

### A Message From Your President Tom Richins

Dear Members,

Recently while researching the early History of Corona, I came across a sister city of Corona that was never built. Yet, to understand the origins of this phantom city, then you have to know how Corona was started.

To facilitate the startup of Corona (originally known as South Riverside), five founders R.B. Taylor, George Joy, Samuel Merrill, Adolph Rimpau and A.S. Garretson, organized themselves under the corporation of the South Riverside Land and Water Company. It was through this company they purchased all the lands of Corona. It was also through this company that all of their business activities were conducted.

Of course we all know that Corona, having started in 1886 under land boom conditions, was an immediate success. It was also these same conditions that decided investors to build a railroad named the Pomona, South Riverside & Elsinore railway that would travel from Pomona to Lake Elsinore.

At the start of 1887, with grading for the railroad under way, the same five Corona founders under the direction

collapsed.

Thus, the land set aside for the new town was folded back in to Corona city limits and the founding of Oakadena/Tin Mines failed and never came up again. But, if you are wondering just where in the city limits Oakadena was supposed to be, then look no further than the Corona Crossings. Basically, Oakadena was to be located from where Cajalco starts to journey up the mountain, to shortly before the I-15 Freeway.

It is summertime now. Please enjoy all of Corona’s landmarks and the beautiful history that goes with them. Also please shop at Oakadena. I am positive they will appreciate it...

Sincerely,

TOM RICHINS



—Tin Mines is the new name that supplants Oakadena as the designation of the new town on the Harrington place. If not so musical it is more characteristic, and “a rose by any other name,” etc.

#### OAKADENA!

Is now on the  
MARKET.

—IT IS—  
**BEAUTIFULLY LOCATED**

—ABOUT—  
**SIX MILES**

#### South Riverside

ON THE  
Pomona, South Riverside  
& Elsinore Railway,

Being part of the Famous Harrington Ranch. This ranch  
has been in a high state of cultivation for years, and  
is nearly all set out to

ORANGES, PEACHES, APRICOTS, WALNUTS  
AND GRAPES,

And almost every lot has one or several varieties of bearing  
fruit trees or vines on it. The lots are of various sizes,  
being 25x120, 50x150, 200x200 and 200x400,  
beside several nice tracts of 2 1/2 to 7 acres  
each, already planted to fruit.

**EACH LOT IS A PRIZE.**

of the South Riverside Land and Water Company felt it would be best to start a another townsite along the new railroads route.

Therefore, in October of 1887, Oakadena was announced in the *South Riverside Bee*.

However, poor Oakadena never did get off to a good start. One reason was that no one liked the name. In fact just one month later, Oakadena was renamed to “Tin Mines” (because of its proximity to the tin mines.)

Then the next set of bad news came when the announced Pomona, South Riverside and Elsinore railway lost its funding and railroad construction



Map: Courtesy of Corona Public Library

# I Remember When... Dave Macias

By Tom Richins

In March of 2015, my friend and neighbor, Dave Macias, agreed to place his house on the 2015 Vintage Home Tour. Not only did the money generated from ticket sales of the home tour go to a worthy cause, but Dave owns the W.H. Jameson House. Corona was founded in 1886 and the Jameson house was built one year later in 1887. For almost as long as Corona has been around, so has Jameson's house. It was special to see the doors open and everyone come inside and see the house where one of Corona's pioneers lived. Certainly, the house has a great history, but so does its owner, Dave Macias.

It all started when Dave's parents, Ramon and Lupe Macias, moved to Corona in the 1930s. Ramon took a job working the orchards at Chase Ranch, and from then on, Corona was where the Macias family became established. Ramon built the family house on Quarry Street. It has since been demolished and the property was purchased by the city. The land now serves as a parking lot for the current city swimming pool. Yet, Dave remembers the location well. For it was in that small house in 1939 he was born the sixth child of the eventual 13 children to Ramon and Lupe. Dave explained that when his mother went into labor, Dr. Hermann arrived at his house, fell through a bad spot in the floor, got up, dusted himself off, and then immediately delivered him to his mother.

In writing this article, it would be easy to just tell the good and leave out the bad. But then the true history really wouldn't be told. The truth is, growing up of Mexican descent on Quarry Street was a hard life. If you talk to the old-timers in Corona and ask them what their greatest regret was on behalf of our city, they will all tell you that in the old days there was racism in Corona. Dave, as a child, was on the wrong side of those days. He remembers those times. He explained that in his neighborhood there were no sidewalks, the street lighting was lacking, and there were stray dogs everywhere. He also remembers the unspoken curfew for not going past 6th Street. From talking to Dave, what seemed to bother him most was that he had to walk a long ways to Washington Elementary. Whereas Lincoln Elementary, that he wasn't allowed to go to, was only half the distance.

