



WHAT'S HAPPENING

February 1, 2020



Valentine's Day is two weeks off but we wanted to give you an early reminder to be sure you acknowledge the loved ones in your life. It is a great opportunity to go out for dinner at a local restaurant or to buy flowers or other gifts locally. Consider eating and shopping at businesses located in historic buildings. It is important that we support them. San Clemente is a great place to live, or visit!

Casino San Clemente March 5!

Casino San Clemente will be the subject of our next Quarterly Membership Meeting scheduled for March 5, 6 to 8 PM, at the Community Center 100 N. Calle Seville.

Built in 1937 as a dancing venue, the Casino has been through a number of uses over the years, and almost destroyed by a developer in 2006. It has now been beautifully restored to its original condition and use for dancing, dining, and events.

Owner Linda Sadeghi will be sharing with us the remarkable story of the rehabilitation of one of San Clemente's most iconic and cherished buildings.



Miramar Theater Plan Revealed!



We reported last month on the new ownership of the Miramar Theater and Bowling Alley. Since then, the Architect for the renovation contacted the Historical Society to show us what they plan to do. Mr. Daniel Conrardy gave your Board Members, Tom Marshall and Larry Culbertson a detailed on-site presentation of their project. There does not seem to be any significant changes from the plan the City approved three years ago.

The bowling alley still has six, presumably original, wood allies that they plan to re-purpose as tables. The wood trusses that form the iconic vaulted roof are in good shape and will be saved. Part of the walls may need replacement due to extensive termite and dry rot damage. A basement will be excavated the entire area of the building to create storage for the 10-booth food hall above.

The theater walls are one foot thick steel reinforced concrete, they are in good shape. But much of the wood elements of the building need replacement, as well as all of the electrical and plumbing. A new floor configuration will replace the sloped floor with flat area for events.

The perimeter will include a sunken patio for seating and a water feature.

Mr. Conrardy agreed to attend future Historical Society meetings to keep us abreast of their progress.

Scholarship

Two \$500 scholarships are available for college bound San Clemente High School Seniors. Scholarship Chair Suzi Klickstein has placed information about these scholarships on the High School website. For more information go to <https://www.sctritons.com/scholarships>.

We would like to be able to provide more scholarship, feel free to donate to our Scholarship Fund.



Walking Tour Anyone?



Several years ago we had a couple of walking tours of downtown and the Pier Bowl, they were very popular. New Board of Director's member Jim Hamilton has taken on the task of resurrecting those tours. We do not have a lot of particulars because the idea is in the planning stage. Jim has contacted some owners of businesses on Avenida Del Mar and they like the idea. There are 12 historic buildings on Avenida Del Mar and several more at the top of the "T" on north and south El Camino Real. We want to tell people about what the previous uses of those building were and who the owners and merchants were.

Anyone interested in helping Jim with this project?

North Beach Historic District

The Historical Society has advocated for historic districts in San Clemente for a very long time. There has been push back for a variety of reasons. The City has recently contracted with a consultant to study the issue, reach out for public input, and put together the necessary documentation to nominate a North Beach Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places. We are working with City Planning Department staff and will be working with the consultant to help make this happen. We will keep you posted on upcoming meetings. This will only happen if we can garner public support.



Membership Renewal

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Annual Membership in the Historical Society goes by the calendar year and our 2020 Membership Drive began in December. Over 200 Membership Renewal letters were sent out in early December. Over 100 have renewed already. Thank You! If you do not have a Renewal envelope, you can still easily renew by going to our website and renewing electronically. Membership still starts at only \$40 per year for a family, \$25 for an individual.

Well that's all for this month. We hope you enjoy this little newsletter as much as we do writing it. See you next time in "What's Happening"

