



One of the oldest photographs of the Olde Community Church, from about 1904. Notice the sparse landscaping, the water tank and windmill at right, the lack of power lines (no electricity yet) — and the horse's nose (at left). (Source: LHS Archives)

LAKESIDE'S COMMUNITY CHURCH IS 130 YEARS OLD

Lakeside's first church was organized in March 1893 with 13 charter members. For a few years, services were conducted on the front porch of the legendary Lakeside Inn. Plans for a building of their own took shape in 1895 and, after buying the corner lot at Maine and Parkside from the El Cajon Valley Company, construction began at the end of that year. The church was quickly completed and the first services in the new sanctuary were held on February 9, 1896. The church was officially dedicated the following March 29.

The church bell is original to the building and was created by the C.S. Bell Company of Ohio. A family organization established in 1875 (yes, the Bell family was making bells!), they finally shut down in 2022.

The first addition to the site was the parsonage (or manse), built in October of 1911 by the historic W.D. Hall Company

Continued on page 3

Proposed 2026 LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Budget 1-14-2026

INCOME: Operating	Budget '25	'25 Act.	2026
Annual Memberships	\$2,000	\$2,225	\$2,000
Interest Income	\$7,000	\$7,416	\$7,000
Building Use (Weddings & Other Building Rentals.)	\$7,000	\$7,425	\$7,000
Cash Donations (Sponsorship Donations included in Ways and Means)	\$3,000	\$22,117 ¹	\$3,000
Memorials (Net after expenditures for Plaques & Memorial Events.)	\$1,500	\$1,453 ²	\$1,500
Ways and Means (Net after all event, project & store expenditures.)	\$22,000	\$30,201	\$25,000
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$42,500	\$70,904	\$45,500
EXPENDITURES: Operating	Budget '25	'25 Act.	2026
President's Budget (Includes Meeting Programs and Pub. & Advertising)	\$3,000	\$2,365	\$3,000 ³
Memberships & Outreach (includes LHS web site & some Liv. History)	\$3,000	\$1,591	\$3,000
Archives	\$1,000	\$512	\$1,300
Museum (Unexpended funds from previous years to be rolled forward.)	\$1,000	\$1,119	\$1,000
Publicity & Advertising (included in President's Budget)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Newsletter (Includes printing & postage for 12 newsletters)	\$3,000	\$1,729	\$3,000
Utilities (Elect, Gas, Water, Phone, Trash & Internet)	\$8,000	\$7,085	\$8,500
Property Taxes (School Bonds & Parcel Fees) & Other Fees	\$1,000	\$965	\$1,200
Insurance (Fire & Liability)	\$6,000	\$5,155	\$7,000
Office (Equipment, Repairs and Supplies)	\$1,000	\$545	\$1,000
Property Repairs, Preservation & Enhancement	\$10,000	\$7,884 ⁴	\$11,000
Yard Maintenance and Interior Cleaning	\$2,000	\$1,546	\$2,000
Supplies & Miscellaneous	\$1,500	\$1,026	\$2,000
Expenditure Reserve	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$42,500	\$31,552	\$45,500

Foot Notes:

¹ Paul Rosenberger Bequest of \$20,000 included in this number.

² These funds are donated by individuals in memory of those that have passed. Memorial Funds are rolled forward from year to year and used for items or improvements that are, "visible and durable."

³ \$2,549.02 year-end balance in Presidents Budget will be carried over into 2026.

⁴ Replacement/Upgrade of window shades in Olde Church and Manse largely funded by \$5,000 from Derelyn Prendergast Bequest and \$2,000 from Memorial Fund.

Special Note:

1. Approval of \$10,000 draw from reserves for Building Preservation, if needed in 2026.

Submitted by Gordon L. Shackelford, LHS Treasurer

(Above) The proposed 2026 LHS Budget is posted for your review, per our Bylaws. The Board has recommended it be forwarded to the membership for approval. A vote will be taken at the March 2026 General Meeting.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING LHS EVENTS

Meetings & events are held at LHS History Center unless noted

GIFT SHOP / MUSEUM HOURS

OPEN: Tuesday - Thursday & Saturday: 10 am - 1 pm *** CLOSED: Sunday, Monday & Friday

ARCHIVES OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY

Coming in March

MUSEUM COMMITTEE: Thu, Mar 5 @ 10 am
 BOARD MEETING: Thu, Mar 12 @ 4 pm (NEW TIME!)
 VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON: Sat, Mar 14 @ 11 am
Catered lunch & fun! Must RSVP!
 GENERAL MEETING: Mon, Mar 23 @ 6 pm
Coffee & Desserts + History Presentation:
'The Granny Martin Story'
By Cherry Diefenbach, Mtn Empire Historical Society

Coming in April

MUSEUM COMMITTEE: Thu, Apr 2 @ 10 am
 BOARD MEETING: Thu, Apr 9 @ 4 pm (NEW TIME!)
 Lakeside Rodeo: Apr 23-26
Rodeo Stadium & Grounds
 WESTERN DAYS BREAKFAST: Sat, Apr 25 @ 7-9 am
 Western Days Parade: Sat, Apr 25 @ 9:30 am
Woodside & Maine Avenues
 NO GENERAL MEETING IN APRIL

In Remembrance

*Linda Barnett, Lifetime Member
1947—2026
Roger Howes, Lifetime Member
1932—2024*

Our Heartfelt Condolences

TO LHS MEMBER DENISE MEILE
For the recent loss of her father.

OLDE COMMUNITY CHURCH AT 130

Continued from page 1

for \$1500. To that point, Lakeside had no regular pastor and one had to travel here from El Cajon every Sunday. A garage was also built then, originally between the chapel and the manse. It was later moved behind the manse.

