



**Sierra Madre  
Historical  
Preservation  
Society Newsletter**

**Fall 2004**

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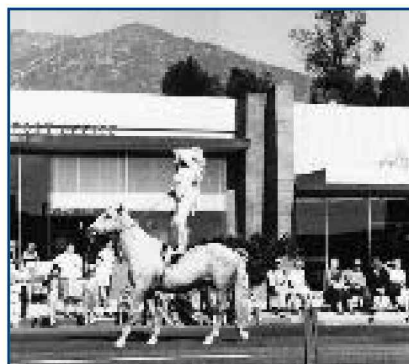
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**ON ROUTE 66 WITH  
JIM CONKLD**



Society Program Meeting  
Tuesday, October 5 at 7:30 PM  
Sierra Madre Woman's Club "Essick House"  
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA

We invite you to get "your kicks from Route 66" at our fall program meeting when Jim Conkld from the Route 66 Museum in Victorville will present a slide program about our country's historic highway. The 2,448 ribbon of concrete ran from Chicago to Santa Monica and brought thousands to this land of dreams. It was called "The Mother Road" by John Steinbeck in "The Grapes of Wrath." Now replaced by a web of modern highways, it has disappeared from U.S. maps. However, remnants still remain across the eight states it covered, bringing back memories and the charm of past days. As always, everyone is welcome to attend. Come, enjoy refreshments and a time of nostalgia about America's former "Main Street."



Pioneer Days Parade October 1961. Ellie Bruni Collection. Gift of Judy Webb-Martin. Sierra Madre Historical Archives.

Circle the wagons! Pioneer Days are comin' October 2, 9, and 10 this year. During the month of October the Library display case will feature photographs and ephemera from Sierra Madre Pioneer Days of the past. On Saturday October 2, hike into history to Strain's Camp with San Gabriel mountain historian John Robinson. A pancake breakfast will precede the hike at the covered picnic area near the Mount Wilson Observatory. Telescopes will be open for touring.

Saturday October 9th at Ward's Ranch from 12 to 4 pm celebrate Pioneer Families with old fashioned activities – pioneer dress-up, butter making, clothes washing, apple bobbing, 3-legged races, wheelbarrow races, a watermelon seed spitting contest, and much more. That evening at Ward's sample some of the best local chili recipes at the Chamber of Commerce Chili Cookoff from 4 to 6 pm. Join Sierra Madre's Treasures (old timers) in Memorial Park under the pergola for some story swapping from 10 am to 2 pm.

On Sunday October 10th, join us for more fun at Ward's Ranch from 10 am to 4 pm as crafters will show their wares and antique engines will be on display. The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation will lead walking tours of historic sites on the hour. Ward's museum and gift shop will be open and Jeff Ward will offer tours of the factory, Sierra Madre's oldest continuous business. Y'all come. For more information visit [www.SierraMadrePioneerDays.com](http://www.SierraMadrePioneerDays.com).

**BOOK AUTHOR ANNOUNCED**



Historical Society Dane Lenton is pictured here with acclaimed writer Michele Zack. The Society has retained Ms. Zack to be the author of a new history of Sierra Madre. The book's publication will coincide with the Centennial of the city's incorporation in 2007. Ms. Zack has recently completed a history of our neighboring community Altadena. The book is titled *Altadena: Between Wilderness and City* and is available at Vroman's Pasadena and Hastings Ranch.

The Society Board has appointed a book committee consisting of Phyllis Chapman, Jeanne Frederick, Debbie Henderson, Pam Kelly, Lynn Kolberg, Eph Konigsberg, Dane Lenton, Dr. Paul Neiby and Donald Songster. This committee will be overseeing and working on image collecting, research, editing, fund-raising and various other tasks associated with building a book. In addition, they have been working with a larger community group that began meeting over a year ago to begin this project. The Society invites input and participation from anyone interested in the book. If you would like to be part of the book project or you have stories or a family photo you feel would enhance the book please e-mail Debbie Henderson ([dhenders@sierramadre.lib.ca.us](mailto:dhenders@sierramadre.lib.ca.us)) or call Dane Lenton 355-3905.

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Historical Preservation Society

Sierra Madre



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP		SPECIFIC DONATION	
_____ \$15.00	Individual	_____ Archival Preservation Partner	
_____ 20.00	Family	_____ Matching Grant	
_____ 1.00	Student, Junior	_____ Richardson House	
_____ 25.00	Contributing Member	_____ Lizzie's Trail Inn	
_____ 50.00	Patron		
_____ 100.00	Supporter		
		\$ _____	Total

Make Check Payable To: S.M.H.P.S.

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS	
_____ Wistaria Day (booth 2 hours)	_____ Home Tour Chairman
_____ Art Fair (booth 2 hours)	_____ Chair One House
_____ Richardson House Docent	_____ Docent for one room
_____ Lizzie's Trail Inn Docent	_____ Work Crew
	_____ Lizzie's
	_____ Richardson House

Thank You



**Heasley Collection Now Available**

Before leaving town this Summer, Barbara and Russell Heasley generously lent their family photo collection to the Sierra Madre Historical Archives in July. Thirty images (ca. 1920-1945) of pack stations, mountain resorts, and the canyon pool from the Heasley Collection were photographed for the local history collection. Copy prints of the images are now available for access and negatives are on file. Several documents from the Heasley scrapbook were also photocopied for our files. A heartfelt thanks to the Heasley Family for lending its Sierra Madre treasures.

Sledding a piano to Roberts' Camp, ca. 1930. Jim Heasley is leading the mule. He wrote on the reverse of the photo "The piano had to be tuned!" E.B. Gray photo. Heasley Collection. Sierra Madre Historical Archives.