



WHITTIER GAZETTE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WHITTIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 2

February 1977

No. VI

ONCE UPON A TIME

... there was a **BIG** party in Whittier. It was the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Jonathan and Rebecca Bailey, so that would be in 1892. Friends, relatives and neighbors came from near and as far as Wilmington, Ohio. The happiest part of the day for Uncle Jonathan was before the formal program began. Twenty! dollars worth of confections had been purchased and seperated into 300 packages, which were distributed to the school children who had been brought to wish the couple well. His love for children and kindness toward them made this a very special event.

Dr. Elias Jessup and Rev. Thomas Armstrong had charge of the outdoor ceremonies. During the program, Rebecca and Jonathan repeated the vows to each other as they had 50 years before using the antiquated ceremony that few in their audience would ever see again. When the original marriage certificate was shown, it was noted that three of the witnesses on it were still living; Eliza Haworth, Josiah Bailey and James Frazier.

The houses of James and Edward Bailey were opened, also, for the convenience of the guests and the meal was served to 50 guests at a time at the home of Edward. Numerous suitable gifts, some quite valuable, were presented to this celebrated couple throughout the day.

From the microfilm collection
of the Whittier Register
in the Whittier Public Library

Neighborly Visit

NEIGHBORLY VISIT UP RIVER

... in the 3100 block of Tyler in El Monte at the corner of Mildred Street sits the El Monte Museum manned by the historical people and curated by Lillian Wiggins. It is open Tuesday through Friday from 10-4 with group tours by appointment week ends and evenings. Those who visited there on the bus tour with the mini-conference will not have to be encouraged to return. One glance is enough to convince you that a long browse is warranted.

Most of our local communities along the San Gabriel River look back at the Monte as the jumping-off place. So many of the founders of the various communities went first to El Monte and then on to the land they were settling. The museum has preserved many of the pictures and memorabilia that tell the story of this base of immigrant fan. And, speaking of stories, the one about creation of this museum is in itself a page worthy of any history book. Ask them about it.

Hop in your pony cart and head west on the Pomona Freeway and north on Santa Anita, which becomes Tyler, then almost to the San Bernadino Freeway - or use the old back roads you remember to get there. Step up to the desk and announce proudly, "I'm from the Whittier Historical Society", then be prepared to enjoy yourself for an hour or two.

(Ed: Isn't it about time that someone in this organization step forward and agree to set up some dates and arrange meeting places for small groups to visit some of these places together. We need a tour director.)



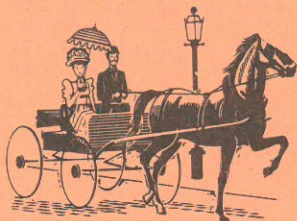
WHAT'S HAPPENING

BOARD MEETING

YOU'RE INVITED to a Coffee Hour Saturday, March 5, at 10 a.m. at the Pio Pico Mansion. It's a time to get acquainted with the Docent Program, tour the adobe, and exchange some "yarns" about early Whittier and California. We'll look for you and hope you'll come and share a social time. Please RSVP to Virginia at 693-1194; Mary Ann at 696-7892; or Claire 691-0468.

CALIFORNIANS for PRESERVATION ACTION

The quarterly meeting of this group will be February 12th at Frank Lloyd Wright's Hollyhock House in Barnsdall Park. Speakers and exhibits will revolve around the Greene and Greene architecture. Call 696-7892 for more information.



MINI-CONFERENCE

The winter meeting of the Associated Historical Societies of L.A. County at Rio Hondo was a huge success. The audience of about 100 that continued to grow as the morning went on found the program of Larry Sher and Phyllis Pearce on video taping a subject well worthy of much thought and consideration for future gathering and presentation of history. They showed parts of tapes, like their one of Chet Holifield just after retirement, to illustrate the completeness of this tool for recording history. The audience was equally attentive to Dr. Monte Perez as he spoke about applying for grants and came out with a better idea of what they face in preparing their own grant requests

February —

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ANNUAL MEETING

Keep in mind that the annual dinner meeting of the Whittier Historical Society is on March 24th at the Plymouth Congregational Church.

CAUGHT AGAIN

The house at Slauson and Santa Fe Springs Road mentioned in the last issue was the home of Charles Cole - not George

and

there should have been a hyphen between Thomas and Bailey which is what the State wants to call the Bailey House and there probably wasn't a Thomas Bailey anyway.

Ed.

HISTORY IS TODAY

After a most tasty buffet lunch, all were entertained as much as informed by Tom Miller and his slides showing the experiences his students have in hiking to historic sites to get the real feel of local history. Everyone was in a jovial frame of mind when they completely filled the two buses. Mary Ann Rummel and Mark Morris then got on-the-job practice in voice projection as they narrated the bus tour through West Whittier, Pico Rivera, Montebello, The Narrows and South El Monte without microphones.

This is a delightful group of people and they didn't hesitate to voice their appreciation on their visits to the Pico Mansion and Sanchez Adobe and the El Monte Museum, where that society finished a most worthwhile day with cookies and punch. Are you sorry you missed it? You should be!

History Is Today (cont'd)

A SIGH OF RELIEF

Mike Fallaw and his family will, perhaps, never know how many people are sleeping easier now that he has purchased and will live in the Hatcher House. Bless these strangers in our midst who will preserve our Victorian in the way for which it was designed - a home. We might also send a silent 'thank you' to the spirit of C.W. Harvey, who built it in such a spot that it has not become prime commercial property and fodder for the bulldozer.

EAST WHITTIER NEWS

East Whittier is keeping up its record for constant improvement. Mr. A.W. Swain is putting out two and a half acres of those fine orange trees, and proposes to produce fruit that is unequaled by Riverside or any other place. Mr. Berry is planting 350 oranges, 100 lemons, 150 prunes and five acres of walnuts, all select stock. (Oops- how did that Register get mixed up with my daily News?)

FEBRUARY IS GAME MONTH

Below is the guest list of the Bailey's Anniversary Party. On a whole stack of separate paper see how many given names and maiden names you know and write them down. Then, list those descendants who are now living in the Greater Whittier Area. Consult any records or people you wish. Finally, bring your pile of papers to the annual meeting. Your prize will be knowing that you have added to our ever-growing historic research files.

Murphy and wife
Foster and wife
Kelsey and wife
Holloway and wife
Proud and wife
Barnes and wife
Hayes and wife
Hazzard and wife
Solomon Cook and wife
Leighton and wife
Cammack and wife
H. Dorland and wife
W. Dorland and wife
Joel Hiatt and wife
Mrs. Sweigart
Arnold and wife
Gibbs and wife
Chawner and wife
Owens and wife
Newlin and wife
Mrs. Vail
Vestal and wife
D.J. Wood and wife
W.R. Doty

H. Lindley, wife & Susie
J.C. Hiatt, wife and son
Churchman, wife & Flora
Strawbridge and wife
Marsden and wife
Reed and wife
Miltmore and wife
Dr. Jessup and wife
Barnett and wife
L.M. Baldwin and wife
Hunt, wife and Hanson
Dr. Coffin, wife and son
Rice and wife
Briggs and wife
Bixby and wife
Dr. and Mrs. Stalker
Dobbins and wife
H.D. Williams and wife
Neal and wife
Mrs. Wollomes
L.G. Hunt and wife
Anse Gwin and wife
J.H. Gwin and wife
Dr. Cook and wife

Parker and wife
Charles and wife
Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Weid
The Jacksons (4)
Aunt Mary Lindley
Mrs. Newby
H.W. Sessions
J.S. Armstrong
Perry Hadley and wife
W. Hadley and wife
Sarah Burdg
Judge J.K. Johnson,
Oskaloosa, Iowa
W.H. Coffin and wife,
Pasadena
Caleb Baldwin and wife,
Pasadena
M. Burson and daughter,
Pasadena

L. Landreth and wife
Wilson and wife
A. Hadley and wife
Hill and wife
Davis and wife
Milton Lindley and wife
Gidley & wife, El Monte
Rev. Armstrong and wife
W.P. Hunnicutt
G. Reynolds and wife
Nathan Carey,
Wilmington, Ohio
M.D. Johnson, L.A.
J.R. Townsend, Pasadena
I.M. LaFetra and wife,
Glendora
W.H. LaFetra and wife,
Glendora
Imelda Tebbetts,
Pasadena

And for the "newcomers", we get to work the Daily News crossword every day, but we do not need to turn them in at the annual meeting.

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1976 - 1977

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The WHITTIER GAZETTE is the official publication of the Whittier Historical Society. The name "Gazette" was chosen since this is one of the oldest names for official journals.

EDITOR: Mary Ann Rummel

Membership in the Whittier Historical Society is open to persons interested in the history and future of the Whittier area. Membership year is from March 1 - February 28. Dues are \$3.00 for individual membership - \$5.00 for family membership - \$25.00 for institutional membership - \$100.00 for life membership

Mr. Philip K. Mautino
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