



The Echo

PVHS Expansion Project

The continuing rains have brought draught relief in some areas of the state, while inflicting damage in other areas. While the garden at the PVHS Museum has greatly benefited by the precipitation, the rain has stalled the expansion project. Before the grading work and compaction of the soil can be done, we need time for the soil to dry out and a window of time is needed for the work to begin. Not to worry though. Efforts continue toward raising funds for the subsequent phases of construction. Operations continue and PVHS events will be taking place.

While we don't have pictures to show any progress, stay tuned for information about our capital campaign and opportunities for you to help with our project. Your continued support is greatly appreciated as are the efforts of the dedicated PVHS volunteers.

Let us know if you have any names of people or businesses you think should be contacted so that we can share our mission and show what our museum will be like in the future upon the completion of the project.



Left: Since the Museum opening in 1988, the once adequate 1,555 sq. ft. of floor space has been overwhelmed – the continuing donations and acquisitions have grown the Museum's Display Area to consume the entire Museum floor space. More space is needed for even more displays, and for allowing attendance to museum functions.

Right: The Expansion Project adds 1,153 sq. ft. of floor space to the Museum. The increased area provides classroom space for interactive school programs and field trips, a dedicated space for the Fulkerson Library, and increased area for the Museum's displays. The original building will also be upgraded and remodeled.



President's Message

PVHS has had a busy quarter. Keeping our presence in the community has been our focus. In the last 3 months we have spoken to Lions, Padre Serra Senior group, individual PEO groups, the docents of the Camarillo Ranch, a United Methodist Group and Kiwanis. Beth Miller had her first classroom teaching program and others are planned. We thought the classroom programs would be 10 to 15 minutes, but the requests have been for full 45-minute programs.

The next quarter we will be presenting "Living History" using the PVRPD Community Center (on Burnley Steet) outdoor area. Our committee has been working to present new experiences for children and adults. It is scheduled Saturday, April 29. We will be including artifacts and pictures from our collections as well as school activities from 1900-1920.

We truly appreciate your support. If you haven't sent in your yearly membership, please consider doing it now. You will notice *the ECHO* includes applications for Don and Doña nomination, Stan Daily Scholarship nomination and a "Be a Part of History" brick form. Please share these with your community.

"Check out the last 14+ years of PVHS history on pvhsonline.org.
Click/Tap on *The Echo* at the top of the website page."

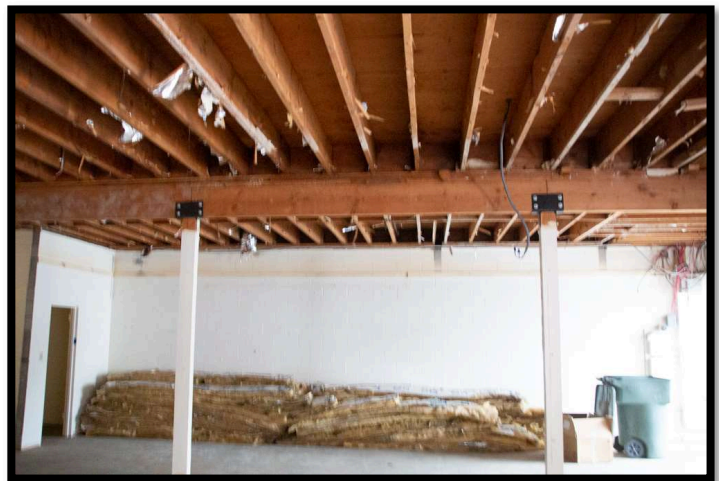


A view of the location for the Foundation Pad for the Museum Expansion Building. While we are extremely grateful for the recent rains which have brought, and are continuing to bring, much needed relief from the Southern California drought, the required soil preparation and compaction process requires the soil to be dryer than we currently are observing.

In addition, we have noticed the workers at the job site have shown concern of the recent working conditions resulting from the increased rainfall. Who knew?

An inside view of the original Museum Building. The building's interior contents have been removed in preparation for the Expansion Project's remodeling. The last of the interior's contents to be removed, the ceiling insulation, is stacked against the side wall waiting to be disposed of.

