

# TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



## NEWSLETTER

October 2003 Vol 3 Issue 10

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### LAND USE, OPEN SPACE

#### AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

How are these three items linked and what do they have to do with us? As historians our interests may lie mainly in the gathering of photos, documents and personal stories of this valley, but as preservationists our focus fixes on *where* a landmark or historic building is, *what condition* it is in, *whether* it can be saved, *what* would that entail, and *how soon is action needed?*

See inside for a reprint of a letter presented to the County Board of Supervisors Tuesday, September 9th.



#### **Aviation: It's Pioneers and Pursuit for Perfection**

Aviation is a pastime and a profession for a growing number of people. One event, all but forgotten, was the landing of two Russians at Ryan Airport in Hemet many years ago. Bill Harker did not live in Temecula then, but as a child he did see the pilots and their colorful plane. This story and other bits of flying history may have fueled Bill's own interests. Bill will be the featured speaker for the Third Annual Meeting.

**See notice and invitation to Annual Meeting inside.**

### *President's Corner*

At the last Board of Directors meeting, Karen Parrott presented part of a video which eloquently caught the essence of the main block building at Dorland Arts Colony. The property is privately owned, but can be visited on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. For a look at life in the slow lane, historic Dorland is definitely a place to experience.

Carol Marsden reported the history and the significance of the chapel bell at Chapel of Memories, formerly St. Catherine's Church. The bell commemorates Tony Tobin, the collector whose foresight was the impetus behind a museum for Temecula. The bell rings each day at noon, and each time a bride walks down the aisle to be married in the Chapel.

The Board was updated on the City's General Plan, the creation of the new Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation, and a project for a printed journal.

During September the Society was contacted for help to locate possible locations for the filming of a Civil War documentary, and calls were received from prospective owners or concerned citizens in Wildomar, Temecula, and Menifee regarding properties of historic significance.

Other presentations are scheduled for October 3, Noon to 2:00pm, at the Temecula library.

*Charolette Fox*



# AGUANGA, CALIFORNIA

by Coral R. Bergman

*In this narrative, we will hear the first mention of Jacob Bergman, a man whose presence and influence we will learn more about in other articles. It was Arlie Bergman who first contacted me to "put the record right" on a story that appeared in an earlier newsletter. From that conversation, and in subsequent conversations, Arlie began to dangle bits of history relating to Aguanga – bits whetting the appetite for more. Through research and writing, Coral Bergman has documented the chronology of the life and times of Jacob Bergman and this, as it turns out, shines a bright light on the whole of Aguanga Valley. Here is the hors d'oeuvre to be followed by other courses served elsewhere in this newsletter and more to come in future. Bon appetite!*

The community of Aguanga (pronounced A-WAHNG-GA) lies at the intersection of California State routes 79 and 371. Nowadays it consists of a general store, a post office, and a real estate office. In the vicinity are two small bar-restaurant operations, and two privately owned RV parks. The Aguanga mailing area is rather large. Although the village is quiet now, and perhaps a "backwater", it was once one of the major east/west routes in the movement to colonize California.

Early maps show several Indian villages, or rancherias, in the vicinity. The names include Ahuanga, Ahuengo, and Ahuango, all within a few miles of each other. The Native American groups who lived here were speakers of dialects of the Uto-Aztecan language family, a family which includes Nahuatl, spoken by the Aztecs in Mexico, and Shoshone, spoken by Indians in the northern part of the Great Plains and the Great Basin. One early map places the Indian family group Awa at about the site of current Aguanga in San Diego County. The Uto-Aztecan suffix *-nga* means "place of." The origin of the name of the area, then, probably comes from the local Indian word meaning "home of the Awa people." The spelling of the name has been hispanicized, leading to some false etymologies associating the place name with flowing water. The earliest mention of the name "Aguanga" in the records of the San Luis Rey Mission was in 1807.

