WEST Old Colorado City Historical Society WORD

JANUARY 1995

OUR JANUARY PROGRAM

VIOLENCE ON THE FRONTIER

East Meets West in American History?

Dr. David Stephen Heidler will present the program at the next OCCHS meeting to be held at Trinity United Methodist Church, 701 North 20th Street (just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center), at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 13, 1995.

Dr. Heidler will tie his case study of the 1818 Chesaw Incident in the First Seminole War to the infamous Sand Creek massacre. He will show that such incidents were not isolated to the Western setting, but occurred wherever there was a frontier filling up with new people.

Dr. Heidler was born in Atlanta, Georgia and grew up in Dublin, Georgia. He received his degrees from Auburn University. His doctoral studies focused on 19th century America with an emphasis on the antebellum period and the Civil War. Dr. Heidler received his Ph.D. in 1985.

In 1984, Heidler joined the history faculty of Salisbury State University in Salisbury, Maryland where he taught courses in American diplomacy, sectionalism and the American Civil War, Reconstruction and Gilded Age, and the Early Republic and served the department as its Director of Graduate Studies.

In 1993, Dr. Heidler left Salisbury to accompany his wife, Jeanne, to Colorado where she had secured an appointment to the history faculty at the United States Air Force Academy. During 1993, he revised his book on southern radical secessionists for a 1994 publication by Stackpole Books. In the Spring of 1994, Garland Publishing appointed him and Jeanne as editors of an encyclopedia on the War of 1812, scheduled for publication in 1996. He is also collaborating with Jeanne on a study of the First Seminole War, completing a draft for a book to be published by Stackpole in 1996.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

May the year 1995 be the best year ever for the Old Colorado City Historical Society. We are very pleased with all the things accomplished this year.

The Executive Board of the Old Colorado City Historical Society will be meeting in January to establish the 1995 goals for the organization and to discuss possible Fund Raisers.

Among the goals already established are: (1) to remodel and open the History Center, and (2) to inventory and categorize the many, many items people of the community have given to the Society.

I have been especially appreciative of the girls on the Executive Board,

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photo by Paul Idleman

Chuck Murphy of Murphy Constructors of Colorado Springs and Lucille Cunningham, OCCHS President, sign the contract to officially begin the restoration of our History Center.

Old Colorado City Historical Society
1 South 24th Street Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319

WESTWORD

VOLUME 10 JANUARY 1, 1995 NUMBER 5

PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF ALMOST EVERY MONTH BY THE OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
A NONPROFIT CORPORATION
OCCHS @1995

LETTERS, ARTICLES AND STORIES CAN BE DELIVERED TO THE OCCHS OR MAILED TO:
PAUL IDLEMAN
1939 Giltshire Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-4227
633-7803

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 20TH DAY OF EACH MONTH

MISSION

The Old Colorado City Historical Society was formed to maintain the memory of Colorado City (1859-1917), to encourage research, preserve pictures, and keep alive the unique culture and spirit of Westside Colorado Springs through education of children and the community and through the eventual establishment of a History Center at One South 24th Street.

MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships are welcome at any time, and are renewed in April. Members receive the *Westword* and local members are phoned prior to the meeting if desired.

Annual memberships classifications are as follows:

Golden(65+).....$5	Family.....$15
Golden Family.....$9	Donor.....$25
Individual.....$10	Lifetime.....$250

Funds from a Lifetime Membership are placed into a Perpetuity/Endowment Fund to be used only for projects which have been approved by two-thirds of the membership. Only the interest will be used for current expenses. We welcome gifts to this fund, which will be credited to the donor or as a memorial.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Lucille Cunningham	636-9341
Vice President	Jan Knox	689-2355
Secretary	Marty Walker	630-3901
Treasurer	Mary Jo Wallace	392-3337
	Vera Chambon	634-2340
	Jean Christopher	634-1803
	Ralph Conner	634-0895
	John Croff	632-2896
	Orrin Haynes	635-2488
	Joyce Johns	635-4649
	Leon Young	633-2621

MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 11:00 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, except during June, July and August. The public is welcome; reservations are not required.

Reservations are required for the luncheon following the meeting. Luncheon cost is usually $5 per person.

