



history|san José

silicon valley from a to z

1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA

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The Exchange

Valley of Heart's Delight Reopening

On October 10th, HSJ will reopen the *Valley of Heart's Delight* exhibit with a member's-only preview and reception showcasing three new additions to the exhibit. The premier piece was discovered when History San José staff were moving the latest group of artifacts to the Collection Center. A 100-inch panoramic photograph, circa 1936, was found. Taken by noted local photographer J. C. Gordon, the piece is in excellent condition and includes a hand-

written caption, "65 Acres...Largest Single Acreage of Kentucky Wonder Pole Beans Grown Anywhere. Owned, Grown, and Packed by San José Canning Co., Inc. San José, CA."

In addition, two other panoramas donated by the estate of Burrel Leonard will be added to the exhibit. These three photographs are not only stunning examples of panoramic photography, but they epitomize the slogan *Valley of Heart's Delight*. The exhibit will be reconfigured to accommodate these photographs as well as other artifacts.

After the October 10th reopening, the exhibit will be open to the public and serve as a focal point for the very successful Valley of Heart's Delight school program.



Pictured here are 10 inches of J.C. Gordon's panorama. To see the other 90 inches you'll have to come see the exhibit! Photo: Sarah Puckitt

Inside The Exchange

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Ordinary Heroes

There are many definitions of a hero. An extraordinary person who inspires us all to be better people by the sheer power of their will or of their example. An ordinary person who does extraordinary things. Or an ordinary person who does ordinary things under extraordinary circumstances. In the notes to one of her productions, choreographer Twyla Tharp defines a hero as "someone who trusts twice." I like that one a lot.

Whatever the definition, there was no question for all of us at History Makers on Thursday, May 9th, that we were in the presence of heroes. The ordinary responses of four very different people to the more than extraordinary circumstances of World War II are the stuff upon which our nation is built.

Now retired in Menlo Park, Carl E. Clark was born in Denver, Colorado, in 1916 and joined the U.S. Navy in 1936, when a man of his color could only aspire to be an officer's steward and could never hope to be an officer himself. He was stationed at Kaneohe Navy Air Base, five miles from Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1941. Throughout the war and beyond, he fought racism in the Navy as well as the enemy abroad, and he retired as a chief petty officer after twenty-two years of service.

Our own Mary Lamson, a long-time HSJ volunteer, was a nurse at a medical clinic in Waikiki on December 7, 1941. Her husband of three years was assigned to the USS *Enterprise*. He later served throughout the Pacific. Mary lived in post-war Japan when her husband was assigned to service in the Korean conflict. Her calm acceptance, wonderful stories, and good humor charmed us all.

Robert Smith, now retired in Berkeley, was a medic in the European Theater, who spoke with vivid passion about the stolid steadfastness and offbeat humor of the medics who kept the men and women patched together through the inhuman conditions of an inhuman war. We will all remember with a chill his description of marching in the liberation parade through Paris.

But even among these, Harry Fukuhara was special. Here was an American citizen classified as an Enemy Alien who volunteered from an internment camp to serve in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service (MIS) in the Pacific. He served on the front lines in the Philippines, New Guinea, New Britain, and Mauritania. He was preparing for the ultimate invasion of Japan when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, where his family still lived.

He told his story to an absolutely silent audience with a quiet eloquence that deeply moved us all. We are privileged to share his story with you elsewhere in this newsletter. If you have the chance, be sure to watch the story of the MIS soldiers when *Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties* is replayed on public television.

And be sure to take the time to thank Harry--and Robert and Mary and Carl and all the others you know like them. We owe them so much. And we may never know their like again.

David Crosson
President & CEO

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2002-2003

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Santa Clara County Cattle Brand Book

While doing some routine work, facility technician Khris De Vargas noticed for the first time a trap door in the ceiling of his office. He got a ladder and a flashlight, opened the door, and looked around. He noticed something wrapped in a dirty sheet and pulled it down into his office. Unwrapping the bundle, he found a Cattle Brand Book and immediately called Archivist Paula Jabloner. To Jabloner's amazement the book included all brands registered from the founding of Santa Clara County in 1850 to 1917.



