

Photo: Dr Willella Howe, Graduation Day 1886

MEDICAL ADVANCES DURING DR. WILLELLA'S EARLY YEARS OF PRACTICE

By Alison Young

In 1883 Willella Howe enrolled at the largest homeopathic training institution in the world: Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago. Her husband, Dr. Alvin Howe, remained in Santa Ana, California with their daughter Lulu. Willella took her younger daughter, Ethel, with her to Chicago, so Alvin could continue to run his medical practice and keep Lulu in the local school.

Willella had been at Hahnemann with Alvin a few years earlier so he could get a 2nd medical degree, specializing in homeopathy, while she took classes to learn to better assist him in his practice. But she then realized that she could do so much more to help female patients by becoming a doctor herself. Besides treating their illnesses, she could offer advice and training

Willella received her MD from Hahnemann in 1886 and returned to California to begin her practice. She was the first woman physician in Santa Ana, and the second in Orange County. Two years later she returned to school to receive advanced training in gynecology.

Willella's education would have already benefited greatly from the hundreds of scientific advancements attained earlier in the 19th Century, including: the invention of the stethoscope in 1816; the first successful human-to-human blood transfusion in 1818; the 1820 identification of the active ingredient in quinine for malaria treatment; the formulation of aspirin in 1853; 1867's publication of Joseph Lister's "Antiseptic Principle of the Practice of Surgery;" the common usage of Nitrous Oxide for anesthesia in the 1870s.

We know that Dr. Willella was an avid reader, and keeping up with medical developments would have been important for a fledgling physician. So what new medical discoveries was Dr Willella reading about in her first few years of practice? Here are some highlights from those first four years.

1886: Heinrich Schule describes dementia praecox, or "early dementia," the disorder we know today as schizophrenia.

1887: Louis Pasteur's anti-rabies treatment is defended in the French Academy of Medicine by Dr. Joseph Grancher.

1888: Emile Roux and Alexandre Yersin isolate diphtheria toxin.

1889: Oskar Minkowski and Joseph von Mering's experiments demonstrate the major role of the pancreas in the cause of diabetes, leading to the isolation of insulin in 1921, and saving the lives of millions of type 1 diabetics.

Willella and her family settled into her brand-new Victorian home and medical office in 1889, looking forward to a continuing successful career and the hundreds of additional medical discoveries she would learn about in her 43 years of practice.

Message from Your President

Hello, history lovers. Here we are in the month of sweethearts and love. I certainly hope your lives are filled with people you love and people who love you. That also goes for our pets, who unconditionally love us even when we don't deserve it.

Even though we are still stuck in the COVID quagmire, we, nevertheless, have so much to be thankful for and wonderful things to love. Remembering how we love will keep us strong through the tough challenging times. The light at the end of the tunnel is coming and we we'll be there to see it.

The Dr. Howe-Waffle house was built with love and was saved by love and is still filled with love after all these 131 years. How nice is that?

First of all, it is my great pleasure to announce that our new web site is UP AND RUNNING, thanks to the hard work of Maryann Ramirez, Ernie Alonzo and Guy Ball. This was a huge effort and they did a terrific job. I can't thank them enough; they are amazing people.

Have you seen our new parking lot yet? Completely redone by Allied Asphalt without charge. New curtains planned for the kitchen will bring in the sunshine, and the rose bushes are still going strong.

Now for the BIG project. I see our house with a new coat of paint. Close your eyes and picture the house all tidied up, ready to greet the community. This is where I want our members to be involved. When we get down to the last few color schemes, I will be asking you, our members, to vote on your favorite choice. That's right, this house belongs to all of you, as much as to us volunteers.

Speaking of volunteers, if you'd like to be closer to the society, just let me know what name you'd like on your volunteer badge. I'll find something for you to do, I promise.

The world is starting to come back to life and we're still here.

