WEST Old Colorado City Historical Society WORD

Friday, May 13, 1988

June Meeting Will be at Medallion West: Buffet

Our "summer meeting" will be June 10 at Medallion West, 417 E. Kiowa, where we'll enjoy a buffet luncheon at noon. Cost will be $5.00 per person.

Program chair-person **Jan Knox** has tentatively scheduled a program recommended by several members: **Joseph Nolan** will share results of his research into Mesa cemetery, if work allows him to attend. He couldn't make a definite commitment in advance, so we must wait until shortly before the meeting for final confirmation.

The Mesa cemetery served earliest settlers in Colorado City, but many graves were moved to Fairview Cemetery by 1900.

In 1949, the El Paso County Pioneer Association placed a granite marker at the site, listing 44 persons known to have been buried there—for example, Charley Everhart and George and Frank Robbins, victims of the region's last Indian raid.

In 1962, the city cleared the last vestiges of the cemetery and re-named it Pioneer Park. It lies between Friendship Lane and Panorama Drive.

The research of Mr. Nolan, of Nolan Funeral Home, not only found the cemetery's history, it supplied valuable information about earliest residents for the Book of Memories at the Colorado Springs Pioneers' Museum.

Ms. Knox has alternatives in mind if Mr. Nolan can't attend. **Lyn Owen** will have details when she calls to arrange reservations. **When Lyn calls, please let her know if you need, or can supply, rides.** One alternative program, for example, would be a visit to the McAllister House museum, and transportation would be needed.

A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

We're pleased to welcome a nice group of new members as our membership year begins:

Arnold and Jerry Cunningham who took out a family membership after visiting in March.

J. Waldo Dyck, who owned the furniture business and building at 25th and Colorado, now joins with **Bill Henderson's** endorsement.

Pleasant Valley residents **Joseph** and **Eileen Graham.**

Westsider **Carrie Lynn Palmedo.**

Eunice Quinn, an April visitor.

Kathy Read, membership chairperson for White House Ranch and proprietor of the Holly Berry House on Colorado.

Thomas Van Camp, who is already a contributor through his research into property records.

Bob and **Barbara Walters**, Bott Avenue residents.

Territory Days to Liven Westside May 28, 29, 30

Westside's biggest celebration, Territory Days, will again be held Memorial Day Weekend, May 28, 29 and 30th.

Several blocks of Colorado Avenue are blocked off and merchants, crafts-people and organizations cater to visitors in a carnival atmosphere from about 10 am to 4:00. It attracts visitors from all over the city.

The Old Colorado City Historical Society won't be involved this year, despite a successful session a year ago. We didn't find anyone with time to organize volunteer members. Occupying the Bancroft cabin fewer days wasn't suitable because of work involved in setting up historic exhibits.

Business, Genealogy Occupy Time Today

The business of our annual meeting shouldn't take long today, so we'll have ample time to hear **Bonnie Yorganson's** information about genealogy.

Ms. Yorganson supervises the Family History Center of the Church of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons), and is past president of the Pikes Peak Genealogical Society.

Each O.C.C.H.S. board member whose term expires this year is willing to serve again and is eligible for re-election, though nominations may be made from the floor. They are:

Ralph Conner (secretary).
Agnes Johnson.
Orville Kenelly (treasurer).
Jan Knox (vice president and program chair-person.)
Ruth Maxwell.
Leon Young.

Officers will be selected by the board at a meeting to be announced.

Those present will be asked to decide if O.C.C.H.S. should again contribute to History Day. We donated $25 the last two years in support of this competition for high and junior-high students.

The secretary wants a policy on memberships begun in mid-year. At least three solutions suggest themselves:

(A) Memberships begun (say) in November or later are carried by the Society until the start of the membership year.

(B) New members would be charged an extra 50¢ a month to carry them to the beginning of the membership year in April.

(C) Renewal comes 12 months after joining, regardless of when that is.

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

Twenty-five Years Ago

June, 1963

To relieve congestion, 2400 and 2500 blocks of West Cucharras became one-way west-bound streets.

Excavation began for a Soap Box Derby track on 100 acres between 8th and County Farm Road. Since the new track wasn't ready, competition was held on Uintah, from the hill west of Mesa road, coasting west to 17th.

President John F. Kennedy addressed Air Force Academy graduates.

Mrs. Shirley Pearson planned to enlarge her kindergarten nursery at 2129 W. Boulder from 4 children to 20.

