

The Advocate Newsletter

Vol. 51 No.2

March/April 2026

Aurora Historical Society

Aurora, Colorado



Embrace your city and its history

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March/April 2026

Dear Aurora Historical Society Members,

People have inhabited the land that is now part of Aurora for thousands of years, from indigenous hunters and gatherers to historic settlers. It is part of the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne (*Tsétséhéstâhese*), Ute (*Níuchi-u*), and Arapaho (*Hinono'eiteen*), as well as 48+ other tribes with ties to this region. We respect and recognize these Nations' and descendants' ongoing important connections to the land. Evidence of these earliest inhabitants is scattered and ephemeral, the consequence of modern development that has deliberately or unknowingly buried or obliterated these settlements. The earliest settlers established farms and ranches on the eastern fringes of what was the growing metropolis of Denver, consolidating gradually into a vibrant community that incorporated as Fletcher in 1903, and in 1907 as the Town of Aurora. Aurora gradually grew throughout the twentieth century, eventually becoming the third largest city (by population) and largest city (by area) in Colorado. ([Map of Colorado Cities, List of Biggest Cities in Colorado by Population](#)).

Recognizing the importance and fragility of its heritage, the Aurora City Council established the Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] in 1985 "to assist residents in the preservation of unique community assets, both archaeological and historical." ([Historic Sites - City of Aurora](#)). In the last 40 years, the HPC has designated 34 historic landmarks and two historic districts. More recently, the city established the Cultural Heritage Sites Program to recognize historically significant sites,

buildings, or structures that are not eligible for landmark listing but are valuable to our understanding of Aurora's history. ([Historic Landmarks Brochure 2018 FINAL \(Small\).pdf](#)). Six Cultural Heritage sites have been designated.

The Aurora Historical Society exists to recognize and preserve our heritage, whether it is thousands of years or a few decades old. In the words of President Theodore Roosevelt, "I believe that the more you know about the past, the better you are prepared for the future." I urge all members of the AHS to advocate purposefully and actively for our heritage.

Sincerely,
Gordy Tucker
President

Historical Society Officers

President: **Dr. Gordon Tucker**
Vice President: **Keith Outcalt**
Secretary: **Lynne Evans**
Treasurer: **Gregg Chase**
Directors: **Nadine Caldwell, Susan Hicks, Judy Keilman**

Historical Society Committees

Education & Historian: **Keith Outcalt**
Hospitality: **Judy Keilman**
Membership: **Gregg Chase**
Newsletter: **Michael Lockwood**
Program: **Susan Hicks**
Publicity: Vacant
Website: **Lynne Evans**

meet your OFFICERS



Dr. Gordon Tucker, President
Excavating at Tel Simron, Israel 2024



Lynne Evans, Co-Secretary



Keith Outcalt, Vice-President



Nadine Caldwell, Director



Gregg Chase, Treasurer



Susan Hicks, Co-Secretary (Photo Unavailable)



Judy Keilman, Director

Join or Renew Membership

Our membership dues come due in January each year now so you can send your payment for year 2026 to Gregg Chase, 25762 East Kettle Circle, Aurora, CO 80016.

(Note: The society changed its bylaws at the March 2022 meeting. The membership categories have changed).

Memberships:

Individual	\$15	Contributing	\$30
Family	\$20	Life	\$200
Student	\$10	Business	\$200

If you wish to receive a hardcopy there is an additional \$5 charge

You can now pay your dues online at the AHS website on the join today page using PayPal.

<http://aurorahistoricalociety.org/join-today/>

**THANK YOU
NEW & RE-NEWING
MEMBERS**

January/February 2026

January – William Gondrez, Karen Sear, Marcy & Bruce Leonard, Paula Jackson, Karol Shupe, Anne Ryan Bell, Katherine & John Tedrick, Bob & Marsha Bengen, Ricgard & Norma Zeigler

February – Ed & Mercedes Martinez (NEW), Gary & Sherrie Wolf, Brad Pierce



Got Questions?

Ask a
Historian

E-mail your question to koutcelt@gmail.com

Member Benefits

FOX Discount

We have a discount for 20% off tickets. The discount code is CULTURAL. Anyone can use that for our Season shows online or over the phone (not valid for special events, cabarets, or rentals).

Aurora History Museum

Entrance to the Museum for AHS members is paid for by the Aurora Historical Society. Tell the front desk you are a member and give your name. The Museum has a list of AHS members.



