

WEST



WORD

OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 1

January 2003

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

FROM THE OCCHS ARCHIVES

As we watch the winter snows blanket Pikes Peak it is difficult to imagine that it was ever known by any other name, though it was. Zebulon Montgomery Pike was too modest to name it after himself back in 1806. Instead, he called it "Grand Peak."

In 2006 and 2007 we will commemorate the 200th anniversary of Pike's Western Expedition, during which he "discovered" and tried to climb the peak. The Santa Fe Trail Association already has formed a Zebulon Pike Bicentennial Commission to plan activities all along Pike's route. Much of this route followed what would, after 1821, become the Santa Fe Trail.

Anyone wanting to "read up" on Pike will find a wealth of material at the OCCHS. His original account, edited by Donald Jackson in 1966 as *The Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike with Letters and Related Documents*, is available. Jackson also did a delightful article on Pike's men, "Zebulon Pike's Damned Rascals," which was published by the Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners of Colorado Springs in 1979. The society has copies of it, as well as of W. Eugene Hollon's biography *The Lost Pathfinder* (1949) and Harvey Carter's *Zebulon Montgomery Pike, Pathfinder and Patriot* (1956). The museum library even has one of the few novels based on Pike's adventures, Edwin Sabin's *With Lieutenant Pike* (1919). Sabin, a popular

author in the early twentieth century, was known for his highly romanticized stories based on the history of the American West. This novel could well be subtitled, "The Daring Lieut. Pike Romps with the Indians and Confounds the Spanish."

For those seriously interested in Pike and his impact on Colorado, the society has a complete run of *The Colorado Magazine* from 1923 to the mid-1970s. A comprehensive index makes Pike material easy to find. And the best bet for information on Pike in the bookstore is Phil Carson's *Among the Eternal Snows – The First Recorded Ascent of Pikes Peak* (1995), which, though it is not directly about Pike, does cover his abortive attempt to climb the peak in 1806.

Within a couple of months the museum will mount an exhibit on Pike, in anticipation of his bicentennial. A central feature will be a magnificent life-size, full-color reproduction of a Charles Wilson Peale portrait painting of Pike, part of the framed photos and prints collection in the archives.

The message is clear for OCCHS members: get started on your homework now so you can impress your friends and astound your acquaintances with your knowledge of Pike when the bicentennial rolls around.

Michael Olsen

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

WEST WORD

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LETTERS, PHOTOGRAPHS, 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	Beverly Disch	719-634-5023
Vice President	LaRue Ebersole	719-685-3265
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	Kristine Van Wert	719-630-2155
	Tom Hendrix	719-633-7392

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 10, 2003
At the History Center



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
 (September – May)

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

Visit our web site for even more history!

<http://history.oldcolo.com>

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Events Coordinator's Corner

8th Annual Holiday Bed & Breakfast Tour, December 1st, gives us pleasant Holiday memories still!

Our 8th Annual Tour has become a holiday tradition the community looks forward to each year and eagerly attends. Once again this event has been our most successful Fund Raising Event of the year! This year's tour has presented the Society with \$2,000!

Many Thanks to the Bed and Breakfast who opened their homes for this tour! Special thanks to our many volunteers who worked the day of the tour, as well as the many hours volunteers spent in the preparation process. The McAllister House's participation in this year's tour was well received and we thank them for their generous support! Thanks to all the members who continue to work helping this Event to be our Society's best Event of the Year!

Please watch your Newsletter for details for our "thank you" party planned for the volunteers and the B&B innkeepers!

Mark your Calendars--Upcoming February Event "Unchained Memories Museum Program"

OCCHS is proud to be chosen to participate in HBO's "Unchained Memories Museum Program" in support of the HBO Original Movie, *Unchained Memories: Readings from the Slave Narratives*. The program is to be held between February 1st to February 28, 2003, in commemoration of Black History Month. (Exact Program Dates to be announced.) OCCHS has been chosen as the local museum for this special event! We are sure we will have a wonderful turnout for this historic viewing. Plan to attend this special event at the OCCHS Center, *Unchained Memories: Readings from the Slave Narratives*, plus enjoy a reception featuring wine, cheese & crackers!

