



# Englewood Historic Preservation Society

## Preserving Englewood Colorado History

NEWSLETTER VOL.6 NO 1 AUGUST 2017  
EHPS ~ 1000 Englewood Parkway ~ Englewood, Colorado 80110

Doug Cohn & Dave Paschal - Editors  
Lindsey Runyan - Graphic Design

### Upcoming Events

#### September 7th - Thursday

Join us at the Space Ship bank on S. Broadway to celebrate the "Key 50" Anniversary, in collaboration with Museum of Outdoor Arts and The Englewood Chamber of Commerce. Celebration is from 10am to 4pm. See page 5 for details.

#### October 7th - Saturday

History Camp Colorado, at Red Rocks Community College from 9am-5pm.

#### October 14th - Saturday

Join us at the Englewood Block Party from 3-9pm on the 3400 block of S. Broadway. EHPS will be helping with beverages for the event.

#### October 22nd - Sunday

Join us for a field trip to Dumont, CO for a picnic, tour of the train station and a melodrama. Watch for more details!

#### EHPS LECTURE SERIES:

All lectures, unless otherwise noted take place the last Monday of the month at 2 locations. **FIRST:** 2:30 pm at the Englewood Public Library. **SECOND:** 6:30 pm at the BOB, Brew on Broadway, 3445 S. Broadway.

#### September 25th - Monday

Englewood Speedway - Richard Burton

#### October 30th - Monday

Where Waters Converge; Part Two with Jack Maness. 6:30 pm ONLY.

### SPECIAL Thank You!

#### NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

**TED MCCHESENEY**

**GAIL KHASAWNEH**

Thank you for your support and for helping us to continue our mission!

**DAVID FORSYTH**

Thank you for the historic tour of Lakeside Amusement Park and to

**CJ CULLINAN**

for coordinating the tour!

**ROGER KINNEY**

Thank you for the great presentation on General Iron Works

### DUES Are Due!

Please renew your membership in our society!

You can use the form in this newsletter or go to our website  
**THANK YOU!**

### Contact Us:

**HistoricEnglewood.org**

**contact@historicenglewood.org**

**303-242-3257**

Please like us on facebook!

### OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Englewood Historic Preservation Society Mission

To Preserve and share Englewood's history.

# THE ENGLEWOOD SPEEDWAY

By Diana Avants & Betty Ruth Codner



This Englewood Speedway Article was written in 1979 by Diana Avants titled "Back When". Back in the beginning there was a club by the name of "No Name Club". This club started in Brighton Colorado in 1945 which is where Charlie Codner began.

In those days, the roadsters which were an ordinary street car were famous. Those cars reached the speed of 50 miles per hour. Two and one-half years later, the name roadster began to fade. The new name was hot rod. For quite a while, both of these names were in existence. Yet the hot rods reach a speed of 80 miles per hour.

In 1950, Charlie Codner bought the Englewood Speedway, and a man by the name of Bob Henson was president at the time. A few years later, the names of car styles changed again. They were now being called stock cars. The Powder Puff originally began in Colorado in 1951 which is how the ladies' auxiliary was formed. Almost every wife of each driver and owner belonged to the auxiliary. In 1955, Charlie and Bob had a slight disagreement because Charlie wanted to run stock cars at the Englewood Speedway and Bob did not. Charlie's first exhibit of stock cars drew 128 cars, and the stands were packed

with people. Because of such a big turnout Charlie decided to stick with stock cars. Evolving out of this disagreement, Bob Henson left and then formed the Colorado Auto Racing Club at Lakeside Speedway.

In the middle 1950's, the names were changed again, and the stock cars were then known as the modified reaching speeds of 90 miles per hour. In the late 1950s, Charles Codner passed away, and his family Betty Ruth Codner and good friends kept the race track on its feet. The track went from a dirt track to a paved oval in 1960. A couple of years later, their son Richard Codner came home from the Service and suggested they try Figure 8 racing at the Speedway. Rich had seen figure 8 racing in Kansas and thought it would draw a crowd. Apparently, Rich was right. In 1964, the Figure 8 Division was formed. They started out with regular old street cars gutted out running on regular street tires.

Until 1965, Englewood Speedway Association's name was Rocky Mountain Stock Car Racing Association. (Stock car referring to modified). At this time, Larry Dechant decided to move the club to Erie Colorado for the ½ mile dirt track. The majority of the associa-

tion did not want to move so 1/3 went to Erie's Colorado National Speedway with Dechant. The remainder stayed at Englewood Speedway and formed the Englewood Speedway Association.

