

Calendar of Events

Now through January 29, 2006—**CONSTRUCTION TOYS IN MOTION**, Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Avenue, (650) 321-1004. Open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free.

Sunday, November 6, 2 p.m.—**RECALLING PALO ALTO MAYORS**, 16 past mayors recall their term in office. Palo Alto Historical Association, **Children's Theater**, Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield.

Friday, December 2, 6-10 p.m. and Saturday, December 3, 12-5 p.m.—**SANTA CLARA HISTORIC HOME TOUR**. For ticket information, call (408) 249-7905.

Sunday, December 4, 2 p.m.—**MEMORIES OF PALO ALTO**, Palo Alto Historical Association. Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road.

Tuesday, December 6—Monday, December 12—**TOUR THE HP GARAGE AND HOUSE**, 367 Addison Street.

Sunday, December 11 1-4 p.m., **PAST HERITAGE HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR OF OLD PALO ALTO**. (See cover.)

Ongoing—**WALKING TOURS OF DOWNTOWN, PROFESSORVILLE, COLLEGE TERRACE, OR HOMER AVENUE**. To arrange a tour, call (650) 328-5670. or visit www.pastheritage.org for contact information.

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PAST Website: www.pastheritage.org

PAST Hotline: (650) 299-8878

Publicity JudyAnn Edwards

Editor: Carolyn George

Photos: Carolyn George

Contributors: Ralph Britton, Natalie Wells



PAST News

Palo Alto Stanford Heritage
P.O. Box 308
Palo Alto, CA 94302

PAST Heritage is a nonprofit organization advocating the preservation of the historic architecture, neighborhoods, and character of the greater Palo Alto Stanford area.

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PAST News

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Autumn 2005

18th Annual Holiday House Tour Sunday, December 11 1 to 4 p.m. Charming Old Palo Alto

Tour Highlights

- Houses large and small
- A 1927 house that is still in the original owners' family
- A former home of Gerda Isenberg, founder of Yerba Buena Native Plant Nursery
- Batchelder fireplace bricks
- Palo Alto High School Madrigals
- Tickets available the day of the tour at the 1902 Gamble House, 1431 Waverley Street, for \$25.



Be sure to order your tickets now and join us on Sunday, December 11, from 1 to 4 p.m., to stroll through these lovely Old Palo Alto homes!

(Ticket order form on page 3)

The Caroline Chronicles

Fall is upon us and our 18th annual Holiday House Tour is around the corner. The baby who accompanied me on tours of Professorville in her sunbonnet is now a freshman at Paly. The **Green Gables** and **Greenmeadow** neighborhoods, built for my parents' generation as they started new families, are now a part of the National Register of Historic Places. University Avenue is home to a misplaced building from some other town's mall. The **AME Zion Church** on Ramona and the **Cardinal French Laundry** patiently await their fate, which looks to be as part of a major office building, at odds with the human scale of Homer Avenue. Progress, in all its many forms, embraces Palo Alto.

I was pleased this fall to hear the **Architectural Review Board** expressing a desire for compatibility with historic structures, decrying a lack of street level access to the proposed office building on Homer Avenue and sounding newly attuned to preservation in Palo Alto.

My involvement in the Holiday House Tour this year, my first as more than a docent, has allowed me to focus on the fact that, although the demolition and new construction in town catches our eye, we are fortunate to have many wonderful old historic

homes still with us. The PAST Board and membership are extremely grateful to our members who have agreed to open up their houses for our benefit and to the **Gamble House** for providing us with not only a lovely 1902 home for the tour, but also a lovely setting in which to enjoy refreshment and music. It is very exciting this year to be able to explore a different part of town and we look forward to sharing old Palo Alto with you.

We are starting a new **docent class** in late January. Talk to your friends who might enjoy an opportunity to educate and entertain and encourage them to contact me. Research on century old houses continues and we are expanding our activities during Preservation Month in May.

The Board is forming a committee to plan and produce future Holiday House Tours. If this is something that interests you or if you would enjoy sharing your house on the tour, let us know. When you decide how you'd like to become more involved, please email me at president@pastheritage.org

See you in December,
Caroline Willis,
President, PAST Heritage

California Preservation Foundation Workshops:

Tune Up Your Historic Preservation Program

Surveys and evaluations were explained, including details of what a DPR (Department of Parks and Recreation) Historic Resources Inventory form really looks like and why each bit of information is important.

Preservation Basics—What Preservation Really Means, What's True and What Works.

The session on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), stressed the importance of having a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** and including all comments/proposals in the public record.

Natalie Wells

It's Time to Join PAST or Renew Your Membership

Since our membership year is September to August, your dues are due. Membership in PAST includes complimentary tickets to the Holiday House tour on December 11. Individual members receive one ticket and other levels receive two. **Extra tickets are \$20 before December 1 and \$25 thereafter.**

To the many of you who have already sent in your dues, thank you very much. Tickets will be mailed at the end of November.

The National Register of Historic Places Has Grown!



This summer two important Palo Alto Eichler neighborhoods, **Green Gables** and **Greenmeadow**, were added to the National Register of Historic Places. They join a modern neighborhood in Richland, Washington as the only subdivisions on the West Coast on the National Register.

Please indicate interests here:

- Advocating for preservation
- Researching 1906 houses
- Mailing parties
- Host/Hostessing at the Holiday House Tour
- Helping with refreshments

Membership categories:

- \$25 Individual
- \$40 Family
- \$75 Sponsor
- \$100 Patron
- \$500 Lifetime

New Renewal

Number of extra tickets to the Holiday House Tour. _____ \$ _____

Total amount enclosed. _____ \$ _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____ email _____

Please make check payable to PAST Heritage and mail to us at P.O. Box 308, Palo Alto, California 94302
Because PAST Heritage is a tax-exempt charitable organization, contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.