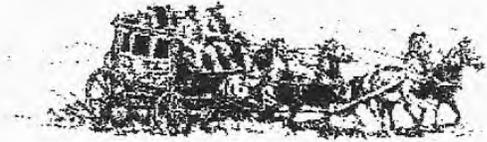


TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

April 2012

Volume 12 – Issue 4

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.

2011 Officers

President	Bonnie Martland
Vice President	Dick Fox
Secretary	Elaine Culverhouse
Treasurer	Lynn Cude
Past President	Jimmy Moore

Directors

Bill Harker	Elaine Eshom
Bonnie Reed	Darell Farnbach
Lisa Woodward	Thomas Long
Pat Lallou	
Myra Masiel-Zamora	

Committee Chairs

Research & Preservation

Darell Farnbach

Public Relations

Dick Fox

Membership

Bill Harker

Program Speakers

Rebecca Farnbach

Projects

Jimmy Moore

Events/Education

Lisa Woodward

Historian

Thomas Long

A Publication of the
Temecula Valley Historical Society
P.O. Box 157
Temecula, CA 92593
951-303-6860
www.temeculahistoricalsociety.org



The Tale of Robert Hathaway

By Jeffery G. Harmon

It was shortly after Christmas when celebratory drinking was taking place at the local Temecula saloon. A drunken man began arguing with the local constable. Guns were drawn and then multiple shots were fired. When the smoke cleared, both drunken men were still standing. The bad marksmen were subdued by onlookers and disarmed quickly.

This is not the famous Christmas Eve shooting of 1907. This shooting took place ten years prior in December 1897 between Justice of the Peace John Welty and Robert Hathaway, a local prospector.

“The cause of the trouble is not known but it is presumed that the gentlemen had not recovered from the Christmas celebration and its bright red liquor accompaniment that are somewhat in vogue at Temecula.” (Riverside Daily Press, December 28, 1898)

The next day, Justice Welty and Robert Hathaway were arrested. The court trial was held at the Fountain House in Murrieta. A few days later, Justice Cheney dismissed the charges. Both men were found at fault, but no injuries or death had occurred. However, Robert Hathaway’s troubles had just begun.

In March 1898, Hathaway was drunk, wandering the streets of Temecula and terrorizing the town. Constable Hugh McConville quickly obtained a warrant for Hathaway’s arrest.

“When McConville called upon Hathaway to surrender and consider himself under arrest, Hathaway lit onto the officer and gave the latter a drubbing. The officer finally called upon help and Hathaway had to give in.” (Riverside Daily Press, March 29, 1898)

On March 31, 1898, Robert Hathaway pleaded guilty and was sentenced to nine months in the county jail for resisting arrest and smiting an officer.

“In all probability, it was a lucky thing for him that he pleaded guilty, for by so doing, he doubtless saved himself a much longer term in the State Penitentiary.” (Riverside Daily Press, April 1, 1898)

After spending two months in the county jail, Hathaway petitioned Governor Budd to pardon him. The governor refused to grant his request. On December 23, 1898, Hathaway completed his sentence and was released from the county jail.

In February 1899, Robert Hathaway passed through Temecula and visited the Mountain Beauty Mine near Oak Grove. Hathaway

(Continued on Page 2)

Calendar Of Events

Saturday, April 14 – 6:00 p.m.

Temecula Valley Museum
Wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres
A panel discussion of early
Winery owners and vintners
Reflecting on the creation and
Evolution of Temecula's Wine
Country

Saturday, April 21 – 10:00 a.m.

Guided tour of the Mission Inn
Tour Duration ~ 75 minutes
Cost \$10 per person
Limited to 25 people
Wheelchair Accessible
Carpooling will be suggested.
To RSVP or receive additional
Info, please contact
Lisa Woodward at
(951) 514-7406 or email at
LLWoodward@verizon.net

Monday, April 23 – 6 p.m.

TVHS monthly meeting at Little
Temecula History Center, Anne
J. Miller, Ph.D presenting:
"Temecula in the News:
Searching Historic News-
Papers Online"
Learn about unique findings in
Historic newspaper about the
History of Temecula.

Thursday, April 26 – 7 p.m.

Temecula Valley Museum
Gallery Talk by Steve Lech
And book signing of his new
Book on Riverside County Parks

Monday, May 28 – 6 p.m.

