

# The Hathaway Ranch Museum



## NEWSLETTER

Summer 1996  
Volume 6, Number 3



### ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PICNIC

The Annual Volunteer Recognition picnic will be held at the Hathaway Ranch Museum on Sunday, October 13, at 1 p.m. A barbecued chicken and rib dinner will be served.

All active volunteers, life members, and donors of \$50 or more during the past year will be guests of the museum. but PLEASE, friends, remember that it is your responsibility to notify us if you plan to come. Call (310) 944-6563 or (310) 944-7372.

Is anyone welcome? YES, provided we receive a check for \$10.00 in advance with a reservation form.

Please send reservations and checks made out to HATHAWAY RANCH MUSEUM, 11901 E. Florence Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. Reservations will be held at the door. Frank Martinez' Combo, "4 Sweet Notes," will provide entertainment. SEE PAGE 6 for reservation form.

"THE CONQUERED PROVINCE," the third in the series of books on California history being written and published by local historian, REGINA PHELAN, is now available for sale.

This is the history of the most exciting and colorful era of our history. The period of time covered is 1846 to 1848, just prior to the discovery of gold in California. Very little has been written about this period of our history because of the unpopular war we fought against Mexico. Phelan claims that this was the most difficult of all the books for her to write because of the many events taking place at the same time. This book follows the format of the others, with gold on burgundy hardback covers, and all original art work done by Al Champy of New Jersey. Phelan said she highly recommends that her readers complete the series of books as they come out. She says, "This has been a long, hard task, but a project which I am very proud to share with you."

Copies may be ordered directly from Regina Phelan at 1002 West Road, La Habra Heights, CA 90631. Send a check for \$21.95 (\$19.95 for the book, \$2 for shipping and handling.)

### Caroline Long Receives the William J. McCann Humanities Award

Santa Fe Springs resident Caroline Long was presented with the William J. McCann Humanities Award at the Friends of the Library National Library Week Luncheon on April 17. This prestigious award given annually to a resident or business resident whose time personal talent or contribution has enriched the cultural or artistic life of the City was established by the Friends in 1983 in memory of the late Councilman and Mayor Bill McCann.



Santa Fe Springs Councilman Al Sharp presents the William J. McCann Award to Caroline Long.

Caroline Carrie Long and her family moved to Santa Fe Springs from Kansas over 40 years ago. She immediately became involved in her new community with the arts and humanities the focus of many of her activities. A love of history and a desire to serve earned her an appointment to the Santa Fe Springs Historical Committee and she helped develop the idea of placing bronze historical markers to commemorate important sites in the City's history. As a volunteer docent she has made history come alive for visitors to Heritage Park and the Hathaway Ranch Museum and is a past president of the Rancho Santa Gertrudes Historical Society. Long has also supported the Santa Fe Springs City Library and the Santa Fe Springs Community Playhouse by raising funds selling tickets and working at numerous cultural events. She remarked, "I enjoy community activities and am happy to see my city become a lovely community in which to live."

The National Library Week Luncheon an annual event also featured keynote speaker Elizabeth Forsythe Hailey author of the best-selling novel and television miniseries *A Woman of Independent Means*.

### HATHAWAY RANCH 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.

#### Lifetime Members

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



*Hollyhocks on the outside of the museum's entry gate are descendants of some from the Bailey House in Whittier. The seedlings were purchased at the Pio Pico Mansion in Whittier.*

## GENEROUS MEMBERS

(Since acknowledgment in the spring newsletter)

Eddie Aycock Henry and Marty Newton  
 Marjorie Fargo Lynda and Larry Short  
 Don and Jane Houser

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Marian Bonser  
 19191 Harvard Ave. #267D  
 Irvine, CA 92715  
 (714) 725-0509

## VOLUNTEERS

The following people gave time to the museum during the second Quarter of 1996.

Frances Agopoff Mary O'Connor  
 Mildred Carlzen Betty Putnam  
 Jeanne Grant Josie Ramirez  
 Evelyn Grembla Francine Rippy  
 Aaron Hathaway Marjorie Rondeau  
 Jean Hathaway Faye Smetanka  
 Remy Hathaway Melvin Smith  
 William Hathaway Phyllis Stenson  
 Jack Johnson Ray Stenson  
 Carrie Long Mollie Teschler  
 Henry Lynn Louise Thorson  
 Frank Martinez Joyce Virnala

## NEW MEMBERS

Sheila Cantrell Marvin Morrow  
 David Hathaway Sharon & Frank Spain  
 Olive Hathaway Rocio Trejo  
 Sandie Mester

## 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.

Sunday, October 13, 1996 1:00 P.M.  
 Volunteer Recognition Picnic

# THE HATHAWAY REUNION

It is unlikely that Jesse Elwood and Lola Mary Hathaway, when they drove their team and wagon to their new home in Santa Fe Springs in 1905, gave a thought to the possibility that their surviving children, grandchildren, great-grand children, and great-great grand children, with their spouses, would some day gather at the homesite. But on May 25, 1996, that is what happened.

