

A Message From Our President Wes Speake

Dear Members,

Happy New Year, 2020 is upon us!... 2019 was another great year for CHPS and Corona. We continued to direct our effort and fundraising toward the preservation and protection of Corona’s historic sites, buildings, neighborhoods and resources.



CHPS Board of Directors

We also had another successful Vintage Home Tour, raising thousands of dollars for our preservation programs. In June, I squeezed 11½ gallons of lemon juice from Corona lemons for lemonade, and we gave away over 60 gallons to fair goers at Heritage Park’s 19th Annual Antiques and Collectibles Faire.

To this end, we produced six very entertaining and informative newsletters, CHPS hosted four Quarterly Meetings, and work has progressed on our Historic Marker program. 2020 should see 2 new markers: a marker for the Grand Boulevard Historic District being listed on the National Register of Historic Places, another updating the monument and replacing the Marker #3 plaque, Marshall Alexander Murder site. We hope to announce an additional marker in early 2020. CHPS raised money at five different events, hosted and presented our 11th Vintage Home Tour, identified recipients for Heritage Home Awards, and welcomed a new board member.

In all, CHPS board members attended over a dozen events in 2019. Whew!!! Our Quarterly Meeting programs provided excellent educational opportunities for our members and the public at large.

This year our four Quarterly Meetings (free for our members) consisted of 1) a panel discussion with retired Corona Police Department Command staff - *History of the Corona Police Department*; 2) a tour of the La Sierra University World Natural History Museum, 3) in October, CHPS hosted a showing of 1953’s *The War of Worlds* featuring some views of downtown Corona in 1952, along with a wonderful presentation by two film historians, at the theater at Dos Lagos, and 4) our final meeting was our Holiday Party where we heard amazing music from the Corona High School Madrigals and enjoyed camaraderie and an old-fashioned potluck dinner while spending time with other members of our Society.

Our fund raising efforts support CHPS’ Home Preservation Grant Program to help protect, beautify and restore local historic structures and other CHPS preservation projects. We continue to receive overwhelmingly positive feedback and support for our bi-monthly CHPS Newsletter. Our website and social media efforts continue to grow into very effective avenues for communicating and educating.

Finally, in November, we hosted a booth at the Lemon Festival, sponsored by the Corona Art Association, selling books and citrus crate labels and showing a display of United States currency issued in Corona.

Looking forward, I hope you will join us on Saturday, February 8th for CHPS 7th panel discussion *Life in the Citrus Ranches: Stories of Hope, Family and Community*, featuring people who lived at Corona’s Citrus Ranches. If you did not get a chance to attend the previous panel discussions, they can be viewed on our CHPS YouTube channel. The icon can be clicked on our website home page at the upper right. You can also simply go to YouTube and type in “Corona Historic Preservation Society.”

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as the president this last year, and I would like to thank the Board and membership for their support, help and friendship. Happy New Year, and I wish all of you a healthy and prosperous 2020.

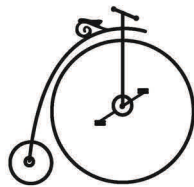
Sincerely,

WES



CHPS Accomplishments of Note During 2019

●**Saturday, February 9**, our 1st Quarterly Meeting was held. It was a successful panel discussion: **History of the Corona Police Department**, featuring retired Corona Police Department Chiefs and Captains and moderated by longtime CPD Historian Terry Madory. The meeting was held in the HCC Community Room.



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Antiques & Collectibles Faire at Corona Heritage Park. A lemonade stand and a viewing area for looking at Corona Collectibles such as Corona Currency and historic match books was provided. Purchasing of CHPS **reproduction citrus labels**, suitable for framing and hanging, was offered again this year.

●**Historic Site Markers:** The masonry monuments for two historic markers have been completed. A podium style extension of marker No. 3 (Marshal Alexander Murder Site) to accommodate a granite marker with corrected text and an image of Marshal Alexander was completed by Boy Scout Logan Ferrick and is awaiting the arrival of the granite plaque. A brick monument designed and constructed by Boy Scout Elias Packer, in the pocket park at Joy and Tenth streets will have a marker indicating that Grand Boulevard Historic District has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The marker plaques are in fabrication and should arrive at any time.

●**Heritage Home Awards**, Six homes were identified for 2019 but have not yet been awarded to all owners.

