

History Lives Here

SPRING 2021



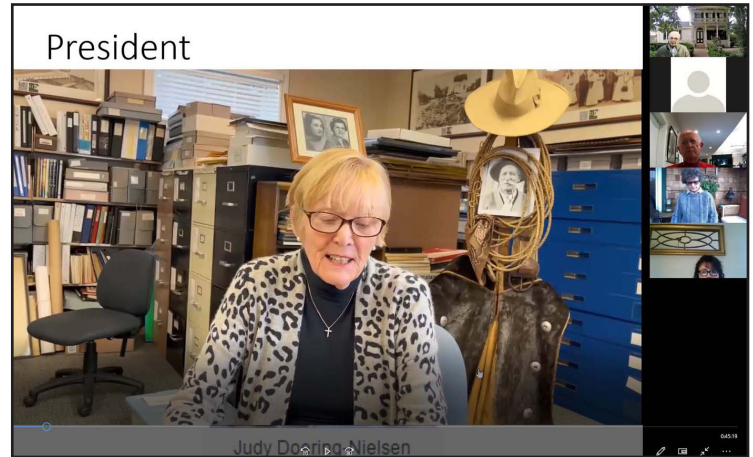
Annual Membership Meeting Hosted on Zoom, Posted to Internet

By Claudia Mize

The PVHA Annual Membership Meeting on February 19 was held on Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions and, thanks to the IT Dept., the meeting was captured on video and posted on the Internet.

Thank you to all who participated in putting the meeting together, and to those who made the time to go on the Internet to view it. We have had 40 views on YouTube, and 97 views on Facebook to date. We were delighted that people were able to access the information. We are hopeful that by next year's annual meeting, we can get together for a delicious lunch in person and without masks.

Thanks to our presenters, board members in attendance and volunteers: Judy Nielsen board President; Ralph Jacobs; Luann Lauesen; Virginia Avila; Gerry Martin; Elija Ezeji-Okoye; George Romero; Lynn Clough; Linda Wall; Patricia Partridge; Anne Jenkins; Alina Aguilar; Bill Beecher; Lou Arbanas.



PVHA Board President Judy Nielsen leads the annual meeting on Zoom.

Please join us for

Pajaro Valley Historical Association's Annual Vintage Picnic

Saturday, July 3rd, 2021
11:30 am to 3:00 pm
No Host Bar

Buffet Lunch by Monterey Bay Caterers
Served from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

Tickets \$35; unable to attend a donation any amount appreciated: \$_____
No tickets sold at the door, check or online sales by June 24th.
Speaker: Sandy Lydon-emeritus historian at Cabrillo College
Subject: T.S. MacQuiddy & Hal Hyde

Send checks to PVHA, P.O. BOX 623, Watsonville, CA 95077-0623
or purchase tickets on line: www.pajarovalleyhistory.org Phone: 831.722.0305

In The Archive

A look at the Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing, Hudson Landing and Brennan Landing - early day transportation hub for the Pajaro Valley. Video on going 11:30 to 12:30, then 2pm until 3pm. by Robert Robledo

Parking

High School and YWCA lots

Sandy Lydon



New Volunteers Helping the House Ladies in the Archive

By Claudia Mize

Ruby Hernandez and Melanie Rodriguez are new volunteers that are helping in the Archive and working with the House Ladies. We are excited to have them working with us.

Book Review: The Tragedy of Martina Castro by Ronald G. Powell and Edited by Derek R. Whaley

By Claudia Mize

This book documents the history of Santa Cruz County from pre-colonial times to the present with focus on Martina Castro. She was one of the Mexican land grantees who owned Rancho Soquel and with the Augmentation, parts of Capitola, Aptos and north to the Santa Cruz summit.

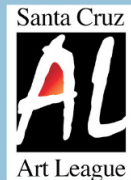
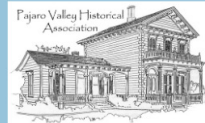
Her wealth, fame and influence turned to destitution when California became a U.S. territory in 1848. The book is an adaption by Whaley of Powell's research and writings which he gifted to the McHenry Library at the University of California, Santa Cruz. According to Whaley the book is more a chronicle than a history book.

