



# LANTERMAN HOUSE

NEWSLETTER

FALL - 2019

## LANTERMAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM FOUNDATION

4420 Encinas Drive  
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011  
**(818) 790-1421**  
lantermanhouse@gmail.com

## HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesday/Thursday  
Sunday (1st and 3rd)  
1:00 - 4:00 pm  
*Closed Holidays*

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*Check out our new website:*

**[www.lantermanhouse.org](http://www.lantermanhouse.org)**



*Emily Lanterman, circa 1890.  
Photo courtesy of the Lanterman House Archives.*

## EMILY CONSTANCE LANTERMAN: LA CAÑADA MATRIARCH

Emily Constance Lanterman is well-known as an important member of one of the founding families of La Cañada. In addition to being a wife, mother, and manager of the family home, she was an enthusiastic member of many social organizations. At home, Emily did most of the daily household chores herself, yet she still found time for her own personal interests. Her incredibly busy life speaks to her unwavering desire to learn and to improve herself as well as the world around her.

Emily and Dr. Roy Lanterman, shortly after marrying, moved to Los Angeles where Roy established a practice at 6th and Main Streets. With the

*(continued on page 5)*

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Laura Verlaque

Hello from the Lanterman House! This summer, the staff has been hard at work on our two grant projects. We were awarded a grant from the Conservation Assessment Program to evaluate our preservation needs for the house and collections. We also received the California Revealed grant, which will allow us to digitize all of our oral histories. Both of these grants will give us the tools to continue to share and preserve our historic assets with the larger community.

If you haven't stopped by recently, I hope you join us for one of our wonderful free events this fall. We're working with the Theodore Payne Foundation on native plants and collaborating with Jane's Cakes on a gingerbread house contest. See pages 6-7 for more details on our free programs.

## THE FRIENDS OF THE LANTERMAN HOUSE BOOK CLUB



Kay Bahrami. Image courtesy of the La Cañada Valley Sun.

About five years ago, several of the volunteers at the Lanterman House started a book club. Our purpose was to enjoy each other's company, keep learning about the history of California or our local community, and to read books that were outside of our comfort zones and share a variety of viewpoints. Our book group meets four times a year and members are welcome to join the conversation, even if they have not completed the book.

Kay Bahrami, a longtime Lanterman House volunteer, was our leader and guide. At the end of our book club meetings, so often held around her dining room table, she reached into her book bag and offered several suggestions for the next selection. The last selection of Kay's was *Dandelion Wine* by Ray Bradbury. We had just finished *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean and of course Ray Bradbury used the Los Angeles Public Library as his college and writing center, so it seemed fitting to sample his work. Kay passed away before our April meeting. She is missed by so many in La Cañada who knew her and shared the joy of a good book with her.

While we dearly miss Kay, our book club continues with her vision. Our current selection is *Sun Seekers - The Cure of California* by Lyra Kilston. This is the story of California's health seekers, the architecture

of Neutra and Schindler and the growth of the back to nature movement and vegetarianism in the 60's. A possible future selection is *The Mirage Factory* by Gary Krist. Krist describes the unique role William Mulholland, D.W. Griffith and Aimee Semple McPherson played in the story of 1920's Los Angeles. For your interest, a complete list of our book club selections will be posted on the Lanterman House website - coming soon.

~Mary Lou Langedyke

# Treasures from the Archives

## EMILY'S OTHER LEADING MAN: Edward Channing Folsom (1846-1918)

**SKIN**

**Diseases and Disfigurations**

Ulcers	Naevus (birthmarks)
Pimples or Black-heads	Moles
Tumors (sebaceous)	Warts
Syphilides	Scars
Itching Skin	Carbuncles
Redness (unnatural)	Freckles
Paleness	Powder marks
Boils	Ringworm
Eczema	Rough, Greasy Skin

**Blemishes AND Diseases**

IN, ON OR UNDER THE SKIN

That affect your health or personal appearance treated without cutting or pain.  
Consultation, personally or by letter, FREE.

**Edward C. Folsom, M. D.**

120 N. SPRING STREET,  
Los Angeles, Cal.

Advertisement for Dr. Folsom's medical practice.  
September 10, 1895, Los Angeles Herald.

**Santa Monica's Climate.**

A paper prepared by Dr. Edward C. Folsom on the climatic conditions of Santa Monica was read at a gathering of citizens a few days ago. Dr. Folsom paid a high tribute to Santa Monica's climate. He said that, after trying various regions from Maine to Florida, the Middle and Western States, Italy and Southern Europe, he found almost entire relief in Santa Monica, and has seen the same happy effect occur in many other cases.

Santa Monica newspaper announcement  
of Dr. Folsom's talk on the Santa Monica climate.

