

# CARMEL VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

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### General Membership Meeting

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On March 9, 2013, President Reggie Jones welcomed about 25 members to our annual General Membership Meeting. He explained how he had taken over the presidency in November, 2012, after Richard Barratt expanded his teaching duties.

He began by thanking the Carmel Valley Garden Association for the excellent work in planting and maintaining the landscaping around the History Center. As the Society wants to become a vital part of the Village, he told how we had joined with CVVIC to put on the Party in the Village last October 13th, which was a big success for both organizations. Another Party will be held in October, so watch for details.

Reggie introduced the present members of the Board of Directors and the parts they play in organizing the Society and keeping it growing. He called on Art Taylor, Treasurer, for a report on the financial status. He began with a short history of the Society. Elizabeth Barratt added her recollections of how it began in 1987, meeting at Rosie's Cracker Barrel, luring in more people who shared their stories. As more people joined together, the Society was formally incorporated and then received non-profit status from the IRS to be able to solicit tax deductible funds.

Art reported on how the dream of building a History Center for the Village gradually grew and how all of the Cowboy Shows, (raising over \$100,000 through the years) first the small, then larger Gigantic Rummage Sales, last year's Fashion Show, and the Party in the Village helped raise the funds for the building. The Society was also very fortunate to receive generous donations from Roy Kaminske plus grants from the Barnet Segal Fund (with thanks to Ellsworth Gregory for his help), the Monterey Peninsula Foundation, the Upjohn Fund among others. All this financial help has made the History Center in the Village a reality. He explained that the building costs from pre-construction through completion were \$615,125, all raised through grants and the hard work of the Society's members.

Reggie explained the Board had nominated three Society members to succeed three Board members who are stepping down. He introduced Jeff Ohlson, Kim Williams and Donna Zahn. Kim Williams will take over from Art Taylor as Treasurer, Jeff Ohlson will work on setting up the computer with email address and a

website for the Society, and Donna Zahn will be of great assistance to Mauric Wolfe in designing, cataloging and putting together the exhibits. Reggie asked for a motion to accept these new members. Susan Pius moved and Penny Wood seconded the nominees be accepted. The motion carried.

The History Center will house exhibits from the early American settlers here, the Indians, geological displays, flora and fauna stories, Spanish exhibits - all from the earliest days to the present in objects, photos and paintings. It is hoped that some exhibits will be available soon for young students to see and that the Center will be opened to the public by the end of the year.

The meeting was then adjourned and attendees were encouraged to see the exhibits, visit the library and ask questions of the Board members.

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## Gigantic

### Rummage Sale!



Our Spring Gigantic Rummage Sale is almost ready! On Saturday, April 27th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, we will offer a mass of wonderful items for you to examine and then find a place in your home for them. We will hold the Sale on the porch of the History Center, 77 W. Carmel Valley Road. The Society is joining forces with the Carmel Valley Kiwanis and this time we will also offer a variety of gently used clothing.

Are you looking for some new kitchen items? Baking utensils, dishes, glasses, coffee makers, tools cook cooks - they're all here. We have some wonderful garden pots, many different sizes, shapes and colors in terra cotta and other materials. Need a booster seat for your youngster? Perk up your table with new placemats. How about a bright quilt and bedskirt to brighten up the bedroom? There is some intriguing art work that just might fill that empty space on the wall. Come out and bring your friends - you won't be disappointed.

If you still have items to donate, please bring them to the History Center on Saturday morning, April 29th, from 10:00 AM to noon. We ask you to check your donations and if there are parts missing, it doesn't work properly or any linens are well worn or stained, in good conscience, we cannot use them. We also cannot accommodate large furniture or appliances or computer equipment. If

.call Maxine Callinan at 659-4925 to arrange for a pickup.

The Gigantic Rummage Sale is one of our biggest fund-raisers of the year and we hope our members will stop by and wander around the porch and spot something they “just can’t live without.” It promises to be a fun day and a big benefit to us!

## Early Days of Carmel Mission

by Elizabeth Barratt

By July 1771, Monterey’s unreliable water supply and insufficient crop acreage caused Padre Serra to move the original San Carlos mission from the presidio to the mouth of Carmel Valley. He put a crew of Indians and soldiers to work building a chapel, granary, boys’ living section, kitchen, stockade, guardhouse and corrals. On St. Bartholomew’s Day, August 24, 1771, Padre Serra raised a hewn cross in the center of the new quadrangle. By Christmas that year, mission effects were transferred from Monterey and the new church was activated. During those early years, Padres Serra and Crespi labored alongside the workers, held Mass, fed the curious natives, and began to learn words in their language.

The new Mission San Carlos Borromeo del Rio Carmelo, the second mission founded in Alta California by Padre Serra, became headquarters for the mission system. He resided there unless traveling on foot to the other missions on administrative duties. Indian conversion, initially slow, grew to several hundred neophytes by the time Serra died on August 28, 1784.

Mission prosperity reached its height under Padre Presidente Fermín Lasuén. By 1792, visiting Spanish naval officers Dionisio Alcalá Galiano and Cayetano Valdés reported a secure economy, with 770 neophytes, 1,193 head of major livestock and 1,146 head of minor livestock. Land under cultivation provided sufficient staple food for the mission population. The cornerstone of the present church was laid in 1793 during Padre Lasuén’s leadership. Completed in 1797, and built on the site of the original adobe chapel, it was the first California mission constructed of stone.

Following secularization in 1834, the mission fell into disuse. By 1849, visiting New York writer Bayard Taylor found the outbuildings and walls broken down. A solitary caretaker unlocked the weather-beaten church doors to show him the still-intact interior. By 1850, the roof had collapsed. Monterey *alcalde Walter Colton observed, “The only being I found in it was a large white owl, who seemed to mourn its fall.”* By 1857, visiting artist Henry Miller wrote that squatters occupied the church. *“Some saints, as large as life, cut in wood and painted, are still to be seen; they are riddled with bullets, having served as a target.”*



## Congratulations Elizabeth!

This article comes from the **National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution**

The **Women in American History** award is presented to a woman who has made a contribution or a difference in her community. She may be a contemporary woman who has been an intellectual, educational, social, religious, political, scientific or cultural innovator. March is Women's History Month and chapters are encouraged to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of a woman of their choice.

Commodore Sloat Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (Monterey, CA), is pleased to present this award to Elizabeth Barratt for her outstanding contributions as a local historian and author. As a member of local historical societies and the DAR, Elizabeth is a dedicated volunteer and researcher. She generously donated the proceeds of one book to the Carmel Valley Historical Society. Her work has been recognized by Claudia Salewske, author of "Images of Gilroy" who thanked Elizabeth for her research in the acknowledgements.

Elizabeth Barratt has written three historical books situated in Gilroy, Carmel Valley and Carmel-by-the-Sea. Each of these books is unique, original, and well researched. She is a sought-after speaker who visits local organizations to tell of her quest to capture the history of Monterey and Santa Clara Counties. Probably the best known is a pictorial history in the Images of America series called "Carmel Valley." This valuable history is sold on Amazon, listed in Worldcat.com and is held in 8 libraries throughout the county. Stories of the early settlers are told in stunning photos and brief vignettes that make this history come alive.

Elizabeth's most recent history is "A Country Doctor in the Valley of Heart's Delight-the Life and Times of Pioneer Gilroy Physician and mayor Heverland R. Chesbro, MD." This delightful biography of her great-grandfather is filled with wonderful stories about the early days in Gilroy, California. This well-researched book can be found on the website of the Gilroy Historical Society. Elizabeth has applied her research skills to another local history, "All Saints' Episcopal Church, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California: Our first one-hundred years, 1912-2012." This volume is listed on Worldcat.com and is located in three local libraries.

We are very proud of our resident author! Congratulations on this wonderful award Elizabeth - you deserve it!

## The President's Message

By Reggie Jones

Since the Annual Business meeting, CVHS progress has continued to be very encouraging. At that meeting, three new Board members were elected and it seems safe to predict that we will be open for business, in at least a limited way, before the end of this year.

Jeff

Ohlson has continued to fine-tune our computer system and has installed an external backup hard drive to protect our data base. With volunteer Julie Cason, he has begun setting up a CVHS website. Jeff has also refurbished the electrical items and replaced almost all of the glass in our display cabinets. We are grateful to Watts Glass, Carmel Valley, who supplied the glass at cost.

Donna Zahn

has undertaken what is turning out to be a potentially mammoth task of identifying and documenting all of our artifacts. Apart from beginning to catalog specific artifacts, she is developing policies regarding collections, etc., to ensure that we begin on the correct path. To this end, we have begun the process of hiring 'expert' help, on a limited basis.

Our third

new Board member—Kim Williams—has very ably and confidently assumed the challenging Treasurer's role, competently filled by Art Taylor for several years.

We have

transferred most of the artifacts which were in storage into the History Building. This task, performed with significant help from volunteers Eleanor Avila and Dorothy Becker has given us a general idea of all the artifacts we possess. We can now begin to develop plans for arranging exhibits in the building.

There are

many other activities going on (not least, preps for the Rummage Sale headed by Maxine) and everyone is working hard. We are very encouraged to have received a generous grant from the Barnet Segal Trust and also a generous return from all of our members who donated to the Pebble Beach Birdies for Charities fund.

We thank

you for your loyal support.

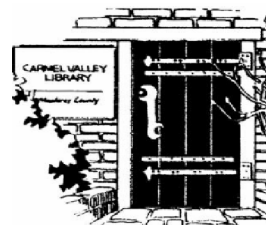
## Birdies for Charity

The Monterey Peninsula Foundation's Birdies for Charity event was again a successful fund-raiser for the Society.

There were 21 donations from members who either made a "flat donation" or who tried to guess the correct number of birdies shot during the AT&T Tournament. The total of donations from members was \$9,716.99. To that amount, Monterey Peninsula Foundation added a bonus of \$1,938.40 and recently sent us a check for \$11,655.39.

A big Thank You to all those who participated in the program!

## Summertime News



## From the Carmel Valley Library

By Jennifer Smith

Indulge in reading, win prizes, and get ready for fun in the library with movie matinees, magicians, storytellers, musicians and more! One of our most important library programs is the Summer Reading Program. Studies have consistently shown that children lose up to 3 months of reading skills if they do not participate in a summer reading program or other book and reading activities. Reading during the summer expands knowledge, sparks new interests, and provides lifelong enjoyment.

We are always happy to help you and your children find something to read that will transport them into a world of discovery and imagination. Sponsored by the Friends of the Carmel Valley Library and the Foundation for Monterey County Free Libraries.

Check the library's event calendar for a full schedule of summer events at [www.montereycountyfreelibraries.org](http://www.montereycountyfreelibraries.org)

### Carmel Valley Branch Calendar of Special Performances

June 19th, 4pm – Cascada de Flores – Bilingual Folktales/Dance

June 20th, 3pm – Edible Illustrations Workshop with artist Jose Ortiz (for tweens)

June 22nd, 2pm – Movie in the Library (with popcorn!)

June 26th, 4pm – Boswick Turnstyle, Jr. – Magical Clown

June 28, 2pm – Movie in the Library

July 3rd, 4pm – Something Ridiculous – Juggling

July 10th, 4pm – Puppet Art – Puppet Show

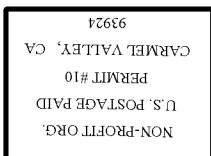
July 13th, 2pm – Movie in the library

July 17th, 4pm – Timothy James – Magic

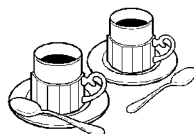
July 19th, 3pm – Kiki Wow Presents Music and Fun in the Library Garden!

July 24th, 4pm – Tales and Trails - Storytelling

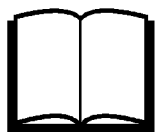




Carmel Valley Historical Society  
P. O. Box 1612  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924-1612



**Come One, Come All!**  
**Gigantic Rummage Sale!**  
**Saturday, April 27th**  
**9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**  
**The History Center**  
**77 W. Carmel Valley Rd.**



## **To Reach Us**

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If you have a question, a story to share or just a comment about the Newsletter, please call Reggie Jones at 659-4338, or by e-mail at: [slaterjones1@comcast.net](mailto:slaterjones1@comcast.net), or June Taylor at 659-2038 and by e-mail at: [jltayl@mindspring.com](mailto:jltayl@mindspring.com). We appreciate your input about the Historiczal Society - we want to be the best!

For membership info call Maxine Callinan at 659-4925.  
For a tile order form, call Reggie Jones.

**Join the Historical Society and Watch us  
Grow!**