Moving forward, it is fair to say that the times were tough, but for Dave and the Macias family, life was also good,. Dave says that a millionaire, Mr. Lindsay moved to Corona and decided to drive up Chase Drive looking to hire someone full-time to attend to the landscaping of his estate. The first person Mr. Lindsay ran into was Dave's father, Ramon Macias. Immediately, Ramon quit the ranch to work for Mr. Lindsay full time. Mr. Lindsay owned a large parcel of land at the corner of East Grand and Garretson. In taking care of this parcel, Ramon learned that he needed help with the upkeep. That was when Dave and his two older brothers were recruited by their father to help with the work.



Dave was just a kid when he worked for Mr. Lindsay, but he says that he loved it. Dave, his brothers and father worked hard taking care of the landscaping, but in additional overtime, he developed a special relationship with Mr. Lindsay. It turns out that Mr. Lindsay was very generous. He paid for piano lessons for Dave at his house, and that every year right before school, Mr. Lindsay would give Dave and his brothers each \$100 cash to buy new clothes.

Eventually, Mr. Lindsay sold a small lot on his property to the movie actor Charlie Grapewin. It is rare for a movie star to move to Corona but certainly Grapewin was qualified. He is especially remembered as playing Dorothy's Uncle Henry in "Wizard of Oz" and Uncle Joad in "Grapes of Wrath." Charlie acted in more movies in the 1930s than any other actor. Mr. Grapewin built

his house and he hired the Macias boys to do the landscaping. Dave liked Charlie Grapewin. He explained that Charlie would keep giving him shoes and he could never wear them because they were always too small. Dave also said Charlie was nice and was always sneaking 50¢ pieces to him and his brothers when their father wasn't looking.

Over time, both Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Grapewin passed on. Dave's days of professional landscaping were over. His father, Ramon, moved on to become the head landscaper for Desi Arnaz. Over breakfast, Dave told stories of how Ramon and Desi became good friends. When Desi had parties with movie stars attending, Ramon and Lupe were always invited. He also mentioned that even after Desi and Lucille Ball divorced Desi still took care of Lucy. Many times Ramon was dispatched down to Corona del Mar to attend to the landscaping at Lucy's house.

As for Dave, he attended Washington Elementary until the 4th grade. It was then determined by schools' superintendent John Stallings that school segregation needed to end and for 4th and 5th grade, Dave went to the newly built Lincoln Elementary School on Fullerton. He attended Corona Junior High and, of course, Corona High School. Dave (Class of 1958), talked as if his days in high school were some of the best days of his life. He played for the football team and was their second ever Mexican quarterback. He also played basketball as a forward and ran the 440 and 880 in track. Dave was all-CIF in track during his senior year.

Shortly after graduating, Dave married his high school sweetheart, Adella Rico. Together they remained in Corona and raised three kids. She has since passed away.

Dave says his whole life he was always working. During his sophomore year, he worked at the Food Town Market. For his junior year he worked as a prep cook at Cupid's and his senior year he worked for Stater Brothers.



## Dave Macias continued

As for his professional career, Dave worked for over 20 years for Safeway in Corona. He started as a clerk, then became produce manager, supervisor, and later a junior executive. He also jumped into other endeavors. In 1975, he bought the Joy Street Market, and in 1978 he purchased the El Torero restaurant on East Third Street.

At the end of our breakfast this morning, I asked Dave:



“What has been your favorite part of living in Corona?” I thought he would answer: his house, or his time spent at Corona High School, or even the days he spent working for Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Grapewin. However, his answer was deeper and more profound. I hope it is an answer that in the sunset of our lives we will all be able to give. Dave’s answer was, Every second of my life in Corona, I have loved.”

## \*\*\*Important: The Society's Newsletter is Going Green\*\*\*

The digital color version of this *CHPS Newsletter* has been sent via email for some time to a portion of our members who voluntarily agreed to this method. We are now catching up with technology and want to become more environmentally friendly. Therefore, we will soon begin sending the digital all-color version to **all members with email addresses**.

This action is not meant to discourage members but we want to be more efficient, cost-effective and, most importantly, become more environmentally friendly.

Everyone will receive one more printed version, but by the end of the year we would like to email the digital version to **all members with email addresses**.

