

# The Louisville Historian

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

Issue #124

Fall 2019

## ***Reimagining Louisville's 'Wild West'***

*by Jason Hogstad*

**T**ake a minute to look – really look – at this image of Front Street during Louisville's early years. What do you see? What do you think of? What sights, sounds, and smells do you imagine you would experience if you were there?



*Front Street looking north, c. 1881. (The caption on the photo misidentifies Front St. as Main St.)*

Do you hear the jangle of spurs and the squelch of worn-out boots navigating muddy streets? Can you imagine murmuring male voices, the din of a distant piano, or the far off clanging of a blacksmith hammering away at his work? What about the smells? Surely a street scene like this is not complete without an ambient aroma of sweat-stained, world-weary men, horses and their excrement, or the lingering hint of coal smoke from a recently departed train. Has your mind wandered, perhaps, to a Front Street shootout? Can you picture gunfights, barroom brawls, or hard-edged lawmen ready to keep the peace?

The imagined scenes I just invited you to picture are based on popularized media tropes of the Wild West that obscure more than they reveal about life in early Louisville. These stereotypes that we use to understand the history of the U.S. West aren't based on the primary sources we have from the era – they are the products of postwar American culture. Visions of prostitutes with a heart of gold like Miss Kitty from *Gunsmoke*, of steely-

eyed, soft-spoken gunmen *à la* John Wayne and Clint Eastwood, and of successful small businessmen in *Bonanza* are often the lens through which we see and “know” the West. Media depictions of the Wild West from the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s provide the details and backdrops we use to make sense of images like the one above. For better or for worse, these cultural icons inform how we think about Louisville's early years, affecting how we understand the ways our town's early residents lived, worked, and set in motion some of the things people love about our city today.

The best place to start when separating fact from fiction is with a frequent assumption visitors at the Museum voice: because it had itinerant men, abundant alcohol, and false-front buildings, the thinking goes, Louisville must have been a site of pervasive street violence during our town's rough and tumble early decades. This assumption is only partially true. While Louisville was a violent place, the violence was of a different kind. By focusing on street violence – the bar brawls, gunfights,

and drunken scuffles – we miss out on the dangers the people living in early Louisville had to deal with.

Like much of the nineteenth-century American West, early Louisville was a dangerous and violent place. As newspapers in nearby towns seemed almost gleeful to report, shootings and stabbings in Louisville erupted over the most trivial – but stereotypical – occurrences. “A Fight for a Pint of Whiskey” ran one headline in 1891. “Killed over Card Game” declared another. This glibness cropped up in article after article throughout the late nineteenth century: “Looks like Murder” announced a tongue-in-cheek headline about a wounded man identifying his assailant from a lineup. The sensationalism wasn’t just relegated to headlines. “Blood ran in bucketfuls down the streets and alleys of Louisville” ominously proclaimed an 1895 article describing a street stabbing. As titillating as they may be, these accounts don’t paint an accurate picture of the dangers early residents faced. That is not to say that Louisville was not violent. It was. As these incidents clearly demonstrate, the kinds of street violence we often associate with the Wild West were a part of our town’s history. But ending a discussion of violence here does not do justice to the dangers that most Louisvillians navigated in the late nineteenth century.<sup>i</sup>

Focusing on the street violence obscures the more prevalent danger western mining towns had to deal with: industrial violence. We don’t immediately recognize this violence as particularly western. Yet, in coal mining towns like Louisville, incidents of industrial violence – not alcohol fueled gunfights or barroom stabbings – were far and away a more persistent threat. Here and throughout the state, miners and their families could not afford to focus on street violence while disregarding industrial dangers. They did not have the luxury of time and distance that we do.

