



Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society Fall 2019 Newsletter

E. Waldo Ward & Son



Photo: Courtesy of E. Waldo Ward

[Ed. note: Come tour one of Sierra Madre's very significant historic properties, E. Waldo Ward & Son, founded in 1891 and still producing today. The tour is Saturday, November 2nd from noon to 2:00. Details on page 6]

Back in 1891, a man named Edwin Waldo Ward Sr. moved to Sierra Madre, California with a dream. He first purchased 10 acres of land from the town's founder, Nathaniel Carter, and planted the land with Navel oranges. He acquired 20 more acres a few years

This history is from the E. Waldo Ward & Son website. Reprinted by permission.

later totaling 30 acres of land. At the time, he was a salesman for James P. Smith & Co., a New York importer of luxury foods. Ward became the company's western representative. He married in 1900 and built the beautiful home and the red barn on Highland Avenue in 1902. Both buildings are still used today.

Ward certainly knew the fine-food business and made important contacts over the years. And these were all advantages in later years when he started his business. His dream was to make English style marmalade. An English friend was traveling to Spain and Ward gave him money to purchase two trees of the special variety of the orange tree that was needed. These trees arrived in America and became the grafting stock for a grove that numbered over 600 trees. Those two trees thrive today, however, they are no longer on Ward land. The Ward ranch is around 2.5 acres today.

Ward's big dream was to produce his own marmalade here on the ranch. In 1915 he retired as a salesman and for three years experimented with marmalade making. By 1918, satisfied he had the recipe he was seeking, he began his preserving business.

(continued on page 2)



By Gary Platt

One of my best memories of living in Sierra Madre [that] might be of interest to your readers is about Mr Thompson. When I was born in December of 1925... my family was living at 337 No. Lima About five years later we were living on

Sunnyside about a block and a half North of Sierra Madre Blvd. My buddy was a seventy-two year old gentleman farmer who lived across the street named Mr Thompson who grew all types of fruits and vegetables, and when they were ripe he would bring them across the street for me to taste and explained them to me. I said to him one day, "Mr Thompson you are my best friend". He replied by telling me a story about when he was my age he also had an older man that was his best friend. He would go to work occasionally with his father to see his best friend. His father

worked at the White House and his best friend was named Abraham Lincoln.

In later years I thought this might have been a figment of my imagination so I inquired with the [Sierra Madre] librarian... and received the following details: Amos Thompson was born in Illinois in 1858 and his father was from Virginia...

Another story that may be of interest is about a neighbor's dog. When I was about four or five years old there was a great amount of empty lots between and in back of existing houses for us kids to roam around in and a large St Bernard dog would jump his fence to play with us. Mr Thompson told me that the animal that I was riding doggy back belonged to our Republican President Hoover's son. I didn't know what a Republican or a President was and he explained the title to me. Good old Mr Thompson.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 E. Waldo Ward & Son
- 1 Memory Story
- 3 Holiday Party/Cookie Feast/Tongva
- 4 Lizzie's Scarecrow
- 4 Lizzie's Chicken Dinner
- 5 Presidents Message / New Board
- 6 Calendar / New Members
- 6 New Members / Honorary Member
- 7 May Art Fair

(continued from page 1)



Photo: Courtesy of E. Waldo Ward

Ward home and barn: 1903

The business thrived, and for years, when dining was a fine experience on trains crossing America, Ward's marmalade was the only one served on several trains. WWI also cut off food imports from overseas and Ward was ready to supply the market here. Other products have been added since then and today, marmalade is only 10% of the fine foods we produce.

Behind the home, barely visible from the street, is the Ward canning factory building. Today, about 10 to 15 people are employed. Many are long-time employees. But the company will always remain small in order to preserve the high quality which is the Ward standard.



Photo: Courtesy of E. Waldo Ward

Edwin Ward Jr.

Our products are made using the best ingredients and methods possible. For example, we use only pure cane sugar, not corn syrup as in most jams. This gives the best flavor. We sell only the finest imported olive oil, from the first pressing of the olives. And our marmalades are still made directly from fresh citrus (not canned peel).

