

# The Advocate Newsletter

Volume 46; Number 1

January 2022

## Aurora Historical Society

Aurora, Colorado



### Embrace your city, your past

#### January President's Letter

Dear Aurora Historical Society Members,

Happy New Year to All!

I hope 2022 treats us better than 2020 and 2021 did. Covid is still affecting us all. Just when we thought things were improving new strains and new outbreaks happen.

It was great to see your faces at the November meeting. In person for the first time since our 2020 Potluck meeting in January. A special thanks to Keith Occult for stepping in for Johnny Barber and talking about Colfax.

**As of now, we are canceling our annual potluck dinner meeting on January 25, 2022**, because of the high numbers of new covid cases. We will try and reschedule for May.

We will vote on the bylaw changes posted later in the newsletter at the March meeting if it is safer to meet then. So read them over and ask any questions you may have at the meeting

We have great programs planned for March and May and are looking into some field trips too. It is my hope that we can re-establish our Aurora Birthday party in April and the Ice Cream social in June. Be on the lookout for more information concerning these events. Don't forget the lunchtime lectures either.

I hope you are all safe and well.

*Lynne Evans*

Aurora Historical Society President



**January 25, 2022, Annual Potluck Dinner: Cancelled because of Covid. We will try and reschedule in May 24th.**

**March 22, 2022** Ivy Baldwin: Colorado's Tightrope Walker and Daredevil – by historian Dr. Jack Stokes Ballard at 6pm at the Aurora History Museum



**IT'S TIME TO PAY YOUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES**  
 It is time to send your dues payments for year 2022 to Michael Lockwood, 1100 Windflower Lane, Woodland Park, CO 80863. Our membership dues come due in January each year now and with the New Year arriving please send your dues payment. **NOTE: A proposed bylaw change may change the dues categories and amounts in February. See bylaws later in this newsletter.**

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/>

**Historical Society Officers**

- President, Newsletter, & Website:** Lynne Evans  
303-671-0874 [lyevans@comcast.net](mailto:lyevans@comcast.net)
- Vice President:** Nadine Caldwell
- Secretary:** Gregg Chase
- Treasurer:** Michael Lockwood
- Directors:** Susan Hicks, Sandy Sweeney, & Karen Schwieder
- Membership:** Michael Lockwood
- Hospitality:** Vacant
- Historian:** Michael Lockwood
- Program Committee:** Susan Hicks
- Education:** Vacant

If anyone is interested, please contact Lynne Evans 303-671-0874 [lyevans@comcast.net](mailto:lyevans@comcast.net)

**If anyone is interested in taking over the Newsletter or the website or both, please let me know.**

**Trivia Question Answers:**

1. b 2) c 3) b 4) a 5) c



**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 here, I have several memories that I'd love to provide for your reading pleasure via The Advocate newsletter. For those of you who have Aurora connections that go back as far as the 1950's the recollections presented may bring back waves of nostalgia. And while I have 60 years of memories to relate, if you have some stories you'd like to share, please feel free to contact us at the Aurora Historical web site:

[www.auroracohistoricalsociety.org](http://www.auroracohistoricalsociety.org)

**REMEMBERING: Midnight Bowling**



I was in my early 20's and going out to a bar or out to a fancy dinner wasn't quite my style. However, I spent

## Spotlight on the Mayors of Aurora



Did you know that the Town of Fletcher/City of Aurora have had 43 Mayors since its beginnings back in 1891? With each issue of the Advocate Newsletter, we'll take a quick look at each of them.

### MAYOR #30 Chester "Chet" E. Tupps

- Served from 1948 – 1953
- He was born on January 25, 1894 in Whetstone, Ohio
- He was a farmer and owned the Big Springs Ranch
- Married to Ida Shifley in 1919
- Their children were son Calvin & daughters Norma, Eunice & Florence
- He came to Aurora in 1945 from Watkins, Colorado
- He ran for the State Senate but lost
- He lived at 9707 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. (17<sup>th</sup> and Dayton)
- He died on September 7, 1979 and is buried in Mount View Cemetery in Bennett, CO
- He raised prize winning Black Angus cattle and had 2,000 acres of wheat near Watkins
- Colorado Governors at the time he was Mayor were William Knous, Walter Johnson & Daniel Thornton
- While he was in office:
  - Helped launch the "Aurora – City of Hospitality" campaign to attract businesses in 1952
  - Aurora adopted the Council-Manager form of government in 1951
  - Established a water department in 1949
  - Denver acquired Aurora land to expand a Stapleton runway, cutting Havana St. in 1951
  - Aurora's population grew to 11,421 in 1950 (up from 3,437 in 1940)
  - Arranged for expansion of Stapleton Airport

