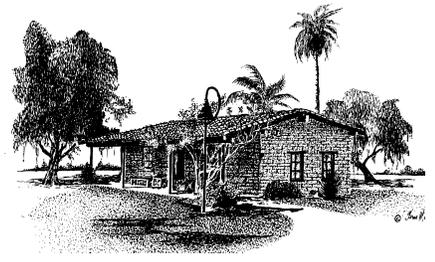


Fairview Register

Monthly publication of the Costa Mesa Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3)

MEMBER: CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES, NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION,
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY



VOL. 48 NO. 12 · DECEMBER 2018

Phone: 949-631-5918 Mail: P.O. Box 1764, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 Web: costamesahistory.org Email: cmhistory@sbcglobal.net

The Year in Review

Wow, hard to believe, but yes, another year just flew by! And what a year it was!

Our accomplishments include:

- The opening of "The Hull Story." Curated by society volunteer Nancy Pedersen, this exhibit honors the wood and fiberglass boat builders and manufacturers that transformed Costa Mesa from an agricultural-based town into "the Hub of the Harbor" from the 1950s-80s.
- Applying through the Orange County Historical Commission's historic plaque program to receive county recognition for the Diego Sepulveda Adobe and surrounding Native American site. (See sidebar)
- Debut of the society's enhanced website with expanded features. To go with this new look, we are re-designing our logo, letterhead and brochures.
- Participating in community events including booths at the 71st Annual Fish Fry, Concerts in the Park, and Orange County Archives in Action.
- Hosting successful speaker events which attracted new members to the Society including January's installation dinner with *Orange County Register* columnist David Whiting; February's *Bring A Friend* event; author Craig MacDonald and the amazing story of *Charley* in March; journalist Chris Epting and the "Camping Trip that changed America" in April; our annual *Early California Days* in May at Estancia Park featuring cultural anthropologist Stephen O'Neil; Jeff Rountree and the History of John Wayne Airport in June; author Tony Burica and his story *Seeking Freedom: A Five Year Odyssey* in October; and Fred MacDowell and *A Salute to Veterans* program in November.

In 2018, society volunteers surpassed 6,000 hours of service. Thank you to our dedicated members including:

Board officers & directors: 1st VP Terry Shaw, 2nd VP Tess Bernstein, recording secretary Estelle Hughes, treasurer Susan Weeks, head archivist Mary Ellen Goddard, Dave Rusher, Bob

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jim Kubalik on Richard Nixon • 6pm Friday, January 25

Join us Friday, January 25, at the historical society's annual installation dinner. Jim Kubalik of the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library will trace Nixon's Orange County roots, his meteoric rise in politics, and his presidency. The event returns this year to the Newport Rib Company. Dinner includes chicken and tri-tip, garlic mashed potatoes, roasted veggies, garden salad, corn bread and honey butter, brownies and cookies, and non-alcoholic drinks for only \$26. Reservations and payments are due by Friday, January 18th. Everyone is welcome at this public event. Purchase tickets by mail, by phone, or online at costamesahistory.org/dinner.

Adobe Plaque Dedication • 10am Saturday, January 12

The Orange County Historical Commission will dedicate a plaque at the Diego Sepulveda Adobe on January 12. The commission "identifies and promotes the preservation and use of buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts of importance in the county." The plaque will recognize the adobe and the surrounding Native American site. The adobe will be open to the public as part of this free event. Come to Estancia Park and celebrate the recognition of one of Orange County's – and Costa Mesa's – gems.

Palazzola, Cynthia Humphreys;

Lead volunteer Art Goddard;

Docents Kathy Bequette, Alex Golson, Vicki Alcala Kelley, Lynn Alcala;

Volunteers Nancy Pedersen, Karl VonHerzen, Hope VonHerzen, Sid Hallburn, Jean & Craig Nomura, Sharon & Dan Dearing, Jan Rován, Dolores Minerich, Ursula Hartunian, Beth Refakes, Mona & George Hill, Rob Braun, Wanda Garro, Helen Humphreys, costume designer Cynthia Corley, newsletter editor D. Colon, and intern Agustin Espinoza.

Lastly, thank you to centenarian Gladys Refakes for her 38 years of very active service to the society.

Best wishes and enjoy the holidays. We'll see you next year!

Dave Gardner

President, Costa Mesa Historical Society

Promoting and preserving Costa Mesa's history is our mission

FAIRVIEW REGISTER, FAIRVIEW, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, MARCH 2, 1889

Our Past Deserves a Future

Lessons from Mary Ellen Goddard's Archive Seminar

This fall, society archivist Mary Ellen Goddard led a four-part seminar on archival practices. Besides practical information, the seminar helped answer the question, "What does the society do?" Read on to learn the answer.

