Thanks To Our Members

History San José understands the tremendous importance our members play in the continual improvement of our operation. Because of this, we seek to recognize and thank our members in a variety of ways.

In addition to free admission to HSJ sites, quarterly newsletters, discounted or free admission to public programs, discounts at museum stores, an annual thank you gift and advance notice to special public gatherings, we host a variety of member events.

The most recent membership event was the Valley of Heart's Delight Reception held in August. This was a chance for members to view the new exhibit, meet artist Christie Santos and some of the individuals highlighted in her digital collages, and enjoy food, wine and punch at the reception.

Upcoming member events include the Holidays In Store shopping party on December 2nd from 12-5 p.m. and the Holiday Party on December 11th from 7-9 p.m. In addition, the new Kid's Event on Saturday, March 23rd will be a chance for members' families to participate in an old-fashioned egg hunt.
New Strength In New Partnerships

The San José Historical Museum was founded on the premise that a vibrant institution required strong community partners. The early affiliations with the Rotary Club of San José, the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation (CTRC), the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project (CHCP), and the Portuguese Heritage Society of California (PHSC) were absolutely essential to the museum’s initial success.

Since assuming responsibility in 1998 for what is now History Park, History San José has recommitted to these partnerships, expanded some, concluded others, and now redefined the very nature of partnership. This recommitment began with opening the Santa Ana One Room School House in partnership with the SJSU College of Education Alumni Association and helping install exhibits in the lower level gallery of the Imperio. In 1999 a new interpretive plan for History Park concluded that one of the six building blocks for the future must be expansion of the partnership program.

And expand we have done. The San José Center for Poetry and Literature (SJCPL) will occupy and program the Edwin Markham House, and we are finalizing an agreement with the Hellenic Heritage Institute for operation of the DeLuz House. Poets in a poet’s home and Greeks in a classical revival home. What could be more perfect? How about the fact that each of these organizations is contributing significantly to the renovation of their houses and will present public programs at their new homes every weekend throughout the year?

Most recently, HSJ has agreed to terms with the Perham Foundation for a continuing partnership that will allow us to interpret the last fifty years of technological creativity in this Valley. This partnership is the result of many years of discussion and will allow HSJ to tell new stories to new audiences. It is a need that is being met nowhere else in the Valley.

And finally, we continue to strengthen the relationship with the Fire Muster Team, an informal partnership with the San José City Fire Department. The wonderful men of the Fire Muster Team manage one of the largest collections of historic fire equipment in the country, some of which has been restored by the equally wonderful (and even more incorrigible) California Trolley and Railroad Corporation volunteers in the Trolley Barn.

Partnerships, collaborations, associations, networks, affiliations, whatever they are called, remain central to our institution, its mission, and its service to the community.

David Crosson
President & CEO
Research Center Now on the Web

History San José’s Research Center now has an updated website. Though still in its infancy, the researcher link on History San José’s website contains a sampling of the abundant information and materials available at the Research Center’s physical location on the second floor of the Pacific Hotel building in History Park.

Highlights on the site include a digital image of a map taken from the Pueblo Papers. This 1781 map is thought to be the oldest map of San José. In addition, a scan of the 1854 Freedom Paper of Sampson Gleeves is also available for viewing.

“A long term goal is to develop web accessible databases where an individual can search for family records and other documents such as their grandparent’s will, marriage certificate or old San José building permits,” said History San José’s Archivist Paula Jablonski.

The information on the site was compiled primarily by Spencer Thompson, an intern from San José State University’s Library School. To visit the site, go to www.historysanjose.org and click on the Researcher link.

HSJ Digitizes Collection for Website

History San José is committed to increasing public access to the Museum’s archive and artifact collection by providing information and digital images of the collection on HSJ’s website.

Through generous grants and equipment donations from Hewlett Packard, Adobe and Mrs. Dorothy Pace, HSJ launched the Collection Digitization Project. HSJ staff chose a rare part of the permanent collection as a pilot project — 19th century photographs. The collection features cased images such as daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and tintypes.

A grant from the Sourisseau Academy allowed HSJ to offer a project stipend to intern Binh Danh. Danh is a BFA candidate at San José State University and has expertise in 19th century photographic processes. Not only is Danh qualified to identify photographic processes, he is one of only a handful of artists making contemporary daguerreotypes in the United States today. He has cataloged, rehoused and digitized over 100 images from the collection, which will soon be added to the HSJ web-site.
HSJ Members Preview Latest Exhibit

On a warm evening in August, History San José’s senior curator Alida Bray and her staff were on hand to unveil the latest exhibit at History Park, Valley of Heart’s Delight: From Orchards to Suburbs in Santa Clara Valley. HSJ members were among the first to view the exhibit, which uses panoramic photographs, digital collages and artifacts to document Santa Clara Valley’s agricultural history and early 1920s promotion as an idyllic place to live.