many, many nights at bowling alleys bowling in various leagues. So, it should come as no surprise that one year my sister and I were at Bowl Aurora for an evening of bowling with the lights out (hence the name midnight bowling) and celebrating the coming New Year. The bowling alley supplied some



appetizers and at midnight a glass of champagne. Being a pretty good bowler with an average around 190, but bowling with the lights out was a unique experience. We sure had a good time, and it was great way to celebrate the start of a new year.

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.



**Sad News:** Carolyn Brassell, AHS board Member for many years, died on December 26, 2021. Carolyn married John Brassell on April 13, 1997. Her brother, Mike Lockwood is also an AHS board member. Carolyn was born on July 13, 1948, in Aurora, CO and attended Aurora Central and Aurora Hinkley when it first opened.

She had 5 children: David, Kevin, James, Stephanie, and Shannon. She was a longtime volunteer at the Aurora History Museum and an AHS and AGS member. She was a contributor to the AHS Newsletter, and she was very involved with genealogy. She was a strong proponent of the Aurora Newspaper Digitization Project. There will be a Memorial at a later date. Donations in her name can be made to the Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. [Online](#) By mail at The Michael J. Fox Foundation, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014, or by phone at 1-800-708-7644. Donations can also be made to the Aurora History Museum or the Aurora Historical Society. Cards can be sent to the family at Mike Lockwood, 1100 Windflower Lane, Woodland Park, CO 80863.



# City of Aurora Trivia Questions

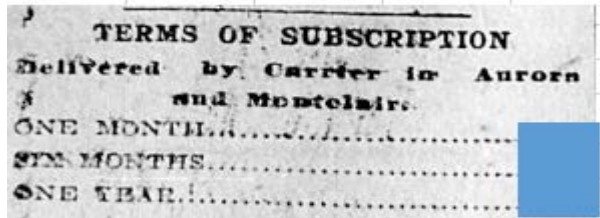
1. When did the Aurora Democrat newspaper publish its first issue
  - a. January 1909
  - b. October 1909
  - c. December 1909



2. Who was the Editor of the Aurora Democrat in 1911?
  - a. "Pops" Stitt
  - b. Gershom Jones
  - c. Raphael Gwynn



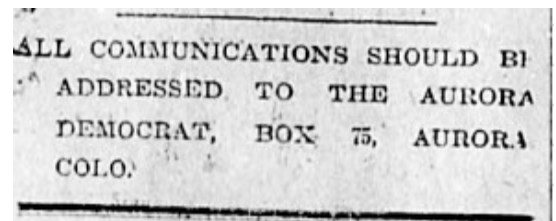
3. What was the cost of a one year subscription to Aurora Democrat in 1910?
  - a. 50 cents
  - b. One dollar
  - c. 75 cents



4. Why did the Aurora Democrat have a small press in the back of a barber shop?
  - a. The press had to be located in Adams County to print legal notices
  - b. The main office was too small for the press
  - c. The Editor was also the barber and wanted the press close at hand



5. Where was the Aurora Democrat offices located in 1909?
  - a. 1629 Dayton Street
  - b. 1400 Dallas Street/9736 Colfax Avenue
  - c.



## November Meeting – Back Together Again

It was grand to reunite in person after the long COVID hiatus. I don't know about you but reentry into the 'real world' has been something of a culture shock. I had to remember not to announce myself when I walked into





our meeting. A little over caffeinated and too many zoom calls. Colfax Avenue, the “longest, wickedest street in America” was the topic of the night. Though our presenter, Mr. Keith Outcalt, reminded us that the quote above did not originate in Playboy magazine. In fact, where the quote started is something of a mystery.

Colfax is over 53 miles long. It was called “The Golden Road” back in the day when it led from Denver to Golden and into the mountains. Once part of U.S. Route 40 running from San Francisco to Atlanta, Colfax became a well-traveled thoroughfare. Keith said that Colfax is named after [Schuyler Colfax](#), the 17<sup>th</sup> vice president of the United States.



