

WEST WORD

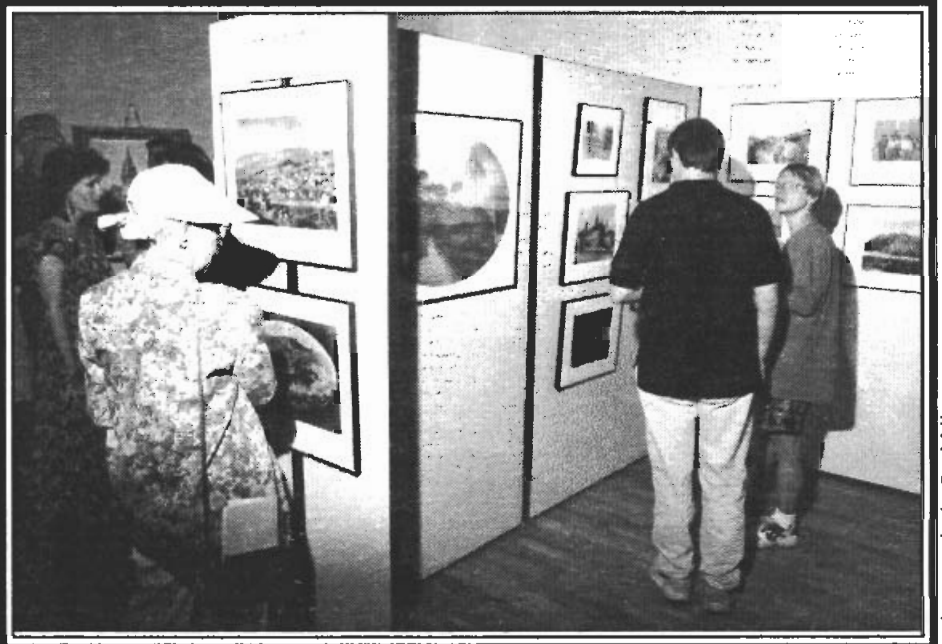
JULY 1997

Our History Center OPENS FOR BUSINESS

The Old Colorado City History Center opened its doors to the public on May 17th, 1997 with over 350 visitors stopping by on our first day. Every member of the Old Colorado City Historical Society, past and present, should be extremely proud of what we have accomplished.

Without exception, all visitors have let us know what a wonderful job we have done restoring the building. The exhibits and displays are first-rate and all of our inaugural patrons were excited to learn the history of this area. Many had no idea of the rich and detailed Colorado City history that was now available to them. It was very rewarding to hear our visitors say that a westside museum was long overdue and most welcome.

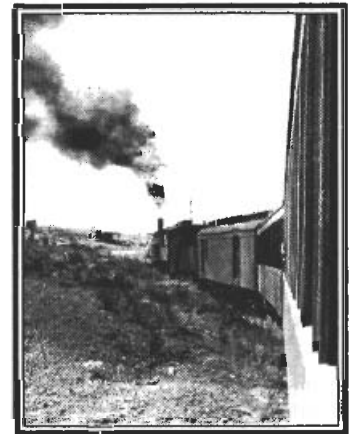
The Old Colorado City History Center's summer hours are 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily, except Mondays through September. We will be open fewer days during the winter months. The winter hours will be announced later. Admission to the History Center is always free for Old Colorado City Historical Society members. The public admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children 6 to 12 years old and free for children under 6. OCCHS members also receive a 10% discount in our Book & Gift Shop (except for the book, *Here Lies Colorado Springs*. That entire purchase price must go to Colorado Springs Park & Recreation for the cemeteries.)



First-day visitors to the History Center view the "Westside Memories" photo display and the many exhibits and artifacts documenting the history of Colorado City and the Westside. The History Center hosted over 350 visitors on the first day open.

photography by Paul Idleman

IRA CURRENT RECALLS GROWING UP WITH THE MIDLAND



photography by Ira Current

The summers of youth leave a lifetime of memories. Story and photos by Ira Current on page 6.

Old Colorado City Historical Society

1 South 24th Street Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319

(719)636-1225

WEST WORD

VOLUME 12 JULY 1997 NUMBER 6

PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF ALMOST EVERY MONTH BY THE
OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
A NONPROFIT CORPORATION
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LETTERS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ARTICLES AND STORIES CAN BE DELIVERED
TO THE OCCHS HISTORY CENTER OR MAILED TO THE EDITOR:

PAUL IDLEMAN c/o OCCHS
1 South 24th Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 15th DAY OF EACH MONTH.

MISSION

The Old Colorado City Historical Society was formed to maintain the memory of Colorado City (1859-1917), to encourage research, preserve pictures, and keep alive the unique culture and spirit of West Side Colorado Springs through education of children and the community and through the eventual establishment of a History Center at One South 24th Street.

MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships are welcome at any time. Renewal Memberships are due on the anniversary date of the initial Membership. Members receive the *West Word* newsletter, local meetings and programs.

Annual memberships classifications are as follows:

Individual	\$20	Business	\$50
Family	\$25	Corporate	\$250
Lifetime	\$150		

Funds from a Lifetime Membership are placed into a Perpetuity/Endowment Fund to be used only for projects which have been approved by two-thirds of the membership. 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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Robert Heinich	448-9001
Vice President	Dave Hughes	636-2040
Secretary	Jan Knox	689-2355
Treasurer	Don Kallaus	630-0322
	Beverley Disch	634-5023
	Betsy Evans	635-4782
	Christine Heinich	448-9001
	Orville Kenelly	471-0551
	Mel McFarland	533-1311
	Leon Young	633-2621

MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 11:00 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, except during June, July and August.

Reservations ARE required for the luncheon following the meeting. Luncheon cost is usually \$5 per person.

Please phone Margaret Gould at 390-8960 by the Wednesday prior to the meeting. If you find you cannot attend, be sure to cancel before 5:00 PM Wednesday or send someone in your place, as you will be charged for the luncheon reservation.

**NEXT MEETING - September 12, 1997
at Trinity Methodist Church**

OCCHS MAILBOX

Dear OCCHS,

Here is \$20 for another year.

Items in *West Word* keep reminding me of past interesting happenings.

At one time I had a very interesting discussion that almost got hot when we found a board fence around the Balanced Rock. I only paid him my disrespect.

I would be interested to know the background of the "Victorian Lady" Abigail Bradshaw. Does Judi Brandow know about the Bradshaw family?

Charles Bradshaw was my great grandfather. He was the main founder of Lenexa, Kansas, as his farm straddled the Santa Fe and Oregon trails. The family names are all listed in the *Doomsday Book* in England, as demanded by the Normans following the Battle of Hastings.

Again, Bradshaw was head of the committee that tried, condemned and beheaded King Charles I of England. Years later Charles II had Bradshaw and his committee beheaded.

Our branch of the family came to America in the 1840's. This can add a little history to the life of Abigail Bradshaw.

If Judi Brandow wants to add a "local" touch to Abigail—a horsehide-covered trunk that is lined with a 1800's newspaper from London, England is in Colorado Springs in the possession of my cousin. It was part of the Bradshaw 1840's move to America.

If Judi Brandow happens to be a Bradshaw descendent, I would like to know what she knows about the family.

G. E. Hutton
Wichita, Kansas

We enjoyed hearing from you, Mr. Hutton, and we're glad that you're enjoying *West Word*. To answer your question about the "Victorian Lady", Judi Brandow's 'Abigail Bradshaw' would not be any relation to your family. Judi's portrayal of "Abigail", is a fictitious but authentic character created from her interest and extensive research in the Victorian era.

Judi Brandow will give her one-woman performance as Abigail Bradshaw in "A Visit With A Victorian Lady" on August 9th at the History Center. You can read more about this special program on page 4.

Thanks for writing. Please send your recollections anytime.

Dear OCCHS,

Thanks so much for arranging to have Dave Hughes give a presentation to our tour group of teachers on Wednesday (June 25th). It worked out great, and the teachers were just amazed with the quality of the exhibits and the books available for purchase. I'm sure many will be back.

