



NEWSLETTER of the Carpinteria Valley Historical Society

Editor/Publisher: David W. Griggs

November/December 2008

CALENDAR

November 27 - Thursday
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Museum Closed



November 29 - Saturday
28th Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Faire
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



December 8 - Monday
MUSEUM DECORATION
9:00 a.m. - Noon



December 13 - Saturday
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.



December 25 - Thursday
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Museum closed
December 21 - January 1



January 1 - Thursday
Happy New Year!



VALLEY HISTORY

Ada Lescher's Diary 1893-1896

edited by her granddaughter, Betty Shannon
excerpted and annotated for *The Grapevine*
by Roxie Grant Lapidus

Part VI. We continue with the sixth installment of Ada Lescher's schoolgirl diary, discovered in an old trunk by her granddaughter, Betty Shannon. Betty then painstakingly transcribed and edited this lost treasure. Roxie Lapidus has further edited, excerpted and annotated this wonderful view of life as seen through the eyes of a young girl coming of age on a Carpinteria ranch in the late 19th century.

On the Brink of Womanhood

Ada made no diary entries in 1894, and only resumed writing in the late summer of 1895, when she was fifteen years old. However, we know of several important events that occurred in Carpinteria and in the Lescher family in the interval.

In the summer of 1894, Ada's mother Rose was one of the women who eagerly supported Belle Oglesby Franklin's proposal to form the "Carpinteria Literary Club." As the story goes, one fine day in June, Mrs. Franklin (wife of the Rev. Jesse D. Franklin, a cousin of Gideon & Bern Franklin), drove around the valley in her buggy, accompanied by Mrs. Ed Thurmond and Mrs. Emma Marquis, wife of the local physician, calling upon women with literary tastes. Those who eagerly responded became the charter members of the club, also known as the Shakespeare Club, and later becoming the Carpinteria Woman's Club. They included Mrs. G.B. Taylor, wife of the Methodist minister, Miss Minnie Dickson, sister of the Presbyterian minister, Mrs. Z.U. Lescher (Rose), Mrs. Henry Ellery (Ada's future mother-in-law), and Miss Antoinette Ward, who had attended Pomona College and later would open a private high school at her home, site of the Wardholme Torrey Pine (planted in 1888 and growing to the largest of its species in the world). Other charter members were local teachers Sue Spurlock and Nellie Woods (Ada's kinswoman), and the three erudite Moore sisters: Ariana, who had just graduated from the University of California, her sister Helen, a future librarian, and sister "Xan" (Mary

Alexander) Moore, later a teacher at the Punta Gorda School near La Conchita. Other members included the Misses Lulu Cravens, Frances ("Frankie") Ellery, Ada's future sister-in-law, and Emeline Walker, sister of Mrs. Henry Fish. The ladies took turns hosting the monthly literary gatherings, where members presented papers on various scholarly topics. For women who spent most of their time on domestic chores, the gatherings were a beacon of culture in the round of churning, canning, sewing, and caring for their families. Not unlike today's book clubs!

Another key event of 1894 was the completion of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, on land donated by Russell Heath, near Old Town. Claude Lillingston, who had come to the valley from England nine years before, was a prime mover in this effort.



The White Sulphur Well Hotel, which burned in 1894, was located on Linden Avenue where The Palms now stands. Museum archives.

A major calamity that same year was the burning of the White Sulphur Well Hotel, just up Linden Avenue from the depot and post office. The 3-storey hotel had been built just six years earlier, following the arrival of train service from Los Angeles. Owner H. J. Laughlin had spared no expense; Georgia Stockton tells us that "On Sundays an orchestra played on the veranda. Surrounding the grounds was a fancy iron fence whose posts were pipes through which water was played like a fountain on special occasions, coming from the artesian flow which at that time could be had for the tapping. This also watered the wide lawn surrounding the building. In connection with the hotel were sulphur baths which also tapped a natural flow and attracted guests for lengthy visits. The hotel burned in 1894 in a spectacular fire in which one of the Laughlin girls carried her aged grandmother down from the third floor." Many years later (1912), Mr. Laughlin built the Palms Hotel on the site.

