



the
Exchange
FALL 2008
THE NEWSLETTER OF HISTORY SAN JOSÉ

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She Made It!

The Tradition of Women's Arts and Crafts in Santa Clara Valley

Those of us living in contemporary Santa Clara Valley can find every item we need for our homes or wardrobes in stores nearby. But early settlers had to make nearly every object they used in their daily lives—quilts, clothing, baskets and more. Often passed from mother to daughter or from aunt to niece, the handiwork of the women in the family stemmed from basic human necessities: food and clothing, shelter and warmth. Now those same handicrafts are practiced almost exclusively as either hobbies or art.

History San José's latest exhibition, *She Made It! The Tradition of Women's Arts and Crafts in Santa Clara Valley*, showcases numerous handmade items that explore the transition of women's craftmaking from that of utilitar-

ian production to a form of art and individual expression.

She Made It! includes quilts and samplers, clothing and accessories, baskets and hair work, many of which are on display for the first time. Three generations of hand-made wedding dresses from the Steele family show how times and styles have changed from 1895 to 1980. And samples of Victorian hair art show how ornamentation has changed as well; during Victorian times it was customary to make jewelry or wall hangings using a loved one's hair.

Visit *She Made It!* at the Leonard and David McKay Gallery at the Pasetta House in History Park, Fridays through Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. Our thanks to exhibition sponsor Yvonne Caire Head for her generous support.

MUSEUM INFORMATION

www.historysanjose.org

Peralta Adobe-Fallon House Historic Site
175 W. St. John Street
San José, CA 95110

History Park

Kelley Park, 1650 Senter Road
San José, CA 95112

History Park Administrative Offices

Monday – Friday, 8 am – 5 pm
408.287.2290, Fax 408.287.2291

Research Library

By appointment. Call 408.521.5026

GROUP TOURS

To schedule a custom tour of 10 or more,
call 408.918.1047

EVENTS & RENTALS

Call 408.918.1055, or 408.918.1045

ADMISSION

Free public admission to History Park

HISTORY PARK HOURS

Gallery, Museum Store, and Café at O'Brien's

Winter (Nov. 1 – April 30)

Tuesday – Sunday, 11 am – 4 pm

Summer (May 1 – Oct. 31)

Tuesday – Sunday, 12 pm – 5 pm



HSJ LEADERSHIP

Officers 2008-09

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David Satterfield, Secretary; Tom Scott, Treasurer

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Eva Guralnick, Editor; e.g. communications, Layout

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Great News & Great Events

by Alida Bray, President & CEO

The good news is that the Museum is stable, and we're in the black! We're just wrapping up the annual independent audit with Zajac & Perrone. The unaudited figures for FY 2008 show a positive \$76,565—a marked improvement from FY 2007's negative \$109,083! The bad news is that the country's economy will seriously challenge our goals and plans to maintain this progress. Thus, we need your continued loyalty and support now more than ever. We are embarking on a new membership campaign (outlined on page 6). Also, see the insert for details on the many new benefits for History San José members. You can help by increasing your membership to the next level or bringing in a new member. And this holiday season, don't fight crowds at the mall—come shop at the *Heritage Holiday* event (see page 8) in beautiful History Park, where you can support local artisans and entertainers and find easy and free parking. Or don't go out at all, and give an HSJ Gift Membership and receive a free gift yourself!

As a way to show our thanks to all our members for helping History San José keep local history alive, we've got plenty of wonderful member events coming up. We are very excited about partnering for the first time with Opera San José on a joint member opportunity. Members from both organizations will preview *She Made It!* with refreshments by Crunch Catering, and then be treated to VIP seating for a preview performance of selected arias from *Elixir of Love*, San José Opera's next show. Later in October, *Haunt the Hollow* returns for a scare-free trick-or-treat experience. With Happy Hollow Park & Zoo we have planned more entertainment this year and, of course, we'll have trolley rides throughout the day.

