

2024 Historic Preservation Award Nomination

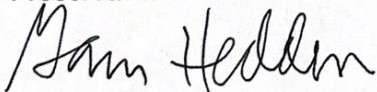
Among Liz Nyberg's many contributions to the community are her significant efforts in historic preservation and education. For this she is nominated to receive the 2024 Los Altos Historic Preservation Award.

Liz has long been active at the Los Altos History Museum. A docent since 1991, she has also been a long-time instructor of new docents, teaching them the history of the J. Gilbert Smith House. She served on the committee for the Museum's annual crab feed fundraiser for over 20 years, was president of the Museum Board for four years (1996-2000) and more recently has served on the fundraising committee that brought us Dancing through the Decades, including the successful Nifty 50s event in March. Also recently she stepped up to head the docent committee and manage the scheduling of the docents, a critical task as the docents are the folks who greet our visitors and give that important first impression. Her leadership and efforts over the past 30+ years have played a major role in the Museum's success.

Also important to the preservation of our history is the Los Altos Town Crier. We are very fortunate to have such a gem. Paul and Liz Nyberg purchased the Town Crier in 1993, and credit goes to them for the weekly record of events that are preserved in the newspaper. Sold by the Nybergs in 2019, the paper continues to collect the news that becomes our history.

The Nyberg were named Los Altans of the Year for 2017. Link here - https://www.losaltosonline.com/news/los-altans-of-the-year-paul-liz-nyberg/article_7675e13d-b9a8-5fb6-8d7b-41b54f5c1e95.html

For her long and continuing support of the History Museum and for her important role as owner of the Town Crier, Liz is worthy and deserving of the 2024 Los Altos Historic Preservation Award.



Gary Hedden
April 8, 2024

Letter of Support

It is my pleasure to nominate Liz Nyberg for the 2024 Historic Preservation Award. I met Liz many years ago, in the late 1970's, through a mutual friend and former President of the History Museum, Ginger Beman. Liz and Paul were members of Union Presbyterian Church in Los Altos, where my husband, Duane, and I also attended. Several years later, we would see Liz and Paul at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, where we also worshipped.

In 2009, when I retired from teaching at Almond School, my husband and I became members of the Los Altos History Museum. We enjoyed becoming reacquainted with Liz and Paul. I remember how pleased we were when Liz and Paul became owners of the "Town Crier."

As Chair of the 3rd and 4th Grade Educational Tours Committee at the Los Altos History Museum, I have worked closely with Liz. We often receive requests for tours from teachers of students younger than 3rd and 4th Grades, which we are unable to accommodate. However, touring the Smith House is ideal for younger students, and Liz has willingly led these tours for 1st and 2nd graders with great success.

Liz and I also served on the History Museum Nominating Committee a few years ago. She was a thoughtful member whose community connections were invaluable in seeking qualified candidates for the museum Board of Directors.

I enthusiastically nominate Liz for the 2024 Historic Preservation Award! Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
Anne Roberts, Chair
3rd and 4th Grade Educational Tours Committee

Letter in support of Liz Nyberg nomination for 2024 Historic Preservation Award

Liz Nyberg is a perfect recipient for the 2024 Historic Preservation Award. I strongly support her nomination.

Philip Graham (former president and publisher of the Washington Post) is credited with stating that “Journalism is the first rough draft of history.” Liz (and her late husband) owned the Los Altos Town Crier from 1993 to 2019 (when I took over as an owner and CEO). The bar had been set high for reporting the news of Los Altos and in the almost four- and one-half years since it has been our goal to maintain that standard of reporting to continue to preserve for posterity the history of our city.

She has also been an active member and volunteer leader at the Los Altos History Museum where her skills have been instrumental in the preservation of Los Altos history.

For these and other reasons Liz is a Los Altos community asset and deserving of the 2024 Historic Preservation Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Young
CEO and Publisher
Los Altos Town Crier

Dear Historical Commissioners,

I enthusiastically support the nomination of Liz Nyberg for the 2024 Los Altos Historic Preservation Award.

She has spent decades and hundreds hours of volunteer work at the Los Altos History Museum which included serving on various committees, helping with fund-raisers, helping to raise funds and often taking leadership positions.

I have been extremely impressed with her dedication to the Museum. She definitely deserves this award.

