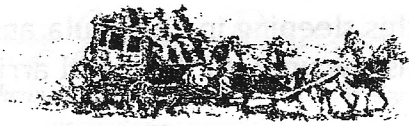


TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

April 2003 Vol 3 Issue 4

2003 OFFICERS

President	<i>Charolette Fox</i>
1st Vice President	<i>Darell Farnbach</i>
2nd Vice President	<i>Malcolm Barnett</i>
Secretary	<i>Jeffery Harmon</i>
Treasurer	<i>Bill Harker</i>

DIRECTORS

Myra Gonsalves
Pam Grender
Felicia Hogan
Keith Johnson
Wendy Lesovsky
Martha Minkler
Bonnie Reed
Roger Sannipoli
Bruce Singer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Research & Development
Darell Farnbach

Historic Markers & Plaques
Pam Grender

Wolf Tomb Restoration
Eve Craig

Membership
Bill Harker

Public Relations
Bruce Singer

Budget
Bill Harker, Keith Johnson

Correspondence
Hope Zangl

Heritage Luncheon
Martha Minkler, Eve Craig

Planned Giving
Keith Johnson

Newsletter
Charolette Fox

Santa Rosa Plateau Tour
Butterfield Stage Route Tour
July 4th Parade
Art Committee
visit us at

www.tvhs.homestead.com/FrontPage.html

SNAPSHOTS IN TIME

Women of Grit -- more than before.

The stories of last month stimulated still others to contribute their personal remembrances of Temecula. So you will find in this issue more stories of life from the "golden days" -- and a photo or two as well.

Now, dear readers, fill your coffee cup and take half an hour or so to enjoy an armchair tour through the pages of time to meet other "woman of grit", and find out what makes them so!



Memoirs: The Series

The Temecula Cemetery is the final resting place for many of the names that you have been learning about in the pages of these newsletters. This issue begins a series on the life of Mary Jane Welty, early settler and hosteler of the Welty Hotel, Main Street, Temecula.

Not very large in stature, Mary Jane nonetheless bore eleven children and lived adventures that might have humbled the burliest of men. Saludo, Mrs. Welty! We can appreciate the legacy you leave every time we pass the old hotel you helped build.



President's Corner

Have you visited the historic gardens of Kimberly Mansion, the National Cathedral, Elvis Presley's Graceland? These are a few of the landscapes that travelers might encounter on a family vacation.

Kimberly Mansion is in Redlands, CA. The grounds surround the home-turned-museum of one of America's kings of paper products, Mr. Kimberly. Guided tours of the mansion and its gardens are available. These gardens add immeasurably to the preservation of this historic site. And it would be hard to separate the house from its gardens because each adds aesthetic value to the other.

In Southwest Riverside County, a plan to restore the gardens of the Estudillo Mansion is taking shape. The City of San Jacinto has acquired this house with historic ties to Temecula and is raising money for both the restoration of the mansion and its surrounding landscape. We will watch this project with interest in days to come.

Other historic landscapes are not faring so well. Two significant landscapes in Washington, D.C., are being altered forever... one surrounds the National Cathedral and the other the highly visible U.S. Capitol. The landscape architect for the grounds of the U.S. Capitol was Frederick Law Olmstead, the creator of Central Park. Olmstead also designed the entire park systems for Boston, Chicago, Buffalo, and Riverside [Illinois]. "Among landscape historians, there is a general consensus that Olmsted's design for the Capitol grounds is one of the most important landscapes in America," said Ellen Shillinglaw, Cultural Landscape Foundation.

These landscapes were lost suddenly, without public input, and without the customary cultural report. As preservationists in Temecula Valley, let us exercise more care in the stewardship of both our historic buildings and the context in which they survive.

Temecula: A Town Remembered

by Ruth Martner Scruggs

Prologue:

My mother, Ruth Martner Scruggs, was born in 1911 in Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin, moved to Southern California in 1920 with her parents and little brother, Samuel. She was raised in Orange and Los Angeles Counties, attending high school and city college in Los Angeles. She and my father enjoyed camping, fishing, travel, dancing and making lifelong friends. She now resides in Bedford, Texas where she is still enjoying her love of china painting. She turned 92 this March.

-- Martha Moore, daughter

In the early 1940s, Temecula was a small sleepy town only a few blocks square. As I remember it, the hotel was weathered wood -- the central lobby was large and square with a wood burning stove to one side. The stove had a foot rail all around it, and the lodgers and their friends sat in wooden arm chairs around the stove with their feet on the rail and told their bragging stories. There was a second floor with a balcony running all around it with rail and spindle posts. It was just like you see in old western movies. I have no idea what it cost. I suppose country hotels didn't cost much. Besides, it was very plain, with only the essential furniture. I can't tell you much about the hotel because we used it only for a comfortable place to sleep.

