

### A Message From Our President Wes Speake

Dear Members:

Happy New Year!!! 2021 is just around the corner.

One of the time-honored traditions in celebrating the New Year is reflecting on one’s accomplishments during the previous year. However, 2020 was a year like no other in my lifetime. Although, we have been sequestered since March we continued to direct our efforts and fundraising toward the preservation and protection of Corona’s historic sites, buildings, neighborhoods and resources. To this end, we produced six very entertaining and informative newsletters, CHPS board member Rich Winn volunteered significant number of hours working with the City on the City Historic Register and Historic Resources Lists.

Because of the quarantine and making sure our members were safe, we cancelled all our events this year except one, The Panel Discussion in February: **Life in the Citrus Ranches: Stories of Hope and Family and Community** hosted by Marta Cortez and me. If you did not get a chance to attend this discussion or 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 [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and type “Corona Historic Preservation Society.”

We staffed a booth at a delayed 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Antiques and Collectibles Faire at Corona; Heritage Park, normally we would have given away freshly squeezed Lemonade from Corona Lemons. However, because of COVID restrictions we had to limit ourselves to displays of Books on Corona written by Mary Winn, beautiful reproductions of Corona Citrus labels, Old Match Books and a dis-

play of Corona centric currency from the Corona National Bank and First National Bank of Corona. All funds raised from our events go 100% back into community programs; Preservation Grant Program provided funds which helped to protect, beautify, and restore historic structures. This year’s projects included the repainting of 1164 E. Grand Blvd, and initial roof repairs at the historic Woman’s Improvement Club clubhouse. Other programs benefitting from our fund raising are the restoration of the Veteran’s Memorial Wall at Butterfield Park and the CHPS Historic Marker Program that celebrate Corona’s past. Speaking of Historic Markers....

#### EXACT LOCATION OF MARSHALL ALEXANDER MURDER FOUND

As part of our review of our Historic Markers, the CHPS recently replaced and updated Marker #3

*Continued on next page*

**CITY MARSHAL IS BRUTALLY MURDERED EARLY THIS A.M.**

**G. C. Alexrnder is Shot Down Shortly After Midnight Within 50 Feet of Own Home, When He Tries to Preserve Peace**

+ All Corona was horrified to learn at an early hour this morning +  
 + that City Marshal G. C. Alexander had been shot and killed by a +  
 + Mexican when he attempted to restore order in the shack in which +  
 + some foreigners lived. +  
 + It is believed that the crime was committed at 12:30 o'clock this +  
 + morning as two muffled shots were heard at this time by those who +  
 + live adjacent to the shack, which is located within 50 feet of the +  
 + Alexander home at 512 Howard street. +  
 ++++++

## President's Message Cont'd

marking the Marshal Alexander Murder location near 6th and Howard Streets. The initial text was incorrect and the exact location of the Marshal Alexander murder, on December 22nd, 1913, was based on newspaper articles in 1913 and 1914 but the lack of maps or aerial photographs of Corona in this timeframe made any location truly a guess. In late 2020, the United States Library of Congress released the digitized 1911 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps for the city of Corona, these maps show the exact layout of buildings where Alexander was murdered. Councilmember Tom Richins and I went to the property and took measurements and compared these newly discovered maps and we believe that we pinpointed the exact location of the building where the murder took

place. Marshal Alexander is the only Corona PD officer to ever lose his life while in the line of duty.

I am hopeful that the latter half of 2021 will bring a bright year of exciting programs and events. Until then, we will continue to plan for the future and celebrate the past. It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as the president for the past four years and I would like to thank the Board of Directors and membership for your support, help and friendship. Happy New Year and I wish all of you a HEALTHY and prosperous 2021.

Warmest regards,

WES



## Report from the Board of Directors

### A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT WES SPEAKE:

I want to reiterate for the benefit of our members, that since the beginning of the pandemic, the Board of Directors of CHPS has not stopped focusing on our core mission of PRESERVATION, PROTECTION and PERPETUATION of Corona's historic sites, buildings, neighborhoods and resources. The board has met "virtually" every month during the pandemic with hopeful planning

for 2021. We have been researching interesting topics to be included in our amazing bimonthly *Newsletter* and postings on the CHPS Facebook Group and Page. We are compiling a list of impressive homes to be considered for our annual Heritage Home Awards and we're striving to raise funds for our various preservation projects and our Historic Marker Program. We really hope to be able to resume some type of normal activities and operations as soon as possible during 2021.

