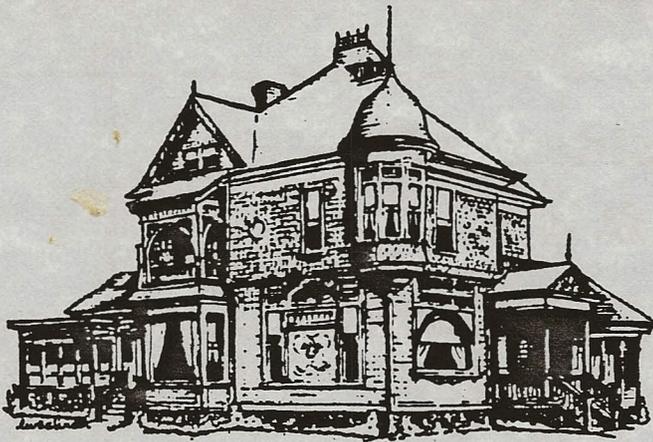


Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society Newsletter



Founded 1974

Spring 1996

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Community Efforts Successful in Saving Dr. Howe-Waffle House!

On Monday, March 18, 1996, an agreement between the County of Orange, the City of Santa Ana, and the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society was reached and signed regarding the sale and purchase of the property beneath the Dr. Howe-Waffle House.

Before entering this agreement, the County rejected all bids that had been submitted at the sealed bid auction in January. At that time, offers had been submitted by the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, the First Presbyterian Church, and a private entity who submitted an oral bid at the time that the sealed bids were opened.

Under this agreement, the Historical Society agreed to make the required \$20,000 down payment on the property, as well as the monthly mortgage payments (at no cost to the City). The \$120,000 balance owed on the property was financed over a period of 25 years at a cost to the Society of \$877 per month. When the final payment is made (in 25 years or sooner if possible), the City of Santa Ana has agreed to deed the property over to the Historical Society.

The property purchased included the parking lot that is adjacent to the Dr. Howe-Waffle House. In the future, this parking lot could potentially be leased to either the County or other businesses/employees in the downtown area. For the first 14 months of the purchase, however, the City/Historical Society is required, as part of the purchase agreement, to make this parking lot available to the County at no cost. The reason for this arrangement was to offset the difference between the City's offer and the offer from the private party, which was the highest bid. (Note: The County was not required to take the highest bid, but chose this method as an "equity" arrangement.) Once the 14 month time period has passed, it is possible that the Society may offset its payments by lease of the parking lot to one of the entities mentioned above.

SAHPS is very grateful to the Santa Ana City Council and City Staff in their efforts to assist us in what has been a very difficult, uncertain year-long endeavor. We would also like to thank all of the

continued on page 3

President's Message

I will start off by thanking everyone who took the time to get involved in the issues surrounding the Orange County Bankruptcy, which affected the Dr. Howe-Waffle House and the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society. Help came from many areas, and included donations, writing letters or calling the County of Orange and the City of Santa Ana, and the increased interest in the Society. The response was overwhelming at times.

As the Society moves forward, we face a number of challenges. The primary challenge is the need to pay off the loan for the property. Beyond that, we are looking at what the focus of the Society should be. This creates an opportunity for the membership to help shape the Society and its goals. If you have an idea or a desire that you would like to see implemented, call me or write me a note.

Recently, because of the increased publicity surrounding the house, I have found myself having to answer the same question time and time again: What are the hours when the Dr. Howe-Waffle House is open to the public? Well, the short answer is that there are no regular hours. The longer answer is that the Society is based strictly upon volunteer efforts and there is no paid staff to do tours, and our volunteers must conduct tours around their own personal commitments - including in most cases full time employment. Therefore, we must do tours by appointment only. That will possibly change if the negotiations with the Orange County Historical Society are completed (a lease arrangement where there will be a part-time staff person on site). However, I would enjoy having a pool of docents that could perform tours on a more regular basis (working 40+ hours doesn't let me do them all). If you are interested in being a docent and can volunteer, please call or write me!

One final plug: the upcoming home and garden tour will be a good one. I hope to see you there.



