

A Message from Our President Jim Bryant

In February, we partnered with the Corona Genealogical Society to bring in Stephanie George of Cal State Fullerton's Oral History Program for a presentation. Stephanie gave quite an interesting seminar on gathering information about someone, or some event, by simply listening to a person talk about his or her experiences. On the surface, this sounds easy and simple. We discovered, however, that it actually requires selected equipment, detailed planning, and thorough follow-up once the interview is complete. As she revealed, capturing the information is only half the process. Disseminating it is the other part and one that can be time consuming, tiring, and frustrating if not done properly. Prior planning is crucial to reducing confusion when attempting to retrieve certain portions of the conversation. Failure to properly identify tapes or CD's can be as confusing as looking for a place (a city, a road, a landmark) on maps with no name. A general release should also be used to establish how the information will be used and by whom, further limiting confusion and misunderstandings. We hope this seminar is one we will be able to repeat every so often, depending on the needs of members of both organizations.

If our Historic Marker Tour is successful this year, perhaps this will become an activity we will repeat in the future. Our initial tour will be Saturday, March 25th, and, as of this writing, we're not sure of its success given the weather and the need to drive from site to site. Currently, we have twelve historic markers, but we know that count will grow over the coming years due to the large number of historic sites remaining in Corona.

My message for this edition would not be complete without announcing the Corona Historic Preservation Society has a new home. On March 2nd, CHPS received the keys to our new office at the Historic Civic Center. We will be in Suite #170, which first served as the office for the school district's Superin-



**Happy Birthday
to CHPS, founded
24 years ago
May 1982**

tendent from 1923 to about 1950 when the former location of Corona's first Lincoln School campus evolved into the district's headquarters.

Our office most recently served as the Risk Management Office when the building served as Corona's City Hall. For those not overly familiar with the building, we will be in the office to the immediate left as you enter the main doors, those facing Sixth Street and the huge fountain. Limited parking on Sixth

Street is available now that some of the previous permit parking has been removed. Be advised there is now a 3-hour time limit, with additional parking to the rear of the building, including designated Handicapped Parking.

At this time, the Society's Board of Directors would like to thank Corona Heritage Park Foundation for the years they have allowed us to hold our monthly board meetings and special events there. They have also provided us with storage space for our materials and belongings. Our close relationship with Heritage Park will continue as before, as sister organizations. While we are separate entities with different missions we plan to continue to work together to preserve, protect and act as stewards for all of Corona's historic resources.

This move is something we have dreamed of for years and to say we're excited is definitely an understatement. To be housed in an historic structure has always been our number one goal, but to be in Corona's Historic Civic Center is a **big** layer of icing on the cake! Support for this move from the City of Corona has started with the Mayor and City Council and gone down the organization chart through a number of departments. Everyone has been great to work with and we are truly excited to be working side-by-side with such a dedicated group of people. They are one of the reasons Corona is a place we are glad, and so many others seek, to call home.

~ Jim Bryant



Local History Classroom Curriculum

New third grade Social Studies curriculum is in the process of being approved by the CNUSD Board of Trustees.



The CHPS committee will work closely with School Board members and Curriculum and Instruction staff to ensure that

This should take place by July 2006, if not sooner.

On behalf of the Corona Historic Preservation Society, a committee is being formed and will be chaired by Janette Neumann, educator and assistant principal at Wilson Elementary School.

Once the new curriculum has been adopted, the CHPS committee will review it and look for opportunities to include local history resources to enrich the educational experiences of our area's primary grade students.

the *Images of America: Corona* book authored by Mary Bryner Winn becomes a helpful resource in learning about local history. In response to her book being used, Mary said, "I am so happy my book will help in sharing images and details of Corona's past with youth in the Corona area."

In addition, local field trips to include the Corona Heritage Park and vital historic neighborhoods will be considered for inclusion in the curriculum.

Watch for further developments in this area.

