Sonoma Valley Historical Society
P.O. Box 861
Sonoma, CA. 95476-0861

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DEPOT PARK MUSEUM

270 First Street West
Sonoma, CA. 95476
(707) 938-1762
http://depotparkmuseum.org

Museum Hours:
Saturday - Sunday
1:00 - 4:00 pm

By appointment
Call (707) 938-1762
(Leave Message)
or email
info@sonomavalleyhistoricalsociety.org

MARCY HOUSE ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER

205 First Street West
Sonoma, CA. 95476
Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
(707) 343-1335

SCRIP CARD AT NUGGET

Use your scrip card at Sonoma Market and help the Society. Email Yvonne Bowers treasurer@sonomavalleyhistoricalsociety.org to get yours or pick one up at any Society event.

SHOP AND MAKE AN IMPACT!

Sign up for AmazonSmile and help us make an impact in our community. Visit smile.amazon.com and select Sonoma Valley Historical Society. For every eligible purchase you make, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price to our organization. It's easy, quick and powerful!

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 50 No. 3 JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER 2019

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Patricia Cullinan

The 2nd Quarter of 2019 saw a lot of excitement and activity at both the Depot Park Museum and the Marcy House. The inventory of the Society's art collection has been completed (special thanks to Board Members Mike Acker and Kate Schertz) and scanning of our glass slides collection at the Marcy House is nearly complete, catalogued and securely stored.

Kate Schertz and I participated in the Sonoma Valley High School end-of-year job fair. We shared information with the students about our internships at the Marcy House. These interns will experience hands on use of archiving computer programs, collaborating with archival and museum professionals, and participate in primary document research.

We have several new members and will be hosting a New Member Welcome event on July 13th. Mark your calendars, details to follow.

Again, a big thanks to all our members and friends who continue to support the Society in living its mission and accomplishing its goals.

Thank you to our wonderful members and volunteers who continue to give generously of their time and talents, but as with all small non-profits there is always more to be done with little funding available. We have created a "GO FUND ME/HELP ME" list.

1. **THE ROOF AT THE DEPOT PARK MUSEUM**: We have raised $40K of the $60K needed to replace the roof. We need to ensure that our precious collections are protected.
2. **TWO UPDATED DISPLAY CASES**: Our plans for future exhibits and our goal of continually making the museum new and exciting have highlighted the ~~real~~ need for new and better display cases. These cases cost approximately $1,100 each.
3. **A DESK AT THE MARCY HOUSE**: Do you have an office desk to donate? Please call Lorrie at 707-343-1335 and make arrangements for her to see the desk and determine if it will fill the need.
4. **MORE FLAT FILES FOR MARCY HOUSE**. To protect the delicate maps, photos, documents, deeds, etc. in our collection requires that they be properly filed in special clear folders and then stored flat. Do you know of a business that may have these types of flat files that they would be willing to donate?
5. **PAINTERS NEEDED**: The caboose is in desperate need of being spruced up with a new coat of paint. We want to have it more regularly open to visitors especially the children. The caboose is their favorite train car.
6. **CLEAN UP THE CATTLE CAR**. Put on your coveralls, facemask and gloves and come help clean up the cattle car.

Please consider helping in any way possible. If you can help with any of the items included in this list please call (707) 343-1335.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Sonoma Valley Historical Society is to provide a forum and a resource for the study and dissemination of Sonoma Valley history for present and future generations by identifying, collecting, preserving and sharing artifacts, documents and images.

SONOMA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS

Patricia Cullinan, President
Carol Page, Vice President
Yvonne Bowers, Treasurer
Pat Pulvirenti, Secretary

DIRECTORS

Michael Acker
Dr. Susan Crutchfield
Kathleen Hill
Dr. Peter Meyerhof
Ron Price
Charlotte Ruffner
Kate Schertz

BOARD MEETINGS

First Wednesday of the Month
12:00 pm
Depot Park Museum

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

The Sonoma Valley Historical Society was formed in January 1937 and has served the Valley as a nonprofit organization ever since. It is dedicated to the colllection, preservation and dissemination of the historic heritage of the "Valley of the Moon."

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

"Sonoma Valley Notes" is the official publication of the Sonoma Valley Historical Society and is published quarterly.

