

THE CORNERSTONE

Newsletter of The Cupertino Historical Society
P.O. Box 88 Cupertino, CA 95015-0088
Cupertino Historical Museum
10185 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino, 95014
408/973-1495; Wednesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Vallco Museum: Tuesday & Saturday, 12 noon - 3 p.m.

January 1994
Judith Carson-Croes
Editor

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year!

The Board of Directors and I wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year. We are looking forward to a very rewarding year for the Society and the Museum.

We have some very interesting programs planned for the monthly meetings, starting with the premier of our own history video, "A Place called Cupertino", in January and then a fascinating perspective on the history of Cupertino by City Naturalist Barbara Banfield in February.

I hope you all had a chance to come to the opening of the "Dear Santa" exhibit on December 10. It was held in conjunction with the City's annual tree lighting ceremony and was a wonderful example of the cooperation between the City and the Society. Over 300 people attended the event. If you haven't seen the exhibit, be sure to stop by the Museum. The exhibit will be up through January 29. I would like to congratulate our manager, Judith Carson-Croes, and the others who worked on making this so successful.

I would also like to thank all of those you have donated to the Annual Fund Drive. We have another \$2,000 to go to reach our goal of \$10,000. If you have not given yet, please consider helping us reach that goal.

Phil Bush, President

'A PLACE CALLED CUPERTINO'* VIDEO TO PREMIER AT JANUARY MEETING

Started more than 2 years ago as a cooperative project between the Museum and the City, and as a way to chronicle some of the fascinating

early family histories of Cupertino and to provide a teaching tool on some local history, the video on growing up in Cupertino in the early 1900s has taken form and is ready for previewing by the community. *A Place Called Cupertino*, is based on ten interviews with some members of early Cupertino families, including Al Carter, Miriam Calvert Stelling, Mathilda Mariani Sousa, Ann Lopin Zarko, Hector, Irene, and Elio Picchetti, Marty Mathiesen, Catherine Paviso Gasich, and Bunny Regnart Midstokke. Stories of early settlement, childhood, and family life in this rural community are accompanied by some film footage of prune picking, still photos and maps.

The video will premier at the Society meeting, January 25 at 8:00 p.m. Members and guests and the general public are invited to attend this showing. The video will also air on Channel 53, the City Channel, and will be available for check out at the Cupertino Public Library.

* From a speech to the Cupertino Historical Society by former long-time Cupertino resident, John Perusina

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE SOCIETY PROGRAMS

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| • January 25 | - | Premier of video "A Place Called Cupertino" |
| • February 22 | - | Barbara Banfield, Naturalist, "Natural History of Cupertino" |
| • March 22 | - | "Early Spanish Settlement: The Castro Family Story" |

More information will be forthcoming on these programs in future issues of *The Cornerstone*.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF CUPERTINO SUBJECT OF FEBRUARY MEETING

What were the plants growing in the Cupertino area thousands of years ago? Are some of

those plants we now consider "native" really not so native? These and other questions will be posed at the February meeting by Barbara Banfield, Naturalist for the City of Cupertino. Barbara will not only ask questions but will also answer some on how the mix of plants growing in the hills, valleys, and streams of Cupertino and the surrounding area have changed through the centuries.



Barbara, who has been interested in the natural world, especially plants, since the age of 9 while in parks and recreation camps in Kansas City, graduated from the University of California at Santa Cruz in Environmental Studies. She has been the City of Cupertino Naturalist for the last seven years and operates the many nature programs at the Nature Museum at McClellan Ranch.

Come and explore some of this natural history of Cupertino, February 22.

PLEASE NOTE!!!
THE FEBRUARY PROGRAM WILL BE HELD IN THE UNION CHURCH OF CUPERTINO, STEVENS CREEK BLVD., NEXT TO THE OLD POST OFFICE. LOTS OF PARKING IN THE BACK.