My husband and I lived in Pasadena and in surrounding areas and needed to get to Lake Henshaw at dawn when the fish were biting. Lake Henshaw was a beautiful big lake with clear blue water and lots of croppie and blue gill. We came to about a foot from the road and looking across it to the sunrise was breathtaking. We could fill a wash tub in no time. We would ice the fish and take them to my father's house. He would dress the fish and put them in cold storage. Very, very good! One of the side effects of these trips was that my husband would get the most beautiful tan, and I would get the most beautiful red -- and peel. But it was fun anyway.

We did this sleeping in Temecula and fishing in Lake Henshaw until our baby girl arrived.



I interject a memory from my own past here. My grandmother moved to California in the early 1940s, and adored fishing at Lake Henshaw and Lake Elsinore. These were all-day family trips from San Diego and money for a tank of gasoline was an "if you're goin', you gotta chip in" deal. I don't recall ever seeing any member of my family catch a fish, but we did get plenty of sun.

-- Editor

Tractors, Planes & Automobiles

a report by Dick Fox

On Saturday, March 22 a caravan of 20 plus cars occupied by members and guests of the Temecula Valley Car Club and Temecula Valley Historical Society, convoyed from Ziggy's Restaurant on Jefferson to the headquarters of Bouris Farms in Menifee.

A tail-wagging happy farm dog greeted the group, and set the tone for a delightful morning. Mr. Herc Bouris has devoted many years and untold labor hours toward collecting and restoring antique farm implements, machinery, tractors and hand tools of all size, shape and description.

One large barn is filled with restored tractors and machinery powered by gasoline, diesel and steam. All have been lovingly restored, researched and appropriately labeled -- including such names as John Deere, Case, International Harvester, Ford, Allis-Chalmers, and Caterpillar. It was a real treat to see and hear 3 of them started with hand cranks. Another building contains smaller antique implements, pumps, compressors, scales, corn shuckers, stoves, and myriad blacksmithing tools, all nicely restored and displayed.

It was a special honor to be hosted by the Bouris family, and to be able to see this wonderful collection, and tour their immaculate complex of grain storage bins, barns and maintenance shops. Some of the buildings housed additional restored Model A Fords and other treasures.

Approximately 30 of the group continued on to the French Valley Airport for lunch, and a brief guided tour of the facility by George Watson.

Mary Jane, Pioneer

a book chronicling the life of Mary Jane Welty
(presented in serials)

Laverne Parker, present owner of the Welty Hotel, supplies our readers with these installments taken from the biography written of Mary Jane Welty. The book was "published" in very limited quantities, each one being typewritten and hardbound in green leatherette. We don't know how many chapters this serialized story will take...when we come to the end, we'll be done!

A small woman of incredible courage and stamina, Mary Jane Welty ventured west with her husband from Iowa to the Temecula Valley in the mid 1800s. Traveling by covered wagon encountering hostile Indians, massacres, high mountains covered in snow and starvation, she endured to build and run the first hotel in Temecula Valley.

Mary Jane was born to Elizabeth and Jack Stingleton in November of 1840 in Davis County, Indiana. Her brother, Tom, was one year old. Mary was 18 months old when her folks decided to go to Iowa and free land. Loading a new covered wagon with boxes of apples, potatoes, corn, flour, salt pork, etc., and taking two orphaned neighbors, Felt and Abe, with them, they headed for Iowa.

They encountered many others headed for Iowa from Ohio, Illinois, and other points further east, for the free land. There were horses, mules, ox teams, barking dogs and crying babies. Mary Jane wasn't crying. She was having the time of her life enjoying her first journey.

After crossing the Iowa state line, many outfits started finding sites for their future homes, but Jack chose to continue on which worried Elizabeth. She was afraid they would have only Indians for neighbors. A young boy, Sandy, asked to join them because he had an abusive father. Now Mary Jane had four brothers who loved her dearly. One day she strayed from camp and fell into the creek. Sandy saved her. They finally came to a lovely grove and Elizabeth agreed it would be an ideal spot for their future home. They started to build a long house but rains came before the house was finished so they used the covered wagon [for shelter]. The boys piled brush around the wagon and slept underneath.

