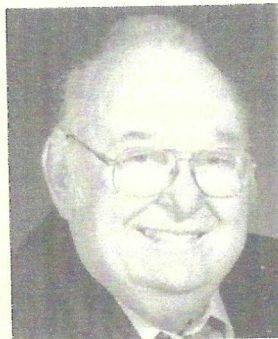


THE HISTORIAN

FALLBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ROCKY CREST & HILL AVE. - P.O. BOX 1375, FALLBROOK, CA 92088-1375
SPRING, 2012 (760) 725-4125 VOL. 35, ISSUE 1

President's Message - Home Front Memories



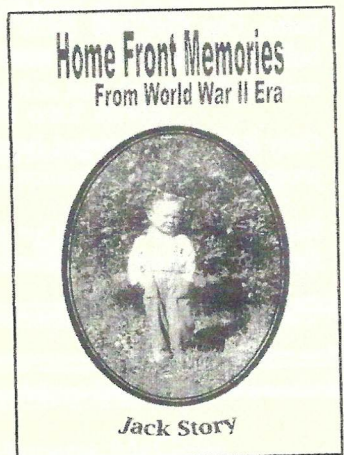
A while back I began writing down memories of events in my childhood. I stored them in a document folder on my computer. At the time I don't think I had a clear idea of why I was doing this. Somewhere along the way it occurred to me that these were events that coincided with the World War II era when this country was deeply involved in preserving its freedom. Every man, woman and child worked together for several years to insure a victory. Love of country and patriotism ran high.

When I had written down about everything I felt like saying I sent my document folder to Elizabeth Roberts, a local expert on layout, graphics and editing, to organize into book form.

During this time I had also enrolled in a class called "How to Write Short Stories for Children". A requirement of the class was to write some personal true life stories. So my collection of memories and life stories has now become a short book.

In our museum there are many references to Fallbrook's involvement in World War II. The Naval Ammunition Depot and Camp Pendleton are two that come to mind, as well as military uniforms and artifacts donated by local citizens.

Oh! The book title is Home Front Memories From World War II Era. There will be a book signing reception at the museum on **Sunday, March 18th**, from 2 to 4 p.m. I hope you can be there.



HiSTORYcally yours, JACK

Dedication Ceremony Recognizing the Pittenger House as a Historic Site

To Society Members and Friends

The local Monserate Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will hold a dedication ceremony and plaque installation at the Pittenger House at the Fallbrook Museum on Saturday, March 31 at 10 a.m. As members of the Fallbrook Historical Society who have rebuilt, furnished and maintained the Victorian house I am sending this special invitation to you.

The house was selected as a significant historic site in Fallbrook. It was built by Civil War Hero Reverend Pittenger in 1895 as a country home for him and his family. The full provenance of the building and site was accomplished by the DAR chapter and forwarded to the national organization for approval for this very special event. Many dignitaries have been invited to share the day with us as I hope you will plan to do.

Beverlee Stuart-Borok
Monserate Chapter, NSDAR

Membership and The Pittenger House

Hello, everyone--our membership stands at 243 loyal supporters who I hope will join us on **March 31st** for the **DAR dedication ceremony** at the **Pittenger House**. Nine of our earliest members were also members of the Monserate Chapter of NSDAR, serving both Chapter and Society as board members. FHS member **Helen Barker** was co-chair of fund raising and publicity; **Pauline Benson** was treasurer and also made the lace curtains for the house; **Rosemary Pankey** was our anthropologist/historian.

In the early 1980's, FHS President **Russ Elam** and **Helen Barker** located the parcel, believing it a suitable site for a museum. I was shocked on my first visit to nearly fall through the living room floor of the little farm house. Fortunately Russ, an architect and real estate broker, and Helen, also a real estate broker, could see the potential that totally escaped me. We started work on the two-plus acres and the building with the hope of creating a place to display some of the items we were storing in our homes. Our successful fundraising was headed up by **Otie Heald** and, frankly, I wondered at our risking all his efforts, and more, on this property.

We all called it the VanVelzer House as we thought it had belonged to the local newspaper editor/publisher by that name. Our first note cards mistakenly identified it as the VanVelzer House! Further research however revealed the builder/owner to be William Pittenger, Civil War Hero. Dorothy Stillens, an artist member of the historical society, created the artwork that still graces our note cards.

Only last week I learned from Ms. Steen at the Methodist Church that Reverend Pittenger is listed on a commemorative program as their fifth minister, not their second as we had believed. Never too late to learn more.

