

A Message From Our President Wes Speake

Dear Members,

Welcome to *July-August Newsletter*; I hope you continue to be safe and healthy! Sadly, I will not be talking about our amazing Vintage Home Tour or Gala. However, the VHT committee has been working hard to get some great houses for 2023. I am pleased to say the board has been working hard via Zoom these last few months and have planned some great events. A number of you had the pleasure of touring the once Corona based Desi Arnaz Ranch house—more on the house later in the newsletter. Great turn out. Councilmember Richins and I currently have a theory that it was designed by Paul Revere Williams (America’s first black architect) - more on that in a future post/newsletter. We are planning the First annual “Bring your Corona History Event” in the fall so stay tuned.

The Big Squeeze was a success at the 21st annual Antiques and Collectibles Faire went off without a hitch this year. Guests were greeted by a spruced-up 40+ years old Lemonade stand lovingly repaired and painted by former CHPS President Fred Parr and Treasurer Richard Winn. Over 12 gallons of lemon juice used as a base for “*free lemonade, made in the shade and stirred with a rusty spade*” as volunteer Helen Yoshikawa hawked at the lemonade stand in the afternoon. Lemon juice was donated by Lovetta Ward, bags of lemons by Don Fuller and the rest picked by me and squeezed by Mary Rigg and me. Those amazing Corona lemons mixed with 20+ pounds of sugar, 160 pounds of ice made over 30 gallons of ice-cold lemonade. All of it was provided free! The Society has given away thousands of gallons of lemonade over the years.

THANK YOU to all that came out and your generous donations. It was a truly beautiful day, seeing so many smiling faces, talking Corona history and giving away lemonade. Big Thank yous to Board members Kelly Vela, Rich Winn, Amelia Rowe-Nieves; Akio and Helen Yoshikawa for supporting the Society by volunteering. A special thank you to Fred Parr as well as Parks Commissioner Tomas Munoz for serving the entire day!

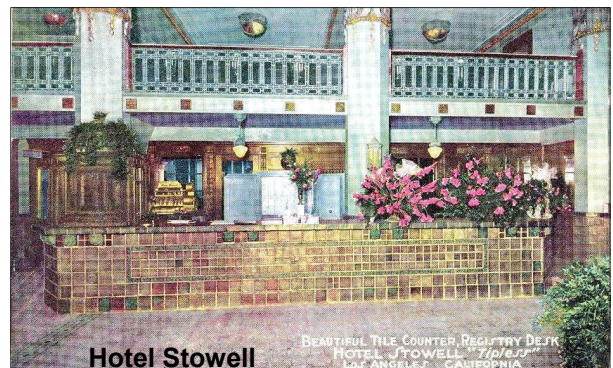
Which brings me to my topic for this month’s President’s Message. One of the best things about serving as the president of the CHPS is talking history with like-minded people. This month inspiration is courtesy of Tom Alexander, husband of Planning Commissioner

Karen Alexander. Tom found and purchased 21 cancelled checks from 1924 on Ebay. These checks were written by prominent Corona attorney Alphonse Ganahl.



Alphonse Ganahl & his wife Myra
Courtesy Kristine Ganahl DiPaolo

A total of 79 checks were written in that time, but only 21 survive. Those of you might remember Alphonse Ganahl from the “I Remember When..” article from our Jan - Feb 2020 *CHPS Newsletter* about Christine Ganahl Di Paolo’s experiences at the Ganahl Ranch. The cancelled checks cover a 3+ month period; from late August to early December 1924. There is a mix of checks written for Household items, \$ 2.71 to American Home Laundry on Main Street, Corona Drug at 6th and Main, E.W. Pierce of Alpha Beta and future county Supervisor R.W. Stanfield of Stanfield Drug. As a water rights attorney, Mr. Ganahl had a 3-week trial in Los Angeles in September and Oct 1924 as he stayed at the Hotel Stowell on Spring Street which was near the downtown court house. **Image courtesy of L.A. Library**



Hotel Stowell

BEAUTIFUL TILE COUNTER, REGISTRY DESK
HOTEL STOWELL - 714/500
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Hotel was built in 1913 and boasted rooms from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per night. The interior and exterior of the Hotel Stowell displayed a great deal of decorative tile work, seen most notably in the green portions of the front facade, and the facings of the lobby registration desk, and lobby stairway. The tiles were produced in Pasadena by the Batchelder-Wilson Company. He ventured back to Los Angeles in late November and early December for presumable Christmas shopping, writing checks totaling over \$55 (over \$800 in today's dollars.) **Check images courtesy of Tom Alexander**