The largest cause of violence in late nineteenth-century Louisville was without a doubt the coal mines. During the first two decades of coal extraction (between 1880 and 1900), local papers regularly reported deaths and injury. While the quantity of these incidents is staggering – cases of industrial violence outnumbered street violence 4 to 1 in early Louisville – the brutality was also overwhelming. Collapsing ceilings pinned miners. Falling chunks of coal bruised bodies and crushed limbs. Steam-powered elevators malfunctioned, mangling men. Explosions – set off to dislodge the coal – detonated prematurely, scalding faces and shattering limbs and bodies. Mules, eager to deliver their heavy

ore-laden carts to the elevators, ran so fast through narrow tunnels that their loads crushed miners’ feet. On most occasions, these injuries and deaths were ruled miners’ faults – rarely did superintendents or inspectors decide to hold an inquest that might place the responsibility at the feet of mine owners.



*Undated photo of the Hecla Mine.*

Although much of this violence played out on the canvas of men’s bodies, Louisville’s male residents were by no means the only people impacted. Many miners had dependents either in town or elsewhere. These injuries and deaths occurred decades before Social Security or Worker’s Compensation programs, leaving the women and children who relied on incapacitated or slain miners emotionally devastated and economically vulnerable. That is not to say, however, that women in Louisville or the coal fields throughout Colorado were passive victims. Throughout the state, women in mining towns called for strikes and marched in protest alongside their husbands, brothers, fathers, and sons. They, like the miners they loved and depended on for income, had difficulty accepting the dangers of coal mines as “part of the job” and often blamed mine owners for unsafe conditions.

Mine owners’ penchant for dodging culpability led to another form of violence that was often ready to erupt at a moment’s notice: strikes, sabotage, and other forms of industrial disruption. Disgruntled mine workers struck often during Louisville early days. Within two years of our town’s founding, miners working at the Welch Mine had gone on strike. Between 1880 and 1900, miners struck about every two years. Most of the time, these strikes remained relatively peaceful. This was not the case in December of 1885 when striking miners at the Marshall mine bound and gagged the foremen then set fire to the mine structures, doing about \$15,000 in damage.<sup>ii</sup>

One consequence of focusing on street violence and writing off violent episodes in the coal mines as “accidental” is that we often think of the violence in these mines as inevitable. Coal mining was dangerous work, the reasoning goes, and accidents and deaths were part of the package. But this does a disservice to the miners and their families by suggesting no one was at fault. As our town’s early residents’ own actions – in the form of strikes and sabotage – suggest, miners saw industrial violence as more than just the natural risk of a dangerous occupation. Striking for better working conditions meant miners believed that something could be done to mitigate the danger – and that they believed that the mine owners should be the ones doing that something. By holding mine owners responsible, miners and their families recognized what we so often miss: deaths in mines were not simply accidents, they were, at least in part, the result of deliberate decisions to maximize profit that made an already dangerous job even more so. Coal mining was not unique in this regard. The tension between profit and safety played out in every major nineteenth-century industry in the U.S. West.

Miners in Louisville, like most residents of the U.S. West, were small cogs in a much larger machine meant to extract resources from the West – in the form of coal, precious minerals, timber, or agricultural products – that could fuel the industrialization and urbanization of the East. The first mine in Louisville passed into the hands of Eastern businessman and railroad tycoon Jay Gould less than two years after it opened. This was not unusual. Most large mines, ranches, and timber operations in the West were major operations and had investors and directors from along the Eastern seaboard and Europe. In Louisville, local miners found themselves working for one of the richest men and in one of the largest corporations in the country. Louisville miners, just like most people working in the late nineteenth-century West, were corporate employees attempting to make the most of a dangerous situation in which they had relatively little power to enact change.<sup>iii</sup>

So, what did miners and their families do when faced with this threat of industrial violence embedded in a system in which they had little say? There were three options. The first was just to be as safe as one could be on the job and hope for the best. The second, unionization, was also risky. During Louisville’s first five decades – the peak of coal mining here –

unions were illegal. And, as miners knew, when workers did strike in the 1880s and 1890s, the federal government was more likely to send in federal troops to suppress strikers instead of supporting them. The last option was one we typically don’t think about when we consider western history, but it was strategy westerners – especially wage earners and industrial workers – frequently employed. It was simple: move on to somewhere with greater opportunity and less danger.<sup>iv</sup>

