



Temecula Valley  
Historical Society  
**Newsletter**

November 2007 Vol 7 Issue 9

We meet at the historical Pujol School on  
Santiago Road  
on the first Friday of each month from  
12:00 to 2:00 p.m.  
Please join us!

**2007 OFFICERS**

President	Barbara Tobin
Vice President	Leslie Karp
Secretary	Charlene Fink
Treasurer	Keith Johnson

**ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS**

Eve Craig	Paul J. Price
Laura "Sis" Herron	Jack Roripaugh
Carol Marsden	Carol Strode
Bill McBurney	Norm Taylor

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Research & Development**  
Darell Farnbach

**Historic Markers & Plaques**  
Pam Grender

**Wolf Tomb Restoration**  
Eve Craig

**Public Relations**  
Carol Strode

**Membership**  
Bill Harker

**Youth Projects**  
Paul Price

**Planned Giving**  
Keith Johnson

**Newsletter**  
Rebecca Farnbach

**Historian**  
Kathi Price

**Web Site**  
Elaine Eshom

[www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.org)

Contact us at 951-553-9549, or  
P.O. Box 157, Temecula, CA 92593

Don't miss  
a sumptuous dinner and an  
enjoyable program

at our  
**Annual Meeting**  
**Friday, November 16**  
from 6 - 9 pm  
at

the Assistance League  
Chapter House,  
28720 Montezuma  
Temecula

Call Barbara Tobin for  
details: 951-760-6096

**News Flash!**

Just as this was going into print, President Barbara Tobin learned that the society has been awarded a \$5000 grant by The Community Foundation to use for duplication of the history DVDs and to distribute them to the schools in the Temecula Valley. Our appreciation goes to Leslie Karp for her efforts in writing the grant. Be among the first to view this DVD when Paul Price shows it at the annual meeting on Nov. 16.

**VARRA's History Center**

The Little Temecula History Center will open in the next few months in the red replica of the Vail Ranch Implement Barn next to Kohls near the corner of Redhawk Parkway and Temecula Parkway. Artifacts displayed include Mahlon Vail's chaps and Joe Gomez' saddle.

For more information, call Darell Farnbach (951-552-3516).

**The Wolf Monument is  
Finished**

Thanks to Eve Craig's persistence and determination, the Wolf Monument is now a worthy tribute to one of Temecula's founding fathers. Once in a state of deterioration and neglect, Eve began a campaign to renovate it. This required a house moving company to hoist it from its sunken position in the ground with two hydraulic lifts, and to stabilize the base with two railroad ties. After realignment of bricks on the sarcophagus and re-stuccoing the exterior, the original marble column was donated by the Querrys, who safeguarded it for a number of years, and an ornamental urn was placed at the top of the marble column. Artificial turf and walkways of decomposed granite were set, and as a finishing touch, a beautiful plaque was erected with Louis Wolf's portrait on it. If you would like to see it, take Loma Linda Road west from the Pechanga Parkway and turn right on McGuey Court. Remember to take your camera.

**Upcoming programs**

Due to a significant amount of end of the year business, we will not have a program for our November meeting. Several interesting speakers are coming during 2008, including Nancy Backstrand, a historian and writer focused on the Santa Rosa Rancho, who will give the January program.

## **The Machados and Their Store**

### ***They lost everything to fires, twice, and rebuilt***

A Temecula Fire, October 11, 1888 was described in the *Murrieta Transcript*:

"We are called upon this week to chronicle the most destructive fire that has ever occurred in this section. At Temecula, on Friday night last, at about the hour of 12 o'clock, the large mercantile establishment of M. Machado & Co., with its contents, the residence of M. Machado and the dwelling house of Mrs. L. Wolf were totally destroyed by fire.

How the fire originated is not known. Great credit is due to Terry McConville, through whose exertions the barn of the firm was saved from the devouring elements. The loss on the store building, stock, residence and furniture is estimated at \$22,000 on which there is insurance as follows: on goods, \$10,000; store building, \$2500; house and furniture, \$1000. We failed to learn whether or not there is any insurance on the house of Mrs. L. Wolf. It is probable that the firm of M. Machado & Co. will rebuild and resume business in the near future."

