

Historical Society and City of Cupertino Host Unveiling of de Anza National Historic Trail by National Park Services

By Steven Haze

History came alive on February 6, when the City of Cupertino and the Historical Society opened their doors and welcomed nearly 50 history enthusiasts that turned out to witness the presentation of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Comprehensive Management Plan by Meridith Kaplan of the National Park Service. Not since de Anza and his band of soldiers traveled through the area in 1776 has there been such an atmosphere of excitement and pageantry as created by the Museum President Phil Bush accompanied by society members Joe Adamo, Hamilton Ryder, Gary Gennestra and Mike Oliveria who were dressed in full regalia as Soldados se Cueras. (It should be noted that Board Member Jeannie Ryder made many of the uniforms used that evening and more importantly as part of the Bicentennial Re-enactment of 1976.)

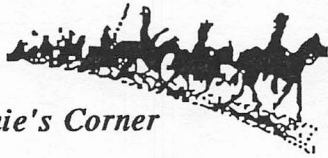
The National Park Service chose Cupertino as the first of a series of public meetings to unveil a very ambitious plan to identify and landmark the historic route that the de Anza expedition took back in 1775/1776. Within the United States over 1200 miles of the historic route stretch from Tubac, Arizona to the Presideo in San Francisco at Fort Point. It was on March 25, 1776 that the de Anza party encamped near Calabasas Creek in Cupertino near the Saratoga border, (CA Historic Landmark CHL800 is located at Monta Vista High School. There is also a re-enactment marker placed at McClellan Park Ranch.)

Board member Steven Haze on behalf of the Society hosted the gathering. Other sponsors included the Heritage Trails Fund's Amigos de Anza and Steve Dowling, Director of Parks and Recreation for Cupertino. Participants included Presidents of various Historical Societies; Parks and Recreation commissioners from nearby communities and Santa Clara County. Many of the individuals there that evening included those who served on Comprehensive Management Plan Task Forces from counties that include the historic route.

Locally, the Comprehensive Plan includes recognition and opportunities for developing the area of historical significance conducted by the Cupertino Planning Commission. The Society's purpose is to assure that the site on top of a knoll near Rancho San Antonio County Park is preserved and made available to the public as a historic site. It was at this site on March 26, 1776 that de Anza, Father Pedro Font and a small contingent of soldiers ascended the knoll and for the first time sighted the southern estuary which later became San Francisco Bay! This knoll is situated on lands of the San Jose Diocese. The Diocese has offered the knoll and its surrounding land to the public as part of a development proposal. From that knoll it is still possible to see El Palo Alto, the landmark 100 year old redwood tree which borders the peninsula cities of Menlo Park and Palo Alto along El Camino Real. El Palo Alto guided de Anza northward as he continued on from Cupertino towards present-day Fort Point at the Presideo in San Francisco.



Left to right: Joe Adamo, Gary Gennestra, George Cardinet, Meridith Kaplan, Steve Haze, Jeannie Ryder, Hamilton Ryder, Mike Oliveria



Jeannie's Corner

On March 28, Carol Henderson and Rose Linsay will be sharing information and memories from the MOFFETT FIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY. April 25 will bring us the author of "The West Side, and How We Grew." Robert levy will share with us how he compiled this detailed chronicle of Cupertino. May 23rd is about us.. The Cupertino Society and Museum ..will be the topic. Ethel Worn, our new museum director will be speaking about the future plans of the museum. WE NEED YOUR INPUT. Don't miss this meeting.

Esther Johnson and her telephone committee are an important link for our members. Notifying you of our meetings is just one of the functions of this splendid group of volunteers. Please call 257-9363 if any information needs to be disseminated throughout the Society. They will get it done!



In Memoriam:

The Cupertino Historical Society and Museum has received three memorial gifts since our last newsletter. June and Bob Huffman have remembered Leo Cagley of Milpitas, the brother of Opal Carle a member. Noreen Holt Hanrahan who was a member of the Holt-Herbert-Rodriguez family of Cupertino, and John Breeding a member of an early Saratoga family, are remembered by Henrietta Marcotte. Audrey Breeding is a member of the Society and a member of the pioneer family of Charles Hachen.

