

Newsletter

July - August 2011 "Preserving the Best of Corona"

A Message From Our President Christine Gary

Dear Members.

Our very busy time of year is upon us. We have successfully presented our 2011 Vintage Home Tour where over 400 people enjoyed the walk through the beautiful homes and gardens presented. We want to thank all those involved in helping prepare and present this great event. A very special thank you to the homeowners that opened their doors to so many guests for the tour. The proceeds will go to our many projects to beautify and preserve Corona. We

start now gathering tour sites for next year so please call us with your suggestions.

On June 4th we again set up the old-fashioned Lemonade Stand and Antiques and Architectural Salvage booth for the 10th annual Antiques & Collectibles Faire at Heritage Park. The weather was perfect and there was a good turnout. We also announced three recipients of our Heritage Home Awards. Thank you to all who helped in those booths. We did well and really appreciate your volunteer help.



(L-R) Doris Osko, Lauralynn Hake & Chris Gary in their vintage finery at the Vintage Home Tour on May 7, 2011

In July we start on the 4th by participating in the Main Street parade by riding in Glenn Johnson's sleek, black 1937 Packard.

Scheduled on July 16th is our next Quarterly Meeting when our "Corona - Then & Now" slide show and commentary will be presented by Mary and Richard Winn. Photos of the past and present will reflect changes that have occurred over time.

A really huge community event is in the planning stage for the Centennial Celebration of Corona's Road Races.

This event will take place in 2013 in remembrance of the races that put Corona "on the map." If you, or anyone you know, have old photos or memorabilia from any of the three races in 1913, 1914 or 1916, please call me at 951.734.0977 or chairman Don Williamson at 951.529.2999 to assist in these historic preparations.

Best wishes for a safe and fun summer!

Christine Gary



2011 Heritage Home Awards







On Saturday, June 4, at this year's Antiques and Collectibles Faire at Corona Heritage Park, the Corona Historic Preservation Society announced and presented its 2011 Heritage Home Awards for three fine examples of preserved residences exhibiting three distinct styles of architecture. The recipients were: Mike and Annette Rios for their well preserved 1907, three-story vernacular wood frame citrus ranch home located at 1934 S. Main Street; Christina Meza & Kenneth Gomez for their well-maintained and unique 1905, one-story Victorian located at 1047 E. Grand Boulevard; and Gilbert & Vickie Lopez for their stately and well-loved 1931, two-story Mediterranean-Spanish Revival style home located at 1926 S. Main Street.

An Update on Our Grant Program by Bubba Bland

A few years ago when the directors and officers of Corona Historic Preservation Society decided to add a grant program to activities we do or programs we offer for Corona residents, the object was to help out our neighbors with the cost of fixing up their property, beautifying Corona and preserving what few historic structures we have left here in our lovely city. Each year we see more of the older homes destroyed through insensitive remodeling, by homeowners removing or covering up the things that really make their homes a part of the history of our city, benign neglect, or in the name of progress. So, it was very pleasing for us to have not one new grant recipient recently, but to be able to award grants to two couples who initiated improvements on their properties.

The first grant the Board approved this year went to Dale and Elva Delgado at 1228 Garretson Ave. They needed to have some of the original siding replaced due to wood rot and age damage. Their plan was to have it replaced with original material and as closely replicated as possible. Then they wanted to paint the outside of the home. Their home is a farmhouse style built around 1910, and much of the home is original. Our grant of \$500 helped pay for part of the wood and paint needed to do their project. The home is now freshly painted and is an asset in our community's historic area.



Another grant was approved and given to Jim and Patti Anderson, the owners of an historic citrus estate located at 2750 Rimpau Ave, and known as "Lemonia Grove."

Their \$1,000 grant was for the rebuilding the outside stairs on their Carriage House, built around 1893. This his-



toric structure is one of the remaining unique beauties here in Corona. The Andersons have been working on the renovation of this property, a little bit at a time, for years. The outside staircase was not original and was poorly constructed to begin with and had partly rotted away over the years while exposed to the elements. The need to completely replace the stairs was obvious, and the Andersons wanted to do it right this time. Since the original stairs were long gone and the ones to be removed were not done correctly, plans needed to be made, permits pulled and a construction firm hired. The new requirements the city imposed on the replacement stairs required exceptional structural integrity. The use of redwood for the stairs is in keeping with the

original redwood structure. They also had it fabricated as close to the same style and location as the original using the old markings on the outside wall of the building.

