



# The Louisville Historian

Issue #122

*A Publication of the Louisville Historical Museum,  
Louisville History Foundation, and Louisville Historical Commission*

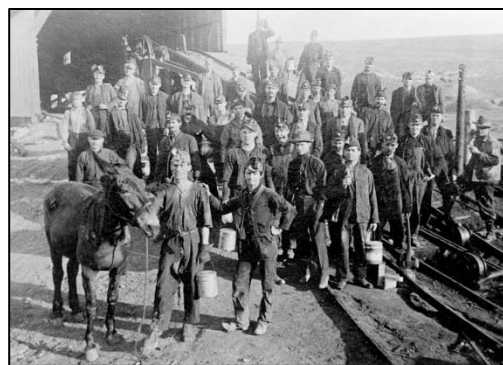
Spring 2019

## **Mischievous Mules and Benevolent Burros**

*by Gigi Yang*

**D**uring Louisville's peak mining years, around 1880-1945, probably everyone in town could tell you the difference between a mule and a burro. Today, that knowledge is not so common, but there was a time when both mules and burros were part of people's everyday lives. Both animals were essential to the early days of mining for their strength and sure-footedness in navigating mountain terrain and underground mine tunnels.

So what is the difference between a mule and a burro? A mule is a cross between a female horse and a male burro (also known as a donkey). Physically, burros can usually be identified by their long ears, short stiff mane, and smooth tail with a tuft on the end. In this respect, burros more closely resemble zebras than horses. Horses are a distinctly different species and are distinguished by long legs with large hooves, small ears, and long flowing manes and tails. Mules, being a hybrid mix, have characteristics of both burros and horses. In appearance, they more closely resemble horses with a smooth coat, thin legs and long tail hair, but have the distinctive long



ears, sturdier body, and small hooves of a burro.

***Mule with miners at an area mine (undated).***

### **Burros**

Burros are the same as donkeys, although today, the term is often used to refer to a smaller donkey. The name "burro" comes from the Spanish word "burraco" for donkey and was adopted when the Spanish first brought donkeys to this country in the 1600s.

Burros are hardy animals and were used throughout the settling of the Southwest as pack animals. They became especially useful during the 19<sup>th</sup> century Gold Rush eras, hauling supplies up into the mountains for early miners and prospectors. Historically, miners did not ride their burros since the burros were carrying the heavy equipment. Instead, miners and burros learned to work together and trust each other as they walked mountain trails together.



***Louisville girls with burro, circa 1908. The girls are Ellen Wilson, Grace McNeil, Ethel Ball, Bessie Dixon, Minnie Allert, and Nelle Wolfer.***

As the Gold Rushes in the West ended and burros were no longer needed, many of them were turned loose to survive in the wild. Today, wild burros are protected under the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 and are considered "living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West."

In the Louisville area, burros were more often used on farms or in town, pulling carts and hauling small loads. Their smaller size and calm disposition made them more manageable than horses or mules and they often appear to be treated almost like pets and companions to children. There are many historic photos in the Louisville Historical Museum's collection showing young children riding burros, including a 1909 postcard

from Lafayette with the handwritten comment “Every kid has a burro out here.”



*Children on burro by Redmen Hall, circa 1908-09.*

The close relationship between prospectors and their burros is still celebrated today with burro racing events in the mountain towns of Fairplay, Leadville, Buena Vista, Georgetown, and Idaho Springs. During a race, burros must carry packs of traditional mining equipment over a course of 12-30 miles while their “prospector” companion races alongside.

Over the years and as recently as the 1990s, the burro’s unique combination of patience and obstinance have led to its participation in a number of humorous local activities. Members of Louisville Kiwanis and Lions Club, firemen, and business leaders have ridden burros while playing games of baseball, polo, and basketball to raise money for their various causes.

