

The Advocate Newsletter

Volume 43; Number 1; January 2019

Aurora Historical Society

Aurora, Colorado



Embrace your city, your past

Presidents Letter January 2019

Happy New Year! Time has a habit of really flying by, especially 2018, at least to all those I have talked to. We are eagerly looking forward to adventures that await us as the society is growing and interest in our programs and those of the Museum.

The first up this year will be our annual meeting on January 22 at 6 pm at the History Museum. We have some of the best cooks in Aurora and can't wait. The society will provide the chicken and ham, so gear your side dishes or desserts to that sort of menu. Please RSVP to Carolyn Brassell <720-470-4551> so we will know how many to plan for. Put it on your new calendar now, we so look forward to seeing everyone there!

Hope you have all seen the exhibit on Brew Pubs around Aurora and their impact on our economy. The brown bag lunch, at the Museum, is free to Society members on Jan. 16, featuring a professor from DU speaking about that very subject.

Again, Happy 2019, and look forward to seeing you all at the annual meeting.

Best wishes for the year ahead!
Sandy Sweeney, President

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Historical Society Officers

President: Sandy Sweeney (303-854-4249)

Vice President: Nadine Caldwell

Secretary: Dolly Gray

Treasurer: Michael Lockwood

Directors: Dexter Harding, Carolyn Brassell

Membership: Larry Wilterdink

Hospitality: Caroline Brassell

Historian: Michael Lockwood

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

Program Committee: Dolly Gray, Lynne Evans,
Sandy Sweeney, Carolyn Brassell

Education- Vacant

If anyone is interested, please contact Sandy Sweeney @ 303-854-4249 or Livelyline@aol.com

**UPCOMING
events**

Join us on January 22nd at the Aurora History Museum at 6:00 p.m. for our Annual Potluck Dinner. Drake Brownfield, the Historic Preservation Specialist for the City of Aurora will talk about Historic Preservation Projects in the city.



IT'S TIME TO PAY YOUR 2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES

On **January 1, 2019**, it is time to send your dues payments for year 2019 to Michael Lockwood, 1629 Galena St., Aurora, CO 80010. Our membership dues come due in January each year now and with the New Year arriving please send your dues payment.

	Memberships
Family	\$15.00
Contributing	\$30.00
Business/Corporate	\$200.00
Life	\$200.00
Newsletter mailing	\$5.00

You can now pay your dues online at the AHS website on the join today page using PayPal if you would like or you can mail them in.

<http://auroracohistoricalsociety.org/join-today/>

Because of the increased costs of postage and printing, we are asking that you add \$5.00 to your membership cost if you wish to have the newsletter mailed to you.



Remembering Aurora

Michael Lockwood, Aurora Historical Society

An Aurora native, a graduate of the Aurora Public Schools (Vaughn Elementary, North Middle School & Aurora Central High School) and still living less than 2 miles from where I grew up, Aurora has been a big part of my life ever since I was born. Having grown up from our talking Myna bird. Mr. Howard published a humorous map of Aurora showing the homes to which deliveries were made. This promotion was featured in a national drug publication.

REMEMBERING: Cooking Disasters



As you can imagine, back in the 60's my mom spent much of her time cooking. Growing up I would watch her go to her recipe box and make item after item of family favorites. One of them was a cottage cheese & Jell-O fruit salad that was simply cottage cheese, Jell-O powder, whipped cream and crushed pineapple chilled for 2 hours. Around the age of 13 or so and home alone I was determined to help out and impress my mom by making some along with a pan of corn bread. Being 13 I wasn't smart enough to check to see if we had all the ingredients on hand ahead of time. Sparing you the ugly details, needless to say, adding blue food coloring didn't make the fruit salad any more appealing. And it was a bright blue. Funny, no one touched it. As for the corn bread, well, when you're taking it out of the oven and part of your bare hand touches the pan, and in pain you accidentally toss the pan in the air, and it does a perfect 180-degree flip, and lands face down on the oven door. Well, it doesn't get eaten either. And you get to clean up the mess. Mom's words of wisdom – next time wait for me to help.

Time waits for no man and our history eventually becomes shared memories of people and places. Preservation can help keep those memories a little more tangible so that we can share with future generations.





