



Arcadia Chinese Association Board Members
Back row, from left: Joanna Liang, Beryl Bai, Ning Liu, Connie Liao, Sherry Liang, Alice Wang and Melissa Cheng. Front row, from left: Edward Wong, Jamie Lee, President Aaron Rose, Karen Hou and Lily Lam. Photo credit: Caroline Rose

President's Message: Three Cheers for History

The first cheer & salute goes out to the Arcadia Chinese Association, which has been serving the community for 35 years. The Arcadia Historical Society honored their history & celebrated their service in a program at the Church of the Good Shepherd on May 13th. Assembly Member Ed Chau, Los Angeles Community College District Board Trustee Mike Eng, Field Representative Jimmy Wu for Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, and City Councilwoman April Verlato gave congratulatory remarks. Dr. Sheng Chang, founder of ACA, shared its early beginnings and challenges. Edward Wong told of ACA's history & service in a PowerPoint presentation. President Aaron Rose shared his thoughts for the future of ACA, echoing the city's theme of ONE ARCADIA, embracing collaboration & togetherness. The success of the night was evident. It was time to go home, but individuals were not ready to leave.

The second cheer & salute goes out to Margaux Viera, great, great, great granddaughter of Lucky Baldwin, & committee members involved with the Lucky Baldwin Poker Tournament & Dinner held at the Arboretum on June 10th. The funds raised at the event go to the preservation of the historic buildings on the grounds. The Arcadia Historical Society was a Host Committee and set up an exhibit of Baldwin memorabilia in front of the Queen Anne Cottage. A big surprise came our way when Victoria Murray, with her daughter Cameron, introduced herself as the great granddaughter of Albert A. Bennett. Architect A. A. Bennett was father to Lillie



From left: Heather D. Gibson, Lacy Green, Margaux L. Viera, and their mother, Yvonne Green. Heather and Margaux are the great, great, great granddaughters of Lucky Baldwin.



Bennett and designed the Queen Anne Cottage, most likely as a honeymoon gift from Lucky Baldwin to his 4th bride, Lillie. Victoria B. Murray also shared that she is in possession of hand-written letters from Elias J. "Lucky" Baldwin to Lillie Bennett. For a historian, there's nothing like direct lineage to feel connected to the past.

The third cheer & salute goes out to the Arcadia Civic Youth Council who sponsored Arcadia History Day at the Arcadia Public Library on June 14th. ACYC members portrayed historic characters, offered craft projects like basket weaving and peacock fans, and had pictures & facts of famous Arcadia landmarks. AHS members showcased an exhibit of old phones and displayed historic images of local Arcadia Schools. It was truly a historic fun-filled day. - Karen Hou

Below, Arcadia Civic Youth Council & Arcadia Historical Society Members. Photo credit: ACYC

Above, from left, Victoria B. Murray with daughter Cameron.
Photo credit: Carrie Lynn Barker



The Friends Meet Zoli



The Friends of the Arcadia Historical Society had the pleasure of meeting a new member of the Arcadia police force at a "Coffee with a Cop" event earlier this year. K-9 Zoli was introduced to attendees, as well as his handler Officer Foulks. The Arcadia Police Foundation funds this K-9 unit, and I volunteer as a director for the foundation. The Friends made a generous donation to support this much-needed unit. K-9s and their handlers require extensive and specialized training. Arcadia is fortunate to have Zoli who is cross-trained for both apprehension of suspects and narcotics. Article & photo credit: Mary Hansen

9th Annual Garden Party



Above, left to right: Tom Beck, City Councilman; Carol Libby, hostess; Beverly Street, President of Friends of AHS; and April Verlato, City Councilwoman. Photo credit: Lauragene Swenson

On May 21st, The Friends of the Arcadia Historical Society hosted their annual Garden Tea Party with 80 plus in Carol Libby's beautiful historic garden. The Friends provided gourmet teas, delicious sandwiches and delectable desserts for the guest's enjoyment. Beverly Street emceed. The Police Explorers and members of the ACYC were very helpful in making

the event run smoothly. For a bit of history, Carol Libby researched the plant life during Lucky Baldwin's time on the Santa Anita Ranch. Attendees learned of Lucky Baldwin's interest in experimentation and, with his financial ability, made his ranch one of the most beautiful landscaped properties in the country, if not the world. – Beverly Street



Left, Connie Russell (center) with Lauragene & Don Swenson. Photo credit: Connie Russell

A Flair For Fashion



Beverly Street, Carrie Lynn Barker and Connie Russell, on the left, modeled three of the many pieces selected for the Arcadia Woman's Club Fashion Show on Saturday, April 22 by the Friends of the Arcadia Historical Society. Joyce Saunders, on the right, wore her elaborate gown of the 1870's, which she handmade, including the bonnet and purse, authentic in every detail. A "sold out" crowd enjoyed the fashions, luncheon and music. Photos left and right provided by Marilyn Daleo.