<p>YOU DON'T HAVE TO TURN YOUR BACK ON US We Guarantee Satisfaction</p> <p><b>LOUISVILLE ELECTRIC</b></p>	<p><b>Donkey Basketball</b></p> <p>THE NATION'S BIGGEST LAUGH</p> <p>LIANS CLUB vs. FIREMEN LOUISVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GYM</p> <p><b>Thursday, February 9, 1950</b> 8:00 o'Clock P. M.</p>	<p>YOU CAN'T FOUL HIM</p> <p>He'll Lead You to</p> <p><b>JOE'S FRUIT STORE</b></p>
<p><b>BLUE PARROT CAFE</b> Louisville, Colo.</p> <p>Mixed Drinks — Wines — Liqueurs Spaghetti and Good Steaks</p>	<p>See leading citizens attempt to play a six inning game of basketball while mounted on the hurricane decks of real live donkeys. It's a side splitting comedy of basketball errors. You'll laugh until your sides are sore and aching.</p> <p>We promise you one hour and 15 minutes of the wildest, swiftest basketball ever played. It's one condition, screams of laughter from start to finish. More fun than a monkey circus—less basketball than you ever thought possible.</p> <p>FOR BENEFIT OF RURAL FIRE TRUCK</p> <p>Admission: Adults 50c; H. S. Students—25c; Children 25c</p>	<p><b>TESONE'S BARBER SHOP</b></p>
<p><b>COMPLIMENTARY</b></p>	<p><b>TRACK INN</b> Peter and Susan Bathauer Phone 276 Louisville, Colo.</p>	<p>OUR VALUES WOULD AMAZE A MULE</p> <p>Come in and see our special bargains on Home Refrigerators. \$99.95 for \$119.95.</p> <p><b>MOSSON'S</b> FIRESTONE STORE</p>

*1950 “Donkey Basketball” event publicized in The Louisville Times.*

## Mules

Mules are hybrid animals bred from a female horse and a male donkey. Because of their hybrid nature, mules have an odd number of chromosomes and can't reproduce. The only way to get a mule is to breed one. Mules benefit from having the best characteristics of both parents. They can carry more weight and have better endurance than horses or burros of a similar size. In temperament, mules inherited the horse's trainability and speed with the donkey's intelligence and patience. Charles Darwin wrote about mules, “The mule always appears to me a most surprising animal. That the offspring of the horse and the [donkey] should possess more reason, memory, obstinacy, social affection, powers of muscular endurance, and length of life, than either of its parents, seems to indicate that art has here outdone nature” (Darwin, *What Mr. Darwin Saw In His Voyage Round the World In the Ship “Beagle,”* 1880).

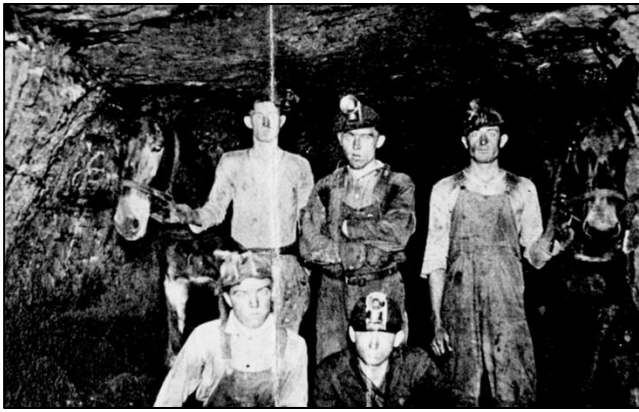
Although burros were useful to prospectors because of their smaller size and nimbleness, mules were much more useful in the mines because of their strength and endurance.

Photos from the Museum collection show mules working hard in the coal mines. They were vital work partners to coal miners, hauling tons of coal and imposing their sometimes mischievous personalities on the daily operation of the mines.



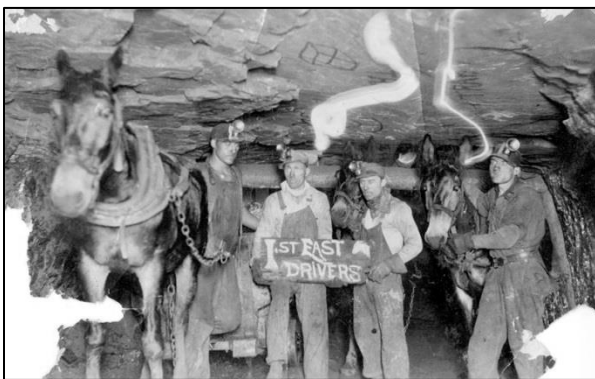
*Photo showing a mule at Louisville's Fireside Mine, which was in operation from 1933 to 1941.*

Henry Dhieux started working with his father at the Old Centennial Mine in 1930 when he was 15 years old. According to Museum staff notes from a 2006 interview with him, “His dad ran [the punching machine], and Henry shoveled the slack... They always worked with the same mule. Henry couldn't remember her name. She would watch him eat lunch, then he'd go back to work. He would then find that she had gotten the lid off his lunch pail and eaten the food he'd left in it.” He indicated that he was really fond of the mule even though he got exasperated with her for eating his food.



