

# The Louisville Historian

*A Publication of the Louisville Historical Museum,*

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*Louisville History Foundation, and Louisville Historical Commission*

Winter 2020

## ***Aliens by Marriage: Louisville Women's Loss of Citizenship***

***By Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator***

**T**his year, we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which granted American women the right to vote. However, even as millions of women exercised their right to vote for the first time, the U.S. government continued to deny some American women this liberty. The right to vote did not extend to women who married foreign nationals between 1907 and 1922.

Under the Expatriation Act of 1907, American women who married foreigners automatically lost their U.S. citizenship. This law was heavily influenced by anti-immigrant sentiment that pervaded the country at that time. It was no coincidence, historian Candice Lewis Bredbenner explains, that “Congress passed the Expatriation Act of 1907 the year immigration from southern and eastern Europe peaked.” According to Bredbenner, imposing these “uniquely burdensome citizenship standards were closely linked to the government’s interest in restricting immigration.”

These laws did not apply to American men. American men who married foreign women not only kept their citizenship, but their wives generally became U.S. citizens, too. The Expatriation Act’s marriage provisions were aimed at American women alone, justifying this revocation of citizenship under the assumption that women would be more loyal to their husbands (and, by extension, to their husbands’ countries of citizenship) than to the United States.

The Expatriation Act disproportionately affected women in communities like Louisville that were home to first-generation women born to immigrants in the 1890s and early 1900s. Louisville was also a mining town in which there was a presence of single foreign (predominantly Italian) men at the time when many first-generation women were coming of marriageable age. Subsequent legislation provided a process for women who met certain criteria to later apply to have their citizenship reinstated by submitting naturalization forms. An



***Wedding photo of Ernestine Zarini and Giuseppe Michela, 1921, with Esterena Zarini and Andrew Lepenske standing. Ernestine was one of the Louisville-area women who lost her American citizenship when she married.***

American woman who married a foreign national was an “alien by marriage,” according to the forms.

The application of the Expatriation Act of 1907 resulted in some puzzling consequences. For example, even if her husband became naturalized as a U.S. citizen, a woman who had become an alien by marriage continued to have alien status and, as far as the U.S. government was concerned, was still a citizen of her husband’s country of origin. It is unclear whether other countries recognized these women’s citizenship or even knew about them. The vast majority of the affected women had never even left the United States. However, through marriage, they became citizens of countries they never had seen and in which they never intended to live.

World War I unveiled some other unanticipated consequences of the law. In 1917, the federal government required German citizens to register as “enemy aliens,” and American women who had lost their citizenship by marrying German men were required to register as well. A June 16, 1918 article in the *Denver Post* described a Denver woman who was born in Ireland and became a naturalized U.S. citizen when she and her husband came to the U.S. After his death, she remarried a German national. Despite having two sons serving in the U.S. Army and having never been in Germany, she was still legally required to register as an enemy alien.

**ALL-AMERICAN ALIENS PROVIDE  
AN ANOMALY OF OUR CITIZENSHIP  
LAWS, THRU FOREIGN MARRIAGES**

**Women Whose Husbands Are Not Naturalized  
Cannot Vote in This Country and Are Sub-  
jects of Governments Abroad.**

*Headline from the Denver Post, March 16, 1922.*

The passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1920 brought greater awareness to the Expatriation Act’s injustices. A *Denver Post* article from March 16, 1922 listed the ways in which aliens by marriage had unfairly lost their rights: they couldn’t vote, take civil service exams, or fill governmental positions, and if they left the United States, it might be difficult for them to return. “They are indeed as American as the president himself,” the article pointed out, no doubt both reflecting and impacting public perception of the situation.



*According to newspaper sources, the Louisville Town Hall and Fire Station, which was located on the west side of the 700 block of Main Street, was frequently the designated voting location for Louisville voters.*

In 1922, the passage of the Cable Act meant that the U.S. no longer took away the citizenship of a woman when she married a foreign national as long as the husband was eligible for U.S. citizenship, but the new law was not without problems. At the time, the United States refused to grant Asian immigrants citizenship, so any woman marrying a citizen of an Asian country still relinquished her U.S. citizenship when she married. Also, significantly, the Cable Act did not automatically restore the citizenship of women who had married foreign nationals before 1922. The result was that “aliens by marriage” would have to reapply to be American citizens.

