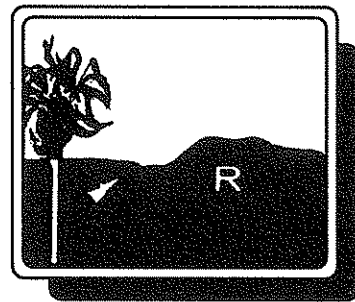


REDLANDS CHRONICLES



April, 2007

A Candid View of the Cutting Room Floor: Behind the University of Redlands History

Larry E. Burgess, A.K. Smiley Public Library
Monday, April 23rd, 7:00pm
Assembly Room, A.K. Smiley Public Library

The Redlands Area Historical Society program for April 23rd features Dr. Larry Burgess as speaker. His lecture is titled, "A Candid View of the Cutting Room Floor: Behind the University of Redlands History." Larry intends to reveal those major stories that were printed and not printed in his "With Unbounded Confidence, A Centennial History of the University of Redlands." The program will take place in the Assembly Room at A.K. Smiley Library at 7:00 p.m. and is open to the public.

Dr. Burgess is a graduate of the University of Redlands. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. in history at Claremont Graduate University. He was the founding archivist and Head of Special Collections of A.K. Smiley Public Library from 1972 to 1985. In 1986, he became Library Director.

Burgess is a founding member of the Redlands Area Historical Society. He is a mem-

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Old House Group Meeting

Wednesday, April 18, 7:00pm
731 Walnut Avenue

The April 2007, Old House Group Meeting will be held Wednesday, April 18 at 7:00 pm. Dave and Marsha Veiga will be hosting the meeting in their charming 1901 Arts and Crafts home located at 731 Walnut Avenue.

This 1800 square foot 2 bedroom home was built in 1901 for Mary Barton Ruggles as a wedding gift from her uncle Hiram M. Barton. Miss Barton was the granddaughter of Dr. Ben Barton who, in 1857, purchased Rancho San Bernardino including the Asistencia on what is now Barton Road. She married Frederick Shelton Ruggles who was a prominent member of the citrus industry in Redlands, until his death in 1927. Later Mrs. Ruggles married Herbert A. Hargraves who was assistant manager of the Redlands Daily Facts. She lived in the home until her death at 84.

Two years ago the Veigas hosted the Old House Group and within three weeks after the meeting they embarked upon a major renovation. This included a period kitchen, a remodel of two bathrooms, replacing hardwood floors which had been destroyed in a fire in 1982, and new paint both inside and out.

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A Letter from your President...

Did you know that April is "Community Service Month" as well as being "Boost Your Hometown Month" and "Keep America Beautiful Month"? Surely, each of us can find at least one community group to donate our time to serve, boost, or beautify. It's the Redlands way! Long ago, our town attracted all sorts of people interested in serving the community. Today we can honor those who have come before us by continuing their work and building on their tradition.

As a Heritage Auxiliary member, I am one of the volunteers giving tours to the fourth grade students of the Redlands Unified School District. One of our goals is to impress the students with the idea of how many significant historical features have been given to the community of Redlands. We include A.K. Smiley Public Library, the Lincoln Memorial Shrine, the Procellis at the Redlands Bowl, and Kimberly Crest, just to name a few. My tours always conclude with the thought that we all have something to contribute and each of us can give back to our community in our own way.

So at this time of year, when the sun is shining and the weather is mild, find a cause you can contribute some time to. This month the Redlands Horticultural & Improvement Society's annual Flower Show & Garden Tour takes place. Sit in a garden for a couple of hours; you will meet such lovely people and the atmosphere is so soothing. Donate food or clothing to Family Service, as this is the time of year when most are not thinking about food baskets. Take out a membership in the Inland Orange Conservancy and Eat2Keep those juicy citrus growing in our area. Every time we serve, it comes back to us in unimaginable ways. As Ben Sweetland said so eloquently, "We cannot hold a torch to light another's path without brightening our own."

Please join us this month for our final General Meeting on Monday, April 23, 2007 at 7:00 pm, in the A.K. Smiley Public Library Assembly Room to hear Dr. Larry Burgess tell us all the juicy information which was left out of his newest work, *With Unbounded Confidence: A History of the University of Redlands*. This beautifully written book is one which will be spoken of by our children and grandchildren. It is a must have for any Redlands collector! Then do not miss our final event in June, the annual Heritage Awards and Ice Cream Social. See you all around town!

