Pancake Festival
Saturday, May 25—8am-Noon

Begin your Memorial Day weekend with a fun-filled Pancake Breakfast at the Bernardo Winery! The Dixie Strutters will be providing lively music while friends and family chat over plates of delicious pancakes, sausage, fruit, orange juice and coffee. The children will have a great time jumping in the bounce house and getting their faces painted. Tables will be overflowing with raffle and silent auction items and there are several wonderful door prizes. The museum will be open all day and guests can also enjoy exploring the quaint winery shops and lovely garden spaces.

Tickets are $6 for the public while veterans, active military with ID and children under age 3 eat for free. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the museum or at the door the day of the event. The Pancake Festival along with the RB Tastings Festival are the major fundraising events which support the museum displays, educational programs and outreach activities—so your participation is much appreciated. See you there!

Our 2013 Military Honorees

Colin Architley, a former Marine, has gained national recognition for establishing the Veteran’s Sustainable Agricultural Training course on his small organic farm in Valley Center to help soldiers transition into a viable career. Since 2007 he has trained over 45 vets in hydroponic gardening technology – along with teaching motivation, leadership and management skills.

Bobbie Cole, Personnel Administrator to 500 active duty and reserve Guardsmen and 700 additional units in San Diego, has served in Virginia, Alaska, Hawaii, Seattle and throughout the Pacific and West Coast during her 28 year Coast Guard career. She currently lives in La Jolla.

Tickets Are Available Now! Only $6

Call any RBHS Board member or go to the Museum on Tuesday or Friday morning and on Saturday or Sunday afternoon.

President’s Corner  By Karen Rott

Announcing a New Project

Dear Society Members,

Most museums today have moved beyond archival papers and artifacts to include voice and video living history recordings in their collections. As our RB community is aging, the Historical Society is undertaking an initiative to capture some of the stories of our earliest residents to ensure that their memories of developing RB are preserved for future generations.

Our video collecting already began several years ago. Our first Speakers Series in 2011, which included 6 local noted authorities, was video taped by Larry McIntyre. This included such notables as Jack Templeton, Vincent Rossi, Tom Cook and Chris Knudson. Earlier, in 2009, RBHS also taped conversations with RB developer Harry Summers and local Ranch families.

RBHS Board member Lorraine Kaa has volunteered to head up a committee to coordinate this effort. Both community leaders and early residents are invited to participate in this project. These histories will available for the public to watch on our TV monitor in the museum. If you know a person who may enjoy being included in this living history project, please email Lorraine at chac949@hotmail.com. If you are able to be a videographer, we would appreciate your professional expertise and encourage you to volunteer.

RBHS is an important resource for historical research in this community. In addition to this new living history collection, there is already a 50 book library, over 1,000 photos, all the Bernardo Brandings and RB News Journals, obituaries from the 80’s, six file cabinets of newspaper clippings, seven boxes from the Bernardo Homeowners Association, information about local clubs, early advertising brochures, housing floor plans and a unique assortment of artifacts.

We are proud of our motto—Moving History Forward!  Karen

Increasing Museum Hours

This is a call out to volunteers to serve as Greeters. Presently our History Museum is open 12 hours each week. We would like to increase the hours and need more people to sit in the museum and greet guests. There is no training needed—just a willingness to share our wonderful facility and the love of history with the public. If you are able to help a few hours a month, please call Jane Harmon at 858-485-0387. Thank You.
8th Annual Pancake Festival
Honoring Our Military

Saturday, May 25, 2013
8 am - Noon
at the Bernardo Winery
13330 Paseo del Verano Norte

$6 ★ FREE to veterans, active military and children under age 3

★ Bring your military photo to be scanned and placed on the Wall of Honor at the RB Historical Society Museum

★ Live Music ★ Fun ★ Food
★ Bounce House ★ Door Prize
★ Raffle Prizes

www.rbhistoricalsociety.org

Rancho Bernardo Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
News From The Museum and Archives  By Peggy Rossi

Every Tuesday morning a small group of dedicated volunteers work in the museum taking care of our vast collection of Rancho Bernardo history. RBHS has two large file cabinets full of news clippings, organized by topic, that cover all aspects of life in Rancho Bernardo, past and present.

We had a very special opportunity over the last few months to add hundreds of North County Times (NCT) news clippings. Lucy Berk, Escondido historian, invited us to sort through the NCT news clippings files. Since the San Diego Union-Tribune took over the NCT, the Escondido news office would be closing and those files were going to be thrown away. The U-T, through Lucy, invited all local historical societies to take what they wanted before the office closed. It was a daunting job as there were rows of four-drawer file cabinets, jammed full.

I along with Jo Berkman, Cathy Barr and Vince Rossi went over to Escondido and joined other historical society volunteers in a weekly sorting through thousands of clippings. It was a lot of work but also a lot of fun as we got to chat with other “history people” – all great folks – and work with them in a joint effort to preserve history. We brought back hundreds of clippings, and now it is up to our Tuesday clippings specialists May Rivera and Marge LaGrone to sort and file them. The clippings cover from about 1984 through 1994. They are especially valuable for business news. This was a time of major growth in the RB industrial park, and every new business or change of business was written about in the NCT.

The job isn’t over. When we ran out of time the Vista Historical Society kindly offered to take the remaining files and store them. We hope to make some trips to Vista to continue sorting through this valuable resource.

If you are interested in learning about some aspect of RB history, stop in some time when the museum is open and take a look at our clippings files. You might even find something about you! We have a great time and invite members to join us in our archival work. Contact me at 858-592-9360 or email to peggyrossi@sbcglobal.net.

New History of RB Brochure and Local History Book

The Historical Society is very fortunate to have free lance writer Vincent Rossi on the Board as his special interest in local history has generated a series of books and most recently a wonderful brochure featuring RB which is available free of charge to visitors in the museum.

