



SAN GABRIEL HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Museum: 546 W. Broadway, San Gabriel, CA 91776 ~ Tel: (626) 308-3223 ~ WWW.SGHISTORICAL.ORG

GENERAL MEETING AT THE HISTORIC CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR CHURCH

The Church of Our Saviour has a long and illustrious history. It was the first protestant church in the San Gabriel Valley, founded in 1867, and the family-church of World War II hero, General George Patton Jr. A life-sized bronze stature of Patton as Commander of the U.S. 15th Army stands in the church courtyard. The church is also known for its beautiful stained glass windows, which reflect the history of the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church (Info taken from the City of San Gabriel Website).

Added BONUS! - Tour the Beautiful Stain Glass Windows

The church is known for its beautiful stained glass windows, which reflect the history of the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church. Of all the colorful windows in the Church of Our Saviour, perhaps the most outstanding is the General George S. Patton Memorial window.

The Tour will last for approximately 30 minutes and begin at 6:50pm. Meet at the entrance to the Church at 6:45pm. Please RSVP if you intent to take the tour. Please call (626) 308-3223 or email us at SG.HISTORICAL@GMAIL.COM with your RSVP. Thanks.

Meeting Speaker: Dr. George Stoneman

When: Monday, September 21, 2009 ~ 7:30PM

Where: Church of Our Saviour - Cleaver Hall
(www.churchofoursaviour.org)
535 West Roses Road, San Gabriel, CA 91775

Open to the Public

For transportation, call
(626) 282-0749

The speaker for our September general meeting is Dr. George Stoneman. He is related to General George Stoneman who, after his retirement from the military, purchased 400 acres from Don Benito Wilson and built the ranch known as Los Robles (The Oaks). It was located in San Marino near Mission Road on Los Robles. The General later became Governor of California. His sister Rebecca Stoneman, a former teacher of the Wilson children built a cottage near Garfield Avenue and Alhambra Road on a twenty-acre plot. Stoneman Avenue in Alhambra is named after the Governor.

Please plan to attend.

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E S

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Somehow the start of school seems like a new start for all of us - even those of us without students of our own! One of the "new" things will be the location of the September General Meeting. Please note that it is Church of Our Saviour, NOT the Grapevine Room. Another "new" thing is the excavation by the Alameda Corridor East Authority in the area of the Chapman Mill (adjacent to the tracks, across from the Mission). The Association is "in the loop" as to the artifacts recovered and plans for the site.. A "continuing" issue is the Mission 261 project.

We appreciate all the members who attended the April and August City Council Meetings or sent letters to the Council. The issue has been continued to the September 15th Council Meeting. Check the Association's website (www.sghistorical.org) for updates. We need to stay involved.

Ellie Andrews, Co-President

I would like tell you about another improvement to the Hayes House that will be part of our on-going efforts to show the Hayes House. Helen Sanchez and her twin daughters, Elizabeth and Julie have just finished upgrading the bathroom in the Hayes House. This room off the back porch was the first indoor bath for the house. You'll want see the old-fashioned cast iron bath tub standing on its own four feet. The wall decorations in the room are all original to the house. You will also see containers of early bath salts and other early 1900 items in the bath.

Also, there are many new items in the house as Helen and her girls keep uncovering more and more household items used by the Hayes family. As you know our museum and Hayes House are open for the public the first Saturday of each month. We will be happy to open for groups of 10 or more on other days by calling and making advance reservations. To make advance reservations please call Camila Lopez at (626) 287-8482 or Bill Williams at (626) 282-0749.

Bill Williams, Co- President

MISSION 261 UPDATE

Since March of this year, the SGHA Board has lent its support to an appeal of the proposed Mission 261 Development. The support of our members has been invaluable and we are grateful to the many people who have expressed their concerns to the City Council in writing and through attendance at the council meetings. Over the summer, a negotiation process took place as Mr. Harvey Ng worked with representatives from the community to reduce the overall scale of his project. Although Mr. Ng reduced the size of one building, no agreement was reached on a specific project for the Mission 261 site.

At the August 18 council meeting, the City Council voted 4-1 against continuing the revised project that Mr. Ng had presented that evening. He was asked to return again to council on September 15 with a project that fell into line with the standards specified in the Mission District Specific Plan. Once again, we urge you to write to our council members to let them know that it is important that they uphold the standards established in the Mission District Specific Plan.

Clearly, new development and business in the Mission District would be wonderful. However, the Mission District is the sole historic district that the city has designated. This means that when someone comes to the Mission District, the passage of time should be visible and, hopefully, tangible. Walking less than a mile, we can span centuries of history: Tongva artifacts (literally - watch for news on the excavation!), the Mission, the early commercial buildings, the Playhouse, and the neighborhoods that grew with the population. Two landmarks have dominated the landscape of this district and continue to do so. Therefore, our challenge is to strike a balance between economic development and preservation.

The Mission District Specific Plan was created to articulate that balance to residents and developers alike. The interest of the Historical Association has been to speak for the value of that plan and the standards it created to preserve the historic resources and character of the Mission District. Those standards directly addressed scale, density, and land use. The Board of the Historical Association will welcome development that joins the historic fabric of the district. Careful attention to the defining characteristics of the district will allow for the historic district to absorb the continued change and the march of time. Protecting the historic resources will preserve the Mission District as a living history lesson to residents and visitors alike.

Please continue to look for updated information on the Historical Association's website. And, please, continue to lend your voice to the emerging discussion about the future of our Mission District. Over the last six months we have seen the value of residents speaking for the places that matter to them. We need you to continue to be a part of the discussion.

Meet the Building Biographer

Rosemead Library's Californiana Room is sponsoring a presentation by Tim Gregory. Mr. Gregory does that incredible thing of researching the history of a property. He will provide the basics of finding out the history of a home or a piece of property.

When: 23 Sept 2009, 6:30 pm

Where: Rosemead Public Library
8800 Valley Blvd, Rosemead, CA

HISTORY DAY AT THE MISSION

The San Gabriel Mission will be hosting History Day at the Mission on Saturday, October 3rd, from 10:00 AM to 2:00PM. It will be moderated by SGHA's John Macias. There will be at least four historians giving talks on that day. More information can be found at the Mission website at:

<http://sangabrielmission.org/>

Now you can follow us on Facebook & Twitter! (Go to SGHA website to find out how)

Cell Phones for Soldiers

The San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the City of San Gabriel and the Community Development Department are collecting old cell phones which are recycled to provide prepaid calling cards to U.S. troops stationed overseas.

The San Gabriel Historical Association will provide a collection box at our general meeting. All phones collected will be will be dropped off at the Community Development counter at San Gabriel City Hall. More information about Cell Phones for Soldiers can be found at: <http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com>

Don't forget to bring that old cell phone when you come to our next meeting!

