



Vol. 2, No. 2

Published by the History Museums of San Jose

April 1998

HISTORY MUSEUM BECOMES PRIVATE APRIL 1, 1998

Members will have much to celebrate at the April 30 Annual Meeting. At press time on March 16, an agreement has been reached for the History Museums of San Jose (HMSJ), to assume full management responsibilities of the History Museum in Kelley Park, effective April first. HMSJ already manages the Peralta-Fallon Historic Site.

Under the agreement, HMSJ will operate the museums at both locations for 20 years, with a 10-year extension upon mutual approval. The City has agreed to provide both direct and indirect annual operating subsidies of \$934,000, plus an additional \$174,000 first-year only investment in revenue production through special events. HMSJ will set fees and retain all income.

According to Board Chair Joe Head, "The City has agreed to a major up-front investment in HMSJ and the future of history museums in San Jose." Mr. Head especially thanked Vice Mayor Margie Fernandes for her leadership in reaching the agreement. "Without Margie's initiative, we might still be at the negotiating table," Mr. Head said.

The agreement consummates nearly three years of work to transfer San Jose History Museum management from the City to a private, nonprofit organization. Under the agreement, the City will continue to own current collections and facilities. HMSJ will be responsible for collections care and management, facilities maintenance, educational programs, marketing, and daily operations.

"It is important to note," said HMSJ President David Crosson, "that the City has accepted its responsibilities for meeting the deferred maintenance needs of both collections and facilities." Responsibilities for facilities maintenance will not transfer to HMSJ until the City has funded and corrected the deferred maintenance needs.

Vice Mayor Fernandes also sponsored a \$50,000 mid-year appropriation to provide a thorough report on the remedial collections conservation needs. The City has agreed to join HMSJ in funding the report's conservation recommendations.

In addition to Crosson and Head, the HMSJ negotiating team was comprised of Senior Vice President John Lusardi, attorney N. David Thomas, and Directors Bonnie Bamburg, Steven Cox, and Patricia Borba McDonald. The City was represented by Deputy City Manager Kay Winer; Deputy Director of Conventions, Arts, & Entertainment Julie Mark; and Senior Deputy City Attorney Danielle Kenealey.

"These have been rigorous but honorable negotiations," Crosson said. "I am happy that they have concluded in such a positive way, so that we now may move ahead to expand our programs in service of the people of San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley."

Photo Collage
Honoring
Clyde Arbuckle
Page 4-5

1998 ANNUAL MEETING FOR MEMBERS

The History Museums of San Jose is pleased to announce the 1998 Annual Meeting for members and guests of the nonprofit, which will be held on Thursday, April 30, 1998. The dinner meeting will be held at the Capital Club in Fairmont Plaza, and begins with a No Host Bar at 6:30 P.M. followed by dinner at 7:00 P.M. Cost is \$40 per person or \$75 per couple. Reservations should be received by April 20, 1998, and may be mailed or delivered to the History Museums. A reservation form is included on page 7 of this issue of *The News*.

The History Museums is very excited to welcome the keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting—Dr. Spencer Crew, Director of the National Museum of American History for the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Crew received his B.A. at Brown University and his Ph.D. at Rutgers University, and began his professional career at the University of Maryland Baltimore County as an assistant professor, teaching African American and American history. In 1981, he began his tenure with the National Museum of American History, where he worked as a historian, curator, chair of the Department of Social and Cultural History, and deputy director.

While at the Smithsonian, Dr. Crew curated the exhibitions "Field to Factory: Afro-American Migration, 1915-1940" and "Go Forth and Serve: Black Land Grant Colleges Entering Their Second Century," as well as several other exhibitions. Dr. Crew has written extensively on issues within the museum field as well as produced publications in the area of urban history and migration. He also has made numerous presentations before professional and general interest audiences on related topics.

Make your plans now to attend the 1998 Annual Meeting. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Dr. Spencer Crew, from the Smithsonian Institution.



photo courtesy of Rick Vargas, Smithsonian Institution

Dr. Spencer Crew, Director of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution, will speak on "Museums Look to the Future" at the 1998 Annual Meeting on April 30, 1998.

HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE
1650 SENTER ROAD
SAN JOSE, CA 95112-2599

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 2271
SAN JOSE, CA

President's Report

For most sane people Bylaws are right below laundry as an activity or a subject of discussion. On the other hand, I have received many questions concerning the proposed Bylaws changes. Let me try to respond.

We just adopted a new set of Bylaws in 1996. Why do we need to replace them now?

The 1996 Bylaws created an institution in transition from a membership support group to a museum operator. The recommended changes will complete this transition to a corporate structure similar to all other major cultural organizations in San Jose. This full transition is needed to recruit board leadership and funds that will meet our new needs as a fully operational museum in today's competitive cultural climate.

