

CONTENTS THIS ISSUE

Page 2	Event Schedules-Museum Hours
Page 3	President's Message
Page 4	Patterns of the Past
Page 5	Curator of Collections
Page 6	Historic Theater Schedule
Page 8	What's Growin' On in the Garden
Page 8	Hoosegow Reopening
Page 9	Docent Leader
Page 9	Arroyo Grande Police Department
Page 10	SLO County History Book
Page 11	The Grange History
Page 13	Celebrating Our Elders
Page 14	Theater Reception
Page 15	Membership

MUSEUMS SCHEDULE

THE BARN

HERITAGE HOUSE

SANTA MANUELA SCHOOLHOUSE

Are open:

Saturdays from 12n to 3 pm

Sundays from 1pm to 3 pm

PAULDING HISTORY HOUSE

Is open:

1st Saturday of the month

From 1pm to 3 pm

RUBY'S HOUSE

(Pat Loomis History Library)

Is open

Monday thru Friday

From 1 pm to 5 pm

Group tours of any
or all of the museums

May be scheduled

By calling

805.489.8282

EVENTS SCHEDULE

HISTORY BOOK SCANNING

July 1

HISTORIC THEATER

The Dunites

June 20, 27

July 15, 18, 25

The Face of the Clam

August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

SUMMER CONCERTS

June 7, 21

July 4, 19

August 2, 16, 30

September 13

CELEBRATING OUR ELDERS

August 15 in Heritage Park

HARVEST FESTIVAL

September 25-26

SCHS Board of Directors Meeting

August 19

September 16

October 21

November 18

2015 Board of Directors

Gary Hoving	President
Paul Provence	Vice-President
Norman Baxter	Treasurer
Polly Nelson	Secretary
Jan Scott	Curator of Collections
Ross Kongable	Membership
Vivian Krug	Public Information
Linda Kime	Docent Leader
Joe Swigert	Property Manager
Jeff Kime	Information Systems
Eric Nelson	Parliamentarian



South County Historical Society

Heritage Press

Volume 19, No 3

MAY-JUNE 2015



HISTORIC IOOF HALL



SANTA MANUELA SCHOOL-



PAULDING HISTORY HOUSE



HERITAGE HOUSE



RUBY'S HOUSE



THE BARN

Greetings from the President:

The summer season is clearly the busiest for the South County Historical Society. Our visitor numbers increase, maintenance projects are completed and our fundraising effort is in full swing. This activity and the response is the greatest motivator for continuing our programs.

Hot Dogs! We need help cooking and selling hot dogs during the summer concert series in the village. These efforts provide a significant source of income to support our facilities and programs with many opportunities for involvement. Please call the office at Ruby's if you can help.

Our wonderful team of docents is always looking for assistance. We appreciate them very much and recognized their hard work during a recent afternoon tea. Linda Kime can answer any questions about becoming a docent as well as all of the benefits of participations.

Another highlight during the summer is our Historic Theatre. If you have attended in the past, we will look forward to seeing you again. For those who have not attended, this is a must-see series which is a remarkably fun way to share local history stories by a group of talented volunteers. The performances are led by Jan Scott, and her team, which is guaranteed to delight.

We wish each of you a great summer season and look forward to seeing you at the many South County Historical Society functions.

Gary L. Hoving





Patterns of the Past

From the Archives by Berneda Cochran



Written in 1999

ARROYO GRANDE — Once again we observe Memorial Day with the Strawberry Festival.

As the soft notes of taps and the sharp crack of rifles echo through our cemeteries, we shall remember all those gallant men who served our country; but even more those lives that were sacrificed to preserve a way of life we hold dear.

Gen. John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic issued the first proclamation for Decoration Day, as it was first called, May 5, 1868. Mrs. Logan, while visiting Virginia, observed school children decorating Confederate graves. She was deeply impressed and told her husband. Gen. Logan felt the Northern dead should also be honored. He and Mrs. Logan helped establish, "Decoration Day:" a day for remembering not only out loved ones, but all those who have service, regardless of the time.

GAR General Order No. 11 began: "The first day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in the defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet courtyard in the land. In this observance no

form or ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials or respect as circumstances may permit.

"We are organized for the purpose of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together soldiers, sailors and marines who united to suppress - the late rebellion. What can aid more to assure this result than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead, who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foes?... We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance...Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going or reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect. No ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of a free and undivided Republic." said the order in part.

We have bid farewell to the last veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic and the thin gray line of the Confederacy. From this distance in time, we can salute them both.

