



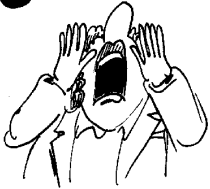
# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUSEUM of LOCAL HISTORY

## Spring 2017 Newsletter

### 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

# Volunteers!



### Calling all Potential Volunteers!

We are so lucky to have our small band of volunteers, but we sure could use more. If you have 3 or 4 hours that you can spare a month, we have a fun place for you. You will get to work and play with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students, meet excellent teachers, and work with interested parents. If interested, please call Dianne at 510-673-4813 or email her at [mdholmes2@comcast.net](mailto:mdholmes2@comcast.net). No experience is needed, just a love of history!

### President's Message

Hello again to all of our longtime members and welcome to all of our new ones!

The results of this year's **board member election** were unanimous, with Tom Heater voted in as one of our alternates. Thank you to all who voted in this election. After the votes were tallied and the election completed, the board voted Gil Garza into the Vice President position and voted for my interim-President status to become permanent. With these changes, we look forward to another quarter of keeping history alive.

The most pressing items I would like to present to you are first, the **Best of Fremont** election.

Last year we were voted "Best Museum" in Fremont, and we would like to be voted in again this year! Remember, you have to vote for at least 10 categories for your ballot to be counted. For one of your WRITE IN slots please put BEST MUSEUM - Washington Township Museum of Local History. The deadline to file an online ballot is 12pm on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Visit the survey page at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YQ5M3L7>.

The second is the **Ducks 4 Bucks** fundraiser. Every year we have a fundraising drive to help pay for our day-to-day expenses and our important work of cataloging and archiving. We do this through both membership and fundraising. This year we have added an event that is fun and fundraising -- Ducks 4 Bucks. Pay attention to the yellow inserts in this newsletter for more information.

We have some great events for you this quarter. There are so many, in fact, that to sum them up here would be impossible. Please read on and enjoy this newsletter to find out about all of them. Walk with us on one of our walking tours, or join us in Niles for our Mission Sesquicentennial event. Family Day at the Rancho beckons to all of our local families, with lots of fun activities for kids.

Keep in mind, we're always here on our open days. Come in anytime to volunteer, donate, or simply visit! Happy March to you all!

*Kelsey Camello, President*

190 Anza Street, Fremont, CA 94539 – (510) 623-7907  
W&F 10AM – 4PM & every 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend 10AM – 4PM

[www.museumoflocalhistory.org](http://www.museumoflocalhistory.org)  
[www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory](https://www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory)

A 501(c)3 non-profit organization

## Additions to Collections

Trish Nunes donated items related to Newark, including yearbooks, photos, cookbooks and newspaper clippings.

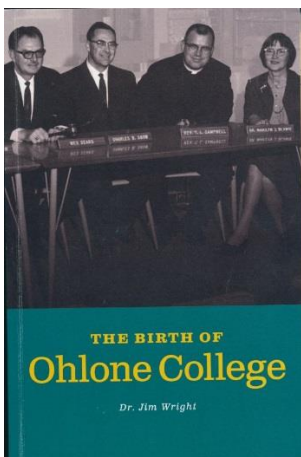


Patty Lacy donated a scrapbook of the California Missions, compiled by her grandmother Maria Schneider from 1940 - 1970.

Steve Lowens donated digital photographs of downtown Niles, taken in January of this year. They are a good addition to the historical record.



Lynda and Allen White donated items related to the Mormon Battalion – flags, a blanket and two books.



Jim Wright donated a copy of his new book about the history of Ohlone College.

Sandy Castillo donated 93 black and white photographs of Fremont, taken in the 1960s by Gordon Simmons.



Kellee Livingston donated a beautiful feathered cape, sent from the West Indies to Mrs. Timothy Rix in the mid-1800s.



Janet Barton donated a wooden platter made by California Woodcraft of Irvington. *\*\*Date and origin are unknown. If anyone has information related to California Woodcraft, please contact the museum.*

Richard Reyna donated an assortment of pestles, mortars and geodes, found in a creek in Fremont in the 1960s.



Janice & Lowell Vivian donated a large windmill tail from the Champion House (Mowry and Peralta) as well as digital photographs of the tearing down of the home's barn, from the 1990s.



[www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory](http://www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory)



Search: Historical Society of Fremont, Newark and Union City



Instagram

@washingtontownshipMLH



## Tours, tours and more tours...



Dianne and her band of volunteers continue their tours weekly at the adobe property and the museum.

