

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

February 2019
Volume 19 Issue 2

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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For many years this photo is what we saw at the corner of Main and Old Town Front streets, as Ms. Chievious ladies' clothing == Photo courtesy of VaRRA

For Years "The Long Branch Saloon"

1909 Building has Varied Past Once Known as the Mission Store

In the 1880 Census of Temecula, the Juan Machado family is listed including eldest son Macedonia age 22. Macedonia noted to be a "clerk in store", which was the store owned by Louis Wolf. Macedonia worked for Wolf until 1884 when they formed a partnership and bought Mundt's Store in the new village of Temecula. Machado operated that part of their business arrangement.

An article in the October 11, 1888 issue of the Murrieta Transcript stated: "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." We know that following the

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The 1909 Building & Its Varied Past . . .

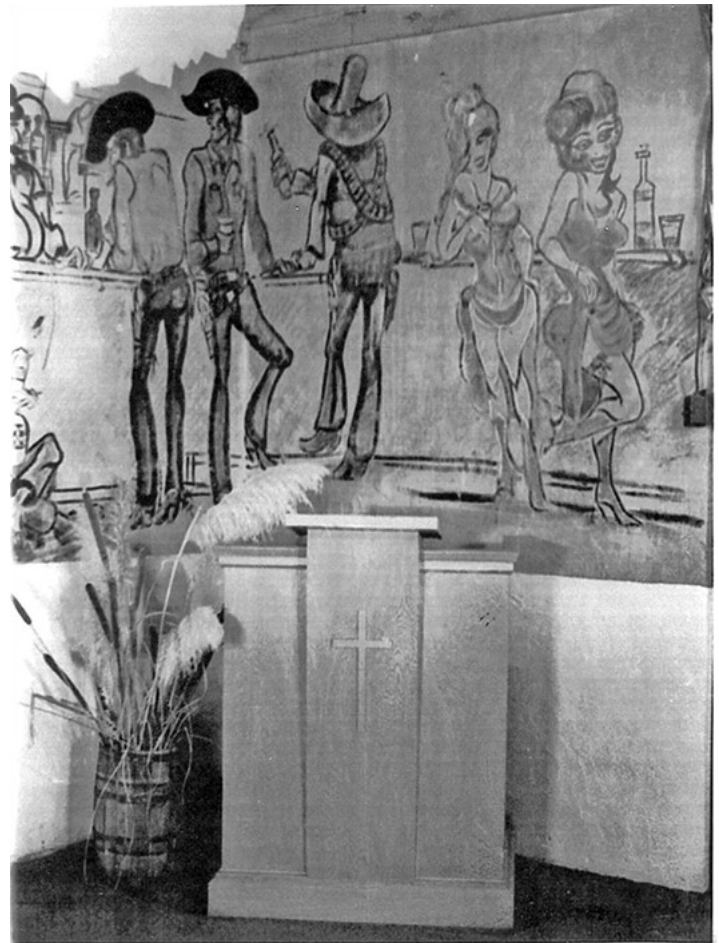
fire the Machado store operated out of the Welty Hotel for a time.

Machado's new store was called *The Mission Store* and opened anew in 1909. This time the building walls were constructed using terra cotta clay drainage pipes (see photo next page) as masonry block units to build the exterior walls. Machado operated this store until he retired in 1936. This iteration of the structure still stands today.

Following the closure of Machado's Mission Store, the Vail Co. acquired the building and for a number of years used it as a warehouse to store seed grain. During the 1960's the building became the *Long Branch Saloon* and the source of many tales about the Hells Angels bikers, local Indians, cowboys, and lawmen as they spent time on the stools of the Long Branch Saloon.

In 1979 *Hope Lutheran Church* leased the building for one year and it became a church, after which the building became *The Shire* selling antiques, knickknacks and home décor items.

In 2001 the building was purchased by Richard Leigh and opened as a women's clothing store known as Ms. Chievous. About 2015 the property was once again renovated and converted into the current business known as the *1909 Restaurant* in Old Town at the corner of Main & Front Streets.



In 1979 when Hope Lutheran leased the building, they were greeted by some probably unwanted interior murals.

— Photo courtesy of Temecula Valley Museum



Long Branch Saloon had a storied past in the old building during the 1960's and 70's. It is said that at times various groups ranging from Hells Angels, cowboys, and others laid claim to it as "their bar".

— Photo courtesy of Temecula Valley Museum



Clay drainage pipes like the ones above were stacked and mortared together much in the same way that blocks are used today. These were used in the reconstruction of the old Mission Store in 1909. The same technique and materials were used to build the old "water building" at the Vail Headquarters. Typically plaster was applied to both interior and exterior walls. See story beginning on Page 1.

— Photo by Rebecca Farnbach

Children's Books Needed . . .

New or gently used children's books are needed for the Free Little Library at Vail HQ. If you would like to donate some books, please bring them to the Historical Society presentation on Jan. 28 or drop them off at the VaARRA antique store at Vail HQ any Sunday afternoon or Tuesday morning.

We appreciate your donations of books!

Make Reservations Now

Special Music Event Set By Scholarship Committee

Mike Chamberlin will be performing at the Merc at the request of the TVHS Scholarship Committee. All proceeds will go to the scholarship fund. The performance will be held on Sunday, March 17 (Saint Patrick's Day) at the Merc from 7 to 9 P.M. Mr. Chamberlain will be doing a program of World War II Love Songs, and since the performance will be on St Paddy's Day, will add a few Irish tunes into the mix to help celebrate the day. Known as the "Singing TV Guy," Mike sang Rock N' Roll music in high school and signed a contract with a record label. A tour of duty in Viet Nam intervened, but after his military service he returned to his music career which led to a gig as a radio DJ and eventually into TV news anchoring and sports broadcasting. He has been performing professionally for over 50 years and says music has always been his first love.

So please save the date for what will be an entertaining evening and a great way to celebrate St. Paddy's Day and support our scholarship fund. A donation of \$20 will secure a seat for this event.

There will be a limit of 48 seats, so make your reservation by contacting directly Bonnie Martland at bonnie@azteche.com or by phone at 951-775-6366.

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Time to Register

2019 Riverside County History Symposium Set

The Riverside County History Symposium registration is now open for the March 2, 2019 event. This seventh history symposium will be held in the historic Lake Elsinore Cultural Arts Center in Lake Elsinore. Registration will include 4 speakers on local history, a continental breakfast, lunch and walking tour of historic downtown Lake Elsinore.

Registration is open until February 16, 2019. For further information e-mail rivcoheritageassoc@gmail.com.

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Help Needed for Student Tours

'Tis the season of Student Tours at the Vail HQ and this is a request for help.

Please review each of the dates and see if you can help with any or all of them. We need help! Then please let Rebecca Farnbach know. Thank you!

Thursday, Feb. 7 - 9:30 to 12:00 - 3rd-grade students.

Thursday, Feb. 14 (yes, Valentines Day) - 9:30 to 12:00 - 3rd-grade students.

Monday, Feb. 25 - 9:30 to 12:00 - 3rd-grade students.

Friday, April 12 - 9 to 1 - Pechanga 3rd-grade students.

Monthly Presentations

Notable Men and Women of Temecula



Sunday January 6 was the first in a series of "First Sunday" performances by the Notable Men and Women of Temecula. Here Lynn Cudé presents Ramona Wolf. February's performance has been

Programs are given on the FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 2:30 P.M. at the Little Temecula History Center (red barn)...except on Sunday, Feb 3rd. Due to the Super bowl, the Notable Series program will be moved to Sunday, Feb. 10th, at 2:30 p.m. Come and learn about Freda Knott and Maria Apis.

Gerry Nicholas is joining the Living History group now known as the "Notable Men & Women of Temecula". Gerry portrays O.T. Hackett, the stagecoach driver, who delivered mail to the Wolf Store three days a week for many years.

We also welcome a new TVHS member, Bill Veale, to the Notable Men & Women of Temecula. Bill portrays Jose Estudillo. Estudillo was trained in the handling & training of horses. He had dealings with Pio Pico and Pablo Apis along with many other Californio families. Welcome to both Gerry and Bill.



Bill Veale as Jose Estudillo



Gerry Nicholas as O.T. Hackett



Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve 2019 Hikes Schedule Announced

The schedule for spring hikes in the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve has been released. A variety of educational and informative events are planned, that range from easy to strenuous.

A **New Short Hike** to introduce participants to the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve is $\frac{3}{4}$ mile hike to an overview location of the Temecula Canyon. An optional additional $\frac{3}{4}$ mile hike down into the canyon will be available if desired. Available Saturday, February 16 and Saturday, April 27.

PJ's Bird Walk is a popular slow paced easy hike specifically geared to observe birds. Bring your binoculars. Sign up for Saturday April 13.

The **Chaparral Hike** is considered a moderate hike of 3 miles over uneven ground. Able to view the Temecula Gorge. Available Saturday, March 9 and Saturday, May 11.

The **Temecula Gorge Hike** is a challenging $6\frac{1}{2}$ mile hike with a 1400' elevation grade change. This hike is available on Saturday, February 23, and Sunday April 7th.

The **Highlands Hike** is listed as strenuous and 6 miles in length, also with an elevation change of 1600'. Available on Saturday, February 2, and Saturday, March 23rd.

For all hikes it is necessary to RSVP to Beth Cobb at smerdocenthikes@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 3 — 11 to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday with train rides, lawn games and vendors.

Sunday, February 10 — 2:30 p.m. Meet Freda Knott and Maria Apis at the Little Temecula History Center (red barn) to learn about life in Temecula. Elaine Eshom will present Freda Knott who was a teacher, librarian and school board trustee; and Mindy Johnson will recount the life of Maria Apis, a Luiseno Indian Woman who inherited the Little Temecula Rancho. These programs are free and open to the public.

Sunday, February 17 — 11 to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday with train rides, lawn games and vendors.

Monday, February 25 — 6:00 p.m. Regular monthly program of the Temecula Valley Historical Society, to be held at the Little Temecula History Center (red barn), Greg Rager to present — "The History of Photography." Join us at 5:30 for light refreshments and "Meet & Greet" before the program.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR

Join us for a tour of the John Rains house in Rancho Cucamonga on **Wednesday, Feb. 13th**. Call Phil Washum at 951 201-0020 to sign up. We will meet at the Little Temecula History Center (red barn) at 8:45 a.m. to carpool. Tour cost is \$4.00/person.

— Membership News —

Please welcome new members:

John & Nancy Mize

Bill & Elizabeth Veale

Thank you for renewing your membership:

Manuel Robles & Rosalinda del Castillo

*** Notable Men & Women of Temecula ***

Future Presentations

Sunday, March 3rd, at 2:30 p.m. at the Little Temecula History Center, Bonnie Martland will portray Elena Coutts Dear, a descendant of a prominent Californio family, who lived both at the Rancho Guajome Adobe, and later at Rancho Santa Rosa.

Sunday, April 7th, at 2:30 p.m. at the Little Temecula History Center, Mindy Johnson, will present Annie Mendenhall Bergman, a well-known business owner, rancher, postmaster, and world traveler who lived most of her life in Guanga.

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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