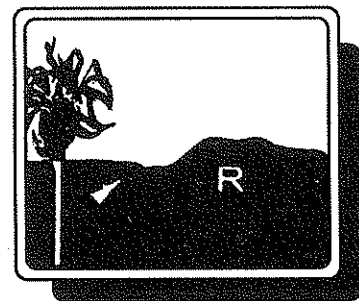


REDLANDS CHRONICLES



January, 2009

"The Emperor of the Inland Empire"

John Weeks, *San Bernardino Sun*

Monday, January 26, 7pm

Assembly Room, A.K. Smiley Public Library

San Bernardino Sun features editor and columnist, John Weeks is the January speaker for the Redlands Area Historical Society meeting. Weeks has written a book titled "Inland Empire" published by Arcadia Publishing, which is available locally and at the meeting.

Dubbed the "Emperor of the Inland Empire" Weeks has collected Inland Empire artifacts, memorabilia, books and postcards for the past 40 years. The 200 postcards in "Inland Empire" are from his personal collection. His collection numbers over 1000 postcards.

Weeks will discuss his selection process and routine discoveries while writing the appropriate caption for each photograph. The book features San Bernardino Valley as a wonderland of old growth vineyards, citrus groves, thermal hot springs, Wild West landmarks, Native Americans, Route 66, Idyllwild, Big Bear Lake, Lake Arrowhead, Palm Springs, Mojave Desert, Death Valley and Joshua Tree. His book is a post-card perfect grand tour of the entire region.

Weeks is an avid member of the San Bernardino Pioneer Historical Society. His column covers the issues of the Inland Empire with thoughtful, sometimes satirical commentary on the issues of education, transportation, and the entertaining ethics of county government.

John Weeks will take us all on an armchair tour of the Inland Empire.

Historical Society meetings are open to the public with the goal of inspiring membership and scholarly interpretation of our history.



Old House Group Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, 7pm

707 South Buena Vista Street

This month's meeting will be held at the home of Jim and Barbara Garcia. This lovely Spanish Revival home was originally owned by C. T. Hales and constructed by local builder Fred Arterbury. The building permit was issued February 20, 1929, and the house was completed in 1930 for an estimated \$5,500.00. This is one of only a few homes built in Redlands

Continued, page 3

A Letter from your President...

We begin the new year with spirits high for the delights the year will bring in discovering more of our history.

We need to all thank Beacon Printery for its decades of support in printing our Redlands Chronicles newsletter. Bill and Donna Hunter have indulged delinquent and excuse-numbing board members for promised copy for years. Despite our best efforts to delay and excuse the newsletter to another day----Donna and Bill never missed a month and did much for the historical society in the process. Thank God they have been loyal members all these years. They deserve a fine retirement and even though they found Yucaipa as a respite, Redlands is a short distance down I-10.

Also thank Janet Cosgrove for the use of the "Morey House" and our Christmas party. The singing carolers were all her added touch. Sandie Green and husband Bill brought all the goodies for the evening. Sandie and her crystal ball seems to know what we need and just how much. The house continues to enthrall and David and Sarah Morey have yet more fans enjoying their continuing gift to Redlands.

While visiting the Heritage Room, ladies should give a new year's smooch to Nathan Gonzales, our one-man newsletter committee chair. Nathan designs each newsletter for us and only asks that the copy get to him at the beginning of each month. He digs out the required photos, fills empty space, and quietly makes the newsletter look good. Gentlemen please give him a hearty shake of the hand and thank him vigorously.

The November South Buena Vista tour was ably assisted by Ron Running. He kept me somewhat organized with the file folders and 3" x 5" index cards. We had 55 trekkers join us on the marathon tour. We went down the even side of the street to Olive Avenue in two hours and returned to Palm Avenue in one hour. At ten minutes to 9:00 we were both wondering if we'd be the only tour members. Our anxiety ended within minutes as cars and casual strollers bunched along South Buena Vista. We'll plan another tour of Buena Vista in the future but a tour of West Olive Avenue will come first.

