

Temecula Valley Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

February 2006 Vol 6 Issue 2

2006 Officers

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<i>John Moramarco</i>	<i>Duane Wheeler</i>
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Wolf Tomb Restoration

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Audrey Cilurzo

Website

Elaine Eshom

Youth Projects

Paul Price & Open

Old Family Cookbook

Myra Gonsalves & Pat Metro

Historian

Myra Gonsalves

Newsletter

Bill Harker, Eve Craig, Leslie Karp

Membership

Barbara Tobin

www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.org

Contact us at 951-501-9159

Or P.O. Box 157

Temecula, CA 92593-0157

Mission Statement

The mission statement 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.

President's Corner

Right after our January meeting, my son-in-law, Steven and I took a trip to Carmel and arrived at 12:30 a.m. It was foggy and poured on the way all the rest of the night, BUT the next day it was beautiful, with blue skies and sunshine. Everywhere there was green grass and those gorgeous trees. The ocean was roaring away and people enjoying the beaches in spite of the huge waves. After seeing friends and relatives it was a treat to spend a little time at the historic Carmel Mission. It has not changed, it's only becoming more historic. There was a wedding taking place, and fun to take pictures of the current priest in his red and white surplice. There were interesting restaurants such as Forge in the Forest and Clint Eastwood's Mission Ranch and it was a good time. Thinking about some things during the last month with the Historical Society, our organization was invited to come for interviews and be televised on our city's new TV station, KZSW. Three of us were on TV interviewed by John Roberts,

Director. We were, Eve Craig, and Paul Price discussing Wolf's Tomb, and Paul's plans of educating children as well as the public about our history and activities. Another interview was with Darell Farnbach who talked about Vail Ranch.. We were given some DVD discs and are burning a few copies. At our last meeting, we enjoyed hearing from Dick and Betty Ryan who gave us a glimpse of their lives here as they bought, designed and built their bed and breakfast called Loma Vista Bed & Breakfast. It became famous through a Sunset Magazine spread and Channel 7-TVs fine recommendation as THE place to go. Their talk was informal as they sat in chairs facing the audience and told us about their breakfasts for everyone and appetizers and wine that they generously gave to the guests each evening. They also had some fun stories about their murder mystery weekends. Lots of questions and answers were exchanged and it was enjoyed by all. Our next person with wondrous stories will be Paul Price on Friday, February 3rd at the Temecula Library. What a talented person he is! Do come and have a terrific experience listening and talking with him. It's at 12:00 noon. You are very welcome to hear about things you very well may not know about, and we'll be happy to have you enjoy it all with us. See you soon.

Eve Craig

**BE SURE TO MARK THESE
UPCOMING SPEAKER
DATES ON YOUR
CALENDARS**



Friday Feb.3

Paul Price, We appreciate him sharing his interesting life and talents with us, also he is our YOUTH PROJECT advisor. Paul has a wealth of plans and ideas so our young people can learn our local history in new and exciting ways.

Friday, March 3

Csaba Ko will be our featured speaker. Csaba is a new director for the Historical Society, but he and his wife Peggy are long long time citizens of the valley. Csaba started the youth soccer program in Temecula by first teaching the parent coaches so they could then teach the large numbers of boys and girls wanting to learn to play soccer. In the early days, the village of Temecula made our own sports programs. There was no money available so volunteers built the playing fields and taught the children. Csaba was one of the earliest and best. Come and enjoy the stories of those early years when the valley was just beginning all the programs now available for our youth.

Friday April 7

If you are a horse person you already know Pat Ommert. Dr. Will Ommert and his wife Pat built their veterinary hospital for horses out Highway 79 South across from the Track and Training Center. Dr Ommert was world renowned. Pat is and was a leader in our community. She has chaired many meetings through the years. She fought to preserve horse trails so those who enjoyed horseback riding could have open spaces to ride and enjoy nature. Pat will tell us about life when the track and training center was first opened and the many trainers who kept horses at the track. Put this date on your calendar.

Friday May 5

Not absolutely confirmed yet but we hope to have Ben Drake as our speaker. Ben when he was fresh out of college was hired by Kaiser to be the Agricultural advisor for Rancho California. Later Ben started Drake Enterprises, a farm management company here in the valley. Ben has and is serving on many state committees to promote agriculture all over California. He is a past president of California association of Winegrape Growers. He is also active in the Temecula Valley Winegrowers Association. He continues to manage many avocado groves and vineyards in the valley. Ben is also a director for the Rancho California Water District.