After 1922, the laws continued to undergo revision in order to streamline the process by which these women who had married between 1907 and 1922 could apply to regain their citizenship. However, women were still seeking to have their U.S. citizenship reinstated even over fifty years after their marriages. In fact, Congress never passed legislation that automatically reinstated citizenship for all of the women affected by the Expatriation Act. Clearly, these failures of the Expatriation Act and of later legislation kept some women deprived of their rights for decades.

Not all women knew that they lost their U.S. citizenship when they married. This phenomenon made national news in the 1960s when “a woman without a country” in Baltimore applied for a passport in 1967 only to be told that she had lost her citizenship in 1918 when she married a Russian national. She was understandably startled to learn this and said that she had been voting regularly since 1920. (The extent to which some aliens by marriage were allowed to vote despite not being citizens likely varied a great deal across the United States.)

In 2014, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution expressing the Senate’s regret for the passage of the section of the Expatriation Act (34 Stat. 1228) that revoked the citizenship of women who married foreign nationals. It acknowledged that the Act is incompatible with and antithetical to the core principle that all persons, regardless of gender, race, religion, or ethnicity, are created equal; expressed sympathy and regret to the descendants of individuals whose citizenship was revoked, who suffered injustice and inequality, and who were deprived of constitutional protections accorded to all U.S. citizens; and reaffirmed the commitment to preserving civil rights and constitutional protections for all people of the United States.

Sources (and For Additional Reading)

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## STORIES OF LOCAL WOMEN

These are the stories of some of the women from the Louisville area who lost their U.S. citizenship when they married foreign men. Today, more is known about these women than ever before because of the naturalization records that have been digitized and made available on such sites such Ancestry.com and Familysearch.org.

### **Ernestine Zarini Michela**

Ernestine Zarini (1897-1982) was born in Louisville in 1897 and grew up at 804 La Farge Ave. She was a citizen by birth until she married Giuseppe (Joseph) Michela at the age of 23 on May 28, 1921. (Their wedding photo appears on the front page of this issue.) He had emigrated from Italy to the U.S. one year earlier, in May 1920. Ernestine automatically lost her U.S. citizenship and took her husband's Italian citizenship on the date of her marriage.

Two months after marrying Ernestine Zarini, Joseph Michela filed his papers to become a U.S. citizen. Because of the Expatriation Act, Ernestine was omitted from his naturalization process, despite the fact that it was due to her marriage to him that she had lost her U.S. citizenship. She was required to submit her own separate Petition for Naturalization, which she did in 1927. On the line where an immigrant seeking to be a citizen would have filled in the date of arriving in the U.S. and the country of origin, the boilerplate on Ernestine's form was revised to state, "I am . . . [an] alien by marriage." This shows how the forms used for immigrants had not been adapted to address the situations of women who had lost their American citizenship due to marriage and who were required to file papers to regain their citizenship. In Ernestine's case, she had to renounce her allegiance to "King Emmanuel, III, King of Italy." It may be that Ernestine learned of her loss of citizenship when she found out that she was shut out of her

husband's naturalization process. This would have been earlier than many other women learned that their citizenship had been revoked.



### **Josephine James Serravo**

Josephine James (1901-1968) was born into the DiGiacomo family in Louisville. (The surname "James" was Americanized from the Italian "DiGiacomo.") She married Pasquale Serravo in 1919, when she was 18. Similar to Ernestine Michela's situation, Josephine became a citizen of Italy when she married, was left out of her husband's naturalization process

when he became an American citizen, and had to apply on her own to have her American citizenship reinstated. In 1926, Serravo (pictured) filed her own papers to become a U.S. citizen. Had she not, her husband would have become a U.S. citizen while the U.S. government would have continued to treat her as a citizen of Italy.

### **Sisters Mary Gendill La Bella and Margaret Gendill Calabrese**

Mary and Margaret Gendill (Americanized from the Italian "Gentilo") were sisters from Marshall who both lost their U.S. citizenship through marriage.

