

POMONA Heritage

January 2007

www.pomonaheritage.org

Vol. 23, No. 1

New Board Installation Dinner

Chief Romero To Speak At Annual Dinner, January 21



Pomona's recently appointed Police Chief, Joe Romero, is slated to be the guest speaker at the 2007 Pomona Heritage Installation Dinner and Annual

Meeting. The dinner will be held on Sunday, January 21, at the Second Street Bistro in historic downtown

Pomona.

Cocktails will begin at 5:30 pm, with dinner following at 6:00 pm. Dinner will be completed at 7:00 pm at which time the meeting itself will begin. The meeting will consist of Chief Romero's remarks, the election of the 2007 officers and board, and the swearing in of the new board. The cost of the dinner is \$28 per person. Members who only wish to attend the meeting portion of the

evening should arrive at 7:00 pm.

The dinner is Pomona Heritage's annual meeting where the board of directors for the coming year is elected and sworn in. Ballots went out in the mail and tabulation of the ballots takes place at the meeting which is open to all Pomona Heritage members. The slate of officers recommended by the nominating committee was: Deborah Clifford,

continued on page 7

Grants Program

Pomona Heritage Awards \$5,000 In Restoration Grants

Pomona Heritage's annual grants program took a major step this past year in raising the stakes for historic preservation within the city of Pomona. While the annual grants program has been a fixture of our organization for almost a decade, 2006 marked a milestone in the programming, more than quadrupling the amount of money given to homeowners in the city who made improvements to their historic properties to enhance their historic quality.

The 2006 recipients of Pomona Heritage Historic Restoration Grants are:

• Dominic Vinci—\$2,500. Research and construction of a new perimeter fence. Dominic did extensive

research and created a fence that includes architectural details from his Craftsman home.

• Mark Reaves and Jeanne Roy—\$1,500. Completed portions of their \$27,000 restoration which included wooden floor replacement, replacement and restoration of all historic fixtures, and reframing of the garage interior and installation of new carriage doors on the garage.

• Stephen Siegal—\$1,000. Repair of 19 foot long roof beams to repair sagging front porch on their 1911

continued on page 3



Grant committee chair, Jim Gallivan, Pomona Heritage president Mike Schowalter present a check for \$1,500 to Jeanne Roy and Mark Reaves for the restoration work on their Craftsman home's fencing. photo by John Clifford

Farewell Pomona Heritage!

by Michael Schowalter

After four years as your president the time has come for me to step down as leader of this fine organization. It has been a great time, and I have met many wonderful people who are so dedicated to this city and her future, and keep giving and volunteering and working to make it a better place for all.

Looking back on the preservation front we have won a few, and lost a few. At the top of the "Lost" list would have to be the loss of the Baptist Church, and just recently the "accidental" demolition of the Pomona Creamery. Many smaller homes were also allowed to be torn down, and a few too many vinyl windows have snuck into our neighborhoods because of a lack of enforcement and conviction on the part of the city.

On the flip side however, we added a third historic district, Hacienda Park, raised the money for district signage, and saw the addition of Lincoln Park to the National Historic Registry. We survived *The Cat in the Hat*, managed to have the Sheets Pedestrian Mall designated as a Local Landmark, have managed to continue the tradition of successful Home Tours, and less successful events (remember Pomona Night Fever?).

My constant fussing about the 1950s and Mid Century Modern has hopefully raised the awareness of Pomona's architectural treasures beyond Victorian, Craftsman and Spanish Revival. And perhaps one day even our elected leaders will understand the significance of great architecture and the name Welton Becket.

As for outreach to the community it's hard to beat the Restoration Workshop and our Home Restoration Grant Program. It is so important to be an asset to the entire community

and not just the historic districts. Pomona has many individual and small clusters of homes around that don't qualify as districts but that still need to be preserved and protected. We must keep shouting that message from the rooftops until every member of the council realizes that preservation is worth the effort and is relevant in every corner of the city.

I would also like to take this time to say a big "thank-you" to those who have served with me on the board and helped to keep things moving forward. Of special note I need to mention the only official member of the board who has served longer than I have, Jim Gallivan, our Grant Program Coordinator. Jim was on the Board when I arrived and is coming back again next year! During the past 4 years Mickey Gallivan has regularly attend our board meetings as President of the Historic Society, helping to coordinate the efforts of the two groups. Also I must recognize Dan and Joan McIntire, two of the founding members of this group who still 23 years later continue to be active and attend board meetings on a regular basis.

