

# FULLERTON HERITAGE

Winter ❁ Volume 15 ❁ Number 1  
December 2008

## *Volunteer Opportunity*

# Project Watch: Baggage Carts Need TLC

Several years ago, Amtrak donated two baggage carts to the City for display at the depot. The years have not been kind to them and the City has proposed discarding them. Fullerton Heritage was asked if there was any interest in undertaking the project of restoring the carts. The City is currently installing new fencing and landscaping in the area west of the depot building where they were parked, with the idea that they can be put back if they are restored.

The older of the two had been in use at the depot since the 20's or 30's. The newer one had been used there since the 80's, but

was brought here from another depot that was closed, so it is more likely from the 40's. The exact ages are unknown. We hope that someone with a knowledge of baggage carts can help determine how old they are.

A complete restoration of the



*"Newer" Cart*



*"Older" Cart*

older cart would include disassembly of the metal structure and wooden planks, sanding the metal surfaces, replacing the wood on the bed, painting, and reassembling. Although no parts appear to be missing, replacements could be fabricated by local businesses. The newer cart mainly needs sanding and

painting.

Professional restoration of the carts, if contracted with a business that does that kind of work, will cost about \$4,200 for the newer one and \$4,500 for the older one. There is also an opportunity to move them to a nearby rail yard and accomplish most of the work with volunteers. If there is anyone who is interested in volunteering in a labor of love or thinks that they know the ages of the baggage carts, please call the Fullerton Heritage Hot Line at 714-740-3051.

The pictures show the carts and their current condition.

*Photos by Terry Galvin*

# Advocacy Issues

by Katie Dalton

## Community Development Department

In late July, Al Zelinka was hired by the city as the new Planning Manager for the Community Development Department that handles zoning, planning and building. He comes from the private sector and was one of the consultants with the firm that is working with the city on the General Plan Update. He also comes highly recommended and seems to be very creative and progressive in his approach to city planning. As an added bonus, he understands preservation issues from a personal perspective, as he and his wife own an historic home in the Old Town Orange National Historic District. We look forward to working closely with Mr. Zelinka on all things preservation in Fullerton.

## Redevelopment Design Review Committee

In the last newsletter we mentioned “YIKES,” the property at 129 N. Yale Ave. where the owner started demolition of the two story California bungalow without review or permits. Months after the city stopped the illegal demolition, the owner went to RDRC with plans to demolish an attached second unit and the garages and build a new unit while remodeling the main house. Staff recommended denial of the project because they felt that the existing structure was significant to the College Park Preservation Zone and that consideration of alternative plans to preserve the entire property was appropriate. After much discussion, RDRC agreed with staff recommendations and requested that the owner come back with proposals to preserve the existing homes. Recently, the owner has decided to restore both of the original homes on the property. The issue now will be to request that quality materials be used to replace those that were removed without permit, therefore truly restoring the integrity of the original historic homes.

RDRC reviewed projects at 239 and 141 W. Malvern Ave. and 315 W. Jacaranda Pl. and approved them all with appropriate conditions to ensure that they will meet all requirements of the Preservation Zoning Code and the accompanying Design Guidelines.

The owner of the Local Historic Landmark property at 539 W. Fern Dr. went before the RDRC and subsequently the Landmarks Commission with his request to build a “granny unit” at the rear of his property. The design of the unit was compatible with the original historic home, met the Secretary of the Interior Standards and was approved with conditions by both RDRC and the Landmarks Commission.

## New Local Historic Landmark Approved

The owner of the home at 1021 N. Lemon Ave. contacted Fullerton Heritage requesting help with the process of applying to the city for Local Historic Landmark status. Fullerton Heritage researched the property and found that it was indeed eligible for consideration based on the architectural style (Craftsman Bungalow) and its history as the residence of a prominent person in Fullerton’s development (Norby family and others). The RDRC reviewed and unanimously recommended approval of the request and the Landmarks Commission formally approved the new landmark at their September 23rd meeting.

## Amerige Court Project

Fullerton Heritage has been following the Amerige Court mixed use project proposed for historic downtown for nearly 5 years. We have advocated consistently for a high quality project that is compatible with the significant historic buildings. Specifically we supported a project that is lower in height and smaller in mass than any of the proposals since the original design was presented so many years ago. Unfortunately, the City Council approved the project on August 19, 2008 in a unanimous vote. They did attach conditions that require further review of the design as the project moves forward. As many of you know, this has been a hugely contentious issue in Fullerton, with many not wanting anything built on this important property in our historic downtown. While we believe that surface parking lots are not the best use of valuable land in our historic downtown, we feel strongly that any new development needs to take historic context into consideration above all else. We feel that our endless hours of advocacy and lobbying had a positive effect on the project, but we are not satisfied with the current project and can only continue to engage in the process in hope of further improvement in the final development.

