

Friday, May 8, 1987

## Members Rallying for Territory Days

The Old Colorado City Historical Society will again display historic items from Old Colorado City, will give "honorary citizenships", and offer a tour of "downtown" businesses. These activities will be free during Territory Days May 23, 24, and 25th in the Bancroft Cabin.

But we'll need the help of members who enjoy participating in the excitement of the annual Westside celebration. It's a chance to promote our organization and meet some interesting people informally.

To be decided at today's meeting is whether, and when, to offer cookies and lemonade outside the cabin. (Kay Arnold, who usually leads this activity, can't be with us.) When we offer refreshments, we'll need four people on duty; otherwise we'll need at least two.

President Agnes Johnson proposes three-hour shifts. Shift ONE below will be 9 am to noon; shift TWO will be noon to 3 pm.

### Saturday, May 23:

In the cabin: Refreshments:  
1. 1.  
2. 2.

### Sunday, May 24:

In the cabin: Rfrshmnts(?):  
1. 1.  
2. 2.

### Monday, May 25:

In the cabin: Rfrshmnts(?):  
1. 1.  
2. 2.

Those not able to sign up at the meeting, or want to arrange a time with a friend, should call Agnes Johnson (633-8040) or Ralph Conner (634-0895) to

## A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We proudly welcome five new members as we begin a new membership year.

Four joined at or following our last meeting: David M. Henning, Bob and Georgean Moore (he's executive director of the Ute Pass Museum), Kathryn S. Lapp (chairman of the Social Studies Department at Coronado High School), and Frances A. White. All except the Moores live in Colorado Springs.

A special welcome goes to a former Westsider now in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Alice Clark Ross joins courtesy of her daughter, Mae Fern Hitchcock of Cheyenne. Mrs. Ross grew up in Colorado City, and her father played in the Midland Band. She herself played piano in the old Amuse Theater, and with the Fred Frink orchestra. We're glad to "welcome home" another who grew up here.

indicate when they can serve.

In addition, we need volunteers to bake cookies. The Society will reimburse bakers for materials used.

A major event, at 11:00 on Saturday, will be presentation of five plaques to Colorado Avenue rehabilitation - award winners, presented by O.C.C.H.S. and the city of Colorado Springs.

Another activity will be a 2:00 walking tour of historic buildings along Colorado Avenue. Agnes Johnson conducts these.

Those who become "honorary citizens" (at no charge) may buy a souvenir certificate for 50¢ in honor of the occasion.

## Library History, Election of Board Today's Agenda

### Hope to Stagger Directors' Terms So Half of Members Will Carry Over Annually

Member Betsy Evans will give the history of Westside libraries today, following a business meeting at which we select members of a board of directors.

Following the meeting the newly-elected board chooses officers from among the board.

Officers conclude that continuity of the board would be better maintained if terms are staggered, so that half the board is elected each year. With that in mind, members will vote on a slate which arbitrarily gives 1-year terms to some candidates, and 2-year terms to others. Any member may be re-elected when his or her term expires.

Two board members asked to be relieved because of time demands; we thank Betsy Evans and Rev. Dave Clark for their help and dedication.

In their place, officers propose Virginia Cox and Ruth Maxwell. Other nominations are welcome from the floor.

Nominee	Term
Vera Chambon	2
Ralph Conner	1
Virginia Cox	2
David Hughes	2
Agnes Johnson	1
John Keller	2
Orville Kenelly	1
Jan Knox	1
Aldine Lipe	2
Ruth Maxwell	1
Leon Young	1

Nominees from the floor:

## Manitou Society To Hold Westside Sale

The Manitou Springs Historical Society will be in our neighborhood this month to conduct a Flea Market and Bake Sale in support of the restoration of Miramont Castle.

Karl Beinschroth says "treasure and trivia" will be offered on May 16th in the parking lot of Van Briggie Pottery—the former roundhouse of the Colorado Midland railroad on 21st. The sale starts officially at 10, but he suggests you get there early for he expects the first merchandise to go sale by 8:30. Everything from antique furniture to bric-a-brac, and baked goods, will be offered.

The Manitou Historians are looking for donations as well as customers. Items may be dropped off at the Castle in Manitou; or larger items will be picked up if you phone 685-1011.

Left-over merchandise will be given to Silver Key or Goodwill.

Mr. Beinschroth predicts they won't have enough raw materials for another sale next year!

