

*Photograph Courtesy of Pasadena Historical Society*

No. 17

May 1985

**WEST PASADENA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
• • •  
**NEWSLETTER**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Wednesday, May 15  
7:30 p.m.

Braun Center for the Performing Arts  
Westridge School for Girls  
324 Madeline Drive

MEET your friends and neighbors  
ENJOY our food and drink  
VOTE for new directors  
WATCH the video "Challenge of the Future"

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Charles Berwanger  
Douglas A. Brown  
Lyn Casani  
Marynette Fauvre  
James Gamb  
David Hotchkin  
Lewis Kimball  
Virginia Kimball  
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Diane Philibosian  
Steven Reyes  
Paul Secord  
Donna Secundy  
Tom Seifert  
Annette Serrurier  
Peg Stewart  
Richard Yadley

**YOU ARE INVITED**

W.P.R.A.'s annual meeting is your opportunity to join us and learn about possible options for the future of Pasadena and the strategic planning which is going on now. Our guest speaker, Judith Weiss, Assistant to the City Manager, will present "Challenge of the Future" and bring us up to date on the work of the Task Force for Strategic Planning.

The election of new directors is also on the agenda. Our annual meeting is a little late this year, but we expect it to be an entertaining and informative way to get involved in the community of West Pasadena. Please join us.

**OFFICERS OF WEST PASADENA  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**PRESIDENT** ..... Richard Yadley  
**1st Vice President** ... George McWilliams  
**2nd Vice President** .... Diane Philibosian  
**Secretary** ..... Annette Serrurier  
**Treasurer** ..... Donna Secundy

## **NOTES FOR WPRA MEMBERS**

### **From Mayor William Bogaard**

In Old Pasadena, construction will be getting underway soon on the first of three parking facilities to support revitalization of this historic district. The party on April 19, marks the beginning of construction on the Marketplace, the entire block at the northwest corner of Colorado and Fair Oaks undergoing restoration by the Original Downtown Pasadena Company. The City is committed to its role in a partnership with Old Pasadena property owners to achieve a vital, profitable and enjoyable retail area.

At the Vista del Arroyo, the date of occupancy for the U.S. Court of Appeals is drawing near. Meanwhile, GSA is completing plans for disposition of the bungalows on terms that will involve restoration for residential purposes. The City is working with the residents of the area to develop mutually satisfactory guidelines for the future of this area. Questions can be posed to Judith Weiss, in the City Manager's office, 818/405-4222.

The Centennial Celebration is being planned by a committee of citizens chaired by John C. Wood and supported by 150 citizen volunteers who want to contribute to the 100th birthday of Pasadena in June 1986. The celebration begins on January 1 and will continue to July 4, 1986.

At the Castle Green, rehabilitation is actively underway, supported by a California State Grant obtained through the efforts of the City. The residents of this historic structure are strongly committed to its preservation and restoration.

As Mayor, I have announced a program at City Hall under which written questions from any citizen will receive a staff response within three business days. Under the program, an index of all constituent questions will be maintained at City Hall and available for review at any time by the Mayor and other members of the City Board. If you have questions or concerns about City issues, please write me at 100 North Garfield Avenue, Room 237, Pasadena, California 91109, or call the Office of the Mayor, 818/405-4311.

## **OPEN HOUSE AT LOCAL SCHOOLS**

If you haven't visited an elementary school lately, here's your chance. May 22nd will be Open House at all public elementary schools in Pasadena. The school for residents west of the Arroyo is San Rafael, located at 1090 Nithsdale. WPRA residents east of the Arroyo attend Linda Vista School, 1259 Linda Vista Avenue.

Classrooms will be open from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at both schools, allowing students to show off their classwork. San Rafael will be holding a book fair in its auditorium at the same time. Visitors are welcome!

## **"OLD PASADENA" SLIDE SHOW AT THE LIBRARY**

Monday evenings at the San Rafael Library continue to be eventful. On Monday, May 6, Linda Dishman will present a slide presentation featuring Old Pasadena at 7:00 p.m.

