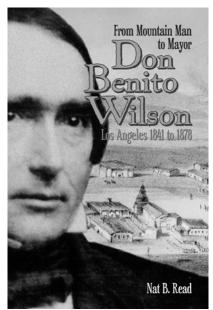
June 2009 The Newsletter of the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley

Issue 59

CURRENT HSCV INFORMATION

Don Benito Wilson: From Mountain Man to Mayor



Once upon a time, there was a remarkable man...

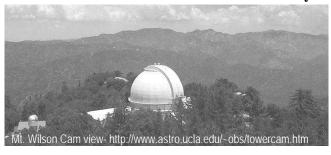
Author Nat Read reveals the amazing tale of the "pioneer, beaver trapper/ trader, grizzly bear hunter, Indian fighter, justice of the peace, farmer, rancher, politician, horticulturist, vintner, real estate entrepreneur, and one of the great landholders in Southern California". His holdings included what are now Altadena, Pasadena, South Pasadena, San Marino, Alhambra, Beverly Hills, Culver City, Riverside, and more. He faced near death experiences with Indians, grizzlies, and a firing squad. Mount Wilson is named after him.

This is a story people of all ages will want to hear.

Join us on Monday, June 15th, 7:00 p.m.

At the Center For Spiritual Living (formerly known as the La Crescenta Church of Religious Science) Located on the corner of Dunsmore and Santa Carlotta

History Tour of Mount Wilson Observatory Sunday June 28th 10 AM to Noon



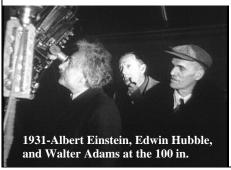
Mount Wilson (named for Benjamin Wilson) and the Mount Wilson Observatory are in our own back yards here in CV, yet few of us realize the groundbreaking discoveries in astronomy that have taken place there. The observatory was established in 1904 by George Emery Hale. The 60-inch and 100-inch telescopes housed there were the largest telescopes in the world for the first half of the 20th Century, making Mt. Wilson a Mecca for astronomers and cosmologists from around the world. Several innovations in astronomical thinking come from Mount Wilson, including the

concepts that the sun is not the center of the Milky Way, that many other galaxies exist outside the Milky Way, that they represent a variety of ages, and that they all appear to be moving away from each other. Although it is today eclipsed by more powerful and technologically advanced observatories, the Mt. Wilson Observatory continues as an important research center for colleges such as Cal State Berkeley, Georgia State, University of Illinois, UCLA, and USC.

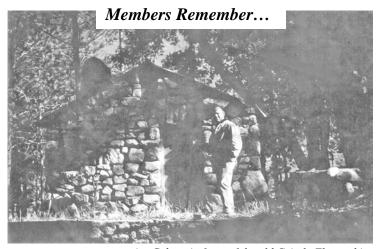
Our Mount Wilson Observatory History tour will include some light walking. Remember the temperature may be 20 degrees lower on Mt. Wilson, so dress accordingly. We have been invited to eat our lunches at the Skyline Park Pavilion on the grounds of the observatory, so

bring a picnic lunch and stay and socialize after the tour. Call 818-957-2968 for more info.

Directions: From the 210 Freeway follow Angeles Crest Highway up the mountain. Turn off on the Mt. Wilson turnoff at Red Box (about 14 miles). Drive up another 5 miles, pass the transmitter towers, and follow the "Observatory" signs through the Forest Service Gate. Park in the large parking lot at Skyline Park and walk ½ mile to the Observatory. (The drive takes approx. 45 min. from La Crescenta.)







Art Cobery in front of the old Grizzly Flats cabin

THE MYSTERIOUS MOUNTAIN CABIN By ART COBERY

When I was a ninth grader my friend and fellow Boy Scout, Ken Reardon, led me to a wonderful camping site which was located far down the northern slope of Mt. Lukens. It was called Grizzly Flat, a reminder from the past when these ferocious bears roamed freely in the San Gabriel Mountains. In those days, with our bulky pack boards, it was an arduous trek to get there. We followed the seemingly endless Earl Canyon fire road above La Cañada to an unmarked dirt road on the other side of the range. This route descended several miles to Grizzly Flat, a protruding bench of land overlooking the steep walls of Big Tujunga Canyon. Fledgling conifers had been planted here to replace a burned-over forest. A sturdy rock cabin stood under mature pines just above this plantation. It was about 14 x 24 feet with a chimney rising above its pitched, corrugated roof. Heavy metal coated doors and shuttered windows barred entrance to all outsiders. East of the cabin, small stonewalls terraced the moderate hillside providing level spaces for a number of picnic tables and benches. Above the cabin a small wood-covered water reservoir had been constructed.

We were content to prepare our simple meals, mostly from a can, on a large outdoor stove. At night we spread our sleeping bags on a soft bed of pine needles.

