

The Historian

A Quarterly Publication of the Fallbrook Historical Society

Spring 2019



The History of Fallbrook High School

The first high school in Fallbrook opened its doors in 1893, making it the second oldest high school in San Diego County. The building was a two-story wood frame building, located at Elder Street and Hill Street (Now Mission Rd). The high school students were on the second floor and the elementary school on the ground floor. The first senior class graduated from the West Fallbrook School in 1895.

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(High School Continued)

High School Student Body in 1913 on steps of old two-story school. Last class to graduate here.

The town of Fallbrook was growing fast and the old schoolhouse wasn't going to be large enough for much longer. A \$20,000, 20-year bond was approved by the voters of Fallbrook to construct a new high school. In 1912 a new site for Fallbrook High School was obtained on the side of a hill located east and south of Iowa Street and Ivy Street. The last high school graduating class at Elder St. held their commencement exercises on Friday, June 13, 1913. The elementary school remained on Elder St. Today, Maie Ellis Elementary School occupies this location.

The Ivy Street Campus of Fallbrook Union High School opened its doors to 30 students and 4 faculty members in September 1914. Enrollment increased through the years, and improved earthquake standards had to be met. However, with little or no money available during the depression years of the 1930s, superintendent James E. Potter and the Fallbrook School board turned to the Federal Government for help. They were able to obtain a W.P.A. Grant to build a gymnasium, swimming pool, a model home for home economics, and a softball field. The 160-member student body voted on the school colors becoming red and white. The teams were named "The Warriors" in honor of the large number of Native-Americans in the student body. Approximately one-third of the students were from the near-by reservations. The 1937 spring graduation ceremony was conducted in the new gymnasium. The Fallbrook Boys & Girls Club is still using this building today.



1915 Fallbrook Union High School

Overcrowding became a problem in the 1950s and it was determined that the Ivy Street facility would not be suitable for the growing needs of the high school. The ranch of Tom and Maie Ellis on Stage Coach Lane and South Mission was selected for the new site for F.U.H.S. The new unfinished school opened on Stage Coach Lane in the fall of 1957, where it is today.

1930s

Coronado and Fallbrook Wine & Lecture Event

Friday, March 29, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Wine & Lecture: 1930s Coronado & Fallbrook
Coronado Historical Association Lecture Hall
1100 Orange Avenue

Come enjoy wine and cheese and learn a little bit more about our local history. A panel will speak about the challenges of the 1930s and how they were met in both Coronado and Fallbrook. Although the experiences were very different at times, there are many interesting connections of experience.

\$15 for CHA Members & Community Read Participants
 \$18 for Non Members
 Your ticket includes food and drink.

Purchase tickets at www.coroandohsitory.org, by calling 435-7242, or visiting the Museum Store.



Tom Frew is the historian and a board member with the Fallbrook Historical Society. He volunteers as a docent at the Fallbrook museum plus responds to historical inquiries from the general public on Fallbrook history. Tom enjoys using his genealogy skills for historical research. He is a regular contributor of articles for the Historical Society publications.

Coming Events:

Reche Schoolhouse Open:

Includes the Schoolhouse, the Hindorff Adobe, the Indian Rocks

1319 S. Live Oak Park Rd.

Saturday, March 9th 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

The Heritage Center Open:

Includes the Main Museum, the Pittenger House, the Gem & Mineral Room, the Ford Room, the Don J. Rivers Interpretive Center (the Barn), the outside displays

1730 S. Hill (at Rocky Crest Dr.)

Sunday, March 3rd 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 7th 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday, March 10th 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 14th 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday, March 17th 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 21st 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday, March 24th 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 28th 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday, March 31st 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

The Caboose at The Railroad Heritage Park

Main Ave. at Elder St.

Sunday, April 14th 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

During The Avocado Festival

Fallbrook Historical Society facilities are available for private tours by appointment. Call 760-723-4125.

The Fallbrook Historical Society's mission is to bring history to life by educating the community and others about Fallbrook's rich heritage



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