●**Throughout 2019**, CHPS continued raising funds for the restoration of the **Veteran's Memorial Wall** monument at Butterfield Park. Construction is expected to begin in 2020.

●**Throughout 2019**, CHPS responded to various invitations to comment on developer proposals that required responses under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

●**Throughout 2019**, CHPS responded to PRC (Project Environmental Review Committee), and DPR (Development Plan Review Committee) agenda items of possible historic interest as well as correspondence from developer consultants regarding these proposals. CHPS regularly communicated about matters of historical interest or related activities to the City Council, Chamber of Commerce and Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

●**Throughout 2019**, CHPS responded to various requests from the Community Development Division for advisory opinions, on actions involving Heritage Properties, usually related to applications for Landmark status and whether restored properties met the criteria established by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

●**Saturday, March 2**, The Riverside County History Symposium was held at the historic Lake Elsinore Cultural Arts Center.

●**Saturday, March 16**, CHPS provided a booth at the CNUSD Festival of the Arts, held at the beautiful and historic Heritage park and museum.

●**Saturday, May 11**, CHPS hosted our 11th Vintage Home Tour featuring homes located at 1839 South Main, 819 Howard, 1215 E. Grand, 1208 Palm and the historic American Legion Post 216 *Legion Hall* located at 1024 South Main Street.

●**Saturday, June 1**, CHPS participated in the 18th Annual

●**Saturday, June 15** For our 2nd Quarterly Meeting CHPS hosted a "members only" tour of the **World Museum of Natural History** at La Sierra University. A personal tour was arranged by Curator, Carolyn Wilcock and was enjoyed by all.

●Placement of **Historic Route signage**, marking the historic route of California State Highway 18 and US Highway 91 (from Green River Road along Sixth Street to Magnolia Avenue), State Highway 71 (Yorba Avenue north of Sixth Street, Sixth Street to Main Street, Main Street to Ontario Avenue, Ontario Avenue east to I-15) was still pending after approval by the City's Infrastructure Committee.

●**Saturday, October 19**, CHPS provided an historic information booth at the Corona Lemon Festival on the lawn in front of the historic Civic Center.

●**CHPS sent a letter** to the California Supreme Court in support of the Lake Norconian Club Foundation and the City of Norco appeal of a decision by the First Appellate District Court, Division 4 on behalf of the California Department of Corrections allowing the prison to neglect necessary maintenance and preservation repairs to the historic Lake Norconian Club structures.

●**Saturday, September 14**, our 3rd Quarterly Meeting was the screening of **The War of the Worlds** - a feature film filmed in and around Corona in 1952 and released in 1953. The film was shown on the big screen at the Dos Lagos Starlight Theater. Two film historians Bill Rozar and Robert Skotak provided historical context before and after the showing of the film.

●**Monday, December 2**, Annual Holiday Party & General Member Meeting at the Clubhouse of the Corona Woman's Improvement Club from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. See page 5 for further details.

●CHPS continued its **support of the Heritage Room** at the Corona Public Library with a financial donation. CHPS members have also provided volunteer time throughout the year.

●**Bi-monthly Newsletters** presented numerous well researched articles on interesting topics: "The Concordia Ranch", "Silver Dollar Pancake House," "The Call Ranch House", "Marshal Alexander—Murdered on Duty", "History of the Clay Pipe and Brick Industry in Corona."

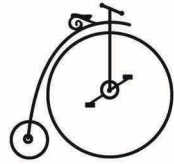
All of this wouldn't be possible without our outstanding Board of Directors, our fabulous members, wonderful volunteers and of course, continued member support. Not bad for a \$30 membership per year!

A Panel Discussion

“Life in the Citrus Ranches: Stories of Hope, Family and Community”

Co-Hosted by Wes Speake & Marta Cortez

Presented by



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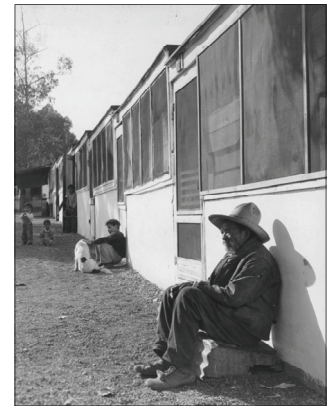


Corona Foothill Lemon Ranch once located on Buena Vista Avenue*

WHEN: Saturday, February 8, 2020

TIME: 10:00 AM

WHERE:
Community Room
Historic Civic Center
815 West Sixth Street



American Fruit Growers Ranch once off Temescal Canyon Road*

THIS MEETING IS FREE OF CHARGE AND IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Refreshments will be provided

* Historic photos are courtesy of Heritage Park & the Corona Public Library

Results of Annual Election of Board of Directors

At the Annual Meeting held December 2, 2019, the following four Directors were elected to two-year terms: Tricia Henson-Cabrera, Amelia Nieves, Wes Speake and Richard Winn.

