

### A Message From Our President Christine Gary

Dear Members,

It has been a very nice summer so far. I hope everyone has enjoyed the sunny and warm weather like I have.

Corona's community activities kept us very busy on the 4th of July. Several CHPS Board members enjoyed a trip north on Main Street in the shiny vintage Packard seen in this photo. We thank CHPS members Glenn & Janet Johnson and Gil Lopez for their participation by facilitating Society members to "ride in style" in the parade. The Society's booth at the evening activities at Santana Park was a huge success as well. More details and photos of our busy day are shared within this newsletter.



Main Street Parade goes get a chance to view CHPS Board members riding in a classic 1937 Packard convertible sedan owned by Glenn & Janet Johnson. The lucky chauffeur is Gil Lopez..

CHPS is proud to announce a wonderful achievement. At the August 5th Corona City Council meeting the council voted unanimously to give final approval to comprehensive design guidelines as a revision to the Downtown Revitalization Specific Plan for Commercial Development. This major project has been in the works for at least two years. The City Council requested our input, so after hundreds of volunteer hours researching and writing, the guidelines are in place. They will add continuity and additional architectural style elements involving classic and examples of local historic architecture from which developers may choose for new construction. These guidelines are applicable within Corona's Historic Downtown Commercial areas inside the boundaries of Grand Boulevard. Special thanks go to Richard Winn and other members who reviewed the material to complete this project. Our next opportunity will be to consult with city staff and provide input regarding infill residential design guide-

lines. Members are invited to provide input as well so please let Richard Winn know your thoughts at <saftguy141@aol.com>.

A statuesque and very architecturally significant church was recently added to Corona's listing of historic resources. The First Congregational Church, located at 8th and Ramona Streets, was submitted for inclusion by members of its congregation. The Planning Commission and City Council approved it as an addition to the list. The Congregational Church was the first church

established in Corona. This gothic revival structure has beautiful stained glass windows and interior and exterior design elements that make it truly unique. The church has been a showcase element in our community for nearly 100 years. We are very happy that this historic church has been officially recognized.



The First Congregational Church was recently named an Historic Landmark on Corona's Register of Historic Resources.

Mark your calendar now for our next Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, September 19. We are going on a DRIVING TOUR OF THE HISTORIC MARKERS. To join the fun, meet us at Jackie and Bubba Bland's home at 1022 S. Ramona. We will group up in a few cars and caravan to the markers, return to the Bland's beautiful home and yard for lunch and conversation. We hope you can make it. Please be sure to call Jackie at 734-3166 or Christine at 734-0977 to RSVP.

Looking ahead to our festive Annual Holiday Party, please mark your calendar now so you can join us on December 2.

With warm regards,

*Chris Gary*



# Visiting the W. D. Addison Heritage Room By Richard Winn

On Saturday, June 27, 2009 more than a dozen Society members gathered in the Corona Public Library's W.D. Addison Heritage Room to listen to Librarian Jennifer Marlatt present an overview of the collection of maps, books, original manuscripts, property records, artifacts, citrus labels and fabulous photograph collection.

The tour started off in the Reading Room where shelf after shelf of books, pamphlets and printed media of all types are available for serious researchers and individuals interested in finding out about Corona's history or the histories of Corona's early colonizers. One of the most interesting items in the collection is the collection of phone books where one can correlate names, addresses and telephone numbers. Many original documents, such as handwritten ledgers containing city tax documents are also kept there.

Jennifer showed us early maps of the community for the Orange Heights area (south of the city center) and Auburndale (north of the city center) and pointed out that many early maps would be drawn with the top of the map oriented to the South, unlike present-day maps which are typically oriented with North at the top. On the walls of the Heritage Room "stacks" can be found numerous framed photographs and maps. The library collection includes more than 15,000 photographs, including the *Daily Independent* photographs from the mid 1950s through the mid 1970s, as well as the Hawkeye Aerial Photo collection.

Ms. Marlatt summarized some of the elements of the collection as some 145 manuscripts, including many rare documents containing biographical information of early residents, the historic building survey, conducted in the early 1980s, cataloging building structures more than fifty years old, as well as civil, criminal and traffic court records and that they are currently cataloging the extensive collection of documents and artifacts donated



to the library by the Woman's Improvement Club. She also indicated that cataloging of the library's slide collection is now in progress.

Due to the conscientious efforts of library staff and many volunteers, information from news clippings, fliers and other media is available for search by subject through an information file maintained in the Heritage Room.

The library's extensive microfilm collection includes copies of the *Corona Daily Independent* (except for 1969), the *South Riverside Bee* and the *Corona Courier*.



There is a large collection of information from the Wyle Laboratory.

Most impressive is the collection of maps, posters and oversize photographs filed in the drawers of the map cases and the library's collection of local citrus labels.

Ms. Marlatt's presentation concluded with a slide show of the library's history, beginning with an introduction by Grace Taber, Corona's first librarian. She also provided us with instructions on how to access Heritage Online, the library's collections available on the library's Web site.