Richard L. Henning, Ed.D

February 4, 2024

TO: Los Altos Historical Preservation Committee

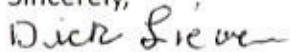
It is with great pleasure that I support the Los Altos History Museum's nomination of Liz Nyberg for the 2024 Los Altos Historical Preservation Award. I first worked with Liz on Nan Geschke's seminal committee that planned and implemented the building of the history museum. We all celebrated together as the doors to the new museum opened in 2001. Throughout the museum planning, I was always so impressed by Liz, an extremely positive and energetic person. I found Liz to not only be a successful leader, but also a great listener and compromiser.

As the years went by, I saw Liz's imprint on a huge number of projects and committees. Being on the Education Committee I marveled over the training she provided for new history docents and her leadership as chair of the docent committee.

We came in contact again when I headed the California history program for all district fourth graders. Liz was a master teacher at the upstairs permanent exhibit where she took the children on an exciting "ride" from Ohlone Days to Los Altos' incorporation as a city. Liz was always comprehensive in her study and planning before she taught the children. This translated into not only studying the formal lesson plan, but also giving of her time to observe more senior instructors presenting new material. Throughout Liz's teaching, she personified the old saying, "History is a story well told." The children were always thrilled as Liz led them through our 45-minute path of history.

Therefore, not only because of Lis Nyberg's myriad of completed projects and leadership at the museum, but also because of her lesser-know talent as a true story weaver for children, it is with enthusiasm that I support her nomination for your 2024 award.

Sincerely,



Dick Liewer

Los Altos History Education Committee

2024 Historic Preservation Award Nomination for Liz Nyberg

As I look back over the years, many have contributed to the Historic Preservation of the City of Los Altos, but one person stands out for their in-depth contributions to historic preservation for the City of Los Altos and that is Liz Nyberg.

Through her efforts, the Los Altos History Museum has been strengthened. The J. Gilbert Smith House preserved, and fund-raising efforts and docent recruitment enhanced. Her leadership and efforts over the past 30 years are unparalleled.

Identifying, protecting and preserving the places that make Los Altos so special is the center of Liz's contributions to the town.

She has provided sustained creative initiatives to enhance the efforts of historic preservation for Los Altos and is a model for the community.

As a member of the Museum and neighbor in Los Altos Hills, I strongly support Liz Nyberg for the 2024 Historic Preservation Award.

Kind thanks,

Duffy Price

26435 Anacapa Drive, Los Altos Hills



51 South San Antonio Road
Los Altos, California 94022
www.LosAltosHistory.org
650.948.9427

The Los Altos History Museum gathers and presents compelling stories and artifacts that bridge the past and the present by fostering the creative energy of staff and volunteers to challenge established narratives and produce engaging educational programs and exhibits for the community.

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The Los Altos History Museum's legal name is the Association of the Los Altos Historical Museum; tax i.d. number 94-2542813. We are a 501(c)(3) organization and your gifts are tax deductible.

April 8, 2024

Historical Commission
City of Los Altos
Los Altos, CA 94022

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to support the nomination of Liz Nyberg for the City of Los Altos' Historic Preservation Award. Liz Nyberg has been essential in preserving the history of Los Altos in three key arenas, and this city owes her thanks and recognition.

The first way in which Liz, and her late husband Paul Nyberg, contributed to the preservation of local history is through their work with the Town Crier. The saying is certainly true that journalism is the rough draft of history, because without local newspapers covering events, there would be so much less information preserved for the future. Liz and Paul, with considerable personal sacrifice, kept the Town Crier going for many years, and ensured that back issues of the Town Crier are both available online and in the archives of the Los Altos History Museum.

It is in her work with the Los Altos History Museum that Liz has made two other vital contributions to preserving local history. She has provided leadership to the Museum as a whole, serving as our longest running President of the Board of Directors, and serving on our Fundraising Committee to help with our major fundraisers for the last 20 years, sometimes chairing the Crab Feed and other auctions to much success.

These public contributions are something Commissioners may be aware of, and in and of themselves make Liz Nyberg worthy of this award. But I want to share with the Commissioners some of the amazing, daily, contributions Liz has made to local history that could go unnoticed. Liz Nyberg has been a docent at the History House and then the History Museum for over 30 years, showing up for shifts and greeting the public, helping to engender enthusiasm and connection between visitors and the community. She sets a wonderful example of a knowledgeable, friendly, and engaging docent. She helps lead our docent corps, and is our go-to expert in the heart of the museum, the J. Gilbert Smith House, which she knows so well, she has been training docents on the house for decades. As the Museum's most stellar docent, she also deserves to be recognized with the Historic Preservation Award. She has inspired generations of Los Altans to care about local history in ways big and small, and the Museum would not be where it is today without her. Thank you for considering this nomination!

Dr. Elisabeth I. Ward
Executive Director



Los Altos Town Crier

138 MAIN STREET, LOS ALTOS, CA 94022. 650.948.9000 LOSALTOSONLINE.COM

April 4, 2024

As Associate Publisher of The Los Altos Town Crier, I had the honor of working with Elizabeth Nyberg for over 25 years. Among her great qualities was urging our staff to take time to not only enjoy Los Altos, but get involved in the community.

Several of our staff members joined either a Los Altos service club, area non-profit, or got involved with local schools.

I can't think of a better way to help preserve the fabric of a great community than to urge others to get involved.

In addition, when she and Paul started the Town Crier Holiday Fund, everyone on staff helped out, and ultimately engaged the whole community, and this continues to this day.

Los Altos would not continue to be the great community it is without people like Liz Nyberg. She whole-heartedly deserves this honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Howard A. Bischoff". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

Howard Bischoff
Associate Publisher

April 5, 2024

Los Altos Historical Commission
City of Los Altos
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Dear Commissioners:

I enthusiastically support the nomination of Liz Nyberg for the 2024 Los Altos Historical Preservation Award. For over three decades she has clearly demonstrated a significant dedication to historic preservation in the City of Los Altos through her time, talent and financial support.

Over these years I have had the privilege of working with Liz on numerous projects, fundraising events, programs and other community activities. The Los Altos History Museum has been our primary connection. In addition to her years of service as a member of the museum's board of directors and board chair, Liz is one of the museum's longest-serving docents. She also leads docent training and is currently the chair of the Docent Committee. In the museum's 30-plus years of hosting an annual crab feed fundraising event, Liz was either leading the event or volunteering in some significant capacity. Liz has worn many hats at the museum and has always been present, reliable and effective.

Liz's contributions to the community extend well beyond the Los Altos History Museum, including the Los Altos Morning Forum, Mentor Tutor Connection, Rotary Club of Los Altos, City Block Action Team and CERT, American Association of University Women and the Los Altos Property Owners Downtown. Along with her deceased husband Paul, Liz's efforts have been recognized as the 2017 Los Altans of the Year, the Los Altos Community Foundation's John Gardner Award, CSA Hometown Heroes, the Josephine and Frank Duveneck Humanitarian Award and the Los Altos/Los Altos Hills Joint Volunteer Award.

Liz Nyberg is an effective leader, motivator and role model and she has a unique ability to encourage the active participation of others. She has been steadfast in her commitment to the history of City of Los Altos and the surrounding region and we have realized substantial benefit from her dedication to preserving our past and planning for our future. She has earned and deserves the 2024 Los Altos Historical Preservation Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Rose". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Julie Rose

(Past Los Altos Historical Commissioner and Chair of the Los Altos History Museum Board of Directors)

To the Members of the 2024 Los Altos Historic Preservation Award Committee:

Shortly after retiring from education, I started volunteering with two organizations: Mentor Tutor Connection and the Los Altos History Museum. It was during that time that I first met Liz Nyberg.

For many years, Liz served on the Board of Mentor Tutor Connection, an organization that matches volunteers with local schools to serve as tutors and mentors for struggling students. She also served as a tutor for young students at local elementary schools. She was always instrumental in fundraising efforts to support Mentor Tutor Connection. Working alongside her husband, Paul Nyberg, and the Los Altos Town Crier, Mentor Tutor Connection was selected to be a recipient of the Los Altos Town Crier Holiday Fund. I was recruited by Liz to join the organization as the Tutor Program Coordinator. That was the beginning of a long and rewarding friendship with Liz. Together we organized events for donors and volunteers and worked together on fundraisers. We attended volunteer fairs to recruit prospective tutors and mentors. Liz's enthusiasm and dedication to the program and the organization were boundless!