**1919 photo showing five men and two mules in a mine tunnel in the Monarch Mine.**

In the mines, a miner was dependent on his relationship with not just the mule assigned to his team, but also the mule drivers who tended and trained the mules and also managed the loading and unloading of coal cars. Mules were crucial for bringing coal from the tunnels to the mine surface, and the life and well-being of a mule was sometimes considered to be more valuable than that of a miner. According to an article written for the Mining History Association by Michael Sprowles, a mule cost about \$200 in 1913 and could often work for fifteen years or more. Mules were incredibly strong, smart, and hard-working. Their job was to pull a string of coal cars from the room tunnels to the shafts where the carts would be lifted to the surface. An individual coal car could weigh more than 2 tons (4,000 pounds) with a string of cars equaling 6-8 tons of coal (Sprowles, "Mine Mules: Their Use in Coal Mines in the United States," 2011).



**Miners and mules in the Monarch Mine, circa 1925-30. The miners are identified as Rocky Piccone, Isaac Robbins, Milo Guenzi, and Atilio "Tealie" Bottinelli.**

Deep in the mines, trust and teamwork were essential to ensure the safety of the miners. Mules working alongside miners also contributed to the work

environment through their ability to sense dangerous conditions, quick learning and understanding of routines, and companionship. Despite their stubborn reputation, mules are social creatures and capable of forming strong bonds with their human co-workers. The mines employed many people to specifically care for the mules. Young boys often got their first job at the mine feeding and looking after the mules and the stables. After that, boys could be promoted to being mule skimmers or nippers and were responsible for opening and closing doors between tunnels to let the mules and coal cars through. The boys helped to control the speed of the heavy coal cars as they rolled up and down slopes. This could be a dangerous job since mules were smart enough to run down hills and use momentum to help pull the cars back uphill. Veterinarians and blacksmiths were also employed to maintain the health of mine mules. Most importantly, mule drivers were well-respected and responsible for evaluating new mules and training mules for the variety of complex and precise tasks that kept the mines running safely and smoothly.

### **Mule Myths**

One of the most well-known trademarks for both mules and burros is their stubborn nature. It is true that both animals seem to know their own minds about how things should be done, and once trained in certain routines, are reluctant to change their ways.

What comes across as stubbornness is actually the result of an instinctive sense of caution. Neither mules nor burros are prone towards a herd mentality, so when faced with a new or unknown situation, they are unlikely to be led by the behavior of their fellows. Instead, they tend to balk and hold their ground, preferring to survey the situation until they feel safe enough to proceed. This



behavior was both a blessing and a curse to miners and mule drivers who often found themselves up against the cautious and self-preserving nature of a mule.

*"Jenney" mule, 1927 toy advertisement from Longmont's Daily Times, Dec. 1, 1927.*

There are many stories of mules that seemed to know when the day's shift ended and would simply stop working or of mules that were trained to pull a certain number of coal cars and would refuse to move if an extra car was added to the string. Mules, unlike horses, had their limits and consequently managed to set their own work standards. As one Colorado miner stated, "They was unionized before some of us" (Alex Bisulco quoted in Bill Moyers' "Out of the Depths: The Miner's Story," 1984). The mule's intelligence is aptly described in an article from an 1884 Pennsylvania newspaper:

As soon as he has been harnessed he will take his place at the head of a "trip of cars." He will start at the right time and stop at the right place. If the driver be a new one and by mistake command him to stop short, it is probable he will be unheeded or that the mule, having stopped, will go to the rear and with his shoulder push the cars to their proper place (Sprowles, 2011).

Another common misconception is that mules working in the mines would go blind from living underground. In Louisville, mules were indeed stabled underground during the mining season in the fall and winter. However, they were brought out of the mines in the summer to work above ground at surrounding farms or pastured at a miner's home. By all accounts, the mules were never blind, although they were sometimes blindfolded or brought out of the mines at dusk so that their eyes could adjust to the light gradually. According to Sprowles, mules actually had extremely sharp night vision from working in the same constant dim light as the miners. There is at least one account of stable lights being left on overnight for the mules' comfort. Sprowles relates this account: "[A boy] said that sometimes the only way he could get his team to move was to run ahead of them with the light. Afraid of the darkness, they would follow." In general, mules were treated well, coping with the same dangers and work environment as the miners.

### **Mules Around Town**

Carlo Damiana is remembered for having routinely cared for sick and injured mine mules in a pen in his residential yard at 1024 Main Street. And in a 2011 oral history interview, Pat McHugh offered a snapshot of the relationship between humans and mules with this boyhood memory of mine mules in the summertime:

We used to wait till they pulled the mules out of the mine at the Industrial mine and the Columbine mine ....