As we grew older, high school friends came to share this sylvan refuge with us. Eventually, a much shorter footpath was discovered which was accessed from the Angeles Crest Highway. Grizzly Flat proved to be a solitary retreat. We never encountered other overnight campers there.

We young outdoorsmen continued to speculate about the history of the old cabin and reforestation project, but to no avail. How could the story of this unique wilderness creation be completely forgotten? No one from my generation could shed any light on it.

Even though I continued to explore the San Gabriels well beyond my sixtieth year, with occasional visits to Grizzly Flat, the tale of its origins remained obscure. Finally, some time in 2003, Jean Maluccio allowed me to peruse some original Crescenta Valley Ledgers from the 1920's stored in her Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce office. After over half a century of puzzlement, the mystery was solved in a

front page story dated September 28, 1928 with these lines: "Members of the local unit, Angeles Forest Protective Association will hold their next meeting at the unit's cabin in Grizzly Flat... The caravan of firefighters will start 'up the hill' early Saturday morning. As soon as the cabin is reached the boys will start to work and finish the inside of the cabin with waterproof cement." This was my first introduction to the AFPA and its ties with the old cabin and reforested area. According to M. D. Kemper, an early builder of large, comfortable homes in rural La Crescenta, pioneer residents were on their own when it came to fire and floods. In 1916 the founders formed the La Crescenta Improvement Association to address these problems and from this group evolved the Angeles Forest Protective Association in 1923, which focused on forest fires. One of the leaders was Harvey S. Bissell, heir apparent to the "Bissell Carpet Sweeper" fortune. A close ally once said of Bissell that he was "the answer to all things." He and forester Art Aiken, organized the first crew of firefighters from among the young men in the valley. Mr. Bissell provided a truck to carry the equipment. The volunteers were quick to turn out when the fire bell resounded at the Bissell Ranch, high up on La Crescenta Ave. Experienced men trained the green crews, who learned to function as well-coordinated "military units." They recruited extra manpower when absolutely necessary by setting up roadblocks and inducting every able-bodied man for the duration of the fire. They were "signed on and dispatched to the fire line with shovel, back pump or other necessary gear" to beat down the flames. After their impressments they received compensation from the U.S. Forest Service amounting to 35 cents for each hour served. Frequently, AFPA personnel from other foothill communities banded together to save the watershed above their homes.



Harvey Bissell and son John

The cabin at Grizzly Flat was largely the inspiration of Harvey Bissell and Art Aiken. Perhaps they chose this remote location with its steep climb and descent because it provided a training regimen producing strength and endurance. Later, it became a landmark for hikers in the region. To reach it in the "old days," the boys started above Briggs Terrace, following switchbacks "up the hill via the brow of Sister Elsie Peak" (now Mt. Lukens). After reaching the crest it was all down

hill to the cabin site. Pack animals were used to carry the heavy sacks of cement and tools for rock construction. Most of the work on this rustic dwelling was completed in 1925 with the exception of adding a few feet to the chimney. The fireplace was large enough to hold four-foot logs. The Crescenta Valley groups also agreed to cooperate with the county by supplying water for a proposed large nursery of pine seedlings to be planted on the scorched soil below the cabin. This water supply was developed by putting up a dam across a little canyon stream. A novel hydraulic ram forced the water up the hill to the plantation.

Foothill branches of the AFPA attended collective maneuvers twice a year in various parts of the mountains. Our locals hosted their first rendezvous in October of 1926, at the behest of Harvey Bissell, at Grizzly Flat. The weekend involved lectures, fire suppression drills and reforestation techniques. At the close of the day, 125 participants feasted on a grand beef barbeque. The following year maneuvers were held in San Dimas Canyon.

The heroic efforts of the Angeles Forest Protective Association were to last for only six years. During that period they earned a reputation that would endure among pioneer residents for years to come. Their last stand took place during the firestorm of 1928 when "a hard-fighting crew of shovels and wetsack men" backed-up by a large fire engine, fought valiantly to contain the wind-driven blaze at Foothill Blvd. Howling gusts eventually carried the flames into the Verdugo Mountains and on over to Burbank. Shortly thereafter, the AFPA was disbanded, passing its mission to the County Department of Forestry. However, as we all know, massive chaparral conflagrations continue to confound the best of our modern fire fighting methods and equipment.

Although no longer an official fire-fighting force, their fraternal bonds remained intact. Members of the group continued to visit their mountain hideaway. In January of 1933 they blazed a new trail which reached the retreat from the floor of Big Tujunga Canyon. The pathfinders were impressed with the ten-foot Coulter and Monterey pines planted seven years earlier under the supervision of master forester Art Aiken.

