



## CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Diane Angus

"It's beginning to look a lot like normal." (Sing to the tune of "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas"!)

I hope you are as anxious as I am to get back to a new normal life. I'd like to share with you several of the topics discussed at our most recent Board meeting on June 10.

It looks like the historical plaques on Maine Avenue are closer to reality. Our church will receive the first plaque. We hope to place four to five additional plaques on Maine Avenue buildings. Each plaque will have a photo and text etched on a metal surface. This project is funded by a grant from the County.

Our Museum Committee has organized the Vintage Sale for July 23rd and 24th. Prior to the sale dates, workers will meet each Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. You can only imagine the amount of donations we have received, all waiting to be cleaned and priced. We will welcome any and all volunteers. Leave a message at LHS for Yrene Woods if you would like additional information.

July 4<sup>th</sup> will bring the second annual Parade on Maine Avenue. Decorate your vehicle and join in the parade or wave a flag and cheer from your chair. Staging for the parade begins at 10:30 a.m. with the parade starting at 11:30. Contact Barbara Channell at the VFW for details.

Great News! The rodeo is returning for a special performance on August 28. Before the Parade begins, be sure to stop by LHS for breakfast and listen to a free concert in the courtyard. The menu is to be determined by future Covid regulations.

El Monte Park is planning a BIG celebration for their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The tentative date is September 18. LHS will have a display booth with many old park photos. Our own Gary Mitrovich has been working on a publication detailing the story of our beautiful park and valley.

As you can see, LHS and Lakeside are revving up for a great summer. All we need is YOU and your volunteer participation.

### YOUR 2021 LHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CO-PRESIDENTS:** Diane Angus & Gary Mitrovich

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Rob Harding

**SECRETARY:** Catherine Savage Wolpers

**TREASURER:** Gordon Shackelford

**PARLIAMENTARIAN:** Janis Shackelford

Lakeside Historical Society presents

## VINTAGE & COLLECTIBLES SALE

Hosted by the LHS History Museum

**TWO DAYS!!**

Friday, July 23 & Saturday, July 24, 2021

8:00 am to 2:00 pm - BOTH DAYS

**\*\*DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE HEAT - WE'LL BE INSIDE OUR AIR CONDITIONED OLDE COMMUNITY CHURCH\*\***

9906 Maine Avenue in Historic Downtown Lakeside

*Glassware, Hats, Dishes, Jewelry, Notions, Miscellaneous Museum Items & more!*

For more information, call

**(619)561-1886**

**Jewelry**

*Volunteers are still needed for the setup and sale. Contact Yrene Woods or leave your name and number at the LHS business line: (619)561-1886. Thank you!*

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING LHS EVENTS

*Meetings & events are held at LHS History Center unless noted*

**NEXT MUSEUM COMMITTEE:** Thu, Jul 1 @ 10am

**4th of July Parade:** Sun, Jul 4 @ 11:30am

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** Thu, Jul 8 @ 10am

**VINTAGE & COLLECTIBLE SALE:** Fri & Sat, Jul 23 & 24  
*(Setup on July 21 & 22)*

**AUGUST MUSEUM COMMITTEE:** Thu, Aug 5 @ 10am

**WINERY TASTE & TOUR:** Wed, Aug 11, 5:30-7:30pm  
*Trevi Winery, 13010 Muth Valley Rd*

**AUGUST BOARD MEETING:** Thu, Aug 12 @ 10am

**WESTERN DAYS BREAKFAST:** Sat, Aug 28, 7-9:30am

**Western Days Parade:** Sat, Aug 28, 9:30-11:30am

**MUSEUM, GIFT SHOP & ARCHIVES HOURS**  
*Tues, Wed, Thu & Sat - 10am - 1pm*

*CLOSED: Sun, Mon & Fri*

**ARCHIVES OPEN ON WEDNESDAYS**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (619) 561-1886**

## DID YOU KNOW ... *About Lindo Lake?*



*The photo above is from about 1949 or 1950, courtesy of Tom Isom, from the LHS Archives. It shows the Dexter Table in a shaded area overlooking a healthy Lindo Lake.*

