HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE ANNUAL MEETING

The new bylaws of the History Museums of San Jose state that the corporation will hold its annual meeting each year in April to elect a Board of Directors, and to make changes to the bylaws or Articles of Incorporation or other matters of the Board. Operating under the newly approved bylaws, the History Museums of San Jose will hold its annual meeting on April 23, 1997 to elect the 1997 Board of Directors. There are no changes to the bylaws or the Articles proposed at this time.

History Museums of San Jose members in good standing are invited to attend the annual meeting and vote on the proposed slate of directors. The meeting will be held in the meeting room of the Pacific Hotel and will begin at 7:00 PM.

The following slate of candidates has been nominated to serve on the 1997 History Museum of San Jose Board of Directors. Pursuant to the by-laws, their qualifications are also listed.

Harriett Arnold * Educator, University of the Pacific

Harriett is presently serving as Assistant Professor and Director of the Multiple And Single Subject Credential Programs at the University of the Pacific. She published *Antioch: A Place of Christians*, a poignant view of the founders of the church and chronicles of nineteenth century African-American trailblazers in the City of San Jose. Harriett is involved in many community groups including Rotary Club, NAACP and AADW.

Bonnie Bamburg * Director of Planning and Public Relations, Tantum U.S.A.

Bonnie organized the Museum's docent program and served as one of the first Presidents of the San Jose Historical Museum Association, has volunteered in various capacities for 15 years and has been a member of the Museum's non-profit since 1971. Bonnie served on the San Jose Historic Landmarks Commission from 1974-1980.

Roy Ridge Management Solutions, Inc.

Roy served on the Museum's nonprofit Board for one year. Roy also serves on the Salvation Army Board of Directors, the YMCA annual fundraising campaign and is actively involved in the Avenues to Mental Health organization.

W. Keith Cakebread * Retired, Deputy Superintendent of Alum Rock Elementary School District

Keith has been a docent at the Museum since June 1991. His professional experience has been as a business administrator, educator and negotiator. He also served as a staff leader and

Celebrate the First Day of Spring on a Riverboat! The Petaluma Queen

WHEN: Thursday, March 20, 1997

WHO: History Museums of San Jose Members and their Guests

HOW: Royal Coach has from the Japanese Friendship Garden parking lot.

TIME: 8:00 AM DEPARTURE 4:00 PM RETURN

COST: $50.00 for History Museums Members $55.00 for Non-members (includes lunch)

Hopes you can join us for a cruise down the Petaluma River aboard the Petaluma Queen riverboat. We will enjoy a gourmet lunch as the beautiful springtime wine country glides by the riverboat’s windows. There will be time to roam around the boat and enjoy the music du jour after we have eaten. Let's recapitulate the glamour and romance of the golden days of riverboat travel aboard an authentic paddlewheeler.

Before we arrive in Petaluma, we will stop in San Rafael for a docent-led tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright designed Marin Civic Center. One of the master architect’s last projects, the building is sure to be a landmark when it is eligible.

To make your reservation, send in your check, payable to History Museums of San Jose and include the reservation form below, as well as a stamped self-addressed return envelope. Mail these to the attention of Laurie Lynch at the History Museums of San Jose, 1650 Seuter Road, San Jose, CA 95112-2599. Refunds will be made only when there is a waiting list.

Petaluma Riverboat - Thursday, March 20, 1997

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________

# of reservations: ____________________________

☐ Stuffed Chicken Breast ☐ Salmon ☐ Butternut Squash Ravioli ☐ Sirloin Tip-tip

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HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE 1500 SOUTH SAN JOSE, CA 95112-2599

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

VILLYS I PECK
PETE SARATOSA AVE
SARATOSA CA 95670-5430

NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID SANJOANCA
As I write this column, I am looking out the window at a beautiful spring day (it is only February, so I know it’s not spring yet, but you need a calendar to confirm this). It doesn’t seem possible that only short weeks ago the Santa Clara Valley was being inundated with torrential rains and now the sun is shining and the rivers are overflowing their banks. It is amazing how quickly Mother Nature moves us through her moods.

Many of you read in your daily newspaper that the Coyote Creek overflowed and flooded many ranches in the San Jose Friendship Garden and the lower acreage of the Historical Museum. The only Museum item of significance on the floodplain was the Santa Clara Heritage Commission for funds to complete the restoration of the Markham House. If we are a successful applicant, the house should be restored by this time next year. The only item left to be done on the Markham House property that will be to develop and fund the exhibit. It is our hope to have the exhibit installed in time for the 100th anniversary in 1998 of the publication of Edwin Markham’s ‘Man with a Hoe’.