This year will be filled with tours. Save the date April 18th for the Historic Mill Creek Zanja Tour. We have secured Braswell's Trolley that can take 26 folks on a three-hour tour. We could rename the trolley the S.S. Minnow if everyone sees the resemblance.

Another tour of West Highland Avenue is in the planning stages. This tour will be limited in numbers and view inside four homes along the street. A board member will host each home with the history. We are planning this for March 14th.

With the new year, we begin to examine closely homes and businesses for the Heritage Awards. If you have a good prospect let any one of the current board members know and especially Walker Price, wp3@earthlink.net; he is the reigning Heritage Awards chair.

Santa attended the board meeting in December and filled the attendees with mirth and kindness. He instructed us to vote \$2,000 for the Heritage Room of A.K. Smiley Library. We suggested in our letter to the library board our desire to have the Historical Society newsletter indexed. Several members gave this suggestion recently and we indicated that \$1000 of the \$2000 donation be used for this purpose.

We voted \$1000 in scholarships for worthy Redlands High seniors that wish to major in history. Wanting to update and improve our Historical Society web site, we voted \$1000 for RedFusion to modernize and add new materials to the web site. As your president, I average some ten inquiries about Redlands History per week. Some are easily answered but many take some research. With the addition of the latest Heritage Awards of the last three years, my work-load should be reduced.

Best wishes for all in the new year.

Your President, Tom Atchley

Old House Group, continued

during this time as the country was in the throes of the Great Depression.

Just previously, James Inman connected the property to the city water supply (1926) and was the first owner of the lot after Garret Huizing opened upper Buena Vista to development. Garret Huizing built most of the homes on Buena Vista employing the popular Spanish Revival style with plastered exteriors mimicking earlier adobe construction. Huizing also built the King Tut house two doors north for his daughter's wedding present. S. B. Gardner, the owner of an asphalt road machine company located on Stuart Street, shows as the owner of the home by 1931. Owner M. E. Emerick installed a pool in 1959 for a declared \$3,000 and in 1966, he converted part of the garage to a laundry room. Twelve years later (1978), owner J. H. Hayward added a 6' by 66' block wall and a covered carport using Spanish Revival design to match the home.

Two sets of steps lead to a small gated courtyard at the entry and the living room is accented with a beautiful Spanish style arched window. Wood floors are found throughout the original part of the home.

Come join us to hear Jim and Barbara discuss their extensive work in the home and to share their triumphs and tragedies associated with this undertaking. Meanwhile, note that Jim continues to tinker with the landscaping and is rumored to be a frustrated landscape artist otherwise employed at the gas company.

Future Historical Society Events

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Wednesday, January 21 | Old House Group |
| Monday, January 26 | RAHS Meeting |
| Wednesday, February 18 | Old House Group |
| Monday, February 23 | RAHS Meeting |
| Wednesday, March 18 | Old House Group |
| Monday, March 23 | RAHS Meeting |
| Wednesday, April 15 | Old House Group |
| Monday, April 27 | RAHS Meeting |
| Wednesday, May 20 | Old House Group |
| Wednesday, June 10 | Heritage Awards |

Loma Linda History Fair

Here's a chance to learn more about local history. On Sunday, January 25, the City of Loma Linda will hold its Sixth Annual Loma Linda History Fair. This year the location is the Loma Linda Fire Station, and members of the Loma Linda Historical Commission are excited about the Fair's major theme: Fire-fighting history. There will be displays of very old and new fire-fighting equipment, including the Fire Department's oldest Model T Ford fire engine.

Guest speakers include Nick Cataldo, local teacher and regular columnist for the San Bernardino Sun, Steve Shaw, president of the San Bernardino Historical and Pioneer Society, Rolland Crawford, retired Fire Marshal, City of Loma Linda, and Richard Schaefer, Historian of Loma Linda University.

The History Fair was started to give residents a chance to share their unique history, display their personal collections of photos, artifacts and documents. Attendance has increased each year, according to Jim Shipp, Chairman of the Historical Commission. "We make the event free, and fun for all ages," says Shipp. Everyone who comes this year will receive a free prize. We have books to give away to adults, and special prizes for children. We are expecting about 200 people to attend this year."

