

A Message From Our President Don Williamson

Dear Members:

The hot summer months are here bringing with them the reminder that we have reached the halfway point of our busy and productive year.

For the Vintage Home Tour in May we had a cool day, a full contingent of hard working docents, wonderful homes, delightful homeowners and record attendance. Thanks to all of you for helping us achieve a successful afternoon highlighting a few of Corona’s historic residential gems.

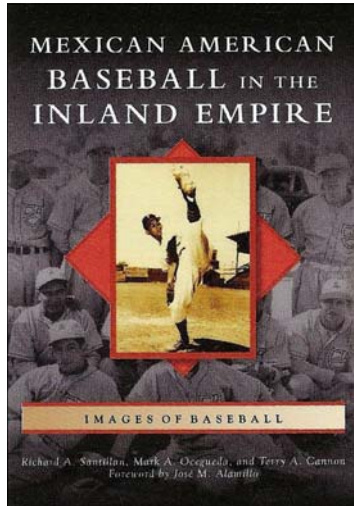
Next year is the 100th anniversary of the first Corona Road Race. We are already preparing for the 2013 Vintage Home Tour securing homes that lined the Grand Boulevard racetrack. We hope to see everyone at the Vintage Home Tour again on May 4, 2013.

Our Lemonade Stand and Antique Booth at the Heritage Park & Museum’s Antiques and Collectibles Faire in June were also successful in raising much needed funds for CHPS. Special thanks to our Board members Christine Gary, Jackie Bland and Doris Osko for their all-day shifts at the Antiques Booth.

Sales are brisk for Mary Bryner Winn’s newest book

Then & Now: Corona. The book is available at all the usual bookstores and outlets, but we encourage you to purchase yours from the CHPS. While our price may not be the lowest, we keep every penny of the proceeds; in addition Mary is available and happy to sign any book. Please contact us to buy a copy today.

A tribute to Frances Martinez will occur on August 18 at the Corona Library. A few issues ago this newsletter highlighted Frances and her contributions in making Corona a better place to live. The Martinez family along with the CHPS will be hosting this reception, which honors Frances on what



would have been her 100th birthday. The authors of a new book, **Mexican American Baseball in the Inland Empire** will be at the Joe Dominguez American Legion Hall on July 8 to discuss and sign. There is a large amount of information in this book about Corona’s legendary teams and players. Many of the players will attend. Jose M. Alamillo author of **Making Lemonade Out of Lemons**, a book about the Hispanic experience in Corona, wrote the forward to the new baseball book and is also expected.

Our next Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 22 in the Community Room of the Historic Civic Center. Local historians Steve Lech and Helen Wenzel will discuss movies that were filmed at the Mission Inn in Riverside. Please be sure to mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

As you know, through the efforts of CHPS, Grand Boulevard earned recognition and has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. This designation establishes the importance of structures along the Boulevard maintaining the historical integrity of the legendary road. A recent decision by the Planning Commission has made it clear that the

CHPS needs to work with our city officials to establish guidelines that will ensure that historical perspectives are given priority in future plans.

We continue to make progress on our various historic marker projects and efforts to have the western end of Palisades Road declared an historic district. There is a lot happening at CHPS.

Look for the CHPS entry in Corona’s Fourth of July Parade riding in a white 1956 Thunderbird convertible.



Taken in Corona in 1964: Ted Kennedy, Frances Martinez & John Tunney



Quarterly Meeting of May 19, 2012

By Doris Osko

Three groups concerned with preserving Corona's unique history combined to introduce the community to Mary Bryner Winn's latest book, ***Then and Now: Corona***. The Corona Public Library provided the place, its large Community Meeting Room which allowed room for the approximately seventy-five people in attendance. The Heritage Foundation and Corona Historic Preservation Society teamed with Friends of the Library to support Mary in her PowerPoint slide presentation and to provide refreshments.