The canyon that runs along the north slope of Palomar Mountain

from Warner Springs to Temecula is called "Canada Aquenga" and was the route of several early trails. The Mormon Battalion opened up the road for wagons in 1846 by carving out a wagon trail in the desert at Box Springs. After that, the route was part of the southern emigrant trail leading eventually to the gold fields in the Sierras. Wagons crossed the Colorado River at Yuma, then came across the Anza desert and up the San Felipe pass to Warner's Ranch. At Warner's the trail split, with the southern route going down to San Diego and the northern route following the Canada Aguenga and going north to Los Angeles. In 1857, this route became part of the Butterfield Stage Route from Independence Missouri to San Francisco. Two local sites which were stops on the Butterfield Stage route were Oak Grove, where the original stage stop is now a museum open to the public, and the Aguanga stop, known as "the Dutchman's", which was probably located at the west end of the valley where the remains of the old Bergman Ranch can still be seen.

The census of 1860 shows perhaps fifty Indians living in the area, individuals listed in families, by first name only. Although the Indian population largely disappeared before 1880, Native Americans are still represented in Aguanga on the Verdugo property, where, on a local Indian ceremonial and burial site, the Verdugos, a local Indian family, filed for 40 acres under the Indian Homestead Act in the early 1900's.

During the Civil War, in November 1861, a Union Army military camp,

Camp Wright, was established at Oak Grove, some six miles east of the Aguanga Valley. The camp was established here because the road through the area was one of the most important east-west routes in Southern California. One of the main purposes of this camp was to guard the road and to prevent Southern sympathizers from leaving California to join the Confederate cause. On at least one occasion a group of Southern Sympathizers was apprehended trying to get through. The camp was disbanded in 1866.

In the mid 1860's Jacob Bergman bought out what was then called "The Mountain Ranch" from Joseph Giftaylor, "the Dutchman", and moved his family into an adobe house located at the west end of the valley. Bergman was a German immigrant who had served in the Union Army during the Civil War and was wounded at the Battle of Williamsburg in 1862. After he settled in Aquanga he became active in local politics, serving one term on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

His chief occupation for most of his life, in addition to ranching, involved dealing with the U.S. Postal Service. In 1870 he established the first post office at Aguanga, naming it "Guahonga." This office closed after a few months and U.S. Post Offices for the region were variously located at Oak Grove, six miles to the east, and Radec, three miles to the west. Bergman served both of these as Postmaster at different times. In 1878, he acquired the mail contract which ran through the valley from Julian to Colton, and



continued this contract over various sections of the route until his death in 1894. Other Postmasters in the Oak Grove Post Office in the early 'ays included Joseph Marks, Bergman's partner in the mail contract; Almy M. Kenniston, the first Postmaster at Oak Grove; James Fain, later murdered by his nephew in a local murder case; Adolph Levi, Sarah Studebaker, J. Hooper, Frederick Ingledew, Nellie Wentworth, and Lucia Curtis. Also serving in the Radec Post Office were Samuel Tripp, Bergman's good friend and former army buddy; Caroline Tripp; and Laura Long.

Throughout the late 1800's, Aguanga was located in San Diego County. In 1893, however, the new county of Riverside was created from portions of San Diego County and San Bernardino County. The new county line separated the communities of Oak Grove and Aguanga, leaving Oak Grove in San Diego County, and putting the Aguanga Valley in the newly formed Riverside County.

Although the valley had always been part of the voting district of Aguanga and the area was called the Aguanga Valley on the maps, the first U.S. Post Office to open in the area in Riverside County was called the Bergman Post Office. This name was retained from 1894, when it first opened, until 1901, when George F. Smith became Postmaster and moved the post office to his store, changing the name from Bergman to Aguanga. Descendants and relatives of Jacob Bergman continued to serve as Postmasters and mail carriers in Aguanga for many years, most recently his granddaughter-in-law Annie E. Bergman, who ran the Aguanga Store and was Postmaster from 1953 - 1964.

Others of Jacob Bergman's descendants took over the cattle ranching operation, which, at one time, contained several thousand acres of grazing land. In the early

1900's and through World War II, Bergman Ranch, first under Henry Bergman, and then under his son Orlando Arlie Bergman, supplied meat to many markets in Southern California. Although the ranch ceased operation shortly after the untimely death of O.A. Bergman in 1948, many Bergman descendants still live in the surrounding areas.

