

THE SOCIETY PAGE

September 2012

WORLD PREMIERE of the GILROY MUSEUM VIDEO



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th at 7:30 P.M.
at the ARTS ALLIANCE CENTER
7341 Monterey Street, Gilroy**

Please join us for this special premiere. At last, at last, we've completed a wonderful DVD video of the Gilroy Museum! Thanks to 152 West Productions, our professional producers, it has surpassed our expectations. The original purpose was to provide alternative handicapped access permitted under the historic building code. That has been a critical need for many years. The terrific result is that, and much more, a 30-minute video we can take to classrooms, civic clubs, and others. It ties our exhibits together with a script and other photos to tell the tale of Gilroy's development. This important project was funded by grants from the Gilroy Rotary and Gilroy Foundation.

After the premiere you will be able to check out this DVD from the Gilroy Public Library. At the premiere, and later at the museum, you will also be able to buy a copy for yourself or as a gift!

CASTRO VALLEY RANCH - A RARE TREAT

Our annual meeting held at Castro Valley Ranch on June 23rd was a rare and wonderful occasion. Don Long, former ranch manager, shared the history of this pristine property with us. We reviewed the year's accomplishments and presented our architectural awards for 2012. We dined on a wonderful chicken lunch catered by David Bozzo. And we especially enjoyed visiting with 86 of our friends and neighbors!

2012 ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS

Winners of our architectural awards were announced at our Annual Meeting at the Castro Valley Ranch where the honorees were our guests.

HISTORIC COMMERCIAL BUILDING: The Milias Restaurant, 7397 Monterey Street, Adam Sanchez & Ann Zyburra - for restoration

HISTORIC HOUSE AWARD: The Willey House, 140 Fifth Street, City of Gilroy - for restoration and excellent maintenance

CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION: Salvation Army Church, 200 Fifth Street, for their beautiful new exterior painting
Mayor John Browne House & Cottages, 7370 Railroad Street, Angelo Benassi - for maintenance
Arts Alliance Center, 7341 Monterey Street, Gilroy Arts Alliance - for improved interior and exterior
Rossi's Drive Train, 7860 Monterey Street, Paul Rossi - for attractive new facade
Temporary Library, 7652 Monterey Street, Gary Walton - for attractive downtown remodeling
7297 Church Street, Richard Vallalba-Navarette - for restoration
7437 Rosanna Street, Dennis Lalor - for beautiful maintenance
7463 Rosanna Street, Chris Raby - for restoration and maintenance



NEWS FROM THE BOARD

The Mayock House on Gavilan College campus was the setting for our annual planning retreat on August 7th. Thanks to the foresight of Sandoe Hanna and a predecessor board in the 1980's we are fortunate to have an office upstairs and are able to use the whole house without charge by reservation. We made plans for programs, projects, etc. The board viewed our new DVD for the first time and we shared good food for lunch. Oh yes, we made some decisions too!

We reluctantly accepted the resignation of **Muriel Brem** from our Board. She has been a diligent, supportive board member since 2004! Fortunately Muriel is willing to continue as a museum volunteer and member of the Accessioning/De-accessioning Committee because she is a wealth of knowledge. **Karen Pedigo**, who has attended several board meetings and volunteered to lead our Education Committee, agreed to serve as a new board member. **Karen Pedigo** and **Maureen Hunter** also volunteered to serve on our Membership Committee.

We have a new website... check it out at www.gilroyhistoricalsociety.org. You can read the latest newsletter, see photos of our past events, view items available for sale, and much more. "Like" us on Facebook and keep up with the latest news! The Committee working on both of these would love to have some volunteer help, especially those with technical knowledge about websites! Send an email to linda@gilroyhistoricalsociety.org to find out how you can help!

FROM OUR EDUCATION COMMITTEE - by Karen Pedigo

We are pleased to announce the formation of an Education Committee. We will take our new museum video out to classrooms, community groups and other interested parties. We'll present an age-appropriate introduction, the video, and a hands-on experience with various historical items. These could be an Indian grinding stone, arrowheads, or baskets. The goal of the Education Committee is to expand community awareness of the history of our area.

Are you comfortable speaking to groups? Can you type letters, make phone calls or group reservations for the Museum? We need Society members to help us do this. If you are interested in working with this exciting new committee, please call **Karen Pedigo** at 408-499-7460.

GILROY HIGH MUSEUM PROJECT - by Tom Howard

Last spring lead volunteer at the Museum, Tom Howard, contacted the photography teacher at Gilroy High School, Bob Morneau, about a potential project. The Museum has hundreds of negatives that are not identified. Tom asked if the students could make thumbnail prints of each negative so that an index could be created to identify the photos. This was a very challenging assignment!

Under Mr. Morneau's direction students Justin Cho, Alyssa Matsuhara, Lucas Gravell, and David Gonzalez spent 32 hours on this project. They produced a 20-page index for negatives that are otherwise hard or impossible to identify. On top of that Bob Morneau and his students put all of those images onto a CD where they can be viewed in a larger format and copied if need be. The next task will be to do some research to identify as many of these negatives as possible.

This project is a great example of students providing valuable community service and gaining experience in many ways. We greatly appreciate this partnership with Mr. Morneau and his students and hope to continue it during the coming school year.

GARLIC FESTIVAL THANK YOU

We had great jobs at the 34th Annual Garlic Festival working in the mercantile tent, helping customers select art posters or logo posters from past years. Not only is it in the shade, there are chairs to sit in when demand is slow. And we worked with Whitney Pintello, the winner of the art poster contest, as she signed autographs! Thanks you so much to these members and friends. Five of them did TWO Shifts! We'll know what we earned in November. It's an important source of income for the Society.

Phyllis Armenta, Barbara Biafore, Gloria Caliri, Tony Caliri, Kate Crist, Carol DeSantis, Edith Edde, Claudio Rocchi, Connie Rogers, Jim Rogers, Claudia Salewske, Mike Salewske and Chris Wheeler.

DINE OUT FOR THE MUSEUM - by Linda White

We are once again holding a fundraiser at Mimi's Cafe, 6935 Camino Arroyo, Gilroy. When you eat there on October 16, 2012, anytime between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., they will give 15% of your tab to the Museum, as long as you turn in one of our flyers. Save the one in this newsletter, print one from our website (www.gilroyhistoricalsociety.org) or our Facebook page, or pick one up at the Museum. Invite your friends, family, coworkers, club members and strangers! Bon Appetit!

NEW DATE FOR BOWLATHON

If you've been looking forward to September for our annual bowl-a-thon, we're sorry the wait will be a little longer. We've had to reschedule to January 19, 2013. Watch for details in our next newsletter. There will still be lots of fun, food and prizes... a great outing on a winter day! If you haven't participated in the past, think about joining us. You'll have a good time!

WE COULD USE YOUR HELP!

Could you help us at the Museum once or twice a month? Our shifts are only 3 hours long, 10 AM to 1 PM or 2 PM to 5 PM on a Tuesday or Thursday. We greet guests, help them with their research projects, give tours to individuals and school groups, answer questions, etc. We like to have two volunteers working at a time, but have a couple openings to fill. YOU ARE VALUABLE!! Will you help?

To volunteer, go to the City website at www.ci.gilroy.ca.us and fill out the volunteer form online. Be sure to check that you want to work at the Museum! Your form will go directly to Susan Voss, the City's Volunteer Coordinator. Then Human Resources will send you information to get fingerprinted and after they clear you will be "hooked up" with the Museum.