

## President's Message

During this holiday season, I wish you good health, happiness, joy, and prosperity. Maybe it's just my impression, but this year's Christmas cards seemed less chatty and a bit more subdued. I know 2020 was a rough year for everyone, but 2021 has been quite an improvement, right? Last month everything seemed to be moving in the right direction until we learned of this newest strain of COVID. Now, we must reconsider our plans to host our annual gala at the Villa in light of this newest outbreak and the number of dinner reservations that must be guaranteed. Our priority is always the health and safety of every person inside the banquet room, so the Board decided on hosting something smaller and more modest.

As an alternative to the gala, we have plans to host a "soft opening" in the coming month that will bring us together in a less complicated environment. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised by what we are planning. Have an awesome holiday, we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Jane Owens  
President



**Note:** Page 9 - General Membership Meeting

### The Higgins Family National Cash Register History

Recently, O.C.H.S member Bill Barron and Aida Cuevas, the new archivist at the Orange Public library, sent me the following article. The story by Gordon Higgins, is told as the personified Higgin's National Cash Register.

"My life began in 1895 when I was produced at the National Cash Register factory in Dayton, Ohio. After that, my whereabouts is unknown until 1907 when I was purchased by mountain man, W. O. Higgins. I rang up sales at his general store in Cripple Creek, Colorado, until 1915. That year, using the money collected from a bounty on a convict, he moved his wife,

Winifred, 3 daughters and son Clyde to Orange, in sunny California. They packed me up and took me along.



In Orange, I was put to work in a new store at 155 South Glassell (above) and continued my service there until 1932. (Higgins on page 6)



## Under the Orange Peel

Rev. Nathan Riley

### Jingles on the Way to OHS...

Mom has always liked contests and so she entered them repeatedly, endlessly! One time, believe it or not, she entered a contest to name a mattress. Yes, a mattress! Her entry was, “Narole t’ Middle” (not sure of the spelling) and, yes, she actually won that contest, and, I might add, a very firm mattress!! In fact, it was upon that contest-winning mattress that I slept during all my teen years. Well, during those same years, when I was in high school, I remember that a local radio station – was it KWIZ?—sponsored a morning quiz contest where your call in with the first correct answer would win you a prize. Not anything to write home about, but a prize nonetheless. So obviously my mother was tuned in, trying to win, and apparently, I also was tuned in without even being aware of it. And, so, when my friend and neighbor, Larry, came by to walk with me to high school, don’t you know, having been tuned into the radio for the last half hour, and having listened to an endless drone of commercials, I’d come out whistling or singing the latest little jingle like, “See the USA in your Chevrolet...”

or “Dr. Ross dog food and do him a favor. It’s got more meat and it’s got more flavor. It’s got more meat to make him feel the way he should. Dr. Ross dog food is doggone good... Woof”. Or maybe, “Brusha, brusha, brusha, new Ipana toothpaste... It’s dandy for your teeth”. Or perhaps one with the refrain, “Get a Midas muffler! Get Midas muffler!” Well, by the time I got to high school I had forgotten all about those jingles, but my poor friend, Larry, said he never quite could! He said over and again repeatedly right in the middle of third period or maybe fourth period, quite unintentionally, he would catch himself whistling some dumb ditty about a Chevrolet or a muffler. I think it bugged him. But it just made me smile. No, mom never won a Chevrolet or even a muffler! But she did bring a lot of suspense and joy to our family – and, by the way, at 101 she still does!



### Poul’s Bakery

Shirms, Hubs, Ward’s, Perkins and Bertmanns are the names of some bakeries that have been in Orange. Van de Kamp had a bakery outlet store here and the Helms Bakery trucks roamed around the community also.

Being from a younger generation, I never visited those first five stores, but certainly was inside

Van de Kamp and heard the tweet-tweet of the Helms driver’s whistle stopping at our house.

But the best bakery I’m able to recall was first located at 140 North Glassell Street. Ed Bertmann, who after working as a “day-baker” for the Ehlen and Grote Store on South Glassell opened his Bertmann’s Tasty Bakery at that address in 1932. He operated the store until 1955 , when, after employing a 35-year - (next page)

old Danish immigrant named Poul Johansen, decided to sell to the business to him.

