



Poway Echoes

A NEWSLETTER OF THE POWAY HISTORICAL AND MEMORIAL SOCIETY

Preserving Poway's Past for the Future

Jeff Frye, President

SEPTEMBER 2010

Joye Davisson, Editor

BARBARA BRANSCOM

1932-2010

Barbara Branscom was born March 17, 1932 in Craig, Colorado and moved to San Diego in 1955. She passed away August 16, 2010 at Pomerado Hospital. Barbara worked as a computer programmer and systems analyst until retirement. She has a daughter Teri, a grandson and one son, now deceased, and a sister Bobbi Wegener.

Barbara was a horsewoman who fancied Peruvian Paso Finos and her last two horses were that breed. They are known for their special gait and are extremely comfortable to ride. It is said that you can ride a Paso Fino all day long and they never tire.

Barbara was very active with the Poway Historical Memorial Society and was serving as Second Vice President at the time of her death. Services for Barbara were held August 26 at St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church where she was an active member.

We will all miss her.

~ Cecilia Burr

POWAY HISTORICAL AND MEMORIAL SOCIETY UPGRADE

In the fall of 2008, the City of Poway financed a "needs and assessment study" for our museum. The study was approved and adapted by the city and our society.

The city has budgeted P.H.M.S. over three years to up-grade our storage and systems materials. We are just entering fiscal year two.

Cecilia Burr has diligently gleaned the archival vaults here at the museum, and has organized the documents. She has taken charge in the ordering, receiving, and implementing of "acid-free" storage boxes for all of our documents and photos. This process will help preserve our materials for generations to come.

Another step taken this past year is the purchase of four steel shelving units. These units are of "long-term" specifications for "acid-free" storage of our documents and artifacts.

Come on out to the museum and have a look at our progress. Cecilia has labeled our boxes, so if you would like to research anything, you are welcome.

~ Jeff Frye

**History is a symphony of echoes heard and unheard.
It is a poem with events as verses.**

...**Charles Angoff**

FROM PRESIDENT JEFF

What a summer! Until the middle of August, Poway has seen "post card perfect days". My memories of Poway summers all have that 11:00 am breeze that travels up the arroyos and riverbeds from the coast. Summers are sweet, juicy peaches and delicious tomatoes that seem to thrive in our beautiful valley. Barefoot from the day school let out to the day it began again in September.

I trust our members are all well. "The Old Fashioned 4th of July" was a big hit for us here at "Old Poway Park". Cecilia Burr, Jean Woodruff, Carol Crafts, Barbara Branscom, and myself hosted the museum. The Nelson House was hosted by Blanche Gunther, Anita Kerr, and Gail Short. We had a steady flow of enthusiastic folks through our facilities.

All of the O.P.P.A.C. groups that participated at the 4th enjoyed success. The railroad sold 2,039 tickets!

Our annual Volunteer Luncheon was held on Sunday, July 11. We all met here at the museum for a social hour, then enjoyed a nice lunch at The Hamburger Factory. Come on out and get involved with our volunteer programs folks, it is very rewarding.

On Thursday, July 22, we hosted an E.S.S. tour. The Extended School Services is a summer program for grade school children. Many thanks to Eddie and Joyce Lindros, and Blanche Gunther who worked tours of the Nelson House, and Jan Rubacky and myself had a great time with tours at the Museum.

September will be "Poway Days" with lots of events here at the park. We will be involved with the "Rendezvous in Poway" September 9, 10, 11 and 12. Check "The Poway News Chieftain" for schedules of events.

Lots of events this summer and fall for you to enjoy, so come out to the park folks! Thanks for your interest and enjoy the seasons.

OLD POWAY PARK EVENTS

Rendezvous	September 9, 10, 11,12
Train Song Festival	October 9
Once Upon a Halloween	October 31

HISTORICAL NOTES

Poway Valley had once been an area of plentiful rain and ever-flowing streams but, as time went on the climate became drier. The wells at each farm and home further depleted the already dropping water supply. It soon became apparent that there was no longer enough water to support crops that needed extensive irrigation. The economy of the Valley came to depend upon two crops--grapes and peaches. However, these two crops take up a good deal of room and can only support a limited number of people. For years the population of the Valley was virtually at a standstill.