Then, prepare for a full day of events on Veterans Day, November 11. Begin by supporting our Digital Clubhouse Network youth as they march in the *41st Annual Veteran's Day Parade* from noon to 2:30 pm. Then from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. come to the *Tribute to Service Program* at the Montgomery Theatre, where we'll be screening new *Stories of Service* films that feature Bob Doerr, former San José Mayor, and Ernie Glave, activist and Parade founder. End the day at History Park where members will enjoy a reception for the new exhibit *Home Front: Santa Clara Valley's World War II Experience*.

November 29, help celebrate *San José's 231st Birthday* at the Peralta Adobe with descendants of the Juan Baptista de Anza Party. The calendar year will close with the *Heritage Holiday Event* on December 6, and the Member's Holiday Party on the December 11. Join History San José for good food, entertainment and friends as we look back on an amazing year full of accomplishment.

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June 30, 2008.

HSJ wishes to thank
all of the generous
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past fiscal year.

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Hugh Stuart Center

by Roxanne Nilan

Entering History San José's Research Library, you'll find yourself in the Hugh Stuart Center Memorial Trust reading room. Prominent attorney Hugh Stuart Center (1905-1977) had deep roots in Santa Clara Valley, and now has an enduring link to History San José. His papers, recently made available to researchers at HSJ, offer a window into pioneer Santa Clara Valley families and a glimpse of his colorful legal and political careers.

Raised in his parents' home on the Alameda and educated at San José High School, Hugh was the son of local railroad entrepreneur Hugh Center and popular San José teacher Mary Stuart Center. After earning a Stanford law degree in 1930, Hugh joined the prestigious, politically influential San José law firm of Rankin, Oneal, Luckhardt, and Hall. There, Hugh earned a reputation as a creative advocate and effective negotiator, spending time tracking down murderers in the Nevada desert and conferring with headline-making clients in San Quentin.

In 1933, Louis Oneal (1874-1943) was convinced of the innocence of accused wife-murderer David Lamson, sales manager of the Stanford Press. However, his outspoken political rival E. M. Rea was Lamson's chief defense counsel, so Oneal sent in two associates—Maurice Rankin and Hugh—to consult. Although convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to hang, Lamson was acquitted on appeal in 1936.

Also in 1933, Center was among the very few attempting to prevent the lynching in San José of two men accused of kidnapping and murdering 22-year-old Brooke Hart. While at the city jail assisting his friend San José Sheriff William J. Emig, Hugh struggled with invading vigilantes until hit in the head with a brick. As Thomas Thurmond and Jack Holmes were dragged to the lynching tree, Hugh unsuccessfully grabbed for the hanging



Hugh Stuart Center c. 1930.

History San José Collection

rope and again was brought down.

Louis Oneal had a soft spot for the dashing Hugh, who shared his love of the outdoors. The Nevada-born Oneal, still a cowboy at heart, raised palominos and hosted rodeos and fandangos at his Los Altos ranch. Dressed as a sheik and riding one of Oneal's famous palominos through San José for the Shriner's parade, the younger man cut quite a figure. But Oneal also provided Hugh with invaluable lessons on politics. Known throughout California as "Mr. Republican," the former state senator now wielded far more influence as the man behind the elections. Under his tutelage, Center soon became active in politics, serving on the Santa Clara County Republican Central Committee throughout the 1930s, and as an early organizer, general counsel, and state president of the Young Republicans of California. In 1940, he organized local support for Wendell Willkie's campaign, but by 1941 he was having serious doubts about political life, and after the attack on Pearl Harbor, he took his career in a different direction.

Center's political ties, legal credentials, and experience as an organizer earned him a naval commission as District Labor Relations Officer for the Twelfth Naval District, and later

as advisor to the Navy's Western Sea Command. Throughout the war, as the federal government struggled to control inflation and stabilize strategic industries, the Navy negotiated increasingly complex standards and agreements with unions and private contractors. Although he was clearly more sympathetic with management, Hugh again earned commendations from all sides for his abilities. With much of his attention drawn to the wage and work disputes that often broke out between 1942 and 1946, he was particularly adept at smoothing relations between the Navy, San Francisco Bay private contractors, and the unions that made up the Bay Cities Trade Council.

