


WHITTIER GAZETTE



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WHITTIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 5

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1979

Number 5

ONCE UPON A TIME

..... YOU WOULD NEVER HAVE KNOWN THAT Christmas was acknowledged in Whittier if you referred to the local paper. In 1893 there was no mention that such a holiday was expected in the December issues of the **Register**, and only the smallest of notices in the "gossip" column in January that there had been a gathering in a home for Christmas.

By 1894 things changed - slightly. In one of the early December ads, the populace was alerted that Santa Claus would be at the Starbuck Drug Store that year.

On Friday, Dec. 18, 1896, there were actually two references to the upcoming celebration: "An interesting entertainment is provided for Christmas evening at the M.E. (Methodist Episcopal) Church, which will include a treat for the Sunday school children and a literary and musical program. This will be followed by a sale of several nice quilts, including one of silk, which the ladies have made. An interesting time is assured and all are invited." And a small admonition: "Don't forget to get a nice Mossbook or some other California curio for your Xmas box. You can get them at Arnold's Jewelry Store."

The next year the pre-season issues are packed (?) with holiday news like: "Christmas at the Catholic Church. Order of service. First mass, 7 A.M. second mass, 8:30 A.M., high mass and sermon, 10 A.M. Conone's Mass will be rendered.

Solos by Miss Ramirez, Miss O'Hara and Mr. Treboning; organist Miss Nellie Phelan. Benediction and sermon, 7:30 P.M." And after a couple of paragraphs extolling a miracle linament and a cure for catarrh was the notice: "Oh, my! Look at the California Souvenirs for Christmas at C. Trueblood's." This issue actually had a column headed by a drawing of an elf with the words "MERRY CHRISTMAS" beneath him in type as large as the heading of this article.

Right after Christmas the **Register** reported that: "The Los Nietos Sunday School celebrated Christmas eve with a literary and musical entertainment and a Christmas tree, with Santa Claus that sent the children off into roars of laughter at his actions. The whole affair was pronounced by all present as a huge success. Misses Lily Riley and Lizzie Miller sang a duet, and a quartet consisting of Misses Tomlinson and Trueblood and Messrs. Jessup and Tomlinson rendered two songs which added much to the pleasure of the evening. Jesse Perisho is the superintendent of this interesting school."

The next year the spirit really begins to appear with a lengthy, specially set in outline, article describing the customs in different countries called 'Christmas in Many Climes.' The ad right beside this was for trees - of course, not Christmas trees. Mr. Hamburg was reminding everyone that he had a fine selection of young citrus in his nursery stock.

NEIGHBORLY VISIT

Everyone - Over the Hill - Finally

... because a January tour has been planned. Members of the Whittier Historical Society have been invited to tour one of the most impressive historic attractions in the state: the INDUSTRY HISTORIC/CULTURAL LANDMARKS, located in the City of Industry. This project is not yet open to the public, but by special arrangement with Mr. Mel Gooch of the National Engineering Company, we shall be able to see this beautiful complex which includes:

1. The William Workman homestead built in 1842. It is one of the first houses built in this area and was remodeled into an English country manor in 1872.
2. The Walter Temple Mansion which was completed in 1923. It is considered an outstanding example of California's Spanish Revival craftsmanship.
3. The Walter P. Temple Mausoleum where Pio Pico, the last governor of Mexican California is buried. It was built by Walter Temple for family members and friends.

The restoration of the houses has already exceeded \$1 million. It is a project of the City of Industry Redevelopment Agency. The tour will take about one hour -- all of it on level ground. The only stairs are inside the house to the second floor.

Since we will need to tour in small groups, four groups of ten each will tour at 10 A.M. on Thursday, January 24, 1980; another four groups of ten each will tour at 2 P.M. We will repeat this schedule again on Saturday, January 26 and should be able to accommodate a total of 160 persons. Those who are not employed are asked to sign up for a Thursday tour, if possible. You will need your own transportation to the site which is only 15 minutes from Whittier over Colima.

To make reservations, call Virginia Mathony at 693-1194 after 3 P.M. Registration verification slips and a map showing the location will be distributed at our regular meeting on January 16, 1980. (See separate announcement of this important meeting elsewhere in the Gazette.)

No one will be admitted on the tour without a reservation. Society members will be given preference. Non-members will be placed on a stand-by list. (Membership in the Society for those joining in January will extend through **March 1981**.) There will be a fee of \$1 charged to cover the cost of insurance which may be paid when you receive your name tag on tour day.