Here's a spotlight on a recent 4<sup>th</sup> grade tour at the Higuera Adobe:

*Date: Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>*

*Who: Mission Valley School - Kristin Merryman's 4th grade class*

*Docents: Marjory Begley, Rebecca Baker, Dianne Holmes*

*Conditions: It was sunny and clear, the grass a verdant green below blue skies and puffy white clouds. It could not have been a more perfect day, and we were all so happy to be back up there!*  
*-Dianne H.*

## American Association of University Women Celebrate Women's History Month

With much anticipation, Fremont AAUW is presenting another lively Women's History program. Along with a salad buffet lunch, guests will be treated to an informative and entertaining program featuring vintage fashions. The program will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at the Fremont Adult School at 4700 Calaveras Ave. in Fremont from 11:30 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. The tickets are \$25 each with all profits going to Ohlone Scholarships.



The group is also soliciting assistance with preparation of salads and bundt cakes. Please contact Janice Longo: [emalongo@comcast.net](mailto:emalongo@comcast.net) or call and leave a phone message at 510-770-0809 if you can help.

Those who have attended in the past can attest that this has always been one of the group's most well attended, enlivening, and educational events. Seating is limited and reservations are due by 3/17, unless sold out. Reservation should be mailed to Kathy Bray at 42821 Via Puebla, Fremont, CA 94539.



## Best of Fremont 2017

It's time to cast your vote for Best of Fremont 2017. Last year we were voted Best Museum in Fremont! Remember, you have to vote for at least 10 categories for your ballot to be counted! For one of your WRITE IN slots please put BEST MUSEUM - Washington Township Museum of Local History. The deadline to file an online ballot is 12pm on March 12th. Visit the survey page at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YQ5M3L7>

## Walk into the Past: An Urban/Rural Walk in the Greater Irvington District

Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

10.5 k. (6.5 mi.) or an optional 6.5 k. (4 mi.)

Self-guided Walk: Start times - 8:30 am - 12 noon

Guided Walk by Caroline Harris: Start time 9 am

Starting location: the park next to The Bean Scene Coffee Shop,  
4000 Bay St., Irvington District, Fremont.



Calling all hikers! Bring a friend to explore hidden habitats and by-ways of part of the Laguna Creek watershed that drains into San Francisco Bay. You will walk through historic Irvington, discover pathways along Lake Elizabeth, Mission Creek and Sabercat Creek while learning about how this land developed through time.

This is a self-guided walk with specific directions. A supplemental guide describing historical sites and vegetation will be available. Start times are between 8:30 am and 12 noon.

Guided walk by Caroline Harris, discussing history and vegetation begins at 9 am, with end time around 12 noon.

Co-sponsored by American Volkspart Association (Bay Area Bandits) and the Washington Township Museum of Local History.

For more information please contact: Patricia Schaffarczyk at [pathikes@yahoo.com](mailto:pathikes@yahoo.com) or 510-677-8461.

## Mission San Jose Sesquicentennial Reprise Event

Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> – beginning at 3:30pm



Join us as we celebrate 220 years since the founding of Mission San Jose (1797), with a focus on the 1947 Sesquicentennial (150 year) event. This event will be held at the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum and is co-sponsored by our two organizations. We will have a short talk and a small display area, followed by a screening at 4pm of the 1947 MSJ Sesquicentennial Pageant Play entitled, "We Build Here a Mission" by John Sandoval, with narrated soundtrack. We are also looking into the cost of reprinting the Washington News special edition MSJ 150th anniversary 1947 news booklet. This event will cost \$5 for members of either organization, or \$7 for non-members.

Keep an eye on the Tri-City Voice for more information!

## 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](mailto:info@museumoflocalhistory.org)

## California Nursery Historical Park

The Washington Township Museum of Local History (WTMLH) and its parent historical groups strongly support the decision to include a large interpretive/education center in the California Nursery Historical Park. We endorse the size and chosen location, as outlined in the draft master plan. We have written a letter to voice the idea that the planned interpretive center could be the new home for the WTMLH – a place to celebrate the rich history of Fremont. This dream and idea is outlined in our letter, which is available to read on our website under Press >> California Nursery Historical Park.



If you are interested in the future of this Fremont (Niles) park, please note the following scheduled city meetings:

March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm: Recreation Commission Meeting in City Council Chambers.