Jerry Jekel
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Thank you, Jerry, for helping to show off our endeavors and for your donation from the tour. You've been a big help to the History Center since we've opened. Dave Hughes was only too happy to talk Colorado City history. Dave is a lot like Mike Tyson — he likes to chew your ear off.

We'll Miss **LYN OWEN**

The Old Colorado City Historical Society lost a loyal and hard-working member on May 15th, with the death of Marilyn (Wall) Owen ... "Lyn".

Lyn was born August 1, 1927, in Flagstaff, AZ, one of three children. In 1952, she became a teacher in Germany, of children of American military families. There she married Edward Hall Owen, also an American teacher. To Lyn and Edward was born a son, Richard Owen, who survives, now living in Denver. She is also survived by her sister, Jeanine Lupton, Silver City, NM, and brother Lloyd Wall of Los Angeles, CA.

As a dedicated teacher, she worked to ease the integration of minority families into military and German societies, for which she received an award. When she moved to Colorado Springs, she chose an apartment convenient to the Trinity United Methodist Church, where she became an active member.

Soon Lyn joined OCCHS and undertook the tedious task of calling members to make reservations for those who planned to attend our meetings. From these phone contacts she supplied news about member families for our newsletter and kept members in touch, even when they could not actively participate. Lyn said she liked the job, because she could work in the comfort of her home "with (my) feet up".

As a devoted member, Lyn was one of our most friendly and effective representatives at the Bancroft Park Cabin, when the OCCHS displays there were almost our only public involvement during Territory Days. She normally worked several days, often for the entire day, despite physical disabilities which made standing difficult.

She acted as liaison between the history society and the church in making arrangements for our meetings.

Beyond her roles in the Church and OCCHS, Lyn was active in her home as a music teacher and in helping teach English to immigrant families.

She was enthusiastic in her support of our Society, always eager to participate, despite ill health and physical limitations. Her work and her spirit were important contributions to the success of OCCHS. We will miss our good friend and co-worker.

by Ralph Conner

MEET OCCHS' YOUNGEST MEMBER

Back in mid-March of this year, when the Photo Accessioning Committee had just started, a curious young lad would frequently pop into the History Center for a visit. He said that he liked history and just wanted to look around. We didn't have any labeled artifacts on display at that time, but young **Christopher Winter** knew most of them. When the photo crew had trouble identifying the subject of a picture, Chris would chime in with the answer. Occasionally we would check on the subject ourselves only to discover how right Chris always was. He would also give us abundant details about the subject of the photograph; enough detail to convince us that Christopher Winter, who turns 12 next month, is quite the local historian.

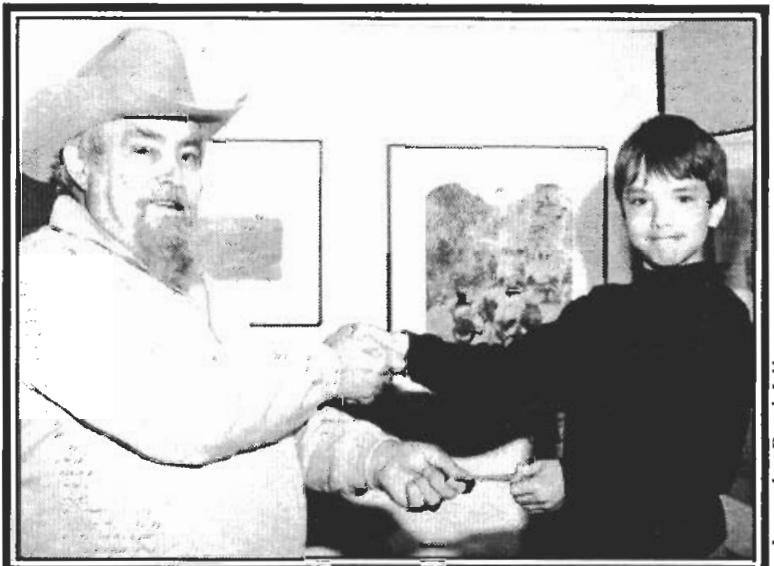


photo by Paul Idleman

OCCHS Vice-President, Dave Hughes presenting Christopher Winter with his own OCCHS membership card.

This remarkable young man gave us cause to review our Society's Mission Statement. Our Mission Statement says in part, "...to encourage research, preserve pictures, and keep alive the unique culture and spirit of West Side Colorado Springs through education of children and the community..." (Our entire Mission Statement is located in the fine print on page 2).

From the description of Chris in this story, you might think that he could educate us more than the other way around. At our evening history program on May 29th, we presented Christopher with an honorary membership into our Society, empowering him to learn all he can about Colorado City and the Westside so that he can keep our history alive long after the rest of us are gone. With this membership we have fulfilled the guidelines of our Mission Statement and also planted the seeds to insure that what we have accomplished will carry on for future generations. Chris's membership will expire in August of 2004, when he turns 18 years old. We told him after that he will have to pay yearly membership dues like the rest of us. Welcome to our youngest member, Christopher Winter.

by Paul Idleman

FOR YOUR INTEREST

"VICTORIAN LADY" SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 9TH

Many of our members have been waiting to hear when Judi Brandow would be coming to our History Center with her "Visits With a Victorian Lady" production. We're pleased to announce that Judi, as 'Abigail Bradshaw', will give one performance at the History Center on August 9th at 2:00 P.M. Admission will be \$4.00 for advance tickets and \$5:00 at the door. Old Colorado City Historical Society members will receive a 10% discount.

Judi will perform "Beauty Secrets of the 1800's", a humorous glimpse into the beauty rituals of the Victorian Era. "Abigail Bradshaw" is caught unaware in her "unmentionables" while dressing for dinner. As she discovers the audience and their curiosity about the beauty secrets of her day, she assumes that she has been whisked through the time portal into the future. In this light-hearted, but elegant comedy, "Abigail" will regale the audience with music, poetry and song as she passes along hints on such things as how to accomplish the Gibson hair style, the importance of proper elocution, and several recipes for cosmetics of the 1800's. She will take questions as well.

You can mail your reservation checks to **Jan Knox, 1 South 24th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319**. The OCCHS Members price is \$3.60 for advanced tickets and \$4.50 on the day of the performance. For ticket information and reservations call the History Center at 636-1225 or Jan Knox at 689-2355.

OUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our 1997-98 Board of Directors are President, **Robert Heinich**; Vice-President, **Dave Hughes**; Secretary, **Jan Knox**; Treasurer, **Don Kallaus**; Beverley Disch, **Betsy Evans**, **Chris Heinich**, **Pat Joy**, **Orville Kenelly**, **Mel McFarland**, and **Leon Young**.

EVENING PROGRAMS AT THE HISTORY CENTER

The History Center is now hosting evening programs of historical subjects. Our first program was held on May 29th with **Mel McFarland** speaking about the men who worked on the Midland Railroad. **Jerry Jekel** entertained and informed the audience with his "Slide Tour of Old Colorado City".

Brenda Hawley, of the Pikes Peak Library District, will present our July program at the History Center on July 24th at 7:00 P.M. She will speak about our famous Glassworks with her presentation, "The Glasstown of Colorado City". **Tim**

Scanlon, with the City of Colorado Springs, will present "How To Research Your Home" on August 28th at 7:00 P.M.

The History Center will host evening history programs on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 P.M. **Jan Knox** is arranging some excellent programs. If you have ideas for future programs, please contact Jan at 689-2355.

DEMONSTRATION HERB GARDENS FOR CENTER

Herbs have been available to man since the beginning of time, with many uses that include: medicinal, culinary, dyeing, fragrance, color, beauty, and more. Herbs were, and still are an important part of Colorado's history to include use by the Native Americans, the early settlers, and now, the contemporary folks of the area today.

New OCCHS members **Alice Mayfield** and **Judith Yarrow** co-founded the Pikes Peak Herb Association twelve years ago. Alice and Judith approached OCCHS with the concept of developing herb gardens to enhance our landscaping while remaining in touch with the history and ecology of the area.

