

A Message From Our President Christine Gary

Dear Members,

Here we are again at the end of another year. Lately I have been pondering why I love old homes so much. They are like old friends with fond memories. To me they are warm, inviting and have unique personalities enhanced by the people who have lived there before. I can imagine all the long hours of careful design and experienced craftsmanship using high quality materials, many of which are not available anymore. I only wish the walls could talk and tell me what they have seen over the decades. I would never feel comfortable in a newer home.

Our main focus at this time of year is the Holiday Party for all CHPS members on This year it will be held again in the Woman's Improvement Club Multi-purpose room. All CHPS members are invited. More information on this is found inside this newsletter. There

will be great food, friends, and entertainment by the Corona High Madrigals. The annual election of our Board of Directors takes place at this annual event as well. Please be sure to mark your calendars now!

We will be trying to increase awareness of and encourage others to apply for our Preservation Grant Program by sending out a holiday greeting card with a written invitation to homeowners of older homes. Most folks seem to be unaware of our program to offer financial assistance through reimbursement grants to restore aspects of their homes. We hope we get some interested people as there is no downside and much to be gained by our help.

Due to renovations at the Historic Civic Center, we will be relocating our office to a different office space (Suite 185) in the building. The recently installed elevator and maintenance access requirements have necessitated this change. The new office will be around the corner from where our first office has been located and just

outside the double doors in the west wing of the main building. It should suit our needs very well. The entrance to the office will be through the tenant conference room (Suite 180). Recently, the CHPS telephone was inoperative for nearly a month due to wiring issues while work was being done with installation of the elevator. If you ever encounter a constant busy signal in the future and you need to contact us, please call 951.734.0977 or 951.371.5291.



Linda Faxon (on left) discusses one of her many

As 2011 quickly approaches, we look back and reflect upon our activities of 2010. Our Quarterly Meetings this year included a wonderful presentation by Diane Wright impersonating the daughter of Corona's founding father, Ocie Taylor Songer in March, a tour of the historic Mission Inn led by Steve Lech in July, and a presentation of history of Corona's citrus labels and citrus heritage by Linda Faxon.

Our upcoming Holiday Party will serve as our final Quarterly Meeting of 2010. Along the way, we also sponsored a very successful Vintage Home Tour on May 1st, sponsored two booths in the annual Antiques and Collectibles Faire and participated with an entry in the traditional Main Street Parade on the 4th of July.

Please remember that we are in need of help in finding homeowners to offer their homes to be included in the next Vintage Home Tour. If you own a home built over 50 years ago, please consider offering your home for next proposed tour in May 2011. If you have friends or neighbors who own such a home, please ask them if they'd like to have their home on the tour.

We hope to see you all at the fabulous and fun Holiday Party in December.

Warm regards,

Chris Gary



Fascinating Sharing of Citrus History by Doris Osko

“Beautiful women, and beautiful nature,”- that’s the way citrus label expert Linda Faxon described the works of art that were pasted on the wooden crates that held oranges, lemons and grapefruit from Corona, and that were shipped all over the country in the heydays of the citrus packing industry.



Images from Linda Faxon’s collection of Corona citrus labels were on display at our most recent Quarterly Meeting on October 16.

Mrs. Faxon is well qualified to share the history of the Corona labels since she owns 213 of the total 252 that existed from 1895 to about 1950. With her husband Ed helping her to show slides and add comments, Mrs. Faxon was able to share pictures of many of the labels in her hour-long presentation at the Historic Civic Center Community Room at 815 West Sixth Street. She also brought along displays containing reduced-size replicas of all of the labels divided by brand name and packing house.



Collectors Linda and Ed Faxon in front of many labels they’ve collected for over 30 years.

Mrs. Faxon provided a wealth of information as she explained how the exceptional color of the early labels was achieved through skillful German lithographers in San Francisco using “stone lithography.” A stone was etched with the artist’s picture, and ink placed in the tiny holes. The effect on the picture was “stippling,” tiny dots of color. The artists were unnamed because their works were not considered true art because of their commercial nature. The audience was shown the extremely diverse subject matter of the labels under that heading of “beautiful women and beautiful nature.” There were camels, roses, lilies, rabbits, storks, homing pigeons, and geese. There was a robed queen holding oranges and lemons, old

fashioned-princesses, a figure of Minerva, a glass of lemonade, and a young girl holding a branch with lemons. One is said to portray the son of the owner in a “kiddy” car. This son (Roger Verity) was one of the early members of our society. There were scenes of Grand Boulevard, flourishing rows of citrus trees and an El Cerrito ranch house. Present-day streets in El Cerrito reflect brand names from the Orange Heights Orange Association—Ambassador, Diplomat, Consul, and Envoy.

There is no doubt Mrs. Faxon is considered the foremost expert on Corona Citrus labels, and CHPS is grateful she shared her historical expertise.

After the lecture, the audience members were able to enjoy refreshments and talk with Mrs. Faxon and her husband.

Board Member Jackie Bland is in charge of the Quarterly Meetings of the Corona Historic Preservation Society.

Life-long Coronan and collector of Corona ephemera, Don Williamson, is seen here chatting with Linda after her presentation.





Our Traditional Holiday Party and Annual Meeting



Thursday
December 2
6:30 - 9:00 pm

**Annual Board
Member Election
will be held**



The club was founded in 1899. The clubhouse was built in 1913 and is based upon the design of a Welsh church.

This water color image is the work of recently deceased WIC member Coty Porsley.

Woman's Improvement Club
1101 South Main Street

Corona High School's



Madrigal Choir



Potluck Dinner
Food Assignments

Based on first letter of last name

A-E Salads / Vegetables
F-Q Desserts
R-Z Appetizers



Important: If you plan to attend, please call
Doris at 737-1766 by November 26



Annual Election of Board of Directors

The election will take place at our Annual Holiday Party on December 2, 2010.

The Nomination Committee presents the following slate for your consideration:

Directors

Thurston "Bubba" Bland
Christine Gary
Judy Hrabak
Paula Muñoz
Mary Winn

Emeritus Directors

Marla Benson
Janette Neumann
Ted Taylor

Per CHPS Bylaws, the Director term is for two years; Emeritus Director term is for one year.

Our Preservation Grant Program by Bubba Bland

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

We realized the need for people to get started on projects without having to wait a whole year to get reimbursed for cost that would normally be covered by a CHPS Grant. We will 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 primar-

Corona Historic Preservation Society



ily 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 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 off the Corona Public Library.

More information and grant applications can be downloaded from our Web site:

[<http://corona-history.org/grants.html>](http://corona-history.org/grants.html)

Please share this information with others!

Happy 125th Birthday to the Motorcycle & *Huckleberry Finn*

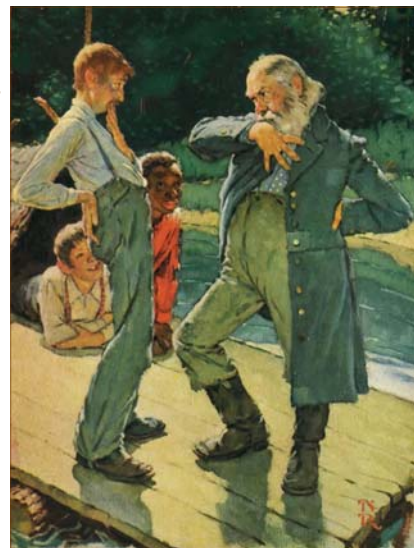


In 1885, "German engineer Gottlieb Daimler was a driven man. Intent on inventing a high-speed, gas-fed, internal combustion engine, he and his partner, Wilhelm Maybach, tested their motor on the simplest vehicle they could find -- a wood-wheeled bike. They pulled off the pedals, affixed the engine to the frame, and, with a trial run, the easy rider was born. The duo didn't monetize their motorized bike; instead, they went down a different road and created a car (and founded what later became the Daimler AG company). But tinkerers took their idea and ran with it. The result: an estimated 200 million motorcycles on roads today."

"Mark Twain was already a literary legend when his *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* debuted in America [in 1885] to a tepid commercial and critical response. But the classic coming-of-age tale, chronicling the antebellum adventures of 'tweenage' Huck and the runaway slave Jim, eventually brought Twain acclaim for his explorations of racism and use of everyday language (like the word 'ain't' in the book's first sentence). While *Finn* has been both celebrated and censored over the years, like *Good Housekeeping*, it has never been out of print."

Good Housekeeping
magazine celebrated its
125th Anniversary
in 2010.

The source of the text in
this article is from its
January 2010 issue.



We Remember When . . . Bob & Ed Garland by Doris Osko

Ed and Bob Garland both agree that what makes Corona memorable are the people. Even though the name "Garland" has been associated with real estate in Corona for forty-five years, for the Garlands the places are always associated with the people who lived in the homes, ran the businesses, and improved the community. "...wonderful friends like the Piesters, the Pauleys, the Harrises, the Vasels, the Mejias, the Cortezes, and on and on." The Garlands' father, known as "E.C." was a stock broker in Arkansas, "not money stocks," Bob says, "but cattle. He was a farmer in the business of buying and selling cattle." E.C. and his wife discovered Corona after visits to relatives here. They liked it so much that they came back and made it their home for the rest of their lives. Bob was born in Arkansas but Ed was born in Corona. The rest of the Garland family consists of a sister Judy who lives in Springfield, Missouri, and another sister who is deceased. Ed and Bob acknowledged their parents' strong work ethic and willingness to "take chances." This translated into their father having numerous businesses throughout the years and constantly moving from home to home. Their first home was at Eighth and Grand, across from the then Gracie's Store on the corner. Their second home was in the Home Gardens area. Ed was born when the family lived at 821 E. Sixth St. He and Bob remember Dr. Herman's Hospital which served so many families in Corona, especially the Hispanic farm workers who were part of the citrus industry.



(L-R) Ed and Bob at their office at 1264 W. Sixth Street

- The whole town would be abuzz when new model cars came out at Cropper Ford, or Swaney Chevrolet, or Wilson Pontiac, or James Motors which sold Chryslers and Dodges.

- Bob graduated from Corona High School in 1955 with a graduating class of 155 seniors. It was the only high school, and students came from every nearby community such as Home Gardens or Mira Loma. Principal Gordon Duncan was

well known in the community and was very active in Rotary. Bob recalls with humor, the principal asking him, "Now how are you going to get out of this?"

- Ed said it was such a tight-knit community, and that the motorcycle policemen knew every teenager in town. Parents might get a personal call from Officers Talbert, Watson, Wade, or Trinka telling them that their child was driving too fast through town. Ed also recalled that the kids had real respect for the officers.

- Local hangouts were the restaurant drive-ins. Customers stayed in their cars, and waitresses came out to take their orders at the High Spot on Vicentia which is the present location of a Thai restaurant. The present Pancake House was a drive-in with a different name, and the owner, "Shorty" who used to constantly get upset with the teenagers. The Corona Bowling Alley and Mava's Ice Cream were familiar hangouts for many of Corona's residents. Sixth Street offered the City Park, the Plunge, Cunning Drug Store and the movies. There was a skating rink at Seventh and Ramona Streets, converted from an old feed store.

- For the Garland family an exciting outing occurred when they drove fourteen miles to Riverside to see *Gone With the Wind*.

- The Elks Club used to be upstairs above a store. It moved to Sixth Street in the 1960s.

- Ed remembers the time before the 91 and 15 Freeways came into existence. He worked at Gil White's Texaco, a full service gas station on E. Grand and Sixth St. He recalls never being able to leave the pumps on weekends. There would be bumper-to-bumper traffic on Sixth St. going east on Fridays, and the same going west on Sundays.

- Sam Spears Grocery Store and Joe Bridges Country Store offered everything from bread to fishing licenses. The policemen and hunters bought ammo at Bridges. A hunter might shoot a dove or even as Bob put it, "a scrawny deer."

The Garlands Remember When...

- In addition to owning Garland Realty, dad E.C. owned a furniture store at 501 S. Main, and the Emerson Hotel on S. Main. In 1942 people who had come to visit family members at the Naval Hospital (The Norconian) in Norco would stay in the hotel. E.C. also owned a grocery store and real estate office at 809 E. Sixth St. across from the present Pancake House. He owned Bell's Café on W. Sixth St. near the old Alpha Beta. Very often the family would live at the same location as the business. A front porch would become an enclosed office. E.C. passed away in 1971. Bob got his real estate license in 1964, and Ed got his in 1975.

- Ed remembered Corona when it was a small town. Birthdays and holidays were a big deal with Mrs. Garland baking the family's favorite "Lazy, Daisy Coconut Cake." Although the family was Southern Baptist by faith, they attended the Church of Christ on South Main St.

- A big event for folks was going downtown at Christmas to see the decorations. People shopped in J.C. Penney's, and Harris's, and Vasel's Department Store at Seventh and Main Streets, and at Emerson-Pauley Menswear.

Also Appearing For the First Time in 1885



AT&T - “Less than a decade after Alexander Graham Bell leaned toward his experimental phone and uttered the famous phrase :’Mr. Watson come here, I want you’ to his assistant down the hall, the inventor was poised to extend the gadget’s calling circle across the continent. As a signal of his expansion intentions, Bell formed the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. In a few years, wires were being strung from East Coast cities to Chicago and then to points north, south, and farther west. Now, countless mergers and antitrust breakups later, AT&T remains synonymous with quick communicating, as evidenced by its current symbol on the New York Stock Exchange: T, the shortened version of AT&T.” *Text source: Good Housekeeping, January 2010 issue*

Bicycle Playing Cards - The growing popularity of bicycles during the era of the 1880s led to the naming of the world’s most popular brand of playing cards. BICYCLE’S “Rider Back” design is now a part of American culture. Playing cards have played a role in history beyond just fun and games in America. Their World War II decks helped inform POWs of escape routes, while the Ace of Spades card was used as psychological warfare in Vietnam. More recently the “Most Wanted” Iraqi playing cards helped the coalition soldiers identify the most-wanted members of former President Saddam Hussein’s government and military leaders.

It has been said that with the flip of a BICYCLE Playing Card, lasting memories are made. Since the debut of BICYCLE in 1885, the laughs and cherished experiences are nearly as countless as the number of hands played. The United States Playing Card Company (USPC), located in Erlanger, Kentucky is the maker of BICYCLE Playing Cards. USPC produces approximately 400,000 decks of playing cards per day.



The Skyscraper - “With Chicago real estate prices climbing, the Windy City’s business district had nowhere to go but up--and architect William Le Baron Jenney obliged with the Home Insurance Building. The 138-foot tall tower had 10 floors supported by a weight-dispersing steel skeleton, an innovation so radical civic leaders briefly halted construction in order to satisfy skeptics of its safety. Jenney’s high-rise was demolished in 1931, but it ushered in every subsequent skyscraper, from the 110-story Willis (formerly Sears) Tower to the 160-plus-story Burj Dubai.”



Text source: Good Housekeeping, Jan. 2010 issue



Membership Information

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

Individual Member \$20.00
Family \$30.00
Student \$10.00
Business \$50.00
Patron \$100.00
Life \$500.00

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I'd like to volunteer!

Hospitality refreshments
Newsletter writing articles
Vintage Home Tour
docent / volunteer
Board of Directors

☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

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

Wanda Cleveland
John & Carolyn Coutts
Nancy Fay
Ed & Linda Faxon
Gary & Doris Osko
Fred & Vicki Parr
Richard Polen

Paula Ruscigno
Jason & Dee Scott
Jay Stemska
Julie Stern
Darrell & Kym Talbert
John Wiles

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 brief message (<1 minute) along with your telephone 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
Wayne Hrabak

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, 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:

Wednesday, November 17, 7:00 at CHPS office

Thursday, December 2, 6:30 at WIC



Visit us @ www.corona-history.org



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



Woman's Improvement Club
Location of Holiday Party

***Our Annual Holiday Party is
Thursday, December 2*** **See Page 3**