

### A Message From Our President Wes Speake

Dear Members,

As Summer 2019 literally steams forward, it's easy to look forward to our 3rd Quarterly Meeting for our members - a special screening of H. G Wells *The War of the Worlds* (1953) starring Gene Barry and Ann Robinson. This digitally remastered version will be shown at the beautiful Dos Lagos Starlight Theater - where it will be COOL inside the theater! Come see this truly iconic film that had several scenes shot in Corona. Tickets are free for Corona Historic Preservation Society (CHPS) members and \$5 for non-members. CHPS members just need to mention your name at door.

Film Historians Robert Skotak and Bill Rosar will do a short presentation before the movie and do a Q&A after the movie. Mr. Rosar and Mr. Skotak have truly impressive resumes, their bios will appear later in this newsletter. Don't miss out on this opportunity as it is a one time showing of the film on the BIG screen.

#### From the CHPS Email

One of the coolest things about being president of the CHPS, is the emails I receive, inquiring about random Corona history facts or sending me information. Just this past weekend was a great example. Shel Weisbach, of Chatsworth, was conducting some research on an old stone church that was located in Piru, Ventura County, California: Mission San Salvador (built by Juan Villa, 1924). According to a *Piru News* report from October, 1930, "Every stone in the church was laid by the hand of one man, a stone mason named Juan Villa... It is said that Villa would permit no person other than himself to lay a stone. He had one helper, Trinidad Fernandez. His only tools were a trowel and a string by which he kept the walls straight." It was demolished in 1961, due to instability caused by blasting operations in the nearby hills." The article on the church continued, noting that Juan Villa, the mason, had constructed one other similar church and it was built in Corona. That church was St. Edward's stone church which was located at the northeast corner of Merrill and W. Sixth Street. The address was 415 W. Sixth Street.

Mr. Villa bought a lot near the corner of 5th and Fuller Streets and built a home in 1911. Mr. Villa's family still resides in Corona.

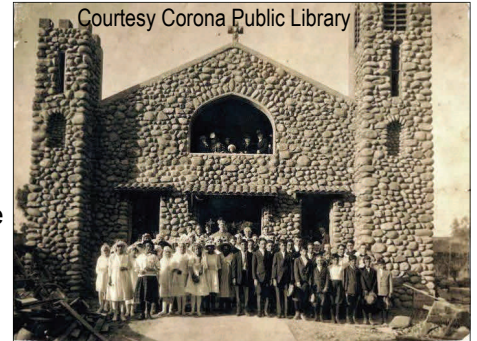
Piru [a small town located in eastern Ventura County] and Corona were founded within a year of each other. Both Piru (1887) and Corona (1886) were founded by visionaries from the east - Corona by Robert Taylor from Iowa and Piru by David Cook from Illinois. Cook wanted to establish a "Second Garden of Eden" in this part of the Santa Clara River Valley. Cook specified, tradition says, that the acreage be planted with fruits identified with the Biblical garden — "apricots, dates, figs, grapes, olives and pomegranates." Crops were

planted along the river adjacent to the new railroad. Some 130 years later, Piru has a population of a little over 2000 people while Corona expects to top 168,000 in the next census. In 2019, Piru continues to have the same agricultural roots that it started with in 1887.

#### Saint Edward's Church

Corona's first Catholic Church was named after John the Baptist in 1898. This first church was built by Father McCarthy. It was then established as a parish in 1908 and it received its first resident pastor, Father Power,

the following year. Father Kimmons decided to replace the original building with a "stone" church twenty years later. At its dedication in July 1919 by Monsignor Fitzgerald, the name was then changed to St. Edward, the Confessor. 2019 marks the 100th anniversary of the naming of St. Edward's church.



This Gothic Revival style church took three years to build using field stones collected by parishioners. It was demolished in 1951 when the current St. Edward's church was dedicated.

#### Mission: San Salvador

"Mass for the faithful of Piru was originally held once a month in the chapel at Rancho Camulos, one of the locations where Helen Hunt

Jackson researched her novel, *Ramona*. As early as 1918, there was talk of starting a building fund for a church in Piru. In the 1920s the faithful met at an old public school building as well as the backyard and hotel of W. W. Lechler, and eventually, in this unique stone church." *Quote is from the Chancery Archives of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles*

As always, I thank you for your continued support of this amazing organization. I encourage you to join us on September 14th for the screening of the classic science fiction film *The War of the Worlds* when Martians invaded and tried to take over the Earth.