Frustrated with government red tape and with the ongoing nature of labor disputes, in fall 1946, Hugh eagerly returned to San José and a full-time law career. "A formidable trial lawyer, he was known for his rare combination of thoroughness, flair and ingenuity," writes Center's biographer, James Houston.

History San José has many ties to Hugh's family. His first wife, Jane Archer Center, was the granddaughter of San José pioneer Lawrence Archer, a respected county judge and twice San José's mayor. Archer's property—between Keyes, Phelan, McLaughlin and Senter—was given to San José in the 1950s by Jane's aunt, Louise Archer Kelley, and is now Kelley Park, home of History San José. After Jane's death, Center married San José native Barbara F. Ferrin. Barbara took an active interest in arts and cultural organizations of the Santa Clara Valley, and served as a member of the advisory board of the San José Historical Museum (today's History San José). For more than 35 years, their legacy, the Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust, has been an important supporter of arts, culture, and education throughout Santa Clara County, and a generous benefactor of History San José.

Haunt the Hollow

Halloween is too special to only celebrate one night a year! Join us on Sunday, October 26, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for our second annual Haunt the Hollow event. Happy Hollow Park & Zoo and History San José are partnering once again to offer a fun trick-or-treat experience in History Park.

The day includes trolley car rides, an animal show, the spinning Frisbee dog show, Critters by the Bay, and trick-or-treating at each historic house inside History Park. Admission is free

for Happy Hollow and History San José members and \$5 per person for the general public.

Haunt the Hollow is the perfect setting for families to explore the excitement of Halloween in a safe and fun environment—one that parents know and trust. This event is sponsored by 94.5 KBAY and Happy Hollow Corporation.

For more information, call Happy Hollow Park & Zoo at 408.277.4193 or visit www.hhpz.org.



Anita Kwock

Mary Martin, HSJ Education Assistant, gives volunteers Baishaki Das, Sally Stallard and Frank Valerga their one-year pins.

Volunteer Appreciation

We have all said or heard, “I don’t do windows.” But Terry Wilson *does* do windows—in fact he keeps all the windows (over 200!) at History Park and the Peralta/Fallon Historic Site clean, and for that Terry received special recognition at the HSJ Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner on August 13, 2008.

The theme this year was “puzzles,” and as we told volunteers, each of them is an essential piece. Board Chair Jim Towery and Board Members Don

Gagliardi, Steve Lopes and Nancy Martin thanked the volunteers for their service, and noted that History San José could not run without its 180-person volunteer labor force who work as beekeepers, cat herders, gardeners, repair men, teachers, performers, librarians, catalogers, sales representatives, printers, trolley operators, accountants and administrative assistants seven days a week to help History San José serve the community.

VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED

30 years
Nancy Martin

25 years
Ida Raby, Darlean Slack, Dave Robinson

20 years
Alicee Ewan, Richard Maurer, Dorothy Fleming, Igor Quimett

15 years
Jim Dolen, Carol Ramsey, Barbara Shaffer, Kay Kvenvold, JoAnn Renk, Jack Stallard

10 years
Barbara Atter, Hilleguus Faber, Martha Champion, Lee Mclaughlin

5 years
Daniel Boehm, Steve Demkowski, Will Jensby, Joan Shepley, Jim Crosby, Stuart Hensen, Norine Kimmy, Nancy Stairwalt

1 year
Baishaki Das, Milt (Tim) Peddy, Erik Keading, Sally Stallard, Frank Valerga

Home Front: Santa Clara Valley's World War II Experience



(Above) South First St. from San Carlos, 1944. (Below) "There's fightamins in fruits and vegetables!" 1943. California War Council. Nutrition and Food State Committee.

