WINTER LECTURE SERIES

On selected Thursday evenings during January and February, the Museum Association will feature a series of lectures for the community focusing on law related subjects. The first two programs will be held in the Pacific Hotel Meeting Room, and the third in the Firehouse meeting room, all beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Admission to each lecture will be $2 for Association Members and $5 for the general public. If you are a current member of the Association at the $50 level or above, please inform the Membership Coordinator when you make your reservation. You are entitled to two free passes to the lecture of your choice.

Please make reservations by calling 277-3780. Entrance to the Museum will be through the Phelan Avenue gate.

January 27

Fernando Zazueta: California's Legal Heritage: Spanish and Mexican Laws

When the first American mountainmen, trappers and settlers arrived in California, they found an organized society already in place. There were pueblos, missions and military forts, and a government for the residents as well as for the newcomers. In time, possession of the land and governance of the residents transferred to the United States. Along with this transfer came the Spanish and Mexican laws which even today form the foundation of marial, mining, and water rights in California. Join us for an overview of this interesting aspect of our legal heritage presented by attorney Fernando Zazueta, Chairman of the Mexican Heritage Corporation.

February 10

Paul Bernal: The Ten Most Notorious Court Cases in Santa Clara County History

Paul Bernal, Santa Clara County Deputy District Attorney and Chair of the Santa Clara County Heritage Commission, will highlight local court cases from the distant past as well as the headline cases we will all recognize. Some are well-known criminal proceedings, others are precedent setting cases. From Vasquez to Richard Farley, Paul will offer his insights on these cases through lecture and slides. Join us for what will undoubtedly be an interesting evening.

February 24

Tony Miranda: The Restoration of the Santa Clara County Courthouse

Badly damaged in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, the 130-year-old courthouse building is presently being restored to current seismic standards. Construction is expected to be completed by May 1994. Tony Miranda, Vice President of Toonis-Kettler and Brooding, Inc. and construction manager for the restoration of the Civil War era courthouse on San Jose's landmark St. James Square, will tell us about the problems of preserving the historic integrity of the building while at the same time making it safe for occupancy. The county of Santa Clara's commitment to saving this important building is a story worth telling and hearing.

INSIDE ASSOCIATION NEWS

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"Golden Legacy"
Doll Donation Drawing
Bus Trip to Fallon House & Arena
Fallon House Decorations
Date to Remember

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
1994 An Exciting Year for Museum Growth

Nineteen-ninety-four should prove to be an outstanding year of growth for the San Jose Historical Museum. There are many plans and projects currently occurring that will impact the physical site. The most exciting effort is the update of the Historical Museum Master Plan. A special focus group of planners and architects that includes Gerry DeYoung, Mary Bamberg, Steve Cox and Craig Minnower working with staff members Kathy Muller, Judi Henderson and myself have spent many hours in 1993 analyzing the current plans. Our work will continue in 1994, resulting in an updated version that will include more specifications and also some economic development analysis. This updated version will also address Historical Museum collection and archive storage and facilities needs. We look forward to sharing this with a wider group in the future.

Historical Museum Garden Club to Start

If you have a love for gardening, a desire for physical labor or an interest in helping to turn the Historical Museum into a reflection of the old San Jose “Garden City” theme, then you are invited to participate in the development of a Garden Club for the Historical Museum.

On Saturday, January 27, 1994, at 8 a.m. there will be the first meeting of the Garden Club in the Pacific Hotel Meeting Room. The priority goals for the Garden Club will be support of the management of existing landscape areas. Once these goals are achieved, volunteers may propose to improve different areas with additional plants. Call the Historical Museum if you're interested in joining; please let us know if you'd like to meet the group or if you'd like to participate at another time.

The San Jose Historical Museum is part of the San Jose Department of Convention, Cultural and Visitor Services.

from the Editor

Welcome to New Association Board Members

On Saturday, January 8, 1994, the San Jose Museum's Board of Directors and staff will meet for an annual day of retreat designed to formulate plans for the coming year. New Board members joining in the activities will include Adele Bihun, Frank Bottano, Linda Herrschbach, Andre Hunt, and Stephen Pahl as Members-at-Large. Melinda Chiarato asDocent Council President; and Jerome Munday as Auxiliary President. We look forward to their fresh ideas and enthusiasm in helping us meet the exciting challenges of the year ahead.

Association News Format

This issue of the Association News is not only the first one produced "in-house" on our own computers, but also features several minor design changes we hope you will notice. In the months ahead our new editor, Dan Bingham, will be experimenting with other changes in format designed to make the Association News a more effective tool for communicating with you, our members. We would welcome your comments regarding these changes.

Kathleen Muller
Administrator

President’s Message

The New Year always brings the expectation that things are going to get better. I am not exactly sure what 1994 is going to bring to our Association, but we are all going to have to work very diligently to exceed the successes we realized in 1993.

Our fundraising and special events results exceeded our most ambitious expectations. The Peralta-Fallon complex is now under our management. The Master Plan is closer to completion and might include some space in the old Beechmont plant. We have been able to fill three new staff positions, with productive and exciting individuals. Our media exposure has improved, and our membership roster now includes over 2,000 individuals for the first time in our history. I could go on, but those are the highlights.