To develop this project, they are seeking a team of interested volunteers to plan the surrounding grounds, research the appropriate plants to use, form a budget, perform fundraising activities, plant and care for the herb gardens. While this is most likely a 2 to 3 year project, Alice and Judith are hopeful that, with enough support, they can begin at least a few gardens this summer. OCCHS member **Annette Whitehorne** and **Vivian LeFebvre** have already joined the committee. They are seeking more volunteers to assist in all aspects of the project, to include (but limited to): those of you who like to play in the dirt, any "green thumbs" who are out there, those with experience in landscaping or horticulture, those interested in gardening or herbs. Additionally, they are seeking donations of dirt, compost, large pots or planters for the patio, and herbal plants/seeds (comfrey, camomile, sage, lavender, mint, and/or other herbs).

Those interested in assisting with our History Center's herb gardens, please call either **Alice at 633-3423** or **Judith at 442-1820** to join the committee. The first meeting will be held this month.

AROMATHERAPY CLASSES AT THE HISTORY CENTER

As an off-shoot of their interest in herbs, **Alice Mayfield**, **Judith Yarrow** and, co-instructor, **Ann Donovan**, are offering Aromatherapy classes to be held at the History Center, 1 South 24th Street. The essential oils used in aromatherapy are distilled from herbs, plants, shrubs, flowers, trees, roots, bushes and seeds to create an environment in which disease, bacteria, virus, fungus and

such cannot live. OCCHS members interested in learning more about herbs and some of the indigenous plants of the area are invited to attend this informative study group to include folklore, slides of local plants, aromas, and more. The classes are free with a donation to the Old Colorado City Historical Society to cover the rental of the Center. The first classes will be held on July 29th and 30th. Contact Alice at 633-3429 or Judith at 442-1820 for reservations and information.

FROM THE COLLECTION OF ARTHUR HIBBARD

We are very grateful to Maxine McKinley for her recent donation of many school items belonging to her brother, Arthur E. Hibbard. Thanks to Maxine's gift to us and the many items already in our archives, our History Center has a very extensive collection of West Side school memorabilia. Items received from Maxine include diplomas to and from high school, elementary school photos, a 20" X 24" framed print of the 1919 graduating class of Colorado City High School and the 1919 school banner and pillow. The 1919 class was the last graduating class from Colorado City High School. Also included are school play programs, commencement announcements, sports awards, student notebooks, report cards and even photographs and correspondence for the Class of 1919's reunions. Thanks to Maxine's generosity, the history of Colorado City's schools is being collected and preserved.

IN HONOR OF WAYNE COBB

The Old Colorado City History Center has received two American flags to hang outside our building. Old Colorado City Historical Society members Chuck Cobb and Mary Idleman donated a flag with pole in honor of their son, Wayne Cobb. Wayne, a former Marine, passed away last January from leukemia at the age of 38. Wayne was also the step-brother of our History Center's Director, Paul Idleman. Chuck also arranged for us to receive another Stars and Stripes donated by the American Legion Post in Manitou Springs. We've already had many visitors tell us that they know we're open when the American flag above our door is out. Thank you, Chuck and Mary.

THANK YOU CATHERINE HENDERSON

OCCHS member, Catherine Henderson, has donated two large framed art pieces to help decorate our History Center. The high walls in our Center are perfect for large paintings and photographs. Catherine thought so, too, and has given us a 44"X60" frame painting of Pikes Peak by artist, Ben Snider. The painting formerly was displayed in

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August 13, 1859 - 1997

with Family Fun in Bancroft Park

**Craft Fair ~ Music ~ Food
~ Games for the Kids ~**

**Saturday & Sunday
August 16 & 17, 1997**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 636-1225

the lobby of the Pikes Peak National Bank. Catherine has also given to us a large Black and white photograph of Pikes Peak through the Gateway of Garden of the Gods which was hand-colored by Catherine and her husband Bill Henderson. The print used to hang at Catherine and Bill's photo shop in Old Colorado City. Thank you so much, Catherine, for thinking of us with your many donations and thanks to your daughter, Judy, for helping transport them.

SAMPSONS DONATE SHELVES

Our thanks to John and Shirley Sampson for their recent donation of a wall shelf unit for our archives. The large 24' X 4' unit will help provide needed storage space for our dimensional artifacts.

LOCAL PRODUCTION ON THE HISTORY CHANNEL

"Kind Nature's Scenery To Portray", a video biography of 19th Century Colorado photographer William E. Hook, has been scheduled by A&E's History Channel to air on their "History Showcase" program on Monday, August 25, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. EST (7:00 a.m. Colorado time). The History Channel, which broadcasts to Canada, Mexico and the United States, is channel 68 on Colorado Springs' cable service. The 30-minute video documentary was written, produced and directed by OCCHS member Paul Idleman based on his extensive research into Hook for a future book. The video is also available for sale in our Book & Gift Shop.

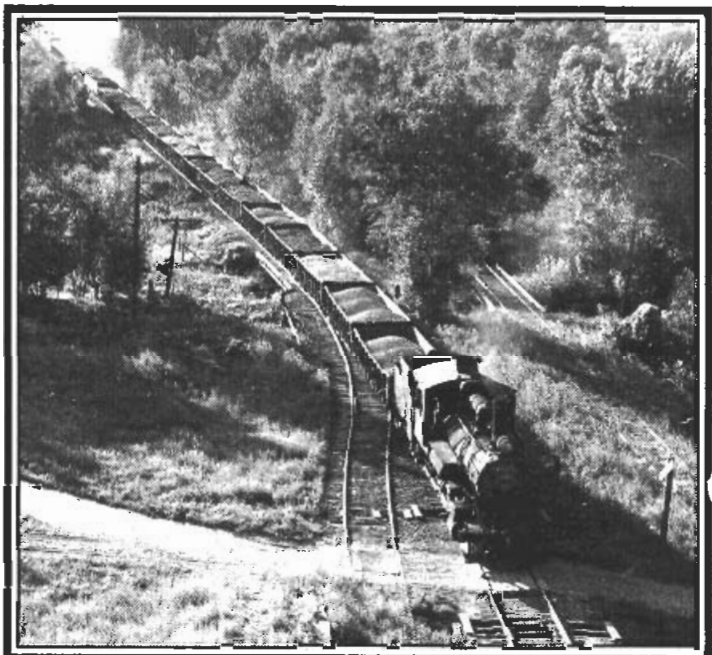
OUR AFFAIR WITH THE MIDLAND TERMINAL

The two short blasts were echoed by two more of a different tone; then a second response in yet a different pitch.

It was near summer bed time, but we were granted our usual reprieve to run two blocks to the entrance of Red Rock Canyon in time to see the nightly Midland Terminal Railroad freight train of about 20 to 30 empty ore cars head off for Cripple Creek. Our perch on the bank of the low cut near the red rocks permitted an intimate association with the three locomotives and their engineers and firemen as they shoveled coal to urge a good start up Ute Pass.

The next morning we could take in the loaded cars of gold ore as they were brought down the pass to the Golden Cycle Mill at what was Colorado City. Brakemen walked back and forth over the ore filled cars to assist in the braking during and after descending through Ute Pass. Later in the day a single switcher locomotive pushed individual cars to dump their loads at the mill stockpiles. The distant sound of this seemingly interminable work persisted throughout the day and night.