Jerry Harpstrite, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Harpstrite, 1732 W. Kiowa, was one of four Broadmoor caddies given a college scholarship by the Western Golf Association.

Postmaster R. H. Wardwell said 80904 would be westside Zip code as the system went into effect July 1.

New town near Pueblo between Rye and Crow was named Colorado City.

Paper money dropped in a mail box at 12th and Colorado, attached to a shopping list, was held by the postmaster so the owner could claim it.

Rancher Joe Siegel spoke at Merri-Laine restaurant at installation ceremonies for the Westside Lions Club.

Thief stole 4 pastry trays, 12 pies and 4-dozen doughnuts from Glen's Pastry, 1823 W. Vermijo.

Fifty Years Ago

June, 1938

June's 2,094 county pensioners was the greatest number since the program began in 1935. In May, 2,058 received payments. 606 received direct relief, including 70 at the county farm. Colorado was the only state to pay pensions to those as young as 60.

Jeweler J. E. Freidinger, 2509 W. Colorado, bought 3 diamond rings for $10 from a 17-year-old youth and attempted unsuccessfully to follow him. A few days later he spotted the boy and had him arrested. The rings, valued at $325, were stolen from Mrs. Dorothy Hail, 1803 W. Colorado.

Asa J. Robbins died. His brothers John and Frank were killed in an 1868 Indian raid when Asa was 2. He left four sisters and two brothers, none of whom lived here.

Nat'l Guard 45th Div.'s swastika emblem had nothing to do with Hitler.

Shirley Temple (above), 9, stayed at the Broadmoor on her way with her parents to visit the White House and Dionne quintuplets, now 4. She saw her first snow while motoring here, went up the Peak on the Cog Road and fed an elephant named after her.

All of Ute Pass was paved, making a hard-surfaced road from the Kansas border to Wilkerson pass.

Commissioners abandoned plans to establish a hospital at the county farm. Five TB patients were moved.

Colorado Springs high school, 46 years old, was condemned as a fire hazard by Kansas City consultants.

After 3 years of construction, Rampart Range Road was dedicated.

The Denver and Rio Grande's first locomotive (1883) was donated, and was to be displayed in Antlers Park.

Mountain Bell ended a 15¢ a month charge for hand-set phones.

Henry L. Wood, 3342 W. Pikes Peak, became 90. He and J. L. Laycock were only survivors of 869 Civil War veterans who once lived here. Mr. and Mrs. Wood observed their 66th wedding anniversary in October.

440 tons of steel arrived for construction of Will Rogers stadium for the August rodeo. Navajo rug painted on ice for dedication of the ice palace. "Cog road" opened to the zoo.

In May, 125 planes landed and left Springs' airport. 20 passengers arrived, 23 departed. New York took 15¾ hours, with a 2½ hour layover in Denver; Los Angeles, via Albuquerque, took 7¼.

Fifty WPA men began adding 3,365 feet of curb and gutter on north side of Colorado, and removing 6,730 feet of street car rails, between Colorado Springs and Manitou. Paving El Paso gave a second paved route to Manitou.

Five 16-17 year-olds went to reformatory for burglarizing J.P. Taylor's grocery, 2239 Bott, taking $1.58, 20 packages of gum and pack of cigarettes. Arrested as they burgled Premium grocery, Colo. and 15th.

At Midland Improvement Society's request, stop signs were approved for 25-26th streets and Bott.

Seventy-five Years Ago

June, 1913

Midland Band began its season with concerts at Stratton Park and Manitou.

Manager W. M. Brown notified subscribers that the Home Telephone Company would end services June 30th.

Talk of combining post offices led to consideration of consolidating Colorado City and Colorado Springs.

Because of $18,000 debt, city cut from 4 or 5 policemen to 2, from 3 firemen to 2.

Church of the Brethern was dedicated. Woodmen of the World contributed the last $4.50 needed for a new piano at the Baptist church.

Mack's Candy and Ice Cream was incorporated by J. J. McCorkle, M. Von Boston and W. B. Price.

Local talent and movies presented at the Idle Hour Theater benefited the Ladies' Rest Room fund.

Colorado Springs "wets" worked to block Ramona, lest a wet resort cause a campaign to dry the whole county.

One Hundred Years Ago

June, 1888

El Paso Electric stretched an iron wire in an effort to keep current from fouling telephones when generators fed electicity into lines at night.

Quarries employed 250-300 men, shipped 16 carloads of stone one day for Cascade's new hotel. J. J. Fox leased a Bott quarry for stone for a Rock Island bridge over the Monument north of the Springs.

