Members Rally for Auction Fundraiser

A CARREST

The bands are ready, merchants have generously donated an interesting assortment of items and Laura Belle's is geared up for a good crowd and a good time. The Concert/Auction in support of the Old Colorado City Historical Society is ready to go October 10th at 734 N. 19th.

Starting at 2:00, local bands (which donate their services) will alternate with auctions offering everything from an over-stuffed camel, tires, gift certificates or a quiet evening for two.

In addition, there'll be pizza, exclusive T-shirts, and caricatures by Kevin Cordte (whose talents are also donated). Proceeds from these, plus the \$5 cover charge at the door, will benefit our building fund. There'll also be regular Laura Belle's bar service.

The event was originally suggested by proprietor Nancy Tracy, who is experienced with similar fundraisers for worthy causes. She and stalwart O.C.C.H.S. members will be hosts.

Our members have been busy for weeks contacting merchants, who have happily supplied items for the auction to support our future History Center.

We'll acknowledge the particants and donors in a future issue of WestWord, and a list of items and their donors will be available to all who attend the auction.

Country music by Dakota begins the afternoon; River People and Gordon, Stone and Wise offer blues, and the rock of Shakedown Street will carry the music into the evening.

There'll be something to make a visit worthwhile, whether you sample modern local talent or pick up unique bargains. October 1, 1993

A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Russ Brooks, proprietor of B & B Sales, 2703 W. Colorado. He wholesaled gifts and souvenirs for 49 years. He came from Kansas in 1955, met another newcomer (from California) who became his wife Bonnie soon after they met. He exercises his interest in history with camping trips to historic areas.

Connie Duffy joins courtesy of Virginia Cox. She's a native who grew up in Manitou Springs, and works for Loral. Her travel is likely to be on foot, since she's a walker, and a friend of animals and of the environment. Among environments she likes is the West Side, and she's eager to preserve the area.

We short-changed Jim Rowe last month because he lives in Granite, Colorado, with his wife Louise—except when they go to Arizona! If you think you remember them, you're right on, for they are Westside natives and lived here until 1971. We're glad they're keeping in touch.

Board to Make New Meeting Schedule

With cold weather coming, monthly board meetings have been moved from our flistory Center to the comfort of the Pikes Peak National Bank board room. That makes it necessary to move the meeting ahead one week.

The next board meeting will be at the bank at 9:30 am, on Wednesday, October 13th.

Note: Postage for this issue of WestWord was donated so that it can be mailed first class, to be sure it will reach local members in advance of the deadline for making luncheon reservations.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

We Meet in a New Spot To Learn Rare History About the Lowly Potato

STATES TO STATES

All you don't know about the potato will be revealed October 8th by Anna-Leah Hathaway, as we meet at the I.O.O.F. Lodge at 23rd and Pikes Peak.

Her talk comes with the recommendation of members who like her light-hearted look at the spud, or who have heard ABOUT her story and want to hear IT!

The potato was unknown in Europe until it was brought from the New World by Spain. It was important in later European history, especially in Ireland, and still plays a signficant part in our own state. Ms. Hathaway illustrates her talk with artifacts.

We Meet at the I.O.O.F. Lodge To Allow Remodeling of Church

Trinity United Methodist Church, where we usually meet, is being remodeled so we won't meet there again until January. The large "gym" is to be divided and half made into two floors, which will make the dining area at the lower level much cozier.

The building where we'll meet October 8th is itself historic. It was the youth center when Trinity Methodist (First Methodist of Colorado City) was at 23rd and Pikes Peak. The meal is \$5.

The dining area is a half story above street level, but there's an inclined elevator for those who don't want to climb stairs. There is parking beside the building.

We need to give the cooks an early count, so PLEASE BE PROMPT IN CALLING LYN OWEN TO MAKE RESERVATIONS. Leave a message any time on her answering machine, 473-1846.

