

Newsletter

September - October 2018 "Preserving the Best of Corona"

A Message From Our President Wes Speake

Dear Members:

As we transition from traditional warm summer temperatures and seemly regular smoky weather to our incredible fall temperatures, it's easy to look back to Corona's first road race that took place September 9, 1913, some 105 years ago.

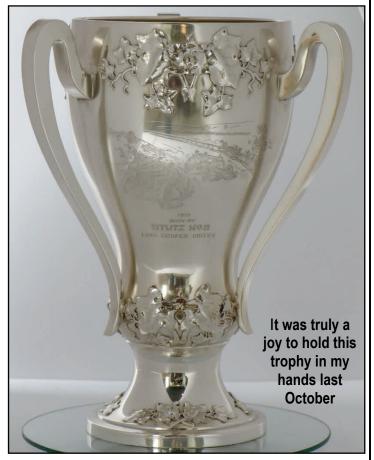
and 1215 East Grand Boulevard, built in 1903. The CHPS wholeheartedly endorsed both properties and we hope to have at least two more included on the list in 2019. This vote places an extra layer of protection on each of these properties for years to come and provides a reduced tax rate to help maintain these beautiful homes.



Over 100,000 people traversed in all directions to watch the three races; the 37-lap Light Car race starting at noon, the 37-Lap Medium Car race and the 300 Mile 91 lap "Free for All" Won by Earl Cooper with a time of 4:02:38 and at an average speed of 75 MPH. The winner of the Free-for-All Race was awarded the Flagler Trophy, a trophy that remained out of the public eye for over 100 years. Earl Cooper was the 1913 AAA Championship Car points Champion which consisted of 14 races, beginning in San Diego, California on January 1 and concluded in Corona.

On November 6th, history will be made when three members of the Corona City Council, for the first time, will be elected by Council District. The newest members of our council will reside in the District they are representing. A whopping 11 candidates are competing for Districts 1, 4, and 5. As we have done in past election years, CHPS asks all council candidates to answer questions with a historical perspective. We hope you will find their answers informative and thank the candidates, who did respond, for their willingness to communicate with us in this fashion. To discover which district you are in, please visit: https://www.coronaca.gov/government/departments-divisions/city-clerk/districts-measure-n

Additionally, two wonderful homes were awarded "Landmark" status on the Corona Register of Historic Resources, by a vote of 5-0 by the city council in the past two months. 1839 Main Street, built in 1889-92,



Thank you for your continued support of this amazing organization. WES



Quarterly Meeting Matinee: Storm Warning



In 1949, this movie was partially filmed in Corona and was released in the fall of 1951. It was quite an experience for filming to be done in Corona. Many city folks watched filming and some appeared as extras in the movie. A Corona Daily Independent front page article reported that during filming one day, Ginger Rogers said that she wanted a Coke .Her request was not being met. Being a gentleman, the then Corona Mayor Charles Miller bought her a Coke and gave it to her. Ginger Rogers was reported to be absolutely delighted with his chivalry.

ROGERS REAGAN · DAY COCHRAN

OBC
Theater
Opportunity
For CHPS
Members

Date: Saturday, October 20
Time: 11:00 A.M.
Location: Starlight Theater
at Dos Lagos

Released in 1951, this film about the Ku Klux Klan was quite controversial at the time.

Ronald Reagan served as the 40th President of the United States from 1981-1989.

Doris Day's first non-singing role was in this movie.

Phanton SEPTEMBER 21st-30th, 2018 TICKETS: WWW.OBCTHEATER.COM OFF BROADWAY CORONA THEATER 815 W SIXTH ST CORONA CA \$5 DISCOUNT FOR ALL CURRENT CORONA HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY MEMBERS

CALL BOX OFFICE (951)264-5794 TO RESERVE TICKETS

A quote from the OBCTheater Facebook page:

Gaston Leroux's tragic 1910 love story The Phantom of the Opera has inspired several works for the stage and screen -- including one very famous Broadway edition -- but few are as authentic or as intimate as this Phantom. The rarely-produced adaptation from Maury Yeston and Arthur Kopit, who created the Tony-winning musical Nine, explores the depths of the Phantom's character and illuminates his humanity to create a deeply moving theater experience.