Colfax, known for its neon signs, was dealt a tough hand in the 1970’s. Denver banned neon signs featuring movement saying they were a distraction to motorists. For decades Colfax was at a neon standstill. Many of the signs fell to disrepair. But in 2012 Corky Scholl started “Save the Signs”. The movement gained momentum and now [Colfax neon is back](#).

Today Colfax is an eclectic mix of old and new. Keith enjoys living only a few blocks from this iconic street. Many of his neighbors up and down Colfax feel the same. It was fun to learn about Colfax’s history, legends, and even a mystery or two. We had a drawing for door prizes (thank you Lynne) and a good time was

A special thank you to Mr. Keith Outcalt for stepping in at the last minute for Johnny Barber. We don’t know what we would have done without Keith’s generosity. Keith is a Museum Educator at the Aurora History Museum. He enjoys talking to museum visitors about the fascinating history of our region.

Check out history Colorado’s page on West Colfax Avenue Historic Structures here: <https://www.historycolorado.org/west-colfax-avenue-historic-structures>

The Colfax Avenue story: <https://www.coloradoinfo.com/blog/colfax-avenue-story>

Biography of Annie Oakley <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/annie-oakley>

## Aurora History Museum Exhibits

### Without a Home in Aurora

Open December 14, 2021 - May 29, 2022

Housing insecurity is a key issue facing Aurora, and to build a wider understanding of people who are often overlooked, misunderstood or unheard, staff at the Aurora History Museum engaged in an oral history project on the streets of the city. The stories collected are being presented in the museum’s newest exhibit, “Without a Home in Aurora.”

The personal challenges, trials and resilience of these Aurorans are a part of the everchanging fabric of Aurora’s narrative. The



people profiled in this exhibition shared intimate details of their lives with the Aurora History Museum. They described how housing insecurity affects them personally and reflected on the broader issue of homelessness. The goal of the exhibit is to shed light on a very complex and complicated social demographic.

“I really hope this exhibit brings a humane insight into the lives of some of our most vulnerable Aurorans. I hope through their interviews, our guests can see people for people and bring more awareness to a very complicated issue in our city,” Museum Director T. Scott Williams said. “Further, my desire is to connect people with the resources available, as there are a lot of city programs and organizations trying to assist our housing insecure.”

The conversations and connections made in the testimonials are central to the exhibit. Patrons will be able to meet over 20 Aurorans experiencing housing insecurity. Accompanying these testimonials are portraits and photography reflecting the nature

of life on Aurora's streets. Much of the photography is being provided by local street photographer Amy Forestieri.

For more information, call 303.739.6660 or [reserve your visit time to see the exhibit](#).

### **Lunchtime Lecture: Aurora Housing and Community Services**

01/19/22 12:00PM - 1:00PM Aurora History Museum: 15051 E. Alameda Parkway Aurora, 80012

Representatives from the City of Aurora Department of Housing and Community Services will discuss homelessness in the city and the city resources devoted to improving the situation. You can attend this lecture in-person at the museum, or online. The lecture is free, but you must register to receive the link to the online Webex meeting. More than one person can attend using the same computer.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### **“Art by ‘Woody’ Crumbo”**

Our newest exhibit features 17 prints of indigenous dancers. Crumbo, a well-known Native American artist whose work is on display at the Smithsonian Institution and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, also was a flautist and dancer of Potawatomi descent. In the 1950s, Crumbo spent time as an independent prospector, discovering one of the largest beryllium veins in the country. His works often depict traditional dancers and clothing. Crumbo died in 1989.

The prints were donated by Bill and Sue Hensler, long-time Aurora residents, museum supporters and benefactors before they moved to Dolores, Colo. The Hensler Collection has previously been on display at the Aurora History Museum in 1991 and in 2010.

### **The Rise of the Aurora Suburb During the Cold War**

Open through April 24, 2022

Following World War II, Aurora experienced rapid suburban growth. The presence of military centers like Fitzsimons General Hospital, Lowry Air Force Base, Buckley Field and the Rocky Mountain Arsenal brought many military personnel and their families to Aurora. The city transitioned from a small agricultural community to a bustling suburb. Between 1940 and 1960, Aurora's population expanded by more than tenfold. Meanwhile, the great powers of the Soviet Union and the U.S. faced off,

causing tension and fear worldwide.

