La Mesa Historical Society
LOOKOUT AVENUE

Volume 16, Number 3 Spring 1995

LA MESA HISTORICAL SOCIETY BRUNCH

The Spring Brunch will be held on Sunday, April 2 from 11:00a m. to 2:00 p m at the La Mesa Woman's Club, 5220 Wilson Street, La Mesa. The menu will include omelets made to order, ham and fried potatoes, fruit, juice and coffee or tea.

The program will feature the reminiscences of Bill Jennings, columnist for the Riverside County Daily Enterprise, former resident of eastern San Diego County and member of the Grossmont High School Class of 1939. There will also be a brief business meeting for the election of 1995-96 Officers and members of the Board of Directors.

Reservations will be $10.00 per person and will include a free ticket for the Special Door Prizes. To make reservations either clip and mail the form in this newsletter or call Mary Kelley at 463-5667.

Reservations close March 26

Daylight Savings Time



This isn't an April Fools trick. Don't forget to set your clock ahead (Spring ahead) Saturday night, April 1st, or you might be late to the Sunday brunch April 2nd — and miss out on the orange juice.

In Memoriam

Henrietta (Hank) Schupback
— December 31, 1994
Nova Lee Dickenson Judy
— February 11, 1995
They will surely be missed.

"Trades and Professions" is theme of new Museum Exhibit

Nancy Neffson (Exhibit Chair) is now installing the new exhibit in the Exhibit Room. The theme is Trades and Professions — covering the period from the 1800's through World War II.

Nancy requests that anyone with work related items that they are willing to lend call her at 469-8731 as soon as possible. Tools-of-a-trade, photos, uniforms, etc. will all be welcome additions to the exhibit.

President's Message

We are getting new volunteers, but we need many more. We need docents, quilters, gardeners, house keepers, etc. — Think about how you can help and sign up at the membership brunch.

The bathroom project is about to be completed.

The new project is the grounds — Kim Stillson has drawn up plans and the committee consisting of Beverly Decker as Chair, Brenda Neill, Betty Teague and Ed Blackman have started the ball rolling. We are in need of at least $5000 to make the grounds beautiful, so all contributions will be greatly appreciated!

If you ever have suggestions or need information about the Society, do not hesitate to call me.

Jo Coffey 462-5692
See you all April 2. Bring a friend.

Ice Cream Social

The Annual Ice Cream Social will be Sunday, June 11 from 1-4.
This year's theme is "Then and Now".
Help is needed —
Setting up,
Selling raffle tickets
Serving refreshments
Clean up
All members are asked to donate a baked good.
If you have a "Then and Now" talent you would like to share, please call Kathy Tinsley at 461-4088

Christmas Open House

It was a true "Celebration of Christmas" December 10th at the Reverend Henry A. McKinney House as the Society and guests enjoyed the sights, sounds and aromas of the holiday season. As Evelyn Estabrook continued her mastery of the pump organ with songs of the season, guests enjoyed gingerbread, with real whipped cream, served by Miss La Mesa, Laura Bartz, and other distinguished hostesses. Up the stairs in the Exhibit Room a wonderful variety of creches from nations around the world was on display. Across the hall the restored bathroom was open for viewing.

There was great anticipation at 3:30 as the drawing commenced for an exceptionally fine group of prizes collected by Mary Lou McClellan.

Drawing winners were:

First prize:	Pat Tyson	Turn-of-the-century Waterbury oak wall clock
Second prize:	Dorris Palley	Diamond cocktail ring
Third prize:	J. M. Huber	$100.00 gift certificate
Fourth prize:	Donna Regan	Live Christmas floral bouquet

The Society extends a special Thank You to the donors of the Christmas drawing prizes.

Michael Collins Fine Jewelry
La Mesa Furniture
La Mesa Florist

Society members are encouraged to visit these merchants and extend personal appreciation for the support they have provided the Society and the community.

The sale of tickets boosted the Society treasury by $1396 after expenses. The Quilters added another $175 by the sale of baby quilts and other handmade items.

Quilters

The La Mesa Historical Society Quilters are in need of hand quilters, young and old. No previous experience required. The doors are open Wednesdays from 9 - 12. If you have ever wanted to learn how to quilt, or if you are just curious about what the Quilters talk about while they quilt, this is your chance to find out. Wednesdays 9 - 12.

