



THE CORNERSTONE

Cupertino Historical Society
Members Newsletter

Volume 12 Issue 3
Spring 2002

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Devereaux Rendler, President

As most of us are aware, it is very difficult to sustain a non-profit organization such as the Cupertino Historical Society. The Society is always searching for more funding in order to keep our Museum open and provide various exhibits and activities throughout the year.

The Society and Museum cannot operate without the invaluable assistance of our many volunteers and the generous contributions from our members and friends. Unfortunately, our recent Annual Fund Drive was not as successful as in past years. We are again asking our members and friends for whatever monetary support they can provide. Please consider a gift to the endowment fund, a gift in memory of someone special, or even a nominal amount towards our general operating expenses.

Thank you to those who have already contributed! With your help, the Cupertino Historical Society looks forward to another year of preserving our local history for the community.

CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Ethel Worn, Director

The bylaws of the Cupertino Historical Society, Inc. have been amended and the membership will be asked to vote on the following additions and corrections at the next Membership Meeting. The former bylaws have remained essentially the same, but a few clarifying additions were added. If you wish to have a copy of the original bylaws, please stop by the office and we will get one for you.

Article I Aims and Purposes

Section 5: To establish and maintain a Historical Museum where objects and artifacts relating to the culture and history of the Cupertino area can be collected, preserved, and displayed and which will be a place of information and interest to the citizens of Cupertino and to others.

Section 6: To establish and maintain an educational program that serves as an extension of the Museum and outreach into the community.

Article IV Members Meetings

Section 1: The Annual Meeting shall coincide with the general membership meeting in September

Article VI Board of Directors Powers and Duties

Section 4: ... ; shall, adopt and recommend to the membership for acceptance an annual budget for the operation of the Museum and other business of the Society; shall have the authority to approve expenditures for the operating expenses of the Society;...

Article VII Officers and their Duties

Section 1: The officers of this Society shall be: President, Vice President, Historian, Secretary, and Treasurer and such other officers as may be named by the Board of Directors. They shall serve for a term of three (3) years and may return to the board for another three-year term. After six years the member must retire for at least a year and then may be invited back by the nominating committee to serve again.

Section 3: The Vice President shall in the absence of the President perform all duties pertaining to that office and shall have the responsibility for presenting programs of historical interest to the membership, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 4: The Historian shall serve as the Chair of the Museum Collection Committee.

Article VIII Standing Committees

Section 3: The Auditing Committee shall prepare an annual independent audit of the financial affairs of the society and shall present the report to such audit at the next membership meeting following its completion.

Article IX Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1: These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any Membership Meeting provided that all members were notified of the proposed amendment.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ethel Worn, Director

I have decided to forgo my usual report to quote from an article published in the March/April issue of the magazine *Museum News*. The article entitled "In Praise of the Small Museum" is written by Ron Chew whom I met at a conference several years ago. Mr. Chew is the Executive Director of the Wing Luke Asian Museum, in Seattle.

"I love small museums. I love looking at old objects on display in sparsely populated galleries, where I don't have to elbow others for the best viewing angle. I love engaging the front-desk volunteer in an extended conversation, getting lost amid the sometimes randomly assembled artifacts, and seeking the fingerprints of the institution's staff and volunteers all over the exhibitions. A visit to a small museum can be an indescribably rich experience...

The blockbuster exhibitions at big museums just don't have the luster they once did. ...their promise not always living up to their billing. For many museumgoers their hefty prices, long lines and omnipresent security guards at these big shows make it less than a satisfactory experience...

At a small museum, there are no inflated expectations, no pretensions, and no awful waits. The exhibitions-exploring local themes-may be small and somewhat idiosyncratic, but they mirror the small idiosyncratic world we know, close to home. These exhibitions have meaning and interest, even without the boost of the marketer's branding...

In recent years, many larger institutions, examining their relevance to a rapidly changing world, also have begun to look to smaller museums for examples of how to listen better to community constituents and engage them in the vital work of the institution. This is a happy trend. For years, small museums have been unfairly criticized for lack of professionalism and ignored by their peers--the opinion-shapers at larger, better-heeled institutions...