Many of us have heard about Dr. Roy Lanterman, father of Lloyd and Frank, and husband of Emily. Roy was a local doctor from one of the founding families of La Cañada and built his dream home, El Retiro, which we now know as the Lanterman House. There was, however, another important medical doctor in Emily Lanterman's life. Her father, Dr. Edward C. Folsom, was a well-respected Santa Monica physician and a significant social and political figure in his own right.

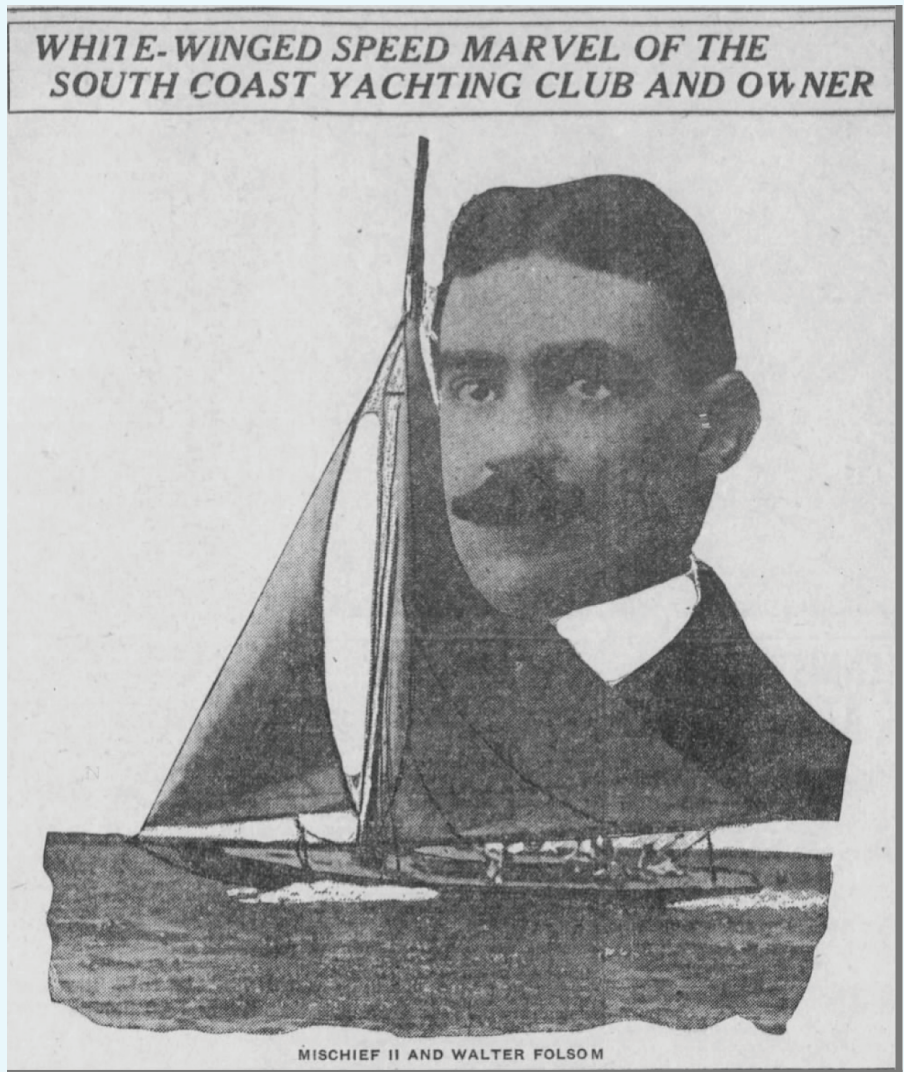
Edward Channing Folsom was born in 1846 in Gray, Maine to Peter Folsom, a clergyman, and his wife Emily Eaton Folsom. He grew up in South Reading, Massachusetts, where his family had lived for well over a century. At 18, he fought in the Civil War as a member of Union Signal Corps. His service left lasting effects on his health, particularly his breathing.

After graduating from medical school at Harvard in 1868, Folsom practiced in several different places, including New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. It was in the last location that he met and married Miss Harriet "Hattie" Webb of Virginia. Five years later, in 1873, Emily Constance Folsom was born and, in 1876, Emily's younger brother, Walter Channing Folsom, came into the world.

The young family decided to move to Santa Monica in the mid-1870s. Many years later, Dr. Folsom wrote an article in the medical journal, *The Southern California Practitioner*, describing his decision to move his family to California. He writes that Santa Monica far surpasses all of the domestic and European resorts of the time as a place for clean air and mild climate, a truly "antiseptic condition of the atmosphere I have never seen excelled." He felt that his chronic asthma had been nearly cured by living in Santa Monica's perfect climate.