The personal stories of World War II veterans are a precious part of our nation's history. Whether serving in uniform or working on the home front, members of the "Greatest Generation" have memories that illuminate important individual and collective experiences. HSJ's exhibition *Home Front: Santa Clara Valley's World War II Experience* explores our community's service to the war and these individual stories. HSJ is also hosting a special History Makers event, attending a Memorial Day Rally in Washington D.C., and celebrating with our third annual Day of Remembrance.

Home Front will explore how San José and the Santa Clara Valley were affected by and contributed to World War II. Young men and women left their families and hometowns for the first time to serve their country in far off places like Monte Cassino, Tarawa, Normandy and Okinawa. At home, people were constantly reminded of the war through newspaper, radio, posters, and entertainment. To support the war effort, people rationed essential goods like tires, gas, sugar, and metal and were encouraged to purchase war bonds and grow Victory Gardens. At the same time, fear led to the internment of Santa Clara Valley's Japanese population, permanently affecting the lives of thousands of people. In the workplace, women and minorities were given opportunities to work in



positions formerly unavailable to them. Local industry adjusted to support the war effort by canning foods and producing equipment to be sent overseas. Entrepreneurs in the evolving technology industry were given the opportunity to supply much-needed communication devices to the war effort.

The exhibit will feature local ration books, Civil Defense artifacts, and, through a partnership with the Red Cross of Santa Clara, Red Cross uniforms and papers. Through a computer station in the gallery, the Silicon Valley Digital Clubhouse stories of the Home Front will be available to illuminate Santa Clara Valley's experience, by personal histories of people who lived in the area and experienced the era of the home front first hand. Digital Clubhouse Network and History San José have been working for some time to preserve these stories. Through our unique "Stories of Service" program, veterans and youth are connecting to ensure that important pieces of history are captured for future generations to learn from.



San Jose News announcing German surrender, 1945.

New Benefits for History San José Members!

HSJ would like to thank our valued members for their continued support, and we'd like to ask you to help us increase our membership. We've upgraded membership benefits for the coming year with new offerings and a special gift!



NEW MEMBERS

Any *new* or *lapsed* (2007 or prior) member who joins History San José now will receive *The Gem of Edenvale: The Historic Hayes Mansion of San José, California* by local author Nancy Newlin. This beautiful 114-page book introduces the gifted and generous Mary Hayes Chynoweth and the Hayes family, while detailing over 100 years of captivating history (retail value \$22).

CURRENT MEMBERS

New benefits will take effect with memberships that renew this November. If your membership is scheduled for renewal after November, you can take advantage of this opportunity to renew early (*retaining your same membership period*), and receive your 2009 benefits right away! Help bring in a new member and receive *The Gem of Edenvale*. Just have the new member write your name on their membership form.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Just in time for the holidays— give an HSJ Membership to family, friends or associates. Just select the level of membership you want to give as a gift, and *both* you and your recipient will receive *The Gem of Edenvale*.



Banjo players in front of City Hall, c.1929.

Photographer unknown



Onion Seed Pickers, c.1900.

Alice Hare

Blossom Time, Foothills, Santa Clara County, c.1915. Photographer: Tucker, San Jose



OCTOBER

Opera San José

Sunday, October 19

4:30 – 6 pm

See description at right.

History Park. Open to the public. Free.

She Made It!: The Tradition of Women's Arts & Crafts in Santa Clara Valley

October 24, 2008 – March 1, 2009

Friday – Sunday, 12 – 5 pm until October 31

11 am – 4 pm starting November 1

See article on page 1.

History Park, The David and Leonard McKay Gallery at the Pasetta House. Free.

