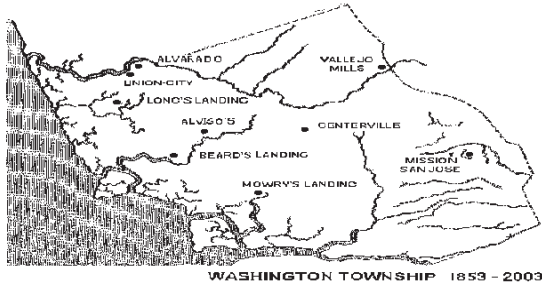


Washington Township Historical



MAY - JUNE 2015

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NO. 03

PRES.: AL MINARD

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TREAS.: VACANT

MEETING DATE: MONDAY, MAY 25, 2015 TIME: 7:15 PM

PLACE: MUSEUM of LOCAL HISTORY, 190 ANZA ST., FREMONT

Washington Township Historical Society Editors: Tim Swenson, Gil Garza and Al Minard

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To the Members and Friends of Washington Township Historical Society,
The committee to merge the three historical organizations together is meeting on at least a monthly basis. The committee members are: Lila Bringhurst, Tim Swenson, Gil Garza, Joan Serafino, Jim Griffin, Michi Yee, Sandra Woehl, David Kiehn, Ed Pentaleri, and Al Minard. We have established a Mission Statement and are working on new Bylaws. Our next step after we have approved the Bylaws is to present the Bylaws to our attorney to make sure they are legal and to produce Articles of Incorporation. We have not forgotten our members, it is that we are very busy trying to get consensus on all of these issues from this smaller group before we present it to you, the membership. We are not expecting you to approve the Bylaws or anything else without understanding them and without asking questions and getting answers that explain why we have presented it the way we have. We will be asking you for a vote at some point in time to approve everything, but we will not ask for a vote until you have had a chance to read and understand what we have done.

Our next Washington Township Historical Society meeting will be held in the Museum of Local History, 190 Anza St., Fremont on Monday, May 25, 2015, at 7:15 PM, which is also Memorial Day. I will be the speaker and I will be talking and showing a slide show on Dr. Robert Fisher. Dr. Fisher preserved many buildings in Fremont including: The Higuera Adobe, Shinn House, Patterson House and the Harvey house. He was instrumental in starting the City of Fremont's Historical Architectural Review Board and doing the first historical building survey in Fremont. Dr. Fisher passed away July 27, 2004, after retiring from his medical practice and the Mission Peak Heritage Foundation that he had started over 20 years previously. Dr. Fisher documented the buildings he was involved with restoring with photos and research into what was on the walls at an earlier time. He also borrowed photos from many of his older patients and copied them which we now use on a regular basis in the Museum of Local History for research on the history of the times and the people. Dr. Fisher's legacy continues but we need men and women to continue the movement he started here in Fremont.

Al Minard

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Tri-City Voice, March 31, 2015, **PHIL HOLMES** writes about Horace Bushnell. Horace wrote about his observations when he came to California in 1856. He visited Stockton, San Jose, San Francisco, and stayed with the Elias Beard family in Mission San Jose at the Mission. He was appointed President of the College of California which was later renamed to University of California in Berkeley.

Tri-City Voice, March 31, 2015, A tea honoring Robert Fisher at the Shinn House is announced, with **AL MINARD** doing a talk and slide show on Dr. Fisher.

Tri-City Voice, April 14, 2015, **TIMOTHY SWENSON** writes about a walking tour that he is doing in Alvarado (Union City). The tour will last about an hour and a half and will cover about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile. The tour is Free, but a copy of the tour in booklet form can be purchased for \$3.

Tri-City Voice, April 14, 2015, **PHIL HOLMES** writes about the Residents of Centerville-Alvarado Road. Among the many people who came to this area was Eugene Stevenson, who purchased a large farm with buildings from Elias Beard. The original ranch house that Elias Beard had built in 1853 still had, in 1904, the hand hewed rafters, bunks suspended with rawhide thongs and even the flag pole on the roof that called the workers to lunch.

