

Upcoming events:

- **March 24 & 25:**
Museum Open House
- **April 15:**
Potluck Luncheon & Presentation by Dr. Philip Pryde: "Birds and More"
- **April 28 & 29:**
Museum Open House
- **May 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

POTLUCK LUNCHEON & PRESENTATION—SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018

Birds and More . . .

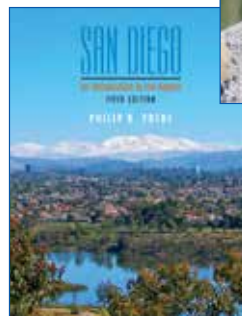


Did you know that over **500** species of birds can be seen in San Diego County, the most of any county in the USA? One of the greatest joys of living in Alpine is the variety of birds that we see every day in our yards, patios, parks, and virtually anywhere you go outdoors.

This year Alpine will celebrate its 20th anniversary as the nation's first **Certified Community Wildlife Habitat**, so for our April program we wanted to have a presentation about the birds we see so often in and around Alpine. Our program coordinator, Vikki Coffey, has in fact been searching for just the right person to give this

presentation for over a year. So, we were delighted when Vikki told us that she found the perfect speaker. We are very pleased to announce that **Dr. Philip R. Pryde** will be our speaker for the potluck program on April 15, 2018. Philip is much in demand as a lecturer on the topic of birds and bird migration, but his resume reaches far beyond avian topics. Dr. Pryde is a Professor Emeritus at SDSU where he taught courses in environmental policy for 32 years. He has authored six books and over a hundred pro-

fessional papers. He is the editor and primary author of **San Diego: An Introduction to the Region**, which has recently appeared in its fifth revision. He is a former Chair of the San Diego County Planning Commission and has served on the Board of Directors for the County Water Authority, the San Diego River Park Foundation, and the Anza-Borrego Foundation. We are certain to learn not just about the birds of Alpine but also about the environmental factors affecting bird populations in our region and beyond. **"Birds and More ..."** will be an amazing program that you won't want to miss.



Please bring a potluck item to share for the luncheon which begins at 1:00 p.m. or arrive by 1:45 p.m. for the brief general membership meeting followed immediately by Dr. Pryde's presentation. Admission is **FREE**, but your donation helps to defray the cost of programs and helps us preserve historical artifacts and maintain the museum facilities.

The Potluck Luncheon and Program will be held at the Alpine Town Hall (Alpine Woman's Club), located at 2156 Alpine Boulevard.

Seating is limited, so **please make your reservations early** by calling Tom Myers at (619) 885-8063 or send an email request to info@alpinehistory.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS FOR 2018

At our February 18 General Membership meeting, the members present elected the following people to be the leaders of our Historical Society for the year 2018. As an all-volunteer group we are thankful for the participation of all our volunteers including these Board Members and Officers.

OFFICERS

- Tom Myers: *President*
- Vikki Coffey: *1st Vice President, Programs*
- Judy Myers: *2nd Vice President, Membership*
- Lisa Celeste: *Treasurer*

DIRECTORS

- Vicki Freeman
- Janet Harris: *Assistant Archivist*
- Norm Kling
- Carol Morrison: *Archivist*
- Dave Smith
- Anne Tarr: *Gift Shop*
- Elma Terry: *Flowers*

The positions of *Secretary* and *Property Manager* remain vacant. If you would like to be considered for one of these positions, please call Tom Myers at 619-885-8063 or email info@alpinehistory.org.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Warm Welcome to our New Members: Anne Bachmann, Lisa & David Celeste, and Brenda Clark

A Grateful Thank You to Our Renewing Members: Russ & Dawn August, Cathie & Wayne Aymar, Gay Beauregard, Colin & Janice Campbell, Cindy Day, Gerald Dobbs, David & Lori Fountain, Frank Hardt, Ron & Carol Matzenauer, Michael Nelson II, Michael & Lorraine

Nelson, Nancy & Mark Ross, Paul & Diane Smart, Dave & Donna Smith, Gary & Suzanne Smith, Sandra Smith, Ray & Betty Sopfe, and Janis Vanderford

Many thanks to the following for their generous donations to the Historical Society: Cathie & Wayne Aymar, Gay Beauregard, Frank Hardt, Ann Hill, Nancy & Mark Ross, Sandra Smith, Ray & Betty Sopfe, and Janis Vanderford

Special Thanks of Appreciation to the following businesses

who renewed their annual membership in the Historical Society for 2018:

Alpine Ranch Chiropractic • Alpine Mountain Chamber of Commerce • Jeff Campbell, Realtor
Hitech Screen Science Co. • Kamps Propane • RPL Electric • West-Cal Die Co.

