

Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society

Founded 1974



Newsletter

Spring 2007

www.SantaAnaHistory.com

Historic Santa Ana House Saved and Will Relocate to Cabrillo Park

It looks like one of Santa Ana's grand dames will be getting a new home soon. According to the current plan, the 1914 Tudor Revival Twist Basler House will snake its way across Santa Ana to a new home sometime in Spring. Currently, the home sits on the property slated for construction of One Broadway Plaza. Its new home will be in Cabrillo Park, and the City Parks, Recreation, and Community Service Department plans to restore it and use it to house fitness and nutrition workshops when the work is completed.

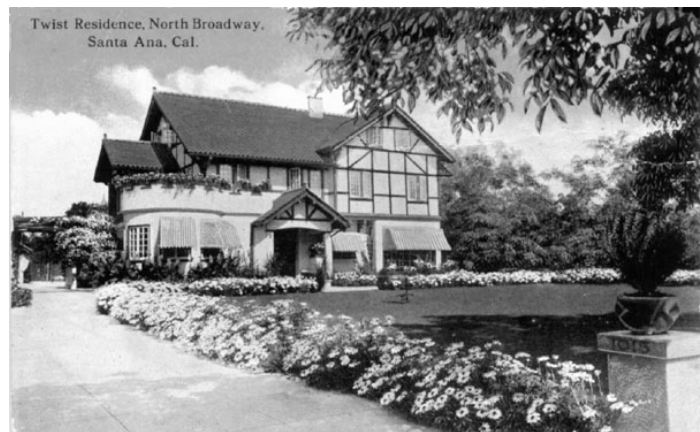
Development plans called for the demolition of the house, but thanks to objections of local preservationists, including the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society and the Citizens for Responsible Planning, a Development Agreement for the project required the developer to pay the costs of moving the house to Cabrillo Park, placing it on a new foundation, and installing utilities. According to the Development Agreement, Arts and Culture fees from the One Broadway Plaza office building project are to be used for the rehabilitation of the house. The City has also applied for a California Cultural and Historical Endowment grant for additional restoration funds.

The house was built in 1914 by the Twist family. In 1919 Mr. Twist sold the house to Dr. Jesse Burlew, a prominent early Santa Ana doctor. Dr. Burlew is possibly most well known for being the doctor who diagnosed leprosy in Wong Who Yee, which rapidly led to the burning of Santa Ana's Chinatown.

Another claim to fame for the house is the fact that it was featured in a movie in 1920. That movie was called "The Snob" and the house was featured as the home of "The Snob" a young girl, who was raised to look down on everyone without the right pedigree. Director Sam Wood was married to a Santa Ana girl, which is likely the reason that the Twist House, by then the Burlew House, was "discovered."

In later years the house became the home of the Basler Convalescent Hospital, thus the name "Twist Basler House." The Basler Home was in business from the 1940s to the 1980s.

The Society is pleased that this house, which is on the Santa Ana historic register, will be saved and restored for future generations to enjoy it. It is unknown when restoration will be completed, but we are looking forward to the Grand Opening at that time!



Photograph of Twist Basler House in earlier years, as it was seen before additions were made.

Special Annual Dinner Issue with article on page 3 and more photos on page 8.

From the President

By now you are probably aware of our recent vote on a number of changes to the SAHPS by-laws, all of which passed. Some of you may be wondering what these changes are about.

One of the major factors in proposing these modifications is the small number of “working” Society and Board members. The reality facing most non-profit, all-volunteer organizations is that volunteers are at a premium.

In order to adjust to this reality, many of the by-laws changes are designed give us more flexibility, to better operate as a “lean and mean” streamlined organization. For example, creating the role of Associate Director allows volunteers who may not have the time to serve as a full-time Board member to conduct business on behalf of the Board. Allowing the Annual Member Meeting to be held at any time of the year give us flexibility to plan the event when we may have additional resources or venues available.

Another important goal in the proposed changes is to give our members the opportunity to have a greater voice in decision making. Changing to a mail-in ballot for the annual Board Member election allows Society members who may not attend the Annual Member Meeting a chance to vote.

We hope you agree that these modifications help us to streamline the organization.

Alison Young

Time to Renew?

Please look at your mailing label! If it does not say “Member 2007” it is time for you to renew! Use the form on page 9 to renew your membership today! Without your membership, our historic activities, including the preservation and maintenance of the Dr. Howe-Waffle House and Medical Museum, our education programs, and more, would not be possible.