I hope to see you soon,
Tina Davidson



A legacy of preservation since 1974

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FROM THE VICTORIAN KITCHEN BUTTER ALMOND CAKE

By Tina

1 ½ C. white sugar
¾ C. melted butter
2 large eggs
1 t. almond extract
1 ½ t. vanilla
¼ t. salt
1 ½ C. flour

3 T. sliced almonds toasted

Grease and flour a 9-inch round cake pan with removable bottom. Lightly toast sliced almonds. Blend sugar and melted butter, beat in eggs, stir in flavorings.

Add salt and flour and mix well.

Spread batter into pan, sprinkle with a little granulated sugar and toasted almonds.

Bake at 350 for 30-35 min. Cool and serve in slices.

You'll fall in love with this one. For the best flavor, use Nielsen-Massey almond extract; it will change your life.

The Howe-Waffle Gift Shop

By Lynn Warner

Although 2020 was not a usual year for anyone, we at The Howe-Waffle House used the time constructively.

Members, associates and volunteers were able to complete several projects that had not been addressed previously. One of those projects was the revamping of the gift shop.

With a new coat of paint, wallpaper and area rug, we have redesigned the shop for a more pleasant overall shopping experience.

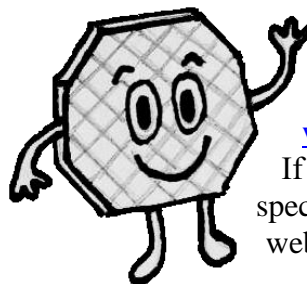
Plans include adding new merchandise and a craft corner, where members can display and offer for sale handmade items.

We look forward to a grand reopening of The Howe-Waffle House and our gift shop in the near future.



Where's Waffie?

Meet Waffie, our friendly waffle mascot created by Marilyn Mandell. Waffie likes reading historical articles and is hidden somewhere in this newsletter.



If you find him, let us know where by emailing webmaster@sahps.org.

If you're correct, we'll post a special shout out on the SAHPS website and Facebook page!

NATURAL REMEDIES FOR GETTING OVER A COLD

By April Bettendorf

Over the past year, though fearing COVID 19, I haven't had a cold. There've been no summer sniffles or staying in bed with hot tea, as is common with winter colds. I guess that can be attributed to staying at home, wearing a mask, using sanitizer and disinfecting everything.

I hope it's been the same for you but, if not, here are some remedies to help you get rid of that annoying bug:

Rose hips tea is full of vitamin C and can help prevent colds.

Lemons, oranges and apple cider are all considered cold remedies.

For chills, take fresh ginger root.

Historically, the layers of the onion were believed to draw contagious diseases from the patient; onions were often hung in sickroom. Today, we know that onions have antibacterial qualities.

Boil a whole onion and, afterward, drink the water. You can add a little butter and salt if the taste is unbearable!

Cut up fresh garlic cloves and add them to chicken soup or other foods or swallow small chunks of raw garlic like pills.

Like onion and garlic, horseradish generates lots of heat to help offset colds.

Eat loads of hot and spicy foods like chili to clear the sinuses.

Secrets from Dr. Willella's Clothes Closet: Revelations of a Feather Fan

By Alison Young

What's been hiding in the Doctor Howe-Waffle House closets? Todd Talbert's donation to the Society of his great-great-grandmother's 1911 wedding dress included accessories: ivory satin shoes and a small white ostrich feather fan. While cataloging these items for our vintage clothing inventory, that fan really caught my attention. A feather fan with a wedding dress? Was that really a thing? Well, apparently yes, and feathers were a very BIG thing in turn-of-the-century southern California!

My first try at finding out more about this bride's ensemble netted the Santa Ana Register announcement of October 27, 1911: "Wedding Bells; Miss Edith Spangler Becomes Bride of Flake Smith at Home Wedding." The lengthy article minutely described the décor ("*under a floral wedding bell, a creation of white chrysanthemums*") the wedding gown ("*of pearl trimmed white satin*") the "*elaborate wedding supper*," the gifts, and every single person attending. The bride was "*distinguished looking*" and "*most attractive*," the bridesmaid was "*winsome*." But no fan was mentioned.

