



Sierra Madre
Historical
Preservation
Society Newsletter

Winter 2006

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Membership

It is time for Membership renewals! The current memberships expired December 31, 2005. Please check your address label on this newsletter, it shows the year your membership expires.

If you have already renewed, please pass the renewal envelope on to a friend who would like to join or better yet, give a gift membership to a friend. If you joined the Historical Society in the latter part of 2005 your membership will show an expiration date of 2006. Remember you may pay for two or three years at a time and your membership date will be extended.

SMHPS Receives Rotary Mini Grant

The Society has been awarded a \$500 mini grant from the Rotary Club of Sierra Madre. The funding will enable the Society to apply for an international standard book number (ISBN) and barcode for the new history book. In addition, funds will support photographic research in repositories throughout California. Thank you, Rotary, for helping to fund our exciting history book project!.

New additions to Caley Collection

The Sierra Madre Historical Archives has recently purchased W.P. Caley's ledger (1905-1918), Maybelle Caley's 1912 diary, and a group of negatives of the Caley Family. W.P. Caley was Sierra Madre's first marshall, tax collector, and steet superintendent. Maybelle was one of his daughters.

The ledger documents ranch work, deliveries, and payments received. Mr. Caley also noted deaths, remedies, addresses, meetings, recipes, weather, and excursions. Maybelle's diary reveals a great deal about social life and customs in Sierra Madre as you read about trips to the beach communities on the Red Car, parties, weddings, plays, orchestra performances, and even taffy pulling. Here's an excerpt from her diary:

Saturday

There was big head-lines in the paper about: "Love Making in Sierra Madre, Help! Police!" It was concerning the spooning that goes on on Mt. Wilson Trail every Sat. night. They are going to stop it.

Col. Henry Blanchard Hersey (1861-1948)

The Archives is looking for photographs of Col. H.B. Hersey for the local history collection and for use on the Sierra Madre Veterans Photo Wall. News articles or other information about Hersey are also welcome additions to our collection.

Col. Hersey resided in Sierra Madre and was a fascinating character. Hersey was a member of the First Volunteer Cavalry "Roosevelt's Rough Riders" in the Spanish-American War. He assisted Lt. Frank P. Lahm in the first international balloon race at Paris in 1906, helping to win the James Gordon Bennett Cup. Hersey acted as executive officer of the Wellman Chicago Record-Herald Polar Expedition of 1906-1907. During World War I he was appointed as a major of the aviation division of the Army Signal Corps and was later promoted to lieutenant colonel and was in command of the Army Balloon School. In 1918 he went overseas to France with the American Balloon Corps. Hersey served as the Chief of the U.S. Weather Bureau in Los Angeles from 1885 to 1932.

If you have an image of Col. Hersey or additional information about him, please contact Debbie Henderson by phone at 626.355.7186 or by e-mail at dhenders@sierramadre.lib.ca.us.



Children enjoy the snow at the Mater Dolorosa Monastery, January 1949. Photo by Joe A. Hinojos.

President's Message

We are very pleased with the response from our first appeal letter for the Centennial Book Project. This first letter was sent to a circle of supporters we felt closest to: members of the Historical Society, our friends and family members and members of community service groups. Many of you supported us with generous amounts and notes of encouragement. Thank you for your continuing interest and donations to this project. Our next appeal letter will be aimed at the general Sierra Madre community.

Thanks also go to the Board of the Historical Society for their fund-raising creativeness and hard work during the last year. Ways and Means Chair Teresa Chaure has been making our booths at the Wistaria Festival and Art Fair run smoothly. She makes our famous Rangpur lime-lemonade drink, gets her crew of volunteers to sell ice cream bars, books and postcards and makes it all look easy. All those people running around at the Masonic Temple on the Silent Film Nights are Board members, spouses, friends and family members. Dr. Neiby keeps the crew on target and makes all the magic happen, including chauffeuring and hosting the incomparable organist Bob Mitchell.

We look forward to an exciting year, another Silent Film Night is in the works, we will have booths at the Wistaria Festival and the Friends of the Library Art Fair, in June we will be hosting the Yodeling Cowboy Sourdough Slim concert (www.sourdoughslim.com) and on July 13 we will be hosting a Chamber of Commerce mixer at Lizzie's Trail Inn. Check our next newsletter and our website for more details (www.smhps.org).

Lastly, let me remind Sierra Madre residents of the importance of the future budget restrictions facing the City. Closure of the Library places our historical archives in jeopardy. The report on the impact of a Library closure by Librarian Toni Buckner and reports by the City Manager, John Gillison, outlining the fiscal challenges and options, are available at the Library or on the City website www.cityofsierramadre.com. The City has held two meetings and will hold another Special Meeting on February 21, 6:30 PM at City Hall. If you are unable to attend the meeting you can make your voice heard by mail, phone call or e-mail to City Hall. The Library staff urges us to: **Be informed, be involved, be an advocate.**

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Historical Preservation Society

Sierra Madre



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Box 202 Sierra Madre California 91025-0202
(626) 355-8129

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ TEL _____

<i>Membership</i>	<i>Specific Donation</i>
_____ \$15.00 Individual	Amount: _____ Archival Preservation Partner
_____ 20.00 Family,	_____ Matching Grant
_____ 1.00 Student, Junior	_____ Richardson House
_____ 25.00 Contributing Member	_____ Lizzie's Trail Inn
_____ 50.00 Patron	Total Enc. _____
_____ 100.00 Supporting	

Make check payable to S.M.H.P.S.



Donation to the Centennial Book Publication of the *History of Sierra Madre* \$ _____

My gift of: \$ _____ In Memory/Honor Of: _____

Please notify of gift: _____
Name Address City State/Zip

The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society is a 501(c) (3) organization.
Your contribution is tax deductible within the limits of the law. Thank You.

Please contact me about volunteering at _____

Seeking Carl Hansen Memorabilia
Remember the Carl Hansen Ford Dealership in downtown Sierra Madre? I'm looking for one or two Carl Hansen Ford license plate frames. If you have them or know where to find them. Please call Carole Curran
(H) 626.303.3127 (C) 626.484.7101
(w) 626.577.6318 Or
carole@pasadenapins.com

Sierra Madre Billiards Parlor Bar for Sale
Yes, the bar from the Sierra Madre Billiards Parlor is for sale. The bar was

donated to SMHPS. It is solid pine and its approximate dimensions are as follows: 14 feet in length, 2.5 feet in width, and 3 inches thick. Proceeds will benefit SMHPS. Contact us at 626.355.8129 if you are interested in purchasing this item.

Save the Date

March 12 - Wistaria Festival
May 20-21 - Sierra Madre Art Fair
June 16 - Sourdough Slim

Sourdough Slim - June 16- 7:30 p.m.

Sourdough Slim, the Yodeling Cowboy Benefit Concert for the SMHPS Centennial Book Project. Details in the



next newsletter, in the meantime check out Sourdough Slim:
www.sourdoughslim.com