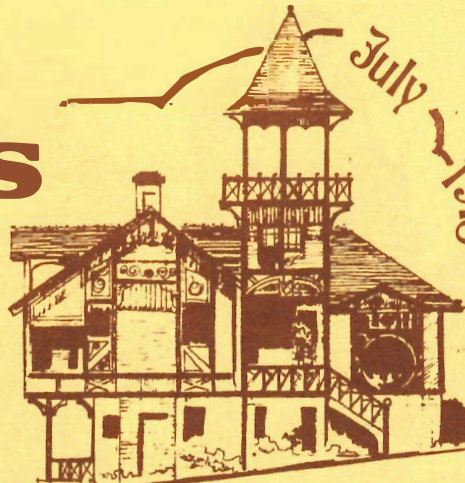


# Reflections

Newsletter of Save Our Heritage Organisation

— vol. x no. 7 —

July 1978



## SOHO SWINGS INTO SUMMER WITH A PICNIC IN THE PARK

### OLD FASHIONED

Games  
Clowns  
Music  
Balloons



SHARE IN THE FUN & EXCITEMENT  
OF SOHO'S  
ANNUAL PICNIC & GENERAL MEETING

Heritage Park  
Sunday, June 9, 1978, 12-4 p.m.

Bring your own picnic lunch to be  
complemented by SOHO's

Delectable Punch and  
SOHOstess Baked Cookies

Bring the  
Entire Family

WE LOVE COOKIE  
BAKERS!

Please Bring A  
Batch

WE NEED Hosts,  
Hostesses and Helpers

Please call our  
Hospitality Chairperson,

CLAIRE KAPLAN 286-8836



# PLEASE HELP!



How Long Before  
Nothing Is Left of  
Our Neighborhoods as  
We Know Them?  
Save Our Heritage  
JOIN SOHO!