## Save the Date: Riverside County History Symposium

The Riverside County History Symposium is scheduled for **Saturday, March 6, 2021**. It was initially scheduled to be in Corona at the historic Corona Theater at 211 East Sixth Street. Unfortunately, California's COVID-10 pandemic gathering restrictions made that impossible.

A virtual History Symposium is planned. As soon as new speakers are lined up, the sponsoring organization, the Riverside County Heritage Association, will let the *Newsletter* editor know the particulars and an email notification will be generated to all of our members. We have been informed that the Symposium sched-

uled for **Saturday, March 5, 2022** will be an in-person symposium here in Corona with all the particulars announced in December or January of 2021.

It is anticipated that the 2022 Symposium will convene in the Corona theater building seen here.





# Report on Annual Meeting & Holiday Party

By Richard Winn

If you missed our Annual Meeting and Holiday Party, you missed a truly unique experience. This year it was held virtually on December 7th at 7:00 p.m. instead of at the Woman's Improvement Club on Main Street, due to COVID-19 meeting restrictions. In attendance were our Second District County Supervisor Karen Spiegel and Corona Councilperson (and Society President) Wes Speake.

Director Amelia Nieves hosted the meeting by setting up the details for the ZOOM meeting to include our members. We thank her for her generous offer and appreciate her expertise in such matters.



Amelia Nieves

Traditionally, Paula and Eugene Montanez attend each year and distribute their company's beautiful Heritage Calendars during our annual soiree. Since this wasn't an option we are excited that the Montanezes offered to provide their historic calendars to all our members by mail. We sincerely thank the longtime support of the Montanezes of Allegra - Image 360 for providing us with Heritage Calendars for 2021.

This year the decorations depended upon where you connected to the internet and were largely unseen. The Woman's Improvement Club was dark so we could only imagine a room festooned with lovely place settings, a decorated tree, fancy wreaths and colorful table centerpieces.

Our President Wes Speake provided a welcome, recognition and introductions of community leaders and VIPs who had joined the meeting. He also shared and a historic video clip of a film titled *July-August 1948 Corona, in Color*. It was great fun to see scenes from Corona that were filmed 73 years ago.

Vice President Eric Bergreen handled the official part of the meeting, ensuring that the annual business, of electing officers and making announcements, came off without a hitch.

**Annual Election results:** The slate of nominees recommended by the Nominations Committee was

electd without opposition. Those elected were: **Directors:** Eric Bergreen, Shaylene Cortez, Chris McCoy, Paula Muñoz and Mary Winn, **Advisors:** Marla Benson and Ted Taylor.

Eric also conducted a brief quiz of Corona History Trivia in which we all participated and had fun.



Wes Speake

We really missed the traditional performance by the Corona High School a capella Madrigal choir Angelic music from all over the world was not able to be heard this evening and we missed the festive appearance of the choir with the girls wearing long red dresses and the young men in their black tuxedos, The music would have been amazing and we missed the compelling stories in-between songs. It is always encouraging to see so many of our young Corona High students working together, and this year, we missed their participation in our Holiday Party We do not know what their plans are for the coming year but we are sure that should you wish to donate to support their performances checks made out to the CHS Madrigal Choir would be well received if sent to Corona High School. We would hate to see their efforts curtailed by anything like a world-wide Pandemic.

We would like to encourage you to check your calendar for next year's holiday event on the first Monday in December. All members are invited to attend this always fun get-together. Let's hope it will come to pass and we certainly hope to see you there!