In efforts to help minimize the Museum Expansion Project expenses, the museum volunteers have placed all of the Museum artifacts into temporary storage, and have supplied the demolition phase labor for removing the building's interior contents.



SCHOLLE BARN LIVES ON

Recently, we were able to salvage multiple barnwood slats from the Scholle Ranch in Springville. The house and some outbuildings were constructed before 1900. The 1,890-s.f. house that is seen on the property is scheduled to be restored and be part of the tract that will be built at the corner of Springville Road and the 101 freeway. Because there was no effort to save the many outbuildings, they have fallen to disrepair and all will be removed from the property.



Some reclaimed wood slats have been reassembled on one of our east garden storage building walls to resemble a portion of the barn.

A bit of history saved.



Thank you to those who have already renewed their PVHS 2023 annual dues [hint-hint].

Pleasant Valley Historical Society's 2023 Don and Doña Nomination and Selection

Since the Pleasant Valley Historical Society's inception, Don and Doña honors have been awarded individuals who have shown dedication to the community. The PVHS Museum displays six scrapbooks filled with information about previous honorees beginning with the year 1965. We are once again looking for the names of local citizens to receive the recognition of Don or Doña for this year.

We invite you to submit nominations for the 2023 Dons and Doñas. Nominations are accepted until May 27, 2023. Following that date the Don and Doña Selection Committee will meet to consider all nominations. As stated in the Nomination Form included in this ECHO, all nominations are confidential and only known by this committee. The Committee will review the nominations for selection in the 2023 group.

The PVHS Board hosts a get acquainted reception for the honorees and the Board in July. The Annual Don and Doña BBQ to honor the recipients will be held on September 16, 2023 at the Pleasant Valley Recreation and Parks District Community Center. We look forward to receiving your nominations. Make your plans now for the BBQ and submit those applications for this year's class of Don and Doñas. For further information please send an email to bburrow1@msn.com or kg.farrin@gte.net

The 2023 Dons & Doñas Nomination Form is on the reverse side of the page.

Pleasant Valley Historical Society & Museum

Serving Camarillo, Somis and Santa Rosa Valley since 1964

720 N. Las Posas Road, P. O. Box 570, Camarillo CA 93011

Phone 805 482-3660 Website: www.pvhsonline.org

NOMINATION FORM

Selection of 2023 DONS and DOÑAS

Persons being nominated for a Don or Doña shall be:

An individual who has lived in the Camarillo, Somis or Santa Rosa Valley area for at least twenty years, and has provided outstanding community service for a minimum of ten years within these areas, and/or to the Pleasant Valley Historical Society during that time.

Nominee's Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

_____ Email: _____

The names submitted consideration shall be kept CONFIDENTIAL and shall only be made known to the Dons and Doña Selection Committee.

History of Nominee's Service:

Please attach additional page(s) if more space is required.

Submitted by: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

_____ Email: _____

Completed Nomination Form must be mailed with a post mark date no later than **May 27, 2023**.

Send to: PVHS Dons and Doñas Selection Committee, P. O. Box 570, Camarillo, CA 93011

STAN DAILY ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP

from Pleasant Valley Historical Society



Stan Daily [1935-2016]
Camarillo Mayor Emeritus

The scholarship is offered to students living in the Pleasant Valley area including Camarillo, Somis, and the Santa Rosa Valley, who write an original research paper on local history.

An award of \$1,000 may be made to a graduating senior, who produces the best qualifying piece.

The subject must be related to the history of the Pleasant Valley area.

Interested students may consult with society members on subject selections.

Deadline for submission is **April 29, 2023**.
Three (3) copies of the completed work should be mailed to:

PVHS
Attn: Stan Daily Essay Scholarship
P.O. Box 570
Camarillo, CA 93011

For further information, please visit pvhsonline.org/scholarship/
or phone 805-482-3660 to leave a message.

MEMORIES OF MORE THAN HOUSES IN CAMARILLO HEIGHTS

The gently rolling hills of Camarillo Heights offer beautiful views that combine country and urban lifestyles. Businesses were once part of the landscape that also accommodated residential and agriculture uses. The affordable land with its rich soil supported a variety of small farms.