My internet search on "wedding fan" resulted in a flood of current businesses offering fans for wedding guests, for bridesmaids, and even fans custom printed with the wedding program. So still a thing, though maybe not for the bride. I narrowed my search further to "Victorian wedding fan," and, voila, museums and vintage sellers had a number of these listed. While paper, lace, and feather fans were manufactured for fashionable ladies, including brides, throughout history; the ostrich feather fan in particular became a year-round accessory in the late 1800s. Its popularity became so widespread that by 1900 sourcing from wild African ostriches was replaced by feathers from ostrich ranches in South Africa, Australia, and California. The poor bald wild ostriches were probably relieved.

Yes, I seemed to recall reading something about ostriches in California, but I was surprised when my research revealed the extent of the ostrich craze. The first ostrich farm in California was Anaheim's California Ostrich Company. Started in 1883 with 22 ostriches smuggled from South Africa, locals were charged 50 cents for a peek, and ostrich races were even held at Santa Ana Race Track in 1886! Soon other farms opened in Fullerton, Santa Ana, Norwalk, Los Angeles and Pasadena, and Californians flocked (pun intended!) to see them. But where did *our* wedding fan come from?

And here I was rewarded by Edith's care for her special possessions. (We researchers just love "savers" like Edith and her descendent, Todd, for their preservation instincts!) Mrs. Smith had saved her fan in the original box, labeled "*California Ostrich Feathers from the Cawston Ostrich Farm, South Pasadena California*." As I quickly learned, Cawston was not merely a breeding operation, but a carefully designed, tourist-friendly amusement park that included ostrich cart rides and feeding demonstrations, gardens, a Japanese tea room, and gift shop, with its own stop on the Pacific Electric rail line! This venture is credited with having "put Pasadena on the map" at the turn of the last century.

But why would a soon-to-be bride from Santa Ana purchase from Pasadena, instead of a nearby Orange County ostrich farm? That chatty wedding announcement might hold a key. Listed as an out-of-town guest was Edith's brother Charles Spangler of...Pasadena! We can imagine Edith and her fiancé combining a visit to Charles with a sunny outing to the Disneyland of her day. And if Cawston's advertising is to be believed, ("*The only Ostrich Feather Manufactory in the world producing its own raw product*.") OC farms may have produced the feathers, but not the fans. While Cawston shut down in 1935, your urge to visit an ostrich farm today can still be satisfied at OstrichLand USA in Buellton.

I hope you enjoyed my latest "armchair" research project as much as I did. Stay tuned for more secrets to be uncovered in Dr. Willella's closet!

Secrets from Dr. Willella's Clothes Closet: Revelations of a Feather Fan (continued)



the new Guild Hall. These teas are to be given on one afternoon of each month during the winter, at homes of the various members. At these teas are welcomed not only Guild members, but any one wishing to spend a pleasant afternoon in congenial company.

WEDDING BELLS

Miss Edith Spangler Becomes Bride of Flake Smith at Home Wedding

The wedding of Miss Edith M. Spangler and Flake L. Smith took place yesterday evening at 8:30 o'clock, at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Dora Spangler, 638 North Birch street. Rev. J. F. Stem of the Methodist church, South, officiated at the simple ring service that united the two young people.

The bridal party entered the parlors to the strains of the Lohengrin wedding march played by Miss Cora Siefert. Attended by Miss Alma Plaven, a winsome bridesmaid, and Will Vaughn of Los Angeles as best man, the bride and groom took their places under a floral wedding bell, a creation of white chrysanthemums. Magnificent chrysanthemums of bridal white and ropes of amilax were used lavishly in the decorations of the various rooms.

The distinguished looking bride was most attractive in her wedding gown of pearl trimmed white satin, while the groom was in conventional wedding attire. They were the recipients of loving congratulations after the beautiful marriage ceremony, and were the center of attraction as the company assembled at an elaborate wedding supper spread on long dining tables exquisitely decorated. They speedily disappeared, however, when the review of the wedding gifts was progressing, and slipped away to parts unknown.

