



## ***The Manhunt for a Murderer: The Story of the 1915 Murder of Louisville's Town Marshal***

***By Brian Chamberlin, Historical Commission Member***

**T**he phone ringing in the middle of the night was nothing out of the ordinary. The Boulder County Sheriff's Office was available at all hours, but the call that came in that first week of July 1966, was not what anyone expected. A man named Wilkie Holland Ferris was calling from Arizona to report he had tracked down Frank Balistrere, a wanted fugitive in the murder of Victor Helburg. Was it possible that the search for Balistrere that began fifty-one years earlier had finally come to a close?

The story of this murder begins many years before 1915. Victor Helburg was born in Alsace, a border province that is now part of France but that historically was at times part of Germany. He immigrated to the United States in around 1880 and came to Louisville. Helburg married Mary Derfler, who had grown up in Louisville, and they had five children. The Helburg family made their home at 924 Grant in Louisville. Victor is listed in historical sources as having had several occupations, including miner and butcher, but he also entered public service in Louisville, starting as Town Marshal in 1895 and later holding the title of Town Clerk. He retained these positions with the city until his death on October 28, 1915, when he became the only Louisville lawman to lose his life in the line of duty.

On the morning of October 28, 1915, Helburg was performing his duties as Town Marshal and came across Frank Balistrere, a 37 year old fruit and vegetable peddler. Balistrere had arrived in the United States from Italy in about 1895, and by 1910 lived in the same Denver neighborhood as the Smaldone family, who would later become one of the more infamous mob families in Colorado. By 1915, Balistrere was living in Louisville near the railroad tracks. However, he still

maintained his connections in Denver, which served him well when the manhunt began.

Balistrere and Helburg were no strangers to one another. Helburg knew that Balistrere conducted his business in violation of a local ordinance: selling goods without a license. Helburg confronted Balistrere on the street and demanded that Balistrere get that license. The two had a heated exchange as Helburg threatened Balistrere with arrest for failure to comply with the town ordinance.



***Funeral procession for Victor Helburg on  
Main Street in 1915.***

Balistrere departed the encounter and returned to his wagon a couple blocks away. That afternoon, Helburg saw Balistrere driving his fruit and vegetable wagon west across Main Street at Pine. Helburg followed and confronted Balistrere again, where again they exchanged "high words," but this time the confrontation turned deadly.

Balistrere went to his wagon and retrieved a rifle. Helburg approached Balistrere and Balistrere brandished the rifle toward Helburg demanding that the marshal “leave him alone.” Balistrere then fired a single shot over the head of Helburg, missing him. Helburg did not return fire, but instead turned his back to Balistrere, probably believing Balistrere was just using a show of force, and wasn’t really a threat. With his back to his assailant, Helburg was unable to respond as Balistrere took steady aim at the back of Helburg and fired a second shot that tore through the lawman’s head, killing him instantly.



*Wedding photo of Victor Helburg and Marie Derfler, 1895.*

The shock on the street over the killing of Helburg quickly turned to fear as Balistrere brandished the weapon toward witnesses to keep them at bay while he “whipped up his horses” and disappeared.

Balistrere immediately headed south to the Chaussart ranch where he hid his wagon behind the barn, before fleeing west through the fields on foot.

A newspaper account stated that while Balistrere was busying himself hiding his wagon, “fifty armed men including Town Marshal George Robinson, Attorney Lyman Elwell and Ben Wood [pursued Balistrere] in hot pursuit only a quarter mile behind...in Elwell’s car. When they reached Louisville Junction they knew they missed him and turned back.” However, differing accounts put this posse’s pursuit of Balistrere as hours after the murder. Other reports have the posse missing discovery of Balistrere as he still hid at the ranch.

A second posse, formed under the leadership of Boulder County undersheriff Euler, worked its way south along

95<sup>th</sup> Street. Undersheriff Euler and his men were stopped by Mrs. Chaussart, who had discovered Balistrere’s wagon hidden by her barn. The men searched the ranch, but with no luck.