Join the Aurora History Museum & Historic Sites for an in-person exploration of Aurora's economic prosperity and suburban expansion during the Cold War with the exhibit, "The Rise of the Aurora Suburb During the Cold War".

"In this exhibition, we provide local stories of Aurora residents' experiences during the Cold War to enrich our understanding of this great period of the city's growth while expanding on what was happening here when the nation was preparing for the threat of a potential global nuclear holocaust during the Cold War years," said T. Scott Williams, director of the Aurora History Museum & Historic Sites. "The Rise of the Aurora Suburb During the Cold War" exhibit will remain open through April 24, 2022.

The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is always free. For more information and to stay up to date on related programming, visit [AuroraMuseum.org](#).

### **Growing Home & Trolley Trailer No. 610**

Growing Home is a permanent exhibit about Aurora's history featuring Trolley Trailer No. 610, a fully-restored 1913 historic trolley trailer. The exhibit highlights people, places, and events from Aurora's history. It features over 100 historic photographs and objects, and the fully restored 1913 historic Trolley Trailer No. 610 in the new Ruth Fountain gallery. Go inside the trolley and experience 100 years of history first-hand. The exhibit was designed by Dennis Meyer of Filament Design/Build with support from museum staff.

In October 2012, the Aurora City Council approved funding for the construction of a new gallery and addition at the Aurora History Museum. Council resolved to name it in honor of Ruth Fountain, a former city councilwoman, community activist and museum supporter.

The Aurora Museum Foundation was instrumental in raising funds and in-kind donations through grants and support from local businesses, organizations and individuals. The 1,630 square foot gallery was completed in November 2014. The addition was designed by Humphries Poli Architects and built by Palace Construction.



## Aurora's Historic Growth Exhibit

Published on Mar 19, 2020

Aurora has grown by leaps and bounds over the decades. Once a small suburb of Denver, Aurora has boomed into the third-largest city in the state of Colorado. The city sits in three different counties: Adams County, Arapahoe County and Douglas County and lies just east of the city and county of Denver. The number of Aurorans just keeps on growing. As of July 1, 2019 the population was estimated at 381,000. The citizens of Aurora are diverse and come from many different backgrounds. The people of Aurora represent about 140 different countries. In fact around 1 in 5 Aurorans are foreign born. As the city expands geographically and demographically, it is hard not to recognize the historic growth underway. This exhibition will explore how the city has changed from its foundation up to the present day, dig deeper into the booms and busts that have defined Aurora's past and discover how growth is redefining the once small town. Online exhibit

[https://issuu.com/aurorahistoricsites/docs/aurora\\_s\\_historic\\_growth\\_exhibit\\_panels](https://issuu.com/aurorahistoricsites/docs/aurora_s_historic_growth_exhibit_panels)

[https://www.auroragov.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_1881137/Image/Things%20to%20Do/Aurora%20History%20Museum/Exhibits/Aurora's%20Historic%20Growth/Timeline\\_Small.pdf](https://www.auroragov.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1881137/Image/Things%20to%20Do/Aurora%20History%20Museum/Exhibits/Aurora's%20Historic%20Growth/Timeline_Small.pdf)

## Aurora Colorado Women's Hall of Fame Exhibit

Published on Mar 19, 2020

The Aurora History Museum and the Aurora Colorado Women's Hall of Fame partnered to create an exhibit on the great women of Aurora's history. The display profiles the Aurora Colorado Women's Hall of Fame organization as well as the twelve women honored by this hall of fame. Celebrate and learn more about the great and influential women of Aurora featured in this exhibit.

[https://issuu.com/aurorahistoricsites/docs/colorado\\_women\\_s\\_hall\\_of\\_fame\\_exhibit\\_panels](https://issuu.com/aurorahistoricsites/docs/colorado_women_s_hall_of_fame_exhibit_panels)

## The Doctor Will See You

<https://coaapps.auroragov.org/museumkiosk/medical/>

## A Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora's Ethiopian Communities

<https://coaapps.auroragov.org/museumkiosk/ethiopia/>

## Speaker Bios for AHS Programs 2022

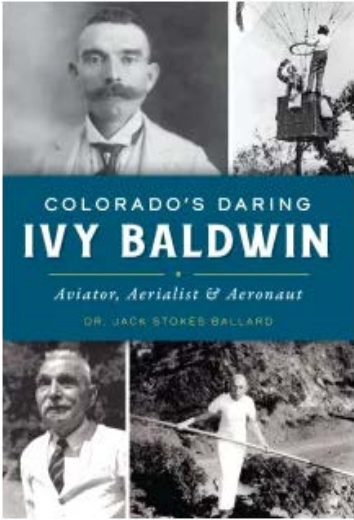
**Postponed until May- Annual AHS Potluck** at the Aurora History Museum. Our speaker will be Annie Oakely.

