



Cupertino Historical Society & Museum
presents

the

Cornerstone

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THE HOUSE OF HOO HOO

By Jason Foreman, Board member and Annual BBQ Co-Chair

Close your eyes in the still of the summer night, ignore the oceanic whirl of the highways and byways bisecting the glass and concrete tech city. You can almost hear it...

Far above the leafy limbs of the plum and apricot trees that dotted Monta Vista, a wild and raucous din would echo into the valley well into the night. One could hear the saxophone music of Norman Nathanson and his band wafting over the hills. Locals, men in their work boots and ladies in their flapper dresses, joined the gaiety on one of five dance floors, with a sense of abandonment indicative of the era that would come to be known as the Jazz Age. Libations, outlawed by an Act of Congress, could even be had at a price.

For fieldhands, fruit-pickers, and cannery workers at the turn of the century it must've been a welcomed respite from the day's toil in the orchards and packing plants. For the orchardists and merchants who represented the middle class of the growing crossroads that would in one generation incorporate as Cupertino, it may have seemed the rightful spoils of their tireless labor and calculated gambles. And for the small farming town of Monta Vista it must've been a momentous sight to see one of the world's greatest architectural marvels of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915, transplanted to such an unassuming locale and

serving as one of the town's earliest local roadhouses.

No, this description doesn't fit Paul & Eddies, or even the infamous Stella's Place, instead it is a history of the one and only House of Hoo Hoo.

Purchased from the Exposition in 1917 and set up prominently on Monta Vista's Inspiration Point, eight towering columns composed of Sugar Pine, White Pine, Douglas Fir, Western Hemlock, Western Spruce, Red Cedar, and Port Orford Cedar constituted the House's resplendent and masterfully constructed facade., complete with an inspiration tower and a scenic balcony completed the building. Stepping onto its grounds one would be struck by the arboreal beauty of the massive logs, still covered in different colored bark, that seemed to fit into a forest rather than a secluded night-spot. The gothic interior, constructed of old growth Redwood, Sugar Pine, White Pine, and Douglas Fir was given over to cavorting, consuming, and commingling of by some of the earliest members of the Monta Vista community. (Celebrating, carousing,

Named for the eccentric loggers and lumbermen who were known to dress in black cloaks and pointed hats who made up the membership of the Concatenated Order of Hoo Hoos, their structure was the only submission of the entire International Exposition to be contributed by any fraternal order. Its purpose was to showcase not only the master craftsmanship of its builders, but also the variety of beautiful, quality, western timber harvested by an industry in boom-times.

Unfortunately the rhythmic shuffle of its five dance floors and the wail of its saxophones weren't to last. In 1926 the House of Hoo Hoo burned to the ground in a sight as spectacular as the building itself, leaving only faded memories in the hearts and minds of old timers, and even further faded pictures in our museum archives.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER: A NOTE FROM DARRYL STOW

Dear Members and Friends:

This is my first letter to the membership as your new Board President. I assumed that role on July 1st from Immediate Past President Sharon Blaine who did an outstanding job serving this organization for the last two terms of office and shepherding CHSM through the most difficult COVID-time. In a somewhat normal settling, your board held a lovely installation ceremony at the home of Sharon and Dick Blaine (see picture). I am hopeful that we are beginning to emerge from our long period of COVID-related closure and quarantine and look forward to working with our outstanding Executive Director, Jennifer Furlong, to move our organization forward again.

However, this is not my first rodeo as CHSM board president. I joined the board in 2003 along with several other new board members who were recruited to stabilize the organization that was in severe financial difficulties. We were successful in doing that and subsequently I served as board president for the 2009-2011 terms of office. I believe strongly in the mission of our historical society and am honored to be serving as your president again.

Just a little of my background. My wife Dorothy and I moved to Cupertino in 1966 along with our two children, when I transferred to the Bay Area for my employer, Pacific Telephone. One of the first things we did in our new community was to become members of the Cupertino Historical Society as we believed it important to support one's community. In subsequent years, both Dorothy and I became heavily involved with non-profit organizations in the community. I retired from then Pacific Bell in 1994 after 37 years of service with the company to devote full time to family and community activities.

So what's been happening and what's ahead for your historical society as we emerge from the COVID restraints?

