

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

May 2003 Vol 3 Issue 5

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SNAPSHOTS IN TIME

Looking at the valley's growth since the 1960's provided ideas for storylines on the businesses and trades that are here. Inside this issue are stories about the blacksmith's and cheesemaker's trades.

There can be little doubt that ingenuity and opportunity often meet head-to-head in Southwest Riverside County ... and when they do, their merging increases the richness of local life. Read now how two centuries-old trades can still be seen and appreciated for the skills they represent.



Memoirs: The Series

Compared to the mobility of modern society, the treks and travels of earlier settlers differed only by the time lapses travel used to impose. There is a wanderlust in most Americans that comes from the same wellspring today as it has since the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock--a better life, freer, richer and more self-directed.

We can sense the gush of this invisible force in the life of Mary Jane Welty, an early settler of Temecula, whose story is continued inside simply but enchantingly.



President's Corner

The early pioneers of Temecula's wine heritage were celebrated at the second annual Heritage Luncheon on April 4th. For many of the members and guests attending, this was not only an eye-opener on local history, it was a marvelous opportunity to meet one another. The food and the presentations were great, and this year's committee managed many details efficiently and well.

So thank you Audrey and Vince Cilurzo; thank you John Moramarco; thank you committee and thank you members.

Charolette Fox

An Irish Prayer

May there Always be work for your hands to do.

May your Purse always hold a coin or two.

May the Sun always shine on your windowpane.

May a Rainbow be certain to follow each rain.

May the Hand of a friend always be near you.

May your heart be filled with gladness to cheer you.



Mary Jane, Pioneer

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

Heartly and adventurous, the small size of this woman belied her large appetite for life. Imagine baking 200 pies in a modern oven, and compare that to the same job on a wood-burning stove! It takes a heap o' apples, too!

At age 18, Mary Jane married Johnson at Uncle Jack's with 100 guests present. Ma Frost, a Mormon elder, performed the ceremony. Closing the ceremony with, "I now pronounce you man and wife," Johnson kissed Mary Jane for the first time. The guests danced all night but paused for a bountiful supper.

As wedding gifts, Mr. Welty gave them 80 acres of land, a set of dishes, and black walnut furniture. Mary Jane's father built them a house and gave them a cow. They received feather beds, pillows, blankets, quilts, and other household items. The night after the wedding, young folks came with noise makers to give them a chivaree. Mary Jane served them doughnuts and coffee.

One fine autumn day the whole neighborhood journeyed to Council Bluffs to meet Abraham Lincoln, America's beloved son. Mary shook Abe's hand.

The first child born was a girl, named Nancy after Jack's sister. Soon after came the civil war and the surrender of Fort Sumpter. Lincoln, now President, called for 75,000 volunteers for 3 month's service. Mary Jane begged Johnson not to go; then, early in 1862, the Homestead Bill was passed and enacted into law on May 20th that year.

Johnson wanted more land -- "Lots of good land in the Dakotas", he said, and decided to go. Jane's mother Elizabeth, pleaded for Mary Jane, Nancy, and now Tilly age 16 months, to stay, but Mary said, "If Johnson goes, I go."

Enroute, the family crossed the Sioux River in Dakota when soldiers dashed by, their animals white with lather and motioned them to turn back. They didn't. Coming to a log hut that seemed to be deserted, they planned to occupy it for a few days. By the light of a smokey lantern, they unloaded bedding and Mary Jane began to arrange the bed. Holding up the lantern she said, "Johnson come look, there's blood and grey hair on the bed pole."

Mary Jane had a sleepless night. The next morning, a Mr. LeBlanc came to tell them an old man had been

murdered while he slept. "You come stay at my place on James River. We have a double house and my wife is lonesome and despondent of going to Yorktown to have her baby." Having two babies of her own, Mary Jane assured Le Blanc that she could take care of his wife, and the women became very close friends.

