San Jose Historical Museum

Association News

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WINTER LECTURE SERIES

On selected Thursday evenings during the months of January and February, the Museum Association will feature a series of lectures for the community on a variety of subjects. The programs will be held in the Meeting Room of the Pacific Hotel beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Admission to each lecture will be $2 for Association Members and $4 for the general public. If you are a 1993 member of the Association at the $50 level or above, please inform the Membership Coordinator when you make your reservation. You are entitled to two free passes to the lecture of your choice.

Please make reservations by calling 277-3760. Entrance to the Museum will be through the Phelan Avenue gate.

January 21
Mark Hylkeena – Tamien Station Archaeological Project

The Tamien Station archaeological project, conducted jointly by Coltrana and the Santa Clara County Transportation District, has become the largest excavation yet done in San Jose. A prehistoric Ohlone village site was excavated with the help of Ohlone Indian descendants, which led to the successful integration of environmental law, scientific research, public benefit and Native American self-determination. Mark Hylkeena will share slides and discuss the findings of this local archaeologi-

February 4
Leonard McKay: Collecting Historic Postcards

Leonard McKay, one of the authors of the popular Association premium book, A Postcard History of San Jose, will share with us some interesting facts on the printing of early postcards, show slides of unusual cards in his collection, and discuss the art of postcard collecting. The audience is encour-

February 18
Master Plan for the Historical Museum

The City of San Jose is contracting with the Museum Association to develop an update of the Museum Master Plan in 1993. This effort will be led by a group of design professionals who are donating their services so Museum development can proceed. The team includes Garry DeYoung (a planner and President of Ruth & Going, Inc.) and architects Marvin Bamberg, Craig Minnewaser and Steve Cox. They will use this evening to present ideas on the Master Plan, generated from hours of discussion and visits to other living history museums across the country, and to elicit the opinions of the Association membership on the direction in which development should proceed.

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MUSEUM ASSOCIATION TO OPERATE THE PERALTADA ADOBE – FALCON HOUSE COMPLEX

A proposal by the San Jose Historical Museum Association to operate the Peraltada Adobe and the Fallon House as an historic complex in downtown San Jose was won the conceptual approval of the San Jose City Council on November 24, 1992. A contractual agreement is currently being developed by the City Attorney’s office. The Association’s proposal calls for the development of a program at the complex that will highlight the early eras of San Jose’s history — the Native American period, the Spanish pueblo years, the Mexican period, and the early American/Gold Rush era.

The Peraltada Adobe, located on St. John and Terraine streets, was built in the 1790s and is San Jose’s oldest historic landmark. It is the last of the original adobes of El Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe and one of the oldest structures of any kind in Northern California. It is highly significant as the last structural remnant in our community of the years when the flag of Spain flew over California.

The Fallon House was probably built by Manuel Gonzales, an Apache Indian and member of the DeAnza expedition of 1775. After Gonzales’ death, the building came into the hands of Don Luis Maria Perrella, commissioned post to the pueblo. As commissionado he was one of San Jose’s most successful and responsible leaders until California became a Mexican province in 1822. He continued to live in San Jose under the subsequent rules of Mexico, the Bear Flag Repub-

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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Continued on Page 8

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

City Requires Budget Reductions at the Historical Museum

As a program of the City of San Jose, the Historical Museum is now faced with budget reductions. In efforts to balance the City budget and to offset the impact of the State budget on the City, the Historical Museum staff has been reduced in the Curatorial section. Nancy Valley's position of Curator of Exhibits will be reduced from full-time funding to half-time funding. Other reductions were not made as anticipated due to the concern and efforts of the Historical Museum supporters and the City Council to keep the Historical Museum program as active as possible. For the next year budget approaches, every effort will be made to continue services and growth at the Historical Museum and to develop proposals that do not result in the loss of staff positions.

Nancy Valley has always been an outstanding employee and her selection for reduction is the result of seniority developed during the hiring process and is not a reflection of her as an employee. Nancy Valley has been responsible for many of the Museum exhibit and collection related projects. Her outstanding achievements include the creation of the Woman's Ranch Fruit Barn exhibit and the Ng Shing Gung project. In addition she has coordinated and managed the historic preservation projects, the costume and textile collection. I hope as the economy and budget improves that the Historical Museum will be able to again benefit from her full-time services.