Models Char Wong, on the right, & daughter, Alexis Wong, on the left, showed off vintage outfits from the "Roaring Twenties" era. Photo credit: Carrie Lynn Barker.



Business Icons Celebrated

Carol Libby and Karen Hou of the Arcadia Historical Society in association with the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce honored the Rotary Club of Arcadia as the Business Icon for November 2016.

The Rotary Club of Arcadia was established in 1927 and aids the community as a service club striving to provide humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace among the community. Members of the Rotary Club who were in attendance accepted the award.



From left: Ramon Oseguera, Westfield Santa Anita; Teri Muse, Waste Management; Francine Chiu, Mass Mutual Financial Group; Karen Hou; Carol Libby; Gil Stromsoe, Mark Schafer Associates and David Vannasall, Arcadia Unified School District Superintendent.



Gina Post-Franco

The Business Icon for March 2017 was Post

Alarm Systems, a company providing service to the area since 1956. Gina Post-Franco, General Manager, and brother Rob Post, President, were present to accept the award. Gina related that her grandfather, Sam Post, a former police chief founded the company; and she, Rob and others in the company are proud to carry on their family tradition of exceptional service to their community. Photo credits: Carrie Lynn Barker

Making a Difference

On June 20th, the President of The Friends of the Arcadia Historical Society, Beverly Street, presented the Lt. Edward Ostashay Scholarship to Joseph Aaron Arredondo. Mayor Peter Amundson was pleased to respond to Carol Libby's request to have this occur at the City Council meeting. After the presentation, The Friends had a Root Beer Float Reception for family and friends of Joseph.

Since birth, Joseph has resided in Arcadia with his family. He is a Sargent with the Arcadia Explorer Program while currently attending PCC. He hopes to eventually enter the law enforcement profession. Joseph began helping The Friends in February 2015 with our Historical Fashion Show at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior. He has been involved with all of our fund raising since.

- Beverly Street



From left: Mayor Peter Amundson, Beverly Street, Officer Danny Daryale and Explorer Joseph Arredondo. Courtesy photo: City of Arcadia

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www.ArcadiaHistoricalSociety.org

www.ArcadiaChampions.org

*If anyone is interested in receiving the weekly **Historical Tid-bits** on-line through Constant Contact, please let me know. Karen Hou, President*



Fun at the
Arcadia
Downtown
Patriotic Festival
July 1st



Bottom photo: Carol Libby with great grandson Cyrus. Photo credit: Connie Russell

Top photo, Jan Shimmin with granddaughter Zoe. Center photo, AHS & ACYC provided a craft project for children. Photos courtesy of Arcadia Downtown Improvement Association.

Arcadia Historical Society Board

- President. Karen Hou
- 1st Vice President. . . . Jolene Cadenbach
- 2nd Vice President Beverly Street
- Treasurer Gil Stromsoe
- Recording Secretary . . Char Wong
- Past President Gene Glasco
- Historian Carol Libby
- Public Relations Ed Andersen
- Walk of Champions Gail Marshall
- Lee Shimmin
- Ed Andersen
- 65th Birthday Connie Russell
- Directors Jim Considine
- Steve Hodgson
- ACYC Student Liaisons . . . Sharie Kuo
- Arianna Togelang

HUNTED & WANTED IN ONE HUNDRED CITIES

Charles Forbes, Outlaw, Train Robber, Murderer and Consort are Shot & Killed in a Battle with Officers

November 19, 1918

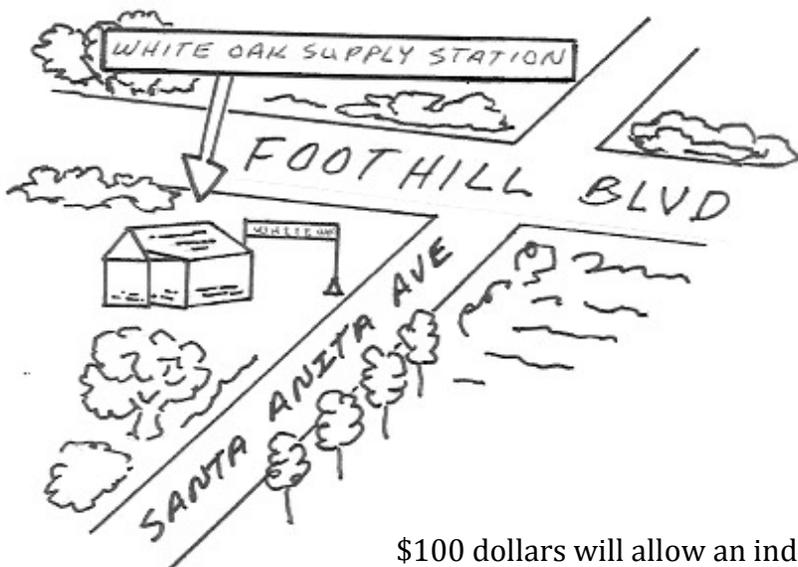
Charles Forbes, alias Dale Jones, and his consort Maria Celano were shot & killed in a spectacular gun battle at a filling station known as the White Oak Supply Station in Arcadia. In the search of a cabin frequented by Forbes, a torn photo of a young woman was found, but not the \$30,000 cache he was claimed to have. The woman had been seen in the area. Will this clue be enough?