If you can, please help with an additional donation beyond membership. Every penny goes toward our educational and preservation activities.



*A Legacy of Preservation since 1974.
The Dr. Willella Howe-Waffle House,
Medical Museum, and Carriage Barn.
Built 1889. Saved from demolition 1974.*

Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society 2007 Board of Directors

President	Alison Young
Vice President	Tim Rush
Treasurer	Guy Ball
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Wayne Curl	Benjamin Grabiell
Ginelle Hardy	Jim Marquez
Jared Solano	

Nathan Reed	Salvage Operations
Lynn Yerby	Docent & Open House Coordinator

Newsletter Editor: Roberta Reed

*Cover House illustration by Ann Berkery
Special thanks to contributors Guy Ball, Jared
Solano, Alison Young, and Ginelle Hardy.*

To contact the newsletter editor directly, please call
Roberta Reed at (714) 953-1876
or email robertareed@sahps.org.

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Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, 120 Civic
Center Drive West, Santa Ana, California 92701-7505.
Our house phone and message line is (714) 547-9645.

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society's newsletter is produced by the Society for its members and other friends. We are proud to say that the Society is an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit organization with no paid staff members. All donations and memberships go directly to our education and preservation projects.

Annual Member Meeting Held March 20th

The Annual Dinner and Business Meeting for the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society was held on Tuesday, March 20th. For the second year in a row, the dinner was held at the historic Santa Ana Ebell Club, and featured a buffet catered by Karen Estremo's Extreme Catering.

This year's guest speaker was theatre designer **Joe Musil**, presenting "Silver Screen, Seashells, and Stage Shows," highlighting some of the most historically and architecturally significant theatres from 1910-1948. In those days theatre companies competed with each other to construct impressive palaces to showcase their productions. Going to the theatre was a memorable event where people dressed for the occasion and it truly was a special night out on the town. And Santa Ana was no exception. All present were both educated and entertained by Joe's presentation.

Also that evening, several people were given special recognition. **Don Krotee**, well known and distinguished Santa Ana architect, received our annual preservation award for his efforts to preserve and incorporate significant historic and architectural elements in numerous buildings; beloved local historian **Jim Sleeper** received a lifetime achievement award; and City Manager **David Ream** received an award of recognition and appreciation for his 30 years of service to the city and his contributions to neighborhood and historic preservation.



Don Krotee



David Ream

We gave a special lifetime membership award to long-time member and early SAHPS leader, **Royal Spurrier**. Royal was one of the key people who worked with Adeline Walker to help restore



Paul Cook-Giles (MC)

Jim Sleeper

and reopen the Howe-Waffle House. He was on the board for many years serving in different officer positions. We can't thank him enough for his early leadership and by unanimous consent, the board voted to present Royal with a Lifetime Membership Award. (To date, only a few other people have that honor – Diann Marsh, Connie Becker, Tim Graber, and John Coil.)



Royal Spurrier

We also recognized outgoing long-time board member Ed Cote who has been with us and supported us for so many years. We will miss his help, his ideas, and his wit. Angela Mauro also left the board this year and we will miss her assistance and fresh ideas.

Over 100 members and friends attended the dinner catching up on the news with old friends, and meeting new friends. We had a number of people who had never attended a Society function before. One or two even joined up afterwards.

The Society would like to especially recognize **Catherine and Steve Cate** for their efforts in putting together this dinner for us. Catherine's planning skills and efforts to organize an elegant and memorable event, as well as Steve's support of that and his efforts with the various donations and advertisements, once again helped to make this meeting one of our best.

If you were unable to attend, you missed a very special event.

More dinner photos on Page 8.

SANTA ANA HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

"A Legacy of Preservation Since 1974"



IS THE DR. HOWE-WAFFLE HOUSE ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST AGAIN?

Major conservation is needed now:

◆ exterior painting \$25,000. ◆ new roof \$20,000. ◆ interior painting \$10,000.



Recent photos of the Dr. Howe-Waffle House. Help us to protect this Victorian gem!

JOIN OUR PRESERVATION TEAM WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

Become a member or renew your membership, and make an additional contribution to our Legacy Conservation Fund now. Your donation is tax deductible. Make checks payable to SAHPS.

We've been at the forefront of local preservation for over 30 years – win or lose.

Dr. Howe-Waffle House
SAVED 1974 & 1994

Spurgeon Clock Tower
SAVED 1994

Seimsen Building
LOST 1998

Central Auto Body
LOST 2002

Yale Apartments
LOST 2006

Koenig House
SAVED 2006

Twist Basler Home
SAVED 2006

Is the Dr. Howe-Waffle House on the Endangered Species List Again???

