

South County Historical Society

Heritage Press

Volume 11, No 5

May 2007



You are Invited!!

The 31st Annual

Charter Day BBQ

Sunday, June 10

12 - 4 PM

at the historical

Methodist Church Campground

250 Wesley Street

Village of Arroyo Grande

The Campground Cooks will serve us a fine BBQ meal in the Dining Hall.

RSVP by June 5 to: Gus and Rossi Berger, 481-9379

or email at gusrossi1@aol.com

Mail payment of \$12. per person to: M/M Berger, 2505 Basin St.,
Oceano, CA 93445

CALENDAR of ACTIVITIES

**Note: New Hours for the
Pat Loomis
History Library &
Resource Center
At Ruby's House**

Tue-Fri
1:00 pm until 5:00 pm
Or by appointment

**HISTORIC HALL
Saturday, May 19
First Exhibit Opening
1:00 -5:00 pm**

Exhibits on photographer, Dorothea Lange; Civilian Conservation Corp., (CCC), & Abalone Harvesting in SLO County.
IOOF Building, 128 Bridge St., A.G.
(Full details follow on page four)

**2006 Strawberry Cook-Off
Winners Cookbook**

Prize winning Recipes
Available for purchase
\$10.00 at Heritage House
Purchase proceeds benefit SCHS efforts.

June 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29
Data Entry Workshops 1:00 pm
Ruby's House

“Perhaps the most delightful friendships are those in which there is much agreement, much disputation, and yet more personal liking.”
—George Eliot

2007 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Directors and Committees

President.....Jane Line.....481-6510
ProgramsCraig Rock

Ways & Means– First VP.....Jim Dickens.....481-0540
Books & Publishing.....Linda Shephard
Tour Bus Coordinator.....Joe Swigert
Antique Show & Sale.....Doug LeSage
Events Coordinator..... Doug LeSage & Shelly Cochran

Membership—2nd VP...Michael & Colleen Drees.....489-0295
Sunshine.....Ethel M. Gilliland...473-0175

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary..Edie Juck.....773-4689

Treasurer.....Gary Hoving.....929-3106

Publicity.....Vivian Krug.....458-3321
Webmaster.....Vivian Krug

Paulding History House Curator...Chuck Fellows.....481-3464
Paulding Committee.....Jean Hubbard

Museums Curator.....Jan Scott.....481-4435
Assistant Curator.....Joe Swigert
Heritage House.....Joe Swigert
Santa Manuela Schoolhouse..... Kathleen Sullivan
The Barn.....Orville Schultz
Archives..... Ross Kongable
Library & Resource Center.....Craig Rock

Property Management...Charles Porter.....929-1014
Vehicles.....Chet Thomas
Gardening—Heritage House.....Barbara LeSage
Gardening—Santa Manuela Schoolhouse..... Juan Jazo
Gardening—Ruby's House.....Juan Jazo

Docent Leader (Acting).....Stephanie Cochran
Docent Supervisor.....Joe Swigert
Heritage House Coordinator.....Jeanne Frederick
Paulding House Coordinator..... Dee Trybom
Santa Manuela School Coordinator Kathleen Sullivan
Barn.....Joe Swigert
Student Tours.....Norma Harloe

Information Systems (Acting).....Dick Jackson
Heritage Press Newsletter.....Editor.....Bee Hodges

Parliamentarian..... Kathleen Sullivan489-8195

Society Information473-5077

Heritage House481-4126
Paulding History House473-3231
Santa Manuela School489-8745
The Barn.....489-8745
Historic Hall489-8114
Ruby's House489-8282

Website— www.SouthCountyHistory.Org



“Early Days and Today—The Methodist Campground, a popular recreation spot for adults and youth groups, is seen here as it appears today, and (inset) as it appeared when first established in the late 1890’s. The original 15-acre site has been expanded to 30 acres, with various recreational facilities.” (Text & photo (c.1990’s) from Jean Hubbard’s column “Echoes” and reprinted below entitled , **“Tabernacle Celebrating Centennial”**, from SCHS archives, as printed in Five Cities Times-Press-Recorder, Arroyo Grande, Ca., July, 1997, recording the Centennial birthday and the history of the Tabernacle, in the Methodist Camp)

“The Tabernacle, the grand old lady of the Methodist Camp, is celebrating her 100th birthday. She has presided over the campgrounds at the end of Wesley Avenue in Arroyo Grande, for those 100 years. The woodpeckers have at times left her in tatters, taking 15 feet off the center pole on her roof, but a new dress, actually several coats of paint, has always restored her spirits. Today she is better looking than she was in the summer of 1897, when she was dedicated on Sunday, August 1.

J.F. Beckett, who owned a large acreage back of the Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1887, at 124 West Branch St., (now Amanda’s Interiors) was encouraging the Methodist Conference to establish their grounds here. He did considerable grading and had offered his grounds, free of charge, for the annual camp meeting the Methodist held each summer. This was the favored way for increasing church membership. Now he was willing to give 15 acres to the church. When the conference accepted, the local church promised to give in work and money to the value of \$1,000.