WHAT MAKES A HISTORICAL SOCIETY A SUCCESS?

By Genie Olson, Galt Area Historical Society

Any historical society can be a success if it has strong leadership, an exciting and creative

agenda and active members! Right? Wrong! Although all of these things are worthwhile, there are other characteristics of a successful society that are **musts**, if an organization is to flourish in an area.

The first component of success is the understanding by all members as well as the officers, that the historical society exists in **partnership** with every other organization in a community and these groups must work in consort toward the common goal of preserving the history of an area.

We cannot be isolated and think that we can do it all by ourselves. We must get the cooperation from other organizations and enlist their members as well as ours in projects of preservation. The more we can bring together others in the area, the more we will receive support as we seek funding and volunteers for restoration projects.

Work with Officials

The second component of success is a good working relationship with the city council, board of supervisors, or whatever civic or county governing board is in the area. The support of civic leaders can cut through red tape, help provide the information needed regarding codes, etc. and can be a strong support advocate for a project. City councils and county boards must learn, **through your constant input**, that you are the historical "arm" of the area and can be relied upon to work together on such projects as the "historic element" of the general plan of a city, projects such as "Main Street USA" and/or identification of historic buildings and sites. These groups need to learn to look to you for the answers to questions about history and you need to watch and listen for any breach of historic preservation integrity. Together, a city council or county board of supervisors and a historical society can do much to preserve today for tomorrow.

An isolated historical group can do very little with its limited means, small membership and over-worked leaders. It is when the group learns to recognize that as a society it must lead others to see the need for historic preservation and it must seek to involve others in civic projects, that it will become a strong, active, successful historical society.

(Reprinted with permission from the California HISTORIAN, CCHS, September 1993)



A case of Santas in current holiday exhibit "Dear Santa" on view through January 29 1994

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE TOPS \$8,000

Thank you to the following 1994 Annual Fund Drive donors:

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Marty Mathiesen
Leslie & Carol McDowell

(Cont'd on back)

Welcome to New Members

Mr. and Mrs. Park Chamberlain

A Farewell Message By Judith Carson-Croes, Museum Manager

It is with some sadness that I bid you all goodbye, as of February 5. It is with great happiness that I tell you why I am leaving the Museum, the Society and the Bay Area. I am marrying Mr. Glenn Mason, of Spokane Washington, on February 26, in San Francisco and then will be moving to Spokane in March to new ventures in museums and local history projects. I am proud that I can say I was part of the beginning of The Cupertino Historical Museum and its progress in preserving and communicating Cupertino history. I will be equally proud to hear about its continued success. Good Luck! I will miss you all.

Cupertino Historical Board Members Term Expires

Member	C. Donald Allen	96
Member	Sally Brennan	96
President	Phil Bush	96
Treasurer	Don Frolich	94
Member	Charles Liggett	96
Vice President	Jeannie Ryder	94
Historian	Martin Sorensen	94
Member	Don Steele	95

January - February 1994 Calendar

JANUARY

- 2 5 "A Place Called Cupertino", Premier of Cupertino history video. Potluck-6:30; Program-8:00 p.m. Cupertino Historical Society Meeting.
- 2 6 "The Sacred and The Secular: A Workshop on Religious Properties" National Trust. San Francisco. (415) 956-0610

FEBRUARY

- 6 Origami demonstration, by Mr. Yoshiki Hurabayashi, San Jose Museum of Art, 294-2787
- 2 2 "Natural History of Cupertino", Barbara Banfield, City Naturalist Cupertino Historical Society, 8:00 p.m.
- 2 6 1994 Annual Barn Dance, Cupertino Host Lions Club. (408) 255-4995.

GENERAL MEETING, Tuesday January 25, 1994
Cupertino Room, Quinlan Community Center
6:30 p.m. - Potluck; 8:00 - Program
Program - "A Place Called Cupertino", Premier of New Cupertino History Video

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THANK YOU!

