

# WESTWORD

Old Colorado City Historical Society

proud member of the Coalition of Pikes Peak Historic Museums

Volume 29, Number 10

December, 2014

## 20th ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOUR

### *"THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS"*

Sunday, December 7, 2014  
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Every community has felt the need for a church. This was certainly true of Colorado City despite its reputation as a wild town. The First Baptist Church of Colorado City, which was built in 1890, is now the home of the Old Colorado City History Center with its museum, book store, and research library.

Holiday Tour visitors should start their tour at the old church where they may pick up a map, turn in their door prize tickets, buy tickets and sample the goodies at the Victorian Tea Table. Live music will be provided by the Cinnamon Tea Flute Ensemble.

(Information about the other tour locations begin on Page 3.)



Purchase \$15 early bird tickets until December 1. Tickets are \$20 starting December 2. Call the History Center at 636-1225 for credit card sales or pick up tickets at 1 South 24th Street (History Center). Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Center will open at 12 noon the day of the event.

## Old Colorado City Historical Society

*'Preserving the past for the future'*

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

<http://www.occhs.org> (719) 636-1225**WEST WORD**

PUBLISHED TEN TIMES A YEAR

**The Old Colorado City Historical Society**

A NONPROFIT CORPORATION

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SUBMISSIONS CAN BE DELIVERED OR MAILED TO:

**WEST WORD Editor c/o OCCHS**

1 South 24th Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3319

or Don Ellis - [spiderwort@pcsys.net](mailto:spiderwort@pcsys.net)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THE 15th OF EACH MONTH

**MISSION**

Revised August 2012

*The Old Colorado City Historical Society is a nonprofit volunteer organization established to recognize the historical significance and unique culture of original Old Colorado City and early El Paso County which includes the present and future history of today's greater Westside neighborhood.*

*This organization perpetuates the preservation and display of artifacts and archival materials, encouragement of research, education of the children and the community, through the membership and the operation of the Old Colorado City History Center at 1 South 24th Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado.*

**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:

Student	\$ 15	Business	\$ 75
Individual	\$ 25		
Family	\$ 35	Lifetime	\$250

*Funds from a Lifetime membership are placed into an Endowment Fund to be used only for projects 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**

Co-President	Betty Baker	636-1225
Co-President	Kathy McBride	636-1225
Vice President	Joanne Karlson	475-2574
Secretary	Brian Copeland	954-551-3677
Treasurer	Suzanne Schorsch	331-1786
	Bev Disch	636-1225
	Sandy Hanzlian	636-1225

**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 10:30 A.M. on the day of the meeting for refreshments and visitation. Everyone welcome.

**WELCOME TO OCCHS!****~ NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS**

John Wesley Anderson

Rick Anderson

Carol Mosier Bach

Debby Bloch

Pat Bogart

Fred P. and Nancy Clark

Royce and Shirley Gipson

Larry Glueckert

Deborah Harrison

Bill Healt

Barry &amp; Ellen Johnson-Fay

Terry and Marilyn Lee

Barbara Litchfield

Al and Marilyn Maler

Mary Beth McKnight

Anita Myers

Curtis Neeley

Frank A. and Nyla Otoupalik

Charlie and Shirley Paterson

Bernard Schriever

Dean and Marilyn Travis



## 2 South Wine Bar



ADDRESS - 2 South 25th Street (25th and Pikes Peak)

BUILT - 1891

STYLE - Victorian

CURRENTLY - wine bar

PREVIOUSLY - Private home of Henry and Mary Templeton

SPECIAL INFORMATION -

Henry Templeton made money selling lots in Colorado City. He built this home as a gift for his wife, Mary and 8 children. Mary lived in the house only one year. Henry lived out his life there with 2 daughters until 1914.

## The Avenue Hotel Bed and Breakfast

ADDRESS - 711 Manitou avenue, Manitou Springs

(719) 685-1277

BUILT - 1886

STYLE -

Queen Anne Victorian Home and Carriage House

CURRENTLY -

Seven room bed and breakfast including house and carriage house

PREVIOUSLY - boarding house

CHRISTMAS THEME AT THIS SITE - Christmas foods

SPECIAL INFORMATION -

large Manitou greenstone fireplace, center staircase.



## 1308 North Cascade Avenue



ADDRESS - 1308 North Cascade Avenue

BUILT - 1905

STYLE - Georgian

CURRENTLY - private home; 5 bedrooms, 5000 sq. ft.

PREVIOUSLY - private home

SPECIAL INFORMATION -

Built by the Hager family and later occupied by the James P. Shearer family. The Perkins family began its clothing business in Colorado City in the 1860's and relocating to Colorado Springs in 1872. In 1889 James P. Shearer entered the business which became the Perkins-Shearer Department Store.



