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**Happy  
New Year  
&  
New  
Millennium**

### **THE SECRET PILE OF GOLD**

Few people know the whole story about the operation of the great Golden Cycle Gold Mill whose huge tailings pile lies south of US 24 between 8th Street and 21st Street on the Westside of Colorado Springs.

The fact of the matter is that contained in the 14,000,000 tons of gold ore tailings that came down Ute Pass from Cripple Creek - 150 tons a day between 1908 and 1948 - are still 575,000 ounces of gold and 2,300,000 ounces of silver! Its worth more than \$168 million at today's prices. Why so much? And why can't I just grab my gold pan and go over there and grab some?

1948, coconut husks from the South Pacific after WWII, made very hard charcoal. So the 'Carbon in Pulp' process was developed. When Golden Cycle moved its mill, now called the Carleton Mill, to Cripple Creek the tailings ore processed there since then assayed out at half what remained near Colorado City. Only .02 ounces per ton remaining rather than .045 ounces per ton left in the old site.

Not so easy ..... here is the story.

So, theoretically, if all that tailings pile was put into big vats, the cyanide put in, and then the Carbon in Pulp, half of all the remaining gold and silver would come out in bullion form! In fact, there was a big project planned in the mid 1970's to do just that. But quarrelling partners killed the project in the 1980s, and efforts to restart it never got off the ground. That is another long story.

In 1908, when the Mill started to operate on Cripple Creek gold ore, the cyanide process for gold ore extraction was new. The ore had to be ground up, then put in vats with a weak solution of cyanide, stirred, and up to 97% of the gold and silver was dissolved. But there were only two known ways to get the gold out of cyanide solution. The use of zinc powder or activated charcoal.

The problem was that there was not hard enough charcoal in the U.S. to withstand the sandpaper like abrasion of stirring. Too much charcoal and the gold in it was lost. So the mill managers used zinc, which only got out 93% of the gold, but at the fixed government price of \$20 an ounce, and later \$35 an ounce, that was more profitable.

Now, with real estate developers building on the pile, the chances of ever doing it will be gone for good. But everybody's basements will assay out at least at \$12 of gold per ton of sand foundations!

So 7% of the gold and silver stayed in the sandy tailings. As the mill closed down in

*Dave Hughes*

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**Old Colorado City Historical Society**  
1 South 24th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319

## **WEST WORD**

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH BY  
THE OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
A NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
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LETTERS, PHOTOGRAHS, ARTIFACTS AND STORIES CAN BE  
DELIVERED TO THE OCCHS CENTER OR MAILED TO:

WEST WORD Editor c/o OCCHS  
1 South 24th Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 15th 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 establishment of a History Center.*

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

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

Annual membership classifications are:

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

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	Gordon Gray	719-630-8238
Vice President	Beverly Disch	719-634-5023
Secretary	Karla Hefferan	719-630-8241
Treasurer	David Hughes	719-636-2040
	Betty Baker	719-633-2350
	LaRue Ebersole	719-685-3265
	Donald Ellis	719-447-0424
	Jack Patterson	719-634-7579

### **MEETINGS**

OCCHS Monthly Meeting & Program is held at 11 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, except during June, July, and August. The History Center opens at 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting for refreshments and visitation. The program begins at 11 a.m. This meeting is free and open to the public.

**Next Monthly Meeting**  
**January 12, 2001**



## *Explore the REAL History* at the **OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORY CENTER**

1 South 24th Street  
(the corner of Pikes Peak & 24th Streets)  
(719) 636-1225

### **FREE ADMISSION**

**WINTER HOURS**  
(OCTOBER - APRIL)

TUES-SAT 11 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
SUN 1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
Closed Monday

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# FROM THE BOARD

## President's Report .....

By the time you read this message, the New Year will be here and the "official" beginning of the new millennium. I think it is exciting to have experienced this event and cannot help but wonder what life was like at the beginning of the year 1001 or even 1901. We have wonderful written accounts of these times to enlighten our knowledge.

We have just ended a very successful and eventful year with your Society. Many things occurred and in the near future, we will be recapping the year for your review.

I am sorry to report that LaDonna Gunn, who has been working with OCCHS over the past several years will not be renewing her contract with the Center. Through her efforts we have been able to organize, catalog, and maintain our collections. I will miss seeing her at the Center and

wish her all the continued success as she pursues her career.

