



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUSEUM of LOCAL HISTORY

Summer Newsletter June – September 2017

President's Message

We have some exciting things coming for the second half of this year! First up is a special celebration of Niles memories on Saturday, June 10th. This event includes a talk, displays, walking tour and a dinner. We hope you can attend!

For the next four months we have a walking tour scheduled for every third Saturday (with the exception of Niles, which is being held on the second Saturday). In June we visit Niles, in July we explore Newark, in August we bike Decoto, and in September we walk Centerville. For more information on any or all of these walks, read on and mark your calendars early!

Keep your eyes peeled for more information about our annual volunteer/donor luncheon. Mark your calendars for the date: Saturday, July 22nd 11:30am – 2:00pm. Also, note the date for the annual Niles Flea Market and Antique Fair.

We will be having a garage sale in Niles that weekend – Saturday and Sunday, August 26th & 27th.

In October, we will celebrate 100 years of the Roeding Family and their nursery business in Niles. More details on that event will be available in our next newsletter, coming out in early September.

Rancho Higuera Historical Park has been given some much needed undivided attention as of late, as our dedicated (and self-named) Rancho Higuera Caretakers Group has been working hard at upkeep. The museum does not own the park, but merely serves as a caretaker for this city-owned property. We are so grateful for our dedicated volunteers, but we can always use more. Do you love being outdoors and have a few hours to spare? Please contact the museum if you're interested in joining the team.

On a more somber note, we mourn our friend and member Lionel Goularte, who recently passed away. Lionel was a great friend to many of our members and was well known in the community. He participated in our volunteer/donor luncheon last July with a wonderful recalling of his childhood at the Higuera Adobe property. We are working on making the videotape of that event more public by uploading it to our website. Lionel will be missed by us all.

As always, thank you for reading and being a part of this wonderful historic community in Fremont, Newark and Union City. Happy summer to you all!

Board Members

President: Kelsey Camello

Vice President: Gil Garza

Secretary: Timothy Swenson

Treasurer: Gerry Curry

Board: Alan Nagy

Board: Patty Lacy

Board: Harry Avila

Alternate: Stuart Guedon

Alternate: Tom Heater

Additions to Collections

Jeanette Johnson donated two large aerial photos of Irvington and Centerville.

Lee Desalles donated color slides of Niles in the 1950s. His father was a fireman in Niles during that time.

Susan Vargas Murphy donated items related to Evelyn Brownie Rose & Susan Rose Vargas (her mother), including artwork and photographs. Other items she donated were related to Warm Springs, Centerville, Washington High School and Regalia from the Warm Springs Portuguese fraternal organization, SPRSI, Council number 84.

Stuart Guedon donated various maps, surveys and aerials.

Susan & Bill Scalice donated various Worlds of Wonder (Teddy Ruxpin) products.

Dan Mosier donated a photo of old Alvarado at the site of the first county courthouse.

Mike Andrade donated images of the 1947 Mission sesquicentennial celebration and other images of Mission San Jose.

Various people donated images, news clippings and video interviews related to Niles as a part of the Our Heritage Oral History Project - Niles Memories. Donors: **Thelma Frates Jones and Lorraine Frates Harlan, Carol Zilli, Arlene King, Roby Pierce, Sandy Guderyon, Susanne & David Turner (Hewitt), B.J. Bunting, Dan Rodarte, Marian Speno, Anita Deppner, Art Kimber, Harriet Whitney.**



Best of Fremont 2017

This year we were once again voted the "Best Museum in Fremont". Thank you to everyone who voted for us!

An Update on Tours



children and adults and exploring with them our exciting history. Contact Dianne at 510-673-4813. She would love to hear from you!

