



### Looking Forward

—By Jane Line, President

History is in! Isn't it? Much research is being done on this "history business"—its change and transformation—which will be the subject of the 2008 Annual Meeting of the American Association of State and Local History. Consider the following, written by Candace Matelic, from the AASLH Spring magazine:

*"Increasing numbers of history organizations – ranging from all-volunteer staffs to million-dollar operations—are undergoing major change and transformation. The reasons range from economic survival to a fundamental redefinition in purpose, based on the belief that our field is embarking on an era in which the traditional activities of collecting, preserving, researching and exhibiting are simply no longer adequate. Museums and history*

*organizations worldwide have been challenged to justify their existence by the public value and positive contribution that they make to their communities.*

*"They are engaging their communities to discover what they care about....evolving into places that facilitate important civic conversations. They are utilizing interpretation as a transformative process to establish deep and personal connections with new audiences, neighbors, and stakeholders, and embracing innovative public programming as a priority... partnering with diverse community organizations, they are discovering shared goals, visions, plans, and outcome...*

*"The process of civic engagement and partnerships require that history organizations transform the way they do business .. learning that organizational development is more than increased funding or new facilities."*

Very interesting stuff! But the good news is SCHS is *already* working with diverse community groups – SLO Model RR, Village Improvement Assn., Arroyo Grande In Bloom, Chambers of Commerce, Friends of Price House, D.A.N.A., Oceano Depot Assn., SLO County Historical Society, Cal Poly, Kiwanis, Rotary, Lucia Mar, AG Harvest Festival, Pismo Oceano Vegetable Exchange, City of Arroyo Grande, Avila Community Foundation – all working together for positive improvement in the South County communities.

SCHS has *already* engaged our community seeking to discover what it cares about – and found this enhances our opportunities to meet our mission statement. Consider the work being done over the last two years in our Exhibit Hall at the IOOF. And we have also been good stewards of our historic properties, reflecting well on our commitment to preserving local history and its heritage. None of this is done without the hard work and financial commitment of our members.

One of our latest "opportunities" is the Branch Millstone Outdoor Interpretive Display.

What, you ask? Yes, we have a millstone around our necks and how lucky we are to be able to say so! This last remaining millstone – one of two delivered in 1844 to F.Z. Branch via ship from Mexico – became the first industry in the Arroyo Grande Valley.

In a letter dated July 13, 1844, from Captain W. D. Howard to Mr. Branch, we learn the following:

*"Dear Sir: I embrace the opportunity of informing you that I shall be in San Luis (Avila's Cave Landing) on Thursday next, wind and weather permitting....I have on board for you two millstones. Don't fail to call on me as I am certain that we shall trade."*

Thanks to RRM Design, San Luis Obispo, designer Amy McKay has worked up a fabulous concept for creating a new Heritage Square exhibit, the Branch Millstone Outdoor Interpretive Display, perhaps the oldest artifact on display in the Arroyo Grande Valley. Our plans are to "unveil" the Millstone Display on Harvest Festival Saturday, September 27, around 2 PM. Please plan to celebrate this special event.

**We are also kicking off the fundraising campaign for this project by selling personalized "stones" in the Creekside area near the Millstone Exhibit. Please consider making a donation to this project as your year-end gift or by purchasing a stone. Call me at 489-8282 for more information.**



## CALENDAR of ACTIVITIES

### ~Heritage Square Museums~

Open Saturday, 12-3 PM  
Open Sunday, 1-4 PM

#### **Historic IOOF Hall**

Open Friday, 1-5 PM  
Open Saturday, 1-5 PM

#### **Pat Loomis Library**

Open M-F, 1-5 PM

#### **Paulding History House**

Open 1st Sat 1-3 PM

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**Doll Club Tour —IOOF**  
Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1:00 PM

**Village Summer Concert**  
**Rotary Bandstand**  
**Village Green**

**Sunday, Sept. 7, 1-3 P.M**  
SLO Blues Society  
The Al & Val Duo

**Sunday, Sept. 21, 1-3 P.M**  
SLO Jazz, SLO Mambo &  
The Pat Cormick Group

**September General Meeting**  
**Postponed to October**

**AG Valley Harvest Festival**  
Friday, Sept. 26, 4 – 9 P.M  
Fish Fry & Events

**Saturday, Sept. 27, 10 – 5 P.M**  
Parades, Contests, Spelling Bees,  
Museum Exhibits, Food Events  
(See map on Page 3)

**Talk on the Dallidet Adobe**  
By Betsy Bertrando  
1185 Pacific Street, SLO  
Tuesday, Sept. 9, 10–12 Noon

**SCHS General Meeting**  
**& Potluck Dinner**  
**October 14, 2008**  
3825 Halcyon, Halcyon  
6:30 PM

**Ice Cream Social**  
**Friends of Price House**  
Sunday, Nov. 2, 12-4 PM  
Info – 773-4854

## **Chuck Fellows, Curator, Paulding History House**

Our application for recognition of the Paulding House by the State Office of Historic Preservation is, by now, in Sacramento!

