

Upcoming events:

- January 24th & 25th: Museum Open House
- February 15th: Quarterly Meeting & Potluck Lunch
- February 21st: Docent Training
- February 21st & 22nd: Museum Open House
- March 28th & 29th: Museum Open House

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JOHN DEWITT MUSEUM

2116 TAVERN ROAD
ALPINE, CA 91901

Open 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
last weekend of each month

Tom & Judy Myers, Editors
619-885-8063

GASLAMP PLAYERS TO VISIT ALPINE

FEBRUARY POTLUCK LUNCHEON & PROGRAM—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2015

Get ready for some historic names from San Diego's past to come alive when the **Gaslamp Players** present vignettes based on the early history of San Diego at the February Potluck Luncheon and General Membership Meeting of the Alpine Historical Society, held at

the Alpine Woman's Club, 2156 Alpine Blvd.

In the early days of San Diego, the area we now call the "Gaslamp Quarter" was called "New Town" and it was the home of many interesting characters—among them *Police Chief Keno Wilson*, the popular *Madame Ida Bailey*

who operated a high-class brothel known as the Canary Cottage, and *Alonzo Horton* the "Father of New San Diego." These characters and more will be brought to life by a performance troupe dressed in period costume and ready to treat you to some great stories from historic San Diego. We are pleased to welcome **The Players of the Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation**, a highly sought after performance troupe throughout the area.



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Please bring a potluck item to share for the luncheon which begins at 1:00 p.m. or arrive at 2:00 p.m. for the brief general membership meeting immediately followed by the Gaslamp Players. Seating is limited, so **please make a reservation** by calling Carol Morrison at (619) 445-2544 or send an email to info@alpinehistory.org. **Spread the word and invite your friends—everyone is welcome.**

Interested in History? This is the opportunity you have been waiting for!

LOOKING FOR HISTORY BUFFS



The first in a series of *Docent Training Workshops* will be held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at the John DeWitt Museum located at 2116 Tavern Road in Alpine. The workshops, presented by President Carol Morrison, will feature an in-depth look at the exhibits and the extensive reference

materials available at the museum.

Come and learn the stories of early pioneers, homesteaders, builders, and passers-through that influenced the growth and development of Alpine. This is a great way to learn about Alpine History, to meet others who share your interest, and to do your part in keeping the story of Alpine alive.

RECOGNITION OF OUR LIFETIME MEMBERS

Deborah Anderson • Carlette Anderson • Mark L. Anderson
 LeRoy & Willa Athey • Carmen and Claude Bailey/Lewis • Pat & Joe Brunold
 David Carey • Ted Christensen • Sharon J. Coop • Tom Dyke • Beverly Falor
 Katie Ford • Vincent Fritts • Paul Gonya • Lindy Harshberger • Ann Hill
 Ben & Kirby Johnson • Bill & Diane Keltner • Jill & Shawn Killon • John Krempp
 Joanne & Martin Marugg • Mary McBride • Chris McCoy • Carol & Ed Morrison
 Tom & Judy Myers • Suzanne Polk & Mary Norman • Helen Porter
 Pattie & Haley & Mark Price • Paul & Paula Saks • Kurt Scherbaum • Pauline Silver
 Albert Simonson • Donna Sisson • Joseph Sisson • Virginia Sisson • Mark Turvey
 Rodney & Guille Tuttle • Paul & Carol Walker • Don Walker
 William & Joan Waterworth • Valerie Watts • Sam Webb • Jack Wilson

RECOGNITION OF OUR LIFETIME BUSINESS MEMBERS

Brabazon Alpine Paving and Trucking
Ewiiapaayp Tribal Office • Viejas Enterprises • Viejas Tribal Office
Primary Residential Mortgage

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Special Thank You to Our New Life Member:

Deborah K. Anderson, Great-great-grandaughter of Sophronia Nichols

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members: Judy Grant, Leslie Holben, Alan House, Patricia Wood