Brand Book Cover - Brand Book Santa Clara County 1850-1917, and a sample page from the book. Photos: Sarah Puckitt

The book reads like a Who's Who of the Valley's history with the first brand being "Senal de D Dolores Pacheco." There are also Peraltas, Berreyesas, Noriegas, Bernals, Murphys, Reeds and Forbes to name but a few of the hundreds of brands listed. Current staff has no idea why or how this valuable artifact ended up in the ceiling, but we do know it sustained water damage and needs to be

conserved. The book has been turned over to paper and rare book conservator Kathleen Orlenko. Cost of the conservation treatment totals \$1000. If you are interested in donating funds to help conserve this incredible artifact please contact Resource Development Manager Linda Spencer at (408) 918-1042.



Restoration Complete

Restoration of the Kleiber "Signal" Oil truck is complete! You may remember from the June 2000 issue of the *Exchange*, HSJ announced a generous gift from the Lopes family and Western States Oil Company. Steve Lopes donated this rare truck and the funds necessary for its restoration. Labor to restore the truck came from the Trolley Barn Volunteers. After two years of painstaking work upholstering, painting, and even casting replacement parts for the truck, it is complete. You can see the stunning results in the Fred Bennett Trolley Barn at History Park where the truck is on display.

HSJ President/CEO David Crosson thanks Steve Lopes and the Trolley Barn Volunteers at the *Antique Autos in the Park* car show on May 5, 2002. Pictured from left to right Rod Sohn, Steve Lopes, Allen Greenberg, Frank Dorr, Louis Tambini and David Crosson. Photo: Sarah Puckitt

October is History Month

The Heritage Council of Santa Clara Valley has been hard at work organizing History Month which is taking place in October. Playing off the theme "Discover the Past," the county's regional history museums

have divided up into rough geographic groups and claimed a weekend in October to host a special event or activity.

History San José's weekend is October 12 & 13 when the organization will highlight the re-opening of the *Valley of Heart's Delight* exhibit. A detailed list of participants, dates and activities is available on History San José's website www.historysanjose.org.

Gay Nineties Theatre in San José

by Jack Douglas

Live theater entertainment was all the people of San José had during the 1800's. Without television or burgeoning movie multiplexes they were dependent upon theatrical troupes and musicians to visit their town.

Early theaters in small towns were often improvised or crude. One of San José's earliest was an old armory that Gustav Brohaska remodeled and dubbed the "Opera House." In 1878 the California Theatre, constructed on North First Street, offered even better facilities. Both of these were destroyed in fires – the Opera House in 1881 and the California in 1892.

Horticultural Hall, built in 1886 on San Fernando Street, was a large barn-like building. The ladies of San José gathered support for its construction as a place to hold their numerous flower and winter citrus shows. With the demise of the California Theatre, however, the Horticultural Hall became San José's only venue capable of producing theatrical events. Renamed the Auditorium Theatre by its new manager, San Francisco's Grand Opera House impresario Walter Morosco, the hall was soon featuring major performers.

Of the many noted performers to grace the primitive stage of the Auditorium Theatre, perhaps the most glamorous was the French actress Anna Held. Anna was the discovery of Florenz Ziegfeld who would later become famous for his Follies. The town was abuzz with the news that the famous beauty would perform on Thursday night April 16, 1898. *The San Jose Mercury* reported: She is *plumply petite, as sparkling as Roeder and as piquant looking as a Spanish beauty peeking at you through a grilled window.*

If the playgoers enjoyed Anna's act it was not mentioned in the *Mercury* or the *San Jose News*. Instead the headlines cried out: *Angry Anna Held, and May Sue the Sheriff.* It appeared that Sheriff James Lyndon had impounded the private railway car in which Miss Held traveled during her tour. This was a result of non-payment of an \$8.95 claim by a dry cleaner in the city of Oakland. Anna had refused to pay this piddling sum, declaring that the cleaner had destroyed her \$600 dress.