Coincidentally our consultant, Cynthia Thompson, was able to do a little one-on-one lobbying in Ventura two weeks ago of Jay Correia.

Mr. Correia is Supervisor State Historian III for the State Office and, according to Cynthia, will be the primary reviewer of the application, so the odds for acceptance of our application continue to look good.

I met architect Gary Scherquist at the Paulding House several times in the past weeks to answer questions and help with his surveying of the property. He has estimated completion of foundation upgrade drawings and submittal to the City Building Department before the end of September.

It could take three weeks for City approval of the plans after which we can seek bids for the work.

And, in a great example of the synergy of non-profits working together, Arroyo Grande In Bloom is researching the original layout and make-up of the landscaping of the Paulding House grounds so they can be involved with beautification efforts once the foundation work is done.

Behind the abovementioned efforts is the idea that we are enhancing the historical heritage of the South County while making the most of the funds that came with the Paulding House when ownership was transferred to our Society ten years ago.



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**.....NEWS FLASH....NEWS FLASH....NEWS FLASH....**  
**NEWS FLASH.....**

Learn more about the **Branch Millstone Project** by visiting our website: [www.southcountyhistory.org](http://www.southcountyhistory.org)

For your ease, you can now donate online using PayPal and a Visa, Mastercard, Discover or Amex card for donations to our account.

Our Webmaster, **Vivian Krug**, is working to update our online book catalog to allow book purchases to be made in the future through PayPal.

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**Exhibit Hall:** "Japanese-Americans in South County: Farmers, Friends & Baseball, 1900-1960"

**Under the Tents:** Teppan-Yaki—A fundraising Food event sponsored by P.O.V.E.

**Xtras:** Dignitaries, Music, and Story Telling

**Docent Parking:** Heritage House Parking Lot  
Parking Pass available at Ruby's House

**Food Events:** Santa Manuela Corn on the Cob  
Hot Buttered Popcorn

**Exhibits:** Vintage Vehicles

**School House:** Children's Spelling Bee 1-4 pm

**Heritage House Exhibit:** Doris Gullickson  
Memorial Quilt Display

**Gazebo Garden:** Tea Garden—Tea, Pastries &  
Music  
Home Baked Pie Competition.  
Rest Area

**Creekside:** Branch Millstone Outdoor  
Interpretive Display 2:00 pm

**Join Us for the Unveiling of this New Exhibit!**

*This map will help you locate and enjoy  
SCHS's events spread throughout Heri-  
tage Square and the IOOF Hall.*

*Use the color legend at the left to navigate  
through the various activities.*

*Volunteers are needed for the following :*

*Corn Booth*

*Tea Garden*

*Under the Tents at the IOOF Hall*

*Set-Ups*

*Take-Downs*

*Call Craig Rock or Jane Line at 489-8282.*

*See ya there!*

## The Heritage Series: Dr. Paulding's Letters

Arroyo Grande, Cal. Oct. 19 '84

Dear Sister,

Your note of the 8<sup>th</sup> last was received yesterday. I will hasten to answer.

I didn't know as I can extend your knowledge of the Chinese even though there is plenty of misinformation that may be corrected. There is such a bitter prejudice existing among all classes against them that one can't really arrive at the truth only by a close observation of them. The working man is jealous of them because they take the bread from his children's mouths. On this coast, they seldom marry, or are given in marriage. They are almost all single. As an instance of how they live I might fill dozens of pages. Their food comes to them in this neighborhood through Chinese merchants principally. They are very fond of fruit and buy liberally of it both canned and fresh from local merchants. Tea and rice are however the crutches of life to them.

There are two regular Chinese houses or head quarters. One is a story and a half house about twenty by thirty feet. It accommodates about thirty Chinamen. The other a single story high, and about the same size, keeps twenty.

Besides these there are a dozen or more colonies who live in tents and do work of various kinds, cutting wood, ditching, railroading and farming. A half dozen sleep in the tool-house of the railroad, a building eight feet square. They work for \$1.00 a day. White men, even when single, cannot work for this sum, for boarding costs at a minimum five dollars a week. They are hard to change from their old established habits of life and thought. Very few wear the clothes of civilized nations. They are to a man inveterate gamblers. They do not pick up the vices of the white race very fast for they have worse ones of their own that are dearer to them.

