



Fall Forward with Us!

Family Fun at the History Museums Continue

The museum's family fun programs continue this fall at both sites, the San Jose Historical Museum in Kelley Park and the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site in downtown San Jose. Check out what's in store for the rest of 1999!

Splash that Blaze! Old Time Fire Muster

Sunday, October 17, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
San Jose Historical Museum
All activities included in the price of museum admission. HMSJ Members are FREE.

Test your fire fighting skills with firefighters from the San Jose Fire Department! Experience first-hand the excitement, danger and hard work in the life of a firefighter. Children and adults alike, bring your waterproof clothes and compete in fire muster drills — join a bucket brigade and see how fast you can roll out the fire hoses. Kids can create and top their heads with their own paper helmet and laugh and play games with the Clown Brigade. View historic fire engines parked on the grounds for the day and visit the exhibition on the history of fire fighting in Santa Clara Valley, located in the replica Empire Firehouse on site.

Ohlone Traditions

Saturday, October 30, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site
All activities included in the price of museum admission. HMSJ Members are FREE.

Ohlone artisans will share their traditions in this exciting, hands-on program. Play an Ohlone Indian hand game like stick dice or hoop and pole games. As you play, Linda Yamane will sing Ohlone gambling songs to bring good luck. To cool down, team members are invited to make manzanita cider from berries. Learn to make soap root brushes with Mona Garibay, and enjoy traditional stories told by Alex Ramirez.



Founding of the Pueblo Birthday Bash!

Saturday, November 13, 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site
All activities included in the price of museum admission. HMSJ Members are FREE.

It's a birthday bash! Celebrate the founding of the Pueblo de San José de Guadalupe at the city of San Jose's 222nd birthday celebration. Help make a giant birthday card to be presented to Mayor Ron Gonzales. Enjoy a game of "pin the city on the map," and make your own adobe brick. What's a birthday party without a piñata? Take a swing or two and then treat yourself to some delicious birthday cake. Come help us celebrate!

Where Did All the History Go? Leaving the 20th Century Melodrama

Saturday, December 4, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
San Jose Historical Museum
All activities included in the price of museum admission. HMSJ Members are FREE.

Do you have a secret desire to be on stage? Have you ever wanted to be a part of a live production? If so, this is your opportunity. Join us for an audience-participation melodrama performance. The first part of the program is a theater workshop, where you'll actually make the set and signs for the melodrama. For those wishing to take a role in the play, the opportunity awaits, or if audience participation is more your speed, that's okay too. Audience members have a part — they boo, hiss, laugh and throw popcorn as the scenes unfold.

In this suspenseful play, events from 20th century history have been stolen. Until all the events are located and returned to their rightful place in the timeline, the 21st century cannot begin. We're trapped! Please join us and help find the lost history, so we can move forward into the new millennium.



Lower left: A member of the Banana Slug String Band engages young visitors with songs on the environment at the Historical Museum; Photo upper right: A young visitor whacks a piñata at a summer program at the Peralta Adobe; Photo lower right: A proud visitor shows her handmade frog windsock from the "Rabbit in Rhythm" program at the Historical Museum. Top right photo credit: Leticia Castro, Lower right and left photos: Lisa Falk

Guest Column

From the President will return next issue.

Growing Trends within Museums

A recent visit to the annual CAM (California Association of Museums) conference inspired this newsletter contribution. CAM hosted a wonderful event that provided museum professionals an opportunity to share solutions to common challenges. Besides the networking opportunities, I was exposed to innovative developments in the museum industry. Imagine my enthusiasm in collecting strategic ideas, while recognizing that in comparison to other professional museums in California, we can and should be proud of our own wonderful accomplishments.

The theme of this year's CAM conference focused on the growing interest in cultural heritage. People are visiting museums to see the social, artistic and personal expression that make up the human dynamics of the community. The trend museums see is that visitors come to have an engaging experience.

Engaging...what does this word mean in relation to our museums? It defines the interaction that occurs between museums, staff, volunteers and visitors. Museums can no longer function as stand alone exhibits; they must encourage personal experiences that are educational and entertaining and human as well.

I remember a common customer service statistic — a customer who has a positive experience tells three people, but a customer who has a negative experience tells approximately eleven people. This is alarming because strategic marketing with publicity, advertising, and promotions can inform people about the activities we offer the community, but it is simple word of mouth that will drive people to the site.

