

The Hathaway Ranch Museum

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1992
Volume 2, Number 3



ATTENTION RANCH HANDS AND GUILD MEMBERS

It's time again to prepare for our third annual Christmas boutique on December 6th. Proceeds go to the Hathaway Ranch Museum. We are accepting donations of hand crafted items as well as home baked items, candies, jellies, etc., and also new items. Baked items can be turned in December 5th or 6th at the museum, or at Carrie's, 10317 Pioneer Blvd., Santa Fe Springs. Thanks for your help.

*Carrie Long
Gift Shop Chairman*

Christmas Open House

The museum will be open, as usual, on the first Sunday of the month, December 6th, from 2 until 4 p.m., but in addition the residence will be open (lower floor only). Come into the kitchen and have a fresh baked cookie.



JOE DA ROLD GETS THE GERTIE

Joe Da Rold, under consideration for the past few years for the prestigious Rancho Santa Gertrudes Historical Society's award for the preservation of history, went over the top this year and was selected by the Board of Directors of the Hathaway Ranch Museum to be the 1992 recipient. Da Rold was selected on the basis of five publications which he brought out for the museum:

1 and 2: The first and second editions of **SETTLERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, PERSONAL MEMORIES**, the memoirs of people who settled in this area;

3: **FROM FULTON WELLS TO SANTA FE SPRINGS**, a brochure which explains the confusion over the names for the town which began in 1874 and which also chronicles a brief history of the town up to its incorporation in 1957;

4: **LOS NIETOS - AT THE CROSSROADS OF HISTORY**, which sketches the history of one of the oldest communities in Los Angeles County;

5: **DISCOVERY PACKET**, A packet of information to help teachers prepare their students for a trip to Hathaway Museum, which includes games, charts, and biographical material.

6: A sixth publication, **LOVINGLY YOURS**, was brought out independently and distributed to descendants of Martin and Mary Ann Koontz, who ran the General Store and the Banning stage stop in 1870. The basis of the book is the letters of Lola McCarric to her fiance, Jesse Hathaway, written before their marriage at the turn of the century. McCarric was raised by her grandparents and aunts and uncles in the old home at the Four Corners of Santa Fe Springs, and her letters reflect life in the community.

Joe Da Rold, who became the Director of the Warner Research Library last April, has been promoted. His new title is "Principal Coordinator of Public Services for the Burbank Public Library." Joe is supervising all staff and programming of Children's, Branches, Audio-Visual, and Reference Services, in addition to the Warner Research Center.

HATHAWAY RANCH MUSEUM

MUSEUM GUILD

Youth (high school or younger)	\$1.50
Individual	\$3.00
Family (two adults & minor children)	\$5.00
Business	\$10.00

"Angel" Membership Categories

Supporting	\$50.00
Sustaining	\$100.00
Lifetime	\$500.00

Make checks payable to Hathaway Ranch Museum, 11901 E. Florence Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Notice of membership dues are sent on a twelve-month basis. Donations are tax-deductible in the amount allowed by law.

The MUSEUM GUILD supports the aims and activities of the HATHAWAY RANCH MUSEUM, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving and presenting the eras of farming, ranching, and oil development in early Santa Fe Springs.

Hathaway Ranch Museum Newsletter

Published by	The Hathaway Ranch Museum
Mailing Address	11901 E. Florence Ave. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
Telephone	(310) 944 6563 or (310) 944-7372

This Newsletter is a general news journal and solicits articles regarding the general interest, and the technical aspects of historical maintenance or restoration. Submissions must be sent to the Hathaway Ranch Museum, 11901 E. Florence Ave., Santa Fe Springs, California 90670.

