



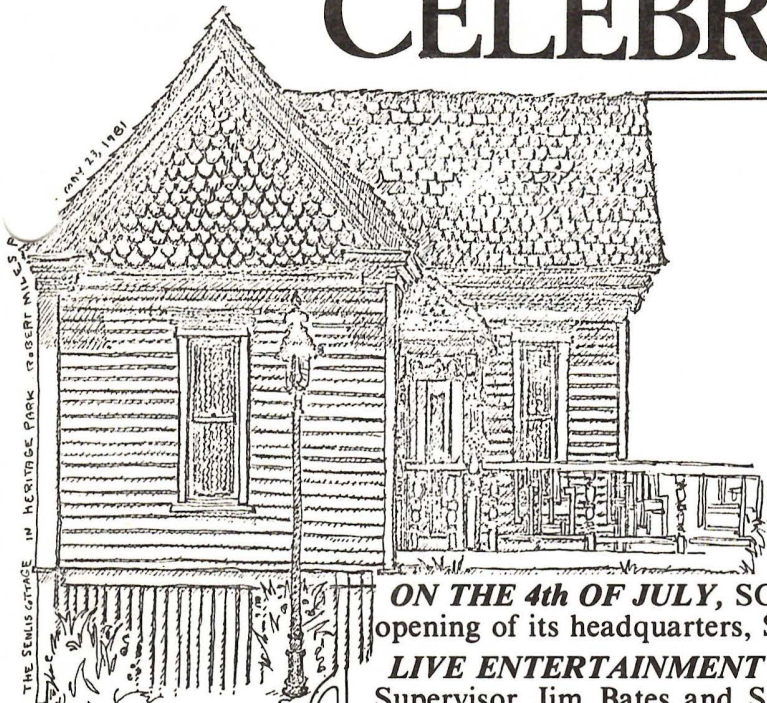
THE S.O.H.O. NEWSLETTER

REFLECTIONS

VOL. XIII NO. 6 JUNE 1981

P.O. BOX 3571 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92103

SENLIS COTTAGE & 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION



THE SENLIS COTTAGE IN HERITAGE PARK © ROBERT MILES PARKER

ON THE 4th OF JULY, SOHO will be celebrating in Heritage Park the grand opening of its headquarters, Senlis Cottage.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT will be provided by the *City Guard Band*. County Supervisor Jim Bates and SOHO President, Carol Lindemulder, will dedicate Senlis Cottage with a champagne christening. There will also be a special auction with - a pen and ink drawing by SOHO founder Robert Miles Parker, a color photograph of Heritage Park by Stephen McCarroll, dinner for two at the Spaghetti Factory, items from the Glass Gallery, Hunters Bookstore, Southern Wholesale Florists, and much more.

Everyone is welcome to bring their picnic lunches and enjoy the celebration that will begin at 1:00 p.m. A beer and wine garden, popcorn, ice cream, peanuts, and balloons will be available. Non-alcoholic beverages will also be available.

A **miniature display** of two local historic sites, The Quatermass-Wilde House and the Santa Ysabel Witch Creek School will be available to view from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. (See story inside newsletter.)

This will be SOHO's grandest celebration yet, so bring your family and friends for a good old-fashioned 4th of July! For further information, call Michael Sullivan 282-5001 or Carole Frick at 283-0686.

NEW MEMBERS

Goyko G. Kuburovich
Joan Marie McCrea
Susan Warambrodt
Maureen O'Donnell
David Freeman
Arthur Rosenstein
Gloria Rosenstein
Elsie V. Spangler
Fred Armer
Jean Armer

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!

JUNE CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 2
1:30 p.m.

Historical Site Board
4th Floor Conference Room
City Administration Building

Tuesday, June 2
2:00 p.m.

Port Commission
3165 Pacific Highway

Tuesday, June 2
7:30 p.m.

