

The Echo

News from the Pleasant Valley Historical Society

2019 Dons and Doñas Selected

It is with great pleasure that the Pleasant Valley Historical Society announces this year's Dons and Doñas. They are following in the footsteps of the first men and women to be so honored in 1965. Since then, over 400 residents of the Pleasant Valley have been chosen to join their ranks. Each selectee has lived here for 20 or more years and each has made outstanding contributions to the community by volunteering their services in many ways.

This year's honorees are:

Linda Ayerza	Steve Blois	Elaine Magner	Lynn Decker-Mahin
Beth Miller	Rebecca Pecsok	Fred Penney	Edy Santangelo
	Daniel Schoenewald	Felicia Schoenewald	
	Lyda Noble Sprinkles	Tish Taylor	

They will be introduced to the community on Saturday, August 24 at the Camarillo Community Center. The barbeque-style meal will be catered by Bruce Jochum Barbeque and will include tri-tip and Hawaiian chicken, beans, salad, garlic bread and dessert. Wine, beer, soda and water are included in the price of the ticket. This is one of the most highly anticipated events in town; the new Dons and Doñas are respected pillars of the community; the food is excellent; the beverages flow freely and a good time is had by all.

We cordially invite you to join the honorees, their families and friends at this gala event. Tickets are \$75 for adults, \$15 for children under 12. Paid reservations are available by mail to PVHS, P.O. Box 570, Camarillo, CA 93011. Credit cards will be accepted. Formal invitations will be mailed in July. Tickets will be held for you at the door. For more information, call Bob Rust at 805-484-6601. Doors open at 1 p.m. for a social hour, the honorees will be introduced at 2 p.m., meal service follows.

From our Archival Collections

Judge magazine was published weekly from 1881 to 1947. We have two of those magazines—one is from October 6, 1900 in full color cover with an extra color plate that Elizabeth Burton, our preservationist intern, has fully restored. The magazine is considered a satire of the politics of the day and is full of cartoons and not so subtle support of William McKinley. One of the editors in 1924, Harold Ross, used his experience at *Judge* to start *The New Yorker*. The Depression and competition from *The New Yorker* marked the end of *Judge*. The magazine is found in our flat files. We also have an April 28, 1928 edition that is much smaller in size, but contains the same humor.

BUILDING EXPANSION UPDATE

For those who weren't able to attend the Annual Meeting, we wanted to give everyone an update on the building expansion program. The formal application was recently submitted to the City for the Conditional Use Permit for consideration. The application was accompanied by the proposed site plan, floor plan and exterior elevations. A materials board showing the proposed exterior materials and colors was also included as well as the Environmental Assessment Questionnaire.

The City will now commence their review and advise PVHS and the architect, Mark Pettit, as to the processing of the application. After all of the agencies such as Public Works, County Fire Department, and Building and Safety have had a chance to review the plans, the Community Development Department will schedule a Development Advisory Committee meeting. This will allow all of the comments to be reviewed as well as the recommended conditions for the project's approval.

Once the staff level review is complete and all of the revisions have been considered, then the application can be scheduled for a public hearing before the Planning Commission. The City will also advise the requisite review by the City Council in accordance with the City lease. We hope to have many of the members at the meeting to show their support.

This process is the "entitlement" process and will afford the opportunity for the project to then proceed to the next stage in the process. Construction drawings would then follow. This would be the more detailed level of drawings including grading plans, building plans, landscape plans, specifications, energy reports and all of the materials to allow for the project to break ground. The overall timing is uncertain; this part of the process typically runs a few months so stay tuned.

Copies of the plans are available for review at the PVHS museum. Be reminded that the plans are a work in process, so changes are expected but should be minor in nature such as exterior details like paint colors and the like. The plans also include renovations to the existing structure such as the new façade and structural/electrical improvements to meet current requirements.

Everyone remains excited that this long time goal is on the track to actually become a reality. The museum certainly can use the additional space to better tell the story of the community's past and be inviting to regular visitors and new visitors to alike see what PVHS has to offer.

Please let us know if you have any questions and thanks to everyone for their input and involvement with the process. This will be a major undertaking and significant work remains.

RECENT BUILDING FUND CONTRIBUTORS

Ken and Shirley Anderson

Linda and Dave Bratz

Carol Spracklen

Ted and Val Rains

See Page 6 for architect's rendering of the new building.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you will read Bob Burrow's information related to the possibility of expanding our museum. It explains the processes we have been working on for more than a year. I thought it was a simple thing, add on...not so. That said, I wanted to explain why it is even more important than ever to increase our building.