Photos From Our Recent Activities

Oral History Workshop



Presenter Stephanie George from the Oral History Department of CSUF describing proper recording equipment



Twenty-three CHPS and Genealogical Society members listen intently to Stephanie George in the Community Room of the Corona Public Library.

The ongoing beautification and maintenance of landscaping at Settlement House and Benedict House (511 So. Vicentia Avenue)



CHPS members working to beautify Settlement House from L-R: Chifra Holt, Richard Winn & Michelle Krickl.



Here, Chifra and Michelle cheerfully weed and trim to prepare for Springtime blooms at Benedict House.

Special Visit to Riverside's Heritage House

Saturday, May 20 10:00 a.m.
8193 Magnolia Ave, Riverside

Admission is free, donations are welcomed

On Saturday, May 20th we will have the unique pleasure of having a docent guided tour of one of the areas most stunning treasures.

Heritage House was built in 1891 in the Queen Anne Victorian style and is located in the City of Riverside. Our tour has been especially arranged for the Corona Historic Preservation Society.



The gift shop will be opened especially for members of our group as Heritage House opens their doors to the general public at 12 Noon on Saturdays.

In order to join us, you must call CHIFRA (951) 737-4566 to reserve a space on the tour PRIOR TO MAY 8TH!!

Both the interior and the exterior are magnificent. The furniture is original from the house and the people who once lived there.

To view a virtual tour online of Heritage House visit: <http://www.riversideca.gov/museum/hh/default.htm>

Corona Books by Mary Winn

First of all, I must express appreciation to those of you who have purchased my first book entitled *Images of America: Corona*, published in 2005 by Arcadia Publishing. Over 3,000 copies have sold so far and the book just went through its fourth printing. We've been told that the first royalty check will arrive to CHPS sometime in May. The Society itself has sold over 300 copies which has helped plump up our coffers quite nicely.

I am currently working on a second book which will be part of Arcadia Publishing's *Vintage Postcard Series* and will feature memorable postcards from Corona and nearby resorts. There are several individual collectors of items from Corona's past who have graciously allowed me to borrow their precious postcards for scanning and inclusion into my book. The Board of Trustees of the Corona Public Library has also agreed to allow me to include postcards from the extensive archives found in the W.D. Addison Heritage Room.

Again, my next book will contain images that have not been readily available for others to view and will contain some very exciting sites of our beloved Circle City. More information on its progress will follow in future issues of this newsletter.

Our Ongoing Activities

Why did you join the Society? We have a variety of activities throughout the year that might help you answer that question. Your Board strives to provide you with opportunities to socialize and learn about what has made Corona such a special place. **Won't you please join us?**

- Monthly meetings
- Newsletter
- Historic Marker Program
- Annual Cemetery Walk at Sunnyslope Cemetery
- Annual Heritage Home Awards
- Oral History Program
- Annual Holiday Party
- Educational Seminars & Field Trips
- Community Preservation Projects
- Vintage Home Relocation Assistance
- Historic Preservation Information & Assistance
- Speakers and Slide Presentations are Available to Service Clubs & Social Organizations for Meeting Programs
- Architectural Salvage Items & Materials Available to Members & Others

Snow Cones, Red and Yellow by David Aguayo

In 1954 my family moved to 1019 Quarry Street from 909 Quarry Street when the duplex we were living in was sold. The duplex had previously been the *Iglesia de la Unidad Cristiana* founded by my father.

Our new landlord was Federico Mendoza who owned the mom and pop store in front of the small apartment attached to it on the east side. We lived in a shack in the rear. Most of the store patrons were the neighborhood locals. The merchandise included all the basics. However, Mr. Mendoza's snow cones were known far and wide. He initially asked me to sweep the front yard of the store; he "promoted" me at age 11 (eleven) to making those special ice treats.

The machine with the revolving blades that produced a fine ice came from Japan. Mr. Mendoza bought his blocks of ice from the ice-making plant on Grand Boulevard. I loved the new responsibility but at times became confused at the change-making, especially with long lines. I



worked for Mr. Mendoza several summers until we moved to Olive Street.

