



REDLANDS CHRONICLES

January 2013

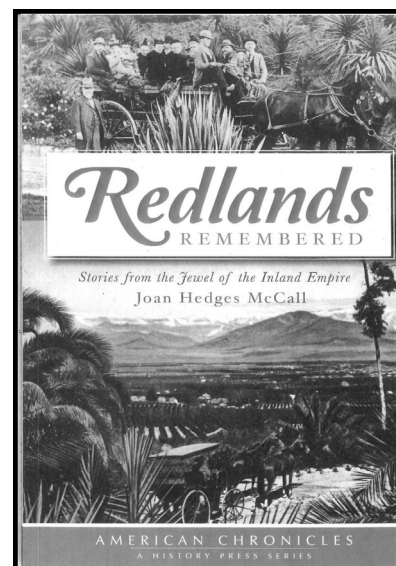
“Redlands Remembered: Stories from the Jewel of the Inland Empire”

Joan Hedges McCall, author
Monday, January 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Assembly Room at A.K. Smiley Public Library
125 W. Vine Street

In 2012, the History Press published “Redlands Remembered: Stories from the Jewel of the Inland Empire” written by Joan Hedges McCall. The book features a series of stories or chapters that were featured in a regular column in the *Redlands Daily Facts* over the years. Joan has been an educator and community volunteer in Redlands for over 30 years. She has been a member of the Assistance League of Redlands Heritage Auxiliary, serving as scriptwriter, school tour chair and board member. Joan recently retired as a history teacher and teacher librarian.

The book is organized in five parts. Part I deals with the earliest days of Redlands before oranges were king. Part II is a series of stories of how orange growing fed the town. The third part covers the transitions that occurred in the days before television. Part IV concerns the contributions of the several influential and wealthy families made to the community. The last part is about how ordinary individuals made extraordinary contributions to Redlands' history.

Join us on Monday evening, January 28 to gain an insider's view of how Joan put together this fascinating book on the history of Redlands.



Palm Avenue Walking Tour

In two parts
February 9th and February 23rd



*Thomas Y. England and James W. England home located at
301 West Palm was built in 1891.*

Redlands Area Historical Society is sponsoring a historical walking tour of Palm Avenue on Saturday, February 9th at 9:00 a.m. We will begin our tour at the Charles Kendall Adams home, 120 East Palm Avenue, at Plymouth Village. Our tour leader is Tom Atchley. The cost is a \$10.00 per person donation to the Society's preservation fund. No reservations are required.

The tour will travel west on Palm Avenue and end at Palm and Center Street. Parking another vehicle on West Palm near Center Street is suggested for those that do not want to walk back at the end of the tour. Atchley will discuss the architecture of the homes as well as the people that lived on the street from the 1880's to 1920's.

Several Palm Avenue homes have received Heritage Awards since the Historical Society began recognizing homes and businesses in 1975. Charles Kendall Adams 120 E. Palm, Edward P. Tuck 24 W. Palm, Clinton G.

(Continued on page 2)

A Letter from your President...

I am hopeful that each member had a wonderful Holiday Season and that the New Year will bring happiness to you and your entire family. On December 11th the Society held its annual holiday party at the home of Dr. Chalmer and Sue McClure. Sue is a member of our Board of Director's serving as the Chair of the Hospitality Committee. Their beautifully restored Victorian home is located across the street from the A.K. Smiley Library and was great venue for the festive event. On behalf of the Society I would like to thank the McClures for making this year's holiday party a great success.

Each year during the holiday season it is a family tradition to drive through the many historic neighborhoods of Redlands looking at the Christmas light displays. The lighted historic homes gives one a different perspective of the great architecture and it is especially fun to see how each homeowner demonstrates their celebration of the Season. I would like to recognize several historic homes and neighborhoods that deserve mentioning. The first neighborhood is Cajon Street, one block below Kingsbury School. On the night of December 24th the entire block is lined with luminaries and all the historic homes are nicely decorated. The Burrage Mansion has an impressive light display and several of the historic homes on Olive Avenue, Fern Avenue, and Highland Avenues have impressive displays of lights and holiday decorations. As you celebrate the season next year, I urge you all to spend an evening touring the historic neighborhoods of Redlands to not only enjoy the Christmas lights but the beautiful homes in our town.

In 2013 we will have a full schedule of Old House Group meetings that are held each month at a Redlands home. The first Old House Group meeting in 2013 will be held in the month of February. On the fourth Monday of each month the Society will hold our monthly General Membership meetings in the Assembly Room at A.K. Smiley Public Library. In addition, we have planned for you in the month of February two walking tours on Palm Avenue. The first tour will be held on Saturday, February 9th and the second tour will be held on Saturday, February 23rd. Each tour will cost \$10.00 per person and will be led by Tom Atchley, local historian and past president of the Society. For additional information about our upcoming events please look for the specific write ups in each of our monthly newsletters.

At the beginning of each year the Society asks our members to renew their annual dues and we are hopeful that many of our members will decide to take the next step and choose a level of sponsorship. Our annual dues and sponsorships insure that the Society is the dominant voice of historic preservation in the Redlands area. To assist you with your contribution and renewal of dues we have provided an envelope located on the inside of your January 2013 Newsletter.

