



Placentia Founders Society

The Green Shingle

News from the Bradford House

September 2024

Founders Society Celebrates Efforts of Past 50 Years



Board members Tiffany Davila, Chris Maule, Dana Collins and Bob Robinson join President Eric Holmgren to celebrate the Founders anniversary.

The Placentia Founders Society's Annual Meeting and election of officers was held in June where guests celebrated the 50th Anniversary of PFS efforts to preserve the Bradford House for use by our community.

Sponsors of the \$50 for 50 Years program have given \$1,200 to sustain the Bradford House. Contributions are still welcome and will be acknowledged with small tokens of appreciation. A plaque with donor names will be unveiled at the annual Christmas Party in December.

President Eric Holmgren returns with a year's experience under his belt, renewed energy and optimism. He plans to present some tried and true favorites and introduce novel activities this year with the support of returning executive officers Nancy Murray, Beth Woodard, Wendy Elliott, and Alice Husovsky. Other board members on hand to help include John Walcek, Judie Dee, Tiffany Davila, Natalie Ter-Nedden, Kim Deweese, Chris Maule, Dana Collins, Bob Robinson and Kathy Frazee.

Members are encouraged to introduce a friend to the significance and charm of the house and support the continued efforts of the board in 2024-25.

Placentia-Yorba Linda Ys Mens Club Recognizes Placentia Founders

At the August board meeting, Beth Woodard informed the Founders that the Placentia-Yorba Linda Ys Mens Club was dissolving. As one of their last official actions, they disbursed funds to various organizations. In recognition of the continued efforts to make Bradford House open to the public, they donated \$1,000 to the Placentia Founders Society.

Sincere thanks are extended to the Ys Men who gave so generously: Ben Carter, Sheri Cassidy, Dr. John F. Harrell, Roscoe Johnson, and Carl Woodard.

New Opportunity for Fall Tours

Administrative changes in the Placentia Community Foundation grant program last spring have resulted in a unique opportunity for 3rd grade tours at Bradford House this fall. Transportation funding is still available to bus the more distant students to come and visit. Teachers are encouraged to take advantage of this unique turn of events and plan local history tours now.



Due to the steadfast efforts of our VP education, Nancy Murray, with the assistance of zealous docents Chris Maule, Kim Deweese, Brenda Benner and Pauline Rogers and aided by other helpful volunteers, Bradford House received 79 people in private tours, 103 at Sunday open house, and welcomed 326 children on school outings during the 2023-24 season. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers who make history come alive in our community.

Message From the President

by Eric Holmgren



The folks who run the Placentia Founders Society have an interesting task to balance. On one hand, they are striving to maintain and preserve the historic Bradford House. On the other hand, they are meant to educate and share the Bradford House with the community. Too many visitors threatens the preservation of the house and artifacts, while too few visitors threatens the mission to share the house and history.

Fortunately, our board of directors is composed of many talented and experienced historians, preservationists, and experts in old-home care. Many have sat on the Placentia Historic Committee and have a wealth of knowledge. It is with this knowledge and careful deliberation that the board balances our dual missions.

I am honored to serve with such a dedicated board. They are the fine folks who keep the Bradford House going! I look forward to hosting more events at the house that will give the community an opportunity to enjoy what has been preserved. Stay tuned to this newsletter, our Facebook page, and our Instagram page for details, such as our Halloween Haunt on Saturday Oct 26th.

Successful Twofer in Placentia

Thanks to membership and community support, the Placentia Founders Society netted \$1,188 from their Saturday & Sunday, June 8 & 9, 2024, e-waste recycling drive. We collected a grand total of 14,537 pounds of e-waste at the event. This information was submitted to the CalRecycle, the commissioned governing body on the 'Electronic Recycling Act.' What a great twofer benefit, the Bradford House maintenance fund grows and e-waste is reduced! Way to go, Placentia!!



Memorial Tree Planted



On Friday, August 23, PFS members and friends gathered to watch the planting of a tree in memory of Tina Maraj, past president and community activist. It was accomplished as part of the city's Urban Forest Management Program that enables residents to

honor someone by adding a tree to one of our community parks. An informal celebration of life and refreshments followed.



