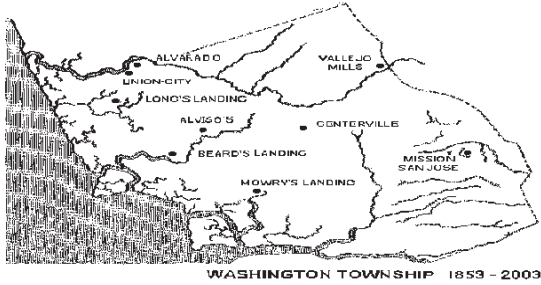


# Washington Township Historical



## SEPT-OCT 2011

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**MEETING DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 TIME: 7:15 PM**  
**PLACE: MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY, 190 ANZA STREET FREMONT**

Washington Township Historical Society Editors: Regena Dennie and Al Minard

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I thank all of the people who helped get the Juan Batista de Anza exhibit together and make the presentation at the Fremont Main Library. They are: Janet Cronbach, Regena Dennie, Gil Garza, Bruce Hevelin, Steve Ross, Paul Sethy and Dennis McAllister. As you read this, the exhibit is on its way to Arizona for the next exhibit. I also thank Gil Garza for making the arrangements to get the speaker on Franklin Roosevelt's Works Project presentation at the Main Library. It is rapidly approaching the end of my two years as president and while we have accomplished many things we still have more to do. Please check out our website created by Tim Swenson at "[www.washingtontownshiphist.org](http://www.washingtontownshiphist.org)". I hope to get a brochure together with the help of Alan Cerro and Gil Garza to hand out to potential members. We have nominations of officers at our September meeting. Elections for new officers will be made at our November meeting, with installation of officers in January 2012.

*Al Minard*

### **Our Guest Speaker for September is Edward Wustenhoff.**

Edward Wustenhoff is a long time resident of Fremont and married to Therese who grew up here. His family has lived in Kimber park since 1999 and they have come to love the neighborhood's cultural diversity, rural environment and club activities. Edward joined the Save Kimberpark organization as vice president, when he learned of the owner's plan to develop the area with high density housing. As he got more and more involved and heard the stories of the original owners he started digging into the history of the area and found that Kimber park is not only a great neighborhood but also an area with great historical significance in the context of early Biotech that deserves protecting from development. He will be speaking about the proposal to develop some of the open space in Kimber Park.

A developer has purchased the Kimber Tennis Club and some of the associated property. In fact this property has been sold several times in the last few years at increasing prices until now with the decline in land prices the property is under water, in other words they owe more for the property that what it is worth. The proposal from the developer is to reduce the tennis courts put in a business or housing complex, cut down a bunch of trees and somehow make the property pay for itself. Our guest speaker will have a slide show about this proposal. It is the editor's understanding that he is opposed to the development and is trying to encourage support to oppose this development project.

This project has developed into something we seldom see, in that one of the principal developers on this project, shot and killed his son and then killed himself. There is no indication that it was over this project. The rest of the developers are still moving forward to gain support of the residents and the city to approve this project.

**"To Collect, Preserve and Diffuse Information Relating to the History of Washington Township"**

## FROM THE MAIL BAG

**Conference on California Historical Societies** will hold their Fall Symposium in San Jose on September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the vote for women's suffrage in California. Tours will include the Hacienda Cemetery in New Almaden and the 1863 Trinity Episcopal Church.

October is National Archives Month with the **Sisters of the Holy Family**. Saturday, October 22, 2011, there will be tours of their newly renovated Archive Building. For more information, you may contact our WTHS member, Sister Loretta Marie Marbach at (510) 624-4515.

**The News From the Castle**, proudly reports that as of June 24, 2011, "Lift off for a new elevator" has been completed in the Julia Morgan's Berkeley City Club Building.

**Union City Historical Museum**, September 2011, Myrla Raymundo writes, "James Logan High and Robert Tebelskis", a teacher at Logan since 1960. Now retired Robert enjoys fishing and gardening.

**The Pacific Locomotive Association**, August 2011, tells about the first fifty years, "The formative Years", by Alan Frank. The booklet is worth looking at and I will bring it to the meeting so any member who is interested may see it.

**Alameda Museum Quarterly**, Summer 2011, a story, "A closer Look at Chocolate", by Ron Ucovich. In 1851, a San Francisco man named Domingo Ghirardelli opened a sweet shop and by accident developed cocoa powder. In 1875, Mr. Ghirardelli met Mr. Nestle, producer of evaporated milk. In 1894 at the Chicago World's Fair they met Mr. Hershey, a caramel manufacturer. They had created the world's first chocolate candy bar.

