

A Message From Our President Christine Gary

Dear Members,

Oh, what a beautiful summer we have had this year! This is why Corona is such a beautiful and desirable place to live. Of course, we have problems like any other city, but you can't beat our location for a basically temperate climate.

Our membership has been suggesting that we look at involving ourselves in beautification projects around town, especially the Historic Downtown area. The recession has caused a lot of deferred maintenance on many nice old homes, to be deferred even further into the future. We plan on developing an attractive flier to either hand carry or distribute via a homeowner mailing list to those homes we feel we can help. We have plenty of Grant money and need to inform the public on our program. As usual, if you as a member or if your friend or neighbor is thinking about doing something to the exterior of their old Corona home, we may be able to help. Just let us know by calling 951.734.0977 or 951.371.5291.

This issue of our newsletter is important in choosing



L-R: Chauffeur of Glenn Johnson's 1937 Packard Gil Lopez, Chris Gary, Judy and Wayne Hrabak prior to the start of Corona's parade celebrating America's Independence Day

candidates for City Council who support our preservation efforts. You will find four questions, related to restoration and preservation issues, that were sent to all four candidates to learn their positions. Please be sure to review the candidates' answers or responses to these questions. It's always good to know where our Council members stand on these issues.

We hope you'll be able to join us at our next Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, October 16th. CHPS member Linda Faxon is a master citrus label collector and does a fabulous job of tracing Corona's citrus history with a slide show that

includes many of her treasured labels. This meeting is open to the public so please invite friends and join us for this presentation.

Be sure to visit our Web site to review photos from our 2010 Vintage Home Tour as well as other updates.

We hope to get as many people as possible inspired to appreciate and preserve our history.

With warmest wishes,

Chris Gary



Our Upcoming 2010 Quarterly Meetings



**On Saturday, Oct. 16
Linda Faxon will
present a program on
Corona's Citrus Labels**

Please see page 6 of this
Newsletter for
more information

Mark your calendar now so
that you can

**Roll on over to the
Woman's Improvement
Club for our
Annual Holiday Party
on Thursday, Dec. 2**

More details will be provided in
our November - December
Newsletter



Tour of Mission Inn Led by Steve Lech



Tour leader, docent Steve Lech with attendees



On a lovely Saturday morning in Riverside, twenty of us had the fabulous opportunity to tour the lovely Mission Inn building and grounds led by CHPS member and historian Steve Lech. First, we arrived early at the Mission Inn Museum to meet and then the tour got underway. One of the early stops was at the statue of Frank Miller, founder and Master of the Inn. The statue of Mr. Miller includes a macaw on his arm and the story was related of the presence of two of these tropical birds at the hotel for many years. We learned about the art, architecture and history of the Mission Inn and were able to visit areas inaccessible to the general public. As far as architectural mix of the Mission Inn, we were able to see the Islamic, Moorish, Italian, and Asian influences combined with the Spanish and Mission Revival styles. Mr. Miller was quite a world traveler and purchased numerous decorative furnishings for the hotel, from literally everywhere and event imaginable. This contributed to the Inn's uniqueness as a very early example as a destination resort and hostelry for visiting guests of all kinds. Due to the proximity to historic March Field, there is also a wall honoring many of the world's greatest aviators. The three architects blended the styles to make the historical landmark truly unique. Those of us able to attend really enjoyed our time there and if you've never been on a such a tour of the Mission Inn, we highly recommend it.

City Council Election Information

Four questions pertaining to historic preservation issues were sent to all four City Council candidates in August so that their responses could be incorporated into this issue of the CHPS Newsletter. We express our deep appreciation to all four candidates who took time out of their very busy schedules to ponder and then provide responses to our inquiries. This process is to help you, our members, in making your decision as to whom to cast your vote in the upcoming election on Tuesday, November 2, 2010. *Responses are printed exactly as submitted.*

Please keep the candidates' stated positions in mind and PLEASE BE SURE TO VOTE!