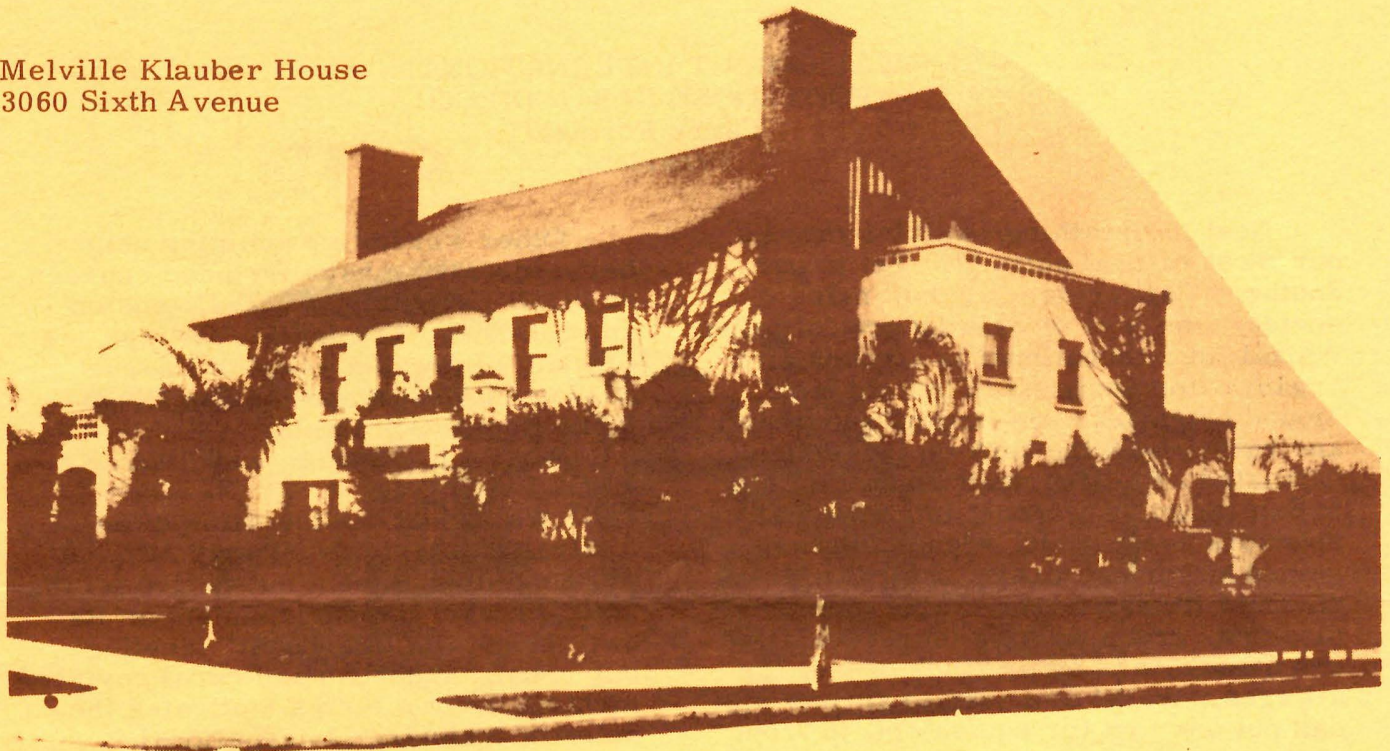
Marc Tarasuck



## SOHO CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

- July 9, 1978 (General Meeting)  
Picnic in Heritage Park
- July 31, 1978 SOHO Board meeting
- Aug. 26, 1978 Summer Affair at Long-  
Waterman mansion
- Aug. 29, 1978 SOHO Board meeting
- Sept. 17, 1978 SOHO General meeting  
and election
- Nov. 4, 1978 Golden Hill Tour

Melville Klauber House  
3060 Sixth Avenue



#### SOHO RECEIVES NATIONAL TRUST GRANT TO SAVE HISTORIC MELVILLE KLAUBER HOUSE

SOHO has received a \$1,000 grant from the National Trust For Historic Preservation. The grant was requested by SOHO for the development of an economic feasibility study for the proposed purchase, restoration and re-use of the Melville Klauber house, one of San Diego's most important historical residential structures, now threatened with demolition.

The Klauber house, located at 3060 Sixth Avenue, is generally considered as the best remaining example of the work of noted architect Irving J. Gill. Its extensive yard was designed by Kate Sessions, San Diego's pioneer civic beautification exponent. The property has received the highest citations for historic and architectural importance. It has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, the California Historic American Building Survey, and as a San Diego Historical Site.

The property, owned now by Imperial Contracting Co., Inc., was slated for demolition to make way for a highrise apartment building. The San Diego Historic Sites Board has been contesting the company's application for a demolition permit. This has given SOHO the chance to try to save the building on site by purchasing it

ourselves. Richard Crissman, one of the nation's leading experts on financing historic preservation projects, has agreed to work with SOHO in working out a financing package for purchase of the property. By combining possible government grants, private contributions, and private financing, the study intends to prove that the building could be purchased, restored and re-used for high-quality professional offices. If feasible, any money accruing from the leasing of the restored building would go into a revolving loan fund which SOHO could then use for other preservation projects.

No financial commitment is to be made by SOHO at this time. Additional support for the economic feasibility study will come from "in-kind" contributions of SOHO members' time and expertise, primarily from SOHO board member Richard Reed who has had extensive experience in financing historic preservation.

The attempt to save the Klauber house is part of a growing awareness of SOHO members that the best kind of historic preservation is the preserving of buildings on site in an attempt to preserve a sense of community as well as a structure. All SOHO members and friends are invited to get involved in what could be SOHO's biggest attempt to save our heritage yet.

WALKABOUT INTERNATIONAL  
FOOTLOOSE IN SAN DIEGO

Larry Forman  
President

Next to breathing, walking may be our most natural activity. Yet in our Southern California, car dominated society, the joys of walking are forgotten. Walkabout International is a nonprofit organization designed to put old fashioned neighborhood--urban, suburban and rural--walking back on its feet. Affiliated with American Youth Hostels in San Diego, Walkabout International sponsors evening and weekend walks, guided historical walks, natural walks, physical fitness walks, walks with the disabled, group walking tours--locally and abroad, and other kinds of feet for all ages. Walks are open to anyone who can put one foot (or equivalent) in front of the other and are usually free.