### MAY HE REST IN PEACE

**Jack Parry**, long time member of the Washington Township Historical Society. The Tri-City Voice, August 19, 2011 and the Argus, August 19, 2011 both carried his obituary. Jack was born in Niles May 6, 1920 and passed away August 13, 2011, He was a life long resident of the area. He served on the original committee to incorporate Fremont in the 1950's.

### Members who have paid their dues since our last meeting.

Rick Arellano, Vivien Larsen, Nancy Margherita, Myrla Raymundo, and Judy & Allan Sprague.

We welcome new members: Linda Andersen, David Bettencourt and Kathleen Schuler.

Thank you for joining and renewing your membership

.....  
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

## Members in The News

*Tri-City Voice*, July 12, 2011, **Myrla Raymundo** writes, “Union City 1900-1950”. In 1900, the Decoto Volunteer Fire Department was founded. In 1937, the Pacific States Steel opened in Decoto and in 1959, Decoto and Alvarado voted to incorporate as Union City.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 12, 2011, The Shinn Historical Park held their Victorian Ice Cream Social.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 12, 2011, **Pat Kite** writes, “Bumble Bees”. California has 26 native Bumble Bee species.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 19, 2011, **Phil Holmes** writes, “History of the Weibel Family”. In 1960’s the Weibel winery produced more champagne than any other producer in the state.

*Tri-City Voice*, July 22, 2011, **Al Minard** writes, “The Anza Trail”. The Fremont Main Library and Washington Township Historical Society held a National Park Exhibit on the Anza Trail from July 25 to September 16, 2011. In 1774, Captain Anza led an expedition from Sonora Mexico to California to establish friendly relationships with the Indians. The group traveled thru Mission San Jose and to the hot springs near, what is now the Higuera Adobe.

*Tri-City Voice*, August 2, 2011, **Pat Kite** writes, “500 Dahlias”. In the early 1800’s the Dahlia was the most fashionable flower in the country.

*Tri-City Voice*, August 2, 2011, **Phil Holmes** writes, “1917”. The biggest project in 1917 was the construction of the F.E. Booth Cannery in Centerville. The Cannery was shipping 25,000 cases of canned goods daily by the fall of 1917.

*Tri-City Voice*, August 9, 2011, **Myrla Raymundo** writes, “The Lambaren/Luevano Family”. This article is the story of a Mexican Family who came to the United States in 1919 and their struggles to raise their family.

Argus, August 10, 2011, “A Letter to the Editor”, by **Norma Neto**, entitled, “We are getting the government we deserve”. Norma says we must be vigilant in elections, and if only people would vote with their intellect instead of their emotions.

*Tri-City Voice*, August 12, 2011, has a picture of **Michi Yee** and her family at the, “Bringing Home the Wall” on the East Lawn of DeVry University ceremony.

*Tri-City Voice*, August 16, 2011, **Phil Homes** writes, “Old Town Niles”. In 1853, Jose Vallejo erected his flour mill at the mouth of the Niles Canyon, and then added residences for his workers.

Argus, August 17, 2011, **Myrla Raymundo** has been awarded the 2011 Jack London Award for the California Writer’s Club for outstanding service.

*Tri-City Voice*, August 30, 2011, **Phil Holmes** writes, “Pioneer Social Events”. Charles Shinn wrote that John Naile’s Adobe was the scene of the “the first ball in the bottom”, probably held in 1851. This referred to the flat lands of Washington Township,

*Tri-City Voice*, September 13, 2011, **Phil Homes** writes, “Niles Canyon Road”. The Niles Canyon Road was first noted in 1797 when Father LaSuen and an escort of soldiers from the San Francisco Presidio set out to explore the “Canyon of Alameda”.

*Tri-City Voice*, September 13, 2011, **Pat Kite** writes, “Honeysuckle Caution”. The honeysuckle got its name from a German botanist, Adam Lonitzer, who published a text on natural history in 1557.



The Fremont Kimber company headquarters in 1965 (Photo courtesy of DeKalb Poultry Research Inc.)

John E Kimber started Kimber Farms Inc in 1925 as a small 800-hen farm at Niles. At the time Niles was a railroad town of about 1000 25 miles from Oakland, California.

