



## OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 5

May-June 2004

# A NATION DIVIDED

Monday morning, October 26, 1925, dawned bright, clear and very cold. And according to my grandfather in my grandmother's house, preparations were being made for her to come to the Springs for the four day annual conference of the Colorado WCTU - the high point in her year. She was to take part in the speeches that would arouse the community to stamp out the dispensing of all alcohol in our modest but growing community.

My grandmother was an ardent supporter of 'The Grand Experiment' having known the saloon smashing Carry A. Nation personally. Grandmother had stumped the nation giving great speeches against the Demon Rum at Chitaqua meetings. I have several gold and silver metals she won over the years making these speeches. And years later as a child suffered through them as grandma was want to lecture me about the evil of Demon Rum, tobacco and several other forms of sin. I was so frightened from her lectures that I never let



**Carry A. Nation**

I felt invincible. My strength was that of a giant. God was certainly standing by me. I smashed five saloons with rocks before I ever took a hatchet.

Men are nicotine-soaked, beer-besmirched, whiskey-greased red eyed devils.

a drop of beer cross my lips until I was eleven, and never took a drink of hard liquor until I was fifteen.

Prohibition had finally gotten a grip on the nation with the enactment of the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution in 1920, and was finally, in 1925, becoming serious.

U.S. Constitution:

Eighteenth Amendment Prohibition of Intoxicating Liquors Amendment Text Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2. The Congress and the several States shall

have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the

*continued on page 3*

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

**WEST WORD**

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 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:

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 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	Beverly 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**  
**May 14, 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 pro-  
 jects. Please call 636-1225 for information

Winter Hours  
 (June – September)

TUES – SUN 11 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Closed Monday

*Visit our web site for even more history!*

<http://history.oldcolo.com>

- stories
- manuscript
- interviews
- documents
- photographs
- biographies
- Book & Gift Shop online

e-mail us at: [history@oldcolo.com](mailto:history@oldcolo.com)

Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

While this amendment was in force from 1920 to 1933 the alcoholic content of the booze being conveyed increased every year. Crime statistics rose and the nation as a whole turned from the drinking of beer to distilled spirits. The prison population jumped over 500 percent and murders rose to an all time high. For the first time in our nation's history corruption at the state and local level became a way of life.

Here on the Westside little attention was being paid to the conference. The bootleggers was still doing a thriving business and according to my father 'Bulbnose Bill' who lived in the 1600 block of West Cucharras was making his rounds unabated.. Everybody, that wanted one, had his personal bootlegger that delivered booze like a milk man delivered milk. Crime in our streets rose every year during prohibition. So was the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment a good or a bad thing? That, of course was and still is debatable. But look at our own little community. Prior to 1920 drinking was pretty much contained in the home and the known bars. The beer halls had take out if you brought your own bucket, and booze – hard liquor - was a minor part of sales. The number of establishments here on the Westside, while numerous were relatively stagnant. After 1920 the bars disappeared and turned into a menagerie of other uses or took the drinking downstairs. Speakeasies behind doors with a tiny sliding window appeared and the term 'Joe sent me' came into vogue. Several of the old Victorians here on the westside became parlors of illicit drinking and downtown there was a revolving lazy-susan where one placed their money and when it revolved there was a bottle of booze. Up on the dirt road that is now Mesa Road a very substantial house was built and everybody, but seemingly the police knew that it was a dance hall/speak easy where they played ragtime music and the ladies danced the Lindy and jitterbugged shamelessly. The house burned down in 1935 and the exact location is unknown. Shooks Run in the Springs and the streets south of Colorado Avenue (formerly Huerfano) were known as locations where one could get a bottle day

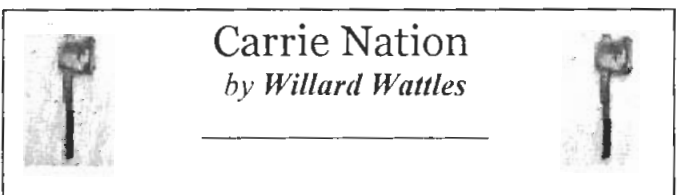
or night.

