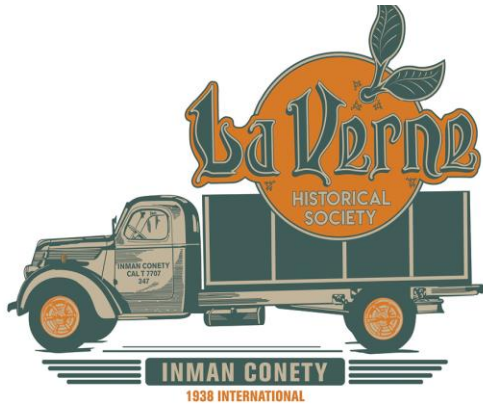


# Legacy Links



**PRESERVING OLD LA VERNE'S  
ENVIRONMENT:  
MAKING HISTORY FOR THE FUTURE**

**LA VERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
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## Every Picture Tells a Story



On August 17, 2017, La Verne celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the city's change of name by staging a re-enactment of the wedding of "Miss Lordsburg" to "Mr. La Verne". Just recently, I was sent an article discovered by City Historian Bill Lemon about La Verne's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary that was celebrated on August 20, 1956 and reported in the *Pomona Progress Bulletin*. Reading about the many activities convinced me that La Verne residents knew how to have a good time. Although the wedding participants were not identified in the article, perhaps a *Legacy Links* reader

could share this knowledge with us. Help us solve the mystery of the wedding participants. In the meantime, here were some of the festivities from 1956.

- The day's events commenced with an afternoon parade sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and included marching units, floats, bicycles, mounted horsemen, and cars. Highlights of the 6-block long parade included a 1915 La France fire engine exhibited by the Glendora Junior Chamber of Commerce, a marching drill team from the Whittier School for Boys (also known as the Fred C. Nelles School for Boys), an airplane from Brackett Airfield pulled through the streets, and Jimmy Strang's 15-piece band (more about that later).
- The La Verne Chamber of Commerce sponsored an evening barbeque with games and food booths located at Lincoln School (now called J. Marion Roynon Elementary School). Bleachers set up on the school grounds helped accommodate part of the crowd of over 2,000 as the evening festivities commenced.

- Early evening entertainment began with an exhibition of tiny single-cylinder cars followed by “circus acts” performed by children from La Verne, San Dimas, Bonita High School, Walnut, and Charter Oak. The acts included “Crazy Clowns”, baton twirlers, tumblers, a Hokey-Pokey dance performed by “zebras”, an exhibition of folk games, a “cops and bums” vignette, and a Wild West show. Del Hendrick from the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department coordinated the acts, Bernell Gregory acted as chairman, and Bob Barry acted as commentator.
- Next came honors paid to citizens of La Verne, including Oldest Citizen (Alice Staley at 107), Oldest Native (Rachel Flores, born in 1887), and Longest Continued Residence in La Verne (Scott Romick, 70 years in La Verne). Other honorees were Rose and Amelia Palomares, Trinidad (Palomares) Laraway, J. Ross Hanawalt, Harmon Bixby, J. L. Miller, Harvey Hayes, W. D. and J. A. McClellan, Bert Sutter, Mary Heath Ludden, and others.
- The final event, titled “This is Your Life, La Verne”, opened with a fiesta scene with Alphonse Fages, accompanied on guitar by Paco Castellano, singing songs taught to him by J. D. Palomares. Actors in the opening scene were members of the Native Daughters of the Golden West. The next scene, enacted by members of the La Verne Lion’s Club, depicted the sale of lots in Lordsburg. J. Marion Roynon played the auctioneer. Members of the City Council enacted a scene in which incorporation of Lordsburg was approved on August 20, 1906. Finally, the Methodist Youth Fellowship sponsored a mock wedding that united Lordsburg and La Verne on August 14, 1917. La Verne College events were described by College President Harold D. Fasnacht and a Brethren Youth group staged a showing of orange packing. The final scene,

sponsored by La Verne’s Business and Professional Women’s Organization, predicted that the resident population of 5,600 would increase to 22,000 by 1965. Placards invited La Verne to annex cities to the east, to the west, and Pomona.

