Drilling for Oil in Fallbrook

Did the title of this article get your attention? Today I want to relate to you a little story that goes back to my early days when I lived with my family at Story’s Dairy down on South Mission across from the Ostrich Creek Bridge. Way up on the hill to the east, above our cow pasture, sat an oil drilling rig. I could hear and see it working off and on for what seemed like years. I know it was more than days or months. What I knew about it was very little but it fascinated me. I think that I was told not to go near the site but I can remember being there once or twice and seeing all the machinery. It impressed me.

The man who ran the rig was known as Pop Calloway. Fallbrook was a small community then and lots of people seemed to know him. I have lots of questions about that early experience. Did he ever strike it rich? I don’t think so. I never saw anyone but him working there. How did he manage by himself? Why did he choose the top of this particular hill? Can you imagine the cost of running this machine for such a long time? Was he a wealthy person? He drove a nice brown 1940 Chevrolet sedan which, at that time, was nearly new. Did he have a family? He was always alone when you would see him around town.

Is there anyone out there who can fill in the blanks on this historical happening? Have others drilled for oil in Fallbrook without me hearing about it? Have you ever read a story that asks so many questions?

Don’t forget to tell your friends to stop by and visit with us. We have a new addition to our museum that you won’t want to miss – the Bud Francis and Parke McLean Collection of Rocks and Minerals. The official opening is coming up soon so plan on attending.

**HAPPYHOLIDAYS!**

HiSTORYcally yours,  
JACK

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**Volunteer/Docent Christmas Tea and New Exhibit Dedication**

On December 12, 2009 from 2 to 4 p.m. the Board of Directors will honor our many wonderful volunteers and docents by serving a Christmas Tea in the main Museum.

In addition to the Tea, the newest permanent addition to the museum complex, the Bud Francis and Parke McLean Collection of Rocks and Minerals, will be dedicated with a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. This event will be open to the public and all members are encouraged to attend to see this fabulous collection. Virginia Grossman and Don and Marian McLean will be present to answer questions and discuss their families' tales of rock hounding as well as offer explanations of how the exhibit is displayed.
NEW ADDITION TO OUR MUSEUM

GRAND OPENING AND RIBBON CUTTING ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009

2 TO 4 P.M.

We are pleased to announce the Grand Opening of the newest addition to our museum! This exhibit of rocks and minerals has been assembled from the collections of Bud and Margaret Francis and Parke and Bertha McLean and was donated to the Fallbrook Historical Society by their families.

While it represents many different specimens from many states and countries world-wide, it is also representative of the rocks and minerals in the Fallbrook/DeLuz area and all of San Diego County.

This new display, assembled by family members Virginia Grossman and Don and Marion McLean is located on the lower level of our main museum building and will be open during our regular hours on Sunday and Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m.. Please drop by for a visit - you won’t be disappointed!
Society Member Eric C. Ray Performs Native American Music

Eric, who was born and raised in Fallbrook and attended local schools, now lives in Yuba City with his wife Janice. The wonderful music departments at Potter Junior High, Fallbrook Union High School and Palomar Junior College provided the background and incentive for Eric's hobby. His special interest is playing and composing music for the Native American flute.

The first time he entered the Native American Music Awards competition he was one of six who were nominated in the instrumental music category. Although he did not win the award he said he will try again and will work hard to write a Native American flute song that will win.

Eric is currently performing at Native Pow Wows all over the western United States.

Welcome to new member Marilyn Kimbrell and Life Member Jane McKee

And a special thank you to:

Allied Coatings
Jack and Marilyn Hampton
Sherri Lenfers
Fallbrook Masonic Lodge #317

for their special donations of financial support.

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DECEMBER FESTIVITIES

Saturday, December 5th - Annual Christmas Parade at 5:00 p.m. - The Fallbrook Historical Society's Hospitality Booth will be hosted by Bruce and Bernie Dennett and Pat Showalter. Cookies and hot coffee will be served. Stop by and say hello and welcome to all of our parade visitors and participants.

Saturday, December 12th - 2 to 4 p.m. Appreciation Tea for Museum Docents and Volunteers and Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Bud Francis and Parkie McLean Collection of Rocks and Minerals.

The Somacal Village Train Exhibit will be decked out in the holiday spirit as will the Historic Pittenger House.

Memorials

Our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of the following supporters of the Fallbrook Historical Society

Clifford F. Stokes
Joseph L. Russell
Doris "Dodie" Young
Jean Burhop
Janice Stromsoe
Samuel Dale
John Elliott
Cheryl Kruse
Steven Molina
Robert C. Jackson

September 3, 2009
September 10, 2009
September 12, 2009
September 14, 2009
September 17, 2009
September 21, 2009
October 1, 2009
October 3, 2009
October 12, 2009
October 13, 2009
HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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