SESSION #1: SOCIETY OVERVIEW AND COLLECTION POLICY

The Costa Mesa Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 1966. The society is *not* a city department. It is, rather, a 100% volunteer organization staffed by private citizens dedicated to fulfilling the society's mission: preserving and promoting the history of Costa Mesa.

The society accomplishes its mission through regular public events, community collaborations, and, most relevant for the seminar, the collection at its two museums. This collection comprises some 1,500 books, 30,000 photos, and 100 GB of newspapers, as well as countless personal archives, maps, oral histories, digital media, textiles, and more. The collection is irreplaceable and priceless.

The society acquires new items through gifts, bequests, purchases, and exchanges. Acquisitions strengthen the existing collection, broaden its base, or support a specific project or exhibit. Most acquisitions focus on Costa Mesa and around, but supplementary items about local people and businesses are sometimes accepted. Even if an item meets the criteria above, it may not be accepted: if the society can't properly care for it (e.g., some native artifacts), if the current owner doesn't have a clear title, or if it's too expensive.

When dealing with such a valuable collection, ethics are key. No one should benefit financially from the collection, make unauthorized copies, or compete with the society. Volunteers must protect the collection from defacement, deterioration, and theft, as well as protect the privacy of donors, researchers, and people appearing in the collection.

SESSION #2: PROCESSING THE COLLECTION

When an item is acquired by the society, the item must be processed. If the four steps aren't followed thoroughly and correctly, it may be impossible to find it again!

Registering/accessioning helps establish provenance, legally transfer ownership, and provide a birds-eye view of the contents of the donation. **Boxing** is the art of finding a suitable home for the item, whether it be a folder, storage case, map box, library shelf, or computer hard drive. During **cataloging**, details about the item are added to a computer database. A volunteer describes each item, assigns it to the correct catalog (object, document, photo, or book), properly classifies it, identifies the people in it, and extracts the relevant search terms from it. Finally, boxes are **shelved**, like with like, in numerical order, with the location noted on the catalog record.

SESSION #3: ACCESSING THE COLLECTIONS

Accessing items in the collection often starts from either a patron question or from an internal need for an exhibit, newsletter article, or book. But whatever prompts the search, the researcher must determine exactly what to look for: the narrower the scope, the more relevant the results.

Researchers can query the database by keyword, by a person's name, or by using complex Boolean logic. Or they can consult photo subject boxes and the newspaper database, among other resources. Search results may include both physical and digital materials. When information is found, the patron can take notes or photographs, or ask the society to provide copies, scans, or prints for a fee. If a patron handles an item, it is up to society volunteers to protect the artifact not just from theft or damage, but also from mis-shelving.

Sometimes items are shared with other institutions. OCC, for example, displays murals from the Santa Ana Army Air Base. The archivist determines the exact terms of the loan.

SESSION #4: SHARING THE COLLECTION

The society shares its collection with a broad audience through permanent and temporary exhibits. Exhibits engage and excite the public about the historical society's collection by highlighting representative or unique objects on a particular topic. Exhibits don't have to be in a museum. Metro Car Wash, for instance, displays some fifty pictures from the society's collection. The society's books, newsletter, and website are other "venues" for the collection.

At the society's museums, permanent exhibits cover broad topics such as the Costa Mesa Timeline and the Santa Ana Air Base. Temporary exhibits focus on a special aspect of history, such as the current exhibit on boatbuilding or past exhibits on Denwar Crafts and Nell Murbarger.

Creating a new exhibit is fun but challenging. Curators must brainstorm, budget, champion, schedule, and publicize. The fun part — collecting, labeling, and organizing the items for display — presents its own challenges. Curators must creatively select just a few key pieces from the society's vast collection to tell a story without overwhelming the visitor.

Once an exhibit is open to the public, docents bring it to life. They bridge the gap between visitors and exhibits by carefully listening, asking questions, and building on what the visitor already knows. This personal interaction with the public is a fitting culmination of the entire collection process.

CONCLUSION

The historical society collection is a true museum. It employs the methods, objectives, and tools of museums all over the world. While its scope may be more limited, it shares their sophistication. What does the society do? A lot! ■



Happy Birthday, Gladys! Longtime Society Volunteer Turns 100

Happy birthday to Gladys Refakes, the longtime society volunteer who turned 100 this past October! On October 25, representatives from OneOC hand-delivered a bouquet of flowers to Gladys while she was hard at work. Fresh fruit was served over lunch – this healthy lady doesn't eat cake. A couple days later, family, friends, and colleagues gathered at Zov's in Tustin for more festivities. Gladys has volunteered for the society since the early 1980s. In that time the South Dakota native has held a number of titles, including Secretary, office manager, and newsletter editor. Besides the historical society, Gladys has been active in the Women's Club, the Senior Club, the Freedom Committee, the Cancer Society, and more. Happy birthday, Gladys!



