

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

August 2004 Vol 4 Issue 8

2004 OFFICERS

President	<i>Jimmy Moore</i>
1st Vice President	<i>Audrey Cilurzo</i>
2nd Vice President	<i>Wendy Lesovsky</i>
Secretary	<i>Eve Craig</i>
Treasurer	<i>Bill Harker</i>

DIRECTORS

<i>Darell Farnbach</i>	<i>Duane Preimsberger</i>
<i>Myra Gonsalves</i>	<i>Bonnie Reed</i>
<i>Pam Grender</i>	<i>Roger Sannipoli</i>
<i>"Sis" Herron</i>	<i>Don Vierstra</i>
<i>Kathy Katz</i>	<i>Pamela Voit</i>

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Research & Development	<i>Darell Farnbach</i>
Historic Markers & Plaques	<i>Pam Grender</i>
Wolf Tomb Restoration	<i>Eve Craig</i>
Membership	<i>Bill Harker</i>
Public Relations	<i>Pamela Voit</i>
Events Committee	<i>Audrey Cilurzo</i>
Budget	<i>Bill Harker, Keith Johnson</i>
Youth Projects	<i>Duane Preimsberger</i>
Planned Giving	<i>Jimmy Moore</i>
Newsletter	<i>Charolette Fox</i>
Speaker's Bureau	<i>Audrey Cilurzo</i>
Historian	<i>Pat Metro</i>
Membership Committee	<i>All members</i>

visit us at

www.temeculavalleyhistorical.society.com or
www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.org

HELP WHEN HELP IS NEEDED

Who uses information contained in historic archives? CalTrans does. The Army Corp of Engineers does. Developers, planning departments, assessors, water districts, Chambers of Commerce, architects, and others more numerous than we can name.

We review the past in order to determine property boundaries, business trends, rights, titles, or to rebuild a lifestyle or create a legacy.

For Dorland Arts Colony, the tangible historic record was lost in the Eagle fire that devastated all structures and their contents. What remains, however, is the historic record that lies in the photos, memories and such other artifacts as can be located off site and held by those who sojourned at Dorland over the years. If you have a memory of Dorland, please share your story on our internet or send hardcopy to: Newsletter Editor, 32800 Hupa Dr, Temecula, CA 92592, or email lottiefox@verizon.net

www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.com
www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.org



STORIES FROM HERE AND YON

Previous stories have encouraged other folks to send material for publication. This means our readership is alert and our information is finding an audience. In this issue we will look at some of Murrieta's past.

President's Corner

It was a wonderful July 4th weekend for the Temecula Valley Historical Society. On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday we sold soda pop and water at the Pechanga Indian Pow Wow. We had a great booth location and were able to see many of the historic ceremonies performed by the dancers, young and old, in their bright regalia. On Sunday, the 4th, the combined entries of the Society and the Vail Ranch Restoration Association won both first and second place in the Equestrian Category of the Temecula Independence Day Parade. A chuck wagon, rebuilt by members of the Vail Ranch Restoration Association was pulled by a team of four mules in the early part of the Parade. Accompanying them were several horsemen, descendants of former Vail Ranch cowboys. Part of the mule team also pulled the Butterfield Stagecoach carrying Leslie and Jack Roripaugh, their grandchildren, Eve Craig, Sandy Helzer, with Bill Harker riding shotgun. Bill looked very authentic sitting next to Roy Comstock, driver /owner of the stagecoach. Young ladies costumed in dancehall dresses followed the stagecoach. Don Vierstra provided a decorated float carrying members of the Society wearing Western attire.

A milestone in the Society's accomplishments was the publication and distribution of the *Historic Old Town Temecula Tour Guide*, prepared by Pam Grender and the Historic Plaque Committee. It lists fourteen historic sites in Old Town Temecula along with six of the historic homes where plaques have been installed. The *Guide* is available at hotels, motels, restaurants, Old Town merchants, Chambers of Commerce, libraries and museums. Thanks to the City of Temecula, Pam, Eve Craig, Margaret Allen, Minuteman Press, Temecula Valley Women's Club, and the Temecula-Murrieta Kiwanis Club for the donations to make this brochure possible.

Mark your calendars now for the Fourth Annual Temecula Valley Historical Society Installation and Banquet to be held Friday, November 12.

Jimmy Moore

Newspaper Stories Reveal Early Days in Local Areas

The following news stories are shared by Mary E. Whitney, of the Heritage Room at the Hemet Public Library. Mary's interest in local history is long-standing and her knowledge and research are ongoing. We gratefully acknowledge her help to bring the following news articles to our attention.

The Hemet News, August 28, 1931 --

Murrieta Ranch History is Told

Early Days of District Near Temecula Were Colored With Romance

Offered to the state as a site for the proposed first offenders farm, the Murrieta ranch tract has an interesting history, the central figure of which is Don Juan Murrieta, picturesque character of the early history of Temecula Valley.

Murrieta, who still lives [1931], is held in the highest esteem by the early settlers of the town of Murrieta, which was named after him in 1881. Later Guenther's Murrieta Hot Springs was established by Hugo Guenther and famous as a health resort, helped bring this section to the front.

When Don Murrieta left his home in Santurce, Spain, in 1863, and, with his two brothers, came to California, he located near Merced. His two brothers continued their journey to South America, one settling in Brazil, the other in Peru. Don Murrieta engaged in the sheep business, owning at one time more than one hundred thousand head. Later one of his brothers, Iziquiel, returned from South America and joined him in the sheep business.

