



OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 4

April 2004

AN ERA OF GENTILITY

The Victorian Era in America

The Victorian era corresponds with the reign of Queen Victoria in England from 1839 to 1901. The period brought forth in Colorado a style of houses that are beloved and many have become today's bed and breakfast establishments. The era is also noted for its perceived attention to high morals, modesty and proper decorum, as inspired by the Queen and her husband, Prince Albert. The Victorian era was also an era which is associated with the tremendous upsurge in America of the industrial revolution. Developments in printing produced a proliferation of Victorian scrap art, cards, and magazines. The importance placed on civic conscience and social responsibility engendered notable developments toward gender and racial equality, humanitarian and religious organizations such as the Salvation Army reflected the Victorian concern for the poor and needy of the pe-

riod.

The Victorian era ushered in a tremendous surge of technological invention. Victorians believed in progress and viewed with optimism their Industrial Revolution. Steamboats allowed America to engage in transportation and trade as never before, while railroads connected the nation from north to south and east to west. During this period, the ingenious and prolific Thomas Edison developed the first electric light bulb and phonograph, and improved numerous inventions such as the telegraph, telephone, and motion picture projector. In 1852, Elisha Graves Otis invented the world's first safety elevator that



Typical Victorian Architecture much like our own Holden House

would accompany the new skyscrapers of the day. During the 1890s, Henry Ford devoted himself to designing an internal combustion engine and developing an automobile capable of being mass-produced.

At the same

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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
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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
Or Merv Casey - thequill@adelphia.net

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	Beverley Disch	719-634-5023
Vice President	LaRue Ebersole	719-685-3265
Secretary	Jo Cervone	719-266-9096
Treasurer	David Hughes	719-636-2040
	Kay Atteberry	719-599-3187
	Nadine Gilman	719-262-6661
	Bob Heinich	719-448-9001
	Betty Magnine	719-633-8150
	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
April 9, 2004
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

Old Colorado City History Center encourages you to attend its events, meetings, and projects. Please call 636-1225 for information

Winter Hours
(June - September)

TUES - SUN 11 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Closed Monday

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time, Victorians were introduced to the bicycle, a symbol of freedom that both men and women enjoyed. Our own Winfield Scott Stratton gave each laundry delivery lady, here in the Springs, a bike to make their job easier. Other inventions of the era include Isaac Singer's lockstitch sewing machine; John Roebling's steel cable, which was used to construct the Brooklyn Bridge; and Cyrus McCormick's mechanical reaper that made America a world-class wheat producer.

Among other artistic achievements, the Victorians produced wonderful works of architecture. From the early Victorian period until about the time of Civil War in America, the Western World saw relatively simple styles of architecture that reflected styles of the past. There was an abundant revival of styles: *Greek Revival* (1825 - 1850) This style was used almost exclusively for public buildings where simplicity and dignity were considered the most important attributes., *Gothic Revival* (1840 and 1880) and a return to *Renaissance* forms. After the Civil War and as a result of a growing trend towards industrialism, Victorian architecture tended toward more complicated and elaborate designs. Victorians also began to paint their homes in unique colors. Cheerful pastels in pink, blue and lavender hues began showing up on the exterior of homes beginning from around the 1870s. The Holden House and Our Hearts Inn both are representative of such architecture and coloring.

The Victorian era was a period of extravagant entertaining for the upper middle and high classes. Victorian meals consisted of as many as nine courses, although many dishes were light and petite-sized. Fine ingredients, such as exotic spices imported from distant countries, were used in lavishly prepared meals. Culinary schools were established for the first time in history. Detailed measurements and instructions were written down for the first time during this era. New kitchen gadgets such as the can-opener and Ball-Mason jars were introduced. In addition, Victorians began adopting a host of manners and customs surrounding mealtime. The institution of afternoon tea became highly popular during the Victorian era. Afternoon tea was invented by Anna Duchess of Bedford (1783-1857), one of Queen Victoria's ladies-in-waiting. During this time, the noble classes ate large breakfasts, small lunches and late suppers. Every afternoon,

Anna reportedly experienced what she referred to as a "sinking feeling," so she requested that her servants bring her tea and petite-sized cakes to her boudoir. Many followed the Duchess' lead, and thus the ritual of afternoon tea was birthed. In fact, a culture of sorts emerged around the tradition of drinking tea. Fine hotels began to offer tea rooms, while tea shops opened for the general public and offered a wide variety of tea sandwiches. Tea sandwiches are traditionally light, delicate sandwiches sliced small enough to be picked up with the fingers or a pair of sandwich tongs. Teas sandwiches can be cut into triangles or, using cookie cutters, shapes for special occasions. White or wheat bread, with the crusts cut off, can be used for these sandwiches.

