



Gold Rush Festival

May 29, 30, 31, 1999, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Join us for 49'er Family Fun from Around the World!

The Gold Rush Festival May 29-31 will be a fun-filled event with a living history flair that furthers the public's understanding of the Gold Rush era, in particular how the Gold Rush was a catalyst for the growth and development of Santa Clara Valley. The many hands-on activities scheduled for the festival offers visitors a chance to experience first-hand what life was like in California during the mid-1800s.

You can peer into a gold miner's tent and discover the rough life of gold seekers. Stake a claim and pan for real gold and other minerals. Dip a candle, churn butter and participate in other chores at the mining camp. If you work up an appetite from all the chores, you can taste sourdough biscuits, hoecakes and hardtack.

You can make crafts from around the world — old-fashioned toys, Mexican papel picado, Chinese cut paper decorations, button whizzers and corn husk dolls. Play townball, swirl a hoop, shoot marbles, roll tops and ride a pony. You can watch a blacksmith transform metal, visit an old-time print shop and take home your own broadside newspaper.

What's a festival without live music and dance? You may want to tap your toes to lively "strike-it-rich" music including Irish jigs, Mexican rancheras, Native American songs, sailing ship shanties, Chinese wooden fish chants and African American call and response rap; and, feast your eyes on swirling costumes of dance traditions from Chile, Mexico, Ireland and China.

Plus, you can laugh at a melodrama, be cured by a medicine man and try your luck at the gambling tables with High Card Johnny. Meet forgotten 49ers: Mary Ellen Pleasant, Dr. Yee Fung Cheung and Juana Briones in History Alive! theatre performances sponsored by the *California Council for the Humanities*. There will be a lecture about women in the Gold Rush by Jo Ann Levy, author of *They Saw the Elephant: Women in the California Gold Rush*; a presentation with slides, songs and stories about the local Ohlone Indians, led by Linda Yamane, a Rumsien Ohlone author and artist; and a slide/lecture from L. Thomas Frye, curator emeritus of Oakland Museum of California, about researching stories of the Gold Rush.

Thank you to our corporate and media sponsors:



Festival Dates and Locations

May 29-30-31, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
San Jose Historical Museum
1650 Senter Road in Kelley Park

Regular Admission

\$8.00 Adults
\$6.00 Seniors (65+)
\$6.00 Youth (age 5 and above)
Free Children (age 4 and under)
\$25.00 Family Pass (includes two adults and all children in the household)

HMSJ Member Admission

\$6.00 HMSJ Adult Members
\$4.00 HMSJ Senior Members
\$4.00 HMSJ Youth Members
Free Children (age 4 and under)
\$20.00 HMSJ Member Family Pass (includes two adults and all children in household)

Admission tickets can be purchased at the festival. Advanced tickets are available by calling 408-918-1051.

For a complete schedule of activities, please see page 3.



Photos from left to right: Mayor Ron Gonzales stakes his claim at the public opening of *Voices of Gold*; Calicanto Singers perform Gold Rush music at Members' Preview of *Voices of Gold*; Visitors try their luck at gold panning at the public opening of *Voices of Gold*. Photos: Lisa Falk



From the President

Is it 16 years, 18 years, or over 20 years? We're not quite sure. But it has been a long time since the exhibition in the Pacific Hotel was first installed. We have installed other exhibits during that time by adding and interpreting historic structures. But those exhibits and interpretations, too, have basically remained unchanged.

That is one of the reasons that opening *Voices of Gold* is such an exciting moment. It is new. Because there is no subject more traditional to California than the Gold Rush, it is also old. On the other hand, our curatorial and education staff has subjected this most romanticized of subjects to the rigors of current scholarship. It is like revisiting an old friend after a long absence. You see the same things, but you see them differently.


Voices of Gold is also important because it introduces the concept of integrated thematic programming. It is not just an exhibition. It also includes a teacher training program, a school curriculum, exhibit-driven school tours, a public festival, scholarly presentations, and weekend and evening summer programming.

Next year you will see this same type of comprehensive programming built around the theme, *A Delicate Balance: Human Demands and the Natural Environment*, which will include an exhibition pulled from our extensive A. P. Hill collection. The 2000-01 theme year will revolve around *Inventing the Future: The Human Face of Technological Innovation in the Santa Clara Valley* and will include an exhibit, tentatively titled, "Why Here? How the Valley of Hearts Delight Became Silicon Valley." Programming in 2001-02 will feature *People Living Together: Redefining Community in the New Millennium*.

