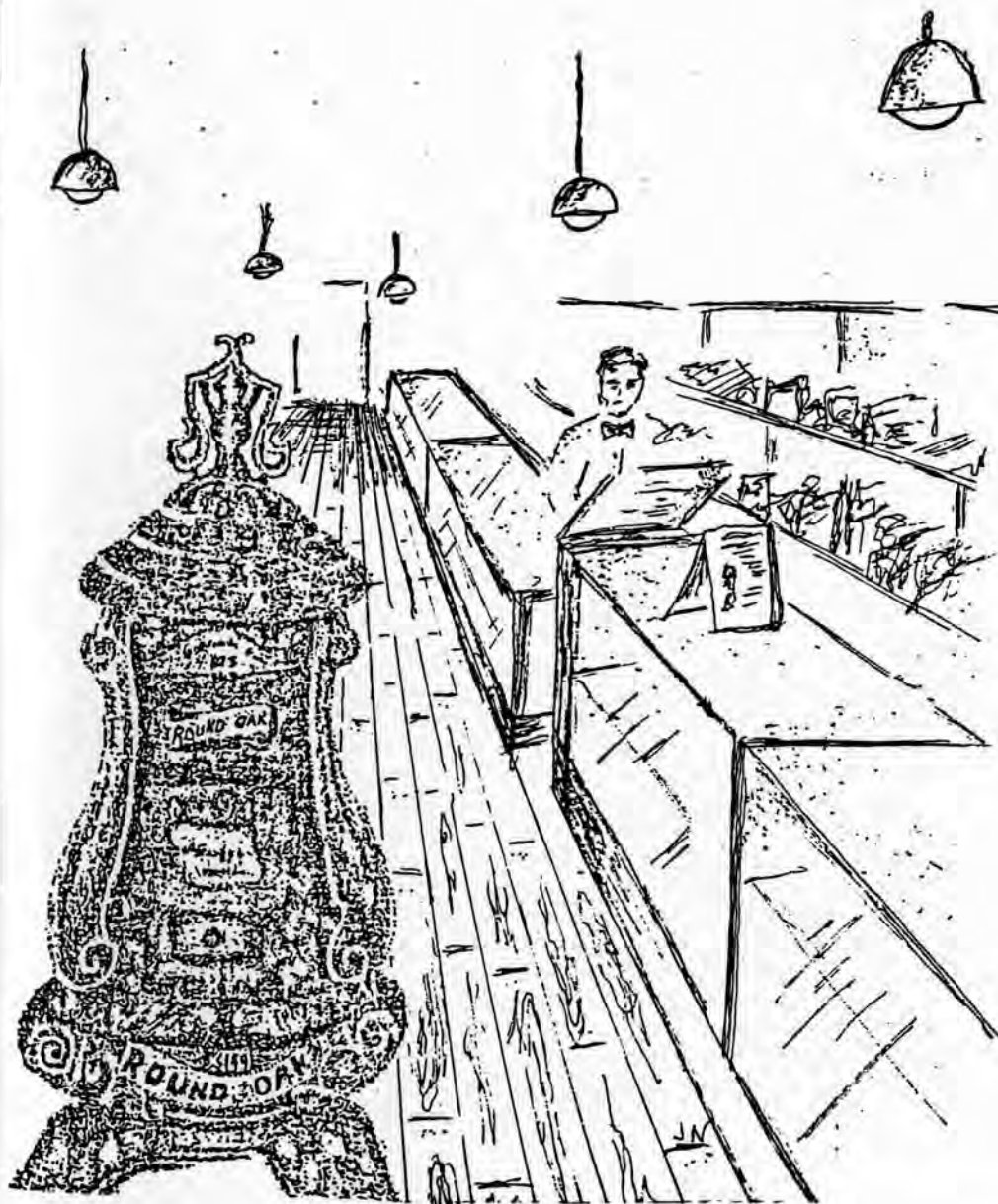


JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE

VOLUME 4, NO. 2

SPRING 1989

 MESA STATE
COLLEGE



JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE is published quarterly by two student organizations at Mesa State College: the Mesa State College Historical Society and the Alpha-Gamma-Epsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta. Annual subscriptions are \$10. (Single copies are available by contacting the editors of the Journal.) Retailers are encouraged to write for prices. Address subscriptions and orders for back issues to:

Mesa State College
Journal of the Western Slope
P.O. Box 2647
Grand Junction, CO 81502

All written materials, drawings, maps, photographs and other graphics are property of the contributor. They may not be reproduced without the written consent of the editors of **JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE** or the contributor. Mesa State College, the Mesa State College Historical Society, and the Alpha-Gamma-Epsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta assume no responsibility for statements of fact or opinions made in **JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE**.

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: The purpose of **JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE** is to encourage the scholarly study of Colorado's Western Slope. The primary goal is to preserve and record its history; however, articles on anthropology, economics, government, natural history, and sociology will be considered. Authorship is open to anyone who wishes to submit original and scholarly material about the Western Slope. The editors encourage letters of inquiry from prospective authors. Complete instructions to contributors to the Journal may be secured by inquiry to: Mesa State College, **JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE**, P.O. Box 2647, Grand Junction, CO 81502.

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE

Editorial Board

Vernon Keller
Donald A. MacKendrick
Frankie Odum
Paul Reddin
Steve Scroggins

Editorial Assistant

Shawn Lowe

Technical Illustrator

Michael L. Heinrich

Mesa State College Historical Society

Ken Schwietert President
Robin White Vice President
Kristi Mease Secretary/Treasurer
Ken Keuchler Historian

Phi Alpha Theta

Madelyn Hughes President
George Gore Vice President
Jerry M. Scott Secretary/Treasurer
Vernon Keller Historian

JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE

All material in the JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE
is copyrighted by the Mesa State College Historical Society and
Alpha-Gamma-Epsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta.

Typeset by THE TYPE TAILOR

Printed by KLB PRINTING

THE COVER: The cover is by John Novak, print shop manager at KLB; John has an Associate of Arts degree in graphics.

