



Temecula Valley  
Historical Society

**Newsletter**

May 2007 Vol 7 Issue 3

\*\*\*\*\*NEW MEETING PLACE\*\*\*\*\*

Starting in May, we will meet at the historical Pujol School on Santiago Road on the first Friday of each month from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Plan to be there for a board meeting and interesting speakers.

2007 OFFICERS

President	Barbara Tobin
Vice President	Leslie Karp
Secretary	Charlene Fink
Treasurer	Keith Johnson

ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS

Eve Craig	Paul J. Price
Laura "Sis" Herron	Jack Roripaugh
Carol Marsden	Carol Strode
Bill McBurney	Norm Taylor

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Historic Markers & Plaques  
Pam Grender

Wolf Tomb Restoration  
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Membership  
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Youth Projects  
Paul Price

Planned Giving  
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Newsletter  
Rebecca Fambach

Historian  
Myra Gonsalves

Web Site  
Elaine Eshom

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**Plaque Committee Report  
by Pam Grender**

After serving as Plaque Committee Chair for the last five years, I have felt the need to review how far this project has come and where we should attempt to go from here.

The twenty-first of twenty-four plaques ready for installation went up recently on a wall close to the former Rancho California runway. You may have caught the article in the Californian about the event. What was particularly notable about this plaque was the whole process involved from beginning to end. Some time ago, our Society was asked to come up with ideas for new projects and a list was formed noting needed recognition for the former airport site. Anne Miller noticed the item and proceeded to research all she could find about the airport, from the airfield groundbreaking day to when it all closed down. She made a full, formal report, which is available in the library and museum and, I suspect, through personal arrangements with Anne. She then presented me with a copy along with suggested locations for the plaque. There were still challenges to be met: applying for the grant to supply the money, making sure the right information made it on the plaque, getting permission to install it and then making sure it went up. These are duties I, personally, have become very familiar with over the last five years.

As a volunteer with the newly formed Historical Society, it was

**The Temecula  
Historical Society's  
new meeting place:**

The old Pujol School on Santiago Road.

Come on the first Friday of each month for a business meeting, followed by an interesting program.

**May Program:** longtime resident Gene Knott will talk about his memories of Temecula and Murrieta.

my choice, five years ago, to form a committee to help find locations for plaques. I would like to publicly thank those who have served on that committee: Myra Gonsalves, (who has also helped with outside research, but is unable to do so in the future), Loretta and Malcolm Barnett, Jimmy Moore, Roger Sannipoli, Bonnie Reed, and Anne Miller. You have all contributed suggestions and ideas of where to put these plaques.

Paul Price has recently approached me also about the possible identification of many historical Indian sites in or near Old Town. Personally, I'd like to see a large signboard somewhere in Old Town, telling our local Native American history and mentioning some, if not all, of these sites.

As chair, I've taken a critical look at what I feel this project needs at this point in time. With 24 bronze (continued inside)

### **(Plaque Committee Report, continued)**

plaques, I feel we're at a good place. In spite of a couple of holdouts and possibilities, nearly every site or building that tells the story of the original, old Western frontier cattle town, has been recognized. I believe our Society will continue to be approached to help identify and commemorate properties worthy of recognition and I know our own members will continue to advise us on locations for plaques.

I see a need now, however, for an action team where at least one member is able and willing to go beyond local sources- into tax records and county files for dates and hard evidence for information on plaques. There is a need, also, for a committed person to help in the actual installation of plaques. A trusted worker in this capacity will save the Society a great deal of money. Rhine Helzer and Roger Sannipoli have both done important work in this function, but both have busy schedules and are not always available to help.

I believe we could get the job done with just three committed workers. However, four would be better. The fourth person needs to be willing to focus on helping find funds for the project through money raising events, grants and various donations.

A team of this type would make it much easier for me to continue as plaque chairperson who would still continue to be involved on all levels.

#### **Future Plaque Project Goals:**

1. Clean oldest plaques.
2. Reinstall railroad plaque at a safer location.
3. Find additional funding for Old Town Tour Guides.

Please call me at 951-302-9578 to volunteer to serve on the Plaque Committee.

### **Historical Society News**

We welcome Jack Roripaugh as a temporary board member, taking the place of Paul Price who is taking a leave to produce two DVDs for the society. Jack, a lifelong resident of Temecula Valley, is the grandson of Jack Roripaugh, who was a foreman on the Vail Ranch. Jack's father was the legendary rancher Leo Roripaugh, and his mother was Marian, who was a talented artist.

The cookbook project is tabled for the present time. The recipes collected will be archived and featured from time to time in the newsletters, until a time when the project is resurrected.

### **History of Meat in Old Town Temecula**

In studying local history, we are curious to know how people lived in the past. Where did they live? How did they make a living? What did they wear? What did they eat? Thanks to Myra Gonsalves' careful compilation, we have a view of the history of meat in Old Town Temecula.

Beef came from the grazing pastures of the Vails and others, to the slaughterhouse on Pujol Street, then on to the meat market.

A 1909 booklet states partners N. G. Vogel and C. J. North sold fresh and cured meats from their cold storage plant associated with the ice factory they established in Temecula.

In the 1930s and 1940s, most folks bought their meat at Friedemann's. Here are a few stories about the meat business.

**From Pat Friedemann:** Will Friedemann ran a small meat truck to the Pala reservation once a week. He knew all the inexpensive cuts of meat his customers would request. I can remember they paid him in fruit or produce. The best apricots I ever ate were from Pala.

Dad also had a small kitchen in the back of his market, where he made superb Spanish link sausage, hotdogs, headcheese, and boiled ham. His ham and bacon were "to die for."

He had smoke houses behind the market and at the slaughterhouse. People traveling between Los Angeles and San Diego would stop for a side of bacon and a ham. He didn't need to advertise - it was all by word of mouth.

**From Ralph Friedemann:** Grandpa always had two cooking vats going in the back of the Friedemann Meat Market. One was full of hot water and the other had hot lard. Every day, the local kids would line up at his backdoor. Grandpa would take pig tails, put them in the hot lard, then take them to the backdoor and give them to the kids. They loved them, grease and all. It was like candy to them. When the word got around, more kids showed up and Grandpa finally would run out of pig tails. Some of the locals may remember eating pig tails from Grandpa's meat Market.

**From Peggy Walters Ford:** I grew up in Temecula from 1919 to 1932. My father worked in Friedemann's Meat Market and later opened his own meat market. He made the best sausage, and believe it or not, I have his recipe. I read the stor

about the ladies making sausage. Very funny. [She is referring to the story from our May 2005 newsletter about Charles Sumner's family, early settlers of the Lake Elsinore area, who made an "exploding sausage."]

My dad's name was Harry Walters. We lived on Pujol Street, as did his mother. It was very different in those days, but a good place to grow up. Now I have lived in San Diego for 50 years. Mildred Tobin was my cousin.

Pork Sausage Recipe of Walters Market,  
Temecula, California, 1920

25 lbs. meat	4 oz. sugar
6 oz. salt	2 oz. pepper
2 oz. ground sage	

**Meat Selection:**

¼ pork head meat    ¾ pork shoulder meat  
Do not use any back fat or leaf.

Season cut-up meat. Grind through a ½ inch plate, then through a 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch plate. Knead well by hand. Stuff in links or use bulk in patties.

**Celebrating the Jackass Mail**

You will find an insert to this newsletter inviting you to attend a free family event at the historic Vail Ranch to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the San Antonio to San Diego Mail Line. The Vail Ranch Restoration Association (VaRRA) hopes you will attend to celebrate the anniversary and to tour the ranch site that is seldom open to the public.

By the way, the jackass featured on the flyer was one of the animals on the Vail/Pauba Ranch. When Sandy Wilkinson gave the photo, he joked that it was a "family photograph."

Also, the Temecula Valley Museum has an excellent display to celebrate the anniversary. It features local postal history.

The San Antonio to San Diego Mail Line, which started in July 1857, is significant to Temecula, even if it never came through Temecula, because it was the predecessor to the famous Butterfield Overland Mail that did come through our town.

The San Antonio to San Diego Mail Line ran on a contract from the US Postal Service between the two cities for a year. Like the later Butterfield Overland Mail, it used stagecoaches to carry passengers and mail. The San Antonio to San

Diego Mail was commonly called the *Jackass Mail*, because the terrain was so rough, passengers had to disembark to ride mules for the roughest 90 miles of the route.

The Butterfield Overland Mail began in 1858, carrying mail from St. Louis to San Francisco along a slightly different route. Most historians believe the Temecula Stage Station was at the Magee Store, south of the Temecula Creek, where homes are now in the Vail Ranch development.

The *Jackass Mail* stopped after running just one year, due to financial problems and the difficulty of the terrain. The Butterfield Overland ran until dangers from Civil War hostilities caused its end in 1861.

**Jackass is not a Bad Word**

If you're like me, you hesitate to say "jackass," but given a little study, I find the term is legitimate for genteel society. An ass, according to Webster's dictionary, is a "hardy, gregarious mammal of the genus *Equus*, smaller than a horse, with long ears." A burro is a small donkey, usually used as a pack animal.

Of course, the second meaning is "a stupid or obstinate person," which I take as a negative transferal from the attributes of determination and tenacity of the species.

To further identify the confusing names, a *donkey* is a domestic ass. A *jackass* is a male donkey, and a *jenny* is a female donkey. A *mule* is the offspring of a jackass and a female horse. A *hinny* is the offspring of a male horse and a jenny.

A jackass has a short mane and small feet. The animals have strong endurance, are sure-footed, and make a braying noise.

Sometimes city folk like me just have to look up definitions, so we know how to identify these breeds.

**Volunteer Help Needed**

If you are an avid historian with good computer skills and attention to detail, Cindi Beaudet, the manager of the Temecula Valley Public Cemetery, would appreciate your help entering gravesite data into a computer program that maps the location of graves in the cemetery.

The cemetery map will assist cemetery staff and researchers for many years to come.

Several people may work on this project at the cemetery office. Any number of volunteer hours will be appreciated. For more information, or to volunteer for this worthwhile project, please call Cindi at 951-541-8736.