The new plan to keep the library open one evening a week seems to be successful. On Mondays, the library is open from 1:00 - 9:00 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday hours are 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. The library is closed Fridays.

Passers-by may have noticed the boarded-up front window and wondered what happened to the book drop. It seems that an unfriendly and unknown person dropped a flare into the book drop, causing a small fire. The damage is being repaired.

## **CHANGES IN THE W.P.R.A.**

Our president, Richard Yadley, had to resign for personal reasons, and Tom Seifert has been nominated to succeed him. We are grateful to Richard for his service, and we are pleased that he will continue to be a member of the Board of Directors.

## **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

This issue of the newsletter is very late, and I apologize to all of you who may have wondered what happened. With the change of leadership in the WPRA, we let a few months go by without a meeting. And without the sharing



of concerns and issues which the meetings generate, I didn't have enough information to publish.

We hope that the newsletter will be back on schedule now, which is about four times a year. We try to share the news which directly relates to the West Pasadena area. I'll be happy to hear from you — questions, suggestions, ideas, and even complaints!

Virginia Kimball, Editor  
213/258-3524

## PLEASE COME TO THE BOARD MEETINGS

WPRA board meetings are always open. The schedule for the remainder of this year is as follows:

May 15 . . . . . Annual Meeting (see front page)  
June 19 . . . . . Home of George McWilliams  
July 17 . . . . . Home of Virginia Kimball  
August . . . . . Vacation - No meeting scheduled  
Sept. 18 . . . . . Home of Annette Serrurier  
October . . . . . To be announced  
Nov. 20 . . . . . Home of Tom Seifert  
December . . . . . Holidays - No meeting scheduled

Please call the office of the secretary, 818/798-0951, if you plan to attend.

## MOUNT WILSON TOUR

Pasadena Heritage will host a tour of the Mount Wilson Observatory on Saturday, May 11, 1985 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The program will feature a lecture on the history of Mount Wilson in the auditorium and tours of the Observatory facilities conducted by Mount Wilson Observatory Association volunteers.

A picnic on the grounds with a box lunch is included. The cost of the tour is \$12.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members. Reservations are necessary and are limited. Tour guests should plan to arrive at 10:00 and return around 3:00.

It is possible to arrange bus transportation if enough people are interested. There will be an additional charge of about \$5.00 a person. To reserve a place or for additional information, please call the Pasadena Heritage office at 818/793-0617.

## NEWS ABOUT THE OLD COLORADO BRIDGE

### Steering Committee for Colorado Bridge

Gerald Lehmer, a local structural engineer, has been appointed recently to represent W.P.R.A. on a Steering Committee to oversee the repair and rehabilitation of the Old Colorado Bridge.

Residents may recall that several years ago, upon learning that the Old Colorado Bridge might be facing demolition, W.P.R.A. joined with the City of Pasadena and the Atlantic Richfield Foundation to fund a study of the endangered landmark. The study presented information about the repair of the bridge but indicated that the rehabilitation costs would be quite high. Fortunately, the Bridge Repair and Replacement Act was approved by Congress and federal dollars became available for the repair of the nation's historic bridges. Our Colorado Bridge, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is a local landmark, is likely to receive federal funds for repair and restoration. The Steering Committee includes representatives from the City of Pasadena, the consulting firm of De Leuw Cather, the Cultural Heritage Commission, the Design Committee, W.P.R.A., the Linda Vista Neighborhood Association, the East Arroyo Neighborhood Association, and Pasadena Heritage. The Committee has met several times with representatives from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Federal Highways. The goal of the Steering Committee is to oversee the appropriate repair of the Colorado Bridge while not compromising its architectural integrity.

The Steering Committee will be involved directly with the community through a series of public meetings and hearings which will be scheduled to discuss the various alternatives for repair and maintenance of the Bridge. W.P.R.A. will be notifying its members of the public meetings.

## THE COLORADO BRIDGE PARTY

Alan Thompson, Chairman of Pasadena Heritage, has announced that July 13, 1985 is the date set for the fourth party on the Colorado Bridge. The fund raiser, held every other year,



promises marvelous food, music, dancing, entertainment, and sunset over the Arroyo Seco.