It is hard to overstate how often and easily people living in the American West at the turn of the century moved around. Louisville’s population consistently changed as the railroad brought in new potential miners and families while those who had had enough boarded the train to look for better opportunities elsewhere. Because of this high level of mobility, we do not know much about most of the people who lived in Louisville during its first three decades. But that is not from a lack of trying. History is a source-based discipline. That is, it relies on historical sources to try and understand the past. When it comes to the sources for Louisville between 1880 and 1900, we don’t have much. Unless an individual was mentioned in the newspaper (for whatever reason), was hauled before a court, made a land purchase, or stuck around for a census, we do not have a record of their presence. This lack of information leaves us with a conundrum like this:

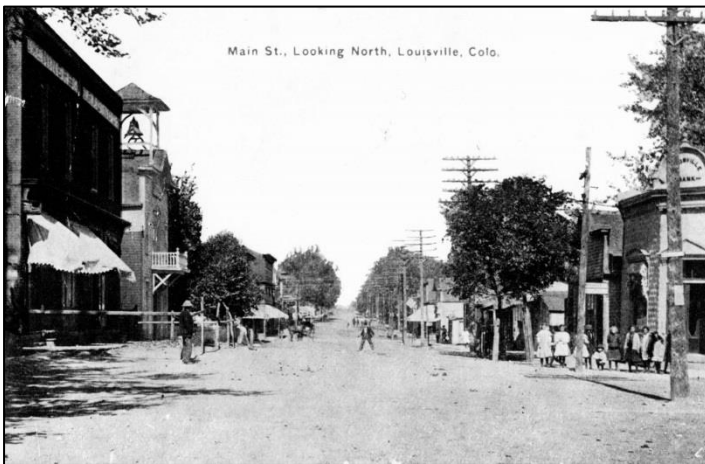


*Unidentified men in front of the Jacoe Saloon on Front Street, c. early 1900s.*

Take a look at this image. It is excellent proof that our knowledge of the “Wild West” is spotty at best. Look closely at the faces of these men. We do not know who they are. We do not know their names, what their lives were like, what brought them to Louisville or even how long (or if) they stayed. In some ways, these men were

lucky. At least we know their faces, if not their identities. But, for many people who lived in town during Louisville's first few decades, we don't even have that much.

The historical record is not an equal place. Men, especially wealthier businessmen coming to town, appear time and again in the sources documenting Louisville's early years. Those who could afford (or were allowed) to make real estate transactions show up in county land records while local newspapers noted prominent citizens comings and goings. Historical inequalities based on class, race, and gender affect what sources we have to work with to understand our town's past. Even oral histories are tricky: being able to tell stories of your life in Louisville requires that you stick around to do so. The inequality of the historical record – combined with westerners' habit of moving on to greener pastures – leaves us with large gaps in what we know about life during Louisville's early years.



*Main Street looking north, 1913.*

The lack of sources also skews the overall sense we have about what the past was like in Louisville. When we do not have history based on sources – whether they are documents, artifacts, photographs, or oral histories – we end up relying on the media tropes we discussed earlier. When we look at a street scene like the image above and think about the lives of its human subjects, we draw on our imagination to fill in the gaps. That is not a bad thing. Imagining the past is one of the first steps to empathizing with those who have lived before us. But when the material we use to flesh out past people's lives comes from popular movie and television depictions of the "Wild West," we run the risk of misrepresenting and misunderstanding what life was really like. Consider violence in the West: Louisville residents – like most westerners – faced much more danger from industrial violence than shootings or stabbings. That is not how the story has been told. As we continue to think about, learn from, and celebrate Louisville's history, we need to do

so carefully. We need to make sure that our attempts to imagine the past do not actually obscure what it was really like.