Chatauqua was to precede the revival meetings. In 1874, in Chatauqua, N.Y., a Methodist minister, Dr. John Vincent, and wealthy industrialist, Lewis Miller, the father of Mrs. Thomas Edison, started a Sunday School encampment to train teachers. For added interest, he held lectures on culture, philosophy and had humorous and worthwhile entertainment. Camp Arroyo Grande also taught Epworth League Methods.

By July 17, 1894, the 12-sided tabernacle was nearing completion. The windows and doors were being installed and the floor leveled, ready for sawdust. Members of the church were busy clearing the grounds to receive tents. The ravine, where it ran down in back of the Catholic Church, was being worked on; this would quickly become “Lover’s Lane”. At one point, the minister, the Rev. A.M. Ogborn, was helping to clear the brush and rocks when he encountered poison oak. Sunday, his eyes had swollen shut and he was unable to preach.

On Aug. 1, 1897, the grand old lady and surrounding grounds were dedicated. Everyone had helped; they far exceeded their promise of \$1,000. In work and money; the church had also

purchased 15 additional acres. A special orchestra played for the dedication, and when Mr. Cattoir played a cornet solo, accompanied by Miss Laura Duncan, the enthusiastic applause was so great that the minister felt called upon [to] quiet the crowd. The concert...was a genuine success in every respect.

The camp association furnished tent frames with wood floors that campers could slip a canvas frame over or you could bring your own tent. Some summers, the youth slept out under the stars with a canvas separating boys and girls. Since afternoons were always free with trips to the beach and elsewhere, many a sand crab and pine cone found its way into the girls’ beds mysteriously. Loren Ballagh and Clair Gibson remembered that camp was always good for a romance or two each summer.

The evening lectures were well attended, with the Pacific Coast Rail-way (sic) running special cars to bring people from San Luis Obispo and points south. The charge for the evening was 50 cents for the season; \$1 for a family, or just 15 cents a single admission. The evening Chautauqua entertainment brought top talent to the camp.

In the early years, there was a boarding tent on the grounds that furnished meals in 1900, for 25 cents a single meal or 16 2/3 cents if you ate there all week. Later, a kitchen and dining hall were built. Camping privileges were free. Hay for your horses, in any quantity, cost \$5 to \$6 a ton. Straw was free. For those doing their own cooking, plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit were available. Coming to Camp Arroyo Grande was looked forward to by several hundred people every summer.

This Aug 1 and 2, Camp Arroyo Grande will celebrate this grand old lady’s birthday. The community is invited to share in this celebration. If you have never seen the camp, this is your opportunity. Wesley Ave., (next to Bank of America) will lead you back to the Tabernacle grounds. Friday evening’s entertainment will be preceded by a hotdog/hamburger dinner at 5. Saturday’s fun begins at 10 a.m. with chicken barbecue at noon and entertainment all afternoon. Come and help us celebrate some of Arroyo Grande’s rich historical heritage.”

— “Echoes”, Jean Hubbard



Patricia Loomis History Library and Resource Center

-Craig Rock



**Summer Schedule of Exhibits,
Speakers, and Films at the IOOF Hall
Fridays and Saturdays only, 1 PM – 5 PM
128 Bridge St., Arroyo Grande
Free Admission**

**Contact Craig Rock for more information, 489-8282
Website: SouthCountyHistory.org**

May 19 – June 16

EXHIBITS

The CCC – Civilian Conservation Corps
The Photography of Dorothea Lange
Abalone Harvesting in San Luis Obispo County

FILMS

Surviving the Dust Bowl, 55 minutes
Shown hourly on Saturdays May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16
Civilian Conservation Corps, 60 minutes
Shown hourly on Fridays May 25, June 1, 8, 15

June 23 – July 21

EXHIBITS

Architecture in SLO County
Mexican Migrant Workers
Abalone Harvesting in San Luis Obispo County

FILMS

Grapes of Wrath, 129 min.
Shown at 1:15 PM and 3:15 PM, Saturdays June 23,
July 7, 14, 21
The Battle Over Citizen Kane, 2 hours
Shown at 1 PM and 3 PM,
Fridays, June 29, July 6, 13, 20

July 28 – August 25

EXHIBITS

Japanese American Internment Camps
Japanese American Children in Internment Camps
Fishermen in San Luis Obispo County

FILMS

Remembering Manzanar, 22 min.
Fridays and Saturdays, July 28 – August 22,
continuous showings
(Check website for possible speaker event during this time span.)