NOTE: A \$5 discount will be given to all current CHPS members.

Corona City Council Candidates' Responses

Two questions, selected by the CHPS Board of Directors pertaining to historic preservation, were submitted to all 11 Corona City Council candidates on August 16th so that their verbatim responses could be incorporated into this issue of the CHPS Newsletter.

The candidates were respectfully requested to send their responses to Newsletter Editor Mary Winn within eight days so that the deadline for this issue would be met. We express our sincere appreciation to those candidates who took time out of their very busy schedules to respond. This process is to help you, our members, become more informed voters in the upcoming election to be held on:

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Please keep the candidates' stated positions in mind and PLEASE BE SURE TO VOTE!

QUESTIONS

- 1) The City's motto is "To Cherish Our Past, To Plan Our Future". From a historical perspective, what does the motto mean to you and if you are elected, what specific actions do you plan to take in the next four years to protect and preserve our historical resources and heritage?
- 2) What does Historic Preservation mean to you and how does this relate to Corona at this time?

District 1: No responses were received from candidates Jacque Casillas, Shawn Kelly or Joe Morgan.

District 4: No responses were received from candidate Doug Husen.

Responses from Jerry Myers, Candidate for District 4:

- 1) History has a big part in my life. It wasn't until my family and I moved to Missouri that history hit home. We moved to a town that my Great, Great Grandfather helped to found in 1860 and then ended up becoming the first County Judge. Corona has such a rich history. If we do not take care to bring that history alive to our younger generation we will lose that precious legacy. As a Councilman I would fight to preserve all of Corona's endangered properties. When we preserve our past, we build our future. The Mills Act is a great way to hold on to that amazing legacy. I will fight to preserve the rich history we have here in the great city of Corona.
- 2) We have so many new development projects going on in our city now. We are using our available resources to put up new buildings, yet we are not redeveloping our older historical buildings. I think if we redevelop some of our older buildings into retail and commercial sites we can preserve our history as well as give our business owners a place to sink their roots into and call home for a very long time. We need our business owners to feel like they have a home here in Corona. What better place than an old Historical building that has been renovated just for them.

Responses from Fauzia Rizvi, Candidate for District 4

History is very important component of any community. As we look forward we must look back and see where we came from and how we move forward in future. Corona has several buildings that has significant history as must do our best to preserve them. We need to maintain current partnership with historical society and other organizations, as well as create more relationships to help and preserve the historic landmarks in the city as well as find resources to preserve our past.

Fauzia Rizvi's Responses (continued)

As a next Council person I will make sure we have an effective conservation program and make necessary changes to General plan to preserves history and heritage which will benefit the residents as well as the businesses in improving quality of life and strengthen economic development via tourism.

I will also find ways and different avenues to promote programs supported by the Society via announcement of city's web page, newsletter and during city council meetings.

Responses from Jim Steiner, Candidate for District 4

1) The City's motto "To Cherish Our Past, To Plan Our Future" means that Corona should value its history and its contribution to the character of this community, its identity and its uniqueness and use those attributes as a foundation as Corona evolves into a larger and more diverse city.

When my parents purchased their first home in Corona in 1964 and brought me home from the hospital the following year, the city had a population of about 17,000 people, many orange groves and a reputation as the "Circle City". While founding families gave leadership to civic matters and set an example for others, young families also moved to Corona because of its affordable housing, welcoming attitudes and small-town atmosphere. If elected to the council, I pledge to learn more about Corona's heritage and will be supportive in preserving and honoring our historical sites.

2) Historic Preservation means that Corona understands the importance of learning from the past and making an investment in the fabric of the community that has survived the test of time. This means that as a councilman, I will work to strengthen the vision and goals of the community, which will include identifying historic sites and restoring buildings that are part of Corona's rich history. I also support design guidelines that can preserve neighborhoods and improve the quality of life for our residents. This can translate into a feeling of pride in a community, increased property values and a recognition that Corona has much to offer its residents.

District 5

District 5: No responses were received from candidates Dave Husted or Jeremy Mercer.

