



*Established in 1995 – Preserving the history of Fremont, Newark and Union City*

## **Winter Newsletter December 2017 – March 2018**

### **President's Message**

Winter is here, and with it a new year full of historical events in the Tri City – Fremont, Newark and Union City.

To stay up to date and in the know of everything that is happening this year, please remember to renew your membership for 2018. Membership dollars directly influence programs, events, exhibits, and the day to day operation of the museum.

Starting December 15<sup>th</sup> and running through the end of February, pay your membership and you will be entered into a raffle to receive a gift basket full of fun prizes, including household items, a gift membership for a friend or family member, and a museum t-shirt. Pay on or before February 28<sup>th</sup> to be entered into the raffle. One entry allowed per membership. The winner will be chosen at random at our March board meeting, with the winner notified shortly thereafter. Special thank you to Jean Holmes for donating some of the items for this raffle!

Membership can be renewed online via our website, through the mail, or by visiting the museum on one of our open days – every Wednesday, Friday, and the second weekend of each month.

We are still looking for a membership chairperson. Are you interested or know someone who may be? Can you spare just a few hours each month? Please contact us if you want to become part of a fun team!

**Please note that the General Membership Meeting will take place on February 6<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6pm at the museum. Feel free to join us as we vote in a new alternate board member to fill the vacancy left by Gil Garza, who is stepping down as of January 1, 2018. We are sad to see Gil leave the board, but look forward to seeing the personal history projects he will be able to tackle in the coming years. Thank you for all your work on the museum board over the years, Gil!**

**Look for your ballot, which will be sent out via postal mail by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Ballots must be returned by February 5<sup>th</sup>.**

We hope you will also attend one or all of the events in the coming months. First up in January are a talk and a display about Elizabeth Lowrie and her button collection. Read on to learn more about this topic.

Thanks for your support and Happy New Year to all!

*Kelsey Camello, President*

### **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

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](http://www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory)  
A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization





## The Great Rotary Hot Chili Pepper Challenge

We are anxiously awaiting the total dollars we will receive from this amazing Rotary fundraiser that we participated in from September 1<sup>st</sup> – October 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to all of our members as well as Tri-City community members who donated to our cause during the campaign. We look forward to thanking all of you individually in the coming months as the details become clear.



## Additions to Collections

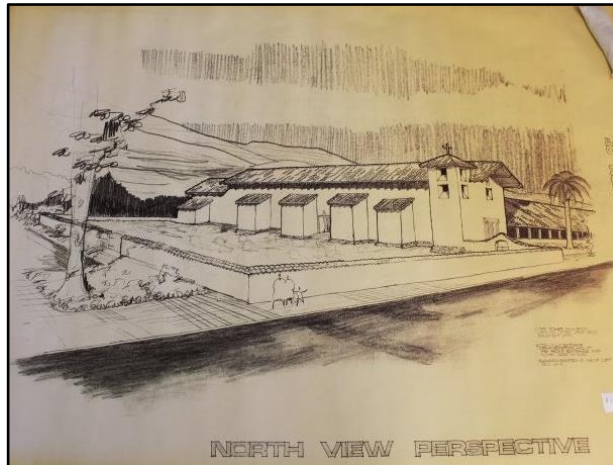


**Jesse Martinez** donated two copies of a drawing of a section house in Niles, drawn by Mr. Martinez. The Martinez and Rodarte families lived in this section house at one time. The intention was for each section house to be able to house four families, but in this case, each family lived in two of the sections. Each section had a bedroom, kitchen, entry way and bathroom.

**Jim Wall** of the Museum of American Heritage (Palo Alto) donated an 1879 Riesling wine bottle from the old Stanford Winery, sold under the label "Warm Springs Winery".



**Eric Bringhurst** donated items from Lila Bringhurst's estate, including books and booklets, maps, photos, and other media and objects related to local history.



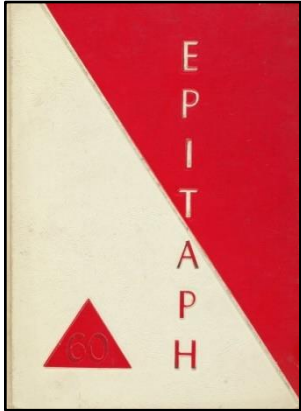
**Eric Sorina** donated four wall paintings by artist Eila June Hull, a Fremont artist in the 60s and 70s. These paintings are of local history sites. Maxine Sankene, nee Novo commissioned them for her personal use.