Henry James wrote, "There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as an afternoon tea."

The following recipes are modern interpretations of Victorian tea fare.

TUNA SANDWICHES

Mix one can of tuna (drained) with tuna seasoning and enough mayonaise to make a thick spread. Spread on prepared slices of bread. You may add thin slices of cucumber if desired along with garnish.

WATERCRESS SANDWICHES

1. Spread cream cheese on prepared slices of bread.
2. Rinse and dry watercress and lay between slices of bread.
3. Garnish if desired.

SCONES WITH LEMON CURD AND CLOTTED CREAM (a favorite of mine)

Scones are traditionally served with afternoon tea and accompanied by lemon curd and clotted cream. You can add a variety of treats into the batter, such as raisins, fresh apple bits, orange peel, cranberries, and chocolate chips. Lemon Curd is a traditional spread for scones, and is usually served with Devonshire (or clotted) cream. Our lemon curd is rich and smooth, and can be kept refrigerated for up to two weeks. Unfortunately, Americans can not make clotted cream or Devonshire cream, as we do not have the same breed of cows as in England. Instead of buying an expensive import, we offer a simple recipe for clotted cream, which is perfect for spreading on scones.

SCONES

2 cups flour
1 tablespoon baking powder

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Memories of yore

by Arlene Casey

{Articles were taken exactly as written, the grammar, punctuation and capitalization are as they were presented. Everything in {} and italicized are my comments}.

*Gazette and Telegraph
Sunday Want Ad Section
November 15, 1925*

Renters

We have a real list of furnished homes. Come in and look them over and we will be pleased to show the ones that meet your approval. As a special offer for this week we submit the following as a bargain: 7 rooms, bath, glassed-in porch, hot water heat, coal range, 4 bedrooms. Price \$50 by the year to healthy adults, or will close second floor and rent 5 fine rooms, lower floor, for \$440. House has an extra fine south front and mountain view. Near school and car line. Shelden & Dodge, 24 East Kiowa

Farms

We have them, all sizes and prices. 6,000 acre cattle ranch, near Colo, Springs, at \$5 per acre; or improved farms from \$15 to \$30 per acre, according to location and improvements. Many of them, this year's crops will more than pay prices asked, and that's the best offer west of Washington, D.C.

Shelden & Dodge, 24 E. Kiowa.

Filling Station

Well established business and located on pavement outside of city limits. Good buildings, garage, chicken houses and six acres of ground. Will make money for someone. Sickness compels the owner to sell. Price \$6,000; half cash. Phone 238

The Sun Realty Co. 127 East Pikes Peak Ave

Insurance

Have you proper insurance? Remember, winter is here, which means strong winds, overheated stoves and furnaces, with poor ashpits and careless neighbors, are liable to burn you out of home any old day. Think it over. Insurance is the cheapest article on sale in this city. We have strong American companies. \$1,000 on your city home costs you

only ¾ cent per day. Can you afford to go without proper protection. Shelden & Dodge, 24 E. Kiowa

Ranges

15 good ranges—Millers, Majestic, Banquet and other good brands, priced from \$10 to \$35. All of these stoves have been reconditioned and are guaranteed to give satisfaction. New ranges, coal and gas combinations, at prices you can't pass up.

Treece & Hardin 120 East Colorado Ave.

Situations Wanted

Want position as salesman in Colorado Springs, 30 years experience in merchandising, qualified in gents' furnishing, dry goods, shoes, groceries, hardware and implements. References. Have perfect health.

Wages to start of minor importance. Address Fred Hamilton, Gen. Del., Colorado Springs, Colo.

Ex-Soldier, married, capable, honest, reliable, wants position in office, store or driving car. R-163,

Experienced farmer, and stock raiser wishes to take ranch on shares. 2016 W. Colorado. 3268-W.

Wanted-Institutional or private nursing, housekeeping or traveling with patient anywhere. Phone 2870-M

College graduate, with child school age, wants position as cook or housekeeper. Phone 2604-R.