The school year is coming to a close, as are our tours of the museum and Rancho Higuera Historical Park. This year we had 16 tours of 4th graders at the adobe, while the museum hosted 10 tours of 3rd graders. We also had tours at both locations for senior groups and cub scouts. It is so gratifying to see students and adults excited about our past as we put the learning in their hands. Are you interested in volunteering 4 hours a month or more? If so, you will join a group of dedicated docents who love working with



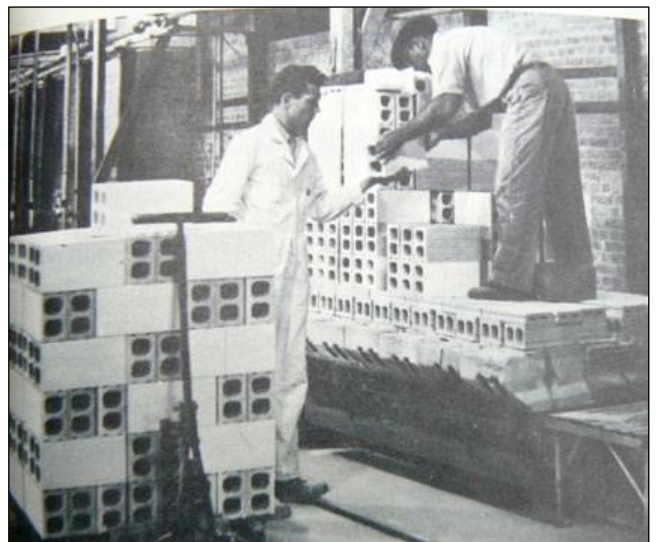
Lowrie Button Collection to be displayed at antique club meeting

The museum has a beautiful button collection, which was assembled in 1946 by Elizabeth Lowrie, former Irvington librarian and a member of one of Irvington's pioneer families. This collection includes buttons from the early 1800s as well as some interesting local medals/medallions. On Tuesday, July 11th, Patricia Schaffarczyk will discuss the history of Elizabeth Lowrie in Irvington and display and discuss the button collection at the monthly meeting of Las Antiquelagas, a local antique club.

The public is invited to attend the gathering, which will be held at the Niles Canyon Mobile Estates Community Center - 711 Old Canyon Road in Fremont's Niles district. The meeting and luncheon begin at 12 noon.

Clay/Ceramics Industry – call for information

One of our members, Dan Mosier is researching the history of the clay/ceramics industry in the Tri-City area for a book and would like to interview anyone who worked at any of the manufacturing plants, has plant photographs, or knows about the products that were made here. Mosier is focusing on the brick, roof tile, floor tile, sewer and drain pipes, and refractory products that were made by our local firms, such as Mission Clay Products, California Pottery Co., Harbison-Walker Refractory Co., Laclede Christy Clay Co., Kraftile, Interlocking Roof Tile Co. (Pessagno & Sons), M & S Tile Co (Thomas Handmade Roof Tiles), W. S. Dickey Clay Mfg. Co., E. J. Lavino Co., and others.



If you have any information to share, please contact Mosier at 510-651-2514 or danmosier@earthlink.net.

Volunteer Spotlight

Big thanks to C.K. Lim, Anthony Guzman and Al Nagy for technical help with our computers and scanners. These three dedicated volunteers have put in many hours to keep our computers working. Thank you so much!





Lionel Bartholomew Goularte October 5, 1925 – March 28, 2017

It's with great sadness that we report the passing of our friend and longtime Fremont resident, Lionel Goularte. Lionel was a generous donor in many ways, and it was always a good time when listening to his stories about growing up at the Galindo-Higuera Adobe property. He will be missed by us all.

Mission San Jose Sesquicentennial Reprise

We had a small, but lively group that came out for the showing of the 1947 MSJ Sesquicentennial pageant play entitled, "We Build Here a Mission" by John Sandoval, with narrated soundtrack. The movie was short, but full of laughs, and we were even treated to a firsthand account and personal photos from that 1947 weekend by Betty Andrade, who attended our event. We still have copies available in our bookstore of the Washington News special edition MSJ 150th anniversary 1947 news booklet. If interested in purchasing a copy (cost: \$5), please contact the museum or place an order on our website.



