



The Louisville Historian

A Publication of the Louisville Historical Museum,

Issue #101

Louisville History Foundation, and Louisville Historical Commission

Winter 2014

“Fear Rules Cities and Fight is On at Louisville Mines”: The 100th Anniversary of the Northern Coal Field War and the Battle at the Hecla

By Ron Buffo

April of 2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the climax of a statewide coal mine labor dispute in Colorado that culminated in the well-known Ludlow Massacre in Southern Colorado and the lesser known Northern Field conflict at the Hecla and other mines in Louisville, Superior, and Lafayette. It is the remembrance of a time when the power of energy concerns came face to face with organized labor and resulted in violence and loss of life. It is important as we look across the changing face of the Louisville community that we reflect on those people and events that would influence what has become one of the most desirable places in the country to live.

The discovery of massive coal deposits in Colorado beginning in the 1860s combined with the increased need for energy resources to fuel the industrial juggernaut of the United States created an opportunity for incredible economic growth. In order to utilize the subterranean energy, large numbers of workers were necessary to extract the coal and, beginning in the 1880s, the immigration of foreign laborers was encouraged and made real. Early immigration (1840-1860) brought people from Northern Europe and later immigration (1860-1890) added Southern and Eastern European countries as major contributors to the workforce in the United States.



Union Hall, Louisville, 1913. The pictured men may have included some who took up their guns the following year.

Colorado miners in the Southern fields worked primarily for the Colorado Fuel and Iron (CF&I) company owned by John D. Rockefeller whereas miners in the Northern fields worked for a variety of operators. The most prominent company in the Northern fields was the Rocky Mountain Fuel Company owned by John Roche. What the owners had in common was their great dislike of labor unions (particularly the United Mine Workers of America) and their concerted effort to stop any organizing or influence attempted by the unions. Giving in to the demands of organized labor such as increased pay, shorter work days and weeks, better safety conditions, and a check weigh man from the ranks of the workers only decreased the profits of the company.

By 1910 the UMWA, after years of trying to negotiate with the coal companies in Northern and Southern Colorado, declared a strike in the Northern fields prompting the walkout of over 3,000 miners. The Southern fields would follow in 1913. (Following the strike declaration, mine owners proceeded to fence off the mine properties, install

searchlights and machine guns on towers, hire professional detective agencies to secure the compounds, and provide onsite living accommodations for the strikebreakers and their families.)

**FEAR RULES CITIES
AND FIGHT IS ON AT
LOUISVILLE MINES**

*Denver Post,
April 28, 1914.*

After the 1910 strike declaration there would be four years of animosity, hatred, and violence between striking miners and mine operators, strikebreakers, Colorado National Guard (also known as the Militia), and detective agencies. The Ludlow Massacre on Monday, April 20, 1914 and the news of the deaths of four children and eleven women at the hands of the Colorado Militia helped to incite the Northern Field miners. Along with the three previous years of tension with the Baldwin-Felts Detective Agency the Northern Fields were ripe for violence. An explosive mixture was made up of spotlights shining into town at all hours of the night, armed detectives walking the streets of Louisville and Lafayette, gunfire being exchanged between the Hecla Compound and town, and the ever present “scabs” and their families. (The location of the Hecla was at the present location of the Louisville King Soopers at 1375 E. South Boulder Rd.)

The most objective account we have of the events in Louisville leading up to and including April 27th, 1914 comes from the deposition of Boulder County Sheriff Sanford D. Buster. He had been Sheriff since January 1913, was well aware of the explosive situation in the coalfields in his jurisdiction, and was compelled to be fair-handed with the strikers and coal mine operators alike. Buster’s deposition shows a chronology of events beginning on Thursday the 23rd with his visit to the Gorham Mine in Marshall to investigate armed strikers where he found “a house full of men armed with rifles.” They said they were getting ready to defend themselves against “scabs” who were bent on killing them. From Marshall, Sheriff Buster went to nearby Superior, back to Marshall, and finally arrived in Boulder on Friday, April 24th at 2:15 a.m.

Upon his arrival in Boulder, Buster was informed that shots were fired at the Gorham Mine so he quickly went back to Marshall but was not successful in finding the culprits. Buster went back and forth all Friday night the

24th and Saturday the 25th between Louisville, Marshall, and Superior in an attempt to stop potential violence.



County Sheriff Sanford D. Buster, whose level-headed actions may have saved many lives in April 1914. Photo courtesy of Boulder County.

The Sheriff continued his diligent appraisal of the communities at the request of Governor Ammons and District Attorney George Carlson of the 8th Judicial District. (Carlson would win the election for Governor in November of 1914.)

On Monday the 27th Buster received a phone message from Carlson telling him that the mine operators and the UMWA came to an agreement that turned over control of searchlights and machine guns at the various mine compounds to the Sheriff. This was an obvious attempt to defuse the tensions and Buster immediately sent deputies to the Mitchell, Gorham, Simpson, and Industrial mines. The Sheriff would personally take over the searchlight and machine gun at the Hecla.



Fenced enclosure with Hecla Mine buildings, circa 1910-1915. From left to right are miners’ housing, water tank, the “Casino,” and the boardinghouse. The Casino building, built for the recreation of strikebreakers and to keep them in the enclosure, is still standing at 1800 Plaza Drive.

Buster left Boulder at 8:30 p.m. on the 27th and arrived at the Union Hall (just south of present day Blue Parrot Restaurant) at 9:00 p.m. To his amazement he found approximately 400 highly agitated miners and, after explaining the plan to secure the mines with deputies, was met with some agreement but also with a rousing call to arms by Joe Potestio, the local UMWA secretary.

