

December 1, 1992

Expenditure's OK'd But Deal Hangs Up

Prompt response by a majority of our members gave approval to the board by Nov. 18th to offer up to \$90,000 from our endowment fund to achieve ownership of the original Colorado City Baptist Church at 1 S. 24th for a History Center. But the primary offer was declined and the board has not yet met to make a reply.

The congregation of Immanuel Missionary Holiness church, which occupies the 1 S. 24th building, remains eager to sell. But the transfer hinges on purchase of a church in south Old Colorado City for them to move into. The money we offer ultimately would pay for the southside church.

The present owners of that church building (ironically, a Baptist congregation) feel that their property is worth more than the \$85,000 we offered, and the factor which we hoped would be an incentive for the sale—an offer of cash—was not enough to overcome their conviction. They are asking about fifteen thousand dollars beyond our offer.

An offer of \$90,000 would eat up 60% of our endowment fund, which cannot be readily replenished. Foundations will not contribute either to endowments or to pay off debt, and income from the remaining endowment will have to meet new demands, like utilities and insurance, while we seek donations for improvements and supplies.

The board will meet soon with Mark Cunningham, the realtor who is working to arrange a deal, to discuss our options. A board meeting scheduled for Nov. 24th was called off because of the weather. By the time this issue of *WestWord* reaches you, the board may have had an opportunity to explore our options.

A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Louise Parker, who first attended one of our meetings as a guest of Martha Simons. She owns property on the west side and formerly lived here. She was a teacher and librarian from Harrison Dist. 2, retiring from Gorman Middle School.

City Is Working on Cemetery Histories

Colorado Springs' Park and Recreation Department is planning a book to tell the interesting, colorful or unique stories associated with people buried at Fairview and Evergreen Cemeteries. They invite O.C.C.H.S. members to participate.

Anyone who submits information which is included in the publication will receive a free copy when it's issued in 1993. Proceeds will be used to restore structures and monuments at both city-owned cemeteries.

They ask us to use special forms in submitting stories, and set a deadline of Dec. 31st. Submissions need not be "polished"; if the facts are given, their writers will refine the stories.

The forms are available at the downtown Penrose and East Libraries; Park and Rec.'s main office; north Hancock Senior Center; the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum and the Evergreen Cemetery office. Out of town members interested in submitting stories should write the Recreation Department, 1401 Recreation Way, Col. Spngs., 80905-1075. Or, drop a note to the Old Colorado City Historical Society, post office box 6702, zip 80934.

Because of the imminent deadline, please act promptly. There are many interesting stories among Westsiders that should be included in the book.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Prepare for Tour of the Intergenerational Center

We'll have a convenient way to become acquainted with the Westside Intergenerational Center when we meet there Dec. 11th.

We'll tour the building and be briefed on its dynamics. There are classes, services and activities for people of all ages.

After the tour, we'll have one of the Golden Circle Nutrition program meals. The West Center is one of 20 places which serve hot lunches, primarily to people over 60, usually Monday through Friday. Details of the program will be given during our visit.

Recommended donation for those 60 or over is \$1.50; those under 60 are charged \$3.75.

We're asked to have an identification card. Those who filled out an application at our November meeting will have the ID card waiting for them. The application can be filled out when you come to the meeting. Or fill out the card(s) enclosed in this *WestWord*, and mail it or bring it with you. Make a reservation as usual with Lyn Owen, 473-1846.

Our usual meeting place isn't available in the Christmas season; this is a handy way to become familiar with the recently-established center. Come at our usual 11 am hour to the west door of West Junior, 25 W. 20th. We'll gather in the choir room.

Xmas Returning to White House Ranch

White House Ranch hopes to entertain you and help with Christmas shopping as the holidays approach. Details are available from Park and Recreation, 578-6580; Ranch phone number is 578-6891. Dates are Dec. 5-6, 12-13, and 19-20.

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

Twenty-five Years Ago

December, 1967

Voters approved bonds for a west-side high and four elementary schools, to revitalize Palmer, and to create a new building for Bristol.

Work began on Villa de Mesa, town house community east of 21st.

Plans made to convert Cliff House in Manitou to year-around apartments. 90-year-old north wing with 75 rooms would be torn down for parking.

Ute Theater in Colorado Springs, opened in 1935, would close Jan. 1 and be torn down for an office building.

The bus company wanted to raise fares from 25 to 30¢ and from 5 to 4 tokens for a dollar.

Fifty Years Ago

December, 1942

A man, 30, living near the old Standard Mill, arrested for ignoring an induction notice, said he'd rather die than serve in the military.

College students Margaret and Frederick Zaugg visited their parents at 1520 W. Kiowa. Dale Hayhurst, 1610 W. Pikes Peak, also came from college.

