



Rancho Bernardo Historical Society Newsletter



Volume XII, Issue 1

11th Annual Pancake Festival Coming to Webb Lake Park

Join us Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, from 8 am - 11am, for our fun-filled Pancake Festival and the annual Veterans Memorial Ceremony at Webb Lake Park.

Lively Dixieland music will entertain us while friends and families enjoy delicious pancakes, sausage, fruit, yogurt, juice, and coffee. Children will enjoy decorating paper hats with red, white and blue stickers and glitter, and having their faces painted. A \$20 donation will provide the opportunity to paint a ceramic tile, which will be glazed and fired, then mounted on our permanent tile mural wall outside the RB History Museum. A vintage silver Native American turquoise cuff bracelet awaits the lucky door prize winner, as well as tables full of fabulous raffle prizes including an overnight stay at the Rancho Bernardo Inn!

Tickets are \$7 - FREE to veterans, active military, and children under age 3 - and may be purchased in advance at the Museum or at the breakfast. Pancake breakfast served from 8 am - 10:45 am. Veterans Memorial Ceremony at 11 am. If you would like to be a sponsor for this outstanding event, please visit our website for more information. www.RBHistoricalSociety.org





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RANCHO BERNARDO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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non-profit organization
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RB HISTORY MUSEUM

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President's Corner

By Nancy Canfield

The Rancho Bernardo Historical Society has launched another great year with the help of its extraordinary team! John Boaz, Museum Director, will share the tremendous growth in the museum, below, but I wish to thank John for his leadership!

Jane Harmon, for the eleventh year in a row, is busy spearheading our annual Pancake Festival, and this year, with a major addition. We have moved our Pancake Festival over to Webb Park, next to the annual VFW Post 7766 annual Memorial Day presentation. The VFW's stated goals, "common with the national organization, were for the assurance of veterans' benefits, family aid, participation in community activities and fostering work with area youth to promote patriotism."

As our Pancake Festival has always had as its theme to honor those who have served and given their lives for America, this joint venture seemed a natural pairing. From the first year, we have had a Wall of Honor comprised of photos people brought to the Pancake Festival, or to the museum throughout the year, and we have scanned into the permanent exhibit. Please visit us there and share our respect and gratitude. Remember, all active military are served breakfast for free, as our guests to say, "Thank you" to all of those who have, and still, serve.

Director's Message

By John Boaz

My first effort in coming on board as Museum Director was to meet individually with each of the Society's board members, staff members, and docents. My objective was to get to know them better and learn more about their contributions to the museum and also to hear their hopes and concerns for the museum. The result of this was to develop a set of priorities for 2016 with a focus on long range planning.

One result has been the formation of an exhibits committee to review exhibits in the museum and recommend improvement and upgrades. Fred Gahm, Rich Thorpe, Tom Cook, Raenell Hooten, and others have contributed to this initiative. An inventory of exhibits is complete and the review is ongoing.

Owing substantially to the work as Treasurer of our late friend and colleague, Ralph Parris, the museum has enhanced and honed its financial policies and procedures while improving budgetary reporting to the board. Credit on this process also goes to our president, Nancy Canfield, and our bookkeeper, Kathy Miller.

We are pleased to have Shelley Charlesworth helping with educational outreach. Shelley, a retired elementary teacher in the Escondido school district, has steeped herself in Kumeyaay culture with the aim of sharing that culture, that part of our history with third graders in this area.

Fred Gahm, our website coordinator, has formed a team including, Ted Oatway (a new board member and IT expert), and others including myself to consider ways to enhance the Society's website. This new team met just recently to develop a plan of action.

As the excitement grows in anticipation of the completion of the mud wagon replica Rich Thorpe has been spearheading, the board of the Society enthusiastically put forth Rich as its nominee and representative in the annual RB Hats Off to Volunteers recognition ceremony. Rich's work on the mud wagon has been huge. His kudos are well deserved.

Again, I encourage you to step forward if you have a love of history and talents and skills that can contribute to the mission of the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society.