Spotlight on the Mayors of Aurora

Did you know that the Town of Fletcher/City of Aurora have had 44 Mayors since its beginnings back in 1891? With each issue of the Advocate Newsletter we'll take a quick look at each of them. Special thanks to Carolyn Brassell for her research and assistance.

MAYOR #13

Vincent T. O'Donald

- Served from 1910 – 1911
- Born 1837 in Indiana (this was our 3rd Mayor who was born in Indiana)
- Came to Colorado after 1900
- Married Harriet Lawhead 22 April 1856
- Has four children, Charles, Maggie, Jessie and Louis Edward
- He would have been 73 years old when he became Mayor
- He died on 2 Dec 1912 and is buried at Fairmount Cemetery
- Colorado Governor at the time he was Mayor was John Shafroth
- While he was in office:
 - 1910 census shows population of the Town of Aurora to be 679
 - Salary for the Town attorney was \$100 per year
 - Dr. Staunton was appointed town physician
 - Permission was granted to shoot on Speck Lake
 - Contract awarded to lay sidewalks in front of lots where owners were delinquent
 - Aurora Heights was approved as an addition to the Town of Aurora
 - Fee of \$5 for pulling cart to a fire was abolished

Trivia Question Answers:

1. c 2. b 3. a 4. b

The Michael Ackmans are Still Making History Mr. Ackman Worked 46 Years at Fitzsimons Reprinted from the March 1980 Advocate

There are many good citizens in Aurora. Two of these Aurorans are not only “good people,” as friends and neighbors call them, but also are pioneers in activities that senior citizens can do today. The names of these two citizens are Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ackman.

Their comfortable home at 1623 Dayton Street has been lived in continuously since 1922. The Ackman's built this house 58 years ago. It was not erected as a person sees the house today, but was enlarged three different times, the last one 20 years ago (1960s).



This is a shot of the house in 2017 from google maps

At the time Mr. Ackman built his home, two rooms to begin with, there were few other houses in the block. To the north on Dayton Street was the home of his father-in-law, William Granville Logsdon; next to it, the home of his brother-in-law, Thomas Wilson; then the Jay Chapins' home; and finally, the Fred Crombies' house, the last one in the sparsely settled block.



Michael and Lola Ackman

When Mr. Ackman constructed the original two rooms, there was no indoor plumbing; there was an outside toilet. Water was brought into the kitchen from a well in the yard. It was not until he enlarged the house that indoor plumbing became a reality.

It was three years earlier in the fall of the year that Mr. Ackman had come from Kansas City to Aurora to be in the Army Guard at U. S. Army Hospital No. 21, renamed Fitzsimons General Hospital on July 1, 1920. “It wasn't because I liked to come here,” said this man

who smiles so readily, “but I was ordered out from Jefferson Barracks in Missouri.”

On his way to Colorado, he was scared because no one had ever heard of the state. Someone told him that Colorado was a cold place, worse than Alaska, and he believed what he was hearing. The next morning when he arrived, the weather was clear but with snow on the ground and “wind that could freeze a person to death.”

Mr. Ackman met his wife here, was married and stayed instead of going back home. He married Lola Logsdon on September 27, 1921, in the Courthouse in Denver. At the time he had just been mustered out of the Army and had taken lodging with the Logsdons. But that is not how they happened to meet according to Mrs. Logsdon.

Each one had come out of a Denver movie, and they walked together to the place where passengers waited for the streetcar. They rode the street car to Aurora, and Mr. Ackman walked her home.

“It’s been 58 years,” said Mr. Ackman proudly. He is now 82 years of age and she is 80. (This was in 1980).

When his Army career ended, this soldier landed his first job---digging a basement for Roland P. Bowser, who was building a home nearby. “It’s amazing; the men get out of the Army with hands of a woman,” said Mr. Ackman. All the skin came off his hands when he used the shovel, but he finished the work.

Then Mr. Crombie asked him if he would like a job for two weeks. There was a need for a man in the boiler room at the hospital; it was a contract job. This young man took the job and worked at Fitzsimons 46 years before retiring.

“I finally graduated from the laborer’s job and became a ‘jack-of-all trades and master of none,’” commented Mr. Ackman. His last job was as a locksmith.