In addition to being a respected clinician, Dr. Folsom was also known for his political and social accomplishments. He was the first president of Santa Monica's Board of Trustees when the town was incorporated in 1886. Along with son Walter, he was one of the first members of the South Coast Yacht Club and owned the *Mischief II*. This yacht won many trophies, including the Lipton Cup, and was described in one 1906 *Los Angeles Times* article as "almost too good to be interesting."

(continued on page 4)



*Dr. Folsom's yacht Mischief II and his son Walter Folsom. July 26, 1908, Los Angeles Herald.*

*(continued from page 3)*

There are historical indications that Dr. Folsom and Dr. Roy Lanterman interacted and shared similar goals. Dr. Lanterman was Los Angeles County Coroner from 1907-1908, but his father-in-law ran for the position many years earlier in 1886. The two men also went briefly into business with each other, creating the Electro Therapeutic Manufacturing Company in 1908 with \$25,000 in capital, though no evidence of the company producing anything has been found.

Dr. Folsom, after a two-month bout of bronchial pneumonia, died on May 11, 1918 in La Cañada at the Lanterman House. He was buried at the Rosedale Cemetery in Los Angeles until 1949 when both he and his wife's remains were moved to the Lanterman family plot at Evergreen Cemetery upon the death of their daughter, Emily.

*~Julie Yamashita, Archivist*

*(continued from page 1)*

births of Lloyd and Frank in 1897 and 1901, respectively, Emily's attention became focused on her sons' education and the Hoover Street Grammar School PTA. Emily served as secretary of the PTA from 1909-1910 while Frank and Lloyd were students there. She represented the school as one of the first members of the California Congress of Parents and Teachers. Her involvement also extended to helping establish the first hot lunch program for underprivileged children at Castelar Street School, in what is now L.A.'s Chinatown. Emily would later become president of the La Cañada PTA.

As the area population increased, Roy Lanterman established a practice in Glendale and the Lantermans moved to La Cañada. Their house, El Retiro, the present Lanterman House, completed in 1915, provided Emily with a place to hold social gatherings. She quickly became involved in many La Cañada and Glendale social groups, most notably the La Cañada Community Church Woman's Auxiliary and the La Cañada Thursday Club.

The La Cañada Community Church, also known as the Church of the Lighted Window, has been an important part of Lanterman family history since its establishment in 1897. Emily, when just recently married to Roy Lanterman in 1895, was one of the 15 original charter members of the church. She served as president of the Auxiliary from 1934-1935 and, in her later years, became known as the historian of the church.

Emily was also an enthusiastic member of the La Cañada Thursday Club. Her love of writing and the arts were put to use as Curator of the Drama Section during the 1920s. She served two terms as president from 1927-1929, providing her peers with speeches and poems to suit every occasion. During her presidency, membership grew significantly and the tea room at the present club house was constructed.

When she wasn't out attending lectures, concerts, meetings, or other social gatherings, Emily was far from idle. Besides keeping house for her family, Emily enjoyed writing, cooking, and playing bridge with a few friends.

Emily took every opportunity to write, no matter what the genre. Any occasion was a source of inspiration, be it a speech for a special club meeting or a poem to express her appreciation for someone's kindness. She even took an interest in screenwriting during the time her son Frank was playing organ accompaniment to silent movies. One of her handwritten storylines found in the Lanterman Archives featured, what else? A country doctor.

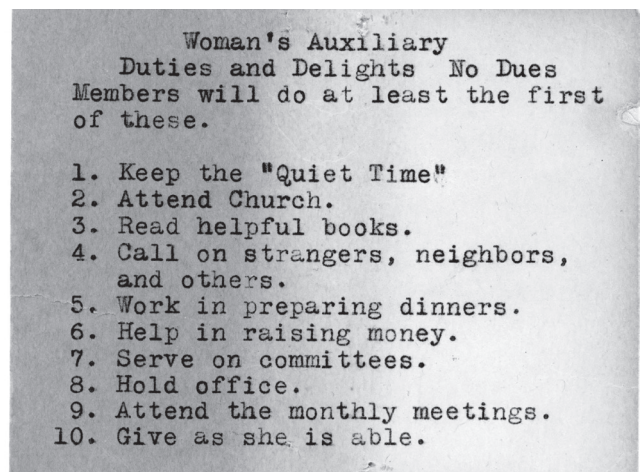
Emily prepared and cooked most of the family's everyday meals, only hiring extra help in the kitchen for larger social events. She enjoyed collecting recipes from family members, friends, as well as from books, advertisements, and magazines. The overflowing recipe card boxes and folders full of clipped recipes reveal her great fondness for sweets and baked goods.