As noted elsewhere in the newsletter, extensive renovation of the Bridge is planned for 1986 and thus this celebration on the historic bridge will be the last bridge party on the "original" structure.

If you wish to be added to list to receive an invitation, please call Pasadena Heritage at 818/793-0617.

## A NEW FLUTE FOR SAN RAFAEL SCHOOL

Thanks to the generosity of Warren Ryan, San Rafael School has a new flute. The flute which disappeared about ten years ago has never been located. The orchestra, revived a year and a half ago, is sounding better and better. At present, the flute is being played by a third grade girl with a keen interest in music. Her family could not afford to rent or buy an instrument, and there were no flutes available for rent from the school district, so the San Rafael flute is just right for her. Mrs. Janitta Keck, San Rafael's instrumental music teacher, says that the little girl is making terrific progress and so is the orchestra. Thank you, Warren Ryan!

## OUT TO DINNER IN PASADENA HAMBURGERS FOR A CROWD



Have you ever waited in line for a ride at Disneyland or Magic Mountain? You remember. You're directed single file by fences or ropes in a series of switchbacks designed to keep people in an orderly line in the smallest

possible space. Crowd control is the objective.

If you want to sample what is billed as the "world's greatest hamburger," you'll find yourself standing in a crowd control line. But instead of fences, there are cases and cases of beer to guide you on your way to the clean cut kids waiting to take your order.

The evening we tried Fuddruckers — that's right, Fuddruckers — it wasn't very crowded. But the crowd control system was in operation, complete with loudspeaker. When we tried to make sense out of the menu and submit our order, the waiter asked for a first name and last initial. My husband automatically gave them the last name. After some clarification, we paid the bill, picked up our drinks, and sat down at a table to wait for the rest of the order.

It wasn't a pleasant wait. Conversation was difficult. Each time someone began to say something, the loudspeaker would blare, "Stanley F., your order is ready. Stanley F." or "Mary G., your order is ready. Mary G." And so on. Even after we finally heard, "John K., your order is ready. John K.," it was impossible to ignore the announcements, spaced about ten to thirty seconds apart. There didn't seem to be that many people in Pasadena, let alone in Fuddruckers.

The hamburgers were delicious, and they claim to make them from scratch on the premises. No, there weren't any cattle out back, but the entrance is between a glass-walled meat locker and a bakery with trays and trays of buns and other goodies. We sampled the brownies on the way out and they were okay if you like the flavor of cardboard, but the meat and buns were terrific.

Fuddruckers is on the eastern edge of Pasadena, 3883 Foothill Boulevard. It's part of a chain which originated in San Antonio Texas. If you want to sample the world's greatest hamburgers, I have three words of advice: Order To Go.

Virginia Kimball

## CONDOS ON THE ARMORY PROPERTY?

The City Manager's Office is working with neighbors of the armory near the Vista del Arroyo to consider a proposed land exchange between the Army and the city-owned rifle range near Eaton Canyon. The exchange could lead to development of the present armory site (and the Vista del Arroyo bungalows).



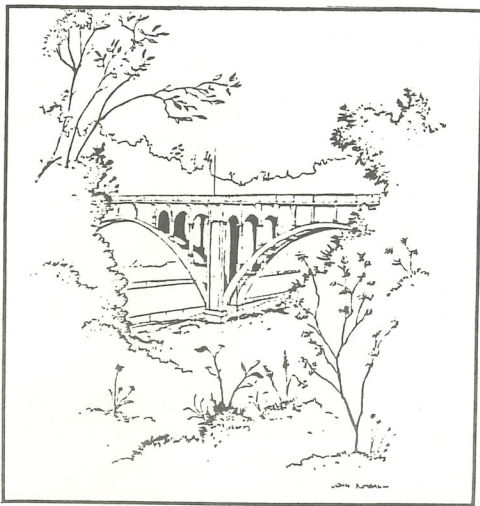
A series of meetings was launched April 17th to allow neighbors to work with the city in developing an appropriate plan. For more information, call Judith Weiss, 405-4222.

