

TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



Wolf Store

July 2021
Volume 21 Issue 7

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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www.temeculahistoricalsociety.org



Commemorating the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. Independence Day will be celebrated on Sunday, July 4, 2021 this year.

Remembering

Celebrations of the Past

The 4th of July Celebration in Temecula – 1904

Written by Elizabeth Ludy in 1984

I was 10 years old and my father was helping to get the “Ludy Ranch” ready for the Vails, who had bought it, so my brother – 12 years old – and I spent the summer, from May until December on the ranch in Temecula.

Temecula was going to have a real Western 4th of July Celebration. Families came from far and near, everyone was there. Many of them left home before daybreak in their wagons with children and dogs and all.

The day was sizzling hot as most summer days are in Temecula and dry and dusty but it was the 4th of July and who cared?

Someone had barbecued a whole beef – someone had cooked a large mess of beans to go with it, but the best of all, someone had a very large common washtub filled with cold water and in the tub were bottles and bottles of soda pop – the first time I ever seen or heard of soda pop and anyone who had a nickel could have one of those cold, delicious bottles of soda pop.

The afternoon was spent mostly in horsemanship – trick riding – racing down the dusty street that is now 1st Street in Temecula and how Chris and I would cheer when Little Eddie – our favorite uncle -- on his favorite riding horse, came in first.

Editor’s Note : Elizabeth Ludy at 10 years old in 1904 was then 90 years old when she penned this memory of a special July 4th celebration, and the memorable experience of buying her first soda pop for a nickel.



2007 — Darell & Rebecca with TVHS banner lead the way . . .



2002 — Bill Harker, Steve Clugston, Charolette Fox, and Dick is the guy with the Ben Franklin wig . . .



2005 — Darell & Rebecca ready for whatever comes . . .



2011 — Darell, John & Bonnie Martland, Dale Garcia

TVHS Continues Summer Evening Events Outdoors on Vail HQ Stage

The Temecula Valley Historical Society will treat the community to free historical entertainment at the Vail HQ Stage on Mondays this summer at **7:00 p.m.** Please **bring your own lawn chairs** and join us for these presentations.

On **Monday, July 5**, Gerry Nicholas will portray O.T. Hackett who brought the mail by stagecoach to Temecula for several decades and stayed the night at the hotel in the Wolf Store that is now the Press Espresso Coffee Shop.



On **Monday, July 26** Mark Belnap will give a presentation on Presidential Buttons.

Shelley Leddy will present Trixie Fernald on **August 2**, a Temecula female photographer who was ahead of her time as an entrepreneur.



On **August 16** the audience will meet Temecula's phone operator Edna Swanguen portrayed by Michele Elling.



On **Monday, July 12**, Bill Veale will tell what it was like to be a Vail cowboy and will teach some roping tricks.

Monday, July 19 Bonnie Martland will depict Mary Jane Welty. Mary Jane was the proprietor of Hotel Temecula in Old Town.



We will end the season with a program on **August 23** that will be announced later. Stay tuned!

Please join us for this entertaining and enjoyable lineup of historical programs. Remember to bring your own lawn chairs, or blankets to sit on.

Food and beverages can be purchased from Vail HQ vendors for consumption during the programs.

For more information, please call Rebecca Farnbach at 951-775-6057.

President's Message

July, 2021



As local historians we are picky about the accuracy of dates. I had thrown around 20 years in 2020 which had a great ring to it when our original date for our Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting celebrating the merger of the VaRRRA (Vail Ranch Restoration Association) and TVHS was set for March 20, 2020. We all know what happened to that.

As we rescheduled the Ribbon Cutting to July 16, 2021, the 20 years number came up again, this time counting from 2001. I knew both dates had some merit but it was time for my public relations self to yield to my historian self and nail down the particulars.

As you might expect from a historical society, there were notes and documents available to be checked. Here's what I found. Temecula's master plan had a Temecula Cultural Arts component. In 1999, the City assigned the Arts Council of Temecula Valley to administer this component including a historical plan for the young city.

