

Friday, September 9, 1988

As this issue of WestWord goes to press, details of our October 14th meeting have not been completed. Please plan to attend, and watch newspapers for program details. (If the information becomes available, we'll add a separate sheet to this issue of the newsletter.)

Briefly...

Extend your sympathies and best wishes to **Arlene Rieger**, who's been nursing a broken arm for a couple of weeks.

Kay Arnold's new address is 25073 Eucalyptus Ave., Moreno Valley, CA 92388. She says it's "sort of" in the country.

Sorry that space has made it impossible to pass along the interesting clippings we've received recently from **Kenny Englert**.

The I.R.S. acknowledged our application for exemption from Federal Income Tax, assigned a "case number," and indicated we should hear their decision in about 100 days.

Peggy Beinschroth's new job is administrative secretary for the city of Manitou Springs. Among other duties, she hears citizen complaints and directs them to the proper individual.

We didn't report in this newsletter the decision of those at our May 13 meeting, on a motion from **Agnes Johnson** passed unanimously, to again contribute \$25 to History Day—the program for students in grades 6-12, encouraging them to research and dramatize history.

Secretary's Expenses

8/11 4 negatives @ \$.87	3.48
1 plate	3.92
8/17 Postage, 102 newsletters	25.50
9/1 11x17 paper for NL	8.25
Total due secretary 9/9	41.15

A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We're glad that **Sandi Martin**, president of the Old Colorado City Associates Board of Directors, has added her name to our rolls. She's supplying lively leadership to O.C.C.A.; we welcome her participation with us.

Lilliane F. Ross has responsibility for accessioning items at the Colorado Springs Pioneers' Museum—that is, making records of contributions or purchases, and keeping track of items. We look forward to the moment when she has time to guide us in our own accessioning; we already have hundreds of items, and record-keeping must be well along before we can set up exhibits. (If any members want a worthwhile project, we could start on this now!) In the meantime, we're pleased to have her membership.

Christmas Is Early White House Event

"Country Christmas" Folk Art Festival will be held Sept. 16, 17 and 18th at White House Ranch. Its timing is just right for buying quilts, willow furniture, stained glass, dolls, antiques and many other items as Christmas gifts. The event will support restoration of historic White House Ranch. Work is planned on Orchard House exterior, and shutters will be re-constructed to help bring the house back to its past glory.

Kathy Read says 80 folk art professionals will display and sell their work under a tent on the grounds. There'll also be food, music, demonstrations, Ranch tours and harvest activities.

White House Ranch is just east of the Garden of the Gods, off 30th St. Adult admission is \$2; free for White House members. Hours will be 9-6 the first two days, and 10-4 on Sunday, 18th.

Dr. McKay Recalls Cragmore's History

Today we'll learn the intriguing history of the most luxurious tuberculosis sanatorium in the U. S., as **Dr. Douglas R. McKay** talks about Cragmore Sanatorium.

Dr. McKay is a faculty member of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, which occupies the former site of Cragmore. He became interested when he interrupted transport of hundreds of valuable historic and genealogical records to the dump. He spent four years in research before publishing his book, "Asylum of the Gilded Pill," in 1983.

Historic Property Alliance Has Rehabilitation Workshop Slated

An important rehabilitation workshop will be conducted by the Historic Property Alliance beginning September 15th.

On Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons through Nov. 12 (and a second series from Feb. 2 to April 1) no more than 25 people will learn practical methods of planning and executing historic rehabilitation.

Sessions will be held at Claremont Estate, site of the Colorado Springs School—the home constructed by Charles and Virginia Baldwin in 1906, modeled on the Grand Trianon in France. Participants will convert a historic carriage house into a classroom.

Debbie Abele can supply information at 635-2065. Work begins next Thursday, and individuals or families can sign up for particular sessions, or all of them.

Material covered would be valuable to O.C.C.H.S. when we work towards our museum. Any member want to take part to learn the ropes and become our rehabilitation expert?

Westside Memories: *Turning Back the Clock on Local Events*

Twenty-five Years Ago

October, 1963

Open house at Garden of Gods Nursing Home, 104 Lois Lane—to open Nov. 1. 50-bed home was operated by B.F. and Hulda Fields, Dorothy Jones.