The wedding gifts were many and elegant, a large number coming from the groom's relatives and friends in

the East. A generous check from the groom's father was seen among the dainty cut glass and linen, silver and other substantial gifts.

Mrs. Smith has lived here all of her life and is highly esteemed. She is a graduate of Santa Ana High School. Mr. Smith came here from the East and has won scores of friends in Santa Ana. After their return from their wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. Smith will be at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Spangler, until they complete a new home for themselves.

Those witnessing the ceremony yesterday evening were Mrs. Spangler, the bride's mother, Mr. and Mrs. George Spangler, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Spangler, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. George Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Habbitt, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Habbitt, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hill; Misses Fern and Irene Smith, Nellie Geyer, Hazel Gray, Cora Siefert; Messrs. Joe Habbitt, Floyd Geyer, Leslie Mitchell of Santa Ana. Out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Marsh of Orange; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Haver and Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Fullerton; Charles Spangler, Mr. Reed and two sisters from Pasadena; Miss Alma Plaven, Smeltzer; Adeline Mitchell and Mr. Will Vaughn from Los Angeles.

Altar Society Met

The Altar Society of St. Joseph's Catholic church had a well attended meeting yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Chas. Schmiegoberg. The afternoon was spent socially, delicious refreshments being served by the hostess.

In the h.t.p. business period, Mrs. V. A. Roalter resigned as secretary and Mrs. Geo. Shelton was chosen for the office. Plans for the future were discussed.

New Quartette

One of the most recent of musical organizations to be formed in Santa Ana, is a male quartette under the direction of Prof. Francis J. Haynes, leader of the First Presbyterian choir. The members are Lozan How-



CALIFORNIA OSTRICH FEATHER

FROM THE

CAWSTON OSTRICH FARM

SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

SEND FOR FREE PRICE LIST

The only Ostrich Feather
Manufactory in the world pro-
ducing its own raw product.

BABY OSTRICHES AT CAWSTON OSTRICH FARM

Welcome, New Board Members

By April Bettendorf

Pauline Halloran has been involved with the SAHPS for many years as an active associate and is now a Board member. She is married and has no children but she does have two cutie patootie dogs that are well-loved.

For about 30 years Pauline worked in the insurance industry but in 2017 she was laid off. After a brief break she landed a dream part-time job in an art studio in Upland. She loved the employment, but after two and a half years found the 80-mile drive to be too much. She is currently unemployed but hopes to find some part-time work soon.

Pauline enjoys paper crafts and sewing and loves all things vintage. She says she thinks she may have been a scullery maid in a prior life because she welcomes the opportunity to polish silver and clean crystal, china and glassware. Pauline is very happy to be a part of the SAHPS and the society is very grateful to have her and her many talents.



Toni Kimball has been a long-time member and volunteer at the SAHPS. She has previously been on the Board and is now returning in 2021. She lives in Santa Ana with her husband, Dick, and is well known in the community.

Toni owns her own business, Fur and Feathers, and is a true animal lover. The Board of Directors welcomes her back and her knowledge of Santa Ana history, as well as her dedication to preservation.

Jessica Basciano, her husband, Josh, and their two daughters have made volunteering at the Howe-Waffle House a family affair at the Howe-Waffle House. This year Jessica joins the Board of Directors, bringing skills and great work ethic to the SAHPS.

Jessica graduated from the University of California, Riverside with a B.A. in anthropology. While at home in Corona, she enjoys her hobbies of sewing, woodworking, gardening and working with fiber arts.



Maryann Ramirez is a real go-getter and has always been willing to pitch in where needed as an associate. She attended Mt. St. Mary's College on a scholarship and currently has a dream job at Disney California Adventure. What started as a summer job in 2005 led to full-time employment as a stage manager in the custodial department.

Maryann loves trying different cuisines and exploring new places. Playing games, night photography, Disney and road trips make her happy. Recent quarantine joys have included *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Dungeons and Dragons*.

Petra Brown got involved with the society two years ago when she helped decorate the Howe-Waffle House for the Holiday Open House.