Potestio said that this agreement was a ploy by the company to tie up the Sheriff and his men and then shoot up the town without restraint. The meeting ended around 10:00 p.m. and shortly after Buster was informed that there was shooting at the Vulcan mine in Lafayette. Without hesitation the Sheriff told Deputy Ivan Criss, Potestio, and local President Pat Powers that they were to accompany him to the Hecla on foot. Potestio refused to go and Powers was later sent back to call UMWA leaders Edward Doyle and John Lawson.

Buster and Criss made their way from the Union Hall to the Louisville Depot and proceeded north on the railroad tracks on their way to the Hecla Compound. What unfolded before their eyes was the appearance of scores of miners running, with rifles, from their houses toward the railroad tracks and firing at the Hecla.



Colorado Governor Elias M. Ammons.

(These .30/.30 repeating rifles had been shipped to Colorado by the Union and handed out to the striking miners. It was a common occurrence in the months leading up to this day for striking miners and detectives who manned the Hecla Mine compound to trade gunfire, usually at night. The spotlight from the mine would be directed towards town for harassment purposes and would be met with gunshots from Louisville. Those families who lived on the northeast border of Louisville proper were forced to sleep in their cellars and some even relocated young children to other families for their protection. Mike Buffo was in his outhouse, located at the corner of South Street and La Farge Avenue, when a bullet from the Hecla penetrated it and creased the top of his hand. For years after the event, houses in town had visible bullet holes in their siding. Additionally, it was common practice for passengers on the Interurban train going to and from Boulder through Louisville to be ordered to lie on the floors of the train to avoid being shot during the random firefights taking place.)

The Sheriff and his Deputy had made it half way to the Hecla when they were forced to head northeast across the field to the house of town marshal Al McDonald.

Buster and Deputy Criss left McDonald's house and proceeded northeast to the Hecla compound and, unfortunately, were caught in the crossfire between the

striking miners in town and company detectives in the mine. The two men had to take refuge in a nearby house and were pinned down by the continuous gunfire until 3:30 a.m. when there was a lull in the action. From the house Buster was able to call the Hecla compound to ask them not to shoot into town and that he was coming to the mine.

During this time striking miners had taken positions in an empty ditch bordering the north side of the mine site using it as a defensive trench and, perhaps, a jumping off point to attack the compound. The ditch was flooded by the farmer (Rosenkrantz) through his own initiative or coercion by a command by the compound guards. Three striking miners would be wounded during the "attack" on the Hecla from gunfire directed by Baldwin-Felts guards in the compound.



District Attorney George Carlson.

The gunfire began again at 4:00 a.m. with less intensity and Buster was able to go back and forth between the Rex #1 mine and the Hecla. The shooting stopped between noon and 12:30 on Tuesday the 28th and Buster was able to enter the Hecla compound to assess the damage. Photos show numerous bullet holes in the mine boarding house and company workers' houses. Thousands of bullets had been expended the previous night and Buster would find two strikebreakers wounded inside the Hecla compound and one strikebreaker dying. Estimates at the time reported that in excess of 25,000 rounds had been fired.



Town marshal Al McDonald, who lived on what is now Highway 42. Sheriff Buster made a stop at McDonald's house on his way to the Hecla Mine.

After hearing about the events in Louisville, "concerned" citizens from Boulder made an attempt to recruit armed volunteers to help the Sheriff regain control of the situation. While that did not happen,

reaction from the state was immediate with orders from Governor Ammons to send the National Guard from Canon City to Louisville the next day on April 28th. These were the very same soldiers who participated in the violence at Ludlow, so there was great anxiety in Louisville about what could happen here. Outside of Louisville the crew of the train carrying the 128 soldiers refused to continue, so the trainmaster and dispatcher took over. The train was fired upon and the Militia walked the rest of the way to town, marched through town, and encamped at the Hecla.

In those first days following the violence, General John Chase, commander of the Colorado National Guard, closed all of the saloons in Louisville and an attempt was made to disarm the miners. Also, additional Colorado Militia members were brought to Louisville from Boulder and Longmont, bringing the total to 250 men. (Company D of the 3rd Colorado Cavalry out of Boulder had the dubious historical distinction of having participated in the Sand Creek Massacre in 1864, although these men in 1914 were far removed from that event.)



Frank Jacoe snapped this photo and captioned it, "During coal strike at Louisville Colo." The railroad depot is on the left.

On May 3rd, after a request from the Governor, the Twelfth U.S. Cavalry with 158 troops arrived from Fort Robinson, Nebraska and took over security detail from the Colorado Guard to the great relief of the citizens. They were greeted with the local brass band and scores of people from Louisville and Lafayette came out to see the troops who would stay for approximately one year. During that time the military command would confiscate weapons and ammunition and were able to bring a semblance of peace to the surrounding areas.

**LOUISVILLE HAS NIGHT OF HORROR
AS BULLETS WHIZZ ABOUT HOMES**

Denver Post, April 28, 1914.

The strike would continue until December 1914 with the result that the miners could return to work but without any of their demands being met. The length of the strike, biased publicity, and popular opinion against them made it difficult for the strikers to make much headway so most were simply happy to get their jobs back. After the Long Strike there would be more labor conflict, wages would slowly increase, working conditions remain extremely dangerous, and miners would continue to die and suffer horrific injuries. (Between 1900 and 1914 an average of 93 men would die in Colorado coal mine accidents per year. In 1910 there were an extraordinary 323 deaths. In 1913 there were 20 deaths in coal mine accidents in the United States.)



This photo, taken at the time of the strike conflict, shows soldiers with their horses walking north on County Road. The addresses of these houses range from 401 to 421 County Road.

Sheriff Sanford Buster showed tremendous courage in dealing with the volatile factions of strikers, detectives, and militia and it is remarkable that he didn't lose his life when caught in the crossfire on that Monday night in 1914. He tried to remain as neutral as possible within the law and it is likely, had someone else been in his position, there would have been more injuries and loss of life. After being Sheriff for two terms, Buster was Deputy County Assessor and County Commissioner. He died in 1938.

