

A Message From Our President Christine Gary

Dear Members:

Toward the end of the summer we had several changes at CHPS. Our President, Julie Stern stepped down and we will miss her dearly. She represented the society and historic preservation in a confident and professional manner. Her contributions to board decision making, her writing skills, as witnessed by her folksy newsletter columns, and her devotion to the cause will certainly be missed.

As the new president, I Christine Gary, will do my best to represent the interests of CHPS. My background consists of being deeply involved in vintage home restoration and collecting antiques. I was born in L.A. County and have lived in or near Long Beach most of my life and in Corona for the past 2½ years. I graduated with my BSN from the CSU system and have worked as a critical care nurse and supervisor for almost 30 years.

So that's enough about me. CHPS is currently in its 25th year of service to the community. We enjoy a good reputation as an all volunteer service organization. The Society is scheduled to receive a Proclamation at the November 19th City Council meeting in recognition of our 25 years of service on behalf of preserving Corona's history.

Much of the past year has been filled with interesting activities such as Kevin Bash's presentation on the Lake Norconian Club resort, the 2008 Vintage Home Tour, participation in the Antiques & Collectibles Faire a visit to the Yorba-Slaughter Families Adobe, and our very recent tour of Lemon Grove. We are currently looking for homes to be on our 2009 Vintage Home Tour, if anyone is interested.

We continue salvaging work on old homes scheduled for demolition and have many doors, windows hardware in storage to be sold for re-use. There are two small historic homes awaiting a move to a new site. Their relocation has been in the works for over a year but we hope the process will be completed soon.

A major contribution to the community this year has



Chris Gary, Bubba Bland & Doris Osko attend the recent Riverside County Historical Commission's History Symposium.

been the 3rd grade social studies curriculum for all third grade students in Corona-Norco schools. Mary Winn, our author and editor, was instrumental in this tremendous endeavor. She spent countless hours in research and months preparing these lessons on our local history. The CDs are ready and teacher handbooks are currently undergoing the printing process.

We try to stay on top of plans for redevelopment and infill projects by developers and the city, frequently getting up to speak at Planning Commission and City Council meet-

ings. We give our input on applications to place homes on the local Landmark list. We are working with the city to have consistent and clear guidelines and criteria for placing a home on the Historic Resource list. These homes need to be authentic in exterior appearance and construction. Major modifications such as replacing windows or doors with vinyl or other contemporary materials or styles is a disqualifier, according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

A project requested by our City Council members was to revise Corona's design guidelines to avoid conflicts between varying guidelines for specific plans, the city's general plan and generally accepted historic design guidelines. The CHPS undertook this challenge with enthusiasm and the revisions were completed and submitted to the Mayor. Meetings with the Community Development Department's staff and the Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee have already taken place. More interaction will be needed before they are finalized in a comprehensive format to benefit all development within the city core.

Our Restoration Grant Program was recently introduced. The application form can be downloaded from our Web site <www.CoronaHistory.org>. Printed copies are available at the Community Development Department as well as the Heritage Room of



President's Message *(continued)*

the Corona Public Library. The first grants will most likely be awarded in 2009. We look forward to assisting owners of vintage properties and encouraging them to restore their historic homes.

The CHPS Board of Directors certainly appreciates all the members who have assisted with projects, attended meetings and activities for remaining interested in the goals of the society. We hope to have a good crowd when we celebrate our 25th anniversary at the Annual Holiday Party to be held at the beautiful Victorian home of Bubba and Jackie Bland.

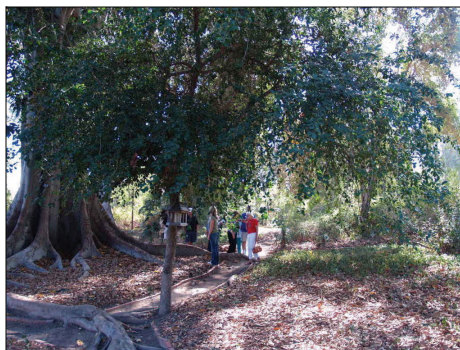
Well, this has been my first attempt at a message to CHPS members. You are all very important to our success. Please continue to maintain your membership and participate in our activities. Look at our newsletters and Web site for activities, quarterly meetings, historical information and other interesting stuff. I hope to see you all at the upcoming Holiday Party!

With warm regards,

Christine Gary



Photos From Our Tour of Lemonia Grove taken by Akio Yoshikawa



On October 18th, a group of about 30 CHPS members enjoyed, visited and toured the 4.5 acre Lemonia Grove estate hosted by Patti and Jim Anderson. Originally established in 1893, by world-traveler Oscar Thieme, it was a treat to tour the striking original carriage house, their home and the sumptuous, wonderfully landscaped grounds full of specimen trees, shrubs and other flora. The weather was perfect, conversation was abundant, and "oohs and ahhs" were frequent. A good time was had by all and we greatly appreciate the Anderson's wonderful hospitality.