SCHS 2004.018.255 Jean Hubbard



THE SUMMER IS HERE !

It used to be that SCHS slowed down during the summer months, but not anymore.

There is free SUMMER HISTORIC THEATRE beginning on June 20th at IOOF.

This year we're taking our long-promised visit to the Dunites. The first show is called

"The Dunites - Mystics - Misfits - More"

playing through the end of July. The August show is

"The Face of the Clam, A Story of the 1930's - A Day in the Dunes"

No matter what you know or don't know about the people who lived in the Oceano Dunes, some of them for decades, you will enjoy these shows.

Members Only Previews - Don't forget, as an SCHS member, you are welcome to the preview reception and performance of both shows.

"The Dunites -" preview will begin at 6:00 pm on Friday, June 19th.

"Face of the Clam" is at 6:00 pm on Friday, July 31.

CASTING

While I *think* I am almost finished casting this year, people's plans change and I am always collecting names for future shows. Historic Theatre has no memorization (unless you want to). I need all kinds of people, but especially men of all ages, and older guys for the Dunite scripts. Come on. It could be fun? Drop me an e-mail at jans194@aol.com and who knows

AG VILLAGE CONCERT SERIES

You can't neglect another great season of music at Heritage Square Park. But this year you can go to a concert AND help us.

Of course you can buy your hot dogs and ice cream from our concession and we're grateful! Or you can even lend a hand (Give Rich a call at 994-7169 to find out how to help.)

But this year is also very special for us. Our Summer Historic Theater has been named "Featured Non-profit" for the first concert on **Sunday, June 7th.** That means that we earn money for every raffle ticket sold that day. There are some *great* prizes, and all you have to do is listen to some Classic Country by Monte Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe Band - with Amaya Rose. It's a great way to spend an afternoon...and support us by buying some raffle tickets.

SOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

-Historic- THEATRE

- Saturdays - All Summer -

LOCAL STORIES COME TO LIFE IN

FREE
ONE-HOUR
READERS
THEATRE
PROGRAMS



at the **IOOF HALL**
(across from McIntosh on
Bridge Street in Arroyo Grande)
all summer long



DOORS OPEN

1:30 PM

SHOW AT

2 PM

- COME EARLY -

- LIMITED SEATING -

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



Like us on [Facebook.com/SouthCountyHistoricalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/SouthCountyHistoricalSociety)

SCHEDULE OF 2015
PERFORMANCES
- Saturdays - 2 PM -

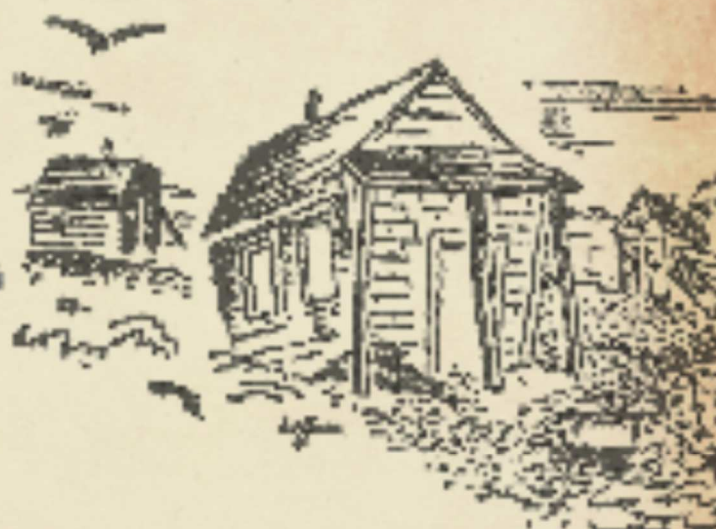
"THE DUNITES"

- Mystics - Misfits - More!

June 20, 27

July 15, 18, 25

No Performance on July 4th



"THE FACE OF THE CLAM"

A Story of the 1930s: A Day in the Dunes -

August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29



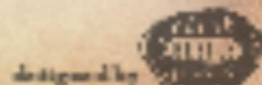
SPONSORS

2015 AG Village Summer Concerts

Brisco's True Value Hardware

The Doug LeSage Family

Wayne's Tires



What's 'Growing On' In the Garden!



HERITAGE HOUSE GARDEN is still in need of helping hands, especially now that Christine Harvey has left us with a treasure trove of bulbs. We're going slowly with those until Cal Poly returns with some designs for us, so we know where they will best fit, but there's always weeding and cleanup if you'd like to give Marie a hand, she's there almost every Thursday around 9:30.