The La Crescenta unit "staged a big time" at Grizzly Flat in 1934 to celebrate the completion of the new forestry department road extending from Angeles Crest Highway to Mt. Lukens. Naturally, "the boys" used the newly graded vehicle route. According to a story in The Ledger the crew "demolished much food in the form of barbecued beef." Some stayed over night and enjoyed an evening around the big fireplace in the cabin.

The last account that I discovered referring to AFPA appeared in <u>The Ledger</u> dated May 20, 1941 describing another social gathering and proverbial barbeque at Grizzly Flats (an "s" had been added). Fifty hungry members and guests attended and Charter Member, Art Aiken, tended to the charcoal fire. Spence Turner, Forest and Fire Warden of the county, was the honored guest. He warned that heavy winter rains had produced excessive volatile natural growth thus increasing the summer and fall fire danger. More manpower than usual might be needed from Crescenta Valley volunteers

lection B Tuesday, May 20, 1941 Page 12



Volunteer Fire-Fighters Line-up for Barbecued Steaks

'Come and Get It' Means Much More in Outdoor

PICTURED ABOVE ready to "seize" a he-man's helping of sizzling barbecued steaks are, left to right, Leslie Percey, Herbert Scheuner, Spence D. Turner, C. E. Groniger, Ed Laughrey and Art Alken.

Forest Men Hear Warning On Summer Fires Danger

La Crescenta—When the cry, "come and get it," rang out at Grizzly Flats 50 hungry men hopped over the benches, sat at heavily laden tables and enjoyed the juicy barbecued steaks cooked over charcoal by Art Aiken, charter member of the Crescenta valley unit of the Angeles Forest Protective association, when members of the unit were hosts

to the association members. Spence D. Turner, forest and fire warden of the county, was an honored

guest.
"Fellows, we have a greater fire hazard this year than we have had in 50 years due to the heavy winter rains. In many places where grass normally grows to a height of two inches, this year it is 18 inches, which means a bad time if fire breaks out," said Turner.

May Need More Manpower

In closing, he told members of the unit, who are volunteer firefighters, that in case of need the county would have to depend on their help as so many of the younger men are engaged in de-

since "many younger men are engaged in defense work" (this was six months prior to Pearl Harbor). Evidently, the old veterans of the AFPA were still on call and ready to serve.

Grizzly Flats is a beautiful place to visit. It requires a three-mile hike to get there from the trailhead off Angeles Crest Highway. The plantation that you will see there was reestablished in 1964 after another major fire. What could be more idyllic than enjoying your lunch while resting on soft pine needles, and gazing into the abyss of the Big Tujunga? Sadly, the memorable old cabin is gone, razed by the custodians of the Angeles National Forest. It is ironic that this symbolic building linked so closely to forest preservation should have fallen victim to well meaning latter day conservationists. Perhaps, like the rest of us, they too were unaware of its history.

For those who wish to make this pleasant journey, I suggest that you refer to "Hike 13: Angeles Crest Highway to Grizzly Flats" in <u>Trails of the Angeles</u> by John W. Robinson, (Wilderness Press, 2005) available at the Sports Chalet in La Cañada.



By Sharon Weisman

The project to connect the 710 Freeway with the 210 Freeway continues with community meetings to explain the technical studies for the proposed tunnel. While the purpose of these meetings is to inform the public of Cal Trans' progress and plans, I've found the main benefit is networking with other members of the public who oppose the tunnel. One thing learned from other meeting attendees is that the proponents of the tunnel are calling for a public/private partnership necessitating a toll of from \$5 to \$10 for the tunnel – rather ironic to connect Freeways! Another discovery is South Pasadena's Low Build alternative, see: http://www.ci.southpasadena.ca.us/transportation/low-build.html This plan consists of a series of on and off ramp improvements, reconfiguration of some intersections, and incorporates light rail and other mass public transportation options. In other words, it's a solution for the current century that can be implemented in a few years, not an attempt to finish a 1940's plan that wouldn't be completed until 2020 at the earliest. The next 710 Tunnel Technical Study meeting is the Northeast Los Angeles Community Meeting, June 16 starting at 6:30

The **Draft Environmental Impact Report** on the effects on the community of the proposed 229 home project on the **Verdugo Hills Golf Course** site has been issued. Although many have requested a full 90 days to comment on the document that took the developer's consultants 18 months to complete, only 60 days were granted. The deadline for comments is July 20, 2009. If you agree the public should have more time to respond, please consider writing a letter requesting an extension of the comment period.

pm in Ramona Hall, 4580 N. Figueroa Street, LA CA 90031.