Here are some highlights:

- We shifted our educational offerings to online to include reading groups, speaker events, book talks and trivia games.
- Our annual BBQ Fundraiser is back after a one year hiatus and we will be returning to the beautiful Picchetti Winery who have generously allowed us to be the first public event at the winery since the shutdown. The event will be on Friday, October 1st at 4:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars; invitations will be out shortly. Board members Jason Foreman and Bill Kerr are chairing this important event which is always a lot of fun and critical to our financial health. Even if you cannot attend, your financial support of our organization is needed and appreciated. Please note that proper protocols will be followed regarding COVID-19.

CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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MELLON FOUNDATION INTERN

Jasslie Altamirano



- We are joining the City of Cupertino in honoring our first City Attorney, Boris Stanley. Stay tuned to our social media and EventBrite feeds for announcements of events during Mr. Stanley's visit.
- Our Collections Committee, chaired by historian Gail Fretwell-Hugger, is hard at work on our upcoming exhibit which will feature important periods in the history of Cupertino, starting from the time of the Native Americans. This new exhibit should be opening in the Fall.

If at any time you have suggestions for how we can make Cupertino Historical Society more relevant and important in the community, please let me know.

Darryl

FROM OUR DOCUMENTING CUPERTINO DURING COVID PROJECT: THE COLOR OF COVID

By Rishik Srivastava, Volunteer and Museum Docent



I am COVID.
I am strong.
You might think I'm dangerous,
And no, you're not wrong.

I'll knock upon your door at night
And take you out without a fight.
Just who you are, I don't care
Because I've no concept
Of wrong or right.

Unless, of course, you're rich or white.

The broken, black, homeless man languishing on the streets?
To me, just another piece of fresh meat.
That worn Hispanic factory worker supporting his kid?
Just wait until you see what I did.

The weary Mexican migrant toiling in the field?
I just see an innocent with no shield.
Broken bodies, hearts and souls are my handiwork
I seize, destroy and revel in this minefield.

And especially those who you deem essential
The ones we can't live without.
A sea of melanin - ah, dark misery
Up against me, it'll be a rout.

And it's a crying shame, at that
They really didn't have a choice
By the time I'm done with them, America
You'll wish you had raised your voice.

I'm the Grim Reaper and I love it.
No better way to flex my might.
Poor, Latinos, and black Americans
No human fails to satisfy my appetite.

Unless, of course, you're rich or white.
The rich and white are a nut I can't quite crack.
The straw that breaks my camel's back.
Not too far, but just out of sight,
Alas, I cannot breach those shimmering walls of white.

They live in gated communities
Behind the walls of tech, an impermeable immunity.
To the dwellers of the crowded slums, meanwhile,

Just know resistance is futile.

Of course, even if you're cured of me
The real pain only begins.
When you're six figures in debt because of me
Who is it who really wins?

Eventually, I'll die out
Just like all organisms do
But before I go, America, I have a question
To ponder for you, and you, and you

When I bid you adieu,
What will you do
About the racial injustices I've exposed?
The poor, the brown, the black folks have to risk their lives
While the rich and the white are safely enclosed

Listen up, America:
You say all men are created equal
But unless you help your black and latino brothers
The suffering will have a sequel!

In the meanwhile, I'll do my job
Inflicting misery with all my might.
Eventually, I pray
I pray, I pray

You all will see the light.

Only then will there be no poor, no brown, no black, no white.

Museum Docent, special events volunteer and local high school student, Rishik Srivastava submitted this poem to our "Documenting Cupertino During COVID-19" archive project in the Spring. We thought its message so powerful and timely, that we knew we needed to share it with our membership (with Rishik's permission, of course).



COUNCIL COMES TO VISIT

By Jennifer Furlong, Executive Director

On Wednesday, July 14, Councilmembers Moore and Wei, with City Intern Rachel Jiang, joined five Board Members (Gail Fretwell-Hugger, Sharon Blaine, Darryl Stow and Bill Kerr), along with our Executive Director, Jennifer Furlong, at the Snyder-Hammond House property. Councilmem-



Pictured Above (L to R): Councilmember Wei, Councilmember Moore, Board Member Gail Hugger, Bill Kerr (back row), City Intern Rachel Jiang, Board President Darryl Stow (blocked), and Former Board President Sharon Blaine.