Drive around Louisville today and imagine April 1914 with 400 striking miners at the Union Hall, walk with Sheriff Buster and his deputy along the railroad tracks past the Old Louisville Inn and picture armed miners shooting high powered rifles in the direction of the Hecla Mine. Walk on County Road with the Colorado National Guard as they entered Louisville to restore law and order, park your car on Hecla Heights (now the King Soopers parking lot) and crouch for protection from the thousands of bullets pounding into the company houses, headquarters, and hotel. Drive on Highway 42 and glance directly east from Miners Field and see the

Twelfth U.S. Cavalry encamped in their field tents and, finally, put yourself in the shoes and skins of the everyday citizen of 1914 Louisville and maybe, just maybe you will have a sense of the history that is Louisville, Colorado.



Federal troops in Louisville.

Ron Buffo is a former member of the Louisville Historical Commission.

Sources:

Coal-Mine Fatalities in the United States, 1870-1914: with Statistics of Coal Production, Labor, and Mining Methods, by States and Calendar Years. Department of the Interior.

Deposition of Sheriff Sanford Buster. Boulder County Investigation of Labor Conflict in Louisville, Colorado. April 27, 1914.

Smith, Phyllis. Once A Coal Miner: The Story of Colorado's Northern Coal Field. 1989, Pruett Publishing Company.

Andrews, Thomas G. Killing for Coal: America's Deadliest Labor War. 2008, Harvard University Press.

LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Thomas Brennan
Steve Domenico
Paula Elrod
David Ferguson
Jonathan Ferris
Lynn Christopher Koglin
Gladys Levis-Pilz
Daniel Mellish
Anne Robinson
Andrew Williams

Louisville History Foundation Takes on Fundraising Role

***By Jennifer Strand, Chair,
Louisville History Foundation, and
Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator***

The Louisville History Foundation has taken on the fundraising role previously handled by the Louisville Historical Commission! The Foundation's mission, in part, is to stimulate broad-based support for local history and the Louisville Historical Museum. The Historical Commission will continue to perform its valuable role as an official advisory board to the City of Louisville. This reorganization, which took effect on January 1, is modeled on the Louisville Public Library's structure of having both an advisory board and a foundation board, and on how many government-owned libraries and museums in our area are structured.

For our membership program and visitors, the primary noticeable change is that we are asking that membership and donation checks now be made out to the Louisville History Foundation instead of to the Historical Commission. The members of what used to be called the "Louisville Historical Society" are now members of the Foundation. We will continue to send the quarterly *Louisville Historian* publication with its interesting articles about Louisville history to members.

Many who are familiar with the buildings of the Louisville Historical Museum recognize that it's in great need of additional space for such purposes as storage for the Museum's collection, work space for staff and volunteers, and an ADA accessible restroom. The directors of the Louisville History Foundation intend to focus attention on fundraising to help the City of Louisville with the costs of a climate controlled building built according to museum standards so that we can better fulfill the Museum's mission to "promote, collect, preserve, and interpret the diverse history of Louisville."

We are excited about how the new structure has the potential to open up new opportunities for promoting Louisville and its history, expanding education and outreach, and preserving our unique and valuable collection of artifacts, archival documents, oral histories, and historic photos, as well as providing visitors to downtown Louisville with memorable and fun museum experiences. Stay tuned, and thank you to our members and supporters!



LOUISVILLE HISTORY FOUNDATION

Marilyn Hunt
Lynn Christopher Koglin
Daniel Mellish
Jennifer Strand
Bridget Bacon (ex officio)
Beth Barrett (ex officio)

Don't Miss an Issue of The Louisville Historian

Membership in the Louisville History Foundation is a must for those interested in Louisville's unique history and cultural character! Members receive the quarterly *Louisville Historian* with substantive articles about Louisville history.

A yearly membership is \$15.00 for an individual and \$25.00 for a family. A yearly Business Sponsorship is \$100.00.

Please visit the Historical Museum website at www.louisville-library.org for a membership form or call the Museum at 303-665-9048. You may also write to the Louisville Historical Museum, 749 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado, 80027. Please make checks payable to the Louisville History Foundation, Inc.

Oral History Program Update

Thank you so much to the following people for allowing the Museum to interview them about their memories of Louisville! As a token of our appreciation, a complimentary annual membership is being given to each participant who is not already a lifetime member.

John Negri
Mike Negri
Leo Junior
Robert Junior
Ronald Leggett
Arlene Leggett
Dean Miller

Also, thank you so much to the team of volunteers who have been working on the Museum's Oral History Program: Barbara Gigone, Katie Kingston, Ady Kupfner, Diane Marino, Jean Morgan, Dustin Sagrillo, Barbara Hesson, Kris Ottoson, and John Milanski. And thank you to the Louisville History Foundation for its financial support of this worthy project.

If you'd like to help with this fun program, we have a need for more volunteer interviewers and camera operators as well as volunteers to transcribe the interviews. Please contact the Historical Museum!

Upcoming Historical Programs

The public is invited to join us for our upcoming historical programs! For more information, please visit www.louisville-library.org; email museum@louisvilleco.gov; or call the Museum at 303-665-9048.

Ron Buffo, who wrote the lead article of this issue, will delve further the Hecla strike conflict and the battle that was waged in Louisville in April 1914 in two upcoming public programs. These are not to be missed!

Brown Bag Discussion, Thursday, March 6, Noon to 1 PM

For the next Brown Bag, Ron Buffo will discuss Louisville's violent labor events of April 1914 at the Hecla Mine. Participants are welcome to bring their lunches. Location: first floor meeting room of the Louisville Public Library, 951 Spruce Street.

