

President's Message by Gene Glasco

"To Protect and Preserve"



Happy 2011! The Arcadia Historical Society is ringing in the new year with exciting operational and activity based enhancements that portend an increase in membership value and enrollment while continuing the quest to preserve our inheritance of rich Arcadia history we have been entrusted to protect . The Society's progress and

innovative envisions for developing new inroads of growth are primarily due to the loyalty and support of a dedicated and talented troupe of volunteer board members. Their commitment to a forward looking Arcadia Historical Society are leadership qualities that will insure a viable future. After much trial and error we finally have in place a proprietary data base to track membership expiration, renewals, dues collection (cornerstone to our fiscal vitality), donations and special project tracking, etc. Your society board of directors have been busy planning for an exciting new year of membership meetings, inter-active community activities, and fund raisers. And, our organization's community awareness will be broadened through various future outreach activities that have heretofore never been undertaken. One such initiative to tap outside channels of new membership recruitment while at the same time preserving a working piece of Arcadia history is the Society's "adoption" of a fully operational Arcadia Police Department classic 1959 Ford Galaxy 500 police cruiser. This article's tag line, "To Protect and Preserve", couldn't be more fitting. With new membership we're helping protect the Society's livelihood with revenue needed to sustain our fiscal integrity, and with similar donations to the vintage police cruiser, we're helping preserve the operative rolling stock of mid century Arcadia history. We'll be sponsoring once again a new round of 2011 Creative writing contests culminating with judging held at the ever popular mountain locale at Chantry Flat. Also, discussions for new "History Lives Here" markers affixed to significant historical Arcadia venues are underway. A Spring or Summer antique car expert talk and show is being planned, and our joint sponsorship of another "One Book One Community" event fund raiser with food, door prizes, and entertainment is under consideration, along with a host of other activities I encourage you to take part in. Finally, it gives me great pleasure in announcing the official launch of the Arcadia Historical Society website at: www.arcadahistoricalsociety.org. Our focus is to continue to bring you interesting highlights of information by way of our newsletter, and now our new website. With our new website we want to build friendships with fellow Arcadia historians everywhere, and offer valuable opportunities for networking and the exchange of information.

Board of Directors

Gene Glasco

President

Sho Tay

1st VP , Programs

Phil Espanto

Secretary

Beverly Street

Corresponding Secretary

Don Swenson

Treasurer

Carol Libby

Director

Scott Hettrick

Director -

Historical Markers Chairman

Sandy Snider

Director

Gil Stromsoe

Director

Gene Glasco

Camínos Editor

See **Gene** on page 2

The Arcadia Historical Society is helping the Museum purchase a high quality mannequin to be used as a permanent display in representing notable Arcadia people. The Museum's curator is officially in the process of bidding out the purchase of this mannequin and will be selecting a vendor in the near future. Soon, a very realistic and life sized figure of Anita Baldwin (as pictured right) will be dressed in period attire (courtesy of the Friends of the Museum) and will be added to the Museum's display of Arcadia artifacts. The Arcadia Historical Society will be credited as having entirely funded the purchase of this wonderful exhibit piece and will be appropriately identified as an Arcadia Historical Society donation.



Gene continued from page 1

Members who wish to opt out of receiving a printed version via USPS will be helping to “protect and preserve” both categories of nature and budget by receiving future newsletter editions of *Camino*s via their e-mail In-Box delivery, which will help us save in paper, printing, and mailing costs.

On behalf of myself and the officers and directors of your Arcadia Historical Society, we wish you and all who are dear to you-- the best of health, happiness, and prosperity in 2011. I look forward to seeing you at our **General Meeting at 2:00 pm on Sunday, January 23rd** at the Arcadia Community Center.

Respectfully,

Gene Glasco

Museum Exhibit Calendar 2011

December 28 – February 19 - Dirigible!! Airships Over Arcadia During WWI

Adult Lecture: January 8, 2011, 1:00 pm

March 5 – April 16 - Cosmic Light, Dust and Time: The Fine Art of Frank Hartley

Opening Reception: March 5, 2011, 1:00 pm

April 30 – June 25 - Traditional Silk and Silver Fashions of China's Minorities

Opening Reception: April 30, 2011, 10:00 am

“One Community/Book” Winners

Ranging in age from 13-years-old to over 80, the culturally diverse attendees of the One Community, One Book program presented by Arcadia’s Best on Friday enjoyed socializing, a potluck dinner, free insulated Shop Arcadia bags provided by the City of Arcadia, and free bookmarks and buttons.



The City's 1959 police car.

There to share with others in the celebration of the book *To Kill a Mockingbird*, attendees also won nearly 20 raffle prizes ranging from special edition DVDs of the movie and decorative cloth bags donated by sponsor Creative World, 524 S. First Ave., along with a certificate for three free children’s art classes, to decorative coffee mugs with gifts inside and a gift certificate for a local salon.

