

The Advocate

Newsletter for the Aurora Historical Society

Volume 39 Number 2 March 1, 2015



Aurora Historical Pres. Letter newsletter March 2015

The committee I mentioned last newsletter has been hard at work and we are putting together some very exciting programs for this coming year. Our annual meeting and Pot Luck was great and as always the food outstanding, we missed some of you though. Thank you so much Ruth for arranging to hold the meeting at the Parkview Congregational Church.

We did not have a speaker but we did a wonderful quiz on interesting facts surrounding Aurora, with a few real stumpers! We had fun prizes for the 3 top team winners. *We may try that again as we're not always as smart as we think we are and we sure learned a lot.*

The meeting on March 31 will be in Building 500 in the auditorium with a short history of the building, presented by Neil Krauss, Director of Administration in the Office of the Vice President. Mr. Krauss will also talk about future plans for the Anschutz Campus.

Come and park in the back and we will have AHS guides at the doors in the back to get everyone to the elevators up to the auditorium. The doors to the building are all locked at 6 pm. and the meeting will begin promptly at 7 pm, *so don't be late.*

This is the first of some fun and informative programs and venues for the Society. Jennifer Kuehner, Director of the Aurora History Museum has been a tremendous help in getting this new venture off the ground. More to come...we will see you ALL on the 31st.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Carol Brassell for her term as Secretary of the Society, we're not losing her talent though, she will remain as a Board Member at large. Many thanks to Dolly Gray for becoming our 2015 Secretary of the Aurora Historical Society.

Sandy Sweeney, President Aurora Historical Society



March 31 AHS Meeting 7:00 p.m. : Join us for a fun and interesting program!

Location: Bushnell Auditorium, Fitzsimons Building 500, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Important Note: Please enter the building from the **BACK** (or north side), off of E. 19th Ave. AHS members will direct you to the auditorium.

Parking: Parking should be available in the Ignacio parking lot off of 19th Avenue. Other visitor parking is available at the corner of 19th Ave. and Victor St. (the Georgetown parking lot).

Program: Discover more about the history of Building 500, tour the Eisenhower Suite, and learn about future plans on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Special Guests: Neil Krauss, Director of Administration in the University Vice President's office and Ken Neeper, a project manager and engineer for the University who also worked for the Army at Fitzsimons. He has graciously volunteered to come and talk about the base and Building 500.

Kirsten Canfield, the Technology Specialist for Arapahoe County, kindly wrote an article to let Historical Society members know about the services that are available to all residents. I was surprised when I learned what was available. Hopefully, many of you will take advantage of these services.

Did you know that you can digitize your VHS tapes, audio cassette tapes, vinyl records, photos, negatives, slides, and other media at the Arapahoe Library District's Southglenn Library, completely free of charge?

The most effective method of preserving old media is to make copies. Digital copies can be duplicated and disseminated easily, reduce the amount of handling the original artifacts undergo, and help ensure that a copy will survive in case disaster strikes.

Visit the Southglenn Library's Studio – a well-equipped room devoted to creative endeavors – to use all of our media conversion equipment. You can convert your VHS tapes and BetaMax tapes to digital format, which you can then save to a flash drive or burn to a DVD (home videos work best; copyright-protected films such as those produced by Disney cannot be converted). You can also convert audio cassette tapes and vinyl records to MP3 format.

If you have old photographs, negatives, slides (including 35mm and glass slides), or other historic documents, come to the Studio to learn how to make high-resolution digital scans of them. Then,



learn how to retouch those scans by removing dust, creases, and cracks in Photoshop.

For older digital files, we have a USB 3.5" floppy disc drive, so you can transfer the content from your old floppy discs to more current media, such as an external hard drive or flash drive.



Technology Specialists are often available to help you use the conversion equipment, to show you how to make high-quality scans of your old photos, and to teach you how to touch them up. They can also help with a wide array of technology questions, including teaching you how to use your phone or tablet, troubleshoot computer issues, create a website, and check out free digital content (including eBooks, audiobooks, movies, music, and magazines) from the library. Technology Specialists are available at each of the Arapahoe Library District branches in the Denver area, both for walk-ins and by appointment.

Additionally, you can stop by the Southglenn Library any Thursday or Saturday between 4:00 and 6:00 pm for our drop-in demos, where you can learn a new skill using the equipment in the Studio. These demos include learning Photoshop, programming robots, making music, modeling items to print on our 3D printer, making green screen movies, etc.