Rob Frost, who grew up in the area, recalled “There was **Mr. Humbert** on Las Posas and his small family farm and **Mr. Mason’s** avocado farm.” **Jess** Mason began successfully experimenting with growing avocados on three acres. It was considered an exotic fruit. He eventually grew thousands of avocado trees from seed. Many of his still-thriving trees are on the corner of Las Posas and Loma Drive. The Mason family called that five-acre plot and comfortable house their home for 25 years.

Today we call the home development *Rancho Tomas*, but it had once been acres of beans, barley and eventually citrus owned by noted farmer **Louis Maulhardt**. His son, Ed, was also a successful farmer. The 150-acre ranch was sold to Los Angeles businessman **Ray Thomas**. Farming continued until 1972 when *Rancho Tomas* was sold for housing development.

Though he is not able to remember the date, “the first mayor of Camarillo, **Earl Joseph**, lived in Camarillo Heights,” Rob recalled. His father, **Norman Frost** and friends **Bill Cummings** and Earl Joseph worked for L.G. Maulhardt-International Harvester. The men used the company’s heavy construction equipment to prepare the building site for Joseph’s home on Alosta Drive.

Big business had been part of the Heights with the Canada Dry Bottling Plant on North Loop. During his childhood, Rob and his friends often played around the abandoned plant. There was a deli-market owned by Mr. and Mrs. **Skedel**. The couple grew grapes and made wine. They also made their own sausage and jerky.

Alice Frost Sweetland recalled “My brother, Rob, had an FFA project heifer named Baby that lived in our backyard on Las Posas Road. There was a chain link fence making a little corral, but one day, for whatever reason, Baby bolted, jumping over the fence and ran through the Heights, through the Las Posas Country Club Golf Course.” Three days later Baby was found quietly grazing just off Highway 118.

Small stores and restaurants dotted the area. **Jess Mason’s** daughter, **Genevieve Mason Peterson**, recalls **Harry’s (Manski)** Market “at the north end of Arneill Road, ending at Las Posas Road. It was a very popular gathering place. I remember being at Harry’s Market when World War II ended. Car horns blaring and people jumping out of their cars with excitement. The market is where **Bill Mason**, my brother, and I would jump on our bikes after we got home from school and bought our *Twinkies* with pure enjoyment.”

“**Patrick Kelton** and his wife **Laura** had a grocery store next-door to our house, the corner of Anacapa and Las Posas. It was very small but convenient for some things. We would buy soda and candy there,” said Alice. She also recalled “a grocery store where Arneill and Las Posas meet. The owners I remember were the **Petersons**. Later *Cooley’s Pharmacy*, a liquor store, an Urgent Care and Kentucky Fried Chicken occupied the spaces.”

Linda Plummer remembers “a nice little market where East Highland comes into North Loop. I would select a large dill pickle out of a jar for probably a nickel or splurge on some ice cream treat.” The building was “a wooden structure with a small parking lot right along the edge of North Loop.”

Longtime friends, Alice Frost and **Tom Leonard** both remember “a little restaurant at Arneill and Las Posas “owned by *Dot and Walt*. The last name is not recalled, but Tom explained why he remembers the owners’ first names. “The restroom doors were identified as Dot for the ladies’ room and Walt for the men’s room.” Alice explained after Dot and Walt’s place “another restaurant opened there. It was a steakhouse. It changed hands around 1956 and **Ora Sinclair** reopened it, calling it The Attic.

Continued on Page 7

One of the first physicians in Camarillo was **Dr. Anthony Muff** who lived on Anacapa. His office was not far from PV School on Palm Drive. Rob and his siblings would hope “we got a ride from Dr. Muff. He drove fast.” Other days the kids might catch a ride from **Warren Chase** on his way to the Chase Bros Dairy on Fifth Street.

“**Bill Isom** was a delivery man on Anacapa for Hal Hopkins grocery store. It was across from Higgins’ Market on the boulevard and Somis Road,” said Rob. He was the father of **Patsy Isom** who was the first Lima Bean Queen. She was crowned in 1954 by Adolfo Camarillo. Patsy married **John Cawelti**.