The proposed Bylaws say there will be no members. Huh?

The Bylaws address membership as a corporate structure issue. HMSJ no longer will function as a membership organization in the corporate sense that the members will not be the equivalent of "shareholders." "Members" will have no direct authority over governance issues; all governing authority and responsibility will rest solely with the Board of Directors. This is identical to every other cultural institution in the Valley and most across the country.

So, am I no longer a member?

You are still a valued member, and you will continue to receive membership benefits. We will be involving you actively in the next few months to review every aspect of membership—costs, benefits, categories, new markets, perceptions, and realities. You may expect changes in the next calendar year, but our commitment to serving you will not diminish, and your participation in a membership program remains critical to our success as an organization.

The Directors elect themselves?

Yes. This is standard among nonprofit corporations, and is universal among San Jose cultural nonprofits. It is a corporate structure that is required to attract corporate and civic leaders to the board. A maximum three-term limit insures board turn over.

Will volunteers be represented on the Board?

Yes. The volunteers will elect someone to serve as a full, voting member of the Board. Currently, volunteers have no official representation on the Board.

If members don't elect the Board, how will the community provide input into the organization?

Community input (and community service) will be guaranteed by two factors: (1) the commitment of board leadership and (2) the very real public pressures on any cultural institution in today's society. I can say without equivocation that your elected leadership is committed totally to expanding both public programs to, and board representation from, the broad spectrum of communities in this Valley. We will be involving both our members and those communities in creating strategies for public service over the next several months. Secondly, elected and appointed public officials, as well as community and neighborhood leaders, insist that we involve and serve the broadest possible constituencies, and they will monitor us closely to ensure that we do so.

Can Directors make money off of Board membership?

The current Bylaws allow up to 49% of Directors to have an "interest" in the organization. This means that they may have contracts with HMSJ or may otherwise gain financially from organizational activities. The proposed Bylaws *totally prohibit* any director from financial gain through any activities with HMSJ or its affiliates.

What, no committees?

The current Bylaws specify nine separate committees, many of which are not assigned, and the majority of which are inactive. The proposed Bylaws simply allow

the Board to create committees specifically or within policy to accomplish specific organizational goals. Current policies require both a Collections Committee and a Finance Committee. Other committees, particularly in the area of fund-raising, will be required soon.

When will the new Bylaws be effective?

With approval of a majority of the members voting by ballot, the proposed Bylaws will be declared adopted at the April 30 Annual Meeting and will be effective immediately. Until then, all activities, including the amendment process and the election of Directors, will be in accord with the existing Bylaws.

Conclusion.

Complete sets of the proposed Bylaws are available at the Kelley Park Museum and the Peralta-Fallon Site. You also may request that Barbara Johnson send you a copy. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call me to talk directly.

Board Candidates

The following candidates have been nominated for their first full three year terms on the Board of Directors. Please mark and return your ballot, enclosed within this issue of *The News*.

Stephen Pahl is a partner in the law firm of Pahl and Gosselin, specializing in employment law, commercial litigation, and real estate law. He is Vice Chair of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and a member of the Board of Visitors of the Santa Clara University Law School. Mr. Pahl served on previous transition boards from 1994-96 and currently is completing a one-year term on the HMSJ Board.

Arthur K. Lund is nominated for his first term on the Board. Mr. Lund is a graduate of San Jose State University and has been an attorney in San Jose for 37 years. He was the founding chair of San Jose National Bank and currently is a partner in the law firm of Rosenblum Parish & Isaacs.

Patricia Borba McDonald is completing her first one-year term as Director and Secretary to the Board. She also is chair of the board development committee. Ms. McDonald is a principal in the interior design firm of McDonald and Moore, Ltd. She was on the Board of the Historical Museum Association from 1987-91 and served as President in 1990-1991.

Steven M. Cox has served as chair-elect for the past year and has served on the Museum Association Board and subsequent transition boards since 1992. He was Board President in 1996 and has chaired the Development Council and the Sites and Facilities committee. Mr. Cox is a principal in the firm of HPC Architecture.

Ann Atkinson has been an active community leader in the Santa Clara Valley for many years. She has served on the boards of the San Jose Repertory Theatre, American Musical Theatre, Children's Discovery Museum, and Art Docents of Los Gatos, among others. In addition, as a volunteer, she has directed numerous successful fund-raising events, including the San Jose Repertory Theatre Auction, the Children's Discovery Museum Gala Opening, and the Tech Museum Corporate Event. Ms. Atkinson served on the History Museum Stabilization Board from 1995-96.

Bylaw Revision

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 25, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to replace the current Bylaws. In accord with existing Bylaws, the significant changes are summarized below. You may review a complete copy of the proposed Bylaws at the following locations during regular business hours: Peralta-Fallon Complex (cashier and site manager); History Museum (front desk, secretary, volunteer lounge). Call Barbara Johnson, 408/287-2290, to request that a copy be mailed to you.