Together, these programs will form a three year programmatic continuum that we are calling *San Jose in the New Millennium—Three Historic Issues that will Shape Our Future*. By focussing on the human relationships with the environment, technology, and each other, we will bring history to bear on our daily lives and our aspirations for the future.

It all begins this spring with *Voices of Gold*. We hope you enjoy the exhibit and bring others with you. Stop by and say hello when you come. Let us know what you think.

The excitement is contagious.



President & CEO

Downtown Initiative

A Vision of Leadership

The mission is in place. The strategic plan has been adopted. A task force is being formed to recommend changes to the master plan for the San Jose Historical Museum in Kelley Park, and another task force is raising funds for something called the **Downtown Initiative**. What is it we are trying to create?

In the words of the strategic plan's vision statement, HMSJ aspires to "provide innovative national leadership in preserving and exploring regional history." Call it the History Museums of San Jose, call it the San Jose Regional Historical Association, call it whatever—market research will recommend a name—we are creating a cutting edge regional historical organization for the entire Santa Clara Valley. That regional historical organization, in turn, will serve people through at least two major locations—the current Kelley Park site and the north end of downtown, around the Peralta and Fallon sites.

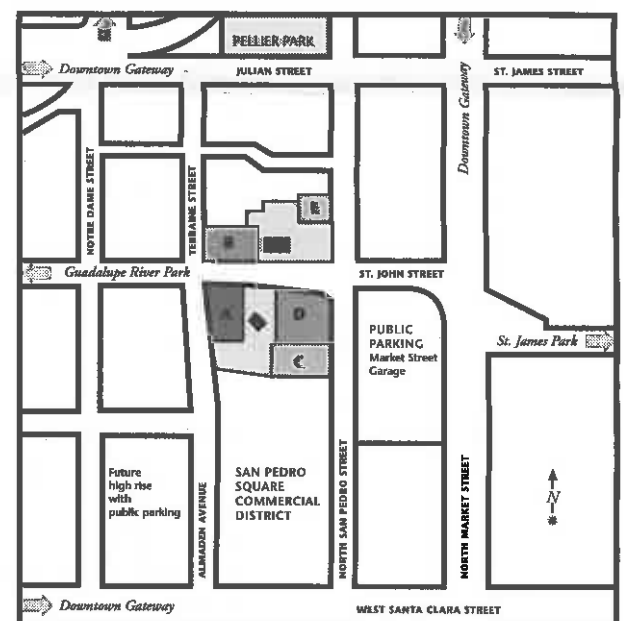
The museum in Kelley Park will be invigorated with a new commitment, a new focus, and probably a new name to increase marketing potential. We will build on the strengths: a strong school program and a collection of original and replica historic buildings within a seasonal, outdoor, gated facility. The Kelley Park Task Force will consider many programmatic possibilities: changing exhibits within the buildings, a preservation model house, a regional archaeology repository, custom designed tours, children's summer camp, family packages with other area attractions, artists in residence, family festivals, seasonal performance series, and strengthening the corporate rental program.

At the same time, there are many programmatic needs that can be met only through the creation of a regional heritage center in close proximity with the other cultural institutions downtown. In addition to enhancing the interpretation and utilization of the Peralta Adobe and Fallon House historic sites, the regional heritage center may eventually include space for major local, national, and international temporary exhibits; a "Valley of the Future/Valley of the Past" permanent exhibit; exhibits on-line; a Santa Clara Valley Research Center; a gallery dedicated to use only by neighborhood and community groups; partnerships that will bring school classes right into the museum facility; the technological capacity to link programming with other institutions around the world; a summer humanities institute for teachers; and indoor performance and program space.

At this moment, HMSJ is raising funds to purchase the Peralta Square Building, which is attached to the Peralta Adobe. In the first stage of development, the building will provide incubator exhibition space and initial space for the most heavily used research collections (formerly called archives). In the second phase, exhibits and educational programs will move to a new building facing San Pedro Square, and the Peralta Square facility will be dedicated entirely as a Santa Clara Valley Research Center.

This is what we are trying to create, the whole enchilada. Neither initiative stands on its own, and neither detracts from the other. Both are needed in order to provide the historical exhibits, programs, and services that the people of this valley demand and deserve on a sound financial basis. It may take a decade to complete the package. But, the strength of the program is that it can be realized incrementally. It can grow as the program, resources, and demand supports it. The final result will be a regional history program of the past but for the twenty-first century.

Feel free to direct any questions to President David Crosson, Senior Vice President John Lusardi, Board Chair Steve Cox or any other board member. We look forward to hearing from you.



