Memorial Day Celebration

Pancake Festival

Sponsored by Rancho Bernardo Historical Society

Wear your Red, White & Blue!

Saturday, May 29
8 am — Noon
Bernardo Winery
13330 Paseo del Verano Norte

Tickets $6
Age 3 and under free

Live Music by The Dixie Strutters

Door & Raffle Prizes

FREE
Children’s Activities
Bounce House & Balloons

Grandma Hugs
Yummy Pancakes
Honor Our Vets

Buy your tickets at the event or at the RB History Museum on Tues or Fri am or Sun pm

Thanks to our corporate sponsors!

Coldstone Creamery Rancho Bernardo
Ralph’s fresh fare at 4-S Ranch
Cabernet Jewelers
In the Bernardo Winery
RB Kiwanis Club—our wonderful chefs

www.rbhistoricalsociety.org

Honoring Bob Watson,
retired Navy, recipient of the Purple Heart and French Legion of Honor

Bring military photos to be scanned for placement on the RBHS Museum Military Wall of Honor
U.S. Military & Veterans in uniform or with a photo in uniform

EAT FREE TODAY

www.RBHistoricalSociety.org
Things are Hopping!
By Nancy Canfield, President

Things are hopping with the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society (RBHS). I hardly know where to begin…well, chronologically makes sense. Third annual Antique Fair

On April 15, while others were thinking about filing their taxes, or packaging a million meals, nearly 100 RB antique and collectible owners brought their treasures to Casa de las Campanas, for our third annual Antique Fair. Casa made it an especially successful event, and provided coffee and snacks. Tom Cook was on hand to fill the time between appointments with the history of RB that is visible through the capacious windows of Casa de las Campanas. Strolling through the crowds were our ladies in Victorian dress, answering questions about costumes before and after the turn of the century.

Each time we host this event we find we could have kept double the appraisers busy and identified the history and value of twice as many treasures. We hear you. We’ll keep growing to meet your demand! Thanks a million to our friends and supporters of the RB Historical Society!

Clop, Clop, Clop into History

Elsewhere in this issue, Tom Cook will instruct you about the historic wagon tours he has put together with Sikes Adobe. Enroute, you’ll learn of historic spots in RB’s history: Battle Mountain, Mule Hill, the original town of Bernardo, and more – plus their significance. For just $10, $5 for kids, you’ll clop, clop back through time behind two Belgium beauties, in a mud wagon, under the sun. Then you’ll tour the Sikes Adobe farmhouse, being rebuilt again after the refurbished museum was burned up in the Witchcreek fires.

Imagine! As you amble along, you become oblivious to the golf course nearby, the mall, the traffic, for all of your attention is focused on the docent’s voice. By the time the ride is over, you have a sense of oneness with your own place in the history of Rancho Bernardo. And if you’re lucky, you’ll spot a mule deer in the field, as we did on our first ride. Call Tom Cook for questions or reservations at 487-5088, you’ll be glad you did!

Community Meeting – What’s Happening at RBHS?
By Vince Rossi

The speaker for the April RBHS Community Meeting was Bob Lerner, historian with the Valley Center History Museum. Bob’s subject was Valley Center’s Hollywood connection: the remarkable number of film and television celebrities who had homes in the community for at least some portion of their lives. The roster of entertainment notables includes John Wayne, Fred Astaire, Jack Haley (the “Tin Man” from “The Wizard of Oz”) June Allyson and husband Dick Powell, Merle Oberon and Randolph Scott.

Bob delighted the crowd with stories from his museum’s archives about stars like Steve Reeves, who gained fame as “Hercules,” and Kirby Grant, who starred as “Sky King,” the crime-fighting “flying cowboy” on a Saturday morning TV show in the 1950s and 60s.

We thank Bob for sharing some of these stories, and invite anyone who wants to learn more to visit the Valley Center History Museum at 29200 Cole Grade Road.

Call 760-749-2993 for hours or visit their website at www.valleycenterhistory.org
The Spirit of ‘45 Campaign
By Linda Laurie

The Spirit of ‘45 Campaign is a project to raise awareness that this year, on August 14, marks the 65th anniversary of the end of WWII. The coalition of partners all over the nation are working towards three goals: first to have congress approve a day on the calendar where the greatest generation will be forever remembered for their service and sacrifices. (The bill, HR 220, is on the congress floor now! We are hoping the president will sign the bill by Memorial Day!)

Secondly, we are encouraging groups, i.e. historical societies, assisted living facilities, senior groups, museums, etc. to hold some kind of “event” to commemorate the day. Many people will be having open houses and inviting the community to join them for some 1940’s music, light refreshments and maybe some dancing; others are going to greater lengths to celebrate the day.

Last but not least, we are asking everyone who remembers August 14, 1945 to PLEASE go to www.spiritof45.org and submit their story. It is a “fill in the blanks process, very simple.” We also encourage the storytellers to scan a picture of themselves from the 40’s to be shown with their story. Seniors are encouraged to tell their story to a young person who would then enter the story onto the computer for them. We want this to be an inter generational experience whenever possible.

If you have not been to www.spiritof45.org, I encourage you to visit. You can see some of the stories that have already started to come in. You can read Edith Shain’s story about her and the sailor in Times Square!

How can people get involved? It’s simple…
1. Write/call/or e-mail your congressman and ask them to support HR 226 to honor the greatest generation.
2. Take part in a social gathering to remember the greatest generation on August 14.
3. Go to www.spiritof45.org and enter your story.
4. If you need some kids to work with you, I may have the answer to that. I have a contact with the RB Lions Club and their Leos “the kids” who are looking for community work. I am going to be talking with Hector Gonzalez about how to best direct the kids. You could possibly have a lovely gathering and with the Lions helping you, it could be a perfect fit for both of you!

The web site changes on a weekly basis, so stay tuned for ideas of what others are doing. We will also be putting together some “event idea pages” on the site. And if you plan to do something, please let me know and I’ll tell our webmaster! If you do a flyer, please let me see it first.

Linda Laurie is the coordinator for the Spirit of 45 in San Diego, so she’d love to be able to tell how many “points of light” we have celebrating on August 14th. Oh…the above picture shows the “Spirit of 45 cake”. Linda has had Albertsons and Costco both make ½ sheet cakes on several occasions.

For more information, please contact Linda Laurie at 858.513.8238.

Letter to Seven Oaks Community Center

Dear Seven Oaks Residents,

The Rancho Bernardo Historical Society would like to thank you for your patience concerning a decision about our proposed museum. The board is in a holding pattern at present, still considering and gathering information on all potential sites. It is a long process, but we owe our donors and members full evaluation of each and every site before we make our choice. We hope that our decision will be made in the next several months. We look forward to the next step and thank you again for your cooperation and patience.

Sincerely,

Nancy Canfield
President RB Historical Society

www.RBHistoricalSociety.org
Report from the Museum Director

By Susan Floyd

Please stop by the museum soon to see the newest exhibit “Home on the Rancho.” Featured is the exciting story of one of the oldest adobe structures in San Diego County, home of the Sikes family. On display are artifacts from the archaeology excavations and the only known photo of one of the Sikes family members. This is a joint exhibit curated by Anne Cooper, Director the Sikes Adobe, Julius Miller of the Palomar College Archaeology Project, Peggy Rossi, graphic artist and myself. It has been a pleasure to work with these colleagues to present this story to the community. The exhibit will transfer to the Sikes Adobe in June in time for their grand re-opening.

Thanks goes to Nancy Thompson and other members of the PEO who organized a colorful and informative exhibit about their organization. Look for a new group to be featured soon.

Increased visitorship at the museum (there were 125 visitors in March!) means there is a demand to have the museum open more hours. We need volunteers for Sunday afternoons and also for First Fridays evenings at the Winery 4-8 pm. To volunteer, please call me at (858) 248-2030.

Our Tuesday volunteers are very busy. A research question came all the way from Illinois via email: A graduate student at San Francisco State spent an afternoon researching the topic of the fires in RB. He will return in June. Our large newspaper collection is being inventoried, and the Topic and People files are being updated.

Finally, our new museum space is serving us well, hosting Board Meetings, planning meetings, a great speaker for our April General Meeting, and a place where the history of Rancho Bernardo is being carefully cared for and displayed. Thanks to all the members for your support in achieving this goal!

Come and Enjoy First Fridays

By Selena Roberts

The First Fridays concept arrived from the desire to take advantage of our beautiful summer evenings. Selected artists, primarily local, are invited to set up a booth randomly in the courtyard to share their artistry with the public. The hours are from 4 to 8 p.m. on the first Friday of every month beginning June 4, 2010 and running through October 1, 2010.

The shops stay open extended hours, and wine tasting is offered until 8 p.m. along with live music on the patio. Mojalet will present a dance performance each evening in the courtyard and Café Merlot will offer a dinner menu. Enjoy iced coffee drinks and specialty pastries from Sweet Pea Coffee Cottage and a visit to the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society Museum located behind the tasting room. Admission is free with ample parking on site.

Hats off to Rancho Bernardo Historical Society Supporters!

By Nancy Canfield

The important thing to remember about history is that it’s always happening. If you were lucky enough to be present on Saturday, April 29, at Webb Park, you watched the first ever “Hats Off to Volunteers” award ceremony take place. The brain child of local area City Councilman Carl DeMaio, over 80 volunteers, representing as many local organizations, were giving proclamations, declarations, and a straw hat identifying them as the contributors they are. The Rancho Bernardo Historical Society could not send its whole board, according to the rules of the event, so they sent its president to “collect” the accolades and bring them back to the much deserving board members.

When you start an organization like the RBHS, you have little more than an idea – and, a passion. Like many trees that take years and years to grow, more than the seed sowers lifetime, the vision becomes reality for others to enjoy. So has the RBHS.

