

# The Hathaway Ranch Museum

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 1993  
Volume 3, Number 2



### EXTENDED HOURS FOR THE MUSEUM

The Hathaway Ranch Museum is now officially open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M. These new hours are in addition to the regular first Sunday of the month Open House from 2 to 4 P.M.

For nostalgic color and expanded activities we urge our visitors to come the first Sunday of each month instead of on a weekday. At Sunday Open House our ranch hands are dressed for the occasion and are usually in a jovial mood. The tractor is hooked up to the hay wagon ready to pull visitors around the ranch. Often a piece of old machinery is chugging or sputtering, and there is free coffee, iced tea, or punch.

On weekdays the museum will be run by a skeleton crew and no refreshments will be provided. However, the new hours will give business people a chance to stop in during their lunch hour. Visiting relatives need not be deprived of a chance to see the museum while they are in this area for a brief time. We will be able to answer questions and provide information.

A word of caution: children must be accompanied by an adult.



*Virginia Mathony works diligently on copy for "Settlers of Southern California."*

### NEW EDITION OF

#### "SETTLERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA"

Volume III of "Settlers of Southern California" is now for sale in the Country Store of the museum. Booklets are \$5.00 each or three for \$10.00 plus tax.

Contributors to this volume, in our ongoing series, includes Ruth Grams, Marvin Carlzen, Bernard Hardy, Mary Bessent, Luis Franco, Virginia Mathony, Jesse R. Hathaway (who contributed sketches of early residents of Santa Fe Springs), Margaret Slusher, Mrs. Reese, Becky Kehoe, and Jim and Goldie Mayfield. Two stories verifying the existence of Little Lake are included; the first is a recollection by the late Richard F. Hathaway and the other by Virgil Laneer as told to Hathaway. These two recollections are also included elsewhere in this newsletter.

At the printer's, as of this writing, is Volume IV in this series which includes articles by Sylvia Swanson, Caroline Long, Melvin Smith, Marjorie Rondeau, and Claire Radford. Included also is a tribute to the late George L. Hewitt written by his son Louis Hewitt; an interview with Grover C. Black of Norwalk, an interview with Esther Koontz; and a letter written in 1883 by William H. Koontz of Santa Fe Springs to his sister, Sarah Koontz McCarric, the mother of Lola McCarric Hathaway, who grew up in Santa Fe Springs in the 1890's and graduated from Little Lake School.

We are assembling material for Volume V in the Settlers series and urge our readers to contribute their personal memories for this edition. Please send them to the Hathaway Ranch Museum, 11901 E. Florence Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670.

### The Advent of Nylon

Nylon was invented by Wallace Hume Carothers, who was head of the DuPont experimental station in 1937. Nylon stockings came on the market in 1940; and they were so popular that DuPont sold sixty-four million pairs that very first year.

## 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.

### Lifetime Members

O.K. Flood	Thomas Scott
Nadine Hathaway	Ray & Phyllis Stenson

### Hathaway Ranch Museum Newsletter

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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.

## MUSEUM SCHEDULE

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**

(except for holidays) 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

**First Sunday Of Each Month**

(except for holidays) 2:00 to 4:00 P.M.

## GENEROUS MEMBERS AND DONORS

Rodger B. Applegate	Jack & Ruth Gray
Eddie Aycock	Georgia Lee Gumper
Trent & Mary Bessent	Hilda Lopez
William Bianchi	Rachel Lutz
Tom & Virginia Boles	Henry & Marty Newton
Ethel Eckels	Marvin & Betty Putnam
Ed & Vivian Embury	Teta Smart
Willa Enloe	Michiko Tanimoto
Varlie & Elva Gordon	Robert & Mona Levig

## NEW MEMBERS

Ed & Vivian Embury	Joseph & Digna McLellan
Richard R. Hoehl	John & Gen Pulice
Richard & Laura Horn	Michiko Tanimoto
Clinton & Clarice Harris	Gary Wohlhueter
Edward J. Mallen	