“The search for [Balistrere] lasted from the time of the shooting until after midnight and was resumed...at daybreak,” according to one account. Accounts from different papers reporting the incident provided different timelines for the posses, but one thing was clear: Balistrere had made his escape from Louisville and the law.

Balistrere’s family was also quickly on the run “in order to get out of the danger zone as threats were being made against them as well,” according to the Daily Camera. The afternoon after the murder, Balistrere’s wife, Rosy, loaded their children on the Interurban railway in Louisville and headed back to Denver, back to their old neighborhood, and back to the connections which helped them both disappear.



*924 Grant Ave., as it looks today.*

The next day, Boulder County Coroner A.E. Howe and Deputy District Attorney George Pomeroy arrived in Louisville to conduct the inquest into the murder. The jury’s findings stated that Helburg died from a gunshot wound to the head “...at the hand of Frank Balistrere who deliberately fired two shots and cold bloodly [sic] murdered the said Victor Helburg.” The jury consisted of Louisville citizens George Longmore, Joseph W. Malcolm, D.D. Davis, John Hutchinson, John Morgan, and Joseph Huber. A five hundred dollar reward was offered for the capture of Balistrere, “dead or alive.”

Meanwhile, Balistrere continued to elude authorities. Knowing that he could not hide in Denver, he used his connections there to aid his escape. On the evening of October 30<sup>th</sup>, a Denver garage received a call requesting a “powerful automobile” to meet with a group of Italian men at Inspiration Point. These men paid the driver sixty dollars cash up front to drive the men immediately to Cheyenne. Before departing Denver, another Italian man

joined the trip; it was Balistrere, freshly shaven and dressed in new attire.

The driver of this “wild ride” later recounted his story when Denver detectives assisting in the investigation spoke with him. As he drove the group north to Cheyenne, upon arrival at any of the towns along the way, Balistrere “whipped a six-shooter out of his pocket and with an eloquent gesture bade the driver to speed up. He indicated that he would not tolerate any stops in inhabited places.” In the early morning hours of Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, Balistrere arrived at the train station in Cheyenne, purchased a ticket to Chicago and disappeared. Law enforcement in Chicago and as far away as New York were notified to be on the lookout for Balistrere.

again as the twenty-two year old William died in the Denver-Boulder Interurban Railroad accident of 1920.

Victor’s widow, Mary, eventually worked for the Town of Louisville, herself. After fifteen years she retired in 1945, and the town held a reception in her honor at the Blue Parrot. Mary passed away in 1955, survived by four of her children, three who remained in Louisville, and one in Lafayette. The four surviving Helburg children, all of whom have passed away, were Frances, Victor Jr., Marie (Brugger), and Dorothy (James).

When Ferris made his call in 1966, he presented a rash of new information about the half century old, unsolved case. Could it be that the man responsible for the murder of Helburg was still alive and finally discovered? While Ferris reported himself to Boulder County authorities as

a nephew of Helburg, who had spent years searching for his uncle’s killer, none of the Helburg children recall Ferris as a family member. Ferris’s character was also suspicious; he had been arrested three times for drunken and disorderly conduct. His story about Balistrere’s confession continued to sound more grand, as he added that the fugitive confessed not only to the murder of the Helburg, but also to the murder of Elmer Cobb, a Boulder police officer found shot to death in 1923. To cast the final shadow of suspicion over the entire story, Ferris was never heard from again. The truth of his report is questioned today, but the Ferris

report and the newspaper coverage of it is an interesting aspect to the story that speaks to the strong desire to find Balistrere and try to make sense of why the murder happened. It is clear that the final chapter of the Helburg story has not yet been written.