In the Lescher family, the most important event of this period was the birth of a third child, Julia, on June

30, 1895. Ada was 15, Royal was 13, Rose herself was 37; this new baby sister seems to have been a surprise to all. Julia would grow up to be the mother of Lescher Dowling, well-known teacher at Carpinteria High School, and frequent contributor to the historical society's newsletter, *The Grapevine*.

Another change was the growing popularity of the bicycle. A bike had been a novelty in 1893, referred to as a "safety" by Ada, who had only ridden one twice. Now she was one of the many young women with "wheels," and a pair of bloomers for riding. Ada's friend Lizzie Ogan (Morris) later recounted: "My brother Charles and Clarence Sawyer had some nice new bicycles, and Nora Sawyer and I rode them. Our mothers made us some Turkish-style bloomers for riding, of Navy blue ladies' cloth, really quite pretty. I had been playing the organ for the Baptist Sunday School, and one day an itinerant Baptist preacher saw Nora and me riding the bicycles, wearing our Turkish bloomers. He told me that I wasn't setting a good example for the other children, so I had to give up playing the organ for Sunday School."

In another step towards modernity, Ada now sometimes refers to her father as "Dad," rather than "Papa." On the other hand, she always refers to her kinswoman Nellie Woods as "Miss Woods"—probably because Miss Woods was the teacher at Rincon School that year. Whenever it rained, Nellie Woods stayed with the Leschers, rather than driving all the way home to her family, adjacent to the Blood ranch.

Ada is on the brink of womanhood—mooning about young men one moment, but still enjoying ball games and tops and other tomboyish pastimes. Her brother Royal wrote in her autograph book: "To knit and spin was once a girl's employment; But now to dress and have a beau is all a girl's enjoyment." Ada's journal entries are no longer daily, but more sporadic.

Ada's Diary 1895

Aug. 18 Sun. Got up about 8 a.m. & went to Sunday School. Bertie was there & like a gent untied my horse & then slipped over to the M.E. church. I went to the Christian Endeavor & Bert & Carrie brought me home. The folks went up to the Bloods'.

[Bert is Albert Treloar, who moved with his family to Lillingston Canyon in late 1893, just when Ada returned from the World's Fair. Bert was about 10 years older than Ada, but she was smitten with him, and eagerly watched for his comings and goings past Rincon School and past the Lescher home. For his part, he seems to have remained politely distant. There were 9 children in the Treloar family; Bert's sister Stella later described the family's trip from northern California (Yuba County) to Carpinteria, following Mrs. Treloar and daughter Myrtle, who had gone ahead by stage and train to nurse Grandma Lee: "We came in 2 covered wagons, and it took us 3 weeks to make the trip. I was just a little youngster, and I sure had a lot of fun, but I guess the ride wasn't so much fun for Carrie, who was older and had to do all the

cooking. Dad drove one team and Billie and Forrest took turns driving the other. We arrived here about December 8." The family lived briefly in a rented house near the North Methodist Church, until their own home was built next door to Grandpa Lee's in Lillingston Canyon.]



Ada Lescher was smitten with the much older Albert "Bert" Treloar, seen here at the bottom right, dressed in his Sunday Best as he poses with his brothers and pals. From left, back row: Forest Treloar, Bert Phillips, Charles Treloar; front row: Charles Tinner, Perry Ogan, and Bert Treloar. Museum archives photo.

Aug. 21 Wed. Susie Tobey came up to spend the day & hold Julia. We went for a big cycle ride (me with bloomers), and Susie on my wheel. Went to Pye's and I rode his. He wanted Susie to take it home with her. We got home & Dad hadn't got here yet so I hitched up & took her home. I took Mrs. Treloar home & was out late. Miss (illegible) said I looked cute in bloomers.

Nov. 8 Fri. I went to school & had a great time. I staid a half an hour after school. Olliver & Delos [Giles] kissed me & I spit in Ollie's face (mean). We played football & had a great time. Joe Moore is making a mash on Hattie B. Ollie says she is easy enough to mash. I didn't go to the Temperance meeting. Emma Grubb did, with Charlie Wride.

