

## President's Message

We're coming to the end of another year, and I've been thinking about the many happenings at the Carlsbad Historical Society this past year.

We had a wonderful annual meeting/rancho visit---with our traditional ice cream social, regular board meetings, our election of officers, and more!

We've had volunteer docents for every Friday, and a super-knowledgeable paid docent/archivist on Saturdays and Sundays. Our historical items have been safely stored in a correct manner to preserve and protect them. Our computer list of archival materials and physical items in Magee House has been updated.

Susan and Germán Gutierrez have put out a series of fantastic newsletters. Susan has been responsible for setting up new displays at the house. If you haven't been there lately, I recommend that you come for a visit.

Better yet, why not schedule a private tour ending with a 2-course tea in our Victorian dining room? Call to schedule one now!

As always, we are looking for more volunteer help. Don't be shy, or think you don't know enough. We have many, many needs, and are always willing to instruct if necessary.

Coming up in early December, we especially need volunteers to help set up the Christmas decorations at the house. We'll let you know more about the date very soon.

Also, we are always looking for new members. Marvin Sipple has done a fantastic job at getting new members to join! You can help. If every current member brought in just one new member, our rolls would double! You could help tremendously by bringing in one (or more) new members. Please try.

We hope to see you all visiting the house soon. December would be a great time to do that!

## The CHS adobe houses historic tour

The CHS adobe houses historic tour was held recently on October 2<sup>nd</sup> with about 80 members attending. The annual meeting and elections were held in conjunction with the tours.

The house site of Juan Maria Marron, the original recipient of the Mexican Land Grant called Rancho Agua Hedionda, was first toured. Current owner Karen Kelly and Sara Kelly hosted the home located on El Camino Real near College Blvd. Juan was a prominent Mexican citizen who applied and received the grant in the 1840's. Patriarch Robert Kelly, whose family inherited the property, lived in the house later; more recently Carrol and Alice Kelly remodeled and added a new adobe built by the Weir Brothers of Escondido. Members were given a tour of the lush gardens and attractive home.



*Visitors at the Marron Adobe*

The second home was the built by Weir Brothers for Allan and Katherine Kelly in 1960 near Cannon Drive, located on a hill with views overlooking the Agua Hedionda Lagoon. Allan was a cousin of Carrol Kelly, both being born on the Rancho. Marvin Sipple and Mary Scherr hosted. At this site the members were served with ice cream and toppings and toured the house and expansive gardens. These were developed by Katherine Kelly and gardener Moises Morales, and later improved by her daughter Lucia Kelly Sipple. Music by the Kenny and Richie Langen family was enjoyed by all.



*Kenny, Geary, Patti, Catalina and Richie Langen*

Parking was assisted by military and a volunteer from the Leo Carrillo historic rancho.

The historical society board is appreciative of all the recent new members who were in attendance.

### Annual Meeting Highlights

The Minutes from last year were approved by the attending members.

Results of the Elections were read: the incumbent candidates for President, Treasurer and Secretary were reelected unanimously, with no write-ins.

Our President recognized the outstanding achievement of our Vice President Marvin Sippel in organizing the tours and in recruiting new members. She also thanked the Langen family for providing musical entertainment and several Marines for helping with the parking and guidance.

(Our finances were reported to be in good shape. We have put some money into new displays, for example in the barn and for Third Grade Tours. We have also increased the hours for our paid docent.)