## Old Town Guesthouse



ADDRESS - 115 South 26th Street

(719) 632-9194

STYLE - reminiscent of an 1890's brick building

BUILT - 1997

CURRENTLY - bed and breakfast

PREVIOUSLY -

Colorado City jail, 2nd Fire station, 2nd city hall  
(burned in 1990)

CHRISTMAS THEME AT THIS SITE -

Christmas Films

## Onaledge Bed and Breakfast

ADDRESS - 328 El Paso Blvd., Manitou Springs

(719) 685-4515

STYLE - 1900's Arts and Crafts

BUILT - 1912

CURRENTLY - six bedroom Bed and Breakfast

PREVIOUSLY -

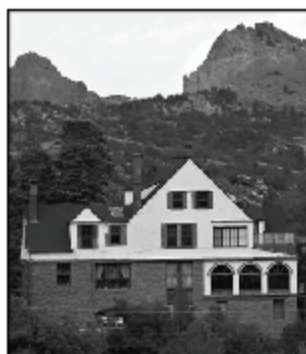
Guest house for Rockledge Country Inn;  
private home; portion of Craftwood  
Association buildings

SPECIAL INFORMATION -

Named "Colorado's Very Haunted Hotel" by  
Huffington Post



## Red Craggs Bed and Breakfast Inn



ADDRESS - 328 El Paso Blvd., Manitou Springs

(719) 685-4515

STYLE - Victorian Manor

BUILT - 1874

CURRENTLY - became a B & B in 1989

PREVIOUSLY - Wellness Clinic for TB

SPECIAL INFORMATION -

President Teddy Roosevelt was a frequent visitor.  
There was a doorbell system to call nursing staff  
and a clinic office on main floor.

## Rockledge Country Inn



ADDRESS - 328 El Paso Blvd., Manitou Springs  
(719) 685-4515

BUILT - 1912

STYLE - Arts and Crafts

CURRENTLY - Bed and Breakfast

PREVIOUSLY-

Private home;

Part of the Craftwood Association property

CHRISTMAS THEME FOR THIS HOLIDAY TOUR-

Santa

SPECIAL INFORMATION-

Large copper fireplace in main entry

## Lorig's Western Wear

ADDRESS - 2612 Colorado Avenue

BUILT - 1904

STYLE - Victorian brick

CURRENTLY - Lorig's Western Wear - retailer

PREVIOUSLY - Jacob Schmidt's Beer Hall and Saloon

CHRISTMAS THEME AT THIS SITE - Christmas gifts

SPECIAL INFORMATION-

After Jacob & Bertha Schmidt moved to Colorado City, Bertha probably operated a bakery & family eating area while Jacob opened a saloon.

Jacob ended his own life on his ranch in Penrose, CO in 1914-Bertha lived until 1950



## Old Colorado City Welcome Center



ADDRESS - 2324 West Colorado Avenue  
(719) 577-4112

BUILT - 1899

STYLE - Victorian Folk

CURRENTLY - Old Colorado City Welcome Center (2014)

PREVIOUSLY-

1900 McCrory's grocery store and private residence

CHRISTMAS THEME FOR THIS TOUR - Christmas toys

SPECIAL INFORMATION-

purchased from Goodwill Industries in 2014 by merchants association of Old Colorado City

JANUARY PROGRAM

# Darius Minier, Civil War soldier, Reminisces about the War



**Darius Minier**

As the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil war approaches, (1865-2015) this program will provide a "close-up" view of one Civil War soldier. Darius Minier was one of 7 Ohio Brothers that fought in the Civil War. Darius was wounded twice, a prisoner of war twice, and survived the sinking of the side-wheeler *Sultana* as it was returning Union prisoners home after the war. This Program will be a First Person portrayal of Darius Minier, a Civil War veteran, talking about his war experiences with local boys from his Denver neighborhood. The setting is in Denver, Colorado in September 1905, just after the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) parade for the 39th National Convention.

Darius will be portrayed by Benny Nasser. Benny Nasser is a graduate of the University of Colorado with a BS in Chemistry. He also has an MBA from OSU. In his search for his roots, Benny found a great number of his ancestors fought in the Civil War. Benny is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the 21st Michigan Volunteer Infantry as well as the 2nd Colorado Volunteer Infantry, Civil War re-enacting units.

The program will be on Friday, January 9, 2014 at the Old Colorado City History Center, 1 South 24th Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904. The presentation begins at 11:00 a.m. The doors open at 10:30 a.m. Members of OCCHS attend free, non-members pay \$5. Light refreshments will be served.

## Board Members to be Elected at January 9 Annual Meeting

### Candidate Profiles:

**Suzanne Schorsch** - Susie is retired from Deloitte and Touche which makes her very qualified to fill her present position of treasurer for the Board of Directors of OCCHS. Since becoming a member of OCCHS, she has acted as bookstore manager, worked on Territory Days and Founders Day as well as the Cemetery Crawl. She also organized our first Writer's Rave for local authors. Her special interests include Victorian times, skiing and books.

**Roberta Hardy** - Roberta Hardy is a retired educator from Kansas who moved to Colorado Springs in 2012. She is married to David and had two sons, daughters-in-law, and three grandchildren.