Mary (1898-1862) married Vincent James La Bella in 1914, when she was 15 years old. She applied to regain her U.S. citizenship in 1937. On the naturalization application form where an immigrant was supposed to indicate the date that he or she had arrived in the United States, she indicated that she had been in the U.S. since birth. Her birth date was, in fact, the date when she arrived in the United States.

Mary's sister, Margaret (1899-1986), who was also born in Colorado and was a U.S. citizen, married Diulio Calabrese in 1916 when she was 16. She was excluded from her husband's naturalization process and had to reapply on her own, regaining her U.S. citizenship in 1941.

There are no records to indicate whether the sisters knew, at such young ages of marriage, that they were sacrificing their U.S. citizenship by marrying Italian nationals. It is very possible that even if the families had

been aware of the law, financial, cultural, and personal considerations would have driven them to reach the same decisions.

### **Mary Magdalen Paprocki Stelmach**

Mary Magdalen Paprocki (1897-1971) was born in Superior, Colorado. She was a U.S. citizen until the time of her marriage to Stanley Stelmach in 1914, when she was 16. Stanley died in 1964. The following year, Mary sought to have her U.S. citizenship reinstated by applying to take an oath of allegiance to the United States of America. The rest of her family accompanied Mary and she was “thrilled” when she participated in the ceremony at which she became a U.S. citizen, according to her granddaughter.

### **Adeline LaSalle DeSantis**

Adeline LaSalle (1903-1986) was born in Louisville. She was an American citizen until the day in 1920 that she married Anthony “Tony” DeSantis. She was 16. He was 21 and had arrived in the U.S. from Italy in 1914.



Tony DeSantis was killed in the 1936 Monarch Mine Explosion along with seven other coal miners. Adeline, pictured above in about 1978, continued to raise their six children in their home on Front Street and worked as a cook at Colacci’s Restaurant for many years.

Her 1986 obituary noted that during World War II, she was employed at the Denver Federal Center. At that time, it was an ordnance plant for ammunition production during the war. Her three sons served in World War II and the Korean War.

In 1963, when she was 60, Adeline filed the necessary papers and her American citizenship was reinstated.

### **Bertha Eggleston Surmont**

Most of the women from the Louisville area who became “aliens by marriage” were born in the U.S. to immigrant parents, but not all were in this situation. The ancestors of Bertha Eggleston (1895-1961) had been in the United States for several generations. In 1913, when she was 17, she married Joseph Charles Surmont, who had emigrated from France. Under the federal laws in effect at that time, she lost her U.S. citizenship and

became a citizen of France. After he died in 1938, she applied to have her U.S. citizenship reinstated in 1943.

### **... And Many More**

According to records located on Ancestry.com, the following women from Boulder County were also “aliens by marriage” who lost their U.S. citizenship when they married:

- Maria Concetta “Jennie” Bonelli (born 1898) married Pietro Tirce of Italy (Americanized from “Triassi”).
- Marian James (born 1898) married Dominic DeSalvo of Italy.
- Bambina DeCrose (born 1902) married Archie Finamore of Italy.
- Lillian Vanderburg (born 1886) of Boulder County married Charles Wiesel of Sweden.
- Essie Mary Ballinger (born 1894) of Boulder County married Charles Carlson of Sweden.
- Esther Amelia Lund (born 1890) of Boulder County married Oscar Wahlstrom of Sweden in 1910. She didn’t regain her American citizenship until 1965, when she was 75.

*Do you know more about these women’s experiences, or do you know of another area woman who lost her citizenship due to her marriage to a foreigner? Please contact the Historical Museum.*

*Bridget Bacon will talk about the topic of her article at the Brown Bag presentation on March 5<sup>th</sup>. See the program information in this issue.*

## **LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Leah Angstman  
Paula Elrod  
Jonathan Ferris  
John Honan  
Jennifer Henderson  
Scott McElroy  
Joe Teasdale

## **Louisville History Foundation News**

**By Jessica Spanarella,  
Board of Directors**

The Louisville History Foundation would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy start to 2020 and would like to thank everyone who stopped by the Museum in

December during the Parade of Lights. The Museum welcomed 565 visitors that evening, and staff and volunteers handed out 150 treat bags to the children.