My father poured the sidewalk in front of the store which is still there. I left my initials and date (1958) on the freshly poured cement (still there.)

As Mr. Mendoza's health declined, he offered my dad the formula for the syrup for \$300. My dad declined. In time, the business passed to his family: Pete Mendoza, his son.

As vivid as are the snow cones, I also remember and admire Mr. Mendoza who, though he had a missing arm, owned his own business and gave so many of us a unique "taste delight."

David Aguayo was born and raised in Corona. Upon graduation from Corona High School in 1964, David received the first ever Evelyn Bartman Stearns Memorial Scholarship to attend Occidental College. He graduated from Occidental, earned a Masters' Degree from UCLA, does clinical social work and lives in the Hollywood Hills.

15th Annual Old Riverside Foundation Vintage Home Tour, Restoration Faire and Village Mercantile

Saturday, May 20, 2006 from 10 am until 5 pm

Ticket price includes a self-guided home tour of 6 lovely examples of Riverside's rich historic architecture, 1 gratis raffle basket ticket, along with a restoration faire including suppliers, artists, and craftspeople.

The vintage mercantile will feature antiques and collectibles along with the return of the Tour Basket Raffle opportunity.

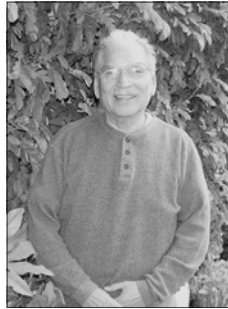
Tickets are \$15 pre-sale and \$18 on the day of the tour. They may be purchased on the Internet at www.olddriverside.org. If ordering by mail, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with a check made out to "ORF" at Home Tour Tickets, 8410 Cleveland Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504. There will be selected sale locations in and around Riverside and the Inland Empire. Please check our Website or call for more information.



Contact: Nancy Parrish at (951)509-7682 or send e-mail to Factsgirl@aol.com.

I Remember When ...

Long time Coronan Louie Esparza has made his home in Corona since birth in 1933. He married Nellie Orozco (from Prado) in 1957 and together they raised two daughters (Lennie & Sylvia) and one son (Victor) who still reside in the area. Louie began working in the citrus industry as a picker at age 12. He went on to work at Sun-kist as a loader and then became a furniture finisher until he retired in 1999.



Louie Esparza

- I worked as a picker for Foothill Lemon Co. and was paid 50¢ per hour and 50¢ per box.

- Workdays at Sun-kist were very long - sometimes we'd start at 4 A.M and work until 8-9 at night loading boxcars.

- We made wagons (from materials from packing houses) and raced our creations downhill to see who was the fastest.

I Remember When ...

- We lived on Blaine Street where we played, hunted rabbits and looked up at Parkridge Country Club which appeared to be a castle on a hill to me.

- Main Street was two lanes from Blaine St. in Corona to 6th St. in Norco, pepper trees flanked both sides of the street and met in the middle, and it was like driving in a tunnel when riding along the street.

- I was a student at Washington School when it was on Grand Blvd. and Mr. Farmer taught us how to sing; Mrs. Healy was the drawing teacher.

- We paid 11¢ to see a movie at the Chapultepec Theater on North Main Street which was like a box-car inside, long and narrow.

- The Santa Ana River overflowed and we were able to catch fish with our hands from huge puddles.

- After we watched a western at the movies, we'd make toy cowboys from whatever materials we had and reenacted scenes we'd seen of Hopalong Cassidy, Gene Autry and Roy Rogers.

- We flew kites made from funny papers, paste made from flour, thin wood scraps from packing houses and the kite tails were made of rags.

- Mava was the talk of the town! Nobody made ice cream like Mava and I liked the vanilla malts best.

- Going to "The Hi-Spot" on Vicentia and 6th St. for 15¢ hamburgers and sitting outside to eat and listening to the jukebox which was also outside.

- I bought my first car, a blue and white 1951 Chevy hardtop Bel-Air for \$2,750 and I paid for it in one year. My son and I are restoring it right now.

