

# *Around the House*

## *The Victorian Society of Heritage House*

*May 2016*

*Written by Dana Waite*

### *Upcoming Dates to Remember:*

**June 4:** O. C. Historical Society Event-Modjeska/Tucker Wildlife

**June 7:** Privy Council Meeting-Oak Hall, 10 am

**June 9:** Victorian Society Picnic-Arboretum Lawn-Potluck-Games,  
5-8 pm

**June 17:** Safety Class (including fire extinguisher use) - Oak Hall,  
2 pm. All docents strongly encouraged to attend as we  
work toward meeting current CSUF safety standards.

**July 5:** Privy Council Meeting-Oak Hall 10 am

**July 14:** Victorian Society Meeting - Classrooms, 7pm - "Sports and  
Pastimes of the Victorian Era" presented by our Victorian  
Gentlemen - Lupe/Darlene host.

**July 8:** Nature Guides Field Trip - Pacific Marine Mammal Center,  
Laguna Beach. Cost is \$10 to Donna by June 28. Details from  
Nick.

**PLEASE PRINT OUT AND SAVE THE ABOVE DATES!**

*A Note from the Deputy Prime Minister:* Many, many  
thanks to ALL of you who worked so hard to make our annual Tea  
the great success that it was. Guests were thrilled with the beautiful

table décor, the food and beverages and of course, the outstanding program! Yet again this was a “sold out” event, with a waiting list. Once the budget numbers are finalized, we can look forward to a substantial increase in our House Beautiful fund.

Our docents who attended the Orange County Docent League Spring event at the Muzeo experienced a terrific program on early Orange County/Anaheim history, and lots of great tips on the fine points of docenting. A chance to network with other docents from around the county and a beautiful exhibit of fine woodworking completed the day. A major exhibit upcoming (February 7, 2017) at the Muzeo will feature the costumes of Downton Abbey – the only venue on the west coast to do so.

Finally, a bit of Victorian trivia, as reported in The New York Times: the first hair dryer was invented in 1890 by the French stylist Alexander F. Godefroy. The device was a large metal bonnet attached to the chimney pipe of a gas stove, which the user then sat beneath. **Oh, my!**

In Her Majesty's service,  
Carol

*Tea and Comfort Food:* Memories burst from one's flavor buds when a bite of food from a cherished recipe is again available for tasting. At the May meeting the Victorians brought multiple dishes gathered from a loved one's recipe cache. Main dishes, fruit, desserts aplenty were placed before those who attended. A brief story or information describing the source of the recipe accompanied the treat. All truly enjoyed this Memory Feast.

To accompany the feast, Martha Leonard gave a presentation on some of the interesting facts about Mother's Day or Mothers' Day, as

the American Anna Jarvis preferred it be written. Most countries have a designated day to honor Mothers. In England it was called Mothering Day, usually a Sunday when the servants and maids were given permission to bake a cake, leave for home and spend time with their mothers and family.

In America Anna Jarvis asked one to wear a red carnation for a living mother and a white carnation for a deceased mother. Unfortunately her idea of a simple remembrance became, in her mind, a commercial event that overshadowed her original purpose. She was angered by several occurrences, one being raising the price of the simple carnation as the observance date approached. The carnation was her mother's favorite flower. President Wilson decreed that the second Sunday of May would be Mother's Day.

*One of Our Own:* Each year the Friends of the Fullerton Arboretum present the Jorice Maag History Scholarship award to someone who has an interest in history and presenting it to the public. After 20 years ONE OF OUR OWN received the award. Michelle Cadwell Martinez received the scholarship this year. She says we are family to her. She has a digital project she is developing as part of her Masters degree to make history more relevant to younger generations. We are delighted with the choice of the committee. Congratulations Michelle!

*Tea With Guests:* Would you believe the Victorian Society just gave its Sixth Annual Tea? We entertained one hundred eighty- four guests this year. The entertainment from the Amateur Victorian Players was received with laughter and delight, especially when "Mr. Fogg" and "Passpartou" manhandled the elephant across the plains of "India". A very successful event and the Tea Committee is already planning for number SEVEN!