Editor: Yvonne Bowers
newsletter@sonomavalleyhistoricalsociety.org
Assistant Editor: Pat Pulvirenti
ppulvirenti@sbcglobal.net

"SECOND SATURDAY" LECTURE SERIES

Sonoma Community Center, Rm. 110
276 East Napa St., Sonoma
2:00 pm Unless Otherwise Shown

September 14, 2019

New Exhibits at Jack London State Historic Park

Presented by Iris Dunkle

October 12, 2019

The Man Beneath the Paint, Artist Tilden Daken (1876-1935)

presented by Bonnie Portnoy

November 9, 2019

Lost Buildings of the Sonoma Mission
Presented by Dr. Peter Meyerhof

SPECIAL LECTURE

Hunting and Fishing in Sonoma

presented by Wally Lourdeaux

Wally will focus on Dick "Fresh Air" Janson's decoy art and the community at the mouth of the Sonoma Creek. Only a lone outhouse remains as a reminder of the vibrant activities of market hunting followed by recreational hunting that continues today.

August 15, 2019 7:00 pm
Sonoma Valley Woman's Club
574 First St. East
Sonoma

$10.00 SVHS Members
$15.00 Public

LOST IN THE ARCHIVES

Kate Schertz

Exactly one year ago in our newsletter, we shared with you two mysteries we had uncovered while conducting an inventory of the Society's archives. Well, they have now been solved!

The six beautiful oil pastels illustrating a short story by Dr. J. Wilson Shiels are actually seven and they were done for theatricals produced at the Bohemian Grove. As Dr. Shiels was once President of the Bohemian Grove Society, it makes sense that he could have had one of his short stories presented as a theatrical piece.

Sr. Antonio Caccia, whose passport we detailed in that same newsletter, is in fact buried in Sonoma's Mountain Cemetery in the Augostos Pinelli plot. Why? Because his brother Paolo was the father of Ida Caccia who was Mrs. Augostos Pinelli. Antonio was a successful building contractor in San Francisco and later Sonoma. Descendants of Paolo Caccia still live in Sonoma.

We have also solved the mystery of how the 1854 ship registry document for the clipper ship *Wild Wave* ended up here in California. The ship's captain, Josiah Nickerson Knowles, was shipwrecked in the Pitcairn Islands while sailing between Boston and San Francisco. Later he moved his family to Alameda and became a very successful whaling company owner. His grandson and namesake ran the San Francisco office for Ronald Reagan's gubernatorial campaign.

In Memoriam

Lois Welch

Lois Welch was born in Los Angeles in November 1919 and married her childhood sweetheart, Harry Welch, Jr., in 1940. After living in various locations in California, Lois and Harry moved to Sonoma. Lois volunteered as a docent at the Depot Park Museum. Her positive demeanor and attitude made her a favorite partner of other volunteers when serving at the Depot and she contributed for many years moving to Petaluma Assisted Living. Lois passed away in May 2019 at the age of 99. She will be greatly missed by those who knew her.

Carol Page

EXHIBIT CALENDAR FOR 2019

If you have not yet seen our latest exhibit, please visit the Depot Park Museum to view the highly successful "Treasures from the Attic" which will continue through summer 2019. Forty-five items from our collection are on display - photos, paintings, newspapers, documents, maps - illustrating the breadth and depth of our collection. Joining this exhibit on June 22nd for Sonoma's Pueblo Day Celebration is a new display on the adobes of Sonoma, as well as Peter Meyerhof's discoveries concerning Vivano, the first real commercial wine grape grower in Sonoma.

Coming in September is "Play ball!" The Valley has a long tradition of baseball; professionally, in schools, and on corner sandlots. Come see the pictures of past teams of glory and hear their stories.

In December the trains will be back to the delight of all the junior engineers out there.

We hope you are as excited as we are for the upcoming exhibits that are planned for the Depot Park Museum. See you at the museum!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

JUANITA ARBELOA-SULLIVAN
MARIAN CAMPBELL
HELENA MITCHELL
JERRY POZO
JAN RASMUSSEN
NANCY SHEPPARD
JUDITH STINSON
GRETCHEN THOMPSON
JAMES R. WOODS

THE SPRINGS

by Michael Acker

LANNING/MELODY CLUB

In June of 1945, Bob and Edith Lanning were granted a license to sell alcoholic beverages at their B&E Café in Boyes Hot Springs. By 1949 they had changed the name to The Resort Club. Bob Lanning was also a photographer. Many of his photos appeared in the pages of the Index Tribune. Public spirited, he was elected to the board of the Valley of the Moon Water district in the 1960s.

