

The Hathaway Ranch Museum



NEWSLETTER

Summer 1997
Volume 7, Number 3



Volunteer Recognition Picnic

The annual picnic to honor volunteers will be held at the Hathaway Ranch Museum on Sunday, October 12, at 1:00 p.m. A BBQ chicken and rib dinner will be served.

Volunteers whose names appear on the list of volunteers in this newsletter or donors who have given \$50.00 or more to the museum during the past year will be the guests of the museum. However, we need a reservation for those who plan to attend. Call (562) 944-6563 or (562) 944-7372.

Others will be charged \$10.00 per person with paid reservations, which are required to be made by October 2, 1997. Reservations will be held at the door.

Please send this reservation coupon, along with your check, to the Hathaway Ranch Museum, 11901 E. Florence Ave. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670.

For further information, call (562) 944-6563. Reservations will be held at the door.

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

Printed name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: (_____) _____

Note: The museum buildings will not be open October 12. This is the ranch hands' day off.

The Gertie Award

Early in its incorporation (1983) the members of the Board of Directors of the Rancho Santa Gertrudes Historical Society voted to establish an annual award of distinction to some members of the community who met one or more of the following qualifications:

1. Involvement leading to a significant achievement or product that had an impact on the development of a community.
2. Involvement leading to a community change.
3. Involvement in the significant preservation of history.

The nominee's achievements should have been within the boundaries of the original Rancho Santa Gertrudes or its contiguous areas. Recognition and/or the presentation of the award should be presented at some special event sponsored by the society. No member of the board of directors or spouse should be selected to receive the award. When the society merged with the Hathaway Ranch Museum, established traditions were kept, including the bestowing of the Gertie Award.

Dual Gertie Awards

Gloria Duran and John Nairn, long-standing members of the Santa Fe Springs Historical Committee and community activists, will each be honored by the Hathaway Ranch Museum at the volunteer recognition picnic at the museum on Sunday, October 12, when they receive the "Gertie" awards for 1997. Résumés of Duran and Nairn appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Spring, 1997 edition of the Whittier Museum Gazette, tells the story of the day that the famous inventor, Thomas Edison, passed through Whittier while touring the Southland by automobile. On October 28, 1915, Edison, accompanied by two friends, passed the corner of Philadelphia Street and Whittier Boulevard while huge crowds cheered them on. Most in the crowd had no idea that one of the men sitting beside the great inventor was Henry Ford himself—until they read all about it in the Whittier News.

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 nonprofit 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 (562) 944-6563 or (562) 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

Volunteers

The following people gave time to the museum since acknowledgment in our Spring 1997 newsletter:

Frances Agopoff	Francine Rippy
Mary Rose Bertucci	Slats Seeley
Mildred Carlzen	Faye Smetanka
Jeanne Grant	Melvin Smith
Elizabeth Hathaway	Phyllis Stenson
Jean Hathaway	Ray Stenson
Jesse R. Hathaway	Irene Stephen
Karen Hathaway	Mollie Teschler
Meredith Hathaway	Louise Thorson
Remy Hathaway	Joyce Virnala
Richard F. Hathaway, Jr.	
William Hathaway	
Jack Johnson	
Carrie Long	
Henry Lynn	
Frank Martinez	
Frank Moody	
Mary O'Connor	
Betty Putnam	
Josie Ramirez	

Generous Members and Donors

These members have donated more than their basic dues since previous acknowledgment in the Spring, 1997 newsletter:

Virginia Mathony
Larry and Isabelle Meyer
Annabell Williams

New Members

Paul Phillips
Frank and Dorthea Reese

Good Wishes to:

Long time residents Harold and Bonnie Settle of Norwalk, who are moving to Eureka.

Members in the News

LUIS FRANCO, JOE R. RAMIREZ, ADELINE ROCHA, and HAROLD RUMMEL have all voiced their views recently in the Readers' Letters column of the Whittier Daily News.

