

September 1, 1991

Life Memberships Add to our Support

In addition to a nice group of brand new participants (col. 2), we welcome two life members.

Catherine Henderson has become increasingly involved with our organization and recently honored us by making it "permanent."

And Jan Knox, our former vice president, responsible for an impressive string of interesting programs and now settled temporarily in Pasadena, CA, also became a life member. She's keeping roots locally; she was back late in August and took time for research at the Genealogical Center of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

Message Center To Tape Reservations

Lyn Owen will again handle reservations for lunches and act as liaison with the church. You'll recall that meals now cost \$5.

Lyn has perfected arrangements to get phone messages when she's not at home. You can save her the trouble of calling you by leaving a message at her number, 473-1846. Please let her know, too, when you know of ill members to whom we should send a friendly word.

Talk Postponed As We Discuss Museum

Bob Gaarder is establishing a record of sorts as our most-delayed speaker. He was pegged for a talk at our May business meeting, but for a second time we postponed it to discuss our proposed building purchase. Bob's willing to reveal his subject, but we've kept suspense alive by saying only that it involves an unusual event on Pikes Peak. We appreciate his willingness to remain on stand-by.

A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We're pleased with a bumper crop of history and Westside buffs. Please make them welcome.

Jean V. Christopher is one of several Westsiders who joined during Territory Days.

Jack and Liz Geiss live in the heart of Old Colorado City's residential area.

We've introduced Alfred Hagedorn before as a visitor and as an owner of historic land (WestWord, Mar., '91).

Jerry Jekel broadened his membership to include his wife, Helen Jeckel.

Steve Karr traces his roots to grandparents who homesteaded north of Divide. His father Lawrence was a mail carrier in the early years of the decade.

Carl McClure "chose" the Westside, establishing a chiropractic office at 1819 W. Colorado some 35 years ago. He also joined us during Territory Days.

He had to do battle to get his check delivered, but Ken E. Mirens insisted on joining! He was active in Whittier's anniversary (WestWord, Apr. '91), and also attended Liller and Arensdale.

Mel Sinton is related to the county commissioner who established the County Farm. He is the president of the El Paso County Pioneers' Association and actively concerned with protecting our historical heritage.

Folk Art Festival and Sale Comes to Ranch

Kathy Read's Hollyberry House will conduct its annual Folk Art Show and Sale, with wagon rides and ethnic dance groups, Sept. 13th through the 15th under the "big top" at White House Ranch.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

We'll Learn About Our Progress and Prospects

At the season's first meeting, president Joyce Johns and the author of our grant applications, Dave Hughes, will brief us on our efforts to buy Jacob Schmidt's saloon at 2611 W. Colorado, and will present alternatives which may be dictated by finances. We've made several grant applications, but the board needs to know members' preferences if we are unable to follow our original plans. We'll discuss priorities and alternatives in September.

We have an option to buy the historic two-story brick building for \$135,000 if we can arrange financing by November. Members have contributed or pledged \$3,000 since our offer to buy was accepted. Their votes approved by the necessary two-thirds margin the expenditure of up to \$75,000 of current funds to assist with the purchase and remodeling.

In a memo to the O.C.C.H.S. board, Dave Hughes pointed out that beyond buying the building we must plan for interior and exterior remodeling, fees, architectural costs, preservation supplies, display equipment and furnishings, and—as continuing expenses—utilities, maintenance, security and insurance. He suggested these contingencies we must consider:

1. We get the money we need, buy and arrange remodeling of the building, open by the 1992 Territory Days. Then, in the year following, with volunteers, we set up operating procedures and establish a gift shop to generate about \$6,000 annual income needed to pay running expenses.

2. We get enough from grant resources to buy the building and make a partial renovation. Then (Please turn to p. 3, col. 1)

Westside Memories: Turning Back the Clock on Local Events

Twenty-five Years Ago

September, 1961

Man near the 26th St. bridge fired at officers and in return received a bullet in his shoulder and an arrest. He was opening a safe stolen from Snow White Laundry, 110 S. 25th.

Unaffiliated Mesa Hills Bible Church, 615 W. Uintah, was dedicated.

