

Items Of Note

RALPH CONNER

✓ Lance Michels also represented us ably at the Old Colorado City Associates booth at the Chamber of Commerce Fall Business Exposition.

✓ Jerry Jekel will again conduct tours in the region next spring and summer, and would welcome members to serve as guides. They would be paid for taking about twenty teachers on walking tours under Dr. Jekel's supervision. Contact him at 380-7010.

✓ We arranged with West Junior students to have the History Center sidewalk cleared of snow as needed. Thank you to Joyce Johns, who is financing the project this winter...

✓ A group calling itself "Caring Families Of Westside" are raising money so some West students can visit Mexico. They have youngsters (11 to 14) who are eager to shovel snow, babysit, or help with cleaning and other chores. If you can help their cause and want some enthusiastic assistance, call 630-2280 and leave a message for teachers aide Glenda Seabold.

✓ Our contact with Katie Williams of the West Intergenerational Center was brief but we appreciate her help and interest. She and her husband are moving to Denver.

✓ Kay Arnold's busy with guests from Washington, Iowa, and New York City, and will be teaching an adult knitting class later in the month. She is justifiably proud of her daughter, Kathy Atherton, who will be touring the West for five months with the cast of Cabaret; she portrays Fran Schneider.

✓ Thanks to David Haar, who joined board members Orrin Haynes and Ralph Conner to check out the hot water heater in our History Center. The heater needs work, but it can wait until remodeling begins.

✓ The December meeting of the Board of Directors was at the new and handsome home of Lucille Cunningham. Five guests attended the meeting to share information on projects we're looking into: Bill Hazelton, Sandy Knox, Jean Christopher, Lee Michels, and Douglas Adams representing the Community Rehabilitation Loan Program.

✓ An interesting high-tech Christmas card arrived from Kenneth Englert — a three dimensional nativity scene, on a flat postcard!

19 JANUARY 94

A WESTSIDE WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

DOROTHY MCGLASSON

Mary "Patty" Heltemes, a Westside resident for fourteen years, is a new member of the Old Colorado City Historical Society. Originally from Missouri, she has resided in Colo. Springs since 1941. She taught music to elementary students in Manitou Springs for twenty-one years. Mrs. Heltemes and her late husband, Edward, for years enjoyed a collection of eight to ten foreign and domestic antique automobiles in which they traveled on tours. He was president during 1980-81 of the Veteran Motor Car Club of America, a national organization. Mrs. Heltemes enjoys reading about the past and noting the changes that have taken place. She is particularly interested in southwestern history and attends luncheon meetings of the Aficionados of Southwest Studies at Colorado College, which feature speakers on various facets of the area.

Transitions

RALPH CONNER

Our sympathies to Nancy Tracy in the death of her father. Philip Henry Castine, 85, died 10 December. He was born 10 August 1908 in Harriman, Tennessee. He married Alfreda Halley in 1934. Mr. Castine was a sales manager for Gavitt Wire and Cable. In addition to Nancy, he is survived by another daughter, Roberta Largent, two sisters, and two brothers.

We note the death of a man not associated with OCCHS. Allen Robert Kinsman died at 92 on 02 December. He was a Colorado City native, son of Clement & Jennie (Allen) Kinsman. Four sisters preceded him in death: Martha Blaise, Ruth Boyd, Esther Kinsman, and Dr. Gladys Lewis. He is survived by his niece, Mrs. Guy A. Boyd. Mr. Kinsman, whose family arrived here in 1860 from Ipswich, Massachusetts, attended local schools and Colorado College. He was noted as a championship runner, and operated a grocery for many years.

January Meeting

DOROTHY MCGLASSON

Garden Park Presentation

Garden Park, near Canon City, will be the program subject for the next meeting of the Old Colorado City Historical Society at 11:00 a.m., 14 January, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 701 North 20 Street (just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center).

A representative of the Bureau of Land Management, which administers the paleontological park, will give a slide show.

The area was discovered in 1877 and a number of prominent scientists have gone there to dig.

Discussed will be a proposal to establish a discovery center at the park and preservation of park resources through public education and scientific research.

