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National Historical Landmark, 1962

SPRING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bancroft Bulletin

February/March 2017 • Vol. 18, No. 4

From the President's Desk . . .

Happy **wet and windy** New Year! I hope 2017 finds all of you well and unaffected by flooding or falling trees. I've recorded close to 4.5 inches of rain from January 18th to the 24th at my house! I am really looking forward to the predicted week of sunshine so things can dry out a little.

It has been a memorable start for the Spring Valley Historical Society as well. As I write this column we have set up the new computer in the archives room, put in an internet connection, and installed new software including MS Office for day-to-day operations and PastPerfect 5, a specialized museum package for cataloging our collections and much more. All of these improvements are due to the generous Community Enhancement Grant that was approved by our **2nd District Supervisor Dianne Jacob** and it allows us to replace the 10+ year old computer and software we had been relying on into a back-up role.

With the new system now operational, our first major goal will be to transfer over 1,100 catalog records created by past Curator **Glenn Lindeneau** into PastPerfect. One advantage of the PastPerfect software is that you can take one or more digital images of an object that has been cataloged and upload them to the catalog record. Another is that the catalog entries will use a standardized language that is compatible with, and understood by, hundreds of museums across the country and even overseas. This will enable our Society to better interact with the preservation community at large as well as better engage our local community. I am very excited about getting started on the data conversion. If anyone is interested in volunteering some time to enter Glenn's records into PastPerfect, please let me know and I'll be happy to help get you started.

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Apologies, once again, for this briefer issue; the Editor is swamped with too much work at this time of year so had to make things brief.

FEBRUARY 4th PROGRAM

Japanese Americans Acknowledge February 19 - But Why?

Our speaker, Linda Canada, serves as the Archivist for the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego (JAHSSD). In her presentation, she will talk about the history of people of Japanese descent, including some familiar Spring Valley names. Her presentation covers the experience of their segregation into remote internment camps during World War II (1942-45), and the process of rebuilding lives afterwards.

This presentation is timely, since this year is the 75th anniversary of the mass relocation of some 120,000 Japanese Americans resulting from President Roosevelt's issued Executive Order 9066 in Feb. 1942. Linda's talk will be illustrated with photographs and documents from the JAHSSD collection.

See you there!

SVHS DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 4	Program – 7 pm Preceded by Potluck – 6 pm
Feb. 20	Board meeting – 7 pm
Mar. 1	Co. Enhancement Grant - deadline
Mar. 20	Board meeting – 7 pm
Mar. 23	Newsletter deadline

SVHS Officers/Committees

President	<i>Rob Case</i>	462-7928
Programs	<i>Kathy Viessman</i>	465-1830
Ways/Means	<i>OPEN</i>	
Treasurer	<i>Carol Serr</i>	
Secretary	<i>Carol Myers</i>	
Membership	<i>Carol Serr</i>	698-1242
Bldgs&Grnds	<i>OPEN</i> (buildings)	
	<i>Maureen Quinn</i> (grounds)	
Curatorial	<i>Pat Case</i>	
Historian	<i>OPEN</i>	
Publicity	<i>OPEN</i>	
Hospitality	NEEDED	
Newsletter	<i>Carol Serr</i>	698-1242
	FAX (858) 505-9658 Attn: Carol	
	e-mail: <i>SpringVlyHistSoc@aol.com</i>	
Caretaker	<i>Jim Van Meter</i>	469-1480
Security	<i>Petey, the wonder dog</i>	

General meetings are held on the 1st Sat. of even-numbered months; & Board meetings are at 7 pm on the 3rd Monday of every month - both held at the Museum annex - at 9050 Memory Lane, Spring Valley, (619) 469-1480.

Visiting hours at the Bancroft Ranch House Museum and grounds are 1-4 pm, Fri. thru Sun. Group tours by appointment.

Caretaker Jim Van Meter is always looking for people willing to be docents to help with giving tours; please contact him.

The *Bancroft Bulletin* is a bimonthly publication of the Spring Valley Historical Society. Contributions are welcome and should be sent to the Editor, either by e-mail (preferably) or to: SVHS, P.O. Box 142, Spring Valley, CA 91976.



DISCLAIMER: Articles printed in this newsletter are informational in nature and do not necessarily represent the views or beliefs of the Board of Directors or the Society in general.



If you help sponsor this publication you can use your contribution as a tax deduction to a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our Tax ID number is **237317982**. Please help us pay printing or postage costs.

Caretaker's Corner

I had fun ringing the old train bell here on New Year's Eve. New Year's Eve in this neighborhood had some fireworks, gun fire, car alarms, and the loud music and dancing played on at the Moose Lodge next door. Good times here, making melodies on Memory Lane.

This year brings a lot of planned events here on Memory Lane. Old projects are on the To Do list too. Hopefully some of you that read this fine newsletter will participate in these planned events (*see Page 3 & our website calendar*).

Two book clubs continue to meet here: first Mondays, The Presenters Book Club meets at 9:45 am; third Mondays, the Bancroft Book Club meets at 10 am. Our Annex is available to other such groups who would like a meeting place – for a small donation to our museum.

Barnyard News Flash. Two resident hens are missing! One rooster is missing! Guard Dog Petey has been witnessing uninvited guests - skunks looking for food during day time hours; suspicious activity. No ground squirrel troubles lately though. Barnyard residents notice guard dog on alert status...more to come.

The recent rain has been wonderful. A happy New Year so far. Hope to see you at the next pot-luck meeting.