These treat bags connect us to a long-standing Louisville tradition dating back to the 1920s. Each bag contained an orange, nuts, and loose candy. Organizations had put these bags together for children in the past and handed them out on Christmas Eve on Main Street. During the Depression, the treat bags were the main gift that some children received and looked forward to every year. The Louisville History Foundation brought this tradition back four years ago and is continuing the tradition by handing out these treat bags to children who visit the Museum on the evening during the Parade of Lights.

The History Foundation would like to send a special thank you to Memory Delforge for all of her help and donations in making these treat bags possible. Memory is a longtime Louisville resident and Museum volunteer who gathers all the supplies, donates the candy, and opens her home every year for the bag assembly. We would like to thank Judy DeNovellis, Paula Elrod, Karen DiCarlo, and Becky Harney for their help.

We enter 2020 by welcoming Rich Diehl and Joe Spanarella as two new Foundation directors. Both Rich and Joe bring a passion for Louisville history to the board and we are thrilled to have them. Dan Mellish, Catherine Wessling and Jessica Spanarella were also reappointed to serve new terms on the Foundation board.

The following directors were elected to serve as officers in 2020: Catherine Wessling as Chair, Tammy Lastoka as Vice Chair, Nancy Allen as Secretary, and Loren Laureti as Treasurer.

### **LOUISVILLE HISTORY FOUNDATION**

Nancy Allen  
Cate Bradley  
Missy Diehl  
Rich Diehl  
Paula Elrod  
Tammy Lastoka  
Loren Laureti  
David Marks  
Daniel Mellish  
Jessica Spanarella  
Joe Spanarella  
Catherine Wessling

## **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.

**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. (The image above shows a vintage card from the Museum's collection.)

**Mar. 5, “Aliens by Marriage: Louisville Women’s Loss of Citizenship,” Brown Bag Presentation, 12-1 PM, @ Library Meeting Room.**

Join Museum Coordinator Bridget Bacon to find out about how American women, including a number from Louisville, lost their citizenship between 1907 and 1922 due to the fact that they married foreigners.

**Mar. 6, “Women in Politics,” 6-8 PM, @ Museum – First Friday Art Walk.**

Colorado women were among the first to get the right to vote in 1893 and the first to be elected to a state legislature in 1895. They haven't looked back since. Stop by the Museum during the First Friday Art Walk to learn about the influence of local women in politics, past and present.

**Apr. 3, “Wild Louisville,” 6-8 PM, @ Museum – First Friday Art Walk.**

People aren't the only residents of Louisville; we share our city with all sorts of wild animals. But the ways we live with and think about creatures like coyotes, prairie dogs, and birds of prey have changed a lot. Come discover how people have historically interacted with these animals in our area and learn how we can coexist today. This program is put on in coordination with the City's Open Space Division.

**May 1, “Louisville Landmarked,” 6-8 PM, @ Museum – First Friday Art Walk.**

Louisville's reputation for having “small town character” is due in large part to the existence of its walkable downtown neighborhoods of small-scale old homes built when coal mining was the town's main industry. In recognition of Preservation Month, come by during the First Friday Art Walk to discover the histories of Louisville's landmarked buildings and learn about its landmark program and Historic Preservation Fund.



*This photo shows the house at 721 Grant, which was moved from Main Street and served a few years as a hospital for miners in about 1908-1910. It is seen here in a 1948 photo. It became a Louisville landmark in 2016.*

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

Our volunteers have been busy these last three months giving tours, helping at the Museum during First Friday Art Walks and the Parade of Lights, conducting oral history interviews, and transcribing city ordinances from the 1890s, among other things. A hearty thanks to all our volunteers who help make the Museum what it is:

Programming Volunteers  
Mary Ann Colacci  
Memory Delforge

Kate Gerard  
Christy Gray  
Becky Harney  
Carolyn Anderson Jones  
Ava Morgan  
Vicki Quarles  
Joanie Riggins  
Jessica Spanarella  
Chris Torrence  
Elyssa Torrence  
Mia Torrence  
Carol Williams

Oral History Volunteers

Leslie Aaholm  
Noelle Gatto  
Barbara Gigone  
Ady Kupfner  
Jean Morgan  
Dustin Sagrillo  
Betty Solek

Collections and Research

Kathleen Dahl  
Courtney Robinson

Thank you also to volunteers Diane Marino, who gives historic walking tours, and Ardeshir Sabeti, who maintains the rose garden.

