



### LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday, May 20, 2023**

**11:00 am—Meet with Friends**

**12:00 pm—Picnic Lunch**

**1:00 pm—History Presentation**

***Come join us for a:***

**Picnic Lunch**

Burgers, Dogs, Chips, Salad, Cookies, etc.

\$5 donation – **PLEASE RSVP!**

**History Presentation**

Fred Byle, MTS Supervisor/Manager

*"Logistics & Maintenance of the Railroad in El Cajon"*

**RAFFLE & DOOR PRIZES!**

***Olde Community Church***

***9906 Maine Avenue - Downtown Lakeside***

**CALL 619-561-1886 TO RSVP !**



### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING LHS EVENTS

MUSEUM COMMITTEE: Thu, May 4 @ 10 am

BOARD MEETING: Thu, May 11 @ 10 am

PICNIC LUNCH: Sat, May 20 @ 11 am—2 pm

*Burgers & Dogs—Donation: \$5 per person (Please RSVP!)*

*Presentation: Fred Byle—Local Railroad History*

**COMING IN JUNE**

LIVING HISTORY DAYS: Jun 6—8

Setup: June 5 @ 9am

June 6, 7, 8 @ 8:30am—12pm

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: TBA

**GIFT SHOP, MUSEUM & ARCHIVES**

OPEN: Tues-Thurs & Sat 10 am—1 pm

CLOSED: Sun, Mon, Fri

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

### CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Stacy Hensle*

Spring has sprung! The Society honored all of our great volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, March 25, 2023 with a catered lunch. It was well attended and the day was full of good food, fun times and great laughs. We were entertained by Paul and Joe Sprecco (The Spur-Echoes) with their singing and guitar playing. While they were playing memorable music, local Lakeside caterer Antonio Teller was preparing our lunch, which consisted street tacos and side dishes.

After lunch, Pennie McMahon and Coleen Owens had us compete in several games. The first one was select one person from each table to be wrapped up like a mummy, using toilet paper. The groups really were into it. Some of the tables had very creative mummies. The judges were myself, co-president Gary, Pennie and Coleen. It really was hard trying to pick a winner. The Sprecco table won first place—Joe was decked out as a cowboy mummy, hat and all.

After wrapping the mummies, we moved on to trivia. Coleen read us 20 questions that had 4 choices to pick from. The groups had to quietly discuss the answers between them so other tables couldn't overhear. Some of the questions were quite difficult. The Sprecco table and my table tied, with 8 questions right apiece. We had another 5 questions and we even tied again! We played one last game with M&M's—who could sort out the different colors fastest. And Coleen warned us – **DON'T eat the M&M's! Lots of fun!**

Thank you to Pennie and Coleen for hosting this great event. Also, thanks to Janis Shackelford for helping, and for the beautiful flowers from her yard as table decorations, and to the rest of the folks who contributed to this event.

The following Monday night, March 27, we held our general meeting. It was a great turnout. We had a special guest, Mr. Tom Isom, a longtime resident of Lakeside, who provided updated colorized photos of Lakeside's history, dating back to the late 19th century. Gary Mitrovich put them in a PowerPoint presentation. It was so amazing to see the transformation from black-and-white to color. Thank you to Tom Isom. The color pictures really brought Lakeside to life. We had great desserts provided by Penne Thatcher, who made her special cream puffs and caramels. They were mighty tasty! Thanks again to Penne Thatcher, Tom Isom, Rob Harding and Gary Mitrovich.



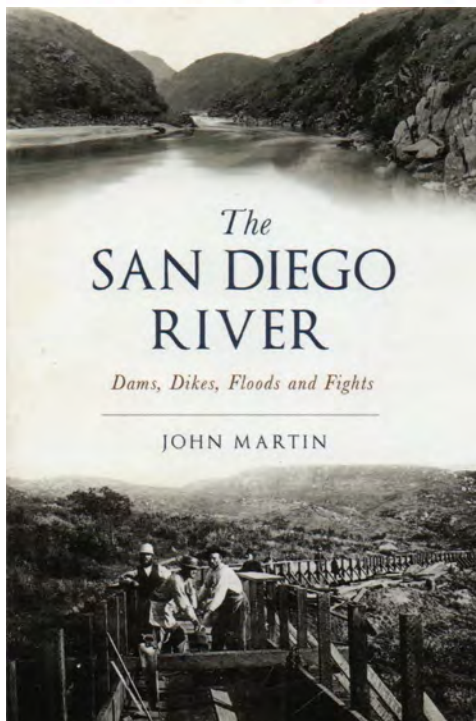
## 1973-2023 - E.C.H.S. GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

*By Rick Hall, Vice President, El Cajon Historical Society*

In 1876, Amaziah Knox built the Knox Hotel for \$1000 and it was the first commercial building in El Cajon. It later became the Knox family house after Amaziah married Illa Birdseye in 1879. They stayed in the hotel business by adding on an annex.