The WCTU convention that October was a big success with speakers of such august personage as Mary C. Bradford, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Senator Charles A. Puffer; Mr. McAloney, superintendent of the State Deaf and Blind Institute. And on Wednesday afternoon sharply at 3:30 our own Westside Icon on temperance, Mrs. Babel Copeland, lead a demonstration of the Loyal Temperance Legion, to the march song, "Loyal Temperance Soldiers," Dorcas L.T.L.," Garden of the LTL, Sunbeam Legion, Colorado City.

As far as is known no barrels of beer were smashed, nor were there any bottles of hooch poured into the gutter. However, it was reported that the event was well attended and a fine time was had by all. The WCTU held such state conventions until 1930 when our country had entered the great depression.

As Carry Nation was the instigator of the WCTU and was considered by many, including my grandmother to be ready for sainthood, I feel sure that granny as well as Carry, who died in 1911, would roll over in their graves if she could hear one man's epitaph.

By Merv Casey



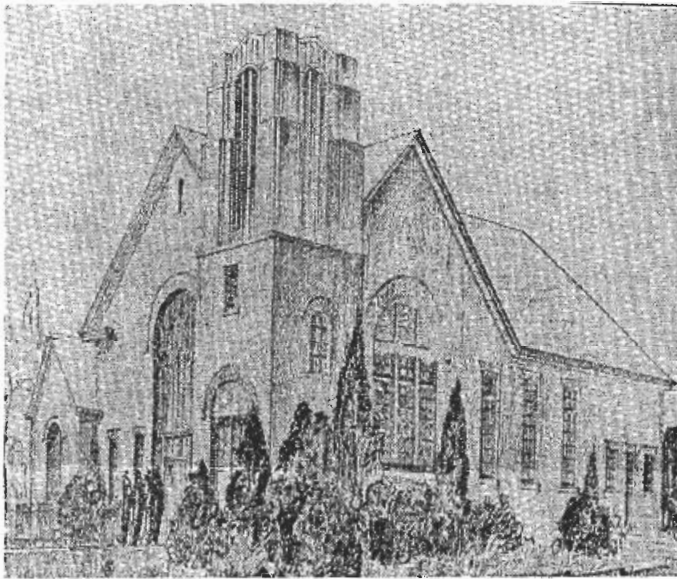
A poor bewildered, half-crazed crone  
She died, forgotten and alone;  
And some there were who stopped to scoff  
When the old dame was taken off,  
While the busy world went wheeling on  
Scarce knowing even she was gone.

Of course she may have done some good,  
But then, most any woman could  
Who had the muscle and a hatchet,  
With Irish wit as keen to match it;  
Yet smashing windows so erratic  
Soon proved her just a plain fanatic.

# 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}.*



**New West Side Christian Church Will Be Ready to Dedicate July 5**

Rev. Charles Warren Johnstone, pastor of the West Pikes Peak Christian church and members of the congregation are anxiously looking forward to the dedication of the new church edifice, West Pikes Peak avenue and Twenty-fifth street, tentatively set for Sunday, July 5. The handsome new brick building constructed on the site of the former structure, which burned last January 18, is now rapidly nearing completion and when done will be one of the most modern church plants in the Pikes peak region.

Sustaining a loss of \$10,000 in the disastrous fire of last winter, the members of the congregation, led by the untiring efforts of their pastor, started immediately upon the construction of a new and finer building. The result is a property including the lot, building and furnishings, valued at approximately

\$60,000 for an actual investment of \$15,300. This, of course, is made possible thru a great deal of cooperation, generous concessions on the part of architect and contractor, low prices of materials and labor owing to the slashes in all directions, the result of the general depression.

With a seating capacity of 400 in the main auditorium, the total capacity can be increased to 1,200 by raising doors to 25 classrooms on the west side of the church, which accommodate students of the Bible school. There is a parlor, study, two rest rooms, two robbing and baptism rooms, two flower rooms, combination dining and social room and a completely modern kitchen.