All of the above has been due to an incredibly productive and enthusiastic group of volunteers, staff and Board of Directors members. My sincere thanks goes out to all of those individuals involved, especially to our Board President for the past two years, Gerry DeYoung.

With some new recruits and virtually all of the same committed individuals involved again this year, the one thing that I am sure of is that 1994 is going to see our Association get “better.”

Victor Giazzolone
President

Directory Report

We are often asked at the Museum “What is a Docent?” The definition in Webster’s Dictionary is: "Docent: a tour guide and lecturer, as at a museum." However, that hardly tells the whole story. Our docents are folks who are very proud of San Jose and its history and want to make sure the legacy that has been passed down to us from earlier generations does not die. Our Docents may be transplanted from other locations because of career moves or they may be natives whose ancestors moved here to give their families a better life.

Soon, our new training program will be starting. We would like to invite all of you to consider becoming a part of our Docent program. The training will begin in March of 1994, Saturdays or Mondays, alternating with an evening program. The training includes a training binder with the history and back ground information in all Museum exhibits, lectures on San Jose's early history by local college professors, field trips to downtown San Jose, as well as a trip to an Indian village. In addition, all of the exhibits in all of the exhibits on the Museum grounds that are open for public tours. The fee for the training will be $45.00, which includes the binder, lectures, a name badge, and all of the materials.

We would love to meet you and answer any questions you might have. There will be a training open house held on Thursday, February 24 at 1 p.m. and on Saturday, February 26 at 10 a.m. in the Pacific Hotel Meeting Room. I hope to see you there!

Melinda Chiarato
Docent Council President

Auxiliary Report

As the new President of the Auxiliary Board, I will be trying to put names to the faces of the 200 members of the Historical Museum Auxiliary. This will be a goal of mine as the 1994 Auxiliary President. I, like the other Auxiliary volunteers, tend to work exclusively in a volunteer capacity, which for me is the Archives. Therefore, I do not meet and get to know the other volunteers in which area include the lodge desk, collections care, Vintage Reflections, gift shop, and O'Brien's. Then there are the $25 Docents, our education program, to get to know.

The Auxiliary organization is a tool for volunteers to use to break out of these boundaries and emphasize their membership in a larger body. Because I feel strongly about this, I will spend the next year working with the Auxiliary Board representatives to continue this ongoing process. I think the Auxiliary ought to further strengthen its image as the vital and essential force in the Museum's operation that it is.

The Auxiliary volunteers perform very important duties in the support of all areas of the Museum. As Auxiliary President, I will be available and working to help them become an even more cohesive organization.

Jerome Munday
Auxiliary President

Announcements

The purpose of the San Jose Historical Museum Association is to support the San Jose Historical Museum through Association membership, fundraising and volunteer services, and the development of the image of the Museum in the community.

EDITORS: Kathleen Muller, Dan Bingham


ADVOCATE BOARD: Brian Serpa, Gerry DeYoung, Robert C. Doen, Jack Douglas, Fred Franklin, Theron Fire, Lillian Geng-Guy, Mary Gottschalk, Glacia Ellom, Patricia Deason, Mayette Pierce, Ira Pelle, Ema Reif, Judge Mark Thomas Jr., Against Warburton.

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: Steven Cox, Marcia Bamberg, Michael Berthal, Louise Evans, Stan Ketchum, Larry Langer, Nan Martin, Margaret Neve, Neil Richmond, David Rodlick, Gregory Ybarra, James Zentner.


The San Jose Historical Museum Association News is the monthly publication of the San Jose Historical Museum Association. Each month the San Jose Historical Museum Association includes subscription to the News.

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**FROM THE ARCHIVES**

"Picture you, picture me..."

There’s the old, old saw about a "picture being worth a thousand words," and certainly one of the areas in most demand in the Archives is the photographic collection. We have over 2500 photographs that are catalogued and accessible through an image file. The collection’s subject areas include aerial views of San Jose, buildings, street views, portraits, transportation, schools, organizations, and agricultural life, as well as collections focusing on the New Almaden Mine, Lick Observatory, and the Electric Light Tower. You’ll see photos from our collection used at the Convention Center, on television, in restaurants, and in books.

Currently, Archives volunteers under the leadership of volunteer intern Gayl Mann are inventorying the hundreds of additional uncataloged photos and finding what a wonderful array of images we have, including: portraits of local and not-so-local celebrities such as Frank Bacon, Edwin Markham, Edmund Lowe, and Edith Dalry; family and local organization’s collections; tintypes, lantern slides, and other forms of early photography; and collections of local photographers Tucker, Wright, and Hill.

**Strengths and Weaknesses**

Like any collection, it has both its strengths and weaknesses. Many pictures are needed to fill voids in the areas of local businesses and commercial areas, neighborhoods (both the views and the activities), organizations and their activities, festivals and events, everyday life (working, social activities, shopping, etc.), community ethnic groups, and clear, identified photos of buildings. After all, what researchers will find most interesting a hundred years from now is the life that goes on in the city and in people’s lives.

