



SPRING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Bancroft Bulletin

April/May 2020 • Vol. 21, No. 5

From the President's Desk . . .

First and foremost, I would like to express my hope that all of you, our Spring Valley Historical Society members and supporters, are healthy during this unprecedented COVID 19 pandemic. As you can imagine, we have shut down all visitation and other activities at the Bancroft Ranch House in order to slow the progress of the virus and will continue to do so until public health authorities lift the restrictions.

What does this mean for our Society? Naturally, **the April meeting has being cancelled** and we are trying to line up another date for the presentation by the World Champion San Diego County Spinners. Another probable casualty of the pandemic is the **Rummage Sale** scheduled for May 16th and 17th. Again, if necessary, we will postpone the event to a later date so that we don't lose out on our biggest fundraiser of the year. Donations can still be made, however (*see donation receipt on page 4*).

Health experts are hoping for the best (as we all do) but preparing for the worst. According to some of the predictions regarding the spread of the virus, if the recommended restrictions are not adhered to and the virus continues to spread, the restrictions could be extended into the summer or even the fall. This would mean canceling even more general meetings including:

June – this is the annual meeting when we **elect our Board members**;

August – the very popular **Summer Bar-B-Que** and Raffle may have to be postponed or cancelled;

October – hopefully the pandemic will be winding down and some or all of the restrictions lifted but we will be prepared to carry on the business of the Society, no matter what.

(continued on page 3)

APRIL 4th PROGRAM

San Diego County Spinners International Back-to-Back Wool Challenge

**** CANCELLED ****

The Spring Valley Historical Society Board has made the difficult decision to **cancel** our April 4 program potluck and presentation due to the growing concerns related to the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19. The San Diego County Spinners have been rescheduled to present at our June 6 meeting assuming that gathering restrictions will have been lifted. Please check our website and Facebook page for additional updates as the June meeting approaches.

See you in June! (hopefully)

Those of you with Facebook – please visit and Like our Museum page!

<https://www.facebook.com/Bancroft-Ranch-House-Museum-111098050441345/>

And our website is:

www.svhistoricalsociety.org



SVHS DATES TO REMEMBER

Apr. 4	Program – 7 pm ** CANCELLED **
Apr. 20	Board meeting – 7 pm
May 18	Board meeting – 7 pm
May 22	Newsletter deadline
June 6	Program – 7 pm Rescheduled S.D. Co. Spinners?



SVHS Officers/Committees

President	<i>Rob Case</i>	462-7928
Programs	<i>Sarah Moore</i>	994-1749
Ways/Means	<i>Nancy Hagan</i>	698-8350
Treasurer	<i>Carol Serr</i>	
Secretary	<i>Carol Myers</i>	
Membership	<i>Carol Serr</i>	698-1242
Bldg/Grnds Ch.	<i>Chris Hagan</i>	550-8482
Curatorial Ch.	<i>Pat Case</i>	462-7928
Historian	<i>Pat Case</i>	
Publicity	<i>Raquel Veluz</i>	
Hospitality	<i>Nancy Hagan</i>	
Newsletter	<i>Carol Serr</i>	698-1242

e-mail: SpringVlyHistSoc@aol.com

Caretaker Jim Van Meter 469-1480

General meetings are held on the 1st Sat. of even-numbered months; & Board meetings are at 7 pm on the 3rd Monday of every month - both held at the Museum annex - at 9050 Memory Lane, Spring Valley, (619) 469-1480.

Visiting hours at the Bancroft Ranch House Museum and grounds are 1-4 pm, Fri. thru Sun. Group tours by appointment.

Caretaker Jim Van Meter is always looking for people willing to be docents to help with giving tours; please contact him.

The *Bancroft Bulletin* is a bimonthly publication of the Spring Valley Historical Society. Contributions are welcome and should be sent to the Editor, either by e-mail (preferably) or to: SVHS, P.O. Box 142, Spring Valley, CA 91976.



DISCLAIMER: Articles printed in this newsletter are informational in nature and do not necessarily represent the views or beliefs of the Board of Directors or the Society in general.



