

Fairview Register



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Website address: www.costamesahistory.org

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President's Message

ORANGE COUNTY REACHES A MILESTONE



On August 5th I was invited to a small celebration in the lobby of the Orange County Administration Building in Santa Ana. The event was in recognition of Orange County's 125th Birthday. The date selected for this gathering had historical significance.

For it was on August 5, 1889, that the newly elected Orange County board of supervisors met for the first time.

I was there representing the Costa Mesa Historical Society. It was a beautiful Wednesday morning with clear skies and a comfortable temperature. The festivities were scheduled to start at 8:30 AM. I arrived there by 8 to drop off some OC history pamphlets as handouts. Soon the lobby was filling up with elected officials, special guests and representatives of different Orange County agencies and organizations. There was coffee, water, Orange Juice (of course) and a nice selection of breakfast treats for all.

Supervisor John Moorlach, Second District, welcomed everyone and then introduced guest speaker Phil Brigandi. Phil took us back in time to the mid to late 1800s. He explained in detail the struggles and various attempts over a twenty year period in which communities and individuals made efforts to convince California legislatures to recognize the County of Orange and allow it to break away from Los Angeles County. Obviously, the efforts finally paid off and Orange County was officially established on August 1 of 1889.

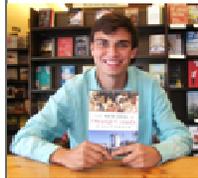
Mr. Moorlach thanked Phil Brigandi and then asked Supervisor Todd Spitzer, 3rd District, to lead us all in singing "Happy Birthday" to Orange County.

Bob Palazzola

Mark Your 2014 Calendars

Sunday Speaker Programs & Special Events

***Sunday, September 21st: Speaker: Charles Epting**



He will be speaking on/presenting his book "The New Deal in Orange County California."

(Story on page 2)

Saturday, September 6th, 10am-12pm:

Scarecrow Workshop at Creative Outlet, 2035 Placentia, Unit F, in Costa Mesa; registration is \$10 (non-refundable) and can be done on-line at www.creativeoutletstudios.com (under workshops).

Saturday and Sunday, September 12, 13:

Tall Ship Comes Home: Honoring the Life and Legacy of Dennis Holland (Details on page 2)

Saturday and Sunday, October 4, 5:

Orange County Model Engineers (OCME) will hold their 2nd Annual **Scarecrow and Pumpkin Festival** on 10/4 and 10/5 at the Goat Hill Junction of Fairview Park on Placentia.

The **registration deadline** for the 2014 Scarecrow Contest is Friday, September 26th. *(continued on page 2)*

***Sunday, October 19th Speaker: Mary Adams Ura-shima** will be speaking on/presenting her book on the unique history of Wintersberg Village.

(More information in next issue)

Saturday, November 15th from 1 to 3pm: Plaque Dedication at the Estancia Sepulveda by the Native Sons Of The Golden West (NSGW). *(Details on page 2)*

***Sunday speaker programs** are held at the Costa Mesa Historical Society Museum, 1870 Anaheim Ave., Northwest Corner of Lions Park Complex. Doors open at 2pm; Program begins 2:30. Please arrive early as seating is limited. Free admission and refreshments. Any questions: Call 949-631-5918, email us at cmhistory@sbcglobal.net, or find us on Facebook.

Promoting and preserving Costa Mesa's history is our mission.

Note: The Alvin and Lucy Pinkley Part 5 "He Said, She Said" story will continue in October's Newsletter.

Mark Your 2014 Calendar Items (continued from page 1—in order by date)

Tall Ship Comes Home (Sept. 12&13)

"The Spirit of Dana Point," formerly the "Pilgrim of Newport" comes home! This event will take place Fri., Sept 12, 12noon—6pm and Sat., Sept 13, 10am-6pm at the Newport Seabase, 1931 West Coast HWY, Newport Beach, CA. Festivities include: Free ship tours, Dock-side Maritime –Nautical Village, Pirates, Model ships, Maritime Art, antique cars and entertainment; there will be "Fun for all Ages." Special Note: "The Pilgrim of Newport" was built by Dennis Holland in his front yard in Costa Mesa in the 70's and 80's.