Petra lives in Placentia with Tom, her husband of 15 years, their two children (Marie and Frankie) and their cat and two dogs.

Petra is a senior manager at the Disneyland Resort, where she leads the Custodial Department at California Adventure and Downtown Disney.

She loves holidays and says Christmas and Halloween are her favorites. She goes all out when decorating and dressing up. She likes the strange, dark and mysterious, such as true crime and ghost stories. However, she also has a light side and is obsessed with the old sitcom *The Golden Girls*.



The Eiffel Tower

By Marilyn Mandell

Completed in 1889 (the same year as was the Howe-Waffle House), the Eiffel Tower has been a dominant landmark for decades, visited and photographed by millions from around the world. Over the years, thousands of marriage proposals have been made under the tower and, as a result, it has become a “symbol of love.” However, it was not intended by its creator to be the symbol of France. The tower was meant to be only temporary and was far from being the Parisians’ favorite landmark. It was constructed to commemorate the Centennial of the French Revolution and demonstrate France’s industrial prowess.

The Eiffel Tower’s creator was born Alexandre Gustave Bronickhausen in France to immigrant German parents. The family later changed its last name to Eiffel after a range of low mountains in western Germany by that name. As a French engineer Gustave specialized in building metal frameworks and structures. He began constructing the iconic tower on January 28, 1887 and completed it on March 31, 1889. In December of that year the tower became the property of the the City of Paris, on whose land it was built. Its use as a giant radio antenna saved it from destruction.

For 41 years the Eiffel Tower stood as the tallest man-made structure in the world, only to be passed by the Chrysler Building in New York in 1930. It stands 1,063 feet tall, weighs 10,100 tons and is held together by 2,500,000 rivets. Every seven years painters keep it looking “young” by applying 60 tons of paint. In order to augment the structure’s silhouette against the canvas of the Parisian sky, the tower is painted in 3 shades, getting progressively lighter as it elevates. Painting the entire structure is a 3-year job.

As a note, Eiffel was also a co-designer of the internal metallic structure of the Statue of Liberty, which was given in 1884 to the United States as a gift from France to 🇺🇸 celebrate America’s democracy.

Amazon Smile

By Jessica Basciano

As many of you are aware, our organization is part of the Amazon Smile program. For every eligible order, Amazon donates 0.5% of the total to a charitable organization of your choice. At the end of 2020, the society was awarded a **\$227** donation from Amazon Smile, all thanks to your purchases. We greatly appreciate your choice to help the Society through your purchases, especially after almost a year of closure.

One big change to the program has been the addition of Amazon Smile to the Amazon app, which is available through either the AppStore for iOS or Google Play for Android. Now you can shop and support our organization either with the app or using a web browser. If using the app, your charitable organization will need to be updated twice a year, so be sure that **Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society** has been chosen before making any purchases.

If you are using a web browser (i.e. Chrome, Edge/Windows Explorer, Safari), just remember to visit **smile.amazon.com** for your shopping needs. The site will remember your organization choice and will display the name before any purchases are made. Usually, Amazon will remind you with a pop-up if you are shopping their standard website, offering to redirect your browser to **smile.amazon.com**. Every little bit helps and any support would be much appreciated!

Silver pieces wanted

Are you tired of polishing your vintage serving pieces?

Are the days of elegant luncheons over for you?

Are your kids horrified at the idea of using something like that?

The Dr. Howe-Waffle house would like to upgrade our Victorian-style serving pieces used during Christmas and special events. Please consider passing them on to us.

Think how lovely your Victorian-era pieces would look in this beautiful dining room built in 1889. If you’re through with polishing and storing your treasures, let us show them love. What a nice way for your family pieces to live again.

Please let me know,

Tina 714-401-6158



Dr. August Nasse Residence and Office – Hermann Historic District - Hermann, Missouri

By Lynn (Nasse) Warner

In researching my family history, I was pleased to discover this treasure in Hermann, Missouri, the home and office of my great-great-grandfather, on the National Register of Historic Places.