In case you were not present for the 2017 wedding re-enactment, here are Willard and Letha Ressler in their roles of Miss Lordsburg and Mr. La Verne.



Our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary will arrive in 2067. How will La Verne look and how will it celebrate?

### President’s Message:

This edition of *Legacy Links* launches two new features. First is the debut of “**Just Ask Bill.**” Starting on the next page, Bill will answer resident questions about La Verne names and places. Ask your question by going to the LVHS website and clicking on the contact button or ask via our Facebook page.

While sheltering in place, communication and comingling opportunities have been reduced to members of our “social pods.” *Legacy Links* now features a column entitled “**Remembrance**” that celebrates the lives of people who touched many others with their dedication to service and family in La Verne. Please contact Sherry Best at [sbest@lavernehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:sbest@lavernehistoricalsociety.org) if you want to share the story of someone you love who has passed

away, or if you have a funny or poignant story from today's history.

The LVHS had its first member/community meeting on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom. We will post the minutes on our website and Facebook and feature a synopsis in the next edition of *Legacy Links*. In the absence of a guest presenter, members discussed ideas for a variety of newsletter articles. A "safe distance" book signing at Kuns Park was discussed although people who pre-ordered books can still receive them via personal delivery. Sherry Best, Bill Lemon, and Ben Jenkins were voted by acclamation to remain as President, Vice President, and Curator of Collections. The LVHS is looking for a Treasurer to replace Clark Palmer, who is stepping down after seven years of dedicated service. Thank you, Clark!

**Sherry Best, LVHS President**

### **Just Ask Bill**



The LVHS is fortunate to have the expertise and detective skills of Bill Lemon, our La Verne City Historian. The LVHS frequently gets questions from folks who visit our website or see us on Facebook. Our new column, "Just Ask Bill", was created to share Bill's responses to your questions.

#### Marv Asked:

It was mentioned in the September 2020 newsletter that the Palomares home was moved to its present location due to the Santa Fe railroad. Which right-of-way would that have been, Metrolink or BNSF?

#### Hello Marv:

The Santa Fe RR came through Lordsburg in 1887 over the right-of-way that is now BNSF. This necessitated the move of the Palomares home. The Metrolink runs over the right-of-way that was the Southern Pacific RR that came through Lordsburg in 1896. This was also the right-of-way for the Pacific Electric.

On November 1, 1914, the Pacific Electric line added a modification that allowed through passengers to save twenty minutes when travelling between Los Angeles and San Bernardino by going directly from Lordsburg to North Pomona instead of looping down through Pomona. This was known as the Lordsburg Cut-off and is part of the route followed by Metrolink.

#### From Floyd

We moved to La Verne from Colorado in 1982. The name of the street has been Damien since we moved here. But I was looking at a USGS chart from 1976, and it shows the name of the street as Grand. I was curious when and why Grand was changed to Damien.

#### Hello Floyd:

The Bonita Union High School property on the southeast corner of Bonita Avenue and Grand Avenue was purchased by the Catholic Church in 1957. However, it was leased back to Bonita for two years, during which time the new Bonita campus was being constructed on "D" Street. In the fall of 1959, Pomona Catholic Boys High School was opened on the former Bonita campus. In 1967, the name of that school was changed to Damien High School. In 1968, Grand Avenue was changed to Damien Avenue as a response to a suggestion by the La Verne City Beautiful Committee in March of that year. At that time, it was stated that Grand Avenue in La Verne caused confusion with Grand Avenue in Glendora. I believe it is worth noting that both Grand Avenues date back to the 1880s.

If Floyd or anyone else would like any information about other street name changes, I'll be glad to provide what I have.

Jess asked:

Good morning. Just curious if there has been anything written about the Isaac Eikenberry home that is on your historical marker walking tour. I was very excited to come across the fact that the home has been preserved, because Isaac Eikenberry was my 2nd great-grandfather. Knowing when the home was built has helped me estimate when he moved to La Verne. I would love to know more if there is a report available about history/research that has been done regarding this home.