They'd pull all the mules out of the mine in the summer time and take them over to the Rocky Mountain Fuel and old Doc Pearce was a veterinarian there. He lived on the farm 'cause he tended the mules and fixed them up, you know. Me and Alfred here, Alfred Dhieux ... we'd go over there and catch them damn mules and ride them in the summer time, all around the field. Well, I couldn't climb up bareback on a mule, so I'd climb on top of the damn fence. Alfred would ... lead the mule past me and I'd jump on his back. Then I'd ride the mule around, Alfred would be up on the next fence and he'd jump on in front of me. I always had to ride the back end... They got to running from us 'cause they knew that they were gonna get ridden. They'd see me and Alfred coming down there in the morning and they'd all take off on the other side of the field.

Today, it is hard to imagine the daily presence of mules and burros throughout Louisville but from photos and oral history accounts, they have earned a respectful place in history due to their hard-work, playfulness, independence, and intelligence.



**Nelle Wolfer and Minnie Allert pretending to use a burro like a telephone, circa 1908.**

*For more information about mules and burros, join us on June 6<sup>th</sup> for Gigi Yang's Brown Bag presentation on "Mules and Miners" and for the First Friday Art Walk on June 7<sup>th</sup>, when we'll welcome real burros to the Museum campus! See the programs listings in this issue for the details.*



## **2019 Pioneer Award Recipient: Leon A. Wurl**

**Presented by Paula Elrod,  
Louisville Historical Commission**

*The Louisville Historical Commission is pleased to announce that Leon A. Wurl is this year's recipient of the Pioneer Award. This award is presented annually to a person or persons who have contributed to the welfare and interest of the Louisville community. Paula Elrod presented the award to Leon's wife, Nancy, his son Myles and his granddaughter Nicole on April 2nd at the Louisville Chamber of Commerce Awards Event.*

Leon was born in 1931 in Laramie, Wyoming. His family moved to the Denver area and eventually ended up in Westminster, Colorado, where Leon graduated from high school. In 1949 he joined the Navy, where he served in Hawaii as a plane captain responsible for maintaining aircraft.

After returning home from the service, Leon lived with his family in Westminster, where he began his career in city government. He was first hired as Westminster's deputy marshal, then became the town marshal and later was promoted to



**Leon Wurl (1931-1998)**

public works supervisor and served as acting manager for a short time. In 1960, he became the City Administrator for Aspen, Colorado for about 18 months. He returned to Aspen in 1966 as City Administrator and was there until becoming the City Administrator of Louisville.

Leon was hired as the City Administrator on November 1, 1972 and came at a time that was crucial for Louisville. The City Council was concerned about the quality of life, which meant that there was a need for street improvements, upgrading the water and sewer systems, and creating a parks system. The City had several ambitious programs and projects such as Urban Renewal District and Authority; a Housing Authority; plans for a central park with a swimming pool, which is now Memory Square Park; and downtown redevelopment, to name a few. In order to increase services, Louisville had to grow in all ways, which would include residential growth. The City Council needed someone to advise them on how to deal with these issues. Leon immediately dealt with growth issues

by proposing that the City Council adopt impact fees and charges to be put on developers and builders. The City adopted Service Expansion fees, Parks and Recreation fees, Street fees, Capital Improvement fees, Tree fees, and others. With Leon's guidance, Louisville came as close to making growth pay its own way as any municipality could.

Developers were required to bring raw water in with the land annexed or purchased and brought into the City's system or an equivalent payment made in lieu. They were required to provide and install infrastructure, water and sewer mains, streets, landscaping, etc. Land dedications for parks, open space and trails had to be set aside, also. A few of the projects Leon achieved were:

- Street Overlay
- Water Main Improvements
- Concrete Replacement Program
- New Sanitation Plant
- Upgrade of the Water Treatment Plant
- Howard Berry Water Filter Plant
- Harper Lake Water Storage Reservoir
- Building of a raw water line from Marshall Lake to Louisville
- Senior Housing facilities
- Construction of a new City Hall
- Annexation of Storage Technology Corporation (STC)
- Expansion of South Boulder Road to four lanes and the project to pave it from Hwy 42 to McCaslin
- Establishment of the Colorado Technology Center (CTC)
- Establishment of Louisville's Tree-Planting Program, which resulted in Louisville receiving the recognition of being a "Tree City USA"
- New public properties for Open Space and Parks & Recreation, including 400 acres from the Centennial Valley Mall annexation set aside for open space and rights-of-way. Several acres for construction of where today's Louisville Recreation Center is located, several acres for Harper Lake, and over 300 acres for Open Space on Davidson Mesa were part of this project.

