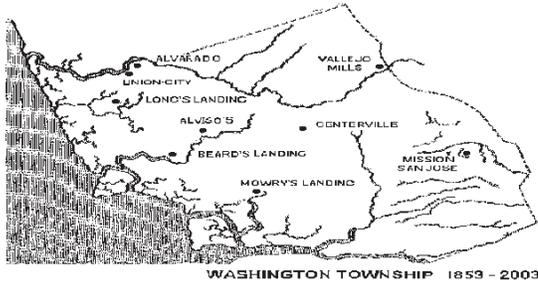


Washington Township Historical

SEPT-OCT 2015



VOL 39

PRES: AL MINARD

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TREAS.: VACANT

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**MEETING DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015, 7:00 PM at
FREMONT MAIN LIBRARY, 2400 STEVENSON BLVD.**

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer is gone, School has started and the rain is still hiding. Gil Garza has informed me that he is resigning as Vice President and will no longer act as Treasurer of Washington Township Historical Society. The merger of the three historical societies has been moving along pretty good until just recently, so this will not happen as soon as some people had hoped. This means that we need a Vice President and a Treasurer for our Historical Society. The treasurer gets to write checks using the society's money and only one or two a month. Please consider serving in one of these very important offices. Many of the items in the news are from the Tri-City Voice, as you know this is a free newspaper, but if you want it delivered to your house you can get it by paying

a subscription fee. There is also an organization that is titled "Shape our Fremont", this organization reports on new developments throughout the City and tells us when and where we can get more information and how to make a response to these plans.

Our meeting this month is at the Fremont Main Library at 7 PM in the Fukaya room on Monday, September 28, 2015. We will be informed about old Union City and its history by Anthony Gualco. Please come out and attend this meeting with a person who has done a lot of research on Union City.

Al Minard

GUEST SPEAKER IS ANTHONY GUALCO
Anthony grew up in Union City and has written several papers on the development and growth of Union City. He is very knowledgeable and a good speaker. We have invited him to our regular meeting which this month we are holding at the Fremont Main Library, 2400 Stevenson Boulevard. The business meeting will start at 7 PM but it will be very short and then we will have Anthony speak about Union City. Please bring a friend to this free meeting at the Library.



ANTHONY GUALCO

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN THE NEWS

July 21, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Fremont invited neighborhoods to get together for Neighborhood Night Out. This is an event in which community leaders: City Council members, Commission Members, City Staff, Police Officers and Fire Department officers, go out to these groups of people in neighborhoods to share information and network with the people. Al Minard went out with City Council person Rick Jones and his wife, Dana, to about 5 different groups.

July 21, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Jessica Noel Chapin writes about the merger of three historical societies in Southern Alameda County, namely: Museum of Local History Guild, Washington Township Historical Society, and Mission Peak Heritage Foundation. She suggests that this is probably a good idea due to combined memberships and leadership flowing from one group to another.

July 21, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Ardenwood Farm and the Patterson House celebrated their 30th birthday as a Historic house and farm for the public to visit. The Patterson family lived on this farm for many generations and passed this historic heritage to the general public 30 years ago. The farm is now operated by East Bay Regional Parks and the Patterson House is operated by the City of Fremont. There is also the Carter Brothers Railroad which runs trains around the farm on narrow gauge railway. Much of the land is farmed by the Perry brothers.

July 21, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, William Marshak, *Tri-City Voice* editor, writes about the Hope for Centerville and Historic districts. The City is once again presented with a new proposal for that large piece of bare land on Fremont Boulevard between Bonde and Thornton. He also mentions that the City is hiring a consultant to determine the historic significance of buildings built after World War II.

July 21, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Carol Zilli writes about Music for Minors II coming to the local libraries' and giving children of all ages, including adults to come and play an instrument, sing, or dance to music that you make. This program is especially valuable for children up to 6th grade. She encourages parents and adults to join in as docents in our schools for this program.

August 1, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Lila Bringham writes about "Remembering our Pioneer Heritage". She writes about the early Mormon pioneers who came to California in 1846 on the Ship Brooklyn and how they have

contributed so much to the history of this area and still are involved in the community.

August 1, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Shape our Fremont writes about proposed developments throughout the City. They also talk about the Post-War historic review that has been funded by the City and they expect that potential historic buildings of over 50 years of age will be brought back to the Fremont Historic Architectural Review Board for determination of its significance.

August 11, 2015, *Tri-City Voice* Pat Kite writes about Black Capped Chickadees. They eat at her bird feeder with the finches but are smaller and seem to eat twice as much as the finches even though they are only half the size. In Native American mythology, chickadees are associated with truth and knowledge, and are thought to bring good luck and success.

August 11, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Ardenwood Farms will have a Cajun/Zydeco Festival on Saturday, August 15. This event is one of the more popular events held at Ardenwood and happens every year. If you like this kind of music keep your eyes out for this next summer. This makes a good reason to visit a well preserved historic farm and also an opportunity to tour the historic Patterson House.