Brothers Prosperous

The brothers were very prosperous, until the year of the drouth (sic), when they moved over across the Sierra Nevada mountains in their search for water. These two men ventured into this new country with their huge bands of sheep and were the first white men to reach Long valley and the section where the headwaters of the Los Angeles aqueduct rise. Here they remained for some time, making friends with the Indians and later returned to Merced.



The question of water and feed was a serious one for the brothers and some time later Juan Murrieta drove his great herds of sheep south and with his partner went into the country between Riverside and Temecula, where they purchased the Temecula and Pauba ranches. These ranches comprising 52,000 acres. A good part of this acreage is now known as the Vail ranch and is worth several hundred dollars an acre. It is interesting to know that this land originally was purchased for \$1 an acre.

Sell to Pioneer

Juan Murrieta sold off most of his large holdings, retaining approximately 1000 acres of the original ranch. This he considered the finest farming and water bearing land in the valley, and about forty years ago when Juan moved into Los Angeles, this last tract was sold to an old pioneer family, the Barnetts, who still own the land [1931].

Juan Murrieta never tires of telling his experiences and of his life in Temecula. Every year the Ramona Pageant pictures to thousands the scenes associated with the days when the Temeculas, the Sobobas and the Cahuillas were assembled at sheep shearing time and yet perhaps none [are] aware that there is still living the man who introduced the sheep raising industry in the Temecula region. He recalls the days when bands of Indian marauders passed through the country, taking from each ranch food they desired.

Very often Murrieta furnished food and horses for Franciscan fathers, who, as late as the [1860s] were making their way along the El Camino Real, visiting various missions.

Recalls Golden Days

He recalls the festivities connected with the eventful celebration of St. John's day and the May day fetes held by the pioneers at the residence of Parker Deere in the Santa Rosa ranch, now a part of the Vail ranch. With over one hundred varieties [of roses?] grown on the ranch, it was noted as one of the show places of Southern California. There still remains the first ranch house, which is one of the oldest adobe buildings in this part of the country, built with the wide porch and saddle posts. In the door yard of this ranch house large rocks are still to be seen, which were used as community tool mills.

Juan Murrieta and his associate, Jose Gonzales, were both characters in Helen Hunt Jackson's book Ramona, these men having helped in the moving of the Indians to the Pachanga reservation. Ysabel G. Gonzales Barnett,

daughter of Jose Gonzales, was the first white girl born in the Temecula district and from her we are indebted for the authenticity of this history. She still lives on this ranch and this valley has never failed to produce great crops and fine cattle. The water levels have never been lowered and thousands of sheep still pasture on this ranch.

Franz J. Schulte and Austin A. Howell, who have offered this last remaining tract of the original Murrieta ranch to the state of California for a first offenders farm, feel that not only would the tract be well adopted to this proposed project, but would add greatly to the development of one of the greatest valleys in the state.

It is expected that state officials will visit the ranch within the next 30 days and make an inspection of the site.



With the passage of time, we often see circumstances and events with a different eye. The following article is one which perhaps could have had an editor's review and re-write if it were to appear in any of today's papers. For all that, however, there is much to be learned in the details presented. Would you agree?

The Hemet News 23 May 1930 --

TELLS OF EARLY DAYS IN COUNTY

Juan Murrieta, Pioneer of Temecula Section, is Now
Living in Van Nuys

While the Ramona Pageant recently has been picturing to thousands in the San Jacinto-Hemet Valley the scenes associated with the days when the Temeculas, the Sobobas and the Cahuillas were wont to assemble at sheep-shearing time, perhaps none of them are aware of the fact that there is still living the person who introduced the sheep-raising industry in the Temecula region of Riverside county.

The man who helped to make romantic atmosphere for Helen Hunt Jackson's fascinating story is now approaching his 90th year. He is Juan Murrieta (sic), whose home is in Van Nuys. By special appointment, S.C.

Evans of Riverside, in company with Miguel Estudillo, met old Juan Murrieta in Los Angeles a few days ago and spent a most interesting season with him in listening to his reminiscences of the early sixties, particular his recollections of the life in the territory that was sliced off from San Diego County when Riverside county was formed.

Mr. Evans states that some very valuable historical material was secured from the interview. It was during Murrieta's sojourn at Temecula that the first white child was born in that region. This distinction belongs to Mrs. Ben Burnett (sic), who resides at Temecula and whose mother is still living there. It goes without saying that Mr. Evans will lose no time in comparing notes with this pioneer and securing from her more first-hand data of a historical nature, linked as that history is with the glamour of an older day in California.

The Pachanga reservation, it develops, was established through an arrangement worked out by Murrieta. The Indians' cattle and horses were a serious menace to the white settler's crops and through the cooperation of the United States land office in Los Angeles the Indians were persuaded to move to the district now occupied by them. Many of the live oak trees in that district were cut down by the Indians.

Rovers from Sonora

Murrieta's property was the Pauba rancho, now well known as a dairy range, owned and operated by the Vail Brothers. He employed many Indians on this rancho in the days when roving bands from Sonoma made their way from Mexico enroute to the pueblo of Los Angeles.

These bands, Murrieta states, numbered from 15 to 20, all armed with long knives, much like the machete. They wore sandals and were clad in pants and shirts of white cotton. They took what food they needed from the ranchers through which they passed.

Murrieta revealed his shrewdness by anticipating the needs of the marauders. Upon learning that a band was approaching, he would kill three or four sheep and hang up their carcasses at a distance from the ranch house. The band would cut off what meat they wanted and made no further trouble for the rancher. An Englishman who sought to prevent this practice on the part of the marauders promptly paid for his opposition with his life.