We had three new volunteers join us this last fall: Courtney Robinson has been working with our collection, Kathleen Dahl is researching early Louisville and expanding our historical source base, and Vicki Quarles is training to lead tours. Welcome to the team, everyone!

Seventeen people joined us on December 12 for a night of great food and good conversation at our Holiday All-Volunteer Potluck. The potluck was not just fun and games, however; we also took the opportunity to highlight all the great work our Oral History Team does.

We wish a fond farewell to Debby Fahey as a Museum volunteer. Debby has volunteered for the Museum for the last ten years but stepped down in November to serve the City of Louisville in a new way: as a City Councilor of Ward II. Congratulations, Debby! We're sad to see you leave, but happy that you can now work for the good of Louisville in this new way!

We're recruiting! We need intrepid volunteers to help with our Oral History Program and are building up a team to support our expanding range of family and child-focused programs. Contact Jason Hogstad at 303-335-4847 or [jhogstad@louisvillemuseum.org](mailto:jhogstad@louisvillemuseum.org).

## **Oral History Program Update**

Thanks to the participation by dozens of Louisville residents and a dedicated team of Oral History Program volunteers, the Museum has a rich collection of filmed interviews documenting Louisville's history. The Museum has captured people's memories and stories about Louisville in about 200 hours of interviews conducted since 2009. You can see many of these oral histories on the Museum's YouTube Channel ("Louisville Colorado Historical Museum"). So far, the interviews have in total received 1,100 views. More interviews will be put on our YouTube Channel this year. And thank you so much to Meg Murphy, the oral history intern in 2019, for her work on the interviews.

Thank you so much to the following people for allowing the Museum to interview them in the past quarter. (As a token of our appreciation, a complimentary annual membership is given to each interviewee who is not already a lifetime member.)

Charles "Chuck" Sisk  
John Leary

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 at 303-335-4847 or [jhogstad@louisvillemuseum.org](mailto:jhogstad@louisvillemuseum.org).

## **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. 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.

February Topic: Early Flight/Planes in the West  
Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020

March Topic: US Government Surveys  
Tuesday, Mar. 24, 2020

April Topic: Sugar Beet Industry in Colorado  
Tuesday, April 28, 2020

May topic: History of Chautauqua  
Tuesday, May 26, 2020

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

Welcome to new Historical Commission members John Honan and Scott McElroy, and thank you so much to departing Commission members Dan Mellish, Dave Hooley, Gordon Madonna, and Keith Keller. We appreciate their years of service. Dan, who served on the Historical Commission for 15 years and was Chair for 10 years, will continue as a director on the Louisville History Foundation board. At its January meeting, the Commission elected Paula Elrod as Chair, Leah Angstman as Vice Chair, and Jon Ferris as Secretary.

As always, thank you so much to the Historical Commission, which is an advisory board to the City, and to the Louisville History Foundation for its supplement of the City's budget for the Museum.

The Museum website until recently had links to only the PDFs of the past *Louisville Historian* issues going back to 2004. We just added links to all of the PDFs of the past issues, going back to the first issue in 1987. This means that 63 issues have just been made accessible.

In a *Louisville Historian* article later this year, we plan to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Interurban train accident that tragically killed six Louisville residents and injured many others. Unfortunately, we haven't located any photos of Joseph Cortez, Frank Dalby, William Helburg, or Joseph Lombardi, who were among the six. Can you help us? And if you have any information or stories about people in the Louisville area who were affected by the crash, please let us know.

We're also looking for photos showing a particular window at the Blue Parrot Restaurant. One of the windows facing Main Street had a panel of stained glass with the image of a blue parrot. If you have a photo of the stained glass in the window, please let us know!

The Museum rounded out the end of 2019 with several successes. The Museum drew 5,038 visitors to its campus in 2019. This was the first time that the number of visitors exceeded 5,000, and it was an increase of nearly 20% over the previous year's total. Public attendance at programs and outreach events reached 4,145, also a new record. The number of historic photos that the staff has made viewable and searchable online now exceeds 4,800, which is an increase of nearly 15% over last year. And we ended the year with 875 paying Museum memberships, which is a fantastic indication of how much Louisville values its local museum.

