

# TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



## NEWSLETTER

September 2013

Volume 13 – Issue 9

*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.*

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Machado's Mission Store was built around 1909 on the former site of The Wolf & Machado Company store.

## The Wolf & Machado Company P.2

By Jeffery G. Harmon

Macedonio Machado quickly established the Machado & Company, going into partnership with his father, Juan. Following the same business pattern, he purchased the Star Building in Oceanside in June 1887. Then a week later, Wolf sold the company store for \$1,000 to Machado, officially ending the partners' store in the new town of Temecula.

In June the court ruled in Machado's favor.

*"In the case of Louis Wolf vs. M. Machado, it has been ordered that G. W. Fox, receiver of the goods, deeds, and money in his possession, turn them over to M. Machado on demand, and to report his action to the court when his compensation as receiver will be fixed by the court, and the case is continued for this purpose only."* (June 25, 1887, San Diego Bee)

With company property returned to Machado, he sued Wolf and Fox for damages.

*"Macedonio Machado has "scooped" Wolf in their recent litigation, and the firm of Machado & Co. is now holding forth at the old stand. Owing to the non-compliance with contract on part of Louis Wolf, and neglect of duty of the Receiver, G. W. Fox, Machado & Co. have employed Harry L. Titus and will enter damage suits against above parties for \$5,000 each. May the best man win."* (June 29, 1887, San Diego Union)

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# Calendar Of Events

## Monday, September 23-6 p.m.

### **TVHS monthly meeting at Little**

Temecula History Center

David Lewis will present:

*"The History of the Town of Julian"*

His book, "Last Known Address" about people's stories who are buried in the Julian graveyard will be available for purchase.

## Monday, October 28 -6 p.m.

### **TVHS monthly meeting at Little**

Temecula History Center

Anne Miller will present:

*"When the 'Right' Trail Goes The Wrong Way: Resolving conflicts in Historical Research."*

Copies of her book, "The Southern Emigrant Trail Through Riverside County" will be available for purchase.

## **Temecula Valley Museum Exhibition**

*"And Freedom for All: The March on Washington"*

A photojournalist collection in honor of the 50th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs & Freedom Exhibit closes on Sunday, September 29th

## **Announcing:**

The Temecula Valley Historical Society's Annual Dinner on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Pechanga Hotel.

Pechanga Tribal Member  
and

Historical Society Board Member

Myra Masiel-Zamora

Will Present

*"A Walk through Teméeku"*

More details to come

**Thank you  
For Renewing your  
Membership:**

Elaine Eshom

## Company (Continued from Page 1)

Louis Wolf, undeterred by the court proceeding, began buying property in the new town of Murrieta. It is unknown if he was establishing a new mercantile store or purchasing land for investment purposes.

Wolf and Machado appeared in the San Diego County courthouse on Saturday, September 10, 1887. After his court appearance, Louis Wolf loaded up his wagon with fresh supplies and headed out of San Diego for the last time. On September 12, 1887 Louis Wolf died.

Louis' wife, Ramona and her brother-in-law, William Veal, Sr. of Pala, were named executors of his estate. It was estimated that the Little Temecula Rancho was worth \$100,000 and other properties Wolf owned valued at \$11,882. (September 27, 1887, San Diego Union)

Ramona Wolf and William Veal began the arduous task of collecting on Wolf's outstanding promissory notes and loans. For the next three years, Ramona Wolf would be in court numerous times for foreclosures and other financial cases related to her husband's estate. In November, Ramona Wolf bought a home in San Diego in order to be more comfortable during her multiple court appearances.

A summary of Louis Wolf's estate was printed in November. His financial assets were: "Cash in hand: \$6,725.31, Collectable promissory notes: \$13,636.77, Notes: \$954.69, Personal property: \$1,025, Little Temecula Rancho: \$40,000, Total value: \$61,387.08." (November 18, 1887, San Diego Union) It was also noted that there was other real estate and personal interests still unaccounted for. Wolf's estate would be an estimated value of 1.4 million dollars in today's market.

Machado avoided the first wave of Ramona's court cases because he was stricken with typhoid fever in November 1887. However, on March 31, 1888, Ramona Wolf took Macedonio Machado to court

*"Ramona Wolf and William Veal, executors of the estate of Louis Wolf, who died in Temecula in September last, have brought suit against M. Machado, of that place, to recover \$3,000 alleged to be due the deceased on a promissory note."* (March 31, 1888, San Diego Union)

On May 12, 1888, Machado counter sued Ramona Wolf in court.

*"M. and Juan Machado have brought suit against Ramona Wolf and William Veal, executors of the estate of Louis Wolf, deceased. The action is brought to recover \$2,710, the amount of a claim against the estate for goods furnished to Wolf in his life time."* (May 12, 1888, San Diego Union)

## Temecula Union School

### Class of 1959

June 18, 1959  
Lake Elsinore Valley Sun

Last Tuesday evening at the community hall, Temecula Grammar School presented for parents and friends the end of the school year program. Mrs. Kitching's first and second grades started the evening with the song "Lil Doggie." Mrs. Stiles led the fourth and fifth grades in choral speaking. Mrs. Strettmatter's fourth and fifth grades presented a group of songs accompanied on the piano by fourth and fifth graders Denise Dawes, Janie Friedemann, Patty Talley and David March, all of whom are piano students of Mrs. Annie Knott.

The class also sang for the first time the song "Temecula," which was written and music composed especially for the play by Mrs. Strittmatter. Cowbelle and cowboy dances were presented by Mrs. Bacon's second and third graders. A play, "Cocks should Crow," adapted from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales by John T. Nolan, was given by fourth and fifth graders. The cast was composed of: Announcer, Steven Brooks; Chanticleer, D. March; Partlett, the Hen, Janice Leak, Molly, the sheep, Denise Flores; Macrobius, the mare,

**(Continued on Page 4**

## **Company** (Continued from Page 2)

The results of the two cases are unknown.

Then in October, a fire ignited in Temecula.

*"Friday, at midnight, a fire broke out in the large general supply store of Machado & Co., at Temecula. This was the largest merchandise establishment, outside of San Diego, in the county. The building and its contents were entirely consumed, together with a large warehouse adjoining and two dwelling houses. Little of the contents of either of the dwelling houses were saved. The loss, which is partly covered by insurance, is estimated at \$20,000. The cause of the fire is unknown."* (October 7, 1888, San Diego Union)

Ramona Wolf's home in the new town of Temecula was one of the dwellings destroyed in the fire. Fortunately, Machado's Oceanside business and land investments, kept him from financial ruin. After the fire, Machado established his store at the Welty Hotel, and operated at that location for three years.

In 1889, Juan and Macedonio Machado brought suit against Ramona Wolf and William Veal, executors of Louis Wolf's estate.

*"The plaintiffs claim an estate of inheritance of a one-half interest in about 200 acres of land left by the deceased. They ask for a partition of the property according to the respective rights of the heirs, and for \$500 counsel fees."* (April 12, 1889, San Diego Union)

By July 1889, Ramona moved back to her original home on the Little Temecula Rancho. One year later, in October 1890, Ramona Wolf rented her San Diego home, moving her personal effects to Temecula. Then in January 1894, Ramona Wolf died of consumption and was buried in the old churchyard at the San Luis Rey Mission.

Fire struck the Machado & Co. again in 1891.

*"Word was received from Oceanside last night that the general merchandising store of Machado & Co., and the saloon and hotel of R. J. Welty at Temecula were burned on the night of January 2. The loss was \$3,500, and no insurance. The cause of the fire is unknown."* (January 6, 1891, San Diego Union)

Macedonio Machado prevailed after the second fire. He continued to buy and sell real estate and maintained company operations in Oceanside. By 1910, Machado returned to the original property of the Wolf & Machado Company and built a small mercantile building. His store was nicknamed the Mission Store because of the Indian baskets Machado sold.

Though the Wolf & Machado Company only lasted a few short years, Macedonio Machado took what he had learned from Louis Wolf and continued to build and serve the community throughout his life. Today these two men are considered major contributors to the development and prosperity of the Temecula region.

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Donna Hendrey; Cato, the cow, Diane Stanek and Fortune, the fox, John Horstman.

Masks and animal figures were Teresa Esclante, Denise Flores, Janice Leak, and Gilbert Mora.

Costumes: Patsy Delgado and Irene Munoz.

The old philosophers, Joe Murphy and Ricky Rodriguez.

The Great Dividion, [sic] grade seven: Franes Wells, Dennis Koelling, Bob Farris, Mike Talley, Robert Leak and Tommy Sherman. Technician, Joey Seay.

The eighth grade graduating class presented "The Round-up of Minnie" by Freda Graham Bundy. The cast:

Spike Rogers, Curley Smith, Slim Wilson, Sam Jones, Skip Evans, Craig Carberry, David Roripaugh, Butch Beauchamp, Linda Gagnon, Don Conibear, Phil Delgado and Erma Salas.

**Researcher's Note:**

The Class of 1958's newspaper article is missing. If you have any information regarding this class, please let us know.

Please join us for a  
"Meet & Greet" time  
at 5:30 PM on  
Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
prior to the meeting  
at 6:00 PM.

We would like to get to  
know you.

**REFRESHMENTS**  
will be served!

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*President's Message*  
*by Bonnie Martland*

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Dear TVHS Members and Friends,

Autumn is upon us. The humid heat of the last week in August belies the fact. Still, I know it is to be true because Christmas items are crowding onto store shelves. Jack-o-lanterns and scarecrows are being sidelined before their holiday even arrives. I was in a craft store the other day and it reminded me of an in-store version of Disneyland's Nightmare before Christmas at the Haunted Mansion. There were some Thanksgiving items, but not as many. Thanksgiving must not be as profitable as the other late-year holidays.

When I was young September always meant the start of school, raking leaves, plaid wool skirts and sweaters. I lived on the East Coast and I remember that upon arriving at school we always had a place to deposit mittens, scarves and galoshes. Today September means college football on TV, postponing hopes that the Angels will see another World Series, and the thought that I'd better dust off my walking shoes and review some history.

As students return to classes, the Temecula Valley Museum is gearing up for their traditional third grade field trips. The museum and an Old Town tour make up their itinerary. Several of us in the Historical Society are docents at the museum, but the museum staff is still in need of additional volunteers. If you are reading this newsletter, you most likely have an interest in local history. That interest and some enthusiasm are what are required. The museum staff will train new docents. You need not be an expert, but hopefully you will have acquired a bit more knowledge than the third graders! If, like me, that point is questionable... ask the kids. They will be happy to share their knowledge.

Share your love of history by volunteering for the TVHS Board of Directors or a committee, the Temecula Valley Museum, or the Little Temecula History Center (Vail Ranch Restoration Association). Nominations for our Board of Directors are being accepted prior to our next meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Martland