The continued cataloging and maintenance of our collection is vital and I am pleased to announce that OCCHS has retained the services of Jane Colvard to work as our part-time archivist. Jane has experience in this field and most recently with the Pioneers Museum. She will begin working at the Center this week. If you are in the Center on a Tuesday or Wednesday, please stop and introduce yourself to Jane.

Our Santa picture taking sessions every Saturday from Thanksgiving until Christmas in the Cabin were a big success. OCCHS volunteers took almost 300 pictures and put them into a commemorative folder. The net proceeds were almost \$1,100. My thanks to all the volunteers who "manned" the cabin on some pretty chilly Saturdays and took the pictures. There was a blazing fire in the

fireplace in the cabin which added to the Holiday festivities. Santa has committed to be back next Christmas and OCCHS will be there ready with the Polaroid and film.

Our adopt-a-book program of having rare books in our library rebound is a huge success. To date, twelve volumes have been rebound. This is thanks to many of our members who have donated the \$35 to have a book rebound. If you would like to contribute to this project, please drop me a note. The 2000 Annual Appeal is also in full swing and very successful. It is not too late to make your contribution to this fund and the monies we receive will go a long way in helping us meet our operating expenses for this year.

Happy New Year to everyone and until next month,

*Gordon*

## Treasurer's Report.....

The final figures are not in for December yet, permitting me to make a final, year 2000 report. I will do so in the February newsletter. But I can say that the Society will be finishing the year solvent enough to make it through the cold winter months until visitors start coming to the Center in the Spring. Even though we got hit with the gas increase like everyone else - increasing our utility bill from \$250 a month to \$340! The December Bed and Breakfast Tours netted the Society over \$2,000, and the Santa Pictures brought in over \$1,000 this year, well up from last year. As our \$61,000 worth of endowment Certificate of Deposits mature in January, we hope we can reinvest them at 7% rather than 6% interest. So we are ending 2000, having taken in ap-

proximately \$39,000 and expended the same while economically carrying out our primary mission of collecting, archiving, evaluating Colorado City History, and disseminating it to the public in the form of visits to our Center and displays, access to our web site, sales of historical books, while producing yet others, and publication of our newsletter to all members.

**Dave Hughes**  
Treasurer

## Kay Arnold Memorial

The Board of OCCHS is pleased to announce the memorial to our good friend, Kay Arnold, has been very successful. Kay's wish was to have a brick engraved with her name and placed in our memorial patio at the History Center. After her death last fall, it was announced in the West Word that a memorial fund in Kay's honor was being started with the hope of obtaining sufficient contributions to purchase the brick. Our members and friends were most generous and a brick has been purchased in Kay's honor. A sizable contribution has been made in her honor to the Society's endowment fund.

Thank you to everyone who made this possible.

## Pikes Peak United Methodist Church celebrates.....*SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY*

Our neighbor, the Pikes Peak United Methodist Church, 2927 West Pikes Peak Avenue, recently celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of the church. A big birthday party was held which included a catered dinner after the Sunday church services. The information for this article was given to Dave Hughes by Claire Ruby. OCCHS is pleased to recognize this fine church and to wish them another seventy-five successful years.

Bygone events and festive times  
with friends we oft recall  
We paid our bills by Faith alone,  
God was there through it all.

When we think of those who've gone  
to reap their just reward.  
They left us precious memories  
and found rest in the Lord.

*by: Claire Ruby*

The congregation, which developed into the present Pikes Peak United Methodist Church, had its beginning as a Mission Sunday School that was organized and conducted by Joseph Clark. It was out of this Sunday School that a new church developed, which was to be known as the Colorado City Congregational Church. It is not known where this group first met for their worship services, but as soon as it was available they began meeting in the vacant City Hall building which was furnished to the young congregation at no cost.

The building was built on the northwest corner of Ninth and Colorado in old Colorado City which is now 29th street and Colorado Avenue. The building was built in 1888 at a cost of \$5,000 and was the first City Hall of Colorado City. Besides having four rooms for the city offices, it also housed the city jail and fire department. Almost as soon as it was built, it was discovered that it was located too far from the center of town where the saloons and brothels were located. Prisoners had to be transported by wagon, and it was inconvenient to travel from the downtown area to this jail. So, in 1892, a new one was constructed at what is now 26th Street and Cucharas Street (current site of the Oldtown Guesthouse).

The congregation grew and the church began to realize that if they were continue to grow, a building of their own would be needed. Construction began on a \$7,000 building in May of 1904 at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and 10th Street in Colorado City, which is now Pikes Peak Avenue and 30th Street. The cornerstone of the original church was

laid on September 15, 1904. It contained a box with a brief history of the church, a list of officers and members, various societies and members of the church, various photographs and newspaper articles.