Hecla Mine Strike Historical Driving Tour, Saturday, April 19th (tentative date)

At the time of the 75th anniversary of the Hecla strike conflict in 1989, Ron Buffo led a well-remembered walking tour to retrace the steps of Sheriff Buster from the Union Hall on Main Street to the Hecla Mine on South Boulder Road. This time, we are planning a historical driving tour of Louisville locations that were important in the 1914 Hecla strike conflict and we will hear Ron Buffo tell the stories of the sequence of events at a few planned stops. More information on date, time, and starting location to come!

Historical Museum Contact Information and Fall/Winter Hours

The Museum is now observing its Fall/Winter hours. It is open from 10:00 to 3:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. Special appointments at other times are possible. Museum staff can be reached at museum@louisvilleco.gov or 303-665-9048. If you are planning a visit, please check ahead in order to make sure of the current hours.

The Louisville Historical Museum is owned and operated by the City of Louisville as part of the Department of Library & Museum Services. It is located

at 1001 Main Street. Its mailing address is 749 Main Street, Louisville, CO 80027.

Thank You for Your Monetary Donations!

Thank you to the following people and organizations for their recent generous monetary donations, other than memorial donations, to the Louisville History Foundation and Museum.

We are also grateful for a donation of \$780 from the proceeds of the City of Louisville's Coal Creek Crossing race held during the 2013 Labor Day Fall Festival.

Ron Ross
Robert Piccone
Haddock Insurance Agency
Tony Draper
W. James & Shirley Smith
Ellen Marshall & David Harwood
Corrine Stewart
Earl & Barbara Bolton
Virginia H. Evans
Lois Wisdom
Linda Whitney
Robert Watts
Terry L. Wagner
Barbara Leichty St. John & James St. John
Grace Dionigi
Aaron & Kristen Lentz
W. Wayne Lee
Hannah Harper
Rudy Dionigi
James De Francia Family
Ken Buffo
Claudine Seader
Gerald & Constance Pontasch
John & Gloria Hoffmire Perlett
Jennifer Kochanowski & Christina Ostrom
Frank John Nortnik & Family
Vince & Judy Mangus
Judy & Steve Knapp
Rick Kron & Cindy Mueller
Dixie Lee Martella
Lori & Scott Chandler
Theresa & David Murray
Nancy Allen & Jim F. Williams, II
Melvin DiLorenzo
Hank & Penny Dalton
Pamela Forcey
Terry Slade Family
Zaremba Graphic + Web Solutions
Gary Schneider Family
Bridget & G. Brown

Marilyn Hunt
Tony & Theresa Heatherton

The Museum Corner Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

Thank you so much to Ron Buffo for his insightful article in this issue on the 1914 battle that was waged in Louisville as part of the larger labor war taking place at that time. Ron's own great-uncle, Baptist Buffo, was a 23-year-old striking Louisville miner who was shot in the abdomen during the shooting at the Hecla. (Baptist survived that injury, but died of influenza a few years later while serving in World War I.) Ron, a former U.S. history teacher at Centaurus and Monarch High Schools, has studied the Hecla conflict for many years. I'm very much looking forward to his March 6th public program as well as the tour that he will give in April at the time of the battle's 100th anniversary.

Several strikers and strikebreakers were injured during the battle at the Hecla Mine, and a Bulgarian-born strikebreaker, Pete Stanoff, died from his injuries. (His name is sometimes spelled as Staneff or Steinhoff.) He was buried in Boulder's Columbia Cemetery. Little is known of his life. If you have information, please contact me!

Most local families were on either one side or the other of the several-year strike that began in the Northern Coal Fields in 1910. However, the *Denver Post* reported in 1911 that Rocky Mountain Fuel Co. superintendent (and Louisville resident) J.C. Williams and his brother, Thomas, who was mayor of Louisville and an "ardent union sympathizer," were on opposite sides in the conflict. I can't help but wonder how this played out and whether there were other families with similar divisions.

Most of the photos in this issue showing Louisville scenes from the time of the strike were taken by Marcello "Frank" Jacoe, an amateur photographer whose photos are now part of the Museum collection. We are very fortunate to have them.

Thank you to the Broomfield Rotary for adopting the Louisville Cemetery for participation in the national program "Wreaths Across America." On December 14, 2013, the Rotary, with the help of volunteers, honored all veterans buried at the Louisville Cemetery through a touching ceremony followed by the laying of wreaths on individual graves. Thanks go to Nancy Harrold and others at the Broomfield Rotary; the American Legion and Museum volunteers Patty Lester and Duane Elrod for helping to compile the list of about 250 veterans; the additional volunteers who helped with the wreaths; and

to the Louisville Parks & Recreation Dept. for its generous assistance.

The group of interested citizens working on a memorial for Louisville's only fallen officer, Victor Helburg, is continuing to meet and plan for a commemoration in October 2015. This will mark 100 years since he was shot and killed in downtown Louisville. Please contact the Museum if you would like to help!