He advocated for the Louisville Museum and Louisville Historical Commission. Also, under his leadership, Louisville received its first revenue share from Uncle Sam in 1973 under the federal "revenue sharing" program. There were many more grants after that.

During his tenure as Louisville's City Administrator from 1972 to 1984, Leon laid the groundwork for the quality of life that the residents enjoy today.

Leon loved Louisville, and that is why it is my honor and privilege as a member of the Louisville Historical Commission to present the 2019 Pioneer Award to his family.

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## ***Upcoming Programs***

The public is invited to join us for our upcoming programs! For more information, please visit [www.louisvilleco.gov/museum](http://www.louisvilleco.gov/museum), email [museum@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:museum@louisvilleco.gov), or call the Museum at 303-335-4850. All Museum programs are free.

### **“First Friday” Museum Events, 6-8 PM**

Stop by the Museum to discover hidden and interesting aspects of Louisville history and to tour the historic buildings on our Museum campus at 1001 Main St. during Louisville’s First Friday Art Walks!

#### **- Friday, May 3 – Mail-Order Houses: Sears Homes in Louisville**

Did you know that a few kit homes were built in Louisville? In recognition of Preservation month, join us during the First Friday Art Walk in May to learn about homes purchased from catalogs during the early 1900s. Heather Lewis, a former member of the Historic Preservation Commission who has researched Louisville’s mail-order house legacy, will be on hand to answer your questions.

#### **- Friday, June 7 – Wild Burros: Meet Nestor and Pepper**

Come and meet some formerly wild burros who now live locally. Nestor is the one in the photo! Learn about Colorado’s official



Summer Heritage Sport of Burro racing and the Bureau of Land Management’s Wild Horse and Burro Program. Presented by War Pony West LLC.

#### **- Friday, July 5 – Soda Parlor History**

In what has become an annual event, come sample a float with old fashioned soda such as sarsaparilla, root beer, or birch beer.

#### **- Friday, August 2 - Piazza Party & Hunt for History**

Join the Louisville History Foundation for food and fun during its outdoor “Piazza Party” at the Museum plaza! Do you have a keen eye for history? Bring your friends and family and test your skills with a scavenger hunt through the Museum campus. Earn a prize from the Louisville History Foundation when you finish.

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### **Meet the Mayor, Saturday, May 11 & July 13, 9-10 AM, Louisville Historical Museum**

Louisville residents have regular opportunities to “Meet the Mayor” and discuss issues of interest. (Please check the City website for possible schedule changes.)

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### **“Mules and Miners,” Brown Bag Presentation, June 6, 12-1 PM, Library Meeting Room**

In the early days of mining, mules and burros were a constant presence throughout town and in the mines. Come find out more from Gigi Yang about these mischievous, intelligent, hard-working animals and their contributions to the daily lives and activities of Louisville residents.

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### **“Talk to the Future,” Tuesday, July 16, 10AM-12PM, Louisville Historical Museum**

Come visit the Tomeo House, Louisville’s life-sized time capsule at the Museum. Find out how past Louisville residents left a message for us today about their lives, friends, and families by exploring the



everyday objects they used. Create a time capsule of your own to send a message to future Louisville families. This family program, recommended for ages K-5, is presented in conjunction with the Louisville Public Library's Summer Reading Program. Register in advance through the online Events Calendar.

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### **"Stories in the Summer"**

**Evening storytelling offered on three summertime dates on the Museum outdoor campus – Different stories each time!**

**Saturday, June 15, 7-8 PM**

**Saturday, July 20, 7-8 PM**

**Saturday, August 17, 7-8 PM**

Enjoy masterful and fun storytelling from the Boulder Valley Spellbinders for adults and children ages 6 and up. Bring a blanket or chairs, if desired.

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### **Eight Historic Walking Tours Offered Throughout the Summer**

**Advance registration is requested through the online Events Calendar.**

**- "Historic Tree Tour of Downtown Louisville"**

**Saturday, June 22, 9 AM**

**Saturday, Sept. 7, 9 AM**

Join Chris Lichty, Louisville's City Forester, for a guided walking tour of the historic and significant trees in downtown Louisville.

