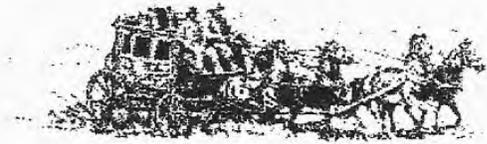


TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

November 2010

Volume 10 – Issue 11

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.

2010 Officers

President	Jimmy Moore
Vice President	Dick Fox
Secretary	Barbara Tobin
Treasurer	Bill Harker

Directors

Elaine Eshom	Bonnie Martland
Lisa Woodward	Darell Farnbach
Pat Lallou	Elaine Culverhouse

Committee Chairs

Research & Preservation

Darell Farnbach

Public Relations

Bonnie Martland

Membership

Bill Harker

Program Speakers

Rebecca Farnbach

Projects

Darell Farnbach

Events/Education

Bonnie Martland

Historian – Kathi Price

A Copyright Publication of the
Temecula Valley Historical Society
P.O. Box 157
Temecula, CA 92593
951-302-9536
www.temeculahistoricalsociety.org

1921 Silent Movie Days

William S. Hart Stars In Silent Film Shot In Temecula

By Jeffery G. Harmon



William S. Hart, silent star

"Some court house the William S. Hart Company is erecting at Main and Pujol streets. Ten carpenters arrived from Los Angeles last Thursday evening to do the work. The movie company will be here for several days. It is understood this will be William S. Hart's last production." (From the archives, Friday, February 25, 1921 Temecula Gossip Column written by Mrs. V.B. Sands, *Lake Elsinore Valley Press Weekly*.)

Three Word Brand was a 1921 silent movie starring William S. Hart. Thirty minutes into the film, the story changes to a frontier town street scene. A horse drawn wagon enters the street from the left, turns and heads down the street towards a courthouse type building.

The camera was positioned on the east side of the intersection of Main and Front Streets. On the left, the Welty Building and the Temecula Hotel can be seen. On the right, the Bank, the Mercantile Building, and the train depot can be seen. The "courthouse" is in the center of the framed shot, appearing to be at the western end of Main Street.

The courthouse façade was two stories tall, with a curved roof, reminiscent of the Alamo. The windows appeared to be painted, and the façade was flat with few details. There was an opening in the center where actress, Jane Novak, emerged from the courthouse and descended down the central stairs.

Most of the scenes during the Temecula filming took place on Pujol Street. To the north of the façade, there was a small unknown farm. An outbuilding with a tin roof can be seen in several shots. To the southeast of the façade, there was another building with a windmill and well. It is unknown whether this was the train depot or another unknown property.

The highlight of the Temecula filming was when William S. Hart read a telegram. The words "Temecula Utah" appears on the central heading. It is unknown whether the film's stories took place in Temecula, Utah or if the courthouse was supposed to be in Temecula, California and the character was being summoned

(Continued on Page 2)

Calendar Of Events

Saturday, November 6 –
Opening of annual Erle Stanley Gardner Gallery Exhibit at the Temecula Valley Museum in Sam Hicks Monument Park. Museum Hours 10 am to 4 pm Tues. Thru Sat., 1 pm - 4 pm Sun.

Saturday, November 13 –
Annual meeting at Little Temecula History Center, 6 to 9 p.m. Catered dinner. Bob Morris will relate the history of the old Temecula Tractor Race event. This will be the last meeting for the calendar year 2010. New board of directors for 2011 will be introduced.

Weekend, Nov. 19 – 21 --
St. Catherine's Centennial event. There will be a weekend of activities to celebrate their Centennial anniversary.

Monday, Jan. 24, 2011 –
Monthly meeting at Little Temecula History Center, 6 to 8 p.m. Marc Hendon, Commissioner with Riverside County Historic Commission will speak on the Earps in Riverside County.

Monday, February 28 --
Monthly meeting at Little Temecula History Center, 6 to 8 p.m. Steve Lech, will Speak on the formation of Riverside County.

**Membership Activity
Renewal**
The Bank of Mexican Food

William S. Hart (Continued from Page 1)

to Salt Lake City, Utah. This movie prop would be wonderful to see if it survived to the present.

It is interesting to note that several interior shots were filmed inside the Temecula Hotel. The Temecula switchboard can be seen in the room where the characters congregated. Also there was a bar scene, which might have been shot at the Ramona Inn location, but that is speculation at this time. The final shot of the Temecula scene took place outside the Temecula Hotel. William S. Hart exited the building, mounted his horse and rode east out of the camera shot.

Whatever happened to the court house façade at Main and Pujol Streets?

