

# WEST WOOD



proud member of the Coalition of Pikes Peak Historic Museums

Volume 30, Number 1

January / February, 2015

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOUR 2015

The weather was great, the owners were VERY cooperative, the hosts were full of historical information and the visitors happy. It was great--one of the best Holiday Tours in recent memory!! WHAT A FUN DAY.

Approximately 250 people spent four fun hours on Sunday, December 7, 2014 rushing from OCCHC (cookies in hand) to nine other sites and learning the history of the Jacob Schmidt saloon site, the Templeton's

home, a TB hospital, an oil baron's summer home and guest house and more.

As one of the major fund raisers each year, this event was a total success but OCCHS also did what we love to do most--we educated visitors on the early history of the area.

CONGRATULATION TO ALL INVOLVED. ENJOY THE PICTURES FROM THE EVENT ON PAGE 3.

See more on our Facebook page.

## Historical Society to offer Programs at Alternative Times

Your Board has recognized that members who are employed are often unable to attend the regular Friday morning programs. The Board realizes that the Historical Society could, and should, make schedule changes which would make more programs accessible to these members. Therefore, the Board has decided to offer some programs on Friday evenings or Saturday mornings on a trial basis.

In doing so, it is our intent to accommodate members who have not previously been able to attend our programs. The first program which is scheduled at a different time is our February program:

**An Evening with George Washington**  
at 6:00 P.M. on Friday, February 13

## 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@pcslsys.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

The OCCHS Monthly Meeting & Program is held each month, except June, July, and August. The History Center opens half an hour before the meeting for refreshments and visitation. Everyone welcome.

## WELCOME TO OCCHS! ~ NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Darlene Aspedon  
Leslie Bergstrom  
Luana Clark  
Nancy Fortuin  
Judi French Family  
Mike Nemeth  
and Renae Gannon  
Kenneth Goldsberry  
Will & Dolores Green  
Krista Ann Jautz  
Richard Karr  
Carol Tucker & Martin Poon  
Cindy O'Keefe  
Pickyours LLC  
Anita Schimmel  
Patricia Stark-Jacobs  
Thunder and Buttons  
(Heather Joffe & Eric Ivey)  
Gayle and William Vidmar  
Margaret Williams  
Eloise Wynne



# ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOUR 2015



Tea Table at OCCHC 1st stop for attendees



Cinnamon Tea Flute Ensemble playing at OCCHC



Living room at Red Crag. Former wellness clinic



Visitors touring Onalege B and B



Terry and Marilyn Lee gave historical info to visitors at Jacob Schmidt's Saloon and Beer Hall. Now Lorig's Western Wear.



Old Town Guesthouse

# NEW YEAR ACTION PLANS FOR OCCHS

From Joanne Karlson, Susie Schorsch and Sharon Swint

This article is a follow up to the September 2014 issue of your West Word newsletter which presented the 2014 Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) performed last summer by two museum professionals. We were awarded a \$7,000 grant from Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. to pay for their services. They gave us a thorough report with short to long term recommendations as well as a list of resources.

Now, the OCCHS Board of Directors is tasked with reviewing the report and deciding on the priorities of the recommendations. Of course, this also means looking at our resources....our mission, educational programs, volunteers and members, artifacts, and outreach in the community. We hope that you will read this report and send any feedback to one of us or to the Board.

First and foremost, our greatest historical asset is our building. Taking care of a structure built in 1890 is not a small task! So think about getting out your ladders and hammers, old house renovation skills, fundraising experience, and/or your checkbook to help OCCHS keep this building alive! Did you know that we found the church baptistery in the basement? As well as some of the original siding? Opening up the downstairs storage area has improved use of space, but the humidity problems are still a factor. Also, the new railing at the south entrance and the security lighting have helped greatly to reduce vagrancy problems.

