



VaARRA News

Newsletter from the
Vail Ranch Restoration Association

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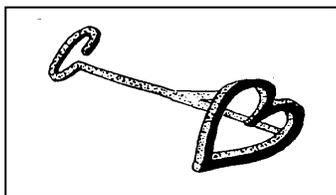
2nd Quarter 2012 – Volume 3, Issue 2

“Dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Historic Vail Ranch Headquarters.”

**Little Temecula
History Center is
Open on Sunday –
In Red Implement
Barn next to Kohl’s
At Margarita and
Temecula Pkwy.**

**Sundays 12 – 5 pm
Or by Appointment**

***Come see the results of
our efforts, and perhaps
Volunteer to be a docent.***



Vail Ranch Restoration Association

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Photo behind the Wolf Store and Cook House with crews busy painting, and others moving large objects out of the way, as well as helping to grade the grounds. Motorized equipment was a big help.

Special Thanks to:

Mormon Helping Hands

On Saturday, April 28 the Historic Vail Ranch Headquarters and the Vail Ranch Restoration Association (VaARRA) were blessed by the Mormon Helping Hands. Each year the local Mormon Church selects an area non-profit or special community group to help in a variety of ways. This year they dedicated a days work from scores of volunteers to help with clean-up, and other needs at the Historic Vail Ranch Headquarters site, and VaARRA’s History Center.

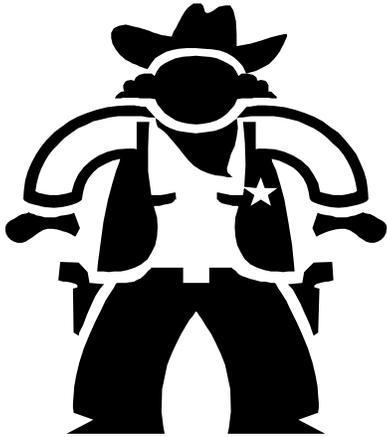
Approximately 300 people began the day with a brief program which included the raising of the American Flag on the ranch’s flagpole by Boy Scouts, followed by a blessing – all conducted from the steps of the Wolf Store at Vail Ranch Headquarters location. Some of the group were sent to paint a fence out off of De Portola Road, and the balance stayed at the ranch site.

Many hours of planning and organizing were done by leaders of the group, and the accomplishments by the end of the day were extraordinary and rewarding for all. Here’s a brief re-cap of all the things that got done by the Helping Hands:

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Friends of VaARRA Associate Members

Robert & Carol Anderson
Audrey & Vince Cilurzo
Robert & Kathryn Curtis
David Elliott & Anne Miller
Walt & Jean Dixon
Elaine Eshom
Dale Garcia
Phil & Connie Harris
Sue & Jim Jeffrey
Pat Lallou
Bonnie Martland
Jimmy & Peg Moore
John Moramarco
Duane & Judy Preimsberger
Rosemary & Ray Smith
Karen & David Strauss
Roger Weber
Lisa Woodward



VaARRA Board of Directors

Darell Farnbach, President
Rhine Helzer, Vice President
Rebecca Farnbach, Secretary
Sandy Helzer, Treasurer
Dick Fox, Newsletter
Charolette Fox
Malcolm Barnett
Loretta Barnett
Bill Harker
Dave Wilson
Toni Benson

Helping Hands . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

1. Over 20 trees on the ranch property were trimmed. With the aid of motorized “chippers” the trimmings were turned into mulch.
2. Mulch created from above was then spread around the base of the trees, along the fence lines, and under equipment artifacts to create a weed barrier.
3. The History Center Red Barn building had its entire exterior painted.
4. Fascia boards on both the Cook House and Bunk House were repaired.
5. The Wolf Store was painted.
6. The Cook House had a door repaired and some painting was done.
7. Both the Water Building and Bunk House had paint applied.
8. Extra Mulch was provided and delivered.
9. The old broken hitching post in front of the Wolf Store was replaced with new materials.
10. New heavier duty posts were put on all of the numbered signs in front of each building.
11. Large dumpster was donated to haul away rubbish.
12. A large round tank was loaded onto a flatbed trailer to transport.
13. Granite markers were placed to note location of the Southern Emigrant Trail through the ranch site.
14. All of the pieces of granite stored along the fence were reorganized and restacked.
15. Old wagon parts and wood by Machinery Barn were reorganized.
16. Both of the bathrooms at the History Center had repairs done to the flooring.
17. An informational sign at the Historic Ranch site was moved.
18. The use of three tractors for the day helped to accomplish heavy work.
19. The entire property had weeds cut, and the grounds scraped with a tractor blade.
20. A large valve left over from construction of shopping center was moved to the back of the property.
21. Multiple light fixtures were upgraded and adjusted at the History Center.
22. Fence repairs were done at the Ranch site.
23. Old Cilurzo Winery sign was hung on the wall at the History Center.
24. 20 gallons of paint were donated.

Donors of materials and equipment: Adams Landscaping, Frazee Paint Co., Volvo Rentals, CR&R Environmental Services, Green Bee Construction, KML Construction Inc., Homeplace Flooring, GDT Framing Inc., and Milner Signs.

For an action view of the activities, go to “YouTube” and enter 2012 Temecula Stake Mormon Helping Hands and watch the 4+ minute video. Optionally you can type in the full line below:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=SjCNjlcESV8



American Eagle Sculpture owned by
Duane & Judy Preimsberger

Tours & Events

In addition to the visitors at the History Center during our regular Sunday afternoon hours of operation, we have many other activities and events, including private group tours by appointment.