I pride our staff and volunteers in their dedication to our mission to "involve diverse audiences in exploring the varieties of human experience that contribute to the continuing history of San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley." If you are reading this newsletter, you most likely agree that this dedication is contagious. I encourage all of us to build on our excitement for our growing organization and talk about the wonderful things we are doing with the History Museums of San Jose. If each of us uses that powerful tool **word of mouth** to share our common goal, we will be guaranteed success in enticing others to experience our museums.

I can truthfully say that I was proud to represent HMSJ at CAM. When I first came on board, I was inspired by our mission — five months later, I'm thrilled to be sharing it.

I hope you will join me in spreading this excitement.



Michelle Ignacio
HMSJ Marketing Coordinator

Upcoming Events

Cruise Over to the Air Systems Foundation Car Show and Family Fun-Fest September 11, 1999, 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Kids Are The Driving Force!

Are you ready for a hot summer night? Join us for the popular 12th annual Air Systems Car Show on Saturday, September 11 at the San Jose Historical Museum.

This year's event is guaranteed to be the best one yet — they just get better every year! There'll be hundreds of vintage, classic, exotic and fun vehicles to ooh and ahh over. But car oggling isn't the only activity. There'll be plenty of live entertainment from the Garcia Brothers, Nostalgia, Laura Price & Boneyard and Jake & the Rambling Grass Band, a silent auction of enticing and irresistible items, a drawing with a chance to win a brand new BMW 328i car, many fun, hands-on activities such as rock wall climbing, bumper cars, a Wanda the Whale character, San Jose Fire Department safety demonstrations, San Jose Police Department K-9 demonstrations, all the food you can eat, beverages, plus, spectacular fireworks to cap off an evening under the stars.

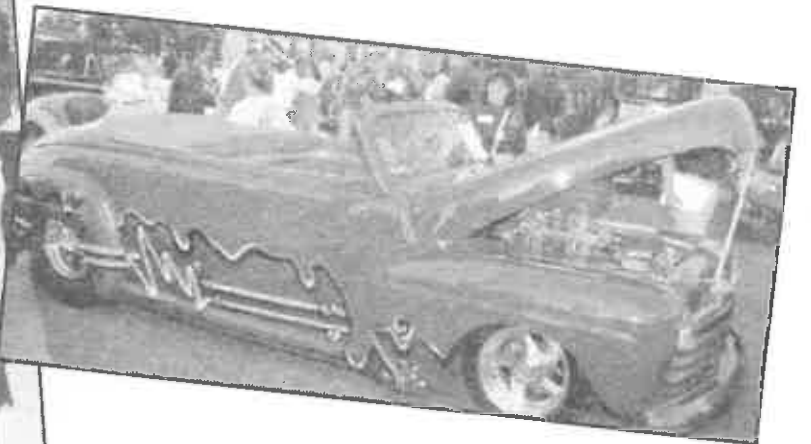
This successful event raises funds for non-profit organizations that provide children's programs and services throughout Santa Clara Valley. The History Museums of San Jose has been fortunate to be a recipient of a portion of these funds since 1993.

Join us and help support the museum and other local, worthwhile organizations.

Ticket prices are: adults \$20, youth \$10 (ages 4 – 12), and kids under 4 are free. The all-inclusive ticket includes admittance into the event, food, music and all the activities. Beer and wine will be sold separately. You can purchase tickets by calling the Car Show hotline at (408) 938-8484 or you can purchase tickets at the gate.

Mark your calendars and start your engines now!

Vrrrrrooommm!!



Living History Day on the Alameda

Sunday, October 3, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Join the History Museums of San Jose on October 3 at Living History Day on the Alameda. HMSJ is a co-sponsor of this fifth annual event celebrating the history and people of The Alameda and San Jose. The celebration takes place on The Alameda between Hanchett and Hester avenues 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Admission is free.

The museum will participate in several ways. The 1916 Detroit Electric car will be on display, and *Portraits of the Past* will entertain people with a vintage fashion show. The City Store will have a booth featuring a selection of books on local history, and assorted gift items. The museum also will share a collaborative booth with other San Jose museums to provide hands-on children's activities.

The event also includes horse-drawn carriage rides; live music; historic displays featuring the early days of San Jose, including an exhibit on the Buffalo Soldiers; book signings by local authors; antique cars and docent-led neighborhood walks; plus much more.

