



REDLANDS CHRONICLES

January 2020

MENTONE-CRAFTON HISTORY: NEW DISCOVERIES

Marie Reynolds, Speaker
Monday, January 27, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.
A.K.S.P.L. Contemporary Clubhouse
173 S. Eureka Street, Redlands

MARIE REYNOLDS, a devoted Redlands area historian, will present "Mentone-Crafton History: New Discoveries" at the Contemporary Club, 173 S. Eureka Street on January 27th at 7:00 p.m.

The Reynolds family once owned the property where the Crafton Retreat began in the 1870s. This connection and an inquisitive historical thirst led Marie Reynolds to research Crafton, Mentone and portions of Greenspot. Her eagerness for learning the area history began decades ago.

For 18 years Marie participated with the Heritage Auxiliary of the Assistance League. Marie lead fourth grade tours of Redlands and researched and co-wrote "Treasures in Hidden Neighborhoods" tours to fund raise for the fourth grade tours. These tours were sell outs.

Marie attended kindergarten at Mentone Elementary School. She graduated from Cal State University, Fullerton with a degree in Business Administration. She has been involved with education and students while living in an 1891 Victorian home with her husband and four children. Marie volunteered as a librarian at Mariposa Elementary School for 10 years. She has served on the boards for Heritage Auxiliary, Redlands Council of PTAs and Redlands Education Partnership Foundation.

Currently Marie is a 20-year member of the Contemporary Club. For the last seven years she's acted as co-advisor for Kimberly Juniors. For over a decade Marie has been a member of the Redlands Area Historical Society board and is the newsletter chair. Attending the Mentone Area Community Association meetings regularly, she became a board member a year ago.

HERITAGE HOME TRAINING

Would you like to learn how to research homes in Redlands? The A.K. Smiley Public Library Heritage Room and the Redlands Area Historical Society will present a workshop Saturday, January 25th at 10:00 a.m. in the Heritage Room.

Workshop attendees will learn the steps usually taken to find the year of construction. How to use the old City Directories, building permits, subdivision maps, Sanborn Insurance maps, The Citrograph file, and City records to find previous owners and modifications to homes will be discussed.

The library has a subscription to Newspapers.com which allows research into both previous owners and stories on homes and subdivisions.

The workshop is a first step for those interested in researching homes in the Redlands area.

Marie Reynolds digs to find the history and significance that makes local history come alive. Her Power-Point program is sure to delight and is free and open to the general public.

- by Tom Atchley



Visitors pose in front of the newly-opened Hotel Mentone circa 1892.
Courtesy Archives, A.K. Smiley Public Library.

Dear Redlands Area Historical Society Members,

Welcome to the New Year and a new decade.

Our first meeting of the New Year is on Monday, January 27th beginning at 7 pm at the Contemporary Club. Society Vice-President Marie Reynolds is speaking on the history of Mentone and Crafton.

The society board is at work on the annual Heritage Awards. By now, eight property owners have received a letter notifying them of their nomination. Once they give us their approval, members of the board and other dedicated society members will proceed with the research of each property. The research is part science and part intuitive. We are looking for researchers – please let us know if you are interested. Since 1975 over 350 properties have received this coveted award. Our goal is that the Heritage Awards will continue to encourage the restoration, preservation, and stewardship of our community's architectural heritage. The awards ceremony combined with our annual ice cream social is held in June each year.

Within this newsletter is information on renewing your annual membership, including a remittance envelope for your convenience. If you so choose, please feel free to go online and renew on the society's website at www.rahs.org.

We very much appreciated the generosity and gracious hospitality of Dr. Dean and Candace Hadley. They opened their home for the Society's Christmas party on December 10th. It was a wonderful evening with time to share and visit, to partake in holiday refreshments, and especially, enjoy and learn about the Hadley's beautiful home. As well, this annual holiday event provides the board an opportunity to extend our thank yous to each of you for your ongoing support.

With best wishes and a very happy New Year!

Steve Spiller

Redlands Area Historical Society would like to thank our CORPORATE UNDERWRITERS:

Wes & Peggy Brier Tim Watson—Mission Pediatrics, Inc. Morgan Framing
Gary & Susan Baughman Rita Shaw, Realtor, Rita Shaw and Associates
Daniel Haueter & Steven Villa Geoffrey Hopper & Associates
Marjorie Lewis – Realtor, Redlands Vintage Homes
Dr. Marcus Paulson DDS, MS—Paulson Orthodontics—www.PaulsonOrtho.com
Leslie Irish & Rebecca Mangum
Jill Huntsinger, Redlands REALTOR, CAPTIS Real Estate, www.finedigs.com

Esri

Heritage Award Winners

EDGAR B. VAN OSDEL HOME

821 E. Colton Avenue

Built in 1924

Erin Benson & Jackie Lukeheart, Owners

Around July/Aug 1924 E.E. Cole applied for a permit to build a “six-room frame dwelling and garage” for \$4000. On July 30th of 1924 the water connection was made by E.E. Cole. It is unknown if E.E. Cole lived in the house or not.