Elizabeth was wondering how she would prepare meals when she looked up to see a bronze face and thought she would surely be scalped. The Indian pointed to Mary Jane saying, "Papoose me," attempting to take the baby. Mary Jane reached out her tiny pink hand touching his leathery cheek. She would have kissed him but her

mother jerked her back. Dogs started barking and boys crawled out from under the wagon and stood open-mouthed, watching. Then came Jack's welcome voice. "Hello Company" -- and Twenty Indians appeared. They gathered around Jack and said "white brother make wigwam?" "Big wigwam" said Jack, and pointed to the unfinished house. Indians found Jack and Elizabeth friendly and passed Mary Jane from one squaw to another. Then they gathered some twigs and leaves to build a fire. Elizabeth brought out potatoes and corn and made a big kettle of coffee. The Indians supplied fresh buffalo meat that tasted so good that cold November night. Only 4 bowls to serve 20 Indians coffee. They stayed for a fortnight and shared their food. One morning at daybreak the Indians left.

At last the house was finished. Just four walls, one bed, but plenty of quilts and blankets, and candles for light. The cold winter lasted til May. Jack built a barn for the animals -- cow, bull and horses and dug a well, planted corn and potatoes. Elizabeth had many duties cooking, sewing and cleaning and eventually lost her fear of Indians.

Mary Jane was now 6 years old and sad she had no one to play with until they saw a long line of wagons coming. It was the Mormon Battalion who settled in Iowa and named Kaneville after their leader Kane. In 1853, Kaneville became known as Council Bluffs. In 1804 Lewis and Clark had named a place across the river to commemorate the selling of Louisiana to Uncle Sam from France.

Two Mormon families stayed at the Stingleton home. Mary Jane by this time had three more brothers, John, Ike and Henry, then a babysitter Lovica. Jack and Elizabeth welcomed all visitors. Passing travelers were given all the food they could carry. Food was traded to the Indians for clothing they had traded for fur. Wheat was taken to the mill at Council Bluffs. It took 2 or 3 days to make the 50 mile trip. Jack went to St. Louis every fall for a load of apples. The new house had a large cellar for storage and sported real glass windows. Jack kept adding rooms til the house became a hotel that provided free board and room.



They survived two tragedies -- a fire in their cornfield (and thanks to their cellar), a tornado. During the tornado, their roof blew off leaving only one room dry. Next morning everything was put out to dry and

roof. Mary Jane helped her mother prepare a bountiful feast to share with everyone.

There were picnics and parties and festive times. Paring apples, husking corn and shelling peas came before the lively games and midnight suppers of ham, headcheese sausage or venison, corn bread, baked apples and mince pie. Every 4th of July was a big barbecue with dancing and fire works.

Sunday had its social hour. People came from long distances to enjoy the Sunday School held at Uncle Jacks. How they did sing while Jack played his violin. Once a year there was a camp meeting under the trees on the banks of Walnut Creek. Hundreds came and stayed for 2 or 3 weeks. Everyone was always welcome at Uncle Jacks home.

One day eight year old Henry said "Look Mary across the creek. There is a boy fishing." It turned out to be Joe Welty. A sound of hammering came from a deserted cabin. Someone was fixing the roof, another man plowing with oxen and another splitting rails. After dinner Jack went over to make a friendly call and learned the Welty family had accomplished much in the short time there. Johnson the oldest boy was sixteen, and Joe eleven.

A few days later Mary Jane saw an oxen team vanishing in the distance. Later, Felt who had been working in the grove brought in news the cabin was vacant. Mary Jane was very disappointed to lose a shy young boy as a neighbor. A few weeks passed and Mary Jane said "Papa

some one is driving in." It was Sunday morning. Jack put down the violin he was tuning and went into the yard.

There they were. Father and Mother Welty, Johnson, Zack and Joe, the first arrivals at Sunday School. Mary Jane spoke to each in turn but offered Joe her hand. He didn't know if he should touch it but Mary Jane saw pleasure in his eyes. The Welty family had moved only fifteen miles away where they found an abandoned claim



Mary Jane Welty at the age of eighty-seven

more to their liking. After Sunday School Jack and Elizabeth persuaded them to stay for dinner. The two families became very good friends and often shared meals together.

So passed a happy summer and camping time drew near. Many pies, cakes, cookies and doughnuts were made. The grove became the scene of bustling activity. There were no tents. Foks just spread blankets and slept under the open sky. Joe was only twelve but thought Mary Jane very special, so cute and witty. Mary Jane was now 16. Mary Jane's parents liked Johnson who was a good farmer boy and industrious.

Mary Jane was in the kitchen one morning when Johnson rode up on his spirited black horse and asked her to go to the circus in Sidney the following day.