Six winners of a related Creative Interpretation Contest (listed below, along with a winning poem from each category) also each received the DVD as well as several \$2 coupons for Baskin Robbins and other prizes ranging from free Fasching’s Car Wash coupons and REI gift cards to gift certificates for AMC Theaters and Dave & Buster’s.

Upon arrival, attendees first saw the 1959 Ford Galaxy 500 Arcadia police car in front of the door to the Arcadia Masonic Center. The Arcadia Historical Society, which was a partner with Arcadia’s Best in Friday’s program, is helping raise awareness and maintenance funds for the historical city vehicle that is available to for local groups to have at their events so kids and adults can sit in the car and learn about its history. The Historical Society also hosted a wine and cheese and crackers reception in the lobby, where sponsor and host group tables were set up, including one for the program’s primary sponsor, Chyten Educational Services, at 1012 S. Baldwin Ave.

The lively conversations continued inside the Center’s large dining hall. The Center venue was provided free of charge by Arcadia’s Best Foundation partner Sho Tay, who is also Master of the Arcadia Masons and a board director of the Society. Against the background music of Elmer Bernstein’s lovely score from the movie playing along with a montage of photos of the author and the original book jacket and movie stills, dozens of attendees enjoyed a feast of potluck dinner entrees, from pizza and lasagna to salads and as many free chili dogs provided by Wienerschnitzel at Westfield Santa Anita mall as they could eat. Tables featured unique grasshopper centerpieces made of metal and bolt nuts provided by ABF partner and Society director Carol Libby.

After an introduction by program host and Society director Scott Hettrick and an announcement that the Arcadia School District this week will install at the northeast corner outside the new music building the Historical Society’s historical marker at First Avenue Middle School that was dedicated in October 2007 during the school’s centennial celebration, Historical Society president Gene Glasco provided updates about other Society programs and membership opportunities both in English as well as his own Chinese translation to the surprise and delight of many Chinese-speaking Arcadians in attendance.



Announcements were also made by program partner Arcadia Chinese Association about their annual Halloween fundraiser Saturday, Oct. 30, at the Community Center, for which ticket sales are still available. Additional sponsors and supporters of the Friday program were recognized by Hettrick, including Matt Denny’s, The Book Rack, the Arcadia Public Library, local newspaper columnists Lauragene Swenson (Pasadena Star-News Weekly Star) and Floretta Lauber (Arcadia Weekly) and resident Rex Wong, as well as volunteers helping with set-up, food and check-in on the evening, such as Sonny and Sherry Tay, Betty Hettrick, Carol Howard, and many members of the Friends of the Museum (Arcadia Historical Museum), including President Bev Street and her husband Ron, Mickey Ball, Edna Curtis, Roberta Ramsell, and Edie Slemmon.

Coming Events

January 20 - Brown Bag Lunch Talks : “Museum Treasures: Their Owners and Donors”
Carol Libby, AHS Board Member, Co-author of “Images of America-Arcadia”,
Starts 12:00 pm

**January 23 - General Meeting , Community Center,
Room A & B, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

February 17 - Brown Bag Lunch Talk: “Aprons Tied to the History of Arcadia”,
Ruth Reeder, 12:00 pm

March 17 - “What Happened to the Rancho Azusa de Duarte”
Irwin Margiloff, Curator of Duarte Historical Museum,
Co-author of “Images of America-Duarte”

March 20 - Arcadia Historical Society Meeting, Sunday

May 20 - Arcadia Historical Society Meeting, Sunday

April 9 - Adult Workshops
You’re the Detective in This Story: Genealogy Workshop for Beginners, Part 1
With Jack McCrea, Starts 1:30 – 3:00 pm



Did You Know...

The 1959 Ford Galaxie Fairlane 500 4 door Sedan had a 332 cubic inch V8 engine and produced 225 horsepower. Its transmission was a 3 speed Cruise-o-Matic. The vehicle’s length was 208 inches and its weight was 3,578 (without officers and detainees)