**Please verify your email address by sending your name and email address to Mary Winn at <toothladytwo@aol.com> to confirm that we have your correct address on file.**

If you have special needs, or wish to comment on these measures, please drop a line to CHPS, attn: Mary Winn, P.O. Box 2904, Corona, CA 92878 or leave a message at 951.371.5291.

We will continue to remind you that your membership is due by sending a printed copy with a reminder notice and Self Addressed Envelope through the U. S. Postal Service.

Hard copies will still be available for the general public at the Corona Public Library and at Heritage Park Museum.

## A New Historic Site Marker Has Been Placed

Recently, Life Scout Carter Coggins constructed a monument upon which to affix Corona Historic Preservation Society Historic Site Marker Number 21. This marker commemorates the site of the last large citrus-related business in Corona, Exchange Lemon Products..

The marker is located just off the sidewalk on the east side of Joy Street just north of the railroad tracks. The marker recounts an abbreviated history of the site that was significant to Coronans from 1915 to 1983. The marker site is also identified on our CHPS website on our Historic Site Marker Map. To the right is an image of the marker plaque which contains an aerial photographic image of the entire site which encompassed most of the property between the railroad tracks and Parkridge Avenue and Joy Street eastward. The whistle from the plant is now located in the W.D. Addison Heritage Room’s collection at the Corona Public Library but many in town remember the whistle blowing at regular times by which one could set their watch.

Carter Coggins is affiliated with Troop 399 and had work crews on site on several occasions, digging the footing, pouring the foundation, placing rebar, laying the block on the foundation, covering the block with layers of ledger stone to give it a built-up appearance and placing the concrete podium top to which the marker was attached.



### EXCHANGE LEMON PRODUCTS - SUNKIST PLANT 1915 - 1983

In 1915, California Fruit Growers Exchange organized the Exchange By-products Company to manufacture by-products from lower grades of lemons. Corona was chosen because it occupied a central position in the lemon producing area, because there were good rail facilities to Corona, and from there to marketing centers and finally, because the Queen Colony Fruit Exchange had donated a factory site for the proposed plant. The company’s membership was the same as the California Fruit Growers Exchange. Originally, the plant processed lemons for citric acid and lemon oil by using everything from peel to pulp. In 1921 the name was changed to Exchange Lemon Products Company. By 1924, the company had added pectin which was developed by the Exchange’s Research Laboratory. In 1958 the Exchange Lemon Products Company merged with Sunkist Growers, Inc. It became known as the Lemon Products Division for Sunkist Growers, Inc. Operations ceased in 1983 due to use of obsolete equipment, the gradual shift of the citrus growing region out of Southern California and increased environmental regulatory requirements that required costly facility retrofitting.

Corona Historic Preservation Society  
Historic Site Marker #21

# Recap of the Antiques & Collectibles Faire By Fred Parr



The 14th Annual Corona Antiques & Collectibles Faire was held on June 6th and brought a large number of treasure hunters and history buffs to Corona Heritage Park & Museum. The event is held on the first Saturday of each June and it gets bigger and better each year. Along with the huge collection of antique and collectible items for sale, the entire park was open for visitors including the Model Train Club and their meticulously scaled version of 1949 Corona, working artists-in-residence studios, the Arts Colony gallery, Corona Heritage Museum and all the beautiful gardens found within the park.

The CHPS raised funds for our programs and projects with our own antique booth offering for sale rescued architectural and structural items. Of course, our old-fashioned lemonade stand which served free freshly-squeezed lemonade made entirely from locally grown fruit.

If you missed this wonderful event, we hope you will mark your calendars for June 4th of 2016, and plan to come out and join us.



# 2015 Vintage Home Tour By Doris Osko

Corona Historic Preservation Society completed its eighth successful Vintage Home Tour on May 2, 2015, and it is hard to tell who had a better time - the visitors or the docents and those who volunteered their services throughout the day. The event was successful as a fundraiser. Earnings will be used for CHPS programs, such as funding the Historic Home Preservation Grant program for homeowners who wish to improve the curb appeal of their vintage homes or providing historical markers at special sites. Some of the docents, dressed in outfits reminiscent of a bygone era, have returned year after year to guide patrons through the interesting Corona homes. For many it is a time for learning, for reminiscing, and animated conversation.

This year's tour included the First Baptist Church, a historical jewel at 722 Main Street, which has already been a recipient of Historic Marker No.11 in 2005, (built in 1937-38.) Two Boy Scouts greeted visitors at the main door, and church members guided them throughout this treasure-laden historical site. The Corona church itself was founded in 1891. Mary Paulson, who coordinated much of the church's part of the tour, received for the church members a certificate of appreciation from Mayor Eugene Montanez on behalf of the City of Corona. The mayor was accompanied by event Chair Paula Muñoz and President Tom Richins. All of the home owners of the other four sites on the tour also received this recognition.