The B&B Tour 2002--

For those of you that were unable to attend this year's B&B tour you missed a very good one. The day almost approached being balmy spoiled only with a north wind that had a somewhat frigid edge.

This year I treated my wife, two of my four daughters, and a one of my granddaughters to the tour, or at least as many of the wonderful sites as we could see in the scant few hours we had for the tour. As it took the better part of an hour to see and enjoy the uniqueness of each location we were able to see only five of the sponsoring B&B's. As always every house was impeccably decorated and offered a refreshment or two. It has been many years since I was in the McAllister house and I had forgotten how wonderfully preserved it is. It represents the City of Colorado Springs in a bygone era. The furnishing, the woodwork and the ambiance of the house are wonderful. I most especially liked the kitchen and dining area. As the family cook and preparer of the menu I was quite taken aback at the lack they had of so many of the modern conveniences we take for granted; for instance a combination refrigerator-freezer, oh well they seemed to get by just fine.

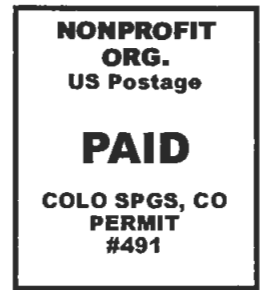
Just across the street is the rather large Hearthstone Inn. We volunteered to help in the decorating of the Christmas tree that was in the breakfast area. They had cookies and a multitude of colored frostings laid out for those that have a flair for doing something artistic. I limited myself to stringing a little popcorn and cranberries, perusing the various wines that they offer and discussing the upcoming mystery night they were planning. This inn with its various levels and nooks and crannies was intriguing.

I very much enjoyed the beautiful Crescent Lily Inn with the marvelous ceilings and woodwork. The Victorian flavor of this inn was delightful. I must admit that the cookie I had was tasteful. I had two.

The beautiful Inn up Cheyenne Canyon was one of the most interesting B&B's we saw because of its background. It sports a large very comfortable gathering area, a large breakfast room and an eclectic library of books and videos. The hostess told us that guests are welcome to take and or leave a book as part of the visit. An interesting concept to say the least. The rooms in this inn were spacious and the bathrooms were to die for.

The cottage that is available at Our Hearts Inn with its

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ONE SOUTH TWENTY-FOURTH STREET
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western/cowboy motif is most interesting as is the house itself. Pat was most gracious and my granddaughter was quite taken with the decorations found throughout the house. The stenciling that is done throughout the house is fabulous.

We concluded our tour at the Holden House and were treated to several wonderfully decorated trees. As always Sallie, impeccably dressed, greeted us at the door making us feel welcome. My granddaughter thought that the family cat was part of the decorations and was assured that indeed the cat was not. The collection of nutcrackers and the individual decorations placed throughout both houses were a delight.

As six o'clock approached we were getting tired and felt that we had touched only the tip of the marvelous B&B's that were available. We all decided that next year we would tour those houses that we had not had the time to visit this year. My wife said that the decorating ideas that she got while touring the inns would be fun to incorporate into her crafting projects.

Merv Casey

Free Program: Friday, January 10, 2003
(Refreshments 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.)
Old Colorado City History Center
One South 24th Street Colorado Springs, CO
(719) 636-1225

Images of Historic Southern Colorado
Mary Jane Massey Rust

Friday, January 10, 2003
(Refreshments 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.)
Free Program 11:00 a.m.

Old Colorado City Historical Society free program open to the public. Come hear Mary Jane Massey Rust discussing Images of Historic Southern Colorado. An unusual approach to Southern Colorado history - bits and pieces that make up a collage of the early days in the region, including stories revealing the hard times, bravery, prosperity, humor and occasionally outrageous behavior - and even a scandal or two!