Please phone **Lyn Owen** at **473-1846** by the Tuesday prior to the meeting. You may leave a message at any time. If you find you cannot attend, please call to cancel.

MEETING THIS MONTH

JANUARY 13, 1995

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
701 NORTH 20th STREET
(JUST WEST OF UINTAH GARDENS)

NEXT MEETING - FEBRUARY 10, 1995

ROLL CALL

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING 12/9/1994
28 members and visitors signed in at our last meeting.

Betty Baker
Ed Bathke
Nancy Bathke
Selma Brawner
Jean V. Christopher
Lucille Cunningham
Ed Curry
Martha Curry
Bev Disch
Gayle Evans
Margaret Gould
Max Gould
Orin Haynes
Jan Knox
Dolly Macpherson
Pat Neeley
Lyn Owen
Jack Patterson
Mrs. Jack Patterson
Barbara J. Prince
Jim Rogers
Virginia Rogers
Patricia Sharpe
Marion Steavenson
B.E. Tillotson
Jean Tillotson
Mary Jo Wallace
Marty Walker

Treasury Report
DISBURSEMENTS & RECEIPTS 12/8/94

Building Fund	100.00
Endowments	1025.00
Memberships	29.00
Interest	11.81
Bank Fee Returned	3.00
redeposit check	40.00
Sales	35.50
Guest meals	15.00
Postage	111.37
Printing	155.00
Office Supplies	23.74
Grants	38.62
Building	1183.36
Museum	34.28

Try These on For Size

'Soled' in December

Alice Yell (non-member)	$50.00
Geraldine & Arnold Cunningham	$50.00
Jan & Owen Knox	$100.00
Jean Christopher	$50.00

COMING IN FEBRUARY

Brian Levine, Historical Preservation Director for Cripple Creek and noted author will speak at our February 10th meeting. Brian has written ***Cripple Creek Gold - A Centennial History of the Cripple Creek District*** and, most recently, ***Cripple Creek - City of Influence.***

MAIL BOX

Dear West Word,

I found the December issue of *West Word*, as always, very interesting. I was especially interested in the picture on page 3, but found the caption incorrect, as many others readers probably also did.

This is *not* a "photograph showing the laying of the trolley tracks on Colorado Avenue through Colorado City." Those tracks were laid in the 1890s. The photograph was taken after World War I, as the automobiles in the picture – and the picture itself – indicate.

Actually, this is a photograph of the *paving* of Colorado Avenue, which was done about 1920 or 1921. I well remember that, before paving, it was relatively quiet riding on the streetcars; afterwards, they were much more noisy.

Sincerely,
Richard N. Current
South Natick, MA

Dear Mr. Current,

We stand corrected and thank you for your observations and remembrances. The photographs in the OCCHS Collection are now being cataloged and we will make sure that this is captioned correctly.

***West Word** is publishing photographs from the OCCHS Archives to acquaint our readers with the collection. We welcome all comments and responses. The experts are all the wonderful people who have had the history of Colorado City as part of their lives. Thank you for writing us and allowing your letter to be the first to start our Mail Box.*

Paul Idleman
Editor

West Word welcomes your involvement. Please mail your comments, memories, research and stories to be published in our newsletter to:

Paul Idleman
1939 Giltshire Drive
Colorado Springs, CO
80904-4227

CORRECTION TO LAST MONTH'S PHOTO

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

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Jan Knox, **Mary Jo Wallace** and **Marty Walker**, who have worked many hours earning money to keep the Historical Society afloat financially; serving at functions, sponsoring programs and solving problems which naturally arise in a growing organization. On top of all this, these wonderful ladies found time to quickly don their Victorian garb to meet the public and enhance the activity. Much, much appreciated! A special thanks to board member, **Jean Christopher**, who gave all the money made from giving tours to the Building Committee of the Society. What dedication! Many others helped, of course, but I feel the above mentioned deserve the blue ribbon.

A display of artifacts received by the OCCHS this year was made by **Ralph Conner** for the Westside Carnegie Library Open House in celebration of their 90th year and the opening of the library's new parking lot. **Jan Knox** played the first librarian in a historical play put on by the library. **Betsy Evans**, we're proud of you and very thankful for all the help you've given the Society. Thanks to Ralph Conner and Jan Knox for their part in the celebration.