If you help sponsor this publication you can use your contribution as a tax deduction to a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our Tax ID number is **237317982**. Please help us pay newsletter printing or postage costs.

Plants for Sale

Check out the Garden Shop near the entrance to the grounds (at gate). There are a variety of plants at great prices! We're always happy to take more plant donations.

Caretaker's Corner

Hope all who read this fine newsletter are doing well. These times, they are a changing. Here on Memory Lane everything is in bloom, thanks to all the rain. Trying to keep up with all the weeds now. Building & Grounds committee are helping with the yardwork and making progress with current projects.

The museum will remain closed during this COVID-19 crisis. All meetings/events to be postponed until further notice. Memory Lane has less noise and traffic due to working half days or businesses closing.

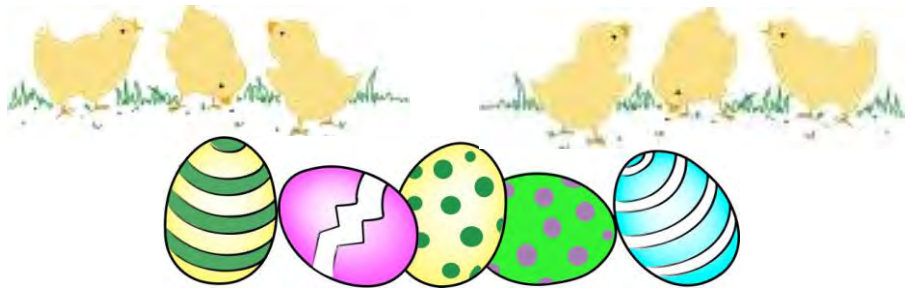
Barnyard News Flash: Resident chickens soon to greet new hens. Once again we activate the relocation program for "Rowdy" the teen rooster. Hosting five feral cats helps with vermin control. Seems to be that there are no ground squirrels or fruit rats around here lately.

Take care.

Hopefully I will see you at our June program.

Yours faithfully,
Jim Van Meter - Caretaker/Director/Raconteur

** Editor's note: members are always Needed for projects around the grounds and museum; Jim and our Buildings & Grounds committee can use your help.*



For the Record - Editor's Goof

It appears that the *Bulletin* issue number for the April/May issue has been incorrect since 2016! Oops. It should be Issue No. 5, instead of 6. I typically copy over the last years pages and revise for the current year. But somehow my brain advanced the issue number four years ago, for some unknown reason. Hmm, looks like I goofed up the volume and/or issue number in the footer of some issues also!

I wonder if any readers noticed these errors?

Membership News

No new members since January but I wanted to inform you all about Changes to the society's Bylaws - recently revised by the Board of Directors. It has been decided we should do away with a Family membership category and only have Individual, along with Organization (\$50) and Life (\$300) categories. Individual will be raised to \$20 per person.

Please see the Bylaw revisions on page 4 to review and vote on at our June meeting (if it will be possible to hold then, due to the current virus pandemic issue). For out of town members, please send your vote via e-mail if possible.

Thank you for your continued to support and input.

Carol Serr
Membership Chair

SVHS NOTICES

DONATIONS:

Monetary donations of any amount help preserve our local history by keeping the museum running - and are greatly appreciated! Our Thanks to those of you who generously gave money (\$116!) to Nancy's "Red Box" donation at our February meeting. Unfortunately, we don't know yet when we will be able to hold a future meeting due to the current pandemic issue.

DOCENTS NEEDED:

History buffs, or folks who like to talk – your help is needed with giving tours of our museum and grounds.* Drop by some time and learn the tour spiel from Jim. Then start giving tours during our visiting hours. Even if you can only commit to one Sat. or Sun. each month, your help will be greatly appreciated. Give Jim a call if you can help (619-469-1480).

*** While the museum is closed unforeseeably to visitors and tours at this time, those interested in becoming a docent for SVHS could spend this "down time" to Learn more about the history of the Ranch House area for future tours when things return to normal.**



(President's Message - continued from page 1)

On a brighter note, the next time we can hold a meeting at the Bancroft Ranch House, you are sure to notice several improvements but for now they are going to be a surprise. Also, if any of you start going stir crazy in your homes, the Board will be developing a list of small projects that can be done singly or in groups of up to four people. Announcements concerning specific projects will be emailed in advance.