While the Society keeps up with all the standard and heavy-duty maintenance work on the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, certain long-term major work is needed that is over and above our normal budget. Grants for such projects are scarce and hard to come by. We need your help and encourage you to join our **preservation team** with a contribution today!

The Society's **Legacy Conservation Fund** campaign was kicked off at the annual dinner in March. To date, over \$1500 has been raised from generous members. In addition, the Society has committed at least \$10,000 from our reserves to help with expenses.

Funds are needed for the following:

- Exterior Painting –\$25,000 (last done 10+ years ago)
- New Roof – \$20,000 (last done in the 1970s)
- Interior Painting – \$10,000

Before we start the painting, we are also looking at rebuilding the front Sycamore stairs and repairing some other deteriorating trim areas as well.

Please consider making a contribution to our Dr. Howe-Waffle House Legacy Conservation Campaign fund. No amount is too small (or too large).

We think you agree that some things are worth saving. We've saved the Dr. Howe-Waffle House twice from forces that wanted to tear it down. Now we need your help to repaint and re-roof. Help us keep it standing proud and protected from the elements.

Please write "Legacy Fund" on the memo line of your check. Donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for caring!

Major Donors So Far:

Gordon & Maureen Bricken -- \$1,000

Evalene Pulati – \$300

Royal and Madelene Spurrier – \$100

Angel Barnes – \$100

Now Available!

Our historical society enameled lapel pin.



This colorful and custom-designed enameled Cloisonné pin was created just for us. They are now available for just \$5 plus \$2 for tax and shipping. You have a choice of tie-tac or safety pin style backs. See our order form in this issue for ordering information.

Call for Vintage Photos

After our two successful books (*Vintage Postcards* and *Early Santa Ana*), SAHPS is in discussions with Arcadia Publishing regarding a few new books in the Santa Ana series.

If you have Santa Ana photos dating from about the 1940s to the 1980s, or photos of any date with the Santa Ana Fire Department as the subject, and would be willing to let us borrow them and scan them for possible publication in one of these books, please contact Roberta Reed at (714)953-1876 or email at nkandra_reed@earthlink.net.

We will continue to inform you of any developments regarding this project.

A Fond Farewell to the Old, and In With the New

The annual dinner in March also marked the time when we elected new board members and said good bye to old ones.

Jared Solano, who has recently returned to the area after living some time in northern California, was elected as a new board member. Even prior to joining the board, Jared was involved in the Society by helping with the Cemetery Tour, Christmas Open House decorating, and other activities. He has also been helping with

photography and a much needed inventory of the contents of the Dr. Howe-Waffle House.

Board members Angela Mauro and Ed Coté stepped down this year after serving our board. Angela, a one year board member, stepped down to spend more time on her studies, and Ed, who was on the board for over 10 years, is spending some much needed time with his family. Both, however, are willing to help by filling in when they can.

Welcome Jared, and thanks and best wishes to Ed and Angela!

Still Seeking Salvage Volunteers

SAHPS is still involved in salvage, and we still need you! We will probably be having a salvage sale in May, followed by another salvage event soon after. We are always looking for volunteers to help. Also, remember you don't need to wait for a sale to make a purchase!

If you are interested in helping with salvage (we would LOVE to have you take part) or need salvage material, please contact Nathan Reed at (714)953-1876 or nkandra_reed@earthlink.net.

As always, salvage workers get to choose an item to take free as a thank you for their help! And please be aware, we really do appreciate everyone who helps us in this endeavor!

By-Law Changes Approved

If you are a member of the Society, you should have received a copy of our proposed by-law changes and a ballot to vote on this matter. Ballots were due by the annual dinner, and the results were announced at that time. All proposed ballot measures passed.

For those who are not members and did not receive the ballot, briefly, the following changes were made to our by-laws:

- Our by-laws had provided for two vice presidents and a recording secretary and corresponding secretary. Recently, we have not been able to fill all positions. The by-laws were changed to clarify that this allows for *up to* two Vice Presidents and two Secretaries.

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- The by-laws were changed to allow for an annual election, but not necessarily at an annual meeting. Not all of our members are able to attend the annual meeting, and we would like to make it more flexible for all of our members to have a say in our elections. Many similar organizations allow for a mail in vote.
- The definition of excused absence and reasons for removal from the board have been clarified.
- Associate Board Member status (non voting position) has been created.
- Flexibility regarding the time of the annual meeting, and allowance for elections to be held separate from the annual meeting is now allowed.
- The nomination and election processes have been clarified.

capable student director and Ashley Opstad was the OCHSA faculty advisor.

