



THE S.O.H.O. NEWSLETTER

REFLECTIONS

VOL. XII NO.3

MARCH 1980

P.O. BOX 3571 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92103 (714)222-3148

ROWING CLUB IS SAVED!

CAROL'S CORNER

First I wish to thank all the members of the SOHO Board and of SOHO who so generously came to my aid after the fire I had in my home. Their caring and help are probably what got me through this difficult time. I love you all!

I am writing this on March 4, 1980 and today has been a monumental day in Historic Preservation. TODAY I signed the SOHO lease with the County of San Diego for SOHO's new office in the Senlis Cottage in Heritage Park. It has taken well over a year of efforts by Past President Pat Schaelchlin, and Past President Marc Tarasuck, and a team of hard working SOHO Boards and our attorney Chuck Hellerick to bring this about. We believe we have a very fair lease, and anticipate moving forward with restoration of the inside by the end of the month. Our contract goes before the Board of Supervisors on March 18. It is important that we pay special tribute to the Board of Supervisors who have helped us bring about this contract. I extend my special "Thank You" to all of you who have worked so hard to bring about a permanent office for SOHO.

Today was also an historic day in the history of the San Diego Rowing Club building which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A group composed of individuals and organizations which have been working toward a solution to saving the structure made its presentation before the Port Commission, and we were granted the needed time to formalize our plan to save the Club house. Attorney Bob Sjogren was the prime spokesman for the group, and

in his presentation stated that the Port Commission must recognize the historic significance of a structure which they own, and which must be addressed in their presentation before the Coastal Commission in their new Master Plan for the Port. Mr. Sjogren made it clear that we had all been trying to bring this matter before the Port since August when the Rowing Club went on the National Register.

Pat Schaelchlin, writer of the National Register documentation, made a presentation verifying the historic integrity of the building, and showing that the present damage by storms to the structure did not jeopardize restoration plans, as that part of the structure now collapsing is an addition which should be removed to bring it back to its original boat house configuration. Jerome Felcher of Burkett & Wong engineers stated that the structure can be restored, and that immediately we can prop it up and secure it to prevent further destruction and vandalism, while further plans are prepared for final restoration. Your President's presentation followed indicating that this structure is on Port land held in the public trust for all San Diegans by the Port Commission, and that the history of that land is also in trust to them, making it appropriate that the wishes of countless San Diegans could not be ignored who wanted to see the building saved.

The last presentation was by Denise Ferlich, from the San Diego Legal Clinic, who pointed out that the new Master Plan was in conflict with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act,


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NEWS BRIEFS


NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to all of you who survived our winds and floods to become SOHO's new March members. Remember - March reared in like a lion - a whippin' up the waters on the Bay. Happy blowy month to you!

Carol E. Turton
Med & Gay Beauregard
Charlotte L. Ryde
Viola C. Lueke
Miriam H. Davis
Pameia C. Springer
Lisa H. Fowler
Mary M. Kurtovich
Carol Sebastian



SOHO Newsletter REFLECTIONS



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The SOHO Newsletter is published monthly. Letters to the Editor are welcomed. Articles and/or photographs of interest to SOHO members and friends are most enthusiastically encouraged!



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

February was an eventful month all right! We started out beautifully with our smashingly successful General Meeting and Dinner on February 10th. Things went from good to bad, however, on February 15th when our president, Carol Lindemulder, suffered a terrible destructive fire at her home. She and her little dog, Rowena, are all right, but many irreplaceable pictures, books, files and art work were lost, plus extensive interior and roof damage, etc. The Saturday following many SOHO people were on hand to help clean, clear and cheer--notably Claire Kaplan, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Ford, Nettie Scarry, Bruce Kamerling, Nicholas Fintzelberg, Harry Evans, Joan & Jaimie Easley, Cathy Grigsby and others I am sure I have missed. We are all so sorry for this occurrence and send our sympathy and best wishes to Carol. Luckily, the SOHO files she had were in a metal file cabinet and were not burned! Let's hear it for filing cabinets! We hope March will be a little less traumatic.