At that same meeting, the following two former CHPS officers were elected to one-year terms as Advisors: Marla Benson and Ted Taylor.

This election was held in accordance with bylaws of the Corona Historic Preservation Society.

Sunnyslope Cemetery Stroll Event By Richard Winn

Kathleen Dever and her talented writing and acting crew put on the Sunnyslope Cemetery Stroll on Sunday October 27, 2019. This marked 20 years of respectful presentations of historic community persons' lives and brought community members together to honor the past and showcase some of its important inhabitants. The first seven of these Cemetery events were sponsored by CHPS as *Cemetery Walks*.

The theme of this year's Stroll was *The Influenza Epidemic of 1918-1919* and highlighted the lives of five cemetery residents who succumbed to the flu during that time period. Their names are in bold text below.

Sydney Huggins portrayed **Ada Corkhill** utilizing a script researched and written by Judy Whitson. **Jane Mulkins Dye Halstead** life and times were highlighted by CHPS member Helen Yoshikawa who also wrote the script. Mel Chadwick portrayed **John Thomas Hamner** from a script written by Carol McDoniel. **Gladys Blickhahn Jameson** was interpreted by Kelsey Coovert using a script prepared by Diane Stephens. Diane Stephens also acted this year portraying **Teresa DeGiorgio Danieri** utilizing a script researched and prepared by Kathleen Dever and Angela Danieri Lunetta.

Copies of the scripts are available on the website of the Corona Genealogical Society.

A bit of light hearted humor was featured in the byplay of **Stanley Clark**, Purveyor of Patent Products, (a "snake oil Salesman" of the period) portrayed by Scott Huseth and his shill Mr. S. Hill portrayed by Roy Dever.

The weather was perfect, and the event was well supported to raise funds to maintain the grounds and preserve the historic cemetery established in 1892

Photo credit: Longtime CHPS member Akio Yoshikawa



Docent Sheila Cocco as
Flora P. Mueller



Sydney Huggins as Ada Corkhill



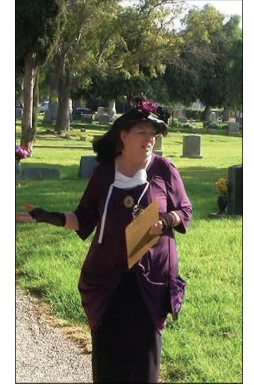
Mel Chadwick as
John Thomas Hamner



Scott Huseth as Stanley Clark,
Purveyor of Patent Products



Helen Yoshikawa as Jane Mulkins
(Dye) Halstead



Tour Guide Sherry Jones
as Lida Fisher



Jean and Uncle Butch Hibben provided "Songs of the Times"
based on the influenza epidemic



Diane Stephens as
Teresa DiGiorgio Danieri



Kelsey Coovert as
Gladys Blickman Jameson

Annual Meeting & Holiday Party Report By Chris McCoy

If you did not attend our annual Holiday Party and Quarterly Meeting you missed a good time which was had by all. This year it was held on December 2nd at the Woman's Improvement Club on Main Street. In attendance were Vice Mayor Jim Steiner and



Councilperson (and Society President) Wes Speake. We also had former Councilman Eugene Montanez and Karen Spiegel attend. Karen is now our County Supervisor. She is a Life Member of CHPS and is a longtime member of the Woman's Improvement Club. We thank the Montanezes of Allegra Image 360 for providing us with Heritage Calendars for 2020.

This year the decorations were amazing thanks to the care and effort of Trisha Henson, Amelia Nieves, Paula Muñoz and Doris Osko. Dean Stamp's invaluable assistance in decorating the room was also very much appreciated.



The room was festooned with lovely place settings, a decorated tree, fancy wreaths and colorful table centerpieces. All in all, the additional festive decorations made for a wonderful evening.