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Westside Memories: Turning Back the Clock on Local Events

Twenty-five Years Ago

October, 1968

Residents of Skyway, Pine Valley, Broadmoor and Ent opposed a loop road from 31st St. to highway 115.

A company planned to develop land near the Garden of the Gods, if the Preservation Council couldn't raise funds to buy the land to protect the entrance to the Garden of the Gods.

Fifty Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. John Maczko, 2513 Ehrich, were driving on south 26th when Mrs. Maczko opened the door to close it firmly. She lost her balance, fell, and was fatally injured. He was a longtime Golden Cycle mill worker.

B-17 pilot Frank Williams, Jr., 2921 W. Colorado, was missing after a raid on Germany. Capt. Clark Gable was once a gunner on Williams' plane.

Sgt. Joe Louis and Cpl. Sugar Ray Robinson boxed at Camp Carson in separate exhibition bouts.

John G. Bock sold the former city hall on South 26th to Harry House of the Argyle block. The Templeton building, 2502-4 W. Colorado, was sold to Ed Pring. The family home at 2 S. 25th was already sold, so for the first time in 50 years, the Templeton family didn't own any of "Colorado City".

Though Trinity Methodist had debts of \$6,800 two years earlier, and spent \$25,000 for improvements, Rev. Mc-Daniel said the church was debt free.

Berna Dean Metz and Mary Jane Lobdell played a piano duet at the Whittier P-TA meeting.

Independent noted "old-fashioned midnight activity", but it came from 3 shifts at the mill and Midland shops rather than from saloons.

Police said that of 85 arrests made between Sept. 14 and Oct. 18, 63.5% were military, 36.5% were civilian.

10,500-ton SS William J. Palmer was launched in California. Eleven-year-old Frances Krause, descendent of Palmer's confidential secretary, presided.

12-year-old Robert Noble was overcome by smoke and hospitalized. He was in a 16-inch culvert at 25th and Broadway when playmates built a fire of leaves to "smoke him out."

Troop 3, under scoutmaster Ted Crawford, distributed war posters to local merchants. Troop included Kenneth Bennett, David Hale, Jerry Matthews, John Mitchell, Don Seals, Everett Hale, Robert McKinley, Frederick McNulty, Larry Pitts, Elmer Sieman.



Oct., 1918 ad: Deluxe dinner every evening at the Broadmoor, \$2.00

Seventy-five Years Ago

October, 1918

Schools, churches, theaters closed, all public assemblages forbidden, because of flu epidemic. Funerals allowed at graveside, with only the family present. Soda fountains had to serve drinks in paper cups or glasses washed in boiling water. Burning of leaves forbidden. Streetcar windows left open to circulate air. Citizens warned about using public telephones. Merchants were ordered not to have sales, since that brought people together. Early exception: Terrors met the West Denver football team.

Flu killed Leo Beyle in Socorro, New Mexico, following the death of his wife; twins Donald and Dorrance Engstrom, 1809 W. Colorado, died.

Authorities said 615 cases of Spanish influenza were reported here; there were 21 deaths locally.

Cpl. Edwin D. Drake, native and resident until 1916, killed in action after service in both army and navy. Randall J. Reid, 1331 W. Colorado, killed in action.

Otto Thrasher's grocery re-located at WCTU building, 2413 W. Colorado.

Restriction on sugar caused Mrs. Kitty Enos to close the candy shop at 2510 W. Colorado. Proprietor Charles Bishop was in service.

Midland articles of incorporation were amended, limiting business to El Paso, Fremont and Teller counties since Grand Junction route was closed.

West Pikes Peak Christian Church was clear of debt, had a small balance.

H. R. Williams, proprietor of Pikes Peak kennels on the Manitou Road, caught four speckled trout weighing more than five pounds in Sutherland creek, a step outside the city limits.

Representative of the French army surgical corps examined the Penrose home on Dale, said they'd probably accept Penrose' offer to use it as a hospital for tubercular French officers.

Police ordered to improve shooting skills in gallery in the old Gough hotel. I. B. Bruce became chief of detectives.

