# A Westside Welcome Memb

We welcome more than a dozen new members this month—some joining spouses, and some already showing a willingness to work!

The state of the s

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Atwell have deep roots in the region and a conviction that the work we're doing is worthwhile for future generations. Mrs. Atwell traces family members back into the 1870's, when they kept cottages in Manitou Springs. Their membership is one good thing to come out of the controversy over laying pipes through Westside—she learned about us at a meeting from Virginia Cox!

Art Crawford was born in Colorado City and is a third-generation native. His wife is also a native. His great grandmother settled in the region in the 1880's, and his grandfather and father built houses in Old Colorado City on Bott and Kiowa. His ancestors were associated with the Midland from its beginnings. He himself was a dispatcher for the Union Pacific, though he denies he inherited a natural tendency toward railroading.

Melva Gordon is already active in history organizations, serving on the boards of the Friends of the Pioneers' Museum and the El Paso County Pioneers' Asso., and volunteers in the gift shop at the Colorado Springs' Pioneers Museum. She also volunteered at Goodwill.

We should have noted Shar McClure as a new member as we welcomed back Carl last month.

Lance Michels proved himself a worker as he helped Lee in her program on Laura Bell. He not only manipulated the visual aids, and helped prepare her information for the newsletter, he lent a hand moving chairs at the church.

May 1, 1993

### Members' Renewals Give 'Life Support'

We gained valuable support from five members who used the new membership year to take out Lifetime Memberships. Their fees support our endowment. We're pleased so many were motivated by the same generous spirit:

- 24. Jean V. Christoper
- 25. Mary Nielsen
- 26. Jan Pettit
- 27. Martha Simons
- 28. Wilma F. Stephens

as the guest of her brother, Bud Walker. They of course share the same Midland Engineer grandfather. She lives in Denver.

Gene Tarbert is a relative newcomer from New Jersey, but her rich family history traces back to Revolutionary, 1812 and Civil Wars and she's eager to learn more about her new home.

It was natural for Nancy Tracy to join this month, courtesy of Lucille Cunningham. She operates Laura Belle's, on 19th St., west of Uintah Gardens. She made a contribution, and will do much more in the Fall, by sponsoring a money-raising auction on our behalf at Laura Belle's.

Jud and Mary Jo Wallace, slightly retired, are active in money-making hobbies, interested in reaching people knowledgeable about local history. They trade in old jazz and big band records, and out-of-print books on Colorado and the West.

Clint Waller and Shirley Kyllonen are the envy of everyone who knows where they live—in the Husted House at 3001 W. Kiowa. He's undertaken a major responsibility of helping out for Territory Days, scheduling our worker-volunteers into the cabin. Please make his job easy.

### Annual Meeting Shares Progress Report As We Make Plans, Elect Board

Steps are being taken this week towards getting a zone change for our History Center at 1 S. 24th. We're on agendas of the Historical Preservation group and the Planning Commission.

We anticipate favorable responses, and will report on those hurdles and other progress when we hold our annual meeting at Trinity Methodist May 14th. There'll be an opportunity to tour the building for those interested.

Main item of the annual meeting is election of board members.

The terms of Vera Chambon, Virginia Cox, John Croff and Joyce Johns end this year, and each is willing to continue to serve on the board. In addition, we will elect a new board member to replace Pat Patton, who moved.

Carry-over members are Ralph Conner, Lucille Cunningham, Sandy Hoewisch, Jan Knox, Dorothy McGlasson and Leon Young. They'll serve another year.

Architects Michael Collins and Chuck Runge have plans far enough along that we'll soon have estimates on remodeling costs, which clears the way for seeking foundation support.

Details on progress, plans for Territory Days, the Great American Race, and answers to questions will make a lively meeting.

#### DONATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge a sizeable contribution from Joyce Johns, earmarked for architect's fees. Others who gave financial help this month are:

Millie Leland Feitz Nancy Tracy

Marjorie Walker Oliver joins

#### Territory Days Get Broader Emphasis

Territory Days takes on new importance for O.C.C.H.S. this year, now that we have a building for our history center. This "new baby" that we showed off on St. Patrick's day will be a theme for the display in the Garvin cabin.

We'll display Dave Hughes' historic picture of the former First Baptist Church and plans drawn up by the architects. We'll seek donations in a king-sized baby bottle to help the baby thrive, in return for balloons for children of all ages.