On one wall of their home are two pictures of two young men. Mrs. Ackman said that they were photographs of their two children: Winferd, who was drowned in 1942 at the age of 20 in Windsor Lake (it is in Windsor Gardens), and George, who was a Marine at the time. George later married a girl from Dubuque, Iowa, by the name of June Whitfield. He is now a battalion chief with the Fire Department in Aurora.

The George Ackmans also have two children: Michael and Debra. Mr. Ackman’s chest swelled with pride as he said that Michael had just started as a recruit



in the Aurora Fire Department. Debby works in the office in Glendale. A close family, the Ackmans had seen their granddaughter that morning as their grandson late in the

afternoon. (Note: Captain Mike Ackman has served the community of Aurora for many years. Pictured above

from an article that appeared in the *Sentinel* January 2018. <https://www.sentinelcolorado.com/news/life-fathers-like-sons-second-gen-aurora-firefighters-step-career-regret/>).

Lola is an Aurora Girl

Lola is an Aurora girl, her parents had come from their farm near St. Joseph, Missouri, with their three daughters, Cora, Cecil, and Lola, in 1919. Her brothers, Samuel, Lewis, and Arch stayed in Missouri. The family purchased their home at 1625 Dayton Street in 1919.

Her sister, Cora, married Lewis Ballard, Aurora’s marshal and later Adams County sheriff. After her husband died, Cora married Herman Farney, who became sheriff of Adams County and later an Aurora councilman. Their children are Wade, Verda, Vena and Jim.

Her other sister, Cecil married Thomas Wilson and has three children: Waldo; Thomas, Jr.; and William. Waldo has been the rural mail carrier for Aurora for many years. Thomas, Jr. also worked for the postal service. William was a member of the Aurora Fire Department.

Wade, Thomas, Jr., and William have since died.

Stores on Colfax

When the Ackmans wanted to shop for groceries, they walked the short distance to Mr. Duncan’s store, which was later owned by Bob Evans and then by Ted Swedborg. “In those days a person could smell oranges all the way down there,” sighed Mr. Ackman. “And a person could smell the kerosene,” he continued. As far as they remember, it was the only grocery store in Aurora in the 1920’s.

Mrs. Ackman also recalled that there was a feed store on Colfax Avenue because she used to walk up there every week to weigh herself on the big scales. The whole block between Dayton and Elmira Streets on the north side of Colfax was an open field. The Blaisdell sisters opened their Sunlight Shop later.

When the couple began their married life, their transportation was their feet and the street car which ran on the south side of Colfax and turned around at Geneva Street. Then, in 1925, the Ackmans purchased their first car, a Model T, “of course.” They ran it about four years before purchasing another one. There were Dodges and Chevies for sale, but most people liked Fords.

“Don’t mention starting my Ford on cold mornings. I used to put ashes, hot ones, under the motor, jack up the wheels and crank it,” reminisced Mr. Ackman. By the time it started sometimes, he was ready to go to bed and couldn’t drive it. Gas was 13 cents a gallon.

In the 1920’s, Colfax Avenue was paved on the north side, the Adams County side, and was a “mud hole” on the south side, the Arapahoe County side. The counties then didn’t get along as they do now; even the cities did not. If a Denverite drove a car in Aurora, the city marshal would give him a ticket just to fine him three or

four dollars; the same thing would happen to an Auroran in Denver. Now the cities cooperate.

“The Black Cats”

People were different in those days. They were “funnier and friendlier.” Mr. Ackman’s father-in-law, Mr. Bowser, and their friends would sit in the window of the building where Friend’s Furniture was located to see who could spit the farthest. They would chew their tobacco and talk about the good times they had. This get-together was an afternoon’s pleasure that took place often.

For recreation, the family went to ball games and held picnics. Baseball was played in the vacant field between Dayton and Elmira Streets on Colfax Avenue. The Aurora baseball team was known as the “Black Cats,” He remembers the “Black Cats” playing the “House of David,” a Denver team, and the “White Elephants,” a black team. The Aurora team usually played its games on Saturdays, occasionally on Sundays. The game was called at dark because there were no lights for ball parks in those days.

The Ackman’s often picnicked with their friends in Denver’s City Park.