Photographs are a relatively fragile medium. Images fade, backdrops deteriorate, color photos change color and darken, panoramic views get squashed and bent, and albums are destroyed or purged. Photo conservators are struggling with means of maintaining photographs and looking at new technology such as laser discs and microfilm to preserve the image. Video preservation also is very challenging; the life expectancy of video is approximately 15 years and videos come in several formats.

If you’d like to see the collection or have photographs you’d like to donate, please contact the Archives.

Leslie Masunaga
Archivist

---

**MUSEUM STAFF**

Mignon Gibson .................................. Director
Wanda Poss .................................... Senior Stano
Jeanne Kondo .................................. Clerk/Typist
Leslie Masunaga ................................ Archivist
Virginia Beck .................................. Curator of Education
Pawna Ferguson ................................ Volunteer Support
Carol Provenzano ................................ Volunteer Support
Al Spivak ...................................... Volunteer Support
Wood Rehling .................................. Volunteer Projects
Monte Duran .................................. Museum Events
Sarah Heighgo Nurses .......................... Curator
Nancy Valley .................................... Curator
Fred Bennett .................................. Trolley Barn Manager

**ASSOCIATION STAFF**

Kathleen Muller .................................. Administrator
Barbara Johnson .................................. Development Director
Judy Stabile .................................. Peralta-Fallon Director
Judith Henderson ................................. Administrative Asst.
Daniel Bingham ................................ P&R & Programs
Carol Ouellet .................................. Bookkeeper
Margaret Anderson .............................. Membership Secretary
Toni Evans ...................................... Shops Manager
Susan Miller ................................. Shops Scheduler/Supervisor
Kindra Donald ............................... Shops Supervisor
Julie Peterson .................................. Costume Shop Mgr.

**PLANNING AHEAD**

Remembering SJHMA in Your Estate Planning

"The be-all and end-all of life should not be to get rich, but to enrich the world." —B.C. Forbes

**remembering your will**

Here’s a little quiz about how you can affect the future of those you love, and make sure your Will reflects your interests and priorities.

1. Do you have a Will?
   - Yes
   - No
   (If your answer is NO, consult an attorney or legal advisor.)

2. Have you moved to another state, changed marital status, or increased the size of your family since your Will was written?
   - Yes
   - No
   (If your answer is YES to any of these, it may be necessary to make changes in your Will.)

3. Have you reviewed your Will in the last three years?
   - Yes
   - No
   (If the answer is NO, you should.)

4. Has your financial status changed since your Will was drawn?
   - Yes
   - No
   (If the answer is YES, check to see if your Will is still appropriate to your changed circumstances.)

5. Do you know how state and federal estate taxes will impact your heirs?
   - Yes
   - No

6. Have you included The San Jose Historical Museum Association in your Will?
   - Yes
   - No

Your Will is your last opportunity to benefit those you love, and SJHMA.

**Association Membership Sets "New" Membership Goals**

As a member of the Museum Association, you are offered many benefits, including invitations to special events, discounts in the Gift Shops and Vintage Reflections, reduced rates on trips and tours, free admittance to the Museum, Fallon House and Peralta Adobe, the bi-monthly Association News, and the premium book on local history.

A new feature added to the Association News is the Light Tower Membership Scale to acquaint you with membership growth as the year progresses. At the end of the 1993 membership year, we had 2,100 individual memberships, with a 2,000 membership goal. For 1994, we have set our goal at 2,400 individual memberships. As a member with a financial interest in the management and operations of the Museum, you can track membership and see how we’re doing in 1994. Please feel free to pick up extra 1994 membership brochures at the Museum and help us reach our 1994 goal. Members are the best resource we have. You can stimulate interest in others by telling them why you are a member of the Museum Association and why you continue your support. Your help will be appreciated.

**New Membership Scale**

- **2,400**
- **1,000**
- **750**
- **500**

**Number of New Members Since November 1, 1993**

**Association Board Members**

Gerry DeYoung and Jan Berliner pictured with Bonnie and Marvin Bamberg at the Association’s Holiday Party on December 2, 1993. Bamberg was Board President in 1972-73 and Marvin is currently on the Development Council.

Photo by Pam Allison.
Does Your Employer Match Your Donations?

Many firms in the Bay Area provide matching funds to non-profit organizations such as the Museum when an employee becomes a member or makes a donation.

If your employer does have a Matching Funds Program, please let the Museum Association know and we will check to see if we qualify to participate in their program. If so, you can then apply to have matching funds provided to the Association. Companies provide varying amounts of matching funds, some matching exactly the amount you give for membership and other donations, and others doubling matching amounts. Whatever it is, the Association benefits. Give us a call at 287-2290 if you have questions or need additional information. Many thanks for your help.

New IRS Regulations

Prior to 1986, donors could deduct the appreciated value of a gift of tangible property; that is, the difference between the original cost of the item and its fair market value at the time of donation. As items like furniture and art often increase enormously in value over the years, this was an important incentive to donate such items to museums. Tax reform legislation in 1986 made the appreciated value of the item the alternative minimum tax, i.e. only the original cost could be deducted. The difference between the original value and the fair market value at the time of donation was deemed taxable capital gains income.

Gifts of Tangible Property

As a result of this change in the law, many people stopped making large donations of property to museums. The American Association of Museums (AAM) lobbied for this provision to be changed. In 1991, the appreciated value of gifts of tangible property was removed from the application of the alternative minimum tax for the 1991 tax year only. This window was extended by Congress until June 30, 1992. Since then, AAM has been working towards making the change permanent. The new budget makes gifts of appreciated property fully deductible under both the alternative minimum tax and regular income tax for the future and retroactive to June 30, 1992.

Gifts of tangible property are fully deductible only if they are used by the recipient in a way that is related to the recipient’s non-profit mission. Donors must have a receipt for gifts for which they intend to claim deductions of $250 and above, specifying how the gift will be used. The San Jose Historical Museum provides all donors to the collection with a Deed of Gift describing the donation. Equipment that is donated for use in a related activity (i.e. vacuum cleaners, computers, artifacts for living history demonstrations, etc.) is receipted with a thank you letter. Equipment donated for resale would not be considered deductible.

The Deed of Gift does not include a statement of the donation’s value. The IRS prohibits museums from appraising items they receive as donations. Appraisals must be made by a qualified appraiser. If the donor intends to deduct over $500, IRS Form 8283 must be completed by the donor and filed with the IRS. For donations over $500, Form 8283 must also be submitted to the museum to accept the gift.

ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS

From November 23, 1993 through December 13, 1993, the Endowment Fund of the San Jose Historical Museum received the following donations:

In Memoriam:
Shelley Smith
Lawrence Peterson
Sherman Millard, Sr.
Florence Rash

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

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SAN JOSE ATHLETIC CLUB

IN THE COLLECTIONS

LIKE many museums, the San Jose Historical Museum does not purchase items for its collection, but instead is dependent on the generosity of donors. One incentive which museums have traditionally been able to offer their donors is the ability to deduct the value of artifacts given to the collections as a charitable donation. Previous Cluster's new budget includes several provisions which affect gifts of artifacts to museums. It seems appropriate at this time of year to provide a general summary of IRS regulations relating to donated property. The information provided here was obtained from the Western Museum Conference newsletter and the American Association of Museums (AAM) Executive Bulletin. It is general in nature and not intended as legal advice. For specific guidance concerning a gift of property, the services of a professional should be sought.

NEW IRS REGULATIONS

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The IRS also requires a qualified appraisal to be submitted for donations over $5000. Although an appraisal is not required for gifts under $5000, it is probably a good idea. Most appraisers charge $100-$150 per hour.

The San Jose Historical Museum is happy to assist donors in meeting IRS requirements for full deductibility, whenever possible. If it is not convenient to have an appraisal done before the donation is made, curatorial staff will provide the appraiser with access to the donated artifacts. The Historical Museum cannot recommend a specific appraiser, but will provide general information to assist donors in selecting an appraiser.

Sarah Hieghs Nunes
Curator
Community Involvement

In addition to his involvement at the Museum, Robert is very active in the community. He served as the chairperson of Mayor Susan Hannmar's "Viva, 2000," a task force created to deal with the city's Multicultural Arts space needs. Robert says "there are not many places in the city to present multicultural art to the public" and felt there was no push to make more facilities available, thus his appointment to head the committee.

Robert's love of the arts is best displayed by the non-profit organization, Arte Flamenco de San Jose, which he founded and whose board he now chairs. The company specializes in the presentation of dances from Southern Spain and has become a popular multicultural dance attraction. Its new season begins in January.

The Museum Association is proud to have Robert aboard and is looking forward to his contributions in 1994. His interest in presenting Hispanic history and his love for the multicultural arts make Robert an important member of the Museum Association Board of Directors.

Museum Involvement

Robert's involvement with the Museum came through his acquaintance with Kathy Muller, Association Administrator. His love of Spanish dance and his knowledge of the multicultural arts, as well as his interest in local history, prompted the request that he become involved with the Association's Board of Directors.

Although Robert has been on the Board since January of 1993, his most important contribution may come this fall, when he heads a committee that will present a multicultural arts festival on the Museum grounds. In addition, his strong history background will be invaluable as the Association places emphasis on San Jose's Spanish-Mexican beginnings at the Peralta-Fallon complex.

Robert envisions naming next fall's festival at the Museum "Dia de la Hispanidad," or Hispanic Heritage Day, in order to include all of the later groups in the Valley. October 9 has been tentatively chosen because it coincides with October 12, "Dia de la Raza," the official day in the U.S. which honors the Mexican heritage.

Robert doesn't like to combine all Hispanics into one huge group because he says "each individual culture is very different." Perhaps his sensitivity to clustering stems from the fact that Robert is a Mexican-American with grandparents from Spain.