Pikes Peak railway ordered two 80-passenger cog units, which would allow 6 trips daily instead of 5.

More than 300,000 people rode autos to the Peak summit in 1961—most since record-setting 1956.

During city-wide labor dispute, two trucks at Floor Craft, 2031 W. Colorado, had eight tires slashed and windshields broken.

Statistics showed one third of local marriages ended in divorce.

William and Arlene Reiger opened a hearing center at 1619 W. Colorado.

Fifty Years Ago

September, 1941

New army camp south of town was to have 1,300 buildings, 400 of them barracks, to house about 34,000 soldiers and 1,000 nurses. Name of "Camp Edward Taylor" proposed.

Springs had 2,054 rooms, 434 houses with 958 bedrooms, 399 apartments and 350 auto-court cabins available for 9,000 army-camp construction workers.

Golden Cycle Corp. denied the war would shut it down. It had 5-mo. supply of cyanide, didn't expect shortages.

Harry Starbuck and Helen Roberts, graduates of the Deaf and Blind School who operated a print shop at 220 N. Walnut, were married.

Local WPA rolls totaled 531, compared to a 1936 high of 3,000.

Mining at Marble was to end because of declining markets.

Louis Unser's record time in the Hill Climb was 15 mins., 35.2 secs. It was his 6th win. Geo. Hammond was second.

(Before 1917 Colorado City was an independent town.)

Seventy-five Years Ago

September, 1916

In Colorado Springs, 45 arrests were made in the first 8 months for drunkenness, compared with 421 arrests last year before prohibition.

Springs' crews found water from Strickler tunnel was diverted to Victor.

Incumbent sheriff George Birdsall lost 2,449 to John Weir's 3,375 in a high-interest, bitterly-fought republican primary campaign.

Western League's defunct Wichita team became the Colorado Springs Millionaires. Omaha Hogs cinched first, Lincoln was second, Denver, Sioux City and Des Moines fought for third in the class-A league.

Auto dealers said they'd no longer give commissions to chauffeurs who "made sales" to their employers.

Col. Spgs. and Interurban railway warned it would have to curtail service because of increased auto use. System was supported by two profitable lines: Canon and Manitou had heavy business for two months of the year. New winter schedule meant Canon trams came every half hour, Manitou line ran every 7½ minutes.

Bleachers collapsed at the arena (between Colorado, Pikes Peak, Spruce and Walnut) where Welsh and White were to determine the lightweight boxing championship of the world. 188 were injured and two died, including Albert A. Nostrum, 64, 412 Rosita, a machinist at the mills who came to Colorado City in 1896.

Rev. George Stuntz, pastor of First Methodist church of Colorado City for six years, was "promoted" to Rocky Ford. He'd doubled local membership.

Traffic had to use Bijou while new flooring was put on Huerfano viaduct.

Sale of Glen Eyrie was pending to an Oklahoma syndicate which planned to turn the castle into a hotel and divide the rest of the 2,500 acres into villas for summer tourists.

March of technology: Britain introduced tanks in its war with Germany; for first time in the U. S., perhaps in the world, a wireless message was sent from one aeroplane to another while both were in flight.

County clerk's office issued 1,315 visitor auto tags during the summer.

W-O-W band gave concerts on the grounds of Bancroft school.

Among local high school grads teaching school: Mattie Hardwick was at Fountain, Elizabeth Greenlee at Crystola, Pearl Lisenby at Kutch.

Pikes Peak Phone Co. established a line between Pikes Peak summit and Mountain States Telephone at Cascade.

C. M. Ware replaced C. F. Board as principal of Washington school.

Springs' YMCA installed an electric hair dryer in the boys' department.

One Hundred Years Ago

September, 1891

Rapid Transit Co. added switches to its Manitou line so there was always a switch in view. This let cars travel as readily as if it were a double track.

The Bijou viaduct was far enough along that carriages could use it.

Disgruntled near-Westside residents demanded the planking of street-car tracks, complained about tree damage by electric and railroad crews, sought grading of Colorado and other streets, wanted a park along the Monument west bank, and asked for sluice boxes to carry off storm water and the plugging of leaks in water mains.

