

Y E S T E R D A Y A N D T O D A Y

1908

2008

Lakeside Times

Lakeside Amusement Park Opens Memorial Day, May 30th, 1908

Hailed by Denver Media

Opening amidst much fanfare, Lakeside was hailed as “The Coney Island of the West”. The Denver Post proclaimed, “Lakeside’s 100,000 lights will turn night into day!” The Denver City Tramway Company built “a separate and direct tram line from the center of Denver, a 20 minute ride.”

A Denver Landmark

Lakeside’s grandeur was evident throughout the entire resort — The largest indoor swimming pool in Colorado, dazzling lights, exclusive ballroom dances, live theater, New York opera stars, dance marathons and fancy dining in the Porch Café awaited the throngs of enchanted pleasure seekers. At the time, Lakeside’s landmark “Tower of Jewels” was the tallest structure in the state and was a highly visible welcome beacon, alone on the plains.

The beauty of Lakeside’s natural setting, with the picturesque view of the Rocky Mountains, is enhanced by a multitude of art deco architecture and neon lighting.

Historic Attractions

The Carousel, with its delightful hand-carved wooden animals, is original and remains a major attraction. The two miniature steam engines, “Puffing Billy” and “Whistling Tom” are from the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair and were at Lakeside’s opening in 1908. Both trains are still in operation today — perhaps the last operating miniature coal burning locomotives in the country.

Lakeside’s El Patio ballroom was a major big-band emporium – Perry Como often fronted the Ted Weems orchestra. Kay Kyser and the Dorsey Brothers were amongst the big name bands that played here, for all ages of agile dancers.

Creating Today’s Memories

Lakeside’s World Famous “Cyclone Coaster” was featured on the Discovery Channel as one of America’s top ten coasters. In 2003 the American Coaster Enthusiasts designated Lakeside’s “Cyclone Coaster” a Landmark coaster.

Lakeside’s tradition of state-of-the-art attractions continues with the recent installation of a 140 foot tall drop tower – ZOOM. The 2008 addition of the Mini Skater, the first park model in the United States, brings Lakeside’s ride selection to 40.

1908

A CENTURY OF FUN

2008