Air Base east of town was named for Edward J. Peterson of Englewood—first airman killed at the base.

Golden Cycle could continue mining and milling operations for 6 months, if it extracted zinc as well as gold.

Richard Current, once of 3182 W. Pikes Peak, had his book about a Civil War senator, "Old Thad Stevens, a Story of Ambition," published. Current taught history at Rutgers.

Ad: "Common Labor and Mill Men Wanted at the Golden Cycle Mill. Common labor, rate 67¢ per hour. Ore Unloaders and Mill Men in Sampler, 72¢ per hour. Shift Mill Men, 77¢ an hour. Apply at Mill Office."

Landmark storage tank for artificial gas, south of Colorado Ave. viaduct, was dismantled to salvage scrap metal.

Lt. Robert Latas, 114 N. Chestnut, died in an army bomber crash in Alabama. Glenn L. Cree, Jr., 115 N. Walnut, died in action.

On a per-pupil basis, West Junior bought the most war savings stamps; it was fourth in the scrap metal drive; it collected coat hangers for soldiers.

Fire destroyed the roof of the Ripley greenhouse, 3178 W. Colorado. Washington had to okay cinderblock construction to house the furnace.



Ration coupons from "Book 1", 1942.

George Blunt, 75, died from a fall downstairs at his mortuary. He came in 1910, built at 23rd and Colo. in 1936.

Besides meat, gas would be rationed (240 mi./mo.) Jan. 1, canned goods the month following. Schools were asked to sell typewriters to the government.

Seventy-five Years Ago

December, 1917

Colorado City high school's service flag had 15 stars in it.

Midland said it couldn't raise shopmen's wages 4¢ an hour (to 54¢); was losing \$10,000 a month, hadn't raised rates in ten years. By end of month, government took over all railroads.

It cost 62¢ a day for each county farm inmate. \$11,000 budget was offset \$2,000 from sale of farm produce.

Arthur Peterson, 2428 W. Kiowa, was in the hospital, unconscious, after his car was overturned by a motorcycle at 24th and Pikes Peak.

The Isolation hospital at the county farm had running water installed.

O. R. Sell, 1406 W. Kiowa, hoped to sell his headlight-dimming device to a big motor company. It was unusual because it operated on the bulb, not on the reflector or glass lens.

Patrick McDonald, 2205 W. Pikes Peak, formerly a Colorado City policeman, veteran of the Spanish-American War and the Boxer Rebellion, enlisted for service in the quartermaster corps in Washington, D. C.

Colorado Springs high school debated physical education for all girls.

One Hundred Years Ago

December, 1892

Paul Gerhardt completed the building for the Hassell and Talcott foundry, and the company hoped to light their fires Jan. 1st.

Midland ordered five new engines. Drive wheels of engine #23 were faced with 3-inch tires shrunk over them so larger wheels would give more speed. Engine would pull passengers between Grand Junction and Aspen Junction.

Cripple Creek talked of splitting off the gold camp from El Paso county, making it a separate county.

County superintendent's report said El Paso county had 56 school districts, 70 buildings, school population of over 5,000. Buildings included 6 log cabins, 46 frame buildings and 12 brick. It cost \$3.22 a month, on average, to educate a child in El Paso county.

Colorado City was selected for the Pearce-Jensen smelter, but the town wouldn't give adequate support and the company chose Florence instead.

Midland said its line into the gold district would operate by February 1st. Grading was well along, ties on the ground, rails on order, and rolling stock was about to be contracted for.

Peter Eales again became town marshal in Fremont; M. E. Woods took his place in Colorado City.

Each day the new well in Midland yards produced 40,000 gallons of water more than was needed by the railroad.

Local chapters of the cigar-makers union voted against a retirement home in the Pikes Peak region.

County farm inmates had a Christmas feast and entertainment. Miss Olive Woodland sang, Edna Collins whistled, and Gertie McClintock and Susie Gillette recited.

Supreme court ruled against George Snider, said the Grand Caverns belonged to the heirs of Rosa Reinhart. The dispute began in 1887.

The Gentiles Club planned a masquerade ball at the Odd Fellows hall.

Colorado City State Bank opened for business.

H. D. Rogers got 60 days in jail for his scam of "renumbering" houses "for the city". He charged 25¢ per house.

Cripple Creek was to bring water five miles from Beaver Creek and distribute it to six pipe lines and 85 fire hydrants. The system would support a population of 25,000 to 50,000.

Accounts of Colorado Springs' city clerk were short between 6 and 7 thousand dollars. A. R. Corman hoped to make restitution.

Porter Simpson established the Western Enterprise newspaper in Colorado Springs for colored readers.

James Davis forged a check for \$20, borrowed \$10 from his landlady, took \$25 from the Western Meat market where he worked. When the forgery was discovered, Davis was easy to find—he was in jail on a drunk charge.

