



# Cupertino Historical Society & Museum presents the **Cornerstone**

Summer 2017

Volume 27, Issue 4

## **CUPERTINO'S FIRST FIRE ENGINE**



By Sharon Blaine, CHS Board Member, Donna Austin, Co-President

*"Cupertino's first fire engine, is on display in the Cupertino Station historical museum. This engine is on loan from the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum. This engine was reconstructed by Charles Baer in 1919. It was pulled by a Packard Twin 6 automobile and has solid rubber tires on wooden wheels. The tank contained a mixture of water and soda, to which a bottle of acid was added at the scene a fire. The acid reacted with the soda, generating carbon dioxide, which pressurized the tank and forced the approximately 50 gallons of water through the hose attached at the back. The engine was stored at Mr. Baer's blacksmith shop next to the Cupertino Store at the Cupertino crossroads. Volunteers responded from the store. If a burning home was saved, the owner paid \$20; if the structure burned to the ground, it was a local news item. "*

<http://www.sccfd.org/about-sccfd/fire-station-locations/cupertino-fire-station>



We are so grateful for the friends of the Cupertino Historical Society that bid on a wonderful dinner and tour of the Santa Clara County Fire Station on Stevens Creek and Torre! There were eight very happy friends who enjoyed a tour of the living quarters, main office, and modern equipment and apparatus. The fire department has a museum in their lobby that is open to the public and has many fascinating items on exhibit. They marveled at the original Cupertino fire truck that was reconstructed in 1919 by Cupertino's blacksmith, Charlie Baer! The truck is on loan from the historical society.

The tour was followed by a delicious dinner prepared & served by the warm & friendly fire fighters. The Fire Department donates these dinners for the benefit of the community. We thank our friends who bid on the dinner and are grateful to the Santa Clara County Fire Department for their many services to the citizens of Cupertino.

*Friends of CHS on guided tour of the fire station museum  
L to R - S.G. Sangam, Sharon Blaine, Pete Letchworth,  
Firefighter Harry Franklin*



## Cupertino Historical Society & Museum

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Cupertino Historical Society and Museum is to preserve and illuminate Cupertino's past to inspire our youth, strengthen the sense of community, and shape a better future by making Cupertino history relevant and available to all.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donna Austin | *Co-President*  
 Jane Alvarado | *Co-President*  
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 Janet Riddell  
 Sabrina Rizk  
 Darryl Stow  
 Crystal Tai  
 Steve Ting

### MUSEUM STAFF

Ragini Sangameswara | *Executive Director*

### TRAVELING TRUNK DOCENTS

Sonja Cook | *Coordinator*  
 Gail Fretwell-Hugger  
 Shari Kerr  
 Ina Checkman

### NEWSLETTER STAFF

Donna Austin, Ragini Sangameswara

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

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### CHS Board of Directors Meetings

Wednesday, August 16, 2017  
 4:00 p.m. QCC, Conference Room  
 Wednesday, September 20, 2017  
 4:00 p.m., QCC, Conference Room  
 Wednesday, October 18, 2017  
 4:00 p.m., QCC, Cupertino Room

#### 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.**

#### Holidays: QCC closed

September 4, 2017  
 Labor Day

## PRESIDENTS CORNER



Donna Austin



Jane Alvarado

Dear Members and Friends of the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum,

Jane Alvarado and I will serve this year as your co-presidents. We will work very hard to double our success in accomplishing the goals of the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum to make Cupertino history meaningful to all. We will work with our director, Ragini Sangameswara to produce interactive exhibits and successful community events. We had an enormously successful Christmas display during the community tree lighting, a Chinese exhibit on the 10 elements of Chinese culture in conjunction with the Year of the Rooster, and we are just finishing up an exhibit on the marvelous lives of bees and how they affect our culture. Next we plan to correlate our exhibit with the Fall Festival who's theme is California history. With each of these exhibits we have had a speaker to demonstrate or illustrate the subject.

We will be featuring the Ohlone Natives and the De Anza party in this next exhibit in September. When the Ohlone's roamed Cupertino creeks and hills, there was the golden flower. When Junipero Serra traveled the length of California he named the flower Copa de Ora. When De Anza made his trek across California and camped at our creek, I'm sure he marveled at the gold everywhere.

*Joaquin Miller said it all in his poem:  
 California's Cup of Gold  
 The golden poppy is God's gold,  
 The gold that lifts, nor weighs us down,  
 The gold that knows no miser's hold  
 The gold that banks not in the town,  
 But singing, laughing, freely spills  
 Its hoard far up the happy hills;  
 Far up, far down, at every turn,--  
 What beggar has not gold to burn!*



*"The earth laughs in flowers."  
 e. e. cummings (1894-1962)*

We thank our members and supporters for a very successful barbecue at Cooper Garrods. Your support means so much to us. We ask if any of you would like to serve on our committees to produce successful exhibits, or help with fundraiser committees, or become a docent in our museum, please contact us at: 408.973.1495.