Vice President Eric Bergreen conducted Society's official business

# Report on Antiques & Collectibles Faire

By Amelia Nieves



Lisa and Kim

This year's Antiques and Collectibles Faire was re-scheduled from June 2 to November 14 due to COVID 19 restrictions. My niece Lisa accompanied me to the Antique Faire that Saturday morning. I had to be in the CHPS booth, so Lisa went to check out the Faire. Let me explain the circumstances that resulted in the picture to the left.

this book belongs to you. It is your old book it's back where it belongs." Kim then shared with me that my birthdate is something very meaningful to her as well. It was the day she buried her mommy. I felt the energy between the two of us. I am so grateful to have trusted my instincts to go walk over and ask about a book. My mommy told me years ago to always buy



Amelia, Mary Rigg & Wes in the CHPS booth



A northeasterly view of the Faire central concourse



An easterly view of the lower concourse.

my grand-daughter a book every year for Christmas and I was being obedient. We said our good-byes. Minutes later Kim walked over to

While I staffed the CHPS Booth, Lisa went to check out the Faire. Lisa came back to me all excited and this is what she told me, - her words: I came over to Kim's booth, and she was selling vintage items. I asked for a certain book and she said yes, I have one. As soon as she handed me the book, I noticed it had my entire birthdate written out on the 1st page of the book. My check out number I had for well over 10 yrs. was 1025, it was my elementary library #. Omg, my heart felt so heavy seeing this, I told her before opening the entire book that I remember I had torn the bottom half off from one of the pages.

My mom was very upset with me, so I got in trouble for it. I also had red ink pen marks around the #s of the pages. I showed her my ID to prove that it was my birthdate, as well as my mother's. My heart kept telling me that it was my mommy watching over me. I asked her what her name was, and she told me KIM. I said Wow!! That is my 1<sup>st</sup> best friend's name that I met when I came to California. We hugged as I let out my tears. Kim said, "Lisa

Lisa and me to share Lisa's story with me. She told me exactly all that just happened between the two of them. It is amazing! Who would have thought that Lisa would ever find her favorite childhood book.



A southeasterly view of the Heritage Park Museum building and nearby vendors.

Out of an abundance of

caution related to the pandemic, CHPS did not offer freshly squeezed lemonade from local lemon trees this year. The weather cooperated and everything worked out very well.

While attendance at the Faire appeared to be less than in past years, vendors were happy to be able to spend more time with customers and talk about the pandemic.

This story just goes to prove you never know what you might find at the Heritage Park Antiques Faire!



# Got Tanlac?

By Eric Bergreen

With all that's happened over the course of the last year I began doing some research on what it was like during the epidemic at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century known as the Spanish Flu. I found a very interesting newspaper article that gave some insight into what times were like in our area back then. The article below is from the *Riverside Daily Press*, dated February 6, 1920 and may or may not be a cleverly hidden advertisement for a drug popularized over a hundred years ago:



and you are apt to fall an easy victim if you come in contact with the germs.

“People who are well and strong are not likely to contract the disease because they are able to throw it off. The common-sense way to keep from taking it is to fortify the system against attack by building up the constitution, in other words, begin immediately to build up your powers of resistance. To accomplish this it has been demonstrated that nothing on earth will strengthen you and build you up like

## “PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION TO GUARD AGAINST ‘FLU’

Reports Show That **Influenza Epidemic** Is Gaining Headway In Many Sections Of the Country. KEEP SYSTEM IN BEST POSSIBLE CONDITION Persons Weak and Run-down Are Earliest Victims. Fortify Against Attack By Taking Tanlac,

“According to late press reports issued by state and city health authorities, influenza is again becoming ‘epidemic’ in many sections, and some alarm is now felt that it may become general over the entire country. Owing to the lateness of the season it is not thought possible that the disease can become the great and terrifying scourge that it was last year, when it swept the entire country and claimed its victims by the hundreds of thousands. The danger is too great, however, to take any chances, and everything possible should be done to ward it off.

Tanlac, the powerful reconstructive tonic which contains the very elements needed to build up the system and give you fighting strength to ward off the influenza germ.

“First of all, Tanlac begins its work by creating a good, healthy appetite for wholesome, nourishing food, and assists every organ of the body to perform its natural function, thus helping to build up health and strength in the natural way. Tanlac is also an ideal strengthening tonic for persons who are suffering from the after-effects of influenza, grippe, and bronchial troubles, and hundreds of thousands are using it daily with the most gratifying results. In connection with the Tanlac treatment it is necessary to keep the bowels open by taking Tanlac Laxative Tablets, samples of which are enclosed with every bottle of Tanlac. It is also important that the everyday rules of hygiene be observed, that is, sleep in well-ventilated rooms, get plenty of fresh air and exercise, and keep away from crowds.