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, October 12, 1997 1:00 P.M.
Volunteer Recognition BBQ Picnic
Volunteers FREE Others \$10.00
(see article on the front page)

PERMANENT WAVES were invented by Karl Ludwig Nessler, a German-born hairdresser, who, over a period of years ending in the mid-1920s, perfected machines for making hair more porous, so that it would absorb moisture. Moist hair holds a curl longer than dry hair, but not, of course, permanently.

History of the Gertie Awards

The first Gertie Award was presented in 1986 to **Luis Escontrias** who was on the Santa Fe Springs City Council. Escontrias distinguished himself by voting consistently for preservation and the establishment of parks.

In 1987 the award went to **Robert and Margaret Scantlebury**, who own and operate Paddison Farm in Norwalk. The farm is the site of weddings, fund raisers, and other special events. The house, built in 1869 by Robert's great-grandfather, John Paddison, is still standing and decorated in the period by Margaret.

In 1988 the award was received by **Richard H. Weaver**, former Director of Planning and Development for the city of Santa Fe Springs who, we are told, was mainly responsible for convincing the City Manager of Santa Fe Springs that there really ought to be a Heritage Park on what was once the Slusher property. "If a city with the wealth of Santa Fe Springs could not preserve this historic site, what city could?"

In 1989 **Bob Camp** was given the award. Camp was the official historian of the City of La Mirada and contributed much information about the area.

Martin Cole won the Gertie in 1990. Cole was generally accepted as the authority on the Pio Pico Mansion, home of the last Mexican governor of California.

Virginia Mathony received the award in 1991 for her treasure house of knowledge about early Whittier settlers and her publications about them.

Joe da Rold won the award in 1992 for his expertise in the research and dissemination of information about the Santa Fe Springs and Whittier area to schools and community groups.

Candelaria Corral was given the award in 1993 for her dedication in helping to keep the Mexican heritage alive, particularly through "Club Cultural Mexicano".

John Vincent won the award in 1994 for his long time presidency of the Downey Historical Society and his promulgation of the history of Downey. He claims that the only other thing he'd like to be remembered for is as the chief restorer of the famous Dismukes House.

Elna Sue Johanson was honored in 1995 for being the "mother" of the Whittier Historical Society, for helping to preserve Whittier's first house, for spearheading the finally successful Save Our Depot movement, and for establishing the Swedish American Historical Society, thereby receiving a gold medal from the King of Sweden for promoting Swedish American relations.

Regina Phelan received the award in 1996 for her persistent efforts to preserve the history of the State of California

through a series of publications brought out at her own expense.

The first dual awards presented by the museum will be presented October 12, 1997 to **Gloria Duran** and **John Nairn**: to Duran for her research leading to a historical marker for the Los Nietos School District, and to Nairn for his generosity in contributing toward the marker and in urging others to contribute toward it. Nairn was also totally responsible for funding a marker on the Matern property.

Gloria Duran

A resident of Santa Fe Springs for 35 years, she is married, with four grown children and six grandchildren. She has served as a Member of the Los Nietos Governing Board since 1989, and is currently serving with the California School Board Association as a delegate, a member of the Legislative Network and as the Governmental Relations Chair for State Senator Charles Calderon

Gloria has been active in community affairs for over 30 years, activities such as:

- Member of the Santa Fe Springs Social Services Committee
- Member of the Santa Fe Springs Historical Committee
- Member of the Santa Fe Springs Sister City Committee
- Member of Whittier Women's League of Voters
- Member of Santa Fe Springs Women's Club
- Member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church AIDS Support Group
- Member of The Salvation Army's Transitional Living Center Advisory Committee.