KEY TO MAP

- A. Peralta Square Building, attached to the Peralta Adobe
- B. Current Parking Lot and Gift Shop, next to Fallon House
- C. Vacant Lot to be developed by RDA for History Museums of San Jose
- D. Former Laundry Works, currently Ecco Nightclub
- E. Parking Lot

Gold Rush Festival

Schedule of Activities

Saturday, May 29

On Stage
 10:30 a.m. Gold Rush Sisters
 songs from the Gold Rush and tales of pioneers from around the world who came to "strike it rich"
 12:00 noon James Tyrone Wallace
 African American stories and songs
 1:30 p.m. Gold Rush Sisters
 3:00 p.m. James Tyrone Wallace
 4:00 p.m. Melodrama performance

East Lawn
 11:30 a.m. Cirrus Dance & Arts
 traditional Chinese dances
 1:00 p.m. Araucaria
 Chilean folk dances
 2:30 p.m. Cirrus Dance & Arts

In Pacific Hotel
 12 noon Jo Ann Levy,
 author of *They Saw the Elephant: Women in the California Gold Rush*
 2:00 p.m. History Alive!
 Chautauqua performance of character Juana Briones

Sunday, May 30

On Stage
 10:30 a.m. Fandango Brothers
 American hoe-downs, Irish jigs, Chinese wooden fish chants and other popular songs of the day
 12 noon Izzy Tooinsky
 stories and songs of "The Forgotten 49ers" and immigrants to America
 1:30 p.m. Fandango Brothers
 3:00 p.m. Izzy Tooinsky

East Lawn
 11:30 a.m. Irish Dancers
 traditional Irish folk dances from the Golden Greene School
 1:00 p.m. Aztlán Academy
 Mexican folk dances
 2:30 p.m. Irish Dancers
 4:00 p.m. Aztlán Academy

In Pacific Hotel
 12 noon L. Thomas Frye
 curator emeritus of Oakland Museum of California, slide/lecture on stories of the Gold Rush
 2:00 p.m. History Alive!
 Chautauqua performance of character Mary Ellen Pleasant

Monday, May 31

On Stage
 10:00 a.m. Izzy Tooinsky
 11:30 a.m. Calicanto Singers
 lively music including folk songs from the Gold Rush era
 1:00 p.m. Black Irish Band
 songs about people, places and the history of California
 2:30 p.m. Calicanto Singers
 4:00 p.m. Black Irish Band

East Lawn
 11:30 a.m. Folklorico Nacional Juvenil
 Mexican folk dances performed by youth
 1:30 p.m. Izzy Tooinsky
 3:00 p.m. Folklorico Nacional Juvenil

In Pacific Hotel
 12 noon Linda Yamane
 Rumsien Ohlone author and artist presentation with slides, songs and stories about Native peoples
 2:00 p.m. History Alive!
 Chautauqua performance of character Dr. Yee Fung Cheung

Ongoing activities: gold panning • old-fashioned games and toy-making • mock gambling • trolley and pony rides • traveling medicine man • blacksmithing and printing demonstrations • miners' camp activities • camp chores • butter churning • clothes washing • campfire cooking • Ohlone Indian craft demonstrations

Summer Family Programs

A Bonanza of Family Fun!

Looking for good, clean family fun this summer? Once the Little League practice is over, round up the kids into the car, pack a picnic dinner and head over to the San Jose Historical Museum on June 12, July 10, and August 14 for late afternoon/early evening programs. There will be games, art-making, panning for "gold" and family concerts. In addition, on Sunday afternoons, June 27, July 25, and August 22, the whole family will enjoy making Gold Rush-inspired art projects and kicking up their heels in dance at the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site. All these programs are a guaranteed good time and free to members!

Family Fun Evenings

June 12, July 10, August 14 (Saturdays),
 4:00-8:00 p.m. at the San Jose Historical Museum in Kelley Park
 (museum buildings and tours 12:00-6:30 p.m.)

June 12: All that Glitters is Gold
 Decorate a tee shirt with glittering gold designs. Pan for gold and make a pouch to hold your loot. Play an 150-year-old version of baseball and other old-time games. Enjoy the music of the Americas with Zun Zun and Chuchumbé.

July 10: Ribbit in Rhythm
 Enter your frog in the jumping contest! Make a windsock and decorate it with frogs. Fold an origami frog and play leapfrog. Pan for gold. Hear Mark Twain's tale, *The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*. Enjoy the music of the Banana Slug String Band's bilingual troupe, Los Dos Caracoles.