## THE RANCH HANDS

We appreciate the time given by the following ranch hands during the first quarter of 1993:

Frances Agopoff	Harold Larson
Ann Bartunek	Caroline Long
Glenn Bartunek	Henry Lynn
Marvin Carlzen	Jonathan Parent
Mildred Carlzen	Frank Martinez
Felee Cutrone	Frankie Martinez
Joe Da Rold	Rosie Martinez
Jessica Evanston	Virginia Mathony
Evelyn Grembla	Mary O'Connor
Elizabeth Hathaway	Betty Putnam
Jean E. Hathaway	Francine Rippey
Jesse L. Hathaway	Marjorie Rondeau
Jesse R. Hathaway	Faye Smetanka
Loline Hathaway	Melvin Smith
Meredith Hathaway	Phyllis Stenson
Richard F. Hathaway	Ray Stenson
William Hathaway	Mollie Teschler
Jack Johnson	Louise Thorson
Anita Kiesel	Joyce Virnala

## AUCTIONS

One of the first auctions recorded took place in Babylon, over 2,500 years ago. Briefly described: "Every year...in each village...they gathered together all the maidens that were come to the season of marriage; and round them stood a multitude of men; and an auctioneer caused them to stand up one by one and sold them."

Marital arts have changed considerably since that time, but auctions have remained mostly unchanged.



## NEW REST ROOMS

We are happy to report that our two new rest room buildings—one for women and one for men—are finished. They are roomy and have easy access for the handicapped. They also blend in with existing buildings.

We are so pleased with them we would like to have a housewarming, but it doesn't seem really appropriate. In our next issue we will have a picture of the completed buildings.



*Moving an old building to make room for the new rest room buildings.*



*The space cleared for the new rest room buildings.*

The two Duryea brothers, bicycle builders of Springfield, Mass., built the first successful gasoline powered automobile offered for sale in the U.S. It was completed and tested in 1892-1894 and put on the market in 1895.

## GOING UPSTAIRS?

In our winter 1993 newsletter we called attention to the fact that the museum does have an upstairs and it might be worth our visitors time to see what is up there. We'll mention, here, one of the rooms—the 1940's-1950's room which includes uniforms and mementos of both World War I and II.

Much of the military gear in this room was donated by the late George Hewitt, who served in the United States Army in both world wars. Hewitt loved the military life and had many items which he passed on to the museum: soldiers' "bonnets" from both wars, a gas mask, shoes, puttees, badges, a block warden's fire extinguisher, an army mess kit and utensils, a soldier's sewing kit and army Bible.

In this room also are a World War I "doughboy's" jacket donated by Dan Kato; and Rodger Applegate's Eisenhower jacket, officer's hat, overcoat, and duffle bag from World War II. A West Point uniform worn by Nadine Hathaway's grandson Mario Diaz is also in this room, for although Mario graduated from West Point in 1990, the design of the uniform has not changed in close to 190 years. Zippers now replace buttons and synthetics have been introduced as fabric, but the style remains the same.

In this room is also a 1950 Smith-Corona typewriter, an RCA television set with swinging doors, and a 1940 combination radio and record player (remember LP's?).

Fishing equipment of the 1940's and 50's is on display, as well as Masonic and Civil War paraphernalia belonging to Franklin McCarric, Lola M. Hathaway's father.

Of more mundane interest are a pair of Dick Hathaway's B.V.D.'s and his moth eaten red woolen one piece bathing suit, plus red woolen bathing trunks (with belt), from the 1940's, which belonged to Charles T. Jones, Nadine's uncle by marriage.

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Bill Bell, managing editor of the Whittier Daily News, wrote about two of the museum's long standing members in his column of Sunday, April 25, 1993. He wrote: Ray Stenson was pointing out various people the other day as we waited in line to have author Nancy Taylor Rosenberg autograph her new book for us here in Santa Fe Springs.