The Alameda, as part of El Camino Real, was the original route traveled between the Pueblo de San José de Guadalupe and Mission Santa Clara. Over the years, mansions were built along the route. Many of these buildings are now offices, including San Jose's only surviving Julia Morgan building.

More Upcoming Events and Programs

Portuguese Imperio Open House

Saturday, September 18
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Don't miss the opportunity to learn more about the Portuguese community at an open house on September 18th from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The Portuguese Imperio at the San Jose Historical Museum will be open for tours of the expansion of the lower level. Portuguese sandwiches and beverages also will be available to purchase. Representatives from the Portuguese Heritage Society will be present to share exciting plans.

The Portuguese Imperio is a replica of the first permanent imperio built in San Jose before 1915. It was located on the present site of the I.E.S. hall on East Santa Clara St. Imperios were built to honor the Holy Spirit and also served as centers for social and religious activity. In San Jose at the turn of the century, it represented the continuation of celebrated traditions, which helped make the immigrants transition from the old world to the new easier by maintaining strong bonds to their heritage.

Join us on the 18th and learn more about the Portuguese community in California and the Portuguese Heritage Society's plans for sharing these experiences. For more information call (510) 797-7585 or (650) 964-0406.

Regular museum admission applies this day.



Portuguese Imperio at the San Jose Historical Museum.

Classroom Studies Come Alive for Students and Teachers

HMSJ's 1999-2000 school programs brochure was mailed to thousands of teachers throughout Santa Clara County and the reservation process began in August. This year, teachers will use a new and improved system with several methods for booking their favorite fieldtrips — registration forms are returnable by mail, fax or e-mail. This system eliminates the possible frustration of voice mail and busy signals. The brochure and registration form is also available on HMSJ's web site. Fieldtrips begin Tuesday, September 14.

Continuing this fall is the very popular *Voices of Gold* Interactive school program in conjunction with the exhibit *Voices of Gold: Santa Clara Valley and the Gold Rush*. Fourth grade students participate in an interactive gallery game in the *Voices of Gold* exhibition and try their luck panning for gold. Beginning in April, *Gold Rush Adventure* introduces 4th graders to the stories recorded in historic documents, such as letters, diaries, legal records and photographs. Students also design their own Gold Rush adventure journals and learn to pan for gold. *Experience Adobe Days*, *Experience Victorian Days*, *Explore San Jose's Past*, *Explore Peralta Adobe & Fallon House*, *Historic Transportation Experience*, *History Hike*, *Victorian School Kit*, *Westward Ho!*, *School Days in the 1890s*, and *Women Who Made a Difference* will return this school year. These popular programs served more than 33,000 students last school year.



Three special teacher programs will be offered in the fall and additional programs are planned for spring. At the *School Programs Showcase* on September 30, 2nd–6th grade teachers will preview many of the exhibit buildings and hands-on activities used in school programs at the San Jose Historical Museum in Kelley Park. During *First a Bite, Then a Hike* on Saturday, October 2, 5th and 6th grade teachers will enjoy a bagel breakfast at the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site followed by a walking tour of downtown San Jose with docents from the *History Hike* school program. They will see Egyptian, Grecian, Roman, and Mexican architectural elements in San Jose buildings and brainstorm ways to prepare students for a *History Hike* field trip. On Tuesday, November 16, teachers participating in *What Do You See? What Do You Think?* will learn to season their curricula with object-based classroom lessons. This interactive workshop will focus on objects, documents, and photographs from current exhibitions and exhibit buildings at the Historical Museum.

For more information about school and teacher workshops, please call (408) 918-1040, e-mail the education department at: education@sjhistory.org, or visit our web site at www.sjhistory.org.

Students demonstrate their talents at rolling hoops in the Westward Ho! school program.
 Photo credit: Lisa Falk

New Museum Acquisition

The World's Greatest Cyclist

Frances Dainty & Co.

by Alida J. Bray, Senior Curator

A 1926 advertisement described the Frances Dainty & Co. Act as "the World's Greatest Cyclists in Extraordinary Feats of Cycle Riding and Balancing. Whirling, twirling, twisting, turning, circling, cyclists in a whirlwind of thrills, quicker than shots from a rapid fire gun." Three generations, Albert, Cyril, and Frances Geer traveled throughout the United States, Europe and Asia performing daring feats, "defying all power of gravitation," with bicycles and ladders atop a slack wire. Slack wire acts differed from tight wire acts in that the stretched wire was "slack" or tensionless.

