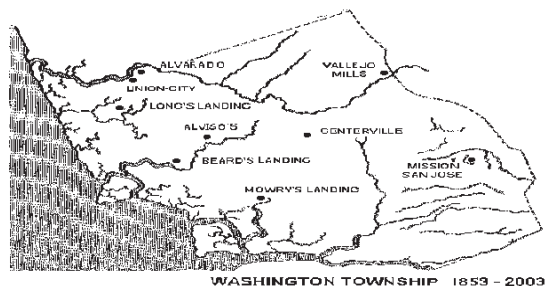


Washington Township Historical



MAY-JUNE 2013

VOL 37

NO. 03

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MEETING DATE: MONDAY, MAY 27, 2013 TIME: 7:15 PM
PLACE: MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY, 190 ANZA ST, FREMONT

Washington Township Historical Society Editors: Regena Dennie and Al Minard

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WTHS President's Message May 27th, 2013

Washington Township Historical Society's guest speaker for May will be Nancy Johnson. Nancy is Grand Historian for the IOOF Grand Lodge of California. The Mission Peak Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) Lodge #114 was instituted on June 27th, 1863, in what was then called Washington Corners. Nancy is a Committee Chair at the state level for all California lodges. Nancy is also the Director of the Rebekah Children's Services headquartered in Gilroy. The May 27th meeting will coincide with the opening of a new exhibit for the Museum of Local History Guild. The new exhibit is composed of items on loan from the local IOOF Lodge. The Museum will be open at 6:00 p.m. for a exhibit preview prior to the WTHS meeting starting at 7:15pm. This is a very special occasion because the IOOF will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary on June 29th, 2013. The combination of Nancy's presentation on the local history of the IOOF and an exhibit with items that date back to the 1860s shouldn't be missed.

This is a wonderful opportunity to see the unique and beautiful designs of IOOF regalia, banners and robes. The IOOF has a long and rich history in our community and many of the local Pioneer Families had close affiliations with the organization. Nancy has a wealth of history on many of the local Pioneer Families of Washington Township and the surrounding area. We will all be wishing the Mission Peak IOOF Lodge #114 a very Happy 150th Birthday in June at their celebration at the IOOF Lodge - come join us for both events.

May 27th, 2013, Museum of Local History exhibit preview opens at 6:00pm, WTHS meeting starts at 7:15pm

Gil Garza

The Conference of California Historical Societies will hold their Annual Meeting in Sacramento at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 100 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA from Thursday, June 20th to Saturday, June 22, 2013. On Friday there will be tours of The State Capitol Museum and the California State Railroad Museum. Saturday will have the Awards luncheon and a tour of the California State Library. The Conference will end with a Bang, because we will be having dinner aboard the Delta King Ferry Boat and watch fireworks from the River Cats baseball stadium after the game. Cost for all of the events and dinners is \$310.00, The Embassy Suites is charging us \$115.00 per night for a room. These are always enjoyable and educational events.

Mission Peak Lodge #114

By Nancy Johnson, Historian

1/6/1863, members from Crusade Lodge #93 at Alvarado got together at the Union Hotel and decided to start a Lodge in Washington Corners. 6/27/1863 Mission Peak Lodge #114 was instituted. The members immediately went to work fitting the hall they rented (\$150.00 per year), then purchased from Alfred Osgood Rix. 1889 the members purchased the land next door to their hall. 10/8/1890 they dedicated the brick building they are in today. They later rented, and then sold the old hall to the Hirsh Family, but sadly the building burned in the fire of 1895.

12/10/1873 the Odd Fellows purchased 5 acres of land from Mr. Walters for use as a cemetery. The Lodge sold plots, maintained grounds and hired an undertaker. 4/3/1957 after years of upkeep that the membership could no longer support, Mission Peak Lodge sold the cemetery to the Eureka Holding Co. for \$22,500 leaving a 40x40 plot for use by the Lodge. Today this is known as the Irvington Memorial Cemetery that is just up the street.

5/16/1871, the Grand Lodge of California created a committee for the purpose of providing the membership a Widows/Orphans College. Membership across the state stepped up with donations of property for this fine home to be located in their town. The membership of Mission Peak Lodge was no exception with a donation of land and materials. Quoted from 1871 "GL of CA" journal; "E.L. Beard & H.G. Ellsworth; 100 acres situated "on the line of the SF/SJ railroad, near the old SJ Mission" along with the land and cash was also this note "All the stone from our quarries necessary for building purposes, 1000 ornamental trees, 4000 mulberry trees, a span of horses and a plow" sadly, this project did not get off the ground and the Grand Lodge committee was disbanded in 1872. However, the land that was to be donated to the Odd Fellows was later sold for several uses as a college, including a Military Boys Academy, located at the NE corner of Driscoll & Washington Blvd. Longworth S. Anderson, curator of the college, was a member of the Lodge and the membership supported these colleges financially for many years.