Another day, while Mary Jane was baking pies, two U.S. Army officers came by and asked for a glass of water. They smelled the pies and paid a dollar for one. This was in 1863 when General Alfred Sully marched with twelve hundred men from Sioux City to engage in battle with two thousand Indian warriors at White Stone Hills or General Sibley fought the Sioux, freeing two hundred and fifty white women and children held captive. "Can you bake more pies? There are two thousand soldiers." It was great fun and Mary sold over 200 pies at \$1 apiece.

After many letters from Mary Jane's folks, they decided to go back to Iowa. Johnson sold the oxen; so using two Indian canoes, Johnson, Mary Jane and the girls loaded in one canoe, and Sam and the luggage rode in the other. John brought the horses. It was a very difficult trip back to Council Bluffs, but once there, they took a stage to Sidney then caught a ride with neighbors the rest of the way to Uncle Jack's. The trip to Dakota had cost hundreds of dollars, but what a joyous reunion to be back in Iowa.

They were settled in again in their own home when Johnson heard about gold in California. A letter came from his friend Alkins in Idaho wanting him to join in a venture trading fit animals for weary ones that had crossed the plains. Mary Jane wondered about Johnson's restlessness, but not until little Martha was born in January of 1864 did she know the reason. Johnson said Martha would be 4 months old then and they could travel when the roads were good and be there before winter. Mary Jane was as excited as Johnson, but not her parents.

Little Martha passed away in April. By now, Nancy was 4-1/2 and Tilly was 3. On May 1, 1864, Johnson, Sam and John left for California without a broken-hearted Mary Jane. About 100 miles away, Johnson walked back to get Mary and the two girls. Because he hadn't left a note for John and Sam before leaving, they waited two days thinking the Indians had killed him. They headed back to tell Mary Jane when a stage drew up and off got Johnson and family. What a glad sight!

to be continued...

The History of the Winchester Cheese Company

as told by Jules Wesselink

My wife Corrie and I grew up in Haarlem, Holland. We were childhood sweethearts and married in 1951. That same year we immigrated to California, U.S.A. The land of opportunity! I wanted to be a dairyman like Corrie's father back home who came from a long line of dairy farmers. (He was also an artisan cheesemaker--one of the best!) Corrie and I made several moves during our early marriage: From Paramount to Bellflower to Artesia (where I realized my dream to start in the dairy business) and then to Chino. We became parents of four children: Valerie, Leo, Pauline and Jules, Jr., who grew up helping on the dairy.

In 1978 I had an opportunity to buy land and build a new dairy. Winchester became our "Promised Land." We liked the wide open spaces, the good soil, the clean skies and the convenient location. It was a unanimous decision to move the Wesselink family and dairy from Chino to Winchester.

It was an exciting time. The new dairy was built by my brother-in-law, Jan Van Gaale and his sons. We chose a Dutch building style and the road where the property was located had long ago been named Holland Road. (Fate or coincidence, I'm not sure.) More cows joined the herd and more helpers joined our work force.

The new place had room to grow--literally. The Wesselinks started farming, growing feed for the dairy herd. Our neighbors, the Domenigonis, were generous with their farming knowledge and helped us a lot. The Wesselink clan grew, too, grandchild by grandchild.

About eight years ago, the milk price in California dropped so low we found ourselves thinking long and hard of ways to increase our milk money. I had an idea that making specialty cheese might be the answer. What type of cheese...Dutch Gouda Boerekaas, of course! It's our favorite cheese!

During a trip to Holland in 1995 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Holland's liberation, the cheesemaking idea was planted even more firmly in my mind. My wife's cousins, who in Holland are the cheesemakers of the family, invited us to stay with them at their cheesemaking farm in Haarlem. I got a crash course in Gouda cheesemaking and returned home with a little cheesemaking kit. I could make two baby wheels at a time. Family and friends were my tasters and critics. Soon they were requesting cheese

"gifts." The mix of a good recipe, California sunshine, happy cows, and lots of hard work proved to be a winning combination.