Colorado Midland received 7 of 10 new engines from the Baldwin works. They were smaller and used less coal. Midland planned a new depot nearer the business district—north of its tracks and west of the original.

There were 16 licensed saloons.

Lights up Bear Creek indicated a building burned on the Bodfish ranch.

Eight miles of Pikes Peak toll road was completed—almost to timberline.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers elected officers; Odd Fellows and Masons planned lodges.

Leadville's American Smelting kept its option on land near Colorado City.

Republicans ratified the Harrison-Morton ticket and held a bonfire on Colorado Avenue. Democrats elected officers for a Cleveland-Thurman club.

Wells Fargo instituted free delivery in Colorado City.

Esther Wickard Shares Her Interest in Hats, Adds Historic Angle

Whatever we say about the "Happy Hatter," **Esther Wickard**, and her able assistant, **Gladys Beuler**, it'll be inadequate, for the only way to enjoy our April 8 meeting was to see and hear it.

"Hats are Fun" insists Ms. Wickard. She paraded history through "first-lady" hats: from Mary Todd Lincoln's characteristic bonnet to Jackie Kennedy's pillbox, and from a 1700's riding habit to Queen Elizabeth, accompanied with appropriate music by Ms. Beuler. As she modeled the women's hats, men in the audience showed corresponding men's wear.

Bouffant hair styles and wigs eroded popularity of women's hats in the '60's. Western-style, like those favored by Nancy Reagan, sparked a revival.

Ms. Wickard taught at West Junior from 1938 to 1972, when she took early retirement. She estimates that she dealt with 6,000 students in 34 years in Dist. 11. Her hat shows grew out of a style show she and a group of women created.

Gladys Beuler watches Esther Wickard as she models a hat. [Photo courtesy Pikes Peak Journal.]

Jackson's "Ramona" Is Big California Attraction

Our attachment to Helen Hunt Jackson makes us forget that her novel "Ramona" has ties to other parts of the country.

Three weekends, ending May 1, the dusty, desert town of Hemet, California, presented a tear-jerking rendition of the Ramona story in an outdoor theater, using a cast of 350 locals. About 40,000 visitors had good cries from the dramatic play, as part of a celebration that included parades, art shows and contests.

It was at Hemet, 90 miles east of Los Angeles, that an Indian squaw (Mrs. Jackson made up the name Ramona) saw her husband killed for riding a settler's horse. She had given up a pampered existence and an inheritance to marry him. Their land was appropriated by white men and their child died before the shooting occurred. Ramona wasn't allowed to testify, and her husband's killer was acquitted—he said he acted in self-defense. The incident was true, though Mrs. Jackson's novel and the Hemet play stray from historic fact. A song and three movies were inspired by the novel; the Hemet play was first presented in 1923.

ROLL CALL

Below is a list of O. C. C. H. S. members who signed in at our April 8th meeting;

Sally Brawner	*Joyce Johns*
Bertha Chilcott	*Agnes Johnson*
Carl Chilcott	*John Keller*
Ralph Conner	*Jan Knox*
Virginia Cox	*Aldine Lipe*
Ed Curry	*Ruth F. Maxwell*
Martha Curry	*Lyn Owen*
Lucile Ellis	*Arlene Rieger*
Veda Goosman	*Jim Rogers*
Rosemary Hetzler	*Virginia Rogers*
Scott Hogg	*Annette Stith*
Flora Belle Hull	*Mary Nell Trapp*

Briefly...

Kay Arnold says she has a "dream job" with the "Moreno Valley News," published east of Riverside, CA. She cooks and bakes at home, takes pictures of the result, then writes it up. She'll send copies to anyone who sends her a SASE. She's becoming involved in circulation and Newspapers in Education for the publication. She's moving and will send a new address.

Rev. Dave Clark returns next Friday from the Austin (Texas) Theological Seminary where he's working on a Masters' Degree in Church History. He'll go back to the seminary next Fall, and later work on a Doctorate. His family moved but still lives here.

Awards Given For Preservation Week

Westside properties were among eight recognized by the Historic Property Alliance in observance of National Historic Preservation Week, May 8-14.

The Alliance made awards Tuesday to institutions furnishing leadership, education and promotion, or good examples in historic preservation. They will be considered for state awards.

Among "noteworthy rehabilitations" were:

2527-31 W. Colorado, for the CMT Company's sensitive restoration of storefronts.

Orchard House, White House Ranch, for public/private restoration.

The Trestle Building, 219 W. Colorado, for adaptive reuse.