There is a lot of news in the media that school districts are reducing or eliminating history in the classroom. There are efforts to bring back the arts, but no one seems to care about history. "Those who neglect history are condemned to repeat it."--Santayana

We have the opportunity to help reduce that loss. A summer program for children where they can come and experience history as a participant in it can bring a knowledge and respect for our past to children. I remember a TV program with Walter Cronkite...I hope some of you remember "You Are There." I loved that program. It was primitive by today's standards, but it made me feel a part of the time. I still remember vividly the episode on the hunt for John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Abraham Lincoln. I loved Lincoln, so it was personal.

By offering programs that would go for a week, probably in the morning, we could help children understand what went on before them. What a child of their age really experienced and what was important to that child could be experienced. With space to set up desks (we have some early desks) we could bring to life a classroom of 1919 or 1933 or any year. School would be over at noon because the children had to go to work. Instruction was mostly oral. Math was word problems read by the teacher. We have the original books that were used in 1900. Slates were used with chalk and rags to erase. A pencil was very special, as was paper to write on.

This is just an example of what can be done. We could use artifacts and items in the museum to teach map drawing....cartoon map drawing, which is really art.

Currently we have no space for meetings in the museum. We move displays and artifacts to get chairs in for Board meetings. We have increasing interest from professional organizations to come to the museum and learn about early developments in the area. "To forget the past would be as foolish as to ignore the future. Behind is custom as in front is adventure," A quote from Professor William Lethaby who trained and practiced as an architect, but was also known as a designer, an educator and an architectural historian and theorist.(1857-1931).

We realize that flexibility is the name of the game, but right now we cannot really change or "flex" much. If the city allows us to extend our building our contribution to the city and its occupants has no limit. We just need a chance to be what we can be.

On another note, this has been a busy quarter for PVHS. We thank the members of Amber's Light and the Pleasant Valley Lions for their grants of funds. Meadowlarks also gave us a grant. Donations are critical to our operations. The Family of Lou Bell designated PVHS as the recipient of donations and we truly appreciate their support. Lou was a Dona in 2011.

Joy Todd

In the Museum

The family of John and Merri Jochums donated a number of items to the museum. Among them is a “hair keeper” that is on display in the museum in the front oak cabinet. “American Brilliant” is late 1800s through early 1900s cut glass. They had several lovely pieces that will be displayed as soon as we have room. With some pieces from the family of Lou Bell we have quite a collection.

In the 1960-1970 the Archdiocese of Los Angeles expanded the confessionals at the Mary Magdalen Chapel in downtown. They removed pews to have room for more confessionals. One of the pews removed at that time was given to the Villegas Family who donated it to PVHS. It is an original pew from 1914, with a Maltese cross on the end. We are thrilled to have it. Over 100 years old, we need to do a bit of restoration, but it is very representative of its era.

The addition of the three new out buildings on the edge of the garden has given us the ability to receive and store donations. We are very appreciative of the work done by the men, led by Dave Bratz, who built those buildings.

In the Garden

This year we hosted the 23rd Annual Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice Garden Tour. The garden was full of blooms. Having all the visitors did not inhibit the bees and butterflies and they just got on with their busy day. We are still getting comments from the public who visited. We thank the ongoing effort of Marie Jasina, her crew and Betty Jo MacDonald. Careful planning and grooming began months before the event. Your ongoing support helps make our garden a very special place, certainly one of a kind in the Pleasant Valley.

Living History



Living History was a hit, once again, even with the chilly weather. (Who can remember rain in May?) We had amazing help from the members of Amber's Light Lions. Their support is invaluable. They manned numerous stations helping the children to understand the activity and its historical significance. We had over 150 people in attendance.

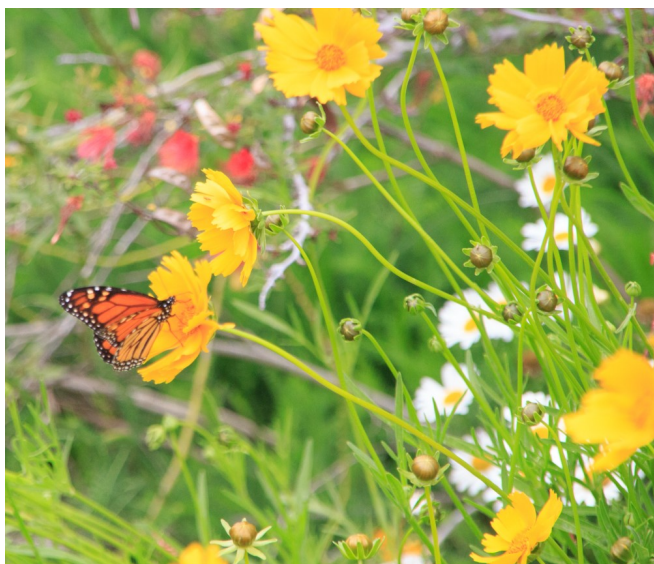
Pictured are children panning for gold, one of the many activities offered.