ROSTER CORRECTIONS

AND ADDITIONS

Bailey M/M Fraisher T. 9471 E. Canfield Dr., La Habra 90631	697-0509
Bryant, Tom 13533 Bailey, 90601	693-6009
Butcher, Alice	698-5162
Fink, Dr. R.B. 12116 Washington Blvd. 90606	
Garrett, Vita 12621 Oakthorn, La Mirada 90638	(714) 994-3770
Goulet, Camille 16410 Pasadas Dr. 90603	947-6739
Gordon, Varlie	693-2867
Hammond, Gary 2649 Fontezuella Dr., Hac. Heights	330-1864 91745
Lonae, Doug 14967 Danbrook, 90604	941-3380
Radomski, M/M Edward 14085 Sunset Dr., 90602	698-7303
Rio Hondo Comm. College Community Relations 3600 Workman Mill Rd. 90601	692-0921 (I)
Rosenberger, Dr. & Mrs. H.G. 8310 S. Colima Rd. 90605	693-4792
Sullivan, Mrs. Emily 900 S. 6th St. Sp. #295, Hacienda Heights	91745
Templar, Charles 8013 San Lucas Dr. 90602	
Taylor, Mr. Carl C. (change to) 15825 Doublegrove St., La Puente	91744
Turner, Neva	696-6391



WHAT'S HAPPENING

WHITTIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

January 16, 1980

WHAT: ELECTION OF FOUR BOARD MEMBERS

(Each for a Term of Three Years)

PROGRAM: Claire Radford will show slides and tell about the history of history of the Workman and Temple families as it relates to early California.

This is an orientation to the tour of Industry Historic/Cultural Landmarks. If you plan to take the tour, this presentation will make that tour more meaningful.

WHERE: PRESBYTERIAN INTERCOMMUNITY HOSPITAL

BLANCHARD-HAENDIGES AUDITORIUM

LOWER LEVEL - NEW WING

(Use Stairway to Right of Main Entrance or Inside Elevators.)

TIME: 7:30 P.M. (Refreshments 7 P.M.)

Our Family

What more can one say about a man who built his own monuments? Whose tools constructed and fixed homes all over our community? Who left his mark in the reconstruction of the Bailey House that will exist as a reminder for much longer than most of us will? What can one say? Only that we will miss you, Carl Johanson, as we know Elna Sue and Jane and Charlie do. The memory of you will remain with all of us who knew you until we join you.

New Owner

The Harvey-Hatcher House, our beautiful victorian at Beverly and Painter, has a new owner. Naturally, he would like to know all there is to know about the house and its former occupants. Most of all he would like to have access to an old picture of it from some by-gone era (and our files would, too). If you have even a bit of information for him or if you would like to just call and say 'welcome to your new house', Richard Rogers would love to hear from you. His number is 698-8714.

What's Happening cont.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee, consisting of Sylvia Foltz, chairman, Virginia Mathony, Roy Newsom, Mark Morris and Marygene Wright are delighted to offer these names of members who will stand for election to the four vacancies of three year terms to our Board of Directors.

Linda Chesnut
Earl Meyer
Ray O'Connor
Marygene Wright

The election meeting is to be on Jan. 16, 1980 at 7:30 at the Presbyterian Hospital, Blanchard-Haendiges Auditorium.

The membership is reminded that nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the election provided the nominee has agreed to this action. Sylvia Foltz, 693-5751, would appreciate advance notice of floor nominations so balloting procedures can be provided.

The expiring three year terms are those which have been ably held by Virginia Mathony, Tolbert Moorehead, Seth Pickering and Virginia Stoodly. Four of the remaining members have a year to complete to the expiration of their terms and four will continue for two years.

What's Happening All Around?

Lots! And in this time of economizing on gasoline, all of us should be more interested in what is happening nearby. Our Gazette goes out to several Societies in our area and we receive their newsletters in return. All are interesting publications and point to the fact that we share desires and problems reaching our goals. The trouble is that so few of you have the chance to read them. That is bad enough, but you also miss out on the chance to attend the great variety of interesting activities they announce. By the time we get the date until it can get into a Gazette, their event is history. Our corresponding secretary, Virginia Schallenberger, 693-4467, has the information soon after it arrives in our P.O. box. A call to her could set you on the road to some worthwhile, history oriented visits.

California Conference of Historical Societies

The Southern Symposium of this organization will be held on Feb. 8 and 9 and will be hosted by the Historical Society of the Centinela Valley. There will be a genealogical breakfast on Feb. 9 in conjunction with this meeting. 1979 **Directory of California Genealogical Societies and Family Organizations** is now available for \$1 from the Conference of Cal. Hist. Soc., University of the Pacific, Stockton, Ca. 95211.

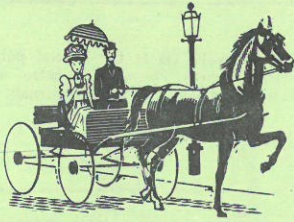
Associated Historical Societies of L.A. Co.

The AHSLAC Board has accepted an invitation to hold the **Winter Mini-Conference** at the **Woodworth House in Bell Gardens on Saturday, January 19, 1980**, under the sponsorship of the El Rancho San Antonio Historical Society. Details of the program are being finalized now but it will include a short business meeting, morning workshop sessions, luncheon, and an afternoon tour.