Mrs. Dorothy B. Spann received an orchid and watch on retiring as elevator operator for 25 years at the Colorado Commercial Bank. Her home, 3132 W. Colorado, was a gift from Gen'l Palmer to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Bass, who worked for Palmer.

Mrs. Thomas Farries, co-manager of Maxwell Nursing Home, 616 N. Pine, went on a solo trip to London and Europe. She signed for a tour with a local TV personality, but group members voted not to include Mrs. Farries, a black. She'd have two-weeks to visit with her husband's British brother instead of 3 hours on the TV tour.

Pay Less Service, 431 W. Colorado, sold regular gas for 23.9¢ a gallon.

Fifty Years Ago

October, 1938

Springs' Council opposed W. D. Corley's suggestion that he build a toll road from Corley Highway to the summit of Pikes Peak. Corley Road would revert to county in 1939 after 17 years as a toll road.

West Junior bought a printing press.

County crews oiled Mesa Road from city limits to Glen Eyrie, to connect with already-paved 30th.

75% of city's streets were hard-surfaced. Early in 1932, city had 18.32 miles of paving; now it had 74.67.

El Paso County Republicans named Glen A. Pelling, 314 N. 20th, resident since 1906, as candidate for constable.

Highway over Crystal Creek dam on Peak was completed. Old road would be flooded when reservoir filled.

Cog trains took 24 tons of steel up the Peak for a new summit house.

Early residence was torn down at 2616 W. Colorado to make way for an ultra-modern motor court to replace unsightly junk and used-car lots.

Officials blew up 50 sticks of dynamite left in a tunnel in Queen's canon 3½ miles above Glen Eyrie.

Police department installed a dial phone system like those at Union Printers Home and Marksheffel Motors. It got a workout when a radio play, "War of the Worlds," inspired hundreds of phone calls from worried citizens.

Police confiscated a half-bushel of marijuana at 310 Portland Ave.

Traffic signals which "blew a whistle" when the light changed were installed at Colorado-Nevada and Kiowa-Nevada intersections—similar to one at Tejon and Pikes Peak.

Seventy-five Years Ago

October, 1913

City Council responded to a new petition and repealed the ordinance which abolished the city attorney, reinstating J. P. Jackson. The original ordinance was never "law," since it hadn't had its second reading.

City joined the general celebration at completion of the Panama Canal.

Striking miners blew up a D&RGW bridge at Barnes, near Ludlow. Pikes Peak area militiamen were among those mobilized by Gov. Ammons to disarm mine guards and strikers in volatile coal fields near Trinidad.

Colorado Springs moved to eliminate one of area's worst eyesores: "Little Kansas"—squatters' huts on the west bank of the Monument.

Colorado City High football team nicknamed themselves the "Rowdies."

Brokerage office opened in room 28 of the National Hotel by Mr. Ambler.

Every Longfellow pupil received a tube of toothpaste. Nearly all signed pledges promising daily care for teeth.

Rev. George Stuntz and family moved into the new First Methodist parsonage. Parishioners noted a model chickenhouse Stuntz had built, with only two chickens. They surprised their pastor with 24 chickens of every size, color, age and description, and 31 sacks of chicken feed.

D&RG railroad tore up its station platform to install a better one.



Colorado Springs' hatpin ordinance went into effect. Woman wearing a hatpin with a point more than a half inch beyond the crown of the hat was subject to a \$50 fine.

Two men hired a horse from West Side Livery, but returned next day to say horse died in a fall down an embankment in Bear Creek Canon. When livery employees went to the scene to salvage harness, they found the horse was alive and brought him back. Humane Officer William S. Reynolds charged the two men with cruelty and neglect of dumb animals.

El Paso County Commissioners planned to install an elevator in the shaft originally built into the courthouse.

C. H. Austin bought 65 acres east of Ute Pass for \$20,000, assuring no rival to the Cave of the Winds.

A dozen men in the Pikes Peak region might be affected by the new income tax. Any who had income of \$100,000 a year would be taxed \$2,510.

Chimney for the new city hall was completed, ready for a heating system when Council made its selection.