Family Day on the Rancho

Family Day was a lovely event for the families who attended. Our visitors enjoyed making candles, bricks, and corn husk dolls. Also, children and adults got their hands dirty making bricks. Some children looked so cute trying on the clothes that children wore during the early days of Fremont. The children especially liked taking swings at the piñata and collecting the candy as it poured out while the adults cheered. We had five students from the Ohlone Puente program help with setup, tear down and decorations. Rattlesnake Roger joined us again with his display of spurs, chaps and other memorabilia from California's rancho period. The sun was warm, the sky was blue, and all had a good time. We hope to see you there next year!

Volunteer Opportunities

We are currently in need of the following. Can you or someone you know help?

- tour guides and docents for adult and student tours (museum and adobe)
- researchers for various projects

- collections and archiving help
- technical help / IT specialists
- a membership chairperson





Historic Walking Tours

Thank you to everyone who has come out and enjoyed our recent walking tours. We've had great turnouts for each walk. For our Alvarado tour we had 15 attendees, and on our Irvington tour we had about 20.

Upcoming tours:

\$5 suggested donation for all tours

Niles Walking Tour, with Essanay Film Museum and led by David Kiehn. Saturday, June 10th at 3pm. Meet at Essanay Silent Film Museum on Niles Blvd. Tour booklet included.

Newark Walking Tour, led by Alan Nagy. Saturday, July 15th at 11am. Meet at the corner of Thornton and Ash Streets in front of Watkins Hall. Tour booklet included.

Decoto Biking Tour, led by Timothy Swenson. Saturday, August 19th at 11am. Meet in the parking lot of Dry Creek/Pioneer Regional Park, located at the end of May Road (near Whipple and Mission

Blvd). Tour booklet available from <http://museumoflocalhistory.org/resources/historical-papers/historical-papers-union-city/> and then click on "Decoto Bike Tour" at the bottom of the page.

Centerville Walking Tour, led by Timothy Swenson. Saturday, September 16th at 11am. Meet in front of Holy Spirit Church on Fremont Blvd. Tour booklet available from <http://museumoflocalhistory.org/resources/historical-papers/historical-papers-fremont/> and then click on "Centerville Walking Tour" at the top of the page.



Ducks 4 Bucks a Success!

Thank you to everyone who participated and/or donated to the Ducks 4 Bucks effort. 5,550 rubber ducks swam in the race, held on April 22nd. The museum was able to raise \$579 dollars, all of which went toward our continued archiving efforts. We look forward to participating in this event again next year.





Ways to Donate

Wondering how you can donate to the museum?

1 Donations can be made with money, by becoming a member, increasing your membership contribution, gifting a membership to friends or family members, by giving a general donation, or by donating to a specific project.

2 Donations can also be made in-kind, by giving items to the museum. These items can be either historical, or useful for the day to day operation of the museum.

3 A third way of donating is by giving time, energy, and skills – volunteering! We can always use another helping hand.

4 Finally, the newest way that you can give to the museum is by donating appreciated securities. If you already use Vanguard for your investments, Vanguard offers a form to accomplish this. If you use someone else, a letter of authorization should be sent to your broker with a request to send a specific number of shares (must exceed \$1,000 in value) to: Museum of Local History Guild, EIN 94-3230552, Account # 51670697 - Vanguard Group, PO Box 1103, Valley Forge, PA 19482-1103.

Save your taxes and money by donating appreciated stock to the Washington Township Museum of Local History!

You can now give appreciated stock to the WTMLH which you have held for more than one year and you may take a charitable tax deduction for the market value of the stock. Neither you nor the WTMLH have to pay capital gains taxes when the tax is sold!

- The combination can result in a bigger deduction (and more tax savings) for you and a bigger gift for the museum.
- This is a tax planning tool derived from the IRS general rule that the deduction for a donation of “property” is equal to the fair market value of the donated “property”. What the stocks have gained in value, the donor does not have to recognize the gain.
- This allows you to double up on your donation to the WTMLH by a charitable deduction and avoid tax on the appreciation in value of the stock.
- Your tax advisor is your best source for information on how you, personally, may benefit from this gift of appreciated stock to the museum.

If you are interested in receiving an easy to use form to be taken to donate your appreciated stock, contact the museum at info@museumoflocalhistory.org

Interested in donating to or establishing a fund in memory of a loved one? Contact the museum today!