A far-away look came into Mr. Ackman’s eyes as he began to philosophize. Life was not only slower, but it was better then. “You knew everyone, and everyone knew you,” he offered. “Now everyone is in such a hurry. It is “cars, cars, cars.”

“We didn’t experience any difficulties in the 20’s,” said Mr. Ackman. It seemed to him people enjoyed life more than they do now. If men wanted to go hunting, they could to the dump, where King Soopers is now located (Montview Boulevard and Dayton Street), and shoot rabbits. Hunters could also have the fun of hunting cottontails and jack rabbits where Montbello is now. Or hunters could look for pheasants to shoot on Brighton Boulevard.

Town Hall

Looking out his large front window, Mr. Ackman pointed to the Fire Station at 16th Avenue and Elmira Street and said, “That is where the Town Hall was. It was a big building, kinda like a church; it was a two-story building with a steeple on it.” Whenever there was a fire, the bell was rung. Most of the men in the town were Volunteer Firemen, but he was the exception. Although, a Mr. Knudsen wanted him to join, he never did and doesn’t remember why he didn’t.

There were quite a few fires. Mr. Ackman recalls a “two-wheeled cart with a lot of hose on it,” but it seemed to him the Volunteer Fire Department didn’t do much good. The houses or buildings usually burned to the ground.

Aurora’s problems were the same then as they are now. There was not enough money to run the Town. The streets were dirt. He recalled his brother-in-law, Tommy Wilson, carrying a shovel to dig out a car stuck in the mud in Dayton Street. “It was a muddy place,” he concluded shaking his head.

Asked whether the taxes to pay off the water bonds and their interest were too high, Mr. Ackman said, “No,” (The author had felt the high taxes placed on Aurora property by the Supreme Court decision of 1917 had discouraged people from moving to Aurora). The taxes on his home were either \$19 or \$23. He complained about his taxes like everyone else, but he really didn’t feel that they were excessive.

Mr. Ackman’s water rates were \$3.50 for three months. Aurora was getting its water from Denver, and the water pressure was good.

There was transportation to Denver by streetcar in case a family didn’t own a car. Men who worked at Fitzsimons not only lived in Aurora, but also Denver and Englewood. They didn’t take the streetcar, they drove their cars to work.

Mr. Ackman felt the reason for the slow growth of Aurora was that Denver people just didn’t want to move out because it was too far to go to Denver to work. Aurora grew a little after Fitzsimons was located here because of the jobs and because families moved here to be near the patients. It was not, however, until World War II that Aurora started to “blossom out.”

Depression and Dust

As far as the Depression was concerned, Mr. Ackman had a job, but he remembers the Depression only too well. He saw the people looking for jobs wherever he went in Denver. One man who used to work with him asked him, “Why do you want to work for 50 cents an hour?” His answer was that he had to stay on the job or lose it.

When W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration) came into being, the rate was 35 cents an hour. Many good workers were taking anything they could get. There were soup lines in Denver, but Mr. Ackman doesn’t remember anything like that in Aurora.

Accompanying the Depression was Dust Bowl Days. Someone said, “It was blowing in Kansas; that’s where Colorado came from.” There was no use trying to stop the dust from coming into your house. No matter what was tried, the dust came in; so, people just let it.

There were so many millers one year that they stopped the coal train from coming into Fitzsimons, according to Mr. Ackman. The track had become so greasy from millers it was impossible for the train to make it up the hill.

Another memory, even more unbelievable to Mr. Ackman, was seeing a barbed wire fence that had been eaten by grasshoppers.

Many early day residents kept a cow and chicken in their backyards. The Ackmans didn’t have a cow, but they did keep a special breed of chickens in addition to their white leghorns and Wyandottes. The Brahma was “half-way between a turkey and a chicken.” It had feathered legs and a small tail and wings. It was generally white with a black stripe around the neck. This couple sold eggs and also had a vegetable garden for their own use “to keep from starving.”

The Depression days were hard especially when the First National Bank at Colfax and Dayton closed after the Bank Holiday of March 4, 1933. Mr. Ackman didn't have any money in the bank because he didn't have any extra money. At that time, he said, "The dollar bill looked like an Army blanket to us." They lived "from day to day." Many Aurora residents, however, did lose their money.