Our next obstacle was a small one--as in kangaroo rat. The little creature's influence on building and permits at that time was powerful. It simply was not financially possible for me to build a cheese factory. But, as they say, "Necessity is the mother of invention." I came up with a different idea for a building--use a big refrigerated grocery trailer or "reefer." With guidance from the Health Department we



set up our entire cheesemaking business in one trailer.

My first assistants were son-in-law, David, and our son, Jules. The first cheese sellers were wife, Corrie, and daughter, Valerie, at the Temecula Farmers Market in Old Town. Our cheese sales

increased quickly and so did our need to expand the cheese making facility. Slowly but surely over the past six years we've added more trailers, one at a time. We now have a total of eight trailers side by side and space for 5,000 wheels of cheese to be made and aged to perfection. We are probably the only cheese business in the nation to register their factory with the DMV every year!

My brother-in-law, Pete Van Loon, is the quiet genius behind our unique, one-of-a-kind operations. His talents in steel fabrication and his ability to turn mechanical ideas into reality are the backbone of our cheesemaking business. Pete came to California from Holland soon after Corrie and I (at our suggestion). Back home on the family dairy farm, he was his dad's assistant in all the dairy chores as well as cheesemaking. Pete knew what equipment was required to make the best Gouda cheese. Many travelers on Winchester Road recognize the "Farm Made Cheese" covered wagon which Pete built for that purpose. Thanks to Pete, we have viewing windows into the cheese factory so our visitors who stop by for cheese samples can get a look at how cheese is made the old-fashioned way.

I've reached an age when most people are retired -- 74 years. I guess this cheese business is my Fountain of Youth. I enjoy what I do and I meet the nicest people every day. Hope to see you at Winchester Cheese Company, 32605 Holland Drive, Winchester, CA. Monday-Friday, 9-5. Saturday & Sunday, 10-4.

CHRIS LUDY

an account by Vince & Audrey Cilurzo

Vince and I met Chris Ludy in 1967 through his niece Marjorie Gilliam. Marjorie and I taught school in Burbank, California. When she learned we had bought land in Temecula, she told me she had spent summers in Temecula with her relatives -- the Ludy Family. Marjorie introduced us to her 85 year-old Uncle Chris who was born and grew up in Temecula.

We brought Chris and Marjorie to Temecula to visit. Chris was in his 80s and hadn't been back to Temecula in 50 years. We visited an abandoned house in the hills behind the Ed and Peggy Querry house on Pala (now Pechanga) Road. This was the house Marjorie visited each summer and Chris lived in part of his life growing up. We saw all the signs that many years ago this had been an Indian Village. Holes dug in the rocks to grind acorns, etc.

Chris took us to the cemetery where two elderly men were digging a grave. The three sort of stalked each others. Chris said, "Don't I know you? -- Don't tell me." One of the other men said, "I ain't goin to tell you." Finally, Chris said, "Aren't you an 'Escallier'?" The men nodded. Turned out the three men had been children together. One fellow held up a crooked finger and said, "You did this to me. Threw a ball and broke my finger?" They laughed and remembered stories about growing up in Temecula. Finally, Chris said, "Where's Caboose?" The men pointed to a grave close by and said, "He's right over there." Caboose was their youngest brother and was so little he couldn't keep up and was always behind the rest -- hence the name "Caboose"!

Chris asked, "Where's Mr. Railroad?" Mr. Railroad was the train conductor. He took his job very seriously. If someone got on the train without a ticket, he'd stop the train -- no matter where, even if it was the middle of nowhere, and eject the ticketless passenger. The three friends talked about how the train from Riverside to Oceanside was waded away twice by torrential rains, so finally the railroad was abandoned. They also talked about the time the Vail's bought the ranches; the five Vail boys were real cut-ups and were always into some mischief. The Vail's had the first car in Temecula and the Vail boys would careen up and down Front Street frightening the horses and upturning wagons.

Chris told us about a butcher shop owner who would go to the pool hall across from his butcher shop, and play

pool. One day, the men in the pool hall rubbed limberger cheese around the inside band of his hat. It smelled terrible, but the butcher didn't notice it. He returned to his shop where his wife was working and his wife smelled him and ordered him home to have a bath. He finally took the bath, but after the bath he put his hat on again and returned to work. His wife was angrier than ever and accused him of not bathing!

