

# Carlsbad Time Lines

Q4 2020

*Carlsbad Historical Society*

## President's Letter

This is the last newsletter of the year, and who would have guessed what a year 2020 has been! Included in our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter newsletter you will find three letters from members on how this Covid 19 pandemic has impacted their lives. Please consider sharing your own experiences to be included in our archival records.

After more than 60 years our Carlsbad landmark power plant is in the dismantling process. You'll see a few photos and we hope to continue sharing photos of this historic process in future newsletters.

With our museum closed since March, our docent has had the time to scan thousands of negatives from the defunct Oceanside Blade Citizen newspaper. These photo negatives covered news stories that were reported during the 1980s. Lots of treasures were found, such as the time Science Fiction author Ray Bradbury spoke at Carlsbad High School, or Elliot Gould filming the Disney movie "The Devil and Max Devlin" in La Costa. We are currently sharing these photos on the Carlsbad Historical Society Facebook page.



*Eliot Gould at the Carlsbad Racetrack*

Some more great news, we are reopening the Carlsbad Historical Museum on a limited basis Saturday and Sunday, from 12:30-2: 30. We are following the San Diego County Health Department protocols, so masks are required, and the number of visitors is limited to 4 at one time. The

reduced hours are in response to needing time to sanitizing the museum. Visitors will be restricted from using the restrooms, and will follow a one way path through the museum, entering by the Beech Street door, and exiting through the Ocean Street side door. At this time we will not be reopening the barn.

So spread the word among your friends and acquaintances that we are open again to the public and check out our photos on Facebook .

Sue

## Carlsbad History Highway

The Carlsbad Historical Society is reaching out to the general public by presenting virtual discussions on Carlsbad history topics on the 4th Monday each month from 10–11 a.m.

Anyone can travel down Carlsbad's History Highway from the comfort of their own home by signing up for these presentations hosted through the City of Carlsbad's Virtual Center. The presentations have been very well received and attendance numbers are impressive. This is a great way to share our love of Carlsbad history.

To register for these virtual programs:

- Go to [www.carlsbadconnect.org](http://www.carlsbadconnect.org)
- On top right corner click Login/Create Account
- Adults 50+ tab from the options.
- Select the class Carlsbad History Highway.
- Once registered you will receive an email the evening before the class is scheduled as well as one hour prior to the start of the class.

You'll just click on the link provided in the email to access the discussion.

Schedule:

October - The Shipley Family and the importance of the founding of St. Michaels

November - The Kelly Family

December - Carlsbad Tourism

**Annual Meeting and Election**

A new first for us, our 2020 Annual Meeting was held virtually on Sunday, October 18 at 2 pm through a Zoom Meeting. The 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes were read and voted upon. Election Results were announced for the 2021-2023 term beginning January 2021. The Officers elected were: Susan Gutierrez, President; Germán Gutierrez, Treasurer; Virginia Unanue, Secretary.

**From the Archives**

John Aldridge Frazier- 1833-1899

Frazier discoverer of the Carlsbad Mineral Water Well

John Frazier was born in Rhode Island, and was a twin to Elizabeth Frazier. He came from a seafaring family and embarked on his own nautical travels at the age of 13 when he shipped out with his uncle. He served for about 14 years at sea, and ended his career in 1860 when he arrived in San Francisco, where he married. Frazier spent a few years in Sacramento and possibly worked in the nearby mines. By 1881, he had purchased 126 acres from homesteader Lafayette Tunnison. He dug for and found water near the newly laid train tracks, and the rest is history! His place became known as Frazier’s Station but this was soon to change when he sold his land to Gerhard Schutte, Samuel Church Smith, Henry Nelson and Henry Wadsworth, and they established the Carlsbad Land and Water Company. Frazier hired on as General Manager of the newly established hotel and health spa hotel.

In addition to Frazier’s seafaring and discovery of water, we list his founding of the Good Samaritan Mission in Los Angeles, prospecting for gems and minerals in east San Diego County and serving as U.S. postmaster in Vista California.



*On the right is the Frazier Station, next the four story Carlsbad Hotel, and on the left the Wadsworth house (the twin of Schutte’s house, a block away)*

**Covid Letters**

Letter to the Historical Society From Sue Ladouceur

Historically speaking, this pandemic of 2020 has been a real challenge. But then, I just realized that the Covid-19 moniker is not the most recent virus after virus #18, but stands for the year 2019 of which it first appeared! To say I am behind the times is an understatement. I, personally, would much rather be living in 2019 over again instead of doing this 2020 in slow motion. Now all the quarantine we so faithfully followed with no family and no direct contact with friends is all for naught. And we have to start over now since some didn’t take it seriously the first time. To say some of us are slow learners is another understatement.

Oh, well, We did learn to be creative in the kitchen and garden and Facebook for teaching us how to grow veggies. Top off the tail of the romaine lettuce, plop it under the earth and voila, up grows more lettuce. And I am now more frugal. Eating up leftovers has become the goal before penicillin enters the food chain. We have also learned to supplement and extend 2 hotdogs by dicing them up small and adding them to leftover noodles with a dash of katsup! Oh, clever non-cook that I am. And my audience of one-husband Peter, always raves about the concoction because there is always his turn as an alternative. And fortunately, for all who have sampled his cooking night- pickles are the prime ingredient- better than katsup perhaps.