1993 To Be A Challenging Year

Even with the immediate budget outlook being one of difficulty, I am looking forward to continuing plans for the growth and development of the Historical Museum. The update of the Master Plan, including economic analysis, will be a priority project in 1993. A unique approach to this task will include utilizing design professionals volunteering via the San Jose Historical Museum Association. Efforts will be made to update our 74-building living/working Museum Master Plan, including focusing on the needs of archival and educational space Funding for this study will be provided by the City of San Jose with the Public Works Department providing coordination, management and oversight. As this effort is completed, the Historical Museum will have additional tools to facilitate development and some of the compatible commercial elements that we have all talked about.

Mignon Gibson
Museum Director

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we begin the New Year we have great expectations for the Association and its activities for 1993. Many of the seeds we planted in 1992 will bear fruit this year. This is a strong indication of the Board's long-range planning and its commitment to the Museum. Thank you for your support.

Our efforts in 1993 have not gone unnoticed. Councilmember George Shirakawa will honor the Association as his nominee for District VII representation at Mayor Hammer's State of the City Convention, an honor for San Jose's heritage. In case you're not familiar with this tradition, each year individual Council members have honored individuals or groups that have significantly contributed to the community. Thank you George for nominating us. We are deeply honored.

Also last year, as we began to explore new opportunities for the future, we realized that currently we were not spending our revenue. Kathy Muller wisely decided to invest some of this revenue in preparing grant requests to several local foundations. Thanks to her efforts and the fact that the Association is a well-run, respected organization, we were extremely successful. The major grantors included the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Valley Foundation, the Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust, the Stella B. Gross Charitable Trust, the San Jose Rotary Club Endowment Fund, and the City of San Jose providing a total of $100,000. Thank you to these organizations.

As I write this, Kathy Muller, several members of the Board and I have been putting the finishing touches on the agenda for our annual Board of Directors Retreat. This is the time the Board discusses a variety of topics related to the future of the Museum, and we will discuss the Association's participation in the operation of the Peraitea-Fallon complex, the update of the Museum's Master Plan that will guide the Museum's development well into the future, and our continued efforts to convince the City to provide us with office space and collection storage space, as well as exhibit space.

The one thing that this year was the City's budget dilemma did not impact staff reduction at the Museum. The Association will be working diligently to let the City Council know that the Historical Museum is important to the community. As a supporter of the Museum, I ask you to take a few minutes to call or write to your local Council member to let them know how you support the Museum and its activities, and that you believe the Museum is an important asset to our community.

Speaking of assets, your membership donation, whether it is as an individual or an corporate sponsor, is what allows the Board and staff to pay all these good things each year. Please renew your membership this year. As I said at the beginning of the year, we need to meet expectations for 1993, but we need your continued support.

Happy New Year.

Gerry DeYoung
Association President

FRONT OF THE EDITOR

With the start of the new year we have the opportunity to welcome several new members to the Museum Association's Board of Directors. Joining the Board this year are Jan Miller Berlin, V. Robert Galli, Connie Young Yu as Members-at-Large, Mary-Anne Schreier as Docent Council President, and Dorothy Brechtmeider as President of the Museum Auxiliary. These new members will join the rest of the Association Board and staff at an all-day retreat to be held on Saturday, January 9.

The retreat provides the Board with an opportunity each year to assess the activities of the organization and to make plans for the future. This year's retreat will focus specifically on the Museum Master Plan update and the programs to be developed at the Peraitea-Fallon complex, in addition to on-going education activities.

The Development Council will also benefit from new members this year, including Marvin Bamburg, Michael Bethke, Louise Evans, Nancy Martin, and David Roddick. Their willingness to share their knowledge and expertise will be especially important as we work with updating the Museum Master Plan in 1993.

Throughout the new year the Museum Association will continue to support the physical development of the Museum site and strive to build community support for the preservation of our local history. As supporting members of the Association, you make these possibilities possible. Thank you for your interest and involvement!

Kathleen Muller
Administrator

ASSOCIATION RECEIVES GRANTS FROM CENTER, PACKARD & VALLEY FOUNDATIONS

The San Jose Historical Museum Association Board of Directors is pleased to announce receipt of grants from the Packard Foundation to support a new staff development position in 1993.

The Association has been awarded a grant of $5,000 from the Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust, $15,000 from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and $10,000 from the Valley Foundation to hire an individual to coordinate and promote the Association's various fundraising activities.

