



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

Winter Newsletter December 2018 – March 2019

President's Message

Another year-end is upon us, and this December we mourn the passing of a friend and huge resource for the museum, Mr. Philip Holmes. Phil passed away on November 16th, and we celebrated his life at his home church on December 15th. We have established a memorial fund in his honor and have plans to complete and publish in the Tri City voice some of his unfinished history stories. Do you have a story about Phil that you would like to share? Please send it to us! We are collecting stories to archive. Additionally, we have a display in the museum all about Phil as the historian. Come in sometime and see it!

Please note the date of the General Membership Meeting is February 5th. Your ballot is included at the end of this newsletter. We encourage you to vote and be a part of the process. Additionally, we are holding a membership drive again this year. Submit your membership by the end of February to be entered in!

Finally, I want to thank board member Harry Avila for his years of service to our museum. In July, Harry stepped down from the board due to lack of time commitment. We miss his monthly input on our goings on, but do appreciate the time and expertise he gave us when he was here.

As always, we are here on our open days and waiting for a visit from you (and your friends and family). Remember, anytime is a good time to keep history alive!

Thanks for reading,

Kelsey Camello, President

Board Members

President: Kelsey Camello

Vice President: Patty Lacy

Secretary: Timothy Swenson

Treasurer: Gerry Curry

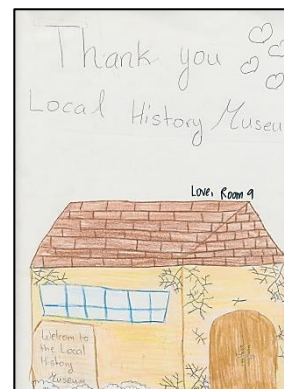
Board: Alan Nagy

Board: Tom Heater

Board: OPEN

Alternate: Stuart Guedon

Alternate: Marjory Begley



Spotlight on School Tours

Our school tours are well underway for the 2018-19 year. What a joy it is to see young children get excited about local history! Dianne, Marjory and their band of volunteers will be conducting these tours through May. Do you have as little as a few hours to spare each month and want to get involved? Contact the museum today!

17th Annual Olive Festival

We had a great time participating in the annual Olive Festival on Saturday and Sunday, October 6th and 7th. The festival is a great event for reconnecting with the locals in Mission San Jose. Thank you to the Mission San Jose Chamber of Commerce for including the museum again this year!

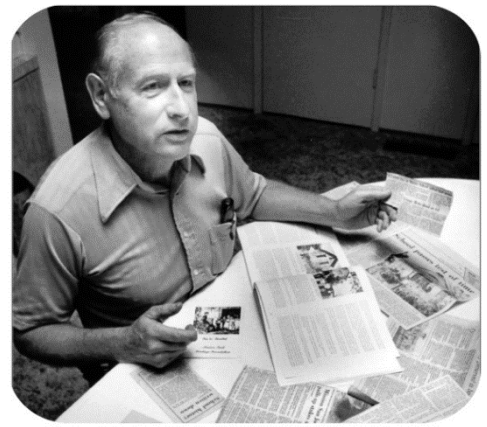


190 Anza Street, Fremont, CA 94539 - (510) 623-7907
W&F 10AM – 4PM & every 2nd weekend 10AM – 4PM
www.museumoflocalhistory.org
www.facebook.com/museumoflocalhistory
A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization

Philip Holmes

May 25, 1924 – November 16, 2018

Philip Holmes, our beloved founding/ life member and prime historian for the museum and all of the Tri-City area passed away in his home at age 94 on November 16. He is preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Grace Louise Holmes and his sister, Dorothy Frazier. He is survived by his three children, Stan, Wes, Cheryl and granddaughter, Christina Holmes; two brothers, Frank and Fred Holmes; and two sisters Beverly Faber and Barbara Abrahamse and many nieces, nephews and cousins.



A celebration of life service was held on Saturday, December 15th at Centerville Presbyterian Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Philip Holmes Memorial Fund at the Washington Township Museum of Local History or to Centerville Presbyterian Church.

Phil was an integral part of the historical community since he and his family moved to the Tri-City area. His first year working at the newly formed Fremont Unified School District was spent hiring teachers for the expanding district. The following year, he became principal of Mattos Elementary where he stayed for 10 years. He then moved to Gomes elementary where he retired after 7 years in 1984.

Phil had a passion for local history. He wrote his master's thesis about the local history of the area where he grew up in Washington. He also wrote a genealogical history of the Holmes Family. After moving to Fremont, he jumped right into pursuing his passion by researching and connecting with people and organizations in the Tri-City area who shared his interests. Phil said, "Local history is important for people to figure out who they are, where they came from and their purpose in life." He added, "This is where you are and the place where you can make a contribution."

Phil taught local history classes through Ohlone College in collaboration with Robert Fisher (1984-1992). He took hundreds of pictures of historical places and assembled them into slide shows for his class.

Phil became an active member in the historical groups, Mission Peak Heritage Foundation and Washington Township Historical Society. He was a founding member and first president of the Museum of Local History (1994). Phil worked to establish the archives and to acquire more collections.

Phil's publishing and research days were just beginning. Phil and Dolores Rose wrote, *Reflections, The Educational Heritage of Fremont* in 1983. He also wrote more than 700 historical articles for three publications; *The Argus* (1990-1996), *The Fremont Bulletin* (1996-2002), and *What's Happening* (1998-2002), which later became the *Tri-City Voice* (2002- 2015). As a member of the Mission San Jose Bicentennial Committee Phil

wrote, *Two Centuries of Mission San Jose, 1797-1997*. In collaboration with Jill Singleton, he co-authored three books from the *Images of America Series*; *Niles, Fremont* (2004), *Irvington, Fremont* (2005), *Centerville, Fremont* (2011). In 2013 he co-authored with Patricia Schaffarczyk one more about *Warm Springs, Fremont*. Many residents have been touched by his stories.

In a celebration in his honor in 2010, the Museum of Local History, the Mission Peak Heritage Foundation and the Washington Township Historical Society declared Philip Holmes as the official historian for Fremont, which was concurred by the City of Fremont.

We at the museum want to express our deepest sympathies to Phil Holmes' family and friends. Phil will be remembered fondly for his contributions to documenting, celebrating and supporting a study of the rich history of the Tri-City area.



Recent Additions to Collections

Virginia and Jerry Duby did an oral history about growing up in Mission San Jose.

Robynne and Curt Heinemann did an oral history about growing up in Mission San Jose.

Allen Chan donated pictures of family members working in local aster flower fields. His family lived and worked in the local area, growing their product in various locations during the 1960s and 70s.



Karen Bresler donated the book *The Bride of Mission San Jose* by John Augustine Cull.

B.J. Bunting donated two watercolor paintings of Pacific Coast Aggregates by Ethel Grau, and a color print of the California Nursery Adobe taken from a painting by Grau.



John & Milene Rawlinson

donated copies of *Newark of Yesterday* by Marge Callow, a 1960s news clipping of the Newark fire department (July 4, 1911), and a news clipping from the Oakland Enquirer (February 7, 1910) about Newark celebrating the new Dumbarton Railroad Cut-Off.

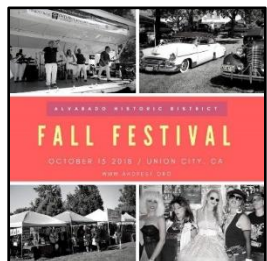


Volunteer Opportunities: *Can you or someone you know help? We are currently in need of the following:*

- 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
- mowing and weed abatement at the rancho

News from the Rancho

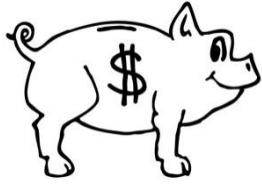
Our treasurer, Gerry Curry currently takes care of almost all of the maintenance at the adobe property. He is looking for assistance with mowing once per month – a time commitment of about 30-45 minutes, as well as some help with weed abatement. Can you help with this? If so, please contact the museum via phone or email. Thank you!



