

April 1, 1990

## Ute Pass Museum Alters Name, Considers New Home at Divide

Ute Pass Historical Society announced its museum changed its name from the Ute Pass Museum to the Pikes Peak Museum, to reflect its broad local coverage.

Even more dramatic changes are being considered, to avoid its annual scramble for operating funds. It has received an attractive offer from Pete Kuyper to move up the pass to Divide.

According to a notice to members, the museum suffers because it must scrounge each year to meet current expenses from grants and donations, and its board desperately wants a permanent answer to the problem to avoid the annual financial crisis.

The Society estimates a minimum annual budget of \$65,000 with a part-time manager; or \$15,000 for a full-time director. It has \$13,000 income from memberships, interest, admissions and gift shop sales, leaving an annual \$72,000 shortage.

The board says a \$900,000 endowment would generate enough interest to cover the shortfall.

Mr. Kuyper is developing Divide, and would welcome a move of the museum to property he would supply. He would provide \$17,000 towards immediate needs, offer 18 months salary for a professional director, give funds for planning a new building, and donate half the funds for the building and moving expenses. The other half would be raised by the director and museum board.

Members will meet at the museum April 11, 7 p.m., to vote on whether to allow the board to place the museum building at Cascade for sale in anticipation of a move to Divide.

The current season is not at risk; the museum will operate at

## A Westside Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

Unlike most new members, who "try us out" a few times before joining, Jerome R. Jekel sent in his application on the basis of our reputation. We trust he won't be disappointed in us!

Cascade through 1990. And the action is contingent on a written agreement with Mr. Kuyper.

Members were told that the board would prefer to keep the museum where it is IF it could raise the \$900,000 endowment; but it sees little chance of that. It is opposed to closing, or to reducing educational programs.

The mailing concedes that a new location would be farther away from the public and from children on school field trips, and that some museum programs would change because of distances; the museum might have to close during moving; there might be a loss of members.

On the other hand, the board anticipates a larger museum with better signs and more parking. It would gain immediate funds for a professional director to help with money-raising and moving. Divide is near Mueller State Park opening this year, it will receive a boost in 1993 when the visitors' center at Florissant Fossil Beds opens, and Divide itself will have new attractions to draw visitors. Money from sale of the Cascade building would go to the endowment, and with Kuyper's financial boost most recurring financial problems would be under control.

The Ute Pass Historical Society has a head start over the Old Colorado City Historical Society in all things, including problems. We envy its museum and program, but the dilemma it finds itself in makes us aware of the difficulties we must face, and keeps our own \$125,000 reserve in perspective.

## Curt Poulton Gives Early Ranch Story

Colorado City's earliest history is intertwined with its ranches, and this month we'll hear about significant Finley ranch.

Speaker will be Curt Poulton, who recently received his PhD in historical geography. His dissertation covered the region's early water history and he used Finley ranch as a case study.

He'll project maps and pictures to make the story easy to follow, and will concentrate on the ranch history rather than the technicalities of water rights.

Robert Finley homesteaded 160 acres along Camp Creek, but in 1864 sold all but 40 acres to the Colorado City town company. The ranchhouse still stands on 31st, a dowager amid teeny-boppers.

At Dr. Poulton's suggestion, we'll invite Emily Johnson, Finley's step-granddaughter, to attend as our guest. She's Edward Brown's daughter.

## Members Present a Couple of Pictures

We're gradually adding to our collection of historic pictures, thanks to members and others.

Curt Poulton made us beneficiary of a "mistake" by donating the 1872 photo of Colorado City. The print is 2 by 3 feet, a copy of Dave Hughes's picture.

Lucile Ellis gave us an excellent color snapshot of LeRoy Ellingwood, who studied our history extensively and prepared material used in Dist. 11 schools.

Colorado City Associates passed on a print of a Midland engine in the Colorado City yards used for publicity.

We haven't previously acknowledged a number of old postcards given to us by Kenny Englert.

# Westside Memories: *Turning Back the Clock on Local Events*

## *Twenty-five Years Ago*

April, 1965

Golden Cycle foreclosed on seven non-operating, formerly gold-producing firms in Cripple Creek, including the Cresson and Elkton mining companies.