QUESTIONS

- 1) With the city's motto "To Cherish Our Past, To Plan Our Future" in mind, what specific actions do you intend to take to preserve Corona's historical resources and heritage for future generations?
- 2) The Corona Beautiful Program (1998-2002) was very successful in improving Corona neighborhoods within a few hours. What are your thoughts on small scale volunteer cleanup efforts, with some necessary city support, to improve and enhance the appearance of the city's historic core?
- 3) What is your opinion of the establishment of a Cultural Heritage Board as in Riverside, or a Historic Commission as in Norco, to oversee proposed changes to all properties currently considered as historic resources on the Heritage Inventory and Local Landmark list?
- 4) Blighted conditions in areas of Corona's central core have not been kind to the appearance of the heart of the city. Code Enforcement personnel can accomplish only so much and absentee landlords and renters tend to be non-responsive. In spite of the tough economic times we are experiencing at local, state and federal levels, if funding were no object, what ideas do you have for revitalizing homes and yards within "The Circle" to protect its historic resources?



City Council Election Information (continued)

Jason Fox's Responses

1) I think organizations like the Corona Historic Preservation Society are vital part of educating not just the youth of our city but adults whom have moved here from somewhere else. Remembering and celebrating our past helps us set a course for a fruitful future. As a City Council member I would ensure that funding would be committed for non-profit organizations such as the Corona Historic Preservation Society who set out to educate us as well as preserve historic landmarks throughout the city.

2) I would be committed to supporting such efforts as the Corona Beautiful program as the efforts helps create pride of ownership in the community as well as bring members of the community together for a worthy cause.

3) The establishment of a cultural heritage board is necessary so that proper oversight could be administered to the many projects that are involved with maintain the city's historic landmarks as well as provide accountability for the resources that they command.

4) I would propose ordinances to closely regulate properties that fallen into foreclosure. Many times when properties go in to foreclosure they are neglected by the bank and quickly become eye sores and a drag on the local housing market. The only way to get a bankers attention is to effect his bottom line.

Eugene Montanez' Responses

1) My goal, both on the council and as a business owner, has always been to make sure all residents know what resources we have today and what Corona has looked like in the past. That is the reason our company has published historical calendars for many years, so people can visualize the rich history we have in Corona, and be aware of what is left. We need to preserve the buildings, roads, trees and other resources we see every day but don't fully realize the history behind them.

2) I have helped support the few groups who have undertaken these efforts on their own in the last few years, and would continue to do so, both personally and with city staff, as much as possible.

3) I believe the current Historic Preservation Society and its members have done a great job in making sure the council, staff and planning commission as well as developers are well aware of the historic features of Corona. I am always hesitant to add another layer of government to the process when what we have seems to work very well.

4) There have been some programs with money to help low income homeowners keep their yards in shape in the past, and I would encourage City staff to apply for grants when available. But the biggest efforts can come from a concerted effort by residents and non-profit groups to encourage their neighbors and friends to take pride of ownership in their neighborhoods. When someone can't for whatever reason, financial, health or inability, then working with groups to attempt to help that resident.

Stan Skipworth's Responses

1) As I sought the privilege of serving Corona as a member of the city council four years ago, I spoke candidly about two very important objectives with respect to our historical resources.

The first was to learn well from previous choices regarding the fate of structures and facilities of historical significance and create appropriate solutions in an effort to remain better able share in the telling of the story of our great community.

The second goal I personally spoke of and have continued to work on since I was a planning commissioner is to expect a standard for any new structures and features of the city that would prove them worthy of preservation in the future. In this sense, I felt then—as I do now—that a much more meaningful and thoughtful process would bring about buildings and other structures that featured and honored our history.

On a more personal note, my family and relocated to our current home on Main Street in mid 2009. This Craftsman-style home, which dates to 1910, proudly displays the Corona Historical Preservation Society's *Heritage Home Award*. It also provides me the very special opportunity to continue to learn more of the people, industries and events that have helped shape the Corona we know today, and the unique qualities it holds for us all. Since moving into our new home, we have enthusiastically participated in the 2010 Vintage Home Tour, and opened our home to many more guests during the Independence Day parade.

