



# Rancho Bernardo Historical Society Newsletter



Volume XVI Issue 2

## Update on the Westwood Time Capsule and RB All Stars

by Peggy Rossi

In our last newsletter, we asked if anyone knew what happened to the time capsule created by students at Westwood School in 1976. The answer is — when the school was remodeled in the early 2000s, the time capsule was removed. It was put in a closet at the school, where it remains. Thank you Ken for providing an update on this. Information about the time capsule, with photos, is on a facebook page for former students (Rancho Bernardo-Old School | Facebook) which anyone can view. If you have photographs or memorabilia from Westwood School and would like to donate them or let us scan them, please contact us at [rbhistory1@gmail.com](mailto:rbhistory1@gmail.com).

Last newsletter we also published a picture from our Burt Ball collection of the 2nd annual RB SuperStars event and asked for people to identify who was in the photo. We received responses from two people. Celeste Bowman told us that her son Jeff Maynor is 2nd from the right. And we received some additional pictures and a comment from Tia Pistelli Hatch who took part in the Super Stars events. “I was fortunate to have won both years. This was such a great event and Burt Ball did an amazing job.”

Go to our website, [rbhistory.org](http://rbhistory.org) to see the Winter 2021 newsletter with the photos. Here is one of Tia’s photos.



*Photo of the RB SuperStars*



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non-profit organization

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## RB HISTORY MUSEUM

Bernardo Winery

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San Diego, CA 92128

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# President's Message

by Raenell Hooten

“Back to normal” is the catch phrase we seem to hear most often since restrictions have been lifted after Covid. This is a welcome message. The museum has removed the yellow tape from the mud wagon for visitors to once again climb aboard to take pictures and enjoy a fantasy ride. The mask sign has been removed and hand sanitizer is optional. The coffee grinder is moved to where it can grind again and paper items can be picked up for reading. Visitors can sign our register and add comments.

These are small steps, but they add up to an even better museum visit. From a docent's point of view, the one thing that stands out for me is that with our “new look,” visitors spend more time at exhibits as well as reading descriptions. Our exhibits are always works in progress, and the committee's goal is to always add or subtract for better visitor interaction.

The new Kumeyaay exhibit is in a positive state of flux. New artifacts will be displayed under



*Bernardo store exhibit*

plexiglass, while others will be added in the showcase. An interactive video monitor will feature historical maps and Kumeyaay history.

Exhibit upgrades include a new updated metal timeline installed outside on the patio to entice visitors inside or to give them a glimpse of what's inside the museum when we are closed. Our Bernardo store exhibit has a new weathered wood stain to give it an old identity. A few new household items have been added to the store and an antique National cash register sits on the wine barrel.

The interactive Wall of Honor video monitor is in its last tweak before use. The Wall of Honor photos in frames will be removed from the Research Library wall and placed in a binder for visitor viewing. The wall will then feature a tribute to Maj. Abraham Baum along with military service jackets representing four branches.

In April, a group from Laguna Woods in Orange County toured the winery and our museum. In an email to the winery, the tour guide said our museum was the best local museum they had seen in Southern California.

So to all the members, donors and volunteers who contribute to the museum's success, this accolade means you can be justifiably proud.

Good job!



*Kumeyaay culture exhibit*

# RB History - A Look Back at Lake Hodges Crossings

By Peggy Rossi, Collections Manager



*View of the fishing camp at Lake Hodges, date unknown.*

Before I-15, Rancho Bernardo and Escondido were connected by Inland Mission Road, which became State Route 77 in 1931 and was renamed Highway 395 in 1934. That road crossed Lake Hodges on a bridge erected in 1919. In the early 1920s a structure was built at the Rancho Bernardo entrance to the bridge that was first called the Lake Hodges Station Store, then the Lake Hodges Pavilion.

Nick and Shirley Buskirk, in their 1993 book, *Escondido: Then and Now*, refer to the pavilion as a popular dancing spot. “It was also a busy fishing camp with a boat dock, cabins and other facilities.”

A major remodel occurred in 1924, according to the *Daily Times Advocate*: “The dining room will face the lake and will be cooled by the breezes sweeping across the waters,” according to the article. The dance floor was expanded to hold “more than 200 couples.” A “first class kitchen” was being added to offer chicken dinners “on Sundays, dance nights or by appointment” with “regular short order service” during the week.

A five-piece jazz band from San Diego, “Jordan’s Harmony Boys,” provided the music on opening night at the pavilion.

Manager John Daley ran the pavilion from the mid-1920s until his death in 1943. In addition to the



*Aerial view of the Lake Hodges Dance Pavillion, date unknown.*

store, dance hall and lunch counter, the property included living quarters for the manager’s family

“It was a great place to grow up,” said John Daley, Jr. “Highway 395 ran right across the front of our house and the lake was behind it. Traffic was nowhere near what it’s like today.”