Springs' Area Beautiful Association sought to prevent Castle Concrete from gaining a land patent between Glen Eyrie and Garden of the Gods. Company said it was entitled to the limestone on basis of mining claims; land patent applied to reclamation.

Betty Fisher's collection of hand-crafted and collected Easter Eggs was on display at Pikes Peak National.

Scores of singers, directed by John Fetter, rehearsed for a Westside Good Friday concert at Bethany Baptist.

New West Junior P-TA officers: Mrs. Walter Lesico, Mrs. Jack Kraettli, Mrs. John Paulson, Dr. C. E. Hadley, William Stone and Keith Beck.

Commercial Club sponsored an Easter Egg hunt in Baneroff Park.

City Council narrowly voted against a zone change to allow a supermarket in the 1200 block of North Walnut.

At teen-agers' party at 803 N. 31st someone rifled billfolds and took \$47. But next day the money, an apology, and information about where to find the billfolds, were found in the garage.

## *Fifty Years Ago*

April, 1940

Authorities changed the Corley Mountain Road to Gold Camp. It was being reconditioned after remaining untended since May, 1939, when it ceased to be a toll road.

Foreman Fred Reid, 1510 W. Cucharras, and his brother, machinist George Reid, 2315 W. Platte, were scalded by steam at Golden Cycle mill; a pipe broke as they made repairs.

Fred Barr, creator of the Barr camp and trail on Pikes Peak, died at 58.

Green Mountain Falls voted 34 to 15 to remain "dry", serving only beer.

Dr. D. H. Winternitz led a health check of pre-school children due to enter Bristol, Buena Vista, Midland, Washington, Whittier or Manitou Springs schools—aimed at having new students with no remedial defects.

Census enumerators found 13 men in city just-willing to talk but vague about occupations. Preliminary figures gave Colorado Springs' population as 36,310, a gain of 3,000 over 1930.

(Before 1917 Colorado City was an independent town.)

## *Seventy-five Years Ago*

April, 1915

In March, Golden Cycle set a world record by producing \$1,350,000 worth of bullion from 29,000 tons of ore, thanks to rich Cresson mine. 180 men worked 3 shifts; machinery never quit. Cripple Creek supplied most of the nation's gold; 75% of Cripple Creek ore was processed at Golden Cycle; it supplied the Denver mint, virtually the only mint producing gold coins.

High School students Mabel Hibbard and John Zimmeht had 90% or better in every subject.

Price of lots in Fairview cemetery was reduced from \$100 to \$50.

City Clerk advertised for bids on a cement or iron bridge over Camp Creek on Colorado Avenue.

All you can eat at National Hotel, breakfast, lunch or dinner, 25¢. Exception: Sunday dinner was 35¢.

J. M. Smith, oldest engineer on the Midland, leaped from his engine when it left the track near Woodland Park. He suffered scratches and bruises when he landed in a barbed wire fence.

Helen Brice became new assistant society editor at the Gazette.

Milestone: a night without an arrest of anyone from, or visiting, Ramona.

In city election, incumbent C. B. Myles was defeated 593-361 by pro-annexationist W. H. Brenner. Petitions were circulated for recall of mayor Faulkner and Mrs. Ammerman. If pro-annexationists could be put on council, citizens would be sure of a chance to vote on annexation in 1917.

Independent installed linotype machine; because staff had to learn to operate it, that week's issue was late.

From Colorado School of Mines, 35 students and 6 faculty visited Portland and Golden Cycle mills.

New car and rebuilt depot were dedicated at Manitou Incline, replacing those destroyed by fire last fall.

John Crutz home, 1205 S. 25th, destroyed by fire. Because of poor roads, fire engine couldn't reach it.

Because she accumulated 2,000 bread wrappers from Costen Bakery, Helen Flemming of 204 Monroe was given a juvenile automobile. Arthur Fletcher was a close second.

Colorado College classes were delayed when professors found hard plaster blocking classroom locks.