The Commission is looking for people who will show their family photos, journals, interesting maps, documents or artifacts related to local history. If you have something to share at the Fair, you're encouraged to call Jim Shipp at (909) 796-9622, to reserve table space.

The Fair will run from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The speaker schedule is as follows:

- 1:00 Steve Shaw - San Bernardino Fire Department History
- 1:30 Nick Cataldo - The Earp Family in the Mission District Area
- 2:00 Rolland Crawford - Loma Linda Fire Department History
- 3:00 Tribute to Tom Zirkle, M.D. and Honor Guard
- 3:30 Richard Schaefer - Loma Linda Medical School History

Parking will be behind the Fire Station, in the Civic Center parking lot.

1908 Reviewed 100 Years Later

-- Tom Atchley

One hundred years ago, accomplished citizens, the economy, politics, major building developments, the citrus industry, city government, sports, special events, education, clubs, and business activity dominated the *Redlands Daily Facts* news just as they do today. But 100 years ago, race relations were poor. The olive industry was growing. Railroads captured the imagination of citizens. Auto racing was coming of age. Eucalyptus planting came into vogue.

The year 1908 was somewhat embarrassing for the Redlands Historical Society and an opportunity from the grave for Scipio Craig to revive the group. The society was organized April 28, 1900 and held irregular meetings until May 23, 1902. The effervescent Craig died at the helm of *The Citrograph* in 1908, but his will required an active historical society to receive his historical collection of Redlands photos, maps, irrigation periodicals, Redlands newspapers, and a host of memorabilia on Southern California. Rising to the occasion the society met enough to meet the will requirements and then turned over the Craig materials to A.K. Smiley Public Library. Much of the photo collection is today the most prized part of the Heritage Room archives.

W. R. Cheney, owner of the Morey Mansion, wanted to restore the "Asistencia," which he called the old Mission Church. This small spark would light the movement in the 1920s to restore the Estancia (Asistencia) and save the site for eventual WPA rebuilding.

Redlanders beamed at the prospect of William Howard Taft taking office. The stalwart old guard Republican favored the McKinley Tariff that provided protection from foreign citrus and imposed import barriers on foreign wine and raisins. Like William McKinley and Teddy Roosevelt, Taft was invited to Redlands by businessman Frank Meserve, president of the Home Gas and Electric Co and owner of Meserve's dry goods store.

In addition to Scipio Craig's death several pioneer Redlanders died in 1908. Samuel J. Hayes came here in 1882 and built a beautiful home on West Cypress Avenue. Hayes helped found the Union Bank in 1886 and built three hotels. The Terrace Villa Hotel (1886) Windsor Hotel (1887) and Terracina Hotel (1890) were all noteworthy hostelrys.



The Terracina Hotel

J.V.A. Love came in 1886 and owned flour and paper mills with his partner J.S. Edwards.

Charles Leo Partridge was killed in a train wreck. Partridge was a founder of Associated Charities (Family Service), the National Indian Association, a library trustee and a bank director.

E. Vache died in Los Angeles. He built the Vache Winery in San Timoteo Canyon in 1882. His wine, along with Ben Barton, J.D.B. Stillman and Matthew Bryne, would give the county a growing wine reputation.

Bearry Roberts died at his El Casco Ranch in San Timoteo Canyon. Roberts dug the first irrigation ditch to Lugonia in the 1860s and established the South Fork Ditch of the Santa Ana River. This ditch proved to be the "ancestral seed" of Lugonia.

Significant people made news throughout the year. Lewis B. Avery, the first superintendent of the Redlands School District, resigned and moved to San Jose. Mrs. Eliza P. R. Crafts completed her book *Pioneer Days in the San Bernardino Valley*. Fred Clock (Clock Auditorium) and W. E. Putnam were elected to the school board. Rev. Father Fitzgerald celebrated his silver jubilee as a Catholic priest. W.F. Holt was developing the Imperial Valley. E. S. Libby was named secretary of the State Prohibition Convention. J.J. Prendergast bought the Cyrus Noble Mining Company. Henry H. Sinclair, Redlands Electric Light and Power Co. pioneer, raced his sailboat "Lurline" and won. Sinclair built a \$30,000 home in Pasadena, which was a distinct change from his 1878 Pioneer Avenue home in Lugonia.

