

The Hathaway Ranch Museum

NEWSLETTER



Spring 1994
Volume 4, Number 2



BOING!

MARVIN CARLZEN and HENRY LYNN hit the 2,000 hour level of recorded museum volunteer hours.

When hours were brought up to date the first of this year, several ranch-hands moved into higher categories. CARRIE LONG moved up joining JACK JOHNSON in the 1,000 hour category. RAY STENSON joined JACK THORP and MEL SMITH under "500 hours." FAYE SMETANKA and MEREDITH HATHAWAY have their names on the wall of the Reception Center for the first time, joining, for 250 hours each, ANN BARTUNEK, JOSIE RAMIREZ, PHYLLIS STENSON, EVELYN GREMBLA, and MILDRED CARLZEN.



Henry Lynn and Marvin Carlzen

Volume VII of "Settlers of Southern California" will soon be at the printers. We are assured that we will soon have in our hands material for Volume VIII. If you haven't sent us your story yet, we urge you to do so. Copies of all volumes are for sale at the museum at \$5 for any one volume (plus tax), and \$2.50 for each volume purchased after the first one.

HISTORIC PHOTO CONTEST

PRIZES of: 1st, \$100; 2nd, \$75; and 3rd, \$50 will be awarded this fall for a historic photo contest sponsored by the museum. Entries must have been photographed by the person submitting the entry, and will become the property of the Hathaway Ranch Museum. Either color or black and white photos may be submitted and will be judged equally for content. Photos should be no smaller than 4" by 6" nor larger than 8" by 10." Members of the museum's board of directors or their spouses are not eligible to compete, although donated photos are welcome.

The museum is looking for pictures of what the Rancho Santa Gertrudes (Santa Fe Springs, Los Nietos, Pico Rivera, Whittier, Norwalk, Downey, and local county areas) looked like in former days, and in scenes that may become historic. Pictures of structures, land areas, people, events, and objects are appropriate. Photos submitted in prior years will not be eligible. Deadline for submitting photos is Sunday, September 18, 1994. Contestants may submit more than one entry. Winners will be notified by telephone. For further information call (310) 944-6563

OFFICIAL PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY BLANK (One entry blank per photo)

I acknowledge that no photographic prints will be returned and that all prints shall remain the property of the Hathaway Ranch Museum, which will have the right to reproduce them at any time. Entries are due at HRM headquarters, 11901 E. Florence Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670, by Sunday, September 18, 1994. Winners will be notified by telephone. I declare that I am the creator of this photograph.

Signature: _____

Printed name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: (____) _____

Location of picture and identification of any persons:

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

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.

Generous Members

Gloria Duran	Dr. & Mrs. Stuart Gothold
Dale Epperly	Georgia Lee Gumper
Richard & Barbara Ann Field	Dixie Pollard
Dick and Hazel Fields	Marvin and Betty Putnam

HISTORIC NEFF PARK IN LA MIRADA

Neff Park is a great place for a picnic, or for a tour of the grounds and see the George and Neff houses. The grounds have 41 historic trees, all marked on a map that is easy to follow. Tours are free, and are on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month from 2 - 4 p.m. Call (310) 943-7277 for information.

VOLUNTEERS

The following volunteers gave time to the museum during the first quarter of 1994:

Frances Agopoff	Jack Johnson
Ann Bartunek	Caroline Long
Glen Bartunek	Henry Lynn
Marvin Carlzen	Virginia Mathony
Mildred Carlzen	Frank Martinez
Jim Clements	Mary O'Connor
Milt Clements	Betty Putnam
Joe Da Rold	Josie Ramirez
Ellen De Lacey	Francine Rippy
Evelyn Grembla	Faye Smetanka
Aaron Hathaway	Mel Smith
Elizabeth Hathaway	Phyllis Stenson
Jean Hathaway	Ray Stenson
Jesse L. Hathaway	Mike Sullivan
Jesse R. Hathaway	Yvonne Sullivan
Meredith Hathaway	Louise Thorson
Richard F. Hathaway, Jr.	Joyce Virnala
William Hathaway	

New Members

Marian Bonser	Martha Moubarek
Dale Epperly	John and Marjorie Seitz
Sylvia and Mike Galindo	Emily Smith

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, April 17, 1994 2:00 P.M.
Songs of the 1930's & 1940's
Bernard Hardy & Les Hogan, baritone.
RESERVATIONS REQUESTED FREE

Sunday, May 1, 1994 2:00 to 4:00 P.M.
Weaving Demonstration
No reservations required FREE

A PRESIDENTS' DAY LECTURE!