September 1 – September 22

EXHIBITS

Santa Barbara's Film Industry
Hollywood in the 1920s
Disney Studios

FILMS

Modern Marvels: Walt Disney World, 100 minutes
Shown at 1:15 and 3:15, Saturdays, September 1, 8, 15, 22

History of Motion Pictures

2 hours 15 min.
Shown at 1:30 only, Fridays,
September 7, 14, 21

Opening September 29

The History of Avila

Special Event

Saturday, June 30 at 1:30 PM
An Afternoon with **John Koepf**,
one of the last abalone divers of Avila,
speaking on the
**Rise and Fall of the Abalone
Industry in Avila
and The Central Coast.** John is a
former Port San Luis Harbor
Commissioner (1988-1996)



SOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

134 S. Mason St., Arroyo Grande, Ca 93420

(805) 473-5077

www.southcountyhistory.org



Call for Volunteers:

SCHS is completely run by volunteers like you and me, and we have lots of projects and committees that can use your help. If you have an interest in preserving and sharing history, come join us in the fun! We are looking for volunteers in the following areas:

- Museum Docent (conciierge, tours, sharing local history)
- Events (concert concession stand, Antique Show, festivals)
- Museum Care (dusting, sweeping, loving care)
- Property/Building Care (handyman, honey-do's, gardening)
- Curator Assistant (visual media/artifact & archive processing, & care)
- Librarian Assistant (shelving books, visitor research)
- Exhibit Committee (putting it altogether)
- Folklore Committee (collecting oral histories)
- Book Committee (reading manuscripts, word processing)
- Technology (computer care, digital photography)
- Administration (general office, clerical, banking)

If any of these areas interest you, please check the box, complete this form & return it to the above address, or call 473-5077 if you have any questions.

Name _____ Date _____

Phone Number _____ email _____

Thank you! We appreciate your interest and willingness to get involved.

A Little Bit about Abalones in Pismo

In keeping with the theme of the Abalone Exhibit at the Historic Hall, I want to share with you a snippet about abalones in Pismo. In the late 1950s, when my family came here, clams were still abundant on Pismo State Beach. Abalone could still be found on the shoreline rocks in Shell Beach and at what we then called Pirates Cove. Abalone latched themselves to the rocky outcroppings that were ordinarily submerged by the rising and falling surf. When the tide was out, occasional abalones could be found and pried off with a tire iron.

Abalone could get pretty big, compared to clams. An abalone then was easily over seven inches across and bigger. Removed from the shell and sliced in fairly thin disks, the abalone 'steaks' were then pounded on the cutting board to tenderize them. A little seasoning, breading and a hot pan – mmm, my mouth waters just remembering how good fresh abalone tasted!

There are a few old photos in circulation that attest to the abalones in Pismo. The old Shell Café was so named for the abalone and clam shells decorating the exterior. Another, shown here, is the Pismo Beach highway sign embedded with shells, that I always referred to as the Clam Tower until one day I got a good copy of the picture and looked at it up close. Those are abalone shells! I now refer to this picture as the Abalone Tower. It was located on Price Street near Oceanview and Hinds.



Photo from Effie McDermott Archives, Pismo Beach, CA

By Effie McDermott, June 2007

Effie McDermott is curator of the SCHS Pismo Beach Collection, and is President of Friends of Price House.

She can be reached at 773-4854 or emcdermott@kcbx.net

You can receive the Price Historical Park newsletter by joining Friends of Price House, P.O. Box 1418, Pismo Beach, CA 93448-1418. Enclose \$25 dues. The park is open the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, from noon to three except holidays. When the new road is complete, we will be on Rancho Pismo Drive, off Highland Drive.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Robert & Stephanie Cochran—459-7483

2451 Beach St, Oceano 93445

* (Change of Address)

Sam Cotton

1139 Palm Ct., Arroyo Grande

Rod & Lorrie Curb—782-0228

745 Prickly Pear Way, Arroyo Grande

Cindy Hansen—489-0204

3775 Santa Manuela Rd., Arroyo Grande

John & Mary Hjalmarson—481-4509

536 Via La Barranta, Arroyo Grande

Pete Kelley

P.O. Box 237, Avila Beach, Ca 93424

Linda & Jeff Kime—489-1837

1133 Corbett Canyon Rd., Arroyo Grande

Diane Maiorano—544-8740

660 Pismo St., San Luis Obispo, Ca 93401

James & Sharon Moore

211 Allen St., Arroyo Grande

Jan Nylund—474-0576

924 High View Dr., Arroyo Grande

Elaine & Ronald Parrent

897 Oak Park Blvd., PMB 164, Pismo Beach

Toni Pelletier—489-5100

115 E. Branch, Arroyo Grande

Patricia Price—550-4098

138 Whiteley St., Arroyo Grande

Sunny Putnam

107 Calle Corea, Shell Beach, CA 93449

Nancy & Manny Silva—922-5757

P.O. Box 7739, Santa Maria, CA 93456

B'Ann Smith—489-1559

548 Crown Hill, Arroyo Grande

Julie Stow

934 25th St., SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Scott Stow & Kai Wu

461 Beverly Dr., Walnut, CA 91789

Carolyn & Peter Thom—489-1433

501 Gularte Rd., Arroyo Grande

**An armful of floral Bouquets to:
Barbara LeSage and her Committee for the
stunning and remarkable garden setting we had for
our "Oppor-tun-a-Tea" and America in Bloom events.**



L. to R. Colleen Drees, Linda Fellows, Shelly Cochran, Stephanie Cochran, (Chair). Luncheon and "Oppor-tun-a-Tea"



Ft. Kelly & Greg Steinberger and son, Gabriel, 2 .