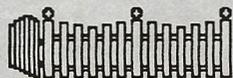
The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society Newsletter is produced by the Society for its members and other friends. A membership application and renewal form is on the back page. We invite you to join us in the preservation and appreciation of Santa Ana History.

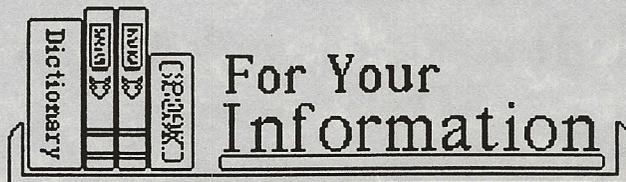
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Editor: Roberta Reed

Contributors: Diann Marsh and Nathan Reed.

Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, 120 Civic Center Drive West; Santa Ana, CA 92701





SAHPS Membership Drive Still Underway

For those of you who have not yet paid your 1996 Membership Dues, we would like to again remind you that it is time to do so. Look on your mailing label to determine "your position." If it says anything except MEM96, please consider paying your dues soon! This will be the last newsletter that 1994 members will receive! We don't want to lose you, so please consider renewing your membership with us. There is an application on the back page.

Thank you!

Howe-Waffle (cont.)

people who supported us with donations, and phone calls and letters to the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors.

We have succeeded in our efforts to save the Dr. Howe-Waffle House for future generations, but while the battle is over, the war is not quite yet won. We have many years of hard work left to earn the funds to pay for the property.

We are still looking at various fundraiser opportunities to assist us in making the "house payment," and of course we will continue to welcome any and all donations in the "Save the Dr. Howe-Waffle House" effort. For additional information, please feel free to call Nathan or Roberta Reed at 953-1876.

Historical Society Home and Garden Tour to be Held May 18th, 10 am to 5 pm

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society's Annual Home and Garden Tour is just around the corner!

This year the tour will take place on Saturday, May 18, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The tour is self-guided, so "tourists" may start their tour at any time during that time frame. Tickets cost \$7 per person and are available on the day of the tour at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, 120 Civic Center Drive West in Santa Ana, which is the starting point of the tour.

We are very excited about what this tour has to offer. We are pleased to announce that the Old Orange County Courthouse will be part of this year's tour. The Courthouse is not normally open on Saturdays so this should prove to be a very special opportunity for many people. In addition to the Courthouse and the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, six private homes and/or gardens will be open for viewing in three different Santa Ana neighborhoods. Included among these will be the Heninger House in the Heninger Park Neighborhood (the residence of Martin Heninger, the developer of that neighborhood), built in 1906, and a Wilshire Square residence that was built in the 1930s, but is frozen in the '50s in its interior decoration! This house was recently featured in the Accent Section of the *Orange County Register*. Also on display will be antique cars and carriages, and the Santa Ana Firemen's Benevolent Association's Seagrave Fire Truck. Some boutique items will be available at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House.

As an added incentive for the gardeners out there, the final stop on your tour will also include a plant sale offering many of the more unusual plants that you will see on your tour. Homemade potpourri will also be for sale.

Proceeds from both the tour and plant sale go towards the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, and in particular towards the mortgage payment.

We hope to see you there!

Important Information:

Be sure and look at the mailing label on your newsletter. If it says anything besides "MEM96," please send in your 1996 membership dues soon. We need your support this year more than ever! A membership application can be found at the back of this newsletter.

Thank you!

Annual Dinner and Meeting Recap

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society Annual Dinner and Election of Officers was held on Thursday, February 22, 1996 at the Hacienda Restaurant in Santa Ana.

Approximately 40 guests enjoyed a delicious Mexican dinner at the historic restaurant. This was followed by a short business meeting, in which President Nathan Reed gave a progress report on the past year's events, particularly the progress toward the purchase of the Dr. Howe-Waffle House property. A financial report was given, and Board Members Nathan and Roberta Reed, Scott Morgan, and Diann Marsh were presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their efforts on the Save the Dr. Howe-Waffle House campaign. The business portion of the meeting concluded with the unanimous election of 1996 officers and directors. This year sixteen members were elected to the Board, which is the maximum number allowed by our by-laws.