The meeting is open to the public. Lunch, for which reservations are required, will be served at noon. Reservations may be made by calling Lyn Owen at 473-1846.

Renaissance Man

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Many of us have not realized that we would not have enjoyed this newsletter, or its contents, for some nine years, were it not due to the foresight, commitment, intensive research, and personal sacrifice of its creator and our own renaissance man,

RALPH CONNER

The *Westword* itself speaks for our esteemed friend in terms of historical information and integrity; but beyond that, we have all been delighted with the splashes of interest and twinkles of humor that have made it both tasteful and tasty.

For this, and for your generosity of spirit, and for the many, many other assistances graciously and often anonymously offered to this Historical Society, dear Ralph,

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

WESTSIDE MEMORIES

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK ON LOCAL EVENTS

Twenty Five Years Ago

JANUARY 1969

☆ The new Westside High School was to be called "Coronado". After plans were modified to cut \$130,000 from costs, contracts were signed for the school to open in the fall of 1970. It was to be built for 1200 students, or 2000 if additions were made.

☆ Mr. & Mrs. Nahan Deutch planned to dismantle the Manitou D&RG depot which served for 87 years, to erect a modern motel office.

☆ Opposition surfaced to Kenton McPherson's request to build a 24-unit apartment north and west of Holyoke and Oberlin streets in Columbia addition. Truman Hermanson, developer of Chautauqua subdivision, predicted residents would oppose the structure because it would block their views.

☆ Six hundred Skyway residents debated joining Colorado Springs. On a show of hands, only five favored annexation.

☆ A contract was let for construction of the Manitou Bypass between Cave Of The Winds Road and Manitou Boulevard. A bridge would be constructed across William Canon.

☆ "Harshie's", a confectionary and stationery store at Victor and Third Streets in Victor was sold by Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Harshbarger to Mr. & Mrs. Jack Walker. The store was the oldest business under single management in the Gold Camp, established in 1925.

Fifty Years Ago

JANUARY 1944

☆ C. H. Babcock, 3426 West Kiowa, succeeded G. Russell Miller as Colorado Springs' police magistrate.

☆ Patty Sonnekson, 908 West Colorado, gained high praise in Boston as a figure skater, two years after starting to skate at the Broadmoor. Edi Scholdan was her coach.

☆ Pfc William Schwenn, 318 West Bijou, was wounded on Tarawa in the Pacific. Families of Marine Pfc Seth Garner, 2427 West Pikes Peak, and Pvt John Posega Jr, 2102 West Cucharas, had word their sons survived uninjured.

☆ C. L. Browning, 2427 Robinson, celebrated as the "youngest" of New Years babies. He was born 01 January 1872, at Washington and 25th Streets. He made a living drilling wells, including many well-known mineral wells in Manitou Springs.

☆ West Junior again led schools in the purchase of war bonds and stamps. Their average was \$8.36 per pupil, compared with a district average of \$2.85. Steel (\$5.70) and the High School (\$4.04) followed West.

☆ Jane Anne Reilly, 2017 West Colorado, married Lt Albert Schmidt at Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma.

Seventy Five Years Ago

JANUARY 1919

☆ Senator Dave Elliot introduced a bill into the State Legislature to ease consolidation of Old Colorado City's school district #1 with Colorado Springs' district #11. Both were first class districts. Elliot's bill would make district #1 into second class, to make the election and consolidation simpler.

☆ Samuel R. Womack was interviewed at age 99. He discovered the state's first silver mine near Georgetown, and was father of the late Bob, who found gold at Cripple Creek.

☆ Charles A. Gordon, 97, died at 129 West Costilla. Originally a British subject, Gordon fought in the Indian wars, in the Crimea, and in India after the Sepoy revolt. He served the Union for four years in the American Civil War and fought Indians in Colorado's early days. Gordon helped establish the D&RG, and settled in Colorado Springs in 1871. He was one of the first employees of the streetcar company.

☆ J. Brown Reeder, 11 North 21 Street, was promoted to first sergeant as an air service mechanic. It was remarkable, considering that 18 months earlier he was unfit for service, as a cripple selling newspapers at Pikes Peak and Tejon. Surgery repaired a hip ailment to make him eligible for service.

