



# **PLEASANT VALLEY Historical Society Presents**



**2021  
Dons and Doñas**

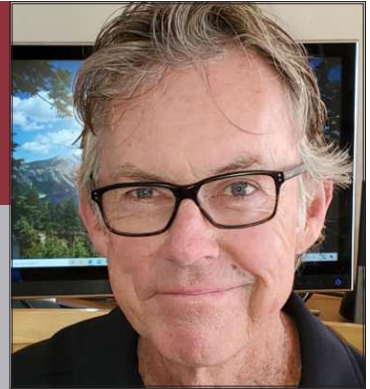


**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25  
PV Recreation & Park District  
Community Center**

# WELCOME

from PV Historical Society President,

**Bob Burrow**



Welcome Back!

We are glad to be here and especially glad that you are here as well. Our purpose in having the event today continues a long tradition. We are here to celebrate individuals who have demonstrated their tremendous volunteer efforts to make the Pleasant Valley area an even better community. This time we once again have representation from a collection of educators, community service members, various professionals, and others whose stories we will share during the program.

We hope that you enjoy today, including the BBQ, meeting with others, hearing the stories about our Dons and Doñas and getting an update on the PVHS activities. You are also invited to once again tour the museum and garden. We are open again and have several new things to share. Our many volunteers have remained busy with improvements and upcoming projects including the expansion of the museum.

Enjoy the 2021 Dons and Doñas Event!

*Bob Burrow*

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF DON AND DOÑA

Originally a title reserved for royalty, select nobles, and church hierarchs, it is now often used as a mark of esteem for a person of personal, social or official distinction, such as a community leader of long standing. “Since Don Adolfo was one of the few Calífornio land owners still ranching on his property, which he kept intact during his lifetime, the title of Don was used for him, both in direct address while speaking directly to him, and in referring to him.”—Sherry Reynolds.

In 1965, Pleasant Valley Historical Society began the tradition of honoring community citizens. 492 men and women have been honored in the past 56 years.

We select from people nominated each year by the community based on:

1. An individual whose family and/or personal history is significant in the root history of the Pleasant Valley. and/or
2. An individual who has lived in the area for at least 20 years, and has provided outstanding service to the community and/or to the PVHS during that time.

## THE NEED FOR EXPANSION OF THE MUSEUM SITE

We are looking to expand to meet the needs of the community. We hear and see that history is being left behind in the high tech world, but it shouldn't be. We have seen the “lights go on” when children and their parents experience history. That is what we want to provide--hands-on experience.

We have used up floor space with our additional displays of history: the Doctorman phone collection; Edison cylinder machines; radios; pump organs; a 1911 player piano; and other items from typical PV homes. We like these items to be touched for the experience. Our goal is to be able to present programs like we have done in the past--early school days and typical early homes. The events were successful, but we no longer have room to present them.

Requests are made for special programs, presentations to professional groups, or classroom field trips to our museum, but space is a limiting factor.

It is the generosity of our members and friends that has brought us to this moment of doubling the size of our current building. Architectural plans have been made, most of the requirements of the City of Camarillo have been met, and we hope to break ground on the over \$1 million project, in early 2022. Your help is needed.





## Doña Linda Braunschweiger

### Devoted Humanitarian Advocate

For those who know Linda, she is recognized as a person with a can-do attitude, positive disposition, infectious smile, and a servant's heart! Volunteering is one of her core values.

Linda volunteers as: Vice Chair, *House Farm Workers!*; Chair, *Camarillo Work Force Housing Committee*; Chair, *City of Camarillo Rent Review Commission*; Mission Committee member, *Young Life Camarillo*; and Advisory Board, *Women's Economic Ventures*.

Ms. Braunschweiger is Chair of the *Board of Good Samaritan Housing Inc.*, a nonprofit that owns/manages 17 senior housing properties across the United States. She was formerly on the Boards of *Tender Life Maternity Home*; *Kids and Families Together*, and *VC Continuum of Care*.

Professionally, Linda Braunschweiger is an affordable housing advocate and a recognized leading voice of housing for all in Ventura County. She is the founding CEO of *Housing Trust Fund Ventura County* (HTFVC), and CEO of the newly created *Housing Land Trust Ventura County* (HLTV) both headquartered in Camarillo. Under her leadership, the Housing Trust Fund has lent \$12M to developers building affordable housing producing 720 new units.

Ms. Braunschweiger owns *Braunschweiger & Associates*, a firm that provides public policy, finance, and nonprofit leadership guidance to clients. She was the founding Executive Director of *Rebuilding Together Ventura County*, in Camarillo. In 2011, Ms. Braunschweiger started *Market Research VC*, a boutique focus group firm in Camarillo.

Settling in Camarillo in fall of 1999, Linda joined Crossroads Community Church near the Camarillo Outlets and is on their Missions Committee. She enjoys serving the homeless and food insecure in VC, and regularly does mission trips to Mexico and Costa Rica. Ms. Braunschweiger is a single mother to two children she adopted from Russia as infants. While raising her children she volunteered for *Camarillo AYSO Soccer*, *CYBA Basketball* and *Cosmos Track*. She loves her community.