*New To the Society:* Welcome to three new members and future docents. All attended the tea and will find a very happy group of Victorians waiting to include them in all the activities of the Society. Kim and Katie are mother and daughter. Daveta Jo has helped with service at the teas and has sung in a choral group at a previous Christmas celebration. WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME!

*Honoring Past Docents:* It has become our tradition to honor docents who have died by adding a mourning wreath and mourning décor to Heritage House. In June we will again follow this tradition in remembrance of Lynda Schulte. Lynda was a docent in the early years of Heritage House and was a valuable resource in the compiling of the manual and training volunteers. If one reads early papers concerning the house, Lynda's name will be seen frequently. We show our respect for Lynda and her years of service and send condolences to her family.

Docents will be given printed information to explain this Victorian tradition to our visitors.

*The Eagle Scout and Living Heritage House History:*

The Society is not only blessed with eager and helpful docents, it is also being blessed with the youngsters that are related to our stalwart members. Brayden, a candidate for Eagle Scout, is grandson to our Nancy and Les. Brayden recorded Jorice and her remembrances of the saving and reconstruction of Heritage House. Then he met the challenge of recording and preserving the history of the era as it relates to the Clark Family and the House. All this information is on discs and may be viewed and borrowed by docents of Heritage House.

Braydon's Eagle Scout project has helped our efforts to make Heritage House a relevant historical site and has contributed to our efforts to preserve valuable historical information relating to the history of the Fullerton.

*An Empty Porch:* The Porch and Attic Sale was so successful this year that there were only a few items to discard, via thrift store donations. Saturday was the main sale day, but with the \$1 a bag on Sunday, most items were carried away to a new home. The Vintage items were well received by the public. A few Vintage items were placed in the shed to be kept for next year.

Please save any vintage or good quality items for the next year's sale. All the money earned is designated to the House Beautiful Fund and is used to keep our House in grand style. Thank you to all who worked the event and donated.

*Vocorum:* Dirt being blasted outside the bag rather than contained inside the bag caused docents to purchase a new vacuum for the House. Needing an adjustable beater bar for antique carpets and cleaning the wood floors also contributed to the decision to purchase bags and machine. The bag dispenser makes it easy to dispose of the full bag and the adjustment for the beater bar will make it possible to vacuum the silk carpet in the parlor without fear of damage to the threads. Docents may now vacuum all carpets in the residence and any wood floors. You will certainly hear the ping and clatter of tiny rocks and debris, as they are collected for later disposal!

*In Case of Emergency:* Hoping it will never happen, but realizing that one needs to be prepared for all possibilities, we are

having a training class to include using a fire extinguisher and the portable radio system in the Fullerton Arboretum. This training will be presented by CSUF for us at Heritage House at 2:00 pm on June 17<sup>th</sup> in Oak Hall. All docents need to learn emergency procedures and to be prepared for the unexpected.

Besides the safety class we are reminding all docents of the procedure to call for help with an emergency at the House during a tour or event. One must dial the CAMPUS POLICE. The Campus Police will then call for any services deemed necessary. This procedure is designed to prevent “crank calls” by the public. The number for the Campus Police is listed by the phone in the Heritage House office.

If you need to contact reception or the Friends, just dial the last four numbers of their phone number. For example, for the receptionist dial 3407.

*“Valet “Service Needed: Male or female may volunteer.*

Gender is non-specific! A “valet” is needed to direct the refreshment host as to location of items needed to serve refreshments at meetings. The storage location of hot pots, tea, tablecloths and various essentials, plus set-up procedures, will be the domain of this volunteer Victorian. If you are able to come to the monthly meetings by 6:30 p.m. and help those who bring refreshments, please contact Kay or Carol. This is just a once-a-month commitment and is vital to having refreshments at the meetings.