



## Planned 2010 Exhibition Schedule

by Sue Ross

It is with great pleasure that we announce the planned 2010 Exhibition Schedule. Every exhibit will contribute to the year-long celebration of our building (the former Carnegie Library), which turns 100 years old this year.

### Magical Toyland: 100 Years of Antique Toys

(Jan 1 - Feb 27) Curator – Holly Hoods

### From Cabin to Craftsman:

### 100 Years of Healdsburg's Architectural Heritage

(March 15 - June 13) Curator – Holly Hoods

### Fashions through the Decades:

### Healdsburg at Work and Play, Town & Country

(July 1 - Sept. 30) Guest Curator – Melissa Leventon

### Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead):

### Crafts & Culture of Ancestors Remembered

(Oct. 15 - Nov. 12) Guest Curator – TBA

### Magical Toyland: 2010

(Nov. 26 - Dec. 31) New Curator – TBH

## Great Times at the Annual Meeting



I think we can all agree that everyone attending enjoyed a fun evening, very tasty food and drink (including a cake celebrating our building's 100<sup>th</sup> year) and exciting news about 2010.

Here are a few photos:



The Beginning - "Chow Time"



Honoring Darla Budworth for her 21 years volunteering  
(L to R: Kent Mitchell, Sue Ross, Darla, Holly Hoods)

### Calendar

#### FEBRUARY, 2010

3 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am  
(Research Center – 221 Matheson St.)  
16 Board Meeting, 8:30 am  
"Magical Toyland" Exhibit Continues  
Throughout the month

#### MARCH, 2010

3 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am  
11 History Lives Pioneer Award  
Dinner, Honoring Joe Rochioli Jr.,  
Trentadue Winery, Geyserville  
15 Opening of exhibit: "From Cabin  
to Craftsman: 100 Years of  
Healdsburg Architecture."  
16 Board Meeting, 8:30 am

### Healdsburg Museum

221 Matheson Street  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
Telephone 707 431 3325 - Fax 707 473 4471

[www.healdsburgmuseum.org](http://www.healdsburgmuseum.org)  
[HealdsburgMuseum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:HealdsburgMuseum@sbcglobal.net)

Museum Hours: 11:00 - 4:00 pm  
Wednesday – Sunday,  
CLOSED MONDAY and TUESDAY

Research Center open by appointment:  
Thursday – Saturday

## From the Director's Chair

by Sue Ross

Returning home from my first Annual Members' Meeting two specific comments rang in my ears. "There is such energy in the air I can feel it!" and "That's a very ambitious plan."



Yes, the Plan as presented is quite ambitious, but the energy that it is generating speaks volumes. Plans are crafted with high hopes and great intentions, yet without that energy - without an agreement to pull together as an organization - they might not all find firm footing. Transforming plans into action will require the concerted efforts and a "rolling up of shirtsleeves" by staff, Board and volunteers.

Several initiatives have already begun. The first one (our Year End Appeal) has already demonstrated the enthusiasm of both Members and non-Members alike through their support of HM&HS. I am pleased to announce that we not only made our stated goal - but exceeded it by 50%! On behalf of the entire organization, I thank each and every contributor from the bottom of my heart. It energizes us as we take on the myriad tasks ahead.

Holly is moving forward with the creation of our next exhibit, which will feature the 100 year old homes of Healdsburg, replete with their history and architectural significance. Photos, artifacts, and replica rooms will be augmented by programming designed to bring them to life. We are especially looking forward to creating relevant ancillary children's activities, and are seeking retired (or active) teachers to help youngsters interpret Healdsburg's architecture through our new "Hands on History" program. **IF YOU ARE, OR HAVE BEEN AN EDUCATOR WILLING TO ASSIST- PLEASE CONTACT HOLLY OR ME!**

Our six new Board Members have hit the ground running. We welcome: Kathi Engler, Rawleigh Fjeld, Holly Harman, Toni Hopkins, Karen Tynan, and Marva Wiedemer, and thank them for taking on: Marketing, Membership, Business/Community Partnerships and Programming.