Aurora, Colorado Historic Landmarks & Cultural Heritage Sites

There are 34 Historic Landmarks and 6 Cultural Heritage Sites in Aurora, Colorado. Each newsletter we'll show them to you one by one

The Gully Homestead House Aurora Landmark #3 Article written by Keith Outcelt

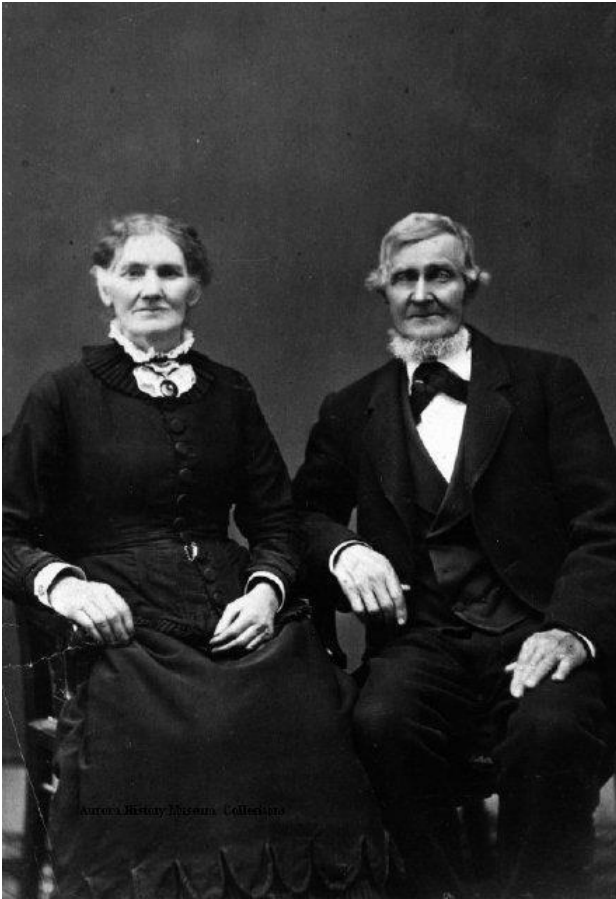


The Gully Homestead House today. Photo: Mark Smith, Photosmith

- Built in late 1860's
- 170 S. Chambers Road
- Designated: 1986

The Gully Homestead House

The Gully Homestead House is the oldest standing building in Aurora. Located on the DeLaney Historic Farm at 170 S. Chambers Rd., the two-story, white, clapboard, frame house features a T-shaped layout, gabled roof and covered front porch. The home was originally built south of its current location sometime in the late 1860s as a small one-room home.



Thomas and Temperance Gully, circa 1875. Photo Credit Aurora History Museum

The story of the Gully family's migration to Aurora begins in Nenagh, County Tipperary, Ireland. In 1862, Thomas and Temperance Gully moved to the United States and made their way to Colorado's mountain towns, Central City, Blackhawk, and Silver Plume. The family included Bridget, the oldest daughter; Jane, Edward, Thomas, James, and

John. John DeLaney, Bridget's husband also left Ireland with the Gullys. After failing to make a living in the mountains, Thomas Gully located land in the small community of Toll Gate, CO. Toll Gate was a small farming community near the present-day location of the Aurora Municipal Center.

Thomas applied for the title of the property under the Homestead Act, which allotted formerly native land to settlers at a minimal cost on the condition that they improved it. The Gully property was located near Mississippi Rd. and Chambers Rd. Thomas's son-in-law, John DeLaney would later apply for nearby land and take ownership of the property now known as DeLaney Historic Farm.



The Gully home in its original location near Mississippi and Chambers. Photo Credit: Aurora History Museum

According to family lore, the Gully Homestead House was built in 1866 as a one-room building of about 100 sq. ft. The original build is now the kitchen, located in the back portion of the house. The farm and home were valued at \$500 in the 1870 census, with Thomas Sr., Temperance, Thomas Jr., Edward, James, and John Gully all living on the property. In 1871, the family expanded the home to include a bedroom, a living room, and a second-story loft. During the construction, local German-language newspapers were used to insulate the walls. Those newspapers would help later generations to date the construction of the house.

In 1880, Thomas Sr. died. Temperance immediately deeded the home to Thomas Jr., who was living there and had worked the farm with his father. Farming and ranching in the area east of Denver was hard work with unsteady rain and no permanent source of water. The completion of the High Line Canal in 1883 made the work less risky, but still difficult. A few years later, Thomas Jr. passed the property on to his younger brother, John, whose children and grandchildren occupied the house. The family made a living ranching and farming, with additional income provided by a rodeo held on the property from the 1920s until 1950. The home was more than a family house during those years. It acted as a community center and administrative center for the Toll Gate school district, which the Gully family had been instrumental in creating and managing. Betty Mann, Thomas and Temperance Gully's great-granddaughter, was the last person to live in the house.