April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm: City Council Adoption of Master Plan and Certification of EIR in City Council Chambers

Let your voice be heard!

## Pacific Bus Museum – Located in Fremont!



The Pacific Bus Museum is home to a fleet of historic, vintage and classic busses. They are also a resource for the history of buses and bus companies from California and the western United States. In 2006, they collaborated with in the City of Fremont to help conduct historic tours of the city's districts.

The Pacific Bus Museum is located at 37974 Shinn Street in Fremont. They schedule monthly work days on the first Saturday at

10am, and they also attend events where you can see their buses on display.

Visit the museum on the first Saturday of each month from April to November. Their next few open days are April 1<sup>st</sup>, May 6<sup>th</sup>, and June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tours are given between 10am – 2pm. Suggested donation is \$5.00 for ages 13+. For private tours please contact [info@pacbus.org](mailto:info@pacbus.org)

Their annual open house will be on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 3pm. Stay tuned for more information about that event in our next newsletter!

## Business and Corporate Memberships

We have a brand new program for businesses and corporate members. As part of this contribution, we will run a business-card sized ad in each of our newsletters. Currently, 150 – 200 people view our newsletter circulation, which is published quarterly. Additionally, business members will have a link on our website to their business' website as well as other pertinent information. This will be displayed in our membership area under *corporate members*



## Family Day at the Rancho

On Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, from 11 am - 2 pm the museum will be hosting our third annual Family Day at the Rancho! The event will focus on the Rancho period in California history, with various activities for children, including candle making, brick making, corn husk doll making, branding, horseshoeing, face painting, books and small kids items for sale, and a piñata at 12:30 pm under the black oak tree. Mexican food will be available for purchase, and there will be a video about the restoration and history of the adobe. This event will also include a historical video running throughout the day, and a special component focusing on the Ohlone natives. Everyone is invited to attend! Suggested donation is \$5 per person or \$10 per family.



The Saturday prior (April 22<sup>nd</sup>) the Puente Group from Ohlone College will be up at the adobe property preparing for the event – window washing, spider chasing, mowing, and making sure everything is in tip top shape. This cleanup day will take place from 10am – 2pm.

## San Francisco History Days 2017



On Saturday and Sunday, March 4&5, we were part of a Fremont contingent that participated in a community open house at the Old Mint Building in San Francisco. Community groups, especially history groups, came from all over the Bay Area to celebrate history in this special location! Other groups that attended as part of the “Fremont Museum Group” were the Pacific Bus Museum, Mission Peak Heritage Foundation – the Shinn House, Patterson House at Ardenwood Farm, The

Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum, Niles Canyon Railway, and Math Science Nucleus. We had a wonderful time celebrating Fremont history as a part of the larger Bay Area historical narrative.

View a fun video put together by one of our members at: <https://youtu.be/yOITptUtt1w>

## Volunteer Spotlight

Thanks to our involvement in Project 22 Fremont, we have had an abundance of helpful short-term volunteers as of late. Project 22 Fremont is a resource for those in need of alternate means to paying traffic fees, or who have been ordered by the court to perform community service hours. As an approved service organization, we are happy to be a part of this wonderful program.

Additionally, we have recently reached out to the local high schools, in hopes of instilling in Tri-City students the importance of knowing one’s local history. We’ve received many requests for weekend volunteer hours, and it looks like we’ll have lots of new student volunteers in the coming months. *Considering becoming a volunteer? We would love to have you. Call us today!*







## UPCOMING WALKING TOURS

### **Alvarado Walking Tour**

Saturday, 4/15 – 11am

Tim Swenson will lead a tour through Alvarado, discussing various buildings and the history of the area. The duration of the tour will be about an hour and a half, and the distance will be about one half mile. Tour-goers should meet in the parking lot of Alvarado Elementary School. Suggested donation is \$5.

### **Irvington Walking Tour**

Saturday, 5/20 – 11am

Caroline Harris will lead a tour through Irvington. She will be discussing the history of the area, its buildings, people, and more. Tour-goers should meet at the Irvington Monument at Five Corners. Suggested donation is \$5.