The latter half of the 20th Century has seen much of the land in the hills around the valley, as well as in the valley itself, broken up into 20 acre ranchos. People from the city come to Aguanga looking for a less hectic and more rural way of life.



## **"Let Freedom Ring"** Annual Maze Craze

at

### **Big Horse Feed**

Art Show - Oct 11 & 12  
Craft Show - Oct 18 & 19  
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**The Historical Society needs  
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for Oct 25 & 26  
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story tellers  
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exhibits**

The Historical Society would like to help  
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for information or to volunteer,  
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Temecula Library  
41000 County Center Drive  
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[www.hemetmuseum.org/index.html](http://www.hemetmuseum.org/index.html)

[www.domenigonivalley.net/](http://www.domenigonivalley.net/)

## Jacob Bergman of Aguanga:

### The Real Story

by Coral R. Bergman

*The purpose of historic research is to find out that which helps us understand the facts of time and place, as well as the context in which the people and events have significance. Seldom are all the facts available in one place -- they must be painstakingly ferreted out, laid end on end or piled one upon the other to develop a story. Even then, the story can be amended in order to clarify, authenticate the obvious, or discard the false.*

*The author of this series undertook the research journey to authenticate the facts of Jacob Bergman's life. The following material is copyrighted, 1996, and used with permission of the author. Her research forms a book by the same title and these serialized chapters will be presented in as complete and whole a form as possible. There are seven (7) chapters, plus interludes, endnotes, a chronology and other sidebar information. Here forthwith we start.*

-- Editor

#### Introduction

Much has been written about Jacob Bergman and the early years in the community of Aguanga. Much of what has been written is false.

In 1977, my husband Arlie and I were in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and looking for an excuse to use the facilities. We decided to see if we could find anything on greatgrandfather, never dreaming that we would find very much.

We approached the attendant at the counter with our inquiry and, on hearing that he had been wounded in the Civil War, she asked if Jacob had received a pension. "Oh, no," Arlie replied, "he was much too independent for that."

"I'll just look anyway," said the attendant. She looked and struck gold. Jacob Bergman not only received a pension, but he fought with the government about it for many years. After his death in 1894, his daughter, Blanche Littlepage, kept up the battle to keep the pension for his wife Phillipena, until Phillipena's death in 1936.

Thus began our quest to document the real Jacob Bergman, as opposed to the Jacob Bergman of family legend. This quest has led us to many interesting places, including museums, archives, historical societies, and early census records. There are still gaps in the documentation of Jacob's life, but we know enough to tell most of the story.

This book is written to set the record straight and to provide insight into Jacob Bergman, the man. It is the story of how a German immigrant, a farrier, a shoer of

horses, with nothing, became a landowner, County Supervisor, and respected member of the Southern California community of the late 19th century.

-- Coral R. Bergman

#### Prologue

When you travel south on Highway 79 from the Temecula Valley towards Warner Springs, you climb out of the valley and into a long corridor on the north side of Palomar Mountain. Chaparral, oak trees, a few fields -- a landscape that many pass through wondering why anyone would live there. Not seeing any houses, you may think that the area has always been deserted. There are miles of back country with little evidence of human habitation. In February, the grass is a soft green and the brush on the mountain and hillsides takes on a clean, forest green hue. In August, all is brown and barren and hot. Highway 79 takes you eventually to the mountains in Julian or to the desert at Borrego Springs or Shelter Valley.

About 15 miles southeast of Interstate 15, you pass the road from Hemet at Radec and soon you go through a cut in the hills and cross over a rise into the Aguanga Valley. There you see green Cottonwood trees on the valley floor. Off to the right, just as you enter the valley, and away against the side of the mountain, is what remains of the old Bergman Ranch and stage station. On your left, you drive past the small fenced-in graveyard where the graves of Phillipena and Jacob Bergman are marked. At the intersection of 79 and 371, you find the modern post office and the old gas station and store. If you take Highway 371 to the left, you will see on your right an area of green, with several older houses scattered along the way. Across the highway are the ruins of an old cement building. The road then rises out of the valley, leaving several new mobile homes and small "ranch" homes, and what remains of greenery and cienega on your right. It then heads towards the high country of Anza and the Cahuilla Indian Reservation and eventually to Palm Springs.

