

THE HERITAGE HERALD

SUMMER 2012 Newsletter of the Eureka Heritage Society
Est. 1973 Eureka, California

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EUREKA CITY HALL LIVES ON IN MEMORY To Recall America's City Beautiful Movement

The 1904 City Hall was a fine example of the City Beautiful Movement philosophy for urban planning across North America, flourishing in the 1890s and early 1900s. The intent was to use beautification and buildings of monumental grandeur in the planning of our cities. The philosophy emphasized the necessity of order, dignity, and harmony.

1904—Eureka City Hall was an Italian Renaissance Revival designed by architect Joseph W. Rowell, San Francisco.

1905—Masonry building completed by Wilson-Lyon Construction Company, San Francisco.

1954—Earthquake damage was sustained. 1960—The City Hall was demolished.



On May 19, 2012, Eureka Heritage Society president Chuck Petty welcomed people to the formal rededication ceremony for the cornerstone of the original City Hall. The Commemorative Cornerstone Monument has been a collaborative project among the Heritage Society, Eureka Main Street, the City of Eureka, the Clarke Historical Museum, Humboldt Masonic Lodge No. 79, and Cornerstone Construction Company.

"Masonic Call for City Hall" was composed by Gilbert Cline for the rededication and performed by the Humboldt Bay Brass Quintet, which played for the entire ceremony.

Just behind Petty's left shoulder, Cornerstone Construction installs the stone in the proper position on the southwest corner of Third and G Streets, where the City Hall stood for all its lifetime. Originally carved in the cornerstone, saved and donated by the Clarke Museum, is the date A D 1904.



Humboldt Masonic Lodge No. 79 and state officers marched in dignity to the ceremony, and solemnly presented and applied its founding principles to the exact placement and measurement of the classic cornerstone. A bronze plaque will be affixed to the top. (See page 5)



Home Tour Sunday, October 7

includes a walking tour
to highlight and map
an area near
Jefferson School
proposed to be named
a historic district

Annual Holiday Luncheon Saturday, December 15 Ingomar Club

Heritage Action Calendar

All meetings – City Hall – 5th & K

City Council
1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 6:30 p.m.

Historic Preservation Commission
1st Wednesday – 4:00 p.m.

Design Review Committee
2nd & 4th Wednesdays – 3:30 p.m.

Planning Commission
2nd Monday – 5:30 p.m.

Board Members

Executive Committee

President	Chuck Petty
Vice President	Ron Kuhnel
Secretary	Kathy Dillon
Treasurer	Mary Ann McCulloch

Board of Directors

Muriel Dinsmore, Founding Director	
Mary Glavich	Paul McNally
Helen Hui	Lonnie Magellan
Kay Kaylor	Xandra Manns
Robin Kuhnle	Peter Santonio
Robert Libershal	Ray Swedenburg
Janet Warren	

The Board meets the first Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Eureka Woman's Club
1531 J Street

Committees and Chairs

Membership	Chuck Petty
Preservation	Ron Kuhnel
Events	Mary Glavich
Webmaster	Peter Santino
Education	Xandra Manns
Historic Plaques	Bob Libershal
Green Books	Mary Ann McCulloch
Archival Project	Bob Libershal
Volunteers	Lonni Magellan
Correspondence	Xandra Manns

Mission

The Eureka Heritage Society will provide leadership, education and advocacy that preserves and enhances Eureka's irreplaceable historic structures and neighborhoods so as to ensure a legacy for future generations.

Heritage Herald Staff

Jean Guthrie
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Janet Warren
444-3314

Contact us with your suggestions and comments!

Eureka Heritage Society website:
www.eurekaheritage.org

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HERITAGE YEAR 2012

A Message from Our President, Chuck Petty

The preservation world has been perking along quite nicely in 2012. The Eureka Heritage Society presented the 2012 preservation awards at the Eureka Woman's Club on May 5 before an appropriate audience. This year we presented four awards in the categories of Residential Preservation (Howatt House); Commercial Preservation (Loheide Building); Adaptive Reuse (The Speakeasy); and Preservationist of the Year (Robin Kuhnle).

On Saturday, May 19, the Eureka City Hall Commemorative Cornerstone Monument was dedicated on the corner of Third and G Streets, marking a collaborative project between the Humboldt Masonic Lodge No.79 and Bill Lenhoff, contractor and owner of the appropriately named Cornerstone Construction. Special thanks to Bob Libershal, Heritage Society board member, for coordinating all of these groups to make this day come together so well. This monument is an offshoot of the ongoing plaque program collaboration between the Heritage Society and Eureka Main Street that has recognized the significance of so many of the buildings in our Old Town district. The bronze plaque that is to be affixed to the top of the cornerstone monument was arranged for by Charlotte McDonald and Barbara Maxon through Eureka Main Street, and the cornerstone monument has been under the care of the Eureka Heritage Society, working closely with contractor Bill Lenhoff and the city engineer Kurt Gierlich to make this all come together. The Clarke Museum has been the custodian of the 1904 City Hall Cornerstone since the demolition of the building in 1960, and I thank the board of directors of the Clarke for donating the cornerstone to this worthwhile project. Thanks also go to the Merle Johnson family who donated back to the city two half-round granite pieces that originally flanked the front steps of the City Hall and will soon flank the sides of this cornerstone monument.