Sincerely,

Wes



# The War of the Worlds: Film Historians to Give us the Scoop

What an opportunity we have to welcome these two gentlemen to share their knowledge with us at the screening of *The War of the Worlds!*

**Bill Rosar** comes to Corona as an author, educator, and lecturer. With an academic background in motion picture production, music and psychoacoustics, he has taught the history and analysis of film music at USC's Musicological Society, Society for American Music, American Music Library Association, and the Musicological Film Studies Symposia at California State University, Long Beach. Contributing chapters to books on music in the films of Orson Welles and Alfred Hitchcock, he is also a leading expert on the history of music in Universal Pictures and is currently writing a book on the for the classic Laemmle horror films, *The Music that Made the Monsters*. He is editor of the *Journal of Film Music*, the first academic publication devoted to the subject.

In collaboration with film and TV composers and other members of the motion picture industry he founded the non-profit Society for the Preservation of Film Music in Los Angeles. He has also served as a research consultant to composers and movie studios, including Paramount, Columbia, and Universal, as well as to recording companies releasing classic film scores on CD.

In the field of vision science and telerobotics he previously worked at the California Institute of Technology and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in technology development for the U. S. Space Station. He is currently a research associate in the center for Brain and Cognition Lab at the University of California, San Diego, where he studies the perception and cognition of film music.

**Robert Skotak** has been involved in Hollywood filmmaking for decades and has won Academy Awards for Best Visual Effects for the movies *Aliens* and *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*. He also won BAFTA Awards for the same two movies. Mr. Skotak is also a noted film historian who has written dozens of articles for "Famous Monsters", "Filmfax" and is the author of a biography of science fiction writer/director Ib Melchior.

## Save the Dates:

### The Cemetery Stroll

### CHPS Holiday Party

**Sunday, October 27**

Five tours from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
Sunnyslope Cemetery  
1125 Rimpau in Corona

Questions: cemstroll@aol.com  
Facebook: Cemetery Stroll Photos

Tickets will be available on Eventbrite closer to the event

**Monday, December 2 6:30-8:30 PM**  
Woman's Improvement Club of Corona  
1101 South Main Street



## Saving a Piece of Corona History



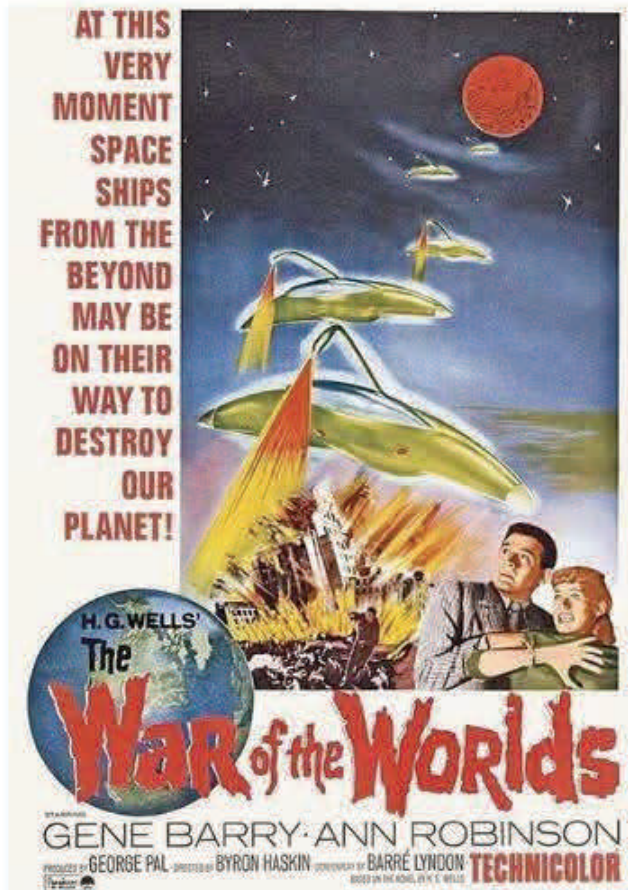
We offer a BIG thank you to Corona DWP for saving this piece of Corona History!

Longtime Coronan Elaine Cover wants to send a big shout-out to Mike and Fernando from the Corona DWP street maintenance crew, who came out and cut the historical 1927 stamp from sidewalk in front of her home before demolishing and replacing the entire sidewalk. The concrete block with the historic stamp is on display in Elaine's front yard.

\*Elaine posted this on Facebook on June 3, 2019.



# "War of the Worlds" Showing for Our 3rd Quarterly Meeting



CORONA HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY PRESENTS

## H.G. WELLS' THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

Come see the digitally remastered version of the iconic 1953 film, which includes several scenes filmed in Corona.

**Date:** Saturday, September 14

**Time:** 10:30 A.M.

**Location:** Starlight Theater at Dos Lagos

**Cost:** \$5 General Admission, CHPS Members Free

There will be a short presentation by film historians before the movie, followed by a short Q and A.