### DUSTY RHODES AND THE LAKE

Reflecting on the Dexter Table, my old friend. Just lately I went to the Boat House at Lindo to look at photo perspective angles and I remembered riding bicycles "all over" Lakeside as a youngin'. At the lake we would park our bikes where a cool cement table rested under the trees ... the "Dexter" table. The name Dexter was stenciled (a poured/formed negative concrete stamp) in the "old old" looking cement table. It was really quite something, no other table like it at the park. It even had cement seats upright around it and was octagon shaped as I remember, 45 years ago. What happened to that table? When was it poured in place? Was it just demoed? Who was the instigator of such a nice monolithic pour – Wes Beadle when he planted the Pepper trees? Did John Mansfield have it built? Or John Gay? So many things we don't know about the Dexter Table.

Did anyone realize when they demoed that table that John Dexter was a building superintendent of the 1886

Lakeside Inn construction job? That John's brother Edward came from his last surveying job in the Riverside area to lay out Lakeside's first town plat for the El Cajon Valley Land Company in 1886? (Edward created Maine Avenue and every single lot in town still bears Dexter's first survey in county records.) Moreno Valley was originally called Dexter Valley because John Dexter bought a big parcel there for a ranch in 1886. The train stop was known as the Dexter Platform.

*(If anyone has more information or photographs about this table, please let us know—thanks! —Ed.)*



### LINDO LAKE DIVING PLATFORM?

A few weeks ago, at a regular Wednesday Archives shift, Allene Head Savage told us about a diving platform that used to be on Lindo Lake—and she had a photo to prove it! At left, courtesy of Allene, shows her brothers posing on the unique platform that once floated on the lake. The date is 1929 or 1930 and from left are the Head brothers: Laurie, George, Ernie, and Norman. The signage is obscured, but you can read something at the bottom about "(y)our own risk!" The top line may read WARNING. It's possible the dock was also a boat tie-up. Notice the great swimwear being modeled here as well!

And this brings up another point—swimming in Lindo?



*Courtesy of Allene Head Savage—thanks Allene!!*

**JULY MILESTONES**  
**NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!**

Mike Rakowski  
 John Diehl

**LIFETIME**

Janet & Leslie Quarles  
 Linda Barnet & Douglas Huse

**BUSINESS LIFETIME**

Victoria Smith

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 01 Elizabeth Rowe
- 02 Andrea Gail Van Ness Shields
- 02 Cindy Sullivan
- 03 Sr. Ana Mary Meyer
- 04 Meave Sinclair Hall
- 06 Wyatt Allen
- 08 James "Steve" Reed
- 08 Lois Jeanne Farnsworth Rattray
- 11 Dalene Melville Garrett
- 12 Patricia Walker Nielsen
- 12 Judith Taggart
- 13 Connie Reis
- 13 Jim George
- 13 Bill Jenkin
- 14 Dorothy Wood
- 14 Marjorie Herms Hatcher
- 16 Carol Clarke
- 18 Allene Head Savage
- 19 Andrea Canfield
- 19 Pennie Barrows McMahon
- 20 Roger Howes
- 20 Catherine Green Hansen
- 20 Larry Owen
- 20 George Shaeffer
- 21 Clara Donahoo Schock
- 21 Russell Kanady
- 21 Lisa Sharp
- 22 Charles Kephart
- 22 Sandra Fisher Jabben
- 22 Tammy Brass
- 24 Doreen Baker
- 24 Janis Shackelford
- 26 Dr. John Robuck
- 27 Sherry Golden-Reece
- 28 Dianne Jacob
- 28 Denise Meile
- 31 Claudia Hall Taylor
- 31 Dr. Joseph William Hansen
- 31 Roberta Callaway Perry
- 31 Theodore Sherman
- 31 Rick Sweeney

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- Lakeside Union School District – 98 yrs
- Charles & Joan Oppenheimer Kouns – 62 yrs
- The Grinder (Bob & Margaret Helt) – 58 yrs
- Dick & Claudia Denure – 58 yrs
- Bob & Sharon Clark – 54 yrs
- Richard & Natalie Springer Mates – 53 yrs
- Bill & Leanne Markle – 53 yrs
- William & Adrienne Lostaunau – 48 yrs
- Jeffrey & Leeann Evans Silvis – 45 yrs
- Joseph & Andrea Van Ness Shields – 43 yrs
- David & Karen Kuhn Stephens – 41 yrs
- Tim & Karyn Avazian – 36 yrs
- Brian & Meredith Bowman – 26 yrs
- Timothy & Tamie Webb – 24 yrs
- Larry & Debbie Ziegler Roberts – 8 yrs

# LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## BITS AND PIECES



From Rob Harding: On June 10<sup>th</sup>, the investment in our future was awarded a Presidential gold star for academics – she is bilingual to boot. She is a product of Lakeside schools and is taking her opportunities seriously. I have a feeling we will be seeing more scholastic achievements in the future from Lilyana Chandler, Lakeview class of 2021, our youngest LHS member.

From Pennie McMahon: Thanks to our generous neighbors. On a Saturday in June, Pennie found one of our neighbors, Paul Sprecco, in the museum yard weeding and blowing and cleaning up. He said, "Oh I got caught - hope I'm not offending anyone." Of course not - we are very fortunate to have such a good neighbor! We truly appreciate the Spreccos (Paul's wife also keeps an eye on the church grounds for us). Thanks so much!

Speaking of our grounds, our official "yard boy" – John Swink – has washed down our whole church and museum and garage – including the windows. Thanks for all your hard work, John – the building looks really good!



Gordon Shackelford has been spearheading the "Museum in the Park" project, ably assisted by John Swink and Billy Ortiz. It will be housed at the old LHS site in Lindo Park, near the ranger's office. John put his artistic and woodworking skills together to create a likeness of the new museum as a birdhouse and presented it to Gordon at a recent board meeting in thanks and appreciate for his hard work. (Photo by Pennie McMahon)

*In Remembrance*

**Jerry Aiken Thompson**  
 February 14, 1928 — May 24, 2021

**HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS**

*Official publication of the Lakeside Historical Society since 1980*

**Gary E. Mitrovich, Editor/Head Writer**

Contact: [garyemit@cox.net](mailto:garyemit@cox.net) \* (619)749-3630

*Articles, emails, letters & photos are always welcome*

*Deadline: 2nd Friday of each month*

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Pennie McMahon & the Newsletter Mailing Crew

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## LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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(619) 561-1886  
[www.lakesidehistory.org](http://www.lakesidehistory.org)

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**EMAIL EDITION**

### DOGS IN LAKESIDE HISTORY

#### *A Semi-Comical Canine Historical Perspective*

It is 1891. After a four-hour train ride, the San Diego Cuyamaca and Eastern railway dropped these fine passengers at the Foster terminus. Now the Julian Stage Line is loaded and about to depart for destinations east. The coach driver is Joe Foster himself, founder of Foster Town and former San Diego County supervisor, holding the reins and ready for the next leg of the trip, another eight hours into our local mountains. Apparently, it was cheaper to ride on top of the coach, but you had to bring your own umbrella.

Seeing off the paying ladies and gentlemen appears to be a train conductor (standing on the loading dock in what seems to be an appropriate uniform) and a station dog. The dog may have belonged to Joe Foster or was a local mutt who liked to hang around the depot for a possible handout or a friendly pat on the head.

The railroad had reached Lakeside in March 1889 and was extended to Foster later that year. From there, the stage line headed for the inland communities of Ramona, Ballena, Witch Creek, Santa Ysabel, Wynola, Julian, and Banner. The stage made numerous stops along the way to change horses and feed passengers. A plan to extend the railroad beyond Foster never came to fruition.



### BONUS PHOTO: THE MILLER HOUSE



The "Miller House" was built on the south side of Sycamore Street in about 1920. Our good friend and fellow LHS member Tom Isom tells us his mother, Phyllis Miller, grew up here and he has the photos to prove it. Many family moments were captured in the front yard. Across the street stood such iconic buildings as the Hotel Zeno, Lakeside Meat Market, Post Office, and John B. Rumsey's General Merchandise store.

The county changed the street name to Lakeshore, but the house remains today (though somewhat altered and a little worse for wear). The Maine Avenue Revitalization Association (MARA) has undertaken the task of sprucing up the place. More on that next month.