4th Annual Alvarado Fall Fest

Put on by the Alvarado Historic District Merchants Association, the 4th Annual Alvarado Fall Fest took place on October 13th. Representatives from the museum manned a table with various books, booklets and papers about the history of Union City. The hope for 2019 (and beyond) is that the museum is able to continue to extend its reach into Union City through this or other local events that take place.

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 today!

**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,
Lila Bringhurst Fund, Phil Holmes Fund

Candle Lighters Celebrates 50 Years



In October we were finally able to unveil a wonderful, fun project we'd been working on for Candle Lighters. This year the group celebrated its 50th ghost house with several special events, and it all began with a ribbon cutting on opening day, Saturday, October 13th. To honor the anniversary, the museum put together a 6-panel, rolling display (decorated in Halloween style) which told the history of the Candle Lighters and Williams Historical Park. The

display was set out along the midway every open day of the 2018 season. The panels will remain with the Candle Lighters and hopefully become a part of their annual event!



Niles Festival of Lights Parade

We enjoyed another wonderful kickoff to the holiday season in Niles on the day after Thanksgiving! This year we partnered with the ballet folklórico group from Schilling Elementary School in Newark. They danced beautifully and with lights shimmering from head to foot. This same group has danced for us previously during Family Day at the Rancho. You can be sure we will be working to have them up there again in 2019!



Renew your membership and enter our raffle!

Become a member or renew your membership by February 28th and be entered into a raffle for a basket full of museum goodies.

Winner to be chosen at our March board meeting.

Las Posadas at the Museum

Thank you to everyone who came out to participate in Las Posadas this year. On our Friday evening, December 21st we hosted the musical group *Santa's Tallest Elves*, sampled festive treats and enjoyed the company of others (there were about 30 of us) as we sipped Patty Lacy's famous hot cocoa with peppermint whipped cream. Until next year!



Women's History Month – Women in Washington Township

On Saturday, March 16th we will be hosting a brand new event to focus on women from our past. This will be a wine and cheese event (with a little history too!) – look for more information soon.



Event Celebrates 150th Anniversary of the Great Quake of 1868

On Sunday, October 21st we were included in a huge awareness event at Fremont's Central Park, designed to educate the public on earthquake science, history and preparedness. The event coincided with the 150th anniversary of the 1868 quake, which toppled the original adobe Mission San Jose Church. The event was well attended (visitor count was estimated between 2,000 and 3,000), and we never had more than a few moments at our table between visitors. We later took our display materials and created an exhibit in the museum, which was up from Oct. 25th through Dec. 20th.



The "Chinese History Project" of the Washington Township Museum of Local History



Formed in 2018, the goal of this subcommittee is to provide an organization with a focus on the history of early Chinese immigrants in Washington Township.

The project was sparked by the "Chinese Bunkhouse Preservation Committee" who wished to know more about the history of the early Chinese workers and neighbors of the Shinn family. This history provides a context for the bunkhouse. Many of the early pioneering Chinese came from the same area and some were from the same extended family.

Records of Chinese immigrants show up in our local archives at least as early as the 1860s. Stories of the early Chinese immigrants are held in many museums, in archives, and in the personal collections of local families.

Goals of the subcommittee:

- To bring these stories alive – of immigration, struggle, and success
- To tell these little-known stories to visitors and students
- To create partnerships with families, museums, parks, schools, universities, and other agencies

The
committee's
first exhibit:

Chinese Roots

Sketches of Life in the Washington Township



The archives of our historic towns are rich with the stories of immigrants who came before us. "Chinese Roots" brings to light one group - the early Chinese people whose presence is first recorded around the time of the Gold Rush. Hidden histories have been unearthed – from the accounts of vineyards, orchards, nurseries, farmlands, and the salt and sugar industries. The records are often mere entries in nursery ledgers, in the ranch records of labor hired for harvesting fruit, in the census records, or in the smiles of winery workers at a China Camp. Other records are wonderful robust personal accounts, written about growing up here in the Washington Township – hunting & fishing, high school sports & hijinks, and endless farm work. All of these snips and bits make a sketch of life – making connections between the past and present.