Sensible Tips Make It Easier to Preserve Old-Timers' Oral History

At our meeting of Nov. 13th, we learned the "How to" and "Why" of oral history from a self-taught "expert" in the genre.

Julie Jones-Eddy told us not to be overwhelmed by the responsibilities of "recording history", but she described other points it's well to keep in mind.

A third-generation native of the Craig-Meeker area, she sought in 1984 a way to contribute to her community. She had Arts and Library degrees, but no particular background in history when she first planned interviews with local women who had lived the early days. Despite a full-time job, and supported by a grant, she began a year-long project which resulted in both a book and a television presentation using words and pictures her interviewees helped supply.

She said her efforts have been criticized by traditional historians because her video doesn't identify speakers or historic pictures. But she feels such details would detract from the stories and from the point to her presentation—recreating the broad experiences shared by most of the women she spoke to.

For one thing, she explains, she didn't want to single out individuals as heroines; their stories are meant to reflect the experiences of many. Variations in the stories give a multi-faceted view of the pioneer experience. Details like names and dates can be found in more formal histories; she considers the thoughts and perspectives as important as dates, and she likes the revelations that come in the voices of the people—these are sometimes as significant as what they say.

Making presentations was one of the conditions of her grant, and she has been generous in sharing results of her research. She works as a U. S. documents librarian at Colorado College's Tutt Library. State libraries have copies of her video production, which—like her book—can be checked out.

In planning your project, set goals. Do you want to end up with a community history, with family biographies, or with details about a limited subject, such as local one-room schools? Beyond philosophical issues, she offered a sampling of nitty-gritty considerations. What follows is from her talk or from written material she supplied.

She recommends the use of half-hour cassette tapes, since that tape is thicker than longer-running tapes and will last longer. Audio taping may be most satisfactory; video-taping equipment may be intimidating to your subject. You should use a separate (rather than built-in) microphone. Put your tape machine where you can see it but it's out of sight of the interviewee. Avoid questions that can be answered with only a "yes" or "no". When necessary to interrupt the taping, use "pause" rather than "stop," to avoid noise on the tape.

Prepare Yourself and Interviewee and Let the Conversation Go; But Get a Release Signed

During the interview, she says, think of yourself as a student and the subject as a teacher. Prepare the interviewee by telling him or her in advance the purpose of the project and the kind of information you're looking for. Your own preparation should include as much material about the subject as possible, to guide your questioning. You can use prepared questions as a guide, but much good information will come from follow-up questions suggested by the subject's comments.

Interview one person at a time. Schedule more than one session if the material warrants; for one thing, that will allow you to repeat questions to double check the person's memory. Could you take a photo before or after the session, especially if you're interviewing someone outside the family? That could become part of a file about the person.

You should tell the subject when you begin your interview, and should start by putting date, time and names on the tape. Tell the subject he or she can ask you to stop the tape for off-the-record comments or for time to think. Avoid uncomfortable topics; don't offer judgmental responses.

She urged that tapes be converted to written manuscripts, but to get consistent results it is important to have well-trained transcribers. In any case, tapes should be indexed to benefit researchers. (Her guidelines recommend sending a copy of the tape, but not of a written-out transcript of the interview—there's too much temptation to edit and "correct" the document!)

Among her suggestions for protecting the tapes: use wooden shelving, not metal; poke out tabs of cassettes so there'll be no danger of recording over your interview; protect tapes from dust and keep them at moderate temperature; work with backup copies, and use the masters only rarely.

You need legal releases for tapes and pictures to avoid later disputes, perhaps with relatives. This is true even for family histories, in case you later want to donate them to an oral history collection.

Tapes should be "aired" once a year, to prevent bleed-through of sounds from one part to another. Tapes should be recopied about every seven years.

Her suggestions are compatible with common sense, but may not occur to you until you've had experience. For that reason, she supplied a bibliography of books helpful to the neophyte, which you'll find on p. 4 of **WestWord**.

There's guidance to help an individual get started, with community or family history. The incentive to do it lies in the experience of each of us who has thought of questions we'd like to ask those who are no longer around to answer them.

Bibliography

The speaker at our last program, Julie Jones-Eddy, recommends the material listed below to guide those gathering oral material for an organization or for a family history.

Baum, Willa K. ORAL HISTORY FOR THE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY. (3rd ed., Nashville: Amer. Asso. for State and Local History, 1987). Best starter manual; interview techniques and tape recorders; bibliography.

Baum, Willa K. TRANSCRIBING AND EDITING ORAL HISTORY. (Nashville: Amer. Asso. for State and Local History, 1991). Clear, concise; detailed info on indexing.