Contents

**“The Schmidt Family Hardware Store and
Grand Junction, A Partnership” 4**

by Mary E. Locke

**“Early History of the Grand Junction
High School Band” 24**

by Lee Schmidt

**“Transcendental Twisted Trees and
Enos Mills” 29**

by Jeff Brigham

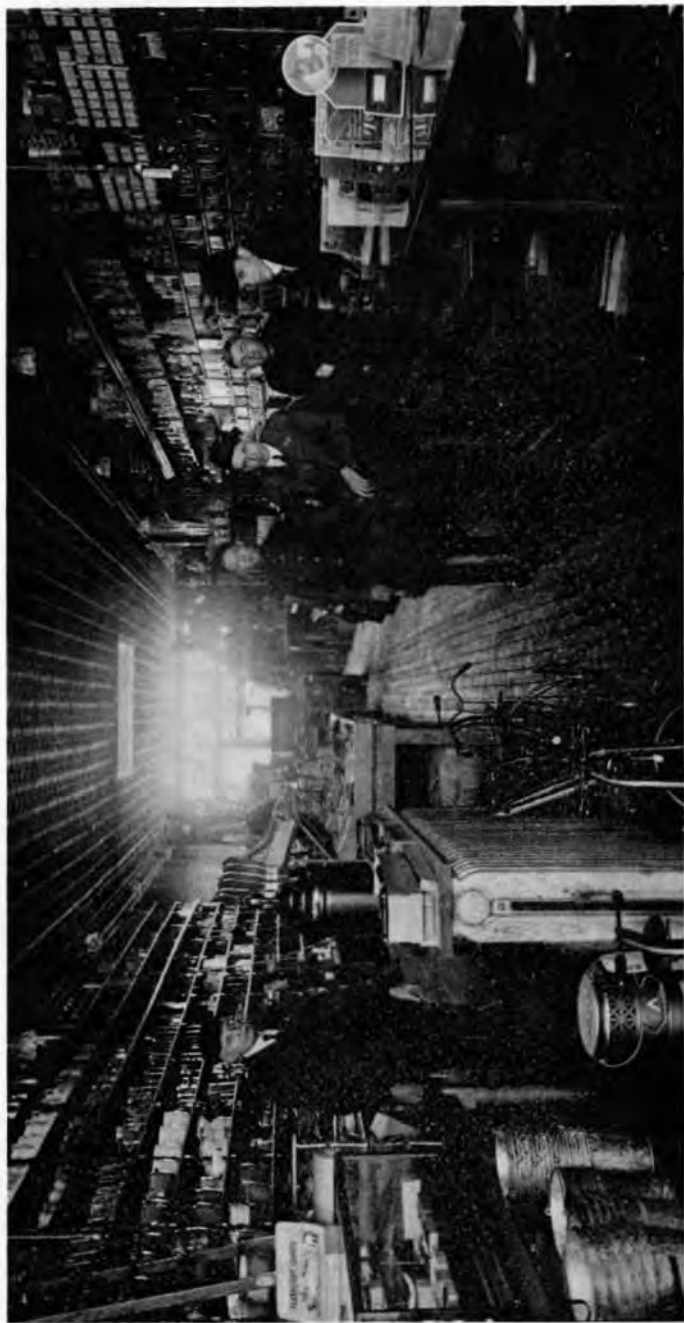


Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt
The original hardware store of L. Schmidt & Sons at 439 Main Street as it appeared in 1917. Shown in the picture, left to right, are Louis Schmidt, Elva Yarnell, J.F. Schmidt, Brooks Hughlett, and a traveling salesman from the C F and I Co., S. Jones.

“THE SCHMIDT FAMILY HARDWARE STORE AND GRAND JUNCTION, A PARTNERSHIP”

by Mary E. Locke

Mary Locke graduated from Mesa State College in May of 1989 with a B.A. in political science.

Alonzo M. Schmidt, he preferred to be called Lon, knew what he wanted to do in life: he was determined to have his own hardware store. Raised in El Dorado Springs, Missouri, Lon Schmidt lived his entire life without knowing the actual date of his birth. Not until after his death, which occurred in 1955, did the information come to light. In 1987, a cousin discovered an old family Bible that had an entry of Lon Schmidt's birthday: February 8, 1877.¹ Lon's mother died at his birth, his father remarried, and a stepmother raised Lon. These were hard times for the young boy as there was little love and affection in the home.²

In 1902, at the age of 25, Lon Schmidt set out for Colorado with two goals in mind: to rid himself of a "catarrh" condition and to get into the hardware business.³ Regarding the former, the humid midwestern climate was disagreeable to him, and his doctor suggested that the dry, cool Colorado climate could benefit his health. Secondly, Schmidt wanted to get out of the family-owned general merchandising business involving his father and stepbrother in Missouri.⁴

Lon Schmidt had read about Grand Junction's plans for the proposed High Line Ditch and the large irrigation project to be constructed.⁵ Since the government would be involved, he knew it would be a good place to do business and planned to check it out.⁶

Sharing the enthusiasm exhibited by Grand Junction residents for the success of their town,⁷ soon after arriving in Grand Junction, young Schmidt made a purchase offer to E.M. Slocomb of Slocomb and Thomas Hardware, located at 439 Main Street;⁸ however, the owner was not interested in selling. Disappointed, the Missourian made his way to Eaton, Colorado, where he found employment as a carpenter. While there he encouraged a young woman of his acquaintance, Miss Dora Jane Rightmire of El Dorado Springs, Missouri, to make a visit west to Colorado Springs, Colorado. The couple became engaged, set their wedding date for January 1, 1903, and returned to El Dorado Springs, Missouri, to be married.⁹

Still determined to try his hand as a hardware entrepreneur, Lon and his new bride headed in the direction of Twin Falls, Idaho.¹⁰ There young Schmidt found an opportunity to run a shoe store. He quickly became disenchanted with the shoe business, for men's shoe styles changed every year. The variety was extensive: high button shoes; pearl button shoes; black button shoes, and others. Lon knew he belonged in the hardware business where things did not go out of date. To his way of thinking, the hardware business was reasonable because a shovel was a shovel and a washboard was a washboard.¹¹

Life in Twin Falls proved to be a little too exciting for the young couple. Lodging was scarce and the only place they could find to rent was a room over a saloon. Lon's catarrh worsened in the dusty surroundings of the frontier-type town, and, after a little more than a year, the Lon Schmidts moved to the town of Boise, Idaho, to once more get involved in the shoe business. A quieter town, Boise also boasted a few paved streets. No sooner had the couple settled and Lon had opened the shoe store when he received a letter from Slocomb in Grand Junction stating that he had decided to sell his hardware store after all. Lon, enthusiastic to make the purchase, made a quick trip to Grand Junction to close the deal. However, upon arriving he learned some disturbing news: Slocomb wanted \$15,000 cash for the business — more money than Schmidt could afford by himself.¹²

Although there were about five hardware stores in Grand Junction at the time, Lon was determined to acquire the Slocomb store.¹³ As a way to swing the deal, Lon contacted his father, Louis Schmidt, and his half brother, Julius Schmidt, and sold them on the opportunity in Grand Junction. Convinced of the opportunity, the elder Schmidt sold the family mercantile business in El Dorado Springs, Missouri, and joined Lon in Grand Junction where they formalized their partnership: L. Schmidt and Sons. The actual date the business opened has been lost; however, records indicate that the agreement was signed on



Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt

The original L. Schmidt & Sons Hardware as it appeared in 1906, shortly after the family purchased the store. Shown here are Louis Schmidt, Lon Schmidt, and Julius Schmidt.

September 30, 1904¹⁴, and that the Schmidt family hardware store opened for business early in 1905.¹⁵

A family precedent that the women in the Schmidt family would not be involved in the hardware store was established early. However, Dora Jane Rightmire Schmidt had her own agenda. Leland Schmidt recalled his mother's role:

I can remember my mother meeting everybody that ever moved to Grand Junction. She thought that was something she could do for my dad's business. It wasn't hard to do, for the newspaper published the names of everyone who moved here — there were just a few of them. She always made a point to meet new people who moved to town. There were many Southerners who moved here.¹⁶ People moved in here from all over the world. The Ela family came here from New England to be in the cattle business; he had a big operation up on Glade Park. This area got a lot of publicity in the early days because of the mining. People came from as far away as England.¹⁷

The Slocomb and Thomas Hardware store building at 439 Main Street was approximately ten years old when L. Schmidt and Sons began their enterprise.¹⁸ The original brick building is still in use today, occupied by the Great American Antique Store.¹⁹ Lon knew that when the irrigation project was finished Grand Junction would be a good "hardware" town. A great many families had homesteaded in the valley — an ingredient which he knew was necessary for a profitable hardware business.²⁰ Even the boom and bust business cycles through the years on the Western Slope did not affect the store. Not only did the Schmidt men operate a typical farm-oriented store, but they also established a wholesale business to supply the other little hardware stores along the Western Slope.²¹ This diversity required a great deal of specialized bookkeeping, and Lon hired Hazel Caywood to fill that position. She served in that position until Leland Schmidt sold his share of the business in the 1970s.²²

During the early years of its existence, the hardware store supplied the city and farm dwellers' needs in a wide variety of products, from stoves to fencing material.²³ Very early in the business, L. Schmidt & Sons Hardware became a dealer for Monarch Ranges.²⁴ The Monarch Iron Range Company supplied the firm with a journal to keep track of sales and customers of the ranges. A tribute to the thoroughness of the Schmidts, a complete record of sales to early Grand Junction settlers was created dating from February 1906 to September 1925. The "Journal" reads like a "Who's Who" of early Grand Junction and nearby environs' early residents.²⁵ Descriptions of the ranges include: flush-, plain-, or waterfront-type reservoirs; 4 or 6 hole combination tops; 15,



Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt

The interior of the original store at 439 Main Street shows the round, coal burning pot bellied stoves as the featured item up front. This photo was taken in 1912.

17, 19, or 21 inch ovens; and, ultimately, in 1919, a combination coal and gas stove.²⁶

The store also supplied the basic hardware needs necessary for the building of a new community: "hammers, nails, planes, wire stretchers and cutters, wrenches, squares needed to build houses, barns and sheds, and rural mail boxes."²⁷ Nor was the critical shopping list of items women brought with them to the store forgotten. The Grand Junction woman in the post World War I era found "... iron skillet and kettles in several sizes, plus as much tinware as she could afford; roasters, coffee pots, bread and cake pans, milk buckets, strainers, funnels, wash tubs, boilers, and scrub boards."²⁸

The Lon Schmidt family began to grow with the birth of their sons, Mark and Leland. Although she was expecting a baby in 1914, Dora Jane Schmidt continued her practice of greeting new Grand Junction residents. The family folklore includes a recollection of her calling on Lucy Ela, who had moved in across the street from the Schmidts at Tenth and Main Streets.²⁹

Mrs. Ela will tell you that my mother was the first lady she met in Grand Junction. Lucy said my mother was pregnant with me [Leland] when they met. My parents were having a tough time for they had just lost my older brother, Ralph, who was eight years old. He had jumped off the roof of a barn down on Main Street. He thought he could fly. He died three months before I was born.³⁰

The Julius Schmidt family had grown, too, with the birth of two children, Fred and Shirley. Lon realized that there was too much family relying on the one business.³¹ To facilitate the growing Schmidt clan, it was decided in 1923 to expand the business and buy another store. Lon was successful in bidding for Stockman's Hardware in Delta, and Julius Schmidt and family moved there to operate the new store.³²

When the first washing machines appeared, L. Schmidt & Sons stocked them. Initially, they were hand-powered. Before long, however, water-powered and gasoline-powered models appeared. Eventually, the electric washing machines arrived, much to the delight of Grand Junction women.³³ Even the youngsters had their favorite place in the hardware store. Such items as bicycles, sleds, ice skates, tricycles, wagons, dolls, doll buggies and blocks fascinated the young shoppers.³⁴

Lon Schmidt knew how to market his wares and considered himself to be a good merchandising hand. He made an effort to feature certain items each week to attract customers, and he placed them in conspicuous locations in the store, enticing the shoppers to browse and purchase additional items. Louis, his father, thought the best way to

sell an item was to place it right at the door so all passing by could see it, make a quick purchase and depart. But in any regard, the business prospered.

Leland and his brother, Mark, went off to college in the 1930s after having spent many teenage years at such tasks as delivery boy, floor sweeper, inventory taker, and, ultimately, as a student of merchandising. Leland attended the University of Southern California where he majored in advertising. Remaining in Los Angeles after graduation, he went to work for the Firestone Company in their advertising department. Once they learned of his merchandising background, however, Leland was involved in establishing their "super service" retail stores on a nationwide basis.³⁵ Tired of travelling, he secured a position with *Ralph Wagner's Script*, a Hollywood insider's magazine of the movie industry.

Not long after beginning this position in 1938, Leland was called back to Grand Junction. Although the country was in the depths of the Great Depression, the Schmidt Hardware business was in a stable condition, reflecting Grand Junction economics.³⁶ Leland Schmidt recalled the times:

My grandfather had died the year before, and my dad offered me a partnership in the business with my brother Mark. He wanted to turn the business over to us. It's not every day in the week in 1938 that someone would hand you a share of a partnership. Most kids were working on Boulder Dam or driving a truck or something. So I came back to my home town.³⁷

In further reflection, Leland Schmidt remembered his father's prophetic words:

Now son, if you want to make some money, you had better get out of Grand Junction. But if you want to do a heap of living you can't beat it.³⁸

Leland married Eleanor Porter, of Delta, on December 28, 1939. Not too long after their marriage, World War II intervened; Leland went into the service and Mark, being a little older, stayed at home to run the family business. Leland's absence required that Lon give up his retirement status, and he returned to the store for the duration of the war.³⁹ Upon returning home after the war, the brothers continued the Schmidt tradition. The 1940s and '50s brought a new look to the store's inventory – electric appliances, pressure cookers, radios and the inevitable television sets.⁴⁰

In 1955, Lon Schmidt passed away and the Schmidt hardware store saw yet another partnership agreement, that of Leland and Mark



Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt

A.M. (Lon) Schmidt, founder of L. Schmidt & Sons Hardware, as he appeared in 1949.

Schmidt. The passing of time brought new successes to the third generation of Schmidts and the business was moved in 1956 to a new location at 447 Main Street next to Montgomery Ward.⁴¹ Leland Schmidt described the situation there:



Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt
L. Schmidt & Sons Hardware shown in 1923 with the new "Winchester" cabinets. The display method was unique for its time. Made of solid oak, the display shelves were on hinges, allowing customers to try out the items.

When we moved our store up the street next to Montgomery Ward, Woolworth's wanted us to build a new building. We had a very precarious time keeping the building next door from falling down. The contractor that built the building (Woolworth's built the building and sent the bill to us) got a mining company out of Silverton to come down here and do the digging for the foundation with mining equipment. They built a tunnel so as not to disturb the 'party' wall.⁴²

Both of the third generation partners had children of their own: Mark had two sons, Mark Ronald and Ralph, and a daughter, Beatrice; Leland had two children, a son Lynn and a daughter Caroline. Soon the teenage boys were performing the same tasks in the store as their fathers had before them.⁴³

The tradition of Schmidt family partnerships ended in 1962. Mark Schmidt decided to retire from the business about the same time that Woolworth's expressed a desire to expand into the space the Schmidt business occupied.⁴⁴ As a result, the business moved to a new location, 521 Main Street,⁴⁵ and Leland took on a new partner, Ray La Cour, a partnership that was to last some ten years.⁴⁶

The long held family tradition of partnership did not include the fourth generation. Although Mark and Leland encouraged their sons to be active in the business, they also made it possible for them to go to college and pursue what they wanted to do. "We could see that the future for the small, independent merchant was becoming more and more difficult."⁴⁷

There is no longer any trace of the family enterprise: the Three Sisters Outlet now occupies the last location of The Schmidt Hardware Store.⁴⁸ Leland Schmidt continued his entrepreneurial interests as one of the founding partners in Colorado West Travel, which was to capture both his and Eleanor's interest for more than fifteen years.⁴⁹

The partnership of the Schmidt family with Grand Junction and the Western Slope became a tradition. Said Leland Schmidt, "My dad raised his family here, got them educated and saw his children married. The hardware business was good to our family."⁵⁰



Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt
Marking the 75th anniversary of Colorado's statehood on June 28, 1951, the W.G. Russells pose beside the type of Monarch range they purchased on September 17, 1907 from A.M. Schmidt, pictured here with his son, Leland Schmidt.

NOTES

¹Interview with Leland A. Schmidt, Grand Junction, Colorado, 13 May 1988.

²*Ibid.*

³*Ibid.*

⁴*Ibid.*

⁵*Ibid.*

⁶*Ibid.*

⁷Mary Rait, "History of Grand Junction, Colorado." *Journal of the Western Slope*, Vol.3, No.3 Summer (Grand Junction, Colorado: 1988), p.27.

⁸*Grand Junction, Colorado, City Directory*, R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1896.

⁹Schmidt interview.

¹⁰*Ibid.*

¹¹*Ibid.*

¹²*Ibid.*

¹³*Ibid.*

¹⁴Sanborn Fire and Insurance Maps, Grand Junction, Colorado, June 1904.

¹⁵Schmidt interview.

¹⁶Mary Rait, "History of Grand Junction, Colorado," p.18.

¹⁷Schmidt interview.

