



**Sierra Madre
Historical
Preservation
Society Newsletter**

Fall 2003

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PIONEER DAYS

Sierra Madre, CA

Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society is a Silver Level sponsor of the 2003 Pioneer Days (www.SierraMadrePioneerDays.com)celebration. Activities include a "Hike into History" on Saturday, October 4th from 8:00 am to Noon. The hike starts at Chantry Flats and continues to Sturtevant Falls. Historian John Robinson will lead the hike and will provide local lore as selected cabins and Fern Lodge are visited.

Thursday, October 9th brings us a repeat of an old favorite, the Collectibles Show, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm,at the Bank of the West. This is a joint venture with the Bank and the Chamber of Commerce. Many fine historical collections of local residents will be showcased.

Saturday, October 11th is a full day of activities centered on the family. Day long events taking place in Memorial Park include a gathering of Sierra Madre residents, past and present, calling themselves "Living Treasures", a slide show by Debbie Henderson titled "Then and Now", kid's games, demonstrations of old time activities with hands on participation, a historical pageant and Heritage Essay contest winners will be announced.Food booths including the Society's" Old Fashioned Ice Cream Booth" will be set up in the park to satisfy hungry appetites.

The evening activities move to Kersting Court for the annual Rotary Tri-tip Dinner and Dance from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The winner of the Whisker Growing contest will be announced at 7:00 pm.during the dinner.

Pioneer Days winds up for another year with an Open House at the historical E. Waldo Ward & Son factory. In 1891 Edwin Waldo Ward, Sr. bought land from Nathaniel Carter, the founder of Sierra Madre. On Sunday, October 12th, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm the Ward ranch will be open for tours of the jam making factory. There will be craft demonstrations, food booths, jam samples, printing press demonstrations, classic automobiles, antique engines, apple pressing and fun. Bring the family and experience a real "taste" of history. The ranch is located at 273 E. Highland Avenue in Sierra Madre. Information (626) 355-1218 or www.waldoward.com

**SAVE THE DATE!
OCTOBER 14 @ 7:30 P.M.
SENIOR CENTER**

SMHPS is looking for holiday decorated Designated Landmark buildings for next year's calendar. Please call Dane at 626.355.3905 to schedule a time to photograph the exterior of your home.

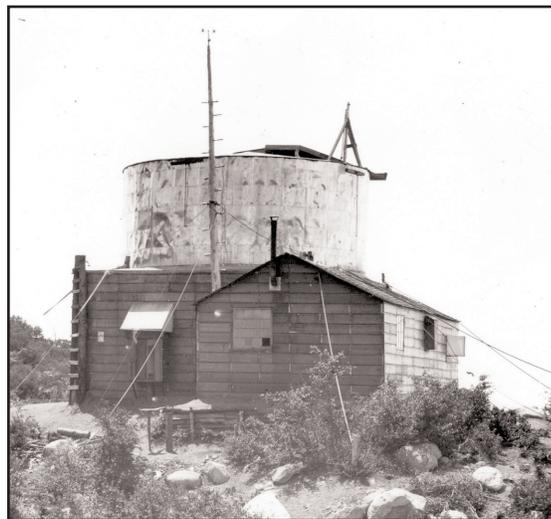
Society To Publish History of Sierra Madre in 2007

The city of Sierra Madre will mark the 100th anniversary of its incorporation in the year 2007. Looking forward to that milestone, Dane Lenton, president of Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society, has organized a committee to plan and publish a history of Sierra Madre to be available for the centennial.

One of the important sources for information for this book will be the Historical Archives at Sierra Madre Public Library with Debbie Henderson as archivist. Lenton is putting out a call for historic information, photographs, reminiscences, etc. Call him at (626) 355-3905 if you have something to share.

As the current book committee members begin their work on this book project, they will record the history of a Sierra Madre that remains a unique community today. Nestled in our beautiful setting a the base of the mountains, we are off the beaten path.

**Historical Preservation Society
Program Meeting**



Harvard Observatory on Mount Wilson, ca. 1889. Courtesy of the Sierra Madre Historical Archives.

October 14 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Senior Center in Memorial Park
222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Historian Maggie Sharma will present "A Stone's Throw from the Star's" a program about the history of the Mount Wilson Observatory.

As we live in the shadow of our mountains are we aware that some of the world's greatest discoveries in astronomy happened at the Observatory? For years, for example, their Hooker 100 inch telescope was the world's largest. No single tool of science has contributed more to man's knowledge of the universe. It would be difficult to overstate these discoveries that took place in our own backyard and what these findings say to us in the 21st century. Along with pioneers of science that worked there, it is a fascinating story about which Sharma is writing a book.

Please join us for this "heavenly" evening. Everyone is welcome, so do invite guests. Light refreshments will be served.

Sierra Madre

Historical Preservation Society

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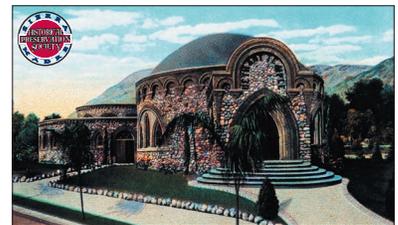
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Sierra Madre's Town Calendar 2004



Sierra Madre's Town Calendar 2004



Begin a new holiday tradition with Sierra Madre's first town calendar featuring Landmark Homes. Here is a wonderful way to remember friends and family. Packed in a ready to mail envelope this calendar annotates significant special event days in Sierra Madre as well as club and service organization meeting dates. All proceeds from the calendar will go towards the Centennial Book publication project. The calendars will be available for purchase November 1st. Call the SMHPS for sales outlets at **626.355.8129**.

You can pre-order your calendar using the form above.

Landmark Homeowners Hold Fall Gathering at Fletcher House

Landmark Homeowners and the Sierra Madre Historical Society Board were graciously hosted during September at the home of Kim and Justin Brandstater. The Society wishes to thank the Brandstater's for a wonderful afternoon filled with good company and fine food.

Those in attendance were able to take tours of the Fletcher House, built in 1890, and beautifully restored by the Brandstater's. Homeowner's were also able to connect with other Landmark Homeowners and exchange ideas and tips, learn first hand about installing Bradbury & Bradbury wallpaper and putting up tin ceilings. Future gatherings of this group have been planned for Winter at the Wilson-Bixby House(1881) and Spring at the Wistaria Hall (1908).

Seeking the Sierra Madre Weekly

The Sierra Madre Historical Archives is interested in obtaining back issues (1990s to the present) of the Sierra Madre Weekly newspaper. Our goal is to microfilm complete volumes of this local publication. Start your Summer cleaning by donating that stack of newspapers to the Archives at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre. Thank you for your help in preserving Sierra Madre's past for future generations.