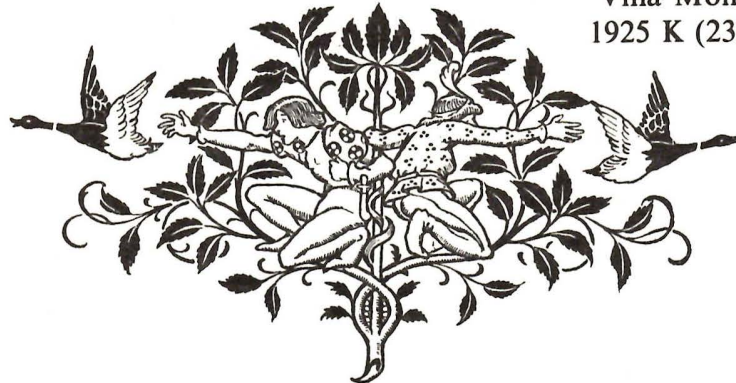
SOHO Board Meeting
Michael Sullivan, 2247 Boundary Street
Call 282-5001 for more information

Monday, June 8
7:30 p.m.

Uptown Planners
Central Federal Savings
610 Washington (296-2577)

Tuesday, June 16
Noon

San Diego Historical Society
Villa Montezuma
1925 K (239-2211)



FROM THE BOARD ROOM

On May 7, 1981, the following events were reported at the Board of Directors meeting:

Bruce Herms announced that the *EVITA* tour will be on July 25. Forty (40) seats have been reserved. Prices charged to members are to be \$30, to non-members, \$35. The tour is from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and includes a complete bus trip to the Shubert Theater in Los Angeles, a visit to the famous Doheny House in the Adams District, and a stop for lunch at Lawrey's Restaurant (as in Lawrey's Seasoning Salt). The price does include tickets to the play, but not the lunch.

Carol Lindemulder explained that the Rowing Club got a stay of execution, that is, the decision process is being given more time. The next meeting is now scheduled for June 2 at the Port Commission Building, also known as "The Rock". SOHO members are needed to attend and to voice their support of the Chart House's proposed restoration of the old Rowing Clubhouse.

Michael Sullivan, *Carole Frick*, and *Claire Kaplan* are planning the 4th of July celebration at Heritage Park. This will be the grand opening of the Senlis Cottage. There will be a brass band, a raffle, an old fashioned popcorn machine, ice cream, and celebrities at the celebration. (See cover story.)

Miniature Victorians At Heritage Park On July 4th

By Eleanor Ratner Bolen

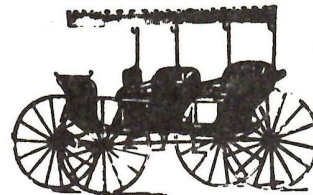
Two San Diego County Victorian structures can be seen in miniature at Heritage Park when SOHO celebrates Independence Day. This display will be open from 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday, July 4 only.

The models include a 4 x 4 x 8 foot reproduction of the Quartermass-Wilde House (1896) at 24th and Broadway, San Diego, and a 4 foot square miniature of the Santa Ysabel Witch Creek School (circa 1880's and now a library) in Julian. The miniatures, which are done in 1/12th scale (where 1 foot equals 1 inch) are the work of Barbara Smith of Chula Vista, an active member of the Chula Vista Miniature Club.

The models are a mode of historical preservation, documenting details subject to change or loss. Close attention has been paid to authenticity. The carpenter who built the Witch Creek School model for Smith actually counted the number of boards in the floor and the number of stair steps. Smith extensively photographed architectural features throughout the Quartermass-Wilde House and had students from a Grossmont High School architecture class make working drawings for her.

Built by department store owner Reuben Quartermass, the Quartermass-Wilde House was one of the first very large homes in the Golden Hill area of San Diego. This 8800 square foot Victorian residence then had a sweeping view of San Diego from the crest of a hill. The house was later bought by San Diego Mayor Louis J. Wilde (mayor 1917-21), who helped complete the U.S. Grant Hotel, donated the Irving Gill designed fountain in Horton Plaza, named Broadway (originally D Street), organized several banks, and ran a newspaper.

According to Smith, the tower on the house was originally pointed, but Wilde replaced the dome with one modeled after the Horton Plaza fountain. He also had several light fixtures made to the same design. The house features beautiful wood paneling, trim and doors, turned balusters and newel posts, and stained art glass. Details reveal a strong Classical Revival influence.



