SAVE OUR HERITAGE ORGANISATION

newsletter

PRESIDENT'S RHETORIC

SOHO began another year with a very successful meeting at the Villa Montezuma. We have had a Board Meeting and the enthusiasm is tremendous.

An item of importance was handled by the SOHO Board this summer, w' the Sherman Gilbert House was tu over to the Parks and Recreation L partment for their new offices. SOHO was originally started as a group dedicated to preserving Victorian Homes. The SOHO Board action guarantees to us that the Gilbert House will be restored to its original, grand style--a dream we can all see materialize.

The SOHO Board wishes to extend a special "thank you" to Claire Kaplan, our retiring membership chairman. She is going to continue with SOHO activities, but desires a well deserved rest from Membership.

This year promises to be filled with a great deal of work which should result in the saving and restoration of many of our old buildings. Plan to take your place in the coming events.

Barry Worthington

MASS MEETING!

GENERAL MEETING A general meeting was held on Sunday, Sept. 24, at the newly remodeled Shepard House (Villa Montezuma) at 20th and K Street.

The members attending the meeting were amazed at the transition the beautiful old Victorian mansion had undergone. The Villa, now serving as a community center for the Golden Hills area, will have its formal opening on <u>November 12th</u> at 2:00 <u>o'clock.</u> The public is invited and we hope

The public is invited and we hope members of SOHO will attend this function. Clare Crane is the new curator of the Villa and would like SOHO volunteers to help at the dedication. If you are interested phone 233-1664.



ELECTIONS At the General Meeting new officers and a new board were installed for the coming year. SOHO officers now include:

Barry Worthington--President Larry Ford-----Vice President Harry Evans-----Secretary Lynn Kaplan-----Treasurer

The SOHO Board is comprised of the above along with Bill Cartwright, Keith Evans, Terry Recht, Thelma White, Nicholas Fintzelberg, and Don Mitchell. Miles Parker and Claire Kaplan will serve as alternates. Miles Parker and Marie Fillius will be in charge of the <u>Newsletter</u> this year so send your articles, information, and suggestions to them.





We are organizing Victorian House Tours that will be conducted throughout the year (in conjuction with a bus tour organization). We therefore need at least fifty people to become tour guides. VOLUNTEERS please call Thelma White at 224-7133 for further information.

<u>FUND-RAISING</u> Several fund-raising projects are underway or have been suggested. Nick Fintzelberg is working on the possibility of bringing a Concourse D'Elegance (a fancy car show) to San Diego. This would be in conjunction with the Rolls Royce Club, and the proceeds would go to SOHO.

Marie Fillius and Don Mitchell are planning an Art Mart. It will be held *December 9-10 at the Diabetic Center.* The Diabetic Center is located in a recently restored Victorian House located at Third and Grape.

Glen Widdup still has some prints for sale of the Santa Fe Station. These were done by Guillermo Acevedo.

Barbara Marsh is saving a wide variety of stamps--she prefers foreign or special issues. She sorts and sells these stamps and donates the money to SOHO. If you have stamps please send them to her. Mrs. Barbara Marsh 4130 Lark Street San Diego, Calif.

Mr. Benbow has donated a beautiful hand-crocheted rug (which he made) to use as a SOHO fund raiser.

santa fe

PRESERVATION PROGRESS

Of most urgent concern to SOHO at the present time is the fate of the Santa Fe Station as its second (and perhaps final) six month stay of execution ends in January. SOHO is looking into conversion of the station into something which would be both profitable to Santa Fe, and leave the aesthetics of the building unchanged.

The decision on whether to extend the moratorium on the depot-this holds up demolition-- will be decided at the City Council Meetin on DECEMBER 15th--Council Chambers

We encourage all members to attend this meeting and show your support.

On a cheerier note, the Gilbert House in Heritage Park has been turned over to the Parks and Recreation Department. They will restore the house and move their offices into it sometime within the next year. A functioning Heritage Park is becoming a reality.

Also, The Historic Sites Board has declared its first "neighborhood historic site"---the block of Victorian houses between Front and First, south of Fir. This could be an important step toward the preservation of historic contexts rather than only individual buildings.



SOHO CALENDAR

November---Wine Tasting Party December---Art Mart January----European Art Tour Cypress View February---Whale Hunt March-----Victorian Dinner Dance April-----Train Trip to Pasadena May-----Concourse D'Elegance June-----Ice Cream Social

FINANCES SOHO recently sent a check for \$2,500.00 to the county, our first installment on the Gilbert House Loan. We owe \$3,500.00--\$2,500.00 more to the county, and \$1,000.00 to a private member. We need money if we are to keep our preservation campaigns going. Any help or suggestions on ways to add money to our coffers will be greatappreciated.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT

MEMBERSHIP We now have 660 members on our lists. Dues will be payable beginning in January, but we will gladly accept them now for those so inclined! Questions about membership will be answered by the new membership chairman, Pat Teaze--286-1854. The membership secretary, Donna Regan will accept your dues renewal or contributions. Her address is: 8671 Tulare Street La Mesa, Calif. 92041



<u>VOTING</u> SOHO usually refrains from campaigning, but we do enter into politics when we feel an issue involves historic preservation.

The SOHO members, at the general meeting, voted to endorse a

YES VOTE ON "B"

This issue concerns the saving of the Electric Building (1915) in Balboa Park and is important to the history of the entire Balboa Park area.

SAVE THE SANTA FE DEPOT

SAVE OUR HERITAGE ORGANISATION

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