We wandered all over the Temecula cemetery and Chris told us about many early Temecula families buried there. Chris told us the Spanish American War was over before anyone in Temecula found out it had even taken place!

When Chris was 12 and 13 he walked to Riverside to visit relatives. It took him three days to walk that far!

We drove Chris to our ranch out on Rancho California Road. Chris called it Long Valley Road. He said the road had been about 100 feet south of the present road, a little higher up, so it wouldn't flood. Chris said he worked cutting hay as a teenager out where we now live. He became very quiet and we thought something was wrong, but Chris said, "If I had said to my buddies that one day I'd be in an air conditioned car driving out Long Valley Road -- they'd a hauled me off to the booby hatch!"

Chris said that a family named Rice lived in the little house on our land. He said they moved to Rainbow. Chris had an aunt in Rainbow that he sometimes stayed with. He knew the names of every family living in Rainbow about 1900, even though he hadn't been back for over 50 years. We realized because there was no radio or TV and few newspapers in Temecula, people remembered local events more than we do nowadays.

Chris was a little boy when the government marched all the Indians out to the Pachenga Reservation. He remembered seeing them in the long lines walking along Pala Road. They carried their belongings with them. He said it was very sad, and that the various tribes were all put together to live, even though the tribes had different traditions so they didn't get along together at all.

Chris was invited in 1968 to come to Temecula and talk to a group of visitors about the early days. Kaiser -- the developer of Rancho California -- was to send a limousine to pick Chris up and bring him down for the event. Vince and I were waiting for the limousine to arrive and when it didn't arrive we contacted the officials of Kaiser. We found out that they had forgotten to send the limousine! In a rush, a limousine was found and rushed up to Orange County where Chris lived. By that time, his feelings were

hurt and he refused to come to Temecula. We were truly disappointed because Kaiser had lost out on a chance to 'earn more of Chris' stories and Temecula history.

Chris' grandparents lived in the house where Louie Roripaugh, Ranch Manager to the Vail's lived -- next to the Wolf Store. Chris showed us a spot up high in the rafters of the store he scratched his name as a little boy. He got in trouble for climbing up so high. His grandparents bought the land for ten cents an acre, and many years later sold it to the Vail's for twenty-five cents an acre. Chris' parents lived in an adobe house west of the Wolf Store that was washed away in a flood of about 1907. Chris says the last Indian Treaty was actually signed in that little adobe house and not the Wolf Store.

It is now the year 2003. Chris is gone now and his niece Marjorie is 83 years old and lives in Arroyo Grande, California. We reminisce about Temecula often.



Gardens from the Past Inspire Gardens of the Future

Over the last nine months, I have attended tours, workshops, forums, and classes offered through various water districts. The focus of these classes has been landscapes that focus on water conservation. In the process, the classes also develop an awareness for better gardens and better landscape practices. The classes have been by invitation only and were available to professional landscapers, nursery owners, water department personnel, city planners, botany and biology teachers, environmental advocates, and land conservation managers. I ended up in this group of wonderful people because of my interest in historical gardens.

Part of the task that besets historical gardens for this area, is that the region can grow so many different plant species. The diversity is endless. And many species have been introduced over the last 300 years. The effort now, is to define the plant pallet by era and point of origin.

Plants arrived by boat, covered wagon and (later) by rail. Some have become invasive species, and some have brought (or encouraged) pests we now spend millions to eradicate.

Recognizing that they have a big stake in how landscapes take form as the rapid growth predicted for San Bernardino and Riverside Counties occurs, the Metropolitan Water District is taking the lead to encourage demonstration gardens in public places. Called the City Makeover Program, MWD invites cities and interested organizations to submit proposals based on "California Heritage" designs. The designs are reviewed (and "judged") for their creative and imaginative use of native and indigenous plants as well as their low maintenance and irrigation systems plan. It is not accidental that the word "makeover" is part of the program's title. The hope is that, by working together, we can stem the extravagant and wasteful water practices that use millions of acre feet of water each year on grass and conserve for human use instead.

