



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

620 W. Bleeker
Aspen, CO 81611

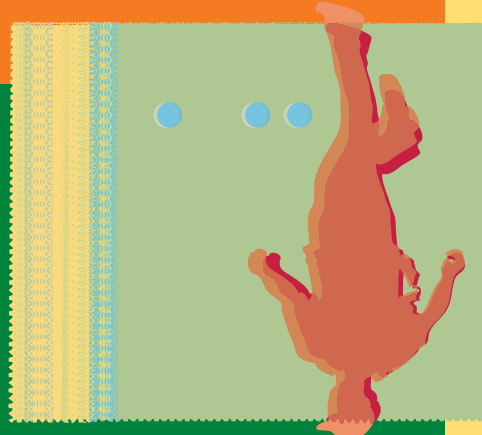
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LIVING roots STORIES

REAL-time history for Aspenites





Native Roots Explored in New Exhibit

Every spring, members of the Ute tribe dress in colorful shawls and head outside to participate in the Bear Dance. It's a traditional social gathering that at one time was triggered by

the first thunder after a frozen winter. These days timing is determined by spring break on the school calendar at Fort Duchesne, Utah, the northern Ute reservation.

Tribal members want to keep traditions like this alive. The Ute culture continues to evolve, and a provocative new exhibit at the Wheeler/Stallard Museum explores this journey.

Seasons of the Nuche: Transitions of the Ute People tells the story of the Ute Indians, who called the Roaring Fork Valley home for at least 800 years.

Before settlers arrived, the Ute people—or Nuchew—lived in what's now eastern Utah and western Colorado. Since European contact, their culture has dealt with loss of territory, loss of language, loss of culture and forced assimilation. The exhibit takes visitors on a journey which acknowledges this displacement, and embraces their position in modern America today.

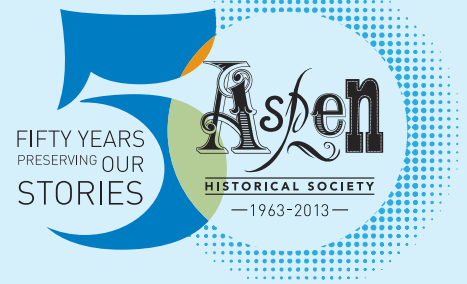
Working closely with regional tribes and museums—including the Denver Museum of Nature and Science and the Museum of Northwest Colorado—curator Lisa Hancock, guest curator Brenda Martin, PhD, and the collections staff created a thought-provoking exhibit which integrates many perspectives and events from history. *Seasons of the Nuche* was funded in part by a grant from the Memnosyne Foundation.

In addition to the exhibit, programming throughout 2012 complemented the Ute exhibit, featuring native speakers, dance exhibitions, thoughtful dialogue and engaging activities for children.

The exhibit will stay open through 2013, with rotating artifacts and new material, and the ongoing discussion of the Ute Indians' place in modern

Aspen will continue.

Ute Bear Dance
Photo by:
Jeremy Wade Shockley



It's our 50th Birthday!

In the early '60s, residents lamented the loss of Aspen's historic buildings, artifacts and people.

"No one can take away the town's history, but since much of it exists in memory and has never been recorded, the passing of each old timer depletes the stock," read one *Aspen Times* article from 1962.

A group of civic leaders recognized the importance of Aspen's rich history and created the Aspen Historical Society in 1963 to preserve these stories for future generations.

In 2013, we may honor 50 years of the Aspen Historical Society, but we celebrate hundreds of years of stories. Today, we manage the Independence and Ashcroft ghost towns, the Holden/Marolt Mining & Ranching Museum, and the Wheeler/Stallard Museum and archives, which house more than 24,000 photographs, 7,000 objects and 6,000 written pieces.

Help us celebrate your story this year by joining us for one of the many events we have planned.