Order tickets online at:  
<https://chpswaroftheworlds.eventbrite.com>

# I Remember When: Concordia Ranch

By Emma Kay Haug

*This article comes from a handwritten document found within the archives of the Heritage Room of the Corona Public Library and transcribed for ease of reading.*

Charles A. Haug arrived in Los Angeles in September 1884. It was after the big flood in Southern California of January of that year and business was slack. One or two days work each week did not satisfy this enthusiastic young German, then only a couple of years in this country. A real estate man told of new work, good land and chance for a job.

So on March 1, 1885, Charles Haug landed in Elsinore. By train, via Riverside, it was a long day's journey in the days of the old coal puffer.

On May 1, 1885, Charles went to work for Madison Cheney in the coal mill at Alberhill. The mine was owned by Madison Cheney, Wm. Collier and Margaret Graham. Mr. Cheney furnished the lumber for a palacial (sic) mansion – eight feet square in which Charles lived. This house stood right where the railroad viaduct now crosses the highway from the clay beds to the Gladden McBean plant. A well, owned by W.E. Sloane, back of the Gladden McBean Co. present location, furnished the water.

Working alone in the North Tunnel of the coal mine, Charles Haug was visited once every two weeks by Mr. Cheney. It was during these visits that Mr. Cheney would pick up a piece of blue clay, prevalent in the mine, cut it like a piece of soap with his knife and say repeatedly, "Charley, I'm too old now, but if nothing happens to you – you will see the day when this clay will be worth more money than all the coal in this hill." The truth of his prediction can be seen today by the carloads of clay and products shipped daily by the two companies at Alberhill.

Between mining hours, and while he was resting, Charley went into partnership with W. E. (Billy) Sloane raising hay on the flats now owned by the Los Angeles Pressed Brick Co. In the Summer of 1886, Mr. Sloane showed Charley the forty acres of State School land which was then open for entry. The location and richness of the soil bespoke its possibilities. So in August 1887 Charles Haug bought his first forty acres. One year later he bought his second Forty acres. For two years he worked in the Valley for the Temescal Water



**Concordia Ranch Store, c. 1958.** This store was once located on the east side of Temescal Canyon Road (later California State highway 71) on the west side of the highway near the entrance to Glen Ivy Hot Springs. A sign on the building reads: "We ship pecans, walnuts, almonds." The store sold snacks to thirsty and hungry travelers along this north-south inland route to San Diego. (Photo from Mary Bryner Winn Collection)

Co. tunneling, sinking shafts, etc. paying for his land.

In the Fall of 1889 Charley built his first cabin 14 feet by 16 feet – which served as the dining room of the Farmhouse. He then dug his first well, moved 50 stands of bees onto his property, started clearing the land and planting assorted fruit trees – apples, pears, prunes, apricots, olives and peaches. The yearly honey crop and prospecting trips to Death Valley

furnished the money for gradual improvements. In 1893 the "Adobe House" was built for the storing and safe keeping of the honey.

But the loneliness of sitting alone thru the long pleasant evenings, with only the wild rabbits to eat from his hands, began to tell on Charley. The yearning "Oh, for a Wife" surged in his heart. In 1897 he added to his cabin a bedroom and a small kitchen to the west of the living room. To his home in the hills Charley brought his bride Emma on August 8, 1899.

The years 1898-99-1900 were dry years, with not enough rain for a honey crop or to properly nourish the fruit trees. Charley had to again work for the Temescal Water Co. driving with horse and buggy eight miles to earn one dollar a day. These hardships caused his wife to say one evening: "If this place isn't worth improving, it isn't worth living on!" Charley agreed so out came the olives and prunes and in went alfalfa. Together, in love and harmony, they started building the home, Concordia. Each year more alfalfa was planted until all the cleared land was beautiful green fields. The bearing apricot trees were planted in 1905. At first their fields and orchards were irrigated by a windmill on the first well. In 1908 the second well was dug and a pumping plant installed.

In 1905 the second addition to the house was made – the adobe front room, front bed room, bath room and cellar. In 1911 the back bedroom and modern bathrooms were built.

In August of 1912 a freak cyclone and cloud burst blew away the barn scattering shingles for miles down the Valley. The two large pepper trees in the back yard were broken off completely at the top of the bailed hay which was stacked four bales high around their trunks.



## Concordia Ranch Continued By Mary Winn

1917 the Reservoir was built. Here the two young Haugs – Karl and Emma – brought their friends for many a happy swim.

1919 the orange trees and first walnut trees were planted. Gradually alfalfa fields “wore out” and were transformed into the present walnut orchards.