Welcome New Members!

George and Loretta Bassman	Cupertino
Paul and Judith Carmichael	Cupertino
Steven Haze	Cupertino
Ethel Worn	Los Gatos

Thank you to all who have renewed their memberships for 1994-1995. Your membership dues are so important to the museum. They help keep history and its importance in the forefront!

From Mary Lou Lyon:

Dedication of plaque honoring:

CAPTAIN ELISHA STEPHENS

April 1, 1995

11:00 AM

Blackberry Farm Golf Course

(In the front)

CAPTAIN ELISHA STEPHENS

1804-1887

A TRUE PIONEER

CAPTAIN STEPHENS BROUGHT THE FIRST WAGON TRAINS OVER THE SNOW COVERED SIERRA NEVADA TRUCKEE PASS WITH NO CASUALTIES-IN THE STEPHENS-MURPHY TOWNSEND PARTY OF 1844, ARRIVING AT SUTTER'S FORT WITH 11 WAGONS AND 51 PEOPLE PLUS 2 INFANTS BORN ON THE WAY. LATER WAGON TRAINS FOLLOWED HIS TRAIL LESS WELL. A BLACKSMITH BY TRADE, ELISHA SERVED UNDER THE COMMODORE STOCKTON IN ORDINANCE IN THE MEXICAN WAR, 1846-1848.

STEPHENS WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN RESIDENT TO HOMESTEAD 160 ACRES IN "WESTSIDE" (CUPERTINO) IN 1848 WHICH HE CALLED BLACKBERRY FARM. IN 1859 HE ADDED 155.57 ACRES FROM THE RANCHO SAN ANTONIO, MAKING 315.57 ACRES. HIS FAVORITE FOOD WAS THE EVER AVAILABLE RATTLESNAKE. IN 1862, HE SOLD ALL HIS PROPERTIES TO GEORGE McCAULEY AND WILLIAM McCLELLAN, RESPECTIVELY BECAUSE THE AREA HAD BECOME "TOO DURN CIVILIZED!"

Sponsors:

Cal Neva Chapter, Oregon trails Assn.
City of Cupertino
Cupertino Historical Museum
Mountain Charlie Chapter 1850
E Clampus Vitus



The Society would like to see as much history saved as possible. So much was destroyed in the 50's and 60's. Maybe you have pictures, brochures, articles or books which give interesting information? It would be nice if copies could be made for our files which are in the museum office.

Local History Videotape!
"A Place Called Cupertino"
available only at the
Cupertino History Museum

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The next step after public review and comment is implementation of the Comprehensive Plan along the 1200 mile route. With the National Park Service's support along with a cooperative agreement with Amigos de Anza, interested citizens and members of organizations such as the Historical Society have the opportunity to work with the local governmental commissions, councils and agencies toward full implementation. For more information if interested in participating in this effort of historical significance--please contact the Museum at (408) 973-1495.

A Message from the President

by Phil Bush

Our February meeting was held at the home of **Gerry and Dorothy Billard**. About 45 members and several guests were there. The potluck was excellent and the fellowship great.

Afterwards, we walked down to the workshop where chairs had been set up for people attending. **Gerry and Ham Ryder** spiced up the evening with their conversation about the happenings back then. The lights came on for the present. Gerry showed and told us about his various antique telephones and switch boards (see picture). A question period followed. A good time was had by all.

New Museum Director on Board

We wish to introduce our new Director, **Ethel Worn**. She started February 1, 1995 and I am impressed with her enthusiasm. We wish her good luck for the job ahead of her.

Worn, former Executive Director of the Los Gatos Museum Association for 3 years, is a graduate of San Jose State University's Liberal Arts Program and completed a graduate internship with the San Jose Arts Commission. Her interdisciplinary degree prepares her for museum work as it is organized around a core of studies in all the art forms including creative writing. The program places emphasis on the historical, interpretive critical and analytical approach to all art forms. She was chosen to participate in the CORO Foundation's leadership Training for Women in Public Affairs.