["Olliver" or "Ollie" is Oliver Newlam, who signed Ada's autograph book at this period.]

Nov. 9 Sat. I took my music lesson this a.m. & took the Shepard boy. Papa went up town & brought home a pineapple but I didn't like it. The Rincons played the Alisos [school] & we got 25 tallies to them 16.

Nov. 10 Sun. I went to Sunday School. Didn't stay to church, but Grace Carden & Emma Grubb were in the choir. Bert told Em that the least he seen of me the better he liked me.

Nov. 11 Mon. I went to school. Edith Shepard got thrown from her horse by Albert C. running out of the creek and scaring it. It hurt her some and the horse ran to the school house. Edith & Em were quite sweet on Ollie N. & he on them. Bert went by the school-house with a new girl.

Nov. 12. Tues. Edith Shepard didn't come to school. I guess she is a little stiff from her runaway. May [West] & Em were as sweet as kittens to Ollie & as thick as molasses. He kissed Em & I kissed Delos & made his tooth bleed (false). I went by the P.O. & had a ride with a silent partner, CS [Clarence Sawyer?] Bert looked daggers at me.

Nov. 13 Wed. When I was going home from school Bert came along & I rode home & then to the P.O. Bert asked me to go to the Temperance Meeting with him. He lost the stick pin I gave him. Dad found Bert's scythe handle. Lottie Shepard was here.

Nov. 14 Thur. We played football today. The girls & O.T. are thicker than ever. I didn't see Bert today. Emma said she had enough of the Treloars. Papa, Mama & Julia went down to Mrs. Tobey's. The boys have got a new ball ground in Capt. Smith's hollow.

Nov. 15 Fri. I went to Temperance Meeting with Bert & had a great time. I spoke & the long-winded preacher gave quite a long-winded talk. Em did not go with Charlie Wride. Bert played on his harmonica & we sang coming home. Mama & Julia rode on a lumber wagon up to Mrs. Belle Franklin's.

Nov. 16 Sat. Edna Thurmond gave me my [music] lesson this morning but was a little late. I went over to Grubbs' & had a great time. Went over to Bert's & cut up. We put the shoes in the bed & made some lemonade for him. Em said that the first time she went with Charlie Wride he kissed her. Bert has a new stove & I took his CE [Christian Endeavor] pin.

Nov. 17 Sun. Went to Sunday School & gave Em Bert's CE pin. He said he wasn't mad but he looked like it yesterday. Ed Ellery was over on Sandy Nicholson's wheel that he won last night. Royal & I played games tonight & said I wanted to marry Bert & asked me what Edith Shepard took sugar pills for.

Nov. 18 Mon. Went to school & it was so bloomin hot we had school outdoors. The trustees were there to see all the boys after school. I went to the P.O. on my wheel with Charlie Ogan and he gave me some candy. Hattie Way is dead. Very sudden, was taken sick Wednesday. Fires all around. Bert went by looking happy.

Nov. 19 Tues. Hattie Way was buried today 10 a.m. Her mother felt awful. I went over to Em's after school & the P.O. I didn't have a pardner tonight but could have. Dad brought home some dates & candy from up town.

Nov. 20 Wed. I sent for a stick pin for Bert. I went to the P.O. without a pardner. Dr. Marquis & wife were here & also Mrs. Barnard. Bert Wride was over after our jockey saddle. He is going to Hueneme-Ventura.

Nov. 21 Thurs. Miss Woods stayed at our house tonight. Grandpa brought Gipsy home & had quite a time. He was showing Mama her swelled head when she backed up & broke the shaft.

Nov. 22 Fri. We had Thanksgiving exercises at school today. There were ten there as visitors. I spoke horrid. I am under the weather—ate too much pineapple. Seen Bert go by this morning. Didn't go to the T.M. [Temperance Meeting] tonight.

Nov. 23 Sat. Dad got through on the Grand Jury today. Dr. H. [Henderson?] was here & got a splinter out of Gipsy's head. I seen Bert go by a couple of times today. Had Julia outdoors a little while. I feel a little better. Edna gave me my lesson & Grace Franklin came with her.