*Donna M. Austin*

Donna Austin  
 Co-President

*Jane Alvarado*

Jane Alvarado  
 Co-President



# ANNUAL BBQ FUNDRAISER

By Crystal Tai, CHS Board Member

At Cooper-Garrod Estate Vineyards, 125 people enjoyed wine, barbecue, ice cream, auctions and fun conversations on June 24 for the annual fundraiser of the Cupertino Historical Society. Cupertino Mayor Savita Vaidyanathan not only attended the event but also presented a proclamation for the Cupertino Historical Society's significant contribution to local history preservation. Another highlight was vineyard owner Bill Bosworth's speech about the history of the lovely estate, where it was exceptionally breezy at dusk for every attendee to have a great time.



Auctioneers: Jim Walker and Josh Selo



CHS Board Members receiving Proclamation from Mayor Savita Vaidyanathan



Owner Bill Bosworth speaking about history of Cooper Garrod Winery



Leigh Davis, Savita Vaidyanathan, and Donna Austin



Vicki Tsai, and



Friends of CHS enjoying music, food, and fun!

*Around the world  
A Sip of History*

*Thank You!  
Sponsors*



**Platinum Sponsors:** Diocese of San Jose Catholic Cemeteries

**Gold Sponsors:** Sharon & Jim Walker

**Silver Sponsors:** CUPERTINO HOTEL | SILICON VALLEY GRANITE

Jim Jackson, Sharon & Richard Blaine, Bob & Pat Adams, Donna & Scot Austin, Richard & Ellen Lowenthal, Mark McKenna, Don Sun, Steve & Jeannie Ting

**Bronze Sponsors:** Shannon & Susan Lee, Gilbert Wong

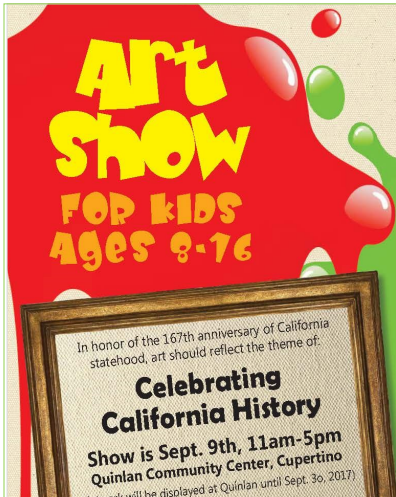
**Special Thanks to :** Jim Walker, Josh Selo, John Zirelli, "Grateful Dads" - Larry Dean, Keith Kreft, Vicky & Bill Bosworth.



## Cupertino Historical Society & Museum

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NON-PROFIT  
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CUPERTINO, CA  
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### TO ENTER:

Submit Child's art work by  
**August 14, 2017, 6:30 p.m.**

To

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

Current resident or:

### 3rd Annual History Scholarship Award Essay Competition



**By Sabrina Rizk, CHS Board Member**

**C**ongratulations to the following winners  
of the Cupertino Historical Society's 3rd  
Annual High School History Scholarship  
Award Essay Competition:  
Nancy Huang - Monta Vista High School  
Shelly Michael - Fremont High School  
Kaitlyn Lee - Homestead High School  
Ajay Prasad - Cupertino High School

Thank you Mayor Vaidhyanathan for present-  
ing the Certificates of Award to the winners.

Thank you to all the students who participat-  
ed, and to the organizers, teachers, proctors  
and readers.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**MAY 2017 thru JULY 2017**

### RENEWING MEMBERS

Jane Alvarado  
Marie Bartee  
John and Judith Bruzus  
Connie & Dennis Cunningham  
Cheryl Gagliasso & David Belshaw  
Patricia & Welko Gasich  
John Gatto & Pat Dowd  
Aaron Grossman, Friends of Stevens  
Creek Trail  
Fenton & Winifred Hill  
Marilyn Howard  
Francis & Margaret Keeler  
Angelo & Judith Marchi  
Amber Marcotte  
Eva Martin-Long  
Mark McKenna

Philip Neilsen  
Barbara Nunes  
Paula Quintero  
Laverne Rabinowitz  
Jane & William Reed  
Linda Sanders  
Rachelle Sander  
Dolly & Ed Sandoval  
Tom Scannell  
George Sousa  
Dorothy & Darryl Stow  
LiCheng Tai

**NEW MEMBERS**  
Dick Mansfield

*Thank you*  
**FOR YOUR SUPPORT**