

Upcoming events:

- July 25 & 26: Museum Open House
- August 16: Potluck Luncheon & Presentation by Tom Hom
- August 29 & 30: Museum Open House
- September 26 & 27: Museum Open House

Inside this issue:

- Buggy Top Restoration is Complete! page 2
- Membership Update, page 2
- 2015 Alpine History Day Celebration, pages 3 & 4
- Ice Cream Anyone? page 5
- Sophronia Nichols Memorial Walk Opens, page 5
- Membership Application, page 6

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

Rabbit on a Bumpy Road

A STORY OF COURAGE AND ENDURANCE

~A Memoir by Tom Hom~

POTLUCK LUNCHEON & PROGRAM—SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2015

Tom was born in San Diego into a Chinese family in the year of the Rabbit in the 1920's when much of American society was socially and economically segregated. Like other children who lived in Chinatown, he entered school speaking only Chinese. As he grew older, he faced limited job opportunities and housing discrimination. However, he never lost faith in the American dream and went on to achieve success for himself, his family, and the greater good of San Diego, breaking age-old barriers of prejudice and segregation. He was elected as San Diego's first

minority city councilman in the 1960's and is still the only Asian-American to have served on the council.

He helped transform San Diego's skid row into the vibrant Gaslamp Quarter Historic District, he was a key player in the development of other San Diego landmarks such as Qualcomm Stadium and Petco Park, and he led efforts to establish the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum.

In his memoir he also shares with us his love story with his first wife, Dorothy, who on her deathbed insisted that Tom marry again, and his love story with his second wife, Loretta.

Hom turned 88 this year, and he says people often



remark about his good health and vitality. In his memoir he includes a recipe for a health tonic he takes twice a day: honey and apple cider vinegar. "I've been taking this since I was 35, and I still do it today," he said.

Today, Tom Hom is a respected elder who has contributed to the success and growth of San Diego and has inspired a new generation of Americans to greater achievement in economic growth and civic responsibilities. His journey and words of wisdom offer encouragement to all who believe in the future of America. ■



"*Rabbit on a Bumpy Road* contains plenty of fresh insight into the cultural, political and business experiences his family has had in San Diego since the late 1800's. Few others can write with such authority about the evolution of our region, including the development of Mission Valley where his family operated a farm, and the creation of the Gaslamp Quarter as a historic district when it was for much of his life simply 'home'. Along the way he provides wonderful anecdotes, including how young boys would stick chewing gum on chopsticks to retrieve coins that had fallen between the wooden planks that then made up downtown's sidewalks." —Supervisor Ron Roberts, San Diego County Board of Supervisors

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 a brief general membership meeting immediately followed by Tom Hom's PowerPoint presentation. Admission is **FREE**, but seating is limited, so **please make a reservation** by calling Carol Morrison at (619) 445-2544 or send an email to info@alpinehistory.org.

BUGGY TOP RESTORATION IS COMPLETE!

We are very grateful for the generous donations received from the following people to help restore the folding buggy top. The restoration work was superbly done by the Morgan Carriage Works in Oak View, CA.

- David Carey
- Alan Dadisman
- Charlene Day
- Shirley Dyer
- Katie Ford
- Jackie & Taylor Hood
- James & Cheryl Minsheu
- Carol & Ed Morrison
- Sharon Murphy
- Michael & Lorraine Nelson
- Michael Nelson II
- Donna Sisson
- Joseph Sisson
- Don Walker
- And to **all** who made bucket contributions.



▲ After



Before ►

Thanks to all of you, we exceeded our \$2,000 goal by \$141.00!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members:

- Cathie Aymar
- Kevin & Alejandra Schumacher

A Heartfelt Thanks to Renewing Members:

- Christine Connell
- James & Cheryl Minsheu

A Hearty Welcome to Our New Business Members:

- Accurate Land Surveys
- RPL Electric, Inc.

Thanks go to the following for generous donations of Opportunity Drawing Items:

- Alpine Coffee Company
- Alpine Beer Company
- Ole Firehouse Barber Shop
- Justin & Georgette Hosner

