Membership Picnic in Museum Park

Come one! Come all! To the Picnic in the Park - Friday, September 26, beginning at 11:30 a.m. - cost 85 per person for box lunch and wine.

This is the opportunity for you to bring your friends to the Museum. All buildings will be open and staffed by docents. Don DeMers will give a talk about the Museum and the gift shop will be open for your shopping.

Our box lunches will be prepared by O'Brien's and will include a coupon for an ice cream cone from O'Brien's.

To end the perfect picnic, if you like, you will be able to take a scenic tour of Kelley Park on the South Pacific Coast Railroad, as our guest.

Please RSVP by check or phone (257-2290) by Friday, September 19th. We hope to see you here!

Rare Historic Lithographs Shown

The Museum is pleased to announce that the "Downtown - A Picture of Change" exhibition, opening on August 15, 1980 at the Museum's Pacific Hotel, will include a number of historically important lithographs from the Museum's art collection. Some of the subjects of the prints to be included in the exhibition are the California State Normal School (now San Jose State University), St. Joseph's Church and the Byland Building.

Lithography is, in simple terms, printmaking by the use of grease crayon on stone. Lithographers reproduce an artist's drawing in such a way that inks applied to the crayon impressions remain while the areas on the stone not covered by the crayon repel the ink. Therefore, when the printing papers are pressed onto the stone, the original design is reproduced. Both black and colored inks have been used historically.

Some collections of lithographic prints contain those which are in a state of deterioration due to neglect and to ignorance of proper paper preservation techniques. Because of this, existing lithographs are rare and the Museum is fortunate to be able to exhibit these examples of this art form.

The artists and artisans who, together, produced lithographs depicting scenes of their times should be recognized for their ingenuity and contribution to our historical knowledge. We know that many prints were made, particularly from 1845 to 1880, but there are few authoritative records of exact numbers. Typical subjects of lithographs of this period were landscapes, social and business activities, disasters and personalities.

In addition to the large original prints, small scale versions of the scenes were reproduced on a type of stationery known as letter sheets, which were the beginnings of what we know today as postcards. These letter sheets were often sent to friends and relatives "back home" by miners working in the goldfields as a means of describing the scenes and activities of the West.

A brief catalog of lithographs included in the upcoming exhibit, "Downtown - A Picture of Change":

California State Normal School, San Jose
artist, Henry L. Steinegger (1831-1917), San Francisco
lithographer, Britton & Rey, San Francisco
Joseph Britton (1825-1901)
Jacques Joseph Rey (1825-c. 1899)
publisher, E. B. Goodrich, San Jose
"McLaughlin & Ryland's Bank"
Corner of Santa Clara and First Streets, San Jose, Ca. Erected 1872.
architect, Victor Hoffman, San Francisco
lithographer, George Holbrook Baker (1837-1906)
408 California Street, San Francisco.
dimensions, 16¼" x 21¼".

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, San Jose, Ca.
architect, Theodore Lenzen, San Jose
lithographer, Britton & Rey, San Francisco
publisher, George H. Hare, book dealer
The George H. Hare, Books & Stationery store is depicted in the lithograph print of "McLaughlin & Ryland's Bank"
dimensions, 12" x 17¼"

EXHIBIT OPENS ON DOWNTOWN

The San Jose Historical Museum will be featuring "Downtown - A Picture of Change" as a special exhibit from August 15, 1980 through December, 1980.

"Downtown - A Picture of Change" depicts the evolution of San Jose's downtown from the Spanish pueblo days through the era of a busy urban center and to its recent decline. The City's current plans to revitalize the downtown area are also discussed.

Heavily illustrated with historical photographs, maps, lithographs and prints, this exhibit presents an interesting past, present, and possible future view of downtown San Jose.
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As your new President, it is my pleasure to greet you at the beginning of your Association's eleventh year. I say your association because without your interest and participation there would be no association. The new board has had its first meeting, and I am happy to report that progress has been made. Our constant goal is to support and improve the Museum Park.

We are indeed grateful to the Stella B. Cross charitable trust for their generous donations to the Museum and for the production of a film by Charley Maggini. Please read elsewhere in this issue for an explanation of the project.

A much-needed change has occurred at O'Brien's. It is now under new management and will be open longer hours on a regular basis. The shop will also offer a more varied menu.

We are very excited to be able to offer SAN JOSE: CALIFORNIA'S FIRST CITY with our 1981 membership. This is a particularly handsome and interesting book. Be sure to read all about it in this issue. Our 1981 membership drive will begin in November.