The current project is the relocation of four migrant farm worker cabins to the Museum from the Salkuyave farm in North Jose. The property is going to be developed as an office complex. The developer of the property has agreed to restore the historic Horn House site and use it as a conference center. The outbuildings, however, must be removed or demolished. The Historic Landmarks Committee will recommend that the cabins, the barn and the work shed be moved to the Museum and weatherized. Discussions are still taking place between the Museum’s director and the developer regarding the future of these buildings. If saved, they could be used as the backdrop to tell the important story of the many ethnic immigrants who came to our valley as farm workers.

I hope to see you at the final lecture of the 1997 Winter Lecture Series on March 6.

* JUDI HENDERSON, EDITOR

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The Andre P. Hill House Arrives

The Andre P. Hill House was moved to the grounds of the San Jose Historical Museum on Sunday, February 9, 97. The house is temporarily located on ‘Country Lane’ along Senter Road near the fence that was removed for access. When the turf is dry, Kelly Brothers House Movers will bring the house across the Museum turf, by the plaza to the Andre P. Hill House location which is east of the Markham House facing the Chiechi House. The Hill House will be located in such a manner that allows proposed future structures facing the Firehouse to be developed per the Master Plan.

The Hill House is sponsored by the Victorian Preservation Association (VPA) who plan to restore it for Museum exhibition use by providing restoration and renovation activities that will be made available to the public for participation and viewing. The VPA has a $110,000 County Historical Heritage Commission Grant that will allow them to complete Phase 1 quickly which includes a basement foundation, roof repair, and exterior restoration.

The original Hill House location will become the new site for Sacred Heart Community Services and also provide three home sites for Habitat for the Humanities. Habitat for the Humanities plans to help on the Hill House by providing the labor to build the foundation, and other work.

This exciting project involves many segments of the community in preserving a local historic landmark based on its historical, cultural and architectural significance. Andrew P. Hill was a renown local photographer and savior of the Big Basin redwoods. The Hill House, originally located at 1350 Sherman Street, was his home from 1898 until his death in 1922. Andrew P. Hill was also an artist, and two of his paintings from the Historical Museum collection are on display at the San Jose City Council Chambers. Additional Hill paintings can be seen as part of the Historical Museum’s main exhibit in the Pacific Hotel.

MIGNON GIBSON, MUSEUM DIRECTOR

History Museums of San Jose

VOLUNTEER REPORT

Each year the Museum volunteers celebrate a Cultural Awareness Day. The diversity of Santa Clara Valley’s diverse community gives us many opportunities to study and learn about the contributions of different cultures to this valley’s unique and varied history. Cultural Awareness Day is always an exciting, informative, pleasurable experience. Last year’s ‘See History in a New Way’ was our theme and we learned about Women of the West and their impact on history. This theme was chosen to focus on and coordinate with the debut of the new education program, ‘Local Women of Distinction, 1865-1930’.

This year’s theme is ‘Music and Dance Across Cultures.’ The date and time for this celebration are: Saturday, April 19, 1997, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm.

Programs in the past have been followed by a pot-luck featuring an ethnic cuisine reflecting respective cultures honored. This year the pot-luck following our program will feature "wraps." You will find out more about what wraps means when you sign-up for the event in the Volunteer Room in the Pacific Hotel. The sign-up sheet will be available towards the end of March.

DEAN HELMS, PRESIDENT, VOLUNTEER COUNCIL

History Museums of San Jose

Goverance Transition Update

During January and February the transition of Museum management to the nonprofit organization, the History Museums of San Jose, has taken several major steps, by January 1st Board of Directors became effective on January 1st; negotiation of a Transition agreement between HJSM and the City was approved by the City Council; and the interview process for a new President/CEO has progressed to its final stage.

The transition agreement, as approved on Feb. 4, will outline what the Board of Directors needs to accomplish throughout the spring months of this year, and provide the Board with a direct grant to the nonprofit of funds remaining in the Governing Board budget to fund the accomplishment of those tasks. The Board will be expected to hire a President/CEO, develop personnel rules for their employees, assist in the development of a Museum Collections Policy document and manage the Peralta Fallon contract. The goal is to bring a ‘Master’ agreement for management and operation of the Museum for Council approval by June, 1997.