# Don Dr. Neal Dixon

## Community Servant in Medicine and Sports



Beyond his surgical career, Dr. Dixon has been involved in numerous activities in service to his community. This includes 18 years as a volunteer coach for youth soccer and baseball. He has been a past member of the Boards of *Camarillo Hospice*, the *Community Board of St John's Regional Medical Center* and the *Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District*.

He was elected to the *Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District* Board of Directors where he served from 2012 until 2020. During his tenure on the board, the district was able to stabilize its tenuous financial condition while simultaneously providing our community with the most beautiful parks in Ventura County.

Dr. Dixon has received several awards for his service to the community. These include: The Apple of Excellence Award from the *Camarillo Health Care District*, Attending Physician of the Year Award from the *Ventura County Medical Center*, Physician of the Year award from *St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital* on two occasions and The Lifetime Achievement Award from the *St John's Regional Medical Center Foundation*.

Doctor Dixon moved to Camarillo and established his surgical practice in 1986 after completing his residency at the Los Angeles County – *University of Southern California Medical Center*. He received his bachelor's degree from *California State University, Long Beach*, and his M.D from the *USC School of Medicine*. He is certified by the *American Board of Surgery*, is a Fellow of the *American College of Surgeons* and a member of the *California Medical Association*, the *Ventura County Medical Association*, and the *Society of Graduate Surgeons*.

Dr. Dixon makes his home in Camarillo with his wife Janet. He is the proud father of five sons and ten grandchildren.



Four generations of the Fullkerson family have run this family business—Jonathan, Jack, Bob, now Kyle. Jack & Barbara, Bob & Olivia have previously been honored as Don & Doña.

*Economy Lighting congratulates  
Bob Fierro on his recognition as Don!*



# Don Bob Fierro

## Contractor and Volunteer



Bob has long been involved in volunteer work with Los Angeles and Ventura churches. As Lay Leader and Chair of the Trustees of Camarillo United Methodist Church for over 10 years, he was the driving force in the design and construction of projects, such as the Mission House, outdoor chapel, entry pergola, garage, parking lot, and Memorial Garden.

As a former Boy Scout, he has found satisfaction in mentoring Eagle Scout candidates' projects for the last ten years. Bob has been the lead volunteer in both interior and exterior projects of the *Boy & Girls Club* Camarillo facility.

Friends say of him, "Bob always faces the future with a positive attitude and a style that makes you feel like old friends. He seems to always be on a journey of service with a pure sense of selflessness."

Growing up in Camarillo, he graduated from ACHS in 1973, and was active in the Boy Scouts and life of St. Mary Magdalene Church. He has been involved in construction work for over 43 years in Ventura, LA and Sta. Barbara Counties, and is the senior project manager for CDA, Inc.

Currently, Bob is an active board member of the PVHS, and acts as the owner's representative in the coordination and design of the expansion/renovation of the PVHS Museum with the City. He has had years of interaction with the building and planning departments showing his genuine respect for his peers in the construction industry.

Bob is married to Kathy, and he has one daughter, Stephanie, they have 3 grandsons.





## Don Dennis Gaiser

### Community and Families Benefactor

Dennis has volunteered for the *Camarillo Hospice* since 2000, not only serving on the board for 15 years, but can be seen managing the Farmers Market set up at 7 am until clean-up at closing time—until COVID hit!

From 2010 to present, he is a member and past board member of *Ventura County Taxpayers Association* trying to make sure our tax dollars are well spent. He is also a past board member of the *Community Colleges' Citizen Oversight Committee*, and past member of the *CSU-Channel Islands Foundation Board* for 6 years and advisory board for Mechatronics and Technology. He is a founding member of the President's Club at CSU-CI. He presently gives scholarships to four Business majors each year.

While his children were younger, he coached *Camarillo YMCA* basketball and attended all their sports involvements. With other fathers, he started the "Fox Tribe" of the *Camarillo Indian Guides*.

He has volunteered in the past for Rancho Compana High School's machine shop.

