



# ORANGE PRESERVES

Fall 2021/Spring 2022

PRESERVING,  
PROTECTING AND  
ENHANCING THE  
HISTORIC CHARACTER  
AND CHARM OF  
OLD TOWNE ORANGE  
FOR 35 YEARS.



## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

**THE PLAZA PASEO:** To rescue Old Towne Plaza restaurants and retailers during the Covid lockdown, the City introduced the Paseo allowing Glassell to be closed so customers could be served outside. The City has OK'd extending the Paseo until Council decides its future. Options include closing permanently, continuing, or only open seasonally, perhaps during slow summer months. *(continued, page 4)*



**MAYOR MARK MURPHY** meets with OTPA Board Members to discuss status of the Plaza Paseo, and the need for thorough study of preservation impacts. Left to right, former President Sandy Quinn, President Tony Trabucco, PAC Chair Adam Duberstein, and Mayor Murphy.

## HERE'S THE SCOOP!



**YEP, IT'S AN OLD FASHIONED  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL!**



To celebrate OTPA's 35th Anniversary, we're going back in time with a special thank you event for our members.

**11 am-2pm • Sunday, September 26m • Pitcher Park  
(corner of Almond & Cambridge)**

— Festivities Include —

Balloon Artist • Barbershop Quartet • Strolling Magician

Your choice of an old-fashioned ice cream sundae or root beer float.

**Check [otpa.org](http://otpa.org) for the invitation.**



## Savor The Best From California's Boutique Vineyards!

The Old Towne Preservation Association's annual fundraiser to underwrite its Anne Siebert Preservation Interns for the City of Orange is happening at

**5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

**SATURDAY • OCT 16 • 2021**

**AT THE HILBERT MUSEUM  
OF CALIFORNIA ART**

The Honorary Host Committee includes former Mayor Tita Smith, current Mayor Mark Murphy, Council member Arianna Barrios, Chapman University President Daniele Struppa, and Mark and Janet Hilbert.

Popular Plaza restaurateur Wil Dee – owner of Haven, Provisions and Chapman Craft Beer – returns as Wine Curator and promises a memorable tasting experience from noted vineyards in Central, Southern and Northern California.

Gala guests will tour the Hilbert's special exhibits including *Capture the Light: California Landscapes*, *Disney Superstars*, and *Dressed to Thrill: American Fashion in American Illustration*.

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW!**

**\$75 per person**, includes wine and hors d'oeuvres.

**ORDER ONLINE at [otpa.org](http://otpa.org).**

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# 2021 • 2022 SPECIAL EVENT CALENDAR

## 🍊 OTPA'S 35th ANNIVERSARY ICE CREAM SOCIAL

11:00 am to 2:00 pm, Sunday, Sept. 26, Pitcher Park

Join the fun as OTPA celebrates 35 years of preserving and protecting historic Old Towne. Free to members. Reservations required for ice cream, so **RSVP online now at [otpa.org](http://otpa.org)**.



## 🍊 OTPA's 2nd ANNUAL ART OF WINE GALA

5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Saturday, Oct. 16  
The Hilbert Museum of California Art

Enjoy the best in boutique wines from California's most interesting vineyards. **Tickets are \$75 per person.**

**Order online now at [otpa.org](http://otpa.org).**



## 🍊 OTPA'S 4th ANNUAL HAUNTED HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST

Judging, 4 pm-8 pm • Saturday, Oct. 23

Award Presentation Ceremony on winning Creepy Street, 11:00 am, Sunday, October 24

Spook up your home or business in the Historic District for Halloween fun. The Judges will decide the best in categories of **Creepy Street, Orange & Black, Horror House** and **Spirit of Old Towne**.



## 🍊 OTPA'S 33rd ANNUAL SPIRIT OF OLD TOWNE HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST

Judging, 4 pm-8 pm • Saturday, Dec. 11

Award Ceremony and Caroling on the Best Block at 7:00 pm, Sunday, Dec. 12

Old Towne loves to decorate for the holidays, and OTPA loves to recognize the best and most original. Judges will tour homes and businesses in the Historic District to find winners in categories of **Most Beautiful, Most Old Fashioned, Best Use of Lights, Most Original, Most Whimsical, Best Block, Most Festive (Commercial)** and **Honorable Mention**.



## 🍊 OTPA's 35th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

5:30 pm Reception • 6:00 pm Meeting  
Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022

Ruby's Restaurant, Orange Railroad Depot

Come for no-host cocktails, or enjoy a Ruby's dinner, then join us in the private meeting room for OTPA's annual report and Board election.