MEMORIALS

Fred Phipps and Cathy Trainer contributed in memory of **Barbara Blois, Hilda Karr, Tom Smith, Dick Wakefield.**

Donations in memory of **Mary Lou Bell** were made by Noella Belvedere, Lori Cheeves, Karin Farrin, Beth Miller, Janeen Olson, Fred Phipps, Phil Smith, Kathy Taylor, Robert and Tina Bytheway, John Skidmore, Joy and Bill Todd, Pam and Chris Bielenberg.

A donation in memory of **Riita Andonian** was made by Noelle Belvedere.



BEE AND BUTTERFLY DAY

This year's Bee and Butterfly Day will be celebrated on Sunday, July 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. in our garden. We are really focusing on the continuing efforts made by the "pollinators" in our world.

Our speaker at 1:30 p.m. will be Dr. Anna Howell, an entomologist working with the University of California. Her work is critical to understanding our environment. What we do as citizens can help the bees and butterflies of our world. Pollinators benefit the fruits and vegetables grown by our local farmers.

The Monarch butterfly has become a symbol of the need for urban gardens, but we need to be aware of the need for more than milkweed for Monarch butterflies. It is great to feed the caterpillar, but we need to remember the adult Monarch, who lives for 3 months and lays over 1,000 eggs, one at a time, in her life time. These butterflies survive on nectar, much like the 20,000 different varieties of bees. Urban gardens are a passion of PVHS and we really want to encourage everyone to replace some part of your lawn with plants that support the Bees and Butterflies.

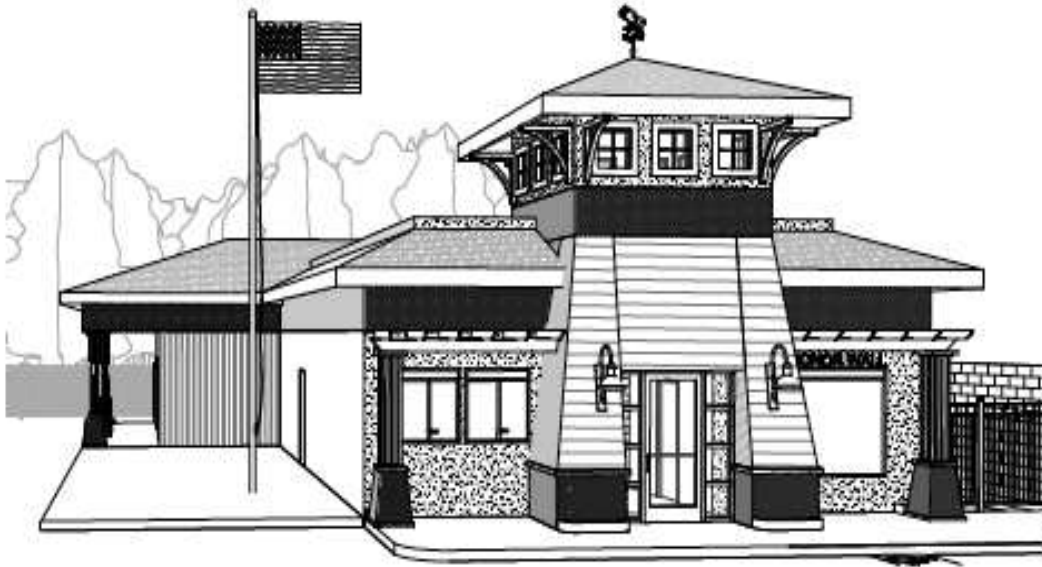
Join us July 14th for a great speaker and the chance to tour our garden. We are truly unusual in the area as we are "native." We want to encourage drought tolerant plants that support the entomology of the area. It will be a chance to learn about and experience nature.

PVHS has a list of plants known as pollinators, and a brochure of pictures of our garden pollinator plants in bloom is available to all who attend.