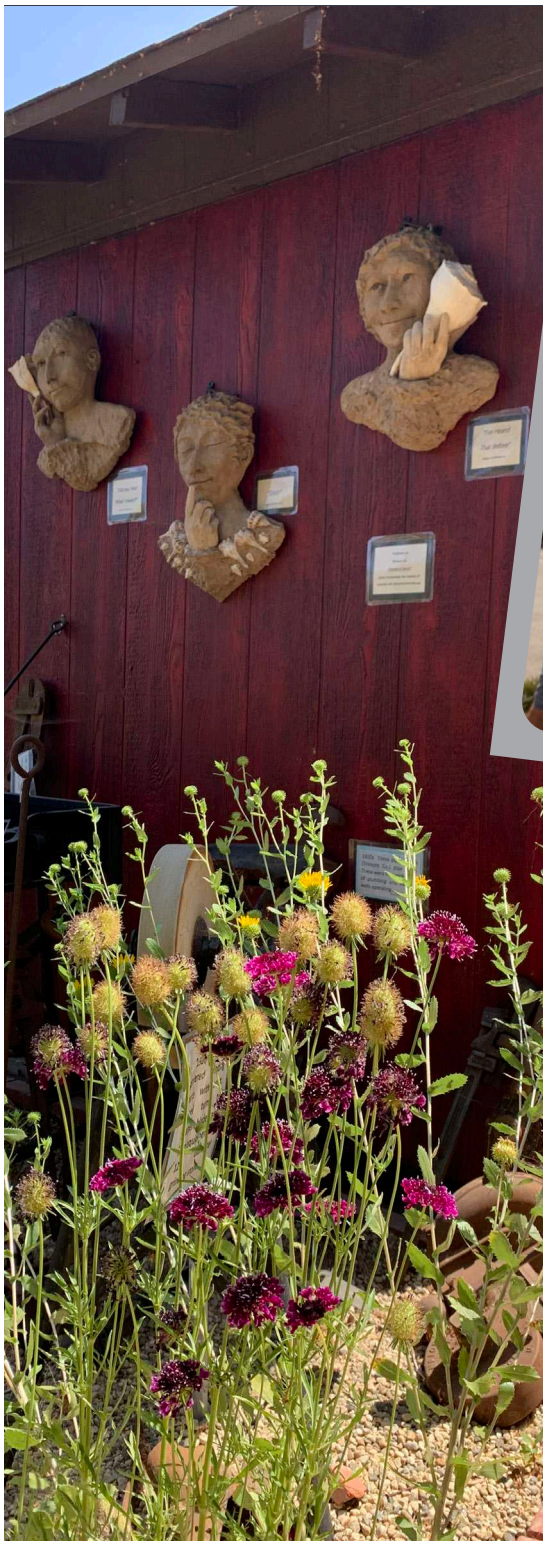
Dennis is a member of *Camarillo Noontime Rotary International*. He sponsors the *Camarillo Boys & Girls Club*, *Meadowlark Service League*, *Rain Communities, Inc.*, and others. The *Camarillo Chamber of Commerce* Volunteer of the Year Award was given to Dennis in 2007-08.

Dennis retired as CEO of the family business, *Gaiser Tool Company, Ventura*, in 1999. A manufacturer of semiconductor wire bonding tools exporting tools to countries all over the globe, the business employed over 300 people at one time—many Camarillans.

He graduated with a BS-EE from *Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo* in 1968. Married to Joan for 47 years, they have son Stephen, (wife Ashley and grandchild Rylee), and also son Matthew, (wife Cortney, and grandchildren Gavin and Henry). The Gaisers have lived at the same residence in Camarillo since 1984.

When not volunteering, Dennis likes to play guitar, take and edit videos, build and program miniature robotics, fly video drones, travel with his 5th wheeler, walk, fish, and play tennis! Anything else?

Mr. Gaiser says, "One of my favorite moments was meeting with past employees and having them thank me for employing them, where they were able to provide for their families and put their children through college."



*Gerry & Joan Olsen say:*  
**"Support the Museum Expansion!"**

*In memory of Carole Olsen-Bryan*





## Don Mike Mishler

### Athletics and Community Supporter

Mike has spent over 25 years volunteering with AYSO. During that time, he started the first spring soccer program in Ventura County and the first adult coed soccer league in Camarillo. As AYSO Region 68 Commissioner (1997-1999), he expanded the number of fall season players and increased income from tournaments. Mike received the AYSO Region 68 David Winters Award in 2009. He also helped secure the 55 acres at the Village at the Park proposed development for a future park site. Mike also coached the *Camarillo High School* girls JV team.

In 1990, he recognized the opportunity to expand 10-acre Mission Oaks Park to 20 acres. By meeting with the *Pardee* Vice President, he arranged the donation of 10 acres adjacent to the park to *Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District* in exchange for PVRPD land that they didn't want. This additional acreage provided space for 3 softball fields, allowing girls softball to be located there.

First elected to Board of Directors of PVRPD in 2012, he has helped identify annual electrical cost savings, improved district transparency by televising board meetings, expanded public use facilities, and explored expanding district boundaries, among many other accomplishments. His engineering background helped him identify multiple areas where the district could operate more efficiently. He received the PVRPD Volunteer of the Year award in 2010 and 2011.

Mike was elected, and still serves, to represent all county special districts on the *Ventura County Consolidated Oversight Board*. He represents PVRPD on the *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy* since 2013. He was President of the *VC Special Districts Association* during 2017-2018.

He is actively involved with community affairs, addressing topics of community interest with the City Council and the *PV School District*. His research was important in the City's changing its policy for deciding on developer fees to go to PVRPD before new housing is being built. His knowledge of geology has provided valuable input on the Camarillo Springs Golf Course.

Mike Mishler's efforts to make Camarillo a better place to live has been ongoing since early 1980s. Few people have served so many, so effectively, with little or no recognition of his accomplishments.

He has a MS degree in Geology from *San Diego State University*, spending his career as a geologist in the private sector and is currently retired. Mike and his late wife, Donna, moved to Camarillo in 1984. He has two children.



# Doña Rachel Resnik Miles

## Art and Community Advocate



*Studio Channel Islands Art Center* continues to be one of Rachel's strongest passions. She volunteers on a committee that organizes an annual fundraiser called Collectors Choice. Believing our community is truly enhanced by having access to the arts, she has served on the Board of *Studio Channel Islands Art Studio* for 3 years and as Chairman in 2016 supporting their mission of bringing together artists and community for extraordinary artistic encounters that enrich, educate, and entertain.

She currently serves on the scholarship committee at the *Ventura County Community Foundation* and served on the Volunteer Training Program for the *Camarillo Hospice*. She is a member of *Camarillo AAUW*, and was a charter member of the *Simi Valley Sunset Rotary*.