We wish to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of these grants to the support of the Historical Museum. The creation of a development office was a goal set by the Board of Directors in January 1992. It is a significant and critically important step in the growth of the Historical Museum.

SAN JOSE ATHLETIC CLUB

PLAN AN EVENT IN HISTORY

Built in 1924 as a Scottish Rite Temple, the San Jose Athletic Club is available for catered events. Enjoy this no-cost historical site — the decor is unique, incorporating Art Deco and Egyptian elements. Make some history of your own in one of downtown San Jose's charming historical landmarks — the San Jose Athletic Club. Call the Catering Office at (408) 295-1261.
FROM THE ARCHIVES

Archives in the 20th Century

One of the definitions of archives is a "repository of records." Challenging that definition is the task of selecting which materials are to be kept for historical purposes. Two concepts, appraisal and documentation strategy, are fundamental precepts of archival collection development.

Appraisal is the initial step in assessing a collection. The appraiser must determine whether the materials offered have historical value in light of the parent organization's policies and functions. This is based upon the mission statement as well as the primary themes of collection in a particular facility.

Documentation strategy is the forecasting of what areas should be collected, where collections are held (e.g. what facilities are collecting similar materials), and for what types of research materials may be used. Records are being re-evaluated for contemporary purposes and are often useful in quite surprising ways.

In the twentieth century we have been overwhelmed by the amount of data created and collected; we are often do not know what exactly will be of great interest or importance to future generations or how exactly materials will be used. Such items as this magazine which were once developed for the assessing of fire insurance rates are now used to search for hazardous waste sites; phone books or information. Probably the greatest scenes but are used for documentary reconstruction evidence; phone books and city directories no longer serve as the way we see as historical documentation for legal proceedings.

For this reason many archives throughout the world collect material extensively. Only with the passing of time is the material in use reviewed for current concerns. Recent examples include the recently opened USRR Archives which held additions on the situation about World War II and the North Vietnamese Archives and Collections which have documented the outcome of some of the MILITARY efforts of the Vietnam War.

In our Archives we are wrestling with the areas of collection in the twentieth century. One of the problems we are wrestling with is the amount of storage, as much of day-to-day life is no longer captured in writing, and because we live in such a fleeting meeting world. The voices and the focus on specific experiences enables us to capture community experiences. Another recent project is that of the Witness Project. In conjunction with other cultural organizations, the Archives is accumulating data for the AIDS Project. The data will be kept not only at the SIBJH Archives but also passed on to the parent project in New York. As a health issue, the historical ones are the vital identifiers of our current as well as future history.

MUSEUM STAFF

Mignon Gibson Director
Wardas Popp............. Senior Steno
Jeanne Kondo............. Clerk/Typist
Archives
Leslie Masunaga.................. Archivist

Education
Virginia Beck.................. Curator of Education
Volunteers
Cheryl Kiddie............. Volunteer Coordinator
Nancy Freeman............. Volunteer Projects
Coordinator
Events
Mary Duran............. Museum Events
Collectors
Milita Rico-Samaniego......... Curator
Sarah Jane Nunes............ Curator
Nancy Valley............. Curator
Trolley Barn
Field trip ministry, Master Car Builder
Al Spivak............................. Trolley Barn Supervisor

ASSOCIATION STAFF

Kathleen Muller............. Administrator
Carolyn Gip Gagnon........ Administrative Asst.
Carole Queielle............. Bookkeeper
Margaret A. Welter........ Secretary
Janet Beaulieu............. Costume Shop Manager
Toni Evans.................. Manager
Susan Miller............... Shops Scheduler/Supervisor

IN THE COLLECTIONS

The Museum’s project second Institute of Muse-Services (IMS) Conservation Grant for $16,075.00 has been completed ahead of schedule. This grant, which allowed the Museum to preserve objects in the collections located in the northeast section of the north warehouse, was completed six months ahead of schedule. As a result, the Museum is now eligible to participate in the new and exciting grant cycle which has an April 23, 1993, deadline.

Conservation grants are important in the advancement of collections care and preservation at the San Jose Historical Museum. They provide us with funds we have allowed us to assess our needs; obtain supplies and materials for collections preservation; and use the services of professional conservators, train staff and volunteers in the care and preservation of our most precious asset — the collections.