September 21st Speaker

Unpredictably harsh elements wreaked havoc in Orange County during the Great Depression. The 1933 Long Beach earthquake claimed 115 lives, shattering lands eastward across the Los Angeles County line into the Orange County cities. Then 60 people perished in the devastating 1938 Santa Ana River flood, which washed out roads and buildings and much of the county's namesake citrus industry. Orange County's 130,000 people received a greater density of federal public aid than LA County's \$2.2 million and San Diego County's \$210,000.

Join Charles Epting on this tour of the buildings, bridges, harbors, trails, libraries, highways and other infrastructure gains-many still in use-that were revitalized by the Works Progress.

Scarecrow and Pumpkin Festival (Oct. 4&5)

Entries will be accepted for display at Goat Hill Junction on Friday, Oct. 3rd, 8am-5pm and Saturday, Oct. 4th, 8-10am.

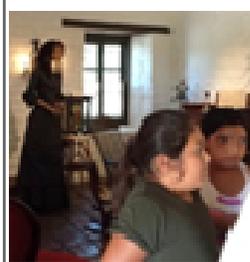
Judging will take place at 11am on Saturday. Awards will be given out at 2pm on Sunday, Oct.5th. See Facebook "costamesascarecrows" or inspiration from last year's entries. The categories for 2014 are Humorous, Scariest, Protect & Defend and Science & Tech. For additional information check costamesahistory.org.

Plaque Dedication (Nov.15)

Seating has been planned for 80 guests. There will be a NSGW banquet dinner that evening at the Embassy Suites. Our members are invited to participate (an RSVP will be required; the cost will be \$45 per person). More detailed information on this event will be included in the October/November newsletters.

Costa Mesa Historical Society News

Many group tours took place at the Adobe and the Museum this summer, introducing children and adults to the



history of Costa Mesa.

Docents Kathy Bequette and Tess Bernstein enjoyed giving tours to participants in the city's Recreation on-Campus for Kids (ROCKS) free summer program. Kathy Bequette who gave a tour at the Adobe said, "There were about thirteen children in my group so the children could peek in the various rooms without elbowing each other.

This was a good reinforcement for 3rd and 4th graders as well as an introduction to future students in those grades. And, hopefully as they share this information, their par-

ents will see how much fun this could be to show their relatives, especially "easterners" to show them that we have something historical too." Tess Bernstein said, "They asked questions and they were very surprised what little was here before—farms, farmers, etc. They are

used to living in a big city. And, they loved finding their houses on the big map." (Pictures: Top: Kathy Bequette begins her tour of the adobe; 2nd from top left: ROCKS participants listen attentively to stories about our early settlers; 2nd from top Right: they also viewed a lady with a mantilla, a commonly worn head garment of the time; third from top: two participants view implements used by our early farmers; and, fourth from top: Kathy continues her tour.)

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American Cancer Society Visits Adobe

Members of the American Cancer Society toured the Adobe and were very interested in what they saw. Docent Cindy Humphreys conducted the tour. Cydney Goldman, The Specialist, Relay for Life, for The California Division of the American Cancer Society, Inc. was very appreciative. She thanked Terry Shaw, our Society's Vice President, and said, "It was a great time! Everyone enjoyed the tour." Cydney plans to get a larger group of their organization's actual participants to come and tour again during the Relay Season.



(Pictures: top right: Cindy Humphreys speaks to American Cancer Society members; top left: group picture of the American Cancer Society members—adobe in the background; and, bottom: Cindy Humphreys and the Nguyen family who took her tour gather outside the adobe.)

Volunteers at Work

Tess Bernstein: Native Costa Mesan



Tess Bernstein's parents moved to Costa Mesa from Idyllwild and two weeks later she was born. She has lived here her entire life...all over Costa Mesa, starting with the Paularino area (lived on Babb near St. John's), then to 18th St. on the West Side and finally to the East Side. She graduated from Costa Mesa High School. Because of her various residential locations around our city our Society's archivist, Mary Ellen Goddard, assigned her to "Photos" when she began her volunteer work with three years ago. Currently she identifies and catalogues photos from collections that have been given to the society; this assists the public when they come in to do research projects.