Filled with admiration, Mary Jane accepted. They had a wonderful day together and came home in a surrey and Johnson longed to put his arm around her. He did put his arm on the back of the seat and imagined she nestled closer. Joe now 14 felt left out of their threesome.

to be continued --

If you have not already made your reservation for the Heritage Luncheon on April 4th, please call immediately.

(final reservations March 28) 909 302-0180

BUTTERFIELD STAGE ROUTE BUS TOUR
Sponsored by The Temecula Valley Historical Society

With Tour Leader

PHIL BRIGANDI

Historian and Author

(Temecula, at the Crossroads of History)

Saturday, June 7, 2003 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Bring good walking shoes and plenty of curiosity. Participants will have the opportunity to actually stand on the trail used by the Butterfield Stage "mud-wagons," walk into Box Canyon (or at least look into it) and touch the great rock walls that failed to stop the Mormon Battalion, the stage coaches and all those who traveled the Southern Emigrant Trail to find their way up and through our valley.

Cost: \$50.00 includes lunch (Reserve early- Reservations limited to 43 participants)

No cancellations or refunds after May 24th, 2003 Deadline

Meet in museum parking lot at 28314 Mercedes St., Temecula, California at 7:30 a.m.

NOTE: PHIL BRIGANDI WILL ALSO BE THE FEATURED SPEAKER ON THE
BUTTERFIELD STAGE ROUTE, THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2003 6:30 AT THE
TEMECULA VALLEY MUSEUM.

Call Pam at 302-9578 for additional information

Detach and enclose with check

BUTTERFIELD STAGE ROUTE BUS TOUR

Number of reservations _____ Amount enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to **Temecula Valley Historical Society**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

No cancellations or refunds after May 24th, 2003 Deadline

Please return form with check and mail to:

Butterfield Stage Route Tour

P.O. Box 157

Temecula, CA 92593

The Wandering Coverlet and How It Came to Temecula

by Rebecca Marshall Farnbach

Dad used to say it was priceless. He said his great-great-great-grandmother had grown the flax, dyed it, spun it and had woven the coverlet on a loom. But in May of 1987, when I visited my parents in Iowa, it was gone. Mother hedged when I asked her where it was. I supposed Mother had sold it when Dad's mind and health were declining. I reluctantly resigned to never seeing the treasured family blanket again.

Part I: Where was it? A certain book in his antique secretary desk attracted my attention when I returned to Iowa for my dad's memorial service in January 1998. Inside the front cover of the book was a note Dad had written:

"This spread is the property of Robert R. MacCanon and was made by his great, great, great grandmother, Anna Lamb Irish who was born October 13, 1787, married June 4, 1803, died December 2, 1845, daughter of Jeduthan and Jerusha (Cleveland) Lamb buried in Erie County, New York, Boston Cemetery. Husband was Jesse Irish (1780-1849.) Sold to Michael Zahs Rt.L, Ainsworth, IA 52201, history teacher at Washington, Iowa, for \$150, March 19, 1987."

I could barely believe it, first because the coverlet was sold just two months before I inquired about it, and secondly that my Dad had the lucidity to record the blanket's history and the sales transaction.

I copied the words onto another paper and as soon as I went back to my motel room, I called directory assistance for Michael Zah's phone number. When I asked him if I could buy the blanket back, he said, "You should have it."

Not revealing to Mother that I had found the note or contacted Michael Zahs, my husband and I made a pre-dawn drive in sub-zero temperatures to meet Michael at the school where he taught one hundred and fifty miles away.

It was the thirty-ninth antique coverlet in his collection, one of the valuable ones because of the still-intact fringe on three sides. He agreed with Dad's story that the brown and rust-colored threads were linen, but informed me that the dark blue ones were indigo dyed wool. I made a mental note to add the raising of sheep to the new version of the coverlet story.

Michael, not only a high school history teacher, but also a revered Iowa historian, knew about coverlets. He told us to keep ours folded inside a white sheet in a dark place. He also instructed us to change the folds each time we handled it. As he gave a parting glance to the blanket, over 200,000 visitors had viewed it at his 1996 exhibit in the Hoover Presidential Library in West Branch, Iowa.

As we drove from the school, I clutched the coverlet, barely able to believe I had it in my arms. I phoned Mother with the good news during a stopover at the Denver airport. She was happy, too, and said she wouldn't have sold it, had she realized that I valued it.

Part II: How did Dad acquire the blanket? I asked Mother, my sisters, and Dad's siblings, but no one knew who had given the blanket to Dad. In fact, Dad's brothers and sisters had never seen it or even heard about it. My only information was on the note I had copied from the book.