### **Niles Walking Tour and ‘Old Timers’ Talk**

Saturday, 6/10 – 1pm or 2pm – 4pm

Join us at the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum at 1 pm for an ‘old timers’ talk inside the theater about growing up and/or living in Niles. At 2 pm, we will enjoy a walking tour of Niles, followed by show time at the film museum at 4 pm. Keep an eye on the NESFM website (<http://nilesfilmmuseum.org/>) and newsletter for details on what film(s) will be shown that evening. The talk and tour will be led by David Kiehn and Thelma Jones. We will be charging tour-goers \$5 each. This will include a walking tour booklet. Proceeds will be split by the NESFM and the WTMLH. Join us for a fun day in Niles!

### **Adobe Caretakers Committee**

Jon Miller and Hamdi El-Sissi have been surprise additions to the Adobe Caretakers Committee. Jon and Hamdi reside in the nearby community and have taken it upon themselves to assist in grounds keeping. Their accomplishments are many, including: clearing out the weed-infested area north of the adobe; discovering a Native American grinding stone; consolidating the many debris piles collected over the last several months into a single pile to aid in its haul away; assisting in weed control; providing additional help in cutting down the unsightly dead tree to the northwest, and regularly checking on the adobe during the week.



These are just a few of the contributions our new helpers have made to the appearance of the adobe grounds, which have made the property that much more appealing to the community. Thank you!



## Walking Tour of Mission San Jose for #OHLONE50

On Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, we hosted a walking tour in Mission San Jose. This tour was done as a part of the 50 year celebration of Ohlone College. We began our tour at the museum, made our way over to the old mission, worked our way down to mid-campus at Ohlone College, and finally walked up campus to the Louie Meager Art Gallery. Kelsey Camello led our tour with over 50 attendees! We are hoping to repeat this tour in the future, with a possibility of doing so during this year's Olive Festival in October. Thank you to all who joined us for this tour.

*\*\*Special Exhibit (Feb – June): Ohlone College Land Use: 1850 - 1975 –  
During open hours at our museum.\*\**

## Mr. Pickles + Historic Newark

Last year, the museum and sandwich shop chain Mr. Pickles teamed up to present slices of Newark history in a brand new store, located at 5849 Jarvis Avenue in Newark.

The store now prominently displays ten images of historic Newark, ranging from the 1860s through 1911. These images represent an era in Newark that is all but gone from today's landscape. Stop into the shop sometime soon, eat a sandwich, and learn some Newark history all at once! Sadna Naicker, owner of the store, has a list of captions, which tell much more about each photograph than can be gleaned from a simple viewing. Feel free to ask her for a copy.



We are always open to new collaborations and working with community-minded individuals who want to incorporate Tri-City History into their personal and professional lives. Are you interested in purchasing high-resolution scans from the museum archives? Contact us today!



## Erik's DeliCafe

Erik's DeliCafe, located on Walnut Avenue in Fremont recently got a makeover! Stop in sometime to view the historic photos on display, all of which were sourced at our museum.





## Scale Model of Downtown Niles

The Tri-City Society of Model Engineers at the Niles Depot Museum is working on creating a small scale model of the downtown Niles Business District as it looked from 1959-1979. Model creator Steve Lowens has been working with the museum to obtain photographs and related information toward this project. We will keep everyone in the

loop as the project progresses.

## History in the Vines: Fremont's Wine Legacy, by Ralph de Unamuno

We have a new historical paper on our website entitled "History in the Vines: Fremont's Wine Legacy," by Ralph de Unamuno. Visit our website to read it for yourself! Go to [www.museumoflocalhistory.org](http://www.museumoflocalhistory.org), click on Resources, then Historical Papers, then Fremont. Enjoy!



### Attention All Members!

Here is your opportunity to help the museum and Rancho Higuera Historical Park! Do you have something to donate? We are in need of the following items:

A tall butter churn, someone to sew children's size pioneer clothing, a free-standing mirror, serapes / Mexican blankets, barrels, burlap bags, punched tin lamps, a lawn mower and **VOLUNTEERS!!**

Please call Dianne at 510-673-4813  
or email her at [mdholmes2@comcast.net](mailto:mdholmes2@comcast.net).



### Volunteers Needed for Galindo-Higuera Park Maintenance

Do you have 1 or more hours to spare each month? We are in need of students or adult volunteers who can help with park maintenance. Hours will be on Saturdays between 9am and 12pm.

No experience is necessary – just a willing, helping hand for mowing, weed abatement, and other small tasks.

Call the museum if you or someone you know is interested! Thank you!



## New Members and Renewals

Thank you to all of our members who have joined or renewed their membership this year.

Your contributions and involvement in the historical community are highly valued.

If you do not see your name here, please remember to renew your membership for 2017.

