



REDLANDS CHRONICLES

April 2024

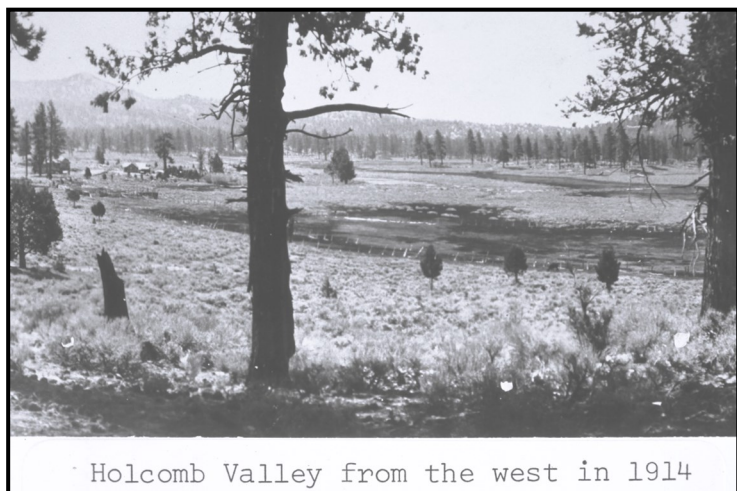
SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS IN THE 1860S

Richard Graham, Mark Durban, Anne Roark & Jonni Vindiola, Speakers

Monday, April 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

The Contemporary Club

173 S. Eureka Street



REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY will host four Big Bear historians at our April 22, 2024, program at 7:00 p.m. at the Contemporary Club house. Richard Graham, Mark Durban, Anne Roark and Jonni Vindiola have researched "How the town of Bellville lost out on the vote to change the county seat from San Bernardino" in the 1860 election. The long-held belief presents an interesting research dilemma requiring time to search both county and State of California records. The program is entertaining as the presenters show the web they followed with a PowerPoint.

Richard Graham, since retiring from the automobile industry, has conducted many personal interviews and researched Big Bear history through newspaper searches and has presented programs on prohibition and festival events in Big

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EUREKA STREET WALKING TOUR

Saturday, April 27, 10:00 a.m.

Meet at Eureka and W. Palm Avenue

REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY continues with a walking tour of Eureka Street, from West Palm to Home Place, on April 27 at 10:00 a.m. The fee for the tour is \$10 members and \$15 non-members.

The 700 block of Eureka has late 1950s homes with a few homes built in the early '60s. The homes are mainly California Ranch, with most having attached garages.

The 600 block of Eureka is the Dike and Logie subdivision, mostly built in the 1920s. Andrew Dike and John Logie subdivided the Yucaipa Valley beginning in 1909. The Arts and Crafts movement is very much evident in the architecture. Copying previous styles of adornment became the usual fad for homeowners.

The 500 block of Eureka is designated a historic district with homes built by Garret Huizing beginning in 1909. The bungalows have

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500 block of Eureka Street.

OLD HOUSE GROUP

Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
221 W. Mariposa Drive

Please join the Old House Group for a members only exclusive look at the restoration of this 1959 gem, the Robert G. Campbell House, now owned by Eric and Courtney Mee and a RAHS 2023 Heritage Award winner. This is a unique opportunity to appreciate not only the details of this era of architecture, but also see a Clare Day designed home up close. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and check for a reminder email in your inbox or spam folder as RAHS is beginning to use email again for program announcements. Thank you!

(Program, continued from page 1)

Bear. Graham will present the basic legend for the program.

Mark Durban has been a resident of Big Bear since 1989 and worked for the fire department. That career led him to collect fire photos, brochures, post cards and photographs of early Big Bear. Durban authored "The Big Bear Lake Photo Album" book. His material will discuss how the legend concerning the county seat change started.

Anne Roark graduated from Big Bear High School. Her family began interviewing valley pioneers in the 1960s. Roark gathered the family research and has published a series of books called "When Big Bear Was Wild and Woolly." She is now on volume four.

Jonni Vindiola is related to one of the first private boat landing operation owners on Big Bear Lake and the late San Bernardino County Sheriff, Floyd Tidwell. Vindiola is the current curator of the Big Bear Museum. She will show the political issues in Southern California in the 1860s and how they influenced a movement to change the county seat.

Graham will end the presentation discussing the "War of the Rebellion" documentation of Holcomb Valley involvement in the Civil War.

Historical Society monthly programs are open and free for the public to attend.



