

# POWAY ECHOES

## Newsletter of the Poway Historical and Memorial Society

September 2009

### President's Message

Newsletter September

Dear Members: Can you Believe - Fall is just around the bend and we are looking forward to the up-coming activities in the Park. "Rendezvous in the Park" will be September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have never attended, I am sure you will find it very interesting. The Rendezvous showcases living history with many different "encampments" coming into the park for the weekend and "living" in an earlier time period. It is a great learning experience for young and old alike! Not only is this event open to the public but the Park Office schedules school and private group tours. The October event is the "Train Song Festival" and the December ends the year with "Christmas in the Park".

I regret to say Lucille Dalbey has resigned from the Board of Directors and Chair of the Artifact Committee. Lucille has served on the Board for several years and created fabulous displays in the Museum. Thank you, Lucille, we will truly miss your dedication and talent.

In past newsletters, I have talked about the City providing funds to preserve our artifact collection and though it taken more time than expected the Society will begin to receive funds in December.

If you haven't visited the Nelson House lately – Please stop in and check the Beautiful Washstand. This is a piece we have had for several years, but recently Jan Rubacky made arrangements to have it stripped and Jeff Frye worked wonders when he repaired and refinished it. THEN - SAN DIEGO MARBLE donated a marble top and shelf. It really looks nice!!!! Finally, On behalf, of the Society I want to thank the Board Members and Volunteers for their exhausting efforts and to the members for your support. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the Museum, Nelson House or Society, Please let me contact me. – Mary Whiten, President

## **Museum and Nelson House**

As Mary mentioned in the Letter from the President Lucille Dalbey has resigned leaving a big hole in the Museum exhibition space. Lucille has been responsible for the Museum exhibitions for many years using both Historical Society artifacts and private collections. Most recently private collections included photography from the late Ernie Briscoe who was the Historical Society's photography curator for many Years. Ernie was a professional photographer before his retirement. The exhibit displayed photos from his long career. Another private collection recently display was one of stained glass building, houses, churches, castles and public buildings. The detail was incredible and we appreciate the loan of this exhibit. The Historical Society is in need of a new curator for artifacts/display coordinator. As you know this is a volunteer position and could easily be shared if two or more people want to volunteer. Take this unique opportunity to be "hands-on" with the Museums artifacts and/or show off your creative ability in the exhibition space. The next display will be on one of Poway's oldest families, the Power's.

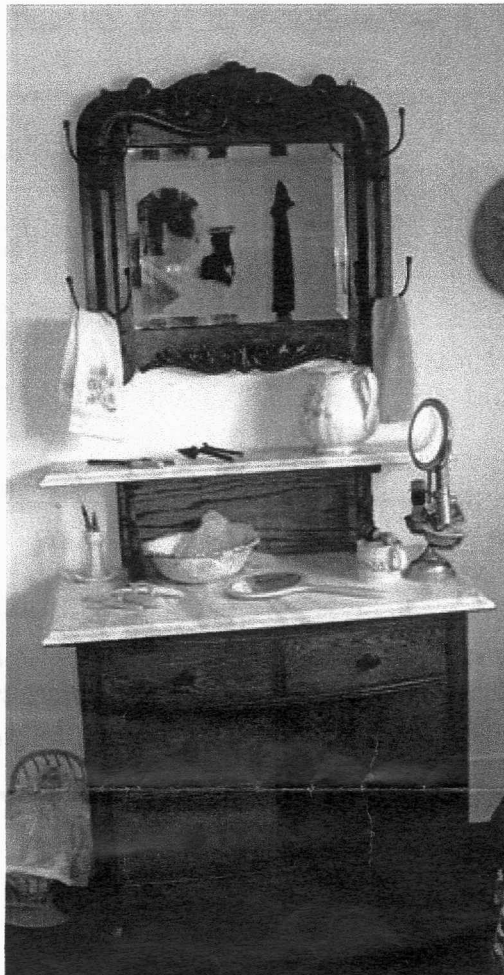
This month the Historical Society is honoring Ralph and Dolora Powers. Both Ralph and Dolora were founding members of the Poway Historical Society and were active for many years in the Society. Ralph was a native Powegian and lived here all his life until his death several years ago. Dolora is still living but in a retirement facility. For many years they operated the Poway Dairy on Poway Road. Many of us remember stopping at the Powers' drive in dairy window on Poway Road to buy milk or other dairy products. Both Ralph' father (Norman) and his grandfather (George) farmed and operated a dairy on the south side of Poway Road, near the vicinity of the mortuary. In our Museum display we have a case devoted to Dolora's dishes and a case devoted to family photos.

Ralph and Dolora's son Bob still lives in the old family home off Community Road.

The Nelson House continues to exhibit the incredible dollhouse featured in a previous issue of Poway Echoes. The dollhouse has been moved into the Toy Room with all the other fabulous toys in the Museum's collection. Nelson house changes: Most of the additional dolls are copies of antique dolls of 100 years ago. The small room has become a museum of toys through the past century. The center bedroom will display clothing. The Nelson House wish list includes feed, sugar or flour sacks that were used for girl's dresses, big old sturdy rocker for porch, hoop, wood or metal, wood ball & socket, jumping jack clown on wood sticks or any other vintage items consistent with the time of early Poway.

Congratulations to the collaboration of Board members Jan Rubacky and Jeff Fry. They took an oak washstand that looked ready for the dump and turned it into a masterpiece. It was refinished, a new marble top created and donated by

San Diego Marble and a shelf added. I only wish we had a before picture to show the amazing work. But here is an after.



## Volunteers

If you have noticed over the past two years we have lost a good number of our core volunteers. Luckily, we have had two new volunteer to step up to the plate, Barbara Branscom and Jeff Fry. But our library, photo, artifacts and exhibits are all in need of people who can care for them. If you have any time to give please call Mary Whitten or Cecelia Burr to volunteer. This would be a wonderful Eagle Scout project, community service project. Of course adults are very welcome too. The Museum and Nelson House are only open on weekends when we have volunteers to docent. With funding coming from the city we will be especially in need of volunteers to make good use of the money that was a long time in coming.