Our hosts, Patti & Jim Anderson

Our Traditional Holiday Party and Annual Meeting

Thursday

December 4

6:30 - 9:00 pm

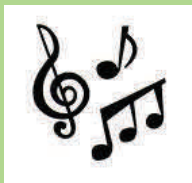
**Annual Board
Election
will be held**



**Jackie &
Bubba Bland's
Very
Lovingly
Restored
Historic Home**

1022 South Ramona

Corona High School's



Madrigal Choir

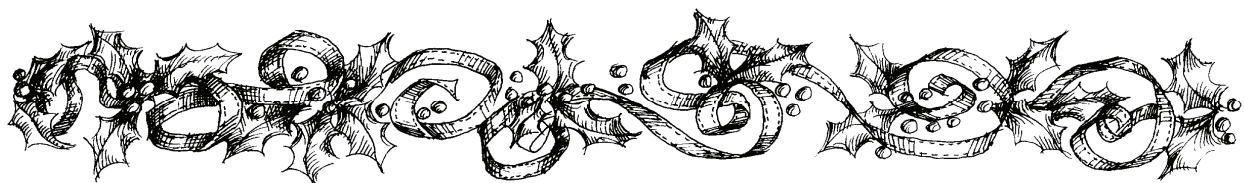
**Potluck Dinner
Food Assignments**

Based on first letter of last name

A-E Desserts

F-Q Appetizers

R-Z Salads / Vegetables



**Important: If you plan to attend, please
call Jackie at 734-3166 by November 30**



Saga of the Sagging Pillars of Woman's Improvement Club of Corona

By Doris Osko



BEFORE: Front and side porches in need of restoration.

What does it take to move back in place a pillar which is slowly pulling away from the porch it was part of when the building was constructed almost 100 years ago? The Board of the Woman's Improvement Club, located at the corner of Main and Eleventh Streets in Corona, discovered this was no easy task when dealing with an historic building.

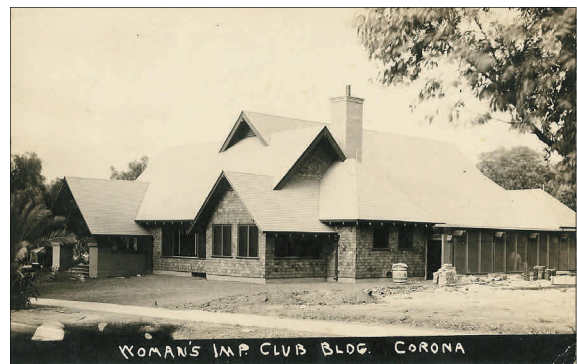
The clubhouse, built in 1913, was the only Corona building still standing in 2005 which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Corona's Carnegie Library was placed on the list in 1977 only to be demolished in 1978. It would be necessary to make all necessary repairs in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Buildings. As president of WIC and its Board in 2005, I turned to the Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee, Lynn Mitchell, to seek some means to make the costly repairs which our budget could not begin to cover. (WIC is a non-profit service organization serving others since 1899.) The answer was to apply for and to receive a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the City of Corona. In addition the City provided a specialist, Maureen Brooks, to oversee the project. It was Maureen who sent out bid requests to those architects/contractors who were qualified by the state of California to do work on historic buildings. This process revealed the fact that not only one pillar, but five altogether, including those on the side porch as well as the front porch had been undermined by a rerouted irrigation system that caused water to seep beneath them and for the soil to erode. The project would involve changing the irrigation system, repairing concrete steps, porch and walkways, reinforcing the pillars and moving them upright. It was not known if the original brick pillars had been rein-



AFTER: All restoration work has been completed.

forced internally and if not, might shatter during such a move. Inherent in the investigation into the cause of the "leaning pillars" was the need to hire a soil engineer, geotechnical experts, architects, and a variety of contractors. The actual repairs took place in the summer of 2008.

What caused the project to take three years to finally come to fruition? Each time the experts looked at the work to be done, the estimated cost of the repairs increased. With each increase it was necessary for Woman's Improvement Club to request more funds. Each time the request was made it was necessary for the project specialist to send out yet again requests for bids and start the process all over again. Corona's California Historic Preservation Society was cognizant of the problem with the pillars, and Past-President Julie Stern in 2008 made inquiries of the Corona City Council members to insure that the project would come to as speedy a conclusion as possible. Three years and \$110,000.00 later this historic old building has two lovely restored porches.



This vintage postcard is from 1913 when the clubhouse was being built. The Board recently voted to recognize this site with CHPS Historic Marker #14.