Currently established memorial funds:

Randy Power Fund
Lionel Goularte Fund
Eilif Andersen Fund
Regena Dennie Fund

Newark Review Facebook Group

Local history buff, Develin Click has started a Facebook Group titled “Newark Review – A look through Newark California’s rich history”. The group already has over 475 members! Develin enjoys spending his spare time chronicling Newark’s history, and he and others share many insights into the rich history of Newark. This is a public group, therefore, anyone can join. Join today to learn about the long history of Newark.



Controversy In New Haven



Published By
Washington Township
Museum of Local History



Controversy in New Haven – a new paper released by Tim Swenson

The New Haven Unified School District was formed in 1965 by combining the Alvarado and Decoto School Districts and James Logan High School from the Washington Union School District. The joining of the school district was fairly harmonious. The only issue in the local newspaper, the “Union City Leader”, was the name of the district. The “Union City Leader” was advocating for the Union City Unified School District and was disappointed about the name “New Haven.” Two years after the founding of the school district, a huge controversy erupted in the district, leading to large public attendance at meetings, calls of illegal activities and a resolution by having a recall election. This paper documents the controversy in a chronological style.

To download a copy go to <http://museumoflocalhistory.org/resources/historical-papers/historical-papers-union-city/> and click on “Controversy in New Haven”.

Memorial Plaque at Washington High

In April, local citizen Les Mensinger stopped into the museum. He recently found a memorial plaque within the fence line of the practice field at Washington High School. The monument was donated September 20th, 1947 to Washington Township in memory of our armed forces that have lost their lives for our country. Les is hoping to have the memorial moved to a more prominent place on campus, such as within Tak Fudenna stadium. Les met with the principal of the school and the superintendent of the district in early May with hopes of furthering his goal. We will keep you posted on this project as we hear more.



Newark Rotary Grants Funds

In early May, the Newark Rotary Foundation awarded \$1700 to the museum to fill a gap in funding that we had for our large format scanner. Thank you to the foundation for providing us with these needed funds! The scanner, which was donated and almost entirely paid for by the Tri-City Health Center in late 2016, is a wonderful addition to our museum archiving practices and is in use almost daily. Thank you to everyone who made the acquisition of this piece of equipment possible!

Jade Palace History Meetup

On Wednesday, June 28th at 5:30pm, there will be a Newark Review Group dinner at Jade Palace, 36601 Newark Blvd., Newark. Come enjoy some great food at one of Newark’s oldest restaurants and bask in the many reminiscences as folks share their experiences growing up in their hometown of Newark, California. Together we can get to know others who share an interest in the history of this wonderful town.



Niles Flea Market – A Call for Donations & Help

This year as a fundraiser we will join the Niles Flea Market to sell donations. Clean out your closet and bring sale-worthy items to the museum. Our selling space will be at a residence in Niles.

We will collect donated items at the museum through August. This is a first time event for us, so we need help from everyone, including a truck to transport the donations, helpers to sell at the event and people to price and organize the donations.

Call the museum or email Patricia at collections@museumoflocalhistory.org to volunteer or to drop off donations. This will be a fun event for everyone! Save the dates: August 26th & 27th.



Niles Train Depot Open House

Join the Tri-City Society for Model Engineers at their 6th annual open house on Saturday, June 10th and Sunday, June 11th in the railroad buildings in the Niles Town Plaza. Both the Passenger and Freight Depots will be open Saturday from 10am- 5pm, and Sunday 10am – 4pm. Stop by and see the progress they have made on the model town of Niles while watching the trains run on both layouts!



Our 6th Annual Public Open House at Niles Plaza

Depot & Freight Buildings – 37592 Niles Blvd, Fremont



Come see our progress..... HO & N scale layouts in operation

- **When:** Saturday & Sunday June 10th & 11th
- **Time: Saturday:** 10:00am to 5:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am to 4:00pm
- **Note:** This is also Niles Canyon Railway's Steam Sunday

Questions: Bob (510) 325-2092 bobcz007@comcast.net or
Ed Gregory (510) 449-8621 bhfr1980@gmail.com

News from the Rancho

The Rancho Higuera Caretakers Group has been busy these last few months with upkeep and planning for future events and ideas.