“**Hudson Perry** was an appliance man,” explained Rob. He had a store in downtown Camarillo. “He also had a “lemon orchard and drove an old Chevy pickup with burned out valves. You could really hear him coming,” said Rob as he laughed at the memory. “My dad repaired it for him.” Alice recalled one of her mother’s small-town Camarillo stories that became big news locally. “Mr. Perry ran into Mrs. Perry’s car. Imagine that!”

Do you have a story about Camarillo Heights you’d like to share? Please send it to us along with photos!

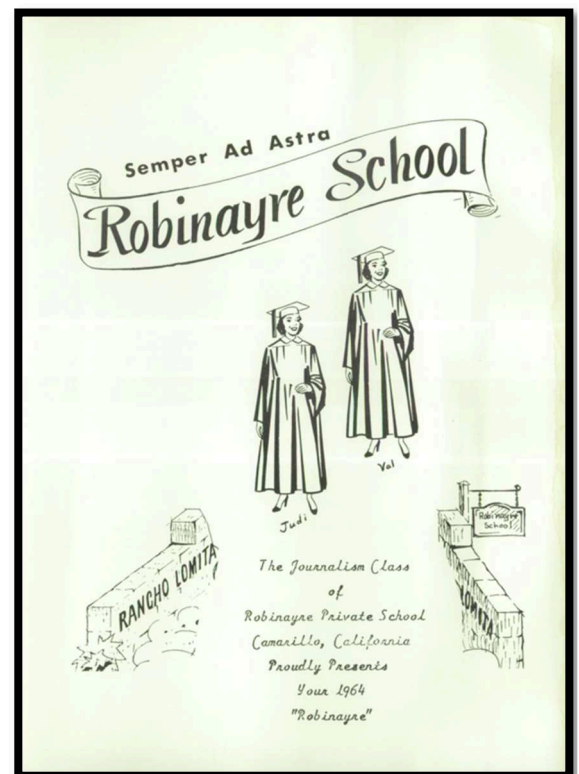
Robinayre Private Schools

A private girl’s school located where the Rancho Lomita tract homes are currently, was started in 1957 in Thousand Oaks, and opened a second campus in Camarillo in 1962 until late 1960s. A long road north from Los Posas, west of St. Columba’s Church, went up through orchards next to a row of eucalyptus trees. The school buildings could not be seen from Las Posas. Robinayre had two locations: one in Thousand Oaks for boys’ grades 3-6, and the second in Camarillo for girls’ grades 3-12. The rates were \$65 - \$105/month. But it also had a boarding option, so that was added costs.

The sixty resident girls cared for up to thirty horses stabled at the Camarillo campus that were available for lessons for the girls and the public. In June, most of the horses were taken to the Lions Club-operated Camp Bloomfield for the Junior Blind in the Santa Monica Hills for their summer camp sessions.

Robinayre School was promoted as “A non-denominational preparatory and finishing school for average and above average students”. Classes offered were Spanish, German, French, tennis, swimming, photography and horse-back riding in addition to state required courses. The principal at one time was Roland Garvin Youtz.

We welcome anyone’s personal experiences with the school, or further information on why, when and what happened to it!



Living History Day Is Back – April 29th

The date, time & location for Living History Day is April 29th, Noon – 4PM, at the Camarillo Community Center

The 2023 Event is a fun time for the whole family! This event is open to the public without charge.

We have a variety of activities scheduled for the children of the community. It is a great opportunity to learn about the life experiences of our forefathers. Among the activities planned are:

- Ventura County Handweavers & Spinners Guild Members will give:
 - Spinning demonstrations
 - Weaving demonstrations
 - The History of Spinning and Weaving in the Pleasant Valley and Ventura County areas
- Wood Working Skills // Button String Toy
- Old-time Music:
 - Prinsen Book Organ (The music, rather than winding on a roller, folds like pages in a book)
 - Schoolhouse Victor phonograph with a large horn
- School! Blackboard, Chalk and Desks.
- Recess! Books, Toys, Games and Raggedy Andy (our mascot)
- Early Transportation with Models and Toys: Cars, Trains, Airplane, Tractor
- Early Communication: Telephones, Manual Typewriter, Adding Machine, Morse Code
- Garden/Milkweed: Bees and Butterflies
- PVHS Museum: Information about the Museum and Expansion
- Oral History:
 - Learn about Meliton Ortiz's Life in Camarillo
 - Help PVHS with research by signing up to tell us your favorite memories of Life in Camarillo
- What is this? Guessing game with Household Tools, and other items, that were once common
- Historical Photos and Maps of early Camarillo and Springville; Farming Families
- First Aid supplies available