Letters should be sent to:

Councilmember Wendy Greuel Los Angeles City Council 200 N. Spring Street - Room 475 Los Angeles, CA 90012

with copies to:

Ms. Gail Goldberg Director of Planning Department of City Planning 200 N. Spring Street - Room 525 Los Angeles, CA 90012

> Mr. David Sommers Environmental Review Section Department of City Planning 200 N. Spring Street - Room 750 Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you're so inclined, letters commenting on the DEIR itself can be sent to the same people. See:

http://www.gcvoice.org/current-projects/vhgc.htm for a link to the report and much more information. The DEIR is huge and available for download in segments. The whole thing might be intimidating, but you can read through the summary and see the areas of impact. You can focus only on those parts where your background and experience are relevant.

The North Glendale Community Plan is progressing, with Glendale Planning Department staff presenting what they'd learned so far and gathering input to fill in any missing pieces at open house community meetings June 1 & 3. The next steps will be a presentation of the project's current status to the Glendale City Council with a request to fund an Advisory Committee made up of around 20 community stakeholders. If approved, this committee would meet during the summer and make recommendations on specific changes to zoning, ordinances, and design requirements. A major task will be to work out solutions where there isn't a broad consensus. This detail planning is expected to involve twicemonthly meetings and researching specific topics. Although this is a rather large time commitment, it is an investment in the future and critical for maintaining our suburban quality of life.

If you wish to volunteer for **The North Glendale Community Plan Advisory Committee** please contact **Glendale Planning** staff members **Alan Loomis** or **Laura Stotler**, 818 548 2140.

Other volunteer opportunities include: two vacancies on the **Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council Land Use Committee** and a **STNC District 1 Representative**. District 1 is north of Foothill Blvd. from the western STNC domain boundary east to Mount Gleason Ave. and Big Tujunga Canyon Road. See: http://stnc.org/index.html for more information.

If you have an interest in traffic and transportation and live in the city of Glendale please consider applying for one of the two positions opening up this summer on the **Glendale**Parking and Transportation Commission. See:

http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/transportation_and_parking_commission.asp for details.

Upcoming dates for watering and weeding around the recently planted seedlings in the **Experimental Forest** are Saturday, June 13, Thursday, June 18 (a rare evening opportunity), and Saturday, June 27. Contact **Glendale Park, Rec. & Comm. Services** staff member **Dave Moreno**, dmoreno@ci.glendale.ca.us or 818 572 7487 for details.

2009 is a critical year for volunteering in the **Crescenta Valley**.

1926

Editorial

TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT

My Dear Editor:

While at the La Crescenta hotel a few days ago where I have been going for the past twenty-four years, it was with deep regret that I learned of the movement on foot to change the name of your most beautiful and attractive city.

The most unique location that you enjoy with the combination of desert, mountain and ocean air gives you a climate that stands almost without a parallel and which today under the splendid and appropriate name of La Crescenta is becoming known through out the land. Hundreds and hundreds of people have visited this wonderful spot during the past years leaving it greatly benefited in health and have advertised its beauty and climate in all parts of the globe, all of which will be lost if the name is changed. And again, how fortunate you are in having in your midst a gentleman who is not only Nationally famous but noted abroad, and who is playing, and has in the past, a most important part in making La Crescenta known as an exceptional place in which to invest and live. I am loath to criticize any movement in the line of advancement or improvement, but I cannot for the life of me see where anything is to be gained in changing a name that I believe stands alone in its beauty. I just as firmly believe that great harm can be done if the proposed change is made.

I am aware that I am a nonresident and undoubtedly open to criticism for voicing my opinion in a matter that I am without a vote, yet, in another way I am deeply interested for I am seriously considering the disposing of all my holdings and investing in La Crescenta. Sincerely hoping that I may someday be a resident of your beautiful and fast growing community, and that I will be pardoned for this expression of feeling, may I urge that you do all in your power to hold to the name that is making you one of the most renowned places of "Sunny California."

Very truly yours, N. W. ZIMMER We notice a cartoon in a Los Angeles daily paper in which a judge of one of the municipal courts who has been sentencing traffic law violators to jail, is represented dealing out jail sentences to disgruntled speeders. One of these law violators is represented as calling back to his eastern friends and telling them not to come to Southern California. His action is prompted evidently by the fact that we ENFORCE OUR LAWS. Over the cartoon is the caption, "We Don't Want this to Happen."

What should our Southern Californians do? Sit back and smile at, and thus encourage traffic law violations? We are told each year by the peace officers "that an influx of eastern criminals to California is occurring." If we close our eyes to law violations, in general, the condition will not be remedied.

We are surprised at the hue and cry that the Los Angeles judge has brought

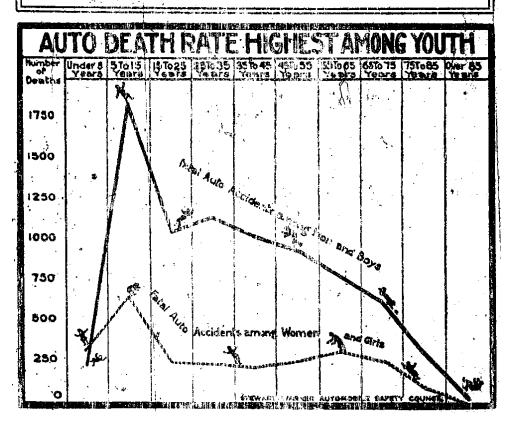
out. One would think that the judge had committed a great wrong by ordering to jail an autoist, who, because he is in a hurry, "steps on it" and ignores traffic laws.

