

STEP BACK IN TIME – VISIT HISTORIC MAGEE HOUSE

**258 Beech Street
Carlsbad, CA 92008
Open Friday 12:00-4:00 and Saturday 1:00-5:00
Private Tours with Tea are given on Tuesday and Thursday
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Phone: 760-434-9189**

**E-mail: cbadhistory@yahoo.com
Web site: www.carlsbadhistoricalsociety.com**

The Magee House was built in 1887 by Samuel Church Smith, one of the founders of Carlsbad. It was later donated to the City of Carlsbad by Florence Shipley Magee. Furnished with antiques of the period the house contains exhibits concerning the history of Carlsbad.

Victorian Teas a Tasty Success

Ginny Unanue has reported that the 4 to 8 teas served each month at Magee House earned approximately \$1,000 last year. The teas are a delicious way to introduce friends from in or out of town to Carlsbad History. Tea is served on Tuesday and Thursday, for reservations call 434-9189.

Board of Directors Meetings

Starting March 15 meetings will be held the third Tuesday of every other month at 4 p.m. Meetings are held at the Magee House with members welcome.

History of the Carlsbad Historical Society

By Marge Howard-Jones

Once upon a time, 30 years ago, the Twin Inns (now Neiman's) was the place for important Carlsbad events. Therefore it was entirely appropriate that on July 18, 1975 Mayor Robert Frazee summoned significant old-timers to a dinner to launch the Carlsbad Historical Society as a part of the town's Bicentennial Celebration. Chris and Kay Christiansen, Allan O. Kelly, Manuel Castorena and Dolores Hutflesz were among the charter members who then began monthly breakfast meetings at Denny's to invite others to join the fun. Those gatherings were notable for major "raconteuring" with Chris providing

the lead-in, and further embellishments from Allan or Manuel. Their memories of the good old days were what the meetings were all about.

Talk became action when the City provided a room or two at the Magee House, for Displays of old furniture, paintings and other artifacts; this arrangement has gradually expanded to our present occupancy of the entire house! At the same time, led by the Christiansens, the Historical Society re-roofed the barn and helped with the refurbishment of the then vacant Santa Fe Depot. In 1976 a Time Capsule containing items of current common use was planted in front of the Magee House to be opened in 2076. Later on, when the original sanctuary of St. Patrick's Catholic Church was threatened to be a practice site for the Fire Department, the Carlsbad Friends of the Library raised funds and the Historical Society coordinated its move from Harding St. to Magee Park.

As membership has grown, we have been able to sponsor community events, such as tours of historic residences and significant downtown structures, porch parties at the Magee House and providing hot dogs and other refreshments at the TGIF Jazz Concerts. The annual Third Grade tours for Carlsbad children has been a major effort that reaches many families, as children report back to their parents about the old phonograph, fancy clothes and many cat figurines that they have seen at the Magee House.

The Historical Society's current effort is the complete restoration of the barn, with new

roofing to protect the artifacts ready to be displayed inside.

Ten Thousand years in Carlsbad

AnneMarie Cox will give a power point presentation with artifacts on Saturday, April 16 at 10 a.m. in the Cole Library Community Room. AnneMarie Cox is with the San Diego Archaeological Center. There is no charge for the event.

We are an Exclusive Group

By Joyce Smith

How many people do you know who were born, raised, educated, married, employed, and raised a family in the same community? I'm one such person.

I feel fortunate to have been a student in the Carlsbad School kindergarten through eighth grades during the years 1934-1943.

The original Carlsbad school of the 1890's was rebuilt in the 1920's. Later the name changed to Pine Avenue School when it was rebuilt in the 1950's. The Pine Avenue School was also added on to in later years but the two original buildings when torn down in 1988. For a few years Pine was used as the city Junior High, grades 6-8 until the Valley Junior High was built and the sixth graders were in the Elementary Schools. Yes, Carlsbad has grown.

I started kindergarten in 1934. The building being used for the kindergarten was originally the Women's Club Building and located at the corner of pine and 4th St.. The school district purchased this building years later and had it moved across the street in order to be near the other school buildings. This building was also used as the school cafeteria-multipurpose building. The community also used this building for programs of all natures.