After serving her community and her family for many decades, Emily Lanterman died in 1949 at the age of 75. More clues about Emily's social and personal life can be found in the Lanterman House Archives.

*~Julie Yamashita, Archivist*



*Portrait of Emily Lanterman, circa 1920s.  
Courtesy of the Lanterman House Archives.*



*List of member duties of the  
La Cañada Community Church Woman's Auxiliary Club.  
Courtesy of the Lanterman House Archives.*

# FALL 2019



## LECTURE:

### *The Power of Plants: Growing a Sustainable Future*

*Sunday, October 6, 2019*

*2pm-3pm*

**FREE**

This lecture illustrates the beauty and ecological benefits of California's native wildflowers and plants. Discover the diversity of California's native flora and how its use in urban landscapes reduces pesticides, conserves water, and transforms sterile spaces into thriving habitats that support birds, butterflies, pollinators, and the well-being of all our communities. Presented by Erin Johnson, Outreach Manager of the Theodore Payne Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the understanding, preservation, and use of California native wildflowers and plants.



## WORK DAY:

### *Installing Native Plants in Lanterman Garden*

*Saturday, November 23*

*9:30am*

**FREE**

Do you enjoy gardening? The Lanterman House, in collaboration with the Theodore Payne Foundation, is installing a native plant garden. Volunteers of all ages welcome (kids under 14, with a parent please). Wear old clothes and bring garden gloves.



## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MIXER

*Thursday, October 17, 2019*

*6pm-8pm*

*Members: \$10, non-member \$20*

La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce & Community Association invites you to join us for our Community Afterhours Get-Together Mixer. Miss LCF & her Royal Court will be selling raffle tickets, of which all proceeds help fund their college scholarship program. Come and join us for a wonderful night of new member presentations and socializing in the beautiful setting of the Lanterman House, with a special guest appearance by your historic hostess, Emily Lanterman.

*Parking is available at La Cañada Congregational Church*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## **FAMILY FREE DAY:** *Tree decorating, Gingerbread Demonstration*

Sunday, November 17, 2019

1pm-4pm



Join us in creating ornaments to decorate the Lanterman Christmas tree and your own family tree! Girl Scout Troop 9471 will assist visitors in creating custom gingerbread-inspired ornaments. Additionally, visitors can watch master baker Paula Scott of Jane's Cakes give a demonstration of gingerbread house decorating techniques, as she creates a custom gingerbread house for the Lanterman House.



## **FAMILY FREE DAY:** *Holiday Open House*

Sunday, December 15, 2019

1pm – 4pm

**FREE**

Celebrate the holiday season at the Lanterman House! The free event will include tours of the landmark Lanterman House, light refreshments, and caroling with the La Cañada High School Choral Singers.

The 1915 Lanterman House will be festively decorated for the season, including a Christmas tree decorated by members of the community. An exhibit tracing the history of gingerbread and Christmases past will be on display. Girl Scout Troop 9471 will assist visitors in creating holiday themed crafts. The Visitor Center will exhibit homemade gingerbread houses, for the first annual Lanterman House Gingerbread Contest. Join the fun and vote for your favorite!

## **GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST**

*Sunday, December 15*



We are inviting the community to roll up their sleeves and build gingerbread houses for submission into the Lanterman Gingerbread House Contest. The contest is free and open to all ages and skill levels. From tall ones to small ones, we want to see your best gingerbread architecture!

Submissions must be dropped off on Saturday, December 14 between 3 and 5pm or on Sunday, December 15 between 10am and 12 noon at the Lanterman House. Submissions will be on display during the Holiday Open House from 1-4pm. Winners will be announced at the Holiday Open House at 3pm. Winners do not need to be present to win. Gingerbread houses will be judged on imagination, construction, uniformity in baking and overall design. For contest rules and more information, please visit [www.lantermanhouse.org](http://www.lantermanhouse.org).

*This event is generously sponsored by Jane's Cakes.*



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lantermanhouse@gmail.com

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## PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL HISTORY!

*The Lanternman Historical Museum Foundation, a non-profit organization, was founded to preserve, restore, operate and display the Lanternman House and Archives for the historic and cultural education and enjoyment of present and future generations of the City and State of California.*

*The Lanternman Historical Museum Foundation is eligible for Corporate Matching Gifts as a 501(c)(3) organization.*

**Contact our Executive Director  
at (818) 790-1421.**

### LANTERMAN HOUSE

4420 Encinas Drive  
La Cañada Flintridge, California 91011

**(818) 790-1421 • lantermanhouse@gmail.com**

[www.lantermanhouse.org](http://www.lantermanhouse.org)

### JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!!

- Benefactor      \$250
- Associate        \$100
- Sustainer        \$60
- Sponsor           \$35

*Please make checks payable to  
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