MEMBERSHIP

Proposed "Membership" is a category of association and financial support accompanied by specific benefits. "Members" have no authority over governance. *Current* "Members" are "shareholders" with limited authority over governance.

DIRECTORS

Proposed 16-45 directors are self-elected to a maximum of three three-year terms. All governing authority is invested in the Board. Volunteers are represented with a full voting Board member. No director may have any financial interest in the organization.

Current 16-30 directors are elected by the membership to a maximum of two three-year terms. Members approve changes in Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. Volunteers are not represented officially on Board. Up to 49% of the directors may have a financial interest in the organization.

COMMITTEES

Proposed No specified committees. Board establishes and defines all committees.

Current Nine standing and other committees are specified.

OFFICERS

Proposed Chair, President/CEO, Secretary, and Treasurer, CFO required. Vice Chair(s), Vice President(s), Assistant Secretary(s), and Assistant Treasurer(s) allowed.

Current Chair, Chair-elect, President/CEO, Secretary, CFO.

AMENDMENTS

Proposed Bylaws amended by Board.

Current Bylaws amended by membership.

Annual Meeting reservation form, and ballot for the Bylaw revisions and elections of Board members are on page 7.

Inside The News

History Museum Becomes Private	1
Annual Meeting	1
President's Report	2
Bylaw Revisions	2
Board of Directors	2
Welcome New Staff	3
Historical Highlights	3
Photo Tribute to Clyde Arbuckle	4
Grant Received	6
Annual Meeting Reservation	7
Bylaw Ballot	7
Community News	7
Annual Corporate Members	8
Endowment Fund Donation	8
Museum Month	8
New Members	8

Welcome New Staff

The History Museums of San Jose is pleased to announce the appointments of two new staff: Volunteer Coordinator and Shops Manager.

Marjorie Wilser has been employed as the Volunteer Coordinator. Ms. Wilser brings to the position many years as volunteer with the Printers Guild and a recent M.A. in history from San Jose State University. In addition to being a printer, Ms. Wilser has served as Regent of the Santa Clara Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and was founding co-president of the South Bay Chapter of the International Costumers Guild.

As Volunteer Coordinator, Ms. Wilser is responsible for managing all docent and volunteer activities, including recruitment, training, evaluation, scheduling, and recognition. She is the official staff liaison with the Volunteer Council and works with employees and management to utilize most efficiently and effectively the many skills and contributions that our volunteers have to offer.

Pamela Schmidt is the new Shops Manager for the Museums' retail operations. Pam is an experienced retail sales manager with almost 15 years experience in retail sales, merchandising and sales staff training. Most recently, Pam has been the floor manager for the Spartan Bookstore at San Jose State University. At the bookstore, Pam was responsible for managing ten retail departments, customer service as well as scheduling and training 100-150 sales staff.

Prior to the Spartan Bookstore, Pam was the Regional Manager, Buyer and Store Manager for seven years for the Christmas Guild/In Season sixteen-store outlet in Northern California. With her college degree in Art History and professional retail experience, Pam is an exciting addition to our Museum staff.

Please join the History Museums of San Jose in welcoming Marjorie and Pam to their new positions, new challenges, and new opportunities.

History Museums of San Jose

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 2 • APRIL 1998



The History Museums of San Jose will involve diverse audiences in exploring the varieties of human experience that contribute to the continuing history of San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley.

Editor: Carol Provenzano

President/CEO: David Crosson

Board of Directors: Harriett Arnold, Bonnie Bamburg, Roy Bigge, Keith Cakebread, Steven M. Cox, John Davis, Alicelee Ewan, Joe Head, Dean Helms, Robert Kumamoto, Patrick Magee, Patricia Borba McDonald, Jerome Munday, Jim O Neal, Stephen Pahl, Javier Salazar

Staff: Michael Azevedo*, Fred Bennett*, Keith Cakebread, David Crosson, Kay Edgar, Denise Esparza*, Sally Estrada*, Wanda Foss*, Jim Grogan, Norita Guardino*, Jan Hall, Chris Herrera, Darrell Jensen*, Barbara Johnson, Reddy Koduru, Jeanne Kondo*, Michael Kotowski*, John Lusardi, Leslie Masunaga*, Susan Miller, Jose Nelmida*, Julie Peterson, Carol Provenzano, Christy Riggins, Pam Schmidt, Al Spivak*, Wells Twombly, Nancy Valby*, Marjorie Wilser
* Denotes employee of the City of San Jose

History Museums of San Jose
1650 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112-2599
(408) 287-2290 FAX (408) 277-3890
Website: www.serve.com/sj/history

Historical Highlights of Santa Clara Valley

Clyde Arbuckle

by Jack Douglas

Clyde Arbuckle and Santa Clara Valley history are almost synonymous in the minds of generations of local citizens who have wanted to know more about this place where they live. Unlike distinguished professors in lofty universities, who only recently recognized the subject of public history, Clyde came up from the people of the Valley to become one of the State's first public historians.

