

THE BONITA BUGLE

BONITA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS



BONITA MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
4355 BONITA ROAD, BONITA, CA 91902
Phone (619) 267-5141 Fax (619) 267-2143

www.bonitamuseum.org email: bonitamuseum@sbcglobal.net
Regular Museum Hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10:00am—3:00pm

History of the Sweetwater Valley

January 17 – March 1

This exhibit will feature the history of the principal areas of
the Sweetwater Valley:

Rancho de la Naçon, Bonita Store,
Sweetwater Valley Schools, Little Church of the Valley,
Old Red Barn, Local Dairies, Sweetwater Dam,
Bonita Sunnyside Fire Protection District,
and Native Americans in the Valley.

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BONITA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ELECTS NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES

For 2007-2008

President—Nancy Mulcahy
Vice-President—open
Treasurer—Barbara Scott
Secretary—Christine Del Carmen
Other Trustees:

Jane Campbell, John Davies,Carolynn Gibbs,
Tom Pocklington, Dave Rossi, one seat open

President's Message—Past, Present & Future

Winter, the season of reflection, restoration, the beginning of the New Year. Creative energy is always there, always changing.

I glance at the sun, in my awareness of the morning's crisp, cold air. A few nights ago, the spectacular sight of the moon at the apex of Mt. Miguel, the stars, not to be out done by the lights of the neighborhood, twinkle in the clear arty-like night. The beauty of the earth, and I think, what a gift!

Our volunteers have carefully wrapped up the Magi figurines and tucked them away 'til next Christmas season. Thank you Dr. Harris Teller for your inspiring collection.

The ever-changing exhibits now honor the Sweetwater Valley history. It's a look at the Past with an eye toward the Future. "Today is yesterday's tomorrow", where will it take us?

Creative energy: Imagination, No thing begins without it.

What would you like to see at your museum? Let us know. Ha! Divide the word museum, and we have ... muse um. Defined: to ponder, consider, give inspiration. So, a museum offers "food for thought".

"A museum is the place of the Muses of Greek mythology". The muses were the nine goddesses, each of whom preside offer a different art or science. They were the daughters of Mnem-syne, the goddess of memory, and Zeus, father of many other gods and mortal heroes.

I mentioned heroes in my previous Bugle letter. This pertained to those who gave aid during the October fires. So many were volunteers. In this issue, my heroes are the museum volunteers. These are the unsung heroes who sign up to help wherever needed. They are the mortar that holds the museum together.

Our members and donors are the means that allow the museum to open, to offer new programs and interesting exhibits. Thank you for your confidence and generosity. Our members are vital to our existence and success. **YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

The Best of a New Year, to you,
Nancy Mulcahy, Board of Trustees President

THANK YOU

The Board of Trustees and staff of the Bonita Museum & Cultural Center
wishes to thank:

Romesco's Restaurante

for serving delicious food at the museum's
Teller Magi Festival Opening Reception in November.

Romesco's is right across the street from the museum.
Stop by sometime to taste their wonderfully prepared meals.

BONITA MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

In October, you should have received a membership renewal form and letter. If you did, please send us your check today. If you did not receive the form, you may use the one at the bottom of this page and send it off to the museum or drop it by.

Being a member of the Bonita Museum & Cultural Center is a win-win situation. We offer the best exhibits and experiences for our members. Our members make it possible for us to continue our work.



Cut Here

2008 MEMBERSHIP LEVELS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Single | \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family (for 2 or more) | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Business/Club/Organization | \$75.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student | \$10.00 |

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

e-mail address _____

Thank you from the community and the volunteers of the Bonita Museum & Cultural Center.

JURIED FINE ART EXHIBIT

Judged by Julie Weaverling

Assistant Director for Front Porch Gallery, a non-profit gallery in Carlsbad, CA

March 8—April 19, 2008

For a prospectus to enter the show, email the museum at bonitamuseum@sbcglobal.net and one will be sent to you.



Opening Reception:

Saturday, March 8, 6:00—7:30 pm

View fine art created by San Diego artists.