Carol Strickler features photos and diagrams of similar textile arts in her book *American Woven Coverlets*. She states processing homespun linen was difficult and time-consuming in the 1700s, adding that by 1810, ready-made cotton yarn replaced linen. This was consistent with Anna's timeline, making a case that the coverlet could have been for her 1803 trousseau.

The family story is also authenticated by Strickler's information that Anna's design of two woven panels stitched together became obsolete with the introduction of the jacquard loom in the mid-1820s. The jacquard loom allowed the weaving of a panel wide enough to cover a double bed.

Strickler identified the coverlet patterns similar to Anna's originating from the center of New York State. Anna was from Onondaga County, in central New York State.

In careful examination of the woven spread, my husband found a strip where the pattern was irregular. At first we thought this authenticated the amateur workmanship of Anna, but later learned that Quakers like Anna purposely made mistakes to affirm that nothing is perfect but God.

I was satisfied that Anna was the weaver, but I still wanted to know how Dad had acquired the coverlet. Dad's younger sister Delight and I emailed back and forth with our theories about it. Aunt Delight dubbed our

research, The Saga of the Wandering Coverlet. We believed Dad had probably gotten it from his great-aunt Clara Blim.

I remembered a rare visit by Uncle John and Aunt Clara when I was about four years old. They were old and very different from the rest of the family. They were well to do, well read, well educated, vegetarian and childless. They brought Dad a gift that day. *Could that have been the giving of the blanket?*

Aunt Delight and I worked out a scenario that went like this: Anna Lamb and John Irish had a daughter named Sylvia, who married Alonzo Middleditch in Boston, New York in 1825. After he died in 1865 and was buried in the Buffalo, New York area Sylvia moved west to Iowa with her daughter Lucinda and son-in-law Levi Churchill Gensman. Lucinda and Levi had two daughters, my great-grandmother Minnie and her sister Clara. Minnie moved to Florida and Clara stayed in Iowa.

It would make sense that Anna gave the coverlet to Sylvia, who brought it to Iowa. Sylvia probably gave it to Lucinda. Lucinda gave it to Clara, and then Clara gave it to Dad. The scenario worked, but I wondered if I could ever prove it.

In May 2000 when I returned to Iowa for a family wedding, Mother showed me three boxes of family memorabilia containing newspaper clippings, photos, certificates, and old letters. There was also a diary Clara had made during a 1939 trip to New York State recording family birth, death, and cemetery information.

Then I found what I was looking for - an envelope from Clara's personal stationary. On the front "KEEP" was written in pencil. Under it was penned, "To Rev. Robert MacCanon." Below, Dad had written, "Anna Lamb Oct. 12, 1787 - Dec. 2, 1845, Boston Cemetery, Erie Co., N.Y." My heart jumped! There it was!

I carefully opened the envelope and found in Aunt Clara's hand:



"Waterloo (Iowa) October 10, 1947, This blanket or spread was made by my great grandmother, Anna Lamb Irish who is a descendant of William Bradford who came to this country on the Mayflower. Have seen her grave & stone in Erie Co. N.Y. Clara Blim."

Because of Dad's paper trail, I found the coverlet and figured out the chronology of ownership. Although I still don't know whether Clara gave

the coverlet to Dad in 1947, or when they visited in 1955, I do know that she was the one who gave it to him.

From sheep grazing and flax growing in central New York State, to Anna's nibble weaving and her journey to western New York, the coverlet went to Iowa with Sylvia. Lucinda gave it to Clara. Clara gave it to Dad. Dad sold it to Michael Zahs. Michael displayed it at the Hoover Presidential Library. I bought it back, and the wandering coverlet has come home to Temecula.



**Gilman Historic Ranch and Wagon Museum
Invites you
to the
Annual Mountain Man Encampment**

**Thursday & Friday, April 17th and 18th 2003
9:00am to 1:00pm**

**Admission: Adults \$5.00, Children under 12 \$2.00
for reservations, call (909) 922-9200**



Life in Temecula 1967-68

by Audrey Cilurzo

These poignant memories of a sunny, rural life mark the beginnings of a new industry for Temecula Valley ... commercial wine growing. Vince and Audrey Cilurzo chose this area as their weekend respite from busy careers in Los Angeles. Guess what? Angelinos still seek these hills, standing oaks, hot summer days and cool nights as a retreat from urban stress.

We bought our land in Temecula in 1967. Vince was lighting director for the Joey Bishop T.V. show. Every Friday, as soon as the show finished, Vince would rush home and we would load the car and leave Hollywood for Temecula.

