

# Model Colony News



3rd Quarter 2016



## Heritage Events

### 2016 Upcoming Events:

**September 7, 2016**—Monthly Board Meeting

**October 5, 2016**—Monthly Board Meeting

**October 8, 2016**—7th Annual Historic Cemetery Tour at Bellevue Memorial Park 1240 West G Street Ontario.

**November 2, 2016**—Monthly Board Meeting

**December 3, 2016**—We will have a booth at the annual “Christmas on Euclid” in historic downtown Ontario.

**December 4, 2016**—4th Quarter Dinner Potluck Meeting with guest speaker Zoe TeBeau, accredited appraiser of antiques and residential contents. Location at 1007 N. Euclid Ave Ontario. As this is a private residence RSVPs are mandatory. Please call 909.984.6558 or email: [prdelman@msn.com](mailto:prdelman@msn.com)

**December 7, 2016**—Monthly Board Meeting

**December 17**—We will be in attendance at the Annual Christmas Sing at the Jack Mercer Community Bandstand on C Street & Euclid Ave from 6 pm to 9 pm. Don't forget to bring your chairs and blankets. Free hot chocolate, coffee & cookies will be provided.

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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)

# Model Colony News

## Heritage Corner

As mentioned in our last newsletter we are doing a series of feature articles highlighting endangered historic places in Ontario. The purpose is to raise awareness about the imminent threats facing these architectural gems from Ontario's rich past. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> article in our series and highlights the historic Iron Plant Employee Job Center aka the Hotpoint Club House/G.E. Club House located at 201 E. Main Street in Ontario.

### Historic Building: Hotpoint Club House/G.E. Club House

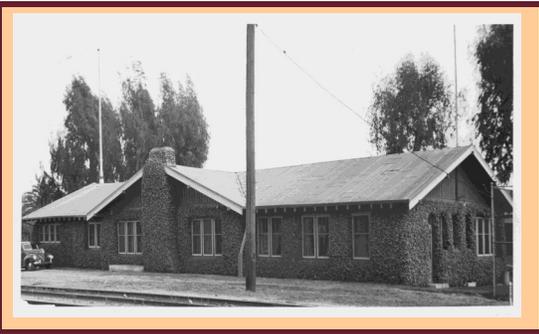
Earl H. Richardson, Inventor of the world-famous Hotpoint Electric Iron was born 1871 in Wisconsin. He moved to Ontario in 1898 and in 1903 formed Pacific Electric Heating Company which eventually moved into the new facility at Lemon and Main Street. In 1908 the company name was changed to Hotpoint. Hotpoint employed 25% of Ontario's work force. Richardson was a very influential businessman in Ontario. In addition to his invention of the Hotpoint Iron, he was instrumental in the electrifying of the mule car line, the development of youth baseball in Ontario as well as numerous other social activities in Ontario.

In 1910 the Hotpoint Club was formed. Richardson wanted to provide a social gathering place for his employees so he had a clubhouse designed in Bungalow architectural style with Craftsman elements. The Campbell Construction Company built the clubhouse of metal lath and plaster in 1917 for \$5000. It is approximately 3,900 square feet.

Though the Club House is a separate building from the actual Hotpoint Ontario factory, it's important to know the historical significance of the factory to appreciate and value the historical significance of the Club House.

According to an article in the Los Angeles Times on November 1, 1914 (page 81) the "Hotpoint Heating Company of

*Club House in 1950*



Ontario had 500 employees with a payroll of \$10,000 a month. It had become the leading industry of Ontario and one of the foremost enterprises of the State of California. In 1914 the Ontario factory of the company was valued at \$1,000,000. and in addition maintained a large manufacturing and assembling plant in Chicago with assembling and shipping depots in New York City, Vancouver, B.C., Toronto, Ontario and London, England." The article goes on to say: "The factory maintains its own cafeteria, where all the food is electrically cooked and sold to employees at actual cost of supplies and labor."

*Interior in 1918*



*June 1928*



*As the Moose Lodge in 1995*



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## Heritage Corner (Continued from Page 2)

In 1918 Hotpoint merged with General Electric and became the Edison Electric Appliance Company (E.E.A.Co, Inc.). By 1941 the company had produced its 20 millionth Hotpoint iron and by 1943 it employed 1,500 people. During WWII the company converted for war and made bomb noses, parapack racks and cabin heaters for U.S. bombers. After WWII it went back to producing Hotpoint irons and in 1956 it presented its 50 millionth iron to Ronald Reagan who had campaigned that year as a Democrat for President Dwight Eisenhower's re-election.