Over the years, there were several church mergers and in 1968, the United Methodist Church was created and the current church name was adopted.

The following is quoted from a document prepared by the City Planning Department. "The church at 30th Street and Pikes Peak Avenue, originally the First Congregational Church and now known as the Pikes Peak United Methodist Church, is highly remarkable in her history as well as her architecture. The church's history of worship dates back to 1879, distinguishing her as one of the earliest bodies of worshippers in Colorado City and as pioneering Colorado City Congregational Church. The structure itself is the handsomest red-pressed brick church on the West

*(Continued on page 7)*

### *Welcome --New Members*

Please welcome the following as new members to OCCHS. We are pleased you have joined our Society.

Alma Moser  
900 Saturn Drive—Apartment 306  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906 719-636-2572

Carol Mosier Bach  
2950 Pegasus Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906 719-328-1850

Marion Hazzard  
806 Paradise Lane  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904 719-632-5861

Becki & John Davis  
5 North 8th Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905 719-447-1853

Barbara Borden  
1000 Fontmore Road—#1130  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904 719-633-7292  
(President's challenge new member by  
Adele Dean)

Jeffrey A. Disch  
404 East Kiowa  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903 719-327-1861  
(President's challenge new member by  
Bev Disch)

# WEST SIDE MEMORIES

## DEATH COMES TO HARRY GALBRAITH, VETERAN WRITER

*Colorado Springs News*  
January 5, 1951

Harry Galbraith, well-known Pikes Peak region pioneer and veteran newspaperman, passed away Tuesday in a Colorado Springs hospital following a heart attack that hospitalized him several days before. He was 65, and had long been in ill health.

Born at Bradford, Pennsylvania, he was a graduate of Girard College at Philadelphia, where he first learned a patriotic zeal for the Flag, which he carried with him all through the years to his passing. He was left an orphan. It was in 1906 that he came to the Pikes Peak region, and for some years was a cowhand for the HOP ranch on Chico Creek. Among old-timers, he was known as Chico Harry. He knew the early days of ranch and range in eastern Colorado, and was an authority on the pioneer Pikes Peak region, about which he wrote many stirring stories, a number of which were published, some in publications of national distribution. He long represented various press associations and newspapers as Colorado Springs correspondent, but in recent years had been in the free lance field, also devoting himself to such successful projects as establishment of a National Horse Week, July 24 to 30, 1949, and the permanent flying of Old Glory on Pikes Peak. The flag raising on the summit last July 4 was his idea and dream. And there were numerous other programs that had the benefit of his support or sponsorship. Few journalists down through the years ever approached his contributions

to publicity promotion of Colorado Springs and the region he loved. He wrote colorfully and with charm. He knew the community and her people as did few. His love for Old Glory was a life's devotion. A year or so ago, he actually did without food in order that he might use the money to purchase flag history charts which he distributed free to rural schools and certain others.

It was a varied career, that of Harry Galbraith. In addition to being writer and pioneer cowboy, he was a war veteran, ex-cavalryman, pharmacist, deputy sheriff, chainman, bridge gang laborer, typesetter, historical writer, and a four-hitch National Guardsman. He bemoaned the fact that the horse no longer was given its former prominent role—a role he always thought it still deserved—in the Armed Forces. When success greeted his efforts to found National Horse Week in 1949, he was justly proud. A number of his magazine articles dealt with the horse.

But above everything else, Galbraith was a writer. He had that natural ability which lifts the superior craftsman from the mass of the average. And of his talents, he always gave most abundantly to the community which was home. To Harry Galbraith, the Pikes Peak region owes a great debt it can never repay.

*(Through the collecting of Harry's friend, Carl Matthews,—an uncle of our Board member, Don Ellis—the Old Colorado City Historical Society, has the manuscripts for many of Harry's articles, in our Ellis-Matthews Collection.)—transcribed by Jan Knox*

## AdAmAn Club to Raise Flag, Use Giant Mirror on Peak

*Colorado Springs Gazette*  
December 29, 1950

Colorado Springs' famous AdAmAn club will have several new features when it makes its 28<sup>th</sup> annual ascent of Pikes Peak Saturday and Sunday to welcome the New Year with powerful fireworks on the summit.

For one thing, the club members will carry up the mountain a new U.S. flag for its perpetual summit flag-flying plan. This is called a "storm" flag.

