

## “Magical Toyland” Exhibit Open House November 23<sup>rd</sup>

by Holly Hoods

“Magical Toyland” is coming to the Healdsburg Museum, bringing the wonderful world of make believe to the holiday season. Every winter for decades, the Museum has presented a differently-themed toy exhibit, suitable for children and adults alike. Visitors to the gallery this year will discover a miniature winter wonderland, a Victorian-era child’s bedroom on “The Night Before Christmas,” as well as many other toys and games from the 1860s to the 1960s.

The highlight of this year’s exhibit will be Nydia Goode’s extraordinary dollhouse, all decked out for Christmas. This stunning dollhouse is exquisitely detailed, fully furnished and remarkable in every way, down to the tiny deviled eggs on miniature china plates in the dining room. Nydia has been collecting finely-crafted miniatures to adorn this dollhouse for 71 years, so it is truly special. We are thrilled to showcase her imagination and creativity. We will be displaying her “Seasons of the Dollhouse” throughout the coming year.



*Nydia Goode’s Victorian Dollhouse*

This year’s “Magical Toyland” exhibit will also feature some “hands-on” toys and activities, because we know it’s hard to bring children to a toy exhibit where they can’t touch anything!

The exhibit will open on Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, the day after Thanksgiving. We hope you will join us that evening as we will stay open until 7:30 pm to participate in the Downtown Holiday Party.

### Calendar

November, 2012	December, 2012
1 “El Día de los Muertos” Opening Reception, 5:30 pm	5 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am Museum Research Center
7 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am Museum Research Center	18 Board Meeting, 8:30 am Museum Research Center
9-22 Museum Gallery Closed New Exhibit Installation	
20 Board Meeting, 8:30 am Museum Research Center	
23 “Magical Toyland” Exhibit Open House, 11:00 am to 7:30 pm	

### Healdsburg Museum

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

Research Center  
open by appointment  
Thursday – Saturday

## History Matters

*by Holly Hoods, Curator*



Historical research at the Museum has been interesting, busy and productive in the past month. I have just started working to compile the pre-history of the Sausal Winery property for Brad Petersen, the general manager of Silver Oak Winery. Silver Oak purchased the Sausal Winery property in Alexander Valley from the founding Demostene family in 2012 and is interested discovering its history prior to the Demostenes' purchase in 1956.

UC Berkeley undergraduate Michael Davis has been here researching the Healdsburg area land disputes known as the "Squatters' Wars" that occurred between the Mexican land grant owners and encroaching American settlers in the 1850s-60s.

Another UC Berkeley student is seeking information about Italian immigrants in northern Sonoma County in the 1880s-90s.

Luke McCloud of Simi Winery has sought historical maps of the Simi property, as well as information and photos.

I have been assisting design consultant Makalé Cullen-Faber of New York-based Wilderness of Wish obtain historical background and evocative photographs of Healdsburg-area agriculture. She is creating a "story scroll" for the unique new business Shed, which is currently under construction on North Street at the former Solem's property.

Gina Gallo is planning to restore the beloved Dry Creek Store and is seeking historical information and photos to aid the effort. Museum Board member Diane Bertoli introduced Gina to the knowledgeable Marylou Eddinger, whose family once owned the Dry Creek Store. We would love to hear from anyone else who has photos and history of the store to share.

## President's Corner *by Ted Calvert, Board President*



The Board of Directors is searching for additional directors, effective January 2013. Being a director gives one the opportunity to work together with a professional staff and great volunteers. A director provides leadership, sets policy and goals, and helps to create

sound financial budgets – all necessary to establish and maintain the resources needed to ensure our museum's preservation of our extraordinary history. I invite you to become an active part of our exceptional museum. If you are interested or know of someone who is interested, please contact me at 433-2211 or Kathi Engler at 473-0321.

Those of you who have personal contacts or affiliations with foundations who award grants to nonprofit museums and can **help us reach these grantors**, please contact me at [ted.calvert@yahoo.com](mailto:ted.calvert@yahoo.com).

Please consider adding the Healdsburg Museum to your estate planning. Thank you.

## HMVA News

*by Ann Howard, HMVA Chair*



Edson and I just returned from an extraordinary three week tour of New England. During the course of our vacation, we visited the Sandwich Glass Museum, the American Textile Museum, Old Sturbridge Village and the Essex Shipbuilding Museum in Massachusetts; the Shaker Village in Vermont; Strawberry Banke Museum in New Hampshire; and the Olson House and the York Village Museum in Maine. We spent a day with a historian in Rhode Island. Another grand adventure for us and we were glad to return home safely.

Back to reality and thinking ahead about our Museum's calendar. On Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, will be the reception at 5:30 pm for the "Día de los Muertos" exhibit. The Museum will be closed November 9<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> to clean, remove the current exhibit, install the holiday exhibit "Healdsburg Magical Toyland" and decorate for the holidays.

