



Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association

SEPTEMBER 2014

Dreamers, Schemers, Bigots and Rogues, oh my!

We have another terrific speaker for our upcoming **General Meeting on Monday, October 13 at 7:30 pm.** Gary Noy, a Sierra Nevada native and resident, and history professor at Sierra Community College in Rocklin, is the author of **"Sierra Stories: Tales of Dreamers, Schemers, Bigots and Rogues."** Born in Grass Valley and a graduate of UC Berkeley and CSU Sacramento, Gary is the author of many newspaper columns and magazine articles on Sierra Nevada history and culture.

Gary will present an illustrated lecture on unusual and lesser known stories of Sierra Nevada history, with a special focus on the Santa Clara Valley. The presentation is based upon material from his latest book, **"Sierra Stories"** which will be available for sale and signing after his presentation. A highlight of his presentation will be the telling of tales of six 19 century painters and photographers who popularized Yosemite Valley. All of these artists had connections to the San Francisco Bay Area and especially to the Santa Clara Valley.

Everyone is welcome so bring your neighbors and friends for an evening of great enjoyment. As usual, popcorn will be provided by **Bert Oey** and **Frank Quinn of Sereno Group Realty** as well as light refreshments.



Gary Noy, author of
*Sierra Stories: Tales of Dreamers, Schemers,
Bigots and Rogues.*



It's Time To Once Again Say Thank You!

Every year we have one event that properly says thank you to all our volunteers who do so much at the museum throughout the year. **This year the special event will be held on Saturday, November 1, 1:00 p.m. at the museum.**

This really is a no-miss event. There will be an array of incredible food, entertainment, and a wonderful opportunity to meet new volunteers and exchange ideas. The upstairs room is always electrified with chatter and joy so mark this date on your calendar **now** so you won't miss a thing.

Our museum could not function without all our fabulous volunteers who donate their time and talent. If you do not receive an e-mail invitation, please call the museum, 408-749-0220, and let us know you will be there. If we do not have your e-mail address, we cannot officially get an invitation to you, so please let us know you plan to attend. Each and every volunteer means a great deal to us whether you volunteer regularly or a few times throughout the year, you are most welcome to attend. **See you on November 1!**

Calendar of Events

Monday, September 1

Labor Day

•

Sunday, September 7, noon-4:00 p.m.

Low Tech/High Tech Reception

Everyone welcome!

•

Monday, September 15, 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting

•

Monday, October 13, 7:30 p.m.

General Meeting • Everyone Welcome!

•

Monday, October 20, 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting

•



Friday, October 31

Happy Halloween!

•

Saturday, November 1, 1:00 p.m.

Volunteer Reception

•

Sunday, November 2

Daylight Savings ends

•



Tuesday, November 11

Veteran's Day

•

Sunday, November 16, 2:00 p.m.

Ornament Making Class

Ornament Class To Be Offered

One of our volunteers, **Zita Melton**, (of Polish descent) is offering a class on holiday ornament making on **Sunday, November 16 at 2:00 pm.** However, this is not just any ornament making class. More specifically it is the making of a Polish Hedgehog ornament, an absolutely adorable tree or table decoration for almost any holiday in the year (depending on what type of paper is used).

The class will be held at the museum upstairs and will be limited to 30 people (13 years or older) so sign up fast. There will be a charge of \$15.00 and all you need to bring is a pair of scissors for cutting paper and a sharpened pencil. That's it! All other supplies will be provided.



We guarantee you will have lots of laughs and will enjoy every minute of the two hour session. Who says there's not always something going on at our museum? This class will prove every doubter wrong, so call the museum (408)

749-0220 and sign up now as reservations will fill quickly and we are limited to only 30 people. Light refreshments will also be served.



Antique Faire Sold Out!

The Antique Faire on Sunday, August 24 completely sold out! Every one of the six categories sold out a month before the event and we were not even able to accept walk-ins due to lack of time slots.

We apologize that we were not able to accommodate everyone who called for a reservation but we will definitely consider doing this event again in the future.

It seems like our summer has gone by much too quickly. However, now you have plenty of time to assess all your family keepsakes and decide which ones you would like to receive an oral evaluation on. Keep your eyes and ears open as we will let you know in plenty of time if we decide to do this again and will provide you with plenty of notice in order to make reservations. Thank you so much for your overwhelming interest.

In next month's newsletter we will share many photos of this event.

Meet Our New Team!