Jameson's Pepper Corner in Corona

Researched by Patricia Barker



The Pepper Corner Station & Store were located on the Jameson's Eastland Ranch on the northwest corner of Fullerton and Ontario avenues. Fullerton ended at Ontario at that time. Fullerton has since been realigned.

The Eastland Ranch, one of several Jameson properties, encompassed the area from Hudson Street to Kellogg Avenue from below Ontario Avenue south to Lemon Street (now known as Chase Drive.)

Across Ontario Avenue to the south was the house seen in the above photo. Bob Kampling's parents and family lived in the house and ran a water pump business. The white house, at 930 E. Ontario, now serves as the meetinghouse for the church Templo Nuevo Vida.

This "company store" (identified by the arrow) was across the street from the Kampling's house and is seen in the enlarged photo to the right. It dispensed a full line of groceries and small appliances. It had two gas pumps facing Ontario and was nestled among the dozen or so small company houses, where ranch workers and their families could live with the \$5 monthly rent charged against their wages. There was also an equip-

ment barn located nearby where wagons, equipment and mules were housed in the 1930s and 1940s.

The red Mobil Oil truck that serviced the Jameson smudge pots, could be seen when it was parked at Pepper Corner at the end of each day.

Both photos are of the Kampling property and show little mounds of dirt into which the orange tree seedlings were planted. Within a few years mature orange trees dotted the property.

If you try to find Pepper Corner on a map of the area, you may be out of luck. But if you program your GPS navigation system to an address nearby, you will often see the intersection of Fullerton and Ontario avenues identified as "Pepper Corner."



Annual Election of Board of Directors

The Election will take place at the Annual Holiday Party on December 4, 2008.

The Nominating Committee has proposed the following slate:

Directors

Thurston "Bubba" Bland
Jim Bryant
Christine Gary
Lauralynn Hake
Mary Winn

Emeritus Directors

Marla Benson
Janette Neumann
Ted Taylor

Per the CHPS Bylaws, Directors terms are for two years; Emeritus Directors are for one year.

You are Cordially Invited To Join Us . . .

On Saturday, December 13th, Society members are invited to join Board members in our pre-holiday work party at Settlement House and the Benedict House. Since 2002, CHPS has been furnishing landscaping upkeep services to both historic properties. The addresses are 507 and 511 South Vicentia Avenue.

Please join us at 8:00 a.m. and bring your garden gloves and clippers. It should only take us an hour or so to spruce up the planters and tidy up the grounds. It's fun and your help will be greatly appreciated!

Call Richard or Mary Winn at 371-5291 for additional information.

Book Review: *Letters from the Orange Empire*

Written by G. Harold Powell

Reviewed by Kathy Sinkovich

A copy of this book came into my hands in a very circuitous way. A few months ago when I was staffing the Heritage House Gift Shop in Riverside, a woman presented me with it. She told me that she had mentioned it to another staff member on a previous visit who had expressed interest in it and had brought it for her. Accordingly I in turn gave it to that person; she then returned it to me upon completing it. I was enchanted with it because of the detailed information about the early Citrus industry on the west coast and Powell's keen observations of the people and places he encountered.

G. Harold Powell, who received an M.S. Degree in Horticulture from Cornell University in 1896, was a pomologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He initially came to California in 1904 to "help the state's citrus farmers solve the problem of spoilage in long distance shipping of their crops."

This book contains letters written to his wife Gertrude, who stayed in Washington, D.C., with their sons Harold Clark Powell and George Townsend Powell, II., from January 23 to March 3, 1904 and later from March 4 to August 14, 1909. Between those two periods, Powell resided in Riverside with his wife and children. His travels took him from San Francisco to San Diego, from Redlands to Los Angeles, and up the coast to Washington with stops in between. His letters are fascinating because of the valuable information he provides on the flourishing citrus industry in those areas and the people he met.

Over time, his reputation grew so much that he left federal employment in 1911 and moved his family at first to Los Angeles and then to South Pasadena. He served as secretary and general manager of the Citrus Protective League in L.A. in which position he lobbied for higher tariffs and lower railroad shipping rates. Later he became the general manager of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange until his death. On February 18, 1922, barely 50 years old, Powell died of a heart attack at a public dinner which he attended in the Hotel Maryland in Pasadena. At his memorial service a month later, dignitaries such as Henry C. Wallace, then Secretary of Agriculture, and Herbert C. Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, spoke in his honor.