Our snowball bush at Ruby's House in Spring finery.



L to R: Berneda & Nina Bryan & Beth Garner



Left: Jan Scott, Museums Curator; Jane Line, SCHS President on the right with Stephanie Cochran, Luncheon & "Oppor-tun-a-Tea" Chair.
J.L. Note: Stephanie Cochran's White Sage tea & Lavender lemonade were the hit of the day.

**PATRONS OF THE
SOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

- PATRICIA LOOMIS**
- KIRK SCOTT**
- CAROL HIZEY**
- HOWARD LOUIS**
- MIKE GILLESPIE**
- OSTY INSURANCE**
- CHRISTINE HARVEY**
- MIKE FAIRBROTHER**
- MARTIN & JANE LINE**
- BILL & CHERYL MILLER**
- SOUTH COUNTY REALTY**
- HOWARD & AILEEN MANKINS**
- DOC BURNSTEIN'S ICE CREAM LAB**
- SUSAN BRANCH 'HEART OF THE HOME'**



PATTERNS OF THE PAST
Tidbits, Tribulations, and Tools for Survival
 By Beatrice Hodges and Berneda Cochran



An informative book in our Patricia Loomis Library The New Deal and the West, authored by Richard Lowitt, describes efforts undertaken by the Bureau of Reclamation and the New Deal in Chapter five, "...by the end of the New Deal, much had been accomplished in the Inland Empire and throughout the West. About 20 million acres were irrigated and these lands provided almost all the opportunities for close settlement in rural areas beyond the hundredth meridian. In 1940 John C. Page, Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, believed his agency was 'approximately at the halfway point in the development of the West by irrigation...' But more important, conservation was no longer a slogan; it was a national policy applicable...to both the Great Plains and the Inland Empire. About 80,000 farmers of the irrigated West [had] depended for a large portion of their cash income, during the New Deal upon the Federal government, which through tariffs and Bureau of Reclamation projects helped promote the related refining complex and migratory labor situation in the beet fields. For ...small farmers in the Inland Empire and along its borders the Bureau of Reclamation through its numerous projects provided the basis for their homes, their livelihood, and their future hopes.

Boulder Dam, as it was called throughout the New Deal, was the first major federal project ...cost[ing] \$114 million and providing jobs for thousands of itinerant workers, [who] working three shifts, completed the project ahead of schedule. The Parker Dam was another project 155 miles below Boulder Dam, along with the Colorado-Big Thompson Project, calling for diversion of 300,000 acre-feet annually with the aid of a 13-mile tunnel and extensive reservoirs, and was one of the largest irrigation projects in the West. Elsewhere other major projects included the Fort Peck Dam, and the Casper-Alcova project which purpose was the use of the North Platte River providing irrigation for croplands, and estimated to carve 1,000 farms from sage brush and cactus dotted range land. Fort Peck Dam

stretches across the Missouri a distance of 3.68 miles and is about [a] half mile wide at its base.

Throughout the New Deal years, average annual expenditures of the agency totaled \$52 million, prior to 1933 the figure was \$8.9 million."*

Many other projects are covered in depth in this chapter, which makes for interesting reading on this subject.

*Excerpt by Bee Hodges from The New Deal and the West, Richard Lowitt, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman & London, 1984, pages 81-99.

Ed. Note: Lowitt's Bibliographical Notes in *The New Deal and the West* list more sources covering the "plight of agricultural workers... among the better studies which discuss the tense situations that developed in the 1930's are Cary McWilliams, *Factories in the Field*, (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1939) ; *Bitter Harvest: a History of California Farm Workers, 1870-1941* (Ithaca, N.Y. : Cornell University Press, 1981); *Unwanted Mexican Americans in the Great Depression* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1974) which explores the plight of over 400,000 people who (although 60% were legal American citizens) were deported from Southern California as their labor was no longer needed owing to the arrival of migratory families from the Dust Bowl and other depressed agricultural areas. D.H. Dinwoodie, "Deportation: The Immigration Service and the Chicano Labor Movement in the 1930's," *New Mexico Historical Review* 52 (1977) complements Hoffman's study. *Boxcar In the Sand* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1957) reflects a different perspective. John Steinbeck, "Their Blood is Strong," published as a pamphlet in 1938, reprinted in Warren French, ed., *A Companion to "The Grapes of Wrath"* (New York: Viking Press, 1963) is an excellent incisive essay on migratory labor that appeared a year before the author's famous novel. Robert de Roos, *The Thirsty Land: The Story of the Central Valley Project* (Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Univ. Press, 1948) is a more general account, [and] one that provides a basic introduction to the project and its problems."**