At some point the home was saved and eventually owned by 27 different owners. Prior to 1973, Al Van Zanten, who was a member of the El Cajon City Council and Mayor, along with Rex Dahms and other historically minded individuals, rescued the house, moved it to its present location (corner of Park and Magnolia Avenues), and restored the building.

On June 20, 1973, the El Cajon Historical Society was created as a 501c3 corporation. There is evidence that El Cajon had a historical society prior to 1950, which apparently did not survive. As with many organizations, it is our hope for active involvement from the next generation to continue our mission into the future. (*Congratulations ECHS! —Ed.*)



## NEW LOCAL HISTORY BOOK INCLUDES LAKESIDE

John Martin has a new book out that might interest fans of Lakeside history. "The San Diego River" tells of the battle to control the mercurial waterway, where to dam it, and the many ensuing legal battles. Our own El Capitan Dam plays a central part in this historical saga.

Members may remember John from a few years back, when he presented to us about the battle of where to put El Cap and how Ed Fletcher and John Spreckels were on opposing sides. (See his book, "Dams of Western San Diego County" for that tale.) "The San Diego River" can be found at Barnes and Noble bookstores and on Amazon.

## LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established in 1972

9906 Maine Avenue

Lakeside, CA 92040

(619) 561-1886

[www.lakesidehistory.org](http://www.lakesidehistory.org)

### Executive Officers

Co-Presidents: Stacy Hensle

Gary Mitrovich

Vice President: Rob Harding

Secretary: Cathy Wolpers

Treasurer: Gordon Shackelford

Parliamentarian: Janis Shackelford

General Manager: Pennie McMahon

### Committee Chairs

Archives: Janice McMillan

Grace Parrott

Christmas Shoppe: Pennie McMahon

Design Review Board: Paul Johnson

Facility/Grounds: John Swink

Gift Shop: Pennie McMahon

Greeter/Hospitality: Lee Bost

Honor Bricks: Karen Stephens

Kitchen: Janis Shackelford

Living History Days: Stacy Hensle

Members-at-Large: Coleen Owens

Joan Tilley

Membership: Pennie McMahon

Richard Hensle

Memorials: Barbara Hogue

Museum: Yrene Woods

Newsletter Distribution: Pennie McMahon

Newsletter Editor: Gary Mitrovich

Preservation: OPEN

Publicity: Billy Ortiz

Sunshine: Donna Swink

Volunteer Lunch: Pennie McMahon

Coleen Owens

Webmaster: Katharina Notarianni

## HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

*The official publication of the Lakeside Historical Society (since 1980)*

Gary E. Mitrovich, Editor/Head Writer  
[garyemit@cox.net](mailto:garyemit@cox.net) \* (619) 749-3630

Articles, stories, emails & photos welcome

Deadline: 2nd Friday of the month

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE:

Mikki Balicki \* Rick Hall \* Richard Hensle

Stacy Hensle \* Billy Ortiz

Coleen Owens

Pennie McMahon & The Newsletter Crew

Printed by College Copy Center



## MAY MILESTONES

### NEW MEMBER

Penelope Parks

(Diane Angus' granddaughter)

### BIRTHDAYS

- 5/1 Linda Mclean McGue
- 5/2 Farrie Ann Paul Nichols
- 5/3 Penelope Bigelow Anderson
- 5/6 Ed Grobarek
- 5/7 John Meile
- 5/9 Calvin Bowman, Jr.
- 5/10 Loretta Mitrovich
- 5/10 John Sandoval
- 5/12 Margaret Ann Head Berg
- 5/14 Charles Wesley Brown, Jr.
- 5/14 Lawrence "Larry" Roberts
- 5/15 Elizabeth "Elsie" Clifford
- 5/18 Don Hickie
- 5/19 Terry Clark
- 5/19 Kathy Savage
- 5/20 Len Buckel
- 5/21 M. Gale Ruffin
- 5/21 Verma Smiley
- 5/22 Sally Nelson
- 5/25 Joan Kouns
- 5/25 Janice Kouns Malm
- 5/25 Daniel Morgan Evans
- 5/26 Natalie Springer Mates
- 5/26 Debbie Galusha
- 5/27 Christine Herzog
- 5/28 Martha Kursave Hess
- 5/28 Marjorie Kursave Smith
- 5/29 Larry Taylor
- 5/29 Tom Pendarvis
- 5/29 Shay Smith
- 5/29 Josephine Marie Savage
- 5/31 Rex Anderson, Jr.

