



**Sierra Madre  
Historical  
Preservation  
Society Newsletter**

**Summer 2003**

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**PIONEER  
DAYS**  
Sierra Madre, CA



Pioneer Day's in the 60's - Betty Kennedy, Ruth Barden, Elena Brown, Lois Hammers, June Souders, Ann Tyler, Kathy Albertson, Charline Mankin, and Virginia Vine are dressed for the 1960 Pioneer Days Parade. Who's that clown in the background? Photo a gift from Ann Tyler, Sierra Madre Historical Archives.

Pioneer Days will again take place this year in the fall, and as you may have noticed, the Pioneer Days Committee is in full swing to make this year's event a success! Several activities have been planned for the weekends of October 4th and 5th and October 11th and 12th.

The Historical Society will be well represented! In place of our annual Ice Cream Social this year, look for our "Old Fashioned Soda Fountain" booth at Memorial Park on October 11th. Featuring ice cream cones, sundaes, banana splits, root beer floats and our FAMOUS lemonade. All your old favorites will be available, so bring the family, enjoy the festivities and a frosty treat!

We are also planning a Home Tour on October 12th. The Home Tour Committee is currently scouting several properties, but as of this publication date, we have not received permanent commitments from homeowners. The Home Tour is our biggest fund-raiser, and due to popular demand, we would love to bring it back! There can't be a Home Tour without homes to tour, we are currently seeking any interesting properties in Sierra Madre to include, so if you know of any homes and homeowners that might like to take part this year, please let us know! Contact Teresa Chaure at hawksmom87@yahoo.com or 626.705.1672 with any information or questions. Your help is GREATLY appreciated!

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**OCTOBER 14 @ 7:30 P.M.**  
**SENIOR CENTER**  
see back panel for details

**All Aboard!**

During the month of July the Sierra Madre Public Library's display case featured "Back on Track: A Glimpse of Sierra Madre's Rail Transit Past and Future." Documents, photographs, and ephemera from Sierra Madre's Red Car era, as well as information on the new Metro Gold Line, was shown. Kim Creighton, Debbie Henderson, and Gerard Brane selected and arranged the display. For the month of August collector Gurden Miller has loaned a display featuring Swiss electric trains.

The Library displays are available for viewing at no charge during the Library's open hours: Monday - Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre. For further information on Library services and programs please visit the Library's website at [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us) or call the Library at 626.355.7186.

Rail service to and from Sierra Madre operated from 1906 to October 6, 1950. The last car was #1128 and it left Sierra Madre at 5:43 pm. Many familiar Sierra Madre faces appear in this last car photograph: C.W Jones, Herbert "Red" Dowding, and Lee Shippey to name a few.



Photograph by Joe A. Hinojos. Courtesy of the Sierra Madre Historical Archives.

**President's Message**

We have a lot of people to thank this month. First, thank you to Don Reed for the many hours of work to update our by laws. Thank you to Debbie Henderson for her hard work on this project also. Thanks to the Nominating Committee, Marilyn Mc Kernan and Teresa Chaure, for getting us new Board members. A special thank you to Marilyn, who has left the Board, for her many years of hard work and dedication. She contributed many lasting improvements to the Society.

We are forming a steering committee to look into publishing a new, comprehensive, history of Sierra Madre to coincide with the City's Centennial in 2007. The next meeting is August 25, 2003. If you are interested in joining this committee please contact me at 626.355.3905.

Dane Lenton

Sierra Madre

Historical Preservation Society

Post Office Box 202, Sierra Madre, CA 91025  
626.355.8129

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP	
_____ \$10.00	Individual
_____ 15.00	Family
_____ 1.00	Student, Junior
_____ 25.00	Contributing Member
_____ 50.00	Patron
_____ 100.00	Supporter

SPECIFIC DONATION	
_____	Archival Preservation Partner
_____	Matching Grant
_____	Richardson House
_____	Lizzie's Trail Inn
\$ _____	Total

Make Check Payable To: S.M.H.P.S.

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS	
_____	Wistaria Day (booth 2 hours)
_____	Art Fair (booth 2 hours)
_____	Richardson House Docent
_____	Lizzie's Trail Inn Docent

_____	Home Tour Chairman
_____	Chair One House
_____	Docent for one room
_____	Work Crew
_____	Lizzie's
_____	Richardson House

Thank You



The next program meeting is Tuesday, October 14 at 7:30 PM in the Senior Center at Memorial Park, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Maggie Sharma will be presenting "A Stone's Throw from the Stars — A Century of Achievement at Mt. Wilson Observatory." For more information contact Phyllis Chapman at 626.355.8129

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.

**WANTED: HOME TOUR DOCENTS AND BOOTH VOLUNTEERS FOR PIONEER DAYS**

**Oct. 11 & 12, 2003**

**TO SIGN UP  
Call 626.355.8129**