

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

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

www.temeculahistoricalsociety.org



On Saturday, June 1st TVHS supported a table at the annual Civil War Conference held at the Temecula Conference Center. Seven members of the Society attended the all day event organized by Gazette665. Rebecca Farnbach can be seen interacting with an attendee during one of the breaks.

Civil War Era Quilts

The main uses for quilts outside the home during the Civil War Era were for *warm bedding*, for *shrouds* to bury the dead, and *to auction* to raise money for the Sanitary Commission. Women wanted to help with the war effort and by making quilts they found satisfaction and their collective effort gave them camaraderie with other women with the same worries about the nation.

There are still quilts in existence that were delivered to soldiers by the Sanitary Commission, an agency much like the American Red Cross, that supplied items needed by soldiers. Those given by the Sanitary Commission are identified by ink stamps applied to the fabric. Sanitary Commission records show that over 125,000 quilts and comforters (tie quilts) were donated to soldiers. The Lincoln Memorial Shrine in Redlands owns one of the quilts of the Sanitary Commission.

The sizes of fabric pieces in Civil War era quilts were small because many manufacturing plants had shut down and material was difficult to acquire. Good cloth salvaged from worn-out clothes was saved to use in quilts.

Making up for the dearth of cloth, muslin fertilizer bags and feedbags were often used for the quilt backs. When uniforms from the war dead could

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from Page 1)

Civil War Quilts . . .

not be refashioned into other uniforms the fabric was saved for quilts.

Alternately, when larger pieces of fabric were available, those large pieces were stitched together and backed, then tied instead of being quilted together, making "tie quilts" quickly for the men on the front. Handmade quilts were also made more quickly by doing straight lines instead of outlining patterns in more artistic quilts.

Quilters in the 1860s didn't have many pieces of sewing equipment used by quilters today. Their supplies were fabric, thread, needles and scissors.

If you've heard about quilts with arrows showing slaves the way to freedom, or that log cabin style quilts with a black square for a chimney indicated a safe house, it may be a myth. It appears that a children's book was written on that theme, and that while it may have been true for one family, it was not a common practice. For more information about the concept of quilt codes to direct slaves fleeing on the Underground Railroad, you may want to read the book "Fact & Fabrication" by Barbara Brackman.



Proudly display your American Flag to celebrate our 243rd Independence Day

NWOT Featured in Special Filmed Interview Program

Recently Johanna Lack of JDS Creative Academy in Temecula contacted Lynn Cudé regarding JDS's plan to put a program together about notable women in Temecula's history. Johanna scheduled an interview with "Ramona Wolf", "Mary Jane Welty", and "Bessie Barnett", followed by Joan Sparkman and Maryann Edwards.

The program was filmed on Friday, June 14th, at the JDS Studio, and was live-streamed on Thursday, June 27th at 1:00 p.m. through www.spectrumofinnovation.org.

A "LINK" to view a replay of the program will be made available soon, and will be included in the next TVHS Newsletter for anyone who missed the initial broadcast and wishes to watch the program.

— Membership News —

***Welcome New Member:
Nancy Windus***

***Thank you for renewing your membership:
Alta Pacific Bank***

A Call to Support the Society

Docent and Volunteer Opportunities Available

As the society moves closer to completion of its planned merger with the Vail Ranch Restoration Association, new opportunities will present themselves for TVHS members to step up and assist in many areas. Volunteer opportunities will be available to assist as docents and tour guides at the History Center, alternates for some administrative functions, and assistants in the Antique Store.

In the spring of each school year we typically have some of the elementary school classes schedule a field trip to the History Center and/or Vail Headquarters. Each scheduled class will vary in size, but we usually will divide them into smaller groups for a focused activity, then rotate the small groups every few minutes to provide them all an opportunity to be exposed to an element of history. Please consider helping in this area, it is fun and happens only occasionally during the school year. Let Rebecca Farnbach know of your interests here.

Other areas where members can assist are helping with periodic maintenance and housecleaning at the History Center, perhaps learning how to be an alternate driver of the kids train, and providing data entry assistance on History Center projects involving computer entry. For those with an accounting or finance background I'm sure that we could use help assisting the Society Treasurer at times.

There is a need to have backup and assistants in multiple areas of the upcoming expanded areas of activity and responsibility of our new organization.

If you have an interest in serving on the Board of Directors for TVHS please let us know. With the merger there will also be many committees on which to serve.

Notable Men & Women of Temecula Activities & Presentations



On Sunday, July 7th, Shelley Leddy will portray Catherine "Trixie" Fernald at the "Little Temecula History Center" at 2:30 p.m. Catherine and her husband, Frank, owned a quarry, service station, general merchandise store, and a photography studio. This program is free and open to the public.