Four hundred books arrived for Colorado City's library.

Ute Pass Paint's new building neared completion.

By the second week, school enrollment reached 384: 282 at Bancroft, 82 at Midland (3 grades) and 20 at Kenmuir (2 grades, 1 teacher). In four years the number of county school districts grew from 32 to 54; enrollment increased from 2,300 to 4,900. Fines from gamblers and liquor dealers added to school funds.

The Aid Society warned that Mrs. Gilian and her 10-year-old daughter Minnie, living in west Colorado Springs, were cut off after receiving considerable charity in Denver and had come here seeking "greener fields". The Society said the pair didn't deserve any more charity.

Late-season fare on the cog road was reduced to \$3. The trip by carriage was \$2.50 from Manitou/Cascade.

A fire that destroyed the W. G. Lewis barn on Lincoln Ave. also left behind two roasted hogs.

The bell of First Baptist Church, weighing 400 pounds, broke loose when the sexton rang it for Sunday services. It fell into the rafters below.

Gazette withdrew a story that said the stone projection which created Rainbow Falls' colorful effect had been destroyed by a crew repairing flood damage to the Ute Pass road.

Balloon ascensions and parachute jumps were held at Broadmoor lake.

Exciting prospects in the gold fields led citizens of Hayden's Divide to begin a road between their town and Cripple Creek to connect with the Midland at Florissant. Crews worked on a road from the Glass Works into Bear Creek Canon which would join the toll road to Cripple Creek.

(From page 1)

we seek additional funding and establish the gift shop to create income to cover 6 to 8 thousand dollars a year in expenses.

3. Grants cover only purchase of the building. We buy it, then seek the \$262,000 needed for renovation, without opening as a history center. Our current \$150,000 savings would generate interest to cover lesser expenses until we can fund remodeling.

4. We get less money than needed for the purchase (or some money is restricted to other uses), so we make the purchase with our own funds. This leaves us with, say, \$10,000, some of which may be spent for maintenance and insurance while we conduct further fund-raising efforts.

5. We face the deadline of Nov. 1st with no foundation money and must decide whether to buy the building with our own money as outlined in #4 above.

6. A lack of funds forces us to drop the deal, swallow up to \$7,750 committed for earnest money and architect's fees, and let someone else buy the building.

Those are the main decisions which we may face. Among long-range questions to be settled are how to establish a paid staff to supervise our efforts, including fund-raising; and a decision on whether or not we should charge admission. Besides discussion of these issues on Sept. 13, board members will share details of what must be done to preserve the building and make it suitable for our history center. We've paid \$2,750 to learn what needs to be done to **Michael Collins** who has drawn tentative plans which were the basis of contractors' estimates. The building is in good condition, although needing a new roof.

In addition, if we are faced with alternatives 4, 5 or 6, we must have membership approval for spending a greater share of our endowment than the membership voted in May-June. That will have to be done quickly, for our November deadline is final.

Build'g Fund Honor Roll

We herewith list, with greatest appreciation from the Old Colorado City Historical Society, the names of those who have contributed to our building fund since announcement was made in June of plans to purchase the building at 2611 W. Colorado.

John W. Croff
Lucille Cunningham
Richard N. Current
Edward and Martha Curry
Stanley DeGeer
Lucille Ellis
John and Barbara Keller
Jan Knox

Josephine Alden
Kay Arnold
Margaret Bofenkamp
Lewis and Dorothy Borst
Sally Brawner
Dale J. Bryan
Rosemae Wells Campbell
Vera Chambon
Carl and Bertha Chilcott
Jean V. Christopher
Ralph Conner
Virginia Cox
Ira Current