Take a few moments to submit your selection for the People's Choice Award to be tallied at the close of the exhibit.

SPECIAL ANNOUCEMENT

The museum emails event announcements and newsletters to help save on postage. It is important to us that we have your correct email address. Please contact us at:

bonitamuseum@sbcglobal.net

Please be sure to add the museum email address to your addressbook so our emails do not get blocked by your server.

Museum Mission Statement

The Bonita Historical Society is dedicated to preserve, for public education and enjoyment, the culture, history, art, crafts and aesthetic facets of the region, specifically El Rancho de la Nación in South San Diego County.

USE OF THE MUSEUM FACILITY

We encourage groups to use the museum facility for meetings or other events. Please call the museum at 619-267-5141 and speak to Vicky to schedule your event.

Please note that our only support for keeping this facility open for the community to enjoy is memberships and other community donations. We are NOT supported by the County and lease the property from them at a cost of \$1875 per month.

**A DONATION TO USE THE BUILDING IS APPRECIATED
BE IT LARGE OR SMALL.**

MEHL LAWSON SCULPTURE FUND RAISER

We are continuing to take orders for Mehl's horse head clay sculpture he created at his demonstration at the museum in January 2007. The museum has obtained the mold, and twenty (out of 100 total) of the bronze figures have been cast and completed to date. Those who ordered them have picked them up. More will be made as more orders come in.



If you are interested in acquiring one of the sculptures, please contact the Bonita Museum (619-267-5141) to reserve your numbered and signed sculpture. The price is \$700 each. A minimum deposit of \$400 will reserve your special sculpture with the balance due upon delivery.

A gallery copy of the sculpture is on view at the museum, so come and take a look.

“ The Lone Wolf ”

by Alfred Kowalski-Wierusz (1849—1915)

**In a special place on display in the museum, there hangs a print of “The Lone Wolf”.
On your next visit, why not try to locate the painting?
Following is a bit of history about the picture.**

Kowalski-Wierusz was a Polish artist who trained in Prague and Munich. His success in Munich convinced him to move there. He worked there for several years before returning to Poland and buying an estate called Mikorzyn. The Borin Manufacturing Company held the copyright to Kowalski-Wierusz's painting and made many copies in the 1920's. These works were very popular in the Midwest, and adorned many dining room walls.

When Richard Pena first visited his future wife Zula Breland's home in Neely, Mississippi in 1947, this print was hanging on the wall. In subsequent years, the home in Neely was abandoned and fell into disrepair. After about ten years, Richard and Zula returned to the home and found the “Lone Wolf” print still hanging on the wall. They took it as a memento of their past.

This print hanging in the museum, likely retains its original frame although it has faded quite a bit over the years. In its original state, the sky is a very dark blue and the lights in the small houses are bright and cheery.

BONITA MUSEUM VOLUNTEER CORNER



It's easy to become a museum volunteer.
Just call 619-267-5141 to express your desire.

VOLUNTEER (Docent) GATHERINGS/Trainings

Thursday, January 17, 10:00 AM

Thursday, February 21, 10:00 AM

DOCENT LED MUSEUM TOURS

Are you curious about the history of the community where you live? Or are you a part of a special group who would like to learn the history? We offer tours to people of all ages. To make arrangements for a museum visit, please call Vicky at the museum to set up a date and time. 619-267-5141

DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS TO THESE SWEETWATER VALLEY HISTORY QUESTIONS?

The Bonita Store History

1. Where was the original Bonita Store located in the Valley?

2. What myriad of things could you purchase at this store? Name three.
1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
3. After time, why was the store moved to the other side of Bonita Road?

4. What express company operated out of the original Bonita Store from 1908-1912?

5. The store was a train stop for which rail line?

See page 9 for the answers.

You can also find the answers to these questions while viewing
the History of the Sweetwater Valley from January 17 through March 1.

