



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUSEUM *of* LOCAL HISTORY

Spring 2016 Newsletter

Board Members

President: Lila Bringhurst
Vice President: Kelsey Camello
Secretary: Timothy Swenson
Treasurer: Gerry Curry
Board: Alan Nagy
Board: Patty Lacy
Board: Harry Avila
Alternate: Gil Garza
Alternate: Stuart Guedon



After completing a general election vote by our current members the museum has finalized board officer positions for the 2016 year.

Lila Bringhurst will serve as President; Kelsey Camello as Vice President; Tim Swenson as Secretary; Gerry Curry as Treasurer; Patty Lacy, Harry Avila and Alan Nagy in general positions; and Stuart Guedon and Gil Garza as alternates.

The board is very excited to be working together to help preserve Southern Alameda County memories, documents, artifacts, and structures from the past and share them with present and future generations.

President's Message

As the newly elected president of the Museum of Local History Guild, I look forward to a busy year. If you stop by the museum on a Wednesday or Friday you will see the changes.

Student tours of the museum and the Rancho Higuera Historical Park are scheduled every week. Volunteers come in and help digitize our photo collections. We are evaluating and cataloguing our donated items.

We regularly get requests for help from researchers working on local projects. One project funded by the city is the placement of new signs along the Sabercat Creek Trail, and we are working with the consultant to aid in that effort.

We celebrated the museum's 20th anniversary last year. All the work of the past leadership has resulted in a vital museum today.

One immediate problem is finding more space for our donated items, archival records and photographs. We are working on a way to increase our space at the current location.

We need a few more volunteers just to keep the museum staffed on days that it is open – Wednesdays and Fridays and the second Saturday and Sunday of each month, from 10am to 4pm.

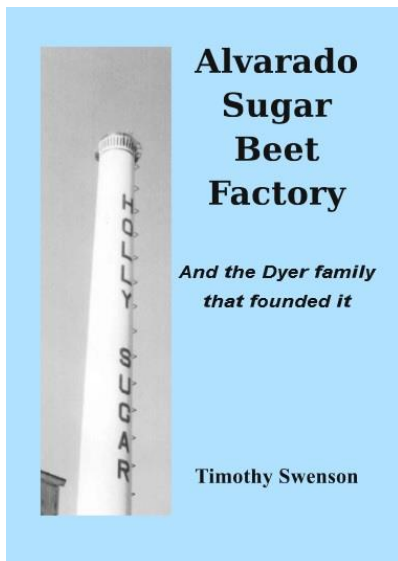
We have such a rich history in Washington Township and we hope to continue to share that history with the old timers, the newcomers and the students of Fremont, Newark and Union City.

Lila Bringhurst

Additions to Collections

1. Tony Keihl donated items that belonged to Herta "Cathy" Tack Markvardsen (a resident of Fremont during her youth), including: a scrapbook, photos, various ephemera and yearbooks.
2. Eileen Weeks donated a school desk from Niles elementary school, which was acquired by her parents Ed and Gerry Shannon in the 1960s. Four of their five daughters attended the school.
3. Diane Gomes Leys donated a family trunk, which belonged to her grandfather Manuel Silveira Gomes. The trunk travelled with him from the Azores to America in 1870.
4. Paul Andrus donated two books on the history of the Rotary Club of Niles, covering 1937-1987.
5. Anne Power donated research related to John M. Horner and the Mormons, collected by Randy Power.
6. Tom Heater donated two bottles of Weibel wine from 1969 and 1971.
7. Lionel Goularte donated various items, including items from Curtner Ranch and the Galdino-Higuera Adobe, and various books relating to local history.
8. Susan Murphy donated items that belonged to Evelyn "Brownie" Rose, who worked for Fremont Unified School District for more than 42 years.





Alvarado Sugar Beet Factory Talk

A date has been set for a talk that was originally set for October 2015. Join Tim Swenson as he talks about the Alvarado Sugar Beet Factory and the Dyer family that founded it. The talk will take place on May 22nd at the Union City Library at 3:00PM.

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 pioneer clothes, a free standing mirror, branding irons, serapes, Mexican blankets, barrels, burlap bags, punched tin lamps, and volunteers!!

Call Dianne @ (510) 673-4813

Galindo-Higuera Adobe

The Mission San Jose Rotary recently donated two large tables, which were designed and built by Larry Anderson. These new tables will be used in the northeast room for display materials and will be a helpful addition to our elementary school tours.

Since December we have conducted 15 tours at the adobe and 4 tours at the museum. All of them were school tours, with the exception of one. There are 3 adobe tours and 4 museum tours scheduled for March.



Thanks to the tireless efforts of Dianne Holmes, Marjory Begley and Wally Betchart these programs are able to continue. They provide a valuable source of income and exposure for the museum.

We want to schedule additional tours, but have been unable to do so due to a lack of available volunteers. If you or someone you know has a couple of hours to spare each month, please contact Dianne at (510) 673-4813 or the museum directly.

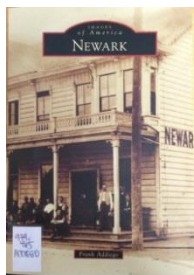


Las Posadas at Mission San Jose

In December we were able to once again host a night of the traditional Las Posadas celebration, which is done in collaboration with Mission San Jose and the Fremont Cultural Arts Council.

On December 18th the procession was led down Mission Street by our own Stuart Guedon. Once they entered the museum those who had gathered for the celebration enjoyed a musical program by the Center Stage Singers.

We look forward to taking part in this annual event again this December.



Images of America: Newark, by Tony Rodriguez

In 2015 Tony Rodriguez released his first book entitled *Newark*, a pictorial account of Newark's origins and history throughout the decades. Book releases were held in both Newark and Fremont. The book is available for purchase through the museum store, in person or online. Purchase one today!

Digital Preservation Workshop Held at Ardenwood Farm

On February 22nd a few museum volunteers and staff were treated to a workshop on digital preservation, with a focus on Past Perfect (the software we have already been using for 10+ years). The workshop was sponsored by the City of Fremont and put on by the Patterson House Manager, Christie Dentry. Thanks to Christie and the Library of Congress we are now feeling more confident about some of the choices we've made in the past and excited about putting new best practices to work as we move forward. We also want to extend our gratitude to Patty Lacy for sponsoring our attendance at this critical event. Thank you!



Union City Historical Museum Celebrates 15 Years

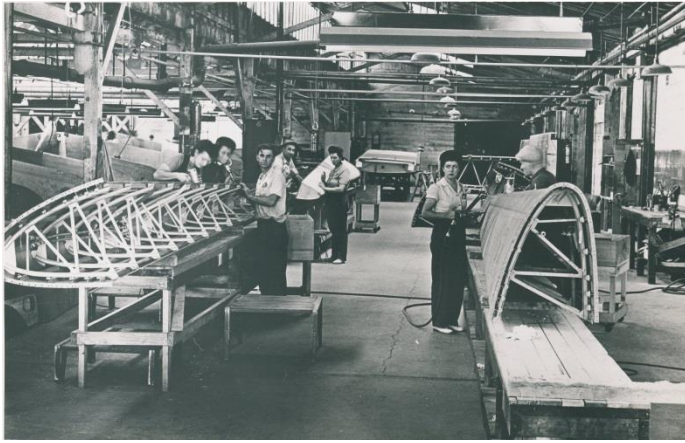
On February 20th citizens and officials gathered to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Union City Historical Museum. The Union City Historical Museum is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation, maintenance, and protection of, and the education of the public about the architectural, cultural, natural, and historical heritage resources of the City of Union City. The museum was established in February 2001 and continues to preserve the history of Union City.

City of Fremont Celebrates 60 Years with Time Capsule Ceremony



On January 23rd the City of Fremont gathered for a time capsule ceremony and community picnic. It was a rain or shine event, and rain it sure did! When we found out about the event we immediately contacted the event organizers to find out if we could be a part of it. It so happened that we had just recently been working on the accessioning of the 1969 City of Fremont time capsule, which had been put together and buried when the government building had gone up on Civic Center Drive that same year. The museum and the city agreed that a historical display of the old time capsule would be a perfect addition to the event. The event was a success and many citizens expressed great interest in being able to see a little slice of history on display.

Celebrating Women and Their Work



Beginning in April the museum will have a brand new exhibit focusing on women of Washington Township and their work. Women have always been a vital part of society, whether they have been in the forefront of history or behind the scenes. This exhibit will focus on some of those who have often gone unnoticed. Visit the museum anytime on or after April 8th to see the display.

In collaboration with this exhibit the museum is sponsoring a talk entitled “Pioneer Women, their Work, and their Men” put on by Jim Griffin. Jim’s talk will be on April 12th at the IOOF Hall, located at 40955 Fremont Blvd in Irvington, and it will begin at 7pm.

In addition, we want to hear from you! Citizens are invited to submit their stories about women and their work – think of mothers, grandmothers, friends and acquaintances. Stories can be submitted in person or by emailing exhibits@museumoflocalhistory.org.