Of course, we are very sorry for the person who has to spend even a day in jail, and then we don't suppose a mere life or two which may be endangered by reckless driving, matters much!

And now we might mention the fact that between Montrose and Glendale there are several boulevard stop signs which evidently about 75 per cent of the motorists fail to see, or disregard. Slowing up at these "stops" is not complying with the law. If we want our eastern visitors to comply with our laws, we should set them a good example by not disregarding them ourselves.

And let us not forget the fact that in Los Angeles alone more than seventy persons have been killed by motorists since the first day of January.

Youth of Nation Tops Death List in U. S. Auto Fatalities



Forest Protective Association Observes Second Anniversary

The second anniversary of the Angeles Forest Protective Association, La Crescenta Valley unit, was fittingly celebrated Tuesday evening when the members of the organization met at Legion hall. A splendid "feed" was served under the direction of H. A. Hartmann.

Herbert Scheuner in a talk to the members recounted the history of the local organization, telling of the unit's formation two years ago on the summit of Mt. Wilson during the San Gabriel fire. At the beginning the unit boasted of just 11 members, he said. Regular monthly meetings have been held during the past two years and the members have rendered assistance in fighting every big fire in the county during that period.

Mr. Scheuner stated that several thousand dollars had been raised by the unit by subscription and from the proceeds of dances staged by the organization. This money has been used to construct trails and fire breaks on this side of the local water shed and these have been a big factor in saving the water sheds from destruction especially during the big conflagration in the Big Tujunga last year.

The speaker recited the fact that the unit had also acquired a site at Grizzly Flats and had its own stone cabin constructed thereon. The unit was instrumental in getting the county to establish its first tree nursery in the mountains near the site of the cabin.

At the meeting Tuesday night three new members were taken into the organization. These were Lester A. Holcomb, D. R. Titus and Harry Zitto. This brings the membership of the unit up to 40 men and nearly quadruples the membership at the time the organization was formed.

The unit has made a big record during the two years of its life and has won the recognition of many civic organizations. Plans have been completed for the holding of the association's annual maneuvers at "The Pines," near the unit's cabin on October 16 and 17. Demonstrations and lectures

RAMSDELL IMPROVEMENT WORK NEAR AS PETITION IN

According to information brought out Wednesday night at the business session of the Verdugo City Association of Commerce, the petition for the improvement of Ramsdell avenue is all signed up by the owners of property facing on that thoroughfare and is now in the hands of the board of supervisors for action.

When the entire job is complete, the thoroughfare will be paved with concrete for a width of 66 feet from the Sierra Madre to the Verdugo canyon wash. The pavement will be so constructed that the flood water in the rainy season will seek the center of the street, it was said.

BILL BOOSTER SAYS



by county and forest service officers and a big barbecue will mark the two day affair.

Those attending will make an inspection trip to the county tree nursery and study reforestation work, it was said. Mr. Scheuner stated that a large attendance and a good time is expected at the big two day affair.

BISSELL URGES VOTE FOR REFORESTATION TAX BILL IN FALL

Additional sums to carry on the conservation work of the state board of forestry would be appropriated by a the state if a proposed bill is passed the next session of the legislature. This became known with the return from San Francisco of Harvey S. Bissell, who with Dr. Clemence of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and Herbert Gilman of San Dimas, was in the northern city last week in the interest of the state board.

At the gathering in the north, constitutional amendment No. 10, which calls for the freedom from taxation on reforested lands until such time as the timber thereon is at the cutting stage, was endorsed following a two-day conference. Declaring that the passage of this amendment at the polls next November means the conservation of the timber supply for the next forty years, Mr. Bissell states that every voter should acquaint himself with the amendment before voting.

Street Cars To Stop Of Honolulu Avenue Under The Plan

According to a letter received from the Glendale & Montrose Railway by the Montrose Chamber of Commerce, the company will soon comply with the request that the street cars traveling northbound stop before crossing Honolulu avenue. The letter states, however, that before the new procedure can be carried out, it will be necessary for the company to construct a landing south of the avenue for the purpose of loading and unloading passengers. The matter has been discussed by members of the chamber for some time past and the new plans will meet with unanimous approval

RE-POSSESSED AUTOMOBILES

1925 Flint "55" Sport touring, \$500 down, Balance to suit.
1922 Ford Coupe, \$80, Cash or Terms
1925 Overland Coach Sedan,, \$200 down
Flint "40" Touring car, \$200 down, Terms on balance.

