



REDLANDS CHRONICLES

September 2024

TEDDY ROOSEVELT'S VISIT TO REDLANDS & RIVERSIDE

Glenn E. Wenzel, Speaker
Monday, September 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
The Contemporary Club
173 S. Eureka Street



President Roosevelt's carriage passes Union Bank at the corner of Orange & State.

THE REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY begins the season with Glenn Wenzel as our featured speaker. Glenn was born in Menasha, Wisconsin not far from the Kimberly family factory. He graduated from Northwestern College with a BA in liberal arts. He followed this degree and attended Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary graduating with a Master of Divinity degree. Glenn was a Lutheran pastor for 40 years and then retired in 2018.

Glenn has spent his time researching and writing Riverside history. He has two books covering Mount Roubidoux adding in 2022 "When Teddy Came to Riverside." This book takes Teddy Roosevelt on his trip to Southern California hopping into the cab of a Santa Fe locomotive in Barstow until

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OLD HOUSE GROUP POTLUCK

Thursday, September 26, 2024, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Rancho Oliveta
916 W. Olive Avenue

THIS YEAR'S POTLUCK will be held at Rancho Oliveta, the home of RAHS members John and Laura Smith-also known as the Dr. William M. Smith residence.

John's family has continuously occupied the home since building it in 1895. Five generations of the Smith family have resided in the home, which is still on a large portion of its original citrus acreage. We look forward to enjoying a pleasant evening on the front lawn of this 1978 RAHS Heritage Award winning home.

Bring your favorite dish to share (serving approximately six people) and make sure to mark your serving utensil and dish with

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A Letter from Your President...

Dear Redlands Area Historical Society members,

WELCOME ONE AND ALL TO OUR 51ST YEAR! We are excited to welcome you back for our 2024-2025 season of historical insights, talks, walks, and general camaraderie.

We must caution you to notice the day of the week for our **General Meetings** this year. They will not always fall on the 4th Monday, as previously arranged. This is due to the tight schedule at the Contemporary Club. You may have noticed, that since the library has begun overseeing the Contemporary Club it is a very busy place. We love using the Contemporary Club facility for our meetings and are grateful to be included in their busy schedule, but we must be flexible. Our general meetings will begin on **Monday, September 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM** with Glenn Wenzel telling us all about “Teddy Roosevelt’s Visit to Redlands and Riverside” in 1903.

Immediately following our general meeting, on **Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM**, the Old House Group will meet at Rancho Oliveta (look for the article in this newsletter) for our annual potluck to begin the year.

Moving into October, we will resume the **Downtown Walking Tours**, leaving from Ed Hales Park, on State Street, under the Sister City Clock at **10:00 AM on the 3rd Saturday**, the first date is **October 19, 2024**. These will continue in November, January, February, March, April, and May. The walking tours are a leisurely 1 hour guided stroll through downtown Redlands. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members, preferably cash, but we can take Venmo as well. **NO RESERVATION NECESSARY!** Also, if you have taken one of our walks before, we have a second version. Simply request the “Railroad Walk” when you meet your tour guide. Additionally, Tom Atchley will lead a **Hillside Cemetery Tour, Saturday, October 26, 2024, at 3:30 PM**. Tom continues to offer these tours every year on the Saturday closest to Halloween. I wonder why?

Hoping to see many new faces at our various events. Please come up and introduce yourself to us. We are always interested in hearing your story and the connections you have to our area.

Happy History Hunting,

Judith Hunt

REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY *would like to thank our* **CORPORATE UNDERWRITERS.**

Char & Larry Burgess Shari S. Forbes Paul Barich Bill & Sue Hardy
John C. Morgan Production Framing Jerry Bean—REDLANDS COMMUNITY NEWS
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REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY HONORS ITS OWN WITH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024, the Redlands Area Historical Society held their 48th Annual Heritage Award Ceremony which was begun in 1975. On this special night they not only honored seven worthy structures in Redlands but they also distributed three Lifetime Achievement Awards to long time participants as they have helped carry out the Historical Society's mission to *emphasize the conservation of the past in terms of buildings, neighborhoods, written and oral history, and memorabilia as well as programs to educate citizens, young and old, on the significance of the values of Redlands' heritage.*

The first honoree was Dr. Larry E. Burgess, the Director Emeritus of the A. K. Smiley Public Library, where he served as Director from 1986 until 2012. Prior to his directorship, he also was the founding Archivist and Head of Special Collections for the library and the curator of the Lincoln Memorial Shrine from 1972 to 1985. In 2000 he served as the Interim City Manager for the City of Redlands. Larry has written many books on the Smiley brothers and Redlands.