One Hundred Years Ago

October, 1888

Ten carloads of machinery arrived, for a quarry in Red Rock canon. John L. Stuart was general manager. Equipment included two pine derricks with booms of 75 feet—perhaps the largest in the country, capable of lifting 25 tons. No blasting would be used; stone would be processed by steam power.

Four people were fined for stealing coal from Midland cars.

American House saloon was refurbished and re-opened as "The Pug."

Foundations for Colorado City's new city hall and for a new bank in Manitou Springs were completed. Both Colorado City's and Manitou Springs' schools opened late, waiting for completion of new buildings.

Mr. Dehn opened a soda water and bottling works to furnish ginger ale, root beer, and flavored sodas, plus his own concoction: "Our Pet."

Al Bergtold broke his arm in two places while trying to milk a bad-tempered cow at Gen'l Adams ranch.

Tracks of the Rock Island reached Colorado Springs. New town of Roswell was established near roundhouse. "The projectors of the scheme expect to see built up a second Colorado City."

Midland extended a spur to New Castle. Line was hit by series of accidents. Ore Cars derailed near Cascade when brakes failed to hold. Freight caboose and two cars overturned when train backed into a cow in the same area. Train near Leadville had windows broken from nearby explosion. Most serious was wreck of a passenger train in South Park near Spinney. Engine and three cars uneventfully ran over a steer, but first sleeper was overturned and badly wrecked, second sleeper escaped damage but was turned at right angles to the track, a private car behind didn't leave the track. No injuries to passengers. Midland decided to fence its line through South Park.

Meetings Brief Us on Facilities for Genealogy and History Exploring

Penrose Library's Local History Ranges from Family Items To Computer Searches

Anyone at our June 10 meeting is sure to have learned something new about materials at Penrose Library, 20 N. Cascade. Information came from **Mary Davis** and **Jody Jones** of the library staff.

The local history section was formally established in 1950, but its roots go back to a collection begun in the 1890's by Margareta Boas during summer visits to the region. She became librarian and library director from 1905-1948.

The library was dedicated in 1905 on land donated by General Palmer, made possible by money given by Andrew Carnegie. This original building now houses local history and genealogy, and is entered on Cascade.

The 25,000 "local-history" volumes cover history of the Pikes Peak region, the high plains, Colorado mining and its towns, and the transcontinental west. They contain information on Indians and arts and crafts of the southwest, railroading, travel and exploration, and Rocky Mountain plants and wildlife.

An additional 10,000 volumes supply genealogical information of local families and aim you to material elsewhere in the U. S.

Some 75,000 photos preserve events and people from 1880 on.

Tapes hold personal reminiscences of early residents. These can be heard at the library, and—in many cases—have been transcribed into written form. The east-branch library will have facilities for video-taping talks and interviews.

A manuscript collection includes records of individuals, businesses and clubs, like those from Irving Howbert's family, Cliff House, and Alexander Film. Historic research such as that by Ghost Town members is filed.

There are 225 periodicals, including Colorado Magazine and magazines from early mining days.

Colorado Springs Gazette microfilms cover 1872 to the present; and the Colorado City Iris from 1896-1917. Both are indexed.

City Directories begin in 1878—rich with information about individuals, businesses, and homes.

Sanborn Fire Insurance maps beginning in 1886 are a fascinating way to trace building histories. They show location, dimensions, porches, what it was built of, even if there was a stable on the property. Downtown blocks show the type of business inside each structure.

Other map examples are the Hayden Survey of 1870, 1889 Colorado City streets, one tracing changes in Colorado City street-names, Midland Railroad right-of-ways, topographic and geological maps and atlases.

Other unique sources are tax records from the 1870's, county assessor's plat books, census lists, and cemetery records.

Computer Information

Local history isn't all musty, dusty records. The "Maggie" computer system has much of historic and contemporary interest—at the library, or for those with computer and modem, at home.

Local History Database lists 100 local authors by name, publication or subject matter, and indicates whether they'll give talks or participate in workshops.

Local Documents, some 6,000 of them, can put on the screen information about current issues, from per capital income to latest annexation plans. Current agendas for County Commissioners and City Council appear each week, with details about how to get in touch with officials.

The computer can tell what's in collections of other state libraries, such as the Denver Public Library and college collections, and on the Western slope.

