



The Echo

News from the Pleasant Valley Historical Society

The September 25th Don and Doña Honors Celebration



Back: Mike Mishler, Dennis Gaiser, Neal Dixon, Virginia Wooten, Bob Fierro, Terry Tackett
Front: Linda Braunschweiger, Linda Packham, Helen Shields, Barbara Swetek, Cathy Trainer, Rachel Resnik Miles

References to some of the contributions of the 2021 Don and Doña Recipients

Linda Braunschweiger is an expert in housing, especially talking affordable housing, helping people find homes, keep homes, etc. Her non-profit work engaged in helping house people is very impressive. She even does it at a Meta level, guiding and advising non-profits that provide this kind of community help. She has been an active Mom to two adopted kids and gave time and energy to their sports and schools organizations as they grew up, too.

As a surgeon, **Dr. Neal Dixon** has lent his knowledge to some obvious organizations like St John’s Regional Medical Center, and on the other hand, spent many years as a coach and advocate for youth soccer and baseball (well, 5 sons!). He’s the recipient of numerous awards for his medical expertise, and he made his sports activities sort of “official” by serving for 8 years on the PV Recreation & Park District board.

(Continued on Page 3)

The Museum's Botanical Garden: Two New Additions

“The Back Porch” was recently constructed in the Garden area mostly paid for by a grant from *Meadowlark Service League*. With a large copper bathtub and a 1920s copper electric agitator washing machine on the porch, it invites visitors to look through the windows into the “kitchen.” Viewers will see a 1920s Magic Chef range donated by the Becker family, a copper kitchen sink, and multiple shelves displaying kitchen appliances, dishes and other items. Constructed over two months by volunteers, Greg and Bill, it features used redwood siding furnished by Debbie Thiessen, reused windows from Habitat Restore, and a re-purposed door. The three bannister supports are from an over hundred-year-old house in MN. The entrance provides an ADA ramp.



The beautiful garden mural was painted on the 20' side of one of our storage buildings. Artist, Diane Ellias, did extensive research while designing it to have an illusion of our dry creek bed winding through the garden into the distance. The mountain profile is an eastern view of the hills from Camarillo. The butterflies are the monarchs which inhabit our garden, a manzanita and red-bud bush stand out, as well as other flowers which can be found in the garden. A Camarillo White Horse will follow you as he peeks through the barn. Find more about Diane on our webpage.



Since **Bob Fierro** joined our Historical Society, he's breathed life into our new building project, spearheaded it, saved enormous amounts of money by what he knows, smoothed our trip through red-tapes-ville with the city, and it's really finally coming to life. Involved with Boy Scouts, their motto is "Be prepared," and Bob has been prepared to help the Boys & Girls Club, the Methodist Church and many other organizations.

Dennis Gaiser has done the "father with kids sports", Indian Guides, spent a lot of time helping the Camarillo CofC, and a whole lot of work helping and guiding Camarillo Hospice for the past 15 years. Throw in significant roles with CSUCI Foundation Board, Camarillo Rotary, our county JCs Citizen Oversight Committee, and many others, and you have a very busy guy who has given a lot to Camarillo.

Rachel Resnik Miles has had an international career managing restaurants and banks (and while she was at it, volunteering to teach English to Chinese speaking kids), but she's honored for her community volunteering for the VCCF, Camarillo Hospice, our local AAUW, the Rotary, and her current crush, SCIArt, where she has been on the board for years, and makes a lot of things happen, because she believes art is important! The path to happiness is doing what you love and believe in.

Mike Mishler has spent something like 4 decades volunteering within our community, and an area of focus has been soccer - AYSO - he has championed it, making it bigger and better, with much increased participation and more fields available because of his efforts. He has served nobly PV Recreation & Park District board for many years, and represented our PVR&PD county-wide on several boards. He is and has been a tireless advocate for PV kid sports.

Linda Packham has volunteered in this area for a lot of things for a lot of years including *Meals on Wheels* and *Shop Ahoy* to help folks with meals, hosted foreign students and at-risk local kids in her home, and she was that most underrated of all school leaders, a school secretary at El Descanso for many years. She's also done outreach from St. Columba's and Trinity Presbyterian to make sure people get fed, and to help challenged kids.

Helen Shields' volunteering began with her kids when her family was young. She gave a lot of time to Blue Birds and Girl Scouts, and graduated to helping out at church and helping a lot of kids conquer reading, as both a teacher and as a volunteer. She has been ready with a helping hand in PV for over 50 years, and a whole lot of her attention has been on kids. She's selfless and ready to help.

Barbara Swetek is another of our educators in this group—more than half of our honorees as teachers, which is in itself a form of giving, so it's not surprising. She taught PE at Cam Hi forever, and has been a member of Camarillo's Citizen Patrol, helping keep our community safe. She even trains new recruits for this wonderful group. She also has been involved with Girl Scouts, Friends of the Library, and others.