Dear Friends and AHS Family,

I remember my Dad's 50th birthday well. Mom planned a surprise party and he almost didn't show. I thought they had to be the oldest people on earth at the time. Now that I have long since passed that milestone personally, I have more perspective. As the Society enters its 50th year, it gives me pause to consider what the milestone means to the community, as well as our institution.

The body of stories we have gathered over the last 50 years is truly phenomenal and carries import far beyond our mountain boundaries. We have welcomed presidents and prime ministers and Pulitzer Prize winners and maestros. Oscar and Emmy and Grammy winners are among our citizens. Our neighbors are on the New York Times best-seller's list and in the Olympic Hall of Fame.

All of these stellar folks are drawn to our valley because of the stellar folks who live here. The local families rooted in the pioneer spirit and authenticity provide the foundation for a community character that is both unique and astounding. Pioneers needed each other to survive. This spirit has carried forward to define our core values for the good of others.

We have a sense of place that cannot be duplicated or, really, defined. The northern Utes felt it; the miners who made Aspen a real town instead of just another camp felt it. The immigrant families from Val d'Aosta and Tipperary felt it. The 10th Mountain pioneers recognized it, and the Chicago contingency saw it as well. We have built an extraordinary community that is like no other place on earth.

So of course a historical society was founded. Of course it was founded by luminaries of the time; of course the community enthusiastically supports our district; and of course we support our collective story at an enhanced level of professionalism for a "small town" because our residents and the content of our collections demand nothing less. We are in the final planning stages of a campaign to provide for an endowment for the future and an archival upgrade because, of course, you all have entrusted us with the responsibility of stewardship for our precious story.

We are extremely excited about this coming year. We will be offering you many opportunities to remember and to learn. We want to welcome and woo new enthusiasts while warmly honoring our loyal members too. We love preserving and promoting the concept that we exist in this glorious place for the good of others.

Respectfully,



Georgia Herrick Hanson
President, CEO



OUR FOUNDERS



Ramona Markalunas



Joan Lane



Herbert Bayer



Dorothy Shaw



Julie James



Fred Glidden/Luke Short

WINTER 2013

Programming and Events Schedule

50TH BIRTHDAY KICK-OFF

Wintersköl: Jan. 10
Wheeler Opera House

Aspen History 101, 5:30 p.m.

Mad Hatter's Ball, 7:30 p.m.
featuring Jes Grew and Dr. Sadistic
and the Classical Cry Babies



TIME TRAVEL TUESDAYS, 5:30 p.m.
at the Aspen Community Church (200 E. Bleeker St.)
\$8 at the door

WHEELER/STALLARD MUSEUM:

Seasons of the Nuche:
Transitions of the Ute People
Open Tues through Sat 1-5 p.m.

TOURS:

History Coach Tour
West End Walking Tour
Hotel Jerome Tour Thurs 1:30 p.m.

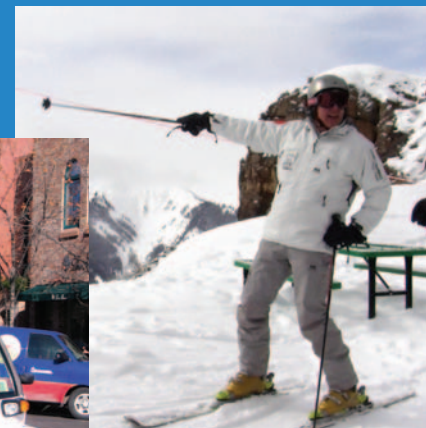
ON-MOUNTAIN SKI TOURS:

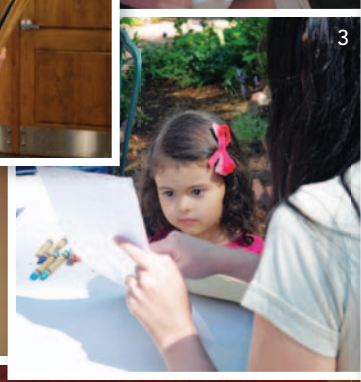
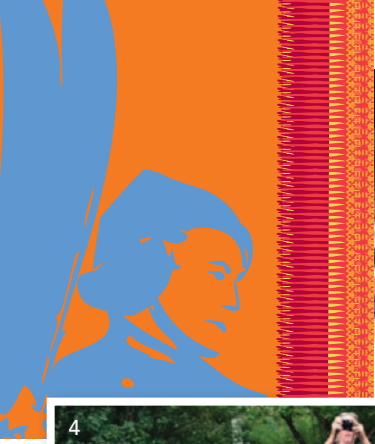
Aspen Highlands Mon 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.
Snowmass Tues 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.
Aspen Mountain Fri 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

DATE	PROGRAM
Feb 5	The Modern Ute Journey
Feb 12	Spirituality in the Valley: Christian Roots
Feb 19	Spirituality in the Valley: Beyond Christianity
Feb 26	Mountain Melting Pot: Our Ethnic Roots
Mar 5	Pitkin: A County Created Out of Thin Air
Mar 12	Citizens' Hospital to AVH: Public to Nonprofit
Mar 19	Fire or Emergency: Get the 411 on 911
Mar 26	Walking the Straight and Narrow: Law Enforcement in our Valley

Continued stewardship of four local sites on the
National Register of Historic Places.

March is CELEBRATE HISTORY MONTH!
Call for more information, (970) 925-3721.





Photos: (Top Row) 1. A young girl participates in the Aspen Art Museum and Historical Society's summer camp. 2. Jim Ward shows off his vintage skis. 3. Playing with the Past youth program. 4. Joylynn in a traditional Ute dance. 5. Dr. Kirk Johnson and Dr. Ian Miller sign copies of "Digging Snowmastodon." 6. Betty Gates, Mimi Teschner and Christine Aubale Gerschel at a Silver Circle event. 7. Ute elder Clifford Duncan tells stories. 8. Pioneers of Shred snowboarding panel: Chris (and Bali) Klug, Travis McClain, Chris Tribble, Kevin Delaney, Susan Saghotoselami, Jeff Grell, Chris Karol and Robert Smith (Smitty).

GET ONLINE AND GO BACK IN TIME

With traditional newspapers on the road to becoming an endangered species, the importance of preserving their contents in the digital sphere has never been greater.

The Aspen Historical Society, working in partnership with the Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection, the Pitkin County Library and the Aspen Times, is safeguarding historic publications for future generations to use in research, community relations and more through the digitization of works from 1881 to 1923. You may have heard the incredible contents of these "dailies" delivered by our own Michael Monroney on Aspen Public Radio's "Roots of Aspen" program. Now you can search these publications online, garnering

tidbits on everything from epic powder days to disputed mining claims.

Since 2005, there have been more than 2 million online viewings of local newspapers by researchers and laypeople alike. That number is sure to increase with an additional \$20,000 donated to the Friends of the Pitkin County Library, which will extend the digitized collection to 1965. Take a journey back in time and visit coloradohistoricnewspapers.org to search Pitkin County Newspapers.



FEATURED SITE: INDEPENDENCE GHOST TOWN

Living at 10,000 feet is not an easy endeavor, and neither is keeping the remnants of the once-bustling Independence town site intact. Navigating the ghost town—once inhabited by more than 2,000 gold prospectors—will be easier in 2013, since crews spent this past September improving trails and access along the Independence Pass corridor.



In partnership with the Independence Pass Foundation, the Buena Vista Correctional Facility and the U.S. Forest Service, the team cleaned up and restored a one-mile long stretch of trail at Independence, linking the historic mill site to the town. They also cleared brush and added signage to make the area more user-friendly once the snow melts. *Happy exploring!*



THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

Do you remember your first trip to Aspen? If you were born here, how did your parents make their way to the Roaring Fork Valley?