The potluck style meal featured turkey and ham as well as a little bit of everything else. One of the hits was a sweet potato casserole that had plenty of care and brown sugar for those of us with a sweet tooth!

Our President Wes Speake provided a welcome and introductions. Vice President Eric Bergreen handled the official part of the meeting, ensuring annual business, like electing officers and making announcements, was done properly. Eric also conducted a fine round of Corona History Trivia in which we all participated and had fun.

The main event over dessert was a performance by the Madrigals a capella choir from Corona High School. Angelic music from all over the world was performed under the direction of Amy Eden. We

always appreciate the festive appearance of the choir with the girls wearing red dresses and the young men in their black tuxedos, The music was amazing, but the stories in-between songs were equally compelling. Many of the students in the choir have

overcome great challenges in their lives at young ages, and many have achieved amazing goals already. It was encouraging to see so many of our young Corona High students working together. It certainly provides optimism for our community as well as our nation's future.

Of course all good things have to end and indeed the choir ended on a high note with a round of applause and a standing ovation. They will be competing in Chicago soon, and the CHPS audience raised money for their cause as they performed and presented them with it after the show.

We would like to encourage you to check your calendar for next year's holiday event. All members are invited to attend. We hope to see you there!



I Remember When: Kristine Ganahl DiPaolo

By Wes Speake

Mrs. DiPaolo, has lived her whole life in Corona. She was the only daughter of John and Helen Ganahl. She lived on Park Lane, just south of East Grand until 1950 when she moved to a house on south Garretson that her father had built. She said, "it was in the boonies" but she had friends who lived on Garretson so she didn't have to venture too far. Her father practiced law and served as Corona's City Attorney for 30 years. Her best childhood memories were of visiting her grandfather's ranch. The Ganahl Ranch was located at the top of South Main street and consisted of 166 acres of lemons, oranges and grapefruit trees as well as three reservoirs, one of which served as a private swimming pool for her brothers and her cousins every summer afternoon.



Kristine

The ranch was purchased by her great-grandfather Fidel Ganahl in 1916. Fidel was not a stranger to Corona. He was a very successful lumber man in St. Louis and for many years he continuously received letters and advertisements for the "Queen Colony" from Messrs Joy and Hudson. However, Fidel had first come to Corona looking for coal and oil in Hagador Canyon in 1890 and saw the property and fell in love. 40-acres of the property was originally planted by Corona founder Robert Taylor. The property was traded and sold several times over the years. One owner before Mr. Ganahl acquired the ranch was a former two-term mayor of Los Angeles, James Toberman. Fidel owned a farm outside of St. Louis and once opined that he hoped to retire from the lumber business to become a fulltime farmer by the age of 50. The ranch property was viewed as the premier citrus ranch in the area for its views, seclusion and citrus production. So much so that rumors floated in early 1921 that Hollywood superstars Fatty Arbuckle and Mary Pickford made offers to purchase the ranch.



One of the first things Fidel built before his untimely death in June 1921, was an upper concrete lined reservoir that held 2.5 million gallons and was over 30 ft. deep. This reservoir featured a dock that extended over water that served as a diving platform and place for Kristine, her brothers and numerous cousins to play. After Fidel's death the Ranch was inherited by Kristine's grandfather, Alphonse.

Alphonse was a water rights attorney and once said he, "worked as an attorney so that he could play citrus rancher." Alphonse and his

wife Myra were known to be amazing entertainers. In addition to the reservoirs that the kids used for swimming, there was "Weenie Bake Hill", a knoll that rose above the house and offered amazing views all the way to the San Gabriel mountains. Kristine says she still hears from longtime acquaintances and their parents what amazing parties Alphonse and Myra threw, especially on the 4th of July where



Myra & Alphonse Ganahl

one could see fireworks displays for miles. Her grandmother hosted Sunday dinners (roasted prime rib was a favorite), and the whole family loved them. Although Myra didn't drink, she was known to make a very strong Old Fashioned.

Kristine's earliest memory of the ranch was when she was 5, and bugged her uncle to take her outside to play. But he kept telling her to go out and play. Finally, he gave in and walked her out only to find a coiled rattlesnake just outside the door. He killed the snake, and she was able to play the rest of the day.