Once the house was finished, it was sold to Edgar B. & Attalia A. Van Osdel in 1925. The Osdels were a family of 4, with a son (Boyce Oliver) and a daughter (Harriet). Both Boyce and Harriet attended Redlands High school and then later, the University of Redlands.

Edgar B. Van Osdel was a professor of astronomy and geology at the nearby University of Redlands. He moved his family to Redlands in 1921 with accepting the position at the University. Before 821 E. Colton, the Osdels were living at 538 Cajon Street. The Osdels held many events and University functions at their Colton Avenue home. The Osdels left the house in 1945.

Many owners occupied the house

over the years, including William L. and Dillie V. Pidgeon, George F and Minnie Humphrey, and their daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Brenan in the 1950s and 60s. Mrs. Brenan was the Women of the Year in 1965 for Redlands Soroptimist. Others were Kenwood and Judith Lindburg (1974 -1982), Transamerica Relocation Services, Inc. (1983), James and Joyce Johnson (1983 – 1987), David Fletcher & Susan Criss (1987 – 1998), Aurora Loan Services, Inc. (1998), Secretary of Housing & Urban Development (Hud Home - 1999), San Bernardino County Department of Economic Development (2000), and Alan Briggs and Heather Hundley (2000 – 2016).

The house is a example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture. It features a small central porch with front and side facing arched entries to the front yard and terrace. The porch has a sloped pitch red tile roof. The rest of the house features a flat roof with shaped parapets on the corners. Several red terracotta

attic gable vent tubes or pipes are seen throughout the upper portions of the exterior walls.

Several windows adorn the back of the house and larger windows on the front. An arched window encasement on the main window features scroll ordination above it as well as the secondary front window. The main window contain curved wood muntins and the secondary windows contain square muntins. The exterior walls are covered in stucco. The garage is made in the same Spanish colonial style with matching parapets.

Several repairs and alterations were made over the years including: permits for a re-roof in 1934, additional roof repairs in 1936, stucco garage in 1938, a re-roof in 1948, a re-roof to the garage in 1951, many electrical upgrades in 1968, aluminum patio covers in 1979, a pool in 1974, a new heater and re-roof of the garage in 2000, and a new HVAC system in 2004.

Current owners as of 2016 are Erin Benson and Jackie Lukeheart. They have done a great job keeping the historic character of the house intact. They renovated several rooms and areas. In 2018, the HGTV/DIY show “Restored” did additional restoration on the house, including the kitchen with period specific handmade tiles with Spanish colonial style and a master bedroom with reconfigured walls.

The Redlands Area Historical Society would like to thank Erin Benson and Jackie Lukeheart for the stewardship and care of their Colton Avenue home.

Researched by: Dr. Marcus A. Paulson, DDS, MS





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

Address Correction Requested

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 \$5.⁰⁰ each.

Order copies from Blue Eagle Video at:

(909) 882-2003 or email: blueeaglevideo@aol.com.

Upcoming Events

January 22, 6:30 p.m.

Old House Group
732 Alvarado Street
SOCIETY MEMBERS ONLY

January 23, 10:00 a.m.

Heritage Home Research Workshop
Heritage Room
A.K. Smiley Public Library
125 W. Vine Street

January 27, 7:00 p.m.

Mentone-Crafton History: New Discoveries
Marie Reynolds, Speaker
The Contemporary Clubhouse
173 S. Eureka Street
§
Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers
35 Cajon Street

1st Thursday of the Month

Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

President Steve Spiller
Vice-President Marie Reynolds
Treasurer Susan Rettig
Secretary Kim Ennis
Board Member Tom Atchley
Board Member Jill Huntstinger
Board Member Marjorie Lewis
Board Member Marcus Paulson
Board Member Ron Running

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Genealogy Ron Running
Heritage Awards Steve Spiller & Jill Huntstinger
Hospitality Jill Huntstinger
Membership Ron Running
Newsletter Marie Reynolds
Old House Group Marjorie Lewis
Programs Tom Atchley
Social Media Marcus Paulson
Special Projects Kim Ennis

Visit us on the World Wide Web at www.rahs.org
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