A Heartfelt Thanks to Our Renewing

Members: George & Joan Anderson, Dawn & Russ August, Franklin Ball, Kathy Balsley, George Barnett, Theo Bazdorf, Donna Boyer, Suzanne Broderick, Sallie Brown, Colin Campbell, Vikki & Paul Coffey, Patricia Cannon, Tom Curtin, Alan Dadisman, James & Rita David, Charlene & Charles Day, Linda K. Dean, Gerald Dobbs, Jim & Karen Donoghue, Shirley Dyer, Lori & David Fountain, Mary Fritz, Janet Gastil, Mike Harris, Gretchen Calabrese Heald, Bernice Horan, Chik Hylton, Corky & Vera Jones, Richard & Jane Kelso, Norman Kling, George Landt, Pam Lawless, George & Pene Manale, Gilbert & Kathleen Mastro, Judy Matlock, Ronald & Carol Matzenauer, Gary & Lynette Mitrovich, Lori Mitrovich, Louise Phipps, Robert & Beverly Ring, Damien Rosales, Vonnie Sanchez, Ken Schulte, Jill Sing, Scarlett Spencer, Anne Tarr, Bruce & Debbie Van Hyfte, Susan Walter, Jim & Sue Whitt, Stan Wilson, Patricia Wood, Genna Yoder, Dr. Mark J. Zacovic

A Hearty Welcome to Our New Business Member: West-Cal Die

A Greatful Thanks to Our Renewing Business Member: Hitech Screen Science Co.

We appreciate the collectible donations from:

Verna Poorbaugh ~ Fred Bray's Antique Camera Collection, Clayton & Barbara Lantham LaForce ~ 4 boxes of antique books from Spanish Land Grant at Camp Pendleton, 1 box of scrapbooks (awards to Bea LaForce, Alpine Water Story, newspaper clippings), corn grinder (may have belonged to Neil Galloway)

Thanks go to the following who made generous financial donations to the Society: George Barnett, Theo Bazdorf, Vikki & Paul Coffey, Shirley Dyer, Mary Fritz, Judy Grant, Mike Harris, Alan House, Corky & Vera Jones, Norman Kling, George Landt, Garner Palenske, Louise Phipps, Helen Porter, Damien Rosales, Ken Schulte, Jill Sing, Anne Tarr, Bruce & Debbie Van Hyfte, Stan Wilson

And a special word of thanks to: George Landt for his donation of a Wall of Honor Plaque honoring Jim Hinds, and to Alan House for his donation of a fresh-cut Christmas tree and pine boughs to decorate the museum facilities

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS: Life Members ~ 48, Annual Members ~ 100, Members up for renewal ~ 40

SOCIETY RECEIVES VINTAGE CAMERA COLLECTION

In October 2014, Verna Poorbaugh called Alpine Historical Society President Carol Morrison to ask if the Society would be interested in a collection of vintage cameras owned by her late brother Fred Bray. Carol, of course, was delighted to take a look at the collection.

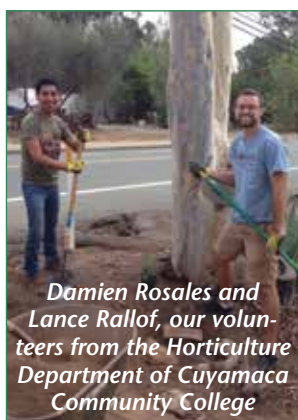
Fred and his brother lived on Patrick Drive in Harbison Canyon for many years and they had a long time fascination

for cameras from the late 19th century, from wood and metal view cameras to modern day plastic digital cameras. Their collection included what seemed to be at least one of each kind of camera ever made. That may be an exaggeration, but seeing that house full of cameras was absolutely eye-popping! Some of the camera names might be recognizable such as Eastman-Kodak, Graflex, Wollensak and Korona, while other not-so-

familiar names include Conley, Unicum and Rembrandt. Most of the cameras were made in the USA, but one camera, the Instantograph, was made by J. Lancaster & Son of Birmingham, England.