John Kimber was born in 1895 in New York and attended Stanford University, N.Y. graduating in 1917 with a major in agriculture and a minor in music. He moved west to Oregon and completed some graduate work in the Poultry Department of Oregon State College under Prof. James Dryden before moving to California and for the next seven years he was teaching in high schools at Atascadero and Cambria (Western Poultry History, 1989). During the first 7 years the little enterprise failed to make any profit. John Kimber kept it going by filling a vacancy in the local high school for a teacher of music. The job involved one day a week in the high school and the rest of the week travelling around (in a Model T Ford) eight elementary schools teaching instrumental music. Mrs Alice B. Kimber kept the breeding operation going by undertaking trapnesting duties; the most important task for a poultry breeder. She was eminently qualified having majored in mathematics in college.

Pedigree hatches were taken off from about 4 in the morning till school time; other work was done after school and in the evening. Fortunately, the number of students taking instrumental music increased to more than 400, this increased his salary and also allowed a full time assistant for the elementary schools. A part-time worker was hired to help on the farm and hatching sales helped sustain farm income. Kimber Farms became a multi-national company building plants in Europe and South America. They produced millions of genetically engineered chicks for laying and later for meat. They sold off their stock in the early 1970's and later sold the land to developers for housing, a recreation center and open space.

Shapell Industries unveiled plans for Kimber Park as a neighbourhood of luxury homes. They were built during 1974-76 and became one of Fremont's most desirable neighbourhoods The Park was focused around the lake with a racquet and swim club. The Kimber Woods Tennis and Country Club opened in 1976. The main buildings were purchased in 1977 and gradually remodeled to a church and school functions.

The property has recently been purchased by a developer who wants city permission to build [homes](#) on at least half of the nearly 13-acre private club in the center of Fremont's Kimber Park neighborhood. In addition, they need allies because the city's planning department says the parcel was designated as open space.



Regina Dennie and David Schipul on visit to Alviso Adobe in Pleasanton  
Photo by Al Minard



Higuera Adobe on display at the Fremont Main Library for the Anza Exhibit.  
photo by Al Minard

## National History Day 2012 Theme:

# REVOLUTION, REACTION, REFORM IN HISTORY

During the 2011-2012 school year National History Day invites students to research topics related to the theme, “[Revolution](#), [Reaction](#), [Reform](#) in History.” The theme is broad enough for you to select a local, state, national or world history topic. To understand the historical importance of your topics, you must ask questions of time and place, cause and effect, change over time, impact and significance. You must ask questions about why events happened and what impact the events had? What factors contributed to a revolution? Why was there a need to reform at the particular time? Why did this event cause a reaction? Regardless of the topic selected, you must do more than describe what happened. You must draw conclusions, basing your opinion on evidence, about how the topic affected individuals, communities, nations and the world. Studies should include an investigation into available [primary](#) and [secondary sources](#), analysis of the evidence, and a clear explanation of the relationship of the topic to the theme. As you investigate this year’s theme think of the theme in broad terms, as the distinction among revolutions, reactions and reforms may be blurred. Never be too literal. Revolutions and reforms are often reactions to particular situations or events, which may inspire reactions. According to the American Heritage Dictionary, the word revolution means “the overthrow of one government and its replacement with another” or a “sudden or momentous change in a situation.” Whether revolutionary or gradual, such changes often inspire opposition, as some people seek to slow or even reverse them. Consequently, some topics will focus on revolution, reaction, AND reform, while other topics may allow you to focus on just one or two aspects of the theme. For many Americans, the word revolution conjures up images of the Fourth of July, celebrating our revolutionary heritage; for others, it brings to mind gun-toting guerrillas in wars we do not understand. Political and social revolutions such as those in America in the 1770s and the communist revolutions of the 20th century are complex events, which provide a plethora of potential possibilities for NHD research projects but not in their entirety. Rather than attempting to analyze and document an entire political revolution, you should look for more manageable topics such as ideas emerging from a particular revolution, specific events or factions within a revolution, or individuals who affected or were affected by a revolution. A submission could illuminate the role of the [Stamp Act of 1765](#) played in the coming of the American Revolution. The role of women in the French revolution might be illustrated through a performance focusing on the bread riots of 1789, while Mahatma Gandhi’s leadership of India’s revolt against British rule would make a compelling topic for a documentary or website. Political revolutions provoke reactions far beyond the borders of a single nation. How did other revolutions inspire [slaves in Saint Domingue](#) to stage their own revolution in 1791? An exhibit could examine the allied invasion of Russia as a reaction to the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. How did American fear of the spread of Communism affect the Cold War? A website could focus on the Marshall Plan or the Truman Doctrine as manifestations of this fear, while a performance might look at U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. A website could examine the consequences of the student revolts in France in 1968.