## 🍊 OTPA ON-THE-ROAD DISCOVERY TOUR

Spring, 2022

We're checking out several suggested destinations for the next tour, including the legendary Doheny Estate in Beverly Hills, followed by lunch at LA's landmark Farmer's Market. More later!



## 🍊 OTPA's 7th ANNUAL STATE OF OLD TOWNE FORUM

6:00 pm • Thursday, April 14, 2022

City Council Chambers, Orange City Hall

Come hear the Mayor, City and Chapman University officials discuss and answer questions on key issues facing Old Towne and the City of Orange, from parking and growth, to crime and homelessness. Free and open to the public. **RSVP to [otpa.org](http://otpa.org).**

## 🍊 OPTA's 25th PRESERVATION AWARDS GARDEN PARTY & DINNER GALA

5:30 pm • Sunday, May 15, 2022

The Woman's Club of Orange

Mark your calendar for Old Towne's most popular Spring event. Join us in recognizing improvements in homes and business buildings.



## 🍊 OTPA 2022 ORANGE CANDIDATES FORUM

6:00 pm • Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022

Orange City Hall Council Chambers

Key positions will be on the 2022 ballot including Mayor and the District 1 Council seat, plus others. We'll invite all candidates to present their views and answer your questions.



## 2021 OTPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tony Trabucco, *President*

Teresa "Tita" Smith,  
*Vice President*

Ted Albert, *Treasurer*

Mignon Whitaker, *Secretary*

Sandy Quinn, *Past President*

Adam Feliz, *Preservation*

Adam Duberstein, *PAC Chair*

Christopher Glos, *Fund Development*

Guy Hinrichs, *Special Events*

Victoria Laughlin,  
*Community Involvement*

Joe Peters, *Member-at-Large*

Dan Slater, *Member-at-Large*

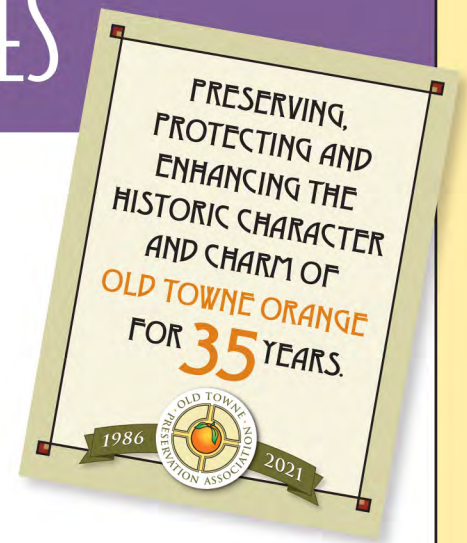
Janet Clinkscapes, *Member-at-Large*

**CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT [OTPA.ORG](http://OTPA.ORG)**

# SAVING OLD TOWNE'S HISTORIC HOMES



*THE WELCH FAMILY HOME, built in 1903 on N. Shaffer, was about to be replaced by a parking lot in 1986. Old Towne rose up and stopped the demolition. That fight created OTPA. Mark and Sherri Clemens live here now.*



***“If we don’t do it, nobody else will,”*** declared OTPA co-founder and first President Dale Rahn. That was 1986 when historic homes were being torn down throughout Old Towne. He soon had a room full of concerned residents meeting at Watson’s Drug Store – “street fighters” as he called them – and **OTPA** was formed.

Old Towne resident **Teresa “Tita” Smith**, OTPA Vice President, was there **35 years ago** as one of OTPA’s co-founders. Since then, she’s spent decades in public service to Orange, including **three terms as Mayor**. We asked Tita about the founding:

## ***Q: WHY DID OLD TOWNE RESIDENTS ORGANIZE?***

**A:** To prevent the demolition of our neighborhood of historic homes. Most Old Towne properties had R-2 Zoning, so there was the threat of replacing historic homes with 2 to 4 unit rental buildings. Old Towne would have lost vintage structures with beautiful architectural styles.

## ***Q: WHAT LED TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DESIGNATING OLD TOWNE AS A RESIDENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT IN 1992?***

**A:** We asked a Historic Preservation professional, and discovered that such designation would protect our historic neighborhood from destruction. Also, we could retain and even increase our property values, protect the integrity of our vintage structures, and maybe include and protect our historic Orange Plaza Business District.