You can now join or renew on our website at: <http://museumoflocalhistory.org/support/membership/>

Below are the members who have paid through 12/31/2017.

Phillip Anderson & Cindy Vail

Marjory Begley

Kelsey Camello

Kim Cross

Gloria Gaisford

Gilbert Garza

Tim Gavin

Lionel Goularte

Doug & Doris Green

Bob Greene

Jim & Patricia Griffin

Stuart Guedon

Caroline Harris & Greg Mau

Tom Heater

Philip Holmes

Shirley Lancaster

Gordon & Anne MacLeod

Elizabeth Macris

Allison Millar & Duane Barlow

G. Barton Mowry

Kathleen O'Connor

Anne Power

Bill Quirk

Roeding Family

Gretchen Roeding Mendenhall

Patricia Schaffarczyk

Doretta Schuyler

Joan Serafino

Mollie Sinclair

Kirk Skeba

Garth & Robin Smith

Mary A. Steel

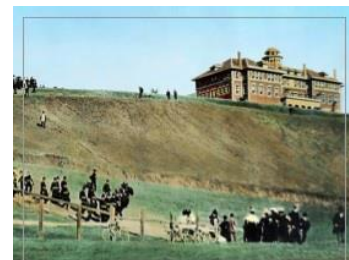
Phil & Janis Stob

Tim Swenson

Michi Yee



**Museum t-shirts --- \$10.00**



### The Masonic Homes of California

*Proudly supporting the Tri-  
City community for more  
than 115 years.*

Learn more at  
[masonichome.org](http://masonichome.org)





## Calendar



### MARCH

**TUES 3/14: WTMLH Board Meeting** – 7pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

**SAT – SUN 3/11 – 3/12: Museum Open Weekend** – 10am – 4pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

**SAT 3/25: American Association of University Women Women’s History Program** – 11:30am – 2pm – Fremont Adult School – 4700 Calaveras Ave in Fremont.

**Special Exhibit (Feb – June): Ohlone College Land Use: 1850 - 1975** – During open hours at 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

### APRIL

**TUES 4/11: WTMLH Board Meeting** – 7pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

**SAT – SUN 4/08 - 4/09: Museum Open Weekend** – 10am – 4pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

**SAT 4/15: Walk into the Past: An Urban/Rural Walk in the Greater Irvington District** – Start times between 8:30am and 12 pm, with guided walk starting at 9am – Meet at the park next to the Bean Scene Coffee Shop, 4000 Bay St. in Fremont.

**SAT 4/15: Alvarado Walking Tour** - 11am – Meet at Alvarado Elementary School, 31100 Fredi St. in Union City.

**SAT 4/22: Puente Cleanup Day** – 10am – 2pm – Rancho Higuera Historical Park, 47300 Rancho Higuera Road in Fremont.

**SAT 4/22: Earth Day / Ducks 4 Bucks Race** - Family games start at 11am, duck racing at 1pm – Lake Elizabeth in Fremont.

**SUN 4/23: Mission San Jose Sesquicentennial Reprise (talk and film)** – 3:30pm talk and 4pm show – Meet at Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum, 37417 Niles Blvd in Fremont.

**SAT 4/29: Family Day at the Rancho** – 11am – 2pm - Rancho Higuera Historical Park, 47300 Rancho Higuera Road in Fremont.

**Special Exhibit (Feb – June): Ohlone College Land Use: 1850 - 1975** – During open hours at 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

## MAY

**TUES 5/09: WTMLH Board Meeting** – 7pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

**SAT – SUN 5/13 – 5/14: Museum Open Weekend** – 10am – 4pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

**SAT 5/20: Irvington Walking Tour** - 11am – Meet at the Irvington Monument at Five Corners.

**Special Exhibit (Feb – June): Ohlone College Land Use: 1850 - 1975** – During open hours at 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

## JUNE

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

**SAT – SUN 6/10 – 6/11: Museum Open Weekend** – 10am – 4pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.

**SAT 6/10: Niles Walking Tour and Talk (with Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum)** – 1pm talk, 2pm tour – Meet at the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum.

**Special Exhibit (Feb – June): Ohlone College Land Use: 1850 - 1975** – During open hours at 190 Anza Street in Fremont.



**The museum garden bloomin' in mid-winter (above)! A week later high winds took down our Tan Oak Tree (right). Tri-City Ecology garden volunteers worked to upright it and save it from total loss!**