Mr. Ganahl was still discharging his father's will in 1924 as he wrote checks to General Warehousing Co of St Louis. In 1929, he was successfully sued by his siblings for not distributing his father's estate quickly enough to his 5 brothers and sisters. <https://cite.case.law/mo/323/620/> He liked having walking around money, he made several checks in this period totaling some \$100 (over \$1600 in today's dollars.) The most interesting checks were written to a Catherine Litteken. 2 checks written for \$30 and \$25 (over \$800 in today's dollars) some 2 weeks apart. I have not been able to find a connection between the two. Stay Tuned.

Sincerely,

WES



Announcing

Having purchased the American Home Laundry from Mr. Edw. L. Carr, it is our intention to so additionally equip and improve the plant as to win further appreciation from Mr. Carr's customers and at the same time gain new friends. Mr. Carr will remain with us until Sept. 1 to see that we are properly "broken in."

Next week will see a new delivery wagon on the streets, a wagon complete in every detail for efficient laundry collections and delivery.

Mr. T. L. Ivy remains with the laundry as heretofore, and will call on his regular customers with the same accuracy and care that has characterized his work in the past. Bespeaking your patronage, we are,

THE HOME LAUNDRY

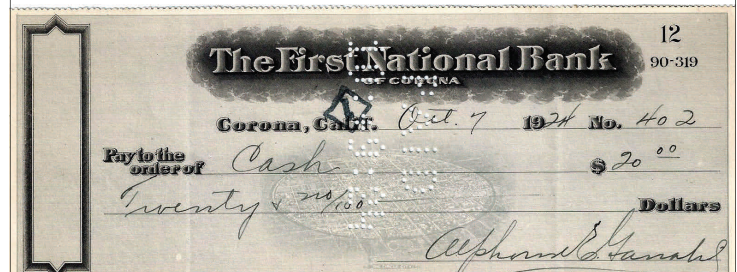
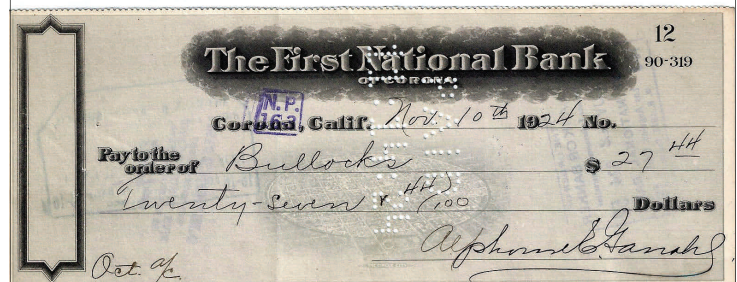
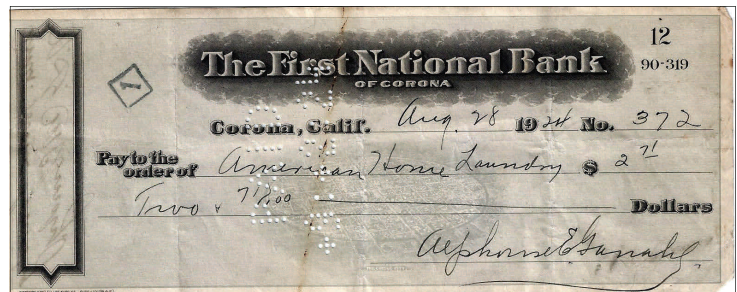
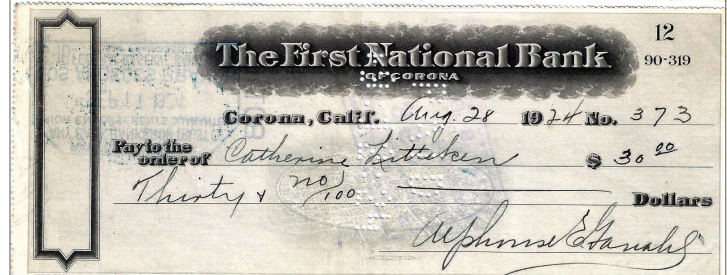
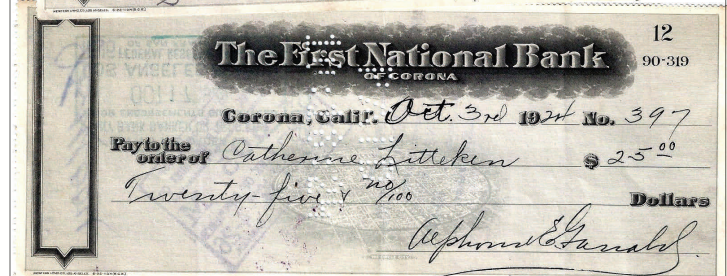
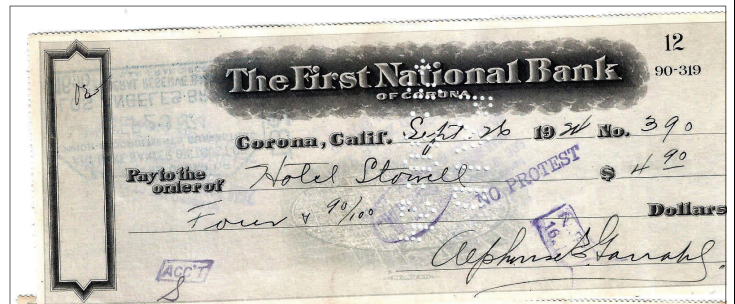
(Formerly the American Home Laundry)
N. G. McCURDY, Proprietor