Hello Jess:

This home was featured in a S.O.L.V.E. Olde Home Tour on December 11, 1982. I am attaching an image of the pages about the home from the booklet of the tour. At the time, the home was owned by Gaynel Kendrick and her first husband, Ron Sillo. The home is now owned by Don and Gaynel Kendrick. The house now has an added second story. Some of the facts in the narrative may not be accurate. In 1982 there were not nearly the resources available to researchers that there are now.

Plans were made in 1912 by C. D. Nelson and R. H. Wolf (contractors), a Lordsburg firm, to build the home for Mace Douitt, who was the original owner.



**Isaac Eikenberry House at the time of the 1982 Home Tour. The house was completed in 1913 and was originally a one-story structure with wide, wrap-around front and side porches.**

## Remembrance

### Remembering Virgil Welch (1924 – 2020)



Virgil Welch is a man revered by scores of people in the town of La Verne, California. This number includes many who took Woodshop from Mr. Welch, first at Roynon Elementary School when it included Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Later he would move to Ramona Middle School when it opened where he would finish his career.

Virgil was also an accomplished woodworker. He and Wayne Hanawalt worked all over the city of La Verne renovating kitchens, bathrooms, building additions – whatever needed to be done. They lived next door to one another, and would move to Hillcrest where they would spend their last years together.

Virgil first came to La Verne as a student where he at LVC from 1949 – 1953, and he joined the teaching ranks upon graduation.

He was born in Waterford, California in 1924. His family was active in the local Church of the Brethren. When he was in his first year of college at Modesto Community College, he and his friend decided to go to a Church Youth Conference at the Modesto Church of the Brethren in his friend's 1944 Ford to see if they could find some girls. And Virgil did indeed find a girl. He met Shirlee Sutphin, and she admits she was immediately taken with Virgil. They went for milkshakes, and the rest is history. Shirlee and Virgil were married, and came down to LVC with their first child, Michael. Their second son, Craig, was born in 1952, then Cindy in 1954, and last, Beth in 1958.

Shirlee was always a genius with young children; we can see where she got her practice.

Shirlee and Virgil purchased a home on Second Street in La Verne where they would raise their family. They lived next door to Wayne and Elna Hanawalt. Elna and Shirlee were college roommates. It was a perfect fit.

One of Virgil's favorite activities was backpacking in the high Sierras with his friends, Wayne Hanawalt, Bob Frick, and Chuck Davis. When their sons were old enough, they would join them. This foursome would retire and come to Hillcrest at about the same time. They shared many good times in the wilderness.

Virgil left Roydon to join the faculty at Ramona when the middle school was built in 1967. He worked there until he retired at age 61. After retiring he worked for Habitat for Humanity for five years, using his many skills to build homes for those who were in need.

When Virgil moved to Hillcrest Retirement Community, he and his friend Wayne did many projects for Hillcrest. Virgil was a regular in Hillcrest's Woodshop until his death this past summer. He was famous for his pencil holders. Most of his friends and family have one of these treasured places to keep their pencils. Virgil contributed so much to La Verne in his lifetime. We are grateful for his commitment and dedication.

**Compiled by Peggy Redman from an interview with Shirlee Welch**

#### Remembering Chuck Davis (1923-2020)



Charles Ernest "Chuck" Davis was a printer, a conscientious objector, a professor of graphic arts management, a business owner, and an adult schoolteacher. He was born in La Verne and graduated

from Bonita High School in 1941. Chuck attended La Verne College, where he met and married his wife of 74 years, Mildred "Millie" Streit.

During college, he spent three years in Civilian Public Service as a conscientious objector, where he did forestry work. During evening hours, he handset type and printed the work of several early beat poets also stationed at the camp.

His working career revolved around printing: as a printer at The San Dimas Press, a foreman at the San Gabriel Valley Daily Tribute, and as a printing teacher at Garfield High School, Los Angeles Trade Technical College (36 years), and Los Angeles State College.

At the age of 60 he retired and purchased Windsor Graphics, a typesetting and graphics arts photography business, which he ran with his sons Robbie and Alan. After retirement, he taught a clock repair class through Pomona Adult School for 27 years. Pat Leung and her son, Eric long-time students in the class, became dear friends.

