



Poway Echoes

A NEWSLETTER OF THE POWAY HISTORICAL AND MEMORIAL SOCIETY

Preserving Poway's Past for the Future

Jeff Frye, President

WINTER 2012

Joye Davisson, Editor

CHRISTMAS 1895

The Christmas we know now is one of extremes. Not only do we hang lights outside our home, we also decorate inside and outside our home. Gift giving has also grown overtime especially for the children. Everything they would ever want is given to them, from clothes to expensive electronics. But it wasn't always like that. In fact during the late 1800's and until the mid 1900's Christmas was a very simple affair.

There were celebrations, but these were very small and usually centered in the church. In fact, in Poway on Christmas, the Baptist Sunday School did entertainment— "Christmas Eve was always spent at the church."

Not only were there church celebrations there were also celebrations kind of like the ones we know now. Poway held Christmas parties in Good Templars Hall and was always a success because "the attendance was always large", and "songs and recitation occupied the earlier hour, and opened the way for Santa Claus."

For individual families "Christmas passed very quietly...family dinners being the order of the day." Decorations for the home were also of the simple and small kind; usually there were "candles on tress, strings of popcorn, berries, cookies, and crocheted stars and of course angels." Unlike the decorations we use now, electric lights were never used. Then of course came the gifts, and children of our modern world would be devastated to know that there were very few given. Usually "girls received a doll. Boys received a wood toy, and old spoons, straw, cornhusks, matchboxes, and pinecones would be made into magical toys." These gifts are very different than the expensive and abundant ones given to our children now.



It is easy to see that the meaning of Christmas has changed a lot over the decades. In 1895 Christmas was a small

affair that was centered around the family and of course religion. Everything was simple from the decorations to the gifts. Now in 2012 Christmas is a huge and extreme affair centered on decorations and gifts.

~Allison Provenzano (see note page 2)

GIFT SHOP UPDATE

We are in the process of updating our gift shop and re-arranging our cases which is long overdue. A recent purchase of a beautiful wood display case next to the desk with glass doors, shows our lovely bonnets and some of our horses. There is also plenty of storage below.

Our two locomotive pencil sharpeners finally arrived as well as several new large horses - one that is really outstanding is black with red saddle.



We also two new Appaloosa horses.

Of course, we still have all our books, knives, belt buckles, glass insulators, etc. for all who like collecting different things.

It will take some time to purchase some display cases, but eventually it will be more eye appealing. When you visit the museum, do stop and see our various items.

~Jean Woodruff

PHONE BOOK HUNT

The Poway Historical Museum staff is on the lookout for past Poway telephone directories. Phone books needed:

1968	1988-1994
1981-1985	1996-2008

If you have any of these directories and are willing to donate them to the museum, please drop them off during any open hours.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jeffrey Frye
1 st Vice President	Carol Crafts
2 nd Vice President	Jan Rubacky
Secretary	Gwenmarie Hilleary
Treasurer	Jean Woodruff
At Large	Joye Davisson
At Large	Barbarann Parker

The Board meets the second Monday of the month at 8:30 AM in the Museum. Members are welcome to attend.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jim Quiring
Kris Thresher

Note: Allison Provenzano has been our historian intern for the past six months. Historical research is her favorite activity, thus the opening article in this newsletter.

NATIVITY AND MORE IN THE MUSEUM



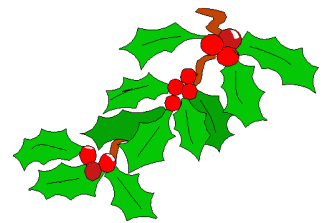
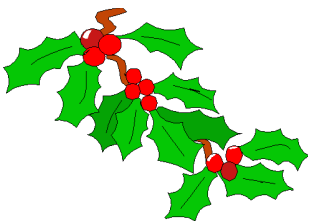
Nativity loaned by Jan Rubacky



Toys in main display case



Nutcrackers loaned by Jean Woodruff



"MICELI TRAINS" AT THE MUSEUM



Come out and join us for "Christmas in the Park" Saturday, December 8. Our museum will exhibit the model train stylings of Mr. Joseph Miceli. Joe displayed at "Train Song Festival" last April here in the park when he featured the old west and the Victorian era.