Started over a year ago by my spouse Gale and me, walks were held one night a month for half a dozen amblers. Now a monthly schedule with three plus walks each week is distributed to 400 amblers. Walkabout's interests have grown too. Recycling city streets at night still is the most frequent activity. The night walking group is called THE PACK--and looks like one as 20-40 people roam all over San Diego sidewalks at sunset. Recognition is growing as well. Instead of passerbys (in cars or homes, of course) asking "What are you doing?", more greetings are "Say, aren't you THE PACK"? Other packs are also wandering around. COMPACKS are community PACKS that walk regularly in just one neighborhood like La Jolla or Kensington. COMPACKS include noon-time strolling in business communities like Downtown and Old Town. Exploring neighborhoods with a festive spirit has prompted PEDicular events like the:

La Jolla Ice Cream Social Stroll--  
a walk to each ice cream and frozen  
yogurt parlor in La Jolla  
Halloween Haunt Amble  
Gourmet Pot-Luck Picnic Saunters  
New Years Eve Midnight Amble--  
culminating with a midnight ringing of  
the Shelter Island Friendship Bell  
Monthly Birthday Celebration Feats

Other Forum's promoting neighborhood walking have included courses at UCSD Extension, SDSU Extension and San Diego Community College, as well as joint walks with the League of Women Voters and the San Diego Blind Recreation Center.

What's in a name: why "WALK-ABOUT"?

"Walkabout" is the name of an Australian aborigine puberty rite. A tribe member is sent out to live off the land, to meet the environment on its own terms. In this spirit, meeting our urban, suburban and rural environment on its own terms motivates the soles of Walkabout International. Peeling away the layers of a neighborhood, uncovering the textures of a community, elevating our urban/suburban/rural consciousness, these are at the heart of the walks.

Nearly a thousand different people have ambled with Walkabout International. Yet, this diverse group walks for similar reasons: discovery, fitness and pleasure. Many walk chiefly for neighborhood discovery: to learn about local architecture, history or gossip. Regularly people lead informal walks to share sidewalk history of neighborhoods like Mission Hills, Coronado, La Mesa and Golden Hill. For further enrichment is a series of "Intimate Glimpses" walks. These are two hour scenic daytime strolls with informed guides leading groups of 10 to 20 through peripatetic adventures. Many hundreds of hours are required to prepare an Intimate Glimpse walk. Chasing rumors by both reading and door knocking extracts juicy tidbits of neighborhood History. Hillcrest, La Jolla, Point Loma, Centre City and the Gaslamp Quarter are areas recently tread. (There is a nominal charge for Intimate Glimpse walks to support Walkabout's basic operating expenses: phone, mailings, etc.).

Many walk just for the health of it. Monday nights are geared for those who like to stretch their legs on brisk walks. These Fleet Feets for exercise and fitness appear in "viewtiful" areas like



Tierrasanta, Mission Bay, Kensington, La Jolla, Hillcrest and San Carlos.

Many walk for the sheer pleasure of walking and talking. In walking, physical exercise is accompanied by mental relaxation. This combination creates a natural atmosphere for comfortable socializing. In few places is it possible for so many different kinds of people to mingle so warmly. Yet this happens effortlessly in walking. It's a miracle to witness people from all walks of life and of all ages--subteen to octogenarian--meeting because of a common interest in the enjoyment of walking.

Walkabout International's travels are not restricted to San Diego. Past feats have also included walks in Julian, the Cuyamacas, Anza Borego Desert, San Juan Capistrano, Laguna Beach, Union Square and environs in L.A., Tijuana and an overnight excursion in Ensenada. Upcoming journeys are a Labor Day weekend on foot in San Francisco and a spectacular three week trip October 5-26 in Japan to discover the nontouristy side of Japan with daily walks behind the scenes. Exploring any kind of neighborhood on foot is the simple reason Walkabout International walks.