Sparr Heights Garage

FRED BOYER, Proprietor, Paloma and Verdugo Road



Let's find the sunny side of men, or be believers in it; A light there is for every soul that takes the pains to win it

Summer Squash With Tomatoes and Corn.—Cook one small onion chopped in four tablespoonfuls of butter until the onion is yellow. Add corn cut from four ears, three tomatoes cut into cubes and one small summer squash cut into small pieces. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and simmer covered thirty minutes.

Rice and Apples.—Cook cored peeled apples in sirup until tender. Arrange in a serving dish with cooked rice. Fill the cavities of the apple with bright colored jelly, arrange the rice and apples and pour over the sirup.

Good evening friends of Radioland. This is Radio M. F. C. O.

Montrose Furniture Co

Montrose, California.

The Next on the Program will bewell before I proceed I want to tell you about those June brides of last week-

Say girls you know they must have got wind of all the things we're GIVING AWAY FREE in Glendale too 'cause a young couple came up from Glendale and bought a bedroom suite see - then they showed me the license and I had to slip them a swell blanket. I hope them stores down there dont see this or they will be sore for gittin' their trade. Well anyway as I was saying, the next thing we are going to GIVE AWAY free and you dont have to buy anything either is a nice blanket for every new baby in the valley. The June brides of course are barred from this. Harvey it's a boy, one blanket please. Good Night

Goodnight Friends Of Radioland

Services at the Local Churches

LA CRESCENTA COMMUNITY CHURCH Rev. Clifford F. Jones, Pastor

West Montrose avenue, Montrose car stops at church. Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Preaching, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Young People's meeting, 6:30 p.m. Midweek Services, Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

ST. LUKES OF THE MOUNTAINS (Episcopal)

Services in church, corner Rosemont and Michigan avenue.
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Church service 10:45 a.m.
Guild meets first Thursday in the month

ANANDA ASHRAMA

(Extension Vedanta Center of Boston
Established 1909)
North and Pennsylvania avenue,
La Crescenta.
Swami Paramananda of India,
founder and head
Regular Sunday service, 3:30 p.m.
Public class Tuesday, 3:00 p.m.
Public class Thursday 8:00 p.m.
Ashrama opens to visitors every
afternoon from 2 to 5.
Sunday, Ashrama motor meets P. E.
stage from Pasadena at La Canada
terminal at 2:45 p.m.; Glendale-Montrose

MONTROSE COMMUNITY METHODIST CHURCH

car at end of line.

Rev. Geo. L. Durr, Pastor Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Preaching, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Midweek service, Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

Corner Rosemont and Montrose avenue Meeting every Saturday. Sabbath School at 9:30 a.m. Preaching, 11 a.m. Prayer services every Wednesday at 8 p.m. Crescenta, 3 p.m.

NECESSITY OF FIRE PERMITS IS TOLD BY ACTING CHIEF

Warning to the Valley residents that all who desire to burn rubbish or grass, unless it be in an incinerator must first obtain a permit to do so, was issued this week by J. W. Montieth, who is acting in the place of Fire Chief Duncan during the latter's absence while on vacation. If the fire is lighted in an incinerator, the burning must be done between the hours of 5 and 11 a.m. The necessary permits for fire will be issued from the fire station on east Hermosa avenue.

The warning came after the department had answered a call last Saturday on Sycamore avenue to put out a grass fire which was beyond control.

CAMP FIRE GIRLS WILL CAMP AT HUGHES LAKE

Valley Camp Fire girls, under the direction of Mrs. Jessie Hansen, will camp this summer at Hughes Lake where last year's camp was located. Preliminary arrangements for the camp indicates that the girls will leave on the Saturday following eh closing of school for the summer vacation. It has been announced that only girls in good standing in the organization are eligible for the camp.

BOY SCOUT TROOPS CAMP AT BIG TUJUNGA

Under the charge of Scout Master McCarton and Committeeman A. E. Baron, Boy Scouts of Montrose and La Crescenta enjoyed an overnight camping trip last week end on the Big Tujunga. Members of the Eagle Rock, Sunland and Tujunga troops were also at the camp.

Troop two of Montrose received second honorable mention on Troop inspection when a rating of 93 per cent was obtained. Scout Field Executive McNamara took the boys on a hiking trip on Saturday and swimming and outdoor sports were enjoyed by the boys.

YES MAM, WE ALWAYS STAND BEHIND EVERY PIECE OF FURNITURE WE SELL; SAID THE MAN AT THE MONTROSE FURNITURE STORE AS HE LEANED ON THE BACK OF THE BED.

