

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

Volume 6, Issue 2

March 2006



Exceptional Annual Meeting

by Darlene Billstrom



From left: Paul Finnegan, President of the Heritage Board; Kent Seavey, author of Images of America: Pacific Grove; and Thomas Steinbeck, also an author, who wrote the Foreward to the book, in which he sets the tone of the romance of Pacific Grove that he experienced as a child.

It was standing room only in the PG Council Chamber for the Heritage Society's Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 25th. President Paul Finnegan began the proceedings by introducing all the present board members and asking them to tell about their pet projects. Muriel Pyburn, Director Emeritus, brought down the house by stating she was told she was not supposed to talk. And she didn't.

Paul presented framed Heritage Society Lifetime Achievement Certificates to

Don Beals and Muriel Pyburn for their long and loyal support of the Heritage Society. He also presented Esther Trosow a similar certificate for her outstanding creation of the Chautauqua Exhibit. All recipients also received a \$50.00 gift certificate to The Little Red House. Thank you Little Red House!

Incumbent board directors Gretchen Leffler, Janet Cohen, Bob Davis, Steve Honegger, and Craig Riddell were reelected to the board unanimously, along with new board members

Marsha and Dennis Tarmina. Congratulations to all.

The business part of the meeting ended with singing Happy Birthday to Muriel Pyburn, who was celebrating her 96th birthday.

Kent Seavey introduced his good friend Thomas Steinbeck, the featured speaker for the event. Mr. Steinbeck had happy memories of growing up in Pacific Grove and complimented the Heritage Society members for their work in keeping much of Pacific Grove's charm intact. He had a wonderful story about

Calendar

MARCH ~ JUNE

San Francisco 1906 Earthquake
100 Year Anniversary Retrospective
at
Legion of Honor and SFMOMA,
San Francisco

APRIL

GOOD OLD DAYS
April 8-9
Downtown Pacific Grove

WILDFLOWER SHOW
April 14-16
PG Museum of Natural History
Forest and Central

MAY

PG SECRET GARDEN TOUR
May 6, 10am - 4pm

HERITAGE HOUSE AWARDS
May 12, 7 p.m.
PG Museum of Natural History

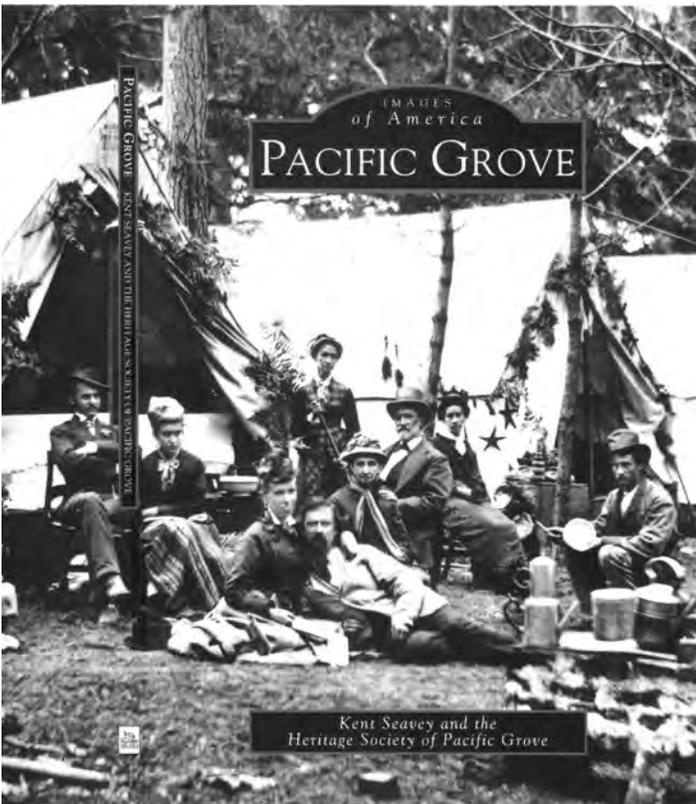
All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the Board of Directors, but are meant to stimulate interest in and discussion of preservation issues.

Sponsor the Newsletter Thank You!

Bob Davis,
Frances Grate,
and Anonymous,
"Highway 68"
already have



Muriel Pyburn , Director Emeritus (top), Don Beals (bottom) and Esther Trosow received Heritage Society Lifetime Achievement Certificates from the Heritage Society.



Images of America: Pacific Grove

Currently on the best-seller list in Pacific Grove, the pictorial history books of Pacific Grove are available for \$20.00 from 1 – 4 p.m. every Saturday at the Heritage Society Barn. The price includes the 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.

his father's passionate dislike of Mr. Holman. We were all enchanted with his tales; he left us begging for more.

The afternoon ended with cakes, cookies, coffee, and juice . . . and a chance to look at the Chautauqua exhibit on the walls of the halls.

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Letter from the President

Every year is a busy one for our Heritage Society, but 2005 really pushed us to new heights with the 150th anniversary of the Point Pinos Lighthouse, 100th anniversary of the Feast of Lanterns, publication of the *Images of America: Pacific Grove* with author Kent Seavey, and the Chautauqua Years Exhibit at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.

