

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

Volume 7, Issue 1

January/February 2007



2007 ANNUAL MEETING

by Darlene Billstrom



Paul Finnegan, director of the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History and past president of the Heritage Society, will be the featured speaker at the Heritage Society's Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 25th. Paul will be giving a presentation on some of the histories and origins of the fine temporary exhibits that the museum has hosted over the last few years, which have transported us from our community's boundaries to California's poppy fields, to under the Antarctic ice and to

the Sea of Cortez, the current exhibit. We've all benefited from Paul's enthusiastic direction of the museum: marvelous exhibits and interesting and illuminating lectures, always imbued with wit.

Winners of the Pacific Grove High School photography contest, "Then and Now," sponsored by the Heritage Society, will be introduced. The photographs will be on display at A Niche in Tyme, An Adventure in Jewelry, 588 Lighthouse Avenue, during the month of February.

As the new president of the Society, I'll give a brief summary of the Society's 2006 accomplishments and plans for the future. Election of new board members will follow. We have four openings this year as the terms of Jeanie Anton, Paul Finnegan, Gretchen Leffler and Peggy Schmidt expire, and they have elected not to continue on the board. Their service to the Society has been valuable, and we will miss their energy and wise guidance. We thank them for their unstinting service.

Calendar

FEBRUARY

THEN & NOW

High School Photo Contest
On display at A Niche in Tyme
588 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove

HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Election of Board Members
Sunday, February 25, 1 pm
Museum of Natural History
Forest and Central

APRIL

WILDFLOWER SHOW

April 13-15
Museum of Natural History
Forest and Central

GOOD OLD DAYS

April 21-22
Downtown Pacific Grove

MAY

SECRET GARDEN TOUR

May 5, 10am - 4pm

The meeting will be held at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, located on Central Avenue between Forest and Grand Avenues. It's a great opportunity to view the Museum's new permanent *California Condor Exhibit* and the *Return to the Sea of Cortez* temporary exhibit. The meeting starts at 1 pm. Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there.

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www.
pacific
grove
heritage.
org

by Bob Davis

Introducing the website address of your Heritage Society. On the website, you will find information about coming events in which the Heritage Society participates with dates, places and times. This current issue of this newsletter is also on the website along with past issues so you can look up articles you might have missed. And you'll find a variety of other information about the Heritage Society, its officers, its history and its activities. For web surfers who want to know more about old Pacific Grove, the site provides a timeline of events in our town's history, beginning with Juan Rodrigues Cabrillo's discovery of Monterey Bay in 1542 when he landed at what is now called

Cabrillo Point in Pacific Grove.

Our website is an evolving project. It will grow and change in reflection of the interests and suggestions of our members. In the near future, for example, the website will be expanded to include an Index to all the people and topics covered in *The Board and Batten*, the Heritage Society's journal of our community's past. And plans are underway to make all the issues of *The Board and Batten* from 1984 to the present accessible online along with images of the historic photographs.

You can also contact us through our almost-as-new e-mail address heritagesocietypg@montereybay.com which will connect you with our computer at Ketcham's Barn. Or you can call us at 372-2898 or send us a note in the mail. But best of all, stop in to see us at the Barn on Saturday afternoons.

The Heritage Society website was developed and is maintained by Alix Moore and Nat Rojanisathira at 831 Design.

rdavis@aol.com



Photo of early Pacific Grove from the Tuttle collection, Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

Photo Archivist Needed

Your Heritage Society Barn has accumulated a large collection of historic photos. Volunteer Researcher, Mary Fobian, would like someone to work with her organizing and scanning the images. If you think you may be interested in this interesting and important project, contact Mary at metaphor4@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Photo Contest

by Donna Stewart

The Pacific Grove Heritage Society has sponsored a photography contest, "Then and Now," with Pacific Grove High School photography instructor Matthew Kelly and his students. Eighteen students each

selected a photograph from the Pacific Grove Natural History Museum's Tuttle Collection and rendered their interpretation of the historical photograph.

Judges for the competition were Huntington Witherill, Galyn Hammond and Sharon Blaziek. Winners of the competition received a scholarship award from the Heritage Society. Best of Show: Adam Garrett; First Place: Rachael Feher; Second Place: Eric Anderson; Third Place: Courtney Smith; and Honorable Mentions: Michelle Smiley and Caroline Gibson.

