

Day of the Dead / Día de los Muertos

by Holly Hoods

This year the Museum is hosting our first ever Day of the Dead/Día de los Muertos exhibit. The temporary exhibit, created by Healdsburg High School's MAYO club (Mexican-American Youth Organization), is on display for the week of November 2 -7 with an opening reception at the Museum on November 2 at 5:30-7:30. Also on display are festive Day of the Dead crafts from the extensive collection of Chris Lewand.



Celebrated yearly in Mexico and South America on the Christian holy days of All Saints Day and All Souls Day (November 1 and 2), Día de los Muertos is a holiday for remembering, honoring and rejoicing. It is a colorful, joyful and whimsical celebration. In homes, families arrange "ofrendas" or altars. Tables are covered with flowers, fruits,

vegetables, bread, candy, candles, incense, statues of saints and photos of the deceased. Skeletons and skulls are featured in dazzling colors and depicted in lively activities. In some places, sugar skulls are decorated as treats for children during Día de los Muertos festivities.

The observance of Día de los Muertos provides a unique perspective on death. For many Latinos, the celebration of the Day of the Dead is part of the cycle of life. The spirits of the dead are believed to return to their families and communities once a year.

On Display through November 14:

"Highlights of History: Healdsburg and Dry Creek Valley"



Reinersville Blacksmith sign, photograph courtesy of Shirley Buchignani (Reinersville was a small historic community in Dry Creek Valley)

New Look for Fitch Street Entrance

by Liz Loebel

We have a new look at the Fitch Street entrance. The two flowering cherry trees have been removed and replaced with two dwarf Japanese Black Pines. The cherry trees were not healthy and quite root bound. These black pines are slow growing; hopefully, they will stay between seven and ten feet tall. (continued on page 3)

Calendar

NOVEMBER, 2010

- 2 Exhibit Reception - *Dia De Los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) Museum, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
- 3 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am (Museum Research Center)
- 16 Board Meeting, 8:30 am, City Hall
- 25 Museum closed for Thanksgiving
- 26 Magical Toyland Exhibit opens
- 28 Magical Toyland Open House, 4 pm

DECEMBER, 2010

- 1 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am (Museum Research Center)
- 10 Animal Shelter hosting Open House at the Museum to celebrate 40th anniversary - 4-6 pm
- 21 Board Meeting, 8:30 am, City Hall
- 25 Closed for Christmas

Healdsburg Museum

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

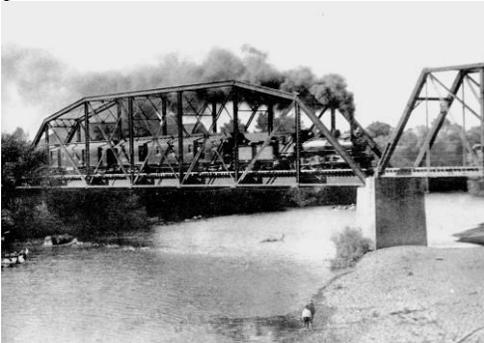
www.healdsburgmuseum.org
info@healdsburgmuseum.org

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

Research Center open by appointment:
Thursday - Saturday

History Matters *by Holly Hoods, Curator*

The current exhibit, “**Highlights of History: Healdsburg and Dry Creek Valley**”, will be on display through November 14th. The Dry Creek Valley side of the exhibit on the east side of the Gallery will then be taken down to make room for our annual toy exhibit. This year’s **Magical Toyland** exhibit will feature Model Trains and Teddy Bears, most of them loaned by the community. The exhibit **will open Friday, November 26th, the day after Thanksgiving**, and be on display until the end of January 2011. Please come to our **Magical Toyland Family Open House on Sunday November 28th at 4:00 pm** before you attend the Tree Lighting in the Plaza at 5:00 pm.



Steam locomotive on the Healdsburg Railroad bridge

Healdsburg High School volunteers dropped by to visit the Museum early this month, hoping to volunteer a few hours required for a college English course at Santa Rosa Junior College. I invited them to create a display case in honor of the Animal Shelter’s 40th Anniversary. They did a nice job, even loaning their own ceramic animals to the display. We will be partnering with the Animal Shelter in early December to host an **Open House at the Museum Friday, December 10th, 4-6:00 to celebrate the past and future of the Healdsburg Animal Shelter**. This event, for people who love history and animals, will be free to the public.