Smith explains that her love affair with the Quartermass-Wilde House is of long standing. "When I came to San Diego in 1945, my daughter and I used to ride down the hill on a trolley past the house. My daughter always used to ask, 'Mommy, when are we going to buy this house?'" Later, Smith's daughter took accordion lessons in the house.

When Kathy Breese (Whiting) had the Phoenix Institute in the building, Smith would attend classes there three to four times per week. "I really got to know the inside and every pane of glass," said Smith.

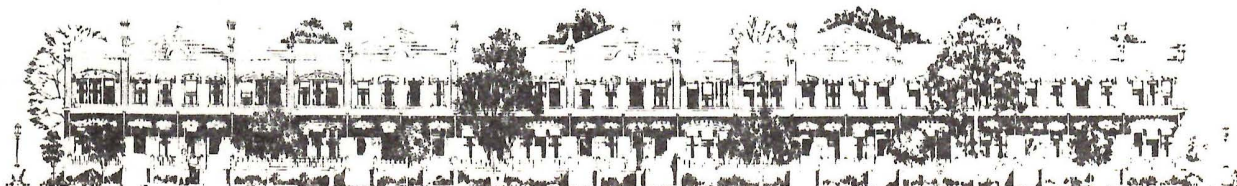
Work on the Quartermass-Wilde House reproduction actually began eight years ago when Smith began gathering the blueprints. A carpenter took 2 1/2 years to build the house. Then Smith had to wait almost seven years to find an electrician to wire the house. In the meanwhile, she spent years collecting one-inch-scale period furnishings, including doilies, quilts, dishes, toys, food, and even a pair of false teeth.

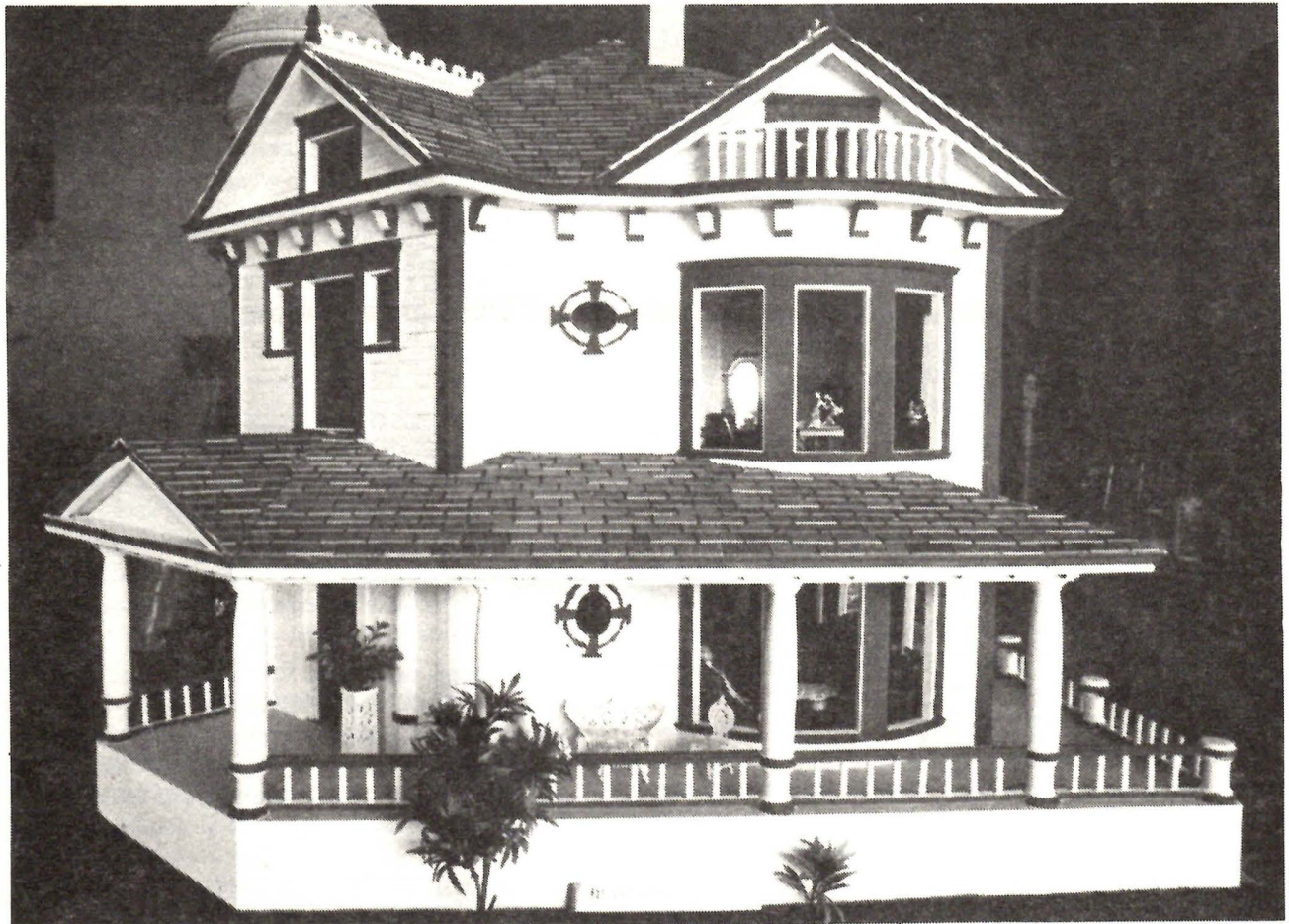
Electrifying the house was beyond the scope of most miniature shops. She finally recruited Al Carrato of Mini-Electrifier. Generally, Carrato's company manufactures parts, then the retail shop sends out an electrician. However, Carrato was intrigued by Smith's replica and spent hours working on the wiring. Now she has bulbs that light, but no fixtures.