We are so fortunate at our museum to have an absolutely extraordinary group of volunteers with individual expertise in a multitude of areas.

Way back in 2009 we introduced you to **Barbara Johnson** who volunteered to be our Event Coordinator for the many events that take place each year at our museum. Our facility is a very popular venue in our city for such things as birthday parties (everything from a 1-year old to a 100-year old!), wedding receptions (with catered sit-down dinners), anniversary parties and even wedding and baby showers. Our museum is also used by many community organizations who rent our facility for a few hours or hold an all day event (such as The League of Women Voters, history art classes/continuing education, Leadership Sunnyvale graduation, neighborhood condominium association board meetings and annual meetings, Sunnyvale Garden Club) just to name a few. Our venue was becoming more and more in demand and Barbara stepped in and set up and ran the program from top to bottom.



*Barbara Johnson,
Museum Events Coordinator*

Barbara soon needed an assistant, as the program grew in popularity and soon **Gayle Gleim** stepped up to the plate to assist Barbara. Gayle is having to step down, however, but as fate would have it Barbara was at a non-museum function and got to talking with someone new to Sunnyvale who was looking for a place to volunteer. They soon discovered a lot of similarities in their backgrounds and the next thing you know, they were talking about the museum.



*Rafe Ann Du Bois
Assistant Events Coordinator*

Meet **Rafe Ann Du Bois** who very soon thereafter visited the museum and was hooked. She went straight back to her office, went to our website and became a member and volunteered to help out as Barbara's assistant event planner. When Rafe Ann heard Gayle had to step down, she asked Barbara, "Can I step in?" As Rafe Ann explained, "History has always been a passion and hobby of mine. I'm a history nerd, if you will, and even have a degree in history. I'm interested to learn about where I live and what has happened to shape my city and surroundings."

After visiting and touring the museum, Rafe Ann realized, "The museum was a natural place for me to volunteer, get connected, and learn about the people who shaped our Sunnyvale. I strongly believe that giving back to one's community is crucial."

Rafe Ann is also intrigued by our third grade school program and is looking forward to eventually being able to help out in that area as well.

As you can see, there are many ways to be a museum volunteer. If being a docent is not your thing, you can volunteer on a one-time basis for the garage sale, the teas (either as a server or preparing a delicious treat for our guests). We also have many one-time events throughout the year such as last year's Author's Day or this month's Antique Faire. If you are interested in being any

kind of a volunteer, please feel free to give us a call at (408) 749-0220. It's a great place to volunteer for a couple hours a month or for a one-time event. Come and be a part of the fun festivities we always have going on at the museum.

President's Letter



I have had the privilege of bring your President for a little over a year and I am still amazed at how this vibrant organization functions. I was on the Board during the time of the

Centennial celebration and was partly involved in the planning of the Author's Day last summer, but for the first time this summer I got to see a great event from the spark of an idea to a rip-roaring success. I am talking, of course, about the Antique Appraisal Faire which took place on August 24.

At a Board meeting last September or October, board member and gift shop director, **Margaret Lawson** quietly mentioned that she had attended an event in Walnut Creek where Michaan's Auction house in Oakland had provided some appraisers and conducted an event similar to the Antique Road Show which we all watch on Public Television. Everyone said, "That's nice Margaret," and we went on to the next agenda item. A month later, she said it louder and by the third month, museum director **Laura Babcock**, who likes to plan a major event each summer, perked up and said, "We should do that next summer." An idea was born and eight months of planning and preparation had begun.

Laura took the lead and **Jeanine Stanek**, museum archivist, filled in the blanks behind the scenes, as she always does, and the project was underway. Michaan's was contacted and a date set. The city permits were secured and we began to see a general layout for the event. Appraisers in many disciplines would be provided from jewelry to artwork and from furniture to toys and coins. It was decided that we should have pre-paid appointments for our customers so Laura and Jeanine, and many others in the gift shop, set up a scheduling system and took reservations for more than 500 time slots in the four hour event. Next came **Larry Klein**, past

president, who created a flyer for the event and interfaced with two advertising agencies meeting deadlines and approving copy.