Lucille Damico
George W. Fisher
Robert and Loretta Gaarder
Marillia Garret
Margaret L. Golden
Veda Goosman
Eileen Graham
David and Shirley Haar
Alfred Hagedorn
Rosemary I. Hetzler
Raymond J. Hill
W. Scott Hogg
David Hughes
Flora Belle Hull
Geraldine M. Iverson
Jerome and Helen Jekel
Joyce Johns
Madeline Keas
Mel McFarland
Dorothy McGlasson
Elizabeth S. Mares
Ruth F. Maxwell
Dorothy E. Myers
Doug and Patrice Neely
Margaret L. Nichols
Lyn Owen
Paul Paradis
Pat Patton
Pikes Peak Historic RR
Foundation (John Haney)
Curt A. Poulton
Woodrow L. Ralston
Kathy Read
Maloa Read
Robert E. Smith
Jim and Virginia Rogers
Liliane F. Ross
Robert and Martha Simons
Rosemarie Slusher
Annette Stith
Lola Cooper Stone
Bascome E. Tillotson, Jr.
Mary Nell Trapp
Barbara Walters

Artifacts Given To Our History Center

We acknowledge with thanks several gifts which will benefit our future history center.

Tom Small gave us a secretary (i. e. desk) which served in the Westside home of his mother, and an old-style trunk.

Mrs. E. A. Ireland presented a typewriter once used at the county farm. Her grandfather and father were once superintendents there. **Grant Darby** was county jailer, then spent 20 years at the county farm. Ten years later, his son **Glen Darby** became superintendent, also for 20 years. The job required a married man, so before he accepted the job in 1947, Glen Darby married **Mable Thompson**! Mrs. Ireland is also allowing us to copy two pictures and a radio script about the farm prepared by her father.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Cramer made us beneficiaries of their garage-cleaning by donating a 5-foot display cabinet. We don't have space, so **Virginia Cox** is storing it in her garage.