Nita Grantham, president of the Friends of the Library, greeted the audience and expressed this sentiment about the joining of the forces: "The more we work together, the more we accomplish, and the happier we are. No matter how big the city gets, we are still a small community." Nita introduced Mary whose slides were presented on a giant screen.

Mary explained that the black glove she was wearing had nothing to do with the late Michael Jackson. She was protecting her hand which had suffered from nerve damage. She also expressed the fact that she had worked really hard to get new images that had not been published previously and had contributions of images from over twenty-three individuals. As each contrasting picture flashed on the screen, Mary provided anecdotes



Nita Grantham & Carol Ackerman

which showed her extensive knowledge and, as always, the warmth of her personality. The pictures also showed the courage of Mary's husband, Richard Winn. As Mary indicated, "He put his life on the line many times taking the "Now" pictures." He was forced to stand in the middle of busy streets or climb up high to get the best shot.

Following her presentation, Mary thanked the audience for coming and graciously signed autographs for her new book as well as two other books on Corona which were available for purchase.



After the PowerPoint presentation, attendees queued up to purchase books and have them signed by the author.

Our Preservation Grant Program

The CHPS Grant Committee along with the Board of Directors of the Corona Historic Preservation Society would like to assist local homeowners in making necessary improvements to their historic homes.

We will process any application within 60 days after submittal. 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 Chairman Mark German (951) 500-2767 or send him an E-mail at <mgerman@ca.rr.com>. He will help in any way possible to provide the information you need.

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

More information and grant applications can be downloaded from our Website:
<<http://corona-history.org/grants.html>>

Please share this information with others!

Next Quarterly Meeting: "Movies Made at the Mission Inn"

Saturday, September 22 at 10:00 a.m. Community Room of Historic Civic Center

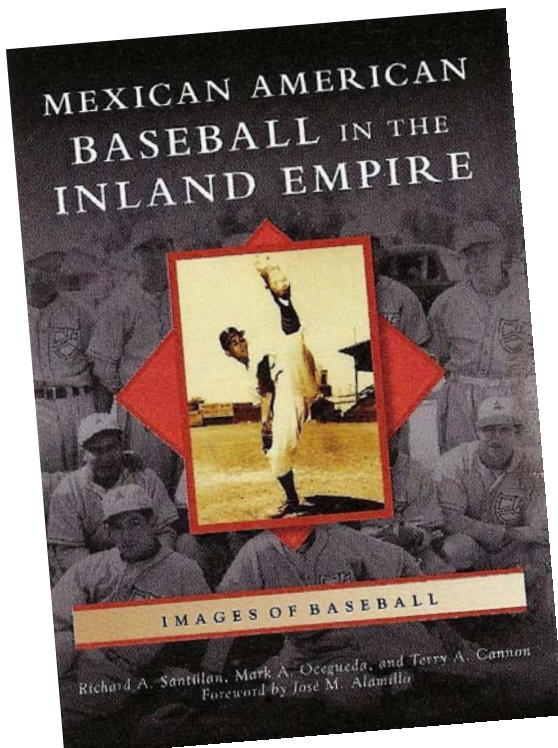
This presentation will feature Nancy Wenzel, former Curator of History for the Mission Inn Foundation, and Steve Lech, long-time Mission Inn docent who led our CHPS visit to Mission Inn a few years ago. They will tell us about many of the movies that have used the Mission Inn either partly or completely for filming. Beginning in 1913 to the present, the Mission Inn has figured prominently in several movies. Join us for some chuckles as we take a look at these less-than-Oscar nominees!



Save the
Date



Book Signing for a New Local Book on Baseball



The public is invited to a book signing on July 8, 2012 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Joe Dominguez American Legion Hall at 1557 Yorba Street, in Corona.

Authors Richard Santillan and Terry A. Cannon of *Mexican American Baseball in the Inland Empire* will be on hand to sign your book.

Former Corona Athletics, Corona Debs and Corona Merchants ball players are encouraged to attend.

For further information contact Richard Cortez at 951.858.9021.