The Search Committee for President/CEO interviewed seven candidates in January and has narrowed the field to two finalists. Second level interviews are now in progress. At each stage, candidates have met with City officials, other Board members, senior City officials and staff. They have toured facilities and collections, and have been shown the community.

Staff is preparing for a major new task, that of inventorying all collections and archival materials in preparation for transfer of management responsibility to the nonprofit. This will severely curtail staff time for archival and curatorial work on other projects. We ask for your understanding and cooperation during this time. Staff would also appreciate it if prospective donors can hold off bringing in new donations to the collections until after the inventory is complete, if possible.

Preparation for the Central Service Yard Archives and Collection facility relocation continues. Having finalized the layout of spaces and positioned walls and doors, current work is on the locational aspects of telecommunication and security needs so that conduit lines will be placed appropriately. It is expected that actual construction will begin in May and continue throughout the summer. Soon the Museum will have a fine new facility in which to house our collections.

During the construction phase, the major impact on the Museum is the possible loss of overflow parking. Museum staff is working on finding alternatives so that parking for major events will be available.

ADRIANA M. GABRA, DIRECTOR, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SJHIM
are drawings produced by the architect to create a picture of the future building and some are artist's renderings designed to capture the image of an existing building. As a group, they reflect the unique qualities of San Jose as represented by its buildings. These images were selected from the San Jose Historical Museum Collections. They represent a variety of mediums as well as differing perspectives. Some of the buildings are still standing today, while others have been demolished. Together they are part of San Jose's rich architectural heritage.

The first exhibit, Bird's Eye View, presented a selection of panormaic photographs of San Jose and the surrounding area. Taken by such well-known photographers as Andrew P. Hill, John O. Tucker and J.C. Gordon, these images show San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley before its irrevocable alteration by time and development.

All of these exhibits were prepared with the assistance of Helen Kuese. Helen has been volunteering at the Museum for more than 25 years. She has applied her skills, interest, and knowledge to the care of the Museum's art collection. With her assistance we have a complete shelf inventory of our framed art collection. Over the years she has performed conservation framing on many pieces in our collection. Helen is always interested in assisting with opportunities to share the Museum's collections. Her thorough knowledge of the collection and exhibit areas are a great help in developing such exhibits. For those of you who visit the Museum offices, Andrew P. Hill, Painter, Photgrapher, Crusader" is another example of how Helen has assisted our exhibit staff.

The Museum collections are a resource to other local institutions. Loans for exhibits provide another opportunity to expose our collections to the public. Currently, artifacts are on loan to the Cupertino Historical Museum, the Alviso History House, the Los Altos History House, Frusch Park and the Oakland Museum. Recently returned artifacts (23 total) had been loaned to the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History for their exhibit, Cribbet of California. The exhibit featured a variety of unusual objects from museum collections in the Bay Area. Selected from our collection were interesting and unusual pieces such as Lincoln funeral regalia, a hair dryer on a stand, and from our George Washington collection, a ventriligious dummy of Washington, a bottle of "Truth" Lemon Extract, a large display box for cereal and beer cans which all feature images of George Washington.

These loans and exhibits are one of the many ways the Museum shares its collection with the public. In addition, the Museum offers a regular exhibit program on site through permanent and changing displays. Collections are also available to researchers and to supplement a variety of educational programs.

NANCY VALPY, CURATOR

HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE BOARD REPORT

At the February 12, 1997 Governing Board meeting, the Board approved transferring all Governing Board business to the History Museums of San Jose Board. At some point in the future, the majority of the remaining 1996-97 Governing Board budget will be transferred to the History Museums of San Jose Board.

Following the dissolution of the Governing Board, the History Museums of San Jose Board elected the following Board members to serve as their officers:

Chair
Joe Head

Chair-elect
Steve Cox

Appointments Officer
Dean Helms

Secretary
Patty McDonald

Members-at-Large
Keith Cakebread
Harrriet Arnold

You are invited to attend all meetings of the HJSB Board. The Board calendar can be found on page 8.

