

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

Volume 6, Issue 10

November/December 2006



Christmas at the Inns

by Betty Aickelin



Seven Gables Inn

A great way to get into the holiday spirit is to take the tour of our inns decorated in their holiday splendor. Come celebrate the season on the 21st Annual Christmas at the Inns Tour, Tuesday, December 5th and Wednesday, December 6th, from 6 to 9pm. Docents will be at each location to enlighten you with interesting histories of the inns, where you will also enjoy live entertainment and refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity to join friends and relatives for a treat and take advantage of the reduced room rates just for this event.

This year the inns that will participate on both evenings include the Centrella Bed & Breakfast, Old Monterey Inn, the Inn at 213-17 Mile Drive, and The Phoebe Hearst Social Hall at Asilomar.

On Tuesday, December 5th you can also visit the Pacific Grove Inn, Seven Gables Inn, Gosby House, and Old St. Angela Inn.

Wednesday, December 6th will include the Green Gables Inn, Jabberwock, and The Martine Inn.

Tickets for the two-evening

event can be purchased at the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce at 584 Central Ave. for \$20. Call the Chamber at (831) 373-3304 for additional information.

Home Tour a Success

by Darlene Billstrom

Our sunny October skies deserted us this year; but despite a few raindrops the Historic Home Tour was a success. One lady from the Central Valley e-mailed that

Calendar

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS AT THE INNS
December 5 & 6
(Tuesday and Wednesday)
6pm – 9pm
Tickets: \$20 for two days

JANUARY

THEN & NOW
High School Photo Contest
(date to be announced)

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.

she thought it was “the best Home Tour yet.” Many thanks to the folks who opened their homes this year: Rebecca Barrymore, Marjorie Blodgett, Victoria & Clayton Clark, Judy and Ken Johnson, Malcolm and Jill Knisley, Donna Krasnow, and Annie Uncapher.

The Historic Home Tour is an annual fundraiser for the Heritage Society, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Pacific Grove Art Center. Janet Cohen did a fine job chairing the event for the Heritage Society. Sally Higgins, of the Art Center, coordinated all

the docents, and Moe Ammar and his staff sold tickets, advertised, and organized public relations. Tom Akeman contributed to the public relations with his fine articles in area newspapers. Craig and Rebecca Riddell of Riddell and Riddell Advertising put together the brochure. Linda Bailey wrote the house descriptions, and Sonia Cook photographed the houses. Ken Hinshaw made sure every place on the tour had balloons. Everyone on this hard-working team did an excellent job. Thank you all, and a special thanks to

Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula for the donation of booties. One more huge thank you to all the docents; this event couldn't be done without you volunteering your time and energy.

Janet Cohen has agreed to chair the event again next year. As usual, volunteers and houses are needed. She would like a co-chair. Docents are always in demand, and if you would like your historic home to be considered for next year's tour, please contact her at 277-1091 or at janetcohen333@comcast.net.



Antiques/Collectible Appraisals

Thanks to Andrea Fuerst of the Sally Griffin Active Living Center and Claudia McCord of the Cannery Row Antique Mall for being co-sponsors and assisting Peggy Schmidt of the Heritage Society for making this event so successful and informational. Also, special thanks to the clinic speakers who spoke on subjects about selling on Ebay to refinishing furniture: Linda Averett, Sirie Thongchua, Tina Martinez, and Georganna Thurston. Once again, people brought in their treasures to be evaluated by the panel of appraisers. John Billstrom (above) brought in a family painting that was appraised by Jane Flury (above left). If you missed the event this year, plan on attending next year and bring your china, paintings, medals, books, jewelry -- it's fun, informative and could be lucrative!



For the Birds Auction

The second annual birdhouse fundraiser turned into gold once more. Thanks to Craig and Rebecca Riddell's organization and promotion, to the many talented and enthusiastic builders, and a big thanks to the bidders, this auction raised \$5000 for the Heritage Society.

It's a win-win event where everyone comes and leaves smiling. Among the "winners" were Leo and Luca Lauritzen (above) with their Eric Miller custom-built birdhouse.

The architects of these birdhouses seem to get more creative by the year. Though the newsletter hasn't enough room to feature them in this edition, some of the birdhouses will be shown off in the upcoming issues. Good work all!

Gardens Wanted

As we enter our rainy season, we hope to see our PG gardeners strapping on their garden gloves, sharpening their clippers, and prepping their gardens for the garden tour. What better motivation to get yourself and your garden in shape for the Secret Garden Tour!

Please call Rebecca Riddell at 646-0351.

New Members

Lars Anderson
Geva Arcanin
Marjorie Blodgett
Jerry Anderson
Sharon Fagan

Membership Count:
1255



Artists in Chautauqua

Twenty artists, including Deb Heisel (above) recently came together to celebrate the 4th annual Artists in Chautauqua event that coincided with the Historic Home Tour.

Top sellers included a jeweler, a gourd artist formerly featured in this publication, several watercolorists, and a fiber artist. Coordinated by HS Board Member Jean Anton, this event was open to everyone who had a ticket for the home tour, plus all locals who just wanted to do some pre-holiday shopping. Twenty-five percent of all sales were donated to the Heritage Society.