In those days, the Border Patrol Checkpoint was at the corner of Hwy 395, (now Hwy 15), and the Shamel Ranch, (now Winchester Road). One dark Friday night, as we drove into our driveway 5-1/2 miles east of Hwy 395, bright lights suddenly came on behind us. It was the Border Patrol. They had seen a car turn onto Long Valley Road (now Rancho California Road), but they didn't know if it came from the north or the south, so the officers followed us with their headlights out until we drove into the driveway of our home. They searched our car to be sure we weren't smuggling drugs or illegal aliens! We were terrified until we realized it was the Border Patrol. There wasn't another house for five or six miles around.

Another night, coming home from a BBQ out at Vail Lake, as we drove along Rancho California Road, a car came up behind us with a wobbly spotlight on us. We could see that it wasn't the Border Patrol, and no police ever came onto the ranch in those days. The car, when we didn't stop, tried to force us off the road! Vince and I were terrified; our only weapon was a flashlight. Finally we stopped our car. A man got out of a beat up old car and came up to us and demanded to know, "What are you doing out here?"

"We live out here," Vince said. The man replied, "No one lives out here -- now get out!". He had a gun in his belt, but no badge and no uniform. It turned out, Kaiser (the developer who bought the Vail Ranch) had hired him to patrol the east side of the ranch because some irrigation equipment had been stolen from the orange

groves on Buck Mesa (now Wine Country). We were so frightened at being stopped in the middle of nowhere by the man with no credentials. The next day Vince, in no uncertain terms, let the officials at Kaiser know what we thought of their "guard". Within a week, the guard had a uniform. Kaiser it seems had forgotten to tell the guard we came down every weekend to our house and vineyard.

This episode was made even more frightening because just a few weeks prior, two Border Patrol officers and their jeep had disappeared from a checkpoint east of Temecula. Planes criss-crossed the valley, searching our barns and every other building in the area. Officers came and talked to everyone trying to locate clues to the officers disappearance. It was weeks and weeks before the men were found murdered in a shack out near Anza. The jeep had been covered with tree branches. Until the leaves turned brown and fell off, the car was camouflaged. This was a very uneasy time for the whole of Temecula Valley. Eventually, arrests were made, [and it was determined] that several cars smuggling narcotics had been stopped and the officers were overpowered and killed by smugglers.

On another occasion, there was a knock on the door one Saturday. It was two very embarrassed U.S. Airforce Officers. The Airforce was experimenting with a new device to transfer fuel from plane to plane while in the air. Somehow the device fell off somewhere over the east side of Temecula. Had we by any chance found it? Of course we hadn't! We don't know if the Airforce ever found it. Talk about looking for a needle in a haystack!

POSTSCRIPT

Life in Temecula in 1967-68 was so interesting and easy going. The Temecula Market carried about everything you needed. We would drive to Murrieta to visit the second-hand store and dig through piles of stuff to find a real treasure. The lake at Lake Elsinore was dry, but driving around the dry lake bed was like going back in time -- it hadn't changed much since it's hey-day in the 1920's.

We bought an old 1944 Willy's Jeep and we would drive all over the west side -- now La Cresta, De Luz, etc. The cattle still ranged this side of Rancho California for several more years. Those were very, very special years.



WINCHESTER LOSES LANDMARK

Winchester Historical Society

The historic Blackmore home in Winchester was destroyed in January by a fire of suspicious origin. The home was built by Jim and Edmee Blackmore circa 1927 on the site of their original house. Ironically, the original home had burned to the ground in 1926. Daughter Marilyn was born in the new home in 1928.

The loss of this landmark concerns all historians as it points out the fragile and diminishing cultural inventory within Riverside County. Because not all properties of historic significance are in "pristine" condition, they often fall victim to vandals, trespassers, developers, or city redevelopment programs...and often as not, without forewarning. The other real and growing danger, however, also involves the possible loss of human life when deserted buildings become the playground of children or housing for the homeless.



READING TOMBSTONES

Temecula Valley Genealogical Society

Cemeteries and gravesites often yield valuable clues to local history. Tombstones can be works of art themselves though the names of the artisans and masons who carved them may never be known. Rubbings are one way a family might preserve the art and genealogical data they need. The following hints are offered.