The modified became known as the super modified as they were able to reach the speed of 100 mph, had a lower body style, and developed a wing to lessen wind resistance. In 1976, the Figure 8 Divisions went to Saturday nights only bringing the Claimer Division to race with the super modified.

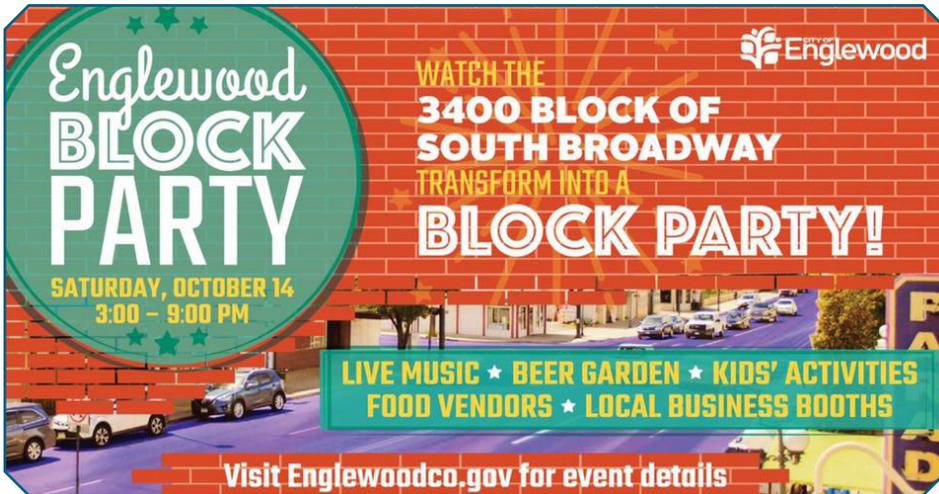
One year later, Rich Codner decided to run a Sportsman Class instead of the Claimers. Claimers put only \$100 at the most into their cars and after the race anyone could go to the pits and purchase a car for \$100. Needless to say, many drivers did not like that idea which brought about the Late Model Sportsman in 1979 running as we know them today.

In the Super Modified Division, there are many of the original members keeping the club going today. For instance, Joe Lehman, Don Styes, Ben Evans, Red Evans, and Bill Nordeen just to mention a few. In another 14 years, these men will truly be "The Old Men of the Oval."

*Note: The Englewood Racing Association Ladies Auxiliary would like to sincerely thank Diana Avants and Betty Ruth Codner for the above information. Without them this brief history would not have been possible.*

*~ Transcribed by Ida May Nicholl*

# ENGLEWOOD BLOCK PARTY

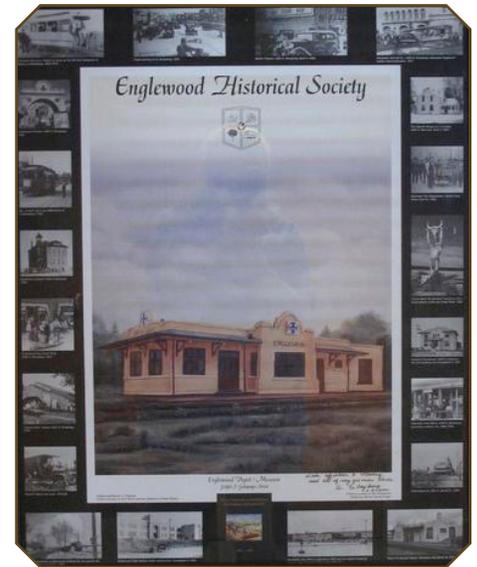


The 3400 block of South Broadway will be blocked off for Englewood's first Block Party. In our Englewood magazine, the first page welcomes all activities such as music, food, and beer garden on Saturday, October 14, 3-9pm. EHPS has joined in this recognition and celebration of Englewood community of family, friends, business, and social time by manning the Beer Garden as well as water bottle sales. The City of Englewood invited us to participate. The EHPS Board is considering cost,

risk, and manpower needs. Englewood Police Department's Community Relations Specialist Toni Arnoldy and Sgt Mark McKay are on board.

This event promises to bring people within Englewood and surrounding areas together for a fun and entertaining time. EHPS is proud to participate within a part of our historic areas hopefully earning some well-deserved financial support. Contact CJ Cullinan if you'd like to volunteer [cjullinan@msn.com](mailto:cjullinan@msn.com)

# LIMITED PRINT



Would you like to own one of these prints produced by the now defunct Englewood Historical Society with the central painting of the Englewood Depot by local artist and historian Carolyn Clayburg. We have a limited number available for a \$15 donation to EHPS. Contact Doug Cohn, 303-587-2407.

