



Sierra Madre  
Historical  
Preservation Society  
Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2007

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**Squeeze Me!**

It's that time of year again. Time for all Rangpur lime and lemon tree owner's to help the Historical Society by squeezing and freezing fruit juice for the famous Historical Society lemonade. This lemonade has been a much requested item at the Friends of the Library Art Fair for decades. Again this year as last year, please squeeze and freeze the juice and contact **Dane** (355-3905) for pick-up or delivery instructions. This is a wonderful fundraiser for the Society, as we have practically no overhead costs. We make many people happy with this traditional Sierra Madre Art Fair treat. When life hands you lemons... The Art Fair will be held this year in Memorial Park in Sierra Madre on the weekend of **May 19 and May 20**.



**Fourth of July** is coming up fast. Look for an entry in this year's parade from the Society. Last year we had the author of our soon to be published

Centennial History book riding through town in her red, white and blue outfit and parasol. **Michele Zack** was a good sport and had a great time.

**A Film Festival in Sierra Madre**

The Historical Society is known for our Silent Film Sundays featuring silent movies accompanied by **Bob Mitchell** playing the Wurlitzer organ. The weekend of June 23 and June 24 will find movie aficionados, friends and families being entertained in the City Hall chambers between 1:00-5:00 PM by an eclectic selection of Sierra Madre films. Family focused films are the key to Saturday's line up which will showing short subject films from the Library Archives that feature Sierra Madre events, Sierra Madre subjects (building the canyon dam and the settling basins), "Search for Billy", "The Lucky Quarter", an animated feature from a USC film school graduate that was drawn in Sierra Madre and the score recorded in a Sierra Madre recording studio by **Sourdough Slim** ([www.sourdoughslim.com](http://www.sourdoughslim.com)). Sunday will feature a few Hollywood films made in Sierra Madre. At press time not all the licensing agreements were secured, but films such as "The Invasion of the Body Snatchers," "Sgt. Bilko" and other films with



recognizable Sierra Madre filming locations were being sought.

This event is part of the Centennial Celebrations for 2007. Watch the Society's web site, [www.smhps.org](http://www.smhps.org), for the final information on film selections or phone **Pam** (355-3359) for further information.

**Save the Date...**

Check out the Society's web site later this summer for details about our remaining Centennial Celebration events:

- September 14-Talk by author **Michele Zack** titled Temperance and Townhood, at Sierra Madre Public Library, 7:30-8:30 pm.
- **October 12-Grand Ol' Party hosted by the Society** to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Sierra Madre and Lizzie's Trail Inn. Location to be announced.



**Thank You, Friends!**

The Centennial of Sierra Madre's incorporation has brought Sierra Madre history back into the spotlight. As a result, many families and organizations have loaned their collections to the Archives for duplication. **The Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library** have generously contributed \$5000 to fund photographic reproductions for the Archives. Without assistance from the Friends, the Archives ability to develop our photographic holdings would be extremely limited. The timing is superb as the history book is well underway and it is likely that many of the images will be used for illustration. Thank you, Friends! And thanks to our collection lenders: **Andrea Harkness Barrett, Regina Burhenn, May Lillian Halldin Clark, Lillias Dowding Eubanks, Paula O'Doherty, Cindy Norris Varnado,** and the **Sierra Madre Community Nursery School**.



"The California Canary," whistling soloist, ca. 1917. Norris Family Collection (3.2007.1)

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**Historical Preservation Society**

Sierra Madre



**SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

Box 202 Sierra Madre California 91025-0202  
(626) 355-8129

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*Membership*

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Individual
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20.00 Family,
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1.00 Student, Junior
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25.00 Contributing Member
- \_\_\_\_\_ 50.00 Patron
- \_\_\_\_\_ 100.00 Supporting

*Specific Donation*

- Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Archival Preservation Partner
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Matching Grant
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Richardson House
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Lizzie's Trail Inn
  - Total Enc. \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to S.M.H.P.S.



Donation to the Centennial Book Publication of the *History of Sierra Madre* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory/Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify of gift: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society is a 501(c) (3) organization.  
Your contribution is tax deductible within the limits of the law. Thank You.

Please contact me about volunteering at \_\_\_\_\_



Fun with plumbing, Sierra Madre Community Nursery School, ca.1966. SMCNS Collection (6.2006.132)

**Archives Receives Gift from a Centenarian**

In November 1934, **Ruby K. Simmons** signed a lease for rental of the Red Cabin at Quarter Way. The cost was \$25. The Archives recently received the original lease and receipt for the cabin rental. Ruby's son, **William**, kindly sent the documents along with two photographs to the Archives as a gift from his mother, now 104. He relates that his family has many fond memories of Quarter Way. Thank you **Simmons** family for sharing



your memories of adventures along the Mt. Wilson Trail. We will do our best to preserve them for generations to come.