August 14: Gold and Green
 Decorate a terra cotta pot with golden designs. Plant a California gold plant. Pan for gold. Play old-time baseball and become a master at marbles. Enjoy a special performance by Dr. Loco and a trio of musicians called "From Fandango to Freedom Song: Early Immigrant Music in California."

Family Summer Sundays

June 27, July 25, August 22 (Sundays)
 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House in downtown San Jose
 (museum tours 12:00-5:00 p.m.)

June 27: Celebrate! Golden Piñatas
 Swing at a piñata and see if you strike gold! Make your own paper maché piñata to take home. Learn the steps to Mexican folk dances.

July 25: Hula Dancing Tattoos
 Ornate your body with traditional Hawaiian tattoos of geometric lines and designs. Learn the moves to a Hawaiian Hula dance.

August 22: Jigs and Journals
 Kick up your heels in an Irish jig! Learn to do step dances. Make your own travel journal and decorate it with traditional Irish designs.



Photo: Lisa Falk

Voices of Gold Collaboration Mural

Teens Discover the Gold Rush at HMSJ

How is the gold rush represented in the minds of Santa Clara Valley teens?

Since February, high school students from the Mexican American Community Services Agency (MACSA), under the direction of artist Carlos Pérez, have worked to create a mural to express their ideas about this epic period in California history. The mural is installed in the lobby of the Pacific Hotel at the entrance to the *Voices of Gold: Santa Clara Valley and the Gold Rush* exhibition. The mural was painted as part of a special program: *Voices of Collaboration: A Youth Mural and Mentoring Project*.

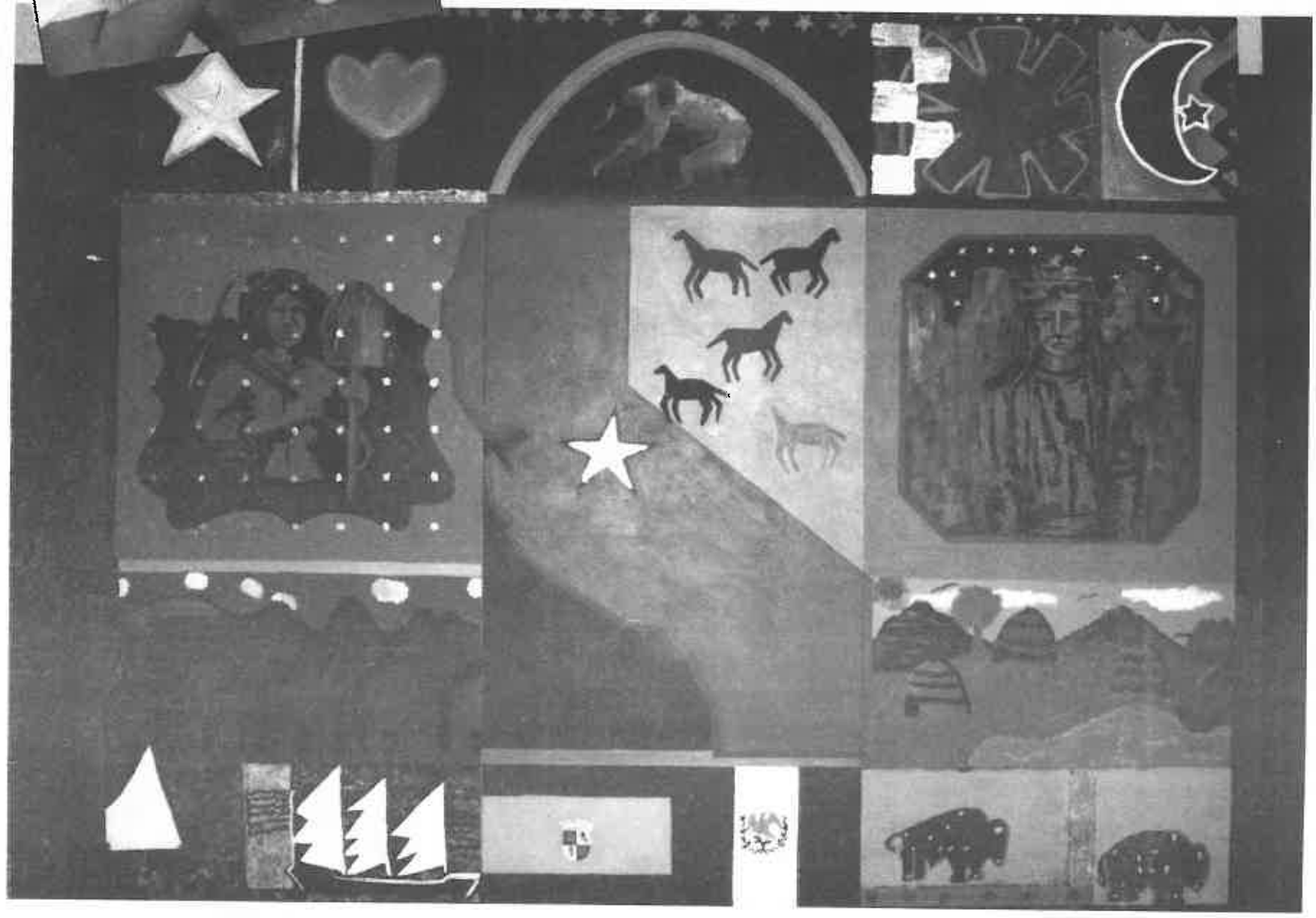
The project is a partnership with MACSA students, the Red Ladder Theatre Company (the social outreach troupe of the San Jose Repertory Theatre), artist Carlos Pérez and HMSJ. This mentoring program for at-risk teens combines the disciplines of theatre, art, history, museums and education to help build students' self esteem, develop teamwork and assist them in expressing themselves creatively.