It is 583 pages including a remembrance, introduction, notes and bibliography. This is the first book in The Secret History of Santa Cruz County Series: The Tragedy of Martina Castro, The Reign of the Lumber Barons, The Shadow of Loma Prieta Zayante Publishing

ISBN: 978-1-9536009-38-0 (printed book)

ISBN: 978-1-9536009-39-7 (ebook)

Local Museum Month Participants



#CruzThroughMuseumMonth

Check out santacruzmuseummonth.org for all the deals and plan your visit!

Spring Has Arrived, and So Has the Vaccine, So Let's Meet Once Again

By Louis Arbanas

We are looking at a new year through the lens of Spring and the ardent desires of everyone to find a safe path forward. Most seniors who volunteer at PVHA have had their vax shots and are looking for opportunities to once again volunteer. We still wear masks and keep to 50% capacity to be compliant with Santa Cruz County Health Department requirements under Orange Tier 3 guidelines. We schedule volunteers, and arrange appointments for researchers and visitors. You can reach us at: (831)722-0305 ; or info@pajarovalleyhistory.org

During this past year we have collaborated with the other Santa Cruz Museums and galleries. We are watching each other and our best practices to develop trust and encourage staff, volunteers, and visiting public (researchers) back to our respective institutions. The upcoming month of May is the National Museum month and many local museums and galleries are working to find a path forward to let their community know that we are still here, and in many cases open, or open by appointment. South county will be represented by Ag History Project, and Arts Council as well as PVHA.

In addition we are moving forward with plans for our annual Vintage Picnic. An event over a hundred years old having been started by the Son's and Daughters of the Golden West, and brought forward with the "old timers" BBQ events either on the 4th or a date close. This annual community conclave brought the 29 cultures residing in our valley together to celebrate our common National heritage. We look forward with anticipation at being able to collectively affirm: *"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."* —Thomas Jefferson.



Photo and caption by Claudia Mize

New Lattice Fencing for PVHA

Thank you to Peter Navaro and his crew for replacing the dilapidated fence adjacent to the house and front yard. As many of you know, Peter has been a Board Member for many years and we appreciate all he has contributed over the years.



Photo and caption by Claudia Mize

Garden is Ready for a Vintage Picnic

Looking for the signs of spring and planning on the future beauty projects of our gardens is Carolyn Davidson with office manager Jodi Frensley. Can our annual vintage picnic (7/3/2021) in the gardens be far off? To quote Carolyn who was quoting Audrey Hepburn "to plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."



Chuck Allen and Ken Dobler

Longtime PVHA Board Members Honored by Pajaro Valley Chamber for Community Service

Awards to be Given at Group's Annual Dinner Slated in July

By Lou Arbanas

The Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, celebrating its 59th year of distinguished honorees, has honored the Ken and Anne Dobler Family with its Life Time Achievement Award and has also named Chuck Allen as their Man of the Year. The awards are to be given at the chamber's annual dinner, scheduled for July 31.

Both Chuck and Ken have been long-serving board members of the Pajaro Valley Historical Association. Chuck starting in 1960, serving in multiple capacities off and on, and Ken has been helping the PVHA since 1995. Having two of our directors honored by the Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture in the same year is a great honor.

Chuck and Ken are part of a 10-member, community-driven board who all deserve recognition and our thanks. Judy Doering Nielsen, President; Phil Ybarra, Vice President; Luann M. Lausen Secretary; Ralph Jacobs, Treasurer; Directors: Chuck Allen, Ken Dobler, John Espinosa, Peter Navaro, Tony Scurich, Virginia Avila, Sharon Bystran Emeritus. Together they form an awesome power team promoting and preserving the history of the Pajaro Valley.

Thank you all.