Annie Oakley as portrayed by Elsa Wolff, "America's Shooting Star" Living History Program. Annie Oakley, born Phoebe Ann Moses, was the most famous American woman of her day. Now in her late 50's, Annie speaks of her life and experiences from her humble roots in rural Ohio, to taking center stage as champion shooter and star of Buffalo Bill's Wild West. You'll hear stories of challenges she faced in and out of the arena. Annie made her mark while competing in a sport and world dominated by men, all the while maintaining her reputation as a dignified lady. Although many think they know Annie's story through the stage, television or motion pictures, this Living History program aims to shoot down any misconceptions giving a clear and personable glimpse of the real woman behind the legend, revealing that *truth* is even more profound than fiction.

**Elsa Wolff:** Storyteller, singer and speaker for 18 years, Elsa has recently added *Annie Oakley* to her Living History repertoire. Elsa captivates the audience with her touching performance as Annie. She is also known for her portrayals of Amelia Earhart, Minnie Pearl and Maria von Trapp.



In 1878, Ivy Baldwin ran away from home and joined the circus. He was 12 years old. He learned how to be a tightrope walker and a balloonist. John Elitch brought Ivy to Colorado to perform at the famous Elich Gardens. Ivy fell in love with Colorado and decided to stay. In 1810 Ivy first crossed Eldorado Canyon on a tightrope at the age of 14. He would cross the canyon 80 more times with his last canyon crossing on his 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday. But Ivy did not stop with Eldorado Canyon. He performed in San Francisco, Baltimore, and was a parachutist of great skill. You won't want to miss this portrait of Ivy Baldwin's amazing life. Join us for a night of 'edge of your seat' entertainment.



Author Jack Stokes Ballard holds a Doctor of Philosophy in American history from UCLA, taught history at the Air Force Academy, served a career in the Air Force, and, as a lieutenant colonel, was chief of the Plans and Requirements Division at Lowry AFB (1974-1980). He has enjoyed researching Ivy Baldwin and says Ivy "had an amazing life".

*Reprinted from the January 1978 Advocate. This article, by Annabelle Dunning, talked about the beginning of the Aurora Historical Society. The mission is still the same in 2022. Join us as we continue to tell Aurora's story!*

**WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?  
LET'S TELL A STORY.....**

It will soon be three years since a small group decided that Aurora needed a historical society. Active members of that group were **Ellen Steele, Bill Cox, Pauline Lincoln, Sue Baker, Irvine Purse, John Deibel, Margaret and Bob Goolsby, Bernice Richards, Gladys Metcalf, and Ruth Barnett.** The first organizational meeting was held April 30, 1975; there were 76 charter members enrolled in time for the first annual meeting, January 1976 Sixty-one of those charter members are still members today (we hope to keep them all forever!)

Looking back, I don't think any of us knew in what we were getting involved. By-laws, incorporation, internal Revenue Service recognitions as a non-profit group, these were all necessary steps that were accomplished. With goals and purposes in mind, we proceeded to play catch-up with 86 years

of Aurora history. We have made beginnings in educating the citizens of Aurora about what happened in those 86 years.

Aurora was a small rural community for the first sixty years of its existence (1891-1950), requiring 60 years to grow from 200 people to 10,000. This means that 93% of Aurora's residents have settled here since 1950 (130,000 of 140,000). Times have been so busy that few have been able to ponder "what Happened?"

In 1977, there has been increased interest in the history of Aurora. Aurora will have a history center in the fall of 1978. Let's hope we have something to put in it. We do have a story to tell, the story of Aurora Museum theory holds that collections should include those items which tell the story, items that are ordinary and typical of the people. Items will be needed that tell the story of Aurora as a farming community, as a suburb with growing pains, and today as a growing city. We will need to tell the **Story of the People** of Aurora.

Aurora is a unique community, many cultures and influences that to me make a more fascinating story than gold mines or mansions. You've got to give credit to those persons who didn't give up, but instead faced the problems—no water, little money,-nowhere to go but up.

