

April 1, 1993

Officers Urge Members: Rally for Exciting Year Renewals Will Mobilize Support For the Initial Shape-Up of Westside History Center

A new membership year begins this month. It will be filled with exciting experiences for the Old Colorado City Historical Society and its members as we work toward our history center in our new building at 1 S. 24th.

There's no increase in fees—\$5 for an individual, \$10 for a family. Those who should renew will find a card and an addressed mailing envelope, to be returned with your check. If changes are needed in the information on the card, please indicate them. Membership cards will be mailed with next month's WestWord.

Our organization has regularly shown healthy membership growth, as more learn about our efforts to preserve the memory and spirit of Colorado City. We invite the interest and support of all who care about our historic community. First step in being part of our future is renewing your membership! We'll keep you in touch!

Important Information:

Checked below is your status, according to our records. Contact us in case of error.

You must renew membership.
Memberships are renewable in April and are good for a year.

No need for you to renew.
No renewal is necessary if:

You're a life member (see p. 4)

You joined late in 1992-3.

You paid in advance.

Your membership is a gift of...

A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

New members this month show interesting facets of our history.

One thing in common among long-term residents is attendance at West Junior High School, so it is appropriate to welcome Gary A. Arthur, assistant principal at West. His job brings him in touch with many old Westside families.

Jack Patterson recently returned here in retirement from California, but he's had contact with Westside for 50 years. In his youth, he was a guide at the Cave of the Winds, and he has pictures taken during the time he drove a tour car up Pikes Peak.

Mary Makings ran the Fifteenth St. Grocery on Colorado, beginning about 1949, and speaks fondly of good friends and fond memories associated with a family grocery. The store closed in 1972; she now works at Blunt Mortuary.

Welcome back former members Jean Christopher, Carl and Shar McClure, and Paul Paradis.

Templeton History Joins Our Newest Additions

Friends have added to our historic collections in recent weeks, for which we thank them.

Lucile Ellis gave us an authentic street car souvenir—a few inches of rail.

From Bud Walker come tax receipts of his grandfather, William Walker, a Midland engineer

Shirley Caille is a great grand-daughter of Henry Templeton; she lent us a family history and pictures. She donated a set of Colorado histories and a cook book from the 1890's.

We've been given a lighted mineral display case, thanks to Gary Zeigler, son of the late Ray Zeigler and to Pat Patton

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

"Unmentionable" Laura Belle Will Be Mentioned

No one questions the prominence of Laura Belle McDaniel in Colorado City history. But despite charities and generous monthly support of Colorado City government (!), she's a dim character!

But Lee Michels studied Laura Belle's life for years. She corresponded with Bill Henderson, and carried on research from California. But she's back home, and will share knowledge of the noted madame at our Apr. 9th meeting.

She invites us to come with questions about Laura Belle's life, and her suspicious death.

Briefly:

Sorry that John Croff's wife is ill and challenging doctors.

Illness of Pat Patton's wife led the family to move to Chapel Hills, North Carolina.

Rosemae Campbell earns sympathy for a broken nose and hand, but envy for three weeks at Christmas in Mexico, and a water-color workshop conducted by Martha Mann on a four-masted clipper ship in the Caribbean!

Note Liz Geiss's course on "Trash or Treasure" at the Inter-generational Center Thursdays at 6:30, April 8th through the 29th. Call Liz or the center for details.

Bertha Chilcott had to miss a meeting because of illness. We appreciate Carl's loyalty.

Rosemary Hetzler has been occupied with hospital tests.

Mary Nell Trapp is enduring some knee trouble.

When calling for reservations, if you get the answering machine please give names and numbers distinctly asks Lyn Owen.

Westside Memories: *Turning Back the Clock on Local Events* *Twenty-five Years Ago*

April, 1968

Despite a \$250,000 price-tag, City Council and County Commissioners voted to reopen 25th St. to cross the Midland Freeway, instead of 26th St.

Because city wouldn't vacate 200 block of East Boulder, school authorities studied to see if Palmer High could better be used as a community resource while the school moved.

Condemnation proceedings began against nine property owners along the 3-mile Manitou bypass who wouldn't part with the needed right-of-way.

Boundaries drawn for Holmes Junior High, due open in September. It would have 525-550 enrollment, West Jr. 600.

W.J. Conway proposed a site on Cascade, a block north of the library, for a performing arts and convention hall.

Postal authorities planned a new post office for 3-3½ million dollars. Location not announced, but downtown unlikely because of cost of real estate.

Murder charges filed against a 20-year-old, alleged to have murdered woman in the 200 block of N. Chestnut. Her husband found her stabbed when he responded to her screams.

