THE HISTORIAN

FALLBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ROCKY CREST & HILL AVENUE - P.O. BOX 1375, FALLBROOK, CA 92088 FALL, 2008 (760) 723-4125 VOL. 31, ISSUE 3

President's Message

Being involved in activities at our Historical Museum is an interesting past-time. Each month, when I volunteer as a docent, I notice that visitors come in for



many different reasons. I especially enjoy the ones who are looking for information about their family's history. They know that past relatives lived in our community and they want to know more about them. Often they are successful in their research.

Another fun thing is to observe items that immediately take me back in time. One day I had a flashback to the time that merchandisers came right to your door. The Helms Bakery truck would pull into our yard and pull out drawers full of pastries. I always got as close as I could just for the aroma. My Mom usually just bought a loaf of bread. A man selling fresh fish, beautifully displayed on a bed of ice, came around now and then. The Watkins man was a regular. He came so often that I felt he was a member of the family. He drove a black Chevy sedan all set up with drawers and compartments. It was amazing how much merchandise he could carry.

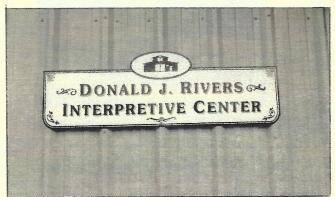
This was during the time I lived on a dairy farm. Our products were sold retail so my family was involved in its share of door to door peddling also. A lot of my relatives helped with the milk distribution, including Grandma, aunts, uncles and cousins. I knew most of the routes but was too young to drive so I was a trainer.

Finishing the interior of our new barn here at the museum is our main project. The electricians have just completed installing the light fixtures, wall switches and electrical outlets.

Wallcovering and floor tiling was completed in the restrooms and the plumbers are working on installation of the necessary fixtures. So progress is being made.

Stop by and see us! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

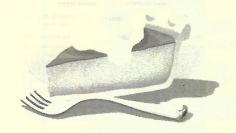
HiSTORY cally yours, JACK



New sign officially names the Barn as the Donald J. Rivers Interpretive Center

Open Invitation

The membership is invited to attend the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon which will be held in The Barn at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, October 29th. A Western theme luncheon will be served in honor of our many volunteers and docents. We encourage guests and friends to attend. Please RSVP to either Bev McDougal (728-2546) or Judy Gillespie (451-1572).



Old Timers Picnic

The tradition of the Old Timers Picnic was upheld again this year with over 100 members, guests and Fallbrook High School alumni in attendance. The highlights of the day were a birthday celebration in honor of Marion Clemmens' 90th birthday, as well as the raffle of door prizes provided by Society Board members and a silent auction of a Shirley Calvert painting of the Old 395 Bridge.

Rainbow Girls and their advisors from Fallbrook and Temecula coordinated and served the pot-luck luncheon and helped with the inevitable clean-up process. Thanks to them for a job well done.



Rainbow Girls from Fallbrook and Temecula

Marion and daughter Faye Goldfeder



From the Treasurer

Over the summer we received welcomed funds for the Museum and the Barn. From San Diego County Supervisor Bill Horn's Discretionary Funds we received \$30,000.00 toward the Barn Construction Loan, as well as another \$5,000.00 from the County's T.O.T. funds for asphalt paving and sealing expenses.

In addition, an unexpected and very generous donation from the estate of a long time Fallbrook resident, Mary B. Pullen, has enabled us to continue with the Barn Project debt free.

We are extremely grateful to all three entities.

Judy Gillespie Treasurer



Historic Route 395 Sign

Presentation of a Historic Route 395 sign was made in a ceremony held July 29th in our new Barn. Tom Casey, from the Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce, made the presentation to County Supervisor Bill Horn in a gathering attended by many Society members and representatives from various community organizations.



Tom Casey and Supervisor Bill Horn

Christmas Parade

As a prelude to the holiday, the Fallbrook Christmas Parade steps off Saturday, December 6th at 5:00 p.m. Entries of note this year include the famous Clydesdales, Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, Ronald McDonald, Shriners Tin Lizzies and, for the first time, the 1902 fire engine AMERICA. At least six bands have already agreed to participate. Fallbrook Historical Society is entering our recently acquired Model A Ford Coupe driven by one of our designated drivers.

Again this year we will host a Hospitality Tent for parade volunteers. The tent will be on Ammunition, just west of Carl's Jr. and it will be open from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. serving cookies and coffee. If you would like to participate by supplying cookies or helping in the tent, please contact Bruce Dennett 723-8519.

As it was last year, the entire organization and direction of the Fallbrook Christmas Parade event is the responsibility of Roy and Linda Costello, Fallbrook Historical Society's 2008 Vintage Awardees.

The entire community is either in the parade or attending. Don't be left out! We look forward to seeing you on parade day!





The Barn March, 2007



The Barn October, 2008

DECEMBER FESTIVITIES

Wassail and cookies will be served at the Museum on Sunday and Thursday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. during the month of December.
Please stop by, bring your family and friends and enjoy our Christmas decorations. The Somacal Village Train exhibit will be decked out in the holiday spirit as will the Historic Pittenger House.

Mark your calendars for the annual FALLBROOK CHRISTMAS PARADE on DECEMBER 6TH at 5:00 p.m.

Stop by the Historical Society's Hospitality Booth and say hello and welcome to all our visitors.