Blowing up balloons (using a tank, not lungs) will need an extra person on duty, but having convenient parking at the history center across the street will simplify the chauffeuring.

Because the "Great American Race" of old-time cars will visit Old Colorado City late in June, and we'll reopen our exhibits when the cars are on display, we'll show early-day automobile accessories too.

A feature this year will be a training session for volunteers the afternoon of May 26th. We need all volunteers to attend this session to make our efforts on Territory Days more effective.

We'll give our staff understanding of the exhibits, and offer suggestions of ways to encourage better financial support.

Clint Waller will line up our volunteers. As in past years, we'll have two shifts Saturday (29th) and Monday (31st), from 10 to 1 or 1 to 4, and one shift, 1 to 4, on Sunday (30th). We'd like to have four people on each shift.

If you can serve, please phone Clint at 632-7569. We'll arrange transportation for anyone who needs it. Territory Days is a pleasant, family-oriented carnival, and it's fun to be a part of it. You'll give important support to the Old Colorado City Historical Society and its community.

## Pioneer Asso. To Honor Forgotten of Evergreen

The El Paso County Pioneers' Association will dedicate a memorial to the earliest pioneers buried at Evergreen Cemetery, Saturday, May 29, 10 am.

The area of earliest internments was not endowed, and most of the markers have been lost. The Association and the City researched records and compiled lists of literally thousands who were buried in the pioneer section. A monument will acknowledge our debt to these early residents, and the names and grave locations will be made into a convenient public record.

Leadership for the project came from O.C.C.H.S. member Mel Sinton, their retiring president; new president Bob Hiltbrand; committee chairman Bill Patterson and other Association members.

# Briefly:

We're pleased when "Westside Memories" triggers a response among readers. Mel McFarland reacted to "J. V. Smith", who furnished space for Red Cross volunteers in March of 1918. Mel recognized the generous landlord as the first Midland engineer.

(He adds that the second enwas William Walker, grandfather to Bud Walker and new member Marjorie Oliver.)

Jan MacKell has returned to Colorado from Plano, Texas.

Martha Simons drops a note from Illinois where she's looking after ailing 90-something parents. She plans to be there as needed, counting on her mother recovering from a broken hip enough to return to her home.

Brave members Joyce Johns gave historical understanding to 90 4th-graders at Wilson school, and Lucille Cunningham performed similarly for eager kindergarten students.

Aldine Lipe has news from her doctors which will put her into lengthy series of treatments.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT John Croff, Treasurer

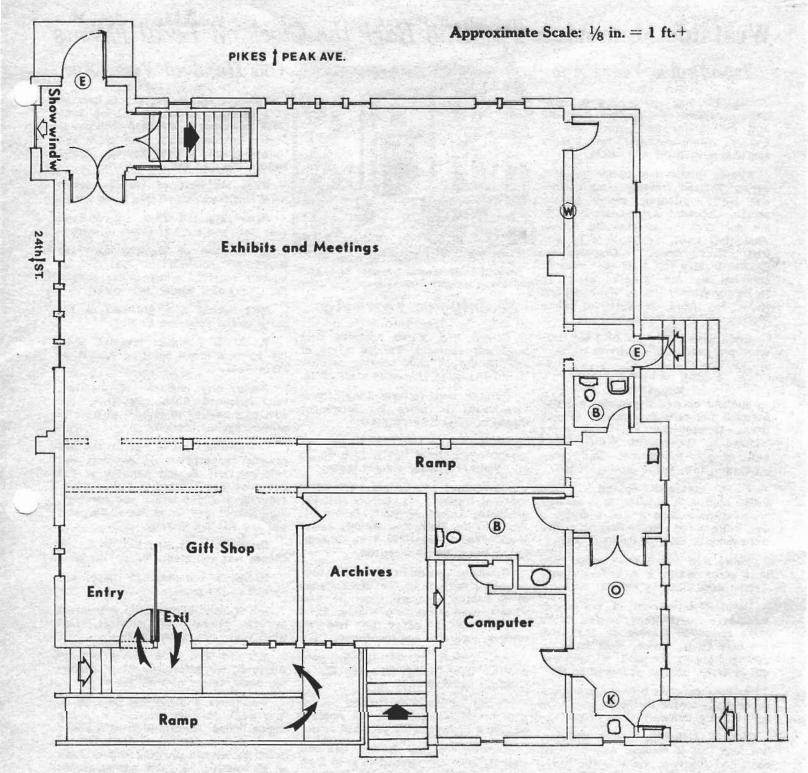
Pikes Peak Nat'l, Checking Acct. (Bal. Aug. 31: 10/1/92 NL) \$65,104.25