The Woodworth House and Gardens functions as a museum and is also a popular meeting location. There is plenty of room for us on the grounds and in the home itself so weather will pose no problem. We hope to have a large attendance. Programs and maps will be mailed in late December or early January but mark your calendar now and plan to attend the January 19 Mini-Conference in Bell Gardens.

Contact President Phyllis if you will be planning to attend.

For the first time in so many, many years a new face will greet you from the president's chair in Uptown UCB. Earl Meyer has retired. The Gazette is not too sure just what he has retired to do, but it received a request to be passed along from someone who was having trouble reaching him. It read, "Thursday will be fine at the agreed price. Since we will be out of town, please begin by removing the weeds at the south side of the house and by placing all the fallen fruit tree leaves in the compost. Pruning can wait until January. Please do not wear a straw hat, it frightens the dogs."



HISTORY IS TODAY

The Covered Story

Well, you sure went and done it, John Lusk et al! You started out to cover your mall at Whittwood to make it a more pleasant place to shop and look what it got you. A couple of thousand grinning and delighted folks strolling up and down your walkways, greeting friends and showing what real swingers do - jitterbug. Your Heritage Ball had to be one of the happiest occasions this area has seen in many a year. If there was a face or two that occasionally looked sober, be assured that it was only registering a reflective moment while a mind wandered back across the years to visit the memories that Les Brown and his music invoked.

Yes, Mr. L., the Heritage Ball for the grand opening of the New Whittwood Center on Nov. 16, 1979 was a huge success. And you and your family would be the first to admit that the lion's share of credit should go to Doris Pawlak - her effort, ideas and enthusiasm. Without her help and that of Jack Gebhardt and Bonnie Myers, our committee knows they would not have been able to get such a function organized.

For a few years our Historical Society has been plowing little furrows aimed at a nebulous "Museum". Now, thanks to the Heritage Ball, there is seed money for planting those furrows. The profits from the Ball will take the "Museum" out of the word stage and begin to put down plans on paper so we can direct our efforts to erecting a real entity. This money will harvest the answers of where, what kind of and how. What profits, you ask? Would you believe \$9,363.88?

The Big THANK YOU

A great big "Thank You" to all who helped at the Heritage Ball. It was a beautiful affair and well received by the community.

Thanks for all the lemons and limes that were given for this occasion. (They were used at the bars.)

Schirmer's did a magnificent job and we thank them for their generosity in giving us a good price on all the hors d'oeuvres.

We made \$9,363.88 on the dance. This amount is now in the Museum account. Whittwood was most generous in helping the Society. They paid for the band, invitations, security, the favors, door prizes, advertising and many other items. Bobbie and Earl Myer's oldest son was the trip winner to Puerto Vallarta.

Our hard working committee members were; Mr. and Mrs. Ken Foltz, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harlan. Dr. and Mrs. Owen Heninger, Mr. and Mrs. Vic Lopez, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Myer, Mr. and Mrs. Ray O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Randall, Mr. and Mrs. D.E. Wood, Mrs. Jean Arbuckle, Mrs. Virginia Boles. Mrs. Linda Chesnut, Mrs. Sally Coppock, Mrs. Lucille Fields, Mr. Michael Kovac, Miss Virginia Mathony, Mrs. Nancy Lee Owens and Mrs. Phyllis Pearce. We thank each one of you. Whittwood is willing to have another Heritage Ball next year. What a wonderful opportunity!

Thank you for making this event a success.
Sylvia Foltz and Nadine Wood

Chairmen

Remember When

. colored pictures in magazines were something very special? We would carefully cut them out and tuck them away to look at once in a while. Or, maybe they would be mounted on a laundry shirt cardboard or, even, framed and hung in a spot of honor. Does it still frustrate you today to have to throw away last year's calendar or last month's magazine containing all those beautiful colored pictures?

**WHITTIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Phyllis Pearce (79-82)	President
Virginia Mathony (77-80)	Vice President
Francine Rippy (78-81)	Recording Secretary
Virginia Schallenberger (78-81)	Corresponding Secretary
Seth Pickering (77-80)	Treasurer
Virginia Boles (78-81)	Director
Sylvia Foltz (79-82)	Director
Tolbert Moorhead (77-80)	Director
Claire Radford (79-82)	Director
Virginia Stody (77-80)	Director
Nadine Wood (78-81)	Director
Walter Wood (79-82)	Director

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 696-7850

Membership in the Whittier Historical Society is open to persons interested in history and future of the Whittier area. Membership year is from March 1 - February 28. Dues are \$5 for individual membership — \$7.50 for family membership — \$25 for institutional membership — \$50 for sustaining membership — \$100 for individual life membership — \$175 for husband and wife life membership.

Phyllis M. Pearce
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695-2105

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