Member's Exhibit Preview

Sunday, October 19

2 – 4 pm

Haunt the Hollow at History Park

Sunday, October 26

2 – 5 pm

A scare-free event sponsored by 94.5 KBAY. Stations will be set-up throughout History Park at all the houses, providing a fun, safe and family friendly experience for all. Entertainment includes trolley car rides, an animal show and the Spinning Frisbee Dog Show.

History Park. Open to the public.

\$5 per person. Free for History San José and Happy Hollow Park and Zoo members.

NOVEMBER

41st Annual Veterans Day Parade

Tuesday, November 11

Noon – 2:30 pm

Downtown San José, Free

Tribute to Service Program

Tuesday, November 11

3 – 5 pm

Montgomery Theatre, Free

Join HSJ and Digital Clubhouse Network at a screening of new Stories of Service films featuring Bob Doerr, former San José Mayor, and activist and Parade founder Ernie Glave.

History San José and Opera San José partner to celebrate the new exhibit at History Park and to preview the upcoming Opera production.

OPERA IN HISTORY PARK

HSJ members and Opera subscribers are invited to a private reception and Curator unveiling of *She Made It! An exhibition of the Continuing Tradition of Women's Arts and Crafts in Santa Clara Valley*. The reception and exhibit viewing will take place on October 19, from 2 – 4 pm at the Leonard and David McKay Gallery at the Pasetta House. The exhibit will be open to the public October 24 to March 1.

Following the exhibition, patrons will enjoy reserved seating for **Opera in History Park**; a sneak-peak performance of *Elixir of Love* with selected arias and commentary. The one-hour program begins at 4:30 pm. - picnics and lawn chairs are welcome. General Admission lawn seating for the performance only is free. Parking is \$6.



courtesy of Opera San José

Home Front: Santa Clara Valley's World War II Experience

November 11, 2008 –

September 13, 2009

Tuesday – Sunday, 12 – 5 pm until October 31

11 am – 4 pm starting November 1

See article on page 5.

History Park, Pacific Hotel Gallery.

Free.

Member's Reception

Tuesday, November 11

6 – 8 pm



Michael Fehrenback in period costume.

Birthday Celebration for the City of San José and the Californios

Saturday, November 29

1 – 4 pm

History San José members, please join us for free tours of the Peralta Adobe and Fallon House.

Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site, 175 W. St. John Street, San José

DECEMBER

Heritage Holiday

Saturday, December 6

12 – 6 pm

Local artists, antique appraisals, Mario the Marimba King, performances by the Lyric Theatre, food and wine tasting, and Santa Claus arrives on his fire truck.

History Park. Open to the public. Admission is free for History San José and Happy Hollow members. Admission for non-members is \$3 per person and \$10 for a family of 4.

Members' Holiday Party

Thursday, December 11

6 – 8 pm

History Park, Pacific Hotel Lobby. Members Only.

Winter Hours begin November 1! History Park will be open Tuesday – Sunday, 11 am – 4 pm. History Park will be closed for Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas, and New Year's Day.





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WHAT'S IN STORE FOR YOU?



Amy Nguyen, HSJ Retail Supervisor, serves Treat's ice cream in O'Brien's.

TREAT'S ICE CREAM

O'Brien's welcomes Treat's Ice Cream! This local company has been producing quality ice cream for 57 years and included in their delicious repertoire are 40 different flavors. The secret of this ice cream is high-quality ingredients. No artificial flavorings or preservatives are used and additional helpings of fruit and nuts are added to each tub. Some of the popular flavors you will find at O'Brien's are Tin Roof Sundae, Marble Black Raspberry, Peanut Butter Cup, Brownie a la Mode, Coffee Almond Fudge as well as America's all-time favorite traditional flavors. And the "Treat's" on us! Stop by O'Brien's for a free sample of this delicious homegrown delight.

HERITAGE HOLIDAY – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Santa's arrival on a vintage fire truck, holiday carolers, gourmet food tasting, and arts and crafts by local artisans are a few of the reasons to spend a day with friends and family strolling through History Park.