RECOGNITION OF OUR CURRENT LIFETIME MEMBERS

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

RECOGNITION OF OUR LIFETIME BUSINESS MEMBERS

Brabazon Alpine Paving and Trucking
Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians • Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
Tom Dyke Drilling • John Garbaczewski Family Foundation
Chris Wiley—Primary Residential Mortgage • Turvey Granite Pit • Tuttle Charitable Trust

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS: Life Members ~ 50, Supporting Members ~ 84, Members up for renewal ~ 22



A GRAPE STORY

Six descendants of **Harold and Rhena Flegal** recently visited with Historical Society Archivist, Carol Morrison, to share stories about the Flegals in early Alpine and to see our only artifact from the winery, an empty bottle of Monte Vino wine. Harold Flegal purchased the winery in 1913 from Captain George Philip Augusts Brabazon. The 320-acre winery, planted with Zinfandel grapes, was located in the center of town. With all the talk of prohibition, Harold

was unsure of the future for selling wine, so the winery switched to making a wonderful pure grape juice which was highly sought after by many San Diegans willing to drive all the way to Alpine to purchase the juice. The vineyard changed owners several times over the years and 1969 the property was cleared to make room for the Alpine Village Apartments.

Five of the six descendants of Harold & Rhena Flegal who visited the museum now live in Utah and



the sixth family member lives in Santee, CA. This photo shows James Flegal, Kurt Flegal and Linda Flegal Franc with the empty bottle of Alpine California Red Wine from the Monte Vino winery.

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Lisa Celeste, our newly-elected treasurer, has practiced as an Enrolled Agent since 1998. She began her tax career working at a CPA firm, after which she spent 10 years working for Intuit, followed by another 11 years at CFS Tax Software. She considers herself semi-retired but still occasionally fills in at CFS and maintains her



own small tax practice. Although Lisa has made her living in the tax business, she has always had a passion for anthropology, a field in which she recently received her B.A. from SDSU. She also has degrees in Management and Real Estate.

Lisa moved to Alpine three years ago with her husband Dave to be closer

to work and family. They were attracted to Alpine because of the proximity to family and she loves the sense of community that Alpine offers. Lisa's passions include working in her vegetable garden, hiking, and spending time with family. She also hopes to spend her retirement years working for the environment in any way she can, traveling, reading, and of course, helping to maintain Alpine's history.

Vicki Freeman was born in Burwell, Nebraska in 1947, but at the great age of three months moved with her mother and father to Colorado. There she attended Northern Colorado State University where she studied geology but graduated from Blair College, a business school. In 1970 she met and married the Rev. Dr. Richard Freeman, a United Church of Christ pastor. They have one daughter and in November 2017 became the proud grandparents of the cutest, smartest, and most adorable, one-and-only granddaughter.

Vicki has lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Bath, Ohio; Grand Junction, Colorado; Chicago and

Champaign, Illinois; Rio Rancho, New Mexico; and just before retirement, Chula Vista, California. She has been an Administrative Assistant for an architectural/engineering firm in Colorado Springs; Dayton Hudson Corporation in Minneapolis; Merrill Lynch in Ohio, Skil Corporation in Chicago; a civil law firm in Champaign, a criminal defense law firm in New Mexico; and an estate/probate law firm in Chula Vista.

She has always been involved with the various churches her husband has served. Most recently at the UCC Church in Chula Vista she served for many years



on the Board of Missions and coordinated the yearly craft sale. Being the wife of a minister has taught her that it is very important to have a sense of humor, to always take people seriously but not too seriously, to always smile, keep your mouth shut, be respectful but do your own thing.

She is enjoying her retirement but the one thing she is absolutely grateful for is the fact that she is no longer controlled by a clock.

Vicki is looking forward to learning more about Alpine's history and serving with the Alpine Historical Society for many years.

NEW EXHIBIT AT BARONS

On your next visit to *Barons Market*, take a few minutes to visit the new exhibit panels along the east hallway, just around the corner from the fresh produce and the water fountain. The panels illustrate how Alpine has changed from the 1890's to the present day by comparing photos from bygone days with photos of the same sites today. This is a miniature version of the *Alpine: Then and Now* exhibit currently on display in the Beaty House at the John DeWitt Museum. If you like what you see at Barons and want to see more, please visit our Museum during our next Open House, where you can also learn about the world's largest honey producer, John Harbison, visit the home of Alpine's first physician, Dr. Sophronia Nichols, check out the historic one-room schoolhouse, and visit the wildlife habitat gardens. The Alpine Historical and Conservation Society thanks Barons Market for its support in offering the space for this exhibit.



