

Museum of Local History Guild

190 Anza Street, Fremont, CA 94539 - (510) 623-7907 W&F 10-4 & Every 2nd weekend 10-4 www.museumoflocalhistory.org A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization

Board Members

President - Gil Garza
Vice President - Lila Bringhurst
Treasurer - Gerry Curry
Secretary - Timothy Swenson
Board - Patricia Schaffarczyk
Board - Kelsey Camello

Winter 2015-16 Newsletter

President's Message

The year is ending and the holidays are very near. There is sad news around the world and we should take this time to count the blessing we have. Many will have a chance to be with family and enjoy the season. We also have time to reflect and think about the past and future.

The Museum has experienced a great year in terms of accomplishments and we looking forward to an exciting 2016. We celebrated our 20th Anniversary, expanded student education programs, improved our internet appearance and capability and worked on a wide range of community outreach projects over the year. The City of Fremont, Museum volunteers, the local community and other friends of the Museum have been generous beyond measure.

February 10^{th,} 2016 is the Museum Guild's annual general membership meeting. At this meeting there will be a summary of the year's activities and accomplishments, a review of the 2015 finance report, a review of the 2016 budget, and the election of board members. Join us at the Museum from 7-9 pm.

The Museum board consists of seven members. The 2016 board members who are continuing their tenures are Lila Bringhurst, Tim Swenson, Kelsey Camello and Gerry Curry. Therefore, there will be three board positions open. We have also added two alternate positions to the slate of board members so that we will have a total of nine board members in attendance at the meetings.

Enclosed with this newsletter is the nominating committee's slate of proposed board members – your ballot. Please vote for three members and two alternates, or write in proposed candidates and mail the ballot to the Museum before February 7th, 2016. You can also vote at the annual meeting on February 10th, 2016. The Museum board decides the officer positions among themselves.

Wishing everyone a great holiday and that the coming year brings joy to all!



Gil Garza

Collections - Items recently donated to the Museum:



Charm and Dale Murray donated a bag from the Holly Sugar Factory.

Katie Janssen donated newspaper articles and information about the James Graham Manufacturing Co. in Newark.

Norma Neto donated a photo of Irvington at Five Corners, circa 1903.





Harry Avila donated archival files and photographs of the development of the Niles and Fremont areas.





Via the Newark Days event Jean Ficklin donated papers related to Newark. Jean was a teacher in the Newark Unified School District, and has been active in the community for many years.

BJ Bunting donated a photo of a Niles Grammar School class, circa 1928.







Bob Silva donated various toys, games, cameras, holiday and household items and tools.



Doug Steel donated a lariat, two beautiful saddles, spurs and a trade catalog for saddles. Tony Kiehl donated the September 1946 California issue of Westvaco Digest. Westvaco's Western Division operations were centered in Newark for many years.

Recently, the MSJ Post Office donated their old cancelling machine to the Museum. Please keep an eye on our Facebook and website for additional information on this new acquisition!



Las Posadas

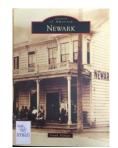


On Friday, December 18th, the Museum will host the annual Mission San Jose celebration of Las Posadas. The word Posada means "inn" or "shelter" in Spanish, and this tradition re-enacts Mary and Joseph's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem. Those who are interested will gather at Mission San Jose at 6:00 pm and make their way to a nearby business. Participants hold candles (flashlights) and sing Christmas carols, and there will be individuals who carry images representing Mary and Joseph. Las Posadas begins December 16th and continues for 9 consecutive nights, ending on Christmas Eve. You are invited to be a part of this historical procession and to join in

on December 18th (the Museum's designated evening) for Christmas songs, seeing new and old friends, and eating lovely treats. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Images of America: Newark, by Tony Rodriguez

2015 honors the 60th Anniversary of the City of Newark. Local writer Frank Addiego, a long-time resident of Newark and a contributing journalist to the *Tri-City Voice*, released his first book entitled *Newark* (Arcadia Publishing, 2015), a pictorial account of Newark's origins and history throughout the decades. This book is an honest and worthwhile narrative that helps better define a Bay Area city of importance. Addiego offers a concise overview of select histories and



locales that any Newark resident will recognize and appreciate. *Newark* is a well-written text, one that is to the point and not long-winded, perfect for readers who enjoy gobbling up a book in one sitting.