THE HOOSEGOW REOPENING CEREMONY APRIL 25, 2015



MARY HERTEL & BOB LUND



MARK & BLAIR
AILEEN MANKINS

DOCENT LEADER

Linda Kime



The Docent Appreciation Tea was held Friday, May 8th. Thanks to **Sandy Arnold, Lisa Valdez and Gloria Wilson** it was the best one ever! They made champagne cupcakes, blueberry scones, savory turnovers, baguettes with turkey and cheese, mini lemon bunt cakes, chocolate chip cupcakes, cookies and bowls of fruit. The food was not only delicious but beautifully presented. There were 23 in attendance. A special thanks to **Joe Swigert**, our Property Manager for his expertise in setting up and decorating the IOOF Hall. If you would like to join the fun, become a docent! Please contact Linda Kime at 489-1837.

ARROYO GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cordially invites you to attend the

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION

AND

RIBBON CUTTING

of the

Renovated

Arroyo Grande Police Station

to be held at

200 North Halcyon Road

Arroyo Grande, California

Saturday, June 13, 2015

10:00 until 2:00 pm

Tours, displays and K9 demonstrations

SLO COUNTY HISTORY BOOK

The Tribune, in partnership with Pediment Publishing, the South County Historical Society and local historical organizations, is producing a pictorial history book on SLO County.

The book will publish in 2015 and will be released in time for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The style of the book will be a beautiful, hard-bound coffee-table book of approximately 144 pages. The book's time-line spotlights the "early years" in SLO County...the 1860's through the 1930's. The book will be organized in thematic chapters (i.e., Street scenes and views, schools and education, commerce, industry, public service, recreation and celebrations, transportation, etc).

Any individual providing a photo (or photos) for consideration, will be guaranteed that at least one photo will be included in the book. All photos provided/used are for one-time use only in this publication. Each photo includes a photo credit following the photo's caption as specified by the individual and/or organization. In providing photos for consideration the individual and/or organization retains exclusive rights to its existing digital photos and/or those scanned from originals.

In giving permission to scan and publish photos, the individual and/or organization does not surrender its own right to give permission to others to scan or publish photos.

There will be a "Public Scanning"

July 1, 2015

so start looking for your families old photographs!

For information call 805.489.8282

The Grange History

Citizens may be curious about what goes on inside the Grover Beach Grange, No. 746, located at 370 South 13th Street. It was chartered in 1949 and is part of a national "Organization of Patrons and Husbandry, commonly called 'The Grange.'"

Oliver Hudson Kelley, known as the father of the Grange, had been sent by President Andrew Johnson to survey agricultural conditions in the South following the Civil War. Kelley dreamed of a fraternal association of farmers from both the North and South as a means of rehabilitation of the nation's basic industry.

Through the years, the Grange has lobbied for legislation which would benefit the small farmer and those in farm related industries. But there have been other events in our history for which the Grange has influenced and some of those accomplishments are identified below.

1872, Montgomery Ward was established as the first mail order house to cater to rural Americans. For years, its catalog bore the title 'The Original Grange Supply House'.

The Grange became the first organization to endorse teaching of

agriculture in rural public schools. The Department of Agriculture was founded in 1889, principally through the efforts of the National Grange. The Grange's philosophy became the basis for the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965. Local Granges in the South County included the Triangle Grange No. 619 in Arroyo Grande and the Galaxy Grange No. 812 in Nipomo.

Grover Beach Grange, No. 746 built the present hall in 1956 for \$35,000. At the time, it received significant recognition as a symbol of Grover City's growth towards incorporation.

Currently, members provide to the public tasty pancake breakfast on first Sunday of each month for \$5.00 each. The event provides revenue for No. 746 and generally, members are the volunteers who have prepared and served meals for years. Try it! You'll like it!

The following article was reported by Bruce Maulden, Five Cities Times-Press-Recorder August 18, 1999 and describes past, present and the future of Grange "Subordinates" in America:

Grange's Past, Present and Future: The Good,

the Bad and maybe the Gone

GROVER BEACH - Until a few short years ago, the center of a town's economic and social life, especially in the West, was the local grange.

A community's welfare, as well as its social functions - dances, dinners, weddings, bake sales, clubs, and just about anything else considered vital in the close-surrounding area was the grange.

Membership has plummeted. The grange, however, did have its' heyday.

"I was dragged to the grange when I was four, five years old," Betty Carroll says. "I always went to the grange with my parents, and when I turned 16 years old, I joined. Over my lifetime, I've been involved, on and off, and as time goes by, more involved.

