SHARPSTEEN MUSEUM



NEWS

CALISTOGA HISTORY MUSEUM

Volume 33: Number 5

August-September 2015 Newsletter

Instant Wine Cellar The SMA's biggest (and best ever, and only) fundraiser of 2015 is just a few weeks away!

The 27th Annual Instant Wine Cellar is being held on **Saturday**, **August 29**, **from 3-6 pm** at the Museum Plaza. Tickets are for sale now through the event at the Museum (or using the order form included with this newsletter). Grand Prize Raffle Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20- not much for a chance to win one of **FOUR** Instant Wine Cellars (36 bottles of unique wines from around the Valley) plus a special tasting/visit treat from one of our 4 Grand Sponsors: locals Laura Michael Wines and Castello di Amorosa; and down valley favorites Far Niente and Nickel & Nickel.

During the event there will also be separate tickets for raffle packages overflowing with gift items from our local merchants, restaurants and purveyors of fun things. And don't forget the silent auction special selections. And, of course, the complimentary wines and the famous appetizers. Invite all your friends and neighbors!

The IWC 2015 Committee needs help to make it SPECIAL- we are looking for creative folks to help assemble the raffle prize packages; people with transportation to pick up wine and merchant donations; chefs to provide food items for the event; and burly helpers to set up and tear down tables, awnings, chairs, etc. on the 29th. There's a sign-up sheet behind the desk at the Museum, or call the Museum at 942-5911 or the event chair at 321-8337 to volunteer.

IWC 2015 Committee: Doug Cook (chair), Kathy Bazzoli, Sue Mauro, DeAnn Wylie, and Shirley Blomquist

"Read to the Rhythm" Summer Reading Program at the Sharpsteen a Success

Walking by the Sharpsteen Museum on Thursday mornings between 10 and 11, you may have been surprised to hear the sounds of children's laughter, singing, and applause. For the past several summers, the museum has been host to Calistoga children as part of the summer reading incentive program. This program, in collaboration with the Calistoga Public Library, provides quality performances for our young people right here in Calistoga. This year's theme, "Read to the Rhythm", encourages children's imagination and creativity through the rhythms of music, dance, stories, and language. Children have been enthralled by a magician's puzzling tricks, a puppet show with some new twists on "The Three Billy Goats Gruff", international dances & music, a ventriloquist, as well as stories and songs. The final celebration activity will be held at the Calistoga library on August 6.

What a great way to involve the Sharpsteen Museum in the lives of Calistoga young people! Students from Calistoga preschools, the Calistoga public summer school, and the Boys & Girls Club, along with other youth, parents, and grandparents have been attending. Each week Calistoga librarians, Dan and Fredy, along with Jackie



Shuffles the Magician, wowed the young audience with his array of tricks and illusions.

Message from the President

Dear Sharpsteen Members,

I was experiencing a drought of words as I sat down to write this newsletter, so I went to the Trip Advisor website and found that Kathleen H. from Oceanside, CA, wrote, "The Sharpsteen Museum is a great little history museum with dioramas, recreated historical rooms, and everything one could want to know about the history and culture of the area. In addition, the Sharpsteen Family, after whom the museum is named, was involved in the movie industry, specifically Walt Disney Studios where Mr. Sharpsteen was an early illustrator. The gift/book shop is well stocked with lots of local interest books, and the charming Docent on duty made our visit very personal and lots of fun! The museum is free but donations are accepted." I find this comment about the Sharpsteen Museum to be an excellent description of what we do here. Thank you Sonya Spencer for the well stocked gift shop. Thank you Kathy Bazzoli for the excellent selection of interesting books. Thank you docents for making our visitors' visits very personal and lots of fun.

Before the City of Calistoga, with the help of the Master Gardeners and the Calistoga Garden Club, put in the drought tolerant garden at the Police Station, the Sharpsteen Museum installed such a garden in front of the museum. This garden contains native plants that are watered by our water-saving drip system. I would really like to thank Al Derrick for maintaining this garden and the one in front of the Brannan Cottage. Al will not be able to continue this work in the future without volunteer help. If you are able to help him maintain these gardens please put a note in my mailbox at the museum.