The display Mr. Miceli is preparing for our museum will feature the holiday season and winter activities. As his last display at the park featured an animated zoo, a carnival scene, an animated mountain ski area with 360 degree falling snow, live water falls, and four train scales, the exhibit promises to be a real holiday treat.

Joseph Miceli is following a family tradition of building and operating train displays spanning four generations starting in Europe. Joe has become a student of nature and during his travels develops his eye for subtleties and detail. He combines this knowledge with his passion for model



Miceli Trains, cont.

trains to include natural environments that are highly animated with hundreds of integrated features.

The December 8th event will be from 3:00 p.m. till 8:30 p.m. Along with "Miceli Trains", the park will host many other holiday exhibits and activities.



NELSON HOUSE CHRISTMAS 2012



“O Christmas tree,
you fill all hearts with gaiety”



“The stockings were hung by the chimney with care”





Vintage Christmas books on loan from Carol Crafts



Ready for the holidays



Collectibles on loan from Pat Petrovich



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The City of Poway was once a ranching community. In 1955 some ambitious folks put together a water district and piped in Colorado River water. The addition of a constant water source made Poway a desirable valley for development.

Soon developers such as Max Berlin, George Russ, Art Rauch, among others purchased plots of this ranch ground. These developers sub-divided, brought in utilities and started building the original housing developments such as Poway Valley Homes, Russ Estates, Rexford Terrace, Pomerado Gardens, Tustin Hills, and Belvadere Estates to name a few.

In 1980 the Poway Valley incorporated and became "The City of Poway". The city has since managed and planned housing and urban development. The city has zoned and instituted "The Poway Business Park" and has become a desirable location for automobile dealerships.

And so here we are closing in on 2013. A. Whitney Brown once said, "The past actually happened but history is only what someone wrote down". Congratulations to the Poway Historical and Memorial Society and our commitment and stewardship. Our members continue to dedicate themselves to the past, present, and future.

We had a great fall season here at the museum and Old Poway Park. Our society was involved with "The Poway Days Parade", "Rendezvous at Old Poway Park", "Halloween in the Park", and many more activities.

Much thanks to the "Apache Canyon Gang", our local western re-enactment group, and the exhibit we have just finished at the museum. Jeff and Kim Carr generously

shared their collections of western wear, weapons, and memorabilia for our fall season.

Another big hit at the museum has been four photographs of the "Twin Peaks Valley" circa 1970. Much thanks to Jerome Larson for this addition. Mr. Larson was enterprising enough to snap these photos, and has had the generous foresight to share them with the public.

Jan Rubacky has organized a photo exhibit featuring vintage photographs of Poway and surrounding areas. These photos all feature topographical shots of the area dating from 1900 and the exhibit is very popular with visitors.

Like most others, we now prepare for the Holiday Season. "Christmas in the Park" will be Saturday December 8, 3:30 p.m. till 8:30 p.m. at Old Poway Park. The museum will exhibit the model train creations of Mr. Joseph Miceli. Joe's exhibits are very notable and he has been involved with Buena Vista and other corporate events. A better idea of the scales and qualities of the exhibits can be found on Mr. Miceli's website; www.miceligardentrainsfountains.com.

All of us on the board of directors wish all of our members a "Happy Holiday Season". We would like to encourage you to come and get involved with us. Our collections are ready for you to browse and we always welcome your efforts and contributions.

Thank you all,

Jeff Frye

Poway Historical and Memorial Society
P. O. Box 19
Poway, CA 92074-0019

POWAY HISTORICAL AND MEMORIAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

NEW

RENEWAL

\$500 LIFE

\$17 FAMILY

\$75 BUSINESS

\$15 INDIVIDUAL

\$20 ORGANIZATION

\$10 STUDENT

Complete form and send with
your check to PH&MS

P. O. Box 19
Poway, CA 92074-0019

Optional: I would like to help with:

Library Special Events Tours

Artifacts

Docent in Nelson House

Docent in Museum Research