

Upcoming events:

- **January 29 & 30:** Museum Open House
- **February 13:** Three-Ring Circus Program
- **February 26 & 27:** Museum Open House

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**JOHN DEWITT
MUSEUM**

2116 TAVERN ROAD
ALPINE, CA 91901

Open 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
last weekend of each month

Tom & Judy Myers, Editors
619-885-8063

FEBRUARY PROGRAM ■ SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022 ■ 1:00 P.M.

JOIN US FOR A THREE-RING CIRCUS!

Our first Program of 2022 is on February 13 at the Alpine Woman’s Club.

Our guest speaker is Bob Ring, known by many of you as the Store Director of Albertson’s grocery and later the Manager of Baron’s Market. You may not know that Bob Ring is the third generation of the Ring family to live in Alpine. His grandparents Virgil and Louise Ring came to Alpine in 1923, drawn here by the great climate. The second generation of Rings with Alpine roots were Robert and Beverly. Robert, son of Virgil and Louise, lived in Alpine where he met his future wife Beverly. She had moved here in 1948, seeking relief from asthma



in the clean air of Alpine. The third Ring in this circus is little Bobby Ring (known as Bob Ring to all of us) and his wife Carmen. They have six children to complete the three-ring circus.

Bob has a long attachment to Alpine through the three generations of his family. He plans to share stories of the family and the historic sites in Alpine where some of their stories originated. His boundless energy and enthusiasm

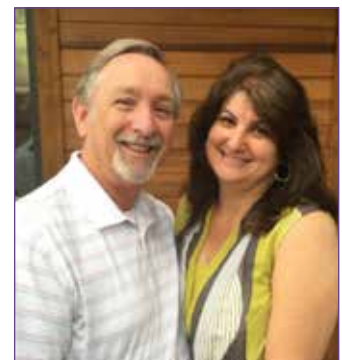
will certainly be evident in the program. As Bob says: “We all have histories to share.” So we invite you to attend this program and reminisce with Bob about this little hamlet called Alpine.



Virgil & Louise Ring



Robert & Beverly Ring



Bob & Carmen Ring

Held at the Alpine Woman’s Club, 2156 Alpine Blvd., Alpine

Admission is **FREE** (donations appreciated) but seating is limited, so *please make a reservation* by calling Corinne at (619) 417-1306 or send an email to info@alpinehistory.org

COVID-19 ADVISORY

As of this writing, our community is experiencing a surge in Coronavirus illness. The SD County Health Dept. has extended the requirement to wear masks for all indoor gatherings. Because we want to keep everyone safe, we ask everyone to wear a mask for all Programs and Open Houses, and we also recommend maintaining social distance. We will have masks available at the door for those who need one.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members: Colin & Lisa Campbell

Susan Walter, Jim & Sue Whitt, Genna Yoder

A Grateful Thank You to Our Renewing Members: Dawn & Russ August, Wayne & Cathie Aymar, Marcia Bair, Kathy Balsley, Bob & Sharon Beale, Gay Beauregard, Donna Boyer, Suzanne Broderick, Jeff Campbell, Barbara Cater, Pat Dolbeck, Christine & Bob Figari, David & Lori Fountain, Richard & Vicki Freeman, Mary Fritz, Kim & Steve Hales, Bob & Holly Hull, Norman & Dolores Kling, George Landt, Ron & Carol Matzenauer, Pam & Pat Price, Andy Reynolds, Max & Phyllis Robinson, Mark & Nancy Ross, Kevin & Alejandra Schumacher, Jill Sing, Sue Smith, Deborah & Joseph Verfaillie,

Many thanks to the following for their generous financial donations: Joan Anderson, Wayne & Cathie Aymar, Kathy Balsley, Bob & Sharon Beale, Gay Beauregard, Bert Fuller VFW Post #9578, Suzanne Broderick, Barbara Cater, Brenda Clark, Pat Dolbeck, Peggy & Jim Easterling, Mary Fritz, Norman & Dolores Kling, Anna Knuth, George Landt, Ron & Carol Matzenauer, Tom & Judy Myers, Pam & Pat Price, Mark & Nancy Ross, Kevin & Alejandra Schumacher, Jill Sing, Sue Smith, Ray & Betty Sopfe, Scarlett Spencer, Mark & Rhonda Turvey, Deborah & Joseph Verfaillie, Genna Yoder

~ BALLOTS ~ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Ballots for electing the 2022 Slate of Board Officers will be mailed to all Life and Paid Memberships at the end of January.