You see all of these things, I say, but only if you are a careful observer. To most people, the trip from Temecula to Palm Springs is a trip through deserted back country, the quicker traversed, the better, especially in the hot summer time. But, for the knowing, this is a trip through history -- a ride through what was once a main corridor of east-west travel. Through this corridor passed the Butterfield Stage and the Mormon battalion, and near here a Union military encampment was located during the Civil War. Through this valley walked the Cupa Indians on their sad march from their ancestral home at Warner Hot Springs to the Pala Reservation, in the last great Indian Displacement in the United States. And in this valley generations of the Bergman family lived and prospered and passed through history as the world went through wars and depressions and prosperity. These were not city dwellers or developers, but rather men and women who lived



quietly and well in their little corner of the world, with their joys and tragedies, their marriages, births, divorces, deaths, and, along the way, some adventures and some triumphant times. They were ordinary people who lived extraordinary lives and who took "the road less traveled."

I married into the family in 1959. At that time my husband often talked about, and we often visited, "the ranch", which was to him a whole area full of family history and the scene of his childhood. I saw a ramshackle old house, a store which his mother ran and in which she was postmistress, and a rather desolate area. How was I to know of the Ranch that had been? Over the years, I have talked with other people and with family members, and in my mind I try to recreate visions of other times, fascinating times. Call it history, if you wish. To me it is family, echoes of the past, ghosts of other times. The story has not been written, except for fragments here and there, excerpts from diaries, and a few vignettes in historical journals.

It is a story that needs to be told, because as the world changes and progresses, the old ways and the old times pass out of memory. For my children and their cousins and for all those who want to know what happened here, I write this story. And where shall I begin? Why, at the beginning of our family records, of course. The man who is found there has, in many ways, a remarkable story. In other ways, his story is that of many immigrants who came to America in search of a new life. I shall start with what we know about the life of Jacob Bergman, the ancestor.

### *CHAPTER 1: The Beginning*

The beginning is lost in legend. The tale of how Jacob Bergman got to California has been told and retold, embellished, and added to. You may find an account of his early days in many articles in the local history section of the Sunday papers. Most of what you read is not true, but contains the kernels of truth. Some of the legend has been proven untrue by subsequent research and records. Some of it will always remain in the realm of legend.

The gist of the tale is this: Jacob, born December 24, 1832, was a blacksmith in an army in Germany, probably in the late 1840's. In his mid-teens, during an altercation with a superior officer, he hit the man and, believing him dead, ran away and made his way to America. There have been some wonderful tellings of this tale. The one I quote here was written to us by Mr. Vollie Tripp of Palm Springs, California. Because of the details, it may represent something that was told by Jacob to his friends.

*these books, the title of which escapes me, there is the account of your Great Grandfather Jacob Bergman, his early life, and how and why he came to this country, which jibes with what we do know about him. The story is this:*

As a young man Jacob was a soldier in the German army and served as a farrier, or in other words, a shoer of horses. I do not remember just where he was stationed, but it seems it took him several night walking to reach the French frontier.

In the German army at that time were many officers of Prussian now called "saddistic" [sic]. One day one of these officers brought in his horse for Jacob to shoe. Jacob shod the horse, and, we must suppose, did a good job of it. When the officer returned to get his horse he said: "You will pull those shoes off my horse and put them right!" Your G.G.F. must have been a youth of some spirit, for he "talked back" to the officer. There was an altercation, or a "confrontation" as we call it now. In the midst of the dispute, Jacob took up a large hammer that was lying on the anvil and bopped Mr. Prussian in the noggin with it. Now, what to do??? Jacob knew he had to do something, and fast. He decided the climate in that part of Germany was bad for his sinuses, and he decided to get out.

There was an old well at the rear of the shop, or smithy. Your G.G.F. took the officer to the rear of the shop and traded clothes with him, his coat, pants, boots, sword and hat, and dumped His Royal Highness into this old well. Jacob reasoned, rightly, that the officer's horse would not object to his mounting, if he wore the officer's raiment. The animal did snort about a bit but Jacob soon mounted and rode for the gate of the compound. Now to get past the sentry.