MILLER'S FLOWER SHOP

Graduation Boquets made up to your

903 Montrose Ave. Montrose, Calif. One Door South of Bank.

VALLEY RADIO SHOP

COMPLETE SETS-ACCESSORIES-REPAIRING

651 Honolulu Ave.

Montrose

TRANSFER -- HAULING

Trucking of All Kinds Quick Service

STEWART MOTOR CO

Main Corner, Montrose Phone Crescenta 86---W



A SOUND ESTABLISHED COMPANY OFFERS % Preferred Stock at \$99 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS CO.

FRIED

Chicken Dinner

With All The "Trimmin's SUNDAY - 75c

Served from 12 m. to 8 p m

UNIQUE CARE

MONTROSE BANK BLDG.

LUCIE ALLEN DINING ROOM

AMONG THE OAKS AT THE CORNER OF HONOLULU

TRY OUR SPECIAL SUNDAY

Four Course Chicken Dinner 75c

We Specialize in Steak Dinners

THE BEST OF GOOD COOKING. BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER

PRIVATE DINING ROOMS FOR PARTIES, BANQUETS, CLUBS AND AFTERNOON TEA, ALSO SERVICE FOR SERVICE . CLUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

DR. L. R. HILDEBRAND

CHIROPRACTOR

Castanien Bldk. Cor. Verdugo Rd. and Broadview
OFFICE HOURS: 10 to 12 and 1 to 5
and by appointment,
Phone Crescents 34

PLAN BIG ADDITION TO MONTROSE HARDW. BL'DG

Backing up his often expressed confidence in the future of Montrose and the Crescenta Valley, Sheridan Young of the Montrose Hardware Co. this week took steps for a big new investment in his business property here when he ordered the beginning of construction work which will transform the Montrose Hardware Co. building into one of the most beautiful buildings in this section.

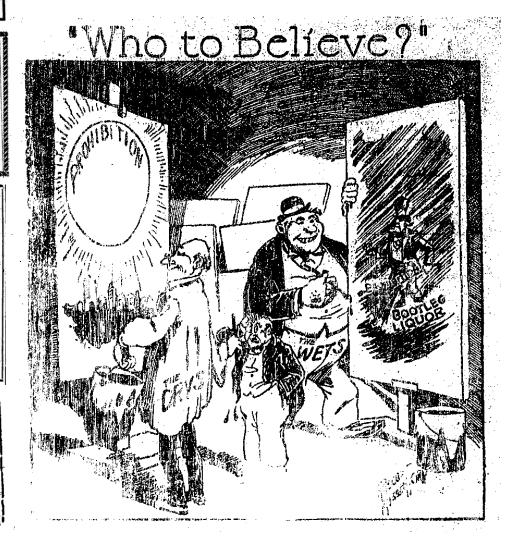
A second story will be added to the present structure and will provide four modern apartments, in all sixteen rooms over Mr. Young's store. The apartments will consist of three rooms and bath each and the total cost of construction work will be approximately \$9,000.

Each of the new apartments will have hardwood floors and will be

strictly up-to-the minute and modern in every respect. Mr. Young declared vesterday that the new rooms as well as being excellent living quarters for residents of Montrose, will be especially desirable for professional men because of the fact that a room could be used as an office and the remainder of the apartment as living quarters.

In addition to the building of the second story, Mr. Young will have the front of his building torn out and remodeled and plans for the work show a beautiful new front with lobbies and an entrance to the stairway leading to the second floor.

Actual work on the building to begin late this week and will be completed within a very short time.



BRUSH FIRE PREVENTION EXPLAINED

Drastic enforcement of the laws requiring persons who wish to burn brush in the county to first obtain permits from the local district quarters of the county forestry department will be carried by district officials, according to an announcement yesterday. The local district offices which are located in the new Johnson building on Michigan avenue will issue brush burning permits for fires in the territory north of Michigan avenue and in the foothills of the Verdugos.

Before proceeding with their brush burning activities, persons in this district are advised to study sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the county fire ordinance and visit the local offices of the department. Officials in charge of the local offices have made it easy to obtain permits by the fact that the person who wishes to burn off his land may communicate with toe office by calling Crescenta 200 and a member of the force will be sent to the location of the proposed burning operations for an inspection of the premises and if found satisfactory will issue the permit at once. It is pointed out that this inspection is always necessary.

The La Crescenta fire district is composed of five separate divisions, each division being in charge of a man from the local district office. The district extends from the Arroyo Seco to the Newhall tunnel. The local station has a road crew of 8 dozen men busy clearing the brush away from the sides of the road to prevent a conflagration resulting from cigarettes often thrown from passing autos.

The local headquarters is also in direct telephone communication with the lookout tower on Mount Lukens, where a constant watch for brush fires is kept. There are five districts in the county of which La Crescenta district is the center point. To the east of this district is Pasadena and San Dimas district and to the west the Newhall and Malibu districts.