As the library director he gave between 50 and 60 programs a year on a variety of subjects relating to the history of Southern California, the West, and Lincoln and the Civil War. Most impressively he has continued doing these talks in retirement.

Larry was not only a founding member of the resurrected Redlands Area Historical Society in 1972 but he also began the "History of the San Bernardino Valley and Redlands" class in 1971, which is now taught through the A. K. Smiley Public Library to benefit the Heritage Room collection. He wanted to create a "sense of place" among Redlands residents.

Next, Tom Atchley was honored. He is a retired social studies teacher, concluding 38 years of teaching in the Redlands Unified School District in June 2011. For 12 years he was the department chair for social studies and then chair of the Advanced

Placement Department at Redlands High School. He became the adviser for the school paper, Hobachi, and he began the Redlands Junior Historical Society on the RHS campus. Tom was also a founding member of the 1972 Redlands Area Historical Society, as well as the Yucaipa Historical Society, and the Big Bear Historical Society. Beginning in 1974, he joined Larry Burgess in co-teaching the "History of San Bernardino and Redlands" history class.

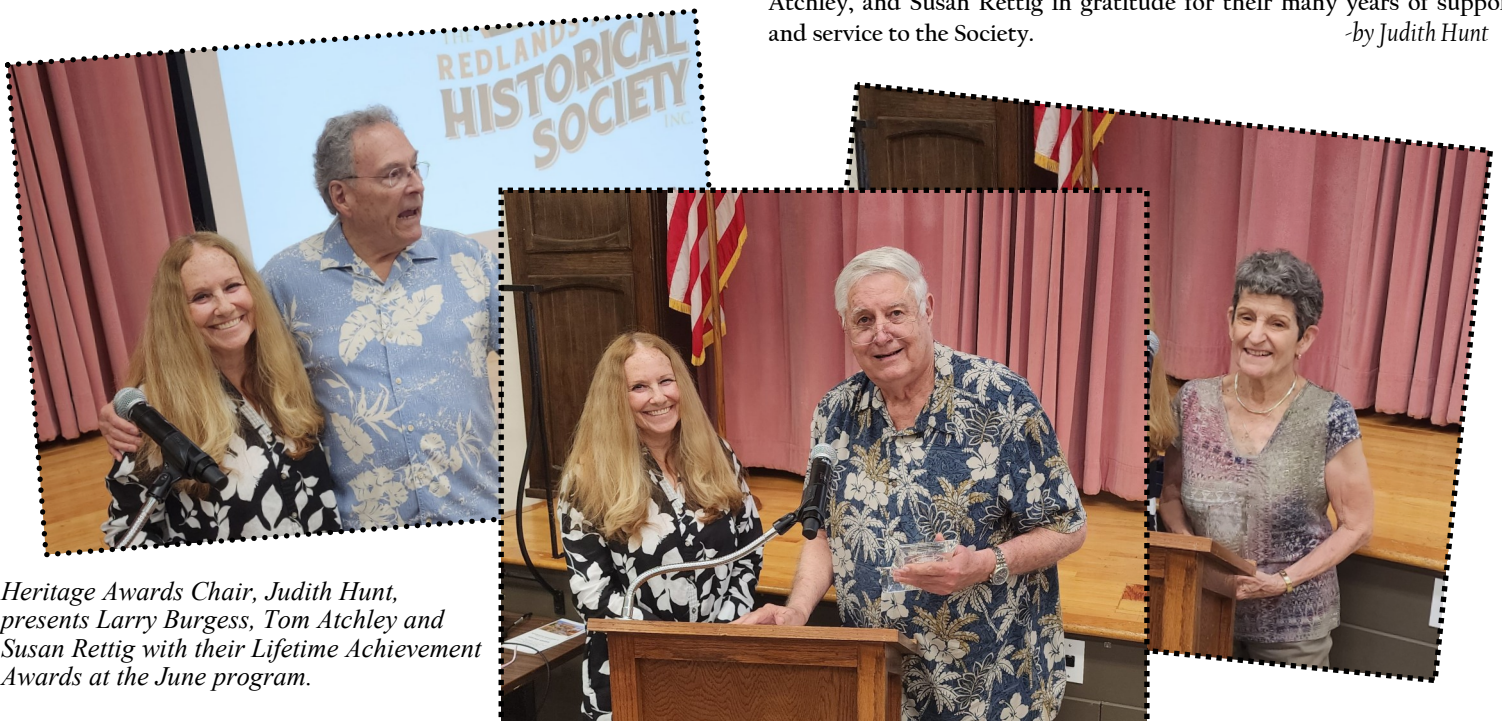
Tom has indexed most of the local newspapers from the 1880's to 1950's. He has written many walking tours and histories of the area. He is very interested in the water history of the Redlands area and early pioneers.