Thanks to all of you for the opportunity to be your president. Pomona is a strong vital community whose best days are still to come.

Editor's Note: While Mike wrote the headline to this farewell column as president, he'll not be getting away from us that easily. He remains a member of Pomona Heritage (actually he has multiple memberships), and we fully expect him to be an active contributor as the organization moves forward. In that spirit, he has already agreed to serve on the committee for our annual summer picnic, which already promises be an event to remember.



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No News On Historic Pomona Creamery Demolition

by John Clifford

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Pomona was scheduled for January 3, but was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. Thus we were unable to ascertain prior to the publication of this newsletter, the current status of the investigation into the demolition of the historic Creamery building. We promise that we will continue to monitor this situation and to hold the city's feet to the fire to determine why such an illegal demolition occurred and to make sure that those responsible make restitution.

Unfortunately, this has not been a story that has been picked up by the local press. As of this date the Pomona Heritage newsletter is the only publication to have informed the citizens of the city that the demolition took place. It is imperative that we let the city know that we are upset over the cavalier disregard for the city's laws and the historic preservation ordinance in particular. Since the demolition took place without the proper permits, we look to the city to prosecute those responsible to the fullest extent of the law.

We are asking that members of Pomona Heritage attend the next His-

toric Preservation Commission meeting in numbers to let the city know that we *do* care. It's only by our numbers that we can impress on the city that we will not allow such actions to take place in the future. Again, because of the lack of information to the public, there has been no public outcry.

The next Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30 pm in the council chambers at City Hall. If you need additional information on the meeting, place, time, or anything else, please feel free to call me at (909) 576-5795.

If you cannot make the meeting, but feel that you want to let the commissioners know your outrage, you can also send in written testimony to the commission. Written items received prior to the Thursday before the meeting date will be included in the commissioner's packets and will become part of the public record of the meeting. You can send testimony to: Historic Preservation Commission, City of Pomona, 505 South Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91766. Be sure to include your name, address and the subject you are addressing (Demolition of Creamery Building).

Grants Program *from page 1*

Craftsman as well as exterior paint to match historic colors. He also stripped the front door of paint from a previous "remodel" and restored it back to original.

Jim Gallivan, chairman of the grants committee, stated that all this year's applications showed an impressive attention to detail in working to make restorations in a historically sensitive manner.

Pomona Heritage congratulates the winners of the 2006 Preservation Grants and hopes to see even larger grants awarded in the future. Our 2007 grants program will be kicking off in the very near future. Details will be published in the newsletter and on our web site. The program is open to all residents of historic properties within the city of Pomona, regardless of whether or not they are in a historic district. Historic properties for the grant program is defined as a property that is in historically significant condition (or which is being restored to such condition) built prior to 1955.

Membership Due Date Change

by Scott Thomas, Membership Chairman

As announced in our October newsletter, we are changing to an annual January due date for membership dues. For current members with dues paid into 2007, your prorated amount is shown on your address label. For members with lapsed membership renewal dates, the standard amount due is listed on your address label. If your last membership payment was at a higher than general membership level, that amount also appears. With this change, we are upgrading our Merchant Discount Program and we will be sending all paid members a 2007 Pomona Heritage Membership Card. Watch for a list of participating merchants in future newsletters. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Thomas at membership@pomonaheritage.org



Photo of the Pomona Valley Creamery building as it appeared in 1984 from the book: Pomona's Historical Legacy A Guide To Historical Downtown Pomona

Preserving Our Neighborhoods

by Deborah Clifford

On January 4th Mike Schowalter and I had the opportunity to meet with Police Chief Joe Romero and John Kimbro of Code Enforcement to discuss security, crime, and code enforcement in the historic districts. Given the rash of robberies in Lincoln Park last fall and the continuing plague of plastic windows, we wanted to meet with these gentlemen to explore ways to improve our neighborhoods.

Chief Romero has lived or worked in Pomona all of his life. It is apparent that he knows the city and is very focused on improving his police department to serve all of its residents.

He is an advocate for community policing which seeks to make police presence noticeable at the neighborhood level, builds community relationships of trust and seeks involvement of its citizens. He holds himself and his staff accountable to the residents of Pomona. If you would like to hear his ideas from him he will be speaking at our annual meeting on January 21, 2007 at 7:00 PM at the Second Street Bistro. If you don't want to attend the dinner, please come and listen to this gentleman speak.