“Tanlac is sold in Riverside by F. A. Gardner & Co., in Beaumont by Robert Fulton, in Indio by Indio Drug Co., in Banning by E. B. McAllister, in Hemet by F. G. Y’cde-myer, in Elsinore by Elsinore Pharmacy, in Blythe by Blythe Drug Co., in Corona by R. F. Billings, in Perris by Perris Pharmacy, and in Banning by A. A. Hewitt.”

After looking for a little more information on this miracle tonic, I found that Tanlac was one of many “cure-alls” from the turn-of-the-century, an era when modern medicinal science was still in its infancy. Chemists, even at that time, branded it quackery, as it was simply fortified wine with herbs and a laxative. Still the tonic sold very well though probably did nothing to cure any kind of flu let alone the Spanish Flu.



“Medical authorities agree that people who are weak and run-down are the earliest victims of influenza. If you find yourself tired (and nervous), weak, and losing flesh, or if you are in a generally run-down condition or catch cold easily, this warning should be heeded promptly! You are really in danger if exposed to the disease, because it is generally believed to be very contagious,

## WEAR A MASK

AND SAVE YOUR LIFE!

The Emergency That Now Confronts Our City  
Is Beyond the Facilities of the Health Department

**The RED CROSS**

has come to the assistance of the Board of Health. Doctors and nurses can not be obtained to take care of the afflicted. You must wear a mask, not only to protect yourself but your children and your neighbor from influenza, pneumonia and death.

**A GAUZE MASK IS 99% PROOF AGAINST INFLUENZA**

Doctors wear them. Those who do not wear them get sick. The man or woman or child who will not wear a mask now is a dangerous slacker.

**GOING TO WORK OR HOME? WEAR MASKS**

GOING TO WORK  
OR HOME?  
WEAR MASKS

This statement was authorized at a meeting of the undersigned, who are convinced that it is the only way to stamp out the epidemic. You must do your part

**Alameda County Relief Committee**

County of Alameda    Oakland Chapter American Red Cross    Associated Charities  
City of Oakland    Oakland Clearing House Association    Retail Dry Goods Association  
Board of Health of Oakland    Oakland Chamber of Commerce

An advertisement from the *Berkeley Daily Gazette*, Wednesday Evening October 25, 1918

## History Moves On . . . Snapshots from Corona's Past, May 4, 1961 *Corona Daily Independent*

**1906** The District voted \$35,000 in bonds and the new senior high school was built on the present site of the Junior High School. The Corona National Bank was organized with W. J. Pentelow as president and M. Terpening as cashier.

**1909** Corona witnessed great strides in building operations at which time the Huff, Todd, Newton, and Warner, Lillibridge, Lynn, Dean, Taber and Glass Brothers buildings were erected. An extensive addition was made to the Methodist Church and many residences were constructed. Bonds were voted that made possible the sewer and storm drain systems in the city.

**1910** Dr. Barber, one of Corona's pioneers died on May 25. He had set out the first lemon grove in the county and was Riverside County's first health officer. The Washington Elementary School was built.

**1911** Bonds amounting to \$135,000 were voted. With this money the present City Park, a fine fire truck, the extension of East Sixth Street and other city improvements were made, as well as building of "our fine City Hall."

**1912** The Corona National Bank building was completely remodeled. The death of W.H. Jameson occurred in the fall of this year. The City Hall was completed. The death of A.F. Call in an automobile accident shocked residents of Corona. His groves were considered models of the citrus industry. In July oil was struck 12 miles south of Corona in the Temescal Canyon, but nothing ever developed.

**1913** The first Corona Road Race was held on Admission Day, Sept. 9. Grand Boulevard was paved.

**1914** A crowd of 100,000 saw the second great Road Race on November 26.

**1915** Mayor Pentelow drove the last spike in the Pacific Electric tracks, the cars arrived, and a banquet celebrated the occasion.

