THE REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

REDLANDS CHRONICLES

October 2021

FILM CLIPS OF DOWNTOWN REDLANDS IN THE 1930S

Dr. Nathan Gonzales, Speaker
Monday, October 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.
The Contemporary Club
173 S. Eureka Street, Redlands

RECENTLY, OUR LOCAL CAL TRANS office donated to the Special Collections at A.K. Smiley Public Library some rare film footage of downtown Redlands. The footage was taken in the 1930s documenting the creation of a new underground channel for the Zanja during the widening of Central Avenue for Highway 99 (now Redlands Blvd.) The black and white film allows us to step back in time to see what life in Redlands was like during the Depression years.

City Archivist Nathan Gonzales will present the film which can be seen in person at the Contemporary Club or via Zoom. Nathan is a former president of the Redlands Area Historical Society and a frequent speaker on historical topics throughout the city. He most recently is collaborating with Larry Burgess and Tom Atchley with their class on local history, sponsored by the library.

For virtual attendance join us on Zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84163169844. In-person attendees please register at Eventbrite. Historical Society programs are free and open to the public.

-by Tom Atchley

The Mill Creek Zanja at Seventh Street Looking West. Honda Yamaha of Redlands Occupies the Packing House (center) Today.

Orange Street Looking South from Redlands Boulevard. Photos Courtesy Archives, A.K. Smiley Public Library.

A Letter from Your President...

Dear Redlands Area Historical Society Members,

Our society constitution requires limited time serving on the board of directors so Steve Spiller has termed out. In an election held by the board I became the new president of the Redlands Area Historical Society. I demanded an audit to no avail.

Our new board is a mixture of both the old and new. Jennifer Schaefer was elected secretary and she completes a thorough rendition of our minutes each board meeting. Jill Huntsinger returns as both Hospitality and Heritage Awards chair. Jill did a fine job with the Heritage Awards last month. The board will nominate new structures beginning in November so membership ideas are accepted. Please include street address so we can take a photo.

Erin Benson returns as Ways & Means chair but her strength has been towards her computer skills. Erin brought us into Zoom meetings for both our monthly meetings and board meetings. We had 69 attend the Heritage Awards and 39 more on Zoom. The recorded program was then viewed by another 800+ on the internet.

Ron Running continues as vice-president and Program chair. Our first program at the Contemporary Club features Dr. Nathan Gonzales showing California Department of Highways photos and film placing the Mill Creek Zanja underground for the widening of Central Avenue (Highway 99). Ron produces the monthly mailing labels, Power Point Heritage Award program and updates the Heritage Awards list. In addition he is the chair for our 50th anniversary next year. He also updates our web page monthly.

Marjorie Lewis is the leader of the Old House Group. She plans to hold our Christmas party at the Cutler Building December 8th. Marjorie, like all of us, cut back on old house visits due to the pandemic. She did have a Zoom visit on Alvarado Street despite COVID-19.

Susan Rettig has been our treasurer for decades. She has constitutional protection to remain in office. We have $27,235.28 in our treasury's General Fund and Preservation Fund combined. We spent $3500 updating our web pages this year and spend nearly $800 per month printing Redlands Chronicles and the postage for each 340 mailers. We donated $10,000 to the Museum of Redlands. We have monthly bills for hospitality servings and Zoom meetings.

Our really new board member is John Paul Beall. J.P. was the president of the Junior Redlands Historical Society at Redlands High School and his mother, Kathleen Beall, previously served on our board. J.P. arrives with plenty of new ideas for the board to consider.

Marie Reynolds declined the "opportunity" to serve as president. She is active in the Contemporary Club and Kimberly Juniors. She produces Redlands Chronicles monthly for the printer. She plans to provide our January 24th program, *Touring Terracina and West Redlands*.

Regards,

Tom Atchley

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

Wes & Peggy Brier
Tim Watson—Mission Pediatrics, Inc.
Morgan Framing
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45th Annual

Heritage Award Winners

Sara M. Curtis/Hoagland Family Home

310 Myrtle Street
Built in 1911
Kristy & Chris Reed, Owners

This home at 310 Myrtle is a classic example of an Arts and Crafts California bungalow. Low-pitched gable roof, open floor plan, exposed rafters, built ins, and sturdy porch posts or columns are essential elements of this affordable, yet quality-built architectural style. Asbestos shingles cover the exterior with a single centered dormer and louvered gable vent at the top of the dormer. Knee braces, often called "rafter tails," are tucked under the eaves. The tapered squared columns supporting the wide porch overhang convey solidity and strength with a simple balustrade. Double-hung windows with matching grills are on the three sides. A bump out or bay with shed roof is featured on the south side and adjacent is the classic ribbon driveway leading to the back.