The group has been working closely with the city to formulate a plan for weed abatement. This has included meetings with city staff members as well as the city fire chief.

Additionally, a draft master plan has been authored to provide a sort of framework for the future of the park.



Ongoing park maintenance activities include the cutting up and removal of a dead oak tree, continued weed abatement, removal of a barbed wire fence around the adobe (soon to be replaced with a less dangerous option), removal of invasive wisteria roots, and the painting of plywood that is covering an area on the adobe that needs patching.

In April, the Ohlone Puente group cleaned the adobe windows and assisted in moving stones to form a wall along the creekside, outdoor classroom, which includes an Ohlone grinding stone to facilitate teaching. Dead tree roots were removed in the area of the fig tree and piled onto the large dead branch pile. Later, Dianne hosted Family Day on the Rancho for the third year in a row.

A fundraising seminar was attended by Jon Miller, member of the group. He hopes to produce some revenue generating ideas for the park in the near future.

A park passerby stopped by on Sunday, April 30th with a drone in his backpack. He offered to image the park for us and later sent us pictures.

Finally, the group reached out to our local Home Depot store to obtain some tools and materials to support ongoing maintenance and educational activities at the adobe. Home Depot generously donated hand tools which will be employed to cutting weed & brush within the park, a new water hose, and materials to support Dianne's classroom activities.

Big thanks to the Rancho Higuera Caretakers Group and city staff who work to keep this park going!



Niles Memories - the 1940s, 50s and 60s

Join us and contribute to the conversation as we recall Niles and days gone by. The names of Bunting, Kimber, Roeding, Rodarte, DiGuilio, Jones, and Turner may jog your memory. These are just a few of the people who will be present at the gathering.

Reminisce with us and learn about Niles... the war years, California Nursery events, the pet parade, the flood of 1955. Come and add to the list of memories. If you have photos or memorabilia, please bring them to share or to have archived by the museum. If you choose, we will ask that you leave items with us. You will be able to pick them up the following week.



Join us on Saturday, June 10th at the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum. Doors open at 12 noon for visitors to enjoy exhibits. The discussion begins in the theater at 1pm. The talk is followed by a walking tour, led by David Kiehn at 3pm. Suggested donation for the walk is \$5. A catered dinner will follow at Corpus Christi Church Hall (reservations required by June 7).

This event is co-sponsored by the museum and Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum. Contact the museum for dinner reservations at info@museumoflocalhistory.org or 510-623-7907.

New Members and Renewals

Thank you to all of our members who are paid up for 2017! If you do not see your name here, please use the tear off sheet located at the end of this newsletter or visit our website to pay your dues electronically.

Membership is one of the best ways to support the museum.

Members make it possible for curious people throughout Fremont, Newark and Union City to explore their shared history. They help provide hands-on educational programs for schoolchildren and lifelong learners, purchase necessary supplies, produce new displays, and preserve our archives.

Members give the whole community a gift that connects people to history and culture. Thank you for considering investing in the historic hub of the Tri-City Area.

Phillip
Anderson &
Cindy Vail

Steve & Beth
Armstrong

Vinnie Bacon

John & Rose
Barr

Marjory Begley

Ralph and
Carole Bell

Tom & Gail
Blalock

Joy Bryant
(Vanhook)