Ten years ago, I became the Director of the Wing Luke Asian Museum, a small community based institution rooted in a historically Asian-American neighborhood of Seattle. At that time the museum had three staff members and a budget of \$150,000.00. Like all Directors of small museums, I wore many hats. In addition to the usual managerial responsibilities of all museum Directors, I also had the duties of a "small museum" Director: I climbed a rickety ladder to change light bulbs, ran to the bathroom to unplug overflowing toilets, wrote label text minutes before the exhibition opening, led school tours, and sometimes staffed the front desk. Yes, I had the opportunity to taste first hand, the adrenaline-filled joys and agonies of working inside a small museum...

Most small museums run on such a tight shoestring that survival is a hand-to-mouth endeavor. Keeping regular public hours is a high hurdle... Everyone does a little bit of everything, learning not from manuals but by looking over the shoulders of those who preceded them. Small museum staffs don't have time to dabble in the theoretical or the sublime, just getting the job done is enough. Making time to travel to museum conferences for professional training, let alone visiting other small museums in the same region, is an unimaginable luxury...

'At small museums staff members treat visitors almost more like friends,' says Janice Klein. 'You get a much stronger sense of immediacy and why you are doing it. At a big museum you can arrive in the morning, take an elevator to your office...and take an elevator down at the end of the day and leave without making contact with visitors...'

In rural towns, in inner city neighborhoods, on tribal lands, at colleges, in parks, these [small] institutions empower their residents, reshape cultural understanding, and challenge us to look at ourselves in new ways. Small museums affirm the value and character of their communities. Their work has been done quietly, steadily, and honorably for years...

Small museums go a long way on what they're given. With the support and encouragement of all of us, these institutions should be able to go a lot further, deepening the cultural fabric of our nation, community by community."

TOGO'S RESTAURANT "EXHIBIT"

Corinna Schoenfelder, Registrar

Last December Mary Sanchez, owner of the new Togo's at The Oaks Center, contacted the Cupertino Historical Museum regarding artwork for her restaurant. Mary was very enthusiastic about representing local Cupertino history.

Currently on display at Togo's are fourteen colorful reproductions of historic fruit labels of the Santa Clara Valley: "Cupertino Brand", "Gurney's" and "Elk Brand" prunes and "Topepo" peppers and tomatoes of Cupertino; "Out of the West" and "Palo Alto" pears of Santa Clara; "Heart's Delight" fruit, "McCurdy", "Alden", and "Embarcadero" pears and "Firefall", "Sky-Wonder", "Carousel", and "Don-Jose" vegetables of San Jose. A colorful enlargement of a vintage postcard entitled "When it's Blossomtime in California" also graces the wall.

Brochures about the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum are available to Togo's customers. It is through the generous and enthusiastic support of business owners such as Mary that provide us with an additional means of reaching the community. We look forward to an ongoing relationship with Togo's. Please visit Togo's to enjoy their food and the "exhibit"!

TOGO'S

at The Oaks Center in Cupertino
21269 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite C2

MUSEUM FULLY STAFFED

I am pleased to report that as of the first of March, the Museum is fully staffed. Our new Volunteer Coordinator, Norma Vilas, will work part-time on Saturdays at the Quinlan Museum site.

Our three part-time employees work 48 hours a week. With these people on board, the museum will now be able to accomplish many of its goals.

2002 STAR Awards

Congratulations to Cupertino Historical Society members and recipients of the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce 2002 STAR Awards.

Citizen of the Year:

Linda Walker

Small Business of the Year:

Jelinch & Rendler

Medium Business of the Year:

Cupertino National Bank

Large Business of the Year:

Hanson Permanente Cement

SOUTH BAY HISTORICAL RAILROAD

SOCIETY, INC.

The SBHRS hold open houses every Saturday, 9:30am - 3pm at the Santa Clara Depot at 1005 Railroad Avenue, Santa Clara. Housed within the restored historic depot are HO and N-scale model railroad displays as well as historical artifacts. Please contact (408) 243-3969 or visit www.sbhrrs.org for additional details.