Albert K. Smiley celebrated his 80th birthday and completed the Lake Mohonk gate house. Stutt Brothers began selling sporting goods along with automobiles. C.A. Tripp received a patent for a railroad fluid pressure brake. The Van Leuven family and Suess family celebrated family reunions. Major David A. Shaw, a Lugonia pioneer and gold rush California adventurer, addressed the California Pioneer group at Urbita Springs (Inland Center). Clarence Darrow visited town decades before his famous defense of John Scopes in the 1920s Monkey Trial.



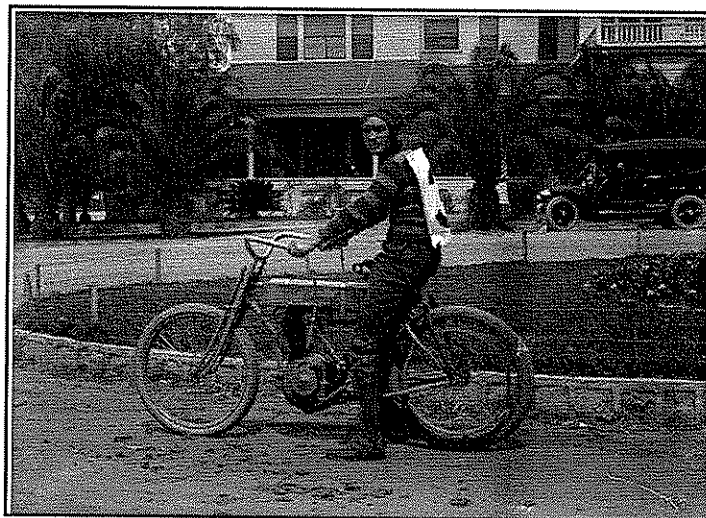
Albert K. Smiley and the "Loving Cup", presented to him on his 80th birthday.

Sports was accented with the triumph of local boxer Harry Beal at the Athletic Club. Beating Berdoo in any endeavor brought athletic prowess and pride to the community.

Bert Osbun raced his Model S Tourist car to Oak Glen and helped found in the process the Mile High Race Association. Realtors Dike and Logie would use this organization's race to advertise their real estate holdings in the burgeoning Yucaipe Valley. (Spelled with "e" until 1910.) Redlanders would enjoy this race until our entry into World War I. The starting line was Colton and Orange Street in front of the Casa Loma Hotel. Motorcycles would join the fun in 1909 with their own classifications.

Motorcycle racing dethroned bicycle racing in 1908. Generally, bicycle racing ruled from 1895 until 1908. Decades later the Redlands Bicycle Classic

would return. The Association Park motorcycle races were dominated by Paul Derkum. He became the track record holder for two years. Traditional harness racing and horse racing still brought crowds but the loud motorcycles could reach speeds of 30 miles per hour on the dirt track.



A young motorcycle enthusiast poses with his Harley-Davidson by the Casa Loma Hotel

Redlands Golf Links were declared in fine shape in 1908. S. R. Hotchkiss won the Hubbard Golf Medal along with "Crafton" Smith. The Country Club improved its reception room and built ladies' lockers. Redlands High was declared the State Rugby Champions and the huge team photo was taken and displayed throughout the business community during the summer. The photo now graces the wall of the North Campus office. The crowd pleasing rugby matches at Redlands High spurred the school board to install moveable bleachers between the eucalyptus trees along Citrus Avenue. One hundred years later, Dodge Stadium would open across the street.