HSJ members enjoyed mingling with artists Christie Santos and Gabriel Ibarra, and exhibit lenders from Campbell Historical Museum, Cesar Chavez Foundation, Japanese American Resource Center/Museum and the Hatfield family. In addition, subjects of Santos’ digital collages were on hand to view the finished pieces and talk to guests about their experiences working in the fruit industry.

A surprise personal connection occurred when Jane (Mrs. Reg) Holloway, HSJ member since 1974, happened upon a sales model of a tree stump puller which was invented in 1898 by her great uncle, Edmund Boden. Now considered an artifact, Mrs. Holloway reminisced that as a child she rode on this 4’ x 2’ model version as if it were a toy wagon.

Exhibit underwriters Lee and Bill Cilker and Anita and Gordon Chan were on hand, but Diane and Stan Chinchen were not able to attend the event. Attendees enjoyed farm fresh refreshments compliments of Safeway and received a commemorative Valley of Heart’s Delight bookmark.

Air Systems Foundation Car Show

On Saturday, September 8th, the Air Systems Foundation Car Show descended on History Park with 361 exhibitors. NASCARs, classic cars, muscle cars, electric cars, police specialty vehicles, racing cars, motorcycles, fire engines and much more were on display throughout the park.

In addition, activities for kids, a skydiver that landed right next to the light tower, entertainment on four stages and demonstrations from the K-9 police unit and the “jaws of life” demonstration by the San José Fire Department were featured.

The barbeque dinner was sponsored by Armadillo Willy’s and there was a large variety of free food throughout the park donated by companies such as Original Joe’s and Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Thyme Caterers.

The evening concluded with announcements of the winners in each category and a spectacular fireworks display. All the proceeds from the Air Systems Foundation Car Show support children’s programs in Santa Clara County, including education programs at History San José. The Air Systems Foundation met their fundraising goal and this family event was enjoyed by all.
Recent Grants

In its first grant to History San José, Cisco Systems Foundation contributed $10,000 in support of HSJ's summer day camp partnership with Camp Fire USA.

Cisco Systems Foundation's grant-making committee of employees recognized the summer camp as a community asset and saw the collaboration with HSJ as an opportunity to develop a unique educational component that will add meaning for the children. Cisco's grant will help underwrite program expenses as HSJ and Camp Fire move toward collaboration for a third summer of activity for young day-campers.

The David & Lucile Packard Foundation has awarded HSJ a grant of $50,000 in support of the organization's vision to create a regional history center as a community gathering place and museum of national importance. Architect Mark Cavagnero has produced a preliminary master plan for a history museum in San José's most historic downtown location. The next step is to conduct structural, archaeological, visitor experience and business plan studies.

These generous grants further demonstrate the important private-public partnerships necessary for such a significant community undertaking.

HSJ Forms Teacher Advisory Committee

History San José's mission is to involve diverse audiences in exploring the varieties of human experience that contribute to the continuing history of San José and the Santa Clara Valley. Toward this end, History San José conducts more than a dozen school programs serving approximately 30,000 students and teachers.

To ensure the relevance and quality of these programs, the Teacher Advisory Committee was formed to work with History San José's Education Department staff and volunteers. As stated in the 1999-2004 strategic plan, the goals of the committee are: 1) evaluate current school and teacher programs and make recommendations for additions, revisions and deletions; 2) identify long- and short-term program needs and opportunities for History Park; and 3) identify program needs and opportunities for the planned museum complex in downtown San José.

The Teacher Advisory Committee meets monthly and conducts evaluations based on criteria and measurable objectives outlined in the History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools, thus ensuring that History San José's programs are aligned with State standards and meet the needs of classroom educators and their students.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 2nd
12:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Holidays In Store
Pacific Hotel, History Park
Don't forget, members receive a 10% discount at the museum store!

December 7th
6:00 – 10:00 p.m.
& December 8th
12:00 – 5:00 p.m.
2001 Santa Clara Historic Home Tour
For ticket information, please call the Historic Preservation Society's Harris-Lass Museum Message line at (408) 249-7905.

Tuesday, December 11th
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Holiday Party
Pacific Hotel, History Park
Celebrate the holidays while enjoying the company of other HSJ members.

August 21, 2001 - June 15, 2002
Ongoing Exhibit: Valley of Heart's Delight: From Orchards to Suburbs in Santa Clara Valley
Pacific Hotel Gallery, History Park. Valley of Heart's Delight: From Orchards to Suburbs in Santa Clara Valley focuses on the transformation of the Valley from a world-renowned center of food production to a world-renowned center of technology.

Upcoming for 2002
Sunday, March 23rd
Spring Family Event
Festivities will include children's activities and an ice cream social. More information to come!
Naglee Park Celebrates 100 Years  by Jack Douglas

In 2002 Naglee Park, San José’s first planned modern development, will be 100 years old. Its history, however, goes farther back in time. Built on the former site of General Henry M. Naglee’s country estate, it originally encompassed an area east of San José State University between South 11th on the west and Coyote Creek to the east. The northern boundary was Santa Clara Street and the southern was William Street.

Shortly after his arrival in California as a Captain of Volunteers in the Mexican American War, Naglee purchased the land, originally part of the Rancho de los Coches, from Antonio Sunol. Under the supervision of the English landscape architect, James R. Lowe, Naglee brought trees and shrubs from around the world to create the first garden show place in California. In addition to his large country home, which still stands at the corner of 14th and San Fernando Streets, he built a distillery which produced an award winning brandy that was christened modestly, “Naglia.” Naglee had made his fortune as a banker and land developer in San Francisco prior to retiring to his estate in San José after the Civil War.

It was fifteen years after his death in 1886 that his daughters, now married, decided to sell off his holdings in San José. In 1902 Marie Naglee Robins and Antoinette Naglee Burk and their respective husbands formed the Naglee Park Improvement Company. The land was cleared and streets and utilities were installed. Designed to be an elite neighborhood it was to have no shanties, corner groceries, wood yards or other business buildings, and no residence costing less than $2,500 was to be built.

To encourage buyers, the Naglee daughters built several “spec” houses to show the kind of dwelling that would be appropriate. T. S. Montgomery, San José’s legendary developer, handled the sales end of the project.

Architectural Feast
Numerous notable architects were contracted to design homes for the prominent San Joséans who wanted to build in this new neighborhood. Frank Delos Wolfe, whose firm designed more homes in San José than possibly any other architect, built his own home at 43 South 15th Street. Ernest Curtis, of Binder and Curtis, built his on South 17th. Dr. Freeman Gates brought in the noted Bay Area architect Bernard Maybeck to design his home at 62 South 13th.

Various architectural styles flourished. The earliest homes were large, stately affairs, but later more modest craftsman homes would predominate. In the 1920’s the tract was extended south beyond William Street to Margaret Street. A line of large homes, dubbed “Naglee Terrace,” was built on a knoll facing what later became William Street Park. The newer areas included homes in the then prevailing eclectic period revival styles - Spanish, English Tudor, Cape Cod, Storybook, Colonial and Mediterranean - all in one block.

The New Century
Naglee Park became a magnet for the up and coming business and professional class which were eagerly anticipating the new century. With it came the age of the automobile, and Naglee Park was the first area to accommodate the latest “machine” with wider streets, curbs, driveways and garages. One concession to the ban on commercialism was the little brick gasoline station at the corner of 11th and San Carlos Streets which was designed to resemble the nearby homes.

Almost all of San José’s auto dealers made their homes in Naglee Park, including Clarence Letcher, the Normandin and Campen families, and the Holmes Brothers, makers of the Victory motor cars.

Impact of San José State
San José State College expanded and more faculty and students began living in Naglee Park. Many residents welcomed having out-of-town students staying in their spare rooms. As time went by, however, many of the City’s elite moved on to newer areas, leaving many of the larger homes available for fraternities, sororities and boarding houses. This was a comfortable arrangement until the 1960’s when the population boom turned San José State into a campus for local students who commuted from their homes.

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Housing the Mentally Ill
The most critical event for the neighborhood came when Governor Reagan closed Agnews State Hospital and put hundreds of patients in private nursing homes. Unfortunately, most of the available places were the former student boarding houses in Naglee Park. The result was that over 90% of all such housing in the County was centered around the Campus. Hundreds of patients were given their drugs and sent out to the streets to wander about aimlessly. The crime rate soared as these unfortunate were preyed upon by undesirable elements.

Campus Community Association
In 1975 a group of residents who were fed up with this situation and the parking problem created by the University, formed one of San José’s first neighborhood associations. After many trips to City Council meetings the neighborhood began to get a little respect. The first parking ban was put into effect, clearing the streets of student parking and allowing the streets to be swept. The area was rezoned R1, blocking any further board and care facilities and preventing non-conforming apartment blocks.

Encouraged, families began returning to Naglee Park. Association activities like the annual Fourth of July Parade and picnic, and the dog event “Bark in the Park” have brought neighborhood solidarity. The new generation is attracted by Naglee Park’s historical tradition, and many have spent money and man/ woman hours restoring their homes to their original elegance.

The City now recognizes Naglee Park as a unique historic area and has passed ordinances, which it is hoped will keep it that way. In the past 100 years Naglee Park has come the full circle and seems likely to be around for another century.

A World of Gratitude
History San José is grateful for the support of all its members. Listed below are gifts of $1,000 or more received between January 1, 2000 and May 31, 2001.

Corporations
Air Systems Foundation  
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P.B. “Skip” Wall

Foundations and Government
City of San José  
Charles B. Kuhn Memorial Fund  
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County of Santa Clara-Heritage Commission  
J. Phillip and Jennifer DiNapoli Foundation  
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Silicon Valley Charity Ball Foundation  
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Make History a Part of Your Holiday Giving
For more information on how you can give the gift of history this holiday season, visit our website at www.historysanjose.org

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Lee and Ray Lester  
Mission Glass  
Rock Island Foods  
Safeway Stores  
Santa Clara County Office of Education  
Spatio Restaurant  
Willow Glen Coffee  
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www.Bayarea.com
Gift Ideas for the Holidays

Magz - Magnetic construction toy.
This unique set provides hours of exciting, creative fun. Simply connect the magnetic bars and balls and let your imagination run free.

Juggling, Magic, Singing or Board Games
Whatever your game, we have it. Check out our selection of toys and stocking stuffers in the Museum Store.

Rub A Dub art kits
Turn ordinary bath time into a colorful experience. Creative and educational Rub A Dub will provide your child with a tub full of fun.

Passing Farms: Enduring Values.
The newest edition of Yvonne Jacobson’s highly regarded book is available in soft cover as well as hardcover. Her signed and numbered hardcover editions will make beautiful holiday gifts.

A fruitful experience awaits you in the History San José Museum Store. A bounty of gift items reflecting the rich heritage of San José and the Valley of Heart’s Delight have arrived for the holiday gift giving season.

Holidays In Store

Join us at History Park on Sunday, December 2nd, from 12-5 p.m., for History San José’s holiday shopping party.
Centered around the theme of History San José’s latest exhibit, the Valley of Heart’s Delight, feature items include signed copies of Yvonne Jacobson’s book Passing Farms: Enduring Values. This book documents Santa Clara Valley’s agricultural past. Ms. Jacobson will be on hand from 12-1p.m. the day of the party for members desiring a personal inscription for their book.

Artist Mary Castillo will also be on hand to display her handmade wooden bird houses, garden planters and rustic furniture. Each of her creations is unique and is constructed primarily from recycled materials including wood from fence posts and left over paint.

In addition, History San José has commissioned photographer Sarah Puckitt to photograph scenes at History Park, and various still lifes to make prints through a unique process called Polaroid transfer. Ms. Puckitt, who has a Masters of Fine Arts from San José State University, explains Polaroid transfers as a process that results in one-of-a-kind images similar in appearance to finely detailed watercolor paintings.

There also will be extraordinary gifts made by local artists, guests will enjoy carolers, wine, cider, and food tasting, door prizes and complimentary gift-wrapping.

Photographer: Sarah Puckett

Museum Information
Please call 408-991-1040 for reservations and current program prices.

Sites
History Park
Kelley Park, 1600 Senter Road
San José, CA 95112
408-287-2290, Fax 408-287-2291

Peralta Adobe & Fallon House
175 W St. John St., San José, CA 95110
408-991-8116, Fax 408-991-8114

Administrative Offices
1650 Senter Road
San José, CA 95112
408-287-2290, Fax 408-287-2281
www.historysanjose.org

Fees
General Admission Fees
A dollar for both sites is valid two weeks from date of purchase.

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

Group Tour Fees
10 or more individuals who have pre-scheduled a tour

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

Hours
Both sites are open Tues.-Sun.,12:30-4:00 p.m.


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

Office hours at both sites:
Mon. – Fri., 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

All school programs and group tours must be reserved. School programs – group tours are offered Mon. – Fri., 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Group tours are offered Tues. – Sun. by reservation only. Call 408-991-1040.

Programs:
Public Programs: Downtown Walking Tour

Outreach Programs: Portraits of the Past