The tour included the "Jameson House" at 1036 East Grand Boulevard, built in 1893, (owners David Macias and Casimiera Wisniewski,) the "Ranney House," at 1307 South Main Street, built in 1930, (owners Meggie and Charlie Righton,) the home at 122 East Olive Street, built in 1916, (owners Brandon and Rachel Van

Tassel,) and the "Emerson House," at 1518 South Main Street, built in 1938, (owners Jonathan and Kelly Clubb.) All four homes have received Heritage Home Awards and reflect the theme of this year's tour, "Cherishing the Past." A silent auction during the tour resulted in lucky donors receiving tickets to Glen Ivy Spa valued at \$120.00 each. The CHPS Board of Directors expresses gratitude to the sponsors and all who contributed to make this year's tour successful.

To view a wide variety of images from the Home Tour, please visit this site: [www.Corona-History.org/2015-vht.html](http://www.Corona-History.org/2015-vht.html). They were taken by the very talented professional photographer Melanie Johnson. Photos from previous home tours are also available for you to review.



# Recap: Our Visit to the American Legion Hall

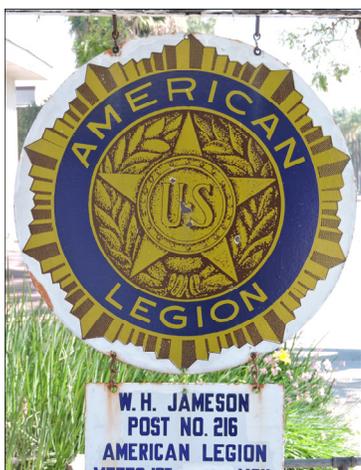
On Saturday, June 20, our Society's members had the opportunity to visit the Memorial Hall of Corona's oldest American Legion Post and view much of the memorabilia housed therein. Who would have thought that one might be able to see War Bond posters from World Wars I and II, medals and ribbons from the Civil War, uniforms, helmets, brimmed caps, mess kits, utility belts, and many other unexpected treasures from various wars? Corona's Post 216 was organized in 1924 as the Reveille Post.

Construction on this red-tile roofed Mission Revival, reinforced concrete structure began in 1927, on land provided by the W.H. Jameson family, when a group of its World War I veterans supplied the labor and materials under the direction of architect Cuthbert Gully and construction superintendent Frank Pinkerton, both of

whom were Post members. The building was dedicated March 23, 1929. When W. H. Jameson Jr. died unexpectedly 2 1/2 years later, the Post was renamed in his honor as the W. H. Jameson Jr. Post 216.

For many years it served as a public and private meeting place. In addition to Legionnaires' meetings, movie "extras" ate their meals in the hall during filming of *Storm Warning* in December of 1949. Among the many activities held here have been wedding receptions, dances and a generation of junior high students even learned ballroom dancing within the walls of this treasured edifice. By 1976, the membership of the Post had dwindled and 2/3 of the building was leased out to other commercial entities to provide the Post with additional income.

We thank Fred Parr for the photos below.



This sign hangs on Main Street.



Some of our attendees gathered for a group photo in front of the massive stone fireplace. It is certainly the focal point in the room.



Programs Chairman Tom Munoz is welcoming members and sharing stories.



The Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion is posted on the wall. The Post and its Auxiliary Charters are seen on either side of the American Legion emblem.

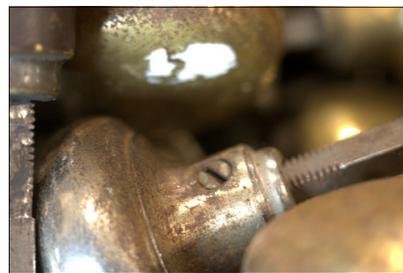


Attendees thoroughly enjoyed looking through a variety of photo albums showing the Post's previous activities.



This hand crafted sign is found on an interior wall of the American Legion Hall.

## Architectural Salvage Available



CHPS has limited amounts of architectural salvage items or materials available to those of you who may be restoring your vintage homes. Included in the inventory are vintage windows, shutters, doors, cabinets, molding and hardware. If you need such items, call CHPS at 951.898.2044, leave a brief message (< 1 minute) and be sure to leave your name and telephone number.