Fortunately, the stairs were completed in time for the CHPS Vintage Home Tour this year, and hundreds of visitors were able to go up inside the original carriage house. So, CHPS was not only happy to help improve this historic building, we were also excited to have our tour utilize this improvement as well as the wonderful surrounding grounds and the Anderson's home which was created by modifying the old curing shed/packing house.

CHPS received a letter from the Delgado family with the following text:

May 24, 2011

Dear Grant Committee.

It is with great appreciation that we send you this thank you letter. We are deeply grateful for your investment in our home.

We love our residence and have made some precious memories in this home. We moved here in 1997, when our children were only 4, 2 and 1 years old. The years went by quickly; our oldest will be 18 soon and off to college. This is the only home they know and love.

We thank God for our church, neighbors, friends and you, the community.

Thank you for the outstanding work you do in our community. We are sure someone, somewhere has said, "We cannot know where we are going, if we do not know from where we came."

Your society helps to preserve our history and for that we are truly thankful.

With sincere gratitude,

Dale, Elva, Emily, Pete & Jake Delgado

CORONA ~ Then & Now

SLIDE SHOW PRESENTATION by Mary & Richard Winn

Revisit Corona's past & see the same views today



Saturday, July 16th starting at 10:00 a.m. In the Community Room of the Historic Civic Center 815 West Sixth Street

Quarterly Meeting is FREE Light refreshments

Then











Corona's Immeasurable Treasure – Meet Dina Stallings, PhD By Doris Osko

The card on the coffee table was signed "Pandora." It was a name given to CHPS member Dr. Dina Stallings' student of fifty years ago when the student did role-playing in class to boost speech skills and confidence. She was one of Dina's students who was made to shout to the rafters, "I am gifted! I am unique!" This is a part of Dina's philosophy which advocates that a person can do anything if s(he) wants it badly enough and is "willing to pay the price and do the discipline." So effective is Dina at inspiring others to succeed that she still receives loving

messages from her former students and from a myriad of people whom she has influenced through the years and continues to influence. White-haired, and in her eighties, Dina says softly, "You measure yourself in the service you give to others." Dina's extensive service has been immeasurable.

Dina's first inspiration came from her father, Andrew Jackson, in her birthplace of Tishomingo, Oklahoma where they lived a block from the Chickasaw tribal Long House which is still there. Her father taught her to memorize long poems "from birth," to love history, to discuss and to debate and to apply reason to relevant problems and issues. Her mother, Marguerite, was a musician, and from her Dina inherited a voice beautiful enough to sing opera, a job she was offered and turned down because of other goals in her life. Dina said, that like her ability to recite poetry at an early age, she and her two sisters Pola and Greet, could harmonize together, an inborn skill, never taught. She and her sisters were dancers and singers in the USO during WW II. When Dina developed throat cancer in recent years, it was with great sadness that she lost her great singing voice and for one whole year, too, was prevented from speaking.

Dina's second inspiration was her husband of almost fifty-five years, Dr. John Stallings, former superintendent of Schools in the Corona-Norco District, for whom an elementary school has been named. He passed away January 25, 2000. In their younger years they made the decision to drop out of Baylor University, where Dina was studying law, and her "Johnny" was studying math and playing basketball, in order to pursue teaching, a profession they felt would "give the most," especially to young people. They gave up scholarships to pursue their dream "to have a wonderful family life, to teach and to continue their devotion to



God - a faith-centered life." The couple taught one year in the "boondocks" in Oklahoma in a school which had 8 teachers for 12 grades. Dina coached music and taught English, History and Civics. Her students in grades 7 and 8 rewrote the history book so it was interesting, the way her father had taught her, "history in stories." Then came the decision to go to California to pursue Master's degrees from USC, Dina in Speech, Communications, Forensics and Debate, and John in Educational Admini-

stration. Dina got two jobs to earn money -- one selling records and the other teaching at Pepperdine. John taught drafting at Pepperdine. There Dina's speech coach became her third inspiration after her father and husband.

