



Cupertino Historical Society & Museum
presents
the Cornerstone

Summer 2013

Volume 23, Issue 4

HEART'S DELIGHT

By Charles Calhan

This time of year is always pretty highly laden with nostalgia for us, as hints of what used to be in the Valley of Hearts Delight magically appear in our garden. My loving bride, a farmer's daughter you know, has peaches, plums, orange, and berries growing back there. I don't know how we missed out on the cots. We can't help reminiscing about the old days when we would drive through a forest of blossoming fruit trees on our way to church, and out kids insisted they were pop corn trees.

Cupertino was a nice little country town, and I think the city fathers wanted to keep it that way, but incorporation was necessary because of San Jose's ravenous appetite for territory. City limits had to be established. Also a law was enacted that allowed undeveloped land to be taxed at the same rate as an adjoining development. There went the farmers.

I'm afraid our future isn't going to be so rosy with these huge rabbit-warren apartment complexes coming into existence. The taxes necessary to service a community go up exponentially with population growth. That, and the traffic, as well as the crime is going to be a nightmare.

THE VALLEY OF HEART'S DELIGHT

THE ORCHARDS OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY WERE KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS THE GARDEN VALLEY AND THE VALLEY OF HEART'S DELIGHT. PRUNES, CHERRIES, PEARS, APRICOTS, WALNUTS, AND MANY OTHER FRUITS FLOURISHED HERE TO NEAR PERFECTION. SAN JOSE WAS CALLED THE PRUNE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD. ONE COULD TRAVEL FROM ONE END OF THE VALLEY TO THE OTHER AND SEE MILES OF NEATLY SPACED TREES LOADED WITH FRUIT, IRRIGATED AND CULTIVATED WITH LOVING CARE. IT WAS A LUSH LAND OF FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

IN THE SPRING, THE ORCHARDS LOOKED THEIR BEST. MARCH AND APRIL BROUGHT FRAGRANCE TO THE AIR WHEN THE VALLEY BECAME A VAST SEA OF BLOSSOMS. IT WAS NOT UNUSUAL TO SEE BLOSSOMS AND SNOW ON MOUNT HAMILTON AT THE SAME TIME. GREEN HILLS, BLUE SKIES, AND PURE AIR MADE IT THE LOVELIEST TIME OF THE YEAR. VISIBILITY WAS SO GOOD THAT ONE COULD SEE CLEAR ACROSS THE VALLEY.

I PAINTED THIS VIEW OF THE VALLEY FROM THE AREA BETWEEN LOS GATOS AND SARATOGA.



~ SANTA CLARA VALLEY ~ A VIEW FROM LOS GATOS - SARATOGA AREA ~

Excerpt from *Santa Clara Valley, California: An Artist's View – Today & Yesterday* by Anthony Quartuccio, 1986. Painting by the author.



Cupertino Historical Society & Museum

Mission Statement

We preserve and illuminate Cupertino's past to inspire youth, strengthen the sense of community, and shape a better future by making Cupertino history relevant and available to all.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Cornerstone is published quarterly by the Cupertino Historical Society, a private, non-profit organization.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Donna Austin, President



"Life happens once for us, so let's use it beautifully, and make all it's beauties and hardship, a history."

Anonymous

For me, life is precious and breathing fresh air is a privilege now that I am recovering from a type of pneumonia caused by radiation.

Enjoying a sip of history at Picchetti was very special for me this year. It was a very successful barbecue celebration of the stars and stripes. Even the weather cooperated and cooled that evening! It is always so much fun to visit with our friends, listen to good music, drink great wine and eat tasty barbecue. Thank you to all who helped make it such a successful event, especially our hardworking board and our wonderful sponsors.

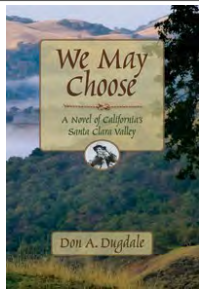
The annual meeting in May was well attended and everyone met our board of directors and voted on our slate of officers. We welcome Bill Mannion and Sean Sullivan as our new board members. They have many new ideas and a fresh perspective on Cupertino history. We bid farewell to Jim Walker and Corinna Dixon and thank them for their years of service on the board and thank them for their faithful support of CHS. Our speaker at the annual meeting was Doug McNeil who gave a fascinating talk on the history of Monte Sereno.

