

Jefferson County Hall of Fame

John William Green, Sr.

Pioneer, Businessman, Community Leader

John William Green, Sr. arrived in Buffalo in September 1879. He was 16 years of age and had traveled from his birth place in Independence, Virginia. He was employed by the Morrison Timber Company as a logger and made his first home, a lean-to built between two large granite boulders, along Buffalo Creek.



He worked as a logger and by 1883 he owned the store, "J.W.Green, Dealer in Everything".

Between 1885 and 1888, he acquired a hotel, sawmill and a house with lots along the North Fork of the South Platte River.

His sawmill supplied railroad ties for the Denver Tramway. In the heyday of business, five spur tracks were built for unloading merchandise and loading lumber. Every day 25 to 30 cars of lumber were shipped to Denver. In 1937 when the railroad pulled up the tracks, trucks were used to deliver the lumber.

In 1886, President Grover Cleveland appointed J.W. Green, Sr., Postmaster of Buffalo Creek. He maintained that position until 1915, when his son took over the position. By 1899, Mr. Green was a deputy sheriff for Buffalo Creek and the surrounding area. He oversaw voting from the time he bought the store until his death in 1948.

Mr. Green worked his way up from a newcomer to the new Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad stop called "Buffalo" to a successful businessman, postmaster, deputy sheriff and community activist to provide for the residents of Buffalo Creek.

John William Green, Sr. was elected to the Jefferson County Historical Commission Hall of Fame in 2014. 🍷

Marian Metsopoulos

Historian

Marian Moeller Metsopoulos, a native of Chanute, Kansas, attended Kansas State University, receiving a BS Degree in Home Economics. From the University of Texas Medical School, in Dallas, TX, she earned a Masters in Medical Art. She married Major William Metsopoulos, a career Air Force navigator, and had a daughter, Lisa Norris. On his retirement in 1964, the family moved to the Lakewood area.



A horticulturist at heart, Marian planned the landscaping of their garden, which was opened to the public for tours. In 1969 she volunteered as "gardener" at the Foothills Art Center, and then served as director for 18 years. She worked with artists to promote watermedia and oil paintings, sculpture, pottery, quilting, weaving, jewelry, needlework, poetry, and music. At that time the Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition was born and is still bringing watermedia paintings from throughout the United States to Golden. She initiated the Holiday Arts Market, attracting large crowds to the Center. Marian is an award-winning member of the Embroiderers' Guild of America.

As past president of the Applewood Reliques, a chapter of the Questers International, she has written grants for preservation and restoration of the Creighton Pumphouse and the Wide Acres Interurban Trolley Stop, now on the grounds of Lakewood's Twentieth Century Museum. She published a booklet on the history of the Consolidated Mutual Water Company.

In 1995, with Marian's leadership, the Lakewood Historical Society had two structures placed on the National Register of Historic Places: Davies' Chuck Wagon Diner and the 1888 Schnell Farm. The Register of Historic Landmarks in Lakewood now lists 22 structures, thanks to much diligent work. She was instrumental in leading a group to refurbish the WWII Memorial, which bears the names of Lakewood High School's students lost in World War II. Marian has edited *The Lakewood Historian*, a quarterly newsletter for the Society, for 22 years. She also created the Dennis Vanderhoof Lakewood History Essay Contest with prizes totaling \$2,000, received each year from the estate of Mr. Vanderhoof. The winners are published in *The Lakewood Historian*.

Marian was elected to the Jefferson County Historical Commission Hall of Fame in 2014. 🍷