The other half of our meeting was with John Kimbro of Code Enforcement, who was also informative and helpful. He clarified the reporting process for violations to the Pomona Historic Codes which will better help us protect our Historic Districts.

1. Building Division of Community Development Department—Violations pertaining to structural issues such as window replacement or room additions.

Contact person: Anna Lopez
Phone: 620-2274

FAX: 620-3781
Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 5:00

2. Code Enforcement Division of the Police Department—Violations pertaining to non-structural issues such as weed abatement, illegal parking, or illegal tree trimming

Contact: The on-duty officer (this varies depending on location and day)
Phone: 620-2374
FAX: 469-2091

3. Planning Division of the Community Development Department—Violations of an existing Certificate of Appropriateness

Contact: Judy Kollar
Phone 620-3675
FAX: 469-2082
Monday through Friday 8-5.

On the weekends and during the evenings in an emergency situation, any of these violations can be called into the Police Department Dispatcher at 622-1241, who will contact someone at Code Compliance who will come out as soon as possible. This should only be used if you need someone to stop an activity immediately, i.e. an illegal tree trimming or window removals. Do not use the weekend numbers to report something that has already happened. Normal weekday channels will be fine.

These departments log in the calls and do follow up.

To contact the Building Department on-line go to www.ci.pomona.ca.us/ then to Contact Us, then click on Access-E Pomona. This will allow you to start an account, submit your violations, and then track them through this department's system.

By assisting these departments we can efficiently help protect our historic resources and help enforce the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Thanks To Our Special Sponsors

Pomona Heritage wishes to extend a special thank you to those who made our 2006 Sponsorship program such a success. We have grouped donors under a variety of headings based on their contribution levels.

Wish to become a Pomona Heritage Special Sponsor? Sponsorship by companies or individuals at all levels are greatly appreciated.

Benefits at the sponsorship levels include invitations to all Pomona Heritage events, tickets to the home tour, special discounts, listing in all Pomona Heritage publications—including the newsletter, and other special consideration for upcoming events. For more information on Sponsorship, please write to membership@pomonaheritage.org or president@pomonaheritage.org.

Historic District Level: \$2500 +
Fairplex

Citrus Grove Level: \$1000 +
Display Tech Exhibits

Ranchero Level: \$500 +
Laura and Greg Estel/
Greg's Refrigeration

Pioneer Level: \$250 +
Jeved Management

Welcome New Members

The following are new members to Pomona Heritage who have joined since the last newsletter. We are pleased to welcome them to the Pomona Heritage family.

Larry & Patie Berge

Heritage Progressive Dinner, A Holiday Tradition To Remember

December is always a big month for Pomona Heritage. Having just finished the Home Tour in October, our attention turns to the Holidays. And what better way is there for the Pomona Heritage family to spend the holidays than by eating, a Pomona Heritage favorite, in historic sites.

In our annual holiday tradition, Pomona Heritage members gathered at the home of Cathy and Victor Tessier in Lincoln Park for appetizers and favorite libations. The Tessier's went all out making their home a holiday showplace with interior and exterior decorations brightening the Lincoln Park neighborhood.

After appetizers, over 100 members and guests moved to the Ebell Museum of Pomona History where Heritage members Mike Schowalter, Jim and Susanna Deakyne, Jim and Mickey Gallivan, had prepared turkey, ham, and potatoes as the base for a spectacular holiday entree. The main auditorium at the historic Ebell was beautifully decorated with fresh poinsettia plants provided by Dawn Van Allen. Additional decorations were done by Susanna Deakyne and Mickey Gallivan. With additional



Jim Deakyne and Michael Schowalter prepare the main course for the Holiday Progressive Dinner in the kitchen at the Ebell Museum of Pomona History. as Mickey Gallivan, Historical Society president supervises.

photo by Jim Gallivan

side dishes and salads provided by attending members, everyone had plenty to eat and no one went away hungry.

In addition to the food, everyone got an opportunity to visit the Ebell Museum and marvel at the wonderful work being done by the Histori-

cal Society of the Pomona Valley. As members settled in, you could hear conversations that centered around history, Pomona, old houses, and what the neighbors were doing and the improvements to the various neighborhoods.

Topping off the main course was the presentation of the \$5,000 in grants to the homeowners.