The house is now owned by the law firm of Milton J. Silverman, et al. Smith has had problems in completing the metal work for the house because she needs Eastlake Period metal fixtures. The Eastlake Period calls for straight metal for the lamp fixtures, the shower stall, and the dome on the tower. She is looking for a metalsmith.

There are many questions about the house which still require answers. For instance, several parts of the house are obviously additions. When were the additions made, and were they made by Wilde or by the original owner? How was the house furnished? Smith says she would like to contact Wilde's daughter to answer these riddles.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE





In 1968, the real Witch Creek School came very close to destruction. According to an April 25, 1968 article in the San Diego Union, Mrs. Hans Starr, the school's owner, threatened to burn the then crumbling structure unless it were moved within six months.

The Julian Historical Society came to the rescue moving the school to county-owned property just above the Julian Museum.

The school served the ranching community surrounding Witch Creek in Santa Ysabel and is considered an ideal example of a gingerbread-covered, one-room schoolhouse.

In researching the school furnishings, Smith recorded living history tapes of the people who had attended the school, including the Sawday family, the first owners.

As a school teacher, Smith was intrigued by the idea of having her own one-room schoolhouse. According to Smith, the Witch Creek School is one of two existing one-room country schools in San Diego County. (The other is the Spencer Valley School outside Julian. She does not count the Mason Street School in Old Town San Diego.) In researching the school furnishings, Smith recorded living history tapes of the people who had attended the school, including the Sawday family, the first owners.





ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTERS from the National Trust for Historic Preservation commemorating National Historic Preservation Week are still available to order by mail. The theme of the poster is "Conservation: Keeping America's Neighborhoods Together". Posters are 25 posters at \$4.00, 50 posters at \$6.50, 100 posters at \$9.50, and 200 posters at \$18.00. Send your name, address, and day time telephone number, and remittance to: Preservation Week Poster, Room 219, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

THE VILLA MONTEZUMA will host a series of free Sunday afternoon concerts and poetry readings scheduled to run through December, 1981 in the Music Room of this restored Victorian house museum at 1925 K Street. The concert series, sponsored by the Music Performance Trust Fund and the San Diego Historical Society, will be offered the first Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. Poets will offer dramatic presentations of their works the second Sunday of each month from 2 to 3 p.m. Arthur Frick (husband of SOHO Secretary Carole Frick) is scheduled to read on June 14. For further information, call 239-2211.