Museum memberships are up. It is great to see that there is no drought as far as memberships are concerned. If you have forgotten to pay your membership dues this year, we are still accepting them. I can see why Shirley Blomquist, our membership chair, was awarded the Gary Barrett Lifetime Service Award by the Calistoga Rotary Club. Shirley certainly exemplifies the Rotary's motto "Service Above Self". Congratulations Shirley! You are certainly a great multi-tasker.

I would like to welcome Jackie Lang and Doug Cook to the SMA board. These two members are doing excellent work at the museum. Please read their articles in this newsletter.

We hope to see you at the following museum events:

- Coffee Hour on August 5, in the museum at 10:00 am.
- IWC on August 29, in the museum parking lot at 3-6 pm.
- Museum Luncheon on September 21, in the Community Center at 11:30 am.

The Sharpsteen Museum's new website: www.sharpsteenmuseum.org. A special thank you to Kathy Bazzoli and Gail Sharpsteen for working with the web designer to develop our new interactive website. You can now get our newsletter, membership forms and other information from Facebook on that site.

Alan Rogers, *President*

Summer Reading- continued from front page

Lang or Jo Noble from the museum, set-up, introduce, and monitor the performances. The assistance of Pat Larsen, Rita Tucker, Emma Mazzola, Patsy Hahn, and Arnold Enderlin has been greatly appreciated. As these programs are becoming a summer tradition for many, they are also providing a wonderful community outreach to children and families.

Jackie Lang, *Education Chair*



Look for (& bid on) this charming vintage handmade quilt on the Silent Auction table at the upcoming "Instant Wine Cellar" event, Sat., August 29, 3-6 pm.



Sharpsteen Museum

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Museum House phone: (707) 942-5916 Museum Hours: 11 am to 4 pm daily, except Thanksgiving and Christmas

BOARD MEMBERS

Alan Rogers – President
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Editors: Gail Sharpsteen and Kathy Bazzoli
Distribution: Shirley Blomquist

MISSION STATEMENT

The Museum's mission is to preserve and to provide for public exhibitions and study of the history of the community of Calistoga and the upper Napa Valley.

Welcome New Members

SENIOR

William Crockett Eckart Marden Plant Wendy Watson Judy Whitney

INDIVIDUAL

Jeanette Mason Katherine Pratt SPONSOR

Jim & Shari Hanson

Note: Have you paid your June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016 dues yet?



Docents: We Couldn't Have Done It Without You!

Great job everyone- May and June brought us 2,042 visitors! This includes Sylvia Marciano's special tours, 10 tours to be exact, during May and June.

I am always stressing how important it is to start up a conversation with our visitors, you never know what you can learn, or whom you may meet. A few days ago, I met a group of 5 people on their way out. One of the women asked about books with information specific to Sam Brannan. As I was helping her choose I asked her, "Why?" Turns out she is a direct descendant of Mary Ann Brannan-Badlam! Mary Ann was Sam's older sister and had taken Sam to live with her when she married. There is much, much more to this story and we will be advising you in the near future about a big surprise, thanks to this family.

The Docent Prize program winners for this period were Pat Larsen and Jackie Lang; each securing a \$50 gift certificate to Sam's Social Club.

A big pat-on-the-back to those docents who worked May and June:

Tom Andrews	Bill Hahn	Emma Mazzola
Everett Ball	Patsy Hahn	Jo Ellen Noble
Bev Barnes	Linda Hanson	Biserka Potrebic
Shirley Blomquist	Pat Haynes	Ellie Robinson
Ray Branstetter	Sandy Herlihy	Anne Scott
Kelley Brogan	Gisela Huesmann	Sonya Spencer
John Clark	Joan Kranich	Rita Tucker
Doug Cook	Barbara LaFranchi	Sierra Turner
Judy Cornils	Jackie Lang	Josepha Walpen
Al Derrick	Pat Larsen	DeAnn Wylie
Donna Dill	Sylvia Marciano	Ingrid Zehntner
Arnold Enderlin	Barbara Maxfield	

Gold Star awards to those docents working the most shifts this period: 8 shifts- Josepha Walpen; 6 shifts- Judy Cornils, Bill & Patsy Hahn, Pat Larsen and Ellie Robinson; 5 shifts- Ray Branstetter, Kelley Brogan, Doug Cook, Donna Dill, and Jackie Lang.

