A Look Back at 2021: Progress Despite Challenges

Although the annual Fallbrook Christmas Parade was canceled in 2020 due to COVID, it was back in business for the 2021 holiday season. Towing the Fallbrook Historical Society float with his flatbed truck was Business Owner of the Year for 2020 Bill Atkins (All Star Physical Therapy) with 2020 Member of the Year Don McLean in the back of his truck. Seated in the Brougham carriage upon the flatbed were 2020 Pioneer of the Year Jackie Heyenman and 2021 Pioneer of the Year Bev McDougal.
To no one’s surprise, it was the arrival of the famous couple in their red suits that kicked off festivities at the historical society’s annual Christmas open house.

Believers of all ages clamored to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, share their wishes and receive good tidings for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
Event Featured Fun, Food, Music For Everyone

In addition to visits with Santa, open house guests were treated to caroling by the Fallbrook High School Madrigals, crafts for children, tours of the facilities and a delicious selection of no-host meals catered by local chef Pete Coleman and his wife April.

In addition, raffle drawings were conducted every 15 minutes and a Silent Auction offered a huge selection of high-end items for the lucky bidders.
Who’s Who? Board VP Jeff Duhachek

Note: Each month, Time Again will include feature articles on one or two FHS board members to share their visions and hopes for the organization. This month, we showcase FHS Vice President Jeff Duhachek.

Jeff Duhachek, like most members of the Fallbrook Historical Society Board of Directors, wears several hats. In addition to serving as vice president, he holds the reins of webmaster and docent coordinator.

The former electrical engineer joined the FHS in 2017 after meeting member Scott Atkins at a Fallbrook Newcomers Club event.

“My wife Ardis and I moved to Fallbrook in 2013 after relocating from Minnesota,” he said. “I met Scott and he told me about the historical society and encouraged me to join. It’s a good group of people and I am proud to be part of this organization.”

Shortly after joining, Jeff became a docent, which led to one of his most memorable moments.

“I am a big Minnesota Vikings fan,” he said. “One day Ed White, former guard for the Vikings, walked into the museum and I gave him a private tour. It was great meeting one of the Purple People Eaters.”

What does he envision for the future of FHS?

“I think all members of the historical society would like to see our continued growth, greater public awareness and deeper partnerships with the community,” said Jeff. “Fallbrook has a great history and is truly a friendly town. I have more friends here than anywhere else I have lived.”

In his spare time, Jeff looks forward to every moment he can spend with his 15-month-old grandson Milo.

“He’s a joy,” he said. “An absolute joy.”

Calendar of Events

January

- Jan. 4 - Monthly Board Meeting from 5 to 6 p.m. in Ford Room
- Mondays - Toastmasters Meeting at 7 p.m. in Ford Room*
- Tuesdays and Thursdays - Hope Lutheran Church from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Ford Room*
- Thursdays - Administrative Meeting at 3 p.m. (Zoom)
- Saturdays and Sundays - Heritage Center open for tours from 1 to 4 p.m.
- Third Saturday of the month (Oct. 16) - Fallbrook Reche Schoolhouse, 1319 S. Live Oak Park Road, open for tours from 1 to 4 p.m.
- Saturdays and Sundays - Hope Lutheran Church from 4:30 to 8 p.m.*

* Events not sponsored by the Fallbrook Historical Society