(Bal. Aug. 31; 10/1/92 NL) \$65,104.25
-September, 1992-
Deposit (membershps) +\$30.6
Deposit (postcard sales) +2.00
Interest +115.07
Bank svc. chg,44
Balance, Oct. 1, 1992 \$65,250.88
-October, 1992-
Deposit (Life membership) +100.00
Post office box rent -17.50
Interest +108.48
Bank svc. chg,53
OCC Asso. (Oct. NL postage) -37.94
Balance, Nov. 1, 1992 \$65,403.38
-November, 1992-
Secy's expenses (May) -54.90
Secy's expenses (Sept) -89.67
Secy's expenses (Oct) -44.46
OCC Asso. (Nov. NL postage) -37.06
Interest +131.85
Cert. of Dep., Bank Western +37,253.16
A. C. Johns Memorial contribs +210.00
Balance, Dec. 1, 1992 \$102,770.25
-December, 1992-
Deposit, memberships +115.55
Earnest \$, 1 S. 24 purch1,000.00
Interest +155.45
Bank svc. chg96
Certfd check for 1 S. 24th -69,024.99
Mark Cnnnghm, Rl Estt fees -280.69
Balance, Jan. 1, 1993 32,734.06
—January, 1993—
Interest +37.26
Bank svc. chg84
Dist. 11 (rent for Dec. meet) -5.00
OCC Asso. (Postage, Dec. NL) -50.17
Fitters Cr Un (fee & dep.) -25,025.00
Balance, Feb. 1, 1993 7,499.53
-February, 1993
Region. Bldg. Inspection -150.00
Secy's expenses (Jan.) -47.27
Interest +10.25
Bank svc. chg1.06
Secy's expenses (Dec.) -72.41
Lunch expense, cancelled meet -6.00
Deposit (memberships) +50.00
Balance, March 1, 1993 7,283.04
-March, 1993- Deposits (memberships) +140.00
Deposit (contributions) +2,005.00
Interest +12.08
Bank svc. chg1.95
American Family Ins826.00
Immanuel Missionary (donatn) -20.00
Michael Collins, architect -2,227.60
Balance, April 1, 1993 \$6,364.57

Cert. of Deposit, Pikes Peak Nat'l 4/6/93 Interest +29.68 \$12,971.86 New balance Fitters' Credit Union \$25,166.94

World Syngs Cert of Dep \$41,611.

(Assets total \$86,114.57, although some funds are already committed for future expenses and our endowment.)



Main floor of our history center, based on plans by Michael Collins' architectural firm.

Entrance will be at the bottom of the plan near on-site parking, accessible by stairs and ramp. An entrance door will be added, and exit will be through the gift shop.

A hallway, shown by dotted lines, will be opened up. Another ramp will give access to public rest rooms. The wall between that ramp and the exhibit area will be just under six feet high. The exhibit area has about 1200 square feet. After removal of two low ceilings, this room will have a 20-foot ceiling.

When appropriate, archives and office will be accessible, but the basement, and lower-right area of the above plan, will generally be closed to visitors.

The former entrance in the tower (upper-left) will have a lighted window to call attention to the center at night from the park and street.

Outline arrows show stairs up to the main-floor level.

Solid arrows show stairs down to the basement.

Circled letters identify:

B-"unisex" bathrooms, one accessible to wheel chairs.

E-emergency exits.

O-office.

K-small kitchenette with sink. W--window to allow viewing of the exhibit in the small room.

Old Colorado City Historical Society May 1, 1993



Westside Memories: Turning Back the Clock on Local Events

#### Twenty-five Years Ago May, 1968

City Planning approved a development northwest of Chambers Way and 31st calling for 83 1-story and 64 2-story townhouses and two 3-story apartments with 107 units each.

Stormy session over re-opening 25th across Midland freeway. Commissioners: We're reflecting wishes of the people. Opponent Art Anderson: "You are not here to to give the people what they want. You're here to protheir money." Commissioner Charlie Bickley felt "left out" because criticism was all directed at Keith McBurney (family ties to Westside) and Roger Fay (born on Westside), while Bickley LIVED on Westside!

