Newsletter of the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society

Vol. VI Issue 2 September 2011

Rancho Bernardo Historical Society presents the 1st Annual
RB Tastings Festival
Sponsored by
Belmont Village Senior Living
Bernardo Winery

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Casa de las Campanas • The Remington Club

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Entertainment for your listening pleasure includes:
Blackwater Blues Band
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Tastings from micro breweries include:
Ballast Point Brewing Company
Coronado Brewing Company
New English Brewing Company

Tasting from San Diego County wineries include:
Bernardo Winery
Salerno Winery

Tastings from San Diego’s finest restaurants include:
Café Merlot
Edible Arrangements
Elephant Bar
Jersey Mike’s Subs Rancho Bernardo

Sunday, October 2, 2011
12:00 - 4:00 pm
at the Bernardo Winery • 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte

Tickets: $15 per person; $25 for two/Advance • $20/$35 at gate
*Free logo wine glass per person

Tickets available at:
Belmont Village Senior Living
Café Merlo
RB Historical Society Museum
RE/MAX Associates in the Plaza
Tasting Room at Bernardo Winery
Village Mail and More
www.rbtastings.com

Phone: 858.775.5788 • email: egads26@gmail.com

Entertainment for your listening pleasure
Works of art for sale and on display
Tastings from micro breweries
Tastings from San Diego County wineries
Tastings from San Diego’s finest restaurants

(participating businesses at press time)
Things are Hopping!

By Karen Rott, President

What happened to those "Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer"? It’s as if summer never happened at the RB Historical Society. We kicked off the season with the RB Alive Cultural Center and Spirit of the Fourth Parade. All the while, we greeted a steady stream of visitors, managed almost nonstop remodeling and presented the speaker series to a packed house.

Opening a new front door continues to be an outstanding decision. Visitors wander from the Winery Tasting Room just across the way to our patio and entrance. This one change has more than tripled our visitor numbers. In fact, we have an ever growing need for volunteers to help us. If you would like to join us, please see the insert in this newsletter.

The museum just gets better and better. Frank Auwarter, Tom Cook and Valerie Schmitt, members of the display committee, are diligently working on a display for the 50th Birthday of Rancho Bernardo. I know you will be interested in the new exhibits but don’t want to spoil the surprise. Watch for the unveiling on September 11.

Smile for the camera. We have a new DVR recorder and camera system installed and fully operational. We all owe our thanks to Michael Peccatiello of Video Mechanix who donated the approximately $2,000 worth of equipment. Our thanks also to Fred Gahm without whom none of this would have been possible. I am certain that we all feel much safer with this surveillance.

After five years of waiting, our antique cast iron light poles are installed in front of our Museum with power and lights. We all appreciate the efforts of Tom Cook, Fred Gahm, and Oscar Teel for their effort to get this done.

Under the leadership of Tom Cook, the Tim Mazzoni Memorial Time line is nearing completion. The display will feature historical events of Rancho Bernardo beginning with the Native Period and following through to the current Rancho Bernardo. Consulting on the project have been two archeologists, two museum managers, four local historians and a genealogist plus the board of the RB Historical Society. Getting a consensus from this group has required a herculean effort for which we all should say thanks to Tom for this remarkable project. Watch for the unveiling in the museum soon.

Our Speaker Series continues on November 4 with the always popular Jack Templeton presenting Rancho Bernardo 1982 to Today. We also elect the new board at this annual meeting. Please join us for this important day.

Saving the best for last, on Sunday October 2, the RB Historical Society introduces our first RB Tastings Festival from noon to 4:00 p.m. Spend a delightful day sampling hors d’oeuvres and tasting outstanding wines and beers. You can stroll through Rosario’s Pavilion listening to some great music and watching some exceptional artists. This is a not to be missed day.

We’re Moving Our History Forward,
Karen
Welcome New Members

Larry & Katie Cook  Raenell Hooten  Garry Mac Pherson
Marla Cruz  John & Julie Kreitzer  Joshua & Andreanna Schell
Ben Cueva  Andre & Dorene Lecault  Harold & Janet Swaisgood

We have had very active membership renewals this summer. Thank you to all the current members for your continual support.

To receive informative E newsletters, contact Sue at egads26@gmail.com

New Video Surveillance System

By Fred Gahm

A video surveillance system, consisting of four cameras and recorder, was donated to the RB Historical Society Museum by Michael Peccatiello of Video Mechanix, a local RB resident. There are many valuable/irreplaceable items in the museum, and the system will aid in deterring and documenting any theft or vandalism that might occur. It will also allow office staff to monitor all activity within the museum. Video Mechanix provides Video Surveillance Systems and Audio/Video Control and Distribution Systems for Homes and Businesses throughout Southern California. For more information go to www.videomechanix.com

Traveling Light Poles are Finally Home

By Tom Cook

Many remember when two antique cast iron light poles glowed in front of the long gone Anthony’s restaurant by the lake in Webb Park. It was replaced by the Pearl Chinese restaurant in late 2003. At the time I received a call from Gary Powers who was president of the RB Chamber of Commerce saying the light poles had been scrapped!

I searched and finally found them in a scrap metal junk yard in Escondido. Yes, they had the famous “junk yard dog.” With a truck from the Bernardo Winery, three day laborers, a $50 tip to the owner and a smile to the dog, we got them to the Winery in front of our first museum. With lights, globes and total rewiring by our own Oscar Teel, we were ready to go.

