

March 1, 1992

Join Us in Costume as We March for St. Pat!

For the first time, a group from the Old Colorado City Historical Society will be in the St. Patrick's Day parade down The Avenue at noon on March 14th.

We invite participation by members willing to think Spring, share in the wearing o' the green, and help O.C.C.H.S. make itself better known, while honoring St. Patrick and Old Colorado City.

Only requirement is the willingness to walk from 27th to 17th. You're invited to wear green for the occasion. Those with authentic Irish eyes are expected to keep them smiling. We'll be even more pleased if you can support the history angle with an old-fashioned costume. Guests are welcome. (Or bring a guest in an old-fashioned costume—like the picture above?) A banner will identify our organization. If the walk is out of the question, cheer from the curb and enjoy the fun!

This ninth parade comes the day after our March meeting, and following dedication of the West Intergenerational Center, also on Friday. Parade day, the 14th, there'll be open house at the Center at West Junior, 1:30 to 3:30. (Details, p. 3).

For several years Kay Arnold has urged that the society make an appearance, but main incentive for this year's participation came from Lucille Cunningham, who is involved in planning for the Intergenerational Center dedication March 13th, and Millie Cox.

At our March meeting we'll tell marchers where to assemble. Or phone Ralph Conner, 634-0895.



A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We have a noble collection of new members, including some who joined a few months ago but have not yet been recognized here.

Ed Bathke, our speaker today, served as a scientific staff member at Kaman Sciences for 24 years, is an independent computer software consultant, and with his wife Nancy, a Dist. 20 teacher, is active in several historic organizations, including the Westerners.

Marilyn Lee Caduff lives near "downtown" Old Colorado City, and is also involved in the Manitou Historical Society.

Libby Calhoun joins courtesy of Virginia Cox, who met her through Modern Woodmen. Ms. Calhoun operates a Day Care Center on the Westside.

Dale Duncan joined at our February meeting. His family came here about 1930 and he was raised on the Westside, working in a photo shop and the post office. He's a railroad fan.

Our third Pueblo member is Esther Hubbard, a sister of Virginia Cox who is sponsoring her participation.

Maurine Walker was born and raised on the Westside, the daughter of Arthur Walker, and of Bessie Florey Walker, a native of Baca county. Mr. Walker was a schoolteacher when the family lived in Missouri, but here he sought more "manly" work at the Golden Cycle Mill! Ms. Walker joins as a gift from Joyce Johns.

Memorial Contributions

Memorial gifts in the name of Madeleine Schaeffer have been made to the Historical Society's Endowment Fund by:

Sally Brawner

Ralph Conner

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Spoons Full of Colo. History Fill Menu

A national fad from 1890 to 1915 will be revived March 13 when Ed Bathke presents antique sterling spoons which depict Colorado history.

Ed and Nancy Bathke pair slides of spoons with antique postcards and photographs, and match them with modern pictures of the same scenes. Ed will make the presentation, since Nancy is unable to attend.

Their pictures show embossed and engraved utensils reflecting the state's history and its booming silver industry. The spoons show mines, buildings, railroads, towns, natural landmarks and events at the turn of the century in Denver, the Pikes Peak region, Cripple Creek, Leadville, and other locales.

Briefly:

Congratulations to member Lucille Damico whose work as artist of the month is featured in the window of the Arati Gallery.

We wish a speedy recovery to Jan Petit who underwent surgery soon after our February meeting.

This issue of WestWord was printed too late to go to the merchants' group. We'll save until next month a picture and story about a possible alternative to the cowboy statue proposed for 21st and the Expressway.

We're sending notices about membership renewals a month earlier than usual. Please check the notice on the back page. If you need to renew, an envelope and a card are enclosed. All you need do is write the check. Please do! Membership cards for all members will be mailed with the newsletter in May.

Westside Memories: *Turning Back the Clock on Local Events* *Twenty-five Years Ago*

March, 1963

City planned improved lighting on Colorado between 20th and 24th like that between 24th and 26th.

Clarence B. Robinson, 1431 W. Cucharas, became national deputy chief of staff for the VFW.

Seventeen Westside churches combined choirs for Good Friday services at Bethany Baptist Church.

Rev. George T. Lunsford resigned as superintendent of the County Farm.

Colorado Senate passed a lottery bill; City Council initiated an ordinance to forbid trash burning; city abolished commission row on Cascade.

