TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Hello Everyone!

Happy fall y’all! It’s that time of year when we are cooling off, kids go back to school, and things slow down a bit.

Thank you to everyone who came out to our membership dinner! So many of you were able to join us; it is always great to see you. Those who could not make it--you were missed. Maybe next time.

Even though we start slowing down this time of year we will still continue with the paranormal tours. October is a great month for ghosty stuff. We normally have a dinner this time of year but, unfortunately, we were just unable to do it. We have been very busy.

As always please stop in and check out new exhibits and our amazing gift shop. We even have baked goods from the Culinary Arts Program, so drop in and grab some yummy bread or cookies.

As always, thank you so much for your support!

Maureen Sheridan, Chairman

“If crime showed on a man’s face, there wouldn’t be any mirrors”
- Albert in the movie “We’re no Angels”
In 1939 newspapers throughout Colorado found anything to do with Harry Leopold’s conviction and death sentence an item of interest. It all started with a November robbery in Windsor, Colorado. Then on December 4, 1938, in a south Denver tavern, another robbery turned very ugly.

The Weekly Sentinel in Grand Junction tells us “(Emil) Albrecht was shot when he refused to reveal to Leopold and his companion, Guy Robert Gwynne, the hiding place of the day’s receipts of his tavern.”

The Greeley Daily Tribune of 16 Oct 1939 adds to what happened. “Angered when his first shot was deflected by Albrecht’s dog, Leopold shot the animal and then turned his gun on the tavern keeper the second time.”

According to an article in the Windsor Beacon, 19 Oct. 1939, “Leopold’s companion, Guy Robert Gwynne, who as a trusted employe of Frazier’s Drug Store in Windsor robbed the till of about $50 the night before Armistice Day, paid with his life a few hours after the Denver hold-up when detectives found the pair in a rooming house and killed Gwynne, wounding Leopold. This was the first clue as to Gwynne’s whereabouts after he left Windsor.”

At Leopold’s trial in district court in Denver the jury quickly returned a guilty verdict with a recommendation for the death penalty, giving the judge no alternative but to impose the death sentence. The defense had presented no witnesses.

Harry, of course, appealed the sentence and asked that it be reduced to life imprisonment. The Supreme Court denied the appeal. So Harry appealed to the Governor. The Daily Sentinel in Grand Junction 28 Nov. 1939 tells us “Governor Ralph L. Carr refused clemency.”

We know a little more about Harry, gleaned from Prison Museum archives. He listed his occupation as “plumber” on both intake sheets. Yes, our Harry had done time in C.S.P. previously for aggravated robbery. Apparently, he was a restless young prisoner because he was written up several times, all for minor infringements. We should try
to remember what times were like during the 1930’s when employment was hard to find. Apparently, Harry found robbery a more lucrative way of life than working as a plumber.

The week before the execution, the Greeley Daily Tribune ran an article. Harry “asked if he might say “so long” to the red-headed widow of his former partner. Warden Roy Best refused.

“Mrs. Dorothy Gwynne is serving a sentence here for robbery. Her husband, Bob Gwynne, was killed in a gun battle with police soon after Emil Albrecht was slain in a hold-up staged by Leopold and Gwynne at Albrecht’s south Denver tavern December 4, 1938.”

Yes indeed, Mrs. Dorothy Gwynne took up residence in our own Women’s Prison, the building now known as the Museum of Colorado Prisons. The Museum archives tell us Dorothy, alias Dorothy Thompson, (only recently widowed) was jailed February 12, 1939 for aggravated robbery with a sentence of 4 to 10 years. She was paroled in 1941.

During his last hours a Jewish rabbi accompanied the prisoner. Harry Leopold was taken to the gas chamber and executed December 8, 1939 at 7:50 p.m. He was 31 years old.

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MEMBERS' APPRECIATION BARBEQUE

OUR THANKS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS!!!!
BBQ continued….

Dr. and Mrs. Jacobshagen shared the celebration of their anniversary with the membership and guests. They were married on the grounds of the State Prison next door to the museum. Jody’s father, Harry Tinsley, was warden at the time. Thank you both for letting us celebrate with you!

Thanks also to Pizza Madness for catering our event. Everyone had a great time. Come join us next year!

PRISON EXHIBITS DISPLAYED AT DIA

According to an official DIA Press Release from the Public Information Officer Alex Renteria, “tis the season to be spooky!” We quote from the press release:

“Through Oct. 2019, “Haunted Colorado,” Denver International Airport’s (DEN) newest exhibit will be on display. The mysterious exhibit gives insight into some of Colorado’s most haunted attractions.

“Haunted Colorado” highlights supernatural hot spots throughout the state. The exhibit is located on Ansbridge Hall, in the Jeppesen Terminal, on Level 6 North before A-Bridge Security.

From cemeteries to hotels to abandoned mines, the exhibit features historical and current artifacts, intriguing objects, photographs and information to both edify, scare and excite. The root of the exhibit helps define and applaud the history of Colorado’s extraordinary people and organizations who continue to support the myths, the legends and the realities of their ghostly acquaintances.

Participating exhibitors:

Fun Services; Gilpin Historical Society & Museum; Molly Brown House; Museum of Colorado Prisons; Reinke Brothers; Rocky Mountain Paranormal Research Society; Silver Plume; The Stanley Hotel; The Wizard’s Chest; Tom “Dr. Colorado” Noel.”

These exhibits will give people from across the country and across the world an invitation to “Come Do Time With Us.”
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED FOR THE 2019-2020 YEAR.

The slate of officers reads much the same as the Board from the previous year, with a couple changes.

**Officers:**
Chairman: Maureen Sheridan  
Vice-Chairman: Malacha Hall  
Secretary/Editor: Paula DeCook  
Treasurer: Sheila Lucero

**Board Members:**
Donna Murphy  
Brendan Pardue  
Frank Martinez  
Sheila Lucero  
Kelly Black  
Jim Jacobs  
Sandy McCoy

**Advisory Board:**
Sandy Dexter  
Elaine Greenlee
H. B. Johnson  
Dan Korber

New to the Board is Treasurer Sheila Lucero. She has lived in Fremont County, mainly in Florence, for 20 years; worked at Touch of Love Florists for 13 of those years, and now works at DOC. Thank you, Sheila, for your interest in the Museum. We wish you a warm welcome.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**
Paranormal Nights continue. Ghost Hunts U.S.A. will be with us in October and November. You can get tickets for their events online at Ghost Hunts USA.

Also, the newly-inaugurated group called: “Gold Rush Ghost Encounters” is getting on its feet. To sign up for a tour, contact Mo Sheridan @prisonmuseum.org or call the Museum at 1-719-269-3015.

AND, for your edification, we understand there will be a class on the paranormal at the Mini-College in March. Watch the paper for time and place.

**Watch for our booth at the Steampunk Event in Florence October 11**th **AND** 12**th**.

Special Thanks to outgoing Treasurer Sandy McCoy for all her dedication and hard work over her tenure with us. Sandy tells us, “I have never been so proud of any organization I was involved with, as I am this one!”

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