

November 1, 1990

An Editorial on an Editorial

## Colorado Springs' Attitude To Colorado City Revealed In Item

Colorado Springs was (is?) a little embarrassed by Colorado City. Pretensions caused it to keep its distance, as you would from a promiscuous aunt or a no-good brother-in-law. It rarely acknowledged that its roots were in a primitive, pioneer past, that much of its wealth grew from an economic and agricultural base centered in Old Town. It seldom recognized the mayors and merchants who reached from Westside to add vitality to Little London.

Most of all, it generally refused to admit that its high-brow citizens furnished some of the sinful commerce that allowed Colorado City to flourish. If you're a clean and cultured temperance town you don't publicize that a portion of your citizenry patronizes bars and brothels in your less-assuming neighbor.

Sometimes Colorado City got revenge, as in the oft-told tale of a W.C.T.U. meeting, at which the Colorado Springs lady sniffed, "I always thought of Colorado City as a hog pen". Which led a Colorado City lady to snarl, "It's just as honorable to furnish the pen as it is to furnish the hogs."

What hurt even more than digs was the policy of ignoring Colorado City, of pretending it didn't exist. It was hard to keep your dignity when the other guy didn't even notice you were there!

We don't want to prolong a feud. Over the years Colorado City disowned its sin label and Colorado Springs learned modesty and tolerance. We each must accept our former foibles with humor and forbearance.

As a matter of fact, even then Colorado Springs could be objective about Colorado City and itself. A notable example was the following paragraph, from the

## A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We're pleased to welcome new members who became interested in us in a variety of ways, and most of whom have attended at least one of our meetings.

Lamar Patton prefers to go by the name of Pat.

David and Shirley Harr.

Madeline Keas.

Pat Bonser Walters.

Gazette of Nov. 22, 1890 (p. 2), which admitted mutual interests and modestly shared in the Westside's pride in a new church—but meanwhile still insisting on its inherent superiority!

It is true, and undeniably true, that there is in Colorado City an unusual amount of liquor drinking and kindred vices. It is true, and we cannot deny it, that a large part of this is due to visitors from Colorado Springs. The fault of Colorado City has been that her people have encouraged these evils and have rather congratulated themselves on the revenue and trade which they have brought them. In spite of Colorado Springs' too numerous visits to the haunts of evil it is true beyond question that the things upon which Colorado City has chiefly relied for its prosperity are diametrically and eternally opposed to the principles upon which [Colorado Springs] was founded and to which it owes a large part of its progress and welfare. This it would be foolish and useless to deny. None the less we are pleased to note the frequent tokens of prosperity in Colorado City, the notable increase in its manufactures, and such events as the dedication of the new Baptist Church.

## Save Up Your Money for Our December Meet at Glen Eyrie

Vice president and program chairperson Jan Knox promises a treat in December, with a tour and lunch at Palmer's Glen Eyrie, now headquarters of the Navigators. She warned that the fee for lunch and tour will be \$9. Please cut down your riotous living so you can participate in this event.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING:

## Cattle Brands Are 'Heraldry' of West

Our speaker Nov. 9th is Kathy Hinckley, whose topic is "Cattle Brands: Western Heraldry."

The U. S., and especially the West, didn't recognize "nobility," as represented by coats of arms and other heraldry. Still, families had pride and, since each ranch had its distinctive cattle brand, the brands became a symbol like the insignia of heraldry. The history of these brands is the subject of Ms. Hinckley's talk.

Ms. Hinckley is a professional genealogist and lecturer, and her talk for us is sponsored by Ms. Knox. She is a columnist and author and active in several state and national genealogical societies. She lives in Arvada. Despite her genealogical credentials, her talk will be primarily of historical interest.

The "second Friday"—our usual meeting day—falls early in the month, so please make plans promptly and call Lyn Owen if she hasn't contacted you.

## Member Reports on Save-the- Mount-Manitou-Incline Efforts

Joe Clarke reported on the campaign to preserve the Manitou Incline at our October meeting. He says \$250,000 would repair effects of a rock slide and put the Incline back in operation. His organization seeks pledges to support that goal. His address is 5130 Alderstone, zip 80919.