The flag, three feet by five feet in dimension, is encased in a metal screen. This flag will fly within the screen, but the screen will stick straight out from the pole. It is believed by those who have obtained it, that the flag will last until next New Year's day. The flag, hoisted when the perpetual flag flying plan was evolved last summer was found badly worn on December 1 and was replaced with a temporary one to last until the start of 1951.

### *Huge Mirror Will Flash Signals*

The other thing, a 10-foot square mirror was taken to the Cog Road Summit House last fall and with it the AdAmAn club members, if the sun is shining, will attempt to flash heliographic signals to Denver and to Pueblo at 2 p.m. Sunday. Signals also will be flashed to Colorado Springs. It has been the custom for several years for the climbers to take small mirrors with them and exchange flashes with residents of Colorado Springs while making the second stage of the ascent, when it was made over the east face of the peak and the sun was shining.

(continued on page 6)

## **WEST SIDE MEMORIES**

*(continued from page 5)*

The club will hold a dinner meeting at 7:15 o'clock tonight at the Swiss Chalet restaurant at which time the full list of club members and guests who will make the climb will be made up. Only 16 will be enrolled, as the facilities in the Cog Road Summit House on the peak will not admit a larger party.

### *Climb Will Start Saturday Morning*

The program for the climb, however, was completed this morning. A pre-climb breakfast will be held at the Alta Vista hotel at 8 a.m. Saturday. After that those who are to ascend the peak on the east face, which includes the majority of the party, will go to the KRDO broadcasting studio and the Standley Photograph Store to pick up radio and photograph material to be carried. Joe Rhorer, operator of station KRDO and new President of the AdAmAn club, will take up a near 50-pound (*this must be an error-Jan*) radio transmitter, which can be separated into components of about 50 pounds each, and two walkie-talkies that weigh about seven pounds each. Members of the party will take turns carrying the heavier packs. There is to be broadcasting from points along the climb and from the summit over the Columbine network from station KMYR in Denver and KCSJ in Pueblo, as well as from KRDO in Colorado Springs.

Standley Balcomb, the club's official photographer, will take photographic equipment weighing 25 pounds or more. The start will be made at the Manitou Springs end of the Barr Trail at 10 a.m. Saturday. The distance to the Barr cabins, where Saturday night will be spent, is eight and one-half miles. Information was obtained from someone who was recently there that the cabins are in condition for use, so no preliminary trip up the peak was made this week, as planned. There is a spring near the cabins where it is believed drinking water can be obtained. However, to make sure that they have drinking water, the climbers will also carry canteens with them. It is expected that the Barr cabins will be reached between 3 and 6 p.m. Saturday, according to the speed of the different climbers. Harry L. Standley, who is a charter member of the club, and who was long president of the organization, will not make the climb to the summit this year, but will go as far as Barr's camp with the party.

### *Overnight Stop at Barr's Camp*

The evening spent at Barr's camp on the way up the peak is held by AdAmAn members to be the chief fellowship part of the whole year's program. A steak dinner will be prepared and served there. The climbers will divide the load of provisions between them. When they start the climb Saturday morning, they will have

nine pounds of steak, five pounds of potatoes, four cans of tomatoes, six bunches of celery, three loaves of bread, one pound of coffee, a pound and one-half of bacon, three dozen eggs, a pound of butter, tea bags, sugar and two dozen rolls.

The final climb on to the summit will be begun Sunday morning after a ham-and-egg breakfast. A stop will be made to pile more stones on the cairn in memory of Fred Barr, which was started last year.

Joe Rhorer, however, will turn back to Colorado Springs after the Saturday breakfast and meet Herb Hollister of Boulder, Jack McDowell of Colorado Springs and Willis Magee of Colorado Springs. The four and possibly some other members of the club or their guests will then drive to Glen Cove and climb to the summit of the peak by the automobile highway.

It is expected that all of the party will be on the summit by 6 p.m. Sunday. At 9 p.m. Sunday, five powerful flares will be set off. These will signify several things: First, safe arrival on the summit of all members of the party. Second, honor to the charter members, the late Fred Barr, Magee, Standley and Fred and Ed Morath. Two of the flares will also be in memory of deceased members of the club, Barr and John W. Garrett. They will also be in honor of Adm. Richard Byrd and Ronald Amundsen, North and South Pole explorers, who were elected honorary members of the club.