Items of Note

As of April 1, 2021

NEW MEMBERS

- Alois Ackerman
- Jon Chown
- Fred and Gail Haas
- Steve and Leslie Henderson
- Kenny Kusumoto
- The Roman Catholic Diocese of Monterey
- Catherine Helmick

NEW VOLUNTEERS

- Mille Rodriguez
- Rubi Galicia

MEMORIALS

Albert and Alzora Snyder

- Jim and Shirley Spain

Norma Lynn

- Bob Lynn

Dan Rowan

- Jim and Shirley Spain
- Bill and Karen Moncovich

Elvia Ramirez

- Jesus and Lupe Flores

Mike Severin

- Ken and Anne Dobler

Kris Capurro

- Bill and Karen Moncovich

Allen E Petersen

- Betty Jo Petersen

Lynn Oliver Gonzalez

- Fred and Gail Haas

David Rock

- Jolene Vukasovich

Hal Hyde

- Elizabeth Boles

Shirley Manfre

- Ken and Anne Dobler

Steven Cooley

- Ken and Anne Dobler

Stephen Phillips

- Louis and Geneva Ivanovich

Linda Gordon

- Ed and Kathleen Banks
- Anthony and Betty Bobeda
- Valerie J. Capitanich
- Ron and Marlo Clements
- Lynn Clough

- Jeanette Crosetti
- Cheryl Daughenbaugh
- Mia MacCriskin
- Aileen Madera
- William and Nancy Moresco
- Dominic and Martha Muzzi
- Stan and Judy Nielsen
- Bert and Carrie Salady
- Lorraine Washington

DONATIONS

A Gift from the Harold A. Hyde Estate by the Hyde Family

Thank you Hal for your thoughtfulness and your generous heart.

For many years Hal was not only a member and supporter but also a friend to most of us here at PVHA. His passing has left a sadness in our hearts. His thoughtful and generous act will enable us to continue with our mission here at PVHA and Hal will forever live in our hearts.

GENERAL

- William and Cloy Codiga
- Marilyn Hyde
- Dominic and Martha Muzzi

ARCHIVES

- Bill Beecher
- Anne and Ken Dobler

GARDEN

*In Memory of Dixie Arns,
for her love of flowers*

- Jeri Striegel

MEMBERSHIPS RENEWED DECEMBER

- Doug and Noris Anderson
- Dave Bachan(McSherry & Hudson)
- Karen Bachan
- Steve and Alice Bankhead
- Colleen Brunetti
- Daniel and Patti Davis
- Jesus and Lupe Flores
- Gina Gallucci
- Dr. and Mrs. Clinton Gurnee
- Frederick and Gail Haas
- Marilyn Hyde
- Dr. Clifford and Linda Leong
- Bill and Karen Moncovich
- Walter and Patricia Phillips

- June Ivelich Pierce
- Caroline Rodgers
- Adolf Rosekrans
- Jeffery Rosendale
- Susan Scurich
- Jim and Shirley Spain
- Art and Mary Jean Wagner
- Lorraine Washington
- Melanie Kett Wirtanen
- Emil Yappert