1928 gas was piped into the Valley and put into the house for cooking, - and the gasoline engine for the pumping plant was changed over to use gas. 1930 bro't the long waited for electricity, and lights in the house.

Years of hard work, self sacrifice and effort; years of pleasure, love, harmony, and contentment built Concordia Ranch, bro't into its doors many friends and happy times; and made of it the happy home of those four people, Charles and Emma Haug and their two children Karl and Emma.

Written by Emma K. Haug (Daughter of Charles and Emma) July 1938

The Concordia Ranch consisted of 83 acres and was located north of the community of Alberhill near the Temescal Wash and Temescal Canyon Road, commonly referred to as the Corona-Elsinore Road, some 13 miles south of Corona.

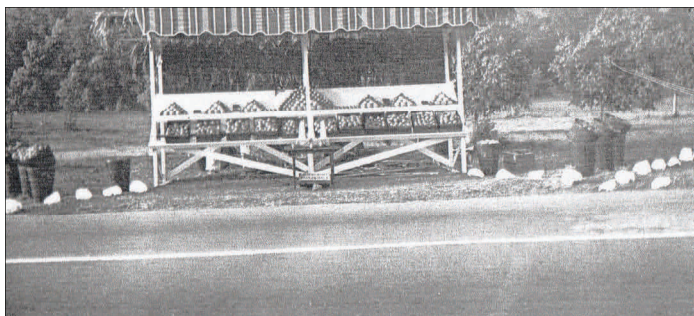
When the Neill Brothers took over the running of Concordia Ranch, they put up a new sign on the highway and opened a fruit and nut stand. Below are images from a scrapbook discovered in the archives of the Corona Public Library.



The old Concordia Ranch house



The Neill Brothers roadside sign



The first fruit and nut stand



Memorial Day 1938

**FOR SALE—Two sows and pigs, 17 weaned pigs; fresh cow. Reasonable. Concordia Ranch, Neill Bros., Alberhill. n4-8p**

Two newspaper ads placed by the Neill Brothers in the late 1930s

**WANTED—Twenty berry pickers. Come at 7 a.m. Concordia Ranch, Corona-Elsinore Road. 6-16-3c**



The Corona Historic Preservation Society will have a booth here where memorabilia can be seen and Corona citrus labels will be available for purchase. Please stop by and say hello.



# The Corona Lemon Festival

Presented by Corona Art Association



Historic Civic Center  
815 West 6th Street, Corona, CA 92882  
Phone (951) 735-3226



The Event will be on  
**Saturday, October 19, 2019**  
9 am to 6 pm

- Corona/Norco High School Art Show
- Bake-Off Contest using LEMONS
- Carnival Games for kids of all ages
- Inflatable Bounce Houses
- Lots of Entertainment
- Shopping for the Holidays



- Kids Zone
- Carnival Zone
- Food Zone
- Shopping Zone
- Entertainment Zone

- Opportunity Drawings
- Artist Carves Pumpkin
- The Best Dressed Dog Contest
- Free crafts and face painting for kids.



**SPONSORSHIP Opportunities**  
Or to be a **VENDOR** Contact:  
<https://debmorganlemonfest.wixsite.com/mysite>

## Membership Information

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

Individual Member	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>I'd like to volunteer:</b>
Family	\$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality refreshments <input type="checkbox"/>
Student	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter writing articles <input type="checkbox"/>
Business	\$100.00	<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

Jennie Adamo  
Roger L. Atkinson  
David & Sylvia Barnett  
Barbara Lee Becker  
Benny & Marla Benson - Patron M'ship  
Michael & Shaylene Cortez  
Richard & Martha DeBlois  
David & Connie Duffy

Dick & Chris Haley  
Ada J. Hand  
Charles Jameson  
Robert & Ruth Kremer  
John & Barbara McCawley  
Joe Morgan  
Stephen & Erma Paloma  
Paul Schreffler

Dave & Laura Seltzer  
Juergen & Gerlinde Stens  
Dick Tichy  
Clyde R. Tracy  
John Wiles  
Harold & Beryl Williams

## 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) or call 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  
Historic  
Preservation  
Society

## 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, September 19, 6:30 at CHPS office**

**Thursday, October 17, 6:30 at CHPS office**

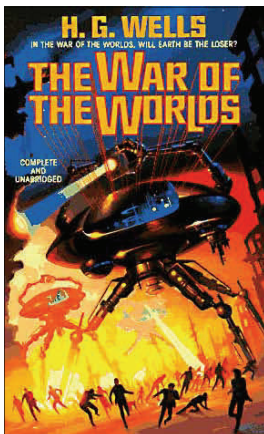


[www.Corona-History.org](http://www.Corona-History.org)



Corona  
Historic  
Preservation  
Society

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



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*See you at the Movie!*