The sudden death of our friend Clyde on January 10th was a shock—he had come through his 94th birthday in good health and could still carry on a lengthy discourse on any local history topic you put before him—surely, we felt, he would be here for his 100th birthday. But alas, it was not to be.

A bustle is a deceitful seatful.

—Clyde Arbuckle

Clyde came from sturdy pioneer stock who arrived in California two years before gold was discovered. As he often said: *California got the cream of early manhood. The weakling died on the way and the cowards never started.* He was here to be an acute witness to many events of the first half of the century, from the 1906 earthquake to the end of World War II.

He was born on April 11, 1903, to the middle-aged William and Molly Arbuckle, both of whom had had previous marriages. In addition to his one full brother, Clyde had fourteen half brothers and sisters, one of whom, Fatty Arbuckle, became a Hollywood legend. Clyde grew up in Santa Clara under humble circumstances. The death of his father required that he leave high school to support his mother. One of his earliest jobs was a paper route which necessitated his pedaling his bicycle twenty miles a day through sparsely settled south San Jose. This was fortuitous as it helped condition him for his great love, bicycle racing. He became a star of the Garden City Wheelmen, and in 1921 won the state title in three straight heats.

He shot so much bull that half the cows in the country became widows.

—Clyde Arbuckle

Tom Morgan, a bike enthusiast and Railway Express manager, offered the underage Clyde a temporary job as a driver for his company, which, at the time, carried express items by horse and wagon. By the time he was of age and a permanent employee, Clyde became the proud driver of one of the company's new Model T trucks.

Perhaps this was not the most auspicious beginning for a historian-to-be, but Clyde turned his long career as a delivery man to great advantage. Over the years he became familiar with every company in the Valley and with most of the residential addresses. Years later he could recall which family had resided at any given address. Probably no one in town could say that they were acquainted with more people than could Clyde.

He spent all of his slow times and off-duty hours in voracious reading and in searching for answers to the many questions that nagged at his inquisitive brain. During the early years of his courtship with his wife-to-be Helen, a San Jose State student, she suggested that he take a college course in directed readings from English professor and Dean of Women, Helen Dimmick. The course

did wonders in helping him focus on and understand more of what he read. Later he would attend evening classes and the San Francisco Art Institute.

Mouth tasted like the bottom of a bird cage.

—Clyde Arbuckle

Clyde's career with Railway Express encompassed almost thirty years. Occasionally there were bad roads, breakdowns and heavy lifting, but perhaps the most poignant time was early on during the great flu epidemic of 1918 when he had to transport the many metal caskets.

Family Life in the 1930s

Helen Fisher was doing her high school homework at a friend's home when Clyde first noticed her. Helen says that, at the time, she wasn't aware of him. What subject, one wonders, could possibly have been more interesting than Clyde? Their first date was a hike in the hills above New Almaden. Both found the outdoors enjoyable, and during the Depression, hiking was one of the few inexpensive activities available to them.

They were married on August 7, 1932, and left on their honeymoon on the Del Monte Express train. Clyde was fortunate to have a steady job during this time so they started a family. Jim was born in 1935, followed a year later by Susan.

Get behind me Satan and push!

—Clyde Arbuckle

A desire to use some of his growing knowledge, and also supplement the family income resulted in Clyde's branching out into other activities such as giving talks and writing articles. His works appeared in such publications as *The Standard Bulletin*, *Westways* and *Pony Express Magazine*. A member of the Masonic Order, he became active in their History Committee. Leon Whitsell, prominent Peninsula businessman and Grand Master of the State Organization asked Clyde to work with a team of researchers to produce a five-volume work on the history of Masonry in California. Years later Clyde could tap his phenomenal memory to call up the details of all the lodges throughout the State. In his contacts with other fraternal groups, Clyde found an active audience for his talks on local history, and this would eventually lead to a change of career.

Comment regarding coffee: Not strong enough to float a monkey wrench.

—Clyde Arbuckle

City Historian

The postwar years brought about many changes to San Jose. Ernie Renzel led a reform slate of candidates who, after they were elected, reorganized many government functions and added others such as the Historic Landmarks Commission. As the Commission's first President, Theron Fox advised the City Council to create the position of City Historian with Clyde as its first incumbent. Given the City's previous lack of concern for its history, it now seems miraculous that we had the first historical commission in the State. Some of this interest may be attributed to the approaching 1949 centennial of the Gold Rush.



