President's Message  Dry Farming in Fallbrook

The Fallbrook High School song begins "On a group of rolling foothills..." and that pretty well describes our community. Early Fallbrook inhabitants used the land to sustain themselves. I've read stories about honey and olives and grain to name just a few. When I came on the scene in 1934 a large number of families were still tilling the ground to raise barley and oats for their livestock and to sell if they had good crops. My dad and two of his brothers planted every year. They planted in Rainbow, Bonsall, DeLuz, and many other locations around Fallbrook. In most cases they shared the crop with the landowners. The yield varied from year to year because the crops depended on rainfall, but I cannot ever remember a total crop failure. I could be wrong.

It took a tremendous amount of farm equipment to complete the cycle: plows, discs, harrows, seeders, cycle mowers, dump rakes, hay wagons, hay balers, pitch forks, Fairbank-Morse platform scales, and horses, mules or tractors to pull the implements. I think there was a lot of sharing among the farmers - including labor - I was "loaned out" to other farmers sometimes. Most of the old horse drawn equipment was converted to tractor pull but my dad was a horse lover and he still used a team of horses to do the job whenever possible.

As I look back I think I was fortunate to be exposed to that. I know how to work a team and I think I can still remember how to put on a harness and hitch them up although, at the time, I didn't think it was much fun. I enjoyed the planting season but the harvesting was right in the middle of summer and it was hot and dirty. I wanted to go swimming.

My thoughts turned to this subject because I am working on identifying the farm equipment that is on display outside the Barn at our museum. Our plan is to post an explanation describing the function of each piece. This machinery all came from Fallbrook and I have a suspicion that I spent time with or on them 60 years ago.

Sometime I will tell you stories (some funny) about working with this equipment.

HiSTORYcally yours,  JACK

Display of Farm Equipment
Walnut Huller
ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The Annual Meeting was held April 25, 2009 in the Donald J. Rivers Interpretive Center (aka the Barn) with approximately 60 attendees. Prior to the official call to order, Judy Gillespie introduced Chicken Charlie’s California Minstrel who entertained the guests with a variety of string instruments.

He described and played each of the instruments, singing songs that were appropriate to that instrument. The instruments were a flat-iron mandolin, a guitar, a do-bro (guitar with a large silver resonator on the front), a banjo, a lap dulcimer and an autoharp. His performance was very well received and enjoyed by all.

In President Jack Story’s absence, Vice President Dode Martin called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m., welcoming those in attendance. Carroll Njust led the Pledge of Allegiance. Dode announced that minutes of the past year’s Board of Directors meetings and Financial Reports were available for review on the table. He then introduced and reviewed the responsibility of each Board member. Jack Story arrived late, coming directly from Scripps Hospital.

Don McLean then announced the names of the five Board members who were up for re-election for the next three year period. They were Dode Martin, Thea Moore, Margaret Ray, Mary Rivers and Charlotte Wright. Absent for health reasons was Mary Rivers.

Dr. Dennis Ginoza, Pastor of Fallbrook United Methodist Church, led us in a prayer and blessing, followed by a pot-luck luncheon.

Following the luncheon, Parliamentarian Thea Moore asked that we finalize the election of Board members. As there were no nominations from the floor, a motion was made to accept the slate of officers as presented. Don McLean seconded and the motion passed.

Cecelia Njust introduced Jack Story as recipient of the Pioneer of the Year award and related his many achievements as a life-long Fallbrook resident. President Story introduced those family members who were present: his wife Shirley, youngest daughter Lydia, her husband Greg and their four sons, and his son Raymond.

Lydia spoke about how proud they were of their father and then read a message from her sister, Gayla, about what a “Pioneer” is and how their father exemplifies the term. President Story spoke about his life and how proud he was to have been raised in Fallbrook.

Cecelia then introduced Jackie Heyneman who received the Vintage Award for community service. Jackie thanked the Historical Society for awarding her this honor and said it had special meaning to her because of who we are and what we do for the community.

Dode announced that our 1930 Model A Ford will be a guest entry in the annual Vintage Car Club show at Potter Junior High on Sunday, May 24th, and reminded those present of the Old Timers Picnic to be held at the Historical Society museum on Sunday, June 28th. He gave a brief overview of work yet to be done on the barn and mentioned the many trades people who donated their services to getting the barn finished.

The meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.
A BIG THANK YOU TO THE FALLBROOK RAINBOW GIRLS WHO HELPED IN MANY, MANY WAYS AT THE RECENT OLD-TIMERS PICNIC - WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT THEIR HELP!!

Pioneer of the Year Jack Story and wife Shirley

Terry Carter, aka Chicken Charlie

Our new windmill

Marion Clemmens at work in the garden
HISTORIC DISTRICT DEDICATION
SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 19, 2009
VILLAGE SQUARE – 4 p.m.

Membership Reminder: If your address label indicates "09" your membership expired April 30th. We hope you will consider renewing at this time. We thank you for your past support and would like to continue to count you among our members!

