



The Heritage Junction Dispatch

A Publication of the Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society

Volume 32, Issue 2

February-March 2006

Calendar

Monday, February 27

Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 PM Saugus Station

Wednesday, March 1

Deadline for the April *Dispatch*

Saturday, March 11

St. Francis Dam free lecture,
1:00 - 3:00 PM, Saugus Station

Sunday, March 12

St Francis Dam lecture and dam
site tour, \$35 per person,
1:00 to 5:00 PM, starts at Saugus
Station

Saturday, April 8

Annual Tea, \$20 per person,
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Saugus
Station

Saturday, May 6

Presentation on History of the
Ridge Route by Guest Speaker
Harrison Scott,
2:00 PM, Saugus Station

First Thursday of Every Month

Genealogy Club Meeting
7:00 PM Saugus Station

Articles and inquiries
regarding *The Dispatch* may
be made to 254-1275

President's Message

by Carol Rock



Once again I have the honor of serving as the leader of this Society, thanks to the board of directors who have expressed their confidence. We're working as a team to put the SCV Historical Society on the map and help spread the word about our valley's heritage.

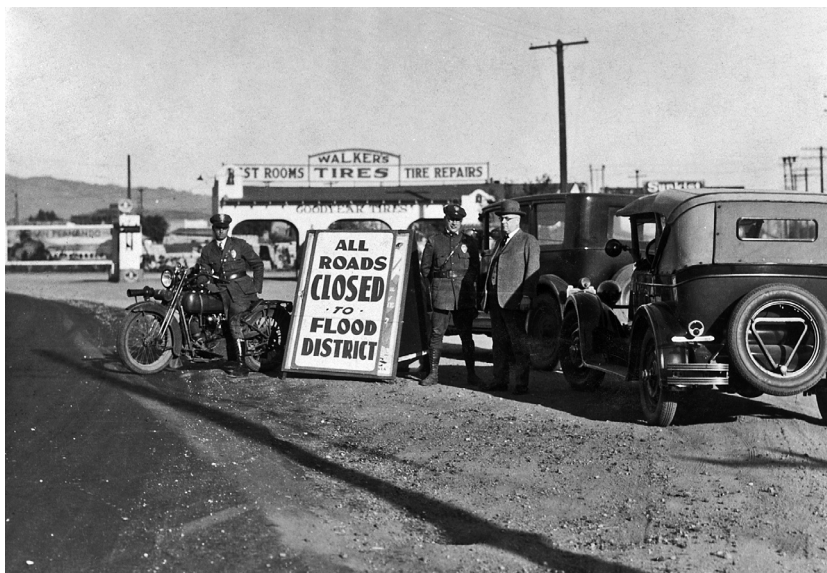
Part of this year's plan is to bring back a couple of fundraisers that helped us meet our fiscal goals. I am pleased to report that the road to the St. Francis Dam area has been restored and we will be conducting a tour on March 12, the actual anniversary of the disaster, and our popular Christmas in July will be held July 22. Both events do great things to increase our exposure and support.

Speaking of support, you have a great team of officers working for you who bring a lot to the table: our new First Vice President is Sue Yurosek, who has served as our Restoration Chair for the last few years and knows a great deal about our community's pioneer families; our Second Vice President is board newcomer Alan Pollack, who is an avid historian and eager to start a series of day-trip tours. He is organizing a presentation on the Ridge Route for our general meeting in May and has some good ideas for future presentations.

Returning as Recording Secretary is Cathie Kincheloe, whose skills in parliamentary procedure and record-keeping have helped us immensely over the last few years; Nancy Cordova remains our corresponding secretary, always on top of making sure people get their thank-you notes (a lost art that is appreciated!); and Duane Harte returns as our

Continued on Page 4

The Dam Tour Returns!



See Page 2

The Dam Tour Returns! by Carol Rock

Thanks to hard work by the U. S. Forest Service and Los Angeles County, the road to the St. Francis Dam site is now open - albeit rerouted - and the Society's annual tour is on! Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the second-worst natural disaster to hit California: the failure of the St. Francis Dam on March 12, 1928, that killed more than 450 people, leveled farms and homesteads, destroyed property and livestock and changed the way dam safety is addressed forevermore.

To fulfill our goal of educating as many people as possible about important historic events, Dam Man Frank Rock has divided his presentation into two parts:

- * A free, two hour lecture/Q&A session from 1 to 3 p.m. March 11. No reservations are required, but early arrival is recommended.
- * The ticketed (\$35 per person) dam tour on March 12, the 78th anniversary of the disaster, with a lecture at 1:00 PM and departure at 2:00 PM, returning to the station at approximately 5:00 PM after visiting the dam site. The tour includes snacks and motor coach transportation. Only ticket holders will be admitted to the March 12 lecture.

Along with the historical narrative, Rock will also talk about some of the changes in the canyons brought about by recent fires and floods. Special thanks to the city of Santa Clarita and Santa Clarita Transit for providing the busses for the tour.

Tickets may be reserved by calling (661) 254-1275 with credit card and contact information, or by mailing your ticket order to P.O. Box 221925, Newhall, CA 91322-1925. Mail orders must be received no later than March 5. Because this tour is a very popular fund-raiser, it is impossible to guarantee that seats will be available for purchase on the day of the tour. Order your tickets now!

Recent Docents

Thank you to the following members who served as docents in the last month:

Frank Adella	Marla Khaya
Phyllis Berman	Debbie Link
Jeff Boultinghouse	Barbara Martinelli
Sioux Coghlin	Alan Pollack
Greta Dunlap	Pat Saletore
Sarah Floyd	Konrad Summers
Francesca Gastil	

Also, special thanks to Pat Boultinghouse for volunteering to help with the photo project!