The three-panel mural is 12 feet wide and 10 feet high. **Panel one** illustrates the routes people used to come to California—by sea and land, guided by the stars. The miner representing the lure of gold is based on a daguerreotype (photograph) from 1852. **Panel two** focuses on the state of California, with flags of Mexico and Spain paying tribute to the powers that governed California before it became part of the United States. **Panel three** pays homage to the Native Americans whose traditional homeland is now called California. The buffalo are a reference to the Plains Indians that many pioneers met during their journey across the continent to California. The image of an Indian is based on various photographs of California Indians.

Voices of Collaboration is funded through the Arts Build Communities grants program, a project of Arts Council Silicon Valley and Community Foundation Silicon Valley. MACSA students participating in the project are: Ingrid Alonso, Carlos Amparán, Katia Fernandez, Thomas Garcia, Maria Nuñez, Renee Solis, Enjoli Sabedra, and Joseph Sabedra.



Upper top right: Carlos Amparán painting panel 3; lower top right: Katia Fernandez and Ingrid Alonso confer with artist Carlos Pérez about how to paint details of the Mexican flag, while Maria Nuñez paints a Spanish flag; left: Maria Nuñez applying gold leaf to panel 1; below: the completed mural. Photos: Lisa Falk



Other Happenings...

What's in a Hat?

A collection of men's hats on display in the DeLuz House through May 31, 1999.

Over the centuries, hats have instantly proclaimed the personality, status, attitude and belief of the wearer. Historically, men wore a particular type of hat because of a social occasion, whereas women wore and continue to wear hats because of fashion. There are only two basic types of hats: brimmed and unbrimmed. And there are only two basic forms: caps and hats. The basic raw materials for hatmaking are felt, made from beaver or rabbit hair, and straw.

Some of the hats in the exhibition include the familiar Top Hat, which dominated the 19th century; the collapsible Top Hat, made completely of grosgrain silk; the Derby, popular with all classes of tradesmen and artisans; the Fedora, the Panama; the Western Cowboy Hat; the Beret; and the Baseball Cap, originally brimless, was later designed with a bill and popularized by New York Yankees' Babe Ruth. To learn more about *what's in a Hat*, visit the DeLuz House before June 1.

(Photo: Deborah Lohrke)

Textile Research Exchange

Are you interested in researching textiles? HMSJ is partnering with the San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles to launch the Textile Research Exchange, a textile study group. The group will share skills and strategies used in researching textiles, with the aim of furthering understanding, promoting scholarly research, and enriching documentation of the textile collections at both museums.

If you're interested in researching the museums' collections, or just want to find out about a family heirloom, call HMSJ Curator Linda Poe at 918-1055 for more information.

Museum Month Activity in May

On Sunday, May 16, San Jose's museums will stitch together all the April Museum Month activities by jointly hosting an old-fashioned quilting bee. Families are invited to participate in assembling a community quilt using a selection of decorated quilt squares collected from each museum. The quilting party will be held 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the

Fairmont Plaza, between the Fairmont Hotel and the San Jose Museum of Art. In case of rain, the party will be held inside the San Jose Museum of Art. All supplies are free and there is no admission fee.