JUDI HENDERSON
SECRETARY TO THE HJSB BOARD

MUSEUM STAFF

Mignon Gibson
Director
Wanda Rose
Registrar
Jeanne Kondo
Office Specialist II
Leslie Manosaga
Archivist
Virginia Beck
Curator of Education
Monte Duran
Curator
Sarah Heiglo Nunez
Curator
Nancy Valley
Curator
Fred Bennett
Curator
Beverly Block
Volunteer Support (9/7)

Fasteners, Adhesives and Gromets for Earthquake Retrofit
408-279-7050
1230 Yard Court, San Jose CA 95133

HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE STAFF

Barbara Johnson
Acting Executive Director
Development Director
Jodi Hendren
Publications/Program Coordinator
Toni Evans
Shops Manager
Carol Ouellette
Bookkeeper
Larrie Lynch
Membership Coordinator
Robert Pedretti
Penita-Fallon Site Director
Widel Twombly
Penita-Fallon Program Assistant
Julie Peterson
Visitor Relations Manager
Pat Laumann
Penita-Fallon Shop Supervisor
Susan Miller
Shops Schedule/Supervisor
Charyn Rupka
Shops Supervisor
Kay Edgar
P/F Site Supervisor
Gip Gagnon
P/F Site Supervisor

MUSEUM MONTH
APRIL 1997

The San Jose Historical Museum will again celebrate Museum Month with the city's seven 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.

The History Museums of San Jose's 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 memberships will be offered a full month of privileges, recognizing new memberships from April 1 to April 30, 1997.

The seven museums participating in Museum Month include the American Museum of Quilts & Textiles, the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose, the Egyptian Museum & Planetarium, the Penita Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site, the San Jose Historical Museum, the San Jose Museum of Art and the Tech Museum of Innovation.

Sponsors of Museum Month include the San Jose Mercury News, KNTV-11 The San Jose NewsChannel, The Transportation Agency and the San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau.

For more current information on Museum Month in San Jose, please call the city's FYI line at (408) 295-2265, ext. 482.

VINTAGE REFLECTIONS

By Shariye K. Leidy

Vintage Reflections is pleased to offer the following classes for Spring 1997.

March 1, 1997
Parasol Class - One hour class. Basic sewing skills are needed. Cover a purchased parasol frame to create something truly personal and unique.

March 15, 1997
Heirloom Buttons - One three hour class. Victorian and Edwardian seamstresses didn't use plastic buttons. Learn how to make a basic Dorset (thread covered) button. These buttons are perfect on everything from a Civil War work dress to the loveliest Edwardian confection.

March 29, April 12 and May 3, 1997
Corsets - Consists of three separate three hour sessions. Basic sewing skills are needed. Your Victorian costumes won't look right without the proper underpinnings. Learn to construct the ultimate foundation garment.

May 10, 1997
Movement and Mannerisms (a.k.a. Taming the Wild Hoop Skirt) - One three hour class. One of last year's most popular classes is back! Want to know how to stay in a hoop skirt without causing a scandal: flirt with a fan, or execute the proper bow or curtsey? Then this is the class for you. Ladies, please bring corsets and hoop crinolines if you have them.

Upcoming Classes

In the future, Vintage Reflections will be presenting other fascinating classes. Currently planned for the near future are: Hat boxes, and for those of you who have taken millinery classes in the past, a "bruiser hat" class.

To sign up for classes and for information on class fees, materials needed and class location, call Julie Peterson, Manager, Vintage Reflections at (408) 995-8136.

We went shopping! New in the Boutique:

A variety of fine linen and cotton ladies handkerchiefs. These must be seen to be appreciated. All have fine embroidery and or lace detail. There is even a black version for those who do a mourning impression. We have also added little girl's straw hats, a variety of darling styles and a Victorian fruit and flower flavored candies in collectible tins.

Of course, as always, the Boutique is the place to come for your costume supply needs, patterns, corsets and millinary supplies, baskets and a variety of magazines on Victorian and historical re-creation.
"SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERSHIP"

STARTING WITH THIS ISSUE of The News, "SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERSHIP" will inform you of membership issues and benefits, and answer questions that arise from time to time.

This month's spotlight will address membership anniversary dates, the renewal process and who "members in good standing" are.

- Anniversary dates are established by the month and year you join History Museums of San Jose. The anniversary date is also referred to as your "renewal date," which is stamped on your membership card (month/year).
- Membership dues shall be effective for one year and payable yearly thereafter. Invoices and letters are mailed to members as a reminder of payment.
- Members who have paid membership dues are considered "in good standing" for one year from the date dues are paid and are eligible for all benefits within their membership category. Members whose dues are not paid on or before their annual anniversary date shall be considered inactive and will not be entitled to membership rights and privileges.

