

Mud Springs Messenger

BROUGHT TO YOU BY SAN DIMAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Chartered - June 6, 1966

2022 - 2023

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:

President - Margie Green

Vice-President - Susan Davis

Recording Secretary - Kay Glinternick

Correspondence Secretary

Julie Draayom

Treasurer - Terry Templeman

Archivist - Susan Davis

Museum Manager - David Harbin

Gift Shop and Volunteer Coordinator

Kay Hoveland

Membership - Suzy Crawford

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Social Media - Diana Veloz

Hospitality - Linda Nelson

Historical Walking Tours - Dave Harbin

Programs and Projects

Allen Chen, Dave Bratt, Dave Harbin

Parliamentarian - David Bratt

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OFFICE, MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP

121 N. San Dimas Avenue, San Dimas
Walker House, 2nd Floor

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 871, San Dimas, CA 91773

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Office Telephone: (909) 592-1190

Email: office91773@sandimashistorical.org

Web: www.sandimashistorical.org

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

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Office, Archives, Museum and Gift Shop

(Are presently open by appointment)

Tuesdays and Thursdays - 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Open: First Saturday monthly

Gift Shop and Museum - 10:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Walking Tour: First Saturdays monthly

Downtown Historical Docent-led tour at 10 a.m.

Reservations are recommended

Dave Harbin (951) 990-3395 or

SDHS Office (909) 592-1190



A Message FROM PRESIDENT, Margie Green

Welcome to my first message since becoming your president in June. I want to thank David Bratt for his three-years as president, which was extended one year due to Covid. He did a wonderful job under very difficult circumstances. After serving six-years on the board we say good-bye to Cheryl Avelar, we will miss her energy and willingness to help in any way.

Summer is passing, the drought continues, and water rationing is in full effect. This makes me wonder how this would have impacted the citrus growers a hundred years ago. Like everyone else the historical society has faced its own challenges with Covid. The restaurant downstairs closed. In July, the City Council had a study session on how to best use the Walker House and the consensus from citizens and the Historical Society was for another restaurant in the Walker House. Currently, the city is processing restaurant applicants to find the best fit for the Walker House. As it was explained in years past - it is like we are in the appetizer phase, looking at restaurant applications. Then we move on to the entree stage of selecting a user and finally to the dessert stage with the signing of a contract. The city will then announce what we have to look forward to on the first floor of the historic building. Once a restaurant is established, the Historical Society can resume regular public hours. We have recently relocated and enlarged our beautiful Gift Shop and we are in the process of making a turn of the century "Children's Room" where the previous gift shop was located. We also have a beautiful new display case on order. I want to thank everyone who have made museum donations, as well as those that have donated to the Gift Shop. The Gift Shop is the society's prime method of financial support, so these donations are very important.

The Historical Society has been advised by the City's Parks and Recreation Department that the "Welcome Wagon", located at the intersection of Arrow Highway and Bonita Avenue is in need of major repairs or replacement. I was asked by the city in 2012 when it was last refurbished to repaint it. The wagon was built and placed there by the Jaycees prior to the 1976 bicentennial. The wagon was originally painted with the liberty bell and 1776 -1976 along with the words "Pioneering a New Era." With a little convincing I came up with a new design relating to citrus. Our history in this area is citrus - that is the industry that made this community grow. Although a citrus wagon carrying citrus would be more in tune to our true history, the covered wagon also has its history with California. I am delighted that the city is asking us for new ideas in case the old wagon is beyond repair.

The Walker House exterior is being dressed up with new paint, so currently, the only entrance is through the back patio. We are excited about our free "Historical Walking Tours" given monthly on the first Saturday by Dave Harbin a long time resident and longtime volunteer. The Tour starts at 10am and takes about an hour and 15 minutes. At the same time our Museum and Gift Shop is open from 10am to 1pm. Please visit us.

Each year we have an "Ice Cream Social" This year, due to the Walker House painting it will be held at the Senior Community Building, Civic Center Plaza on September 25th at 4pm. Look for an invitation in the mail soon.

For up-to-date information visit our web site www.sandimashistorical.org. You can also reach me personally at (909) 816-8922 or e-mail Kiddoo2001@aol.com.