<sup>i</sup> "A Fight for a Pint of Whiskey," *The Daily Camera*, Boulder, CO, October 25, 1891; "Killed Over Card Game," *The Denver Post*, Denver, CO, November 21, 1904; "Looks Like Murder," *Daily Camera*, April 4, 1893; "Buckets of Blood," *Daily Camera*, December 21, 1895.

<sup>ii</sup> *Boulder News and Courier*, Boulder, CO, January 14, 1881; "A Fire at a Coal Mine," *Daily Denver Times*, December 31, 1885. See also Peter J. Lindquist, "How Louisville Grew Up" (*Louisville Historian*, Spring 2012) and "The Untold Story of Louisville's Early Years" (*Louisville Historian*, Fall 2010).

<sup>iii</sup> "Strikes and Strikers," *Boulder News and Courier*, September 15, 1882.

<sup>iv</sup> Thomas Andrews, *Killing for Coal: Americas Deadliest Labor War*, 121.

*Jason Hogstad will talk about the topic of his article at the Brown Bag presentation on December 5. See the program information below.*

## ***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.

**Nov. 1, "Words to Live By," 6-8 PM, @ Museum – First Friday Art Walk.**

Have you already learned some important life lessons? Come to the Museum during the First Friday Art Walk in November to pass along your own words to live by, discover wise sayings and life advice from the past, and enjoy fortune cookies custom-made for our event.

**Nov. 2, Meet the Mayor, 9-10 AM, @ Museum.**

Louisville residents have regular opportunities to "Meet the Mayor" and discuss issues of interest. This is the last scheduled "Meet the Mayor" with Mayor Bob Muckle before he leaves office. (Please check the City website for possible schedule changes.)

**Dec. 5, "Reimagining Louisville's 'Wild West,'" Brown Bag Presentation, 12-1 PM, Library Meeting Room.**

Tying in with the lead article of this issue, Jason Hogstad will discuss the ways in which ideas about the "Wild West" help and inhibit our understanding of Louisville's past.

**Dec. 6: First Friday Art Walk at the Museum and Parade of Lights Open House.**

The Museum will open its doors from 5:00 to 8:30 PM for both the Art Walk and the Parade of Lights.

The Museum will continue the Louisville holiday tradition of handing out sacks of treats to children. For decades, from the 1920s to the 1980s, Louisville community organizations sponsored these sacks that typically each contained an orange, nuts in the shell, and pieces of ribbon candy. For many Louisville children, receiving these treat sacks was a large part of their holiday experience. During the Depression, the sacks were even the main gifts for children in some families. We thank the Louisville History Foundation for sponsoring the treat bags again this year and for continuing the tradition.



**Feb. 7, “Be Mine: Celebrating Love and Friendship in Louisville,” 6-8 PM, @ Museum – First Friday Art Walk.**

Come to the Museum during the First Friday Art Walk in February to view memorabilia and make a valentine craft of your own to keep or give away.

***Louisville History Foundation News***

***By Cate Bradley,  
Board of Directors***

On a warm summer evening, the inviting aroma of fresh pizzelles drew over 450 visitors to a Piazza Party hosted by the Louisville History Foundation at the Louisville Historical Museum. The party took place during the First Friday Art Walk in August at which the Museum topic was a “Hunt for History” using fun scavenger hunts that the Museum staff had created. With scavenger hunt checklists in hand, visitors strolled the campus and visited the Jacoe Store, Jordinelli House, and Tomeo House in search of artifacts, photos, and letters of the alphabet. Prizes for participants who completed the hunt included a choice of Louisville: At Home in a Small Town books, miner’s pickaxe pencils for children, and free museum memberships. Two lucky winners of a drawing, Teagan Lee and Wendy Mills, also received Louisville history-themed coffee mugs from The Singing Cook.