The outline and contents for a new, professional website is also under development thanks to a generous grant from *The Bippart Family Fund*. With lots of hard work we hope to launch this new portal into Healdsburg's History no later than June of 2010.

*Are you breathless yet?* We haven't even scratched the surface! Guest Curator Melissa Leventon, an internationally acclaimed textile curator is already working on plans for our summer exhibition featuring 100 years of Healdsburg fashions (see Meredith's request on page 5), and a search is underway for a Guest

Curator to present the beauty and mystery of "Dia de los Muertos" (Day of the Dead) this fall.

We hope to take the "Museum on Wheels" into area schools, universities, non-profits, and Senior Centers fully equipped with curriculum boxes and artifacts for trained docents to extend our reach. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THIS PROGRAM - PLEASE CONTACT ME!** We look forward to seeing you at "History Lives," celebrating the fantastic Joe Rochioli, Jr. on March 11<sup>th</sup> at Trentadue Winery in Geyserville - the Langhart Awards Dinner on May 13<sup>th</sup> at Seghesio Winery - the Brandt Picnic Grounds for our Annual Volunteer Picnic on August 6<sup>th</sup>, and finally - at our building's **100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION & INSTANT WINE CELLAR IN OUR GARDEN!** in September (exact date TBA)

"Ambitious?" *You BETCHA!* I believe that unless we dream big and reach high we will remain the best kept secret in Sonoma County. We are not a *Mausoleum* - we are a *MUSEUM*. The root "muse" comes from the Greek, and means "to inspire" our goal in all we do. With your help, and that of new friends joining our volunteer ranks and providing financial support to move us forward - 2010 will see our building's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary marked as our *Renaissance Year* - a reminder to all that the rich history of our town is *always* celebrated at 221 Matheson Street!

## History Matters by Holly Hoods



The year is already off to an exciting start. "Magical Toyland" will be held over through the end of February. I am happy so many people have come to see it. I created a 20-question "History Hunt" to enhance the kids' enjoyment of and interaction with the exhibit. Next week we have elementary school tours scheduled for nearly every day. I am currently planning the next exhibit, "From Cabin to Craftsman: 100 Years of Healdsburg Architecture." **Please let me know if you have Craftsman-style or 1850s-60s furnishings that you could loan for 3 months!** This new exhibit will open March 15<sup>th</sup>.

I have also been busy in our Research Center with interesting work including: helping Trisha Meisler from the Sotoyome Resource Conservation District research land use history in the Mill Creek Watershed, helping Desiree Colonica find the Center Street rooming house where her Guilli ancestor lived in the 1930s, and assisting Martha Hunt in determining the date of construction and phases of remodeling of her house at 721 Brown Street. Mike Bellagio and I recorded a fascinating Oral History with 93-year old Carl Flournoy. Gina Reiner brought 97-year old Walter Murray to the Museum to share some of his local historical documents.

Welcome new board members, and new volunteers: Pat McCracken, Robin Campbell, Diane Carriger and Stacey De Shazo. We truly appreciate the help!

## Meet Your Members *by Bob Rawlins*

An important task for one of our volunteers is producing the monthly receptionist calendar, a job which inevitably requires juggling individual schedules for whatever reason. Meet Sandy Buchmaster Barrett who took responsibility for that task a year ago.



Sandy was born in Akron, Ohio, attended Kent State University and, two decades later, graduated from Akron U with a degree in liberal arts. During those intervening years, she got married, had a daughter and then searched for the perfect career. She tried all sorts of things: telephone operator, bank teller, early childhood education, but nothing inspired her. One day she walked into a real estate office and the rest, as we say, is history.



She obtained her real estate license in 1971, and worked in Akron until her daughter graduated from high school. By then Sandy and her husband had parted ways and Sandy and her daughter decided to move to northern California. They investigated locales from Davis to

Mendocino to Santa Cruz and finally, on a friend's recommendation, settled on Santa Rosa. She obtained a California real estate license and joined TRI in Santa Rosa. A few years later Sandy, who was still using her married name, decided to make a change. She tried out several surnames and picked Barrett which just seemed right to her. That process, by the way, is amazingly easy - just change your driver's license and go on your merry way.