## President's Corner

by Tom Dalton

Once again we have had an action packed couple of months at Fullerton Heritage. One of the things on our list of achievements of which we are most proud is that we have completed an updated self-guided walking tour brochure of our historic downtown that our citizens and visitors can use to learn about our wonderful city and its treasures. We are indebted to our friends at the Fullerton Museum Center for printing, storing and helping us distribute the new brochures. Also, board member Ernie Kelsey has put together our new team of docents, Wendy

and Joe Castillo, along with Tim Holmes (with consulting from board member Warren Bowen) and they have done an excellent job of conducting our guided walking tours and the all-new historic trolley tours. If you haven't had the chance to go on any of these tours you're really missing out on an informative and fun Saturday morning. We owe member Chuck Throop of Ricci Realty a big Fullerton Heritage THANK YOU for the generous use of his beautiful trolley and for providing not only the fuel but also the drivers for our tours.

## Program Recap: Crystal Cove Cottages

by Cathy Thomas

Fullerton Heritage and the Fullerton Public Library co-hosted Laura Davick of Crystal Cove Cottages on Thursday October 23rd in the Library's Osborne Auditorium. Laura Davick, who grew up in the cove, is one of the co-authors of the book *Crystal Cove Cottages*, which contains a rich, colorful, and detailed history, as well as photographs and original art work of the area. The program was titled "Untouched By Time: The Crystal Cove Historic District."

Davick, a third generation "Coveite", reminisced about her childhood at the cove and discussed the history of the area and

its vintage rustic cottages and picturesque beach. A gathering place for local Indians, the cove was originally part of the Mexican Rancho San

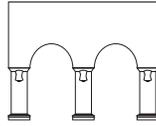
to both Laguna and Balboa made it the perfect setting for location filming for Hollywood movies and plein air artists. By the 1930s, rugged vacationers who preferred tents and camp stoves found the cove and eventually started building semi-permanent cottages on leased Irvine Company land. Davick, who moved to the cove with her parents when she was one-year old in 1961, delighted the audience with stories of what it was like to live in



Joaquin, which was later sold to James Irvine, eventually becoming part of the Irvine Ranch. In the 1920s, the cove's isolation but close proximity

a small tight-knit beach community in rural Orange County. In 1979, the state purchased 3,000 acres from the Irvine Company, including the Crystal Cove area, for a

(continued on page 4)



# Crystal Cove

(continued from page 3)

California State Park. In 1999, Davick founded what is now the Crystal Cove Alliance, an organization that had Crystal Cove listed on the National Register of Historic Places as an example of an intact California beach vernacular architecture. Working together, the Crystal Cove Alliance and the State of California have restored the original cabins and made them available to the public as short-term rentals.

So, if you find yourself pining for a local retro vacation the Crystal Cove is waiting for you. Crystal Cove Alliance has a website at [www.crystalcovebeachcottages.org](http://www.crystalcovebeachcottages.org) and anyone can reserve cottages at [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com) or 1-800-444-7275. The Crystal Cove website allows you to view a map of the area and explore each of the cottages before booking. And, if you would prefer a tour before you reserve your cottage, you can take the Crystal Cove Alliance's monthly tour on the second Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m., no reservations required. Or if an armchair tour of the cove is for you, our library has copies of Davick's book available for checkout both at the main library and the Hunt Branch library.



### Board of Directors 2008-2009

Warren Bowen / Tom Dalton / Katie Dalton  
Nicholas Derr / Ernie Kelsey / Terry Galvin  
Ann Gread / Bob Linnell / Jim Powell / Michele Powell  
Noelle Rossi / Debora Richey / Dave Temple  
Cathy Thomas

*Newsletter layout & design by Jim Powell*

Fullerton Heritage / P.O. Box 3356 Fullerton,  
California 92834-3356  
Hotline: (714) 740-3051  
[www.fullertonheritage.org](http://www.fullertonheritage.org)

## For the Holidays, consider giving a friend a gift membership in Fullerton Heritage

**Yes,** I want to support Fullerton Heritage in preserving Fullerton's historic cultural and architectural resources.

Please check one:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Student            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Friend                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior (65 & over) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Corporate                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Patron                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Non-profit         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Benefactor               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family             | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Additional Contribution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Small Business     |  |

I would like to be active in Fullerton Heritage, and am interested in the following activities (circle one or more):

*Fundraising* – Develop and manage activities or events to raise money for projects such as the Fox Theatre restoration

*Membership* – Explore ways to increase membership and to involve members in activities

*Down Town Walking Tour* – Support the current team, learn about landmarks and history of Fullerton

*Historic Trolley Tour* – Support the current team, learn about landmarks and history of Fullerton

*Programs / Education* – Develop ideas and coordinate public programs

*Historic Home Tours* – Work on committee to explore viability of organizing a tour

*Home Restoration Resources Guide* – Update and research activities for this online resource

*Newsletter, web and print publications*– research and write articles

*Other interests:* \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (H): \_\_\_\_\_

(W): \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL/FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal     New Member     Gift Membership

Send your check along with this form to:

Fullerton Heritage / P.O. Box 3356

Fullerton, California 92834-3356