They do not attend church or Sunday school here though they do in the city (S.F.) They attend the Mission Sunday schools in droves to learn English for the use it is to them in their business. Very few ever get proficient in the use of the English tongue, and nobody ever learns their language. There is a gibberish that goes by the name of "Pigeon English" that is universally used. It is made up of English, Chinese and Spanish, and sounds like an exaggerated baby talk.

As to his religion, the Chinaman does not seem to be over burdened with even an original one of his own. Perhaps his want of originality accounts for this. The only original thing about him seems to be "original sin". In my visit to the Joss house in Chinatown I was surprised to find it empty while the theatre and gambling house were full. Perhaps it was not the hour for worship. The whole thing seemed to be merely a personal investment and devoted to the sale of joss sticks and candles. Their space in the building was occupied mainly by images and superbly carved altar pieces, etc. The images were the Joss of Medicine, Money and Love. Besides these there was one image of Confucius and of a Good (!) Devil. One wishing to consult one of these oracles tried first to see whether his luck would be good. This he ascertained by picking up two pieces of wood about as long as this paper and half as wide and dropping them before the Joss. If they both rested on the convex side it was extra good, but if both fell on the flat side it was bad. If the Fates decreed good luck, (they always do in a Joss house) the worshipper buys a bundle of Joss sticks and burns them. Then, if it is the Medicine man he wishes to consult he shakes a wooden box full of split pieces of wood, pulls out one and finds written on it the name of the medicine he must take.

If it is the Joss of Money, he pursues the same course and his stick bears the name of the investment he is to make.

If Love, the name of the arts by which his object is to be attained. It takes a great deal of faith to be a pious Chinaman. His religion really seems to be an adoration of ancestors and this is the relation Confucius holds to them, probably a sort of grand pa or uncle.

Employers do not like Chinamen because they cannot hurry them. If one tries to rush on of them he says "me quit, me no like work, too much talkee" and no persuasion can make him go to work again. You cannot beat him much in a bargain, for he is shrewd and cunning. He will come to your house and work at housework for his \$1.00 a day and as soon as he has learned to cook a potato, demands a raise and still another when he can fry a beefsteak until by the time he can make a pie he will charge you \$40 a month.

I am afraid the above is not well suited for a missionary letter but the Chinese subject is a deep one and needs study. I am fully convinced however that they ought to be excluded from the privilege of immigrating to this country for it does him no moral good and our working men, the life of the nation, great injustice.

We were all much grieved to hear of Uncle James' death. It was very sudden. He was the best one of the family except mother. He, if any, will get the greeting "Well done thou good and faithful servant.

We were sorry Will did not get his urchins. We will try to get some more when we visit the beach again.

We got the fish hooks. Much obliged to Will. They are just the thing.

Enclosed find \$20. for yourself. It is all I have. An entertainment last night for the benefit of the school cleared nearly \$200. It was to buy an organ.

Good bye

Ed

Excuse paper (scarce)

### Editor's Note:

*In this issue of the newsletter, we are reproducing the ninth of fourteen letters written by Dr. Paulding to his sister "Tene" when he first left his home and headed West. The letters are reproduced here without editing as he wrote them.*

# Dog Days of Summer Update

With two Village Summer Concerts remaining in this year's series, special recognition must be given to the Summer Concert "Hot Dog" crew: **Larry (Ways & Means Director) and Judy Turner, the Burtons, Paulette McCann, Berneda Cochran, the Huffines, Sandy Cabassi, Elaine Parrent, Ross Kongable, Cynthia Snyder, Charlie Silva, Kathleen Sullivan, and the LeSages.**

The "Grillers" – **Ron Parrent, Tony Ferrara, Jim Dickens, Bill McCann, Ed Arnold** – are the secret to the growing awareness that "SCHS cooks the best dogs in town"! Many thanks to the **VIA** and **Curtis Reinhardt** for this fundraising opportunity. It makes a difference on our bottom line!

**An arm-ful of floral Bouquets & Get Well Wishes to:**



**Barbara & Doug LeSage  
Beulah Schultz  
Bob Sullivan**

## Lyn Reardon-Smith's Fruit Cobbler

Pour berries approx. 1" into a pan. In a separate bowl:

1 cup flour  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 tsp. Salt  
1 tsp. Baking powder  
1 egg

Mix together— will be lumpy

Sprinkle over fruit. Pour 1 cube melted butter over all ingredients (I put slightly less.)

Cook 35-40 minutes @350 degrees.