☆ Tour-guides' story about the Garvin Cabin being the first capitol apparently convinced one legislator. He introduced a bill to move the cabin to Denver.

☆ In retrospect, the worst influenza epidemic period occurred late Nov. to early Dec. During the epidemic, 3278 cases were reported, including 95 deaths.

☆ The former Bott Water System earned \$500 in 1918. Colorado Springs got 75% of that and the Becker estate received 25%.

☆ County grocers maintained some wartime features in their operations: only one delivery per day; no solicitations at homes by grocer agents; closing at 6:00 p.m. and on Sundays.



Kenny Englert supplied this sketch of Victor, Colorado, as it appeared in 1960 (with an estimated population of 434). Artist Hugh Riker, a friend of Englert, formerly lived in Salida until he left for Florida; he specialized in ghost town and mountain scenes.

One Hundred Years Ago

JANUARY 1894

☆ Rumors of gold discoveries in Williams and Queens canons were found to be exaggerated.

☆ Colorado Springs hired a professional fire chief and discarded the volunteers, though four would be hired to establish the fire department.

☆ S. P. Faulkner, 44, who settled in the Gold Camp before the discovery of gold, died suddenly leaving a wife and two children. He owned Cripple Creek's largest livery stable and was the brother of Colorado City mayor James Faulkner.

☆ There was growing agitation to make the Gold Camp a separate county. Cripple Creek cost \$7.00 for every dollar the county spent elsewhere, and taxable property there was only one-tenth of the county's total.

☆ Growing labor problems in Cripple Creek: Mr. Locke, manager of the Buena Vista, posted a notice that in February, miners would work nine hours per day instead of eight. As he and his bodyguards went to the mine from Cripple Creek, two hundred miners accosted them, escorted Locke to the Colorado City road, and demanded that he not come back. A few days later, eight miners were arrested on charges growing out of that incident.

☆ Town of Midland, between Cripple Creek and Divide, was booming with a restaurant and hotel, a stable for the Kuykendall hack line for 80 head of horses, and a barn for 100 horses of Hull's teaming outfit.

☆ Daily train service from Midland meant one could leave Cripple Creek by stage in the a.m. and reach Colorado Springs by 2:00 p.m.

☆ Walter Borden, 35, with a wife and four children, apparently shot and killed himself at his front gate one block south of Colorado Avenue. He had had a livery stable and saloon but was in debt and drinking heavily, so suicide was suspected. But earlier good spirits meant an accident couldn't be ruled out.

☆ About 45 to 50 conversations per day were paid for on the telephone line to Cripple Creek.

☆ Presbyterians raised \$200 toward a church near Mesa Road on the near Westside. They needed \$600.

☆ Peter Eales visited; he was the owner of the roadhouse at the Divide toll gate on the road to Cripple Creek.

☆ Boilers were in place for the Colorado City Electric powerhouse.

☆ Jacob Becker's beer-wagon team bolted and ran into a Midland freight car. One horse was severely injured and the wagon tongue damaged.

Printers Home & Museum A Site To See

It was a step back one hundred years, fitting into an age when people took time to be caring, and comfort began with luxurious surroundings.

It was the visit of 48 members and guests of the Old Colorado City Historical Society to the Union Printers Home on December 10th.

If it seemed cozy to us, it must have been heavenly to the printers who left dirty, ill-lighted, drafty composing, press, or mailing rooms to take retirement in the home their union dues paid for over their working years.

Under the guidance of Brenda Trehus, we started in the auditorium which was still equipped with a 35mm movie projector. We were steps away from an extensive library, the mail room that linked residents to their past, and the reading room which was once stocked with newspapers from all over North America. We had lunch in a walnut-paneled conference room after hiking over the four-story building.

It might have been more impressive when it contained 450 retired printers from the United States and Canada, but more than 50 printers still live there. Now, a similar number of men and women unrelated to the printing trade make it their home, cared for by a staff that outnumbers the residents.

The Union Printers Home began with an 1886 gift of \$10,000 by two Philadelphia philanthropists, publisher George Childs and banker Anthony Drexel. Union members paid regularly through their union in support of the original \$60,000 building of 63 rooms. Unsung heroes were two local men, F. L. Martin and A. A. McGovney, who donated eighty acres of land.

