Ride the new Aspen History Coach* to and from the Wheeler/Stallard and Holden/Marolt Museums (from the Wheeler Opera House) — FREE

Tour the new exhibit: "Go West Young Man! But Park at the Intercept Lot" — FREE

Partake in the amateur pie baking contest, refreshments and cookies, and classic lawn games like croquet, badminton, and volleyball.

*THE HISTORY COACH is made possible through the generous support of Coates, Reid and Waldron/ResortQuest



Calendar of Events



clip and save

AHS MUSEUMS AND GHOST TOWNS

WHEELER STALLARD MUSEUM –
open Tuesday – Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

HOLDEN/MAROLT MINING AND RANCHING MUSEUM –
open Tuesday – Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

INDEPENDENCE GHOST TOWN –
self-guided tours available daily mid-June through Labor Day.

ASHCROFT GHOST TOWN –
open daily through Labor Day, weekends only through September.
Guided tours at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m.

HISTORY COACH –
Tuesday – Saturday; Sunday by appointment, 925-3721.

WEST END WALKING TOUR –
Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m., call 925-3721.

SPECIAL EVENTS

JULY 5 – Celebrate History Kickoff Party, 1 to 4 p.m.

AUGUST 2 – Traditional Ice Cream Social, noon to 3 p.m.
Wheeler/Stallard Museum.

AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 1 – Old Timers Weekend at Bumps.

OCTOBER 31 – SAVE THE DATE - Our first annual Halloween
Haunted History Event for kids and adults.

Visit our website at www.aspenhistory.org for more information.



“PLAYING WITH THE PAST” CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

SATURDAYS, 10-11, AGES 3-6, WHEELER/STALLARD MUSEUM — FREE

JULY 12 – CANDLE MAKING

JULY 19 – BUTTER CHURNING

JULY 26 – ICE CREAM MAKING

AUGUST 2 – PUPPET SHOW

AUGUST 9 – VICTORIAN GARDEN PARTY

SUMMER SPEAKERS SERIES

WEDNESDAYS, 5:30-6:30, WHEELER/STALLARD MUSEUM.
\$5.00 MINIMUM DONATION.

JULY 9 – Mick Ireland, Mayor of Aspen and appointed member of STAC (Colorado State Transportation Advisory Committee), will discuss current transportation dilemmas, and our new exhibit “Go West Young Man! But Park at the Intercept Lot” will be open for inspection.

JULY 16 – Robert Hardaway, law professor at Denver University, on “Population and the Environment”

JULY 23 – Willie Bauer, professor at the University of Wyoming, on “Buying, Selling and Trading in Indian Country: American Indians, Overland Migrants, and the Economic Borders of the Overland Trail”

JULY 30 – Richard Wood, Colorado historian and author of “Survival of Rural America: Small Victories and Bitter Harvests”

AUGUST 6 – “The Great Divide: Immigration in the Roaring Fork Valley,” – a panel discussion on immigration with Luis Polar, editor of La Tribuna, and Jennifer Smith, a local immigration attorney.

ADULT CAMPS

Reservations required; \$120 for each two-day camp.

JULY 8–9 – Tuesday, 9-12 & Wednesday, 10-1, Mining – “From Ore to Lore: Aspen’s Rich Mining History.” Tours of Holden-Marolt, Smuggler Mine, and Aspen Mountain (includes gondola ticket and lunch at the Sundeck).

JULY 22 AND 24 – Tuesday & Thursday, 9-12, Photography – “Capturing Today for Tomorrow: Archiving Aspen in Photos.” We will work with a local photographer and in our archives to find historical photos of Aspen and compare them with our own present-day photos.

AUGUST 5–6 – Tuesday & Wednesday, 9-12, Environment, Conservation – Partnering with the Roaring Fork Conservancy the program will focus on the history of water use and issues in Aspen. Day One will be a biking tour of town including the two hydroelectric plants, the Salvation ditch, the Roaring Fork River, and Castle and Maroon Creeks. Day Two will be the “Mining Water” program at Holden-Marolt which focuses on the use of water in the Mining Era and more specifically in the treatment of ore at the Holden Lixiviation works.

Call the Aspen Historical Society at 925-3721 for more information on these and any other Society Programs and Special events.

Romance, Lore and Spirited Affairs



Whether your tastes are formal and elegant or Colorado casual, Aspen Historical Society sites deliver an unmatched blend of alpine ambiance, Victorian charm and Aspen hospitality.

Wheeler/Stallard Museum & Estate — For a truly remarkable event, this grand site—an entire city block—is one of the most unique settings in Aspen.

Holden/Marolt Ranch — Once a silver mill, the 2.2-acre property offers old-time ranching character and 360-degree mountain views.

For information, contact us at 970.925.3721 or sites@aspenhistory.org.

WEDDING
CEREMONY

WEDDING
RECEPTION

BRIDAL SHOWER

REHEARSAL DINNER

BUSINESS MEETING

CORPORATE
RETREAT

HOLIDAY PARTY

FAMILY REUNION

BIRTHDAY PARTY

ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATION