

Gilroy Historical Society

Gilroy, California

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The Society Page October 2013

HOPE YOU CAN COME..... October 26th at 2:00 p.m.

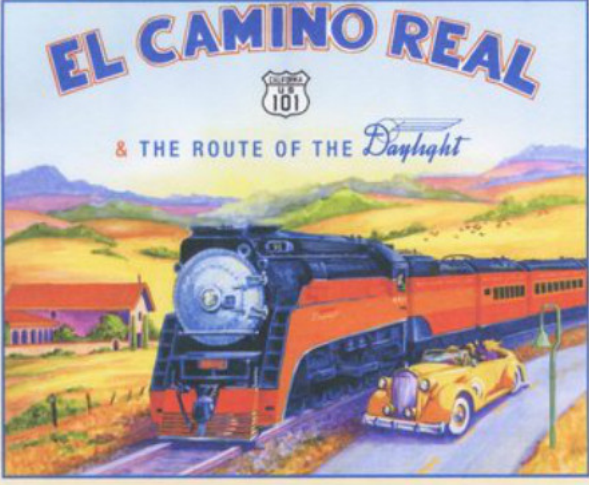


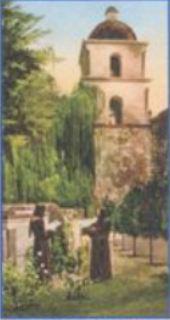
GILROY LIBRARY, 350 West Sixth Street
Community Room upstairs

The Library is co-sponsor of this event, which is open to the public.

EL CAMINO REAL – HIGHWAY 101 & THE ROUTE OF THE DAYLIGHT
A New Book from the Los Angeles Railroad Heritage Foundation

Follow the Route of the Bell
From the treks of the Padres that established the California Missions of the eighteenth Century, *El Camino Real – The King's Highway* — has been the dramatic story of California. The birth of the automobile era and the building of what we now know as Highway 101, the great passenger train the *Daylight* and the twenty-one Missions, highlight their close proximity to each other. Now for the first time together, these timeless icons offer windows into the rich history of the region. This great saga is told, across the land and through time, from Franciscan padres to the present. This story is told with beautiful historical and modern images and post cards — many never seen in print before — of the land and a people always on the move. With authoritative and thoroughly enjoyable text by noted historians Tom Zimmerman and Roger L. Titus, this rich history comes alive as the reader joins a journey through time and a spectacular land!

\$39.50 – Hardbound, 208 pages • Over 250 photos • Color endpaper memorabilia • Post cards & maps
DEALER INQUIRIES WELCOME


YES! I support the Los Angeles Railroad Heritage Foundation's preservation and education efforts. Please send me *EL CAMINO REAL – HIGHWAY 101 & THE ROUTE OF THE DAYLIGHT* right away.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/ST/ZIP: _____
EMAIL: _____
SHIP TO: _____
(if different from above)

QUANTITY: \$39.50 ea. _____
SALES TAX (CA. ADDRESSES): \$3.56 ea. _____
SHIPPING & HANDLING: \$6.00 ea. _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Send this form with your check payable to:
Los Angeles Railroad Historical Foundation
1500 W. Alhambra Road
Alhambra CA 91801
626-458-4449

Please allow 2 weeks for delivery.
Visit us online at:
WWW.LARHF.ORG



Tom Zimmerman, photographer and co-author of this beautiful new book from the Los Angeles Railroad Heritage Foundation, will speak to us about it. He'll show photos from the book on the big screen and give us the details of how the chain of missions, building of Highway 101, and coastal passenger rail service contributed to the formation of California's heritage. The book includes photos from Gilroy and nearby areas.

We have a copy of the book at the Museum and it is beautiful! There will be copies for sale at the event. Mr. Zimmerman is coming all the way from LA for this event. We're making plans to take him to dinner at Old City Hall that evening and you are welcome to join us.

ANNUAL MEETING A GREAT SUCCESS

Over 50 members, friends, and award winners attended our annual meeting at Kirigin Cellars. It was a lovely location, under the wisteria-shaded arbor with a delicious lunch and excellent wine. Our Architectural Award photos were posted on the wall and most of the winners were able to attend, along with **Kris Knutson**, our volunteer professional architectural photographer.

The "star" of the occasion was the Miracle on Murray Avenue, the Hoenck House, complete with before and after photos. New owner, Dr. Bahman Mehdizadeh has brought this grand Victorian back to life!



DINE IN STYLE AND BENEFIT OUR ENDOWMENT FUND

Enjoy a great meal out to benefit the Endowment Fund! We are having a fundraiser at **Old City Hall** on **Thursday, November 7th**.

The restaurant opens at 8:00 a.m. and closes at 9:00 p.m., so you can choose breakfast, lunch or dinner (or splurge and have all three!!). They will generously give 25% of the sales back to us! No need to present a flyer, just let your server know that you want to benefit the Historical Society. Be sure to spread the word among your friends, family, and coworkers. Hope to see you there!!

Did you know that Old City Hall was the first home of the Gilroy Historical Society and was saved from the wrecking ball by Society founder, Pop Bolting? That's why we love this unique building and want to support the restaurant. They want to support us too..... so join us on Thursday, November 7th!

HOT SPRINGS EVENT COMING UP

Society Members will have a display table at this event and assist with the guided tours. GHS and GYHS try to help each other. Although it is part of Henry Coe State Park, the Hot Springs is not open on a regular basis. If you always wanted to see the Hot Springs or want to see the improvements made so far, this is a good time to come!

THE HISTORIC 1890 CHESBRO HOUSE IS ON THE MARKET

After 123 years, the Eastlake style Victorian Chesbro House at 7541 Church Street is slated to leave the family for the first time. The Gilroy Advocate dubbed the home "the chief ornament of the block" when it was completed in July 1890. Descendants of its original owner, Gilroy pioneer physician and mayor, Heverland R. Chesbro, MD, have always occupied the home. The house passed first to his third son Don Chesbro, in 1928 when Dr. Chesbro and his wife Lily moved to a new home they built next door at 7531 Church Street. In 1995 the home was purchased from Don's daughter Mary Lou Chase by the current owners, Dr. Chesbro's great-granddaughter **Elizabeth Barratt** and her husband Dick. The Barratts have lovingly cared for the historic home over the past 18 years but are now planning to retire to Carmel Valley. They say they will miss Gilroy and the Chesbro House and hope the next occupants will have a family to fill the home's many spacious rooms. **Katherine McBride** of Windemere Real Estate is handling the sale. For more information she can be contacted at 408-505-1913, 408-842-2000, or kmcbride21@gmail.com.



THANK YOU GARLIC FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS

These stalwart volunteers worked selling art posters in the Mercantile Tent and conducted voting for the People's Choice awards (competition among the 10 runners up for winning festival art poster). Thanks for your help! We should find out soon how much we earned. These funds help with basic Society expenses for the Society Page, postage and programs. Special thanks to Barbara Biafore for continuous service for several years recruiting and scheduling volunteers!

Deanna Goodrich, Barbara Biafore, Kathy Laursen, Grace Narvaez, Eileen Cavallaro, Cynthia Doromal, Gloria Caliri, Chris Wheeler, Claudia Salewske, Mike Salewske, Edith Edde, Nita Edde Mitchell, Connie Rogers, Jim Rogers, Maureen Hunter, Phyllis Armenta.

ORAL HISTORY COLLABORATION

Leah Halper, history professor at Gavilan College, has asked the Society to collaborate with her in obtaining oral histories from local residents. Of course we said yes! The Society is furnishing names of Gilroy residents who may be willing to contribute their views on life and changes they have seen. Students from her California History class this fall will do the interviews as their final project. The results will be archived at Gavilan and written summaries will be filed at the Museum. The plan is for students to give oral reports on their subjects to the Society and friends the first week of December. Look for more news on this topic later.

COMING SOON TO THE MUSEUM.....

Seeing a slideshow of photos on a TV screen at a museum in Washington state was the inspiration for **Linda White** to suggest we do the same. The Gilroy Museum has a wonderful collection of photos: portraits, downtown buildings, floods and train wrecks, harvesting prunes, gymkhana cowboys..... you name it. But they are filed in drawers and most people don't get to see them.

That is about to change! With our earnings from sales at the Museum we have purchased a flat panel TV from Best Buy and are hoping it will be mounted soon. Linda is going to load some of our many photos on a flash drive and voila! Isn't technology wonderful?

MORE MUSEUM NEWS

We have three new volunteers at the Museum: **Kristine Dillon, Mark McPherson** and **Barbara Drewitz**. Kristine retired last year from HSBC in Salinas and Mark retired from the County Assessor's office over a year ago. Both of them are very outgoing and enthusiastic. Kristine is also going to partner with Connie Rogers on giving the monthly historic walking tours. Barbara Drewitz is a well-known native who used to work for the County Court system. Welcome! We're very fortunate to have such skilled volunteers who will be assets to the Museum. Unfortunately **Bud** and **Marj Burchell** have had to retire from volunteering due to health issues. We appreciate their loyal service for the past four years.

Next we'll be planning our annual Christmas lunch as a thank you to all of our volunteers in 2013. The event was inspired by **Betty Kelly** and has been very popular. We hope Betty will be able to return to the Museum soon after having surgery three times this year!

Susan Voss, Volunteer Coordinator for the City and liaison to the Museum, recently told us that the City has budgeted \$2272 for the Museum to spend on contractual services. Wow! Thank you! We are discussing what is the best use for these funds and think probably it is some kind of training for our volunteers.

If you are trying to get in touch with the Society, you can email any of the Board of Directors or contact us through our website. The website link also provides the quickest way to get to our Facebook page.

NEW LIFE MEMBER, OMISSIONS AND A CORRECTION

We are very pleased to welcome **David Armenta** as a Life Member! David is the son of member and dedicated volunteer, **Phyllis Armenta**.

We apologize for accidentally omitting this Life Member from our June list: **Kathryn Tsujimoto** (Our official City Historian).

And accidentally omitting **Lenore Hailstone** from the annual member list and misspelling **Anita Mae Lollar's** name.

ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES ANOTHER


These businesses have helped the Society by giving special prices, donations, or being a corporate member. We want to acknowledge that and thank them! Maybe you'll want to patronize them in the future.

Papa Murphy's
TAKE 'N BAKE PIZZA

Kelly & Denise Martin
Owners

767 1st St. • Gilroy, CA 95020
Tel. (408) 846-9300 • Fax: (408) 846-9309
Cell: (408) 710-8285

**Princevalle
Pet Hospital**




Nancy Fischer, DVM
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery

7995 Princevalle St., Ste. 100 • Gilroy, CA 95020 • (408) 848-3443

720 Georgetown Place
Gilroy, CA 95020
Office: 408-710-3586
Fax: 408-842-7275

Email:
s.walker.construction@
verizon.net

Scott Walker
Owner



Walker Construction
License #902738

Garth Reinhardt
General Manager

Best Buy Stores
Gilroy / 884
7011 Camino Arroyo
Gilroy, CA 95020
(408) 847-0325 direct



Gorth.Reinhardt@bestbuy.com

KENT
CONSTRUCTION

LARRY KENT
PRESIDENT

LICENSE #B732986

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