After the fire, Mac set up his business in the Welty building and it burned down in 1891, taking all his stock. So what did he do? He rebuilt again, and that building is still standing. It took him ten years to pay off his creditors, but he did it.

### **A Valuable Resource for Old Town Temecula**

A few months ago the current owner of the former Machado's store, which many of us call The Shire, announced his intention to demolish the structure. Our society raised an outcry to the

Temecula City Council, on the grounds that it is one of the truly old and historical buildings in Old Town Temecula.

The terracotta brick structure standing on the southeast corner of Main and Front Streets has been a part of everything that has occurred in Temecula. First, it was the location of Mac Machado's Mission Store, known for the beautiful Indian baskets taken as barter for goods sold there.

According to the Elsinore news June 12, 1914:

"Mac Machado has the most unique store in Southern California. Mr. Machado also has one of the largest stocks of goods of any store in this part and it may be stated that he is an up-to-date merchant and knows more about mercantile business than many big fellows of the city. He carries a large line of general merchandise and sells very reasonable. Mr. Machado has a large roomy concrete building, which is credit to a large town. He has in the neighborhood of \$5000 worth of Indian baskets on the wall plates of his store, which make a very attractive background, and impresses the visitor with the wonderful work of the Indians. These baskets are from all the reservations of the country and many of them are very valuable.

"Mac", short for Macedonia, was born in the adobe at Rancho Laguna, the rancho that became modern-day Lake Elsinore. His prominent family valued education, and he went to Heald Business School in Los Angeles and Santa Clara College before coming to Temecula in 1877 and working for Louis Wolf.

He was the postmaster of the short-lived Pujol Post Office in 1882. A Mr. Guinn wrote in 1907 that Mac clerked for Wolf

in "the old government store" and that the two bought Simon Mund's store.

A letter written by Mac to one of Alice's sisters is still owned by family members. Under the letterhead of "Wolf & Machado, General Merchants, Temecula, San Diego County, Cal." on July 16, 1885, Mac penned in beautiful script, "We have been married only five days, glad to say we are truly happy..."

He married eighteen-year-old Alice Vaughn, the sister of Leanore Vaughn Hindorff, who married Gus Hindorff, the subject of last month's newsletter. The Vaughn girls helped their widowed mother run a boardinghouse in Lewis, Iowa, before coming to Southern California. Their father Amos Vaughn died from wounds suffered during the Black Hawk Indian Wars and his wife Ann drew a widow's pension, outliving all but one widow of the conflict. Ann died in Fallbrook in 1953 at the age of 91.

Alice's obituary said she met Mac at the Wolf Store on the day she arrived in Temecula. The sidesaddle Mac had Gus Hindorff make to give "Allie" as a wedding gift is owned by the Temecula Valley Museum.

According to a February 1932 article in the Fallbrook Enterprise, Mac was still living in Temecula as a storekeeper. Mac was a stockholder and director of the Temecula Bank built in 1914.

In 1950, Alice, as the oldest resident of Temecula, had the honor of unveiling the plaque placed on the Wolf Store to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Treaty of Temecula. Mac died in 1942 and she was buried next to him in the Temecula Cemetery in 1953. They didn't have any children.

The Vail Company bought the terracotta Mission Store and used it to store

seed for grain. In the 1960s it was the Long Branch Saloon, where there were legendary fights between bikers, cowboys and Indians.

In 1979, the Hope Lutheran Church congregation met in the former saloon, radically changing the atmosphere inside. Then in the 1980s the Shire sold knickknacks and home décor items, until the newest owner took possession of it.

The terracotta brick building has stood as stalwartly as the Machados who commissioned its construction. It stands as a testament to rebuilding after fire destroyed the Machados' livelihood, not once, but twice.

Harkening to our outcry, the current owner has done a beautiful renovation of the façade of the historical Machado Store. The Temecula Valley Historical Society hopes that the old building will continue to grace our Old Town for many years to come.

No.	Description	Amount
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**Machado Store Ledger  
June 2, 1899**

Thank you to Jeffery Harmon, Myra Gonsalves, Margaret Ray, Darell Farnbach and Teddie Driggs for supplying information for this article.