

The Echo

News from the Pleasant Valley Historical Society

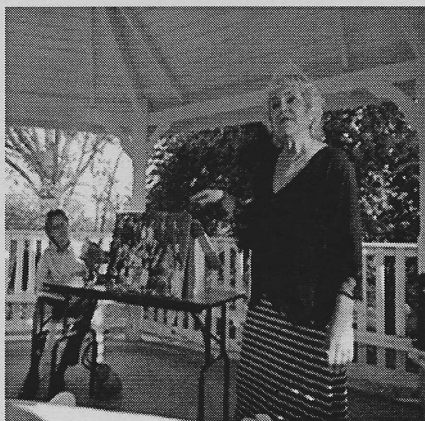
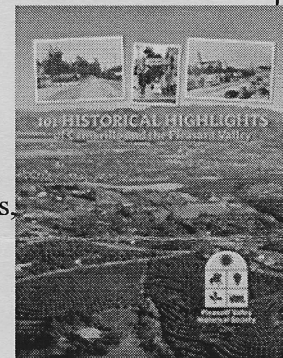
50th Birthday Celebration

This year the Historical Society celebrates its 50th year and the City of Camarillo also celebrates its 50th this year. There are many reasons to enjoy living here in the Pleasant Valley and there were many good reasons for our charter citizens to take these bold steps. Important things happened here in 1964.

The main public celebration for the City will be held in Constitution Park on Saturday, October 18. There will be a formal commemoration the following Wednesday at a City Council meeting on October 22, the very date the city was officially incorporated. There also will be a special VC Board of Supervisors meeting on October 14 at 6 pm in the City Council chambers. The CityScene TV interview about the City's 50th birthday is posted on our website.

New Publication - "101 Historical Highlights of Camarillo and the Pleasant Valley"

This commemorative brochure was distributed at the Fiesta, Air Show, Library, Chamber of Commerce, City Hall and businesses in Old Town and Somis. It describes important historical events in the Pleasant Valley area in a timeline to honor our founders, increase your appreciation for history and heighten interest in the PVHS Museum. Stop by for your free copy (and a commemorative wooden nickel). Thanks to Ken Eastman and Max Copenhagen for putting this together.



Speaker Series - You are invited to attend several free talks about local history. The 45-minute talks are being held in the gazebo. Roz McGrath (pictured) spoke about *Farm and Family Life* on August 7, Gerry Olsen talked on *Adolfo Camarillo* on August 28 and Val Rains spoke on *The History of Education in the Pleasant Valley* on September 18. Stan Daily and Adele Walsh will discuss *Early Life in Camarillo and Incorporation* on Sunday, September 28 at 3 p.m. On Thursday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m., Mayor Kevin Kildee will talk about *Camarillo's Past and Future*. Bring along your friends and family to enjoy the garden on a long summer evening. Thanks to Bob Burrow who initiated this program.

Old Town Walking Tour - Updated guide books are available at the Museum to help people explore and learn about the area on their own. Get them while they last.

Throwback Thursdays - Join us on the last Thursday night of each month for an evening of gourmet food trucks, locally crafted beer and wine for sale and music of the 60's, 7's and 80's played by DJ Jerry Gutierrez. Admission is free.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW 2014 DONS AND DOÑAS

The Red Barn at the Camarillo House was the setting for the 49th annual Dons and Doñas barbeque where we welcomed 10 new honorees. Almost 200 guests celebrated with them, enjoying a Santa Maria type feast. For those who missed this gala event, let us introduce the newest members.

Pictured from left to right: Kevin Kildee, Kathleen Waunch, Mary Parrent, Barry Hoyland, Pat Roth, Donna Morgan, Walt Stallings, Betty Jo McDonald, Joy Todd, Bill Todd.

Photo by Burt Misevic



Barry Hoyland is a local businessman with over 35 years involvement in the automotive industry. His company, Barry's Automotive Service, was the "Camarillo Business of the Year" in 1997. His community involvement includes years as board members of the American Heart Association, the Boy and Girls Club, Pleasant Valley Education Foundation, and the Chamber of Commerce as well as being a member of the Rotary Club, Camarillo Health Care District Advisory Panel, Redevelopment Commission Advisory Council. He was "Man of the Year" in 2003.