A Report on Governmental Affairs, Meetings and . . .

Since our last newsletter, members of our Executive Board have had meetings with Darla Charbonnet and Cynthia Lara of the Redevelopment Agency to help us understand what is planned for the use of infill properties within the boundaries of the Grand Boulevard circle. We were introduced to the planned revision of the city's strategic plan for downtown revitalization and will hear more about this in the months to come. **All members are invited to watch for public notices and articles about the city's Strategic Plan during the next few months.**

Board members subsequently met with Peggy Temple and other members of the Planning Department staff to discuss how the Society can assist in preventing non-harmonious structures from being per-

mitted and built within our historic districts. The CHPS is to provide images of classic architectural styles or examples from Corona's past and the Planning Department is going to "tighten up" the residential criteria for infill structures.

At our monthly Board Meeting, Scott Whyte and Darla Charbonnet of Redevelopment and Peggy Temple of Planning presented an overview of the Strategic Plan revision process and invited the CHPS to participate, which we will.

. . . Remember when you could smell orange blossoms almost everywhere in the city? The citrus trees in front of the public library are in bloom. Take a moment, stop by and get a sniff of the past.

Joseph Brumbaugh & 322 West Seventh St. by Diane Wright

Joseph Brumbaugh came to Corona eight years after the town was founded by Robert B. Taylor and the South Riverside Land and Water Company. In 1894 he received a lot on the corner of Seventh Street and Sheridan. This was quickly claimed to him by M. V. Sweesy of Rialto, California, for the "consideration of twenty five dollars, lawful money of the United States of America to him in hand paid."



It is unclear when the house was actually built. However, it is shown on a Sanborn Fire Insurance Map in 1907 as a single story, shake roof dwelling. On the same map series in 1911, the house has an addition added at the Sheridan Street side. An old timer said that the addition to the house was added to make room for a lodger and also to provide a separate entrance. The 1913 tax assessment records show improvements valued at \$350.00. The home has the details of a Victorian Folk house.

Sheridan and Seventh Streets lies within the circular Boulevard. All the streets within the Boulevard were named in about an hour. H. Clay Kellogg surveyed, platted and laid out all the streets. A meeting was held in Anaheim in the office of Adolph Rimpau, an attorney. Attending were Kellogg, Rimpau and R. B. Taylor. They first named streets running east to west by numbering them starting with First and ending at Eleventh with the center being Sixth Street. Some streets were named for the Spanish Rancho families. The streets running north and south were named for family, friends and respected persons. Sheridan Street was named for General Sheridan of Civil War fame. This was less than 25 years after the Civil War and many men had served as soldiers or had fathers that had served. The topic of war was still a popular bit of conversation.

Brumbaugh was a farmhand when he first arrived in Corona but later took his place as a house painter. He painted the Carnegie Library when it was first built. He painted many houses in town including Edward Bloom's home. Mr. Bloom and his brother were prominent contractors who built houses and shops and buildings. For example, in 1901, the Bloom Brothers built the house at 1153 East Grand Boulevard. They also built the Carnegie Library which Joe was contracted to paint.

Brumbaugh was one of the first men to sign up when Corona needed a volunteer fire department. The location of the Fire Department building was on Main near Eighth so it must have been easy for him to get there quickly when the fire bell rang out. The department was formed in 1898 and had a charter membership of 16, including Joe Brumbaugh. The original equipment was a hose cart, which the city trustees bought for \$130.00. The volunteers were so enthusiastic, according to Watt Bonfrey, writer of *History of Early Corona Days*, that they erected a building for the equipment. There was a large bell on the building that was rung

when a fire broke out. Fire Chief B. E. Savery would ride his bicycle as fast as he could to ring the firehouse bell calling the members. There is a story that at one time the town could not afford a horse for the hose cart so a plan was made that the first man to get to the station with a horse would get a dollar. Later they purchased a fire truck. A newspaper article in 1924 revealed that they got a new fire truck to replace the original, which replaced the hose cart. It is interesting to note that Corona had a volunteer fire de-

partment until after 1960.