In 1996 Sandy took additional courses to obtain a broker's license and started her own business, the Barrett Group, managing residential properties. The business quickly was thriving and taking up all her time. You can check out the web site which her daughter created and maintains at "www.sbarrettgroup.com." In the last couple of years she has gradually been reducing the size of the business to a manageable number of properties, freeing up a bit of her time for other activities. That's when she joined us and immediately became an active volunteer. I always ask how a volunteer came to join HM&HS. As do many of our volunteers, Sandy loves history and had often brought visiting friends to see our lovely building and exhibits. When she travels she immerses herself in early American history in places such as Philadelphia and Boston. Also when she visits her daughter and three grandchildren back east, she also

visits the historical sights which exist in her former home area of northeast Ohio which is called the Western Reserve (originally part of the Connecticut Reserve).

Sandy, we warmly welcome you and your energy to our museum family.

## Tales from the Upstairs Gallery

*by Darla Williams Budworth*



On Thursday morning, January 28, 2010, as I sit down at the desk at the Upstairs Gallery, I will be starting my 21st year as a Docent at the Healdsburg Museum. For 20 years I have driven from Santa Rosa to Healdsburg to take my place each fourth Thursday of the month at 11:00 am. Why same time, same day, same job? Who does that?! That's a question I ask myself all the time and I have yet to find an answer except - it is not the same job. It is always changing, but mostly I truly love the Museum; it's been part of my heritage as long as I can remember. So, I would like to share some of the experiences I have had and the changes I have seen over the past 20 years with you. This is the way I remember it.

I had been a long time Museum member and a Board member in the 1980s, a Healdsburg native, but never a Museum Volunteer. With our new Museum finally open, January 1990 seemed the perfect time for me to say "Yes" to volunteering. We were a small group in those days. Bob Jones was not only "Mr. Fixit", but he opened and closed for all of us each day. His wife, June, trained all the docents upstairs in the Gallery. We were even trained to handle the fire extinguisher in the Gallery. How many of us even know where it is these days? We were all Docents in those days, no Receptionists. Hannah Clayborn, our long time Museum Curator, was an employee of the City of Healdsburg. Hannah did it all. She put on great exhibits, cleaned the Museum, wrote wonderful history stories from the Museum files and once when a visitor took one of our guns out of the Museum collection at the Museum, she ran down our front steps after him. When she had just about caught up with him, he dropped the gun and she brought it back to the Museum. She did Volunteer training classes and she was good at it.

In Jan. 1990, the Docents were expected to work two 2½ hour shifts a month, but since I lived in Santa Rosa, I worked a 5 hour shift on the 4th Thursday of each month. When I started my Volunteer job, Hannah had just left for a 4 month maternity leave, and most of the time I was the only person in the building for the 5 hours. It was always good to see Bob Jones at the end of the day. In those days, the Gallery was the place to be. Downstairs was Hannah's office. Everyone that came to the Museum came to the Gallery. Hannah had such interesting exhibits, that the Gallery was actually

crowded at times with all kinds of interesting people from far and wide. One man, whom I will always remember, insisted that I close the museum and come to St. John's Church with him, as he said he was getting married. He wanted me to be his witness. Needless to say, I said "NO" to that idea. Many visitors invited me to visit them in foreign countries or states. I didn't do that either, but every once in a while I would give visitors my home phone number, and they would call me while visiting Healdsburg for recommendations as to restaurants/events etc. in Healdsburg. We didn't have major fund raisers like we do today, but we always had the annual Potluck Dinner & Meeting in January.