We are expecting visitors from Copertino, Italy on September 21st through the 24th. They will be visiting our museum, attending the Fall Festival and celebrating the 100 year anniversary of St. Joseph's of Cupertino Church at their barbecue on the 22nd. Our city got its name when the De Anza party camped at our creek, and named the creek after San Guiseppi de Copertino. So this sister city relationship is very special. If any are interested in meeting them let me know.

If you would like to volunteer at the museum or recommend a new member or become a board member, please e-mail CHS at Cupertino Historical Society cuphistsociety@sbcglobal.net or call 408-973-1495. We welcome your suggestions and ideas and support.

Thank you,

Donna M. Austin



CHS Quarterly Speaker Program

"We May Choose" - presented by Don Dugdale

September 24, 2013, Refreshments - 6:30 p.m.; Presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Quinlan Community Center, Cupertino Room, 10185 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino.

BEFORE THE PERSONAL COMPUTER, before the microchip and even before the fragrant expanses of prune orchards, there was the Santa Clara Valley. After the Americans took control from Mexico, an event nearly coinciding with the Gold Rush, immigrants began to arrive in droves, quickly turning the humble pueblos into a multicultural society by necessity. In *We May Choose*, published in April 2013, the hardy

descendents of four diverse families find their way to San Jose from far-flung points on the globe, where they mingle with established Californios struggling to preserve their lands and lifestyle. Over the next five decades their linked life stories are, by turns, refreshing and heartbreaking, violent and life-affirming, productive and painful. Collectively, the old families and the new lay the foundation for astounding growth in the century to follow. <http://www.wemaychoose.com/>

Don A. Dugdale has had a 45-year career as a news reporter, editor and technical journalist, most of it in California's Central Coast region.

SPOTLIGHT CHS welcomes new board members

In 1965, my family moved to a part of West San Jose which was later incorporated into Cupertino. The move was made to be near Regnart Elementary School for our children. At the time, I was an employee of Lockheed Missiles and Space Company (LMSC) and my wife Alice was a local Montessori teacher. We were delighted to become Cupertinoans because this greatly improved civic services in our area.

After retiring from LMSC in 1992, I attended video classes at De Anza College and joined Cupertino Senior TV Productions, an all-volunteer, non-profit group sponsored by the Cupertino Senior, to take part in their mission to produce Public Access TV programs of interest to the Community.

I have a BS in Marine Engineering from the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point New York and a MS in Systems Management from the University of Southern California. I have served aboard a US Navy minesweeper that swept for offshore mines in Korea and volunteered for submarine duty serving in the Caribbean and Atlantic. Subsequent to leaving the Navy, I held several civilian positions, including three years with Caltex Oil Company in Manila, before joining LMSC in 1960.

In 2012, while researching a Public Access TV program about the historic Montebello Elementary School I met several members of the Cupertino Historical Society who suggested I join the Society's Board of Directors. I hope that I can be a productive member of the BOD during my term.

Sean Sullivan



Having spent my entire life in Cupertino, I've witnessed firsthand the vast changes that have come to this town in such a short period of time. Some, like the rise of Silicon Valley and tech giants such as Apple Computer, have brought great wealth, innovation, and prestige to our city. Other changes, however - such as the wanton dissolution of our historic homes and neighborhoods as a result of overzealous development - have, in my opinion, led to a loss of our cultural and historical identity. The first and most crucial step in reversing this trend lies in educating people that Cupertino actually *has* a history. That Cupertino isn't simply the product of suburban sprawl emanating from San Jose or beyond - nor the result of one of the numerous post-war housing booms, and thus akin to any other cookie-cutter suburban enclave - comes as a surprise to many; Cupertino residents often being no exception.

As a newly elected member of the board, a lifelong student of history with a degree in American History, and an ongoing docent with the Historical Society's Traveling Trunk presentation program, I enjoy, most of all, teaching children that this city has indeed a rich and colorful history—and a heritage worth preserving."