** Above literary sources quoted from pages 275 and 276 of Lowitt Notes.

“After a decade of frenzied stock market speculation, the bubble burst. On October 24, 1929, “Black Thursday” came the first great crash on Wall Street, followed by a series of secondary shocks, and then a long, sickening slide toward a national depression. The market took its worst beating on October 29. The effect rippled away from New York deep in to the hinterlands of the country, shutting down banks and putting companies out of business, until twenty million Americans found themselves unemployed, about 16 per cent of the entire U.S. population. The 1930's saw horrendous working conditions in the California fields. The depression coincided with a severe drought in the Great Plains states, which baked the overworked soil into a giant “dust bowl.” White farmers from those regions, especially Oklahoma, loaded their possessions into jalopies and fled to California, hoping to serve as migrant farm workers, crowding into squalid shacks in private labor camps where they were treated almost like slaves. Most Chinese were able to avoid these up-

heavals in rural California. By the 1930's they were largely concentrated in major cities, usually in their own...segregated neighborhoods and ...largely self-sufficient. This is not to say, however, that they did not feel the impact of the depression. As growing numbers of white Americans were thrown out of work, there was less money to pay for services the Chinese provided, such as restaurant dining or laundry. As money grew tighter, Chinese families, like millions of white families, had to make do with less. ‘I remember wearing sneakers with holes in them,’ Lillian Louie said of her New York Chinatown childhood. She would patch the shoes with cardboard and not tell her parents. ‘We didn’t want to bother them, you know, they had enough to do. They worked so hard.’ As the decade progressed, the United States passed emergency legislation to combat the effects of the Great Depression. When Franklin D. Roosevelt entered the White House in 1933, he inaugurated, under an agenda known as the New Deal, a flurry of federal programs to regulate banks, initiate public projects, and put the unemployed to work. (cont'd. pg. 9)

Some programs benefited ethnic Chinese by giving them government jobs and financial assistance. By 1935, 18 percent of the Chinese in San Francisco were receiving government aid. The number was lower than for the general American population (22 percent), because many Chinese refused to participate in these programs, scorning them as charity. 'During the Depression, I'd see these people taking canned goods [home] from school,' recalled Mark Wong, an American-born Chinese in San Francisco. 'And my dad refused. He told me simply, 'You're not going to bring back any canned goods back here, period.' I think the pride of the Chinese is very strong. We're not going to accept food from anybody even to feed ourselves, even when we're eating less.'***

*** Excerpt by Bee Hodges from The Chinese in America, Iris Chang, Penguin Books, 2004.

“During the Depression and Dust Bowl years, many [prairie] farmers...couldn't pay their taxes and lost their farms. Janet Martin, 98, remembers it well. "It was terrible. The drought lasted 10 years. And grasshoppers. So many grasshoppers. The air was full of them. My Uncle John had 18 quarters of land. And you put all the seed out and paid the hired man and bought the gas for the tractor. You put in a lot of money. And got no return. Of 18 quarters, he saved just 7. One section he had to sell for taxes for \$2,800. A whole section. I felt awful bad. We had no money. We couldn't save it. Yep, those were the years." [And on the same page] "Gebhart Bauer feels

1934 was the worst year...It just blew, and the dust got so bad you'd have to put lamps on to see inside the house. It got that bad. God, it was awful. We planted trees on the farm that year and carried water by hand. A 5-gallon bucket in each hole. Otherwise the tree woulda died right there. A lot of the windbreaks you see nowadays got planted then. And you can still see mounds in the fields where dust buried an old fence line.

[The locusts] were big fellows, with black in their wings. They flew almost like little sparrows. Alfalfa fields that had a little growth on them—maybe 6, 8 inches—when those grasshoppers finished, it was eaten right down to the ground. Nothing left.”****

****Above briefly excerpted by Bee Hodges from Trees, Why Do You Wait?, America's Changing Rural Culture, Richard Critchfield, Island Press, Washington, D.C., 1991, pages 56 & 57.

Why do you listen, trees?
Why do you wait?
Why do you fumble at the breeze—
Gesticulate
With hopeless fluttering hands—
Stare down the vanished road beyond the gate
That now no longer stands?
Why do you wait?
Trees—
Why do you listen, trees?

—Archibald MacLeish,, (*New and Collected Poems, 1917-1982*)

*****Ibid.

In keeping with the Great Depression Exhibit opening at the IOOF Historic Hall I found a few recipes from that time period. Biscuits and gravy were an inexpensive way to stretch a meal and could accompany breakfast or dinner.

