



# REDLANDS

# CHRONICLES

November/December 2016

## HOLIDAY PARTY

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Morris Residence  
556 Center Street



Constructed of redwood in 1891, this three-story Queen Anne Victorian house was built for Elon J. Waite, orange grower and later vice-president of the Orange Growers Association. Located on a prominent corner at what was meant to be the center of town, it has been remodeled only on the ground floor level where four rooms were made into two.

The property was once used as a boarding house serving visitors from the east. Later, the Carlson family of downtown's popular Carlson Hardware occupied the home for many years.

Please join us at the museum-like domicile of Pam and Paul Morris on December 6th.



## WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN REDLANDS

Saturday, December 17, 9:00a.m., Ed Hales Park

THE REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY will sponsor and lead a downtown walking tour of Redlands on Saturday Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.. The tour will begin at Ed Hales Park located on East State and Fifth Street. A contribution of \$10 per person is collected for the historical society preservation fund.

The tour was researched and written by Tom Atchley, vice-president of the historical society, for the City of Redlands. Atchley will lead the tour on Saturday and present many unknown and unusual features of downtown Redlands. The tour follows a winding path that will be an easy stroll for about a hour and a half.

Come and see where fly traps caught the "Redlands Fly." City officials wanted Redlands to become the first flyless city in America.

Redlands was one of the first cities in California to deal with regulatory ordinances for automobiles. Downtown speed limits could only be adopted when the city council decided just where downtown Redlands was located.

Where could illegal alcohol be obtained after Redlands voted to become dry? How were Chinese vendors punished by downtown business ordinances? Has Redlands always had a downtown parking problem? What role did the Chamber of Commerce play in the early downtown of the 1890's? What do the alleys of Redlands reveal? These and other questions will be discussed during the tour.



*Edison Company Building on E. State Street.*

# Greetings from your President...

WE'VE HAD ANOTHER BUSY MONTH and look forward to a memorable holiday season. Tom Atchley marched us down memory lane with his slide presentation on the history of Redlands High School for our October program. I'm always amazed at all the numerous clubs with exotic names that were part of the past. Please join Tom on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. at Terrier Gym for a walking tour of the campus.

Ernie and Jo Dierking are to be thanked for being such wonderful hosts for the Old House Group meeting last month. Their amazing turn-of-the-century home is filled with wonderful surprises and stories. Last month I thanked the wrong couple for hosting our September Old House Event. Ryan and Denise Kelly hosted our wonderful potluck social at their home on Fern Avenue.

During the last week of October, the City of Redlands was host to the California State Historic Resources Commission. The commission had recently approved the City as a Certified Local Government. This status gives the city more local control and oversight on our historic resource management. Along with the certification, the city was awarded a \$40,000 grant to develop a historic context statement. Donn and Janet Grenda are to be thanked for their hospitality in opening their home to the Commission on Thursday night dinner, as well to the owners of the Morey Mansion for allowing us to have a reception earlier that night. The commission meeting gave us an insight into all the various historic resources that are being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Several Mid-century Modern structures were nominated from Palm Springs. Additionally several unique concrete park structures in San Gabriel were nominated as a part of the Latin American Arts category.

See you at the Christmas Party!

*Ron Running*



The Redlands Area Historical Society would like to thank our

## CORPORATE UNDERWRITERS:

**Law Offices of Gary D. Baughman (APC)**

**Wes & Peggy Brier**

**Jerry & Brenda Bean**

**Dean & Candace Hadley**

**Marjorie Lewis - Realtor, Redlands Vintage Homes**

**Barich & Associates**

**Leslie Irish & Rebecca Mangum**

**Jill Huntsinger, Redlands REALTOR, CAPTIS Real Estate, [www.finedigs.com](http://www.finedigs.com)**

**ROCHFORD FOUNDATION**

# Long Forgotten Fakery



IN 1892 the Bear Valley Irrigation Company was building a new dam in Big Bear that promised to reach the height of 120 feet. Bear Valley reservoir would have extended to the eastern part of Big Bear to include Baldwin Lake. The 1884 dam would be dwarfed by this new edifice.

The new dam sparked some expected speculation in land around the new dam. John North, Jr. of Riverside bought North Point on the south side of the lake and planned to sell flooded land to the Bear Valley Irrigation Co. and build summer cabins along the higher ridge.

Bear Valley Irrigation Co. board of directors hired a photographer to supply impressive photos of the lake shoreline to spur land sales. The photographer employed what we now call "photo shop" to create a fake home scene of a beautiful home overlooking the lake.

The home that is shown in the Bear Valley Irrigation brochure is actually the 1890 East Palm Avenue home of director Theodore Clark. Clark served as a promotor of the San Jacinto Valley and especially the new town of Moreno. The last street off-ramp of the 60 freeway going east from Moreno is called Theodore in honor of Clark.

The fake photo led many historians to search for a mansion in Big Bear that never existed. The 1892 dam was never completed.

- by Tom Atchley



*The Theodore and Grace Clark Residence at 24 E. Palm Avenue. It was Destroyed by Fire in 1926. Plymouth Village Occupies the Site Today.*

## Upcoming Events

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| November 19, 9:00 a.m.                | WALKING TOUR of Redlands High School<br>Cost \$10<br>Meet at Terrier Gym                        |
| December 6, 6:30 p.m.                 | Holiday Party<br>Morris Residence<br>556 Center Street  |
| December 17, 9:00 a.m.                | WALKING TOUR of Downtown Redlands<br>Cost \$10<br>Meet at Ed Hales Park<br>§                    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month | Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission Mtg.<br>City Hall Council Chambers<br>35 Cajon Street |

## Special Project Volunteer Opportunity HILLSIDE CEMETERY RECORDS

As one of a number of special projects, the Redlands Area Historical Society will be working with the Hillside Cemetery to digitize burial records.

Burial records contain a variety of research material sources including clues to ancestry, historic research, dates and much more.

A portion of the records have been entered into but approximately twenty thousand records remain to be entered. These records are typed and handwritten depending on the age of the burial / purchase.

Due to the number of records and the need for accuracy RAHS is looking for volunteers to work in teams of two or three individuals over a period of the next year+. Any availability will be considered so don't hesitate to offer to participate.

If you are interested in or want more information please email Leslie Irish at [Lirish@lenviroinc.com](mailto:Lirish@lenviroinc.com) or call, (951)201-5742.

The project will start after the first of the year.

## ORDER YOUR DVD/VIDEO

All of our monthly programs and Heritage Awards ceremonies are dutifully recorded by GERRY AND LINDA BRASSFIELD of Blue Eagle Video. Videos are \$20 each.

To order a video contact Blue Eagle Video at:  
(909) 882-2003 or email: [blueeaglevideo@aol.com](mailto:blueeaglevideo@aol.com).



REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
 P.O. Box 8775  
 Redlands, CA 92375  
 (909) 307-6060

Address Correction Requested

**Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.**

Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

*Board of Directors 2016-2017*

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Newsletter	Marie Reynolds
Old House Group	Marjorie Lewis
Programs	Tom Atchley



*Christmas Card Featuring the Morey Mansion. Courtesy Archives, A.K. Smiley Public Library.*