Oct News Letter

SEPTEMBER, 4 2001 PAUL MOORE 18755 WEST BERNARDO DR. APT, 1149 SAN DIEGO CA.92127.

EDITOR HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS BREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O.BOX 9764 BREA, CA 92822-9764

Dear Editor

I always enjoy the articles in your "HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS" publication . The August article, "THE STEWART TANK FARM FIRE OF 1926" by Brian Saul really got my attention, especially the paragraph "The fire-induced cyclone that ripped off the roof of the Sutphen family home at the corner of Madrona and Cedar St." You may be interested in my experience during that fire and that particular incident.

My parents, Elwood and Isabella Moore, were early(1913) residents of Brea. I was nine years old. My sister, Caroline, was thirteen. We lived at 201 Sievers Av.on the west side of Brea. There was a Walnut grove between us and the Tank Farm site. That morning, when the fire started, I was outside playing and saw the Lightning strike the two tanks. The following days were hectic with horror stories of how the hot burning oil would boil over the tank walls and run through the grove toward our home. One day it was so bad my mother, sister and I were really frightened. Dad put us in our 1925 Maxwell, drove about two blocks and parked us on Cedar St. He then returned home to protect our property from those crazy people going through the yard to get closer to the fire. We stayed where Dad parked us, for a short time, then the wind started to blow. Things began falling on the car roof. It was scary. We had a friend move us several blocks East on Cedar ST. A few minutes later the wind really blew and howled. That is when the fire-induced cyclone ripped the roof off Sutphen's home. That cyclone picked the roof up then set down right on top of our first parking space. We were fortunate and our home was safe from the fire.Years later, "REDEVELOPMENT" moved ahead.

James S. Baker 1148 No. Richman Ave. Fullerton, CA 92835 Nov. 2, 2001

Brea Historical Society P. O. Box 9764 Brea, CA 92822

Doyle Bouse sent me a copy of the October edition of the "Historical Happenings". The article about the "Blue Bungalow" was of particular interest to me. The Teahouse mentioned was owned and operated by my Aunt Jean Hogue. Her husband and my Uncle, Lynn (Mike) Hogue was Major of Brea in the 30's and later Postmaster.

My parents, Cecil and Ruth Baker, came to Brea in 1935 with their four children. All of us graduated from Brea Olinda Union High School. My class was 1941 and I lived in Brea until 1950 (counting Army time in WWII). My parents continued to reside in Brea until their deaths in 1989 and 1988 respectively.

I'm enclosing my enrollment in the Brea Historical Society, which Jim Crow brought over, at my request. I look forward to receiving the "Historical Happenings" and other publications in the future.

Please make my membership effective January 1, 2002.

Sincerely,

Jim Baker