Baking Powder Biscuits

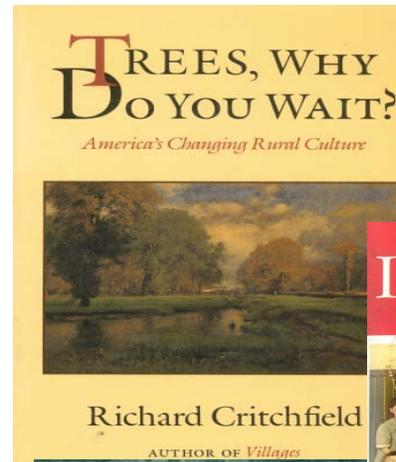
2 C. Flour, sifted
½ C. Shortening
½ tsp. Salt
2 tsp. Baking powder
Cold water. Cut shortening into flour with two knives or a crust mixer. (It is important that hands touch the mixture as little as possible.) Add salt and baking powder and continue until thoroughly mixed. Add ice-cold water little by little, mixing with an implement until proper consistency is reached. Handling as little as possible, spread out for cutting into biscuit size and place in greased pan. Top each biscuit with a dab of butter or swab with milk to insure a good rich brown. Bake at 350°-400° 12 to 15 minutes, depending on your oven.

Pan Gravy (Also called Country Gravy by many)

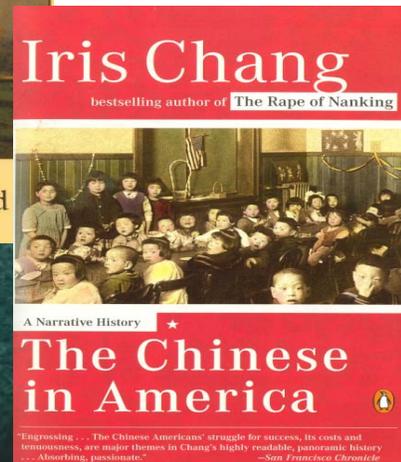
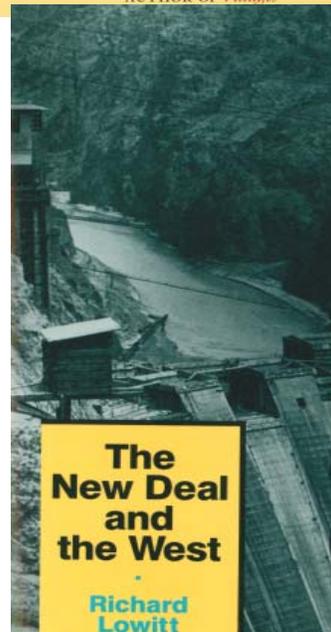
After cooking meat, such as bacon or whatever, remove meat from skillet. To the drippings, add 2 T. flour and stir until flour is brown. Add milk slowly, stirring constantly. Add meat or serve over biscuits or separately.

Excerpted by **Berneda Cochran** from "One Mother's Favorite Recipes with Historical Anecdotes of the Depression & WW11 Eras", Compiled by Phyllis Pennebaker Gross, available in the Patricia Loomis Library.

The material in the column this month comes from our Patricia Loomis History Library and Resource Center. Please visit the Library, there are wonderful books there to read covering numerous subjects in the West, and of course, material on our South County pioneers and issues.



Ed. Note: The three books quoted in "Patterns of the Past", and available in the Patricia Loomis Library.





Community Relations, Publicity and Web News ~ May 2007

From the Desk of Vivian Krug



Arroyo Grande in Bloom Committee Members America in Bloom Judges at Heritage Garden luncheon. From L to R, Kevin Rocha, Jim Bergman, Kristen Barneich, Bob Lund, Diane Clasen (judge from America in Bloom) Marlene Robinson, Mary Giambalvo, Jane Line, Vivian Krug, Karen Franck, Jim Corfield (judge from American in Bloom), Judith Bean, Linda Shephard, Tom Parsons.

In The News

Arroyo Grande in Bloom Recently the Historical Society has received a significant amount of press regarding our involvement with the Arroyo Grande in Bloom project here in the City.

Arroyo Grande in Bloom is the local organization formed with members from many local businesses, individuals and organizations such as the Historical Society to compete in the National America in Bloom Competition as well as to participate in the ongoing efforts to beautify, enhance as well as preserve the historical heritage of Arroyo Grande.

One of the eight criteria for the America in Bloom competition is “Heritage” which falls directly into the hands of the Historical Society.

Many of our Historical Society Members have been involved with both the Arroyo Grande in Bloom Committee as well as the committees formed by the Historical Society to participate in the competition and preparation for the visiting judges.

(Right—photo of the winning Huffine garden)

Arroyo Grande was the first city of the year in the United States to be judged by the America in Bloom judges. Judges Diane Clasen and Jim Corfield arrived in Arroyo Grande on Sunday, May 6th. On Monday and Tuesday they toured the entire city from our city’s parks to individual resident’s homes. One of their stops was at the home of Society members **Ken and Carolyn Huffine**, whose garden was one of the winners of the of Arroyo Grande in Bloom’s honors of “Garden of Distinction”.