August 18, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, The Museum of Local History is asking for people to bring in old pictures so they can scan them and add them to their digital collection of pictures of Newark and Washington Township. They will have a booth set up at Newark Days to scan them on site and give you back the pictures or file them in the Museum, whichever you prefer.

August 25, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Phil Holmes, writes about Albert Alonzo Moore and some of his adventures when he came to California with his family in 1853 by wagon train. He spent much of his youth in the Centerville/Newark area before he got his law degree and became a lawyer in San Francisco. He talks about traveling around on horseback or with a horse drawn buggy and herding animals away from the vegetable crops they had planted.

September 1, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Jim Griffin writes about the Class of 1950, these students were born about 1932 in the depth of the depression. In 1946 the entire Washington Township which includes all of Newark,

Union City and Fremont had only 22,000 people living here. Farm land was being converted to housing tracts and a school official in 1966 after five new high schools were built said that they planned to build one new school every year until the end of the century.

September 1, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Barbara Culp writes about the Washington Township Railroad Fair at Ardenwood farm over Labor Day Weekend. They will have working steam engines pulling the railroad cars through Ardenwood Farm on the Narrow Gauge Railroad. Many of the train cars were made by Carter Brothers Railroad a Newark Train car builder.

September 1, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Helene Royslance writes about the standard gauge railroad running from Sunol to Niles with train cars pulled by the historic Southern Pacific No. 2472 Steam locomotive. This railroad runs through historic Niles Canyon on the original 1868 railroad right of way, which was the last leg of the Transcontinental Railroad. This is a leisurely ride through Niles Canyon on old railroad cars, some enclosed some open. This also happens on Labor Day weekend. All Aboard!!

September 1, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Robbie Finley writes about the Last Stop for the Pacific Bus Museum. This museum of old busses is one of less than 10 in the entire country. The Museum features busses from City, County and Private Bus companies. One of their busses was used in the Clint Eastwood movie musical about the Jersey Boys. The land the museum sits on currently is on month to month rental agreement and there are developers looking at this large open space to build houses.

September 1, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Christie Dentry, house manager at Patterson House, writes about the traveling replica casket of Abraham Lincoln. The assassination of Abraham Lincoln resulted in one of the largest funerals in history. His casket was seen by more people than any other person before him and held the record until John F. Kennedy was assassinated. This was also the first time that a body was embalmed so people could look at the body weeks after he had died.

September 8, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Hayward Area Historical Society is hosting the 15th Annual History Awards. The potential nominees are selected by the public and then final review is done by Museum Staff doing research on each person or organization. This event happened on Friday, September 18, 2015.

September 8, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Sharon Xavier de Sousa, had the opportunity of a lifetime, when she was

selected to conduct "God Bless America" at a concert honoring all service branches that have served our Country in any way since World War II. This concert was held at the World War II memorial in Washington D.C., on August 15, 2015. Sharon sings at Las Posadas every year in the Mission District of Fremont.

September 8, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Garrett Yee, son of Michi Yee was promoted to Major General (2 star general) by Lieutenant General (3-star general) Robert Ferrell on August 5, 2015. He is temporarily stationed at the Pentagon, in Washington D.C.

September 8, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Pat Kite writes about Kale the cool season vegetable or winter vegetable. Vegetables that can be grown during the winter include: Kale, green onions, peas, radish, garlic, spinach, carrots, broccoli, parsnip and rhubarb. Pat says there are at least 37 different varieties of Kale. She provides a recipe for making kale chips.

September 15, 2015, *Tri-City Voice* Kelsey Camello writes about the Museum of Local History celebrating 20 years of existence on Saturday, September 26, 2015. If you would like to participate in this pot luck event you will need to RSVP to Kelsey at the Museum of Local History. The luncheon starts at 12 Noon and included a trip down memory lane with historic displays, treasured photographs and witty reminiscences.

September 15, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Mellicent Fratecelli, writes about LEAF Center Workshops on drought tolerant yards and plants and how to conserve water during this drought. There are two workshops one on September 27, from 11 AM to 12 Noon, at the California Nursery in Niles and one on September 30 at Niles Discovery Church, 3660 Niles Blvd., from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM.

September 15, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Arathi Satish writes about a Flash Fiction Contest held at Half Price Books on Saturday, September 26 from 10 AM to 5 PM. Al Minard is the chair of this event sponsored by the Fremont Cultural Arts Council. There are cash and gift card prizes awarded to the people's choice winning entries.

September 15, 2015, *Tri-City Voice*, Arathi Satish writes about the Annual Arts & Crafts event held at Shinn Park on Sunday, September 20, 2015. Al Minard is the chair of this event also and says that over 25 local artists and historic crafters have signed up to participate in this event. This event includes the opportunity to purchase a hotdog, soft drink and tour the Historic James and Lucy Shinn house completed in 1876.

