

President's Message

Our meeting and tour of the new City of Orange Fire Department was fantastic. We had over 50 people in attendance. Roger Fitschen, a retired City of Orange Fireman, presented a history of the Orange Fire Department with old photographs which was very interesting.

We broke up into smaller groups and were toured by on duty Firemen. We saw all the various trucks as well as information on how the Fire Department responds to calls and so much more. Our Orange City Fire Department built a state-of-the-art facility. It was very impressive.

Our next meeting you do not want to miss! We are going to meet at the First United Methodist Church to celebrate their 150-year anniversary here in Orange. Please join us and learn the history of the Methodist Church in Orange. Meeting date is **Tuesday, November 14, 5:30 pm at the Church.** Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

We have a change coming up for our January annual dinner meeting. Our January meeting will be a regular meeting topic and location to be announced later. Our March meeting will be held at the newly rebuilt Hilbert Museum. The date will be March 21, 2024. We are hopeful that the Hilbert will be completed by the end of the year or early next year and our March meeting can be held at the amazing new Hilbert Museum. Watch for more details soon.

If you have any items that pertain to the history of the City of Orange or you have something else you would like to donate for our silent auction, please contact me at (714) 289-1018 or e-mail csummo@socal.rr.com. This will be for our March 2024 meeting.

See you on **Tuesday, November 14!**

Carol Summo - President

Our Next Meeting -

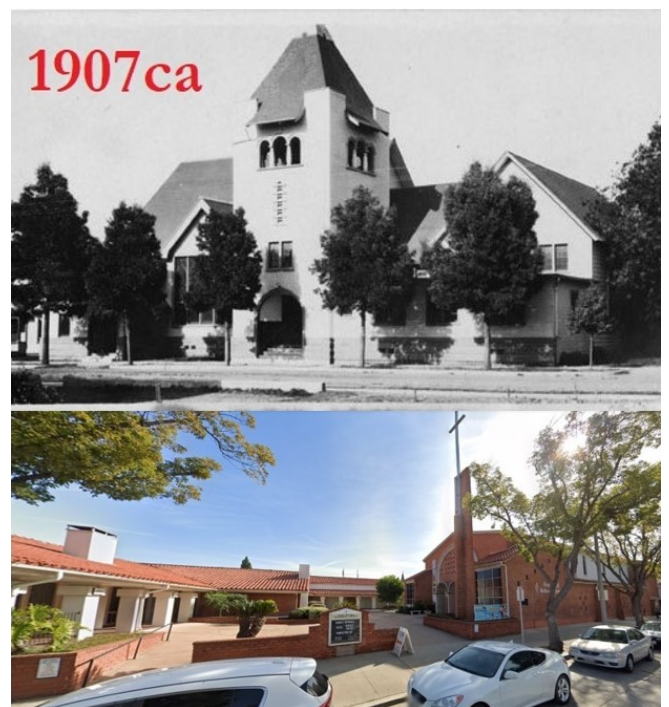
Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Before Orange was even called Orange, the faithful in our community founded the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Orange in 1873.

On Tuesday, November 14th at 5:30 beginning in the church Sanctuary, we will look back on 150 years of service this church has blessed Orange with. Pastor William Johnson will be our speaker, gleaning from books on church history and his ten years of shepherding those who call First United Methodist of Orange their home for worship. He will also mention what the Church is doing to mark the official day on Sunday, November 19th, 2023.

Please join us and help them celebrate their 3rd Jubilee ~ 150 years in Orange!

161 South Orange Street





Under the Orange Peel

Rev. Nathan Riley

Because of the ready availability of news media online, like it or not, newspapers are beginning to play a less significant role in our lives than they once did. Time was when they meant everything, connecting a disconnected world, bringing retail merchandise right into the home and a bit of entertainment too. My cousin's recent Facebook post takes us back to the way it once was and may still be in a few homes...



Lyle Mack Recollects...

Sep 7, 2023 "Today I read the newspaper on the IPAD. I rarely read the comics. I don't look at what few ads there are. I look over the death notices."

Sep 7, 2020

"...When I picked up the Sunday paper yesterday, a picture of the old Sunday paper of years ago surfaced in my brain.

The Sunday paper was huge. The comics were always on the outside. There were two sections of comics. Besides the news there was a whole sports section, a society section, an entertainment section, advertisement from all the big department stores and grocery stores, a real estate section, automotive section and classified adds. There was a magazine and lots of inserts.