The featured speaker for the evening was Councilman Rob Richardson, who gave a very lively and interesting slide presentation on train depots across the United States. Most of the slides presented were taken by Rob during his own travels. The audience learned a lot through this talk regarding the architecture and history of train depots in the United States, as well as a lot of other Americana. Those who were unable to make it missed an enjoyable and enlightening evening.

SAHPS Board of Directors Hosts Open House as Thank You to SOS Supporters

On April 20, 1996, the Board of Directors of the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society hosted an Open House at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House in appreciation of our many supporters during the recent months with regard to the Dr. Howe-Waffle House property.

Approximately 60 people attended the event, and special guests included Councilmen Rob Richardson and Tom Lutz, and Bob Hoffman of the City of Santa Ana, who has been invaluable in his assistance with lease negotiations and other matters in the situation.

Punch and light refreshments were served, including a decorated cake chosen especially to celebrate the occasion. The house was decorated with several beautiful flower arrangements which were a gift from Mike Macres and Macres' Florists in Santa Ana.

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society would like to make a special note of appreciation to Mike Macres and Macres Florists in Santa Ana for the donation of the beautiful floral arrangements at the Appreciation Open House on April 20. Four wonderful bouquets were donated and delivered to the Dr. Howe-Waffle House on the day of the event. Macres Florists has been doing business in downtown Santa Ana at 419 North Broadway for many years. We appreciate their thoughtful and generous gesture.

Bits and Pieces

It seems like the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society is growing by leaps and bounds! Vice President Scott Morgan and his wife Nancy became the parents of Adeline Patricia Morgan on February 26, 1996. She was 20-1/2 inches long and weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces. She was born at 5:39 pm so Mom and Dad could even get a little rest that night. We understand that big brother William is also thrilled with his little sister. By the way, it is no coincidence that Mrs. Walker, founder of the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, was also named Adeline!

Meanwhile, on April 18, 1996, SAHPS Treasurer Guy Ball and his wife Linda were blessed with the birth of their second son, Alexander James. Born at 8:43 pm, he was 22 inches long and weighed 10 pounds, 5-1/2 ounces. Mom, Dad, Alexander, and big brother Nicholas are all doing fine. Congratulations Guy and Linda!

The Dr. Howe-Waffle House is interested in obtaining items which may be used to accent the house, including kitchen items, dishes, clothes, medical equipment, household products/containers, etc., which may be appropriate to the era of the house. We are also interested in obtaining some basic office equipment (computer, printer, fax machine, microwave oven, etc.) If anyone is interested in donating any of the above, please contact Nathan and Roberta Reed at 953-1876.

Remember, all donations to the Historical Society are tax deductible.



Coming This Fall:

Stay tuned for information regarding Santa Ana History Lectures sponsored by the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society. More information to follow in our next newsletter.

Upcoming Events

Keep your calendars open for the following upcoming events:

May 16th - Dedication of the Spurgeon Clock Tower. The restoration of the clock tower has been a joint effort of the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, and the Downtown Business Association.

May 18th - Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society Home and Garden Tour, 10 am to 5 pm. Tickets are \$7 per person and may be purchased on the day of the event at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, 120 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana.

May 23rd - Communications Linkage Meeting (Santa Ana Neighborhoods), 7:00 pm. The program will be on the new Hearing Officer program with Code Enforcement. These efforts are supposed to speed up the process in a code enforcement situation. Bruce Dunams and Jim Lindgren from the City of Santa Ana will be guests. Com Link meets at the Railway Station in Santa Ana.

June 9th - Historic French Park Jazz Festival and Art Show. Hours are 11 am to 6 pm and the event is free. It will take place in French Park (3 blocks north of Civic Center and 3 blocks east of Main Street).