Millie Kirk, Tim Heitman, Christine Wahl and Sue Wier composed one of two casts presenting "High White Star" at West Junior.

A meeting at Sacred Heart school began organizing for a community center building.

Fifty Years Ago

March, 1942

El Paso County Pioneers Association and the Zebulon Pike chapter of the DAR began listing those once buried in the Mesa Cemetery with a goal of erecting a marker there.

School figures estimated county population as 55,000—to be the basis for issuing sugar-rationing books.

There were tons of street car rails under Colorado Ave., between the top of the hill and 21st, but the city decided it wasn't feasible to dig them up to support the war effort.

Parades down Pikes Peak, headed by the high school band and Mayor George Birdsall, sent off some of 287 young men who enlisted between Pearl Harbor day and March 1st.

Promoted to sergeant: Theodore Holdenauer, 715 N. 23rd; Fred H. Johnson, 219 S. 12th; Donald E. Nelson, 1307 W. Kiowa. Twin brothers Lloyd and Floyd Garrison, 2327 W. Colorado, were at Camp McQuaide, CA.; Eldon Messerli, 3015 W. Colorado, re-enlisted in the Navy; Murray Jones entered naval training while his wife, formerly Dorothy Baldwin, temporarily helped her family run the Dennon Cafe. On leave: Louis W. Cunningham, 2106 W. Colorado; Major A. E. Burt, formerly in the National Guard; Clyde Bishop, 3024 W. Colorado (his brothers Elza and Ralph were also in service). Elmer and Don Clay were in Florida.

Mrs. David Miller, and son Robert, 2921 W. Colorado, joined Mr. Miller and David Jr. in California. Mr. Miller once worked on the Midland Terminal.

George McDowell, 221 W. Cedar, retired after 42 years as a bank messenger; Rose Bland, teacher for 20 years and principal for 12 years at Buena Vista, planned her retirement.

From "Dumbells" in the Independent: "The ancient Greeks often committed suicide."

"Those were the days. Now you can only do it once."

(Before 1917 Colorado City was an independent town.)

Seventy-five Years Ago

March, 1917

Colorado City residents joined a general cleanup sponsored by the Woman's Civic League, cleaning yards, parkings, and vacant lots.

Associated Charities complained that food costs rose 87½% in a year. Cabbage rose from 2½¢ to 8 cents—up 220%. Beans and onions doubled.

Colorado Springs sought to pay for more expensive Midland Band summer concerts—\$9,300 for 25 players.

Spring's Interurban Railway gave pay increases to a maximum of 32¢ an hour. 98% of operating personnel had worked there for more than five years.

For safety the street car company closed one side of open cars so passengers could board or alight only from the right. The sprinkling car added a metal plate to diffuse the spray so it would "sprinkle" instead of "wash."

Five Colorado City girls took the teachers' examination: Elizabeth and Nettie Greenlee, Helen Weberbauer, Nora Hardy, and Camille Retter.

April ballot would call for reductions in Mayor's and Clerk's salaries of 50% or more. Mayor James Faulkner ran against James Greenlee for re-election; May Ammerman was opposed by L. C. Caldwell and John G. Faulkner for clerk. But, if annexation passed, Westside would come under City Manager form of government—IF Springs' voters accepted that change.

Frank Wulff sued Colorado City for \$2,000, charging it dug dirt and gravel from his property to repair streets.

D&RG agreed to pay 75%, Colorado Springs 25%, towards a crossing under the tracks at Willamette.

Final plans for the Broadmoor added 25 large rooms and hexagonal towers. Reservations were already coming in though construction was at least a year away.

Men of local Battery C, National Guard, passed thru from El Paso to Fort Russell, Wyoming, for demobilization. They'd supported U.S. suppression of Pancho Villa and Mexican bandits.

Colorado City miner Albert Debeque sent D&RG \$5.25 (\$1.70 was interest) to pay for a ride he stole eight years before between Pueblo and Denver.

One Hundred Years Ago

March, 1892

Seven fine six-horse teams, each with a heavy wagon, stopped overnight on their way to Cripple Creek to haul ore for Anaconda Mining and Milling.

