

History Lives Here

News and Activities of the
Pajaro Valley Historical Association
September 2015

A Full Plate of Fun

75th Annual Vintage Picnic was an event to remember

The 75th Annual Vintage Picnic was a grand affair, with more than 100 people attending. Guests enjoyed the delicious buffet lunch served by Monterey Bay Caterers, wandered the garden, looked at exhibits and enjoyed live music provided by the Tin Pan Alley Band.

The Young Historian Award was given to Molly DeCastro-greene, and the annex was officially named the Bernice Porter Annex to recognize her great efforts. Four PVHA volunteers role-played historical characters from the past and we had a Flag Trivia Quiz and a raffle.



Guests look at the flag display.

Of particular interest were the vintage automobiles brought by Bill and Tanya Passey, David and Jenna Willoughby, Brian Herlamoff, and Linus Tremaine.

A lot of people pitched in to help. The sponsors were Dobler & Sons, Native Sons of the Golden West. Susan Jacobs, Ken Dobler and Celebrations.

Volunteers included Louis Arbanas, Lois Bacon, Marvin Byers, Sharon Bystran, Judy Campbell, Mimi Crumpton, Rosa Guerrero, Regan Huerta, Gayle Ivanovich, Susan & Ralph Jacobs, Shaz Lint, Gerry Martin, Zoe & May Martin-Parkinson, Lorraine Mathiesen, John Mello Claudia Mize, Casey Muzzi, Martha Muzzi, Niki Simmons, Phil Ybarra, and Chuck & Spomenka Zaninovich. Boy Scout Troop #505 and leader Paul Seymoure set up tables and chairs. Thanks to all who helped.



Lou Arbanas as Judge Godfrey Bockius (1818 – 1905) (from right), Gerry Martin as Mabel Rowe Curtis (1885 – 1980), Mimi Crumpton as Bernice Huggins Porter (1902 – 1999), Susan Jacobs as Zoe Orr Marcus (1913 – 2000) and John Mello.



Mimi Crumpton congratulating Diane Cooley after Diane's mother was honored with a plaque that will be installed naming the annex "The Bernice Porter Annex."



David Willoughby drives the classic auto that he and his wife Jenna brought to the party.

Volunteers at Work: Costumes, clothes and three ladies' inquisitiveness

Cataloguing the Pajaro Valley Historical Association's expansive collection of textiles is quite a chore, but Gerry Martin, Mimi Crumpton, Gayle Ivanovich, Sharon Bystran, Claudia Mize, Rosa Guerrero, Martha Muzzi and Jeanette Crosetti are having a lot of fun and learning a lot while they work on it each Wednesday.

They unpack old boxes, see what's inside and make any repairs if necessary. Each item is catalogued into a computer program called PastPerfect and then put back in an acid-free archival box.

They also get to decide what to set up on display inside the house — which dresses, gowns, suits and other items will be shown to the public.

"It's like playing dress up every day. I love it," said Gerry. "We have a great time and lots of material to work with. The displays are a lot of hard work, but we thoroughly enjoy it. And there's all this wonderful stuff, from hats to shoes, bridal gowns and casual wear."

Gerry has been focusing on reorganizing the wedding dresses so that anybody looking for a particular dress can find them by name or time period. She is also in charge of all the labels that go on the displays.

Claudia said all of it is very new to her and she really enjoys learning about the local history and how to take care of it.

"It's a lot of fun," she said. "You never know what you might find inside these boxes."

Mimi said a beautiful green velvet dress from the 1800s was discovered just last year.

"We thought, 'how did we ever miss this?'" Mimi said. "It had belonged to a store in



Inside the Bernice Porter Annex.



A display of children's clothes.

Freedom called Schmidt's. We just opened a box and found it. That's part of the thrill."

Money to purchase the acid-free boxes the women are using was donated and has been invaluable. Now that these local treasures are being stored properly, they can be rediscovered by future generations.

"We are very fortunate to have such a collection," Mimi said. "It was mainly started by Bernice Porter when the organization got started. Since

it was started in the 1940s, a lot of the really old dresses with bustles and old suits were still in peoples closets."

There are hats, gloves, shoes, dolls, toys and much more. It may take years to properly catalogue it all, especially since more keeps coming in.

"Without Sharon Bystran, and Gayle Ivanovich this wouldn't be happening. Rosa Guerrero has worked tirelessly on and off since she showed up several years ago and Martha



A flapper dress from the 1920s donated by Bernice Porter.

Muzzi has become the go-to girl for an endless number of tasks and Jeanette Crosetti is just wonderful. It's a great team."



A evening dress from 1965 donated by Millie Davis.

Young Historian Award Goes to Writer of Paper on Kenny Sears

Molly DeCastongrene is the winner of this year's Young Historian Award and the \$500 prize.

Molly wrote a research paper on Ken Sears, born Aug. 17, 1933, a basketball star at Watsonville High School who went on to play professionally during the '50s and '60s. She wrote that it was important to honor local heroes "because it fosters a sense of community and shows kids growing up around here that anything is possible."

After attending College at Santa Clara, Sears was drafted by the New York Knicks with fourth overall pick in the 1955 NBA draft. He was a two-time NBA All-Star and averaged 13.9 points a game. He was the first player to be featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated magazine. He still lives locally.

"Her outstanding presentation highlighting the factual information of his career, as well as her historical perspective of educating young people was deemed by the judging panel to fit all the criteria of the award."



Gerry Martin of the PVHA shakes Molly DeCastongrene's hand.

In addition, four other projects: a booklet of Watsonville apple labels by Max Bowman; Royal Oaks Park restoration by Nicholas Deleissegues; a booklet on Victorian homes by Vincent Irao; and a research project on the establishment of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Association by

Roger Marin were each awarded \$100.

