

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

Volume 6, Issue 9

October 2006



Antiques and Collectibles: Appraisals and Clinics

by Peggy Schmidt



The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove will be hosting an antiques and collectibles event, co-sponsored by the Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula, on Saturday, October 28, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sally Griffin Active Living Center, 700 Jewell Avenue, Pacific Grove.

The event has been expanded from its previous format to consist of two parts: Appraisals and Clinics.

Appraisals: Bring your antiques and collectibles for valuation by a panel of experts led by Claudia McCord of the Cannery Row Antique Mall. The panel will include experts in many areas, including jewelry, silver, china, paper products, 1920s and 1930s

furniture, and regional art. These experts will provide information about the value and history of the articles. (No written appraisals will be issued.)

Appraisals are free to members of the Heritage Society or the Sally Griffin Center. There will be a limit of 2 items per person, unless time allows additional items to be appraised.

Clinics: We are excited to also offer four "How To" Clinics. They will be 45 minutes in length. The schedule is:

1 p.m. **How to Hold a Successful Garage Sale**

Presenter: Linda Averett (Cannery Row Antique Mall, Monterey, and Antique Trove, San Carlos)

2 p.m. **How to Be Successful Selling on eBay**

Presenter: Sirie Thongchua (eBay Education Specialist)

2 p.m. **How to Repair and Refinish Furniture**

Presenter: Tina Martinez of Furniture Art Studio

3 p.m. **How to Conduct an Estate Sale**

Presenter: Georganne Thurston (Thurston Estate Appraisal, Carmel)

The clinics are also free to members of the sponsoring organizations. However, pre-registration is required. Call the Cannery Row Antique Mall (655-0264) to reserve your place.

For individuals who are not members of the Heritage Society or the Sally Griffin

Calendar

OCTOBER

HISTORIC HOME TOUR

Sunday, October 1
10am to 4pm

ARTISTS IN CHAUTAUQUA

Chautauqua Hall (Central and 16th)
Sunday, October 1
10am to 4pm

HERITAGE BIRDHOUSE FINAL AUCTION

Elmarie Dyke Park, next to
Chautauqua Hall
Sunday, October 1
10am to 4pm
Silent auction ends at 2:45

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES:

Appraisals and Clinics
Co-Sponsored by the Pacific Grove
Heritage Society and Meals on
Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula
(experts provided by the Cannery
Antique Mall)
Saturday, October 28
Noon to 4pm
Sally Griffin Active Living Center,
Pacific Grove

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS AT THE INNS

December 5 & 6 (Tuesday and
Wednesday)
Tickets: \$20 for two days

Center, a \$10 admission charge will be collected. The charge will include two appraisals as well as attendance at any of the clinics as space permits. Or, you may become a member of the Heritage Society for \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family).

For additional information about this event, please call Peggy Schmidt at 372-1358.

Summer Lecture Series Finale

by Maryanne Spradling

The final lecture of the summer series was presented by Coastal Naturalist, Milos Radakovich. In his lecture titled "The History of Monterey Bay" he introduced us to the very first marine biologists, the local natives of 10,000 years ago who depended upon the rich resources of the bay for their survival. Then he fast-forwarded to the last three centuries of explorers, naturalists and fishermen, from Spain and the Azores to Japan and China, who all contributed their knowledge, adventurous spirits and stories to Monterey Bay's singular history. Radakovich enlightened the audience with his wealth of knowledge, his enthusiasm for his profession, and his true wit. It was a great finish to the summer lecture series.

The summer lecture series, the brainchild of Ken Hinshaw, is the closest thing that we have today that resembles the Chautauqua experience from the turn of the century to the 1920s. It's a time for the community to come together for some "traveling culture" as the early Chautauqua supporters would say. So, thank you Ken for reviving a little bit of that Chautauqua spirit, and thanks to Darlene Billstrom for assisting in those early efforts.

In Bob Davis' introduction to this final lecture he gave a resounding thanks to those who contributed their efforts: Ken Hinshaw, the coordinator for the lecture series; Sally Aberg, the series publicist; Riddell and

Riddell, advertisements; and Lowell Northrop, technology expert. In kind, the Heritage Society also thanks Bob Davis for his eloquent introductions for each of the lectures.



