

TIME AGAIN

A monthly publication of the Fallbrook Historical Society April 2022

First Edition of 1885 Pittenger Book Donated to FHS

CAPTURING A LOCOMOTIVE.

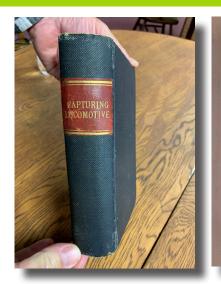
A HISTORY

SECRET SERVICE

IN THE LATE WAR.

BY REV. WILLIAM PITTENGER.

WASHINGTON: THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. 1885



C It was a serendipitous moment," said **Frank Hollingshead**, recalling the moment he found a weathered first edition of "Capturing a Locomotive: A History of Secret Service in the Late War," by Rev. William Pittenger in a used bookstore in Los Angeles. He has since donated the treasure – dating back to 1885 – to the Fallbrook Historical Society.

"It was about a year ago and I had just given a talk for the Sons of the American Revolution at a Los Angeles Elks Lodge," he recalled. "I went into a used book store nearby and, as usual, I scanned the shelves for old books. I saw the name 'Pittenger,' and I couldn't believe it. I bought it for four dollars." Hollingshead, a former Marine, is a member of the Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, so he is well aware of the Civil War hero and early recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Hollingshead also serves as a docent for the Marine Corp Recruit Depot San Diego Command Museum.

"I live in Poway but several of our Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War members reside in the Fallbrook Area," he said. "Last November, we held a Civil War Remembrance Ceremony at the Pittenger House and that's when I found out about the historical society."

Donation of the book to the

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Photos at left show the outside binding of the 1885 first edition of Rev. William Pittenger's book, "Capturing a Locomotive: A History of Secret Service in the Late War," and the first two inside pages of the book.

historical society was "an obvious choice," said Hollingshead. "I know it is in the right hands and in the right place."

The book will soon be safely and appropriately displayed in the Pittenger House.

(See related story on Page 2.)



Sgt. Pittenger Honored During Tribute Ceremony



Photos above were taken during the Medal of Honor Ceremony by members of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

On March 25, William Pittenger, Civil War hero and one of the founding fathers of Fallbrook, was honored with a Medal of Honor ceremony at his gravesite at the Pioneer Odd Fellows Cemetery with the unveiling of a new memorial plaque, thanks to the efforts of Fallbrook residents **Mark Goodwin** and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

According to the "Zevely Zone," few residents knew of Pittenger's heroic actions or the fact that he was buried at a local cemetery. During a bike ride, Goodwin stumbled upon Pittenger's headstone and grave, which, he said, was in need of "some love."

Volunteers erected a fence and foundation around the gravesite and put in place a new memorial plaque to honor one of the first recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Pittenger earned the most prestigious military decoration for his role in what is now known as "The Great Locomotive Chase." In 1861, he and 21 other soldiers participated in a secret Union army band called "Andrew's Raiders." Their mission was to infiltrate enemy territory, commandeer a Confederate train and destroy transportation and communication lines between Atlanta and Chattanooga.

Pittenger's home is now one of the main attractions at the Fallbrook Historical Society, which purchased the property in 1981.

Tiny Homes are for the Birds



One of the newest items for sale in the Fallbrook Historical Society Gift Shop are birdhouses, beautifully crafted and stamped with the Fallbrook Historical Society logo.

A few weeks ago, member **Bev McDougal** purchased one of the tiny houses and shortly thereafter the new tenants moved in.

"My son mounted the blue birdhouse on a stand on a Tuesday, and by Thursday, we had bluebirds moving in," she said. "This is so exciting!"

Page 2

Dolores Costello Movie Fundraiser: Fun and Successful

The March 11 fundraising tribute to Dolores Costello at this historic Mission Theater took guests back in time to the early days of Hollywood, when Costello was considered one of the most beautiful actresses of her time.

The theater itself, adorned with old movie posters and memorabilia, was the perfect setting for the showing of "Little Lord Fauntleroy," the 1936 film starring Costello, young Freddie Bartholomew and C. Aubrey Smith. It was the first film produced by David O. Selznick and was his studio's most profitable film until the 1939 production of "Gone With the Wind."

A highlight of the fundraiser was the attendance of Barrymore family members, including Costello's grandson Antony "Tony" John Barrymore



Dolores Costello's grandson, Tony John Barrymore Fairbanks, chats with guests during intermission at the March 11 movie fundraiser at the historic Mission Theater.

Fairbanks, who recalled his childhood years spent with his grandmother at her Del Luz ranch.

"It was the first of our quarterly

movie fundraisers for the Fallbrook Historical Society," said FHS President **Roy Moosa.** "We are looking forward to many more successful events."

Members of Fallbrook Woman's Club Visit Reche Schoolhouse



Members of the Fallbrook Woman's Club visited the old Reche Schoolhouse on March 19, when docents **Mary Belton** and **Jeff Duhachek** provided a tour of the facility and grounds, including the Hindorff adobe shed, which is now more easily accessible thanks to installation of the first phase of an interpretative trail. - **Photos by Jeff Duhachek**

Introducing Fallbrook Historical Society Board Secretary/Treasurer Marianne Dickey

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 Secretary/Treasurer Marianne Dickey.

For three decades, Marianne Dickey served as a Registered Nurse - the first 15 years as in critical care, and the last 10 in hospital administration. Now retired, Marianne uses her caring touch as secretary/treasurer for the Fallbrook Historical Society.

She and her husband, Bob, moved to Fallbrook in 2008, relocating from Orange County to be closer to their son and grandchildren who lived in Oceanside. They looked for a home in that area, but when they were unable to find just the right house, a friend suggested they look in Fallbrook. They did and soon purchased a home on Cuesta Norte Street.

"I was still working at the time and commuting to Los Angeles by train," Marianne recalled. "Everyday on my way to the train station in Oceanside, I would pass by a sign on Mission Road pointing to the location of the historical society."

An avid history buff, the sign piqued her interest, but it wasn't until 2014 that she and her husband attended a potluck meeting in front of the Donald J. Rivers Interpretative Center (The Barn) on the historical society's grounds.

"I remember Mary Belton had a booth there and was encouraging new memberships," said Marianne. "I gave her my \$30 and that was that. I became



a docent."

A year later, she was named secretary and the following year, treasurer was added to her title.

"I love this organization," she said. "I'm always learning something new about Fallbrook. History is important because it helps us to understand the culture of our community, and there are so many great members."

Marianne and Bob now reside in a townhome in Pala Mesa, which has become a Monarch butterfly habitat of sorts.

"I have about 50 milkweed plants in our garden and in pots around our home," said the perennial caregiver. "Once I find eggs on the leaves, I bring them inside to protect them."

One of their bedrooms has been converted into a butterfly nursery where the eggs and chrysalides are kept in mesh cages throughout the metamorphosis process. Once the butterflies emerge from their cocoons, Marianne releases them.

"Every year, I am able to release 450 to 500 butterflies," she said. "It's an enjoyable hobby and good for the environment as well."

Calendar of Events April

- April 5 Board Meeting at 5 p.m. (Zoom)
- April 24 Fallbrook Avocado Festival in downtown Fallbrook*
- Mondays Toastmasters Meeting at 7 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 - Fallbrook Reche Schoolhouse, 1319 S. Live Oak Park Road, open for tours from 1 to 4 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church Schedule*

(in the Ford Room at the Heritage Center)

- Tuesdays 6 to 8:30 p.m.
- Thursdays 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- Saturdays 5 to 9 p.m.
- Sundays 4 to 7 p.m.

* Events not sponsored by the Fallbrook Historical Society