We will hold our Annual Meeting and potluck at the Krug Center on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Please think about interesting items or services that you would like to donate to the raffle.

2012 has been a busy, successful year, and 2013 should prove the same. Thanks to all for your help.

### Save the Date!

**"El Día de los Muertos" Exhibit  
Opening Reception November 1<sup>st</sup> - 5:30 pm**



*Museum Curator Holly Hoods and Carolyn Marcinkowski with check in front of Henry Delano Fitch's desk*

### **Delano Kindred Support HM&HS**

Carolyn Marcinkowski visited the Museum this month to deliver great news. A resident of Cloverdale and member of a genealogical society affiliated with the Delano family, Carolyn came to present a generous check from the Delano Kindred in honor of the Museum's connection to Captain Henry Delano Fitch, the former owner of the Sotoyome Rancho. You may recall that the Sotoyome Rancho was the 48,837-acre Mexican land grant which included the land that is now Healdsburg. On a previous visit to the Healdsburg Museum, Carolyn had been surprised and interested to discover a Healdsburg connection to the Delano family, so after learning about it, she requested a donation from the Delano Kindred organization to the Museum. (Thank you, Carolyn!)

One of the missions of the Delano Kindred, Inc. is to support historical museums and conservatories that contain records of Delano history. We greatly appreciate their donation to the Healdsburg Museum & Historical Society.

### **Historic Homes Nominations Sought**

*by Fran Schierenbeck*

Healdsburg is fortunate to have a large number of historic structures, from Neoclassical to Craftsman, Queen Anne, Italianate, Carpenter Gothic and Mid-century. These buildings are what create Healdsburg's historic character and small town charm. They give us a sense of place by connecting us to the past, and providing a sense of a secure and

stable future. Every year the Healdsburg Museum & Historical Society gives awards for historic preservation. These awards are given to those individuals and business that preserve and restore significant historic resources within our community.

Nominations are now being accepted for the annual Historic Preservation Awards. Categories include Residential Restoration, Commercial Restoration, Lifetime Maintenance Residential, and Lifetime Maintenance Commercial. Nominate your own property or someone else's (be sure and get owner's permission). Please include owner's name, address of property, contact phone number and/or email, nominating category and a photo. Leave the nomination at the museum or email to [info@healdsburgmuseum.org](mailto:info@healdsburgmuseum.org). All nominations are due by November 15<sup>th</sup>.



*San Francisco Examiner headline on December 10, 1920*

### **New Donation**

*by Holly Hoods*

We have just received a historically valuable donation to the Museum research archives: the official Coroner's Inquisition into the 1920 murders of Sonoma County Sheriff James A. Petray, SF Detective Miles M. Jackson and SF Detective Lester H. Dorman and the lynching of the three men held responsible for their murders, Terrence Fitts, George Boyd and Charles Valento. Though the events took place in Santa Rosa, this devastating case--a Crime of the Century--directly involved Healdsburg. In December 1920, Sheriff Jim Petray, a well-liked native of Healdsburg from a family with deep roots in northern Sonoma County, was killed in the line of duty with two San Francisco officers while trying to arrest three fugitives who were hiding out in Santa Rosa. The fugitives, Fitts, Boyd and Valento, members of the notorious Howard Street Gang from San Francisco, were fleeing rape and battery charges. The three alleged gangsters were captured and taken into custody immediately after the shootings. Five days later, a masked group of 30 armed and well-organized vigilantes (all allegedly from Healdsburg)

stormed the Sonoma County Jail at 12:30 am. Boyd, Fitts and Valento were seized from the jail and lynched at the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery. The vigilantes kept quiet and were largely viewed as heroes for avenging Jim Petray. No one was ever charged or prosecuted for the lynching. Nearly 100 years later, this remains the most sensational crime story in Healdsburg history.

Ray Owen, a Sonoma County historical researcher aware of this history, informed me that a copy of the original coroner's inquisition of the case had been recently discovered and was being transcribed. I asked about the possibility of getting a copy for the Museum and he put me in contact with Sandy Frary, an archivist for the Sonoma County Coroner's Office. She spent several months over a poor quality microfilm arduously deciphering every word to produce an accurate reproduction of the original Coroner's Inquisition. The material had not seen the light of day since it was filed in 1920. She obtained permission from the Coroner's Office to donate a copy to the Healdsburg Museum. We are grateful to her and the Coroner's Office for this significant contribution. Sandy commented, "It has been my privilege to bring this historical inquisition to light after it had been hidden away on a reel of microfilm for decades. It presents an amazing glimpse into the past and an eye-opening look at a benchmark in local history."