Thank you for the generous support from all 1999 Museum Month Sponsors: Applied Materials, 36 KICU Television, San Jose Mercury News, San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau, Valley Transportation Authority, P&B Textiles, All Tied Up, Pagliaro/Kuhlman Advertising, Kinko's and Yasutomo & Co.

Kids Club!

Practice your gold panning skills before the Gold Rush Festival. HMSJ is partnering with Westfield Shoppingtowns. Drop by for the following free Kids Club events, see Sesame Street Live and strike gold at our gold panning activity!

Monday, May 10 at Oakridge Shopping Mall
 Tuesday, May 11 at Valley Fair
 Wednesday, May 12 at Westfield in Solano

All events start at 6:30 p.m.

Museum Information

Sites

San Jose Historical Museum
 Kelley Park, 1650 Senter Road
 San Jose, CA 95112
 (408) 287-2290

Peralta Adobe & Fallon House
 175 W. St. John St.
 San Jose, CA 95110
 (408) 993-8182
 FAX (408) 993-8184

Administrative Offices
 1650 Senter Road
 San Jose, CA 95112
 (408) 287-2290
 FAX (408) 287-2291
 www.serve.com/sjhistory

Fees

General Admission Fees

	One site	Both sites
Adult	\$6.00	\$10.00
Senior (age 65+)	\$5.00	\$8.00
Youth (age 6-17)	\$4.00	\$6.00
Child (5 and under)	Free	Free

A ticket for both sites is valid for two weeks from date of purchase.

Group Tour Fees

	One site	Both sites
Adult	\$5.00	\$8.00
Senior (age 65+)	\$4.00	\$6.00
Youth (age 6-17)	\$3.00	\$4.00
Child (5 and under)	Free	Free

* A group is 10 or more individuals who have pre-scheduled a tour.

Waived Admission Fees

Members of HMSJ at every level of giving receive free admission to the museums. Members of American Association of Museums (AAM) and American Association of State and Local History (AASLH) receive free general admission as professional courtesy. Teachers

and chaperones are admitted free of charge during reserved school visits.

Hours

Public tours at both sites
 12 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Tuesday - Sunday

Museum grounds at Kelley Park
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

Office hours at both sites
 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

Public tours without reservations are available Tuesday - Sunday from 12 noon - 5:00 p.m. Call sites for specific times.

All school and outreach programs and group tours must be reserved. School programs and group tours are offered Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Group tours are also offered Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. by reservation only.

Programs

Public Programs

Downtown Walking Tour • Experience Peralta Fallon • Experience San Jose's Past

School Programs

Experience Adobe Days • Experience Victorian Days • Explore Peralta/Fallon • Explore San Jose's Past • History Hike • Historic Transportation Experience • Ohlone Indian Schoolkit • School Days in the 1890s • Victorian Schoolkit • Westward Ho! • Women Who Made A Difference

Outreach Programs

Decades of Change • Portraits of the Past

Please call (408) 918-1040 for reservations and current program prices.

Welcome!

New Members

- Mike Banta
- Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Carr
- Martha Champion
- Raymond Clar
- Hilleguus Faber
- Denis Fama
- Louhelen Hassan
- Evelyn Klino
- Carl & Debi von Linsowe
- Debbie Martinez
- Joan Moyle
- Charles & Jean Mundell
- Jeff Norment
- Sylvia Rizzo
- Hal Silberstein
- Kent South
- Don Springer

New Staff

Michelle Ignacio joined the History Museums of San Jose in March as a marketing coordinator. Michelle came from the Downtown Association where she was the promotions manager and prior to that was the promotions coordinator. Michelle has a bachelor of science degree in Hospitality Management from San Jose State University and a double minor in Business and Communication Studies.

Michelle will assist in marketing efforts including revenue-generating programs such as rentals and special events; the production and distribution of collateral material; direct mail, advertising campaigns, sponsorship partnerships, and membership activities.

Endowment Fund

From March 1 through April 30, 1999 the Endowment Fund of the History Museums of San Jose received the following donations:

- In Memory Of:*
- Betty Jane Campen
 - Glory Anne Laffey
 - Evelyn Curtner Morton
 - Emily H. Renzel

Historical Highlights of Santa Clara Valley

Casa Tierra: Two Middle-Aged Ladies from Boston Build Their Home

by Jack Douglas

Santa Cruz Mountain Writers No. 8

The names of writer Maude Meagher and of lecturer-filmmaker Carolyn Smiley will never stand in the literary pantheon with some of the other writers of this series — Steinbeck, Bierce, Atherton — but these two women should be remembered for their unique hand-made adobe home and workplace, Casa Tierra (House of Earth).