The big fireworks display will start at midnight. Many powerful flares and bombs have been obtained and are stored away in the summit house in a rat-proof chest. It is believed by the AdAmAn club members that if the night is clear, the display will be one of the best it has ever had. (To quote part of an old saying, "The best laid plans....." Jan)

### **Weatherman Fizzles AdAmAn Fireworks** *Colorado Springs Gazette* January 5, 1951

The twenty-eighth annual ascent of Pikes Peak, with a salute to the New Year, by the AdAmAn Club of mountain climbers was again a success this year—but clouds prevented the usual brilliant fireworks display at midnight. After a flare and rocket had been lighted, the remainder was saved for next year. Memorial flares at 9 p.m. also failed to pierce the shroud with the usual colorful lighting. The AdAmAn members rendered a new service this year—they replaced the American flag that was originally placed on the Summit last July Fourth. The flag is encased in wire mesh, to lessen damage from whipping in the wind. The flag replacement will become a regular event each Fourth of July and New Year's Eve.

# From the Bookstore

By: Agnes Johnson

## Two new cookbooks are recent arrivals in the bookstore shelves.

The first cookbook is shaped like a tomato and features recipes using tomatoes. There are many varied recipes from soups to use of tomatoes as center pieces, even a section on tomato scraps! Would you like to make some tomato butter? Look on page 79.

The second is a corn cookbook, and shaped in the form of an ear of corn. There is a delicious recipe for a hominy salad. If your entertaining, surprise your guests. It's funny to see their faces as they say, "What is this?" and "I haven't had this before." Apparently hominy is not wide known in the diets of the West. However, I recommend it and don't be surprised when they take seconds.

## Now something NOT From the Bookstore... ..

I hope everyone had the chance to read the Colorado Springs Gazette's review of Leland Fietz newest book—*A Pictorial History of Colorado Springs*.

The long article gave glowing and well deserved compliments, as well as, a short biography of Leland.

The History Center archives was credited as the source of the majority of photos Leland used in the book.

Did you notice, however, although pages 40-50 were devoted to scenes of Old Colorado City, there was no mention of that fact. Only Manitou was recognized!

Am I just being sensitive or am I tired of the West Side still being the step-child? OR are they just unaware with so many newcomers that we were her before the founding of Colorado Springs, and that the West Side area is vibrant and alive?

## Pikes Peak United Methodist Church celebrates... SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY (continued from page 4)

Side, set off by sand-colored brick and rusticated granite blocks in the High Victorian Gothic Style. That the building is of outstanding architecture is not surprise as the architect, A. J. Smith, is also responsible for the El Paso County Courthouse (now the Pioneer Museum). The church is a prime candidate for the National Register of Historic Places.

The church was originally furnished with fine circular oak pews from a church in Gillett, a mining town in the Cripple Creek District which folded because of the failure of the mines there. After the church became the property of the CCBS, the Society gave the Colorado City church permission to purchase the furniture. In 1912, the closing of the Standard Reduction Works, leaving 200 men unemployed, adversely affected the church. It was served by Reverend H.F. Smith and Colorado College students.

The Old Colorado City Historical Society is honored to be able to share some of the rich history of Old Colorado City and looks forward to a continued relationship with the members and friends of the Pikes Peak United Methodist Church. Together we can continue to preserve and share our history for future generations to enjoy.

## OCCHS January Program Friday, January 12, 2001

The OCCHS Monthly program will be given by Tim Scanlon, a Senior Planner with the City of Colorado Springs Planning Department and Historic Preservation. His subject will be "Some of the Steps to Take in Researching Your Old House." He will also talk about what is happening in Colorado Springs regarding historic preservation.

The History Center receives many telephone calls and personal visits from people inquiring about the history of their home on the West Side.

Tim's presentation will be a very interesting and informative. Please make your plans now to attend. This meeting will be at the History Center. The social hour and refreshments will begin at 10 a.m., followed by the program at 11 a.m.

## February Meeting Luncheon

Arrangements have been made with the Front Range Barbeque Restaurant for lunch after the February OCCHS monthly meeting. This restaurant is located across the parking lot from the History Center. A sample platter and drink will be available for \$6 plus tax.

If you are interested in joining us for lunch after the program, please let Karla Hefferon know by Tuesday, February 6th. You can contact Karla at 630-8244.

This lunch was set up by Karla in response to input that we received in our recent membership questionnaire. Many members expressed the desire to have lunch after the monthly meeting.

If the lunch is well received we will make plans to continue it each month.

We welcome your feedback regarding this program.