Using a medium-weight nonwoven fabric called "Pellon" instead of paper will result in a much better rubbing with less effort. The stone can be washed just prior to rubbing since pellon will not tear when wet, and the fabric can be pulled into the shape of the stone and taped into place while the stone is still wet. Use a block of colored wax or side of a crayon to do the rubbing. If the stone has chunks of lichen that have hardened, crumpled pieces of masking tape will help remove them prior to rubbing. *Caution: never use a wire brush to clean a tombstone, else you obliterate important detail forever.* (Kinfolks & Connections)

Can't quite read that tombstone? Use a small mirror and hold the side of the transcription and reflect the sun's light onto it. The cross light picks up everything, and you won't damage the stone.
-- Montana Historical Society



EARTHLY MAGIC, WORKED BY MAN: A Celebration of the Potters of Mata Ortiz

Edward Dean Museum

"In a small village at the end of a long dirt road, magic happens every day. It is an earthy magic, worked by men, women and children at kitchen tables and in backyards all over town. A hand full of mud, a few sticks and stones and human hairs, a pile of cow manure or sometimes cottonwood bark, a splash of kerosene, a quick fire. But out of the smoke and ashes comes something greater than the sum of these homely parts: beautiful pottery..."

"In the heart of the Casas Grandes region of the Mexican state of Chihuahua. Thin as bone china, painted with exquisite precision, the Mata Ortiz pots seem to float above the shelf like ceramic balloons. The pots are created without the use of a potter's wheel and represent hours or even months of work. Each pot symbolizes a story of survival and growth and of victory in "the fight with the clay." -- Susan Lowell, "The Many Faces of Mata Ortiz"

The Edward-Dean Museum and Gardens presents "Earthy Magic, Worked by Man". The exhibition features the ancient pottery of Chihuahua which has taken on a life of its own as contemporary fine art. The opening reception on Sunday, March 30th, is free to the public and includes a demonstration by potters Lucy Mora Bulgarini and Lorenzo Bugarini. The demonstration is from 10:00 am to Noon. A slide presentation by Walter Parks starts at 1:00pm; a traditional native 'firing' will begin at 3:00pm.

The exhibition continues through June 14, 2003. Opening reception is free to the public, thereafter admission is \$3 for adults, \$2.00 for Seniors. For more information call Elisa Grey at (909) 955-2943. www.edward-deanmuseum.org.

FIESTA DE ESTUDILLO

Come join the Estudillo Restoration Association for an afternoon of games, crafts, & fun.

Free admission to the Grounds.

Food booths - Entertainment

150 S. Dillon

San Jacinto, CA

SPECIAL PROTECTION FOR HISTORIC PLACES

Transportation Projects

In the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, Congress created a special protection for historic places, responding to the frightful losses that resulted from the excesses of the Interstate System. It's called Section 4(f) and directs transportation agencies to give the protection of historic properties (as well as public parks, recreation areas, and wildlife refuges) paramount consideration in transportation planning. Transportation projects that required the use of these protected sites may not be approved unless (1) there is no feasible and prudent alternative to using the site and (2) the project includes all possible planning to minimize harm.

Preservation Easements

A pilot program to solicit preservation easements is underway in Chicago. The program originators, Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, launched a campaign to educate owners of historic structures to the benefits of a preservation easement donation. The donation of a preservation easement on a property is the only sure-fire way to guard against demolition or insensitive alterations. Properties must be certified historic structures; that is, listed individually in the National Register, or contributing structures in a National Register District or local district designated by a Certified Local Government. In exchange for donating control of the development of part of the property (usually the front facade and roof line in row-houses, and three elevations and the roof line in free-standing structures), the property owner receives a one-time charitable tax deduction for the potential reduced value of the property (as determined by an appraiser). As a permanent legal encumbrance to a deed, this protection will survive political vicissitudes, as well as shifting priorities from one owner to another. This is the first time the program originators have actively sought easement donations.

KEEPING SECRETS

written by Olive Davis

The Vail Ranch Restoration Association (VaRRRA) is selling a children's book as a fundraiser. **Keeping Secrets**, written at a fifth-grade level is enjoyable for all audiences, especially adults who like Temecula history. Written by Olive Davis who lived at the ranch as a five-year-old in 1929, many real life adventures and places are featured in the fiction text. This book is a bargain at \$12. Copies will be on display at the Historical Society's annual luncheon, and can be purchased from Rhine and Sandy Helzer (302-0256) or Darell and Rebecca Farnbach (699-5148).