From our Archival Collections

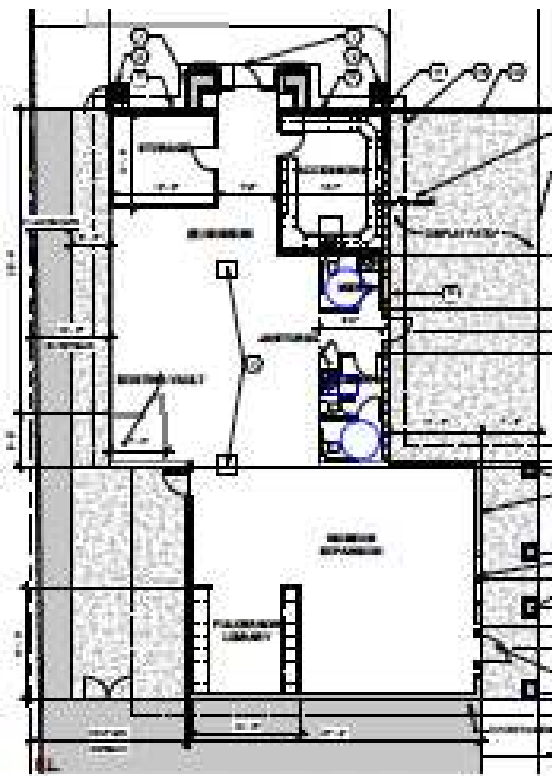
Mme. Demorest's *Illustrated Monthly* and *Mirror of Fashions* for June, 1865 features a full plate advertising sheet music—"The Nation in Tears," in memoriam of Abraham Lincoln. The reverse of the picture is an ink drawing of the carriage and horses carrying Lincoln's body down a city street. Mme. Demorest's magazines catered to the ladies and the home. Short stories, dress patterns, and ads brought information to the home for \$3/year, or 25¢ for single copy. The August, 1865 issue, also in our files, features a full plate ink drawing of Lieutenant-General U.S. Grant—well before he was running for US President.

PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM



Architect's rendering of our new building.

The architectural drawings are by Mark Pettit from Lauterbach & Assoc. The exterior elevation shows the relocation of the entry with a craftsman tower facade, which is purely decorative. Bulletin board and a Donator Wall are shown. Our beautiful mural will remain. The interior plan shows the addition extending into what is now grass. It will not infringe on the garden. City requirements include retrofitting the current building and a 20' set-back from the west wall—hence the offset appearance.



THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Invites you to

DINE OUT on Tuesday, July 2, at



86 E. Daily Drive, Camarillo

3:00 to 9:30 p.m.

When you order at the counter, please give the server this coupon in order for the Society to receive credit.

Board of Directors 2019-2020

Joy Todd, *President*

Liz Daily, *Corresponding Secretary*

Bob Burrow, *Vice President*

Max Copenhagen, *Immediate Past President*

Bob Rust, *Treasurer*

Ira Grooms, *Member at Large*

Debbie Thiessen, *Recording Secretary* Gerry Olsen, *Parliamentarian*

David Bratz

Terry DeWolfe

Gail DeWolfe

Michael Ellias

Bob Fierro

Randy Eccles

David Hibbits

Bill Manzer

Raelene Manzer

Betty Jo McDonald

Beverly Pearson

John Pearson

Patricia Roth

Frank Roth

Betty Sullivan

Valerie Tackett

Bill Todd

Dr. Renee Whitlock

Standing Committees for 2019-2020

Finance: Bob Rust; Museum Operations: Bill Todd; Events: Joy Todd; Garden; Betty Jo MacDonald;

Facilities: Bob Burrow; Communication: Betty Sullivan.

Thank you for supporting our Dine Out events. Funds generated help us keep the lights on at the Museum, maintain the garden and print and mail this newsletter

THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

invites you to

DINE OUT on Tuesday, August 6



1701 Daily, Dr., Camarillo,

From 10:30 am to 9:00 pm

When you order at the counter, please give the server this coupon in order for the Society to receive credit.

THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORI- CAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

invites you to

DINE OUT on Tuesday, Sept. 10

ADOLFO GRILL
AND DAILY BAR

1067 E. Daily Dr.

11 am. To 9 p.m.

Please give this coupon to your server so that the Society can receive credit.

NEWS FROM THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The mission of the Pleasant Valley Historical Society and Garden is to acquire, identify, restore and preserve artifacts, documents and photographs related to the Pleasant Valley community; to make the museum and garden a focal point for the dissemination of local history and the education of the general public, and to recognize local residents who have provided outstanding service to the Pleasant Valley community.

THINGS TO DO IN COMING MONTHS

Dine Outs on July 2, August 6 and September 10

Bee and Butterfly Day on July 14

Don and Doña Barbeque on August 24



Find us on
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Pleasant Valley Historical Society
P. O. Box 570
Camarillo, CA 93011-0570
Museum Open: Saturday and Sunday
12 noon to 4 p.m.