**GIFTING AND NAMING OPPORTUNITES
BONITA MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER MEMORIAL**

A Great Family Gift Idea or To Remember A Loved One

- Wall Tile (Living, Memorial, Military or Civilian) \$1,000.00
- Inscribed Bricks in the Walkway \$ 350.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please make your tax deductible check to: **BONITA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
(An IRS Approved 501 c (3) Non-Profit)

Send your contribution to:

BONITA MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
4355 Bonita Road
Bonita, CA 91902
(619) 267-5141
Email: bonitamuseum@sbcglobal.net

OR

Robert 'Scott' Scott
P. O. Box 847
Bonita, CA 91908-0847
(619) 479-5111/Fax: (619) 479-5122
Email: bscott@cox.net

**CELEBRATE YOUR BONITA COMMUNITY -
HELP SPONSOR A MUSEUM EXHIBIT**

We need your help! The Bonita Museum is here for YOU! As a 501(c)3 organization, we rely heavily on local support to bring our community exciting exhibits and educational activities. We are currently looking for sponsors to underwrite our upcoming exhibits.

History of the Sweetwater Valley January 17 – March 1

**** Richard Yokley** (retired Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Captain) donated \$500 for this exhibit.

Choose a 2008 event:

Juried Fine Art Exhibit	March 8—April 19
History of Baseball	April 24—June 14

Sponsor Levels:

Exhibits - \$100	Lectures - \$75
Receptions at exhibit openings - \$50	Education Packets - \$100
Publicity - \$200	

All sponsors will be recognized in THE BONITA BUGLE, on the museum's web site, on publicity sent out, and their names and/or company logo will be displayed with the exhibit.

Help publicize our wonderful museum! It is your community resource!

**ELEVENTH ANNUAL
SOUTH BAY BENEFIT CONCERT**

featuring

The Sweetwater Union High School District Symphonic Orchestra
and the Sweetwater High School Choral Union.

Tuesday, March 11, 7:00 pm

Ruth F. Chapman Performing Arts Center
Eastlake High School
1120 Eastlake Parkway, Chula Vista

Ticket Donation: \$10.00

Proceeds will benefit: The Bonita Historical Society,
SUHSD Symphonic Orchestra and the Choral Union.

Annual
TASTE of BONITA
featuring local restaurants

to Benefit the
Bonita Museum & Cultural Center

Monday, July 21, 2008 5:00 – 7:30 pm

at the Bonita Golf Club 5540 Sweetwater Road, Bonita

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Bonita Store History Answers (from page 6):
1. The original store, built in 1891, was located on the north side of Bonita Road.
 2. To name a few items—tack, hay, men's clothing, boots, hats, Levi's, feed, hardware, groceries, and later had a gasoline station.
 3. The flood of 1916 washed much of the valley away, along with the store.
 4. Well Fargo & Company Express.
 5. National City & Otay Railroad. (NC&O)
- Sweetwater Dam answer (from page 8):
William G. Dickinson and Frank Kimball

2008 MUSEUM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

History of the Sweetwater Valley January 17 – March 1
featuring the history of the principal areas of the Sweetwater Valley.

Juried Fine Art Exhibit March 8 – April 19
Opening Reception: Sunday, February 23, 6:00– 8:00 pm

Tenth Annual Benefit Concert March 11, 7:00 pm
Ruth Chapman Performing Arts Center, Eastlake High School

Sheep to Shawl during museum hours Friday & Saturday, March 14 & 15

Taste of Bonita—is scheduled for July 21 this year.
Please mark your calendars for this upcoming event.

Museum Board of Trustees for 2008

Nancy Mulcahy – President, Jane Campbell, John Davies, Christine Del Carmen, Carolynn Gibbs, Tom Pocklington, Dave Rossi, and Barbara Scott

Vicky DeLong - Museum Director & Newsletter Editor, Carol Hammond - Lifetime Trustee, Richard Pena - Parliamentarian & President Emeritus, Glennalie Coleman—Hospitality, Mary Jane Pye—Photo Archivist, Carolynn Gibbs & Bonnie Foster—Volunteer Coordinators

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