Follow the Louisville Historical Museum on Instagram! Look for "louisvillemuseum" on Instagram.

## **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 Charles "Chuck" Thomas (1949-2019)***

Betty Aga  
Teresa Buch  
Dave & Debby Fahey  
Courtney Hutton  
Daniel Mellish  
Carol Stephens  
Alice Thomas  
Phyl Thomas  
Gretchen Verseput  
Paul Waitinas

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

Gloria Green

### ***In Memory of Sharon Varra Boden (1940-2019)***

Paula Elrod

### ***In Memory of Shirley Deborski Gaz (1932-2019)***

Paula Elrod

### ***In Memory of Maxine Chiolino McHugh (1927-2019)***

Paula Elrod

### ***In Memory of Michael Meier (1949-2017)***

J. Hillery Meier

### ***In Memory of Launa Crede Lackey (1945-2019)***

J. Peter & Gayla Lindquist

### ***In Memory of Rudolph "Rudy" Dionigi (1927-2019)***

Patricia Auernhamer  
Kristin Dionigi  
Mike Dionigi  
Paul & Becky Harney  
Leslie Jones & Larry Westrum  
William & Kim Junior  
Eileen Mallon  
Connie Prather  
Bob, Myrna, Teresa, & Shawn Robson

### ***In Memory of Doris Thompson Elliott (1931-2019)***

Roy Elliott

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

Marilyn Scherer

### ***In Memory of Grandparents Pete Ross (1904-1982) & Ellanora Beranek Ross (1907-1979)***

Diane Marino



## **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 Donation of \$500  
Anonymous Donation of \$100  
Nancy Allen  
Jeff & Gretchen Bail  
Barlow Family  
Betty Barnes  
James & Carolyn Beagle  
Bruce & Constance Bernhardt  
Barron Biedermann  
Nick Boyer  
Cate Bradley  
Jeff Bradley & Marta Turnbull  
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Cynthia Hafner Clark  
Beverly Clyncke  
Richard Codron  
John Covell  
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Amy & Scott Deborski  
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Sandra Ross DeLossa Family  
Leslie Ewy Family  
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Kathleen Jennings  
Jack & Emily Kean



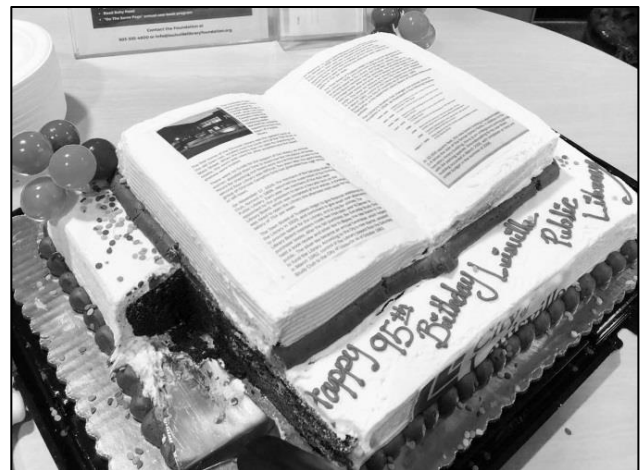
Bill & Katie Kingston  
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 Gary Schneider  
 Julie Schumaker & Mike Kay  
 The Singing Cook  
 W. James Smith  
 Art & Carol Smoot  
 Joshua Sroge Family  
 Barbara Leichy St. John & James St. John  
 Corrine Stewart  
 Stolzmann for Louisville Campaign  
 Jennifer & David Strand  
 Steven C. Thompson Family  
 Lorenzo & Lori Tubaya Family  
 Tyree Family  
 Terry L. Wagner  
 Raymond & Janice Waldorf  
 Catherine Wessling  
 Chris & Kelly Wheeler

*Clockwise from top, the girls are: Asenath Hamilton (1908-1989); Betty Lu Snair (1908-1998) (seen as a young girl); Kathleen Crannell (1909-2008) (seen as a CU student); Leanore Ostrander (1909-1995); and Virginia Atkin (1908-1974). The cake, seen below the photos of the girls, included an edible "book" showing a written history of the Louisville Public Library.*



***Happy 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday to  
 The Louisville Public Library***

In 2019, the Louisville Public Library and the community celebrated the 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its formation. In 1924, five teenage Camp Fire Girls and their leader, teacher Georgine McAleer, began collecting books from local residents to form a real library. It has had a number of different downtown locations over the decades, including the second floor of the Town Hall shown on page 2. The photos of the girls and a photo of the celebratory cake are presented here. The Museum is still seeking a photo of Georgine McAleer – let us know if you know of one!