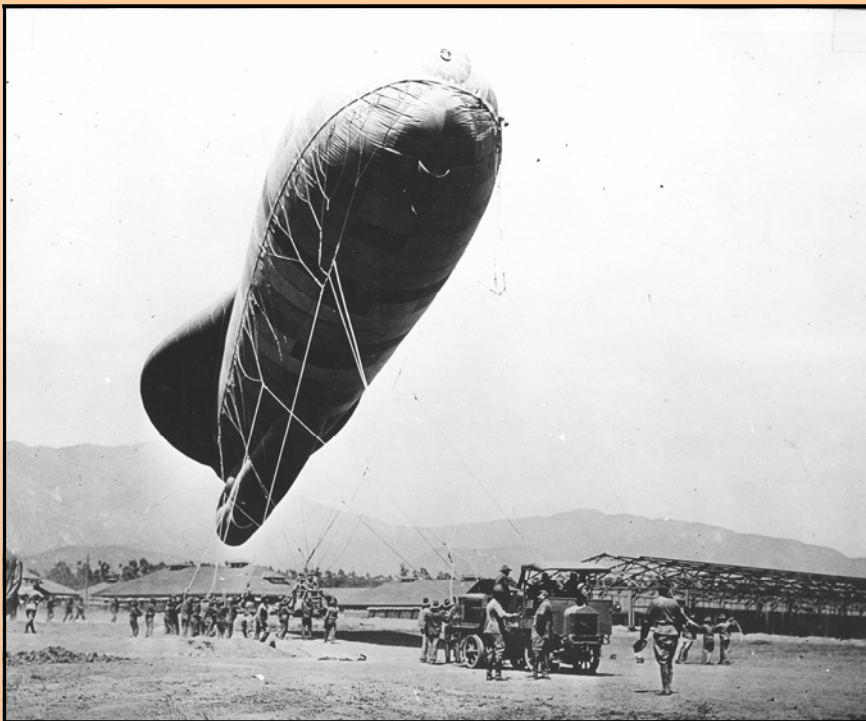
The 59 Ford was built as the “World’s Most Beautifully Proportioned Car” and won a design award at the Brussels World’s Fair. 1959 was the first year for the “black and white” patrol cars in Arcadia and the first year the city seal appeared on a police car.



Ross Field or The Balloon School

By Carol Libby

E. J. (Lucky) Baldwin's famous race track property became Ross Field or "The Balloon School," early in 1918. Shortly after war was declared on April 6, 1917, the War Department negotiated with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for sites it needed for training camps. The old Santa Anita Park property, now Arcadia County Park and Santa Anita Golf Course, seemed like an excellent location. It had numerous buildings, stables, etc. that were vacant and in good condition. Anita Baldwin, owner of her father's property sold the 185 acres for \$92,000. The land was deeded to the War Department. A huge hanger was constructed on the southwest corner of the field, barracks were converted stables as well as utility buildings, parade grounds were situated between them and the main street Falling Leaf Avenue (Huntington Dr.) and the entire area was surrounded by a high wire fence. All in all over three thousand trainees arrived to serve there, more than the population of Arcadia at the time.



The camp brought both problems and advantages to the city and to its residents. Water and sewage were two of the most serious. Arcadia's Water Department was unprepared for the additional need for water. The winter of 1917-18 was a time of scant rainfall so that farmers and residents had been warned of the limited supply. Arcadia did not have a sewage system, as all homes had either septic tanks or cesspools. The disposal of camp sewage by septic tanks caused complaints and dissatisfaction by residents for a long time, even after the camp was closed.

Today's Elks' Clubhouse was the clubhouse for the men. Here was the social center and recreational life of Ross Field. An adjacent reservoir, one of Lucky Baldwin's early reservoirs, was converted into a swimming pool for the men. (This water producer had now become unavailable for city use and that fact caused some complaints.) The people of Arcadia took an active interest in the welfare of the army men and included them in their civic and social activities. Arcadia's new City Hall auditorium was the scene for many activities that included the service men, and following the Armistice, a reception was held for them there.



Curator's Corner—Dana Dunn

Wishing all at the Arcadia Historical Society a Happy New Year! 2011 will be an exciting year and we hope you will come and visit the Museum's many exhibits and programs, which we have planned. We will be continuing our temporary exhibits as well as our permanent exhibit on the local history of Arcadia and our Veterans Local History Room. Our Brown Bag Lunch Talks, every third Thursday of the month, and our family Hands on History programs promise to be exciting. This year we will also be adding some adult lectures and workshops. For more information please visit our website: www.museum.ci.arcadia.ca.us or call us at 626-574-5440.

Dana

Book continued from page 3

Additional sponsors and supporters of the Friday program were recognized by Hettrick, including Matt Denny's, The Book Rack, the Arcadia Public Library, local newspaper columnists Lauragene Swenson (Pasadena Star-News Weekly Star) and Floretta Lauber (Arcadia Weekly) and resident Rex Wong, as well as volunteers helping with set-up, food and check-in on the evening, such as Sonny and Sherry Tay, Betty Hettrick, Carol Howard, and many members of the Friends of the Museum (Arcadia Historical Museum), including President Bev Street and her husband Ron, Mickey Ball, Edna Curtis, Roberta Ramsell, and Edie Slemmon.

The program got underway with Hettrick providing facts about author Harper Lee who won a Pulitzer Prize for her one and only novel published in 1960 about life in Depression-era rural Alabama as seen through the eyes of a young girl.