On Monday, the judges along with members of the Arroyo Grande in Bloom Committee, Historical Society in Bloom Volunteers, Village Improvement Association, and City Council and Staff, were treated to a Garden Luncheon hosted by the Historical Society and the Arroyo Grande Parks and Recreation Department.

In made to order weather and after everyone had a chance to finish mingling and had enjoyed a feast made for kings, the judges were given a tour of the Historical Society Museums and Heritage Square. **Jan Scott** led the judges on a tour which began in the Heritage House, to the Barn and ending with the School House.

“I thought I had reached heaven”, southwestern Ohio’s Diane Clasen said upon arrival in Arroyo Grande to local reporter, Josh Petray. Diane Clasen noted that she didn’t feel far from home in Arroyo Grande, coming from a small town, Mason, Ohio, which had a population of 5,000 in 1980 and currently has approximately 25,000.

The judges left on the morning of the 9th and headed for the second city to be judged: Forest Park, Ohio. Arroyo Grande is competing against Forest Park, Ohio, Frankfort, Indiana and RedWing, Minnesota.

When the judges arrived back to their homes in the southwest, we received the following note from them: *“Individually and collectively, your efforts to pull together Arroyo Grande’s many rich programs are to be complimented. Beyond that, we sincerely appreciate your warm hospitality and friendly reception during our brief visit. Keep up the good work. We’d love to see you all again”!* Diane Clasen and Jim Corfield.



(continued on next page)

(continued from page 10—Community Relations, Publicity)

Winning cities will be announced in late September. For more information on the Arroyo Grande in Bloom project, visit www.ArroyoGrandeInBloom.org.

Events

The Arroyo Grande Summer Concert Series on Nelson Green is set to begin on June 10 with nine concerts throughout the summer including the 4th of July concert. Once again, the Village Improvement Association has offered the Historical Society the fundraising opportunity to sell Hot Dogs, Popcorn and Lemonade to the concertgoers for the benefit of the Society. If you would like to help at the hot dog and popcorn stand, contact **Jim Dickens** at jimsteph_dickens@sbcglobal.net.

At each concert a local nonprofit group is showcased, and a small donation made to that group. This year the Society has been chosen as one of the seven nonprofit groups to receive recognition and small donation. Donations are from sales of ice cream by Doc Burnstein's Ice Cream Lab. The Historical Society will be the showcased nonprofit group on July 14th. Mark your calendars and come support your Society on July 14th as well as the other concert dates which are June 10th, June 24th, July 4th, July 15th, July 29th, August 12th, August 26th, September 9th and September 23rd.

The Strawberry Festival Don't forget the winning entries will be highlighted in next year's Strawberry Festival Cookbook, produced by Society Member Teri Kelly Nixon, and published by the Village Improvement Association for the benefit of the Historical Society. Book proceeds are donated to the Historical Society each year. The cookbook for the prizewinning 2006 recipes are available for purchase at \$10.00 through the Heritage House Museum.

Web Notes, Stats and more Events

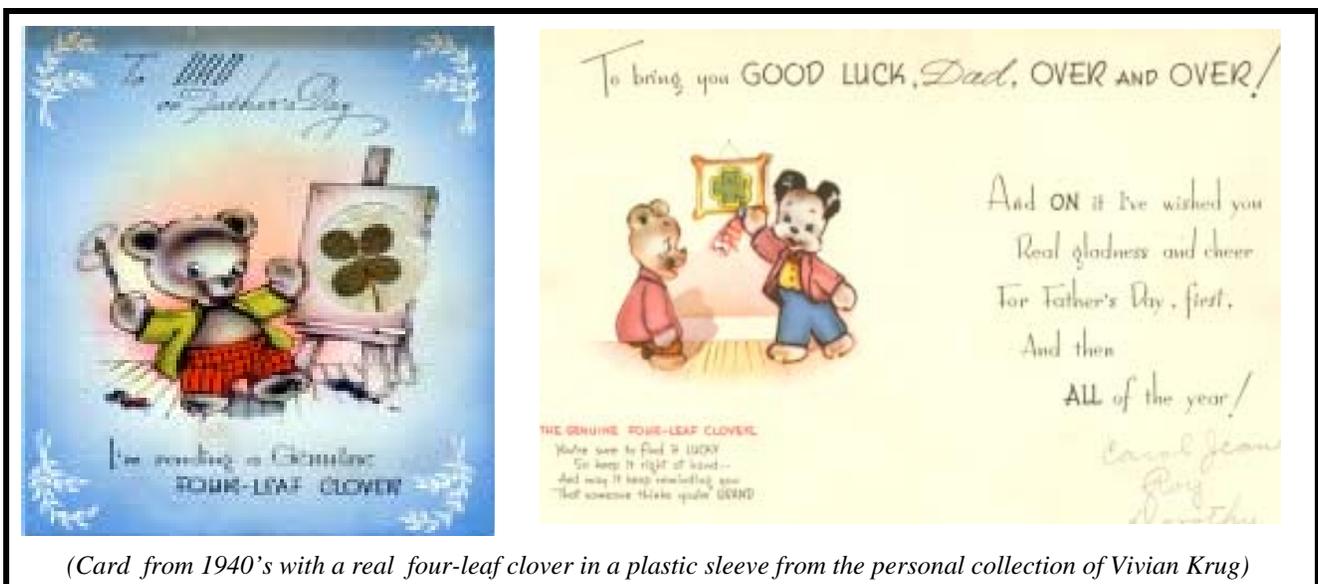
As our web site grows we see more visitors. Since January 1st we've had 8,422 visitors. Among recent additions to our web pages is the Announcement and Schedule of our **Exhibit Series opening at the IOOF Historic Hall beginning May 19th**. Think about sending the Historical society link to all your friends. It's a great way for people to get acquainted with the Historical Society and let them know all the exciting new events and things going on in our Society. Also available on our site are archives of every newsletter published since 2005. So, send your Society link, www.SouthCountyHistory.org to all your friends.