Beginning in October 2000, President of the Arts Council, Martha Minkler, formed the Temecula Historic Preservation Committee to meet monthly and make decisions on the historic plan. It was decided a Historical Society would be formed, independent of the City, and directions were made to produce by-laws and form a Board of Directors.

In January 2001, officers were elected, a name chosen, and committees formed. The Society was incorporated by the State of California on Feb 20, 2001.

Whichever way you cut it, the Society has accomplished a lot over the last two decades. Thanks for being a part of this great organization!

— *Shari*

**Remember to attend the Ribbon Cutting Event
with the Chamber of Commerce
4 p.m. Friday, July 16 at the
Little Temecula History Center**

Membership News

**THANK YOU FOR RENEWING:
Max & Gail Cantu
Bill & Elizabeth Veale**

EVENTS CALENDAR

- Friday, July 2** — 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. VW club meet up. VW car club parks their cars on the property.
- Sunday, July 4** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday with local vendors, photo ops, train rides, stagecoach rides, family activities, BRUNCH items at the businesses of Vail HQ and a DJ on the Vail stage.
- Monday, July 5** — 7 p.m. Presentation by the Historical Society. Free historical entertainment on the Vail HQ Stage. Gerry Nicholas will portray O.T. Hackett who Brought mail to Temecula by stage for decades.
- Friday, July 9** — 8 p.m. Outdoor Movie Night at Vail HQ, "Ready Player One" (PG-13). Bring own chairs.
- Sunday, July 11** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday with local vendors, activities and DJ on Vail stage.
- Monday, July 12** — 7 p.m. Presentation by Historical Society, Bill Veale will tell what it was like to be a Vail cowboy and teach some roping tricks.
- Thursday, July 15** — 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. VW club meet up — VW car club parks their cars on the property.
- Friday, July 16** — 4 p.m. Temecula Valley Historical Society / TV Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Little Temecula History Center the red Barn west of Kohls. This is 20th Anniversary of the Society, and 1 year anniversary of TVHS & VaRRRA Merging, as well as becoming a Chamber member.
- Saturday, July 17** — 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thistle and Sage Vegan Market. Vegan friendly vendor market, foods.
- Sunday, July 18** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday with vendors, train and stagecoach ride activities.
- Monday, July 19** — 7 p.m. Presentation by Historical Society, Bonnie Martland will depict Mary Jane Welty who was proprietor of Hotel Temecula in OT.
- Wednesday, July 21** — 7 p.m. Rebel Spin class presented by Grazing Theory — Exercise bikes will be located in the central courtyard area by the stage.
- Friday, July 23** — 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Crosspoint Church Worship Night at Vail HQ.
- Sunday, July 25** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday with vendors, train and stagecoach ride activities.
- Monday, July 26** — 7 p.m. Presentation by Historical Society, Mark Bellnap will give a presentation about Presidential Election Buttons that were worn.
- Friday, July 30** — 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Starlight Bazaar, vendor market, DJ, street performers and family fun.

100 Years Ago in Temecula

Selected items from Lake Elsinore Valley Press, Temecula Gossip Column – July 1921

Issue of July 1, 1921

By Elizabeth Nienke

Little Clifford Dunlap, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dee Dunlap, of the Pauba ranch, is seriously ill at the Riverside Hospital with an attack of appendicitis. The doctors are waiting until he grows strong enough to stand an operation. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap are hoping for the little fellow's speedy recovery.

A carload of registered Aberdeen Angus cattle arrived Monday for the Mendenhall Cattle Co., of Smith Mountain. These animals are some of the very best ever brought into this section.

The Temecula baseball nine was defeated at Perris Sunday, the score being about 16-5. Another game will be played between the two teams, next Sunday at the Hot Springs.

E.J. McSweeney, the potato raiser, has been shipping potatoes this week. Most of this crop will be saved for seed potatoes. Mr. McSweeney has large potato interests near Alhambra, also.