Dina's quest for a doctorate was interrupted when she became seriously ill awaiting the birth of her daughter Julie. This necessitated spending seven months in bed during which time her sister Greet came to help. Because the sisters were so close, Pola also finally came to Corona to live. Dina eventually gave birth to two more children, son Kim, and daughter Share. She and Johnny both received doctorates at Redlands, but not at the same time. When John accepted a position as Superintendent of Schools in Elsinore, the couple would drive through Corona and fell in love with its charm. They bought a vintage home on the corner of Garretson and Grand. Dina was now "Doc" to her students at RCC, where she taught debate and forensics. Although she had an offer to teach in the UC system, she had a firm belief in the value of the community college system. John was the head of the Department of Education at USC, and was asked to be the Dean. His first love was teaching, and when he became the Superintendent in Corona, he visited every school almost every single day and enjoyed visiting the non-teaching staff as well.

Dina's present home has survived the ravages of a fire a few years back. John was a pilot in WW II and the wooden propeller that he used as part of instructing other pilots hangs on the wall, lovingly restored by a Dina admirer. She is surrounded with books, and is still aflame with a love of Forensics that caused her to create the group known as "Friends of Forensics" which promotes speaking activities from kindergarten through twelfth grade throughout Riverside County.

Meet Dina Stallings (continued)

She describes forensics as, "Communication which seeks to give truth and justice a chance and leaves a sense of beauty behind." Students and coaches have named a tournament after her, and a room has been named in her honor at RCC. She has received national honors and other honors to numerous to mention. She created the "Listening Ear" project which sends volunteers into classrooms to hear speaking projects and present certificates to students and teachers. There are speech contests and debates at the middle school and high school levels. She spear-

headed the "Friends of Forensics Annual Art Auction," to raise money for such projects. Dina is also on the Scholarship Committee of the California Retired Teachers Association and supports scholarships as a member of Woman's Improvement Club of Corona.

Dina exclaims, "I'm excited every day." Her message is "Don't take love and gifts of life for granted." She believes strongly in the working man and equal opportunity for all and in the sanctity of the human spirit. She is the "Energizer Bunny" who never stops giving to the community of Corona and other cities around us.

Out and About in the Community

Since January, CHPS members have been anxiously engaged in Corona activities





Valencia Terrace retirement community: In January, Richard & Mary Winn presented a slide show and commentary on the city's founding and the Road Races to residents and guests



Farmer's Market in April: Doris Osko & Bubba Bland promoting the May 7th 2011 Vintage Home Tour



Bookapalooza: The Executive Board had great fun representing CHPS at the Corona Public Library



10th Antiques & Collectibles Faire: Our Antiques & Architectural Salvage booth and Lemonade Stand were hits at the June 4th event at Corona Heritage Park





2011 Vintage Home Tour on May 7th: visit <www.Corona-History.org> to view more photos



Book signing at Costco by Mary Winn

Historic Preservation Recognition Definitions by Richard Winn

I have heard comments made by some about the status of historic structures that sometimes didn't seem to make sense. When taken out of context, it is often difficult to determine whether the speaker simply misspoke or just did not know the proper nomenclature. Even the most knowledgeable of us can become confused. Our Newsletter editor asked me to briefly summarize the pertinent types and levels of historic site/structure recognition. It is our desire for others, especially our members, to become familiar with terminology used in the process of site recognition.

Heritage Home Awards given by the Corona Historic Preservation Society:

From time to time members of the Corona Historic Preservation Society identify homes that have been maintained, rehabilitated or restored to maintain their appearance and cultural integrity in an outstanding manner. These homes are then inspected, evaluated and vetted by the Society's Board of Directors and voted upon. Those sites favorably acted upon are designated Corona Historic Preservation Society Heritage Homes and the owners receive a plaque for mounting on the exterior of the home and a certificate is provided to the owners for their records.



Corona Register of Historic Resources maintained by the City of Corona:

All structures within the City of Corona more than 50 years old are eligible for listing upon application to the City's Community Development Department. Initially, a comprehensive survey of structures within the City of Corona was conducted in 1982 to identify all structures more than 50 years old. Records of this survey are maintained in the Corona Public Library, W.D. Addison Heritage Room collection. Approximately ten years ago, a committee consisting of city Community Development Department staff, the Heritage Room librarian and members of CHPS met and evaluated more than 600 structures identified in 1982 and rated them as to whether they possessed a "High", "Medium", or "Low" degree of historic and cultural value to the city. A "High" rated property would have been maintained exactly or very nearly as built with all its historic architectural elements in a well preserved state. A "Medium" rated property would have retained many of its historical elements but some modifications or remodeling may have been done that compromised its complete historic integrity. A "Low" rated property would still be standing but have had significant alterations or poor maintenance of its historic architectural elements. This list or register is maintained by the Community Development Department.

