

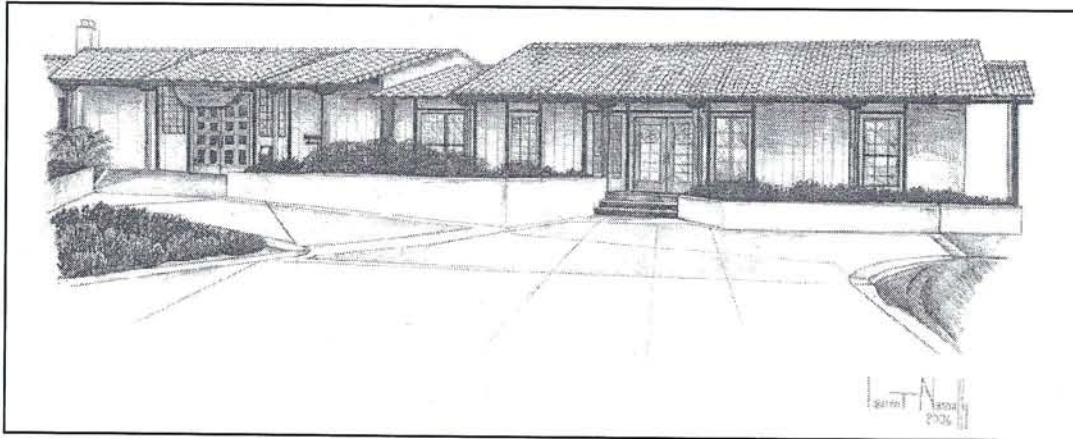
Newsletter of the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society

Volume 1, Issue 6

April 2006

A FULL SIZE MUSEUM.....YES, WE'RE ON OUR WAY!!!

By Tom Cook, President



For 25 years we have struggled to make a home for a full size historical Museum functional enough to meet the needs of Rancho Bernardo. Many locations were explored but for lack of affordability, permits, risks or a passion for historic preservation they all failed. As you know, in order to break this impasse we opened just last April a 500 sq ft Museum Annex at the Bernardo Winery. Although only a quarter of our desired full size, it is a fully functional facility. Under the direction of our Museum Director, Susan Floyd, we have an operational archive, professional rotating displays, docent and staff training and development, and all the technology needed for a small size Museum. Requests for services are increasing weekly. None of this could have been accomplished without substantial support from our partner, the Rancho Bernardo Community Foundation. It was through their vision that a building was identified that with effort and some luck will provide us with a full size 'home'. It seems that the Information/ Prudential Building known to us all on the corner of RB Road and Bernardo Center Drive is scheduled for possible replacement with a new more modern building. With our deepest thanks, Mr. Ross Rizzo has agreed to our moving 2700 sq ft of the building to the upper parking lot of his Bernardo Winery.

If all goes well, we should be moving in some time in May-June, There are many "if's": if funds can be secured; if four sets of City Permits can be secured; if our members and the community join with our Community Foundation partners in supporting this effort. Then, we will be successful. Yes, we're on our way. So come to the April 24th semi-annual Meeting at the Library to hear more details and ask questions.

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www.
RBHistoricalSociety.org

PAST PERFECT

By Susan Floyd
Vice President and Director



Susan Floyd, President

The RBHS has entered a new world of technology. In 2005, the society purchased Past Perfect, a software program sponsored by the AASLH, American Association of State and Local History. This program is enabling the society to inventory, accession

and document the many items in the collections including photographs, objects, archives and library books. The process can often be time consuming as each entry details a description, a history of the item and a condition report. In addition, the software is being used to track membership information.

We welcome new volunteer docents. IF you have two hours a month to help our museum, please call Susan at 487-4599. Our success depends on our volunteers!

The museum has indeed been busy the past months. Several groups have scheduled special tours: RB PEO, Value Engineering Society, Riverpark Docents. Our Speaker's Bureau has provided special talks to the following: Lions Club, RB Welcome Club, Soroptimists, Poway Jewish Senior Center. In February we had a table at the Westwood School Rededication and passed out copies of the original 1971 program. Thanks Jutta and George.. We continue to receive requests for research information.



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MIKE GRIFFIN
Owner

PRESERVING THE COLLECTION

by Peggy Rossi

For many years, donations to the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society were packed away in assorted boxes and bags, resting in a storage area or various members' garages. Now that we have a "home" and have moved all those items into the mini-museum archives, we have another job to do which is to make sure all this material is preserved safely and properly. As we receive new donations, such as the Woody Beard Collection, mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, we also want to assure that these new items are properly cared for as well.