It was decided at our December 14th meeting that a committee be formed to determine ours needs to record and store all the data and research that is currently being gathered on the OCCHS collections. No running inventory is being kept at this time. Appointed to the committee are **Ed Bathke**, Chairman, **Marty Walker, David Hughes**, **Owen Knox** and **Paul Idleman**.

A building permit was issued December 15th, 1994 by the City of Colorado Springs to start the remodeling of our History Center at 1 South 24th Street. Here we go!

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

Lucille Cunningham

MIRAMONT RESTORATION INSPIRATION FOR OCCHS

The weather brought a snowstorm to the Springs, but did not chill the attendance at our general meeting on December 9th. About thirty people warmed up with hot tea and coffee in the beautiful Queen's Parlor Tea Room of the Miramont Castle, which was closed to the public for our private party. After our luncheon of various tea sandwiches, soup, and a hearty dish of apple cobbler, we were ready for a tour of the historic Castle. The history of its restoration is equally inspiring, since we have our own restoration project for our History Center in progress. The results of meeting the challenges and importance of getting involved in some way is evident here.

Built around 1895, the Castle was designed by a French-born Catholic priest, Father Jean Baptist Francolon. Angus Gillis, a Scottish contractor, was contracted to build it. Indoor plumbing and electricity were included in the Castle when it was built. The first electric generator in El Paso County was built in 1880 by Angus Gillis. The Priest and his widowed mother were the first occupants.

The Sisters of Mercy purchased the Castle in 1904 to be used as a sanitarium. The Castle was converted to apartments in 1946 and used as such until 1976.

The four levels of the Castle contain more than 14,000 square feet. There were 46 rooms, but only 28 were used by the Priest and his mother. Nine styles of architecture are used in the Castle, and locally quarried greenstone and yellow pine framing is used. The styles incorporated in the building are shingle-style Queen Anne, Romanesque, English Tudor, Flemish-Stepped Gables, Domestic Elizabethan, Venetian Ogee, Byzantine, Moorish, and Half-Timber Chateau.

The furniture of the Castle is in keeping with the rich colors and lavish ornamentation of the Victorian era. The square piano of rosewood veneer and ivory keys, for example, pre-date 1875. The Dining Room has an oak table and chairs and china more than 100 years old. The stemware is more than 200 years old.

The tour also takes you through a 16-sided guest bedroom with its solid-brass fireplace. After touring the Castle, the Golden Circle Model Railroad Museum was toured. In the spring and summer, there is a beautiful garden to enjoy, which was started by Doris Crawford and Karl Bienschroth.

The Castle, located at 9 Capitol Hill Avenue in Manitou Springs, was purchased in February 1976 by the Manitou Springs Historical Society. Belvadene Boyd, an early charter member of the Manitou Society, enthusiastically shared this history of the Castle with me. With only 27 members in the Society, the devoted and determined group assumed five mortgages to purchase the Castle. A rebirth of the Castle began. The renovation plan, which Belvadene calls their roadmap, was prepared by Phillip Hannum, known nation-wide for his expertise as a renovation consultant. Mr. Hannum had just completed the Historic Ninth Street District in Denver when he lived in the Castle for two weeks doing extensive historical research and documenting instructions (the "roadmap") for restoring the Castle. In five years, the Castle would have been beyond restoring, according to Mr. Hannum's opinion. Mr. Hannum proposed that his consultation fees be $3,600 for the project, but Belvadene offered to donate her secretarial talents, and Hannum waved half the fee. Burning the midnight oil, Mr. Boyd would bring her coffee to encourage her to keep working.

Volunteering on Wednesdays and Saturdays, bringing their sack lunches, the group began by stripping layers of paint from the beautiful woodwork. In time, they were able to obtain matching grants from organizations, based on the number of hours volunteered. On July 8, 1976, Manitou's 100th birthday, the first apartment to be renovated was officially opened. Taking each of the ten apartments one at a time, restoration continued throughout 1977. Renovation was accomplished by help from volunteer organizations such as the engineers at Fort Carson who graded the carriage drive, the Women's Club who renovated the Drawing Room, the Rotary Club, the Jaycees who donated the labor to replace 257 broken window panes, and many other fraternal organizations, corporate businesses, couples and individuals — all sharing a common goal. Work on restoration has continued through the years because of the many volunteer efforts.