Mud Wagon Update

PAINTING OUR WAGON

By Richard Thorpe

After weeks of sanding, prepping, and priming by the build crew, the RB Mud wagon is finally painted! We searched high and low for a commercial shop to do an authentic oil-based paint job, without success. Then Allan Schmidt, owner of Horseless Carriage Restoration on Highland Valley Road, happened to stop by the Grape Day Wheelwright Shop. Impressed by the efforts of the volunteer wagon painters, Allan offered to apply the top coats in his state-of-the-art spray booth (required by air quality regulations).

The timing was perfect, as we just finished priming the undercarriage (“running gear”). In a short while Allan delivered a stunningly bright yellow product, like something you’d see right out of a school bus factory! A few weeks later, he finished the body and canopy. They’re equally impressive, the color and finish of a burgundy candied apple. We are so



fortunate that Allan stepped in to help with this critical phase of the project.

After patiently waiting over a year, pin striper extraordinaire Jim Fratis now has started striping and lettering. The final steps will be to reassemble the wagon and install commercial upholstery, canopy canvas, and leather “boot” covers.

Look for the RB Mud Wagon at this year’s RB Alive! event and the Spirit of the 4th Parade in Rancho Bernardo. We’ll have a special “roll out” event in July when it has been put on display at the RB History Museum.

Thanks to Our Dedicated Volunteers

By Nancy Canfield

For every person you see in an organization, there are usually a legion of dedicated folks who are turning the wheels. At this time, I would like to thank some of our current museum volunteers (listed) who keep the museum running at various levels, as well as those who have served the past.

Shelly Charlesworth, Education

Sally Edwards, Membership, Office Mgr.

Sue Engelskirchen, Docent 2015

Jane Harmon, Friends of the Museum

Raenell Hooten, Board Member and Docent

Marge LaGrone, Archives, Docent since 2005

Margarita Logan, Archives, Docent, 2009

Sandy Parkington, Docent, 2015

Peggy Rossi, Collections Mgr./Archives since 2005

Vincent Rossi, Speaker Series Coord., Docent, Past Board 2011

Richard Thorpe, Board Member, Mudwagon Coord.

Judy Schlotman, Archives, 2014

Janet/Harold Swaisgood, Docents 2011

Carol Gahm, Board Member, Docent, Hospitality Coord and Merchandise Sales

Fred Gahm, Board Member, Docent, Website, Museum Maintenance

We always need more help and invite you to join our Friends of the Museum, either in the museum for as little as an hour a week, or to assist at our events and activities. Please contact Jane Harmon if you want to join.

Big thanks and sad farewell to Karen Rott (first row, second from right in picture) for her ten years of dedication to the Society, including three years as President! Family needs increased, and volunteer work has to shift, at least temporarily. Karen made so many contributions it would be hard to categorize them, but a few big ones were the inception of the RB Tastings, a major fundraiser for five years until it became too large for us to manage! The renovation of an old bunk house, which we are now proud to call our History Museum – and helping to raise the funds that made it possible! We will miss you Karen, and we so appreciate all your hard work and dedication! Wishing you the best in this next chapter of growth in your family’s life!



A few of our volunteers posed for this photo in 2013. Many of them shown here are still volunteers today while others have moved on to other things.



Historic Rancho Bernardo

A ROUND-UP OF STORIES AND NEWS FROM THE RB HISTORY MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Spring 2016

New Items in our RB History Collection

Our museum collection continues to grow. Last August we received a large donation of documents from the former Rancho Bernardo Community Library Association. They were the folks who worked tirelessly, from 1990 to 1996, to bring

about the beautiful library we have today. Thank you to Richard Luehring who facilitated getting this material to us.

We have four very full boxes of materials which include scrap-books, minutes, planning documents, photographs, fund-raising plans and reports.

We are still working on cataloguing everything.

It will be 20 years this June since our current library opened to the public.

Congratulations to those who made the

library possible and a big thank you to all the library staff over those 20 years and to the Friends of the Library for their support and hard work, as well.

Our own museum library expands almost every month. We now have 212 items in the library which is available to the public anytime the museum is open or by appointment. (Museum library books do not circulate.) New items received for the library since the last newsletter include:

Dictionary of California's Place Names; Dictionary of San Diego County Place Names; History of the Californios; Timeline of California History, Its Constitution and Selected Legal Documents; Story of Southern California in Transition; A

Comprehensive Account of the California Grizzly Bear (donated by Zita Sulzberger).