Donna Morgan is active in the Meadowlark Service League, the Camarillo Ranch Foundation, the Camarillo Fiesta Assn., the Miss Camarillo Scholarship Pageant, Soroptimist International, Camarillo Beautiful, and the Camarillo Arts Council. She previously served in the Boys and Girls Club Ladies Auxiliary, the Camarillo-Autlan Mexican Sister Organization and as a Pleasant Valley Hospital volunteer. She received a Certification of Appreciation from the City of Camarillo and the Boys and Girls Club.

Kevin Kildee is a native of Camarillo. He is the owner of the family-run business, Bob Kildee Clothing, in Camarillo since 1954. He has been on the Camarillo City Council since 1996 and has served four terms as mayor. Previously, he was elected to the Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District. He has also been a member of the St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital Foundation Board, the Pleasant Valley Somis Lions Club and the Pleasant Valley Historical Society.

Betty Jo McDonald is a Landscape Designer. She has been digging, raking, pruning and, most importantly, guiding the Pleasant Valley Historical Society's Charles Honn Botanic Garden for 19 years. She has worked with volunteers and professionals to create a garden for activities and a peaceful haven for the people of Camarillo. Within the Botanic Garden, she has created a Children's Garden, a Butterfly Garden and a Native Pollinator Garden. If you are a regular reader of the ECHO, you will have seen articles about these last two in recent editions.

Mary Parrent, with her husband Jerry, started Parrent Security in 1971. By 1977, she began to dedicate much of her time to working with volunteer and non-profit groups. She was active in the Boys and Girls Club Auxiliary, serving a term as president and establishing Club Bingo, an important fund raiser. In 1992, she received their highest honor, The Joel McCrear Award. She was one of the co-founders of the Children's Village Buena Ventura County Chapter and a co-founder of the Ventura County Educators' Hall of Fame.

Continued on Page 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who stepped up and did a little extra while I was incapacitated during my heart valve replacement surgery and recovery. I especially want to thank Max Copenhagen and Bill Todd because they kept things going so well that no one missed me. I also want to express my thanks for all of your prayers and to everyone who sent cards, visited or made phone calls. Unless you have been in this kind of situation you really do not know how much these little things mean to the recipient. It is truly heart warming to know so many people are thinking about you in this time of recovery. I am a very emotional person and I shed a tear or two when I read every card, talked on the phone or had a visitor. Thanks again for thinking of me. I love each and everyone of you for being a part of my life.

This time of year is always a special time for the PVHS as we celebrate our biggest event of the year. We selected ten very deserving individuals this year and we congratulate them on receiving the highest honor in the community as they were hailed as our new Dons and Doñas. Since PVHS started fifty years ago, we have selected over 450 people for this honor. On August 24th we had a grand celebration and outstanding barbeque dinner as we introduced our new deserving recipients and heard what each has done in their lives to make our community a better place to live. In addition to being recognized by the PVHS for this honor, they received certificates from the State Congressional 26th District, State Senate 19th District, State Assembly 44th District, Ventura County 3rd District and the City of Camarillo. A special thanks to Don David Hibbits, Doña Raelene and Don Bill Manzer and their Committees for all that they did to make this event special for all of the new Dons and Doñas.

Since this is our 50th Anniversary, the Society, led by Max Copenhagen and Ken Eastman, has prepared a brochure entitled "101 Historical Highlights of Camarillo and the Pleasant Valley." It is full of facts and every family in the community should have one. In addition, we have created some wooden nickels that advertise our Museum. We also have new Anniversary tee-shirts which recognize four anniversaries being celebrated this year: PVHS (50th), City of Camarillo (50th), St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church (100th) and Don Adolfo Camarillo's Birthday (150th). All of these items can be picked up at the PVHS Museum on Las Posas Road.

Also, as part of our celebration, we have a series of speakers discussing historical facts. Additional information regarding this series can be found elsewhere in this ECHO. Attend these discussions and get to know the history of our Community.

Keep up the good work – the Community and PVHS need you.

Frank Roth

THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM

OUR EXHIBIT AT THE COUNTY FAIR



This is the third year in a row the Society has entered an exhibit in the county fair and we managed to win a Second Place Ribbon. The theme this year was "Country Fair and Ocean Air. " We are entered in a "Shadow Box" competition and compete with other museums and historical societies in Ventura County. The Society team this year was Liz Daily, Bill Todd and Burt Mis-
evic. They started by asking themselves, "What is a Country Fair anyway" and selected items that answered the question. A country fair, after all, is a ferris wheel, a merry-go-round, kids and animals, meeting your friends, winning ribbons and fun!

