

POWAY ECHOES

Newsletter of the Poway Historical and Memorial Society

December 2009

News from the Board

Mary Whitten who has been President of the Poway Historical Society for over ten years has resigned as she and her husband are moving to North Carolina. Mary will be missed by all who have worked with her and depended upon her for guidance. Her dedication to the Historical Society and the Museum has been exceptional. Mary always knew what to do.

The Board had a Farewell Luncheon for Mary where they presented her a plaque from the Historical Society in recognition of her dedicated service to the Poway community.

Mary had hoped to send a message of farewell but the time to the move went too swiftly. She will contribute to the next newsletter.

A new President has taken over as Nov. 10th, 2009. His name is Jeff Frye. The following is a brief biography of him. Jeff and his family moved to Poway in 1960. He attended Pomerado and Garden Road Elementary Schools. In 1963 he started Middle School at Valley School and at mid-term was with the first classes to open Meadow Brook Junior High School. In 1966 Jeff

served as student body president at Meadow Brook school. Jeff graduated Poway High School in 1971, and then spent two semesters at Palomar Junior College. In 1973 he transferred to Cal State Northridge with a football scholarship. He received his BA in Physical Education in 1977.

In 1978 he returned to Poway with his wife and has made his career in the construction industry.

There was a very nice article in the Poway Chieftain which discussed some of Jeff's goals for the Historical Society. Jeff will discuss those in his message from the President.

WELCOME JEFF!

President's Message

Hello members of "THE POWAY HISTORICAL AND MEMORIAL SOCIETY" and to all with passion and interest in our community and its history. The history of the Poway Valley and its people is as interesting and as important as any history and I am pleased to be a part of its preservation and promotion as our new president. My first goal is to carry on the traditions of our society with dedication. Secondly I would like to carry on the gathering of knowledge and its preservation to

share with others and with future generations.

Given that human nature changes very little if at all, as evidenced by Shakespearean characters, history has undeniable lessons for us to learn from. We can all speculate as to what the valley once was and associate it to the valley we now live in. Associating our valley's history with modern times enhances the quality of our life experiences. Whether we drive through town oblivious to its history, or we drive through appreciating the development, is up to the individual. "The world is an open book" to those who wish to read it, and I believe our members are those who wish to read it.

We are continuing to work closely with the City of Poway. Members and "History Buffs" should note that the city shows a great interest and support for our society as well as the other societies involved in "OPPAC" OLD POWAY PARK ACTION COMMITTEE.

Please join us for upcoming events at the "Nelson House" and museum to include: "Christmas in the Park" December 12 from 4-8 pm. On January 26 our museum will host the next "CINCH" meeting. In February we will have our feed sack and quilt display. In April we are planning another "Antiques Road Show". We continue to host school and other group tours of the "Nelson House" and the museum. And of course our regular weekend hours: Saturdays 9:30 am -12:30 pm and Sundays 11

am - 2 pm. (volunteer docents are needed please!).

We on the board congratulate you all for your interest and support of our society. We feel that the more of us who participate the merrier our experience will be. Thank you, Jeff Frye.

Genealogy Contacts

The Historical Society has had a request have a Genealogy Contacts column in the newsletter from Karen Cahill who is related to the Cravaths, the Kears, the Sikes, the Watsons, the Kuhns and the Franks. She is looking for contact information and email addresses. Her email address is desertgardener22@gmail.com. Please contact Karen if you would like to catch up with a long lost family member.

If there are others who are trying to contact family through the Historical Society and would like to place some information in the Echoes email me at bcory@cox.net. Please put Poway Echoes on the subject line.

Museum and Nelson House

Just to get you into the Holiday spirit the Heritage Museum is featuring a snowflake and snowmen display on loan to us from Christopher and Betsy Cook. The Cooks have over one hundred snowmen, some of which are salt and pepper shakers and others are hanging tree ornaments. The snowflakes are exhibited in the large Museum show case, while the snowmen can be found in the smaller cases and on

the Christmas tree as hanging ornaments. This is truly a fantastic display. Don't miss it!

The Nelson House is decorated for a Victorian Christmas. Don't forget to stop by when you are at Christmas in the Park on December 12 from 4-8pm.

The other good news for the Nelson House is that the City is going to paint it. Now it will look terrific next to the new train depot.

And we are now sending traveling exhibitions. A collection of the Society's aprons will be on exhibit at Gooden Ranch. If you are down there hiking, biking or riding stop in to say "Hi".

Board Doings

The meeting with City on the Needs Assessment for the Museum and Nelson House was postponed. If you have suggestions please pass them on the Jeff Frye so that he can add them to list the Board has already created.

Jan Rubacky will be starting to organize the spring "Antiques Roadshow" fund raiser in January. Start making your list of the pieces in your home that you would like to have appraised and stay tuned to the newsletter in March for the date and sign up information. This is a great fund raiser for the Historical Society and a lot of fun as well.

Jean Woodruff spent the day at the museum with a FANTASTIC piano

tuner. Not only did he do a wonderful job on our grand piano but he worked on the player piano as well. A couple of parts need to be machined and it will be back in fine shape.

Cecelia Burr and Jan Rubacky gave a presentation at the Poway Library. There was limited attendance probably due to the lack of advertising. Next time the newsletter will announce such an interesting presentation so that more can attend.

Christmas in the Park

Volunteers will have Museum and Nelson House open and will be serving hot cider. A piano player in period dress will be entertaining on our newly tuned piano.

Of course the rest of the park will be decked out. There will be carolers, Santa, goodies and more. The train will be running, of course and this is a great opportunity to see the new depot.

See you there.

Treasurer's Report

Income - \$254.
Expenses - \$288.
Checking - 10,148.

Articles

Anyone wishing to submit an article please email to bcory@cox.net. Place Poway Echoes in the subject.