August Nasse immigrated from Germany in 1847. He purchased the lot at 213-15 Schiller, on which the present building stands, in 1849 and constructed a small brick office. Nasse joined town leaders to form the Gesellschaft Erholung, a society dedicated to the "intellectual improvement of its members," establishing himself as an

influential member of the community. In 1859, he built a residence and office which would reflect his status.

Dr. Nasse practiced medicine and owned a thriving drugstore. In 1877, he added the large two-story ell behind the drugstore and reroofed the whole house with a metal roof, only the third building to have such a roof in Hermann. During the 1880s, Nasse installed the present glass storefront on what was then the drugstore. Sometime before 1892, the flat roof porch was added and one of the windows of the second story converted to a doorway. The rear garage dates to the 1920s or 1930s.

Research your family history. Who knows what surprises and treasures you might uncover? (Ref. Waymarking.com & Library of Congress)



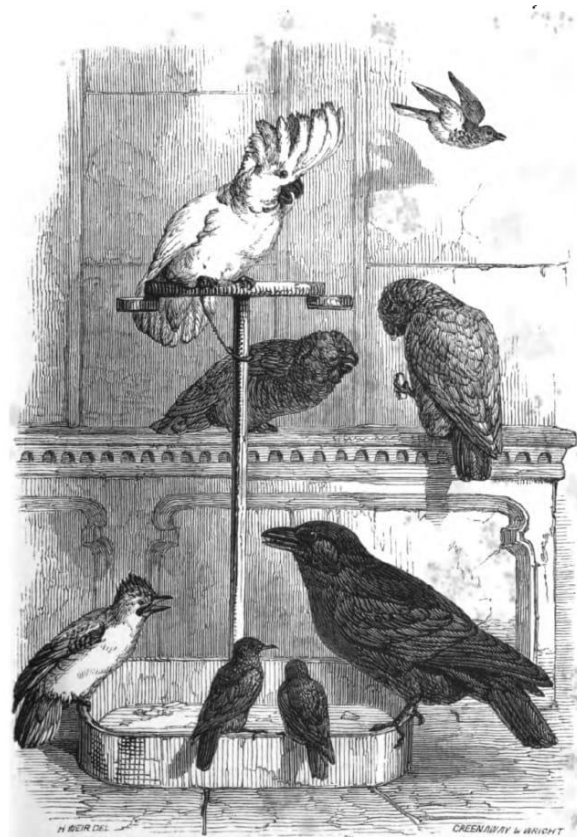
VICTORIAN BIRDS

By Tina, the bird lover

Victorians kept pets for a variety of reasons. Pedigree dogs conveyed class and status, cats caught mice, and rabbits could be eaten when times were hard.

Upper-class Victorians were not content with ordinary pets and often showed off their wealth by acquiring more exotic animals to brighten their homes. One of the most exotic choices was birds. Song birds, such as canaries, American goldfinch, indigo finch and Bobolink were selected for the songs they sang and the pleasure they brought into sitting rooms and parlors. When the Victorians wanted something more unusual, they turned to parrots. Macaws and Cockatoos were considered very exotic, since they were imported from faraway lands.

Dr. Willella kept a large aviary of birds in her back yard. She was known for her love of her Amazon parrot, who would sing along with hymns heard from the Episcopal church right across the street. Her parrot was known for "answering" when a knock came at the door. When someone knocked at the back door, the parrot would call out, "Doctor, Doctor." When a knock came at the front door, the bird would call out, "Miss Julia." We are lucky to have a picture of Dr. Willella standing next to her aviary with her parrot. Be sure to ask to see this wonderful picture next time you're at the house.