On the evening of November 10th, the Newark Public Library held a book release party for Addiego's *Newark*. It was a packed house that welcomed a diverse group of attendees, including Newark councilman Michael Hannon. The event included a brief lecture on the city's origins and the early politicians who helped shape the city, as well as undertones of select socio-economic affairs concerning Newark over the decades. Later in the evening, Addiego entered into an "in conversation" component to the event. He was joined by Tony R. Rodriguez, a local writer also from Newark who

composed the novel *Under These Stars* (Beatdom Books, 2014). The two engaged in a discussion further celebrating the rich histories and modern successes & challenges of a great Bay Area town.

Thank you to all who came out for this event. If you missed it there will be another event covering Addiego's new book at the Fremont Main Library on December 17^{th} from 12:30 - 1:30pm.

Docents Wanted

to help with student tours at the Washington Township Museum of Local History and at Rancho Higuera Historical Park. We are also looking for volunteers in the afternoons on the second Sunday of the month to welcome visitors to the Museum.

Do you have a couple of hours to spare?

Call Dianne @ (510) 673-4813

Attention All Members!

Here is your opportunity to help the
Museum and Rancho
Higuera Historical Park!
Do you have something to donate?
We are looking for the following items:

A tall butter churn, someone to sew children's pioneer clothes, free standing mirror, old trunk, branding irons, serapes, Mexican blankets, barrels, burlap bags, punched tin lamps.

Call Dianne @ (510) 673-4813

Moving Forward - Matching Grant from East Bay Community Foundation Allows for Funding for Continued Cataloguing and Archiving, by Patricia Schaffarczyk

We have again received a matching grant of \$5,000 from the Despeaux Good Works Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation. This grant will allow us to continue the important work of cataloging our unique and valuable collections.

Kelsey Camello is our paid employee dedicated to this work. She has catalogued more than 1200 items since she began working with us less than a year ago. Cataloguing requires many hours of research and sorting in order to complete the process.



We encourage you to help us fund her valuable work by adding a donation to your membership. This donation can be given in the name of a loved one or added to our existing memorial funds for Regena Dennie or Randy Power.

Please help us continue the important work of preserving Southern Alameda County memories, documents, artifacts, and structures from the past and sharing them with present and future generations.

In order for you to better know who Kelsey is and to put a face to what we're asking for your help with, we asked her to write something up about herself. She wrote the following,



"My name is Kelsey Camello, and you may not currently know who I am. If you do happen to recognize my name, though, it's likely because you've seen me hanging around the historical Museum here in Mission San Jose.

I am a native Fremontonian, if you will; I was born and raised here, with only a brief 2 year stint in Santa Cruz after high school. I was born at Washington Hospital, as was my son Leeland, who was born just 9 months ago, and I come from a family of Fremont dwellers; my maternal grandparents (Fraga) relocated to Fremont from San Leandro upon their marriage in the 1960s, and my paternal grandparents (Weems) did the same (though they came from Napa) when they married in the 1950s. My mother and her 3 sisters attended Mission San Jose HS, my father and his 7 brothers

and sisters attended Washington HS, and my 3 brothers and I American HS.

My husband's family is also from the area. His paternal grandparents (Camello) relocated to Fremont in the 1960s and never left. They bore 7 children, who all attended Washington HS. The likelihood of running into someone in this town named Fraga, Weems or Camello is pretty high, I'll tell you.

I've lived in Fremont for all but two of my 26 years, and yet it took 23 years before I made it into the Washington Township Museum of Local History. In 2012 I had been doing a little bit of research into the Shinn House and family, thanks to the help of Patricia Schaffarczyk and Regena Dennie. That was my first encounter with the Museum. Shortly thereafter, I graduated from San Jose State University Magna Cum Laude with both a bachelor's in History and a newfound interest in local and public history. About a year later, I stopped in to see if the Museum could use any help. Two years later, it seems that I've never left.