Cripple Creek Crusher reported that Fremont and Moreland had 40 restaurants, lodging houses and chop houses; 7 hotels; 17 real estate and mining offices; 7 general merchandise stores; 6 hardware and mining supply; 7 liveries; 4 clothing; 4 laundries; 4 meat markets; 4 assay offices; four blacksmith shops; 3 lumber yards; 3 bakeries; 2 furniture stores; 2 drug stores; 2 barber shops; a wood yard; wagon, harness, shoe, tin, pawn and second-hand shops; news depot; and 25 saloons.

Western Union completed a telegraph line to Fremont. The Midland surveyed a rail route from Hayden's Divide. Midland published 50,000 copies of a 32-page booklet to promote their train service towards Cripple Creek.

Albert Allen bought Thomas Barber's lathe business in the Springs and moved it to Colorado City, and constructed a flour mill. He won the contract to build Colorado City's City Hall, but, to save money, commissioners decided not to build a second story.

An electric gong which sounded when a train was coming was installed at Huerfano and the D&RG tracks.

A boy fired a shotgun at a wildcat—really William Stubbs of Colorado City. Wounds painful but not serious.

Colorado City was deserted as citizens staked claims in Bear Creek Canon. Cy hired a Denver barber to run his shop while he prospected.

Barber's union identified four union shops in Colorado Springs. In Colorado City: J. F. Ferris, J. V. Williams, S. R. Caulesbury and Cy's.

J. V. Ferris' barber shop advertised it had electric lights, "not coal oil ones", and that "...you will always find a sober man to shave you."

Colorado University's pep yell: "U, U, U of C! Var, Var, Varsity! Sis, Boom, Colorado!" Colorado College's: "Pikes Peak or Bust! Pikes Peak or Bust! Colorado College, Yell we must!"

George White's Crystals Conduct Us on a Colorful Worldwide Tour

It would take very "colorful" writing, elaborate word pictures and scientific terms to put on paper the information shared with us Feb. 14th by George White's talk on minerals.

A geography lesson would be useful, too, to locate sources of crystals from an assemblage made over 75 years. Only four of the slides showed items not from Mr. White's own collection. He showed a few gem stones, but most were ordinary rocks that mean something only to an experienced or curious eye. Practically all were in their natural state.

He emphasized that the Pikes Peak region is a rich source of minerals, from the slopes of Pikes Peak to St. Peter's Dome, and produces some of the best collectors' items of amethyst in the world. Among other local offerings are zircon above Helen Hunt Falls, topaz near Glen Cove, smoky quartz and ammonite from Crystal Peak.

But his collection covered the globe. We saw minerals from New Mexico, New York and Califor-

**Minerals in Their Natural State
Dazzle With Varied Shape,
Color, even Transparency**

nia; from Mexico and Nova Scotia; and from Switzerland, Uruguay, Madagascar, Brazil, Britain, Morocco, Peru, South Africa, Tasmania, India, Pakistan and Norway. Areas like Iran, with the best turquoise, are hardly accessible.

Some, like topaz or quartz, were virtually transparent; calcite split images into two by double refraction. Others, like garnet, came in a rainbow of colors. We saw familiar substances, like copper, crystalized into rare and beautiful forms.

His entirely-extemporaneous talk was honed by countless presentations to school children. They're natural rock collectors, he said; his own interest began in his youth. We shared the fun of a Broadmoor Elementary class in recognizing "foods" among his samples and we too identified the strawberry or fudge sundaes and pizzas.

It was easy to share the enthusiasm his presentation must create among youngsters. We and they won't look at a rock with a same casualness again.

TRANSITION

MARY ELIZABETH RYMER

Mary Rymer, a life member of O.C.C.H.S., died Feb. 22 in her home in Fowler, aged 88. She was born in Old Colorado City in 1904 to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dunlap Dunning. She married William F. Rymer in 1941. He died in 1987.

Mrs. Rymer gave several museum items to our Society. She worked for the city and the Air Force Academy as a micro-biologist before her retirement. She is survived by nephews and nieces.

EDGAR DOYLE "ED" BERRY

Ed Berry, 82, died in Colorado Springs Feb. 14. He had lived here since 1972 though his Colorado roots began in the 1800's.

He was not a member of our group, but spoke to us Feb. 14, 1986, giving a wide-ranging talk on the origins of Valentine's Day, the joys of genealogy, the beginnings of his family, its migration to this country, and mercantile and ranching projects in Colorado and New Mexico. Legends tell of buried treasure in the former family ranch in New Mexico.

Among many jobs, he worked in theater, radio and TV, and as a journalist and historian. Sons from Chicago and Florida survive him.