The First Annual City Makeover Program is coming to a close. On May 4th the winner for Riverside County will be announced. As a judge for the program, I was delighted by the variety of entries. Selecting a winner from so many great designs was hard. Knowing that the winner will receive \$75,000 made me realize that the winning entry needed to embody the spirit of "California Heritage", and be a showplace where home gardeners could visit for inspiration in designing their own landscapes.

The suspense is shared by the entrants as well. There are tremendous expectations being placed on them to produce the best demonstration landscape, and also make it a teaching place. The winner must make their garden available to the public and provide both instruction and literature for those who visit.

The standard has been set...and it is very high. But it is the first step toward a green, sustainable and water-conscious human habitat -- a new California eden based on the landscapes of yesteryear.



Visit Guajome House, Mission San Juan Capistrano, Mission San Luis Rey, or Kimberly Crest in Redlands to see historic gardens. Visit Quail Gardens or Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens to see "California Heritage" gardens. -- Editor

THE KNOTT FAMILY

a genealogical digest

John Knott was born in 1855 in London England. His parents were John Knott and Ann (Dodd?). The year John Knott came from London, England, to the U.S. is not known. When he found work in Ohi, he sent for his wife, Eliza (Constable) and small son John II, arriving in New York on the 23rd of January, 1880. He was a miner and Sunday school superintendent, she a chambermaid, making one pound a month, while they lived in England. They moved to Oklahoma Territory where John worked in the coal mines. There, two more sons, Tom and George were born.

After an accident at the coal mine in which a friend was killed, John decided he didn't want his sons to become coal miners. In 1888 they moved to the Dakota Territory. They took up a claim five miles SE of Lebanon on the SE 1/4 of Sec. 12 in Roy Twp. They built a sod house and other buildings which served for several years. Here five more children were born -- Millie, Florence, Annie, Al, and Ella.

In 1904 at the age of 48, John Knott died. His wife Eliza stayed in Dakota a few more years before moving to California, taking the younger children with her. Al, the last to pass on died in 1982 in Rainbow, CA.

John Knott farmed in Potter County and served as County Commissioner. He died in 1945. Tom farmed in South Dakota, moved to California, and died in 1970. George, the second son, homesteaded on the SE 1/4 of Sec. 10 in Canton Twp. He farmed all his life, never married and died in 1962 at the age of 80. Millie, Florence, and Ella all migrated to California and eventually died there. Annie died of the flu in Potter Co. in 1918.

John II and his wife Emma Mikkleson took over the homestead place and raised five children: Anna Louise, Maxine, John, Ardell, and Lloyd. All except John III live in California. He married Verna Carlson of Columbia, SD. They own and live on the original homestead. They have one child, Margie Knott Hause and one grandson Yuri Judah Hause.

Alfred (Al) Knott

Born in South Dakota in 1891; left South Dakota with his mother Eliza Knott and moved to California in 1904, at the age of 13. Eliza bought some property at the northwest corner of Lake Elsinore. Al got a job working for Amos Sykes, farming in the Murrieta area, making \$300 per season raising grain and wheat. (A season in

California is from March through the early part of October, planting to harvest.) In the winter months he worked for Farrell Freeman, a cattleman who owned a blacksmith shop in the town of Temecula (Temecula Iron Works) at the NE corner of Front & 5th Street, east of the Palomar Hotel.

Al also worked for a blacksmith in Murrieta during those early years. That's where he first saw Freda Rail (his future bride). She was running a foot race with other local school kids and winning. Al mentioned something about her speed and the owner of the blacksmith shop said that nobody could catch her, she's the fastest runner in the valley. Al used to laugh and say, "But he was wrong, I caught her". They were married for sixty-nine years.