Redlands was a community of hunters. Mont P. Chubb led excursions to Bear Valley for duck and squirrel hunting. Sportsmen wanted a game preserve in San Timoteo Canyon at El Casco. Hunters sojourned to the Salton Sea marshes, Oceanside, and Newport marshes. Skeet shooting became popular in the Santa Ana wash between Orange Street and Tennessee Street. Dr. Harold Hill of Redlands today is the resident historical expert on these hunting groups.

The *Facts*, *Citrograph*, and *Redlands Review* would be dubbed racist by standards held today. In 1908, the papers described "Sonoratown as unpicturesque with people from the land of manana. Senoritas are not beautiful." Chinese are referred to as "Celestials and

chinks" who gambled excessively and smoked opium pipes. Japanese workers were expelled from Highland with the paper declaring, "Want no more Jap workmen. It's farewell to Jap labor in Highland." A Japanese picker was hit with stones and oranges by Crafton school boys. The boys were considered local heroes!

African Americans received little sympathy in the press as well. Constable W. H. Baldwin's arrest of a negro man called the "darkey a man of moods. He is not the common or garden variety of Tear."

It is little wonder the "Colored People of Redlands" organized their own Masonic Lodge with R. H. Harbert as master. They had also begun publishing a newspaper in 1904. Segregation included most churches with a sign posted on the Methodist Church South stating, "no colored."

The Redlands Indian Association provided one positive for ethnic group relations in 1908. They provided funding for a Reading Room construction at Pala. Riverside's Glenwood Mission Inn held an Indian Conference with women from Redlands as leading progressive voices. Native Americans planned to meet in Redlands to improve the plight of landless and homeless Indians.

Miss Clara True, special Indian agent, worked with Indians at San Manuel and Banning Reservations. She negotiated the use of water for the natives using the Bear Valley ditch at San Manuel. Mrs. E. W. Maxwell, Field Matron of the Indian Association, enforced sanitary regulations on the reservations. Miss Mary Bryan, friend of Clara True, met with A.K. Smiley at the Lake Mohonk Indian Conference to end the sale of alcohol by bootleggers. Captain Cabazon, Coachella Cahuilla leader, visited both San Bernardino and Redlands. Redlands women led the reform movement for Indians.

Building began to recover from the Panic of 1907. Few residences and buildings were constructed in 1907-1908 due to the financial banking crisis of 1907. The Phelps Stokes sisters built their mansion for \$60,000 on Mariposa. The barn cost \$10,000 and is still on Poppy Road. H. P.D. Kingsbury completed his new fruit and marmalade factory at Sixth and East Central (Redlands Blvd.) Pacific Packers Supply Co. built a new packing house on Ninth Street replacing their burned building with a box factory in the basement.



The Phelps Stokes home on Mariposa Drive

Two churches were built in 1908. Grace Methodist, north of Colton Avenue, and the Methodist Episcopal Church on the corner of Sixth and East High Street.

The masons completed and dedicated the new Masonic Temple on Cajon Street. The Masonic Lodge is still a favorite meeting location for Rotary and other clubs in Redlands.

Dr. Avey had a home constructed at 215 Cajon Street. F. Garvin Hudson, popular Redlands architect, built on Garden Street east of Halsey. Mrs. A.K. Hamilton 440 W. Highland and E. G. Hodgson, architect, built the Mrs. Imogen Seaman home on W. Highland and Ramona.

The Citrus Industry marked a major milestone in 1908. The Redlands Citrus District for the first time in its history surpassed Riverside producing 4,504 carloads of fruit by June. The Valencia crop would increase the number of carloads to 4,709 in August. The value of each carload was calculated at \$600 each. The Redlands Orange clipper invention was saving thousands annually by avoiding damaged fruit.

Riverside Citrus Experiment Station (UCR) introduced the science of nitrogen fertilizer for citrus. The Cooperative Marketing idea was suggested by President Teddy Roosevelt. Mutual Orange Distributors built a float for the San Bernardino Festival of the Arrowhead.

Fumigation of pests and scale made definite improvements with the ideas of Charles R. Paine using 147 tents to eradicate citrus pests. Only two

cold nights in December needed smudging.

