

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

Volume 12, Issue 1

January 2012



February 26 Annual Meeting Will Feature Talk on Asilomar

The Heritage Society Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 26 at 1:00 p.m. at a location to be determined. Giving the keynote talk will be Jonathan Lammers, an architectural historian with Page & Turnbull in San Francisco. Mr. Lammers, who spoke at last year's Heritage House Awards ceremony, is very knowledgeable about local architecture. We asked him to discuss the design

of Asilomar and the work of architect Julia Morgan.

"This is actually right up my alley," Mr. Lammers noted. "We have been working on several historic structure reports for the Asilomar concessionaire. I would also like to add information about the mid-century work of John Carl Warnecke, including his additions to the original Asilomar dining hall, which

is currently in the process of being rehabilitated." It seems that we are in for a treat!

Refreshments will be served. Board members will be introduced and new officers for 2012 will be elected, so please plan to attend this important and interesting meeting.

Reminder notices giving the location of the meeting will be mailed to Heritage Society members prior to the event.

Lecture Series Begins February 10

History buffs can look forward to an exciting line-up of Heritage Society Lectures this spring. All the lectures will take place at the Pacific Grove Performing Arts Center, located on the PG Middle School campus at 835 Forest Avenue. Admission is free to Heritage Society members, \$10 for individual non-members, and \$15 for family/or couple non-members.

February 10: Carmel History

Kicking off the season on Friday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m. will be Monica Hudson speaking on "Glimpses of Carmel-by-the-Sea." Ms. Hudson is a longtime Carmel resident who has enjoyed a career with California State



Monica Hudson

Parks and is a sought-after guide in interpreting the cultural and natural history, architecture and art of the Monterey Peninsula. A natural storyteller, she will reflect on her years in our area and discuss her book, "Carmel-by-the-Sea" (2006), from the Arcadia Publishers "Images of America" pictorial series on local history.



Hicks Stone

March 23: Life of an Architect

Hicks Stone will speak on "Edward Durell Stone: A Son's Untold Story of a Legendary Architect" on Friday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. Edward Durell Stone was one of the first American architects to experiment with European modernism, which he later rejected for a warmer architecture rooted in the

Calendar

JANUARY

"COSTUME, LANDSCAPE, MEMORY IN MONTEREY"

Museum of Monterey
January 21 – May 6

FEBRUARY

"GLIMPSES OF CARMEL"

LECTURE
Pacific Grove
February 10

"EPIC LIFE OF CORNELIUS VANDERBILT" LECTURE

Carmel
February 21

"GROVE PARK INN ARTS & CRAFTS CONFERENCE"

Asheville, North Carolina
February 17-19

HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Pacific Grove
February 26

MARCH

"EDWARD DURELL STONE: LEGENDARY ARCHITECT"

LECTURE
Pacific Grove
March 23

APRIL

"GOOD OLD DAYS"

Pacific Grove
April 14-15

"BELLS OF EL CAMINO REAL" LECTURE

Pacific Grove
April 20

MAY

2010 CALIFORNIA PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

Oakland, California
May 3-6

American tradition. Locally, he is well known as the designer of our beautiful Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. This slide-illustrated lecture by Stone's son coincides with the release of his new book documenting the life and career of his father. (Look for more detailed information about Hicks Stone and Edward Durell Stone in the next issue of this newsletter.)

April 20: El Camino Real Bells

On Friday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m., John Kolstad will regale us with the story of those intriguing mission bell markers that stand beside the road every few miles on California's Highway 101. Mr. Kolstad is the owner of the California Bell Company, manufacturers of the highway bells and other historically accurate mission bell replicas. (More detailed information will be forthcoming in a later issue.)

For more information about the lectures, call 831-372-2898 or visit our website at www.pacificgroveheritage.org.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the following people for their generous contributions to the Heritage Society in December:

Mr. and Mrs. Beckwith offered their breathtaking Ocean View Boulevard home as the setting for a benefit party that raised \$2,370 for the Heritage Society.

Adam Weiland donated his collection of "Game and Gossip" magazines from 1969. They are full of interesting and fun tidbits about life on the Peninsula.



Carmel Sign

Jayne Gasperson and the Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association donated many years of "Sea Urchin" yearbooks from the school.

An anonymous donor made a gift of \$1,000 to the Heritage Society.

Upcoming Events Elsewhere

"Ruth Bolduan: Costume, Landscape and Memory in Monterey," January 21 – May 6, Museum of Monterey, 5 Custom House Plaza, Monterey, 10 a.m. –5 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday. Paintings of people in the Monterey area through history bring a fresh interpretation of the museum's costume collection. General

(non-member) admission \$10; \$5 students, military, seniors. Admission free first Tuesday of each month, 3-5 p.m.

"Grove Park Inn Arts & Crafts Conference," February 17-19, Asheville, North Carolina. The most important weekend of the year for Arts & Crafts enthusiasts. Workshops, lectures, shows, tours. Registration \$10 per show or \$145 for conference pass. Visit www.arts-craftsconference.com for details.

