

# The Advocate Newsletter

Volume 47; Number 3

May 2023

## Aurora Historical Society

Aurora, Colorado



Embrace your city, your past

### May President's Letter

Dear Aurora Historical Society Members,

I hope you are all enjoying the recent spring weather. I am a little sick of the cold and snow. We may have more, but at least it is starting to feel like spring.

We will be out working on the garden at Centennial House on May 7 at 9am if anyone can join us, it would be appreciated. Bring your garden tools and be ready to dig in.

We will be sending out a survey in May or June to get feedback from our members about what's working and what's not. Please fill it out when it comes so we can try to do what members would like.

Our next meeting is May 30<sup>th</sup>, Kenneth McKlem, Patrol Special Operations, Arapahoe County Sheriff will be our speaker for the evening.

*Lynne Evans*

Aurora Historical Society President

Join or Renew  
Membership



May 30, 2023 AHS regular meeting 6:00 PM Aurora History Museum. Program-Kenneth C. McKlem, Patrol Special Operations, Arapahoe Sheriff

### IT'S TIME TO PAY YOUR 2023 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: The society changed its bylaws at the March 2022 meeting. The dues categories have changed).*

#### Memberships:

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
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://auroracohistoricalociety.org/join-today/>

### Historical Society Officers

President, Newsletter, & Website: Lynne Evans

720-560-2490 [lyevans@comcast.net](mailto:lyevans@comcast.net)

Vice President: Nadine Caldwell

Secretary: Gregg Chase

Treasurer, Historian, Membership: Michael Lockwood

Directors: Susan Hicks, Karen Schwieder

Hospitality: Judy Keilman

Program Committee: Susan Hicks

Education: Vacant

Publicity: Vacant

If anyone is interested, please contact Lynne Evans 720-560-2490 [lyevans@comcast.net](mailto:lyevans@comcast.net)

### Trivia Question Answers:

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



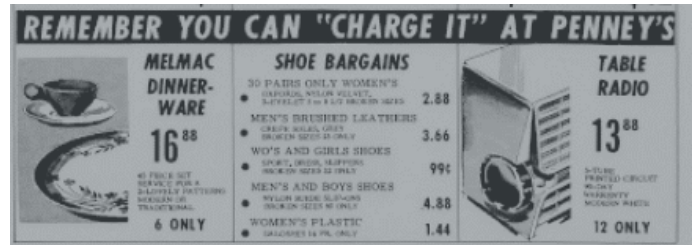
### Remembering Aurora

*Michael Lockwood, Aurora Historical Society*

An Aurora native, a graduate of the Aurora Public Schools (Vaughn Elementary, North Middle School & Aurora Central High School), 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

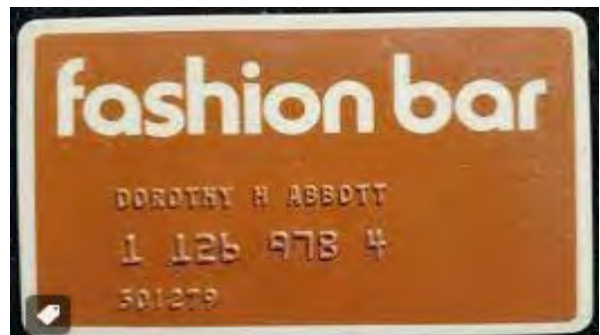
Aurora connections that go back as far as the 1950's the recollections presented may bring back waves of nostalgia. And while I have 60 years of memories to relate, if you have some stories you'd like to share, please feel free to contact us at the Aurora Historical web site: [www.auroracohistoricalociety.org](http://www.auroracohistoricalociety.org)

### REMEMBERING: Mom's First Credit Card



An advertisement in the Aurora Advocate, October 1968

My father grew up as a teenager during the great depression and undoubtedly it had a huge impact on him in regards to how he handled the family finances. If something was broke, you fixed it. You never threw it away and got a new one because that



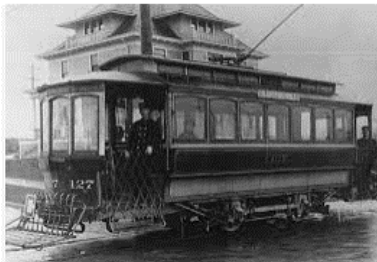
was wasteful. He was also adamant that if you didn't have cash for a purchase you didn't buy it until you had the money saved up. So you can imagine his surprise when my mother came home with a credit card from a local clothing store. Credit cards were just gaining some popularity with local merchants where the card they issued could only be used at their store. I was young at the time so I don't recall if Mom got a discount for opening an account or if she opened it because she happened to be short of cash at the time (Dad gave Mom an allowance so she had

to manage the grocery budget and other household purchases). Whatever the case, Dad made sure that he cut the card up and it was never used again. Today, we seldom have much cash on us and we use the MasterCard or Visa for almost everything. I can hear Dad lecturing me from his grave.