Pictured Below: Councilmembers Moore and Wei ham it up on the front steps of the Snyder-Hammond



bers visited Snyder-Hammond as part of their special subcommittee, as appointed by Mayor Paul, to improve relations between the Cupertino Historical Society and the City of Cupertino. We know that this visit to the Snyder-Hammond property was especially illuminating for our guests—as they could

“After several years and various creative attempts at finding a publicly beneficial use for the S/H House, CHSM collectively realized that we owned a white elephant: the house was not architecturally significant; it was in a terrible state of repair that would have taken hundreds of thousands of dollars to bring up to code to be usable; and because of liability concerns we had lost our onsite caretaker. Worst of all, there is no public access to the property due to the entrance road crossing the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. In short, we had taken ownership of a building with the best intentions, but which was costly to maintain with no practical use for CHSM or the public good.”

From June 2021 Letter from Sharon Blaine, then Board President, to Council

see the challenges with maintaining the property, as described in our June 3 letter to council (see excerpt above). The house The Sub-Committee, made up of Councilmembers Moore and Wei, have met with our Executive Committee, at the home of Sharon Blaine, to learn more about the inner workings of our organization. Board Member Bruce Parsons is conducting a study of area historical societies and museums and the financial relationships between them and their respective cities for the subcommittee. We are hopeful that this inquiry into our organization will yield greater cooperation with the city and enhanced collaboration on events and programming in the future.

Below: While touring the Snyder Hammond Barn, we came across the original City Council Chambers Sign. Pictured Left to Right: Councilmember Wei, Intern Rachel Jiang, Executive Director Jennifer Furlong, Former President Sharon Blaine, and Councilmember Moore.



REMEMBERING BEEZ JONES AND PAT HUMPHREY

By Donna Austin, Board Member

Beez Jones was always the bee's knees when it came to the old days in "Kewpertino". She loved orchards and open space and history. Beez's ancestors came from Scotland in 1850 and settled on 160 acres of land that is now on the Apple site in Cupertino.



Robert and Margaret Glendenning were orchardists and ranchers and Beez was their great granddaughter. She was also related to Burrell Leonard who was the L family in Vallco. HP kept the original Glendenning

barn, the pump house and the windmill tower, using the area for a picnic site for their employees. HP sold the property to APPLE who carefully took apart and reassembled it after designing Apple Park. There is a plaque dedicated to the Glendennings on this barn today.

Beez has been active in the YMCA and the Cupertino Historical Society and the Stocklmier Task force and hoped the city would restore the house and grounds. Beez always was proud of the university she graduated from, (Stanford) or would gladly tell you how pronounce correctly Cupertino, or how to care for an orchard. Beez Glendenning Jones will be missed!



Sam and Beez Jones at Bordi Winery in 1985.

Bernice Glendenning Jones October 31, 1925 - June 12, 2021. Cupertino. Beez Jones, a lifelong resident of California, passed away at the age of 95.



Violet Pat Humphrey

1923-2021

Pat was 98 and died at home in Cupertino. She was a long time member of the Cupertino Historical society



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BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings

August 18, September 15, October 20 (Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 4:30 pm on Zoom). To receive an invitation, please email Jennifer Furlong at:
jennifer@cupertinohistoricalsociety.org

Upcoming Events

"A Sip of History!" CHSM Annual Fundraising BBQ,
Friday, October 1 at 4:30 pm, Picchetti Winery,
Invitations Forthcoming.

Speaker Event: Fireside Chat with Mayor Darcy Paul and Former City Attorney Boris Stanley, Week of October 18, Registration on EventBrite.

Exhibit Opening: Cupertino Until its Founding, Week of October 18, Registration on EventBrite.

CHSM Member Reception for Boris Stanley, Week of October 18, Cupertino Hotel, Registration on EventBrite.

City Ceremonies for Boris Stanley, Week of October 18—watch City Instagram + Website for more Information.

For the most up-to-date event listings, follow us on EventBrite.com (search for "Cupertino Historical Society" and subscribe) or Like us on Facebook.

Museum Hours:

The Museum is CLOSED until October, pursuant to local guidelines.

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CUPERTINO HISTORICAL
SOCIETY + MUSEUM

ANNUAL
BBQ

SAVE THE DATE
OCTOBER 1, 2021

DETAILS AND INVITATION TO FOLLOW. EMAIL
JENNIFER@CUPERTINOHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG
TO SPONSOR OR FOR MORE INFORMATION.