Chuck loved backpacking in the high Sierra, restoring antique clocks, telling stories, inventing, and being a life-long learner. His comprehensive research into Japanese schoolhouse clocks was published in the NAWCC Bulletin in 2009.

He lived his philosophy of the simple life promoting peace and justice for all, and this was supported by his active membership in the Church of the Brethren.

He was a loving husband to Mildred and a wonderful dad to children Alan (Margaret), Kathryn (Carl), and Robbie (Libby). He will be remembered by his grandchildren who listened as he told his stories, and his great-grandchildren, who will grow up hearing his stories. Those stories will also be told by his sister, Virginia Stark, brothers-in-law George and David Streit, nieces and nephews, cousins and friends.

Chuck was a friend to all, and he loved nothing more than sharing stories of his life in La Verne, where he had resided all of his life.

**Taken from Chuck's Obituary in the *Daily Bulletin*, part of Legacy.com**

## Remembering B. Randolph Cockrell (1953-2020)



On August 5, 2020, Randy Cockrell, of La Verne, CA, passed away suddenly, though surrounded by his family, at the age of 67 years old. The oldest of three brothers, Randy was born to the late Betty May Knoke Cockrell and Dr. Beverly Randolph Cockrell Jr. on May 14, 1953 in Kyushu, Japan. Upon their return his family eventually settled in Arcadia where Randy spent most of his growing up years. His father was an orthopedic surgeon whose practice was in Pasadena across from St. Luke Hospital. The family's Laguna Beach get away was a source of fond memories. Annual camping trips to Tuolumne Meadows along with trips with the YMCA formed a lifelong appreciation for spending time in nature.

Randy graduated from Arcadia High School in 1971, attending college at San Diego State University where he graduated in 1979 with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and Zoology. While pursuing his career in intensive care nursing at Huntington Memorial Hospital. Randy continued his education by pursuing his Doctor of Chiropractic degree at Los Angeles College of Chiropractic, graduating in 1985. His career as a chiropractor was primarily in the field of treating those who had been injured on the job.

While pursuing his chiropractic education he met his wife Carolyn. They married in Sierra Madre in 1984 and raised two daughters, Mariah and Tasha. The family moved to La Verne when they bought their first home in Old Town La Verne on Sixth Street in 1989. There the strong sense of community they enjoyed,

the old town charm and love of historic houses prompted them to stay in the area when they bought their second and present home on Third Street in 1999.

Randy's hobbies included music, reading, photography and hiking. While on his weekly hikes, he enjoyed talking with those he met along the way. He also enjoyed spending time with family. Over the years there were many wonderful memories created by gatherings with immediate and extended family and friends. Treasured moments included family reunions, vacations, camping and trips to spend special time with family in Julian, Oxnard, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Laguna Beach, Sequoia and Kings Canyon.

He is predeceased by his parents, Betty May Knoke Cockrell and Dr. Beverly Cockrell Jr. as well as his brother, Christopher Lance Cockrell Sr., and niece Maryrose Cockrell.

Randy is survived by his wife, Carolyn, his daughters, Tasha and Mariah Odegaard, her husband Eric and his beloved grandchildren Amelia and Soren. He also leaves behind his brother James Cockrell Jr., James' wife Karen and his nieces and nephew, Bianca, James, Sophia and Giavanna who are all residents of La Verne and his nieces and nephews, Terral, Tyler, and Christopher, children of his late brother Chris.

### **Introducing "An Old Hillcrest Friend"**

George Streit, a 99-year-old living at Hillcrest Retirement Community, has reacted to Covid-19 restrictions, the limitations of his advanced age, and the loss of his wife of 67 years, "Dear Helen," with remarkable resilience, generosity, and even a determined and inspiring happiness. "Old Georgie Boy," as he refers to himself, likes to write short stories about his life and the six years he was a caregiver for his wife until her death from vascular dementia. Nearly every week Hillcrest residents with an email address gets a message, "From An Old Hillcrest Friend," containing stories from George. As of Oct. 17, George has shared 139 stories in 25 messages. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July story from George is one we thought LVHS members would enjoy.