Please watch for them, and return them to the Alpine Historical Society by February 10th.

Thank you very much!

Special Thanks of Appreciation for renewing their Business Memberships for 2022:

Barons Market • Bert Fuller VFW Post, No. 9578 • Hitech Screen Science Co. • Kamps Propane
RPL Electric, Inc. • West Cal Die Co.

RECOGNITION OF OUR CURRENT LIFETIME MEMBERS

Carlette Anderson • Deborah Anderson • George & Joan Anderson • Mark L. Anderson
Willa Athey • Franklin R. Ball • David Carey • Lisa & Dave Celeste • Ted Christensen
James H. Cleland • James David • Rita David • Peggy & Jim Easterling • Beverly Falor
Katie & Brian Ford • Vincent Fritts • Paul Gonya • Gail Wilson Guth • Janet M. Harris
Linda Harshberger • Ann Hill • Hilde Hinchcliff • Leslie Holben • Ken & Denise Hujing
Ben Johnson • Bill & Diane Keltner • Jill & Shawn Killion • John Krempp • Barbara Lea LaForce
J. Clayburn LaForce • Joanne & Martin Marugg • Carol Morrison • Tom & Judy Myers
Helen Porter • Kurt Scherbaum • Albert Simonson • Donna Sisson • Virginia Sisson • Anne Tarr
Elma Terry • Rodney & Guille Tuttle • Paul & Carol Walker • Joan Waterworth

RECOGNITION OF OUR LIFETIME BUSINESS MEMBERS

Brabazon Alpine Paving and Trucking • Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians
Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians • RGT Charitable Trust • Rock Canyon Animal Rescue Foundation
Turvey Granite Pit • Chris Wiley—Primary Residential Mortgage

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS: Life Members ~ 50, Current Members ~ 73, Members up for Renewal ~ 34

We recently found this story buried in our archives, and thought it gives a good picture of early life in Alpine. —Editor

100 YEARS AGO, A PIONEER STORY

by Henry F. Jahn

My first job in Alpine was in 1922, when I was 15 years old, at the original Alpine Sanitarium located approximately at 2300 Alpine Blvd. It was Mr. Arnold's home. He was a wealthy building contractor [*editor's correction: merchant*] who had been cured of his bronchial trouble due to the healthy climate in Alpine. In appreciation, he did a lot for the community. Arnold Way is named for him.

Alpine became well known for its good climate to alleviate various lung and bronchial problems. Eventually a San Diego physician, Dr. Lichener, acquired Mr. Arnold's home and adjacent property and established the Alpine Sanitarium.



Mr. Arnold's home became the "Alpine Sanitarium"

There were some 30-40 World War I veterans as patients being rehabilitated here. They lived in barracks while the nurse, cook and administrator shared the main building. The hired help lived across the street in bunkhouses about where the bicycle shop is located now. The land where the Security Bank [2153 Arnold Way], Mobil Service Station [2151 Highway 80] and Alpine Liquor [2205 Highway 80] are located was in fruit trees. I believe it was prune trees. An Indian family that lived at the Willows would come down to pick the crop.

My job at the Sanitarium was to deliver meals to the bedridden patients. I worked for Mr. Kruger, the cook, and did odd jobs around the buildings in addition to delivering the trays. Dr. Lichener took a liking to me and said that if I would obtain a driver's license I could drive into San Diego for food and supplies in his truck. I jumped at the chance.

The kitchen crew had some fun with me, being



Alpine's Best Climate sign

the new boy on the job. The very first patient I delivered a meal to was a "stinker". I was trying very hard to make a good impression. He was bedridden. Very carefully, I delivered his tray, removed the cover and politely said, "Enjoy your meal." He took one look at it, grabbed the plate and threw it at me! It was a "put-up" job with the crew.

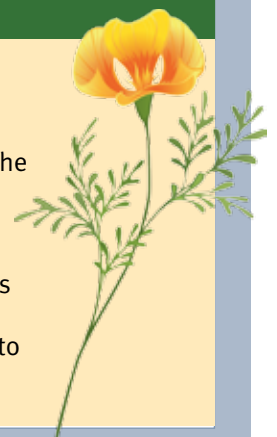
We had six cows in the pasture on Victoria Drive, about where the dog groomer is. There were about the same number of goats that ran loose in the brush, also. I learned to milk them but never could keep up with the regular milker. Sometimes we couldn't find the goats and would put cow's milk in the containers instead.