Carroll's parents, Leona and Einar S. Hero, and her brother, Einar L. Hero, were among the founding members of Grover Beach's Grange No. 746. The local grange was recently in mourning as the younger hero was fatally injured June 30 in a farm accident.

"My mom and dad and my brother moved over from Tulare. They'd been grange members there," Carroll said. "My folks and another couple

(Continued on page 12)

started an off-shoot of the Arroyo Grande Grange (known as the Triangle Grange No. 619) and they met for many years at the Grover Beach Woman's Club (at the corner of 11th Street and Saratoga Avenue)."

There were 66 charter members of the local grange, dedicated April 1, 1949. Those early members were not only connected with agriculture, but also included carpenters, engineers, plumbers, and other trades and professions - skills which came in handy.

The present grange hall site on 13th Street was purchased and built from the ground up. Wood for the project was reclaimed out of a barracks at Vandenberg A.F.B. and hauled back to Grover. Plans and drawings were put together and through the volunteer efforts of the membership the hall was constructed in April 1956.

According to scrapbook information supplied by current grange Secretary Marcile Capinha, members of No. 746, "burned the mortgage Sunday, Feb. 12, 1961."

In February 1966, there were 226 dues-paying members, not including entire families, who attended meetings and functions.

She says the grange was extremely family oriented. "People is what makes it fun. It was an extension of your family, there was no drinking

and you had some really nice people that had community interests." Families grew up involved with the grange. Parents and grandparents were members, children attended functions, later joined themselves.

Membership has dropped dramatically: Secretary Capinha recalls a grange meeting in 1988-89 in which it was reported there were then 109 members - more than a 50 percent drop in less than 20 years.

Capinha said currently the membership roll has only 65 names for Grange 746, the organization having lost 25 members this year alone. "They didn't pay their dues, for some reason or another," she says, "or they died. Membership is dropping real fast." (Writer's Note: Current No. 746 membership is just over 40 members.)

"Society is just changing," Carroll said. "People are so busy, they get beat-up just working, and they just don't have time or the resources. And people aren't looking at things as a civic duty to get done. The grange is really a community involved (group). And whole families aren't getting into farming anymore. Kids go out and get different jobs. It's hard to pick up new members to replace deceased members - hard, cold, facts."

"In reality, memberships in all those fraternal organizations have been declining since the

1960s and 70s," Felder said. "The big change occurred in the 60s. And today, modern people, younger people, and when I say 'younger people', I mean 50 and under, just don't want to join (these fraternal clubs)."

Felder, whose home grange is in Butte County, said California currently has 240 active, supportive granges statewide and about 24,000 total members. The newest grange with 20-25 members, No. 832 in McCloud, just south of Mt. Shasta, was installed last fall.

California instigated its state grange in 1873, an old West part of Americana. Future history, though, may not be too bright. If the present trend continues, and membership persists in spiraling straight down, the grange in its present form may cease to exist.

"We're all trying to come up with ideas on how to help get members," Felder said. "There's no magic formula. Some granges are real healthy, some are shaky. Most granges in heavily agricultural areas are folding up, those in the foothills are doing well. I can't figure why."

Membership age is a major determinant. Felder as state master (or state president) travels to the various granges statewide. "When I walk into a grange and see a lot of different age groups, young and old, thin I think this grange is healthy."

CELEBRATING OUR ELDERS

A new festival in Heritage Park is being established this summer under the auspices of the South County Historical Society.

You are invited to a community celebration on

***Saturday, August 15th
from 10am to 4pm.***

Celebrating Our Elders.

This is an event for
people of all ages!

All of us, young and old, can respect and recognize those that came before us and helped establish the communities we live in today.

Who do you know in your life that deserves some recognition for the positive contribution they made in our lives? Family? Parents? Grandparents? Friends? Wouldn't it be great if we could show our appreciation together?

Well, that's what the festival is all about. This is a community event—all are invited to attend and participate in as desired to *Celebrate Our Elders* and to continue to support their contributions to our communities.

Most of the "elders" in our communities may not fit the traditional sense of the term "senior citizen" due to the vibrant lives they lead. However, a belated recognition is still in order. In 1988, a National Senior Citizens Day was established in the United States.

The Celebrating Our Elders festival is based on the same values.