In addition to the Conservation Grant, Curator Sarah Nunes is pursuing an IMS General Operations Grant (GOS). This GOS Grant has a January 23, 1993, deadline and is intended to assist the Museum in computerizing its collections. Current- ly, the accessioning and registration of donations to the Museum’s collections is a manual process. As the Museum’s volunteers will tell you this is a very time-consuming process. Having the ability to put the collections records on computer will enable staff volunteers to process objects and losses in a more efficient manner. Computerization will also provide the curators with the ability to access the objects for research. The Museum is now planning preparation and conservation purposes in a fraction of the time it now takes.

The responsibility for the care and preservation of the collections is on the shoulders of us all — staff and volunteers. However, the collection (approximately 500,000 objects) in all its variety, is the primary responsibility of the curators. As such, the curators would thank you for your good luck and say a prayer that we may continue in our jobs as the curators of the collections at the San Jose Historical Museum.

Milita Rico-Samaniego Curator

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
SEEKS DOCENTS

The San Jose Historical Museum will train volunteers to give tours of the 24-building Museum complex located at the south end of Kelley Park. Classes will be held in the morning on alternate Wednesday evenings and Monday or Saturday mornings through June 5, 1993. The training will include lectures on California and local history presented by noted authorities, specialized training in the Museum exhibits, and workshops to teach effective tour techniques and communication skills.

Anyone interested is invited to attend a Get-Acquainted Coffee on Thursday, February 23, at 1 p.m. or Saturday, February 27, at 10 a.m. in the meeting room of the Empire Firehouse on the Museum grounds (attendance at coffee is not mandatory to sign up for training).

For further information call: Virginia Beck Curator of Education
San Jose Historical Museum
(408) 287-2290

Dotty Breitneider, Auxiliary President

SAN JOSE MUSEUM OF JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORY

1250 YARD COURT
SAN JOSE, CA 95132
(408) 387-3775
With just one year's service on the Board of Directors, Jim O'Neal is enjoying remarkable success as Chair of Corporate Membership for the Association. Despite the recession, the Association's membership grew from 80 to 91 in 1992. Jim modestly credits the help of many enthusiastic Board members and the bringing of potential members to the grounds for get-acquainted luncheons as responsible for the growth. Taking notice that the 1993 projected budget revenue for Corporate Membership had been "upped," Jim is feeling a little pressure. Soon he will be looking for businesses with 25- year local histories, in addition to some high-tech companies, to join as supporters of the Association's efforts at our Museum.

Jim, who says "I couldn't win a floating contest" met his wife, Susan Stahl O'Neal, a swim champion, while at Cal Poly. He won her attention by persistence and loud cheering from the sidelines at countless swim meets. Jim and Susan are now having an exciting personal year. At the time of the interview for this article, Jim and Susan were awaiting the arrival of their first child. Just before Christmas, Connor James O'Neal (already called C.J.) arrived. He is the first grandchild for both of their families.

By now Jim must be nearly proficient in disseminating this six-generation San Joaquin. Susan is busy with the challenges of the stenciling on the walls of the baby's room in their Spanish style home just in time for Connor.

When Jim was a youngster he was surrounded by family friends of his mother Shirley Berry O'Neal and his father Louis O'Neal. Imagine routinely hearing the histories Auston Warburton and Clyde Arickle can share about Native Americans and the pioneers of the valley. Jim is so young he barely remembers orchards being significant here, but he is part of a new generation of history lovers beginning to appear at the Museum.

The O'Neal ancestors have been fascinating. One great, great, great grandmother drove herself and five children to California in a covered wagon after her husband was killed in a gunfight. One great, great, great grandfather, John Messing, was a harness maker and livery stable owner in the early 1800s and had travelled around the Horn. He also co-owned the Eberhard Tannery across from Mission Santa Clara long ago and had a daughter born there in an adobe. David Hatman, Jim's great, great grandfather, was an apprenticed German carriage maker, whose handmade model of a livery stable is displayed in our Museum's fruit barn exhibit after surviving several generations of grandchilden's use. Great grandfather Louis was a well-known local attorney and politician. Grandfather Duncan O'Neal was a rugged and respected lawyer, rancher and civic leader.