Tri-City Voice, April 14, 2015, **AL MINARD** writes about the local students who participated in National History Day. This year's theme was Leadership and Legacy in History. The junior and senior high school students can compete in several different categories: historical paper, ten minute documentary, ten minute performance, a museum exhibit or a website. Of the 41 entries from Alameda county promoted to the California State History Day competition in Rocklin, California about 1/3 of the entries came from Mission San Jose High School, Washington High School or Hopkins Junior High School. There were no entries this year from Newark or Union City.

Tri-City Voice, April 14, 2015, **PAT KITE** writes about Goldfinches. Pat says she first thought they were escaped canaries. She has since learned that there are two types of Goldfinches in this area: the Lesser Goldfinch and the American Goldfinch. Our Native Americans considered the Goldfinch a bird of happiness because of its bright colors.

Tri-City Voice, April 21, 2015, **JOYCE BLUEFORD** writes about the Tule ponds at Tyson Lagoon. She invites families to visit the lagoons during one of their tour days, the last one was on April 25, 2015. You can see how the environment looked when Ice Age mammals roamed the area. You can also see artifacts of the Ohlone Native Americans who used these waters to fish. You can register for future tours at <http://msnucleus.org>

Tri-City Voice, April 28, 2015, **JOYCE BLUEFORD** writes about the Niles palm trees and the Panama Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. W. V. Eberly, manager of the California Nursery in Niles, was contracted to supply landscaping and exhibits for the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE). They sent over 100 full grown palm trees to line the avenue of Palms. George Roeding, a nurseryman in Fresno, who later purchased the California Nursery, was the first director of the Palace of Horticulture at PPIE. Some of those palm trees came back to Niles and are in the California Nursery. The next large gala at the nursery will be on Saturday, July 25, 2015.

Tri-City Voice, May 12, 2015, **PAT KITE** writes about Bumble Bees. Bumble bees are larger than honey bees and while honey bees have hives, bumble bees have nests in the ground. Both types of bees pollinate a multitude of plants, but the nectar from the bumble bees is only used to feed their young not put into hives like the honey bee does.

Tri-City Voice, May 12, 2015, **JANET CRONBACH** writes about the current events happening in the area celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE), which celebrated the opening of the Panama Canal. There have been many events happening at the Fremont Main Library and there is a current exhibit from PPIE upstairs in the History Room. The PPIE attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors to San Francisco and the area. It was a celebration of San Francisco rising from the ashes of the 1906 earthquake.

Tri-City Voice, May 12, 2015, **CHRISTY DENTRY**, Patterson house manager reports on Friday Nights @ the Museum at the Patterson House in Ardenwood farms. There will be an opening of an exhibit titled, "Clara Goes to the PPIE Fair", which reports on Clara Patterson visiting the PPIE in San Francisco and some of the memorabilia that she brought back.

Fremont Argus, May 14, 2015, **WILLIAM "RANDY" POWER**'s obituary is reported. The funeral was held on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at Chapel of the Chimes on Mission Boulevard. He was in the U.S. Navy on Guam and was given full navy rites. He was a dedicated community volunteer and long time member of Mission Peak Heritage Foundation, Washington Township Historical Society and the Museum of Local History. He will be greatly missed.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES SINCE OUR LAST MEETING

Tim Swenson, Nabil Matta, Priscilla Whitaker, Doug & Doris Green, Ann & Randy Power, Raelene Vieux, Katie Janssen and Gil & Lisa Garza.

We thank you for paying your dues, this is our major source of income.

.....
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



Barbara Baxter was the guest speaker at our last meeting. She spoke about the history of the Library and the meeting was held in the Fremont Main Library. This picture shows her presenting a history of the Library in a slide show. The residents of this area of Washington Township must have been very interested in educating ourselves because of the location they found to put libraries. Some were in chicken coops, many were in people's homes or businesses. They were generally not very large with very few books, but it was a start to what we have today.

There was also a display in the History Room at the Fremont Main Library that showed pictures of many of the early libraries, it was a far cry from what we can enjoy today. Barbara was a long time employee of the Library and worked in several of the libraries that are shown. Washington Township Historical Society is very happy that she was able and willing to give such a wonderful talk and slide show on the library. Thank You, Barbara



This is the display area showing the history of the library that was installed in this area. It has now been replaced with the Panama Pacific International Exposition. These displays are only in place for about a month and it is a good place to visit when you come to the library.

