

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

May 2010

Volume 10 – Issue 5

It is our mission to identify, preserve and promote the historic legacy of the Temecula Valley and to educate the public about its historical significance.

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Fall Brook School in 1896. Originally the township was Fall Brook (two words), then later became Fallbrook. The school above was eventually renamed to be the Reche School, and still stands today -- Photo Courtesy Margaret Hindoff Ray

School Memories From Fallbrook circa 1930's

(Editors Note: Margaret Ray collaborated with the co-Authors of the book "Images of America - Fallbrook" released in 2007, and wrote these school day memories some time back).

By Margaret Hindorff Ray

We carried our lunch to school in a paper sack, or a metal lunch box. (I had a REAL lunch bucket until it wore out, then I used, and proudly I might add, a lard bucket.) We ate our lunch outside when the weather permitted; windy or rainy weather we HAD to stay inside. We used to trade our lunch parts. A lunch meat sandwich for one made of homemade meatloaf, or home-canned jam and peanut butter, we were only to trade like items. A homemade cookie or cake for "store-bought" variety; or a fresh orange for a banana.

We played hide and seek, volley ball, badminton, beckons wanted, may I, kings base, soccer, dodge ball, work-up basketball, or indoor, hopscotch, jump rope. And we played

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Calendar

Of Events

Monday, May 10 – Monthly Meeting – 6 to 8 p.m.
Dr. Anne Miller and David Armstrong will present "Mapping the Southern Emigrant Trail". This meeting will be held at the VaARRA Little Temecula History Center (Red Barn next to Kohl's Dept. Store).

Saturday, May 8 – 11 am to 5 pm the Society will have a booth at the "Children's Matsuri" bringing Japanese Culture & Fun to Temecula. This annual event in Old Town will be held in the new parking structure between 2nd and 3rd Sts.

Saturday, May 15 – 10 a.m. Walking Tour of Old Town starting from Temecula Valley Museum. \$2 donation suggested.

Sunday, May 23 – 12-5 p.m. Public Display of 3rd Grade History Contest entries Little Temecula History Center at Vail Ranch.

Thursday, May 27 – 7 p.m. Temecula Valley Museum. David Lewis will talk about his efforts in restoring the Julian Cemetery, and his book "Last Known Address - The History of the Julian Cemetery."

Saturday, June 12 – 8:30 To 3:30 p.m. Flea Market in The Park, Temecula Valley Museum. Annual event is Fund raiser for the Museum.

jacks, or played house with dolls brought from home. We played store, using all the coats and jackets as garments to sell.

On rainy days we played wink um, musical chairs, hide the thimble, or blackboard games such as hang man, or tick tack toe.

In the spring we went on hikes into the canyons to hunt for wildflowers, or birds to identify. We made and flew kites on windy days. There was a "play day" in the spring. All the surrounding schools met at Maie Ellis School for games, contests and a big day together. We played running, jumping or hopping contests. There were volleyball, soccer or baseball tournaments. The winners took home ribbons for first, second or third places.

The county sent to the rural schools music and art supervisors, as well as physical education. Our teacher always had lots of ideas for art projects. We used crayon, colored chalk, watercolors, construction paper, and lots of unconventional things to make arts or crafts. We made our valentines from construction paper, paper doilies or dried flowers. We colored Easter eggs and made baskets for an egg hunt; we made Christmas tree ornaments and cards to exchange or give to our parents. We used spare paper or compasses to make geometric designs to color. We cut out ugly faces to mount for Halloween decorations, or for a mask; and we made calendars to give as Christmas presents to our parents.

We learned folk dances, the Virginia Reel, clogging, wiggle walking, and songs from all over the world. There were two programs each year which we prepared well in advance. One was at Christmas time, and another in the spring. We had plays, complete with costumes, sang songs, wrote and recited poetry.

Our games for the Halloween party were sack races, dunking for apples, or (with no hands) eat an apple hanging from the door frame by a string.

Time tables, addition and subtraction were learned from the flash cards that we made for ourselves.

When Reche Club first started, in 1934, there was one meeting each month. Later there was a business meeting with cards and refreshments, and a social meeting with a pot-luck dinner, and cards or some other entertainment.

For many years election of offices was done in this manner. The president opened nominations for president. A vote was taken and the winner was handed the gavel. He conducted the remaining election. Voting was held as soon as the nominations for each office were closed. (This was most likely because there were so few members. Everyone was then available for nomination except those members already elected to a new office.)