Background

Born and raised in Bakersfield, Robert first came to the Bay Area as a University of San Francisco college student. After one year at USF, Robert finished his studies in political science and Spanish literature and earned his degree at Gonzaga University in the state of Washington, where he also received his teaching credential in History and Spanish. Robert then returned to Bakersfield to teach three years at his high school alma mater, Garces Memorial. After moving back to the Bay Area in 1979, Garcia began teaching at Saint Ignatius High School, followed by Bellarmine, and then Saint Francis. During this same period, Robert received an MBA in International Affairs from Golden Gate University, and is currently in the Golden Gate University law program.

MYSTERY PHOTO

Do you know any of these girls from the Girls Dance Orchestra of San Jose, c. 1929? Call in any details to Leslie Masunaga at 287-2290.

LOOKING BACK

FIFTY YEARS

Do you remember when San Jose was called "Prunetown"? Fifty years ago, San Jose was a middle-sized agricultural community of 70,000. Its citizens were consumed with the production of plums, apricots, cherries, grapes, pears, tomatoes, carrots, and garlic. Orchards covered every available acre in the Santa Clara Valley and over twenty canneries were in full production after the annual harvest.

The standard of living had greatly improved since the end of the dismal '30s. The annual salary for an average worker had increased to $1,950.00 or about ninety-four cents an hour. Cannery workers made ninety-six cents per hour, and the building trades paid $1.25 per hour to their workers. An average home sold for between $7,000 and $8,000.

In 1943, the average San Jose inhabitant was impressed with the news from the battlefields of World War II. The headlines of local newspapers described how Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark led the U.S. 5th Army into Naples, Italy and how Marshal Erwin Rommel was directing the massive Nazi retreat into Northern Italy. The media also announced that President Franklin D. Roosevelt was preparing to liberate Pope Pius XII and Rome from continues Nazi occupation. The U.S. Navy blasted Japanese strongholds on Wahi Island. It was rumored that Earl Warren, governor of California, and Wendell L. Wilkie were the leading Republican presidential candidates for the 1944 election.

During WWII, the War Department initiated a program of rations on many items that the military desperately needed for the war. There were mandatory rationing of gas, metals, nylons, sugar, beef, poultry, eggs, butter, and many other necessary items. San Joseans could not buy new cars because auto factories were re-equipped to manufacture tanks, airplanes, trucks and jeeps for the military. New tires were needed for the armed forces, as well, so civilians had to recap their tires. Local residents patriotically volunteered to participate in these programs in support of the war effort.

Alex Rodriguez

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Historical Footnotes of the Santa Clara Valley

By Jack Douglas

Alviso: A Window on The Past

A weekened periodically as a passing train roars through the little village of Alviso slumbers on. It was, not long ago, a center for weekend boat builders and yachtsmen, but now its marina is completely tilted in. Activity here came to a standstill when the southern end of the Bay became a U.S. wildlife refuge. Alviso has many problems, not the least of which is the gradual sinking of the shoreline due to the reduction of the water table. This has required higher levees to keep the Bay from engulfing the town as it did during the flood of 1983. Asbestos in the soil and proximity to the San Jose Sewage Disposal Plant are also impediments to development.

The once bustling waterfront is now a crumbling ghost town and the spirits of early settlers haunt its empty streets, wondering, perhaps, why their dreams for Alviso were never fulfilled.

Settled at the south end of San Francisco Bay in the 1760s, this little town was the junction for the transportation of goods and people going north and south. First were the cowhides and tallow from the Missions and ranchos, then the quicksilver from New Almaden and redwood lumber from Los Gatos, and finally wheat was grain and produce from the Santa Clara Valley.

Lieutenant E.G. Bafflin, who came west with Captain Henry M. Nagle in Stevenson's regiment in 1847, wrote in his journal:

The want of a great commercial town at the head of the bay of San Francisco has been supplied by the establishment of Alviso. It is situated at the head of the bay.

The Guadalupe River, a stream running directly through the centre of town is navigable at all seasons of the year to vessels drawing 12 feet of water. The depot is business headquarters of the finest valleys in California...the town of Alviso must inevitably grow in importance.

The trickle of Americans to California prior to the Mexican War became a flood with the discovery of gold in 1848. Several men who were prominent in the establishment of California statehood, including the first governor, Peter Burnett, were major Alviso businesspeople and landholders. It is not surprising that Alviso was one of the first cities incorporated after California became a state.

In the summer of 1849, Chester Layman, the surveyor of San Jose, laid out the streets for the City of Alviso. A toll road was built to carry produce and passengers between San Jose and the port. Charges were as follows: $1 for a 2-horse mule or oxen and $1.50 for a buggy, and 25 cents for a lone rider. Soon, hotels, taverns, stores and homes sprang up around the busy wharves. A steam powered mill was erected which provided flour for hungry mouths as far away as China.

Steamboats Arrive

The first passenger steamboat, the Sacramento, arrived in December 1849. It was soon joined by the Firefly, the Saludina and the Jenny Lind.