A box luncheon is being planned for you and your guests on September 26 by the Special Events Chairman, Earline Shields. She is working very hard to make this a lovely "Picnic in the Park." I hope to see a big turnout of members for this fun and informative luncheon.

We of the Board are always interested in your suggestions and comments. It's always a pleasure to have the Association members use and enjoy the park. We look forward to seeing you there often this year.

Marty Lion
San Jose Historical Museum

MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ROLL 'EM

The Museum is in the full throes of a movie production, thanks to a major grant from the Stella Cross Trust Fund. A 20-minute 16mm color movie on the history of ranching and rodeos as seen through the life of Charles Maggini, 1927 World Roping Champion, is being produced by the Association. Maggini, who died 50 years ago, has seen him working for the Miller-Lux cattle empire and as foreman on the Cote Ranch, will be the focus of the documentary. Dr. Bert Johnson, a Los Gatos physician and rancher, is acting as project advisor for the film.

In addition to the film grant, the Stella Cross Trust made a substantial donation for general operating support of the Association.

UNWANTED VISITORS

With increased visitation and publicity, the Museum is receiving some visitors that it doesn’t want—three burglars in the last three months. Because of the Museum’s sophisticated alarm system and good police response, all three night visitors are enjoying the hospitality of the county jail while awaiting trial.

HELP FIGHT ARTHRITIS

On Saturday, September 13, the Arthritis Foundation will hold its biannual fundraiser at the Historical Museum. The evening will feature live music and catering by Meyberg’s. If you would like to attend, call the Museum at 287-2920 for more information.

ANTIQUE CARS

Plans are now underway to construct a display structure for two of the Museum’s antique cars. The structure will act as "garage" for the two cars and allow them to be brought into the Museum. Fundraising will be held at the Museum. The Museum Association Board will consider the funding of the project at its August meeting.

TEMPLE FUND GROWS

An announcement was recently made by the Chinese-American Women’s Club of Santa Clara County that proceeds from last year’s Bon Festival will be donated to the Gift Trust Fund established to build the replica of the 1888 Chinese Temple. A check for $2,500 will be presented to the City Council in September by representatives of the club.

Don DeMers

Museum Association Funds Rack Card Printing and Distribution

The San Jose Historical Museum Association has generously voted funds to reprint the Museum’s rack cards. What is a rack card? Rack card: a familiar card-like advertisements measuring @ 4" x 9" that appear in racks at hotels, restaurants, airports and other tourist spots. They are an excellent form of advertising and can serve as a memento of a visit. The demand for the Museum’s rack cards is high and the Museum appreciates the backing of the Museum Association in this publicity.

From the Editor:

NEW LOOK FOR ASSOCIATION NEWS

In an effort to improve service to our membership, we have substantially changed the format of the Association News. With this enlarged newspaper style, it is possible to present a wider range of articles. Hopefully, this will result in the membership having a more comprehensive knowledge of the Museum, its programs and services.

Future plans include soliciting advertising to help defray the costs of publication. Perhaps an advice column on caring for the family heirlooms can be started. Send your questions to the paper at the Museum.

Nancy Valby, Editor

SHOPPING for GIFTS—GO NO FARTHER

Make one stop at our museum Gift Shop—there you will find something for everyone.

Old fashioned tops, dolls, games, books, and tee shirts for the children. Coffee mugs and books for the grandparent. Stationery and old fashioned wrapping paper for Mom.

If you would like to become a member of the Museum Association or have a friend that would, please call the Museum secretary (287-2390) and she will mail you the form. Memberships make nice gifts as you receive a book with each membership.

Docent Update

The Docent Program is undertaking the coming school year with a host of activities and projects designed to expand its educational services. Two major projects bear highlighting: the publication of a Guide and a filmstrip.

Now in its final stages of completion, the Museum Guide is meant to be used by teachers and others in preparation for their visit to the Museum. Compiled by Nancy Leonard and the Museum staff, the Guide contains general information about our Museum, an overview of our Valley's history centering on transportation developments, daily life, leisure time activities, and ways of earning a living, and finally, contains suggestions for classroom activities. We hope the Guide will help groups and for a more rewarding tour experience at the Museum.

In conjunction with the Museum Guide, Kathy Musick is coordinating her new docents is chairing a committee which is currently working on a filmstrip to be made available to schools. Although still in its early stages of preparation, the theme of the filmstrip concentrates on daily life and the changes occurring in the Santa Clara Valley over the past 150 years.

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 image of the Museum in the community and the acceptance of the responsibility of the Museum.