Contact Me

If you want to participate in any of our upcoming events or have information I can use for publicity or on our website, I'm easy to reach by phone 458-3321 or email Vivian@EmotionsCards.com. Also, don't forget, I need your help! Please send me any clippings from our local newspapers, magazines and other publications *other* than the Tribune, TPR and Coast News. We need your eyes for the rest.

Stay connected! Viv

*"THINKING OF YOU WISHES" were sent to:
Lia Kalpakov, Mr. and Mrs. G. Rossi, Dee Trybom,
Jean & Payton Bryan, Mr. & Mrs. J. Costello and Virginia.*



(Card from 1940's with a real four-leaf clover in a plastic sleeve from the personal collection of Vivian Krug)



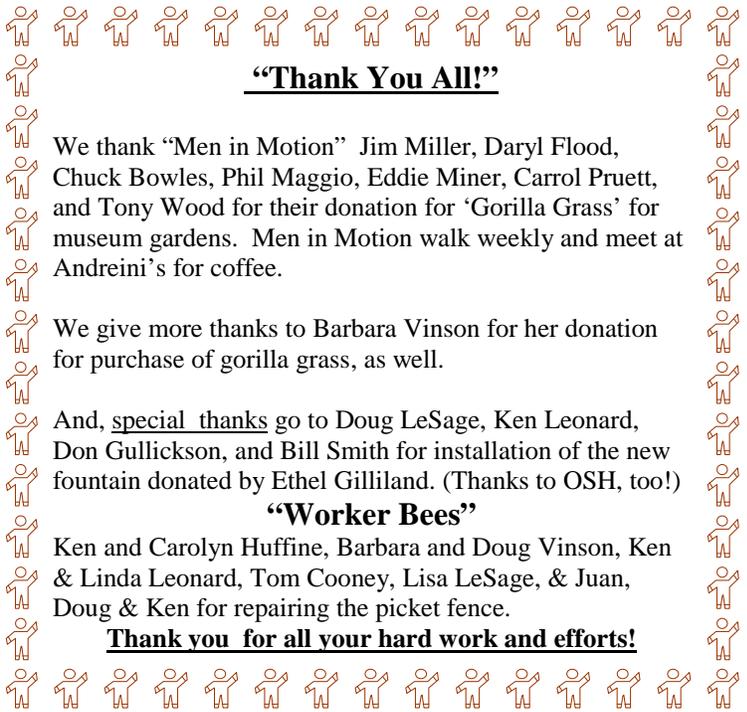
Society Meetings

The Board meets on the
3rd Wednesday
Members are Welcome

Join us at the **Charter Day**
Barbeque, June 10th, 12-4 p.m.

There will be **no** General Meeting,
June, July & August.

Board Meeting resumes on
August 15, 2007



“Thank You All!”

We thank “Men in Motion” Jim Miller, Daryl Flood, Chuck Bowles, Phil Maggio, Eddie Miner, Carrol Pruet, and Tony Wood for their donation for ‘Gorilla Grass’ for museum gardens. Men in Motion walk weekly and meet at Andreini’s for coffee.

We give more thanks to Barbara Vinson for her donation for purchase of gorilla grass, as well.

And, special thanks go to Doug LeSage, Ken Leonard, Don Gullickson, and Bill Smith for installation of the new fountain donated by Ethel Gilliland. (Thanks to OSH, too!)

“Worker Bees”

Ken and Carolyn Huffine, Barbara and Doug Vinson, Ken & Linda Leonard, Tom Cooney, Lisa LeSage, & Juan, Doug & Ken for repairing the picket fence.

Thank you for all your hard work and efforts!

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