I began my association with the Museum as a research student. That association quickly turned into a combination of a volunteer position tackling membership and the newsletter, as well as a board position. One year ago we were presented with a \$5,000 matching grant from the Despeaux Good Works Fund, thanks to the East Bay Community Foundation. We worked hard over four months to match that grant dollar-for-dollar, even exceeding the \$5,000 minimum that we needed. We came out of that with a nice pot of money for payroll, and an idea for a new position within the Museum - an on-site cataloguer/archivist.

As the Museum's current cataloguer/archivist and it's first ever paid employee, I work alongside Patricia Schaffarczyk to catalog and do research for new and existing collections. It's a job that is not only rewarding and fun, but also immensely helpful to the Museum. On top of all of that, it puts some great work experience onto my resume. Everyone at the Museum is amazingly flexible, which really helps me as a full-time mom and part-time employee, as I am able to put in as little or as many hours as fits my schedule that week.

As an employee of the Museum I may receive a paycheck from the Guild, but really I work for the citizens of the Tri-City area. I encourage all citizens of Fremont, Newark and Union City to remember us when the time comes to toss out long-cherished artifacts and photos. We are always looking to learn more about the people of this area, both then and now. Please feel free to stop in and visit us anytime. If we're not open, give us a call or send us an e-mail - you never know who might be at the Museum working after hours and just waiting to help you out! Thank you."

Ardent Archivist, by Lila Bringhurst



Recently, a large collection of over 5,000 reels of film was donated to the Niles Essanay Film Museum. The Museum's dedicated volunteer archivist, Paul Mular had just gotten started on their current 4,000 reel collection when this generous donation came in.

Museum President, Dorothy Bradley knew that something had to be done, so she got the Washington Township Museum of Local History involved. "We became aware of the collection when an anonymous donor gifted a \$25,000 grant, with a provision that we

must match the donation," said Gil Garza, president of the history museum. With the grant, Mular was hired to catalog the films.

Mular has a long history with silent film, giving him the skills and expertise for the job. He grew up watching old films, and by adulthood that hobby had turned into a full-time activity. At the University of Pittsburgh he studied film appreciation and television production, and after graduation he worked as a film editor for almost 30 years.

To contribute to the fund donations made to either the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum or the Washington Township Museum of Local History.

Read more about Paul Mular and Essanay on our website or at www.tricityvoice.com.

Milpitas Historical Society Tours the Museum and Adobe

Photo and sentiment from Catherine Pelizzari with the MHS, "Thanks so much for coming out specially to give us that great tour. We had a very informative and worthwhile tour at the Adobe with Dianne and Marjory as well."

Thank YOU, Catherine and all for coming out!





City of Fremont Proclamation

On September 15th the Fremont City Council formally recognized the Museum's 20 year anniversary with a ceremonial proclamation. Thank you to the City of Fremont for recognizing all of the hard work the Museum has put into preserving Tri-City history over the last 20 years!



City of Fremont Turns 60

In 2016, the City of Fremont celebrates 60 years – from establishing itself as a city to creating a brand new downtown for its residents. On January 23rd, the city will be kicking off a year of celebration with a time capsule ceremony and community picnic. The event will begin at 11am and continue into the afternoon. Join in the fun by stopping by this event, which will be located on Capitol Avenue, between Fremont Blvd and State Street.

Fremont

In the months ahead you can look to the Museum as a source of information, or visit the city website at https://www.fremont.gov/2441/Fremonts-60th-Anniversary

Adobe Projects - Mission San Jose Rotary Donations, by Gil Garza

The Rotary Club of Mission San Jose (RCMSJ) is like that special and wonderful neighbor that has a garage full of tools and a lot of "know how"- you couldn't feel luckier being neighbors.

The RCMSJ has been very busy helping make the Galindo/Higuera Adobe in the Mission San Jose area a great place to learn about local history. The Rotary team (Bob Tavares, Herald Westendorf, Larry Anderson and Rosemary Peterson) have spent much of their own time and money on several important upgrades there these last few months. As caretakers of the Adobe, our Rotary friends, with help from our Museum volunteers (Dianne Holmes, Gerry Curry, Marjory Begley and Lila Bringhurst) have made substantial improvements to the site.