1960 purchase of Osgood property, 1970 sale of most of the Osgood property.

1868, 1906 & 1989 Our Lodge has survived 3 major earthquakes; however the members went to work in 1990 with the required earthquake standards and did a complete remodel of the building. We added ADA required bathrooms, elevator, kitchen and dining hall. At the end of this retrofit, we had a 100 year re-dedication of our new and improved hall. If there is another earthquake, this is the safest building in town.

1863-today; As you go through the Lodge, you will see many names that are easily recognizable. Part of the reasoning for this is that Wally Pond was a member of our Lodge and along with being a part of naming and laying out the City of Fremont, he was part of a committee of the Lodge researching the history of our Lodge. It stands to reason that some of this historical research blended into the naming of many of our streets.

How to be a member, Contact any of the members here today and they will be happy to hand you an application and walk you through the process

Motto: Visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, educated the orphan.



High Priest Degree Robe, dated
between: 1863-1870

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Tri-City Voice, March 5, 2013, **Phil Holmes** writes, “Arcadia Comes to Warm Springs”. The first gasoline water pump was located on the Antone Alvarez farm. Leland Stanford purchased the Warm Springs Resort in 1870, and his brother Josiah took over management of the Colombet Hotel and planted vineyards.

Tri-City Voice, March 19, 2013, **Phil Holmes** writes, “Warm Springs”. The Agua Caliente (hot) springs water contained a solution of sulphur, soda and borax. The springs became the property of Fulgencia Higuera when he was awarded Rancho del Agua Caliente in 1836.

Fremont Bulletin, March 22, 2013, **Carol Zilli** is pictured as she welcomed attendees to the 25th Anniversary Benefit Gala for Music For Minors II.

Tri-City Voice, April 2, 2013, **Phil Holmes** writes, “Higher Education in Washington Township”. The first institution of higher learning in Washington Township was the Washington College of Science and Industry in Irvington in 1872.

Argus, April 9, 2013, Chris De Benedetti writes, “Mr. Ohlone won many victories for this Tribe”. A tribute to Phil Galvan, who suggested that the new college district be named for the Ohlone Indian. Phil Passed on March 25, 2013 at the age of 87.

Tri-City Voice, April 9, 2013, **Pat Kite** writes, “Swallow Story”. Some say that a swallow’s nest is lucky. In ancient Rome, swallows were sacred to household gods who looked after the house.

Tri-City Voice, April 16, 2013, **Andy Galvan** spoke about his father, Phil Galvan, at the Ohlone College Board of Trustees meeting, held on April 10, 2013.

Tri-City Voice, April 16, 2013, , **Phil Holmes** writes, “A New City”. It was a passing of an era, when the nine small villages in the Township incorporated. Newark decided not to join the five villages that formed Fremont, and incorporated in 1955. Alvarado and Decoto formed Union City.

Tri-City Voice, April 30 2013, , **Phil Holmes** writes, “Car Racing in Fremont”. Cars were built by the team of Joe and George Amaral and Frank Cordoza in the early 1930’s. car racing came back to Fremont in a big way in the 1950’s. Ron Lawrence partnered with several local men to build a quarter-mile paved drag strip next the Fremont Skysailing Airport.

Tri-City Voice, April 30, 2013, **Lila Bringham** writes, “Annie Nunes of Newark turns 100”. Annie and her husband, Frank Nunes, came to Newark in 1846 where he got a job at the Wedgewood Stove Factory. Annie was an excellent seamstress, and made all of her children’s clothes. Her quilts often won blue ribbons at the Alameda County Fair.

Members who have paid their dues since our last meeting.

New Member: Mickel Richard Harris—Please give him a warm welcome when you meet him.