To get past the alert sentry, Jacob kept his chin low, and his determination and necessity enabled him to bluff and intimidate his way past the young sentry. Once out the gate Jacob rode as hard as he could toward French lines. Toward evening he turned the horse loose. Of course in those days, telephones were few, possibly non-existent. At best he had an hour or two ahead of his pursuers, possibly several hours, depending on how long it took the authorities to find the officer in the old well and sound the alarm. I do not think he called for his army pay or anything that day.

Nor did he leave a forwarding address.

Your G.G.F. decided it would be best to travel by night, and hide by day. This is what he did. I do not know when or how he got rid of the military uniform he was wearing. He might have found some clothing more appropriate to his new status. At length he got to the Rhine River. It so happened that a boat load of vegetables was about to cross over to the French side. Jacob was able to bribe a deck hand to let him on, and hide him behind some big crates of cabbages. Soon he was in La Belle France, and he felt better. But still he believed his overall health would

[*dateline missing*]

*My uncle Harry P. Jones, late of Brawley, California, had a number of rare books. In one of*

improve still more, with a few more miles between him and the Vatterland. Soon he was able to get to the town of Calais on the Channel. It was no great trick to get to Britain now.

Jacob got to a British port, it seems it was Southhampton, but I'm not too sure on this point. Anyway, as he got there, a big tramp windjammer was about to sail for Argentina. Jacob hired on as an A.B. (able sailor). Now he could breathe easier. It is not known if he used his real name or not. The ship made Argentina, and then sailed to many other ports over the world, eventually landing in San Francisco. The gold fever was on, and many sailors "jumped ship" to try their luck with pick and "long Toms" and pans. Jacob went along too. He did not have much luck with gold, and soon decided to go south.

Other than family legend, there is no documentation to support this tale, but it may contain some truth. Other family legends about the venerable ancestor have proved to be legends only, with truth distorted by the knowledge of the teller. According to one tale, he went to an uncle in Buffalo and he walked across the country several times in the army. He supposedly was wounded in a war with the Yuma Indians and carried the arrow in his shoulder to his death. He drove the Butterfield Stage on its first run through the Aguanga Valley to Los Angeles. He was wounded in the Battle of Vicksburg. So much for the telling of the tale. Let's ask what we really do know about Jacob Bergman, based on documentation and primary sources.

Rummaging around in some old papers at the Bergman Museum one day I found a small, beat up leather covered composition book about the size that could be carried in a pocket. On the front of the book, in a flowery penmanship, was written "Jacob Bergmann, Darmstadt, Germany." Inside the book seem to be accounts -- a laundry list, things owed to him, things he owed people, etc. The occasional years mentioned in the dates run from 1859 to 1867. Most of the entries are written in old German. Through the pages of the book, there were several pages where he appeared to be practicing his signature. The signature changed from the first of the book to the last. From Jacob Bergmann, he became Jacob Bergman.

From several things -- the notebook and his army enlistment, for example -- we can assume that he was from Darmstadt, Germany and that the original spelling of the name was Bergmann. The romantic tale of his escape from there has never been verified.

The first possible documentation that we have of Jacob Bergman in California is in the list of passengers from the Steamship *Ohio* on July 24, 1852. Here a passenger by the name of J. Bergman is listed, the last name "Bergman" is rare in California in the 1850's and 1860's, so I tend to

give credence to the notion that this J. Bergman was the ancestor whom we are seeking. There are some notations on this ship, however, which leave us still wondering whether he came overland, as one version of the story says, or around the Horn, as related by another version. The *Ohio* had recently come from San Diego, and there was a notation that there had been some disturbances in Yuma by the Yuma Indians and that the army had intervened. If he was in Yuma with the U.S. Army, this supports the legend that he walked thrice across the country and was wounded in the Yuma Indian Wars by an arrow which he carried in his arm the rest of his life. On the other hand, there is a notation in the record that on this voyage, the *Ohio* picked up in San Pedro some 38 passengers who had been aboard the Brig *Sara McFarland* which had come from Acapulco and was in distress. If Jacob was in this group, it would coordinate with the story told by Tripp that he shipped into San Francisco from Argentina and came for the "gold rush". There were 58 passengers aboard when they reached San Francisco and I have discovered no record of which were the 38 picked up in San Pedro and which had come from San Diego.