Hats Off to all the past presidents, board members, volunteers over the years and in the present, who have contributed one seed, one drop of water, one grain of soil to bring us to where we are today!
In Memoriam
Geraldine Barrington, member
Alice Holmes, member and docent
Carole McDaniel Gibson, Board of Directors
Tim Mazzoni, member, docent and Board of Directors

From Veronica, Selena and Rossi:
I feel compelled to share some thoughts and wasn’t sure where to begin, so where better to start than to share my first encounters and thoughts of Tim Mizzoni. I had just taken on my position with the Winery and my family when we lost my stepdad, Ross. It was a time of uncertainty for our family, and quite frankly a bit of a fog now. But here was Tim, and there was Tim…in fact, he seemed to be everywhere! Who was this man with the brimmed hat and flip-flops that seemed to appear out of nowhere?! If he wasn’t visiting with a shop owner he was over the shoulder of our grounds crew curious about the work in progress. At first, because I felt watchful eyes on my every move, for a fleeting moment I wondered if he was a private investigator or an undercover city inspector!! He stopped me one day, and told me we were doing a great job and that was the beginning of our friendship and many many conversations.

Tim loved to walk the grounds, attend our events and generally became somewhat of a goodwill ambassador for the Winery and our family. There are no words to express our gratitude for your efforts.

If you go to www.sanpasqual.org you will find the complete results of a 10 year research entitled ‘San Pasqual Battlefield Site Location Project’. A three ring 150-page bound copy has been given to RBHS Museum for study and copying. We can thank Mr. George H. Hruby, project director, Mr. Mike Pique, webmaster and yours truly for this creation and sharing. George’s unique combination of criminal investigative techniques and first-hand knowledge of battlefield interaction greatly augments the techniques used in classic archeological research. His general use of dramatic prose to describe important action makes for interesting reading.

I urge all our Society members to visit the website or peruse the bound report at the museum to better experience what happened in early December of 1846. You can imagine those brave men who fought and died next to the future Town of Bernardo, who marched through the middle of the RB Inn Golf Course, and thru Webb Park in what was to become your town of Rancho Bernardo. You will be richly rewarded for your efforts.

Next Wagon Tour to Historic Sites is May 15
By Tom Cook
By now our members have been informed by e-mail or post card about our hourly scheduled, docent-led open wagon tours at Sikes Adobe. So far we have performed these tours on March 13 and April 17 and they were very successful. Our next tour is scheduled to start on the hour from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Saturday, May 15. The last of the planned tours will be during the Grand Re-opening Ceremony of Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead on June 26.

Here is your chance to experience a docent-led tour of Sikes (1870), Mule Hill Battle site (1846), Town of Bernardo (1872-1917), Stage Road (1820-1870) and blooming wetlands. The fee is $10 for adults and $5 for kids for the hour-long tour. Come and you will be sure to enjoy learning about this bit of history. Call 487-5088 for details.

It Took 10 Years of Effort and We Finally Have It!
By Tom Cook

“History is knowing what happened… Historic Research is to know what is true.”

I am referring to our own Mule Hill located across Lake Hodges just behind the Golf Improvement Center. Many of you have a basic knowledge of what happened there, troops surrounded for three days, forced to eat their mules, Seargent Cox buried, etc. Since the Mule Hill engagement started the day after the big Battle five miles up-valley at San Pasqual, in order to know in any depth what happened requires knowledge of what occurred at both locations. Until now, there have been many different opinions from a wide variety of historians, but little of a research nature has been published. This shortage has now been corrected.
In Memoriam continued from page 5
continued appreciation for that type of friendship. Judy has become a good friend to my mother, Veronica, while she has been on the path to healing from the loss of Ross, and now it will be our opportunity to do the same for you, Judy. I am quite sure Tim was comforted by the fact that you have friends here, and that these gardens would provide a sort of comfort and healing for you, too.

Your husband, dad, grandfather was a special person and we will forever appreciate the friendship and support he offered each of us. He became a familiar face to many here at the Winery, and always offered friendly conversation. He clearly loved people and took an honest interest in those he cared about. That feeling was mutual Tim Mizzoni…

With fond memories of a great man, Cheers!

The Rizzo Family

Farewell Tim Mazzoni – We won’t forget you!

By Nancy Canfield

We would like to take this opportunity to say farewell and thank you to one of our most dedicated docents, historians, and friends, Tim Mazzoni. He wandered into the museum one Saturday morning like a fresh spring breeze, and insinuated himself into everything that needed doing. He was a do-er. To know him was to love him, and to listen to him. A Professor from University of Minnesota, he brought such a broad scope of knowledge with him. He was an asset to our board, to our outreach programs, as a docent in the museum, and what a workhorse! Tim, you’ll be sorely missed and not forgotten.

There is always so much going at the RB Historical Society. If you would like to be a part of it in any way, please contact the museum at (858) 248-2030