### Carlsbad Library Services - 60<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary

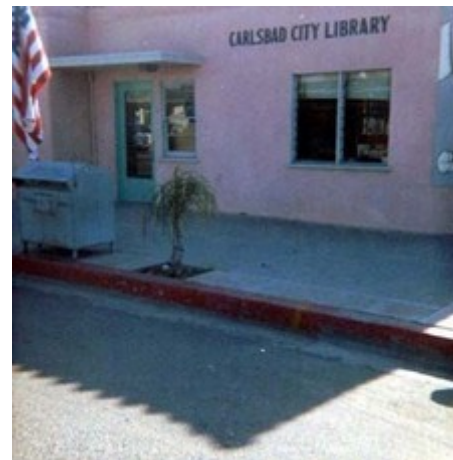
Between 1916 and 1956, San Diego County Library system provided a small collection of books for Carlsbad residents. Over the years the collection was housed in a variety of places such as dry goods stores and newspaper offices. Finally in 1953, San Diego County hired a part time librarian by the name of Georgina Cole. Under Cole's guidance the City of Carlsbad established their own library system in 1956. From such humble beginnings, the Carlsbad City Library now has two full service libraries. The City of Carlsbad Library has rapidly become one of the most progressive and heavily used libraries in the United States, and recently was ranked the 10th best library in the nation under the 50,000-100,000 population category.



In 1926 a small San Diego County library station with a few shelves of books was located in Chase's Store where it remained until 1931.



Shortly after the City of Carlsbad was incorporated in 1953, the county library was moved into a corner of the old St. Patrick's church and shared space with the newly founded Carlsbad City Police Department. With only 400 volumes of books available, the library was kept open only 18 hours a week.



By 1956 under the guidance of Georgina Cole the city's first librarian, the Carlsbad City library became a reality, and established its independence from the San Diego County System. By the end of the first year, the library holdings had increased to over 4,000 volumes, 1,400 of which came from Georgina Cole's personal library.

### Georgina Cole – remembrance by Geoff Armour

I had been working as a Reference Librarian at the University of Hawaii from 1972-75 when my wife and I decided it was time to move back to California. Both our families lived in the Los Angeles area, so we wanted to get back to somewhere in Southern California. It just happened that my father, Richard Armour, was a friend of Georgina Cole, Director of the Carlsbad City Library. He had given some lectures there and managed to contact Georgina about my interest in a library job. What I remember is that there was really no position available at that time, but Georgina was able to create one out of thin air and offer it to me. And just like that I became Head of Collection Development. I also learned, after working with

Georgina for several years, that she was a very strong-willed lady who had the guts (and the money) to do just about anything she wanted in the City. No one could stand in her way, including the Mayor and City Council members, if she was determined to get what she wanted. And it was always in the best interest of the Library and Library patrons. Georgina retired and moved back to Pennsylvania in 1983. Here is a poem I wrote for her that makes note of her tough spirit in dealing with City Council members who were not in accord with her wishes. Here are also two poems my father wrote for Georgina back in the early 1980's.



*Georgina Cole*

Geoff Armour  
November 2016

OWED TO GEORGINA

Lefty, Scotty, Mary too  
Met their match, their Waterloo,  
When they had the downright gall  
To fight the Queen of Taj Mahal.  
I bet they've never seen a soul  
As tough as our Georgina Cole.  
They came up short, they learned a lesson –  
They won't be back next Council session.

Geoff Armour  
December 1981

TO GEORGINA COLE

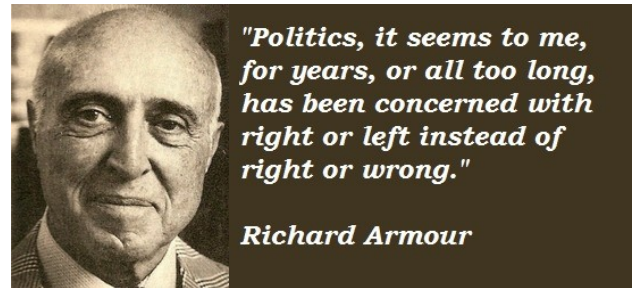
I've heard an unbelievable rumor.  
It may be a joke, but without any humor.  
And what is the rumor I've heard, can't believe?  
It's something, if true, that will make many grieve.  
To put it quite bluntly, I've heard it said  
That Carlsbad's Library's losing its Head.  
The Head Librarian's what I mean,  
A head full of brains and a mind that is keen,  
A Director who knows what's the right direction,  
One who has for books the warmest affection.