After dinner, everyone was ready to move on to the home of Roger and Marge Rusler for deserts and coffee. Marge and Roger proudly gave tours of their Craftsman home, pointing out all of the restoration work that Roger has done over the years. It was the perfect cap to a wonderful evening.

Pomona Heritage wishes to thank everyone who helped to make this such a special event. We wish to particularly thank Mickey Gallivan and the Historical Society, as well as the homeowners and everyone who brought a dish.



President Michael Schowalter welcomes guests to the Annual Holiday Progressive Dinner photo by Jim Gallivan

Board Sets 2007 Calendar

At the December meeting of the Board of Directors of Pomona Heritage, the board set the schedule of events for the 2007 Calendar. These are the major events that require that we have plans set in advance. In addition to the events listed below, there will be a number of "Dine-Out" events, and some special surprises as well.

First up is the Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner (see page 1) on Sunday, January 21.

March 24–Car Rally

For the second year, we will be holding a Car Rally on March 24. Come join the fun as this year we cruise areas east of Pomona. Part historic site tour, part scavenger hunt, you'll be tested on your skills in following directions and answering questions about the sites you see, while driving through our beautiful local towns, culminating at a wonderful restaurant where we can share our stories of the day and enjoy a great lunch together!



All drivers must have at least one navigator per car. We'll be meeting at 9

a.m. in the Pomona Ebell Museum of History parking lot (585 E. Holt Ave.) for beverages & donuts and to hand out instructions. First car out at 9:30. The rally should last around 2-3 hours.

For those who have not been involved in a car rally before, it'll be a chance to experience a southern California tradition. You don't need a classic car (although if you have one,

please bring it!). All you need is a good sense of direction, an able navigator who can read instructions and maps, a driver who can take instruction (husbands with good attitudes?), and a fun sense of adventure. The object of the rally is to find your way to the final destination by following clues along the way. You'll see some great sites and maybe discover some of the richness of our area that you might have been unaware of.

So, if it's not about the cars, what is it? As explained by Roxanne and Ben Miller, car rally enthusiast organizers of the event (and the owners of a classic BMW convertible), the rally is a way to enjoy your car, rather than it just being a means of getting to and from work.

The rally is a test of navigation skills, following detailed instructions, and observation as each participating vehicle's team has to answer questions about the sights (and sites) along a journey to an unknown destination.

At the start of the rally you'll be given your instruction package with all of the clues and a questionnaire about the things you see along the way. Clues will be based on historic sites and a knowledge of the history of our local area. For those who have difficulty, there will be a "bail envelope" in your package which will have the location of the secret final destination. Opening the envelope will disqualify you for prizes, but we don't want to have anyone wandering lost and possibly miss lunch.

Starting festivities will begin at 9:00 am in the parking lot of the Pomona Ebell Museum of History (585 E. Holt Ave.) for beverages & donuts and to hand out instructions. The first car will be starting out at 9:30 am.

Prizes will be awarded for best time, closest mileage, and oldest

car (remember, vintage cars are encouraged!, but not required). We'll also have prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners with the highest scores on the questions.

The general consensus of last year's participants was that it was a really good time. And many of the first-timers expressed their excitement to "do it again next year."

June 23–Picnic

Each year Pomona Heritage has its annual summer picnic for its members. In the past the picnic has been held at Lincoln Park. This year the board has decided to try something a little different. Plans are underway to hold the picnic at the historic Palomares Adobe and to include a deep pit barbecue. This means that the meat will be buried in the ground the night before using recipes and techniques used by the Palomares family at the adobe long before Pomona became a city. Look for further details to come.

August 11–Restoration Workshop

Once again Pomona Heritage will sponsor this series of seminars and demonstrations on how to maintain and improve your historic property. This event is FREE and is open to all Pomona citizens. It is one of our major outreach programs and is always a big success.

October 21–Home Tour

Join us for the 23rd year that Pomona Heritage has showcased the historic homes of the city of Pomona. A preview tour is planned for October 20. This is the *Big Event* of the year and we look forward to seeing as much participation as possible. If you're interested in volunteering your home, to nominate a home, to be a docent, or to serve on the committee, please call and volunteer.

Pomona Heritage Past Presidents

As we move forward as an organization, installing a new president, let's look back on those who have helped to build this organization. Below is a list of all of the past presidents of Pomona Heritage. Each of them has left their mark on our organization and we'd like to take another opportunity to recognize and thank them for their unselfish service to our community.

