



Temecula Valley
Historical Society

Newsletter

September 2008 Vol 8 Issue 9

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

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

We meet from 12:00 to 2 p.m. on the first Friday of each month at the Historic Pujol Schoolhouse on Santiago Road.

Be sure to arrive before noon so you don't miss the most interesting part!

Upcoming Programs:

September 5 – Lisa Woodward, Ph.D., (see articles inside this issue)

October 3 - Joshua Fox, Murrieta's historian/archivist will talk about Murrieta's newest archive facility

A Fall Tour - date to be announced

November 7 - Tony Guenther will talk about his family and the Murrieta Hot Springs

Annual Dinner - date to be announced

January 9 - Anne Miller will speak on "The Mormon Battalion: Coming through Temecula in 1847"

February 6 - A visit from American Presidents

March 6 - Audrey Cilurzo will speak on "How Prohibition Changed the Palate of America"



Lisa Woodward, Ph.D.,

At noon on September 5, Lisa Woodward, our newest board member, will speak to the Society on The Ethnographic work of John P. Harrington: A visit to Temecula and Beyond. The Society is privileged to hear this presentation by Lisa, who is an authority on Harrington.

Lisa, a hometown girl, moved to Temecula with her family in 1979 and attended local public schools and graduated in one of the first graduating classes of the new Temecula Valley High School. After completing Junior College at Mount San Jacinto, Menifee campus, she transferred to University of California, Davis, completing B.A. degrees in both Anthropology and Native American Studies.

Upon graduation, she found a position with a southern California archaeological firm and returned to Temecula. After working with Native Americans for several years in the archaeological field, she decided to return to the Native Studies Department at U.C. Davis to pursue a doctoral degree. At Davis, she was the Project Coordinator of the J. P. Harrington Database Project, which is housed in the Native American Language Center.

Her dissertation topic is an ethnohistoric study of the Acjachemem (Juaneño) Tribe of San Juan Capistrano. Upon completion of her doctorate, she was

hired by the Pechanga Cultural Resource Department to assist with tribal research and the compilation of ethnographic materials. Lisa continues to work on the Harrington database and is a Co-Project Investigator for the project at U.C. Davis.

John Peabody Harrington

John Peabody Harrington (1884—1961) was hired in 1915 by the Bureau of American Ethnology as a research ethnologist and he devoted nearly half a century to field work on Native American languages. The men and women he interviewed were often among the last remaining speakers of their languages.

Harrington visited the Temecula valley in 1925 and again in 1932-33. He collected ethnographic information from Pechanga tribal members as well as people from the surrounding reservations. He created close to one million pages of field notes during his career at the Bureau.

Temecula Valley Museum News

Don't Miss the "Highlights of the Wilkinson Collection" exhibit from now thru Oct. 26. Also, Anne Miller, Ph.D. is speaking on Thursday, September 4 at 6 pm on Mapping the Southern Emigrant Trail, and Whitney Wilkinson is giving a presentation on Thursday, October 2 at 6 pm.

Little Temecula History Center

The Vail Ranch Restoration Association invites you to visit the Little Temecula History Center near Redhawk and Temecula Parkways, on Sundays from noon to 5 pm and by appointment (Darell 951-552-3516). Also, volunteer help is needed.



Photo Courtesy of Mimi Milholland and Bill McBurney

Newly Discovered Old Photograph of Rock House on Pala Road

Bill McBurney brought copies of four photographs to the August meeting that were in a scrapbook given to Mimi Milholland by the Hemet Public Library. The scrapbook belonging to a teacher at San Ignacio School in Sage contained many photos of her students, but the four Bill brought were taken during a road trip to the Pala Mission in 1920.

Three of Bill's photos were familiar: Wolf Store, Wolf Monument and the Pala Mission. What intrigued me was the one that Bill thought might be an old mill.

My hunch proved right: it matched the ruins of the rock house on the former Escallier property on Pala Road, just south of the San Diego County line. Since this is the only known documentation of how the building once looked, this is a valuable find.

The late Pete Escallier said the building was a stage station and general store. It also served as a roadside tavern, a bootleg distribution place and there were women upstairs whose company could be purchased, to put it delicately.

One of the best things about the people who love history in the Temecula Valley is the way everyone enjoys sharing information with each other. There are several institutions that research, archive and present historical information.

Thanks to the generosity and amicability of individuals and institutions, we all share newfound treasures, like this photograph.

Thanks Bill, Mimi, and John for sharing your resources!

- RMF

For those of you who have requested electronic newsletters, we are working through technological challenges.

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A tax exempt charitable & educational organization

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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:

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