2018's Artistic License Fair Draws on Success

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the annual Artistic License Fair in Estancia Park. Makers and buyers alike praised this year's event featuring the work of dozens of Southern California artisans. The event was great for Costa Mesa history, too. Volunteers at the Diego Sepulveda Adobe introduced a steady stream of visitors to local history. Thank you to all who participated for helping to make this event a success!

Share Your Story

We'd love to hear your Costa Mesa stories. Many changes have taken place and we want to hear from those who lived through them. Write the memories yourself or come to the museum and we'll transcribe them for you. It's that simple!

Temporary Parking Instructions

Entry to the historical society parking lot is currently limited to Anaheim Avenue, but this is subject to change. If Anaheim is closed, try Park Avenue. There is no estimated completion date at this time.

Make a Difference – Volunteer

We're looking for a volunteer to **set up refreshments** at our monthly programs as well as members to sit on two committees: the **Newsletter Assembly Committee** prepares the newsletter for mailing, while the **Adobe Committee** recruits volunteers to plan an event, become a docent, or work on exhibits. Committees meet monthly and are chaired by board members. Interested? Visit costamesahistory.org/volunteer. Isn't it more fun to work as a team?

Donate Online

The Costa Mesa Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization that depends on support from people like you. Visit costamesahistory.org/donate to make your tax-deductible contribution today. Thank you for helping preserve local history!

Shop with us on Amazon

Every time you start your order with Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate to the Costa Mesa Historical Society – at no cost to you. Visit costamesahistory.org/smile before making your next purchase. You can use your existing Amazon account.

Dues Overdue?

Make sure your dues are up to date by looking at your **dues expiration date** on the address label to the right of your name. If your dues are due, renew online at costamesahistory.org/membership, mail in a check, c/o Susan Weeks, Treasurer, or drop it off on a Thursday or Friday from 10am to 3pm. Membership dues are listed on the back page.

Lifetime Business Members



COSTA MESA STORE
M-F: 6AM - 6PM
SAT: 7AM - 6PM
SUN: CLOSED

www.ganahl.com
1100 BRISTOL ST.
COSTA MESA, CA **(714) 556-1500**

Annual Sponsors

Grocery Outlet · Bargain Market
COSTA MESA GROCERY OUTLET
1835 Newport Blvd, #C140
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
 Alan Kumura · Independent Owner/Operator
 (949) 642-5800 Office · (949) 642-5803 Fax
costamesa@groceryoutlet.com
groceryoutlet.com
facebook.com/CostaMesaGroceryOutlet

ROBERTO'S AUTO TRIM
 In Costa Mesa Since 1964
 Raul Jara · ralndb@earthlink.net
2033 Harbor Blvd
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
949.642.8113 · Fax 949.642.7150

COPY 4 LESS NB
3930 Campus Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660
 at the corner of Campus and Quail
 (near John Wayne Airport)
 (949) 252-8960

V I S I T U S

Diego Sepulveda Adobe

1900 Adams Ave.

Open 12-4 p.m. Every 1st and 3rd Saturday*

Explore centuries of history when you visit one of Orange County's oldest buildings in its gorgeous setting at Estancia Park.

Costa Mesa Historical Society Museum

1870 Anaheim Ave.

Open 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Every Thursday and Friday*

View a mind-boggling array of artifacts from 5,000 years of Costa Mesa history – from the first peoples to the City of the Arts.

* Or schedule an appointment at 949-631-5918.

I N S I D E

Jim Kubalik on Richard Nixon, Mary Ellen Goddard's Archive Seminar, Gladys Refakes Turns 100, Artistic License Fair, and More!

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

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SANTA ANA, CA
PERMIT NO. 4352

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

Costa Mesa Historical Society
P.O. Box 1764
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

— *Membership Form* —

Name: _____ Address: _____

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

Membership Categories

	Annual		Lifetime	
Individual	\$20.00	Individual Life Member	\$500.00	
Individual Senior (60+)	\$15.00	Business Life Member	\$1,000.00	
Family	\$25.00			
Student (under 16)	\$10.00			
Contributing	\$50.00			
Business and Professional	\$100.00			
Public Agency	\$100.00			
Benefactor	\$250.00			

Make your checks payable to the Costa Mesa Historical Society.
The Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, operates under the Corporation Laws of the State of California.