A possible complication in halting operations is a law calling for the property to be restored to original condition if the Incline fails to operate. This might be more expensive than establishing alternate parking. Clarke believes parking is behind the decision to abandon the Incline since closing the Incline gives more parking for the Cog Road. He says a shuttle would let visitors park elsewhere.

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

## *Twenty-five Years Ago*

November, 1965

Bonanza restaurant, owned by Carl Jarvis and Thomas Deutsch, opened at 2411 W. Colorado—site of Merri-Laine.

Mgr. Dale Duncan opened region's largest Safeway at 3175 W. Colorado.

Rev. C. L. Moser observed his 18th year as pastor, while Bethany Baptist observed its 76th anniversary.

## *Fifty Years Ago*

November, 1940

Budget for sheriff's office included radio equipment to put them in short-wave contact with city police.

Cora Ellen Kinsman, widow of H. Clarence Kinsman, died in California. Living here were brother C. W. Jackson, 4319 W. Colorado; sister-in-law Mrs. J. P. Jackson, 2606 W. Colorado; nephew Joseph Jackson, 2816 W. Kiowa.

Westside Young America teams won both football divisions by blanking opponents in playoffs under Harry Blunt's coaching. Harry Reid, Don Dochterman and Kenny Shupe were standouts among lightweights; other players: Quick, Tom Wright, Jones, Gene Reid, Wagner, McKinley, Stevens, Rieck, Alterman, Rapjack, Quamme, Bob Wright, Tapp, Masco, Mellon, Graham, and Wood. 105-pound Beck passed and scored at will in heavyweights; team-members: Gentry, Welmer, Cross, Herbig, Stevenson, Portner, Ewing, Tucker, Fuchs, Hemingway, Hitchcock, Freed, Larson.

High school Terrors didn't do as well. They didn't win a single game, scored only two touchdowns all season.

County owed 8 men to the draft, but 15 volunteers made it unnecessary to call anybody. Among them: Everett Fringer, 721 S. 24th; Earl Reiner, 133 Williams; John Kruse, 2022 W. Colorado; Julius Cobb, 1919 W. Cucharras; Eugene Ryan, 1915 W. Cucharras.

Bethany Baptist returned to its remodeled church, 24th & Pikes Peak.

Drennan restaurant, 2513 W. Colorado: thanksgiving roast turkey dinner, 35¢. Creamed turkey on toast, 25¢.

Commercial Club officers: Nate Chamberlain of Chamberlain Realty; Ben Hamilton, Hamilton's market; Walter Gemmill, Newton Lumber.

Officials considered challenging Colorado Springs' preliminary census population figure of 36,310.

Over five years, WPA built 1,269 sanitary privies in El Paso county.

(Before 1917 Colorado City was an independent town.)

## *Seventy-five Years Ago*

November, 1915

Dispute over coal freight rates caused C&S to cancel its contract with Colorado Midland to supply rail service between Colorado Springs and Denver. Could be life-or-death for Midland, now in receivership.

J. J. McCorkle resigned from Mack Candy and Ice Cream. F. A. Wilgus, president of Colorado Ice and Coal, succeeded him as manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edison stayed at Cliff House during a brief visit with E. E. Nichols, Mrs. Edison's father.

D&RG was ready to spend millions to make all its track standard gauge.

Ramona burglary gave up 25 qts. of whiskey, 10-gallon jug, case of rye, two gold watches and \$5. Colorado was due to be dry in January.

W.H.Ogle took over jewelry store of A. W. Clark, who went to Rocky Ford.

Woodmen Band, under Mr. Schneider, gave its second concert in Idle Hour theater. Dialect readings by Robt. Carlstrom were also on program.

School district's assessed valuation dropped, so school tax for 1915 was increased from 5 to 5½ mills.

