

# Mud Springs Messenger

BROUGHT TO YOU BY SAN DIMAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Chartered - June 6, 1966

## 2024 - 2025

### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

- President - Sue Davis
- Vice-President - Selina Garcia
- Recording Secretary - Dave Harbin
- Corresponding Secretary - Cheryl Avelar
- Treasurer - Terry Templeman
- Archivist - Susan Davis
- Museum Manager - Dave Harbin
- Gift Shop and Volunteer Coordinator  
Kay Hoveland
- Web Page / Social Media - Cheryl Clarke
- Historian - Curt Morris
- Programs and Projects  
Abel Burke, Dave Bratt, Dave Harbin
- Parliamentarian - Margie Green
- Membership - Suzy Crawford
- Historic Walking Tours - Dave Harbin
- Photography - John Davis, Margie Green

### OFFICE, MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP

121 N. San Dimas Avenue, San Dimas  
Walker House, 2nd Floor

### MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 871, San Dimas, CA 91773  
**Office Telephone:** (909) 592-1190  
**Email:** office91773@sandimashistorical.org  
**Web:** www.sandimashistorical.org  
**Follow us on Facebook and Instagram**

**Office, Archives, Museum and Gift Shop**  
 Tuesdays & Thursdays - 12:00 to 3:00 pm

**Museum/Gift Shop**  
 Friday & Saturday 6 to 9 pm

**Second Saturday**  
 Museum & Gift Shop - 10:00 am to 12:00 pm  
**Second Saturdays Tours**  
 Historic Downtown Docent-led walking tour  
 or Docent-led Walker House Tour 10:00 am  
*(which tour varies by month)*  
 Call 951 990-3395 for information and  
 reservations

## President's Message By Sue Davis



We held our Fall Dinner Meeting in November and I am still receiving compliments from members that attended. A big thank you to Curt Morris, our board member and former mayor, who delivered the program.

For those of you who might want to read the Stanley Plummer address from 1967 that Curt gave you can view it on our CatalogIt app. You will need to download the CatalogIt app to whichever device you will be using to view the files. It is compatible with PC, laptop, iPad and smartphones (iOS and Android). When you open the app, it will ask for email and password. The email you will use is: **office91773@sandimashistorical.org** and the password is: **Hi8toric@!**

Once you have the app all set up you can either browse through our collection or go straight to the Plummer address by searching object id H-016.4 or search by object name Stanley Plummer address.

Thank you to Abel Burke who provided the 1965 Mustang convertible that we cruised in down Bonita Avenue. My husband, John drove and



Bob and Jean Olander along with their granddaughter, Aurora were in the backseat.

With the help of our volunteer, Julia Bourbois and our new intern Darlene Jaber we are attempting to organize, scan and have more of our collection available to view on CatalogIt. We currently have over 30,000 photos (most of our photos have been digitized), 500 3D objects (80% are digitized and available to view), and 50 maps (some others are too large or too fragile to be scanned). We are currently working on adding written material that we have in our archives.

### **THIS DATE IN HISTORY: From the March 18, 1918 San Dimas Press** *Purchases Paint Mine In San Dimas Canyon*

This city is to have a new enterprise in the way of a paint factory. W. L. Porterfield, president of "Pa's Metallic Paint company" of Los Angeles, has purchased the paint mine in San Dimas canyon and will start immediately about a dozen men to working the mine.

For several years it has been known that there were valuable deposits of paint clay in San Dimas canyon, but for various reasons it has not been worked. Mr. Porterfield is an experienced paint manufacturer and is much pleased with the quality of the clay in the canyon. While the starting of the factory will be modest, he intends to add to his force and the amount of production until the enterprise will assume considerable proportions.

# Curt's Corner

By: Selina Garcia

As a resident of San Dimas for 16 years, I've come to appreciate the rich history that makes this city what it is today. From the buildings to the agriculture, there's so much to uncover about the early days of San Dimas. But what fascinates me most are the stories of everyday life and the fun anecdotes that don't always get talked about. Who better to learn from than former Mayor Curt Morris, a longtime resident with a wealth of knowledge about the city's past?

When I asked Curt about a typical Saturday in San Dimas during his younger years, I was amazed by the simplicity of how our town used to be.



Bonita Union High School - Now Damien High

"In high school, San Dimas was a small town," Curt shared with me. "Long before there was a San Dimas High School, I attended Bonita Union High School. The school district was small too—San Dimas, La Verne, and La Verne Heights all had their own districts, but shared the same High School. The entire school had only 450 students!"