LOS GATOS MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

From April 3 through September 15, 2002, the History Museum of Los Gatos' "Feeding the Gold Rush" exhibit will profile the impact of the 1849 Gold Rush on the Bay Area, with a South Bay emphasis on the production of quicksilver, lumber, blasting powder and agriculture.

A public reception and curator's presentation will be held on April 28 from 1pm to 4pm.

The History Museum of Los Gatos is located at 75 Church Street in the stone annex to the Forbes flour mill. Exhibit hours are 12pm - 4pm, Wednesday through Sunday. Please contact (408) 395-7375 for further information.

HANSON PERMANENTE CEMENT

If you are curious to see how cement is manufactured, tours of the Hanson Permanente plant will take you close to the action. Beginning in March, tours will generally be scheduled on Fridays and Saturdays, weather permitting. Tours can be arranged on other days by special request. The plant visits last about 1 1/2 hours. Reservations are required because of space limitations. Information is available from John Giovanola, Community Affairs Manager, (408) 996-4158.

PERALTA-FALLON HISTORIC SITE

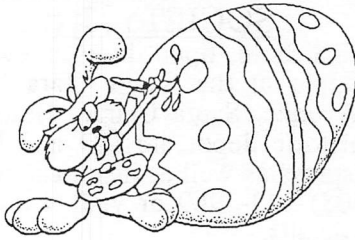
Beginning this past January, the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site at 175 West St. John St. in downtown San Jose is no longer open on weekdays for public tours. Please visit them during their new hours on Saturday and Sunday from 12pm - 5pm. Please contact (408) 993-8182 for further information.

ESSAY CONTEST

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County announce the 2002 Santa Clara County Historical Essay Contest.

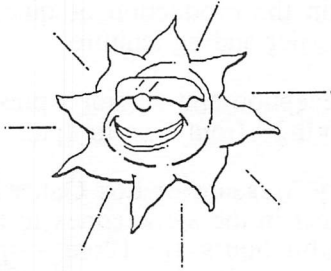
- Open to students and the general public.
- Subject: Santa Clara County Persons, Places, or Events.
- Deadline: April 19, 2002.
- First Prize \$500.

For more information, please come by the Museum for a copy of their flyer or contact Helen MacCarthy at (408) 578-4485.



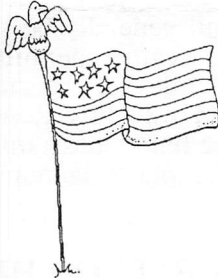
MARCH 2002

- 2 Volunteer Meeting, 9am at QCC
- 13 Board Meeting, 6:30pm at QCC
- 26 General Meeting, 6:30pm at QCC



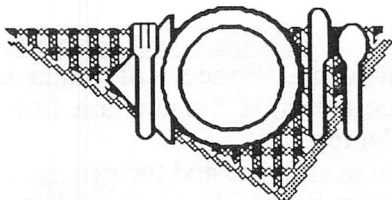
APRIL 2002

- 6 Volunteer Meeting, 9am at QCC
- 10 Board Meeting, 6:30pm at QCC
- 23 General Meeting, 6:30pm at QCC



MAY 2002

- 4 Volunteer Meeting, 9am at QCC
- 8 Board Meeting, 6:30pm at QCC
- 27 QCC Closed in observance of Memorial Day
- 28 General Meeting, 6:30pm at QCC



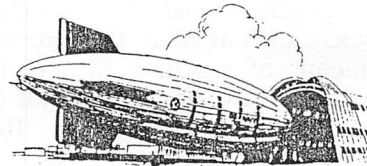
JUNE 2002

- 1 Volunteer Meeting, 9am at QCC
- 12 Board Meeting, 6:30pm at QCC
- 25 Annual BBQ, 5:30pm at QCC