What's next: a variety of walks are planned for July in neighborhoods of Fiesta Island, Fortuna Mountain, Mission Bay, La Jolla, Pacific Beach, Crown Point, Grantville, North Park, Del Mar, La Mesa and San Carlos. (For further information call the 24 hour hotline at 223-WALK or write Walkabout International, PO Box 6540, San Diego, CA 92106).

On Sunday, July 23, 2 p.m. at the La Jolla Library by Girard and Wall Streets, Intimate Glimpses of La Jolla will be presented; \$1.50 adults, .75 for ages 6-12, free under 6. This two hour scenic stroll and commentary will cover the area bounded by Girard, the Pacific Ocean, Nautilus and Draper (more or less). Information about the architecture and history of the area is actively being sought. If SOHO members are interested in helping to obtain such information or to participate on the walk as a guide, be prepared for a royal welcome at 223-WALK. Deadline for responses is at the "Dry Walk" on Sunday July 9, 2 p.m. at La Jolla Library.

# BETA SIGMA PHI SORORITY

## TAKES US OVER TOP ON COTTAGE MOVE

Response for funds to move the Senlis Cottage to Heritage Park were heart warming. Children gave their pennies; senior citizens, prominent San Diego figures and hundreds of warm, wonderful people interested in preserving our heritage donated to the move. Each dime meant that the cottage was closer to being saved.

SOHO appreciates each and every one of the donors; however the love story between SOHO and the ladies of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority is one that should be shared.

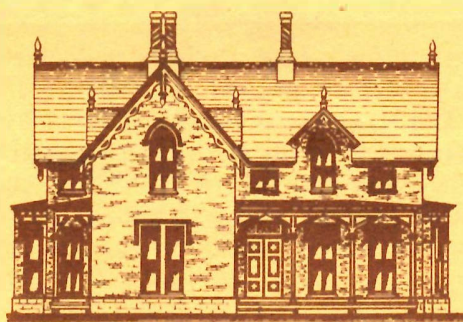
In June of 1976, the Busyhead House looked as if it might never be moved to Heritage Park. Bids came in so high that unless an additional \$5,820 could be immediately raised, the Busyhead would have to be demolished. Many late hours were spent in SOHO board meetings and many telephone calls were made. With only hours left for a decision, Beta Sigma Phi agreed to donate the money needed for the move. The Busyhead was saved and now sits amidst the other fine homes at Heritage Park.

Angie Kasitz, then chairman of the Cultural Fund Committee of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, was one of the two ladies most influential in earmarking funds for Heritage Park. The other lady, Natalie Stead, is a dynamic individual who helped convince the members of the sorority of the far-reaching cultural benefits of a Victorian preserve for all to enjoy.

Beta Sigma Phi Sorority was founded in 1931 in Abilene Texas with 7 members. Since then, it has grown to 250,000 members with 12,000 chapters in 24 countries. It is a socially and culturally oriented group that regularly contributes to many organizations such as COMBO, Aerospace Museum and the San Diego Historical Society. It is responsible for the Garden Stage at Alcazar Garden in Balboa Park.

This new donation of over \$2,000 has completely paid off the movers of the Senlis Cottage and has started the Beta Sigma Phi fund for the SOHO Restoration Library.

We are thankful to have such giving people interested in our heritage and its cultural impact. Thank-you ladies of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority for helping to show that SOHO SAVES!



SUMMER 1978 AT THE UNIVERSITY  
OF SAN DIEGO  
Historic Site Archaeology Technician

The field of Historic Preservations and historic site archaeology has captured the imagination of city planner, environmental specialists, and big business. It is becoming much more practical to take advantage of existing areas and buildings by "recycling" than it is to tear them down and rebuild. New and continuing environmental laws make it necessary that people function in the field with a professional background.