Carrying on this idea of "the best" today is Richard Ward, the third generation, and Jeff Ward, the fourth.



Award-winning Marmalade is still made with local citrus

HOLIDAY PARTY

Cookie Feast



Program: Tongva Yesterday and Today

Members and their guests

Thursday, December 19, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Hart Park House in Memorial Park
222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre



About the Tongva

The Tongva (also called Gabrieliño) had villages sprinkled all over the L.A. basin before the Europeans arrived. Yes, they were here in Sierra Madre too! Michele Zack, in her history of Sierra Madre *Southern California Story; Seeking the Better Life in Sierra Madre*, tells us that "virtually every early Spanish diarist described the Gabrielino as a friendly, helpful, and thoughtful people, skilled in many technologies and knowledgeable of areas far beyond their villages. They had a highly developed trade economy and were skilled hunters, basket weavers, and boat builders."

About the speaker

Julia Bogany is a member of the Tongva tribe, is on their Tribal Council, and is their Cultural Consultant. Ms. Bogany teaches Tongva language and cultural classes, and helped to reawaken and revive the Tongva language, as well as assemble a Tongva dictionary. She teaches basket weaving and also uses it to teach math to youth.

School of Theology in addition to Pitzer. In September 2010 she received the Heritage Award from the Aquarium of the Pacific at their sixth annual Native American festival, Moompetam. She has also been nominated for Coastal Commission for Coastal Commission for the State of California and is a Stake Holder Consultant of 200 parks in Los Angeles County.



She is President of Kuruvanga Springs, a Representative for California tribes on Route 66, a member of CNAC (California Native American College board), and Pitzer College Elder in Residence. She teaches native culture and history and women's issues at Scripps, Pomona, Harvey Mudd, and the Claremont

Lizzie SCARECROW

Who wants to stand over sizzling fat every day?

Here's Lizzie, famous for her chicken and ravioli dinners at Lizzie's Trail Inn, getting a well-deserved break, with a bucket of KFC.



Photo: Courtesy Jan Wiles



Photo: Sierra Madre Archives

Remember our KFC on the corner of Lima and Sierra Madre Blvd? Here it is in 1972, all decorated for the holidays.



Jan Wiles,
SMHPS Scarecrow Artist

LIZZIE'S CHICKEN DINNER & GENERAL MEETING IN JUNE

All photos by Jean Coleman



Sierra Madre Search and Rescue had a booth, complete with stuffed rattlesnake.



The silent auction



Our new board members



Joe Tortomasi and Cory Brendel provided the sweet sounds of ukuleles.



Treasurer Richard Mays and Co-President Leslie Ziff at the Welcome table.



Isaac Martinez gives the thumbs-up to the chicken dinners, all bagged and ready to be enjoyed. Co-President Teresa Chauré (left) helped get the dinners organized.

President's Message

I love fall; the colors, the pumpkins, the scarecrows! There is crispness in the air, kids getting ready for Halloween, families gathering for Thanksgiving - it's warmness we feel all the way into our souls. Because it is a time for gatherings, we are going to do just that! We have 2 wonderful programs coming up - in November a tour at E. Waldo Ward's Ranch, and in December we have a wonderful Native American Speaker from the Tongva Tribe who will be with us at our Holiday Party. I hope you and your family will join us for these great events.

We have been busy at our museums. The oak tree at Lizzie's has been expertly trimmed by Osti Tree Services. We have completed some electrical work and added a few lights inside Lizzie's. The Richardson House has new shades in its windows that help to block out the sun and heat. We also have new curtains throughout each of the rooms. We have done a lot of tours on Saturdays and some group tours such as the Boy Scouts and a private hiking group. We are training new teen docents. We are looking for adults who would be willing to join our adult docent program.

Lastly we are working with our Sierra Madre Library to help support our historical achieves. We have given them another grant to help preserve some of our special collections. We are supporting the library staff, the Trustees, the Foundation and the City as they work together to plan for a "new" library.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming events. Also, please tell your friends and neighbors about the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society and our wonderful museums. They are open every Saturday from 9:30 - 12:00.