Nov. 24 Sun. The folks went over to Grandpa's & I went to Christian Endeavor. Em was there & we whispered all the time. She rode home with Bert & I ran a race with him. Charlie Wride sold his horse & cart to Bert, so he can't take Em to T.M. anymore.

Nov. 25 Mon. Went to school. Played top & walked around. Coming home, Clarence Cadwell downed Dora Grubb twice & kissed her. I & Em laughed so much we fell down. I seen Bert go by a couple of times. Em gave back his C.E. pin.

Nov. 26 Tues. Clarence Cadwell gave us our little pup. We named him Taffy. Bert is going over to Emma Grubb's & they are going to have popcorn, candy & lemonade. I haven't seen him for a coon's age. I sent my best love to him.

Nov. 27 Wed. I sat with Ed Moore this afternoon & Oliver with Em. He laughed & Grace was jealous. I rode to the P.O. this morning & had Walter Warnpler for a fellow. He was on horse-back. Mama had Julia & Taffy out riding.

Nov. 28 Thurs. Hurrah for Thanksgiving! We all went to the Thanksgiving dinner & I waited on table. My fellow (Bert) didn't arrive. Julia showed them how she could squall at the tent. The dinner was very good. After dinner Lizzie Ogan, Em & I went to the beach. Royal said Charlie Treloar made up a lie about Em & I & Ollie.

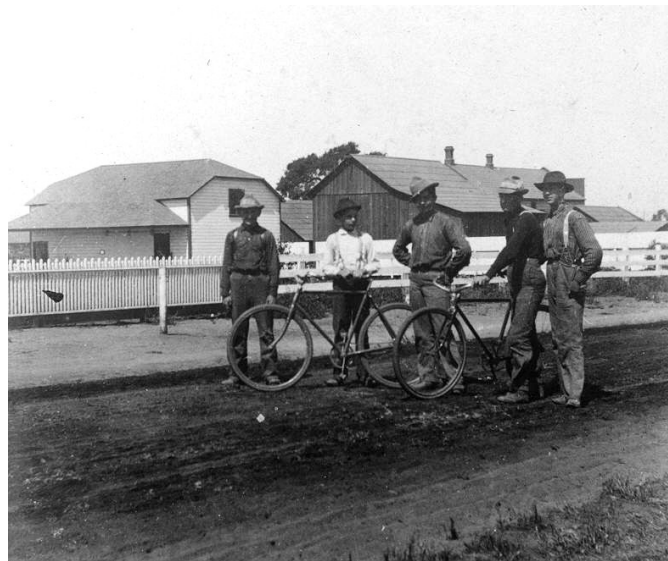
Nov. 29 Fri. Mrs. D. Dimmick & Mrs. F. Shepard were here to see Julia. She was pretty cross today. I held her & Taffy both. They took in 65 dollars yesterday.

Nov. 30 Sat. The Shakespeare Club met here this afternoon. I took Julia & Taffy for a ride. Papa hauled 3 loads of sand. I saw Bert go by & he waved at me. Royal went over to Ogan's. The Carpinteria Courier is out—mostly advertisements.

Dec. 1 Sun. Bert went by a couple of times & waved & then I seen him at Sunday School. We all went over to Woods' this p.m. & seen their pup, & took Taffy along. We had a darky tramp this morning, & another is sleeping in the barn tonight. We had popcorn & candy & a great time. I wish Bert was here. I told Em what that lie was about (something bad).

Dec. 3 Tues. Em & I went to the depot. Ollie brought Em home in his rig. I went to Peterkin's on my wheel with Clyde this morning.