The Gully house undergoes repairs in 1981. Photo Credit Virginia Steele

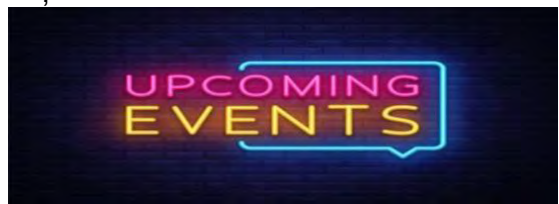
As the current municipal center began to take shape the house was moved again, in 1983, to its current location on the DeLaney Historic Farm. A stable was also moved from the original site and rests just north of the farmhouse. The stable had served Toll Gate school, which was located on the Gully's original homestead, and members of the Gully family had taught and served as administrators.

Today, the Gully Homestead House is located on City of Aurora Open Space, but the building is managed by the Aurora History Museum and Historic Sites. It is used for museum programs, field trips, and other events. You can go to visit Aurora's oldest standing building anytime at 170 S Chambers Rd. If you'd like to see inside the house and learn more, look for tours and open days offered by the Aurora History Museum.



Moving the Gully House, 1978. Photo Credit Aurora History Museum

As the city of Aurora grew in the 1970s, it began to surround the town that had been Toll Gate. The town of Toll Gate and its land were annexed by Aurora, with development quickly overtaking the historic farm buildings. The Gully house was threatened by the development and purchased by the city. In 1978, it was moved from its original location to the property that now houses the Aurora Municipal Center.



**Aurora Historical Society 31 March meeting
Journey through the Cherry Creek Valley
6:00pm at the Aurora History Museum**

Our speaker for the evening is



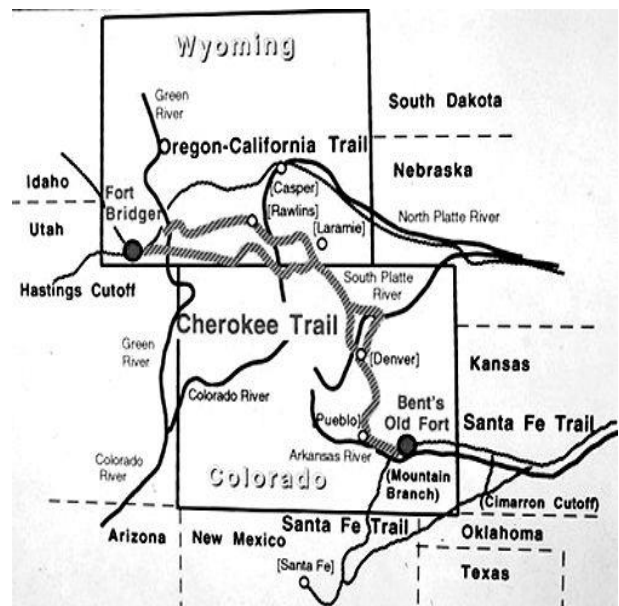
Lee Whiteley

Lee Whiteley is a fourth-generation Coloradan and one of the state's most knowledgeable historians of early Western transportation routes. A graduate of Englewood High School and the University of Denver, he retired from a career as a computer programmer analyst with the City and County of Denver to focus on historical research.

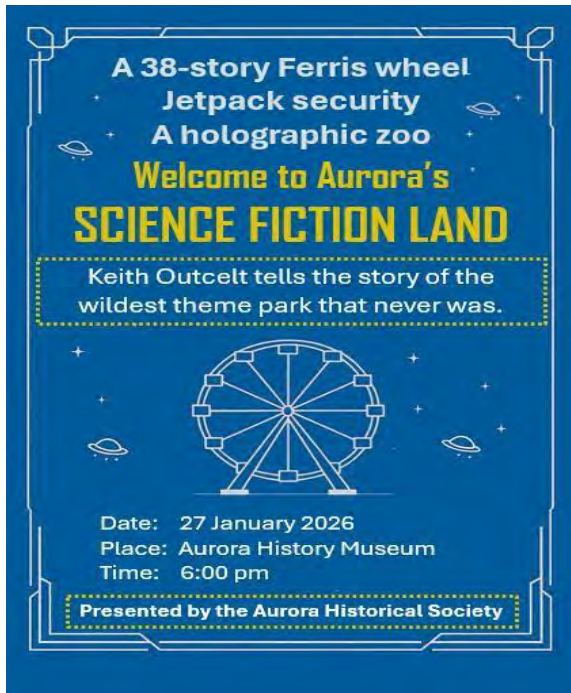
Lee and his wife, Jane, have co-authored five books on the Cherokee Trail, the National Park-to-Park Highway, the Yellowstone Highway, and other early travel corridors that shaped Colorado and the West. They served as associate producers of the PBS documentary *Paving the Way: The National Park-to-Park Highway*.