Carole Frick, Editor

GIFTS OF LOVE

SOHO again would like to gratefully thank those of you who have made those wonderful, unsolicited donations! Our lease has been completed with the County on the Senlis Cottage in Heritage Park and funds are now extra-appreciated in helping to finish and furnish SOHO's long-awaited office! Those of you who would like to earmark funds for specific purchases and/or projects are encouraged to do so!

Thanks to you who have so graciously added to our funds to help SOHO's and San Diego's preservation effort. It is through caring people like you that we are able to survive, flourish and grow!

Mr. & Mrs. W. W. Henderson
Annette B. Stevenson
Mr. & Mrs. P. M. Klauber
Mary Vaughn
Mrs. Grace Klauber

HISTORIC RIVERSIDE TOUR REPEATED


To accommodate the many people who were unable to go on its February 2 bus tour to Historic Riverside, the La Mesa Historical Society will repeat this trip on Saturday, April 12.

The tour will again include visits to Heritage House (1891), a beautifully restored Queen Anne Victorian; the Mission Inn (1902-1931), famous as a resort hotel and cultural center since the turn of the century; and the Riverside Municipal Museum.

The tour of the Mission Inn will be preceded by a buffet luncheon served in the dining room.

The cost of the tour is \$18.00, which includes bus fare, lunch and tour fee at the Mission Inn, and a donation to Heritage House. Departure will be at 7:45 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m. Reservations are limited and should be received by March 29.

Please make your check payable to the La Mesa Historical Society and send it with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to LMHS TOUR, 8671 Tulare St., La Mesa, CA, 92041. For reservations and information call Dorothy Griner or Donna Regan at (714) 460-3726.



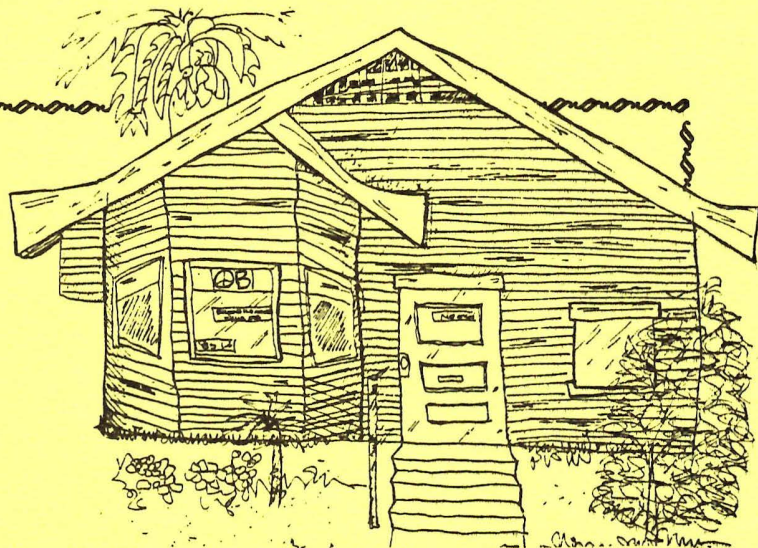
CONGRATULATIONS DUE

As the newest member of SOHO, I, Arthur Andrew Collier Frick, wish to congratulate my Mother and Father on a job well done.

My joining SOHO coincided with my arrival into this world, on Saturday February 23rd, and I was greeted happily at 5:12 a.m. by Mom, who, as Newsletter Editor, has given out this quote: "He's cute and he has all his parts."

Mom (Carole Collier Frick) says I weighed in at 6 lbs 15 ounces, and I guess I'll resemble Dad 'cause I'm 19 inches tall. Dad (Arthur Frick) also can be quoted as saying "He's already good in math." I can be quoted as saying "Congratulations to you both for getting me and a new SOHO member all at once." I can't wait to go to my first SOHO meeting!

RED HOUSE



The Red House, situated at the end of Cape May Avenue in Ocean Beach, is trying to survive. Built around the turn of the century, the old redwood frame house became a community gathering place in the 1960's. During these colorful years, it served as the first Hotline counselling service, a day-care site, and an underground newspaper. To this day it has retained its identity as a meeting place, providing a forum for such political and community groups as the O. B. Ecology Action Committee, the O. B. Food Co-op, the O. B. Crabs Anti-Nuclear Group and many others. But beyond that--the Red House has simply evolved into an Ocean Beach landmark--a low rent, creative and open environment seemingly on the cutting edge of society's changes. As such, it has provided the surrounding neighborhood with free concerts, political speakers, classes in crafts, and most important of all--a little bit of open space in one of San Diego's most densely populated beach communities.