Rev. C. L. Moser announced the Bethany Baptist choir would perform a cantata directed by John Fetler, accompaniment by Betty Sperry and Helen Jenson. Roland Martz would be narrator, soloists were Oliver Bell, Martha Dennis and Dorothy Ventimiglia.

2,500 riot-trained troops from Fort Carson flew to Chicago to help control riots touched off by the assassination of Martin Luther King.

Fifty Years Ago

April, 1943

Voters turned out Mayor George Birdsall—after 22 years on the council, 14 of them as mayor—and W. W. Cowen, electing H. G. Sinton, Harry Blunt and Mrs. Ruth Banning-Lewis for 6-year terms. J. Russell DeFries won the late Ben Stewart's 4-year term.

Voters kept control of salary decisions, gave raises to police, firemen.

Midland Terminal petitioned an end to passenger service between Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek. Train left Springs at 6:45 am, arrived in Cripple Creek at 12:35. Cripple Creek train left at 11, arrived in Springs at 5:35. Railroad said auto stage lines provided mail and passenger service. It would maintain unscheduled freight service.



First of pay-as-you-enter, one-operator street cars arrived in April, 1918. Each had electric heat, would hold 28. Cars would be put on Spruce/Nob Hill, Wahsatch, Institute and Hillside lines.

Jean H. Cameron, whose mother lived at 1401 W. Colorado, was a senior typist at the army air force technical training command in Denver. Miss Cameron was blind, was graduated from the School for the Deaf and Blind and Colorado Woman's college.

A. G. Wittman, 58, 2319 W. Platte, died from injuries suffered when a gasoline tank at the Midland shops exploded. B. G. Vogler, 2431½ W. Colorado, was burned in the accident.

Rev. LaFayette Adams, 54, 802 N. 19th, and his 12-year-old daughter died, and three other children seriously burned, when a pipe touched a high-voltage line. They were measuring the height of a windmill which was to supply water for a Victory garden.

Ashes dumped near the County Farm started a grass fire which burned 80 acres until put out by deputies, firemen, and men of the Golden Cycle, Midland, and county road department.

Red Cross quit collecting tin foil because there wasn't any more of it around. Collected foil brought \$75 to the local chapter.

Home-made air-raid siren on roof of City Auditorium tested, was heard at Adams Crossing, junction of the Old Pueblo highway and Nevada, and on the Rock Island bridge north of town.

City authorized purchase of Beth El hospital and National Methodist sanatorium. Latter would be used by army air force as headquarters.

Camp Carson hospital would be expanded from 1,754 beds to 2,146 through construction of four new ward buildings and a headquarters.

West Junior honored by the state with a "School at War" flag. In March, 94% of the students purchased bonds or stamps. Pictured at the raising were presidents Ted Higdon and Joyce Kilman, color guard captain Loren Reed.

Colorado College raised September tuition from \$275 to \$300 a year.

Wyborn Foote, chairman of apparel merchants, said stores wouldn't open until noon on Mondays, but would stay

open until 9 pm for Camp Carson and other workers who would benefit from evening hours on a weeknight.

Negro service men's recreation center at 13 W. Colorado was dedicated. Mayor Birdsall, City Manager Mosley, Sam Hunter, August B. Turner and Miss Bernice Shelton participated.

Ration board: 8 ration points could be collected for hamburger if it was round steak ground in the view of the buyer. Ordinary needed only 5 points.

Seventy-five Years Ago

April, 1918

Springs school board proclaimed "male" and "female" would no longer be factors in determining pay.

Old Colorado City branch library circulated 8,818 books (averaging 40 a day) in the year ending Mar. 1. 2,095 children's books were circulated.

Jacob Schueler died in Manitou at 82. A veteran of the Sand Creek battle, he developed the state's first soda-pop plant and its first mining concentrator. He was a partner of Adolph Coors in brewing beer before he bought the Pikes Peak Mineral Water Co. in Manitou Springs.

Ore delivery at the Portland mill ended, though it processed ore it had on hand. Equipment and 75% of personnel would be moved to Victor.

Springs began stricter enforcement of ordinance requiring tour-car drivers to stay with their machines. Parking in a good place in the rank, then going home, would be a violation.

Lightning tore a hole in the roof and burned wiring of Bethany Baptist.

G. R. Courtright, 1524 W. Pikes Peak, bridge-builder for Short Line, fatally injured in the yards when caught between two cars. Survived by wife, 3 daughters (teachers), and son.

One Hundred Years Ago

April, 1893

Midland met the Rio Grande fare cut to \$6 to Leadville, and \$5 to Buena Vista. Prices could go lower.