No quaint cottage, Casa Tierra is a 13,000 square-foot building which winds up and down a two acre hillside lot just off of Quito Road in Saratoga. This home, which took six years to complete, is reputed to be the largest secular adobe building in North America. The story of how two middle-aged ladies from Boston (as they were referred to by the locals) built this architectural gem is almost as fascinating as the building itself.

Meagher and Smiley had similar backgrounds. Both were college educated, Smiley from Mt. Holyoke and Meagher from UC Berkeley, and both came from religious families. Carolyn Smiley was descended from a seven generation line of Congregational ministers, and she had served as an educational missionary in India for several years. Her experience abroad led to a career as a children's documentary filmmaker and lecturer. Maude Meagher, daughter of a Methodist evangelist, worked for a time as a reporter for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. She traveled to Europe with a YMCA theater troupe to entertain the allied armies during World War I, and she stayed on to do theater work in Germany and England before going back into newspaper work with Lord Beaverbrook's *London Daily Express*.

World Youth

In the mid 1930s, at the height of the depression and with war clouds on the horizon, these two idealistic women proposed to publish an international magazine for all the young people of the world. With the backing of Miss Leila Livingston Morse, granddaughter of Samuel F. B. Morse, they gathered a board of noted educators and began the publication of *World Youth: International News Review*. This journal, published in Boston, appeared monthly except July and August, and circulated to countries throughout the world. Its motto was "Knowledge, Sanity and Creative Thought," and a number of world leaders such as Gandhi, Tagore and Madame Chiang Kai-Shek contributed articles.

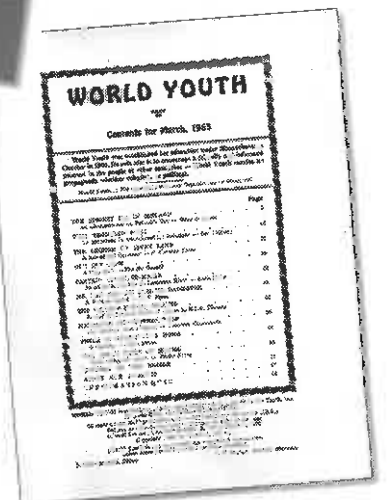
The success of *World Youth* was short-lived, as the threat of war loomed. Adolph Hitler banned it in Germany and Austria, and with the invasion of Europe by the Nazis in 1939 the paper lost most of its subscribers.

A Home in the West

With the onset of the war the two women decided to move to a warmer climate. It was their hope to revive their publication after the war. They first spent time in Mexico where they got the idea for an adobe structure. Long before environmentalism became fashionable the two dreamed of building a house from the earth and of the earth. They



credit: Betty Peck



credit: Betty Peck

continued on page 7



Casa Tierra, Saratoga. Photo courtesy Santa Clara County Heritage Commission.

Historical Highlights (continued)

continued from page 6



Maude Meagher (standing),
Carolyn Smiley (sitting).
Photo courtesy San Jose Mercury Herald.

then traveled up the coast of California looking for a location, finally choosing the site in Saratoga.

Unlike other writers and artists who moved to the area, they intended to do this seemingly impossible building task by themselves, and except for the first year, during which they hired two young men to help make the adobe bricks and put in the foundations, that is what they did.

The work began in January 1941 with the excavation of the ideal adobe soil, which was mixed with rice straw and a heavy petroleum by-product and formed into bricks measuring 18"x4"x12". The oil helped to make the bricks impervious to water. Their young helpers, Paul Groszman and Jack Burke devised a mixer from an old Studebaker engine which sped the process along. In all they produced 12,000 bricks from 500 tons of mud.

House of Earth

Instead of digging into the hillside the team decided to stair-step the building up the slope, giving the exterior a terraced effect and requiring the inhabitants to climb up or down to move from one end of the house to the other. Like an early Spanish mission which encouraged indoor-outdoor living, it was built around a patio, in this case one that was sloping and diamond shaped. The foundations and floors were made of reinforced concrete.

Fortunately this initial work was completed by December when the United States entered the War and all available manpower was called into service. Ironically, both Maude and Carolyn were rejected for work in the war industries because they were considered too old. The two, who had initially suffered greatly from the manual labor, gradually built muscle power and calluses, and they insisted they were now the healthiest they had ever been.

Maude was allergic to concrete, so the installation of the floor tiles fell to Carolyn, who over the years laid the more than 13,000 earthen tiles, some of which were decorative art tiles from San Jose's Solon and Schemmel Tile Factory. Decorative tiles are to be seen everywhere, adding color to the house and patio. The fireplace in the living room is inlaid with copper printing plates which had been used in printing *World Youth*.