Photo left: Ad from the Sonoma Index-Tribune, 1949
Photo top right: Highway 12 near Boyes Blvd., looking north, early 1950's. The Resort club building is on the left.

Edith was active in the Sonoma Valley Grange for decades.

Photo near top: Women of Sonoma Valley Grange #407, 1951

In1965, the Lannings sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard F. Bruhn. After selling the club, Bob opened Bob's Fixit Shop in a building on the same property. In 1969, Pete Mancuso took over and opened his Melody Club.

Photo left: Pete Mancuso at left, standing. On the right is Kim Kimmel First Lady of the Hammond Organ," 1969 Photo right: Ad for the Melody Club, Index-Tribune, 1969

Pete retired in 1983. He sold the club to Doug Graham, but it didn't last long. In 1984, Lanning Construction moved there. "In 1984 Lanning Structures (Dean Lanning) converted the Melody Club into offices a while after Pete closed. Lanning Structures closed in 1996 and Steve Lanning Construction took over the offices. Both metal building contractors, Father and Son." Winnie Lanning (married to Dean Lanning), 2019, via email.

Dean Lanning died in 2006.
Bob Lanning died in 1995 and Edith in 2013.

All of the Lanning buildings were demolished in 2019.

Photo right: The Lanning/Melody club building, 2008

RECOLLECTIONS OF JACOB JACOBSON

An early Swede in Sonoma

by Dr. Peter Meyerhof

The following interesting memoir (much of it given in the third-person) was provided by an adventurous and hard-working Swedish carpenter. The activities of this pioneer in the Sonoma Valley are particularly fascinating.

"My name is Jacob Jacobson. I was born in … Gottland, Sweden on Dec. 25th 1817. I left Sweden in 1849 and went to … London, England. His trade [was] Ship Carpenter. He went from London in the ship "John McKenzie," Captain Paterson in the spring of 1849 to Bombay in India as shop carpenter and returned the same year to Liverpool. In the year 1850, he sailed from Liverpool to New York on the same ship, also as Ship Carpenter. Declared his intention to become an American Citizen in New York. From New York went to San Francisco around the Horn in the ship "Rosaoe" [Roscoe?] in 1850, and arrived in San Francisco in March 1851. In San Francisco … engaged on a coasting schooner running to Monterey, Santa Barbara, and returned in three weeks to S. F. Then went to the mines in Yuba County and engaged in placer mining, stayed a month and returned to San Francisco. Met C. W. Lubeck in San Francisco who induced him to come to Sonoma. Came to Sonoma in June 1851. Worked for Lubeck and built the present Locust Grove School House. Then worked in Sonoma City on the old El Dorado Hotel kept by the late Geo. W. Miller @ $6.00 per day. The contractor was Henry P. Macleson [?] The work consisted of putting on a frame second story on the adobe building. In the fall went to work for Col Joe Hooker on his ranch. Col. Hooker bought two of the 40 houses, which Lubeck had brought from Sweden and I put them up for Hooker. Had a contract. An old man named Sam Ford assisted me. The work was completed about Christmas 1851. He then contracted to build 4 tanbark boxes for a party to go into the tanning business and went to Graham Canyon for the lumber which he sawed and whipsawed by hand. The party gave up the idea and gave Jacobson $100 for the lumber. Having that and some other lumber on hand at solicitation of Harold L. Kamp and Bergwalk[?], the latter afterwards kept a store in the same building, he bought the lot and erected the present building now owned by Mrs. J. A. Poppe." [Kamp owned the Fetter's Hot Spring ranch just south of Hooker's Agua Caliente Ranch in the mid-1850s]

SONOMA WINE HISTORY WEEKEND

The Sonoma Valley Historical Society is continuing our successful partnership with Buena Vista Winery sharing a series of events celebrating the history of Sonoma at the second Sonoma Wine History Weekend.

Saturday, July 27, 2019
Buena Vista Winery
18000 Old Winery Rd., Sonoma

11:00 am
The unveiling of two paintings on loan from the Sonoma Historical Society to Buena Vista Winery.

12:00 noon – 4:00 pm
Music and Food

2:00 pm "Wildcat and Grapevines"
(A new play written by the Count) starring the Count, General Vallejo, and Mark Twain

Sunday, July 28, 2019
Depot Park Museum
270 First St. West, Sonoma

1:00 pm
"California's First Theater - In Sonoma!"
Lecture by Dr. Peter Meyerhof

2:00 pm
Encore presentation of "Wildcat and Grapevines"

Mark your calendars and watch for e-blasts for updates!