Another of our teacher/educators, **Terry Tackett** spend almost 40 years in our local schools as a teacher and administrator—many years at ACHC, coached as a PE coach and extensively in local kids' baseball and basketball, volunteered with Indian Guides and Noontime Optimists, and has guided thousands of our children into becoming responsible and happy adults. He's another fine example of local caring.

Cathy Trainer followed that time-honored path of participating with her kids in activities as they grew up, and as usually happens, that blossomed into a lifetime of giving. Her list of recipient organizations is yet another fine example of the breadth of interests our honorees have — Camarillo Farmers' Market and Camarillo Hospice, kidSTREAM, helping guide both Leisure Village and Camarillo Springs in their early development, our Health Care district, social groups, Meadowlarks — she is, always busy!

Virginia Wooten is another teacher who spread her interests beyond the classroom into another array of ways to give — coaching sports and drill teams, Camarillo Citizens' Patrol, Friends of the Library. Girl Scouts — she even found time to help out with the '84 LA Summer Olympics.

President's Message

What an awesome BBQ! It was great to be able to once again honor members of the community at the 2021 Dons and Doñas BBQ. This event results only with the tremendous efforts of many individuals who did the heavy lifting to plan, create and execute the event. The efforts of many paid dividends with over 250 people being once again able to enjoy a wonder afternoon and delicious meal. Thanks to all of you who made this possible.

As we work our way through 2021 we will see many other changes as we continue to support the community by preserving and presenting the history of the Pleasant Valley area. Stay tuned and remain involved as we move forward.
Many Thanks!

Board of Directors 2021-2022

Bob Burrow, *President*
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Terry DeWolfe
Bob Fierro
Raelene Manzer
Paul Rockenstein
Bill Todd

Gail DeWolfe
Ira Grooms
Betty Jo McDonald
Patricia Roth
Dr. Renee Whitlock

Standing Committees for 2021-2022

Finance: Bob Rust
Communications: Max Copenhagen
Garden: Betty Jo McDonald

Museum Operations: Bill Todd & Greg Farrin
Events: Joy Todd
Facilities: Bob Burrow

Donations to the Pleasant Valley Historical Museum have always been tasteful, and now donations are once again 'tasty'. When purchasing Bruce's BBQ and Ottavio's meals at events shown below, part of the proceedings from each purchase are donated directly to the PVHS Museum Fund. These events put the 'fun' in 'fundraising', and the 'taste' in 'tasteful'.

November 2nd for Bruce's BBQ, and January 11th for Ottavio's, are two Tuesdays to add to your calendar.

Support PV HISTORICAL SOCIETY with a great meal!

Bruce's BBQ Pick-up



\$15

November 2nd (Tuesday)

RESERVE by the previous FRIDAY (October 29th)
Leave message with NAME and NUMBER of meals at 805-482-3660
or email: pvhs@pvhsonline.org

PICK-UP 5 pm to 6 pm at Camarillo Christian Church,
1777 ARNEILL ROAD (corner of Las Posas)

PAY at pick-up time with CASH, or CHECK made to PVHS,
or PayPal at www.pvhsonline.org. Click BBQ

PVHS invites you to

Let's Dine Out at



1620 Ventura Boulevard
3:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, JANUARY 11, 2022
Present this coupon to server.

MEMORIALS

Donations in memory of John Cabrera were made by Rick Cabrera and John & Beverly Pearson

Donations in memory of Ted Daniel were made by Greg & Karin Farrin, Debbie Theissen, Adele Walsh and Pat Wise

Donation in memory of Helen Tranquary was made by Gail Beltrano

Donation in memory of Ugo Luciani was made by Noella Belvedere

Rod & Doris Harvey donated in memory of Hazel & Dewey Culbert and Jean & John Kilroy

Fred Phipps & Cathy Trainer donated in memory of Eleanor & Michael Banner, Ned Bartels, Norman Blancher, Marie Griffin, Ed & Susan Lacey, Bob Long, Steve J. Maulhardt and Colleen "Toy" White

HONORARIUM

Paul & Peggy Graham donated in honor of DON Bob Fierro

TRIBUTE

Fred Phipps & Cathy Trainer donated in tribute to Frank & Pat Roth's 62nd Anniversary