In Singapore, she volunteered to teach Chinese children English. Working and living in Singapore was a highlight of her career as she taught young children to speak, read and write English as a non-teacher.

She is a proud alumna of *Rio Mesa High School*, served as student body president and attended Girls State. Rachel graduated from UCSB, was a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority and volunteered at the Santa Barbara probation office creating their community work project program where juveniles (and adults) could do community work service hours.

Her work experience includes opening and managing Sizzler Restaurants, Support Manager for *Sizzler International* in Singapore, and branch managers for *Bank of America* and *Wells Fargo*. She currently works as a private property manager.

Rachel is married to Howard Miles, a recently retired stage technician. Rachel treasures her identity as "Aunt Rach" to the many kids in town who allow her to share this special relationship.

Her dad and grandparents opened the *Somis Nut House* in 1959. Parents, Stephen & Joyce Resnik, (Doña 2018), brought her home in 1963 to Calleguas Ranch to meet her big sister Rebecca, (Doña 2019). Her brother, Jeremy, arrived 16 months later. She grew up with cousins across the street who have also made Camarillo their home. There have been five generations of Resnik's in this community.

Rachel states, "My parents led by example volunteering such that it was part of my life and something that we just 'did.'" I feel joy working with others to help all people in need and in our own community first."



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*Congratulations Bob Fiero!*

*Big congratulations to all of  
our new Dons and Doñas and  
a great big thank you from all  
Pleasant Valley Citizens.*

*Joan & Bob Rust*

**Bob Rust - 2007 Don**



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**Kevin Kildee - 2014 Don**



**Bruce Jochums**

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**Bruce is catering today's  
BBQ!**




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Richard Wagner - 2012 Don. He  
congratulates all of this year's  
recipients.

*Congratulations*  
fellow Rotarian  
**Dennis Gaiser**  
*A much deserved  
recognition!  
It's great having  
you on our team!*

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Oren Zarin congratulates  
all of the Honorable Class  
of 2021 Dons and Doñas.





## Doña Linda Packham Compassionate Giver

In 2010 Linda read an article in the *Acorn* about the *Many Meals* program put on by a local church every Monday to serve a hot meal to the homeless and low-income families. She worked with leaders from 5 local churches and worked together to establish another program to further this mission every Thursday evening at Trinity Presbyterian Church. It has continued for 10 years.

Linda served as a deliverer for *Meals on Wheels* to homebound seniors for years and also delivered groceries to homebound adults for *Shop Ahoy*.

She was a docent at Camarillo Ranch house for several years, mostly conducting student tours to local elementary children.

Linda became a Sunday school teacher and later Superintendent at St. Columba's Church in Camarillo. She also served as middle school Youth Group Advisor. The Youth Group worked with autistic children at *Camarillo State Hospital*. Recently she served as an active Deacon at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Linda and John took into their home two high school aged boys whose parents could not afford a home large enough to include them. They lived with them for two years.

They have hosted exchange students from Finland, Japan and Russia, as well as making two mission trips to both Romania and to the Navajos in Tuba City, AZ.

The neighborhood families of *El Descanso School* loved her infectious smile, laugh and compassionate demeanor when she was employed as the school's Administrative Assistant for 17 years. She was selected as *Pleasant Valley School District* Classified Employee of the Year in 1987 and again in 1996. She served as president of the *El Descanso P.T.A.* when her children attended the school.

She was born in Portland and Linda and John moved to Camarillo in 1969 from Salem, Oregon (go Ducks!). They have 3 children, Scott, Sally and Greg and eight grandchildren

# Doña Helen Shields

## Church and School Volunteer



Over fifty years ago, Helen and Bud moved to Camarillo, bought a house that she still lives in today, and began involvement in this wonderful place in which to live and raise a family. She joined *Newcomer's Club* and served as president in 1971.

Raising two daughters, Cindy and Lisa, she generously connected with their activities. She was active in *YMCA Indian Maidens*, Blue Birds candy sales, Girl Scouts assistant leader, Girls' Softball as team mom, room mother at *El Descanso School*, and assisted with the Drill Team and speech tournaments at *Monte Vista School*.

Her church activities were just as varied and numerous. At Padre Serra Catholic Church, she has been a Eucharist Minister, a member of Women's Ministry, Living Liturgy Bible Study, on the Adult Faith Formation Team, and currently Vice-President of the *Society of St. Vincent de Paul*.

Helen was the initial organizer and leader of Seasons, a women's spirituality group, a retreat leader for several years, on the committee to design Sierra Center, and currently a leader in Landings, a group dedicated to Catholics returning to the church.

She graduated from *Oklahoma State University* with a B.S. in Elementary Education and has a M.A. degree from *CSU-Northridge* in Secondary Education/Reading Improvement. She taught six years at the *Camarillo Reading Clinic* and worked as a reading specialist in 6 of the elementary schools in *Pleasant Valley School District* for 21 years. Principal Diane Anders related that she was a master at engaging the most reluctant learner, teaching students to read saying, "She was the best of the best."

During that time, she was honored with "Teacher of the Year," and "Educator of the Month." Helen served on the board of the *Ventura County Reading Association*. After retirement in 1997, she served *Ventura Area Panhellenic* as "Recommendations and Scholarship" Chairperson for 10 years.