The Oakland authorities had declined to act on this matter, but Sheriff Lyndon was not about to let these big city theater folks off easily. The *Mercury* seemed to sympathize with the distressed prima donna: *Anna held up bravely until the proceedings were over and then in choice mixed English and French announced her plan to sue the Sheriff for \$10,000 in damages for the detention of the car.* The article went on to



French actress Anna Held. Photo courtesy of Reutlinger Photo

say that she would have been even more distressed had the Sheriff impounded her pet monkey and parrot and her collection of animal curiosities. If this indignity was not enough, a San Francisco photographer obtained and served a search warrant to retrieve a photo of Miss Held which had not been returned by her advance man.

Manager Ziegfeld declared: *It is of course absurd for a suit of \$8.95 to be brought against Miss Held, the only course of action being an effort to protect the firm (cleaner) from a suit for damages in the destruction of Miss Held's dress.* Ziegfeld was in a quandary: either pay the bill and leave, or stay and miss their evening's engagement in Stockton. His lawyers saved the day by posting a \$100 bond.

The train was on its way by mid-morning, and as the *Mercury* writer put it: *Taking it altogether, Miss Held is having a lively time on the Coast.* Flo Ziegfeld probably felt that he got a lot of publicity for \$8.95. Anna was back four years later to perform in San José's new Victory Theatre on North First Street.

Programs for Teachers and Students

History San José kicks off the 2002-3 school year after Labor Day with a dozen programs for classes and teachers.

Returning this Fall is *Valley of Heart's Delight* school program experience, an interactive program exploring the history of agriculture in the Santa Clara Valley. The program is based on HSJ's current exhibition, *Valley of Heart's Delight: From Orchards to Suburbs in Santa Clara Valley*, and was designed with the Teacher Advisory Committee for third- and fourth-grade classes studying local history. Students "search and find" compelling photographs in the exhibit, study agricultural equipment in the Fruit Barn, and even practice picking and weighing fruit as they learn about the Valley's role in

world food production. Subjects such as mathematics, geography and immigration are covered in this multidisciplinary school program.

A teacher workshop for *Valley of Heart's Delight* is scheduled for Saturday, October 5, 2002, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Senior Curator Alida Bray will lead a special walk-through of the exhibition, which includes three extraordinary panoramic photographs that will be on display for the first time. Museum educators will give an overview of the program and present ideas for pre- and post-visit lessons. Teachers will have an opportunity to register for the accompanying school program for third- and fourth-grade classes.

The workshop fee is \$10 per person, and the fee is deductible from field trip registration fees if booking *Valley of Heart's Delight* school program in the 2002-3 school year. In addition, teachers may apply for one Continuing Education Unit (CEU) through the History-Social Science Project at San José State University. CEU candidates will complete an assignment requiring ten hours of study and/or preparation and pay a \$60 registration fee to SJSU.

A complete description of the school programs and teacher workshop is available through the education office at 408-918-1040 and on the HSJ web site at www.historysanjose.org.

Arline Cox

By any standard of measurement, Arline Cox was a remarkable person. The \$15,000 bequest she left to History San José upon her death on March 21, 2001 is but one indication of her commitment to the cultural life of her community.

The activities that filled her 88-year life are too numerous to itemize. A music teacher and administrator in the Alum Rock School District until 1977, she was involved with more than a dozen local and national organizations related to music, education and philanthropy.

Her son David Cox surmises that his mother's fascination with the history of this area was inspired by her 60-year residency in San José, during which time she watched Silicon Valley's dramatic evolution from a region of rural orchards into the high-tech capital we know today. One of her favorite ways to entertain out-of-town guests and her six grandchildren in the '70s and '80s was to take them to History Park.

