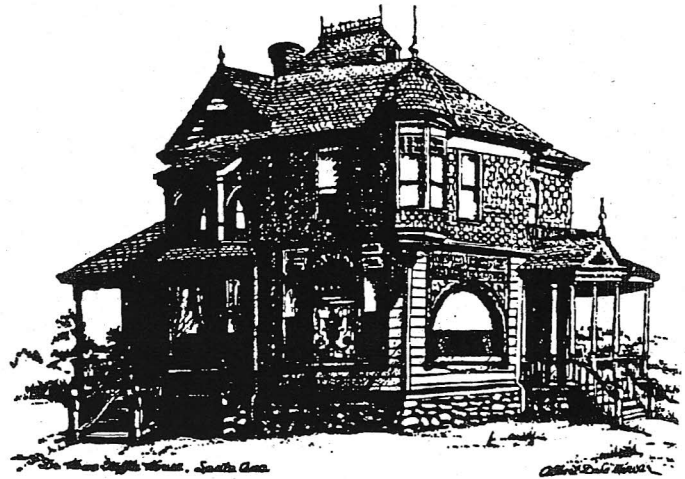


Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society NEWSLETTER



Founded 1974

Winter 1994

Editor: Guy Ball

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Society Hosts Sixth Victorian Candlelight Holiday Progressive Dinner *Sat., Dec. 10th*

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society once again invites you to dine in a dreamworld of Christmas past as you enjoy a delicious meal and home tour this holiday season.

Our sixth annual tour will feature food courses at three grand Victorian homes (the Duggan House, the Harmon-McNeil House, and the Howe-Waffle House), beautifully decorated for the holiday, and the Episcopal Church, a wonderful example of ecumenical architecture.

There is a choice of 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. start times and the cost is only a donation of \$20.

Advanced registration by Dec. 5 required so please act fast. Just send in the form on page 5 or call Judy at 533-3199 for more info.

Excerpts from

Santa Ana: An Illustrated History, 125th Anniversary Edition

(courtesy of Diann Marsh, author)

One day, ... Julian Chavez came to tell him [Jacob Ross Sr.] about a man who insisted on buying the small tract... He wanted that particular plot because it was smaller than most and he wanted to start a new town. His name was William Spurgeon. Jacob Ross Sr. was not enthusiastic about selling the newly-acquired piece of land and could see no logic behind founding another town. Anaheim, Richland (Orange) and Tustin were all doing well. However, Julian sorely needed the



William Spurgeon in the 1850s

Courtesy History Room, Santa Ana Public Library

\$594 in cash that Spurgeon was willing to pay. Against his better judgment, and because he was a kind man, Jacob agreed to the sale. He joined with Anna Maria Chavez and Julian Chavez to deed to Ward Bradford and William Spurgeon 74.27 acres for \$8.00 an acre. The next April Bradford and Spurgeon divided the tract in two, with Bradford becoming the owner of the westernmost 40 acres and Spurgeon taking the eastern 34.27 acres. Spurgeon hired George Wright to survey and lay out the new town.

William Spurgeon often described his first view of the land on which Santa Ana was founded in

October of 1869. He rode through mustard grass so thick and so high that he had to climb a sycamore to see the surrounding acres. Because it was October, the mustard stalks were brown and dry. A sparse sprinkling of sycamore trees dotted the plain. Mr. Spurgeon had just had his 40th birthday and he was looking for a suitable location to begin a town. He like the small tract Its central location would allow him to serve the farmers that were rapidly settling in the large area to the south of Anaheim, and to the west of Orange and Tustin.

Spurgeon hired George Wright of Los Angeles to lay out the 24-square-block town site. This map was plotted on December 13, 1870. Mr. Spurgeon named the new town Santa Ana, after the land grant, Santiago de Santa Ana.

Starting in 1868 there were a surprising number of settlers arriving in the Santa Ana valley. They were attracted to the rich, cheap lands that became available for settlement....