About halfway into the planning, it was decided this would be an excellent opportunity to raise some money for the museum and clear out our storage space by selling some of the antiques that had been donated to the museum. These items could never be displayed in a way that would show off their real beauty. An antique sale was born. These items were expertly priced by volunteer **Janice Havey**. The ever-reliable and hardworking **Rosa Romano** recruited volunteers. Board member **Marie Kuykendall** provided refreshments for the day, as well as the ubiquitous **Rotary Interactors** who provided the labor to set up and tear down. This project was also joined by the **LDS Elders and Sisters** who are always around to help out. The usual suspects, **Zita Melton, Monte Stamper, Don Adams, Kathy Chan** and **Sherveen Deuskar** pitched in to make and place required signs. Lastly, more than 30 volunteers worked all day welcoming, guiding, cleaning up and doing all the things to make our guests feel important. I'm sure I have left someone out and for that I apologize.

The day itself went just tremendously. Michaan's reported they had never seen an event where every time slot was sold in advance. The gift shop was full of people all day. The pre-arranged appointments controlled the crowds so no one had to wait a long time and there were always a comfortable number of people in the museum. We raised some money and exposed scores of new people to our location and activities. Once again, our crack team of devoted volunteers worked together and created an event that was truly classy. This place is amazing!

I am hoping that you were able to attend and enjoyed it as much as I did. Perhaps it prompted you to bring another person who might wish to become a museum member. Perhaps it reminded you that there are many different ways to volunteer at the museum. Oh, I almost forgot! My wife, **Janet**, and I also contributed by inflating the helium-filled balloons that festooned the signs guiding people to the event from Manet and Michelangelo Drive.

Jim Reynolds, SHSMA President



Autumn Garage Sale

It's time for our autumn garage sale and for you to clean out your closets and cupboards, and donate unwanted or unused items to the museum's annual garage sale. All proceeds go directly to the maintenance of our museum and every penny helps us keep our doors open and free to the public and our guests.

The garage sale will be in the same place (thanks to **Jed Cyr**), 795 South Wolfe Road (nearest cross street Iris). If you have anything you would like to donate, please **call Jed at (408) 749-0170 or (408) 594-0506** just to let him know when you will be by to drop off your priced item(s).

If you would like to volunteer for a couple of hours at this fun event, please let Jed know. Your assistance will be most appreciated and we guarantee you'll have a fun time chatting with all the people who stop by. So come on down, even if you just want to browse and enjoy a bit of a Saturday outing. There are always some exciting and unique treasures to behold.



Reception for Low Tech–High Tech Exhibit

A special reception will be held at the museum on **Sunday, September 7, 1:00–4:00 pm** highlighting this unique exhibit located in the Rotating Room. Many of the items on exhibit were considered high tech of their time such as an Edison Rotary Mimeograph Machine Model 77 made by the A.B Dick Company in 1913. This wonderful treasure sits next to an HP Officejet J4680 All-In-One Printer from 2008. Everyone is invited to this reception to experience the old and the new on display. We know some of the items will bring a smile to your face.

A highlight of the reception will be a demonstration of robotics brought to us by the **Fremont Robotics** team. The prizewinning robots will strut their stuff and wow us with their capabilities at approximately 1:30, 2:00 and again at 2:30 pm. We won't tell you exactly what they will do. You'll just have to come with your friends and families to see and enjoy for yourselves.



Cameras - old and new.

This is just another example of the fun events coming to our museum. It's also another reason why you want to encourage friends and neighbors to become members so they will receive copies of our monthly newsletter and hear firsthand about all the activities going on at our wonderful museum. Come for a visit and help spread the word.

Become a Member or Renew Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Your membership options:

- Individual \$30 Family \$45
 Individual Senior \$25 Lifetime Member \$600
 Business or Organization \$125

Remit your annual dues to:

Sunnyvale Historical Society • c/o Jim Fredrickson
P. O. Box 2187 • Sunnyvale, CA 94087-0187

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Visit Our Web Site:

www.heritageparkmuseum.org

www.facebook.com/SunnyvaleMuseum

Email: info@heritageparkmuseum.org

To Our Readers:

If you have a story about Sunnyvale, please forward by the 15th of each month to: Leslie Lawton
125 Connemara Way #141 • Sunnyvale, CA 94087
408-737-2176 (fax) • LLweproduce@gmail.com (e-mail)

This newsletter is published for
Historical Society members and friends.

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Museum location and hours:

Sunnyvale Community Center
570 E. Remington Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94087 • 408-749-0220
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Sundays
12:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.
FREE ADMISSION

Board of Directors meet on the third Monday of each month
at the Heritage Park Museum, 7:00 p.m.

www.heritageparkmuseum.org
www.facebook.com/SunnyvaleMuseum

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