Arline Cox's legacy abides in her two grown children who are also



Arline Lilly Cox

accomplished musicians, in the bequest to HSJ which will be used for educational outreach such as the school program based on the exhibit *Valley of Heart's Delight*, and in the people who frequently stopped her on the street and asked, "Weren't you my music teacher in 1953?" Her life demonstrates that Silicon Valley's heritage was graced by people who were dedicated not only to the development of agriculture and technology, but to the pursuits of the mind, heart and spirit as well.

History Park Senior Faire

On September 18th, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., History San José will host the *History Park Senior Faire*. Area seniors are invited to come out to History Park for this first-time event. This special day will include tours, performances and history-based talks by local authors. The trolley will be running and Portraits of the Past will conduct short performances highlighting the Victorian era.

Though the name was selected via a suggestion box in the HSJ lunchroom, the concept of the event is the brainchild of long-time volunteer Alicelee Ewan. Alicelee brought the idea to HSJ's Kristin McCaman, who presented the idea to management staff. It was approved and Alicelee and her team of volunteers have taken the ball and run with it. For more information or to RSVP, please call (408) 918-1046.

Westward Ho Wins Award

Westward Ho!, HSJ's fifth-grade program, has received the Oregon-California Trails Association's (OCTA) Outstanding Educator Award for Institution/Museum. The award recognizes exemplary educators who have dedicated themselves to "making the teaching of the westward migration an important, meaningful, and interesting part of students' education." The award will be presented at OCTA's annual convention in Reno on August 14th. Westward Ho volunteer Martha Champion nominated the program for this award in the early spring – a task that required much legwork and ingenuity. Please join us in congratulating all the volunteers and staff who have contributed to Westward Ho's fantastic success!



School children participate in the award winning Westward Ho! program.

A Very Special Program for Members Only

Smithsonian Voices of Discovery is a national outreach component of the Smithsonian Associates. Originated as a complement to the 150th anniversary exhibition, "America's Smithsonian," the program continues to send scholars to communities nationwide to make presentations to a wide variety of cultural, educational, business and civic organizations.

History San José is pleased to partner with the San José branch of the American Association for University Women to present *Mexican Pre-Hispanic Cuisine*, a slide lecture by Gregorio Luke, Smithsonian lecturer and Director of the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach, California.

Mexican Pre-Hispanic Cuisine will be presented on Saturday, October 26, 11:00 a.m. at History Park. Weather permitting, there will be a cooking demonstration and tours of the exhibit and buildings. Admission is free and limited to members of History San José and the American Association of University Women only. Seating is very limited and must be reserved by calling (408) 918-1043.

History Makers: California Before The Rush

Join History San José's President and CEO David Crosson for the next installment of History Makers on Thursday, August 8th at 7:00p.m. at the Barnes and Nobel Booksellers at the corner of Almaden Expressway and Blossom Hill Road. Co-sponsored by Heyday Books, the panel discussion is titled *California Before the Rush* and will focus on life in California before the Gold Rush from the Spanish, Mexican, Native American and Naturalists perspectives. The panel includes Professors Rose Marie Beebe & Robert M. Senkewicz, Santa Clara University, co-editors of *Lands of Promise and Despair, Chronicles of Early California, 1535-1846*; Professor Edward Castillo, Sonoma State University, author of *Native American Perspectives on the Hispanic Colonization of Alta California*, Robin Grossinger, landscape ecologist and director of the Bay Area Historical Ecology Project.

History Makers is a FREE quarterly series sponsored by HSJ and Barnes and Nobel Booksellers.

Everyone Had a Great Time at the Valley Heritage Festival



Photos courtesy of John Paulson,
Master Photographer



My Story — 50 Years Later By Col. (Ret.) Harry Fukuhara



Photo of Harry Fukuhara taken in December 1945.

As dawn broke on October 2, 1945, I stood on the platform of the Hiroshima City railroad station and stared at the sight before me. I had driven 24 hours continuously from Kobe

around washed-out roads, through rice paddies, even on railroad trestles to get there.