Ceremony Dedicates Intergenerational Center

The West Center of Intergenerational Learning, constructed as part of West Junior, will open Friday, March 13th, at 4:30. A formal ribbon-cutting, involving a four-generation Westside family, will be held at 5:30. Other details will be announced later.

The following day, Saturday, March 14, from 1:30 to 3:30, an open house will give citizens a chance to become acquainted with the facilities and the opportunities they will offer.

The intergenerational idea means it will host activities and learning among people of all ages. Young people might help older ones understand computers, while adults could conduct classes for babysitters. Plans call for a licensed pre-school three mornings a week, an after-school teen center, and lunches and activities for seniors.

The Billie Spielman Center is now established there and has twice the space it had before for information and referral services, a food pantry and budget counseling. The Pikes Peak Community Action Agency, Park and Recreation Department, and Community Development will be represented by services there. Health and hospital officers will conduct a wellness clinic and screenings.

Some rooms will serve community and school functions at different hours, such as a dance and exercise room. The auditorium has been refurbished and equipped with an elevator. The school's band room will be the site for meals for seniors at noon five days a week.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING
11 am, Friday March 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, April 10th

New facilities cover 7,400 square feet, and represent more than a million dollars in funds raised in three years. It follows a major rehabilitation of park facilities north of West Junior.

Entrance to the Center is on 20th street—west side of West Junior. Address is 25 N. 20th.

Old Colorado City Historical Society
March 1, 1992

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ROLL ☒ CALL

from our last meeting:

Our February meeting brought another excellent turnout and some distinguished visitors. Fifty-six attended, of which 42 were members.

Members signing in were:

Jo Alden	Rosemary Hetzler
Ed Bathke	Flora Belle Hull
Nancy Cantrell	Barb Keller
Carl Chilcott	John Keller
Ralph Conner	Adline Lipe
Virginia Cox	Elizabeth Mares
John Croff	Carl McClure
Arnold Cunningham	Helen Michelson
Jerry Cunningham	Doug Neely
Lucille Cunningham	Patrice Neely
Ed Curry	Lyn Owen
Martha Curry	Maloa Read
Dale W. Duncan	Claire Ruby
Lucile Ellis	Arthur Ruby
George Fisher	Harriet Seibel
Bob Gaarder	Martha Simons
Margaret Golden	Robert Simons
David Harr	Wilma Stephens
Shirley Harr	B. E. Tillotson
Marjorie Harris	T. G. Van Camp
Catherine Henderson	Bessie Wreath

VISITORS AND GUESTS

Betty (Mrs. George) Fisher	
Florence Cadwell	Carl McClure
Evelyn Feitz	Shar McClure
Leland Feitz	Eleanor Murr
Lou W. Hansell	Buz Rieger
Jeanette Maas	Mary F. Sorensen
Bessie Martin	Leonard V. Sutton
Jean (Mrs. B. E.) Tillotson	

Important:

Status of YOUR '92-'93
OCCHS membership:

- ☐ Life membership pd.
- ☐ '92-'93 already paid
- ☐ Need to renew; see enclosed card and envelope, please.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Croff, Treasurer

Deposits from memberships	20.00
Check for Secy's expenses	12.02
Jan Svc Chg, PP Nat'l Bank	.64
Interest, PP Nat'l	17.45
Checking acct bal 1/31	5,941.33

SECRETARY'S EXPENSES

Ralph Conner, Secretary

Postage: publicity	.87
Museum purchase: hist photo	5.00
4x6 cards to index references	
from Westside Memories	68.70
Speaker's lunch	5.00
Newsletter: negs and plate	8.04
Total due Sec'y 3/1	87.61

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Joyce Johns	635-6949
Vice president	Pat Patton	574-6976
Secretary	Ralph Conner	634-0895
Treasurer	John Croff	632-2896
	Vera Chambon	634-2340
	Virginia Cox	635-8705
	Bob Gaarder	632-7412
	David Hughes	636-2040
	Aldine Lipe	475-1658
	Leon Young	633-1543
	or (office)	633-2621

WEST WORD

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Published the first of almost every month by the Old Colorado City Historical Society, a non-profit corporation, 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 history center to honor 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 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 before each meeting if they wish.

Lifetime memberships are also available for \$100 per person. This amount is placed to 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.

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Post Office Box 6702
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80934

First Class Mail