By Christmas 1955 it was Poul's Danish-American Bakery at 140 N. Glassell, where there was a golden kringle hung in front of the shop. The kringle is the official Danish baker's guild emblem and is topped with a royal crown. Poul's large diploma announcing his graduation from a lengthy apprenticeship hung on the wall.

The baking team was Poul, Vagn Nyby and Walter Kinnear with Laura Milor, Nellie Sharpe and Grethe, Poul's wife, in front. Poul found it hard to find the skilled bakers such as he knew in Denmark. Speaking of most applicants, "They are just machine operators" he said of "bakers" who had only gained experience working in large mechanized bakeries where hand-crafting of pastries is simply not done.

Poul's greatest accomplishment was teaching the people of Orange about Danish pastries (*editor's note: I was one of them*). Poul was well known for donating his pastries to his church every Sunday for its coffee fellowship.

In October 1960, Poul opened another store at 777 North Tustin and by 1965 was also briefly at 3428 East Chapman in the Michael's Market strip-mall. By 1976, when Poul was ready to retire and sold his business to Fred Hyde, only the north Tustin Street store remained.

Fred, also Danish by heritage, had started working at age 8 in his dad's Judy Lyn Bakery in Fullerton, which opened in 1951. Fred added his own Old-World Danish recipes to that of the original owner's. Baking is very hard work that starts nearly every day at midnight to produce the quantities required for customers and numerous catering companies. Fred and his

assistants would put out 80 pounds of Danishes, 200 dozen cookies and 12 different kinds of breads and rolls each day, Monday through Saturday.



Fred Hyde at Poul's with some of the 12 different kinds of bread he made

"Real butter and just-out-of-the-oven freshness are key differences between the products from small bakeries and those on most supermarket shelves".

Before holidays, long lines stretched out the door as people waited for their orders. The ladies behind the counter were also an interesting mix of personalities, each bringing an interesting service experience on every visit. I miss the experience of the service almost as much as I miss Fred's orange Danish that he made on Fridays and Saturdays. I guess I should also mention the Scandinavian princess cake that was his specialty.

After owning Poul's bakery for more than 30 years and following a heart-attack, Fred's time at the bakery was limited. Employees kept the operation going after Fred's death in 2008. But by 2011 the employees decided to close the shop.

Ayliz Guclu bought the bakery, along with all the recipes in 2012 and continued on with the operation, although with a somewhat different view of how the bakery would function (over)

## ( Poul's Bakery )

Adding sandwiches and drinks to a smaller baked goods lineup. It was never the same operation that loyal patrons remembered with Poul Johansen and Fred Hyde at the helm. It would be just 5 more years before Poul's Bakery in Orange closed after 62 years.

Ayliz opened another bakery in Tustin, calling it Poul's in 2017 and not long ago opened another bakery on Grace Lane in Costa Mesa also calling it Poul's. Their website remarks that they have served Orange County since 1955. That same address on Grace Lane used to be, for many years, the location of the German Home Bakery. That was a good bakery also.

I can't speak for the quality of products produced in the current-day incarnation of Poul's Bakery. But the name built here in Orange evolved from hard work, long hours and the love of the art of baking.

Poul Schonning Johansen 1920-2007 / Fred Martin Hyde 1944-2008

## Winter Freeze

It doesn't seem to get as cold in wintertime as it used to around Orange. Maybe it's "Global Warming" or Urbanization with so many structures, paved roadways, concrete sidewalks and hardscaping to absorb and hold heat. But it's not freezing cold, like it used to. It's reported by the National Weather Service that between the 1980 and 2010, there were no hard freezes in our location.

However, back when Orange's biggest commercial asset was citrus ranching, a big freeze might take away your livelihood or at least reduce your crop income for a year or so.

In the early days of frost protection, in the later part of the 1800s, growers burned brush and tree trimmings to create warm air in the groves. By the early 1900s it was fuel oil burned in open tubs, which also created volumes of smoke. The smoke was thought to hold in heat, so more smoke was thought beneficial.