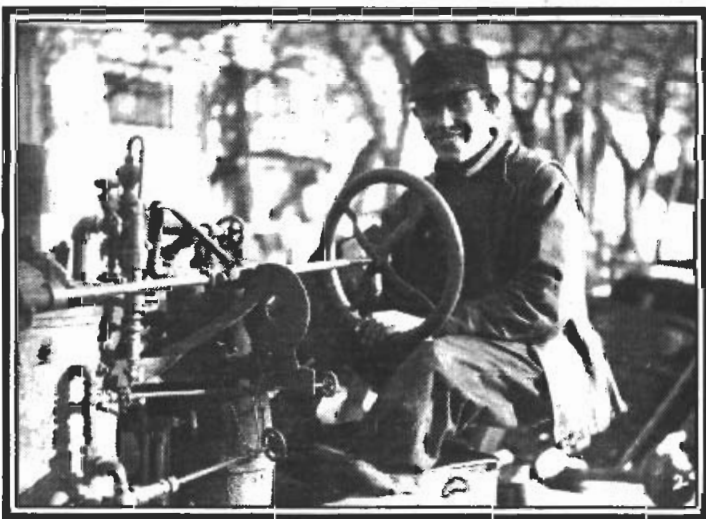
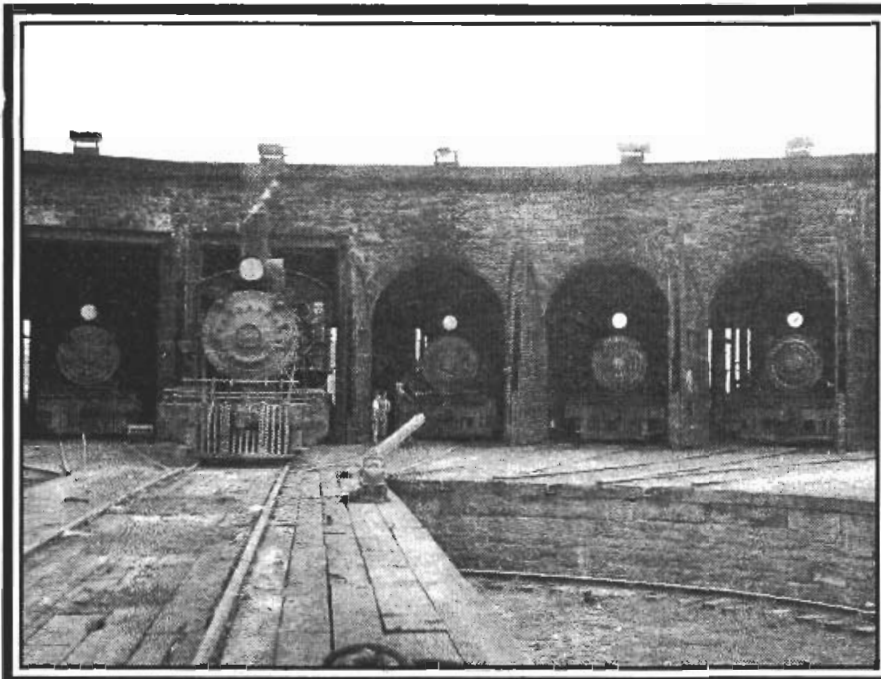
At midmorning the daily passenger train, consisting of locomotive, baggage car, and passenger car, departed from Colorado Springs, stopped at the station still labeled "Colorado City," then huffed sprightly over the track on its run to Cripple Creek. The train returned on schedule in the early evening of the same day. In the summer time the railroad often ran a Sunday wild flower excursion to Woodland



all photographs by Ira Current



Near the entrance to Red Rock Canyon (top photo), a string of ore cars is supplemented by other freight on the morning run from Cripple Creek to Colorado Springs. The siding and crusher in the foreground once served as the loading point for casting sand and crushed stone. Photographed in 1932. (below) Sectionman Jim Wood pulls his track car onto the siding to clear a passing train.



Nearly all of the Midland's locomotive roster is accounted for in this view (above left) of the turntable and round house; now the home of Van Bringle Pottery. (above right) A motor car made from a retired Colorado Springs streetcar replaced the steam train for daily runs to Cripple Creek is shown passing Red Rock Canyon. (below left) Sectionman Jim Wood sits at the controls of the steam tractor that he constructed out of boiler drums, pipe fittings and a Stanley Steamer engine in this 1930 photo.

Park, and in later years a ski train delivered sportsmen to the slopes.

The daytime hours might also find our friend Jim Wood and other members of what was called the Colorado City Section Crew at work on the railroad right of way. Jim lived in the home of his parents in Red Rock Canyon. His father had worked in the red sandstone quarries, which had long since been closed. The sandstone, some of which was used to construct some early downtown Colorado Springs buildings, gave way to other building material. Sand from the canyon was used to make molds for sand castings, and a spur that departed from the main line at the entrance of the canyon served as a loading point years after the rails leading to the quarries had been removed from the canyon. Jim's life evolved around the railroad, where he had held several positions. He apparently loved his relationship with iron, and had constructed a model locomotive and rolling stock to run on a 15-inch gauge track on the canyon slope above his home. He also fabricated a steam tractor, making wheels out of the ends of round boilers. Discarded engines

from Stanley Steamer automobiles were the actual motive power for all of these projects.

By walking a mile or so east of our Red Rock Canyon viewpoint we would find the round house, where the affable locomotive maintenance mechanics answered questions about steam motive power. A nearby yard held a stock of car wheels that could be drawn on for maintenance. A not-too-distant side trip led us to the Golden Cycle Mill, where the Cripple Creek ore was ground, roasted and treated with sodium cyanide to dissolve the gold. Zinc shavings placed in the solution plated out the gold, which was then recovered by smelting. There seemed to be no limitations on our roaming over the leaching vats.

We seldom caught sight of the rotary snow plow in action, but on our trips to the yards we were reminded that it and other equipment such as cranes were part of the little railroad's makeup.

The people of one of the Colorado Springs radio stations made a recording of the last run of a train down Ute Pass before the railroad was abandoned. Some years later, members of the station played the tape through loudspeakers mounted on a sound truck, while driving down Ute Pass. This brought out many telephone calls about a "ghost train" on the loose.

For a complete account of the railroad, see *The Cripple Creek Road* by Edward M. "Mel" McFarland, Pruett Publishing Company, Boulder, Colorado (1984).

by Ira Current

A LOOK AT OUR HISTORY CENTER

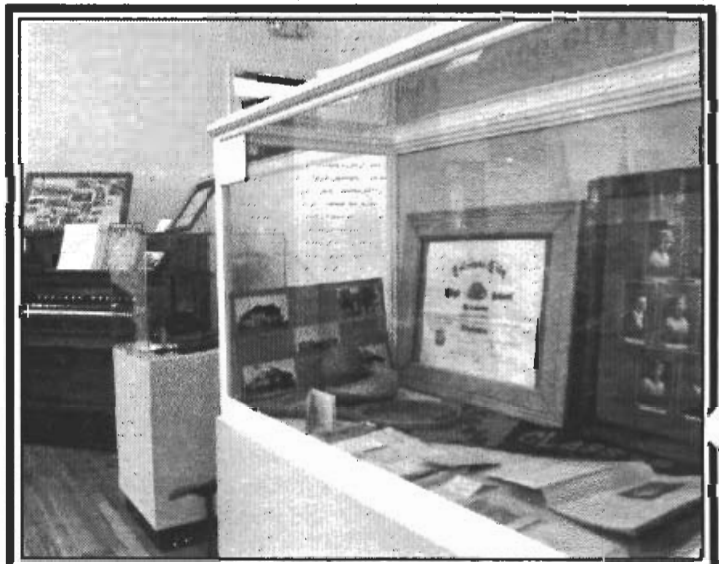
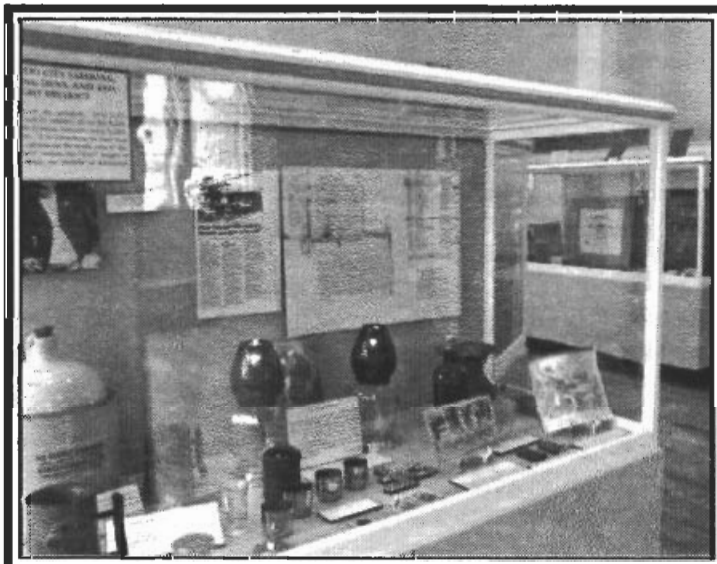
IT'S MORE THAN A MUSEUM

In the eight weeks that the History Center has been open to public, one thing has become obvious. The rich details of Old Colorado City's colorful history may have been lost over the next few generations if our Society had not planned and worked so hard to open the History Center now. We've had quite a number of visitors amazed that they knew very little of Old Town. Still even more visitors wanting to share their own Old Colorado City history with us; history that we're now in the position to collect and preserve. The history of Old Colorado City is not a cut and dry oratory. Our history is the interwoven stories of the life and personality of the many people who made Old Colorado City their home, their workplace and, most importantly, their community.