Research Update

by Marsha Tarmina

The Inventory Refinement Group, consisting of volunteers from the Heritage Society, is continuing its work identifying homes that might qualify for inclusion on Pacific Grove's Historic Resources Inventory (HRI). An article regarding this project previously appeared in the March/April 2005 issue of this newsletter, a copy of which can be found at www.pacificgroveheritage.org/newsletter.html.

In June of this year, notices were placed in city property files of 33 homes, which had been identified by the volunteer researchers as possible

candidates for inclusion on the HRI. Supporting documentation and photos were attached to each notice.

The Heritage Society notice, printed on fluorescent green paper, reads:

This property has been identified by the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove as being potentially eligible for inclusion on the City of Pacific Grove's Historic Resources Inventory.

Additionally, a label printed in red stating 'Potentially Eligible for the Historic Resources Inventory' was placed on the front of all 33 property file folders.

Work is nearing completion on the next set of properties, which have been identified as possible candidates for the HRI.

Silver Anniversary Celebration

by Marsha Tarmina

Heritage Society members, special guests, and others attended the October 1st gathering at Ketcham's Barn marking the 25th anniversary of the structure as home to the society. Guests of note included Richard and Ethyl Radowicz, owners of the property immediately prior to the city's acquisition in 1980, and Pat Hoffman Zampatti, whose parents, Harold and Ruth Hoffman, were owners from 1951 until 1977.

The newly framed 1980 architectural renderings of Ed Bredthauer were on display for the event along with a montage of barn photos taken over the years. The other framed drawing is that of the dilapidated barn as it existed prior to its restoration.

A limited edition commemorative pin of Ketcham's Barn was presented to special guests and board members of the Society. Only about one-inch-square in size, the antique silver colored pin bears remarkable detail and likeness of the barn.

Topping off this event was the handmade peppermint and vanilla ice cream made by Don Beals!

Luckily for anyone who may have missed attending the open house, you may see the Bredthauer renderings on permanent exhibit at Ketcham's Barn, the montage of barn photo display and the commemorative pins, which may be purchased for a \$5 donation to the Heritage Society. A reminder, Ketcham's Barn is open every Saturday afternoon from 1-4pm. (Note: you missed your chance at homemade ice cream until the next special event!)



As Darlene Billstrom, President of the Heritage Society Board, made a presentation, participants included some of the former owners of the Barn: Pat Hoffman Zampatti's parents owned the Barn from 1951 to 1977; and Richard Radowicz and Ethyl Radowicz owned the Barn from 1977 to 1980.

Letter to the Editor

After following the story leading up to the decision of the HRC concerning 837 Ocean, and reading the article "837 Ocean View Historic? Yes or No?" in the last Heritage Society Newsletter, I became concerned at the lack of complete and unbiased details reported in this article, not to mention the frivolous and arbitrary decision itself.

The owners, who in good faith, came to the City for clarification of the rules and regulation surrounding the potential home remodel, were told it was NOT a historic building which would be protected and require additional scrutiny in any changes that might occur.

The project was brought to the City Council during the appeal process and they, in what appears to be a rather capricious manner, chose to consider this building historic in the face of considerable evidence to the contrary presented by a prominent historic consultant.

At what point during the design process should an

owner rely on the historic status information given to them by the City representatives? The owners are now, understandably, suing the City and we, as citizens, may be paying for this unfortunate decision.

If the HRC felt any sense of responsibility, they would revisit this decision and work with the owners, not against them. Truly preserving Pacific Grove means more than saving old buildings – it means preserving integrity and a sense of community.

Sincerely,
Vanessa Bredthauer
Member, Heritage Society

Bredthauer Letter Response

Vanessa Bredthauer's letter raises two issues, one small and one large. The smaller issue suggests the article was biased; and the larger issue questions the wisdom of the decisions. After reviewing the September newsletter article on the website (www.pacificgroveheritage.org) that I wrote, I do not feel there is any bias,

rather it is a strict recounting of the process. As to the more serious question regarding the wisdom of the decision by the ARB, HRC, and City Council, this issue is currently in legal dispute and the Heritage Board has advised the Newsletter staff to refrain from commenting until litigation is complete. We will comment after the dust settles.

Ken Hinshaw
kenl@redshift.com

Letter to the Editor

Dear Board Members,
For the past thirteen years, I have had the distinct pleasure of coordinating the Chamber's role in the Historic Home Tour. I have enjoyed my interaction with all the Heritage Society's representatives that assisted in this endeavor. However, something magical occurred this year! I was privileged to work with Janet Cohen who was courteous, professional, and exceptionally detailed. Janet communicated with me on a daily basis and kept me abreast of all the challenges facing the event. She was

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simply awesome. Although attendance was slightly below last year, I credit Janet for a smooth operation that was reflected by the compliments received at the Chamber.

In closing, I hope Janet will be in charge of the event for many years to come.

Sincerely,
Moe Ammar

Send your submissions to:
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