Listed below are just a few of the recent efforts from RCMSJ:

- Storage of material for student programs at the Adobe has been a constant problem. Now the Rotary has put in a set of shelves that help to organize those things needed for the various activities, such as: candle making, hide branding and adobe brick making.
- The Adobe has a fence and entry gate that keep critters away from the adobe. The previous gate had a failed hinge, which made lifting and pulling it open a huge pain. This problem went away with a strong new post and hinge set. Now we have easy access and reduced chances of injuries, which is a benefit for both the Museum volunteers and the city staff working at the Adobe.
- On the more artistic side, Larry Anderson has helped craft a saddle rack for the display of horse saddles. The fit and finish of the rack look great and show off our fine examples of locally used horse saddles.

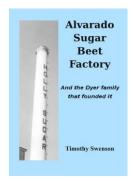
The Washington Township Museum of Local History offers our heartfelt thanks to the Rotary Club for their generous and sustained help with projects that directly serve the community. Having wonderful neighbors is a blessing that we very much appreciate.







Larry Anderson installs storage shelving at the Adobe / Herald Westendorf, Larry Anderson and Tom Handley work on the Adobe gate repair / Dianne Holmes and Gerry Curry work to maintain the Adobe grounds



Alvarado Sugar Beet Factory Talk

The talk that was scheduled for this past October has been postponed to early 2016. A date has not been set by the Union City Library. Please keep a watch on the Tri-City Voice as we will announce the talk there. Also, watch the calendar for the Union City Library, as the talk will be be posted there as well.

Museum and Adobe Tours

This academic year the schedule for Museum and adobe tours is jam packed! Beginning in December, every Wednesday and Friday are booked with tours to share the area's wonderful history with 3rd and 4th grade students. Docents are still needed to help with this worthwhile endeavor, so if you have 3 to 6 hours to spare in a month, come on down for some spirited sharing with eager students and fun loving docents.

Volunteer/Docent Focus



The first meeting of volunteer docents took place on Monday, November 9th, to discuss how to get more docents, and more importantly, how to keep them. For a few months the plan will be to meet at the Museum at 10:00 am on the second Monday of the month to discuss training and brainstorm ideas. The December meeting will be a

field trip to the Adobe to acquaint new and interested docents with that tour.

If anyone is interested in joining in, know that you are all welcome and needed!





Website, Facebook, and YouTube

Please continue to watch our website for updates, as things are constantly happening. We are currently in the process of adding videos to the site.

Remember that we are also on Facebook. You can find us at http://www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory. We hope that you will remember to "like" our page and suggest us to your friends and family!

Please also visit our new YouTube page! You can find us by visiting www.YouTube.com and searching "Historical Society of Fremont Newark and Union City". We have already posted a few videos, and will be posting more as we go along.



T-Shirts - \$15.00Call the Museum to order!

Local Museum Celebrates Twenty Years, by Lila Bringhurst

On September 29th, the Museum of Local History Guild celebrated twenty years of providing a museum with local artifacts, storage and cataloguing of, and access to archives and collections, as well as presenting and supporting historical programs for children and adults.

At the birthday party in the St. Joseph Parish Hall in Mission San Jose, former Fremont mayor, Gus Morrison presided as master of ceremonies and introduced local elected officials who spoke briefly. Newark was represented by Mayor Al Nagy, Union City by Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci, and Fremont by Councilmember Lily Mei, who stood in for Mayor Bill Harrison.

Morrison told the crowd that he was mayor when the fire fighters moved from the old firehouse on the corner of Anza and Ellsworth Streets to new a new fire station on Paseo Padre Parkway and Pine Street. Kent McClain, Fremont's city manager at the time suggested that the old firehouse be used as a museum. Two local historic groups, the Washington Township Historical Society and the Mission Peak Heritage Foundation, came together to launch the project.

After much hard work they celebrated with a grand opening on October 14th, 1995. Philip Holmes, the first President of the Museum Guild, was the honored guest at the celebration.

Read more about the Museum's history on our website or at www.tricityvoice.com.

