

HISTORICAL

LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



HAPPENINGS

LHS ESTABLISHED 1972

Volume 46, #7E

July 2026

LHS STUFF

Even though LHS goes “dark” in the summertime, we still have a lot going on.

On July 4, 2026, the United States of America will celebrate its 250th birthday—Happy Birthday USA! Freedom Bells has created a nationwide, synchronized event where bells will be tolled across the country to commemorate America's independence. The movement encourages communities, schools, and individuals to ring physical or digital bells at exactly 12:00 noon local time on July 4th. Since we have a REAL bell, a group of LHS members will meet at our Olde Community Church at about 11:30 a.m. to honor our country. It will be casual and informal, so feel free to join us!

Connor Hall and Gary Mitrovich are working together to address our concerns about the historic (and dilapidated) Castle House. More information to come.

Sometime around the third week in July, the church will be getting a new roof! (It's only been about 40 years.) For safety reasons, the entire facility will be closed during construction, but it should only take about a week. Local company Davis Roofing is doing the job.

There's a new sign on the Fire Bell/Ring display in the parking lot. Take a look and see what you think. Another sign will soon be completed for the old fire plug next to it. This area is dedicated to our local fire history.

And don't forget our Vintage and Collectibles Sale coming up in August! We'll be open on Friday, August 7 and Saturday, August 8 – from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on both days – in our air-conditioned historic church. Stop by and see what we have.

At the end of 2025, the Board decided to change its regular meeting time for a six month test period. The goal (and hope) was to see if we can get more of our members involved by attending these meetings. We reviewed this project at the May Board Meeting and determined that the change had no affect on attendance. So, beginning in July, the Board is going back to the 10:00 a.m. meeting time, but we are changing the day to the second Wednesday of the month (note the change on the Calendar of Upcoming LHS Events, *at right*). Members are always welcome to attend. If you have a presentation to make, please contact one of our co-presidents at (619) 561-1886 to get on the agenda.

Lakeside Historical Society presents
Vintage & Collectables
SALE
Hosted by the LHS History Museum Committee

TWO DAYS!!
August 7 & 8, 2026
Friday & Saturday—9:00 am to 2:00 pm—BOTH DAYS
Don't worry about the heat - we'll be inside our air conditioned
OLDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
9906 Maine Avenue in Historic Downtown Lakeside
****Glassware, Hats, Dishes, Jewelry, Notions, Vintage Clothing,
Miscellaneous Museum Items & more!****
*For more information,
call us at*
(619) 561-1886
Jewelry

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING LHS EVENTS

MUSEUM MEETING: Thu, Jul 2 @ 10 am
America @ 250: Toll the Bells: Sat, Jul 4 @ 12 pm
BOARD MEETING: **Wed, Jul 8 @ 10 am (NEW)**
ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Sun, Jul 12 @ 11:30 am—3 pm

Coming in August

NO MUSEUM MEETING IN AUGUST
VINTAGE SALE: Aug 7 & 8 @ 9 am—2 pm
BOARD MEETING: **Wed, Aug 12 @ 10 am (NEW)**
ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Sun, Aug 16 @ 11:30 am—3 pm
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
MUSEUM OPEN UPON REQUEST OR APPOINTMENT

THEN AND NOW



Forace and Vivienne Boyd came to Lakeside in 1944 and opened a real estate office on Maine Avenue (*top photo, from 1951*). His slogan was, “Dirt Peddlers of the Golden State” and his partner was Ned Bowker. That building is still standing at 10021 Maine (*center photo*). In 1959, Boyd moved his office to 12250 Woodside Avenue (*photo below*), with his partner Billy Lawler (now home to San Diego-Style Sombrero Mexican Food).

The Boyds were members of our Olde Community Church back in the day, with Forace serving on the board of trustees and Vivienne regularly playing the organ. Boyd was an original founder of the Grossmont Hospital district, on its Board of Directors, and served as president. In 1977, a new hospital wing was named after him. Boyd was president of the Lakeside Chamber of Commerce, a charter member (and once president) of the local Kiwanis, and much more.

The Boyd’s granddaughter, June Lowman, currently lives in North Carolina and is writing a book on her grandparents (which we hope to offer in our Gift Shop when it’s done).



Member Spotlight



ALLENE HEAD SAVAGE

This month we are honoring our First Lady of Lakeside, Allene Head Savage, just in time for her 100th birthday!

Allene has lived in the El Monte Valley for 97 years! And **that’s only because she spent three years in Washington State.** She attended Lakeside Grammar School, Grossmont High School, and San Diego State College. She married Dale Savage in 1945; they had three children together (and she now has two grandkids and three great grandkids). Allene worked for the Grossmont Union School District for 22 **years and retired from her role as the Principal’s Secretary** at El Capitan High School in 1976.

Allene joined LHS in the 1970s, after her famous local father (Joseph Head) was awarded an Honorary Life membership with us. She worked for many years in the Archives and collaborated on several of our Lakeside history books, including “History of Lakeside Schools” and “Lakeside Dairies,” notably with Edna Kouns and Cathy Hanson.