While Carolyn saw to the floors, Maude made the laying of the clay roofing tiles her primary job. She used 23,000 cylindrical tiles which were left over from the restoration of the Santa Barbara Mission and purchased by the women. The first room to be roofed was the 27 foot press room where the women installed the linotype and printing press from their offices in Boston. This large room became their first living area while the rest of the house was completed.

Unlike most traditional adobes, Casa Tierra has wide expanses of windows. The wartime glass problem was solved by purchasing automobile glass from junk yards — changes in the laws requiring shatter-proof glass in automobiles left thousands of obsolete windshields for the taking — the women cut them in twelve inch squares and mounted them in homemade frames to be custom built into the adobe walls. Iron rods were set in the walls for earthquake protection.

Maude Meagher had the greener thumb of the two, and she created beautiful gardens in the patio and surrounding the house.

Back in Print

Casa Tierra was almost complete when the War ended, so the women could return to the publication of *World Youth*. The new edition featured: "thrilling adventure stories and authentic tales from distant lands." Maude performed the editorial tasks and wrote many of the stories, while Carolyn took care of the printing and the business side.

Perhaps because of the changing times or because of their increasing age, the two women ceased publication of *World Youth* in 1957. Shortly thereafter they sold Casa Tierra and retired to the Italian city of Florence. News of Carolyn Smiley's death there from a heart attack was noted in the *Mercury News* on September 25, 1960. It is presumed that Maude lived on in Florence until her death.

In the 1980s Casa Tierra was rundown and in danger of demolition until the Saratoga Planning Department made it a historic landmark. It was purchased in 1989 by Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Boyle who have since lovingly restored both the house and grounds. The strength of the building was severely tested during the Loma Prieta Earthquake, but it held firm, showing few signs of damage. It stands as a tribute to the planning and workmanship of two middle-aged ladies from Boston.

Note: For an illustrated essay on Casa Tierra see the book: *All Their Own: People and Places They Built*, by Jan Wampler, Oxford Univ. Press, 1977.

Meager and Smiley also documented their project in a booklet: *How We Built An Adobe House For World Youth*. Los Gatos, World Youth, Inc. 1950.

Our Board

HMSJ 1998-1999 Board of Directors

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Specials in City Stores

The modern day '49er can find a vast array of Gold Rush books and gift items at the City Stores. For young prospectors we have bags to put loot in and bags of "gold," gold panning kits, old-fashioned toys such as wooden dice, dominos, and a variety of candies including lollipops filled with gold flakes and gold-wrapped chocolate. Gold miner staples including sourdough products, chili, and cornbread in burlap bags await hungry shoppers.



They Saw The Elephant: Women in The California Gold Rush

Jo Ann Levy \$13.95

Most western myths depict an exclusively male Gold Rush, but Levy's book debunks that myth. She traces a variety of women who travel, work, and write their way across the pages of western migrant history. Jo Ann Levy will present *They Saw The Elephant* during a lecture and book signing at the Gold Rush Festival on Saturday, May 29 at 12:00 noon.



Americans and the California Dream

1850-1915 Kevin Starr \$18.95

Starr examines California's formative years to discover the origins of the California dream and the impact it has not only on Californians, but on the rest of the country.



The World Rushed In: The California Gold Rush Experience

J.S. Holliday \$17.00

Building upon the copious journals of gold seeker William Swain and enlarging upon his experiences through his diaries with the letters of hundreds of other '49ers, J.S. Holliday gives the reader a compelling opportunity to be part of one of America's most exciting and important adventures.

A World Transformed: Firsthand Accounts of California Before the Gold Rush

Joshua Paddison \$16.95

This book vividly describes eyewitness accounts of the way California changed dramatically in the years between the founding of the first mission in 1769 and the 1848 Gold Rush.

The Mother Lode: A Celebration of California's Gold Country

Kristen Wisley \$18.95

This new edition of a Gold Country classic takes you on a photographic tour of the romantic past and vital present of one of California's most fascinating regions.



California Gold Rush Country 1848-1998

Leslie A. Kelly \$29.95

This book is the product of more than four years of extensive travel throughout California's Gold Rush country by internationally known photographer Leslie A. Kelly.



Volunteer Opportunities

HMSJ's volunteers open the doors for many visitors who are interested in understanding multicultural history. Volunteer training is in process. If you know someone interested in joining us, call Jennifer Warner at 408-918-1050. Photo: Lisa Falk

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