JANUARY

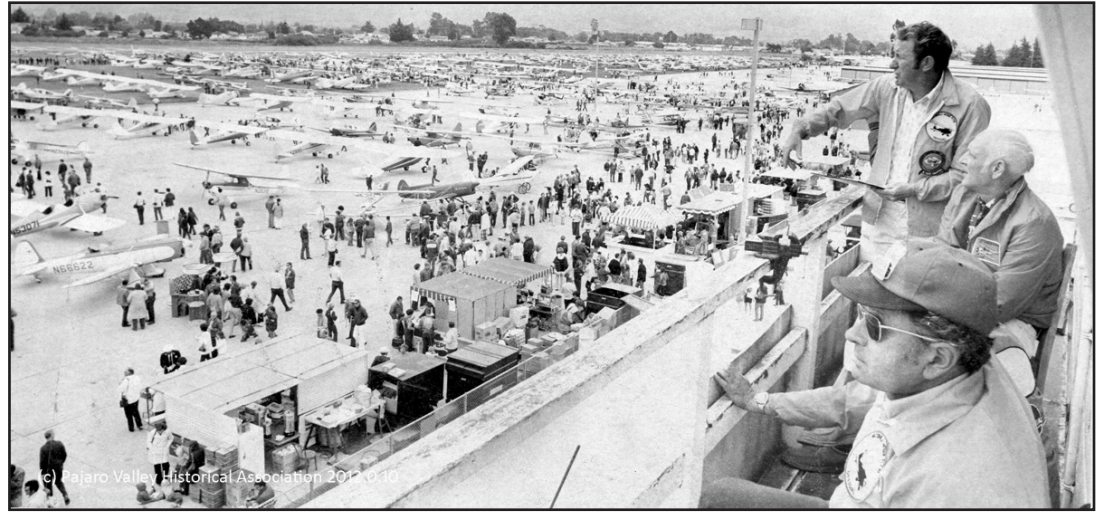
- Annamarie Dugger
- Nancy Ruiz DePuy Bridget Fairhurst
- Scott and Jodi Frensley(A&F Drywall Co.)
- Tom and Susan Johnson
- Jeff and Karen Kane
- Luann Lauesen and Emmanuel Brion
- Peter Navarro
- William and Sally Neubauer
- JoAnn Petznick
- Barney and Marlene Radovich
- Cathy Moresco Schimpeler
- Hank Schimpeler
- Billie Jean Sorensen
- Patty Stepovich
- Eugene Valla
- Jolene Vukasovich
- Bob Wall(Grunsky Law Firm)

FEBRUARY

- Chuck and Ramona Allen
- Norman Atkins
- Edward and Kathleen Banks
- Frank and Loretta Estrada
- Mary Ellen Irons
- Dobie and Anne Jenkins
- Joyce Kalich
- Clint and Karen Miller
- Barbara Stringari
- John and Carol Tietz
- John and Theresa Ucovich

MARCH

- Paul and Betty Bachan
- John Carvalho and Maria Goretti
- Jeanette Crosetti
- John Espinoza
- Patricia Johns
- John and Antoinette Lukrich
- Jan Onufray
- Kathleen Reynolds
- Emil Yappert



The Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show: Will it Ever Fly Back on Course?

By Claudia Mize

We in the Pajaro Valley were fortunate to have the Watsonville Antique Fly-in and Air Show at our airport for 50 years. In 1961 the Northern California Chapter of the Antique Aircraft Association was formed with Don Carter as President. In 1964, they brought the air show to Watsonville airport and held annual events here until 2014. The air show was a nonprofit, incorporated organization. Its mission was to educate, inspire, entertain, and publicize aviation history — and to provide benefits to local charities and promote the Watsonville Airport.

At the first show in 1964, Lon Von Clemm was chairman. Out of 85 antique planes, Jim Nisson with his Tommy Morse plane won “Best of Show.” By 1979, the fly-in had evolved into the biggest air show on the West Coast with hundreds of antique, classic and homebuilt airplanes on display. Plane rides were offered on a vintage 1930s Ford Trimotor from Las Vegas. Retired Col. Gregory “Pappy” Boyington, the leader of the “Black Sheep” squadron, was an honorary guest. The air show continued growing, adding more venues, including antique cars, food and music.



(c) Pajaro Valley historical Association 2021.0.1002



(c) Pajaro Valley Historical Association 2019.0.305

See **FLY-IN** Page 6



New Tenants Review the Parade of Historic Businesses once Located at their Brennan Street Address

By Claudia Mize

Teen Challenge Assistant Program Director Sara Elaine McGee, and Crisis Leader Irene Amaya recently stopped by the Archive to research the date and origins of their new facility at 45 and 55 Brennan Street.

We are amazed at the succession of tenants at this location. Many of us remember the building as part of Baker Brothers Furniture (It made a right angle to an adjoining building on East Fifth Street).

Before that it was Lipperts Furniture store; and Bill Haden Inc., Lincoln, Mercury, Ford, Zephyr in the 1940's with its Mission style building front; and in 1930s, the Bendel Ford car dealership.