¹⁸*Grand Junction, Colorado, City Directory*, R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1896, 1904.

¹⁹*Grand Junction, Colorado, City Directory*, R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1988.

²⁰Schmidt interview.

²¹*Ibid.*

²²Interview with Leland A. Schmidt, Grand Junction, Colorado, 9 December 1988.

²³Interview with Leland A. Schmidt, Grand Junction, Colorado, 23 March 1988.

²⁴Business journal of accounts, L. Schmidt & Sons, Grand Junction, Colorado, 1906-1919, passim, from the private collection of Leland A. Schmidt.

²⁵*Ibid.*

²⁶*Ibid.*

²⁷Alice Wright, "Hardware and Schmidt family mark 70 years as 'partners'," *The Daily Sentinel*, Colorado West, 19 October 1975, p.3.

²⁸*Ibid.*

²⁹Schmidt interview, 9 December 1988.

³⁰Schmidt interview, 13 May 1988.

³¹*Ibid.*

³²*Ibid.*

³³Alice Wright, "Hardware and Schmidt family mark 70 years as 'partners'," p.3.

³⁴*Ibid.*

³⁵Schmidt interview, 13 May 1988.

³⁶Paul Reddin, "Hard Times but Good Times: Grand Junction Women During the Great Depression." *Journal of the Western Slope*, Vol.1, No.1 Winter (Grand Junction, Colorado: 1986), pp.3-4.

³⁷Schmidt interview, 13 May 1988.

³⁸*Ibid.*

³⁹Schmidt interview, 9 December 1988.

⁴⁰Alice Wright, "Hardware and Schmidt family mark 70 years as 'partners'," p.3.

⁴¹*Grand Junction, Colorado, City Directory*, R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1956.

⁴²Schmidt interview, 13 May 1988, Grand Junction, and Sanborn Fire and Insurance Maps, 1964.

⁴³Alice Wright, "Hardware and Schmidt family mark 70 years as 'partners'," p.2.

⁴⁴*Ibid.*

⁴⁵*Grand Junction, Colorado, City Directory*, R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1964.

⁴⁶Schmidt interview, 9 December 1988.

⁴⁷Schmidt interview, 13 May 1988.

⁴⁸*Grand Junction, Colorado, City Directory*, R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1988.

⁴⁹Schmidt interview, 9 December 1988.

⁵⁰Schmidt interview, 13 May 1988.

APPENDIX

NOTE: The author and Mr. Schmidt made every effort to make sure the names were spelled correctly but the names in the ledger were smeared and sometimes difficult to read.

Record of Prospective Range Customers and Sales of MONARCH Malleable, the "Stay Satisfactory" Range. Malleable Iron Range Co., Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

Name	Address	Date Sold
Charles Merchingner	City	February 28, 1906
W.F. Wiler	Country, 6 miles N.W.	June 8, 1906
Seiber Cattle Company	City	June 22, 1906
O. Kivett	City	August 29, 1906
Mrs. William Eutrikan	404 South Street	September 5, 1906
W.J. Moyer	Main Street	September 13, 1906
Robert Seclah		September 18, 1906
King Aldrich	Main Street	October 11, 1906
Dr. F.D. Coultrin	Rood	October 12, 1906
S.B. Sturtevant	950 Rood	October 16, 1906
C.H. Arthur	Main Street	October 19, 1906
John Schoepple	Supt. Sugar Factory	November 3, 1906
F.E. Adams	624 Teller	November 15, 1906
Ida J. Blalock	First & Grand	December 3, 1906
James R. Davis	Country	December 5, 1906
Audres Feil	Loma	December 19, 1906
A.M. Schmidt		December 31, 1906
C.B. Banks	9th & Grand	January 2, 1907
A.J. Harvey	Ranch	January 12, 1907
F.D. Anderson	Ranch	February 21, 1907
W.E. Boulton	635 Chipeta Ave.	March 20, 1907
Jo Parise	South 4th Street	April 1, 1907
H.M. Cannon	Ranch, Clifton	May 3, 1907
Marshal Graham	North 7th Street	April 27, 1907
I.N. Bunting	East Main Street	April 10, 1907
Verne Reed	Palisade	June 10, 1907
George Gosnell	Chipeta	June 5, 1907
R.N. Nickerson	Orchard Mesa	June 17, 1907
S.E. Winterburn	Rood	July 26, 1907
McElroy		July 23, 1907
L. Schmidt	903 E. Main	July 18, 1907
J.S. Purcell		August 13, 1907
Fred Holmes		September 16, 1907
W.G. Russell*	Ranch	September 17, 1907
O.P. Veach	Ranch East	October 5, 1907
Riley D. Moore	232 Chipeta	October 30, 1907
Mrs. James R. Davis	North Seventh	November 4, 1907
G.W. Turner	Ranch	November 5, 1907
Brinkerhoff	City	November 11, 1907
J.A. Lester	Palisade	November 16, 1907
T.C. Caldwell	City	November 25, 1907
Kosch	Fruita	November 25, 1907
Bert Evan	Main Street	December 7, 1907
George Currie	City	December 14, 1907
Martin Woodring Ranch	3rd Fruit Ridge	December 18, 1907
William Staples	Ranch	December 20, 1907
Frank Rensink	City	December 21, 1907
H.J. Jacobsbagen	City	December 27, 1907
E.M. Slocomb**	City	December 27, 1907

*The Russells are pictured commemorating their Monarch range purchase during the 75th anniversary of Colorado's founding.

**E.M. Slocomb is the original owner of the hardware store.

Name	Address	Date Sold
Whitney Rozzle	North Fifth	January 28, 1908
A.T. Matechett	Wallace Pear Orchard	January 31, 1908
J.W. Bringman	City	February 14, 1908
Jo Garcia	Palisade	February 19, 1908
F.B. Sykes	Fruita	March 6, 1908
U.S. Reclamation Service	High Line Canal Survey	March 10, 1908
Phil Mosrer	Orchard Mesa	March 10, 1908
W.L. Snyder	Ranch N.E.	April 2, 1908
H.W. Blackstone	Palisade	April 10, 1908
W.E. Dudley	City	April 17, 1908
Dr. F.R. Smith	Rood	April 27, 1908
Riley Stoner	816 Grand	April 28, 1908
S.E. Winterburn	Rood	May 16, 1908
Robert S. Carter	Near Bridge	May 21, 1908
A.C. Newton	First Fruit Ridge	May 29, 1908
Fred Burkett	Fruita	June 1, 1908
R.E. Turpin	Pomona Park	June 22, 1908
Mrs. A.K. Rupp	City	July 6, 1908
<i>(At this point in the Monarch record, the use of a rubber stamp is incorporated in the date column.)</i>		
James F. Greene	Corner 7th & Pitkin	September 1, 1908
J.P. Morgan	City	September 2, 1908
E. Kennedy	City	September 8, 1908
George Toupain	Ranch	September 19, 1908
D. Donehue	317 South	September 24, 1908
H.M. Fisher	760 Winters Ave.	November 2, 1908
M.M. Shores	City	November 19, 1908
P.O. Glick	N.W. Grand Junction Ranch	November 25, 1908
W.A. Underwood	Oldham Flats	November 28, 1908
D.B. Bailey	City	December 5, 1908
J.J. Silva	Crebbin Ranch	February 2, 1909
Marion Hellyer	City	February 17, 1909
Mrs. James R. Davis	Clifton	February 23, 1909
Alice D. Stinson	North 5th	February 24, 1909
A.D. Ward	Near Clifton	March 4, 1909
J.L. Steele	1138 Hill	March 8, 1909
David Mitchel	Fruit Ridge	March 11, 1909
H.H. Younger	Palisade	May 14, 1909
George Smith	Orchard Mesa	May 25, 1909
Seiber Cattle Company		April 3, 1909
W.W. Barry		June 12, 1909
H.A. Palker	757 White	June 24, 1909
Henry Frank		July 12, 1909
C.A. Hederich	East Fruita	August 18, 1909
Mrs. M.E. Mann	839 Grand	September 9, 1909
D.B. Wright	920 Grand	September 9, 1909
J.W. Atkinson		September 29, 1909
William Milne		September 23, 1909
Fred Cos	823 Teller	October 25, 1909
Eddy	Pomona Park	November 4, 1909
George M. Gates	Clifton	November 23, 1909
Mrs. William Glendenning	319 Teller	November 23, 1909
Dora Boders	Loma	December 8, 1909
H.E. Palmer	Clifton	December 9, 1909
T.P. Lutz	Ranch	December 22, 1909
C.W. Hunter	844 Ouray	December 27, 1909
I.D. Kephart	Ranch	December 29, 1909