She has been honored by receiving the following awards:

- PTA Honorary Life Member by the Los Nietos Middle School and Rancho Santa Gertrudes Elementary School
- San Gabriel Valley Human Relations Committee Hispanic Leadership Award
- Graduate of MALDEF Leadership and Advocacy Development Program
- 1995-96 Whittier Area School Administrators Community Service Award

Retiring nearly two years ago, she has been enjoying going to the schools and reading to children or helping them to read. Gloria also loves to take her grandchildren to the City's parks and different programs. She says: "I relive what I did with my own children."

Recently, Gloria has become very interested in the history of the Los Nietos Village and the Los Nietos School District with their first school being built in 1790 and being established as a school district in 1861. In her own words: "This area is rich in history and I have enjoyed doing the research for various projects such as working with the Santa Fe

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Springs Historical Committee to raise funds for a historical marker for the Los Nietos School District. I believe I have made students and teachers more aware of this history and they, in turn, have also done further research. My goal is to have an established group do further research and have it documented."

John Nairn

John graduated from Pomona College, Claremont, in 1948. After a year of work in Phoenix, Arizona, he attended Stanford Graduate School of Business in 1949-50, to acquire business units for a teaching credential.

In 1951-52 he earned his California Secondary Teaching Credential from the University of Southern California. For the next 20 years, he taught American History and Business Education subjects at what is now George Washington Preparatory High School (near Western Avenue and Imperial Highway) in the Los Angeles School District.

In 1972, John became the financial adviser for his grandfather, who had married the widow Gertrud Matern in 1929. After his grandfather's retirement, he gave John all the records pertaining to the 105 acres purchased by Gertrud Matern (in William Matern's name, as was the custom in those days) in 1913. John thought the Santa Fe Springs Library might be interested in these original documents and oil lease maps from the 1920s and 1930s. These papers are now in the Library Historical Files.

In 1973 Joe da Rold suggested that John apply for Historical Committee membership, which he did. Then, after demolition of the Matern home, John felt there should be a permanent record of this couple's achievements, even though none of the 5 grandchildren had an active part in those early Santa Fe Springs days.

When John first heard of Gloria Duran's plans for an educational marker for the Los Nietos School District, and of the research she had done so far, he wanted to help raise money to add to what Nadine Hathaway had already donated to start this project. John states: "We are on our way to raising the \$4,000 needed to qualify for City Council's promise of \$1,000 to complete the marker."

An Abundance of Grapes

Now we know why so many concord grapes are still on the vine in the goose pen, unlike previous years, when the birds would eat most of them. "Gilbert" Alvarez, museum gardener, tells us that a big yellow cat has taken up residence near the vine. The birds are smart enough to keep out of the way of the cat and the cat is smart enough to keep out of the way of the dogs.

MARY ROSE BERTUCCI

Several months ago we received the following letter from Mary Rose Bertucci accompanied by a healthy donation to the Hathaway Ranch Museum. We want to share the letter with you and we also want to call your attention to Bertucci's plans to continue her education and to what she plans to do with it.

Perhaps we have put too much stress on asking our readers to relate what they have done in the past. Perhaps we should inquire into what they want to do in the future. We might open some windows for all of us.

"I moved to Santa Fe Springs, (Promenade Villas) in 1993 after doing much research on various locations throughout Southern California. I fell in love with Heritage Park and the green belts tucked in and around the city. It was only recently that I visited the Hathaway Ranch one afternoon and was drawn back by its charm.

I work full time in private industry and have recently decided to continue my education at the age of 49 to finish Adult Ed and Vocation Educational credentials. These credentials would allow me to work with older adults with disabilities in the field of education. I'm looking forward to this new phase in my life!

The Hathaway Ranch Museum is a precious gift to the community. It allows us to pause from our busy schedules and reflect back on another time and place. It is only through your foresight and wisdom that I was able to have a hands on experience of yesterday.

I'm happy to contribute to and foster Hathaway Ranch preservations."

Mary Rose Bertucci

Does anyone know of any tall pecan trees other than the ones on museum property?