A past sheriff of the Denver Posse of Westerners, Lee is known for lively, well-researched presentations that trace the evolution of travel from Indigenous pathways to wagon roads and early auto routes. He lives in Centennial, Colorado, and continues to research and lecture widely.

An event poster with a decorative border. The text reads: "JOURNEY THROUGH THE CHERRY CREEK VALLEY" in large, bold letters. Below it, "Join author and historian LEE WHITELEY" in red. Then, "as he shares stories from his new book about the Cherry Creek Valley. Discover the people, places, and pivotal events that shaped this region." An illustration of a stagecoach pulled by a horse is shown. At the bottom, it says "Date: 31 March 2026", "Place: Aurora History Museum", "Time: 6:00 pm", and "Presented by the Aurora Historical Society".



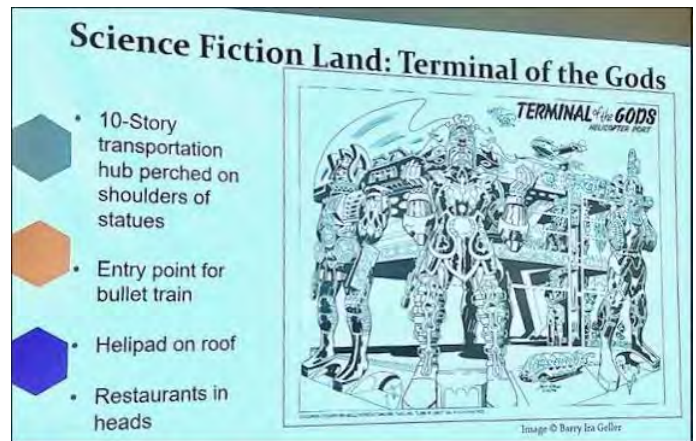
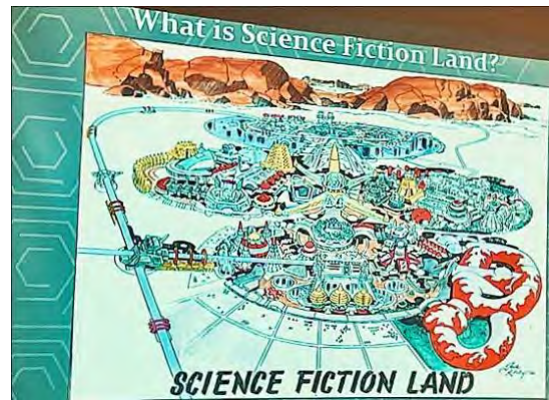
At Our Last Meeting



Program Spotlight

On January 27, 2026, Keith Outcalt treated the Historical Society audience to a lively tour through one of Aurora's most spectacular "what-might-have-beens": Science Fiction Land was a 1979 proposal for a futuristic theme park so ambitious it bordered on surreal. Promoter Jerry Schafer unveiled plans for a 1,000-acre attraction featuring robot workers, holographic displays, a 38-story Ferris wheel, and even security guards equipped with jetpacks. Three huge Lord of Light statues were to anchor the park, doubling as film sets for a companion movie project. Newspaper coverage at the time reported on the excitement of a development that promised to put Aurora on the entertainment map.

The dream unraveled almost as quickly as it appeared. Reporters soon discovered that the financing behind the proposed \$400 million park and \$50 million movie was built on fraudulent land-sale schemes and nonexistent investors. By late 1979, the project collapsed amid criminal charges, leaving behind only concept art, clippings, and a legendary cautionary tale. In a final twist, the abandoned Lord of Light artwork later resurfaced as part of the CIA's cover story for the real-life rescue mission dramatized in the film *Argo*.