TVHS monthly meeting at Little
Temecula History Center,

Temecula Valley Museum Exhibition

April 14 ~ June 17, 2012
"Wine Country: From the
Missions to Modern Day"

The Ramona Pageant

April 21-22, 28-29, & May 5
For more information call:
1 (800) 645-4465

Hathaway (Continued from Page 1)

claimed to have originally located the mine with its rich ore. He inspected the current owners' mining operation and development and was greatly pleased.

However, a month later, Hathaway was in the Los Angeles county jail for disturbing the peace while intoxicated. The victim was Mrs. Rose E. Norris, who Hathaway had been romantically involved with for three years. He had asked her to marry him, but Rose refused his proposal due to his violent temper.

"When Hathaway was arrested he boasted of being the possessor of a private graveyard and intimated that thrashing six or seven policemen was only pastime for him, but he concluded not to cause mourning in the police department by annihilating one of its finest, and went quietly to jail." (Riverside Daily Press, March 31, 1899)

After serving two months in jail, Hathaway continued to pursue Mrs. Rose Norris. In July 1899, he was once again arrested in Los Angeles for allegedly threatening to kill Mrs. Norris. However, by early August, Hathaway was found not guilty and was discharged. After this trial, Hathaway's name faded from the newspapers.

Robert Hathaway was not the only suitor to have had his heart broken by Mrs. Rose E. Norris. On October 10th, 1892, sixteen year old Rose Holdridge ran away from her Ontario, California family farm to meet Thomas R. Norris at the King Hotel in Pomona, California. They registered as man and wife and the next day traveled to Riverside to make their union official. However, upon arriving in Riverside, Rose refused to get married unless Thomas bought her some new clothes.

In December, Thomas was placed on trial in Los Angeles for the seduction of young, Rose Holdridge. The parents had claimed her virtuous nature, but several young male suitors took the stand, red in the face, and testified to their intimate relationships with Rose. E.J. Peters, a friend of Thomas Norris, testified that on the day Rose ran away, he drove Rose in his buggy to Pomona. During the trip, Rose allowed him to kiss and touch her. However, his conscience got the better of him and he reigned himself in.

The jury couldn't reach a verdict and the case was thrown out. Thomas Norris and Rose Holdridge were married soon afterwards. Their marriage only last a few short years and then they divorced. Afterwards, Rose left Thomas and ran away with Robert Hathaway.

In December 1901, Thomas Norris was arrested in San Bernardino County for "rolling a drunk" in other words, stealing from an intoxicated man. He was sentenced to San Quentin for a year and a half.

As for the fate of Robert Hathaway, it is unknown. Did he give up the girl, the gold, or the ghost? His answer is still waiting to be discovered. What is known is that the Christmas shooting of 1897 was neither the first nor the last shooting at a Temecula saloon nor was

119 Years Ago

April 22, 1893
Riverside Daily Press

J. C. Hardman has just returned from the south. He says that every tree, stone and barn in the Temecula Canyon, Perris, San Jacinto, South Riverside and other localities are plastered with posters, of which the following is a copy:

County seat at Menifee means a railroad through this canyon.

A vote for Menifee is a vote for work.

Vote for Menifee and you vote to build up the county.

Menifee is in the exact center of the tillable part of the new county.

Riverside is the corner and near San Bernardino.

Vote to bring the railroad through the Temecula canyon and it will develop our coal, clay and tin mines as well as our orchards and vineyards.

Look for your ballots.

P.S. Menifee gives \$100,000 to build courthouse, jail, etc.

Researcher's Note:

On May 2, 1893 Temecula casted 37 votes

24 were against county

18 for county

10 for Riverside county seat

23 for Menifee county seat

Hathaway (Continued from Page 2)

Hathaway the last drunk that McConville would arrest. Throughout Temecula's history there have been several shootings at the local watering holes, but those are other stories waiting to be told.

100 Years Ago This Month

April 30, 1912 Riverside Independent Enterprise

Saloons for 5th District a Curse

Riverside County District Attorney Lyman Evans stated:

“. . .As the fifth district includes fully one-third of the area of the whole county, extending from Temecula and Murrieta north to San Jacinto and Hemet, and eastward to the Colorado River, the introduction of saloons into this vast territory means all kinds of trouble and expense to the county. Of all the districts of the county, fifth should be the last to be granted saloons. A saloon can much more easily be controlled in a more densely populated district, or in a city, than in a district scattered over so much territory as the fifth. "The petition for this special election originated at Temecula, it having been started by Joe Winkels, who has been in the 'blind pig' business for years, having been convicted on several occasions for such offense.