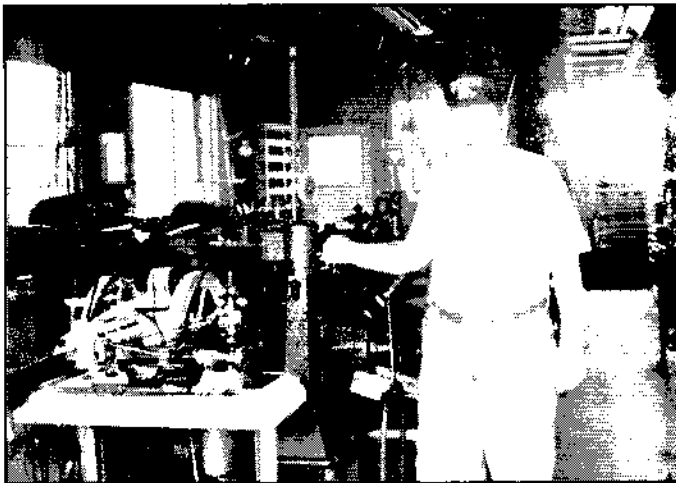


HERITAGE PARK HONORS HENRY LYNN

In its' Summer, 1997 newsletter, Heritage Park honors Henry Lynn. It says of him:

"Henry Lynn has been a Heritage Park docent since 1987 when the park first opened. He has mastered giving school tours of both the park itself and the new railroad exhibit. Henry says that his favorite part about the park is the railroad exhibit, because it brings back old memories. When Henry was in high school, he remembers working on engines similar to Heritage Park's No. 870. After tours on Wednesdays, Henry staffs the railroad exhibit during the afternoon, making it easy for the staff to focus on other areas of the park. When Henry is not helping out at Heritage Park he is over at the Hathaway Ranch Museum.

Whether Henry is at Heritage Park or at Hathaway's, he is doing what he loves most, preserving and interpreting history. Thank you Henry Lynn for focusing your efforts on Santa Fe Springs."



Henry Lynn in the museum machine shop.

We at the museum want to honor Henry, too. We asked him to tell what he did here in his own words. This is what he said:

"I work at the Hathaway Ranch Museum on Thursdays and Fridays. I work with four other men: Jack Johnson, Frank Moody, Slats Seeley and Melvin Smith. I am a volunteer with others on the first Sunday of each month (except holidays), which is Open House. Our job is to restore tractors and small to big engines and to take school tours when they come on the dates they are assigned to. We have a lot of equipment on the ranch that we try to log and keep track of. I like working with the other men and we get along good."



Above: L to R, Mel Smith, Carrie Long, Mildred Carizen and Henry Lynn.

Left: Henry Lynn, Jack Johnson and Slats Seeley work on the "Big G."

Everlasting Cookies



2 cups sugar
2 eggs
3/4 cup milk
2 tsp. Baking powder
1 cup butter or margarine
2 tsp. vanilla
Dash of salt
6 1/2 to 7 cups flour

Cream sugar, butter, eggs and vanilla. Add the milk, salt, baking powder and flour. Form the dough into a ball. Roll out; cut with cookie cutters. Sprinkle sugar over the tops. Bake at 350° for 8 to 10 minutes.

This is a family recipe from a mule whacker's family. They would bake a barrel full of cookies which would last through 6 months of mule-whacking on the trail.

(This recipe is in "Here's What's Cooking" which is sold at the museum for \$7.00 plus tax, or \$7.58)



4th Grade Letters

In our winter newsletter we included comments of Biola University students who had visited the museum. In this newsletter we want to share with you the comments of some of the members of Mrs. Iatori's 4th grade class from Lakeview School.

"What I like the best was the military room because it had all the uniforms from World War I and World War II."

"We got to feed the chickens and hold an egg. I enjoyed feeding the chickens because that was my first time."

"What I liked was all the photographs you had. I liked all the old cars you had they were nice."