Orrin Haynes was one of 3 registered as professional engineers in state.

### Fifty Years Ago

May, 1943

Midland carried 2 passengers a day between Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek-\$5 each day. PUC allowed the Midland to abandon its "Kiddie Car." Halt of gold-mining cut Gold Camp population 75%, led to closing of jail.

C. J. Burkhardt opened the old D&RG station in Manitou as a cottage camp. Station once hosted 3 trains a day; Pullmans or private cars on a spur were home to distinguished visitors.

Three men and 3 army nurses died in a plane crash; 2 men from Camp Carson were killed by trains.

Jeeps took winners of war stamp competition -- Wickard's and Reid's home rooms-to Garden of the Gods and back to W. Junior. West led city, averaged \$11.74 per pupil. Midland was 4th at \$7.73. District averaged \$4.89.

Arizona governor Sidney Osborn unsuccessfully looked for house where his father and grandfather lived in 1862-3.

Mrs. W. J. Reichart, 2551 Wheeler, had four sons in service: Andrew, Vincent, and Clarence were in the navy, Valentine in the coast artillery.

Wartime: Because a cable broke, courthouse clock might exhibit 8:30 for the duration. On first anniversary of the Women's Army Auxilliary, 32 local women had enlisted. Speeders might lose gasoline rations. Manitou council was confused because Joe Shabouh and Snell bought horses carriages to transport tourists without gasoline, and wondered what rules would apply. Laws governing livery stables had been repealed!

Old Colorado City Historical Society May 1, 1993



Beth El to Memorial hospital in 1943.

### Seventy-five Years Ago

Hassell Iron Works received first local war contract: \$45,000 worth of castings for 65 navy hoisting engines. Would add 40 to 50 men to staff of 70.

Carpets laid, fixtures hung, furniture ready to move in. Broadmoor should open on time June 1st.

Colorado Ave. was first to get new incandescent street lights, 13th St. to city limits, replacing old are lamps.

Chancellor of Denver University spoke at Westside High School honoring graduates Lawrence Wolf. Esther St. Clair, Nellie Blair, Eva Waller, James Wood, Fred Holmes, Eva Schweikhardt, Letha Maag, Bessie Morrison.

Graduate James Wood built a 300yard-long railroad up Red Rock Canon in 6 months of spare time. He cast wheels, used steam-auto engine. Wood tracks were 15" gauge; line had two bridges, turntable and roundhouse.

Ad: Corset covers, plain, good muslin, tight-fitting, 6 for \$1 at Giddings and Kirkwood.

To cut loafing, City Council considered penalties for anyone not employed, and a law removing pool hall seats.

Engineer Kissel slowed Midland train at auto campground to keep from running over five deer on the track.

Local Red Cross shipped more bandages than any chapter in the area, including Denver and Salt Lake City.

Golden Cycle planned a \$200,000 power plant near Pikeview to serve the mines and Golden Cycle mill.

Lt. Eugene Wubben, 106 N. Chestnut, died in airplane accident in France. Dr. David Winternitz arrived in France. Jerome Unser returned to Fortress Monroe, Va. after a furlough. Frank Brown left for Fort Funston after his marriage to Lulu Johnson.

#### One Hundred Years Ago

May, 1893

Restored Glassworks was to become 72 x 132 iron and steel building, with brick powerhouse with 140-horsepower Corliss engine. Would make green and German-green glass. Payroll would include 250 men and boys.

What was left of the St. James hotel was transformed into a residence.

Passengers fell from the Midland near Bath and were seriously injured.

Flora Bolin of Manitou sued the street car company for \$51,000 for injuries received when a car jumped the tracks near Snider lime works.

East Second was graveled as far north as the Episcopal Church.

E. C. G. Robinson revealed plans for 22-room stone hotel on summit of Pikes Peak.

Pease, city engineer of Manitou, said balanced Rock was firm, but advised a coating of cement at base to protect against erosion.

Graduation for the high school and grammar department of Bancroft was held at First Baptist Church. A 25¢ admission was charged to defray costs. Program included music and readings. High school graduates were Margaret Hill and Michael Murphy.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Van Cleave was afflicted with diphtheria.

Midland's new passenger depot was opened to the public.