Bill Mannion



ANNUAL SUMMER FUNDRAISER

By Helene Davis

A Sip of History

The Cupertino Historical Society held its annual BBQ fundraiser on Sunday, June 30, 2013. The theme was "Stars and Stripes". The weather cooperated by being the coolest day of a several day heat wave. The pleasant evening encouraged folks to stay and enjoy the lovely ambiance of the old Picchetti house lawn while sipping wine from Picchetti Winery, eating delicious food from the Louisiana Smokehouse and listening to the wonderful musical sounds of Trail Riders Band.



The Trail Riders band entertained guests from the historic Picchetti house porch.



STARS AND STRIPES

Our sincere appreciation to all
who supported this event:

Gold Sponsor

Apple

Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg Cement Group

Silver Sponsors

Bob Adams

Larry Dean

Jim and Pat Jackson

Steve Ting

Star One Credit Union

Auction Package Donors

Steve Andrews

Charles F. Gagliasso Trucking Company

Loma Prieta Winery, Los Gatos

Santa Clara County Fire Dept.

Santa Clara County Sheriff's Dept.

Recology Cupertino

John Zirelli

Mark McKenna

Cypress Hotel

AMC Cupertino Square 16

Amici's East Coast Pizzeria

Aqui Cal-Mex

Aloft Hotel

Elephant Bar

Flint Center for the Performing Arts

Pot Sticker King Restaurant

The Mandarin Gourmet

Special thanks to

Mattie and Leslie Pantling, Picchetti Winery

Gail Fretwell-Hugger

Maureen Burnham

Apple

Louisiana Smokehouse

Trader Joe's – Cupertino, Los Altos

Thank You !

Board member Jane Alvarado gave us a brief history of the Lehigh Hanson Cement plant and the illustrious career of Henry Kaiser. Two of our long time sponsors, Sandy James from Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg Cement Group and Michael Foulkes from Apple Inc., spoke about why they support the historical society and the importance of our small organization in the community. There was a lively and successful live auction as well as a raffle.



Jane Alvarado provided a history narrative about Henry J. Kaiser.

Michael Foulkes,
Apple.



Sandy James,
Lehigh Hanson
Heidelberg Cement
Group.



Dinner guests ready
to enjoy Maureen
Burnham's
home-made red,
white, and blue
scrumptious
cupcakes.

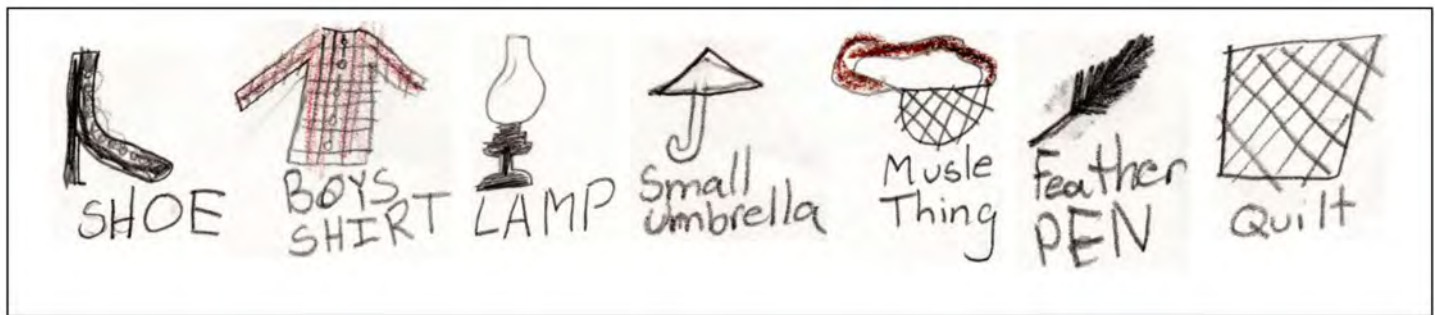


Thank you to all of you who come out to support us at this annual event. We hope to see you again next year. We also hope to see some new faces at the event like we did this year! This is truly an enjoyable way to spend a summer Sunday evening and support the Cupertino Historical Society.