DONATIONS

Donations received this quarter only

<i>Gail Beltrano</i>	<i>Mary Chunn</i>	<i>Rita Faulders</i>	<i>Cynthia Glass</i>
<i>Rod & Doris Harvey</i>	<i>Carol Haverty</i>	<i>Winifred Jordan</i>	<i>Larry & Joann Kennedy</i>
<i>Maggie Kildee</i>	<i>Richard & Madeline Lee</i>	<i>Mark & Teri Lisagor</i>	<i>Donna Lutz</i>
<i>Linda Malone</i>	<i>Tom & Eileen Maloney</i>	<i>Eloise Mansfield</i>	<i>Nobuko McClure</i>
<i>Barbara Metier</i>	<i>Gloria Miele</i>	<i>Don Miller</i>	<i>Beth & Shel Miller</i>
<i>Kevin Nunn</i>	<i>Clay Paschen</i>	<i>Susan Peterson</i>	<i>Fred Phipps</i>
<i>Edy Santangelo</i>	<i>Robert & Charlene Scudder</i>	<i>Nancy Steiner-Varosky</i>	<i>Terrance Talley</i>
<i>Katherine Taylor</i>	<i>Roberta Weed-Brown</i>	<i>Nadine Wilhite</i>	

ACCESSIONS

We usually tell about new things given to the museum. This issue is different as it refers to something donated years ago and recently found. The winner of the Stan Daily Scholarship, Brandee Anderson, was looking for information about the decommissioning of the Oxnard Air Force base. We were amazed to find bins full of newspaper articles and letters. We found the whole history of CACA (Committee Against the Camarillo Airport) who led the fight against a commercial airport in the City of Camarillo.

One person, John Noonan, has been working on preserving the history. For the past 4 months he has carefully placed each paper into an archival sleeve, and best of all, put everything in chronological order. The result of his efforts is 11 large notebooks filled with the process that saved our community from that commercial development. We were struck with the diligence of the people involved. History does repeat itself and the recent efforts to make the airport a commercial airport illustrated the current need for diligence on our part.

BUILDING STATUS

The great news is we are within a month of obtaining our grading permit. We had to have geological and engineering assessments done. We have the bill, so we know they are done! It is exciting to think we are anticipating a date of March 2022 to begin construction. Bob Fierro is sending out the latest bidding quotes for work to be done.

On the “home front” we have been blessed with asbestos and need to remove everything from the museum. The culprit is in the floor, not the walls (cinderblock) or ceiling. Floor removal requires everything be removed. The phones will need to come down and all the cabinets removed. Thanks to the work of the past 2 years we have an empty cargo bin beside the museum (will be used for the library) and room in the new out buildings. We are assessing the Garden bin for space. (That is how we found the volumes of documentation from the Air Force base decommissioning.) We anticipate more finds, but hope to “find empty space.”

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

The International Rotary Club of Camarillo awarded the Paul Harris Fellow to two of our PVHS Board Members, Joy & Bill Todd, for contributions to the community through their museum involvement. Rotarians have a tradition of supporting The Rotary Foundation by honoring others. Max Copenhagen, Rotarian and PVHS Board member, sponsored the surprise award given to them at a recent luncheon meeting. Previously, PVHS received a grant from the Camarillo Rotary Club that is to be used for a designated children’s section of the Fulkerson Library in our remodeled building.

Museum Expansion Fundraising: Sponsoring a Personalized Brick

Sponsoring a personalized brick, a 4” x 8” brick which will be located and displayed at the PVHS Museum outdoor location, is more than a \$200 donation to the PVHS Museum Expansion fund:

- 1) A brick can be personalized with your name, and/or your family’s name, allowing you to be part of the PVHS Museum history.
- 2) Or, a brick can be personalized to honor anyone, or anything, you want to be remembered.

The form to reserve and sponsor a personalized brick is displayed on the following page (page 7).



PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM EXPANSION



“Be a Part of History”

Reserve a place in PVHS Museum history by sponsoring a personalized brick.

You may sponsor a brick in your name, or to honor anyone/anything you want to be remembered.

PLEASE PRINT, maximum 16 spaces per line, including blank spaces and punctuation. All inscriptions will be centered and capitalized. Filler in the engraved area will provide a permanent contrast and protect the quality of the engraving.

Enclosed is my \$200.00 contribution for a 4" x 8" paver with up to three lines of text.

Make checks payable to *Pleasant Valley Historical Society*; or to use PayPal, please visit our website at pvhsonline.org and use the DONATE button at the top of the webpage.

Your Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Please mail this completed form to: PVHS _____
PO Box 570
Camarillo, CA 93011-0570

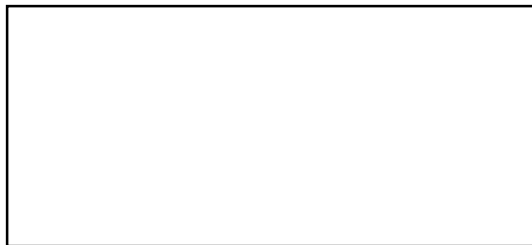
NEWS FROM THE
PLEASANT
VALLEY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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 education of the general public, and to recognize local residents who have provided outstanding service to the Pleasant Valley community.

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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.