Other memories would be appreciated by the new tenants Teen Challenge Monterey Bay.

You can email: info@pajarovalleyhistory.org and we will forward it for you. Teen Challenge has 12 centers in four counties of California. Freedom House is at 45 Brennan St., Grace Harbor Women's Center is at 55 Brennan St. They also staff the Freedom Women's Center at 109 & 103 Green Valley Rd. Freedom CA, and the Pajaro Rescue Mission for men.



Amelia Reed



Aptos resident Leonard Robinson (at right) talks to Dewey Raburn Jr. of Santa Cruz about his days as a pilot during World War II and the Korean War at the 2004 Fly-In and Air Show. Rayburn was in the signal corp of Army Air Corps 20th Bomber Command during World War II.



Gigi Brisson of Santa Cruz prepares her 1941 Waco UPF-7 biplane for the 2004 Fly-In.

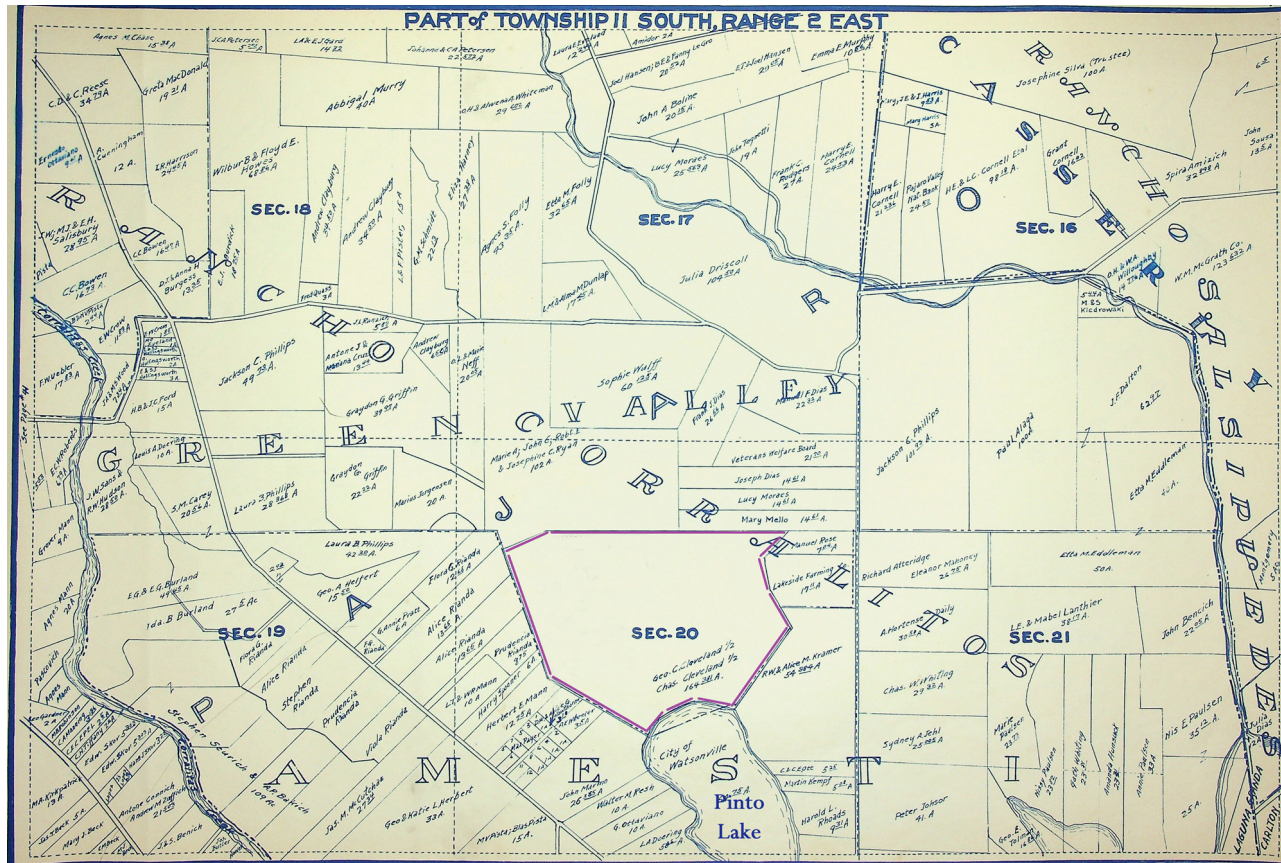
FLY-IN

From Page 5

Over the years, crowds were awed by the tactical maneuvers of the warbirds and other antique planes soaring overhead. We will always remember the antics of the great stunt pilots including Amelia Reid, Don Carter, Eddy Andreini, and Vicky Benzing.

In 2014, we said a sad goodbye to the Watsonville Antique Fly-in and Air Show. It brought fun, thrills and chills for the whole family while supporting many of our local organizations.

As of this printing the airport is planning another Fire In the Sky event along with an airport open house on Sept. 4. Stunting, an air show or the fly-in are not mentioned.



Map of ranches around Pinto Lake. This area was a tiny portion of the Spanish land grant of Caladonia Amesti. Other property owners around Pinto Lake at that time were the following: the Manns, Riandas, Marinos, Mellos, Kramers and Roses.

George Cleveland and the Hunt for Buried Treasure at Pinto Lake

Turn-of-the-Century Resident earned fame on the battlefield and in politics

Compiled by Stan Stephens and edited by Claudia Mize

In July 1913, an article in the Register newspaper read "Hunt Begun for Hidden Treasure. Unknown party after the gold said to be buried on the Cleveland Ranch."