DISPLAYS WANTED

Do you have an interesting collection that you would be willing to share for a limited time in an enclosed display case at the museum? Our displays are updated continually so people will want to return to see the fresh displays! Multi-aged visitors have varied interests.

Older Santas and Angels are especially needed to borrow for this November-December display, and tree ornaments for the 7' indoor tree. Contact Joy Todd wetodd@verizon.net.

MUSEUM GIFT GALLERY

High quality T-shirts honoring the anniversaries of the Pleasant Valley Historical Society, the City of Camarillo, St. Mary Magdalen Church and Adolfo Camarillo are still available in limited sizes. \$15 each. Traditional T-shirts decorated with colorful pictures of old Camarillo sites are specially priced at \$9 each. Most colors and sizes are still available. Charming historical postcards, featuring farming scenes and early Camarillo sites are four for \$1. Books on a variety of subjects are always available. Holiday gift wrap will be sold in November for \$1 for a multiroll pack.

MEMORIALS

Ted Daniel donated in memory of Catherine Hopkins.

Pat Wise and her family gave in memory of Betty Thayer.

Fred Phipps and Cathy Trainer made contributions in memory of Betty Thayer, Richard Burton and
Dee Cardella

HONORARIUM

Robin Weed-Brown, Margo Smith and Kathy Des Rosier gave in honor of Bill and Joy Todd's 50th Wedding Anniversary.

DONATION

Monica Whitlock Harley gave funds to be used for the Charles Honn Garden.

Patricia Roth and her husband Frank have lived in Camarillo since 1962. She is an active member of the Camarillo Methodist Church where she taught Sunday School and served as Director and teacher in the Summer Vacation Bible School. She has been active in their Missionary Society and the Crafty Sewing Fellowship, which did sewing for the needy. Through this, she established a relationship with the RAIN and Casa Pacifica organizations. She was instrumental in starting the Parents Co-Op Preschool through the Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park Department. She is involved in the "No Room at The Inn" nativity display, which has raised more than \$360,000 for the homeless. She taught preschool for over 25 here.

Walt Stallings and his wife, Sandra, moved to Camarillo in 1972. They opened Walt's Boot Barn and later expanded the repair service to more products, renaming it Pops One-Stop Repair. Walt reconditioned over 900 pairs of unclaimed shoes and gave them to people in need throughout the county. Surplus fruit and vegetables from his home garden were given to customers; they started leaving money for them, money which went to the Wounded Warriors Project. Walt and his fellow Pleasant Valley Lions sell Lionburgers annually on Veteran's Day to raise funds for that same project; they gave over \$3,400 last year alone.

Joy Todd and her husband, Bill, have lived in Camarillo for 46 years. She taught junior high for 10 years, was Workshop Program Manager for ARC for 11 years and retired from Medtronic, where she was a patient advocate for facilitating insurance coverage. She is a volunteer with Shop Ahoy, a program to help home bound people with their grocery needs. She served on the 2013-2014 Civil Grand Jury for the County of Ventura and is currently serving a second term. She chairs the Museum docents and works on displays and special events for the Museum as time permits.

Bill Todd was a teacher for 33 years, first in Sonoma, Ca., then in 1968 in Camarillo. He taught various grades for the Pleasant Valley School District at El Descanso School and at Los Primeros School. He took one year off to help organize Cornerstone Christian School and taught there for that year. He has been involved in and served two churches in Camarillo, Camarillo Christian and Trinity Presbyterian. He has been choir director at both. He worked with Shop Ahoy and with Many Meals. He recently joined Camarillo Ambassadors. He is active in the Retired Teachers Assn. and fills many roles for the Pleasant Valley Historical Society and Museum.