Issue of July 8, 1921

By Elizabeth Nienke

Early Sunday morning word came to the U.S. officers stationed in Temecula that Chinese smugglers were on the road near Warner's Springs. Officers Hackett, Riley, Rodriguez and Burnham left immediately for that region. Sunday night Officers Riley and Rodriguez, who were together surprised the smugglers at Oak Grove, disarmed them and brought them to Temecula Monday morning, later taking them to San Diego to headquarters, with the aid of Officers Hackett and Burnham. There was ten Chinese in the group which the two smugglers were bringing through in two large cars. Excitement reigned supreme in Temecula when the news was spread and many people driving through stopped to take a peep at the group.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ludy and family of Rainbow, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Walters and daughter spent the Fourth at Oceanside, driving down in the Ludy Ford. While the group was enjoying the celebration at the beach someone who seemed to think himself more in need of a car than the Ludy family, rambled away in it. Friends brought the car-less people home. Early Tuesday morning Mr. Friedemann, while looking for cattle near H. Escalier's place, happened to see a deserted Ford by the roadside and found it to be the Ludy car. Who the guilty party is remains a mystery.

Temecula was practically deserted the Fourth, most everyone going to Oceanside and other places of interest.

Joe Nicolas shipped in four cars of cattle from Modena, Utah, on Saturday.

The Ochls Meat Company, of San Bernardino, shipped out three cars of cattle and one of sheep Monday morning.

Mr. Machado was in Riverside on Wednesday on

business. Mr. Machado has interest in a mine near Winchester. Two cars of feldspar ore were shipped out this week from the mine.

Mrs. Machado had as her guest part of last week Mrs. Belle Dutton of Washington D.C. Mrs. Dutton was a teacher for seven years at the Pechanga Indian School.

S.G. Veazy, of Los Angeles, has taken up his work as assistant cashier in the Temecula bank. Mr. Veazey takes the place of Miss Grace Greenfield, who is to become the bride of Mr. Dan Cantarini in the early fall.

E. J. McSweeney is shipping many potatoes to Alaska. There is a great demand from the northern regions for this particular crop because of its being so free from disease. Mr. McSweeney states that the crop is double what was expected after the heavy frost this spring.

The Temecula baseball nine redeemed themselves Sunday, when they again met the Perris team on the Murrieta Hot Springs grounds and defeated them four to five. The boys looked fine in their much coveted new suits. Next Sunday they play Banning at Banning. A league has been formed between Beaumont, Banning, Hemet, San Jacinto, Elsinore, Perris, Murrieta and Temecula, and very interesting games will follow.

J.B. Kelly is busy extracting honey at his apiary near town.

Mr. Machado was in Riverside on Wednesday on business. Mr. Machado has interest in a mine near Winchester. Two cars of feldspar ore were shipped out this week from the mine.

Mr. E. Sommerville, the Santa Fe engineer has been taking a few days vacation the past week. On Saturday he and his daughter, Mrs. Briggs and two little sons, motored to Oceanside where Mr. Briggs joined them and returned home with them for over the Fourth.

Mrs. Machado had as her guest part of last week Mrs. Belle Dutton of Washington D.C. Mrs. Dutton was a teacher for seven years at the Pechanga Indian School.

S.G. Veazy, of Los Angeles, has taken up his work as assistant cashier in the Temecula bank. Mr. Veazey takes the place of Miss Grace Greenfield, who is to become the bride of Mr. Dan Cantarini in the early fall.

Mr. Grey is having a well put down on his property, recently purchased of A.F. Nienke.

Mr. G.A. Burnham and son are having a new awning put up on the front of their store.

Issue of July 15, 1921

By Elizabeth Nienke

Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Kelly went to Oceanside Sunday on a fishing trip. While there, Mr. Kelly had the misfortune to get a large fish hook caught in his right hand above the thumb. An Oceanside doctor removed the hook and treated the injury. Mr. Kelly says he got the fish first, so the day was not entirely spoiled for him.

(Continued on next page)

More 100 Years Ago in Temecula

Selected items from Lake Elsinore Valley Press, Temecula Gossip Column – July 1921

By a new school law recently passed, Temecula and the other valley school districts are placed in the Elsinore high school district. Elsinore is going to send a bus to take the students back and forth. This is of great advantage to the several young people who are to enter high school and were seeking means of transportation.

Little Clifford Dunlap, who has been seriously ill in the Riverside hospital, was brought home last week and is improving rapidly.