Anyone with suggestions for speakers for our meetings please call me. We hope to have many long time citizens who can tell us stories of by-gone days here in the valley. **Audrey Cilurzo 951-304- 3666.**

OLDEST TOWNS

By Bill Harker

The nine oldest towns south of the Mojave Desert and when they were (founded) include in chronological order: Temecula (Prehistoric), Pala (Prehistoric), San Diego (1769), Los Angeles (1781), San Bernardino (1851), El Monte (1853), Wilmington (1856), Anaheim (1857) and San Pedro (Indefinite).

Temecula and Pala were Indian communities for an unknown period of time before the Spaniards came. San Diego was founded by the Portola expedition. Los Angeles was founded as a colonization project under orders of the viceroy of New Spain.

San Pedro has served as a port since the early days of Spanish occupation but the townsite was not laid out until 1882. San Bernardino was founded when a train of five hundred wagons bearing Mormons from Great Salt Lake came to the valley. El Monte was founded by early immigrants and was known as the end of the Santa Fe Trail.

Wilmington was founded by Phinneas Banning as a seaport. Anaheim was founded as an experiment in communal living by German settlers.

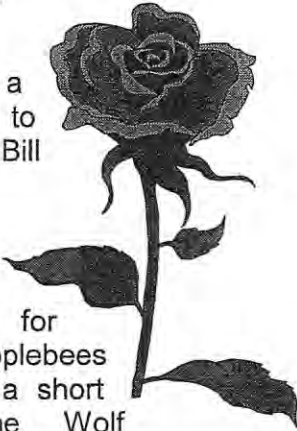
HAVE STORIES?

The Temecula Valley Historical Society loves to share stories about local history. If you have a story, please write it and send it to Leslie Karp, 41934 Camino Casana, Temecula, CA 92592 or email it to lesliekarp@adelphia.net.

ROSES FOR THE MONUMENT

By Eve Craig

It was a pleasure to meet with Bill Scheufler, Rebecca Weersing and Phyllis Bettelheim for lunch at Applebees followed by a short trip to the Wolf

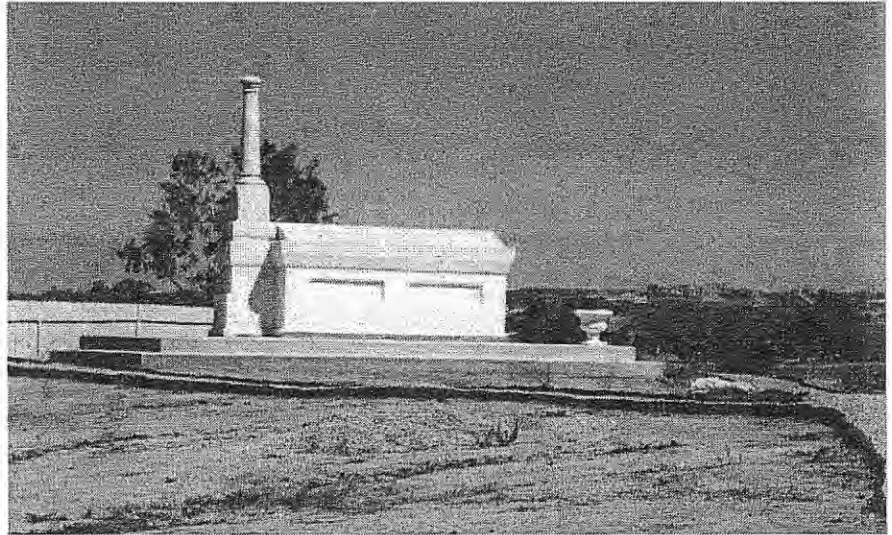


Monument. The area in front of the wrought iron fence was measured and fine suggestions of a shrub and multi-colored roses were decided for planting on each defined section of the scalloped lined ground. We will meet with Susan Puma, President of the Garden Club next for finishing touches. We plan to have some inside on each end of the structure for a good balance.

Roger Sannipoli spackled spots on the monument and prepared our urn before he drills it to attach it on top of the marble column. In just 3 days we expect to have the outside of the tomb preserved by special paint and this will complete the restoration of the monument. We barely started work when a man arrived with samples of the turf we negotiated to install in front of the tomb. It looks very good and we may have a partial donation. Now, the shrubs have to be obtained by our Boy Scout and planted with the completion of the sprinkler system and we will finish with a big bronze plaque to thank those donors who helped to restore this 118+ year old monument. It looks wonderful and we're happy to see it done after a little over 4 years.



BEFORE



AFTER

Temecula Valley Historical Society
P. O. Box 157
Temecula, CA 92593



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TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A tax exempt charitable & educational organization

Membership

Membership/Donation Categories:

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Historian	\$ 300.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	\$ 25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$ 500.00
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<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