Please join us for the
September meeting of the
Washington Township
Historical Society.



Anthony Gualco presents

The Road to Union City

... on the creation of Alvarado and Decoto and their
incorporation as the city of Union City.

7:00 p.m.
Monday Sept. 28, 2015
Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94538



Guest speaker Anthony Gualco grew up on a farm on the outskirts of Alvarado in the 1940's when Washington Township was primarily agricultural. His life-long interest in regional history developed into a passion that has resulted in several excellent papers and reference works.

The library is wheelchair accessible. An ASL interpreter will be provided for this program if requested at least 7 days in advance.
Voice 510-745-1401 or TDD 888-663-0660

all library programs are FREE
www.aclibrary.org

Alameda County
LIBRARY
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IN MEMORIAM



Allen Everett Sprague passed away after a short illness on July 31, 2015.



Allen was born and raised in San Francisco, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, earned his law degree from Boalt Hall and came to work for the new city of Fremont in 1962 as the City Attorney. He retired from the City in 1995. He leaves behind his wife Judy and four daughters. Allen and Judy were long time members of Washington Township Historical Society and he will be sorely missed.

FROM THE MAIL BAG

Alameda County Historical Society Quarterly, has a nice article on Alameda's East End, which served as the home base for families who earned their keep on the rails. There is also an article about running passengers and freight across the bay using ferries, sometimes entire trains were loaded on the ferries.

League of Volunteers (LOV Newark) Newsletter July/August, They have scheduled their 27th season of concerts coming in 2015/2016. They also announced that they have awarded scholarships to graduating seniors who are going on to further their education in conjunction with the Newark Arts Council.

Union City Historical Museum, announces that they have held a general meeting which elected new officers to the museum. They also have an article by Anthony Gualco on the "Union" in Union City.

Mission Peak Reporter, announces Arts & Crafts in the Park on Sunday, September 20, 2015. Sunday, July 19, Victorian Ice Cream Social and Sunday, October 18, 2015, Paint Your Pumpkin events to be held at Shinn Park. There was also a brief report of the developments of the Historical Society Transition Committee.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES SINCE OUT LAST MEETING

Donald Barsi.
Thank you

THE CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The Conference of California Historical Societies will hold their Fall Symposium in Redding California, beginning Thursday evening, October 15, 2015. The headquarters hotel is the Best Wester PLUS Twin View Inn & Suites. Plan to check in on Thursday evening for a welcome reception at the Shasta Historical Society Museum.

Friday, October 16th, is a workshop on attracting "Millennials" that group of 20-30 year olds. Followed by a walking tour of Downtown Redding with a stop at the Behrens-Eaton House Museum, which has a range of artifacts reflecting on Shasta County's early history. This will be followed by a walk across the Sundial Bridge and a tour of the Turtle Bay Museum.

Saturday October 17th, you will visit Fort Crook, this is an early California Fort established in 1857 from the newly dismantled Fort Reading and named after Lt. George Crook. By 1859 there were 28 structures located inside the stockade walls. Government claim to the land was relinquished in 1881 and local farmers tore down the stockades and most of the buildings. One log cabin survived and is now the Fort Crook Museum. In 2010, the historical society completed the reconstruction of the historic Beaver Creek Ranch Round Barn. The next stop will be Burney Falls, the place that Teddy Roosevelt once described as the "Eighth Natural Wonder of World", which will include a ranger led tour and new Visitor Center. Then you are off to Shingletown, which was where they made shingles for the goldminers to roof their cabins. This little town is located on the junction of three popular road from East to West. You will learn about the history of this town from the historical society and citizens of Shingletown.

Redding is less than four hours north of here up Interstate 5, along some of the farm land that makes California the bread basket of the world. To register you can go to WWW.CaliforniaHistorian.com and check the Fall Symposium. You can also contact Al Minard for more information.



UP COMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 26, 2015, 11:20 to 3:30 PM Museum of Local History Celebrates their 20th anniversary with a potluck luncheon at Noon, program at 1:00 PM, bring a salad or side dish.

Monday, September 28, 2015, 7 to 9 PM Washington Township Historical Society meeting at the Fremont Main Library, 2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fukaya room, Bring a guest this is a FREE event.

Sunday, October 11, 2015, 8 AM to 2 PM, Niles Canyon Stroll and Roll, Tour Niles Canyon on foot or on a bicycle or ride the Niles Canyon Railroad to look at possible pedestrian/bicycle/equestrian trails through the canyon. FREE

Sunday, October 18, 2015, Noon to 4 PM, Paint Your Pumpkin at Shinn Historical Park, 1251 Perlata Blvd. sponsored by Mission Peak Heritage Foundation.

Monday, November 23, 2015, 7:15 to 9 PM, Washington Township Historical Society meeting at the Museum of Local History, speaker to be determined.