Murrieta recalls the travels of the Franciscan padres, who as late as the sixties were making their journeys along El Camino Real to the various missions, planned under the supervision of Friar Junipero Serra. Murrieta

was accustomed to furnishing them with food and at times the fathers would receive a horse at his hands.

The pioneer recalls vividly the events of St. Johns' Day, which was then observed with games which are seldom seen now. Among these was the burying of a rooster, with only the head left above ground. The efforts of the riders to extricate the fowl as they circled with their mounts was one of the exciting events of the day. The observances were held regularly in San Bernardino and Colton in the early days.

Journeyed from Spain

Murrieta left Spain at the age of 17, in company with two brothers, one of whom settled in Brazil and the other in Peru. In making his way to California, Murrieta states that he touched at England thence sailed to the island of St. Thomas thence to Valparaiso, sailing to San Francisco after crossing the Isthmus of Panama. His brothers later made their way to California, and the three took up property in the vicinity of Merced and San Luis Obispo.

In those days it was not uncommon, Murrieta states, to see elk in the Kern county district in herds which would require a full hour to pass. Many deer could be seen in these herds. The arrival of the pothunter of later days spelled destruction for these animals.

From the San Luis Obispo ranch Murrieta drove sheep in bands of 1500 to the Temecula country where good ranges were available at that time. Sheep-shearing time became a real event in the life of the Indian tribes roundabout.

Mr. Evans states that Murrieta's mind is clear and his recollection of the early days vivid. A man who has lived in the California sunshine for most of his life, he is still in good health and in full possession of his faculties. In closing the interview, the venerable Castilian observed that care should be taken not to attach historical significance to places which do not deserve them, it being easy to make claims for associations which belong to other localities.

pothunter, n. 1. a person who hunts for food or profit, ignoring the rules of sport. 2. a person who takes part in contests merely to win prizes.



I REMEMBER TEMECULA

by Claude Townsend

Having seen our website, Claude was prompted to contact Bill Harker via email in early 2001. Claude was living in San Diego at the time he sent his message. Recent attempts to reach Mr. Townsend have failed; therefore, his email is reprinted in toto with the hope that we have his permission to share his recollections of Temecula with our readers, and in the hopes that these few sentences provide us another glimpse of local history which will be "news" for many of us.

San Diego
February 06, 2001

Just came across your interesting review of Temecula's past and present on the web. My family moved to Temecula in 1937. My father C. "Red" Townsend was one of the first Border Patrol Officers assigned to the small patrol unit stationed in Temecula. 1937 was the year of the "big rain". The river ran bank to bank but the bridge held. We lived on the other side of the river in an old house adjacent to what was known as the Ware house which still stands on the corner. Paul Ware and his wife "Happy" managed the store (Mercantile) which is now the number one historical landmark in Temecula. The meat market in the store was managed by "Doc" Freeman who later moved to Los Angeles. Earl [sic] Stanley Gardner was a customer of the store and use to purchase top line steaks for his dogs at the meat market. My first job was at the store just after my graduation from the elementary school. I then went on to Elsinore Union High School. We caught the bus early in Temecula and it took about an hour to get to the high school as we picked up students along the way. I was student body president in my senior year and after graduation went on to the University of Redlands for one semester before entering the service. My step mother managed the cafe known as the B bar H Cafe in Temecula which was the only one open between Los Angeles and Lake Hodges 24 hours a day. We got all the fishermen stopping for breakfast and gasoline. After 3 years in the service I returned to finish my college at UCLA where I received a graduate degree in 1951. I have many fond memories of my five years in Temecula and still return frequently to marvel at the growth and to remember "how it was" in those earlier days.....

Within the email quoted above there are several possible clues for delving deeper into Temecula's past. With just a quick read, I can think of six (6) leads Claude has provided where inquiry could be made to learn more about Temecula in 1937. Where would you begin?

The Old Phone

anonymous; shared by Dan Walters

When I was quite young, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighborhood. I remember the polished, old case fastened to the wall. The shiny receiver hung on the side of the box.

I was too little to reach the telephone, but used to listen with fascination when my mother talked to it. Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person. Her name was "Information Please" and there was nothing she did not know. Information Please could supply anyone's number and the correct time.

My personal experience with the genie-in-a-bottle came one day while my mother was visiting a neighbor. Amusing myself at the tool bench in the basement, I whacked my finger with a hammer, the pain was terrible, but there seemed no point in crying because there was no one home to give sympathy. I walked around the house sucking my throbbing finger, finally arriving at the doorway.

The telephone! Quickly, I ran for the footstool in the parlor and dragged it to the landing. Climbing up, I unhooked the receiver in the parlor and held it to my ear. "Information, please", I said into the mouthpiece just above my head. A click or two and a small clear voice spoke into my ear.

"Information."

"I hurt my finger...", I wailed into the phone, the tears came readily enough now that I had an audience.

"Isn't your mother home?" came the question. "Nobody's home but me," I blubbered.

"Are you bleeding?" the voice asked. "No," I replied. "I hit my finger with the hammer and it hurts."

"Can you open the icebox?" she asked. I said I could.

"Then chip off a little bit of ice and hold it to your finger," said the voice.

After that, I called "Information Please" for everything. I asked for help with my geography, and she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my math. She told me my pet chipmunk that I had caught in the park just the day before, would eat fruit and nuts.

Then, there was the time Petey, our pet canary, died. I called "Information Please," and told her the sad story. She listened, and then said things grown-ups say to soothe a child.