2) I want to bring that program back. I participated in the Corona Beautiful Program and I saw not only the difference it made in the appearance of some portions of the neighborhoods that it served, but the also how it positively affected the residents and the people who were participating, including my own children.

I'm certain that the results of such a program can serve as a powerful measure of the civic pride that is in all of us and the effect we as groups can cause—especially when we can invest these values into a common goal. Groups from a variety of sources in the community are able to come together and produce extraordinary results and share in the achievement, making the bonds among us all much stronger.



City Council Election Information (continued)

I look to re-establish these efforts in either an annual or bi-annual effort that will seek to restore more appropriate conditions and appearances in key areas of our neighborhoods, and with a focus to some areas of the downtown sector, as it is indeed such an important measure of demonstrating our appreciation for our city and the values we want to take well into the future.

3) This is an intriguing concept that I've explored to some degree but have not yet had the opportunity to learn thoroughly. I would be very interested in seeing how such a well-informed body of people could help Corona best achieve its many historic resources-preservation goals. It appears to me that in order for us to consider and pursue the best ideas for the future of our community it is essential that historical icons of our city are not now—and will never be—seen as a contrast to the many features and resources that have been added to our community over the last several decades. We must be able to recognize and appreciate the elements of our past and present that accentuate our community as a whole.

The greatest of our city treasures should be both widely known and better understood if we are going to effectively complement the amenities of our newest neighborhoods with the charm of some of our oldest. So too, our newest communities should in part reflect some of the traditions, history, values and unique qualities of Corona as they have been defined by previous generations.

4) All communities experience periodic challenges in preserving its appearance and standards. Successful communities, productive communities—communities that genuinely care—overcome those challenges and create a new standard. Corona is that very type of community and city.

Therefore, I want to focus upon "The Circle" in three ways:

First, *The Circle is a route of travel*, and is perhaps the single strongest aspect of its design and existence that we can support all future actions upon. As any of us drive or walk along this great path, we must be able to appreciate this landmark section of our city.

Secondly, I know that *The Circle remains the core of our Historic District*, and as such the homes and other structures that are worthy of such designation need an additional means to support the Corona Historical Preservation Society's work to feature these landmarks.

Thirdly, *The Circle is a continuous series of neighborhoods* that some time ago blended a variety of uses very well together. Local businesses and recreational sites punctuated the presence and the appeal of those who resided immediately nearby.

The limits of a budget should not simply determine what we cannot do—they should also help us understand what we must do. In this sense, I understand the importance of "The Circle City" having an icon that exemplifies the very best of our entire community, and I will continue to pursue solutions to preserve our historic resources.

Karen Spiegel's Responses

1) My actions over the past few years are evident that I have already made a commitment to our community towards historic preservation in Corona. I have personally taken stands even when I was the only one, financially contributed to the preservation and continue to be involved in this effort. I have worked very hard to ensure proper reuse of the old Old City Hall/Historic Civic Center, that we kept the Corona Depot from its possible demise and that Heritage Park continued to offer the community some rich heritage.

As a 25 year resident, I have seen Corona's tremendous growth over the past decade. Our growth has created tremendous opportunity, and also produced some challenges. As we continue to grow and develop, we must remember not to get so busy planning our future, that we have forgotten our past. We need to preserve our heritage to enhance community pride and ensure that our rapidly growing city retains its "small town" friendliness. I submit to you to continue to fight to preserve Corona's heritage.

Our fascinating and unique history is rapidly slipping away. The preservation of this irreplaceable heritage should be of interest to all of us so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, inspirational, economic benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Coronans. Each vanished landmark has a story of its life and demise, but that is all we have - a story. We have photos and a chapter in books, but very little living legacy to pass on to our children and future generations.

Again, I pledge to you my continual support – what I need from this organization is your vote of confidence to return me to office to assist you in protecting our history.

2) I was very involved in the Corona Beautiful Programs and was very disappointed when they were stopped, prior to my coming onto the City Council. Over the past couple of years there have been several small scale projects with various churches and boy scout troops. We had a group of 250 youth bring four houses up to city code. Corona's Code Enforcement Division identified the houses that needed structural or aesthetic improvements. Local businesses, as well as Church members, donated all the resources needed to improve the homes. We have had similar projects done by The Rotary Club and home make-overs by realtors, working with businesses for donations.