From the Archives

By Dave Harbin

Recently, some very special photographs and history of San Dimas was shared with us from Albert Martinez who was born and raised here. What makes his story so special is that he is of Mexican decent and lived in the Mexican Colony, "La Colonia Mejicana", which was housing that was built by the Lemon and Orange Packing Associations to help provide a steady workforce for the local citrus industry. The Historical Society has very few pictures or personal histories from those who lived in the Mexican colony. We are indebted to him for sharing his story.



8th grade, San Dimas Elementary School 1931. My mom Rosa Dominguez is in the middle row, 3rd from left. Top row 3rd from right is Marcelino Vera longtime owner of the Mexican Barber Shop in downtown San Dimas. San Dimas schools had already been integrated, but in La Verne, Mexicans were still not allowed to attend Lincoln Elementary until about 1950.



Downtown in the late 1930s....Cinco de Mayo Parade. In the background you can see the Feed Store on the left, and the Walterschied Electric building directly behind the car, my mom is in the middle!



La Colonia Mejicana, May 5th 1937 at the end of the parade... it wasn't the Rose Parade but they made the effort. On Acacia Street just south of Bonita Avenue. Note the American Flags proudly displayed on the car. My uncle Apolonio leased the wooden building in the background and it was a pool hall.



Downtown, behind Rhoads Park drinking fountain about 1940. Buildings in background are still there today. My aunts Elvira, Rosamaria, My Grandmother, Ignacia, my mom, and kneeling my aunts Evangelina and Alicia...



Yes, that's me and my sister Sylvia Ann Martinez in 1947.... That is where we lived and the family car in the background. The address was #11 Acacia St. "La Colonia Mejicana". It's all gone now but if you were working for the local Lemon or Orange Packing House, you could rent there for probably \$15.00 or \$20.00 a month.



Membership Update from Suzy Crawford

Suzy Crawford

This is a plea for help. If you are reading this newsletter, you already know about the San Dimas Historical Society and the cool things that we do. Unfortunately, we are challenged to get the word out and increase our membership.

I wonder if our name contributes to our problem. Historical might conjure up visions of old, tired and cobwebs. That could not be further from the truth.

As an organization we have participated in City activities (parades, Holiday Extravaganzas, elementary school Walker House/Museum tours, etc.) and continue to support historic walks, Holiday boutiques, Facebook and your very own San Dimas Museum. We continue to digitize old photographs to aid in research. We currently have over 15,000.

I often think about High School politics. Those who run for office, serve in positions or volunteer their time are a tiny subset of the much larger school body. The same applies to today's politics: voter turnout is a mini subset of our population. We have a population of 35,000+, and yet our Membership count is under 200.

So, I am asking for new 'sets of eyes' and new ideas. What can we do? How do we reach new audiences? We have so very much to offer to so many who live here. Please mail your ideas to me at SDHS P.O. Box 871, San Dimas or email me at :susan@crawford.org.

Thank you for putting on your thinking caps and joining forces.



Here We Go Again...

Yes! It has been decided to have our Holiday Boutique again this year. As our biggest revenue source for the Historical Society, it is a necessary event. Since the COVID lock down and the absence of a restaurant in the Walker House, there has been minimal revenue generated by the Gift Shop. Our goal is to continue

to contribute to our treasury and support the ongoing office operations. Although the Walker House is currently surrounded in scaffolding and fencing, volunteers still come in to catalogue historical artifacts, scan old newspapers, and maintain the museum.

The Holiday Boutique will be in the Walker House, open to the public, in December from 12 pm to 4 pm on Saturday and Sunday, the weekends of the 3 & 4, 10 & 11, 17 & 18.

While we have received some donations during this year that will be available for sale during the Holiday Boutique, we always do need more items. Any holiday items as well as jewelry, children's toys, household or kitchen items, collectables, pictures, records, and books are examples of items that sell.

If you have anything you can donate, we will arrange a time for you to drop it off at the Walker House or we can pick it up at your convenience. Just give me a call at my home phone 909-592-6340 or my cell 626-592-2002. If you leave a message, I will return your call, I promise.

Kay Hoveland



From the Archives.....Continued



Probably 1939 or 1940, my mom Rosa Dominguez at the train depot in San Dimas, the train would actually stop in San Dimas and pick up passengers.



1953 at our home on San Dimas Avenue with our dog "Whitey".

The American Legion Post 475 was across the street under the trees. Railroad Tracks in the background as well as a citrus grove. The Santa Fe passed by about 5 times a day. About 500 yards away was the Hobo Jungle....Nice men who would come up to the back door and ask for food. My mom always made them a couple of sandwiches!