*Carlsbad Time Lines*

Yes, Georgina Cole, as if with a tether,  
Has tied Carlsbad's books and its people together.  
For many a year she has worked with the aim  
Of winning the Library wide acclaim.  
It's because Georgina was at the helm  
That we have this jewel at 1250 Elm.  
It's doubtful anyone else could have done  
Such a marvelous job – no, not anyone.  
For it took a perfectionist, all are aware,  
With perseverance and firmness to spare,  
To build a Library equal indeed  
To every Carlsbad community need.

Don't retire, Georgina, you're far too young,  
But if you must, then let praise be sung  
To you, what a library needs and wants:  
A devoted Director par excellence!

Richard Armour  
November 23, 1981



ODE TO GEORGINA COLE  
Head Librarian, Carlsbad City Library

Among librarians there is one  
Who basks not in the Carlsbad sun,  
But to her work gives heart and soul –  
I mean, of course, Georgina Cole.  
At work she's boss, her word is law,  
Her underlings view her with awe.  
At home, however, here's the trick:  
Georgina's boss is hubby Dick.

While others go for trashy mysteries,  
She likes biographies and histories.  
But really books of every sort,  
The light and heavy, long and short,  
She keeps for others on the shelves  
All stacked for them to read themselves.  
But next to books she has a mania  
For hometown folks in Pennsylvania.

Some friends there are who call her George,  
But not the George of Valley Forge,  
Who hardly would have been, of course,  
A girls' club's head and driving force.  
Yet like that early George, she leads



And founds and ever forward speeds.  
Although it's Carlsbad, it is good  
Georgina does, and others should.

Richard Armour  
1982

Here is a link to Richard Armour in Wikipedia:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Armour](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Armour)

### **Carlsbad Wikipedia Page**

Did you know that our City has a Wikipedia page? Anyone registered is allowed to edit this page, and registration is easy. If you find any corrections or want to see something new added, you can send us the information and we will submit the edits. [Here](#) is the link to the page.

### **Carlsbad Top Employers**

1. [ViaSat, Inc.](#) – communications
2. [Thermo Fisher Scientific](#) – biotechnology
3. [LEGOLAND California](#) – family theme park
4. [Carlsbad Unified School District](#) – government
5. [Omni La Costa Resort & Spa](#) – resort
6. [TaylorMade-Adidas](#) – golf equipment
7. [SGN Nutrition](#) – nutrition
8. [GIA \(Gemological Institute\)](#) – training/laboratory
9. [City of Carlsbad](#) – government
10. [OptumRx](#) – biotechnology

Source: [Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce](#)

### **New Memberships**

David and Michelle Kelly – Life Membership  
Kevin Bender  
Michael and Cate Schumacher  
Keith Blackburn  
John Rodenhausen  
Mary Swanson  
Matthew and Phyllis Hall

### **Upcoming Events**

November 21 – Board Meeting  
December 2 – School Tour

### **ONGOING PROGRAMS**

Volunteers are welcome for any of these areas:

- \*Friday Docent
- \*Third grade tours
- \*Private tours with Victorian teas
- \*Carlsbad history research
- \*Photo collection management

### **BOARD MEETINGS**

All members are welcome to attend our bimonthly Board of Directors meetings.

Meetings are held in the Magee House meeting room at 4pm on the third Monday of every other month. Meetings are held in the following months: January, March, May, July, September, and November.

### **Annual Dues**

Our annual dues are collected by the end of each year. Individual membership is \$25, family memberships are \$35, and business memberships are \$50. Please consider upgrading to a Life Membership for \$250.

#### **CHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President: Ginny Unanue  
1st Vice President: Connie Trejo  
2nd Vice President: Marvin Sippel  
Secretary: Susan S. Gutierrez  
Treasurer: Germán Gutierrez

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ShIPLEY-MAGEE HOUSE  
258 Beech Avenue Carlsbad CA 92008

Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11 to 3 pm.  
Private Tours with Tea are given  
Monday through Thursday  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

[www.carlsbadhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.carlsbadhistoricalsociety.com)