# THE HISTORIAN

## FALLBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ROCKY CREST & HILL AVE. - P.O. BOX 1375, FALLBROOK, CA 92088-1375 FALL/WINTER, 2011 (760) 723-4125 VOL. 34, ISSUE 5

#### President's Message - Growing Up in Fallbrook

As president of the Historical Society I am often put in contact with interesting people from all over who need information relating to things historical in our town. Included in this group are folks that I grew up with all those many years ago. They have all been out in the world making their fortunes and are now in a position to reflect back on those so called "Good Old Days." I have noted that nearly everyone I have talked to ends the conversation by saying they now realize what a good place Fallbrook was to have spent their childhood, mentioning the schools and teachers and the friendliness of the town in general.



How strange this is because most of this period was war time and we were all affected by it in many ways. Everything was in short supply. We got by on bare necessities. I guess because we were young we weren't aware of the shortcomings. What we did have plenty of was each other and we did spend much of our time doing things together.

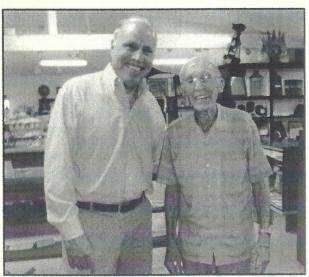
I enjoy modern day gadgets and try to understand them at least well enough to be able to hold a conversation with my grandkids but, even more, I like to reflect on the past. That is why I am involved with "Fallbrook Things Historical."

Don't forget we are here - stop by now and then and bring your friends. You'll be glad you did.

HiSTORY cally yours, JACK



#### Ken Kramer Visits Fallbrook Historical Society



Ken Kramer, host of About San Diego on KPBS-TV. visited our museum on August 4, 2011 to tape a segment for his show about William Pittenger and the Historic Pittenger House. The show covered Reverend Pittenger's Civil War experiences as a member of Andrews' Raiders, as well as being one of the first to receive the Medal of Honor. An account of Andrews Raid was written by Rev. Pittenger and later made into a Disney movie, titled The Great Locomotive Chase.

Mr. Kramer also taped a segment with Board Member Marion Clemmens serving as a guide at the Odd Fellows Cemetery in Fallbrook where Reverend Pittenger was buried on April 24, 1904. A special headstone reserved for recipients of the Medal of Honor was dedicated on July 2, 1988 at the cemetery.

This show was aired on Thursday, October 13th and again

on Sunday, October 16th. It was a wonderful program so watch for it to repeat if you missed it the first time.

#### Upcoming Events at the Museum by Cecelia Njust

#### **CINCH Meeting**

CINCH, the North County consortium of non-profit historical, geological and genealogy societies, will hold their quarterly meeting at our museum the last Monday in January, 2012. The twenty-nine groups comprising CINCH send representatives to these meetings to share information and accomplishments and to further assist each other. They will tour our facility and spend the day in Fallbrook.

#### Pittenger House DAR Honor

A special event is planned for our Historical Society on March 31, 2012 at 10 a.m. when the local Monserate Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at our musem.

The DAR, with assistance from our members, will conduct the ceremonial placing of a special plaque on the museum's Historic Pittenger House to recognize it as a National Historic DAR site. With bunting on the porch railings, the presence of a color guard, many dignitaries, DAR and Society members and the public, we will enjoy this proud recognition of the country house built in 1895 by William Pittenger.

Before becoming a minister and noted Fallbrook citizen Rev. Pittenger was one of the first recipients of the Medal of Honor. This award was presented at the White House during the Civil War by Secretary of War Stanton. President Lincoln later presented each awardee a ceremonial sword.

Plan to attend this very special event.

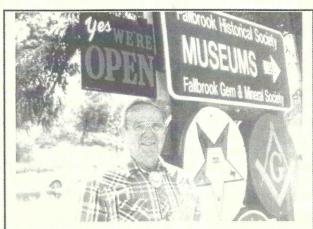


#### **Barn Dedication**

The dedication of our newest building, "The Barn," was held on October 9, 2011. President Jack Story welcomed our guests and Bev McDougal, Barn Museum Committee Chair, thanked her committee, then introduced Supervisor Bill Horn. Supervisor Horn spoke of the importance of historical societies and of his commitment to preserving local history. He complimented the society and its members for their work and dedication.

Guests toured the museum and enjoyed homemade ice cream and apple pie while observing craft demonstrations by the Fallbrook Wood Carvers, the Fallbrook Quilt Guild and looming. Entertainment was provided by Cowboy Jack

"The Barn" is formally named the Donald J. Rivers Interpretive Center in memory of Don Rivers, President of the Society from 1997-2003, who passed away on December 3, 2005. The following remembrance was written by Margaret Ray, retired Board Member and Historian of the Historical Society. It was originally published in The Historian Winter, 2006 newsletter.



"Remembering Don...

Don Rivers had not been in the Historical Society very long when I came in as a director. He was not familiar with the rules and operations of the organization. He spent many hours searching through the files for clues to the way the society had grown, and how various procedures were set up to be done.

There was a period of time when we all got discouraged from all the problems that came up, but Don held fast to seeking out the answers and the solutions to each problem. With his encouragement and leadership it worked out.

He was there at the museum many hours every week. He took after-hours phone calls at his home. And when he was at home he was frequently working at his computer on business of the museum or displays of Fallbrook history. He transcribed old news articles, a never-ending project. He devoted many evening hours, year after year, entering old Fallbrook Enterprise articles into the computer for scrapbooks of information for researchers to use.