Clyde the author

Special Tribute

Clyde
"Our Below

We hope you enjoy this tribute to Clyde Arbuckle, San Jose Historical Museum. The collage of photographs and recognizing the significant contributions of Clyde A

In remembering Clyde at the January 14, 1998, funeral link to the past, a past that shaped what we are today. We're forever indebted to Clyde for his many contributions. A close friend said, "I think his greatest contribution was to the people. People ask me sometimes if I'm the historian. I say, 'No, I'm just a historian of people.'"

Clyde leaves a legacy of the past, an appreciation of history through photographs, his classes, trips, tours and public speaking. The San Jose Historical Museum exists today because of the documents that document the past.



Clyde, the first museum director, curator, docent and exhibit designer, inside the State House Museum in 1950.



Clyde demonstrates a Victrola to students.

Clyde will be m

January 24, 1967

Dear Mr. Arbuckle,

Here are some letters and pictures of the valley the boys and girls made for you. They really enjoyed hearing you today. One child said you were a walking history book.

Thank you for coming to our school.

Sincerely,

Mrs. S. Bronson

Third-grade

Clyde Arbuckle School

Dear Mr. Arbuckle,
I hope you are fine.
What I liked best of all is the school ball. About the Indian baskets they make the baskets out of tule grass. Did you know that. I want to thank you for the time that you spent with us. Every thing was so good. You even have the shoes that they wear.
I ever saw anything like it before.
Your Sincerely,
Kelly

Clyde's charm with students shows through in this small collection of letters received in 1966 and 1967.

March 1, 1967

Dear Mr. Arbuckle,

Thank you for showing us around and telling us about the antiques that are in the museum. I was thrilled about all the antiques that were on the bottom floor. But when I saw the top floor I was so thrilled that I almost went crazy! The part I liked was the case that had the cane guns and the four barrel shotgun.

That sure was very nice of you to use a half an hour of your time to tell us more about the museum. If you get in trouble with the City Hall just say it was my fault.
Your friend,
Keith

February 28, 1967

Dear Mr. Arbuckle,

Thank you for letting our class go through the San Jose Museum. Our class has learned a lot about the things we saw. What made you think of having a Museum? The thing that I liked best is the whole bone chair and the dutch oven. We might go to the Kelly Park Museum someday.
Yours Sincerely,
Deborah

May 3, 1966

Dear Mr. Arbuckle,

I am a student from Miss Douglas's room at Valley View School, we came to visit you last week. I wanted to say how much I enjoyed the interesting history you told us. I enjoyed it when you told us about Scallenberge's history and all the other famous people's history. I enjoyed it a lot when you were a little boy and the horse shoe nail rings you had your friend make. The oil painting you showed us was one of the most beautiful things I ever saw. Well, I can't sit here and name all the wonderful things I saw, but I had a very nice trip and thank you very much.

yours truly,
Linda

Clyde leading
County town
bus tours he

To Clyde Arbuckle

Clyde Arbuckle
1903-1998
"San Jose's City Historian"

San Jose's City Historian and founding father of the San Jose Historical Museum. A collection of memorabilia from the museum's collection is our way of honoring Clyde Arbuckle over the years.

San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer said, "Clyde was our hero, a city prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st Century through his contributions to San Jose and this Valley." Leonard McKay, a former City Historian, said, "The fact that he instilled the love of history in all of us is what I remember. No, I'm one of Clyde's students."

Through his history through his written words, recorded stories, and speaking. We have all been his students in one way or another. It is the persistence of Clyde Arbuckle to collect, preserve and



Clyde receives one of many awards in his long service to the community.

...issued but not forgotten.



Clyde Arbuckle, San Jose's City Historian, 1970.



Clyde as we remember him.

Clyde examines one of the Museum's panoramic murals.



California Pioneers of Santa Clara County—one of many groups he collected.

Historical Highlights of Santa Clara Valley

Grant Received

Clyde Arbuckle

continued from page 3

San Jose's major centennial project was the building of a replica of the first State House. Clyde, who was at first only "Honorary Historian," soon found himself in a paid-contract position. Theron Fox worked hard to make the position an official City job but succeeded only in getting Clyde pay raises as the position became more complex. During these lean years Helen helped make ends meet by working in the County Recorder's office. The State House exhibit was a success under Clyde's curatorship, and when the Gold Rush celebration was over, the Commission determined that the building should be moved to the Fairgrounds and made a permanent museum.

Tougher than a boiled owl.
—Clyde Arbuckle

Clyde's interest in history beyond the County was stimulated when he began leading groups of Adult Education students on car caravan journeys to important historical sites and trails. These early Vagabonds, as they were called, graduated into a group called the Argonauts. They graduated also into busses and went as far east as St. Louis where they tracked immigrant trails across the Mid-west. It was on one of these extended treks that Leonard McKay and Clyde became good friends.