But I was not consoled. I asked her, "Why is it that birds should sing so beautifully and bring joy to all families, only to end up as a heap of feathers on the bottom of a cage?" She must have sensed my deep concern, for she said quietly, "Paul always remember that there are other worlds to sing in."

Somehow I felt better. Another day I was on the telephone, "Information Please." "Information," came the now familiar voice. "How do I spell fix?" I asked.

All this took place in a small town in the Pacific Northwest. When I was nine years old, we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my friend very much. "Information Please" belonged in that old wooden box back home and I somehow never thought of trying the shiny new phone that sat on the table in the hall. As I grew into my teens, the memories of those childhood conversations never really left me. Often, in moments of doubt and perplexity I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding, and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy.

A few years later, on my way west to college, my plane put down in Seattle. I had about a half-hour or so between planes. I spent 15 minutes or so on the phone with my sister, who lived there now. Then without thinking, I dialed my hometown operator and said, "Information Please." Miraculously, I heard the small, clear voice I knew so well. "Information..."

I hadn't planned this, but I heard myself saying, "Could you please tell me how to spell fix?"

There was a long pause. Then came the soft spoken answer, "I guess your finger must have healed by now."

I laughed, "So it's really you," I said. "I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time?"

I wonder," she said, "If you know how much your call meant to me. I never had any children and I used to look forward to your calls." I told her how often I had thought of her over the years and asked if I could call again when I came back to visit my sister.

"Please do," she said. "Just ask for Sally."

Three months later I was back in Seattle. A different voice answered, "Information." I asked for Sally.

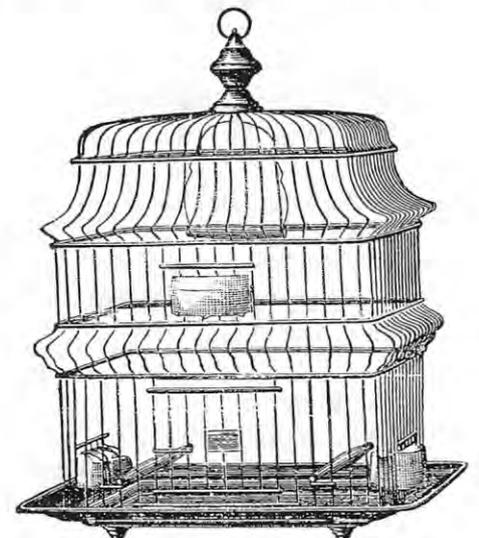
"Are you a friend?" she said. "Yes, a very old friend," I answered.

"I'm sorry to have to tell you this," she said. "Sally had been working part-time the last few years, because she was sick. She died five weeks ago."

Before I could hang up she said, "Wait a minute, did you say your name was Paul?" "Yes," I answered.

"Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down in case you called. Let me read it to you." The note said, "Tell him there are other worlds to sing in. He'll know what I mean."

I thanked her and hung up. I knew what Sally meant.



Charlie Parkhurst, Stagecoach Driver (1812-1879)

This year's July 4th Parade included a Butterfield Stagecoach replete with driver and "shotgun" rider. Those who were passengers for this festive 1-mile ride were seated cheek-to-jowl inside with curtains drawn up for air circulation. Conveyances of old were usually packed full, not ultra fast, and traveled over roads rough enough to cause spectacles to slip on noses, or hats and bonnets to jounce lightly on the tops of heads. If riding was uncomfortable, driving was "hair raising". Many an accident was avoided due to the adroitness of the driver who commanded teams of either 4, 6, or 8 horses (or mules). The name and story of one such driver provides a cameo look at the hazardous occupation.

Born in 1812 in New Hampshire, Charlie Parkhurst was orphaned at an early age. The one diversion from the dreary day-to-day life in the orphanage, was the stable and the horses that were kept for pulling the shays and carriages as well as for hauling the drayage to keep the orphanage supplied. Charlie was adept with horses, in fact, extraordinarily so. At age 12, banned from the stables, Charlie ran away to Providence, Rhode Island, and got a job as a stable hand.

All accounts tell us that at this time Charlie was gray-eyed, wiry, a little on the smallish side with a slightly high pitched voice. But despite size, Charlie's determination and abilities were evident. With such ease as a team handler, Charlie began practicing with wagons and teams of sixes -- exactly the experience needed to work for the stage lines. Charlie earned a living working for stage lines in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island until about 1851, always preferring the company of horses to the company of other drivers.

Joanne Burkett, writing for the El Dorado County Tales, said, "Stage coach drivers were a cocky bunch, by and large. Drivers reveled in their skill at handling the reins that controlled four or six spirited horses and this often transferred itself into a certain swaggering, rough-talking arrogance. Once settled on the 'box,' as the uppermost seat was known, they were usually all business. Most were not given to passing the time of day while working the reins [feeling] that talking while working was very unprofessional." No doubt this concentration was needed to maintain control of the animals while keeping a sharp lookout for the terrain, the weather, and the occasional highwayman.

Every good driver paid particular attention to the horses, their feed, their tack and harness, their rest, and their shoeing. Charlie was ever watchful with the animals in his care; however, a particularly beligerant horse kicked

him and he lost his right eye in the accident. It's a tribute to his fortitude that he returned to the box and re-learned to drive despite this loss. Drivers were known by various monikers, and Charlie became known as "One-Eyed Charlie."