The immediate or short-term needs are less costly and our Maintenance Committee is already working on the following:

- upgrades in safety and security
- a manual of up-dated procedures and records for maintenance and housekeeping in all areas.
- Installation of new carpeting
- a new breaker box
- some simple landscaping improvements

The Collections Team will continue digitizing the vast photo collections, record keeping using computerized software to track artifacts, analysis of our most valuable artifacts, and plans to attend a workshop on conservation techniques. They are determining those items with the greatest needs for conservation. Some items will be deaccessioned to an exhibit and/or "hands-on" educational collection. And, yes, a bonus! The Denver Art Museum gave us three data loggers which can monitor environment in the basement and museum areas (temperature and humidity).

The OCCHS Board will need to review our Mission Statement, long-term goals of OCCHS, and our current insurance.

All of the above is a lot to accomplish within 6 months to 1 year, but we have a good start! Mid-term recommendations are one to three years for completion. This list is quite varied. The OCCHS Board will determine the plans for action. We NEED someone with grant writing experience! Any volunteers? Any recommendations? Plans for Phase One of larger projects could begin in 2015. This might include:

- exterior painting and window repairs
- Installation of a hard-wired smoke detection and fire alarm system throughout the building
- proper storage equipment and supplies
- new hot water heater

Long-term recommendations are more costly and will require serious fund raising. Larger items might include:

- roof repairs and replacement as needed
- upgrade ventilation system
- a museum director has been on our wish list for a longtime

Susie has created an Excel Spreadsheet listing the various recommendations and suggested timing for completion. This information is posted on the calendar bulletin board in the OCCHS office. You are welcome to study this report and its conclusions.

Underlying all of these recommendations is the constant comment that we need to build our volunteer base. Currently a small group of members is carrying most of the workload.

- People with fresh, new ideas are needed to step up and assist with duties in an area of their interest , e.g. collections, data entry, research, maintenance, fundraising, and/or the bookstore.
- Are you interested in working with a team or a certain individual?

These challenges are spread out over time. Please be a concerned Society member and share your thoughts and suggestions! 2015 is the 40th anniversary of the revitalization of Old Colorado City. What an appropriate year to update the directions for OCCHS!

## ANNUAL OCCHS MEMBERSHIP DINNER

Join us

# Thursday, February 5th, 2015

for dinner to celebrate YOU  
at the annual OCCHS membership dinner.

Program will include honoring 2014 volunteers.

**English Dockside Seafood & Grill**

**1201 West Colorado Avenue**

Social Time 5:30 p.m. with cash bar available

Dinner 6 p.m.

\$20 each for members and friends of OCCHS

Select from menu choice of  
**chicken (grilled or fried)**

or

**fish (grilled, fried or blackened)**

plus two sides, nonalcoholic beverage & light dessert

To make reservations stop by the bookstore, phone 636-1225, or mail reservations to the History Center.

Reservations\* must be made by noon Monday, February 2.

The Bookstore will be open from 10 AM to noon Monday, February 2.

\*Payment with reservation, non-refundable. Tip not included.

JANUARY PROGRAM

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

As the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil war approaches, (1865-2015) this program will provide a "close-up" view of Darius Minier who 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.

Darius will be portrayed by Benny Nasser. 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 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.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

# An Evening with George Washington

For over 7 years, Dave Wallace has been portraying various Historical Figures including: a compilation of characters creating "Mountain Men", Zebulon Pike and our featured guest in February: George Washington.

Dave's program will include stories and highlights of the American Revolution and insight into George Washington's Presidency. Little known aspects of George Washington's life will enlighten all of us.

The program will be at 6:00 P.M. Friday evening, February 13 at the Old Colorado City History Center, 1 South 24th Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904. The doors open at 5:30.

Members of OCCHS attend free, non-members pay \$5. Light refreshments will be served.

## January 9 is our Annual Membership Meeting

The annual meeting is the time when members of the Old Colorado City Historical Society elect new members to the Board of Directors and conduct any other business which is brought to the membership, as a whole.