## WATCH OUT FOR THE BAD GUYS

Your Neighborhood Watch group will probably be interested in the newest presentation of the Crime Prevention Unit of the Pasadena Police Department. It's all about personal safety — keeping safe from street crimes such as purse snatching, robbery, rape, etc. To set up a presentation for your group, have your block captain call Susan Brown Campbell, 818/405-4551.

If your block hasn't organized yet, it just takes one willing person to call a meeting of the neighbors and invite the Crime Prevention Unit (at the above number) to help you get organized. Neighborhood Watch is a program which has proven its effectiveness. The Police Department will explain what to watch for, the neighbors will get to know one another, and if anyone sees anything suspicious, he or she calls the police. It's based on the concept of neighborliness, and it works.

## THE ARROYO FINDS FRIENDS



*The Arroyo Seco extends from the southeast slope of Strawberry Peak, two miles north of the head of the west fork of the San Gabriel River . . . to the confluence with the Los An-*

*geles River.*

So did Charles Lummis describe the Arroyo Seco when he founded the Arroyo Seco Foundation in 1885, and a similar description has been adopted 100 years later by the current Friends of the Arroyo Seco in defining their own area of interest.

Throughout the late 1960's and the decade of the 1970's the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena seemed to be constantly under seige. Despite official studies and well-intended resolutions — all stating the importance of preserving and protecting the Arroyo Seco — public lands in the Arroyo were leased, sold and developed at an accelerating pace. Private use of park lands along with the growing, intense use of the Rose Bowl and its impacts on nearby neighborhoods and other park users, brought the Friends into existence.

The Friends were first involved in land use issues. Eventually they participated in and helped guide the process which led to the development of the Arroyo Seco Ordinance which now controls the use of all public lands within the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena.

In the fall of 1984, at the request of Mayor William Bogaard, a group of interested residents met to discuss the formation of a permanent Arroyo support organization. They decided to continue the name of Friends of the Arroyo Seco, and to carry out a series of projects designed to increase the public's awareness and involvement in the Arroyo Seco, and to preserve and restore the natural environment of the Arroyo Seco.

In December of 1984, the Friends helped secure for the City of Pasadena a grant of \$67,000 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, a state agency. The grant will be used for equestrian trail improvements, restoration in the area of the old archery range below California Boulevard, and the creation of a low flow, bypass stream running south from the Colorado Street bridge to the hill below La Casita del Arroyo on the east side of the flood control channel.

The Friends have begun to plan other projects: an interpretative guide to native plants, wildlife and local Arroyo history; restoration in the reservoir area north of Devil's Gate dam; and property easements to protect endangered slope banks. Next year the Friends plan a major tree planting project in the Arroyo on Arbor Day, and an "art in the Arroyo" program in association with a local children's art organization.

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West Pasadena  
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Several weeks ago the Friends sponsored a picnic in the Lower Arroyo. Over 100 persons attended, and they were treated to nature and bird walks, a talk on local Indians, trail rides and wildlife displays for children, a tour of the low-flow project, and a fly casting demonstration. A coast live oak was planted in tribute to the plant restoration work done in the Lower Arroyo by Roland Case Ross.

If you are interested in learning of future activities of the Friends, or want to offer your help or services, they would be pleased to hear from you at Friends of the Arroyo Seco, c/o George McQuilkin, 250 South Arroyo Boulevard, Pasadena, 91105.

## ADVISORY BOARD

Willilam J. Bogaard, Mrs. Bryant R. Burton (Dory), Mrs. John C. Chulay (Lloyd), Peter Brown Dolan, Everett B. Clary (Bud), Norman P. Clement, Mrs. J. Lawrence Judy (Ann), Charles P. McKenney, Thomas E. Parrington, Stevens Weller, Jr., Willard W. Wheeler, Jr. (Bill).

## BOUNDARIES FOR THE WEST PASADENA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The boundaries of WPRa are:  
West Colorado on the north  
Fair Oaks on the east  
South Pasadena boundary on the south  
City of Los Angeles/Eagle Rock boundary on the west.