But it isn't cheap! Special packaging is needed. Acid-free, archival folders, archival boxes of various sizes, archival tissue paper to wrap items, and plastic sleeves to hold slides, photographs and negatives are some of the purchases we need to make to care for Rancho Bernardo's history. This is an aspect of museum work that is often forgotten when donations are made because it is "behind the scenes."

If you would like to **Adopt a Box** and donate funds to purchase archival preservation materials, the cost may range between \$25-\$50 dollars. Archival boxes, labels, folders and tags are needed. Collections such as the *Symphony on the Green*, *RB Homeowners Corp.*, or the *CEC* all need care. Please contact Susan Floyd, museum director, at 858-487-4599 or email her at SusanF5133@aol.com. History will thank you and so will we!



Genealogical Research & Family History Publication

Peggy Rossi

PO Box 27343, San Diego CA 92198-1343
858-592-9360/njrossi@aol.com

Reconstructing lives - one generation at a time

RBHS RECEIVES WOODY BEARD COLLECTION

by Peggy Rossi

When my husband and I first moved here in 2002, one of the most fondly-recalled aspects of living in Rancho Bernardo that our neighbors shared with us was Symphony on the Green. We were told of the wonderful picnics and fabulous musical performances that were a major part of summer living here in the '70s and '80s.

That history has now become a treasured part of the permanent collection of the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society, thanks to a large donation of Symphony on the Green memorabilia and artifacts given to us by Woody Beard. These materials along with other memorabilia already in our collection will document for future generations the artistic and recreational events of the first decades of



Maestro Woody Beard

Rancho Bernardo.

Included in the collection are photographs, programs (1974-1992), posters, advertising material, correspondence, minutes, and newspaper clippings covering 1974 through 2003. Artifacts include 22 usher's vests, badges and ribbons, tickets and a cassette tape of a Mel Torme concert. Miscellaneous other material included in the donation relates to the development of the Rancho Bernardo Community Park and discussions concerning the possible development of a performing arts center and golf course.

We are in the process now of organizing the collection and making sure it is placed in archival boxes so that future RB researchers will be able to learn about this fun event.

Big thanks goes out from all of us to Woody Beard for saving all this material over the years and for making us the repository for this great collection. Thanks also to Jack Mitchell who delivered it all to our door.

Newspaper clippings are a major part of this collection and we'd like to share an item that appeared in the October 17, 1986 *Bernardo News*. In a column titled "Sharing Saemi's table" there appeared a short background piece on Woody and his family and a few recipes from his family's cookbook, *The Beard Cookbook*. The following is from Woody's mother, Essie. This was obviously from the days before anyone worried about cholesterol!

Essie Beard's Caramel Dumplings

Syrup:

1 cup brown sugar 2 cups butter
1/2 cup hot water

Dumplings:

1/2 cup brown sugar 2 tablespoons butter
1 egg 1/2 cup milk 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1-3/4 cups flour 1 teaspoon baking powder

salt to taste; dates and nuts may be added
Boil syrup ingredients for two minutes. Separately, cream butter and sugar. Add egg. Stir well. Add remaining dry ingredients, stir. Pour hot syrup into a 9-inch pan. Drop dumpling mixture by the spoonful into the pan. Bake at 450 degrees for 20 minutes. Serve with cream.

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TRAVELING EXHIBITS

By Susan Floyd

Thanks to Joyce Gage, RBHS docent, and Jerry Coats, Seven Oaks Office Manager, for setting up the Avco Collection photo exhibit at the Seven Oaks Community Center Library. We received many positive comments from local residents. This retrospective from the past of model home interiors and RB landmarks is currently at the Oaks North Library. Thanks Honey! Please stop by and see the exhibit through the month of April. And thanks to these Community Centers for hosting the nostalgic look at our past.

RB TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES

Please help! We have a great collection of RB telephone directories which are invaluable for researchers. But we are missing a few years. If you have copies of the following directories:

Prior to 1965
1966
1973
1989

and would be willing to donate them to the museum, please call Susan at 487 4599.

Coming this Summer! ***Museum Exhibit***



Summers Past:
Symphony on the Green
Scheduled to open
June 1, 2006

IBM MATCHING GRANT

We are pleased to report that the RBHS is the recipient of an IBM Matching Grant. Thanks to Hilda Teel, IBM retiree, and long time local community supporter, we recently received a check for a considerable amount which will be used to continue to preserve the history of Rancho Bernardo.

This large IBM-Employee partnership program enables employees and retirees to increase the value of their donations to local non-profit organizations. The RBHS qualified in the Arts & Culture area. This reflects IBM's strong tradition of bettering communities and demonstrating the critical role technology plays in enhancing the arts.