The annual Heritage Holiday at History Park, which is hosted by History San José and Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, will be held from noon to 6 p.m., Saturday, December 6.

This year's event will offer centerpiece and succulent wreath workshops with the Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County as well as an Antiques Corner with Steve Yvaska, local antiques specialist. Alrie Middlebrook, who is a committed advocate and practitioner of the sustainable lifestyle, as well as a landscape professional and California native plant specialist, will be available for a book signing with her new book, "Designing California Native Gardens."

Entertainment will be provided throughout the day by Lyric Theatre costumed carolers; Mario Monzon, the Marimba King and holiday favorites will be performed by the First Congregational United Church of Christ bell choir.

The trolley will be offering rides all day and the ever-popular handcart will be running for children of all ages to "try their hand." Children's crafts and face-painting along with A Schmah Science Workshop will keep the children thrilled while the grownups shop in the Museum Store and enjoy the offerings in O'Brien's.



Admission is free for History San José and Happy Hollow members. Admission for non members is \$3 per person and \$10 for a family of 4.

History San José thanks the City of San José for its generous support, and we also extend our sincere gratitude to our **History Buff** (Individual) Members from \$35 – 99 in fiscal year 2008!

\$25,000 & up

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Let us know of any errors or omissions. Please notify us of corrections at 408.521.5019 or Ispencer@historysanjose.org.

History San José Membership Application

\$35 Individual: History Buff Membership

One Membership Card

- Receive Invitations to Member-only Previews and Events throughout the year
- Free admission to Heritage Holiday (**new**)
- Receive an Invitation to the Annual Membership Holiday Party
- Get a 10% Discount at the Museum Store (and look for "Member Double Discount Days" throughout the year!)
- Receive The Exchange, HSJ's Quarterly Newsletter
- Be Recognized in HSJ's Annual Report (**new**)

\$50 Basic: Historian Membership

Two Membership Cards and All of the above, plus

- Receive Two Downtown Arts Discount Certificates
- Get an Additional 10% Discount in the Museum Store at Heritage Holiday (**new**)
- Receive Invitation for You and Four Guests Attend the Members Only Fourth of July Celebration in History Park (**new**)

\$100 Silicon Membership

All of the above, plus

- Receive a Discount to the Annual Valley of Heart's Delight Event (**new**)
- Get Two Additional Downtown Arts Discount Certificates (total of four) (**new**)
- Receive Free or Reduced Admission to Over 120 participating Time Travelers Museums throughout America
- Bring Four Additional Guests to Attend the Members Only Fourth of July Celebration in History Park (**new**)

\$250 Cinnabar Membership

All of the above, plus

- Receive a Free Photo Session and Family Portrait by Master Photographer John Paulson
- Choose an Archival Print from the Annual HSJ Curator's Choice Collection (**new**)

\$500 Quicksilver Membership

All of the above, plus

- One Basic Historian Membership to give as a Gift (**new**)

\$1,000 Gold Membership

All of the above, plus

- Receive an Invitation to Annual HSJ Collection Center Behind the Scenes Exclusive Tour & Party (**new**)
- 15% Discount off the Site Fee for one non-exclusive use of History Park for up to 100 people (date to be mutually agreed upon)

\$1,500 Heritage 100

All of above, plus

- Membership in HSJ's Exclusive "Heritage Family," with Special Benefits (For details, call 408-521-5019 or e-mail lspencer@historysanjose.org)

Yes! I want to become a Member of History San José!

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Payment Method:

ENCLOSE MY CHECK OF \$ _____

I PLEDGE \$ _____

PAID HEREWITH \$ _____

BALANCE \$ _____

(please invoice me on ____/____/____)

PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD:

VISA MASTERCARD

CREDIT CARD #: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

NAME ON CARD: _____

SIGNATURE OF CARDHOLDER: _____

DATE: _____

Did an HSJ Member ask you to join? If so, what is their name?

Mail to: History San José, 1650 Senter Road, San José, CA 95112