10 Easy ways to be a Preservationist

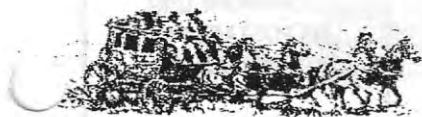
The National Trust for Historic Preservation

The following suggestions have been collected nationwide and these are tips for those who don't know the difference between a mullion and a muntin:

1. Show your kids the place where you went to school or where you got married.
2. Shop in a historic commercial district. Be sure to look up so you can admire the detail of the buildings' upper floors.
3. Visit a place where history was made or a museum dedicated to history.
4. Eat at a restaurant in a historic building. If you like the atmosphere, tell the owner or host.
5. Attend a live performance or movie at a historic theatre.
6. Walk around a historic residential neighborhood.
7. Join an organization -- even better, more than one -- dedicated to historic preservation.
8. Stay in a historic hotel -- the 185 members of Historic Hotels of America are listed at www.nthp.org/historic_hotels/index.asp.
9. Attend services in a historic church.
10. Take a tour of historic houses in your community.

Several of these opportunities are available right here in Southwest Riverside County. Local historical societies can help you find historic homes, hotels, churches, schools, and entire historic districts. Membership in historic societies is always a very modest expense, but a very enriching experience. If you would like more information, please call the Temecula Valley Historical Society at (909) 302-0180.

**Celebrate
National Preservation Week
May 5 - 11, 2003
www.nationaltrust/preservationweek.org**



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !!

February 15 to March 15, 2002

New Members

Patricia Friedemann

Pat Hall

Judy Hancock

Jeffrey & Mary Nickerson

Gifts, Grants & Donations

Eve Craig for Wolf's Tomb

Please remember us
in your will or trust.

Fiesta de Estudillo

April 6

150 S. Dillon Street

San Jacinto

FREE admission to grounds



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Have you moved? Changed your email or phone number? Don't forget to report these changes to us. We depend on the accuracy of our mailing list to keep your newsletter coming.

Send a postcard, FAX, or call:

Newsletter Editor, 32800 Hupa Drive,
Temecula, CA 92592; phone (909)
302-0180, FAX (909) 302-0171.



Calendar

Heritage Luncheon	Apr 4 - Noon
Fiesta de Estudillo	Apr 6
Roving Antique Show	Apr 11 & 12
Murrieta Fireman's BBQ	April 13
Santa Rosa Plateau	April 23
Board meeting	May 2
Western Days	May 17 & 18

Active Committees:

Research & Preservation

Wolf's Tomb

Plaques & Markers

Bus Tour of Butterfield Stage Route

Public Relations

Board meetings and member programs are held in the Conference Room of the Temecula Library, unless otherwise stated. No RSVP is required.

Date, time and location of committee meetings or special events fluctuates. For information, contact committee or event chair.

When possible, member reminders are sent via email or postcard 10 days prior to the meeting or event. In addition, public service announcements are usually placed in local newspapers.

SANTA ROSA PLATEAU

Wednesday, April 23

2:00 - 4:00pm

If you missed last year's highly interesting tour of the old adobes at Santa Rosa Plateau, or just want to go again, Rob Hicks will conduct a field trip for members and friends of the Society. The cost is \$3 per person, payable at the Visitor's Center where the tour begins.

Wear a sunhat and comfortable shoes; bring your own water or soft drink. Cameras are encouraged. Choose to walk or join a car pool for the three mile trip from the Visitor's Center to the adobes.

This amazing natural reserve is located at 39400 Clinton Keith Road, Murrieta, CA. See a slice of California as it was in the early 1800s. Reservations are recommended. Contact Myra Gonsalves at (909) 699-1030 or email NDM74@earthlink.net.

The Society donated two copies of "Temecula at the Crossroads" to local libraries.

The Newsletter

Articles must include author's name and contact information. Historical research, biographies, and local history articles will be given preference.

All submissions are subject to editing. Some articles may be held for publication in the next newsletter or in a journal to be published at a later time.

Editor..... Charolette Fox

Assistant Editor.....

Printing..... Potamus Press



www.tvhs.homestead.com/FrontPage.html

CHECK IT OUT !!

Mission Statement

The mission of the Temecula Valley Historical Society is to identify, preserve and promote the historic legacy of the Temecula Valley and to educate the public about its historical significance.



TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 157
TEMECULA, CA 92593

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
TEMECULA CA

PERMIT #447

If you enjoyed this issue, why not share it with a friend? Please pass it on and help us build our readership. Thank you.

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A tax exempt charitable & educational organization

Membership

Membership/Donation Categories:

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Historian	\$ 300.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	\$ 15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$ 500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$ 25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Founder	\$ 1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributor	\$ 50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$ 5,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$ 100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Supreme	\$10,000.00

The Board of Directors formulate and vote on policies. The membership may vote for Directors at the annual meeting.

Membership is open to anyone regardless of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Dues and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Donations may be designated or undesignated.

Checks payable to:

Temecula Valley Historical Society

Mail to:

P. O. Box 157

Temecula, CA 92593-0157