Recently the Live Oak Questers have spent many hours improving the interior of the house. Member Carolyn Ganoe frequently can be found working there in a much more cheerful place than it was even six months ago.

Come see--you'll be impressed

Cecelia Njust, Membership
(760) 728-3271

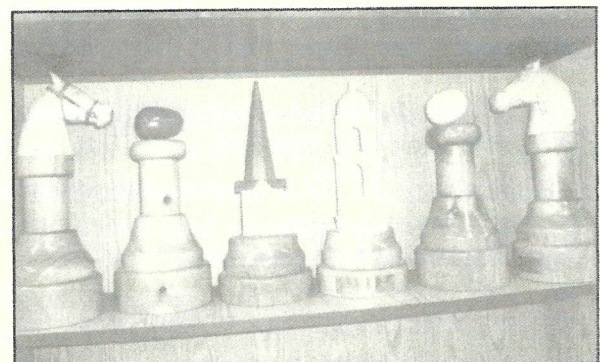
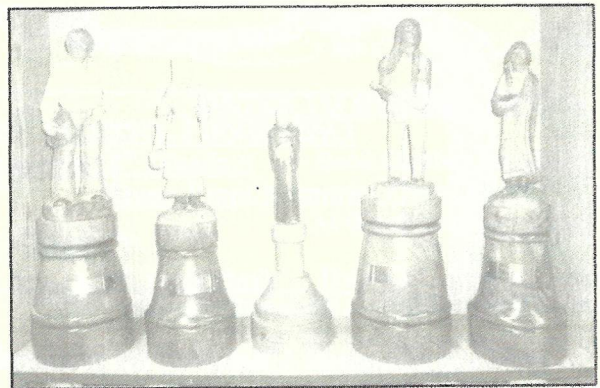
Fallbrook Wood Carvers Chess Set

The **Fallbrook Wood Carvers**, through the Fallbrook Village Association, recently donated a beautiful hand carved chess set to the Historical Society to display in the Don Rivers Interpretive Center (The Barn). The set was completed in **August, 2000** after two years of intense collaborative effort by the wood carvers group. This set of chessmen, ranging in size from 15-1/2 inches to 26 inches, has to be seen to be appreciated! Each piece is a unique carving.

Before embarking on this project, **Don Rivers** and **Bob Miller** searched the Fallbrook and Rainbow areas for the best carving wood for the chess set. They used **Fuerte** avocado wood for the bases because of its rich mahogany-like color and **basswood** for the decorative top pieces of the chessmen. Don did all of the lathe work and finishing of the bases and carved several of the top pieces. The entire membership contributed their talents to this project.

The group currently has eight members, including three of the original members: **Dwight Endert**, **Bob Miller** and **Robert Sanchez**. For the past year or so the wood carvers have been meeting once a week at **Camp Pendleton** teaching **Wounded Warriors** how to carve. After their first carving is completed the Wounded Warrior is presented with a hand carved cane with an eagle forming the handle.

The Historical Society has purchased a large vinyl chessboard, suitable for outdoor use, so that this chess set can be shared and enjoyed by anyone wishing to use it. We hope you will stop by to see this outstanding donation to our museum.



ANNUAL MEETING ~ APRIL 28, 2012, SATURDAY

TIME: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

PLACE: Fallbrook Library Community Room

Recognition of our Pioneer of the Year and Vintage Awardee will be made at this meeting, as well as election of Board Members who will serve for the next three years.

Guest Speaker: Gordon Tinker, a past General Manager of Fallbrook Public Utility District (FPUD), will talk about the Water Supply History of Fallbrook, especially "The Fallbrook Story" – a 1952 short subject film that told the story of a water rights battle between the citizens of the Village of Fallbrook and the federal government. The film was produced (without screen credit) by Fallbrook resident Frank Capra, who served at the time on the FPUD Board. Cecil B. DeMille is credited with the on screen introduction to the film.

This will be a stimulating program into the history of our town.

We hope you will be able to attend and bring a friend.

Light refreshments will be served.

Reminder: Membership renewals are due May 1, 2012

DONATIONS

Thank you to the following for their special contributions and support:

Angel Society

Evelyn Fetzner Estate Trust

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society

Fallbrook Masonic Lodge

Rotary Club of Fallbrook

Mrs. Art Lenfers

In Memory of Marjorie Yackey

from Betsy Levering

from Earl & Beverly McDougal

from Carroll & Cecelia Njust

Welcome to New Members

Michael & Annette McGuire

Ronald & Annabelle Simpson

Remembering Marjorie Levering Yackey

It is hard to say goodbye to Marge and yet we are so grateful to have had her with us for so many years of service to the Village. As a charter member of FHS since 1977, she was a cherished friend to all of us and a joy to work with in the Society.