Ahead of us was 86-year-old Ruth Grams. He asked if I knew her. I said I knew her by reputation. She's known throughout the Whittier area for playing the harp at countless local gatherings for many years. Stenson said,

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last year Grams was recovering from hip surgery at Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital. It was Thanksgiving time. Her harp was delivered to her in the hospital. She went about the corridors of the hospital in a wheelchair playing harp music.

Stenson said he later asked her if she had wondered what patients regaining consciousness after surgery might think to wake up and see a woman in a gown playing harp music?

Captain Paul Bein of the Santa Fe Springs Fire Department has been named the 1993 "Firefighter of the Year" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Fourth District for his leadership and community involvement.

Caroline Long was a runner-up in the Citizen of the Year contest sponsored by the Santa Fe Springs Chamber/League. Carrie is an active docent with Heritage Park and the Hathaway Ranch Museum, is on the Santa Fe Springs Historical Committee and on the City General Plan and Community Development Committee, and is a member of the Santa Fe Springs Friends of the Library.

Carrie also teaches Sunday School and has spent hundreds of hours crafting gifts for convalescent hospitals, and she is the best ticket seller for charitable events in Santa Fe Springs. People see her coming and reach for their wallets or purses.

Virginia Myer Boles, the granddaughter of pioneers John Samuel Baker and Julia May Mekeel Baker of the Norwalk-Santa Fe Springs-Whittier area, was given the 1993 Woman of Distinction Award by Soroptimist International of East Whittier. Virginia, a former dental hygienist, was Chairman of the Whittier Centennial in 1987, is active in the Assistance League of Whittier, is a fund raiser par excellence for the Whittier YMCA and the Intercommunity Presbyterian Hospital.

She is also on the Board of the Whittier Community Concert Association and is on the Advisory Committee of the Fred C. Nelles School—and more! Virginia was given awards by the City of Whittier and the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce at the same ceremony.

Gil Cota of Norwalk, a long time member, takes pride in being a volunteer at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Museum. The museum is located on the grounds of now closed Monte Vista High School at Colima and Telegraph Road in Whittier. It is open 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. on weekdays. Admission is free.

Displays include a shiny black-and-white 1938 Studebaker sedan, a shiny black-and-white late-model Kawasaki Police 1000 motorcycle, a bubble-shaped Hughes 300 helicopter you can climb into and part of a huge Sikorsky rescue chopper complete with action dummies, realistic sounds and blinking lights. The museum was opened three years ago at the sheriff's training academy complex.

Teta Smart organized this year's Miss Whittier Pageant and was impressed by the amount of talent shown by the young women.

## GRANDMA'S "RECEET"

June Green, former Santa Fe Springs resident, who now lives with her husband, Austin, in Sequim, Washington, keeps up her membership in the Hathaway Ranch Museum Guild so that she can hear about her friends.

Recently she sent us the following "Receet" which has been in her family for years and which she wanted to share with our readers.

### Grandma's "RECEET"

Years ago a Kentucky grandmother gave a new bride the following "receet" for washing clothes. It appears below just as it was written and despite the spelling, has a bit of philosophy.

1. bilt fire in backyard to heet kettle of rain water.
2. set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. shave one hole cake lie soap in bilin water.
4. sort things, make three piles. 1 pile white, 1 pile cullard, 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. stir flour in cold water to smooth then thin down with bilin water.
6. rub dirty spots on board scrub hard, then bile. Rub cullard, don't bile, just rench in starch.
7. take white things out of kettle with broomstick handle, then rench, blew and starch.
8. spread tee towels on grass.
9. hand old rangs on fence.
10. pore rench water in flower bed.
11. scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. turn tubs upside down.
13. go put on clean dress, smooth hair with side combs, brew cup of tee, set and rest and rock a spell and count blessins.

# Letters & Other Stuff

We have in our possession a letter written by Rena Raffie, who was a great-granddaughter of Martin and Mary Ann (Kitterman) Koontz, who settled at the Four Corners of Santa Fe Springs (Norwalk Blvd. and Anaheim-Telegraph Road) around 1870. It was written December 30, 1977, when Rena was of advanced, but undetermined age.