**Jean Messick** donated handmade antique ornaments and some patterns from her past work at Ardenwood Farm and Patterson House. Mrs. Messick also donated two booklets related to Ardenwood Farm and a framed photograph of Patterson House.



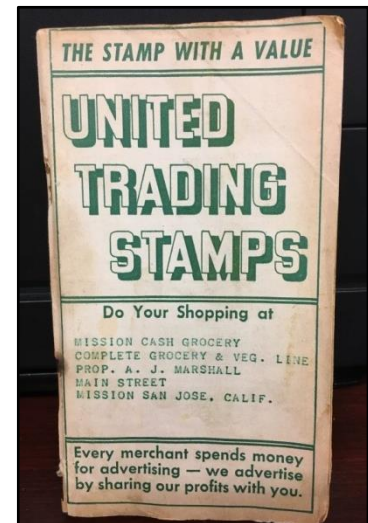
**Shirley Lorenz** donated items, which belonged to A.E. "Tony" Alameda, her father.



**Ned Raudsep** donated a set of slides of Drawbridge and the Tri-City Area.



**Diane Harpainter** donated trading stamp books from Irwin's Food Market of Irvington and Mission Cash Grocery, as well as an egg separator that was as a promotional item for the City of Fremont's Incorporation in 1956.



## Mission San Jose Walking Tour

On Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> we will hold a walking tour of downtown Mission San Jose. Meet at the museum – 190 Anza Street at 11am. This tour will continue rain or shine. See you there!



## Bill Quirk Visits the Museum

On Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, Assembly Member Bill Quirk (20<sup>th</sup> district) visited the museum and adobe for a special tour and lunch. Fremont Mayor Lily Mei was also able to join us. It was a great opportunity for the museum to share our needs, goals and vision for the future with some of our local representatives. Thank you for your visit Bill Quirk and Lily Mei!



## Fremont History through the Ages

On Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> the museum was part of a contingent of historical groups in Fremont that joined together to celebrate Fremont history through the ages – the first local history fair of its kind in recent years! This event was held at California Nursery Historical Park in Niles and was sponsored by Math Science Nucleus. It was a wonderful opportunity to explore the exhibit celebrating 100 years since the Roeding family began their nursery operation in Niles, as well as to meet citizens and forge new ties between local organizations. We're hoping this event will reoccur in 2018.







## **William F. (Bill) Holmes**

*October 14, 1930 - October 17, 2017*

Bill Holmes of Fremont, CA, died after a short but devastating bout with cancer.

Bill was married to the love of his life, Jean Holmes, for nearly 65 years. He was the father of Rick Holmes (Susan), Chris Holmes, and Shawna Holmes (David Smith), and grandfather of Ian, Amanda (deceased) and Garrett Holmes, and Avery Smith. His extended family includes sisters Joy Maguire and Melissa Snyder, sister-in-law Judy Van Geison and five nieces.

Bill was born and raised in San Francisco, son of William F. and Jeanne A. Holmes (both deceased), attended Lowell High School and Cal, and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He was elected Permanent Class President of the Class of '52 and was helping plan their 65th Reunion at the time of his death.

After Cal, Bill served in the army and later joined his father in the Wm. F. Holmes Co. He ultimately took over the family business, enjoyed working with his sons, and was actively engaged right up to the end of his life.

A Celebration of Life was held in Fremont on November 19th at Niles Discovery Church. In lieu of flowers, the family would like Bill to be remembered through contributions to the LIFE ElderCare Program in Fremont.

### **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

### **Our Virtual Museum**

Thanks to the generous people at Niles Rotary, we are continuing to work on our “virtual museum”, which will be a selection of our extensive photo collection available online to anyone with internet access. We’re actively working on getting this set up and fully operational. Our immediate goal is to represent each of the original 8 towns. Please look for more information on this in the coming months!



### **Ducks for Bucks**

Look for Ducks 4 Bucks information in March! We will be fundraising March 1<sup>st</sup> through mid-April. Race day at Lake Elizabeth is set for 4/28/18 – one week after Earth Day!