Judith Hunt, President

Burgess, continued

ber of the Executive Committee of the University of Redlands Board of Trustees. He was vice-chair of the California Historic Preservation Commission, and chaired the City of Redlands Bicentennial Committee in 1976. He is past-president of the Historical Society of Southern California, and on the advisory board of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

In 1972, Burgess began teaching a course on San Bernardino Valley history and Redlands history through the Adult Education program for the Redlands Unified School District. The course proved so popular he continues today with two sessions: one in the Fall and another each Spring. He identified the Smiley Brothers as the philanthropic leaders of Redlands and reminds the community of their stewardship. Larry is an expert on Redlands history, Southern California history, Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War, the West and Redlands Civic organizations. He is a gifted orator that entertains as well as directs a message to the audience.

Dr. Burgess wrote and then rewrote several different versions of the History of the University of Redlands. If what ended up on the cutting room floor is as interesting as the final published book, everyone is in for a treat.

Old House Group, continued

Dave and Marsha lived in their vacation trailer in the backyard for ten months during the renovation which allowed them to keep a watchful eye on everything that was going on. Even though the workers are no longer present, the Veigas have projects still to complete. This spring with the help of teenage grandsons, they plan to paint their 95 year old garage and workshop. On most days Marsha an avid gardener, can be found either planting or tending to the landscaping which is an "ever growing" project.

The Veigas look forward to showing the Old House Group the changes that have occurred since the last time the members were in the home. See you there!

One Hundred Years Ago - reprinted from *The Citrograph*

Facts About Redlands, April 1907

Situated sixty-six miles east of Los Angeles. Eight trains daily each way.

Population of Redlands In 1890, 1904; In 1900, 4797; in 1804, 8611. A like increase in 1905. Estimated population, 10,000.

Assessed Valuation, \$6,675,000. Property valuation, \$21,500,000. City assessment, 33 1/3 per cent of real value. County assessment 25 per cent of real value. Building Improvements for the past year amounted to \$445,000.

Banks - Three national Banks, two savings banks; \$1,700,000 on deposit.

Newspapers - Redlands Dally Facts (evening), Redlands Dally Review (morning). The Citrograph (weekly), The Redlands Review (weekly.)

Board of Trade - An active organization with a membership of about 500.

Telephone - Two systems, with nearly 2,500 subscribers.

Electric Light and gas throughout the city. Our electric power plants extend their lines to Los Angeles and neighboring towns.

Trolley Cars to Smiley Heights, Prospect Park, Country Club, Hot Springs, Terracina, and neighboring towns and cities. Redlands is included in the Los Angeles Interurban Traction system in process of construction.

Up-to-date Schools - 68 teachers employed; upwards of 2,000 pupils enrolled. Our high school certificates are accepted in the leading colleges and universities, east and west. Grammar school graduates accredited in the high schools of California and all other states. Manual training and kindergarten work are features of our system. Seven commodious school buildings. Cost of school property \$352,300. Valuation of high school property and ground over \$100,000.

Library - The A. K. Smiley Free Public Library. Building and grounds valued at \$75,000. Volumes in library 12,000; library membership 3,985, circulation 44,347; record of readers 48,462; separate children's department containing 1,050 volumes. Near the entrance to the grounds is a bronze memorial bust of President William McKinley.

Churches - Eleven modern church buildings. Five pipe organs. Value of church property upwards of

\$300,000. Always a large attendance. Sabbath school enrollment, 2,764. Eighteen religious organizations.

Fraternal Organizations number twenty-five, several of which have elegant lodge rooms.

Rents - Small cottages rent for \$10 to \$25 per month, according to condition, size and location. Larger houses in proportion. Add 50 per cent if furnished.

Our Soil and climate will successfully grow almost anything that comes out of the ground.

Oranges form our chief crop, and the quality both in appearance and flavor has been of the finest, as shown by market reports and first prizes at Citrus Fairs. Because of our peculiar location out of the usual line of strong wind currents, and under the protection of nearby mountains, the percentage of culls is reduced to a minimum.

Orange Groves of good bearing age, under best conditions, have given packinghouse returns of \$300 per acre and more. Four year old groves are generally more than self-sustaining, while many of our ten year old groves are paying from ten to fifteen per cent on the investment, according to the skill and care used in the growing and marketing, and especially as winter weather and general trade conditions vary in our eastern markets.

3000 car loads of oranges have been shipped in one year. Twenty fruit and packing houses and one Marmalade factory are in operation.

Water - A large supply of pure water for domestic and irrigating purposes is brought in pipes and cemented canals from mountain reservoirs.

Climate - Because of the dryness of our atmosphere, the sensible temperature during the summer months, as shown by the wet bulb thermometer, averages 14° less than indicated by the ordinary temperature records for the twenty-four hours, and during the middle of the day, when warmest, averages 20° less than the thermometer readings show.

Temperature - Even while we have warm days in summer the nights are always cool and restful. When the thermometer in the East is hovering about and below zero, and snow and ice cover the ground, residents of Redlands are basking in sunshine, surrounded everywhere by flowers and groves of orange trees loaded with the golden ripe fruit.