

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

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Annual Meeting at City Hall

by Darlene Billsrtom

And now for something just a little different: The Heritage Society's Annual Meeting Sunday, February 26th at 2pm, will be at City Hall, 300 Forest Ave. And, if the weather permits, the meeting will be on the upstairs balcony. One of the reasons for this annual meeting is to elect new members to the Board of Directors.

This event will give everyone a chance to view the permanent Chautauqua Exhibit in the halls of the Hall. We promise to have a riveting speaker on the history of Pacific Grove and/or its notable residents. Refreshments will be served. Mark your calendars and be sure to attend.

If you can't attend, please consider the City Hall's



permanent collection a worthy reason to visit. Pacific Grove has been left with a remarkable pictorial legacy.

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The photo to the left is one of the images that now graces the halls of our City Hall. It makes going to City Hall much more interesting. The following description accompanies this photo from the Museum of Natural History in Pacific Grove: "City

Hall, the first reinforced concrete building on the Monterey Peninsula, under construction in 1912. The structure was built by the Chivers brothers for \$6,000 in gold. Carpenters on the top of the tower include Bill Sweeney, Richard Chivers, George Turner and Frank Grantham."



The halls are alive with history. The very popular exhibit "The Chautauqua Years," curated by Esther Trosow of the Natural History Museum, is now housed in City Hall. These wonderful historic photos were far too precious to be mothballed in the Museum's basement.

Calendar

FEBRUARY

HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Election of board members at City Hall, the new home of the Museum's "The Chautauqua Years" photo exhibit. Sunday, February 26, 2pm at City Hall, 300 Forest Ave.

APRIL

GOOD OLD DAYS

April 8-9
Downtown Pacific Grove

WILDFLOWER SHOW

April 14-16
Museum of Natural History
Forest and Central

MAY

SECRET GARDEN TOUR

May 6, 10am - 4pm

Needed: Gardens

... for the Secret Gardens Tour of Pacific Grove. This may be the perfect incentive to get your garden ready for spring!

If you have a garden that you would like to share with others, please contact

Bobbie Hall at 375-7641.

All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the Board of Directors, but are meant to stimulate interest in and discussion of preservation issues.

Images of America: Pacific Grove

Now in its second printing. That would spell success. However, there are still homes in Pacific Grove that don't have their personal copy... yet.



Don Beals is at the Barn on Saturday afternoons, from 1pm to 4pm.

Arcadia Press publishes the histories of towns and neighborhoods across the country (over 3,000 titles) recounting the unique stories that contribute to the character of today's communities. Here on the Monterey Peninsula, Arcadia has published books about Carmel, Monterey, Fort Ord, Pt. Lobos and Big Sur.

The books are available for \$20.00 from 1 – 4 pm every Saturday at the Heritage Society Barn (the price includes sales tax.) For those who live out of town, send a check for \$23.00 to the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove and we will mail the book to you.

Thank You to the Inns

Once again, the Inns of Pacific Grove put on a crowd-pleasing, holiday welcome to Christmas and the New Year. The boughs of holly and fir, candles twinkling, and docents' stories of the Inns made the evenings a warming prelude to the holidays.

Thank you to the Inns, to the docents, to the musicians, to the Heritage Society's tireless volunteers, and to board member Betty Aickelin's coordination – it takes everyone to make these two special evenings a success. And, thank you to the public who take the opportunity to visit and appreciate our beautiful historic Inns. Our community is truly blessed.



The Inn at 213 17 Mile Drive's inn keepers Diane and Gary Maslanka are faithful to the holiday traditions, with the help of Michael Martinez' Christmas compositions.

HS Joins the 21st Century

At the Heritage Society's last board meeting, Nat Rojanasathira and



The Heritage Society board approved a proposal submitted by 831 Design, Nat Rojanasathira and Alexandra Moore, to create a more comprehensive and user friendly web site.

Alexandra Moore of 831 Design presented a comprehensive proposal to develop a new web site. Members had promised to work on this project for the last two years, but results were not forthcoming. The Board listened eagerly to this new proposal.

831 Design first proposes to build an identity for the Society by choosing a domain name. The suggested content for the web site will include information about the Heritage Society, history of Pacific Grove, a photo gallery, the Society's goals and accomplishments, membership application form, list of events, and links to other resources such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the City, etc.

