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Lookout Avenue

La Mesa Historical Society

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2006

La Mesa Home Tour: Get on board



Saturday, November 4, 2006 will see the first-ever Historic Home Tour presented by the La Mesa Historical Society, cosponsored by the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of La Mesa. It will feature the homes that made La Mesa what it was in the first half of the 20th century.

The tour, which will highlight six east-side La Mesa historic homes and buildings dating from 1894, will run 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Five of the properties are official Landmarks of La Mesa, and all are carried in the Inventory of Historic Resources. Each will have displays of La Mesa history and the buildings as they were, and each will also be decorated in a fall motif and have artists working in the yards.

Free shuttle buses will operate from the Tour Center at the corner of Palm and Lemon Avenues in the downtown Village of La Mesa since there is limited parking and vehicle access for most of the homes. Abundant parking is available adjacent to the Center and in City lots.

An art show/art mart, co-sponsored by La Mesa's Foothills Art Association will display original art by local artists with a theme of "Historic La Mesa", with works available for sale. The tour center will also feature displays of historical organizations and sources of information for other special events in East County.

Full-day tickets will be priced at \$15 for individuals 10 years and older, \$12 for advance-sale tickets or LMHS members (\$5 of a ticket may be applied to taking new membership in LMHS at time of purchase).

The La Mesa Historical Society is an organization actively engaged in preserving La Mesa's unique heritage for future generations to see and enjoy. We are a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, funded by annual membership dues, contributions, bequests, memorials, grants and fundraising events. We are entrusted with protecting La Mesa's past and guiding La Mesa's future by collecting, preserving, educating and inspiring both residents and visitors alike.



Old Highway 80 is Officially Historic

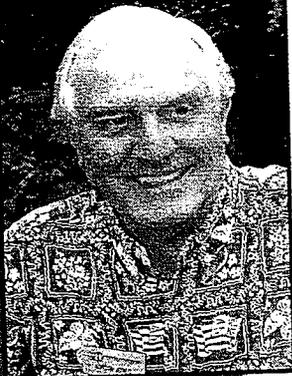
A committee of East County historical activists (including LMHS), East County Visitor's Bureau officers, car club representatives and General Assembly staff members has succeeded in the State's designation of old Highway

80 as a new State Historic Route. Saturday, October 21 was the date of a series of celebrations including one in La Mesa at the La Mesa Blvd. Trolley stop from 10 to 2. There were many residents out to be part of this exciting event.



Don't forget to set back your clock before you retire for bed on Saturday, October 28th.

Message from the President



Gordon Jones

Much time and energy is going into the development of the first-ever Historic Home Tour, with the efforts of a large number of volunteers. Jeff McGreevy has donated the cost of a gift of an antiques appraisal by another of our members, Pamela Bensoussan, who is ensuring the matching of Jeff's gift in-kind. Thus far, we have received sponsorships from EDCO, Mary de Waal Real Estate, American Na-

tional Investments, Re/Max Heritage Real Estate, Johnny B's, Restoration Roofing (which did our McKinney house roof restoration) and substantial help from La Mesa City Councilmen David Allan and Ernie Ewin. It all began with the willingness of five LMHS members to offer their homes for the tour, plus that of the Railroad Depot Museum. The La

Mesa First Methodist Church (1922) will also be open for inspection. Please join us on November 4. When you attend and take a look at the program for the day, you will appreciate what historic resources we have in our city, how many volunteers are involved and who we can thank.

"you will appreciate what historic resources we have in our city..."

New Members

Board of Directors

We welcome our newest Members:

Edye & Ken Brown, Pat Stromberg, Mark Arapostathis, Robert & Laura Lauzier, Eleanor Brady, Beth Howell, Susan Embree,

Dory Miller. John & Cathie Robbins, Jo-Ann & Brad Robbins, Jo-Ann and Brad Boswell. Kamuce Covey, Cindy Davis, Clarke & Charmon Lehw

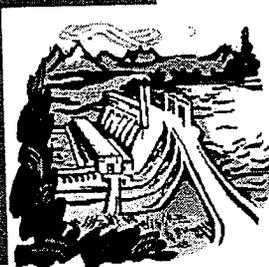
President:
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 Donna Neimeier
 Ruth Contino
 Sharon Crockett
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Linda Rankin
 Tom Hart

Collection Additions



Jeff McGreevy has contributed an original 1896-97 U. S. Geological Survey of the Secretary of the Interior which details the construction of the

original La Mesa Dam (now under Lake Murray) at the terminus of the Flume. It really complements the material we have on the San Diego Flume. Tracey Ferguson of Homeland Florist found several old

copies of photos which we have added to the collection. Gail Lowe gave us her mother's lovely wedding gown and accompanying photos. Thanks to you all.

LMHS, Annual Report: July 1, 2005-July 1, 2006

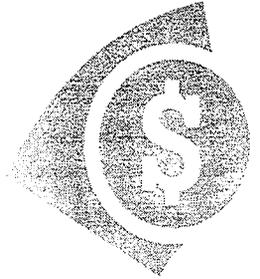
BUDGET SUMMARY

Income		Expenses	
Membership	\$3670.00	Fund-raising	\$884.14
Interest	\$397.00	Sales	\$0.00
Contributions	\$5876.75	Promotions	\$1387.42
Fund-Raising	\$4406.50	Utilities/maintenance	\$13874.03
Sales	\$534.85	Preservation	\$327.68

TOTAL INCOME: \$14885.10

TOTAL EXPENSES \$16473.27

If you would like a copy fo the line item spreadsheet showing specific income and expense in each of the general categories listed above, contact LMHS Treasurer Donna Niemeier, 619-461-2419.



Bob Freeland Bequest

We are in receipt of a very nice gift bequest by the late Bob Freeland, a former LMHS Board member and Helix High librarian emeritus. It will be directed to the children's education and other historical education programs. We thank Bob and all of his contributions

to the society and its mission. This photograph was taken at the December 2005 Christmas open house in the McKinney House.



History Roundtable: La Mesa

We report that a full house enjoyed yet another in a great series of History Roundtables, that being Jim Newland's presentation of the historic development of the western portion of La Mesa. Look for an announcement of the next one.





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Permit No. 208

La Mesa Historical Society

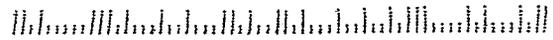
Museum: Rev. Henry A. McKinney House (1908)
8369 University Ave., La Mesa, CA 91941
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 882, La Mesa, CA

WWW.LAMESAHISTORY.COM

Kenneth and Donna Niemeier
4805 Lee Ave.
La Mesa, CA 91941

Change Service Requested

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AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE LA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership Application

The Society depends on membership dues, bequests and fund-raising activities to support the restoration and preservation of local history.

The La Mesa Historical Society operates the Rev. Henry A. McKinney House, a 1908 house/museum located at 8369 University Ave. (at the corner of Pine Street) in La Mesa. Open 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday or by appointment. Group tours are available. Call (619) 466-0197 for further information. Lookout Avenue is the official quarterly publication of the

La Mesa Historical Society
P.O. Box 882, La Mesa, CA 91944

Lookout Avenue was the original name of La Mesa Boulevard from the 1890s until the city council voted to change the name in 1940. Lookout Avenue was La Mesa's main street.

- \$250 Patron
- \$100 Sponsor/Organization
- \$15 Individual
- \$50 Sustaining
- \$20 Family
- \$5 Student

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Ph. (____) _____

Memberships and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.