There is a full basement in which has been constructed a junior chapel for the junior church, conducted by Mrs. Johnstone, wife of the pastor, and herself an ordained minister. The building is heated and cooled by a unique system furnishing complete ventilation regardless of the time of the year.

Furnishings will be in the old English style and there is a complete dramatic stage and pulpit platform equipped with footlights, floodlights, spot lights and border lights, making possible the presentation of dramatic and religious plays and pageants, a number of which the pastor has himself written. The new building makes possible one of the best-equipped institutional churches in the region.

The official dedication of the new church will be followed immediately with a month's revival service, when there will be several hundred members of the denomination from all parts of the country in the region. Mrs. Homer Hill, an evangelistic minister and mezzo soprano from Oklahoma will assist Rev. and Mrs. Johnstone in conducting the revival.

Sunday Gazette and Telegraph  
Sunday, April 26, 1931

*[According to the El Paso County Assessor's records it is now a lot with a black top surface – the parking lot for Meadow Muffins. The last known sale was March 4, 1993, for \$750,000.]*

*continued on page 5*

A sort of Jezebel crusader,  
Like Don Quixote nothing stayed her, -  
No wonder people shied eggs at her,  
She seemed to like to watch 'em splatter,  
And stood like wild things when at bay  
So sort of fearless, old and gray.

And then to die so, after all,  
Insane and in a hospital,  
Good God, suppose she had been sane  
And we who had the rotten brain,  
I hate to stand on Judgement day  
Beside that woman old and gray.

I'd hate to face those flashing eyes  
That scanned a state's hypocrisies  
And woke a commonwealth to shame  
with crashing axe and words of flame  
Until men dare to carry out  
The laws they made and lied about.



The magnificent poster pictured above is a reproduction of an original artifact in the Kansas Museum of History's collections.

Offered for just \$10.00 (plus tax) through the Museum Store.

To order or for information call 785-272-8681, ext. 453 or 454, or e-mail [jschloetzer@kshs.org](mailto:jschloetzer@kshs.org).

## May Meeting

New Members of the OCCHS board of Directors were nominated at the April meeting. There are five open seats on the board. The nominating committee presented 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.

Please come to the May meeting to be held on the second Friday in May on the fourteenth to vote for the new board. It is your society so come and vote.

### President's Report

Helen Hunt Jackson made an appearance at our third annual Victorian Tea and Fashion show at our History Center on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3 pm. Jackson, a well-respected writer, wrote the popular novel "Ramona" about the plight of the American Indians in California. She was portrayed by one of our members, actress Doris McCraw.

The fashion show was presented by Rita Wilhelm with models wearing historically accurate costumes – from day gowns to formal evening wear. Two of our members, Tom Hendrix and Werner Karlson were elegant male models. Kay Atteberry and Jo Cervone coordinated our show.

Attendees had high tea provided by Bernideen's and the Food Designers. We had a beautiful afternoon, lovely tables, an exquisite tea with many door prizes. We took in \$1,417 and made a profit of \$777 – a most successful fundraiser.

Bev Disch President

## FROM THE BOOKSTORE

By Agnes Johnson

If you haven't had any luck winning the lottery you might buy this book from the bookstore with the title "Gold: the Way to Roadside Riches" by Tom Bishop.

The first part of his helpful manual will inform you of areas in Colorado in which you are more likely to be successful in finding gold. The first method described in Chapter Two is gold panning. Suggestions in preparing and care of your pan with a tip to never put your fingers in the pan but to use tweezers to pick up flakes or nuggets are covered in this Chapter on "how to pan".

He suggests you start at old mine dumps. Take a sample and find a stream near by. Don't be discouraged for he states that learning to pan successfully is not easy to learn and takes patience.

Diagrams on pages 18 and 19 show a long john, a rocker and a sluice box, that one can make themselves. There are also machines to recover the gold listed in Chapter Four. Electric metal prospectors can help too.

In the final chapter, if you wish to explore areas other than those in Colorado, he gives information on states where gold can be found.

Happy Hunting!