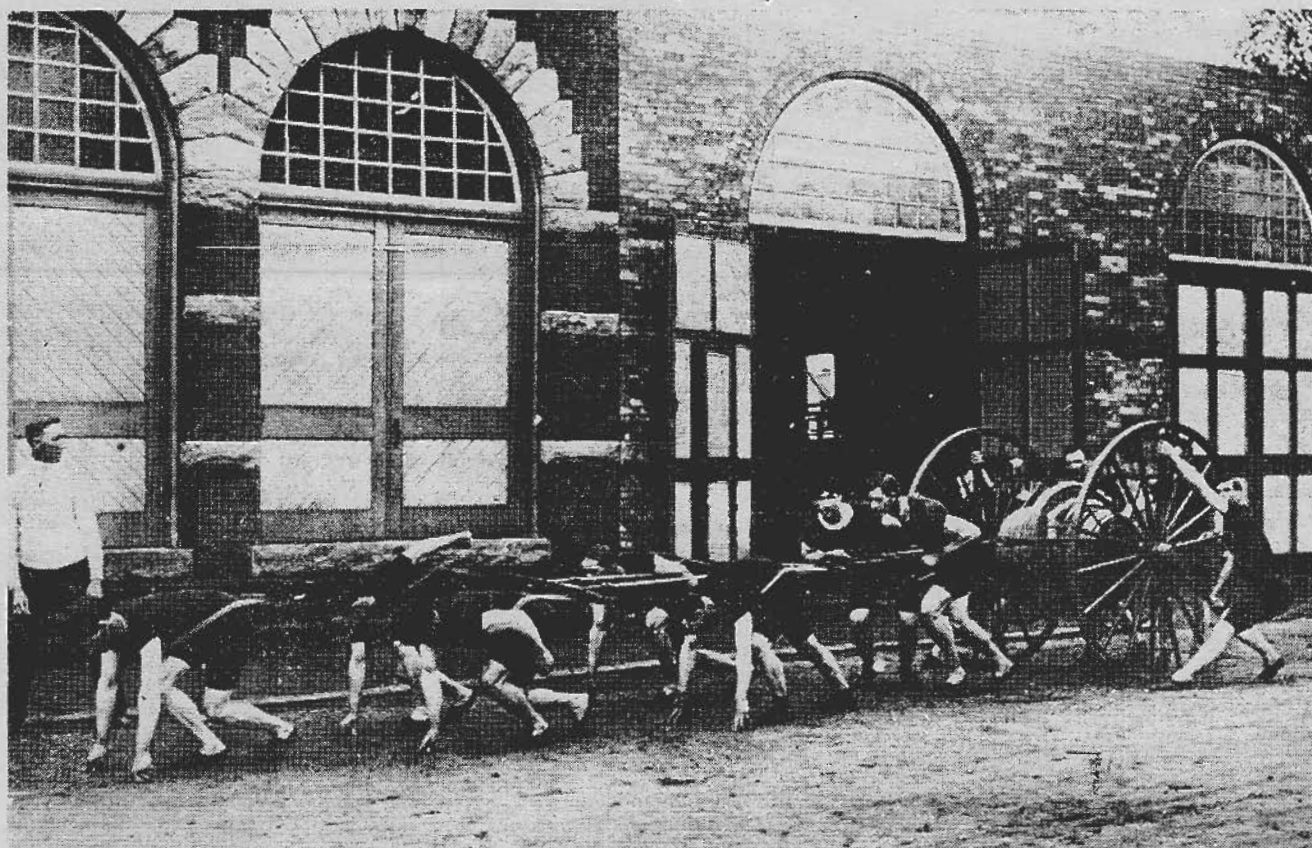
Secretary's Expenses

TO MAY 1, 1991

Postage (NLs et al)	\$36.25
Newsletter negatives, plates	15.60
(Includes negs & plates for Territory Days Handouts)	
Paper for Terr. Days handout	7.20
Total due sec'y as of 5/1/91	59.63

Old Colorado City Historical Society
Sept. 1, 1991

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NINETY YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

Hose team of the Colorado City Volunteer Fire Department poses at City Hall, 26th and Cucharras, in 1901. Manager was George Birdsall, in turtle-neck sweater at left, then a Colo. College student.

The running team competed in Canon City on Sept. 1, 2 and 3. Birdsall arranged for the band to

strike up, "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," before the race started, firing up the team from "Old Town" and bringing them into second place in the competition. They won \$100.

(—Photo from the Kendall collection of the Colorado Springs Pioneers' Museum, from the Gazette-Telegraph.)

CORRESPONDENCE

We appreciate a friendly note from **Lola Cooper Stone**, writing from Cottage Grove, OR. She says she wishes she lived closer, since she'd like to be an active participant in the Society.

"I really enjoy getting the newsletter," she writes. "Every once in a while I see names of people I knew or recognized. One time I saw where my mother-in-law had entertained the Postal Wives Auxiliary 50 years ago."

She adds that she was surprised a few years back when she visited the home she grew up in at 2008 W. Cucharras. "It really hadn't changed all that much in 55 years since I had been in it," she observes.

Mrs. Stone's address is 34245 Meyer Rd., Cottage Grove, OR., 97424.

ROLL CALL

from our last meeting:

Thirty-eight members turned out for our annual business meeting and heard first news of our hoped-for museum purchase. Those who signed in were:

Jo Alden	Fbra Belle Hull
Sally Brawner	Elizabeth S. Mares
Dale Bryan	Ruth Maxwell
Rosemae Campbell	Dorothy McGlasson
Carl T. Chilcott	Doug Neely
Ralph Conner	Patrice Nelly
Virginia Cox	Lyn Owen
John Croff	Paul Paradis
Lucille Cunningham	Pat Patton
Martha Curry	Maloa Read
Lucile Ellis	Jim Rogers
Bob Gaarder	Virginia Rogers
Loretta Gaarder	Liliane Ross
Marillia Garrett	Claire Ruby
Veda Goosman	Madeleine Schaeffer
Eileen Graham	Harriet Seibel
Marjorie Harris	Bob Simons
Rosemary Hetzler	B. E. Tillotson, Jr.
Dave Hughes	Mary Tracy
Joyce Johns	

VISITOR

Jean Warren

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

11 am, Friday, Sept. 13th
Trinity U. M. Church, 701 North 20th
 Just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center
 For luncheon reservations please phone
Lyn Owen, 473-1846
 (You may leave a message at any time.)

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

11 am, Friday, Oct. 11th

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, 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 June, July and August) 11 a. m., usually at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1920 Henderson—west of Uintah 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.