## ***Q: HOW DOES PRESERVATION IMPACT HOME VALUES?***

**A:** Early on, a group of Orange citizens emerged to defend individual property rights. OTPA researched property values in Southern California, and discovered increased property value in the historic neighborhoods of Pasadena, San Diego and even

neighboring Santa Ana. OTPA attended conferences all over California focused on preservation, and were delighted to find an enthusiastic trend of saving older neighborhoods and business districts.

## ***Q: WHAT ARE OTPA’S MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE YEARS?***

**A:** There are many, including a steady increase in property value of homes and businesses. Passage of the City’s Historic Design Standards in 1995. The seating of preservation advocates on the City’s Design Review Committee, Orange Planning Commission, and election of OTPA members to the City Council. OTPA’s Old Towne Home Tours and its annual Preservation Awards recognize extraordinary efforts to preserve and protect.

## ***Q: LOOKING FORWARD, WHAT’S YOUR VISION FOR OTPA?***

**A:** That we continue to build a solid, collaborative and inclusive American neighborhood community. That we continue to work with the City to promote historic preservation of homes and buildings. That we model neighborhood unity, good manners, and share together in the joy of living in beautiful Old Towne. That we reach out in hospitality to our Chapman student neighbors as we remind them we have a standard of good maintenance for our homes.




P.O. Box 828 • Orange, CA 92856 • 714.639.6840  
email: info@otpa.org • www.otpa.org

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO *(continued from page 1)*

### **THE PLAZA PASEO** *(continued from page 1)*

OTPA President Tony Trabucco appeared before Council to voice opposition to a permanent Paseo since it blocks a historic thoroughfare, creates traffic in the residential area, covers up the visual of the vintage buildings, and is contrary to the original intent of the Plaza. Check OTPA.org for updates.

 **ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS** To increase affordable housing, the California Legislature now allows single family homes to add an attachment or convert garages to create a rental unit. OTPA is concerned since the owner can bypass the usual review processes, and doesn't need to provide parking. There is no regard for the resulting neighborhood increases in density, traffic, parking and other impacts. We urge Old Towne residents to write state representatives to request amending the legislation to exclude Historic Districts from ADU legislation. See who you should email online at [OTPA.org](http://OTPA.org)

### **ANNE SIEBERT PRESERVATION INTERNS**

OTPA's innovative Preservation Intern program funds assistants for the City's Preservation Planning staff. It begins in the spring and continues in the summer and fall. Applications for these paid positions are available online at [cityoforangepreservationinternapplication](http://cityoforangepreservationinternapplication). The program is funded by OTPA's annual Art of Wine Gala.



**FORUM PARTICIPANTS, left to right, Council member Arianna Barrios, City Manager Rick Otto, Mayor Mark Murphy, Police Chief Tom Kisela and Chapman VP Alisa Driscoll.**

### **STATE OF OLD TOWN FORUM**

OTPA's annual community forum at City Hall enjoyed its biggest audience ever with hundreds watching on Facebook and Channel 6. Moderated by OTPA President Tony Trabucco, the Forum brought together Mayor Murphy, Council member Barrios, City Manager Otto, Police Chief Kisela, and Chapman VP Driscoll to discuss issues facing Old Towne.

### **JOIN US TO PROTECT OLD TOWNE**

OTPA'S paid membership has never been bigger, with more than 400 Old Towne households and businesses. If you're not a member, sign up now at [otpa.org](http://otpa.org).



## Important News For Our Valued Old Towne Preservation Association Members



## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

During our 35 years, more than 2000 Welcome Baskets have been given to new residents, loaded with helpful info on the City of Orange and OTPA.

PLUS, welcome Gift Certificates from these popular local specialty shops and gardens – The Potting Shed, The Duchess on Cambridge, and Dragonfly.



## YOU ASKED FOR IT...

To celebrate 35 years of preserving and protecting Old Towne's historic heritage, OTPA created it's own 35th Anniversary Collection of branded personal accessories.



Enjoy morning coffee on the veranda with our Anniversary beverage mug.

**\$9.95**

Exercise sipping from OTPA's insulated, stainless steel water bottle. Stays cold 24 hours, and hot for 12.

**\$29.95**

Stroll the Plaza wearing our official and cool OTPA cap.

**\$29.95**



**ORDER NOW ONLINE at [otpa.org](http://otpa.org), and check out the Store.**

*Shipping and tax included in price.*