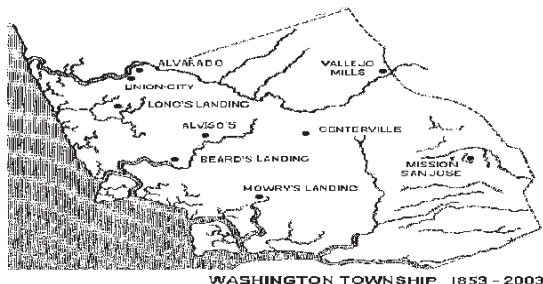


Washington Township Historical Society



SEPT. - OCT. 2016

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NO. 05

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**MEETING DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2016, 7:15 PM at
MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY, 190 ANZA ST., FREMONT**

Washington Township Historical Society Editors: Al Minard

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer is over, school has started, and we have received some legitimate inquiries about the Goold House. While I was on vacation on an island in Lake Huron, Canada, I fell and broke my leg, I have about two more weeks with a full leg cast, but thankfully I am having no pain. I represented the Shinn House at the Passport to Adventure ribbon cutting at Old Mission San Jose, with eight other historic museums. Mayor Harrison cut the ribbon and Fremont City Council members Lily Mei and Rick Jones also attended this event. The City of Fremont is giving all nine of the Passport to Adventure organizations a Proclamation from the City at the Tuesday, September 13, 2016 council

meeting. We have elections of officers for the Historical Society coming up. We appointed a nominating committee to find new officers. We will meet at the Museum of Local History this month and our speaker is Bob Czerwinski. Bob is a member of the Niles Train Depot, which is one of the nine Passport to Adventure sites. In November at our regular meeting, which we will hold in the Fukaya Room at the Fremont Main Library, will be a speaker on Drawbridge, our very own ghost town.

Al Minard

Bob Czerwinski is our Guest Speaker for Sept. 26 WTHS meeting

Robert (Bob) Czerwinski.... (only my Mom calls me Robert when I'm in trouble)

Fell in love at 3 and half years old with Steam Locomotive Trains when my family moved to within 500 feet from the Jersey Central Long Branch line.

Every early December in my youth my Mom took my twin sister (Linda) and I on the train from Red Bank to Newark, New Jersey, to see the large department stores' Christmas decorations and rides. Steam from Red Bank

to South Amboy and switched to Electric (GG1) to Newark.

As a young boy my older brother (Watson) got me hooked on model steam trains. Our layout was on a 4x8 ft sheet of homasote, supported by 6 stacks of comic books. Saved my pennies, nickels and dimes and bought by first model steam engine: Little Joe 0-4-0.

Member of National Model Railroad Association.

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

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN THE NEWS

Tri-City Voice, July 19, 2016, **Pat Kite** writes about picking potatoes. Pat mentions that from 1846-1855, a potato virus caused the deaths of over a million people. Before the potato virus struck, a tiny cottage plot could produce enough to feed a man, his wife, and his six children and perhaps even a cow or pig. There are now over a thousand different potato varieties.

Tri-City Voice, July 19, 2016, **Dianne Holmes** tells about a field trip to the Higuera Adobe, built in the 1830's. This is a field trip to meet third grade Social Studies Standards and is offered by the Washington Township Museum of Local History.

Tri-City Voice, July 19, 2016, Ardenwood Farm informs us that it is time for the annual wheat harvest at Ardenwood. This event took place on July 24 and July 31. One bushel of wheat contains about 1 million kernels and can yield 42 loaves weighing 1-1/2 pound or 90 1-pound loaves of whole wheat bread.

Tri-City Voice, July 26, 2016, Shirley Sisk writes about the Kiwanis Club honoring one of our long time members, **Allen Sprague**. The Kiwanis Club has planted a Jacaranda tree in his church's garden, St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Fremont.

Tri-City Voice, August 2, 2016, **Kelsey Camello** tells us about the volunteer luncheon held at St. Joseph's Parish that honored **Loretta Marbach** of the Sisters of The Holy Family and **Lionel Goularte**, a donor to the museum. Kelsey reported that over 90 guests attended this event.

Tri-City Voice, August 2, 2016, **Kelsey Camello** informed us about a walking tour of the Historic Niles District. This tour will be led by local film historian, **David Kiehn**, and is sponsored by the Washington Township Museum of Local History.

Tri-City Voice, August 2, 2016, Ardenwood Farms informs us about the Cajun/Zydeco Festival at Ardenwood Farm on Saturday, August 13, 2016.

Tri-City Voice, August 9, 2016, **Pat Kite** writes

about chirping crickets. Pat says that crickets chirp in unison and that if you can count the number of chirps in 15 seconds then adding 40 to that you will have the temperature in Fahrenheit.

Tri-City Voice, August 16, 2016, The Pacific Bus Museum is hosting an open house at their museum on Shinn Street on Sunday, August 21. This museum is one of very few bus museums in the entire United States. They collect and restore old buses.

Tri-City Voice, August 23, 2016, **Al Minard** writes about the Flash Fiction Writing Contest sponsored by the Fremont Cultural Arts Council and Half-Price Books. Stories can be entered now and the contest is at Half-Price Books on Saturday, September 24 from 10 AM until 4 PM with prizes awarded at about 5:30 PM.

Tri-City Voice, August 23, 2016, **Al Minard** writes about saving the Pop Goold house in Centerville. Nuvera Homes has offered to pay the costs of moving the house onto your site.