She wrote, "Where the old store was was first the way station for the Banning stages. It was the overnight stop before the long ride to L.A. The family lived in the way station until Mary Ann Koontz inherited a large sum from her father Kitterman of Omaha. That money built the house of which you have a picture.

Grandfather's sister Betsy Wood lived in Anaheim, then a small German settlement, and it was she who knew that Banning was going to sell the way station, a good sized building and told great grandfather about it."

The following excerpts are from letters sent by members of the 4th grade class at Telechron School in South Whittier following their visit to the museum:

"I liked the little train because I always wanted to go on a train."

"I really liked the old cars and parts. I really liked the oil wells."

"I also liked the museum. The best part was learning about what they wore in World War II. Thanks a lot."

"Thank you for letting us see your farm. I like the geese. It looks like it's head is backwards. The guinea hens look like peacocks. You have less chickens than I thought you would."

"I would like to come back soon. I like the guinea hens. I liked the gold fish. I like the old car of Mr. Hathaway, old parts of a equipment and the old furniture."

"The part I really enjoyed was all the beautiful hats. They are the most beautiful hats I have ever seen."

"The toy room was cool. And how you used a brick to get warm."

"The part I liked the most was when we got to go into the machine shop and see all the motors going."

"I really loved the ranch. The best thing was the paintings in both house and the museum. I heard the man painted them was introduced to to Walt Disney. The pictures almost look real.

"I also liked when I got to pump the water. I've never pumped water before and it was fun. I got to pump both the big and little pump."

"When we went to the field trip it was fun because you learned about the past and it's part of Social Studies.."

"I liked all your tour guides they were just great they would answer all the questions I would ask."



## Old Fashioned Recipes

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

### Orange Date Cake (Submitted by Mary Bessent)

4 C sifted flour	1 C shortening
2 tsp. soda	2 C sugar
1 tsp. salt	4 eggs (unbeaten)
1 1/2 C chopped dates	2 C buttermilk
1 C chopped nuts	Orange syrup
peel of 1 orange	

Stir together flour, soda and salt. Mix dates, nuts and a cup of flour mixture. Grind orange peel fine. Cream shortening with sugar. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Add flour mixture alternately with buttermilk. Turn into a greased and floured 10 inch tube pan. Bake at 300 degrees for 1-1/2 to 1-3/4 hours. Cool for 10 minutes in pan, then 10 minutes on rack. Place cake on plate; slowly pour orange syrup (see recipe below) over it. Let stand overnight and frost tops with thin icing if wished.

**Orange Syrup:** Blend juice of 1 orange with 3/4 cup sugar. Let stand for 30 minutes before pouring over cake.

## 81st Girl Scouting Birthday

To celebrate the 81st birthday of Girl Scouting two showcases of special material were displayed in the Santa Fe Springs City Library during the month of March. One showcase featured various simple crafts made through the years for different holidays, camporees, badges and gifts. The other showcase endeavored to convey the national theme of "Girl Scouts Caring for the Earth." Among items featured were pertinent articles and illustrations from Girl Scout Leader Magazine, a special holiday craft made from some discarded items and T-shirts with colorful screenprints indicating that "Earth Matters to Girl Scouts." Several were modeled by two large dolls from Evelyn Grembla's collection.

During this March exhibit, an attractive Girl Scout Bookmark was offered free to the public along with a brochure, "The Girl is First in Girl Scouting," and a sign-up slip for potential members.

## MORE ON THE WOODY

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We heard appreciative comments about the article on the 1941 International Station Wagon which appeared in the Winter, 1993, issue of our newsletter. There are many stories about the old woody to which family members and friends can testify. Here are a few more:

Jesse R. Hathaway, who works at St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, and who is the youngest son of Dick Hathaway (the original owner of the woody), was talking to an associate one day. The associate told Jesse that he lived in Valencia, and every evening he would see an old prospector headed north in his old station wagon. He said that the prospector wore an old brown hat. A little dog rode beside him. And on the back of the wagon were strapped a pick and a hoe and a shovel and a rake and a broom and a hole driller and a "yes," the associate concluded, "an old prospector. Sure wish I could meet him."