She is a member of *Camarillo AAUW*, two book clubs and two bridge groups.

A friend says, "With extraordinary selflessness, Helen is always ready to help anyone in need with her unconditional support."



## *Doña Barbara Swetek* Sports and Patrol

Look for Barbara in the white patrol cars on the streets of Camarillo. For the last 15 years she has been a member of the *Camarillo Citizen Patrol*. This volunteer citizen group helps direct traffic at accidents, manage the closed streets during events such as the Christmas parade, help with Kid Print at the Camarillo Fiesta, and check homes for people on vacation. For the last 4 years she has served as the New Member Coordinator for the Patrol, and also is a trainer.

Her family moved from Pennsylvania to Ventura County in 1955. She received her teaching credential in 1968 and was hired to teach Physical Education at *Camarillo High School*. During her 33 years at ACHS, girls' physical education was required for all four years of high school. However, the co-ed curriculum changed to require only two years. *Girls Athletic Association* (GAA)—after school intramural program—changed to Girls' Sport Teams as a result of Title IX. Barbara served as Physical Education Chair for 17 years.

During her first 20 years of teaching, she was the leader of *Senior Girl Scout Troop 1* in Camarillo. She served on the Scout Council for several years. Besides service projects—selling cookies and calendars—she and members of her troop took several trips to Hawaii, backpacked in the mountains—Appalachian Trail and Pacific Coast Trail, and planned scouting events for the younger troops in the City.

After retiring in 2001, she has enjoyed traveling around the USA in their RV. She also travels with Friends of the Library's travel tours and day trips meeting new friends.



# Don Terry Tackett

## Influential Educator



Terry's personal influence on students—especially in athletics—makes him stand out among educators. He would go above and beyond for students to develop genuine and meaningful relationships.

He graduated from *Oxnard High School* in 1959, continued education with B.A. and M.A. from *Fresno State*, teaching credentials, and Administration Service Credential in 1980 from *Azusa Pacific University*.

Using his baseball talent, he was a professional player with the *California Angels* organization from 1960-65 until he began his teaching career.

He began teaching in *Hueneme High School* as a physical education instructor for fourteen years. During that time, Terry was Department Chair for 5 years, started co-ed PE classes before Title IX. While he was head baseball coach from 1975-80, his teams won 4 championships and he was “Coach of the Year” in 1979.

In 1980, he became Dean of Students for ten years at *A. Camarillo HS* and received the “Superintendent’s Inspirational Award” in 1988. He then went to *Channel Islands HS* to be Dean of Students, followed by Assistant Principal at *Rio Mesa HS* for 2 years. Mr. Tackett returned to ACHS as Principal in 1993 until 2001. Under his leadership, ACHS became a “CA Distinguished School” and a “National Blue Ribbon School.” Even today, people approach him and tell him what a difference he has made in their lives.

Terry coached *Camarillo American Legion Baseball Post 741*. He was president of *Camarillo Baseball Bronco Division*, NCAA basketball official for over thirty years, and involved in *Camarillo Indian Guide Program*. He is a member of the *Camarillo Noontime Optimists*.

He has four children all of whom as adults have careers in education or sports—3 teachers and 1 son a professional athlete. Terry was even deputized to perform weddings so he could perform the marriage for one of his sons! Terry and Pat have 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandkids!

# Pleasant Valley Recreation & Park District

would like to congratulate all the  
honorees of this prestigious award!

*The District has been privileged to work with  
several of those who have been awarded the Don  
and Doña honors currently and in years past.*



The District is grateful for all the  
effort, time, and dedication that  
**Dr. Neal Dixon & Mike Mishler**  
have put into the community  
especially with the District.

*Again we congratulate all awardees!*





## *Congratulations to the 2021 Dons and Donãs*



Michael and Diane Elias

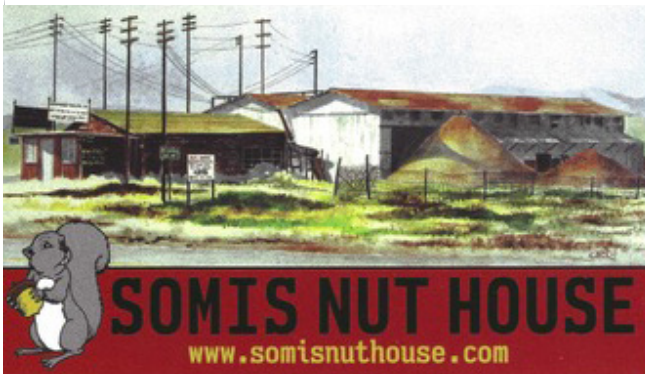


*The entire Packham family congratulate our Mom and "Mama Ree!" You inspire us all and we love you tons!*





Fred Phipps (Don 1977) extends  
congratulations to all 2021 Dons & Doñas,  
but especially to  
**Doña Cathy Trainer!**



**Congratulations to all the  
2021 Dons & Doñas!**

*from Rebecca & Jeremy  
at the Somis Nut House*

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We are so proud of  
Rachel Resnik Miles for being  
honored as  
PVHS Doña!