Association Board of Directors

Marty Lion, President
Mary Stamel, Vice-President
Eric Bracher, Treasurer
Kristina DeLuna, Secretary
Cathy Craft, Patty Insen, Sandy Livingston, Martha Tracy, Earline Shields, Nancy Valley, Carol Carlson, Penny Lowes, Marge Richard, Paul E. Jacobs

Nancy Valley, Editor

CONTRIBUTORS: Grace Brewer, Laura Callowway, Carol Carlson, Don DeMers, Thomas Edman, Mignon Chinen, Claudia Jurmain, Helen Kossel, Earline Shields, Ann Whelan

Special thanks to our Type Executive, Yo Ogawa.
Museum Benefits as FMC Moves

As the Public Relations Department at FMC began packing up their operations on Julian Street in preparation for moving with the Food Machinery Division to their new complex in Madera, they wondered what to do with nearly 15,000 photo negatives and prints of their products which had accumulated over the past 70 years. They were really too bulky to take along but it seemed a shame to throw them away. Fortunately Jack Groton, Manager of Advertising and Public Relations at FMC, mentioned the problem to his wife, Martha, a docent at the Historical Museum, and she suggested that the Museum might be interested in them.

The collection has now found a permanent home in the Pacific Hotel - and has tripled the number of prints available from the photograph collection! Each negative and its corresponding print are numbered so the collection is useable just as it is. They all came with their own metal storage cabinets, too, so the only preservative action necessary will be to exchange the old brown paper envelopes for acid-free ones.

Many thanks to FMC Corporation for this important acquisition.

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"CALLING ALL RADIO BUFFS"

WANTED: Pre-1950 radio equipment or related paraphernalia. Items will be displayed in the Museum’s exhibit on Charles Herrold (the founder of modern radio broadcasting) and housed in the Coyote Post Office near the Museum entrance. Now under preparation, the exhibit is slated to open near the end of the year. Please contact Claudia Jurmain, Curator (287-2290) if you or your family, relative, friends, or even "enemies" know of any potential radio related exhibit items.

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EASY JOB PLEASANT SURROUNDINGS

The Gift Shop needs you if you would like to volunteer one (or more) days a week to be the sales person in the Gift Shop. Easy job, pleasant surroundings - choose your own days and hours between 10 and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Weekends also available, 12 - 4 p.m. Please contact Carol Carlson at 395-0782 or 287-2290 as the positions will be open in September.

Clothing Exhibit in the Planning Stages or Many Mannequins Needed

The SJHM is planning an exhibit of clothing for its changing exhibit room for mid-1981. This exhibit will give the Museum a chance to show off its costume collection and give visitors a chance to see how clothing has changed throughout the years. More on the details of the exhibit will follow in future issues, but if any reader has mannequins or dress forms they would like to donate, please call the Museum at 287-2290.

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Red Tape

Back in 1893 the mountain of paper required to record all the goings-on in San Jose was already so large that the construction of an entire building, the Hall of Records, was necessary to house it all. Not long after the City Clerk moved into his new office there, a photogapher made his own record of it on film.

The building, located on North First Street next to the Courthouse, has long since been demolished but some of the drawers and handwritten ledgers of various records can still be found in the Museum archives. The whereabouts of the huge ceramic spittoon is not known.

Printers Wanted

The Museum has a wonderful 1884 false-front building on its grounds that serves as an early printshop. Ready for action, the printshop is furnished with such printing equipment as a Liberty style hand press, a Gordon Challenge roller platen press, and a Kelton engraving press. Other printing equipment and supplies are stored with Museum’s collection.

The Museum would like printers to operate the press on weekends so that our biggest crowds of visitors get a chance to see the presses rolling. The Museum would like either one individual to run it as a business or perhaps form a “Printers Guild” of interested printers to shape up the printing office and run it as a co-op printing business.

If you are interested, call the Museum at 287-2290.

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SPECIAL HAND-MADE TALENTS

We have had at the Gift Shop it would be greatly appreciated. Now that summer is almost over, Christmas is just around the corner and handmade items sell very well!!

Please contact the museum at 287-2290 and we would be glad to pick them up if they can't be delivered.
Outstanding Membership Premium for 1981

The San Jose Historical Museum Association has picked "San Jose: California's First City" as the 1981 membership premium. Produced by Continental Heritage Press and due hot off the press by November 15, this updated history of San Jose will offer an interesting past, present, and maybe future history of San Jose. Continental Heritage Press was smart in choosing co-authors for this big project. Professor Emeritus of the University of Santa Clara, Edwin Beilharz, is penning the first portion of the publication which will cover periods up to the period of American occupation. The Director of the San Jose Historical Museum, Don Demers, was picked to author the following periods up to modern times.