This material is supported by a fulltime staff of five people.

Your Ancestors Left Footprints; Many Can Be Examined in Facilities Right Here

There's a surprising amount of information about our ancestors, much of it accessible locally, and what's more, it's increasing.

That message came to O.C.C. H.S. members May 13, in a talk by **Bonnie Yorgason**, a three-generation native of Colorado Springs, and Patron Service Librarian of the local Family History Center, Church of Latter Day Saints.

Lodge rolls, wills, land deeds, church archives, funeral directors', military and retirement records and social security all pin down family history, and are extensively indexed.

Citing German records going back to 1400, Ms. Yorgason said foreign registers are often more complete than U. S. Quakers kept excellent records, and Indian rolls can locate native-American ancestors. The 1900 census, she noted, listed the percent of Indian blood in those enumerated.

Census records, in varying degrees of completeness, cover from 1790 to 1910, often listing every individual in the house.

The Mormon church has remarkable indexes and records, many of which are available at the local center, 1054 E. LaSalle, near the corner of Constitution and Union. Military and DAR records are as close as Denver.

She said the Latter Day Saints' International Genealogical Index contained 83 million names, and that a new edition (now out) would have 123 million.

The amount of information is growing, but becoming more complex. Red China is opening up new records. But she observes complications arising from frequent re-marriage—children with three fathers, for example.

Ms. Yorgason says the Colorado Springs Center is unusually well-equipped; she offers help to all involved in family research.

TRANSITION

Fred P. Bochman died suddenly July 20th, 11 days before his 77th birthday. He had joined O.C.C.H.S. a few months earlier.

Mr. Bochman's parents, Frederick and Verniece (Cruts) Bochman, came here in 1889 and 1893, and Fred was born Aug. 1, 1911.

He was a member of the Colorado Springs Police Department for 10 years, and organized and headed the Traffic Bureau. He had been a bus driver, and was grounds maintenance supervisor for School Dist. 11.

He's survived by his wife Frances; a son, Fred, of Manzanola; and his brother Leonard of Colorado Springs.

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Another Colorado City native, Harold K. Borst, died at 81 on Aug. 2nd. He was born May 11, 1907, to Emil and Amelia Borst. The Borsts operated City Market, at what is now 2430 W. Colorado.

"Buster" Borst was associated with the Boy Scouts for many years, and was a maintenance engineer at Seven Falls until his retirement in 1970.

He's survived by his wife Leilah, sons Lewis (an O.C.C.H.S. member), David and Lesley, daughters Alice Garnhart and Irma Paris, of Colorado Springs.

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Old Colorado City Historical Society
Friday, Sept. 9, 1988

O. C. C. Associates Give Hint of Our Opportunity

Goals of Old Colorado City Historical Society happily coincide with wishes of Westside merchants; according to a survey by Old Colorado City Associates, formerly Merchants' Association.

Following Territory Days, 45 participants answered a survey which asked, among other things, "What would enhance Territory Days the most?"

Most frequent response—37%—was "historical emphasis, activities, clothing." Next most frequent, 33%, recommended entertainment, music, street activities.

Since "historical emphasis" is what O.C.C.H.S. is all about, the survey shows an opportunity for the Society to benefit itself and Westside by active participation during Territory Days, with our historic displays in the Bancroft Cabin or elsewhere.

Would you like a copy of the
Old Colorado City Historical Society's

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER?

(name, address, phone number)

please let Secretary Ralph Conner know;
by mail: Post Office Box 6702, 80934, or
phone: 634-0895

(Personal use only—no mailing lists please.)

NEXT MEETING:

OCTOBER 14TH

11 A.M. TRINITY U.M.C., 1920 HENDERSON
LUNCH RESERVATIONS: LYN OWEN, 473-1846

WEST WORD

Vol. IV Number 2

September 9, 1988

Published the second Friday of almost every month by the Old Colorado City Historical Society, Post Office Box 6702, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 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 July and August) at 11 a. m., usually at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1920 Henderson—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 \$4. per person. Reservations are required and can be made by phoning Lyn Owen, 473-1846. Deadline is normally noon the Wednesday before the meeting. 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 at any time; renewal falls in April. Members receive this 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 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

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