Before his death in 2008, Bernardo Winery owner Ross Rizzo recalled riding a horse from the family winery down to Lake Hodges to visit his friend, Donald Blunt, whose father Herbert was the pavilion’s manager in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

Rizzo remembered fisherman coming down from San Diego with their families and staying at the cabins. They would catch the fish and “pan fry them right out there” on the lakeshore. “The kids would pitch lines in the lake. The more people came the more kids there were, getting acquainted. It was good old family fun.” According to the Buskirks’s book, *Escondido: Then and Now*, the area where the pavilion once stood was “covered over when the freeway to San Diego was realigned in 1952.” That spot now lies underneath the entrance ramp for I-15 off Pomerado Road.

*This article is a shortened version of a chapter in the book From Field to Town by Vincent Rossi. While now out of print, RBHS has several copies available to read in our library. Please stop by and explore our new library/research room during our weekend open hours.*

## News From The Archives

By Peggy Rossi, Collections Manager

After a very long time away, our archives group is once again meeting, this time on Thursday mornings, to get back to caring for RB's history. We've been shut down since March 2020.

Our obituary indexing project is back and we have caught up on our clippings files. This includes a folder devoted exclusively to stories on the pandemic, including the weekly count that appeared in the RB Journal so a future researcher can see how the pandemic affected our community.

We have begun a shelf inventory. This is something we usually do in January-February. This means reviewing everything on our shelves in the archives and comparing it to what we have on a spreadsheet to make sure everything is still where it's supposed to be so we can find it quickly.

We are putting together a binder of news articles and programs to go with the Symphony on the Green exhibit.

Lastly, we continue to add donated items to the collection and catalog them. Here is a list of new items we've received since the beginning of the year

*Escondido: A Pictorial History of the Hidden Valley*, published by the Escondido History Center (available to read in our library) (donor Edith Hillebrecht);

Happiness is Rancho Bernardo Christmas ornament; topographic puzzle map of Rancho Bernardo and surrounding area; miscellaneous planning/event documents for the Historical Society (donor Jane Harmon);



*Kumeyaay Bow, Arrows, and Quiver*



*Stanislaus Sowinski Prints*

Adding to our current art collection are three signed prints by artist Stanislaus J. Sowinski currently on permanent exhibit (donor Jackie Sowinski);

Legend Edition community maps; Joslyn Center 10 Year History, Rancho Bernardo Insider magazine; Spirit of the Fourth programs, Value Freedom posters, articles and documents re the founding of Historical Society, RB postcards, photographs, negatives and slides of RB, color aerial view of RB from 1985, color drawing of the Clock tower Office Plaza (donor Larry McIntyre);

Military jackets: World War II Army Signal Corps jacket (donor Sunny Lee), Service Dress Uniform Jacket from USS Herbert J. Thomas (Navy), Mess Dress Tuxedo Jacket US Air Force (donor of both Raenell Hooten), US Marine Dress Uniform Jacket (donor Col. Michael Einsidler);

Kumeyaay artifacts: quiver and arrows, two baskets, head covering, two pots, woman's willow skirt, bow (anonymous donor), all on permanent exhibit;

Major Abraham Baum collection: includes books, tapes, multiple honorary plaques and framed honorary items, VFW caps, photographs and memorabilia (donor Eileen Baum).

# RBHS Endowment Fund

By Nancy Canfield

## Our Need

With annual expenses of \$30,000 plus, including rent, insurance, utilities, advertising and repairs, but no salaried employees, RBHS is planning a new course of action. In the past, we have relied on membership, donations, and events to keep our heads above water. With the pandemic, we had to be closed, and as you know, events were out of the question.

## Our Mission

This Endowment Fund will secure our future by providing a predictable source of funding each year. All returns from the fund will be used for operations, and none of the principal will be touched. Our current financial advisers, Edward Jones, will provide solid guidance and secure accounts.

## Our Goal

We will develop an initial goal that will yield a realistic annual return, to grow our fund and support and grow the museum.

## Our Progress

Back when we were operating out of a storage shed loaned to us by the Bernardo Winery, we set about raising money to build a museum. Raising nearly a quarter of a million dollars, we used the funds to renovate several empty shops in the Bernardo Winery.

We are proud of today's museum. Here's what we've accomplished during the pandemic.

- **Building new portico outside museum**
- **Replacing the damaged entry donor bricks**
- **Installing new, grand front doors**
- **Creating new displays, such as the Kumeyaay Native American exhibit**
- **Digitizing the Wall of Honor**

Much of this work was done by Rich Thorpe, with the help of the Bernardo Winery and other members, to whom we will be forever grateful.

Stay tuned for more updates about the RB Historical Society Endowment Fund and if you have any questions please call Nancy Canfield, 619-871-9333.

## Thanks for Helping Us

Fill out the form below and mail to the P.O.Box noted below. Or you can apply online at [www.rbhistory.org/support](http://www.rbhistory.org/support)

### I Would Like to Become a Member:

- Student (\$10)
- Patron (\$100)
- Individual (\$25)
- Corporate (\$250)
- Family (\$45)
- Life\* (\$500)
- Benefactor\* (\$1000)

\* One time donation. No annual renewal required.