During the second quarter of 2012 we had a Cub Scout Pack, and 4 classes of 3rd graders from Pauba Valley Elementary.

An organization known as B.A.R.N. (Be Able and Ready Now) meets twice a month on the second and fourth Thursday evening from 7 to 9 pm. For more information contact susan.thebarn@gmail.com

On the fourth Monday each month the Temecula Valley Historical Society has its monthly meeting, which starts at 6 pm with a history related program, followed by a Board Meeting. TVHS meetings are always open to the public.

A Memorial Day Remembrance

The American Eagle Sculpture

By Duane Preimsberger

Over 130 years ago an Arizona Cypress began its search for the sky in the rugged mountains near Julian, California. It grew slowly and while it grew it was buffeted and shaped by winds, rains, snows and weather for more than a century. Its beauty and majesty graced the slopes upon which it soared until it had lived a full and majestic life.

Time took its toll and needles began to fall from sinking branches that once praised the Heavens. The sap that nourished its heart began to dry as this magnificent tree slowly died. The spirit of the tree struggled to grace the azure sky, but one day its heart quivered, struggled and died.

In its death it stood waiting for fire and destruction, but instead it has been resurrected into a thing of soaring and majestic beauty to honor those who served with the courage of eagles while defending our nation. John Elsebusch has sculpted from the heart of this tree a work of art, an American Eagle. It is a tribute to God, our Nation, our Heroes and our Land.

As you look upon it remember the majesty and grace of our country, those who serve her well, the beauty of our forests, and the wonder of our wildlife. As you do, please remember to pray that God will continue to bless the United States of America, the land that we love and the brave men and women who serve and sometimes give their all!

Q2 Artifact Donations / Loans

During the 2nd Quarter of this year we received a nice silver bowl and a refurbished antique toaster donation from John Harrison.

Sarah Blackwood loaned VaARRA a pre-Civil War blue & white coverlet, and a hand crocheted bedspread.

Sheldon Otto donated a set of 4 posters that had been produced by the Bianchi Museum, each with a different scene, featuring Cowboys, Lawmen, Mexicans, and Troopers.

Out of Past Newspapers

Division Of Property Interests Was Friendly

Los Angeles Herald, January 9, 1910 -- In the recent division of the property interests of the old firm of Vail & Gates, the heirs of Walter Vail, eight in number, including the widow, receive the Santa Rosa ranch of 47000 acres in Riverside County; also the old Pauba ranch of 40000 acres at Temecula, and the Total Wreck mine and Empire ranch, located in Arizona.

G. W. Gates received cash considerations and residence property in Los Angeles, at Huntington Beach, San Diego, Riverside and elsewhere.

The heirs of Mr. Vail are also interested with J. V. Vickers in the ownership of Santa Rosa Island in the Santa Barbara channel.

Brief Notes -

Library Progress

Over 800 data sheets for the books in our Native American library have been entered into our database. The majority of the books has been known as the Cherry/Parr Collection, but this original core collection has been augmented in recent times by other donations. Labels with call #, title, author and subjects have been printed and placed on acid free paper. These will be used to identify each book. Sorting and organizing by groupings is now underway, to include having shelf labels to designate groupings by region. Additional books continue to be donated to VaARRA.

On our E-mail List ??

Our primary method of distribution of this newsletter is through our growing e-mail list, but if you have not received a copy of our newsletter and would like to be added for e-mail distribution, drop us a note at info@vailranch.org and we will be glad to add your address. Printed copies are usually available at the History Center during each quarter. In the event you missed an issue then go to temeculahistoricalsociety.org website, Local History tab, scroll down click on Historic Vail Ranch, then scroll to links for past issues.

Images of History

Sketches Provided Early Temecula Documentation

By Rebecca Farnbach

Before photography was widely accessible, sketches were made upon rock or paper to record data, or to document events. From a sketch by a European named Vischer, we know how Pablo Apis' house looked. Helen Hunt Jackson's artist Henry Sandham provided many images of the Temecula Valley.

Later, as photographers hauled cameras into this rugged area, C.C. Pierce made lasting images of Pechanga families and lands, and F.H. Maude, L.J. Geddis and others documented the Wolf Store adobe and surrounding area. After setting up the wooden-legged tripods in the desired light of day, a photographer climbed under a cloth or leather drape to compose pictures from the upside down and backwards view through the lens.

Their photos took time and expertise to develop, too. No instant photo popped out with the push of a button. The delicate emulsion from glass plates was carefully processed with chemicals in a darkroom and paper images hung from wires to drip dry.

Photographers and collectors contribute to our present-day knowledge of the geography, flora and fauna and topography of our area. We know the faces of people who we could never encounter in our lifetimes because of the efforts of the early photographers.

We are indebted to individuals like E. Hale Curran who avidly took photos with Brownie cameras and collected photos from other photographers to depict the history of Murrieta. Other people who collected photos to reveal people and events of the past were Leverne Parker and Sandy Wilkinson. The Parker and Wilkinson collections are both held at the Temecula Valley Museum.

Each of us could help preserve the legacy of today for future generations by organizing and labeling the photographs we have in our personal collections. With family collections it is helpful to ask older members of the family to help identify the people, places and events depicted. When there are no elders to identify photos, some information can be gleaned from sorting photos by locations printed on the back of the photographer's card stock. By using genealogical charts and maps, then by dating the clothing and hairstyles, some good guesses can be made as to who the people may be and their relationships to one another. People's faces change as they age, but after childhood the proportions of chin to mouth, eyes to ears, etc., do not change.

We so much treasure photos of yesterday – yes, they are worth a thousand words – for their wealth of information. We can all do our part to save some of today's images for enjoyment in the future.