## Barbara Vinson's Beer Bread

3 cups Self rising Flour  
1 cup granulated sugar  
1 bottle or 1 can of room temp. 12 oz. Beer

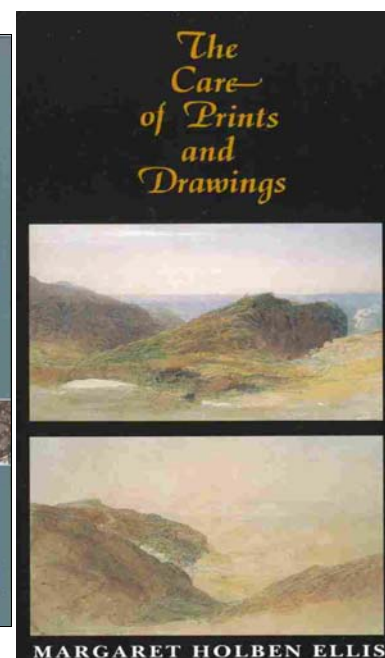
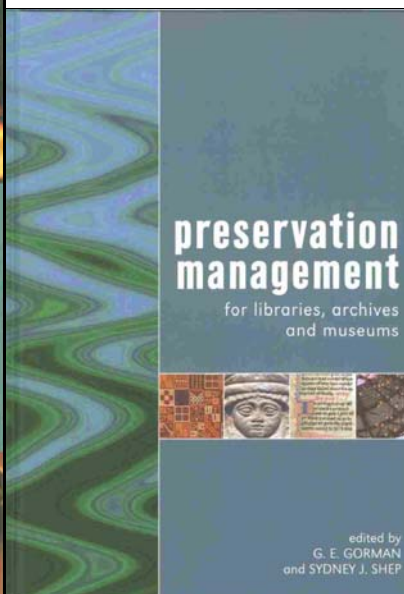
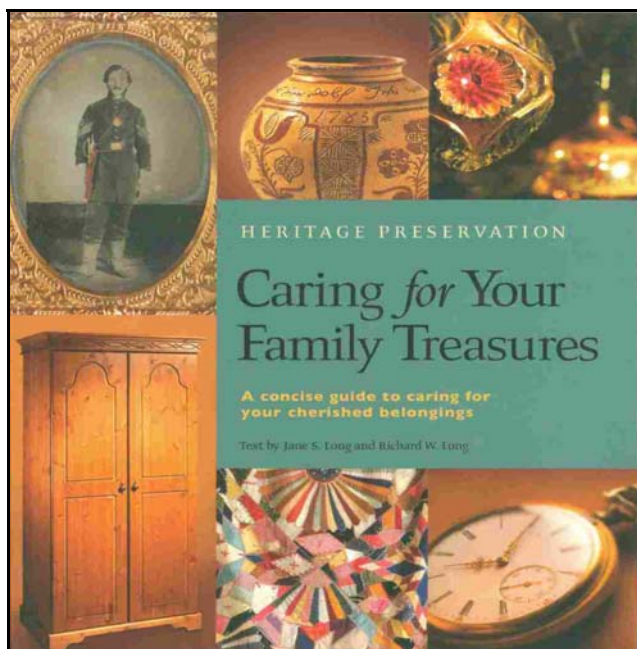
Preheat oven to 325  
Mix sugar and flour well  
Add beer

Mix well, pour or spoon into a loaf pan. Bake 45 mins. Then brush top with melted butter. Return to oven, continue baking approx. 25 minutes, test for well baked with cake tester. Cool in pans about 5 mins, use a plastic spatula, go around edges, remove loaf. Cool on rack for 2 hours before slicing.

## GOOD NEWS COLUMN!!

The Institute of Museum and Library Services and the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) have notified Gary Hoving that we were selected as a recipient of the *IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*. This collection of essential texts, DVD's, charts, online resources and other materials has been carefully assembled with the help of experts throughout the nation.

The Bookshelf should prove useful to the Society in ensuring that our valuable collections receive the best possible care, so they can be preserved for future generations. You are welcome to come and examine this new "bookshelf" in the Library at Ruby's House.





**Publicity Director**

**—Vivian Krug**

Community Relations, Publicity and Web News

**Arroyo Grande In Bloom – The Movie!** As you all know, the Historical Society is one of the team partners in Arroyo Grande In Bloom, playing a significant role in the category of Heritage. Several months ago the Arroyo Grande in Bloom team went to work to make a video that could be viewed on public access television, on the AGIB website and on DVD to be shown at local service groups, schools, etc. The goal of AGIB was to make two versions, a short film and a longer film. The short film, 13 ½ minutes is complete and is airing on our local government Channel 20 and is also available on YouTube. Visit YouTube, type in Arroyo Grande In Bloom and click on Arroyo Grande In Bloom The Movie. There is an option to watch in high quality, click on that link! The movie is also on our Historical Society web pages.

