

December 25, 2017

Old Towne Preservation Association  
PO Box 828  
Orange, CA 92856

Dear Friends:

Instead of buying presents at Christmas time, our family usually chooses names out of a hat, and then each person makes a donation on behalf of whomever they are assigned. As we were making our selections this year, my sister-in-law and former Orange resident, Teresa Siebert, came upon information about the Anne Siebert Scholarship. Our small family of 15 people has decided to pool our donations this year and make one donation to this wonderful program.

As you know, my mom was a tireless volunteer for OTPA. She loved to show off the homes of the Old Towne historic district when we would come for the holidays. She loved to talk about the people who made OTPA tick. I can just imagine her sitting at countless City Council meetings, always with a ring binder on her lap and a pen scribbling notes about the happenings of each meeting.

Mom was not trained in historic preservation. She was a citizen who believed in her community and was always there to volunteer. She showed up. She raised her hand. She stepped up to take on the leadership roles.

During my childhood in the Chicago area, she participated, volunteered and then was a leader in the Junior League of Evanston, Cub Scouts, a group that preserved and ran education programs at a lighthouse on Lake Michigan, and the Friends of the Northbrook Public Library. Her time with the library group was typical. She attended a few meetings, then started volunteering, then took on the role of Secretary, then became President for a group that wanted to ensure the community had a modern and vibrant library.

When they moved to Orange in the mid-1980s, Anne and Russ bought an old bungalow on Olive Street. Seeing the potential for impacts to the character of the neighborhood from proposed multi-family buildings, mom decided to get involved. She learned about the laws and regulations, about the history of the area, and about the other people with community spirit and commitment to historic preservation. She volunteered and showed up for her community.

We are so pleased to support the Anne Siebert scholarship. We hope our little contribution can help OTPA.

Wishing you all the best,

Dave Siebert

  
(a 1916 art and crafts home)