Editors note The things Margaret described all took place at the Reche School. The Reche Club started as a parents' support organization, but since the school closed in 1939 the club continues to meet monthly for a potluck dinner and business meeting to support the one-room historical schoolhouse and welcomes new members and visitors. The Reche Schoolhouse is in a fenced area off Reche Canyon Road in Fallbrook. A large bedrock mortar with over 20 grinding holes is on the school grounds and was inspiring to the students as they considered the people who used it long ago.

Historic 395 Sign Project Seeking Funds

The Society is moving forward with a project to purchase and place "Historic Route 395" signs in the Temecula area. Its local route originally went right through Old Town on Front Street, then north along Jefferson and into Murrieta.

We have set up a special "designated funds" account to place the funds, and currently have approximately 1/3 of what will be needed. TVHS is seeking financial support commitments from organizations and/or individuals to help us reach our goal of \$3500 to purchase the 14 signs that will be needed.

Temecula is currently a "gap" in our area, since San Diego has completed their portion all the way through Rainbow to the County Line, Murrieta and Lake Elsinore also have placed signs.

Recent Membership Renewals

Shari Crall
Rosie Vanderhaak
Roger & Lynn Cude
Dr. Dan Funderburk
Michael Tobin
Neal & Dawn McKenzie
Rosemary Smith
Mark & Judith Handwerker
Margaret Sherry Krings
Dale & Ann Silimperi
Vernon & Gladys Smith
Steve Lech
Carrie Penny
Suzanne Dechert
Garth & Janice Bricker

New Memberships

James McPherson
James Ott
Lenore Glancy

President's Message

At our April meeting of the Society we filled the many vacancies on our major committees however we still have room for more volunteers to give us a hand. Please call me at (951) 302-9536 if you would like to help us out by serving on one of our committees.

It is a pleasure to note that the City of Temecula recently allocated some of its Redevelopment funds to spruce up the Emporium Building and the site of the Freidman Meat Market on Main Street. The money will help preserve these historic buildings that remind us of Temecula's past. Also of interest is to note the movement of the City's Old Town Specific Plan through the process of approval. Several weeks ago the Old Town Temecula Local Review Board approved the plan, passing it on to the Planning Commission which also unanimously approved the plan. It will go to the City Council in May for final approval. If passed by the Council the character of Old Town will undergo a number of changes in the future. More residential and commercial buildings will be constructed. They will be more substantial than the several trailers with wooden facades that decorate the current landscape. The aim is to make Old Town a pedestrian friendly "Down Town" area reminiscent of the period from the 1880's till 1940, preserving our historic buildings that remain a part of our heritage.

Hope to see you at our meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Little History Center on Temecula Parkway on May 10th.

Jimmy Moore

-- Save the Date --

The Society has a confirmed tour date of Sunday, July 11 to tour San Juan Capistrano. Our hosts for the tour will be the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society, and we will meet at their building at 11 a.m. on the day of the tour. Car pooling is encouraged, but transportation is up to everyone who goes (members & guests).

This will be a walking tour through their historic district covering about 3 or 4 blocks, and will take about 1½ hours. Certainly individual groups could finish out the day in SJC moving where their spirit moved them. Their society asks for a \$2 donation per person for the tour, and they can accommodate 45 people total. A deadline for sign-ups will be established so that our hosts will have a final head count to schedule docents. For more info contact Lisa Woodward at 951-514-7406, or e-mail at lwoodward@verizon.net.

3rd Grade History Contest Update

On Friday, April 23 we received approximately 100 entries representing multiple area schools for the Annual 3rd Grade History Report Contest. As soon as we are ready for judging Dick Fox will be letting all interested parties know what times and dates the center will be open for that effort. We have scheduled a "Winners Reception" for Thursday, May 20 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm to award special recognition certificates and honor the top entries. Public display is scheduled for Sunday, May 23 from 12 to 5 pm at the Little Temecula History Center.



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Check Out Updated TVHS Website

If you haven't yet done so, be sure to check out our newly revamped web site. Some work continues. Many thanks to Dale Garcia for all of his efforts on this project.

Newsletter Available On-line

This newsletter is now available each month to either read on-line or print from the societies web page.

On the home page click on "newsletter" button, then select the month for the newsletter of interest.

We will eventually be shifting our distribution of the newsletter towards e-mail and/or on-line.

Reminder: New Meeting Location --



The Temecula Valley Historical Society has moved its meeting location to the Little Temecula History Center (Red Barn building next to Kohl's Dept. Store).

Next meeting Monday, May 10 at 6:00 p.m. at History Center, near intersection of Temecula Parkway & Margarita Road.

Remember before each meeting visit our Welcome Table, where we have TVHS produced DVD's and books for sale. Also membership forms and other activity flyers are available.

Look for us on Facebook . . .