Remembering Aurora

Michael Lockwood, Aurora Historical Society

An Aurora native, a graduate of the Aurora Public Schools (Vaughn Elementary, North Middle School & Aurora Central High School), Aurora has been a big part of my life ever since I was born. Having grown up here, I have several memories that I'd love to provide for your reading pleasure via The Advocate newsletter. For those of you who have Aurora connections that go back as far as the 1950's the recollections presented may bring back waves of nostalgia. And while I have 60 years of memories to relate, if you have some stories you'd like to share, please feel free to contact us at the Aurora Historical web site: www.auroracohistoricalsociety.org

REMEMBERING: The family car ride just for the sake of it

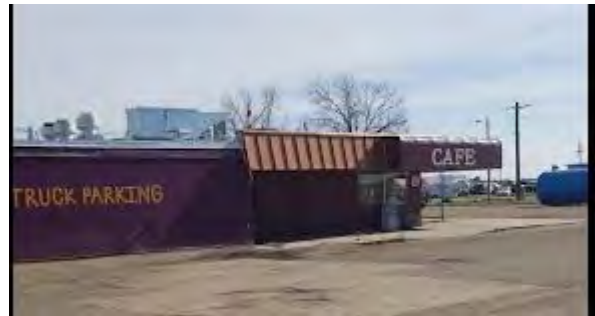


When I was young, every so often my father would get an urge to get away from the city. I think it was a way for him to unwind a little and forget about whatever problems were on his mind. He'd announce that we were going for a drive. This was usually on a Friday afternoon or a weekend. There was no packing for the trip, no consulting maps, no family poll as to where we wanted to go, just get in the car and away we went.

Now, most of the time we headed out east, not because there was anything special, but mostly because Colfax was right there and you could leave Aurora in a matter of minutes.



Maybe my father, who grew up in Kiowa, Kansas, in the 1920's and 1930's, had a fading memory of small towns. Maybe he needed time to think. Whatever the reason, it seems we always only went as far as Watkins, Colorado, about 14 miles away. And where did we stop but the Tomahawk Truck Stop. And what did we do at the truck stop but get a piece of pie and a cup of coffee. My dad could have gotten that at White Spot.



Nothing special, but for a young boy, the time spent was magical. So magical that when my oldest child graduated from high school in 1994, we took him to the truck stop in Watkins. More for me than for him, but that's how memories are made.

Time waits for no man, and our history will eventually become shared memories of people and places. Preservation can help keep those memories a little more tangible so that they, too, can be shared with future generations.

TRIVIA

City of Aurora Trivia Questions From Aurora Advocate

1. Apr 1951 – Owning over 6,000 acres, who was named Farmer of the Week by the Aurora Advocate? [Vol 4 No 20]
 - a. Thomas Fahey
 - b. Harold Tubbs
 - c. Donald Fletcher



2. Mar 1956 – The Aurora Police Department sponsored what annual event? [Vol 9 No 18]
 - a. Easter egg dying contest
 - b. Welcome Spring art contest
 - c. St. Patrick's Day ball



3. Apr 1961 – The Aurora Chamber of Commerce addressed what? [Vol 14 No 22]
 - a. Merchandise theft
 - b. Bogus checks
 - c. Vagrants outside businesses



4. Mar 1966 – Police identified a problem with the Aurora youth for what? [Vol 18 No 19]
 - a. Kite flying in the middle of the street
 - b. Graffiti on the water tower
 - c. Playing hide & Seek in Del Mar Park

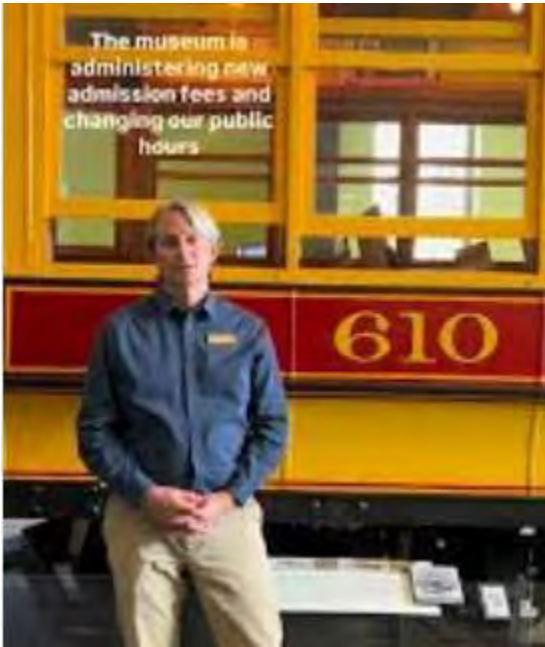


5. Apr 1971 – Margaret Mullins, a registered nurse at St. Joseph Hospital, became a certified what? [Vol 24 No 24]
 - a. EKG Technician
 - b. Phlebotomy Technician
 - c. Graphoanalyst



Changes at Aurora History Museum in 2026

by: T. Scott Williams, Director, Aurora History Museum & Historic Sites



This past year, the AHMHS Team has served and engaged the entire community to interpret and foster pride in Aurora's story every day through providing exhibits, events, and educational programming for all ages. We have strived to find new ways for museum and historic site supporters like you to participate in our programs and increase your knowledge about Aurora's people, places, and things!