The Old Colorado City History Center that we have built is the perfect place to showcase this community of people. Not just



(top photo) Volunteers like Lois Carr are the backbone of the operation of our History Center. Lois works our Book & Gift Shop almost every Wednesday morning. (center photo) An overview of our museum exhibit room. (below left photo) Our 'Red Light' District exhibit featuring the red globes from the front porch lights at Madame Laura Belle's house donated by Bill Aldridge, son of Dorothy Aldridge and wooden beer steins from Jacob Schmidt's Saloon donated by Catherine Henderson and Dave Hughes. (below right) Our school exhibit currently focuses on the last graduating class of Colorado City High School in 1919. Luther McKnight's organ sits in the background. Luther modified the organ to operate with the exhaust of a vacuum cleaner. It also plays piano rolls



Photographs by Paul Idema

because we have a beautiful setting to house artifacts and pictures, but because we, too, are a community of diverse people who together succeeded in building something very special. The Old Colorado City History Center is working because of all of our members who support us by belonging and because of the many, many volunteers who lend their time and expertise to insure its success.

These volunteers took the History Center from its post-construction clutter to a wonderful opening day in just six weeks. It wasn't just sweeping up and putting out the display cases. No committee could begin work until all the committees began at once. The Exhibits Committee couldn't begin until the Accessioning Committees had

begun to unpack our collections. The Accessioning, Book Store and Technology Committees couldn't work until there was clean workspace. It would have remained a catch-22 without the hard work of many volunteers.

There have been some who felt that our Master Plan couldn't succeed because we'd never get the volunteer manpower needed to carry it out. Our volunteers are proving them wrong.

OPENING THE CENTER

Thanks to **Chuck Cobb** for doing so much to prepare the Center for opening. Chuck put in the split-rail fence in our parking lot, cleaned the grounds, waxed our hardwood floors, moved display cases, went on supply runs and help put up the partitions for the photograph exhibit. **Bev Millett** cleaned our display walls, cleaned cases and made curtains for the rest room window. New member, **Alice Mayfield**, was invaluable and dove right in the difficult job of cleaning and polishing our display cases and artifacts. She brought with her some amazing cleaning products that did the job in half the time and it continues to do so. We don't plan to start handing out endorsements, but the Geo products Alice brought with her surprised many of our members. We only mention this because Alice is planning several Geo Products seminars as a fundraiser for OCCHS with the proceeds going to funding the herb gardens for our grounds.

A big thank you to **Dave Hughes** for all his work to assemble the exhibits in our display cases. Thank you to **Bob and Chris Heinich, Don Kallaus, Terry Mitchell, Jack Ekstrom and Mel McFarland** for all your hard work. A very special thank you to **Mary Idleman, Sue and Bryan Idleman and Tom Idleman** who all worked so hard at the beckoning of our new Director. It sure doesn't pay to be related to him.

THE BOOK & GIFT SHOP

We knew our Book & Gift Shop would be the hardest to set up. Our Book & Gift Shop volunteers handle all the questions, sales and admissions into the museum. Each volunteer works a two and a half hour shift during the work week. It was most heartwarming to see all the members who volunteered to work here. Coordinating all the volunteers is a major undertaking and we're very fortunate that **Bev Disch** accepted the position of *Volunteer Coordinator* and she's doing a wonderful job. Bev now has our Book & Gift Shop scheduled with volunteers through September. We'd be lost without you, Bev. Thank you so much. And thank you to all the Book and Gift Shop volunteers. **Georgia Croff, Betsy Evans, Lois Carr, Elinor Messerschmidt,**

con't on page 15



Jean Christopher (top photo) appears lost in a sea of kids. We've had several school groups already tour our History Center with OCCHS volunteers like Jean to guide them through. Albert and Katherine Moberly (above and left) were married in our building February 1, 1947 by Rev. McAninch. Over 80 friends and family stop by their 50th Anniversary celebration at our Center on June 22nd to congratulate them.

WEST SIDE MEMORIES

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK ON LOCAL EVENTS

compiled by Jan Knox

ONE HUNDRED & TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO — May/June/July 1872

☞ Mr. W. H. Jackson, photographer, Mrs. Charles R. Campbell, assistant photographer, and Dr. A. C. Peale, mineralogist and chemist, of Professor Hayden's surveying party, are visiting Colorado Springs for the purpose of securing view of some of the most striking scenery in the neighborhood, and for the collection of mineralogical specimens.

☞ The new Hotel at Manitou is now rapidly approaching completion, and will shortly be ready for the accommodation of visitors. A commodious Bath House has been erected, into which the mineral waters of the celebrated Springs are conducted. The Baths have been placed under the charge of Dr. B. P. Anderson.

☞ The new road through the Ute Pass is completed, and is now alive with traffic. The magnificent scenery of the Pass will make it a favorite drive, and its superiority over the old road will make it a great boon to all going to and from South Park. In a few days, stages will run three times a week, between Colorado Springs and Fairplay, which will be a great convenience both to residents and visitors. The road is likely to be used also for traffic from the San Luis Valley. Two gentlemen on their way thence to Denver, reached Colorado Springs in three days, coming by way of the Poncho Pass and through the Park, and say that route gives a saving of a day over any other which can be taken. A subscription has been raised to put such parts of the road as were of repair into thorough order. Colorado Springs having contributed \$400 and Colorado City \$200. The road has cost Fifteen Thousand Dollars to put into its present shape, is free from toll, and therefore offers great inducements to freighters to

make use of it.

☞ Kit Carson was among the visitors who have arrived at the Colorado Springs Hotel during the past week.

☞ One of the wonders of this part of the world is the "Petrified Forest" which is situated about halfway between Colorado Springs and Fairplay. This remarkable relic of former days, however, bids fair to disappear very shortly, unless the increasing crowd of tourists cease their work of destruction. Everyone must needs take a specimen, and some of the stumps are "growing smaller" at a very rapid rate. Mr. Bradshaw, who has a squatter's claim on a portion of the "Forest", informs us that he will be glad to show strangers where specimens may be obtained without injury to the upright stumps.

☞ Colorado Springs has already one nuisance, if not more than one, to complain of. Horses, cattle and swine, are allowed to range about at their "own sweet will", both day and night, and commit such damage as they may. The young trees which have been set out at such expense to beautify the streets, are uprooted or otherwise injured, the "acquias" are fouled so that the water is unfit for many purposes for which it would otherwise be used, and lots which have been seeded and planted, but not yet fenced, are trampled over to the great loss of their owners. The officers of the colony are using praiseworthy efforts to beautify the town, and make it pleasant and attractive in the eyes of the visitors who come, and it is to be hoped that the citizens will see the propriety of seconding their efforts. We are glad to learn from General Cameron that the state of things which we have described will not be allowed to continue, but that if other measures fail, the prosecution of offenders will be resorted to.

☞ A sad accident occurred at Colorado City on Saturday. A little girl,

two years' old, daughter of the Rev. W. F. Warren, Methodist minister, fell into a barrel of water which was sunk into the ground near the house, and was drowned.