Besides public and private tours, the Castle is also the site of many private weddings, dances and parties. If you are interested in renting the Castle for an event, contact Robert Yager, the Executive Director, at 685-1011.

Marty Walker

COLORADO CITY THROUGH A WOMAN'S EYES

Jan Knox located this IRIS article originally written 100 years ago relating the spirit of Old Town.

(The following article, written by Mrs. Ellen Forbush Jewett, a highly educated and refined lady, who has resided in this city for the past six years, appeared in the columns of the ***Women's Evening Telegraph*** *on January 1st. Comment by us is unnecessary—EDITOR,* ***IRIS****. January 5, 1895)*

The history of Colorado City has a close parallel in that of St Ronan's in the Waverly novel called *"St. Ronan's Well."* That little Scottish town was of a good old age, had its share of prosperity, a few old families and a moderate degree of wealth.

It was a picturesque town, having a diversity of hill and dale, answering to our foot hills and canons, and with a considerable range of mountains not far away. The burn which ran through it corresponded to our own "Fountaine qui bouille." Lest any should think I am drawing entirely on my imagination for this similarity between the two towns, let me quote on paragraph: "A river of considerable magnitude pours its stream through a narrow vale of varying breadth. Either side of this valley is bounded by a chain of hills, which on the right in particular, may be almost termed mountains.

Little brooks rising in these ridges and finding their way to the river, offer each to its own little vale to the industry of the cultivator. Some of them bear large trees, and upon the sides of most there are scattered patches and fringes of natural copse wood, above and around which the banks of the stream arise, somewhat desolate in the colder months, but in the summer glowing with the golden lustre of the broom and gorse.

This is a sort of scenery peculiar to those countries which abound, like Scotland, in hills and streams, and where the traveler is ever and anon discovering in some intricate and unexpected recess, a simple and sylvan beauty, which pleases him the more, that it seems to be peculiarly his own property as the first discoverer".

Substituting the sumac and aspen for the gorse and broom, does not that description answer very well for our own picturesque surroundings? But the parallel does not end here, for I've read that after a time some medicinal springs were discovered a short distance from St. Ronan's. A lady of high degree was cured of some real or fancied ill by the use of water from the mineral well.

Her physician wrote an analysis of the healing waters, with a list of sundry cures. Speculative builders erected lodging houses, stores and hotels; streets were laid out; and no doubt a town site platted, and so sprang up St. Ronan's Well, and St Ronan's from that time received few visitors and soon became known as the "auld town."

In much the same way has Colorado City come to be "Old Town," and to be largely overshadowed by its younger and more pretentious neighbors, Manitou and Colorado Springs.

The life of a town is very much like that of an individual; it has its period of growth, of character-forming, of development.

It has seasons of trial and adversity and it is well with the town as with the man if the foundations on which it builds are of a character to withstand the buffetings of time and varying fortunes.

If Colorado City has made or is still making mistakes, let her be a warning and not an example just as far as she has done so.

It is gratifying to all the intelligent and right thinking people who have their homes within her borders, to feel that their town is worthy in many ways of the respect of the outside world.

Can we say a town is as bad as the worst feature in it, as we say of a piece of machinery that is no stronger than its weakest point? May we not better judge the town as we do our friends by the best that is in it?

Since commencing this article I have listened for an hour to a story of the varying fortunes of this old town from the lips of a worthy man, who has lived here since the early sixties. He has seen a goodly number of sons and daughters grow up about him to worthy manhood and womanhood and has himself been a part of the best growth of the town. His stories of the times when the fathers gathered their families into the stockaded fort while they themselves, took turns in watching for the dreaded Indians, have all the interest of Cooper's *"Pathfinder"* with the additional zest that is given to a story told by a participant.

That "All of which I saw and a part of which I was," makes a tale so much more worth listening to.

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WESTSIDE MEMORIES
TURNING BACK THE CLOCK ON LOCAL EVENTS

compiled by Jan Knox

One Hundred Years Ago
JANUARY, 1895

• Rev. A. A. Williamson, of the First Baptist church, will, in a few days go to Chicago, where he will spend his annual vacation.