On the Sunday of President's Day weekend, HRM Board Member Joe Da Rold entertained a capacity crowd in Nadine's Living Room with his newest historical lecture. Entitled "BY GEORGE, HE DID IT!" the presentation looked at the lives of three unique men, each of whom was named George Washington.

Although President George Washington achieved immortality, the greater part of his military career was dismal. He fought a series of losing battles under the flags of two victorious countries—for the British against the French, and for America against the British. It was not until the now famous Crossing of the Delaware that Washington saw his first military success. On the lighter side, Joe revealed that by the time Washington became President, George had only one natural tooth in his mouth. His dentures were not of wood, however, but Ivory. One set was made of a combination of human and animal teeth, including hippopotamus and elephant teeth.

George Washington Carver is a name we all remember from school, yet recent years have eclipsed the magnitude of his fame and accomplishments. Do you remember any of the 301 products he developed from the peanut plant? They included instant coffee, bleach, metal polish, Paper, ink, linoleum, shampoo, shaving cream synthetic rubber, and 19 shades of dye. Carver also produced 118 products from the sweet potato and was responsible for bringing the soy bean from China to America.

His fame was so widespread he was visited at his home in Tuskegee by both Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt during their Presidencies, and by such luminaries as Henry Ford, the Duke of Windsor, the Crown Prince of Sweden, and Thomas Edison, one of his closest friends.

The third George Washington was an inventor who died young, but not before creating an invention that would change the American way of life forever. George Washington Ferris Invented the Ferris Wheel specifically so that the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 would be able to advertise an attraction that would outclass the Eiffel Tower, built just a few years earlier. Ferris reasoned that if the French insisted on going up in the air, he would have Americans go 'round and 'round.

His colleagues argued that it would never work. There was simply no way of moving such an enormous mass. Besides, they said, who would pay good money for a ride to nowhere? When Coney Island engineers built their own version, it was so tall that no one doubted the advertisements that it was the largest in the world. Yet it was only half as large as the original "Ferris Wheel!" The world never got to see another fantasy from his incredible mind. Ferris died four years later at the age of 38.

ELNORA YOUNG

Elnora Young, who has demonstrated weaving at the museum as well as displayed choice items that she has made, was the subject of a complimentary article in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune on December 23, 1993.

Elnora has been teaching weaving over 20 years in El Monte and Monrovia. She started weaving in her teens when she became interested in her sister's work and decided "to give it a go one day. The process of seeing cloth take form was fascinating; I became 'hooked' and now it is a joy to teach others."

The class meets in the morning and afternoon now. There are so many students, they had to split the class into two sessions. Several students are in their third and fourth year of making scarves, place mats that they display at various art shows. The class has several senior citizens, some of whom are past 80 years, and had never woven until they attended Elnora's class.



Elnora Young holds a sample of her work. She will demonstrate weaving on her table top loom at our Open House on Sunday, May 1, 1994, from 2-4 p.m.

BOLTON HALL, 10110 Commerce Street, Tujunga. A one-story structure constructed in 1913 of boulders from the "stone pastures" of Tujunga. Built for a town hall or club house. Later served as the Tujunga City Hall. Call (818) 352-5285 for museum hours.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

At a recent program at the Museum, Velma Dunn Ploessel divulged that she had won the silver medal for diving in the 1936 Olympics held in Berlin, Germany. The story was carried in the Whittier Daily News on February 19, 1994.

Velma's trophy case in her Downey home is filled with mementos of that Olympiad, and she still has that sense of pride 58 years after winning the silver medal. She speaks to service organizations and school groups throughout the greater Whittier area, sharing her medals and memories to raise interest in the Games and sports in general.

Learning to swim at the Pasadena YMCA, she became interested in diving while watching a group of divers at the Pasadena Athletic Club when she was 13 years of age. She placed second in the tryouts in New York, and left two days later for Europe on the SS Manhattan with \$25 in her purse. In Berlin, no one could miss the fact that virtually every man and boy was in uniform.

Hitler wanted "his" Olympics to be the greatest. Medalists received medals and laurel wreaths and first place finishers were given potted oak trees (two are still growing at USC). Velma finished three tenth of a point behind the Gold Medalist. Her dream of attending the 1940 Games was shattered by World War II.

Whittier City Councilman Allen Zolnekoff helped to greet the Russian State Chorus from the stage of the Whittier High School Auditorium. He said that he was the only member of the City Council who could speak Russian.