## *One Hundred Years Ago*

April, 1890

C. R. Ammerman defeated Charles Stockbridge 221 to 215 in the mayor's race. South-precinct vote was a tie, so an excited crowd rushed to north precinct to hear results there; that led to rumors in the Springs that a mob was in possession of the town.

Irving Howbert blocked efforts to move Colo. Midland offices to Denver.

Wagons laid ties and telegraph poles along the Pikes Peak Cog Road; work on track-laying and a Manitou depot was to begin soon.

Three boys, 14 to 17, workers at the Glassworks, would face malicious mischief charges after they loosened brakes on flatcars at the Glassworks siding. Cars crashed into those lower down, doing \$200 damages.

Opposition arose to Isaac Cahn's plat which would divert Pikes Peak Ave. into Huerfano at Grant street, rather than extend it to join with Washington. Company which bought Culver Ranch in Ute Pass planned a town to be called Ute Pass Park.

Nearly 40 became charter members of Colorado City chapter #42 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Ben Mann, once a pitcher with the Colorado Springs baseball club, special police officer and doorman at People's Theater, exchanged shots with Ed Andries, proprietor of the Crystal Palace saloon. Neither hit the other.

Barker House in Manitou grew from 71 to 136 rooms, added 2-story tower; porch was widened into a veranda; and four floors connected by elevator. Bath and toilet on each floor; electricity and steam heat; and rooms connected to the office by an electric bell.

A train with architects and builders from Denver struggled up a 25% grade on the Midland spur to visit Kenmuir quarries, Red Rock Canon. They saw "stone enough in sight here to build Denver and leave a pretty good quarry." Steam channeling cut seams 2 inches by 5 feet deep; rock was loosened from below by explosives and cut to size with wedges. Derricks lowered 12-ton stones onto flatcars.

Suspect in Colorado City's fires was released for lack of evidence; later he may have set fires in Coal Creek and Florence. City council ignored bills of \$220 from police sworn in during the arson scare; might trigger lawsuits.

In Colorado Springs' police court, a man was fined \$2 for "driving his horse so fast as to endanger pedestrians."

## Charged With Murder? 92% of Patterson's Clients Were Acquitted

If you expect to commit murder, you're late. The best time would have been a hundred years ago or so, when you could have had Thomas J. Patterson (1839-1916) as your defense attorney.

### *Turn-of-the-Century Lawyer and Politician Earned Enviably Results in Many Fields*

At our meeting March 9th, Dr. Robert Smith talked about Patterson's career handling civil and criminal cases. On 62 occasions Patterson was defense attorney for accused murderers; in 57 of the cases his client was acquitted. Of those convicted, the longest sentence was five years.

In the 1880's, Patterson made a fortune as the best criminal lawyer west of the Mississippi. He had an equally strong record in civil cases, and probably made more money in mining disputes than in criminal law, but it was crime that made his reputation. He handled many labor cases; he defended the leaders of the Cripple Creek strike when they were tried in Colorado Springs.

Many trials hinged on technical details and upon which body of law applied. Miners were concerned, for example, with the Apex theory, which allowed a miner to pursue a vein wherever it went, or the Span practice, which stopped a mining claim arbitrarily at the property line. Patterson was expert in such details, but down-to-earth enough to crawl through the shafts when that was needed to prepare his case.

He was a crowd-pleaser in politics as well. He was first Democratic Territorial Representative to Congress, helped bring statehood to Colorado, was a frequent advocate for the West, and kept the presidency from Samuel Tilden, assuring the election of Rutherford B. Hayes. In the state, he powered the Democratic party—though he bolted the Democrats in the 1890's to become a Populist and later worked to fuse the two parties. He engineered two Democratic governorships, though his own bid for the governorship was unsuccessful.

He favored nationalization of the railroads—at odds with many in the state; he opposed private utilities; and he wanted to curb the power of large corporations. He fought corruption in government and feuded with Democratic Denver mayor Robert Speer and his machine politics.

After the turn of the century he championed silver, and was rewarded by election to the Senate in Teddy Roosevelt's presidency. He opposed U. S. imperialism in the Philippines, Cuba and Panama.

But Dr. Smith concentrated on Patterson's career as a criminal lawyer.