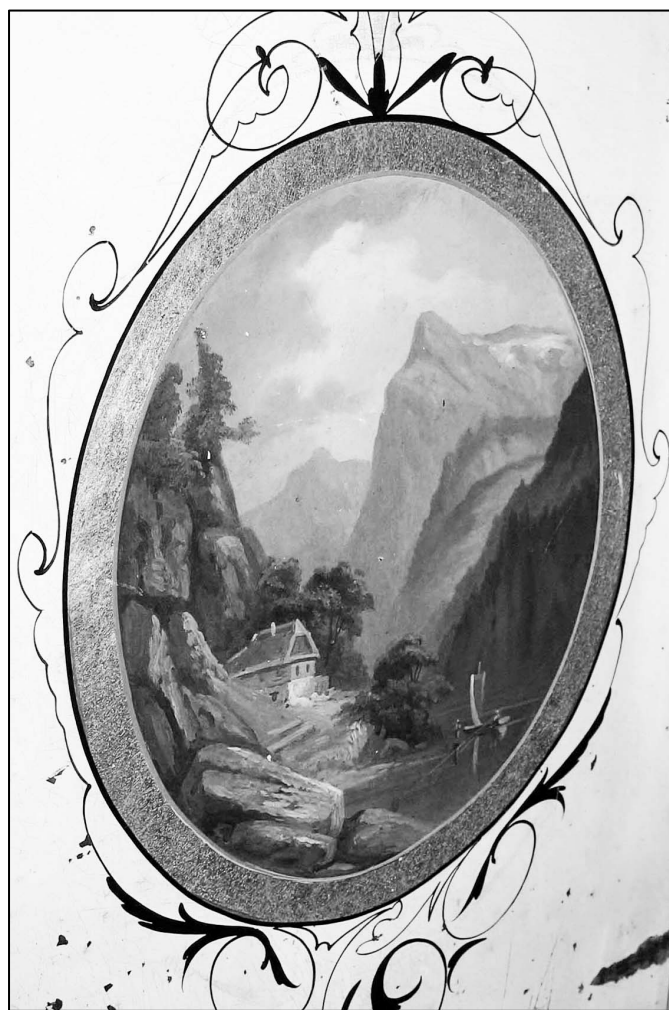
The City safe has been returned to City Hall and is on display in the lobby! The town used this Cincinnati-made antique safe continuously for over one hundred years, from when it is believed to have purchased it in 1895 until 2006. Stop by City Hall to look at its intricate lock mechanisms and oil paintings of Western scenes. These features were typical of safes that were manufactured in the 1800s and shipped by rail to new communities in the West, where growing businesses and local governments needed the ability to lock up money and other valuables.

Many of our members viewed December's exhibit at the Louisville Public Library to honor Marion Junior. It was bittersweet for me to put together this exhibit after Marion's untimely death last February, but I was happy to be able to honor her for her outstanding fundraising efforts in support of a cause she cared deeply about: the Louisville Historical Museum and Louisville history. The exhibit featured the porcelain holiday ornaments that Marion made for over twenty years as a fundraiser for the Historical Commission. By 2012, she was spending close to 500 hours a year to make 250 ornaments. In the words of Ady Kupfner, one of her close friends since kindergarten, making the ornaments "was her gift back to the town." It is very appropriate that the Historical Commission awarded Marion with the Pioneer Award for 2014. Thank you to Bob Junior, Cassandra Volpe, Memory Delforge, Ady Kupfner, Dixie Lee Martella, Jean Morgan, and Becky Harney for their helpful assistance with the exhibit.

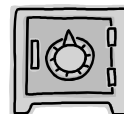
Thank you to those who have given helpful historical information to the Museum, including Michael Kokes, Grace Dionigi, and Shirley and Dick Bodhaine. Thank you so much to Museum volunteers Mona Lee Doersam (for her beautiful job on the layout of every issue of *The Louisville Historian*), Deborah Fahey, Robert Sampson, Gail Khasawneh, Kate Gerard, Kathleen Jones, Rebecca Harney, Duane Elrod, Patricia Lester, Christine Gray, Mary Kay Knorr, Patricia Murphy, Kelsey Smith, Carol Williams, Brian Parchman, and Ardeshir Sabeti. Thank you to Martin Ogle and Noah Moss for helping to coordinate the online mining map project. (Oral history volunteers are thanked elsewhere in this issue.)

At its January meeting, The Louisville History Foundation elected Jennifer Strand as Chair, Lynn Koglin as Treasurer and Vice Chair, and Marilyn Hunt as Secretary. The Historical Commission, meanwhile, reelected Dan Mellish as Chair, Anne Robinson as Vice Chair, and Gladys Pilz as Secretary. The Commission no longer needs a treasurer, but the Commission thanked Dave Ferguson for his many years of service as Treasurer and are very happy to at least have him as a Commission member. Welcome to new Commission members Tom Brennan, Steve Domenico, and Jonathan Ferris!

Last, thank you so much to Pat Seader for her twenty-seven years of service on the Historical Commission. I appreciate all that she has done for the Museum and Louisville history over the years and look forward to her continued involvement!



Oil painting on the City Hall safe.



2014 Pioneer Award Recipient: Marion Junior

**Presented by David W. Ferguson,
Louisville Historical Commission**

The Louisville Historical Commission is pleased to announce that Marion Junior is this year's recipient of the Pioneer Award. This award is presented annually to a person who has contributed to the welfare and interests of the Louisville community. David Ferguson presented the award to Marion's husband, Bob, and their family on January 23rd at the Louisville Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet.

Marion P. Dionigi was born on May 10, 1940. Marion was the sixth child of John "Ring" Dionigi and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Dionigi. Her older siblings were Glen, Jack, Rudy, Rose (Steinbaugh), and Yvonne (Sutherland). As a young child growing up, Marion had an unusual pet, a goat that she had with her at all times. The goat followed her like a dog would.

Marion attended St. Louis Elementary and Louisville High School, graduating in 1958. She worked for the Steinbaugh Lumber Co. for six years. After her marriage to Bob Junior, Marion became a stay-at-home mom and housewife.



This photo of Marion Junior was taken in her home workshop at the time of her 2011 oral history interview.

Marion and Bob Junior were married in 1960 and had one son, William, of whom they were very proud. They were married for 52 years. Bill and his wife, Kim (Deborski), presented Bob and Marion with two grandchildren, Carrington and Kiana. These two were the pride and joy of Marion's life.

Marion was a volunteer with the Louisville Historical Commission for 22 years. She was extremely talented in ceramics and in doll repair, dressing, and the making of her own dolls. Marion made porcelain Christmas ornaments for the Historical Commission to sell each year. This was an important source of revenue. Marion retired from the Historical Commission in 1999, but continued making ornaments until 2012. Marion was given a special award for her outstanding commitment to the Louisville Historical Commission

It is my privilege to present this Pioneer Award to Bob Junior and his family on January 23, 2014.