**Arroyo Grande Strawberry Festival.** The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Strawberry Festival has now come and gone. There are still copies of our own Strawberry Cookbook for sale. Contact us via email or visit the Heritage House and get your copy now. We’ve received several recipes from Society Members for next year’s book and are still accepting your best recipes. Efforts to expand next year’s competition and to increase sales of the cookbook have already begun. Photos of this year’s entries into the competition and festival photos are available on our website.

**Harvest Festival.** The Society’s efforts in the Harvest Festival are well underway. Once again, I am the Co-Chair of the Festival along with Doug Perrin of Parks and Rec. Many of our members are involved on Harvest Festival committees, the Costume Contest, Ross Kongable, Spelling Bee, Kathleen Sullivan, Historical Re-Enactments/History, Jane Line and Craig Rock, Teri Kelly Nixon with the Baking and Canning Competition as well as many other Society volunteers who make this event a success. This year’s Harvest Festival will be even bigger and better as each year we are able to turn back the hands of time farther and farther bringing the Festival back to its early days.



This year Bridge Street will be closed to traffic and the Historic IOOF Hall will be part of the mix of Festival activities. Make sure you mark your calendars for September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> and come join in the fun with our Homegrown Fruits and Vegetable competition, (so bring your fruits and veggies!!), the Cut Flower Contest, Bread, Pie and Canning Competition and the traditional Costume Contest. Remember if you aren’t dressed in Costume you are subject to arrest by the Festival Sheriff (that’s me) or by my trusty Deputy Doug (that’s Doug LeSage)! We’ll be watching for you! All the contest and entertainment info is on the Festival website: [www.AGHarvestFestival.com](http://www.AGHarvestFestival.com)

**Web Updates.** As you will read in Jane’s Column the Branch Millstone project is well underway! We’re all very excited about obtaining this wonderful artifact which will be unveiled during this year’s Harvest Festival. There are plans for a beautiful courtyard adjacent to the Exhibit and our Schoolhouse and Barn Museums. We’re even more excited to tell you that you can participate and become part of the history of the Arroyo Grande Valley by purchasing a brick for yourself, friends, relatives, children, businesses, in memory of significant dates, places or for loved ones that you wish to memorialize forever which

will be placed at the courtyard of the Branch Millstone Exhibit in Heritage Square.

Read more about this fantastic piece of local history and how to purchase your brick on our website: [www.SouthCountyHistory.org](http://www.SouthCountyHistory.org)



The Society is now also a Paypal Member! Purchasing your brick, buying our books or even making a donation to the Society is just a click away!

**Contact Me.** If you want to participate in any of our upcoming events or have information I can use for publicity or to be included on our website, I’m easy to reach by phone 458-3321 or email: [Vivian@EmotionsCards.com](mailto:Vivian@EmotionsCards.com).

Stay Connected! Viv

## PATTERNS OF THE PAST

*Tidbits, Tribulations, and Tools for Survival*

Column this month contributed by Berneda Cochran

### **A 1913 SHOOTING IN OCEANO: MURDER OR SELF-DEFENSE? -- South County Tribune - Mark Hall- Patton. Aug. 6, 1992.**

Oceano Bar Shooting Article originally contributed by Gary Hoving to Mark Hall-Patton.

"Deputy Constable Frank Bardin was assaulted from behind in the barroom of the Oceano Hotel on May 16, 1913. According to witnesses, the deputy was struck on the head and jaw and knocked down by Elmer Erbe, who was under the influence of liquor. As soon as Bardin recovered from the blow he ran to his gun and gave chase to Erbe, who was making his getaway.



"Bardin fired one warning shot into the air and captured the suspect. He then led him back into the bar, never removing the beer bottle from the suspect's hand. When the opportunity presented itself Erbe again assaulted Bardin.

"Bardin drew his gun, cocked it and said, 'If you make one false move I will put a hole through you!' As the assault continued, Bardin let down the hammer of his gun and clubbed Erbe over the head with the pistol. Despite the strenuous defense, Erbe came on with upraised bottle and closed in on the deputy.

"Bardin then shot the suspect twice, killing him. Deputy Bardin was then arrested by Arroyo Grande Constable Harry Haskins and held until the arrival of Sheriff Younglove. Bardin had previously served on the San Luis Obispo police force and as a Southern Pacific Railroad policeman during the shopmen's strike two years earlier.

"Deputy Constable Frank Bardin of the Oceano Township was tried for the murder of Erbe. Bardin was defended by Sen. A.E. Campbell and Attorney Albert Nelson. The case was prosecuted by District Attorney Charles Palmer.