Always with gratitude, Kathy Bazzoli, Docent Chair

Meet Our Docents

In each newsletter we will highlight one or more members that have donated their precious time to the museum.



L to R: Pat Larsen, Jackie Lang

Meet docents Pat Larsen and Jackie Lang. Pat, being a member only since February of this year, immediately signed up as a docent, and has jumped in with all 4 feet volunteering for every need that

has come about. She was a career fund raising specialist in the Bay area. In her spare time, she was a docent in the History section of the Oakland Museum for 10 years.

Jackie Lang joined in 2010, about 2 years before retiring from teaching for 35 years at Calistoga Elementary School. She began docenting almost immediately, became involved with Special Tours and assisted in our yearly summer children's program. She now sits on the Board of Directors as our Education Chair.

It is the dedication of volunteers such as Pat and Jackie that make our work so much easier, and more enjoyable. To quote Pat Larsen: "I am really enjoying the variety of tasks involved with being a Sharpsteen docent, and meeting the other volunteers. They are a bright, engaged and dedicated group from whom I have already learned a lot."

You go ladies! We're in this with you every step of the way.

Notes from the Book Chair



You know Calistoga, you know Sam Brannan, and you should know that the original name of the resort Sam built in the 1860's was "Brannan's Hot Springs". By 1871, the resort had been renamed "Calistoga Springs".

Many months ago, the museum was lucky enough to acquire the original booklet (thanks to Mark Wilkinson) dated 1871 and titled "the Handbook of Calistoga Springs or Little Geysers." The book is beautifully written in 19th century prose and fully describes Sam's beloved Calistoga and resort. Maps, fold-outs, and lithographs are found throughout. The original book is now on permanent display at the museum.

Did you know that trips by steamboat and railroad were made twice daily from San Francisco to Calistoga? The trip took 4-5 hours. If you wanted to visit Pope Valley on any day's excursion, you'll best go on horseback, the 8-mile trail was rough but ready. To visit the summit of Mt. St. Helena was a mere 12-mile ride on horseback.

Take a walk back to this amazing time through the pages of this book. You will be transported to a young and vibrant Calistoga.

The booklet has been carefully scanned and reproduced and copies are now on sale for \$14.50 each in our bookstore or online through our web site (shipping charges will apply). Members receive a 10% discount on any quantity of books purchased. Enjoy!

Kathy Bazzoli, Book Chair

2015 Scholarship Winner



Congratulations to Jacqueline Urzua, CHS 2015 graduate and recipient of the 2015 Sharpsteen Museum Paul Claudon Scholarship. Jacqueline will be attending UC Davis this fall and plans to pursue a career in Sports Medicine. She notes that "... the Sharpsteen Museum has played a huge role in my true values in life." This award "will help me pursue my life-long dream of helping and caring for the needs of others". All the best to you Jacqueline! *Scholarship Committee*:

MelanieWaterson, Irwin Herlihy, and Dina Corcoran.



Kathy Bazzoli and Gail Sharpsteen (at center) welcomed participants in the Napa County Landmark's Historical Bike Ride on Sunday, July 12. The riders pushed off from the Museum parking lot, and pedaled their way through town on a history tour, out to Chateau Montelena and back.

CALENDAR

AUGUST

Wed., Aug. 5, 10 AM. "Coffee Hour"-Museum. All welcome, members or not.

Wed., Aug. 12, 10 AM. SMA Board Meeting, Museum House. All members welcome.

Sat., Aug. 29, 3-6 PM. Instant Wine Cellar. Please see article on the front page. Volunteers needed.

SEPTEMBER

Wed., Sept. 9, 10 AM. SMA Board Meeting, Museum House.

Mon., Sept. 21, 11:30 AM. Luncheon, Community Center.

OCTOBER

Wed., Oct 14, 10 AM. SMA Board Meeting, Museum House.

NOVEMBER

Wed., Nov. 11, 10 AM. SMA Board Meeting, Museum House.



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