Natural World of Fremont Earth Day at Central Park

On April 16th the City of Fremont is sponsoring an event at Lake Elizabeth that will focus on both the Earth and the history of Fremont. From 10:00 am to 3:00 pm the museum will have a table set up alongside other local organizations. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy a day in the park while learning about the history of the area.



Walking Tours of Historic Districts



Alvarado

April 16th – 11:00 am

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.



Irvington

May 21st – 11:00 am

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



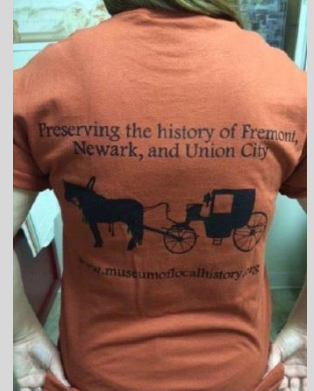
Newark

A walking tour of old town Newark is in the works for some time in June. Keep an eye on the paper, our website and Facebook, and your email for updates!

T-SHIRTS

\$15

Inquire at
the museum



Rancho Day at the Galindo-Higuera Adobe

On April 30th from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm the museum will be hosting our second annual Rancho Day at the adobe. The event will focus on the Rancho period, with various activities for children, including a piñata at 2:00 pm. Mexican food will be available for purchase, and there will be a video about the restoration and history of the adobe. This event will once again include traditional folklórico dancing. Everyone is invited to attend!



Matching Grant Allows for Funding for Continued Cataloguing and Archiving



As of the beginning of March we have officially surpassed our goal of \$5,000 for the matching grant that will be allocated to archiving and cataloguing. This grant is offered through the Despeaux Good Works Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation (EBCF). We want to sincerely thank our donors for the generosity they have shown in donating to this important fund. In order for us to stay on top of incoming donations as well as continue to maintain and properly catalogue our existing collections it has become necessary for this traditionally volunteer position to become a paid one. We give big thanks to our donors for once again making this a reality. As of March 20th we have raised \$5,725.00, and along with the \$5,000 that will come from the EBCF, \$10,725.00 has now been allocated to the archiving/cataloguing fund. Thank you everyone – we did it!

OUR DONORS:

John & Rose Barr	Ruthe Gomez	Regena Dennie	David Schipul
Marjory Begley	Lionel Goularte, given in memory of Bernadine M. Goularte	Sheri & Hugh Logan	Elinor Smith
Frank and Elvamae Borghi	Mark Grace, given in memory of Evelyn "Brownie" Rose	Gordon and Anne MacLeod	Tim & Catherine Swenson
B.J. Bunting	Jim Griffin	Betty McCoy	Tri-City Ecology Center
Cloverleaf Family Bowl	Stuart Guedon	Sarah McMullin	Walter & Lois Ulrich
Janet Crocker	Bill & Jean Holmes	Gus Morrison	Charles & Pauline Weaver
Pat & Becky Denevan	Dianne Holmes & Gerry Curry	Jane & Doug Mueller & Ford	John & Judy Zlatnik
Nelda Erlwein	Thelma Jones	Susan Murphy, given in memory of Evelyn "Brownie" Rose	
Lynette Fraga-Weems, given in memory of Robert & Sandra Fraga	Patricia Lacy & Robert Allan, given in memory of	Kevin and Carol Quinn	
Gilbert Garza			

If you or someone you know is interested in donating to archiving and cataloguing, we are still gladly accepting donations. Thank you!



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.

Volunteers



As always, the museum is currently looking for volunteers with any experience or interest and some time to spare. Whether you have 1 hour a week or 20 – we need you! We have room for you no matter your skill or interest level. If you enjoy working with kids and families, we have room for you! If you enjoy working with adults, we have room for you! If you would rather work with collections and not interact with people, we have room for you! If you like photos, maps, artifacts, working with computers, not working with computers, organizing, filing, or working in the yard - you name it, we have a need for you! Please consider donating some of your time to the museum. Your efforts will be greatly appreciated by many.

This quarter we want to put emphasis on our volunteers who keep the 3rd and 4th grade tours at the adobe and museum up and running. Dianne Holmes, Marjory Begley and Wally Betchart work tirelessly every Wednesday and Friday to put on tours for Tri-City youth. Thank you for all that you do!!



Partnering with the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum

Our museum is partnering with another local museum, the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum, in their quest to raise money for archivist Paul Mular to continue evaluating and cataloging (i.e. processing) the museum's 9000 reels of film. The film collection includes silent and talking movies and a wide range of other films - both commercial and documentary.