This tour is cosponsored by the Parks & Recreation Dept. and the Louisville Historical Museum. Meet at the Louisville Historical Museum, 1001 Main St.



**- "Louisville's Little Italy"**

**Saturday, June 29, 9 AM**

**Saturday, Sept. 28, 9 AM**

Diane Marino leads this tour of Louisville's 'Little Italy' neighborhood, which she last gave in 2014. The particularly high concentration of Italians in Little Italy and the separation of the neighborhood from the rest of the town due to the railroad tracks led to the formation of an especially tightknit neighborhood. Meet at the intersection of Front and Griffith Streets.

**- "Hidden History"**

**Saturday, July 13, 9 AM**

**Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 AM**

Beneath your feet and all around you are stories from the past. Take a tour of downtown Louisville with Gigi Yang and discover the hidden history that buildings can tell about how people used to live, work, and play in Louisville. Meet outside 1006 Pine (Casa Alegre).

**- "Pine Street Perspectives"**

**Saturday, July 27, 9 AM**

**Saturday, August 10, 9 AM**

Bridget Bacon leads this tour of four blocks of Pine Street from Front to Grant and back again. Topics to be covered include the intersection of Pine and Main, the 1915 killing of Town Marshal Victor Helburg on Pine Street, and the history of the Baptist Church at 701 Grant. Meet outside 637 Front (Lucky Pie).

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**Museum Open After Labor Day Parade, Monday, September 2** – Stop by the Historical Museum after the Labor Day Parade. The Museum will remain open until 2 PM.

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Please note: The program on **"How to Make History Come Alive for Tweens and Teens,"** an evening program that had been scheduled for May 22, has been cancelled. We hope to reschedule it for later in the year.

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

Welcome to Lizzie Reinthal and Jason Hogstad, new part time hires for the Louisville Historical Museum! Jason and Lizzie bring abundant museum experience, skills, and enthusiasm to their new positions. Their positions were made possible by the 2017 continuation of the Historic Preservation Tax by Louisville voters. The ballot language provided that starting this year, a portion of the funds may be used for operations & maintenance of the Museum. Thank you to City Council and to Louisville voters for creating the opportunity for these two new part time positions. I'm excited for them to work on existing projects and that we will also be able to expand the Museum's outreach and volunteer program through these two new positions.

The new funding is also making it possible for the Museum to be open one more day each week. Starting with the first week of June, we will add public hours on Thursdays so that the Museum will be open five days a week (Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10-3 each day).

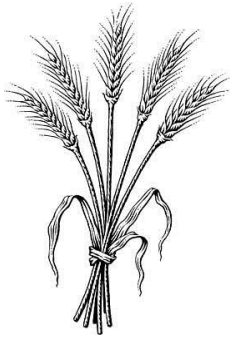
The Historical Commission wishes to thank Jay Keany for his service as the City Council liaison to the Commission for the past three years. And welcome to Mayor Bob Muckle as the new liaison for 2019.

Over the past two months, the Museum staff has talked with visitors from about 20 states and from such countries as India, Germany, Malaysia, England, Australia, and Japan. We enjoy welcoming these visitors and giving them an introduction to Louisville.

As always, many thanks to regular Museum volunteers Carolyn Anderson Jones, Deborah Fahey, Kate Gerard, Rebecca Harney, Christy Gray, Mary Ann Colacci, Joanie Riggins, Memory Delforge, Jessica Spanarella, Carol Williams, Chuck Thomas, and Ardeshir Sabeti. Welcome and thank you to new volunteer Ava Morgan.

The Museum will be open for its regular hours of 10 AM to 3 PM during the Taste of Louisville on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Stop by!

## **Museum Program Roundup And Thank You's**



The program on “Building Community Through Food” that the Historical Museum cosponsored with the Cultural Council in February ended up being on a snowy evening, but still drew 32 participants to the Center for the Arts. Thank you so much to Andy Clark of Moxie Bread Co. and Andrew Calabrese for their engaging presentation. Thank you to Moxie, the Louisville History Foundation, and the Cultural Council for the wonderful refreshments.

During the First Friday Art Walk in March, the topic that we explored at the Museum was the Three Coins Restaurant that used to be located where the Elks Lodge is now at 525 Main Street. It was known for its fine dining and live music from a Wurlitzer organ in the 1960s and 1970s. At the Museum event, we welcomed many folks who have a connection to the Three Coins.

These three women (Shirley Waschak Elrod, Joanie Colacci Riggins, and Mary Ann Colacci) are the daughters of two of the three



founders of the Three Coins Restaurant. The three who started the restaurant in 1964 were John Waschak, Joe Colacci, and Dixie Elrod.