The main purpose of this message is to inform you of changes to AHMHS operations beginning next year. The Museum is introducing modest admission fees (\$5 for adults and \$1 for children) and adjusting public hours (Open Days: Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.

to 4 p.m.) in 2026, in response to the city of Aurora's budget shortfall.

The updates will allow the museum to continue delivering the exceptional experiences, community events, and innovative storytelling that have made it a cultural cornerstone in Aurora, while maintaining accessibility through affordable pricing, annual memberships, and multiple free community days each year.

The AHMHS will offer three tiers of Annual Museum Memberships, including: Individual - \$25, Family - \$50, and Organizational Membership - \$100. For more specific information about admissions and annual membership benefits, please visit our website at AuroraMuseum.org. The new admissions, hours, and annual memberships will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026.

On behalf of the entire Museum & Historic Sites team, I thank you for your past support, and I humbly ask for your continued support as we change our business model in 2026. I hope to see you at the museum, and please join us in preserving Aurora's history!

AHS Membership Benefit

The Aurora Historical Society has purchased a group membership to the Aurora History Museum. When an AHS member enters the museum, he/she will need to inform the front desk staff member that he/she is an AHS member and provide his/her name. The Aurora History Museum has a list of our current members.

Upcoming Events at Aurora History Museum



For tickets, registration, and more information, visit AuroraMuseum.org.

Morning at the Museum

Every Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.

Spend the morning with your preschooler at the Aurora History Museum for stories, crafts and hands-on activities. A new program is offered every week. Please note, children must be supervised by an adult.

Cost: Adult admission is free with \$1 children's admission for this program.

Homeschool Day: The Smoky Hill Trail

Monday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.

You've heard of the Oregon Trail, but what do you know about the Smoky Hill Trail? The Smoky Hill Trail ran from Kansas to Denver and went right through present day Aurora! Join us as we explore the history of this important wagon trail with activities and hands-on activities.

Cost: \$8 per participating student.

Homeschool Day: Women's History

Monday, March 2, 9:30 a.m.

What do you know about Norma Walker, Aurora's only woman mayor? Explore the contributions she made to Aurora and the challenges she faced through games and primary sources.

Cost: \$8 per participating student.

"Prehistoric Aurora" Exhibit Closing

Saturday, March 28, 1 to 4 p.m.

Celebrate the success of our "Prehistoric Aurora" exhibit with AHM staff, volunteers and the partners who made it possible. See the exhibit before it closes, enjoy refreshments and hear presentations from some of our favorite paleontologists and dinosaur lovers.

Free event.

History of Neon

Tuesday, April 21, 6 p.m.

Discover the magic behind Denver's glowing signs with neon tube bender, Todd Matuszewicz. See real neon samples, learn how these luminous works of art are made, and hear the fascinating stories that keep their history shining bright. From chemistry to craftsmanship, this talk brings the wonder of neon to life.

Cost: Program is included with museum admission (\$5 or free for members)

"Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora's Filipino Community" Opening Celebration

Saturday, April 25, 4 to 8 p.m.

Help us welcome a new Mosaic of Cultures exhibit with Aurora's Filipino community and join us to thank our community partners. Check out the exhibit, hear about how it came together and stay for fun crafts, music and games.

Free event.

Aurora's Story presentation

Thursday, April 30, noon.

April 30, 2026, marks Aurora's 135th Birthday. After the birthday party on May 2, you can discover the history of your city. This free presentation discusses Donald Fletcher, the early years of Aurora history and the places and people that made up the young town.

Free event.

Visit us:

Tues. – Thurs: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sat.: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed: Mon., Fri. and Sun.

Admission

Adults - \$5, Children - \$1

Location

15051 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, Colorado 80012

Contact us

303.739.6660

**Donate to the Aurora Museum
Foundation**



**Aurora’s Science Fiction Land
Wednesday, March 25, 6 p.m.**

Keith Outcalt, Aurora History Museum’s Education Curator brings to life the story of Science Fiction Land, the wildest theme park that was never built.

**Strike: National Florist Workers vs. Kitayama
Thursday, March 26, 6 p.m.**

Aurora History Museum’s March Speaker Series
Programs are included with \$5 museum admission (free for members)

**Turning Over a New [Fossil] Leaf:
Colorado’s Paleobotanical Discoveries
Wednesday, March 11, 6 p.m.**

Dr. Gussie Maccracken (Denver Museum of Nature and Science) explores exciting new discoveries in Colorado’s fossilized flora.