Sometime around 1912, Farrell asked Al if he would like to purchase his blacksmith shop, because he didn't have enough time to run it and his cattle operation at the same time. Al stated that he didn't have money to take such an offer. Farrell said that was OK, he could pay as he could. Al accepted the offer and moved the building from where it sat on Fifth and Main (behind the Palomar Hotel), across the street to the west side of Front Street, to 10 lots of property he just purchased across the road. They actually lifted the building off its foundation blocks and set in onto dollies (axle and wheels), hitched up a team of mules and moved the building across the street.

Al noticed how popular the automobile was becoming, so once again, in 1918, he moved the blacksmith shop farther back into his property, and built an automobile repair shop facing Front Street. He said that was the first time he ever took out a loan. It cost him \$1800 to build Knott's Garage, his automobile repair shop, using terracota blocks manufactured north of Elsinore, in the little town of Alberhill. It only took him a couple of years to repay his loan, due to his speculation on the success of the automobile. For many years, his garage was one of the only places where a traveler could get car repairs between Riverside and Escondido.

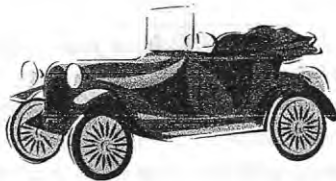
Al provided the area with horse shoeing, welding, wagon, farming implement, automotive, and truck repairs for many years.

Al married Freda Rail of Murrieta in 1913, they had two children, Vernon and Vera (twins) in 1916. Vernon married Annie Speziali, a local Temecula girl of Swiss decent and they had four children: Charles Alfred, Vernetta Arlean, James Vernon, and Eugene Francis.

-- continued next page

Vera married Eldon and they had five children, Laurel, Steve, Mary, John, and Carol, who were raised in Millbrook, CA.

Until relatively recent times, property descriptions were always given in metes and bounds terms rather than in lots and blocks. A Section is 640 acres, a 1/4 section being 160 acres. Common abbreviations include Twp (township), Sec (Section), and directionals such as NW (northwest), etc. A lot or block, then as now, was not always uniform from place to place.



**FLEA MARKET IN
SAM HICKS MONUMENT PARK**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2003
9:00AM - 3:30 PM**

**COME AND SUPPORT THE
PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS**

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

**THE TEMECULA VALLEY MUSEUM ANNOUNCES
"EXPLORING OUR VALLEY HISTORY"**

**Four weeks of experiencing
the special character of the valley.**

**Classes meet 9:00am to 1:00pm
Tuesday-Friday**

\$50 per week per child

**June 24-June 27 - The Native Americans
July 8-July 11 - European/Spanish Settlement
July 15-July 18 - Californios & Gold Rush Period
July 22-July 25 - The New California**

Call 694-6450 for information



**THE BLACKSMITH AND HIS
TRADE**

by Klaus Duebbert, Blacksmith and Blacksmith Instructor

From the dawn of civilization, the iron worker occupied a special place in society. There was, as it is today, a great need to have iron and steel tools. Over the last millenia, blacksmiths have forged tools and weapons for the advancement of mankind.

In the past, blacksmiths were highly revered. In medieval times, it was customary for the sons of kings to apprentice as blacksmiths. Specifically, the making of great swords was held in high esteem. Many cultures even believed that blacksmiths were magicians or holy men.

For most of the centuries past, hand forging was the only way to make iron implements. From the Roman and Greek blacksmith, to the medieval armourer, to the village smithy, and the railroad and mining blacksmith, craftsmen shaped hot iron with hammer and hands. But the late 19th and early 20th centuries brought changes to the ironwork traditions. More and more articles were mass produced rather than hand forged.

In the middle of the 20th century, blacksmithing almost died out. Prior to the invention of modern gas and electric welders, the smith was the only person who could work iron. To this day, anvils and hammers still ring here and there. A few professional blacksmiths continue to work the old fashioned way to create iron work of unequaled beauty and artistic expression.

Blacksmithing also has become a hobby for many folk old and young and there are again opportunities to learn and preserve this ancient craft.

