



Sierra Madre  
Historical  
Preservation Society  
Newsletter

Winter 2008

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**Silent Film  
Sunday Series**

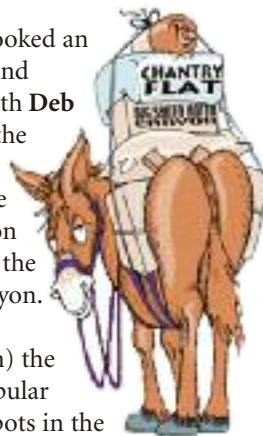
March 2, 2008  
**Silent Film  
Sunday Series**  
Masonic Temple  
33 E. Sierra  
Madre Blvd.  
Sierra Madre-  
starts at 6:30  
PM.

*The Black Pirate-*

One of the first Technicolor films made and certainly the inspiration for all other pirate swashbucklers that followed, *The Black Pirate* was directed by **Albert Parker** and was written by and stars a favorite of our Silent Film Series-**Douglas Fairbanks**. First released on March 8, 1926, the movie was filmed on the Channel and Santa Catalina Islands. The plot is a tale of revenge and love-a young man joins a pirate band to avenge his father's death. **Billie Dove** plays the fair damsel kidnapped by the pirates and in need of rescue. Douglas Fairbanks wrote a timeless tale of adventure and romance that inspires Hollywood to this day. All pirate films for the last 82 years surely pay homage to this film. This film has been in demand by silent film buffs of late for just that reason. Our wonderful **Bob Mitchell** will do us the honor of playing the organ accompaniment to *The Black Pirate*. Light refreshments will be served. Tickets are a \$20 tax deductible donation to the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society, a 501(c) (3) organization. All proceeds are to support the Centennial Book project. Costumes are encouraged. Aargh! Hoist your Jolly Roger and sail on over. See you there, matey! Contact for tickets: **Dane 355-3509** or **Gurdon 355-4917**

**Adam's Pack Station Event:**

The Historical Society has booked an exciting event for members and friends. We have arranged with **Deb** and **Sue Burgess**, owners of the Adam's Pack Station, for a packing demonstration at the Pack Station. The Pack Station is located in Chantry Flat, in the heart of Big Santa Anita Canyon. According to their web site ([www.adamspackstation.com](http://www.adamspackstation.com)) the camp is "one of the most popular and historically significant spots in the Angeles National Forest. This is thought to be the last pack station of its kind in the United States."



The date for the event is Saturday, March 15, 1:30 PM in the Adam's Pack Station Picnic Grove. The

Picnic Grove is handicapped accessible. Follow Santa Anita Avenue north out of Sierra Madre and follow the signs. The program is FREE. Light refreshments will be served. The Forest Service charges \$5 for parking and car-pooling is strongly advised. Please call Dane at 355-3905 for arrangements to get in a carpool or offer a ride.



**In Memoriam:  
John Grijalva**

Sierra Madre lost one of its own unique treasures on Sunday, December 9 with the passing of John Grijalva. John was born in Los Angeles on December 18, 1928 and died just nine

days short of his 79th birthday. His family: his mom, two brothers and a sister moved to Sierra Madre when John was 7 or 8 years old. His family made numerous moves during John's teenage years, but John found his way back to Sierra Madre and never left. He married his wife Mignon nee (Murphy) in 1949 and they raised two sons, Steve and John. John loved Sierra Madre and Sierra Madre loved John. He was honored by being named the Grand Marshal of the 4th of July Parade (2003), Older American of the Year (2004), and Citizen of the Year (2006). John gave back with the Veteran's Memorial Wall, many years of hosting Pioneer Days reunions and countless other projects in town. The reunions have been held in October most years since 1998 when Pioneer Days was revived. They brought together many old Sierra Madre families, former residents and friends to exchange stories, photos and loving memories. John helped the Archives tremendously by inviting **Debbie Henderson**, the Sierra Madre Library archivist, to Pioneer Days activities and introducing her to many long time Sierra Madre residents. John also introduced Sierra Madre Centennial Book author **Michele Zack** to many Sierra Madreans.

Library staff also worked closely with John on the Veteran's Photo Wall. **Gerard Brane** scanned the images using equipment at the Library so we have a substantial digital archive of Sierra Madre servicemen and women. The Archives also preserves and provides access to the information sheets about each veteran.

Donations can be made to the: Sierra Madre Veterans Wall, c/o Mignon Grijalva, 130 E. Montecito Ave., Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

Sierra Madre

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## Historical Preservation Society

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### **Membership**

Welcome to the many new members who have joined the Historical Preservation Society this past year. Thanks to you and our past members for your support. We look forward to seeing all of you at our booths, meetings and programs.

Most of you, your membership renewal dues are due January 1st. The yearly memberships have expired December 31, 2007.

Enclosed in this newsletter is your renewal envelope. Please fill in the envelope and enclose your renewal check. If you are not sure when your membership expires, please check your mailing label on this newsletter, as it shows the year your membership expires. Members have asked if more than one year can be paid at a time. YES! You may pay for two or three years at a time and your membership date will reflect the extended renewal time.

Thank you everyone for your membership dues and donations. Thank you to all of our contributing members, patrons, supporters, and Archival Preservation Partners. Your combined support helps the Historical Preservation Society keep Lizzie's Trail Inn and the Richardson House in excellent repair and your donations to the Archives help to secure new documents and photos relating to Sierra Madre. Our greatest appreciation and gratitude goes to

our Centennial Book Publications supporters. THANK YOU! May the year 2008 be a wonderful year for all. ~ Darlene Traxler

### **Centennial Book Project**

The Book Committee will be hard at work in the Spring of 2008. Author Michele Zack will be finishing the manuscript by March 31. The committee is busily scouring historical library archives and private collections across both Northern and Southern California for appropriate maps, photographs and other images to illustrate the finished chapters. If you have experience as a researcher and would like to lend a hand, please call **Dane Lenton at 355-3905**. What a learning experience this has been for the SMHPS Board. Making a book is a painstaking job that only those with strong minds and strong backs should take on! We will be doing some more fund-raising events (the strong backs part) as we endeavor to raise money to pay licensing fees for images, purchase our ISBN for publishing and a myriad of other costs as we move closer to publishing.

### **Wanted: American Bungalow Issues!**

In the event that SMHPS members are considering a winter/spring cleaning of their periodical collection, please bear in mind that we would like several back issues of American Bungalow magazine to complete our holdings. The issue numbers we are seeking are as follows: 4-14, 24, 27,

32, and 33. These issues are not available for purchase from the publisher so we appeal to our members and their friends to help us fill in the gaps. If you have one or more of these issues that you'd like to donate, please contact **Debbie Henderson** at the Archives by phone at 626.355.7186 or via e-mail at [dhenders@sierramadre.lib.ca.us](mailto:dhenders@sierramadre.lib.ca.us). Thanks!

### **Also Needed:**

A new webmaster! After designing and publishing our web site and many years of maintaining the web site, **www.smhps.org, Debbie Henderson** would like to turn over the task of the upkeep to someone else. If you are computer savvy and are interested in a volunteer task you can do from you home, please give her a call at the Library, 626.355.7186, Tuesday through Friday, or leave a message on the Society's phone 626.355.8129. Thanks!

### **Wistaria Festival**

Look for our table with historical displays and buy an old-fashioned ice cream bar from our booth at the Wistaria Festival, March 30 in Memorial Park.