## Will Activity Break Summer's Pattern?

Today's meeting is the last "official" one until we resume in September. But there's been discussion of an informal summer meeting or a historical trip.

A poll of members at last month's meeting showed a dozen interested in an casual get-together as suggested by Jan Knox (495-3359). The meeting would NOT be held at Trinity Church.

Kay Arnold (634-7568) wants to arrange a visit to the site of the Sand Creek Massacre in southeastern Colorado.

If you're interested in these events, please contact the person mentioned above.

## Visitors and Guests:

We welcomed several guests at our April meeting, including contingents from Cedarwood Health Care Center and Whittier School.

Carolyn Churchill, president of History Day Scholars, was a guest at lunch, and Louise Baumgardner was a visitor.

Cedarwood is a corporate life member of our Society, and we were pleased to have it represented at our program by Margaret Anderson, Eunice DeFraties, Oliver Christenson, Blanche Martin, and Debra Welker.

Mrs. Harold Gimpelson helped bring a group of sixth-graders from Whittier, including Susan Paulson, the first Whittier student to participate in History Day. Others present were Brian Beck, Doug Brewer, Doreen Daino, Ken Gimpelson, Chris Graner, Nicole Handley, and Osonia Schulz. They're researching Westside history under guidance of O.C.C.H.S. members Barbara Carter and Ralph Conner.

**REMEMBER  
Territory Days  
Saturday, Sunday, Monday  
May 23rd, 24th, 25th**

## SECRETARY'S EXPENSES

Because a number of people paid for their lunch and membership renewal with a check, the secretary advanced \$26 in cash to pay Trinity United Methodist Church for lunches. The other extraordinary expense below is for 25 sheets of acid-free mat board, to be used to mount certificates and museum items.

Newsletter postage	13.20
Letters, misc. postage	3.42
Norton Office Supplies	3.76
Cash advance for lunches	26.00
Colorado Moulding (mats)	80.70
<b>Total due Secy for April</b>	<b>127.08</b>

## Briefly:

Agnes Johnson reported in April that we're continuing look for possible Museum buildings, as we discuss plans for raising the money we'll need. We can have almost any place we want if we'll spend \$500,000.00.

We're sorry that Aldine Lipe and Bessie Hegg are under the weather. Please get well soon!

The historic plaque furnished by O.C.C.H.S. has been restored in the Brent horse-alley beside Bambino's Pizza restaurant.

Visit Bancroft Park during Territory Days, even if you aren't a host or hostess. We'll be in action in the Garvin cabin there.

Watch for a copy of West-Word in August to bring you up to date on the summer's developments, and with news of our resumed meetings.

## WEST WORD

Volume II, Number 10

May 8, 1987

Published the second Friday of almost every month by THE OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Post Office Box 6702, Colorado Springs, CO. 80934

The Old Colorado City Historical Society was formed to maintain the memory of Colorado City (1859-1917), to encourage research, to preserve historic buildings, mementos and pictures, and to keep alive the unique culture and spirit of Westside Colorado Springs.

### MEETINGS

Meetings are held the second Friday of each month [except in June, July and August] at 11 a. m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1920 Henderson Avenue—across 19th Street, west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center. The public is welcome at all meetings and no reservation is needed for the program.

The program is followed by a luncheon, served by ladies of the church. Cost is \$4 per person. Reservations are required, and can be made by phoning Lyn Owen, 473-1846. Deadline is normally the Wednesday before the meeting, although last-minute change can usually be accommodated up to 5 p. m. the Thursday before the meeting. Since we must pay for all reservations made, please call Lyn Owen to cancel if you find you can't attend.

### MEMBERSHIPS

Individual membership is \$5 a year; family membership is \$10. Renewal falls in April. Members receive our newsletter, and local members will usually be phoned before each meeting.

Also available is a Lifetime membership, for \$100. This amount is placed in our Perpetuity/Endowment fund, to be used for long-term projects which have approval from 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

	Work:	Home:
President:	Agnes Johnson	633-8040
Vice President:	Jan Knox	495-3359
Secretary:	Ralph Conner	634-0895
Treasurer:	Orville Kenelly	473-473
	Vera Chambon	634-
	David Clark	473-3430
	Betsy Evans	634-1698
	David Hughes	636-2040
	John Keller	475-8634
	Aldine Lipe	475-1658
	Leon Young	633-2621
		633-1543



## "Belle Starr's" Appearance Makes Our Own History Day

"Belle Starr" came out shooting at the April meeting of the Old Colorado City Historical Society. While she conceded details of her life make her sound hard, she insisted there's a gentler side, and that she compromised the conflicts in her life.