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*Spring & Summer Hours*

Tuesday	3:30-8:00
Wednesday	3:30-8:00
Thursday	3:30-8:00
Friday	3:30- <u>8:30</u>
Saturday	3:30- <u>8:30</u>
Sunday	3:30-8:00
Monday	CLOSED



2021 Doña Rachel  
Resnik Miles and 2018  
Doña Valerie Tackett



## Doña Cathy Trainer Always Busy

In 1970, Cathy and her husband, Bob, (died in 2009), and 3 sons moved to Camarillo. She has been active in community activities ever since—"never lets grass grow under her feet."

They became involved in their children's activities such as little league, AYSO soccer league, and their church. She was a member of Newcomers Club.

She was a founding member of *Camarillo Farmers' Market* in 1990 and has worked there for over thirty years. With the connection to *Camarillo Hospice*, Cathy has co-chaired the annual fund-raiser Garden tour and helped select local gardens. She has served on the *Hospice Community Advisory Committee*. Cathy is a founding member of *kidSTREAM*.

While Leisure Village was being built, she managed the accounting department for the developer. She was also property manager while Camarillo Springs was being built, and edited their newsletter.

Volunteering at the *Camarillo Health Care District*, she later worked as an employee for the District. She is a four-year member of *Meadowlark Service League* and currently is an associate member.

She participates in women activities, political meetings, different walking and coffee groups, travel groups, game night ladies, ..... She is full of energy!



# Doña Virginia Wooten

## Teacher, Coach, Counselor



A native Southern California girl, Virginia was born in Long Beach and came to Ventura County in 1972. She attended *Cal State—Long Beach* where she earned a B.S. in Physical Education and English. She later pursued her M.S in Psychology and high school Counselor Certificate.

During “Ginnie’s” time in Camarillo she has volunteered with the *Friends of the Library* where she was an assistant for their travel tours. She helped plan, organize and escort many trips around the area as well as overseas. She spread the word to many people who were on these tours about our gorgeous area, bringing recognition to our *Friends of the Library* and the City of Camarillo.

As a member of the *Camarillo Citizen Patrol*, she assists the Sheriff’s Department with traffic control, house checks of vacationing citizens, Kid Print IDs and answering numerous questions from the public.

However, her love and passion was for the award winning drill team that she coached. Eight years were spent developing and advising marvelous young high school ladies to become the best in Southern CA competitions and to become accomplished young ladies. She accompanied them to Disneyland on many occasions.

Most of the thirty years were spent at *Channel Islands HS* teaching physical education and English. Part of those years she also coached volleyball and softball.

The last 15 years in education Virginia was a Counselor where she ran all the school testing and chaired a WASC accreditation committee. During this time, she assisted with *Camarillo Girl Scout Troop 1*, and volunteered for the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. She drove teams, coaches and judges to various venues around LA and Ventura Counties.

Virginia retired from *Channel Island HS* in 2001.



Ventura Investment Co. has been a  
part of the Camarillo community  
since 1958 and is proud to  
congratulate the 2021 Honorees!



Congratulations to Doña Linda Packham  
from all of her friends at Rosewood Dental Group!

*Congratulations to  
Rachel Resnik-Miles.  
A very deserving winner  
and a great supporter of  
SCLART's Holiday Art Market  
and Collectors Choice.*



**Holiday Art Market**  
Saturday, December 4th & Sunday, December 5th





## Brandee Anderson

*is a 2021 graduate of  
Camarillo High School.*

*She will first be attending  
Ventura College, fall of  
2021.*

*Brandee received a  
\$1,000 scholarship from  
Liz Daily.*

*Runners-up, Jacob Speth and  
Melissa Moore, also from  
ACHS, each received \$500 for  
their essays. Their essays can  
be read on the PVHS website.*

# 2021 Stan Daily Scholarship Awardee

## Community Action Saves the Day

*By Brandee Anderson, ACHS*

As a volunteer working at the *Pleasant Valley Historical Society Museum*, I was fascinated by the information available. The public interest in the closed-down *Oxnard Air Force Base* caught my attention.

During the 1970s rumors flooded the county about the closed down 773 acres *Oxnard Air Force Base* located in Camarillo (OAFB). This large mass of land was soon to be sought out by multiple agencies and many of them wanted to split the land into different parts dedicated to different uses. Multiple meetings were then held within about three weeks of May to discuss the terms, conditions, and prices of this area's further use. Some of the agencies who sought the land were:

- Oxnard Union High School District
- County of Ventura
- Park and Recreation
- Federal Bureau of Prisons
- City of Camarillo
- Commercial Airports
- Marine Corp

The *General Services Administration* (GSA), which was soon to take over the OAFB, indicated that they would not release the base until all governmental bodies involved had agreed on a plan for its use.

The City of Camarillo had passed two resolutions by the mayor, Stan Daily, the morning of May 13, 1971, that urged

the *Ventura County Community College* and the *Oxnard High School District* to use the OAFB to push for educational purposes and even a third resolution was rumored to urge the *Pleasant Valley Elementary School District* to take similar action; however, councilmen stopped at the high school level. Many parents of the students agreed with these ideas and plan to push the allocation for education.

The *Federal Bureau of Prisons* wanted to have use of at least 150 acres as a youth rehabilitation facility. However, after attending the meeting and pushing for this land the Councilmen and city publicly stated their opposition to the prison proposal. This was not a happy thought for the citizens of Camarillo concerning their safety and personal wants.

The *County of Ventura* was seeking the base as a commercial county airport.