More about Zolnekoff: The Whittier Wheelmen and members of several other bicycling clubs met early this year to cheer challengers climbing the steepest street in Los Angeles—Fargo Street—in an event sponsored by the Los Angeles Wheelmen. The Whittier Daily News reported that Zolnekoff, "on an exceptionally lowgeared, selfconstructed recumbent bike, was the only hero from Whittier to reach the summit." The grade is 35 degrees.

Jane Gothold traveled to Japan with other members of the Whittier based Choral Bel Canto to sing with a group of 5000 singers on a cultural exchange mission.

Mission San Fernando Rey De Espana

Located at 15151 San Fernando Mission Blvd, is the 17th mission—founded in 1797, and named in honor of King Ferdinand III of Spain. Open daily 9 A.M. - 4:15 P.M.; Sundays 10 .AM. - 4:15 P.M. Adults \$3; Children (7-15) \$1.50.

CORN FESTIVAL

DATE: Sunday, July 31st
TIME: 11:00 till 5:00

PLACE: Paddison Farm
11951 Imperial Hwy.
Norwalk (between Pioneer & Norwalk Blvds.)

PRICE: Adults \$5. Children \$3.

PHONE: (310) 863-4567 (no reservations needed)

Enjoy corn harvest festivities on the last remaining corn farm in the area! The 4th & 5th generation of John Paddison descendants are hosting the 3rd annual "Corn Festival" on their 115 year old family operated corn farm.

Festivities include: hayride farm tours, old fashioned contests (corn-shucking, hog-calling, frog-jumping, watermelon seed-spitting, & turtle races), country crafts, pony rides, baby farm animals, bluegrass & country western bands, mountain clogging & country western dance demonstrations, vintage cars, and antique farm equipment.

Food and drinks for sale, featuring: sweet corn-on-the-cob lust picked from Paddison Farm's corn field, pit BBQ, and ice cold watermelon.



Joe Da Rold (right) converses with Bernard Hardy (left) following Da Rold's talk in February. Hardy will present a program on Sunday, April 17, with Les Hogan, baritone, featuring popular music of the 1930's and 1940's. Reservations are requested for the event, which will be held in the Museum from 2 - 4 p.m.

PIO PICO BIRTHDAY PARTY

There's going to be a birthday celebration in honor of PIO PICO, the last governor of Mexican California, on May 7, 1994, and everyone is invited. The party will be held at the Pico Mansion, 6003 Pioneer Blvd., just off Whittier Boulevard at the 605 Freeway. The activities will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m.

The California State Department of Parks and Recreation is sponsoring the event with the help of several local groups such as Heritage Park, Pico Rivera groups, Whittier City, El Monte Museum and others. Some events will be held at the Whittier Museum, 6755 Newlin Avenue, Whittier. For further information call Jeanne at (310) 695-1217 or (310) 945-3871.

Various activities are planned. There will be demonstrations and displays. There will be proclamations, visiting dignitaries, a birthday cake, and many other types of activities.

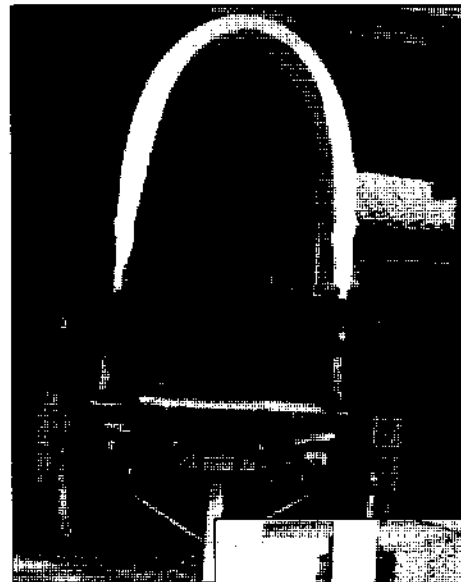
Pio Pico was born at the San Gabriel Mission on May 5, 1801. His father and grandfather came to Alta California with the Juan Bautista de Anza trek of 1776. Pico's political life began in 1826 with his appointment to the "diputacion," an advisory committee to the governor of Mexico. He led his first revolution in 1831 which was the way in which political advancement was obtained. He was unsuccessful, but tried again and was successful in overthrowing Governor Victoria. Pico's term lasted only one month. The struggle went on until he was successful in 1845 and was sworn in as Governor of California on April 12, 1845. He served until August 1846. While governor he moved the Capitol of California from Monterey to Los Angeles.