We were also joined by the man who ran the restaurant for several years, Richard Codron, and several people who worked there at different times. The accompanying photo shows, left to right: Tom Kennedy, Larry Martella, Wayne Arbutnot, Roger Delforge, Jerry Ratliff, and Richard Codron. Thank you to all for a memorable evening of reunions and reminiscences with the background of musical recordings of the Wurlitzer from the Three Coins.



Thank you to Chris Torrence, Mia Torrence, and Elyssa Torrence for helping with recent First Friday Art Walk events! And many thanks to the Louisville History Foundation for its financial support of Art Walk events at the Museum.

In connection with the April Art Walk topic of “Armchair Travelers: How Louisville Saw the World,” when we used old stereoscopes and cards as well as View-Masters, we’re happy to announce that the Museum’s original stereoscope cards, many of which show Louisville scenes, have been added to our online photo collection. The link to the online historic photo collection is on the Museum’s website at [www.louisvilleco.gov/museum](http://www.louisvilleco.gov/museum); a keyword search on the word “stereograph” will bring up the photos in the results.



**Genevieve Mellish and Dan Mellish tried out a View-Master at the First Friday Art Walk in April.**



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

Thanks to the participation by dozens of Louisville residents and a talented and dedicated team of Oral History Program volunteers, the Louisville Historical Museum has a rich collection of filmed interviews documenting Louisville's unique history. The Museum has captured people's memories and stories about Louisville in about 200 hours of interviews conducted since 2009.

Thank you so much to the following people for allowing the Museum to interview them in the past quarter: Mike Deborski, Carol Deborski, & Paige Deborski-Davee, and Claire Van Meter. (As a token of our appreciation, a complimentary annual membership is given to each interviewee who is not already a lifetime member.)

Also, thank you so much to the team of volunteers who have been working on the Museum's Oral History Program: Barbara Gigone, Jean Morgan, Noelle Gatto, Leslie Aaholm, Dustin Sagrillo, Betty Solek, and Ady Kupfner.

If you have questions or would like to participate in the Museum's Oral History Program as a narrator or volunteer, please contact the Historical Museum at [museum@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:museum@louisvilleco.gov) or 303-335-4850.

## ***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.

Donations received after this issue goes to print will be shown in the next issue.

Anonymous  
Tom Adams  
Mary Barry  
Charles Bottinelli  
Jeff Bradley & Marta Turnbull  
Richard Codron  
Memory Delforge  
Becky Harney  
Samantha Juneau  
Robert Junior  
Lisa Kahn & Paul Jones  
Rick Kron & Cindy Mueller  
Michael & Marilyn LaSalle  
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Gerald & Constance Pontasch  
Evelyn Santilli  
John & Kathy Steinbaugh  
Michael & Marjory Ulm  
Bharat Vaidya Family  
Chris & Kelly Wheeler

## ***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 Carolyn Morris Conarroe (1927-2018)***

Eric Goodwine

### ***In Memory of John Negri (1920-2015)***

Jennie Negri

### ***In Memory of Mike Negri (1922-2015)***

Jennie Negri

### ***In Memory of Thomas Mudrock (1947-2019)***

Adrienne Kupfner  
Jim & Nancy Lastoka  
Tammy Lastoka  
Patricia Lester  
Jean Morgan

### ***In Memory of Becky Ryan James (1964-2019)***

Ron & Arlene Leggett

### ***In Memory of Nadine Harris Caranci (1929-2019)***

Gloria Green  
Rebecca & Paul Harney  
Jean Morgan  
John & Irene Ray  
Brian Zurliene  
Jane Zurliene

### ***In Memory of Veronica "Ronnie" Urban Prather (1928-2019)***

Virginia Caranci

### ***In Memory of Evonne "Duke" Archer Damiana (1927-2019)***

Virginia Caranci  
Dan & Barbara DiSalle  
Duane & Shirley Elrod  
June Enrietto  
Gloria Green  
Alan & Karen Scarpella  
Aline Steinbaugh

**History Book Club –  
Upcoming Topic  
By Mary Barry**

The History Book Club meets from 6:00 to 7:45 PM on the first Thursday 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 usually 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 participate, or just observe.

May topic: **Frontier Journalism and Newspapers**  
Thursday, May 2, 2019

**Donations to the Museum’s  
Collection and Records**

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

**Shirley Elrod** – scans of five photos showing the Three Coins Restaurant at 525 Main when it was being prepared for opening in 1964. The donor’s father, John Waschak, was a partner in the business with Joe Colacci and Dixie Elrod.

