

Old Courthouse Museum Society



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The Old Courthouse Museum Society Celebrates 45 Years of Service

The Old Courthouse Museum Society was created in 1977 to support the goal of making the Orange County Courthouse, which opened in 1901, the principal venue for engaging residents in the rich history of their county. Surrounding counties made the decision to replace their original buildings with new structures with new buildings generally using the same plots of land. Orange County chose to continue to use the handsome original building for a variety of purposes while various legal and administrative departments moved into new buildings.

We are fortunate to have one of the original members serving as a director. Jane Gothold has greatly enjoyed being a part of the society that was formed to help make the newly restored building into an outstanding venue for historical exhibits, and of course, the ever-expanding store of artifacts and documents in the OC Archives that are tangible evidence of the history of the county since its creation in 1889.

The onset of the Covid-19 Pandemic has significantly impacted our membership as well as our officers and directors. If you are not currently a member, we would love to have you join us as we continue our mission. To renew, or join, just see the Become a Member page on our site www.oldcourthousemuseumsociety.org or the form on the next page. Some members get involved by becoming docents. As our schools are returning to "in-person" instruction, there is a need for members who would like to share the story of the over thirteen decades of county history contained in the Old Courthouse. Managed by OC Parks, the site curator would be pleased to help you prepare for that role.

In addition to helping fund new exhibits, the Old Courthouse Museum Society awards annual scholarships to graduating seniors in the public school system. There are a range of activities for members who would like to get involved. However, you can be a member of the society by just coming to several general meetings during the year.

OCMS Meeting Planned for Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2022

In addition to recognizing our scholarship winners, and installing officers and board directors, members will be entertained by a presentation on the Overell Gollum Murder Trial. Our treasurer, Mike Heywood, a local historian with a wide selection of books sitting on library shelves across the county, will share his insights on this dramatic case that gave the grand Old Courthouse worldwide print and radio news exposure. Readers halfway around the world in Australia followed this sensational trial of a young socialite heiress, and her handsome older suitor. They were accused of murdering her parents who stood in the way of their plans to marry. The murder featured all the elements of a Hollywood movie, with the peaceful town of Newport Beach shaken by an explosion aboard one of the handsome motor yachts moored in their quiet harbor. Heading the prosecution was an attorney who had successfully helped convict Tojo of War Crimes! Leading the defense was small-town lawyer Otto Jacobs. Someone helped the two young lovers exchange salacious letters that were leaked to the press. The courtroom that was the venue for the trial is the very same room where this meeting will be held.

OCMS Officers and Directors

Tom Pickett, *President*, Lynne Yauger, *Secretary*, Mike Heywood, *Treasurer*, Joseph Bahash, Joe Bahash, Jane Gothold, Kathie Schey, and Dan Gibb, Directors.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/RSVP FOR THE GENERAL MEMBER MEETING AT NOON, SEPT. 21 IN THE OLD COURTHOUSE

Membership October through December 31, 2023
INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY \$25 LIFE MEMBER \$250
Please RSVP for the General Meeting by checking here The cost for the lunch is
\$25. Please indicate if you prefer a vegetarian option Thanks!
Please mail your check made out to the OCMS and to Mike Heywood, Treasurer
OLD COURTHOUSE MUSEUM SOCIETY
5901 Liege Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Please include your name and preferred email address. Thanks!
You can also pay for one or both using the PayPal donate button on the Home Page o

www.oldcourthousemuseumsociety.com . Simply include your lunch preference in

the notes section.