Nearly 60 of the descendants of the couple who came to this area to farm, exchanged memories of days long gone by. Now scattered in eleven different states, they came to the Hathaway Ranch Museum to renew acquaintances and meet relatives they hadn't seen before. They were asked to bring old favorite family dishes to this semi-potluck and they complied with enthusiasm. Salads, vegetable dishes, beans, rhubarb, home cured olives, home-made rolls and ice cream accompanied barbecued beef and chicken. Lemonade made from lemons grown on the property was served in big jugs.

**Julian Hathaway**, better known to his family members and friends as "Doc," is the only surviving son of Jesse and Lola Hathaway. He and his wife, **Helen Bewley Hathaway**, had the honor of seeing all of their children, as well as grandchildren and great grandchildren in attendance.

**Nadine Applegate Hathaway**, widow of Richard Franklin Hathaway, counted her eight grandchildren and six

guest grandchildren, including six-weeks-old Richard F. Hathaway IV.



**Anna Kramer Hathaway**, widow of Jesse Elwood Hathaway (referred to as Elwood) was joined by her son and the oldest of the Hathaway grandchildren, Jean Elwood Hathaway, and his wife, Meredith. Jean's son Robert, and his wife Peggy, with their daughters, Melissa and Cassandra, represented the branch of the family fathered by J. Elwood Hathaway, the oldest of the original Hathaway brothers born on the ranch.

It was a good day. It cannot be repeated and it will not be forgotten.

*Above: Jesse and Lola Hathaway's surviving son, Julian, with his wife Helen. Anna Hathaway, widow of J. Elwood Hathaway, and Nadine Hathaway, widow of Richard F. Hathaway.*

*Below: Great Great grandchildren of Jesse and Lola Hathaway.*



*Above: Grandchildren of Jesse and Lola Hathaway.*



*Left: Great Grandchildren of Jesse and Lola Hathaway.*

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Since our spring, 1996, newsletter was published, **LUIS J. FRANCO, ELNA SUE JOHANSON, RITA MURRAY, JOE R. RAMIREZ,** and **ALLAN ZOLNEKOFF** have sent their opinions to "Readers' Letters" in the Whittier Daily News.

**TETA SMART** was again the pageant producer for the Miss Whittier Contest. We have it from no less an authority than **BILL BELL**, publisher of the Whittier News, that as Smart entered the ballroom of the Whittier Hilton, she fell on her face. Being Smart, she quickly recovered with aplomb and the show went on.

**GEORGE MINNEHAN**, the newest appointed mayor of Santa Fe Springs, claims to be a descendant of the Wailicki tribe of Northern California and wants the city to create an exhibit dedicated to Native American culture. "It's important that our future generations know about the indigenous people of our area," he said.

**AARON HATHAWAY**, who has worked to digitize the museum's Photographic Archive, is leaving for Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He will be pursuing his Ph.D. in English Literature at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

**RUTH SHANNON** is serving on the **CLINT HARRIS** Biography Committee.

### MEMORIES OF CORA SWINDLE AND LITTLE LAKE

When word of the passing of **CORA KECK WILLSON SWINDLE** reached old-timers of the Santa Fe Springs area recently, two weeks before her hundredth birthday, a flood of memories was let loose: memories of the tiny fourth-class post office where Cora worked, at the southeast corner of Norwalk Blvd. and Telegraph Rd; memories of children coming in to buy savings stamps to be pasted in little folders to save for savings bonds to help the United States Government during World War II. \$18.75 in stamps could be traded in for a \$25 E Bond.

Memories expand to the Little Lake School on what was Little Lake Road, before Florence Avenue was cut through and widened; to the California pepper trees under which school children ate their lunches in approximately the same locations that accommodated their parents and grandparents when they were students at the school.

In Cora's day the stable school population of the Little Lake School District was about 210 students, and the district was the third richest in the state, thanks to the value of the oil wells and leases. The school was the hub of the community. People went to Santa Fe Springs or Whittier or Norwalk or Downey or Los Nietos to church, but the Little Lake School was where neighbors met neighbors at the PTA meetings, at potlucks, at talent shows, at the Halloween Carnival.

A highlight of the year was the May Day Festival around May 1. A May Queen and her court were chosen from among the 8th grade girls, and they were enthroned in a gazebo-like structure which was decorated with flowers, ferns and foliage. Kindergarten children formed an honor guard and held onto satin ribbons leading to the throne. Each class presented a dance for the approval of the queen, ending with the dance around the Maypole by the 7th graders and the braiding of the maypole streamers by the 8th graders. Does anyone else remember those days?

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## MUD SPRINGS NOW SAN DIMAS.