☞ The Fourth of July celebration on the summit of Pike's Peak, which was to take the form of a large bonfire, and a display of fireworks, which it was expected, would be seen over the greater part of the territory, at nine o'clock was delayed by heavy clouds which enveloped the peak and neighboring mountains. Shortly before eleven o'clock the clouds disappeared, the Peak was clearly visible—dark against the starry sky—and shortly afterwards the spectators at Colorado Springs were gratified by seeing the promised fire, and the discharge of rockets, candles, mines, etc., which were plainly visible. We learn that the fire was also seen from Denver and Pueblo. The credit of this novel and laborious celebration is mainly due to Mr. Allen, formerly of the Signal Service. He was assisted in the transportation of the requisite material to the summit of the Peak by Mr. Charles Bales, Mr. Jacob Grim, and a youth named Hughes.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO — May/June/July 1897

☞ The game of ball between the Colorado City nine and the Plumbers of Colorado Springs last Sunday resulted in a "walk-away" for Colorado City. Only seven innings were played and during that time our boys tallied forty-two scores while the plumbers only succeeded in getting around the diamond eight times.

☞ Mrs. Augusta Kelley report her kindergartens in this city and Colorado Springs running successfully. Her class in this city is not as large as it should be considering the efficiency of her methods and their application. Her charges amount to five cents an hour, surely little

WEST SIDE MEMORIES

enough for the service rendered.

☞ P. P. Shankapaul and Libbie Shankapaul who have been airing their family quarrels in the police and justice courts, and who have both served sentences in the city prison have arrived at an agreement and have made up their minds to again work in double harness.

☞ Quong Chong, the celestial who conducts a laundry and "hop" joint on railroad street, back of the town hall, was arraigned in the police court Wednesday afternoon on the charge of running an opium joint. The police had raided the place and found four Americans smoking the drug. The customers gave the China man away and the city exchequer is \$25 richer as a result.

☞ Parties wishing small cottonwood trees for planting can pull them up by the hundred on the gravel bars along the Fountain. The trees have good roots and will grow without trouble.

☞ Two demimondes were arrested by Marshal Allen, Wednesday, for appearing upon the streets in male attire. Five dollars and costs was the penalty.

☞ The Colorado City base ball nine at its last meeting elected the following officers: Captain, J. Wales; secretary and treasurer, W. Humphrey, and manager, Marshal Allen. The grounds are being fixed up at considerable expense and when the improvements are completed, it will be as fine as any in the county. The diamond has been scraped, a back stop put up, and seats will be put in to accommodate 500 people.

☞ R. L. Morrison of the Pike's Peak Brick company, was exhibiting samples of brick from their last kiln on the street Wednesday evening. Among them was as fine red brick as one could wish to see and are in every equal to the best Kansas City brick. Mr. Morrison has sold the brick to be used in the construction of the manholes of the Colorado City sewer.

☞ B. F. Irvin has decided to give to his

notion store, located in the Quinhy building, the name of 'The Fair'. Mr. Irvin will soon have his stock completed when it will be large and varied in every branch.

☞ When the Midland band arrived home last Sunday evening from its Salt Lake tour some of its members looked like real Indians sure enough. Their trip was a long and tiresome one and the accumulation of dirt and dust on some of the uniforms gave quite a true picture of the Ute when it roamed these valleys in the early days. The boys report a good time considering the amount of marching they were compelled to do while in the Mormon city.

☞ A shooting gallery has been erected on the vacant lot adjoining "Dutch John's" saloon and the ringing of targets will once more be heard in our midst.

☞ A heavy rain storm visited Colorado City and vicinity Sunday evening. The Colorado Springs ditch broke in two places in the eastern part of Colorado City and the flood that was let loose filled several cellars. The streets were badly washed in several places but no serious damage was done. A heavy snow fell on Pike's Peak.

☞ Owing to the warm weather of the past few days, the ladies aid society of the Baptist church have decided that ice cream and cake would be appreciated more than a chicken pie social, and they will serve the former on the church lawn next Friday evening. All invited.

☞ A candle in Birdsall's storage room in the basement of the Templeton block set fire to the building Thursday evening at 6 o'clock. The prompt action of citizens and fire department subdued the flames. Had the fire got beyond control Colorado City would have had another \$100,000 fire.

☞ Arterburn & Perkey have leased the Patton stables at the corner of 6th street and Washington avenue. The new firm will handle coal in connection

with their livery and feed business.

SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
May/June/July 1922

☞ Final services in the old St. Mary's church, which was established in 1889, will be held at 10 o'clock tomorrow (5/7) morning with high mass, the Rev. Father Darley officiating. Between now and completion of the new building, services will be held in the old church hall, 2520 Robinson street. The original church building was constructed in 1889, but property for the parish was deeded to the church in 1879 by Anthony Bott, Colorado City pioneer. Bishop Matz held the original services in the old church. The old church and the house next door have been sold to J. A. Ward for a consideration of several thousand dollars, according to Father Darley.

☞ For the first time in many years, men and women, boys and girls, will gather from all parts of the city today to take part in the annual bicycle parade which is to start from in front of the Acacia hotel at 2 o'clock. An elaborate program has been worked out by the committee.

☞ Veterans in the faded blue uniforms of long ago will address the public school children of Colorado Springs on Friday, May 26. All civil war veterans and all ex-servicemen are cordially invited to attend a special service in the Pilgrim Congregational church on Sunday, May 28.

☞ The funeral of Samuel A. Newell, 1724 W. Cucharrus, a sergeant in the Twenty-first regiment, Wisconsin infantry, during the Civil War, will be held tomorrow afternoon, the date of his ninety-fourth birthday.

☞ Mrs. Louis N. Depeyre, 1606 West Colorado avenue, had a narrow escape from death last night when a bolt of lightning struck the house and demolished a chandelier in the dining room in which she was seated. Although stunned momentarily, she suffered no

con't on next page

ill effects. This is the second time the home of Dr. and Mrs. Depeyre, has been struck, the first bold coming 12 years ago. Dr. Depeyre, who specializes in electric therapy was in another part of the house at the time.

☞ Residents in the 3000 block, West Colorado avenue, have protested to the local police department against a herd of burros walking with abandon over their lawns. The animals belong to John Aubrey, who operates a corral in the west end. After an investigation yesterday, the police informed Aubrey that hereafter every burro straying onto the lawns of west side residents would be turned over to him after Aubrey had remitted \$1. It seems the corrals need fixing, and Aubrey says he will attend to the matter.

☞ No trace of the burglars who broke into the pharmacy at 729 West Colorado avenue some time Wednesday night has yet been found though the police believe an arrest will be made shortly. The burglars obtained only a small amount of silver for their trouble though they imbibed a quantity of liniment containing wood alcohol and other poisonous liquids during their stay in the place which is operated by Charles L. Huestis. Though not poisonous enough to kill the burglars, the liniment is said to have been unpleasant enough to make them ill for a considerable period.

☞ William W. Hassell, president of the Hassell Iron Works and a pioneer business man of Colorado Springs, died of heart disease at his home early Sunday. He came to Colorado Springs in 1885 for the benefit of his health. After a few years here, his health having been completely restored, he started a small fence manufacturing business and later built a foundry which developed into the Hassell Iron Works company, the largest and most important of its kind in the Pikes Peak region.

☞ Mayor John B. Paulson of Manitou had a narrow escape from death yesterday morning when the automobile in which he was riding was struck broad-

side by the engine of a Midland Terminal train. Mr. Paulson saved his life by jumping from the automobile to the pilot of the engine and clinging to an iron bar just above it until the train was brought to a standstill. The car was smashed to pieces. Mr. Paulson declared that the engineer neglected to sound his whistle, and the train was upon him before he knew it.

☞ The new \$100,000 Antlers garage is now open for business. The garage has a capacity of 200 motor cars and includes the latest equipment in its line.

☞ A monster fireworks display is to be exhibited Tuesday night on the summit of Pikes Peak. The Pikes Peak cog road in conjunction with the auto highway is in charge of the celebration. The display will be seen for 50 miles around the region. Giants skyrocket, weighing two pounds each will be sent skyward into the clouds. Every known kind of night fireworks has been secured to entertain those who will be on the summit. Many residents and tourists are planning to pass the night on the peak and watch the fireworks in the Springs.