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.

### City of Aurora Trivia Questions

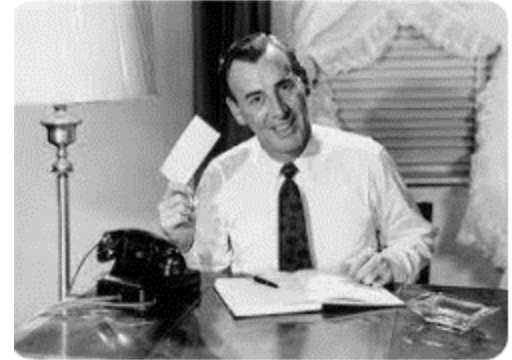
1. When was the first battery powered electric trolley created?
  - a. 1876
  - b. 1834
  - c. 1912



2. Who built the trolley trailer located at the Aurora History Museum?
  - a. Chicago Transportation Company
  - b. American Trolley Manufacturing
  - c. Woeber Brothers Carriage Company



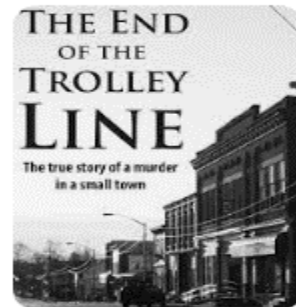
3. What did Dr. Edwin Perrott pay for the trolley when he bought it in 1950?
  - a. \$500
  - b. \$50
  - c. \$1



4. How many standing passengers could trolley trailer 610 hold?
  - a. 1,000
  - b. 500
  - c. 100



5. Where was the end of the trolley line in Aurora located?
  - a. Peoria Street
  - b. Akron Street
  - c. Geneva Street





Did you know that the Town of Fletcher/City of Aurora have had 45 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 #38

#### **Fred Horace Hood, Jr.**

- Served from 1975 – 1979
- He was born on February 23, 1926 in Granite, Oklahoma
- He served in the Air Force
- Married to Shirley sometime after 1950 in Denver, Colorado
- He was a TSGT during WWII, Korea and Vietnam
- He was a 32 degree member of the Masonic Lodge
- He was a El Jebel Shrine member
- He came to Colorado between 1940 and 1950
- They had 2 children, Jon and Michael
- He died on October 25, 2002
- He is buried at Ft. Logan National Cemetery
- Colorado Governor at the time he was Mayor was Dick Lamm
- While he was in office:
  - The Town Center at Aurora was built
  - The Aurora History Museum was established
  - Marketplace Tower was built
  - Science Fiction amusement park was contemplated east of Aurora (it was never built due to inadequate funding)

## Aurora Museum Exhibits

### A HISTORY OF LOWRY



**Community Gallery:** March 14 to July 9, 2023

Lowry opened in 1938 along the far western border of Aurora. The base focused on technical training, including aerial photography in its early days, and for a time, was home to the United States Air Force Academy. The exhibit will chronicle the story of Lowry and the people who served there.



Have you ever wondered when and why the Aurora Reservoir was built? Are you curious about the history behind your favorite city park? The Aurora History Museum and Historic Sites will open a new exhibit on May 2, 2023, “The Great Outdoors of Aurora.” The new display will celebrate Aurora’s vibrant outdoor opportunities and dive deep into the history behind the activities we love. Discover the stories behind our reservoirs, city parks, nature centers, the High Line Canal, swimming pools, golf courses and more all within the city of Aurora.

Accompanying the history of Aurora’s outdoor spaces, the exhibit will profile local businesses and organizations supporting recreation. From golf shops, bait and tackle, bike shops and outfitters – many local

entrepreneurs cater to the outdoors community. The services they provide support Aurorans wanting to explore their city, and the history of these businesses is part of the history of Aurora.

### On display in the East Hallway

#### Aurora Historic Photos

Photos have a way of connecting the current generation with their past. The photos in our East Hallway Gallery are just a small sample of the over 30,000 images archived at the Aurora History Museum.

### On Display in the Theater Room

#### First 50 Years of Aurora

What was Aurora like in it's first years? Learn about water, transportation, politics, city services, and education in Aurora's formative years. Visitors voted to return this favorite previously displayed exhibit to our Theater Room in July 2022.

### 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



Got Questions?

## Ask a Historian

Aurora Historical Society  
mdlkel@aol.com

### Member Discounts

FOX discount

We have a discount for 20% off 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 events, cabaret's, or rentals).

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

### Pictures from the March Meeting