After a break for desserts, including a special cake decorated with the words One Community, One Book, the program continued as members of the audience offered their remembrances and perspectives on various themes and elements of the book.

The evening closed with the announcement of the winning essays and poems, with Hettrick reading several poems, and adult winner Karen Hou reading her winning poem call "Secrets" to conclude the program.

Complete list of contest winners (followed one winning poem from each category):

Adult:

- * Karen Hou: "Secrets" (poem)
- * Mary (Mickey) Ball: "Scout" (poem)

Middle School

- * Emily Zheng, 13, Dana Middle School: "The Moral of the Mockingbirds" (essay)
- * Joshua Kim, 12, Dana Middle School: "The Trial of the Mockingbird" (poem)

High School

- * Phoebe Shen, 15, AHS: "It's Not Me" – the thoughts of Tom Robinson" (poem)
- * Shiyun (Mary) Zhang, 15, AHS: "Mirrors" (poem)



Left to right: Scott Hettrick with contest winners Emily Zheng, Mary (Mickey) Ball, Karen Hou, and Arcadia's Best Foundation partner Carol Libby. Photo by Lauragene Swenson of Weekly Star.

Friends of the Museum

by Carol Libby

On Wednesday, January 5, 2011, members of the Friends put on a fashion show, "Famous Designers and Their Signature Styles" for the Alhambra Woman's Club. The clothing modeled by members included vintage dresses and gowns designed by Carolina Herrera, Oscar de la Renta, Adolpho, Michael Novarese, Yves St. Laurent among others. Creations from private collections in addition to the costume collection inherited by the Friends were modeled by Bev, Street, Jill Hendrick,



Edna Curtis, Roberta Ramsell, Ellen Hou, Faye Nouhi, Sylvia Ostronik, Jaye Caldwell and Nan Fenn-Rairdan. Karen Hou and Mickey Ball assisted the models as they prepared for their "walk of fashion", and Carol Libby gave descriptions of the apparel, background of the famous designers and their signature styles. This was the second show presented for the Alhambra Club. The Friends group has given more than a dozen shows in the past eight years. Plans are underway for the next presentation in April. Would you like to join us?

Arcadia Historical Society Receives Invitation from Azusa Pacific University

Azusa Pacific University is hosting History Day L.A. 2011 on March 12 as part of a national competition for 4th through 12th grade students in Los Angeles County schools. Students engage in historical research and present this research in the form of a poster, historical research paper, museum exhibit, documentary video, dramatic presentation, or web page. Students "do history". What an opportunity this is for the Arcadia Historical Society to introduce themselves to local schools!

We are being given the chance to have a table or presentation area to set up a display or exhibit to introduce our society to the students, teachers, and parents who will be attending History Day L.A. Displays can be as simple as a story board with photos, document copies, and information (new membership applications) about the Arcadia Historical Society. Some local societies will be rolling out their old fire truck, wagon, machine, or equipment, and our vintage 1959 Ford Galaxy 500 police car would fit the bill nicely and be a tremendous draw!

Members that are interested in participating and representing the Arcadia Historical Society at History Day L.A. 2011 on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at Azusa Pacific University with a society provided display, can e-mail me at: info@arcadahistoricalociety.org. Let's have some fun!

Gene Glasco
President
Arcadia Historical Society

Mailing Address
Arcadia Historical Society
P.O. Box 60021, Arcadia, CA 91066-6021

Curator -- Dana Dunn
626 574-5468
Historical Society -- 626 446-8512

Location Address:
380 West Huntington Dr, Arcadia, CA 91007

We are on the WEB!
<http://www.arcadahistoricalociety.org>

Name _____ Telephone (____) _____

Address _____

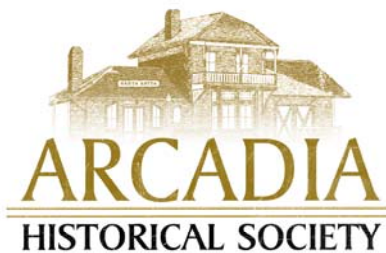
City and State _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail _____

Regular membership in the Arcadia Historical Society is one year. It runs from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. Applicants joining in January 2011 will be considered "Active" through March 31, 2012.

| | | |
|------------|---|----------|
| Individual | \$25 | \$ _____ |
| Family | \$30 | \$ _____ |
| Corporate | \$35 | \$ _____ |
| Life | \$400 (Life memberships are not transferable)..... | \$ _____ |
| | TOTAL | \$ _____ |

The Arcadia Historical Society is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization
Mail to: Arcadia Historical Society, P.O. Box 60021, Arcadia, CA 91066-6021



Arcadia Historical Society
P.O. Box 60021
Arcadia, CA 91066-6021

