



# La Verne Historical Society

Preserving Old La Verne's Environment: Making History for the Future



PO Box 7761, La Verne, CA 91750 909-596-4679

[lvhs@lavernehistoricalociety.org](mailto:lvhs@lavernehistoricalociety.org)

September 2017

## We Love a Parade!

### A Century of La Verne: 1917-2017

In 1917 the city of **Lordsburg** changed its name to **La Verne**. Celebrate a Century of La Verne with the LVHS. If your 2017 membership is current & you bring a new member to join us by December the LVHS will give you ½ off your 2018 membership!

On July 4<sup>th</sup> the La Verne Historical Society celebrated with an equestrian entry. Accompanied by a mule, a donkey, and equestrian handlers from Mea Ola's Place, members of the LVHS marched proudly as they delivered oranges to parade-viewers. Plans are being made to celebrate 2018.

Mea Ola's Place is a 501(c)(3) non-profit



Mea Ola means "Survivor" in Hawai'ian. At Mea Ola's Place in Phelan, California, horses find homes and new purpose in equine-assisted therapy. The mission of Mea Ola's Place is to use hard-to-place horses with individuals with special needs, foster and at-risk youth, and individuals recovering from addictions. Ann Kline (President) and Chris Wright (Vice President) believe that each horse has a job and a purpose even if they cannot be ridden. Even if horses cannot be placed they will find a "forever" home at Mea Ola's Place. Visit [www.meao拉斯place.org](http://www.meao拉斯place.org) to learn more about their kid's camps, animal adoptions, birthday parties, and more.

Top: Brenda Gonzalez, Bill Lemon, and Clark Palmer carry the LVHS banner. Bottom left: Bill admires the four-legged marchers and their escorts. Bottom right: Chris Wright, Vice President at Mea Ola's Place.





## Preview of Coming Events - September - Bronze Marker Dedication...

### THE GREEN HOME ARTS & CRAFTS BUNGALOW - 1917



HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF LA VERNE  
NO. 30

ELLSWORTH AND IONE GREEN PURCHASED THIS HOME IN 1934 AND WERE TEACHERS IN LOCAL SCHOOLS, LIVING HERE FOR MORE THAN FORTY YEARS. MRS. GREEN READ TO LOCAL CHILDREN HERE, AND MR. GREEN TAUGHT SCIENCE AND COACHED SEVERAL SPORTS AT BONITA HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE THE GYM IS DEDICATED TO HIM.

COME TO THE SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> DEDICATION OF THE GREEN HOME AT 3:30PM. YOU WILL HEAR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE HISTORY OF THIS HOUSE AND ITS FORMER OWNERS, SOME OF WHOM WILL BE PRESENT FOR THIS EVENT. RSVP AT THE FOLLOWING:

EDWARD.HUME@VERIZON.NET

### The Green Home - 1917 ~ 2017 100th Birthday Party and Dedication

Saturday, September 30th, 2017  
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
2607 3rd Street, La Verne, CA 91750  
Please RSVP to: [edward.hume@verizon.net](mailto:edward.hume@verizon.net)



## Preview of Coming Events - October - Fall Member & Community Meeting...

The La Verne Historical Society is involved in two important October events. On **October 9<sup>th</sup>** the LVHS will have its fall Member and Community Meeting at the Hillcrest Meeting House at 7:00pm. In addition to viewing a video of "The Mock Wedding of Miss Lordsburg & Mr. La Verne", attendees will get a Sneak Peek of the Gallery at Hillcrest's new exhibit featuring artifacts from the Galen and Doris Beery collection. On **October 14<sup>th</sup>**

at 1:00pm there will be another opportunity to visit the gallery exhibit for the gala opening of the gallery and dedication exhibit to Galen and Doris Beery. We are expecting some of their family members to attend so please honor their memory with your attendance.