Frances Geer was born in Hong Kong to Cyril Edison Geer and Fern Geer, while touring the act in Asia. When not on tour, the adventurous family resided in San Jose's Willow Glen neighborhood. The Geer family occupied the same residence from 1886 until 1999.

Recently the family home was put up for sale, and Frances Geer's daughter called the museum wondering if we might be interested in some items from the family slack wire act. Curious as to what a slack wire act might be, Registrar Linda Poe and I made a visit to the home. We were taken down to the basement where we discovered a red and white trunk covered in travel stickers with "Frances Dainty & Co." boldly painted across the front. Once opened, the trunk revealed a cache of aluminum bicycles, uni-cycles, and ladders, as well as wicker juggling clubs and hand painted banners dating to 1917. Later we discovered costumes in the attic, and boxes of promotional photographs and advertisements in the living room. But the biggest surprise was a film of Frances Geer performing his slack wire act.

Frances was also an amateur filmmaker. He had mounted a camera on the roof of the family's two-story Victorian home, and focused it on a deck beside the house where he had strung a slack wire. By now Mr. Geer was 60+ years old, but dressed in his tuxedo and top hat, he adeptly mounted the wire with ease and "defying all power of gravitation," executed his slack wire act. The beautiful Mrs. Geer, dressed in a full-length gown, assisted by handing him various ladders and clubs. The film continues, moving to the deck with Frances performing bicycle tricks that would make today's BMX extreme sports generation drop their jaws in awe.

The Geer Family Trust generously donated this remarkable collection to the museum, but the story doesn't stop there.

Several weeks later, museum volunteer Rich Markus spotted more Frances Dainty material at an antique shop in San Carlos. We visited the shop and acquired a group of objects including another trunk, more banners, hand written music to accompany the act, rolls of 15-cent admission tickets, and more promotional materials. Now we are in the process of cataloging all the materials and planning an exhibition of the collection. A number of the items are in need of conservation. If you would like to contribute to the conservation of these wonderful and historically significant artifacts, please contact the Museum at (408) 918-1052.

Photos and ephemera from HMSJ's permanent collection.

Jack Emsworth Presents

FRANCES DAINTY COMPANY

C. CYRIL
Wonderful Juggling and Dancing

FERN DOT
Unique Painting Act

Jack EMSWORTH
Light Comedian

Frances Dainty Co.

The World's Greatest Cyclists in Extraordinary Feats of Cycle Riding and Balancing. Whirling, twirling, twisting, turning, circling, cyclists in a whirlwind of thrills, quicker than shots from a rapid fire gun. Three generations, Albert, Cyril, and Frances Geer traveled throughout the United States, Europe and Asia performing daring feats, "defying all power of gravitation," with bicycles and ladders atop a slack wire. Slack wire acts differed from tight wire acts in that the stretched wire was "slack" or tensionless.

THE MYSTIC ZORZI
The man who gives nothing for something to those who think they are getting something for nothing.