"The trial began testimony on Sept. 4, 1913. During the trial, Bardin's attorney referred to the 'Three Charlies' as being overzealous. His sarcastic comment was directed at Sheriff Charles Younglove, District Attorney Charles A. Palmer, and Charles W. Palmer, the coroner. Besides stating the three were overzealous in the prosecution, he ridiculed the fact that they lost several items of evidence in the case. These items included the bottle used by Erbe to assault Bardin, a lemonade shaker used in the saloon, and the shoes worn by Erbe.

"Both the prosecution and the defense presented a number of witnesses, who tended to agree on the basic facts surrounding the incident.

"Photographs of the scene were admitted into evidence showing the Oceano Hotel, as was a small sketch of the interior of the saloon.

"Much of the closing argument entered deeply into the duties of a peace officer and the laws governing the use of force. This specific issue of limitation and use of force by policemen remains a major concern, even to this day. The jury retired at 2:50 p.m. on Sept. 8, 1913, in the care of Deputy Sheriff R.R. Hankenson.

They returned their verdict just 30 minutes later at 3:20 p.m. The verdict was read: 'In the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of San Luis Obispo. The people of the State of California against Frank Bardin, defendant. We, the jury in the above entitled case, find the defendant, Frank Bardin, not guilty. Edward L. Elberg, foreman.'

"Upon motion of the attorneys for the defense, Bardin was discharged from the bail bond of \$20,000 and given his freedom.

"As soon as court adjourned, Bardin shook hands with the jurors, thanking them personally, and was congratulated by many friends who had been present throughout the trial. Bardin then left the courtroom with his three children, who were continually by his side."



## **Patricia Loomis History Library and Resource Center**

**-Craig Rock, Librarian and Resource Center Director**



### **Have You Visited the Patricia Loomis Library Lately?**

I know many of you visited the Patricia Loomis History Library when it opened two years ago. Not many of you know, however, that as members of the South County Historical Society you can check out most books and any of our DVDs on topics ranging from local history to California history to the history of the West. We're open most weekday afternoons from 1 PM to 5 PM. You can also visit the library other times by calling me at 489-8282. The library is located in Ruby's House at 134 S. Mason Street.

### **Come Celebrate the Japanese American Exhibit**

Our Japanese-American Farming Exhibit will be closing Saturday, September 27. Come celebrate the exhibit with a special Chicken Teppan-Yaki luncheon at this special Harvest Day event. Speakers, music, and good food prepared by members of the Pismo Oceano Vegetable Exchange (P.O.V.E.) are scheduled to begin at noon at the IOOF Hall. The \$5.00 luncheon cost is a fundraiser for the upcoming Oceano Exhibit.

### **Oceano Photography Exhibits Open in November**

At least four major events are planned for the Oceano exhibit starting in November. On November 1, Santa Barbara photographer Bob Werling will showcase his Oceano dune photography at 2 PM at the IOOF Hall. Werling studied and worked for several well-known photographers including Ansel Adams and Brett Weston. Brett was the son of the famous Carmel-area photographer, Edward Weston. Werling's photographs will be available for sale during his exhibit which runs through November 22 – just in time for the holiday season.

On November 14, a new exhibit on Oceano photographer Virgil Hodges will be featured at the IOOF Hall along with Werling's photos. A special presentation on the life and photography of Hodges will be presented by Gordon Bennett on that day. Hodges photographed landscapes and major events in Oceano from the 1890s. Hodges lived in Lompoc for many years but his photography records the development of other areas as well including Oceano. Doris Olsen once wrote, "He aimed his camera at every facet, from quiet landscapes to building of wharfs, railroads, homes and businesses. When trains derailed, ships were wrecked, or buildings burned, Virgil was soon there. Because of the skill of his camera work, viewers still thrill to the sight of President Teddy Roosevelt's Great White Fleet as the Navy vessels glide in grandeur down the Pacific Coast, or feel sorrow upon witnessing the fate of seven naval destroyers wrecked on Hondo Reef, off Pt. Sal.

More details on these exhibits and the railroad weekend days taking place at the IOOF Hall in early December will be featured in next month's newsletter. These exhibits will serve as previews of our major history exhibit on Oceano which opens January 17.

### **Halcyon and Dunite Exhibits in March**

Other exhibits on Halcyon and the Dunite community will open in March. A few weeks ago I met with Berkeley author Ella Thorp Ellis whose research will be included in these two exhibits. Ellis lived in the Oceano dunes in the mid-1930s with her father, Dunham Thorp, one of the editors of the Dune Forum. The Forum was an avant garde magazine of arts and politics written and edited in the Dunes in 1934, during the Great Depression. A special exhibit on the Dune Forum will be included in the Dunite exhibit and you will be able to view the magazine online or at the Patricia Loomis library. The Dune Forum, however, is just the tip of the iceberg. There will also be fascinating exhibits on the lives and philosophies of Halcyon and Dunite residents. Dr. Gerber, Poet John Varian and his inventor sons, Irish rebel and University of California lecturer Ella Young, artists Arthur Allman and Elwood Decker, and Dune Forum financier and editor, Gavin Arthur, are just a few of the featured individuals.