**1916** April 8, 1916 the third great Road Race occurred, with Bob Burman, his mechanic and one citizen meeting their death during the race. On January 29, 5¼ inches of rain fell in 20 hours. It was estimated that 30,000 inches of water came roaring through the streets. Governor Hiram Johnson and his party of 120 were marooned in Corona for three days, with residents here entertaining the distinguished guests. Fidel

Ganahl bought the Cotton Ranch at the south end of Main Street for over \$100,000. The Temescal Rock Company installed a rock crushing plant in Temescal Canyon. Within the next few years it was operated by the Blue Diamond Plaster Company.

**1917** April 6, War was declared and U.S. involvement in WW I begins. About 200 were on the honor roll and Corona went over the top in every call for bonds, Red Cross, or any other work pertaining to the war.

**1918** Considerable money was spent around the old tin mines, but nothing came of it.

**1919** July Fourth honored the returning servicemen and three young women: the Misses Ada Corkhill, Joyce Birdsall and Elizabeth Andrews. One of Corona's important industries was removed when fire destroyed the Pacific Sewer Pipe Company's large plant.

**1920** The First National Bank voted to increase the capital stock to \$75,000. making the capital and surplus \$100,000. The bank building was also rebuilt. Grandma Lathrop, at 98 voted for Harding who was the 23rd president she had voted for.

The Woman's Improvement Club celebrated its 21st birthday. The Chamber of Commerce acquired a cannon for the park. Over 200 tons of honey were shipped from Corona.

**1921** The Corona Hospital was opened in April on the corner of Main and Tenth Streets by Miss Ada Corkhill.

**1922** A ten-to-one vote on January 24 in favor of the Corona High School bonds (\$150,000) is one to be proud of. There are 5,000 inhabitants in Corona.

**1923** Corona High School relocated from Main Street to West Sixth Street. Old high school campus becomes Corona Junior High School.

**1924** Additional water was obtained from the Gage Canal from the Colton - San Bernardino basin. The Railroad Canyon Dam was built.

**1925** The Temescal Water Company now has 64 miles of main lines with 41 miles of lateral pipes for distribution. There are 4500 acres in citrus production.

**1930** The population of Corona is 7,019.

# Membership Information

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

Individual Member \$30.00  
 Family \$40.00  
 Student \$15.00  
 Business \$60.00  
 Patron \$125.00  
 Life \$600.00

**I'd like to volunteer!**

Hospitality refreshments   
 Newsletter writing articles   
 Vintage Home Tour  
     docent / volunteer   
 Board of Directors

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 Print Marketing Mail**

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

**Steve & Beata Bizal - New**

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

**Patricia Campobasso**

**Kathy Farley**

**Kevin & Becky Floyd**

**Doris Haddy**

**Mitch & Karen Lloyd**

**Fred & Vicki Parr**

**Tom & Sunny Richins**

**Alan & Nancy Royce**

**Steve & Karen Shultz**

PATRON MEMBERSHIP

**Jay Stemska**

**Ted & Cindy Taylor**

**Mike & Maria Ugalde**

**Gil & Kelly Vela**

**Michele Wentworth**

**Nancy Wyatt**

## 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



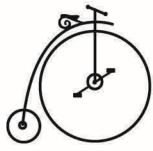
or a neighbor's, please contact CHPS Home Preservation Grant Program Coordinator Rich Winn at [rwinn141@gmail.com](mailto:rwinn141@gmail.com)/714.328.0010. We will assist you in any way possible to provide the information you need to complete the application process.

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>](http://corona-history.org/grants.html)

***Please share this information with others!***





Corona  
Historic  
Preservation  
Society

## Board of Directors

President - Wes Speake  
Vice President - Eric Bergreen  
Secretary - Shaylene Cortez  
Treasurer - Richard Winn

### Directors

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. [\*During the COVID-19 Pandemic while Stay-At-Home orders are in effect, meetings may be held via electronic means.

Contact CHPS President Wes Speake if you wish to be included in an electronic meeting.]

**All members are invited to attend.**

The next meetings are scheduled for:

**Thursday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m. at CHPS office**  
**Thursday Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m. at CHPS office**



[www.Corona-History.org](http://www.Corona-History.org)



Corona  
Historic  
Preservation  
Society

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



**Happy New Year!**