Renewals: John & Rose Barr, Alan Cerro, Linda & Frank Freitas, Patty Lacy, Nancy Lorigan, Betty McCoy, and Ed & Debra Pentaleri

Thank you to Our new Member Mickel and our renewing members.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 per year

PATRONS MEMBERS: \$50.00 for one year

NAME _____ PHONE _____

Address _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail Address _____

MAIL CHECK TO: Washington Township Historical Society PO BOX 3045 FREMONT, CA 94539

MAIL BAG

MISSION PEAK REPORTER, April-June, 2013. Al Minard writes to remind us of “Arts & Crafts in Shinn Park, on Sunday, May 19, 2013 from 10 AM to 4 PM. (Washington Township Historical Society will be attending with a historical display) Also at Shinn on June 14, 2013, “A tea by the Shinn volunteers, with theme, “Stand up and Cheer”. Al Minard will be speaking on Alice Paul and her march on Washington D.C. in 1913. Price \$25.00. Sunday, July 21, 2013, Shinn’s annual fund raiser, Victorian Ice Cream Social will be held from Noon to 4 PM.

ALAMEDA MUSEUM QUARTERLY, Spring 2013, starts with a report by Robbie Dilleo, “It Takes a Village, The March 16th Annual Membership luncheon”. There are more than 50 volunteers and docents at the Alameda Museum and the Meyers house and gardens. Ron Ucovich writes about historic towns, which don’t exist anymore. Gold Rush town of Selby, which was located along the Carquinez Strait, only remains is the foundation of a hotel. The town of Eckley, located east of Crockett, was a town where they manufactured bricks. Only the sales office remains.

UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, March 2013, Myrla Raymundo writes, “Refugio Cabello”, from a newspaper from 1973, Refugio was the first Mexican-American from his hometown in Arizona to attend college. Moving to Union City where Refugio taught at Barnard School. He became Principal of Decoto School and later as District Director of Personnel.

THE CLUB CAR, April 2013, The Niles Canyon Railway’s yard saw some excitement when a semi-truck with double trailers lost its brakes coming down the driveway in the quarry and crashed into the Brightside Yard.

THE CLUB CAR, May 2013, Alan Siegwarth writes, “Niles Canyon Railway Wildflower Train Debut”. The week-end’s in April were enjoyed by passengers of the Niles Canyon Train, Quincy Railroad #2, with beautiful green wildflower covered hills.

THE CALIFORNIA HISTORIAN, Volume 58, 2012/2013, “Good Medicine” by Richard Rohrbacher, Ph.D. is the story of Dr. Margaret H. Smyth and the history of Stockton State Hospital. Dr. Smyth served as a physician, surgeon and administrator at the Stockton State Hospital from 1900 until her retirement 46 years later.

Washington Township Historical Society will be attending the Arts & Crafts in Shinn Park event on Sunday, May 19, 2013. The grounds will have about 25 local artists and historic crafters demonstrating and selling their work. The artist’s will be set up by 10 AM and the Shinn House will open for tours at Noon. Tours of the house will cost \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children 7-12 years of age, under 7 will be free. The event will begin with Music for Minors at about 11 AM, followed by the Youth Jazzinators a local jazz band, followed by square dancers and finally at about 3 PM the belly dancers will demonstrate belly dancing. Hotdogs and Nachos will be available for purchase as well as water and soda. Entry to the grounds and all of the events except the house tour is FREE.

Essanay Plaque

Washington Township Historical Society will present our newly revised plaque to the Essanay Silent Film Museum at the Niles International Film Festival on June 28-29, 2013. When the date is confirmed we will try to get an article into the Tri-City Voice, so you that wish to attend will have that opportunity.

History Day Report

By Al Minard

We had a number of students from Fremont make it to the California State Championships for History Day. First I would like to recognize the Counselors at Hopkins Junior High School, Thom Birbeck and Charles Jennings. I also want to recognize the Counselor at Mission San Jose High School, Risha Krishna. The topic for this year's History Day Competition was, "Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events." The State competition was held in Sacramento on April 26-28, 2013. There were 1055 students from all over California that entered this competition.

Here are the entrants from Fremont:

Andrew Choi and Advait Sethuraman did a Junior Group Documentary titled, "Thirteen Days on Edge". They are from Hopkins Junior High School.

Angela Wang, Max Wu, Eric Zhu, Shawn Yip and Jennifer Wei did a Group Performance titled, "The Voting Rights Act of 1965: The Senate Debates". They are also from Hopkins.

William Bei did a Historical Paper titled, "The Sinkings of the Akayi, the Kaya, and Soryu and How they Changed History". He is also from Hopkins.

Dominique Huang and Madeline Zheng did a Senior Group Documentary titled, "Value of the Vote". They are from Mission San Jose High School. Here is a picture of them.

Olivia Zheng, Vivian Chang, and Grace Dong did a Senior Group Performance titled, "Denishawn and the Birth of American Dance". They also attend Mission San Jose High School.