J. C. Kubias and his "Bohemian Brand" began producing olive products in 1899. The second largest Olive Oil factory on the coast produced 10,000 gallons in 1907 and 50,000 gallons in 1908. Kubias packed 10,000 gallons of green olives and sold the olive mash as fertilizer. Joseph Kubias located his factory on the corner of Alta and East Lugonia Avenue. Olive orchards were planted in Redlands, Greenspot, Bryn Mawr and experimentally in the Crafton Hills. Olives did much to advertise the Mediterranean climate of Redlands.



Joe Kubias's Bohemian Club olives

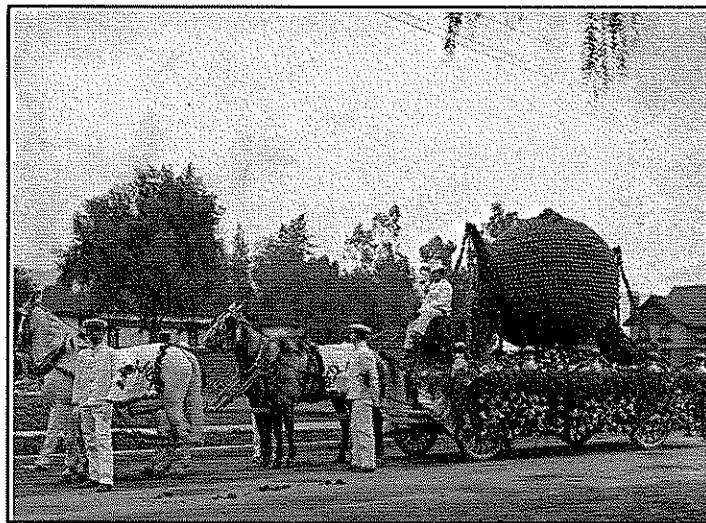
Several big events highlighted the year. The Sellis Floto Circus came to Redlands in 1908. Disembarking the railroad cars west of Redlands the circus parade led by clowns, camels and elephants entertained Redlands for a week. A huge tent with American flags adorning the canvas attracted young and old.

Teddy's Great White Fleet sent everyone on a spring break to the coast in April. Painted white to suggest the peaceful intentions the fleet, the battle-ships sailed around the world announcing nationalistically the arrival of the United States as a world power. Redlanders enjoyed the view so much that one group of developers built a subdivision in north Newport Beach for future Redlands visits with street names we would all recognize.

Our pride was trumpeted with a float in the Tournament of Roses Parade called the "Golden Orange Float."

The City of Redlands was 20 years old in 1908. An incorporation anniversary party was held at the Windsor Hotel November 26th. City government was as controversial then as it is now. The city

prepared its first city budget in Dec. of 1907 and immediately discovered a deficit. The Street Tree Commission all resigned when faced with municipal restrictions. Jennie E. Davis and Mrs. J. W. England were the leading women on the commission. They argued for a property fee assessment on lot owners that did not plant trees along the street.



Redlands' entry in the 1908 Tournament of Roses

Redlands led the way for a state driver's license encouraged by the number of auto accidents, "buzz wagon speeders," and runaway horse teams. To enforce a speed limit "downtown" the city fathers needed to first identify the downtown. The process would lead to a zoning law and the demand by residents for better roads, street signs and speed enforcement ordinances.

Law enforcement problems were identified by raids on gambling dens, Madame Fourbon's "blind pig" arrests, Holy Roller nuisance abatement, hobo issues and Prohibition violations. The City Jail was deemed unsanitary and was torn down. Prohibition law was not being enforced. This led to two city council members resigning. Some 100 men broke the law regularly. Drug stores were especially violators.

The Sun Drug Store wrote an open letter to the papers complaining they were the only drug store enforcing the law. Ralph G. Rohrer, funeral operator, and A. E. Brock, businessman, were both elected to the council on the promise to improve the situation. The Prohibition Ordinance was reformed allowing wine with hotel meals. National Prohibition was more than a decade away and the Redlands' experiment was failing.

Stay tuned for more next month!!!