Klaus is also Curator of Arts & Ironworks for the Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center at 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Riverside, CA 92509. His current work-in-progress is the creation of a metal mastodon for the dinosaur statues on site. This very special Center also houses one of the best local rock and gem collections, and is developing the area's largest native plant demonstration gardens and outdoor learning centers. As a museum and cultural center, admission is free. A donation is asked to support the ever-growing collections and to help maintain the facility. Call (909) 685-5818 for more information. School tours are available.



WINDMILL, WINDMILL

by Joyce and Hal Clark

We moved from Laguna Niguel to Temecula in October 1996. We were drawn by the peace and quiet in wine country and reliable sunshine -- a pleasant change from the ocean layer along the coast. After settling into a nice house we were able to acquire adjacent acreage. Our home was one of the four Christmas tour homes for the Women's Club in 2002.

After a career as a busy business executive and University educator, Hal suddenly found a fascination for creating gardens, ponds and anything to do with landscaping. In 1999, while visiting Monet's Giverny gardens in France, Hal said, "I can do that". He acquired a used tractor and began work. The property now has a lily pond and bridge with the same ambience as Giverny. Also, a newly landscaped koi pond that was already on the property, five acres of vineyard and approximately two acres of drought tolerant native plants in the garden.

While clearing an adjacent acreage of dead and falling trees, Hal came upon an old well with a tall windmill tower, but the windmill was missing. The tower looked as old as the many large oak trees on the property. According to a Temecula Valley Museum docent, the well tower was the original Vail Ranch windmill built in 1916 to provide water for the cattle. The docent pointed it out on an old map and sure enough, it was on the Pauba section of the Vail Ranch near the corner of Glen Oaks Road and De Portola Road, now part of the twelve acres.

After visiting the museum and finding out the historical significance of the find, it was decided to restore the windmill to its original state. With the skilled help of a neighbor, Jim Andervich, the worm eaten and rotten wood has been replaced with new redwood that will make the tower strong enough to last another century. After a couple of years, the redwood pieces should discolor and blend in with the nearly century-old timber of the tower.

Another friend, Anita Kutz, told us about seeing windmills along the freeway in Victorville, so Joyce and Anita took a ride out to do some research on replacing

the windmill. They found a craftsman who brings windmills from Nebraska, reconditions them til they are operational, and installs them. Randy Stubbs of Big Country Windmills, is located in Hesperia and Nebraska.

Ordering a 10-ft, 600-pound Aermotor, Model 6, he installed the metal windmill atop the tower with the help of an 80-ft crane from B&C Crane Co., on March 31st. The Aermotor was built in Chicago, April of 1929. Model 6 Aermotors were all built between 1915 and 1932, and would have been the same as was originally installed on the property in 1916. The windmill now sits on its ancient tower forty feet in the air amid magnificent ancient oaks in Temecula's Wine Country.

Married 47 years, Joyce and Hal have four children and eight grandchildren. Hal earned his Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degrees while working full time. They enjoy collecting and driving historical and special cars and are members of the Temecula Valley Car Club and other car clubs. Joyce enjoys the Book Club at the library and volunteers as a docent at the Plateau and a reading coach at a local school.



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.



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 Rock House in Temecula Canyon

as related by Walt Cooper to
Malcolm and Loretta Barnett
in May, 2002

Walt now lives in Nevada. He is 90+ years of age, with a vivid recall of names and events of Temecula and Murrieta. Here, in his own words, is his account. Researchers will find many useful clues within this short biography to guide their search for greater detail.

After returning from Lodi in the fall of 1932, I tried to make a living by cutting wood. But so little demand made it a poor proposition. A maiden lady named Miss Izon owned two small ranches, one in French Valley and the other in Temecula Canyon. I think there were 160 acres in each. This lady hired Alfred "Toad" Freeman as foreman on both ranches. Toad had a son, David, who went to grammar school in Temecula. Toad hired Jessie and me to take care of a few cattle and a team of horses and cook for David and send him to school. A bus picked kids up on Temecula grade and it was one mile from the house to Temecula grade.

We were working for our board, but we had to trade at Tarwaters store, that provided little more than potatoes and some canned goods, bread but no meat. So the board was poor and it got cold in that canyon.