The audience was introduced to Steller's Sea Cow, discovered in 1741 by one of the world's first marine biologists, Georg Wilhelm Steller, while exploring the Aleutian Islands. They grew to be 30 feet long and weighed up to three-and-a-half tons. Unfortunately, due to sailors' over-hunting, the sea cows became extinct only 30 years following Steller's discovery.

Will the Light Keep Shining?

by Ken Hinshaw

August 16th marks the official date that Pacific Grove took over ownership of the Point Pinos Lighthouse. Owning a 150-year-old building can be a mixed blessing. Along with the pride goes heavy responsibility.

In 2004, the National Park Service appointed one of their preservation experts from Santa Fe to give our landmark the "once over." The result was a 42 page report, in which preservation specialist Glenn Simpson concluded that the building is in pretty good shape for its age, but there are things that need be attended to ASAP. Of most immediate concern is the sawn-cedar shingle roof and copper flashing that have deteriorated and need to be replaced. However, the report strongly suggests that before any



Point Pinos, oldest lighthouse under continuous use on the West Coast.

work is done a historic structure report be written by a team of experts, at an estimated cost of \$71,000. Roof and flashing replacement is estimated to cost \$49,000, window and door rehabilitation \$86,000, repainting \$89,000, As you might expect these figures reflect very high standards of work (and 2004 prices) with expert technical supervision.

There is a provision in the transfer agreement that states if the maintenance is not done, the ownership can be revoked. There are many areas that have been neglected while the Coast Guard had ownership. In a perfect world, all maintenance issues would have been dealt with before the handover so that Pacific Grove could take possession of a building in top condition. In reality PG took over responsibility for maintenance of the lighthouse in 1979 when the back nine to the golf course was introduced, and since then the only major exterior work done has been the installation of the present roof.

Public Works director Steve Leiker reports that his department takes care of the grounds and does light maintenance, but due to the budget constraints, there are limited plans for doing any of the

serious work that is needed. The Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History has had a hand in coordinating the interpretation program at the Lighthouse. However, Museum Director Paul Finnegan does not feel that the museum can take on the responsibility for maintenance. City Manager Jim Colangelo says that a Lighthouse Improvement Fund has been set apart from the general fund in the city budget, and the \$35,000 that is donated to the Lighthouse each year by visitors will be set aside for needed work. Previously the money has been put into the general fund.

Local architect Jeanne Byrne is exploring the idea of getting graduate students at Cal Poly's School of Architecture to work on the Historic Structure Report, for a possible savings of \$71,000. We will keep our fingers crossed.

Two local groups have made major contributions to the running of the lighthouse: the Questers have done an excellent job furnishing the rooms with furniture, art and other period-correct items and the Lighthouse Keepers have a revolving group of 25 well trained docents who have organized the interpretive program for visitors all year long, four days a week.

We are all aware of the budgetary problems the City faces. Will the lighthouse maintenance be just one more budget item that has to be squeezed in an attempt to balance the budget? The Public Works Dept. is under court order to get the sewer system functioning at a higher level to protect Monterey Bay from contamination. Taking on the maintenance of the lighthouse would require additional staff time, at considerable cost. Perhaps the fines imposed on the two property owners for recent illegal demolitions could be added to the Lighthouse Improvement Fund for the purpose of addressing the most pressing preservation problems.

kenl@redsbift.com

these Heritage Society members are organizing a photography contest involving the students at Pacific Grove High School with instructor Matthew Kelly. The purpose of this project is to engage the students in the history of Pacific Grove utilizing the Tuttle Collection and other historic photographs of Pacific Grove. Eighteen students will be selecting historical photographs from the collection, finding the buildings as they exist today, and then rendering their interpretation of these historic photographs. Local photographers Huntington Witherill and Galyn Hammond will be judging the photographs, and prize money will be awarded to the winners of this contest.

Steffana Murphy Robins has



3930 Winston Hotel, Pacific Grove, Cal.

Winston Hotel 1908. From the collection of Steve Honegger esq.

Extensive Damage Halts Repairs; Meeting Encourages Historic Storefronts

by Ken Hinsbaw

You probably have noticed the scaffolding in the heart of downtown covering the former Winston Hotel back in the twenties, which is now divided into retail shops including the Sand Pebbles store and Holly's Café. Brian Winslow began replacing the stucco on the façade when the work crew quickly discovered to everyone's surprise that there was a sheet metal façade with three simple decorative cast iron columns. The faux brick (pre-1908) and stone-pressed metal-work façade was badly deteriorated and was removed to

expose yet another unexpected problem -- rotted wood framing.