LULU'S FAREWELL NOTE TO A FRIEND ON DR. WILLELLA'S DEATH

By Alison Young

"Dear Pearl-

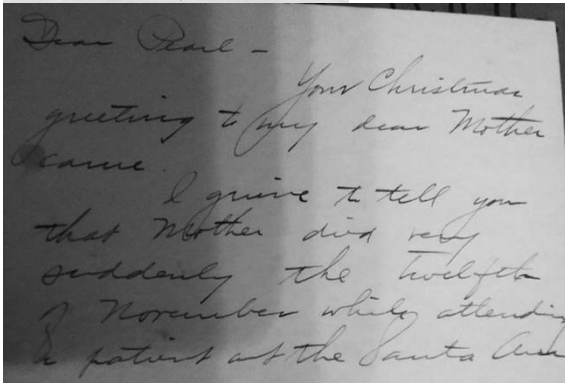
Your Christmas greeting to my dear Mother came.

I grieve to tell you that Mother died very suddenly the twelfth of November while attending a patient at the Santa Ana Hospital. She was in good health and very happy because she expected to be great grandmother to my daughter's baby, who was born the day after Mother's funeral Nov 16. It has been a sad Christmas to us.

Sincerely

(Mrs. C. S.)/ Lulu Huff

Dec 26 - 24"



This poignant note was written by Dr. Willella Howe-Waffle's daughter, Lulu Howe Huff, to Annie Pearl Francis in Spring Valley, Nevada in December of 1924. Between 1902 and 1907 Dr. Willella had visited a schoolteacher friend, Dr. Belle Bennett Sharpe in Spring Valley, and struck up a friendship with little Pearl and other of Sharpe's students. Willella's Christmas packages to the students over the years garnered her the title of "fairy godmother," and she and Pearl continued to exchange correspondence even after Pearl's graduation from high school in 1922.

Many thanks to Annie Pearl's grandson, Bruce Carlson of Eagle Mountain, Utah, for his donation of this note and other letters and postcards sent by Dr. Willella. We're very happy to have them return home to Santa Ana.

Game Nights to Stay Connected

By Maryann Ramirez

March 14, 2020, a date I'll never forget. My friends and I *loved* the Disneyland Resort. The Parks were a fun place for us to escape to and the announcement of a temporary closure shook us. Thinking back, 2020 was a terrible year, but humanity learned to survive and adapt. Makes me wonder how kids in earlier times survived during previous pandemics. One way my friends and I adapted was playing games together online.

The first game night I started was on Saturday, March 31, 2020 with four friends. We utilized the Zoom app, so we could talk and see each other while playing. Games included *Pictionary* and *Hangman*. The first game session was so successful that we continued meeting every Saturday night. A different game, such as online *Jeopardy*, *Wheel of Fortune*, *Cards Against Humanity*, *Jackbox TV* and *Family Feud*, was played each session. As months progressed, new online resources were continuously popping up. There are websites where teams can virtually meet to solve jigsaw puzzles or play card games together. All around the world, people are using the technology to create amazing, fun games to battle the boredom and frustration resulting from the lockdown caused by COVID-19.

Technology and virtual games have evolved to the extent that there are even *online escape rooms*. The company *ESC THE GAME* created an online escape room, where my friends and I sneaked into a submarine to sabotage a criminal organization's plans to <no spoiler> do some very bad things. The immersion of the environment and syncing of all the puzzles made us feel like we were in the same room, although we were each zooming from a different location. The Saturday game nights have evolved to now include *Dungeons and Dragons*. I'm grateful to live in a world where we can connect so easily. No matter what the world throws at us, humanity manages to fight, adapt and prevail.

Travel and Transportation

By Robert Scott (<http://www.1920-30.com/travel/>)

Submitted by Pauline Halloran

Prior to the 1920s only the very wealthy could afford to travel the world. Everyone else had to be content to read published travel narratives to learn about the world outside their town or city.

With the increase in wages driven by entrepreneurial employers like Henry Ford, Americans for the first time had the time and money to travel. Mass production methods made automobiles affordable for the masses instead of just the rich. By 1921, the number of automobiles in the United States had passed the ten-million-mark, necessitating President Warren G. Harding spending \$75 million to improve the nation's roads. More and more Americans chose the low-cost, high-freedom option of travelling by automobile while vacationing. Motoring vacations to destinations like sunny California in the winter became possible for those living in colder states.