1978 is a year full of promise. There is so much to be done. Can you help? Come on: let's tell a story, the story of Aurora.

**Aurora Today-Population 2021 393,1033. Aurora is slightly larger than Denver in size with 102,851 acres in 2020, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city in population. Denver and Colorado Springs are larger. The largest employers in Aurora are:**

#	Employer	Employees
1	Buckley Space Force Base	12,100
2	Anschutz Medical Campus	6,360
3	Univ of CO Hospital	4,050
4	Aurora Public Schools	4,020
5	Cherry Creek Schools	3,820
6	City of Aurora	3,740
7	Community College of Aurora	510

**Private Employers in Aurora**

1	Children's Hospital CO	5,670
2	Raytheon Company	2,430



3	Kaiser Permanente	1,940
4	Medical Center of Aurora	1,710
5	Amazon	1,500

Advertisements from January 13, 1922  
Aurora Democrat



**Help Your Kidneys Fight That Cold!**  
Winter Colds and Chills Weaken the Kidneys and Are the Direct Cause of Many Serious Kidney Disorders

Is winter-time your backache-time? Does every cold, chill or attack of grip leave you lame, achy and all worn out? Does your back throb and ache until it seems you just can't keep going another day?

Then look to your kidneys! Grip, colds and chills throw a heavy strain on the kidneys. They overload the blood with poisons and impurities that the kidneys have to filter off. The kidneys weaken under this rush of new work; become congested and inflamed.

It's little wonder then, that every cold finds you suffering with torturing backache, rheumatic pains, headaches, dizziness and annoying bladder irregularities.

But don't worry! Simply realize that your kidneys are overworked at such times and need assistance. Get a box of Doan's Kidney Pills today and give your weakened kidneys the help they need. Assist them also by drinking pure water freely, eating lightly, and getting plenty of fresh air and rest. Doan's Kidney Pills have helped thousands and should help you. Ask your neighbor!

**"Use Doan's," Say These Good Folks:**


**A. C. SAMMON**, Railroad Station Agent, Main St., Buena Vista, Colo., says: "I caught cold and it affected my kidneys; the kidney secretions were highly colored. I bought Doan's Kidney Pills and two boxes regulated my kidneys."

OVER SEVEN YEARS LATER Mr. Sammon said: "I have had little need of a kidney medicine now but I use Doan's occasionally and they keep my kidneys in good health."

**MRS. L. L. BROWNING**, 214 W. Cedar St., Deming, N. M., says: "Several years ago my back was bothering me and my kidneys were out of order. The trouble was brought on by a cold which settled on my kidneys. It seemed as though my back would never straighten. Any housework like sweeping or dusting, which required stooping, was almost unbearable. Doan's Kidney Pills had been used in the family with success, so I tried them. They soon removed all the trouble."

**Doan's Kidney Pills**  
At all dealers, 60c a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfg. Chemists, Buffalo, N. Y.

If anyone is interested in taking over the Newsletter Job! Or the Website Job! Or Both! Please let Know!  
Lynne Evans 303-671-0874,  
lyevans@comcast.net



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Got Questions?

**Ask a Historian**

Aurora Historical Society  
mdlkel@aol.com

Member Discounts  
FOX discount  
We have a discount for 20% off of tickets for just this sort of thing. The discount code is CULTURAL. Anyone can use that for our Season shows online or over the phone (not valid for special event, cabaret's or rentals).

Remember AHS members also get in free to the "Lunchtime Lectures" at the Aurora History Museum.

Corporate Sponsors



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One Professional Team Delivering Quality Solutions to Every Customer Our Values in Action  
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Proposed Changes in Red  
**Aurora Historical Society**  
Bylaws

**ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Section 1. Membership in this organization is open to any person or persons interested in the history of the Aurora area upon payment of dues in the following classification levels.

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Amount</b>
a. Individual	\$15.00 per year
b. Family	\$20.00 per year
c. Contributing	\$30.00 per year
d. Business/Corporate	\$200.00 per year
e. Life	\$200.00 (one time)
f. Honorary	(No Dues)

Section 2.

- a. Individual is defined as a single person.
- b. Family is defined as head of household and his/her dependents.
- c. Contributing is defined as a person(s), offering special support to the objectives of the organization.
- d. Business/Corporate is defined as an organization, group, or firm offering special support to the objectives of the organization.
- e. Life membership requires \$200.00 payment all in one payment.
- f. Honorary membership may be conferred upon any person whose activities have contributed to the objectives of the society. Honorary members shall be nominated by the Board of Directors and elected by a three-fourths vote of members present at an annual meeting.

