

DICKENS DIARY

Official Newsletter of the Riverside Dickens Festival • Volume 18 - Issue 3

2016
Festival
Feb. 27 & 28

Fun for All Ages at the 2016 Dickens Festival

President's Message



I'm very proud of our Riverside Dickens Festival. Board members work year round to plan this entertaining and educational event. All of our volunteers play a major role in "making it happen." Others in our community who help us through the year are the City of Riverside, Riverside Arts Council, County Board of Supervisors, Life Arts Center, Riverside Municipal Auditorium, Loft 84, First Congregational Church, Riverside Superior Court, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Riverside Public Library, Evergreen Historic Cemetery and Riverside First Christian Church. A sincere thank you to all!

This year's festival is just weeks away. Are you ready? Dance lessons in preparation for Mr. Fezziwig's Ball are held in the beautiful Loft 84 in downtown Riverside under the tutelage of Darlene Hamilton. It's not too late to participate! The book discussion, *Pickwick's Pub Night*, plays at the Historic Courthouse, fashion shows, the character parade, lectures, a civil war reenactment, *Oliver's Alley*, *Evensong*... so much to enjoy! It is enough to make Martin Chuzzlewit smile!

I am hoping California gets a lot of rain this season, but I admit I'm keeping my fingers crossed for a rain-less weekend on February 26-28. But, rain or shine, I'll see you at the festival!

Bruce A. Spieler, President



Festival Venues



Historic Downtown Riverside on the Main Street Pedestrian Mall from University Avenue to 11th Street including the Historic Courthouse is the scene for the festival main days. In addition, the Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall and *Evensong* will be held at First Congregational Church located at 2054 Mission Inn Ave, (corner of Lemon St.). Mr. *Pickwick's Pub Night* will be held at the Life Arts Center at the corner of University Ave. and Lemon St.

All city parking in lots and garages and on the streets is free after 5:00 p.m. on weekdays and all the time on the weekends.

**Riverside Dickens Festival
Board of Directors
2015 - 2016**

President - Bruce Spieler
President-elect - Becky Foreman
Vice President - Doug Grant
Secretary - Lynnette Channon
Treasurer - Brenda Beers

Directors

Gerry Bowden
Shelby Craghead
Linda Dilday
Deanne Irwin
Barbara Simpson-Lara
Debbie Walsh
Richard Wing
Kathy Wright

Dickens Diary is published three times a year by the Riverside Dickens Festival, Inc., at the address below. Editorial submissions and queries may be sent there. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

Reporter - Kathy Wright
Editor - Marsha Loveridge

Photographer - Michael Elderman
Office: (951) 781-3168
3585 Main Street, Suite 204
P. O. Box 113
Riverside, CA 92502-0113
info@dickensfest.com

For more information on the Festival
visit our website today!

www.dickensfest.com

This is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit
organization, EIN:33-0617090

RDF Means Great Entertainmmment!

People have always known how to have fun, even in Victorian times. And this year's festival brings you a steamship full of that fun on three days: at Pickwick's Pub Night on Friday, February 26, and then on the full day festival events on Saturday and Sunday, February 27 and 28.

Among the many talented individuals and groups headlining this year's festival are four actors from the Redlands Opera Theatre who will regale audiences with their renditions of music from the ever-popular Gilbert and Sullivan's operettas. You won't want to miss the excellent music-making of sopranos Ariel Pisturino and Christa Stevens, tenor Andrew Bennett and baritone Brian Jensen in the Historic Courthouse.

You can again expect Queen Victoria to command authority over all she surveys while Charles Dickens and Mr. Pickwick charmingly entertain visitors, as well as festival favorites Christopher "Rusty" Yates who performs circus tricks, sings and joins with a marvelous dulcimer player to entertain all ages. Also appearing are favorite performers Sportive Tricks, a wonderful Victorian folk music group, singing boundlessly entertaining tunes while Bob's Yer Uncle and Simon Spalding bring their folksy period songs to the festival. Adults will no doubt enjoy Gallows Humor and can-can dancers Les Folies Rouge in the tavern.