Many thanks to the Museum staff for inviting the Foundation to participate in the First Friday Art Walk at the Museum and especially to scavenger hunt designer and Museum staff member Gigi Yang for creating such a fun activity for all ages. Thanks also to Paula Elrod and Betty Scarpella for the delicious pizzelles.

Our other major event of the summer season was the Labor Day Parade. This year’s theme was “Beach Party,” which turned out to be perfect for a day with record-breaking heat. Accompanied by a VW convertible full of inflatable beach balls, parrots and palm trees, Foundation directors and their families and friends marched down Main Street attired in leis, flamingo sunglasses, and colorful pool toys, carrying the Foundation banner “Supporting Your Museum” and handing out customized Frisbees and candy to eager children all along the route.



Special thanks to the entire Spanarella family for their help with the parade preparations, to Trish Leffler for

lending us her shiny new Beetle, and to Betty Scarpella for donating the candy.

Last, the Foundation just revamped its website. Check out the new look and email [info@louisvillehistoryfoundation.org](mailto:info@louisvillehistoryfoundation.org) with any feedback!

### **LOUISVILLE HISTORY FOUNDATION**

Nancy Allen  
Cate Bradley  
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Paula Elrod  
Tammy Lastoka  
Loren Laureti  
David Marks  
Daniel Mellish  
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Catherine Wessling

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Leah Angstman  
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Jonathan Ferris  
Jennifer Henderson  
David Hooley  
Keith Keller  
Gordon Madonna  
Daniel Mellish  
Joe Teasdale

### ***Thank You to Volunteers*** ***Jason Hogstad, Museum Staff***

The last three months have been a busy time for our team! Volunteers have been working away at oral histories, leading Museum tours, chatting about chickens, overseeing scavenger hunts, transcribing primary sources, and in so many other ways sharing and preserving Louisville's history. We also held an end of the summer celebratory pot-luck and kicked off our new training series with a conversation on how to ensure the stories we tell about Louisville's past include all residents' voices. The fun continues this fall: we'll hold another training in November focusing on the visitor experience and will host a second potluck in December.

We're recruiting! If anyone is interested in joining our volunteer team, we need help with our Oral History

Program and are building up a team to help with our expanding range of family and child focused programs. Contact Jason Hogstad, 303-335-4847 or [jhogstad@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:jhogstad@louisvilleco.gov).

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

My Museum colleagues and I enjoyed talking about the Louisville community and its history with five classes of first and second graders from Coal Creek Elementary who walked to the Museum on field trips in September. The annual visit forms a key part of the social studies and civics curriculum, which enables students to learn about local history, the community around them, and their civic responsibilities. Besides visiting the Museum to learn how people in the past influenced our community and neighborhoods, the classes also went to City Hall to explore with the Planning Department what a city like Louisville should look like today and in the future.

Lizzie Reinthal and Jason Hogstad took the lead on giving the tours to the classes from Coal Creek Elementary this time. Louisville Elementary second grade classes are planning to visit the



Museum in November. If you are an educator interested in setting up a visit to the Museum or in having Museum staff member Lizzie Reinthal visit your classroom, please contact Lizzie at 303-335-4851 or [ereinthal@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:ereinthal@louisvilleco.gov).

We're always grateful to people who reach out to the Museum to share information about their family members who lived in Louisville. Thank you in particular to Patty Haggerty for providing information about the Carveth family that lived at 1008 Main, across from the Museum campus. Patty's mother, Winifred Carveth, grew up in the house with her parents, James Arthur and Bessie Carveth.

Museum staff member Gigi Yang, in connection with the "Hidden History" downtown walking tour that she



gave twice this year, developed two ways in which the public can continue to enjoy the tour. Hidden History walking tour backpacks are available to check out from the Louisville Public Library through the Children’s Services desk. Each backpack guides

Louisville residents of all ages as they take a walking tour of downtown Louisville and discover the hidden history that buildings can tell. Also, you can use the accompanying QR code to access a self-guided version of the walking tour!