1982 the Hotpoint Factory closed. More than 150 million irons were produced since 1904. Throughout three-quarters of a century the G.E. Company was a dominant force in Ontario's economic life. The Clubhouse served as a social center for G.E. employees and other community residents. After the factory closed in 1982 the Clubhouse was used as a job placement center and later the Moose Lodge.

The Club House is rectangular in plan with a gable roof. There is a 40' long 10' wide south facing porch that is covered with wood. Local creek stone was used in the porch wall. It has hardwood floors, a large cobble stone fireplace on the north wall opposite the porch, a basement, a kitchen and a dumb waiter. The Clubhouse originally contained a company store, cafeteria and men's and women's club rooms. Classes were also taught in the kitchen to promote its Hotpoint appliances. Richardson figured that the best sales people would be the wives of the men who worked for him. In November 1983 an Architectural Survey was done at which time the Clubhouse was deemed to be "in good condition despite minor interior alterations."

Who do you know who worked there? Did you attend Halloween parties there when you were a child? What are your memories? Are you interested in what happens to this historic building? Share your stories with us. Email them to: [info@ontarioheritage.org](mailto:info@ontarioheritage.org)

According to the City of Ontario Historic Preservation Ordinance Section 9-1.2665: August 2011 Page 26-29:

*The owner, or other person in charge of an Historic Resource has a duty to keep in good repair all of the exterior features of such Resource, and all interior features thereof which, if not maintained, may cause or tend to cause the exterior features of such resource to deteriorate, decay, become damaged or fall into a state of disrepair.* This club house has been vacant for several years. It is a designated historic property in the City of Ontario. Unfortunately, it has numerous code violations which the property owner is choosing to ignore and he is intentionally allowing it to deteriorate to the point where demolition would be the only option. We are very much in favor of restoration of this important Ontario Resource.

*Photo taken in 2009*



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## Other News & Information



**YOU'RE INVITED!**

Ontario Heritage's 3rd Quarter  
Dinner Potluck & Meeting

**Date:** Sunday July 31, 2016

**Time:** Starts at 5 pm

**Location:** Graber Olive House  
315 East 4th Street in Ontario  
(on front lawn)

**Guest Speaker:** Board member Joe  
Caskey will give a 125 year capsule of  
Ontario's history.



Bring a potluck dish to share  
and your favorite bottle of wine.

RSVPs required! Please call 909.984.6558 or send an  
email to: [prdelman@msn.com](mailto:prdelman@msn.com)

[ontarioheritage.org](http://ontarioheritage.org)  
[facebook.com/ontario.heritage](https://facebook.com/ontario.heritage)

Ontario Heritage and Bellevue Memorial Park  
Proudly Present  
**History Makers of Ontario**  
The 7th Annual  
**Historic Cemetery Tour**  
Saturday, October 8 at 10:15 AM  
**Bellevue Memorial Park**  
1240 West G Street, Ontario, CA 91762

Take a leisurely stroll through Bellevue Memorial Park  
and visit with some of Ontario's early citizens as local,  
costumed actors bring characters to life.

Ticket Sales Begin at 9:30 AM at  
Bellevue Memorial Park

Ontario Heritage Members: \$5 each  
Non-Members: \$10 each  
Children (12 and under): FREE

For more info visit:  
[www.ontarioheritage.org](http://www.ontarioheritage.org)  
Or call: (909) 984-6558

### 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

### Other Upcoming Events:

**December 2, 2016**—Annual Christmas Tree Lighting  
Event, Holiday movies, Santa, food, vendors and  
more. Time 6 pm to 10 pm. Bring your lawn chairs  
and blankets for this free family event.

Two movies will be shown: A Muppets Christmas—  
Letters to Santa and Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole  
Christmas.

**December 3, 2016**—Annual Christmas on Euclid  
Experience and Craft Fair from 10 am to 6 pm.

**For other events and additional information  
please see:**

<http://ontariotownsquare.org/events>

[https://www.facebook.com/Euclid-Avenue-Nativity-  
Scenes](https://www.facebook.com/Euclid-Avenue-Nativity-Scenes)

<https://www.facebook.com/OntarioArtsCA>

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristmasonEuclid>

# Model Colony News

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## 2016 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, 2016 to December 31, 2017)

\*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.