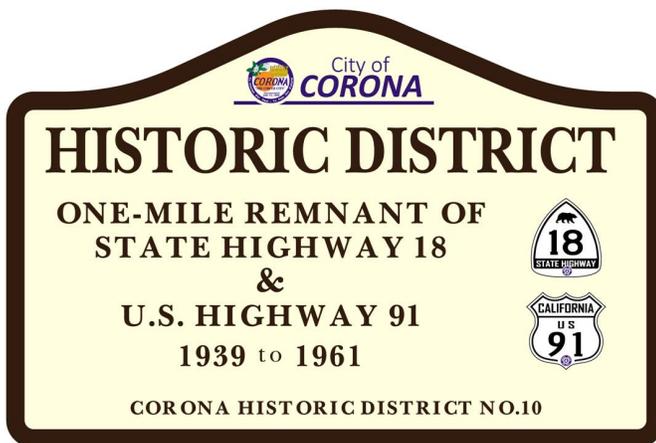
## Looking Back at the Term “Shivaree” By Mary Winn

Many of you have perhaps heard this word before and even experienced it on your wedding night, but the word may be unfamiliar to younger CHPS members. Upon one’s wedding night, the custom was to cause grief to the newlyweds through a variety of pranks and noisy salutations. Some traditions included wheeling the bride about in a wheelbarrow or tying cowbells under a wedding bed. Other antics were quite common at one time. My aunt shared how her friends and family during the early 1950s tried to separate her and her new husband by “wifening” her, but their hijinx were unsuccessful. These traditions have evolved over time. The tying of tin cans to the newlyweds’ car is something we now see mainly in old movies. Current pranks include the decorating of the getaway car with a variety of materials and “just married” slogans. The term originally meant “headache” in Latin, and, after reviewing even just a few of the details, one can certainly see why this was the case.

## New Historic District Named in Corona

On June 3, 2015, the Corona City Council acted favorably on the Society’s application to name the one-mile segment of the Palisades Drive roadway on the west end of town, from the Wardlow Wash bridge to about 500 feet east of Green River Road, as an Historic District.

This roadway is the last remnant of the old US-91 and State Highway 18 roadway in western Riverside County, and perhaps in the entire state, that retains the original characteristics of the highway as they existed from 1939-1961. The characteristics of note are the bridge curbing with the year of its construction (1939) stamped into the curbing, the almost 400 feet of timber guardrail on the western end of the roadway and the raised curb median with its indented curb “divots”, used at that time to mark lanes.



Median curbing with sockets



Year built (1939) is stamped on right side of Historic Wardlow Wash bridge curbing. Socketed curb indentations can also be seen.



Historic timber guard-rail

# Membership Information

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

Individual Member	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>I'd like to volunteer!</b>	
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

Carol Ackerman  
Jennie Adamo  
Roger & Janet Becker  
Benny & Marla Benson  
Dr. Robert Brandt Benson  
Barbara Bucher  
Jim & Marie Cambuzzi

Ada J. Hand  
Wayne & Marjorie Keith  
Robert & Ruth Kremer  
Hazel & Barbara Lohman  
Gary & Doris Osko  
Stephen & Erma Paloma  
Fred & Vicki Parr

Clarcy A. Phillips  
Darrell & Kym Talbert  
Ola Talbert - Patron  
Gretchen Scoggins  
David & Lynette Tougas  
Clyde R. Tracy  
John Wiles

## Our Home Preservation Grant Program

The CHPS Grant Committee along with the Board of Directors of the Corona Historic Preservation Society would love to assist local homeowners in making exterior 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 you



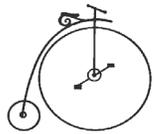
own or a neighbor's, please feel free to contact CHPS Home Preservation Grant Program Chairman Tom Richins at [trichins@dbacinc.com](mailto:trichins@dbacinc.com) or 949.795.2288.

We will assist you in any way possible to provide the information you need to complete the application process.

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

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

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



Corona  
Historic  
Preservation  
Society

## Board of Directors

President - Tom Richins  
Vice-President - Tom Muñoz  
Secretary - Doris Osko  
Treasurer - Richard Winn

### Directors

Christine Gary  
Trisha Henson  
Paula Muñoz  
Fred Parr  
Mary Winn

### Advisors

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.**

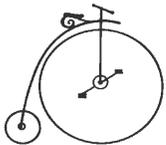
The next meetings will be:

**Thursday, July 16, 6:30 P.M. at CHPS office**

**Thursday, Aug 20, 6:30 P.M. at CHPS office**



**Visit us at: [www.Corona-History.org](http://www.Corona-History.org)**



Corona  
Historic  
Preservation  
Society

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



Happy 4th of July



**Be sure to check out our newly reconstructed website!  
[www.Corona-History.org](http://www.Corona-History.org)**