George has three sisters living at Hillcrest, all in their 90s. Before the COVID-19 pandemic they enjoyed lunch in the Hillcrest Café every Friday. Charles “Chuck” Davis was George’s brother-in-law and was part of that lunch ritual. The laughter and joy they shared with each other on those Fridays made everyone in the room smile. Future issues of *Legacy Links* will feature more stories by “Old Georgie Boy”. Today’s feature is about the All-American Fire Cracker Marching Band.

### **The All-American Fire Cracker Marching Band George Streit**

Throughout my life I've always loved to toot my horn, especially in a Marching Band. In the mid-eighties, I witnessed the annual La Verne 4th of July parade and was very disappointed because there was not a single marching band in the parade. There was everything else you could imagine. People walking and in cars and trucks all decorated up. A few Small rock bands riding in trucks with loud speakers blaring out what they called music. Some fire engines with loud sirens screaming and a bunch of businesses advertising what they had to sell, but not one Marching Band.

Well ... I felt that I needed to do something about this disgrace to our 4th of July parade. We already had a little marching band of family and friends that played the Small World March for the Roynon School children as they marched from down-town to their school each year for their annual Halloween Carnival. So next June, we posted little flyers around town and were able to organize a fair size marching band and had fun playing in the 1986 4th of July parade. Naturally we won the band trophy since we were the only marching band in the parade.

The next year, it seemed like everyone wanted to be in our marching band, and as we played year after year, we grew in size. We always played the same march, "United Nations" by Karl King. It was a nice easy march and we liked the name. Sadly, after the 1991 parade we had to quit for two reasons. First, in that

1991 parade we happened to be closely followed by a fire engine that was continually sounding its deafening horns and siren. I went back and asked them to please quiet it down a little, and they thought I was out of my mind. They told me that all the little children wanted to hear the sirens and horns and there was nothing they could do about it. The second reason we had to quit was, as I mentioned before, everyone wanted to be in the band, and many were really not musicians so they would bring anything they could beat on and say they were drummers and unfortunately they all wanted to be heard. They even drowned out our real drummers.

So to sum it up.... you could say there was too much noise drowning out the beautiful music. Anyway, it was fun while it lasted and somewhere I still have five first place marching band trophies and some great movies and videos of us.

To view a 3-minute video of our July 4<sup>th</sup> 1989 and 1990 All-American Fire Cracker Marching Band, click this YouTube link:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCz\\_Kbgr6HQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCz_Kbgr6HQ)

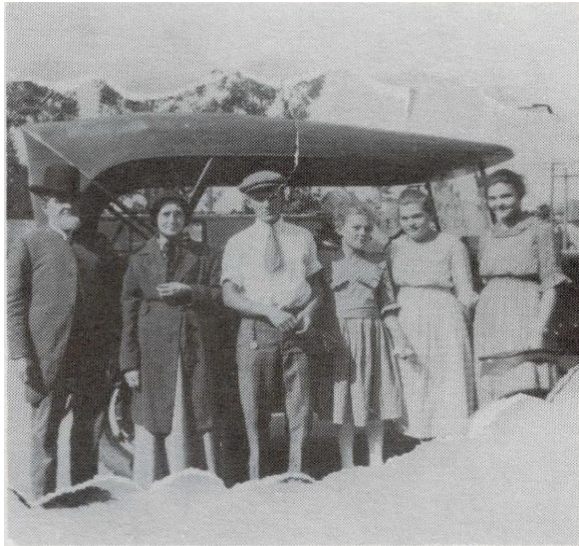
### **A “Price-less House Tour”**

On Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, LVHS members toured the Price House on 2707 White Avenue. Tour participants arrived with masks and gloves and received booties from the tour guide, Don Kendrick. Groups of six toured the 3,558 square foot house and its half-acre site.



**LVHS President Sherry Best shares photos of the Price family to a tour participant**

Built in 1917, the six-bedroom, two-bathroom house was one of the first stucco-finished homes in La Verne. Its original owners, Jacob and Lillie Price, owned citrus groves in Charter Oak and Covina as well as La Verne. Jacob was Vice President of the Farmers and Merchants Bank and President of the Mills Tract Water Company. He served the Church of the Brethren as a Deacon for over 35 years. Jacob and Lillie had a son and three daughters. Through marriage, they became part of the Blickenstaff, Roynon, and Pobst families of early Lordsburg/La Verne.