When asked if we could

publish the Newsletter and the Board & Batten on the web site, they assured us that could be easily done.

The cost for this work seemed very reasonable, and the proposal was approved unanimously.

It is our goal that the web site be a tool for the community of Pacific Grove. If you have suggestions for content, please drop a line to the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, PO Box 1007, PG, 93950. We'll keep you up to date on our progress.

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Dues Alert

Heritage Society expenses have gradually increased over the years. However, annual dues have remained the same for 19 years.

We greatly appreciate that more than a hundred members have given more than the basic amount for many years. Thank you very much for your support and generosity.

To meet the increased expenses, the Board of Directors has voted to raise the dues as follows.

Individual:	\$15.00
Friend:	\$100.00
Family:	\$20.00
Partner:	\$250.00
Senior:	\$12.00
Patron:	\$50
Sponsor:	\$50.00
Lifetime:	\$1000.00

Individual dues notices will be mailed to you. Thank you for your continued support!

Preservation 101 Correction

We would like to thank architectural historian Kent Seavey for identifying 543 Spruce as an Italianate Style . . . not Four Square. He wrote the following description of the home for a past home tour: "Inspired by vernacular farmhouse design from the Italian Countryside, this form appeared in America through early architectural pattern books first as the Italian Villa, then the Italianate. It became one of the most popular modes in the United States because the interior spaces could be manipulated to meet the owner's needs at little expense to the picturesque character of the exterior form. Roofs were shallow, hipped or gabled with large brackets under eaves. The building envelope was generally square or rectangular with full open verandah or central one bay porches."

Another Historic House Saved!

by Ken Hinsbaw

One of the most interesting "untouched" historic houses in town is at 209 Monterey. Although the house was occupied until about 6 months ago, it appeared to be abandoned and overgrown. The wood deck of the porch had been badly patched with con-



543 Spruce Street



209 Monterey Street

crete, window glass was falling out of some of the frames, and the outer layer of fake brick siding was disintegrating. The structure looked to be beyond saving. Marshall Harris, the owner, applied for a demolition permit. Head Building Inspector Doug Rick went over (and

under) the building and to his surprise found it to be in solid condition! The porch will have to be rebuilt, but the structural members are OK.

At the December 14 Architectural Review Board meeting, architect Peter Davis presented a plan to move the

house to the north end of the 150 foot lot and add a two car garage at the basement level with living space above. The relocation of the house will allow the owner to subdivide the lot creating another legal building site. Another piece of Pacific Grove history is saved!

New Members

Inge Horton
 Ramona Diaz
 Joe and Linda Donofrio
 Pearsall Family

Membership Count:
1384



Whaler's Cabin at Point Lobos

Whalers' Cabin at Point Lobos

Reprinted from Preservation Now! with permission of AMAP's (Alliance of Monterey Area Preservationists) Vice President Nancy Runyon.

The Point Lobos Natural History Association, with the help of the Alliance of Monterey Area Preservationists, is submitting an application to the National Register of Historic Places for the Whalers' Cabin at Point Lobos State Reserve, Carmel, California.

Although the Reserve has long been registered as a National Natural Landmark and the cabin

regarded as one of the premier historic sites in California, it surprisingly lacks official historic designation. The cabin houses an esteemed museum that tells about the industry and lives of the diverse inhabitants of the small area of land, which hosts 35,000 to 40,000 visitors annually.

Built in 1851 by Chinese fishermen, the Whalers' Cabin is one of the oldest surviving wood-frame buildings of Chinese origin in California. Several Chinese families lived on Whalers' Cove until 1881. The Cabin was later home of Japanese abalone divers and was used by the U.S. Army during World War II. The State of

California purchased the property in 1933 and established the Point Lobos State Reserve. Point Lobos was also declared a National Natural Landmark in 1968.

Kurt Loesch (a member of the Point Lobos Natural History Association, PLNHA, and curator of the museum) with the assistance of Nancy Runyon (AMAP Vice President) has submitted the application for the National Register of Historic Places to the State Historical Resources Commission for approval before being sent to the Keeper of the Register.

For further information, contact Nancy Runyon at (831) 649-8132.

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Volunteer Opportunities

If you have an interest in volunteering for Heritage Society events such as the Historic Home Tour, Secret Gardens or Christmas at the Inns, please contact Maryanne Spradling 333-0821 or frogmbay@aol.com

Send your submissions to:
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