The latter came to a tragic end when on April 11, 1853, her boiler exploded, blowing out a bulkhead and scalding passengers while they were at dinner. At least 40 passengers died from the burns. Three prominent men were lost: Charles White, businessman and former mayor of San Jose; Bernard Murphy of the prominent Murphy clan; and Jacob D. Hopper, member of the California Convenion and one of Alviso's greatest boosters.

In spite of this accident and the coming of the railroad, steamers continued to carry people and produce to San Francisco well into this century. In the 1890s, the steamer Alviso made the daily run from Alviso, leaving at 7:30 in the evening and returning the following morning at 10:00. Produce moved at $1 per ton while passenger fares were 50 cents.

Railroads

In the span of only 6 years, California's mode of transportation evolved from sail to steam and then to railroads. The railroad was a faster, safer, cheaper and more direct way to San Francisco, so the opening of the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad in 1864 sent the bayside boomtown of Alviso into almost immediate obscurity. The seaport and other investments languished. Peter Burnett dismantled his house in Alviso and had it rebuilt in San Jose.

The coming of the Almaden to Santa Cruz South Pacific Coast narrow-gauge railroad in 1876 revived Alviso's hopes of becoming a shipping center again. A number of San Jose businessmen had nourished the hopes that the Alviso slough could be dredged and turned into a deep water port for ocean-going transports. In 1912, they convinced the city council to enact San Jose's first annexation, a strip 100 feet wide to Alviso. This land was to be used for a San Jose Alviso Railroad which, like the port, was never built.

New Chicago

There were only about 900 people living in Alviso in 1880 when the creative promoter P.H. Wheeler decided that he could move a bankrupt watch manufacturing company from San Diego to Alviso and finance it with the sale of lots in what he optimistically dubbed "New Chicago." Enlisting the aid of San Jose real estate men and politicians A.C. Darby, J.C. Roberts, Paul Austin, John W. Rea (state railway commissioner), John Richards and George A. Penniman, a large part of Alviso was subdivided into 4,000 lots with streets named after those in "old" Chicago — Dearborn, Michigan, Wabash, LaSalle, etc.

Teoting New Chicago and the Port of Alviso as the new great manufacturing center, the group was successful in selling lots priced from $3 to $200 each. By the summer of 1890, over 3,500 lots and 17,000 shares of the dredging company had been sold. The watch factory had been built, the machinery moved in and the employees hired when the bubble burst. Investors began to get nervous when the promised dredging of Alviso Slough failed to begin. When the watch company was too short of funds to make the payroll, panic set in. In an act of desperation, Wheeler sold the watchmaking equipment to a Japanese firm which continued, ironically, under his supervision to make Japanese watches stamped "San Jose Watch Company." The housing market of New Chicago would not be occupied until the 1960s when houses uprooted by redevelopment were moved onto some of them.

Chinese Period

I t fell to the Chinese, in particular on Thomas Foon Chew, to establish Alviso's most successful industry. Chew rebuilt and took over his father's Precita Canning Company after the 1906 earthquake, renamed it the Bayside Canning Company and transformed it into one of California's largest canning operations. Perhaps sympathizing with the plight of another businessman with a foreign background, A.P. Giannini befriended Thomas Chew and supported the cannery's expansion. Thomas Chew revolutionized canning practices and perfected a method of local asparagus which kept it firm and fresh tasting. The company employed hundreds of Chinese workers, many of whom lived in company-owned housing near the factory. The death of Chew in 1931, combined with the depression, brought an end to this productive era. Crumbling ruins are all that is left of what was once the third largest cannery in California.

Depression Years

During the late 20's and early 30's, Alviso had the reputation of a wide open town. Saloons and gambling operations operated under the very nose of the Sheriff's Department until finally coming to the attention of the Grand Jury, which directed a return to law and order.

The little town slumbered through World War II and the post-war years. It became the last pearl on the string of San Jose Manager Dutch Hamburger's annexations to San Jose in January 1968. The minority of Alviso residents who voted against annexation worried that the town would lose its character and identity. But thirty years have passed and little has changed.

The Alviso shoreline is a wonderful place to walk. One can enjoy the natural setting and ponder the vicissitudes of history.
Mrs. Thomas Fallon's Ancestry Verified

The controversy in San Jose regarding placement of the Thomas Fallon statue has now dissipated. What remains for genealogists and historians are the serious questions regarding Fallon's public career and private family life. As a genealogist, I have pursued the family elements of Thomas Fallon's life.

Among the basic questions to arise is, "Who was the wife of Thomas Fallon?" The few secondary sources to proffer the answer give her name as "Carmel," "Carmen," and "Carmelita." Likewise in rare surviving documents, her birthdate varies significantly. The fact that the birthdate for Mrs. Thomas Fallon takes on greater importance since her ethnic heritage has been contested by oral traditions and in secondary documentation. By verifying the parents of Carmen, we may better understand the character of Thomas, his impulses and actions during the Bear Flag Revolt, as well as his later activities during the Americanization of California.