November 12, 2017

With a fair amount of poetic license, this true tale is being used as a premise for Arcadia Historical Society's 65th Birthday Murder Mystery Dinner on Sunday, November 12, 2017, 5:00 pm at Prince Erik Hall, 2607 S. Santa Anita Avenue.

\$100 dollars will allow an individual's entrance into this fabled story's resolve.

More details to come



The Changing Face of Arcadia Public Library

Before Arcadia had a church, a bank, paved streets or street signs, it had a library. In 1913, a small group of civic-minded women approached the officials of the Los Angeles County Library about having a library branch in Arcadia. Their proposal was approved and a small building at the southeast corner of First Avenue and Indiana (Wheeler) Street was made available. This group of women became the Arcadia Woman's Club, and as such, assumed partial costs of maintaining the facility, including that of the librarian.



*Arcadia City Library
1924
Watercolor
by Rosemary Reuter*

In time, the facility proved to be inadequate and citizens decided to have a public library. Thus, Arcadia voted to establish a city library in 1920 and made space for it in a small room in the new City Hall, located on the northwest corner of Huntington Drive and First Avenue. In time this arrangement proved to be unsatisfactory, and in 1924 a small house near the City Hall was found to house the new library. It had several small rooms and a bathroom with bathtub. Since the nearby fire department had no bathing facilities, the firemen found it convenient to bathe there after a fire response. When the bathtub was removed to provide more space for books, the firemen had to make other arrangements.

An attractive Spanish-style library was built in 1930 at 25 North First Avenue, replacing the small house. It was modeled after the Hill Street

branch of the Pasadena Library, cost \$45,000 to build, and served the city well until 1961.



The present Arcadia Public Library located at 20 West Duarte Road was built in 1961, and later, was remodeled and updated in 1996 receiving a multimillion-dollar face-lift, which included a new façade. The library is currently being updated to increase its seating capabilities. It now has 48,000 square feet and includes the Cay Mortensen Auditorium and the Jerry Broadwell Children's Room. The latter is a special area that includes a puppet theater, built and donated by the members of the Arcadia Firefighters Association in 1997. It is housed in the Imagination Theater and used during story time and special programs.

The Library Board of Trustees was established in 1920 and is composed of five citizens who administer and enforce procedures, rules and the operation of the Arcadia Public Library.

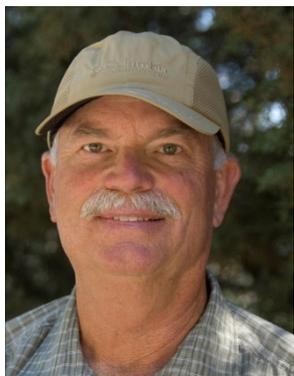
For more than fifty years, the Friends of the Arcadia Public Library, formed in 1956, has been a vital contributor to the Library and its services. It has supported the Library by funding the Summer Reading Program, maintaining the Book Store and lately has been the sponsor of the Classical Kaleidoscope Concert Series. - Carol Libby



*Above, Arcadia Public Library, 1961
Right, Remodeled Arcadia Public Library*



“John Muir, From Yosemite to Arcadia”
Historical Exhibit & Presentation
August 1–31, 2017



This August, the Arcadia Public Library will mark the 140th anniversary of renowned naturalist and writer John Muir’s first visit to Southern California with a rare book exhibit and an interactive presentation by local historian Ed Andersen. The exhibit will include several first editions of Muir’s writings, including “My First Summer in the Sierra” (1911) and “The Mountains of California” (1894). In this latter work, Muir gives a detailed account of a five-day hiking trip he took through the Rancho Santa Anita and into the San Gabriel Mountains in August of 1877.

John Muir was born in Dunbar, Scotland in 1838 and moved to Wisconsin when he was eleven years old. As a young man he received wide acclaim as an inventor, but he was captivated by nature and he devoted his life to studying, writing about and working to preserve our natural resources. Muir was a world traveler and he frequently came to the San Gabriel Valley, occasionally making his way to the fledgling city of Arcadia. As the first president of the Sierra Club, John Muir made enormous contributions to the establishment of our national parks and timberlands, including the establishment of the San Gabriel and San Jacinto National Forests.

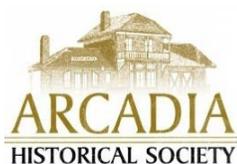
Ed Andersen is a book collector, historian and board member of the Arcadia Historical Society. Mr. Andersen has been tracking John Muir for two decades and, on Saturday, August 26, he will present his findings about Muir’s appearances in Arcadia. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

----- Plan to attend this exciting presentation -----

Saturday, August 26 at 1:00 pm
Arcadia Public Library Auditorium
20 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA



John Muir, circa 1895



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