Lifetime Job

Mr. Ackman had a job; so therefore, he was lucky even though he had lost a leg in 1922. The story of his accident began with the train which brought coal to Fitzsimons. It ran on a spur from Bunnell, the station on the mainline of the Union Pacific Railroad, through what is now Morris Heights to Fitzsimons. Enormous quantities of coal were used for the heating plant.

At that time, he was a brakeman on the large crane that was used to handle the coal cars. For the first time that morning, a 100,000 ton car was brought in. The air brakes were set. The crane tried to get it off the line to push it into the boiler room. Mr. Ackman, who was standing on the platform of the car, had a pick handle and tried to release the brakes. The handle broke; he fell off. The car was barely moving, but three of his toes were smashed.

The result was seven operations; each time the doctors took a little more of his leg. By the time it was four inches below his knee. The doctors fitted him with an artificial leg. He had to go right back to work because he had only one more day of compensation.

The officers were "really wonderful because they told him to take it easy, not to rush, and if the leg became blistered, to take it off and cool it off." As a result of this accident, Mr. Ackman was given a choice: a cash settlement or a life time job at Fitzsimons.

A Captain Harris recommended that Mr. Ackman take the job; otherwise he said that he might invest in a gold mine and have nothing. There was always the chance that Fitzsimons might close (there had been rumors), and he could take a job on another base in the United States or its possessions. If he failed to do so, then he would be out of a job.

Instead of Fitzsimons closing in, the fight to keep it open in the 1930's was won. Joining this fight which included citizens and political leaders of Aurora and Denver and outstanding military was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who came to see Fitzsimons twice, the first time as President-Elect.

Mr. Ackman remembers President Roosevelt's first visit well because he walked up to the car in which the President-Elect was riding. He did not know that it was against the law. Someone grabbed him by the arm, jerked him, and said, "Get away from there."

Mr. Ackman asked what was the matter, and the man answered, "That is the President-Elect of the United States."

President-Elect Roosevelt said, in his speech, that this beautiful base should not be closed; and he pledged to

build a larger facility, which was done. His next visit came during World War II. Then, according to Mr. Ackman, a person could not get within a block of where he was.

Previous to Roosevelt's visits, President Warren G. Harding had stopped on his way to Alaska. Another president whom Mr. Ackman saw was President Dwight Eisenhower, who recuperated from a heart attack at the hospital in 1955.

Tubercular Ward

Many service men came to Fitzsimons for tuberculosis care. Mr. Ackman worked in one of the tubercular wards. He described the wards as having no walls on the south side. There was only a canvas which was used as a drape.

The beds were pushed in and out, so that the men could sleep in the fresh air. When it snowed, Mr. Ackman said, "The next morning it looked like a graveyard, snow over the boys." Then the beds would be dragged in, and the men would get their breakfasts.

In the back room of the building, the doctors operated on the patients. They would take out a section of the men's ribs. The heart could even be seen beating. Mr. Ackman remembers one patient being dressed; he could see only a membrane over the man's heart.

Later the doctors gave the men shots and drew fluid from the patients' lungs. Then came the heliotherapy that was begun by a Colonel Bruns. Much of the treatment was experimental because the doctors didn't seem to know much about the disease. In this respect it was similar to the flu in 1918.

Col. Carroll D. Buck

Mr. Ackman worked under Guy Marin who was a one-armed man and who was his boss for years. The Hospital was split into two sections: the medical and the quartermaster. The latter took care of repairs, maintenance, road building, construction, and labor.

During the Depression, Col. Carroll D. Buck was in charge of the base. Mr. Ackman remembers one incident well—for three days no lights could be turned on. There was no electricity. All work had to be done by hand. Congress had not approved the appropriations for operation of the Hospital.

Col Buck, who was "One of the men," told Mr. Ackman to give the men the tools if they wished to work by hand. Then he went to Washington D.C. to get more money for the Hospital. Col Buck came back sooner than he was expected.

Meeting Col. Buck one day, Mr. Ackman asked him, "How did you come out?"

He replied, "The same door that I went in."

Col. Buck was unable to get any appropriations. Then he went on to say that if the officials in Washington D.C., never saw his face again "They would be satisfied."