"Frank Burnham purchased the court house erected by the William S. Hart Company and is wrecking it." (From the archives, Friday, March 17, 1921 Temecula Gossip Column written by Mrs. V.B. Sands, *Lake Elsinore Valley Press Weekly*.)

He Passed This Way . . .

Norman Pico Sr., a Pechanga tribal elder and leader died at his home on the reservation in early October. Many in the society knew Norm as a friend and supporter of our efforts, and was a featured speaker at one of our Heritage Day luncheons. Mr. Pico encouraged the society's activities and projects by supporting the Wolf Tomb Restoration Project (Louis Wolf was a distant ancestor). He also provided booth space at the Pechanga Pow Wow's for the society when we chose to participate.

Norman and his twin Gabriel were born in Arlington, and attended Perris High School. He served in the U.S. Army and was a member of an Airborne Division affectionately known as the "Devils in Baggy Pants". Norm worked for years as an Operating Engineer, and retired in 1994. He devoted his life to the health and welfare of the Pechanga Tribe and its members.

100 Years Ago This Month

(From the Archives of the Lake Elsinore Valley Press Weekly)

November 11, 1910 (Temecula, Nov. 7)

- The Pujol School has reached an enrollment of over 40 and with a slight increase, will be considering the matter of an assistant teacher.
- Freeman, the blacksmith, sold his valuable lot on which his shop stands for a good price and is now building a fine large shop on his lot east of the road and north of Fernald's quarry factory.
- The Pauba Ranch has several tons of alfalfa hay in the stack and is grazing a few thousand head of cattle on their extensive alfalfa acreage.
- A. Cantarini has closed a successful year with his large alfalfa field, the yield being very satisfactory.

President's Message

As you get older, time seems to pass much faster. In my old age, it seems that time is on a rocket heading to the moon, it will be there in several days.

I have really enjoyed being President of the Temecula Valley Historical Society for the past two years. The Board has been most accommodating to my wishes and whims. I am noted for having one hour maximum for meetings. Anything longer becomes boring and non-productive. I also believe in delegating tasks to Board members and expecting them to accomplish them without assistance from me. The members of our current Board have responded with superior results during my two year tenure. Some of the things we accomplished during the past two years include celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Temecula Post Office, several booths at the Temecula Valley Museum's swap meets, a number of tours to historic sites, posting Highway 395 signs in Temecula and Riverside County, working with VaRRa to restore exhibits for the History Center. We also changed our meeting times and dates to allow more members to attend. Each month we have presented outstanding speakers before each meeting who have covered the history of Temecula and events that affected our history. Our attendance has increased during the years. Our web-site has been vastly improved and we are getting feedback every month from our local residents.

I am proud to have been the leader of this organization for my two years as President. I was surrounded by a number of dedicated Board members who made my job so easy. My greatest thanks to ALL for their outstanding support. I know that our new President, Bonnie Martland, will experience the same feelings as she leads the Board in coming years.

Jimmy Moore

Local Sports History

Forgotten Hero From "Boys of Summer" Past

By Bill Harker

Lloyd Arviso, Temecula's forgotten softball hero. Born in April 1919 of Indian parents, Lloyd Arviso attended Grammar School in Temecula, and High School at Lake Elsinore. As he was growing up with his brother, Hank, on the Pechanga Reservation a few miles south of Old Town Temecula, the two boys whiled away a lot of time throwing balls back and forth to each other, not an unusual pastime for kids at that age. By the time they were in High School they began to take their hobby seriously and were soon noticed by the Elsinore baseball coach who saw the potential of the two boys. Lloyd had honed his skills as a pitcher throwing to his brother.

Enter Jim Banks, outstanding Indian athlete and graduate of the famous Sherman Indian High School in Riverside where he excelled in all sports from baseball to basketball. Weighing in at 185 pounds on a six foot frame, this handsome, dark skinned Indian with high cheek bones was an imposing sight. He loved baseball and had many opportunities to play organized ball, but turned them all down. Being a country boy he had a dislike for big towns.

Jim eventually put his talent to work in 1938 when he pulled a ball team together made up of Pala and Pechanga Indians. He had one of the first softball teams in Southern California and his star pitcher and catcher were none other than the Arviso brothers. Lloyd was his number one pitcher and star player. Standing six feet tall and weighing 225 pounds, the mere sight of his imposing stature neutralized many a batter. He could throw the softball past any batter and recorded 30 no hit, no run games against all star teams.

