

Around the House

The Victorian Society of Heritage House

January, 2012

Greetings for the New Year of 2012!
May it be a year of growth and friendship for our Society!

Dust Free Dust Catchers: Memorabilia can recall a wonderful memory, place, person, and/or event. But it can also mean lots of dust! In my case the dust catchers are related to British Royalty.

After getting a request from Nancy Bishop and Jorice Maag to present to the Victorian Society my collection of British pottery, metals, coins, matchbook, etched glass pitcher, pencil, and books that relate to events in lives of British Royalty, I noted that the dust was very thick!

In defense, I must note the items are displayed on built-in shelves that are a little high for my arms to reach, plus they are hard to remove due to the earthquake putty. My daughter reminded me that she hates dusting to this day due to the fact that dusting the Coronation Cups were her responsibility! But as of today, they are clean and clear of any dust! Mugs, tea cups and small plates are the most common form. When the kingly reigns were somewhat close together, the mugs might have a common mold. In 1936 one mug states "The Year Of Three Kings" and is adorned with the pictures of George V, Edward VIII and George VI. Items have been found in England, The Bahamas, Canada, Pasadena and Leisure World! The oldest are two tin mugs with enamel decorations of Victoria in her 60th year of rule and Edward VII in his first year of rule. Books that tell the story of the public and private lives of royal figures are also a part of my collection. They could be the fond memories of a Royal nanny to the current Queen or outrage at the antics of the former Edward VIII, now known as the Duke of Windsor.

Some may look at the items and see just items. I see royals, history, and families with some of the same trials as those who don't live in castles!

History of Fullerton Tours Begin: The Fullerton History Tours will begin on Tuesday, February 7th. All tours will be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. This year the budget cuts have reduced the number of schools who are able to take field trips to Heritage House. That number is now 15; prior number was 20.

Please check the list that Cheri has e-mailed to all. If you see an opening that you could fill, please call Cheri. If you see Children's League assigned to a slot that you could fill, please call, as these ladies must take time from work to come and give the tours.

Each docent is responsible for only one room in the House. Therefore if you are still a little shy about leading whole house tours, Fullerton History Tours are the ones for you. One room! Easy as falling off a log!!!

Eat, Drink and Be Merry: Calling all Victorian Society devotees! Come to the next meeting to eat goodies, drink tea and make merry! Bring your own special Valentine guest! But remember your Victorian Courting Etiquette! Our next general meeting will be Thursday February 9th at 7p.m. in Oak Hall. Since Valentine's Day is just around the corner, the theme could be said to be Lovers and Other Strangers! Docents that were present at the January meeting chose a folded slip of paper that contained the name of 19th Century poets, artists, musicians, writers, politicians and royalty. The docent is to study the life of said person and be prepared to answer 20 Questions from the gathering. Who knows what information may be revealed concerning the public and private life of 19th Century Romantics?

Out with the "Old" Minister--In with the New?

Our prime minister for the last few years has decided that "six is enough!" Jack Reynolds will still be a vital part of our Society, but he has followed the actions of Edward VIII and abdicated. Even begging on our knees and bowing ourselves out of the room would not cause Mr. Reynolds to change his mind.

Spring Cleaning is coming early to the Society this year. We have several “jobs” that require some hearty volunteers. Some “jobs” will remain with the current occupants . The following is a brief description of the areas of expertise that are filled or need to be filled.

Prime Minister: It may have to be a co-prime minister position. Cheri Hansen filled the position for the January meeting; Jorice Maag will be the “iron lady” in February. If you are interested, please contact one of these ladies.

Board Representative: Ben Rogers will continue in this position. He will also gather correspondence for the group and distribute it.

Newsletter: Dana Waite will continue in this position.

Treasurer: This is a new office. Jack Reynolds will fill this position.

Program Coordinators: Field Trips: Kay Foster/Pat Bailes
Educational Programs: Nancy Bishop
Jorice Maag

Event Coordinators: Green Scene: Marylou Rogers
Summer: Jorice Maag
Cheri Hansen
Carol Reynolds
Winter: _____

Volunteer Coordinator: Martha Leonard has volunteered.

Docent Training: Dana Waite and Carol Reynolds will divide and conquer.

Hospitality: Nancy Bishop will coordinate the refreshments for the Victorian meetings. The months of April, June, August, and December do NOT require refreshments. Nor are they required when we are meeting away from the Arboretum. Therefore we only need refreshments 8 times or less a year. Please step forward for a date. Having two bringing refreshments makes the baking lighter! Please sign up!

NOTE: The refreshments provided need not be elaborate or varied. One could provide just a sweet and drink. If you wish to make a savory and a sweet, be our guest! It is truly much easier for two docents to work together and provide the

refreshments for the meetings. Our volunteer for February is Martha Leonard and I am certain she would welcome some help with the goodies. Please contact her if you wish to help.

The schedule for the rest of the year lines up as follows:

March.....Carol Reynolds
April..... Green scene
May..... Nancy Bishop
June..... Field trip or picnic and/or Tea
July..... Darlene Smart and Mary
August No meeting - work day
Sept..... Arboretum dinner - BBQ
October Kay Foster
November Cheri Hansen
Dec..... Christmas event

Docent Scheduler: _____ (A trainee is needed. Cheri Hansen has organized this duty extremely well and wants to train someone for the position.)

Collection Care: _____ (Several of the former members of this position are willing to continue, but some re-organization is required. Plus more members would be very welcome!)

Display Case: Kay Foster
Martha Leonard

Publicity: Ben Rogers (?) (Marylou has promised to sweet talk him!)

Costume Development: Dana Waite
Marylou Rogers
Carol Reynolds
Anyone with extra clothing/knowledge!

Member Care and Outreach: _____

Program Coordinator with Arboretum: Jack Reynolds

PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THOSE LISTED IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THAT AREA OF THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY. ALL AREAS NEED INFORMED AND HEARTY VICTORIANS TO PRODUCE SPECTACULAR RESULTS!

Comments on Victorian Christmas: The Arboretum Program Committee has decided that Victorian Christmas should return to the original format. The committee felt that the first weekend of December was a better weekend and that the event should again become a candlelight event held from 5p.m. to 8p.m. The event in 2011 was an attempt to bring in families, but the shortage of children in attendance made it a reality that Victorian Christmas is more of an adult event. The next dates have been decided as December 1st and December 2nd, 2012.

Kudos to the Victorian Society: Mary Dalessi, President of the Friends joined our monthly meeting for a few moments. She thanked us for being a good group with which to work and for all we do for the Arboretum.

Dates to Remember:

Packing up the House Decorations:

Christmas is over. We need to meet on Tuesday, January 17th at 10a.m. to shake the dust off the décor and pack it away for another year. The House will need a little dusting and putting the rooms to order for the start of 2012 Tours.

General Meeting for February 9th: Please note the information in a previous paragraph.

Docent League and Local Historical Site:

The Spring event site has not been chosen at this time.
The Nixon Library is planning a centennial celebration for the Nixon Birthplace in May. Watch for details.

Victorian Tea, June 10th:

Information will be forth coming.