Two years went by and the City of Healdsburg was short on funds; museums were not high on their priority list, and they decided that they couldn't pay Hannah's salary anymore. For a couple of months, Museum President Phil Smith would call the Volunteers and ask if they could contribute an amount to pay Hannah's salary. In the end Hannah decided it was time to leave the Museum and the City of Healdsburg asked the Volunteers to take over the task of running the Museum. In my opinion, losing Hannah was a great loss. Hannah Clayborn's 1920's exhibit was probably the most popular exhibit we have ever had because of one thing: in the 1920's Sheriff Jim Petray from Healdsburg had been shot and killed by three members of San Francisco's famous Howard St. Gang. In turn, the three killers were taken from the Sonoma County jail in Santa Rosa at midnight by a group of brave young men from Healdsburg and hung by noose from a tree limb at the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery. The details of this event are so very interesting. You can read all about it in Museum files. It's a story unsolved to this very day.

People came from far & wide to the Museum to see our artifacts and the pictures we had on display at the Museum Gallery, but most of all the actual nooses we displayed on the east wall of the Gallery. They would stand there for the longest time just looking at them. It is a very compelling, true story!!!! Downstairs was a student from Sonoma State, doing an internship in preparation for her Master's degree. She became our replacement for Hannah.

Claire Rithner came to the Museum, not to get a job, but she became Curator and moved to Healdsburg with her husband. She was a great young person to get along with and very good with exhibits. It was at this time that we started having Open Houses at the Museum for each new exhibit. There were many memorable exhibits during her time with us: The 40's, the 50's, Bridal Gowns from the past 100 years, Quilts and the Christmas Toy shows, the best attended each year. It was such fun to be there during those years. We started having the yearly *Volunteer Appreciation Luncheons*. The first two were held at Jim & Dottie Walters home by

their request. The Museum had honored them for the remodel of the Byron Gibbs' home on Dry Creek Road.

By the mid-1990's, more retired people were moving to Healdsburg and they often came to the Museum to volunteer and meet people and they had great ideas to improve the Museum. People like Ginny & Grant Canfield, Bob & Peggy Rawlins, Susan Bierwirth, Jeri Myers, Betsy & John Bippart, Mel & Geri Amato, Ed Head, Al Loebel, Betty & Don Reukema, Frank & Eleanor Zak, and Charlotte Andersen to name just a few. They were new to Healdsburg, but they gave of their time and changed the Museum for the better. When Claire Ritner decided to leave the Museum and return to college, Marie Djordjevich was hired to be Curator. She had just graduated from College in Colorado and our era with Marie began. For me, the mid 90's brought me a new Museum partner to work with on the 4th Thursdays, Doreene Zanzi. After all this time, we are still there. So if you ask me to change days, the answer will always be the same, "NO;" the fourth Thursday belongs to Doreene and me.

Betsy Bippart organized HMVA in the mid 90s, and all Docents but me were renamed Receptionists. The *Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon* continued with luncheons at Dry Creek Vineyards, Clos du Bois, Jordan Winery, Madrona Manor, a lovely house on Soda Rock Road., and B. J. Green's mountain-top barbecue place. It was worth being a Volunteer, so that you could attend the luncheons each year.

By the time the late 90's came, we had a lot more volunteers, more people coming to the Museum Gallery and, most of all, we had Holly Hoods to help with research downstairs. Holly came to the Museum as a Student Intern from Sonoma State, just as Claire Ritner had done several years before. Thirteen years later, Holly is still with us and what would we do without Holly? She is truly a Museum treasure.

*(to be continued next month!)*

### **Passing of Don Reukema** by Bob Rawlins

A bit of sad news: We have just learned that Don Reukema, a charter member of the Healdsburg Historical Society and one of those who helped to establish the Healdsburg Museum and Historical Society in 1994 has died of natural causes at his home in Flagstaff, Arizona. Don served on the HM&HS board for many years and took his turn regularly as a volunteer receptionist.