The LMHS Quilters have baby quilts for sale. Many designs, new and old, for only $50 each.
Proceeds support Society programs.

Do you have any scraps of cotton you would like to dispose of? The Quilters are in need of them for quilt tops. The Quilters have a "Sunbonnet Sue" quilt as the premier prize for this summer's Ice Cream Social.

In addition to preparing baby quilts and quilts for the fund-raisers, the Quilters will quilt for clients.

Call Sandy Campbell at 461-3919



For Sale —

Handmade Baby Quilts by the Quilters
and —
Video - "Mt. Helix Nature Theater"
December 1924 - April 1925
Home Remedies, Cook Books
History of La Mesa, Post Cards
— available at the McKinney House.

Memories

Were you employed during the time frame of the Trades and Professions Exhibit (1800's through WW II)? Do you remember an interesting anecdote or job experience that points out how different things were then compared to today's world? If you do, please describe it in a paragraph or two and send it to: Nancy E.Neffson, P.O. Box 2842, La Mesa, CA 91943. Include your name, the job title or job description and the approximate year.



Nancy's father tells her that in New York during the depression even doctors were driving taxi cabs to supplement their income.

Do you also have anecdotes to share?

Special Kudos

and Many Thanks:
to our former Treasurer Marie Callantine, who kept our books in tip-top shape;

to Chair Mary Lou McClellan for the success of the Christmas Open House;

to Evelyn Estabrook for the wonderful music she creates on our pump organ;

to Jack Frates for coming in at the last minute and finishing the restoration of the bathroom;

and to Marjorie Cray for an outstanding November Newsletter.

Grounds Donations

Many thanks to Dieter Fischer, Mary Pollack, La Mesa Woman's Club and LMWC Garden Section for their financial support of the Grounds Beautification project.

Recent Acquisitions

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to LMHS collections:

Betty Teague: General Plan, City of La Mesa, 1963.
Jean Murrell: La Mesa Woman's Club yearbook, 1914-1915.
Helen Frisk: Crazy quilt and crocheted bedspread which belonged to her mother, Thelma Palermo.
Luella Collins: Women's hat, c. 1960.
Henrietta Schupbach: Box for carbon paper, 1920's.
Audrey Green: Women's dresses and shawls, 1920's.
Mary-Em Howard: Shaving mug and towels for the bathroom.
Ruth Kramer: Mirror with oak frame,
Hazel Shaw Ogle: California Women's Cadet Corps uniform she wore in 1941 while living in La Mesa.
Alda Kirk: Wooden butter bowl, c. 1890; wooden butter paddles.
Pat Kettler: Coffee mug; milk of magnesia bottle, c. 1906; ice cream scoop.
John Sullivan: Program, "Easter Sunrise Pilgrimage to Mount Nebo, La Mesa, California, 1915."
Jo Coffey: Potato ricer, 1940's.
Pat Bigford: "Plat Book of San Diego County, California."
Lillian Larkin: Crazy quilt made by her aunt, Mary Larkin Kay, c. 1910; women's clothing 1900-1920; La Mesa Woman's Club yearbooks; photographs. (Mary Kay and her husband,Frank, came to La Mesa in 1922.)

Help Needed

We need help cataloging our growing collections, which include household furnishings, kitchen artifacts, tools, product containers, clothing and personal artifacts, textiles and ceramics. For the McKinney House, we accept furnishings and artifacts which could have been used in this house between 1908 and 1920. Materials from other periods may be accepted if they relate to La Mesa history or might be used in exhibits.

If you have knowledge or interest in any of these areas, or if you would enjoy helping to research them, please join us. Call Donna Regan at 460-3726 for more information.

Nominating Committee Report

La Mesa Historical Society
Officers and Director
Nominees
1995-1996



President ..... *JO COFFEY*
First Vice President ..... *KARNA WEBSTER*
Second Vice President ..... *BEVERLY DECKER*
Third Vice President ..... *RUTH KRAMER*
Secretary ..... *PAT KETTLER*
Treasurer ..... *JIM ROACH*
Director ..... *BETTY TEAGUE*
Director ..... *CAROL LOCKWOOD*

Historical Society Still Seeking Docents

A very small group of dedicated workers is trying to maintain access to the McKinney House Saturdays from 12 -3. We are receiving an increasing number of requests for student tours from the La Mesa/ Spring Valley School District. Tours have been conducted for students from the Rolando Elementary and La Presa Middle Schools and more tours are scheduled. In addition, a Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO) group recently toured.