• Mr. Lee Gardner has purchased a half interest in the Palace Barber shop and the firm name will be Gillaspie & Gardner. Both the gentlemen are smooth shavers and will no doubt enjoy a large patronage.

• The most brilliant wedding that ever occurred in this city took place at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Stockbridge Thursday evening (1/24). The contracting parties were their eldest daughter, Miss Nellie G. Stockbridge, and Mr. Charles B. Ferrin of Colorado Springs. The bride has long resided in this city, where she has grown to womanhood. Her friends are only limited by her acquaintance.

Everywhere she is known as a lady of genial disposition, frank, sociable and beautiful. Mr. Ferrin is well known in Colorado Springs, where he has resided for many years. He has long been connected with the Colorado Springs Gazette and enjoys the confidence of his superiors. After the ceremony the numerous guests congratulated the happy pair with sincere wishes for happiness and future prosperity.

• We noticed a lady receive a severe fall at the Templeton corner yesterday. The scraps of boards that serve as a ditch crossing tripped her up. The boards have been removed and a new crossing provided.

• The people of the West Side are circulating a petition asking to be taken into school district No. 11. It appears that the present boundary of the school district ends at Ninth street, while the city limits are at Eleventh street, so that as the matter now stands there is a section two blocks wide by six blocks long, the residents of which are obliged to send their children to the school in Colorado City. They will undoubtedly be admitted to the district. —**GAZETTE**—Wonder if the said petitioners are aware of the amount of school tax they will saddle on themselves if they succeed in being cut off from District No. 1? They will pay a tax into the general school fund, a tax on the bonded indebtedness in District No. 11, and a special tax in District No. 11, and a tax to meet the bonded indebtedness in district No 1, which amounts to something like $13,000.

• Married at the First Baptist church in this city, on Wednesday evening, Jan. 16, 1895, Mr. Jefferson E. Leasure of Morgan Hill Calif. and Miss Leslie C. Crandall, of this city. Rev. A. A. Williamson officiating. There was a large attendance and the church was handsomely decorated with evergreens and flowers. Many beautiful presents were received. The newly married couple will make their future home in California.

• The congregation at the First Baptist church have refused to accept Rev. A. A. Williamson's resignation, and have granted him a five weeks' vacation.

Seventy-five Years Ago
JANUARY, 1920

• One of the most successful meetings ever held by the El Paso County Pioneers association took place yesterday afternoon (1/1) in the court house when nearly 300 of the older residents of the city came to enjoy the informal reception given in their honor. Governor and Mrs. Oliver H. Shoup came down from Denver to attend the affair.

• The regular meeting of the Woman's Study club will be held at the home of Mrs. Duncan Lamont, 2102 West Colorado avenue. The program arranged includes a paper on Henry Pelham Holmes Bromwell by Miss Beatrice Rule and one on Ernest Whitney by Miss Bertha DeShazo.

• A. L. Perry closed a deal for the residence at 2302 West Pikes Peak avenue. Mr. Perry expects to make extensive improvements on the property in the very near future.

• Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wylie, late arrivals from Iowa, have purchased the cottage at 3120 West Pikes Peak avenue.

• The Golden Cycle mill is treating ores from the Leadville gold mines for the first time in its history. The Leadville tonnage will amount to 5,000 to 6,000 tons a month. Previously the ores from the Little Jonny and allied mines have gone to the Pueblo smelters.

• A petition bearing more than 800 signatures of residents of the West End was presented to the city council today by a committee of citizens interested in having the old Standard club building at Twenty-ninth street and Colorado avenue either leased or sold to the Denver Garment Manufacturing coming which wishes to locate in West Colorado Springs.

• The old frame building at 2527 Colorado avenue is being razed and the lumber shipped to Calhan.

• O. L. Bates bought the business block at 2320 Colorado avenue, at the public trustee's sale held yesterday.

• C. B. Branch, lately from Texas, purchased the grocery store at the corner of Twenty-fourth street and Colorado avenue, from Patrick McDonald.

• Painters, paperhangers, decorators and roof artists are busy on eight more business rooms in the 2400 and 2500 blocks on the avenue. Scarcely a day but that some new business opens its door to the trading public.