Miss Angeline Cantarini, who has been spending the past month with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Cantarini, left for Los Angeles on Tuesday, where she will resume her former work.

Ralph Barnett, Louis Roripaugh and Barney Roripaugh, of the Temecula Boy Scout troop, are spending a week or ten days at the Boy Scout camp at Idyllwild. They write home that they are having the time of their lives.

Many Temecula people motored to Banning Sunday to witness the baseball game between Temecula and the team of that place. It was an unusually warm day, but an interesting game was played. The score was 6-9 in Banning's favor.

Mr. and Mrs. Botteral were in Temecula over Sunday. Mr. Botteral was formerly superintendent at the Pauba Ranch, but has been employed in Hollywood for some months.

Issue of July 22, 1921

By Elizabeth Nienke

The Jack Roripaugh, Roy Roripaugh and Ben Barnett families spent Sunday at Camp Emerson, the Boy Scout camp with their boys, who are having a two weeks outing there. They report a very interesting day and speak highly of the Boy Scout officials, their methods of managing the camp and the work of the boys.

Miss Elizabeth Nienke is clerking in the G.A. Burnham store for a few weeks.

Mr. Friedemann is having a well drilled on his town lot, recently purchased from Mr. Escallier.

The Temecula baseball nine played a lively game with the Hemet team last Sunday on the Hot Springs diamond. The score was 1 – 3 in Temecula's favor. Next Sunday Temecula and San Jacinto meet at the Hot Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Nicolas are the proud parents of a baby girl born July 16. They have named the little Miss, Margaret Lucille.

Issue of July 29, 1921

By Elizabeth Nienke

The Temecula ball team played San Jacinto last Sunday and were defeated 9 to 2.

Mrs. Al Knott and children enjoyed a picnic dinner at Live Oak Park with Mr. and Mrs. George Dirr of Elsinore on Sunday.

The Ben Barnett and Roy Roripaugh families

spent the weekend on a fishing trip near Oceanside.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos Kolb have as their guests their daughter, Mrs. Ernest Sweet, and little daughter, Mildred, of Riverside

Mr. and Mrs. Ashley Higgins, of La Habra, spent Sunday with Mrs. Higgins' mother, Mrs. Fisher. Miss Dolly Fisher returned home with them for a short visit. Mrs. Fisher is taking her place in the Temecula Lunch Rooms.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Hogg have moved into the Ernest Sweet cottage south of town. Mr. Hogg drives the Hot Springs bus from Temecula to Los Angeles.

Ole Larson has purchased a new five-passenger Ford.

The G.A. Burnham family was called to Escondido last Thursday by the death of their niece, Mrs. Wallace Stewart.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT VAIL RANCH HQ

The world is opening and our Vail Ranch HQ properties are welcoming more guests than ever. We have been asked to expand our activities and presence as merchants and visitors enjoy our train and stage coach rides, Little Temecula History Center and antique store. Currently open on Tuesday mornings during the Farmers Market and Sunday afternoons, demand is quickly increasing as visitor and vendor participation bring more customers in this post pandemic time.

The Society would like to open on Saturdays, requiring more volunteer hours. The tasks are easy: selling and collecting tickets for the Stagecoach or Train, assisting riders on and off, or even driving the vehicles is easy and fun. Or maybe you have maintenance experience you can share that is needed from time to time. Just a few hours of time and a chance to have a fun day helping the community enjoy the Ranch activities can be very rewarding.

The Little Temecula History Center needs volunteers to help archive and work with donated items. There is always a need for additional docents to interact with visitors. You do not have to be a Temecula history buff. Most of our History Center displays and artifacts are well marked, and there is always another docent close to help. We would like to expand to Saturday hours here too. Students may receive Community Service credits for any hours they volunteer.

A great opportunity for our organization to serve our community and support our goal to educate and preserve this area's history. Please consider joining our group of volunteers. Just a few hours donated each month helps us to grow and I have found it to be so very rewarding.

For additional information or any questions, or a sign-up, please contact Bonnie Reed, Events and Education Chairman, at email; grannyofive@gmail.com or ph# (760) 484-6019