Section 3.

- a. Annual dues are payable in January of each calendar year.
- b. Members in arrears more than three months shall be dropped from membership.
- c. Only members in good standing have voting privileges.

**ARTICLE II - MEETINGS**

Section 1. Regular meetings may be held every other month in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meetings may be held in person or electronically or a hybrid of both.

Section 2. Board of Directors' meetings may be held every other month in February, April, June, August, October, and December.

# **Aurora Historical Society**

## **Bylaws – Page 2**

### **ARTICLE II – MEETINGS (continued)**

- Section 3. The annual meeting shall be the regular meeting held in the month of January for the purpose of electing officers and presenting officers' reports.
- Section 4. Special meetings may be called by the President, by the Board of Directors or by petition of five members. Written or electronic notice of the date, time, location and business to be brought before the meeting shall be provided to all members at least ten days in advance. Only business for which notice has been given shall be transacted.
- Section 5. Twelve members shall constitute a quorum at a regular or special meeting.

### **ARTICLE III – DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Section 1. President shall:
- a. have executive supervision over the activities of the society within the scope provided by these bylaws,
  - b. preside at all meetings of the society,
  - c. report annually on the activities of the society,
  - d. appoint the members of committees not otherwise provided.
- Section 2. Vice-President shall:
- a. assume the duties of the President in the event of absence, incapacity or resignation of the President,
  - b. notify board members of each meeting place, date and time for board meetings.
- Section 3. Recording Secretary shall:
- a. keep minutes of meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors and provide copies for the Board of Directors,
  - b. maintain the archives of the Society.
- Section 4. Treasurer shall:
- a. **Shall have custody of all funds and securities of the Aurora Historical Society, and be responsible for the safekeeping of said funds,**
  - b. maintain accurate and adequate financial records,
  - c. deposit all monies received with a reliable bank in the name of Aurora Historical Society,
  - d. pay bills by numbered check signed by the Treasurer or President, cash, or debit card,



- e. provide an annual financial statement,
- f. have the books audited annually,
- g. develop the annual budget and present it to the Board of Directors for adoption,
- h. collect dues.

## **Aurora Historical Society**

### **Bylaws – Page 3**

#### **ARTICLE III – DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS (continued)**

Section 5. Board of Directors shall:

- a. have the power to conduct all affairs of the society,
- b. decide questions of policy that for any reason cannot be acted upon at a meeting of the society,
- c. be chaired by the President of the society,
- d. have a quorum of six members,
- e. meet every other month,
- f. provide for an annual audit,
- g. adopt the annual budget,
- h. have special meetings called by the chairman of the board,
- i. perform such other functions as designated in the bylaws or otherwise assigned to it.

#### **ARTICLE IV – COMMITTEES**

Section 1. Standing Committees

By resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors, the directors may designate one or more directors to constitute a committee which shall have such authority in the management of the Societies affairs as the Bord of Directors shall designate.

- a. Education Committee is responsible for educating the citizens of Aurora through:
  - 1. publications,
  - 2. lectures and slide shows,
  - 3. arranging tours,
  - 4. Centennial House,
- b. Hospitality Committee is responsible for:
  - 1. maintaining membership nametags,
  - 2. greeting members and guests at regular meetings,
  - 3. arranging for refreshments if needed.
- c. Publicity Committee is responsible for:
  - 1. publicizing activities of the society,
  - 2. publishing a bi-monthly newsletter for members of the society.
  - 3. maintaining the society's website and social media page.
- d. Program Committee is responsible for:
  - 1. arranging suitable programs,

2. setting time, place, and date of meetings.
- e. Membership Committee is responsible for:
  1. membership drives,
  2. processing new candidates for membership,
  3. maintaining a list of members' information.
- ~~f. Telephone Committee~~  
Historian

## **Aurora Historical Society**

### **Bylaws – Page 4**

#### **ARTICLE IV – COMMITTEES (continued)**

Section 2. The president shall appoint members and chairmen of standing committees.

Section 3. Other committees, standing or special, may be appointed by the President.

