



# Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition

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January 26, 2024

## A Letter to the General Membership

Greetings Everyone,

The Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition (“T.H.E. Coalition”) cordially invites you to renew your membership for 2024.

We had another successful year in 2023 and 2024 promises to be one of the most exciting years in the recent history of the Midland Depot at Divide. Thanks to continuing grant support from the State Historic Fund and in large part the efforts of our consultant Charise Boomsma of The Preservation Studio in Colorado Springs, as well as Chuck Severance from CRS Architects - renovations will begin this spring! Andersen Enterprises is due to be our building contractor. Phase 1 of the depot renovation will include a new metal roof, installation of a new furnace, electrical work, chimney repair and sistering the indoor roof rafters. Black Hills Energy will also provide the required new gas line access.

In October of 2023, T.H.E. Coalition held its 6th Annual Breit Awards Banquet (during the snowstorm of the century!) at the Cripple Creek Heritage Center and Museum. Despite the weather, the dinner was well attended by 50+ guests. Catering was provided by McGinty’s. The theme was *Thankful for Our Past*. The awardees were – Focus on the Forest, the Two-Mile High Club and Eric Swab. *SAVE THE DATE* for the 2024 Breit Awards Banquet, *The Past Defines the Present*, for Sunday, October 20, at the Ute Pass Cultural Center in Woodland Park.

The annual Midland Days Symposium was held on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at the John Wesley Ranch and Retreat in Divide. The theme was *Mountain of Memories*. T.H.E.’s partner’s share resulted in a \$543 donation to T.H.E. Coalition.

A group of Teller County citizens got together recently to review the condition of the old Weaver house at 357 Weaverville Road in Divide. This is the old section house for the Midland. The condition of the house was not as bad as contemplated. The current owner does not intend to demolish the house, but rather give it an exterior paint job and probably use it for storage. The group agreed that a recommendation of "preserve in place" is the best option. The Teller County Historic Preservation Advisory Board, who facilitated the group review, will recommend historic landmark status for the Weaver house.

The popular Tour Teller App is now 8-years old and it’s time for a needed update. The Ute Pass Historical Society and a committee of interested community members will begin working together soon to accomplish this task in time for summer visitors to Teller County.

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### Board of Directors

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*Director Emeritus - Doris “Dee” Breitenfeld (1935-2014)*

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The entire Board of Directors of T.H.E. Coalition celebrates the remarkable accomplishments of 2023 and looks forward to a fruitful 2024. We know that with your loyalty and support, we will continue to fulfill our unending mission to preserve and protect the natural, scenic, recreational and historic assets in Teller County. We thank you!

Sincerely,

*David Martinek*

David Martinek  
Chair

Atch: Membership Form