Jim was named for Governor James Ralph's son, James Ralph III, whom he recalls was his grandfather's best friend and hunting buddy. After graduating from Leland High, Jim earned a degree in History from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. Because he was acquainted with Frazier Reed, a descendant of the Reeds of the Donner Party, Jim interviewed him for a senior year history project. Since college, Jim has realized he enjoys advertising and working with non-profits through Gannett Outdoor Advertising's public service program. He supports the activities of Child Quest International's missing children program, the Children's Discovery Museum and the San Jose Medical Center Foundation, in addition to the San Jose Historical Museum.

While Jim is very interested in politics, if asked whether he has any personal political ambitions, Jim will only answer "maybe some day." Jim first wants to enjoy many years with his wife and child. It is appealing to have spare time to retreat in his 4x4 over washboard roads to the family property in the rugged, unspoiled country near Mount Hamilton. Jim loves exploring the isolated trails, fishing for bass in the lake, and wearing broken-in boots (to avoid rattlesnakes). Among his goals are keeping the bills as natural and beautiful as possible for his children to enjoy.

Jim relishes his role as an active participant in the decisions bringing change to the Historical Museum. The potential for Museum growth and vitality were originally pointed out to him by a family friend, John Luckhars, who encouraged Jim to become involved. Jim would like to see the Museum's lower agricultural property near the creek developed as a location to depict an authentic Native American village and the original valley lifestyle.

Through working to attract more corporations and young families to support the Museum Association, Jim is able to make a difference to his community and to satisfy his love of history.

TIME FOR GOOD RESOLUTIONS

Some of the many ways to define "resolution" are: the division of prosaic elements into component parts (what?); a formal expression of opinion or will by a group; or the point in a literary work in which the chief dramatic complication is worked out. This is according to Webster.

Or, a resolution this time of year might be that good intention you really "intended to attend to" but will find in need of repeating as January 1994 appears around the corner. This, likely, is according to you and me.

But, you don't have to begin 1993 with such a problem. As a Museum Association member, you can always make a helpful resolution to peek in the Museum Responder's Wish Book, and, perhaps, decide to fulfill just one of the requests. The staff and volunteers have requested many different types of equipment and supplies to help the Museum function smoothly. Any wish granted, whether monetarily large or small, will prove valuable to the operation of the Museum.

Besides, whether you choose to donate or not, you will have proven to all that you can keep a New Year's resolution to at least look into this book. It is available for you to see near the desk of either Wanda Pess or Jeanne Rende in the Museum offices upstairs in the Pacific Hotel.

It is not even necessary to make a purchase yourself, because the one who made the wish will be pleased to buy the equipment with your donation. Can't you just see Docent Bev Blockie with her Little Yellar microphone leading the downtown walking tours because of your participation?

Some items may be available in your own home. The books of local authors listed below, if donated, will save you time dusting and yet delight Archives researchers:

Bean, Annie
Bread of the Rose & Other Verses
Brown, Vinson
It All Happened Right Here
Fillen, James
The Complex Mrs. Beldon
Meaks, Eliot
Resident Orientals on the Pacific Coast
Markham, Edwin
Children of Light
Orion, Norrell
Hacienda in the Sun
Peck, Willys
The How and "Y" of It
Stidger, William
Edwin Markham
Walsh, John
Lanterns of Blue

Resolve to make a difference this year at the Museum through use of the Wish Book. Individu- al thoughtfulness and group will pull together the needed support materials that cannot be provided through usual funding sources.

Carolyn Gagnon

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THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

In the spring of 1992, the San Jose Historical Museum Association adopted Schallenberger Elementary School, Moses Schallenberger, for whom the school was named, farmed in the early days of Santa Clara Valley. Located on Koch Lane, the school houses a multi-cultural population of grades kindergarten through fifth. Parent letters are printed in English and Spanish.

San Jose Unified School District's Adopt-A-School program creates a partnership and emphasizes the utilization of human resources. Children are enriched through their contact with volunteers from the business community.

As an introduction to the San Jose Historical Museum, the Association Board of Directors held a reception for the Schallenberger staff and parent leaders. The principal accepted a copy of each of the fifteen Association publications for the school library. Schallenberger school reciprocated by inviting the Association Board to the school's Cinco de Mayo celebration and Open House. Attendees enjoyed the celebration, classroom displays and became acquainted with many of the congregational families.

In October a Walk-A-Thon was held at the school to raise funds. The Association donated raffle prizes including a 1993 Association membership, and lunch for four at O'Brien's; the Museum provided a Family Day Pass.