What a pleasure it is to see the Chautauqua Years exhibit still on view at City Hall and watch visitors and locals alike continue to enjoy the images and stories. The DVD production "Man of Vision: The Life of C.K. Tuttle" is on sale at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History Store and is well worth viewing.

The Heritage Society Board will have a working retreat to review our mission and look at getting our members and residents more involved in this worthwhile organization. It shall prove to be another busy year, and we appreciate your continued support.

Paul M. Finnegan
President
Heritage Society
of Pacific Grove

Marsh Building in Good Hands

Recent news of the sale of Monterey's Marsh building to Jerry Janssen, who has plans to restore the grand historic building, no doubt brought many smiles to Peninsula preservationists. Janssen's plans promise to bring the Marsh building back to its former glory with thoughtful restoration. With the melding of Japanese and Chinese design, the building will continue its tradition as the landmark that welcomes travelers into the city of Monterey, and Janssen will restore the exterior that is badly wanting.



Jerry Janssen, designer and entrepreneur, recently purchased Monterey's Marsh building, which Janssen plans to renovate inside and out.

Janssen is imminently qualified for this task. For 30 years, he has been the owner/operator of Orientations, a San Francisco showroom of Asian antiques. He specializes in restoration and design.

Additions that Janssen is considering are an Asian art museum, a koi pond and a tea room. Janssen plans on executing the exterior improvement first and then continuing the improvements of the interior spaces. The newsletter, eagerly following the transformation, will be reporting the updates.

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H.C. White Co., California Street to Fairmont Hotel, Great Merchant's Exchange on Left, San Francisco Disaster, 1906; stereoview; Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.



H.C. White Co., Kearny Street and Hall of Justice after the Great Disaster, San Francisco, 1906; stereoview; Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Note: The stereo images printed above are viewable using a stereo viewer. Also if the images are switched left for right they are viewable by crossing your eyes.

SFMOMA Marks Quake Centennial

The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art presents *1906 Earthquake: A Disaster in Pictures*, currently on exhibit through May 30, 2006. The great earthquake

that struck San Francisco on April 18, 1906, reduced the city's majestic architecture to rubble and left thousands of its residents homeless. In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, many photographers took to Bay Area streets with their cameras, documenting the unfathomable damage the quake had caused, as well as the challenge

of resuming normal life in the disaster's wake. SFMOMA's exhibition features approximately sixty vintage photographs drawn from the Museum's collection as well as local public and private holdings.

The earthquake coincided with a particularly rich moment in the history of photography, and this exhibition explores the

wide variety of photographic responses to the disaster. Commercial photography companies dispatched their photographers to San Francisco to make dramatic views for sale as panoramas, stereoviews, and postcards. By 1906, cameras marketed to the mass public put photography within the reach of the many amateur

snapshooters who documented their experiences in the ruined city. The works in the exhibition include professional views of the destroyed city, such as spectacular panoramas made with airborne cameras by George Lawrence, atmospheric Pictorialist views by Willard Worden, and glass lantern slides by Arnold Genthe. The exhibition will also include anonymous amateur snapshots, as well as albums, and cyanotypes on fabric (sometimes called photo quilts.)

This exhibition not only bears witness to the resilience and courage of the people of San Francisco, but also honors the rich photographic tradition of the Bay Area. Call 415-357-4000 for more information.

New Members

Barbara Ross Purvis
Joyce Gil-Osorio
Charles & Kathleen Huff

Membership Count:
1394

HSNL Slide Projector Request

The Summer Lecture Series is in need of a slide projector. The basic Kodak model that has served the Heritage Society for many years has developed some "audience irritating quirks" that we would like to avoid. If any of our supporters have a useable slide projector and would like to donate it to us we would be very grateful. Please contact Ken Hinshaw at khinsha2@aol.com or 375-0816.



Double Hung Windows

Free windows 68" wide by 38" high, shown here with Princess Selma. And there is a second pair 32" wide by 54" high. Call 333-9009

After the Ruins, 1906 and 2006:

Rephotographing the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire

Arizona-based photographer Mark Klett (b.1952) has been photographing the American West for over 25 years. On display through June 4, 2006, The Legion of Honor's exhibit of Klett's rephotographs of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire are provocative.

Over the past two years, Klett has been collecting 1906 images from the Legion of Honor's Genthe archive, the Bancroft Library, and various web-based archives, resulting in the selection of 85 geographical sites. His fieldwork in recreating the historic shots covered the entire city of San Francisco, from Union Square to the Presidio, South of Market to the Marina Green, and Mission Dolores to Cow Hollow. The

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results are approximately 75 paired photographs depicting the city then and now, each showing that the two spaces and times are related. In Klett's words, "The photographs are more than a reminder of the power of nature or a warning to arrogance in the face of it. I also think they are a way to contemplate how we understand time and our relationship to the past."

For more information, call 415-863-3330.

Send your submissions to:
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