Each year an individual or group that has made a significant contribution to the study, conservation/preservation, or enhancement of the history of the Pajaro Valley is given \$500.

The scope of appropriate activities/projects may include regions adjacent to the Pajaro Valley, as long as it is demonstrated how they impact the Pajaro Valley, and may be broadly interpreted to include a variety of efforts, including research papers, volunteer work for an organization, being a docent, restoration of objects or a site, public performance or re-enactments, art or exhibits depicting local history, oral histories, genealogical studies or digital documentaries.

The award is in respectful memory of Betty Lewis, Alzora Snyder, Margaret Hayes, Hubert Wyckoff, Bernice Porter and others who have illuminated our heritage as the foundation of the future for the Pajaro Valley.

1st Annual Mail In Fund Raiser

We value your support of our mission to preserve the history of the Pajaro Valley. This is our primary fundraiser for this year. We hope you will be generous and purchase many opportunities to win one or more of these fabulous prizes.



<p>First Prize Gourmet dinner for 8 at the Bockius Orr House prepared by Martha Muzzi & Judy Nielsen. Value: Priceless</p>	<p>Second Prize Mixed case of wine Donated by PVHA Board & Volunteers Minimum total value of \$300.00</p>	<p>Third Prize Auto Detail by Gilbert's Auto Detail Donated by: Peter Navarro Value: \$200.00</p>
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The number of tickets purchased _____ Amount of Check \$ _____.

We will fill in your name on the additional tickets purchased and place in the drawing for you.

I am not purchasing tickets but would like to make a donation \$ _____.

Mail your check and this form to PVHA. PO BOX 623. Watsonville. CA 95077

DRAWING 9/30/2015	1ST ANNUAL RAFFLE			1ST ANNUAL RAFFLE			DRAWING 9/30/2015
	~MAIL IN~			~MAIL IN~			
	DRAWING WILL BE HELD 9/30 AT 12 NOON @ PVHA						
	1 TICKET \$5	6 TICKETS \$25	12 TICKETS \$50	NAME: _____	PHONE: _____	EMAIL: _____	
WINNERS NOTIFIED BY PHONE ON 10/1/15							

Celebrate 75 Years of keeping local history

For 75 years, information and materials that represent the history of the Pajaro Valley have been gathered, preserved, exhibited and shared by the PVHA.

We are offering Commemorative Totes for a donation of \$5 and Commemorative Mugs for a donation of \$7. The 75th Anniversary Book will be available for a donation of \$12.50. The 75th Anniversary Plate will be available for a donation of less than \$40. The order will be placed when we have gathered a pre-order commitment for 72 plates. Please contact us for more information and visit us for a display of our 75-year history.



In Remembrance



Dixie Arns

April 1931- August 2015

PVHA bids a sad farewell to Dixie Arns, a dedicated volunteer who has worked tirelessly in our gardens for the past 12 years. She will be greatly missed.

Shed Remodeled for PVHA's Tables and Chairs

Thanks to a project conceived, planned and coordinated by volunteer Martha Muzzi, The PVHA has a remodeled storage shed to keep our outdoor lawn and patio tables and chairs protected from the elements.

We would like to thank the many volunteers, community members and board members who contributed to make this important project a reality. A huge thanks to Martha, who saw a need and figured out a way to get the job done.



Rent the Beautiful Bockius-Orr Grounds for Your Next Event

If you would like to rent our beautiful gardens and outdoor spaces for a private event, please contact our Rental Manager, Mrs. Alice Bankhead at (831)722-2087 or email her at alicebankhead@aol.com.

She will be happy to answer any questions that you may have and book the event for you.

Save the Date!



Don't miss the Holiday Tea on Dec. 6 from 1-4 p.m.



PAJARO VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 623
WATSONVILLE, CA 95077

Preserving the History
of the Greater Pajaro Valley

Established 1940 ~ Incorporated 1956

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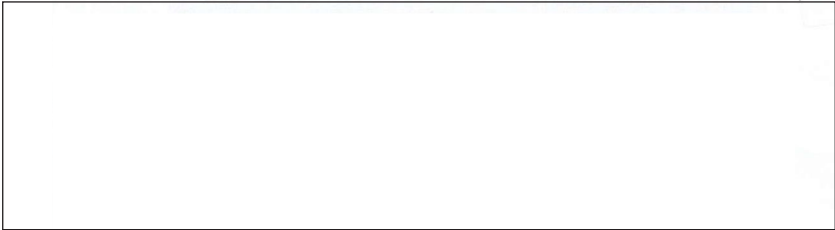
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The Pajaro Valley Historical Association is a **nonprofit** public benefit corporation organized under the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for charitable purposes. Donations to the Pajaro Valley Historical Association are **tax deductible** within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. **Tax ID 94-1663161**

Not a member yet? Want to join now or need to renew?
We'd love to have you become a member of PVHA

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please Make Checks Payable to “PVHA”

P.O. Box 623, Watsonville, CA 95077

or join via our website at www.pajarovalleyhistory.org

___ New Member ___ Renewal Membership expiration date ___
___ Donor \$40 ___ Sponsor \$50 ___ Supporter \$100
___ Benefactor \$250 ___ Patron \$500 ___ Corporate \$ ___
Other Donation \$ _____ to be used for _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone No.: _____ Total enclosed: _____
Email Address: _____

(We are updating our database and would like to include your email address please)

All contributions are tax-deductible within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3)
of the Internal Revenue Code ~ Tax ID 94-1663161

THANK YOU!

**Ways to
Donate**

- Become a Member
- Upgrade your Membership Level
- Make a general donation to the PVHA
- Make a donation to our endowment funds: Historic Preservation (endowment fund in formation) or Archive (endowment fund established at The Community Foundation)

Checks should be made payable to PVHA with a designation notation