The Eureka Heritage Society also placed an exhibit highlighting the Jefferson School at the County Library in May for Preservation Month. I hope we all had a chance to check it out.

Our summer event was a little earlier than usual this year, thanks to realtor Marc Matteoli, who offered two lovely homes at 2434 and 2436 E Street for a special tea on June 30. Marc has the listing on these two homes, and owners, Rod and Linda Cade, and also the J.W. and Martha Clague family, graciously allowed the Society to host a unique tea and tour the homes. The Cade home is a stately Queen Anne built in 1905 by local builders Selby Maloy and A.C. Johnson. The Clague house is a stunning Pasadena style craftsman designed by Pasadena architects Arthur and Alfred Heineman and built in 1912.

We are still confirming homes for the home tour in October, so please send us your suggestions and let us know if you are willing to include your home on the tour this year. The events and education committees are focusing on a tour of the Clark district as the City of Eureka moves forward with the formation of the Clark Historic District. The Community Development Department of the City of Eureka is still working on the research needed for this historic district formation, and we will keep you posted as the project nears a City Council vote.



Cade home, Queen Anne



Clague home, Pasadena Craftsman

This Year's Preservation Awards

By Kathy Dillon

Three historical properties and the head of a local window company are this year's recipients of the Eureka Heritage Society's annual preservation awards. The presentation ceremony took place on May 5 at the Eureka Woman's Club in honor of National Preservation Month.

The Preservationist of the Year Award was given to Robin Kuhnle, president of her family's 61-year-old business, K&M Glass Company. Kuhnle recently developed custom wood storm windows that can be tailored to match or enhance any existing window. The effort, she said, was done in response to the wishes of a growing number of historical property owners who do not want to replace their buildings' original windows but still want optimum energy savings.

The Residential Award lauds the Howatt family home at 1922 F Street. Built in 1921 for Gilbert and Una Howatt, the house has been lived in by three generations of this family. It is currently the home of Gilbert and Una's grandson, Brett Howatt, and his family. The meticulously maintained English Cottage Revival house was designed by local architect F.T. Georgeson. It was among a series of Period Revival styles that were popular in America during the 1920s, when architects strove to capture the flavor of medieval England and Europe.



The Adaptive Reuse Award was presented to Karina Estrada for the stylish Speakeasy Bar she developed last year at 411 Opera Alley in Old Town. Located in the back section of Estrada's 1874 commercial building at 416 Second Street, the space was being used for storage when she purchased the structure in 2009. A subsequent trip to Louisiana convinced her that a New Orleans style bar would compliment Eureka's Old Town atmosphere. Indeed, she reports, the enterprise has been a success since day one.

The Commercial Preservation Award honors the 1902 Loheide Building, the Classical Revival structure at 109 Fifth Street that owner Dave Mulhern is faithfully restoring. This double-building boasts fluted ionic pilasters that separate tall, arched windows, paired square bay windows, fanlights, and a highly decorative cornice under a peaked parapet. Built for businessman W. Loheide, its first floor has always been retail space, while the second floor was used as a dance hall into the 1930s. It then became a meeting place for various clubs before its use as commercial space in recent times.



LOST EUREKA - Second in a Series The Russian (or Dutch) Castle

By Chuck Petty



Thanks to Ray Hillman and Bob Libershal for their research and to Steve Lazar for the only known photograph of this marvel.

This is the curious tale of Eureka's short-lived castle at 2310 Union Street. Several prominent historians have written about this startling building, attributing it to a Dutch or Russian immigrant to Eureka by the name of Franz Bernau. (His name sounds so German to me.) Franz Bernau came to Eureka sometime before 1896, as indicated in an article written by local historian Wallace Martin for the *Humboldt Standard*, August 27, 1896.

"For the past five months decorators have been at work on the interior of St. Bernard's Catholic Church in this city, and the building now presents a beautiful appearance. Every inch of the walls, ceiling, beams and pillars are covered with the artist's work. The ceilings are painted in imitation of a sky with floating clouds and present a very natural appearance. The work was done by Mr. F. Bernau and assistants."

Mr. Bernau and his wife Hedwig purchased the property at 2310 Union Street from John Ryan on August 26, 1901, and the mysterious castle began to rise on this site shortly thereafter. Although Mr. Bernau was an artist and decorator who worked on a number of public buildings in Eureka, he was not very social and his neighbors knew very little about him, according to Wallace Martin, who grew up across the street.

LOST EUREKA'S RUSSIAN (OR DUTCH) CASTLE , continued

Mrs. Bernau died of typhoid fever on August 19, 1910, and Mr. Bernau became even more of a recluse. He sold his castle to Elizabeth Palmtag on April 1, 1912, and moved from Eureka.