It wasn't just the schools that felt different. The way students got around was very different than the way students get around today.

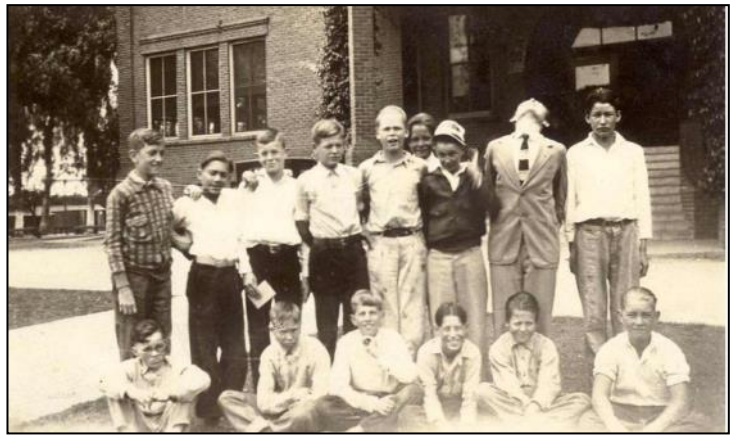
"Getting to school, we mostly hitchhiked," Curt said. "And after school, we'd hitchhike home. That was just the way things were."

I couldn't help but feel a bit astonished at the idea of hitchhiking as a regular part of life. But Curt wasn't done yet. He had even more to share!

"One of the crazier things we used to do was go to the movies in Pomona," Curt recalled with a smile. "I was about 10, and I had a little sister named Sina, who was 6. We'd catch the bus from San Dimas to the Fox Theater in Pomona. It was

mostly just a bunch of kids—no adults. We'd get the bus over at Monte Vista and the Water District, and it would be around 15-20 of us kids."

Can you imagine that? A group of kids, heading to another city to watch a movie without adult supervision. The bus ride was only five cents each way, and the trip was a regular Saturday outing.



Boy from the San Dimas Second Grammer School (date unknown)

"We did this almost every Saturday. We'd go to the Fox Theater or the State Theater, which was just up the street. The State showed westerns, and they always had these series, or 'cereals,' as we called them. They were short episodes that always ended with a cliffhanger, leaving us hanging until the next week to find out what happened. The whole thing only cost 20 cents, and we'd be there for hours!"

The sense of community during these trips was something Curt fondly remembers. The kids were well-behaved, and everyone knew each other.

"Pomona was the big city back then, with around 50-60,000 people," Curt explained. "But for us, it felt like a whole new world. San Dimas and La Verne didn't have many people at the time, so when we went to Pomona, it felt like a real adventure."



*Continued on page 3*



Kay Hoveland

# Vintage Treasures

SAN DIMAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## 2024 Was A Great Year!

I want to express my appreciation for the weekly support of volunteer Diane Moravek, who works every Tuesday. She is always at the counter even though the restaurant has not been open on Tuesdays for many months due to their staffing issues. Consequently, we put out an OPEN sign on the porch with our office number that instructs visitors to call so we can come down and open the door. Unbelievable, but we do have many returning customers who recognize what a "treasure" they have found. The Thursday hours are managed by Julie Draayom in her weekly commitment as she keeps the inventory organized and current. The current Board of Directors with the help of previous Board members, Kay Glinternick and

Susan (with Mitchell) Crawford, cover the Friday and Saturday nights from 6-9pm. This entire group makes it possible to earn the money needed, from donated items, to finance the Historical Society operations.

In 2024 total sales were \$10,790 with net income of \$10,211, what a great year! It was only possible by your continuing support.

In 2024 we did have the advantage of the Yard Sale in April, and the Christmas room in December with over \$2,600 earned in those two events. Unfortunately, there will not be a yard sale or an elaborate Christmas room this year. There are just not enough volunteers to make that happen. We will be entirely dependent on the sales in the gift shop. So please, if you have any "treasures" you don't want and your children don't want, they will be welcomed for the gift shop and treasured by their new owner. All proceeds continue to support our efforts to digitally preserve and catalog the history of San Dimas for future generations.

++++  
**You can call me at 626-592-2002, please leave a message and we can arrange for pick up or delivery at your convenience.**

Continued from page 2



The movie-going experience was much different than the huge theaters we know now. It was intimate, with just a few pennies in hand and an afternoon full of

entertainment ahead.