**Sandy Hanzlian** - has served on the Board as a replacement member since January, 2013. She has also served as the Program Coordinator since January, 2012, providing speakers and presentations at our 2nd Friday monthly meetings. She supervised UCCS intern Dana Rutzen - September, 2012 through May, 2013; and has portrayed Bertha Schmidt in the OCCHS 'An evening at Jacob Schmidt's Tavern', and in the Fairview Cemetery Crawl.

**Beverly Disch** - is a retired Colorado Springs school teacher. She is a current board member and has volunteered for many years at OCCHS serving as both President and Treasurer and continually rounds up volunteers to work in the bookstore and at all special events. Her major interests are history and politics.

Write-in candidates will also be accepted at the meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Old Colorado City History Center on January 9 at 10:15 A.M.



## Presidents' Letter

The Holidays are upon us. We'll kick off the festivities with our Holiday Tour which includes historic homes, Bed and Breakfasts, and a peek into the building that once housed Jacob Schmidt's famous saloon. Get those Early Bird tickets before December 1. Be sure to stop by your History Center for a Victorian tea and entertainment before starting out on the tour.

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, January 9, to elect new members for the Board of Directors. We are lucky to have a great slate of candidates to present to our membership: Susie Schorsch, Sandy Hanzlian, Bev Disch, and Roberta Hardy. Write-in candidates will also be accepted at that time. After the election, please stay for our excellent program of Darius Minier, Civil War Soldier, and Reminisces about the War as presented by Benny Nasser.

Keep our Annual Dinner in mind for February. Treat your special Valentine to a night out and an excellent dinner. Watch the next West Word for more details.

We do have some very interesting programs on the horizon. We've changed some dates and times in order to accommodate those members who are unable to come during the traditional Friday morning presentations.

Our February program will be An Evening with George Washington on the 13th at 6 P.M.

Tunnels Under Our Street: Colorado's Forgotten Hollow Sidewalks will be presented on Saturday, March 14th at 11:00 A.M. This is a trial program change and by no means permanent.

We'd like to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Your co-presidents,  
Betty Baker and Kathy McBride

## Treasurer's Report November, 2014

As year-end approaches I wanted to look at the overall finances of this year's operations for the Society. As you know, we can only use the Endowment Account Interest for an emergency but the reality is we do not use it, as our goal is to grow an endowment large enough that one day the interest will cover our annual operations. We are at about one fifth of our goal for the Endowment.

When Endowment is met, one day in the far future, the members of our society can spend more of their time and efforts on our Mission, preserving history and education, and less of our time working fundraisers to keep the lights on. The Endowment Account grows from generous bequests from our members.

But as that is a Dream for the Future, each year we must make money to cover our general operating expenses.

Our Operating Budget this year was \$19,000 and as of this date we have taken in \$16,963. Our Expenses Budget this year was \$19,000 and this year we have spent a little over our budget so far. Our last big push to end the year with Operations in the "plus" side of things is our Holiday Tour along with any year end donations to the Society.

Why have we spent over our budget? Well, we have cut back expenses in every area of the society AND we have had success in all of our fundraising efforts but, we did spend extra this year in building repairs. It is our hope that we will receive donations that, by the end of the year, will make up the difference.

Our historic building is OCCHS's biggest asset and we have a responsibility to take care of it. We will be working hard in the next year to look into Grants available to preserve and improve our building.

We thank you for your support of OCCHS

Suzanne Schorsch,  
Treasurer

The Old Colorado City Historical Society's Board of Directors meets regularly on the third Monday of each month at 1:00 P.M. at the

**Old Colorado City History Center**, unless otherwise announced.

Interested visitors are always welcome at the Board meetings.



**The next Board meetings will be December 15  
at 1:00 P.M. at the *Karlson residence***

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

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## December/January Calendar

Sunday, December 7  
1:00 - 5:00 P.M.  
(History Center open  
at 12:30 P.M.)

*20th Annual Holiday Tour*  
**"THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS"**

Victorian Tea and live music at the Old Colorado City History Center, then use your map to visit nine other historic sites.

\$15 early bird tickets until December 1.

Tickets are \$20 starting December 2.

Friday, January 9, 2015  
10:15 A.M.

ANNUAL MEETING - doors open at 9:30

Friday, January 9, 2015  
11:00 A.M.

Program: "Darius Minier: Civil War soldier. Reminisces about the War" a First Person portrayal by Benny Nasser. As the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil war approaches, (1865-2015) this program will provide a "close-up" view of one Civil War soldier. Darius Minier was wounded twice, a prisoner of war twice and survived the sinking of the side-wheeler *Sultana* as it was returning Union prisoners home after the war.

OCCHS Members FREE, non-members \$5.00

### Old Colorado City History Center

1 S. 24th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904 - (719) 636-1225 - <http://www.occhs.org>

Museum Hours: Tues. thru Sat. 11 - 4 Free Admission. Donations greatly appreciated.