

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

June 2018
Volume 18 Issue 6

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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A Publication of the

Temecula Valley Historical Society

P.O. Box 157

Temecula, CA 92593

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The End of an Era

Last Items from Tom Hudson Print Shop Retrieved And in New Caring Hands

(Compiled by Dick Fox, with biographical information from Mary Hudson)

On a quiet sunshiny Wednesday morning in early April this year, a small group of folks joined together to assist Mary Hudson, the daughter of the area's beloved Tom Hudson, to remove and find new homes for the last vestiges of Tom's backyard print shop in the city of Lake Elsinore. Those who helped represented the International Printing Museum, the Temecula Valley Museum, and the Temecula Valley Historical Society.

Tom Hudson grew up immersed in the world of printing and newspapering. Before the age of 10, he was working as a "printer's devil" (apprentice) at his father's newspapers and print shops. Over a span of nearly 80 years, Tom worked steadily at what he described in his book, *In Search of the Sunset*, as "my life's calling as a printer-writer-publisher."

Certainly that calling was in Tom's blood, coming from both his mother's and father's sides of the family. His mother's father published newspapers in Alabama and Texas, and her brother, Charles Edwin Gilbert, founded and published the award-winning daily Dallas Times-Herald.

Tom's father, Robert Monroe Hudson, was also a Texas printer and newspaperman – the two callings being intertwined before the introduction of modern printing methods. As the Texas & Pacific Railroad was extended westward through Texas and beyond, the Hudsons moved with it, establishing newspapers as they went: the Weatherford Daily Commercial, the Colorado (City) Clipper, and the Big Springs Pantagraph, among others. Mostly they relied on a George Washington hand press and a few cases of type. But in boomtown Texico, New Mexico, where they started the Texico-Farwell News in 1917, they installed their first Linotype machine. Tom was then 17 years old, and he later recalled that was the beginning of his "love affair with that marvelous machine." It was to be a life-long affair. Even in retirement, Tom installed a Linotype in a backyard print shop at his Lake Elsinore home and used it to set type for his books and other publications. He also kept cases of hand-set type and a letterpress in his home-shop, along with an array of tools needed for artfully composing a page for printing.

Tom found his life partner, Bennie (Coates) Hudson, working in her father's Longview, Texas, newspaper-print shop. After the two were married in 1928, they moved to Azusa, California, where he operated a printing business and published the Azusa Herald. During the 1930s and 40s, Tom worked as a Linotype operator and compositor on newspapers in Los Angeles, Long Beach, Beverly Hills, and Riverside before settling in Elsinore.

In 1949, Tom and Bennie started a weekly newspaper, the Lake Elsinore Valley Sun, he as editor-publisher, she as associate editor. They published the

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Remaining Items from Hudson Print Shop Placed

Sun for 11 years, covering the news of Elsinore and the nearby villages of Wildomar, Murrieta, and Temecula. Tom served on the Elsinore City Council and, as a member of the Board of Directors of the California Newspaper Publishers Association, he was involved in issues of state-wide scope.

In 1967, Tom joined with a group of talented pals – Sam Hicks, Bill Cox, Al Newhart, Horace Parker, and artist Ralph Love -- to launch *The High Country*, a journal featuring stories of the early days in and around the Temecula and Elsinore valleys. For 13 years, Tom served as editor and one of the frequent writers of the journal, setting the type and making-up the pages in his backyard print shop.

After “retirement” from the High Country, Tom – then in his 80s and afflicted by failing eyesight -- went on to author and publish *A Thousand Years in Temecula Valley*,” as well as several booklets on subjects of historical interest. As with his previous books, he set the type on his beloved Linotype machine and turned to his cases of handset type to

make up the pages with a fine artisan’s touch.

The remaining pieces of printing equipment in the old shop included a number of “magazines” filled with the brass matrices for a Linotype machine, numerous lead “pigs” which feed the Linotype hot-lead pot as part of the casting process, a half-dozen type cases with hand-set type fonts, a box of zinc picture cuts used in the old process of letterpress printing, a small printer’s saw, and an antique hand-operated bindery “saddle” stitch device.

By mid-day the remaining printing equipment had been removed and loaded into a couple of trucks on their way to new homes, and perhaps an extended life of loving use. Mary Hudson was appreciative of the fact that items once lovingly used by her Dad as part of “typesetting central” for all things history, would not end up at a scrap dealer to be purchased by the pound, but rather be cared for with respect and find an extended life of dignified use and appreciation.

**(Tom’s Previous books — The West Is My Home, Laguna House, 1956; Three Paths Along a River, Desert-Southwest Publishers, 1964; Lake Elsinore Valley, Its Story, Laguna House 1978; In Search of the Sunset, Laguna House, 1980.)*

Linotype Machine Revolutionized Typesetting in Late 19th Century

Perhaps one of the most notable inventions in the U.S. is the Linotype machine, developed in 1884 by an emigrant German watchmaker named Ottmar Mergenthaler. This machine drastically sped up the typesetting process and helped revolutionize the newspaper industry by its innovative technique of “line casting.”



Tom Hudson working at his Linotype Machine



Special Event

Our member Beth Cobb, a volunteer for the Santa Margarita Ecological Preserve, hosted an event for the Temecula Valley Historical Society and the Fallbrook Historical Society on May 11. After hearing lectures about the California Southern Railroad by Scott Adkins of Fallbrook and our board member Bob Kent, members were invited to hike to the railroad bed, crossing a running stream and bushwacking through rough terrain. We were accompanied by Dianne Cowen, president of the Congress of History for San Diego and Imperial Counties; Sue Wade, archaeologist and historian who formerly worked for California State Parks; and Bruce Semelberger of the San Diego Railroad Museum in Campo. — *Photo by Walter Campbell.*

President's Message . . .

Dear Members,

After our April meeting several members expressed their appreciation for the discussion about our activism in the community. I wonder if members realize we have a lot going on besides offering an enjoyable presentation each month and a good newsletter. Here are a few activities we have done during April and May, moving at a fast pace to serve our community. Our scholarship committee selected four outstanding candidates to each receive \$1000 to help them in pursuit of their careers in history. Ten society members have helped VaRRRA and Vail HQ staff put on local history presentations to about 300 students, teachers, parents and chaperones.

Many of us attended a presentation about the Southern California Railroad at the Santa Margarita Ecological Preserve where we partnered with the Fallbrook Historical Society and Bob Kent presented some of his impeccable research. Afterward some of us hiked into the gorge to see the train bed, fording a running stream, bushwacking through overgrown vegetation and dodging poison oak. Several of us visited historic properties in Old Town to discuss historic preservation and to discuss the possibility of setting aside the Old Town area as a National Historic District. We have contacted each historic property owner to determine their possible interest in the Mills Act which we are advocating to reduce property tax burden on historical properties. We have made phone calls to the State Office of Historic Preservation and have met with people who are active in statewide preservation efforts.

We have produced great newsletters and feature articles in the Valley News. Plus, we have completed administrative tasks that keep the society afloat. There is a lot going on behind the scenes! We appreciate each and every member and attendee for your support to our thriving organization. An event to look forward to is our annual dinner in November when we have good fun, entertainment and socialization. We will give you the date when it is set so you can mark your calendars. Thank you for what each of you do. Sincerely,

Rebecca Farubach



Stephanie Lai from Great Oak High School shown with special "Scholars" celebration cake.



Zaria Towrey from Vista Murrieta High School, & Bonnie Martland Scholarship Committee Chair.

Meet the 2018 TVHS Scholarship Recipients

Four Temecula Valley graduating seniors each received one thousand-dollar scholarships through the Temecula Valley Historical Scholarship fund this year. Awards were presented to the two Murrieta Valley School District recipients at awards ceremonies at Murrieta Mesa High School on April 30th. The two Temecula Valley Unified School District recipients received theirs in ceremonies at Temecula Valley High School on May 14th. This year's Temecula Valley Historical Society Scholarship recipients are Zaria Towrey from Vista Murrieta High School, Natalie Salas from Murrieta Mesa High School, Stephanie Lai from Great Oak High School and Travis Olson from Temecula Valley High School. Two recipients, Zaria Towrey and Stephanie Lai were able to attend our May TVHS meeting.

Each young lady told us a bit about themselves and their future plans and were presented with a piece of congratulatory cake and a chorus of congratulations. Each year TVHS gives four one-thousand dollar scholarships to students in the valley. Criteria for selection includes plans to pursue a major, and or career, in history, or a history related area, academic excellence and community service. Scholarship Committee Chair, Bonnie Martland, wants to commend committee members Suzanne Dechert, Elaine Culverhouse, and Cheryl Cady for the time and effort they put into reading applications and the thoughtful consideration they gave to the merits of each candidate.

Temecula's New Library To Open December 28 (1948)

(This is a reprint of story that appeared in the Elsinore Leader-Press, December 23, 1948)

Everyone in Temecula and vicinity is invited to attend the Open-House of the Temecula Branch Riverside County Library. It will open on December 28 from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. for the public to inspect. Painting, carpentry work, and new wiring have improved the new library location. Mr. and Mrs. Urban Tarwater of Murrieta are making it possible for the library to use the south room in the building just south of the M and M Market on the Highway. The volunteers who have been in remodeling the room are Walter McCassey, Sam Brunson, Yola Strang, Marjorie Kitch, Mrs. Chamness, Mr. Taylor, and Elaine Brunson. Those who have been generous in furnishing the room include Paul Ware, Mr. and Mrs. Farrell, Annie Knott, Ethel Johnson, Rose Cantarini, Marian Roripaugh, Hedy Roripaugh and Patty Friedemann.

Beginning on January 4, 1949, the library will be open twice a week, Tuesday from 2 to 5 p.m. and on Friday from 1 to 6 p.m. Mrs. Pratt will act as Librarian on Tuesday and Mrs. Freda Knott on Friday. Books are being furnished by the County Library and will be divided into three sections, Fiction, Non-Fiction, and Juvenile. A wide variety of books is available. Any book not on the shelves may be requested from the County Library which in turn may request books from the State Library. Present stock of books available to borrowers includes mysteries, novels, recent books in both fiction and non-fiction. A set of encyclopedia and a dictionary will be available for students use at the library. All desiring to borrow books from the library will first obtain a library card, have the date due stamped in the books when they are due or return them to have a new date stamped in them. Most books can be kept for two weeks.

Temecula has had an interest in libraries for many years. At one time a room at the Temecula Hotel was used for a public library and maintained by members of a Library Club. Charles McVickers has had a library at two different times. The last period of dates from January 20, 1945 to December, 1948. Due to his health, he has wanted for some time to relinquish the responsibility of the books. The new library will be maintained by the county. All are urged to take advantage of this new service.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Daily thru June 18 — 10 am to 4 pm at Temecula Valley Museum in Old Town, gallery exhibit "*Lines of Power and Purpose: Editorial Cartoons*" a display of 51 original editorial cartoons from great national newspapers during Golden Age of print journalism.

Saturday, June 2 — 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Civil War History Conference at Conference Center at City Hall, "*1863: Battling for Freedom*". Multiple speakers and displays. TVHS will have display titled "California In the Civil War" with an emphasis on the state's contribution to the war effort, volunteer soldiers, and the U.S. Sanitary Commission (forerunner to Red Cross). Registration \$50.

Sunday, June 3 — Sunday Fundays at Vail HQ each Sunday 11 am to 4 pm. Demonstrations, vendors, music, rides on train and stagecoach. Family fun free. First Sundays Mompreneurs are vendors with their home-based business products. Also be sure to visit the VaARRA folks in the cookhouse antique store.

Wednesday, June 6 — 8:45 am to Noon TVHS is sponsoring a tour of the Fallbrook Historical Museum. Meet at Red Barn to carpool. Tour includes historic home, museum, barn and 1 room schoolhouse. Call Phil Washum at 951-201-0020 to sign up.

Friday, June 15 — 8:30 p.m. at the Vail HQ stage — Friday Night Movies "Monsters, INC." Free outdoor summer activity, family friendly movies. Bring lawn chairs and blankets.

Monday, June 25 — 6:00 p.m. monthly program of the Temecula Valley Historical Society to be held at the Little Temecula History Center (Red Barn). Michelle Lorimer will present "*Resurrecting the Past: The California Mission Myth*".

Friday, June 29 — 6 pm to 10 pm. Last Friday each Month May through October "*Starlight Bazaar*" at Vail HQ. Night markets with vendors, live music, carriage rides, displays, and entertainers.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Members:

Marilyn Clark
John & Maureen Bean
Robin & Deanna Sands
Barbara Lamb

Thank you for renewing your membership:

Lynnette Harmon Canales
Peg Moore
Dana Thoman
Sarah Kay Bierle
Larry & Cheryl Cady
Sara Hostetler

Please support our efforts to get the Mills Act enacted by the City of Temecula. Residents of the city Please contact City Council members

100 Years Ago in Temecula

Selected events from Lake Elsinore Valley Press, Temecula Gossip Column – June 1918.

Issue of June 7, 1918

James E. Crew returned from Los Angeles the first of the week with a load of sacks. In a very short time Mr. Crew will be digging spuds.

Joe Welty has bought the two burros and spring wagon from the Fernald boys. They sold them because they will move very soon to Los Angeles.

Juan Munoa has started to stack his hay. He will have very close to two tons per acre, if not more.

Albert Banks some time ago bought a combined harvester, and it arrived last week. He had it all put together and nearly ready for action. Mr. Banks has a large crop of grain in Long Valley.

Sometime next week Mrs. Preston V. Swanguen will make a long journey to visit her son Waldo, who is in the army and is stationed in North Carolina.

Issue of June 14, 1918

The dance given last Saturday night at the bank hall was well attended and all had a good time.

Mr. Van Rensselaer who is in the service of the government, Monday morning delivered an inspiring and patriotic address, which stirred the patriotism in the hearts of the people. He comes from Fallbrook.

The people of Wildomar, Murrieta, Temecula and Hugo Guenther of Murrieta Hot Springs gave the soldier boys of the 143rd Artillery a fine dinner at the Temecula river Monday noon. Mrs. Mouren and Mrs. R. Arviso and the Indians from the Pechanga reservation contributed chicken and money and Mrs. Mouren made tamales which were served to the officers and men of the artillery.

James O. Freeman and his crew have stated to bale hay at the ranch of Carl R. Swanguen.

Issue of June 21, 1918

William Scholder of Mesa Grande was in town last week with cattle that were sold to William Friedemann.

Mrs. Catherine B. Fernald has closed the garage and has moved to Inglewood. The garage is for rent now.

Albert Banks and his crew have started to bale hay for James E. Crew at the Pauba Ranch. James E. Crew, the potato bug, started to dig spuds with a force of about ten men. The spuds are turning out very good. He expects to have more spuds this year than any other time.

Mr. and Mrs. James O. Freeman gave a small informal dinner at their home, the occasion being in honor of the third birthday of their little daughter, E. M. Freeman.

Miss Ethel Hall, who has for the past year attended school at Los Angeles, returned home last week.

Frank Ramos went to Riverside last week, had his examination for enlistment in the Navy, passed, and was

sent to San Diego immediately. Frank is a good boy and he will make a good sailor.

Miss Camilla Trujillo, who has been attending school at Sherman, Riverside, returned home Monday and will spend her vacation at home.

Charles Swain left for Murrieta last Monday morning to do some work on his beans haul some of his hay.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Howard made a business trip to Riverside last of the week.

Hugh Magee, a very successful bean planter at Pala was a business caller in town the first of the week.

George Moraga has the contract to haul the spuds from the Pauba Ranch to the station.

Ricardo Cantarini of San Marcos arrived on the noon stage on his way to Pechanga, where he has a brother who is very ill and is not expected to live.

Alfred Knott, our blacksmith, is doing some figuring these days since the Fernalds closed their garage. Mr. Knott expects to build a garage in the near future. We hope that he will for the reason that a garage is needed here the worst way. Mr. Knott is a reliable man and will be just the man for such kind of business.

Mrs. Schlotte of Alamos was a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mac Machado the first of the week.

Issue of June 28, 1918

P. T. Hoffman, superintendent of the Pala Indian agency, was a business caller in town the first of the week.

Mrs. Mary Rush of Colton is this week visiting her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Freeman.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Clark and daughter Marie and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fickelsworth, all of Pauba Ranch, spent Sunday in Oceanside.

Ferrall Freeman who for the past two years has been at Imperial Valley, returned to town last week and will be here for some time.

James E. Crew is digging and shipping potatoes, five teams hauling an average of 1000 sacks daily and average about 75 sacks to the acre. Some of the finest spuds are grown here in Temecula and are shipped to Los Angeles.

Charles Garbani and family of Ethanac attended the funeral of Ramon Pajinam, who died last Thursday at Pechanga.

Alfred Knott, our blacksmith, has started to build his garage. The building will be 25 X 70 feet and of tiling. Last week he started to lay the foundation. After that it won't take very long to put up the rest of the building. There is no question but that a garage is needed here.

Juan Munoa and his crew returned the last of the week from San Marcos, where they had been bailing hay for Ricardo Cantarini. He is now baling for Joe Nicolas at Los Choyas ranch.