In partnership with the Smithsonian and Colorado Humanities, the Aspen Historical Society is proud to present *Journey Stories*, an exhibit coming to town in June that explores the freedom of travel and adventure.

Each of us has a powerful journey story deep in our personal heritage. It may be a story of family uprooting itself in order to stay together, or of sons and daughters moving to another land, or of a distant ancestor coming to America.

Immigration and travel—over roads, rails, rivers, trails and skyways shaped American society.

Journey Stories examines how transportation and migration helped



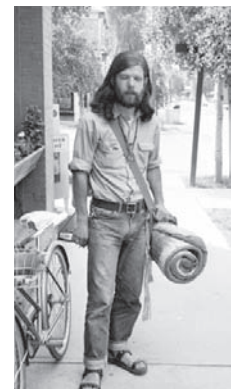
build our nation, how it has changed us, and how our mobile world appeared to travelers along the way.

The exhibit opens in a to-be-announced downtown location on June 4 and runs through July 10.

Visit aspenhistory.org for more information.



Wagons traverse Independence Pass circa 1890.



Counter-culture comes to Aspen in the 1960s.

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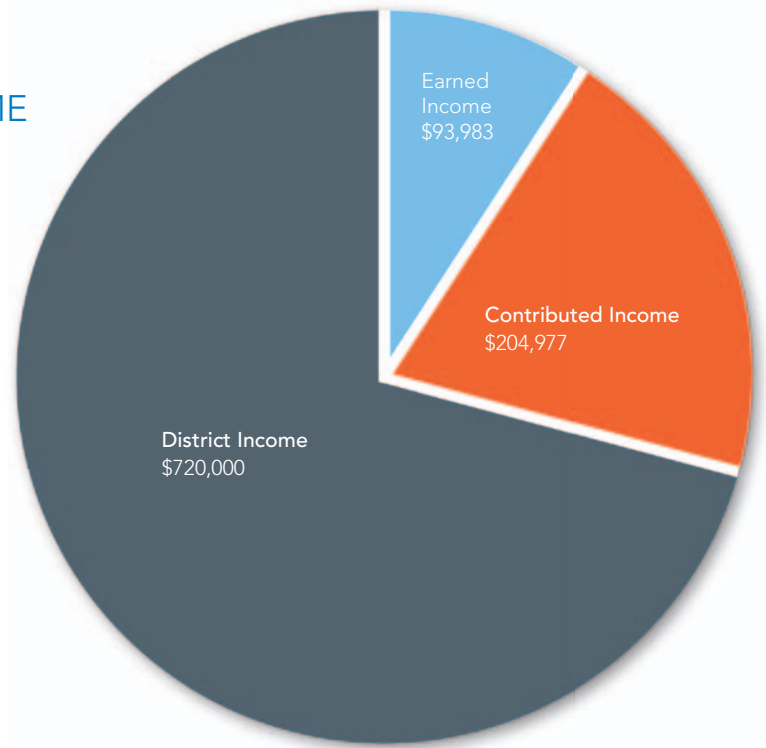
*deceased