Important Role of Citrus in Orange County Economy Remembered

On August 3, President Eric Holmgren and docent Pam Horn joined with the Orange County Parks rangers at Key Ranch to celebrate the Second Annual Summer Citrus Harvest. Valencia oranges were picked in the summer; navel oranges ripened in the winter.

The citrus industry was a mainstay in the local economy during Placentia's early years. Placentia led southern California in the amount of produce shipped to distant markets from its five packinghouses at the end of Bradford Avenue. A record was set in 1953 when 4,200 carloads of local oranges and walnuts were transported.

Artifact Collection Continues to Grow



Curator Beth Woodard has located some interesting items to display in Bradford House: China head dolls known as Three Sisters, a delicate tea service, a well-used metal cash box and a cigarette case. Also added is an authentic field box with Bradford Brothers stamped on the end.



One other fascinating new piece makes a trip to see the house a real must-do: a hair mourning wreath. This unique art form involves creating intricate designs and objects using human hair as the primary medium to fashion a lasting memorial. Victorian hair art reflects the cultural values, sentimentality, and mourning practices of the 19th century.



Though we do not have hair art or jewelry from the Bradford family, this tradition could have been appropriate as a means for someone in the community to remember Elsie, the Bradfords' only daughter, or either of the wives that A.S. survived.

Busy Bees at the Bradford House

by John Walcek

I like to think of the people who join the Founders Society, and especially the board members, as busy bees. However, recently, a colony of actual bees decided to take up residence in the outside wall of Bradford House near the second-story master bedroom. This isn't the first time the bees have built a hive in the exterior walls of the house. At least the bees have good taste!



Bees are beneficial, and we like to save them. It did require hiring longtime local farmer and beekeeper Kevin Schaner, who broke into the siding shingles from the outside, removed the hives with honey, got the queen, cleaned and sealed the area, and reinstalled the shingles. I even got one of the honeycombs; WOW, what a taste!

One never knows what good things you'll encounter by being a part of the Placentia Founders Society, compliments of one of Placentia's founders, A. S. Bradford.



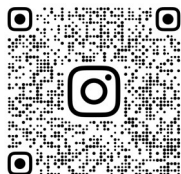


The Bradford House

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UPDATE!!

Use this code
to check for
PFS news on
Instagram



@PLACENTIAFOUNDERS

Upcoming Events:

- 9/8 Sunday Tour, 2-4 p.m.
- 10/13 Sunday Tour, 2-4 p.m.
- 10/19 Heritage Day Festival
- 10/26 Haunted House
- 11/10 Sunday Tour, 2-4 p.m.
- 12/8 Holiday Party & Donor Recognition

2024-2025

Placentia Founders Society Board

OFFICERS

- President—Eric Holmgren
- VP-Activities—
- VP-Curator—Beth Woodard
- VP-Education—Nancy Murray
- Secretary—Kim Deweese
- Treasurer—Alice Husovsky
- Parliamentarian—Wendy Elliott

DIRECTORS

- Art Gallery—John Walcek
- E-media—Tiffany Davila
- Historian—Natalie Ter-Nedden
- Maintenance—John Walcek
- Members-At-Large—Chris Maule, Bob Robinson, Dana Collins
- Membership—Judie Dee
- Newsletter—Kathy Frazee

Membership Support

Thank you to our loyal members who have paid their dues for this fiscal year. We have had several Life members and we appreciate all who help in our mission to preserve our beautiful Bradford House.

Name_____

Address_____

City/State/Zip_____

Individual \$30
Senior (65+) \$20
Student (full-time) \$10

Family/Dual \$50
Benefactor \$75
Patron \$125

Thank you! Your tax-deductible donation will help preserve the historic Bradford House for future generations.

The Placentia Founders Society was established in 1974 to preserve and maintain the Bradford House, which was built in 1902. Now it is a living museum, providing a glimpse into the lives of a pioneering family who made their fortune in the citrus industry. The House will open to the public for docent-led tours from 2-4 p.m. the second Sunday of each month.