Susan Rettig, the final recipient, along with her husband Franz and their two sons, Franz, Jr. and Bob, own and operate Rettig Machine in Redlands. A business started by Franz's father David in 1946. Their expertise lies in custom, one, or a few of a kind, medium to heavy machining and fabrication work, either repairing or manufacturing to blueprint specifications. They build in small lot sizes from one to a few hundred pieces for industries including aerospace, construction, mining, railroads, and steel and aluminum processing. They have made parts for the Magellan Telescope in Chile to coating machines for the metal processing industry, and small walk-in jobs for local customers.

Susan is a native of Redlands, as is Franz, they both graduated from Redlands High School. Susan has worked at Rettig Machine since 1985, serving currently as secretary-treasurer and chief financial officer. She has been on the board of directors of the Redlands Area Historical Society since 1981 and has served as treasurer since 1982.

The Redlands Area Historical Society was pleased to present these Lifetime Achievement Awards, which were beautifully crafted by Gallagher's Finishing Touch Engraving, to Dr. Larry E. Burgess, Tom Atchley, and Susan Rettig in gratitude for their many years of support and service to the Society.

-by Judith Hunt



Heritage Awards Chair, Judith Hunt, presents Larry Burgess, Tom Atchley and Susan Rettig with their Lifetime Achievement Awards at the June program.

HILLSIDE CEMETERY WALKING TOUR

Saturday, October 26, 3:30 p.m.

Meet at the Egyptian Mausoleum

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, the Redlands Area Historical Society will conduct the fifteenth annual walking tour of Hillside Memorial Park 1540 Alessandro Road at 3:30 p.m. beginning near the Egyptian Mausoleum and finishing before sundown. Tom Atchley will lead the tour assisted by Ron Running. Fee for the tour is \$10 for Historical Society members and \$15 for non-members. The walk will not be lengthy, but uneven surfaces and moderate hills are abundant in the cemetery.

Judson and Brown, the founders of Redlands, never envisioned a cemetery in their preliminary map of Redlands in 1881. When their good friend and mentor, Myron Crafts, died in 1886, the event led to their purchase of 23.47 acres from the Southern Pacific Railroad Land Company. Judson and Brown then donated this Hillside Cemetery site to the Hillside Cemetery Association. The association consisted of six board members: John W. Edwards, Edward G. Judson, Charles Putnam, A.L. Park, Karl C. Wells and James S. Edwards. They met the first time June 8, 1886. The city did not take over management of the cemetery until February of 1918.

Judson and Brown were able to purchase the land cheaply from the Southern Pacific Company for \$2.50 an acre. Charles Gauthier, a Civil War veteran, and resident of the future Smiley Heights was the first interment, followed quickly by Myron Crafts.

The Board of Health listed "consumption" -what is today called tuberculosis- as the number one cause of death in early Redlands, followed by typhoid fever, scarlet fever, whooping cough, meningitis and diphtheria.

Gravestones themselves will be utilized to focus on the pioneer biographies of important people in Redlands history. The 1928 Egyptian Mausoleum reminds Redlanders of their fascination with the discovery of King Tut's tomb in Egypt in the 1920s.

The Great Depression was good for the cemetery. Work Progress Administration spent \$25,000 for 35,000 cubic feet of stone walls, split stone curbs and retaining walls. In 1938, WPA had 141 men building the retaining wall along Alessandro Road, spending some \$56,000 on just that wall alone.

In a *Redlands Daily Facts* article for 1937, the War Dead History of Hillside Cemetery listed 151 Civil War veterans, 36 Spanish American War vets and 69 World War I burials. One member of the Lincoln Shrine Civil War group has researched every one of the Civil War men who are buried in the cemetery.