Telephone 953

121 Main Street

The above notice was meant to inform customers that the business was making a transition from "American Home Laundry" to "The Home Laundry" with some staff remaining the same.

Source: www.newspaperARCHIVE.com



Super Tour of the Desi House by Eric Bergreen

CHPS held its 2nd quarterly meeting of 2022 on Saturday June 11th. The location for this event was held at the Desi House located in Eastvale. The day was warm and sunny, and we kicked off our tour of the property at 10:00am with about thirty members in attendance with a special thank you to the Senior Recreation Coordinator and tour guide Fred Cervantes.

Back in 1960, Desi Arnaz was dealing with a divorce from his wife Lucille Ball. They no longer were one of Hollywood's "in couples" so the actor/musician decided to pour himself into nostalgia. He built a house that was a replica of his home from Cuba. Arnaz designed the 4,400 square-foot, Spanish-style ranch house himself. He grew up in a wealthy family in Cuba and the house reflected that. His father was mayor back in Santiago and a member of the Cuban House of Representatives. Arnaz's new house sat on a hill at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Rincon Street with a panoramic view of his 40 acre property, which included his horse breeding farm.

Desi Arnaz Jr., the only son of Desi and Lucy, loved visiting the ranch. He and his sister, Lucie, spent weekdays with their mother in Los Angeles and weekends at their dad's horse ranch. Arnaz Jr. told the *Riverside Press-Enterprise* that he thought his dad wanted to reimagine his childhood home in Cuba. Plus, the kids had the room to roam. There were huge holiday get-togethers, featuring guests like Bing Crosby and Jimmy Durante and other cast members from *I Love Lucy*. "I had horses and go-karts," Arnaz Jr. said. "Back then we were the only people out there. It used to be all horses and cattle farms. It was fun."

Arnaz also said, "He loved animals and he loved nature. One of the great things my father gave to me is an appreciation of nature."

The elder Arnaz died in 1986. He'd already dissolved his horse breeding business. But the house still was on the property. Bert Altfillisch's assignment was to demo the property and clear the way for a cheese factory. So Altfillisch saved the home, divided it into three sections and moved it to his property across the Santa Ana River.

Altfillisch bred and trained racehorses. When he passed away in 2006, his son inherited the home.

By 2012, most of the property was set to be developed for residential homes. But Altfillisch stipulated that the house could not be torn down. The Jurupa Community Services District (JCSD) acquired the ranch house in 2015 for \$2.5 million and renamed it the Desi House and included its 2.5 acre surrounding site in a "destination site", with the intent of further restoring the Spanish-style home and developing the surrounding site for use by the Eastvale community. The Desi House site provided a unique opportunity to tie the structure and its use to the adjacent Santa Ana River trail segment being developed by JCSD. ADG provided program development, community outreach and a final master plan, along with construction documents and project oversight for the historic 4,400 square-foot Desi House and surrounding 2.5-acre park space.



Recap: 2022 Antiques & Collectibles Fair by Amelia Nieves



Whether you are a lover of beautiful antique furnishings or a novice, there is something here for everyone. You never know what you'll find. The Corona Antiques and Collectibles Faire offers a great way to browse and buy. The Faire is an outdoor antiques and collectibles marketplace held this Saturday 6/11/22 at the Corona Heritage Park and Museum. So many exhibitors sell antique and vintage goods such as silver, porcelain, furniture, toys, clothing, jewelry, garden, glassware, collectibles, and dishes. We have the largest sellers of antiques to offer. But for beginners, the wide variety and the sheer number of antiques can be overwhelming.

When it comes to haggling for antiques, dealers probably won't be as in-your-face. Your attitude will play a major deciding factor for dealers wanting their stock to go to a good home - so show a genuine love for the piece and be polite. If you ponder over something you want for too long or too hard, there is a chance others will be doing the same. Hundreds of antique lovers are ready to grab them.



Entrance to Museum. Six classic Model A Fords were parked here for viewing from 8 - noon.

onade from Corona-grown fruit.

Thanks to Kelly Vela, as she recruited five new members. Our CHPS booth had many visitors. The new Corona Race-related T-shirts with various images of Race Cars, the Flagler Trophy and a specialty shirt with the text: "There's no 'I' in Coronan" were a big hit. We still have some for sale if you would like to purchase them. Richard Winn and Mayor Wes Speake

and Kelly Vela worked the CHPS information booth. Food was found throughout the Faire: hamburgers, hot dogs, Kettle corn, water and our luscious lemonade, of course.



A view of the Faire from the Lemonade Stand.



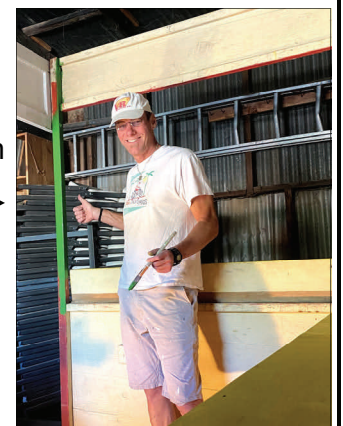
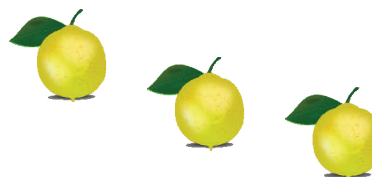
L-R: Fred Parr, Wes, Helen Yoshikawa & Tom Munoz



The newly painted color scheme of Lemonade Stand ← can be seen at the left.

The lemonade stand was refurbished and looks beautiful with a new coat of paint. Real lemonade was served free of charge and was a huge success. Many thanks to Mayor Wes Speake for gathering the lemons and juicing them. He successfully squeezed 12 gallons of Corona pure lemon juice donated by our Corona residents. Tom Munoz, Fred Parr, Helen and Akio Yoshikawa, Kelly Vela and I distributed the cold lemonade. Altogether we made a total of 90 gallons of lem-

Fred Parr can be seen to the right as he begins to transform the booth's color scheme. →



New CHPS "WARES" are Available

We have commissioned 3 new T-shirts for sale. Two of these shirts commemorate Corona's historic road races of 1913, 1914 and 1916. The third T-shirt gently chides those who have perpetuated the myth that residents of Corona are erroneously using CORONIAN when the correct spelling is CORONAN. The text on this shirt reads "There's no 'I' in Coronan." The images below depict essential details but all shirts will be white and the price is \$20.00 per shirt.



Front of Corona Grand Race T-shirt



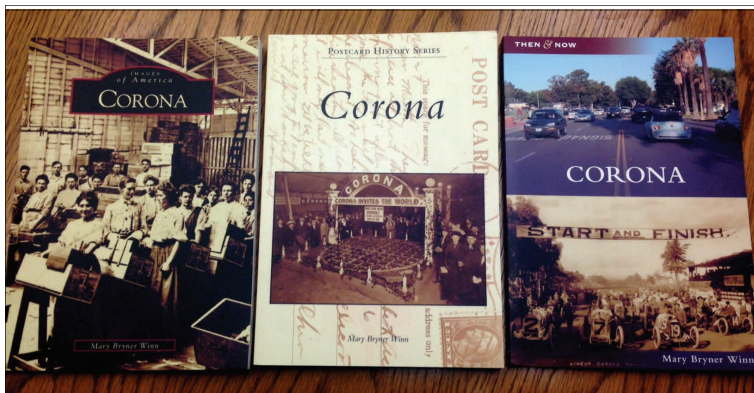
Back of Flagler Trophy



Front of Coronan T-shirt



Back of 3 race-winners T-shirt



Also available are copies of the three books containing images and captions about Corona written by Mary Bryner Winn. Books are \$20.00 each, Sales tax is included. Autographed by author if you wish.