• P. J. Hamble, Mrs. Ben Stewart, and Mrs. W. F. Bradley will all address the Community club on "The Need to Have the Arensdale School Reopened". The meeting will be at Mrs. Bradley's home, 3221 West Pikes Peak avenue.

Fifty Years Ago
JANUARY 1945

• Mrs. Edna I. Brown, 76, wife of E. A. Brown, died at her home, 3022 W. Bijou street (1/7). She came to Colorado City at the age of 4 in 1872. Her father was a pioneer attorney of Colorado City. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were married in Colorado City in 1890. They made their home there, later on a ranch near Fountain and then for many years on a ranch 25 miles east of Colorado Springs before returning to the West End about 1928.

• Bob Hope, Vera Vague, Frances Langford, Jerry Colonna, and guitarist/arranger, Tony Romano who have recently returned from entertaining combat troops in the South Pacific will entertain the troops at Peterson field on Thursday (1/11).

• A bottleneck at the Golden Cycle mill, caused by a manpower shortage, was broken last week when a group of Cripple Creek district, miners came to the

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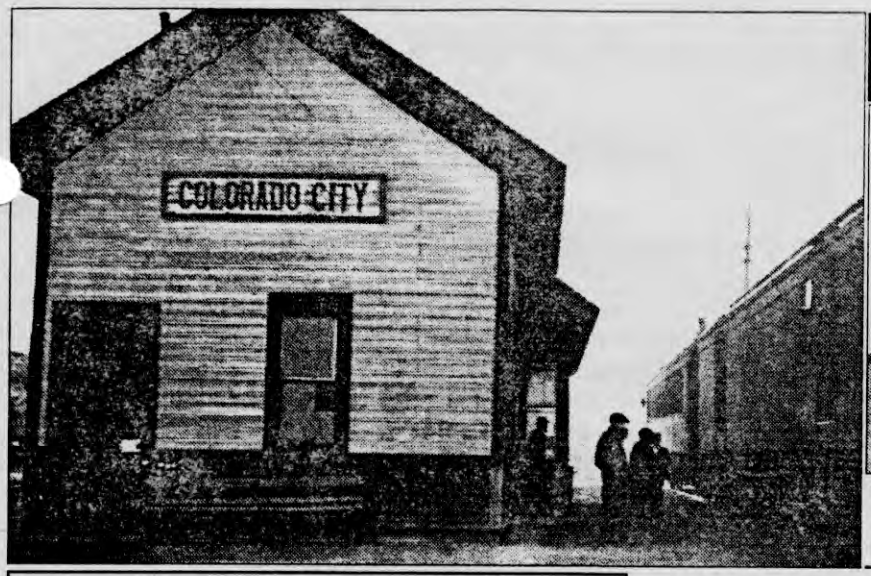

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

The Colorado City Station of the Midland Railroad in 1930. Photographed and donated to the OCCHS by Ira Current of Rochester, NY.

OLD COLORADO CITY BRANCH LIBRARY CELEBRATES 90 YEARS

The Old Colorado City Historical Society helped the Old Colorado City Branch Library celebrate its 90th birthday early in December with pictures, dramatic talent and a display.

Members **Jan Knox**, **Lance** and **Lee Michels** took part in the skit which brought back early residents and librarians to recall the "*good old days*". Member/Librarian **Betsy Evans** prepared the script and arranged the program. Others in the skit were **Elizabeth Calhoun**, **Dusty Gorell** and **Mike** and **Diane Stevens.**

Sixteen people contributed historic or useful items during 1994 for our future museum: **Shadow Adams-Scott, Willa Berridge, Bethany Baptist Church, Don Ellis** (honoring his mother, **Lucille Ellis**), **Bob** and **Loretta Gaarder, Paul Idleman, Joyce Johns, Orbille Kenelly, Jan Knox, Dorothy McGlasson, David Mosher, Jack Patterson, Liliane Ross, Mary Tymer, Martha Simons** (honoring **Robert Simons**), and **Marion Steavenson**. The sampling ranged from a souvenir beer stein and Idle Hour theater programs to an exotic tray from Burma which belonged to a local resident.