*Sources of information: Archival materials on file at the Louisville Historical Museum; Census records and other historical records obtained at [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); “Louisville Justice Shot; His Head Blown Off,” *Boulder Daily Camera*, October 28, 1915; “Murderer of Helberg Flees From Pursuers,” *Boulder Daily Camera*, October 29, 1915; “Peddler Slays Boulder Marshal,” unidentified Longmont newspaper, 1915 article; “Murder at Louisville,” unidentified Longmont newspaper, November 5, 1915; “Suspect in 1915 Slaying Said Found in Mexico,” *Louisville Times*, July 8, 1966; “Killer of Louisville Man Located After 50 Years?,” *Boulder Daily Camera*, undated July 1966 article; “50 Year-Old Slaying Case is Reopened,” *Longmont Daily Times-Call*, undated 1966 article; “Everson Awaits Further Word in Old Murder Case,” *Longmont Daily Times-Call*, July 7, 1966;*



***This photo is believed to show the location of the crime at Pine and Main as later photographed by William Schutz, who was a witness. However, it unclear exactly what the numbers 1, 2, and 3 indicate. The man shown by the number 3 in the photo could indicate either Helburg or Balistrere.***

That afternoon, the residents of Louisville came out to mourn the man who had for two decades been one of its civil servants. He was buried in the Sacred Heart of Mary Cemetery on South Boulder Road. At the time of his death, Victor Helburg was about forty-eight years old; a husband, a father and a friend to many.

The Helburgs’ oldest son, William Henry, went to work as a coal miner and assumed the role of main wage earner to support the family. However, only five years after the death of his father, tragedy struck the family

*Louisville Times Centennial Edition, August 17, 1978. "Honor Sought for Slain Father," Boulder Daily Camera, April 27, 1980; Roberts, Anne Marie. "Victor Helburg is Only Louisville Police Officer Slain in Line of Duty," Louisville Times, undated 1989 article. "Local Name Added to National Law Memorial," Louisville Times, undated article; George, Mary. "Kin Carry On Fight for Fallen Lawmen," Denver Post, April 19, 1998.*

**Public Memorials  
For Victor Helburg**  
*By Brian Chamberlin, Historical  
Commission Member*

While the discovery of the whereabouts of Frank Balistrere did not pan out, in the ensuing decades the surviving Helburg children and grandchildren continued to fight for the memory of Victor Helburg. When the Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial was unveiled in 1979, one name left off the initial list of historic names of fallen law officers was Helburg's. It seemed that the state, due to the technicality of the definition of the role Helburg actually held at the time of his death, kept him from being recognized as a true law officer.

By 1991, when the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was dedicated in Washington D.C., Helburg was included in its list of fallen officers. It was not until 1999, when the Colorado memorial added a historic wing to their memorial stone, that Helburg was finally honored for giving his life in the line of duty. Louisville Police Commander Bill Kingston spoke about Helburg at this dedication, and locally, the City of Louisville has erected a memorial to Victor Helburg at the entrance to the Louisville Police Station at 992 Via Appia.

The memory of Victor Helburg, however, still lacks one level of recognition. While his name adorns the public fallen officer memorials at both the national and state levels, his name is conspicuously absent from public consciousness in Louisville. With this issue of *The Louisville Historian*, the Louisville Historical Museum and Commission are attempting to rectify this. How will the Louisville community decide to honor its only fallen lawman on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death in 2015?



*Victor Helburg memorial at the Louisville Police Station.*

**Possible Developments  
in the Helburg Case**  
*By Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator*

In connection with supporting research conducted at the Museum for this issue of *The Louisville Historian*, information about the fate of the Balistrere family may have been located using resources that were not previously available. It is now believed that at least Balistrere's children ended up on the West Coast after leaving Louisville so hastily in 1915. An attempt is being made to confirm this information and to try to fill in remaining gaps.

*Several people contributed to this project for the Historian. Thank you so much to Historical Commission member Brian Chamberlin for writing about this tragedy for the Historian. Thank you also to Historical Commission member Jennifer Strand; Louisville Police Chief Bruce Goodman; Robert Sampson; and the many others who have lent their support to keep alive the memory of Victor Helburg.*

**2011 Pioneer Award Recipient:  
Lawrence Enrietto  
Presented By David W. Ferguson,  
Louisville Historical Commission**

*The Louisville Historical Commission is pleased to announce that Lawrence Enrietto 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 Lawrence's family on January 27 at the Louisville Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet. Lawrence's daughter, Barbara DiSalle, accepted the award on his behalf.*

Lawrence was the only child of Barney and Mary Enrietto, and he was born in Illinois in 1926. He and his parents came to Louisville in 1938. Lawrence married June Giorzelli in 1948, and they were lovingly married for 46 years at the time of his death. Lawrence and June had one daughter, Barbara DiSalle. Lawrence's two granddaughters, Jodee and Melissa, were his pride and joy.