Admission is free. It is a good time for all. If you have a suggestion and/or would like to help volunteer in any of our activities please call Joy Todd (805-482-0179) or Beth Miller (805-630-6803).



Leif Engeswick, longtime collector and restorer, will play the Prinsen book organ



Raggedy Andy (our mascot)



↑ What is this? Guessing Game examples ↓



MEMORIALS

Fred Phipps & Cathy Trainer donated in memory of:

*Coach Jim Bittner, Warren Brown, John Cox, Helen "Yzie" Green, Jim Maddux, Jeff Magill
Coach John Reardon, Bud Swanson, Mark Truman, Dennis Wurtz DDS*

*Donation in memory of **Sgt. Richard T. Lee, Tuskegee Airman** from: Robert Garcia*

*Donations in memory of **Bill Milligan, Jr** from:*

Bob & Olivia Fulkerson, Bill & Joy Todd, Pat Gisler-Wise

*Donation in memory of **JoAnne Higgins Simmons** from:*

Gayle Eads, Patty Lorthorpe, Marlene Lowe, Glenda Sampson

*Donation in memory of **Bradley Wetherell** from: Bill & Joy Todd*

TRIBUTES

*Tribute in honor of **Earl Fanning, Port Hueneme Teacher** from: Gary Goff*

*Tribute in honor of **Mary Goldberg's birthday** from: Beverly Taylor*

*Tribute in honor of **Fred Phipps' 90th birthday** from:*




Phylliss Anderson, John & Pam Ballard, Lois Marcus

*Tribute in honor of **Val Rains' 90th birthday** from: Laura McAvoy & Sol Chooljian*

BUILDING and other DONATIONS

<i>Anonymous</i>	<i>Richard Baker</i>	<i>Barbara Barker</i>	<i>Dave & Linda Bratz</i>
<i>Mike Bridges</i>	<i>Gail Brockett</i>	<i>Karen Bulger</i>	<i>Elaine Cavaletto</i>
<i>Lloyd Christie</i>	<i>Elizabeth Daily</i>		<i>Milton & Heather Daily</i>
<i>The Daniel Family Trust</i>	<i>Roxanne Danielsen</i>		<i>Larry & Pam Davis</i>
<i>Bob De la Torre</i>	<i>Joan Faragher</i>		<i>Greg & Karin Farrin</i>
<i>Dennis Gaiser</i>	<i>Robert Garcia</i>	<i>Janice Garner</i>	<i>Judy Gill</i>
<i>Eleanor James</i>	<i>Winifred Jordan</i>		<i>David & Jackie Kaiser</i>
<i>Marlene Lowe</i>	<i>Linda Malone</i>		<i>Tom & Eileen Maloney</i>
<i>Patricia Marshall</i>	<i>Neale & Sue McNutt</i>		<i>Mary Jo McPherson</i>
<i>Sherwood Milleman</i>	<i>Mike Morgan</i>		<i>Tom & Norma Morganfeld</i>
<i>John & Erika Nash</i>	<i>Mary Ann Novak</i>		<i>Marietta O'Farrell</i>
<i>Louis & Pat Oliver</i>	<i>Gerry & Joan Olsen</i>		<i>Ottavio's Restaurant</i>
<i>John & Beverly Pearson</i>	<i>Rebecca Pecsok</i>		<i>Paul Rockenstein</i>
<i>Sharkey's Camarillo</i>	<i>Gwen Speakes</i>		<i>Katherine Taylor</i>
<i>Debra Thiessen</i>	<i>William Thomas</i>	<i>Andrew Todd</i>	<i>Craig Underwood</i>
<i>Ryan Wells</i>	<i>Roger Whitlock</i>		<i>Mike & Evelyn Williams</i>