"Roadhouses such as are kept in districts of a county, outside of incorporated towns, are the most undesirable institutions in a county like Riverside, laying the foundation for various forms of lawlessness and being scattered over so wide a territory, this is the most difficult and expensive for a county to handle. I am satisfied the saloon measure will be defeated on May 14 . . ."

Researcher's Note: *Officials believed that the 5th District was too vast to police. City saloons were easier to monitor than remote towns such as Temecula. Temecula voted 60 – 3 in favor of liquor sales. However, the votes were not enough. The "Dry" votes won the 5th District. Winkels' saloon would continue operating illegally.*

25 Years Ago This Month

April 29, 1987, Rancho News

New Bedford Logo, a Burst into the Future

By Greg Normand, Managing Editor

Rancho California's identity is changing. The traditional rose, the representative symbol for Rancho California for more than 20 years, is being ushered out by Bedford Properties officials in favor of a new corporate logo, a diamond shaped sunburst.

Peter Bedford, at a private reception at Bear Creek Golf Club this past week, unveiled the company's new insignia for Rancho California calling the change "a step into the future."

Bedford said altering Rancho California Development Company's logo was designed to "reestablish company identity for new ownership." The physical change in logo will not alter the way Bedford Properties operates Rancho California. . . .

50 Years Ago This Month

April 15, 1962,

San Diego Union

A few excerpts from

Temecula: The Past is Its

Future by Larry Freeman

When asked about Big Things to come for Temecula, Dr. Parker replied:

“Remember,” (Dr. Parker) says, “we’re on an island. We’re surrounded by the Vail property, 90,000 acres . . . As far as I know there are no plans for breaking up the ranches – so how could anything big be imminent?”

Dr. Parker also discussed the history of the hotel:

The (Temecula) hotel reflects past glories. Its dining room was used for weddings, wakes and funerals. At one time or another it housed a school, two stores, and the post office. Its register shows the names of Imperial Valley ranchers who used to come up through Kane Springs, via Borrego. George Sawday’s cowboys and others drove cattle from Warner’s and other ranches to Temecula for shipment to Los Angeles.

When the cowboys came to town, things picked up. They used to shoot just for the fun of it, Dr. Parkers says.

“When anyone was hauled to the county hospital with a bullet wound, they automatically registered him as from Temecula,” he says. “Temecula was the Dodge City of Southern California.”

“Perhaps there’s a hint here of the Big Things shaping up for Temecula.” Larry Freeman

President's Message by Bonnie Martland

A NOSTALGIC TRIP

“Take a Drive on Route 395” was his initial greeting to those of us attending Jeff Harmon’s talk at last month’s TVHS meeting.

“Get your kicks on Route 66,” a more familiar turn of words might be.

However, we soon learned, we better leave that phrase be.

Nostalgia he kindled with photos and talk,
of road trips and outings long gone from my thoughts.

On highways still fresh and new,
when my family drove to California in 1952,
in a Nash Rambler, from NJ, packed with five girls,
my parents and the family pets too.

My dad loved to drive, and every vacation, he’d pack up now all six of us, including my baby brother, into our newly purchased Chrysler station wagon.

An Airstream he pulled on long trips; and took camping gear as well,
a family as large as ours with pets meant OK campgrounds,
not a luxury hotel.

From north to south and from coast to coast,
of states and landmarks we saw more than most.

Adventures we had, or disasters we barely avoided...

Snatching my youngest sister from the edge of the Canyon, Grand
and pulling the cactus spines from another sibling’s hand.

There was the time Dad, befuddled in the Big Apple traffic while pulling a large trailer, decided the best way out of the snarl was to follow the local bus.

And, voila! we soon arrived at New York City’s largest terminal station.
On a rock hounding trip Dad drove two miles into a narrow dead-end canyon,
and soon found himself backing out the same way he had gone in,
but deftly guiding in reverse, his big silver travel trailer.

We did lose my brother in the Mojave on one trip.

When he was left at the rest stop, I think he was six.

He waited calmly for our return.

“I knew you’d be back,” he sprightly quipped.

Despite the irony, considering such events,
the time spent together was a gift we came to realize was heaven sent.

We met all kinds of people and developed a sense of pride
in the beauty, the landscape, the history
and the heritage of the place where we reside.

On weekends we’d often take a ride to a mission, a museum,
the zoo, or the beach;

Somewhere close to home and an easy place to reach.

I know it is with dread today we enter a filling station,
but remember there is a lot to explore close at hand,
without a trip across the nation.

You can take a drive on local Historic Highway 395,
or another close location.

You may be surprised at the pleasures to be derived on a trip
to a local destination!