The brochure essentially summarizes about 3,000 years of history in about 1,200 words. It’s meant as an introduction to the complex and varied history of our community; a history that began with semi-permanent Native American villages, then rule by the Spanish Empire and the Mexican Republic before becoming part of the United States in 1848. For all that time, and for over a century following, the region would remain a sparsely populated agricultural and ranching community until 1961, when the creation of Rancho Bernardo, Inc. would forever transform it. “A History of Rancho Bernardo” will hopefully inspire museum visitors to explore more of the history of our community and our region.

Vincent Rossi’s newest book, The Last Town of Bernardo, is now for sale in the museum gift shop. Last Town grew out of a talk he gave at the museum in 2012 as part of the society's speakers series. A mile or so south of today’s Westfield North County Fair Shopping Center is an empty stretch of parkland that once held the farming village of Bernardo. It sprang up in 1872 and was a thriving market town for farmers from as far away as Valley Center. Yet, by 1918, it was in decline and by the early 1920s it had disappeared. The book includes historic newspaper articles and photos from the period, reflecting Vince’s research into the rise and fall of this little-known “ancestor” of today’s Rancho Bernardo.

Museum Displays

In the “Collections Box” window at the museum is an exhibit of flow blue china from the collection of Jill Underwood of RB. Originating and produced in England during the reign of Queen Victoria, flow blue is distinguished by the deep, cobalt blue of the patterns which fades, or flows, into a white background, creating a unique effect. The Historic Trails & Travelers Through RB display features inland trails, early Ranchos, the Mud Wagon, mail routes and the San Diego/ Yuma trail map.

Coyote Tales

This educational outreach program developed by Lorraine Kaa has been a great success. She has presented the history of RB/Poway and her Native American Folk Lore lessons to over a dozen elementary schools, several Boy Scouts troops and to the residents of The Remington Club. Special thanks to Oakwood Escrow and Angie Stanley for donating funds to support this program. Lorraine plans to purchase additional artifacts to use in the classrooms next year.

www.RBHistoricalSociety.org
Introducing Four Members Joining the RBHS Board

Tom Cook, a ten year RBHS member who has served previously as Board Member, President and Display and Speakers Program Chair, is a dedicated historian. Tom is a Board member of the San Pasqual Battlefield Volunteers, serves as Trail Historian for the San Dieguito River Park and organized the Wagon Rides. Tom has been project manager for the Timeline and Historic Trails Exhibit, and as RBHS Business Manager, he oversees equipment, submits county reports, keeps records and creates capital budget plans. Prior to retiring from Abbott Laboratory, he enjoyed a career as a Certified Value Engineering Specialist. He and his wife Jackie moved here in 1985 and have 4 children, 2 grandchildren and one great-grand son.

George Cooke, a ten year RBHS member and much appreciated Pancake Festival and RB Tastings events sponsor, has previously served on the Board and was instrumental in establishing our first website. George is renowned in the community for his aerial photos which he has generously donated to RBHS and other organizations. His early careers included teaching high school math and working as a software consultant for universities. In 2004 he switched to real estate and has become one of the most successful agents, selling a house a week and earning top awards from Coldwell Banker. George was a key player in the planning of our RB transit center. His hobby is long distance bike riding. He and his wife Mary have two children and the first grandchild is on the way.

Carol Gahm, who moved to RB in 2006 with her husband Fred (who also serves on the Board), is a sixth generation Californian. After graduating from USC, she taught elementary school and later worked 25 years as the administrator for a Pasadena CPA firm. Carol has actively volunteered on the Pancake Festival and RB Tastings events. She is a docent who also assists with computer work and our website. Carol has a special job—she is the carrier of our cell phone and answers all calls coming in to RBHS. Carol is a Fashion Academy Certified Color Consultant. Along with her Colors By Carol consulting business, she enjoys knitting, gardening, watercolor, and spends time volunteering for Meals On Wheels and at Westwood elementary School. She has 4 adult children and 8 wonderful grandchildren.

Ralph Parris, a graduate from Drexel and Princeton in electrical engineering, worked 35 years for Burroughs (later Unisys). He moved to RB in 1971 and retired in 1991. He is a newly trained docent who is excited to show people around the museum. He is active in his church with the Helping Hands program and sings in the choir. Ralph has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, Neighborhood Watch and CERT. He serves on the Community Council Public Safety committee and is active in a local Small Computers club. Ralph has taught computers classes in the community. He and his wife of 56 years, Evelyn, stay fit working out at 24 Hour Fitness.

Welcome New Members

Fred Hamblin, Skip Nollenberger, Cynthia Pyle, June Whetstone, Kathryne & Richard Thorpe

Museum Visitors

In February RBHS hosted 14 members of the Carlsbad Historical Society for a walk through presentation.

Total number of museum visitors since January 1, 2013 is 1,451 and money in the donation box was $80.

Society News

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Speakers Series a Success

The monthly free lecture program held on the third Wednesday of the month at 10am in the History Museum has featured some fabulous speakers this year.

In January, Ashley Gardner, Executive Director of the Women’s Museum of California, highlighted the experiences and contributions of some of the amazing women in San Diego history. In February, Jim Bregante, a Docent for the San Diego Maritime Museum and a member of the Italian Historical Society shared his experience of growing up in Little Italy. In March, Ross Rizzo Jr., a certified vintner and an owner of the Bernardo Winery presented a program featuring the history of the Winery and winemaking in San Diego. On April 17, Annemarie Cox highlights the Archaeological Center’s role in preserving San Diego County’s artifacts. On May 15, Ann Cooper will talk about the San Dieguito River Park. Please join us for these wonderful educational programs!

www.RBHistoricalSociety.org
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