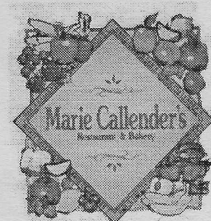
Kathleen Sullivan Waunch moved here in 1986 and has been a very active volunteer ever since. First it was at her son's school, later she joined the St. John's Healthcare Foundation Board of Directors, the United Way Women's Leadership Council, Camarillo Ranch Foundation Board, Editorial Board of the Ventura County Star, Meadowlark Service League, and many different activities for the Pleasant Valley School District, including the Academic Olympics, District Speech Tournament, Spelling Bee, GATE program and more. She has been given several awards for her service to the community, most recently the 2014 Catherine McAuley Lifetime Achievement Award.

LOST!!!

In the 49 years of naming Dons and Doñas, we have a roster of over 450 names but our roster is not complete! Somehow, the honorees from the years 1980-83 and 1986-88 are **not** in our records. If you or someone you know was honored in those years, please let us know. An e-mail to pvhs@pvhsonline.org would be most welcome.

DINING OUT

Join us in November for another of our popular dining out events. The date is November 4. Enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner and benefit the Society at the same time. Use the coupons on Page 7. We will see you there!



CHARLES HONN GARDEN

Caring for your Garden In Dry Times by Betty Jo McDonald, Garden Manager

We get warnings every day about saving water. We have messages about water conservation everywhere we look. It is easy to find classes and articles telling us how to plant a "drought tolerant garden." Most of us don't want to rip out our gardens and start over. So what can we do to use less water and keep our gardens alive ?

Starting with the basics—most of us over water our gardens. We either have what we call a "timer" which we set once or use a hose with a whirly bird or our finger on the end of it. I walk through my neighborhood and every time, I see where someone's sprinklers are watering the side walk, the street and their drive way. Maybe their lawn gets a little.

For specific instructions on how much to water in specific soils and weather you can log in to bewaterwise.com. This is a website developed by the city of San Diego to assist Southern Californians in more efficient watering. My advice is to look at this site to get information. But saving water and having a green garden is a lot of common sense and is up to you.

First: Water and how you apply it to your plants: Watch your irrigation system as it waters your garden—and watch every station. If water is on anything that's not living, change your sprinkler heads. If you can't do it yourself, ask someone else to do it. That costs less than a 3rd tier water bill.

The next thing to do is check out your water hog—yes, I mean your lawn. Newer lawn turf is bred to be deep rooted and drought tolerant. So give your lawn a good soak and turn the sprinklers off to the lawn. Look at it carefully every day. Count the days until the lawn looks just slightly gray. That's when you need to water. A good soaking 2 times a week may keep it green here in Camarillo where our days are cooler. If your lawn slopes and water runs onto the sidewalk, it is better to water 3-4 minutes and then several hours later water 3-4 minutes again. Small and slow amounts of water will soak into the soil.

The web site I mentioned above says that mature shrubs only need water twice a week. I have mature shrubs in my front yard and my neighbor's mature hedge is on my drip system. I don't water these shrubs more often than once every two weeks in the summer and they do fine. So you have to experiment with your shrubs to get it right. This means you have to pay attention until you see how long you have to water. Of course, once you get it right for the summer, fall and winter come and you must re-adjust.

The most important and valuable asset in any garden is mature trees. Drought or not, our large trees need deep water and less frequent water. Some trees work fine with the shallow watering of lawn water, but most trees need water which gets into the deep root system. Watering of trees needs to be done with special equipment. Large trees need to be watered out to what is called the "drip line." This means to the end of the outline of the branches and leaves. Evergreens and conifers like pines and redwoods should be watered 4-5' out past the drip line. Small and newly planted trees can be watered with a hose with a spreader on the end under moderate pressure for 2 minutes on four sides of the tree or with a 5 gallon bucket with small holes in the bottom.

If you don't have special bubbler lines or drip lines for your trees, you can build temporary drip lines and attach to a hose. You can also buy a "leaky hose," wind it around the tree out to the drip line and attach it to your garden hose. For this device, you need either a battery operated timer which attaches to the hose bib or a simple "egg timer" type shut off. By using low water pressure, water is applied to the trees very gently so that it soaks in. Move the hose around so that the entire root area gets watered. Trees which need extra water are birches, sycamores and coast redwoods. These trees may need to be deep watered twice a month while Oaks need an extra deep watering twice in the summer. We have saved one of the coast redwoods in the Botanic garden by deep watering. The top 15 feet of the tree defoliated and with a good deep watering, it is recovering and growing new needles.