- Please renew my current membership

### I Would Like to Donate to the Society:

- Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Please keep my donation anonymous
- My place of business has a matching gift program  
Please contact me for details

### I Would Also Like to:

- Become a Docent
- Help raise money
- Volunteer in the museum
- Volunteer at events

### Please Provide Your Information:

(List both names for Family Memberships)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- My check is enclosed for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to, and mail with this form to:

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Authorized Signature (as name appears on credit card):  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Welcome to Our Newest Board Members

We welcome three new board members to the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society. Here are some capsule biographies. Welcome aboard and thank you!

### Liz Mallarkey

Liz grew up on a farm in Bear Creek, Wisconsin and attended the University of Wisconsin – La-Crosse, graduating with a degree in physical education and a minor in history. She taught and coached in Prairie du Chien, Wis. for seven years. Employed in the Athletic Department of Ohio State University, she was assistant to the Women's Athletic Department and assistant coached women's gymnastics. She also wrote a teaching curriculum for teacher education students in school-age gymnastics. After receiving a Masters+ degree in sports management, she headed women's gymnastics at her alma mater and taught in the Physical Education Department. Within three months she was selected as the Interim Associate Athletic Director, later becoming the permanent Associate Athletic Director.

Five years later, Liz decided to move to San Diego, escaping the Wisconsin winters. After coaching at a gymnastics school in Clairmont her soon-to-be husband, Rob Bryson, talked her into opening their own gym. Gymniny Kids was born. They will be celebrating their 34th birthday this coming September and now employ over 50 people in an 18,000 sq. ft. building, serving about 3,000 students each week aged 9 mos to adult.

Liz says, "I am extremely grateful and proud to serve on the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society Board. Thank you for selecting me!"

### Dr. Ernest Price

LtCol USMC  
Retired

A Rancho Bernardo resident since 1977, Dr. Price spent 20 years in the Marine Corps, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He then spent many years in business as a CEO and vice president of several southern California firms. He spent 18 years as a professor, teaching at the college and graduate levels. After earning a Doctorate in 2005, he became Provost of the University of the Rockies in Colorado Springs. Dr. Price has served on many non-profit boards in San Diego, including the United Way USA, Red Cross, and the Blood Bank of San Diego. An avid skydiver, he has made over 3,000 dives. He and his wife, Peggy, are certified bar-b-que judges and spend much of their free time judging contests around the country.



### John Spencer

Emeritus Professor of Biblical Studies in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at John Carroll University. He earned his doctorate (Ph.D.) from the University of Chicago; an MA from Pacific School of Religion; and a BS from the University of California, Berkeley. He teaches in the areas of Biblical Studies, Ancient Near Eastern History, Archaeology, and inter-disciplinary topics. He frequently lectures to civic, religious, and academic communities. Dr. Spencer publishes in the fields of Archaeology and Old Testament/Hebrew Bible and is a member and officer of several professional organizations. He has worked on several archaeological excavations and has lived and traveled extensively in the Middle East.



## Thank You New Members

- **Paul and Felicia Alpren**
- **Joan Doyle**
- **Doug and Tammy Edwards**
- **Judy Nichols**
- **John and Claudia Spencer**

## Live Speakers Series Remains on Hold but Talks Available Online

Our popular speakers' series is still on hold for now as we work through the whole reopening process. We hope that all of the speakers we had lined up before the pandemic hit will still be interested in appearing when we get up and running again. Watch this spot or look for an update eblast for news of a speakers' series restart. For now, we encourage you to look at all of our past speakers on our YouTube channel. To view go to YouTube and search RB Historical Society



## Become a Docent and Help Us Share the History of Our Area

Now that we're reopened we'd love to have your help. We thank you for your membership and support. Without it, we could not do our work of sharing RB history. If you care about history and enjoy meeting people, consider taking your support to the next level.

We need docents – those people who greet visitors and answer questions in the museum. You will have the opportunity to welcome visitors, not only from Rancho Bernardo, but from all over the world. Donating a few hours a month can make a difference, allowing us to be open more often.

No prior experience is necessary; only your enthusiasm to share the RB legacy. Training will be provided. Please contact Jane Harmon via [rbhistory1@gmail.com](mailto:rbhistory1@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

## Thanks to Our 2019 Pancake Festival Sponsors

### Silver

- The Remington Club
- Windermere Homes & Estates
- Courtyard Marriot
- Del Norte Honor Society
- Del Norte Key Club
- Elements Cafe

### Bronze

- Benchmark Mortgage
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- North County Gymnastics
- Silvergate RB
- Escondido History Center
- Girl Scout Troop 8157
- Hamburger Factory
- Jewel & Vine
- Kiwanis Club RB
- Mt. Carmel Key Club

### Special Thanks

- Albertsons
- Barons Market
- Bernardo Moving & Storage
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- Nancy Canfield
- The Original Pancake House
- Rancho Bernardo Inn
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