Ad: Midland Barber Shop guarantees painless removal of whiskers. Call when your face begins to itch.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hayes left for Richmond for re-internment of Jefferson Davis, father of Mrs. Hayes.

Westbound Midland was delayed an hour while crewmen wrestled with cog engine being transfered from Midland track at Iron Springs station. Ground caved in, almost plunging engine down an embankment. A cable was stretched across the track to hold the engine, stopping traffic on the line.

Local merchants complained about railroad fare wars, which cut rates to Aspen, Glenwood, Leadville, Denver and Pueblo to 25¢ and sent people off on shopping trips, some clinging to the sides like a streetcar. By the end of the month, railroads restored old fares.

Colorado City threatened to build a roof over Colorado Springs and sell sunshine through holes at the same rates as Colorado Springs' sold water to Colorado City.

# Many Characteristics of Notorious Madam's Life Were Quite Ordinary

was revealed at our Apr. 9th With Her Family, But Her meeting by Lee Michels who has Boyfriend's Flamboyant been researching the Queen of the tenderloin for many years and who shed some light on Colorado City's most famous madam. The following summary of Laura Bell's life was prepared by Lance and Lee Michels.

LAURA BELL McDANIELS was born in Missouri on Nov. 27, 1861, to John and Anna (Askew) Horton. She had one brother, James, and two sisters. Birdie and Beulah.

The first evidence of her in Colorado is in Salida in 1882 where she gave birth to her only child. Eva Pearl was born Nov. 5th, 1882. Her father's name was listed as Sam Dale of Cornwall, England.

She appeared in the Colorado City directory in 1888. Her residence was listed as being on Colorado Avenue. Nearby, at 210 S. 4th, lived her mother and stepfather, John Kistler, a blacksmith. John died the following year and is buried in Fairview near Laura.

Madam Bell owned many properties in Old Town through the years. Three of them are still standing. Pearl lived at one of them: 2622 W. Vermijo. Other members of the family lived in the house now located at 310 S. 24th. Her place of business was on Washington (next to Mamie Majors). It was converted into a nursing home and is now located at 2612 W. Cucharras. The "Trilby" and Mamie's "Mansions" had tunnels running from

# TRANSITION

Elizabethe Mares, 78, died Oct. 22, 1992. She had been an active member of O.C.C.H.S. until her death.

Burial was in Nebraska.

Mrs. Mares was born in Grand Junction Sept. 13, 1914, to William Everett and Nellie (Boyd) Sparks. She was graduated from nursing school in Grand Junction, and served in the Air Force during World War II. She had been a registered nurse at Cripple Creek and later served as a private nurse. She was also a co-owner of Peerless Printing Co.

July 31, 1939, she married Melvin Ericksen, who died in 1972. She married Frank Mares June 9, 1978. He died in 1982.

Mrs. Mares was survived by a daughter, Louise Forbes, in California, and a brother, Charles E. Sparks, Sr., of Golden. A daughter and sister preceded her in death.

Memorial contributions should be made to the Pikes Peak Hospice or the Missionary Fund of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

The Mysterious Madame Bell Laura Bell Kept Close Contact saloons on Colorado Avenue. By tradition, these tunnels enabled the gentlemen to visit the sporting houses in a discrete manner.

Laura was very family oriented. She provided a place for many of her family members. These houses were all located on Vermijo. In 1904 she moved to Cripple Creek where her sister Birdie lived. Birdie and Harry Hooyer owned and operated a paint and wallpaper business. When their mother became ill and died in 1905 Laura moved back to Colorado City where she remained till her death. Anna was buried next to her husband.

In 1909, Laura Bell's place of business was destroyed by fire. Not to be put down by the disaster, she rebuilt in brick for the cost of \$10,000.

Laura Bell's reign as Queen of the Tenderloin is evidenced by the fines imposed at the time. From July through November, 1909, she paid \$365.00 in fines, compared to Bessie Paxton, \$295.00; Eula Hames, \$275.00; and Mamie Majors, \$90.00. The Colorado City Iris reported the fines as nothing more than an enrichment of city funds.

Laura Bell was well known in and around Colorado City. One of her more famous suitors was John "Prairie Dog" O'Byrne. Between 1888 and 1890 they "cut quite a dash" about town in Prairie Dog's carriage, pulled by Thunder and Buttons, his antlered elk. It was hard to ignore them as they thundered by at 30 mph, scaring horses and riders as they went.