Our Public Works staff does an ongoing collection, working with Waste Management. They do a good job with the basics, but much more is needed. They work well with the various organizations that take up these small projects.



City Council Election Information (continued)

On May 8, 2010, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, dressed in their distinctive yellow *Mormon Helping Hands* vests and T-shirts, were seen in the south eastern quadrant of the circle, working with our staff and Waste Management. They were picking up trash and weeds. We have been working with them to expand this project and to do this on a regular basis.

In addition, we need to work with the residents that live in the historic core. No matter how much time and effort we receive from volunteers and the city, we need support and involvement from those who live in those neighborhoods.

3) I have been supportive of oversight and in previous discussions, the Historic Commission would offer a group in an official capacity to help us maintain our heritage and oversee our historical properties. The plan was to have this commission help in establishing ordinances necessary for the Historic Preservation Element. After research, much of the need is not imminent. During this budgetary stress, it does not seem to be economically wise to incur a cost to begin a new commission, with the legalities, stipends and more importantly, staff time. Currently our Planning Commission acts as our review board on these matters. The Community Development Department does work closely with the Corona Historic Preservation Society on historic resource properties, such as those that are seeking landmark status. We also adopted Guidelines for Historical Properties and have adopted an ordinance that guides us on all of matters regarding historic properties. All historic applications are sent to CHPS for review and 99% of the time they have no objection to the listing. Most people with historic properties follow the city's historic guidelines, as the property owner has the same interest in the preservation of their structure.

In addition, I don't think there are enough applications to keep the board busy at this time with city business. Also, having a board review minor architectural changes to those properties listed on the heritage inventory (the inventory list, unlike the landmark list, has a few hundred properties listed) would delay the homeowner in getting permits. When these properties agreed to be on the list, we told them that they would not be subject to additional scrutiny by the city.

4) When we revitalize areas, it is more than just to clean up the homes. Homeowners are "scared off" with the cost of refurbishing, particularly to maintain the historic requirements. Although there has been Federal funding available as well as tax incentives, the dollars are less and more difficult to obtain. We need to work with these homeowners to find these funds as well as provide funds from our Redevelopment (remembering funding were no object). Since part of the goal of the Redevelopment Agency is to provide housing programs including improving neighborhoods in and adjacent to the Circle, there would definitely be a nexus to offer loans and incentives to homeowners within the historic core to refurbish their homes.

Although the City does resurface streets regularly, if funding were no object, we could spend more time cleaning up parkways, vacant lots and open areas. By beautifying these areas, a sense of community pride would hopefully be spread.

We must also address the issue of absentee landlords. When they fail to ensure proper maintenance, the properties may appear to be abandoned homes and buildings causing significantly-lowered property values and blight. This is a drain on our community and an issue in communities throughout the U.S. and around the world. Again, if funding were available, we could hold the absentee landlords accountable to fix these problems and keep up on repairs. The challenge is tax policy seems, overall, to favor absentee ownership. However, we could research incentives and/or penalties to these property owners if they fail to maintain the properties.

Status of the Elevator Installation in the Historic Civic Center

The long-awaited elevator installation at the Historic Civic Center is now complete. This elevator will make access to the second floor possible for those with disabilities and will fully comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). The elevator will be accessible from the west side of the lobby near the second floor stairwell.

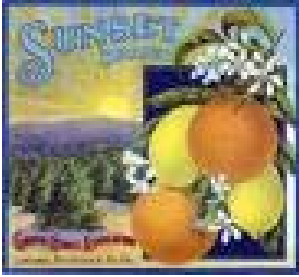
The elevator installation will permit the city to lease out second floor offices to various groups that would benefit from the available space. At this point the mechanical and electrical inspections need to be done, the



controls need to be installed and painting is in progress. The project has been ongoing since February and we are anxious to regain possession of our office, which has been used by various contractors.