One Hundred Years Ago

October, 1893

Divorce granted Laura McDaniels from Thomas J. McDaniels on grounds of failure to support.

Pipelaying crews brought water to Cripple Creek, and there were rumors that a telephone system would be installed. City lacked only a railroad.

Miss Remee, variety artist at the Crystal Palace, took morphine to commit suicide. A physician saved her life but she resolved to try again.

Masked men held up the Midland station at Divide, took \$450.

Attending the world's fair in Chicago: A. Z. Sheldon, Dr. Winternitz, C. H. Sherman, Anthony Bott.

School enrollment grew to 385.

Ten men were added to the Midland car-repair crew, brought employment in that department to 29.

Old shack formerly used as Midland passenger depot burned down.

C. D. Taylor ordered an electric are light for his store.

County tax levy reduced from 11 to 7 mills, since \$52,000 debt a year ago was wiped out. Jail, land for new courthouse, roads to Cripple Creek had all been paid for.

Otto Jensen, once superintendent at the Glassworks, found phonolite in Ute Pass—a substitute for soda ash, most expensive ingredient in glass. Pueblo wanted the Glassworks, said coal was 50¢ a ton cheaper there. Colorado City pledged 7 acres of land and \$3,000.

Maud Woodward, daughter of Mrs. Belle Deimer, was sent to a Denver church school until she came of age.

125 Years Ago

October, 1868

Because the company wanted to prove that the US-to-Mexico telegraph was working it got reports from all along the line, and we know that Oct. 7, between 6 and 9 pm, a windstorm raged in Colorado City, carrying lumber, boxes and outhouse roofs hundreds of yards, but with no heavy damage. An inch of snow fell.

Teamsters saw 10 Indians on the Divide; 27 passed near Plum Creek, as white families waited in a stockade; "Indians are again sneaking round through the settlements everywhere southeast of [El Paso county], and we may expect news of further depredations at any moment."

Old Colorado City Historical Society
October

What's Happening So Far About Our #1 History Center?

Our architects and a contractor have supplied new cost estimates which take us another step towards our long-standing goal of a Westside History Center. A look back makes it easier to appreciate the progress we've made in the last few years.

As early as 1981, the Old Colorado City Historical Society scrambled to find a place to keep a small, frame building which would have been given to us if we would move it off the lot at 2617 W. Colorado. The opportunity passed before we could marshal our limited resources.

We considered buying the "second city hall" on south 26th, but a price of \$300,000 put it out of reach. That building was destroyed by fire, June 18th, 1990.

The Society held serious talks with Immanual Missionary Holiness Church, 1 S. 24th, in September of 1988. There was no agreement about price, and a sale depended on finding a location for the congregation. No deal was achieved.

Our most serious offer was for the building at 2611 W. Colorado. We agreed on a price, contingent on raising funds for the purchase and rehabilitation. An architect drew up preliminary plans, and members authorized expenditure of \$75,000 from our endowment fund. We sought foundation support, and received a promise of 10% of the estimated \$452,701 needed for purchase and construction. But the project was still beyond our resources.

The Immanual Missionary Holiness congregation again sought our interest in the building at 1 S. 24th. A church at 2500 Busch had become available. After negotiation, and another vote by members, we committed funds to buy the Busch church and trade it for the one we now own.

Those who expected to see carpenters at work the next

afternoon are likely disappointed, but we have moved steadily ahead towards establishing the Center.

We again started architects Michael Collins and Chuck Runge drawing up plans. In many hours of sharing ideas, we found the building fits our goals without too much compromise.

With preliminary plans, we could get estimates on remodeling costs, and we assembled the multitude of details needed to apply for grants. We now have the information at hand to create new fund requests. Jan and Sandy Knox have put considerable skillful effort into applications with two major foundations.

We have other sources of support. We obviously will seek help from the State Historical Society and the funds from the gambling initiative. But grant applications must be quite specific, and we have deemed it wise to wait for responses from pending applications before tapping too many other sources. We will shape future bids according to our most urgent needs.