Singers and musicians, dancers and jugglers, magicians and comic entertainers—on the street, on stage, in the courthouse, wherever they are—there will be something for everyone! Come enjoy the fun!



Major Sponsors



Dickens Festival Goes Electronic



In addition to visiting us on our website, <https://www.dickensfest.com> please Like us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Riverside-Dickens-Festival/274454625903022> or Follow us on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/DickensFest>.

Mr. Dickens and the 2016 Lineup of Authors

Riverside's longest continuously running and only literary festival is proud to present a strong line up of authors who will read, recite and debate on various stages, at Hyde Park Corner and in the Authors Salon throughout the festival weekend. You won't want to miss Mr. Dickens and the line up of other 19th century authors. Check your festival program for the schedule and locations to hear these great authors.

Charles Dickens
Mark Twain
Mary Shelley
Jules Verne
Charlotte Bronte
Jane Austen
Harriet Beecher Stowe
Emily Dickinson

Edgar Allan Poe
H.G. Wells
Oscar Wilde
Emily Bronte
Bram Stoker
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Lewis Carroll

Edgar Allan Poe at the
Long Night of Arts and Innovation.



More Educational and Entertaining Topics and Presenters for 2016 Lectures

This year's lecture topics and presenters will prove to be interesting, educational and entertaining. Check the festival program for times and locations.

- "Rum, Gin, and Other Spirits: Celebration and Abuse" presented by food and drink critic Richard Foss.
- "The Victorian Garden" presented by UC Riverside library assistant, Jean Weiss.
- "The London Metropolitan Police" presented by Gary McAulay, long time uniformed peeler.
- "Dickens 101" presented by UC Riverside graduate student, MacKenzie Gregg who will talk about Dickens' life and career.
- "The Real John Snow's Contribution to 19th Century Medicine" presented by UC Riverside graduate student, Lorenzo Servitje.
- "Caroline Norton and the Fight for Women's Rights in Victorian England" presented by Susan Purkart, festival Education Committee Chairperson

The Trial of John Wilkes Booth

The year was 1865. The Civil War was drawing to a close. But, while Charles Dickens began planning his second American tour, Southern secessionist sympathizer John Wilkes Booth was planning to kill President Abraham Lincoln. Booth shot Lincoln at Ford's Theatre during a performance of *Our American Cousin*, and fled on horseback into the backwoods of Maryland. He was eventually overtaken and shot in a tobacco barn on Garret's Farm in Virginia. Lincoln by that time, was already dead.

But, what if Booth had not been shot dead but had been brought to trial with his fellow conspirators? How far—and how high up—did that conspiracy stretch? Was the plotting limited to the tenants of Mary Surratt's boarding house, or were U.S. government officials involved in the Lincoln assassination? See the last thing that Lincoln saw that night; witness the assassination that changed American history, and, then, you be the judge at *The Trial of John Wilkes Booth*.

You are invited to view another world premiere of this one-act play, the newest written especially for the Riverside Dickens Festival by long time festival volunteer and local Riverside attorney Richard Reed, Esq. This play will be in Ford's Theatre - a free-standing tent.

The Trial of Lizzie Borden and *The Trial of Jack the Ripper*, Reed's previously presented plays will also be staged in the courthouse during the festival.

NOTICE: These plays are not appropriate for children. Children under the age of 13 will not be admitted.

The Armory Band Debuts at 2016 Festival



Authentic 19th century music played on authentic, period instruments by men in authentic Civil War uniforms: that is the Armory Band. They bring with them a Union Army Field Hospital, where passersby are asked to visit the wounded, help write a letter to a loved one, or just read to a recuperating soldier.

Headquartered in the Inland Empire since 2009, the Armory began with a brass quintet and now has more than 40 members including musicians and vocalists who enjoy the

challenge and excitement of serving as an educational resource for schools and community. Made up of history educators, businessmen and women, and retired and former military service members, the Armory Band brings alive the sound of the distant past by combining music and history to tell stories about the American Civil War.

Join The Armory Band in the Dance Hall or catch their pre-show concert at Ford's Theatre. You've never heard anything like it this side of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Don't miss these Educational Environments

As visitors walk the festival from end to end they will come upon various educational environments that provide interesting information pertinent to the Victorian era and times in which Dickens lived. Look for these environments and ask questions to satisfy your curiosity.

Atlantean Foundation portrays a basecamp of 19th century explorers who sought to discover El Dorado, Cibola and the Seven Cities of Gold and tells about the legends of Atlantis and the lost civilizations.

California Writers Club features 19th century California writers who were inspired by and/or wrote about Dickens and his contemporaries. A writing workshop for middle school students will be presented.

East India Social Society portrays 19th century daily life of the British upper class in India.

Heritage House is part of the Riverside Metropolitan Museum. Docents feature Riverside's Victorian home museum.

No Idle Hands portrays daily life in 19th century England.

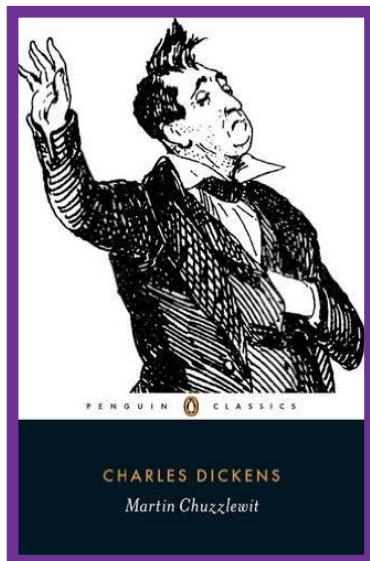
Old Curiosity Shop is presented by Old Glory General Store and portrays the shop in Dickens' novel of the same name.

Orange Empire Railway Museum exhibits the steam locomotive engine.

Professor Gallivan, Phrenologist portrays the popular 19th century pseudoscience of "reading" one's head to determine character, thoughts, emotions, etc.

Valkyrie Metal Works is a working blacksmith portraying 19th century blacksmithing handiwork and skills.

Book Discussion ♦ Martin Chuzzlewit



Martin Chuzzlewit is a satirical feast, depicting human selfishness in a rich variety of forms. You will love to hate Seth Pecksniff, a pious-seeming hypocrite who gets his just reward in the end, and Sairy Gamp, an alcoholic nurse who speaks her own unique dialect. Young Martin Chuzzlewit's trip to the U.S. will make you laugh at Dickens' take on American life. Don't miss it!

Discussion dates:

Saturdays, January 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2016

Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m. each meeting

Place: Orange Terrace Library (NEW VENUE!)

20010-B Orange Terrace Parkway

Riverside, CA 92508

Cost: \$20 (includes copy of book and study guide)

To Register: call Susan Purkart (951) 788-7008

To help save trees and due to the high cost of printing and continuously rising postage rates, the *Dickens Diary* is sent via email and published in a downloadable format online at the festival website, www.dickensfest.com.

Readers whose e-mail addresses are already on file and those who are sent to us subsequent to this announcement will receive their *Dickens Diary* online only. If your email address has changed or you want to join our e-mail list for the first time, go to www.dickensfest.com and join at the bottom of the homepage.

Alternately, those who wish to continue receiving a hard copy of the diary in the U.S. Mail can do so by sending a check for \$6.00 payable to the Riverside Dickens Festival, along with your name and address to:

Riverside Dickens Festival • P. O. Box 113 • Riverside, CA 92502-0113

Dance Lessons for Mr. Fezziwig's Ball

Everyone is welcome!
Darlene Hamilton, Instructor
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
\$8.00 per person
(Exact cash only please)

Loft 84
3840 Lemon Street
Riverside, CA 92501

January 6 and 20
February 3 and 17

Mock Ball—To Be Announced

Volunteers Needed

Want to offer your time and talent to the festival? Need community service hours for college or high school credits? Help us to make the 2016 festival a great experience for everyone! To volunteer, please contact Volunteer Chairperson, Christine Foreman at iqprint@aol.com or call the office at (951) 781-3168.

Special thanks go out to all our 2015 volunteers especially to UC Riverside's Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society headed by Gunnar Boelman and National Society of Collegiate Scholars headed by Ursala Garcia who gathered together 60 student volunteers to work both days of the festival. We couldn't have done it without the willingness of these students to come out rain or shine!

2016 Hotel Rates

A limited number of hotel rooms are available to festival goers at special rates subject to change, plus local and state tax, during the festival, February 26 - 28, 2016. In order to receive the group rate, guests should make inquiries and reservations early by contacting the hotel directly and identifying themselves with the Dickens Festival Group. Guests are responsible for all costs incurred while staying at any of these establishments. The Dickens Festival assumes no responsibility for arrangements, accommodations or costs.

The Mission Inn Hotel and Spa
Starting at \$143 for single/double
Request: Riverside Dickens Festival
3649 Mission Inn Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501
951-784-0300 x850 or 800-843-7755
Cut-off date: January 27, 2016

Marriott Riverside
\$125 single/double
3400 Market Street
Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 784-8000
(800) 228-9290
Cut-off date: January 29, 2016

Hyatt Place
\$119 for king
Discounted parking \$10 per day
Breakfast included
3500 Market Street
Riverside, CA 92501
1-888-HYATT HP (888-492-8847)
Cut-off date: January 22, 2016



London Marketplace: Something for Everyone

This year's London Marketplace will feature many new vendors. Bring your pocket-books and look for these booths and stalls. There will be something for everyone at the London Marketplace!

Activities & Games

Finnegan's Firearms—Target Range
Maharani Mehendi—Traditional Henna
Bawdy Braids—Classical Hair Braiding
The Gentleman's Fisticuffs—Victorian muscle man

Caterers

Artisan Candies—Fine Candies and Chocolates
Heritage Meat Pies—Fyne Meat Pies made in the traditional manner
The Tea Room
The Tempting Tart
The Queen's Fyne Meats—Fyne Smoked Meats
World Empanadas
The Holy Honey Company—Products from Beaumont, CA

Crafts & Artisans

Ableman Art Glass
Amsbury's Ship Chandlery
Amsbury's The Bead Emporium
Artist on the Go
Bullseye Leather
Dragonfly Stained Glass

Kansas Mercantile
Lynda Loves Lace
Madera Wood
Off Kilter Kilts
Opal Moon
Reminiscent

Sev's Woodcraft
Tower of London
Wood Stone Leather and Bone

Steampunk

Diva Dreads
Enigma's Steampunk Emporium
Gears & Roebuck-Rusty Junk Emporium
Hearts Delight Steam Punk Emporium
The Purple Dragon

Children

Magikal Face Painting
Swords & Shields
Rot & Twig
The Ocarina Shoppe

Sponsors

Farm Fresh to You



RIVERSIDE
DICKENS FESTIVAL
\$ 2016

The Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall



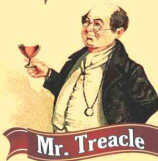
February 27th & 28th

Tea Time Tasties & Show!

Only **\$25**

This hilarious original musical comedy will feature Christopher Marsh and his cast of colourful characters in a uniquely Dickensian romp. Guests will enjoy an assortment of traditional hot and cold tea delicacies including our world famous freshly baked scones!

Come... Join the irrepressible Mr. Treacle and his loyal troupe of performers as they do battle against an unscrupulous producer in... A Dickens of a Time: The Songsmith's Dilemma



Saturday 11:00AM 1:30PM 4:00PM

Sunday 11:30AM 2:00PM

Presented by:
First Congregational Church
in partnership with
Riverside Dickens Festival

Tickets go online December 1

Dickensfest.com

Tea Room is located downstairs at the historic First Congregational Church
Mission Inn Ave & Lemon Street
2 blocks from main festival location

For more info call

888-987-7565

FCCriverside.org

Only \$25.00 to enjoy the irrepressible Mr. Treacle and his loyal troupe of performers as they do battle against an unscrupulous producer in "A Dickens of a Time: The Songsmith's Dilemma" while enjoying an assortment of traditional hot and cold tea delicacies including our world famous baked scones!

Advance ticket purchase recommended as only a few spaces are expected to be available at the door.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.dickensfest.com

More Festival Fun

**DON'T MISS THESE PERFORMANCES AND ACTIVITIES
CHECK YOUR FESTIVAL PROGRAM
AND MAP FOR TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

Oliver's Alley

The Grand Dickens Parade

*Essay
Contest
Winners*

Ye Olde Bookshoppe

Evensong

High School Performances

*"Coming to America, or Pretty in Purple" Fashion Show
Steampunk Costume & Character Extravaganza*



The Riverside Dickens Festival is made possible through grants, sponsorships and donations.

Your contribution is very much needed, appreciated and tax deductible.

The Riverside Dickens Festival is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, EIN: 33-0617090.

Please mail your contributions to: Riverside Dickens Festival, Inc. • P. O. Box 113 • Riverside, CA 92502-0113

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check ____ Visa ____ MasterCard ____ Discover ____

Card number: _____ Expires: _____ CVV _____ (on back)

*We Need Your
Contribution*

More than a February Street Fair

Riverside Dickens Festival reaches into the community throughout the year promoting literacy and understanding of the works of Charles Dickens and the times in which he lived.



Meet Mr. Dickens, a one-man performance by local actor, director and playwright Paul Jacques is brought to middle school students through the generosity of the Downtown Business Council of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce. In 2015, performances were held free of charge for 8th grade students at Central, Gage, Arizona, Chemawa and Loma Vista middle schools.



Tales from the Victorian Crypt II

Meet Mr. Poe, also a one-man performance, by local actor Travis Rhett Wilson is sponsored by Steve & Joan Campbell, Joe & Jane Barr and BodyCare Clinic and performed for high school students. This year performances were held free of charge at Hillcrest High School, Martin Luther King High School and Patriot High School.



Meet and Greet at Barnes & Noble Booksellers





*Danse Macabre
Masked Ball*



Oliver's Soup Kitchen



Also during the year.....

*Riverside's Long Night of Arts and Innovation
Riverside Lyric Opera's Ahmal and the Night Visitors
Steampunk Weekend at Orange Empire Railway Museum
Costume Workshop at Citrus Hills High School in Perris
Middle School Essay Contest
High School Drama Presentations
Queen's Tea*

Thank you to the following supporters of our 2016 Festival.

If your name isn't here, you still have a chance to support the 2016 Riverside Dickens Festival by mailing a tax deductible check to P.O. Box 113, Riverside, CA 92502-0113. (See form on page 13)

The Riverside Dickens Festival, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, EIN:33-0617090.

City of Riverside
Riverside Arts Council - Inlandarts.com
Riverside County Supervisors • Provident Bank

A to Z Printing - Sharon Algozer - Altura Credit Union - Alvord Educators Association
An Affair to Remember - Judy Anderson - Lorraine & Richard Anderson - Anonymous
Eileen & Stephen Ashwal - Judith & Phillip Auth - Jane & Joseph Barr - Sally & Chuck Beaty
Brenda Beers - Virginia Blumenthal - Bodycare Center - Anne & George Boss
Geraldine Bowden - Selina & Phil Bremenstuhel - Keri Bright - Deborah & Donald Brithinee
Steve Campbell - Amy & Richard Cardullo - Deborah & William Chamberlain
Lynnette Channon - Emily & Tim Clark - Janet Clark - Jo Ann & Don Coble
Marie-Jo & Michel Coclet - Beverly Cox - Sally Demein - Linda Dilday
Norman Ellstrand & Tracy Kahn - John Evans & Lou Ann Roseling - Evergreen Masonic Center
Colette Falco - Marsha Falco - First Christian Church of Riverside - First Congregational Church
Rebecca Foreman - Valerie Foucier - Mary Fowlie - Janet & Henry Funderburk
William Gardner - Janet & John Gless - Carolyn Grant - Teri & Doug Grant
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, Downtown Business Council
Janet Green - Eileen & Richard Hamel - Laurel Hampton-Hunt - Theresa Hanley
Kathleen Hartman - Lucy & Frank Heyming - Carol & James Hicks - Julia Idler
Deanne & Rick Irwin - Isabella's Cupcakes - Jammin' Bread - Venita & Kirke Jorgensen
Joy & William Junkert - Victoria Klein - Laura & John Klure - Donna Knox - Loft 84
Marsha & Ron Loveridge - Helene Luley - Judy & Bryan Mahoney
Christopher Manning & Jaybee Brennan - Ed Mauel - Milazzo Group - Beth & Donald Miller
Paddy Miller - Doris Morton - Muffin Top Bakery - Rey O'Day - Mary Perkins
Kathleen & James Perry - Debby & Ken Phillips - Wilma Printy - Susan Purkart
Gloria & Dallas Rabenstein - Raincross Chorale - Ralph's Reward's - Richard Reed
Jessica & James Reeves - Bessie Ridley - Riverside Cookie Company
Riverside Downtown Partnership - Riverside Public Utilities - Karin & David Roberts
Rodolfo & Irene Ruibal - Kathryn Safford - Mary Schaefer - Sandra & William Schnack
Simple Simon's - Barbara Simpson-Lara - Dauris Slaughter - Nancy & Russell Smith
Soup Shoppe - Roberta & Bruce Spieler - Taylor's Appliance
Diane & Dennis Tilton (In Memory of Irmy Tilton) - Nola & Steven Tilton (In Memory of Irmy Tilton)
Delores & Charles Tobin - Carol & Henry Tong - Judy Valenzuela - Jan & Al Wainscott
Sarah Walker - Debbie Walsh - Katherine Wright & Dwight Tate - Megan Wu