"The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt," a lecture by author T.J. Stiles, 7 p.m., February 21, Carpenter Hall, Sunset Center, 9th and Mission, Carmel. Sponsored by Carmel Public Library Foundation. \$10 suggested donation.

"Old Roots, New Growth—Cultivating Communities," 2012 California Preservation Conference, May 3-6, Oakland

Marriott City Center. Over 30 sessions, tours, workshops on issues facing California's historic, cultural and natural resources. For details, visit www.californiapreservation.org/conference.html.

Lighthouse Restoration Proceeds With Generous Support

By Dennis Tarmina

The Heritage Society Volunteers continue their work at restoring our wonderful Point Pinos Lighthouse. In the past year, windows have been restored, repaired and replaced, a new fence replicating the original has been completed, new flooring has been installed in the front entry, drains and gutters have been repaired, work to stop the lantern room from leaking continues and has almost been completed, a new partial foundation has been constructed, work on the new DVD continues, historic archiving has begun, a new website is being developed, plans have been completed for the two historically correct out-buildings and await scheduling by the Architectural Review Board, work has commenced to restore the historic "oil house," and a new/old restored back entry floor has been installed and is currently being refinished. These are but a few of the projects, some ongoing, plus the many are that are scheduled for

this coming year.

All of this work, with few exceptions, has been accomplished by volunteers and the generous support and work of KR Construction, Marks Plumbing and Heating, Travaille Brothers Construction, Jon Stuefloten Restoration Painting, and many others. All contributors will be recognized in a permanent plaque to be placed on site sometime in the not too distant future.

Equally important is the generosity of support groups. Noteworthy contributions of \$4,500 by the Heritage Society, \$2,000 by the local chapter of the Questers, over \$2,000 by the Lighthouse Art Quilter Group, visitor donations, gift shop sales, various generous individual donations, and a recent most welcome grant by the Monterey Peninsula Foundation (sponsors of the AT&T) for \$20,000.

Heritage House Awards: It's Time to Start Nominating

It's that time of year again, when we start accepting nominations for our annual Heritage House Awards which are given at a special ceremony in May. Houses or commercial structures in Pacific Grove that have had construction work within the last five years are eligible. You are invited to

nominate buildings in Pacific Grove that you consider to be excellent examples in any of the following categories:

Preservation: Houses that preserve the existing form, integrity and materials; may have an exterior addition or alteration 50 years or older that is not substantially visible from the street.

Rehabilitation: Houses that through repair, alteration and/or additions have preserved those portions or features which convey their historical, cultural or architectural values.

Commercial: Commercial projects that preserve the town's historic fabric, contribute to its historic setting, and have been completed in an exemplary manner through historic preservation, restoration, rehabilitation or adaptive-use.

New Construction: Projects that are either new or have had the majority of the pre-existing structure demolished and have exemplary designs which contribute and are compatible to the community and the town.

For additional information about the nomination process, contact Scott Hall at scott@halllandscape.com.

All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the Board of Directors, but are meant to stimulate interest in and discussion of preservation issues.

HMS Pacific Grove

By J. D. Billstrom

(excerpted from "Board and Batten," February/March 2003)

A real ship was named after our city of Pacific Grove! Originally a commercial ship, the Pacific Grove played a prominent role during World War Two. Fred Cope of Pacific Grove noticed the ship's name in the San Francisco Chronicle's Shipping News in the early 1930s and then was surprised one day to see it tied up to a San Francisco pier.

The Pacific Grove was built in 1928 for Furness, Withy & Co., London, England. The ship was a Twin Screw Motorship accommodating 12 First Class passengers. Length was 450 feet, space 73,741 cubic feet, speed 12 1/2 knots on 17 tons of diesel oil.

Prior to World War Two, HMS Pacific Grove made regular trips from London and Liverpool, England to San Francisco. At the outbreak of the war, the ship was transferred to the North Atlantic Service and in the summer of 1940 it was in the Surrey Commercial Dock when Dunkirk was evacuated. Germany had trapped the British Army, camped out at the beach at Dunkirk. The ship supplied four lifeboats and volunteer crews to the flotilla of hundreds of boats that evacuated the British Army from the Dunkirk beaches.

On April 11, 1943, at 45 minutes past midnight, the Pacific Grove was

torpedoed on the starboard side, igniting diesel oil and setting the engine room on fire. The ship sank at 5:10 a.m. and survivors were later picked up by HM Corvette "Azalea."

Furness, Withy & Company formally presented a photograph of HMS Pacific Grove to the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce in 1960.

You Can Help the Heritage Society

How can you help the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove? We can think of four ways:

- Become a member and receive free admission to our Lecture Series!
- Volunteer to help with an event or initiative.
- Make a tax-deductible donation to fund the organization or one of our projects.
- Make a purchase at our online store.

For more information, visit our website at www.pacificgroveheritage.org.

Support the Heritage Society
Thank You!

Paul Finnegan
Bill Whitney
already have

New Members

Betsy Gordon
Bill and Shirley Peake

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1440

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