'Let's Pick Up' BBQ & Dine-Out/Take-Out Events:

May 2 nd	June 20 ^h	July 18 th
<p>Support PV HISTORICAL SOCIETY with a great meal!</p> <p>Bruce's BBQ Pick-up</p> <div>  <p>\$15</p> </div> <p>Tri-tip & Chicken, salad, vegetarian beans, bread</p> <p>May 2nd, 2023 (Tuesday)</p> <p>RESERVE by the previous Friday (April 28th)</p> <p>Leave message with NAME and NUMBER of meals at 805-482-3660 or email: kg.farrin@gte.net</p> <p>PICK-UP 5 pm to 6 pm at Camarillo Christian Church, 1777 ARNEILL ROAD (corner of Las Posas)</p> <p>PAY at pick-up time with CASH, or CHECK made to PVHS, or PayPal (including Credit Card) at www.pvhsonline.org. Click BBQ</p>	<p>Support PV HISTORICAL SOCIETY with a great meal!</p> <p>Bruce's BBQ Pick-up</p> <div>  <p>\$15</p> </div> <p>Tri-tip & Chicken, salad, vegetarian beans, bread</p> <p>June 20th, 2023 (Tuesday)</p> <p>RESERVE by the previous Friday (June 16th)</p> <p>Leave message with NAME and NUMBER of meals at 805-482-3660 or email: kg.farrin@gte.net</p> <p>PICK-UP 5 pm to 6 pm at Camarillo Christian Church, 1777 ARNEILL ROAD (corner of Las Posas)</p> <p>PAY at pick-up time with CASH, or CHECK made to PVHS, or PayPal (including Credit Card) at www.pvhsonline.org. Click BBQ</p>	<p>Support PV HISTORICAL SOCIETY with a great meal!</p> <p>Bruce's BBQ Pick-up</p> <div>  <p>\$15</p> </div> <p>Tri-tip & Chicken, salad, vegetarian beans, bread</p> <p>July 18th, 2023 (Tuesday)</p> <p>RESERVE by the previous Friday (July 14th)</p> <p>Leave message with NAME and NUMBER of meals at 805-482-3660 or email: kg.farrin@gte.net</p> <p>PICK-UP 5 pm to 6 pm at Camarillo Christian Church, 1777 ARNEILL ROAD (corner of Las Posas)</p> <p>PAY at pick-up time with CASH, or CHECK made to PVHS, or PayPal (including Credit Card) at www.pvhsonline.org. Click BBQ</p>

Museum Expansion Fundraising: Sponsoring a Personalized Brick

The Personalized Brick Fundraising Campaign is doing its part in the Museum Expansion Fundraising program. Since the Personalized Brick Campaign launch in July of 2021, and running through April of 2023, a total of 189 Bricks have already been ordered. The popularity of the Personalized Bricks has continued to escalate after the Expansion Building Groundbreaking Event in 2022, and popularity will continue through the construction project. Sponsoring a Personalized Brick today will ensure delivery with the first batch of bricks to be delivered, and secure an early prime location for the displaying of your 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 11).



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

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.

Location: 720 Las Posas Road, Camarillo
Mailing Address: PVHS, PO Box 570,
Camarillo, CA 93011-0570
Telephone: (805) 482-3660
Email: kg.farrin@aol.com
Website: pvhsonline.org
Newsletter Editor: Manny Hatz



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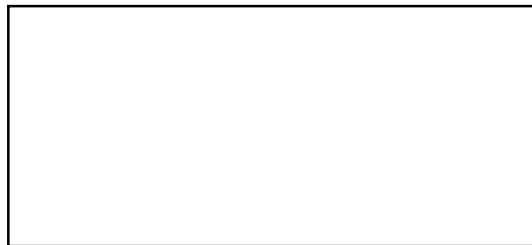
Follow us on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/pleasant-valley-historical-society>
Search: pleasant valley historical society



PLEASANT VALLEY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Established 1964



Thank You to Ivy Lawn
for providing a very generous
grant for printing costs of the
Echoes and other materials.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oxnard, CA
Permit No. 128

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