Happy 100th Birthday, Teresa Scalione Burkdoll!

Collections Corner *by Meredith Dreisback*



I have just recently returned from a two-week east coast vacation, visiting family, celebrating birthdays and touring several historical sites in West Virginia, Washington DC and Virginia. One of the most exciting stops was the town of Harper’s Ferry, WV, an entire community designated as a National Park. The town, settled at the junction of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, played a vital role in American

Civil War and African American History. This history comes to life in the many storefronts and buildings in the town, each one a unique and mini-museum.

As I toured these museums and looked at the many objects on display, I couldn’t help but think of particular items in our own collection. One of the storefronts was A. Burton’s Clocks and Jewelry where gold watches were on view in the windows. In our collection we have the pocket watch of Captain Henry Fitch made of white gold with a chain and engraved on the outside with his monogram, “F”. Our collection also includes two items used specifically with pocket watches... a stem winder (from the Burgett collection) and a watch chain made of human hair. The hair is woven and twisted together and secured with an ornate gold hook and latch. This watch chain belonged to Mabel Knauss’ father and was donated to the museum by Minerva Andrews.

Frankel’s Clothing Store was another fun stop along the street. The shelves were lined with hats, men’s pants and shirts, fabric for ladies dresses, gloves, and shoes. Perusing our cabinets and drawers for similar items, I found a precious christening dress made of delicate white cotton embellished with intricate embroidery down the front and on the sleeves. It is believed this dress was made by Josephine Fitch Bailhache, circa 1858-1860, for one of her first children. I wonder how many generations of Fitch-Bailhache children may have worn this gown.

Just as the mini-museums in Harper’s Ferry display and record the very early history of that community, our Healdsburg Museum and its collection follows the same path.

HMVA NEWS *by Ann Howard*



Vigilance is the word that we need to remember as we perform our duty as receptionists in the Museum Gallery. “Perceptive, polite and vigilant” will be the new motto as we greet visitors who come to view and enjoy the historic items on display.

When the unique 1906 top hat was stolen from the fashion exhibit in the Gallery in late September, it went undiscovered for a few days. After it was reported stolen to the police and during the search for clues, witnesses had seen someone wearing it, but it has not been recovered.

In my own experience as receptionist when I leave the desk to greet guests, many want to view the exhibit rather than have conversation. I wander around reading labels, but don’t want to hover. As they leave I ask them to please sign the guest book and mention that we do not charge an entrance fee and that we are non-profit.

During our past HMVA meeting on October 6, a fine suggestion was made to have a small table for the guest register and a chair for the receptionist on duty installed in the Gallery near the entrance. Now each receptionist can be more comfortable and vigilant while on duty by sitting at the table. Anything out of the ordinary needs to be reported. If you are ever uncomfortable for any reason, there is the buzzer by the telephone that rings in the Research Room.



Guest register on Gallery receptionist's table.

We welcome two new volunteers referred to us from the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County. Debi Shrimplin was able to attend the September HMVA meeting, and Margaret "Maggie" Bates the October meeting. Both offer organizational skills, and Debi has already been trained as a receptionist. Immediately after the October meeting, Maggie, Toni Hopkins and June Smith huddled over the microfilm machine discussing how news items are used in the Museum's Flashbacks column in the *Healdsburg Tribune*. Maggie mentioned a few days later that she easily gets sidetracked while scanning items in the newspapers. Welcome to Charlotte's Side-Tracked Club in the Research Room!

Thank you, members Jim and Dotty Walters, for providing a lovely luncheon for 30 volunteers on Sunday, October 10 at your beautifully restored home at 801 Dry Creek Road. They were honored with the first "Vintage Award" presented by the Historical Society in 1990, the same year the



Museum opened in the old Carnegie Library. Thank you also for your appreciation of the Volunteers of the Healdsburg Museum and Historical Society.



Thank you to Sandy Barrett for providing cookies and coffee at the HMVA meeting to celebrate Holly being named Curator!