Name	Address	Date Sold
N.E. Ault	City	December 31, 1909
E.D. Stowe	Cisco, Utah	January 10, 1910
G.W. Belcher	N.W. City	February 26, 1910
Dr. Clark	Ranch	March 3, 1910
J.F. Shuveer	Ranch	March 7, 1910
D.B. Wright	City	April 1, 1910
J.A. Quinn	City	April 1, 1910
Charles Quist	City	April 1, 1910
T.S. Ramsey	City	March 19, 1910
Glenn G. Smith	City	April 9, 1910
John Kloster	Fruita	April 19, 1910
Willima Eddins	822 Ute	May 22, 1910
Mrs. F.W. Smith	Ranch	July 21, 1910
Copeland	541 Rood	August 10, 1910
Fred. C. Jaquette	Ranch	August 20, 1910
A.A. Allison	520 W. Main	September 23, 1910
V. Gilcrest	Orchard Mesa	September 28, 1910
A. Phenix	Near Clifton	October 6, 1910
G.B. Marshall	Mack	October 13, 1910
T.J. Atkinson		October 15, 1910
L.A. Colburn		November 15, 1910
F.B. Sykes	Fruita	December, 1910
Frank Nickoli	De Beque	December, 1910
Louisa Moses	Orchard Mesa	April 15, 1911
W.S. Hattan	Clifton	May 29, 1911
Gene M. Welch	530 Ute	June 28, 1911
H.L. McKenzie		September 6, 1911
C.C. Wallen	237 Grand	September 18, 1911
F.H. Meyers	Clifton	October 4, 1911
Harve Heiny	Ranch	November 11, 1911
Mrs. N.E. Lowell	City	November 7, 1911
M.P. Smith	Fruitvale	November 22, 1911
W.A. Smith	Clifton	December 21, 1911
R.H. Chatfield	R.F.D. #3	December 27, 1911
McMillan	Clifton	January 10, 1912
S.W. Sellers	Ranch	May 11, 1912
R.C. Parker	Orchard Mesa	June 29, 1912
C. Malone	1045 N. 7th	August 14, 1912
C.L. Horr	Ouray	October 5, 1912
V. Tanrueur	141 N. 3rd	October 16, 1912
W.W. Campbell	752 Ouray	October 21, 1912
Leo Cutting	Green River, Utah	December 31, 1912
F.W. Browne		January 10, 1913
J. Dauz		February 18, 1913
Platz		April 22, 1913
J.J. Weigmann	921 South 5th	February 2, 1913
Hugh Jennings	Price, Utah	July 22, 1913
Paul Bethke	Green River, Utah	July 25, 1913
William Haun	236 Hill Ave.	July 25, 1913
I.C. Baughman	Grand Junction	February 11, 1914
Hector Lament	Grand Junction	March 2, 1914
J.P. Grace	Grand Junction	June 11, 1914
Miss Tobbyne	Grand Junction	June 25, 1914
Fred Hickman	415 Chipeta	June 29, 1914
Ray V. Diehl	1107 Gunnison	July 18, 1914
N.E. Gaylord	1114 White	September 10, 1914
M.J. Lambert	Orchard Mesa	September 14, 1914
Click	325 Chipeta	September 28, 1914
E.L. Paige	102 Grand	October 6, 1914
Smith Campbell	540 Teller	October 6, 1914
Jim Langdon	924 South 5th	November 7, 1914
	226 Gunnison	November 9, 1914

Name	Address	Date Sold
Oak Barton	7 Colorado Avenue	December 18, 1914
O.O. Fellows		December 19, 1914
Mrs. Vaught	134 Grand	February 22, 1915
George R. Barton	5th & Pitkin	March 25, 1915
Charles D. Heald	1120 Grand	August 6, 1915
E.W. Terrill	325 South 7th	November 9, 1915
C.J. Bradfield	8— Ouray	May 18, 1916
Squire and Claude Nelson	Ranch	June 2, 1916
F.H. Kerby	1107 Gunnison	October 10, 1916
Mrs. D.H. Preston	402 Chuluota	November 3, 1916
C.E. McMullen	Fruita	November 6, 1916
Fred Jens	Ranch	November 23, 1916
A.O. Carmine	Ranch	February 2, 1917
R.C. Parker	Orchard Mesa	February 17, 1917
J.W. McMahan	Struthers Ave.	February 28, 1917
Mrs. A.C. Fletcher	111 Main	June 16, 1917
Mr. Corn	405 Belford Ave.	July 23, 1917
Mr. W.L. Snyder	1120 Rood Ave.	August 16, 1917
S.G. McMullen	635 Grand	August 4, 1917
P.S. Heinmann	528 Gunnison	September 10, 1917
Brooks Hughlett	525 North 10th St.	September 20, 1917
J.R. Hobert	Palisade	October 5, 1917
C. Cutter	Palisade	October 6, 1917
William H. Harris	502 Chipeta	October 15, 1917
Otto Nissen	North 12th St.	October 16, 1917
Howard Ferguson		October 20, 1917
Mt. Garfield Coal Company	938 Main St.	October 22, 1917
Max Lowman	Gunnison Dam	November 6, 1917
C.A. Cox	Palisade	November 16, 1917
Charles Cutter, Sr.	Palisade	December 5, 1917
John Wolf	807 Teller Ave.	December 17, 1917
Elva Yarwell	957 Rood	December, 1917
C.A. Latimer	811 Ouray	December 24, 1917
Ray Chatfield	Palisade	December, 1917
W.A. Smith	135 South 7th	December 21, 1917
Charles Cutter	Palisade	January 18, 1918
A.L. Zellars	Orchard Mesa	February 22, 1918
Milo Brown	252 Hill	May 3, 1918
Willard Foy	Gateway	May 6, 1918
Raymond Weaver	624 Belford	May 18, 1918
Carnolite Reduction Co. William Pickett	Gateway	June 15, 1918
H.E. Plambeck	Fruitvale	September 5, 1918
J.A. Buyer	440 Teller	September 11, 1918
L.M. Rogers		October 22, 1918
Orlando Phillips	East of Town	November 9, 1918
Dell Libson	607 Ute	November 27, 1918
R. Smith	202 Ouray	January 2, 1919
James R. Murphy	125 South 7th	January 3, 1919
Mrs. Nellie Mitchell	De Beque	January 29, 1919
H.K. Sharp	Grand Junction	February 28, 1919
J.F. Shultz	1026 North 7th	March 13, 1919
A.C. Garrison	523 Pitkin	March 20, 1919
F.A. Wychoff	Palisade	April 3, 1919
C.E. Heely	Mesa	April 14, 1919
Adrian Matlack	10th & Rood	June 18, 1919
F.C. Luellen	828 White	July 5, 1919
Clem Miller	De Beque	July 7, 1919
S. Rasmussen	Mesa	July 19, 1919
John Philpot	408 South 5th	July 17, 1919
W.A. Shriver	Clifton	August 9, 1919