Heavily illustrated, this book will indeed be a premium to remember. It will retail for $25.00 from local bookstores but will be included with a Museum Association $25.00 membership, with all the usual membership benefits.

This publication and a Museum Association membership make great gifts. Do not neglect yourself or friends in this 1981 membership year.

"STAFF OF LIFE"

Volunteers certainly are the "staff of life" at the San Jose Historical Museum and they fit into numerous categories. Although some volunteers work individually with the Curators on a very selected basis in the collection areas, the great majority are part of either the Docent Program or the Building Attendant Volunteer Program, administered by Grace Brewer. These two programs, while separate in purpose, in reality work very closely with each other and occasional overlap.

The Docent Program, at this point in its operation, focuses mainly on prearranged tours during the weekday and expanding educational services offered to schools. The Volunteer Attendant Program, on the other hand, serves mainly the general public by staffing the Hotel lobby desk and buildings during the weekday and weekend so that "walk-in" visitors may also see the exhibit buildings. It also provides afternoon tours with little advance notice.

Since the required training is quite different between the two programs, we try to limit the actual giving of tours (as opposed to building attending and answering questions and offering basic information) to docents. However, a few selected Building Volunteers have proven so outstanding and dedicated, and are often needed to "fill the gaps," they, too, occasionally offer general public tours when called upon.

SANTO FE TRAIL Revisited
By Laura Calloway

A charter bus met 38 Argonauts (Adult Ed. History Group) in Kansas City, MO, where they began their trek of retracing the Santa Fe Trail.

Old Franklin, MO, the designated starting point, now contains only a few buildings. However, our next stop at Arrow Rock Historical Park, the second to claim the origin of the trail, has some old buildings which are being restored to their original condition. It was at Arrow Rock that William Becknell, "Father of the Santa Fe Trail," spent the night of September 1, 1821 after crossing the Missouri on the Santa Fe. Here, too, was Dr. John Sappion who rode the quinine pills as a remedy for malaria.

A marker near Gardner, Kansas marks the separation of the Oregon and the Santa Fe Trails. Near Baldwin, we walked the ruts and visited the Santa Fe Well where the wagons loaded water for the trip to Council Grove. Council Grove is attempting to save the trunk of the oak under which the government received permission from the Osage Indians to cross their lands. The crowded museum of Lyons contained a fine Santa Fe Trail exhibit. We lunched at Pawnee Rock, the highest point on the Trail east of New Mexico. The Santa Fe Trail Center of Larned has constructed a sod house on the grounds. Fort Larned is being restored. We marched the area to the commands of a young man in Civil War dress.

Cutting the Kansasinto Oklahoma, we were guided to Autograph Rock where names of early traders are etched.

Another watering place, Springer, NM uses the Old Court House as a museum of three floors. The ruins of Fort Union are humorously explained by automatic speakers. The adobe walls of the mission church of Pecos were landmarks on the Trail. Ruts can be seen in the vicinity. In the Plaza of Santa Fe stands a marker which says, "The End of the Santa Fe Trail."

THANK YOU - KEN MAYER

Ken Mayer has been a very dedicated volunteer for years at our museum, and especially in the Gift Shop this past year. You would find Ken in the Gift Shop 11 to 3 p.m. Monday thru Friday, until he had to go in the hospital for surgery. He had hoped to be back this summer but he has experienced complications and his doctor says, NO! We have so appreciated the hours of work Ken has donated to the museum and we miss him very much.
Chinese Culture Foundation of S.F. to Borrow SJHM Collection Items

The Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco, with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is planning an exhibit to open in October titled “The Chinese of America 1820-1980.” Located at 730 Kearney Street (415 986-1222), the Foundation’s exhibit will describe the coming of Chinese to America and the absorbing story of their life and work here; the miners of the Gold Rush of 1849, the men who helped build the trans-continental railways which played so big a part in the growth of the Western states, the opening of the farmlands in the San Joaquin and Sacramento River Valleys, in Southern California and Hawaii, the later endeavors of Chinese-Americans in the various Chinatowns and in many fields of American life where they have made notable contributions in culture, science and technology.

After its opening in San Francisco, the pictorial portion of this exhibit will be shown in Washington, D.C., Boston, New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Seattle, Los Angeles, Honolulu and other cities.

The San Jose Historical Museum will be loaning early Chinese medicine scales, opium pipe and lamp, ornate fork and spoon set, and crucibles used in mining analysis.