She appeared through the medium of Palmer Junior **Jennifer Johnson** as a sample of "History Day" presentations. Mrs. **Carolyn Churchill**, founder of History Day, Inc., gave details of the competition and its opportunities for young people.

O.C.C.H.S. members voted, on a motion by Virginia Cox seconded by Carl Chilcott, to repeat last year's gift of \$25 in support of History Day.

Ms. Johnson, a 1985 national winner, demonstrated the thorough research which many students apply to History Day entries. She visited five states in which Belle Starr lived, and braved rattlesnakes to visit Bell's burial plot in Oklahoma. She consulted many sources, including 50 books, and maps, pictures and clippings.

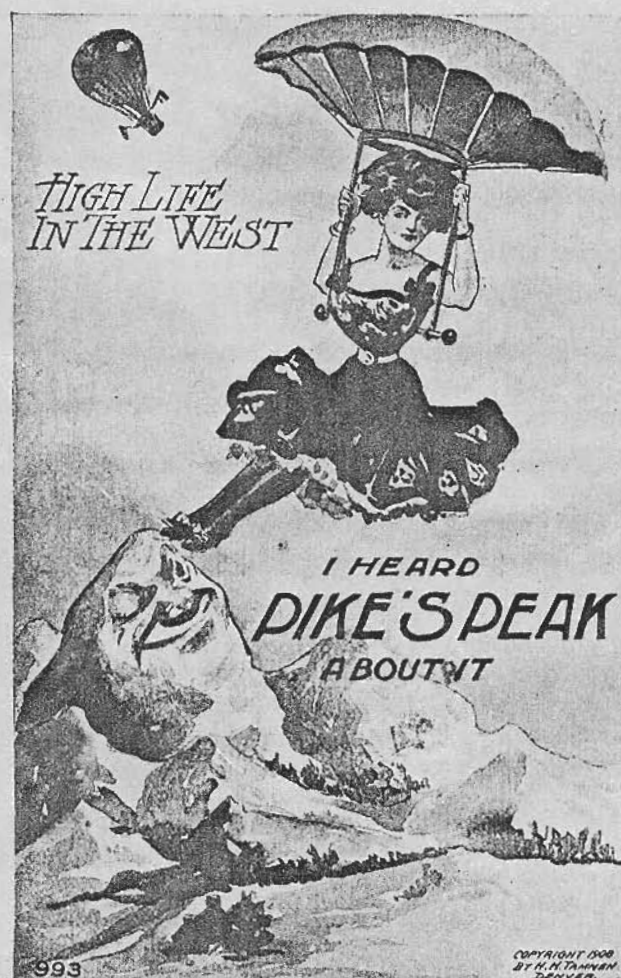
In the elaborate stage setting which accompanied her presentation, we saw a rubbing of Starr's grave-stone, a copy of the calendar hanging in the room where she died, and other souvenirs of her life and times. This included a spur, and we were challenged to explain why Belle Starr had only one. The answer lies in the fact that Ms. Starr rode side-saddle—she was, in fact, the first to do so—and she spurred the horse from only one side!

Despite Confederate sympathies, her involvement with Indian Wars in Texas, and friendships with Cole Younger and Jesse James, Ms. Starr rarely crossed swords with the law. She liked Dickens; in Detroit she taught piano and the 3 R's; she was mother to two children.

When husband Jim Starr died in a shootout, she kept the Starr name when she re-married; her new husband, a Cherokee named Jim Sly, became Jim Starr. She was fatally shot Feb. 3, 1889, two days before her 41st birthday.

Carolyn Churchill compared History Day to Science Fairs. Each year, students are encouraged to write papers, speak, demonstrate or dramatize some theme of American history. This year's: "Liberty: Rights and Responsibilities in History." In competition held a few days before our meeting 350 students participated and 70 went on to state. In seven years, Colorado Springs sent 120 to Washington; six became national winners.

History Day Scholars, Inc., promotes the program and helps defray expenses of the Washington trip. Contributions may be sent c/o the contest sponsor: Dr. Norman Bender, History Dept., U.C.C.S.