Row 1: Kelsey Camello, Tim Swenson, Philip Holmes / Row 2: Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Lily Mei, Patricia Schaffarczyk / Row 3: Lila Bringhurst, Paul Sethy, Gus Morrison, Al Nagy, Gil Garza / Row 4: Gus Morrison, John Weed



New Fence at Rancho Higuera Historical Park, by Lila Bringhurst

Thanks to Eagle Scout candidate Joey Winmill of Fremont Troop 106, the old barbed wire fence north of the entrance gate to the Rancho Higuera Historical Park was recently replaced. Scoutmaster Ryan Madsen stated that Damon Sparacino, Recreation Superintendent I of Fremont's Community Department was a huge help as coordinator of the project.

First, about fifteen community volunteers removed the old rundown barbed wire fence and metal fence posts. Then, Dennis Long, with DL



Drilling donated his time and equipment to dig 67 holes at seven-foot intervals. Volunteers placed 4"x4" redwood posts in the holes and secured them with anchor posts and concrete. Later, they returned to string and secure metal fencing, called hogwire, from post to post, and added a row of barbed wire along the top.

Two other Eagle Scout candidates from Troop 106, Josh Haskin and Ryon Motamedi, have been approved to replace the old barbed wire fence from the information gazebo to the south end of the park in two separate projects. Scheduled for completion in March 2016, the attractive fence will be ten feet from the face of the curb and will run the full length of the park.

Photo Scanning at Newark Days

At this year's Newark Days Celebration the Museum, working with the City of Newark, asked Newark residents to bring in old pictures for scanning, as well as to record short oral interviews. A good many residents showed up to scan photographs, leaving Tim Swenson and Al Nagy busy with their scanners for most of the six hours of the event. One resident even went through the trouble of scanning their own images and bringing them down for us to copy. Besides a number of scans of photographs and artifacts, three people gave short oral interviews on Newark.

The event was a wonderful success, and the Museum is thankful for Newark's cooperation in it!





Al Nagy with Betty Tom / Betty Tom discusses her contributions with Tim Swenson

Art in Shinn Park

This year's Art in the Shinn Park was a success, thanks to the many craftsmen and performers who participated in the day. The Museum was able to set up a small display table for kids to interactive with a few archival objects, and a few book sales were also made. The Boy Scout troop that was assisting with vendor parking had a blast playing with the Museum's collection of viewfinders and stereographs.

Thank you Mission Peak Heritage Foundation for sponsoring such a fun event and allowing us to take part in it!





Kelsey Camello with her son Leeland / Boy Scouts learn about viewfinders from different periods

Revised Ballot- Museum of Local History Guild 2016 Election

The museum board consists of seven members and two alternates. The present board includes the following: Pres: Gil Garza, V. Pres: Lila Bringhurst, Sec.: Tim Swenson, Tres.: Gerry Curry, At large: Kelsey Camello (Newsletter, Membership), Patricia Schaffarczyk (Collections/Program), Open position.

Gil Garza will run for an alternate position. Patricia Schaffarczyk will step down. The newly elected board will select the officer positions (which are two year terms)

Vote for four members and two alternates:

Thank you for your participation.

There are four board positions open for election. Please vote with a check mark or write in a suggested candidate.

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	Patty Lacy		
	Al Nagy		
	Harry Avila		
	Lila Bringhu	ırst	
			(write in)
	Alternate 1	Gil Garza	
	Alternate 2	Stuart Guedon	
			(write in)
			ur name and address on the upper left
	Before the entire is a secret		be checked against the roster of
February 7, 2		the ballot to General Mo	O Anza St., Fremont, CA 94539, by embership meeting at the museum on





December

Come see an exhibit at the Museum showcasing fall holiday decorations!