The history of the valley continued with one year pretty much like the next until 1954--the year that water arrived.

The long awaited aqueduct brought water from the Colorado River to thirsty San Diego County. For the first time in years there would be enough water.

The growth was slow at first. Gradually the old farms were broken up and sold to families who built their homes on small acreages. Then in 1958 housing tracts started to spring up all over the Valley, doubling the population. By the mid-1960s Poway's population went from around 500 to over 7,000. The Valley was on its way to becoming a City.

Note: The above information was taken from an article written by Mary Shepardson. ~Cecilia Burr

FARM SERIES MUGS

We are having a "special sale" on our Farm Series Mugs. They mugs are a beige color with large handles and very sturdy. Inscription on one side is Poway Historical and Memorial Society. Each mug has a picture of a different scene from a farm—four mugs to a set. One has a lady feeding chickens, one has a windmill, one has a water pump and one has a farmer tilling the soil.- Come see the display – cost is \$3.00 each or \$10 for a set of 4.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jeff. Carr
Ann Garcia/Maria Huning
Cindy Gompper-Graves
Blanche Gunther
Terry & Donna Hayes
Barbara & Charlie Lerma
PowPAC, Poway 's Community Theatre
Gilbert & Ferne Reeves

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Are you interested in “Preserving Poway’s Past for the Future”? Volunteers are needed to staff the museum and Nelson House during weekends and special events.

If interested in helping, please contact Cecilia Burr at 858-486-0106. .

NELSON HOUSE NEWS

Retired teachers, Blanche Gunther and Nancy Higbie, have organized a group to take over school classes. They will role play the Nelsons for the Rendezvous school tours. They are going to make butter and have children sample it.



With the new volunteers, the Nelson House has been open on more Saturdays. The attendance has been very high. At least 30 people were there this past Saturday and only four of them were from

Poway. Apparently the PBS Poway special has been seen by a lot of people. Ken Kramer will be doing a special about Col. Porter and his dream for the park. Watch for it.

Jan Rubacky is researching information for a Mrs. Nelson monologue that she will present at the Poway Woman’s Club. She hopes to combine her monologue with a power point presentation if she can find a fifth grader to help put it together.
~Jan Rubacky

AT THE MUSEUM

Recently the museum had a visit from the nephew of Mary van Dam, her sister Elsie’ son. He currently resides in Sun City, California. He was generous enough to bring his grandfather Frank’s naturalization papers, which have been copied and placed in the Frank family folder.

There are some new items in the gift shop: pencil sharpeners, horses and military knives. These are from new suppliers, so stop by and take a look. Christmas is right around the corner.

The next Museum display will have Western items in keeping with the upcoming Poway Days and rodeo.

Jan Rubacky continues to photograph artifacts to be entered into the computer.

The Historical Society is pleased to welcome back Lucille and T. A. Dalbey and their much loved dog.
~Cecilia Burr

THANK YOU, CITY OF POWAY

The Historical Society Board members and its’ volunteers plus volunteers from every volunteer branch in the City were treated to a lovely evening in Old Poway Park, courtesy of the City of Poway. The shredded beef BBQ, provided by the Hamburger Factory, was extra DELICIOUS. Music was provided and Mayor Higginson thanked all the volunteers for their efforts. An outstanding evening—the best ever.

AUGUST BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board decided that the museum would not be open for Once Upon a Halloween. Several activities are planned for the Nelson House.

Historical Society docents will help with Rendezvous in Poway by guiding youngsters to the various stations.

Reported income was \$301.00; expenditures, \$665.00.

POWAY HISTORICAL AND MEMORIAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

NEW

RENEWAL

\$500 LIFE

\$17 FAMILY

\$75 BUSINESS

\$15 INDIVIDUAL

\$20 ORGANIZATION

Complete form and send with your
check to PH&MS

P. O. Box 19

Poway, CA 92075-0019

Optional: I would like to help with: Artifacts

Docent in Nelson House

Library

Special Events

Tours

Docent in Museum

Research

Poway Historical and Memorial Society

P. O. Box 19

Poway, CA 92074-0019