The next, and more certain, trace we have of Jacob is his enlistment in the army at the Presidio in San Francisco in August 1858. The item in the Army Enlistment Book has Jacob Bergman, born in Hessian Doromstadt, Germany, age 24, a blacksmith, enlisting on August 10, 1858, in San Francisco. He is described as 5 feet 6-1/2 inches tall, with grey eyes, brown hair, and a ruddy complexion. He served as a farrier in Company B of the First Regiment of Cavalry. Army muster rolls find him at Fort Tejon, north of Los Angeles, California from February 28, 1859 through June 30, 1861. According to the returns from the Military Post at Fort Tejon, a detachment from the First Dragoons, Company B, under Capt. John W. Davidson and Lt. Alfred B. Chapman, was listed on detached service to Owens Lake. Family legend tells that Jacob met his wife, Phillipena Scherer in the Owens Valley somewhere, but that is probably not true.

Let's take a look at what family legend and a little bit of data tell us about Phillipena Scherer.

In a photocopy of a news clipping containing Phillipena's obituary, we find the following information:

*"Mrs. Bergman was born in Germany, June 17, 1837, and at the age of 21, sailed for San Francisco going around the Horn in a sailing vessel that caught fire en route. Damage was not extensive and the ship continued to its destination. The trip, however, took almost a year."*

Family legend says that Phillipena and her sister arrived in the Owens Valley and stayed with an uncle. According to the story there was an Indian uprising about that time, and she carried with her throughout her life an unreasonable fear of Indians. Unfortunately, recent research indicates



that there were no permanent settlers in the Owens Valley until about 1860-1861, and therefore, we have no way to even speculate where and how Jacob and Phillipena met.

Jacob was in the Owens Valley in 1859, on detached service with the military. Period newspaper accounts give a fairly detailed record of the trip. Although Jacob's name was not mentioned, the unit was his unit and was led by his commanding officer. It is quite possible that Jacob, after his tour of duty in the Valley described it in glowing terms to his future in-laws and they later settled there. This is pure conjecture, because the Scherers did live there at a later date and there was an Indian war in the Valley in 1860-1861. Possibly Phillipena went to live with her family while Jacob was serving in the Civil War, and it was there that she learned to be so afraid of Indians. We have found no record of the Scherer family in the 1860 census.

At any rate, Jacob Bergman and Phillipena Scherer were married on March 4, 1860 in Los Angeles, California, by Homer Chase, Justice of the Peace. We have no record of where they resided after they were married, although muster rolls of his company show him on "detached service" at Fort Tejon during a period including April 1860 through August 1861. On August 19 and 20 and on September 19 and 20, 1860, he was reported sick in the Post Hospital at Camp Fitzgerald, Los Angeles, California.

At a time in late 1861, his company went east to participate in the Civil War, raging at that time between the North and the South. Because he was wounded in that war and later sought to receive his pension, we have a great number of affidavits as to what happened to him. I quote from the affidavit made in San Bernardino County, California, at a time near the close of the war.

*"On the 20th day of March, 1865, personally appeared before me, a clerk of a Court of Record, in the County and State Aforesaid, Jacob Bergman, aged 32, a resident of San Bernardino, county of San Bernardino in the State of California, who declares that he is the identical Jacob Bergman who enlisted in the service of the United States at Presidio, near San Francisco, in the State of California on the 10th day of August, 1858, as a private in Company B commanded by Capt. J.N. Davidson in the 1st Regiment of Cavalry in the War of 1861, and was honorably discharged on the third day of July, 1862. That while in the service aforesaid, in the line of his duty, on or about the 4th day of May in the year of our Lord 1862, he was wounded about 2 o'clock P.M. in the first (----) Battle of Williamsburg, Virginia, Captain Sam McGee, then captain of this company, being present. Also present Sergeant Mouldon of same company, (----) Lieutenant of same company. The wound was occasioned by a rifle shot in the left upper arm near the shoulder. Was honorably discharged on Surgeon's Certificate, and recommends for full pension."*

The Certificate of Disability for Discharge adds that Jacob gave as the "place where the soldier desires to be addressed" as San Bernardino, San Bernardino County, California.