RECOGNITION OF OUR LIFETIME MEMBERS

Carlette Anderson • Deborah Anderson • Mark L. Anderson

LeRoy & Willa Athey • Claude Bailey • Pat & Joe Brunold

David Carey • Ted Christensen • Sharon J. Coop

Tom Dyke • Beverly Falor • Katie Ford • Vincent Fritts

Paul Gonya • Lindy Harshberger • Ann Hill

Leslie Holben • Ben & Kirby Johnson • Bill & Diane Keltner

Jill & Shawn Killon • John Krempp • Joanne & Martin Marugg

Mary McBride • Chris McCoy • Carol & Ed Morrison

Tom & Judy Myers • Mary Polk & Suzanne Norman

Helen Porter • Pattie & Haley & Mark Price • Paul & Paula Saks

Kurt Scherbaum • Pauline Silver • Albert Simonson

Donna Sisson • Joseph Sisson • Virginia Sisson

Rodney & Guille Tuttle • Don Walker • Paul & Carol Walker

William & Joan Waterworth • Sam Webb • Jack Wilson

RECOGNITION OF OUR LIFETIME BUSINESS MEMBERS

Brabazon Alpine Paving and Trucking

Ewiiapaayp Tribal Office • Viejas Tribal Office

Tom Dyke Drilling • Chris Wiley—Primary Residential Mortgage

Turvey Granite Pit • Tuttle Charitable Trust

2015 ALPINE HISTORY DAY CELEBRATION

Our annual *Alpine History Day*, held at the John DeWitt Museum on June 6, was a great, fun event with a wide variety of new features and some of our favorites from past events. President Carol Morrison said: "I think this year's event was the best ever!" We were happy to welcome again the *San Diego Model T Ford Club* with seven fabulous restorations, and new this year was a beautiful 1957 Thunderbird Convertible and a vintage Volkswagen "bug". Also new this year we had an exhibit of *quilts, tintype photography*, and the almost completely restored Walker family *Doctor's Buggy*. Back by popular demand was the *Kiwanis Cook*

Shack, delicious hand-made *ice cream sundaes, Alpine Pageant Queens, beekeeping* discussion and *honey samples*, the *Sky Hunters Birds of Prey*, silent auction, our new *Vintage Camera Exhibit*, and *spinning, weaving, crocheting, and sewing demonstrations*. But few can deny that the Alpine school students who performed songs and dances from their sold-out hit musical show "*Oklahoma*" were the stars of this event. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all who attended this event, but if you missed it here are some photos that may encourage you to come to next year's *Alpine History Day*, held the first weekend in June 2016. ■



ALPINE STUDENTS

[back row, left to right]: Claire Doucet, Brice Cloke, Bradley Ramos, Milena Marino, Gregory Shue, Walker Holmes, Hunter Bowen, Lauren Nguyen, Suzanna Broderick

[front row, left to right]: Coral Thomas, Kate Duffy, Cody Harris, Melissa Duffy, Kyrsten Lindblad, Jackson Miller

[more photos on page 4]



Nancy Conney with barn owl



Richard Edwards, beekeeper, with honey samples



San Diego Model T Ford Club



Katie Ford and Ruth Jellison serving ice cream sundaes.



Oklahoma! songs on the Beaty porch



One of our antique quilts on display



Tintype photographers, Nick Hidek and Dave Smith, posing with our refurbished doctor's buggy.



Miss San Diego East, and Miss Teen San Diego East



People enjoying lunch provided by the Alpine Kiwanis Cook Shack.



Baskets for the Opportunity Drawing and Silent Auction



Patty and Kathleen (not pictured) Holmes, demonstrating spinning and weaving.



Delores Kling, crocheting, and Anne Tarr with the treadle sewing machine.



Jack Chidgey pointing to the brass plate he refinished for us.

ICE CREAM ANYONE?

When those hot, dry days of summer make you want something cool and refreshing to combat the heat, lots of folks go for an ice cream treat! The earliest photo we have of an ice cream stand in Alpine dates back to 1915 when Mr. Sherman purchased a retired San Diego streetcar and parked it



in the center of town across the street from the general store. It was here that Mr. Sherman set up his business to sell ice cream, soda pop and sandwiches to travelers passing through Alpine. The business lasted until 1921 when Warren and Emma Foster purchased the streetcar and did some serious remodeling. They covered the

outside with split logs, added a dining room on the west side and enclosed the big oak tree, allowing it to grow through



the roof of the new structure. They named their new restaurant the *Log Cabin Café*.

Do you remember the *Jolly Kone*? Well, this shop was opened in 1961, right across the street from the old fire house on Alpine Boulevard. In addition to serv-



ing Carnation Frostee ice cream cones, they also offered tacos, hamburgers and burritos. And, they had free parking for horses and cars.

Now if all this is making you yearn for a cool, frosty dairy treat, be sure to come to the museum for our Open House on

August 29 and 30 from 2 to 4 pm where you can earn a **free** ice cream treat by completing the **NEW** Scavenger Hunt Challenge. ■

SOPHRONIA NICHOLS MEMORIAL WALK OPENS

The *Medicinal Herb Discovery Walk*, a memorial to Sophronia Nichols, opened just in time for the 2015 Alpine History Day. The walk includes specimens of over a dozen common herbs from all over the world, some native to the Alpine region. To better appreciate the exhibit, visitors are invited to pick up the descriptive brochure in the John DeWitt Museum before starting the walk.

In the 1890's, when Alpine's population numbered about 100 residents, medical science was just beginning to understand germs and infectious diseases. Anti-

otics had not yet been developed and a convenient local drug store would not be seen

for many years. In 1896 when Sophronia Nichols, Alpine's first doctor, opened her practice, she treated her patients with homeopathic medicines. Although we have no written documentation, we believe she also used herbal remedies such as teas, salves or poultices that were commonly used back then. What natural remedies would you use to treat burns, cold sores, head lice, asthma, indigestion, fever, coughing,

or skin infections? Take a stroll along our new *Medicinal Herb Discovery Walk* to learn about some traditional herbal applications. ■



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.