Thank you, Hilda!

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE

To find out what is going on in RB's Historical Society, check our new web site. It is informative and you can leave messages.

We thank Society Board member **George Cooke**, Coldwell Banker, for hosting our website and providing the excellent aerial photos of Rancho Bernardo.

www.RBHistoricalSociety.org

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Eileen Haag, RB Community Foundation past president, is also joining us. Eileen, as many of you know, was one of the founders of the *Bernardo News*, a publication which the historical society now regards as an excellent source of information about our community's past.

Don Sheffler, owner of a local advertising company, PromotionWorks, grew up in this community and has shared some of his experiences with us. We hope to hear more from him in an upcoming newsletter.

Nancy Canfield, Prudential Real Estate agent, has really been in the headlines these days. Her passion as a writer is evident in her newly published book *Home Kids*. Look for a copy in the RB Library. Thanks, Nancy, for the signed copy you left for us at the museum.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2006

By Susan Floyd

1. Thanks to all the members who have faithfully renewed memberships. Your support is very much appreciated.
2. Congratulations to **Woody Beard** who has been awarded a LIFE membership for his years in the society. Look for other sections of this newsletter to read more about Woody's contributions to the community. Woody has a new residence in Kansas. We miss you Woody!
3. Welcome to new members:
Chet Borger, Harold and Jeanne Thomas, Rae Fetherling.
4. The **Rancho Bernardo Inn** is a new CORPORATE member. Thank you for your support and your donation of archival material from the Inn's past history.
5. Welcome also to CORPORATE member **Radisson Suite Hotel.**
6. Welcome to new CORPORATE member **Watson Realty.**
7. Please note our other CORPORATE members who support the society with annual contributions: **Gimminey Kids, Sandy and Ron Fish of RE/Max, Frank Goldsmith of Rancho Bernardo Veterinary Clinic, Inc., Judith Horning of Rancho Bernardo Hearing Services, Inc., Beverly and Marty Judge, Maryjanne and Denny Roe, Jacquie Smith of Downey Savings & Loan Assoc., Mike Stelman.**
8. Please help us increase our membership. If you know of friends and neighbors who are interested in helping preserve the history of the community, remember the membership forms are easily accessible on our website:

www.RBHistoricalSociety.org

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The Society thanks the following donors:

Ted & Connie Gaasch, Sally Edwards, and Carol P. Harman for donations in memory of Lou Reese.

ROAMING THROUGH THE ARCHIVES

By Oscar Tee!

The museum is mostly quiet on Saturday afternoons and that is when I can roam through the archives finding tidbits of early Rancho Bernardo.

Betty Crocker in RB?

Yes, Rancho Bernardo had its Betty Crocker in the form of Helen Hallbert. Helen was the fourth "Betty Crocker" in charge of kitchens in Minneapolis for six years. Hallbert, a graduate of Iowa State University at Ames, had been chief of the test kitchens at Better Homes and Gardens 12 years before going to General Mills. When Hallbert retired from General Mills she moved to Rancho Bernardo. She had put together numerous cookbooks for both General Mills and Better Homes and Gardens, books that are still best sellers. Hallbert said when men cook they are better cooks than women because they will follow directions. Women just have to try something different.

(From the San Diego Union, Mar 31, 1977)

(Hallbert first appears in RB's phone directories in 70-71 living on Dominican Dr. She later moved to the 'CASA' and is last listed in the '91 directory. Any RB'ers remember her?)

RB Rocks with Ella Fitzgerald



RB Rocked on July 9, 1977, when the San Diego Symphony Orchestra, Charles Ketcham conducting, and Ella Fitzgerald Vocalist, were presented by the Symphony of the Green. A photo shows the ground covered with people.

Miss Fitzgerald sang *Thou Swell*, *Love is Here to Stay*, *Ellington Medley*, *Satin Doll*, *It's Alright with me*, *S'Wonderful*, *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes*, *Hard Hearted Hanna*, *My Reverie*, *Caravan*, *My Ship*, and *Why Can't you Behave*. What an evening that must have been. Miss Fitzgerald returned to perform at Symphony of the Green again on July 3rd 1979.

Swim and Tennis Opens Feb 1968

The Swim and Tennis Club opened with many celebrity sports figures including Florence Chadwick, channel swimmer. Cost of the club—\$225,000.

Don't Miss:
RBHS General Meeting Monday,
April 24th
2 pm
RB Library

Speaker: Robert Leriget, Ranger with the
Lakes and Open Space Division of the City of
Escondido, will talk about the Daley Ranch
and its historic connection to
Rancho Bernardo.



Rancho Bernardo
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