Photos by Corinna Dixon, Sanketh Hegde



SEDGWICK SCHOOL STUDENT'S DRAWINGS OF TRAVELING TRUNK ITEMS



Dear Sonja, Sean, and Sha I liked what you talked about in the about Cupertino in the past and show how stuff look in the past. I like the thing yo talked about and I learned alot of History about Cupertino. I want to learn more about Cupertino. I like all the stuff you teached me.

Sincerely

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

THE TRAVELING TRUNK

The Traveling Trunk Educational Program offers a unique opportunity to share your love of Cupertino history with children and adults in schools and senior centers. Our show-and-tell program teaches the history of many items used in homes and orchards around 1900 to young audiences in local schools and adults in senior centers. Our presentations are always warmly received and it is so rewarding to open up that bygone era to a new generation. The children are amazed at what life was like before electricity and how dressy the clothes were.

If you think you might like to volunteer with this program, please contact Ragini Sangameswara at the CHS office at cuphistsociety@sbcglobal.net for additional information. Feel free to "shadow" us to see if this is a good fit for you.



A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The time a volunteer spends at the Cupertino Historical Museum is often just as rewarding to him or her as it is to us. If you have a love for the community, please help show off Cupertino's past and present.

Our volunteers help keep our museum open!

If you are available to volunteer for a two-hour shift, **Wednesday through Saturday** between the hours of **10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**, please contact the Cupertino Historical Museum at **408-973-1495** or email us at cuphistsociety@sbcglobal.net.

Join Us



To join the Cupertino Historical Society, please visit our website at www.cupertinohistoricalsociety.org/join-us to download a Membership Application. Or contact the Cupertino Historical Museum at 408-973-1495 or email us at cuphistsociety@sbcglobal.net.

MEMBERSHIP GIFTS

Memberships to the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum provide a base of support for programs, services and general operating costs. We appreciate the support and generosity of new and renewing members.

The benefits of being a member of the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum are many:

- Store discounts
- Quarterly Speaker Program
- Quarterly newsletter
- Special events invitation
- Access to museum library

MAY thru JULY 2013

RENEWING MEMBERS

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jane Alvarado | Charles and Kathy Liggett |
| Ellie Bortner | Angelo and Judith Marchi |
| M. L. Bartee | Mark McKenna |
| John and Judith Bruzus | Donald W Parsons |
| Cray Foley | Darcy and Sharon Paul |
| John Gatto and Pat Dowd | Linda Schultz |
| Fenton and Winifred Hill | Don Sun |
| Marilyn Howard | Liz Tadman |

NEW MEMBER

Catherine Alexander
Maureen and Jeff Burnham
Melvin Cobb
Tom and Joan Dyer
Genevieve and George Luchessi



Cupertino Historical Society & Museum

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CHS Quarterly Speaker Program
September 24, 2013, Quinlan Community Center, Cupertino Room,
10185 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino

"We May Choose"

presented by Don Dugdale

Refreshments - 6:30 p.m.; Presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Admission is FREE



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BULLETIN BOARD

Museum Hours:

Located in the Quinlan Community Center, the museum is open to the public
Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Admission is FREE.

Annual Meeting / Quarterly Speaker Program:

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

5:30 p.m., Quinlan, Cupertino Room

Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 20, 2013

5:30 p.m., Quinlan, Conference Room

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

5:30 p.m., Quinlan, Conference Room

Holidays: QCC closed

Monday, September 2, 2013

Labor Day

CHS Quarterly Speaker Program

Featuring Don A. Dugdale

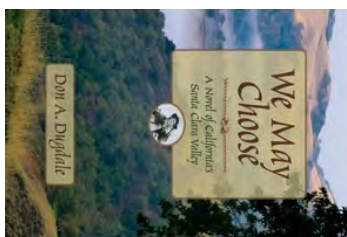
the author of "We May Choose", a novel
about the history of the Santa Clara Valley.

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

Refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Presentation at 7 p.m.

Admission is FREE.

Quinlan Community Center, Cupertino Room
10185 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA 95014



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