510 Eureka Street.

(Eureka Street Walking Tour, continued from page 1)

cobble-stone garden features and front porch supporting pillars.

This tour walks north with each block entering a new phase of architecture to an earlier period.

Tom Atchley and Ron Running are the tour directors. No reservations are necessary.

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

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2023

Heritage Award Winners

REDLANDS LAWN BOWLING CLUB

411 N. University Street

Built 1926

FORMED IN 1923 at Smiley Park, the Redlands Lawn Bowling Club is celebrating its 100th anniversary year. The club grew immediately upon its founding and soon membership had tripled, in addition to having a waiting list. By Fall 1923, the club had secured their current location on the grounds of Sylvan Park, dedicated solely for the club use in perpetuity. Initial greens were built at the expense of club co-founder, Melvin Hooper, with the consent of the Redlands City Council, Mayor Brock and co-founder Dr. Frank H. Folkins. By 1926, the club had built their Mission Revival style clubhouse.

The parapet across the front of the clubhouse roofline is the strongest identifier of Mission Revival style, popular during the 1920s, and epitomized the lifestyle of Southern California. It appealed to the many residents and visitors from both out of state and the country coming to play the fashionable game of lawn bowling. The exterior of the building is finished in stucco to replicate adobe plaster of the missions. Today, the building remains much the same, with an addition of the wooden front patio overhang added decades later.

The original intent of the clubhouse was always as a recreational facility and it is still in use by the original organization today. The lighting over the bowling greens are the original lighting for the club lanes, with the club having spent over \$2000 in improving the grounds and installing the lighting in 1926. The lighting, still used today, allows the club and their guests to be able to play the sport outdoors in the

conducive climate of Redlands' evenings. The lights are historic for multiple reasons as this was an unusual feature at the time they were installed.

Melvin Hooper, moved to Redlands in 1919 from Winnipeg, Canada where he had earned a doctorate and was a Mathematics, Modern Language and Latin professor at Winnipeg College. He became a prominent Redlands real estate and fire insurance salesman, member of Kiwanis and the Redlands Planning Commission, and President of the Redlands Chamber of Commerce. Hooper donated and oversaw the building of the clubhouse, which in turn served as a prototype for his self-financed 1927 Regal Court bungalow apartment complex on South Michigan Street, a 2008 RAHS Heritage Award winner.

Lawrence Emerson Nelson states in Only One Redlands, Melvin Hooper not only brought the sport of lawn bowling to Redlands, but he also brought international fame. In 1924, Hooper organized and served as the Southern California Lawn Bowling Association's first President. He assisted in advising and establishing no fewer than 11 lawn bowling clubs throughout Southern California, including Claremont and Long Beach. International teams and tournaments were hosted by the Redlands club with teams from New Zealand, England, Canada, Ireland, Scotland, Australia, and more. The club and clubhouse were featured in London's *Bowl News*. In 1932, Hooper chaired the World Tournament in Los Angeles staged concurrently with the 1932 Olympic Games on the three-green bowling complex in Exposition Park, adjacent to the LA Coliseum, site of the Olympics. This huge undertaking, staging lawn bowls alongside the Olympics, was the first major international bowls event in the United States.

The Redlands Lawn Bowling Club is on the City Historic Inventory List and a California registered historic resource.

The Redlands Area Historical Society congratulates the Redlands Lawn Bowling Club on sustaining the 100 year tradition of lawn bowling in Redlands and for its stewardship of their 97 year old clubhouse.

-by Kathleen Beall and Amanda Frye





THE REDLANDS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
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 www.rahs.org

Address Correction Requested

Redlands Area Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1972, Incorporated 1974

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-2024

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

Upcoming Events

April 13, 9:00-3:00 p.m.
 History Day
 Santa Fe Depot
 1170 W. Third St., San Bernardino

April 17, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 Old House Group meeting
 221 W. Mariposa Drive
 MEMBERS ONLY

April 20, 10:00 a.m.
 Downtown Redlands Walking Tours
 Meet at Ed Hales Park
 Members \$10/Non-members \$15

April 22, 7:00 p.m.
 San Bernardino Mountains in the 1860s
 The Contemporary Club
 173 S. Eureka Street

April 27, 10:00 a.m.
 Eureka Street Walking Tour
 Meet at Eureka & W. Palm
 Members \$10/Non-members \$15

May 13-25
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION FORTNIGHT

1st Thursday of the Month
 \$
 Historic & Scenic Reservation
 Commission Meetings
 City Hall Council Chambers
 35 Cajon Street