Meanwhile, there has been much red tape to cut through, starting with fire and building inspections. We've achieved the necessary zone change, with city recognition of the historic nature of the building. We are applying for a building permit so we can make a fast start when money becomes available.

We are exploring fund-raising methods like the coming Auction/Concert and have been pleased with the support we receive from Westsiders. Our community wants to give our past a future.

Meanwhile, specific planning is beginning on such features as a gift shop and likely displays. Committees are organized as needed, more members are involved, the board meets frequently. Despite new demands made on our volunteers, we're determined to maintain our standards, to keep programs interesting, our membership growing, and the newsletter circulating. We still visit schools, respond to media information

Members Are Urged to Record Volunteer Hours

With O.C.C.H.S, involved in more activity, a greater number of members taking an active part, and with our quest for outside financial help, it becomes important that we have an accurate record of hours worked each month by our volunteers.

Foundations want assurance that we have the backing of an active and concerned membership, and that we're using our human resources productively. So any member who devotes time to our affairs should total the hours and pass them on to the secretary or a board member.

Appreciation Noted For Johns' Efforts

At our Sept. 10th meeting, the board and membership of O.C.C.H. S. recognized the contributions of our retiring president. A framed plaque read:

This certificate of appreciation is issued to

Joyce Johns

President, O.C.C.H.S., May 19, 1989 to May 19. 1993 in recognition of her industry and leadership leading to purchase of the Old Colorado City History Center, 1 S. 24th.

From a grateful board and membership, 1993. (Signed by the pres. and sec'y)

requests and to organizations seeking events like walking tours. The vital accessioning of growing amounts of archive and artifact materials goes steadily on.

And we now have more information to guide planning. With cooperation from the architects and Murphy Construction Co., we have new figures about the likely cost of rehabilitation. Their estimates are that our project will cost \$198,695. Certain alternates would add \$9,612 to that cost. These are tentative estimates only.

Old Colorado City Historical Society Oct. 1, 1993



CONCERT

Dakota River Gordon
Stone & Wise

SHAKE-DOWN



Merchandise, Services, Gift Certificatse Offered at the PRICES YOU SET!

Contributed by Local Public-Spirited Business People

OCTOBER Starting at 2:00 All Cover Charges and Auction proceeds go to support the OLD COLORADO CITY History Center
1 S. 24TH ST.

Laura Belle's

734 N. 19th

OUR PAST DESERVES A FUTURE!

If You Know Where to Look, Vestiges of Sangre de Cristo Pass Remain

When he spoke to O.C.C.H.S. First Go West, THEN South to members September 10th, Ed Helmuth applied two adjectives to Sangre de Cristo pass: "first" and

Get to Taos and Santa Fe By an Alternate Route

Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri promoted the pass as a route for a transcontinental railroad-one of four passages con-

"forgotten." It was in use a hundred years or more before the famous Santa Fe trail.

In the eighteenth century fur traders and New Mexico governors followed Indian trails over Sangre de Cristo pass, and it was Juan Bautista de Anza, governor of New Mexico, who gave it its name in 1779, observing a blood-red sunset after defeating

Comanches who had made raids into New Mexico.

The area was Spanish territory then, of course, and the principal passage to the Arkansas Valley lay through the San Luis Valley and Sangre de Cristo pass to Pueblo. Travelers from the north and east were not welcome; some trappers who used the trail had their pelts confiscated.

Spanish authorities established a fort a few miles east of the pass in 1819. Within months a garrison of six badly-armed militiamen attacked by a hundred Indians, or whites dressed as Indians. The raiders were repulsed but five of the defenders were killed.

(In 1934, historian LeRoy Hafen led a group which located crumbling rock walls around an enclosure, and nearby graves, which were probably the remains of the Spanish fort.)