Chuck Long, owner of A Niche in Tyme, An Adventure in Jewelry, 588 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove, will have the photographs on display in his store during the month of February.

The first Art Walk of 2007 is March 10, where the students' photographs along with the historic Tuttle photographs will be displayed at Crackpot Studio, 170 Grand Avenue, Pacific Grove, provided by studio owner Stefanna Murphy Robbins.

dstewnpg@mindspring.com

The "home page" of our web site



3930 Winston Hotel, Pacific Grove, Cal.

Winston Hotel from a 1908 postcard from the collection of Steve Honegger



602 Lighthouse after structural repairs and a new coat of stucco

Downtown's Historic Facade

by Ken Hinsbaw

In the October Newsletter, I wrote about a meeting of community leaders with William Jung, the owner of the former Winston Hotel building (602-610 Lighthouse), to discuss the possibility of incorporating some of the original architectural themes in the repair of the damaged stucco façade. On the plus side, Mr. Jung has submitted revised plans in November that include recreating the third-story iron balcony and a handsome belt of decorative molded plaster similar to the original design on the second story. Since the iron balcony hangs over the sidewalk permission from the City Council would be required, placing that portion of the project on hold. On the ground floor, the original arched windows are not part of the new plan, however the configuration of the present storefronts will be capped with plaster arches - some narrow like the early windows, some much wider to

span the storefronts. The original second-story, double-hung wooden windows were replaced some time back with thin profile aluminum units, which will not be replaced.

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HSNL Talent Search

by Ken Hinsbaw

Your Heritage Society is looking for a few good people. We will have four openings on our board of directors. This is a working board, and everyone is expected to pitch in organizing events, fundraising, dealing with preservation issues like illegal demolitions, and yes writing for the Newsletter. There is never a dull moment around the Barn. The members of the Heritage Board come with a variety of talents; the most important quality is interest in local history and historic preservation and a willingness to get involved.

If you think this is for you call Darlene at 375-8448.

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Update of Preservation Ordinance Revision

by Ken Hinsbaw

The seven members of the Historic Resources Committee at the direction of the City Council have taken on the tedious work of updating the city rules that govern historic homes and buildings. They have discussed line by line the implications of several "improvements" to the ordinance. One of the more positive ideas in play is incorporating an over the counter design approval subject to strict adherence of size and design criteria. It is hoped that this change would encourage smaller additions. This approach has been tried in the case of non-historic homes, with some success, reducing paperwork and speeding up approval of minor projects.

The possibility of a 75 year rolling cut-off date appears to have the support of the majority of the committee, leaving unresolved some questions about adding

newer structures. One train of thought argues that we should not have different standards for adding structures that are newer than 75 years -- that newer structures need only meet one of the eleven criteria (the same standard used for older homes). Opposing this is the argument that it is essential that there be a clear dividing line between what is and what is not historic, that it is better to lose a few homes to demolition than to have cloudy standards. A clear definition is necessary for property owners, as well as the planners and the HRC to use in making decisions. Continued long-term public support depends on easy-to-understand, fair standards, and is eroded by decisions that appear to be based on arbitrary criteria. The debate among committee members will continue at future HRC meetings.

After the HRC comes up with final recommended wording, the proposed changes to the ordinance will be the subject of public hearings before the Planning Commission and finally the City Council.

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New Members

R. Edward Blanchard
 Fran Horvath and Art Evjen
 Sally Kane
 Lisa Dunham
 Terre Martin
 Bill Brown

Membership Count:
1255

Calling All Gardens

If you have a garden that you would like to share with others during our Secret Garden Tour on May 5, please call Rebecca Riddell at 646-0351.



Betty Aickelin and Sally Aberg recreated the Heritage Society's Barn and won first place for "Craftsman/Julia Morgan-style bird house design"

Your Family History

Local Pacific Grove writer Cameron Douglas has taken on the job of putting local family histories into print. Cameron interviews family members to gather facts, dates

and stories. His goal is to "reveal the meaning of their lives, and preserve their spirit for generations to come...and give a first-hand view of how it was to be young in an era gone by." The cost of his efforts is reasonable. If you are interested you can reach him at 333-1421.

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