One benefit of the renovation allowed us to see the construction of the building floor joists (full dimension 2" x 8" clear redwood) and the original 1" x 3" tongue and groove maple hardwood floor. Since the interior door was relocated, we plan a slight renovation to the walls of the office and to restore the hardwood floor to its former elegance.

Next Quarterly Meeting: The History of Corona Citrus Labels

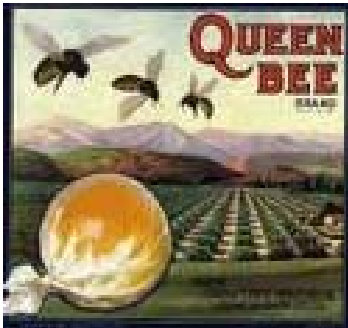


Linda Faxon, a Corona resident who has collected Corona citrus labels for over 30 years, will be featured. Please join us to see and learn about the original labels and Corona's citrus heritage.

Date & Time: Saturday, October 16 at 10AM

Location: Community Room of Historic Civic Center
815 West Sixth Street

Light refreshments will be served



Our Preservation Grant Program* by Bubba Bland

The CHPS Grant Committee along with the Board of Directors of the Corona Historic Preservation Society has amended the Grant Program to assist applicants in a more timely manner.

We realized the need for people to get started on projects without having to wait a whole year to get reimbursed for cost that would normally be associated with a CHPS Grant. So, we will now process any application within 60 days after submittal, starting on April 1 of any year. Once a grant has been approved and reimbursement limits established, funds will be made available upon completion, inspection and onsite final approval.

Take this opportunity to do some fixing up and have part of the material cost covered by CHPS. Remember we are interested in helping people beautify their homes for others to see, so applications are primarily



for curb appeal projects. If you have a place that you feel needs help, either your own or a neighbor's, please feel free to contact me, Bubba Bland at <oobubba@ca.rr.com> or by phone 951.734.3166 or cell 951.833.1756. I will help in any way possible to provide the information you need.

Grant applications are available at the Community Development Department at City Hall, 400 South Vicentia as well as the Heritage Room at the Corona Public Library.

For more information, applications and additional details on the grant can be downloaded from our Web site: <<http://corona-history.org/grants.html>>

*** Please share this information with others!**

Membership Information

**When joining or renewing your membership, please make your
tax deductible check payable to "CHPS"**

Individual Member	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	I'd like to volunteer!	
Family	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality refreshments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter writing articles	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vintage Home Tour	
Patron	\$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	docent / volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life	\$500.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 New and Renewal Memberships

Glenn & Christine Gary
Katherine "Kate" Hyett
Nick & Michelle Koranda
Marsha Larson

Katherine Nichols
Randy Rawson
Jay Stemska
John & Sherlynn Suitor

T & S Hardwoods, Inc
Marty & Dixie Weir
Akio & Helen Yoshikawa

Corona's Sunnyslope Cemetery Stroll



Sunday, October 24, 2010 2-4:30pm 1125 Rimpau Ave. Corona
Tours Start Every Half-Hour Last Tour Leaves @ 4:00pm

Take a stroll back in time to meet some Old Soldiers and their families.

Suggested Donations

\$8.00 Adults, \$4.00 children under 18 & Seniors, \$20.00 Family of Five

Sponsored by Corona Veteran's Memorial Division

Donations benefit Friends of Sunnyslope Cemetery Iron Fence Fund

For Info Call (951) 734-5820 or (951) 776-0309



Board of Directors

President - Christine Gary
Vice President - Mary Winn
Secretary - Doris Osko
Treasurer - Richard Winn

Directors

Jackie Bland
Thurston "Bubba" Bland
Lauralynn Hake
Judy Hrabak
Wayne Hrabak

Directors Emeritus

Marla Benson
Janette Neumann
Ted Taylor



To contact us call
951.898.2044
Please 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:

Wed., September 15, 7:00 at 1052 E. Grand Blvd.

Wed., October 20, 7:00 at CHPS office



Visit us at www.corona-history.org



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



Corona Packing Co.
Label



* Join Us October 16 for a Presentation on Corona Citrus Labels *
* See Page 6 *