The Historical Society could not possibly catalogue, maintain and display all the cameras, so we agreed to accept 24 of the oldest cameras, ones that might have been used in early Alpine or San Diego. We

are currently researching the cameras in preparation for an exhibit later this year that will feature **"Vintage Cameras from the Fred Bray Collection"**. If you or someone you know is an expert (or just enthusiastically interested) in vintage cameras like the ones pictured here, please send an email message to property@alpinehistory.org. We would love to get some expert input on these fascinating objects.



Damien Rosales and Lance Rallof, our volunteers from the Horticulture Department of Cuyamaca Community College

MEDICINAL HERB DISCOVERY WALK

Judy Dunning presented an interesting program on the use of traditional herbal products in early medicine at the August 2014 AHS meeting. Because Sophronia Nichols was a licensed homeopathic doctor,

she probably used herb-based medicines in her Alpine practice 125 years ago. So, it seemed appropriate to develop an exhibit called the **"Medicinal Herb Discovery Walk"**. Under Dunning's guidance, we developed a plan and in October 2014 we broke ground, getting the 19 herbs in the ground just in time for the

winter rains. The plants are now growing and becoming acclimated to their new environment.

Our volunteer team for this project included Lance Rallof, Damien Rosales, Baltazar Marques, and Judy and Tom Myers.

This spring we plan to install signage and develop a self-guided tour of the **Discovery Walk**. Be sure to watch upcoming newsletters for an announcement of the opening of this new exhibit.



LEGION OF NUTCRACKERS OCCUPY THE BEATY HOUSE

At our November open house, the Alpine History Museum presented a special exhibit of *"Nutcrackers from the Andrew Poindexter Collection."* Andrew is a fifth-grade student and a very active Cub Scout who began collecting these wonderful wooden statues about three years ago. When he brought them to the museum he had 79 nutcrackers bedecked in costumes that interpret a variety of animals, vocations, military, fairy tales, folk



lore, and whimsy. But of course Christmas is the giving season, and several members and friends generously donated nutcrackers from their own collection to add to Andrew's collection. When the exhibit was over, Andrew's collection had grown to 102! Many thanks go to *Gladys Hay, Pearl Smith, Lori and*

David Fountain, and Carol Morrison for keeping the holiday spirit alive with their gifts.

The weekend after Thanksgiving is usually a slow time for the museum, but this popular exhibit brought more than 60 visitors to the museum, the highest number ever recorded for an open house weekend. This special exhibit

was so well received that Andrew and his family agreed to an encore show and we were able to present his nutcrackers as a focal point of our holiday decorations at the annual Woman's Club Holiday Home Tour. Thank you Andrew for sharing your nutcracker collection with the community of Alpine.

MUSEUM PARTICIPATES IN ALPINE HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

The Alpine History Museum decked its halls and opened its doors to the annual *Woman's Club Holiday Home Tour* on December 13, 2014. Over 40 visitors who checked in at the Sophronia Nichols' house were treated to a display of traditional Christmas decorations including pine cones, garlands, ribbons and window candelabras that may have been popular in 1890's Alpine. The Beaty house was similarly trimmed

with garlands, ribbons and pine cones, but also featured an elaborate display of Nutcrackers from the Andrew Poindexter collection. Many

visitors enjoyed not only the Nutcrackers and traditional decorations, but also took time to view the exhibits of early Alpine pioneers.



Katie Ford, Carol Morrison, and Anne Tarr decorate the Nichols' house for the Holiday Home Tour.

Many thanks go to Andrew Poindexter for loaning us his nutcrackers and to our volunteers: Carol Morrison, Anne Tarr, Katie Ford, Leslie Holben, Bill Waterworth, Norm Kling, Baltazar Marquez, and Tom & Judy Myers who helped decorate the houses and served as docents during the tour. And we very much appreciate the donation of a fresh-cut tree and pine boughs from the *House Evergreen Forest Christmas Tree Farm*.