Name	Address	Date Sold
John Shriver	Clifton	July 13, 1919
Jim Santy	Rifle	September 8, 1919
Ralph Collinson	Whitewater	September 13, 1919
Steve Murphy	1215 Grand	August 24, 1919
Clarence Stamm	410 Chipeta	August 21, 1919
L.S. Ashby	606 Chipeta	October 10, 1919
F.S. Vogt	Whitewater	October 20, 1919
A. Rettige	7 Chipeta	November 17, 1919
G. Fowlwer	Grand Junction	December 4, 1919
J.B. Kester	Palisade	December 23, 1919
A.J. Ashley	Grand Junction	December 27, 1919
W.D. Ela	1041 Ouray	April 5, 1920
R.B. Cossells	348 Grand	April 15, 1920
D.L. Yarnell	450 Chipeta	May 8, 1920
W.L. Beltaye	Sergent Bluff, Iowa	June 15, 1920
Ernest Peige	Grand Junction	July 7, 1920
Peter Midlemist	Whitewater	July 12, 1920
E.E. Aller	Fruitvale	August 11, 1920
Roy Houston	920 North 7th	September 10, 1920
Ray Lucas	Kannah Creek	July 11, 1920
Copeland	12th and Main	September 30, 1920
Thomas Carr	329 Ouray	October 1, 1920
Mrs. Parter	451 Grand	October 9, 1920
Ralph Stillwell	Grand Junction	October 15, 1920
S.N. Wagler	305 Gunnison	October 16, 1920
George Huffman	637 White	November 1, 1920
Emil Odelberg	R.F.D.	November 8, 1920
J.W. Fitzsimmons	548 Grand Ave.	November 22, 1920
J.F. Shults	569 Gunnison	February 25, 1921
M.J. McKeel	326 Hill	March 11, 1921
R.A. Montz	Palisade	April 21, 1921
J.A. Buyer	443 Teller	July 27, 1921
J.W. Armstrong	630 Teller	August 13, 1921
Dr. Morrison	827 Gunnison	September 7, 1921
Jim Barthop	North 10th	October 10, 1921
Carrie Freemeyer	Palisade	October 29, 1921
C.J. McFadden	R.F.D.	October 29, 1921
E.D. Messonier	635 Hill	November 18, 1921
Arvid Muhr	Fruitva	November 19, 1921
Gus Johnson	Fruitvale	November 28, 1921
C.B. Anderson	6th and Hill	December 1, 1921
F.D. Parks	1033 Hill	December 1, 1921
J.F. Shults	11____ Hill Ave.	December 8, 1921
Fred Stuart	Ranch	December 14, 1921
O.J. Aldrich	Elm Ave	December 20, 1921
L.A. Boyth	1137 Rood	December 21, 1921
E.C. Smith	15th and Grand	January 20, 1922
William Ricks	9 Grand	March 17, 1922
Rev. J.R. Coulter	Palisade	March 27, 1922
William Hermann	6 Belford	April 24, 1922
Dr. Ridley	603 Ouray	June 3, 1922
William Stark	4 M(iles) North West	June 14, 1922
Earl Whley	Teller	June 13, 1922
Bert McMillen	Clifton	July 28, 1922
W.W. Moore	247 Rood	September 19, 1922
J.P. Downey	1140 Rood	September 19, 1922
Harris Jones	631 Ouray	October 9, 1922
J.G. Conley	1001 Gunnison	November 2, 1922
J.A. Pansford	Colorado Ave.	December, 1922
(New Fire Box)		September 16, 1925
George Bower	624 North 4th	February 6, 1923

Name	Address	Date Sold
Catholic Rectory	White Avenue	March 17, 1923
Mrs. Dean McCarty	Clifton	April 17, 1923
John Hawkins	752 Ouray	May 20, 1923
S.E. Winterbaum	1059 Ouray	July 7, 1923
J.M. Vinton	523 Rockaway	October 4, 1923
N. Grasso	924 North First	January 26, 1924
Al De Merchman	735 Chipeta	April 22, 1924
B.M. Bengé	1161 White	March 27, 1924
Lee W. Burgess	1019 Rood	March 18, 1924
Dr. Bush	1154 Ouray	April 25, 1924
William Miller	Orchard Mesa	May 24, 1924
S.J. Bond	960 Hill	July 28, 1924
A.H. Jordan	Palisade	July, 1924
Wyman Sanford	1261 Ouray	August 13, 1924
W.H. Fiene	1312 Ouray	August 15, 1924
W.S. Meek	1260 Ouray	June 14, 1924
J.L. Huff	East of Town	September 9, 1924
W.J. Lee	Palisade	September 22, 1924
Pete Jouffas	341 Gunnison	November 7, 1924
E.F. Ingram	Fruitvale	November, 1924
C.C. Whipple	15th and Rood	November 22, 1924
Charles Lumley	550 Ute	December 9, 1924
J.C. Nealy	Pomona	January 2, 1925
T. Vanderhos	445 Chipeta	February 26, 1925
E.A. Holt	1059 Colorado	April 15, 1925
Charles K. Holmburg	1203 Ouray	March 23, 1925
E.S. Bartow	909 Ouray	April 7, 1925
Frank E. Kimball	1031 Colorado	April 15, 1925
H.M. Webber	South Fifth St.	May 7, 1925
H.L. Broman	1010 White	June 11, 1925
L.G. Heimlein	1210 Colorado Ave.	September 11, 1925



Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt

Participating in the Peach Parade of 1923, the Schmidt family rode in the parade in the crepe paper-decorated Hupmobile. Shown riding in the car at 4th and Ute are Shirley Schmidt Hodgins, now living in Delta, Julius Schmidt, Louis Schmidt, and A.M. (Lon) Schmidt. Also seen on the right in the background is the Park Opera House.

“EARLY HISTORY OF THE GRAND JUNCTION HIGH SCHOOL BAND”

*by Lee Schmidt
Member of the 1923 Band*

Lee Schmidt was born in Grand Junction on July 3, 1914. He earned a B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Southern California in 1936. For many years Mr. Schmidt was a partner in Schmidt Hardware. Presently Mr. Schmidt and his wife own International Travel Counselors.

Our band, which is the oldest musical organization of its kind in Western Colorado, was founded in 1923 by Audrie L. Stong, a Colorado native who was born in Ouray and graduated from Grand Junction High and the University of Colorado. Audrie's father was an optometrist with an office on South Fourth Street in the old U.S. Bank building.

Audrie opened a music store in the 500 block of Main Street, which was the source of supply for our band. I question whether Audrie ever got paid for many of those instruments.

He convinced the school board that music should be included in the high school curriculum. My dad, Alonzo M. “Lon” Schmidt, was a member of this board for many years.

During these early years money was raised for uniforms and instruments by staging the Band Follies in the beautiful new Avalon Theatre (now the Cooper Theater) which was completed in 1923. The writer sang and danced in several of these shows. Incidentally, many fine road shows played at the Avalon and we had three days of Orpheum Vaudeville each week because the acts were between bookings in Salt Lake City and Denver.



Photo courtesy of Leland Schmidt

Top row, left to right: Audric Stong, Director; Laurence Hoisington; Harold Stong; Morris Hoisington; Kenneth O'Neal; Milton Gibbs; Kenneth Tope; Don Rogers; Finley Wallace; Eugene Mast; John Wolf; Earl Craven; Herbert Bell; Reeves Templeman; Alton Due; Ralph Jones; Herbert Broadhead; Chas Hampson; Bill Downing; Paul Britton. Front row, left to right: Frank Suire; Warren Dodgion; Fred Schmidt; Leland Schmidt, mascot; Rossen McClain; Bernard Harris; Courtney Nichols; Herbert Stommel; Bill Wallace; Roland (Tony) Raso; Howard Ridley; Ormand Neufarmer; Ellsworth Eichinger; Rockwood Coppel.

Audrie managed to keep a band going during the summer months and we filled engagements at Strawberry Days in Glenwood Springs and Fourth of July celebrations in Ouray and Telluride. The big event in these two towns was the Annual Hose Fight on Main Street by the rival volunteer Fire Department Hose Companies.