High quality reproduction copies of some 20 Corona citrus labels are also available for \$7. each or 4 or more for \$5. each. To order see our website at <https://corona-history.org/shop.html>.



Kelly's Preservation in Action by Mary Winn

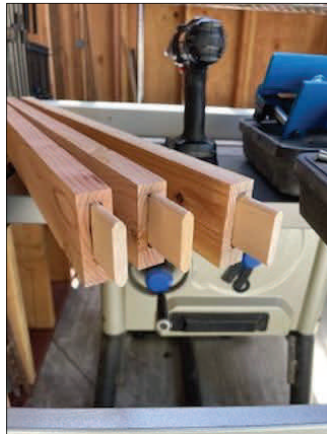
We at CHPS welcome Kelly with open arms to our Board of Directors! She and her husband, Gil, have been going through what many owners of older homes go through: a lot of sweat equity to maintain and lovingly care for their charming 1890 Queen Anne Victorian style home. They are actively restoring, a little bit at a time, their home and are preserving and protecting it so that their home will be perpetuated into the future.



“While living in a historic home, you become interested in “tinkering” around. My husband and I have repaired and maintained several jobs in our home. Last year I decided to join a wood working class at Heritage Park and use my home projects as class projects. First project sounded super easy in my head... it’s just a screen door... a top piece, bottom piece and 2 side pieces, throw on some scroll work and screen and we’re done... right? Could not have been more wrong. Super fun project and learned a lot about joinery because I did it the original old fashioned way... no nails, no screws, just joinery. It took me a while but I was very happy with the outcome. Oh, and I’m very grateful I have a patient wood shop instructor!”



Basic wooden door frame with a header, two cross pieces and a footer.



Mortise and Tenon joinery. The tabs extending from the ends are inserted into cavities in the frame to create a “nail-less” joint.



Unpainted screen door assembled with all panels in place and screen installed.



A piece of scroll work to be placed in the corners of the screened opening in the door to provide a Victorian “gingerbread” detail.



Fully assembled screen door with all panels and scroll work.



Painted screen door ready to be hung.



Newly hung hand-crafted screen door matches old door onto porch in style, color and workmanship.

Membership Information

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

Individual Member \$30.00
 Family \$40.00
 Student \$15.00
 Business \$60.00
 Patron \$125.00
 Life \$600.00

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

Brenden Archuleta
 Stacey Bennigsdorf
 Roger & Noella Benvenuti
 Dr. Robert Brandt Benson
 Gary, Juanita & Susan Bergreen
 Heather Bolle
 Mary Conklin

John & Catherine Downs
 Ed & Robert Garland
 Lee Hansen - Life membership
 Stephen & Sandy Klein
 Rashelle McCarroll
 William McDonnell Family
 Stephen Paloma

Chris & Avelina Rodriguez
 Dean Stamp
 George & Joan Thacker
 John & Jannlee Watson

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 your own



or a neighbor's, please contact CHPS Home Preservation Grant Program Coordinator Rich Winn at rwinn141@gmail.com/714.328.0010. 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>](http://corona-history.org/grants.html)

Please share this information with others!



Corona
Historic
Preservation
Society

Board of Directors

President - Wes Speake
Vice President - Eric Bergreen
Secretary - Shaylene Cortez
Treasurer - Richard Winn

Directors

Paula Muñoz
Amelia Nieves
Kelly Vela
Mary Winn

Advisors

Marla Benson
Ted Taylor



To contact us call
951.898.2044

Please leave a message



Our Mission Statement

The Corona Historic Preservation Society (CHPS) is an active nonprofit tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the PRESERVATION, PROTECTION and PERPETUATION of Corona's historic sites, buildings, neighborhoods and resources. We do this through education, community events, preservation projects and tireless advocacy for the benefit of present and future generations.

Monthly Meetings

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

[*As a precaution for the safety of Directors, Board meetings may be held via electronic means. Contact President Wes Speake if you wish to be included in an electronic meeting.]

All members are invited to attend.

The next meetings are scheduled for:

Tuesday, July 26, at 6:30 p.m. hopefully at CHPS office

Tuesday, Aug. 23, at 6:30 p.m. hopefully at CHPS office



www.Corona-History.org



Corona
Historic
Preservation
Society

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



Happy Independence Day to one and all!