The few authors who refer to Thomas Fallon's wife have perpetuated a major mistake. Previous historians and writers have recorded that Mrs. Fallon was a daughter of Martina Castro through marriage to her second husband, the Irish immigrant Michael Lodge. However, Mrs. Fallon was Maria Martina's daughter from her first marriage to Leon. This is proven by entry number 3502 in the 1868 Mission San Carlos Borromeo del Carmelo baptismal records. The actual birthdate is recorded as July 12, 1827, with the baptism taking place on the same day by Padre Ramon Abella. This record gives Mrs. Fallon's full Christian name as "Maria del Carmen Juana Josepha Adelaida." In this baptismal record, Maria del Carmen's father is proven to be Simon Cota. Señor Cota's military rank is stated in baptismal entry as "Captain of the Calvary" (Caballo de Los Compania De Caballeria). This document proves the accuracy of the 1845 Villa de Branciforto census, in which Maria del Carmen is identified with the surname "Cota" and shown as residing in the household of her step-father Michael Lodge. 

For those wishing to volunteer at the workshops, there are free. Others may attend for $10. The Peralta-Fallon site is seeking volunteers as costume designers, costumed interpreters, gardeners, docents, gift shop attendants, and program partners to help maintain and care for the overall exhibits. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact Judy Stable, Peralta-Fallon Director, at 993-8182.

Questions also remain concerning the paternity of the other children born to Maria Martina Castro and her birthdate. Researchers must turn to the authority of the mission baptismal registers to answer these genealogy questions. Maria Martina Castro is said to have married three times and twelve children are credited to her. The process of verifying her family relationships may be lengthy. The reward will be historical accuracy as well as a source of pride for those persons descended from this remarkable California land grantee whose life spanned nearly 100 years.

Footnotes:

(Tim is a librarian for the City of San Jose and has a B.A. in U.S. History and an M.A. in library science.)

Peralta-Fallon Volunteer Training to Begin

As part of the training for the volunteer staff at the Peralta-Fallon site, the San Jose Historical Museum Association is offering two workshops in January for those wishing to be costume designers or costumed interpreters. Volunteers with other areas of interest are also encouraged to attend as the workshops will help familiarize all volunteer staff with the project.

Ann Carter Lindsay, a Vintage Reflections volunteer at the Museum, will give the two workshops.

The dates, times and specifics of each workshop are listed below.

**Presentation of Mid 19th Century Clothing**
Wednesday, January 12, 1994
6:30 p.m., Fallon House Cellar

**Creating a Living History Character**
Wednesday, January 26, 1994
7 p.m., Fallon House Cellar

Chinese Historical and Cultural Project & San Jose Historical Museum Create "Golden Legacy"

For the past two years, a volunteer committee from the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project and the Historical Museum have worked together to develop the educational curriculum package, Golden Legacy, a copy of which will be given to every public elementary school in Santa Clara County during a reception at the Museum on Thursday, January 13, 1994. The package includes: 30 lessons, the award winning video "Home Base: A Chinatown Called Heinleven," twenty slides taken at Ng Shing Gung on the Museum grounds, an annotated bibliography, a teacher resource section and an index. This curriculum package was created to achieve the following overall goals: (1) Students will have a greater understanding of Chinese history and culture in San Jose; (2) Students will gain knowledge of contributions of the Chinese-American to local history; and (3) Students will better understand daily life in a Chinese family.

The Golden Legacy curriculum was designed for the third, fourth, and fifth grades as a complement to the California State Social Studies Framework. Golden Legacy celebrates the Chinese culture by recognizing the advantages of cultural diversity and promoting mutual respect for all. Anita Kwok from the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project served as project chairperson and Virginia Beck, Museum Curator of Education, served as project facilitator.

Victorian Christmas Doll Donation Drawing a Success

The Victorian Christmas doll donation drawing was a big success and brought much happiness to the winners whose tickets were drawn at the conclusion of Victorian Christmas on December 12. Congratulations to K. Argabright, Linda Larson, Becky Buck, Jennifer Carmansky, Kathy Campanella, J. Collins, Diana Cook, Joyce Cunningham, Bella Dagogio, Erin Downey, Amber Durac, Morris Ellis, Al Everett, Fawna Ferguson, Natalie Flores, Carolyne Hayes, David and Joan Heim, Christie Hemmerling, Phyllis Hoag, Emeo Irvine, Carrie Koester, Marge Kozowski, Anita Kwok, Richard Markaus, Marianne Marsano, Gail Moffat, Jane Montgomery, P.A. Moore, Luc Moyer, Mr. and Mrs. John O'connor, Pat Olson, Emily Perusa, Martha Pignone, Joyce Rabourn, Barbara Steffin, Gloria Stern, L. Takas, Eleanor Tettro, Ellen Turner, Nancy Valby, and Audra Webor.

A very special thank you to Eleanor Giaconale, Debbie Olson, Wood Reiling, and Evelyn Ucvorch. These individuals donated wonderful dolls to the donation drawing after the Association News went to press at the end of October. Their generosity greatly enhanced the drawing. Thank you once again to all the businesses and individuals who contributed to the drawing, as well as to our Museum friends who supported the drawing.