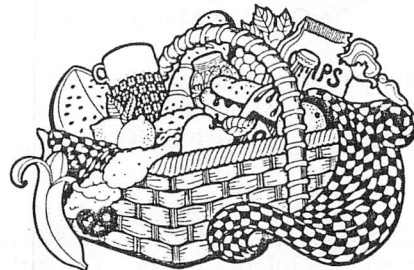
MARCH GENERAL MEETING

The March 26th General Meeting will feature a presentation by Mike Eckley, x Noble Grand Humbug, and Pat Sweeney, current Noble Grand Humbug, of "The Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus," Mountain Charlie Chapter No. 1850. E Clampus Vitus is a colorful historical and fraternal organization "dedicated to the care and protection of the Widdow* and the Orphan." Members, commonly called "Clampers," attempt to uphold the traditions of fellowship, good spirits, and fun, while actively honoring early pioneers and historic sites. (* but especially the Widdow)



APRIL GENERAL MEETING

The April 23rd General Meeting will feature a presentation by Bill Frees about the Moffett Field Historical Society and Museum and the history of the Federal Air Field. Mr. Frees is a former Naval Officer and currently a Moffett Museum docent and Cupertino resident.



ANNUAL BBQ

The Cupertino Historical Society will hold its Annual June Meeting & BBQ on Tuesday, June 25, 2002 in the Cupertino Room at the Quinlan Community Center from 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Please contact Ethel Worn during Museum hours if you are interested in volunteering on the BBQ Committee. We are in need of 'Kitchen Staff' and 'Grillers' to assist Charles Liggett on the day of the event.

Tickets will be available for sale in May for \$25.00 per person and can be purchased at the Museum in Quinlan Community Center. Please join us!

MEMBERSHIPS

as of 03/08/02

Renewing Members

Individual: Ned Banton, Bob & Audrey Butcher, Charles Carle, Irene Coon, George Fernandez, Kathleen Hendriksen, Marion Alice Jarrett, Jeanette Lucchetti, Mary Lou Lyon, Barbara Nunes, Letizia Picchetti.

Family: Gerry & Dorothy Billard, Harlan & Eleanor Bortner, John & Judith Bruzus, Mr. & Mrs. Preston Chiappa, William & Virginia Guengerich, Betty & Alan Johnson

Contributor: Hazel Fretwell, Gail Hugger, Jeffrey Johnson, Bob & Inkie Vitro

Patron: Bob & Janet Meyers, Darryl & Dorothy Stow

Sponsor: Charles & Kathleen Calhan

Lifetime: Beez Jones

New Members

Individual: E. Gerald Hall,

Family: Burnham family, Haresay family

SPECIAL THANKS

as of 03/08/02

We are grateful to the following for their recent contributions to the Society:

- Katherine Peterson for her donation from the sales of "Sunnyvale Collage II".

- Hanson Permanente Cement sponsorship of "Visit to an Historic Site 2002" to be held at the Picchetti Ranch on August 25, 2002.

- Cupertino Courier for directing archived photographs to our attention.

- Devereaux Rendler for providing postage stamps for our Annual Fund Drive mailing.

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

as of 03/08/02

Friends of the Museum: David & Shirley Bates, Gordon Beckstrom, Will & Margaret Betchart, Ted Bollinger, Phil & Frances Bush, Malkah Carothers, Wendell & In Soon Carman, Angie Gill, Yvonne & Warren Holt, Yvonne & William Jacobson, Elena & William Kettler, Mart & Elaine Levine, Fred & Florence Lindsey, Henry Mikulacu / DeAnza Plumbing, Barbara Nunes, Peacock Lounge, Betty Petersen, Katherine Peterson, Dr. Louis Prusa, Alice Schlim, Corinna Schoenfelder, Patricia Schunneman, Loretta Paviso Stagen, Joseph & Judith Tembrock, Dennis & Elizabeth Whittaker, Ann Zarko

Museum Patron: Don & Sally Allen, Ellie & Ray Bortner, Norman Damico, Charles & Mildred Gagliasso, John Gatto, William & Virginia Guengerich, Virginia Hammerness, Charles Kilian, Martha McDonald, Marty Mathiesen, Bernice Midstokke, Robert & Kathy Nellis, Hilles Parrish, Hector Picchetti, Paula Quinterno, Herb & Mae Regnart, Hamilton Ryder, Nancy Schott, George Sousa, H.W. & L.M. Toensfeldt, Rose-Marie Twu, Ethel Worn