Responses from Rory Connell, Candidate for District 5:

- 1.) Our city's Motto "To cherish our past to plan our future" is as important now as it has ever been. As we grow outward as a city it's critical we don't forget the foundations which we're built upon. We're no longer the "Lemon Capital of the World" and it doesn't smell like citrus with the morning dew anymore. That doesn't mean we need to lose that identity and the vision of the People who created it. As a leader I would do everything I can to connect those passionate about the history of this city with our community development and Library & Recreations services departments. I personally believe this would be best achieved through community committees. Not only should we be working to preserve what little we have left but also doing everything we can to make sure the past lives on in future developments and events.
- 2.) Historic preservation to me is the act of conserving and preserving things such as Buildings, Landmarks, historical objects and artifacts etc. These are things that our part of our built environment which basically to me means keeping our manmade history alive. While Nature preservation is equally as important its vastly different from the lessons we can learn from ourselves and the stories we have created as a community. Today this relates to Corona as we not only continue to build in new places but also look to re-develop parts of the community like the Corona mall and downtown. How do we not only make it bright and shiny but also let our history live through it?

Final thought with my remaining words.... What can we learn from the Main street Urban Redevelopment? Should we look to return to what was once lost as we move forward with the mall?

Responses from Wes Speake, Candidate for District 5:

1) Our City's Motto is a recent addition, historically speaking. In 1962, the city motto was "Progress Unlimited" our latest motto was born out the tragedy of losing so much of our old downtown and the Carnegie Library. To me, it speaks to the fact you have to plan our future while still respecting our past. This respect means you have to be always open to opportunities to educate, restore and reinvest in Corona History as well as its future.

Specific actions would include 1) A renewed focus on the Historic element of the General Plan. 2) Appointing a citizen historic representative to attend Infrastructure meetings to ensure new developments/ projects especially in Historic sections of the city are conveyed and standards adhered to protect and enhance Corona history. 3) Founding a Historic Commission to focus community efforts on preservation.

2) My interest in Corona history and historic preservation is the reason I joined the CHPS and later became its President. Some of the most rewarding times in the society have come from working on preservation projects like the restoration of the Vietnam Era Memorial Wall at Butterfield Park, working with residents on getting historic homes on the historic resources list so they can get tax breaks under the Mills Act, organizing the Grand Tour, the successful 2018 Vintage Home Tour and our newest project; the restoration of the Historic 11th Street streetlights that will kick off next month.

Historic Preservation to me means fighting any attempt to destroy, denigrate or attack Corona History; at the same time passionately pushing CHPS's vision of PRESERVATION, PROTECTION, and PERPETUATION of Corona's historic sites, buildings, neighborhoods, and resources. I want to bring this passion to Corona's 5th District.

Historic Site Marker Update By Richard Winn

Our CHPS Historic Site marker Committee has been working for at least five years to finally recognize the site of Corona's second grammar school which was located at 230 West Grand Boulevard from 1911 to 1950. This structure, built in the Mission Revival archi-

was considered by many as the most beautiful structure built on Grand Boulevard. We were pleased when Life Scout Nicholas Russell approached us with this type of a project in mind.

tectural style by noted Corona Architect Leo

Kroonen Sr.

Beginning about
July 14, Life
Scout Nicholas
Russell of Troop
233 began working on the excavation and placement of CHPS
Historic Site
marker # 24



By the end of the first day, the foundation had been excavated and poured, rebar was placed, and the first course of block had been set.



The finished monument with the granite marker plaque installed is seen above.

T Remember When - Doris Haddy By Mary & Richard Winn

At age 82, former Corona resident Doris Haddy gives us a charming glimpse of a quieter, less complicated life of a typical Coronan "back in the day." Haddy's grandparents moved to Corona from the east coast in 1903. Doris's mother and her identical twin sister were born in Corona in 1907 and later her parents bought a home on 11th Street in 1934. She was born in 1936, at Riverside Community Hospital because her mother needed special care for childbirth. She spent her youth in Corona attending Jefferson Elementary starting in 1941. She then moved on to Corona Junior High from 1948-51. Her Corona Senior High School

years 1951- graduation in 1954 were at the campus on West Sixth Street. She recalls when outstanding Corona athlete and Southern California legend Jess Hill (CHS Class of 1925) attended her mother's 50th CHS Reunion (Class of 1926) even though he graduated a year earlier.