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

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

**Dick Del Pizzo** – 1920s Maytag washing machine from his family home on Main Street.

**William Ryan** – 1939 St. Louis Church booklet.

**Leo Deborski** – 1948 LHS “Pirates” button.

**Bob Gabriella** – two photo prints showing the interior of Louisville’s Crystal Palace saloon.

**Gail Squires** – Six photos relating to members of the Jacques family, who lived in Louisville’s Frenchtown. The image below shows Anna Jacques in one of the photos.



**Kathy Zarini** – digital photos showing Louisville’s Betty Lu Snair as a girl.

**John Tveitaraas** – photos, papers, and business logo items from StorageTek in Louisville. (The Museum is also grateful for a separate, anonymous donation of StorageTek items that includes employee publications and photos.)

**Keith Keller** – for the Education collection, a piece of coal and a railroad spike found in his Old Town yard.

**Pat Ducray** – for the Education collection, a replica sock stretcher and laundry stick.



## ***Photos from the Collection of the Louisville Historical Museum***

As we enter the 2020s, there is renewed interest in the decade of the “Roaring 20s” that began 100 years ago! Check out these photos that depict the 1920s in Louisville.



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

<i>New Members</i>	
Jeff & Gretchen Bail	Beth Malone
Bruce & Constance Bernhardt	Sharon Nemecek
Paul Ellner Family	Elayne Oligschlaeger
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Keith Keller	Joyce Ross
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Kris Ahlberg	Ken Buffo
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Pat Alger	Sally Burlingame
Nancy Allen	Annamarie Burtness
Ron Alm	Emma Calabrese
Lawrence & Annette Anderson	Virginia Caranci
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Bill & Cheryl Andrews	Tom Carpenter
Dave & Shelley Angell	Lori & Scott Chandler
Brian & Elizabeth Armstrong	Cynthia Hafner Clark
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Bridget Bacon & Andrew Calabrese	Beverly Coet
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Peter & Charlene Bandurian	Mary Ann Colacci & Nancy Green
David Bangs Family	Robert & Yolanda Cole
Barlow Family	Tom & Judy Cole
Betty Barnes	Mary Jo Coogan
Mary Barry	George Coppinger
Dolores Barzler	Carol Corsell
James & Carolyn Beagle	John Covell
Tom Beck Family	Teri Cox
Clair Beckmann	Connye Crump
Camille & Martin Begley	Ron Cutadean
Pamela Bell Family	Gary Damiana
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Rick & Anni Berry	Dino De Santis Family
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Jack Bowes Family	Ann K. Del Pizzo
Nick Boyer	Darlieen Del Pizzo
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John Bradley	Sandra Ross DeLossa Family
Peter & Alexandra Bradley	Judy DeNovellis
Bernard Funk & Deborah Brady	Joan Desmet
George Brandon & Mary Clough	Brian DeToy
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Bobby Brown Family	Karen DiCarlo
Teresa Buch	Sherry Dickerson

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Dinauer Family	Keith Helart
Mike Dionigi	Jennifer Henderson Family
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Frank Domenico	Joan Hodgson
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Dennis & Janet Ferrera	Bruce Kirschner
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Sandra Marsh	Johanna Renouf
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### ***Regrets***

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of Museum lifetime member George Autrey and regular members Rudy Dionigi and Launa Lackey.



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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 from 10 AM to 3 PM on Tuesdays through Saturdays. 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.

### **Louisville Historical Museum Staff**

Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator  
Jason Hogstad, Museum Technician – Volunteer Services  
Gigi Yang, Museum Technician – Collections & Exhibits

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