DRAWING AND TEXT BY BARBARA WHITE PERRY

Cline Family Cellars, 1989
Polpula Rancho, 1853
Mission San Francisco de Solano

The Cline Family Cellars property on Arnold Drive was originally part of the Mexican Land Grant of Petaluma during the 19th century. It was formerly known as Rancheria Pulpuli, Poppe Ranch and Salt Ranch. Native American tribes, among them the Sonomas, the Miwoks and the Polpulis, are known to have inhabited this specific site. In 1823, the Spanish arrived and in July 1823, the site became the location of Mission San Francisco de Solano. Later that year the mission was moved to its present site on East Napa Street in Sonoma where it remains today.

In 1853, Julius Adolph and Catherine Poppe purchased 1520 acres from General Mariano Vallejo and named it Polpula Rancho. They built a small two room farm house on their new homestead. They also built a small shed (known as the bath house) that was constructed in such a manner that the warm springs would stream through a large tub and then though one pond to another. Poppe raised carp in these ponds. Inside the shed, carved into the walls are numerous initials, names and graffiti dating back to the 1860's.

The property was purchased and divided several times until 1989 when Fred and Nancy Cline bought what was then a horse ranch named Salt Ranch. They restored the original farm house to serve as a tasting room for the winery. The first crush was on September 1, 1991. The Clines also restored the bath house including the wall carvings and names. The old carp ponds were renovated and stocked with golden carp and water plants. To celebrate the site's history, they opened the California Missions Museum in 2005. Native American artifacts that were discovered on the site were preserved and displayed. A full set of California Mission models that were constructed for the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition are also on display.

Located near the Southern tip of Sonoma Valley, Cline Family Cellars occupies one of the most significant historical sites in our area.

The Cline Family Cellars is a new ink and vine-charcoal illustration created by Barbara White Perry. Her book, Drawing Sonoma 2nd Edition, features historic and unique properties of Sonoma Valley with stories of each property's past. Barbara is a Sonoma Treasure Artist.

SONGS FROM THE ATTIC

Highlights from the Posters, Flyers and Sonoma Events Drawer

Schoolhouse
The school display at the Museum made me think about the past.

Mathematics
"My little girl has trouble with arithmetic. Just now she is learning how to carpet a room. In reality if I want a room carpeted, I send to the store for a man who does all the measuring and computing."

The Arithmetic Help
Alvord D. Robinson
1921

A dealer buys 28 dozen oranges at 24 cents a dozen and sells 24 dozen at 35 cents a dozen. Allowing 15% of the selling price for overhead expenses, what percent of the selling price is her profit?
Living Arithmetic
Book Three
George Strayer, Clifford Upton
1934

Science
Tobacco contains a deadly poison called nicotine. So deadly is this poison that one or two drops of it is sufficient to kill a dog or any other small animal.
Essential Lessons in Human Physiology
W. E. Baldwin M.D.
1896

Reading
Poem –WHY?

I know a curious little boy
Who is always asking Why-
Why this, Why that, Why then, Why now,
Why not, Why by-and-by
He wants to know why wood should swim,
Why lead and marbles sink,
Why stars should shine and winds should blow,
And why we eat and drink.
Some of his Whys are not too hard
To answer, if you'll try.
New Franklin Third Reader
Loomis J. Campbell
1886

I travel from Kansas City until my watch is 1 hour, 20 minutes slow. If the longitude of Kansas City is 95 degrees W., what is my longitude now?
1902 Teacher's Test

In 1902, a public school teacher was making about $328 per year.

by Dave Brummett

In Marcy House News...

Welcome to our new Sonoma Valley High Intern, Lizzy Hidalgo! Lizzy will be with us weekly, learning the catalog system. She's already off and running and is doing a superb job!

Our new signage at Marcy House is already positively impacting the number of 'walk-ins'. Folks drop in weekly saying; "I walk by here all the time and never knew you existed!" The roses are blooming beautifully, and soon we will have a new roof—the work has already begun.

We said goodbye to Kyle, one of our three talented, college interns, but Joelynne and Justin are remaining with us as volunteers through the summer.

Our social media presence is growing steadily with over 1,320 followers on our Facebook page. We initiated our first-ever contest and Pat Carlin of Glen Ellen won a copy of Bob Lynch's "The Sonoma Valley Story!"

Lorrie Fulton