The Museum has also contributed exhibit tours in which 100 children and adults participated by the end of this calendar year. Two classes enjoyed the Historic Transportation Experience and future program offerings at the school include the Indian School Kit and the Victorian School Kit. These enrichment activities for the students and faculty highlight our human resources gifts.

A successful Halloween Trick-or-Treat party at the Museum for the Schallenberger families pleased all who attended. The Association sponsored the event and organization was done by the Public Relations Committee. Twelve costumed volunteers, located in front of the exhibit building, distributed treats to over 100 children. Carol Garcia, Schallenberger Principal, and Kathy Potile, Administrative Assistant, rented Vintage Reflections costumes and greeted the students as they arrived. Mrs. Garcia led the joyous children in a costume parade along our new streets. Monte Duran broadcast taped, scary voices and music from the Firehouse speakers and wore an imaginative costume. Mignon Gibson delighted the children with her witch costume.

Adopt-A-School partnerships. Representatives were from businesses, public utilities, theatrical groups, museums, music organizations, corporations and the education community. Volunteers from these 70 groups offer the students in their adopted schools a diverse enrichment. The San Jose Historical Museum Association values the partnership and anticipates significant rewards for all concerned.

Patricia Cordone, Docent Council Liaison to
The Association Public Relations Committee

ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS

During the months of November and December 1992, contributions were made to the Museum Association's Endowment Fund Special Projects Fund in honor of the following individuals:

In Memoriam: Nick Chiocchi
Lillie Walsh
Mark Neudecker
Lawrence Peterson

In Honor: Julie Pifer

Gifts to the San Jose Historical Museum Association to honor someone on a special occasion, or as a memorial, may be sent to the San Jose Historical Museum Association Endowment Fund, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95123-2650. A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the person being honored or the family of the deceased.

NEW VOLUNTEER COFFEE

For further information regarding our Volunteer opportunities, you are cordially invited to a New Volunteer Coffee

Thursday, January 14
1 - 3 PM
Empire Firehouse Meeting Room
Call Cheryl Kiddoo,
Volunteer Coordinator to RSVP
277-4017 or 287-2290

Principals Carol Garcia (on the right) and Assistant Kathy Potile join in the Halloween fun.

Laurel Persia secured donations from Don Green, a printer, and from Carousel Creations, McDonald's, Odd's On, Safeway, Soo's Candy and Southern Lumber. The Schallenberger families and the San Jose Historical Museum Association appreciate their generosity.

An October luncheon, sponsored by the San Jose Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, was held at the Fairmont to recognize members of the Schallenberger youngsters enjoy the Museum Association's Trick-or-Treat night with docent Bonnie Rogers. Photos courtesy of Carolyn Gagnon.
By 1830, the shape of top hats was much like a fat stovepipe. After the depletion of the beaver supply in America around the middle of the nineteenth century, toppers were sometimes covered with grosgrain, merino cloth, shiny silk, or wool. In 1830, the first mechanical felt machine was developed, a boon to the hat makers.

There are two major brim styles for the top hat: the flat brim and the rolled brim. Crowns were as high as eight inches and as low as four. Some had straight sides; others had gently curved sides flaring into high crowns and large tapes; and still others sported deep curved sides and low, jaunty crowns. Many men wore a single formal top hat for a lifetime, caring little for the inevitable style changes.

During the nineteenth century, black felt and rough beaver, as well as fawn, gray, and white top hats were worn with informal clothing. Brushed beaver, plush, and silk top hats accompanied formal dress.

The full-covered, collapsible opera hat appeared in Paris in the 1840s. The crown was supported by a spiral spring between the outer cloth and the lining. This spring could be collapsed and the hat folded quite flat. The collapsible opera hat was worn interchangeably with the topper, although it was always much more suitable for the formal occasions.

Derbies

The first bowler hat appeared in England in 1850. It had a narrow, flat brim and melon-shaped crown. Over the years, the crown has varied in height and shape and the brim in width and amount of roll. Still called the bowler in England, after its inventor William Bowler, it is known in America as the derby, from the Earl of Derby, who helped popularize the hat.

The derby is never worn with formal clothes. For several decades it was the most suitable hat to accompany a conservative business suit, particularly in gray or black.

Soft Felt and Straw Hats

The fedora, the homburg, the snap brim and the porkpie are all soft felt styles. The porkpie, which appeared in the 1870s, has been widely worn both on the ranch and in the city.