UPDATE ON “DOCTOR’S BUGGY” RESTORATION

February marks the one year anniversary of our pre-1906 “Doctor’s Buggy” restoration. Perhaps you recall that in January 2013, the Alpine Historical Society put out a call for donations to purchase a buggy for the museum. We had a great response from our members and others in Alpine, raising a little over \$3,000—enough



Norm Kling and Bill Waterworth scraping the undercarriage.



Fred Barker, one of our volunteers, fine-sanding the primed undercarriage.



Bill Waterworth demonstrating the detailed work necessary on some parts of the frame.

to purchase a decent buggy. But, then Don Walker called to offer a buggy that his family owned when they operated the Willows Resort. Don told us the buggy had been stored away in his barn for many years, and it just needed a little restoration. President Carol Morrison readily accepted the gift buggy and we moved it to the Carriage House at the museum.

Our first task was to have the rubber restored on the wheels. This was done by a wheelwright in Escondido for a modest cost in April 2013.

Next we began our condition assessment of the artifact and what we found is that it was truly in remarkable condition—a bit shabby and well worn—but structurally in excellent condition. We talked with experts all around the country for advice on how to proceed and discovered that we either needed to tackle a major portion with museum volunteers, or we needed to raise a lot more money.



Ed Morrison with the finished painted seat, ready to take to the upholsterer.

Finally, by February 2014, we made our decision. We assembled a core team of four volunteers (*Norm Kling, Ed Morrison, Tom Myers, Bill Waterworth*) with skills in almost every field imaginable—but not in buggy restoration. Nevertheless we jumped right in (*with help from other volunteers along the way*) with enthusiasm, documenting the existing condition and determining existing paint and pin stripe details. In the one year since we started hands-on work, we have disassembled the buggy, scraped, sanded, repaired, filled, sanded again, and primed and painted almost all of the wood and metal elements of the buggy.

However, some things we could not do, so the sanded and painted seat is now in the hands of an upholstery expert for restoration, and we will soon be working with a pinstriping craftsman to restore the vintage paint details.



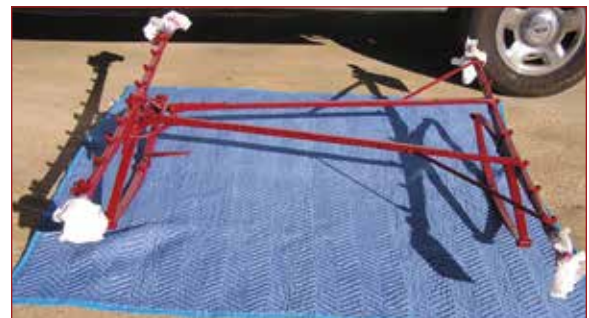
The original buggy

It will not be long before the job of reassembling the buggy can begin, and we hope to have it ready to show in time for our Annual History Celebration in June.

All things considered, we have made excellent progress on this restoration project and have enjoyed it immensely. Our work crew meets regularly on Wednesday mornings, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and volunteers are always welcome!



One of the restored, painted wheel. Isn't she lovely!



The restored, painted undercarriage, waiting for the pinstriper to add the black line details.

Alpine Historical Society
P. O. Box 382
Alpine, CA 91903-0382

Address Service Requested

**ALPINE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

P. O. Box 382
Alpine, CA 91903-0382

Phone: 619-659-8740
E-mail: info@alpinehistory.org

We're on the Web!
www.alpinehistory.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date _____

Street Address/P.O. Box: _____

City/ST/Zip: _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Send Newsletters via: E-mail U.S. Mail

Membership Category (Please check one):

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit Org. \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 | | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Life \$1,000 |

Amount Enclosed:

Membership \$ _____
Donation \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

Areas of Interest for Volunteers:

- Building Preservation
 Technical/Clerical
 Where Needed

Please complete this form and include your check made payable to the Alpine Historical Society, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.