Join the tour and learn many other interesting facts about Hillside Memorial Cemetery, one of the few city-managed cemeteries in California.

-by Tom Atchley



Interior view of the cemetery's Egyptian Mausoleum, built in 1928.

Heritage Award Winners

WILLIAM & ELLEN MCINTOSH HOUSE

112 E. Fern Avenue

Built 1894

Chase Pendleton & Rebecca Crawford, Owners

THIS BEAUTIFUL VICTORIAN two-story blue house with white trim and exterior walls of shiplap was built in 1894, Block 52, Lot #41, of the Altadena tract, by William McIntosh for \$1,600 according to the building list, dated January 12, 1895, published in *The Citrograph* newspaper. William McIntosh was a plasterer by trade and eventually became a plastering contractor. His family was considered one of the pioneering families of Redlands.

He was born on September 30, 1843, in Ontario, Canada, where his parents had immigrated from England, and he died at the age of 68 on April 23, 1912. He is buried at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery, where many famous people are buried including Rudolph Valentino, Mel Blanc, Mickey Rooney, Douglas Fairbanks, Judy Garland, Bugsy Siegel, Hattie McDaniel, the Ramones, and many others, along with his wife Ellen. She was born in 1850 and died in 1919. This couple married in 1869, in Michigan.

The couple lived in the house on East Fern until about 1910, while living there an article was printed in *The Citrograph* newspaper, dated Saturday, April 30, 1904, on page 7, stating that William McIntosh was one of the newly elected vestrymen at Trinity Episcopal Church, located west of the home on Fern Avenue. The new



church building had just been dedicated on Easter Sunday of that same year. The San Bernardino County records indicate that William put the home in Ellen's name in 1896 and it remained in her name until 1912 when William died. Then she deeded the property to her second daughter Nettie Hewitt. The house passed between Ellen and her daughter Nettie Hewitt throughout the years until 1944 when Nettie sold the house to Rufus and Dora Knapp.

The McIntosh's had four children, Gertrude, Nettie, May, and Carl. Gertrude was an assistant librarian at the A. K. Smiley Public Library until about 1905 when she married someone named Blackledge. Although Carl was never named on the deed nor appeared in the local directories as living in the house, his obituary, in the *Redlands Daily Facts*, dated January 4, 1935, states he died in the house. He had been a resident of Redlands for 40 years. His profession was listed as realtor at the time of his death.

The roof is a steeply pitched, hipped roof with a large front-facing center gable, cross-gables on three sides, with the top truncated which is a pyramid without the tip, resulting in a flat portion at the very top. The roof is covered in composition shingles. Today, a widow's walk is visible on the roof which is merely decorative as there is no direct access to this area. This has been beautifully crafted by the current owner to match the fascia boards on the eaves.

Observing a picture, taken in 1986 for an Historical Survey, the fascia or frieze boards, on the eaves appear to be plain however, the survey, on file in the A. K. Smiley Public Library Heritage Room, notes that the "fascia boards on gables have an inset, round circle pattern." The trim on the east and west facing windows also appears to have a semi-circle at the top.

Each of the gables contains a vertical rectangular vent at the top with a double hung window with plain trim below. Under the north facing, major gable is a bay window with three double hung windows. Corbels appear on either side of the east and west facing bay win-

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(Program, continued from page 1)

reaching the rim of Cajon Pass. Glenn then follows the President to Redlands speaking at the Casa Loma Hotel. In Riverside, Teddy replanted one of the surviving original Washington naval trees at the Mission Inn plus a few palms. The power-point presentation promises to be as lively as his book.

Historical Society programs are open to all. Glenn Wenzel will have copies of his book for sale at the program.

Visit rahs.org/calendar to view the program via Zoom.

-by Tom Atchley

(Potluck, continued from page 1)

your name, last names beginning with the letters A-M (main dishes) and N-Z (side dishes). Dessert, beverages, paper goods and seating will be provided. Please note that OHG events are for members only.

-by Kathleen Beall

Mark your calendar for the October Old House Group Meeting
Wednesday, October 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Emerson Bartlett Memorial Chapel
703 Brookside Avenue

Is there life after death for historic buildings? Come join us for a fascinating look at the adaptive reuse of an historic home and transformation through the years that became Emerson Bartlett Memorial Chapel.