B.J. Bunting

Kelsey Camello

Jim Chambers

Gary Charland

Michelle Cheng

Kim Cross

Frances Drake

Hamidi El-Sissi

Lynette Fraga-
Weems

Gloria Gaisford

Gilbert Garza

Tim Gavin

Lionel Goularte

Doug & Doris
Green

Bob Greene

Jim & Patricia
Griffin

Stuart Guedon

Anthony &
Lydia Guzman

Caroline Harris
& Greg Mau

Tom Heater

Philip Holmes

Dianne Holmes
& Gerry Curry

Shirley
Lancaster

Bernie and
Marlene Leal

Gordon & Anne
MacLeod

Elizabeth
Macris

Betty McCoy

Carmen & John
Melendez

Allison Millar &
Duane Barlow

Jon M Miller

Brian C. Moos

G. Barton
Mowry

Arnold and
Cathy Mozzetti

Al & Connie
Nagy

Kathleen
O'Connor

Anne Power

Bill Quirk

Elly Roche

Roeding Family

Gretchen
Roeding
Mendenhall

Linda Schaefer

Patricia
Schaffarczyk

Jenny Schmidt

Doretta
Schuyler

Joan Serafino

Mollie Sinclair

Kirk Skeba

Garth & Robin
Smith

Mary A. Steel

Phil & Janis
Stob

Tim Swenson

Jeannie
Thomson

Jim and Ginger
Westfall

Scott & Becky
Whitaker

Jim Wright

Michi Yee



FREE BUS CARAVAN RIDE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017

11AM - 3 PM

FREE ADMISSION

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Many Antique & Modern Buses on Display,
Climb in and experience the way it was!



FLEA MARKET

Many antique bus items available



BARBEQUE

Choice of: Hamburger, Cheeseburger or Chicken Breast,
Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Green Salad,
Chips, Soda or Water & Dessert

Adults: \$7.00 - Kids 12 and under: \$4.00

(Donation to Pacific Bus Museum)



Pacific Bus Museum
37974 Shinn St., Fremont, CA 94536

Business/Corporate Members

If you have something you'd like to run in our next newsletter, please note the deadline for submissions: 8/23/17. The next newsletter will run in early September and will cover the months of September through December 2017. Submissions should be sent to membership@museumoflocalhistory.org.



The Masonic Homes of California
Proudly supporting the Tri-City community for more than 115 years.

Learn more at
masonichome.org



JUNE

SAT 6/10: Niles Memories talk and walking tour, with Essanay Silent Film Museum – Doors open at 12 noon, talk begins at 1pm, walking tour begins at 3pm, catered dinner to follow (reservations required).

TUES 6/13: WTMLH Board Meeting – 7pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

WED 6/28: Newark Review Meet Up – 5:30pm – Jade Palace, 36601 Newark Blvd in Newark.

JULY

TUES 7/11: Elizabeth Lowrie button collection talk, with Las Antiquelagas – 12 noon - Niles Canyon Mobile Estates Community Center - 711 Old Canyon Road in Fremont's Niles district.

TUES 7/11: WTMLH Board Meeting – 7pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

SAT 7/15: Newark Walking Tour – 11am - Meet at the corner of Thornton and Ash Streets in front of Watkins Hall.

SAT 7/22: Annual Volunteer/Donor Luncheon – 11:30am – 2:00pm – location TBD.

AUGUST

TUES 8/08: WTMLH Board Meeting – 7pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

SAT 8/19: Decoto Bike Tour – 11am - Meet in the parking lot of Dry Creek/Pioneer Regional Park, located at the end of May Road (near Whipple and Mission Blvd).

SAT & SUN 8/26 – 27: Garage Sale at Niles Flea Market – specific location TBD

SEPTEMBER

TUES 9/12: WTMLH Board Meeting – 7pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

SAT 9/16: Centerville Walking Tour – 11am - Meet in front of Holy Spirit Church on Fremont Blvd.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual volunteer
and donor lunch -

Saturday, July 22nd

11:30am – 2:00pm

Location TBD

*Mark your calendar and stay
tuned for more information!*

T-shirts for sale -
\$10 each. Call
the museum if
interested!



www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory



Search: Historical Society of
Fremont, Newark and Union City



Instagram

@washingtontownshipMLH



190 Anza Street, Fremont, CA 94539

Detach and return to the museum:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to
Washington Township Museum of Local
History and mail to 190 Anza Street,
Fremont, CA 94539

Yes, I want to become a member!

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Senior/Student | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 |
| Senior Couple | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 |
| Regular | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 |
| Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 |
| Trailblazer | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 |
| Pathfinder | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 |
| Business Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 |
| Pioneer Patron | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 |
| Lifetime | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 |

Yes, I would also like to donate

to a special fund: _____

(name of fund)

Donation amount ☐ \$ _____

Total Contribution ☐ \$ _____