



Sierra Madre Historical
Preservation Society
Newsletter

Winter 2009

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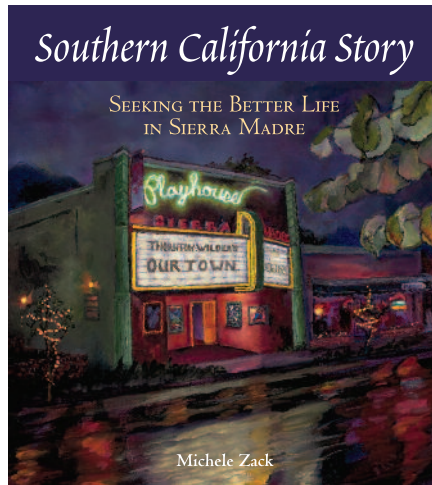
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**Sierra Madre Historical Society
Publishes History of the Town**



It is with great pleasure that we announce the publication of *Southern California Story: Seeking the Better Life in Sierra Madre*. Our gorgeous 384-page, hardcover book includes over 350 illustrations including maps, photographs, ephemera, and artifacts. Eight beautifully written chapters transport you through different eras of Sierra Madre's history all within the greater context of California and United States history. In addition, the book includes an appendix on Sierra Madre's water history, a selected bibliography, an index, and donor acknowledgements.

We are grateful to our author, Michele Zack who vigorously researched our town and crafted a readable, enjoyable text. Jeff Lapides, our book designer, also deserves accolades for his careful attention to details that shaped the book such as paper, binding, font, line length, color, highlight, and shadow. The cover art is from an oil painting by Carolyn Gravatte, a renowned artist with works on display in local galleries and Debbie Henderson, our library archivist who contributed greatly to the success of the book. Last but not least, we must convey a hearty thanks to our donors. We are grateful to those who contributed funds and historical materials so that the Society could fulfill its mission to preserve and provide access to Sierra Madre history in the form of a new history book.

Our book has received advanced praise from historians such as Kevin Starr, Daniel Walker Howe, Kenneth Jackson, William Deverell, and Sam Watters. The Society has produced an heirloom book (just as we set out to do) and we think it will also prove to be an award winner.

The bargain purchase price for our French jacketed book is \$45 plus tax (\$49.39). Books may be ordered via the Society's website (www.smhps.org) or may be purchased at the following locations: **Arnold's Frontier Hardware, Lizzie's Train Inn, Mary's Market, Savor the Flavor, Sierra Madre Books, Sierra Madre Public Library, Sierra Fitness, Farmers Market-Wednesday PM in Sierra Madre, Farmers Market-Saturday AM in Pasadena and Vroman's Bookstores.** For details regarding signings and book related events, please visit our website or call 626.355.8129.

Membership

Welcome to all new members to the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society this past year 2009. Thank you to our past members for your support.

Membership renewal dues are due annually on January 1st. The current memberships expire December 31, 2009. Enclosed in this newsletter is a renewal envelope. Please fill in the envelope and enclose your renewal check. If you are not sure when your membership expires, please check your mailing label on this newsletter, as it shows the year your membership ends. You may renew for one year or several years, your records will be updated to show your new membership status.

Your combined support helps the Historical Preservation Society keep Lizzie's Trail Inn and The Richardson House in excellent repair and your donations to the Archives help to secure new documents and photos relating to Sierra Madre. We especially want to say thank you to our wonderful Centennial Book donors-without you we could not have made the book a reality. We look forward to seeing all of you at our booths, meetings and programs.

The Plaques Are Back!



On November 1, 2009 a ceremony was held to present new historical designation plaques to owners of registered landmarks. The first landmark plaques were placed to celebrate our nation's bi-centennial in 1976. The replacement plaques carry more individual information regarding the property, including the date of construction, original builder and, in some cases, the architect.

The prominent bas-relief of our local mountains was designed by Tom Southwell and adapted for casting by Stan Hutchinson.

The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society feels that this project is of significant importance to our city. Funding for this project by the city was to be provided through the Culture Heritage Commission, but was withdrawn upon the disbanding of the commission. Generous donations by the Society and board members Eph Konigsberg and Donald Songster enabled this project to go forward. The Society has also purchased three plaques for city owned registered landmarks: Lizzie's Trail Inn, The Richardson House and the John Hart Winery (the Senior Center).

Eighteen of the forty-nine landmarks have now been presented the new plaques and additional plaque orders have been placed. Plaques for the remaining landmarks are available at a cost of \$310.00 each plus shipping and tax. For additional information contact Dane Lenton at (626) 355-3905.

Sierra Madre

Historical Preservation Society

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Book Order Form

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