*Lawrence Enrietto,  
Pioneer Award  
recipient.*

Lawrence loved life, loved his family, and loved Louisville. He took great pride in his heritage, his religion, and most of all his community, which he loved dearly. Lawrence was affectionately called "Mr. Louisville."

Lawrence attended Louisville schools and graduated from Louisville High School in 1943. Lawrence then entered the United States Navy and served his country from 1944 to 1946 during World War II. He also attended Barnes Business School after the war.

Professionally, Lawrence was the Marketing Officer for the Bank of Louisville and served as a member of the bank's board of directors for twelve years. Prior to his

position at the bank, Lawrence was the safety officer at the Air Force Finance Center in Denver for 38 years.

Lawrence took great pride in his community, and it showed. He was a member of numerous organizations, served on several boards, and dedicated over thirty years to making Louisville the wonderful city that it is today.

Lawrence was instrumental in bringing Storage Technology Corporation, Avista Hospital, and Kryptonics to Louisville. Lawrence also helped establish the Louisville Recreation Center and Coal Creek Golf Course, co-chaired a committee to build a high school in Louisville, and helped found the Louisville Chamber of Commerce. He served in the following organizations:

- Louisville City Council (member, 1960-62)
- Louisville Planning Commission (member, 1960-73)
- Louisville Municipal Judge (1965-84)
- Boulder Long Range Planning Committee (member, 1970-74)
- Louisville Chamber of Commerce (director and member)
- Foundation for Boulder Valley Schools (director and member)
- Village Square Merchants Association (chairman)
- Coal Creek Rotary (charter member)
- La Festa Italiana di Louisville and the Society of Italian Americans (co-founder)
- Spaghetti Open Golf Tournament (co-founder)
- Annual Louisville Fourth of July celebration (co-founder)
- Village 5K Run benefitting the Muscular Dystrophy Association (co-founder)
- Tri-City Elks Lodge #2541 (member)
- Louisville Lions Club (member)
- Louisville Moose Club (member)
- Louisville Optimist Club (member)
- St. Louis Catholic Church (member, and served as lector, usher, bookkeeper, and member of the Parish Council)
- Avista Therapy Clinic Advisory Board (member)
- Coal Creek Golf Association (member)
- American Legion Post #111 (commander)
- Louisville Centennial and Bicentennial Committee (chairman)

- Louisville Elementary School, School Improvement Team
- Centennial Peaks Hospital Board (member)
- Avista Foundation Golf Board (member)

Lawrence has also received many awards and tributes for his service, including the Louisville Elk Citizen of the Year (1978) and the Louisville Times Person of the Year (1985).

The City of Louisville named Lawrence D. Enrietto Park in recognition of his contributions to Louisville.

A plaque was dedicated in his honor at Village Square recognizing his contributions to the merchants.

The Enrietto-DiSalle award is given annually to an outstanding seventh grade student at Louisville Middle School.

The Apple for Lawrence scholarship is awarded annually to a graduating high school senior who is a resident of Louisville.

The Lawrence Enrietto Volunteer Award is given yearly by the Louisville Chamber of Commerce as a tribute to Lawrence's involvement with many charitable organizations.

### ***Louisville Historical Programs Coming Up***

A bimonthly series of informal Brown Bag presentations about Louisville history by the Museum Coordinator will take place in the meeting room of the Louisville Public Library and is cosponsored by the Library and the Museum. Generally, the programs will take place on the first Tuesday of every other month beginning in February. Each program will have a theme announced in advance. The accompanying Louisville photos from the Blizzard of 1913 were among those shared at the February Brown Bag lunch, when the topic was "Rhythms of the Louisville Household: Winter."

Feel free to come learn about Louisville history, share information, and bring your lunch!