After seven years our wait is over. Both poles are now hooked up in the front yard of the museum waiting for a dark night to glow.
Happy Birthday RB - 50 Years  
By Frank Auwarter

In September the museum will mount an exhibit honoring Rancho Bernardo’s fiftieth anniversary. Fifty years ago, in November 1961, the newly formed Rancho Bernardo Corporation purchased 5,400 acres of open ranch land north of San Diego for the development of one of the first planned communities in the United States. The master plan contemplated a fully functional community conducive to harmonious living. There would be a variety of housing for persons of all ages, churches, schools, parks, retail stores, a branch library, a fire house, and an industrial park. The plan also emphasized outdoor recreational facilities including a championship golf course. The development was annexed to the City of San Diego in February of 1962.

Work on infrastructure and the golf course was soon underway. Not long thereafter ground was broken for the first housing developments, Seven Oaks and The Greens.

The exhibit, to be entitled “Happy Birthday RB—50 Years” will feature an aerial photograph of the barren ranch land that became Rancho Bernardo as well as the design graphic illustrating the plan for the entire community. There will be photographs of many of the early construction projects and informational plaques that illustrate and describe Rancho Bernardo’s early development. Objects relating to the early days will also be on display, including the ceramic RB logo from the sales office.

We're sure the exhibit will enhance our understanding of our community.

New Board Member Candidates  
By Nancy Canfield

Each year, the RB Historical Society holds elections. Sometimes we have people who are terming out, and need to wait a year to be invited back to serve on the board. Other times, we are able to ask someone back for a second term. Or, we may just be expanding the board. This year, only one board member, George Cooke, is terming out. We wish to thank George for all his contributions, most notably, the website. Hopefully, this time next year, we'll be able to persuade him back.

We have had a number of fine candidates referred to us, and were successful in persuading Tom Cook, past president extraordinaire, to return. Additionally, Kathy Gomez has agreed to join us despite her professorship at SDSU. Finally, Gus Davis, retired Aerospace Engineer, has agreed to accept our nomination. We are deeply grateful to all of our board members and heartily embrace our newest candidates. If you or someone you know and respect would like to join our board, please contact me as soon as possible. We will be voting on these candidates at the November general meeting.

RB Tastings  
a Music, Art, Food, Beer & Wine Festival  
By Gary Powers

The RB Historical Society is bringing back a successful event once presented by the Rancho Bernardo Chamber of Commerce. This festival attracted many San Diego residents for over fourteen years. We feel it will become a signature event each October for the RB Historical Society to support the operational expenses of running our museum at the Bernardo Winery.

Why is it important for you to attend and bring your friends to this event? This event will raise the needed funds for us to continue to be at the Bernardo Winery in a premium location. If all our members purchase tickets or become a sponsor we would be able to pay the entire year’s rent to the Bernardo Winery.

This is an adult event that will feature four great groups of entertainers who you can learn more about by going to www.rbtastings.com. Here you will be able to see the artists that will participate, and restaurants, micro breweries and wineries that will serve tastings. See page 1 to gather all the information you need or go to www.rbtastings.com
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 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the first Friday of every month.

The shops stay open extended hours, and wine tasting is offered until 8:00 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.

*Come and Enjoy First Fridays

By Selena Roberts

The Rancho Bernardo Historical Society is a non-profit organization, dedicated to preserving local history and increasing public awareness through programs and outreach. As a non-profit we depend on the community to help us accomplish our mission with volunteers, contributions, memberships, and gifts to our collections.

Educating and informing our constituency is high in our priorities. Through displays, events, annual community meetings with historic speakers we’ve accomplished that. This year, we have developed our Speaker Series. With a grant of $500 from the RB Foundation, we have coincided with the Time Line developed by Tom Cook. This invaluable piece of history was sponsored by a memorial fund from a former dedicated volunteer and historian, Tim Mazzoni.

Bimonthly, we invite an astute speaker to the museum to educate us on some facet of the time line seen below. A recent speaker spoke of the Native and Spanish Periods complete with period artifacts such as pottery, weapons, an authentic sword and conquistador helmet! Another, Ben Cueva, educated us about the Mexican Period from 1823 – 1848 when this region won its freedom from Mexico at Battle Mountain, where our white cross graces the community. Recently Vincent Rossi, local author, writer, historian and researcher, took us back to a more immediate past with tales of how the planned community came out of the dusty cattle ranches.

I hope you will join us at the museum on Nov. 4, at 10 a.m. when Jack Templeton, famous for spearheading the aforementioned cross, will be our guest speaker. Jack is a great historian and educates audiences far and wide with tales of the region. His talk, Expanding Rancho Bernardo (1982-Today) will entertain and inform.

This is a fascinating program and we hope to expand it year after year.

Many thanks to the RB Foundation for their financial support, Tom Cook for coordinating the speakers, Larry McIntyre for recording this bit of history, Janet Atkin for publicizing this event.

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.

Volunteer Raenell Hooten showing a museum artifact.

Call Jane at 485-0387
for volunteer information

The Rancho Bernardo Historical Society Speaker Series

By Nancy Canfield

Volunteers always work with another member.
You will have on the job training.
You will get to share our RB legacy with our many visitors.

The museum is located in the Bernardo Winery at 13330 Paseo del Verano Norte.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS
who love history and can donate a few hours a month to keep our museum open for the public.

RB Historical Museum hours are:
Friday from 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
*First Fridays Art Walk 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 12:00 - 3 p.m.

Volunteers always work with another member.
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www.RBHistoricalSociety.org
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FARMERS MARKET
at the
Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead
SUNDAYS 10am-4pm (winter 10am-3pm)
I-15 at Via Rancho Pkwy - across from the North County Shopping Mall
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