The obituary of Phillipena gives us the next step that Jacob took. *"When Bergman left the army ... he and his bride went to Yuma, Arizona. From there he carried the mail by mule pack to Los Angeles for several years."*

Another slant on the story is related by James P. Bergman, youngest son of Jacob Bergman, in a newspaper article in 1955.

*"My Father came to San Francisco from New York in 1851, when it took six months to make the trip, via the Horn. Later he came to Los Angeles where he owned four blocks on Spring Street, and where he worked at his trade as a carriage maker. Then came the Civil War in which he fought, and was injured at the battle of Gettysburg [sic]. Due to his injury, he no longer could continue with his work so he traded the four city blocks for a span of mules and a wagon and took charge of the Butterfield stagecoach station. In fact it was my father who piloted the first course from Yuma, Arizona, to Los Angeles. In those days, if a river was running too high, you just built a camp and waited until the water level dropped to a safe depth for a crossing."*

I began by trying to clear up family legends. Jacob is said to have driven the first Butterfield Stage through Aguanga. Since that stage went through in September, 1858, and he joined the army from San Francisco in August, 1858, this cannot be true. That he did take mail from Yuma to Los Angeles is strongly indicated.

That he did drive a stage in the 1880's from Julian to Colton we will show later. Someone has suggested that he helped to lay out the Butterfield Stage Line. That is not beyond the realm of possibility. In the years between 1852 and 1858, he was a young man, unattached, seeking his fortune, and we don't know for sure where he was. Did he pass through the Aguanga Valley before he enlisted? Maybe. Possibly his friend Samuel V. Tripp, whom he met at Fort Tejon, invited him into the area. Anything is possible. The Jackass Mail ran from San Antonio to San Diego in 1857, and a stage ran from Yuma through Temecula in 1857. Was Jacob driving? Did he drive through the Aguanga Valley at that time and look on it and, as legend has it, say, "This is the most beautiful valley I have ever seen and someday I am going to own it?" He did not own it at that time. In 1858 he was in San Francisco enlisting in the army.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## Charter Members

February to December - 2001

*For their early and continuous support, the following members and businesses are recognized as Charter Members.*



Charlene Adams  
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Steven Allen  
Loretta Barnett  
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Bill Bellino  
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### Special Mention

#### Supporters

City of Temecula  
European Deli  
Mission Oaks National Bank  
Community Little Book  
Dr. Byron Sansom





**THE TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
IS PLEASED TO PRESENT**

**“THE FIRST 25 YEARS OF CONTROLLED POWERED FLIGHT”  
1903-1928  
AT THE 2003 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING**

Date: November 16<sup>th</sup>

Place: Temecula CRC Building  
30875 Rancho Vista Way

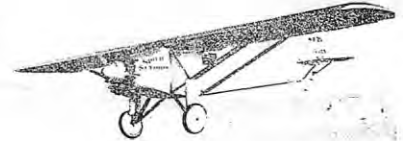
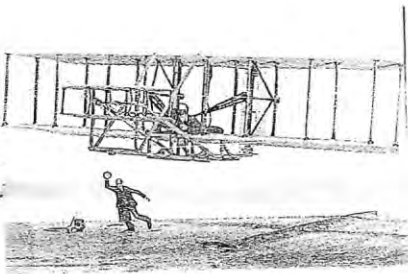
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Desserts Will Be Served

The Public Is Invited To Attend

Cost: \$10 per person --- \$15 per couple  
(reservations are required)

Use the Reservation Form Below,  
or call (909) 302-0180 or (909) 676-3691



---

TVHS Annual Meeting

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ For \_\_\_\_\_ Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Money Order

Please mail to: Temecula Valley Historical Society  
P.O. Box 157  
Temecula, CA 92593

# TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Charolette Fox, President  
Darell Farnbach, 1st Vice President  
Malcolm Barnett, 2nd Vice President  
Bill Harker, Treasurer  
Myra Gonsalves  
Pam Grender  
Felicia Hogan  
Keith Johnson  
Wendy Lesovsly  
Martha Minkler  
Bonnie Reed  
Roger Sannipoli  
Pamela Volt

## 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.*

September 8, 2003

Board of Supervisors  
Riverside County  
4080 Lemon Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

## re: **Historic Preservation**

This Society wishes to go on record as concerned for the historic preservation of sites, features and artifacts which have been or are yet to be identified within Riverside County.