Note: The History Museums' staff makes every effort to encourage members to continue their membership and support of the Museum. We don't like losing old friends, but keeping inactive members is costly to the organization.

If you have questions or concerns about membership, please call the History Museums' office at 277-3780 or send a note to History Museums of San Jose, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112. Attn: "Spotlight on Membership." Your questions will be answered in the next issue of The News.

San Jose Historical Museum
Proudly Presents

Victorian Secrets: Hidden Agendas of 19th and 20th Century Clothing

New insights into the relationship of gender and social change to clothing will be explored in a "Victorian Secrets" lecture series. Hidden agendas which drove fashion will be unveiled. Each lecture and slide presentation will be enhanced by a selection of pieces from the Museum's historic clothing collections. Dr. Linda Boynton Arthur, Professor, University of Hawaii, will be the featured speaker for the series. Dr. Arthur is an expert in the links between anthropology, sociology and clothing and textiles.

Victorian Secrets: Undergarments and Hidden Agendas
March 25, 1997
7:30 P.M.
Pacific Hotel at the San Jose Historical Museum

Beyond the obvious function of shaping the body in a way that supports the outer fashion, undergarments reflect women's roles in society. Restrictive roles are paralleled in confining undergarments while eras with freedom in women's roles are found to have less limiting fashions.

Victorian Secrets: Fashion and Reform
April 22, 1997
7:30 P.M.
Pacific Hotel at the San Jose Historical Museum

Social and political reform movements resulted in corresponding modifications of dress. By the time women had earned the right to vote, fashion and women's roles had both become more functional and rational.

Victorian Secrets: The Idyllic Romantic Wedding
June 10, 1997
7:30 P.M.
Empire Firehouse at the San Jose Historical Museum

Weddings changed dramatically during the Victorian period—going from practical arrangements to fairytale-like affairs. Wedding clothing experienced a similar transition, with many of today's traditions originating in our Victorian past.

Victorian Secrets: Democracy in American Clothing
July 1, 1997
7:30 P.M.
Pacific Hotel at the San Jose Historical Museum

Clothing reflects the social, economic and political values of any era. Over time American fashions have catered to the middle class notion of equality, becoming more democratic and simpler in design and fashion than European fashion.

Public: $5.00
Students and History Museums of San Jose Members: $2.00

Museum Volunteers: Free
San Jose Historical Museum, 1600 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112
For information call (408) 287-2290

The San Jose Historical Museum is a program of the City of San Jose Department of Conventions, Arts and Entertainment with support from the History Museums of San Jose.
The History Museums of San Jose
invites you to a

Reception at the Fairmont Hotel
Thursday, April 17, 1997
5:30 PM -7:30 PM

to celebrate the publication of

Reflections of the Past: an anthology of San Jose

a book sponsored by the History Museums of San Jose

The authors of the book will be present
to sign copies of Reflections of the Past

Copies of the book will be available for purchase (History Museums of San Jose members will receive a 10% discount on their purchase)
All proceeds benefit the History Museums of San Jose

The book signing reception will take place in the lobby of the Fairmont
where hors d’oeuvres will be served
No-host bar

Please join us for an evening of celebration and reminiscing!

Reflections of the Past: an anthology of San Jose
Phil Grasser, Charlene Duval, Ellen Garboske,
Mary Jo Ignoffo and Terry Christensen, authors.
Glory Anne Laffey, photo editor and Judith Henderson, text editor.
Published by Heritage Publishing
$49.95

Reflections of the Past will be available in The City Stores in the middle of March.

Please note: There will be no validated parking for this event.
ALEXANDER P. MURGOTTEN: PRINTER, PIONEER, CONSERVATIONIST

BY JACK DOUGLAS

The San Jose pioneer Alexander Murgotten seems only a footnote in the history of San Jose. There are no monuments, plaques or even a street named for this prominent early citizen. Not a man of wealth or property and having only a rudimentary education, he was, nevertheless, to make his mark in a variety of social, cultural and political organizations in San Jose and the state. A review of his life can give us a unique insight into our local history.

Young Argonaut

The Murgotten family was of French heritage. Alexander's grandfather, who had been an officer in Napoleon's Navy, was on a ship which floundered off the coast of America. Rescued by an American vessel, he decided to settle in Baltimore. Murgotten's father, Henry, a carpenter who had moved to Indiana, was struck with gold fever in 1849 and left home for the goldfields, arriving in California in 1850. After two years at the diggings he sent for his wife and children. They came via the Isthmus of Panama: six-year-old Alexander was carried across the isthmus on the back of a Panamanian native. The family settled in Placerville where Henry again made his living as a carpenter.