Calendar Section

November 1, 1992 Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Tours—Hathaway Ranch Museum Free

December 6, 1992 Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Tours—Hathaway Ranch Museum Free

December 6, 1992 Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Boutique—Hathaway Ranch Museum

January 3, 1993 Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Tours—Hathaway Ranch Museum Free

February 7, 1993 Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Tours—Hathaway Ranch Museum Free

March 7, 1993 Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Tours—Hathaway Ranch Museum Free

April 4, 1993 Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Tours—Hathaway Ranch Museum Free

GENEROUS MEMBERS

Mrs. Kenneth Ball
Ned and Yvonne Blaine
Gilbert and Lucy Cota
Mary Jo Haller
Tom Murray
Santos C. Ossorio
Lawrence and Dorothea Perry
Al and May Sharp
Lynda Kaye and Lawrence Short
Tom and Sylvia Takata
Mollie Teschler
Louise Thorson
Richard and Diana Weaver
Ione Whistler
Jim and Virginia White
The Model Train Association

NEW MEMBERS

Arthur and Susana Lozano
9005 E. Rivera Road
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

Joy D. McGuire
7721 Vale Drive
Whittier, CA 90602

Santos C. Ossorio
1608 Glenford Ave.
Duarte, CA 91010

Herman Werner
11219 Lakeland
Norwalk, CA 90650

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Wesley and Rita Murray
5490 Cadbury Road
Whittier, CA 90601

Eddie Aycock
11521 Promenade Drive
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

"OLD FUSS & FEATHERS." General Winfield Scott, like his contemporary Zachary Taylor, was a successful soldier (more, however, as an organizer and strategist than as a battlefield leader). Scott earned this nickname by being extremely vain and something of a blusterer.

THE RANCH HANDS

We appreciate the time given by the following "ranch hands" during the third quarter of 1992:

Frances Agapoff	Frank Martinez
Marvin Carlzen	Mary O'Connor
Mildred Carlzen	Jonathan Parent
Joe Da Rold	Josie Ramirez
Evelyn Grembla	Francine Rippy
Jean Hathaway	Marjorie Rondeau
Jesse L. Hathaway	Faye Smetanka
Meredith Hathaway	Melvin Smuth
William Hathaway	Phyllis Stenson
Jack Johnson	Ray Stenson
Anita Kiesel	Mollie Teschler
Harold Larson	Louise Thorson
Henry Lynn	Joyce Virnala
Carrie Long	

Note: In the past year Marvin Carlzen chalked up the most hours, with Henry Lynn and Jack Johnson following second and third. Carrie Long had the most hours of any "inside" ranch hand.

57,000,000 Years Old?!

Multi-million year old Paleocene fossil leaves are a bit older than the other artifacts at the museum, but we are not about to discourage the curiosity of some budding archaeologist. Clarence Johnsrud of Williston, North Dakota, has donated the fossils, which were found in Trenton, ten miles from his home town, and transported to Santa Fe Springs by Harold Larson, museum ranch hand. Johnsrud writes, "Leaves from the same find have been described as magnificent by Paleobotanists. Others can be seen at the Museum of Natural History in Denver, at the University of North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck, N.D., and at the University of Florida in Gainesville."

Old Fashioned Computing

Is this a New Style Bookkeeping Machine, or an Old Style Computer?

Sylvia Foltz has donated an NCR 2000 Series Bookkeeping Machine to the museum, which is an appropriate addition to the old office machines already in the 1930's style "garage" in the south tank. This particular piece of equipment was purchased new by San Lorenzo (nursery) in the early 1930's. It was used in their Los Angeles office located on Wall Street until the 1950's. It was then purchased used from San Lorenzo nursery by the Groen Rose Company in the 1960's and used in their Montebello office until 1975. Foltz herself operated the machine in her parents' business.

A NUTCRACKER

Betty Baly Thomson and her husband Doug gave the museum an antique nutcracker. Betty, who lives in Connecticut, is a descendant of Martin and Mary Ann Koontz, who settled at the Four Corners of Santa Fe Springs in 1870. When the Thomsons came to California in August to attend the 90th birthday celebration of Ethel Koontz Eckels (whose father and mother were the first agents at the Fulton Wells station on the Souther Pacific Railroad), they gave a present to the museum instead of to Ethel, a check for \$100, in honor of the birthday lady. Forgive us for saying so, Ethel, but that is the kind of present we like.