**Richard Codron** – original photos, a menu, and related items from the Three Coins Restaurant at 525 Main St. The donor operated the business from about 1968-1974/75, initially with his parents, then on his own.

**Jennifer Strand** – advertising for the Blue Parrot Restaurant from 2011 or 2012.

**Jim Lastoka** – scan of a program for a Louisville Rod & Gun Club shoot on May 5, 1940.

**Richard Rooks** – yearbooks, photos, articles, and related items from the estate of Harry Jenkins, who grew up in Louisville and graduated from Louisville High School in 1950.

**Boulder Valley School District** – scrapbooks kept by BVSD in the 1960s-1980s with articles about Louisville school issues (accepted to be reference items).

**Thanks to New and  
Renewing Members!**

*New Members*

Tom Adams	Karin Hillegas Family
Beard Family	Mia Kaufman Family
Carolyn Bottinelli	Donna Paderewski Fam.
Richard Codron	Edgar & Lori Papke
Rudy Dionigi	Jeff Bradley & Marta Turnbull
Vincent & Mona Ferrera	Bharat Vaidya Family
Bill Fetherston	

*Renewing Members*

Diane Bailey Family	Charles Kranker
Jim & Bernadine Brumfield	Rick Kron & Cindy Mueller
Annamarie Burtness	Mark & Mikki MacKenzie
Ron Cummings & Julia Stone	Verla Magruder
Carol Day	Maree C. Martella-Albright
DeGraw Family	Dan McDonald Family
Thomas Delorey Family	Pat & Sharon McMonagle
Olivia Edwards	Cory Nickerson Family
Joyce Ann & Virtus Einspahr	Kent Olson
Patricia & Arnold Follendorf	Martha Parks
Shirley R. Green	Wanda Paxton
Susan Hausbeck	Gerald & Constance Pontasch
Keith Helart	Richard & Janice Prokop
Joan Hodgson	Rosemary Rippeth
Susan Honstein	Anthony Romano
Samantha Juneau	Terry Slade Family
Robert Junior	John & Kathy Steinbaugh
Lisa Kahn & Paul Jones	Michael & Marjory Ulm
Mary Kay Knorr	Mimi Wilson Family

*Renewing Business Sponsors*

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**Regrets**

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of lifetime members Nadine Harris Caranci and Evonne “Duke” Archer Damiana, and to the families of regular members Douglas Paxton, Marcelee Gralapp, Veronica “Ronnie” Urban Prather, and Thomas Mudrock.

## ***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! Membership is a joint program of the History Foundation and the Historical Museum. Members receive the quarterly *Louisville Historian* with substantive articles about Louisville history.

A yearly membership is \$20 for an individual and \$35 for a family. A yearly Business Sponsorship is \$125.

You may pick up a membership form at the Historical Museum or visit the Museum website at [www.louisvilleco.gov/museum](http://www.louisvilleco.gov/museum) to print out a form. Please make checks payable to the Louisville History Foundation, Inc. You may also join and renew online at [www.louisvillehistoryfoundation.org](http://www.louisvillehistoryfoundation.org).

## ***Historical Museum Contact Information and Hours***

The Louisville Historical Museum is open during these times:

Tuesdays	10:00-3:00
Wednesdays	10:00-3:00
Thursdays	10:00-3:00 (starting June 6)
Fridays	10:00-3:00
Saturdays	10:00-3:00

The Museum is also open from 6 PM to 8 PM during the First Friday Art Walks. See the programming information in this issue to see what we have planned for the upcoming months.

An appointment is necessary if you are seeking specific research assistance, and we request that you contact the Museum Coordinator in advance if you have items to donate. She may ask for an appointment to review the items. Special appointments outside of the regular open hours are possible. The Museum staff can be reached at [museum@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:museum@louisvilleco.gov) or 303-335-4850.

The Louisville Historical Museum is owned and operated by the City of Louisville as part of the Department of Library & Museum Services, with Sharon Nemechek as Director of Library & Museum Services. It is located at 1001 Main Street. Its mailing address is 749 Main Street, Louisville, CO 80027.

## ***Louisville Historical Museum Staff***

Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator  
Jason Hogstad, Museum Technician  
Lizzie Reinthal, Museum Technician  
Gigi Yang, Museum Technician



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

*Return Service Requested*

*The Louisville Historian, Issue #122, Spring 2019*