The Story of the De Jong Family of San Diego County as told to Claudia Aragon (donated by Claudia Aragon and the De Jong family).

Cookbook from the 3rd Annual Jewish Food Festival at Adat Shalom (donated by Peggy Rossi).

The Story of Lilian Rice, Architect of Santa Fe (museum purchase).

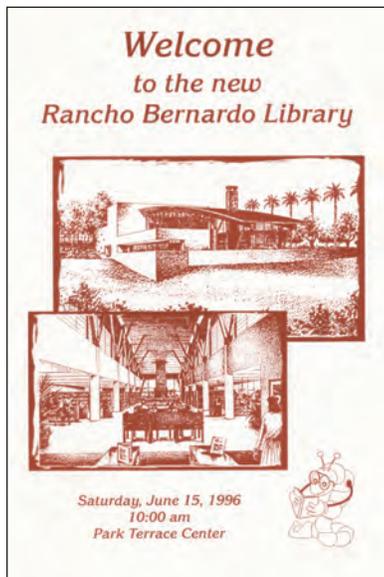
Other items we have received are: black and white photographs (123) from the Phillips-Ramsey Advertising Agency showing set up for a promotional photograph that appeared on the cover of the January 1976 *Bernardo Brandings* (donated by Marguerite Picou); and Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Reports from 1966 and 1970 (donated by Zita Sulzberger).

Taking Care of History

When community members donate items to our historic museum collection, we take our responsibility for them very seriously. Part of our mission as a historical society is to preserve RB history. We have a group of dedicated volunteers who come regularly to help organize and care for our historical items. We can always use new volunteers to help with these efforts. Training is available, and the archives "crew" would love to have you join us. Call Peggy Rossi at 858-592-9360.

Can one box cost \$25? Yes, when it's an archival box.

Recently we received a very large collection of rolled architectural and landscape drawings. They require special elongated acid-free boxes to protect them. Each box costs between \$21 and \$25 each. Small objects require acid-free tissue to wrap them. Photographs need plastic sleeves to protect them from scratches and so on. Please consider making a financial donation to our archives. Whether it's for one box or ten, we will send our heartfelt thanks and so will RB history!

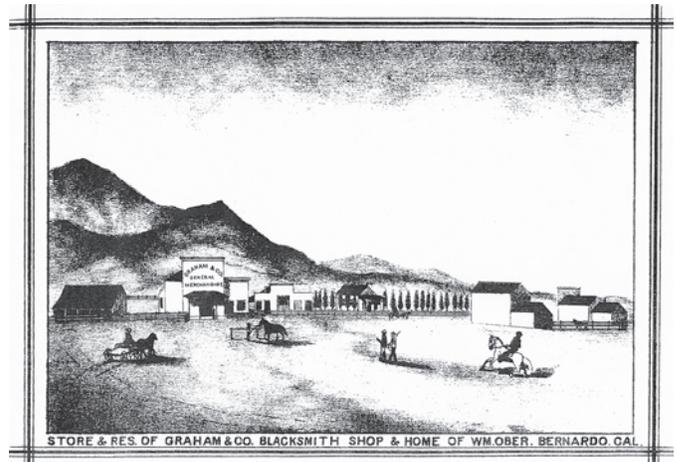


Program from the library dedication on June 15, 1996. Among the special guests listed were Susan Golding, Mayor; Jan Goldsmith, State Assembly; Barbara Warden, Councilmember 5th District and Jim Abbott, President of the RBCLA.

The People of Bernardo

RB residents have always come from all over and that was just as true in 1880 when the little town of Bernardo, which was located at the base of Mule Hill, was populated. Here is a list of the heads of household who lived there when the US conducted the 1880 census on June 16-17. The list includes their occupation, age and birth place. Only some lived in the town itself; others lived on nearby ranches. And, of course, there were spouses, children, employees and boarders living in these households. All together there were 103 people enumerated in the 1880 census in Bernardo.