## Preview of Coming Events - November - Spadra: The Town That Wasn't



When hearing the name “Spadra,” most people recall the landfill on Valley Blvd or the old State Hospital now owned by Cal Poly, Pomona. But did you know that there was once a thriving town called Spadra, founded in 1866, that was located between what is now Diamond Bar, Walnut, and Pomona? Once known as the second American settlement between Los Angeles and San Bernardino, Spadra was a hub of mining activity as the stage stop for freighters from the Panamint and once the terminus for the Southern Pacific Railroad. Join us as we learn how many of the settlers helped shape the landscape of Los Angeles County and how a thriving town like Spadra came to disappear.

**When:** Sunday, November 12, 2017

**Where:** Veteran’s Hall, La Verne  
1550 Bonita Avenue

**Time:** 3:00pm

**Cost:** Free & open to the public

**Refreshments will be served**



A fourth-generation Californian on both sides of her family, Anne E. Collier is a noted researcher and award-winning author. Concentrating on California and Arizona history, Ms. Collier is a member of multiple historical societies, the Wild West History Association, Western Writers of America, and both the San Dimas and Los Angeles Corral of Westerners. Often featured as a “talking-head” on western-related documentaries, she enjoys traveling and meeting fellow historians when she is not working as the curator for the Cultural and Natural History Collections at the University of La Verne



## Yard Sale "Find" by Covina Couple Yields Treasure Trove for LVHS

This past June, the La Verne Historical Society was contacted by Ted and Glenda Augino of Covina. Several years before, during a visit to a yard sale, Ted discovered two journals belonging to Frank S. and Olive (White) Sheldon, La Verne citrus growers who lived on Williams Avenue, north of Foothill Boulevard. Ted and Glenda arranged to meet with Sherry Best and Bill Lemon, to share the contents of these books. We pored over many entries that ran from 1911 to 1930. These provided a window into the business and personal life of this couple, and by extension, into the lives of others in the community. There were pages of business receipts and expenses related to orange sales; purchases of groceries and other household goods; pledges and donations to church and other organizations; a page devoted to the expenses of purchasing and maintaining a radio in 1927; there were entries that dealt with the purchase of a home and three lots on Sixth Street on behalf of Olive's brother in 1919. Frank was eventually repaid and the family enjoyed the home for many years.

Perhaps the most poignant entries were found in the two pages dated from June 18, 1927, to May 12, 1928, titled "Olive's Illness." The line items include payments to doctors, nurses, hospitals, and drug stores. Olive passed away on April 24, 1928. An entry for April 28, 1928, reads La Verne Leader \$3.60. We presume this to be for Olive's obituary in the local newspaper. The final entry is on May 12, 1928, for Messrs. Todd and Reeves \$260.50. These were the funeral directors at Todd and Reeves Chapel which became Todd Memorial Chapel in 1944. The total for Olive's illness was \$3,022.50, a considerable amount for that era.

Here are a sample entry and two loose papers found in the journals:

- This page from Sheldon's smaller journal lists his 1929 Ranch or Crop Expenses. There are several line items that refer to Jessen Orchard Heaters (smudge pots).
- One of the loose papers was a receipt from G. Kinsey Roberts, a neighbor who lived on Foothill, west of where La Paloma Mexican Restaurant now stands. In addition to raising citrus, he also did outside work for other growers. This receipt is for Sheldon's payment for hauling oranges.
- Another loose item appears to be a variation of a receipt for a Postal Money Order. The payment was for Special Request Envelopes for the La Verne Water Association. J. P. Dickey was the La Verne Postmaster and Jessie Eleanor White, a sister of Frank Sheldon's wife, was the Assistant Postmaster.