The "Bogs" of Santa Fe Springs

My Father, Julian I. (Doc) Hathaway, was talking about the old Bankline Absorption Plant, located East of the old Little Lake School buildings on Florence Avenue, when he inadvertently mentioned a "bog hole." Startled, I asked "what do you mean, bog hole?" The following are excerpts from the ensuing conversation. He continued:

"Well, there was a crater there. It was probably 100 feet in diameter. It was filled with water, and had tules growing in it. There were bubbles of gas coming up through it. Everything was farming around it. That was before the refinery was built there.

It was not a well. It was a blowout from early days, back in the... No tellin' when. There were three of them in Santa Fe Springs. One was over on the Bell property, and the other was either on the Bell or Alexander, as near as I can remember.

We used to go hunting, the Blackbirds used to be there in the tules, and we used to go hunting with a B-B gun."

I asked, "And, ...nobody thought anything about them?"

He said, "They called them "bog" holes. And when it dried up, George Koontz filled it in and farmed over it."

I asked, "How deep was it?"

My Dad replied, "I don't know."

I commented, "So there were natural gas blowout craters here in Santa Fe Springs long before oil was ever discovered here."

He responded, "A long, long time ago. I tried to tell the people at the Fire Department that, but they didn't pay any attention."

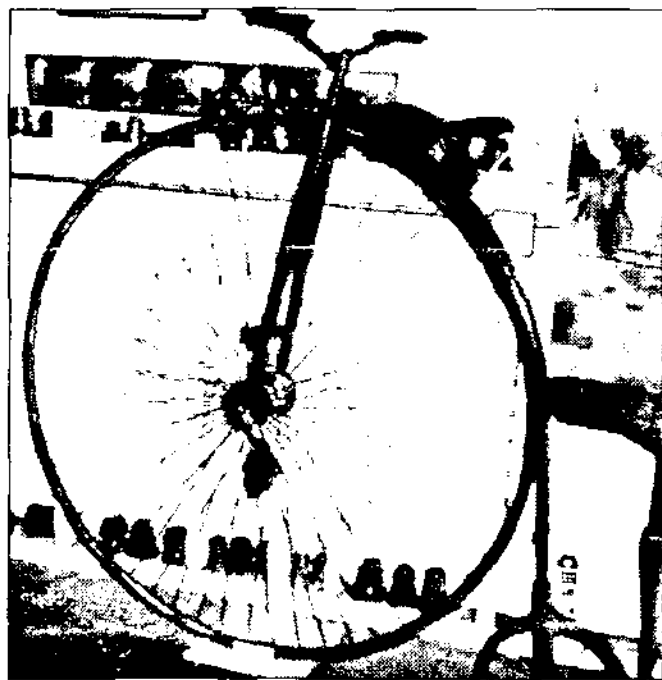
Terry Hathaway

AWARDS PICNIC WELL ATTENDED

Over 100 people attended the annual awards picnic of the Hathaway Ranch Museum at the museum on October 11th. The picnic was a triple celebration, honoring not only active "ranch hands" of 1992, but recognizing former board members of the Rancho Santa Gertrudes Historical Society. Also recognized were descendants of Martin and Mary Ann Koontz, who settled at the Four Corners of Santa Fe Springs (the intersection of what is now Norwalk Blvd. and Telegraph Road) in 1870.

A barbecued beef and chicken dinner was served. Frank Martinez sang old time songs in "Cafe East" accompanied by Nellie Huey. Lorie Smart taught dance steps in the recently renovated machinery shed. Will Hathaway showed movies, in the Visitors' Center, of the ranch taken in the 1920's and 1930's. In the main residence Nadine Hathaway showed slides of early activities of Rancho Santa Gertrudes Historical Society members. Beverly Erickson played on her trapezoid dulcimer as guests gathered and ate their lunches.

How do we find out about events like this? Join the Hathaway Ranch Museum Guild and receive the quarterly newsletter. It's a real bargain—only \$3.00 for an individual membership; \$5.00 for a family (with minor dependents) per year. Send checks to the Hathaway Ranch Museum, 11901 E. Florence Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670, or Phone (310) 944-6563 or 944-7372.