"I thought your house was the most interesting. Your house was interesting because you had so much to say and especially about your Blown Glass Figures."

"My favorite part of the tour was when we got to go in your house and listen to the facts about you. I'm wondering if you make your own food on the ranch or do you go shopping and buy food there? I would really like to be on this ranch now that I saw how fun it looks. All I want to know is the advantages and disadvantages."

"We really enjoyed the museum. But we also enjoyed the junk yard and other stuff. I liked the junk yard and the chickens. The chickens was the best part for me."

"What I liked the most was the chickens because of their feathers."

"I really appreciated your nice docents and your animals. Your animals were so pretty and the thing that impressed me the most was the blown-glass that you had on your counter."

"My sister went to your ranch two years ago and she said that I should go, and now that I'm in 4th grade I could go. My mom went too and both she and I loved it."

The Annual "Sing-It-Out"

We learn by exchanging newsletters with other historical groups: some information here, a recipe there. We enjoyed the following editorial printed in "The Bridge," a publication of the La Puente Valley Historical Society:

It was entitled "HOW TO STAGE A FAMILY FEUD" by Gerry Keesey Hoppe.

The article deals with the repugnancy California Indians held for real warfare. Feuds existed, of course, but warfare was harmful to children and other living beings and there-

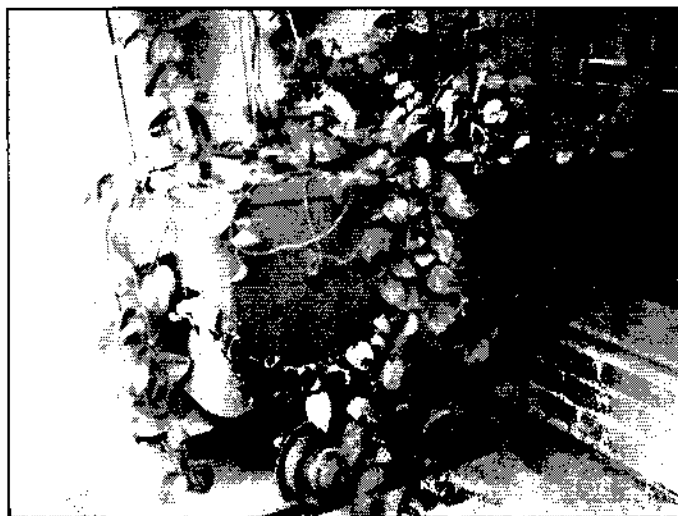
fore avoided if at all possible. The Cahuilia Indians, particularly those under the influence of the Mission San Gabriel fathers who became known as "Gabrielenos," considered themselves one large family. Intermarriage was forbidden, but most were still related by blood and if one was attacked, the whole gathered to the defense. Since bloodshed was looked down upon, other means of revenge had to be sought. And Gerry Hoppe relates a most delicious tale of one such revenge:

It is reported that an Indian family living at Mission San Gabriel had a major fallout with a clan from San Juan Capistrano. At the next special ceremony, the two camps mustered their extended family members for a grand assembly, whereupon they acted out their hostilities for all to see in a singing and dancing marathon.

Family members vented much anger during these songs and dances, stomping their feet and hurling insults to the other clan in song with much vehemence.

The performance lasted a week—and no one won, but participants went home feeling vindicated. It was such a success that it was scheduled for the following year, and then the following year after that! Pretty soon other clans asked if they could come and dance and sing away their grievances also, and before one knew it, it was an annual event. There was only one restriction, no "outsider" could participate and no one could be told what the origin of the original "sing-it-out" was about.

The editor of "The Bridge" suggests that the La Puente City Council could learn a lesson or two from this. Any other councils?



When people at the museum were looking for a planter in which to exhibit some donated plants, Will Hathaway appeared on the North 40 with a mining cart. As he has said before, "We don't collect: we uncover."