Davis, Cullom. ORAL HISTORY FROM TAPE TO TYPE. (Chicago: Amer. Library Asso., 1977) Excellent guide to transcribing and editing oral history. Gives rules of style and list of editing symbols. \$37.80.

Fletcher, Wm. P. RECORDING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY: A GUIDE (NY: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1986) or (Tenspeed Press. Reprint of 1983 ed., \$11.95). Primarily useful for suggestions of topics and questions.

Stephenson, Shirley E. EDITING AND INDEXING: GUIDELINES FOR ORAL HISTORY. (Fullerton, CA: Oral History Program, CA State Univ., 1983, ISBN 0-930046-05-2). Good for groups needing multiple copies of inexpensive guide about editing and indexing oral history tapes. \$3.50.

Ives, Edward. THE TAPE RECORDED INTERVIEW: A MANUAL FOR FIELD WORKERS IN FOLKLORE AND ORAL HISTORY. (Knoxville: Univ. of TN Press, 1980). Ives, a Maine folklorist, produced videotape, AN ORAL HISTORIAN'S WORK (33 mins) which intros process and is suitable for use for training volunteers; \$60.*

Moss, William. ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM MANUAL. (NY: Praeger Pubs., 1974). How to set up a large scale oral hist. project, based on J.F. Kennedy Oral History Program.

Oral History Asso. ORAL HISTORY EVALUATION GUIDELINES. (Lexington, KY: Oral Hist. Asso., 1980). Guides for sponsor, interviewer, interviewee; project, ethical and legal considerations, tape/transcript processing, interview content and conduct; bibliography. \$5.*

Ericson, Stacy. A FIELD NOTEBOOK FOR ORAL HISTORY. (Idaho Oral Hist. Cntr., ID State Historical Soc., 1983). Covers organizing local oral

MEETING DEC
THIS MONTH 11

11 am at the Westside Intergenerational Center
To make or cancel luncheon reservations, please phone
LYN OWEN, 473-1846 You may leave a message
at any time.

MEETING JAN
NEXT MONTH 8

ROLL ☒ CALL

from our last meeting:

We had thirty-four present for our Nov. 13th meeting—pretty good, considering that some had to choose between our meeting and that of the El Paso County Pioneers' Association, which was meeting at the same time at the Masonic Temple.

Members who signed in were+

Edwin Bathke	Joyce Johns
Sally Brawner	Jan Knox
Ralph Conner	Agnes Loesch
Virginia Cox	D. McGlasson
John Croff	Lyn Owen
Lucille Cunningham	Maloa Read
Lucile Ellis	Jim Rogers
Bob Gaarder	Virginia Rogers
Loretta Gaarder	Arthur Ruby
Veda Goosman	Claire Ruby
Eileen Graham	Wilma Stephens
Marjorie Harris	B. E. Tillotson
Catherine Henderson	
Ann Hiskey	Jean Tillotson
Jerry Iverson	Bessie Wreath

VISITORS AND GUESTS

Robert Fineburg	Julie Jones-Eddy
Orrin Haynes	Eunice Quinn
Edna Francisco Pooler	

SECRETARY'S EXPENSES

Ralph Conner, Secretary

Expenses to 12/1/92

Year's supply of paper for NL	93.29
Postage: miscellaneous	2.55
Postage: 123 "Extra" NL's, plus	
117 postcard returns	57.90
Lunch for spkrs and no-show	15.00
Negs and plates for Dec NL	22.04
Total due secretary 12/1	190.78

history project, including goal setting and project administration.*

Ms. Jones-Eddy also recommends two organization which specialize in oral history support:

ORAL HISTORY ASSO. Quarterly newsletter and "Oral History Review" (twice a year), report on new publications, projects, guidelines, ethical and legal issues. Once-a-year conferences.

AMER. ASSO. FOR STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY, 172 Second Ave., N., Suite 202, Nashville, Tenn. 37201. Publishes booklets to guide development of local history projects.

*Ms. Jones-Eddy supplied addresses and other details for ordering; and she supplied examples of forms and notes. Call Ralph Conner (634-0895) or Jan Knox (495-3359) for added information.

WESTWORD

Edited by Ralph Conner, 719-634-0895

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Published the first of almost every month by the Old Colorado City Historical Society, Inc., a non-profit corporation, 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 pictures, to keep alive the unique culture and spirit of Westside Colorado Springs, and to establish a history center in honor of Colorado City's dramatic and significant past.

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—just 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 \$5 per person. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE LUNCHEON and should be made by phoning Lyn Owen, 473-1846. Leave a message 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 any time. Renewal falls in April. Members receive this newsletter and local members will be phoned before each meeting if they wish.

Lifetime Memberships are also available for \$100 per person. This amount is placed into a 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

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