## history camp COLORADO 2017

SPEND A SATURDAY WITH SOME OF THE MOST INTERESTING PEOPLE IN HISTORY.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT & TO  
ENGAGE WITH HISTORY PROFESSIONALS  
AS WELL AS ARDENT AMATEURS.

I had a great time at History Camp Colorado. I very much enjoyed meeting so many history enthusiasts and learning about a diversity of history topics.

Steve Friesen, Director,  
Buffalo Bill Museum and  
Grave

What a fun time! The format was unique having passionate people talk about specific subjects whether or not they were history teachers. The amateurs did well as did the professionals. I am already making plans to attend the next one.

Doug Cohn, Englewood Historic  
Preservation Society

10.07.17

on the  
campus of

  
RED ROCKS  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



FIND OUT MORE AT

[HISTORYCAMP.ORG/COLORADO](http://HISTORYCAMP.ORG/COLORADO)

WHAT WILL YOU Discover?

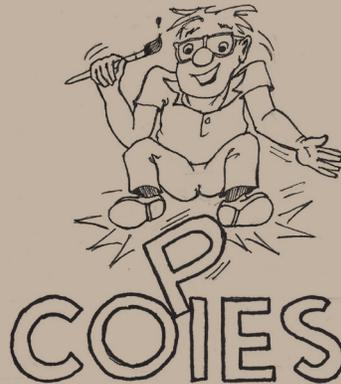
## REMEMBERING ROY ALTENBACH: A Short Roy Story

By David Paschal

If you are one of those folks who did not have the opportunity to cross paths with Roy Altenbach, then, that missed chance can be only described as unfortunate. I once heard Roy referred to as “good people,” an on-the-mark description. Besides being one of the major players in the history of Englewood, a pillar of the community,

wood. At some point in time the shop underwent a face lift with new carpet and paint. The waiting area was re-done in a salmon color with matching carpet. About two-thirds up the walls, the color was interrupted by a 12 inch wide silver-grey stripe and then a lighter salmon color continued on to the ceiling. A few days into the face

Roy was beside himself. For neither of us had noticed the error until the paint had dried overnight. Timing was on our side, however, because the shop was still closed until Monday to take care of any last minute face lift touches. We stood there on that Saturday morning with our coffee and donuts laughing until our sides ached



a principled man, and a co-author of the book *Englewood History*; Roy was a sign painter. The words sign painter for me conjures visions of the fellow who letters people’s names on the office doors of a corporation headquarters or maybe the guy who before the age of computers and computer graphics painted the signage on a billboard. Possibly, Roy may have worked in those areas, but it must be said that Roy didn’t just wield a paint brush. He, in fact, was an artisan. For example, Roy restored the Santa Fe Railroad logo signs for the depot. I was privileged to see the before and after of the signs starting from barely readable to a work of art. After the signs were properly remounted on the depot it was almost a rebirth. Nearly 20 or so years have passed since Roy’s restoration and the Santa Fe blue on the signs has once again become faded from the elements of our Colorado weather, but the crisp line from Roy’s hand can still be seen.

For several years, I operated a copying and printing business in Engle-

wood. At some point in time the shop underwent a face lift with new carpet and paint. The waiting area was re-done in a salmon color with matching carpet. About two-thirds up the walls, the color was interrupted by a 12 inch wide silver-grey stripe and then a lighter salmon color continued on to the ceiling. A few days into the face lift, Roy came in to check my progress and to get a few copies. While waiting for his copies, Roy made a suggestion. “Why don’t you take advantage of that stripe that runs around your walls?” he asked. I answered with a mumbled “huh, how, what?” He suggested that such words as Business Cards, Stationery, Copies, Announcements, Colored Printing, and so on could be painted on the stripe encompassing the room. What a great idea! The next day Roy set to work. The end result was perfect! Except for one small problem. The word COPIES was misspelled. The word was located in a position that on entry it was almost the first word a customer would see. However, the customer would see COIES not COP-IES. The problem wasn’t just a matter of painting over COIES and correcting the spelling. Everything was perfectly spaced and to fit the corrected word into the space occupied by COIES, COPIES would be noticeably smaller and condensed in size. Roy may have become distracted and the down stroke for the letter P inadvertently became the letter I.

and found we had the solution to the problem by using a touch of humor. I regret that for whatever reason I never took a picture of the “fix”. I must, therefore, refer you to the copy of the sketch we made of the letter P being wedged in between the letters O and I with a cartoon of a man jumping up and down on the letter P attempting to drive it into its proper place. The entire cartoon was approximately 18” to 20” high. Roy was so pleased with the result he signed the work. As an artist should.