Museum Founder: Richard & Sharon Blaine, Hewlett Packard Co., Richard & Ellen Lowenthal, Mathilda Sousa, Kathy Stakey, Seven Springs Foundation

Elisha Stephens Club: Edward S.J. Cali Trust

ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

as of 03/08/02

In Memory of Winifred Mariani Thiltgen:

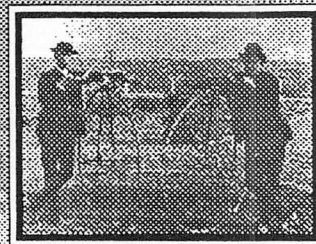
Fred & Florence Lindsey, Victoria Sanfilippo, Mathilda Mariani Sousa

In Memory of Teresa Zarevich:

Fred & Florence Lindsey, Mathilda Mariani Sousa

Thank You

Join the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum!



Membership Categories:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization, Club or Business \$75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$125 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (17 & under) \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Member \$1,000 |

I enclose \$_____ payable to the Cupertino Historical Society.

Mr./Ms./Mrs./Mr. & Mrs. (please circle one)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

Are you interested in becoming a museum volunteer? _____ New or renewing member?
Memberships, gifts, memorials, and bequests are deductible according to current tax regulations.

THE CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
10185 N. STELLING ROAD
CUPERTINO, CA 95014

OBITUARIES

The Cupertino Historical Society shares in the loss of Winifred Mariani Thiltgen, Teresa Marie Zarevich, and Genevieve Ziegler.

San Jose Mercury News: Dec. 20, 2001

THILTGEN, Winifred P. (Mariani) -- 1908 - 2001. Winifred Thiltgen passed away at her home in Cupertino on Thursday, December 13, 2001. She was born in St. Helena, California and was raised in Cupertino, California. She graduated from San Jose State College in 1930 with a Bachelor of Arts in Education. She first raised a family then taught for 20 years before retiring to Santa Rosa, California where she lived for 25 years before returning to Cupertino in 1993.

She was the founder of the Oakmont Visual Aids Workshop. This volunteer organization builds teaching tools for the blind and ships them worldwide to teachers and schools in need. President and Mrs. Bush awarded her the "Thousand Points of Light" for this accomplishment. She was a member of the Black Masque Honor Society, Napredak Club and Delta Gamma Sorority. She loved traveling (visiting 75 countries and all states), was a voracious reader, and outstanding bridge player, gardener, knitter and a lifelong scholar and teacher. She taught bridge until a month before her death.

Her husband of 60 years Matthew Thiltgen, her sister Irene Perkov and her brother Paul A. Mariani Jr., preceded her in death. Mrs. Thiltgen is survived by her two sons; Paul Thiltgen of Santa Cruz, CA and Bart J. Thiltgen of Bakersfield, CA, her sister Mathilda Sousa of Sunnyvale, CA, 5 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and 14 nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Mass will be conducted at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, December 21, 2001 at the Maryknoll Chapel, 23000 Cristo Rey Dr., Cupertino, CA to be followed by a "Celebration of Life" Reception at the Forum, 23500 Cristo Rey Dr., Cupertino, CA at 11:30 a.m. The family prefers that contributions be sent in her name to the Oakmont Visual Aids Workshop, 310 White Oak Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95409. Arrangements made by Neptune Society 650-592-9880.

San Jose Mercury News: Jan. 3, 2002

ZAREVICH, Teresa Marie -- Born at home on February 26, 1899. Died in the arms of her family on December 27, 2001. Age 102. Daughter of Nick and Annie Zarevich, sister of Ivan Zarevich. Survived by her close friend and cousin Anne Perlenda and her niece and nephews, George, Genevieve, Vincent and Edward Luchessi.