FROM THE MAIL BAG

UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, Vol 17, No. 6. An article about former Union City mayor Leo Alvelais (born January 31, 1918- died March 20, 2015). Also an article on the Grangers of Alvarado by Anthony Gualco, who is planning to be our speaker for the September 28, 2015 meeting in the Fukaya Room of the Fremont Main Library on Stevenson Boulevard.

ALAMEDA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Quarterly, April 2015. The Panama-Pacific International Exposition (PPIE) and the East Bay's role. Steve Finacom from the Berkeley Historical Society will address the East Bay role in PPIE at a luncheon at Spenger's Restaurant in Berkeley on April 30, 2015. There is also an article on the Pan American Clipper, "These Magnificent Flying Machines" which were large flying boats that took off and landed on water.

LOV Newark, April 2015. LOV announces the 17th Annual Frank Sisk Classic Golf Tournament "For the Kids" June 19, 2015. They also announce the Spring Concert series continues on Sunday, April 12 with Patrick Ball and Sunday May 17, with Laura Ellis, all concerts are held at Thornton Junior High School on Thornton and Dusterberry.

The Women of St. Joseph, We have been invited to the dedication of a rose bush and plaque in honor of Regena Dennie on Saturday, May 30th at 11:00 AM in the Patio Garden at Mission San Jose. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Barbara Aylward by **May 25, 2015** at, bga1959@comcast.net or **(510) 657-8233.**

Victorian Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 19, 2015
Noon to 4 p.m.

Shinn Park, 1251 Peralta, Fremont

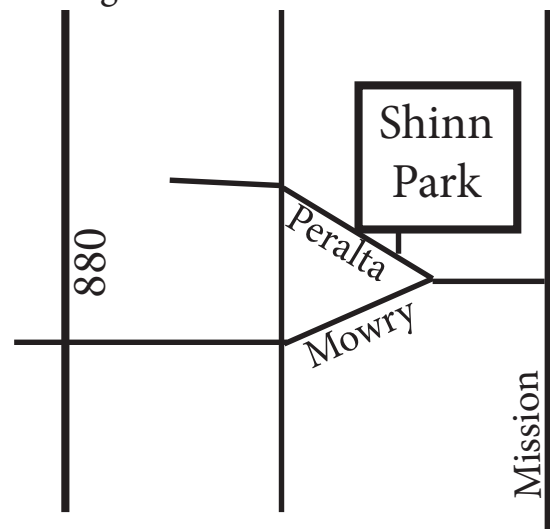
Featuring Model A's from the Acorn A's, Gunfighters of the Old West, The Youth Jazzinators of the East Bay Traditional Jazz Band will perform from 1-2 PM, Beautiful Gardens maintained by the Friends of Heirloom Flowers, Docent led tours of the 1876 Shinn House and the Shinn Archive Room. We will have Ice Cream Sundaes, Popcorn, water & soda for sale. Enjoy a step back in time and the peaceful relaxation of the Shinn Historical Park, 1251 Peralta Blvd., Fremont



For more information call (510)795-0891 or E-mail: "alminard@comcast.net"

or see our website: www.missionpeakreporter.org

This is a benefit for Mission Peak Heritage Foundation



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 25, 2015, Washington Township Historical Society meeting with Al Minard showing slide show on Dr. Robert Fisher. Everyone Welcome.

Saturday, June 20, 2015, Tim Swenson will lead a tour of Centerville starting at Holy Spirit Church, Fremont and Central at 11:00 AM, This is a free tour and everyone is welcome.

Thursday, June 25, 2015, The Alameda County Historical Society is meeting for a tour of the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum followed by a brief tour of Niles followed by lunch at the Vallejo Adobe in the California Nursery Historical Park. Contact Al Minard for more information.

There are many events in the Bay Area based on the Panama Pacific International Exposition of 1915. Go to "www.PPIE100.org" for more details and events in the area.

Monday, July 27, 2015, Washington Township Historical Society will meet at the Museum of Local History at 7:15 PM. Everyone Welcome.

