

# Model Colony News



1st Quarter 2017



## Heritage Events

### 2017 Upcoming Events:

**January 4**—Monthly Board Meeting

**February 1**—Monthly Board Meeting

**February 26**—1st Quarter Dinner Potluck Meeting with Board Elections. Program will be a docent-led walk through *Art for Living and Living for Art* featuring artists Millard Sheets, Tony Sheets and Rick Caughman. Location to be at Chaffey Community Museum of Art (CCMA) 217 S. Lemon Ave Ontario. Time: 5pm –7pm. Bring your favorite potluck dish and bottle of wine. Please RSVP to [prdelman@msn.com](mailto:prdelman@msn.com) or call 909.984.6558.

**March 1**—Monthly Board Meeting

**March 11**— Our Annual Historic Walking Tour will be held 10:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Historic Villa District. Tour begins and ends at the Iron Skillet Restaurant 805 N. Euclid Ave Ontario. Presale tickets will be available in February at Logan's Candies and Graber Olive House.

**March 17**—1st Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser to be held at Whispering Lakes 2525 E. Riverside Drive Ontario.

**April 8**— Historic Homes Tour 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. **VOLUNTEER DOCENTS NEEDED!** Pre-sale tickets will be available early April at Logan's Candies and Graber Olive House.

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[info@ontarioheritage.org](mailto:info@ontarioheritage.org)

Like us on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/  
ontario.heritage](http://www.facebook.com/ontario.heritage)

#### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you would like to volunteer your time at our events, please contact us at: 909.984.6558 or email us at: [volunteers@ontarioheritage.org](mailto:volunteers@ontarioheritage.org)

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## Heritage Corner

In our first newsletter of 2017 we continue with our series of articles highlighting endangered historic places in Ontario. The third installment features the historic Bank of Italy building located at 200 N. Euclid Ave Ontario.

### Historic Building: Bank of Italy

On April 18, 1922, the Daily Report newspaper reported the issuance of a \$50,000 permit for the construction of the Security State Bank, located at northeast corner of Euclid Avenue and B Street. The article reported that the new bank would be a “handsome structure” and one of the most attractive banking buildings in all of San Bernardino County. The bank building was designed and constructed by Campbell Construction in 1923 as the permanent office for the Security State Bank. The bank opened to the public on March 24, 1923. The Daily Report covered the grand opening of the bank and stated that “a thing of beauty is a joy forever.” The article went on to say that “the transformation of an ugly spot into one of the most beautiful business corners on the famous Euclid Avenue is an achievement in which the whole City may well take pride.”

It was even published in a Los Angeles Times Newspaper article dated March 25, 1923 (page 93), “this {Security State Bank} building is a modified Grecian style, construction being of rose marble and brick, with massive columns rising from ground to cornice. The entrance doors are of bronze as are the casements of the great plate-glass windows, which line the street sides of the building, there being no exterior woodwork. The fixtures, lobby floor and lobby desks are all in Napoleon grey marble, with black and gold marble base. The woodwork is of mahogany and the furniture of the same wood harmonizes with the whole.”



Two months after its opening, on May 28, 1923, the Security State Bank was taken over by the Bank of Italy after word came out about some of the Bank’s questionable loan practices. The Bank of Italy was considered the first state-wide branch-banking system in the United States and by this time it had more than 61 branches established throughout California.

The Bank of Italy was founded in 1904 by Amadeo Pietro Giannini along with five other former directors of the Columbus Bank to serve the needs of the growing immigrant population with headquarters in San Francisco. The Bank of Italy was instrumental in financing the rebuilding of San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake. The Bank of Italy’s unorthodox practices included advertising to both borrowers and depositors alike and attracted moderate to lower income customers. Former banks catered to society’s aristocrats with certain formalities, conservative policies, and high interest rates. Mr. Giannini was an innovator and saw a great base of untapped customers, extending loans to

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## Heritage Corner (Continued from Page 2)

the working class, including women. He believed that women who could vote also would demand greater choice and independence in managing their own money.

Giannini and the Bank of Italy pioneered an inter-branch system of banking throughout California that eventually revolutionized the face of banking. This allowed for a greater ease in transferring funds, a critical step in exchanging an efficient branch banking system. The Bank of Italy's approach had democratized and popularized the use of banks. In 1930, Giannini established the Bank of America, which absorbed the Bank of Italy. When the Great Depression hit America, the bank was once again able to withstand the hardships. During the 1930s and 40s, the bank funded much of the agricultural and industrial industries across the country, as well as the movie industry in Southern California.