Come support our exhibit program and enjoy great food at the closing of the Japanese-American Farming exhibit on September 27!



**Craig Rock and Ella Thorp Ellis with a carving by Dunite Arthur Allman.**

**More information on the Photography Class in next month's issue.**





—**Shelly Cochran**  
**Rental Events Coordinator**

Many thanks to the following people for all of their help. After the August 10th Village Green Concert, **Paulette** and **Bill McCann** along with **Patricia Price**, **Berneda Cochran** and my husband, **Gil Cochran**, all helped to power-wash about 140 of our chairs. It took a while and was very wet work, but they made it fun. So thanks again! You are terrific.

**P.S.**

**Weddings are beginning to book for next Summer already. Please call me at (489-4489 wk) if I can help you or a friend with a special event date**

**PPS.**

**Thank you to Bill and Dalene Caldwell for donating a nice barbeque for our events.**

—Photo by Shelly Cochran of a recent wedding in our Gazebo Garden.



**Membership: Co-Chairs—Paulette McCann and Bee Hodges**

We warmly welcome our new members listed in this issue, and invite them to attend our next General Meeting on October 14th (No General Meeting is scheduled for September.) Meetings are held at 6:30 pm, Hiawatha Lodge, 3065 Temple Street, Halcyon. Notice of our October meeting and the details will be printed in the next (September) newsletter.

We can arrange for transportation if there is a need, just call either Paulette McCann at 489-4905 or Bee Hodges at 489-8282 (Ruby’s House). You can leave a message at the last number on the recording machine.

New members are our guests at their first General Meeting, and need not bring a potluck dish — although they can, if they wish.

**News from Friends of Price House**

—**Effie McDermott**



Mark your calendar for noon to **4:00 pm, Sunday November 2nd** for the Friends of Price House Ice Cream Social and BBQ. This year will highlight the new entry road Rancho Pismo Drive (off Highland Drive). Details of the event will be forthcoming.

Friends of Price House encourages interested parties to become active with the board of directors or as a volunteer at Price Historical Park. If you would like to serve on the board or a committee with Friends of Price House, please visit [www.pricepark.org](http://www.pricepark.org) and contact FOPH.

**Photo of Rancho Pismo Drive by Effie McDermott**



**Museums Curator**  
-Jan Scott

On our Canadian travels this summer, Kirk and I spent time at the Remington Carriage Museum in Cardston, Alberta, just over the Montana border from Glacier National Park. It houses the largest collection of horse drawn vehicles in North America.

What is most extraordinary about the place, and what distinguishes it from all other carriage museums, is that it is home to a restoration shop that rehabilitates or reconstructs carriages and sleighs for clients from all over (at prices they won't talk about). If you're ever anywhere near this place, it is well worth the trip to see. While we were there, they were recreating the original wooden delivery wagon for a large business in Alberta that had begun as a one-man, one-horse operation. The restoration was being worked from rusted metal fittings and deteriorated wooden boards. It came to them in a pile. They were fabricating almost everything from scratch after extensive research and testing.

The people at this museum are as knowledgeable as one can find, and they filled us with fascinating information. You know all about the wagon trains of the great Western migration. Whenever we see Hollywood movies of those wagon trains, we always see the wagons circle at night and the women go about fixing food and settling in, while the men unhook their teams and/or unsaddle their horses. They seem to be mostly concerned with Indians, or the weather or the road ahead. As dark falls, they talk some more around the campfire.

The reality is that the wheels on the Conestogas and other wagons of the time had to be removed, have the dirt cleaned out, be regreased and be put back on every single day. The wheels on those wagons ran wood against wood (to make it easier to repair on the road) which necessitated this incredibly laborious task. That's what the men really did when the procession stopped for the day. They helped each other take each wheel off each loaded wagon, dig out the dirt, grease it and put it back on (in the restoration shop it takes two men to hang one of those wheels from a hook to work on it). Every wagon. Every day. Sometimes reality is far more impressive than fiction.

The museum houses the forty-eight carriages collected and restored by Don Remington who then donated them to the Province of Alberta on condition that they would build a permanent museum for them. Alberta agreed, and then moved 175 more vehicles from other collections to join his. The displays are wonderfully done and visitors are allowed to wander through the storage building to see the rest of the collection stacked in double-decker shelving.

