News from the Prime Minister:

The ad lib field trip came off well. Those attending had a good time viewing the Queen Victoria exhibit. We'd have liked more, but it was material seldom seen before. The earlier lunch together in the museum cafeteria was a treat. The "Tea With The Queen" went off exquisitely. There were lots of positive comments and commitments to return for next year's Tea. Three "Cheers" to the Tea committee and all those making it happen. This is another reason for us to make an effort to be there in August for our work day. The list of repairs is growing and you can make the difference rather or not it all gets done.

Cheers, Ben  PM

Field trip attendees at the Getty

Tea With Some Spice: Ladies with hats and tea finery drifted under the decorated entrance to the Pavilion on June 8th. Tea devotees filled the gaily decorated tables, toured the museum exhibit of Royal Memorabilia, strolled the Victorian Merchant’s
Faire, and had their picture taken with a gracious Queen Victoria.

Salad, savory tea treats, and various tea selections were placed at each person’s place. Conversation flowed across the tables and filled the air with the chatter of many voices until the presentation of the tableau vivante.

Pamela Harrell gave a dramatic reading of highlights in the life of Queen Victoria, while costumed figures graced the stage. A young Victoria with her mother, a member of the court and later her spouse, Albert, help those present visualize the events in the early years of Victoria’s reign. Then as the years passed and tragedy struck the royal family, new figures appeared to represent the later years with a grieving, older queen. Victoria in her mourning, John Brown, her son, Bertie, with his wife, Alexandra, represented the second half of a sixty three year reign of the queen. Bertie, as Edward VII, stepped forward on the death of his mother, Queen Victoria. And a new Edwardian Era began and the Victorian Era ceased.

A Scottish piper was present to pipe in all the guests and later to herald the entrance of the Queen and her gillie, John Brown.

The Tea would not have been possible without the diligent planning and dedication of many of the Victorian Society members. Gracious volunteers came forward to serve and attend to the guests. The Tea Committee deeply thanks all who gave so much of their time and talents to make this event memorable, both members of the society and those wonderful volunteers.

**Glazing and Caulking:** Time and earthly tremors conspired to put some “wrinkles” in four of the window panes at Heritage House. Sun and time also caused some “wrinkles” in the caulking. Now two glaziers have given the windows a new look.

Three windows in the parlor have been repaired. The bathroom window was also replaced. A vinyl UV film will be installed as soon as possible to protect the parlor furnishings.
The new window caulking has given the house a red and white frame around the repaired windows. Guess what is now on the list for repairs during the August House Clean-up Session? Get your paint brushes ready!

But on the positive side, the rattling of glass and the dripping of rain water inside the house will no longer be a concern!

The pump house windows still have some wood problems that must be repaired. Then new caulking will outline those windows.

**Maintenance Reminders:**

Window shades in the kitchen: The window shades in the kitchen are to be left up at all times. Due to problems with the rollers, the shades are kept open and at the proper height at all times. All other shades in the House need to be raised and, then lowered during each tour.

All objects are to remain where you find them. The Conservation Committee may move some items when necessary, but, in general, items need to be in place for all the docents to be aware of the location during tours.

Please mop the floor in the doctor’s office after each tour. The floor was waxed last week and the tours on Saturday made a noticeable impact on the floor. But a quick mop may help maintain the floor. Also please use the mop/dust mop on the wood floors in the parlor and dining room. The dust from outside is covering exposed floor and furniture surfaces daily. Doing a little household maintenance by dusting the hall tree and other flat surfaces before a tour may keep the ire of the domestic goddesses of the 1890’s at bay!

Several dust mops, brooms and a large dust shovel have been removed from the parlor closet. Due to duplication and crowding in
the closet, the items were placed in a corner of the pump house storage area. If these items are needed, you’ll know where they now reside.

**Twilight, Food, and Friends in Arboretum:** Spending time in the summer at the Arboretum in the early evening is becoming a yearly event for the Victorian Society. This year we will gather for a festive potluck and ice cream social on Thursday evening, July 10th. Our guests will be the Nature Guides, who will give tours of the grounds.

So wear your summer whites and traveling shoes. A little outdoor constitutional, followed by food, fellowship and fun, should create smiles on all faces.

Please notify Dana Waite or Nancy Bishop concerning attendance numbers. Bring a savory, as dessert will be furnished.

Additional information will be forwarded soon.

**Date To Remember:**

August, 2014: A Heritage House Clean-up Day will be announced by the Prime Minister. Please mark your calendars, gather your cleaning supplies, paint brushes, liquid refreshments and join ye ole merry band of Victorians, as they sweep, paint, putty, polish, scrub and repair parts of Heritage House.

Month of August: The House is closed to tours.