Worn said she is looking forward to making a contribution to the Cupertino Historical Museum and its community projects.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 1, 95 Dedication of Stephen's Plaque

April 22, 95 House Tour Los Altos Museum

DEADLINE April 28, 95 for 1995 Santa Clara County Historical Essay Contest; 3 Cash Prizes call 578-4485 for contest rules.

June 27, 1995 CHS BBQ , 257-9369

***Cupertino Historical Museum's
Educational Outreach***

**De Anza Lancer's Visit St. Joseph's School
by JOE ADAMO**

On February 28th the lancers paid a visit to St. Joseph's School. The 6th grade class of Ranae Beddo and the 4th grade class of Georgia Penna had been preparing for the meeting. As the Lancers participate every year at the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, the Trek's Patron Saint, the children were familiar with the honor guard function of the group.

As part of the California Living History Center, State Military Reserve Major, Joe Adamo, gave a new video presentation of Juan Bautista de Anza's life. He also gave a short talk about the 1976 re-enactment of the famous trek. Following, Jeannie and Ham Ryder continued with costume descriptions of life on the trek.

A question and answer period followed. The students asked about the families. Each trek family had at least 4 children, so mothers were very busy.

The Traveling Trunk is on the Road again!

Henrietta Marcotte has taken the "Trunk" traveling in the last few months. The Milpitas Historical Society enjoyed its contents and had a great time reminiscing about all the "old Times." The Girl Scout Troop of Charlene Wenz came to the Museum on a January afternoon for a presentation and museum tour, and the Rolling Hills 4H Club met to hear the wonderful stories of early Cupertino. In February, the Women's Society of the Union Church of Cupertino enjoyed a morning with Henrietta and the "Trunk" and Villa Fontana Senior Retirement Inn members appreciated a chance to hear about familiar objects from their past. Thank you, Henrietta!

Recent Donations:

A sincere thank you to the following persons who have recently donated funds to the Cupertino Historical Museum.

**Hazel Lester, Sharon Blaine.
The Union Church of Cupertino
The Villa Fontana, Senior Residence Inn**

Volunteer News: by Roberta Zentner

This is a busy time of the year for all the CHS volunteers. Docents meet the first Saturday of each month at the QCC to fill out the daily schedule for the coming month for Quinlan and Vallco Museums. There are always opportunities to help out at the museum, please, if you have three hours any Wednesday through Saturday, join us. It's a rewarding experience.

Henrietta Marcotte has again been involved in finding historical information for the society. A letter came from Michael Dooley, asking for information about a Cupertino pioneer, a sea captain. Through her extensive research she was able to give definitive information to this historian in Connecticut. The museum was also asked to give some background information on the land at the intersection of Doyle Road and Lawrence Expressway. Henrietta was on hand to give the information to Carol Rast of San Jose. Fortunately, Henrietta was a docent to answer questions from the overflow crowd on February 25. The Ikebana Flower Show brought over 75 people into the museum.

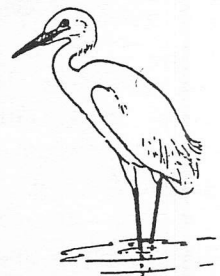
A big thank you to all of the volunteers who baked cookies, prepared lemonade and staffed the Museum tables at the Audubon Day celebration, March 11. Although it was moved inside because of the weather, the day was a success.

Thank you to our bakers and staffers!

Charles Liggett	Loretta Bassman
Frances Bush	Donna Grce
Opal Carle	Virginia Guengerich
Jane Reed	Faye Faulhaber
Kathleen Calhan	Winnie Mardesich
Phil and Frances Bush	Jeremy Chou
Henrietta Marcotte	Genevieve Ziegler

Thank you for Audubon Day Donations:

**Yvonne Holt, June Huffman, Paula
Quintero, Jeannie Ryder, and Miriam
Stelling.**



NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE!