The Louisville History Book Club meets at 6:30 PM on the first Wednesday of each month at the Louisville Public Library. Participants read books of their choice on the given topic. Upcoming topics are: March – Health, Medicine, and Science History, and April – Saloons and the West. Open to the public.

May is national Preservation Month, and like many communities across the country, we are planning interesting public programs for May with a historical preservation theme. Look for announcements coming up!

For more detailed information about historical programs sponsored by the Museum and Library, please check the Library website, [www.louisville-library.org](http://www.louisville-library.org), or call the Historical Museum at 303-665-9048.



***Maude and Grace Ludwig with their father, Samuel Ludwig, after the Blizzard of 1913.***



***Thomas Beveridge by his home at 701 Jefferson Ave. after the Blizzard of 1913.***

***Exploring Jefferson Place  
Subdivision History,  
and Finding Out a Lot  
By Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator***

The Louisville Historical Museum is seeking photographs and information specifically relating to the historic homes and families of Louisville's Jefferson Place Addition. Jefferson Place was the first addition to original Louisville. Charles C. Welch, who played a prominent role in the founding of Louisville in 1878 (and whose story was told in the Fall 2010 issue of *The Louisville Historian*), filed the plat for the Jefferson Place subdivision with Boulder County in 1880.

The City of Louisville has been awarded a grant from the State Historical Fund for an intensive level survey of the Jefferson Place subdivision. The grant is being matched with funding from Louisville's Historic Preservation Fund, which was created when Louisville voters passed the historic preservation tax in November 2008. The purpose of the survey is to identify and describe the historic resources in Jefferson Place, which contains approximately ninety homes that are over fifty years old. While most date from circa 1900, quite a few date back to the 1880s and 1890s. Current owners of Jefferson Place properties have been informed of the survey project, and information that they can provide will be valuable to have for the survey.

The Jefferson Place subdivision consists of properties in the 600, 700, 800, and 900 blocks of La Farge Avenue and Jefferson Avenue, plus properties on Pine, Spruce, and Walnut where they cross La Farge and Jefferson. This is the area directly to the west of original Louisville. Jefferson Place attracted not only coal miners and their families who had come to Louisville in search of work, but also provided housing for the proprietors of the many businesses located nearby on Front Street and Main Street.

Jefferson Place buildings are very significant in Louisville history. The miners' small houses tell the story of Louisville's coal mining heritage and modest lifestyle. The Methodist Church at 741 Jefferson was constructed here, as was the original Catholic Church located in the 800 block of La Farge (now gone). The old Louisville school, in operation from the early 1880s to the early 1960s, was located at what is now Memory Square Park in Jefferson Place. Although Jefferson Place was primarily a residential area, some residents even operated businesses here. These included the Eberharter Grocery Store (later, the Ed Smith Grocery Store) at 805 La Farge and Forte's Grocery Store at 804 Walnut.

In September, the City of Louisville awarded the surveying contract to Avenue L Architects, a firm that specializes in historic preservation projects. The firm is compiling historical and architectural information for each historical property, assessing each parcel for national, state, and local landmarking in the event that that is desired by the current owners, and assessing the possibility of creating one or more historic districts based on the presence of specific criteria.

As the staff member for the Louisville Historical Museum, I have been assisting with the Jefferson Place survey by providing information about each historic house's chain of ownership and the families that lived in each house, as well as historic photos from the collection of the Historical Museum. As one might expect, this process has led to a deeper understanding of Louisville history and just who Louisville's earliest residents were. It has also been fascinating for me, personally, to learn about the many houses have been owned by the same families for fifty, eighty, or even over one hundred years.

Thanks to the generosity of past donors, historic photos from the collection of the Museum showing buildings in Jefferson Place are today serving a very specific and useful purpose. However, we need more! If your family lived in Jefferson Place, please consider looking for photos of the home, yard, street, and family members in order to contribute to the Museum for this worthy historical survey project. Even if only a portion of a house appears in the background of a photo, it can be useful. If desired, photos can be scanned at the Museum so that one does not have to relinquish original photos. Family histories relating to Jefferson Place houses would also be most welcome!