Mr. Ackman has a picture of which he is particularly proud. It is an extremely wide one which includes the officers and men, their wives and families, at the 151st

anniversary celebration of the Quartermaster Corps held June 6, 1926, in Washington Park in Denver. More than 200 people came and are in the photograph. Mr. Ackman pointed out the uniforms of the officers, especially their leather leggings. The picnic was an annual event that cost 25 cents which included food and drinks.

Looking at the picture and hearing Mr. Ackman talk about the picnic; the author began to feel that the atmosphere at Fitzsimons was one of "one big family." Mr. Ackman not only enjoyed the 46 years that he worked there, but said, "I have enjoyed my life since the day I can remember anything."

From Yugoslavia

This man who is so enthusiastic about life came from Ribnic, Croatia, a division within Yugoslavia. He had wanted his neighbor, Mrs. Mary Brown, on her Yugoslavian trip to visit his home town to see if the church in which he was baptized (it was a thousand years old at the time) was still standing. He came to the United States at the age of 16 to live with his mother who lived in Kansas City.

Then this young man "got smart" and joined the Army which brought him to the hospital where he was a member of the Guard. His good fortune continued when he found his "guardian angel," married her and lived happily ever after. Philosophizing again, Mr. Ackman said, "It's not so good a world, but it's the best one I'll ever live in; so, I will enjoy it while I can."

Making History

In his own way, Mr. Ackman is making history. After he retired from Fitzsimons, he began to walk in Joliet Park and around Aurora picking up cans, bottles, papers, and other trash with a pointed stick.

He does this public service in order to keep the park (which he can see from his front window) clean. He loves to see families picnic and have fun in the park. He deplores those persons who litter and turn their dogs loose.

Since there were no parks in his native land, he really loves the land set aside for parks in this country. One friend, Mrs. A. L. Seibert, greatly appreciates what Mr. Ackman does. She wrote a letter to the Lyndon Johnsons, who then resided in the White House, about Mr. Ackman's activities.

The following letter was received by Mr. Ackman:

**The White House
Washington**

November 22, 1967

Dear Mr. Ackman:

Mrs. A. L. Seibert written to me about your personal anti-litter campaign in Aurora City Park (now Joliet Park).

I was delighted to learn of your dedicated efforts to keep the park beautiful, and I hope that your fine

example will inspire others to preserve---not blight---the beauty of our land.

Thank you so much for caring about a more beautiful city.

**Sincerely,
Lady Bird Johnson
Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson**

Making more History

At age 82 this energetic man is still making history. He gets up nearly every morning at 4 am (unless it rains or snows), prepares his breakfast and sets off on his bicycle to find aluminum cans.

He does this activity for three reasons: to get the exercise he feels he needs, to remove the unsightly cans from the park and streets, and to recycle the cans. Usually he has four or five bags of cans which he takes to the recycling center.

Riding his bicycle so early in the morning has advantages; he rarely sees anyone, nor does he have to worry about the traffic. During the day, people are in such a hurry and drive their cars so fast.

Another project was collecting newspapers for recycling. He no longer carries on this one because children are bringing newspapers to schools for their paper drives.

Mr. Ackman wishes that older resident would follow his example in trying to keep the city clean. He has read that there are 17 million older people in the United States. These men and women would be doing a real public service if they only picked up one piece of pater each day in a park or on the street.

The Ackmans are also patriotic. They have always flown their Flag in front of their house every day except when the weather is bad. Again, it was Mrs. Seibert, who wrote a letter requesting that a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol be sent to the Ackmans.

The following letter came to them:

U.S. Senate

Dear Mr. Ackman:

I am pleased to inform you that a U.S. Flag is being flown over the Capitol in your honor at the request of Mrs. Alton L. Seibert. It is a pleasure to have this done for such a fine citizen and I hope you will receive many enjoyable days of flying our great Flag.

As soon as I receive the Flag, I will forward it to you immediately.

**With best wishes,
Gary Hart**

The flag not only arrived but also a framed statement: **This is to certify that the accompanying Flag was flown over the U.S. Capitol on August 20, 1979, at the request of the Honorable Gary Hart, U. S. Senator.**

This Flag will be presented to Mr. Mike Ackman of Aurora, Colorado.