The tenants of the Red House are fighting to retain its present character. If possible, they would like to obtain a long-term lease and explore the possibilities of developing it into a coffee house/cultural-center/housing cooperative. The landlords, on the other hand, have been trying to convert the Red House site to some multiple residential units--duplex, condominium, or other. This would result in alteration or destruction of the house. The actual nature of these units would depend on the conditions set by the Regional Coastal Commission. The outcome of the Red House site is being studied by the Regional Coastal Commission and the Ocean Beach Planning Board. Their decision may be affected by designating the Red House as a City Historic Site. So the tenants and other interested community members are organizing the Red House Survival Fund to finance the legal effort which has been spearheaded to save the aging structure.

Friday, March 7, 1980 at 9:00 a. m. on the 4th floor of the San Diego City Administration Building, the City Historic Sites Board held a public hearing to determine whether to designate the Red House as an historic site of the city. The outcome will be reported in the next issue. In addition, historical site status is sought on the national level before the National Registry of Historic Places. Success at either level would give more clout to those who are trying to save the house. For further information call Robert Burns, J. D., 223-0441.

--Kathy Cogen



PAST TO PRESENT IN POINT LOMA

DESIGNERS SHOWCASE

The publicity reads "Showcase Home boasts a Roman Tub".
And they should add "and a little bit more."

This ornate mansion located at 1203 Sunset Cliffs (and overlooking the blue Pacific) will be featured as the Designers Showcase 1980 by the San Diego Historical Society in conjunction with the American Society of Interior Designers.

Built in 1926 by John P. Mills, it has been designated as a Historic site. The exterior of the pink and cream stucco has remained unchanged for the past fifty years and reflects the California version of Italian Renaissance so popular in the 1920s.

It will undergo a major facelift, as interior designers from throughout San Diego renew, decorate and furnish the major living areas.

The two-story entrance hall, enhanced by a magnificent branching staircase, features a three-dimensional ceiling of leaded stained glass. Imported panelings grace the walls, exquisite fireplaces are found throughout, and the focal point of the master bath is a Roman tub deep enough to require a brass ladder. All this, and a little bit more!

The Designers Showcase will open with an invitational gala on April 11th. The week of April 12-18 will be reserved for group tours. The mansion will be open to the public from April 19th to May 11th. Admission will be \$5.00. Funds raised will be used to further the preservation projects of the San Diego Historical Society.

--Claire Kaplan



The Story of **RAMONA**

LOVE IN THE SPRINGTIME!

Enjoy the famous Ramona Pageant in the spectacular outdoor theatre in Hemet: Sunday, May 4.

For over fifty years, the city of Hemet has produced a colorful dramatization of Helen Hunt Jackson's famous novel, Ramona, in a beautiful outdoor amphitheatre. The love story of Ramona and Allesandro is woven into the history of late nineteenth-century California, illustrating the change from Mexican to American government and life-style, and the tragic consequences for the California Indians.

The pageant has, literally, a cast of hundreds, and includes colorful and exciting scenes of fiestas, dancing, and horseback riding.

This year, SOHO has reserved a block of tickets, and chartered a bus to take us to the Pageant, Sunday, May 4.

We have a limited number of tickets, so please send your reservation in early.

Cost of this program: \$18.00 per person. (This includes your \$7.00 reserved seat, and transportation to and from the Pageant via Grayline chartered highway coach, with air-conditioning and restroom.)

Make checks payable to: SOHO (Save Our Heritage Organisation)

Send to: Clare Crane

5950 Avenida Chamnez

La Jolla, CA 92037 (454-5950)

Reservation deadline: April 9



Schedule arrangements:

Sunday, May 4, 1980

9:45 a.m.: pickup in parking lot behind Organ Pavilion, Balboa Park

10:00 a.m.: pickup at La Jolla Village Inn, lower parking lot, at Mobil Station. (Near intersection of I-5 & La Jolla Village Dr.)

10-2:00 p.m.: drive through beautiful backcountry to Hemet, with stop for picnic lunch on the way (bring your own lunch).