MISS LEDA TALMA
Mazzo Soprano

THE 2nd Mrs. MAY
A Sister to Assist Her

THE EMSWORTHS
Light, Bright and Hazy Sketch Artists

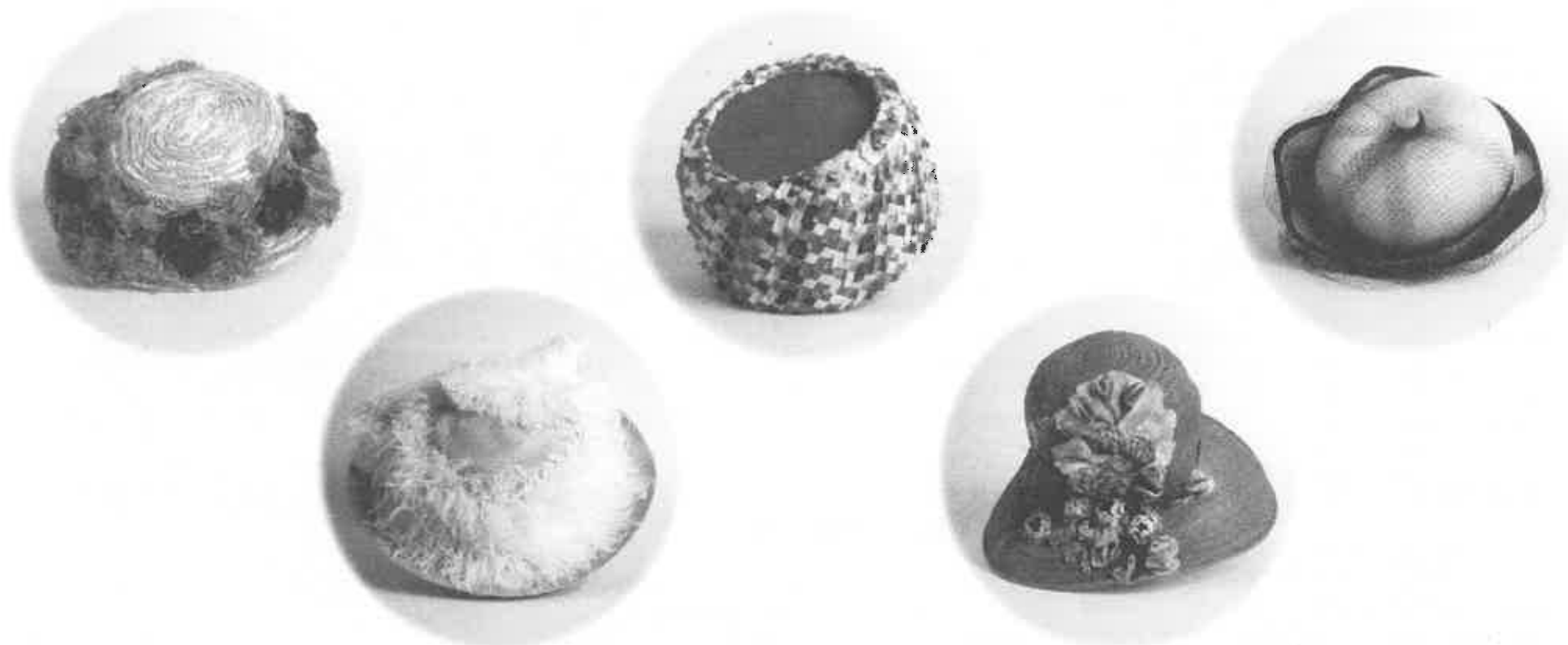
POPULAR PRICES Box Plan as Usual



From the Permanent Collection

No Plain Jane: Women's Fancy Straw Hats

This fanciful exhibition of straw hats from the permanent collection of the History Museums of San Jose opens August 17 and runs through November 21, 1999 at the DeLuz House located at the San Jose Historical Museum. The exhibition features a mainstay accessory of outdoor activity — the straw hat. Every era has incorporated straw into hats because of its durability, weightlessness, and ability to keep the wearer cool in hot weather. The exhibit celebrates the straw hat's rural beginnings through its adoption into high city fashion with over fifty examples from the collection.



Hats from HMSJ's permanent collection.
Photo credit: Deborah Lohrke

Museum Information

Welcome!

New Members

- Richard Duncan
- David Jaffer
- Lillia McCracken
- Tom Sartor
- Judith West

Attention Members

We recently sent you a personal invitation to Air Systems Car Show happening on September 11. Included in that mailing was an Arts Patron Downtown Arts and Dining Certificate. This \$10 certificate has a total value of \$150 and is redeemable at participating downtown restaurants. If your packet did not include a certificate, please contact our marketing department at (408) 918-1051 and we'd be happy to send you one.

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.sjhistory.org

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
 The last tour at Peralta/Fallon leaves at 3:30 p.m.

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 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 • Gold Rush Adventure • Gold Rush Interactive Program • Historic Transportation Experience • History Hike • School Days in the 1890s • Westward Ho! • Women Who Made A Difference

Outreach Programs
 Portraits of the Past

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

Historical Highlights of Santa Clara Valley

The Hotel Vendome and Lick Observatory Bring Tourism to the Valley

by Jack Douglas

Santa Cruz Mountain Writers No. 10

Two events occurred at the same time in 1888-89 that would catapult the Santa Clara Valley from an agricultural backwater to a national center for tourism. The opening of the Lick Observatory and the Vendome resort hotel focused easterners' attention on our Valley and its many natural and man-made attractions. The Hotel Vendome would come to rival such similar resort establishments as the Del Monte Hotel in Monterey, the Del Coronado in San Diego and the Claremont in Oakland/Berkeley.