Under provisions for the granting and accepting of CDBG funding, several cities and the County of Riverside are required to have a plan to address historic preservation and to establish a historical review board. We are mindful that a Native American sacred sites bill (SB 18) is now before the State legislature and may affect local ordinances and open space and land use elements of General Plans that now exist or are proposed.

Therefore, the Board of Directors of the Temecula Valley Historical Society does:

- 1) **support the creation of a Historical Preservation Plan** that will have the force of law and be commensurate with the guidelines established for historic preservation by the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Trust for Historic Preservation;
- 2) endorse the creation and maintenance of an inventory of historical properties, whether public, private or government owned, said list to be enlarged or amended as new research is available and to include whatever features or artifacts add value to the historical record;

We deem that nonprofit and private heritage groups are parties of interest along with the County of Riverside, and as such should be notified of meetings of Advisory Committees, the Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors or other agencies whenever items relating to historic preservation are agendaized.

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Charolette Fox, President  
32800 Hupa Drive  
Temecula, CA 92592

Reference documents:

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (1995)  
California State Law and Historic Preservation (Bulletin #10)

*Making sure tomorrow has a yesterday to remember.*





## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !!

Aug 15 to Sept 15, 2003

### New Members

Phyllis Beede

Jerry & Darlene Gilbert

Wayne & Mary Jane Jaszarowski

Jeffrey & Melissa Landis

Price Legacy Corporation

June R. Tull

### Gifts & Donations

Eve Craig

The Corona Family

Jeffrey & Melissa Landis

Rancon Real Estate Corp



## 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.

**T-SHIRTS WITH LOGO  
SILKSCREENED ON  
THE BACK**

**\$10**

to order, contact

Charolette Fox, 302-0180



## Calendar

Board Meeting	Oct 3
Maze Craze	Oct 25 & 26
Board Meeting	Nov 7
Annual Meeting	Nov 16

### Active Committees:

Research & Preservation

Wolf's Tomb

Plaques & Markers

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.

## QUOTES

*Some folks are as proud of their ancestors as if they were responsible for them.*

~~~~~

*The difference between antiques and junk depends on who's selling what to whom.*

[www.tvhs.homestead.com/FrontPage.html](http://www.tvhs.homestead.com/FrontPage.html)

## CHECK IT OUT !!

## COOKBOOKS

Need a recipe for Sunday Morning Quiche? Meatloaf for 50? Or Apple Pie Without Apples? **The Society has just the book for you!**

**\$5 each, Hard-bound, 360 pages  
contact Charolette, 302-0180**

## ANNUAL MEETING COSTUME CONTEST

bloomers, tams, vests, goggles,  
leather flight jackets, silk stockings,  
dusters, pointy-toed shoes,  
mechanic's overalls

Dress the era 1903 to 1928.

Bicycle maker, wing walker, pilot,  
mechanic, or one in the crowd of  
onlookers. Be the Red Baron, Charles  
Lindberg, or one of the Wright  
Brothers. But join us for fun.

Sunday, November 16

## 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.*

## VOLUNTEER HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED

Please remember us in your  
will or trust.

## The Newsletter

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

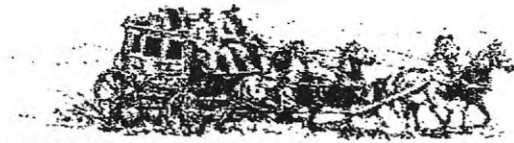
All submissions are subject to editing. Some articles may be held for publication in the next newsletter or in a journal to be published at a later time.

Editor..... Charolette Fox

Assistant Editor..... Sheri Crall

Printing..... Potamus Press



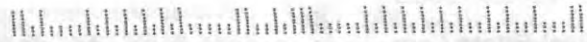


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 it on and help us build our  
 readership. Thank you.

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**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