The San Dimas Railroad Depot, where the Santa Fe drove the "last spike" in completing its Chicago-Los Angeles line in 1887. The community was called Mud Springs then. The Victorian station burned in 1933; rebuilt in 1934 it combines Spanish Colonial Revival and Moderne of the 1930s. The yellow color, which startled the town officials, is the original hue, taken from the colors of the Santa Fe Railroad. Saved from destruction by the Pacific Railroad Society, it serves as its museum, library and archives. Worth visiting.

**How To Get There:** 210 W. Bonita Ave., San Dimas. From 210 Fwy, exit Arrow Hwy, drive east, turn left on Bonita Ave. (909) 394-0616.

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**THE PASADENA FREEWAY** was the first one built in Los Angeles. That explains the tight curves, skinny lanes and stop signs at the on and off-ramps.

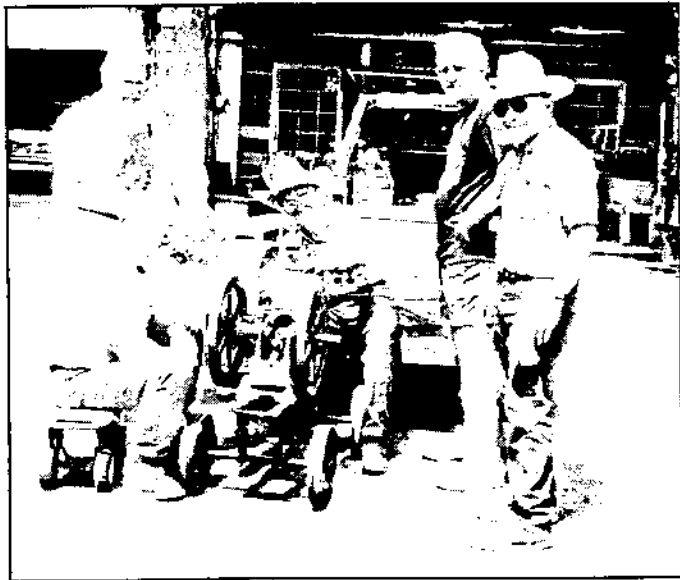
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## BAILEY HOUSE DOCENTS CELEBRATE 20th ANNIVERSARY

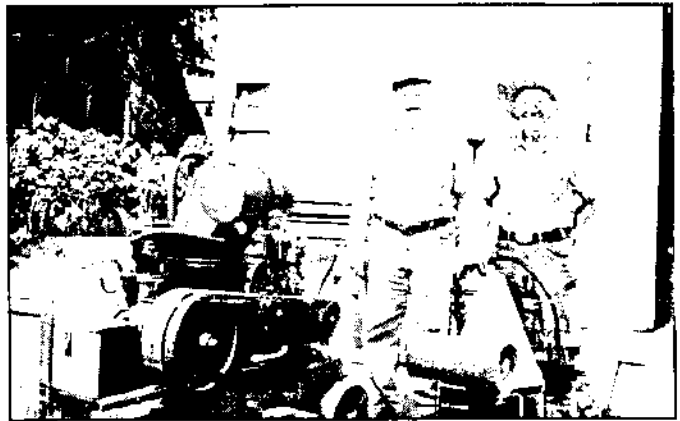
In 1887, the Bailey House was a small bunk house on the Thomas Ranch, where sheep were grazed. In 1996 it is a charming cottage where docents in period frocks, that reflect the turn-of-the-century, graciously welcome guests and escort them through the house while explaining the history of the house, the Bailey family, and early Whittier.

The 20th Anniversary of the opening of the restored house took place last June. More than forty visitors, including Janet Henke, mayor of Whittier, were on hand to help recall the days when a group of Whittierites raised \$36,000 to purchase the house at 13421 Camilla Street in Whittier, and ready it as a memorial to the early settlers of Whittier. The house was then presented to the City of Whittier. A group of men and women, who are known as "Friends of the Bailey House" have given it tender loving care these twenty years and proudly show it each Wednesday and Sunday afternoon from 1 - 4 p.m., except holidays.

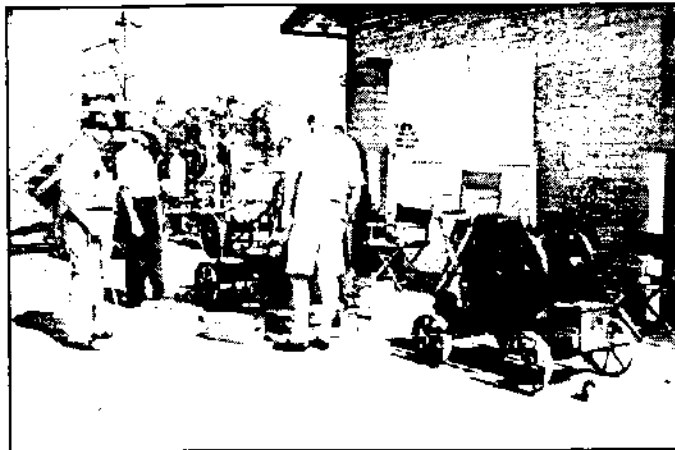
# WESTERN ANTIQUE POWER ASSOCIATION FUN DAY