The Southglenn Library is located at 6972 S. Vine Street in Centennial. You can reserve a time to convert your media at the Studio by visiting this website: <http://arapahoelibraries.org/studio-reservations> (to convert audio cassettes and vinyl records, select the Recording Studio @ Southglenn Library; for all other media conversion, select the Green Screen Room @ Southglenn Library). Our branch locations and hours of operation can be viewed here: <http://arapahoelibraries.org/locations>

For more information, or to schedule an appointment with a Technology Specialist, contact Kirsten Canfield at kcanfield@ald.lib.co.us

Aurora Historical Society Officers

President: Sandy Sweeney (303-854-4249)

Vice President: Nadine Caldwell

Secretary: Dolly Gray

Treasurer: Michael Lockwood

Directors: Dexter Harding, Carolyn Brassell

Program:

Membership: Larry Wilterdink

Hospitality: Nadine Caldwell

Historian: Lyn Eckhardt

Education:

Newsletter, Website, & Publicity: Lynne Evans 303-671-0874

We still need a program director for our board. If anyone is interested, please contact Sandy Sweeney @ 303-854-4249

or

Livelyline@aol.com



2015 Dues are due for all members.

Make check Payable to the Aurora Historical Society. Mail to Larry Wilterdink, Aurora Historical Society, 15163 E. Bethany Pl., Aurora, CO 80014-3804

DUES

_____ Family \$ 15.00

_____ Contributing \$ 30.00*

_____ Slide programs

_____ Business/Corporate \$200.00

_____ Life \$200.00**

If you have already renewed-Thanks for your continued support

Aurora History Museum Exhibits & Events

Through May 2014

EXHIBITS

GROWING HOME

Now Open

See highlights of the 124 year history of Aurora through stories, objects, and more than 100 historic photographs. Interactive elements invite visitors to build their own city choosing the pieces and parts important to them and go on a scavenger hunt to find pieces of Aurora history. The dramatic finale of the exhibit is the fully restored 1913 historic Trolley Trailer No. 610. This brightly painted yellow and red trolley trailer sits in the center of the Ruth Fountain Gallery and invites visitors to enter it and experience what it might have been like to ride down Colfax. A large wall mural looking east down Colfax Avenue at twilight helps to set the scene. Growing Home offers a glimpse at Aurora's unique, exciting, and often untold past with color, texture, creativity, and thoughtful moments of great storytelling.

THE WAY WE WORKED

Apr 3- May 10

What would life be like without teachers, doctors, or firefighters? Every day Americans are hard at work on farms, factories, in homes, or at desks keeping our communities thriving. Explore the professions and the people that sustain American society in this Smithsonian Institution exhibit, in cooperation with the Colorado Humanities Council.

BEHIND THE BADGE: PUBLIC SAFETY IN AURORA

May 27 – Sept 13

Tasked with keeping a growing city safe, Aurora's Fire & Police Departments strive for excellence & community service. For this exhibit, current & former department members collaborated with the Museum to provide stories that shaped the histories of these two agencies.

Community Gallery

EARLY JAPANESE WOODBLOCK PRINTS Through Apr 12

In 17th century Japan, woodblock printing evolved from plain text in books to elaborate drawings using many layers of different color paint. These prints of Japanese daily life pre-1915, women, landscapes & even Western visitors are from the Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Collection.

THE ART OF TEA

Apr 14 - Jul 19

Celestial Seasonings tea company commissions new artwork for each flavor of tea. Come view a selection of the original art & see how the style has changed over the years.

SCENES FROM “THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN PROJECT”

July 21 – Sept 18

American photographer Edward Curtis devoted 30 years of his life to capturing the culture, clothing, dwellings, & ceremonies of Native Americans in the West for his “North American Indian Project.” See 30 of his photographs, taken between 1900-1930, from the Curtis Collection at the Library of Congress.

FAMILY DAYS

Sun., Mar. 8

2:30 p.m.

World War II – From Biplanes to Atomic Bombs

Sponsored by the Aurora Museum Foundation

Join us as we mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II with Chuck Stout of the Wings Over the Rockies Museum. Learn about the astonishing changes in aviation technology during the six years of World War II. Museum Foundation Members are free.

\$8 (\$6 Resident)

~~**Sat., Mar. 21 SOLD OUT**~~

~~**2-4 p.m.**~~

~~**Tea with Unconventional Women of the West**~~

~~Enjoy afternoon tea and meet courageous and fascinating women whose lives became a part of the lore of the West portrayed by the Legendary Ladies.~~

~~\$26 (\$20 Aurora Residents), Advanced reservations required.~~

Sat., Apr. 25

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Antique Appraisal Fair

Sponsored by the Aurora Museum Foundation

Have your antiques & collectibles evaluated by local appraisers! Museum Foundation members receive one free appraisal. No Walk-ins Accepted.

\$5/per item; 5 item limit

Call 303-739-6705 for event entrance time.

Sun., Apr. 26

1-4 p.m.

Aurora’s 124th Birthday Party

Sponsored by the Aurora Museum Foundation

Celebrate Aurora’s 124th birthday with your family & friends. Enjoy entertainment, games, facepainting, scavenger hunts, cake, and much more. Free

Sat., June 27

2-4 p.m.

Celestial Seasonings Tea Tasting

Ages 8 to adult. Learn about how Celestial Seasonings creates & test their tea blends. Taste a variety of teas & enjoy an afternoon of treats.

\$26 (\$20 Resident)

(Registration opens April 3)

Sat., Jul 4

4-8 p.m.