Book Publication Status:

The long awaited *Santa Ana: An Illustrated History, 125th Anniversary Edition* is finally at the printer just awaiting printing and binding. The project grew as time went on and the final result is larger and even more comprehensive than originally planned (causing the publication delay).

The 8 1/2 x 11" sized, hard-cover book will have over 240 pages with hundreds and hundreds of photos many never before seen in public.

Author and noted historian Diann Marsh has spent years researching and collecting material for what will be the most comprehensive and definitive book on Santa Ana history ever published.

To buy an advance copy at a discounted price, see the order form on page 4.

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 cover. We invite you to join with us preserving the appreciation of Santa Ana history. All material in this issue is ©1994 by the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society. Editor: Guy D. Ball

Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society, 120 W. Civic Center Dr.; Santa Ana, CA 92701

Bits & Pieces

Modern Conveniences

Our favorite 1889 Victorian home, the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, is finally moving into the 20th Century with a new modern heating and air-conditioning system. When the house was moved to its new location back in 1975, there were no provisions made for any kind of climate control (because of financial constraints). As a result, certain months of the summer and winter (with extreme temperatures) made meetings and events at the house rather uncomfortable.

Earlier this year with the assistance of our Santa Ana City staff, we received funding from the federal government's block grant program to install a heating/cooling system in the Waffle House. We're happy to announce that its been completed and will be keeping us nice and warm for our next social/fund raising event -- our annual progressive dinner on December 10th.

We owe a tip of the hat and quite a bit of thanks to our City Council, the City Manager's office, and the City's Public Works staff for working so hard to help us.

Christmas Decorating Party

If you could lend a hand, we sure could use your help decorating the Dr. Howe-Waffle House for Christmas this Sunday, Dec. 4th beginning at 1 pm. *Diann Marsh* promises to bring some hot apple cider and you'll meet a wonderful group of people while you help decorate a grand old house.

Call Diann at 541-2441 for more information or just show up at 120 W. Civic Center Drive (at the corner of Sycamore).

New Landscaping Planned

SAHPS Board Members *Nathan and Roberta Reed* are spearheading a effort to re-landscape the grounds of the Waffle House for minimal cost. With the help of the Orange County Iris and Day Lily Club, John Schuster (a landscape architect), and Cal Poly Pomona students and faculty, we will be putting in a sprinkler system, new topsoil, and a variety of new plantings.

Now that the air conditioning unit is in place, they will begin their planning and work.

This is just another reason why we treasure our volunteers so much and we want to thank Roberta and Nathan for taking the lead in this project and their friends for their wonderful help in such a beautiful project.

Beautiful Donation

The next time you're visiting the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, please take a look at our newest acquisition, a beautiful nineteenth century bookcase donated recently by *Richard Clute* in loving memory of his wife, *Virginia Clute*.

The marvelous acid-etched glass doors on the bookcase add an elegant dimension to this wonderful antique. Mr. Clute had previously donated a railroad desk that had survived the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

We always appreciate donations such as Mr. Clute's and have furnished the Dr. Howe-Waffle House with numerous period pieces through the generosity of other local residents.

If you have any turn-of the century (or older) furniture or medical equipment that you'd like to donate, please call *Scott Morgan* at 953-4049.

Progressive Dinner

The Victorian Candlelight Holiday Progressive Dinner is one of our most enjoyable events and one where we can really share in the joy of the holiday's with our members and our friends.

This year we'll be serving turkey and ham, potatoes, vegetables, salad, appetizers, and dessert (some special cheesecake we hear). We'll have three grand Victorian homes open for visiting and a chance to look at the majestic Episcopal Church.

The cost is just a \$20 donation. We'd love to have you join us but you need to let us know real soon. See the form on page 5 for more details.

Docents Still Needed

By the way, we sure could use a few more docents for the upcoming dinner. If you're willing to work about 2 hours (one shift), you may take the dinner/tour for half price (\$10). If you'd like to help, please call *Judy Moore* at 533-3199 as soon as you can so we can schedule you.