*Well behaved and curious first graders from Maeve O'Sullivan's class at St. John's school visiting the Museum*

## **Welcome, Students!**

Eight elementary school classes have visited the Museum so far during the "Ancestors of Mexico" exhibit. Several more classes from the Healdsburg

Charter School will visit the "Day of the Dead" Museum exhibit on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Museum is also working with two of our volunteers, Phyllis Chiosso-Liu and Carol Adams, who are retired elementary school teachers to develop local history units to bring to the classrooms.

## **Villa Storage Room "Lookin' Good"**

*by Meredith Dreisback*

Over the past couple of years, Bob Rawlins, Pam Vana-Paxhia and Jon Lacaillade have been working hard to consolidate and organize the Museum's off-site storage facilities. With diligent purging and proper organization, they were able to reduce the miscellaneous storage to one location at Sunsweet and the main artifact storage at the Villa Chanticleer. Once all the artifacts were moved to the Villa, Bob and a student volunteer numbered each shelf and arranged the items by category (e.g., tools, newspapers, trophies, scrapbooks, textiles.) It became an organizer's dream - a place for everything and everything in its place.

At that point an inventory was taken. During the inventory process it was discovered that several of the objects had never been assigned a proper Museum number. Here's where I stepped in. Clip board and camera in hand, Bob and I assigned a number to and photographed each item, carefully measuring and describing them. Back at the Museum this information was entered into the PastPerfect database.

Then volunteers Stacey Stern, Cathy Anderson, Diane Carriger and Bob Rawlins teamed up to write the missing numbers on each of the objects. This was a tedious process making sure to use the appropriate material on the object. Good lighting and eyeglasses were "tools of the trade" that morning as the helpers worked in the Villa basement hallway. Two and one-half hours later the items were numbered and back in their home location. Bob is especially pleased that the Villa storage is finally in order and all the artifacts properly identified.

The newly organized storage room is now ready to receive additions to the Museum's collection. All of the items will be accessioned, assigned a number, photographed, cataloged and properly stored for safekeeping...and easily retrieved! Thanks to all who helped with the Villa storage renovation and reorganization.

*Contributions in Memory of:*  
**Gail DeWitt** - from Drs. Rick & Ellie Wattles  
**Bill Hill** - from Jack & Doreene Zanzi  
**Jack Dakin** - from Marcia Teuschler  
**Clarence Ruonavaara** - from Charles & Lindsey Shere

*Contributions in Memory of:*  
**Andy Foppiano** - from Marcia Teuschler

*Contributions for the General Fund*  
 from Darci & Celso Rosales

**Collections Corner**

*by Stacey Stern,  
 Dominican University Intern*



The Museum recently received several wonderful donations to the collection from Nancy Harvey of the Gallaway family. Nancy Harvey's mother, Grace Elizabeth Gunn Binger, M.D., was born on Center St. in Healdsburg in 1908. According to Nancy, this doll came from the Table Grove Ranch in Dry Creek.

Andrew J. Gallaway Sr., Nancy's great, great-grandfather, purchased the ranch in 1864 and owned it until it was sold to the Cuneo family in 1917. The Gallaways were the leading packers and shippers of dried and green fruits in the United States and Europe. Under the name of *Table Grove Brand*, the Gallaways operated two large fruit drying and packing factories – one located at the ranch and the other in the city of Healdsburg.

One of the donated items is this special china head doll made in the 1880's to 1890's. During this time period the various manufacturers did not always mark their dolls and few records survived from the factories. In the last 10 years some experts attribute this particular doll to a



company named Kestner.

Referred to as the "King of Doll Makers", Johann Daniel Kestner, Jr. began making papier-mache and wood dolls and toys in Germany as early as 1805. Kestner was an early proponent of porcelain heads, so he added these to his line in the 1850s. Around this time, the German dollmaking industry was expanding, with doll factories of every kind.

The dolls manufactured by Kestner were sold in several different configurations. They came on a cloth body with either china or leather hands and feet, or just a head with a pattern for the body the purchaser could make and mount on the head. This particular doll has an antique homemade body of linen and cloth.



You can see this charming doll along with other dolls donated by the Gallaway family at the Museum's annual holiday toy exhibition, "*Healdsburg Magical Toyland*," November 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 13<sup>th</sup>.

**You can renew your HM&HS membership on line anytime at**

**[www.healdsburgmuseum.org](http://www.healdsburgmuseum.org)**

**Board of Directors:** Ted Calvert (President), Kent Mitchell (Past President), Darci Rosales (Recording Secretary), Stan Becker (Treasurer), Bob Rawlins (Assistant Treasurer), Maggie Bates, Diane Bertoli, Kathi Engler, Francie Forchini, Louise Fowler, Lockie Gillies, Ann Howard, Ann Mahoney, Larry Orr, Karen Tynan (Directors)

*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:**

Centennial Circle: \$1000 Patron: \$500 Gold: \$250 Gold: \$100 Family (2 or more): \$50  
 Business: \$75 Individual: \$30

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