By this time the pass was well-used as part of the "Trappers" or "Taos" trail. It didn't have the prominence of trails over the Continental Divide farther west. But in the 1830's virtually all trade between the Arkansas Valley and New Mexico used the Sangre de Cristo route. Raton pass was longer and rougher, and not yet developed.

Though it was considered the best route, it was never an easy journey. In September, 1844, George and Juana Simpson, six other adults and the couple's young baby left the Pueblo vicinity for Taos and ran into an unseasonable snowstorm which slowed them to a pace of 60 miles in seven days. The storm subsided as they reached the summit of the pass, but the men had to dismount and beat a path through heavy snowdrifts.

Juana's horse stumbled and plunged the mother and her young baby into a snowbank. Unfazed, she emerged smiling, with the baby in her arms, and resumed her place in the caravan.

Indian raids remained frequent, and the first military base in Colorado was established nearby to furnish protection: Fort Mass- To Sanda Fo achusetts, which was later relocated and named Fort Garland. Its troops did little to pacify Indians.

sidered to get through the Sangre de Cristo range. He predicted that when the oceans were connected through Sangre de Cristo, a grateful nation would carve the likeness of Columbus into Huerfano Butte, a landmark familiar to early travelers, ten miles north of Walsenburg, east of highway 25.

Capt. John Gunnison used the butte as a guide in 1853 to mark a railroad route, and recommended the Sangre de Cristo course despite the arduous efforts required at its high altitudes. John Charles Fremont, Sen. Benton's son-in-law, brought a party of surveyors across in December of the same year.

The fame of the pass spread as trade developed among Denver, Colorado City, Pueblo, Taos and Santa Fe and as prospectors explored the region.

A military expedition reached Denver with a copy of a Santa Fe newspaper in just ten days via Sangre de Cristo, in contrast to 40 days needed by the postal service to go to Missouri and back to Denver along the Platte river route.

During the Civil War, volunteers left Canon City Dec. 12, 1861, crossed Sangre de Cristo pass to reach Fort Garland Dec. 21. They went on to Santa Fe and Fort Union in time to participate in the battle of Glorietta pass which halted southern efforts to conquer the Colorado gold fields.

Mr. Helamuth's research identified many individuals and expeditions over the pass and there was regular passenger/mail service in the late 1860's and early '70's. Maps as late as 1892 indicated a wagon road over the pass. Kit Caron and Dick Wooten and the notorious Espanosas used it. The Hayden Survey and Wheeler expeditions treked over Sangre de Cristo.

But as the area developed, routes were found which were, or could be made, easier or more convenient. The railroad went over La Veta pass, south of Sangre de Cristo, and although William Jackson Palmer considered Sangre de Cristo, he ultimately laid the D&RG tracks over Raton pass.

> The pass itself lies on private property now, but it's possible to see the old route from North La Veta pass. At the top, on the west side of the pass, look to the north to see the trail as it runs up the hill and down the valley.

Mr. Helmuth wants these faint ruts marked and preserved to identify a "first" pass which doesn't deserve to be "forgotten."

in Luis New Mexico

Map above shows the general location of Sangre de Cristo pass. Roads shown are modern.

Old Colorado City Historical Society Oct. 1, 1993

ROLL X CALL

from our last meeting:

When the secretary says he's in-competent, he expects to be taken seriously. The Roll Call of our May neeting published in September simply repeated the listing for April. The lists below are kind of correct.

ANNUAL MEETING IN MAY

Thirty-eight signed in, including four visitors:

ad Bathke Jan Knox Shirley Kyllonen ally Brawner nd Walker Dorothy McGlasson an Christopher Helen Wichelson Marjorie Oliver alph Conner rt Crawford Lyn Owen John Croff Jack Patterson Lucille Cunningham iz Geiss Maloa Read veda Goosman Jim Rogers David Harr Virginia Rogers Wilma Stephens Marjorie Harris Gene Tarbert Orrin Haynes Catherine Henderson Bud Walker Ann Hiskey Jo Walker Sandi Hoewisch Clint Waller Pat Bonser Walters J. R. Jeckel loyce Johns Bessie Wreath VISITORS AND GUESTS

