# HISTORIC ENGLEWOOD

#### NEWSLETTER VOL.14 NO.1-3 WINTER 2025

1000 Englewood Parkway ~ Englewood, Colorado 80110 ~ 303.242.3257

Doug Cohn - Editor Lindsey Runyan - Designer

#### **SPECIAL** THANKS

#### **ELSA HUMMEL**

Thank you for visiting the museum where and sharing the history of Franz Hummel's Deli. The restaurant played a big part in the success of Cinderella City. Thanks to Mrs. Hummel for her donation of the Deli's take out bags which will be added to the collection and exhibit!

#### **RANDY FORBES**

Thank you for the new cart to transport our stuff from the Museum and CitySpark space.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD MAP**

Thank you to the Historic Preservation Commission and other who worked on the Englewood neighborhood map defining the individual neighborhoods. Frame De Art and our retail store have plaques available of the map for sale for \$30 each.



**DOUG PEARCE** Thank you for the 1906-7 Victrola number VI to add to our archive collection. This amazing Victrola was the model made before electricity and was the first one with a speaker inside the cabinet.



#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matt Crabtree President

**Paul Skizinski** *Vice President* 

Jeff Barker Treasurer

Josh Goldstein Secretary

**Doug Cohn** Historian & Archive Director

> Ida May Nicholl Outreach Director

**Lindsey Runyan** Communications Director & Museum Coordinator

Pat Lamoe Board Member At Large

Melissa Adams Board Member At Large

Karen Kleehammer Board Member At Large

#### Upcoming LECTURE TUESDAY: FEB 25TH

Patricia Raybon is the award-winning author of the Annalee Spain Mystery Series. Set in 1920s Denver when the Ku Klux Klan ruled the state, it features a young, Black theologian--a fan of Sherlock Holmes--solving crimes of the heart and spirit during one of Colorado's most dangerous times.

Raybon is former feature writer at The Denver Post and Rocky Mountain News, she also taught journalism mid-career at the University of Colorado, Boulder.



2:30 PM - Englewood Library 1000 Englewood Parkway 6:30 PM - The Guild Community Room

201 Englewood Parkway, Suite 102

MISSION TO PRESERVE & SHARE ENGLEWOOD'S UNIQUE HISTORY

## REMEBERING BEVERLY CUMMINS FEBRUARY 8, 1934 DECEMBER 27, 2024

In December we lost one of our founding members and wanted to share some of her story with you.

Beverly Cummins was a great storyteller. She shared the story of her family moving to Colorado in a covered wagon, and eventually to Englewood.

Her father came to Colorado first, found the land for the family farm and grocery store. He returned to get the family. They homesteaded 320 acres in 1915, and it was proved up in 1920. It was in Sec 35, t27s, r49w in Bent County. They arrived in Springfield, the big town nearby on April 1, 1916. There were dark clouds, a blizzard came up. There was no place to stay in town, so they slept in the wagon. The hardware store owner allowed them to put their horses in his yard. A few



days later, they headed for their new home. They arrived after dark. There was no lush green grass to greet them, it was early spring, the prairie was still gray from winter and the nights were still cold. Inside the dugout grandfather had built a fire in the stove and invited the family in from the covered wagon, only to be met by my mother's refusal to go 'down in that hole in the ground.' She wasn't impressed by the half dug out he proposed to be their new home, five steps down below the prairie floor. Nor was she impressed a few hours later by the wolves howling around the wagon where she slept alone, grandpa waiting at the entrance to the dugout where he and the kids were safe. Her father started building a house the next day.

Small town life suited the family well. The people all knew each other and cared about

each other. Vesta entered a dress making contest and won the prize, a diamond ring! In the early 1930s, Vesta graduated from high school, at 19 years old married Harley Hedgwood and moved with her new husband to Nebraska. The family stayed there three years, and Vesta was blessed with a baby girl, Beverly. The family returned to Lamar when Beverly was just a few months old.

#### Fast forward to the 1980s

After retirement, Vesta started a new business. She had never owned a doll, but doll collecting was big business in the 1980s and became her hobby. Her self- taught skills and her ability to repair and restore dolls made a natural next career. She fixed broken dolls and made new outfits for them from her small apartment in Orchard Place in Englewood.

In 1991, she and her daughter, Beverly, saw an opportunity for a new venture. It was the Mini Flea Mart. The store was in the 3400 block of South Broadway in Englewood. The store sold consigned new and used goods, Vesta's flower arrangements, and new and repaired dolls. Because reflexology had given her more time with Frank, Vesta always invited a reflexology person to have a space in her store.

# <section-header><text>

The City has two storage buildings with historic artifacts from the Englewood Fire Department and they want to donate to us anything we find useful in them. We be needing some volunteers to help us sort through the archives. Please, reach out to Doug Cohn if you are interested!