Accidents: Joseph Unser hospitalized when his motorcycle hit an auto. Car's driver was on wrong side of street and underwrote Unser's hospital and doctor bills. William Davis, 2012 Jefferson, seriously injured when repairing a pump at Golden Cycle mill, contacting a live wire. Edward Borst ran into clothes line while delivering meat and dislocated his shoulder.

## *One Hundred Years Ago*

November, 1890

County Teacher's meeting in Manitou had lively discussion on "Whispering in School." Teachers divided among those who forbade it, those who controlled it through report cards, and those who allowed talking.

Manitou Mineral Water company flattered at order for a case of ginger champagne from President Harrison.

Dedicatory service Nov. 21st for new Colorado City Baptist Church. Rev. Tupper from Denver finished his remarks, revealed blackboard with sums from \$2 to \$100 on it, erased amounts when pledges were made. In an hour, \$2,000 debt was wiped out.

Citizens want new court house. One possible site: South Park—but it wasn't clear whether it could legally be used.

Alexander McKibben, Pittsburg, checked into Alamo, took Mr. Towne's hack to Colorado City. Men quarreled over fare, McKibben paid only part of amount asked. After touring Colo. City resorts, McKibben caught another hack back to Alamo, where Towne accosted him and demanded payment. McKibben reached in valise, pulled a pistol and fired a bullet at Towne which passed a few inches above his head. McKibben was fined \$25 and costs.

Noerto Griego, who murdered a Trinidad merchant, was executed within state penitentiary under law ordering private executions and forbidding graphic descriptions in newspapers.

C. D. McShane,—"the original Democrat in El Paso County"—brought his workers from the Lake Moraine project on mules and horses to vote. They engaged a band in Manitou, and paraded into Colorado City to cast ballots.

C. R. Ammerman and others asked Colorado Springs to install fire hydrants in Colorado City; council reacted favorably. But it denied a water-tap for town of LaVerne, lying just east of Colorado City.

Track crew on the Cog Road was working in 8 to 12 inches of snow above Halfway House and suspended construction until Spring.

Manitou Mineral Water Company remodeled Iron Springs company office into a bottling works for Ute spring. Little Chief spring in yard of Cog Road was cleaned, its flow tripled, and it was piped to Ute spring for bottling.

7-foot mountain lion shot on Hayden divide was stuffed by a Springs taxidermist for a Colorado City customer.

Safety fuse on Manitou streetcar burned out on Huerfano hill. Motorman Rodey replaced fuse with his bare hands without pulling down the trolley. When connection was made, current passed through him and burned his hand—but injuries were minor.

Ladies of Colorado City Relief Corps, G. A. R. and Modern Woodmen, gave dinner for benefit of needy soldiers' wives and orphans.

Streetcar company planned a brick depot in Manitou, promised that when closed cars arrived open cars would be retired; said it would install stoves in cars. Customers would be taken on or let off only at intersections.

Midland poster showed little girls representing Colorado and Utah holding aloft section of track with a Midland train on it. Legend read, "Hallelujah! 'Tis Done," referring to completion of new rail line into Grand Junction.



## Bottle Club Invites Active Participation

A unique history and collectors' club represented among O.C.C.H.S. members, would welcome visitors or new members and invites us to participate. It's the Peaks and Plains Antique Bottle and Collectors Club.

Besides bottles, it lists advertising, breweriana, paper collectibles, insulators, railroadiana and glassware among its fields of interest. Meetings, with a program and refreshments, are held at Merit Realty, Platte and Murray, at 7:30 p.m., on the first Tuesday of each month.

In addition, it publishes a lively monthly newsletter with off-beat history. The September issue dealt with Merchants' Gargling Oil's advertising scheme which sent a ship over Niagara Falls carrying a case of the patent medicine and a straw dummy of the German Kaiser. It involved a jurisdictional fight, a couple of free-loading advertisers, and the largest crowd to turn out in the history of Niagara Falls up to 1883.

If you want to deal with history that begins before 1859, you should note that (according to the newsletter) manufactured glass objects have been traced back to 75,000 B.C.—made by primitive man from glass created by nature.