Madam Bell died from injuries resulting from an auto accident on January 21, 1918 at 6:30 p.m. She and her niece, Laura Pearson (Beulah's daughter) were taking R. W. McCarty to Denver to see a specialist. Mr. McCarty was blinded in a mining accident. Witnesses of the accident were Jack Carruthers, the District Attorney, and two other court officers, Carl Blackman and George Curtis. Miss Pearson, the driver, was dead at the scene. Mr. McCarty was not severly injured and was treated and released. Laura Bell was transported by train from Castle Rock to Colorado Springs where she died of internal injuries. She was buried next to Miss Pearson, Anna and John Kistler. Boone Funeral Parlor handled the arrangements.

Her entire estate went to her daughter, Pearl. Pearl and her husband, Charles, owned an auto storage company in Denver. Pearl died in 1963 leaving behind no relatives. Her entire estate went to the Masons and Eastern Star.

[Mrs. Michels hopes to write a book soon and requests that anyone having any information, stories or pictures about Laura Bell contact her at (719) 632-7548.]

#### ROLL X CALL

from our last meeting:

We counted 49 at our meeting last month, among them several who signed up as new members. We welcome them and our three visitors.

Members who signed in were:

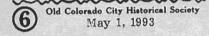
Kay Arnold Lance Michels Doris Baab Lee Michels Ed Bathke Helen Michelson Jean Christopher Millie Ralph Conner Ken Mirise Virginia Cox Mary Nielsen Lyn Owen Art Crawford John Croff Jack Patterson Lucille Cunningham Jim Rogers Ed Curry Virginia Rogers Martha Curry Harriet Seibel Lucile Ellis Mel Sinton Liz Geiss Rose Slusher Melva Gordon Wilma Stephens Eileen Graham Gene Tarbert Marjorie Harris B. E. Tillotson Joyce Johns Jean Tillotson Nancy Tracy Jan Knox Bud Walker Shirley Kyllonen Aldine Lipe Mary Jo Wallace Agnes Loesch Clint Waller Carl McClure Pat Bonser Walters Bessie Wreath D. McGlasson

VISITORS AND GUESTS

Bill Hazelton Jessie M. King Beverly Lewis

If you renewed . . . your membership card is enclosed.

If you didn't renew... PLEASE DO!



#### MEETING MAY MONTH 4

11 am at Trinity U. M. Church, 1920 North 20th Located just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center
To make or cancel luncheon reservations, please phone
LYN OWEN, 473-1846
You may leave a message
at any time.

NEXT
NEXT

NEXT

LYN OWEN, 473-1846

NEXT

#### WESTWORD

Edited by Ralph Conner, 719/634-0895 Vol. VIII, Nbr. 9 May 1, 1993

#### CORRECTION:

(The editor's apologies for a careless error. The masthead in West-Word of March 1, 1993, identified it as Vol. VIII, number 9; it should have been marked number 7; the issue of April 1, 1993, marked 10, should have been number 8. This issue is correctly identified, probably.)

Published the first of almost every month by the non-profit Old Colorado City Historical Society, Inc., 1 S. 24th, Colorado Springs, CO. 80904-3319.

The Old Colorado City Historical Society was formed to maintain the memory of Colorado City (1859-1917), encourage research, preserve pictures, keep alive the unique culture and spirit of Westside Colorado Springs, and establish a history center at 1 S. 24th 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

#### SECRETARY'S EXPENSES Ralph Conner, Secretary

Negs and plate for April NL	\$12.10
Postage: 169 NL's 29¢	49.01
Postage, sample NL's, util.	1.49
Courtesy: guest luncheons	10.00
Negs and plate for May NL	22.04
TOTAL due Sec'y as of 5/1	94.54

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 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

President	Joyce Johns	635-4649
Vice President	Jan Knox	495-3359
Secretary	Ralph Conner	634-0895
Treasurer	John Croff	632-2896
	Vera Chambon	634-2340
	Virginia Cox	635-8705
Lucille Cu	inningham (work)	636-9341
Sandi	Hoewisch (work)	635-2266
I	orothy McGlasson	632-1932
L	eon Young (work)	633-2621

Old Colorado City Historical Society 1 S. 24th St. Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904-3319

First Class Mail