May you all have a happy and prosperous 2013 and I look forward to seeing you all at one of the many events that we have planned for our members in the coming months.

Bill Blankenship

Redlands City Council Approves Mills Act Program

-by Ron Running

On November 1, 2012 the City Council approved Resolution No. 7225 which established the California Mills Act program for the City of Redlands. The Mills Act is an enabling legislation enacted in 1972, whereby property owners of historic properties can apply to the City for a partial rebate on their property taxes for the cost of restoration work done on their properties.

The City became interested in pursuing the Mills Act program as a result of the joint City Council, Planning Commission, and Historic & Scenic Preservation workshop that we hosted with the Redlands Conservancy in February 2012. In preparation for that meeting we learned that over 75 cities throughout the state have adopted Mills Act programs. Redlands, in fact, was only one of the few cities in the Inland Empire to have not adopted the Mills Act program.

Mayor Pro Tem Paul Foster asked if the Historical Society would be interested in researching how other city's had implemented the Mills Act program. Thanks to Council member Foster's leadership a Mills Act ordinance was drafted and taken to the Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission for their review and input. The Commission unanimously recommended that the City Council adopt the Mills Act program.

The Council approved the program for a trial period of five years. Five single family structures and two commercial or multi-family properties are eligible to participate in the program annually. The single family homes cannot have as assessed valuation of more than \$1 million. Applicants need to submit a program outlining their program for restoration or rehabilitation of the historic properties. The Mills Act property tax rebate is good for a ten (10) year period. Each year the properties will be inspected to see that the proposed restoration has been accomplished. Eligible properties will have to be on the City's register of Historic Places.

City staff is currently putting together an implementation program. The Council will then establish a modest fee for participating in the program. We will announce the details of the program as they are made available.

We sincerely appreciate the efforts of the Council and City staff towards making the Mills Act a reality for Redlands. We hope the Mills Act will be a successful incentive for property owners to continue to improve and restore their historic properties. Further information about the program can be obtained from the City's Preservation Officer, Taitha Kevari in the Development Services department at (909) 798-7555.

(Palm Avenue continued from page 1)

Gaylord 159 W. Palm, Oscar W. Harris 206 W. Palm, Thomas Jeffery 405 W. Palm, Francis Hunt Billings 417 W. Palm, Norman Barker 519 W. Palm, Marie L. Hegardt 635 W. Palm, Russell J. Waters 709 W. Palm, William Brooks 850 W. Palm, John W. Wilson 860 W. Palm, Helen Squires 1015 W. Palm, and Cornelia A. Hill 1113 W. Palm are all Heritage Award winners.

Palm Avenue offers a variety of architectural styles from Victorian, Italianate, Greek revival, Craftsman, Eastlake Stick, Classic box, California bungalow, and California ranch. Many homes were considered mansions with domestic help, cooks, teamsters, and laborers all finding shelter on the property. Many downtown businessmen, teachers, carpenters, wealthy manufacturers, doctors, water entrepreneurs, land developers, and orange growers lived on the street.

The tour should take about two hours and end close to 11:00 a.m. at Palm and Center. Good walking shoes and a light coat for the brisk February morning are recommended.

The Palm Avenue tour will continue February 23rd at 9:00 a.m., starting at Center Street and ending on San Mateo Street. These tours are part of Redlands' 125th Anniversary Celebration.

Newsletter Deadline

All RAHS members are encouraged to submit articles for

Redlands Chronicles to Marie Reynolds at sccmarie@yahoo.com by the 1st of each month.



Congratulations to
Curtiss Allen, Sr.
Who correctly identified all 3 buildings in the
last issue. Well done!

*What do you know about
these structures?*



*Can you identify
all three?*

Call RAHS at 307-6060 and
leave a message
or email
sccmarie@yahoo.com



REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. Box 1024
Redlands, CA 92373
(909) 307-6060

Address Correction Requested

Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

Board of Directors 2012-2013

President	Bill Blankenship
Vice-President	Ron Running
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Hospitality	Sue McClure
Membership	Ron Running
Programs	Ron Running
Newsletter	Marie Reynolds

Visit us on the World Wide Web at www.rahs.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 28	"Redlands Remembered" by Joan McCall 7:00 p.m. AKSPL Assembly Room
February 9	Palm Avenue Walking Tour part I 9:00 a.m. Kendall House 120 E. Palm Avenue
February 23	Palm Avenue Walking Tour part II 9:00 a.m. Palm & Center
February 26	Preservation Forum 5:00 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers

ORDER YOUR DVD VIDEO

All of our monthly programs and Heritage Awards ceremonies are dutifully recorded by Ger and Linda Brassfield of **Blue Eagle Video**. Videos are \$20 each.

To order a video contact Ger or Linda at: (909) 882-2003 or email: blueeaglevideo@aol.com.

Do you have a favorite local roofer, plumber, electrician, handyman, painter, etc. who likes to work *gently* with old houses? Kathy Behrens is compiling a list of your recommendations. Contact kathybehrens@verizon.net