Fourth of July

Tour the Museum while you wait for the 4th of July Spectacular Fireworks! Try a gallery scavenger hunt & win a prize. Create a patriotic craft. Free

Sat., Jul 8

9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Celestial Travels

Enjoy a leisurely bus trip to the home of Celestial Seasonings in Boulder. Tour the factory & enjoy a delectable lunch in their on-site café. Lunch included.

\$34 (\$26 Resident)

(Registration opens April 3)

Sat., Aug 1

2-4 p.m.

Tea with Nancy Russell

Ages 8 to adult. Nancy Cooper Russell, wife of western artist Charles M. Russell, was the reason for his success. Who was this remarkable woman behind the man? Meet and learn about this her story while enjoying afternoon tea.

\$26 (\$20 Resident)

(Registration opens April 3)

Brown Bag & White Linen Lecture Series

Wed., 12-1 p.m.

Aurora History Museum

\$4 (\$3 Resident)

Bring your lunch.

Mar. 18

The Art of Ikebana

Join Akiko Buckmaster and Lois Krause from Ikebana International, Denver Chapter, for a demonstration of the Japanese art of flower arranging known as Ikebana.

Apr. 15

Holocaust Survivor

The Holocaust impacted people worldwide and continues to be an important chapter in history. Come and hear a firsthand account from a Holocaust survivor from The University of Denver's Holocaust Awareness Institute.

May 20

Mid-Century Polynesian Culture in Aurora

Take a look back at the heyday of Mid-Century Polynesian Pop culture and how exotic fantasies of the South Seas influenced it with local expert Mike Skinner.

Jun 17

Food & Migration in the 20th Century

Migration & globalization have brought foods & food cultures to the U.S. from across the globe. Learn about the changing taste of food with Dr. Laresh Jayasanker, Metropolitan State University of Denver.

Jul 15

Picture Me Here

Picture Me Here is a photographic, digital storytelling program for refugees in Aurora & Denver. Listen to the history & stories of this project with Brigid McAuliffe, Co-Founder & Director.

Aug 19

Celebrating & Promoting Diversity

The New American School at Lowry serves students from more than 40 countries receiving their high school education. Join Principal Amy Trujillo to learn about the school's unique community, celebrating values & promoting diversity.

DELANEY FARM

170 S. Chambers, Aurora

Second Sat. of each month (May-Sept)

May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept 12

1-4 p.m.

Delaney Farm Open Days

Enjoy a performance, try a historic craft & tour the historic buildings to learn about the people who lived 120 years ago.

Free

Sat., May 16

9-11 a.m.

DeLaney Farm Clean Up Day

Volunteer to help clean up the historic district & buildings at DeLaney Farm.

Register: 303-739-6661

Pioneer Camp

Session 1: June 22-26

Session 2: July 13-17

Mon.-Fri., 9 am – noon

Ages 8-12 Learn about the lives of pioneers & cowboys on Colorado's eastern plains in the late 1800's. Wear sunscreen & closed-toe shoes.

\$110 (\$90 Resident)

CENTENNIAL HOUSE

1671 Galena St., Aurora

Sat., May 2

2-3 p.m.

Galena Street Walking Tour

Join Historic Sites staff on a tour of Galena Street to explore Aurora's earliest beginnings.

Register: 303-739-6661

Free

**First Sat. of each month (May-Sept)
May 2, June 6, July 4, Aug 1, Sept 5
1-4 p.m.**

Centennial House Open Days

Celebrate Victorian life with a tour of Centennial House, one of Aurora's original homes. Free

*Larry Wilterdink sent me this email information. I am sure some of you have seen it before, but I thought it would be interesting to read about what has changed since 1914 to 2015. Hope you enjoy it. **The Year is 1914...very few lived long enough to see 2014.***

The year is 1914—One hundred years ago. What a difference a century makes! Here are some statistics for the year 1914.

- Average life expectancy for men was 47 years.
- Fuel for a car was sold in drug stores only.
- Only 14 % of the homes had a bathtub.
- Only 8 % of the homes had a telephone.
- There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.
- The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year.
- A dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year
- More than 95 % of all births took place at home
- Ninety % of all Doctors had No College Education. Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press **and** the government as “substandard.”
- Sugar cost four cents a pound.
- Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
- Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.
- Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo
- Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.

- The five leading causes of death were: pneumonia and influenza, Tuberculosis, Diarrhea, Heart disease, and Stroke.
- The American flag had 45 stars
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was only 30!
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.
- There was neither a Mother's Day nor a Father's Day.
- Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and only 6 % of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores. Back then pharmacists said, “Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is, in fact , a perfect guardian of health!” (Shocking?)
- Eighteen % of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.
- There were about 230 reported murders in the **Entire U.S.A.!**

If anyone would like to receive the newsletter by email and let the Aurora Historical Society save the postage, Please contact Lynne Evans at 303-671-0874 or lyevans@comcast.net Also-If you have questions, comments, or suggestions about the newsletter you can contact me as well.

**Please check out the AHS Website:
<http://aurorahistoricalociety.org>**

If anyone would like to write an article for the newsletter, I would be happy to have it. Just contact me at the number above.

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