☞ The old city hall in Colorado City will become a candy and confectionary factory as the result of action taken by the city council at its meeting yesterday morning when it accepted the offer made by the E. F. Allingham Candy company of Denver for the purchase of the building for \$2,000. Remodeling of the old building which was constructed in the '80's at the height of Colorado City's prosperity will begin today. It was announced by Rev. Duncan Lamont, president of the West Side Commercial association after a discussion with Mr. Allingham, president of the company. Several families already have taken residence on the West Side preparatory to opening the new factory, which it is understood, will become the main plant of the concern. Within 10 days the company expects to have the machinery installed and in motion, and turn out between 200 and 400 cases of candy daily. This will be increased to 1,000 eventually. One of the principal

products of the factory will be a confection known as "Bingo," which is similar to "Cracker Jack," and is advertised throughout the country.

☞ Twenty-two priests will attend the solemn dedication of Sacred Heart church in West Colorado Springs today. Father Darley, pastor, started plans for the building soon after he was named to the position last fall. He served for a time as assistant pastor at St. Mary's parish here, then went into the army as a chaplain. Choir members of every church denomination in Colorado Springs and Denver will have a part in the musical program.

FIFTY YEARS AGO May/June/July 1947

☞ It may not be long before West Colorado avenue will reach into Ute Pass, judging by the way it has been recently extended westward. Forty years ago Colorado avenue ended at what is not Thirty-first street. From there west about three blocks it was a county road, and west of that to the Manitou corporate limits, one block west of Adams Crossing, it was Manitou road. After Grandview and Arensdale additions were taken into Colorado City, the road names remained the same, but when Colorado City was annexed to Colorado Springs in 1917, the name of Colorado avenue was extended to Adams Crossing, with Thirty-seventh street being the western boundary, through street numbers were used to the Manitou town limits. However, residents on East Manitou avenue are not using West Colorado avenue to designate their property locations, so now some places are listed as above 4,000 West Colorado avenue, but in reality such are on East Manitou avenue.

☞ One of the oldest business blocks in Old Town has a new front, which improves its appearance a great deal. It is the Hoffman block at the south-west corner of Colorado avenue and Twent-fifth street, the former home of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Hanes, early-day residents of Colorado City. Byron Hanes came here from Fulton county, Illinois,

WEST SIDE MEMORIES

around 50 years ago, and while a saloon-keeper, he aided churches the same as other moves. When Colorado City voted dry in 1912, Byron opened a wet place in Ramona. Had not the Eagles lodge of which he was long a member, looked after his burial, he likely would be resting in an unmarked plot in the cemetery.

☞ The last few remaining patients having been discharged from the institution last Friday, the Modern Woodmen of America sanatorium will close. It has been up for sale for several months. The sanatorium was established in 1906, the sanatorium is one of the best known in the country. Its peak of service to members of the fraternal order was reached in 1926 when 250 patients were being cared for.

☞ Due to the washouts on the Midland Terminal Railroad, the Cycle Mill is out of ore. They are taking advantage of the shut-down to catch up on repair work and are also sluicing out the flue. The stack is going to be painted inside and out this spring. A crew of steeple jacks climbed up the outside of the 150-foot stack, not so long ago, and came down the inside for inspection. They found the 34-year old stack in good condition, needing only a few minor repairs. The steeple jacks were not envied much. Most of the mill hands were of the opinion that the best way to climb a stack is to keep at least one foot on the ground.

☞ Sale of the Graves Hardware store over town last week ends that name in business here after 46 years. Henry Graves father came here from Canton, Illinois, in 1901 and for some years conducted a hardware store in the Waycott block in Colorado City before going over town. Roland Burlew, who was associated with Henry Graves in the hardware business, grew up in Colorado City, where his parents lived over 40 years ago.

☞ The dynamiting of the refreshment stand at the Jalopy race track, near the Golden Cycle mill, an explosion which occurred at 2:40 o'clock Saturday

morning, awakened people living as far away as Papeton to the north and Broadmoor to the south. The telephone office and police headquarters were immediately flooded with inquiries. Teddie Beals, owner of the stand and operator of the race track could suggest no motive for the blasting of the charge which was so powerful that splintered bits of wreckage were found scattered over a hundred yard radius.

☞ The old Colorado City fort, built in the eighteen-sixties to protect residents from Indian raids, and located at what is now 2818 West Pikes Peak avenue, is being remodeled. It is now owned by a man named Schnapel, who came from Iowa, the former owner being a Mrs. Miller, a resident of Texas. The present owner of the property wants the granite marker on the street in front of the property removed, saying, it is said, that it will interfere with the sale of the property; his reported price being \$5,000. Of course, the marker cannot be removed without permission of the city, on whose property is located. The house, a one and one-half story structure, was originally made of logs standing upright, which are still in place under the weather-boarding. The logs were used for protection from the Indians, and likely also that they were more procurable than lumber.

☞ The weekly band concerts given by George L. Miller and his orchestra in Bancroft park every Thursday evening are much enjoyed by visitors and home folks. There are some special features in each performance. Before the present splendid bandstand was built in Bancroft park, about 30 years ago, there was just a wooden shack of an affair for the holding of public entertainment.

☞ Memorial services were held this week at West Junior High school honoring West Junior students who gave their lives in the service of their country during World War II. A bronze plaque will be placed on which will appear the names of 21 former students. Parents and relatives of all these men were invited as honor guests. The

men who will be honored are: John Barak, William Crabtree, Wesley Daw, John Hill, Delbert James, Calvin Jennings, Earl Kirk, William Koch, Robert Latas, John Mauck, Garold McDaniel, Kenneth Moore, Charles Nolan, George Perry, Willard Perry, Charles Pressler, John Rozar, Wayne Schmer, Willie Snow, Joseph Vigil and Donald Walters.

☞ Two vandals in a stripped-down car threw a lighted firecracker into the brand new fireworks establishment of Jerry Gillespie, 15, of 2331 West Pikes Peak avenue yesterday morning, causing the entire business to go up in noisy smoke and fire. Location of the stand was just outside the city limits in the 3100 block of West Colorado avenue. Young Gillespie estimated his loss in fireworks at about \$300. Gillespie said that by today he would have a new building constructed and would be back in business again. Another 15-year old boy, Raymond Stokes of 3322 West Kiowa St., also had a brush with the firecracker throwing vandals in another fireworks stand on West Colorado avenue. But young Raymond, using a small extinguisher and his hands, scooped out into the street the lighted noise-makers and saved the establishment where he was employed from burning down. After the fires, Chief Charles Van Nattan expressed another warning that the Fire department would not go outside the city to fight a blaze in a fireworks establishment caused by fireworks.

☞ Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Reilly, of Long Beach, California, are visiting his brother, James T. Reilly, 2017 West Colorado avenue, and other relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Reilly, the parents, came to Colorado City from Chicago over 50 years ago. The family home was the brick house on South twenty-sixth street, just across the street west of old St. Mary's church. Michael Reilly was a Colorado Midland railroad shop employee. He was Colorado City police judge when L. A. Foote was mayor during 1906-08. Jim Reilly is captain of West Side fire company No. 5.

A HANGING IN COLORADO CITY

Transcribed from the reprinted recollection in the Gazette Telegraph, September 7, 1941.

(As told by Truman Blancett to Elsie Keeton)

It was in the early 60's that Henry Jackson was hanged on the streets of Colorado City.

Jackson was a young outlaw, who came with his parents to Colorado City, when a Child. His father was a white man, his mother a Mexican woman, but young Jackson was as fine looking a young man as you'd care to look at.

We knew him well as my brother and I used to hunt antelope with him until we discovered he was becoming a dangerous outlaw and we would have nothing more to do with him.

He was but 18 years old when he was hanged by the vigilantes, and he deserved it. I was in Colorado City the night he was hanged, saw him hang, but took no part in it.

