



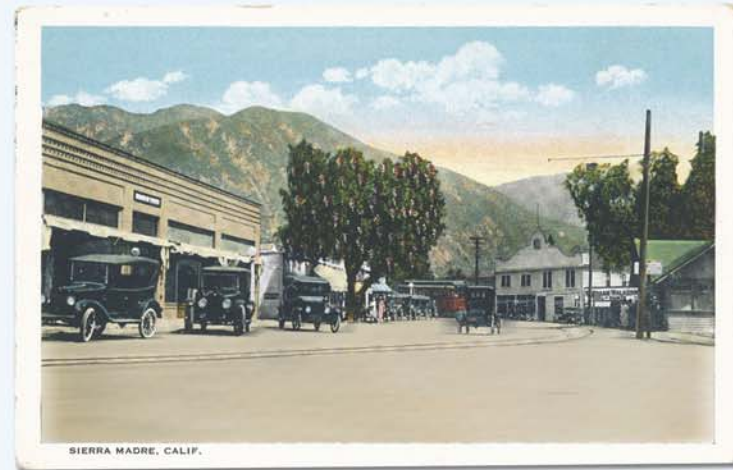
Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society Spring 2020 Newsletter



Memories of

WARD'S ORCHARDS AND OUR FIRE & POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Jim Heasley's family came to Sierra Madre in 1920 when he was 4 years old. The following are excerpts from his 1989 oral history interview.



From the Donnelly postcard collection

Downtown Sierra Madre

Interviewer: Did your father work for the police force when he first came here, did he start right out?

Jim Heasley: No, my dad – when he first came out here, see, he was working at a steel mill in Pittsburgh, and when we first got here he got a job in Los Angeles, at Willen Iron Works. He operated one of these big overhead cranes – that's what he did in the mills in Pittsburgh. Then he got a job with E. Waldo Ward in the marmalade factory, way – oh shoot way back in the early 20s.

Int: He was a jelly maker, wasn't he?

JH: Yeah, he made jelly and jams! My dad could make more better jelly than most women, I think.

Int: Right there where it still is, right?

JH: Yeah, and, uh, of course at that time Ward had extensive orchards, you know. And he had those big orchards on Grandview on the other side of Cañon there, and that whole place all around it where the factory is now, that was all Ward's. And then, uh, when dad got on the police department, I don't know what year, but he was on the police department for years and years and years. And he was still an active policeman at 66.

Int: When he died?

JH: Yeah...

Int: How many on the force – how many policemen were there?

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JH: Oh, there were a lot of them then. I can remember when, it's really funny – they had that old Model A touring car, that's what I really remember. And Ralph Fudell swept the City Hall out, and after that dad was the only night policeman, you know. They had a red light down there in the middle of the street, Baldwin and Sierra Madre Blvd., used to call it San [sic] – so dad and his patrol, he had to cross every, you know, not too long intervals – to see if the red light was on, and if Ralph got a call for a policeman he'd turn the red light on, that was before they had radios.

Int: Was the ... did they have that horn at that time or is that more recent?

JH: Oh, they had the horn, they've had the horn for...

JH: But dad was one of the original firemen too. Oh, it was the first fire department, yeah. There's an old picture over there.... That's him sittin' back on that old Model T truck that they had up in the canyon, oh boy.

Int: Were there any disasters just because the department was small, or did they...

JH: No, they've always been efficient. It was the --- they had 20 men and there was always a waiting list. They didn't really expand until the war time, in fact I had to wait about two years to get on the Department when I went on in 1937, it was really a ...

Int: It was an elite organization, huh?

JH: Yeah, yeah, it still is.

Int: Top people, then.

JH: Mm-hm.

New Curtains at the Richardson House



Photo by Maggie Ellis

New protective shade and lace curtains

The Sierra Madre Civic Club generously donated \$560 to the Historical Society to replace the sad old shades at the Richardson House museum. Leslie Ziff took charge of the project and found new stylish protective shades as well as lace curtains to cover the windows.

The resulting look is lovely ... what an improvement!

We are extremely grateful to Civic Club for making this transformation possible.



Photo courtesy Leslie Ziff

Leslie Ziff with an old shade



Photo by Maggie Ellis

Aren't these beautiful?



STARTING ANEW
TRANSFORMING PASADENA
1890-1930

PASADENA MUSEUM OF HISTORY

ON VIEW NOVEMBER 13, 2019 – JULY 3, 2020

Pasadena Museum of History

Upcoming Pasadena History Talk

General Meeting and History Talk

***Thursday, June 18, 7:00 PM**

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

Bradford Macneil, Director of Education & Public Programing at the Pasadena Museum of History, will be speaking about the burst of growth of our neighboring "big city" Pasadena in the years 1890-1930.

The Pasadena Museum of History created a special display related to this time period, and made it available to the public starting in November.

** [Ed. note: While all future plans are very tentative at this point, in the spirit of optimism we announce our hoped-for program in June. If June is not possible, we'll postpone the talk until a later date.]*

E. Waldo Ward & Son

Over 150 people streamed in to tour E. Waldo Ward & Sons' jam factory on a beautiful day!