Bob Gillespie cutting wallboard

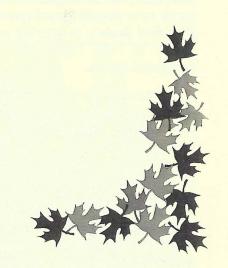


Bob Fender and Earl McDougal installing wallboard

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DATES TO REMEMBER: OCTOBER 29TH – ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
11:00 a.m. in The BARN
DECEMBER 6TH – FALLBROOK CHRISTMAS PARADE
Hospitality Booth open from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Parade begins at 5 p.m.

Jack Story, President

* Dode Martin, Vice President/
Barn Const.Chairman
Judy Gillespie, Treasurer/
Corresponding Secretary/
Docent Chairperson
Sandra Baxter, Recording
Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Board of Directors 2008-2009

Marion Clemmens

* Bruce Dennett Bob Fender Virginia Grossman

* Bev McDougal Don McLean

* Thea Moore, Parliamentarian

*Cecelia Njust, Membership Margaret Ray, Historian Mary Rivers Charlotte Wright, Office Manager

*Barn Committee Member

<u>Yearbooks</u>: We have a new addition to our Fallbrook High School yearbook collection – Margaret Ray has donated a copy of the 1918 edition!

Yearbooks still needed for our collection are 1941, 1942, 1945 and 1964.

Celebrating Marion Clemmens

Marion Clemmens, 90 years young, was born in Fallbrook, July 17, 1918, on a farm at the end of Clemmens Lane, across from the Odd Fellows Cemetery. As a young man he helped his father and brothers on the farm



and worked at various jobs in town. During WWII, he worked at CONVAIR in San Diego. In 1949 he went to work for the Fallbrook Post Office, retiring in 1972 after 23 years of services.

Marion and his late wife Esther, who celebrated their 65th Anniversary in 2004, had three daughters, Diana, Faye and Kathy. The Clemmens family has grown to include six grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren, all of whom gathered at his granddaughter's home in Colorado Springs recently to celebrate his special day.

Marion is a Life member of the Historical Society, a member of the Board of Directors, and was Pioneer of the Year in 1993. He is also our honorary Landscape Supervisor, generously donating hours of his time and energy each week to maintaining our museum grounds and irrigation system. He also finds time to volunteer as a docent each month.

Among Marion's interests over the years were barbershop singing, traveling with the Exploradores Travel Club, and the Reche Club.

Marion's knowledge of the history of the Village of Fallbrook is invaluable to the Historical Society and the community.





PRESERVATION TIPS

Store photographs and important documents in a cool, dry place where there is minimum change in humidity and temperature. Avoid attics and garages.

Use acid-free sleeves or envelopes for storage of each photograph or document.

When purchasing albums or storage boxes, select those labeled acid-free.

Never use adhesive to mount your photos or documents.

Use an acid-free pen or pencil to label photos.

Never use paper clips or rubber bands, which can cause permanent damage, to hold photos and documents together.

Highly acidic paper, such as newspapers, should be stored apart from other paper items.

If displaying photographs or documents on the wall, avoid exposure to light as much as possible. Use acid-free mats or spacers to minimize contact with the glass of the frame.

In frames, use glass or acrylic marked safe for photos and documents.



REMINISCING WITH MARGARET RAY

I just looked at some of my pictures and started remembering all the good trips Otto and I took in the 52 years we had together. Those where wonderful, lazily traveled times when we left when we were ready, took as long as we wanted to travel, arriving whenever we got there (wherever that turned out to be). We visited or looked at the scenery at our own speed.

I remember one time we left home Thursday morning to go to Wilmington, CA to visit overnight with Otto's boss and his wife. This was in 1962. The boys were 12 and 14 years old. We stayed all night and they took us

to Marineland of the Pacific the next morning. We had such a good time.

We had planned to leave for home that afternoon. Otto III was going to attend a Little League Awards banquet on Sunday. He was looking forward to an award trophy for all the home runs he had hit that season. When we got to Coast Highway 101, Dad stopped and said "Shall we go right or shall we go left?" Both boys in unison said, "Go right, Dad." We asked if they were sure because they would miss the Little League awards banquet. "Yes, go right." So we turned on Highway 101 and ended up in the yard of Otto's Uncle Curt near Seattle!



We had no idea if they would be at home because they were retired and did travel sometimes. They were at home and we had a wonderful time. Curt showed us his 1915 Model T Ford. He had the sales papers the original owner had kept all those years. How beautifully he had restored it. He had the original side curtains that were in remarkable condition. The car had been stored in a garage all the time since the original owner had purchased the vehicle.

He insisted that Otto take us for a spin in his Ford. Otto knew how to drive it alright and away we went down the road, around the corner, to pull over and park. Otto wasn't going to drive it very far for fear something terrible would happen to it while he had it off Uncle Curt's property.

We took pictures of us in that car. What a wonderful memory that is. I am sure the boys still remember it all, too. They were really intrigued with the way you had to shift the gears.

Margaret Ray, Historian Fallbrook Historical Society



Last year, Margaret worked closely with Rebecca Farnbach and Loretta Barnett to produce the <u>Fallbrook</u> book in the <u>Images of America</u> series, published by Arcadia Publishing. Their dedication to her reads: "We dedicate this book to Margaret Hindorff Ray, an unofficial historian and archivist who has preserved photographs, documents, artifacts, and stories of her ancestors and others who settled in Rainbow and Fallbrook. Without her assistance and resources, this book would not have been possible."

The book is a wonderful collection of old photos along with the history of the Village of Fallbrook. Copies are available in the Museum office for \$20.00.

Also available at the Museum is an 8 Volume Set of <u>Fallbrook In Review</u>, sold individually for \$7.50 each or the set for \$25.00. These books contain photos and stories written by Fallbrook residents recounting the early days of our Village.