26

1929 Rancher Crop Expenses

Date	Description	Amount
Feb. 2	Hiring for Hauling Oranges	21.54
Apr. 9	" " " "	21
" 24	G. Kinsey Roberts	50
" 29	Hauling	29
May 9	Kinsey Roberts	45.70
June 11	" " " "	4.50
Aug 6	Hauling Oranges	7.60
Sept 17	G. Kinsey Roberts Spray Material	110
" 13	G. Kinsey " "	100
" 27	Kinsey " "	99.13
Nov. 30	Kinsey Spray Oranges	1.65
Nov 21	Other Expenses Hauling Oranges	13.40
Nov 2	220 Jessen Orchard Heaters	198.60
" 21	Hauling Oranges & Boxes	55
Nov 21	440 Jessen Orchard Heaters	27.50
Dec 17	B. B. Jessen	96
Apr. 27	Freight Bill on fertilizer	210.63
Sept. 23	Batch Seed	

Total 502.92

La Verne, California Aug 2 1929

M. S. Frank Sheldon

IN ACCOUNT WITH

**G. KINSEY ROBERTS**

Tractor and Team Work Commercial Spraying

TELEPHONE 1568 THE FOUR OAKS-FOOTHILL BLVD

June 14 Hauling Oranges 338.24 7.60

Receipt  
G. Kinsey Roberts  
Aug. 6, 1929

United States Post Office

La Verne, California

(MONEY ORDER DIVISION)

OCT 31 1922 191

Respectfully referred to

San Francisco

Enclosing Draft #396

For Special Request Envelopes

for La Verne Water Ass'n \$11.04

Date of issue Oct. 26 '22

92

90

2 cents

92

J. P. DICKEY, P. M.

J. P. Dickey, Assistant Postmaster

The Auginos felt that this information should be brought home to La Verne and surprised us by donating the journals to the La Verne Historical Society. We are continually learning from these books. If you have photos, letters, or artifacts from La Verne's past we'd like to hear from you.

Thank you Ted and Glenda. We are indeed grateful for your efforts to bring these works to our attention and the generosity of your donation.

These photos are a small sample of those taken on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 when Miss Lordsburg "married" Mr. La Verne. Come to the LVHS Member and Community Meeting on **October 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm at the Hillcrest Meeting House for a video/slide show.

**Bride and Groom Say**

**"I do!"**

**Can You Name the Wedding Participants?**

(answers on page 7)



**Miss Lordsburg & Mr. La Verne:**

They recessed to the tune *"There'll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight!"*



**Justice of the Peace:**

Proclaimed  
"Lordsburg No  
More!"



**Mr. La Verne:**

The dapper groom  
who said "I do!"



**Bride's Escort:**

He lent the bride a  
supporting arm



**Best Man & Singer:**

Led us in praiseful song  
of our city





**Audience Member:**  
Wore her  
grandmother's hat!



**Musician & His Helper:**  
Entertainers with  
Pizzazz



**Bride's Attendant 1:**  
Cool as a cucumber



**Bride's Attendant 2:**  
Hang onto your  
bouquet!



**Bride's Attendants 3 & 4:**  
A mother/daughter team!



**Bride's Attendant 5:**  
Poised and elegant



**Bride's Attendant 6:**  
Big hat... bigger smile!



**Wedding Accessories &  
Attitudes:**

The groom wore spats  
The bride's lace gloves  
in prayerful repose





### The Sign Carriers:

Told us when to cheer & when to just shut up!



### The Announcer:

Gave us a history lesson & shows off a scroll



### The Innkeeper:

The host with the most



### There He is Again:

No fake - this guy brought his own real mustache

**Wedding Participants:** Miss Lordsburg & Mr. La Verne: **Letha & Willard Ressler**; Justice of the Peace: **Don Kendrick**; Bride's Escort: **Bill Lemon**; Best Man/Singer: **Al Eisenwinter**; Audience Member in Costume: **Donna Dye**; Musician & Helper: **Carl & Judy Bergquist-DeVoe**; Bride's Attendants (#1-#6): **Darlene Foye, Lupe Estrella, Gail Pellettera, Athena Pogue-Nasmyth, Harriett Hartshorn, Paula Stanley**; Sign Carriers: **Lois & Louis LeBrun**; Announcer: **Sherry Best**; Innkeeper: **Chris Gendreau**