[continued on page 4]

HAVE YOU PLANTED YOUR CALIFORNIA POPPIES YET?

It is not too late to plant the poppy seeds sent to the members of the Alpine Historical Society last fall. As with most native California plants, poppies are generally dormant during the dry season and only begin to germinate new plants after the winter rainy season. So if you haven't planted your poppy seeds yet, now is a great time to do so. They are easy to start. Just spread the seeds in

the area you choose, either on the surface of the ground or up to 1/8" deep, and let nature do the rest. Next spring, we hope to see lots of golden poppies popping up all around Alpine. Don't forget to take a snapshot of your poppies to share with us. Send your digital photo to info@alpinehistory.org or mail a printed copy to PO Box 382, Alpine, CA 91903. And THANKS!!



FEBRUARY IS “NATIONAL CHERRY PIE MONTH”

February is designated as *Great American Pie Month* and *National Cherry Month*. So we put them together as **National Cherry Pie Month**. Since February is George Washington’s birthday month, the origin of this designation is likely related to the tale of George Washington chopping down the cherry tree. Of course, our curiosity sent us on a search through our archives to find a recipe for cherry pie and on our website, www.alpinehistory.org, we found numerous links to explore. So, in the *Town and Country News*, a newspaper published in Alpine from about 1956 to 1967, we found this recipe for a Cherry-Pear pie. Give it a try and let us know how you like it.

CHERRY-PEAR CRISSCROSS PIE

Bright, juicy cherry pie lifts the spirits on a winter’s day. No wonder it’s the favorite for Washington’s Birthday and other at home celebrations. Since the color is the charm of this dessert, thicken the cherry and pear filling with quick-cooking tapioca. This versatile ingredient will keep both fruit and juice clear and sparkling—it can be stirred right into the fruit without premixing with a liquid.

- 1 can water-packed, pitted red sour cherries
- 1 can pear halves
- 4 teaspoons quick-cooking tapioca
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 6 drops red food coloring
- 1/4 teaspoon almond extract
- Pastry for two-crust 9-inch pie
- 1 tablespoon butter



Drain the cherries, reserving 1/2 cup of the syrup. Drain the pear halves and dice. Combine tapioca, sugar, salt, cherries, cherry syrup, pears, food coloring, and almond extract. Mix thoroughly and let stand about 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, roll half of the pastry less than 1/8 inch thick. Line a 9-inch pie pan and trim pastry at edge of rim. Roll remaining pastry less than 1/8 inch thick and cut into 1/2-inch strips. Fill pie shell with cherry mixture. Dot with butter. Moisten edge of bottom crust. Arrange pastry strips to form lattice across top of pie, pressing ends to edge of bottom crust. Flute edge. Bake at 425 degrees for 50 minutes, or until crust is golden brown and filling bubbles near the center.



[100 Years Ago, continued from page 3]

The cook, Mr. Kruger, said he would buy a car if I would teach him to drive. I did, and on his day off he drove down to El Centro to visit friends. He was so scared going down the old Banner Grade that he refused to drive his car home.

Dr. Lichener would loan his car about once a month so I could drive the off-duty nurses to San Diego and bring them back before midnight. Since my Mother and Sister were living on “A” Street in San Diego, I would visit with them while waiting to pick up the nurses.

One time, driving home with the 1-1/2 ton truck, I had a flat tire on the rear wheel. My small jack would not handle the load. I was about 1/2 mile from the Harbison Canyon service station. I walked to the station and asked to borrow his jack. He was an unfriendly fellow and refused to loan me one. A big hay truck came by, driven by a man named Greenleaf. He loaned me his jack. We got to be special friends.

Many changes have taken place in the more than fifty years since my first job in Alpine, but my wife Agnes and I still enjoy living here.

MUSEUM VISITORS

Recent visitors to the Museum, the Laatsch family, were warmly greeted by Rorie, our resident gorilla.