2-5 p.m.: enjoy the Pageant

Return to San Diego 7:30 or 8:00 p.m.

Suggestions: Bring with you: sun-hat; sweater; cushion; picnic lunch. Read Helen Hunt Jackson's Ramona beforehand.

FROM THE BOARD ROOM

The SOHO Board heard updates on several SOHO Projects, including our Senlis Cottage. We should sign our lease with the County by the first week in March and work will begin almost immediately after that. SOHO has announced our Historic Resources Tour, a public service event to be held during National Preservation Week in May, and members of local government, planning departments, and other preservation, education, and tourism groups will be invited to participate. Jan Kitchel will be Tour Chairman. Harry Evans will investigate an historic Redlands tour for the Fall. To date, SOHO still needs a Train Tour Chairman.

SOHO Board members are looking for a Ways and Means Chairman. The Board will look into doing another night at the Lyceum Theater to stimulate all efforts to keep the Theater going, as the fate of the Lyceum and Grand Horton may still be saved from demolition. These structures will soon be considered for listing on the National Register. SOHO continues its efforts to help save the Rowing Club structure (see Carol's Corner).



From left to right, County Supervisor Jim Bates, President Carol Lindemulder, former president Marc Tarasuck



City Councilman Bill Mitchell addresses General Meeting.

GENERAL MEETING RECAP

Sunday, February 10th, SOHO held a General Meeting and Dinner at Paul Thoryk's Soledad Franco restaurant, the former steam laundry which had been the center of a stormy debate, and is also an excellent example of urban adaptive reuse at its best.

President Carol Lindemulder made the definitive "State of Preservation in San Diego" speech in which she outlined, among other things, a historic resources tour in May to be given by SOHO to local officials and agencies to bring up the level of awareness concerning preservation and its concepts.

As quoted in the Monday, Feb. 11th issue of the San Diego Union, Carol said, "We must find a way to stop meeting in a court of law every time a historic building is threatened. . . . We must find a way to stop meeting over demolition permits. We must find a way to start talking and communicating with each other."

County Supervisor Jim Bates and City Councilman Bill Mitchell also addressed the meeting, adding their support to preservation in the community.

The Dinner which followed was by everyone's consensus sensational. We recommend Soledad Franco as a gustatory and visual treat to all our members!

from page one

Letters to the Editor

An anonymous note from a new member re: Newsletter, in the interest of improvement of preservation communication locally--The newsletter needs more "MEAT" more specifics, more NEWS about specific buildings, specific zoning hearings, specific renovators. (I saw a newsletter of "Gaslamp Volunteers" recently and it was meaty and excellent -- made one feel involved and informed.) Reduce the membership space and the half page for mailing address, on back page. We need a calendar of hearings, related meetings, etc. Thanks for listening.

Ed. We agree totally with this view expressed. In future issues these suggestions will be well considered. It has always been our attempt to present our membership with current information. Our attempts are only hampered by lack of membership support. Any member who would like to work with me on the Newsletter, call 280-6712. I'm always here!

My husband and I are not renewing our membership as we expect to sell our home and move from the area. We will miss SOHO. It has been a pleasure to be members. Good wishes for your continued work. With regards,

Virginia and Ralph Jones

as the historic section of the submitted EIR did not list that the structure existed and was listed on the National Register. Our Proposal included the fact that all parties wish only to restore the structure to be used as a public facility for the community, and would be the only one existing on the waterfront in San Diego Bay. Mr. Hamilton Marston also appeared and spoke as an interested citizen stating that he sees San Diego Bay eventually as one of the great Ports of the world, because of our proximity to Mexico and international trade. The Port Commission, after hearing our presentation, voted to give our group thirty days to put together a private group to receive funds and take responsibility, and to come forward with first phase funds. Congratulations are due to all who have brought this moment about.

Any SOHO members who wish to make a donation toward the restoration of the San Diego Rowing Club may do so by sending it to SOHO marked SOHO-SDRC. We will need many donations to cover the cost of this major restoration. For further information you may call me at 295-6188.

Carol



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please complete and return this membership form to:
Save Our Heritage Organisation
Post Office Box 3571
San Diego, California 92103

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 \$15.
- Single \$10.
- Donation \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

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.



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