Happy Anniversary!

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project – one of the first cultural groups to join History Park. It is also the 10th Anniversary of the Market Street Chinatown Archaeology Project, which was founded in 2002 as a research collaboration between History San José (HSJ), the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project (CHCP) and the Stanford Archaeology Center.

Today, visitors to downtown San José’s Fairmont Hotel probably do not realize that they are standing on one of the most significant historic sites in the United States. However, it is our collective goal to change that!

It was originally home to San José’s first Chinese community – the Market Street Chinatown (1861-1887), but during a period of heightened anti-Chinese and anti-immigrant violence, an arson fire destroyed the site on May 4, 1887. Thus, the site was transformed from a bustling Chinatown to a “time capsule.” Stories of the residents, and the most important assemblage of Overseas Chinese artifacts in North America, remained buried for the next 100 years.

Excavation began in 1985 during the construction of the Fairmont Hotel resulting in 485 boxes of artifacts and soil samples, which were then stored in a warehouse for another 14 years.

In 2002, HSJ, CHCP and Stanford’s Associate Professor of Anthropology Dr. Barbara Voss met to engage in a three-month-only research project. Ten years later, the Market Street Chinatown Archaeology Project is still going strong and continues to yield invaluable information for countless universities, professors and students across the country.

Locally this research has been incorporated into the Chinese American Historical Museum at History Park; into a curriculum developed by CHCP on Chinese American history distributed to Santa Clara County elementary schools; into the History San José School Programs and into hands-on Public Archeology Days where children become Junior Archeologists! The next critical phase of the Project is to develop Digital Education Programs accessed on the web and by PDA’s at History Park to share our local history with an even broader audience.

To learn more about local history:

- visit the Chinese American Historical Museum in History Park
- bring your children to Public Archeology Days
- go to marketstreet.stanford.edu
- read Chinatown, San José, USA and Chinese in San José and the Santa Clara Valley, available in HSJ Museum’s store
- ask how to donate to the Market Street Chinatown Archaeology Project

As we end 2012, I want to sincerely thank everyone who has contributed to another successful year at History San José. It was hard to choose, but we selected a few key projects from the past year to share with you in this letter. Please be sure and visit the HSJ website to learn everything that we, along with our many partners, are doing. To continue this work and kick off the New Year, please give a year-end tax-deductable donation! Any amount is greatly appreciated and will be put to good use. Thank you again; we look forward to seeing you at one of our programs in 2013!

Alida J. Bray,
President & CEO
Thank You CLIR

Our thanks go out to the Council on Library and Information Resources for the Cataloging Hidden Collections grant History San José received of $86,400 to process five manuscript collections from the Perham Collection of Early Electronics.

Over the past year, our Project Archivist and three paid student interns sorted, re-housed, and cataloged some 166 linear feet of personal papers, photographs, business records and ephemera that were effectively "hidden" from the public. Now, these records are available online to researchers through PastPerfect Online (historysanjose.pastperfect-online.com) and the Online Archive of California. The Collection has also been re-housed with archival materials to ensure that future generations will be able to access this important history documenting the evolution of the electronics industry in Silicon Valley.

To read more about the Perham Collection go to: historysanjose.org/wp/research-collection/collections/the-perham-collection/the-people/douglas-perham/

Coming to America, The Immigration Experience

“We may have all come on different ships, but we’re all in the same boat now.”

— Martin Luther King

Daily, History San José explores why San José and the Santa Clara Valley have attracted such a diversity of people; and how they have contributed to their new environment inspiring one of the most innovative places on earth. The HSJ School Program, Coming to America, The Immigration Experience, lets children experience firsthand the cultures and lifestyles of immigrant groups that helped shape Santa Clara Valley.

School children, grades 4, 5, and 6, arrive at History Park’s “Port of Entry” and meet the “Immigration Inspector” where they are given a passport. They begin their journey in the One-Room School House where they experience how immigrant children felt when they first entered American schools. They continue on to visit the Portuguese Historical Museum, the Chinese Historical Museum, the Museum of the Boat People and the Republic of Vietnam, the Bank of Italy and the Steven's Ranch Fruit Barn. At each location students have their passport stamped – a souvenir of their adventure. Developed only two years ago, this program has become so popular there is a waiting list to attend.