[Peterkin's was a general store on Linden Ave. Ben Fish, youngest son of Henry and Juliette Walker Fish, later



This undated photo from the Ogan Family album shows several unidentified young men with new "wheels" as bicycle popularity soared in Carpinteria in the late 19th century. Courtesy of Donna Ogan.

recalled the regular gatherings at the post office, and the return stroll up Linden Avenue: "No one walked on the southeast side of Linden because there were no buildings there. There was no sidewalk until you reached Peterkins, which was the general store. The Peterkin family lived upstairs in the store building, and so it was not necessary [for them] to stay in the store. Any of the children would wait on you, or if they couldn't, they would call out 'Shop,' and this would bring Mr. Peterkin, or Charlie Curtis, who worked there. If you were returning from the post office on the northwesterly side of Linden in 1896, you would encounter only a vegetable

garden before crossing 7th Street. After crossing 7th Street, amid the ashes of the old Laughlin Hotel (where now stands the Palms Restaurant, originally a hotel), there was more vegetable gardens and the Laughlin residence. After 8th Street, a lot where later was built the Tobey home, and then the Presbyterian Church. There were no other buildings until you reached Carpinteria Avenue, which was then the county road. Such was the business district of Carpinteria."]

Dec. 4 Wed. At school Ollie treated Em & I to candy & took her home. Joe [Moore] and Delos [Giles] treated me to gum & crackers. I went riding with Charlie Ogan & seen Bert chopping down a tree for Mr. Ward. John Doerr & his wife were here this afternoon.

Dec. 5 Thurs. At school I heard some more about that lie. Charlie Treloar did not start it, whoever did will be sick for awhile, so Ollie says. Bert went by, but I didn't

wave or anything. He is going to take Em tomorrow night. (Only 10 years difference).

Dec. 6 Fri. I didn't even get a glimpse of Bert today, but then he don't care anything for me anyway. He is going to take Em tonight. I went to the post office tonight.

Dec. 7 Sat. Was busy this morning. At 12:30 Mama & I boarded the cars for S.B. There were quite a number of people uptown & I bought a number of Xmas presents. Mama & I each got a new hat, & Lizzie Ogan got a new cape. We got home at five & found Dad, Julia & Royal at the depot. Edith Shepard & Em were down there in their new buggy. We got an invitation to Stella Whitford's wedding.

Dec. 8 Sun. I went to Sunday school & staid to church. Edith Shepard was down in her new rig. Grandpa & Grandma were here to dinner. I went to Christian Endeavor & the rest of them went riding. Our Sunday School is going to join the South Methodist in Xmas exercises. The new W.Y. P. S. C.E. banner is here. It is gilt & blue satin.

Dec. 12 Thurs. Mama & Julia went over to Pierce's & Ellery's. They are picking over their beans. We have 70 cents for Miss Woods' present. Papa is painting the windmill tower.

Dec. 13 Fri. Dad took me to Temperance Meeting. I read & there were 6 others on beside me. Bert took C.T. Both my fellows (Bert T. & Charlie Ogan) played. Em didn't go. I heard all the Grubbs singing tonight.

Dec. 14. Sat. Papa & Royal went up town. Got a barrel full of stuff. Mama & Julia went to the Shakespeare Club with Mrs. Belle Franklin. Taffy, Em & I went begging for money for the [community] Xmas tree. We got \$7.55. Edna Thurmond gave me my lesson this morning.

Dec. 15 Sun. Rained all day. Royal & I picked walnuts out to send back east. Then tonight we made candy & popped popcorn. We hulled some walnuts for Miss Gould.

Dec. 16 Mon. I had quite a time in getting to school this morning. The roads were so muddy that my wheel would just slide along. A tramp was awfully anxious to sell some gold glasses he had found.

Dec. 18 Wed. School was out half an hour early so the teacher & 15 scholars could go to John Pyster's & Stella Whitford's wedding. The church was full & the couple looked quite nice. We took Julia & she acted fine. They are getting the school-house ready for Friday.

Dec. 19 Thurs. We practiced all the plays & recitations.

Edith Shepard & I went riding on wheels & she took a header. Edith & I rode up to Treloars & I seen Bert. He wants us to stay longer another time. He has something to tell me. Charlie Ogan wants me to go tomorrow night! Lottie S. got the teacher's Xmas present—a pen.

Dec. 20 Fri. Three cheers for vacation for 3 weeks! We closed with exercises lasting an hour, & although it rained the school was well filled. There was a Xmas tree & each child had a present. I sat with Forrest Treloar & spoke. Mama & Papa were there with Julia.

Dec. 23 Mon. About 20 went to Mrs. Belle Franklin's to make candy sacks for Xmas Eve. I finished Dad's present.