But I was not there to assess damage or report back intelligence. I was driven by a personal mission. I had come to find my family. If they were alive.

Here is how I came to be there.

I was born in Seattle in 1920 of Japanese parents who immigrated to the U.S. My father died in 1933 from a prolonged illness, and that same year, my mother took the family, consisting of 3 brothers and a sister, back to her home. I went with great reluctance.

I came back to the U.S. almost as quickly as I could—in 1938, upon my graduation from high school in Hiroshima. I was working my way through college in Los Angeles as a houseboy and gardener... when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Like more than 100,000 other Japanese and Japanese Americans, I was interned. In November 1942, I volunteered from the Gila River internment camp in Arizona for the U.S. Army, and trained at the Military Language School at Camp Savage, Minnesota.

Our mission was to serve as interpreters, interrogators and translators with combat units fighting against the Japanese Imperial Army. We were Nisei

Army linguist soldiers trained to use our Japanese language capabilities to support our fighting forces by providing timely and useful information against an enemy we knew so little about.

When the war against Japan ended in August 1945, I was on the island of Luzon, in the Philippines... to regroup, retrain and prepare for the final showdown, a fearsome assault on Japan.

I had been overseas for almost 2 years.... I had taken part in 3 enemy landings and 5 military operations.... I was suffering from battle fatigue, and I had been hospitalized several times with malaria. I was physically and emotionally exhausted.

How did I feel... when I first learned about the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima? One of my duties was to explain to the Japanese POWs what had just happened. I told them that a new bomb... had been dropped on Hiroshima on August 5th and that one single explosion had completely wiped out the entire city... from the face of the earth.

For the first few days, I kept thinking: Why?—why did they drop it on Hiroshima? There were many other better targets. My thinking degraded to the point that I blamed myself—that they [my family] had died because I had volunteered to fight against them.

After arriving in Japan in mid-September 1945... my jeep driver and I finally made it to Hiroshima.... I was astounded at what I saw. Standing on the Hiroshima City railroad station platform, I could see all the way across to the other side of the City, a distance of several miles. It was eerie and lifeless. There was no movement or noise.

Finally, we found the house where I had lived 7 years before. The two of us... knocked on the door of my house. It seemed like a long time and finally two

emaciated-looking elderly women appeared at the door. It was my mother and my aunt, but neither said a word.... I had rehearsed what I was going to say, but when they both stood there looking scared I just said, "Mom, I'm home...."

My older brother, Victor, was lying on the floor upstairs. He had been on his way to work when the bomb fell. He was dying, but I did not know it then.

My 2 older brothers, Pierce and Frank, had just returned home a few days before my arrival. Both had been drafted into the Japanese Army. I found out years later that both had been assigned to suicide units near the beach where my 33rd Division was supposed to have landed... as part of that massive and dreaded final assault....

Sometimes I look at it and think it was fortuitous. My older brother died from the atomic bomb, but my 2 younger brothers... and myself... are alive today because of it. Plus my mother.

For years, by virtue of a silent mutual agreement, we avoided talking about what happened to our family in Hiroshima. The only balm for the tragedy was time—a full half century.

In conclusion, I would like to leave you with this thought: We Nisei linguist soldiers... would like to... tell our story as we saw it in our own reticent way...; [W]e should remember the MIS men and women soldiers who served both the country of their birth and the country of the parents in time of need. This is the legacy we would like to leave for the Japanese American generations to follow, and we are confident that our efforts were not in vain.

Edited by David Crosson from an address given by Col. Fukuhara to the Asian American Journalists Association at the Hilton Hawaiian Village on August 25, 1995. Col. Fukuhara now lives in San José, California.

A World of Gratitude

History San José is grateful for the support of all its members. Listed below are gifts of \$1,000 or more received between January 1, 2001 and May 31, 2002.