## Historic Walking Tours Round out the Year

*Decoto Bike Tour* - On Saturday, August 19th, Tim Swenson led 4 other bicyclists on the Decoto Bicycle Tour. The riders rode around Decoto, starting at Dry Creek Cottage, visiting the different historic sites of Decoto. The tour took just a little under 2 hours, ran about 2 miles in length and was a nice ride on a beautiful day.



# DECOTO



*Centerville Walking Tour* – On Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, Tim Swenson led the Centerville Walking Tour. About 40 people gathered on the steps of Holy Spirit Church to listen to a short history of Centerville. The group walked up Fremont Blvd as Tim discussed the history of a number of buildings. As always, a train at the Centerville Station interrupted the talk as its horn blared for the crossing of Fremont Blvd. There was also some discussion of some of the future plans for Centerville, including a possible renovation of the Centerville Fire Station.



# CENTERVILLE

*Irvington Cemetery Tour* – On Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, Jim Griffin, Barbara Baxter, Stuart Guedon, Wally Betchart, Tim Swenson, and Kelsey Camello led a historic tour of the pioneer cemetery in Irvington. 25 people showed up on a very rainy day to learn all about some of people buried there. After the tour, Nancy Johnson treated us to a history of the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows in the Lodge building on Fremont Blvd. We're looking forward to expanding this fun tour in the coming year!



# IRVINGTON





## 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). Questions? Call Harry Avila at 510-409-0124!

**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*

## Annual Holiday Parade Lights up Niles Blvd



We had a wonderful time celebrating the start of the holiday season as we participated in the Niles Festival of Lights Parade the day after Thanksgiving. We marched along Niles Blvd donned in holiday lights and sashes representing each of the original 8 towns of Washington Township. Niles Resident Gary Mills joined us in one of his antique vehicles. Thank you to all who participated in this event or cheered us from the sidelines.



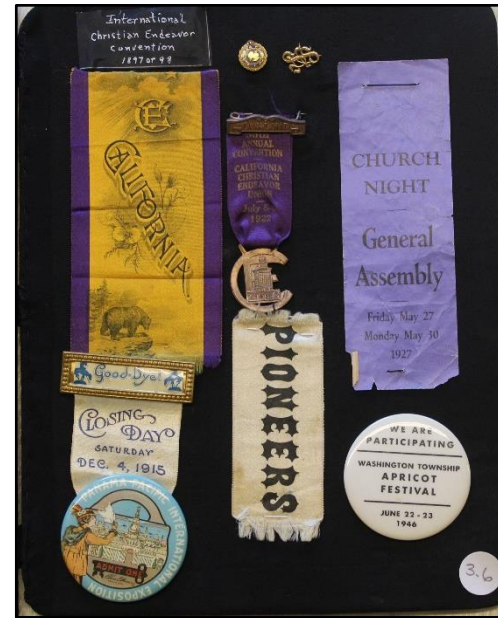




## Elizabeth Lowrie Button Collection & Talk

Elizabeth Lowrie, who was a lifetime resident and prominent citizen of Irvington, will be celebrated in early 2018. Because many people fondly remember Ms. Lowrie as their friendly librarian, from January 11<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> we will have a display on Elizabeth Lowrie's life, as well as her extensive button collection, at the Alameda County Library Fremont Main Branch. The display will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor outside the Maurice Marks Center for Local History. Here at the museum we will have a coordinating display, also from January 11<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Furthermore, in conjunction with the Washington Township Historical Society, Patricia

Schaffarczyk will be doing a talk on Elizabeth Lowrie, her life and button collection on Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The talk will be at 190 Anza Street, beginning at 7:15pm.



## Mission San Jose Olive Festival

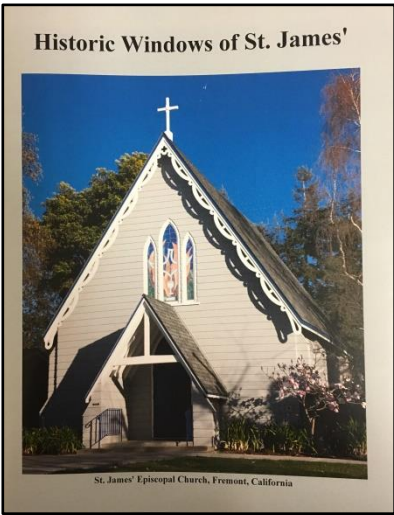
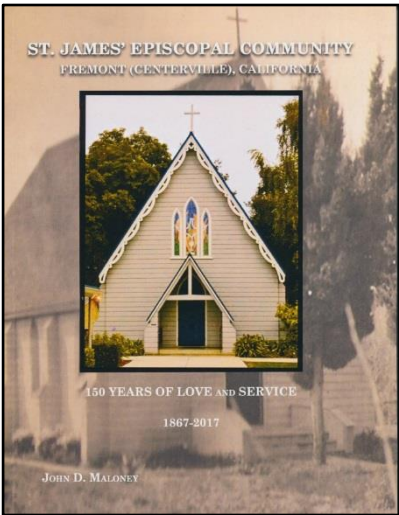
We had a great time participating in the annual Olive Festival on Saturday and Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The festival is always a perfect opportunity for outreach and meeting new potential members and local history lovers. Thanks to the festival committee for including us again this year!





# St. James' Episcopal Church Celebrates 150 Years

This year St. James' Episcopal Church in Centerville celebrated 150 years since their founding. Patty Lacy put together two beautiful displays on the history of the church, one in our museum and one at the church. Additionally, Tim Swenson and John Maloney worked together on a book about the stained glass windows inside the old wooden church. John Maloney also published his own extensive history of the church. Both books are now in our museum collection and some are for sale in our museum store. The church itself celebrated big on Saturday and Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, as they recalled a long legacy of fellowship and work in the Tri-City Community. Congratulations to St. James'!





## Candle Lighters



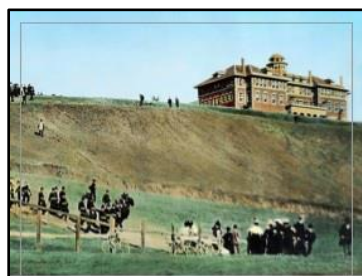
The museum is looking forward to receiving our two new sheds in the coming year – one for the adobe property and one for the museum property. These sheds will be funded by Candle Lighters. With thanks for the acceptance of our grant request, some of our board and museum members volunteered to help run the Ghost House in late October. We had a great time running the ring toss booth and the lollipop booth together.

Thanks again to Candle Lighters for all of their hard work in the community year-round.



## Newark Days Community Info Faire

For the second year in a row, we participated in the Newark Day Info Faire. Thank you Tom and Dianne for helping to represent our museum in Newark! We hope that the event helped raise awareness in Newark about the town's history and how the museum is actively working to preserve that past.



**The Masonic Homes  
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City community for more  
than 115 years.

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[masonichome.org](http://masonichome.org)



**Thanks to our business &  
corporate members for their  
support!**



## News from the Rancho

We recently had some beautiful benches built by a couple of Eagle Scouts for the interior of the Rancho Higuera Adobe. These benches will be instrumental in the success of the student tours that we do at the rancho throughout the school year.



Additionally, this fall Mission San Jose Rotary, along with Niles Rotary took on the project of building a fence to protect the adobe building. This longer term project was comprised of a series of work days where smaller groups helped flag the fence lines, dig post holes, set the fence posts and finally place the hog wire fencing around the building.

This work was so needed because the City of Fremont will soon allow grazing nearby to reduce the fire hazard risk associated with the grasses in this area. The City of Fremont has agreed to fund the cost of the materials in supporting the Rotary Clubs in protecting this precious historical gem. Thank you to the City of Fremont, Mission San Jose Rotary, and Niles Rotary for all the hard work on this project!





## New Members and Renewals

Thank you to all of our members who are paid up through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017!

If you do not see your name here, please pay your dues as soon as you can.

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.

Irene Andersen  
Urvan and Janet Anderson  
Linda Anderson  
Phillip Anderson & Cindy Vail  
Steve & Beth Armstrong  
Joan & John Ashton  
Harry Avila  
Vinnie Bacon  
Rebecca Baker  
Eldwood & Floy Ballard  
John & Rose Barr  
Donald Barsi  
Janet E. Barton & Barry John Balk  
Bill & Marilyn Bauhofer  
Barbara Baxter  
Marjory Begley  
Ralph and Carole Bell  
Sally Bentley  
Wally Betchart  
Tom & Gail Blalock  
Dorothy Bradley  
Joy Bryant (Vanhook)  
B.J. Bunting  
Kelsey Camello  
Jim Chambers  
Gary Charland  
Michelle Cheng  
John & Antionette Cordeniz  
Tom Coroneos  
Ceal Craig, President  
Jan Crocker  
Kim Cross  
Frances Drake  
Hamdi El-Sissi  
Roberta & Patrick Fisher  
Lynette Fraga-Weems  
Mellicent & Dave Fraticelli  
Gloria Gaisford  
Gilbert Garza

Tim Gavin  
Janice Gonzalves  
Doug & Doris Green  
Bob Greene  
Jim & Patricia Griffin  
Gerald W. Griffin  
Stuart Guedon  
Anthony & Lydia Guzman  
Lorin K Hansen  
Caroline Harris & Greg Mau  
Tom Heater  
Philip & Terry Henry  
Mark Hirsch  
Joanne Hoemberg  
Dianne Holmes & Gerry Curry  
Bill & Jean Holmes  
Philip Holmes  
Thelma Jones  
Michael Kania & Family  
David Kiehn  
Art & Joan Kimber  
Patty Lacy  
Shirley Lancaster  
Evelyn LaTorre  
Bernie and Marlene Leal  
Edward & Donna Leal  
Diane Gomes Leys  
James B Link  
Mary Ann Loeswick  
Janice Longo  
Gordon & Anne MacLeod  
Elizabeth Macris  
Siv S. Mahanty  
Rita McBride  
Betty McCoy  
Lily Mei  
Carmen & John Melendez  
Allison Millar & Duane Barlow  
Jon M Miller  
Gary Mills  
Brian C. Moos

Dan & Page Mosier  
G. Barton Mowry  
Arnold and Cathy Mozzetti  
Al & Connie Nagy  
Catherine Nelson  
Kathleen O'Connor  
Donna Olsen  
Mrs. Sandi & Dick Pantages  
Mary Lynn Pelican  
Anne Power  
Kevin and Carol Quinn  
Bill Quirk  
Elly Roche  
Roeding Family  
Gretchen Roeding Mendenhall  
Jonathan & Kristine Sandoe  
Linda Schaefer  
Patricia Schaffarczyk  
Jenny Schmidt  
Doretta Schuyler  
Charles Scribner & Pauline  
Weaver  
Joan Serafino  
Paul & Berenice Sethy  
Mollie Sinclair  
Kirk Skeba  
Garth & Robin Smith  
Mary A. Steel  
Adrienne Stephens  
Phil & Janis Stob  
Tim Swenson  
Jeannie Thomson  
Sara Trayser  
Walter & Lois Ulrich  
Marilyn Wall  
John Weed  
Jim and Ginger Westfall  
Scott & Becky Whitaker  
Debra Witter  
Jim Wright  
Michi Yee





## **December 2017**

- TUES 12/5: WTMLH Board Meeting – 6pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont.
- MUSEUM CLOSED 12/20/17 - 01/03/18
- WED 12/20: LAS POSADAS – 6pm -{ Collaboration with Old Mission San Jose & Fremont Cultural Arts Council }

## **January 2018**

- TUES 1/09: WTMLH Board Meeting – 6pm – 190 Anza Street
- MON 01/22: WTHS Meeting - 715pm – 190 Anza Street  
TALK - Lowrie Button Collection
- DISPLAY Jan 11 – March 31 – Lowrie Button Collection – Fremont Main Library & 190 Anza St.

## **February 2018**

- TUES 2/06: WTMLH Board Meeting – 6pm – 190 Anza Street [General Membership Meeting]
- Launch Ducks 4 Bucks – stay tuned!
- DISPLAY Jan 11 – March 31 – Lowrie Button Collection – Fremont Main Library & 190 Anza St.

## **March 2018**

- TUES 3/06: WTMLH Board Meeting – 6pm – 190 Anza Street
- SAT 3/10: Mission San Jose Walking Tour – Meet at 11am at 190 Anza Street
- MON 3/26: WTHS Meeting - 715pm – 190 Anza Street – topic and speaker TBD
- DISPLAY Jan 11 – March 31 – Lowrie Button Collection – Fremont Main Library & 190 Anza St.

If you have something you'd like to run in our next newsletter, please note the deadline for submissions is 2/21/18.

The next newsletter will run in early March and will cover the months of March – June 2018.

Submissions should be sent to [membership@museumoflocalhistory.org](mailto:membership@museumoflocalhistory.org).



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 ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_