1906 - THE RED CAR COMES TO SANTA ANA

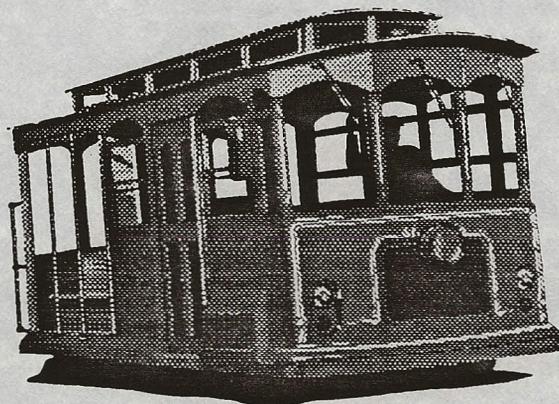
Editor's Note: The following is an excerpt from Santa Ana: An Illustrated History, by Diann Marsh. With gas prices skyrocketing as we see them today, wouldn't it be nice to see a Red Car again? Or at least a similar mode of efficient public transportation? Article reprinted with permission of the author.

One of the most significant and exciting events of 1906 was the arrival of the new gasoline-powered motor car which the Pacific Electric Railroad ordered for use on the suburban line out of Los Angeles. The trial run was quite successful, and the car was described in the *Daily Evening Blade* of January 30, 1906 as "similar to that of racing a yacht inverted, the front end tapering off into a sharp line of cleavage, and the roof being rounded off from the top." Each elegantly-furnished car seated 57 persons and included a bathroom and ice water tank at the back. The seats were upholstered in leather.

The Red Cars were responsible for improvements in several facets of everyday life in Orange County. Santa Ana was already the focal point of the social, commercial, and industrial life of Orange County as many of the most influential county businessmen were located in downtown. It was sometimes necessary to take a whole day to make a round-trip journey from Anaheim, San Juan Capistrano, and other communities. The dirt roads, mud and ruts, bugs, tall mustard grass, and cactus made each trip an adventure for the drivers and passengers of the horses and buggies in use by the general public.

Jim Sleeper, in his richly-detailed book about Orange County history, *Turn the Rascals Out*, related that there were three automobiles in all of Orange County at the turn of the century. John A. Hankey began selling Ramblers and Oldsmobiles in his bicycle shop in 1903. Luckily for John, he realized that the bicycle fad of the late 1890s would soon be over and the automobile was the vehicle of the future. Probably the most popular early mode of transportation to Los Angeles and its vicinity was the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe trains. The Red Car was a big improvement, however, and brought added prosperity to each town through which it passed. Land values skyrocketed and tracts of land located along the P.E. tracks were sometimes advertised as "Pacific Electric Tracts." New markets opened up for the agricultural products raised on the lands surrounding Santa Ana and Garden Grove. A hotel and commercial center were constructed on East Fourth Street, adjacent to the P.E. Station. Area residents could make the trip to Los Angeles and back in one day at the cost of \$1.

You may still order your copy of Santa Ana: An Illustrated History from the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society for \$29.95 plus \$3.00 shipping, but hurry, they are going fast! For your convenience, there is an order form at the end of the newsletter.



Santa Ana: An Illustrated History

Let Santa Ana's Rich History Alive Come Alive
as you read about Santa Ana Pioneers and see vintage pictures (including many never before published). The book covers the mid-1800's to modern day. Order your books now for just \$29.95 plus \$3.00 shipping (total \$32.95).

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Make your check payable to Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society (or SAHPS), 120 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Membership Application

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society

We invite you to join (or renew your membership to) the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society. We welcome everyone with an interest in history or saving Santa Ana and Orange County Heritage - regardless of where you live.

New Member []

Renewal []

Dues: (can vary depending on your generosity)

Individual [] \$10-30

Family [] \$15-49

Organization/Business [] \$20-49

Supporter [] \$50-99

Patron [] \$100 or more

Name _____ Telephone # _____

Organization/Company Name (if applicable) _____

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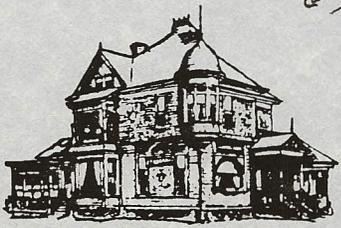
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