This fall and winter, the City is working on several projects to care for the historic buildings on the Museum

campus. Work is being done to address structural issues in the cellar of the Tomeo House and to address other issues identified during the recent historic structure assessments that were conducted on the buildings. Due to the 2018 hailstorm and in coordination with the City’s insurance coverage, the buildings are being re-shingled. As you drive or walk by the campus on Main Street, you may also notice the buildings being given fresh coats of paint. The Jacoe Store, Tomeo House, and Jordinelli House may be small, but we love our historic Museum buildings and how they help us tell the story of Louisville. On behalf of residents, thank you to the City for prioritizing their ongoing care.

The City is also working to further develop the plans for an expansion on the Museum campus in order to meet needs relating to ADA accessibility (especially since the Museum unfortunately doesn’t have any ADA-accessible restrooms), adequate space for engaging with the public and particularly school groups comfortably, and space (through increased exhibit and storage areas) for the Museum collection that the City owns. The space and amenities that new construction on the empty concrete pad would provide will be a complement to the three small existing historic buildings, each of which allow for only limited numbers of people to be inside them at one time. Thank you to the City and to Historical Commission members and History Foundation directors for helping in the development of plans to ensure that even as Louisville’s population grows and as Louisville experiences more visitors, there will always be a comfortable and welcoming place to talk about

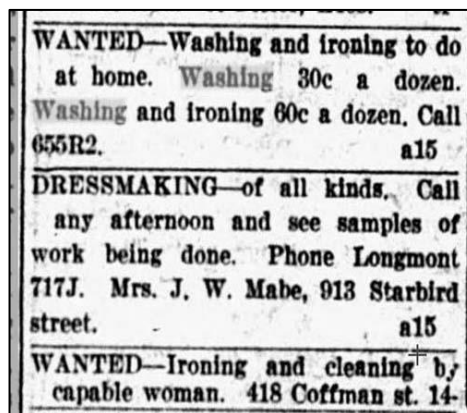
Louisville’s history, answer research questions, view photos and artifacts from the past, and recognize our roots and how we have all come to be here.

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

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Museum’s recent programs a success, and thank you so much to the Louisville History Foundation for its generous financial support of many of the Museum’s programs.

Residents continue to enjoy the First Friday Art Walks in downtown Louisville and the special events that the Museum puts on for the Art Walks. We’re grateful that we can coordinate with the Louisville Arts District to bring people to our historic downtown for these lively evenings. And thank you to the Louisville History Foundation for putting on its Piazza Party during the First Friday Art Walk in August, when the Museum had scavenger hunts for people to “*Hunt for History.*”

For the September Art Walk, our topic at the Museum was “*Backyard Chickens.*” Thank you so much to Amy Scanes-Wolfe and the Boulder County Agricultural Heritage Center for bringing three chickens to the Museum campus that evening and chatting with visitors about coop design and what’s involved in raising chickens. We had 140 people come by to learn about this topic that is an integral part of Louisville history and is also enjoying renewed interest in Louisville. Amy solicited names for the chickens from the Art Walk attendees. These are the three winning names for the chickens (all hens) that were drawn from the bowl of entries at the end of the evening: Elle, Tyler, and Bob.



*Ads in the Longmont Daily Times, 1925 (from Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection)*

In October, the topic was “*Cottage Industries in Louisville.*” Louisville residents engaged in many such ventures from their homes in order to supplement their modest family incomes. These

moneymaking activities included washing clothes (which, according to the source above, brought in 30 cents per 12 items); ironing; sewing; raising canaries for

use in the coal mines; tying flies for fly fishing; shoe repair; carpentry; and selling eggs, bread, and dairy products. Even money made from bootlegging activities done in homes during Prohibition helped some Louisville families put food on the table. Our special thanks go to Jim Lastoka, who put on a fly-tying demonstration at the Museum during the October Art Walk and talked with Museum visitors about his experiences doing taxidermy out of his home.