An additional survey was accomplished in 2007 to update the initial list and to identify structures within the Grand Boulevard circle that had now reached 50 years of age but were not included on the initial survey. This list is also maintained by the city's Community Development Department. These listings are part of the Historic Element to the city's Municipal Code.

Historic Districts and Landmarks on the Corona Register of Historic Resources determined by the City of Corona:

From listing on the Corona Register of Historic Resources a structure or group of structures may be given Historic District or Landmark property status upon application to the Community Development Department under the city's Historic Property Preservation Program. Applications are reviewed and vetted by members of the Community Development Department staff with input from the Corona Historic Preservation Society and are calendared for a meeting of the Corona Planning Commission and City Council. Staff reports are prepared and votes are taken. Those sites favorably acted upon are designated Corona "Landmarks" and become eligible for tax relief under the Mills Act and owners are obliged to engage in a preservation work plan with the city to ensure that the property's exterior appearance is maintained, restored or rehabilitated to preserve its part in the cultural heritage of Corona.

California Historic Landmarks, this Registry is maintained by the California Office of Historic Preservation, California State Parks:

Applications are submitted to the State Historic Resources Commission (SHRC) through the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). Applications are reviewed and vetted by members of the OHP staff are calendared for a meeting of the California Historic Resources Commission and the Commission votes. Those sites favorably acted upon are designated California Historic Landmarks and if National Landmark status is desired, the approved application is forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places within the U.S. Department of Interior.

Historic Districts and Landmarks on the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior:

Approved applications are submitted to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places from the various State Offices of Historic Preservation or from federal or international agencies. Applications are reviewed and vetted by members of the Secretary of the Interior's staff and if accepted are designated Historic Districts or Landmarks, as appropriate, and are placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The listing normally takes about three months after the decision of a State's Historic Resources Commission.

Membership Information When joining or renewing your membership, please make your tax deductible check payable to "CHPS" Individual Member \$20.00 I'd like to volunteer! Family \$30.00 Hospitality refreshments Student \$10.00 Newsletter writing articles Business \$50.00 Vintage Home Tour Patron \$100.00 docent / volunteer \$500.00 Board of Directors Life Name(s)_____ Address_____ City_____ State____ Zip____ Telephone_____ E-mail____ Gift from Membership Status: Renewal ☐ New ☐ Please complete form and mail to: **CHPS** P.O. Box 2904 Corona, CA 92878

We Welcome Our New & Continuing Members

Jennie & Ann Adamo Roger & Janet Becker Benny & Marla Benson Dr. Robert Brandt Benson Roger & Noella Benvenuti Deana Breitenbucher Charles & Anne Hirbour Glenn & Janet Johnson Ken & Carol Kammeyer
Robert & Ruth Kremer - Patron
Assemblyman Jeff Miller
Hazel & Barbara Lohman
Stephen & Erma Paloma
Scott & Nancy Richardson
Paula Ruscigno
Ola Talbert - Patron

Dick Tichy
David & Lynette Tougas
G. Carlton & Patricia Wallace
Bill & Vickie White
Don & Marina Williamson
David & Diane Wright
Marla Wsiaki
John Zickefoose

Architectural Salvage Shoppe

CHPS has limited amounts of architectural salvage items or materials available to those of you who are restoring your vintage homes. Included in the inventory are

windows, shutters, doors, cabinets, molding and hardware.









If you need such items, call CHPS at 898-2044 and leave a brief message (<1 minute) along with your telephone number.





Board of Directors

President - Christine Gary Vice President - Mary Winn Secretary - Doris Osko Treasurer - Richard Winn

<u>Directors</u> Jackie Bland

Thurston "Bubba" Bland Paula Muñoz Tom Muñoz Don Williamson

Directors Emeritus

Marla Benson Janette Neumann Ted Taylor



To contact us call 951.898.2044

Please leave a brief message



Our Mission Statement

The Corona Historic Preservation Society (CHPS) is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization dedicated to preservation and revitalization of Corona's historic buildings, neighborhoods and sites.

Through education, legislation and organization, CHPS acts as an advocate for the preservation of Corona's historic resources.

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:

Wednesday, July 20, 7:00 pm at CHPS office Wednesday, August 17, 7:00 pm at CHPS office



Visit us @ www.corona-history.org



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



Enjoy an all-American 4th of July!



Don't miss out on the slide show on July 16th "Corona - Then & Now" See pg.3