Alexander attended the local school and became one of the first newsboys in the West, delivering papers to the news-hungry miners who paid as much as a dollar for a year old paper from the East.

In 1855 Alexander's sister Helen married William January, the up-and-coming publisher of the Mountain Democrat. After leaving school Alexander went to work for his brother-in-law, learning the printer's trade from the ground up. In 1866 William January sold the Mountain Democrat and moved to San Jose where he started a new paper, the Santa Clara Argus. The twenty year old Alexander again joined his brother-in-law and worked as shop foreman.

The Pioneer

An impressionable youth, Murgotten treasured the memories of his California adventures and his life among the miners during the Gold Rush. Aware that this period in history was rapidly fading, he started, in 1877, his own paper, the San Jose Pioneer. This weekly paper served as a local news organ, but its major focus was on the history of California with many articles by, and about, the pioneers who founded the state. In 1899, after a hiatus of nine years, Murgotten resumed publication of the paper as a monthly, in magazine format.

In 1875 Murgotten helped to found the Santa Clara County Pioneers Society and served as its secretary for three decades. As a voice of the pioneer societies he was always at the center of their activities. In 1899 he helped to organize the Golden Jubilee anniversary of the establishment of state government in San Jose. Other members of the committee included Mayor C.J. Martin, Lazard and Gus Lion, and Mrs. E.O. Smith. (The 150th celebration of this event is now in the planning stage.) Many pioneers of this early period were present at this celebration including several members of the Constitutional Convention. Murgotten was also chairman of the Pioneer Day at the Panama Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915 when 70,000 attended from all over the State.

Women and Politics

For a man raised in the rustic environment of the gold fields, Murgotten had an uncharacteristic interest in the more refined cultural activities of his adopted home town. Shortly after his arrival he helped to form the first amateur dramatic society, and he acted, along with newspaperman/novelist Eugene Sawyer, in their plays. In 1875 he became a charter member of the local Handel and Haydn Oratorio society.

Throughout his career he fostered the efforts of women's rights, publishing their works on his paper and espousing their causes in his newspaper. He worked closely with Mrs. E.O. Smith and writer/nature lover Carrie Stevens Walter on a number of projects. Clara Shortridge Foltz found him helpful in her campaign to become the state's first female attorney.

In 1874, with the backing of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, he initiated a petition asking the State Legislature to pass a bill permitting the first local option election in California. This law, which passed, allowed local governments to put laws prohibiting the sale of liquor on the ballot. The local election on licensing saloons took place on June 27, 1874. Murgotten, with the help of Sallie Hart, noted suffragist from San Francisco, carried on a valiant battle to curb the saloon keepers. According to Eugene Sawyer rough measures were resorted to by the dispossessed and several attempts to mob the temperance women were made. In one incident Sallie Hart, Mrs. I.J. Watkins and others were subjected to harsh treatment. The prohibitionists were several hundred votes short of winning, were told by the saloon owners who offered free meals and drink to those who voted to keep the bars open.

Earning, at times, only a marginal living at printing and publishing, Alex acquired, probably through the influence of his brother-in-law William January who was highly positioned in California Democratic Party circles, a position as Superintendent of Deposit Melting at the U.S. Mint in San Francisco. This political appointment lasted through President Cleveland's first term (1885-1889), after which Alex took a post as Deputy County Assessor.

Perhaps due to the passing of many California pioneers, Murgotten ceased publishing the Pioneer in 1901 and began the California Elk, a journal of the fraternal organization. He was a founding member of the local IPOE. The Murgotten press was to continue well into the 20th century, later managed by his son Henry.

Saving the Redwoods

Alex Murgotten had much in common with the art turn conservationist, Andrew Putnam Hill. Both families had come during the gold rush. Hill, whose father died shortly after arriving in California, struggled as an artist and photographer, while Murgotten, through his printing and other interests, worked on the fringes of the local art scene. When Hill formed a group to save the redwood groves in the Santa Cruz Mountains Alex was one of the first people he recruited. Murgotten became a director and later president of the Sempervirens Club. It took Hill and his friends five years of lobbying efforts to get the state to purchase the land, and another decade to establish it as a park. Alex Murgotten, his son Henry and their families were participants on every level in California's Forest Play productions of 1919 and 1920 which celebrated the development of California's first state park at Big Basin. See "Howard Hanson and the Forest Play" SJSU News, May 1996.