In 1949 Dr. David MacKaye, Director of Adult Education, having realized that Clyde was a natural lecturer, hired him to teach classes on California history. The extra money was welcome, but Clyde would probably have done it for nothing, for like a fervid preacher, he had a great message to bring. He taught five classes per week to groups of middle-aged folks who found him much better entertainment than anything on television. Like a true prophet he assembled his disciples—Leonard McKay, Pat Loomis, Theron and Frances Fox, Tom McEnery, Mary Lou Lyon—the list could be endless. With his classes, tours, administration of the museum (where he answered countless questions from students, genealogists and history buffs), and writing of articles, Clyde became the only man to consult regarding California history—he was available day or night.

Steak so rare that only a coroner could declare it officially dead.
—Clyde Arbuckle

Clyde often referred to his job with the Railway Express as the only time he had made an honest living, humorously implying that taking money for doing something he loved was somehow dishonest.

With the establishment of the historical complex at Kelley Park, Clyde retired from the management of the State House Museum and entered upon what would become his most permanent legacy: *Clyde Arbuckle's History of San Jose*. This was a project that was suggested by Theron Fox and given eager support from City Manager Dutch Hamann. Meant to be finished in two years, it stretched to over fifteen before his friend and editor Leonard McKay convinced Clyde that the story had to come to a close. With the publication of his history the author could move more easily into retirement, but it was an active retirement that included circulating about in the community, appearing at various meetings and functions, and always being available to answer questions right up until his last days.

Clyde the Man

Some wag might say that if we hadn't had a historian like Clyde Arbuckle we would have had to invent him, but it would have been impossible to invent Clyde—he was totally unique. A common man with wit and humanity, he seemed, as he grew older, to become the embodiment of the past. Striding into a meeting in his khaki ranger's uniform and campaign hat, he was to many an example of living history. There was that air of old-fashioned courtliness. Scandal was, for him, not an appropriate subject for history. He was a gentleman of the old school but a gentleman with such an infallible memory and repertoire of one liners that he could have moved from the lecture hall to the stage, and while there he might also have entertained us with a musical number—he played a mean banjo.

Clyde was not a political person, and he would not have been comfortable on today's Historic Landmarks Commission or on any other similar advocacy group. As a City employee and a City booster he wouldn't have enjoyed the politics-laden land-use issues. He was highly respected among the State's leading historical groups and was a founding member of the Conference of California Historical Societies, serving as their President in 1959. A frequent visitor to the U.C. Bancroft Library, he contributed a number of valuable documents to their collection.

More money than can fill a trainload of garbage cans.
—Clyde Arbuckle

San Joseans have not been ungrateful to this remarkable man. Clyde received many deserved honors, including having a public school named for him in 1962. He also received an honorary Master's degree from San Jose State (the highest that they were able to give at the time), and the Argonauts always turned out for his major birthday celebrations. Unlike the instant and transient "heroes" of today, Clyde will be long remembered for who he was and what he did for the Valley. A call has been issued for suggestions on how to memorialize him—perhaps we could name the Library's California Room after him, or plant a redwood grove at Kelley Park, or create a Clyde Arbuckle Trail.

These are all good ideas, but this writer would also like to see a life-size statue of him posed as if speaking to a transfixed listener. This is the familiar way we all remember him—sharing his limitless knowledge in a seamless flow. One hopes that St. Peter didn't ask Clyde a history question. If he did there may be a long line of souls waiting to get into Heaven.

*Great wine will wash away your sorrow;
If the thought returns,
drink again tomorrow*
—Clyde Arbuckle

The History Museums of San Jose is proud to announce receipt of \$50,000 in grant funds from the Historical Heritage Commission of Santa Clara County. The County funds will be used to continue restoration of the historic Markham House, located on the museum grounds. This grant will allow the museum to augment past County grant funds and other restricted monies to complete restoration of the house and develop an interpretive exhibit to develop a literary residence at the museum.

Edwin Charles Markham is one of Santa Clara County's prominent historical literary figures. The American poet, Edwin Markham, born in Oregon and raised in California, was famous for his masterwork poem, "The Man with the Hoe." The rehabilitation of the Markham House has been designed to recognize Mr. Markham and his works and highlight the literary heritage of the Santa Clara Valley to which he greatly contributed.

Thank you to the Historical Heritage Commission for granting the History Museums of San Jose these funds to continue restoration of the Markham House.