**Paleontology in Colorado: Local Discoveries from
1877 to Today
Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m.**

Jim McKeeman, tour guide and lab preparator at the Morrison Natural History Museum discusses local paleontological discoveries.

**Cemeteries of Aurora
Thursday, March 19, 6 p.m.**

Uncover the fascinating history of the cemeteries that connect Aurora and Denver in a lecture by author, historian and tour guide Phil Goodstein.

**Colorado LGBTQ History
Saturday, March 21, 5 p.m.**

Aaron Marcus, curator of History Colorado’s “Rainbows and Revolutions” exhibit will share a presentation on LGBTQIA+ figures and movements in Colorado’s history.

We need your Help to preserve Aurora's History!

For just \$1 a page, you can help digitize Aurora's Historic Newspapers. Aurora's old newspapers were stored on microfiche and now need to be digitized so they are accessible for all. Digitizing the microfiche film creates an online, searchable database to access photos, articles, and other interesting content. Previously digitized newspapers can be found at Colorado's Historic Newspapers. Write a check and mail it in or donate online.

Help Aurora! We hope you will participate in this project sponsored by the Aurora Historical Society & the Aurora History Museum & Historic Sites.

Write a check and mail it to Gregg Chase, 25762 E Kettle Circle, Aurora, CO, 80016-2011

Send Money with Zelle®
Scan in your banking app to pay.

Aurora Historical Society

Alternatively, you can pay online by scanning the QR code here or visit our website to make a donation.

<https://aurorahistoricalociety.org/>

Visit the Colorado Historical Newspaper site
<https://www.coloradohistoricalnewspapers.org/>

Historic Aurora Newspapers – Digitization Project

Yes! I want to give my support with my tax-deductible gift.

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other

Please make checks payable to the Aurora Historical Society

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

You can also send a check made out to the Aurora Historical Society to Lynne Evans 2170 S. Ouray St. Aurora, CO 80013-1221. Call Lynne if you have questions. 720-560-2490

Aurora Museum Exhibits



Reservas Nacionales del Perú Through March 7

In celebration of 200 years of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Peru, this travelling exhibition transports visitors to the vibrant, ecologically rich Natural Reserves of Peru. Experience breathtaking landscapes, encounter unique South American wildlife and discover the cultural communities who explore and call these places home.



Prehistoric Aurora Through April 18

What did Aurora look like one million years ago with mammoths and giant ground sloths? Or 65 million years ago when Triceratops and Tyrannosaurs roamed this landscape? Discover the changing landscape of Aurora through time and see the kinds of creatures that would have been found in our area.

Unsung Heroes of WWII Through October

This exhibition highlights individuals and groups whose vital contributions to World War II were recognized years after the conflict. Explore the histories of the Women Airforce Service Pilots

(WASPs), the Navajo Code Talkers, the Tuskegee Airmen and other local heroes.

On Display in the East Hallway

Aurora's Historic Photos

Photos have a way of connecting the current generation with their past. This exhibit showcases a small sample of the over 30,000 images archived at the Aurora History Museum.

On Display in the Theater Room Trolley Trailer #610

This exhibit takes a deep dive into the history of electric streetcars in the Denver metro area and explores the story of Aurora's Landmark, Trolley Trailer #610 before it was an exhibit at the Aurora History Museum.

This exhibit was chosen to return to our museum by visitors in June and July 2023.

Growing Home & Trolley Trailer No. 610

Growing Home is a permanent exhibit about Aurora's history featuring Trolley Trailer No. 610, a fully-restored 1913 historic trolley trailer. The exhibit highlights people, places, and events from Aurora's history. It features over 100 historic photographs and objects, and the fully restored 1913 historic Trolley Trailer No. 610 in the new Ruth Fountain gallery. Go inside the trolley and experience 100 years of history first-hand. The exhibit was designed by Dennis Meyer of Filament Design/Build with support from museum staff.

In October 2012, the Aurora City Council approved funding for the construction of a new gallery and addition at the Aurora History Museum. Council resolved to name it in honor of Ruth Fountain, a former city councilwoman, community activist and museum supporter.