We could not cut any oak trees for wood, and the willow wood we used put out little heat. The well was in the creek in front of the rock house. We had to take hot water and thaw our pumps in the morning. After, breakfast we had to thaw the pumps again.

Pat Quinn, an Irishman, built the house of rock to serve as a bunkhouse for his crew. These men could cut up boulders and make fence posts, steps, curbs, etc. They split the rock like splitting wood. The granite curb at Temecula Bank was made by them. Also, the Courthouse steps in Riverside. The house had no ceiling, which made it hard to heat. The rock quarries operated for a good many years. After cement plants became more popular, the rock business quit. I understand that lots of rock went to San Francisco.

It rained a lot that winter and on one trip to the grade my car bogged down and it was a month before we got it out.

We planted a garden and potatoes and that made for better food.

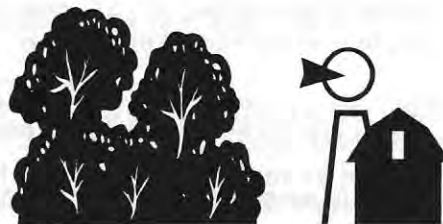
About the first of May in 1933, I went to cutting oat hay for Maurie Stoner in Murrieta. I quit Toads job and never went back again.

In later years, Gib Miller, Harry Kerdroan and I would drive to the Rock House and hike up that high mountain west of the house. There were three or four little meadows up there where the deer would feed. We would kill some and dress them there

and put the meat in white cloth bags and carry it out in lighter loads.

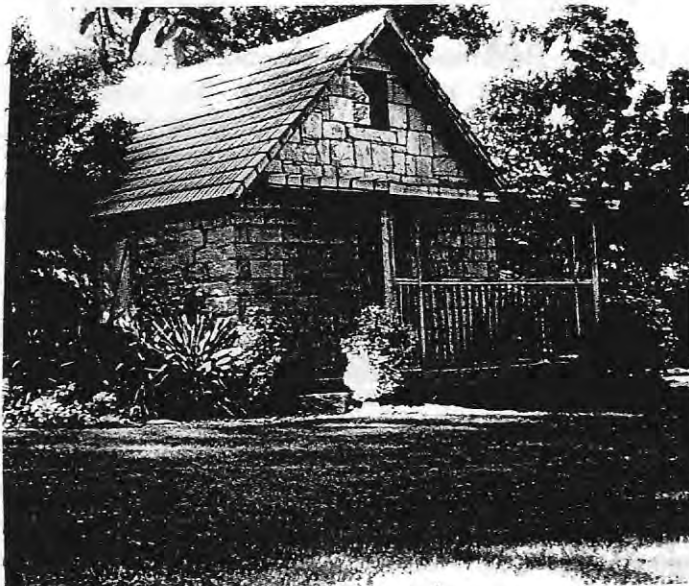
I don't know if anyone ever lived in the rock house after we did, but I think it is still there. I think Rancho has a golf course near there. I have stopped my car right by the railing on the grade and looked down on the roof of the old rock house. It would be over 125 years old.

Another little event in history was old Eli Barnett. He farmed a lot of grain between Murrieta and Temecula. He drove a long 1924 Cadillac Touring car. He also was a tobacco chewer and always spit out the left side, his spital coated with tobacco juice. Eli would be Malcolm's great grandfather.



The Temecula grade is the freeway bypass between Rainbow and South Temecula. The Rancho golf course is now known as the Temecula Creek golf course. The recently refurbished and restored Courthouse in Riverside still sports the granite steps quarried in Temecula. As it stands today, the rock house has a roof and is maintained on it's original site, though the future of the stone house is in doubt.

The Isabel Barnett Elementary School was named for Eli's wife (Malcolm's great grandmother, Isabel).





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Calendar

Board meeting	May 2
Western Days	May 17 & 18
Butterfield Bus Tour	June 7
Faire @ Sam Hiks Park	June 14
Street Painting Festival	June 21 & 22
4th July Parade	July 4

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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.

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.

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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.



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