Kenny Englert, responding to our write-up of his talk in March to the Westerners, on Ramona, sent some interesting turn-of-the-century postcards, and we thank him for them. The above rare sample, copyright 1908, reproduces well enough to print in our newsletter. Orville and Wilbur Wright had flown in 1904, but airplanes weren't common enough to be included in the picture. The artist didn't know much about parachutes, either; but the lady's safety is helped by her billowing skirt and hairdo. Two cards show steam-engines on the Cog Road. Mr. Englert now lives in California.

## Hughes Gets German Write-Up

O.C.C.H.S. member Dave Hughes was featured in the March **Stern**, a Life-style magazine published in Germany. A 4-page article and picture-spread, part of a "Journey to the Infonauts" series by **Rainer Fabian**, describes a unique combination of "Old West" and hi-tech computer information which characterizes Dave and certain business interests on the Westside. It pictures the St. Patrick's day parade as it passes Schoch's Hardware and Rogers' Bar. The bar was the source of many stories which appeared in Hughes' computer bulletin-board. "Westiders use their computers as matter-of-factly now as their washing machines," says the article.

## Colo. Ave. Fix-Up Winners Due Honor

Four commercial structures and one home have been selected for awards given by the Old Colorado City Historical Society and the City of Colorado Springs for rehabilitation and beautification of structures along Colorado Avenue, carried out in harmony with the neighborhood.

Plaques in recognition will be presented in a ceremony Saturday morning, May 23, at the Garvin cabin in Bancroft Park.

Selection was carried out under guidance of Agnes Johnson, president of O.C.C.H.S., and member of the Colorado Avenue Communications Council.

Winners were selected from fifteen properties which have been constructed or remodeled in the last twelve months.

Address of each property and its owner is given below:

- 1501 West Colorado, Frank and Jim Talbert.
- 1911 West Colorado; Jim Borden.
- 1809 West Colorado; Edward Pine
- 2426, 2428, 2430 West Colorado; Ms. Joan Kessler.
- 2527, 2529, 2531 West Colorado; Rick Mueller.

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WEST WORD

5/8/87

Old Colorado City Historical Society

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Post Office Box 6702  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80934

## PPCC Offers Radio and Music Nostalgia

Pikes Peak Community College will offer two workshops this summer at the Downtown Studio which may be of interest to history buffs.

"Radio Days from 1905 to 1987" will be offered between June 9th and 18th. Evolution of radio broadcasting will be demonstrated with contemporary programs and equipment.

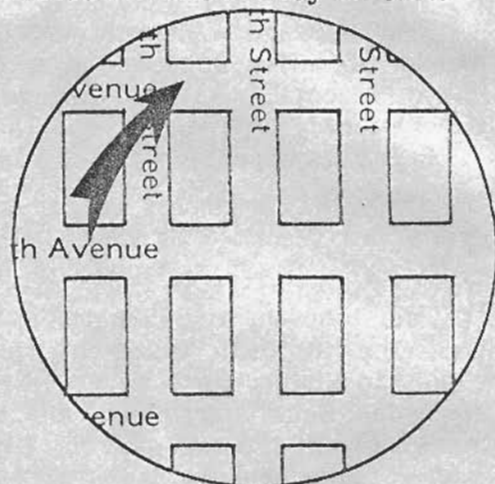
"His Master's Voice; Sound Recording from Low-Fi to Laserdisc" will be presented June 23rd through July 2nd. Preservation of sound from 1900 to the present will be covered through the early equipment and the recordings it produced.

In each case, classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday, from 1 to 3 p.m. Each course carries a tuition of \$40.

Classes will be taught by Bill Cook who has spent a lifetime in radio, movies and recording, and who has assembled an incredible collection of programs, records, transcriptions tapes and equipment dating back to the early part of the century.

Registration should be completed at the Downtown Studio, 19 N. Tejon, by June 5.

A photographic exhibit, "In Our Time," featuring 60 photographs of successfully-preserved and lost buildings of our community, has been commissioned by the City of Colorado Springs and will be displayed at the Pioneers' Museum May 10-31st.



**HISTORIC SITE:** It was at the spot shown above that Mrs. Mary Livermore dropped her purse containing \$12 while on her way to downtown Colorado City April 3, 1913, to pay her grocery bill. When she discovered her loss, after reaching Borst Market, 501 Colorado Avenue, she hastily retraced her steps and found the purse where she had dropped it at the location shown above. Her grocery bill (March, 1913) was \$7.18. —From *Little Known Milestones in Colorado History*, 1937.