Vintage Home Tour Success

By Mary Winn

We send a huge thank you to all who volunteered, sponsored and attended our 2012 Vintage Home Tour (VHT) this year! It was an amazing May 5th afternoon as five beautiful homes featuring fabulous craftsmanship were shared with the community. Corona's history was discussed allowing many to increase their knowledge on our local heritage. In addition, many enjoyed the ambiance created by docents wearing vintage attire and new friendships were developed along the way. We had a record-breaking number of guests this year so we were able to add much-needed funds to our coffers. The selling and signing of Mary Bryner Winn's books at the Gomez Residence on Kelley Street was a popular and successful addition this year. The VHT is our largest fundraising event and the funds gleaned will be turned back into the community and used to fund our Historic Preservation Grant Program.



Many guests waited in line to enter homes on the tour.



Bedecked CHPS members provided details on the VHT at the April 4, 2012 City Council meeting.

To view over 100 photographs of the 2012 VHT, as well as our previous home tours, be sure to visit <www.Corona-History.org>, click on Events then scroll down to Vintage Home Tour.

Important announcement: The Corona Historic Preservation Society is pleased to announce that all five homes showcased on the tour received Heritage Home Award recognition for 2012. We congratulate the dedicated owners of these architectural treasures.



Kopp family members surround Marian Perez here -- they served as docents clad in their vintage finery.

Antiques & Collectibles Faire

By Doris Osko

CHPS volunteers again were a visible presence at the Antiques and Collectibles Faire held June 2, 2012 at the beautiful Heritage Park & Museum grounds on Foothill Parkway. It was a day that included vintage cars, food booths, acoustic music, model trains, and dozens of vendors of antiques and collectibles. Christine Gary was in charge of the CHPS booth selling antiques and some architectural salvage with helpers Jackie Bland, Paula Munoz, and Doris Osko. There was an extensive turnout of customers buying everything from antique crystal dishes to a Madame Alexander doll. Across from the booth were the CHPS lemonade sellers, Richard Winn, Don Williamson, Mark German, Helen and Akio Yoshikawa, and Aaron and Lauralynn Hake. Fresh, cold, old-fashioned lemonade was a welcome treat for Faire goers on this bright, sunny day so the volunteers were kept very busy. CHPS member and volunteer Trisha Henson found some weathered metal door knob plates at the CHPS antique booth which will become decorations on her fence in her backyard.



Books about Corona by Mary Bryner Winn and CHPS Newsletters were available to publicize the organization and provide information for anyone interested in joining. Profits from sales will help provide grants to homeowners wishing to restore their historic homes.



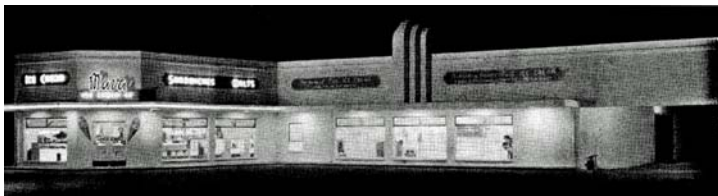
I Remember When... Jim Morrell

By Don Williamson

The Mava Restaurant and Ice Cream Parlor was one of the most popular places in Corona for what is still remembered as the best in frozen confections. Most kids in Corona would agree that next to a toy store the Mava would have been the best place in town to live. Finding himself in this most enviable of circumstances was Jim Morrell, a two-year-old when his parents purchased the still revered Mava.



Jim recently recalled that the original Mava was at 601 West Sixth Street, about one block east of West Grand Boulevard. It shared the building with a grocery store then owned by Frank B. Morrell, Jim's grandfather. A few years later Frank B. sold the store to A.R. Skinner who operated a market at that location until the late 1960s. "By then (1941) my Dad had moved the Mava to 1111 West Sixth," Jim recalled. That building was "L" shaped and was equipped with a restaurant and an adjoining plant to produce ice cream.