That flier has been scanned and can be found on the CHPS Web site <Corona-History.org>. Simply go there and click at the top right on *Info., Links & Contacts*. "How to Use Heritage Online" is at the bottom of the menu and is in pdf format.





# Our Next Quarterly Meeting



## **CARAVAN OF THE MARKERS\*\***



**Saturday, September 19**  
**Meet at the Bland's home at 9:45 A.M.**  
**1022 South Ramona Avenue**

We will visit all 14 Historic Markers and then return to the Bland's home for lunch, relaxing conversation and general merriment.

Carpools will be organized there and we will depart from their home at 10:00 A.M.

Brief explanations will be given on the significance of each site as well as what determined its selection as an historical landmark.

Bring a lunch and we will refrigerate it to be eaten upon our return to the Bland's home. Cold drinks will be provided.

**\*\*To RSVP, please call Jackie at 734-3166 or Christine at 734-0977**

*We hope you can join in the fun!!*

## Historic Marker Map



1. Corona Civic Center
2. First Congregational Church
3. Site of Marshal G.C. Alexander's murder
4. Jefferson Elementary School
5. Corona's first Fire Department station
6. Lincoln School
7. The Victoria Hotel
8. Corona Hospital
9. Corona's first High School
10. The start and finish line for the Corona Road Races
11. First Baptist Church
12. Heritage Park—510 W. Foothill (not on map)
13. Corona Train Depot
14. Woman's Improvement Club

Map is courtesy of City of Corona's Information Technology Department

# I Remember When . . . Ken Kammeyer

Ken Kammeyer moved to Corona from Compton when he was in the 7th grade when his father's employment with Seaside Oil made it necessary. His father's office was located on the second floor of the historic Fox Theater in Riverside. The Seaside Oil logo is reproduced on the Kammeyer Ranch water tank to the right of Ken's left shoulder in the photo to the right.



Ken attended Corona Junior High School, (then called Letha Raney Junior High School) and was a member of Corona High School's graduating class of 1953. He lettered in tennis and played baseball in high school. He was raised on the ranch. After college and marriage to high school sweetheart Carol Ann Emerson. They lived in several homes in Corona before he took over the operation of the ranch after the death of his parents.

## Ken remembers when ...

- He missed the school bus for Junior High, he would run and walk through the groves the more than two miles to school.
- Being sent to Pepper Corner to pick up milk and other foodstuffs by his mother.
- Taking several extremely long car rides to visit his parents' hometowns in Waverly and Waterloo, Iowa.
- He met his future wife, Carol, at Corona High School, when he was a senior and she was a sophomore.
- Driving the family jeep to Norco, where school bus service was unavailable that early, to pick up band members for before school band practice sessions.

● Missing his Junior/Senior Prom due to cold snap and having to spend the night "smudging" the citrus groves for 50 cents per hour.

● His first job was "hacking" brick at Liston Brick Company, located at Temescal Canyon Road and what is now called Cajalco Road.

● He thinks he got his first job because he had been Den Chief to a Cub Scout den of which Mrs. Liston was the Den Mother.

● The Silver Dollar Pancake House had "drive up" service and waitresses took orders at the window of your car and then brought the food to the car.

● One time, he and some friends came out of the Corona Theater and crossed the street to the Safeway market. One of them smacked the rear quarter panel of a passing car with his hand and then laid down in the street pretending to have been hit by the passing automobile.

● His son Ron and Corona High classmate Perry Schafer entered a contest to design commemorative art for the spillway at Prado Dam during the nation's bicentennial year of 1976. The young men won the competition, each received \$50, and they organized the crew that painted message "200 years of Freedom 1776-1976" which can still be seen.

● Very heavy rainfall led to flooding in 1968 or 1969 and Corona was "cut off" and no one could get in or out of the community for a few days.

● He was presented with a Boy Scout Distinguished Eagle Award by former President Gerald Ford.

## Save the Date for Our Holiday Soiree



The Society's Annual Holiday Party will take place on

Thursday, December 2, 2009

6:30 PM

The location will be announced in the next newsletter



# The Benedict House Needs a Touch-up



On Saturday, August 22, a foursome of members met at the Settlement House/Benedict House properties to continue our quarterly maintenance efforts there. Arriving early on Saturday morning, Jackie & Bubba Bland and Mary & Richard Winn trimmed the bougainvillea and other overgrown shrubs, removed unwanted ground cover and deadheaded some of the roses to complete the job started by Settlement House volunteers. Note was taken that, after five years, some of the clapboard siding and overhang at the Benedict House requires some TLC to spruce it up, so we have scheduled a clean-up, fix-up, & painting day for **Saturday, October 3, 2009** with a "back up" day in case of rain or other inclement weather for **Saturday, October 17**. The Benedict House was originally cleaned up and landscaped as part of a Corona Beautiful project. Members and any other volunteers are invited to bring ladders, paint brushes, wire brushes and rollers and join us at 7:00 in the morning to improve the curb appeal of this distinctive historic home. The walls and overhang will be pressure washed a couple of days before the event in order to prepare the surfaces for a new coat of paint or a touch-up. Please come and bring your friends. It's a great opportunity for community service hours for high school students, boy and girl scouts. **\*\*Call the Winns at 371-5291 for information or to volunteer.\*\***

## Our Grant Program

The 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 on site 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 work.



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 and the Heritage Room at the library.

Applications may also be downloaded from the Society's Web

site <www.corona-history.org>. Click on the tab on the far right *Info., Links & Contacts* and then scroll down. Click on *Grants*. Please feel free to share this information with others.



## Fourth of July Corona Style By Judy Hrabak

Yellow biplanes passed over a bright blue sky and an exceptionally large crowd of viewers gathered to watch the parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Historically, Corona citizens love parades, and Main Street was lined thick with people on both sides from Ontario Avenue where the parade started to Olive Street at the end. The parade was well supplied with marchers from seemingly every organization Corona has to offer. The Corona Historic Preservation Society made it's entrance someplace in the middle in a 1937 Packard dual cowl convertible owned by Glenn Johnson, and exclusively driven by Gil Lopez who has nine vintage cars of his own. Riding in this beautiful and very rare vehicle was our President Christine Gary and Directors Jackie Bland and Lauralynn Hake. Ahead of the group, Samantha and Jheehanna, (granddaughters of Bubba and Jackie Bland) carried the Society's banner.



Watching the passing crowd from a float myself, I was impressed with the joyful support shown by the citizens for the organizations and societies, ball teams, boy and girl scouts, bands, classic cars, church and theater groups, fire fighters and other associations who marched that day. Many of the homes along the parade route were highly decorated with flags, bunting and signs that supported our country and the military personnel that serve us. It all seemed a positive reflection of the good life we have here in our city and the U.S.A.

By 3:00 that afternoon, Richard Winn had been at Santana Park for hours setting up the CHPS old-fashioned lemonade and cookies booth to meet Riverside County Health Department requirements. He and some of the other male booth attendees made regular trips for ice and water which were needed to keep up the supply of lemonade, which was selling at a brisk pace that late afternoon and into the evening. We had fun even though we were hot and harried from trying to get the drinks and cookies to the anxious customers in a timely manner, along with trying to find enough dollar bills to make change.

Shift workers were glad when replacements arrived. Both Christine Gary and Lauralynn Hake took turns wearing a yellow cowboy hat with a lemon on top to lure thirsty customers over to our booth. Thank you to Helen and Akio Yoshikawa, Wayne and Judy Hrabak, Aaron and Lauralynn Hake, Bubba and Jackie Bland, and especially Christine Gary and Richard Winn for all the work they did in setting up and selling at our booth that day. This was a first time experience for CHPS to sell lemonade in Santana Park, and it was successful. The Society made more than \$600 that day.



The crowd of people in Santana Park that afternoon was massive; folks came with tents and picnic baskets. Whole families came with children ranging from toddler age to teens. The low altitude fly-by of a C-17 jet cargo aircraft from March Air Reserve Base was both a big hit and a big surprise. The music played that evening was perfect; it was Rock music with renditions that spanned generations. I loved the brass horn in the tunes from Chicago, to hippy songs by The Mama and Papas, and music made popular by Michael Jackson like *Billie Jean* and *The Way You Make Me Feel*. It was a grand event! The Corona Police Department was on the job maintaining crowd control. This is the first year we noticed a truck with a surveillance camera scanning the crowd at a Corona event.

The day



ended with fireworks and 'oohs' and 'aahs' as the audience responded. After the finale of beautiful explosions, the masses sat in silence as the smoke cleared in the night sky. Then the bustling of people could be heard as folks broke down tents and folded up chairs and everyone packed up to go home.

What a lovely day it was from morning to night. I enjoy traveling, but like to stay in Corona on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to take part in the activities our fine city has to offer.

# 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 and mail to:**

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



## We Welcome Our New & Continuing Members

Richard & Mary Jo Boller  
 Gil & Vickie Lopez  
 Darrell Talbert

John L. Trapp  
 Bill & Vickie White

## Architectural Salvage Shoppe

As a service to our members, CHPS has limited amounts of architectural salvage items or materials available to those of you who are restoring your vintage homes. Included in the inventory are windows, shutters, doors, cabinets, molding and hardware.



If you are in need of such items, please call CHPS at 898-2044 and leave a detailed message along with your phone number.





## 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  
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

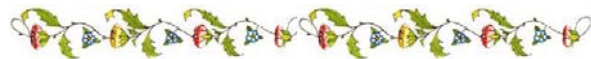
CHPS Board meetings are held each month to transact Society business, discuss issues affecting the Society and preservation of local historic resources.

**All members are invited to attend.**

The next meetings will be:

**Thursday, September 17, 6:30 at CHPS office**

**Thursday, October 15, 6:30 at CHPS office**



**Visit us: [www.corona-history.org](http://www.corona-history.org)**



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



*Join us at Caravan of the Markers*  
**Saturday, September 19th!** See page 3