If you are going to change one thing in your garden because of water restrictions, I would buy a "smart" timer and learn how to use it. These new irrigation controllers help you control your watering system in many ways. Some sense the moisture in the soil and others turn the timer off during rain. The second biggest water saver you can install is drip line with emitters in the line. Here again, you have to watch the water applied and observe your plants to adjust the timing. All the latest irrigation equipment is rated for gallons per minute or hour. And it never runs into the street or loses moisture to evaporation.

One of the important things you can do to save water is to apply bark or mulch around trees and shrubs. This cools the soil and keeps the moisture near the roots. The key things to remember are to apply water slowly so that it goes in the root zone deeply and doesn't run off. Observe your plants to decide when they need water. If you water with a hose, use an egg timer type shut off device so you can't leave the hose running while you answer the phone. Replace sprinkler heads which water everything but your plants. Deep water your mature trees and water less often. Mulch under plants to save water. Good luck with keeping your yard green and unthirsty.

Board of Directors 2014-2015

Frank Roth, *President*

Max Copenhagen, *Vice President*

Bob Rust, *Treasurer*

Bill Todd, *Recording Secretary*

Barbara Wagner, *Corresponding Secretary*

Hon. Stan Daily, *Parliamentarian*

Bob Burrow, *Member at Large*

Bill Manzer, *Member at Large*

Jeanne Adams

Max Copenhagen

Ted Daniel

Paul Hawblitzel

Dale Jacobs

Ron McCown

Albert Misevic

Patricia Roth

Bill Todd

Valerie Tackett

Dave Bratz

Liz Daily

Ken Eastman

David Hibbits

Bill Manzer

Betty Jo McDonald

Roger Putnam

Bob Rust

Joy Todd

Barbara Wagner

Bob Burrow

Honorable Stanley Daily

Ira Grooms

Dr. Renee Whitlock Higgins

Raelene Manzer

Bill Milligan

Franklin Roth

Valerie Tackett

Betty Sullivan

Committee Chairs of PVHS for 2014-2015

Accessions, Display, Cleaning: *Liz Daily*; Annual Meeting, Facilities, Supplies, Grants, Don and Doña Barbeque: *David Hibbits*; Docents: *Joy Todd*; Don and Doña Selection Committee: *Bill and Raelene Manzer*; Gazebo Events: *Valerie Tackett*; Finance/Budget: *Bob Rust*; Policies: *Burt Misevic*; Garden: *Betty Jo MacDonald*; Fundraising: *Stan Daily*; Gift Shop: *Open*; Membership: *Bill Todd*; Newsletter: *Betty Sullivan*; Publicity: *Barbara Wagner*; Sunshine, Living History Day: *Pat Roth*; Site: *Bill Manzer*; Nominations, IT: *Max Copenhagen*; Signage: *Ira Grooms*.

THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Invites you to

DINE OUT

On Tuesday, November 4,

From 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

At

MARIE CALLENDER'S RESTAURANT

185 DAILY DRIVE

You must present this flyer to your server in order
for the Society to be given credit.

Use this coupon for yourself.

THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Invites you to

DINE OUT

On Tuesday, November 4,

From 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

At

MARIE CALLENDER'S RESTAURANT

185 DAILY DRIVE

You must present this flyer to your server in order for
the Society to be given credit.

Give this coupon to a friend.

NEWS FROM THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

720 Las Posas Road

PO Box 570

Camarillo, CA 93011-0570

(805) 482-3660

E-mail address: pvhs@pvhsonline.org

Web site address: pvhsonline.org

Newsletter Editor:

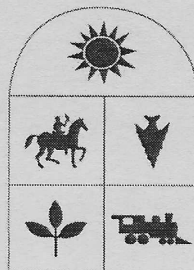
Betty Sullivan, 482-6340



Find us on
Facebook

The Pleasant Valley Historical Society Mission is to identify, preserve, classify, restore and acquire artifacts, buildings, landmarks, photographs and historical documents of the greater Pleasant Valley area for the education and use of the general public, and to make the museum a focal point for the dissemination of the history of the area.

Happy anniversary to the Pleasant Valley Historical Society (50th), City of Camarillo (50th), St. Mary Magdalen Church (100th) and Happy Birthday to Adolfo Camarillo (150th).



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Permit No. 128

Oxnard, CA

PAID

U.S. Postage

Non-Profit Org.

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