The owners promptly moved part of the castle in March 1914 from Union Street to a lot four blocks south of Harris Street and then sold the remaining structure that April. The remaining structure was turned into apartments, serving in that capacity until it was demolished in 1961. According to Wallace Martin, many legends circulated about the "castle." Neighborhood children believed it was haunted. Their parents scoffed at the idea, but some of the more cautious residents would walk on the opposite side of the street when coming home late at night.



Take a close look at the photograph of this marvelous structure. Have you seen anything in Eureka or anywhere else quite as unique and eclectic? Towers and crenellations, arches and balustrades, a mixture of building materials from redwood shingles to plaster reliefs and molded concrete. The only element remaining today is part of the cast concrete fence lining Union Street along the sidewalk. Sometime when you are driving along Union Street, try to visualize a day when the Carson Mansion was not the only castle in Eureka.

Eureka Stands Out in "A Country's Attic, On Display"

The New York Times on Thursday, May 3, 2012, featured a photo of "The Carson House in Eureka, Calif." at the top and center of the Design Notebook. The full caption for this photo reads: *By the late 19th Century, housing construction had become a major industry. The Carson House of Eureka, California, is the apogee of Victorian style.*

The *NY Times* printed photograph is attributed to Jack E. Boucher; Library of Congress, Historic American Buildings Survey.

Completing City Hall's Classic Cornerstone



Though the installed cornerstone remains unadorned, the Masonic Lodge placed a symbolic ornament to the top and measured for another bronze plaque on the day of the rededication ceremony. When the plaque and stonework are put in place, the memory of Eureka City Hall will come to life.

English Tea and Two Homes to See for EHS Summer Event Founder Muriel Dinsmore Raises Our Cups to Toast Tea in the Rain



Muriel Dinsmore came from Petaluma for the EHS tea.



Welcome! Tea will be served outdoors in the garden.



When we've enjoyed tea and talking, we will go next door.



The sumptuous savories and sweets are ready to go!



October 7 Home Tour Plans

The EHS is preparing for the October 2012 Home Tour, which will focus on the historic homes in the West Eureka neighborhoods, primarily in the Clark district. The Tour includes homes from the Vernacular, Victorian, Craftsman, and Period Revival periods of Eureka history.

A map of the area highlighting other historic houses that are on the routes between the open tour homes, though not open, will be included in the ticket, as we hope that the Tour will be partly a walking tour. Some additional homes a bit outside the area will be open and listed on the map for the entire Tour.

The houses, dotting the area between A and D, Wabash and Eighth Streets, are clustered around or very near to Jefferson School, which is under development by the neighborhood nonprofit that recently purchased the property for community-serving uses. The school will be a featured property on the Tour and refreshments will be served there.

By Xandra Manns

2013 Eureka Heritage Society Membership Form

___ **New** or ___ **Renewing Member** (January to January)

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ___ \$20 Individual | ___ \$50 Nonprofit Sponsor | ___ \$150 Patron |
| ___ \$30 Family | ___ \$75 Private Sponsor | ___ \$300 Benefactor |
| ___ \$10 Student/Senior | ___ \$75 Business Sponsor | ___ \$500 Life Member |
| ___ \$15 Senior Family | | |

Additional Contribution (s) to the Eureka Heritage Society for:

- \$ _____ **Scholarship Fund**
\$ _____ **Carson Carriage Maintenance Fund**
\$ _____ **Emergency Preservation Fund**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

**Enclosed is my check in the total amount of \$ _____
payable to Eureka Heritage Society.**

The Eureka Heritage Society needs volunteers.

*If you are interested in volunteering, or need further information, contact our
Volunteer Coordinator Lonni Magellan at 442-7819 or email at heylonni@yahoo.com*

- Events, including annual Home Tour: docents, host/hostess, serving refreshments
- Education
- Publications, including mailing and distribution
- Archival Project and Research
- Serving on the Board

Additional comments/suggestions: _____

Mail to:

Eureka Heritage Society P.O. Box 1354 Eureka, CA 95502-1354



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CR COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS - HPRT
Historic Preservation and Restoration Technology Classes

A.S. Degree Option

<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Units</i>
Intro. to HPRT	3.0
Architectural History	3.0
Research/Documentation	3.0
Historic Building Analysis	3.0
Field Techniques	3.0
Architectural Millwork	3.0
Material Sciences (select 8 units)	
Wood	2.0
Masonry/Plaster	2.0
Interior Surface Materials	2.0
Glass	4.0
Casting/Mold Making	4.0
Survey of Wood Technology	3.0
Carpentry Theory I	3.0
Beginning Carpentry I	3.0
Technical Drawing Fundamentals	3.0
Occupational Safety and Health	3.0
<i>Total Major Units</i>	41.0

Certificate of Achievement Option is available and requires a total of 20.0 units.