**Jacob and Lillie Price and their three children (left to right): John, Margaret (Blickenstaff), Ruth (Pobst), and Rhoda (Roynon)**

The Price House had a more sinister notoriety as the home of David Koresh, leader of the cult known as the Branch Davidians, who lived in the Price House with several of his 18 “wives” from 1989-1990. Now restored and purchased as a private residence, the Price House retains much of its original character, including original interior custom built-ins, original wood stairs and window trim, and closets in every bedroom.

The LVHS wishes to thank Don Kendrick for making the tours available. This event marks the first public event since the arrival of COVID-19 and gives us hope that, in the future, we can reinstate face-to-face activities.



**Masked participants Sue and Thom Osborn pose with tour guide Don Kendrick on the porch of the Price House**

### **Zoom Member/Community Meeting Minutes 10/12/20, 7:00pm**

President Sherry Best called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and started by introducing herself as President of the La Verne Historical Society. She introduced the Board members on the call: Bill Lemon, Vice President and La Verne Historian, Ben Jenkins, Board Member and Curator of Collections, Clark Palmer, Treasurer, Donna Dye, Secretary, Marv Weston, Publicity Chair and Board Member. She excused Brenda Gonzalez, Membership Secretary, and Peggy Redman, Member-At-Large. Sherry thanked those on the Zoom call for their willingness to participate in the virtual member meeting. She noted that it had been a challenging year for the LVHS, but that continued planning for upcoming events was important and she was hopeful events and meetings could come back to normal.

#### **President’s Report**

The following general topics were noted by President Best under General Announcements. LVHS had a very successful year starting last summer until the social footprint changed with the COVID-19 pandemic earlier this year. Some of the events included walking and bicycle tours of the La Verne Cemetery, the annual potluck picnic, visits to the Pacific Railroad Museum in San Dimas and Ebell Club in Pomona, and the very successful Christmas event with the Bonita High



School Band. Then the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in March and the anticipated Home Tour for April was postponed as well as all other scheduled events.

However, as noted in a recent flyer, the LVHS hosted a very successful tour of the Price House on White Avenue on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Don Kendrick was kind enough to conduct the tours of the mansion which were scheduled every 30 minutes. We would like to thank Don for his time and efforts and taking the initiative to assist with this activity as it gave hope for future events.

The Historical Society has also had success in selling their new LVHS T-Shirts. Shirts are available in all sizes (white and black) and sell for \$20.00. They can be obtained by calling or emailing Sherry at 909/596-4679 or [sbest@lavernehistoricalociety.org](mailto:sbest@lavernehistoricalociety.org). We also accept donations toward restoration of the Inman Conety 1938 International Truck through the GoFundMe link. The restoration continues and once restored the truck will be used throughout the year to foster community enjoyment and pride.

It was also noted that the Board continues to work on the calendar and while we are not currently able to do in-person events as in the past, the Board continues to look at things we can do virtually or maybe small groups like the recent home tour.

However, the purpose of the meeting is to hear people's comments on some of the issues facing us and how we might meet the needs of the Society and its members going forward. What can LVHS do for you?

### **Vice President's Report**

Bill Lemon reported that *La Verne* from the Images of America series will make its debut on November 9, 2020. The book will present a pictorial history of La Verne and Lordsburg. This book has been worked on for a very long time and we look forward to the final product. In addition, Bill reported that he continues to field questions from individuals who contact the LVHS website. A number of people have inquired about historical information with questions about La Verne,

or sometimes regarding the history of their homes, etc. Some of these questions and answers will be featured in upcoming issues of *Legacy Links* in the "Just Ask Bill" column.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Clark Palmer presented the Treasurer's report through the end of August 2020.

**Revenue** - \$4,938.91 (most was from dues, truck restoration donations, and LVHS T-Shirt sales).

**Expenses** - \$4,013.71 – (\$1,281.00 was for T-Shirt initial costs, truck restoration costs, Go-Daddy expenses of \$1,055.52, and memberships for other local historical societies. Expenses include a recent membership in the La Verne Chamber of Commerce).