After gold was discovered in California, One-Eyed Charlie came West driving stages in the Mother Lode country. He had the reputation as one of the fastest, safest and most reliable drivers. He worked for the Pioneer Line between San Jose and Santa Cruz. By this time he was described as a fearless "whip" while on the box having killed two would-be robbers, broad-shouldered, medium height (5'7"), beardless, with a floppy hat that shaded a leathery face. And when off the box, he swore like a sailor, smoked cigars, chewed tobacco, drank some, gambled some, and generally kept personal matters personal.

The Pioneer Line was taken over by Wells Fargo in 1866. Charlie now drove a mountainous route out of Los Gatos by way of Lexington, up a perilous stretch that reached a summit before heading southeast down a ridge leading to the Coast. Passengers considered it a privilege to ride on the box with Charlie, some even vying for the chance to sit up front.

J. Ross Browne, a writer from the era, rode on the box next to Charlie. He later recalled that, "It was a ink-black night and the roads were so bad that it seemed that the horses were constantly plunging over precipices, with the stage following, noisily thrashing and bucking and making horrible crashing noises that sounded like 'cracked skulls and broken bones.'"



Altogether, Charlie drove stages for 30 years. The coming of rail transport soon replaced the need for drivers and Charlie turned to other occupations such as ranching and lumberjacking. With a bit of irony and regret, Charlie said, "I'm no better off now than when I commenced. Pay's small, work heavy, gettin' old, rheumatism in the bones; nobody to look out for used-up stage drivers. Kick the bucket one of these days, and that's the last of old Charlie."

One long-held dream had been to own a piece of land, and Charlie finally did retire to a farm on Bean Creek

(near Watsonville). He hauled freight for neighbors with a partner named Frank Woodward. Charlie registered to vote in 1868, the year that Ulysses S. Grant ran for President, and then voted in the town of Soquel that November.

Charlie Parkhurst died in 1879. When neighbors came to lay out the body, they were surprised to discover that Charlie was a woman. The cause of death was listed as cancer of the tongue and rheumatism, and the doctor's report established that Charlie had once birthed a child. Despite the vulgar language, the drinking, smoking and other hard-living swagger, Charlie showed a softer, more sentimental nature by bequeathing \$4,000 to a young boy in town. The newspapers made much ado about Charlie's life and her death, mentioning that she was the first woman ever to vote in the United States having voted **52 years before the 19th amendment legally gave women the vote**. Her grave is in the Odd Fellows Cemetery at Watsonville.

In last month's issue, mention was made of the women who came to California during the Gold Rush era. Though relatively few in number (about 12 women per thousand men), what these women added to the color, social graces, companionship and settlement of the old West bears looking into. Historians are delving into their stories with great relish. Occasionally, there is quite a bit of substantiating documentation and a more or less complete biography can be assembled. At other times, so few facts are known that the essence of the story must be supplied through knowledge of places and events occurring or likely to have occurred at the time. Often a story pieced together by sleuthing the "circumstantial" evidence can be as compelling as if it were factual. In our case, Charlie Parkhurst's life and exploits are real, but seem almost fictional.

RIDING FREEDOM

by Pam Munoz Ryan

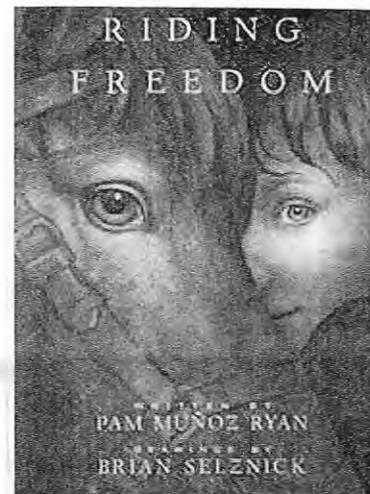
(a book for children ages 8-11)

The write-up for this book about the life of Charlotte Parkhurst, says, "One of the things that we like best about Charlie Parkhurst was her determination and her willingness to practice a new skill again and again and again until she mastered it. There are lots of great characters in this book and lots of action.

In paperback (144 pages), suggested retail is \$4.99.

Order online through LilyPad Books at:

www.lilypadbooks.com/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/scstore/p-RidingFreedom.html



Victoria Avenue - A Streetscape & National Heritage Landmark

Victoria Avenue Began as a vision of Mathew Gage, Riverside pioneer who came here in 1881. He developed the Gage Canal which brought precious water to the citrus groves in Arlington Heights. He also introduced the many varieties of trees and plants along Victoria Avenue. The first Victoria Avenue Bridge, named for Queen Victoria by Mathew Gage, was opened in 1891, linking downtown Riverside with Arlington Heights citrus growers.

In 1892 the grading of Victoria Avenue began, and the first trees were planted according to a master plan developed by landscape designer, Franz Hosp. Pepper trees from Peru and eucalyptus from Australia, silk oaks and palms were planted. Riverside history books claim that this was the first use of palm trees as a street tree.

In 1902 Victoria Avenue was deeded to the City of Riverside with the stipulation that the trees were to be maintained and protected. This became the responsibility of the Riverside City Park and Recreation Commission, and still is. As groves along Victoria Avenue began to disappear, people became concerned about preserving this unique avenue. In 1969 it was declared Cultural Heritage Landmark #8 by the Riverside Cultural Heritage Board, and in 2000 it was added to the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places.

Drive along this Historic Arboretum of a public landscaped street is a horticultural delight. There are more than 4,000 specimen trees from 95 species with seasonal blooms all year long. There are 7-1/2 miles of bike lanes and paved walking and jogging paths. The trip is also a beautiful route to the California Citrus State Historic Park at Van Buren Blvd., and Dufferin Street. A nonprofit group raises money for the trees and plants, organizes activities, and informs the public about the history and value of the plantings on the Avenue.