In 1911, W. C. Scheu opened the Scheu Manufacturing Company in Upland and was producing an improved orchard heater (smudge pot). Their use in orchards became widespread in this area following major freezes in January of 1913 and 1922.

One of the largest freezes on record occurred in January 1937 with ten overnight low temperatures requiring the lighting of smudge pots. They would be ignited when the temperature was at 28 F and anticipated to last at or below that level.



The Orange Daily News columnist, Ray Arguello, re-

ported in a January 27, 1937 article about all the smoke coming from those smudge pots in the surrounding groves.

"Cecil J.A. Maibach, who with his wife, raises fancy Chows, at his kennels on North Pine Street, hasn't overlooked a thing during this cold spell, especially the effect it has had on dogs and cats.

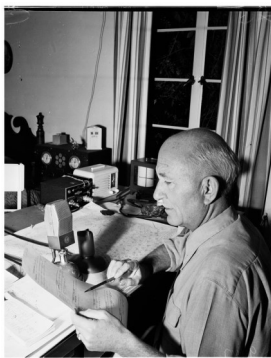
"Maibach has watched the situation closely in order to properly safeguard the health of his valuable dogs. But so far, the only ill effect that has been noticeable in that certain **(next page)**

## Winter Freeze-continued

certain colored canines and felines – notably the lighter-shaded ones – have been changing their color.

‘Maibach said the smudge smoke has changed white dogs into blue ones, tan cats in to brown ones and spotted dogs or cats into solid colors.’

“Such is a dog or cat’s life in Orange on these smudgy days.”



My own recollections of freeze protection for citrus were during the mid-1950s, when my dad, being in orchard care, would listen to the 8 P.M. Fruit Frost Warning Service on KFI radio. This service operated between November 15 and February 15 with Floyd D. Young (*seen in 1952 - inset photo*) reporting from his home in Pomona. He would give the anticipated low temperature and dew point reports phoned in to him from 12 field workers in the major growing areas in the southern part of the state.

The forecasts would last as little as 10 seconds – “All stations above 32 degrees” or as long as 10 minutes when there were freezing temperatures to report.

On some nights I would hear names like Orange Cove, Woodlake, Fillmore, Piru, Exeter, Strathmore and Saticoy reporting, wondering where these places could be. All I knew was that it was going to be pretty cold there and some folks were going to be out in the groves overnight

If freezing temperatures were reported for Orange, my dad would start telephoning the young men he had on list who would work overnight lighting and refilling smudge pots. Mostly college and high school students. They bundled

themselves against the cold through the wee hours, ignited each heater with a torch, then



USC Historical Photo Collection

spent the night trying to stay warm. They’d doze a little, watch the thermometer and recheck each smudge pot for fuel. The heaters kept heat near the ground to protect the trees from freezing.

The day after “smudging” occurred, an ugly black haze would hover above the ground. The smoke was trapped in cooler air below warmer air above in what was called an atmospheric inversion. Worse than any smoggy days, it would be a health problem today, but back then it was part of growing citrus.

In 1950, the Orange County Air Pollution Control District adopted a regulation prohibiting the use of dirty fuel, including old tires and used motor oil, in smudge pots.

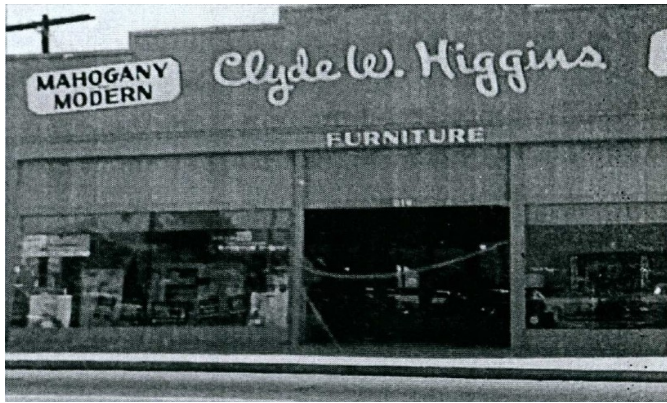
Also, about this time, growers started using wind machines in place of smudge pots. These had gas or electric motors mounted on a tall tower, powering a large propeller. This would move air through the grove mixing pockets of warm and cool air, effectively raising the temperature near the ground and preventing freezing. Wind machines, although initially expensive to buy, were more cost-effective over time. They were always ready and didn’t need to be constantly tended, as smudge pots did. **(next page)**

**Winter Freeze - continued**

Orchard heaters fell out of use completely by the 1970s as almost all commercial citrus growing had moved out of the area to the Central Valley of California.