**Endowment Fund Contributions:**

*Generous Contributions from:*

Susan Bierwirth Arbios

*In Memory of:*

**Addie Marie Meyer** - from Donald & Janet Grant,  
Ann Mackey

**Don Reukema** - from Ed Head, George & Mary Lou

Clough, Arnold & Vi Santucci, Michael & Katherine Baron

**Juanita Giovannoni** - from Ed Head

**Barbara Perezchia** -Alma, Shirley, & Rick Buchignani

**Kudos!** *by Sue Ross*

THIS month I'd like to focus on the many wonderful volunteers who made our **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Members' Dinner** at the Villa Chanticleer a resounding success including:

**HOST & MC:** Kent Mitchell.

**AUDIO VISUAL:** Al Loebel.

**WINE BAR:** George Clough, Mark Gleason, Kent Mitchell, Frank Zak, Ted Calvert, Mark Gleason & Bob Rawlins.

**GREETERS:** Fern Naber, Pam Vana-Paxhia.

**CAKE:** Doreene Zanzi & Janet Pisenti.

**SET UP, CLEAN UP & KITCHEN:** Catherine Curtis, Rawleigh Fjeld (*Table Décor*), Ed Head (*Kitchen Chief*), Ann Howard, Ann Mahoney, Fern Naber, Bob Rawlins & Dorene Zanzi.

**ALL 'ROUND ORGANIZER:** Bob Rawlins.

Thanks also to the many others who chipped in to help, **PLUS** each of the 70 people attending who brought in the astounding salads, entrees, and deserts which made the evening a special event. *Hats off to everyone for "swimming upstream" on a dark and rainy night - it was a GREAT evening!*

**We Are Looking for Fashions!**

*by Meredith Dreisback*

In preparation for the summer exhibit of historic fashions, we are seeking men's, women's and children's clothing from the past 100 years. If you have treasured gems hiding out in your closet, attic, garage or basement bring your garment(s) to a special **Costume Inspection Day**, on Saturday, March 27, 2010, 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the Healdsburg Senior Center.

Guest Curator, Melissa Leventon will review and photograph garments, and assist with garment identification information. Ms. Leventon will then select items to be included (on loan) as part of the Museum's Fashion Exhibition. This event is not only an opportunity for you to learn more about your vintage clothing but (if chosen), to later see them on display at the Museum.

Pack up your wonderful antique, work, play and party clothing items and accessories and join us at our **Costume Inspection Day on March 27<sup>th</sup>**. (Clothing should be in good condition.)

Please call Meredith or Victoria at the Museum, 431-3325 to schedule an appointment.

**Lost and Found**

*by Bob Rawlins*

*Found at the Annual Member meeting at the Villa: 14"x10" white oval platter, 11"x7" Ziplock container w/blue top (rice salad was consumed), and a Rebacraft stainless steel fork. Please claim at the Museum office.*

**VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED!**

As we expand our reach to bring in new audiences and more people visit the Museum, we are seeking several additional Receptionists. Our "Front Desk" people represent the heartbeat of HM&HS by serving as the welcome smiles who answer phones, greet visitors, and make certain we open and close at posted times. There are varying shifts of 2 ½ hours each (per day) available. For more information, please contact Sandy Barrett at: (707) 529-3669

**Board of Directors:** Kent Mitchell (President), Ted Calvert (Vice President), Ann Mahoney (Past President), Darci Rosales (Recording Secretary), Stan Becker (Treasurer), Bob Rawlins (Assist. Treas.), Mel Amato, Anna Darden, Kathi Engler, Rawleigh Fjeld, Louise Fowler, Mark Gleason, Holly Harman, Toni Hopkins, Al Loebel, Celso Rosales, Karen Tynan, Marva Wiedemer, Frank Zak.

*The mission of the Healdsburg Museum and Historical Society is to record the history of the Healdsburg area through the collection and preservation of historical materials; to actively foster the appreciation of local history of the Healdsburg area through educational programs, activities and historical research; and to provide finances for, and to support, operate and manage the Healdsburg Museum, Edwin Langhart, Founder.*

**Membership Dues:**

Harmon Heald: \$1000 Josefa Carrillo: \$500 Edwin Langhart: \$250 Gold: \$100 Family (2 or more): \$40  
Business: \$75 Individual: \$25

**Newsletter Editor:** Barry Stallard, Printing by Amoruso