Membership Coming Due

It's just about time for our annual membership drive. We've been able to keep our membership dues low thanks to our working on a tight budget and our 100% reliance on volunteers, but we've found that our costs like the house insurance, utilities, security service, newsletter costs, and our supplies for free events have gone up.

Rather than just raise our dues, we've borrowed a good idea from our friends in the Tustin Area Historical Society and have added a "range" to our membership rates. This will allow those who would like to pay the minimum to do so, but encourages those who can add a few more dollars.

We operate solely from your membership fees and any funds raised by our spring garden tour and winter holiday progressive dinner. We need your help to stay strong.

When you renew, please be a little extra generous this year (even a few dollars would help). Remember that your donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you!

Baby's Due

Well, maybe they won't be Dr. Waffle Babies, but they're very special none-the-less. SAHPS Board Member **Becky Stone** and her husband are expecting very soon and the members of the board

had a nice baby shower after their recent meeting for the proud parents to be.

Maybe it's in the water, but another Board Member, **Guy Ball**, and his wife **Linda** are also expecting their first child in February.

And for an update, SAHPS President **Scott Morgan** and his wife **Nancy**, are coming up to the first birthday for their little bundle of joy. We hear tell, that Scott and Nancy are already grooming their child for a future role as a SAHPS Board Member, taking after his civic minded parents.

Little Bits

As we run out of space, here's a few items we just had to note...congrats to SAHPS member **Catherine Cate** for a wonderful interim issue of the *Eye on Santa Ana*. She and graphic artist Susan Rinek put together the issue while new editors were being chosen (Washington Square residents Mike and Connie Sasso) to succeed editor **Guy Ball**, who "retired" after 5 years...Happy 100th Birthday to the Ebells Society of Santa Ana, an organization of very dedicated and very involved people who work hard to keep the Santa Ana spirit (and remembrances) alive!...and our own **Diann Marsh** was the keynote speaker for the annual membership meeting of the Old Courthouse Museum Society. Her topic? The 125th birthday of Santa Ana, of course!

Santa Ana: An Illustrated History

Help Celebrate Santa Ana's 125th Anniversary

as you read about early Santa Ana pioneers and see vintage pictures (including many never-before-published). The book covers from the mid-1800s to modern day. Order your books now and enjoy a special pre-publication price! Delivery is expected soon after Christmas, though you will be notified if the books arrive sooner.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Number of books at \$23.95
 _____ Sales Tax \$1.86 per book
 _____ Shipping \$3 1st book, \$2 each add.
 _____ Total

Mail your check made payable to:
 Santa Ana Historical
 Preservation Society (S.A.H.P.S. okay)
 120 Civic Center Dr. W.
 Santa Ana, CA 92701

Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society

presents our sixth annual

Victorian Candlelight Holiday Progressive Dinner

Dine in a dreamworld of Christmas past
as you enjoy a delicious meal
with courses at three grand Victorian houses,
beautifully restored and decorated for the holiday.



Saturday, December 10



5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (two start times)

Donation: \$20 (Advanced registration by Dec. 5 required)

Dinner starts at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House,
120 Civic Center Dr. W. (at Sycamore), Santa Ana

(for more information, please call Judy at 533-3199)

Mail check (made out to S.A.H.P.S.) by Dec. 5 to:

Scott Morgan (Reservation Chairman), 1121 W. 15th St., Santa Ana, 92706

There will be two start times. Please mark your preference. Your time will be confirmed by phone.

Preferred start time: 5:30 p.m. _____ 7 p.m. _____ # of tickets _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

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

Name _____ Telephone # _____

Organization/Company Name (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send this form and your check to:

SAHPS, 120 Civic Center Dr. West, Santa Ana, CA 92701.

f 94

Santa Ana
Historical Preservation Society
120 Civic Center Dr. West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

First Class Mail