Annual Tea by Sue Yurosek

Mark your Calendars:

The Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society's Annual Tea is coming a bit early this year! The Tea will be held on Saturday, April 8th, 2006 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Saugus Train Station. Yes, there will be a program!

Bring your mother, daughter, sister or brother, but seats are limited - so make your plans early. Cost will be \$20.00, with proceeds earmarked for restoration. For more information, contact Pat Saletore at 254-1275 or Sue Yurosek at 259-0810.



Join the SCV Historical Society Today!

Life Member	\$350.00
Life Member with spouse	\$500.00
Corporate	\$200.00
Non-profit	\$50.00
Family Member	\$50.00
Regular member	\$25.00
Senior Member (60+)	\$15.00
Junior (18 & under)	\$9.00

Memberships make great gifts for your historically-minded friends and family! To join or renew online, visit <http://www.scvhs.org>.

Cowboy Up! by Carol Rock

In its continuing partnership with the Cowboy Festival sponsored by the City of Santa Clarita, the Society is presenting "The Art of the Chuckwagon: A Feast for the Western Senses" on Thursday, April 27.

The evening starts at 6:00 PM and features an art show with works by members of the Santa Clarita Artists Association as well as other local artists featured in previous festival Quick Draw events.

Music will be provided by a Western band and real live chuck wagon cooks will demonstrate how they fed the crowds on the cattle drives across the prairie.

Your \$35 ticket gets you an up close and personal look at the cooks, the gear and the art; there's a no-host saloon and an evening's worth of prairie lore with saddle pals new and old. All proceeds benefit the Society and its preservation efforts.

Volunteers are still needed, so if you can help, please leave a message for Cathie Kincheloe at (661) 254-1275 or e-mail carol@scvhistory.com with your contact information.

There are three ways to get tickets for this event:

- 1) Log on to the city's Cowboy Festival website at www.cowboyleftival.org or
- 2) Call the ticket hotline at (661) 286-4021, or
- 3) Visit the Arts and Events office at City Hall, 23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 120 between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM on weekdays.

A complete listing of festival performers is available online or in the brochures available all over town (even at the station). Remember that the weekend of April 29-30 is the only time that the Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio is open to the public. Tell your friends!

The Cowboy Festival is just one way the Society is able to reach out to the community far beyond Santa Clarita's borders. Please show your support and enjoy an evening of fine food and music and maybe even buy some Western art for your home or office. See you at the Festival!

COMING TO THE SAUGUS TRAIN STATION!

HARRISON SCOTT

**AUTHOR OF "RIDGE ROUTE – THE ROAD THAT UNITED CALIFORNIA
PRESENTS**

HISTORY OF THE RIDGE ROUTE

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2006

TIME: 2:00 PM

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING
POWERPOINT PRESENTATION BY THE WORLD'S LEADING EXPERT
ON THE RIDGE ROUTE!!!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT PAT SALETORE
OR ALAN POLLACK AT 661 254-1275**

President's Message

Continued from page 1

treasurer, but his involvement does not end with the spreadsheet. He also volunteers at our fundraisers and makes sure these newsletters get to all our members with a supply at the station.

We are still in negotiations with the county on our new contract; we anticipate that a signed document which benefits all may be ready within the next six months. In the meantime, county workers have been helping make the junction a better place; it is a good partnership that seems to be working well. The Society has also been asked to partner with the City of Santa Clarita for its Old Town Holidays in December; those of you who were in the Hart Park area on Dec. 10 last year will remember the 1,100 kids from the very successful parade that ended in Hart Park with a few tons of snow. I will be working on that partnership, which can only lead to bigger and better things such as - dare I say it? - the return of Olde Towne Days (OK, we can vote on whether to keep the extra vowels) in 2007, with the city taking a major role and bringing in their volunteers for a family-oriented event that will give our guests a "hands on" old time experience!

Why not make 2006 the year you step up and get more involved with the Historical Society? There are opportunities from docenting to school tours to outreach to historic

building maintenance - if you have a spare hour or lots of free time, the Society welcomes your involvement. Give our phenomenal executive director Pat Saletore a call at (661) 254-1275 and she'll get you set up.

As always, please feel free to e-mail me (carol@scvhistory.com) with any concerns or questions. Let's work together to make history come alive!

Wish List

- * Raise the semaphore signal! We need a concrete footing and a crane. John Lesperance will also need help getting it painted and rigged up to work.
- * Station housekeeping
- * Love power tools? Do you know how to run a trencher?
- * The deck on the station needs work. The nails need to be replaced with deck screws and it needs paint.
- * The telegraph clicker isn't working any more...do you have some simple wiring skills?
- * Paint the train yard fence.



Dated Material: Please Do Not Delay

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The Heritage Junction Dispatch
 P.O. Box 221925
 Newhall, CA 91322-1925
info@scvhistory.com

Telephone (661)254-1275
 Headquarters: Saugus Train Station
 24101 San Fernando Road, Newhall
 Open to the public each Saturday and Sunday
 1:00 to 4:00 PM
 Kingsberry House open the first Sunday
 of each month from 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Historical Society Board of Directors

- Carol Rock ----- President
- Sue Yurosek ----- 1st Vice President
- Alan Pollack ----- 2nd Vice President
- Cathie Kincheloe ----- Recording Secretary
- Nancy Cordova ----- Corresponding Secretary
- Duane Harte ----- Treasurer

Gordon Glattenberg ----- *Dispatch Layout*

"Preserving the best of the past for the good of the future"

Society Info: www.scvhs.org
Photo, Text Archives: www.scvhistory.com