- ❖ 1985 Dan McIntire
- ❖ 1986 Dan McIntire
- ❖ 1987 Dan McIntire
- ❖ 1988 Joy Peoples
- ❖ 1989 Carolyn Kirkpatrick
- ❖ 1990 Margaret Ruecker
- ❖ 1991 Joan McIntire
- ❖ 1992 Carolyn Kirkpatrick
- ❖ 1993 Ron Vander Molen
- ❖ 1994 Kristi Alvarez
- ❖ 1995 John Freeland
- ❖ 1996 Cyndi Guerra
- ❖ 1997 Cyndi Guerra
- ❖ 1998 Carolyn Kirkpatrick
- ❖ 1999 Denise Rawlings
- ❖ 2000 Denise Rawlings
- ❖ 2001 Dan McIntire
- ❖ 2002 Ken Pifer
- ❖ 2003 Mike Schowalter
- ❖ 2004 Mike Schowalter
- ❖ 2005 Mike Schowalter
- ❖ 2006 Mike Schowalter

Installation Dinner *from page 1* president; Roxanne Miller, vice president; Melissa Chavez, treasurer; Jim Gallivan, grants chair; Debby & Scott Thomas, membership chair; Dawn Van Allen, code compliance; John Clifford, newsletter editor; and Ben Miller as director. No secretary was nominated by the committee, however, nominations for additional directors and officers can be made at the annual meeting. Since ballots were mailed, Tamra Yoder, has volunteered to serve as secretary and is expected to be nominated at the meeting.

Chief Joe Romero, our guest speaker for the evening began his involvement with the Pomona Police Department as a teenager in the late 1960s, when he joined the Police Explorer Scouts. After completing his education, he joined the Pomona Police in the 70s and has served with the department ever since, most recently as Deputy Chief under Chief Lewis. As a member of the Vejars, his family dates back to the earliest rancho days of the Pomona Valley.

Chief Romero is a graduate of the Senior Management Institute for Po-

lice (SMIP) conducted by Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in Massachusetts. He has earned Advanced and Management certification from the California Commission on Peace Officer Training (POST). He is a graduate of the POST Command College and holds a bachelor's degree in Public Administration and a master's degree in Criminal Justice. He has twice received the Pomona Police Department's Medal of Valor and is a national recipient of the prestigious Aguila Medal of Merit from the Hispanic American Command Officers Association.

Chief Romero has been an advocate of working with the community as a whole to improve the quality of life in the city of Pomona. "My Command Team and I embrace accountability as a means of revealing whether or not our overall level of service meets the needs of the community. Most of all, we want the quality and direction of the Pomona Police Department to build public value."

Dinner space is limited. To reserve a space for dinner, call (866) 833-4086 and leave a message.



Police Chief Joe Romero and Assistant Chief David Keetle.

photo by Pomona Chamber of Commerce

POMONA Heritage

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 21: Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner. 2nd Street Bistro. Dinner xx pm, meeting xx pm.

Saturday, March 24: Second Annual Pomona Heritage Car Rally (see page xx).

Saturday, June 22: Annual Pomona Heritage Picnic. Palomares Adobe

Saturday, August 11: Restoration Workshop

Sunday, October 21: Annual Pomona Heritage Home Tour

Saturday, June 22: Annual Pomona Heritage Picnic. Palomares Adobe

Saturday, December 1: Holiday Progressive Dinner

PLEASE NOTE: Your membership renewal information is printed on your address label.
All memberships are due January 1 of each year

JOIN POMONA HERITAGE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Complete and return with membership dues to:

Pomona Heritage
P.O. Box 2813

Pomona, California 91769-2813 • (866) 833-4086

or use PayPal to join or renew from our web site at: www.pomonaheritage.org

Benefits: Newsletter • Merchant Discounts • Special Events • Guest Speakers

Membership / Sponsorship Levels: (choose one)

- Goddess \$5,000+ Historic \$2,500+ Citrus \$1,000+ Ranchero \$500 Pioneer \$250+
 Heritage \$100 Friend \$50 Family \$30 Individual \$25 Student/Senior \$20

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (optional) Daytime: _____ Evening: _____

eMail Address: _____

Special Interests: I am interested in helping as:
 Docent Guest Speaker Misc. Volunteer
 Committee Member Having My Home on Tour Membership