Other honors were given to property at 911 N. Wahsatch, the Da Vinci Quartet for concerts at historic sites, the McAllister House Museum, Chuck Murphy of Murphy and Company, and Bee Vradenburg of the Colorado Springs Symphony.

Visitors and Guests

Thirty attended the program on April 8; 27 stayed for lunch.

Esther Wickard and **Gladys Beuler** joined us for lunch after presenting the program.

Eunice Quinn and **Barbara Walters** visited, then joined O.C.C.H.S.

Edith Bessie
Sandi Martin

Treasurer's Report

APRIL 1, 1988

Bal. Pikes Peak Nat'l 2/29	13,121.49
Income	
Membership	5.00
March int., Pikes Peak Nat'l	57.61
Disbursements	
1057 Kenelly (for Feb. lunches)	80.00
Mar. bank service charge	.63
Bal. Pikes Peak Nat'l 4/1	**13,103.47**
Amer. Fed. & World Sav. &Loan	
Bal. 2/29	102,692.36
Bal. 4/1	**104,569.43**
Grand total as of 4/1/88	**117,672.90**

SECRETARY'S EXPENSES

4/6 1½ plates	5.88
6 negatives	5.22
4/8 Cash advanced for luncheons (2 guest luncheons, 3 pd. by check, LESS $8 in donations from Rogers and Chilcott – $4x5-8=$12)	12.00
(Above items were included in secretary's statement to treasurer earlier, but not previously reported in WestWord)	
4/11 'Overweight' mailings	3.80
91 newsletter mailings	22.75
4/13 Add'l newsletter mailings	.50
Total due sec'y as of 5/1	**27.05**

YOU'RE INVITED

Activities and events which may be of interest to our members:

Tuesday, May 17, 7 pm: Historical Society of the Pikes Peak Region, Davis Auditorium at Penrose Library: Helen Berwick and Harriet Seibel on the H & H Heritage Cassette Tape Tour.

Thursday, May 19th thru Sunday, May 22nd, 10-5: White House Ranch Quilt show: Challenge Collection from Silver Dollar City, Mo.; "Flower Cloth" needlework by Hmong refugees at a Laotian camp in Thailand. Lectures, slide shows, demonstrations, sales. $4; seniors $3.

Saturday, May 28th through Monday, May 30th: Territory Days in Old Colorado City. See story on p. 1.

Sunday, May 29, 10-4: White House Ranch season opens. Daily programs and exhibits. Adults $2, children $1.

Monday, May 30, 10-5: Ute Pass Museum open daily. Until that date, open weekends. Adults $2.50; seniors $1.50; children $1.

Wednesday, June 15, 7 pm: Ute Pass Historical Society membership meeting: Nick Sanborn, History of the Pikes Peak Hill Climb.

June 18-19th: White House Ranch antiques market and antique car show. Admission.

NEXT MEETING:
JUNE 10TH
MEETING PLACE: TO BE ANNOUNCED
LUNCH: MEDALLION WEST, 417 E. KIOWA
RESERVATIONS: LYN OWEN, 473-1846

WEST WORD

Vol. III, Nmbr. 10 **May 13, 1988**

Published the second Friday of almost every month by
THE OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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 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 in June, July and August] at 11 a. m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1920 Henderson—just west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center. The public is welcome at all meetings and no reservation is needed for the program.

The program is followed by a luncheon, served by ladies of the church. Cost is $4 per person. Reservations are required, and can be made by phoning Lyn Owen, **473-1846**. Deadline is normally the Wednesday before the meeting, although last-minute changes can usually be accommodated up to 5 p. m. the Thursday before the meeting. Since we must pay for all reservations made, please call Lyn Owen to cancel if you find you can't attend.

MEMBERSHIPS

Individual membership is $5 a year; family membership is $10. Renewal falls in April. Members receive this newsletter, and local members will usually be phoned before each meeting.

Also available is a Lifetime membership, for $100. This amount is placed in our Perpetuity/Endowment fund, to be used for long-term projects which have approval from 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:	John Keller		**475-8634**
Vice President:	Jan Knox		**495-3359**
Secretary:	Ralph Conner		**634-0895**
Treasurer:	Orville Kenelly	471-0551	473-5307
	Vera Chambon		634-2340
	Virginia Cox		635-8705
	David Hughes		636-2040
	Agnes Johnson		633-8040
	Aldine Lipe		475-1658
	Ruth Maxwell		599-3111
	Leon Young	633-2621	633-1543

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