Other features of the birthday program were the **Peak Harmony** barbershop quartet, and **Mark Gardner** introducing popular music and instruments from the days of the Santa Fe Trail. ***Ralph Conner***

VIOLENCE ON THE FRONTIER

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Currently, David, Jeanne and their two cats live in Colorado Springs. He divides his time between researching and writing, and teaching at the University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo where he lectures on the American Civil War, Jeffersonian-Jacksonian Democracy, and American Diplomacy. He publishes in scholarly journals, most recently, in **The Journal of the Early Republic**, presenting his study of the congressional response to Andrew Jackson's 1818 invasion of Florida. He is a member of the American Historical Association, the Southern Historical Association, the Society for Historians of the Early Republic, Phi Delta Kappa education honorary, and Phi Alpha Theta history honorary.

Following the program, lunch will be served at $5 per person. Reservations are due by January 10, 1995. Call **Lyn Owen** at 473-1846. Please give your name and phone number clearly when leaving a message for Lyn.

Jan Knox

WESTSIDE MEMORIES

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mill to unload ore that they themselves had shipped. Due to a shortage of dump cars, the ore was in wooden cars which had to be unloaded by shoveling.

Twenty-five Years Ago
JANUARY 1970

- "Big Jim" Kramer, an outstanding evangelist, will speak Sunday, January 28th, at both the morning and evening services of Bethany Baptist Church.

- A public meeting to discuss the possible park development of the Mesa Cemetery is scheduled for Thursday (1/15). The Mesa Cemetery was laid out on a piece of land that was homesteaded in 1860 by Irving Howbert. He gave a 20 acre tract to Colorado City for a cemetery. Nine acres were transferred to Colorado Springs in 1917 when Colorado City was annexed. Records indicate that the cemetery has been abandoned since the early 1900's.

COLORADO CITY THROUGH A WOMAN'S EYES

continued from page 4

Colorado City has always taken pride in her schools. In the early days, my informant tells me, the people living on ranches for many miles around, brought their families into town every winter that their children might have the benefit of the schools, which even then were of excellent character. Today, with a fine school building, a constantly increasing library, an able corps of teachers, under the superintendence of a Harvard graduate, the schools hold a favorable position compared with any in El Paso county; and such an institution as Colorado College receives into its preparatory department, graduates from the eighth grade on their certificate of promotion.

Several churches with large Sunday Schools and Societies of Christian Endeavor doing much missionary work attest the religious aspirations of many.

A struggling but hopeful band of earnest workers carry on the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. A devoted few, as a branch of the Woman's Relief Corps, look after the needs of the poor who are with us always. Many societies, as the Easter Star; the Rathbone Sisters, etc., carry on the good work of social improvement.

In many ways, which lack of space forbids me to mention, Colorado City is doing her utmost to raise the standard of public morality, to promote the welfare and true interests of all and to make for herself a name deserving and receiving respect. We do not expect to become a part of the great leisure class, who, by their own or others' exertions in the past can now "rest and invite their souls," in this delightful air. We are content to become a town of busy workers, a part of the muscle and sinew of the nation. And to this end, how many of nature's gifts have we within our borders; sand and phonoline for glass making, marl for cement, clay for pottery and fire-brick, sandstone for bu[illegible]g, coal mines in active operation, and lastly, the promise of natural gas, to an almost unlimited extent. In a few years, if the gas fulfills the expectations of its seekers and promoters, we may surely hope to have our foot hills resound with the whir and bustle of manufactories and our streets lined with comfortable homes.

Through the hard times which have weighed so heavily on us during the last year and more, the railroad shops have been our greatest benefaction. Under their efficient superintendent they have continued to give employment to many, and have saved the business interests of the town from complete stagnation.

Does it ever occur to those who speak always ill of Colorado City how great and complete confidence they place in one class of our citizens?

The safety and the lives of thousands who travel over the wonderful Midland railroad are intrusted to the watchful and intelligent care of the engineer and trainmen. The dangers of mountain railroading require men for these positions who have more than average intelligence and devotion to duty.

They must be quick in an emergency, fertile in resources, cautious and at the same time ready to "take the chances." "All that a man hath will he give for his life," but in the last few years many of these men have met death at the post of duty."

These reliable, intelligent conscientious men form with their families a class of which any community might be proud, and, with few exceptions, they have their homes in "Old Town."

OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ONE SOUTH TWENTY-FOURTH STREET
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80904-3319

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE
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