Coinciding with our time together at Mentor Tutor Connection, I found that Liz was just as involved and committed to Los Altos and the city's history through her volunteer work at the Los Altos History Museum. Liz has been a member since 1991 and during that time she served on the Board of Directors, volunteered as a Museum Docent, and was the chair of many committees, including major fundraisers like the very popular Crab Feed for 23 years and now the newest fundraiser, Dancing through the Decades. Liz has taken the lead in training new docents on the history of the J. Gilbert Smith House, and she starred in a video tour of the Smith House. Not only has her knowledge of Los Altos and her desire to keep history alive helped the new docents, but her information was useful to the Education Committee at the Museum. Every spring, local third and fourth-grade students visit the Museum to learn about the history of Los Altos and its early roots. Liz's knowledge helped the Education Committee develop the program used with students. Liz's devotion to the Los Altos History Museum and Los Altos and its history is a testament to her generous, giving nature and to her as an individual. I was fortunate to work with Liz on many projects at the Museum. Now after 17 years of working with Liz and watching her continuous volunteer spirit, I am honored to support Liz Nyberg's nomination for the 2024 Los Altos Historic Preservation Award!

Linda Eckols

lindaeckols@sbcglobal.net

2024 Historic Preservation Award

May we offer an "endorsement" for Liz Nyberg as a receiver of the 2024 Los Altos Historic Preservation Award!

Lois and I have had the pleasure of knowing Liz for many decades, as I served as a Board member for the Town Crier for many years. We totally endorse Liz as recipient of the award, as she has been a huge contributor to the past and recent history of our Los Altos community. We cannot think of another person more deserving of this award than Liz Nyberg. She has been a major contributor to Los Altos through her involvement and engagement with the total community.

Sincerely,
Lois and Bob Adams

2024 Historic Preservation Award

I am writing in support of the nomination of Liz Nyberg for the Historic Preservation Award.

I have known Liz Nyberg for fifty years. I first met her through Newcomers Club where, as part of its leadership group, she was active in promoting its various activities to help newly arrived residents become integrated into the community.

I then got to know Liz better through the local chapter of AAUW (American Association of University Women) where she was a member of the Board of Directors. At that time, AAUW had a membership of over 300 members and was a driving force in the community in the advancement of women's rights.

When Liz and Paul purchased the Los Altos Town Crier, they preserved this much respected and needed community voice from extinction. In my opinion, local community journalism represents the highest form of community preservation.

Her contributions to the History Museum are numerous and range from the most mundane to multiple terms as President of the Museum Association. The common characteristic in all her various volunteer positions is her full immersion in the task at hand. Liz approaches her commitments with creativity, high energy, perseverance and attention to every detail. She can be relied on to get the job done and done well.

She is certainly deserving of the Historic Preservation Award.

Marge Bruno

2024 Historic Preservation Award

Dear Commissioners,

I am delighted to support the nomination of Liz Nyberg for the historic preservation award for 2024. As a neighbor and previous owner of the Los Altos Town Crier, I agree that Liz is most deserving of this recognition. Through her (and late husband Paul's) work at the Town Crier, she has preserved today's news as the history of our town. As an active volunteer with Mentor-Tutor Connection she is ensuring that the young people of our area are aware of the rich history of our town.

I hope that you will see fit to make Liz your awardee for 2024.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marie Young
120 Arbuelo Way, Los Altos

2024 Historic Preservation Award

We both recommend Liz Nyberg for the 2024 Historic Preservation Award! I first knew Liz through the Board of Realtors, in the early 90s, at that time Liz and Paul had the Homes magazine, and I was in the Title and Escrow industry locally. We worked together on a number of committees, and she was always interested in working together and creating new community involvement opportunities.

Going forward, I surely recall going to the Los Altos History Museum's Crab Feed evenings, and seeing Liz being so very much involved in being a big part of those very successful events.

A number of times I have seen her training new docents at the museum, and making them feel comfortable and knowledgeable. She is a true history preservation treasure!

I am sure that we only have seen a small part of her giving to our community, and do appreciate all that she does for Los Altos and retaining it's history.

Tom and Karen Smith