Yours faithfully,
Jim Van Meter - Caretaker/Director/Raconteur

(Continued from Page 1)

The time is fast approaching for us to prepare and submit a Community Enhancement Grant request for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. As you know, virtually all of the extra things that our Society has gotten over the years (e.g., exhibit cases, exterior safety lighting, tree trimming, computers and software, etc.) has been the result of these grant funds from the County. Usually the Board meets and decides what things to request but I would like to get input from you, our members. Have you ever thought to yourself "Gee, it would be nice if the Society had a [blank] or "...did such and such"? Just e-mail or telephone your idea to any of the Board members (*see page 2, left column*) and they will be taken into consideration.

We have an excellent speaker lined up for our Feb. 4th meeting and of course the pot-luck dinner will be fantastic, as always. I look forward to seeing you there!

– **Rob Case**



Plants for Sale

Come by and check out our Garden Shop near the entrance to the grounds (at gate). We have a variety of plants – at great prices! And we're always happy to take more potted plant donations. Your plant purchase is greatly appreciated too.

Also check out our native plant garden, created by member Joel Hastings, on the east side of the property. Just ask Jim, if you can't find it.



February is Black History Month

Membership News

Welcome new members:
Diane Weber
Sam Gloor

We thank all of you who have continued to support your historical society by renewing your dues. If you have friends and family who are interested in history, please encourage them to join SVHS too. Thank you!

Carol Serr

March is Women's History Month

Register Now for the
Annual History Conference
March 3 & 4 • 9 am - 5 pm

The theme for the Congress of History's 52nd Annual Conference is **San Diego & the Great War: 1914-1919** commemorating the 100th anniversary of the U.S.'s entry into World War I. The conference location will be at the **Veterans Museum** in Balboa Park with free parking. The exhibit & book sellers area will be open to the public during the conference. .

Register now: \$35 for the 2 days; \$25 seniors (65+); \$15 students and active military. Visit their website: www.congressofhistory.org or call 619-469-7283 for more info. BBQ sandwich plate available by reservation & pre-payment only (or bring your own).

Speakers at press-time, include:

Alexander D. Bevil - *San Diego and the Great War: an Historical Timeline, 1914-1919*; **Rosanne Goodwin** - *William Kettner: Bringing the Fleet to San Diego*; **Laurel Schwartz** - *San Diego's Jews, WWI, and the Growth of Local Benevolence*; **Gabe Selak** - *The Great War Comes to Balboa Park: Naval Station San Diego, 1917-1923*;

SVHS NOTICES

DONATIONS:

Thanks for the monetary donation from several members to cover printing and postage costs for our Bulletin. All donation amounts are greatly appreciated! Donations also help preserve our local history by keeping the museum running.

CONDOLENCES to the family of long time SVHS Life member and past Board officer **Lillian Duncan** who passed away in November at the age of 92.

SAVE THESE SVHS EVENT DATES:

April 22 – 1-3 pm – FOUNDERS DAY OPEN HOUSE

May 20-21 – our Annual RUMMAGE SALE

August 5 – Summer BBQ & COUNTRY FAIR AUCTION

Hope to see you at these events!



Conference Speakers continued:

Mitch Beauchamp - *Kelp and Cordite: South Bay's Participation in the Great War*; **Faye Jonason** - *Col. Joseph H. Pendleton and the Establishment of a Permanent Marine Corps Base in San Diego: 1914-1919*; **Rick Crawford** - *Action on the High Seas: San Diego's Naval Forces during the Great War*; **Jonnie Wilson** - *San Diego Veterans of the Great War*; **James Newland** - *World War I and the Development of the 32nd Street Naval Station*; **Dr. Gloria Harris** - *San Diego Women on the Homefront during the Great War*; **Frances McMeeken** - *Knit Your Bit: The Contributions of San Diego's Knitters to the War Effort*; **Murray Lee** - *San Diego's Chinese-American WWI Veterans*; **Jack Larimer** - *WWI and Its Aftermath in Vista*; **John Martin** - *Progressivism, Patriotism and Profit: San Diego's Camp Kearny*; **Helen Ofield** - *Earl Tooker: a Local Case Study of a Forgotten Disabled WWI Veteran*; **Steven Youel** - *San Diego County Remembers the World War through Brick, Bronze, and Stone*.



[since speakers are volunteers, no guarantee they will be there]

SPRING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 142
SPRING VALLEY CA 91976
Visit our website at: svhistoricalsociety.org

Come hear an interesting talk at our **Feb. 4th** meeting on Why February 19th is significant to Japanese Americans and how local families experienced the internment camps during WWII.

Pictured below is Camp Poston near Parker, AZ by the Colorado River, in 1943.



 Please **save** SVHS the cost of printing & postage by having your *Bancroft Bulletin* e-mailed.* Thank you. 

Membership Application / Renewal Form

Fiscal Year: July 1 - June 30

Annual Dues:

Individual	\$10.00
Family (2 adults + kids)	\$15.00
Organization	\$20.00
Sustaining	\$35.00
Student (under 22 yrs)	\$5.00
Life Member (1 individual)	\$150.00

Please make check payable to:

Spring Valley Historical Society

bring this form to a meeting and introduce yourself!

or mail to address shown in upper left corner of this page

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

e-mail: _____ PHONE: (____) _____

***I prefer a hard copy of the newsletter be mailed** (if box **not** checked, a PDF newsletter will be e-mailed)

AMOUNT: DUES \$ _____ and/or CONTRIBUTION \$ _____

PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR HELP WITH: _____ Work Parties _____ Giving Museum Tours

_____ Serving on Board _____ Rummage Sale _____ Other: _____