So, as you can see, acquiring and processing food and toilet – paper (not to eat) has been a prime obsession in our house. Other preoccupations are July 2020 Carlsbad Historical Society gardening, and that means daily haircuts of all plant life in the backyard. If the virus lasts another 6

months, we may be sporting desert décor in the backyard. Other respites from the day, while eating lunch in the back 40 (food again) include watching butterflies, and hummingbirds and our favorite lizards that live under the umbrella stands. They actually came with names -Louie, Jake #1 and Jake #2. Jake #2 does push ups to look buff. Maybe something we should be doing, hint, hint!

Thank you technology. We have TV and cell phones and facetime and zoom to bring news (mostly dreadful) and family into our living room and sometimes bathroom. We see each other making meals and art, watching movies and Netflix. We see haircuts and weight loss, and gain, Oh, Dear! And we get hugs and kisses from afar and that has become enough, almost. We read, We write, We do art, We don't clean so much, always something more fun on the to do list. Have yet to clean out the garage. Guilt. No, no guilt. We are dealing with a pandemic, for heaven's sake. Give us some slack.

We gaze at the night sky a lot. WE grieve. We are afraid. We hug., silently. WE have forgotten how to converse. We must practice. We thank the gods for our neighbor friends for months of shopping and cookie dough and avocados and surprise hellos across the street. WE are alone but not. Because we are all in this together. Happy or not, we must be survivors. Finding ways to use a 5 lb. bag of carrots before they spoil. Finding ways to not waste this precious time. There is always peanut butter and jelly!

To all- stay safe and well  
Sue R. Ladouceur

Letter from Marge Howard Jones

Four months in and all is well. I am happy at home with my little dog, my sweet daughter just next door and constant contact with friends and family near and far. My main concern is the rest of the world! I miss going out to lunch but feel sad for all the places no longer operating, not to mention waste of food and energy. I don't understand the resistance to mask wearing and other precautions. I really don't expect our usual routines to ever return, so I wonder if all this down time could be put to use thinking up, and planning alternate ways of life. As a start, after cleaning out cupboards and closets, perhaps consider what's really needed, as compared to what's wanted...or vice versa! That's what's keeping me buzzing..and tossing...and re-appreciating things I forgot i even had! Carolyn (daughter) keeps the bird feeder full and I watch those little

rascals goggle it up in less than half a day...so nature is carrying on and we will,too.

Oh, almost forgot: the best thing in my life last week was the streaming on Disney+ of "Hamilton", the Broadway musical. It is just wonderful in so many ways...and especially timely for right now...a true gift to us all! Stay well..

Letter from G. Gutierrez

Before the pandemic started I had been busy studying microbiology and genetics by viewing online courses from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). They have some world leaders in the field. Then I switched to a course from Columbia University, given by virologist Vincent Racaniello. It turned out that the 2020 version of his course was being broadcast on Youtube as the pandemic developed. Mr. Racaniello kept updating the class on what was happening and predicting some outcomes. It is very complicated but one valuable lesson from studying viruses is that it allowed scientists to better understand how cells work. This is because a tiny DNA or RNA virus is capable of taking control of a cell with a much larger DNA; so it had to be using some good tricks.

Coronaviruses have a fairly large DNA, and that is bad news because it means that they have a lot of capabilities to fight our defenses. They also use error correction molecules when they duplicate, but this is good news because it means they will not mutate in bizarre ways.

**Another picture from our recent scans**



*Stagecoach Park dedication ceremony - Can you identify any of the people in this picture? Please email us.*

## Power Plant Dismantling

The Encina Power Station in Carlsbad has begun its slow dismantling. Cranes have been removing structures from the roof and concrete panels from the back. The front of the plant is covered with scaffolds and shows partial dismantling. Only two items will temporarily remain untouched: the seawater pumps and the smokestack.

The pumps are needed to provide water to the Poseidon Desalination plant, which sits south and east of the plant. Replacement pumps are to be installed this year.

The 400 foot tall smokestack cannot be taken down at this time because antennas used by the SD County Sheriff's Department, as well as the Carlsbad Police Department, are mounted on it. Once a new communication system is installed the smokestack will be gradually dismantled. There was an effort to preserve the stack as a landmark, but this effort has failed.

Local residents have noticed the low noise coming from the new fast-start power plants, particularly this summer that we had unusual heat waves, requiring more energy for air conditioning.

The old plant was over 65 years old, having been completed in 1954. The tall smoke stack was added in 1978 to replace four smaller stacks. The new power plant supplies a little over half of the power of the older plant, but turns on and off much faster. The new plant provides a little over 500 Megawatts of power.



*Scaffolds on the front face of the Power Plant are used to remove concrete panels (CHS- GG)*



*Five small smoke stacks are part of the new power plant East of the old Encina Power Station (NRG Energy photo).*

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Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11 to 3 pm.  
 Private Tours with Tea are given  
 Monday through Thursday  
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
[www.carlsbadhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.carlsbadhistoricalsociety.com)



*Panels have been removed from the back of the Power Plant (CHS-GG)*