- 12/09 Museum of Local History Guild Board Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7pm
 - 12/14 Volunteer Training and Brainstorming Museum Meeting Room 10am
 - 12/17 Brown Bag Event "Images of Newark" Fremont Main Library 12:30pm
 - 12/17 Mission Peak Heritage Foundation Board Meeting Shinn House 7:15pm
 - 12/18 Las Posadas Meet at the Mission at 6pm & travel to the Museum in a group
- 12/28 Washington Township Historical Society Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7:15pm
 - **Museum closed for the Holidays 12/23/15 01/05/2016 We reopen January 6th**

January

- 1/11 Volunteer Training and Brainstorming Museum Meeting Room 10am
- 1/13 Museum of Local History Guild Board Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7pm
 - 1/21 Mission Peak Heritage Foundation Board Meeting Shinn House 7:15pm
- 1/23 Fremont 60th Time Capsule Ceremony & Community Picnic Capitol Ave 11am
- 1/25 Washington Township Historical Society Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7:15pm

February

- February is Black History Month look to our website and Facebook for an update on activities
 - 2/08 Volunteer Training and Brainstorming Museum Meeting Room 10am
 - 2/10 Museum of Local History Guild Board Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7pm
 - 2/18– Mission Peak Heritage Foundation Board Meeting Shinn House 7:15pm
 - 2/22 Washington Township Historical Society Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7:15pm

March

- March is Women's History Month look to our website and Facebook for an update on activities
 - 3/09 Museum of Local History Guild Board Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7pm
 - 3/14 Volunteer Training and Brainstorming Museum Meeting Room 10am
 - 3/17 Mission Peak Heritage Foundation Board Meeting Shinn House 7:15pm
 - 3/28 Washington Township Historical Society Meeting Museum Meeting Room 7:15pm

New Members & Renewals

As December arrives we want to take this opportunity to thank all of our paid members for 2015. Thank you for supporting us in another year of service in the Tri-City community!

Al & Connie Nagy, Al and Joan Bernardin, Anne Power, B.J. Bunting, Barbara Baxter, Bernie and Marlene Leal, Betty McCoy, Bob Greene, Brian Barlow, Brian C. Moos, Bruce Hevelin, Caroline Harris, Charles Scribner & Pauline Weaver, Dan Mosier, David Kiehn, Diane Gomes Leys, Dianne Holmes & Gerry Curry, Dolores Rose, Donald Barsi, Donna Olsen, Doris Green, Dorothy Bradley, Elinor Smith, G. Barton Mowry, Garth & Robin Smith, Gary Charland, Gilbert Garza, Glenn Jones, Gordon & Anne MacLeod, Harry Avila, Herman & Betty Hebel, James Griffin, Janet Cronbach, Janet E. Barton & John Barry Balk, Jim and Ginger Westfall, Joan & John Ashton, John & Linda Croft, John & Rose Barr, John Weed, Jonathan & Kristine Sandoe, Kelsey Camello, Kevin and Carol Quinn, Lila Bringhurst, Lily Mei, Lionel Goularte, Louise Indig, Lynette M Fraga-Weems, Marilyn Wall, Marjory Begley, Mark Hirsch, Michael De Unamuno, Michi Yee, Mollie Sinclair, Nancy & Robert Margherita, Nancy Lorigan, Nelda Erlwein, Patricia Lacy, Patricia Schaffarczyk, Paul & Berenice Sethy, Phil Stob, Philip Henry, Philip Holmes, Ralph and Carole Bell, Robert E. and Margaret A. Davenport, Roeding Family, Ruthe Gomez, S Reshmi Inamdar, Sister Loretta M. Marbach, Steve & Beth Armstrong, Steve Burton, Stuart Guedon, Tim Gavin, Tim Swenson, Tom & Gail Blalock, Vinnie Bacon, Wally Betchart

With the ending of 2015 comes the beginning of 2016, and one that note we want to encourage all of our members to renew for the coming year! Please use the form below:

Washington Township Museum of Local History -- Membership Form

Renew your membership AND contribute to one of our memorial funds to help us continue cataloguing *You can also renew your membership on our website by using the easy & convenient Paypal option.*

Name		Home phone				
Address			Cell phone			
City/Zip		Email _				
Lifetime: \$1000 Trailblazer: \$50		Pioneer Patron: \$500	Pathfinder: \$100 Goldminer (single): \$35			
			Added donation general fund: \$			
Added donation other fund (please note fund & amount below):						
	Fund		\$			
		Thank you	!			

We are a non-profit organization, established for public benefit. Monetary gifts and membership fees are tax deductible. If you are not already a member, please consider joining the Museum of Local History Guild. Please mail this form along with your payment to 190 Anza St., Fremont, CA 94539. Checks can be made out to The Museum of Local History Guild.