Architects for historical Residential and Commercial properties, plus:

Historic Technology Investigation
Historic Structure Reports
Restoration Planning
Building Forensics
ADA Compliance
(408) 947-1900

MIEGER, MINWEASER & ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTURE / CONSTRUCTION CONSULTING SERVICES

1154 Park Avenue, San Jose, California 95126 • Fax (408) 947-1984

W **William M West** MBA EA CPA
Wisdom to build Wealth

- Minimize Your Taxes
- Computerized Accounting, including Quickbooks®
- Great Service - Great Coffee (Reg. Trademark Intuit Inc)
- Initial Consultation - No Charge
- Since 1972

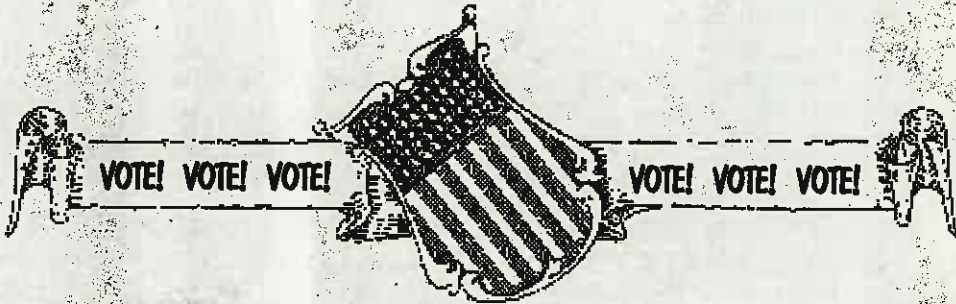
408 554-0400 1905 Park Ave. Suite 100
San Jose, CA 95126

PHONE 5. J. 1246 ANY TIME ANY PLACE

GUS HUNTER
PACKARD CARS FOR HIRE

TOURING CARS AMBULANCE
LIMOUSINES TAXICABS FUNERAL CARS

FIRST AND ST. JAMES STS. SAN JOSE, CAL.



Community News

1998 Santa Clara County Historical Essay Contest

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County is sponsoring a historical essay contest with six cash prizes worth a total of \$1,000. The contest is open to all students and the general public, and the subject of the essay must be any person, place or event concerning Santa Clara County from its beginning to the recent past.

Each essay must be typewritten in English double spaced with at least a one-inch margin and must include a short introduction or preface, table of contents, bibliography and sources and/or persons consulted. First prize winners from the last 3 years are not eligible to compete.

The deadline to submit an essay is April 24, 1998.

Specific rules and information concerning the essay may be obtained by calling Helen MacCarthy at (408) 578-4485.

California Preservation Foundation Conference

The California Preservation Foundation (CPF) and Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association (BAHA) will co-host the 1998 California Preservation Foundation Conference in the Arts and Crafts-inspired City of Berkeley from May 7-10. The theme will highlight "New Perspectives on Preservation."

Key program themes will focus on Historic Preservation Programs, Processes, Regulations, Incentives and Mitigation; Documentation and Preservation of Cultural Landscapes; Building Bridges and Broadening Constituencies; Bringing The Past Into the 21st Century: Integrating New Technology and Preservation; and Architectural History.

For more information about the conference, call Jeff Eichenfield at CPF at (510) 763-0972 or visit the conference website at www.jspub.com/~jsp/preserve/cpf.html.

SJSU College of Education's Upcoming Events

Walk for Education, May 16, 1998

The Walk for Education will help fund and support scholarships, endowed scholarships, and the One-Room Schoolhouse project, and various alumni activities. If you are interested in participating or donating to the San Jose State University Walk for Education, please call the College of Education Development Office.

One-Room Schoolhouse Dedication, Sept. 26, 1998

The One-Room Schoolhouse at the Historical Museum in Kelley Park will have its grand opening and SJSU College of Education will dedicate the One-Room Schoolhouse to the City of San Jose and its citizens. The Dedication will be a day-long event with music, food, entertainment and ribbon cutting. For further information call the College of Education Development Office at San Jose State University (408) 924-3642. The One-Room Schoolhouse will honor teachers and provide a classroom setting as it was in the 1890s.



The History Museums of San Jose, Inc.

Cordially Invites You to Attend the

1998 Annual Meeting and Dinner

Thursday, April 30, 1998

7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Capital Club, Fairmont Plaza

\$40 per person/\$75 couple

160 People/Maximum

No Host Bar

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Spencer R. Crew

Director, National Museum of American History

Smithsonian Institution

Parking Available at the Fairmont Garage

Validated by the Capital Club

History Museums of San Jose Ballot

The Bylaws of the History Museums of San Jose state that the corporation will hold its annual membership meeting in April to elect Directors and approve any changes to the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation or other matters.

In accord with current Bylaws, Section 8.(b), the corporation is soliciting written ballots for a vote on the amended Bylaws and the proposed slate of candidates. Ballot response from fifty members in good standing meets the quorum requirement. Ballots must be returned by April 24, 1998.

A summary of the proposed changes to the corporation Bylaws is in this News, as is information on the slate of candidates nominated for 1998-2001 terms on the Board of Directors.

Thank you for taking the time to vote. Copies of the Bylaws are available at the Museum and the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Site, or will be mailed to you upon request.

Name(s) _____

Phone # _____

Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

- I would like _____ vegetarian meal(s).
- I have the following dietary restrictions: _____
- Hearing impaired. I need an interpreter.