Doris remembers when:

- Her grandfather taught her a very important rule to live by, "Always do what is right and fair."
- Her father George Baker was the only Highway Patrolman to live in Corona and during the afternoons and evenings, their home felt more like a branch of the DMV because people would stop to have her father sign off their fix-it tickets.
- On Sundays after church at the First Baptist Church, they would go to City park for a picnic, and delicious 5¢ snow cones at Mendoza's.
- Her parents' best qualities were that her mother was sweet, kind and accepting and her father was about the tallest man in town and he often took her to Grandview Creamery for ice cream.
- Blocks of ice (in 50 lb. blocks) were delivered to her aunt's house on W. Eighth Street to be used in her ice box, a precursor to the refrigerator.
- Going to the "Hi-Spot" fast food eatery where they served the best French fries in town. The Mava was also a favorite place.
- Her aunt had a curling iron and often curled her hair and that of her cousins.



- Her mother always served a fancy Sunday dinner with the entrée being a roast or chicken. Her father would often round up servicemen and invite them to their home for Sunday dinner.
- Sometimes her family ended up renting rooms to members of the military since there was a shortage of housing for some time in town.
- Doris worked at "Cupids" during the summers of 1955-56 and recalled that

the owner Victor Parasino would frequently go to San Bernardino to pick up fast food serving tips at McDonalds.

 Doris laughingly expressed the observation that it was hard to get away with any misdeeds since everyone in town either knew each other or they were related.

As for attire during the 1940s and 1950s:

- Dresses for school and dress up were often hand sewn by her mother and her aunt
- Shorts and blouses were summertime play clothes only
- Jeans, plaid shirts with rolled up sleeves and saddle shoes were very stylish
- Strapless evening gowns were what we wore to proms

When asked what she thought of Corona as it is now in 2018, Doris responded that she was saddened by lost memories of the groves, the smell of orange blossoms and no traffic, but admitted that with the growth of the city, good things have taken place as well.

She received her degree from the University of Redlands, spent 35 years teaching students in Riverside and became a reading specialist, earning her Master's degree at Cal State Fullerton. Upon retirement her mother needed care and Doris opened the Taylor House, Inc., 1994-2001, a board and care facility for the elderly where she cared for her mother and six residents. Doris has two sons and two grandchildren. She has a zest for life and dearly loves to travel, read and do gardening in her yard.

Membership Information When joining or renewing your membership, please make your tax deductible check payable to "CHPS" Individual Member \$30.00 I'd like to volunteer! Family \$40.00 Hospitality refreshments Student \$15.00 Newsletter writing articles Vintage Home Tour Business \$60.00 Patron \$125.00 docent / volunteer Board of Directors Life \$600.00 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

We Welcome Our New & Continuing Members

Corona, CA 92878

JaNell Acosta
Jennie Adamo - Patron Membership
Tom & Cathy Alton
David & Sylvia Barnett
Wendy Bohulano
Michael & Shaylene Cortez
Charles Jameson
Robert & Ruth Kremer
Kirk & Carrie Langsea
Jon & Rashell McCarroll

John & Barbara McCawley
Stephen & Erma Paloma
Fred & Vicki Parr
Mary Paulson
Kathy Sinkovich & Dana Sutton
Jeremy & Cari Smith
Jay Stemska
Juergen & Gerlinde Stens
Ola Talbert - Patron Membership
Jannalee Watson

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 estab-

lished, 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!



Board of Directors

President - Wes Speake Vice President - Eric Bergreen Secretary - Doris Osko Treasurer - Richard Winn

> **Directors** Trisha Henson-Cabrera Amanda Kalkanis

Paula Muñoz Mary Winn

> Advisors Marla Benson Tom Richins **Ted Taylor**

To contact us call



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.

Our Mission Statement

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, Sept 20, 6:30 at CHPS office Thursday, Oct 18, 6:30 at CHPS office



www.Corona-History.org



951.898.2044



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



Be sure to vote on November 6th



November 6 is **Election Day**

Be sure to exercise your right to vote!