2016 Riverside Dickens Festival Ticket Order
Downtown Main Street Mall between University Avenue and 10th Street

EVENT	NO.	PRICE	TOTAL
Pickwick's Pub Night Friday, February 26, 6:00 p.m. Reservations must be received by February 19, 2015		\$35.00	\$
Victorian Fashion Show Saturday, February 27, 2:00 p.m. <i>Coming to America or Pretty in Purple</i>		\$10.00	\$
Steampunk Costume & Character Extravaganza Sunday, February 28, 2:00		\$10.00	\$
The Trial of Jack the Ripper Saturday, February 27 Circle requested time: 10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. No one under 13 admitted		\$10.00	\$
The Trial of Jack the Ripper Sunday, February 28 Circle requested time: 10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. • No one under 13 admitted		\$10.00	\$
The Trial of Lizzie Borden Saturday, February 27 Circle requested time: 10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. • No one under 13 admitted		\$10.00	\$
The Trial of Lizzie Borden Sunday, February 28 Circle requested time: 10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. • No one under 13 admitted		\$10.00	\$
The Trial of John Wilkes Booth Saturday, February 27 - 3:30 p.m.		\$10.00	\$
The Trial of John Wilkes Booth Sunday, February 28 - 3:30 p.m.		\$10.00	\$
Redlands Opera Theater Saturday, February 27 Circle requested time 2:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.		\$10.00	\$
Redlands Opera Theater Sunday, February 28 Circle requested time 2:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.		\$10.00	\$
The Tavern - All Day Entrance Saturday, February 27 • Must be 21 or older		\$5.00	\$
The Tavern - All Day Entrance Sunday, February 27 • Must be 21 or older		\$5.00	\$
Mr. Fezziwig's Ball Saturday, February 27, 8:00 p.m.		\$40.00	\$
Mr. Fezziwig's Ball Observation Balcony (12 & under free)		\$10.00	\$
Evensong Sunday, February 28, 4:00 p.m.		\$10.00	\$
Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall Saturday, February 27 Circle requested time: 11:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.		\$25.00	\$
Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall Sunday, February 28 Circle requested time: 11:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.		\$25.00	\$
TOTAL TICKETS ORDERED			\$
		Donation	\$
TOTAL ORDER			\$

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____ Phone _____

We accept Checks VISA MasterCard Discover
Card No. _____ Exp. _____ Security Code _____

Make checks payable: Riverside Dickens Festival.

Orders after February 17th will be held at Will Call – Festival Information Booth. Please mail order form with your check or credit card information to: Riverside Dickens Festival • P. O. Box 113 • Riverside, CA 92502-0113