Customers would often remark and chuckle about the cartoon character and assume it was done on purpose. My regret came when I sold the business a couple of years later. I knew the new owner was completely aware of the story of the cartoon because he had laughed at the cartoon and the story behind it. Imagine my surprise when I visited the shop a few days later and found the new owner’s wife repainting the waiting area.

## HISTORIC COMMISSION

The Inaugural meeting of the Englewood Historic Preservation Commission was Wednesday, August 17th. City Planner Audra Kirk and Building Planner Kerry Babin facilitated this meeting and welcomed the new Commission Members. Council Members Laurett Barrentine and Rita Russell, along with Community Development Director Brad Power were in attendance as guests also welcoming the new members and congratulated everyone on this historic event. The new members of this commission are Hannah Braun, Melinda Elswick, Lauren Rieke and EHPS' Matt Crabtree and CJ Cullinan. Each member introduced their interests, employment and life in Englewood as complimentary to the development of the upcoming work of HPC. Two positions on the commission are open and will be available in April to round out the 7-member Commission.

Meetings are open to the public and scheduled on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm in the Civic Center 3rd Floor Community Development Conference Room. Our next meeting will concentrate on the development of Commission By-Laws, Mission Statement, and logo selection. Discussion included collaborating with the EHPS to differentiate and guide each organization to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency in Englewood preservation activities. Please contact Matt or CJ with input and ideas.

## A SPACE SHIP BANK

By Diane Wray Tomasso

"In 1967, a new Savings & Loan building opened on South Broadway during a period of unprecedented growth and prosperity in Englewood. It was the work of architect Charles Deaton of an exciting experiment in futurist design. Today, the former Key Savings remains a prominent and beloved landmark, defining downtown Englewood to the entire Denver Metro area. Last year, it was formally listed as a National, Colorado and Englewood historic landmark along the beautiful Little Dry Creek Greenway and is now the centerpiece of a new generation of downtown redevelopment.

EHPS is joining with Community Banks of Colorado (the current owner of the Key Savings building), the Museum of Outdoor Arts (MOA) and

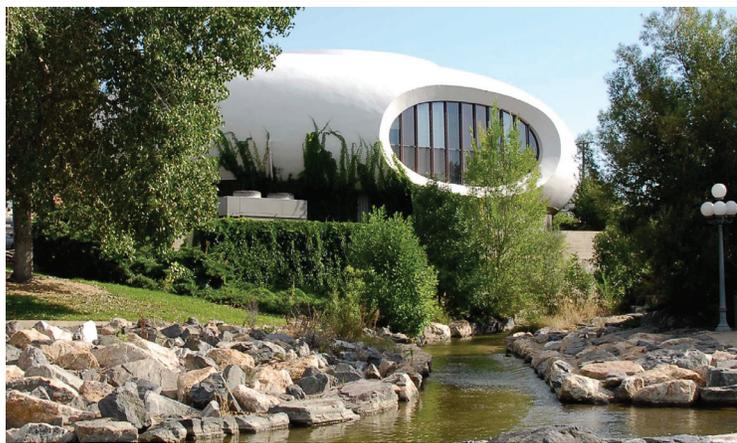
the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, among others, to celebrate the 50th birthday of Key Savings.

On Thursday, September 7, 10am-4pm, the historic bank will be open to visitors and well-wishers, who are then invited to take the Art Shuttle to Englewood City Hall, where the Museum of Outdoor Arts is featuring the exhibit "Charles Deaton: The Sculptured Buildings." The event includes a new MOA video presentation in which Deaton discusses his design of Key Savings, his own house above I-70 in Genesee and the former Wyoming State Bank in Casper.

Please plan to attend! If you'd like to assist with the event, please call EHPS to volunteer." 303-242-3257

KEY  
50  
2017

# JOIN THE PARTY!



## CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF CHARLES DEATON'S ENGLEWOOD BANK

### Thursday September 7th, 2017

**COMMUNITY BANKS OF COLORADO, 3501 S. Broadway, Englewood, CO**

**10 AM - 4 PM** Free open house and video presentation.

**2 PM - 4 PM** Talks on the history of the building and architect Charles Deaton.

**MUSEUM OF OUTDOOR ARTS, 1000 Englewood Pkwy, Englewood, CO**

**10 AM - 4 PM** Free exhibit "Charles Deaton; The Sculptured Buildings."

# *Join Us!* 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.

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### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

*We are a 501c3 non-profit organization. Dues and other contributions are tax deductible.*

Annual membership rates include: Individual \$20, Family \$35.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

New Member  Renewing Member  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ check enclosed to:

ENGLEWOOD HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
EHPS c/o Englewood Library ~ 1000 Englewood Parkway ~ Englewood, Colorado 80151