Jesse, mindful of his father's nightly trek to the Temescal Ranch, responded quietly, "Maybe I can arrange that."

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Claire and Juanita Rich, longtime residents of Norwalk, used to pass Dick Hathaway driving his old woody coming or going on Interstate-5 near Castaic. One time they had as a passenger, their son-in-law, when once again they passed the old woody. Before they had a chance to tell their son-in-law that the driver of the station wagon was a friend of theirs, their passenger pointed out the old heap and proclaimed, "Do you see that? That's why I'm going to college. I never want to drive anything like that."

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Most recently, a friend of Santa Fe Springs developer Vincent Ruh sent him a picture of an old vehicle which he had photographed as he was driving along Interstate-5. "You like old cars," he told Vince, who recognized the driver as well as the woody. It was, of course, Dick in the "banjo wagon," as one of Dick's sons not so affectionately called the old International.

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One further recollection has crossed the mind of Dick's widow, Nadine, who remembers riding along with her husband one day on their way north. As it was nearly time for lunch, Dick pulled off the highway at a convenient spot and man and wife ate their picnic lunches together. When it came time to leave, the old woody didn't want to start. Dick tinkered with it delicately for a few minutes while Nadine fumed and finally said in utter frustration, "Why in the world don't you buy a new station wagon?" Dick turned his disbelieving gaze on her and replied in a no uncertain manner, "But I know what's wrong with this one!"

## Yes, There Was a Little Lake in SFS

The late Lola McCarric Hathaway remembered boating on the lake when she was a girl. Martha Russell remembers that her uncles shot ducks at the lake.

Richard F. Hathaway once recalled that on evenings, as the sun was going down and the stock were all cared for and the evening's chores were done, and as soon as the family had supper over, and a gentle evening breeze was blowing from the west, Pop Terbest would get out his slide trombone and sound off a long moaning blast. Then some of the other members of the family (Pete, Harry, Ben and sister) would join in with horns, banjo, guitar and occasionally a fiddle. The evening concert was under way.

The music would carry to the north and east across Little Lake. Then one would hear the Loveall cows answer back with a long moo- moo. Coyotes would soon join in, and then one would hear the ducks and geese on the lake join in the chorus. Then silence. Then an old bull frog would make a loud "coorunk" and then old man Terbest would start another tune.

The music would carry far on the evening breeze to the town site of Santa Fe Springs as many people would sit out on their screen porches in the evenings and listen to the evening concert.

### Recollections of Virgil Laneer as told to Richard F. Hathaway

The Union Oil Company had an eight-inch hen-skin threaded and coupled pipeline that ran north and south up across Little Lake. It started on trestles made of 3 x 8 timbers every ten feet apart at what is now the corner of Pioneer and Lakeland, as this area was a lake. It crossed at near right angles under the Little Lake ditches flume. The pipeline ran to the north 1,320 feet—all on wooden trestles—ranging from a few feet to 25 and 30 feet in height through the deeper parts of Little Lake. This line was used to pump crude oil toward Los Angeles from Norwalk station, and had to be ridden or walked each day for leaks.

The pipeline walker was a tall, slender, gentlemanly type of fellow. He would come north out of Norwalk each morning driving a brown horse and black buggy with a top. He carried a pick and shovel and a few stakes, boots and rain coat. When he came to the corner of Lakeland and Pioneer he would get out of the buggy and tell the horse to meet him on the northwest edge of the lake. The horse would go east 1,320 feet, then north 1,320 feet to the Little Lake School and Shamrock road. Then together they would continue north on Shamrock Road (now Pioneer) looking for pipeline Leaks and then on to Telegraph Road toward Los Angeles.