Patterson was thorough in preparation, and attentive to details. Dusting a handkerchief with pepper to invoke tears during summation wasn't beneath him, and he worked to ingratiate himself with local people who served on juries.

In one trial, learning that jurors had not been paid, Patterson grandly invited the prosecution to join in guaranteeing the jurors' fees, generating goodwill among jurors.

At times, his reputation was earned reluctantly. A madame asked Patterson to defend her gambler boyfriend charged with murder. He didn't want the case; to discourage her he named a \$1,500 retainer. She turned her back, hoisted her skirt to get to her stocking, and came up with the sum in cash!

He won that case through mathematics. The victim had disappeared, and when a "body" was found the prosecution had to identify it as the murder victim. The skeleton was meticulously measured and the evidence presented to the jury. But Patterson innocently asked the foreman of the jury to add the prosecution's figures. It showed a body of a five-foot 9½ inch man. Since his client was accused of murdering a man five-foot 7½ inches, there was enough doubt to acquit his client.

Some wealth came from fees paid in kind, rather than in cash. Patterson owned choice Denver real estate at 19th and Curtis, 18th and Champa, and 17th and Welton. His two-million dollar estate included \$1.2 million dollars in real estate.

But he wasn't always right. He represented Jimmy Burns, owner of the Burns theater in Colorado Springs, and was offered as his fee either \$5,000 in cash, or ten thousand shares in the Portland mine. He chose the cash, losing out on stock which was soon worth \$200,000.

A FAMILY TRAGEDY was hinted in Smith's research, and its revelation came dramatically. Looking over family papers, Smith found a letter from Patterson to his son which had been returned because of his son's death. The letter was still sealed. Smith opened it and read Patterson's earnest plea to his son to give up opium.

Patterson as a reformer was sometimes in conflict with his Victorian moral standards. He owned the Rocky Mountain News and the Denver Times and both papers campaigned vigorously against gambling and the seamy life that accompanied it; but he forbade editors to name venereal diseases.

As a maverick, he feuded with his allies. He may have been a demigod seeking personal glory, or a reformer remaking the world in a wholesome image. Rewards which might properly come to him, such as the governorship, were denied; his legal abilities did not lead to a judgeship because his power as an advocate led people to question whether he could see both sides of an issue. But recognition and wealth were undoubtedly his, and he died with a lively life behind him.

## Board Shifts Funds To 2-Year Treasury Notes

The O.C.C.H.S. board met before the regular membership meeting on March 9th to deal with a \$60,560.69 certificate of deposit in World Savings which matured March 15th.

Since our deposits with World were approaching the limit insured by the FSLIC and there is no immediate need for funds, the board approved a motion by **Virginia Cox**, seconded by **Jan Knox**, to withdraw funds from the maturing certificate, deposit them temporarily in our checking account, and buy a two-year U. S. treasury note when next offered.

Treasurer **Rosemae Campbell** reported on her efforts to get our existing certificates of deposit at Bank Western and World Savings current with names and signatures of present officers.

Present were **Rosemae Campbell**, **Vera Chambon**, **Ralph Conner**, **Virginia Cox**, **Joyce Johns**, **Jan Knox**, and **Ruth Maxwell**.

## Trip to Canon City Was Major Project in 1871

A peek into the region's early days is stored in the Special Collection of Colorado College Library: a transcript of letters of **James B. Rayner**, written from Colorado City and Colorado Springs, 1871-1873.

Rayner arrived in Colorado City in September, 1871, a month after Colorado Springs' founding, by stage from Denver. The stage had 14 men and women and the dog, he wrote Sept. 27; nine inside, 6 on top.

He stayed in Colorado City briefly, then worked as a carpenter in Colorado Springs for \$2 a day. Board was \$6 a week.

A lengthy letter Nov. 30, 1871, describes a trip he and a friend made to Canon City.