Teresa graduated from the one-room Doyle School in Cupertino and from Notre Dame High School in San Jose. She stated that she was initially overwhelmed and frightened by the streetcar ride and classes "in town". She credited the Notre Dame sisters with nurturing her and giving her extra help in her studies. Teresa kept supportive letters from her high school teachers praising her strengths and encouraging her to pursue her goal of becoming a teacher. She graduated from San Jose State in 1921 with a teaching credential.

Upon graduation Teresa taught the upper grades at the two-room grammar school in Portola Valley. She then taught for 30 years at Cupertino Union Grammar School. After retirement she took care of her mother and tutored students in her home. Teresa was a kind and gentle soul who loved children, often stopping what she was doing to watch a child.

The Luchessi family would like to thank Father Jim Milsud of Queen of Apostles Parish, Teresa's friends and the YLI and Pastoral Care Ministry groups at St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish. Their kindness and visits to Teresa are much appreciated.

Interment has been held at Santa Clara Mission Cemetery. Memorial Mass to celebrate Teresa's life will be held at Queen of Apostles Church, Moorpark and Mitty Way in San Jose on Friday, January 4 at 9:30 a.m. Thank you Tessie for a job well done. Arrangements by LIMA FAMILY SANTA CLARA MORTUARY.



Genevieve Georgia Ziegler passed away in Sacramento, California on Sunday, March 3, 2002 from complications following surgery for a broken hip.

She was born the second of eight children on February 13, 1914 to John and Emma Belle Dow Ziegler of San Francisco. The family soon moved to Cupertino where she grew up and lived most of her life.

She worked for the Federal Reserve Bank and served in positions that were unusual for a woman of that time. She later worked at Ames Research Center, and after retiring from there, worked at Monta Vista High School from 1969, when the school opened, until she was past 70 years of age. Her support of the students and staff was evident by her attendance at musicals, plays and many sporting events. Genevieve continued to attend school activities after she left Monta Vista. Former Monta Vista Principal Dale Deselms, and long-time friend of Genevieve's, said she always made sure he was introduced to new parents when they enrolled their students. The staff at Monta Vista respected Genevieve because of the caring way she treated people and her cheerful and buoyant attitude.

After her retirement, Genevieve collected day-old bread each morning from the local grocery stores for the food bank in Cupertino. She helped establish the Cupertino Historical Society and Museum, and was honored by the City of Cupertino in 1992 for her civic contributions. She was an active member of the Church of Later-day Saints, and served in many positions there.

Genevieve moved to live with her nephew, George Rachac and family in Shingle Springs in November of 1997 after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. She is survived by her son, Conrad (Robert) Russell of Mesa, Arizona, and three grandchildren: Joseph Russell, Katherine Russell, and Damien Russell. She is also survived by her brother, Floyd Ziegler of Orangevale, California, and two sisters: Margaret Green of Sunnyvale, California and Corrine Hilgesen of Fallbrook, California. A private family funeral was held on Saturday, March 9.

THE CORNERSTONE IS PUBLISHED
QUARTERLY BY
THE CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society is a private non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the history of Cupertino and the surrounding region. It operates a main museum in the Quinlan Community Center, along with a satellite museum at Vallco Fashion Park on Stevens Creek Blvd. Museum hours are 10am - 4pm, Wednesday thru Saturday. The Vallco site is open Tuesday and Saturday 1pm-3pm. Admission is free and the public is invited. General meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of the month and are preceded by a potluck dinner. For additional information and recorded message call the museum at (408) 973-1495.



C. H. S. linked to the City of Cupertino's web site:
<http://www.cupertino.org/update/civic/chs.htm>
<http://www.cupertino.org/update/events/events.htm>

CUPERTINO HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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Cupertino, CA 95014
Tel: 408-973-1495

Fax: 408-973-1495 Please call before faxing.

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Beez Jones
Leslie Pantling
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Ethel S. Worn, Director
Norma Vilas, Volunteer Coordinator
Corinna Schoenfelder, Registrar / Office Manager / Editor

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JOIN US AT THE
CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL BBQ



JUNE 25, 2002