Alex Murgotten, the pioneer's pioneer, who outlived most of his pioneer contemporaries, died in 1926 at the age of 81.

All photos are from the Gordon Photo Archive, SJSU Library, Special Collections.
BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The History Museums of San Jose Board of Directors is actively seeking interested members to serve on the Board’s advisory committees. Your participation is encouraged and needed. The future of the History Museums of San Jose is being planned and it is important to us that you become part of the process. The following is a list of the Board’s advisory committees and their functions:

Fundraising/Development Committee
The Fundraising/Development Committee will develop and implement short and long range fundraising plans, including membership, corporate membership, capital campaigns and endowment. The committee will also coordinate all fundraising activities of the corporation.

Board Development Committee
The Board Development Committee will identify persons with appropriate expertise and community representation to serve on the Board and its committees. The committee will also assist members with recruitment and coordinate Board orientation.

Finance Committee
The Finance Committee will review the draft budget prepared by the President/Chief Executive Officer and oversee the budget, audits, investments and financial compliance.

Facilities and Site Development Committee
The Facilities and Site Development Committee will review, analyze, prioritize, recommend and advocate for appropriate program facilities and sites. The committee will also review, update and oversee the Corporation’s master plans.

Program Committee
The Program Committee will oversee existing programs and evaluate and develop new programs and programs for new audiences.

Volunteer Development Committee
The Volunteer Development Committee will assist in recruiting volunteers and recommend volunteer policies covering orientation, procedures, training, evaluation, support and recognition.

Marketing and Audience Development Committee
The Marketing and Audience Development Committee will develop the Corporation’s image and the creation and implementation of public relations and marketing efforts to increase visitors to the Corporation’s facilities.

Collections Committee (Includes Archives)
The Collections Committee will develop collections management policies and procedures and foster the development of collections and programs, including acquisitions, conservation, care and access.

If you are interested in serving on an advisory committee, please submit your resume along with the committee(s) you would like to serve on to: History Museums of San Jose, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112-Att: Judi Henderson. The applications will be reviewed by the committee chairs and you will be notified of their decision. If you have any questions, please call Judi Henderson or Barbara Johnson at 287-2290.

GARDEN CLUB
by Laurel Persuas

Celebrate spring by joining the Museum Garden Club. The Garden Club has developed and maintained close to thirty garden projects on the Museum grounds over the last three years. We are proud to announce the Garden Club projects were awarded first place in the San Jose Beautiful’s 1996 Home Improvement Awards program under the Neighborhood Improvement category.

A bounty of garden opportunities await our volunteer gardeners. Exciting plans are underway for 1997. New volunteers are always welcome. Hours and work schedules are flexible.

Maintenance days are generally led by the first Tuesday of each month, from 9:00 AM - Noon. March Maintenance Day will be Tuesday March 4. April Maintenance Day will be Tuesday April 1. Volunteers are asked to bring their own garden tools and meet at the Bandstand at 9:00 AM. Come join us! Call Laurel Persuas (354-7153) or Mary Force (356-3692) for additional information.

ECONOMY FUND DONATIONS

From December 18, 1996 to February 14, 1997, the Endowment Fund of the San Jose Historical Museum received the following donations:

In Memoriam:

- Eileen Kampf Hall
- Judge Marshal S. Hall
- Aiden B. Kampf
- Angelo Pezzatino
- Thomas Gibson

- Anita Karsen
- Peachie Grimes
- Florence B. Menteer
- Barfield Quashen
- Amy Avery

In Honor Of:

- Spencer Hall, Sr.
- Mr. & Mrs. Howard W. Campen
- Mignon Gibson
- Virginia Beck
- Clients of Mieger, Minzewicz & Associates
- Chris Hawkins
- Bea A. Gardner and the San Jose Historical Museum Garden Club

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, San Jose, CA 95112-2590. A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the person being honored or the family of the deceased.

WINTER LECTURE SERIES

Don’t forget the last lecture in the 1997 Winter Lecture Series.

March 6 - Charlene Duval: The Birth of a State - California

Charlene Duval will be traveling from her home in Santa Cruz for our lecture. She is an active preservationist and one of the founders of the Scouting Valley Historical Society. Charlene is the last lecturer in this series and we take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors for their support.