If you've supplied us with your email address in the past, you may have received two (2) copies of the *Redlands Chronicles* this month. We are sending out a digital copy with color, via **Constant Contact**, whereas the printed version appears in black and white. Please provide us with your email address if you would like to try this new format as well as the printed version. Try it, you might like it!

(Heritage Awards, continued from page 5)

dows.

An L-shaped wooden porch extends to the middle of the front facade and around to the west side of the home. The entry steps face northwest, arising to the porch at an angle. Eight original turned posts support the porch overhang. A lovely frieze repeating the circle design of the eaves is visible. The posts are painted the same color as the body of the house, making the frieze appear to be floating, this is another feature which has been crafted by the current homeowner. He also added corbels to enhance the beauty of the trim. Two yellow doors face north, one is centered with solid wood panels, and the other is set back at the end of the L shaped porch but facing north with a glass panel above and wood panel below. The south view of the home shows an upstairs deck. All the lush landscaping was added by the present owners.

The property originally contained a carriage house, which wasn't built at the same time as the home but added after. In the 1970s, the owner who purchased the house in 1973, Joe T. Johnson, tore down the carriage house and built the existing garage. The load of lumber was delivered with his name clearly marked in black lettering on one of the boards. Joe used this board as the header over the interior exit door of the garage. After the Knapp's owned the home, Elmer and Wilma Carlock bought it in 1957 and then sold it to Joe and Delores Johnson. The Johnson children owned it until 2009 when they sold it to DeeAnn and Phillip Parker. The Parker's sold it in 2013 to Emily and Michael Unterseher. The Untersehers passed it on to the current owners in 2020.

The Redlands Area Historical Society wishes to thank Chase Pendleton, his wife Rebecca Crawford, and their daughter Emma, the current owners, for the time and dedication they have spent renewing, refreshing, and loving this important older Victorian located at 112 East Fern Avenue in Redlands, California.

-Researched by Judith Hunt

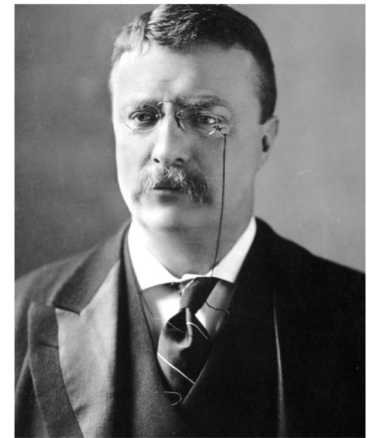
REDLANDS DOWNTOWN WALKING TOURS

Please join us for a leisurely docent led Redlands Downtown Walking Tour the **THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**, between October and May, at the corner of 5th Street and State Street in downtown Redlands at 10:00 AM. We meet under the Sister City clock on the corner. Tours are \$10 cash, Venmo or PayPal only, for members and \$15 for non-members. This is a personalized tour which can answer all your burning questions about Redlands, its founding, and how it has developed through the years.

You are welcome to join us Saturday, **October 19**.

These tours are all fundraisers to continue the work by the Redlands Area Historical Society and are led by well-trained volunteer docents.

ROOSEVELT'S REDLANDS VISIT



Redlands celebrated President Roosevelt's visit by festooning the Southern Pacific depot, strewing Orange Street with "100,000" roses, and guiding him through Canyon Crest Park (Smiley Heights).



Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

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Upcoming Events

Sept. 23, 7:00 p.m.	Teddy Roosevelt Visits Redlands & Riverside The Contemporary Club 173 S. Eureka Street
Sept. 26, 6:00-8:00 p.m.	Old House Group Potluck Rancho Oliveta 916 W. Olive Avenue MEMBERS ONLY
Oct. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.	Old House Group Emerson Bartlett Memorial Chapel 705 Brookside Avenue MEMBERS ONLY
Oct. 19, 10:00 a.m.	Downtown Redlands Walking Tours Meet at Ed Hales Park Members \$10/Non-members \$15
Oct. 23, 3:30 p.m.	Hillside Cemetery Walking Tour Meet at the Egyptian Mausoleum Members \$10/Non-members \$15
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1 st Thursday of the Month	Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission Meeting City Hall Council Chambers 35 Cajon Street



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Address Correction Requested