**George M. White, FAIA
Architect of the Capitol**

The Ackmans wanted the author to feel the embroidered stars of the Flag. Their Flag, which is worn, has only printed stars on it. The new flag is very precious to them; it will be flown only on special days. Decoration Day, Flag Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day. Otherwise, the Flag with the embroidered stars will remain in the box in which it comes.

TRIVIA

CHALLENGE

City of Aurora Trivia Questions

1. The Hollywood Theatre was opened in ?
 - a. 1930
 - b. 1927
 - c. 1925



2. The former Lowry bombing and gunnery range is located
 - a. East of the Aurora Reservoir and just north of Jewell Street
 - b. East of the Aurora Reservoir and just south of Yale Street
 - c. East of the Aurora Reservoir and just south of County Line Road



3. Aurora's police chief in 1950 was?
 - a. Spencer Garrett
 - b. Ray Moorhead
 - c. William Hawkins



4. The building pictured below is the
 - a. Fitzsimons infirmary building 511
 - b. Fitzsimons Red Cross building
 - c. Lowry Air Corp Technical School building





Got Questions?

Ask a Historian

Aurora Historical Society
mdlkel@aol.com

This question came to us from Bob Beach, whose parents owned the Aurora Barber shop on Colfax years ago.

What ever became of the old Dutch Mill at Peoria and Colfax?

In 1927 Arthur Hart purchased 5 acres of land on the corner of Peoria and Colfax where he built a house for his family and ten cottages to rent to travelers passing through Aurora. Hart got the idea of a windmill from a Van de Camp food label and he built it to be a tearoom but it proved to be too small, so it became the office for Cottage Camp.

Over the years the cottage has been many, many things including a barber shop, jewelry store, cigarette shop, home décor craft shop, clock repair shop and a nail



courtesy of the Aurora History Museum

salon. The land was eventually purchased by Brent's Place, a long-term home away from home for families and children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses while they receive treatment at local hospitals. Realizing that the Dutch Mill might be in danger, attempts were made to see if Brent's Place would keep the Mill on their property and reuse it in some fashion. That effort did not produce any results so concerned citizens and the Aurora Preservation Commission investigated ways to save the Mill and relocate it elsewhere. Unfortunately, in the end the costs of stabilizing the Mill for relocation and the actual move itself exceeded over \$100,000 and fundraising efforts fell short. The Mill is no longer with us.

Aurora Democrat Ad from Wednesday, December 22, 1909 3 cans of corn for .25

THE AURORA DEMOCRAT
AURORA, COLORADO, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1909

Merry Christmas Democrat New Year

Aurora Hardware Co.

We Carry a complete Line of Hardware
Including Heating Stoves Ranges, Cooking Utensils Crockery Glass Paints Barb Wire, Etc.

We Cater to Farmer's Trade

Gershom Jones, Mgr - Colfax and Dallas street

Shelburn & Ruggles
OUR OLDEST FIRM

CORN FED MEATS	Aurora Democrat.	NEW STOCK
Meats:	NO. 9.	BEST GROCERIES THAT MONEY CAN BUY AND AT A FAIR PRICE.
5 lb Lard . . . 80c	NOTICE—This coupon is good for 10 cents in cash with every \$1.00 purchase, when presented at the store of Shelburn and Ruggles.	We Cater to Ranches.
3 lbs 50c	CUT THIS OUT AND BRING TO US	BRING IN YOUR PRODUCE.
Specials		
2 kgm. Cans		
4 lbs. Best Flour		
2 lbs. Coffee		
2 lbs. Corn		
2 lbs. Pork		

Colfax and Dayton Street: - - Aurora.
Phone York 4892. Phone York 4892.

Aurora History Museum Exhibits and Events Winter 2019

Ukulele and Hula Lessons
3rd Saturday of each month
Jan. 19, Feb. 16
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
FREE! All levels welcome. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

Drink Local Passport
Nov. 20, 2018 – April 7, 2019

Visit participating breweries and purchase a drink brewed by the location, then ask for a stamp in your passport. 6 stamps earn a pint glass you can pick up at the Aurora History Museum. While supplies last. See passport book or website for further details.

VOLUNTEER
Volunteer for National History Day in Aurora on March 16. Support local middle and high school students by judging projects or helping with the event. Contact us for details jlira@auroragov.org or 303.739.6663.