The two buildings erected in the 1920s were the Administration, classrooms, etc. in the one building and the other totally classrooms called the Schutte Building. Mrs. Hattie Schutte was the first full time teacher for the Carlsbad Schools. This building had 7 classrooms; one used as first/second combined, one straight second, one third, one fourth, one fifth, and two for the Spanish speaking learning English. All of the students in grades 6-8 were in the classrooms in the administration building.

In the early 1950s more buildings were added to the campus at Pine Avenue, moving the kindergartens to a new location which later was used for other grades as Carlsbad built new schools and these eventually became k-6 schools. Yet, still later the original buildings were declared unsafe for students and became the District Administration Buildings. The Carlsbad Unified School Administration Building is no longer located on the Pine Avenue Campus.

There's a soft spot in many local hearts for "our school." The City of Carlsbad now owns the

property and will be building the Pine Street Park on the campus and already has the Senior Center Building there. This is a wonderful tribute to the citizens for years to come.

Half a Century in Carlsbad Schools

By Ginny Unanue

I have a unique perspective of Carlsbad Schools. I spent fifty-two years in them, both as a student and teacher. That's more than half a century.

Carlsbad, fifty years ago, was a wonderful place to grow up. Part of that was due to the schools, and the education we received. I can still name most of my elementary and junior high school teachers to this day. Jefferson school was built for primary level students after I was through the primary grades, as Carlsbad grew. My two brothers, and later on, my two sisters attended there, as well as the Pine School.

Agatha Brokenshire was my kindergarten teacher. She was the wife of Roy Brokenshire, the minister at the Union Church, now Carlsbad Community Church. I still remember running up to her the first day of kindergarten, and asking her if we were going to learn to read that day! She was wonderful, and I had the remarkable pleasure of teaching with her on the staff one year.

Buck Midlestedder drove the school bus, which took me to Kindergarten. After that we walked, for all the years that I can remember

including high school. Dr. Glines was the Superintendent and the Principal as well, until Hank Meier became Principal. All these teachers were truly dedicated people.

Junior high school grades were still at Pine School (Valley would be built a number of years later, when my two younger sisters attended there). Rusty Mills, Fred Huntington, Pat Donahue, Patsy Peabody, Bruce McIntyre, Ray Waters and Iva Dyke helped us through those difficult preadolescent years, bless their hearts.

Of course Carlsbad High School wasn't built until my second year of high school. We went to Oceanside-Carlsbad High School until, due to increasing population, Carlsbad High School was built. I was in the third graduating class at CHS, and as I recall there were some eighty-some students in our class. How different it is today!

The teachers mentioned, plus many left unmentioned, are a large part of the reason I became a teacher. They were such role models! I was blessed to be a teacher employed by Carlsbad while many of them were still teaching.

I taught for thirty-eight years here, in two different schools. At Magnolia I began and ended my career, and I was at Pine School for eighteen years. I was privileged to be working with the finest teachers to be found. They may have had equals in the educational world, but certainly none were, or are, better.

Carlsbad has always been proud of its schools, and the students we educate. Our record is among the best, and many who move here tell us it's because of our

schools. It is one of my greatest sources of pleasure to see how my former students have grown, and what wonderful people they've turned out to be. Several of my own former students are now teaching here, and that is very rewarding. I'm confident that far into the future, Carlsbad will continue to stand for excellence in educating its children. I'm so grateful to have been a part of that group of students and the men and women who taught them.

Third Grade Tours

By Marge Howard-Jones

Nine schools, 40 classes and ten docents...Those are the magic numbers for this year's third grade local history walking tours, that visited the Magee house March 14 through April 8. Responding to lessons learned from the tours of the past, veteran teachers Ginny Unanue and Florence Welch created a three part tour, to allow each class to be divided into three smaller groups that could rotate separately through the Magee House, Museum and Barn.

Docents donned white gloves to encourage the children to explore with their eyes only and to be sure to notice all the cat figurines that are reminders of Mrs. Magee in the house. The Timelines and archeological exhibits in the museum reminded the children of all the people who have lived in Carlsbad for many centuries while the barn, cistern and outhouse recall a local lifestyle very different from our own.

Docents were; Susan Gutierrez, Laurie Boone, Mig Chaney, Phyllis Demy, Marge Howard-Jones, Sue Ladouceur, Margie Monroy, Joyce and Hubie Smith, Ginny Unanue, and Florence Welch.