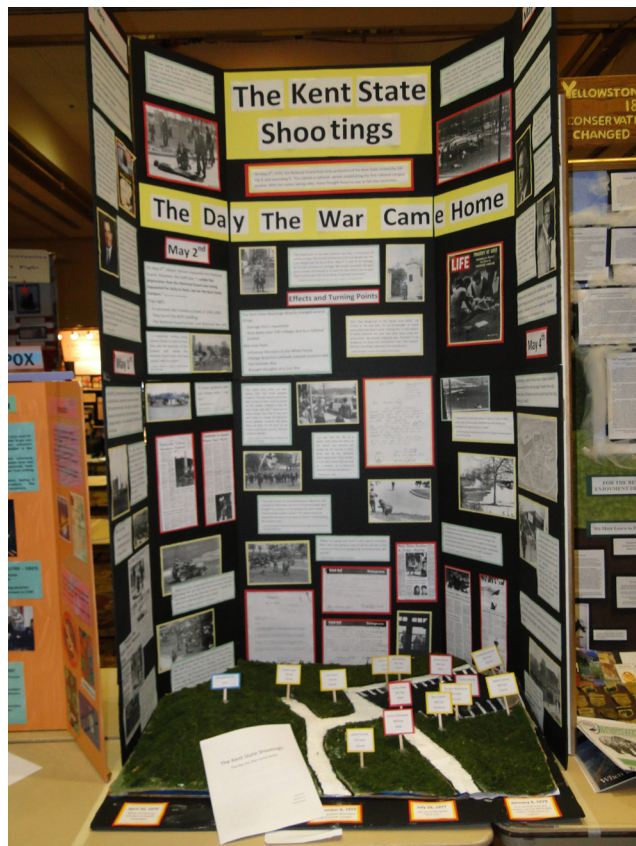
Joshua Chan did a Senior Individual Exhibit titled, "The Kent State Shootings: The Day the War Came Home". He is from Mission San Jose High School.

Laura Chen, and Catherine Wang did a Senior Group Website titled, "China's Third Plenum: The Road to Reform". They are also from Mission San Jose High School.

Katrina Cherk did a Senior Historical Paper titled, "The American Polio Epidemics: Redefining Philanthropies, Reforming Medical Research and Catalyzing the Disability Rights Movement". She is also from Mission San Jose High School.

Anu Asokan did a Senior Historical Paper titled, "The Banning of Sati: How India's Perspective Changed". This student is also from Mission San Jose High School.

Washington Township Historical Society applauds the work of these students who made it to the California State Championship for History Day. Although none of them made it to the Nationals, I am sure they learned a lot about their subject. I have read some of the bibliographies by students and some go to 20 pages long.



Kent State Shootings Exhibit by Joshua Chan of Mission San Jose



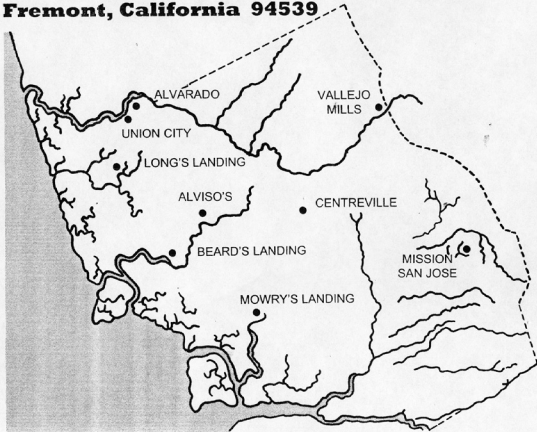
Dominique Huang and Madeline Zheng of Mission San Jose

Memory Lane Potluck Dinner
 This event will be held on Monday, July 22, 2013 beginning at 6:30 PM on the patio of the Museum of Local History at 190 Anza Street, Fremont, Mission San Jose area. The theme of this year's potluck dinner is the 1960's. This was only 50 years ago and we hope that you will have memories to share. Everyone is welcome and in fact bring a friend or two.

Appointment of Nominating Committee
 Our By-Laws state that we should appoint a Nominating Committee of five to select a slate of officers for Washington Township Historical Society. The elected officers are: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. This has not been a hard job in the past finding officers to run the organization. If you would like to be on the nominating committee please contact Regena Dennie.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN JULY 2013

Washington Township Historical Society
P.O. Box 3045
Fremont, California 94539



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP 1853 - 2003