Exhibits

The exhibits will be on display from **January 12 to March 10, 2019** at the **Fremont Main Library**, in the Maurice Marks display area on the second floor and in the main floor exhibit case.

Lectures

Monday, January 28 @ 7:00 p.m. -- Archaeology at Stanford's Arboretum Chinese Houses

Christopher B. Lowman will speak about how an excavation at Stanford University reveals the lives of early Chinese immigrants and their relationships with other Bay Area communities and with China. Christopher is a graduate student at UCB and works on archeological excavations and museum research.

Monday, February 11 @ 7:00 p.m. -- Conquering the Sierra; Putting America in Motion

Thousands of unknown Chinese workers played a vital role in building America's first transcontinental railroad across a tremendous mountain range. Phil Sexton will talk about the construction of the railroad and its profound effects on both the nation and California. Phil is a park director for the California State Parks.

Saturday, February 23 @ 10:30 a.m. – Family Legacies – Legend and Verification

Jeanie Low, author of "China Connection: Finding Ancestral Roots for Chinese in America", will speak about how to uncover family history through immigration, naturalization, mortuary, and other records.

Sponsored by the Alameda County Library with the "Chinese History Project" of the Washington Township Museum of Local History, a newly formed committee that focuses on the history of the early Chinese from the museum archives and from partner organizations: the Roeding Archives of the California Nursery Company, the Shinn archives managed by the Mission Peak Heritage Foundation, and the Alameda County Library, Fremont Main branch. The Fong family has kindly shared photos and information.

The library is wheelchair accessible. An ASL interpreter will be provided for this program if requested at least 7 days in advance.

Voice 510-745-1401 or TDD (888) 663-0660

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New Members and Renewals

Thank you to all of our members who are paid up through December 31st, 2019!

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.

Bill & Marilyn Bauhofer, Chris & Alice Cavette, Allen Chan, Deanna Cope, John & Antoinette Cordeniz,
John P Dunford, Roberta & Patrick Fisher, Tim Gavin, Bob Greene, Cheryl Holmes, Katie Janssen,
Edward & Donna Leal, G. Barton Mowry, Mary Betchart Platten, Roeding Family, Mollie Sinclair

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 renew or 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 ☐ \$ _____

Museum Calendar



January 2019

MEETING -- TUES 1/08: WTMLH Board Meeting – 6pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont

MEETING -- MON 1/28: WTHS Meeting - 715pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont

LECTURE -- MON 1/28 @ 7:00 p.m. -- Archaeology at Stanford's Arboretum Chinese Houses

Christopher B. Lowman will speak about how an excavation at Stanford University reveals the lives of early Chinese immigrants and their relationships with other Bay Area communities and with China. Christopher is a graduate student at UCB and works on archeological excavations and museum research.

DISPLAY 12/20/2018 – open ended - Remembering Philip Holmes

DISPLAY 1/12/19 – 3/10/19: Chinese Roots – Sketches of Life in the Washington Township, at Fremont Main Library Maurice Marks display area on the second floor and in the main floor exhibit case

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE – Pay by 2/28 and be entered into a raffle – winner will be chosen at March board meeting

February 2019

MEETING -- TUES 2/05: WTMLH Board Meeting (General Membership) – 6pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont

LECTURE -- MON 2/11 @ 7:00 p.m. -- Conquering the Sierra; Putting America in Motion

Thousands of unknown Chinese workers played a vital role in building America's first transcontinental railroad across a tremendous mountain range. Phil Sexton will talk about the construction of the railroad and its profound effects on both the nation and California. Phil is a park director for the California State Parks.

LECTURE -- SAT 2/23 @ 10:30 a.m. – Family Legacies – Legend and Verification

Jeanie Low, author of "China Connection: Finding Ancestral Roots for Chinese in America", will speak about how to uncover family history through immigration, naturalization, mortuary, and other records.