Porcelain ornament made by Marion Junior in 2008.

Louisville History Book Club By Anne Robinson, Historical Commission Member

The History Book Club meets from 6:00 to 7:45 PM on the second Wednesday of each month from September to May in the second floor Board Room of the Louisville Public Library. Unlike most book clubs in which members all read the same book, in this book club we select a topic and everyone reads what they wish on the topic. Participants read books or articles and we discuss what we learned with the group. Members of the public are welcome to join us, and newcomers should feel free to come and observe.

March Topic: Cheyenne Indian Culture
Wednesday, Mar. 12, 2014

April Topic: Ludlow Massacre & the Southern
Coalfield labor struggle
Wednesday, Apr. 9, 2014

May Topic: San Luis, Colorado (Colorado's oldest
town)
Wednesday, May 14, 2014



Memorial Donations

Thank you so much for these recent memorial donations. Donations received after this issue goes to print will be shown in the next issue.

In Memory of Glenn Steinbaugh (1927-2013)

Jean Morgan
Ron & Arlene Leggett
Bridget Bacon
John & Mary Lou Kranker
Eugene & Virginia Caranci
David W. Ferguson
Evonne R. Damiana
Dave & Shelley Angell
Cheryl Ferrari
Ronald & Patricia Varra
James & Rose Gilbert
Eugene DiCarlo
Paula Elrod

In Memory of Ralph Clinton Miller (1925-2013)

Jean Morgan

In Memory of Phil Mitchell (1936-2013)

Betty Janssen

In Memory of Eileen Autrey Hogg (1924-2013)

Claudine Waschak
June Enrietto

In Memory of Robert Dozier (1943-2013)

Daniel Mellish

In Memory of David "Pat" McHugh (1926-2013)

Ken Buffo

In Memory of Noboru Takemoto (1928-2013)

Beverly Like and the Takemoto Family



Donations to the Museum's Collection and Records

The Louisville Historical Museum accepted the following donations during the months of October through January. The City sincerely appreciates these recent donations!

Barbara Gigone – thirty-nine contemporary photos of historic houses in Louisville.

Isabelle Hudson – digital images of historic photos relating to Louisville and the Thirlaway family; Thirlaway family history information.

Harry & Ruth Mayor – two original photos taken on their wedding day in Lafayette in 1941. As Harry was from Louisville and Ruth was from Lafayette, they were prompted to make this donation as a result of the lead article of the Summer 2013 issue of the *Louisville Historian*, which was entitled “My Two Hometowns: Louisville and Lafayette.”

Ed and Judy Domenico – digital images of the Abstract of Title and related property documents for 1409 Courtesy Rd.

Ronda Leggett – yardstick from the Toney La Salle Furniture Co. at 820 Main; card from the 1950s listing town officials; and the football used in the 1967 Homecoming game, signed by the Louisville High School football team, and presented to the donor, who was the Homecoming Queen.

Gary Carnival – ninety-six digital images of historic photos relating to Louisville and particularly to the Zarini family. The donor is the grandson of Lawrence Mossoni and Marie Zarini.

Cynthia Wollam – thirty-five digital images of historic photos relating to Louisville and particularly to the Mossoni family, along with Mossoni family history information. The donor is the granddaughter of Natale and Irene Mossoni.

Frank Carpenter – two framed photos relating to Louisville.

Patricia Heller – photo of the donor's mother, Flora Banyai, with her brother, John Madonna, that was taken by photographer Erin Cox as part of her “Faces of Louisville” series. Flora Banyai passed away in 2013 at the age of 100.

Richard Channel – page from a 1944 issue of the *Louisville Times* showing the World War II honor roll.

Carolyn Conarroe – papers relating to the donor’s research for her newspaper columns and books about Louisville history.

Eileen Manning – prints of photos relating to the Porta family, including photos of the donor’s parents, Arthur “Spud” and Helen Porta, and of Porta’s clothing store, plus a copy of a newspaper article about the store from 2001.

Marge Turner – Family history book entitled “Carveth Family 1850-1932” about the Carveth family of Louisville. The donor is the daughter of Hazel Carveth.

Sandra Baine – five booklets from the early 1900s that the donor found in the attic of her historic home in Louisville.

Ron Cutadean – booklet dated 1990 promoting the South Shore Homes by Harper Lake.

Jesse DeGraw – autograph of Louisville native and baseball player Bert Niehoff.

Adrienne Kupfner – nine original historic photos relating to World War I; digital images of historic photos from the Anfang/Delforge family; and cotton clothing, hats, and other items from the donor’s family.

Marilyn Hunt – sixteen color photos showing the development of the Enclave neighborhood in Louisville in the early 1990s, taken by the donor’s parents, Jean and Wendell Hunt.

Bob Canaday – digital images of historic photos relating to the donor’s youth and family, including a photo of the donor by the new 1948 school bus that he drove for Erie schools when he was a senior in high school in Erie.

Craig Kitzman – digital photos taken of the changing look of 96th St. in the 2000s when the donor was the assistant City engineer for the City of Louisville.

Ken Buffo – digital image of a 1961 photo showing the K&B Standard Station at the northwest corner of Pine and Front, which he operated with his brother, Bill Buffo.

Louisville Public Library – 1981 Centaurus yearbook. This yearbook from when Louisville students attended Centaurus High School has been on the Museum’s wish list.

Aline Steinbaugh – items relating to the donor’s brother, Nick DiGiallonardo, including scrapbook pages with football and school items; other sports items such as programs and a game ticket; and a small composite photo of the class of 1949.

Dave Ferguson – matchbook cover from Alpine Lumber in Louisville.