Dec. 24 Tues. We all went down to the Xmas Tree tonight & took Dora Grubb. The Mother Goose Cantato played again. Three cheers for old Santa Claus (Mr. Treloar). I got 4 presents. Julia got scared & she & Mama went home. I seen Bert there. He still wears his dancing pumps. He gave Em a bottle of cologne. Mrs. Blood & Woods were over.

Dec. 25 We had a big Xmas dinner & nobody to eat it with us. I got 4 presents today. Julia got a rubber dog from Aunt Ada. We went for a ride this afternoon. I saw Bert down to Hughy's, unloading wood. Royal & I rode over to Em's tonight. Knight L. gave her a photograph of his beautiful self. She rode his wheel tonight.

Dec. 26 Thur. I got up with a hard cold & have felt lazy all day. We went to the P.O. & I seen Bert chopping wood at Tommie Pye's. Daisy Campbell is going to be married tonight & her fellow fell in love through a photograph.

Dec. 27 Fri. We all went for a ride this afternoon & I seen Bert working at Pye's. I guess he has taken the job on contract. Julia caught cold & is cross tonight. We all got a present from Aunt Ada. Mine a silk handkerchief.

[Thomas Pye was an Englishman who lived on Casitas Pass Road. Ada's friend Lizzie Ogan later recalled: "He got shipments of high-laced shoes occasionally, and when they arrived he would let us girls know, and he sold them to anyone who could wear them." According to Carrie Phelps, it was Thomas Pye who had convinced the Treloars' grandfather, Charles Lee, to leave Wisconsin and settle in Carpinteria.]

Dec. 28 Sat. Mama & Papa went up to Mr. Blood's to his birthday dinner. There were 16 there. I went over & took a singing lesson of Kittie Bailard & seen Bert to speak to him. Grubbs have a new piano just like ours, & a crackerjack. Em went to the Temperance Meeting with Bert. The wind blew like sixty.



Baby Julia Lescher. Photo courtesy Betty Shannon.

Dec. 29 Sun. We had turkey soup for dinner & then went riding over the hill. Mama dropped all her butter on the floor but don't tell anybody. The Galesburg folks are too fine to send us Xmas presents.

Dec. 30 Mon. Mama & I washed this morning & Dad & I trimmed up the palms & flowers in front. Mama & Papa went to Dr. Marquis's & Mrs. Belle Franklin's. I practiced & took care of Julia awhile.

Dec. 31 Tues. Adios to the Old Year & keyi to the New Year! Papa took the lumber wagon down to Peterkin's to have the wheels made smaller. At night we went over to Ellery's to the Shakespeare social, & Lizzie Ogan staid all night with me. We staid up till midnight & after we were in bed we were serenaded by very sweet music.



We will continue with Ada Lescher's diary in the next issue of "The Grapevine."

MUSEUM NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

A beautiful afternoon greeted us for the 49th Annual Meeting of the Historical Society; The sunny weather combined with the bountiful and varied potluck luncheon made for a most enjoyable afternoon for the nearly sixty members in attendance, who were **welcomed by President Mary Alice Coffman**. There was no election of trustees, as we have moved from two year to three year terms, no trustees terms expired this year.

Treasurer Brian Moens gave a somewhat somber report, stating that while we exceeded projected revenues budgeted for the year in many categories, and adhered closely to the budget in expenditures, our endowment fund investments have lost considerable value in the down market and did not generate the revenue anticipated. We will develop a similar, no frills as usual, budget for the current year, but anticipate some tight times ahead. Foundation grant funding is also jeopardized as their investment earnings are down, as well, and competition is fierce for fewer dollars. We still remain in sound financial position, however, without dependence upon government support.

Sadly, **Brian announced his retirement** as Society treasurer, as his professional demands don't allow him the great amount of time needed to keep the historical society & museum accounts in order. We commend him for his past four years of dedicated service and long hours of work for our cause, and look forward to his continued participation in governance on the board. We welcome **newly hired bookkeeper, Kim Fufts**, who will ensure our accounts are in order and reports filed on time. We still are searching for a volunteer to serve as board treasurer, and would love to hear from any interested members.