November



Photo by Maggie Ellis



Photo by Maggie Ellis

The Ward home next to the jam factory. We didn't tour the home, but we marveled at it from the outside.



Photo by Louise Neiby

Jeff Ward, owner & tour guide



Photo by Maggie Ellis



Photo by Jean Coleman

We were all fascinated by the bottling machine



Photo by Maggie Ellis

Chris Rondeau, another tour guide



Photo by Jean Coleman

Franco Castillo helped at the refreshments table



Photo by Jean Coleman



Photo by Jean Coleman



Photo by Maggie Ellis

The E. Waldo Ward museum



Photo by Jean Coleman



Photo courtesy Maggie Ellis

Tour organizers Maggie Ellis, Christel Chang and Louise Neiby



Photo by Jean Coleman



Tongva Talk & Holiday Party

Tongva, Yesterday and Today

Our speaker, Tongva tribe member Julia Bogany



We were all captivated by the delightful Julia Bogany



Tongva craftsmanship



Photo by Maggie Ellis



Photo by Maggie Ellis

This is just part of the amazing spread our members provided



HISTORIC OR INTERESTING HOMES OF SIERRA MADRE

As I take my daily walks around our city I pass so many of our beautiful old homes and wonder: "Who has lived in this home? What stories are held within those walls?" Many of you just by living in your home have gathered interesting information about the house and the different families that have resided there.

Many histories of our older homes, written by their owners, can be seen on our website. Go to www.smhps.org and click on the "Historic Properties" tab to see them. We would love to have more histories, but also we are interested in the stories that go with all our homes, not just the very old ones.

I am proposing that it's time to share those stories. Without opening up your home for a tour – we can still take that journey through the history of a home by sharing some of the stories that are attached to that home. Take some time to sit down and write about what you know of the home you live in. The house does not have to be "historical" – but as we create these stories we create knowledge for future generations in our city. Maybe your home was built with a special feature. Maybe an event was held there that had some significance. Maybe someone who was a contributor to our town or the surrounding communities once lived there.

If you will write down some of the details of what you know about these historical stories we can make them available for everyone to see. We can also start to share these great stories with our community within our newsletter as well as on our website. If you don't like to write – call us. Tell us your story so that we can write it down.

I invite you to get in touch with me or our Website Chair Maggie Ellis (maggiellis04@msn.com) if you would like to pursue this adventure.

Leslie Ziff / (626) 321-7735 / lbziff@roadrunner.com

CONTRIBUTE YOUR HOME'S STORY



Local Gems Corner

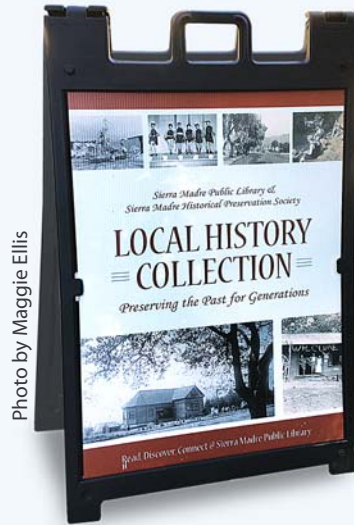


Photo by Maggie Ellis

A reminder that our library has a fabulous California history collection



Photo by Louise Neiby

The pinball machine at Lizzie's is very popular

**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 _____

President's Message

I write this during stressful times, when we are all required to stay at home and protect ourselves. My family and I have "hunkered" down as I hope you have. We have closed the museums for an undetermined time and will open again when it is much safer to be in close contact with others. The Friends of the Library Art Fair has been cancelled due to the virus outbreak so we will not be hosting a booth at that event.

It is hard to plan future events for this year. I know you will understand when I say that I look forward to the day when we can gather for a tour, a meeting, or a social gathering of our Historical Society without the worry of spreading this infection to others.

We have been working on upgrading some of the electrical plugs in the Richardson House and adding better lighting. This has been completed. When we are able, we will be adding more lighting in Lizzie's Trail Inn so that the displays and pictures can be highlighted. We are also going to be cleaning up the grounds around the two museums in this next month.

This is a good time to catch up on some of those books you have wanted to read, Face Time with friends and family, maybe even take a class online or learn a new language! Keeping a positive outlook is important. I hope that we will be able to all meet together in the near future, but until then, stay safe and be well!

Leslie Ziff

2020 Calendar

March 19	Board Meeting
April 16	TBA
May 21	Board Meeting
June 18	General Meeting & Pasadena Talk

Welcome New Members!

We are very pleased to welcome new members **David & Julia Hagie, Chris Rondeau** (who gave us tours at E. Waldo Ward), **Olga Correa, Cynthia Cooper,** and **Carole Weeks & Thomas Padilla.**
 And welcome back to **Jack & Nancy Gebhardt!**

Maggie Ellis, Membership Chair

www.smhps.org
SMHPS@outlook.com



Our 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 & Means	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