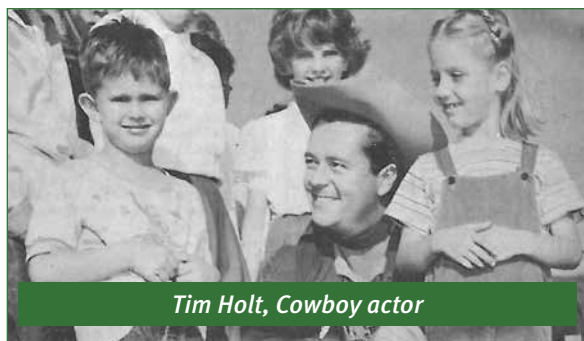


[left to right] Steele, Tamara, Rorie, Berlyn, & Rob

TIMELINE 1952: "WHERE THE SUNSHINE SPENDS THE YEAR"

Seventy years ago, on February 14, 1952, *The Alpine Sun* published its first issue, which was also the first newspaper ever published in Alpine. This little newspaper was printed on 8.5" x 11" paper, stapled in the center then folded in half so two pieces of paper, printed on both sides, made eight pages of newspaper. *The Alpine Sun* was edited, published and printed in Alpine by Clarke Irvine, a veteran newsman, traveler, lecturer, and businessman. The earliest copies were distributed free to 1,040 mailboxes in Alpine and neighboring communities. Those who wished could mail a copy to their friends for just 2 cents postage.

Let's take a peek at the very first issue of *The Alpine Sun*. The center of the first page is dominated by a photo of Tim Holt, a former Pine Valley resident who was a Cowboy actor in over forty Western movies in the 1940's. Tim was in town to



Tim Holt, Cowboy actor

participate in groundbreaking for the Alpine Youth Center. Another front-page story tells us that the final drawings for the new Alpine school (aka Alpine Elementary School) were approved for construction. Bids would be called for in mid-February with construction starting in March.

On page 2 there is a reminder that voters must register by April 10, and another reminder that income taxes are due March 15. Page 3 leads off with a report of the Fire Department election of officers and an announcement that the Fire Department purchased a 3/4 ton GMC pickup truck to be converted for use as a speedy arrival fire truck.

Pages 2 thru 8 also contained numerous advertisements for local businesses including a chiropractor, several service stations, food stores, realtors, contractors, lodging and a pharmacy. Some of the service stations and food stores proclaimed that they gave S&H Green Stamps. For those of you not familiar with these, S&H Green Stamps were trading stamps popular in the United States from 1896 until the late 1980s.



3/4 ton GMC Pickup Truck

They were distributed as part of a rewards program for shoppers. The stamps were glued into a book and the books could be redeemed or traded for merchandise from the S&H Catalogue. During the 1960s, the company promoted its rewards catalog as being the largest publication in the United States and boasted that it issued three times as many stamps as the U.S. Postal Service.



A final interesting point of reference appears on the last page where an advertisement for the Log Cabin Restaurant boasts "We specialize in Shrimp in the Basket, 75 cents".

And the very last line of text in Alpine's very first newspaper was an accolade for our wonderful little town, it reads "*Where the Sunshine Spends the Year*".

ALPINE HISTORICAL & CONSERVATION SOCIETY

PROPOSED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Tom Myers

1st Vice President,

Programs: Corinne Lewis

2nd Vice President,

Membership: Judy Myers

3rd Vice President,

Property: Bob Ring

Secretary: Barbara McCurtis

Treasurer: Lisa Celeste

Director, Archivist: Carol Morrison

Director, Social Media: Jennifer Tschida

Director-at-Large: Janet Harris

Director-at-Large: Norm Kling

Webmaster: Pene Manale

Caretakers: Baltazar & Laura Marquez

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the *Alpine Historical & Conservation Society* is to encourage the community in an effort to retain structures and sites of historical significance, conserve natural resources and parkland, make available the visible evidence of the history of our community, and develop historical programs which emphasize the contributions of the various cultural, ethnic, religious and social groups that comprise the Alpine area.

Alpine Historical & Conservation Society
P. O. Box 382
Alpine, CA 91903-0382

Address Service Requested

**ALPINE
HISTORICAL &
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY**

P. O. Box 382
Alpine, CA 91903-0382

619-485-0625

E-mail: info@alpinehistory.org

We're on the Web!
www.alpinehistory.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

Street Address/P.O. Box: _____

City/ST/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Send Newsletters via: E-mail U.S. Mail

Membership Category (Please check one):

- Student \$5 Individual \$25 Nonprofit \$30 Business \$50
 Senior (1) \$15 Family \$35 Nonprofit Life \$600 Business Life \$1,000
 Senior (2) \$20 Life \$500

Amount Enclosed:

Membership \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Museum Open Houses History Day
 Programs & Events Oral Histories
 Exhibit Development Archival Data Entry
 Garden Maintenance Other _____

Please complete this form and include your check made payable to the Alpine Historical Society, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.