Young lady will help with housework mornings and evenings for board and room. Address R-131

Graduate nurse would care for invalid, tubercular patient; hourly nursing; care for children evenings. 3639-NW.

Colored woman wants house cleaning, supply cooking; price reasonable. Phone 4859-J.

Man wants work of any kind, hour, day or job. R-176

Girl desires to read to someone afternoons. 3896-M.

Experienced stenographer desires position; will do substitute work. M. 1793-J.

Christian lady will care for children in her own home. R-101

Position as housekeeper in widower's home; good cook. Main 3088-M.

For ashpit building, concrete and carpenter work. Phone Main 4242-M. G.W. Lane.

Wanted—Laundry; blankets and curtains; called for and delivered. 3354-W.

16-Year-old high school student wants work. 1002 West Colorado

Wanted-Position as waitress or second work. R-174

- 2 tablespoons sugar
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 6 tablespoons butter
 1/2 cup buttermilk (or milk)
 1 lightly beaten egg
 Mix dry ingredients and cut in 6 tablespoons of butter until the mix is crumbly.
2. Pour in the buttermilk until the dough is sticky. Be careful not to over mix. The dough should cling together.
 3. Turn out onto a floured surface and shape drop or use a biscuit cutter to form biscuit sized scones. The secret to tender scones is a minimum of handling.
 4. Place on an un-greased cookie sheet and brush with egg for a shiny brown scone.
 5. Bake at 425 for 10-20 minutes, until light brown.

CLOTTED CREAM

- 1 cup heavy cream
 2 tablespoons Confectioner's sugar
 1/2 cup sour cream
 Mix 1 cup heavy cream and 2 tablespoons Confectioner's sugar using an electric mixer. Whip until stiff peaks form.
2. Gently fold in sour cream and mix until thick.
 3. Place in refrigerator and chill until time to serve. If made ahead of time, it will keep in the refrigerator up to 4 hours.

LEMON CURD

- 1 cup sugar
 2 large eggs
 1/2 cup lemon juice
 1/4 cup butter
 Wisk 1 cup sugar and 2 large eggs in a bowl until blended.
2. Sift in 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice.
 3. Pour into a saucepan and cook over low-medium heat stirring constantly for 20 minutes. Do not let the mix come to a boil (lest it curdle or burn), but allow it to gradually thicken.
 4. When the mixture thickly coats the back of a meta spoon, remove pan from heat and stir in 1/4 cup butter until melted.
 5. Pour the mixture into a bowl and cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate the mixture for at least 4 hours. The lemon curd will thicken as it cools.

While these wonderful recipes might not be the fare for our Victorian tea they never the less can make an afternoon tea with friends most delightful. And be sure and join us on April 24th for the Old Colorado City Historical Society annual Victorian Tea

M Casey

April Meeting

In April Mike McKee will bring us a program about Nicola Tesla an early electrical inventor and creator of the Tesla coil who did many of his significant experiments here in Colorado Springs. Mike is the founder and curator of the Tesla Museum here on the west side located at 115 S. 27th Street.

New Members of the OCCHS board of Directors will be nominated. There are five open seats on the board. The nominating committee will present the following names for consideration:

**Arlene Casey - Bev Disch - LaRue Ebersole
 Tom Hendrix - Joanne Karlson**

We appreciate the willingness of these individuals to serve. We also want to remind the members that nominations will be accepted from the floor during the Annual Meeting in May. Any individual nominated must have agreed in advance to serve on the board if elected.

President's Report

Spring is breaking out all over and things are percolating at our History Center. Jo Cervone and Kay Atteberry are busy planning our 3rd annual Victorian Tea. Bernideen is again providing her wonderful tea and the teapots. Do invite all your friends; it's fun and it's a fine fundraiser. Weddings are also in the air and a couple of wedding receptions are being planned using our elegant place.

We are again participating in Territory Days Memorial weekend, May 29-31. This historic festival is now in it's 28th year. It's theme this year is "The Old West" which is very much in keeping with our mission. We are going to sell bake goods in Dr. Gavin's Cabin and are decorating it with some of our artifacts chosen by Liz Geiss and Pat Fejedelem. We will have a booth again in front of the cabin. We, of course, will be asking all our wonderful volunteers to bake and to man the booth and the cabin.

So Spring is bubbling up with things for us to do at our History Center, so come out and get involved.

Bev Disch President

Own a Piece of History

Wouldn't it be wonderful to own a piece of history that dates from the earliest days of Colorado City? Well, your Society is doing something that will make a piece of history available to you. The historic log cabin, now located in Bancroft Park, is the oldest structure from the Colorado City days. It dates back to 1859 and your Society is in the process of renovating the building with the help of a grant from the State Historical Society. During this renovation, and previous renovations, original logs from the building have been removed. We have taken two of these logs and sliced them into one-inch pieces. Each log cut will be engraved with the following:

"This crosscut, removed during repairs, came from an original log of the historic cabin erected in Colorado City in 1859, now in Bancroft Park.

Certified True – Old Colorado City
Historical Society, June 2003"

These log mementos will be offered as a limited edition to members of the Society and other historians. The logs will be numbered and will be issued in a limited set of 100. With each log, the purchaser will receive a parchment Certificate of Authenticity, signed by the President of the Old Colorado City Historical Society.

We are currently taking orders for the logs. The cost for each log is \$25 (no discounts), plus \$5, if the log is to be mailed.

To place your order, please complete the order form and mail it to OCCHS, 1 South 24th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. Your check should be made payable to OCCHS. For credit card orders, please furnish the information requested.

Order Form—Own a Piece of History

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____

Number of log mementos ordered _____ @ \$25
each \$ _____

Mailing fee \$5 for each log ordered
\$ _____

Total amount
\$ _____

Payment: _____ Check enclosed for \$ _____

Charge my credit card _____ Visa _____ Mastercard
Amount to be charged \$ _____

Exact name on credit
card _____

Credit Card Number _____
Exp. Date _____

signature required _____ date _____

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

By Agnes Johnson

If you are driving on a highway in Colorado and you see a sign with the Colorado State's flower, the Columbine, prominently displayed, you are indeed fortunate. That symbol denotes that you are on one of twenty-four Scenic and Historic Byways in Colorado.

This program was started in 1989 to draw attention to Colorado's unique, beautiful scenery, and diversity. In order to qualify for this designation the following features must be met. It must have "unusual, exceptional and/or distinctive scenic, historical, wild life, educational, geological or natural feature" as well as "a strong local support and commitment to develop and promote tourism".

A wonderful new addition to our Bookstore is a book that will add to your enjoyment of these roads. It is titled "An Altitude Super Guide Colorado Front Range Scenic and Historic Byways" by Nancy and David Muenker.

This photographer, author couple have compiled a travel guide that is most informative and attractive. They have taken twelve of these highways which fall within the Front Range and also envelope life zones from Plains to Alpine. For each highway they have a detailed map, lovely colored photographs and brief history of the area and a Trip Planner giving the route, total length, outstanding features, vehicle restrictions, accessibility, along with phone numbers and agencies to contact if you wish further information.

This guide will take you to such diverse places as the Comanche National Grasslands; to the awe inspiring Trail Ridge Road; to North Park and the wild and scenic Cache La Poudre River; to Guanula Pass where you might get lucky and see a flock of ptarmigans; and the Highway of Legends to see the cliffs on the Spanish Peaks.

You will want to purchase this guide, get in your car and as Dr. Seuss might say "Oh the things you'll see and most are free."

Third Annual Victorian Tea and Fashion Show, Saturday, April 24th, 2004, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. \$18.00 Advance Sale Only.

Join us for this special fundraising event at the History Center! There will be table favors (free gift), many door prizes and a special appearance by Helen Hunt Jackson. Bernideen's is once again donating her own special blend of tea as well as some door prizes, Goodwill Industries is donating the round tables and Sno White Linens the table linens. The Food Designers will be providing a delicious afternoon tea menu which includes finger sandwiches, scones and great dessert items.

A Victorian "**History of American Ladies' and Men's Fashions**" will again be presented by Rita Wilhelm and her Victorian models as they feature attire from yesteryear. Relive memories of "genteel" times with these historically accurate costumes - from day gowns to formal evening wear. We look forward to Rita's choice of fashions for this year's Tea.

Mark your calendars and purchase tickets early....our previous two teas were sell out events. Tickets can be purchased at the History Center or at Bernideen's, 2409 W. Colorado Avenue. Join us for Fun, Food, Fashion and TEA!