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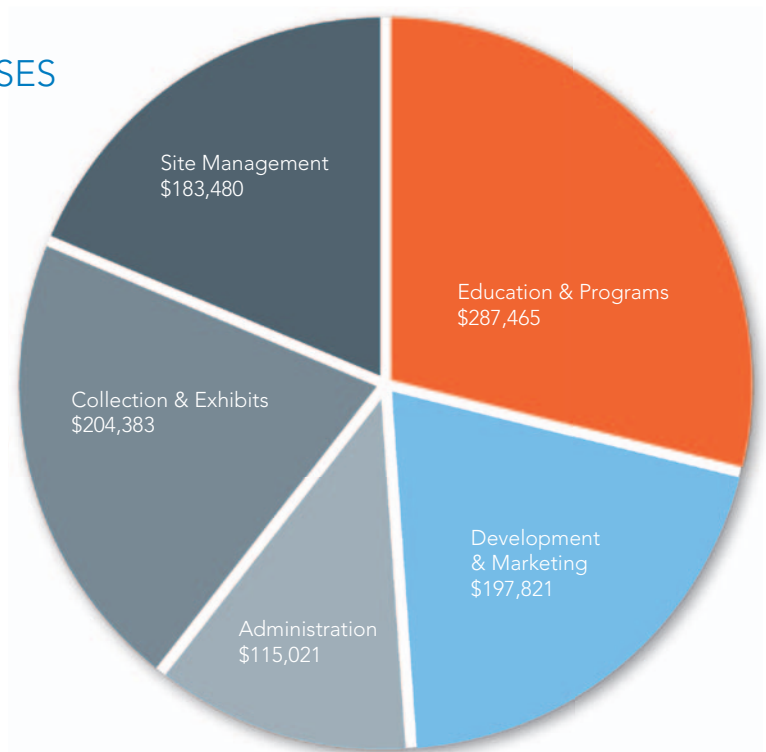
Allocation of Income and Expenses For Year End October 31, 2012

For full financials and current balance sheet please visit www.AspenHistory.org

ANNUAL INCOME



ANNUAL EXPENSES



CHAUTAUQUA

When big tents rolled into small towns across the United States in the early 1900s, it wasn't because the circus had arrived. Instead, it was the landing of Chautauqua, an assembly of entertainers, teachers, musicians and speakers who brought some of the cosmopolitan East Coast to the Continental Divide.

This summer, we're bringing it back.

To celebrate our 50th Birthday, the Aspen Historical Society will host a four-day community conversation, July 9-12, to look at where we've been and the direction we're headed. Meet us at Ruth Whyte Park. Dr. Patricia Limerick, director of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado, will moderate and bring historical context to

contemporary valley subjects. She is remarkable. We hope you will join us.

SAVE THE DATE
Old-Timers' Party
Saturday, July 13



"The Odebolt History Pages" at www.rootsweb.com/~iaohms

THE AHS FAMILY PORTRAIT: Levels of Engagement

Benefits at a glance:	Individual	Family	Lixiviator	Silver Circle			
	\$59 or less	\$60-\$99	\$100-\$1,499	\$1,500-\$2,999	\$3,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+
Monthly e-newsletter	Yellow	Green	Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Museum admission	Yellow	Green	Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Archive Access (now online)	Yellow	Green	Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Ice Cream Social & Playing With The Past Programs		Green	Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Spring Sweet Pea Mailing			Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
20% Off Museum Store & Photos			Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Time Travel Tuesday Program Admission for Two Adults (20 per year)			Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Sneak Peek Exhibit Event			Blue	Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Public Recognition				Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
History Coach Tour for Five				Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
"Roots of Aspen" private events				Orange	Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
12 Guest Passes for any Tour or TTT					Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
Historic photo matted & framed					Red	Dark Green	Dark Blue
A Brief Complete History of Aspen private party performance by the AHS Players						Dark Green	Dark Blue
"Meet the Curator" Cocktail Reception for 12						Dark Green	Dark Blue
Walking Tour & Tea Party for 12							Dark Blue
Smuggler Mine Tour for 10							Dark Blue
Ground Rental (W/S or H/M)							Dark Blue

New member benefits take effect January 1, 2013.

THANKS

TO OUR SILVER CIRCLE MEMBERS WHO HELP MAKE PROGRAMMING POSSIBLE.

- Anonymous
- Harry and Karen Andrews
- Tom and Molly Bedell
- Carl and Katie Bergman
- Don Carpenter (Project Resource Company)
- Ruth and Martin Carver
- Marshall and Jane Crouch
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- Tony Vagneur
- Mia Valley (Valley Fine Art)
- Chuck Wall
- Nancy Wall
- Marilyn Wilmerding
- David and Rosalie Wood
- John and Barbara Zrno

*Deceased

Current as of Dec. 27, 2012