If you happen to be in San Francisco Chinatown, stop in and see the exhibit.

O’Brien’s Under New Management

The Museum is excited to announce that Jana and Dick Reid have taken over the management of our O’Brien’s Ice Cream and Candy Store. Initial plans call for it to be open every day through the summer months and during the winter months on Saturdays and Sundays, and by request for large tours.

Dick has over 20 years experience in the amusement park ride and concession business and runs the Pirate Ship concession in Happy Hollow Park. He is the owner/builder of the South Pacific Coast Railroad ride that links Happy Hollow with the Historical Museum via scenic Kelley Park.

Dick is interested in operating O’Brien’s in a “correct fashion” and welcomes ideas and suggestions. He has plans to make his menu available for catering for events at the Museum. He’d also like people to note that after sampling various ice creams, he’s decided to use Crystal Creamery ice cream because “it’s the best!”

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MEET MARTHA TRACY

Cheerful, friendly and efficient are the hallmarks of Association Board member Martha Tracy. As Docent Chairman, she oversees the operations of the Docent Program and acts as liaison between the Association and the volunteers.

After moving to this area four years ago, Martha’s involvement with the Museum was a natural consequence of her interest in history. She has a BA in history and then did graduate work at William and Mary College in historic Williamsburg, VA. As a high school teacher, her subjects were history and geography.

In addition to her involvement at the Museum, Martha is currently working on establishing a Parent Resource Center for the County. As a busy mother of three, ages 9, 7 and 4, she considers it only natural to volunteer her time to help at school, with Girl Scouts, and at church. She is also a member of the American Association of University Women.

For fun, travel is the first choice. Martha has visited all but three of the 50 states. She enjoys bicycling for exercise and reading in a rare spare moment.

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Rudy J. Gjurovich, “King of the Coin Collectors,” is Doing Fine

Last August, Rudy J. Gjurovich suffered a severe stroke. Always a familiar character at Museum Association functions in one of his many extravagant suits and hats, Rudy, King of the Coin Collectors, was left very ill. The Museum is happy to know that he has recovered and is doing fine.

Rudy generously donated to the Museum his complete “coin suit” that is seen in this earlier picture of Rudy. The coin suit itself is a grand tuxedo; the coins and medals attached to it are amazing. Needless to say, this suit is carefully locked away and will be displayed with the utmost care and security. Many thanks for this amazing, unique donation. The citizens of San Jose and visitors to the Museum will enjoy it for years to come.

First Street looking north from Post Street, 1980. Notice the “face lift” on the Bank of the West (formerly First National Bank) building. Photo by Ann M. Whitsett. San Jose Historical Museum Collection.

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Thomas Edison Said....

“Genius is ninety-nine percent perspiration and one percent inspiration.”

“We sometimes learn a lot from our failures if we have put into the effort the best thought and work we are capable of.”

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The San Jose Historical Museum offers a unique view of the past—a visit to the heart of San Jose, much as it existed near the close of the 19th century. On its acres in Kelley Park surrounding a quiet pond, the original, excellently reproduced homes, businesses, and other historical landmarks present the city's rich past in a delightful and informative manner.

The Embarger House authentically reflects the typical Victorian home of the time. The Dashaway Stables house a working blacksmith shop, antique carriages and buggies. The Bank of Italy, forerunner of the Bank of America, offers a view of turn-of-the-century banking. In the elegant Pacific Hotel, comprehensively exhibits trace the history of the area from the time of the first Spanish occupation.

Whether touring these attractions, stopping by the Print Shop, the Bandstand or the Doctor's Office, enjoying a treat at colorful O'Brien's Ice Cream and Candy Store, or simply passing beneath the imposing 15 foot Electric Light Tower, the visitor to the San Jose Historical Museum will experience a sense of the past that is truly memorable.

The Museum Association was founded in 1971 to financially and socially assist the San Jose Historical Museum. Through fundraising, volunteer activities, publications, annual events, dedication 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.

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 Banta Clark County Fairgrounds where it was moved in 1950 under the supervision of City Historian, Clyde Arbuckle. The public donated so much material that an annex was added in 1956; in another four years, the Annex was filled.

In 1968 Thoren 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 Kelley 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 Fennell, 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 Kelley Park. Included to date are a Print Shop, the Dashaway Stables, Warburton's Doctor's Office, the Bank of Italy, the Pacific Hotel, with O'Brien's Ice Cream and Candy Store, the Embarger House, the Electric Light Tower, the 1927 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 Chichi House, the Stevens Ranch Fruit Storage Barn, and the San Jose 1888 Chinese Temple.