Last of all, I'm sure we're all aware that our membership is largely composed of senior citizens and some of you may have mobility issues that affect your personal lives. Especially those of you who may not have a local support network to help with grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions or transportation to doctor appointments, please let me know and I will do what I can to assist you in these difficult times. We're all in this together so please take care of yourself as well as family, friends and neighbors around you.

-- Rob Case

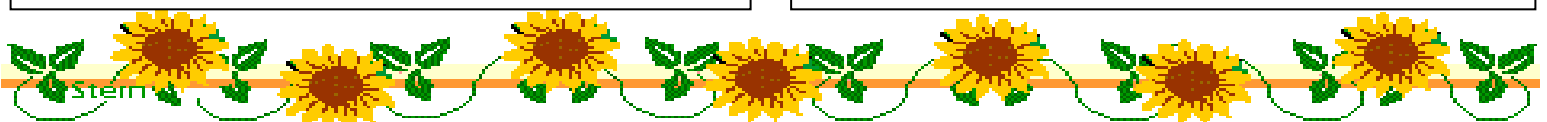


Donate Photos / Historic Items

While doing your Spring Cleaning (or for those of you sequestered at home in San Diego Co. during the current pandemic), don't forget to donate items to SVHS that reflect the history of the area or time period in our community's early history.

Items like receipts, order forms, advertisements, brochures, match books, or other memorabilia from local businesses are only a few things that need to be saved for posterity.

If you have old photographs of the area, but would like to retain the images, we can scan a copy for SVHS and return the photo to you.



SVHS Bylaws Revisions

The following revisions were made to the SVHS Bylaws by the Board of Directors at the March Board meeting. All members should review these changes and comment to the Society, or the President directly, if you have any remarks. Membership needs to vote approval for these changes. This would happen at our next meeting in June. But at this time, we are not certain this meeting will be able to be held due to the pandemic issue. Please make your voice heard by June 6. Thank you.

The deletions are struck out (in red, for those getting a digital file) and additions are underlined (blue):

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. Classes:

A. Individual membership shall be open to all persons 18 years of age or over. Each individual member is entitled to one vote and to participate in all activities.

~~B. Student membership shall be open to all persons under 18 years of age or over. Each student member has all the rights and privileges of membership except the right to vote and hold office.~~

~~C. Sustaining membership shall be open to Classes A, B, and D who wish to contribute an additional amount as specified in the dues structure. Each sustaining member is entitled to one vote and to participate in all activities.~~

~~D. B. Sponsor Organization~~ membership...

~~E. C. Life Membership~~...

Section 3. The executive Board shall recommend the amount of dues to be paid annually by each member class. Members shall be notified of any recommended changes a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the ~~Annual Meeting in June~~next general meeting at which time such changes will be voted on.

ARTICLE V – DUTES OF DIRECTORS

Section 4. The Secretary shall record and keep minutes of the ~~General and~~ Executive Board meetings.

Section 5. Treasurer:

A. The Treasurer shall keep regular accounts of the fiscal affairs and shall report in writing at each ~~regular~~ Executive Board meeting.

ARTICLE XI – DISSOLUTION

In the event of the liquidation, dissolution, or abandonment of this corporation, its property shall go to a fund, foundation, ~~or~~ corporation, or agency organized and operated solely for charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, which such fund, foundation, ~~or~~ corporation, or agency shall be selected by a majority vote of the individuals who are members of the last board of directors of said corporation.

SPRING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bancroft Ranch House Museum • Built in 1863
9050 Memory Lane • P O Box 142 • Spring Valley CA 91976
619-469-1480 • e-mail: SpringVlyHistSoc@aol.com

RUMMAGE SALE DONATION RECEIPT

Date: _____
Donor Name: _____ Address: _____
Donation value: _____
Donated items: _____

The Spring Valley Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID # 237317982
Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Please Retain for your Tax Records
Thank you for your Support

For those of you who have donated items for our May rummage sale, above is a receipt form for your 2020 tax records. Please list a fair market value of your donation and keep the receipt for your records.