The most elegant of the soft felt hats is the homburg. King Edward VII, was considered an innovator in dress and wore the homburg hat as an undergraduate in 1859. Thirty years later he introduced the homburg, which survives as the ordinary modern felt hat.

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The Officers of Group
The Ramsay House
The Rous and Richard, Inc.
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Markovitz & Fox
Mountain & St. O'Steen
Mission Concrete Products
George S. & J. Aman
Normandie Chrysler-Plymouth
Olivier & Larbin, Inc.
Olsen & Playter
O'Brien Travel Service, Inc.
Pizzitelli
R.H. Plaza Commerce Bancorp Foundation
David J. Fawley and Associates
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HISTORIC FOOTNOTES OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY

by Jack Douglas

DOWN TO THE STATION

There was an air of excitement on June 37th of this year when the official opening of the city's new Tamien Station near Aluna Street. A hatted baggage held the approach of CalTrain's first regular commuter special to Gilroy as the assembled railroad fans, politicians and curious citizens cheered. Riding in the engineer's cab was County Supervisor and transit traffic Rod Diridon who was decked out in unusually fresh-looking trainman togs.

The Tamien Station, surrounded by a vast parking lot, is the city's only link between light rail county transit and heavy rail CalTrain and Amtrak. The parallel platforms allow commuters to transfer from points south to light rail and also make it convenient for those on the light rail line to reach the CalTrain for trips up the Peninsula.

The numerous speakers on that June day, representing every branch of government involved in the creation of the station, all made reference to the beginning of a "new era" in public transit and to the day that Californians would be sending their cars for the convenience of train transit. Although it has seemed like forever (some were no doubt thinking), we are at last seeing some tangible results from our transit tax dollars.

The old Cahill Station, which is undergoing a major restoration, is the only remnant of the city's main facilities dedicated on December 30, 1935. The construction of that station was the capstone of a major overhaul of San Jose's rail system that brought us into the 20th century of train travel.

A little background may be helpful in order to understand the importance of the railroad in early San Jose. The State of California was still in its infancy when the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad was completed in January 1864. A huge wooden shed on Bassett Street served as the main train station. Four years later the line was extended down 4th Street south to Gilroy. In 1877 the narrow gauge South Pacific Railroad curved across San Jose on its route from Almaden to the East Bay to Santa Cruz. It had a station at the spot where the Cahill Station now stands.

To those who had been limited to horse drawn vehicles, it must have seemed like a miracle to be whisked off to San Francisco, Oakland or Santa Cruz in two hour's time. Each new spur was looked upon as a symbol of progress in those early years.

When the 4th Street line was put down, J.J. Owen, editor of the Mercury observed: It is pleasing to behold one of our most undulating, muddiest and filthiest thoroughfares transformed into a neat and tidy street. Washington Square, we are informed, is to be paved and on either side of it there are to be street parks and thus adding beauty and in the future a shady retreat from the busy markets of our city. The 4th Street station was built between Calles and Cal Salvador for the convenience of students commuting to the recently constructed State Normal School (now San Jose State University). But "progress" is never to be denied. At the turn of the century the automobile was beginning to make its appearance on our streets. Long before the Dakotas and freight trains as they lumbered through downtown began to become an annoyance. By 1920 they were an outrage. One long train on 4th Street could block every east-west street in all of downtown. The railroad that had brought many improvements to the east side of town was now responsible for detracting from the ambiance of the elite Nuyghe Park neighborhood.

San Jose's brick and terra-cotta station is shown in a July 1946 photo from Prune Country Railroading by Holmes. The Cahill Station has been formally nominated for consideration by the State in February of 1983 for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

L.C. Rudolph, President of the University of Santa Clara read the invocation and Angus McDonald gave the major address. There were several songs by the Amigos Club Quartet, and the SP band played the national anthem. Afterwards the West Santa Clara Street Development Association and its president Alex Hart hosted a lunch for the SP officials at the new De Anza Hotel. The Development Association hoped that the railroad would improve business in their area, and indeed the De Anza did become the preferred hotel for traveling salesmen who arrived by train.

The opening of the new west side railroad freed San Jose of 70 years of rail crossing tie-ups and cleared the way for automobile traffic. Now, of course, it is the automobile that is helping to destroy the quality of life in the Santa Clara Valley. Many hope that a new rail system, with hubs like the Tamien Station, will be the people movers of the future. Let us pray that they are right.
MYSTERY PHOTO

School days, school days. What school is this? Any memories out there? Call the Archives at 277-4017 if you can provide details about this unidentified part of the San Jose Historical Museum Archives photo collection.

CHSA CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The Chinese Historical Society of America will be celebrating its 30th anniversary with a banquet on Saturday, January 30, 1993, at the Empress of China, 838 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, California. A no-host bar will begin at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner at 7:00 PM. Philip Choy's collection entitled "From Exclusion to Repeal" will be on display, as well as pictures and slides of CHSA's 1992 field trips. Members will also be receiving their copy of the Chinese America: History and Perspectives 1993 Journal. Banquet tickets are $35 each. Reservations should be submitted to CHSA by January 9. For more information, call 415-391-1188.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS DOLL DONATION DRAWING

The Victorian Christmas doll donation drawing once again was very successful and brought much joy to the winners whose tickets were drawn at the conclusion of Victorian Christmas on December 15.

Congratulations to: Barbara Antonacci, Virginia Aring, Linda Arna, Ellen Buron, Julie Burnaz, Stan Bellow, Judy Borcherding, Leilani Camam, Melinda Chiaruto, Bill Clark, Kate Daly, Marilyn Dobson, Ashley Ferguson, Elizabeth Ferguson, Fawna Ferguson, Paula Fondiller, Gayle Frank, Debi Haber, Jessi Haber, Kathy Hallin, Dean Helms, Kathy Hill, Janice Jones, Erik Krobothian, M. McDonald, Mary O'Keefe, Doris Perusa, Bruce Pohlse, Kathy Pottol, Bob Reed, Sandy Rich, Bill Rotha, Emily Ryan, J. Salazar, Cathy Silva, Barbara Steffin, D. Stowbunenko, Allen Thompson, Carol Thomps, Diane Tuira, Linda Vanderbyl, and Beth Wyman.

A special thank you to Katherine Royce. Two of her charming handcrafted cloth dolls were a special addition to the drawing. Thank you once again to all the businesses and individuals who donated such wonderful dolls, as well as our Museum friends who supported the drawing.

Laurel Perusa

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Name ___________________________ Date ________________________
Mailing Address ____________________________ Zip: ____________ Phone: ________ (Bus.) ________ (Home) ________

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☐ Mission Circle ($1,000)
☐ Pueblo Circle ($500)
☐ Tower Circle ($250)
☐ Century Circle ($100)
☐ Contributor Circle ($50)
☐ Family ($45)
☐ Individual ($35)
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HOURS
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ADMISSION
Adults $2.00
Children (6-17 years) 1.00
Seniors 1.50

Prearranged Group Tours Available

Peralta-Fallon
Continued from Page 1

restaurant became known as the Italian Cellar and in the 1960s the name changed again to Manny's Cellar.

The Fallon House was one of the first residences in the city of Italianate design and is today the oldest example in existence in San Jose. The historical significance of the Fallon House is further strengthened by its proximity to the Peralta Adobe, illustrating the transition of San Jose from a Spanish and Mexican pueblo to an American city.

The Museum Association will have the opportunity now to develop a program that brings both of these structures to life. Hands-on demonstrations and costumed interpretive characters will be used to interpret San Jose's unique role in our State's rich history.

During the coming year the Association Board and staff will begin specific program development for the Peralta-Fallon complex and will be seeking volunteers to assist in a variety of ways. If you are interested in contributing to the development of programs at this site, you are encouraged to call Kathleen Mullar, Museum Association Administrator, at (408) 287-2290.

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1993 DATES TO REMEMBER

January 14
New Volunteer Coffee
1 PM - 3 PM
Empire Firehouse

January 21
Lecture Series
Leased Location
Historic Postcards
7:30 PM
Pacific Hotel

February 4
Lecture Series
Leased Location

February 15
Lecture Series
Master Plan for the Museum
7:30 PM
Pacific Hotel

February 26
Don't Get Acquainted Coffee
1 PM
Empire Firehouse

February 27
Don't Get Acquainted Coffee
10 AM
Empire Firehouse

This festively dressed family was among the many participants who enjoyed the Victorian holiday activities held at the Historical Museum.

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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☐ Pueblo Circle ($500)
☐ Tower Circle ($250)
☐ Century Circle ($100)
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