Pico's term as Governor was cut short by the invasion of the Americans. He went to Mexico to seek help in fighting the Americans, but the Mexican Government failed to help him which paved the way for the takeover of all of California by Kearney, Stockton and Fremont. Pio Pico returned to California in 1848 and became a staunch supporter of law and order. He used his wealth and influence for the development of education, banking, and townsites. He was a Los Angeles Councilman, built the Pico House in Los Angeles and invested in California's first oil venture.

Pico purchased Paso de Bartolo in 1850 and built a house on the land in 1852 where he and his wife, Maria, lived. Many fiestas were held at the mansion during the days when Pico was one of the wealthiest men in California. He planned to build the city of Picoville which never materialized because of the destruction caused by the flooding of the San Gabriel River, about a mile from his house. The river cut another channel using the San Jose Creek and then the irrigation ditch on Pico's property. He lost about 200 acres of his land as well as two rooms that were washed away from his adobe.



Members of the Adventist Union School of Bellflower gather around a cage full of baby chicks, which can be transported from place to place on a wagon.



Go West, young man! A covered wagon has materialized at the museum with the help of William and Elizabeth Hathaway.



Ray Stenson delivers a box of lettuce to the appreciative chickens, guineas, geese, pheasant, peacocks and parrots located at the Ranch.



Ruth Grams attracted special guests when she played Irish tunes on her Irish harp during the March Open House at the Museum.



Clint and Clarice Harris enjoy refreshments following Joe Da Rold's talk, "By George, They Did It!"

JIM SIEMON'S STORY

My first recollection of the Santa Fe Springs area would date back to approximately 1914 or 1915. At that time I was a youngster living with my parents on an alfalfa ranch on the Mojave Desert. We made infrequent trips by train into Los Angeles to visit my father's relatives, and while on one of these trips we visited the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Clarke, located in what was then known as Rivera. Although the main residence continued to be in Los Angeles, the family spent a considerable amount of time at the country place—the ranch was called "TuckaWay." As I remember the area it was rather open country with scattered homes and a general agricultural atmosphere. I believe there were some walnut groves and some field crops in the area. The roads for the most part were dirt roads and rather dusty too. What impressed me most on visiting this place was a tank tower on the property that provided the

domestic water supply. It had been enclosed and a stairway gave access to the top which was probably twenty feet in height and there was a gallery or walkway around the tank itself which permitted a good view of the ranch area—this one detail sticks in my mind—to me it evidently was impressive and unusual.

In 1915 Mr. Clarke purchased 40 acres of land adjacent to the intersection of Telegraph Road and Pioneer Boulevard and started ground preparation for an orange grove, to be followed later with plans for a new country home. The Rivera property had been sold to his nephew Robert Clarke. I do recall a visit to this property before the grove was planted. There was a rather large planting of eucalyptus trees, some walnut trees and a wood structure or two. My next visit would probably have been in 1924 or 1925 after the new home was finished. Miss Stella Siemon, my aunt, was employed by Mr. Clarke as a private secretary and made trips out to Santa Fe Springs three or four days a week to attend to his business interests. About the time that Mr. & Mrs. Clarke had moved into the new home, the Santa Fe Springs oil strike was made and within a comparatively short time became an area of many oil derricks. This somewhat changed their design of living in a country home—at least in Santa Fe Springs—and they became interested and involved in developing property at Idyllwild and also in the Coachella Valley in that area now known as Palm Desert. On my first trip out to the Santa Fe Springs, after completion of the new home, I found that most of the house had been closed up—only the room my aunt had for an office and the kitchen area and adjoining rooms used by a caretaker were kept open. In 1926, in the month of August, Mr. Clarke passed away. Thereafter Mrs. Clarke did make frequent trips to Santa Fe Springs, but only to spend the day—the home was never completely reopened.

It was not until 1933 or 1934 that I visited the Santa Fe Springs property more frequently and had the opportunity to observe the general area more closely. There was considerable acreage of orange trees planted in what is now mostly residential and school areas. Some of the oil wells on the Clarke property were being abandoned because of declining production, a weaker market situation brought on by the depression of the thirties and also a higher royalty percentage that Mr. Clarke requested in the original lease provisions.

In 1945 and 1946 the first subdivision activity began on the north side of Telegraph Road and subsequent development on the south side. It was then the orange grove areas began to disappear from the Santa Fe Springs scene.

Mrs. Clarke passed away in October of 1948 and the ensuing two or three years were needed to close the estate. In July of 1950 I moved from Los Angeles to the house at Santa Fe Springs and have lived here to the present time (1975).

Jim Siemon