What does she like best about LHS? “The people I worked with were the BEST! And there was a great satisfaction in bringing to light bits of forgotten or unknown history about Lakeside.” Allene added, “I wish I could go back and do it all over again!”

We wish Allene the happiest of birthdays and are so honored and fortunate that she’s celebrating the big 100! Thank you, Allene, for all you have done and still do for us!

LHS LIVING HISTORY 2026—BY STACY HENSLE



Lakeside Historical Society's Annual Living History was held on June 2 to 4, to expose our third graders to what it was like years ago. I want to thank all the volunteers who came out on June 1, setting up all the stations, the pop-ups so our demonstrators and the kids would be shaded, and the "cow" wranglers. We could not have done this without all of you. Thank you to all who worked at the following stations: Clothes Washing, Cow Milking, Button Sewing, Button on a String, Old Fashioned Games, Braiding, and Bell Ringing. This year we had a new addition to our event, Blacksmith Richard Willis, who the students thoroughly enjoyed. We also had The Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association, Branch #22. The students love all the great equipment and stuff the gentlemen bring to our event. Thank you to all the men (and their supportive wives, some of whom that were in attendance). Thanks to Cheryl Chelius for her spinning wheel demonstration, as well as Barbara Meyer and Lisa Sharp for their hands-on knitting and crocheting. Security for our event/facilities each night was Tracy McMillen. Thanks to Pennie McMahan and Barbara Hogue for feeding all of us. Your food is always delicious!

Again, thank you to all who worked on the setup, staffing the stations, and helping with the cleanup. We couldn't do it without all of you.

In Loving Memory

Donations have been made in the loving memory of:

**Richard "Dick" Canfield
Cathie Ditomaso**

When you make a monetary donation to our Memorial Fund for a friend or loved one, a brass plaque will be made with their name, date of birth and death, and placed on the Memorial Wall in our History Center. The family receives a written notification; the donor receives a written thank you, which can be used for tax donation purposes.

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

The official publication of the Lakeside Historical Society since 1980

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

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE:

Richard Hensle * Stacy Hensle * Barbara Hogue * June Lowman * Allene Head Savage
* Cathy Wolpers * Pennie McMahan & the Newsletter Mailing Crew

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JULY MILESTONES

NEW MEMBERS

TODD & STEPHANIE HENDERSON

NETTY HALL

IDA MACKIN

NEW HONORARY MEMBER

TIM MELVILLE

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Andrea Gail Van Ness Shields
- 2 Cindy Sullivan
- 3 Sandra Macpherson
- 3 Sr. Anna Mary Meyer
- 4 Mary Jean Barham
- 4 Martha Maddox
- 6 Wyatt Allen
- 6 Rick Yeager
- 8 Lois Jeanne Farnsworth-Ratray
- 9 Andrew Hayes
- 9 Richard Hegyi
- 10 Joyce Bradshaw Barner
- 10 Julie Daly
- 11 Dalene Melville Garrett
- 12 Judith A. Taggart
- 13 William "Bill" Jenkin
- 14 Marjorie Herms Hatcher
- 18 Allene Head Savage – **100!**
- 19 Andrea Canfield
- 19 Pennie M. Barrows Mc Mahon
- 20 Catherine Hansen
- 20 George Shaeffer
- 21 Lisa Sharp
- 22 Tammy Brass
- 22 Sandy Fisher
- 22 Charles Kephart
- 24 Janis Shackelford
- 26 Dr. John Robuck
- 27 Sherry Golden-Reece
- 28 Dianne Jacob
- 28 Denise Meile
- 31 Dr. Joseph Hansen
- 31 Roberta Callaway-Perry
- 31 Theodore W. Sherman

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LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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 (619) 561-1886
 www.lakesidehistory.org

JULY 2026
 EMAIL EDITION



Reminiscent of the Beatles' famous Abbey Road album cover, three riders and their trusty steeds use the crosswalks to head east on Woodside Avenue at Maine Avenue—a welcome yet rare sight in Lakeside today.

LAKESIDE'S
Old Fashioned

Ice Cream Social
 Sunday, July 12, 2026
 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 In the courtyard of the
LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Sponsored by LHS and the Lakeside Royalty

Special Guests: Lionel's Legacy Senior Dog Rescue!

Our Lionel's friends will be in the courtyard with Pup Cups for your canine kids and some adoptable doggies to see.

JULY 4, 2026—CALL TO TOLL THE BELLS

In celebration of the 250th birthday of the United States of America, LHS will be ringing our historic church bell at noon, in conjunction with the Nationwide Call to Toll the Bells. If you care to join us, we will gather at the bell tower at 11:30 a.m. We start ringing the bell at noon and we will give all attendees the chance to ring the bell once.

Feel free to bring a snack or a (non-alcoholic) drink to enjoy while we congregate and honor our great country.



NOTICE!

The roofing project for our Olde Community Church is scheduled to begin on July 20. This should last for about one week. For safety reasons, the church facilities and its grounds will be closed to all LHS members and visitors during this construction period. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

MORE LIVING HISTORY DAYS 2026