### ANNIVERSARIES

- Eugene & Karen Melville - 65 yrs
- Ron & Camille Barker Nielsen - 56 yrs
- Henry & Mary Herms, Jr. - 55 yrs
- Calvin & Margaret Bowman, Jr. - 49 yrs
- Gary & Lois Farnsworth-Rattray - 46 yrs
- Tom & Bev Pendarvis - 43 yrs
- Buddy & Melinda Bowman Brown - 38 yrs
- Joy & Robert Wray - 34 yrs
- Stacy & Richard Hensle - 33 yrs
- Tracy & Janice Kouns Malm - 32 yrs
- McDonald's of Lakeside - 32 yrs
- Cheryl & Dan Chelius - 30 yrs
- Wal-Mart Store #01-22531 - 27 yrs
- Esther & Normand Croteau - 25 yrs
- Stan & Colleen Anderson - 24 yrs
- Cindy & Vincent Sullivan - 23 yrs
- Mary Balicki & Roland Rhodes - 20 yrs



## MARY'S DONUTS OWNER HONORS BETTY McMILLEN

On Friday, April 7, Joel Scalzitti of Mary's Donuts fame unveiled a touching tribute to his friend (and ours), the late Betty McMillen. A wall-sized mural, painted by Lakeside artist David Ybarra, is now displayed on the back wall of the covered patio behind the popular donut shop. It is Joel's way of honoring the longtime Lakeside lady and to thank her for the help and support she offered with MARA, the Maine Avenue Revitalization Association.

The detailed mural includes many local sights—both natural and historical. Included at the top left is a great picture of Betty. The sign is a tribute to her love and dedication to Lakeside—and of Lakeside's love for her. (Photo by Billy Ortiz)

## NEWEST & YOUNGEST LHS MEMBER

Meet Penelope Parks!

Penelope just joined LHS this past April. At 7 years of age, she is now our youngest member. Penelope's grandmother is Diane Angus, former president and longtime member of LHS. In the photo above, Penelope (middle) is proudly showing us her new membership card, flanked by grandma Diane (at left) and member/volunteer extraordinaire Lee Bost (right).

Thanks for your support, Penelope!



## In Remembrance

**DeDe Smith**

*June 13 - March 7, 2023*

**Paul Glowatski**

*April 8, 1944 - March 27, 2023*

*(Husband of Joan Tilley)*

**Robert "Bob" Carlile**

*April 24, 1929 - 2023*



## NEW LAKESIDE LIBRARY OPENS!



That day could not have been any brighter or better for such a long awaited and historic event. On Saturday, March 25, the new Lakeside Library officially opened for business! A large gathering under warm and sunny skies witnessed the ribbon-cutting, highlighted by County Supervisor Joel Anderson and the Lakeside Friends of the Library. It was a long time coming and well worth the wait.

The new library has over 16,000 square feet, with 2,000 square feet dedicated to a community room that can be divided in half. The library's art and theme focuses on the natural beauty of Lakeside. And what greets you as you enter the main doors is a huge picture of historic Lakeside, from the very early 1900's. The image was a gift from LHS, then was blown up and digitally manipulated to look like a wall-sized mural. LHS also loaned a number of historical photos that currently hang next to the mural.

The new library also contains the only bookstore in Lakeside—also thanks to the Lakeside Friends of the Library. If you have not seen it yet, it is time to visit the Lakeside Library (no need to call it "new" anymore, it is now the one and only and something to be proud of.)



*From about 1932, the photo at left is a rare one. This is Maine Avenue looking north from Sycamore (now Lakeshore). The row of buildings is still there. The one at upper right was built in 1912 by Louis Forney and has served many purposes, including the Woman's Club HQ, a branch library, a pharmacy for both John Rocchio and Leo Ward, and Grayson's Music Shop. The Town Hall is next in line, built in 1911 after being financed by many local donors. In 1944, when the Kursave family bought the two-story place, they added a theater marque façade to the front and showed movies for many years. The*

*single story beyond the theater was built as a commercial structure in about 1935. Finally, the two-story building modernly known as J.C. Feed and Supply store was built in 1929 and is currently planned for offices inside, with the exterior planned to remain as is. OF course, that parade is pretty spectacular, with all those horse-drawn carriages and wagons (and that stagecoach!) stretching down Maine Avenue. (LHS Archives)*



**BONUS PHOTOS**

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON FUN**

**March 25, 2023**

*Photographs by Mikki Balicki*



*The Mummy Contest (Winners above)* ↑





**BONUS PHOTOS**

# **WESTERN DAYS BREAKFAST—APRIL 29, 2023**

*Photographs by Stacy Hensle & Coleen Owens*



**SETUP DAY**  
*Left: Vivian Nelson & Barbara Hogue cracking fresh Hilliker eggs.*

*Right: Stacy Hensle, Paula Armstrong, Rich Hegyi, Gary Mitrovich.*



*Left: The calm before the storm.*

*Right: Servers Diane Angus, Cindy Kelly, Michele Silva, Lee Bost.*



*Left: Cathy Wolpers & Candy Cowell in the kitchen. Right: Michele Silva & Stacy Hensle.*

*Below left: The fabulous Tradesmen entertaining us all. Below right: Barbara Hogue, Pennie McMahon & Coleen Owens with a moment to smile.*