#### **ARTICLE V – MEMORIALS**

Section 1. Memorials given to the society are to be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. A nominal donation in the name of a deceased Director ~~or his or her spouse~~ may be made to the charity ~~of his/her~~ choice.

#### **ARTICLE VI – EARNINGS AND LIMITATIONS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY**

Section 1. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall be directed to the personal benefit of its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, nor shall any of its assets be used for purposes other than those meeting the requirements of Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)3 as pertains to an educational organization.

Section 2. No substantial part of the activities of the society shall be the carrying on or dissemination of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation at any level. The society shall not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Section 3. The society shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of the society. This corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 or the corresponding section of any future United States Internal Revenue law or by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)2 of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 or the corresponding section of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

## **ARTICLE VII – DISSOLUTION**

Section 1. The society may be dissolved at a regular or special meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that a written or electronic notice shall have been given to all members advising them of the meeting date, time and place at which the motion for dissolution shall be acted upon.

### **Aurora Historical Society**

**Bylaws – Page 5**

## **ARTICLE VII – DISSOLUTION (continued)**

Section 2. Upon dissolution of the society, the Board of Directors, after making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the Society, shall dispose of all assets of the Society by donating the funds to a tax-exempt non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote historical preservation.

## **ARTICLE VIII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

*Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of this organization in all cases not provided for in the constitution or these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular, special or adjourned meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting, provided notice was given at the previous meeting and sent in writing or electronically to every member at least two weeks before the meeting at which the amendment is to be acted upon.

## **ARTICLE X - STANDING RULES**

Section 1. The annual meeting shall include a potluck dinner.

Section 2. These bylaws shall be reviewed every five years by a committee appointed by the president.

Section 3. This society will accept only monetary gifts given as memorials.



## **Aurora Historical Society**

### **Constitution**

#### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Aurora Historical Society.

#### **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The purpose of this society shall be to bring together those people interested in history and especially in the history of Aurora, Colorado. Understanding the history of our community is basic to our way of life, gives us a better understanding of our city, state, and nation, and promotes a better appreciation of our American heritage.

The Society's major function will be to educate the citizens of Aurora regarding its history, and to discover any material which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the area. The Society will disseminate historical information and arouse interest in the past by publishing historical material in the newspapers or otherwise; by holding meetings with pageants, addresses, lectures, papers and discussion; by marking historic buildings, sites and trails; and by using the media or radio and television to awaken public interest.

The Society will cooperate with officials in ensuring the preservation and accessibility of records and archives of the City of Aurora and will support and encourage the preservation of historic buildings, monuments, and markers.

The Society will cooperate with the state historical society to collect and preserve materials of statewide significance, so that these materials can be made available to students and scholars.

This corporation has been formed exclusively for educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding section of any future IRS law).

#### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

The Society shall have one or more classifications of membership. The designation of such classifications and qualifications, rights, dues, and method of acceptance of members of each class shall be specified in the bylaws.

No person shall be denied membership because of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, age, or sexual orientation, or gender identification. (Approved at annual meeting, 1976, Amended at annual meeting, 2009)

#### **ARTICLE IV – ANNUAL MEETING**

The annual meeting of the Society shall be held during a month specified in the bylaws.

## **Aurora Historical Society**

### **Constitution – Page 2**

#### **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Section 1. Officers shall be president, vice-president, a recording secretary and a treasurer, all of whom shall be elected for a term of one year.
- Section 2. Three directors shall be elected. One director shall be elected annually for a term of three years.
- Section 3. The Board of Directors includes the elected officers, the three directors, the immediate past president, and the chairmen of standing committees.

#### **ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- Section 1. A nominating committee of three members shall be appointed by the President: two from the Board of Directors and one from the General Membership. (Approved at annual meeting, 2005)
- Section 2. Not less than two months prior to the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee shall select the candidates from a list of members in good standing.
- Section 3. Election shall be by ballot at the Annual Meeting, except that if there is only one candidate for an office, the vote may be by voice.
- Section 4. Officers and directors shall be installed at the close of the Annual Meeting at which they are elected and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected.
- Section 5. In the event of the resignation or incapacity of any officers, the vacancy may be filled from the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, by a majority vote of the General Membership for the unexpired term of office.

#### **ARTICLE VII – AMEMDMENT**

This constitution may be amended at the annual meeting of the Society or an adjourned annual meeting provided three (3) weeks' notice in writing is given each member. Amendment requires a two-thirds vote of those voting.