Youth and the Future of Local History

synopsis of article published in History News, Spring 2004, with commentary by Charolette Fox

History News is published quarterly by the American Association for State and Local History. AASLH is a nationwide organization which provides research and resource help to museums, State Historical Associations, teachers, historical societies, and individuals. The author of this article, Anamari Golf, is executive director of the Rock County Historical Society of Janesville, Wisconsin.

The article starts by asking, "What are the implications of mobility for the interpretation of and investment in local history?" Defining "local" must precede all discussion that follows, for it will mean different things at different times.

The article's author, Anamari Golf, states succinctly there are three interconnected patterns of mobility -- driven by economics -- that have had, and will continue to have effects on the way local history is interpreted by museum visitors and the staff who help shape their experiences: leisure travel, family relocation, and the itinerant trend among museum professionals.

These factors can/have resulted in a fragmented sense of community for individuals as well as for the target audience of local institutions.

The Travel Industry Association of America indicates that millions of travelers include historical or cultural activities on their leisure trips, with nearly 42 million *international* visitors spending \$83.5 billion on U.S. travel in 2002 (the latest year for which records are available). Thus we may conclude, locale and local "flavor" are of great importance to national and international travelers, and the potential revenue to be derived is e-nor-mous!

The burden of preservation and maintenance of local history often rests with too few caretakers, and usually only the most passionate. Since the 1950s and 1960s, communities are challenged to preserve a history to which there may not be a broader interest or understanding of the local area. Across the country, children and grandchildren of devoted supporters of local history organizations move away, establishing "roots" elsewhere. This results in a shift of the volunteer base, and inevitably a change in the perception of what local means.

Ms. Golf goes on to say, "However, if any one entity can weave the disparity into a meaningful web of exploration and shared experience, it is the local history museum." Her suggested plan includes the following:

- I. Assess Your Community
- II. Focus On Your Strengths
- III. Be Relevant

And I would add that in most communities, no museum can long sustain the sole responsibility for the preservation of local history. The economic pressures, the pace of change, the increased technology available for retention of records, innovative displays and exhibits, and qualified personnel are hard realities. Local history is best served by the collaboration of cities and counties working together, with injections of state and federal money, and with appreciation and expansion of youth projects and education through schools. Lamenting after the loss, is a weak position when daring and perseverance can save and enhance that which makes the community a community of distinction.

In the final analysis, it is a sense of shared responsibility and pride that make a community distinctive, and is that not one definition of what we mean by local?

Plaque Committee Report

by Pam Grender, Chair

The most recent plaque installation include a large plaque placed on the west end of the Imagination Workshop's property, commemorating Temecula's history with the California Southern Railroad. Thanks to the City of Temecula for the monument on which it was placed and for the cost of installation. Also, newly installed on Rosa's Cantina, is a pictorial plaque of the former Temecula Hotel (otherwise known as Escallier's Hotel). Roger Sannipoli was gracious enough to volunteer his services for that installation.

Three more plaques to be installed by the end of July include one for the Champion Building, as well as for the original sites of Al Knott's Garage and Mrs. Hall's Cafe. Both Roger and Rhine Helzer are donating their services for these installations.

We have been given permission to place a plaque on the new Bailey's Restaurant on Front Street, which will be completed in October. The Baileys seem very enthusiastic about this plaque, which will commemorate the former site of Ralph Love's first Art Shack.

The new *Historic Old Town Temecula Tour Guide* has received rave reviews from merchants and interested readers around town. Brochures have been placed in stores, restaurants, the Visitor's Center, the Museum and City Hall. Reports are that the brochures are flying off the counters everywhere. It is gratifying to hear that people are interested in the history of their town. Copies are also available from board members and plaque committee members.



**OUR APPRECIATION TO
THE FRIENDS OF TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
2003 - July 12, 2004**

BENEFACTORS

City of Temecula

FOUNDERS

*John C. Bell
Dr. & Mrs. Leeland Lovaas
Mike Purczynski
Peggy & Ed Querry*

CORPORATE

*Price Legacy Corporation
Byron P. Sansom*

HISTORIAN

*Eve Craig
Dr & Mrs. Leeland M. Lovaas*

PATRON

*Mr & Mrs Malcolm Barnett
Harold & Joyce Clark
Community Little Book
George & Gail Cunningham
Dr. David Elliott and
Dr. Anne Miller
Randy Fleming & Bev Hoffman
Wayne & Marcha Hall
Bill Lackey
Robert & Karen Larson
Wendy Lesovsky
Carol Marsden
Carl & Grace Mellman
Mission Clay Products
Mission Oaks National Bank
Peg & Jimmy Moore
John Moramarco and
Bev Stureman
Paradise Chevrolet,
Cadillac, Oldsmobile
Paul J. Price
The Runkle Family
Dan Stephenson
Temecula Valley Garden Club
Gene & Barbara Tobin
Pete & Lisa Vanderhaak
Eric & Pamela Voit
Donna Webster
James Vail "Sandy" Wilkinson*