Jim retains an especially poignant memory of that Mava location near the corner of Sixth and Lincoln. He remembers, "One Sunday morning my brother Bob and I had gone with my Dad to the Mava. We were playing in a sand pile left over from construction. Bob went into the building and came back to excitedly exclaim that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. Even at my age you can't imagine the impact that the war had."

Within just a few years, the Mava expanded to locations throughout the Inland Empire including Elsinore, Rubidoux, Arlington, Riverside (across from the courthouse) and Pomona. Jim recalls that a member of his family managed all but the one in Pomona. There was a second downtown Corona location at 203 East Sixth Street. Ben Tucker bought this store and operated it for several years as Tucker's Mava. All Mava outlets received the same Morrell family prepared products

Jim has a strong local heritage. His paternal grandparents (Frank B. and Clara) lived on Victoria, while his maternal grandparents, the Sparkmans (Frank G. and Ada), lived on West Seventh and later Washburn where the Corona Regional Medical Center now stands. Both sides of his family included business owners and prominent citizens of Corona. Jim and his brother Bob were surrounded by aunts, uncles, cousins and friends just about everywhere they went in town.

Jim's father, Frank J. Morrell graduated from CHS in 1930. He was the first person ever selected by the Chamber of Commerce

as Citizen of the Year. In 1964, the Jaycees honored him as Corona's "Boss of the Year". Jim explained, "My dad influenced the lives of many Corona kids by giving them their first job."

The reality of being "lucky" enough to have the Mava as a second home was that there was a lot of work. Jim recalls, "I received my social security card at 12 (unusual in those days) to work as a janitor in the restaurant." He added, "It was about high school when I became big enough to carry the 100 lb. sacks of ingredients and I started working in the plant. Mava ice cream making was physically demanding work"

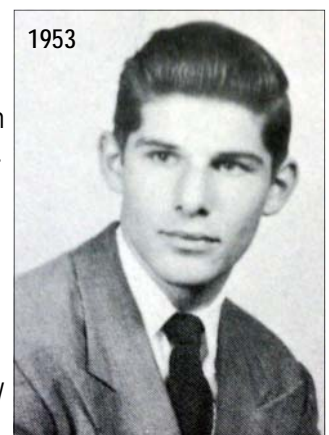
Jim Morrell has the distinction of being the last person in Riverside County to receive a driver's license at the age of 14. Jim tells us, "I took some money I earned and bought a Powell motor scooter just before my 14th birthday. Lt. Charlesworth or Lt. Heckert of the Corona Police Department told my Dad that the law was about to change and to be sure I got my license before it did. I did and it made me a 'free man' at an early age. There were about eight of us that had scooters in my CJHS class and we rode them every chance we had including before school, after school and lunch time."

Until the opening of the 91 freeway in the early sixties, Sixth Street was part of California Highways 18 and 71, major thoroughfares for inland and coastal traffic. The Mava became a regular stop for those traveling through Corona. Many celebrities would dine at the Mava on their way to Palm Springs including Bob Hope, Marilyn Monroe, John Wayne and many others.

Jim worked at the Mava until he graduated from CHS and moved on to study at USC where he earned a degree in engineering. Jim served in the Army and before finally returning to Corona for a job at Johns Manville Fiberglass, he could always depend upon the Mava for work to earn the money he needed as he achieved his goals.

In 1975, Frank J. Morrell sold the Mava and a few years later, it permanently closed. A Wells Fargo Bank now occupies the address that belonged to the grand Mava ice cream palace.

After spending the first 38 years of his life in Corona, a work promotion caused Jim to leave the Circle City. He worked for several companies and lived in different parts of the country. These days he and his wife Marsha also a Coronan, are retired and live in Northern California. They do a great deal of traveling and with family in the area, they still occasionally visit Corona.



Receive This Newsletter in Full Color!