George Cleveland, while taking an afternoon walk on his ranch, found a 4-foot trench hastily dug at the edge of Pinto Lake. He suspected someone read a story published in an earlier edition of the newspaper of an incident that happened in the 1800s. The incident involved two skeletons and \$80,000 in gold coins that was rumored to be buried on his ranch. At that time, only Native Americans and a few Spanish families lived in the Pajaro Valley.

George first learned of this incident in 1902, when a group of Native Americans were roaming around his property, one being a very old woman. They said the old woman, when she was only 13 years old, was with some elders picking berries. When she was

away from the others, she found a partially buried sack. She pulled it up and found gold coins in it. She didn't want the elders to take it from her so she buried it again, planning to come back by herself. Unfortunately, her family moved away. After all those years, the old woman could not remember the exact location.

The search party had a magnetized, fork-like instrument that they used to search for the treasure. The instrument pointed to one particular area only. The group dug a large hole about 5 feet square and 14 feet deep. After all that digging, they found only a horseshoe! The group, very disappointed, threw the instrument in the lake, left and never returned. Mr. Cleveland kiddingly told the reporter that if anyone wanted to dig for the treasure there were certain portions of the ranch that needed plowing and the fortune hunters might amuse themselves in those areas.

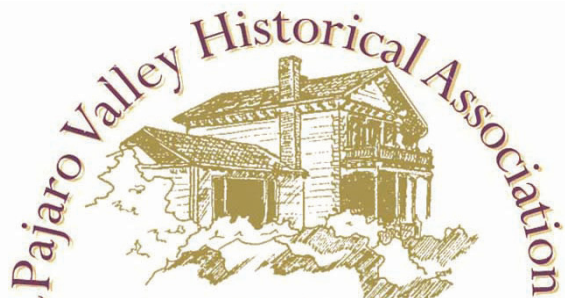
George's 200-acre ranch was purchased in 1875 by his parents George and Julia Cleveland. They moved to the Watsonville area from Skowhegan, Maine with their 1-year old baby George. His parents planted orchards and farmed the land. George and

his two brothers grew up on the ranch and attended Watsonville schools.

George studied law at Stanford University and passed the bar exam at age 21. He was a lawyer in San Francisco when the Spanish-American war broke out in 1898. He enlisted and was sent to the Philippines. After his service, he returned to his ranch. In 1904 George was elected to the California general assembly and helped secure new legislation regarding the state's horticultural interests.