SEPTEMBER MEETING

B. N. Lewis

Jim Rees

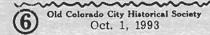
Ann Brunk

van Brunk

Counting our speaker and his wife, 43 were present at our September meeting. We note particularly the oung crew which accompanied Derry leason, who made our meeting part of her home-schooling efforts. signing in were:

David Hughes Ed Bathke Nancy Bathke Joyce Johns Jean Christopher Jessie King Ralph Conner Shirley Kyllonen Virginia Cox Agnes Loesch John Croff D. McGlasson Lucille Cunningham Lance Michels Lee Michels Ed Curry Martha Curry Millie Jan Pettit Bob Gaarder Loretta Gaarder Jim Rogers Virginia Rogers Aurora Gleason Liliane Ross Bobby Gleason Derry Gleason Harriet Seibel Martha Simons Sam Gleason B. E. Tillotson Tim Gleason Eileen Graham Jean Tillotson Orrin Haynes Veda Goosman Catherine Henderson Clint Waller Ann Hiskey Pat Walters Sandi Hoewisch

VISITORS AND GUESTS Speaker and guest was Ed Helmuth, assisted by his wife Gloria Helmuth.



MEETING OCT THIS MONTH

11 am at Trinity U. M. Church, 1920 North 20th MEETING NOV 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.

WESTWORD

Edited by Ralph Conner, 719/634-0895 Vol. IX, Nbr. 2 Oct. 1, 1993

Published the first of almost every month by the non-profit corporation:

> Old Colorado City Historical Society 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 honoring 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 lunch-

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.

eon, served by people of the church.

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

Lucille Cunningham	636-9341
Jan Knox	495-3359
Ralph Conner	634-0895
John Croff	632-2896
Vera Chambon	634-2340
Virginia Cox	635-8705
Orrin Haynes	635-2488
Sandi Hoewisch	635-2266
Joyce Johns	635-4649
Dorothy McGlasson	632-1932
Leon Young	633-2621
	Ralph Conner John Croff Vera Chambon Virginia Cox Orrin Haynes Sandi Hoewisch Joyce Johns Dorothy McGlasson

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Croff, Treasurer

Memberships	+80.00
Contribution	+2,000.00
Int on checking acct.	+7.73
Chking Acet Bal 8/31/93 ASSET SUMWARY	5,117.34
PP Nat'l CD	13,112.71
World Savings CD	42,458.38
World Savings CD	25,526.69
PP Nat'l Check acct. bal.	5,117.34
TOTAL ASSETS, 8/31	86,215.12

August, 1993

SECRETARY'S EXPENSES

Ralph Conner, Secretary

August and September (Last month's figures were mis-labeled; \$108.79 covered May, June and July. First 3 items were May expenses.) 900 24-lb #10 envelopes 8.85 200 24# 9x12" open-end envelopes 7.00 Balloons 86.87 (Young's \$100 donation covered this.) NL paper (cartn of 11x17) 38.84 Ream of acid-free paper 8.40 Sept. guest luncheons 10.00 Certificate mounting 21.28 Negs and plates, Sept. NL 24.20 22.04 Negs and plates, Oct. NL Postage; bulk mailing Sept NL 30.20 Postage; stamps for treas. 29.00 Other misc. postage 9.72 TOTAL due Sec'y, 10/1 296.40

Members Invited to Free College Talk

Members of O.C.C.H.S. have a special invitation from Colorado College to attend a lecture on "A Tale of Two Towns," by Prof. Duane Smith, Wed. Oct. 27, 8 pm, in the Gates Common Room.

Prof. Smith compares Sandwich, IL, an agricultural community, with Durango, CO., a mining town in the 1890's. He looks for similarities and differences on such issues as politics, women, leadership, sports, and dreams for the future. The talk will be illustrated with slides.

The lecture is free, and refreshments will be served. He appears under auspices of the Arthur G. Pettit Memorial.