*Bob Swan (sitting on the pickup tailgate) shows his friends a John Deere engine.*



*Henry Lynn and Bob Swan demonstrate an engine and water pump that is mounted on a four-wheel cart.*



*Above: More engines draw attention.*



*W.A.P.A. members display a miniature steam thrashing machine engine.*

*At right: W.A.P.A. members celebrate their spring FUN-DAY with a potluck in the engine shed at the museum.*



## The Great War of Santa Fe Springs

I and two other sentries squatted motionless in our sentry post, hidden behind a veil of green leaves that gently dangled from the drooping branches of a small tree. From the little hill we could see clearly over the broad valley with its gentle grasses swaying in the breeze. Trees and a few distant buildings graced the countryside, but we could see a long way down the narrow road that crossed the valley, and then swept gently up the hill near us and our dug-in garrison.

The great World War had recently ended in Europe with Hitler's defeat, but fanatical, clannish rivalries raged on in remote Santa Fe Springs. Nearly a month passed without some rumored plan of attack sending panic throughout the whole community, but this time our intelligence was good and we knew attack was imminent. Surely the dreaded enemy would soon approach by this single paved access route. We waited impatiently for any sign of movement. Minutes seemed like hours, but we steadfastly stood our posts. We could sense danger lurking out there somewhere. A hidden enemy—a column of heavily armed soldiers bent on routing us from our beloved land. Our palms were sweaty, our heartbeats raced. Still the enemy lay hidden from our view, but we knew he was secretly near.

Finally, on the distant horizon by the side of the road, was a tiny speck of movement. What was it? Was this the enemy? We strained our eyes to search out any detail to give us clues. We watched intently. There it was—column of soldiers marching briskly towards our hilltop entrenchment. We now stood motionless, undetectable behind the curtain of leaves. We held our breaths as the column crossed Pioneer Boulevard and started up the hill on Florence Avenue.

Little time remained before the attack. We kept our profiles low and quickly ran from our surveillance post. Darting among shrubs and bushes, we made our way across the front yard and into Uncle Elwood's avocado orchard to warn the troops of the impending battle.

The men were ready. Partially dug in among the furrows and hillocks of fallen avocado leaves, they waited silently with weapons cleaned and made ready for the desperate fight soon to befall us.

We could see their eyes now—less than a hundred feet away. Not a breath was uttered, any crunching of the tinder dry mat of leaves and twigs would give our position away. Closer and closer they came, led by their Commander, Rob Hegardt. They were almost upon us as the column fearlessly marched through the orchard gate. It was everywhere now, the terrifying sound of countless foreign feet crunching and kicking up the piles of avocado leaves! There was no more time for pause! Attack! Attack!

The air was filled with violent sounds and swirls of choking

dust as opposing soldiers skirmished in a vain attempt to route our dug in troops. Bang! Bang! Whoosh! The horrible sounds of war raged all about us. Our very lives seemed threatened by the fierce onslaught Bang! Boom! Bang! Zi-i-n-n-n-ng...splat. The worst had happened. A tiny copper clad steel pellet went splat against Brent's face, narrowly missing his eye. A dull red dot marked the exact spot! Frantic yelps of agony filled the air as Brent staggered about stumbling and kicking at the orchard debris. The war stopped! What happened? Who did that? Uh-oh... Benny's B-B gun was loaded—really loaded! It was against the rules to use a loaded gun in a war! We were outraged. The war was over, we picked up our stuff, and we all went home.

*Terry Hathaway*

## DUTCH APPLE PIE

6 apples  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
½ cup sugar  
¼ tsp. nutmeg  
2 Tbs.. flour



Pare and dice apples. Sift together the sugar, flour, cinnamon and nutmeg. Add sifted dry ingredients to the diced apples; mix well (preferably with hands). Place the apple/spice mixture into an unbaked crust.

## TOPPING

½ cup sugar  
1 cube margarine or butter  
½ cup flour

Sift together the sugar and flour; "cut" in the margarine/butter until mixture is crumbly. Spread this mixture over the top of the pie. Put the pie into a No. 25 brown paper bag and seal with a paper clip or pins. Place in 425 degree oven and bake for one hour. (Sorry folks. We don't know what a No. 25 brown paper bag is. Improvise.)

This recipe, among others, is in "Here's What's Cooking," available at the museum for \$7.00 plus tax.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me at the HRM picnic at \$10.00 per ticket. Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please print your name above.

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_