October's newsletter described Barber or Stand Bottles in which barbers kept their Bay Rum, Lilac water and Witch Hazel. They disappeared after a 1906 law forbade their re-filling. If you own one, it's valuable, and very likely a work of art. It was often brightly colored and could serve as a handsome vase. No doubt there were a number of these in Colorado City—maybe still are if you know where to dig.

Our own George Fisher is president, and an enthusiastic member is Virginia Cox. Ray Ziegler is also active. Any of these, or Don Bailey, 548-1270, can answer questions about the organization.

## Old Manitou Springs Manages to Change While Remaining As It Has Always Been

Like most programs that involve a lot of pictures—and Harriet Seibel showered us with rare scenes—there's not much we can pass on in our newsletter. But she covered hotels, springs, residences, churches, tourist attractions and bottling plants in recapitulating the history of Manitou Springs at our meeting on Oct. 12.

Her interest in Manitou grew out of pioneering research on Old Colorado City in the 60's. Ms. Seibel, like many of us, had fond memories of childhood visits to the "Saratoga of the West," and became intrigued by its past. Many of her pictures were ones she took when she first "returned" to Manitou, and they already have become "historic," thanks to changes which are constantly occurring in Manitou Springs.

Despite changes in costumes and disappearance of the communal drinking cup, there was much to recognize in the old scenes. She paraded resort names that mostly had familiar rings to them: the Mansions, razed in 1925; Cliff House, Navajo, Ruxton House, Grand View, Sunnyside House, and the Continental Hotel near the Midland depot.

Often pictures touched on a structure's evolution. The original St. Andrews Episcopal Church, built in 1880, is now a store. The Spa building and arcade first appeared in the 1920's. Dr. Bell's Briargate mansion went through several incarnations, after the original burned in 1886.

Other landmarks have disappeared. Both the Ute Chief Gusher, and the statue of the chief, are gone, though a modern sculpture of the chief was recently placed at Manitou's west entrance. Obviously the streetcars and their famous "loop" are no more.

The Colorado Midland depot became a home, and the D&RG depot which handled passengers every two hours and which was dismantled several years ago, has a new life as a home in Colorado Springs, she says.

The springs' names often reflected Indian traditions, and their varied "tastes" allowed visitors to have their favorites. The tin cup which hung at each spring was eventually outlawed because of health considerations.

Stratton, Cheyenne, Wheeler

### TOURS OF THE SPRINGS

The Mineral Springs Foundation is offering tours of most popular and accessible springs and of the Mineral Springs Museum each Saturday at 2:00 (or at other times by arrangement), now through Christmas. Please phone for a place, at 685-5089. The office opens at 10 on Saturday. The tour takes from 60 to 90 minutes.

and Ute Chief springs have been restored, and funds are being collected to refurbish others.

There's also hope of reviving the bottling works which once made Manitou's products known world-wide. So far the federal agency which "owns" the bottling works has not located a buyer, despite some nibbles.

Her tour of the historic city took in other attractions such as Crystal Park, the Cog Road and the Mount Manitou Incline and other events like the 1893 flood.

Steam engines of the original Cog Road became attractions in themselves. Number 1 was on Cheyenne Mountain until it was moved to Golden. Another stands near Manitou's city hall.

Ms. Seibel has the makings of another interesting book, with a clear chronology of the town's history and a remarkable collection of rare and interesting pictures. She previously researched area schools and churches.

## Our Members Are Serving Others Too

We've given up trying to keep track of **Dave Hughes** in his frequent and exotic travel. He has recently made connections—both physical and electronic—with the Soviet Union, in addition to his other computer-based projects. If we reported his journeys with any regularity, this newsletter would have to become a daily.

Right in line with Hallowe'en, **Dorothy Aldredge** has been publicizing Westside ghosts, writing up one for the Pikes Peak Journal and reporting Millie's specter on her weekly KVOR program.

Our president, **Joyce Johns**, will be speaking to the Sertoma Club on Nov. 27 on the subject of pioneers, male and female.