SAN DIEGO'S 212th BIRTHDAY will be celebrated on Saturday, July 11 in the new Museum of San Diego History in Balboa Park. For reservations and information, call the San Diego Historical Society, 297-3258.

THE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY will feature an exhibit of materials and methods used in the fabrication of an important part of our built environment--the granite, marble, and sandstone buildings taken out of the earth to create our cities. The public is invited to view this exhibit on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons. Group tours are scheduled by arrangement. For further information write 2090 Jackson Street, San Francisco, 94109, or call (415) 567-1848.

RESTORATION COURSES

The Interior Designers Guild of San Diego is offering summer school courses, two of which may be of interest to SOHO members. The first, titled **HISTORIC RESTORATION** will be from June 15 to June 26, 9:00 - 12:00, Monday through Friday.

The purpose of the course is to introduce the students to historic preservation from the initial procedures of researching the origins of a building through the completed project. The instructor will be Dolores Richter, PH.D.

The second course of interest is titled, **RE-HAB & RENOVATION**. It will be from September 8 to September 18, 9:00 to 12:00, Monday through Friday. This will be a class on the study of the codes for structural alterations necessary in refurbishing older buildings. The instructor will be Al Forster, Building Designer.

For registration and further information, call 566-1200.

LIBRARY NEWS

By Karen Sharpe
SOHO Librarian

If you are planning to become involved in restoring or rehabilitating an older home, or if you want to become more knowledgeable about preservation and restoration, please stop by the SOHO office and browse through the collection of books and journals. Two new books of interest are described below.

Thinking about buying an old house? Going to do the repair work yourself? Planning to hire a general contractor? **THIS OLD HOUSE** by Bob Vila (book paralleling the PBS series of the same title) provides a step-by-step explanation of how to rehabilitate an older home. Checklists are provided for the weekly tasks that need to be done from assessing the condition of the structure (week 1) to placing the final touches on before moving in (week 13). The book contains many photographs of the various tasks involved and explanations of how these tasks were performed by the workers involved. An index and bibliography are also included.

REHAB RIGHT (by the City of Oakland, Planning Department) is a handbook for rehabilitation to help preserve the architectural integrity of older homes. It concerns itself with various residential architectural styles in the Oakland area, however, the explanations and guidelines can be applied to homes in many different cities. The book also addresses how much money should be spent on rehabilitating a home; permits that are required and codes that must be met; interior and exterior repair problems; and additional resources to contact for help and information. There are many detailed drawings and diagrams, as well as a bibliography.

Please contact Karen Sharpe if you have any suggestions or questions concerning the SOHO library.

Editor's Note: Reflections reported Karen Sharpe's name as Karen Shapiro in the May issue. Please note the correction.



SOHO WISHES TO THANK CHANNEL 10 FOR THEIR SERIES ON PRESERVATION IN SAN DIEGO DURING NATIONAL PRESERVATION WEEK.

UPTOWN-MIDDLETOWN TOUR SUCCESS

By Jan Kitchel

The Uptown-Middletown Tour was a fantastic success! The brilliant sunny day and a large story in the paper pulled in over 375 people--almost twice the amount that we had planned for. A lot of last-minute scrambling was done by our nimble volunteers so that no one was turned away. Bruce Herms actually led two tours--one in the morning and one in the afternoon! Without volunteers SOHO could not exist. A great big heartfelt thank you to all!

We would like to thank the following for making the Uptown-Middletown Tour possible: PARKER INDUSTRIES, (Long-Waterman House); ETHEL SIEGELMAN, (Siegelman Office); ROBERT MILES PARKER, (Mumford-Parker House); TED KRAUS, (Sherman-Doig House); and GARY ELSTER (Sherman-Judson House).

Also, Claire Kaplan (House Chairperson); Jan Kitchel (Tour Chairperson); Bruce Herms, Bruce Kamerling, Nancy Roberts, Michael Sullivan, and Mary Joralmon, (Research).