I am sometimes asked why we don't do more restoration of our vintage carriages and vehicles, and my answer has always been that an antique with important history actually loses value if it is restored. I was reassured by the experts that my research is sound. There is a phrase they use a lot, last-used condition and for a vehicle, whether horse drawn or motorized, that is the desired state of being, if feasible. They always tell visitors when

something is in last-used condition to distinguish it from re-done carriages.

We, and our vehicles, are in an unusual position in this regard. We want to be able to use our motorized vehicles in parades or special events. That means they could not and cannot be left in last-used condition. They have to be maintained and run properly.

That's where our vehicle maintenance team of John Stilwell and Chet Thomas comes to our rescue. By the same token, we do want to keep these artifacts as close to last-used condition as we are able, and any restoration that we do must be easily seen to be different from the original.

This year Chet and John had to actually remove the bed from the Loomis truck (one of our most important vehicles in terms of local history and provenance) because the hardware no longer held the bed in position, a dangerous situation. You may have seen the disassembled truck as they worked to get it back into safe condition. When it came time to repaint the wood that had been replaced, they were made aware of the necessity of not matching the old paint exactly. While it seems like an odd thing to do, it will make future caretakers clearly aware of what is old, and what is not, on the vehicle. Take a look the next time you're in the Barn and see what you can see.

We have allowed two of our tractors to be restored, both for the Farmall's value in parades, and for our participation, led by Jim Bergman, in sponsoring high school students in the tractor restoration competition at the Mid-State Fair.

We haven't touched our horse-drawn buggies. They remain in last-used condition. We also discovered there's no such thing as a Canadian Runabout which is what we believed was the name of our little one-horse buggy. The museum staff told me to send a picture and they'll be happy to identify it for us.

Before I close this month, on this topic of restoration, several people were concerned by a mention in the last newsletter that we might be thinking of replacing the rug on the second floor of the Historic Hall. A little explanation will help.

There are actually two rugs up there. The original shows up in a photograph of a meeting of the Grand Old Army Civil War Veterans group at the turn of the last century. It is patterned mainly in red and must have become quite worn. We have yet to roll the top rug back to see what it looks like overall. The second, visible rug looks (from its patterns) like it was put in sometime in the late 30s or 1940s.

Depending on how the second floor of the Hall eventually comes to be used, we may have to take steps to protect both of these floor coverings. The options are many, but one possibility is to someday have the original rug copied for use so the Hall would have its original look, while the original rug and the replacement can be stored, protected, as befits the artifacts they are.

Till next time.

## 2008 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

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Email: [schs76@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schs76@sbcglobal.net)

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Heritage House	481-4126	Paulding History House	473-3231
Santa Manuela School & The Barn	489-8745	Historic Hall	489-8114
	Ruby's House 489-8282		

### \$\$ Update on SCHS Adopt-A-Poll Fundraiser \$\$

The Society received \$750.00 for the Adopt-a-Poll election on June 3, 2008. The County Clerk-Recorder information concerning the pay for the June election was different from the February election where the Society received \$810.00. This fundraiser has brought in \$1,560.00 thus far with the November election still to come, and a great testament to the dedication of our Adopt-a-Poll volunteers:

**Anne & Olaf Shipstead**  
**Jan Nylund**  
**Betty Guthrie**  
**Kay Fairbairn**  
**Lynn Titus**  
**Virginia Kraatz**  
**Gerry Fesler**  
**Rachel Cecka**  
**Marya Kindig**  
**Shelly Cochran**  
**Berneda Cochran**  
 —Paulette McCann, Adopt-a-Poll  
 Inspector

*Sincere condolences are extended to the  
 families of:*  
*Hilo Fuchiwaki*  
*Gunter G. Groteluschen*  
*Howard Louis*  
*Mary Gularte*  
*Jack Pence*  
*Masako Saruwatari*  
*Edyth Wood*  
*Donations received in their names go  
 into our Memorial Fund unless  
 requested otherwise.*

**YOUR PLANNED GIFT could be of  
 great importance to the future of the  
 South County Historical Society.  
 Please contact the Society at (805) 489-  
 8282 to discuss your gifts to support  
 the Society in its dedication to re-  
 search, restoration and dissemination  
 of information to enhance and pre-  
 serve our local historical heritage.**

**We Welcome Our New  
Members**

Paula Juelke Carr  
Bonnie Crawford  
Nancy & William Greenough, **Patrons**  
**(Saucelito Canyon Vineyard)**  
Marion Ikeda  
Patricia J. McGinley-Smith  
Mary Jean Munro  
Doug Perrin  
Debbie Rogers  
David Sanbinmatsu  
Sandra & Jim Sawyer  
Jill Whitney

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**NO GENERAL MEETING  
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