He scanned and saved on CD several hundreds of photographs, and printed them for the files, for displays, and for scrapbooks. He gave many presentations with these pictures he had assembled.

He was always available for presentations whenever someone requested a program about Fallbrook. He did fantastic research to put together a history of the buildings in our town.

He was a dedicated citizen of Fallbrook who left a marvelous legacy for us all."

Margaret Ray, Museum Director December 5, 2005

#### WANTED

There are several items we need to complete displays in the museum and would appreciate any help from our members in locating them. They are:

- Photos and milk bottles from Loma Ranch Dairy for the Barn dairy display
- A "cone" of string, about 6 inches high, to add to an old fashioned string stand which would sit on a store counter. We have not been able to find an appropriate "cone" in the local hardware or home improvement stores.
- Fallbrook phone directories for 1961, 1964, 1965, 1968, 1970, 2004 and 2010
- Fallbrook High School Yearbooks 1964 and 2010

We do appreciate receiving donations of Fallbrook memorabilia to add to the research materials we have available to visitors. Thank you for your assistance in locating the above items.



#### DONATIONS

We would like to thank the following for their special contributions and support:

Daughters of the American Revolution

Monserate Chapter

Exxon Mobil for Board Member Bob Fender's Community Volunteer House

Evelyn Fetzner Estate Trust

Fallbrook Union High School Class of 1961

In Memory of Del Coshow from Jean Coshow

In Memory of Lindley Locke from Betty Locke

Memorial Donation from the Family of Eunice Gird VanDyke Day

#### MEMORIAL5

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

Tom Cooper October 31, 2011
Ken Graydon July 30, 2011
Louise Sargent Sill October 2, 2011
Elizabeth Schweizer October 19, 2011

We welcome contributions to the newsletter. Please send to Fallbrook Historical Society, P.O. Box 1375, Fallbrook, CA 92088-1375 or e-mail to baxter35@sbcqlobal.net fallbrookhistoricalsociety@qmail.com



Cub Scout Dens 16 and 17 toured the museum on Wednesday, November 19th.

#### Welcome to New Members

We are pleased to recognize the following Fallbrook residents as new members:

Jean Coshow Raiph Enander
Janis Trefry-Fountain Jeffrey Hart
Joe and Millie Heim Mrs. Betty Locke
Jerry and Sherrie Olive
Bill and Sharon Towery

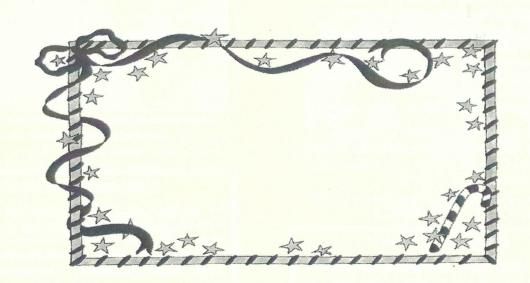
#### Board of Directors 2011-2012

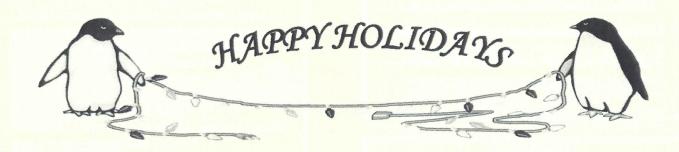
Jack Story, President
Dode Martin, Vice President
Judy Gillespie, Treasurer/Corresponding
Secretary/Docent Chairperson
Virginia Grossman, Recording Secretary
Sandra Baxter, Newsletter Editor
Marion Clemmens
Bruce Dennett
Bob Fender
Sherri Lenfers, Historian/Website Coordinator
Beverly McDougal
Don McLean
Thea Moore, Parliamentarian
Cecelia Njust, Membership
Pat Showalter



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#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED





### Fallbrook Christmas Parade

Mark your calendars for the Fallbrook Christmas Parade "Traditions of Christmas" on Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.. This will be the 30th Anniversary of our Village parade. Grand Marshall is Jerri Patchett.

Our Pioneer of the Year Don McLean and his wife Marion, and Vintage Awardee Phil Arnold and his wife Jan, will ride in vintage cars provided by the Fallbrook Vintage Car Club. New banners have been made to be carried in front of each automobile by Boy Scouts from a local troop.

Board member Bruce Dennett and his wife Bernie will also be riding in the parade. Bruce was the recipient of the 2011 Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award. Last year Earl and Bev McDougal rode in the parade as honorees of the Lifetime Achievement Award. We are very proud of our Board Members and their achievements and service to the community.

Cecelia Njust, Board Member

# DEDICATION OF THE BARN - OCTOBER 9, 2011

# The Donald J. Rivers Interpretive Center



Guests enjoying the new Barn displays



Mary Rivers with daughters Nancy and Eydie and son Don, Jr.



Dedication ceremony prior to ribbon cutting



Garth and Janice Bricker enjoying homemade apple pie and ice cream



President Jack Story, Earl McDougal and Supervisor Bill Horn



Board Member Sherri Lenfers

Photos: Sandra Baxter, Anne Burdick and Sherri Lenfers



Chris McCormick and Dr. Robert Miller Fallbrook Wood Carvers



Fallbrook Quilt Guild Display



Cowboy Jack entertained the guests



Docent Leta Hayden demonstrating the loom



Agricultural Displays

Photos: Sandra Baxter, Anne Burdick and Sherri Lenfers