All classes were given copies of the children's local histories, featuring "Beckett" the cat, written by Susan Gutierrez and Ann L'Heureux. Classes were also given video's of "Anyone Can Be A Hero," a youth production of several years ago featuring people and events from Carlsbad's history. Students also will be able to use the tour to prepare entries for the "Drawing on Carlsbad's Past" contest sponsored by the Carlsbad Historic Preservation Commission.

Tea Servers Wanted

If you are interested in training to serve tea at the Magee House, contact Ginny at 760-439-0197. It is an enjoyable experience for all who come.

Silver Flatware Needed

If you have any silver flatware, we could use it. We have a service for twelve, but have been asked to take up to twenty people. As of now, we bring other silver flatware from home.

Linens Needed

We are in need of tablecloths, with or without napkins for the newer card tables. Also needed are round tablecloths for our dining room table. If you have any of these linens, and would like to donate them, it would be greatly appreciated.

Life at Jefferson Elementary School

By Joyce Smith

Carlsbad Unified School District didn't happen until 1970. It was just Carlsbad School District grades K-8, and our high school students attended Oceanside-Carlsbad Union High School in Oceanside. We were transported by a couple of school buses going to and from school daily.

I'm a native "Carlsbadian," born, raised, and still living in Carlsbad. I was married, raised two children and also became an employee of the Carlsbad School District. In 1954 I applied for a job as an elementary school secretary with minimal experience and qualifications. I think my biggest qualification was being a community citizen and acquainted with many of the families. We were a small but growing town and school district. I was hired and went to work in July 1954 as secretary of the Jefferson Elementary School. At the time I was a young, single mom with children to support. I had a lot to learn and was afraid because I didn't have a college education. I became a fast learner and was able to keep up with the necessary roles the school secretary needed.

At the time Carlsbad was a very fast growing, new city. Jefferson was the second school in town with seven classrooms, grades 1-3 on double session. The office building was the teacher's workroom, nurse, principal, and secretary's office. The

other grades were still in session at the Pine Avenue School.

Most of the classes had at least thirty-five students at the time. We had an overlap of classroom time-teaching time-so the students brought their lunches. I sold milk that was delivered to the school each morning and most of the students took advantage of this. The students had to bring a nickel for this daily and I had to account for it each day.

In those days a large percentage of the students rode buses to and from school. One of my duties was to help type the bus schedules and hope every student got home safely. The first week of school there were always problems and many phone calls.

The school secretary had a name-"jack of all trades and others." We didn't have aides and school

nurses were also County nurses that went from school to school. We had to know first aid and that was used often. At times you were a teachers helper, playground supervisor, took sick children home if need be, and took care of teacher supplies and many other things. I remained secretary for 34 years. There were a couple of aides but for the special projects in school. The school grew and changed several times during my time, and the school district became unified. There is more to be told about working at Jefferson and the school in the district. I'll leave that for another time.

Carlsbad High School

Although the cornerstone was laid in September 1957, the building was not ready for occupancy until February 17, 1958. On that day, according to Windows on the Past by Susan Gutierrez, a parade of buses and cars made their way from Oceanside to the Carlsbad border led by the Oceanside Police. The Carlsbad Police assumed parade leadership past the Army and Navy Academy whose band played a welcome home song. All the cadets stood at attention, a difficult task because of the mooning by a carload of Carlsbad High School students.

Historical Society the Beneficiary of an Extraordinary Legacy

Joan Walker, Assistant Principal at Carlsbad High School, left her home and all of its contents to Nan Leighton who worked for her and was a great friend. In turn Nan has become a friend of the CHS and is giving everything that related to the High School to the society.

Among the school related memorabilia are yearbooks, newspapers, and photographs. The yearbooks reside at the Magee House.

Dues increase \$10 for each category except students. For the first time since 1976 the CHS Board of Directors has voted to increase annual dues \$10 per category in an effort to stay even with budget and even become a money-making operation. Student fees will remain at \$5 to encourage interest on their part.

Carlsbad Historical Society Membership Application
P.O. Box 252
Carlsbad, CA 92018
760-434-9189 cbadhistory@yahoo.com

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number () _____

Email Address _____

Individual \$25 _____ Family \$35 _____

Student \$5 _____ Lifelong \$250 _____

Business \$45 _____

Yes I would like to volunteer, call me regarding

_____ Membership	_____ Tours
_____ Display Committee	_____ Publicity
_____ Docent	_____ Fund Raising