Make checks payable to History Museums of San Jose

Credit Cards: VISA MasterCard

Number _____

Expiration date _____

Return this form with payment by April 20, 1998

As a member in good standing of HMSJ, I _____
cast my vote: (Current Member's Name)

I approve _____ do not approve _____ the amended Bylaws.

I approve _____ do not approve _____ the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors.

Write-in candidate: _____

Return ballot by mail by April 24, 1998

You do not have to attend the Annual Meeting to vote on Bylaws and Board candidates.

Annual Meeting, History Museums of San Jose
1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112-2599



Members' News

Endowment Fund Donations

The Endowment Fund of the History Museums of San Jose gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following donations:

In Memoriam: Gus Hunter
Clyde Arbuckle
Agnes Solari
Edwin Kennedy
Spencer Hall, Sr.

Gifts to the History Museums of San Jose to honor someone on a special occasion, or as a memorial, may be sent to the History Museums of San Jose Endowment Fund, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112-2599. A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the person being honored or the family of the deceased.

1998 Premium Now Available!

M. F. Kotowski, renowned railroad artist, has created the Mini-History Series,

Horsepower At Agnew and The Alum Rock Park Trolley.

These prints are now available for distribution. You may pick up your prints at the Museum or request to have them mailed by sending \$4 for shipping and handling to:

Membership
History Museums of San Jose
1650 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112-2599



Welcome
to the newest members of the
History Museums of San Jose.

Dorothy Tenaza & Family
Thomas Pagenhart
William Robertson &
Ieva Zvargulis
Charles & Flinda Prevost
John Lusardi
Leslie Kehoe

April is Museum Month

The History Museums of San Jose will again celebrate Museum Month with the city's premier art, history, science, and children's museums. We join together to acknowledge the contributions of the museums to the fabric of life in San Jose with special discounts and programming during the month of April.

Current members will enjoy membership privileges at all participating museums during April, including free admission and membership discounts at each of the museum stores. All "new" members will be offered a full month of privileges, recognizing new memberships from April 1 to April 30, 1998.

The participating museum sites include the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles, the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose, the Egyptian Museum & Planetarium, the Tech Museum of Innovation, the San Jose Museum of Art, the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Site and the San Jose Historical Museum.

Thank you to all of the 1998 Museum Month sponsors: Target, Mervyn's, Santa Clara Valley Transit Authority, San Jose Mercury News and San Jose Convention & Visitors Bureau.

For more current information on Museum Month in San Jose, call the city's FYI line at (408) 295-2265, press 2, 5, 1.

History Museums of San Jose

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____ Renewal
 New Member

Mailing Address _____ Bus. Phone _____
_____ Zip+4 _____ Res. Phone _____

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|--|
| \$1,000 | Mission Circle | Gift of: _____ |
| \$500 | Pueblo Circle | Please indicate method of payment <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Cash |
| \$250 | Tower Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Expiration Date _____ |
| \$100 | Century Circle | Credit Card # _____ |
| \$50 | Contributor's Circle | Signature _____ |
| \$45 | Family/Grandparents | |
| \$35 | Individual | |
| \$35 | Senior Citizens (1 or 2) | |

Please check one of the following:

- I will: include \$4.00 for shipping and handling of my premium
 pick up my premium at the Historical Museum NOT be obtaining my premium

*Help us if you can! Memberships of \$50 or more enable us to cover more than the costs of our membership program.

If you are employed by a matching gift company please obtain the appropriate form from your employer.

If unsure, give us the name of your employer and we will check for you: _____

Your gift may then be doubled—even tripled—at no expense to you.

Make checks payable to: HMSJ, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose 95112-2599

Patron

BankAmerica Foundation Corporate Com
HPC Architecture
Pahl & Gosselin, Attorneys at Law

Benefactor

Air Systems, Inc
Barry Swenson Builder
Coast Engraving Co Inc
Hollander Smith Construction Inc
Ruth and Going Inc
San Jose Mercury News

Associate

Berger, Lewis Accountancy Corporation
Berliner Cohen
Blossom Floral Shop
Carbonic Service, Inc.
Classic Car Wash
Frank-Lin Distillers Products LTD
Garden City Construction Inc
Hayes Conference Center
HMH Inc
KBAY/KKSJ Radio
O'Brien Travel Service Inc
Oak Hill Funeral Home & Memorial Park
Ritchie Commercial
San Jose National Bank
Shilling and Kenyon, Inc
Southern Lumber Company
Sun Garden Packing Co
The Hotel DeAnza
Toeniskoetter & Breeding Inc
Valley Heating & Cooling Co
Valley View Packing Co Inc
Victorian Pres Assoc of SC Valley
Winchester Ranch

Sustaining

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

Annual Corporate Members