When WWI started, George was rejected by the U.S. army because of age. He then went to Canada, enlisting with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces and was sent to Belgium during the fiercest conflicts. After the war ended, George returned to his Watsonville ranch and resumed the quiet path of peaceful farming.

In 1920 George was elected to the state legislature for three terms. He was influential in establishing the American Legion post in Watsonville, and was affiliated with many of the local lodges, including the Masons, Knights of Pythias and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. George Cleveland was a prominent rancher and well known in his community.



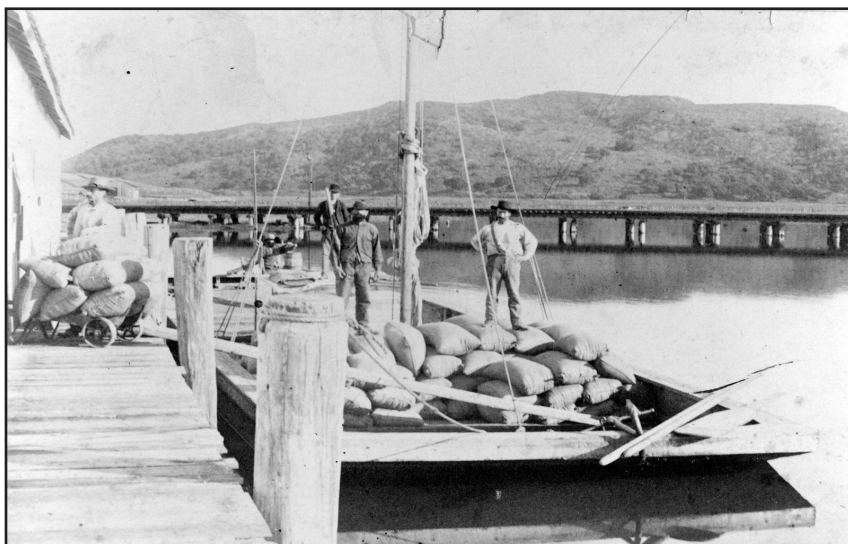
Preserving the History of the Greater Pajaro Valley
Established 1940 ~ Incorporated 1956

Board of Directors

Judy Nielsen, President
Chuck Allen, Vice-President
Ralph Jacobs, Treasurer
Luann Lauesen, Secretary
Ken Dobler
John Espinoza
Peter Navarro
Tony Scurich
Phil Ybarra
Virginia Avila

Office Administrator: Jodi Frensley
I.T. Committee Chair: Louis Arbanas

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 623 Watsonville CA 95077
PHONE: 831-722-0305
EMAIL: info@pajarovalleyhistory.org



Elkhorn Estuary: Transportation Hub of Yesterday

Robert Robledo, volunteer, researcher and local resident is using a drone aircraft to document the history of water transportation in the Elkhorn Slough.

For many decades boats took the water way route from Moss Landing to Hudson Landing. Flat bottom steamboats were used to move people and produce. Loading ships



Robert Robledo

at harbor in Monterey Bay was no easy task. Tides and storms needing to be heeded. There were no wharfs yet and the workers had to load the produce onto barges then pull it to them on the boats using hand pulleys.

Guests coming to the Vintage Picnic will be able view his research and video presentation in the Archive.

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"
PO BOX 623 Watsonville CA 95077

Or join via our website at www.pajarovalleyhistory.org (Visa or Mastercard)

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal Membership Expiration Date _____

☐ Donor \$50 ☐ Supporter \$100 ☐ Benefactor \$250 ☐ Patron \$500 ☐ Corporate \$_____

Other Donation \$_____ to be used for _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____ Total Enclosed: _____

Email: _____

(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

Ways to Donate

- Become a Member
- Upgrade your Membership Level
- Make a general donation to the PVHA
- Make a donation to our endowment funds: The Historic Preservation Fund or Archive Fund, both established at The Community Foundation

WE ACCEPT