In 1960 Richard's Beauty School took over the Bank of Italy building. Today it stands vacant and is owned by the City of Ontario.



Circa 1930s



2017

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## Other News & Information



SAVE THIS DATE!  
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2017  
Time: 5:00 pm–7:00 pm

Please RSVP!  
prdelman@msn.com or  
call 909.984.6558



Our 1st Quarter Dinner  
Potluck Meeting with  
Annual Board Elections.  
Program is a docent-led  
walk through *Art for Living*  
and *Living for Art* featuring  
artists Millard Sheets, Tony  
Sheets and Rick Caughman.



Location: Chaffey Community Museum of Art (CCMA)  
217 S. Lemon Ave Ontario CA 91761

Please bring a main dish, side dish or dessert and feel free to  
bring a bottle of wine to share also.



## 2017 Ontario Heritage Home Tour

*"Living in Harmony with History"*

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2017

Time: 10 AM to 5 PM



**Ticket Prices:**  
\$20 for Ontario Heritage  
Members  
\$25 for Non-members

Pre-sale tickets will be available early April at  
Logan's Candies and Graber Olive House.

**Volunteer Docents needed!**

To volunteer or learn more about Ontario Heritage see contact information below:

FB Page: [www.facebook.com/Ontario.Heritage.com](https://www.facebook.com/Ontario.Heritage.com)

Official Website: [www.ontarioheritage.org](http://www.ontarioheritage.org)

(909) 984-6558

P.O. Box 1 • Ontario, CA 91762

### Board Members

Petrina Delman, President

Richard Delman, Vice President

Randi Campbell, Treasurer

Louise Melton, Secretary

Barbara Hertz Chamberlain

Joe Caskey

Associate Board Member: Rita Nelsen

Diane Ayala, Ex-Officio

Debra Porada, City Council Liaison

Click on the following link and scroll to pages 2 & 3 to  
read our 2nd Quarter 2016 article about historic St.  
George Catholic Church in Ontario:

<http://nebula.wsimg.com/4c916bfef14672ad5fc03faa640c7535?AccessKeyId=8B54CBE5539BCD736836&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

Click on the following link and scroll to pages 2 & 3 to  
read our 3rd Quarter 2016 article about the historic  
Hotpoint Club/G.E. Clubhouse:

<http://nebula.wsimg.com/a7f50236dee3c53f59ffe353f84690d3?AccessKeyId=8B54CBE5539BCD736836&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

Or visit our website at <http://www.ontarioheritage.org>

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## 2017 Ontario Heritage Membership

We are an all volunteer local non-profit organization and we need you! Is the ongoing process of preserving our historic downtown important to you? Or learning about the rich history of the Model Colony? Our Mission Statement is “Preserving, Protecting and Promoting Our Model Colony” not only for us but for our future generations. Having historic home tours, annual historic cemetery tours, being present at local events are all part of pursuing our mission and making the public more aware of our purpose. It’s an important goal but who says we can’t have fun pursuing it! If you are already a member of Ontario Heritage, we sincerely thank you! If you’re not yet a member, please consider joining us on this journey. Not only will you become more aware and knowledgeable of Ontario’s past history, you will be inspired to walk with us as we go forward in “Preserving, Protecting and Promoting Our Model Colony.”

### Benefits of Membership:

- 1 Participation in Ontario Heritage events such as Home Tours, Annual Historic Cemetery Tours, potlucks, local community events, historic and educational programs.
2. Discounts to events
3. E-mail Newsletters
4. Advocacy for preservation of our historical environment and cultural heritage.
5. Access to information concerning restoration and renovation.
6. The knowledge that you are part of the effort to protect, preserve and promote the Model Colony



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### Ontario Heritage Membership Form (December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2018)

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### \* Required Information

#### Membership Categories (For the 2016 Calendar Year)

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| <input type="radio"/> Individual        | \$25.00  |
| <input type="radio"/> Senior (62 years) | \$15.00  |
| <input type="radio"/> Family            | \$40.00  |
| <input type="radio"/> Family-Senior     | \$30.00  |
| <input type="radio"/> Corporate         | \$250.00 |

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### I am interested in:

- E-mail Alert Network
- Volunteering at Events
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with Your Check Payable To: **Ontario Heritage**  
P.O. Box 1, Ontario, CA 91762  
or sign up at: [ontarioheritage.org](http://ontarioheritage.org)

In an effort to keep dues low, most communication will be via email, so providing us your email address is vital.