The summer programming takes place in three (1 unit each) segments; a registrant may register for one or all three segments. A three unit registration meets a requirement in the Historic Site Archaeology Technician Certificate Program being offered by the University of San Diego.

Additional information on this program may be obtained by calling (714) 293-4524.

FEDERAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE  
PROPOSED TO BUY, REPAIR  
HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Federal insurance for mortgages that would pay for both the purchase and rehabilitation of old buildings has been proposed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Russell V. Keune, vice president for preservation services of the National Trust, suggested recently that a first mortgage insurance program:

---provide for a "realistic term" of at least 30 years for repayment of mortgages on historic structures;

---omit limitations or set reasonable ones on dollar amounts of loans, taking into account rehabilitation costs;

---make loans available to many types of owners, including local preservation organizations;

---allow the loans to be used to rehabilitate buildings that will be used for purposes other than residential;

---make the loans available to properties in state and locally designated historic districts, under certain circumstances, as well as to those listed in the National Register of Historic Places or located in a National Register historic district.

The loan insurance would be handled by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). Keune said the new loan insurance program should be sufficiently streamlined so that banks would be willing to participate in it.

Keune said it was important that preservation be accomplished without disrupting existing neighborhoods. For this reason he proposed a sliding scale interest rate based on the income of the borrower, and subsidies of closing costs when refinancing existing loans.

He called for an end to unfair practices, such as arbitrary undercalculation of the remaining economic life, in appraising old houses. He added that "sweat equity"--the borrower's labor in improving property--should be considered the equivalent of a cash investment when calculating loan amounts.

Keune praised the new FHA-insured Historic Preservation Loans, which provide up to \$15,000 per dwelling unit for the rehabilitation, restoration or preservation of historic buildings. That home improvement loan program began in late 1977.



The committee for SOHO's "Summer Affair" at the Long-Waterman mansion on Saturday, August 26, needs volunteers in the following categories:

ENTERTAINERS -

If you sing or play a portable instrument and enjoy semi-classical, light opera or show tunes, and would like to perform for VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE (our tour guests) please call Rae Berry at the SOHO answering service - 232-1997.

CATERING ASSISTANTS -

To assist with preparation of the refreshments, or able to make contributions of food supplies, please call Pat Skidmore at 276-1997.

GUESTS -

No experience necessary, to enjoy a tour and a social encounter with other SOHO members and guests at the Summer Affair, and to view the historic Long-Waterman mansion while the restoration is underway. Send ticket requests to SOHO, Box 3571, San Diego, CA 92103. Enclose a stamped envelope and indicate the time of day you wish to attend. For more information call 232-1997.



**MEMBERSHIP IN SOHO**

SOHO depends upon membership dues, contributions, and fund raising activities to support our restoration/preservation expenses. Members receive the monthly SOHO Newsletter and invitations to special events. Gift memberships are available and we will send the recipient a card in your name announcing the gift. Memberships and donations are tax deductible. Please join us!

**Membership categories:**

_____	Benefactor . . . . .	\$1,000
_____	Patron . . . . .	100
_____	Corporate . . . . .	50
_____	Professional . . . . .	25
_____	Family . . . . .	12
_____	Single . . . . .	8
_____	Donation Only . . . . .	_____

Your mailing label indicates the month and year in which you first became a member of SOHO. Your dues will be payable each year during the month shown on your label.

If a renewal is delinquent for more than three months your name will automatically be deleted from the mailing list.

If your newsletter is returned to us for lack of a forwarding address your name will also be deleted.

Please complete and return this membership form to:

Save Our Heritage Organisation  
 Post Office Box 3571  
 San Diego, California 92103

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (home) \_\_\_\_\_

(business) \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRED BY \_\_\_\_\_

ADD MY NAME TO YOUR VOLUNTEER

LIST \_\_\_\_\_ I PREFER THE FOLLOWING

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES \_\_\_\_\_

**TAX EXEMPT STATUS**  
 SOHO is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has been classified by the I.R.S. as a charitable, educational organization.



Box 3571, San Diego, 92103  
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