I recall one incident in Ouray that could have been serious. As their nine-year-old mascot, I preceded the band by a block and fired the Schmidt Hardware Company 10-gauge Winchester cannon, which kicked like a mule. The streets were all gravel in those days, and my cannon shot peppered the legs of Audrie's mother so that she required "emergency" treatment by the local Main Street druggist.

Another Glenwood trip turned out sadly. We all got to swim free in the famous Glenwood pool after our parade. Some of our better swimmers were trying to swim underwater from the central fountain to the bank, a distance of about thirty yards. One of our trumpet players, Rossen McClain, did not make it. Rescuers recovered his body from the bottom of the pool. An autopsy determined Rossen had suffered a heart attack.

In those days a trip to Glenwood took about four and one half hours, so we had to leave by individual cars about 4 a.m. and stop for a barbeque breakfast in Plateau Canyon. There was no highway up the Colorado River from Plateau Creek to De Beque then.

Audrie Stong organized the first Western Colorado Band Contest in 1923, and it was held on a wooden platform on the east side of Fifth Street between Main and Rood. This location was shady in the afternoon, thanks to the Grand Valley Bank across the street, the town's only tall building.

The first "festivals" were later held in the Avalon Theatre and they were real "contests." The three Class A bands participating were Grand Junction, Montrose, and Delta, and they were judged first, second, and third place each year. Lloyd Hillyer was the director at Montrose and Ivan Miller at Delta. The rivalry was intense among the three schools, and it was said that, if Montrose did not win the top spot, the wholesale salesmen out of Grand Junction might as well stay home because there would be no orders available in the Montrose area.

As the years went by our bands participated in other band contests including an annual one in Price, Utah, to which we traveled by train. Also, one year we traveled all the way to a State Contest in Denver. In order to earn our keep we stopped overnight in Gypsum the first night and in Salida the second night and played in their high school gyms.

The climax of Audrie Stong's career came when he took our band to the 1930 International Elks' Convention in Los Angeles. Audrie had been out to the coast and had watched the famous University of Southern California Trojan Band march during halftime in the Los Angeles Coliseum. They had new uniforms consisting of plus-four knickers and cardinal and gold striped blazers, which were a radical departure from the typical military band uniform of the day. Audrie managed to sell the school board and band parents on these same style uniforms, except the jackets were orange and black. They made a big hit in Los Angeles but were much less popular in Audrie's home town. Some of these jackets are seen today at the annual Lions Carnival in February. Audrie left Grand Junction to become the bandmaster at Pasadena Junior College which later became Pasadena City College. He automatically became director of the famous Rose Bowl Band that performed each New Year's Day.

Audrie finally retired from the band business and became Dean of Men at Pasadena City College. He retired and passed away just a few years ago. He brought his Rose Bowl Band to Grand Junction one year and played a concert before a huge crowd at Lincoln Park. We managed to round up about a dozen of his original players and surprised him by making it through "Our Director" march, which Audrie used to write the lyrics for our traditional fight song.

For the most part the Grand Junction High School Band has been blessed with excellent directors during its history. Most notable beside Audrie Stong were William (Bill) Gould and Marion (Jake) Jacobs. Bill's tenure was from 1932 to 1941 when he left to pursue a successful career as bandmaster of the famous University of Southern California Trojan Band in Los Angeles. Until his death Bill continued to return here for class reunions. Also Steve Newton is well remembered.

Jake was our conductor for 36 years, from 1941 to 1977, except for a short period when he served on active duty in the armed forces bands. During this period Charles Steen, owner of a local music store and woodwind teacher, kept the band in good shape. Jake retired in 1977 and died shortly after.

During this period the annual Service Clubs Luncheon was started. The band parents cooked and served the turkey dinner in the Lincoln Park Auditorium. I can remember a few years when they could not raise the temperature in the old barn above freezing and everyone listened to the fine Christmas music in their overcoats! This important tradition sponsored by the Rotary Club is still held each December.

During these years our honor band has been invited to represent Colorado at several World Fairs including the ones at Seattle,

Washington; Montreal, Canada; and Knoxville, Tennessee. Also, they have enjoyed several trips to Hawaii, Disneyland, Disneyworld, and the Rose Festival in Portland, Oregon.

The Grand Junction High School Band always participates in important local events and enjoys the reputation of not only providing important musical education for our young people but also is a real "selling" organization for our community.

“TRANSCENDENTAL TWISTED TREES AND ENOS MILLS”

by Jeff Brigham

Jeff Brigham is Professor of Teacher Education at Metropolitan State College. He is presently on assignment with the Mesa-Metro Teacher Education Program, Mesa State College.

Author's Note – Enos Mills, 1870-1922, the father of Rocky Mountain National Park, came to Colorado at the age of fifteen in search of a climate that might relieve his asthmatic condition. At this age he began work on the now famous cabin that is a quarter-mile off Colorado Highway 7, seven miles south of Estes Park. It was designated a historic site in 1983; and a celebration in 1985 sponsored by Rocky Mountain National Park marked its centennial.

Enos Mills served Colorado as state snow observer, deputy state engineer, mountain guide, naturalist and author. In these various capacities Mills wandered about the Western Slope of Colorado. He was frequently spotted making his snow depth inquiries or diagnosing the well-being of flora and fauna. His trail schools, books and lectures taught many thousands to love the forests and to understand and to protect wildlife. It is no wonder that he has been referred to as “Colorado’s John Muir.”

A list of books authored by Enos Mills follows this article.

While he was still a very young boy, Enos Mills’ mother interested him in natural history. Her vast array of stories about nature always intrigued him. So, when Mills was sent west from Kansas to improve his asthmatic condition, he fulfilled firsthand his own considerable preoccupation with natural wonders.



Photo courtesy of Enos Mills Cabin

Enos Mills Cabin

He was but fifteen years old when he began work on his cabin at the foot of Twin Sisters Peak. Its location proffered an uninterrupted view of Long's Peak and was nestled among ponderosa pines at the successional edge of a beaver-dammed meadow.

This meditative naturalist, who was to become the vigorous campaigner for the creation of Rocky Mountain National Park, recorded his day-to-day observations of how animals acted and how their habitats underwent change. In so doing, Mills noted the adaptability of many natural, environmental features in various Western Slope and Front Range ecosystems. He noted in 1920, over thirty years after he became a self proclaimed nature-watcher, that "each species has developed its peculiar way of making a living . . . also a curious strategy and . . . means of defense."¹ He was referring at the time to wild animals. Yet, he had already expressed great curiosity in the abundant species of trees and had begun keeping extensive journals regarding woodland mutations in various natural communities in Colorado.²

Mills found particularly interesting those aspens and conifers that exhibited twists, bends and convolutions. As in the instances of those natural phenomena for which he could find no written explanations, Mills embarked on exhaustive first-hand research into the reasons why some trees were twisted while others nearby displayed perfectly perpendicular line structures. He ascertained that the bark of trees

oftentimes belied their twists. Other trees, through their general configuration, gave proof of a twirled cast beneath the bark. Twisted trees, he discovered, exhibited wood fibers that were coiled round and round as the turns of a screw.

His twisted tree queries had begun to include numerous people involved professionally or avocationally with the out-of-doors. He was told the wind was the chief cause of deviations from the normally straight grains of trees.³ Lumbermen informed him that it was the nature of soft woods, like pines and firs, to twist from left to right, and the somewhat harder woods, such as aspens, from right to left.