He was also active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows or IOOF. This is a group of men who meet together to help others in need. When they were first formed, The Circle Lodge, as it was called then, occupied the lodge room of the theater until they constructed their own hall on Main Street in 1902.

Some compiled records indicate that Joe Brumbaugh was married at one time to Minnie Story. However, no other records can confirm the marriage. In any case, he arrived in Corona as a single man and never married after that.

Joseph Brumbaugh has a rich family history. His great, great grandfather arrived in America from Wuertemberg, German on the ship Neptune September 30, 1754 with his parents. He also served in the Revolutionary War. Joe's father, also named Joseph Brumbaugh, served in the Civil War.

Brumbaugh was buried at the Sunnyslope Cemetery in the plot that is marked for the Odd Fellows. IOOF Brothers buried near him are Charles Johnson, Jacob Feldman, Thomas F Caey, Robert Brown, Francis B. Monroe Erick F. Kuehl, Albert L. Russell and Ira K. Feldman.

After his death, his niece Jennie Bay of Los Angeles sold his house to Frank Tetley, a wealthy real estate investor in Riverside, for \$4,750.

Joseph Brumbaugh was a typical working man. He built his home (and painted it!) in a new growing town. His neighbors were other working people just like him. In 1920, neighbors on both sides of him were listed on the Federal Census as "laborer." Other neighbors worked in a citrus packing house, and two were bookkeepers. In 1910 many neighbors described their occupations as "odd jobs."

Joseph Brumbaugh and his house at 322 West Seventh Street represents the many people that worked at common jobs to make Corona the comfortable, busy city of today.

Researched by *Rescued and Returned*, a cottage business specializing in house and family research. This house has the charm of the old house it is and modern conveniences of today. It is currently for sale. Any questions please call Kathleen Dever at (951)522-4679.

Membership Information

When joining or renewing your membership, please make out your tax deductible check to CHPS.

Individual Member	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	I'd like to volunteer for:	
Family	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patron	\$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life	\$500.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Gift from _____



Membership Status: Renewal New

Please complete and mail to:

CHPS

P.O. Box 2904

Corona, CA 92878



We Welcome Our New and Continuing Members

Mr. & Mrs. Louie Esparza
Nita Grantham
Robert & Ruth Kremer
Tony Orozco

John & Sheila Semola
Harold & Beryl Williams
ZAP Printing and Graphics

Mayor's Heritage Ball on April 8, 2006

At City Hall, South Plaza 400 S. Vicentia at 7:00 P.M.

This black tie affair is sponsored by the Corona Heritage Foundation to benefit the Hotel Del Rey renovation project. For tickets or sponsorship opportunities, please call 737-8025.

Two complimentary ballroom dance classes will be held on Saturday, March 25 and Saturday, April 1 at the Corona Jazzercise Fitness Center at 821 North Main Street, Suite I at the northeast corner of Parkridge and Main Street. Dance lessons are courtesy of Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Riverside.

Hotel Del Rey
CORONA, CALIFORNIA



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Janette Neumann
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To contact us call
898-2044
And leave a message



Our Mission Statement

The Corona Historic Preservation Society (CHPS) is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization dedicated to preservation and revitalization of Corona's historic buildings, neighborhoods and sites.

Through education, legislation and organization, CHPS acts as an advocate for the preservation of Corona's historic resources.

Monthly Meetings

CHPS Board meetings are held each month to transact society business, discuss issues affecting the Society and preservation of local historic resources.

All members are invited to attend.
The next meetings will be

Thursday, April 20, 6:30 at CHPS office

Thursday, May 18 at CHPS office



P.O. Box 2904
Corona, California 92878-2904



PARKRIDGE COUNTRY CLUB CORONA, CALIFORNIA

Parkridge Country Club once appeared to be a castle on a hill to a young boy who grew up in Corona. See "I Remember When" on page 5