A VIDEO ON CUPERTINO'S AGRICULTURAL HISTORY

"A PLACE CALLED CUPERTINO"

produced by
The Cupertino Historical Society and The City Channel



Nikola Perusina Family, Cupertino, c. 1920

Based on interviews with descendants of some of the early families of Cupertino, this video depicts some of the rural life of those families who settled in Cupertino (then called West Side) in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Length: 30 Minutes

Cost: \$30.00 (Includes tax)

© 1994

Contact: Cupertino Historical Museum
10185 N. Stelling Rd.
Cupertino, CA 95014
408/973-1495

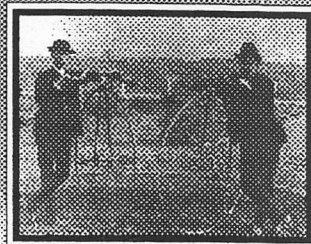
Proceeds from the sale of this video go toward the educational programs of the Cupertino Historical Museum.

Matching Gift Opportunities

Matching Grant programs are provided by many companies. As an employee or retiree of any of the listed companies, your Cupertino Museum Membership may be matched dollar for dollar and provide the maximum amount of support. Please check this partial list and let us know if your company participates in this valuable service, or ask your company's public affairs office for instructions. Your extra efforts in support of your Museum is greatly appreciated.

Adobe Systems, Inc.	K Mart
Allstate Insurance Co.	Eli Lilly & Co.
ARCO	Levi Strauss & Co.
Armco, Inc.	McKesson
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Borden, Inc.	Orchard Supply
	Hardware
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Carter Hawley Hale Strs	R.J.Reynolds, Inds.
Circuit City Stores, Inc	Rolm Corp.
Consolidated Foods	Safeway Stores
Chevron Corp.	Sprint
Del Monte Corp.	State Farm Ins.
Delux Check Printers	Sun Microsystems
Digital Equipment Corp.	SYVA
Eaton Corporation	Travelers, Corp.
Exxon Corp, USA	Sara Lee, Corp.
First Interstate Bank of CA	Sherson Lehman
	Hutton
The Gap Stores	Times Mirror
	Newspapers
Gallo	Xerox Foundation
General Electric	TRW
Hewlett-Packard Co.	United Tech. Corp.
Intel Foundation	Wells Fargo
Westinghouse Electric	

Join the Cupertino Historical Society & Museum!



Membership Categories:

- ☐ Individual \$20
☐ Family \$35
☐ Student (17 & under) \$15

- ☐ Contributor \$50
☐ Patron \$125

- ☐ Organizations, Clubs
 and Businesses \$75

Mr./Ms./Mrs./Mr. & Mrs (please circle one)

I enclose \$_____ payable to the Cupertino Historical Society

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Are you interested in becoming a museum volunteer? _____ New or renewing member? _____
 All memberships are renewable on July 1 of each year. Memberships are partially tax-deductible. Gifts, memorials and bequests are fully deductible.

THE CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
 10185 N. Stelling Road
 Cupertino, CA 95014

THE CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the history of Cupertino and its surrounding region. We operate our main museum in the Quinlan Community Center, along with a satellite museum at Valco Fashion Park on Wolfe Road. Museum hours are 10-4pm, Wednesday through Saturday. Our Valco site is open on Tuesday and Saturday from noon-3pm. Both museums are open to the public, and admission is free. For additional information on the Society or museums call (408) 973-1495.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1994-5

Philip Bush, *President*

Jeannie Ryder, *Vice President*

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Don Frolich

Steven Haze

Charles Liggett

Kathy Nellis

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Don Steele

MUSEUM STAFF

Ethel Worn

Roberta Zentner

Museum Director

Museum Coordinator

Volunteers Needed!

The Cupertino History Museum needs volunteers to greet visitors at *both* of our museums. A smiling face and a willingness to work 2-3 hours per week is all we require! Other opportunities also abound - we are presently looking for volunteers to work with our education department to expand Henrietta Marcotte's unique "traveling trunk" program, which demonstrates historical artifacts to schoolchildren and senior groups, both at the museums and various sites throughout Cupertino. Please call Roberta Zentner at 973-1495 if you are interested!

THE CUPERTINO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Quinlan Community Center

10185 N. Stelling Road

Cupertino, CA 95014

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Cupertino, CA

Permit #266

Don't Forget

CHS ANNUAL MEMBER'S BBQ & FUNDRAISER

Tuesday Evening, June 27
Quinlan Community Center

*Enjoy Dinner and Show your Support
only \$20 a person
call Jeannie Ryder@ 257-9363*

Reservations must be made by June 19