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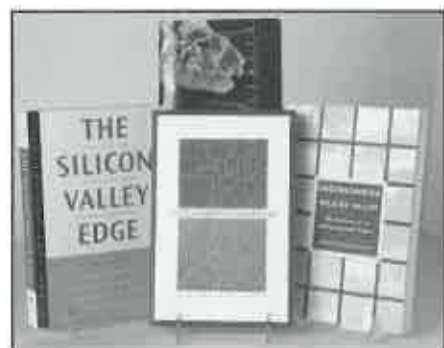
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Great Reading

Lands of Promise and Despair, Chronicles of Early California 1535-1846 edited by Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz, is a collection of reminiscences, letters and documents by residents of early California. This book provides a unique opportunity to experience the vast and varied landscape of early California and offers an insider's view of Spanish and Mexican California. Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz will be participating in the History San José History Makers program at Barnes & Noble on August 8.



From Orchards to Apple Explore the history of Silicon Valley with these recently published books presenting different perspectives on the environment that has made Silicon Valley so successful and the impact of the momentous changes on this region – *Artifacts, An Archaeologist's Year in Silicon Valley; cultures@siliconvalley; The Silicon Valley Edge, A Habitat for Innovation and Entrepreneurship; and Understanding Silicon Valley, The Anatomy of an Entrepreneurial Region.*

A Magical Collection

Signed copies of award-winning author, Francisco X. Alarcón's books, *Iguanas in the Snow and Other Winter Poems, Angels Ride Bikes and Other Fall Poems, Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems, and From the Bellybutton of the Moon and Other Summer Poems*, are available in the Museum Store. His four books of poems honor the wonders of life and nature; welcoming the morning sun, paying tribute to family and celebrating the simple joys and trials of everyday life.



Photos: Sarah Puckitt

Museum Information

Please call 408-918-1040 for reservations and current program prices.

Sites

History Park
Kelley Park, 1650 Senter Road
San José, CA 95112
408-287-2290, Fax 408-287-2291

Peralta Adobe & Fallon House
175 W. St. John St., San José, CA 95110
408-993-8182, Fax 408-993-8184

Administrative Offices

1650 Senter Road
San José, CA 95112
408-287-2290, Fax 408-287-2291
www.historysanjose.org

Fees

General Admission Fees

A ticket for both sites is valid two weeks from date of purchase.

	One site	Both sites
Adult	\$6.00	\$10.00
Senior (age 65+)	\$5.00	\$8.00
Youth (age 6-17)	\$4.00	\$6.00
Child (5 and under)	Free	Free

Group Tour Fees

10 or more individuals who have pre-scheduled a tour

	One site	Both sites
Adult	\$5.00	\$8.00
Senior (age 65+)	\$4.00	\$6.00
Youth (age 6-17)	\$3.00	\$4.00
Child (5 and under)	Free	Free

Hours

History Park & Gallery: Tues. - Fri., Noon to 5:00 p.m., self-guided tours, admission is free.
Museum Store: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. & **O'Brien's café:** 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sat. & Sun., Noon - 5:00 p.m., docent-guided tours, regular admission fee. Last tour leaves at 3:00 p.m. **Museum Store and O'Brien's café:** Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Peralta/Fallon: Sat.-Sun., Noon to 5:00 p.m., docent-guided tours; regular admission fee. Last tour leaves at 3:30 p.m.

Office hours at both sites:

Mon.- Fri., 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

All school programs and group tours must be reserved. School programs - group tours are offered Mon. - Fri., 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Group tours are offered Tues. - Sun. by reservation only. Call 408-918-1040.

Programs

School Programs: Experience Adobe Days ~ Experience Victorian Days ~ Explore Peralta/Fallon ~ Explore San José's Past ~ Historic Transportation Experience ~ History Hike ~ School Days in the 1890s ~ Valley of Heart's Delight ~ Victorian School Kit ~ Westward Ho! ~ Women Who Made A Difference

Outreach Programs: Portraits of the Past