The union was progressive in establishing the institution, which brought recognition to Colorado Springs as a health center.

It took two years to construct the home, which was dedicated 12 May 1892. Since then, of course, it was expanded several times over, and offers three levels of care. Much of its facilities are not currently used, so there is room for growth.

There are a few places for independent living (presently taken); that level costs \$600 / month.

Assisted living, for a fee of \$1,000 per month, provides the services available to all residents: room and board with tray service if needed, 24 hour nursing care, linens and laundry, recreation, and housekeeping.

Skilled nursing care supplies licensed nursing attendance for fees ranging from \$69 to \$90 per day. The home's brochure notes a similar service on a part-time basis, which gives private caregivers a break from their duties while their dependent or loved one is cared for at the Printers Home.

Every resident has his or her own room, although some share a bathroom. There is no smoking in the rooms, but smoking areas are provided. There are communal rooms for recreation, visitors, and meals. Not the least attraction is hot-water heat from two-story high boilers in a separate building. Although there are backup facilities, the boilers are part of the home's original equipment.

In the south part of the main building are medical, surgical, xray facilities, and an acute care hospital. Residents may have their own doctors, but other doctors, including physicians, dentists, and podiatrists, visit the treatment rooms.

The buildings are surrounded by a mile of walkways and benches and, despite being in the midst of a large city, the campus is often visited by wild life. North and south residential buildings, each containing 90 large rooms, are unused at present. The south dormitory once housed tuberculosis patients.

The establishment was never primarily a tuberculosis center; it served aged, infirm, and disabled members, and printers had the option of staying there when they were out of work. It was home to many indigent craftspeople during the Great Depression.

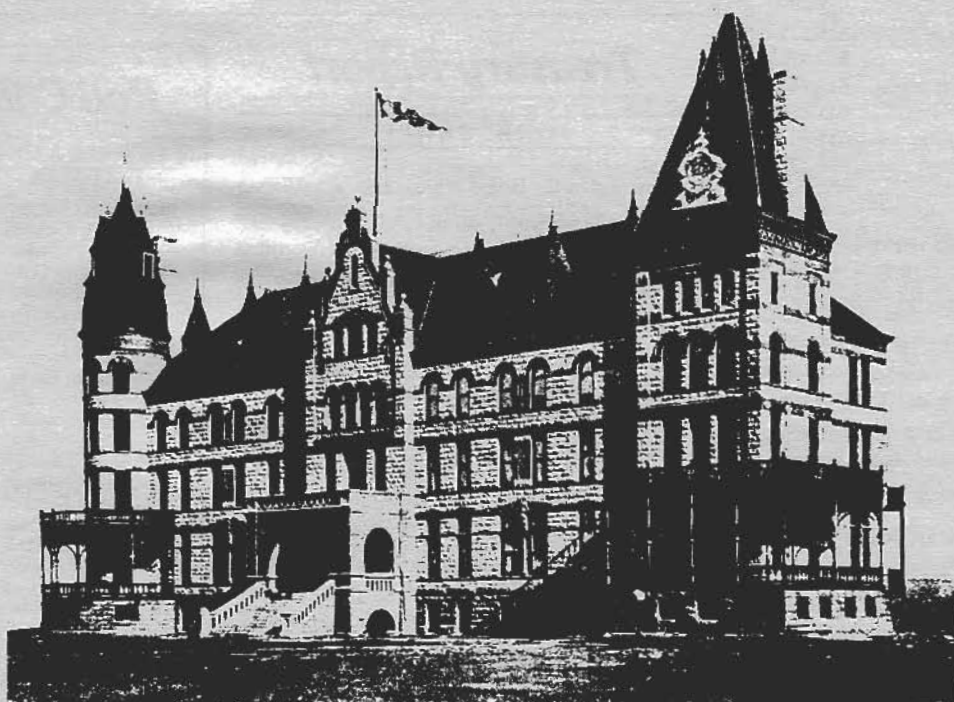
The needs of printers are met in different ways today; printers, proofreaders, and mailers are better paid and more likely to put down roots where they prefer to live out their retirement years.