**Higgins** (Continued from page 1)

“Then W.O.’s son, Clyde, moved me to his store at 814 West Chapman Avenue, where I continued to ring sales of mostly furniture.



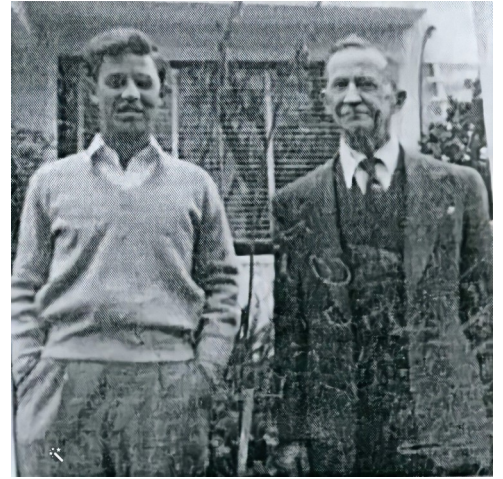
“In 1940, Clyde purchased the building at 155 South Glassell, which had been my first home in California. A remodel took place to create a theme store specializing in maple wood furniture.



“Clyde’s son, Gordon, had joined him working at the store, and they enjoyed great success. My keys and drawers worked constantly ringing up sales.

“Over my years of service, W.O. Higgins often stopped by to see me and his family. Years passed, and eventually Clyde handed the reigns over to Gordon. Gordon kept me out on front of the store for all to see. (see photo above)

*A young Gordon and his Grandfather, W. O. Higgins are seen standing in front of the Higgin’s home .*



“There were more changes in 1958: another remodel and a name change to Higgin’s Furniture Shops on South Glassell St.



“Many years passed before I moved again, this time to 910 East Chapman in Orange. I worked for Gordon and his wife Bonnie through 2014, when they lovingly store me until 2020.”



“Here, I’m surrounded by 4 generations of Higgins family, who donated me to the History Room of the library”



# The Santa Ana Winds

By Phil Brigandi

It amazes me that you still meet people who want to argue about what to call the Santa Ana Winds. They want to call them “Santana Winds,” or “Zanta Winds,” or “Devil Winds.” But historically, they are – and always have been – the Santa Ana Winds.



Terry Stephenson wrote the definitive essay on the name for the *California Folklore Quarterly* in 1943. The old timers, he reports (and he knew many of them) “have always known that the wind got its name because it swept out of the mouth of the Santa Ana Canyon.” Even Jim Sleeper – a loyal native son of Santa Ana – admitted that the name comes from the canyon.

The winds were described as early as the 1840s during the Mexican War. When American forces marching from San Diego to Los Angeles camped at Olive in January 1847, Major William Emory reported: “The wind blew a hurricane, (something very unusual in this part of California,) and the atmosphere was filled with particles of fine dust, so that one could not see and but with difficulty breathe.”

The next day: “The wind continued to blow violently, which the enemy should have taken advantage of to attack us. Our weapons were chiefly fire-arms; his, the lance; and I was quite certain that in such a gale of wind as then blew, the difficulty of loading our arms would have proved a serious matter.”

Other times, the howling winds drove wildfires, and (in the early days) knocked wooden buildings off their foundations.

The earliest use of the actual name I have found comes from the *Anaheim Gazette* for September

23, 1871, which mentions the “withering Santa Ana’s.” A more detailed description appeared two weeks later, on October 7, 1871:

“A ‘Santa Ana’ – We suffered a visitation from this unwelcome customer on Monday last. The storm arose before daylight and continued throughout the day – sweeping through the Santa Ana cañon. Its breath was hot and parching, it filled the whole visible atmosphere with a blinding, driving storm of sand and dust that penetrated every penetrable substance, covered everything indoors and out with a deep layer of fine dust and choked and blinded everybody who faced it. These winds usually occur about twice or three times a year and are regarded as a sign of approaching rain. The man who lives on climate got a meal that will last him for a week.”