John Watson, apiarist, 65, Scotland
Benjamin J. Cook, farmer, 53, Ireland
Wm. H. Swane, farmer, 42, Ohio
Willard J. Whitney, farmer, 49, Pennsylvania
Edward Broadbelt, farmer, 47, England
Hobert Case, farmer, 44, Connecticut
James W. Leonard, apiarist, 44, Maryland
Walter Sherman, brick mason, 51, New York
Herman Hubling, farmer, 69, Prussia
Walter C. Hinman, wheelwright, 33, New York
Patrick A. Graham, merchant, 34, Ireland
William Ober, blacksmith, 38, Pennsylvania
Geo. Wicks, farmer, 36, Canada
Ignatius Ferlin, farmer, 36, Austria
Alexander Smith, farmer, 50, Iowa



Augustus Cravath, farmer, 27, Ohio
James E. Cassidy, farmer, 39, Canada
Henry A. Sikes, farmer, 22, Michigan
James P. Jones, apiarist, 44, Maine
John Noble, farmer, 65, Virginia
J. W. McFalridge, teamster, 31, Indiana
David T. Oaks, farmer, 21, California
Zenas Sikes, farmer, 47, Massachusetts
Elijah (?) F. McKenny, farmer, 67, New York
George Ballard, brick layer, 50, England
John Wolfskill, farmer, 43, Missouri
William Gist, farmer, 50, Wisconsin
Juan Anselmo, sheep raiser, 35, France
Peter Cassou, farmer, 38, France

What's in our Museum Collection?

Soon you will be able to find out. We are beginning a project to bring our museum collection catalog online. We have purchased a program called PastPerfect Online which will allow us to add a link on our website to our catalogued collection, including our scanned photograph collection. We have at this time 2,778 photographs in that collection which we plan to place online by the end of the year. A big thank you goes out to volunteers Ted Oatway and Sally Edwards who scanned these photos. They range from old stagecoach images to recent snapshots. While we don't have a date set for going "live" with all this — it will take some time to get it set up — we will send out an e-blast when the time comes.

50 Years Ago in RB

Clubs were an integral part of life in the new RB community, and a popular one was the RB Drama Club. In 1966, there were 215 members in the club, according to a short article in the *Bernardo Brandings*.

The Drama Club held a play-writing contest among its members that year, and there were two winners. One was Louis Brendel who wrote a sea-going play. The second winner was Mrs. Carlton Browning who "wrote a comedy concerning a woman who plans to run for president of the United States and her poor badgered husband whom she has made her campaign manager." In 1966, we suspect the idea of a woman running for president wasn't taken too seriously. Times have changed!

"Historic Rancho Bernardo" is produced by Peggy Rossi for the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society.



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SPEAKER SERIES POPULARITY GROWS

The Speakers Series continues to draw good crowds, including a number of regular attendees. Among the topics covered have been the San Diego Toy and Doll Museum, Ramona's historic Town Hall, Lillian Rice the pioneering woman architect who designed Rancho Santa Fe, and the history of gem mining in San Diego County.

May 14, David Toler, member of the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians, who will be talking about his new book, *Blood of the Band: An Ipai Family Story*.

June 11, Vincent Rossi, will be presenting a talk about *Picturesque San Diego*, an 1887 book offering a look back at our county in words and pictures.

Other speakers signed up so far include representatives from Los Californianos and the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier Museum. Details will be available on the website as we get closer to event dates.

To see videos of past talks visit www.YouTube.com and search for RB Historical Society.

THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS

2015 Pancake Festival

Platinum

- Windermere Homes & Estates

Gold

- The Remington Club

Silver

- First American Trust
- The George Cooke Team

Bronze

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- Nancy Canfield
- Nancy Layne
- Ralphs 4S Ranch
- Rancho Bernardo Kiwanis Club

2015 Tastings Festival

Platinum

- Windermere Homes & Estates

Gold

- Lexus Escondido
- The Remington Club

Silver

- First American Trust
- The George Cooke Team

Bronze

- Casa de las Campanas
- Greenway Lawn Aeration
- Maritime Museum of San Diego
- Point Loma Credit Union
- Valley View Casino

Special Thanks

- Barons Market
- Haggen Food & Pharmacy
- Nancy Canfield
- Poway Transmissions



VOLUNTEER WITH US

Become a Museum Docent

Contact:

Jane Harmon at 858.775.5788