City Council appointed J. M. Jackson clerk, J. D. Faulkner treasurer, O. F. Inghram police magistrate, Dr. R. S. Briscoe as physician, James Brophy as street commissioner.

Stuttering Bill was back at the throttle of the Midland's #1 to Leadville, after a visit east and south.

Love and Quimby donated 10 acres between Rio Grande and Midland tracks, near Camp Creek bridge, as a location for the new Glassworks.

Professional Cowboys (and Girls) Trace Their Roots Back to the Ranch

Nobody "invented" the rodeos that have created the modern professional cowboy; they grew out of the needs of cattlemen doing business in the wide-open spaces of the West.

That's a conclusion based on the history of the rodeo cowboy told to us March 12th, by **Pat Florence**, assistant director and assistant curator of the Pro-Rodeo Hall of Fame in Colorado Springs.

Before Europeans came only buffalo roamed the plains. The second Spanish expedition to the new world brought cattle, and Spanish and Mexican cowboys evolved to care for them.

After the Civil War there were millions of animals, especially in Texas. Though they grazed the open range, the dogies had to be branded and animals chosen for shipment east. The skills needed then, and on the first trail drives to the railroads, helped cowboys develop their unique skills.

Cowboys needed horses to ride; thus they must break horses. They needed to brand cattle; so they had to rope cattle. Thus, saddle-bronc riding and calf roping became important skills of the cowboy.

The cowboy took pride in his abilities, and he welcomed the chance to show off in competition, especially after the herd reached the railhead and the cowman had a bath, new clothes and money.

Ms. Florence said the first bronc-riding competition was held at Deertrail, Colorado, in 1869. The prize was a new set of clothes. It was won by an Englishman.

Interest in the contests led someone to charge admission, and the modern rodeo was born.

Steer wrestling came from seeing dogs bring cattle under control by biting them on the lip. A brave cowboy did the same, giving birth to one rodeo feature which didn't grow directly from the cowboy's normal ranch work.

As the cowboy's rugged life was romanticized, it was a short step to organizing exhibitions. Buffalo Bill established the first Wild West show in 1881-2; it could visit any town with a railroad.

The shows broadened opportunities for women. Some spectacles were new, like riding four galloping horses at once. But women also entered more-rugged competition between the 1920's and the late 40's. The only concession was to hobble their stirrups towards the belly of the horse; women worked the same stock and rode by the same rules.

Another opportunity for both men and women came with motion pictures. Their riding skills and the insatiable demand for "horse-operas," gave off-season jobs to rodeo performers.

Ms. Florence traced the evolution of western clothing. Everything from the bandanna to the ten-

Despite Show Business Elements, Rodeos Started Midst Rail Heads and Vaqueros

gallon hat had an important function, although there were regional variations. Chaps smelled bad when wet and were too warm for the desert and went out of fashion in the 30's.

Ms. Florence said the crease in the hat furnished a clue to the cowboy's home territory among those who knew what to look for.

A milestone occurred in 1936 when the rodeo went indoors at places like Madison Square and Boston Gardens, and turned the performer into a professional. The individual sought prize money worth his effort and demanded fair judging. This led to the first professional organization, called, interestingly, the Cowboys Turtle Association.

In 1945 this became the Rodeo Cowboys' Association, and in 1975, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys' Association.

Rodeo, like golf, is an individual competition. A professional may count points earned at up to 100 rodeos a year. Prizes have grown enormously, from \$15,000 to 25 million a year, but the cowboy arranges his transportation and living quarters for himself, his family and his horses. He'll have a sizeable investment in horses and equipment. She suggested a year's take of \$200,000 might net a professional around \$20,000. She added a grim footnote: a highway is more hazardous than the arena.

Professional rodeo struggles to accommodate itself to animal rights activists, though this isn't a new problem. Ms. Florence predicts women will play a growing role; it's only a matter of time, she said, before women compete in bull riding; and the future is likely to feature all-women rodeos.

—o—

SPECIAL PROGRAM AT PRO-RODEO HALL

ProRodeo Hall of Fame and Museum features a photo exhibit titled "The Last Cowboy" through May 15th. Thirty pictures taken in the 1990's by Adam Jahiel depict the modern working cowboy in Nevada, Montana and Wyoming. Of six ranches he shot as late as 1992, only four are in operation.

'Baby' Is Introduced In Parade

Marching behind a baby carriage labeled "Our New Baby," with a picture of our building at 1 S. 24th, a "family" marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade down the Avenue March 14. The sign urged help so the "baby" can become a history center.