Another 1871 account can be found in the “annals” of the Westminster Colony, compiled by some of the earliest settlers in the area:

“During this month [November] the ‘Santa Ana’ winds were very prevalent, the longest and most severe blow occurred on the 20th and 21st, lasting forty-eight hours. These winds picked up immense quantities of sand and dust, and being very dry and warm, made it almost impossible for man or beast to work. The best plan was to sit indoors and ‘grin and bear it.’” [Thanks to Nick Popadiuk for this reference.]

By the 1880s, the name was being used to describe the winter winds in Los Angeles and Pasadena, and by the early 1900s, the term was adopted by official government publications.

All of this was a great annoyance to the residents of Santa Ana (and especially its chamber of commerce), since some people talked as if the winds only struck their town. Terry Stephenson reports that when he became editor of the *Santa Ana Register* in 1906 the chamber demanded he never use the name in print.

Continues Next Page

In those days, the Santa Ana folk preferred "Riverside Winds," since they came from that direction. Others took to calling them "Santana Winds," which is really just a colloquial way of pronouncing Santa Ana among Spanish speakers.

By the 'teens, some had taken it a step further, claiming that "Santana" was an Indian word – "an idea founded on fancy, not on fact" Stephenson notes. It was sometimes translated as "big wind," or "Devil Wind," or "The Wind of the Evil Spirits." This may have led to the claim that Santa Ana (or Santana, take your pick) was a corruption of "Satan Wind."

More imaginative is the notion first floated in the 1920s that the name should be "Santa Anna Winds," in honor of the Mexican general, whose famed cavalry charges also raised up vast clouds of dust!

But it was "Santanas" that enjoyed the longest life. In 1938, the *Los Angeles Times* agreed to use that term instead of Santa Anas. That probably explains why some modern day old timers insist the name has "always" been "Santana."

But the Santa Ana Winds they are, and the Santa Ana Winds they will remain.

The previous story and others about Orange and Orange County may be found at Phil Brigandi's - OC Historyland online.



### **The Citrus Community in Orange - As Viewed From Today's Urbanized Society**

Speaking of the largely agricultural local community of 60 or 70 years ago here:

The past was a systematic, disciplined but prideful community of workers divided to conduct separate tasks, in the grove, independent but simultaneously conducting the work of various packinghouses, but successively or in a coordi-

nated system of production and shipping resembling in total the interaction of a symphony orchestra. The sound of music was self-satisfying, and conveyed self-worth.

"Uprooting the trees totally changed the community. Men and women of diverse ethnic, religious and racial backgrounds were moved together, helter-skelter, all jammed together side-by-side. The juxtaposition of diverse cultures quickly shattered the consensus and unity of the old community. Wide divergences existed of values, habits, traditions and language. The traditional community shared few of the values and definitions of the new "transplants".

"Civic spirit and pride in the community were lacking. Loyalty to the community and a sense of responsibility for its well-being was greatly weakened because the new individual knew little about the community. The lack of unity and the lack of community feeling demonstrated the failure to join organizations and engendered a feeling of isolationism.

"No one ever thought time would stand still, or that things would always be the same. History does not belong to the antiquated past, but to the robust pulse of the present. It is crucial to recognize today the lessons that have been learned from the past. The forest of citrus changed the landscape and caused the building of new communities. Cycles respond to population, cultural and economic changes. The lesson we need to learn is how does one infuse modernism with the community values and pride of the past. That is our challenge!"

*Excerpt from "Citrus Powered the Economy of Orange County for over a half century Induced by a Romance."*  
By Richard H. Barker and Thomas M. Pulley.





## CALL FOR OCHS BOARD NOINATIONS:

The OCHS By-Laws discusses the election of officers, their terms and, in general terms, the election process. The OCHS members elect from its membership a President and also elects the other officer positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, Programs, Marketing/Sales, Newsletter, Audio Visual, and Member at Large.

The term of officers is defined in the By-Laws and limited to one year. Election of officers is conducted as the first order of business of the Annual General Meeting, in accordance with this procedure.

Nominations, including self-nominations, are currently open to all OCHS members and can be submitted orally, or in writing by electronic mail.

The current slate of officers will remain in effect through the 2022 calendar year should there be no nominations.

**Please submit all nominations on or before  
January 22, 2022 to**

Secretary Mary Noguera: marysell-  
soc@gmail.com

or to OCHS, P.O. Box 5484, Orange, CA  
92863-5484

## **General Membership Meeting**

**Please Note Time and Date:** Saturday, 29 January, 2022. The Community Room at the Main Library from 3 PM - 5 PM.

We'll have a speaker from the library to talk about ongoing historical projects and lead groups through the History Center.

The library is still on reduced hours, requiring this special day and time. This is also renewal month, so check your mailing label to see when your membership expires.

Some proud supporters of the -  
**Orange Community Historical  
Society - Thank You!**



**ORANGELAND RV PARK, INC.**

1600 W. Struck Avenue  
(At Katella Avenue)  
Orange, California 92867  
Off: (714) 633-0414  
Fax: (714) 633-9012  
e-mail:  
orangelandrvpark@yahoo.com

**LARRY JORDAN  
GENERAL MANAGER**  
www.orangeland.com

**Country Roads**  
ANTIQUES & GARDENS  
The Original Since 1992

**Country Roads**  
ANTIQUES & GARDENS

Open Daily  
10am - 5pm

216 W. Chapman  
Old Town Orange, CA 92866  
(714) 532-3041

Countryroadsorange@gmail.com  
www.countryroadsantique.com

### **2021 OCHS Board of Directors**

President - Jane Owens - towens46@aol.com  
Vice President, A/V, Programs -  
Lyle Drinkgern - drinkgern@sbcglobal.net  
Treasurer - Bill Utter - bill.utter@hotmail.com  
Secretary - Mary Noguera -  
marysellsoc@gmail.com  
Membership - Jan Drinkgern -  
drinkgern@sbcglobal.net  
Website - John Russo - russo@johnrusso.org  
Hospitality- Carol Summo -  
csummo@socal.rr.com  
Newsletter - Roger Fitschen -  
fitschen@roadrunner.com  
Marketing/Promotions - Jerrica Knight -  
jerricasknight@gmail.com

# OCHS MEMBERSHIP

Application for Membership Year 2022 (Membership Year covers January-December)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

(check one)

NEW

RENEWAL

(See the mailing label for when your membership expires)

Individual - \$20.00

Family - \$25.00

Life - \$300.00

Business/Organization - \$100.00

Donation - \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Please return application and check to:  
**Orange Community Historical Society**  
P.O. Box 5484, Orange, CA 92863-5484

OCHS is a 501(c)(3) organization, ID #33-0416234.  
Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Orange Community Historical Society Members enjoy: programs and newsletters, opportunities to support and contribute to the preservation of Orange history, contact with members of the community knowledgeable about Orange history, and discounts on OCHS merchandise.

## Our Mission

The mission of OCHS is to commemorate the rich heritage of our community. Our purpose is to collect photographs, written materials and related ephemera, promote research, events, activities and programs celebrating Orange history, and sponsor local history endeavors. We remain self-supporting through memberships, donation bequests and special projects.

We welcome everyone.

### LOCAL HISTORY QUESTIONS?

(714) 288-2465 | [history@cityoforange.org](mailto:history@cityoforange.org)

Check out the Orange Public Library's  
Local History and 24/7 Reference Service  
[www.cityoforange.org/library](http://www.cityoforange.org/library)

The City of Orange website provides a brief history of Orange, as well as demographics and contact information for schools, businesses and organizations in the area.

### ORANGE HISTORIC AFGHANS

Red & White or Green & White Afgans:  
\$45.00 with Membership, \$55 without

If undeliverable please return to:

**ORANGE TRIBUNE**  
Orange Community Historical Society  
P.O. Box 5484  
Orange, CA 92863-5484