Laurel Perusa

**Vintage Reflections Boutique**


Lady's Gallery Magazine Featuring fashion, culture, & antiqués @ $3.95 a copy

**MCS**

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Kelley Park
1600 Senter Rd.
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 287-2299

TOURS OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

HOURS
10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday
Noon-4:30 p.m. Saturday – Sunday

ADMISSION
Adults $4.00
Children (6-17 years) 2.00
Seniors 5.00

FALLON HOUSE
Corner of San Pedro and St. John Streets
San Jose, CA
(408) 993-8182

HOURS
10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday & Saturday
Admission: all ages $3.00

Visit San Jose's Newest Old Building and San Jose's Newest New Building

WHEN: Wednesday, January 26, 1994

WHO: Association Members and their guests

HOW: Royal Coach bus leaving and returning to the Phelan Avenue Parking Lot

TIME: 10:00 a.m. Departure, 4:00 p.m. Return

COST: $28.50 for Association Members
$32.50 for Non-Members
Lunch at the new Bella Mia Restaurant is included

The trip in November was so successful we have decided to offer it again. There was a waiting list last time, so send your reservations in early.

Join us for a repeat tour of one of San Jose's oldest residences, the recently restored and furnished Fallon House. Owned by the CDA of San Jose and operated by the San Jose Historical Museum Association, the Fallon House has only been open since October 2. Furnished with artifacts and furniture from the collections of the San Jose Historical Museum, the de Sanaet Museum, the San Jose Museum of Art, and private donors, it is truly exquisite.

Our tour guide will be Judy Stahl, former San Jose City Councilmember and current Director of the Fallon House. Judy will share with us the history of the house and the Fallon family, the project itself, and the background on the furnishings. She is a delightful speaker and we know you will enjoy her commentary.

After the Fallon House tour, we will lunch at Bella Mia's new restaurant on South First Street. Located in a newly restored historic building, Bella Mia brings with it a reputation for excellence.

Our last stop is the brand new San Jose Arena, home of the Sharks. We will get a behind-the-scenes look at the facility and visit the executive VIP luxury suites and the VIP Club. The hour-long tour will also include a video presentation, "stick handling," and either a tour of the locker rooms (if the Sharks are not in town) or possibly a chance to watch a scrimmage if they are in town.

This is a wonderful opportunity to see San Jose's newest attractions. We will do the driving, the parking and the check; you just sit back and enjoy.

To make your reservation, send in your check, payable to the San Jose Historical Museum Association (SJHMA) and include the reservation form below, as well as a stamped self-addressed return envelope by January 19. Mail these to the attention of Judy Henderson at the San Jose Historical Museum Association, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112-2599. Refunds will only be made if there is a waiting list.

BUS TRIP TO THE FALLON HOUSE & SAN JOSE ARENA
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1994
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Name: ________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________
Phone: _______________________________________
# of Reservations ______ Lunch: Chinese Chicken Salad □ Lasagna □

Thanks for the Decorations, Garden City Doll Club!

The Association would like to express its appreciation to the Garden City Doll Club for decorating the Fallon House for Christmas. All the trimming was handmade and representative of the Civil War period. The staircase bannister, the front door, and selected pieces of furniture were also embellished. All the decorations received positive responses from Fallon House visitors.

Thanks to Frances Talley, committee chairwoman, and her elves Jean Braunigam, Martha Cattich, Ann Kukrak, Helen Farotto, Eleanor Gialalone, Judy Henderson, Marian Keone, Joan Lessnowick, Barbara Markey, Catherine Mason, Arline Norrisworth, and Joanne O'Brien. Hope you'll be back next year.

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 12 Peninsula-Fallon Volunteer Lecture
Mid-19th Century Clothing 6:00 PM
Fallon House Cellar

January 26 Bas Trip
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Leaving Phelan Avenue lot

January 26 Peninsula-Fallon Volunteer Lecture
Creating a Living History Character 7:00 PM
Fallon House Cellar

January 27 Lecture Series
California Log cabin Heritage
7:30 PM
Pacific Hotel Meeting Room

February 10 Lecture Series
Ten Local Court Cases
7:30 PM
Pacific Hotel Meeting Room

February 24 Lecture Series
County Courthouse Restoration 7:30 PM
Firehouse Meeting Room

Mr. Mrs./Miss

Zip +4

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS
$1,000 Mission Circle
$500 Pueblo Circle
$250 Tower Circle
$100 Century Circle
$50* Contributor Circle
$45 Family
$35 Individual
$35 Senior Citizens (1 or 2)
Please check one of the following:
I will □ include $1.50 for mailing of my book. □ pick up my book at the Museum. □ NOT be obtaining my 1994 book

Gift of:
Please indicate method of payment: □ Check □ Cash
□ Mastercard □ Visa □ Expiration Date

Credit Card # ____________________________
Signature ________________________________

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If you are employed by a machinery gift company, please obtain the appropriate item from your employer. 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: SJHMA, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112-2599

(Res.) Phone

□ 1994 Renewal
□ New Member
□ New Member