The *City of Camarillo* did not technically push for the land, but very much pushed against the idea of turning this “Camarillo Airport” into an annex for LAX commercial flights. The fight was argued for the reasoning of housing, environmental damage, and population explosion. The fight for the OAFB to become a commercial airport was fought until 1976. Even the discussion had gone all the way to the White House with President Nixon. Mayor Stan Daily met with Special Assistant to the President, John Davies, to continue to work on negotiations of the Air Force Base’s Land.

Many teenagers during this time of the land being unclaimed and unused were using the parks for baseball games and youth enjoyment. Park and Recreation then saw this as an opportunity to join in and negotiate a way to use some of these parks, baseball fields, and other lands for the use of parks and areas for the public’s use.

Others, such as a member of the council, Thomas Martin, wanted to keep the facility “military in nature”. The Marine Corp pushed for use of the base as an actual Air Force facility and training base. This idea has highly frowned upon after a pilot flew too low to the homes of Camarillo causing even more uproar about the use of the land.

Two of the final alternatives for the use of the land that council discussed...

The second alternative most closely reflects the uses seen today.

### **Alternative #1**

1. Strongly support the private university for 440 acres of land
2. Request some 178 acres for use by the *City of Camarillo*
3. Apply 14 acres for an extension of Springville Road on top of the existing runway

4. Support the request by the *County Board of Education* for 7 acres of land
5. Recommend 115 acres be surplus sold to the highest bidder

**Alternative #2** (if GSA refused the Health Education and Welfare(HEW) proposal in Alternative #1)

1. Request all 773 acres which were all of the base property uses being:
  - a) Provide general aviation airstrip of 265 acres with a 4000-foot runway
  - b) 105 acres for vehicular recreation area
  - c) 73 acres for Flood Control facility
  - d) 10 acres for air Museum
  - e) 14 acres for the right of way of Springville Road
  - f) Balance of 306 acres to be allocated to those other agencies which may desire to lease portions of the property
  - g) The remaining parcel would be under the jurisdiction of the *City of Camarillo* to develop as industrial uses

The citizens of Camarillo should be proud of the efforts and solutions that produced the airport we have today.

*Sources for this paper were made available by the Pleasant Valley Historical Society of Camarillo*







*Bradley G. Wetherell*  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

**Ivy Lawn**  
Memorial Park

5400 Valentine Road  
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 750-9100

# **Congratulations** to the 2021 **Pleasant Valley Historical Society** **Dons & Doñas**

*PVHS recently found the original 1918 deeds to Ivy Lawn plots for the Daily family. The deeds are embossed with a seal and have a revenue stamp. Included was a map of the 1918 cemetery with circles around their plots. Ivy Lawn history and that of the Pleasant Valley are, once again, affirmed.*

*Ivy Lawn Memorial Park has been telling the story of Ventura County's history in a way no other site could for over 100 years. They have been designated Ventura County's only historic cemetery district as they are the final gathering place for the county's largest collection of historically significant people. Prominent family names that have made lasting contributions to the development of the area of Pleasant Valley and Ventura County are found on monuments and markers in the green expanses of the lawns. Today, there are over fifty thousand individuals interred at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park.*

*In 2015, Val Rains and Woody Milleman spearheaded a drive to purchase this memorial headstone placed at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park.*



Of great interest is the user-friendly "Records" search of names on the Ivy Lawn Memorial Park website: [www.ivylawn.org](http://www.ivylawn.org)

## **Ivy Lawn Memorial Park & Funeral Home**

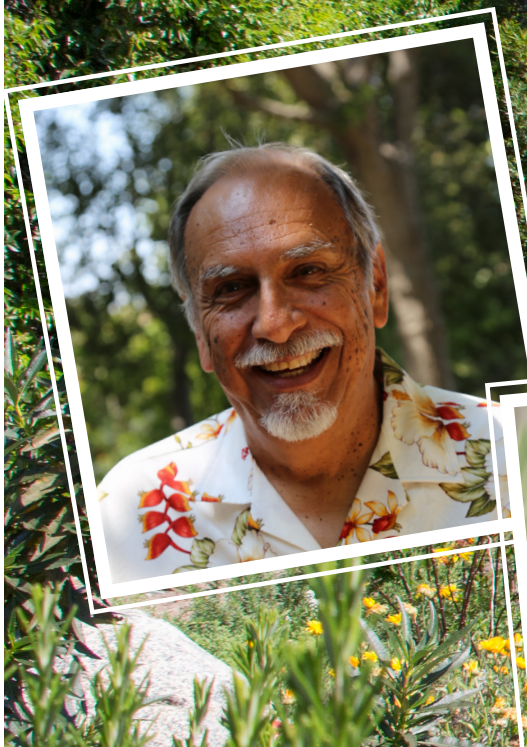
**Jeanne Clark, President / General Manager**

*A Non Profit Endowment Care Cemetery Serving All Faiths*

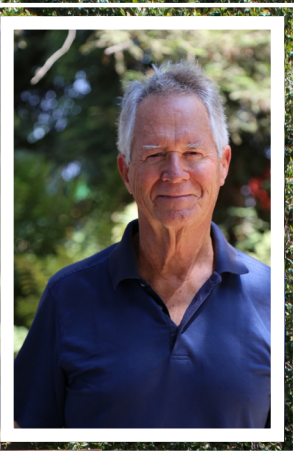
5400 Valentine Road Ventura, CA 93003 805.642.1055



# Congratulations 2021 Dons & Doñas









# IN AND AROUND THE MUSEUM







# CHARLES L. HONN BOTANIC GARDEN



## CHARLES HONN BOTANICAL GARDEN



"Charlie" was the driving force in the design of the garden and worked tirelessly on the planting of these grounds. As founding members of PPHS, Charlie and Ruth Honn were very active in the repurposing of the museum building.

