

THE ALPINE SUN SHOPPER – December 3, 2009
Tattered Tidbits: Alpine Historical Society

HISTORY OF THE ALPINE WOMAN'S CLUB

The Alpine Woman's Club started as the Ladies Aid Society in 1900. On October 15, 1914 they changed their name to the A.B.C. Club (Alpine Boosters Club.) The eleven members met upstairs in the attic. Annual dues were one dollar and initiation fee was twenty-five cents.

In 1921 they renamed the club the Monte Viejas Club. Then in 1927 it became the Alpine Woman's Club. At first they wanted to civilize this rural community by bringing music and some culture to the area. Today's creed reads: *"Their purpose is to promote a spirit of community cooperation and to engage in all manner of charitable, social, educational and recreational endeavors conducive to the public welfare."*

In 1922 they built a comfort station, an outdoor public bathroom. It was the only one in town and a welcome site for weary travelers. When passengers got off the stage coach, they could walk across the street to the bathroom. It wasn't until 1942 when they finally built an indoor bathroom.

In 1932 the Alpine Woman's Club purchased the Town Hall building. Some of the stockholders donated their shares. The land that is now the parking lot, next to the Town Hall, was donated to the club by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jones.

The first well at the Woman's Club was dug in 1945. The club was finally able to have water piped indoors for use in the kitchen. In 1951 their well went dry and someone stole the well pump. Another pump was donated and the well had water again. In 1962, when public water came to Alpine, they stopped using the well.

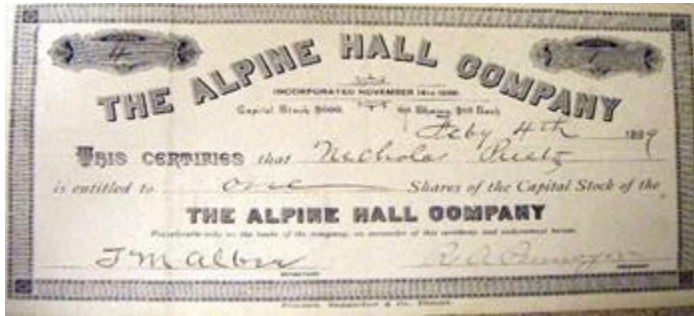
In 1997 Frank Thing donated a new well. It helped the club save a great deal of money on their water for landscaping. The Kiwanis Club helped move the well house onto the property. Tom Hill, Jr. and JC Anderson installed the well house.

The Alpine Woman's Club started helping nursing students in the 1950's with their tuition. Since then their scholarship program has given away \$80,000. Every year they offer Alpine seniors a chance to win a scholarship that goes towards their college tuition.

They hold three fund raisers each year to help raise money for their scholarship program and for the maintenance of the Town Hall.

In February they have their Victorian Tea, in April they hold their Annual Spring Plant Sale and in December they have their Christmas Home Tour. This year the Home Tour will be held on Sunday December 6th from 10am to 4pm. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased the day of the tour at the Woman's Club 2156 Alpine Blvd. There are five stunning homes to view that will be decorated for the holidays. For the opportunity drawing there is a \$500 Grand Prize and several lovely gift baskets. For further information please call Michelle Albee 722-1032.

By Carlette Anderson



The original Stock that was sold to the residents of Alpine when they built the Town Hall. The stock holders gave their stock to the Woman's Club in 1914 to take over ownership.