The efforts of Jo Coffey, May Ann Ehlers, Pat Kettler, Brenda Neill, Donna Regan and Betty Teague are greatly appreciated. If you would join them in keeping the McKinney House open for visitors, that would also be very much appreciated.
Training sessions for docents are being planned. Call Carol Lockwood at 463-5648 for further information.

Wish List

Wanted and needed —
Old Lawyers Book Shelves for the Office, Old Phones (3), old dishes, old linens, old clothing (pre-1920).

Tax Deductible Donation of Drawing Prizes —
for instance, antique clock, small piece of furniture, painting, or piece of silver or crystal.

Corrections —

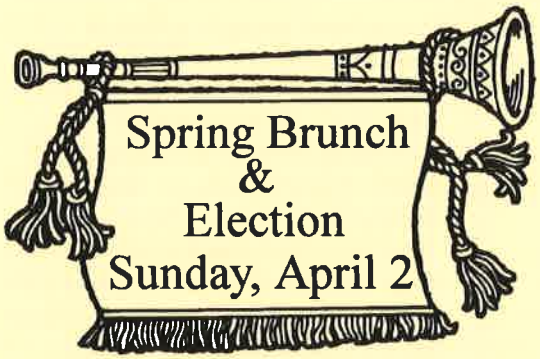
Historical Look at La Mesa's Police Department —
pg 3 - 3rd paragraph, last sentence: "... and no doubt led to his decision to resign April 1, 1934."
pg 5 - under title **"Pre-World War II & The 1940's"**, 1st line:"The population of La Mesa had grown to around 4000 by 1940."

P. O. Box 882, La Mesa, California 91944

La Mesa Historical Society

Museum: Rev. Henry A. McKinney House (1908)
8369 University Avenue
(619) 466-0197

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
La Mesa, CA 91941
Permit No. 208



Address Correction Requested

La Mesa Historical Society
Board of Directors
1994-1995

President ..... *JO COFFEY*
First Vice President ..... *Open*
Second Vice President ..... *BETTY TEAGUE*
Third Vice President ..... *MAE KRAMER*
Secretary ..... *PAT KETTLER*
Treasurer ..... *JIM ROACH*
Past President ..... *DONNA REGAN*
Director ..... *MARY LOU McCLELLAN*
Director ..... *BEVERLY DECKER*
Director ..... *NANCY NEFFSON*
Director ..... *KATHY TINSLEY*
Director ..... *CAROL LOCKWOOD*
Mailing Chair ..... *MAY ANN EHLERS*
Membership Brunch Chair ..... *MARY KELLEY*
Publicity Chair ..... *ROGER COFFEY*
Quilters Representative ..... *SANDY CAMPBELL*
Grounds Chair ..... *KIM STILLSON*
Historic Preservation Liaison ..... *BETH BLACKMAN*



The La Mesa Historical Society operates the Rev. Henry A. McKinney House, a 1908 house museum located at 8369 University Avenue (corner of Pine Street) in La Mesa. Hours are 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoons or by appointment. Docent tours are available. Call 466-0197 for further information.

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Join us for the

La Mesa Historical Society

SPRING BRUNCH

and Election of Officers





Sunday, April 2

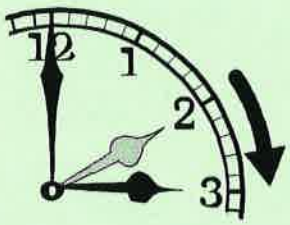
11:00a m. to 2:00 p m

La Mesa Woman's Club

5220 Wilson Street, La Mesa.

(Grossmont Blvd at Wilson, across from Drew Ford)

for —



omelets made to order

ham and fried potatoes

fruit juice coffee or tea

$10.00 per person

(includes free ticket for the Special Door Prizes)

Reservations close March 26

clip and mail or call Mary Kelley at 463-5667 to make reservations.

Name address phone

( ) x $10.00 = $ ☐ check enclosed ☐ will pay at door

(number attending)

additional names (for nametags)

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