**Kay Arnold** has been active in recent months with the Downtown Civic Forum which is working on an action plan for Downtown Colorado Springs on such matters as zoning, land use, parking, and marketing. She's indulged in a little day-dreaming about establishing a museum complex right on Pikes Peak avenue, perhaps incorporating exhibits from the State museum or even Old Colorado City Historical Society.

## Briefly:

**Ruth Walsh Kruse** has been visiting in Washington, D. C.

We extend best wishes to **Bob** and **Barbara Walters** and to their daughter who's been hospitalized.

**Jean Bell** has moved into Miramont Castle as the new director of the Manitou museum, and **Mark Bush** has become the caretaker.

**Aaron Callicutt** is the new office manager of the Pikes Peak (Ute Pass) Museum. He formerly was curator at the McAllister House in Colorado Springs. The Ute Pass museum at Cascade will be the scene of the annual Christmas observances of the

## ROLL CALL

from our last meeting:

Thank you, members and guests, for a grand October turn-out. A promising program and good weather, and our usual fine meal, no doubt contributed. Thirty-six enjoyed the sociability of the meal, and we counted at least 43 for the meeting. Members who signed in were:

Rosemae Campbell	Jerry Jekel
Nancy K. Cantrell	Madeline Keas
Bertha Chilcott	Jan Knox
Carl Chilcott	Aldine Lipe
Joe Clarke	Elizabeth S. Mares
Ralph Conner	Ruth Maxwell
Virginia Cox	Dorothy McGlasson
John W. Criff	Millie
Arnold Cunningham	Margaret L. Nichols
Jerry Cunningham	Lyn Owen
Lucille Cunningham	Lamar B. Patton
Martha Curry	Jim Rogers
Renny Fagan	Virginia Rogers
George Fisher	Liliane Ross
Bob Gaarder	Claire Ruby
Margaret Golden	Robert E. Simons
David Harr	Rose Slusher
Catherine Henderson	T. G. Van Camp
Rosemary Hetzler	Raymond F. Ziegler
Sandi Hoewisch	

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

Dave Cameron	Esther Sadler
Betty Fisher	Terrell L. Slicer
Ben Hodges	
Pat Faherty of the Pikes Peak Journal	
Judy Ravenscroft, guest of her mother,	
Catherine Henderson	
Marjorie Harris and Maloa Read were the	
guests of Claire Ruby	

## Secretary's Expenses

NL and other postage	4.25
Negatives and plate for NL	7.80
Cover 2 checks, speaker's lunch	12.00
TOTAL due sec'y 11/1	24.05

museum and Ute Pass Historical Society.

We sure admire the idea of a Pueblo member who has arranged Christmas presents, for some Westside friends, of memberships in the Old Colorado City Historical Society. Many of our valued members have become acquainted with our organization through similar gifts—especially those from out of town. We'll arrange to notify them around Christmas and begin WestWord with the January issue.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

11 am, Friday, Nov. 9th

Trinity U. M. Church, 701 North 20th

Just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center

For luncheon reservations please phone

Lyn Owen, 473-1846

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

11 am, Friday, Dec. 14th

Lunch and Tour of Glen Eyrie

## WEST WORD

Edited by Ralph Conner, 634-0895

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Published the first of almost every month by the Old Colorado City Historical Society, Inc., 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, to keep alive the unique culture and spirit of Westside Colorado Springs, and to establish a museum in honor of Colorado City's dramatic history.

## 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 (at 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 per person. Reservations are required and should be made by phoning Lyn Owen, 473-1846. You may leave a message at 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 at any time; renewal falls in April. Members receive this newsletter and local members will be phoned if they wish before each meeting.

Also available is a Lifetime membership, for \$100. This amount is placed in our 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

	Work	Home
President Joyce Johns		635-4649
Vice President Jan Knox		495-3359
Secretary Ralph Conner	633-1394	634-0895
Treasurer Rosemae Campbell		633-8682
Vera Chambon		634-2340
Virginia Cox		635-8705
Bob Gaarder		632-7772
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