A network of small railways crisscrossed America, providing relatively low cost transport for freight and passengers. Major efforts were made to consolidate the small railways into larger units in an effort to improve productivity and profitability.

In the 1920s, trains and ocean liners were the dominant mass transportation methods, providing comfortable, reliable transport to millions of American vacationers. Trains had opened up the continent and ships the world, but newer methods of transport captured the imagination of the public and reduced travel times. The Suez Canal was enlarged to handle the rapidly increasing size of ships that desired to use the shortcut. Winter cruises to warmer climates became very popular, and the resulting tans of the tourists became a status symbol.

Air travel, though still in its infancy, captured America's imagination during the 1920s. It held great promise in speeding communications and commerce throughout the continent and overseas. Airplanes were mainly used in peacetime for mail delivery but started to be used for passenger transport as planes became larger and more reliable toward the end of the decade.

At this time ocean liners were symbols of modern technology, wealth, and national pride, but it appeared that giant airships (dirigibles) might one day replace their ocean giants. The first commercial air passenger service across the Atlantic was inaugurated by the German airship Graf Zeppelin in October 1928. It carried 20 passengers with a crew of 43.

By 1929, airship technology had advanced to the point that the first round-the-world flight was completed by the Graf Zeppelin in September.

Airships could carry larger amounts of freight and passengers in more comfort than planes but their reign came to an end due to the negative publicity generated by the destruction of the Hindenburg by lightning in 1937.

The main method of crossing the Atlantic Ocean in the 1920s was by steamship and ocean liner. Businessmen meeting overseas clients, entertainers on tour, and tourists making leisure trips travelled on ocean liners in upper class berths. Also travelling with them in lower class berths were vast numbers of emigrants coming to the United States and immigrants returning abroad. A large ocean liner might have a crew of 1,100 to service as many as 3,400 passengers. Shipping Line owners competed against each other to produce the fastest and most luxurious ocean liners. The Ile de France which was France's flagship in 1927 was a typical example of an opulent liner.

Wise volunteer
By Bonnie Rennie
(Translated from Braille.)

I wish I could write a whole book on how great it is to volunteer! Donating your time, talent, energy, and love. So many settings. So many ways. So many good nonprofits that need you! People of any age. Animals. Even mother nature could use a hand.

Here's a short list of what you might gain from serving in some worthy cause.

1. Gives you a purpose, reason to get up, and show up.
2. You get to use the skills you worked so hard to acquire, or learn some interesting new ones.
3. Often, you can set your own hours, working conditions, and duties.
4. Like a paid job, you make a commitment, and people are depending on you. Unlike a job, you can renegotiate in your favor. Should your needs or interests change. Or you can fulfill your commitment, then move on to something else.
5. The option to select volunteer work that brings you in contact with others, or work alone, if you prefer.
6. You know you're making a difference for a cause you care about.
8. Volunteering can promote your well-being in many dimensions, according to health experts. Including social, mental, spiritual, and physical. You are stimulated in these areas, by giving and receiving.
9. Human service programs offer their volunteers ongoing training and support, which can benefit you in other aspects of your life. As well as aid you in serving others.

It's ironic and wonderful, that an activity you do for free can be so enriching! As a retiree, there's usually more spare time available. And regardless of any physical limitations, you're bound to find a great match!

In Memory of Bonnie Rennie, who passed away on July 9, 2020.

Help us continue our efforts to preserve, to educate, and to celebrate Santa Ana and early local History

Renew or join at the \$100 level (or above) and receive a complimentary book from our bookstore (valued \$25 or less) as a free gift as our thanks for your extra support.

Book Choice: _____

Membership Dues: *Student (High School and Under)-\$10; Individual- \$25; Family-\$35;
Organization/Business-\$45; Patron-\$100; Benefactor-Over \$250*

Enclosed is a check for (or charge) _____ for a _____ membership.

Credit Card No. _____ Exp. Date: _____

Keep up the great work. I've enclosed a special donation of _____ to help your preservation work.

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



**Santa Ana Historical
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120 Civic Center Drive West

Santa Ana, California 92701-7505

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