New Look for Fitch Street Entrance

(continued from page 1)

A huge thank you to Tom Reed and his gardening crew for removing the trees and roots in the beds at no cost to the Museum. Without their help we would not have been able to do this job. It took the foreman, Marc

Estomba, and his helper a good eight hours to remove all the roots. Cutting the trees down was the easy part.



We hope you like the new look. We think it opens up that side of the Museum to better show off the building. (Liz Loebel and Ed Head, Garden Committee)

An Amazing Quilt Story! by Ann Howard

Norma Passarino can take all the credit for this story. After the HMVA meeting in February, Norma mentioned to me that she had sent the *Russian River Recorder* (Winter 2009) with the "History of the Dry Creek Neighbors' Club" to Charlotte Enzenauer's daughter, Jean Haugsten, in Washington State. I replied rather loudly, "You know Charlotte Enzenauer's daughter!" Norma replied that Jean had once mentioned to her that if ever a history of the DCN Club was written to be sure to send her a copy.

I quickly explained that Jean's mother, Charlotte, had won the Bicentennial Quilt that the Club members made in 1976 and raffled off among the members to keep it "in the club." After Charlotte died in 1979 at age 81, her daughter inherited the quilt and eventually moved to Washington State. Recently, when I came across pictures of the quilt in the Club's album, members did not know how to reach her.

Because DCN Club is celebrating its 100th anniversary since November 2009, I decided to call Jean about the quilt. When I received no answer, Norma gave me a second number; again no answer. I decided to write a letter in late April. Time passed and Norma gave me a third number to try. My luck took a dramatic change. Jean's daughter in-law, Debbie, said that Jean was recovering from an illness, and that Jean's son David would decide what to do about the quilt. They quickly responded via email, and said they would loan the quilt to the Club as part of our celebration. I kept this all to myself for the time being. Debbie and Dave were ready to send the quilt UPS in June, then decided to bring it in person to me on June 21st after a visit with Dave's father in Cloverdale for Father's Day!!

I could tell that Dave Haugsten adored his grandmother Charlotte whose maiden name was Smith. Born in 1897 she was 16 and her future husband, Benjamin Enzenauer, was 15 when they rode horse back in Dry Creek Valley. They married and daughter Jean (continued on page 5)

THE HEALDSBURG'S 100

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New Individual Members:

Louise Lambert

was born in 1926 and her sister Hannah in 1928. When Dave's grandmother died in 1979, all Dave had were a few pieces of her embroidered work, and he asked for the quilt; it has much sentimental value to him. He said that his grandmother had bought \$50 worth of raffle tickets – she really wanted to win the quilt!

Charlotte Enzenauer's name is first noted in the Club's membership in 1933. She was Secretary from 1955-1957 and co-President in 1957, but resigned because of poor health. She was active on other committees until her death in 1979.

Louise Madden, one of the remaining 6 members who created the quilt, said that the pieced top was given to a church group in Healdsburg to quilt for \$50. Current members Bertha Carley, Clyda Ritz, Aileen Steadman, and honorary members Alice Petersen and Hilda Strom's names are found on their blocks.



Dry Creek Neighbors Club costume party 1920s. Charlotte Enzenauer is third from right, front row (with large black bow on top of her head).



Dave and Debbie Haugsten, of Ocean Park, WA, delivered the quilt to Ann Howard on June 21, 2010!

During the busy summer months of July, August and September, the Club members get together on the second Tuesday for a potluck dinner. I let everyone know that I had a special surprise to share at the July picnic, and those who attended were amazed with the loan of the quilt, and closely examined the 30 individually-created and signed blocks. I had planned to kidnap Norma from Healdsburg and bring her to the picnic, but she was under the weather. Instead, the afternoon before the picnic I took the quilt to Norma so she could be the first to have a look at it!

The Bicentennial quilt and pillow, along with the Friendship quilt made in 1975, and other Dry Creek Neighbors' Club memorabilia are currently on display as part of the **“Highlights of History: Healdsburg and Dry Creek Valley”** exhibit until November 14. Please stop by and enjoy the display that represents a century of friendship within our Club.

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, Ann Howard, Al Loebel, Celso Rosales, Karen Tynan, 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