Pope Hartford bicycle bought by Richard F. Hathaway in a junk yard on San Fernando Road in the 1940's. He had it restored and gave it to his father, Jesse E. Hathaway, for his birthday.

MATERN HOME MARKER IN PLACE

It was in 1915 that William and Gertrude Matern built their comfortable one-story, mission-style home on what is now a thriving industrial park in the center of Santa Fe Springs. The site of the former Matern home was recently honored with the unveiling of an historical marker which was paid for by John Nairn, a descendant of Mrs. Matern's third husband.

The dedication of the marker coincided with the 50th anniversary celebration of W.T. Billard, Inc., on whose site the marker has been placed.

The marker reads:

MATERN HOME

William and Gertrude Matern built their one-story, mission style house on this site in 1915. The tile-roof building was situated on several acres of park-like grounds in the midst of three parcels of land totaling 105 acres. By 1917 they had planted 7000 orange, lemon, and grapefruit trees. Hard times during World War I forced the Materns to sell some land and to raise German Shepherd dogs for profit. In the 1920's, however, they struck oil, and the citrus groves eventually gave way to oil derricks. Mrs. Matern sold the house to the Oglesby Family after her husband's death in 1923, but retained ownership of the land. Developers later purchased the property and the house was demolished in 1981.

Placed by the Santa Fe Springs Historical Committee in 1992.



John Nairn standing along side the historical marker for which he paid \$5,000. The marker honors city pioneers William and Gertrude Matern.

The Oglesby family later lived in the house which the Materns built.



Lending its old clothes wringer to the Santa Fe Springs Community Playhouse for the musical "Lil Abner" was a smart move on the part of the museum. "Larry" Harrison mounted it on a frame and now we will be able to show school children how their great-grandmothers washed clothes.



This Thomas Electric Organ was bought and often played by Maubelle Applegate Jones in the 1960's. She continued using the organ well into her nineties. The organ is now in the Visitors' Center.



Old Fashioned Recipes

The following two recipes are copied from "Herb's What's Cooking," which is on sale at the Hathaway Ranch Museum for \$7 plus tax.

CHICKEN FOR THE MULTITUDE

Cook 1 (4 or 5 pound) chicken until tender. Pull off bones. Toast whole loaf of bread; break in pieces. Pour hot chicken broth over toast. Add 3 beaten eggs; stir well. Add 2 cans cream of mushroom soup. Add chicken pieces. Bake in large greased baking pan at 350° for 30 to 45 minutes.

Mrs. Kenneth Pfohl (Ruth Gram's mother)

IRISH CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE

1 corned beef, cooked until tender
3 peeled and quartered small parsnips
6 peeled and quartered large carrots
10 small onions, cut in wedges

Simmer all together until tender, 10 to 15 minutes. Add 1 head cabbage (cut in wedges) and 3 medium potatoes (quartered). Cook until tender.

Phyllis Stenson

New(?) Quilts

Two quilts have been added to the quilt room this year. One, a "crazy quilt," was made by Florence B. Simpkins, the mother of ranch hand Mollie Teschler, in Jennings, Oklahoma, in the early to mid 1920's. Mollie noted, "I can still see my mother working on it, with my younger brother perched on the side of her rocker."

The other quilt really is new. It was made in the summer of 1991 by junior ranch hand Jesse Louis Hathaway, then eleven years old. It was presented to his grandmother, Nadine Hathaway, on Christmas Day. Jesse's mother makes beautiful, intricate quilts and she taught her son how to make one also.

THE RANCH MUSEUM GOES ON....

It is reassuring in these days when services are being curtailed by public agencies because of reduced funds, to know that the Hathaway Ranch Museum keeps operating solely on private funds and the efforts of its volunteers.