Charles, (1916-1997), was the beloved Superintendent of PV School District from 1957-1978 overseeing the growth of PPHS from one school to 13 sites. He was active in many organizations in the community, receiving many accolades including 1989 "Man of the Year". He and Ruth were honored as PPHS Don & Dofia.

## "The Barn" Museum Annex



## Meadowlark Service League "Back Porch"





## PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENTS

1966 – 1969 JACK McEWEN [3 years]  
1969 – 1983 JACK FULKERSON [14 ]  
1983 – 1992 BETTY RUTHERFORD [9]  
1992 – 1994 FRED ROLLYSON  
1994 – 1996 LIZ DAILY  
1996 – 1998 RON FRANZ  
1998 – 2002 ERIC DAILY [ 4]  
2002 – 2005 IRA GROOMS [ 3 ]  
2005 – 2006 PAIGE HIBBITS  
2006 – 2008 DAVID HIBBITS  
2008 – 2010 LIZ DAILY  
2010 – 2011 PAIGE HIBBITS  
2011 – 2013 STAN DAILY  
2013 – 2015 FRANKLIN ROTH  
2015 – 2018 MAX COPENHAGEN [3]  
2018 – 2020 JOY TODD  
2020 - 2022 BOB BURROW

### **2021-2022 Board Members are:**

David Bratz, Bob Burrow, Max Copenhagen,  
Liz Daily, Gail & Terry DeWolfe,  
Mike Ellias, Greg & Karin Farrin,  
Bob Fierro, Ira Grooms, David Hibbits,  
Bill & Raelene Manzer,  
Betty Jo McDonald, Gerry Olsen,  
Beverly & John Pearson, Paul Rockenstein  
Pat Roth, Bob Rust, Betty Sullivan,  
Valerie Tackett, Debra Thiessen,  
Bill & Joy Todd, Renee Whitlock

### **Dates of Interest:**

*March, 1986* – PVHS signed contract with the City of Camarillo for our present building—formerly the Camino Water District offices, well, and reservoir.

*November, 1988*– PVHS opened to public at 720 Los Posas Road after extensive modifications to its interior by members of the society.

*November, 1993* – The Amish Garden Gazebo opened to public for intimate events such as small weddings, luncheons, and parties.

*April, 2017*--Mural painted by muralist, Lisa Kelly, on entire east wall of museum.

*March, 2020* “The Barn” added in garden

*August, 2021* Diane Ellias Painted mural in east garden area

*August, 2021* “Back Porch” added in garden

**2021-2022 Expansion Project  
will happen!**



The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of pink flowers, likely roses, with green leaves visible. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing vibrant pink petals and others more faded or green.

**Sincere THANK YOUS to:**

our generous benefactor of the BBQ

**Ivy Lawn Memorial Park**

**Joe Erickson & Pacific Beverage**

for contributions of drinks

**the many hard workers**

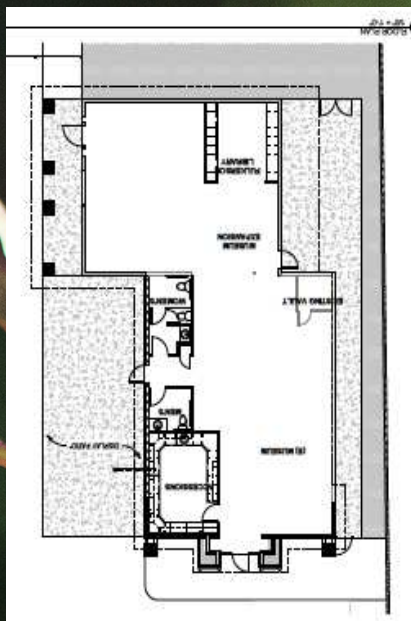
**who made this BBQ event possible:**

*Don & Doña Selection Committee Chair: Bob Burrow*

*Don & Doña BBQ General Chair: Judy Crenshaw  
and Joy Todd, Debbie Thiessen*

*Don & Doña BBQ Memory Booklet and photos:  
Bill Todd, Heidi Hoover, Joan Rust*

*BBQ Emcee: Bob Rust*



Front entrance--faces Las Posas



Architect's drawings of proposed expansion

## Come Visit Us!

720 Las Posas Road

[just east of Rosewood]

Tele: (805) 482-3660

## Museum open hours:

Noon-4:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays  
or by special arrangement for groups

## For Garden and Gazebo events:

contact Joy: [pvhbill@gmail.com](mailto:pvhbill@gmail.com)



## Contact Us:

P.O. Box 570

Camarillo, CA 93011

Email at: [pvhs@pvhsonline.org](mailto:pvhs@pvhsonline.org)

## Connect with Us:

[www.pvhsonline.org](http://www.pvhsonline.org)



Pleasant Valley Historical Society Museum