These new and not altogether welcome discoveries opened new possibilities and choices.

Jeanne Byrne of the Downtown Business Improvement Association has been working for some time trying to encourage commercial property owners to restore the many 1950s storefronts back to their original designs circa 1890s – 1920s.

With the blessing and encouragement of Heritage Society President Darlene Billstrom, your author and Ms. Byrne organized a meeting with the property owner William Jung, along with the contractor Brian Winslow, Mayor Cort, business people Holly Hamner, Alan Cohen, and publisher and mayoral candidate Lee Yarborough, to offer encouragement to Mr. Jung in any efforts he might take to bring back the historic façade of the building. The next step for Mr. Jung is to get the engineering requirements and costs of repairing or replacing the façade. Mr. Jung agreed to meet with the group after he has that information.

kenl@redsbift.com



Photo contest team Marilyn Vasello, Sharen Blaziek, and team leader Donna Stewart.

Photo Contest: PG High School Students

Donna Stewart, Sharon Blaziek, and Marilyn Vassallo of Pacific Grove have embarked upon a new project for the Heritage Society. At the beckoning of Ken Hinshaw,

graciously offered her studio at 170 Grand Avenue, Pacific Grove, as the initial display of these photographs. The premiere opening will coincide with the January 2007 Art Walk.

Following the initial display, the organizers hope to find another venue to display the students' photographs for a few weeks. If anyone has suggestions as to where we might be able to display 18 11x14 photographs please contact Donna Stewart at 646-8841.

dstepwg@mindspring.com

New Members

Mr. & Mrs. C. Ash
 Albert Boosman
 Carol Champlin
 Ray & Joyce Denne
 Larry Telles & Sue Parris
 Marty & Dennis Renault
 Margaret Rodina
 Michael Schneider
 The Shonman Family
 Rich & Nancy Trissel
 Joe Wible

Membership Count:
1232

Letters to the Editor

Just a note to say thank you to you and your staff. We enjoy the Newsletter so very much. The work all of you put into each issue is appreciated. We live in Fresno, but spend five weeks a year in PG. Our hearts are there and the Newsletter keeps us connected. Thank you again.

- Trevor and Madeline Glenn,
 August 23, 2006

New Lecture Coordinator Needed

by Ken "Slave Driver" Hinshaw

The Summer Lecture Series team is looking for a new coordinator. This interesting bunch of activists has been putting on the event for the past seven years. The coordinator, a certain Ken Hinshaw, (sometimes called Mr. Slave driver) has fallen by the wayside in exhaustion and we need a new person to fill his position. Mr. Hinshaw has proven that there are no special skills needed for this position. The committee requires that the coordinator bring cookies to planning sessions in order to keep the committee members on a happy sugar high. If you can read this you are probably overqualified. So... here's what we need: some fairly well organized person with pretty good communication skills that can get the team together when needed, someone who makes sure decisions are made about topics,



Ken Hinshaw just BEFORE he began working with the Summer Lecture Series Team.



Ken AFTER seven years association with the SLS team.

speakers and dates, and someone who won't forget the cookies. No experience is necessary... in fact it's an advantage! If you think you would like to get tangled up with our lively unrulely bunch contact Ken through e-mail.

kenl@redshift.com

(Those first characters are all lower case with a lower case L after his first name.)

Newsletter Staff

Editor

Maryanne Spradling

Typesetting

A Volunteer

Contributing Editors

Ken Hinshaw

Peggy Schmidt

Donna Stewart

Send your submissions to:

Maryanne Spradling

The Heritage Society
 of Pacific Grove

P.O. Box 1007

Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Images of America: Pacific Grove

Books are available for \$20.00 from 1 - 4 pm 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.

Send your submissions to:
 Maryanne Spradling
 The Heritage Society
 of Pacific Grove
 P.O. Box 1007
 Pacific Grove, CA 93950

THE HERITAGE
 SOCIETY
 OF
 PACIFIC GROVE
 P.O. Box 1007
 Pacific Grove, CA 93950



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