Mark your calendars for our Tenth Cemetery Tour on October 21, 2007. Although our theme for this year has not been finalized, the ideas are flowing and preparations are underway. Stay tuned!



Krisman Neville shown playing Allan Goddard during the 1933 earthquake at the 2006 Cemetery Tour.



Dan Baker and Mrs. Milo Stevens are interviewed on July 4, 1900, right before balloonist Emil Markeberg takes his last flight.

Save the Date!
Our 10th Historic Cemetery Tour
Saturday, October 21, 2007
Stay Tuned for Details!

2006 Cemetery Tour Has Another Successful Run

Saturday, October 21, 2006 was a beautiful day to tour a Cemetery.

Though it might sound depressing to some, that was the day of SAHPS's ninth annual cemetery tour. The theme for the tour, "Perils of OC: Calamities that Shook Orange County" reflected on some of the county's more difficult times, and educated our guests on themes such as the Depression, floods, the Flu Epidemic, and the 1933 earthquake.

Students from the Orange County High School of the Arts again participated as actors, and for the second year in a row Jeff Budner acted as our

2006 Cemetery Tour Available on DVD

Hot off the presses, our 2006 Cemetery Tour is now available on DVD and may be purchased for only \$10 a copy (plus \$5 for shipping). All scenes from the tour are featured on the video.

Edited and produced by David Jirik of Heliotope Studios, it is a wonderful professional DVD that makes you feel like you are back in the cemetery, watching the production live. At the same time, it offers some "extras" in introductory material that gives the viewer a little more background into the lives of the people featured.

If you are interested in purchasing the DVD, please send a check to SAHPS – Tour Video; 120 Civic Center Dr., W: Santa Ana, CA 92701.



David Jirik and crew filming a scene inside the Fairhaven Mausoleum at the 2006 Historic Cemetery Tour

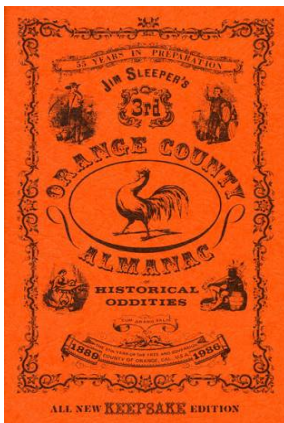
A Huge Thank You!

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society would like thank you to **David Jirik** of **Heliotrope Studios** for his work in producing our last three recent cemetery tour DVDs.

David is a professional videographer whose talent is obvious when you see the work he does. For three years, he has professionally videotaped the cemetery tour and produced an amazing DVD that makes us look even better than we really are!

Countless hours go into producing a DVD of this quality, and David does it all as a labor of love for the Society and historic preservation. Without David's talent, creativity, and generosity, we would be unable to produce this fine video.

Special- Limited Quantity
Orange County Almanac of
Historical Oddities
(3rd edition – 1982) by Jim Sleeper



Facts and Jim Sleeper's witty prose make this book an entertaining jaunt through the history of Orange County. 96-pages, softcover. Cost is only \$15 which includes tax and shipping.

Volunteer Opportunity - Newsletter Editor

Have you ever wanted to be a big league newspaper editor? Did Mark Twain start out this way? Well, while we might not be able to help you make that dream come true exactly, we can still talk!

Your newsletter editors (both the one whose name appears and the “phantom” editor that helps tremendously) are finding that they are unable to devote the time to the newsletter that it deserves while fulfilling our other SAHPS duties, and trying to still maintain a job (the one that puts food on the table!) and spend time with our families. So...we are in the hope that someone may be interested in volunteering to take over the newsletter, or at least help with the endeavor. Any and all serious inquiries will be entertained!

If you might be interested in volunteering to help, please contact Roberta Reed at (714)953-1876 or RobertaReed@sahps.com.

Thank You!

To all who have already renewed your membership or joined for the first time, a hearty **Thank you!** Your financial and moral support is important to us and our programs.