A recent anonymous gift of \$25,000, donated through the Washington Township Museum of Local History, has enabled Mular to process over 1000 films in the last six months. Another \$8,000 has been raised by the film museum.

The cost of processing the total collection is estimated at about \$75,000, the majority of it for payroll with no overhead. Please consider donating to this worthy cause. Questions? Please contact either museum for information.

Calendar:

March

3/08 - WTMLH Meeting – 7-9pm at WTMLH
3/17 - MPHF Meeting – 7-9pm at Shinn House
3/28 - WTHS Meeting – Bob Ingersoll on the Peralta Family & early California - 7:15-9pm at WTMLH

April

4/08 - ongoing - Celebrating Women and their Work (Exhibit)
4/12 - Jim Griffin Talk - Pioneer Women, their Work and their Men - 7pm at IOOF
4/16 - Natural World of Fremont Day - 10am - 3pm - Central Park
4/16 - Alvarado Walking Tour - 11am
4/19 - WTMLH Meeting – 7-9pm at WTMLH
4/21 - MPHF Meeting – 7-9pm at Shinn House

4/30 - Rancho Day at the Adobe 11am-3pm

May

5/10 - WTMLH Meeting – 7-9pm at WTMLH
5/19 - MPHF Meeting – 7-9pm at Shinn House
5/21 - Irvington Walking Tour – 11am
5/22 – Alvarado Sugar Beet talk- 3pm - Union City Library
5/23 - WTHS Meeting – Speaker TBD – 7:15-9pm at WTMLH

June

6/14 - WTMLH Meeting – 7-9pm at WTMLH
6/16 - MPHF Meeting – 7-9pm at Shinn House
DATE TBD - Newark Walking Tour



Captions

Page 1/ Board: Not pictured – Harry Avila

Page 3/ Galindo-Higuera Tables: MSJ Rotary and WTMLH volunteers install the newly built tables.

Page 4/ Las Posadas: Stuart Guedon leads the procession from Mission San Jose to the WTMLH. (JS) & The Center Stage Singers entertain visitors at the WTMLH for Las Posadas. (JS)

Page 5/ Time Capsule: WTMLH volunteers install the 1969 City of Fremont Time Capsule. (JS) & City, state and county officials bury the 2016 City of Fremont Time Capsule. (JS) & Wedgewood: Women work the line at the James Graham Manufacturing Co. in Newark, producing airplane parts for the war effort. (1940s)

****all photos notated with (JS) are the property of photographer James Sakane of the Fremont Bulletin**

New Members & Renewals

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of our members who are paid up for 2016. Thank you for supporting us in another year of service in the Tri-City community!

Steve & Beth Armstrong
Harry Avila
Timothy Avila
Anthony Avila
Gina Marie Avila
Vinnie Bacon
John & Rose Barr
Barbara Baxter
Marjory Begley
Al and Joan Bernardin
Frank and Elvamae Borghi
Lila Bringhurst
B.J. Bunting
Kelsey Camello
Gary Charland
Janet C Crocker
Eleanor Currie
Pat & Becky Denevan
Lynette Fraga-Weems
Gilbert Garza

Tim Gavin
Ruthe Gomez
Lionel Goularte
Doris Green
Bob Greene
Jim Griffin
Stuart Guedon
Caroline Harris & Greg Mau
Tom Heater
Herman & Betty Hebel
Philip & Terry Henry
Bruce Hevelin
Philip Holmes
Bill & Jean Holmes
S Reshmi Inamdar
Thelma Jones
Bernie and Marlene Leal
Gordon & Anne MacLeod
Betty McCoy
Lily Mei

Cindy Morici
Gus Morrison
Ann Morrison & Dan O'Donnel
G. Barton Mowry
Jane & Doug Mueller & Ford
Anne Power
Kevin and Carol Quinn
Roeding Family
Patricia Schaffarczyk
Charles Scribner & Pauline Weaver
Roy & Christie Shiba
Mollie Sinclair
Elinor Smith
Garth & Robin Smith
Phil & Janis Stob
Tim Swenson
Walter & Lois Ulrich
Charles & Pauline Weaver
John & Judy Zlatnik



Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Yes, please renew my membership!

Regular	☐ \$35
Family	☐ \$40
Trailblazer	☐ \$50
Pathfinder	☐ \$100
Pioneer Patron	☐ \$500
Lifetime	☐ \$1,000
Senior/Student	☐ \$10
Senior Couple	☐ \$20

Yes, I would like to donate toward archiving and cataloguing!

Donation ☐ \$ _____

Total Contribution ☐ \$ _____

Please make checks payable to *Museum of Local History*. Mail to 190 Anza Street, Fremont, CA 94539