Curator's Corner

We have been fortunate to recently receive a collection of vintage aprons and vintage measuring cups along with other various items that I will be displaying in our large display case soon. We are also putting together displays on old photos, cameras, and related equipment, as well as household utensils and household deliveries. We want to feature the iceman and his deliveries and related tools. If you have any pictures or family stories, we would appreciate you sharing them with SVHS. Here are some of the display items and our request for items to add to our display.

Vintage measuring cups - We have a collection of glass measuring cups and would like to enhance this display with a set of aluminum measuring cups and measuring spoons from the 1940s-50s. I would also like family stories regarding cooking with parents, grandparents, etc. to go along with our display.

Vintage aprons - If anyone has a special vintage apron they would like to donate, let me know. I would also like the story of how it was important to you and who used it in your family.

Vintage cameras and photos - If you have vintage cameras or other related items that would fit in our display please contact me. We would also like photo memories and how photos effected your life.

The iceman delivery - We are collecting pictures and stories about ice delivery, before every kitchen had a modern refrigerator. If you have any ice picks, ice tongs (especially with advertising on them), vintage ice boxes and such. Please share your stories with us.

Other Wanted Items: We are collecting tea cups with saucers and teapots so we will have a nice presentation when we decide to serve tea or have a tea party.

If anyone has such items and wants to donate them please email pictures, stories, or a list of items you have that we might be interested in to Pat Case email case619@cox.net and contact me for any question at (619) 462-7928.

Also let us know what your special interests are. I could use help with research on such items as vintage dolls, board games, toys or other items. Thank you for your help.

Pat Case, Curator

Your HELP Needed for Our Annual RUMMAGE SALE

Sat. May 16th • 8 am - 4 pm
Sun. May 17th • 8 am - 1 pm

This is our major fund-raiser to raise money for the museum maintenance and keeping our society going. So we really need the **help** of some strong workers to set up tables & haul boxes, and others to help with pricing items before the sale during the week prior - so come on down any time after 9 am. And we really **need help with selling** on Sat. & Sun. Please sign up for a 1-hour shift (or more) or offer to help by calling 619-469-1480. Thank you for your help!

We still need more donations* of **good** items - something you would **want** to buy. Please don't drop off useless/broken items that should be put in the trash instead. Disposing of such trash adds extra burden on Jim.

The sale is held in front of our Bancroft Ranch Museum, located at the end of Memory Lane, just 3/10 mile south from Hwy 94 (East), off the Bancroft Dr. exit. Tell your friends to come on by. There will be plenty of bargains and friendly atmosphere.

* For those who donate items, please see the donation receipt on page 5, for your 2020 tax deduction use.

NOTICE

At the current time, due to the OVID-19 pandemic, we do not know if we will be able to hold our Rummage Sale in May this year. It may get postponed to July or some other date. But still keep in mind helping with this event. It is our biggest fund-raiser that we depend on for money to keep the museum going.



SPRING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 142
SPRING VALLEY CA 91976
Visit our website at: *svhistoricalsociety.org*

**** Our April 4th Program is CANCELLED
due to the COVID-19 pandemic ****

But please see Bylaws revisions on page 4

TO:

Please **save** SVHS the cost of printing & postage by having your *Bancroft Bulletin* e-mailed.* Thank you.

Membership Application / Renewal Form

Fiscal Year: July 1 - June 30

Annual Dues:

Individual	\$10.00
Family (2 adults + kids)	\$15.00
Organization	\$20.00
Sustaining	\$35.00
Student (under 22 yrs)	\$5.00

Please make check payable to:

Spring Valley Historical Society

bring this form to a meeting and introduce yourself!

or mail to address shown in upper left corner of this page

Life Member (1 individual) \$150.00

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

e-mail: _____ PHONE: (____) _____

***I prefer a hard copy of the newsletter be mailed** (if box **not** checked, a PDF newsletter will be e-mailed)

AMOUNT: DUES \$ _____ and/or CONTRIBUTION \$ _____

PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR HELP WITH: _____ Work Parties _____ Giving Museum Tours

_____ Serving on Board _____ Rummage Sale _____ Other: _____