Tour Guides were: Susan Bernard, Dian Joralmon, Ron Buckley, Mary Joralmon, Cathy Grigsby, Nancy Roberts, Michael Sullivan, Jan Kitchel, Barry Worthington, Carole Frick, Joe Jones, Bruce Herms, Gary Thomas, and Cristina Faulkner.

House Guides were: Carol Lindemulder, Pat Skidmore, Ted Foley, Mary Dell Worthington, Marc Tarasuch, and Ted Kraus.

Hostesses were: Ellen Smothers, Natalie Mates, Hazel Risher, Barbara Hallen, Carolyn Turner, Linda Parker, Jean Kearney, Dorothy Cleary, Sunny Tarasuck, Betty Elwell, Ramola McKenney, Ann Breslauer, Martie Atwell Richards, Derdra Smothers, Alice Crittenden, Helen Hickethere, Louise Borchert, Betty Smith, Mary Van Epps, Susan Briggs, Mary Sanders, Millie Murphy, Carol Corolla, Karen Sharpe, Kristin Aliotto, Marilyn Crehore, Robbins Crehore, Carol Sebastian, Dorothy Haggard, Eileen Cross, Sheila Mehigan, Jerilyn Jones, Delores Barker, Arlene Watters, Phyllis Blum, Mary Rozell, Linda Pierce, Morrison Keefe, and Pat Skidmore.



DONATIONS



Mary Vaughn
Tom and Maryann Wheeler
Michael A. Lovett

NEWS BRIEFS

■ At the June 2 Historic Site Board meeting, SOHO will present a request for saving the following Chinatown buildings: *The Plants and Fireproofing Building (440-446 Third Avenue), The Ying-On Merchants and Labor Building (502 Third Avenue), the Chinese Benevolent Society Building (438 Third Avenue), and the Stingaree Bordello (303-23 Island).* The basis of information used for saving these buildings is from the 1980 Charles Hall Report done for CCDC.

■ Pat Schaechlin and Mark Tarasuck are requesting the designation of the *Sebastian-Klicka Building (3611-17 Park Boulevard)* as a historic site. Mr. Klicka was a local architect noted for his prefab housing circa 1930.

■ Dr. Ray Brandes has completed the Middle and Uptown/Center City surveys.

■ An awards luncheon is being planned by the Historic Site Board where citywide preservation efforts will be honored. SOHO members may obtain tickets for this event by calling the City Planning Department at 236-5749 after June 8.

■ The Marks Historical Rehabilitation Financing Program is presently being considered in San Diego. This is based on legislation by State Senator Marks. There is precedence for this type of financing program for restoring historical structures in Pasadena.

■ The Planning Commission approved and recommended to the City Council the adoption of the Golden Hill Planned District Ordinance and the Associated Design Manual. The Planning Department staff plans to present this to the City Council in 4 to 6 weeks.

■ Golden Hill has just announced its Inner City Self Help Project at 2803 B Street, 234-9698. In this project, tools and instructions for using them are to be made available to the community for the rehabilitation of housing.



Workshop Held For Office Staff

On Saturday, April 25, *Alice Rowe* sponsored a workshop in her lovely Mission Hills home. The workshop, organized by *Claire Kaplan* was attended by the office staff of SOHO's Senlis Cottage in Heritage Park.

Among the guests were: *Betty Smith, Ellen Smothers, Louise Borchert, May Joralmon, Alice Crittendon, Kathy Cogen, Netty Scarry, Mary Sanders, Barbara Hallen, Mary Van Epps, Mary Lou Dyke, Thomas Dyke, Claire Kaplan, and Alice Rowe.*

In addition to reviewing procedure at the Senlis Cottage, participants offered suggestions on training new staff, coordinating volunteers, and perfecting the public relations functions that the office volunteers provide.



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!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Add my name to your Volunteer List _____
I prefer the following types of activities: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Benefactor \$1,000.
- Patron \$100.
- Corporate \$50.
- Professional \$25.
- Family \$15.
- Single \$10.
- Donation \$ _____

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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