To learn more details about the program please visit: historysanjose.org/wp/school-programs/.

What’s This?

To find out about the Tuskegee Airmen and these artifacts see: www.historysanjose.org/blog/2012/08/tuskegee-airman-samuel-l-washington/.
New Exhibit! Shaped by Water: Past, Present, Future

On exhibit February 10, 2013 - September 8, 2013

Created by the Los Altos History Museum, this multi-faceted exhibit *Shaped by Water: Past, Present & Future* inspires a deep connection to this precious and essential resource. The story of water in this region is told from a historical perspective, beginning with the indigenous Ohlone People through modern day. Shaped by Water underscores how each period in our local history has been characterized by a changing relationship between humans and water. Through photographs, artistic interpretations, stories, and interactive activities for kids of all ages, visitors will leave with a greater understanding of the role water plays in our lives and about future challenges. The exhibit ends with concrete ideas to reduce consumption, reuse and recycle water.

Come and learn about the unique connection to our precious and finite water – past, present and future while enjoying the Members and VIP Opening Reception on February 10th!

Shaped by Water School Program

2013 Semester Only!

This children's program, for grades 4 – 6, explores the role of water through five phases of history: Indigenous Ohlone People, era of Spanish, Mexican and westward expansion of the US, the Valley of Hearts Delight, Silicon Valley today and the Silicon Valley of the future.

To register go to: historysanjose.org/wp/school-programs/ for more information

Please Make A Year-End Donation

Yes! I want to make history!

☐ $100 helps to maintain and repair historic structures
☐ $50 assists our Collections team with archival supplies
☐ $25 provides supplies for our Education Programs
☐ Other Amount: __________

Clip and mail to History San José, 1650 Senter Road, San José, CA  95112, or donate online at: www.historysanjose.org

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
Phone ____________________________________________
Email _____________________________________________

Choose your payment method:
☐ Check enclosed  ☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard

Credit card # __________________ Exp. Date ____________

HSJ Calendar

December 15, 2012
Event: Kwanzaa Festival
8 am – 5 pm, History Park

January 6, 2013
Exhibit Closing Party for Members & VIPs: *Through My Father’s Eyes: The Filipino American Photographs of Ricardo Ocroto Alvarado*, 2 pm, History Park

January 13, 2013
Talk: Update on Radar Station at Mt. Umunhum, 2 pm, History Park

January 27, 2013
Hand-on: Public Archaeology Day, Noon – 4 pm, Peralta Adobe Historic Site

February 10, 2013
Exhibit: Opening Party for Members & VIPs *Shaped by Water*, 2 pm, History Park

February 24, 2013
Hand-on: Public Archaeology Day, Noon – 4 pm, Peralta Adobe Historic Site

For details on these events, please visit: www.historysanjose.org
Volunteers – We Couldn’t Do It Without You!

History San José is privileged to have more than 300 dedicated volunteers, each performing essential jobs at all three of our sites – from maintaining the grounds; to helping school children; to cataloging historic artifacts.

At the 2012 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, the following Volunteers were honored for their years of service:

- **30 Years**: Jeanne Driedger
- **20 Years**: Madeleine Oliver, Bob Schneider
- **25 Years**: Anne Louise Heigho, Judy Kuechler, Jim Maurer, Marjorie Wilser
- **15 Years**: Alicia Dayton, Jean Sutherland, Steve Raby, David Tribby
- **10 Years**: LuAnn Behringer, Sara Holtzapple
- **5 Years**: Tim Peddy, Louise Thomas
- **1 Year**: Beth Atlas, Bill Bratt, Jan Chargin, Richard Flynn, Leonard Moe, Brian O’Halloran

**Special Honorees:**
- **Retail**: Sandra Jozefowicz;
- **Education**: Ron Anderson & the late Gene Martin;
- **Facilities**: Tony Ornellas;
- **Collections**: Perham Volunteers, Bill Durfey, Bjorn Fosberg, Stu Hansen, Will Jensby, Rocky Nilan & Ralph Simpson

Volunteer Joan Helms – 26 years!