"I originally came into the Museum to do research on my property. I met with the volunteers and since my children were grown I decided to join in and become one of them," she said. During her time at the museum she has helped residents who come in to find out more about the historical lineage of their properties as well as to explore possible hauntings of their residences.

As she was working on her photo projects she noticed certain odd figures reappearing from time to time. She asked Mary Ellen about them and then learned all about Costa Mesa's Scarecrow Festival that took place between 1938 to 1941. When she joined a City's subcommittee for the recent anniversary celebration she brought this idea up as a possible event. The City liked the idea and the Festival was resurrected last year.

In earlier days the Festival was held on Newport Blvd. when it was the center of town and not yet developed. This posed a problem...Tess had to find a new site. The site became Goat Hill where OCME (Orange County Model Engineers) holds its annual Pumpkin Run. "Run"

is "train speak" for "Ride." Because "Run" confused people last year, the word was eliminated from the event's title. Last year's festival during the anniversary celebration was a favorite and proved to be very successful, attracting 4000 visitors.

This year, in addition to her regular volunteer duties, Tess has become the Scarecrow and Pumpkin Festival Chairman and, as such, has been working really hard to promote the event which will take place Oct. 4th and 5th. You have probably seen her around....at Goat Hill on Train Ride weekends and on Tuesdays at Concerts in the Park.

Thank you, Tess, for your hard work and enthusiasm regarding everything you do for the Society.

Pictured below are samples of Scarecrows from last year's Festival. See what fun it is to create a scarecrow of your own. Bring your imagination to the Workshop on the 6th and watch it "go to town."



Coming Next Month

Three special articles will be featured: High School Intern Helps our Society, Board members of the Santa Ana Black Historical Society (SABHS) visit the Museum, and recollections of Alice Marguerite O'Neill, matriarch of Rancho Mission Viejo, who died recently and whose history involved much of Southern California, including Costa Mesa.

Important Reminders

2014 Scarecrow and Pumpkin Festival T-Shirts



The 2014 Festival's T-Shirt is available for purchase every third Saturday at Goat Hill Junction or at the Museum for \$15 (S-L) and \$20 (XL-3X); tax is included. Have ?'s call 949-436-5460 or email costamesascarecrowfestival@gmail.com.

Are Your Dues Overdue?

Your dues are important because they help to support the Society's major programs and projects. You can locate your Dues Expiration Date by looking on **YOUR NEWSLETTER LABEL**...it is there to the right of your name... as a reminder. If your dues are due, just send a check to our Museum (*see mailing address below); Attention: Susan Weeks. Or drop by in person on a Thursday or a Friday from 10am to 3pm.

**The Costa Mesa Historical Society Museum is located at 1870 Anaheim Avenue in Costa Mesa. Museum hours: 10-3 Thursdays and Fridays and by appointment. Mailing address is: Costa Mesa Historical Society P.O. Box 1764, Costa Mesa, CA 92628. Questions? Call 949-631-5918, email us at cmhistory@sbcglobal.net or find us on Facebook.*

COSTA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O BOX 1764
COSTA MESA, CA. 92628
Phone (949) 631-5918

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P.O. Box 1764
Costa Mesa CA 92628**

— *Membership Form* —

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Membership Categories

Annual		Special	
Individual	\$ 15.00	Historical Society Life Member	\$ 1000.00
Family	\$ 20.00	SAAAB Wing Annual Member	\$ 10.00
Student (under 16)	\$ 5.00	SAAAB Wing Life Member	\$ 50.00
Contributing	\$ 50.00		
Business & Professional	\$ 100.00		
Public Agency	\$ 100.00		
Benefactor	\$ 250.00		

Make your checks payable to the Costa Mesa Historical Society.
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