CONTRIBUTOR

*Bernadine L. Anderson
Erin Carroll
Audrey Cilurzo
Roger Cude
Margaret Cushing
Darell & Rebecca Farnbach
Rod & Charlene Fink
Dan Funderburk, M.D.
Felicia Hogan
John & Sally Kunau
Ann Larkin
Steve Lech
Michael McMillan
Jeff & Martha Minkler
W. Dorothy Nichols
Jeffrey & Mary Nickerson
Mervin & Darlene Nilsson
Rod & Dee Reynolds
Hedy Roripaugh
Mr & Mrs Harold Rouse
Fred & Anita Sartouche
Norman & Elizabeth Taylor
Mr & Mrs Gerhard Thyzel
Donald & Esther Trunnell
June Roripaugh Tull
Ronald & Judith Turco
The Rosie Vanderhaak Family
Kathy & Chuck Washington*

FAMILY

*Maggi & Steven Allen
William & Jo Barrett
Louise Roripaugh Beesle
Dick & Nanch Benjamin
Arlie W. & Coral Bergman
Ron & Janet Benson
Bill & Liz Bibb
Richard & Patricia Birdsall
Mrs. Terry Blanton
Garth & Janice Bricker
June & Paul Buhler
Butterfield Stage Inn
Scott & Noelle Cannon
Donald & Jennean Coop
The Corona Family
Melinda Courtney
Shari Crall
Chris & Carol Davis
Diamond Family,
John, Barbara & Erin
Dave Dillon
Martin Dinsenbacher
Elliott & Janette Dodge*

*Tom & Lucille Du Vall
The Dyar Family
Earl & Helen Ellerbrake
Darell & Rebecca Farnbach
Harry & Leann Fernald
Phil & Virginia Fitzgerald
Caryn, Jessalyn & Nolan Fontenot
Larry & Fran Fornia
Charolette & Dick Fox
Ralph & Judy Friedemann
Kathleen & Howard Gellinck
Frank & Rophina Geyer
Jerry & Darlene Gilbert
Pam & Bob Grender
William & Patsy Hall
John & Sally Hammond
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Handwerker
Bill Harker
Phil & Constance Harris
Joe & Nancy Hart
Rhine & Sandy Helzer
Earlene & Jerry Herman
Tom & Irene Hotchkiss
Walt & Carol Hudson
Leif & Jean Jazarowski
Howard & Kathleen Katz
Gene & Judy Knott
Margaret Sherry-Krings
Barbara & Allen Kugi
John & Brenda Kupka
Melissa & Jeffrey Landis
Pat & Tom Laughlin
Richard & Suzanne Layne
Jack & Charlotte Leathers
Jon & Jill Lieberg
Jack & Nathaline Liefer
Mr & Mrs James M. Lock
Pat & Bill Mauter
Neal & Dawn McKenzie
Jim & Dorothy Meyler
Jim & Meryle Mitchell
Steve & Leslie Morico
Sally & Gary Myers
Jeffrey & Mary Nickerson
Annette & Gerald Nielson
Mrs. Pat Ommert
Wendell Ott
Tom & Debbie Parnakian
Jim & Penny Porter
Sam & Keila Pratt
Duane & Judy Preimsberger
Sam & Susan Puma
Dick & Kathy Rainey
John A, Randall III Family
Wes & Terry Reeder
Susan Reichardt
Robert & Jewell Roberds*

Ben Segal
 Ann L. Silimperi,
 Charles & Barbara,
 Doug & Jennifer Smith
 Vernon & Gladys Smith
 The Strode Family
 Mr & Mrs Milton Takeguchi
 Stewart & Janet Taylor
 Mr & Mrs Gerhard Thyzel
 Barbara Tooker
 Donald & Esther Trunnell
 June Roripaugh Tull
 Ronald & Judith Turco
 Rosie Vanderhaak Family

Dick Mouw
 Louis J. Munoa
 Leverne Parker
 Pat Romans
 Bob Roripaugh
 Roger Sannipoli
 Janet Schaefer
 Ann Stephenson
 Roselee Tavizon
 Mary Lu Taylor
 Mary Thompson
 Mildred Tobin
 Susan Urich
 George Van Valkenburg
 Roland Vellanoweth
 Donald Vierstra
 Mrs. Donna Weiss
 Jeanne M. Welling
 Mary Whitney
 Joyce E. Williams
 Elizabeth Hughes Yamaguchi
 H. Hope Zangl
 Marilyn J. Zeal
 Evelyn Otto Zinn

SINGLE

Charlene L. Adams
 Daisy Adkison
 Bernadine Anderson
 Koan Antram
 Jack Bauer
 Christopher Becker
 Phyllis Beede
 Ron & Janet Benson
 Phyllis Bettelheim
 Beverlee Stuart-Borok
 Nancy Caldwell
 Alvina Candelaria
 Walt Cooper
 Harriet M. Costo
 Martin Dinsenbacher
 Mrs. Emelie Entsminger
 Mrs. Vivienne Flesher
 Sharon Fox
 Frances Fredy
 Patricia Friedemann
 Dennis Gallagher
 Enily Gerstbacher
 Myra Gonsalves
 Megan Haley
 William & Patsy Hall
 Judy Hancock
 Jeffery Harmon
 Donald E. Harper
 Aline "Bunny" Harpham
 Laura 'Sis' Herron
 Sandra Hicks
 Luanne Jobgen
 Barbara Krebs
 Dick Kurtz
 Patricia Lallou
 Wendy Lesovsky
 Naomi Letcher
 Carroll Licitra
 Jeanne Lish
 Vernetta (Knott) Mackley
 Vivian Marx
 Charles C. May
 David S. McCleary

**GIFTS AND
 IN KIND DONATIONS**

Darell Farnbach
 Charolette Fox
 Pam Grender
 Minuteman Press
 Jimmy Moore
 Strachota Insurance
 Don Vierstra
 Roger Sannipoli
 Kiwanis Club of Rancho
 Temecula-Murrieta

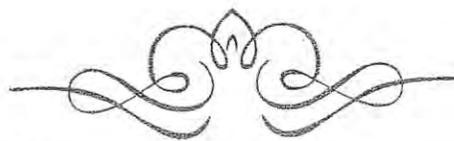
**IN MEMORY OF
 MILDRED TOBIN**

Patricia Birdsall
 Eve Craig
 Margaret Cushing
 Margo Dodson
 Julie Gilbert
 Laura 'Sis' Herron
 Nancy K. Hughes
 Jimmy & Peg Moore
 Paradise Chevrolet-Cadillac



Temecula Valley Historical Society
 P.O. Box 157 • Temecula, Ca 92593

**Our Appreciation for
 Your Support**



**SPRING
 SYMPOSIUM
 February 17, 18, 19
 & 20 2005
 Conference of
 California
 Historical Societies**

Three times per year, members of historical societies, genealogical societies, museums and preservation groups, meet to exchange information. For convenience, the meetings rotate between northern and southern California.

The next meeting of the CCSH will be in Indio, hosted by the Coachella Valley Cultural Center and the Coachella Valley Historical Society.

There are many great learning workshops being planned, and a few tours as well. Only member organizations may vote, but associate members and visitors are welcome to participate. Plan now to come network with others who share a passion for history and preservation.

Registration required; costs are reasonable. For more information email Paula Ford of the Coachella Valley Historical Society at pbfermosa@aol.com

**County Historical
 Commission to
 Meet in Temecula**

The Riverside County Historical Commission meets six (6) times per year in different parts of the County. In September, the Commission plans to meet in Idyllwild to tour the new Idyllwild Museum. In November, the Commission will meet in Temecula.

Commission meetings are open to the public for the purpose of recognizing local historical groups, to receive input from members of the community, to offer guidance regarding the processes of preservation, and to provide research tips re registry, restoration, and re-use potential.

The Commission sponsors an annual workshop and publishes books and other materials of interest to historians. Materials can be ordered for resale by museums and historical societies. For a list of titles and prices, contact Lori Norris at (951) 955-4306.

**SAVE THE DATE & PLAN
 TO ATTEND**

November 3, 2004 1:30pm
 to 3:30pm

Mary Phillips Senior Center





WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !!

June 15 to July 15, 2004

New Members

J. Lamberton Mitchell

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Have you moved? Changed your email or phone number? Don't forget to report these changes to us. We depend on the accuracy of our mailing list to keep your newsletter coming.

Send a postcard, FAX, or call:

Newsletter Editor, 32800 Hupa Drive, Temecula, CA 92592; phone (951) 302-0180, FAX (951) 302-0171.

www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.com

or

www.temeculavalleyhistoricalsociety.org

CHECK IT OUT !!

The Newsletter

Articles must include author's name and contact information. Historical research, biographies, and local history articles will be given preference.

All submissions are subject to editing. Some articles may be held for publication in the next newsletter or in a journal to be published at a later time.

Editor..... Charolette Fox

Printing..... Potamus Press



Calendar

Board Meeting Aug 6, Noon

Active Committees:

Research & Preservation

Wolf's Tomb

Plaques & Markers

Youth & School Programs

Board meetings and member programs are held in the Conference Room of the Temecula Library, unless otherwise stated.

Date, time and location of committee meetings or special events fluctuates. For information, contact committee or event chair.

When possible, member reminders are sent via email or postcard prior to the meeting or event. In addition, public service announcements are usually placed in local newspapers.

VOLUNTEER HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED



PLEASE REMEMBER US IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST

Questions? You can now reach the Society by phone!

Call (951) 501-9159

Mission Statement

The mission of the Temecula Valley Historical Society is to identify, preserve and promote the historic legacy of the Temecula Valley and to educate the public about its historical significance.



Quotes

A problem is like a diamond in the rough; a glittering solution may be revealed once the edges are chipped away.

No matter how outstanding teamwork is, history will usually identify it with a single name in the years to come.

Before some people start boasting about their family tree, they have already done a pruning job on it.

Children seldom misquote you because their hearing is still perfect.

ALONG THE OLD ROADS

A HISTORY OF THE PORTION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA THAT BECAME RIVERSIDE COUNTY, 1772-1893



Available Now at:

Cameron Books (Hemet)

Gilman Historic Ranch & Wagon Museum (Banning)

Hemet Museum

Idyllwild Nature Center

Idyllwild Area Museum

Lynn's Books (Hemet)

Mission Inn Museum Gift Store (Riverside)

Temecula Valley Museum



For direct sales contact stevelech@pe.net



TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 32800 Hupa Drive
 TEMECULA, CA 92592

NONPROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE PAID
 TEMECULA CA
 PERMIT #447

If you enjoyed this issue, why not
 share it with a friend? Please pass
 it on and help us build our
 readership. Thank you.

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A tax exempt-charitable & educational organization

Membership

Membership/Donation Categories:

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Historian	\$ 300.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	\$ 25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$ 500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$ 35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Founder	\$ 1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributor	\$ 50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$ 5,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$ 100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Supreme	\$10,000.00

The Board of Directors formulate and vote on policies. The membership may vote for Directors at the annual meeting.

Membership is open to anyone regardless of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Dues and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Donations may be designated or undesignated.

Checks payable to:

Temecula Valley Historical Society

Mail to:

P. O. Box 157

Temecula, CA 92593-0157