Lizzie Reinthal coordinated a vintage car show for when the Museum was open after the Louisville Labor Day parade. Some of the cars had appeared in the parade. Thank you so much to the following people for contributing their wonderful vintage automobiles for the event: Bob Bernhardt, Kathy Lorenzo, Wes Ellerington, Jim Strouse, Kerry Boggs, Jim Merritt, and Jeff Scott.



Thank you to City Forester Chris Lichty and volunteer Diane Marino for giving repeat downtown walking tours in September. The Museum was happy to collaborate with the Louisville Cultural Council to co-sponsor Polly McLean's presentation about her book, *Remembering Lucile: A Virginia Family's Rise from Slavery and a Legacy Forged a Mile High*. And thank you to the Boulder Valley Spellbinders and their chapter leader, Anne Feist. In September, storytellers Dave Hooley, Johanna Renouf, Kathleen Newton, and Laura Deal told stories outside on the Museum campus.

## **Announcing the New Museum Instagram Account**

**Lizzie Reinthal, Museum Staff**

The Historical Museum is excited to announce the Museum's first social media platform! Our Instagram account, launched in July, features historic photographs and collection objects, and shares upcoming and noteworthy programming coming up at the Historical Museum. Because the Museum has so many interesting objects and artifacts to share, providing a digital platform allows the public to remotely view the

Museum's collections, as well as allowing the community to stay up to date on Museum goings-on. The Instagram account extends how the Museum reaches people and helps it to maintain relevance in an ever-changing technological landscape. The Museum joins other cultural institution Instagram accounts such as the Aurora History Museum, the Museum of Boulder, and the Golden History Museum & Park. We invite you to be a part of the story!

You can find us by searching @louisvillemuseum on Instagram.com or the Instagram app.

## **History Book Club – Upcoming Topics**

**By Mary Barry**

The History Book Club meets from 6:00 to 7:45 PM on the fourth Tuesday of each month from September to May in the second floor Board Room of the Louisville Public Library (except that December's meeting will take place on the third Tuesday due to the holidays). 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.

November topic: **Women's Suffrage (19<sup>th</sup> Amendment ratified August 18, 1920)**

Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019

December topic: **Schools, School Teachers, and Education on the Frontier**

Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019

January topic: **Early Flight/Planes in the West**

Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020



*This photo of an early airplane is from the Moffitt family of Louisville.*

February topic: **US Government Surveys**

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020



## **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 Robert Kupfner (1939-2009)  
on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Sept. 8***

Adrienne Kupfner & the Kupfner Family

***In Memory of Vera Dixon Taylor (1907-2011)  
(Class Sponsor of the Class of 1959)***

Louisville High School Class of 1959

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

Bridget Bacon

***In Memory of Kenneth Doggett (1953-2014)***

Bonnie Steuble

***In Memory of Keith Doggett (1956-2018)***

Bonnie Steuble

***In Memory of Shirley Varley Bodhaine (1933-2019)***

Adrienne Kupfner

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

Adrienne Kupfner

***In Memory of Marian Rudmann Bottinelli (1929-2019)***

Charles Bottinelli

***In Memory of Ernest Hartnagle (1925-2019)***

Bridget Bacon

***In Memory of Emmett Haywood (1937-2019)***

Bridget Bacon

***In Memory of Charles "Chuck" Thomas (1949-2019)***

Bridget Bacon

***In Memory of Earl Bolton (1924-2019)***

Becky Harney  
Carol Williams  
Bridget Bacon

## **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.

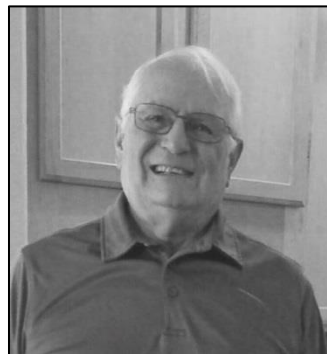
Donations received after this issue goes to print will be shown in the next issue.