The "Volunteer of the Year" award was presented to Danel Trevor for her outstanding dedication to organizing museum volunteers. Danel is one of four

schedulers of museum docents, but also lines up all the workers for the flea markets, where she serves as food booth cashier, as well. Danel also recruits the dozens of workers needed for all of the many Holiday Faire booths. She served for a year as membership records chair; and for the annual plant & flower sale she personally calls the nurseries to solicit donations and maps out the routes for the drivers to pick up flowers. And finally, Danel lines up callers and lists to personally contact the membership asking for support of the Holiday Faire fundraiser. We could not operate the museum without the organization of its many volunteers, and truly appreciate Danel's willingness to perform this (almost) thankless job. So the next time the phone rings and Danel asks you to help out, do her and the museum a great big favor and grab your calendar, and just say "yes!" **Thank you, Danel, and congratulations!!**



Volunteer of the Year, Danel Trevor, accepts the honor along with a beautiful orchid basket at the annual meeting. Nan Deal photo.

We then enjoyed a fascinating program on the history of lemon farming and citrus crate label art by Dr. Jim Campos. **The Annual Report** of the Historical Society and Museum **is available** at the front reception desk, or you may call us to request that one be mailed to you.

HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFTS FAIRE

The 28th Annual Holiday Faire will be held Saturday, November 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the museum. The Faire features over 80 outstanding artisans from throughout California, providing an unequalled opportunity for all of your unique holiday gift shopping and decorating needs. Also offered will be plenty of food and baked goodies, live folk music, and even a visit from Santa Claus for photos and free candy canes. Fun for the entire family and out-of-town guests too!

This all-important fund-raiser could use your help as well. Other than membership dues, we don't make any other direct appeals for support from our members. Please remember, we are completely self-sufficient from any government funding, and instead rely on fund-raising, grant-writing, investment earnings, and the contributions of the community and especially our membership. We appreciate your donations of baked goods and jams and jellies. Please drop them off at the museum on Friday the 28th, or even as late as Saturday morning before 10 a.m. (although it is tough to find parking then!).

If you don't bake or live out-of-town, we also appreciate cash donations to help defray the cost of sponsoring the faire and support museum operations — just fill out the coupon on the back of this newsletter and drop a check in the mail. Your donation is 100% tax-deductible. This is our biggest fund-raiser of the year and serves as our annual appeal to membership for extra support, so however you can help out is truly appreciated — but one of the most important ways is by attending! Admission is free. **We hope to see you at the Faire!**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We wish to extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

Kim Fults
Virgil & Lee Huelskamp
Richard D. Jones
Aldean Mathison
Elia Sanchez
Eleanor Sanders

Just a reminder to send in your membership dues for the 2008-2009 membership year which began on October 1st. Your dues are critical in helping us to meet our operating expenses. Many thanks to those of you who have already renewed, with an extra special thanks to the positive response of the membership to our appeal for an increased level of support. **Thank you!!**

MUSEUM DECORATION DAY

On **Monday, December 8 at 9:00 a.m.** the museum will open to volunteers to put up the fresh pine boughs, holiday decorations and the Victorian Christmas tree. If you no longer decorate your own home for the Holidays, you can still enjoy that excitement by helping to brighten up the museum. Come on down and lend a hand — there will be plenty of refreshments and lots of fun!

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

The Board of Trustees invites all of you, your families, neighbors and friends to attend the Museum Holiday Open House on **Saturday, December 13 from two until four** in the afternoon. There will be hot wassail, hor d'oeuvres, sweet treats, happy company and beautiful music from a flutist and harpist duet. Please join us! This event is sponsored by the Trustees in appreciation of the support of the membership throughout the year and is free to all. Look for your invitation to arrive soon!

GIFT SHOP GOODIES!

Don't forget the Museum Gift Shop for your holiday gift-giving. We have restocked the shelves with books and the popular Chumash rock-art tee shirts. We also carry a line of old-fashioned die-cut three-dimensional Christmas cards and other Christmas theme items, old-fashioned cast-iron mechanical banks, and a collection of wind-up tin toys that are a sure-fire hit with young and old alike!