The lecture will be held in the meeting room of the Pacific Hotel and will begin at 7:30 PM. Admission will be $2.00 for History Museums of San Jose members and $5.00 for the general public.
History Museums of San Jose Annual Meeting from page 1

Patrick Magace
Retired, General Electric, Nuclear Energy
Patrick worked in a technical management positions for 25 years. In February 1996, he enrolled in the Museum's docent program and completed his training in June 1996.

Patricia Borba McDonald
Partner, McDonald & Moore, Ltd.
Fatty was President of the Museum's non-profit in 1990-1991. She served on the City's Historic Art Advisory Board, co-chaired the Peralta-Fallon Advisory Board and chaired the Museum's Advisory Board. Patty is also active on the SJU Art Alumni Board and with Bellarmine College Preparatory.

Jerome Munday
Retired Librarian, San Jose State University
Jerome has been a Museum Archives' research assistant volunteer for the past eight years. He served as the Museum Auxiliary Board President and represented the Auxiliary on the Museum's nonprofit board.

Jim Oneal
Professor: Public Affairs and Marketing
Jim served on the Museum's nonprofit board for five years, serving as membership chair and VP for Planning. Elsewhere in the community, Jim has been active in Child Quest International's missing children program, the Children's Discovery Museum and the San Jose Medical Center Foundation.

Stephen Pahl
Pahl & Gosselin, Attorneys at Law
Stephen specializes in employment law, commercial litigation, and real estate law, representing numerous local businesses, including Valley Fair, the Great Mall, and the San Jose National Bank. Stephen is Vice-Chair of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and a member of the Board of Visitors, SCU Law School. He has been a member of the Museum's nonprofit board for three years and a member of the nonprofit organization since 1981.

Javier Salazar
Artistic Director, Aztlán Academy
Javier is founder and Artistic Director of the Aztlán Academy, founded in 1965. Since 1972 he has been a licensed financial tax consultant. Javier is a Mexican folklorist, dancer, choreographer, designer, singer, writer and community activist.

The above candidates presently serve on the History Museums of San Jose's Board of Directors.

* Candidates who served on the Governing Board.

DATES TO REMEMBER
March 1, 1997  Vintage Reflections - Parasol Class
March 6, 1997  Winter Lecture - Charlene Dussai
March 15, 1997  Vintage Reflections - Heliotroop Buttons
March 20, 1997  Petaluma Riverboat Boat Trip
March 29, 1997  Vintage Reflections - Corsets
April 1997  Museum Month
April 5, 1997  Cabinet of Curiosities exhibit
April 12, 1997  Historical Architecture Walk  Vintage Reflections - Corsets
April 19, 1997  Cultural Awareness Day at the Museum
April 23, 1997  History Museums of San Jose Annual Meeting

CALENDAR OF HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS
The Board of Directors of the History Museums of San Jose has set the following calendar for their meetings through June 1997.

March 12
March 26
April 9
April 23
May 14
May 28
June 11
June 25

The first meeting of each month is scheduled to be a general meeting and the second meeting of each month will be a business meeting. The meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend. The meetings will be held in the meeting room of the Pacific Hotel and will begin at 7:00PM. Seating is limited.

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Kelley Park
1600 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 287-2290
TOURS OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS
HOURS
10:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. Monday-Friday
Noon-4:30 P.M. Saturday and Sunday
ADMISSION
Adults $4.00
Children (4-17 years) $2.00
Seniors $3.00

PERALTA-FALLON SITE
Corner of San Pedro & W St, John Streets
San Jose, CA 95110
(408) 993-8182
HOURS
11:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. Tuesday-Sunday
ADMISSION
Adults $6.00
Children (4-17 years) $3.00
Seniors $5.00

HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE
Mr./Mrs./Ms.
Mailing Address (Bus) Phone
Zip + 4 (Res) Phone
MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS
☐ $1,000 Mission Circle
☐ $500 Pueblo Circle
☐ $250 Tower Circle
☐ $100 Century Circle
☐ $50* Contributor Circle
☐ $45 Family/Individual
☐ $35 Signature
☐ $35 Senior Citizen (1 or 2)

Please check one of the following:
☐ I will include $40 for mailing of my premium
☐ I will pick up my premium at the 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. Unuse? 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.

HISTORY MUSEUMS OF SAN JOSE
☐ 1997 Renewal
☐ New Member

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