

THE CORNERSTONE

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

June 1992
Judith Carson-Croes,
Editor

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's BBQ time - Friday, June 26, Portal Park

If you haven't yet purchased your tickets for the BBQ/Potluck you are running out of time. The deadline is June 20. Tickets are available from Bob Meyers, 258-6340, or at the Museum, 973-1495. The cost of \$5 covers the BBQ chicken, garlic bread, and soft drinks. Everyone is also requested to bring an item for the potluck, e.g., beans, salad, or dessert.

See you there!

Bob Meyers, President



Hazel making Traveling Trunk presentation at Saratoga Adult Day Care Center, 1990

HAZEL FRETWELL ENTERTAINS WITH 'TRAVELING TRUNK' AT MAY PROGRAM

On short notice, long time teacher and Cupertino resident, museum docent, and former Society president, Hazel Fretwell, opened up her trunk of historical artifacts and gave an

entertaining and instructive presentation of life in an early 20th c agricultural community. A popular presentation for local school children and seniors, since the late 1970's, the Traveling Trunk has visited dozens of classrooms and senior centers in the area. In the past two years, since the opening of the museum, more than 2000 children have learned a little bit of Cupertino history from docents Hazel, Henrietta Marcotte, and Mathilda Sousa, as they describe the use of various objects - from calf weaner to glove stretcher - contained in the trunk.

Thank you Hazel!

Due to an unfortunate injury, the scheduled speaker for the May program, Ms. Ina Cokely, was unable to appear. We hope she is feeling better and perhaps will speak at a future program.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE GETS WELL-DESERVED PRAISE

From Jeannie Ryder, Program Committee Chair

I want to thank every one who volunteered to decorate the room for our meetings, November - Jane Reed and Myrna Jelesko, February - Winkie Hill, March - Fay Falhaber, April - June Huffman and Yvonne Holt, May - Janet & Bob Meyers. The decorations were lovely. I also want to thank Yvonne Holt for organizing the telephone committee, which was very effective in reminding people about the meetings. I am sure that our increased attendance was due in large part to this personal touch.

And now for my appeal for the upcoming year... We are dedicated to providing interesting and enjoyable meetings throughout the year. We cannot do this if we do not have wonderful volunteers who are willing to share the duties of

putting on our meetings. Next fall is coming up very soon and I hope even more of you can take some time out of your busy lives to help us make our meetings special, something no member will want to miss.

We also need program suggestions. Please be specific if you have an idea for a program...give a name, phone number, other information that help coordinate the program. Thank you all for your suggestions for this past year's programs. Several of the programs were member generated and were most successful.

Editor's note: 'Thank you!', Jeannie, for providing interesting and stimulating programs for 1991-92 meetings!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE SOCIETY PROGRAMS

- **June 26** - Annual BBQ will be held at Portal Park, Cupertino
- **September 22** - First Society meeting of the fall.

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

MUSEUM WILL BE OPEN FOR ANNUAL JULY 4 PANCAKE BREAKFAST IN COMMUNITY CENTER

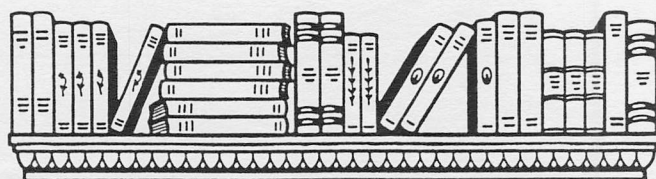
The annual pancake breakfast sponsored by the De Anza Optimist Club and held for the last two years in the Quinlan Community Center, will again be held this July 4. To provide those waiting to get their fill of pancakes and sausages with an interesting and worthwhile distraction, the Museum will be open from 8:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. For information on the pancake breakfast, call 865-1384.

THE CUPERTINO GENERAL STORE TELEPHONE RESTORED

Thanks to the skill and generosity of Mr. Gerry Billard, Society member and collector, trader, and restorer of old telephones, the original wall-mounted telephone, circa 1915, from the

Cupertino General Store, has been restored to working order, with ringing bells and all.

Mr Billard, a member of the Antique Telephone Collectors Association, presented the restored telephone to the Museum manager at the Society meeting, May 26.



NEW HISTORICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM PLANNED FOR START OF FALL CLASSES

In association with the current exhibition, "A Century of Education in Cupertino: 1860's - 1960's", a suitcase full of artifacts from early schools, a chronology of Cupertino schools, and reproductions of photos depicting Cupertino schools and education, is being assembled over the summer months. Geared to 3rd and 4th grades, the suitcase of the history of Cupertino schools can be checked out by teachers to use in their classrooms.

The Museum is looking for artifacts to include in the suitcase. Needed are donations of inkwells, quill and fountain pens, readers, primers, slates, school bells, report cards. These items do not need to be from Cupertino but should be representative of the 1860's - 1920's. If you have objects you can donate, please call Judith at 973-1495.

A MEMORIAL

Historical Society members and friends of Edgar "Bunny" Johnson, mourn his passing. Mr. Johnson, who died in San Jose on May 24, at the age of 80, lived and worked in Cupertino for many of those 80 years. A graduate of Cupertino Grammar School, he was a partner in Johnson Bros. Ranch in Cupertino until it was sold in 1962. He was active in the Rotary of San Jose and a Cupertino Historical Society member.

Old History in New Books

The one-room school house or country school was a type of school seen all across the United States, until the early 1900's when the concept of consolidation and school districts closed many of them. Today they still exist, some as schools, some as community centers, and some as museums. Author Andrew Gulliford, in his new edition of America's Country Schools, traces the history of the country school, including the lives of the teachers and students, the architecture, and the early school curriculum.

Ask your Librarian for: America's Country Schools, by Andrew Gulliford. Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1991.

This is the last issue of *The Cornerstone* for the program year. Look for the next issue in your mail boxes in September.



**HAVE A WONDERFUL
SUMMER!**

Cupertino Historical Society Board Members:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Sandra Basel | (92) |
| Don Frolich | (94) Treasurer |
| Fenton Hill | (93) |
| Bob Meyers | (93) President |
| Helen Moran | (92) Secretary |
| Jeannie Ryder | (94) Vice President |
| Linda Schultz | (93) Historian |
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Cupertino Historical Society June - July 1992 Calendar

JUNE

- 14 Calif. Country Antiques Show & Sale
Los Altos History House, Sunday,
11 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$5
- 14 1992 Graduation and Centennial Celebration,
Montebello School. By Invitation
- 20 Cultural Connections Meeting. Topic:
"Serving Schools in the '90s", Santa Cruz
City Museum. Call 429-3773 for information.
- 25-28 Conference of California Historical
Societies 1992 Annual Meeting, Riverside,
CA. (209)946-2169 for information.
- 26 Annual BBQ, Cupertino Historical Society,
Portal Park, \$5.00.

JULY

- 4 De Anza Optimist Club Pancake Breakfast,
Quinlan Community Center. Cupertino
Historical Museum open, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**GENERAL MEETING BBQ, Friday, June 26
Portal Park
N. Portal Avenue off Stevens Creek Blvd.
5:30 p.m. - Sundown**

Cupertino Historical Society
P.O. Box 88
10185 N. Stelling Road
Cupertino, CA 95014

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