

# CARMEL VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

February 2013

### The President's Message

By Reggie Jones

We look forward to welcoming all of our members and friends at the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, March 9. (Details elsewhere in this Newsletter). All Annual Meetings are special, but this is more special than most.

Our first artifact display, still in its early stages of preparation, is set out for view. This consists of artifacts from the Rumsen/Esselen era in our valley. We have moved many other artifacts into our main display area where they are being sorted and catalogued. Our office/conference room houses our library and also our new computer system. The Past Perfect software package—used by the vast majority of museums throughout the country—has been installed.

A very important item at the meeting will be the presentation of the slate of candidates with three “new” names for election to the Board of Directors. Three Board members, each of whom have given vital service to CVHS for many years, have stepped down to make way for Donna Zahn, Jeff Ohlson and Kim Williams. You’ll receive more details on all this—and other aspects of our activities—at the meeting.

Eleanor Avila continues to spearhead our library development. Next week she will be sorting and placing the large amount of historic literature which remains in our storage container. Since our last Newsletter we’ve acquired high speed internet connection. Jeff Ohlson has guided the acquisition and installation of our computer system. Maurice Wolfe and Dona Zahn are coordinating the sorting and cataloguing of artifacts and developing the Indian artifact display. At

this point we can safely say that we are making good progress towards the completion of our History Building displays and the eventual operation of our Museum. However, we know that there will continue to be challenges ahead. With the continued help of our members and friends our building could be operational this year.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.



### Gigantic Rummage Sale



The Society is going to try a new tack regarding our Gigantic Rummage Sale!

Since the History Center is now in the process of becoming the promised museum, we would have to go back to Hidden Valley Seminars for the space to hold the annual two-day sale. Instead, we have decided to have a one-day sale which we will hold on the covered porch of the History Center. Cindy Thatcher, whose husband is the current president of the Carmel Valley Kiwanis, has talked with our chairman, Maxine Callinan, about joining forces to hold a rummage sale to benefit both organizations. Working with Cindy, Maxine felt there would be more access to sale items from both groups and the porch would accommodate many tables with a variety of items. So we’re going to try it!

We need your help. First, would anyone be willing to make up signs and flyers for the Sale, and distribute them in our Valley? And is there someone who is familiar with Craigslist who could list some of our special items for sale there? Just call Maxine at 659-4925.

The date of our combined sale is Saturday, April 27th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. More details will be available at the General Membership meeting on March 9th. We will start the Saturday rummage sale collections on March 16th, at the History Center, from 10:00AM to noon, and every Saturday morning until the sale.

To refresh your memory, we need your gently used but clean kitchen items, dishes and small appliances, books, office supplies, small lamps, garden tools, linens, games (in boxes), sports equipment and art work. This time we will also be able to take clean clothing items in good repair, accessories like purses and scarves, jewelry and shoes. We cannot accommodate large furniture items, appliances or computer equipment.

We are looking forward to building a new relationship with the Kiwanis, working together and promoting more good will in the community. Our Sales have been very successful and we hope this one will continue that trend and bring out everyone looking for a few great bargains. If you have questions or need to arrange a pickup for your donations, please call Maxine or June Taylor at 659-2038.

## Annual General Membership Meeting

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Our very important General Membership Meeting will be held on **Saturday, March 9th, from 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM, in the History Center.** As Reggie Jones has indicated earlier, this meeting is vital to all members who have supported our efforts for so many years. We will be able to show you some of the progress we have made just in the past year and let you know of the plans we have for the months ahead.

The Board of Directors will be changing and we want to introduce you to the new nominees to give you a chance to vote on them. They have new ideas and will add a new and needed dimension to our Board. Reggie will also explain the areas where you can volunteer your ideas and work with others to facilitate the cataloging and setting up of the exhibits and displays.

We know that Saturdays can sometimes be filled with other obligations, but we do urge to you save these two hours and come to the History Center and see what your support has done for the Village. Call us at 659-2038 or 659-4338, to let us know you'll be there. Refreshments will be served.

## "El Encino De Descanso"—The Resting Oak and its Lore in Carmel Valley

By Elizabeth Barratt

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Drivers passing just west of Via Mallorca near the Del Mesa Entrance along Carmel Valley Road will notice a weathered boulder bearing a large bronze plaque. The roadside memorial has sat in the same locale for nearly 40 years, but for 20 years before that, it was actually located farther east and across the road, near today's Hacienda Hay and Feed.

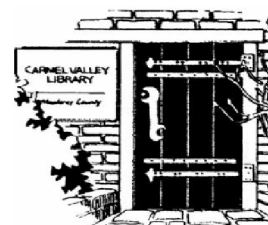
Joe Hitchcock, brothers Bertoldo "Bert" and Alejandro Onesimo (sons of Manuel "Panocha" Onesimo), and "Joe" Dolores Garcia posed for a photo of the memorial by the old "*El Encino de Descanso*," or "Resting Oak" during its 1953 plaque dedication ceremony. Joe himself wrote of the old oak's significance in his memoirs, published at the time in a regular column in the former *Carmel Valley News*. The Carmel Valley Historical Society has in its archives a manuscript compiled by Marion Crush containing a collection of Joe's historically significant memoirs telling of the old days in The Valley.

According to Joe, during the mission era, a coast live oak sat on the original spot, offering shade for Mission Indians passing along Carmel Valley Road. The Indians who lived as far up the Valley as Cachagua would carry their dead to Mission

Carmel for burial. While the *anderos*, or pall bearers rested under the oak, they would carve a cross in the trunk in memory of the deceased. This gave rise to a second name for the tree, "*La encina de las cruces*," or "Oak of the crosses." In 1882 Father Angelo Casanova of the mission put a stop to the practice and burials were instead taken to Monterey.

Mr. Hitchcock once counted 200 crosses on the tree. The long-dead oak, was relocated from what was then Wolter's Hacienda Market during a 1973 pavement expansion along that section of Carmel Valley Road. The flower-bedecked memorial, tended by locals has long since become a shrine for passers-by.

## News from the



## Carmel Valley Library

By Jennifer Smith

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Friends of the Carmel Valley Library is pleased to host Reverends Michael Reid and Kathy Whilden on Saturday, March 2nd at the Monterey County Free Libraries Carmel Valley Branch at 10:15am. Their talk opens a special multi-part exhibit from the **Carl Cherry Center for the Arts – Becoming Visible: the Face of Homeless Women in Monterey County**, which will be on display at the library through March 29th. This exhibit grew out of an effort to bring local artists and photographers together with local women who are homeless, to document these women's stories.

"The goal of this project is to give homeless women a chance to be heard in our community. We do not expect to solve the issue of lack of services for these women but hope to raise public awareness and encourage the efforts of homeless providers in Monterey County," says Rev. Michael Reid of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Pacific Grove, who established the project along with Rev. Kathy Whilden and the Carl Cherry Center for the Arts.

Join us for an engaging morning talk and art exhibit exploring the multidimensional issue of homelessness in Monterey County.

This program is part of the First Saturday Series hosted by the Friends of the Carmel Valley Library, and is free to the public. Seating is first come, first served. Refreshments will be served. For information call the library at 659-2377.

## Birdies for Charity

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It's still not too late to make a donation to Birdies for Charity to help the Society earn a 20% return on an amount (\$20 or more) made on our behalf. Even though the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am tournament is over, gifts will still be accepted through February 28, 2013. We are very proud to be one of the charities connected to the National Pro-Am, and we encourage our members to be a part of this outstanding chance to return a substantial amount to our treasury.

There are many new supplies required to set up our exhibits as well as calling in experienced people to help us design the Center in the best way to tell the history of the Valley. Your donations have made this wonderful building possible and your continued support will help us present our story for all our residents.

You can make your donation online at:

[birdiesforcharity@atpbgolf.com](mailto:birdiesforcharity@atpbgolf.com)

Just be sure it gets in by February 28th, and you indicate the Historical Society as your designated charity. We appreciate all your donations and our participation in this tournament has allowed us to earn an excellent return on those donations

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## In Memoria

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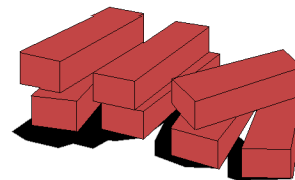
The youngest member of the large Berta family, Lawrence, passed away on February 12, 2013. He was 96. He was a rancher and a cowboy and was very much at home in the quiet atmosphere of the hills and mountains of the Central Coast. Lawrence attended many of the events sponsored by the Society over the years with his older brother, Leo. Leo was a Life Member of the Society and his family donated several farm and ranch implements to the History Center. Lawrence enjoyed the ranch life and was even riding horses at age 90! He is survived by many nieces and nephews. Our sympathy goes to all of his family.

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## Membership

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Do you have friends and/or neighbors who are not members of the Historical Society? Encourage them to join us and be a part of something new in the Valley. Bring them to our annual Membership Meeting - we'll sign them up then - and they can see the new History Center and the tile walls remembering so many people in the Valley. Or call Maxine Callinan at 659-4925, and she will send them a membership form. We always welcome new faces.



## Tile Project

Another set of tiles will soon grace the outside of the History Center. People who come to the Park usually see the tiles and stop by to see if they recognize any names. We would be happy to include a tile for you on that wall. There are order forms next to the unfinished frame, or you can call Reggie at 659-4338, and he will be glad to send you one.

The tiles are a nice way of honoring someone you love, perhaps someone important to you who has moved away, a favorite pet, an important date, a favorite saying, or just having your name among the Valley residents. Then when folks stop by to see the tiles, they can smile when they see yours. Some day we hope to cover the outside walls with those commemorative tiles.

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*Did you know that.....*

*After spraying a burn with cold water, pouring slightly beaten egg whites onto the burned skin will help heal the burn much faster?*

*It's never too late to be what you might have been?*

*A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory?*

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## A Sweet Idea

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### Homemade Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT Evaporated Milk)

- 1 cup non-fat powdered milk
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup boiling water
- 3 Tbsp. softened butter

Combine dry milk, sugar, water and butter in a blender or food processor. Mix until smooth. Refrigerate until chilled and slightly thick. Makes 1 1/4 cups, equal to a regular 14 oz. can.

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #10  
CARMEL VALLEY, CA  
93924

CARMEL VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 1612  
CARMEL VALLEY, CA 93924-1612

**General Membership**

**Meeting**

**Saturday, March 9th**

**1:30 PM to 3:00 PM**

**Carmel Valley History Center.**

**77 W. Carmel Valley Road**

**Find out what's new with the Society  
and what's to come this year!**

**Refreshments will be served**

**Information: 659-4338**

**To Reach Us**

If you have a question about the Society or a story to share, please call Reggie Jones at

659-4338, or email him at

[slaterjones1@comcast.net](mailto:slaterjones1@comcast.net) or June Taylor at

659-2038, - email

[jltayl@mindspring.com](mailto:jltayl@mindspring.com).

We welcome your questions and comments about the Society, the History Center, becoming a member, getting a tile order donating an artifact or the Newsletter.