



California State Historical Landmark No. 626, 1958
National Historical Landmark, 1962

SPRING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bancroft Bulletin

December 2020 • Vol. 22, No. 3

From the President's Desk . . .

It has been exciting times lately. We have survived the presidential election, worried about the transition of power, ate our way through Thanksgiving, and muddled our way through Black (& Blue) Friday, small business Saturday, and Cyber Monday. Now we are expected to gear up for the Christmas holidays. I don't remember it being so difficult but maybe that's a function of age. At any rate, the clock continues to roll forward and there are many things to look forward to.

As those of you who read the *Bancroft Bulletin* know, we have gained new Board members this year who are helping to shoulder the load of keeping our Society viable. **Sarah Moore** is now our 1st Vice President for Programs and has speakers lined up for when we resume our in-person meetings. The 2nd Vice President position for Ways & Means is being handled by **Nancy Hagan** who has already implemented some new ideas for raising funds for the Society. Buildings & Grounds has been taken over by **Chris Hagan** who has been instrumental in groundskeeping and especially stabilizing the Annex floor. Additionally, **Raquel Veluz** will be in charge of Publicity as well as Social Media, two areas we want to expand to gain new members. And most recently, **Jessica Moore** (Sarah's sister) has volunteered to take over the reins from **Carol Serr** as the new newsletter Editor.* Thank you all for volunteering your time and talent.

With all the new blood on the Board, 2021 looks to be shaping up as a banner year (assuming that COVID 19 doesn't spoil most of it). Even if the pandemic persists, we will continue to move forward, especially because we recently learned that the Society has been awarded our grant request for \$13,100 from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. Stay tuned for updates.

Last of all, I want to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – it should be a great one!

Yours truly, **Rob Case**

* Carol took over as Editor in June 1997 and is ready to retire from the task. If you have articles, historic photographs, etc. to share with the membership in our newsletter don't hesitate to send them Jessica's way. She will be providing her contact info in the January/February issue.



December 5th Holiday Party 6:30-7:10 pm via Zoom

Due to the continuing concerns related to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, our December program has been Cancelled - but we will be holding a 40-minute party **via Zoom** to check in with our members out there. Please join us by clicking this link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8817442910?pwd=dUNTVmVIYmNHHTZaS2IDZlVNUStpZz09>

Meeting ID: 881 744 2910

Passcode: northpole

Our Programs Chair, Sarah has come up with this schedule for the party. Hope to see you there!

- 6:30 Welcome from President (Rob Case)
Introductions (Board/Members)
- 6:40 Christmas Around the House
Scavenger Hunt
- 6:50 Emoji Christmas Carols Game
- 7:00 Updates:
Website/Facebook/Newsletter (Raquel Veluz)
Programs (Sarah Moore)
Go Fund Me Building Campaign (Chris Hagan/Nancy Hagan)

Call 619-719-1070 for assistance, if needed.



SVHS DATES

- Dec. 21** Board meeting – 7 pm
(via Zoom)
- Sept. 18** Board meeting – 7 pm
(via Zoom)

SVHS Officers/Committees

President	<i>Rob Case</i>	462-7928
Programs	<i>Sarah Moore</i>	994-1749
Ways/Means	<i>Nancy Hagan</i>	433-9792
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
<i>e-mail: SpringVlyHistSoc@aol.com</i>		
Caretaker	<i>Jim Van Meter</i>	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

Hello all. Still making melodies here on Memory Lane, but while wearing a mask on. During the Red or Tier 2 level of this pandemic, our website index page had a note added that "tours were given by appointment." We had two tours this way, so the note worked. All COVID-19 requirements were in place at our museum. Now we are at Purple or Tier 1 level so tours can only be given outside. The doors of the museum will be open for guests to look inside. Tours will only be around the grounds, with social distance and masks, followed by a thorough cleaning afterwards of anything visitors might have touched. We will see how that goes.

Like everyone else, your Caretaker is trying to make the best of this unprecedented situation. Usually the Thanksgiving holiday weekend is busy with people bringing their out of town guests to visit the museum. Not this pandemic year.

The illegal parking issue is still a nuisance and on-going challenge on Memory Lane.