We would like to especially recognize the following patron-level members for their extra level of financial support:

Evalene Pulati
Gordon & Maureen Bricken
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Serber
Wilshire Square Neighborhood
Lou & Karen Carlson
Mark & Mary Guzman
Ray & Mary Ross
Roy & Joyce Brown (Brown Colonial Mortuary)
Won Cha
Dennis Hayden
Tom Jackson (World Travel)
David & Ruth Seigle
Judy Moore
Roberta & Nathan Reed
Francelia Goddard
Royal & Madelene Spurrier
Sherle Mellas
John & Anita Barneich

More Photos from our Annual Membership Dinner (courtesy of Jared Solano)



Treasurer Guy Ball



Board Members Ginelle Hardy and Jim Marquez



Dinner MC Paul Cook-Giles



President Alison Young



Honored Guest Jim Sleeper



Featured Presenter Joe Musil



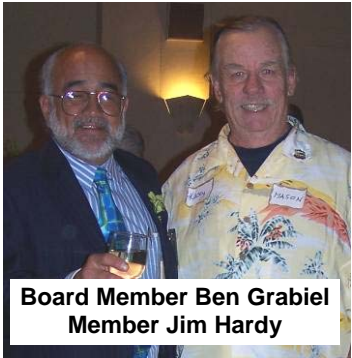
New Member Annette Bartolomucci



**Salvage Lead Nathan Reed
Board Member Wayne Curl**



Board Member Ed Cote



**Board Member Ben Grabiell
Member Jim Hardy**

Help us continue our efforts to preserve, to educate, to celebrate Santa Ana and Orange County History

(Renew or join at the \$100 level (or above) and receive a copy of Early Santa Ana, Santa Ana in Vintage Postcards, Orange County Almanac, or The Orange Blossoms as a gift as our thanks for your extra support.)

Membership Dues: *Individual/Family - \$15-49; Business - \$20-100; Supporter - \$50-99; Patron - \$100-249; Benefactor - \$250-1,000; Golden Honoree -- \$2,000 and above*

Please charge: _____ for a _____ membership.

(If \$100 or over, please circle the book above that you would like us to send you.)

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Owner's name on card _____

Name (if different) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Send to: Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, 120 Civic Center Dr. W., Santa Ana, CA 92701-7505

Delay on Membership Thank You

We usually like to send a personal thank you for all memberships and renewals. Unfortunately, between the all the extra work we did to organize and support the annual dinner, some new IRS rules on documenting donations, and our treasurer's reduced workload due to an unexpected "visit" to the hospital, everything has been delayed. This also includes the gifts for those donating over \$100.

We apologize for the delays and hope to have everything back to normal by the beginning of June. Thanks for being patient!

Just to note that beginning in 2007, the Society needs to supply you with better documentation for your tax-deductible donations including your membership donations.

This requires more work of our Treasurer, but it will make your handling of tax donations at the end of the year easier. For all donations, we will be providing a letter noting your donation and if we gave you a gift or not. (We give a thank you gift if requested for those donating over \$100.)

Right now, we're verifying the proper IRS - wording and will be sending the letters out in the

next month. If you itemize your deductions, you'll want to save it for next April 15th.

Upcoming Events

April 28 & 29 – Floral Park Neighborhood Home & Garden Tour. 10 am to 4 pm. Call 714 567-4795 or visit www.floral-park.com

May 5 – Anaheim Historical Society's annual Victorian Tea. 1 pm to 4 pm. Call Joyce at 714 772-1420.

May 12 – Gold Rush Mothers' Day Tea at the Centennial Heritage Museum. Call 714 540-0404 or visit www.centennialmuseum.com .

May 19 – Tustin Area Historical Society Promenade Home & Garden Tour. Call 714 731-5701 or visit www.tustinhistory.com

Last Minute News

We're thrilled to announce that the Society website, www.SantaAnaHistory.com, has just won a Historic Preservation Award from the City of Santa Ana. We'll be accepting the award from the City's Historic Resources Commission in May. We're awfully proud of all the content on the site – especially the Kids Zone and vintage photo library. Thanks to all for your support!

Sales Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City and Zip _____

Qty	Title	Price
	Early Santa Ana \$24.50 including postage & taxes	
	Santa Ana in Vintage Postcards \$23.50 including postage & taxes	
	The Orange Blossoms (hardcover) Was \$48, now just \$28	
	Orange County Almanac of Historical Oddities \$15.00 including post. and tax	
	2006 Cemetery Tour DVD \$15.00 including postage and taxes	
	SAHPS Lapel Pin \$7.00 including postage and taxes	
	See our website for other available books	Total

If paying by credit card, please specify: Visa, Master Card, American Express.

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Send to: Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, 120 Civic Center Dr. W. Santa Ana, CA 92701-7505



Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society

120 Civic Center Drive West
 Santa Ana, California 92701-7505
A Legacy of Preservation Since 1974