Candidates for the Board are:

Suzanne Schorsch  
Roberta Hardy  
Sandy Hanzlian  
Beverly Disch

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.

## *In Memoriam*

*David Hardy*

November 5, 1942 - December 9, 2014

Old Colorado City Historical Society member David Hardy was a long time administrator, coach, principal, and athletic director in Oklahoma and Kansas, before coming to Colorado with his wife, Roberta, in 2012.

*Our deepest sympathies to Roberta and to David's many friends and family members.*



## Presidents' Letter

Wow! What a perfect, beautiful day for our Holiday Tour. We couldn't have asked for better weather. The response was one of the best with home-made goodies and music from Cinnamon Tea to send participants on their way for a tour of the history of Christmas at each location along the way.

This event couldn't have been done without all of our Old Colorado City Historical Society volunteers. We need to thank all of our hostesses: Sharon Swint welcomed guests to the Red Crags; Roberta Hardy was in costume at The Avenue; Sandy Hanzlian as the hostess at the Two South Food and Wine Bar; the Old Colorado City Welcome Center was manned by Betty Baker; Muriel Dunkley greeted visitors at the Old Town Guest House; Diane Francese and Martha Davis said hello at Onaledge, tour members were met by Jay Hatfield and Werner Karlson at Rockledge; Lorig's was hosted by Marilyn and Terry Lee in period attire; and finally Lynn and Dave Murray represented the society at the old North End's historical home. In the meantime, Leo Knudson portrayed the Reverend Duncan Lamont and told visitors the story of the First Baptist Church of Colorado City. Marge Knorr, Doris Hendrix, and Joanne Karlson kept the Victorian tea and snacks replenished. Kay Atteberry and Kathy McBride sold tickets and handed out maps. Susie Schorsch's beautiful decorations graced the History Center and her wrapped hostess gifts were sent to each location.

A special thanks to Joanne Karlson and Sharon Swint who spent hours and hours doing all of the hard work to make this such a successful event. It couldn't have happened without their efforts.

Be sure to put January 9th on your calendar. It's our ANNUAL MEETING when we'll elect our new board members for 2015.

We'd like to wish you a prosperous New Year.

Your co-presidents,  
Betty Baker and Kathy McBride

## Treasurer's Report December, 2014

With year end approaching, I am quickly working on our year-end reports to complete our 990 Tax Return and looking at the budget for next year.

In our next Westword, I will be giving a complete Financial Statement for 2014. So far, I am very happy that we will once again end the year with a positive report and no loss for the year. We did not complete the building repair projects, but we will complete work when funds are available. We did complete new the railing for the handicap ramp and much of the lighting work and will continue with the building repairs on an ongoing basis. Thanks to our Maintenance Volunteers for keeping our old building in good shape.

We can thank all the members who worked so hard this year for us to reach our financial goals:

1. Those who worked on our fundraising events this year
2. The bookstore workers who weekly work toward our financial needs
3. Our Archive volunteers for photo sales and sponsoring our Movie Nights
4. City Works - special event
5. Monthly Program workers  
and
6. GENEROUS donations from all our members in the form of dues and general donations.

We could not continue our Mission of preserving the history of Old Colorado City and the Westside if not for you.

Respectfully  
Suzanne Schorsch,  
Treasurer

The Old Colorado City Historical Society's Board of Directors meets regularly 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 January 5  
at 1:00 P.M. at the Old Colorado City History Center**

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

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## January / February Calendar

Friday, January 9  
10:15 A.M.

ANNUAL MEETING - doors open at 9:30

Friday, January 9  
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

Thursday, February 5  
Social time 5:30 P.M.

Annual Membership Dinner

\$20.00 - Make reservations with the Bookstore by noon February 2.

Friday, February 13  
6:00 P.M.

Program: An Evening with George Washington.  
George Washington will be portrayed by Dave Wallace

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.