We are still collecting rummage for our future rummage sale. Please call Jim at 619-469-1480 if you need someone to come pick up rummage if you are in quarantine mode. No heavy items like pianos or organs though.

Barnyard News Flash – the resident hens and rooster are all doing well. So far, the cat relocation program is going well, with some help. Have found homes for four feral cats, but still have six cats to find homes for.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukah to all.

Hope to see you all at our upcoming Zoom party or the next pot-luck, as soon as it is safe to have an in-person meeting.

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



Community Spotlight:

Casa de Oro Alliance

By Chris Hagan

This all volunteer nonprofit organization was formed approximately 5 years ago by local residents. They were concerned about the excessive number of high risk businesses in the Campo Road corridor of Casa de Oro that included liquor stores, smoke shops, illegal marijuana dispensaries, along with massage, hookah, and tattoo parlors. The group has worked hard with various County agencies to bring about positive changes in the area. A few recent achievements include the replacement of several aged bus benches including four with covers, the addition of multiple trash cans from one end of the corridor to the other, and completion of a new curb and sidewalk section on Kenwood Drive at Campo Road. Several members of the Alliance gather on the first Saturday of every month at 8:00am next to Santana's Mexican restaurant to pick up trash along Campo Rd.

For more information please visit their website.

<http://casadeoroalliance.org>

Or see their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CasadeOroAlliance>

Check Out Sidetrack Adventures

Since many people are still stuck at home during these "pandemic days" why not go on a video adventure? This cool site has many short videos where you can go exploring a bit of history, off the beaten path without even leaving your recliner! Check out the various locations here:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/SidetrackAdventures>



Learn About More Hidden Places in San Diego County

Check out this website also – "Hidden San Diego" – to find more videos on Hidden, Haunted, and Amazing Spots around our County.

<https://hiddensandiego.net/>
Happy Arm Chair Travels!

Spring Valley Community Alliance

By Chris Hagan

This community organization is still in its infancy but is growing by leaps and bounds. It was born out of frustration over two main issues. The first being the amount of trash all along Bancroft Drive, from Campo Road at the north end to Troy Street at the south. The second issue being the conditions at Lamar Park, which has included a homeless encampment at the entrance and illegal drug activity within the park.

The Alliance took advantage of social media to organize local resident volunteers to meet every Sunday morning at various locations to pick up trash and paint over graffiti. They would conclude at Lamar Park to strategize on how to take it back for residents and their families to enjoy. After a very successful virtual meeting with Supervisor Jacob, various County agencies came to the Park and made immediate changes in several areas. The homeless individuals who had been living in tents for months were given hotel vouchers and access to other services. The Park and Recreation crew along with County workers removed a lot of garbage and then moved the chain link fence all the way out to the sidewalk. The transformation was immediate, and many residents have already enjoyed this wonderful community resource. If you have never visited Lamar Park, or if it has been awhile, I encourage you to do so.

For more information visit their Facebook page:
Spring Valley Community Alliance -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3139071016129304>



SVHS NOTICES

DONATIONS:

Thanks to all the generous members who have donated to our **Building & Grounds Maintenance Fund** either by check or through our GoFundMe page (\$825 so far!). You can donate too by going to this webpage:

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/spring-valley-historical-society-building-repair-fund>

Scroll down to the lower left and click on the photo of the adobe to get in. Thank YOU!

SPRING VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O BOX 142

SPRING VALLEY CA 91976

Visit our website: svhistoricalsociety.org

Find us on Facebook: *Bancroft Ranch House Museum*;

www.facebook.com/Bancroft-Ranch-House-Museum-111098050441345/

**Our Christmas program has been
CANCELLED ☹**

But please join us for a

Zoom Christmas Party

Dec. 5th at 6:30pm



(find the link on the front page)

Please Stay SAFE!

Please Visit our **GoFundMe** page to make your
generous donation to our urgently needed
Building Maintenance Fund

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/spring-valley-historical-society-building-repair-fund>

Thank YOU to all who have given

 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	\$20.00
Organization	\$50.00
Life Member (1 individual)	\$300.00

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

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: _____