The Social Hall was added to the original chapel in 1914. It was also used for Sunday School. After 1951, it became an extension of the chapel and the Sunday School was moved over to the Kiwanis building on Woodside (which is now part of the Children's Choice Academy).

In 1948, two surplus Army barracks were added to the west side of the building (now the Gift Shop). Restroom were added for the first time.

By the late 1940s, the need for a larger facility was becoming evident. The "new" presbyterian church was built and opened its doors on January 13, 1963.

The old church was used for a variety of things after regular services ceased, including a thrift shop and an art gallery, but by the 1980s the 90-year-old structure was in poor condition. Enter the Lakeside Historical Society! When the fate of the historic building was in doubt, LHS stepped up and leased it with the intention of restoring it. It was an incredible years-long effort to fix-up the old place, but with dedicated volunteers and huge community support the mission was accomplished. LHS was then able to purchase the facility in 1993. By 1996, we had paid off the mortgage (not coincidentally, 1996 was also the centennial anniversary of the church building itself!). The mortgage burning party was an epic moment in the history of LHS.

Today, we continue to care for our largest artifact with dedication and respect.

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

The official publication of the Lakeside Historical Society since 1980

Gary E. Mitrovich, Editor

garyemit@gmail.com * (619) 749-3630

*Articles, stories, emails & photos welcome * Deadline: 2nd Friday of the month*

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE: Richard Hensle * Cherry Diefenbach

Tom Isom * Gordon Shackelford * Pennie McMahon * The Newsletter Mailing Crew

Printed by College Copy Center

MARCH MILESTONES

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS!

Ida Cook
Patti Wilson
Mikki Balicki

NEW MEMBERS!

Katherine Hoffman
Gamino Balen

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Danell Melville Marks
- 1 Geraldine Morrin
- 3 Patricia Heger
- 4 Donna Fae Kephart Brunot
- 5 Penelope Rose Parks
- 5 Karen Stanford
- 7 Richard Canfield
- 8 April Langill
- 9 Michael Atkinson
- 9 Cathie Doran Ditomaso
- 10 Velmalyn Kanady Magill
- 10 Billy Ortiz
- 11 Karen Kuhn Stephens
- 12 Tom Claycomb
- 12 Craig Fellows
- 12 Barbara Meyer
- 13 Leslie Ann Reeder
- 14 Patsy Ford
- 15 Margaret Tuitel
- 21 Nancy Sharpnack
- 22 Emery J Elles
- 22 George Savage
- 23 Louise Savage Seiber
- 24 Joseph Horger
- 24 Patti Wilson
- 27 Joan Buckel
- 27 Gregory Cranham
- 27 Maryanne Vancio
- 28 Robbie M. Harding III
- 30 Dale Melville
- 31 Donna Kuhner Martens

ANNIVERSARIES

- Lakeside Water District—102
- Steve & Gloria Dunkel—52
- Western Foundation & Shoring—48
- Lisa Anderson & Greg Smith—44
- Carolyn & John Sandoval—38
- Barbara Donahoo & Jim McCauley—31
- Rick & Deanne Markle—29
- Danel Melville & Jack Marks—28



LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

9906 Maine Avenue
Lakeside, CA 92040
(619) 561-1886
www.lakesidehistory.org

**MARCH 2026
EMAIL EDITION**

1896 OLDE COMMUNITY CHURCH 130TH ANNIVERSARY

LHS GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026
6:00 p.m.

OLDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
9906 MAINE AVENUE—LAKESIDE

VAQUERO—THE GRANNY MARTIN STORY

By Cherry Diefenbach, Mtn Empire Historical Society



Author Cherry Diefenbach, will describe the colorful life of Elihu Granville "Granny" Martin, San Diego County's famous cowboy. Born in San Diego in 1895, Granny lived in Alpine, Campo, Cuyamaca, Descanso, Lakeside, Mount Laguna, and Vallecito. He spent many years in the saddle, moving cattle from inland ranges to mountain valleys and to the desert. He even worked for the Campo Cattle Company from 1921 to 1929.

Copies of *VAQUERO* will be available for purchase after the meeting for \$38. Cherry will also bring copies of the other local history books she has written. We hope you will join us for a most entertaining presentation about "the way things used to be."

COFFEE & DESSERTS PROVIDED — FREE!

Call us at (619) 561-1886 for more information

 **LAKESIDE 1886-2026
140 YEARS**

**Lakeside Historical Society
Volunteer Appreciation
Lunch**

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

It's time for our annual luncheon to honor and thank all our hardworking volunteers who do so much for us throughout the year!

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Olde Community Church

9906 Maine Avenue

GAMES & LUNCH PROVIDED

(MEXICAN FOOD!)

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED,
PLEASE!**

For Info & Reservations

Call (619)561-1886

Please R.S.V.P. By March 9th



From 1922: looking east on Sycamore Road (Lakeshore Drive today). It was a significant business district then. At left, John B. Rumsey's store was a busy place. Rumsey bought the lot in 1911 and built his store the following year. That building stands today as the home of Affordable Rain gutters. The space between Rumsey's and the next building was later enclosed. The Lakeside Meat Market was opened by butcher and hotel operator Harvey Woodman in about 1912, who was also the original proprietor of the hotel next door, originally the Hotel Woodman. It later became (and is better known as) the Hotel Zeno. Here, it is the Lakeside Hotel, a name it bore from 1920 to 1930 (the future and more commonly known Lakeside Hotel was still called the Lindo at this point in time and was located behind the photographer). The hotel included an ice cream soda shop (the sign is visible). The white building on the corner of Sycamore and Maine is the then-new Lakeside Commercial & Savings Bank. The side of the Lakeside Store is barely seen at right. (Thanks to Tom Isom for sharing this great photograph!)