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<th>Board of Directors 2009-2010</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Story, President</td>
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<td>Dode Martin, Vice President/</td>
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<td>Barn Const. Chairman</td>
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<td>Judy Gillespie, Treasurer/</td>
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<td>Corresponding Secretary/</td>
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<td>Docent Chairperson</td>
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<td>Sandra Baxter, Recording</td>
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<td>Secretary/Newsletter Editor</td>
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<td>Marion Clemmens</td>
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<td>Bruce Dennett</td>
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<td>Bob Fender</td>
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<td>Virginia Grossman</td>
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<td>Beverly McDougall</td>
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<td>Don McLean</td>
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<td>Thea Moore, Parliamentarian</td>
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<td>Cecelia Njast, Membership</td>
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<td>Margaret Ray, Historian</td>
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<td>Pat Showalter</td>
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<td>Charlotte Wright,</td>
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<td>Office Manager</td>
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Welcome New Members
Patricia Berglund
Bertha Esparza
Fallbrook Alumni Association
Cecile Feeney
Jamelia Johns Frieling
Carol Shrider

The Fallbrook Historical Society extends
thanks and appreciation to the following for
their special donations of
financial support:
“Anonymous”
D.A.R.
David Dixon
Kathryn Donath
Exxon-Mobil
Fallbrook Vintage Car Club

MEMORIALS
Our sincere sympathy to the families and
friends of the following Society members:
Karen Tucker        December 11, 2008
Vera Calhoun        May 28, 2009
Virginia Corison     June 2, 2009
Russell Whipple     June 11, 2009
Dr. Robert Lowrie    July 9, 2009

Donations In Memory of Dick Gisert
Betsey Levering
Tom and Jeri Palmer
Bud and Jewell Roberds
Ben and Carol Spangenberg
Marjorie Yackey

We would like to recognize those members who joined our society during the formative mont
from September 1976 to April 1977 who are still active in the
Fallbrook Historical Society:

CHARTER MEMBERS
Jane Baldwin
Donna Boren
Garth & Jan Bricker
Marion & Shirley Calvert
Ila Driver
Pat Dussault
Edna Hanson
Hilda Hroch
Shirley Lenfers
Stuart Marshall
Maxine Moudry
Carroll & Cecelia Njust
Paul & Kathleen Stiles
Imogene Towne
Marjorie Yackey
Fallbrook Vintage Car Club

COMING SOON
RECHE CLUB CHICKEN POT PIE DINNERS
Saturday, September 19, 2009
Serving at 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.
Eat inside or outside  Take-out Available
$10 Adults
$7 Children under 12

Tickets may be purchased at Major Market or by calling
728-1654,728-0301 or 728-9790

CONGRATULATIONS to BETTY GILBY
for receiving the
Fallbrook Woman’s Club
Volunteer of the Year Award
Mary Rivers Retires from Board

At the June meeting of the Board of Directors a letter of resignation from long-time Society and Board member Mary Rivers was submitted and, with regrets, accepted. Due to on-going health problems, she has moved to Idaho to be nearer her daughter’s family. Mary said she was very proud of the accomplishments of the Fallbrook Historical Society and considered it an honor and pleasure to have been a part of such an outstanding organization. In turn, the Fallbrook Historical Society thanks Mary and her late husband, Don, for their dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of the Society. Fallbrook resident Pat Showalter has replaced Mary on the Board of Directors.

Mary’s new address is 2325 Valley View, Weiser, ID 83672 – she would love to hear from you!

Historic Registry Program Established

Over two years ago Fallbrook Historical Society joined in a community effort to establish an Historic Registry to recognize a number of homes and commercial buildings in Fallbrook. Although there have been numerous setbacks, the program is nearing completion.

On Saturday, September 19th at 4 p.m., in the Village Square, Supervisor Bill Horn will declare our downtown area an Historic District and a large, engraved, black granite plaque will be affixed to the red brick wall surrounding the Square. In addition, Supervisor Horn will dedicate our Fallbrook Historic Registry and the first twenty buildings to be registered. Each building will be marked by an engraved black granite plaque. In time, we hope to recognize upwards of fifty houses or buildings on our local registry.

Fallbrook Historical Society is preparing a guide identifying each building, its historical importance, and any significant architectural or construction features. These guides will be available at our museum as well as at the Fallbrook Area Visitors Bureau.

Anyone with questions or suggestions is asked to call Committee Chairperson Bruce Dennett at (760) 723-8519.

Please join us at the dedication of the Fallbrook Historical Society Historic District Plaque.

Fallbrook Rotary

Fallbrook Rotary included our site in their April 25th Rotarians at Work Day again this year and did some much needed painting of the black electronic gate at the museum entrance and the white metal railings on either side of the museum building.

A generous donation from the Rotary allowed us to treat the Historic Pittenger House, ca. 1895, for termites in May of this year.

Thank you, Fallbrook Rotary!

Volunteers We are in the process of planning displays for the new Barn and hope to open it to the community in the very near future. There is a lot to do! If you are able to help in any way, we would like to hear from you.

Additional docents will be needed to greet visitors so if you are able to volunteer for three hours, one day a month, we would appreciate it. You will find it a rewarding and enjoyable experience and you will learn more about Fallbrook each time you volunteer.

Please call Judy Gillespie (760) 451-0572 and add your name to our list.