While the home is still an option, it now requires additional fees.

To put the accommodations to use (including 101 years of experience in health care!), facilities are open to anyone interested, including Medicare patients. The home is operated as a nonprofit enterprise.

While the primary function is caregiving, there is a comforting, old-fashioned character which must be reassuring to residents, whether it's unpaved paths through the trees, wood paneling, rattan furniture on enclosed balconies, nooks and crannies, terrazzo floors, or relics in the printing museum.

RALPH CONNER



UNION PRINTERS HOME

as it appeared shortly after construction; it had 63 rooms. The building was dedicated on 12 May 1892.

Old Colorado City Historical Society

1 SOUTH 24 STREET COLO SPRINGS CO 80904-3319

WESTWORD

VOLUME IX 01 JAN 94 NUMBER 4

PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF ALMOST EVERY MONTH BY THE
OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
A NONPROFIT CORPORATION
SUBMITTAL DEADLINE: 20TH DAY OF EACH MONTH
EDITED BY: RALPH CONNER & SANDI HOEWISCH

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 1 South 24 Street

MEMBERSHIPS

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

Annual membership 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 495-3359
Secretary Ralph Conner 634-0895
Treasurer John Croff 632-2896
Vera Chambon 634-2340
Virginia Cox 635-8705
Orrin Haynes 635-2488
Sandi Hoewisch 635-2266
Joyce Johns 635-4649
Publicity Dorothy McGlasson 632-1932
Leon Young 633-2621

MEETINGS

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

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

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

MEETING THIS MONTH

14 JANUARY 94

AT TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
701 NORTH 20 STREET

JUST WEST OF UINTAH GARDENS

MEETING NEXT MONTH: 11 FEBRUARY 94

Old Colorado City Historical Society

IN CARE OF

2423 ¾ WEST COLORADO AVENUE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80904

Best Wishes To You And Yours For A Happy & Prosperous New Year

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Treasury Report

JOHN CROFF

As instructed by the Board of Directors, a certificate of deposit was closed out at the Pikes Peak National Bank; funds were placed as a certificate of deposit at World Savings. Expenses disbursed and revenues received as of 30 November 1993:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Interest: PPNB | + 12.10 |
| Memberships | + 35.00 |
| T-Shirts & Auction Proceeds: 10/11 | + 1569.57 |
| Auction Proceeds: 11/12 | + 573.00 |
| Lucile Ellis Memorials | + 60.00 |
| Picture Framing | - 19.80 |
| Utilities | - 100.31 |
| Deposit Slips | - 11.85 |
| Display Cabinet Refinishing Supplies | - 27.61 |
| Printing Plates | - 11.90 |
| Postage: Miscellaneous | - 6.67 |
| Mailing: Labels | - 11.92 |
| Mailing: Bulk Rate Postage: November | - 32.44 |
| Mailing: Bulk Rate Postage: December | - 31.85 |

Roll Call : Dec. 10

RALPH CONNER

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Rosemae Campbell | Margaret L Nichols |
| Nancy Cantrell | Lyn Owen |
| Ralph Conner | Louise Parker |
| Virginia Cox | Jack Patterson |
| Art Crawford | Maloa Read |
| John Croff | Jim Rogers |
| Lucille Cunningham | Virginia Rogers |
| Ed Curry | Harriet Seibel |
| Martha Curry | Martha Simons |
| Leland Feitz | Wilma Stephens |
| Betty Fisher | B E Tillotson |
| George Fisher | Jean Tillotson |
| Liz Geiss | T G Van Camp |
| Veda Goosman | Marty Walker |
| Melva Gordon | Jud Wallace |
| Eileen Graham | Mary Jo Wallace |
| Marjorie Harris | Summer Kate Williams |
| Orrin R Haynes | Bessie Wreath |
| Mary Heltemes | |
| Catherine Henderson | VISITORS & GUESTS |
| Ann Hiskey | Gayle Evans |
| Joyce Johns | Louise Flynt |
| Jan Knox | Mrs Jack Patterson |
| Helen Michelson | Janet Polley |
| Doug Neely | Trung Truong |
| Patrice Neely | |