TELL BUILDING OF ADVENTIST CHURCH

With the installation, during the coming week, of the new seats, finishing touches are being put on the new La Crescenta Seventh Day Adventist church and the structure is expected to be completely equipped in a very short time, according to C. J. Kunkel, the pastor. Services have been held in the new church for the past two weeks.

It was stated by the pastor that in the building of the new church, a structure which under ordinary circumstances would have cost approximately \$7,000 has been erected at a cost of about half that amount or \$3,500. This great savings was made possible, Elder Kunkel said, by the fact that a great amount of the labor and material was donated. He declared that there had been no solicitation for funds but that many of the business houses had come forward and voluntarily offered their donations. This structure is a fine large stucco building and will seat about 300 persons, it was stated.

At the first services held in the new church, Dr. M. M. Hare preached and appropriate dedication exercises were held. Services will be held every Saturday as follows at the new church: Sabbath school at 9:30 a.m., preaching at 11. Young people's meeting will be held every Friday evening. Prayer meeting will be held every Wednesday evening.

BUILD NOW

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Size 50 by 200 ft., excellent view 1-2 block from Oceanview and car line. Large Oak tree, Price; \$900. Terms.

Montrose Realty Co.

500 E. Horoluly Ave.



A color guard of local veterans poses in front of the (pre-flood) American Legion Hall. Tom Bonetto is recognizable on the far left in his WWI era uniform.



The Verdugo City orchestra. Community orchestras and bands were a common social activity of that era.



A parade marches on Montrose avenue heading east, crossing the intersection of Ocean View. Visible in the background is the telephone office building.

The photographs on these two pages were recently donated to HSCV by member Arthur Voltz, who was born in La Crescenta. His parents were both prominent people in the Valley; his father owning a couple of Verdugo City service stations in the 20's and 30's and his mother being the postmistress of the Verdugo City post office.

This series of photos is obviously from a day for recognition of our veterans. The 1928 article refers to such an event but perhaps not this exact one. The photographs are of the mid-late 1920's.

1928

Valley Armistice Day Program Best Ever Staged, Claim

The biggest and best celebration ever staged in the valley marked the observance of Armistice Day here Monday with the entire day chock full of special events to hold the interest of the valley residents. The day was started off with the big parade in which practically every organization in the valley participated. Dr. E. L. Wemple acted as grand marshal of the parade which started from Waltonia and Montrose avenues and ended at Legion hall prior to the holding of the Armistice day services. Among the features of the parade was the local fire fighting equipment, brought out by George Taylor and Chief Duncan. Several beautiful floats were arranged for the event and music was furnished by the Valley Boys' band. Local Legionnaires appeared in the procession and the success of the entire day's program is in a large way due to the Legion's efforts.

At the services at the Legion hall, Rev. Andrew Clark gave the invocation, Commander Stone of the Legion gave a forceful address on "The Spirit of Armistice Day." He declared that the occasion was not one of memorial, but rather one of rejoicing. Col. A. E. Barnes, who was attached to the intelligence department of the Army during the War was the principal speaker of the day. Earl V. Brown led the community singing. The benediction was given by Rev. Benton of St. Lukes of the Mountains.

In the afternoon the Navy went down to defeat at the hands of the Army with a score of 32 to 7. Featured players were Talbot and Bart Bonetti of the Army and Stoughton and Johnny Hoffman for the Navy. The day of celebration was closed with a well attended dance in the evening at Legion hall.



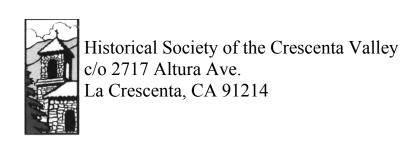
A group photo of participants in the Army-Navy baseball game, following the parade.



Navy takes the field with their mascot.



This game probably took place on the Montrose Elementary school field, which was along Florencita (now the Armenian Sisters Academy), looking toward La Canada with the San Gabriels and the hill by the YMCA in the background.



Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley

Don Benito Wilson (AKA Benjamin Wilson): From Mountain Man to Mayor

Monday, June 15th, 7:00 PM At the Center for Spiritual Living

(Formerly known as the La Crescenta Church of Religious Science) Located on the corner of Dunsmore and Santa Carlotta

Please check your mailing label for accuracy.

Remember:

2009 MEMBERSHIPS RUN FROM MARCH 2009 TO MARCH 2010

<u>THANK YOU</u> TO ALL OUR MEMBERS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Questions or changes? Call Pam: (818) 957-2968

We're always interested...

We love to hear your recollections about Crescenta Valley from times past. Share your stories with us, please! Let us share your memories with our members.

Mail: 2717 Altura Ave.

La Crescenta, CA 91214 e-mail: lawlermom@yahoo.com



Travel back in time to...1926

Our June Newsletter will feature articles and ads from 1926 Ledgers unless otherwise noted

(beginning with page 5)