The Society can save on postage and printing costs as well as on the time it takes to prepare newsletters for mailing if you would elect to receive them through E-mail. There are also environmental benefits by "saving trees" and eliminating waste paper. We are happy to send out a printed newsletter to you, but we can achieve significant labor savings and establish cost controls to preserve the use of available funds to better fulfill our Mission Statement.

The E-mail version of the CHPS Newsletter is **always in full**

color !

If just one half of our members were to elect E-mail transmission of their newsletters, it would free enough funds for one additional Historic Site Marker every other year.

If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please send a brief message to Editor, Mary Winn at <toothladytwo@aol.com> or call (951) 371-5291 and your name will be added to the E-Newsletter list.

Celebrating the Life of Frances Martinez

CHPS is co-sponsoring a celebration of the life of Frances Martinez and you are invited to join us.

CHPS President Don Williamson writes: "She was a major force in bringing equality to Corona's Hispanic community. Frances achieved success by working with both business and government entities. She was respected by all whether they lived above or below Sixth Street. There were many courageous individuals that were part of the force for change, but Frances was the most prominent woman." Details of this event are:

COMMEMORATING

100th Birthday

FRANCES MARTINEZ

Community Activist

1912 • 2003

PLEASE JOIN US

Saturday, August 18, 2012 Time 11 a.m. - 3 p.m

Light refreshments will be served

We encourage sharing of photos, memorabilia, and anecdotes

LOCATION: Corona Public Library, Desert Room - 1st Floor

-Library main entry on South Bell Avenue (951) 738-2381

CONTACTS: Sylvia (Martinez) Barnott (951) 314-8075 or

Frances (Martinez) Tassin (714) 313-0397

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 form and mail to:

**CHPS
P.O. Box 2904
Corona, CA 92878**



We Welcome Our New & Continuing Members

Jennie Adamo
Roger & Janet Becker
Rich & Tacy Bensiek
Dr. Robert Brandt Benson
Roger & Noella Benvenuti
Deana Breitenbucher
Kevin & Beth Button
Sally Ann Carlson
Corona Public Library

Sandra Fleming
Humberto Gomez Family
Doris Haddy
Joan H. Hall
Wayne & Judy Hrabak
Rebecca Arend Knott
Hazel & Barbara Lohman
John & Barbara McCawley
Raymond & Cheryl Monteon

Ken Park
Tom & Sunny Richins
David Shreve
Darrell & Kym Talbert
David & Lynette Tougas
Marcelle Turk
Bill & Vickie White
John Wiles
Don & Marina Williamson

Looking for a New Historic District?

We expect to be submitting the application to name the one-mile of historic roadway on the west end of town that is the last remnant of the US-91 and SR-18 roadway in western Riverside County. It retains much of its character as it appeared from 1939 to 1960. It can be found in the westernmost one-mile segment of Palisades Road beginning at the Wardlow Wash and proceeding westward toward Green River Road. The number 1939 can be seen in

the curb of the South side Wardlow Wash bridge, indicating the year it was built.





Board of Directors

President - Don Williamson
Vice President - Mary Winn
Secretary - Doris Osko
Treasurer - Richard Winn

Directors

Jackie Bland
Christine Gary
Mark German
Paula Muñoz
Tom Muñoz

Directors Emeritus

Marla Benson
Janette Neumann
Ted Taylor

To contact us call
951.898.2044

*Please leave a brief
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, persuasion, 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, July 19, 7:00 pm at CHPS office

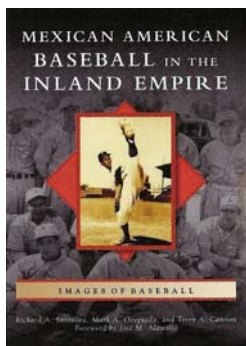
Thursday, Aug 16, 7:00 pm at CHPS office



Visit us @ www.corona-history.org



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



Book signing on July 8th
See page 3

Spanish Patio



"Movies Made at the Mission Inn"
Presentation by Steve Lech & Nancy Wenzel
See page 3

Save the Date Now
Next Quarterly Meeting: Sat., Sept. 22