In 1954 you could get a home built on your property for \$5,500... this was our new 1200 square foot house built by "Lucky homes of California", at 217 South San Dimas Avenue. Note the 1953 Pontiac in the garage... two-tone yellow and copper! Today Freedom Park is on this corner...San Dimas Avenue and Commercial.



Please Join the San Dimas Historical Society With A Membership

Membership Benefits include:

Quarterly newsletters, invitations to two membership dinners with special speakers and programs, invitations to hosted annual Ice Cream Social, and other Historical Society Events.

Check your membership type:

Individual.....\$25 ____ (annually) Family (two or more).....\$35 ____ (annually) Sponsors / Business \$100 ____ (annually)

Life Membership...\$500 per person ____ (one time fee only)

Additional Support / Donation for your Society are welcomed and are tax deductible. We are a 501(c) (3).

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____ Would you like to receive our newsletter by e-mail? Yes ____ No ____

Please MAIL TO: P.O. Box 871 • San Dimas, CA 91773 • call: 909 592-1190



Thank you - San Dimas Historical Society LIFE MEMBERS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our **life members**. In addition, we would like to clarify the difference between being a life member and being a patron. Life membership is a category of membership choices. Instead of paying a yearly fee you pay **once** and avoid being sent a yearly dues reminder. A Life Membership is \$500 per person. The funds from life membership go into our general fund for ongoing expenses. Your \$1,000 donation into the **patron fund** goes into a special account and is to be used for one time upgrades. Items that have been purchased with our patron funds are the large format scanner (that we use for scanning newspapers), new computers, printers and scanners. We have also purchased display cabinets using patron funds. Becoming a patron does not affect your membership category. Your donation is tax deductible. We are a 501(c) (3).

Sally Aiken	Karol Curtis	Don & Margie Green	Erik Marshall	Maureen Smith
Doran Barns	Steve Davey	Shelley Grey	Rick Marshall	Sandi Snyder
John & Cathi Begin	John & Susan Davis	David & Chris Harbin	Patrick Meyers	Judith Stover
David & Kimberly Bratt	Matt & Julie Draayom	Susan Higley	Dian Moravek	Ryan Teague
Connie Brown	Edna Duke	Stan & Kay Hoveland	Curt & Glenda Morris	Jeff & Terry Templeman
Kristin Carlson-Evanilla	Phil & Isabel Ebner	Susan Hutchinson	Eric Nakano	Charles Varnes, Jr.
Richard Carnow	Jim Elliot	Yolanda King	Mark Nelson	Diana Veloz
Sean Cazares	Joyce Emerson	Alline Kranzer	Linda Nelson	Wilma Williams
Sylvia Chapman	Georgia Florentine	Stephen & Lorraine Lenain	Tom & Susan Nuss	Gary & Jacquelyn Wolf
Bruce & Connie Colburn	T. Joseph Fransen	Sharon Long	Larry Rhinehart	
Michael & Terri Confer	Roy & Niki Glauthier	Bart Marshall	Paul Rippens	
Mitchell & Suzy Crawford	T.J. & Brigid Glauthier	Dawna Marshall	Winnie Robertson	

Our Valued Patrons - A Very Special Thank You

Members that have made donations of \$1000 or more to the Patron Program are: (listed in order of participation)

San Dimas Community Hospital, Ralph and Peggy Thomas, Paul and Willa McClure, Tom and Sue Nuss, Ryan Teague, Jean Johnstone Rimpau, Curt and Glenda Morris, Jeff and Terry Templeman, Sharon Long, Bill and Joyce Emerson, Winifred Rouse Willis, Bob and Connie Brown, Joe Vaniman, Matt and Julie Draayom, Mark Nelson, Linda Nelson, Don and Margie Green, Georgia Florentine, Dick and Mary Lou Harbin, John and Susan Davis, John and Ann Vackrinos, Dorothy A. Callanan, Howard C. Callanan, Allen and Lona Chen, Dave & Chris Harbin

Their generous gifts allow the San Dimas Historical Society to purchase specially needed items to enhance our ability to save and share our history that otherwise would be unavailable due to limited funding. To find out how you too can become a patron call the office at (909) 592-1190. Your donation is tax deductible. We are a 501(c) (3).

Please MAIL TO: P.O. Box 871 • San Dimas, CA 91773 • call: 909 592-1190