The Aurora Museum Foundation was instrumental in raising funds and in-kind donations through grants and support from local businesses, organizations, and individuals. The 1,630 square foot gallery was completed in November 2014. The addition was designed by Humphries Poli Architects and built by Palace Construction



Baker, Susan
 Barnes, Mildred
 Bartholomew, Randy & Barbara
 Beach, Mr. & Mrs. Robert L.
 Beach, Robert
 Benedict, Sally & Van I.
 Bennett, Mr. & Mrs. Don
 Bottoms, Jack & Ruth
 Brown, Dick & Kay
 Caldwell, Nadine
 Caron, Dean & Theresa
 Chase, Gregg & Mary
 Crawford, Judi & Jessica
 Daniels, Kimberly & William
 Drollinger, Don & Carol
 Elwell, Tom & Dottie
 Essex, Joyce Brown
 Evans, Lynne
 Fanning, James
 Fletcher, Robert & Cindy
 Fugler, Carl & Gloria
 Gehler, Robert & Terri
 Gigikos, John & Lila
 Heckman, Dorothy
 Heflin, David & Mary
 Hensler, Bill & Sue
 Hicks, Susan
 Hogan, Becky
 Jordan, Ralph & Sharon
 Keller, Chris & John

LeGare, Bob
 Letofsky, Jane Anne
 Lindemann, Ingrid
 Lockwood, Michael & Kathryn
 Lord, Pat
 Lusche, Jim & Pat
 McClure, Kirby & Roberta
 McFadden, Joyce
 McGrath, Jane & Isaacson, Thomas
 Metcalf Jr., Traver
 Monroe, Vernon & Helen
 Morey, Bill & Teresa
 Murray, June
 Nicholls, Edwin
 O'Brien, Joe & Betsy
 Perkins, Steve & Jan
 Peters, Charlie
 Pierce, Brad
 Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. Walter
 Sala, John & Elizabeth
 Sanders, Dr. & Mrs. Randall
 Scherling, Richard & Beverly
 Schmunk, Ruth
 Severson, Carl
 Sherfick, Donald & Charline
 Spencer, Vernon
 Steele, Laurence & Virginia
 Tedrick, Katherine & John
 Ulmer, Keith & Mary
 Vickers, Mary
 Wiggins, William & Lori
 Wilterdink, Larry & Carol

In Memoriam

In remembrance of Society members who are no longer with us.

Armstrong, William
 Beach Sr., Robert
 Creager, Jo (past president)
 Dunning, Annabelle (past president)
 Fountain, Ruth (past president)
 Haag, Col. (Ret) George
 Harding, Dexter
 Harding, Julie
 Hogan, Stephen
 Hood, Shirley (past president)
 Kerns, Peggy
 Lincoln, Joseph & Jeannine
 Lindemann, Donald
 McClure, Janice
 Moore, David
 Murray, Bev
 Murray, William Jr
 O'Brien, Mr. & Mrs. John
 Penn, Ruth
 Preston, Mary
 Sparks, Juanita
 Staadt, Florence (past president)
 Travis, E.A.
 Tupps, Edythe
 Watson, Elizabeth
 Weddig, Frank & Pat
 Whitmore, Ruth
 Wiley, Robert
 Woodbury, Ruth

PRESIDENT'S CLUB

Dunning, Anabelle (1976-1979)
 Metcalf, Gladys (1980-1981)
 Staadt, Florence (1982)
 Elwell, Dottie (1983-1984)
 Johnson, Elizabeth (1985-1986)
 Pierce, Mary (1987-1988)

Creager, Jo (1989-1990)
 Sanders, Kathy (1991-1992)
 Creager, Jo (1993)
 Hood, Shirley (1994-1995)
 Brown, Connie (1996-1998)
 Betka, Charyn (1999-2000)

Fountain, Ruth (2001-2009)
 Sweeney, Sandy (2010-2018)
 Evans, Lynne (2019-2025)
 Tucker, Dr. Gordon (2025-present)



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Circulation Figure or Advertising Rates on Request

Advertisements in the Aurora Advocate
April, 1955 – Vol. 8 No. 21
March 1960 – Vol. 13 No. 21
March 1970 - Vol. 23 No. 19

VALENTINE'S DAY ADVERTISEMENTS

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COMING IN MAY 2026



From 1962



Movie: To Kill A Mockingbird TV show:
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Moods

Trivia Question Answers:

1) b 2) c 3) b 4) a 5) c

The Future of the
High Line Canal

Josh Phillips, Director of Planning and Implementation for the High Line Canal Conservancy, discusses the history of “The Ditch” and conservation efforts to preserve this significant urban recreation corridor.

Presented by the Aurora Historical Society

Date: 26 May 2026
Place: Aurora History Museum
Time: 6:00 pm

The logo for the High Line Canal Conservancy, featuring a stylized tree and water.