NATIONAL SENIOR CITIZENS DAY

Each year there are various events and activities held, across the United States, in recognition of National Senior Citizens Day. This day was created as a day to support, honor and show appreciation to our seniors and to recognize their achievements and the contributions they make to our communities

"For all they have achieved throughout life and for all they continue to accomplish, we owe older citizens our thanks and a heartfelt salute. We can best demonstrate our gratitude and esteem by making sure that our communities are good places in which to mature and grow older — places in which older people can participate to the fullest and can find the encouragement, acceptance, assistance, and services they need to continue to lead lives of independence and dignity."

-- Ronald Reagan (In 1988 while signing proclamation 5847 declaring a National Senior Citizens Day)

(Continued on page 14)

Carnival games, Music, Food Booths, Recreational Activities, Creative/Educational displays, Service/Non-Profit/Business Promotions, Etc. Fun oriented related themes for all those who attend and for those that also want to formally participate in the event, booth space is available. What idea do you have?

A community that honors their elders is a healthy community. A healthy respect that actually honors everyone in the community. Please join in the celebration to help recognize the contributions that make our community such a special place.

For more information about participating,
please contact Jim Yancheson (Event Coordinator) at
TEL: 805-674-0954 or
EMAIL: JimWhy1@sbcglobal.net.

DON'T FORGET! MARK YOUR CALENDAR! BRING A FRIEND!

SUMMER HISTORIC THEATRE IS BACK!

MEMBERS ONLY RECEPTION & PREVIEW

FRIDAY, JUNE 19 - "THE DUNITES" Mystics - Misfits - More

6PM - WINE/HORS D'OEUVRES

6:30 - LIVE PERFORMANCE (1HOUR)

&

FRIDAY, JULY 31 - "THE FACE OF THE CLAM" A Day in the Dunes

6PM - WINE/HORS D'OEUVRES

6:30 - LIVE PERFORMANCE (1HOUR)

Museum Phone Numbers:

Pat Loomis History Library

"Ruby's House"

805.489.8282

IOOF History Hall

805.489.8114

Santa Manuela Schoolhouse

The Barn

805.489.8745

Heritage House

805.481.4126

Paulding History House

805.473.3231

*Our Sincere Condolences
to the families of*

Gus Berger

June Waller

Ferry Fesler

SCHS VOLUNTEERS

Vol hrs for March & April 690

Year to date: 1,995

Get Well Wishes to

Doug LeSage

Tony Peletier

Fred Wilson

Annual Membership Dues

Individual \$ 20.00

Couple \$ 35.00

Family w/children under 18 \$ 40.00

Sustaining (Individual) \$100.00

Patron: \$200.00

Business, Organization, Individual

Life (Individual or Couple) \$500.00

May be paid in 12 monthly installments.

The Society is structured as a
non-profit organization 501(c)3
(Federal Tax ID 95-3539454)
and depends solely on donations to continue its work.

You can help!

**Write a (tax-deductible) check to the
South County Historical Society,
and mail it to:**

South County Historical Society
PO Box 633,
Arroyo Grande, CA 93421-0633



2015 MEMBERSHIP — SOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

☐ CHANGES?

☐ NEW

☐ GIFT

☐ RENEWAL

Please print legibly.

Name (s) *

Address *

Home Tel: * Cell Tel: *

Email: *

Type of Membership _____ Amount Enlosed \$ _____ Check No. _____

Please mail check or money order payable to **SOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY,**
PO Box 633, Arroyo Grande Ca 93421.

* Starred information will be printed in the annual Membership Directory
distributed to members unless you indicate otherwise here.

SLIMMER CONCERT SERIES IN HERITAGE PARK



The Historical Society has the concession stand providing Hot Dogs, Lemonade and popcorn, soft drinks and Doc Burnstein's Ice Cream.

Volunteers are needed:

Hot Dog BBQ'er;
servers (4), cashiers (2).

Pick a date(s) and call

Rich Lasiewski 805.904.3173 to help
and enjoy great entertainment as well.

June 7

June 21

JULY 4

JULY 19

AUGUST 2

AUGUST 16

AUGUST 30

MONTE MILLS & THE LUCKY HORSESHOE BAND

SLO TRUMPET ALLIANCE

THE VILLAGE BAND (TRADITIONAL PATRIOTIC CONCERT BAND)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (60'S ROCK & ROLL)

INGA SWEARINGEN & THE GUY BUDD BAND (JAZZ, BLUES)

OPERA SLO PRESENTS "OPERA MEETS BROADWAY"

CENTRAL CITY SWING (BIG BAND)

Summer Historic Theatre is the Featured Non-Profit this

Sunday 1PM

AG Village Concert

Sunday June 7th

COME OUT !! Hear Classic Country

Monte Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe Band

AND Support Historic Theatre

Buy some raffle tickets