They started at ten, but that was too late: "Don't have your horses three miles out on the

## ROLL CALL

from our last meeting:

Forty people were present at our March 9th meeting. We had 32 for lunch. Members who signed in were:

Kay Arnold	John Keller
Erman Biondini	Jan Knox
Gene Burroughs	Ruth Walsh Kruse
Rosemae Campbell	Katy Lapp
Vera Chambon	Aldine Lipe
Bertha Chilcott	Elizabeth Mares
Carl Chilcott	Ruth Maxwell
Ralph Conner	Ursula Monroe
Virginia E. Cox	Margaret L. Nichols
John W. Croff	Curt Poulton
Ed Curry	Liliane Ross
Martha Curry	Arthur T. Ruby
Lucile Ellis	Claire Ruby
Betsy Evans	Bob Simons
George W. Fisher	Martha Simons
Bob Gaarder	Bob Smith
Veda Goosman	Mary Nell Trapp
Eileen Graham	Thomas Van Camp
Flora Belle Hull	Frances White
	Raymond Ziegler

### VISITORS

Jim Conner Mrs. George Fisher  
Norma Conner

prairie, your wagons to grease, the brake to mend, and several things to do, and then start without currying your horses."

They walked the horses rapidly but it was a rough road. They concluded "we could not think of risking a drive through that Sand Canon when we could hardly see the road on level prairie." They camped in an abandoned cabin.

They planned an early start and left when "day was breaking," but were fooled by the moon: "It was only two o'clock and oh so cold." They got lost, but found the road in time to arrive in Canon City for "a bully breakfast before daybreak."

His letter ended: "I must close and take off my clothes, and then to bed, and then to scratch."

## Woodmoor Church Group Tours West

The "Day-A-Way" group of The Church at Woodmoor—around 16 people—toured Colorado City on foot March 15 and had lunch at the Pampered Palate.

**Agnes Johnson Loesch**, who usually conducts such tours, was unavailable; she lent her notes to **Ralph Conner** who acted as guide.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING:

**11 am, April 13**

**Trinity U. M. Church, 1920 Henderson**  
For luncheon reservations please call  
**Lyn Owen, 473-1846.**

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:

**11 am, May 11th**

### WEST WORD

Edited by **Ralph Conner**

**Vol. V, Number 8 April 1, 1990**

Published the first of almost every month by the Old Colorado City Historical Society, Post Office Box 6702, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80934.

The Old Colorado City Historical Society was formed to maintain the memory of Colorado City (1859-1917), to encourage research, to preserve historic buildings, mementos and pictures, and to keep alive the unique culture and spirit of Westside Colorado Springs.

### MEETINGS

Meetings are held the second Friday of each month (except June, July and August) at 11 a. m., usually at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1920 Henderson—west of Uintah Gardens Shopping Center. The public is welcome and no reservation is needed for the program.

The meeting is followed by a luncheon, served by people of the church. Cost is \$4 per person. Reservations are required and can be made by phoning **Lyn Owen, 473-1846**. Deadline is normally noon the Wednesday before the meeting. Please call **Lyn Owen** to cancel if you find you cannot attend.

### MEMBERSHIPS

Individual membership is \$5 a year; family membership is \$10. Memberships are welcome at any time; renewal falls in April. Members receive this newsletter and local members will be phoned if they wish before each meeting.

Also available is a *Lifetime membership*, for \$100. This amount is placed in our Perpetuity/Endowment fund, to be used for projects which have been approved by two-thirds of the members. 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.

### OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

	Work	Home
President	Joyce Johns	635-4649
Vice President	Jan Knox	495-3359
Secretary	Ralph Conner	633-1394 634-0895
Treasurer	Rosemae Campbell	633-8682
	Vera Chambon	634-2340
	Virginia Cox	635-8705
	David Hughes	636-2040
	Orville Kenelly	471-0551 473-5307
	Aldine Lipe	475-1658
	Ruth Maxwell	599-3111
	Leon Young	633-2621 633-1543

## Secretary's Expenses

TO APRIL 1, 1990

Postage: 1st class newsletters	\$2.70
Two informational phone calls	
to Secretary of State	3.26
Total due sec'y as of 4/1	\$5.96

Please note that our next meeting, May 11, will be our **ANNUAL MEETING** at which we elect members of our board of directors.

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Old Colorado City Historical Society  
April 1, 1990