Happy Fall!

Leslie Ziff



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SMHPS@outlook.com



Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society

Our new 2019-2020 Board



Front Row: Jean Coleman, Secretary; Leslie Ziff, Co-President
 Back Row: Richard Mays, Treasurer; Teresa Chaure, Co-President; Pat Karamitros, last year's Secretary; Christel Chang & Louise Neiby, Co- Ways & Means Chairs; Jay Whitcraft, Museums Curator.
 Not pictured: Maggie Ellis, Vice President & Membership Chair; Jan Wiles, Facebook Chair; Mary Lou Caldwell, Member at Large

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	Teresa Chaure & Leslie Ziff
Vice President	Maggie Ellis
Secretary	Jean Coleman
Treasurer	Richard Mays

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archives	Vacant
Education	Leslie Ziff
Facebook	Jan Wiles
Membership	Maggie Ellis
Museums Curator	Jay Whitcraft
Newsletter	Maggie Ellis
Oral History	Vacant
Ways & Mean	Christel Chang & Louise Neiby
Website	Maggie Ellis

DIRECTOR AT LARGE Mary Lou Caldwell


NON-BOARD MEMBERS

Library Board of Trustees Liaison	Rod Spears
Board Development	To be appointed

2019-2020 Calendar

September 19	Board Meeting
October 17	Board Meeting
November 2	E. Waldo Ward Tour
November 21	Board Meeting
December 19	Holiday Party and Tongva Talk
January 16	Board Meeting
February 20	TBA
March 19	Board Meeting
April 16	TBA
May 21	Board Meeting
June 18	Board Meeting
TBA	General Meeting & Program
July 16	Planning Meeting

Tour





\$5

admission

E. Waldo Ward & Son

Saturday, November 2, 2019
 Noon to 2:00 p.m.
 273 East Highland Avenue

Presented by the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society



New Members!

We're very pleased to welcome so many new members:

Sue Behrens, Andrea Walsh, Paul Hagen, Bliss Bowen, Brian Menke, Kevin Coffman, Rim Manaa, Mary McDougal and Josh Perlman. And welcome back to **Shirley Rosenkranz & Fran Powell, Joan Crow, and Judie Cimino!**

Maggie Ellis, *Membership Chair*

Susan Henderson Named Honorary Member



Susan Henderson, Editor of the *Mountain Views News*, has given the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society unwavering support over the years, always helping us spread the word about our programs and projects.

In May, we were very pleased to show our gratitude by making her an Honorary Member.



Our booth at the May Art Fair

All photos by Jean Coleman



Louise Neiby and Isaac Martinez, in our literature booth, showing off our Sierra Madre history book. Buy yours at the library, Arnold's or at our museums!



Our star salesmen, Franco Castillo and Dustin Stockley, who sold an amazing number of lemonades. They were a big hit!



Frank Moore and Shannon King, helping to sell lemonade, and enjoying some themselves.



Christel Chang, who was in charge of the booth, and Terry Terrell, one of our docents, who was there to provide lively answers to any Sierra Madre history questions.

Sincere Thanks
to all our volunteers



Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society
P.O. Box 202, Sierra Madre, CA 91025-0202
(626) 836-6709 www.smhps.org



Program: Tongva Yesterday and Today
Members and their guests
Thursday, December 19, 2019 7:00 p.m.



Hart Park House in Memorial Park
222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre



SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY
P.O. Box 202, Sierra Madre, CA 91025-0202
Membership / Donation Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Membership Level	Specific Donations
___ \$20 Individual	\$_____ Sierra Madre Historical Archives
___ \$25 Family	\$_____ Oral History Program
___ \$5 Student	\$_____ Museums
___ \$30 Contributing	\$_____ Richardson House
___ \$60 Patron	\$_____ Lizzie's Trail Inn
___ \$100 Supporting	
___ \$500 Lifetime	

Total Enclosed: \$_____

Please make check payable to SMHPS

The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society is a 501(c)(3).
Your contributions are deductible within the limits of the law.

Thank You.

Yes, I would like to be a volunteer for the SMHPS _____