Our Valley, with its excellent year round climate, its vast acres of flowering fruit trees and its picturesque mountain backdrop, was a sight to behold, and local developers such as T.S. Montgomery were quick to realize its potential. Montgomery convinced local investors, mostly businessmen whose property values would soar with the popularity of San Jose, to pool their resources to create a grand hotel in the manner of such eastern watering holes as Saratoga and the Hamptons.

The developers purchased the eleven acre estate of Josiah Beldon, San Jose's first mayor, for the sum of \$60,000. The land was already landscaped with mature trees and shrubs, and its location on North First Street was a short walk from the railroad depot. Jacob Lenzen, one of San Jose's most prominent architects, was chosen to draw up the plans. The developers thought at first that they could not afford such an ornate hotel, but the thrifty Lenzen convinced them that he could come in at \$500 under the original estimate, so the project went ahead.

The rambling wooden structure was built in the then popular Queen Anne Style, with towers, domes, verandahs and balconies galore. Every room was said to have a view and access to the outside.

The Vendome exceeded its developers' dreams when it opened with a flourish on February 7,

1889. Rooms were immediately filled, and plans were in the works for additions to the building. The Hotel's ballroom became the social spot of the Valley, where parties, weddings and conventions provided a whirl of activity. The local Brohaska Orchestra, musician Leo Sullivan and other performers found steady work at the continuous functions. To make the Hotel even more appealing an indoor pool, a bowling alley and a nine hole putting green were added. The park-like setting was ideal for moonlight strolls.

Once settled into the luxuries of the Vendome the visitors had the choice of many optional day trips out, and these required the services of the Vendome Stables, which was run by Franklin Ross who monopolized the scenic tour business in the Valley. His Mount Hamilton Stage Company carried a steady stream of visitors to the recently constructed Lick Observatory.

Lick Observatory Trips

The Lick Astronomical Observatory, funded by the estate of the late pioneer capitalist James Lick (1796-1876), had just opened prior to the Vendome debut, and the world's attention was drawn to, what was then, the world's largest telescope. Had the observatory been located on the Valley floor, perhaps only the more astute visitors would have come to see it, but placed on Mount Hamilton, one of our highest peaks, all manner of folks, tourist and local, clamored to take the 28 mile stage or buggy ride to the top.

Riders would leave the Vendome at 7:30 a.m. and arrive at the Observatory at 1 p.m. The ride out of town and over the first mountain range brought you to Hall's Valley at 9:35 a.m., then an hour later the stage arrived at Smith Creek Station where drivers changed horses for the last seven miles up from a 2,000 foot elevation to 4,200 at the top.

Smith Station, the jumping off place for the top, had a hotel for visitors who stayed over before or after their experience at the Observatory. The hotel register, now in the archive of the San Jose Historical Museum, lists a number of famous people who stayed overnight there. Most travelers had only an hour to see the Observatory before returning at 2:15 to San Jose. The downhill ride was much faster. The visitors who wanted to view the stars through the telescope left San Jose at noon and sometimes didn't return until 4:00 the next morning.

For most visitors, getting there was the best part. Baron Gustave von Berg, a scientist visiting Stanford University, described his trip in a travel letter of 1893: *Not far from Palo Alto is San Jose, a most pretty little city with 20,000 inhabitants. The friendly villas with many tall palms and all kinds of tropical plants, surrounded by most beautiful orchards, were delightful. After lunch at a splendidly situated hotel the seven of us climbed into a coach with four fine chestnut horses and rode 4,000 feet up to the Lick Observatory, at present the largest in the world. ...It is currently planned to mount a somewhat larger refractor in Chicago, but nothing can replace the pure transparent air on Mount Hamilton! The road climbs in 365 curves with moderate grades through deep ravines, but it is a long way, the elevation is significant; we needed five and one-half hours to reach the observatory so that it was already dark on our arrival. We had, however, during the whole drive such a magnificent view, such a wonderful twilight and atmosphere, such rare flora, that we could hardly get over our rapture. ...There is no hotel at the observatory, so we had to ride back to San Jose. Was that a trip! In darkness, always downhill, down abysses, without any protection, how our four chestnuts raced! We shut our eyes and thought "As God wills;" so we were happy to lie safely in our beds in San Jose at 2 o'clock in the morning.*