I loved hearing these stories from Curt about how different—and simple—life in San Dimas used to be. It's easy to see how small-town charm and community spirit shaped the history of this city. And it's a reminder that every city has a past filled with unique, everyday moments that truly make it come alive.

**Stay tuned for more of Curt's Corner where we will learn more about stories of San Dimas.**



# Please Join the San Dimas Historical Society With A Membership

## Membership Benefits include:

Quarterly newsletters, invitations to two membership dinners with special speakers and programs, invitations to hosted annual Ice Cream Social, and other Historical Society Events.

## Check your membership type:

Individual.....\$25 \_\_\_ (annually)      Family (two or more).....\$35\_\_\_ (annually)      Sponsors / Business .... \$100 \_\_\_ (annually)  
 Life Membership...\$500 per person\_\_\_ (one time fee only)

Additional Support / Donation for your Society are welcomed and are tax deductible. We are a 501(c) (3).

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Would you like to receive our newsletter by e-mail? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_



Please MAIL TO: P.O. Box 871 • San Dimas, CA 91773 • call: 909 592-1190

## Our Valued Patrons - A Very Special Thank You

Members that have made donations of \$1000 or more to the Patron Program are: (listed in order of participation)

San Dimas Community Hospital, Ralph and Peggy Thomas, Paul and Willa McClure, Tom and Sue Nuss, Ryan Teague, Jean Johnstone Rimpau, Curt and Glenda Morris, Jeff and Terry Templeman, Sharon Long, Bill and Joyce Emerson, Winifred Rouse Willis, Bob and Connie Brown, Joe Vaniman, Matt and Julie Draayom, Mark Nelson, Linda Nelson, Don and Margie Green, Georgia Florentine, Dick and Mary Lou Harbin, John and Susan Davis, John and Ann Vackrinis, Dorothy A. Callanan, Howard C. Callanan, Allen and Lona Chen, Dave & Chris Harbin

Their generous gifts allow the San Dimas Historical Society to purchase specially needed items to enhance our ability to save and share our history that otherwise would be unavailable due to limited funding. To find out how you too can become a patron call the office at (909) 592-1190. Your donation is tax deductible. We are a 501(c) (3).

**Thank You  
BUSINESS SPONSORS**

**OLANDER  
Educational Foundation**  
Robert and Jean Olander • [saints@aol.com](mailto:saints@aol.com)

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**  
Josh Goldman   
(626) 825-3785 - [jgoldman@wm.com](mailto:jgoldman@wm.com)

**DENIS BERTONE**  
Friend of the San Dimas Historical Society

**Kristin Carlson**  
**RE/MAX Master Realty**  
909 519-9500 / [kristincarlson63@gmail.com](mailto:kristincarlson63@gmail.com) 

**CDS Insurance Services**  
Chuck Swan - (626) 610-9500 - [www.cdsinsurance.com](http://www.cdsinsurance.com)

**RACHEL BRATAKOS**  
Real Estate Agent - Coldwell Banker  
909-455-6302 • [rachelbratakos@cbrealty.com](mailto:rachelbratakos@cbrealty.com)

**San Dimas Chamber of Commerce**  
P.O. Box 175 San Dimas • 246 Bonita Ave., San Dimas, CA  
(909) 592-3818 email: [info@sandimaschamber.com](mailto:info@sandimaschamber.com)

**Vicky Maliszewski - KALEO Real Estate Co.**  
Cell 951-529-5136 Office 626-609-2130  
[vicky@kaleorealestate.co](mailto:vicky@kaleorealestate.co) [6ftvicky@gmail.com](mailto:6ftvicky@gmail.com)

**Margarita Karasik-McGee - Law Office**  
433 S. Cataract Avenue, San Dimas  
[Lawofficeofmkm@gmail.com](mailto:Lawofficeofmkm@gmail.com) (818) 687-0576

**Moxie Creative Solutions**  
DIGITAL MARKETING AGENCY- Stephanie Muneno  
[Hello@needmoxie.com](mailto>Hello@needmoxie.com) / [moxiecreativesolutions.com](http://moxiecreativesolutions.com)

**FARMERS INSURANCE - Marilyn Sparks**  
433 S. Cataract Avenue, San Dimas  
(626) 222-2251 [www.TransferRiskToMarilyn.com](http://www.TransferRiskToMarilyn.com)