* Special Tour *

On Wednesday, July 10th, the Temecula Valley Historical Society will take a walking tour of Old Town Murrieta with our docent, Jeffery Harmon. Afterwards, we will have lunch at The Mill Restaurant. We will meet at Red Barn at 9:30 a.m. and car-pool to Murrieta, or meet us at 41810 Juniper St. in Murrieta. Please call Phil Washum at 951-201-0020.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Monday, July 1st** — 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Kid's orchestra performance on outdoor stage at the Vail HQ.
- Thursday, July 4th** — Independence Day, be sure to display your American Flag.
- Friday, July 5th** — 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Live music at Vail Headquarter, Scheduled for every Friday evening during the month.
- Saturday, July 6th** — 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Clear Charity Kid's carnival and craft fair at Vail HQ.
- Sunday, July 7th** — at 2:30 p.m. Shelley Leddy will portray Catherine "Trixie" Fernald at the Little Temecula History Center. Open and free to the public. See photo and more info this page.
- Sunday, July 7th** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Synergy Social vendor fair and Sunday Funday at Vail HQ.
- Monday, July 8** — "How the Vail Ranch was Saved", 6 p.m. presentation by Rebecca Farnbach at the Murrieta Library social room.
- Wednesday, July 10th** — 10 a.m. tour of Old Town Murrieta, See "Special Tour" notice this page.
- Thursday, July 11th** — 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Inland Empire California Cornhole Association will be at Vail HQ playing tournaments each Thursday eve.
- Saturday, July 13th** — 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Little V Dubs On the Prairie classic car show at Vail HQ. VW classic car show, music, vendors, costume contest and more.
- Saturday, July 20th** — 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thistle and Sage Vegan marketplace at Vail HQ.
- Sunday, July 21st** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday with craft fair by Synergy Social at Vail HQ.
- Monday, July 22** — 6 p.m. at History Center, Temecula Valley Historical Society presentation by Oscar Munoz of the Pechanga Cultural Department on "The Murder of Mrs. Platts."
- Wednesday, July 24th** — 1:00 p.m. at the Mary Philips Senior Center in Old Town Temecula, Gerry Nicholas will portray O.T. Hackett, the stagecoach driver who delivered the mail to the Temecula Valley for years. This program is for the Senior Golden Years Club. It is also free and open to the public.
- Friday, July 26th** — 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Starlight Bazaar At Vail Headquarters. Last Friday each month thru Summer time.
- Tuesday, July 30** — 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Vail HQ & History Center. Japanese Sister City Student tour. Assistance is needed — let Rebecca know if you can Help with this tour which will be during Farmers Mkt.

San Diego's Balboa Park Has An Early Military Connection

(Editor's Note: San Diego's beautiful Balboa Park is on acreage set aside by city leaders in 1868, and initially known as "City Park" The first steps in Park beautification were made in 1892, largely due to the contributions of Kate Sessions. Later efforts at improvements were made prior to San Diego hosting of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. From this article reprint, which appeared in a supplemental section of the San Diego Union on January 1, 1918 we see that some initial cooperative use of the park grounds was made by the U.S. Navy during WWI. It has long been known that during WWII much of Balboa Park was also occupied as an overflow area for the Balboa Navy Hospital, located adjacent to the park land.)

In time of peace prepare for war.

That's what San Diego did when she constructed the handsome buildings for the 1915-16 Exposition at Balboa Park.

During the two years that the arts and crafts of the world were on the peaceful display at the Exposition, few entertained or had the remotest idea that the buildings where these exhibits were housed would be converted within a few short months into a great naval training station. The unexpected happened, however.

Today the Exposition grounds, exquisitely beautiful as ever, are the home of more than two thousand bluejackets gathered from all sections of the west and middle west. These boys — for the majority are still in their teens — are training to fill responsible billets with the high seas fleet or with the naval air service.

San Diego is fundamentally a great military and naval city. Every phase of governmental activities connected with the army and navy is to be found here. The officer, the blue-jacket, the soldier and the marine are as closely identified with the civic affairs of the municipality as is the civilian resident. And Uncle Sam is expending millions of dollars in furnishing these military and naval representatives with homes of which they may well be proud.

Aside from Camp Kearny the three chief governmental installations at San Diego are the army and navy flying academy at Rockwell field, North Island, the \$4,000,000 marine base on Dutch Flats, and the naval training station at Balboa Park. All are or will be extremely picturesque and beautiful. They could not be anything else in this, the garden spot of the world.

The bluejackets at Balboa Park eat the daily meals under the canopy of a matchless blue sky, the dining tables paralleling one of the most beautiful flower gardens to be found in Southern California. Each afternoon the lads are treated to an organ recital on the largest outdoor organ in the United States. The parade grounds is of concrete, banked by shrubbery and flora. Therefore, it is no wonder that the San Diego naval training station, since its inception, July, 1917, has turned out more healthy, qualified seamen according to its pro rate of satisfied personnel than any other training station in the country.



Temecula Telephone Exchange to Have New Switchboard



(This is reprint of article that appeared in the Elsinore Leader Press, April 25, 1946)

A new thirty-line switchboard is to be installed at the Temecula Exchange of the California Water and Telephone Company within two weeks, according to Fred Cope, area manager.

The board will be a manual, common battery type and will be installed in the Swanguen Café. It will replace one which has become inadequate due to the increased traffic through the exchange, according to Mr. Cope.