## THE OLD CABOODLE

Liz Geiss  
Artifacts

The storage area is now the home of two beautiful young ladies, Cynthia and Joanne. They are about 5 foot 5 inches tall, with gorgeous figures, curly hair and long, long eyelashes. These mannequins were a gift from Lucille Goin presently of Peyton, CO. Cynthia and Joanne arrived fully dressed all the way to long cotton stockings and dainty shoes.

Cynthia, however had a problem. It was something to do with her arm. Since she needed attention we moved parts of her to the "Doll

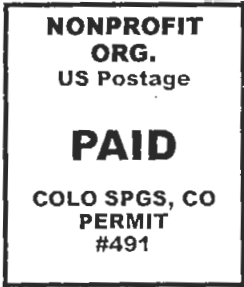
Shop, at 2433 ¾ Colorado Avenue. It is one of the tiny stores that at one time was a horse walkway from the Avenue to a stable in the rear. (The ladies of that time objected to having horses parked on Colorado Avenue when they were shopping.) Now "Doll Doctor Antiques" not only sells old dolls or buys old dolls, but repairs dolls that are in need. She welcomed Cynthia, repaired her arm, gave her a cosmetic upgrading and returned her to the OCCHS. These two ladies were a part of the Victorian Tea.

Back, about 1903 Artus Van Briggie left his home to seek the hot, dry climate in Colorado Springs. His health demanded this climate and he came along with many others. The Springs had many cabin villages where folks with TB were treated. Artus however, was not at a crucial stage then and he had a special talent for making pottery. His first factory/workshop was at 815-817 North Nevada and this young man was successful.

Along came romance with the talented clay sculptress, Ann. They worked together single and married for many years. When Artus passed away Anne built the fine pottery on Uintah Street and Glen, that Colorado College now owns. It was a memorial to Artus. Then nature intervened with the devastating flood in Monument Creek during 1935, Anne Van Briggie's pottery was completely ruined.

Many years passed before the pottery and the Van Briggie name was bought by the present owners. They moved the operation to the old Midland RR round-house on Route 24 and 21<sup>st</sup> Street. The Van Briggie pottery that we are now displaying, is from an earlier era. You will see the famous color originated by Artus and Anne called, "Old Persian Rose", dated 1922-1926.

OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ONE SOUTH TWENTY-FOURTH STREET  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80904-3319



LIFE

Beverly Disch  
1023 Pike Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1533

80904+1533 12



### GREEN THUMBS & TEAPOONS...

from our windowsills and kitchens to new "homes"!

The annual bake sale in the cabin during Territory Days (May 29-31) is being expanded to include indoor and outdoor plants as well as herbs. Start now selecting starts of plants you are willing to donate to this sale. If you need small pots, call Joanne Karlson (475-2574) or Betsy Evans (635-4782). Bring the plants to the History Center the last week of May or call Betsy or Joanne to come and pick them up.

Donations of our popular homemade cookies, cupcakes, muffins, and small loaves of bread are needed. They sell quickly and add good profits.

The bookstore will have a booth on Colorado Avenue selling books and promoting memberships and visits to the Museum.

Anyone willing to help with sales, please call Bev Disch (634-5023).

With so many visitors to the Westside, this weekend is a great opportunity for fund-raising as well as promoting the History Center. Please help. Thanks!

### Treasurer's Report

Subscription Renewals began to come in, as they usually do in March and April. And we had a number of new members. A total of \$665 was deposited for both Individual and Family Memberships.

Book Sales were still slow, with only \$431 in March sales. Only \$30 in cash was added to our collection box in March.

We had to disburse \$4,000 in March to the Cabin Restoration Bills, which will be reimbursed eventually by the State. Another \$2,845 will have to be spent in April to cover the final bills.

Utilities continued over \$300 (\$303 for March) for the 3d month in a row. No colder, just higher utility rates in 2004.

The Quarterly (Jan-Mar) Endowment Fund Bank Balance stood at \$65,707.73 on 1 April.

We had \$14,396 in our General Account Bank Balance at the end of March and the Bookstore had \$444 in its account. We are still hanging in there.

Dave Hughes Treasurer