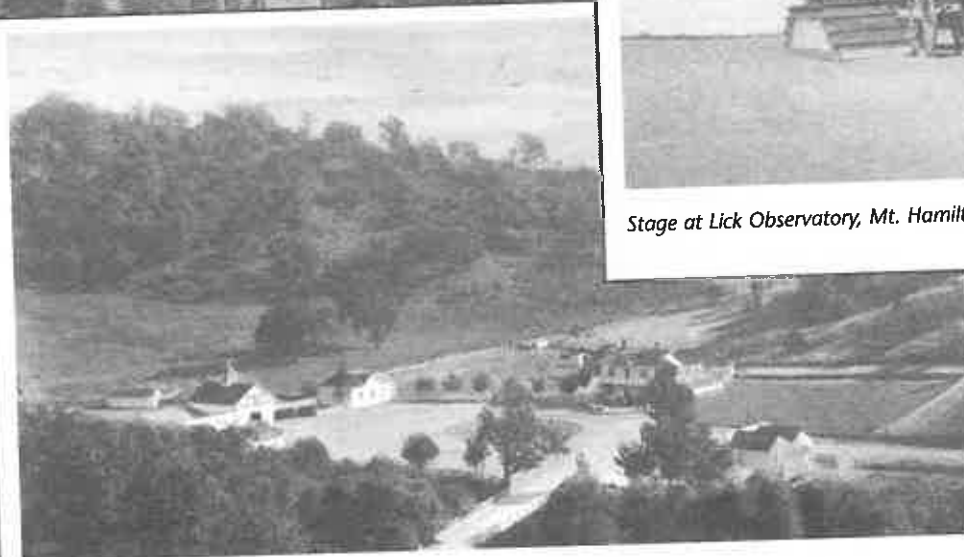
Through darkness and bad weather the Mount Hamilton Stage Line horses were sure footed, and, according to Clyde Arbuckle, there was never an accident on the curving, treacherous road to the top. The Stage Company, which operated daily until 1973, replaced the horses with motorized transport in 1911.



Hotel Vendome
San Jose, California



Stage at Lick Observatory, Mt. Hamilton, California



Smith Creek Hotel on the way to Lick Observatory

Historical Highlights (continued)



The last of the 365 curves on the road to the Lick Observatory.



Coaches on the way to Lick Observatory

The trip to Mount Hamilton became a favorite trip for local groups as well. Whole classes of Normal School students made it a regular seasonal outing, and poets such as Henry Meade Bland, Carrie Stevens Walter and Edwin Markham wrote of their ramblings on the hillsides there.

Changing Times

Changes in transportation and tourist habits made the Vendome Hotel-Lick Observatory adventure less attractive. Motor stages didn't require stops along the way up Mount Hamilton, and the Lick telescope was eclipsed by newer, more powerful instruments elsewhere.

The Vendome Hotel was seriously damaged in the 1906 earthquake when a three story addition fell like a house of cards. It was a miracle that only one man, Thomas O'Toole, was killed in the wreckage. The noted local architect William Weeks took on the job of restoration. In spite of this renovation the Hotel was becoming something of a white elephant. In the post-World War I era San Jose's emphasis was turning from tourism to

manufacturing and food processing. The rambling old hotel escaped the wrecking ball in 1919 and limped along until 1930 when a syndicate headed by J. Bradley Clayton and Frazier Reed purchased it to be razed and the grounds prepared for an exclusive housing tract.

The destruction of the Vendome signaled the end of big time tourism in San Jose. The grand old lady had served her purpose however. She had helped put the Valley on the map and in the minds of many visitors who would return to become residents. We will never again have a hostelry with the grandeur and spaciousness of that wonderful old hotel.

Editor's note: Jack Douglas's new book: *Historic San Jose; Tales of Naglee Park*, published by the Campus Community Association, is now available in the museums' City Stores.

Our Board

HMSJ 1999 - 2000 Board of Directors

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Create and Decorate — Yourself!