For more information, please contact the Museum at [museum@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:museum@louisvilleco.gov) or (303) 665-9048. For more information about the history of La Farge Avenue in particular, see the Fall 2008 issue of *The Louisville Historian*, copies of which are available at the Museum.



***Nicholas and Mary Thomas House, 733 Pine St., early 1900s. This house is part of Louisville's Jefferson Place Addition.***

## Memorial Donations

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

**In Memory of Anthony Varra (1989 - 2010)**  
David Ferguson

**In Memory of Phillip Bammer (1951 - 2010)**  
Larry & Kathy Martella  
Ronald & Arlene Leggett

**In Memory of William Dhieux (1918 - 2010)**  
David Ferguson  
Ronald & Arlene Leggett  
William & Betty Buffo

**In Memory of Phyllis Schreiter Steinbaugh (1932 - 2010)**  
William & Betty Buffo  
Cheryl Ferrari  
John & Linda Golman

**In Memory of Nicholas Carmen Del Pizzo (1931 - 2010)**  
William & Betty Buffo

**In Memory of Dorothy LaSalle Ferguson (1928 - 2009)**  
Noburo Takemoto

**In Memory of Robert Ferrari (1928 - 2010)**  
Noburo Takemoto

**In Memory of John Paul Waschak (1919 - 2011)**  
William & Betty Buffo  
Ronald & Arlene Leggett  
Eugene & Virginia Caranci  
Adrienne Kupfner

## Historical Museum Contact Information and Hours

The Museum is open from 10 to 3 on only Wednesdays and the first Saturday of each month. Special appointments at other times are possible. Museum staff can be reached at [museum@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:museum@louisvilleco.gov) or 303-665-9048.

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.



## Don't Miss an Issue of The Louisville Historian!

Membership in the Louisville Historical Society is a must for those interested in Louisville's unique history and cultural character! Members receive the quarterly *Louisville Historian*.

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

Visit the Historical Museum web site at <http://www.louisvilleco.gov/> for a membership form or call the Museum at 303-665-9048. You may also write to us at Louisville Historical Museum, 749 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado, 80027. Please make checks payable to the Louisville Historical Commission.

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## Louisville Street in Winter



*This photo shows a snowy Short Street looking west from Main Street, early 1900s.*



## ***Louisville's World War II Servicemen and Women Honored*** By Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

In November, Museum volunteer Gail Khasawneh presented a program in recognition of Veterans Day entitled *World War II Scrapbook: Remembering Louisville's Servicemen and Women*. This program was cosponsored by the Louisville Historical Museum and Louisville Public Library and was presented to an audience of about fifty. Many more were able to watch the program afterwards, when it was shown on Louisville's channel 8.

Gail told of the inspiring stories of the following nine Louisville area "Gold Star" men, and one woman, who died in the line of duty in World War II:

Wilbur Clark	John Tomeo
Alfred Dhieux	Robert Tovado
Ben Fiechtl	Mary Elizabeth Trebing
Robert Morrison	Stephen Vaschak
Carl Sanderson	Robert Vaughan

It was particularly eye-opening for the audience to learn from Gail of the extent to which young men and women from the small town of Louisville were sent all over the world as part of the war effort, and to learn that most of the houses in which these young people grew up are still around us in downtown Louisville.

Gail also informed the audience of recent news relating to Mary Elizabeth Trebing in particular. On March 2010, Trebing and other Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) were awarded Congressional Gold Medals in recognition of their vital contributions. Following up on this occasion, Mary Elizabeth Trebing's family recognized Trebing's service and posthumously presented her with her medal at a ceremony at the Spirit of Flight Center in Erie on September 30, 2010.



***This photo shows Mary Elizabeth Trebing and her brother, Bill, who also served in World War II. They are standing in their family's yard at 561 Jefferson Ave. in Louisville.***

## ***The Museum Corner*** By Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

We have received so much interest in, and compliments on, the Fall 2010 issue of *The Louisville Historian*, which was the special edition about "The Untold Story of Louisville's First Years." Thank you so much to Pete Lindquist for his research and insights into how Louisville came to be founded. For anyone who may have missed it, copies of the issue are available at the Historical Museum.

The previous *Historian*, the lead article of which was "The Story of the Little Brick School House," also drew interest from the public. Gary Schneider of Louisville's Bordinelli family identified his aunt and uncle in the 1915 photo of a class by the building. Janie Botkin informed the Museum that her great grandmother, Christine Peterson Gradel, taught in the school.

I'm thrilled that a record was set in 2010 for the number of new memberships received in one year! A total of 120 new memberships was received, surpassing the previous year's record of 118 new memberships received in 2009. The high numbers of new memberships and high renewal rate certainly show how interested people are in Louisville history and how much they enjoy reading *The Louisville Historian*!

Members of the Louisville Historical Commission had an entry in the Labor Day parade to promote the Historical Museum, and won a trophy! Thank you to Sean Moynihan and Lynn Koglin and their families.

Thank you so much to the City of Louisville for donating to the Louisville Historical Commission \$1300 from the Fall Festival proceeds.

Also, Avista Adventist Hospital, a Business Sponsor, has funded a reprint of the Historic Downtown Louisville Walking Tour brochure. Thank you to Avista Hospital for its support!

I want to give extra thanks to Mona Lee Doersam for not only her wonderful work doing the layout of every issue of *The Louisville Historian*, but especially the special edition that came out in the fall.

Thank you so much to Marion Junior for making the lovely holiday ornaments that are an annual fundraiser for the Historical Commission; to Pam Forcey for sending information to the Museum about places named for people named "Louis," as Louisville is; and to Susan Dellinger for her personal donation of a scanner for the Museum. Thank you to Creative Framing (a Business Sponsor) and to Café de Paris for their contributions for

a Business Sponsor Appreciation reception that the Historical Commission organized in November.

In addition to the Museum's volunteers for its Oral History Program, who are thanked elsewhere in this issue, thank you so much to regular volunteers Mary Kay Knorr, Debby Fahey, Robert Sampson, Gail Khasawneh, Bill Buffo, Ardeshir Sabeti, Jessica Fasick, and Kate Gerard.

Last, many thanks to Colleen Vandendriessche for her four years of service on the Historical Commission.

### ***Oral History Program Update***

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

Tony DelPizzo	Elizabeth Marino
Buddy Day	Ralph Miller
Betty Buffo	Don Ross
Ed Domenico	Bill & Kathy Ryan
June Enrietto	Mike Ryan
Mary Ann Franch	Jack Steinbaugh
Eileen Hogg	Fred Tesone
Mariann Lastoka	Lois Tesone

Also, thank you so much to the Museum's Oral History Program volunteers: Chris Wecker, Ady Kupfner, Jean Morgan, Katie Kingston, Barbara Gigone, Barbara Hesson, Diane Marino, Mary George, Fred Berns, and Dana Echohawk, and thank you to the Louisville Historical Commission for its financial support of this worthy project.

### ***Donations to the Museum's Collection and Records***

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

**Janie Botkin** – scans of photos and archival materials relating to her relatives, Louise Peterson and Christine Peterson Gradel, and to Julian Gradel of Louisville.

**Percy & Carolyn Conarro** – scans of photos of the Conarros and information about their operation of *The Louisville Times* newspaper.

**Helen Holmes** – Union booklet and booklet of coal mining laws from the family of Bill Jenkins.

**Rosemarie and Herb Steinbaugh** – Steinbaugh's work apron; booklet of Steinbaugh's check receipts from 1901-03; and Louisville school census records from 1908.

**Richard Bodhaine** – Louisville Midget League items from the 1960s and other sports items relating to Louisville.

**Susan Cawley** – ledger and notebook from the estate of Louisville resident Eugene Madonna.

**Barbara Hesson** – 1965 City of Louisville accounting ledger and a number of items from the Austin-Niehoff family and other Louisville items, including posters advertising events at Redmen Hall in Louisville and vintage clothing.

**Ronda Leggett** – "Lookout" newspapers and programs from Louisville High School and items relating to Louisville businesses.

**Yvan & Marilyn Paitel** – mail order catalog of an early 1900s Louisville business, the Enterprise Novelty Co., found in their home.

**Virginia Evans** – items that belonged to her husband, Louisville native Lee Evans, and his mother, Jennie Lee, including archival items relating to Louisville High School classes of 1908 and 1935 and historical business items.

**David Ferguson** – framed picture of his grandfather, Joseph Dionigi, and kitchen scale from his family.

**Anonymous** – Louisville High School jacket from the 1960s.

**Patricia Lester** – photo of her parents, the Cables, in front of their house at 932 Main and family history information on the Hilton and Palmer families.

**Kim Daldos** – items found in his home consisting of a law book that belonged to Louisville attorney Edward Affolter and a photo album of Louisville's Moffitt family.

**David Buffer** – plastic card dated 1956 belonging to the previous owner of his home; it appears to be an early credit card for Conoco.

**Earl Bolton** – Colorado license plate commemorating the 1976 bicentennial.

**Beverly Clyncke** – a pencil and class ring relating to her mother’s Louisville High School class, the class of 1933, and an original letter written to her grandparents.

**Grace Dionigi** – 1988 *Louisville Times* issue and Louisville water reports by “Ring” Dionigi in 1964.

Thank you also to the Cultural Council for donating a file of information, mostly from the 1990s, about the replacement of the cupola on the Louisville Center for the Arts building.

**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](mailto:museum@Louisvilleco.gov) or call us at 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.
- 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, 1962, and 1964 through 1971
- Issues of *The Louisville Times*, or pages of it, from 1980 or earlier.
- 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 Redman 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.
- Photos of Victor Helburg and members of the Helburg family.

- Historical records relating to Louisville businesses.
- Photos and information relating to the brick school house that became the Center for the Arts building.

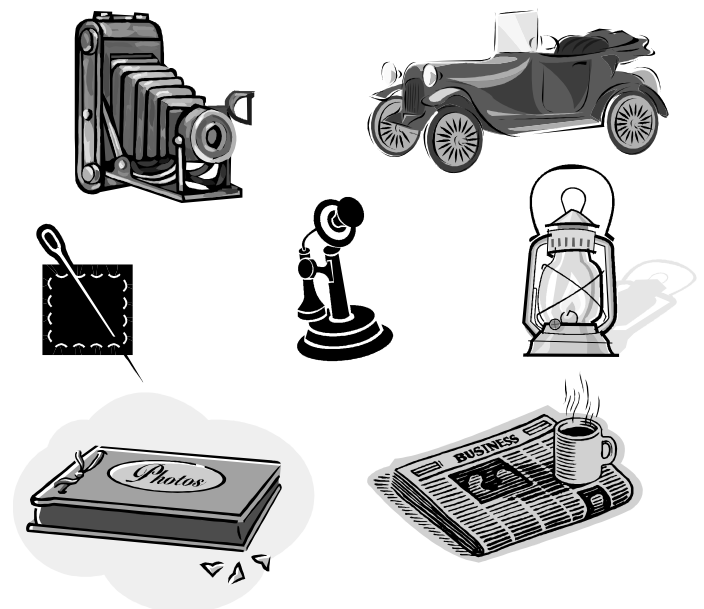
**New item:**

-Photos and information relating to the homes and families of the Jefferson Place Addition (see related article in this issue) and relating to Louisville’s different ethnic groups.

**Thank You for Your Monetary Donations!**

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

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<b>Regrets</b>	
We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of former Historical Commission member Carolyn Markham and to the family of John Waschak, who as mayor of Louisville was instrumental in the establishment of the Louisville Historical Commission.	

**Photographs from the Collection of the  
Louisville Historical Museum**



*Photo on Right: This historic photo, recently donated, shows the Louisville girls basketball team in about 1908. Jennie Lee, class of 1908, is second from the right in the front row. This photo was donated by Virginia Evans; her husband, Lee Evans, was the son of Jennie Lee.*



*Photo on Left: This recently donated action photo actually shows the Louisville girls basketball team playing the game outside. Bessie Dixon, Louisville class of 1910, is one of the girls. This photo was donated by Bessie Dixon's son, Charles Waneka.*

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Louisville, CO 80027  
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