Marchers this year were: Kay Arnold, Ralph Conner, Lucille Cunningham, Lee Michels and Courtney Michels. Larry Borchert supplied the baby carriage from his collection. We'll let you see the group when we have space to run a picture.

Current Status of our 1993 Budget

* Indicates a sum spent or committed.

ESTIMATED 1993 INCOME	
1993-94 memberships	\$660
Territory Days	100
World Savings CD	1,700
Pikes Peak Nat'l CD int.	150
Credit Union (\$30,000 at 4%)	1,215
TOTAL "EARNED" INCOME	3,825
Less 50% (to endowment)	-1,912
BALANCE FOR EXPENSES	1,912
Member contributions to 3/1	2,125
INCOME FOR 1993 EXPENSES	4,137
ANNUAL EXPENSES (non-building) (See March WestWord for details.)	
Total annual expenses	\$775

BUILDING EXPENSES (one-time)	
Property tax exemption fee	*75
Regional Bldg. Inspection fee	*150
City zoning and variance fees	*465
Architect's fees to 4/1	*2228
(Site survey and plan, rezoning and variance application, blueprints and copying costs so far).	
Interest on \$29,900	*2,990
Total one-time bldg expenses	\$5,908

--->We're now responsible for utilities, as of 3/19. Prior to that date Immanuel Missionary Church paid utilities to serve as rent on the church apartment. The missionaries living there are now in South America.

SECRETARY'S EXPENSES

Ralph Conner, Secretary

Negs and plate for March NL	12.10
Guest luncheon	5.00
Misc. postage	1.06
TOTAL due secretary as of 4/1	18.16

④ Old Colorado City Historical Society
April 1, 1993

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

MEETING APR
THIS MONTH 9

11 am at Trinity U. M. Church, 1920 North 20th
Located just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center
To make or cancel luncheon reservations, please phone
LYN OWEN, 473-1846
You may leave a message at any time.

MEETING MAY
NEXT MONTH 14

ROLL CALL

from our last meeting:

We welcomed speaker Pat Florence as a guest, but all the visitors became members! We had 42 present.

Members who signed in were:

Jo Alden	Catherine Henderson
Kay Arnold	Ann Hiskey
Ed Bathke	Jerry Iverson
Sally Brawner	Joyce Johns
Rosemae Campbell	Jan Knox
Nancy Cantrell	Carl McClure
Carl Chilcott	Shar McClure
Ralph Conner	Dorothy McGlasson
Virginia Cox	Lance Michels
John Croff	Lee Michels
Arnold Cunningham	Patricia Neeley
Geraldine Cunningham	Doug Neeley
Lucille Cunningham	Lyn Owen
Ed Curry	Jack Patterson
Martha Curry	Pat Patton
Lucile Ellis	Jan Pettit
Leland Feitz	Maloa Read
Eileen Graham	B. E. Tillotson
Marjorie Harris	Jean Tillotson
Orrin Haynes	Bud Walker
	Bessie Wreath

WESTWORD

Edited by Ralph Conner, 719/634-0895

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Published the first of almost every month by the non-profit Old Colorado City Historical Society, Inc., 1 S. 24th, Colorado Springs, CO. 80904-3319.

The Old Colorado City Historical Society was formed to maintain the memory of Colorado City (1859-1917), encourage research, preserve pictures, keep alive the unique culture and spirit of Westside Colorado Springs, and establish a history center at 1 S. 24th in honor of Colorado City's dramatic and significant past.

MEETINGS

Meetings are held the second Friday of each month (except June, July and August) at 11 a. m., usually at Trinity United Methodist Church, 701 N. 20th—just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center. The public is welcome and no reservation is needed for the program.

The meeting is followed by a luncheon, served by people of the church. Cost is \$5 per person. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE LUNCHEON and should be made by phoning Lyn Owen, 473-1846. Leave a message any time. Please call Lyn Owen to cancel if you find you cannot attend.

MEMBERSHIPS

Individual membership is \$5 a year; family membership is \$10. Memberships are welcome any time. Renewal falls in April. Members receive this newsletter and local members will be phoned before each meeting if they wish.

Lifetime Memberships are also available for \$100 per person. This amount is placed into a Perpetuity/Endowment fund, to be used only for projects which have been approved by two-thirds of the members. 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.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Joyce Johns	635-4649
Vice President	Jan Knox	495-8359
Secretary	Ralph Conner	634-0895
Treasurer	John Croff	632-2896
	Vera Chambon	634-2340
	Virginia Cox	635-8705
	Lucille Cunningham (work)	636-9341
	Sandi Hoewisch (work)	635-2266
	Dorothy McGlasson	632-1932
	Pat Patton	574-6976
	Leon Young (work)	633-2621