Think of your body as a blank canvas and let your creativity soar as you create a personal masterpiece. Use colorful paints, removable tattoos and nail decals to design the real you! The *Body Art Curiosity Kit* is fun for children ages 4 – 14.



California Architecture — If You Build It, They Will Come

On the Edge of the World: Four Architects in San Francisco at the Turn of the Century

This book provides a detailed picture of the early careers of four architects: Bernard Maybeck, Willis Polk, Ernest Coxhead and A. C. Schweinfurth.

The California Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright

The first single-volume collection of Frank Lloyd Wright's California work.



Bernard Maybeck, Visionary Architect

Gracefully written and brilliantly illustrated, this handsome new volume captures the vision, the wit, and the down-to-earth inventiveness of one of the most influential and beloved architects of the early twentieth century.

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A balanced and thoughtful biography of the most significant and successful female architect in the history of the profession.

A Tiskit, A Taskit, How Do You Make a Basket?

Creative and educational kits help even the most novice of weavers design and create baskets to treasure for life.

The Fine Art of California Indian Basketry

Over sixty stunning examples of California Indian basketry and commentary from native basketweavers, artists and scholars.



I Want It At My Fingertips!

Help! A Record Book for Household Names, Notes & Numbers

Published by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, this book provides easy access to important phone numbers and addresses. A perfect housewarming gift!



All photos: Lisa Falk

Volunteer Opportunities

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

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Hollander Smith Construction, Inc.

Associate

Berger, Lewis Accountancy Corporation
Berliner Cohen
Blossom Floral Shop
Carbonic Service, Inc.
Classic Car Wash
Garden City Construction, Inc.
HMH, Inc.
O'Brien Travel Service, Inc.
Oak Hill Funeral Home & Memorial Park
Pahl & Gosselin, Attorneys at Law
Ritchie Commercial
San Jose National Bank
Shilling and Kenyon, Inc.
Southern Lumber Company
The Hotel DeAnza
Toeniskoetter & Breeding, Inc.
Valley Heating & Cooling Co.
Valley View Packing Co., Inc.
Victorian Pres. Assoc. of SC Valley
Winchester Ranch

Sustaining

Alta Broadcasting Co.
Anthony J. Mercant Attny at Law
Biggs Cardosa Associates, Inc.
Boitano, Sargent & Lawrence CPAs
Catered Too
Compton Foundation
Cooper, Pors & Pfaffle Acct. Corp.
Cross Land Surveying, Inc.
Darling-Fischer Chapel of the Hills
David J Powers & Associates, Inc.
DeRose - Cedoline - DeRose
E Keith Brown & Company
Ed Thomas & Associates
Gilbert Arnold Sanchez Architect, Inc.
Goble Properties
Hayes Office Equipment Co.
Imwalle-Stegner
Isolation Products, Inc.
J & M Glass Co.
J Leigh Beveridge DDS, Inc.
Jenssen Scales, Inc.
KEZR Radio
Law Offices of Richard Herz
March Development Company
Markovits & Fox, Inc.
Mineweaser & Associates
Mirassou Vineyards
Navlet's Flowers
Normandin Chrysler Plymouth Jeep Eagle
Olson & Pierce
Orchard Supply Hardware
P W Supermarkets, Inc.
Perham Foundation
Pfahl and Hunt Accountancy Corp.
Pinnacle Resource Group
Pizazz Printing
Richard Zlatunich Architect
Roma Bakery, Inc.
Royal Coach Tours
San Jose Blueprint
San Jose Construction Company
San Jose Sharks
San Jose Water Company
Sobrato Development Companies
Stapleton-Spence Packing Co.
Stern's Luggage, Inc.
The Best Electrical
The Hensley House
United Insurance Center, Inc.
Western Sales Engineering
Western States Oil Company
William M West CPA
Winchester Mystery House
YMCA of Santa Clara Valley
Zoria Farms, Inc.
Matching Gift Companies
Apple Computers
AT&T
BankAmerica Foundation
General Electric
IBM
Macy's
The St. Paul Companies
Sun Microsystems
Synoptics Communications
TRW Foundation
United Parcel Service
United Technologies Corporation
Westinghouse
Trusts & Foundations
Hugh S. Center Trust
Knight Foundation
San Jose Rotary Endowment
Santa Clara County Community Foundation
Stella B. Gross Trust Fund
Sourisseau Academy, SJSU
The Valley Foundation

Annual Corporate Members