**Net income** - \$925.00

**Final Total:** \$8,845.41

**Reserved for the Galen-Doris Beery Collection** - \$2,577.43

**Unrestricted Funds Total:** \$6,287.98

**A motion was made, seconded, and carried approving the Treasurer's report as presented.**

President Best reported that Brenda Gonzalez' membership report will be put into the upcoming newsletter, but that the Society experienced a large drop in revenue this year due to the small number of dues collected. It was difficult to pursue membership with the COVID-19 pandemic situation and not knowing what would occur in those first few months. She anticipants that the membership dues will pick up for the 2021 year.

She also announced that Clark Palmer, who has been Treasurer for seven years has submitted his intent to resign his position. She thanked Clark for all his hard work as Treasurer. LVHS has done very well with Clark at the helm and he has been a staunch guardian of LVHS funds.

### **Curator of Collections Report**

Ben Jenkins reported that a recent exciting event was the awarding of the Citrus Roots Collection to the University of La Verne. Part of getting this collection

out to the community will be done with the Virtual Gallery Tour to be located at the Hillcrest Gallery. He continues to work with Barbara Smythe and while things have been shifted back somewhat due to the pandemic, there is still an anticipated roll out sometime next year. Sherry noted that the LVHS also looks for Ben to do a Zoom meeting presentation on the Citrus Roots Collection in the future.

### **Where Do We Go From Here?**

President Best noted that the intent of the community member meeting was to discuss and gather ideas from leadership and members as to “where do we go from here” and what direction can take in this challenging time with social distancing, pandemic issues and closures. She noted that a lot of things still occur behind the scenes to keep things going:

- 1) The La Verne Book took a lot of work but Sherry was proud that it came back from the publisher’s editors with only four suggestions for changes/clarification. She acknowledged the tremendous amount of effort Bill Lemon had put into this project. The cost of the book is \$20.00 and a signing event will be planned as soon as advance copies arrive.
- 2) LVHS Newsletter – Newly Named: *Legacy Links*. At the Annual Summer Retreat in September 2020, the Board made the decision to put out six newsletter issues due to the decreased number of in-person events in order to keep members and the community well-informed. Because the Society will be unable to deploy the pocket museums at this time, the newsletters will feature pictures and information on the display items. There will be several new columns in the newsletter and the LVHS looks forward to communicating with its members and the community at large. Some possible newsletter topic suggestions follow:

#### **Regular newsletter features:**

- 1) Things That Aren’t There Anymore
- 2) Making History Today
- 3) Rolling Along: 1938 International Truck

- 4) President’s Message
- 5) Once Upon a Time
- 6) Character Study
- 7) Just Ask Bill
- 8) Every Picture Tells a Story
- 9) Remembrances
- 10) Personal Recollections
- 11) “D” Street History
- 12) New Member Recognition

#### **Newsletter topics:**

- 1) Snow of 1949
- 2) German Prisoners of War in La Verne
- 3) Racing in Lordsburg/La Verne: The Lordsburg Racetrack
- 4) Flora Morrison: Early doctor in Lordsburg.  
Rose Ebersole: Midwife in Lordsburg
- 5) Take Me Out to the Ball Game: The Lordsburg College Baseball Team
- 6) Story of the Mexican Mission Church
- 7) Chicken Ranches in Lordsburg
- 8) Who were the builders and what did they build?
- 9) Articles about workers in the citrus industry and the tools they used
- 10) The 1944 honor roll at College Park
- 11) Post-War Housing Boom: Tract housing on Bonita Avenue and Fifth Street
- 12) A history of La Verne’s Mobile Home Parks

#### **Suggestions for Events:**

- 1) ULV Archives Tour
- 2) Ontario Museum of History and Art
- 3) Historical Society of Pomona Valley – Webinar on Restoration of Vejar Chapel painting – must register for event
- 4) Pasadena Heritage – virtual home tour which starts on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Election of Board Officers**

As set forth in the LVHS Bylaws, it was reported that annual officer positions were up for election. The positions open this year are President (Sherry Best), Vice President (Bill Lemon) and Curator of Collections

(Ben Jenkins). These individuals have agreed to continue to serve in these positions and a motion was entertained for any other volunteers. With no additional names presented, a vote was conducted and these individuals will continue in their current officer positions.

