



Cupertino Historical Society & Museum  
presents

the

# Cornerstone

Winter 2021

Volume 31, Issue 4

## EXHIBIT OPENING—CUPERTINO: FROM THE OHLONE TO CROSS-ROADS TO INCORPORATION

By Gail Hugger, Exhibits Chair and Curator

The Cupertino Museum has been closed since the stay at home orders were issued in 2019, imagine our surprise and delight when the city and county started opening again. Our Exhibits Committee, chaired by Gail Hugger, immediately got to work on our latest exhibit which chronicles Cupertino history up until shortly after its founding in 1955.



Mayor Paul opens the exhibit with a few remarks.

The exhibit opened, much quieter than our regular exhibit openings; however, we were honored to welcome Mayor Darcy Paul and Councilmembers Kitty Moore and Hung Wei as our honored guests. We Served sparkling wine, which was sipped cautiously under our masks, of course.



Exhibit Curator Gail Hugger serves sparkling wine at the exhibit opening in October.



Left to Right: Board Members JR Fruen and Donna Austin with Kal Der Bing.

Because we (and the Quinlan Community Center) are not fully open to the public, we have decided to offer small, private group tours to interested parties. Tours can be reserved in advance by filling out our online form. To ensure that we have a docent available to take you on your tour, please list several available dates and times and give us as much advance notice as possible.



Councilmembers Moore and Wei at the exhibit opening.

Online Visit Request: [bit.ly/CHSMVisit](https://bit.ly/CHSMVisit)

# **PRESIDENT'S CORNER: A NOTE FROM DARRYL STOW**

Dear Members and Friends:

This past quarter has been an exciting and fulfilling time for the Cupertino Historical Society.

First we had a very successful BBQ Fundraiser on October 1st at the beautiful Picchetti Winery in Cupertino. For many of our guests it was the first opportunity in some time to take part in a group activity in person. It was our first such event since 2019. We are very grateful to Leslie Pantling and Matti Small of Picchetti Winery for allowing us to hold our event on their grounds and supporting us so well. The weather was perfect - something that is never guaranteed in the Fall and the dinner provided by Catered Too was excellent.

Successful events don't just happen and we had a great team of volunteers to make it happen, starting with our BBQ Co-chairs Jason Foreman and Bill Kerr. Our committee included:

Donna Austin, Sharon Blaine, Helene Davis, Zorka Keenan, Neeraj Mathur, Bruce Parsons and Janet Riddell. In addition we were fortunate to have the services of the two best live auctioneers anywhere in WVCs Exec Josh Selo and community leader Jim Walker who helped raise nearly \$10,000 in the live auction for our plucky little community organization. Their efforts were aided greatly by Recology G.M John Zirelli who donated not one but two of his famous dinners that brought in almost half of our live auction receipts. Josh and Jim always make the live auction great entertainment. Overall, we netted over \$26,000 for the event that we badly need.

The other big event was the soft opening on October 22nd of our latest exhibit in the museum at Quinlan Community Center entitled: "Cupertino - From Ohlone to Crossroads to Incorporation." The exhibit is the latest creation of Cupertino's master historian and CHS Board member, Gail Fretwell-Hugger. The exhibit, housed in sparkling white exhibit cabinets, was formally opened that evening by Cupertino Mayor Darcy Paul with Councilmembers Kitty Moore and Hung Wei in attendance. CHS Board members who spent many hours assisting Gail in putting the exhibit together were: Sharon Blaine, Zorka Keenan, Neeraj Mathur, Bruce Parsons and Paula Quintero.

Due to the continuing impact of COVID-19, the Quinlan Community Center is not open to the general public and thus our museum is so-impacted. However, we do have permission from the Quinlan staff that small groups of six or so can be accommodated into the museum to view the new exhibit if arranged for in advance. Here is the link to request a reservation: [bit.ly/CHSMVisit](https://bit.ly/CHSMVisit)

The COVID-19 impact has also caused us to defer our speaker series. We are hopeful to be able to schedule that series again after the first of the new year.

## **CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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### **TRAVELING TRUNK DOCENTS**

Sonja Cook | *Coordinator*  
Gail Fretwell-Hugger  
Shari Kerr  
Sharon Bryon

### **MELLON FOUNDATION INTERN**

Jasslie Altamirano



Finally, I want to welcome back our talented Executive Director, Jennifer Furlong, who returned recently after a prolonged surgical leave. We missed you!!

Please watch your mailboxes for our end of year giving letter and a very important member survey.

Wishing you a warm and rewarding holiday season!



**CHSM ANNUAL BBQ 2021: PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS**





## A FALL AFFAIR: CHSM ANNUAL BBQ

By Jason Foreman, BBQ Co-Chair

Friday, October 1 CHSM held its Annual BBQ for the first time since 2019. Throughout our planning process, we were concerned that hosting an in-person

### Some Impressions from my First BBQ:

*"The man with the golden voice himself, emceeding the evening...a rum cake worth twice or maybe three times its weight in gold according to some well informed folks...special guests with special insights into one of the threads of the history of our town...two dinners that dared to set a new record in the altruism of our little auction...I mention no names so as not to leave anyone out, as everyone played a part in making our evening the lovely time and raging success that it was."*

—Jason Foreman

event during the pandemic would result in cancellation or disaster. This year's BBQ, offered later in the season than we'd ever hosted, presented its own set of challenges. The rustic serenity of Picchetti Winery's historic grounds, the decorative handiwork of dedicated volunteers, the faithfulness and kindness of sponsors old and new, the sumptuous faire, and fine wine all came together in a beautiful symphony that was beyond what any of our committee could have expected.

The day of our BBQ we readied and prepped, setting up tables and décor. I found myself pacing Picchetti's grounds, taking in the empty scene willing everything to go off without a hitch. Once BBQ time approached and all our vendors were in place, guests began arriving. Then, we greeted an onslaught of smiling faces as diverse as our city itself. People who were out for a good time at a CHSM function, glad to be out together, united in our appreciation of history, culture, and community.

This unity showed, not only in the wide smiles of our guests or the spirited conversations about times past, but also in the generosity displayed at our live and silent auctions. I was struck by how our community came together to show kindness and friendship and benevolence towards one another and the public good.

In discussing the success of the evening I would like to give a special thanks to the tireless dedication, action and foresight of the 2021 CHSM BBQ Planning Committee without whom our wonderful evening would have been impossible: Neeraj Mathur, Bruce Parsons, Zorka Keenan, Helene Davis, Donna Austin, Janet Rid-

dle, Sharon Blaine, Jennifer Furlong, Darryl Stow, and Bill Kerr. Without this committee, the success of this evening would never have come to pass.

Between ticket sales, sponsorships, and auction items we raised a whopping \$37,000 that evening. This amount, after event expenses, translates to roughly 25% of our operating budget for the coming year! With your continued support, this ensures we can still offer a multitude of programs designed to capture, preserve, and promote the history of Cupertino. Among those programs: Traveling Trunk, Quarterly Speaker Program, Reading Groups, Museum Exhibits, Open Houses, and new and ongoing initiatives! We are looking to 2022 with optimism and excitement largely because of our supporters in the community. We look forward to seeing you at the next BBQ, in September 2022! If you are interested in serving on the 2022 BBQ Planning Committee, please contact Neeraj Mathur at: [mathur1022@gmail.com](mailto:mathur1022@gmail.com).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART  
OF THE SUPERSTAR  
TEAM THAT PLANS THE ANNUAL BBQ?

We would  
love to have  
your help!

Contact  
Neeraj Mathur,  
BBQ Chair  
[mathur1022@gmail.com](mailto:mathur1022@gmail.com)

Event Planning  
Sponsorships  
Decor  
Entertainment



CHSM ANNUAL BBQ 2021: PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)







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NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S.POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CUPERTINO, CA  
PERMIT NO.266

Current Resident or:

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings

January 19, February 16 (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](mailto:jennifer@cupertinohistoricalsociety.org)

*Quinlan Community Center will be closed December 23, 2021 through January 10, 2022.*

#### Upcoming Events

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

Ongoing—**Cupertino: From the Ohlone to Crossroads to Incorporation**, Museum Exhibit, Cupertino Historical Museum, Quinlan Community Center, On View until Spring 2022, Register for a Private Tour at [bit.ly/CHSMVisit](https://bit.ly/CHSMVisit)

*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 to the public, pursuant to local guidelines; however, we are open for small private tours. Reservations can be requested online through our website [www.cupertinohistoricalsociety.org](http://www.cupertinohistoricalsociety.org) or by visiting [bit.ly/CHSMVisit](https://bit.ly/CHSMVisit).

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**FUNDRAISECHSMUSEUM**

You'll get 20% off Minted stationery, holiday cards, custom gifts, and more - and 15% of each order will be donated back to Cupertino Historical Society and Museum at the end of the year. Every order makes a difference!