Four lots in the Atwood & Ford Subdivision #2 on Myrtle Street were purchased in 1904 by Miss Sara M. Curtis, a seamstress and dressmaker from Dayton, Illinois. Sara had a shop at 21 East State. Her clients included the Fisher family on West Highland Avenue.

Curtis hired contractor Charles C. Reasoner to build 310 and 314 Myrtle. The permit for 310 was issued on July 27, 1911; the anticipated cost $2,000. There is no known evidence that Sara lived in any of the four houses. Her venture provided steady rental income and eventually, out right cash from the sale of the houses.

The first documented residents of 310 Myrtle were Professor S. Guy Jones and his wife Letitia beginning in 1912 through at least 1915. Jones was hired by the University of Redlands in 1909 as the first physics instructor. At the time of his hiring, he was the youngest member of the U of R faculty. Jones was known for his athletic ability and on occasion, was a ringer on the Bulldog football team as well as breaking a couple ribs in one game. Another well-known Redlander was Frank J. Loge and his wife, Ruth. Their time of residency was around 1919 to 1921. Frank and his business partner, Rollo Holcomb, were proprietors of the popular Triangle Chocolate Shop near the corner of Citrus and Orange. Around 1926 a young widow, May Luckenbill, and her two small sons moved in. A native of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, May was a graduate of Oberlin College. She moved to southern California following the death of her husband and then to Redlands. Mrs. Luckenbill was a member of the Redlands High School faculty for approximately 25 years. She taught women's P.E. and later served as Dean of Girls. She retired in 1950. May lived at 310 Myrtle until at least 1941.

A search of the San Bernardino County Archives reveals the owners of 310 Myrtle in 1932 as Frank F. and Lillie L. Konen. Frank was the step-father of future owner Nellie Hoagland and her husband, Raymond Keith Hoagland. Frank is also listed as the owner of 314 Myrtle where he lived from about 1933 until his death in 1963. Marion F. and Marjorie F. Burr owned the home in 1941, and Earl and Ada Johnson in 1945.

Raymond Keith and Nellie Hoagland are listed beginning in 1947. The Hoagland family has a long and fascinating connection with the San Bernardino Valley beginning a century earlier. Keith's grandfather, Lucas Hoagland, arrived in 1847 as a member of the Mormon Battalion of the US Army. The Hoagland family owned a farm that would eventually become part of Norton Air Force Base. Keith was a skilled electrician at Norton Air Force Base beginning in 1943 until his retirement in 1972. Following Nellie's death in 1971, Keith married Doris. Keith passed away in 1990 and Doris in 2014.

For seventy-four years members of the extended Hoagland family remain stewards of this beautifully restored California bungalow. Kristy Reed, the granddaughter of Doris Hoagland, and husband, Christopher Reed, moved into the house in 2006 and purchased it in 2008. Kristy is a PE teacher and Chris, a physician's associate. They have two children, Mackenzie and Dalton. During their tenure they have replaced electrical and plumbing in its entirety, rebuilt the front porch, and installed new irrigation and a new lawn. In 2017, the DIY *Restored* program hosted by Brett Waterman restored the original hardwood floors and fireplace, completely redid the kitchen, installed period appropriate windows in the dinning room, painted the exterior in a dark gray and blue, moved the air intakes and installed new beautiful vent ducts as well as other touch ups to the original wood accents throughout the house.

The Redlands Area Historical Society recognizes and honors the efforts of Chris, Kristy, Mackenzie, and Dalton Reed for their dedication and stewardship of 310 Myrtle Street as well as their commitment to preserving their family's legacy.

-by Steve Spiller & Karen Flippin

Hillside Cemetery Walking Tour

On Saturday, October 23, the Redlands Area Historical Society will conduct the eleventh annual walking tour of Hillside Memorial Park, 1540 Alessandro Road. The tour begins at 4:00 p.m. near the Egyptian Mausoleum and finishes 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 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.

For some two-decades pioneers had lived in the East San Bernardino Valley, and with the exception of the Native-American cemetery in Crafton established by Myron Crafts, no other cemetery had been started. Judson and Brown were able to purchase the land for $2.50 an acre. Charles Gothier, a Civil War veteran, and resident of the future Smiley Heights was the first interment followed quickly by Myron Crafts.

In a 1937 Redlands Daily Facts article 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 buried in the cemetery.

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

Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

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