The letters written to "My dearest Gertrude" and signed with "Affectionately, Harold," are quite down-to-earth, detailing not only the travels he made to various towns to assess the state of horticulture in each but mundane items such as financial difficulties when he advised his wife which bills to pay and how much he was spending. A quite social person who thrived on meeting new people, his letters are replete with local names such as Frank Augustus Miller, builder of the then Glenwood Mission Inn, and Ethan Allen Chase, founder of the National Orange Company of Riverside, after whom



Chase Drive is named. He stayed at the Glenwood very often and preferred it to the Del Coronado: "... it doesn't compare with the Glenwood for artistic finish and homelike comfort. I pay \$4.00 a day for a small coup of a room with a folding bed."

Powell was particularly impressed with the pepper trees at the San Gabriel Mission: "...whose branches hang gracefully over the end of the mission. The pepper by the way is the finest tree I have seen here. For grace and beauty and delicate shading it surpasses all of its companions. It has something of the aspect of the weeping willow, but the foliage is smaller and darker, and the clusters of bright red berries give it a lively tone."

The local growers and owners were quite taken with Powell: "I am hearing the most flattering comments on the way in which people have been impressed with my way of looking into their industry...It seems that everyone before has been a laboratory man, and it seems to be a revelation to have a scientist who knows the practical side as well as the scientific."

In 1908 at a Refrigeration Conference in Paris, he met Dr. Mary Engle Pennington, Chief of the Food Research Laboratory, Bureau of Chemistry, USDA, with whom he carried on a "prolonged liaison" which he kept secret from everyone except his wife. Although he asked her for a divorce in 1911, she refused, as she later informed one of her sons, "It was for you boys," she said, "and his career." Dr. Pennington appeared often in his letters; in one written from the Glenwood Mission Inn, he comments: "As we were leaving the Florida bunch yesterday, one of them came up and said, 'I hope that you and the Madame will come see us in Florida.' Most of them thought she was "Mrs. Powell."

During World War I he relocated to Washington, D.C. to assume charge of the Perishable Foods Division of the food Administration; in that capacity he was responsible for moving thirty-five millions tons a year. After the war he assisted with food distribution in Belgium, France, and Italy.

One of Powell's lasting contributions to the citrus industry was his recommendation on the handling of fruit prior to packing which improved the quality of the fruit upon delivery. From a local standpoint, he was most influential in "pressuring the University of California to enlarge the Citrus Experiment Station and to establish it permanently in Riverside."

The extant letters of G. Harold Powell are in the Powell Family Papers 230 in the UCLA Research Library. Interestingly enough, one of the persons thanked by Richard G. Lillard, the editor of these letters, was Kriste J. Hall, Heritage Room, Corona Public Library.

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 Our New & Continuing Members

Rich and Tacy Bensiek
Richard Birkmann
Wanda Cleveland
Ed & Linda Faxon
Joan H. Hall
Jeff & Debora Miller

Fred & Vicki Parr
Mark & Nancy Parrish
George & Pat Scott
Shirley Stemska
John Zickefoose

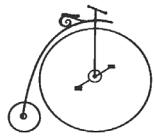
14th Annual Victorian Twelfth Night Celebration

The Old Riverside Foundation, a non-profit organization for historic preservation, is planning it's 14th Annual Victorian Twelfth Night Celebration for Friday, January 9th and Saturday, January 10th, 2009. The evening will include a four-course progressive dinner hosted in some of the Heritage Square Historic District's most illustrious vintage homes with transportation between the homes provided by horse-drawn carriages. Seating will be at 6:30pm or 8:30pm. Make your reservations early, as Saturday tickets sell quickly! Tickets are \$85 per person. Proceeds benefit historic preservation in Riverside and the Inland Empire.



Please check our website or call for more information. Tickets may be purchased at <www.olderiverside.org>. If ordering by mail, send a check made out to "ORF" at Old Riverside Foundation, P.O. Box 601, Riverside, CA 92502.

For additional information contact: Nancy Parrish, Factsgirl@aol.com.
Phone: 951-683-2725 or visit <www.olderiverside.org>.



Corona
Historic
Preservation
Society

Board of Directors

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

Directors

Jackie Bland
Thurston "Bubba" Bland
Jim Bryant
Aaron Hake
John Kane

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

Thursday, Nov 20, 6:30 at CHPS office

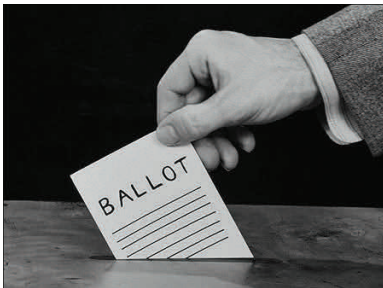
Thursday, Dec 4, 6:30 at 1022 S. Ramona



Visit us: www.CoronaHistory.org



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



**Vote
November 4th**



Holiday Party Location

Don't Forget Our Annual Holiday Party

Thursday, December 4th See page 3