HISTORIC SITES

Story Line is now available online!
Visit AuroraGov.org/HistoricSites to see which historic landmarks have a recorded story line.

BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES

Wed., noon-12:45 p.m.

\$4 (\$3 Resident)

Aurora Historical Society members: Free

Bring your lunch

Beer Archaeology

January 16

In addition to lecturing for the University of Colorado, Travis Rupp is the Innovation and Wood Cellar Manager at Avery Brewing Company. Rupp shares his observations on craft beer's impact on the local community.

Cider in Aurora

February 20

Haykin Family Cider has the distinction of being Aurora's only operating small batch cidery. Founders Daniel and Talia Haykin talk about the cider making process and celebrate their first year in Aurora.

EXHIBITS

Drink Local: Aurora's Craft Beer Scene

Nov. 20, 2018 – April 7, 2019

This exhibition showcases the history of craft beer in Aurora and the passion Coloradans hold for the brewing industry. Learn about the people, companies and beverages that makeup Aurora's dynamic craft beer scene.

Cultivating Community: Hoery Family Photos

Dec. 11, 2018-Mar. 10, 2019

Experience Aurora through 100-year-old photographs of the Hoery family. Whether by farming, education, business ownership, land stewardship or leisure – the Hoery family helped shape early Aurora's community and created an enduring legacy.

Last Call: Drink Local at the Aurora History Museum

Sat. Apr. 6

1 – 5 p.m.

Celebrate Aurora's impressive craft beverage community at this one-time-only event. Ticket includes unlimited beverage tastings, exclusive drink releases and a commemorative tasting glass. Tickets on sale March 1.

Teamwork • Excellence • Accountability • Safety • Integrity • Communication

Our Corporate Sponsors



1301 S. Havana Street Aurora, CO

<http://www.suss.net/showroom/buick>

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

Please visit the Aurora Historical Society Website <http://auroracohistoricalsociety.org/>



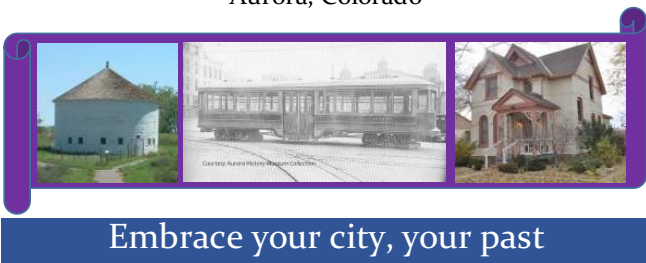
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Please answer our survey questions online, by mail, or email to Michael Lockwood, 1629 Galena St., Aurora, CO 80010 or on the website at <http://auroracohistoricalsociety.org/>

Or email at evanslynne13@gmail.com

Aurora Historical Society

Aurora, Colorado



January 2019

We're always looking for ways to make the Aurora Historical Society better. Your feedback is very important to us, after all, you ARE the Society. Please take a few minutes and complete the brief questionnaire so that we can better serve our members.

1. Is there a better time in the evening to hold the meetings or is the current time of 7:00 pm a good time?

- a. 7:00 is a good time
- b. I'd rather see them held at _____ pm

2. What prompted you to join the Aurora Historical Society?

- a. _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

3. How would you rate the speakers that are provided?

- a. Excellent
- b. Very Good
- c. Average
-

- d. Could be Better
- e. Poor

4. Have you attended the annual ice cream social within the last 2 years?

- a. Yes
- b. No


5. What more would you like to see from the Aurora Historical Society?

- a. _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Aurora Regional Contest for National History Day

March 16, 2019



What is National History Day?

National History Day is a literacy and social studies program for middle and high school students. Students research topics and produce projects in one of five categories: website, paper, documentary, exhibit or performance.

Volunteers serve as judges to rank student projects. More volunteers means more students can compete at the contest.

- Must be 18 or older.
- No experience or history background necessary.
- Online training available.
- Breakfast and lunch provided.
- Time commitment: from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and/or from noon to 3:30 p.m.
- Location: Anschutz Medical Campus, Education II South • 13121 East 17th Ave.

For more information and to sign up:
auroranhdc.weebly.com
 Contact Jessica Lira • jlira@auroragov.org
 303.739.6663

