Preserving Historic Rancho Bernardo

By Peggy Rossi

Tips for Using Our Online Collection Catalog

Would you like to see some early pictures of Rancho Bernardo? Or, some pictures from last year? We have both. In fact, our photograph collection totals 2,475 images, and they are all scanned and available to look at in our online catalog. If you’re curious about what books we have in our library, what unusual objects we might have stored or what documents or records we have, you can look those up, too.

Just go to the historical society website at http://rbhistory.org/. Scroll down and then click on “Rancho Bernardo Online Collections Catalog.” This will take you to the catalogs of our holdings.

There are several ways to search. You can enter a keyword and search all four of our catalogs at once. Click on “keyword search” in the menu across the top. If you are only interested in images, select that box. You can also do an advanced search for different categories. Since our catalogs are fairly simple, keyword searches alone should work most of the time. If you are looking for a particular phrase, such as Spirit of the 4th, be sure to put it in quote marks. Otherwise it will pull up anything with those words in it.

Only want to look for photos or library entries? Pick a category from the menu across the top. If you just want to look at random photos, select that category from across the top and page after page of photos will come up for you. Note, sometimes, even though it’s supposed to be random, the same photo will pop up a number of times. It’s just a quirk of the program.

We are continuing to add items to this online collection so check back often.

Here’s an example of a photo from the collection. It’s from the Spirit of the 4th Parade from 1974. It was taken along Pomerado Rd. with Battle Mountain in the background.

Need to Cool Off?

We’re in the heat of summer so here are some photos to cool you off. On December 13, 1967, Rancho Bernardo woke up to snow. In fact, quite of bit of San Diego woke up to snow. The San Diego Union dated December 14 said “A chilling air mass marked ‘Made in Canada’ yesterday sprayed snow on San Diego for the first time since 1949.” Even places like La Jolla and Carlsbad saw some white stuff. Of course, it didn’t last long. But it lasted long enough for some folks in RB to take pictures. Above are two—one of Rancho Bernardo Road and the welcome sign and the other of a home in Seven Oaks with the mountains in the background. Go to our online collection catalog and search for “snow” to find additional pictures. Are you feeling cooler now?

Recent Donations to Our Collection

Thank you to Raenell Hooten who donated copies of “Rancho Magazine” covering 1986 through 2010. This is a wonderful addition to our collection of periodicals for Rancho Bernardo. The magazine covered both Rancho Bernardo and Poway and includes articles about people, places and events plus lots of local advertising. We are hoping to have one set permanently bound to protect them and make them easier to look through.

Thank you also to Paul Taubman who donated a copy of the publication “Heritage of Our Territory.” While published by the Rancho Santa Fe Hunt Club, it includes historic information about many North County towns including Rancho Bernardo. This book can be found on our library shelves in the corner of the museum.