In 1960 Arviso's fast ball was clocked at an amazing 90 miles per hour and his sinker ball would drop straight down in front of the batter. He developed a sharp breaking curve that broke right on top of the batter and his rise ball was impossible to hit. Lloyd Arviso became a household name around the valley and many attended the games just to see Lloyd perform. He spent the better part of his years in the family home on Mercedes Street. Over time, the little house on Mercedes became run down and in need of repair. Lloyd planned to get around to it some day, but could see no need to hurry. And then Temecula incorporated into a City. Along with the City came a building and safety department that began taking stock of buildings in Old Town. When they came to Lloyd's place they boarded it up and listed it as unsuitable for human occupancy.

Local papers took stock of his plight and one ran a picture of a dejected man in his seventies trying to figure out what was happening to his old homestead. A mention was made of the fact that he was a former ball player. Lloyd Arviso, a hero in his day and known throughout Southern California for his feats on the pitcher's mound, has all but been forgotten.

Annual Meeting Plans Are Set

As this issue of the Newsletter is going to "press", the final arrangements are being made for our Annual Meeting of the Temecula Valley Historical Society to be held on Saturday, November 13, 2010.

Festivities will start at 6 p.m. with hospitality time, then dinner to be served at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Little Temecula History Center. A catered buffet dinner will be part of the evening, along with some fine wine tasting. Cost \$20 per person.

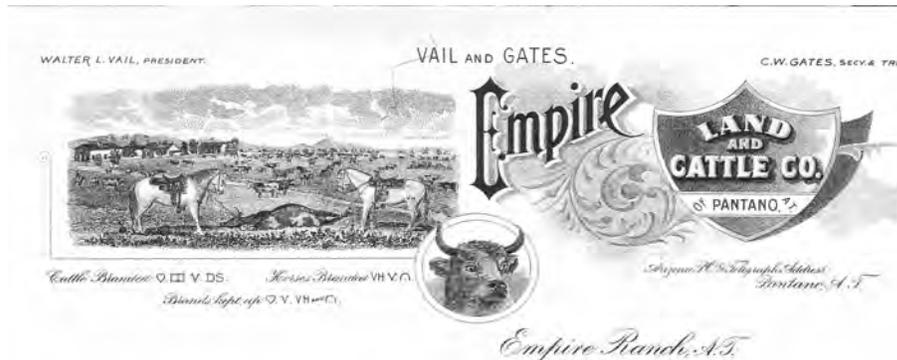
In addition to a wonderful, fun and informal program on the history of the Temecula Tractor Race, by Bob Morris; the event will include an art show which will remain on display through the next day (Sunday, November 14). Area artists are invited to participate, see website for entry forms, or contact Bonnie Martland. Invitations have been mailed to all members and special invited guests with a response card and return envelope.

The new Officers & Board of Directors for 2011 will be introduced.

Quotation . . .

A wise and frugal government, which shall leave men free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned - this is the sum of good government.

Thomas Jefferson



Temecula Caravan Has Pilgrimage To the "Mother Ranch" in Arizona

By Dick Fox

Twelve hardy souls representing Temecula, TVHS & VaARRA made a pilgrimage to Tucson on Friday, October 22 to attend and participate in the 10th Annual Roundup & Open House at the Historic Empire Ranch, approximately 30 miles southeast of Tucson, Arizona.

This year's event was held all day Saturday, October 23, and was entitled the "Celebration of the Cowboy". It was very well attended, with over 500 cars filling the area dedicated to parking. Wagon rides were provided from the parking area to the ranch site. The Empire Ranch is where Walter Vail and his brother Edward began the ranching empire that eventually included the local Temecula Valley Vail Ranch, as well as the Vail Ranch on Santa Rosa Island off the coast of Santa Barbara.

Engaging activities were available during the day for all to enjoy, and were sufficiently varied to provide something for everyone. From horsemanship skill events in the main arena, to many western skills that included horsehair rope making demonstrations, branding, horseshoeing, mule packing, and self-guided tours of the original Vail family home and entire ranch compound. The home which began with 4 adobe rooms, grew over the years to be 30 rooms (including Cowboy quarters). Multiple other original buildings are still standing and await stabilization, conservation and restoration work as time & resources become available.

Midday found most enjoying BBQ beef with tortillas, beans, fresh roasted corn-on-the-cob, and cobbler (apple or peach) made in old Dutch ovens. Music was continuous with a variety of Western music groups, and some enchanting music from the Mariachi Apache (a high school Mariachi ensemble from Nogales, Arizona). What an outstanding fund-raising event it was – filled with fun, food, learning and plenty of inspiration to continue our efforts.

More . . . 100 Years Ago This Month

(From the Archives of the Lake Elsinore Valley Press Weekly)

November 18, 1910 (Temecula - Nov. 15)

- Mac Machado has a large order from a San Francisco firm for stone and is forwarding three or four carloads a week. He is expecting a large force of expert quarrymen from Texas and when they arrive the work will assume larger proportions.