The Santa Ana Register was delivered to our home. After church my dad drove to Walker's Market on Tustin Avenue to buy a Los Angeles Examiner newspaper. I want to say that the Sunday paper cost 25 cents. When we would arrive home, my dad would sit on the couch with the newspaper. No one got a section of the paper until my dad was finished with the section. He let us sit next to him and we could read the comics as he read them. Sometimes he would share his beer while he read, only one sip per kid. We would spend a lot of time going through the Sunday paper.

After the newspapers were read they were used to line trash cans and garbage cans. The papers were always used for something before they were incinerated. I remember going to Newport Beach to buy fish. Upon purchase of fresh caught fish, the fish were wrapped in newspaper."

Ah, yes... Lyle brings back similar memories for me—Dad in his recliner, newspaper spread across his lap, deep in thought. For me, at least on Sundays, it was the "funnies" that were high on my post-Sunday-school agenda! I read both sections and all the strips! Especially loved, Charles Schulz's column "Peanuts." Paper, for us, served many of the same purposes my cousin outlined. Plus we often used newspapers to clean house and car windows! Not exactly sure today why the black ink didn't come off on the windows. Nevertheless, inked or not, our windows would always receive a few quick swipes from the Register before final maternal inspection.



But my favorite use of all for used newspapers certainly was as kindling for amazing backyard incinerator fires in the open—topped 55 gallon drums Dad would occasionally bring home from his work. These unrestrained fires had a bit of the same flavor and thrill as Fourth of July fireworks when the updraft carried 6 inch edge-flaming flecks of carbon high into the sky before cooling air dropped them, usually harmlessly, back to the earth..

Yes, I remember, and I'm guessing so do you.

Newspapers—you got to love them. Part of our history, and still present in the city of Orange.

November 12, 2023

Have you ever wondered what was behind that "Elks Lodge" door?? Celebrate 100 years of giving back to the community. Take a tour of the Orange Lodge and enjoy a BBQ lunch provided by the Orange Fire Dept.

11 am - 3 pm / Lunch 12 - 2



In Memoriam

28th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony And Candlelight Choir Procession



Where: Old Towne Orange Plaza
Address: 1 Plaza Square, Orange, CA 92866
(Chapman & Glassell)

Date: Sunday, December 3, 2023

Time: 3:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Musical Program Begins: 5:15 PM **Admission:** Free



December 4, 2022 - O.C.H.S. Members, Bill Utter and Jerrica Knight at their post on the Plaza at last year's event.. We'll be there again this year with our full-color afghans for sale. They would make a splendid Christmas gift.



1915 Plaza
Christmas
Festivities



October 14, 2023 - The Orange Woman's Club boutique. Ken Johnson, on the left below, bought the 1st afghan in the morning and wore it there the rest of the day. Historical Society board members, Barbara Whittaker, Lee Cornett and Jane Owens represented our organization at this year's boutique.



We belatedly learned of the passing of former O.C.H.S. President, Cathy Dencklau on July 26, 2023. Born, Catherine Ann Cebula, she graduated from Orange High School in 1961 and attended U.S.C. She was president of our historical society from 2003 – 2013.

During her tenure, she was key in moving the O.C.H.S. forward by getting the library to work closer with our organization and preserving the City of Orange's stories through the oral histories of locals. On her watch, the summer Walking Tours were well attended as were monthly meetings and annual dinners.



Join us today!

Dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing the unique character of the Old Towne Historic District through education, communication, community involvement and public service projects.

For more information, visit us at otpa.org

2023 OCHS Board Members

President – Carol Summo
Vice-President, - John Russo
Treasurer – Susan Paulsen
Secretary – Barbara Whittaker
Audio-Visual - Lee Cornett
Membership – Jerrica Knight
Website – John Russo
Hospitality – Jane Owens
Newsletter – Roger Fitschen
Programs --- Lisa Baldwin
Member-at-Large - Vacant

Leave a Message (714) 202-7514
OCHS Website -
www.HistoricalOrange.org

History Room at the Main Library
Contact - (714) 288-2465, Hours,
Digital History Collection Online,
a virtual tour of Old Towne at
www.OrangePublicLibrary.org/home-library

OCHS MEMBERSHIP

Application for Membership Year **2024** (Membership Year covers January-December)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____



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.

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 - \$ _____

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 the 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 -

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.

www.OrangePublicLibrary.org/home-library

If undeliverable please return to:
Orange Community Historical Society
P.O. Box 5484
Orange, CA 92863-5484