An old prospector thought that dryness was the chief cause . . . and took me to a dry, wind-swept ridge where most of the trees were twisted, as their naked trunks revealed. But we examined trees in a nearby wet place and, removing the bark from a number of dead trees, found that they, too, were twisted. Both those in the dry and in the wet places were rooted in and upon almost unshattered rock.⁴

A recent study of twisted trees appears to have been inspired by Mills' thorough research of unusual natural phenomena. The contemporary researcher explained the twisting of trees as the "right hand" or the "left hand concept".⁵ If his observer can place his right hand with the fingers along the grooves in the wood (and parallel with these grooves) and his right thumb points upward toward the top of the trees, he has encountered a "right handed tree" or a right-twist pattern.⁶

Mills concluded "the most closely twisted trees" of his investigations, to be limber pine of the Colorado Rocky Mountains, from an altitude of 8,000 feet to timberline or somewhat above 11,000 feet. "And the most intensely twisted specimens of these were trees that grew in the most trying conditions at timberline — contending with high winds, drouths, sudden changes of temperature and an excess of rocks in the soil."⁷

Additional scrutinies of twisted trees proved to Mills that it was the latter factor which was most influential to their convoluted structures. He unearthed innumerable twisted trees and their straight-grained neighbors. Rock resistance, he recorded, appeared to be the chief cause of twisted growth patterns — left and right.⁸ After many investigations over the years, a particular examination of two trees which grew side by side, seemed to say it all for Mills. "One of these is twisted and the other straight-grained. The straight-grained one is standing in deep soil and the other in shallow soil rooted in the cracks of a nearby solid rock."⁹



Photo courtesy of Enos Mills Cabin

A typical twisted trunk

Years later Mills was passing through a stand of fire-killed pines. Their bark, blistered by the fire, had dropped off, and Mills observed the flexure of their grains. He circled around the stand until he had counted 64 twisted trees; 53 of these showed a left-hand twist.¹⁰ He determined that there is an inherited tendency in trees to twist, which

may logically be either to the right or to the left. "A single lodgepole with hoarded seeds in a burned-over area may have a thousand descendants within a stone's throw."¹¹

He often found seedlings that were twisted standing alongside other trees that had not begun to twirl until they were two or more inches in diameter. And he observed that, if inheritance were not the factor, then the roots of those normal young trees which have to work their way into the cracks and crevices in rocks, eventually display a convoluted growth pattern.

After a few years' growth, the roots . . . expanded, completely filling the cracks and crevices, which in many cases are small. The growth continuing, the rocks exert a choking pressure upon the expanded roots.¹²

Just how this resistance of the rocks is related to the development of the tree roots, to the gathering nourishment, water, and the food which it contains, plant physiology may sometime explain. But every twisted tree that I have examined grew in a rocky place where the roots were wedged among crevices in almost solid rock that could not be split wider apart.¹³

While Mills appeared to have resolved for himself the puzzle of trees that twist, he leaves his reader with the assurance that each diverse natural habitat is additionally enhanced ecologically and aesthetically by these doubly durable corkscrewed forms. They beckon the nature observer into other awaiting discernments.

NOTES

¹Enos A. Mills, *Wild Animal Homesteads* (New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1923), pp.vii-viii.

²Enos A. Mills, *The Adventures of a Nature Guide* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1920), pp.65-77.

³Enos A. Mills, *Trees That Twist* (Estes Park, Colorado: Enos Mills Cabin, 1985), pp.7-8.

⁴*Ibid.*, p.14.

⁵James S. Trefil, *Meditations at 10,000 Feet* (New York: Macmillan, 1987), pp.216-218.

⁶*Ibid.*, p.215.

⁷Mills, *Trees That Twist*, p.13.

⁸*Ibid.*, p.14.

⁹*The Colorado Prospector*, May 1985.

¹⁰*Ibid.*

¹¹Mills, *Trees That Twist*, pp.14-17.

¹²*Ibid.*, p.17.

¹³*Ibid.*, p.19.

NOTES APPENDIX A

Publications authored by Enos A. Mills:

Bird Memories of the Rockies, 1931.

In Beaver World, date unknown.

Romance of Geology, date unknown.

The Spell of the Rockies, 1911.

The Story of a Thousand Year Pine, 1979.

The Rocky Mountain Wonderland, 1915.

The Grizzly, 1975.

The Adventures of a Nature Guide, 1920.

The Rocky Mountain National Park, 1980.

Waiting in the Wilderness, 1921.

Watched by Wild Animals, 1924.

Wild Animal Homesteads, 1917.

Wild Life on the Rockies, 1924.

THE PATRON'S PAGE

Those persons who send a patron's subscription of \$25 or more for a one year's subscription make the *JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE* a better publication. Patrons' contributions make possible the publication of special editions such as the biography of Chief Ouray. Also, patrons enable the editors to furnish some complimentary subscriptions to educational institutions and to publish more photographs in each issue. Without the support of patrons, the publication of this Journal would be difficult. The members of the Mesa State College Historical Society, the Alpha-Gamma-Epsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, and the editors of the *JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN SLOPE* thank the individuals and businesses listed below who are our patrons:

Duane & Marian Anderson, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Walter R. Averett, Grand Junction
Charles & Velda Bailey, Grand Junction
Josephine Biggs, Grand Junction
Michael & Michelle Bilyeu, Grand Junction
Gordon Bruchner, Greeley
Dr. & Mrs. Chris Buys, Grand Junction
Mr. R.B. Carpenter, Grand Junction
Dr. & Mrs. Joe Carter, Alamosa
Cedaredge Public Library Gift from June Dryden in memory of Mrs. Earle Mills Iona Coe, Grand Junction
Mrs. Marjorie West Crow, Palisade
Dr. & Mrs. R.B. Crowell, Grand Junction
James & Gail DeVries, Grand Junction
Frank Dinges, Lakewood
Dr. Jo F. Dorris, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Lit DuPont, Fruita
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. M. Ela, Grand Junction
Abbott E. Fay, Paonia
David P. Fisher, M.D., Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. David E. Flatt, Grand Junction
Betty Goff, Grand Junction
Vi Haseman, Grand Junction
Rosemary C. Heaney, Grand Junction
Enno F. Huescher, M.D., Grand Junction
Dale J. Hollingsworth, Grand Junction
Scott Hunt, Novi, MI
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Johnson, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen B. Johnson Jr., Grand Junction
Stephen L. Johnson, D.D.S., Grand Junction
Dr. Verner C. Johnson, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Miles Kara, Grand Junction
Frank Keller, Grand Junction
Walt & Jan Kelley, Grand Junction
Robert J. Kretschman, Snowmass Village
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Liff, Grand Junction
Aaron & Beth Long, Grand Junction

Donald A. MacKendrick, Grand Junction
Mary K. Mastin, M.D., Grand Junction
Sally McCulley, Grand Junction
Tom R. Mehs, Aurora
Mesa County Historical Society, Grand Junction
John A. Molloy, II, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Muhr, Grand Junction
Jeffrey M. Nakano, M.D., Grand Junction
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth E. Nelson, Grand Junction
Drs. Jerry & Janice Nisbit, Palisade
F.R. Paquette, M.D., Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Rob Peckham, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Peeso, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. John Pendergrast, Grand Junction
Mort Perry, Lakewood
Mr. & Mrs. T.J. Prince, Grand Junction
Daniel E. Prinster, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Prinster, Grand Junction
Mrs. Grace Purcell, Grand Junction
Dr. & Mrs. William Putnam, Grand Junction
Rangely Museum Society, Rangely
Ann & Paul Reddin, Grand Junction
Katherine B. Roe, Colorado Springs
Dr. & Mrs. James Rybak, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry L. Short, Grand Junction
Dan M. Showalter, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sikes, Meeker
Mrs. Ruth P. Smith, Grand Junction
Betsy A. Sneed, Grand Junction
Ruth Stewart, Grand Junction
Robert & Carol Strobl, Grand Junction
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight H. Tope, Albuquerque
Karen & Don Van Wormer, Clifton
Don Veale Agency, Grand Junction
H.P. Vorbeck, Grand Junction
Wayfinder Press, Ouray
Franke E. Woodard, Grand Junction
Hazlett and Betty Wubben, Grand Junction
Margaret S. Zeigel, Grand Junction