Corrine Stewart – fourteen prints of color photos that the donor took in the 1980s of scenes in Louisville, including the Blue Parrot fire and the Jacoe Store building.

Barbara Hesson – antique wooden shoe form.

Jean Morgan – tea kettle made to fit into the round burner of a coal stove.

Bill Ryan – carpenter’s apron from Steinbaugh Lumber.

Mike Negri – Louisville High School items including a composite photo of the Class of 1940, play program, and a 1939 junior prom booklet; digital image of a photo of the donor during his World War II service; and ice skates that the donor used on Hecla Lake in the 1930s.

Museum Wish List

The Louisville Historical Museum would like to add to its collection the items described below. If you would be willing to donate any of the described items, please email museum@louisvilleco.gov or call 303-665-9048. If you would prefer not to part with an original photo or document, please contact us about how it can be scanned on our photo scanner. Donations to the Museum are tax deductible. Thank you for your support!

- Centaurus High School Yearbooks: 1974 to 2000, except for 1981 and 1990

- Composite photographs of Louisville High School’s graduating classes:

- All classes before 1936 except for 1909, 1915, 1921, 1923, and 1925
- The classes of 1954, 1955, 1958, 1960, 1964, 1965, and 1967 through 1971

- Coal mine photos and ledgers, and journals, letters, receipts, and other handwritten documents that relate to the Louisville area.

- Historical photos of homes and businesses in the old town part of Louisville (with or without people in the photos). Specific buildings need not be identified.

- Photos of the interior or exterior of Red Men’s Hall; scenes showing Louisville’s Little Italy and Frenchtown; and interiors and exteriors of Louisville’s saloons and pool halls.

- Old home movies and negatives of photos relating to the Louisville area.

- Photographs, programs, *The Lookout* school newspaper, and written memories relating to Louisville High School and Louisville Middle School.

- Historical records relating to Louisville businesses.

- Issues of *The Louisville Times*, or pages of it, from 1980 or earlier; particularly, issues from 1913 to 1942 and photos and information relating to Louisville's newspapers and publishers.

- Menus of Louisville restaurants.

Business Sponsors
Thank you to all of our
Business Sponsors!

- Avista Adventist Hospital
- Balfour Senior Living
- BK Media Group, Inc.
- The Blue Parrot
- Boulder Valley CPAs PC
- Kyle Callahan & Associates, Architects
- Chase Bank
- Coal Creek Collision Center
- Creative Framing & Art Gallery
- Wendy Fickbohm, State Farm Insurance Co.
- Great Western Bank
- The Gstalder Louisville Law Group, PC
- Haddock Insurance Agency
- Russell Hanson, DDS
- Koglin Group LLC Construction & Real Estate
- Liberty Home Loans
- Louisville Arts District
- Louisville Cyclery
- Louisville Tire and Auto Care
- Robert P. Muckle, MD, PC
- Old Friends
- Oliver Photography
- Pine Street Plaza
- Sequoia Strategy + Data Analytics, LLC
- Seward Mechanical Systems
- Stewart Architecture
- Martin Ters, DDS
- Tussey & Associates
- Via Toscana
- Zarembo Graphic + Web Solutions

Thanks to New and
Renewing Members

<i>New Members</i>	
Peter & Sarah Blair	Ada Johnson
Tony Draper	Juanita Marino
Charles & Mary Jane Flowers	Tammy M. Pelnik
Lynda & Jeffrey Haley Family	Ron Ross
Eugene C. Hall	Kathleen Simmons
Mary Hastings	John & Kathy Steinbaugh
Karen Janson	Fred Stones
Kathleen & Rick Jeffries	Sid Vinall

<i>New Business Sponsors</i>
The Blue Parrot
Louisville Arts District
Via Toscana
Zarembo Graphic + Web Solutions

<i>Renewing Business Sponsors</i>
BK Media Group, Inc.
Creative Framing & Art Gallery
Gstalder Louisville Law Group
Haddock Insurance Agency
Russell Hanson, DDS
Louisville Cyclery
Louisville Tire & Auto Care
Robert Muckle, MD, PC
Pine Street Plaza
Martin Ters, DDS

Regrets

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of regular members Clinton "Ralph" Miller and Eileen Autrey Hogg.



Renewing Members	
Kris Ahlberg	Bob & Jackie DiGiallonardo
Lawrence & Annette Anderson	Leanne Dillon
Bill & Cheryl Andrews	Melvin DiLorenzo Family
Dave & Shelley Angell	Rudy Dionigi
Karen Avery	Barbara DiSalle
Bridget Bacon & Andrew Calabrese	Mark Discenza
Daniel Barnes	Domenico Family
Mary Barry	Frank Domenico
Karl Becker Family	Sam Duran
Lynne Bentsen	Anne Dyni
Berkelhammer Family	Shari Edelstein
Richard Blackmer	Kevin & Lori Ehrlick
Mary Ann Blatter	Joyce & Virtus Einspahr
Sharon Boden	Donna & Adam Elnicki
Shirley & Dick Bodhaine	Paula Elrod
Earl & Barbara Bolton	Brad Emrick
Richard & Marian Bottinelli	June Enrietto
Jack Bowes Family	Pam Evanoff
Patricia Bradfield	Carolyn Fahey
Bridget & Gary Brown	Catherine Fahey
Douwe & Ann Bruinsma Family	Stephen Fahey
Dixie Buckalew	Herm & Virginia Fauson
Ken Buffo	Cheryl Ferrari
Martin Buffo	Allan Ferrera
Sally Burlingame	Janice Lee & Tom Flewelling
Janna Butler	Pamela Forcey
Kerry Butterfield	Mary Ann Franch
Michael & Nita Cahn	Ronda Frandsen
Ed Carpenter	John Gaffield Family
Tom Carpenter	Lola Dixon Gaudreau
Mary & David Cartwright	Sean Geiger Family
Robbie Cartwright Family	Barbara & Jim Gigone
Lori & Scott Chandler	Gloria Green
Beverly & Robert Clyncke	Bill & Carol Gross
Mary Ann Colacci Family	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hadley
Jeff & Treacy Cole	Raymond Hale
Robert & Yolanda Cole	Jack Hanley
Judy Cresswell	Hannah Harper
Elisa & Alexandra Dalton	Jeff & Amy Harr
Hank & Penny Dalton	Jeff & Amy Harrington
Meredith Davis	Kate LeMere & Andre Harrington
James De Francia Family	Celestina Hart
Dino & Judy De Santis	Barrie & Mary Hartman
Ann K. Del Pizzo	Ernest Hartnagle
Darlieen Del Pizzo	Ellen Marshall & David Harwood
Tony Del Pizzo Family Group	Erik & Kathleen Hauge
Anthony & Judy DeNovellis	Sheila Hausbeck
Joan Desmet	Ella Marie Hayes
Eugene DiCarlo	Tony & Theresa Heatherton