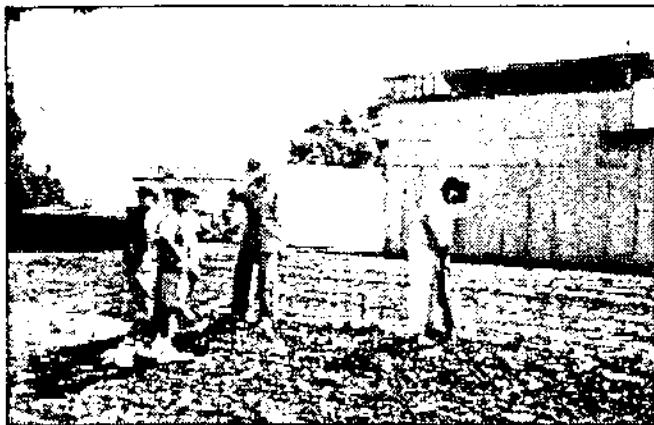
Since the Hathaway Ranch Museum was incorporated as a non-profit foundation in 1986, dozens of volunteers have contributed thousands of hours and their diverse abilities and talents to making the museum an interesting, educational, and friendly place to visit. In addition, a broad cross-section of people have contributed many hundreds of dollars for essential material and services. Their donations are, of course, tax deductible, since this is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation.

Money alone would not keep the museum open. It takes people interested in people to make sure that the hundreds of school children, seniors, and members of car clubs, historical, travel, church, and other groups are greeted and shown around the premises each year. We are normally open to the general public the first Sunday of the month, except holidays, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Each year we lose the services of a few ranch hands for reasons of health, family obligation, moving away, and other pressures. We have been extremely fortunate in attracting new volunteers who see the need and are willing to step in and give us a hand.

Are you such a person? Can you spare a few hours each month to help our visitors become acquainted with local history and re-awaken in them a sense of the importance of their own family history?

If you are, please phone Nadine Hathaway at (310) 944-6563 or the Museum office at (310) 944-7372.



Members of Mrs. Carol Loeliman's 5th grade class help plant corn with the aid of Henry Lunn in Mau, 1992. BUT NO CORN! The crows and rabbits ate every last green blade - June 1992

THE BAKER WINERY

While reading through "A Pictorial History of Santa Fe Springs," published by the Santa Fe Springs Chamber/League, Earl Myer was dismayed to see his family's winery building referred to as a gambling hall (The Baker winery was located in what is now Santa Fe Springs). Earl wrote the following description of the winery, which we found so interesting that we decided to share it with you.

The Baker winery building was not a gambling hall. My father, Earl C. Myer had sanded the floors on the second floor, had built a bandstand and a long counter, had installed restrooms for men and women, had put in an outside stairway to meet the fire code, had built an outside pit for barbecuing, and had installed extensive lighting. After completion of the remodeling the building was rented out on occasion for dances, roller skating parties, Halloween parties and other group parties. Many clubs and organizations from Whittier and the surrounding area rented the premises during the twenties and early thirties. Many people in Whittier used to talk to me about the wonderful times that they had had at the Baker Winery. Four or five times a year the building was rented to groups such as the Los Angeles Elks Lodge, the Whittier Elks Lodge and other organizations for a Stag or a Hi-Jinks as they were called in those days. At that time the affair would go on for possibly three days and two nights over some weekend.

There would be barbeque, gambling, beer and other liquors as well as a strip show behind curtains. At no time did my Father or any member of the Baker family have anything to do with the events other than to rent the building. As to the oil workers taking part in the events, I seriously doubt it. The public was not invited as they were private affairs. After the Santa Fe Springs church burned down, my Father offered the facilities to the church for Sunday morning services. The church was happy to accept. They utilized the building until the new church was completed. If there was a party over some weekend, my Father stipulated that the activities had to cease by 8:00 am, and could not commence until 2:00 pm. Also all evidence had to be covered by canvas in a corner.

Earl Myer

"MARBURY AND MADISON" (1803). William Marbury sued Secretary of State James Madison in order to obtain a commission appointing him a justice of the peace that had been signed but not delivered by retiring President John Adams. This was an important event because in deciding the case, the United States Supreme Court, for the first time, declared a law of Congress unconstitutional.