Tri-City Voice, August 23, 2016, The Niles Railroad Depot and Freight building house the Tri-City Society of Model Engineers, who have a model train set-up in these two buildings that show the routes of Southern Pacific and Western Pacific railroad through this area.

Tri-City Voice, August 30, 2016, **Arathi Satish** posts a call for artists at the annual Arts & Crafts Event at Shinn Park on Sunday, September 18.

Tri-City Voice, August 30 2016, Ardenwood Farm is holding their annual Ardenwood Rail Fair on Labor Day weekend. There will be Steam engine trains running and other old engines on display and other antique power driven machinery.

Tri-City Voice, September 6, 2016, **Patricia Schaffarczyk** writes about the kick-off of the Passport to Adventure program hosted by nine historic organizations here in Fremont. The ribbon cutting will be at Old Mission San Jose Museum with refreshments after.

Tri-City Voice, September 13, 2016, **Kelsey Camello**, informs us that **Tim Swenson** will lead a walking tour of Centerville on Saturday, September 17, 2016. This was sponsored by the Washington Township Museum of Local History. The walking tour will include several buildings over 100 years-old.

Tri-City Voice, September 13, 2016, Robson Homes invited everyone to an open house at the Quaresma Home on Mission Boulevard. This home was built in the 1920's and the property is being developed but the Quaresma house has been moved to the front of the property and is

being preserved and restored. The open house is Saturday and Sunday, September 17 & 18 followed by Saturday and Sunday September 24 & 25th.

Tri-City Voice, September 13, 2016, **Arathi Satish** writes about Arts & Crafts in Shinn Park on Sunday, September 18, 2016 from 10 AM until 4 PM. This event will include many local artists displaying and selling their work, Tours of the historic Shinn House, Food and drinks for sale plus a STEAM event where anyone can make Silly Putty using house hold ingredients.

IRVINGTON MEMORIAL CEMETERY TOUR

The tour details:

DATE 11/05

TIME 11:00 – 12:30

41001 Chapel Way, Fremont, CA 94538

Irvington Memorial Cemetery is an historic cemetery established in 1845 by the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows. Located in the Irvington district of Fremont, CA, the cemetery is situated on approximately six and a half acres.

- Pioneers
- Odd Fellows
- Stories

Conference of California Historical Societies Fall Symposium

Washington Township Historical Society is a member of this organization which makes all members associate members. The Conference of California Historical Societies (CCHS) meets three times a year. Their fall symposium is being held in Danville, San Ramon, and Pleasanton. The headquarters hotel is the Holiday Inn, 6680 Regional Street, Dublin, California. There are some business meetings on Thursday, October 20, with tours on Friday and Saturday of: The Museum of San Ramon Valley, Danville; Forest Home Farms Historic Park, San Ramon; Alviso Adobe Community Park, Pleasanton; and the Dublin Heritage Park and Museums, Dublin.

This is a good way to meet some of the people who are running small to large museums all over the state. There is a genealogy workshop on Friday while at the Forest Home Farms Museum.

Early bird reservations are due by September 23, final deadline is October 7. Early bird saves you \$25. There are some bonus tours: Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, Blackhawk Museum, Oakland Museum of California, and the Alamo Pioneer and Rose Hill Cemetery.

If you are interested in any or all of this contact CCHS at 909 480-3964 or info@californiahistorian.com.

National and Local Elections

By the amount of campaign mail that you are receiving, you know that this is another election year. Much of the focus is on the Presidential race and national politics, but there are also some local contests that we all should be aware of. We have often heard the phrase, "Think Global, Act Local". The League of Women Voters is holding some candidate forums for local elected officials. If you are interested this is a good time to listen to each candidate talk about their dreams and what they want to see happen if they get elected.

Here is a list of the candidate forums that will be held in the next weeks.

Fremont Mayor, Friday, September 23, 7 PM at Fremont City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Avenue, Fremont.

Fremont Unified School District, Friday, September 23, 8 PM at Fremont City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Avenue, Fremont.

Union City Mayor, Wednesday, October 5, 7 PM, Ruggieri Senior Center, 33997 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City.

Union City Council, Wednesday, October 5, 8 PM, Ruggieri Senior Center, 33997 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City.

Alameda County Water District Board, Wednesday, October 12, 7 PM, New Haven School District Administration Offices, 34200 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City.

New Haven School District Board, Wednesday, October 12, 8 PM, New Haven School District Administration Offices, 34200 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE OUR LAST MEETING

Hardial Singh

We thank them for joining.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 per year

PATRON MEMBERSHIP: \$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



Merging of Historical Groups

Our efforts to merge the Washington Township Historical Society, Mission Peak Heritage Foundation and the Washington Township Museum of Local History have not been successful.

However, an effort to create a "Passport to Adventure" program with nine historical organizations working together for this one program has met with good success so far. The nine historical organizations are: Children's Natural History Museum, Olive Hyde Art Gallery, Old Mission San Jose Museum, Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum, Niles Depot, Niles Railway, Patterson House, Shinn House, and the Washington Township Museum of Local History. This program is geared to the younger folks in our community, but I am reasonably sure that not too many adults have visited all nine sites. Upon completion of the program by visiting all nine sites, the participant receives a certificate that declares that they are a "Passport to Adventure Historian". Since our young people live on social media, this program is being promoted on Facebook and probably some other social media programs.

It is exciting to be involved with a program that has nine historical organizations working together on one project. Does this mean that these organizations will work together on other projects, Who Knows?