The run-away local best seller *Carpinteria*, a pictorial history published by Arcadia Publishing's *Images of America* series, is in its second printing (only \$17.99 for Society members). Packed with over 200 photos and interesting facts, trivia and anecdotes, this visual treasure trove of local sights long-gone is a must for anyone interested in our history.

Another unique gift to consider is the DVD on Valley history, *The Carpinteria Video Collection*, which features the original one hour video, *Carpinteria Then and Now*; as well as other videos produced by Larry Nimmer on the Salt Marsh Nature Park and Carpinteria Creek.

A silent auction of two rare volumes of the long-out-of-print book, *La Carpinteria*, by Georgia Stockton, will be awarded to the two highest bidders. Published by the historical society in 1960, the book chronicles the Valley's history from prehistoric times through World War II, with many family histories and anecdotes, its chronological format is very detailed. This is a "must have" for any home library on Carpinteria history. The book is not illustrated. Both copies are in pristine condition; one has its original dust jacket with a couple of small tears. **The bidding starts at \$50 for each copy. You may mail or e-mail (david@carpinteriahistoricalmuseum.org) your highest bid amount to the museum.** Winners will be notified by December 15 so shipping via Priority Mail (extra charge) can take place before Christmas. Bid now, and bid high to ensure your chance at winning this wonderful, rare book, either for yourself or as a *very special gift!!*

For that person who already has everything, **consider a gift membership in the Historical Society.** We will send the recipient acknowledgment of your gift, a 2008-2009 membership packet including a letter of welcome; a packet of 10 museum note cards; the latest *Grapevine* newsletter, museum brochure and events schedule; and an annual report to help bring them up to speed on our activities. The gift shop is open during regular museum visiting hours: Tuesday through Saturday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Also most mornings Monday through Friday from 9:00 to noon — just knock on the front door!. **Don't forget to ask for your 10% member discount! ☺**



MEMORIALS

GEORGE BLISS: Harry & Joyce Powell; Angelo & Marie Granaroli; Herman & Betty Zittel; Jean M. Bailey; Rosamond Hall; Phyllis Armstrong Specht; The Santa Barbara Foundation; Jacque Bailard Coveny.

MARTHA JOOS: Claire Roberts; Evelyn Lessler; Tom & Brenda Sullivan.

IRMA MAVLEOS: Warren Seagraves; Wilma Heidenrich Steve & Ann Garcia; Mary Alice Coffman.

PATRICIA CURTIS ROWE: Lila Anne Bartz.

ESPERANZA SHAW: Herman & Betty Zittel.

NORM WHITE: Pamela White Sand.

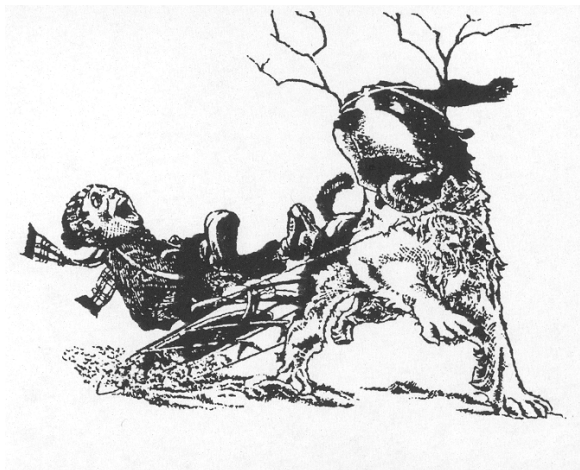
TOM WHITTAKER: Herman & Betty Zittel.

CARPINTERIA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

956 Maple Avenue • Carpinteria, California 93013 • (805) 684-3112

Address Service Requested

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Santa Barbara, CA
Permit No. 1016



Holiday Faire Donation

I can not contribute baked goods to the Holiday Faire, but please accept this donation in the amount of \$_____ to support this important annual fund-raiser.

Name_____

Address_____

Please enclose your **100% tax deductible** donation with this form and send to:

Carpinteria Valley Historical Society,
956 Maple Avenue, Carpinteria CA 93013

...and Thank you!