At that time a man by the name of Anway, his wife and two lovely daughters, were keeping the only boarding house in Colorado City. Mabel, the younger daughter, had met Jackson a few times and had become greatly infatuated with him and her father had forbidden him to visit her.

I, myself was paying considerable attention to Mary, the older daughter, and I had called to spend the evening with her, when shortly after my arrival, Jackson appeared on the scene to visit Mabel, but Mr. Anway refused to admit him and closed the door in his face. Jackson forced the door a little and shot, wounding Anway pretty seriously and then made his escape.

Raider Identified In Indian Crowd ...

About two weeks later, early in the morning, a band of Arapahoes made a raid on Colorado City. As there were but few people there, they took refuge in a big log cabin and the Indians left without committing murder, but Jackson was recognized as one of the band.

He brought the Indians there, thinking that while the people were excited and confused, he could steal his sweetheart and carry her away, or at least that was his confession after the rope was placed around his neck.

At that time there were two young scouts on duty about Colorado City, their names were Lovejohn and Bill Brothers and I knew them well. Had been on scouting trips with them.

Jackson and his band of Indians continued to hang around the locality for some time after they made their raid on the village and one morning Lovejohn and Brothers took a scouting trip up Kittle creek along the stage road that followed Kittle creek down to Colorado City.

They had reached a big spring beside the road in some thick willows, when they noticed a band of Indians sitting on the hill-side holding their horses and the scouts thought they were waiting for the stage to appear, and they would try to capture it.

The scouts hid near the spring and suddenly one of the Indians mounted his horse and came riding towards the

spring. The scouts recognized him as Jackson, and knew he was coming to the spring for a drink, as he knew where the spring was located.

Reaching the spring he dismounted and lay down to drink and when he had quenched his thirst he raised his head to find two pistols aimed at him. At once he began to beg for mercy, he crossed his heart and prayed for them to shoot him instead of taking him back to Colorado City, but in a short time he was on his way back to the village with his hands tied behind him.

Shackled in Boarding House ...

There was no jail to put him in and the safest place they could find was the boarding house, as there was an upper floor there, with a stairway leading up from the front door.

They put him upstairs with shackles on his legs, and a guard stationed at the head of the stairs. I was taking dinner at Anways when they brought him in, and I suspected something would happen soon, so I remained overnight at the Anway home.

About 9 o'clock I was seated in the dining room with Mrs. Anway and the two girls, and we heard footsteps on the walk, then a knock on the door, and as Mr. Anway opened the door we saw two men with drawn pistols pointing into the room demanding to know where Jackson was. Mr. Anway pointed towards the stairs and we saw the men go up the stairs, and then heard the chains on the stairs, and then heard the chains on Jackson's ankles clanking on the steps as they brought him down. Mabel, his sweetheart, cried aloud to him and started to go to him but was held back by her mother. They led him to a small scaffold that had been built a short distance back of the boarding house. It was built with a cross beam and a windlass, making it a convenient place to slaughter sheep.

I had a good view from the rear of the house, as to what was taking place and there were six men who took part in the execution.

I saw them place the rope around his neck and then turn the windlass until they raised him about six feet above the ground, then they tied the rope to hold him there and moved quietly away, leaving him to meet his Maker somewhere between heaven and earth. The following day when he was taken down from the scaffold it was discovered that he carried two dried and withered human ears in his vest pocket.

I have told this true story with all its details, as it was never written in history, for at that time no one was writing history. History was only in the making. There were fewer than 40 people living in Colorado City at that time.

Thus was justice administered in the early days.

LaDonna Gunn's website research tells us that Anway's "hotel" was a rough log structure that was sold to Hen. Templetons in the Fal of 1863. The famous log fort to protect Colorado City residents was built around the Templeton's place soon after, according to Irving Howbert.

HISTORY CENTER - con't from page 9

Eileen Graham, Madeline Keas, Kay Arnold, Orville Kenelly and Bev Disch have been working regular weekly shifts. Working many days to fill in the gaps have been Betty Magninie, LaRue Ebersole, Doris Morland, Maloa Read, Harriet Seibel, Max and Margaret Gould, Thelma Stoody, Mel McFarland, Bud and Jo Walker, Jan Knox, Anna-Leah Hathaway, Joanne Karlson, Thelma Williams, Anna Hiskey, Virginia Rogers, Doris Wolfe, Catherine Moberly, Agnes Loesch, Liz Geiss, Virginia Black, Hilda Huber, Wilma Bradshaw, Jean Christopher, Cyndy Estes, Betty Boyd, and Dave and Patsy Hughes. Our apologies if we omitted anyone. We'd especially like to thank Thelma Williams for her donations and loans. Thelma owned and operated the *Little Corner of the World* gifts shops in



LaDonna Gunn

Cripple Creek and Manitou Springs for almost 50 years. She got to know many of the Native America tribes in this area and has accumulated quite a collection of Indian artifacts. Thelma donated gold plated jewelry, belt buckles and other items from her shop (she sold her store when gambling was voted in). Thelma has also loaned to the History Center Cheyenne arrowheads, spearheads and war clubs, a Cherokee headdress and other items to help us prepare for a Native America exhibit. And she has loaned to us a cash register for the Book and Gift Shop. All of the volunteers for the Book & Gift Shop are wonderful. They are truly the backbone of our daily operations.

LaDONNA GUNN FROM RIFLE

While that may sound like a Western TV show similar to "Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman", LaDonna Gunn (from Rifle) is actually our graduate historian hired by the Technology Committee for our National Science Foundation grant project to develop our computer database and wireless website. LaDonna is a wonder and has collected an amazing volume of Colorado City history that will easily be accessible on our Internet website. The Technology Committee, chaired by Dave Hughes, is on its way to put our History Center on the map and in the news. Also on the Technology Committee are Sara Mock and Paul Idleman who are working on the 'look' of our website with Cindy Batey, Mid Kolstadt and Shirley Propsom handling the data input chores. You can expect a lot more news from this committee. Thank you to everyone involved.

THE ACCESSIONING COMMITTEES

The Accessioning Committees have been hard at work and they are making wonderful progress. Thanks to Ray Campbell and Cyndy Estes, we are finally putting our thousands of photographs into order. Ray and Cyndy followed up on our accessioning seminar at the Pioneers Museum

with more visits to the museum and Penrose Library to fine tune our accessioning and cataloging of photographs. Joni Young has been an enormous help with accessioning, documenting and placing the photos in preservation materials twice a week. She also helps keep Ray in line, which takes the pressure off of a lot of us. We're so happy to have Sara Lewis join the team, too. Sara is our student intern who has volunteered to help us two mornings a week. Thank you Enid Kennis and Mark Hightower for all your hard work on the Photograph Accessioning team. It's easy to see why this committee has accomplished the amazing feat of accessioning over 30% of our photographs.

Liz Geiss and Clarice Munro are preforming wonders getting our collections and artifacts rooms organized and ready to house our artifacts. Betsy Evans can't get away from that library work and has taken on the duties of cataloging our books, magazines and pamphlets; and preparing our Research Library. If you have items you'd like to donate, call 636-1225 to schedule an appointment.

WISH LIST

Many of our wishes have already come true after our listing in the last issue of *West Word*. Thank you to Lucille Cunningham and Betty Baker for getting us window blinds for three rooms. Joanne Karlson donated the money to purchase our answering machine with cordless phone. Bob & Chris Heinich donated the money to buy our music sound system for the museum. Thanks to Chuck Cobb for helping us get the janitor dust mop and Orville Kenelly for the light bulbs. We are still in need of donations to help us purchase a new sign for the front of the History Center (cost is about \$1000) and picture hanging strips for our walls (no cost yet). And, of course, we need volunteers to work 2 to 3 hours a week on our new Maintenance Committee, Newsletter Committee, Events Committee and the other committees mentioned in this *West Word*.

AN INVITATION TO OCCHS MEMBERS

*Old Colorado City Historical Society Members
are cordially invited to attend our
Grand Opening Ceremony for the
Old Colorado City History Center.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1997

10:00 a.m.

Ribbon cutting and program

For more information call 636-1225

Don't forget Founder's Day - August 16th & 17th