Kristine attended Lincoln School for kindergarten and St. Edwards School from 1st through 9th grade. Her father dropped her off at St. Edwards in the morning, and her mom did pick-up duty. She attended Corona High School where she was head cheerleader, played Varsity Girls Tennis. (Tennis was only girls varsity sport in the early 1960s.) She was Corona High's very first Homecoming Queen in 1963. Prior to 1963, the title was known as Miss Football. Kristine loved high school and spent her time socializing with her friends and attending after game Sock Hops in the high school gym. One of Kristine's best memories is renting a beach house with friends in Newport Beach for spring break while in high school.

Trips in the summer to the reservoirs became less frequent after her father built a swimming pool at their Garretson home. While living in the "boondocks", one had to plan to have friends over, as well as travel to go trick or treating.

A destination for a special night for the family was the Hickory BBQ. Taco Tavern on West 6th was also a favorite.

What does she love about Corona? After all these years, she still loves Corona because of the feeling it is still a small town in some ways because she still sees so many friends and has friendships that are multiple generational.



Membership Information

**When joining or renewing your membership, please make your
tax deductible check payable to "CHPS"**

Individual Member	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	I'd like to volunteer!
Family	\$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality refreshments <input type="checkbox"/>
Student	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter writing articles <input type="checkbox"/>
Business	\$60.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vintage Home Tour
Patron	\$125.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	docent / volunteer <input type="checkbox"/>
Life	\$600.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board of Directors <input type="checkbox"/>
Name(s) _____			
Address _____			
City _____		State _____	Zip _____
Telephone _____		E-mail _____	
Gift from _____			

Membership Status: Renewal New

**Please complete and mail to:
CHPS
P.O. Box 2904
Corona, CA 92878**



We Welcome Our New & Continuing Members

ALLEGRA - Image 360
Patricia Campobasso
Kathy Farley
Doris Haddy
Gary & Trisha Henson
Georgia Lambert

Steve Lech
Randy & Cathy Leonti
Mitch & Karen Lloyd
George Martinez
Christopher McCoy
Alan & Nancy Royce

Sue Simmons
Wes Speake
Fran Tassin
Michele Wentworth
Nancy Wyatt
Akio & Helen Yoshikawa

Home Preservation Grant Program

The CHPS Grant Committee along with the Board of Directors of the Corona Historic Preservation Society would love to assist local homeowners in making exterior improvements to their historic homes.

We will process any application within 60 days after submittal. Once a grant has been approved and reimbursement limits established, funds will be made available upon completion, inspection and onsite final approval.

Take this opportunity to do some fixing up and have part of the material cost covered by CHPS. Remember we are interested in helping people beautify their homes for others to see, so applications are primarily for curb appeal projects. If you have a place that you feel needs help, either your own



or a neighbor's, please contact CHPS Home Preservation Grant Program Coordinator Rich Winn at rwinn141@gmail.com/714.328.0010. We will assist you in any way possible to provide the information you need to complete the application process.

Grant applications are available at the Community Development Department at Corona City Hall at 400 South Vicentia, and at the Heritage Room of the Corona Public Library.

More information and grant applications may also be downloaded from our website:
<<http://corona-history.org/grants.html>>

Please share this information with others!



Corona
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Board of Directors

President - Wes Speake
Vice President - Eric Bergreen
Secretary - Vacant
Treasurer - Richard Winn

Directors

Trisha Henson-Cabrera
Chris McCoy
Paula Muñoz
Amelia Nieves
Mary Winn

Advisors

Marla Benson
Ted Taylor



To contact us call
951.898.2044

Please leave a message



Our Mission Statement

The Corona Historic Preservation Society (CHPS) is an active nonprofit tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the PRESERVATION, PROTECTION and PERPETUATION of Corona's historic sites, buildings, neighborhoods and resources. We do this through education, community events, preservation projects and tireless advocacy for the benefit of present and future generations.

Monthly Meetings

CHPS Board meetings are held each month to transact Society business, discuss issues affecting the Society and preservation of local historic resources.

All members are invited to attend.

The next meetings will be:

Thursday, Jan 18, 6:30 at CHPS office

Thursday, Feb 20, 6:30 at CHPS office



www.Corona-History.org



Corona
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Preservation
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P.O. Box 2904
Corona, California 92878-2904



**Please join us at our Panel Discussion
on February 8th See Page 3**