Renewing Members	
John T. & Shirley Hefton	Dixie Lee Martella
Barbara Hioco Family	Kathy & Larry Martella
Hofgard Family	Sharon Martin
Michael D. Hogg	Stan & Ann Martin
Susan Honstein	Roberta Martine
David Hooley	Dolores Mastriona
Heather Houghton	Marty & Kim McCloskey
Marilyn Hunt	Chris & Traci McCoy
Betty Janssen	Maxine McHugh
Arlieen Jason	McNally Family
Barbara Jennings	Anne McWilliams
June & Gene Joerns	Norbert & Mary Meier
Robert Phillips & Kelly Johannes	Daniel & Heather Mellish
Jacqueline Johnson	Lani Melvin Family
Erik Weissenberger & Tonya Johnson	Jo Louise Michaels & Family
Janet Jones	Dick & Virginia Milano
Bruce Joss	Susan Morrison
Julie Schumaker & Mike Kay	Sean & Amy Moynihan
Judy Kingsolver Family	Rick Kron & Cindy Mueller
Ann H. Kingston	Michael Menaker & Mary Mulcahey
Bruce Kirschner	Theresa & David Murray
Judy & Steve Knapp	Robert & Anne Marie Mutaw
Kneebone/Hocheder Family	John & Jennie Negri
Mary Kay Knorr	Candace Casotti Nesheim Family
Michael Koertje	Janet Nesheim
Michael Kokes Family	Kay & Doug Newcomb
Laesecke Family	Rosalie L. Newton
Rob & Carol Lathrop	Roswita Niessner
Jan Rowen & John Leary	Nordberg Family
W. Wayne Lee	Frank John Nortnik & Family
Ronda Leggett	Dave & Constance Nosler
Robin S. Lehmann	Martin & Lisa Ogle
Aaron & Kristin Lentz	Jennifer Kochanowski & Christina Ostrom
Patricia Lester	Peter & Grace Pascoff
J. Peter & Gayla Lindquist	Mary & Frank Patete
Jeffrey & Marguerite Lipton	John & Gloria Hoffmire Perlett
Richard & Linda Livingston	Don & Ricky Pickett
Ethel Loftesness	Marie Plumhoff
Terry Lynch	Gerald & Constance Pontasch
Rosalie Lynn	Marianne Porter
John Madonna	Marcella Raikes
William & Jennifer Mahoney	John & Irene Ray
Vicki Mandell-King & David King	Gary Reddington
Vince & Judy Mangus	Jeanne Reinhardt
Gary & Gerri Mansdorfer	Johanna Renouf
Ted & Carolyn Manzanaras	Madreen Richter
Betty Marino	RMCS, Inc.
Diane Marino	Anne Robinson
	Charles & Joan Robinson

Renewing Members

Darlene Rohr	Kevin Teets
Nettie Rooks	Jennifer Teets
Darlene R. Ross	Phyllis Thomas
Mike & Sheila Ryan	Jim Tienken
Eric & Elizabeth Ryterski	Ellen Toon
Ron & Karen Sackett	Darlene Trott
Kim Salony	Shelagh Turner
Mark & Gayle Santi	James Villars
Evelyn Harney Santilli	James W. Vinson
Fran Sawyer	Curtis Vogt
Karen Scarpella	Terry L. Wagner
Marilyn Scherer	Brian Walker
Gary Schneider Family	Karen Watts
Claudine Seader	Robert Watts
Terry Slade Family	Richard & Kristy Webber
Marie Slavec	Sherri Webster
Tony Slavec	Nancy Weeks
Beverly Smith	Karen Weiss
W. James & Shirley Smith	Stein & Lenore Weissenberger
Susan & John Spaulding	Gail Wetrogan
Barbara Leichty St. John & James St. John	Carie & Matt Whalen
Milton Steele Family	Christine White
William Stengel	Linda Whitney
Susanne Stephens Family	Nancy Allen & Jim F. Williams, II
Corrine Stewart	Margo Poteau Williams
Carlton & Susanne Stoiber	Dan Wilson
Jennifer & David Strand	Sedna Q. Wineland
Joyce Sullivan & John Stadler	Lois Wisdom
Nancy Nesbit Allphin Swanson	Odile A. Wollum
Takemoto Family	Kathy Zarini

***Can You Help to Identify
the People in These
Photos?***

Please let the Museum know if you recognize any of the people in these photos that are believed to be of Louisville residents. Thank you to Cynthia Wollam, Gary Carnival, and Isabelle Hudson for these recent donations.



Women in Louisville in the 1930s who were employed to make clothing as part of a WPA sewing program, with a man standing behind them.





*Louisville Historical Museum
749 Main Street
Louisville, CO 80027*

Return Service Requested

The Louisville Historian, Issue #101, Winter 2014