Marge served as Society President from 1985 to 1997. As our president she guided and inspired members to accomplish so very much. As we look at the museum property, the restored Pittenger House, the modern museum building, the new Barn, and the exhibits in our complex, we shall remember her gentle persistence and dedication.

Cecelia Njust, Membership

MEMORIALS

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

Wilma R. Violet November 10, 2011

Marjorie Levering Yackey November 26, 2011

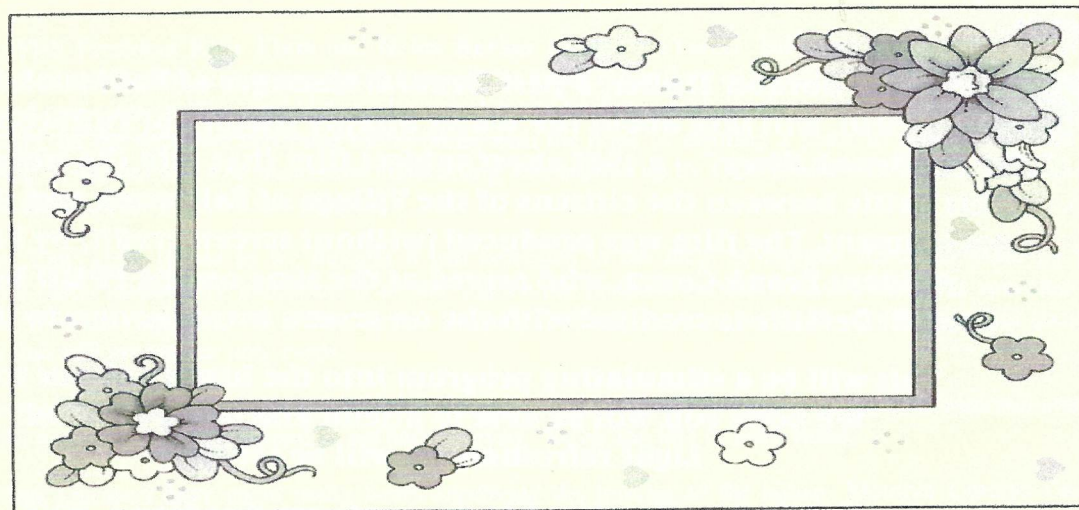
Carol J. Stika December 11, 2011



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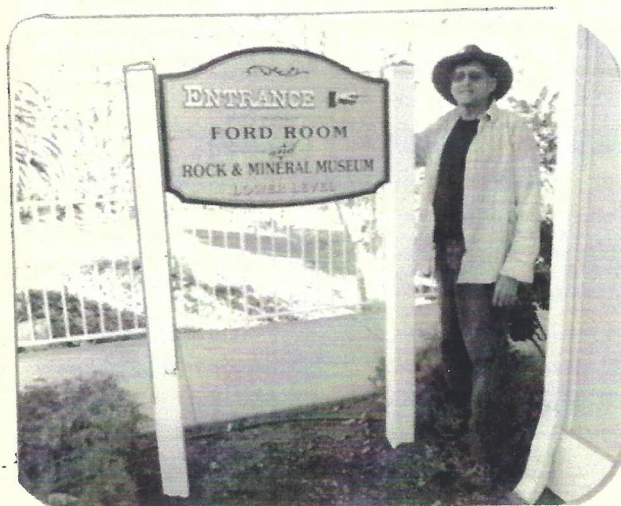
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NEW MUSEUM ENTRANCE SIGN

There is a new sign at the entrance to our museum building thanks to a recent donation from the Rotary Club of Fallbrook.

THANK YOU FALLBROOK ROTARY!



The sign was designed and crafted by
Lloyd Reighley, Rainbow Signs in Fallbrook.



DATES TO REMEMBER

March 18th (Sunday) Book Signing for Jack Story's
"Home Front Memories From World War II Era"
At the museum - 2 to 4 p.m.

March 31st (Saturday) DAR Ceremony recognizing the
Pittenger House as a National Historic DAR site
At the museum - 10 a.m.

April 8th (Sunday) EASTER - Museum Closed

April 15th (Sunday) 26th Annual Avocado Festival
in the Village of Fallbrook

April 28th (Saturday) ANNUAL MEETING in the
Fallbrook Library Community Room
from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

May 1st ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS DUE
for May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013