Beautiful Buggy

Seeks Experienced Driver & Well-mannered Horse

This lovingly restored **1906 Doctor's Buggy** has come of age and is ready to make a big showing in our little town. But, she is lonely and definitely in need of some exercise.

After a total make-over in 2015, in the loving hands of the Alpine Historical Society, she is still searching for a talented driver and a well-trained horse who are comfortable in crowds and would be willing to drive her in the **Alpine 4th of July Parade**. If you might be the right driver or know someone who could be, please contact the Alpine Historical Society by email at info@alpinehistory.org or call Tom Myers 619-885-8063.



JUST IN TIME

The **Alpine Garden Club** has planted another new habitat garden at the John DeWitt Museum. This new garden is designed just for butterflies and was planted a few days before the rains of late February started. As is the case with most California native plants, it is best to put them in the ground before the winter rainy season begins. But this year has been unusually dry and for most of December and January there was no rain in the forecast. So, the expert gardeners of the Alpine Garden Club waited until near the end of February, then they sprang to action and planted the garden just in time to be ready for the rain that was forecasted for the end of February.

Throughout the year ahead, the volunteers from the Garden Club will be maintaining the garden beds and keeping an eye on the progress of the plants to assure they get all the care and attention they need.

Garden Club members who participated in the planting project were: **Carlette Anderson, Hilde Hinchcliff, Ann Koenig, Judy Popp, Cathy & Art Heany, Kathy & Ivan Bartonicek, and Karen Black**. The Alpine Historical Society very much appreciates the volunteer efforts of the Alpine Garden Club in developing this garden exhibit and for purchasing and installing the materials.

The Garden Club meets the second Thursday of each month at 6 pm at the Alpine Library and they are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members.



TIMELINE: ALPINE 1870's

Jim Hinds, former Alpine Historical Society Archivist and a highly regarded east county historian, prepared a series of maps detailing 100 years of Alpine development from the 1860's through the 1960's. These maps offer a useful glimpse of settlers and homesteads throughout the *Valle de las Viejas y Mesa del Arroz*. It is intriguing to look at these maps and try to imagine the dynamics of the community as it progressed from widely spread homesteads to more closely held ranches and ultimately to neighbors living in close proximity on smaller lots. For the most part, our historians have demonstrated that this was a community of hardworking and congenial people. But, in the 1870's, when the population was only about 50 people, there occurred three separate killings—a very high percentage for such a small community.

The most famous early Alpine killing occurred on George Washington Webb's *Alpine Ranch*. **Pasqual** and **Pierre Beilles** were Frenchmen who were camping with their flock of sheep about a mile distant from the Webb's ranch. A dispute arose when about 50 head of sheep were rounded up and corralled by the Webbs for grazing on their ranch. Sometime after midnight on the



George Washington Webb

morning of November 16, Pasqual was seen on the Webb ranch, apparently looking for his sheep. About an hour later, **Warren Webb** spotted Pasqual outside the window of the schoolteacher, **Emma Everhart**, who lived on the Webb ranch. Warren, with shotgun in hand, confronted the shepherd and an argument ensued. According to Warren, the shepherd cocked and raised his gun as if to shoot. Webb shot first, killing the Frenchman instantly. The next morning, Webb surrendered to the Sheriff and confessed to the killing. Despite conflicting accounts of the story, the Coroner's Jury reviewed all the evidence and found Warren Webb not guilty of involuntary manslaughter.

A second killing involved two neighbors, **Royal Barton** and **Mr. Tanahill**. On April 18, 1870, Royal Barton settled on a 160-acre pre-emption claim in the *Valle de las Viejas*. Barton did not get along well with his next-door neighbor, Mr. Tanahill. During one particularly heated property dispute, Tanahill shot Barton in the leg for stepping over the property line. Later, Barton retaliated by bashing in Tanahill's head with a fence post. Royal Barton was convicted of murder but was later pardoned of the crime.

Also in the 1870's, **Dutch Fred Schepel** was killed, but the date of his death is unknown. Fred farmed property that was in more recent times called the *Lazy A Ranch*. Here



Sons of George Washington Webb. Warren Web (center) was involved in the famous Alpine murder.

he had a vineyard and made wine on a small commercial scale. It is reported that Dutch Fred refused to sell wine to a drunk man who then shot and killed Fred. A suspect was quickly arrested, taken to jail, and convicted of murder. However, within a few years he was released because the evidence in the case was circumstantial.

In the 1870's new empires, imperialism and militarism were on the rise in Europe and Asia. Labor strikes occurred worldwide and the United States was recovering from the Civil War. Bitterness, anger and unrest seemed to be prevalent everywhere, and the small mountain settlement that would later be named Alpine was no exception.

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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.