# LOOKING BACK ON 2024 SPECIAL THANKS



#### WE WANT TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR A SUCCESSFUL 2024: LECTURE SPEAKERS

- Larry Borger for a fascinating story about City Ditch
- Zack Keleman for sharing hope for people with PTSD
- David Newman for sharing the history of the Englewood Lion's Club
- Mike Skinner for a very interesting talk on Tiki culture
- True Nguyen, a Vietnam immigrant, who fled the war zone and discovered the American dream
- Larry Borger for the update on saving part of the City Ditch
- Atom Stevens for sharing the history of Arapahoe Acres and mid-century modern style homes
- David Forsyth for his lecture on Amusement Parks.
- David Gilbert's talk about the flood in Englewood in 1913
- SCFD for the grant that will allow our museeum to grow
- Englewood Downtown Development Authority for making CitySpark space available to Historic Englewood
- K4CO Radio Station for all their support and exposure
- Kay Howard, the driving force behind the High School Veterans Memorial
- Josh Goldstein who has put so much work into the Cinderella City virtual tour and history alongside Matt Crabtree and Lindsey Runyan for helping to bring the Museum exhibit all together
- Historic Englewood BOD and volunteers who worked the summer market and Englewood Block Party and put in countless hours at the Museum
- Ida May Nicholl for the Soap Box Derby display
- To all our members and supporters for encouraging us along the way to create a Museum. Your membership dollars help to support our monthly lectures and the Museum and CtySpark space.



#### **Historic SIGNAGE**

Popping up around town you will begin to see historic signage around town. Scan the QR code to link to a new City of Englewood website designated to sharing Englewood's history. We are so happy to have partnered with the City on this project and can't wait to share with you!



#### **Membership DUES**

Have you renewed your membership yet? We have recently switched to an automated email reminder system for renewals that allows for processing a payment via PayPal or you are welcome to send in a check. If you aren't sure of your renewal date, please reach out to mjcrabtree21@gmail.com. Your membership in our Society is integral to helping us achieve our mission!

CONTACT US HISTORICENGLEWOOD.ORG contact@historicenglewood.org 303.242.3257

#### UPCOMING L E C T U R E S

#### Coming Soon!!

February 25th History and Mystery: Looking back at Historical Denver with a spunky Black detective vs Colorado's Klan. - Patricia Raybon

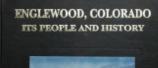
> March 25th Trappers & Traders before the Gold Rush - Don Roth

April 29th History of the Stock Show - Keith Fessenden

#### ENGLEWOOD H I S T O R Y

Are you interested in finding out more about Englewood's history and its families?

Then, this book is a great resource. published in 1993 by the previous Englewood Historic Society, only 375 books were ever printed. About 2 years ago, the Englewood Public Library digitized it and it is available for free to download or view on the Library website.



1908 - 1998

#### WELCOME NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Thanks for becoming a member or renewing your membership in our society. Because of you we are able to continue serving the Englewood community by providing lectures, newsletters, education outreach and eventually museum displays!

Leah Cooper and Ross Raney Dan Crabtree

## CITYSPARK ENERGIZING CITYCENTER

We are busy working on the CitySpark Space on the circle drive at City Center. This space will house additional displays, retail merchandise, a conference room for BOD Meetings and our home office. We can't wait to share this space with you!

CONTACT US HISTORICENGLEWOOD.ORG contact@historicenglewood.org 303.242.3257

## M U S E U M U P D A T E S

We have received many inquiries about how long the current (Cinderella City) exhibit will be on display. Our plan is to keep it up through the Spring of 2025 and debut a new exhibit in Summer 2025.

We are currently working with the City of Englewood and Cultural Arts Commission to create a series of Murals in the atrium area outside the Museum. What important parts of our history do you want to see in the exhibition?

#### STUDENTS EMBRACING HISTORY

The Englewood High School media class is drafting the stories of the families who have pavers at the Military monument at the High School. If you have a paver, the students want to know your story. Reach out to Doug Cohn so he can connect you!



# **VOLUNTEER WITH US**

NAME:
EMAIL:
PHONE:
I WOULD LIKE TO HELP BY:
Volunteering my time to staff the Museum
Volunteering my time to help with archiving
Volunteering my time to help with labor
My skill is

Send your response to:

HISTORIC ENGLEWOOD - 1000 Englewood Parkway ~ Englewood, CO 80151 or Email us: contact@historicenglewood.org or leave a message: 303-242-3257



# Join Ols! IN A HISTORY MAKING ADVENTURE!

We have a broad-based mission, including the restoration and preservation of historic buildings, accepting, cataloging and displaying donated artifacts, recording, transcribing and publishing the oral history of Englewood and its residents, providing interesting and educational lectures each month on historical subjects, and reaching out to our local schools to assist with instilling a love of history in the students.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AS A MEMBER, A VOLUNTEER, AND AN ADVOCATE!

We welcome new members at all levels of involvement: positions of leadership, administration, committee chairs and volunteers, or simply furthering our mission by supporting us with your annual dues.

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We are a 501c3 non-profit organization. Dues and other contributions are tax deductible. Annual membership rates include: Individual \$25, Family \$40.

Name		Date
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone	Email	
New Member	Renewing Member\$	_ check enclosed to: