

# TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



## NEWSLETTER

April 2019  
Volume 19 Issue 4

*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.*

### 2019 Officers

President	Shari Crall
Vice President	Darell Farnbach
Secretary	Sarah Bierle
Treasurer	Lynn Cudé
Past President	Rebecca Farnbach

### Directors

Elaine Culverhouse  
Elaine Eshom  
Julie Gilbert  
Wendy Lesovsky  
Bonnie Martland  
Bonnie Reed  
Carol Strode

### Committee Chairs

**Research & Preservation**  
Darell Farnbach

**Membership**  
Lynn Cudé

**Program Speakers**  
Rebecca Farnbach

**Projects & Plaques**  
Julie Gilbert

**Events & Education**  
Bonnie Reed

**Newsletter Editor**  
Dick Fox

**Website**  
Roger Cudé

A Publication of the

**Temecula Valley Historical Society**  
P.O. Box 157  
Temecula, CA 92593

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



*Thomas Brady's store near Warner Springs as it looked in the mid-1900's.*

*A glimpse into 1860's daily life . . .*

## Warner Store Ledger Tells Tales of the Era

By Rebecca Marshall Farnbach

*(This article first appeared in the VaRRA News January 2009)*

The Wolf Store Adobe carries the name of the burly, bearded Jewish proprietor who came to America from the Alsace-Lorraine region of Europe that was sometimes under German and at other times under French control. Perhaps Wolf, who arrived in San Francisco in 1851 at the age of twenty-one, had Gold Rush fever, as he worked as a miner for a short time before making his first appearance in Temecula in 1857.

Accounts say Wolf had a store on the south side of Temecula Creek, between the Apis adobe and Magee's store in 1858. There are references to his hotel service and a lawsuit was filed in front of the Wolf and Prager Store in 1858. He is listed on the 1860 census in Temecula and was assessed \$800 in taxes.

In 1867, Wolf was postmaster in Warner Springs and was a partner with Thomas Brady in a general store there. We have copies of the ledger from the Wolf and Brady store dated December 1867 through July 1868, with many pages in Wolf's handwriting. By looking at the accounts, we can imagine what the Wolf Store in Temecula may have been like.

Customers were not just shopping, but many stopped by to smoke, chew,

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from Page 1)

# Warner Store Ledger . . .

drink alcohol, and gamble on card games. The store was open even on Christmas Day. The store was a social center, bank, and a place to sell their goods. It offered lodging to travelers. Lodging fees also included food for the traveler and provisions for their horses.

Some of the items sold to the store or traded for goods included: salt, goats, flour, chickens, potatoes and soap, corn, barley, pumpkins and olive oil.

The most common purchase was "sundries," a term we no longer use, indicating a collection of small things not named. Items we no longer purchase included: rolls of candlewick, rope, buckskins, hickory shirts, suet, bear meat, gunpowder, and livery oil.

We no longer pay for items with gold dust. Other means of exchange were government vouchers, greenbacks and "legal tender."

Anything manufactured cost more. A pencil cost \$.25, and a pocket knife \$1, when an entire beef cost only \$.25.

Certain events can be speculated by the purchasing patterns. For example, February 17, 1868, was payday for Ramone Monreal. After receiving \$167.50 in cash from Tomlinson & Company, he bought a horse, a suit of clothes, an undershirt, drawers, 2 pairs of socks, a cravat, shirt and collar. Was it in preparation for a wedding?

That same day Monreal also bought a veil, skirt, yard goods, trim and fancy dress buttons. And on April 6<sup>th</sup>, he bought household goods and a looking glass.

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, eight men each paid \$1 toward "sundries for Smithe's woman." Because there were no more purchases to Joseph Smithe's account, perhaps he died. I found another clue when I read that William Wolf bought cattle and oxen from the estate of Joseph Smithe and credited his debt \$70 on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

There are certain items that are unfamiliar today. People bought a product called *aguadiente* by the gallon. Breaking it into two words, I thought it was Spanish for "water for teeth," or mouthwash. I wondered why they would be using so much mouthwash. Then I found out it was *aguardiente*, strong or ardent water, which was moonshine.

They also bought "shorts," a byproduct of wheat flour that includes the germ, fine bran and some flour. "Manta", a square piece of cloth used as a cloak, was sold by the yard. At first I thought "hive syrup" was honey, but learned it was a cough syrup made from a plant that had a blossom shaped like a bee hive. A quire of paper is one twentieth of a ream, or 24 sheets of paper.

At first glance, a person may think it is a dull old book. But, it is actually a very important time capsule of life in the past. From this careful account book, we learn about life near Temecula during that time. Many of the customers' names are familiar to us.

What happened after the last entry of July 10, 1868? In 1868 Wolf purchased the Little Temecula Rancho and Wolf resided in Temecula until his death in 1887.

103 Dec 26th 1867

1/2	John Mc Danico	Dr	1.00
	By Nelson Cash		3.75
	16/44	Edwards	25
	Cash		1.15
	Mr. Wagner Brinks		6.12
3/5	Wm. Preece	Cr	
	By Smith Beef	@	
	Dr		
5/5	G. Gale Brandy	@	15.00
5/7	George Cushman	Dr	50
	Drinks		
1/2	Wm. Webb	Dr	1.25
	Drinks		38
	Cigars		1.6
Dec 27	John Mc Danico	Dr	
1/2	Mr. Wagner Brinks		88
1/5/76	G. Adams	Dr	50
	Tobacco		
5/7	George Cushman	Dr	10.00
	Cash		
9/1	Joseph S. Daniels	Dr	50
	Drinks		
5/2	Gregoria Fincho	Dr	2.00
	Sugar, the coffee		
	Portia		

Above, image of a page from the Warner's Store Ledger during the time of Louis Wolf's partnership with Brady, and below a sample of Louis Wolf signature as seen in the ledger. His obituary which appeared in the San Diego Union noted him as having amassed a "snug fortune."

His obituary in the San Diego Union newspaper stated he began the trading business in a small adobe store with "only brawn, brain, and perseverance as capital, but amassed a snug fortune."

# Notable Men & Women of Temecula Activities & Presentations



*On 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 Aguanga.*

**On April 9th**, Michelle Elling and Lynn Cudé, as Notable Women of Temecula, will give a performance for the "Lunch Ladies", a private group in Temecula.

**On April 24th**, Bonnie Martland will be portraying Elena Coutts Dear for the Senior Golden Years Group at the Senior Center in Old Town Temecula at 1:00 pm. It is open to the public.

**On Sunday, May 5th**, at 2:30 p.m. at the Little Temecula History Center, Michelle Elling will portray Edna Swanguen, the owner of Hall's Cafe and also the local telephone operator in Temecula. The program is free and open to the public.

**On Wednesday, May 22nd**, Mindy Johnson will present Annie Mendenhall Bergman for the Senior Golden Years Group at the Senior Center in Old Town Temecula at 1:00 p.m. It is open to the public.

## TVHS Group Meets With Ancestors of Frank Fernald

On Saturday, March 23, a group of TVHS members did some research for a new Notable Woman of Temecula character by interviewing the widow of the person's grandson.

The portrayal of Catherine Fernald will depict how she worked alongside her husband Frank Fernald in their businesses in Temecula in the early 1900s that included a bicycle shop, photo studio and granite harvesting and engraving.

Rebecca Farnbach, Mike and Shelley Leddy, Kent and Penelope Johnson, and Lynn Cudé met with Leah Fernald and her daughter Melissa, collecting a lot of helpful data for Shelley Leddy's future portrayal of Catherine Fernald, something to look forward to in the next few months.



*Leah Fernald*

# Good Time Music and Fun at Fundraiser Event

A good time was had by all at the music fundraiser on Sunday, March 17. The event held at “*The Merc*” in Old Town turned out to be a SRO event — all seats were filled.

Mike Chamberlin provided an evening of memorable music entitled “Love Songs of WWII”, many of which were also sing along tunes, that many in the crowd knew well. It was a light-hearted evening enjoyed by all, and included a few appropriate St. Patrick’s Day songs.

## — Membership News —

*Please welcome new members:*

*Pat Louis*

*Thank you for renewing your membership:*

*Myrna Bagge*

*Toni Benson*

*Marilyn Clark*

*Beth Cobb*

*Roger & Lynn Cudé*

*Suzanne Dechert*

*Betsy Domanski*

*Tom & Michele Elling*

*Rod & Charlene Fink*

*Forest & Marti Greenwood*

*Julie Gilbert*

*Barbara Lamb*

*Mary Lavezzari*

*Steve Lech*

*John & Bonnie Martland*

*Dr. Anne Miller & Dr. David Elliott*

*Peg Moore*

*Bill & Claudia Perozzi*

*Dale & Ann Silimperi*

*Mike & Carol Strobe*

*Gene & Barbara Tobin*

*Donald Esther Trunnell*

*Kathy Turgeon*

*Rosie Vanderhaak*

*Steve Williamson*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturday, April 6th** — A day long event to celebrate Earth Day at Vail HQ. In partnership with the local Sierra Club activities for the family.

**Sunday, April 7th** — 11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Vail HQ will host the Synergy Social vendor market.

**Sunday, April 7th** — 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 Aguanga.

**Saturday, April 20th** — Spring Jam at Vail HQ 11-4 pm an event for the whole family with egg hunts, train rides and other fun Easter-time activities for children.

**Monday, April 22** — 6:00 p.m. Regular monthly program of the Temecula Valley Historical Society, to be held at the Little Temecula History Center (red barn), Bonnie Martland to give presentation on “Lincoln and the Politics of Slavery”. Don’t forget to Join us at 5:30 for light refreshments and “Meet & Greet” before the program.

**Saturday, April 27** — Thistle & Sage at Vail HQ, 4 to 8 p.m., featuring vendors selling Vegan Cuisine and non-animal products.

**Sunday, May 19th** — 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. “Meet the Authors” at the Little Temecula History Center. This free program is being offered by Anne Miller and Rebecca Farnbach for people who are interested in writing and getting published. Each will discuss their own writing and publishing experiences, as well as have copies of their works for purchase.

## Volunteers Needed for Student Tours

*There are six student tours for third-grade classes scheduled on weekdays from 9:30 - 12 during April and May. Would you be willing to be a presenter at one of the stations at Vail HQ and the History Center?*

*If so, please contact Rebecca Farnbach at 951-75-6057 or [RebFrnbach@aol.com](mailto:RebFrnbach@aol.com) to volunteer.*



**Don't miss this all-day event on Saturday, June 1, 2019,** when six historians and four historical groups join Gazette665 to present an all-day celebration and commemoration of an important year in American History.

## ***The American Civil War - 1864: Fighting To Survive***

You'll learn about battles and campaigns, civilians' efforts on the homefront, the conflict of loyalty and religion, and military medical care. This all-day event includes lunch, several historical displays, question and answer time with researchers, and book shopping opportunities. Speakers come from across the country and local history will also be highlighted through a partnership with Temecula Valley Historical Society.

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 1, 2019 - 8:30am 'til 5:00pm, catered lunch is included

**WHERE:** The Temecula Conference Center, Temecula, California

**REGISTRATION:**

\$40.00 Early Bird Registration, catered lunch included (available 'til April 15)

\$50.00 Regular Registration, catered lunch included

**HOW TO ATTEND:** We have printable forms or safely secure on-line registration. Visit [www.Gazette665.com](http://www.Gazette665.com) for more details and registration.

**Speakers:**

David T. Dixon - Religious Beliefs & Civil War Loyalties

Rex Kern – Building U.S. National Cemeteries

Dr. Chris Mackowski – The Overland Campaign

Professor Michael K. Shaffer – The Atlanta Campaign

Heather St. Clair – U.S. Sanitary Commission Fundraiser Fairs in 1864

Sarah Kay Bierle - Medical Care in the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaigns