5TH ANNUAL CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE IN SAN JOSE

Concours d'Elegance, translated means, “a meeting of elegance”, in the form of more than 300 antique and classic cars on display Sunday, August 8th at San Jose's Historical Museum for the 5th Annual Great American Concours d'Elegance, benefiting the Crippled Children's Society of Santa Clara County.

The nostalgic San Jose Historical Museum sets the mood of the days of yesteryear when these motorcar masterpieces (years 1900-1978) were king of the road.

Activities highlighting the day include a circa 1900 fashion show, live music, strawberries and champagne, food and drink concessions, along with a couple of old-fashioned bank holdups and spirited escape attempts from police when the Letho Mob tries to knock over the Bancs d'Italia.

This year, the Great American Concours d'Elegance will feature Rolls Royce and Bently motorcars, considered worldwide to be the finest automobiles ever produced. Over 75 Rolls Royces and Bentlys are expected to be on special display at this year's show, with one model from each year to be shown on the avenue.

The San Jose Fire Department will be displaying a rare 1914 Knox-Martin tricycle with a 1986 Seagraves fire engine and a 1931 Mac fire engine which was used in San Jose for 43 years. The Fire Department will be hosting old fashion hook and ladder demonstrations of fire fighting skills of yesteryear.

Car collectors throughout the Bay Area and Northern California will make up the 300 car, 30 class field which includes the Horseless Carriage Class, Antique, Vintage, American and European Classics, American and European Sportscars, Motorcycles and many other European and American automobile classics from 1900-1957.

Judging will begin at 10:30 a.m. with all classes being judged for mechanical conditions and physical appearance. In the mechanical department, the judge must determine that the car is completely roadworthy without moving the car, a challenge in itself. Also he must start the engine and require it to idle smoothly plus the horn and windshield must be in proper working order, brakes, lights and all accessories must function correctly and all wiring must be neat and safe. The cooling system must be spotless and tires must be like new and the correct size for the particular model car.

When judging the physical appearance of the car, a judge will check to insure engine cleanliness, with no signs of oil or grease leakage. The undercarriage must be free of rust and grease, the body condition is checked for dents, rust and the paint must be equal to original factory finish. Windows are inspected for cracking and discoloration and door and hood alignments, carpet matches and clean and fit (continued on back page)

VISIT THE RESTORED STATE CAPITOL SACRAMENTO

When: Friday, August 20th
Who: Association Members and Friends (Children Welcome)
How: Air-conditioned, Restroom-equipped Bus; Royal Coach Tours
Leaving From: San Jose Historical Museum, Employee Parking Lot (in rear, off Phelan Ave.)
Times: 7:30 A.M. Departure
5:00 P.M. Return
Cost: $13.00 Includes Coffee and Sweet Rolls at the Museum before we leave, and soft drinks for the ride home.
Lunch: On Your Own (A good cafeteria-style restaurant is located in the Capitol basement)

Come join your friends in the Association for an extremely interesting docent-led Restoration Tour of our State Capitol building! The Capitol has been beautifully restored and is a delight to see. It is air-conditioned, as is the restaurant located in the basement.

We will be leaving the San Jose Historical Museum at 7:30 A.M. on Friday, August 20, and traveling by bus to Sacramento. Our tour will begin at 10:30 A.M. and last approximately 1½ hours. In the afternoon we will have some free time to take other tours that are available at the Capitol and view the Senate and Assembly in session. The bus will also be available to shuttle people over to Old Sacramento and the Governor's Mansion. We will leave Sacramento at 3:00 P.M.

Reservations are limited to the first 45 people. Check's should be made payable to The San Jose Historical Museum Association and sent to: San Jose Historical Museum, 655 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA 95112; Attn: Kathy Muller. Refunds will not be made after August 6.

If you have any questions, call the Museum, 287-2290, for more information.

Photo courtesy of The Crippled Children's Society of Santa Clara County.
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The special event held on April 22nd that the Board titled "History Night" was quite a successful affair. We showed two movies on the history of the Santa Clara Valley to over one hundred and seventy members and guests. For those who attended, I'm sure you had a most enjoyable time. For those who could not attend, perhaps we can repeat the show at a future date.

This is being written before the City Council has made its final budget decisions. But I would like to thank all of you who took time to write letters or personally contact the Council members with your concern over the future status of the Museum. The Association Board is currently considering several projects for future additions to the Museum grounds. I will report on the status of these projects as they progress.

In case you may not have noticed, we have a new executive editor of our newsletter. Kathy Muller has taken over the duties of getting the page ready as well as handling special events. Kathy will be working on several one-day bus tours to historical places around the Bay Area. If you have something of special interest that can fit into a one-day tour let Kathy know, and perhaps she can work up a special trip for our interested members.

Again this September, we will be scheduling our famous Picnic in the Park. This daytime event has become a family gathering in the past and I'm sure there are many of you who will enjoy this year's event. Further details will be available soon.

Eric Bracher

The San Jose Historical Museum is part of the City of San Jose Parks and Recreation Department.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The City Council, meeting informally to discuss the 1983-84 budget, provided $125,900 to operate the entire Museum program for next year. Hard pressed for monies to maintain libraries, park facilities and other recreation programs, the Council eliminated two full time positions (Exhibit Designer/Builder and Carpenter) and 2 1/2 part-time positions (Curator, Recreation Specialist). This action leaves the Museum with the full time posts of Director, Curator and Secretary, along with monies for utilities, alarms and minor maintenance costs.

Viewed alone, these cuts look disasterous in regard to the growth of the facility. Contrasted to some of the reductions made to other recreation programs, however, the Museum's budget is nothing to be overly concerned with. While not overly large, it should absolutely be viewed as half full rather than half empty. Thanks go to each and every one of the citizens who spoke to or wrote to their City Councilpersons in support of the Museum. Such support bodes well for a future that presents formidable and surmountable challenges.

Donald O. DeMers, Jr.

** **

VOLUNTEER VOICE

Summer is officially here and so are vacation days for so many people. Since mid-June the Museum has had a big increase in the number of general public visitors that have enjoyed the exhibits and the historic buildings. The increase in attendance is particularly evident on weekdays. As in past summers, vacationing tourists from all parts of the state and the world have found their way to the Museum.

The Museum Service Council volunteers and Docents find sharing our history with these visitors rewarding and tremendously interesting.

On May 31st, the Memorial Holiday, a call was received by me from KICU Channel 36. They requested information regarding the proposed closing of the Museum. In addition, they arranged with me to have their cameraman and news reporter come to the Museum later in the day to film a complete coverage of the Museum closure for their nightly newscast.

Mr. Tony Rassamanno, News Reporter, and Mr. Mike Purcell, Cameraman, arrived on schedule. The filming of the interiors of the historic buildings and Museum grounds was excellent. Mr. Rassamanno's reporting was most effective on the City's budget cuts that would seriously affect the Museum. He emphasized the loss that would be felt by the schools, community and private groups as well as the general public if the Museum is forced to close due to lack of funding. The coverage was aired on the May 31st nightly newscast on Channel 36 at 7:30. The Museum is very appreciative of the interest KICU has consistently taken.

Grace Brewer

FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you so much for your great response to our Special Edition! Many, many of you sent letters to the City Council or personally contacted Council members in support of the Museum. Apparently our voices were heard.

A special thank you, too, to all those who contributed to this edition of the Association News. I think it's an exciting issue. I hope you agree.

Finally, with the tour of the State Capitol in Sacramento on August 29, we are launching a new series of trips which are truly an added benefit to your membership in the Museum Association. If you have any questions on this trip or suggestions for the future, please contact me at the Museum, 287-2290.

Kathy Muller

DOCENT REPORT

Another exciting and successful docent year has come to an end. This year the Docent Council has produced a duostatic Victorian School Kit to help meet the growing demand for our newest outreach program and developed a teacher's guide on Victorian life that will be offered for sale with the School Kit presentations.

Our docents faced new intellectual challenges in training tours in continuing Education programs including a psychologist discussing positive assertiveness with children and the Free Association Theatres' innovative interpretive workshops. Many of the new techniques acquired were shared with the Spring Training Class.

Trainees are being evaluated this summer, adding thirty-eight docents to the Council. This brings our ranks up to eighty-five. In these uncertain times, it is wonderful to have people, who for the love of history, and the love of sharing, choose to be docents.

The Docent Council has achieved much in the past year, and has many new, exciting programs planned for next year under the leadership of our new Docent Council President, Mary Ann Herlhy.

Peggy Hartsell

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Charles Taylor, former Museum Carpenter, will retire from City Services officially on July 17, 1982. Charlie and his family will be moving to Northern California near Lake Almanor.

Good luck in the future, Charlie, and let us know when you strike gold!

Short Notes Around the Museum

—The Museum's Graphics Room counters and work tables have been built and installed and are ready for use.
—The entrance pathway street light lighting is underway again. The City has issued an electrical contract to complete the project. The electrical contractor, working with Jim Arbuckle and me, will be finishing the pathway lighting system.

Cardinali Exhibit Designer

THE SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Association News

The purpose of the San Jose Historical Museum Association is to support the San Jose Historical Museum through Association membership, fundraising, educational and volunteer services, development of the indoor exhibit area, and to maintain the community and the acceptance of the responsibility of the Museum.

Association Board of Directors

Eric Bracher — President
Carol Carlson — Vice-President
Sue Poehl — Treasurer
Judge Mark Thomas, Jr., Patty Jenson, Peggy Hartsell, Dick Reid, Bob Doen, Marty Lime, Terry Greif, Diana Howell, Helen Kusel.

Kathy Muller — Executive Editor
Mignon Gibbons — Editor
Ann Whitsett — Photo Editor

CONTRIBUTORS: Eric Bracher, Gonce Brewer, Joe Cardinali, Dan DeMers, Frances L. Fox, Mignon Gibbons, Judge Mark Thomas, W. Haress, Peggy Hartsell, Helen Kusel, Linda Larson, Patricia Loomis, Kathy Muller, Nancy Vahby, Ann Whitsett.

Special THANKS to our Type Executive, Yo Ogawa.

The San Jose Historical Museum Association News is published by the San Jose Historical Museum Association four times each year. Membership in the San Jose Historical Museum Association includes subscription to this News.

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ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

The San Jose Historical Museum Association is offering advertising space in its "Association News." Camera-ready material is $100 per year (4 issues) for 1 column by 2". Additional column inches can be added for $40 per year. If you would like to advertise or can suggest someone who would, please call the editor, Kathy Muller, at the Museum (287-2290).
Frances L. Fox

BOOK REVIEW

Meet The Judge And Author

A fascinating series of stories on some of the oldest Municipal Courts in the state has been authored by Judge Mark Thomas, Jr., a member of the Board of the San Jose Historical Museum Association.

Since 1975, In Brief, official magazine of the Santa Clara Bar Association, has published his stories which include the Sunnyvale-Cupertino Municipal Courts. Among his other columns are Alviso, Saratoga, Willow Glen, Mayfield, Palo Alto, Campbell and Gilroy. Currently he is researching Morgan Hill and Santa Clara.

His keen interest in local history began when he served as judge of the Sunnyvale-Cupertino Municipal Court. When he tried to obtain specific information on the identity of the early judges in the Sunnyvale area he received such a variety of names he decided to find the correct answer himself.

This monumental task was a challenge to Judge Thomas which he pursued with boundless energy and enthusiasm. He sifted through volumes of city directories, California blue books, contacted local historical societies and museums and conducted personal interviews.

Organized references are available for the history of the Santa Clara County Superior Court but not for the Municipal Court. Pertinent information lies only in faded newspaper clippings, ancient docket books, old maps and personal recollection.

With his dedicated research resulted in capitalizing a century of not only judicial history but a progression of the town's history enhanced with sharp vignettes and humorous local color which come together in an entertaining fashion. To him, much era in history was as exciting as the other.

Most impressive is the complete roster of judges and their rare old photographs embellished with maps, early entries from old docket books and other memorabilia.

For the newcomers in the area there are many historical surprises. For instance, before there was a Palo Alto, Mayfield was the town of north Santa Clara County referred to as the "uncrowned queen" of the entire valley. He traces its gradual decline until it was annexed to Palo Alto in 1918.

Back in 1886 Mayfield had rebuffed Senator Leland Stanford's request to join the city where professors and students could reside and conduct their business near his new university. The only concession Senator Stanford asked Mayfield to make was to eliminate its saloons, for a "saloon town" would not provide the right kind of influence for future students. The city fathers refused to comply.

Senator Stanford solved the problem by creating his own town the following year. He acquired, through Timothy Hopkins, some 738 acres of the Seale and Greer holdings of undeveloped land adjacent to Mayfield. Hopkins named and laid out the town's streets and this "dry town" of University Park, later renamed Palo Alto, was now here to stay. The induction of a saloon-free setting brought many new settlers to the area.

In Judge Thomas's story on "Alviso—A Tragicomedy," he compares it to "A Kansas prairie town of the 30's, with the weatherbeaten look of Mendocino or Eureka—that is the mental image that lingers after a view of Alviso."

Another little known historical fact was that Gilroy was originally called Pleasant Valley. It all started in 1813 when an impulsive young Scotsman, John Cameron, deserted Queen Victoria's ship in Monterey Bay. Taking her mother's maiden name, Gilroy, he made his way to Santa Clara County where he decided to settle, becoming its first permanent English-speaking citizen. He later wed Clara Ortega, whose family owned the San Ysidro Ranch, a Spanish land grant.

In order to be eligible to own land, he became a Mexican citizen in 1833. Gilroy served as alcalde (mayor) of San Ysidro for many years by appointment of Commodore Stockton and was appointed justice of the peace by H.C. Smith in 1860-51. When his wife, Clara, died, Gilroy became the owner of over 400 acres of prime valley land. Pleasant Valley, the name of the area, was ultimately changed to Gilroy in his honor.

Only a few old-timers recall that at one time, Willow Glen, a residential district of the City of San Jose, was an incorporated city with its own police and fire department and all of the other appurtenances of an incorporated municipality.

In his conclusion on the town of Palo Alto, Judge Thomas states, "How do the present day judges compare with those of the past? With our mass arrangements, hardcover printout calendars, and computer analysis, we are most certainly more efficient and more capable of moving huge numbers of people through the system. BUT are we better in quality of judging? Considering the outstanding qualities of some of the very early judges, I doubt it."

Copies of In Brief magazine are in the California Room of the main branch of the San Jose City Library. Judge Thomas has made a significant contribution to our valley's history and has introduced another facet of our historical legacy.

Judge Thomas, a native of San Jose, graduated from Stanford University and the University of Santa Clara Law School. After practicing law for eighteen years, including a term as president of the Santa Clara County Bar Association, he was appointed Municipal Judge by former Governor Ronald Reagan and assumed office in January, 1973. He is married to Marjolise Foster and they are parents of four children.

As an interesting sidelight his father, Mark Thomas, Jr., retired civil engineer, pioneered cloud seeding in the Santa Clara Valley.

Frances L. Fox, local historian and recipient of the California Historical Society's prestigious Award of Merit, recently taught a class at DeAnza College entitled "An Evening with the Authors." Judge Mark Thomas, Jr. was among the local authors presenting his historical works.

HISTORICAL NEWS ITEMS

Otto Zeigler

Herald, July 5, 1894

Otto Zeigler captured the two mile competitive coast record, lowering it to 4:461/5. This record was made in the Class B handicap. He had to break the record to win as Terrill and Osen were flying right after him. In fact they were in a bunch most of the last quarter when Zeigler finally dashed ahead.

August 17, 1894

Otto Zeigler of San Jose won the national two mile bicycle race at Denver in 4 min. 21 3/5 seconds.

August 30, 1894

Never in the palmiest days of Rome did a conquering gladiator, returning from victorious conquests in the cities of the civilized world, receive a heartier greeting from the populace of their native city, than did Otto Zeigler, Jr., the modest, rosy cheeked, gentlemanly youngster, when he stepped from the train last evening returning from Denver, where he jumped into international fame at a leap, becoming the star of stars in the amateur cycling world and gave San Jose more free advertising than the city perhaps ever enjoyed before in its entire history.

(Researched by Orville W. Hawes)
CALIFORNIA'S FIRST COLLEGE GRADUATE

Thomas L. Bergin was awarded his bachelor's degree by Santa Clara College in 1857, becoming the first to receive a college degree in the state of California.

Although the school had been founded six years earlier, it was not accredited by the state to confer degrees until 1850. Nonetheless, Santa Clara College (which became the University of Santa Clara in 1912) held annual commencement exercises where students participated in debates, scientific demonstrations, and dramas, and received medals for outstanding performance.

The public was invited, and people often travelled from San Francisco to see what Santa Clara College boys could do.

During the ceremonies held on July 8 and 9, 1857, Bergin earned several medals for outstanding work in diligence, Christian doctrine, physics, mathematics and Greek, in addition to his diploma. Such a broad background most likely proved useful in Bergin's pursuit of a legal career.

After studying law at Albany, New York, Law School, Bergin returned to California and began his practice in San Francisco in 1861. In 1870, he went into partnership with Hall and Cutler McAllister under the name "McAllister, and Bergin." While on a trip to Florida in 1879, Cutler McAllister died. Hall McAllister and Bergin continued their partnership until Hall passed away nine years later.

Bergin took up practice alone in an office building known as the Nevada Block, at Pine and Montgomery streets in San Francisco. The building was destroyed by fire on the first day of the destruction from the earthquake of April 18, 1906, and Bergin retired shortly thereafter. He practiced from his home after his retirement.

Interest in law extended beyond his own career. Legal education was important to Bergin, and he was one of the first directors of Hastings College of the Law.

After an illness lasting three months, Bergin passed away on August 14, 1915. The University of Santa Clara was not forgotten by Bergin. He left the school $100,000 in his will. The will was contested, and when the issue was settled two years later, Santa Clara received the money.

Bergin's generosity provided the necessary funds to construct Bergin Hall, which is still in use by the law school today.

Linda Larson

Linda Larson is a member of our Museum Service Council, giving tours on the weekends to the general public. She was recently awarded first prize in the California Pioneers Historical Essay Contest and is currently working on a book on outstanding graduates of the University of Santa Clara.

HOTEL SAINTE CLAIRE:

Most everyone who's been downtown lately has noticed that something is going on at the Hotel Sainte Claire. That tacky marquee is gone; the parking garage has been repainted, the sign is repainted, and the windows on Market Street open into a very comfortable-looking cocktail lounge.

What's going on? The Sainte Claire is coming back to life, and it's doing that with such a fervor it just might bring the whole downtown area along with it. The project is the brainchild of Stephen Lin, a seemingly mild-mannered man who is, in fact, a human dynamo whose energy is transmitted to his admiring staff, who perform the impossible daily under his inspiration. Stephen Lin is not unlike the man originally responsible for the Hotel Sainte Claire, T.S. Montgomery.

T.S. Montgomery was christened Thomas at his birth in 1855, but he was consistently referred to as T.S. While still a young boy, he entered the business world, delivering papers when his father suffered severe financial losses. An ambitious worker, Montgomery worked his way up the ladder and had his own real estate and insurance company by the time he was twenty.

Even by that time he had formed the vision that would inspire many of his most successful business dealings—the dream of developing the area around South First Street into the center of San Jose's business district. Not many others could see beyond the wooden shacks and small industries which existed there then.

Never one to be discouraged, T.S. Montgomery never ceased to promote the area. Over the course of his career he was responsible for developing many of the city's prime parcels, but is still remembered most for the innovative buildings he put up in the blocks south of Santa Clara Street. The list includes the Garden City Bank Building, the Montgomery Hotel, the Twpohy Building, the Sainte Claire Building (now housing Original Joe's), the Bank of America Building and, of course, the Hotel Sainte Claire.

Though he retired in his 70's and moved to Scott's Valley, T.S. Montgomery maintained his interest in the area and the city as a whole. Convinced of the need for a civic auditorium, he donated the land at Market and San Carlos in 1933 to spur the city to action, and to insure that the facility was in his favorite part of town.

The Hotel Sainte Claire was built in 1924 and '25 and first opened to the public October 15, 1925. Montgomery had originally intended to call it the Santa Clara after the county but his board of directors feared that tourists would think it was in the town of Santa Clara instead of San Jose, so they compromised on Sainte Claire.

The whole town was excited about the new hotel, and the dinner dance given Saturday, October 16 to celebrate was the social event of the year. The San Jose Mercury devoted a whole section in the Sunday paper to the hotel, its staff, and who wore what to the party.

Already "unofficially" open for several weeks, the new Hotel Sainte Claire will hold its official Grand Opening on June 24 and 25. The outlook for the hotel is bright; let us hope the future realizes its success and the revival of the downtown area.

Ann Whitesell, Curator

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The Hotel Sainte Claire in its Heyday. c. 1940.

CALIFORNIA PIONEERS ESSAY CONTEST

Awards to winners of the annual California Pioneers of Santa Clara County Historical Essay Contest were presented at the Quarterly Luncheon of the Pioneers at Leo's Village on Saturday, June 5. Essays were to be on a person, place, or event pertinent to the history of Santa Clara County and a minimum of 2500 words in length.

Winners in the Student Category were:

First Prize ($300) — Dane Beazley (student at Blaney High)
Title: "My Part in The Daanex Expedition"

Second Prize ($50) — Penny Pugh (student at Leland High)
Title: "Governor Ralph and the San Jose Lynching of 1933"

Third Prize ($25) — Jennifer Bowman (student at Leigh High)
Title: "The History of Forbes Mill"

Winners in the Adult Category were:

First Prize ($200) — Ma. Linda Larson (San Jose)
Title: "Delphine Delmas, Napoleon of the Bar"

Second Prize ($50) — Rose Draper (Fremont)
Title: "The Apricot Valley Bunch"

Third Prize ($35) — Elfrida Tavernier (Mountain View)
Title: "Famous Fiesta de las Rosas of the 30's"

Copies of the winning essays will be kept in the Archives here at the San Jose Historical Museum and in the California Room at the Main Library.

A great deal of time is required to research and write a winning essay, according to Helen Arbuckle, Essay Contest Chairman. Interested writers should begin now to research and prepare for next year's contest!
ARGONAUTS AND CALIFORNIANS TOUR MOCODO COUNTY

On the recent Memorial Day weekend, some 80 residents of heavily populated Santa Clara Valley traveled to the northeast corner of California where the antelope, mule, deer, and cattle outnumber the people.

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, led by Santa Clara historian Albert Warburton, and the San Jose Metropolitan Adult Education Argonauts, accompanied by San Jose historian Clyde Arbuckle, discovered Mocodo County is a giant step back in history.

Still rural, its small towns are friendly, the air is fresh and the highways uncrowded. Clean rivers and lakes sparkle amid the high desert sagelands and green meadows, and the forested snow-topped Warner Mountains are sprinkled with snow.

Mocodo County is a part of California that so far has been overlooked by tourists. Its big-cattle country right out of the Marboro ad, little changed in the years since 1874 when it was carved out of the eastern part of Slaktyou County and the first settlers planted hay and turned their cattle and sheep out in the meadows and sage plateaus.

Steeped in history, Mocodo County boasts the site of the only major Indian war in California, the rugged lava country west of Alturas where in 1872-3 Capt. Jack and his band of less than 100 Mocodo Indians held off an army of 1,000 for six months.

Ice caves and Capt. Jack's Stronghold in the Lava Bed Monument were explored by the Californians and Argonauts, looking back over their shoulders for the ghosts of Capt. Jack and his band, the titles of such as Shacknasty Jim and Bogus Charlie, which still seem to haunt the lava caves and pathways.

Little remains of Fort Bidwell, the state's most northeastern community which was established during the military outpost in 1866 to protect the settlers in Surprise Valley from Indians. The so-called fort, which never was, wound up its days as a hospital and school for the Indians, still make up a large chunk of the little town's population.

Alturas, the county seat of Mocodo with a population of a little over 3,000, is laid out along the main street which is also Highway 395. Its park and museum would do credit to a much larger community.

The museum boasts a fine Indian exhibit, a big collection of guns and branding irons, as well as a photographic history of the area. At the entrance were large wrought iron fashioned of farm tools and household implements of a long ago time.

The Alturas museum was one of several visited on the trip, the Californians enjoying other outstanding collections of memorabilia in Redding and Susanville.

Bertha Berryessa narrates for the Californians in Surprise Valley.

About as far north and east as you can travel and still be in California is a beautiful green valley that stretches 65 miles along the Nevada border, separated from the rest of northern California by the towering, snow-capped Warner Mountains.

This is cattle country where a San Jose family has ranched for 30 years.

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County were lucky to have Bertha Berryessa along to narrate the trek through Surprise Valley last Memorial Day weekend.

She and her late husband, Ed Berryessa, member of the pioneer family for whom the Berryessa district of San Jose is named, gave up dairying in the Alviso area to establish their ranching business in Surprise Valley in 1943 when there were even less people there than now.

Biggest of the four little towns in the valley is Cedarville with 800 population, historic Fort Bidwell boasts only 200, Lake City, in the middle and the oldest of the towns, has only 125 when everybody is at home, and Eagleville at the southern end of the valley lists 70.

The Berryessa spread is at the south end in the Owl Creek district, so named for the likeness of an owl high on the mountain. Ed Berryessa, who died in 1967, is buried in the Eagleville Cemetery.

Mrs. Berryessa said the valley got its name when a wagon train of desert-weary pioneers pulled up on a rise near the border of what later became Nevada and were "surprised" to see the lakes with their green meadows after weeks of sand and sage.

Many of these pioneers stayed and homesteaded the government land in Surprise Valley. Among their first "improvements" were the rows of poplar planted for windbreaks and which remain today to mark a long-forgotten home site.

Mrs. Berryessa pointed out the blue canvas carpeting the edge of the alkali lakes and the fields of alfalfa which in the past decade have spread over the former natural grazing areas.

She said many fine horses and sheep are raised in Surprise Valley and that the deer herds are becoming a problem to ranchers. It is not unusual to see several hundred deer grazing in the alfalfa fields in the early morning.

At the Volunteer Fire Department's barbecue in Fort Bidwell, the Californians met Mrs. Berryessa's son, Edward, cattle rancher who married into one of Mocodo County's prominent pioneer families, the Flournoy, from over Likely way.
RAOUL WALLENBERG PARK

The Community Garden at San Jose's new Raul Wallenberg Park was dedicated in special Flag Day ceremonies held on Sunday, June 13th. Highlights of the program included an introduction by City Councilwoman Nancy Lantos, a flag raising, remarks by Patricia Lantos, daughter of U.S. Representative Tom Lantos, and presentations of a plaque to Mayor Janet Gray Hayes by the San Jose Committee for Raul Wallenberg Park.

Curtner District Park, corner of Curtner Avenue and Costello Avenue, was renamed Raul Wallenberg Park through the efforts of citizens groups who believe that the park would serve as an appropriate living monument to Wallenberg, a courageous Swedish diplomat who is credited with personally saving the lives of 100,000 Hungarian Jews during the Holocaust. Raoul Wallenberg was sent to Hungary by Sweden, at the request of the United States Refugee Board, in an effort to save this last remnant of Europe's Jewish population. Wallenberg issued many of them false Swedish passports, set up "safe houses" where thousands of homeless Jews were able to stay, and is credited with preventing a massacre in the walled Budapest ghetto.

Two of those who credit Wallenberg with saving their lives are Rep. Lantos and his wife, Annette. Lantos, in his first act as a freshman Congressman last year, introduced the legislation which made Wallenberg the first Honorary Citizen of the United States to be so named since Winston Churchill.

On January 17, 1945, Raoul Wallenberg was arrested by the Soviets who had invaded Hungary, and taken to a prison in Moscow. Then he disappeared. Although the Soviets say Wallenberg died in prison in 1947, sources claim to have seen him alive in Soviet prisons as recently as 1980. A worldwide movement has emerged demanding that Wallenberg be traced and that he be released from prison if he is still alive.

To enlist public support for the renaming of the park, the Committee on Wallenberg Park sponsored an essay contest in ten schools in the area around the site, supplying reference materials and asking students to consider why we should remember Raoul Wallenberg and why a park might be an appropriate memorial. The winners of the essay contest received $25.00 cash prizes donated by the Jewish Community Center, and their essays were on display first at City Hall and then at the San Jose Main Library.

The Community Garden at Raul Wallenberg Park, managed by volunteer Salvatore Papa, is one of twelve such Community Gardens in the City where citizens can rent garden plots for a nominal fee. If you would be interested in a plot to grow vegetables near your own home, call Steve Radosevich, Community Gardening Coordinator, at the San Jose Historical Museum, 279-0822 or 277-4017 for more information.

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

The San Jose Historical Museum has a large collection of historical photographs documenting the history of the Clara Valley

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For more information call or write:
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Collection open by appointment only

SARAH RICH WILSON COLLECTION

A significant addition to the Museum's clothing collection came in the form of a donation last summer upon the death of Sarah Rich Wilson. Many of you may remember Sarah Wilson from her years at San Jose State or through her various activities in the community, including AAUW.

Born in Ohio in 1901, Sarah Burwell Rich moved to San Jose as a child. She later was graduated from San Jose Normal School and earned a degree from Teacher's College, Columbia University. She married Norman T. Wilson, a mechanical engineer, who died in 1969. Sarah joined the faculty of San Jose State College in 1924 and served as a professor in the Physical Education Department until her retirement in 1969, 36 years later. Among the items she donated to the Museum were gym suits and bloomers worn by her students over the years.

Sarah's donation also included some of her own baby clothes and evening gowns, as well as clothing that had belonged to her mother, Bessie Burwell Rich, and her grandmother, Katie Morse Burwell. A lovely black silk and lace capelet, dating from about 1900, is currently on display as part of the Vintage Fashion Exhibit in the Changing Exhibit Room.

A fabulous collection of over 80 hats, many of which Sarah purchased in her travels abroad, are a major part of the total collection. These include interesting and unusual hats from the Black Forest of Germany and from Holland, which we are hopeful of displaying in a special exhibit at some future date.

The Museum is extremely grateful to have been the recipient of the Sarah Rich Wilson Clothing Collection in view of Sarah's long association with our community and the historic value of the items she collected.

Spinster

Evening News, Sept. 2, 1883

Among our industrial and frugal English forefathers it was a maxim that a young woman should never be married until she had spun herself a set of bed, table and bed linen. From this custom all unmarried women were termed spinsters, an appellation they still retain in all our law proceedings.

San Francisco Argonaut

(researched by Leooh Hauses)

MUSEUM ITEMS ON LOAN

Museum Association members may find it interesting that various items from the collection of the San Jose Historical Museum are currently on loan to other Museums in the State. A number of pieces, including a Victorian arm chair, a baby cradle, and a carved wooden panel from the Chinese Pagoda in New Almaden are currently on display at the new Forbes Mill Museum in Los Gatos.

Three of our bicycling trophies are a part of an exhibit entitled "Velocipedonama" presented by the California State Parks Department, Authorized Bicycle Shop of Vallejo, and the Wheelmen, Antique Bicycle Club at Old Sacramento. From May 6 — August 31, 1982 (closed Mondays).

Finally, an interesting arm chair is on loan to the Lowe Museum at U.C. Berkeley for their Panama-Pacific Exposition Exhibit opening in the Fall and we are currently negotiating with the Quilt Museum in Saratoga on a possible loan to them during the month of July.

Loans are one way the Museum can display items from its large collection while waiting for more building and display space.
IN THE COLLECTION

Nancy Valky in Records Control

Through funding by the Museum Association, the Museum was able to hire Nancy Valky part-time to fill the vital position of Records Control. Nancy will be responsible for the keeping of all the collection records, the accessioning of new donations, phases of collection care and storage and interacting with the specialized collection volunteers. She will also prepare objects for loan as well as handling some of the intricate loan details.

Nancy has volunteered at the Museum a number of years in the Docent Program as well as serving as first editor for the new and current version of the Association News. As editor, Nancy became familiar with all aspects of the Museum and became especially interested in the "behind the scenes" of the collection. By mixing her collection care skills and realizing the public's view of the Museum she, along with volunteers Joy Spence and Kristena DeLuz, will be developing a "housekeeping" program designed to maintain our exhibit buildings.

Helen Kuesel Conserves Diplomas

Those familiar with the Warburton Doctors Office exhibits might notice a slight change in the diplomas on display—they have been replaced with photo copies. Helen Kuesel, who has volunteered with the Museum's art collection for over four years became concerned over their condition and feared for their safety. Because of the diplomas' age, unique value, and the lack of proper display, she felt it was necessary to preserve these documents they should be put into proper conservation conditions (temperature-humidity control, no light). If the public were to see the documents at all, replicas had to be used. Helen insured their careful full-scale reproduction and then placed those reproductions in the original frames. The originals are properly conserved and stored for the long life they deserve.

Margaret Gylling Endows Costume Collection

Those who knew Margaret Gylling were saddened at her passing away on January 12th of this year. Her knowledge and enthusiasm were responsible for the development of, and additions to, the Museum's Costume-Textile Collection. A portion of this fine collection is currently on display in the Changing Exhibit Room due to her efforts. She couldn't have been thanked enough for her contributions, and her passing away revealed a continuous concern for the work she initiated on the Museum's collection. She bequeathed $7,500 for the care and maintenance of the collection to be administered by volunteer Joy Spence. Details of the gift haven't been finalized, but with careful management Margaret's gift could have an eternal impact.

Out of the Collection

Over the years, the Museum has grown and the staff has dwindled. Not enough of my time can be applied to the collection and I would like to thank the volunteers Helen Kuesel, Joy Spence, Kristena DeLuz and Esther Talbot who keep parts of the collection very active. I would also like to thank the Museum Association for their funding of the important position Nancy Valky is filling in Records Control.

Mignon Gibson Curator

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SUNNYVALE HERITAGE CLASSES

July is "Sunnyvale Heritage Month" and two interesting one-day classes will be offered by the Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation Department highlighting the history and heritage of the Sunnyvale area. They will be led by Kay Peterson, former Sunnyvale teacher, and board member of the Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association, and member of the San Jose Historical Museum Association. The classes will be limited to 40 persons and pre-registration is required. You must contact the Sunnyvale Community Center, 550 E. Remington Drive (738-5621) to pre-register.

Saturday, July 10, 9:30 is the Sunnyvale Heritage Tour. Films, slides, speakers, tours and gourmet picnic lunch are included. Cost is $11. On Saturday, July 31st, 9-2:30 is a Sunnyvale Landmarks Tour will be offered. This class will visit a number of Sunnyvale's heritage homes, ranches and orchards, industries, parks and the historic naval facility at Moffett Field. The fee for this class is $6.

In addition, the public is invited to attend the Heritage Ball on July 17 and the Great Murphy Barbecue and Antiques and Collectibles Show in Washington Park on July 18. For further information on these events, contact the Sunnyvale Community Center.
MUSEUM INFORMATION

Places To Visit
LOCAL HISTORICAL MUSEUMS

California History Center
DeAnza College
2150 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Cupertino, CA 95014
96-4712

Campbell Historical Museum
Lower Level of Library
70 N. Central Avenue
Campbell, CA 95008
379-2560

Forbes Mill Museum
75 Church Street
Les Gatos, CA 95050
395-7755

Gilroy Historical Museum
198 Fifth St., Corner of Church
Gilroy, CA 95020
847-2685

Les Gatos Museum
4 Tassajara Ave.
Les Gatos, CA 95050
354-2646

New Almaden Mercury Mining Museum
21770 Almaden Road
New Almaden, CA 95042
298-7869

Saratoga Historical Museum
20450 Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd. & Oak St.
Saratoga, CA 95070
867-4311

Sunnyvale Historical Museum
Martin Murphy Jr. Historical Park
N. Sunnyvale Ave. at California
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
730-0470

Open M - F
8:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:00
Free Admission
Docent Program-call for group reservations
Open T, Th, F, S
2:00 - 4:00 & by appointment
Free Admission
Open W - Sun.
12:00 - 5:00
Free Admission
Open M, W, Th, F
9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 5:00
Free Admission
Open Daily
Free Admission
Current Exhibit: June 8 - July 30
"John Babcock Hand Cass Paper"
Open M, Th, F - 1:00 - 4:00
Sat, Sun., Hol. - 10:00 - 5:00
Admission:
Child: $3, Adult 20+, Senior 1:75
Open W - Sun.
1:00 - 4:00
Docent Tours by appointment
Open M, T, Th, F, Sat - 12:00 - 3:30
Sun. - 1:00 - 4:00
Free Admission

MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

The Museum Association was founded in 1971 to financially and socially assist the San Jose Historical Museum. Through fundraising, volunteer activities, publications, annual events, dedications and special projects, the Museum Association adds active community interest and participation in this project. Your membership benefits include a local historical publication, gift shop discounts, invitations to special events and free admission to the Museum.

The Museum Association Board Members are annually elected by the Museum Association membership and serve for a period of one year.

MUSEUM BACKGROUND

To celebrate the centennial of the 1849 Gold Rush and California's first legislature, the City of San Jose, with the help of the State of California and Santa Clara County, erected a replica of California's first state house. The two-story, 40' x 60' replica provided space for artifacts to be shown. Public enthusiasm was so great that instead of the building being demolished after the celebrations, it was given a home at the Santa Clara fairgrounds where it was moved in 1950 under the supervision of City Historian, Clyde Arluckle. The public donated so much material that an annex was added in 1958; in another four years, the annex was filled.

In 1965 Theron Fox, with the help of the Historic Landmarks Commission, convinced the City of San Jose to set aside 16 acres at the south end of Kelly Park for the reconstruction of an historic town, to be known as the San Jose Historical Museum. In 1967, the purchase of a large collection was made which tripled the holdings of the Museum. Ernest Renzel, Jr. generously provided funding for this purpose by making an interest free loan to the City.

To house and exhibit this collection of over 300,000 artifacts, restored buildings and replicas were constructed in the south end of Kelly Park. Included to date are a Print Shop, the Dawshahay, Stable, Warburton's Doctors Office, the Bank of Italy, the Pacific Hotel with O'Brien's Ice Cream, and Candy Store, the Umberger House, the Electric Light Tower, the 1937 Associated Oil Company Gas Station, and the Museum's Water Tower Entrance. Immediate plans call for the completion of the Empire Firehouse, the Coyote Post Office, the Chische House, the Stevens Ranch Fruit Storage Barn, and the San Jose 1889 Chinese Temple.

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Name: ____________________________ (3-digit) Phone: ____________ (5-digit)

Mail Address: ______________________ (Box) Phone: ______________________ (Home)

Individual Authorizing Contribution

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Amount Paid In

Balance

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Patron Circle ($2,000)
Mission Circle ($1,000)
Public Circle ($525)
Tower Circle ($200)
Cenotaph Circle ($100)
Half-Century Circle ($50)
Quarter-Century Circle ($25)

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Expiration Date

(Additional digits from your charge card)

Master Charge customers: in addition to your account number, please list the four digits above your name.

*To receive your premium by mail, add $2.50 for handling charges.

Make check payable to:
San Jose Historical Museum Association, 635 Phelan Ave., San Jose, CA 95112