**A motion was made, seconded, and carried, with no dissenting or abstaining votes, to affirm the continued positions on the LVHS Board as follows:**

- Sherwood Best – President
- William Lemon – Vice President
- Ben Jenkins – Curator of Collections

President Best noted that an opening will occur with the resignation of the current Treasurer, Clark Palmer, effective the end of December 2020. Clark will remain on to train for the position replacement and will be available for input going forward if needed. No suggestions or volunteers were noted so President Best asked those present on the call to contact her with ideas.

### **Adjournment**

President Best thanked the board members and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Recorded by Ben Jenkins

Transcribed by Donna A. Dye, LVHS Recording Secretary

### **Harvest Time in La Verne**

Living in Southern California has many benefits, not the least being the availability of fresh fruit and produce every season. Now that the summer weather is moving into fall, it is time to harvest pomegranates. The seeds of the fruits are great to eat or processed into juice.



However, picking pomegranate seeds from their hard-shelled outsides is time-consuming and messy. On October 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, John and Sherry Best squeezed almost seven gallons of juice from their two pomegranate trees, using specialty equipment purchased from a farm store in Nebraska.



The picked and cleaned pomegranates filled a 44-gallon container and were now ready to be skinned, chopped, pulped, and squeezed for juice. The entire process took two days.



First, the ends and sides were sliced off each piece of fruit.

Chopped fruit was loaded into the hopper mounted on top of the press frame, which was secured to a plywood stand set on a low table for

stability (above). Turning the fly wheel chopped the fruit, which emptied into a bag-lined steel drum. The drum rested on a pan with a spout at one end. After the drum was full of chopped fruit, the hopper was removed and the cast iron weight swung into position over the top of the drum. The weight was lowered and the screw arm was cranked to squeeze all the juice from the pulp into a collection pan beneath the drum. The weight of the chopped fruit alone began the juicing process so a bottle needed to be placed under the spout to collect juice.



The processing equipment above is operating as a press with the hopper removed and the cast iron weight inside the drum, squeezing out juice.



A glass of fresh and delicious pomegranate juice is the reward for the harvest. making the juice into jelly will commence another day.

Due to distancing constraints on gathering together, this year’s harvest did not include LVHS members. John and Sherry Best hope to invite people to attend the “crush” in 2021 and bring their pomegranates for juicing. Limited quantities of pomegranate jelly will be available for sale at LVHS-sponsored events.

### Making History Today

The citrus industry was a huge contributor to La Verne’s economy until after World War II, when a citrus blight and rising land values contributed to its decline. Today another serious plant disease that kills citrus trees has been found in California. The disease, called Huanglongbing or citrus greening disease, isn’t harmful to humans, but it is fatal for citrus trees and has no cure. The disease is spread by a pest called the Asian citrus psyllid as it feeds on citrus tree leaves. The Asian Citrus psyllid (left) is a tiny insect that sucks sap

from the tree. Affected trees develop pale leaves and produce shriveled, sour fruit that never matures.



Protect your citrus with monthly inspections for the Asian citrus psyllid and look for unusual greening leaves whenever you water, spray, prune or tend your trees. If you find evidence of the disease, immediately call the CDFA hotline at 800-491-1899. Do not move any part of the citrus out of the area or across state or international borders.

Visit your local nursery or garden center to get advice on products that can help protect citrus trees from the Asian citrus psyllid. Buy citrus trees from licensed, local nurseries and only use registered budwood. Recommendations on managing the Asian citrus psyllid can be found by visiting the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources at <https://ucanr.edu/>. Cooperate with agricultural officials by placing insect traps, inspecting trees, and treating for the pest.

When tree trimming, be sure to dry out citrus tree clippings or double bag them before disposal. If you no longer wish to care for your citrus tree, consider removing it so it does not become a host to the pest or disease. For more information on this disease, visit <https://californiacitrusthreat.org/>

Portions of this article came from the City of Ontario website.



**NEW LVHS Members**

Erik Chaputa  
 Sherri Szabo  
 Carole Dahl