Patricia Haggarty  
Joy & Kevin Kelly  
Lynn Waneka Rysdahl  
Jennifer & Mitchell Zatz



## **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 former Louisville Police Chief Bruce Goodman (seen in the accompanying photo on the occasion of his interview) for allowing the Museum to interview him recently. (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 Jason Hogstad, 303-335-4847 or [jhogstad@louisvilleco.gov](mailto:jhogstad@louisvilleco.gov).

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

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

**Constance Stelmach Nosler** – historical documents and records from the Stelmach family relating to Louisville.

**Mark Oberholzer** – three items that the Blue Parrot Restaurant used for many years: the Saima Genova dough roller imported from Italy; a large kitchen scale; and a piece of stained glass with the image of a blue parrot that used to hang in the front window of the restaurant. These items came from the former Blue Parrot building at 640 Main St. and were used by the Blue Parrot.

**David Ferguson** – City water bill receipt from 1964 for the property at 1009 La Farge, then owned by his aunt, Della Dionigi Wyatt.

**Gary Mudrock** – prints of family photos from the Harris and Brierley families.

**Dick DelPizzo** – prints of six family photos relating to the DelPizzo, Scrano, and Cito families; for the Education Collection, mine equipment consisting of a crank auger with worm auger bit attached.

**Jean Morgan** – for the Education Collection, a reprint of the 1923 Sears & Roebuck catalog.

**George Brown** – for the Education Collection, a working RCA Victrola that his father purchased for his grandmother about 100 years ago, plus a selection of records.

**Dean DelPizzo and Ellen DelPizzo Oasheim** – for the Education Collection, two working vintage telephones with parts that came from the estate of Albert and Wanda DelPizzo, and a 1911 telephone book for the Denver area.

**Barbara Hesson and Jean Morgan** – for the Museum's files, written memories and records consisting of Barbara's memories of Louisville's Frenchtown residents; Christmas holidays in Louisville; the telephone system; and Main St. & Front St. business proprietors and residents.

**Indian Peaks Chapter of the D.A.R.** – for the Museum's files, a list of cemetery records from Louisville, Coal Creek, Superior, and Lafayette Cemeteries, compiled by D.A.R. members.

**Patricia Haggerty** - For the Museum's files, a 1968 *Boulder Daily Camera* article about the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Louisville Pioneer Club.

The Museum is also grateful for a donation of two coverlets from the City of Greeley Museum, which recently deaccessioned them. They were accepted for the Education Collection.

## ***Recently Donated Photo from the Museum Collection***



*This recently donated photo shows Antonio (Tony) and Louise Ferrari and their five children: Mary (Maria), Della, Josephine, Enrico (Rico), and Alfred (Fred). They are shown by their home on Front Street in circa 1900-1910.*

## ***Thanks to New and Renewing Members!***

### *New Members*

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## ***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).

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

Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator  
Jason Hogstad, Museum Technician – Volunteer Services  
Lizzie Reinthal, Museum Technician – Outreach Services  
Gigi Yang, Museum Technician – Collections & Exhibits  
Meg Murphy, Oral History Intern

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

The Louisville Historical Museum is open from 10 AM to 3 PM on Tuesdays through Saturdays. However, the Museum will be closed on the following City holidays: Thursday, Nov. 28; Friday, Nov. 29; Tuesday, Dec. 24; Wednesday, Dec. 25; and Wednesday, Jan. 1.

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.

We welcome inquiries and we are here to help with research assistance. We request that you make an appointment in advance if you are seeking specific assistance. Also, we request that you contact the Museum Coordinator in advance if you have items to donate. We 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.

### ***Regrets***

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of Museum members Ernest Hartnagle, Earl Bolton, Richard Blackmer, Maxine Chiolino McHugh, Sharon Varra Boden, and Chuck Thomas.

### ***Thank you to all of our Business Sponsors!***

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749 Main Street  
Louisville, CO 80027*

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*The Louisville Historian, Issue #124, Fall 2019*