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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE – Pay by 2/28 and be entered into a raffle – winner will be chosen at March board meeting

March 2019

EVENT -- SAT & SUN 3/02 – 3/03: SF History Days at the Old Mint

MEETING -- TUES 3/05: WTMLH Board Meeting – 6pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont

EVENT -- SAT 3/16: Women's History Month – Women in Washington Township -- wine and cheese event (with a little history too!) – look for more information soon.

MEETING -- MON 3/25: WTHS Meeting - 715pm – 190 Anza Street in Fremont

DISPLAY 12/20/2018 – open ended - Remembering Philip Holmes

DISPLAY 1/12/19 – 3/10/19: Chinese Roots – Sketches of Life in the Washington Township, at Fremont Main Library Maurice Marks display area on the second floor and in the main floor exhibit case

Ducks 4 Bucks Sales begin – Look for more information in our spring newsletter

WALKING TOUR SCHEDULE 2019

APRIL -- SAT 4/13 - Niles

Walking Tour - 11am - Meet at Essanay Film Museum – Essanay Film Museum (David Kiehn) to lead -- followed by Laurel and Hardy talkies at 4pm.



MAY -- SAT 5/18: Centerville

Walking Tour – 11am – Meet in front of Holy Spirit Church on Fremont Blvd. – Tim Swenson to lead.

JUNE -- SAT 6/15: 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). – Tim Swenson to lead.

JULY -- SAT 7/20: Irvington Walking Tour - 11am – Meet at the Irvington Monument at Five Corners –Caroline Harris to lead.

AUGUST -- SAT 8/10: Newark Walking Tour – 11am – Meet at the corner of Thornton and Ash Streets in front of Watkins Hall – Al Nagy to lead.

SEPTEMBER -- SAT 9/14: Alvarado Walking Tour - 11am – Meet at Alvarado Elementary School, 31100 Fredi St. in Union City – Tim Swenson to lead.

OCTOBER -- SAT 10/12: Mission San Jose Walking Tour – 11am - Meet at 190 Anza - Kelsey Camello to lead.

NOVEMBER -- SAT 11/02: Cemetery Tour – evening program with time and cemetery TBD. Keep an eye out for more information on this.

Please note our holiday hours - the museum will be closed from 12/20/18 - 01/08/19. The last open day for 2018 will be Wednesday, December 19th, and the first open day for 2019 will be Wednesday, January 9th.

Thank you for your support as we take time away to celebrate the holidays!

If you have something to run in our next newsletter, please note the deadline for submissions is 2/10/19.

The newsletter will run in early March and will cover the months of March – June 2019.

Send submissions to membership@museumoflocalhistory.org.



Washington Township Museum of Local History 2019 Board Election Ballot

The museum board consists of seven members and two alternates

The present board includes the following:

President: Kelsey Camello
Vice-President: Patricia Lacy
Secretary: Timothy Swenson
Treasurer: Gerry Curry
At large: Alan Nagy, Tom Heater, Harry Avila (vacant)
Alternates: Stuart Guedon, Marjory Begley

Harry Avila has stepped down from the board. One of the current alternates will move into a regular position. The positions held by Gerry Curry and Stuart Guedon are expiring at the end of 2018. Both are running for re-election.

**The newly elected board will select the specific officer positions (which are two-year terms).

There are three board positions open for election.

Please vote with a check mark or write in a suggested candidate.

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gerry Curry, board | OR | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (write in) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stuart Guedon, alternate | OR | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (write in) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Macris, alternate | OR | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (write in) |
-

Return the ballot in an envelope with your name and address on the upper left hand corner.

Before the envelope is opened it will be checked against the roster of current members.

This is a secret vote, so please do not put your name on the ballot itself.

Mail the ballot to the Washington Township Museum of Local History - 190 Anza St.,
Fremont, CA, 94539 by February 4th, 2019, or bring the ballot to the General Membership
Meeting at the museum on Tuesday, February 5th, 2019 at 6 pm.

Thank you for your participation!

190 Anza Street, Fremont, CA 94539

