

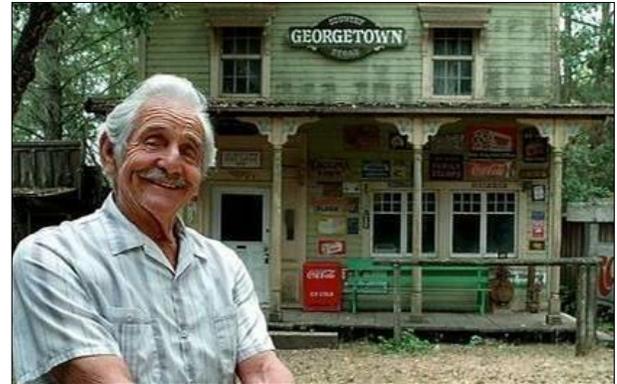


Rare Opportunity to Visit “Hollywood’s Attic”

by Holly Hoods

Kate MacMurray and the Healdsburg Museum invite you to join us for an extraordinary day trip to visit old Hollywood in Sonoma County. Spend an unbelievable afternoon at “Georgetown,” the Smith family’s private ranch in Graton on Sunday, July 14th from noon to 3:00 pm. We’ll have a guided tour and a catered barbeque, featuring a few of Fred MacMurray’s favorite recipes and MacMurray Ranch wines. The ticket price is a bargain – just \$65 per person for a uniquely entertaining and unforgettable experience with a delicious meal. The Fred and June MacMurray Foundation is generously underwriting the event expenses, so all the proceeds will go to our Museum. What a fun way to support the Healdsburg Museum!

Collector George H. Smith constructed his own Wild West village to house his vast collection of authentic historic movie memorabilia. There you can see such treasures as: a buggy driven by Clark Gable in “Gone with the Wind,” Bing Crosby’s golf clubs, studio mogul Louis B. Mayer’s personal limousine and a sword brandished by Errol Flynn. Smith worked in Hollywood in the 1930s and ‘40s as an extra, a horse wrangler and eventually landscaper to the stars. A longtime friend of the MacMurray family, he was an avid collector until his death in



Georgetown founder, George Smith, 1997

2000. Guy Smith, George’s son, will be our host.

CNN highlighted Smith and his fascinating private collection in 1997, calling it “Hollywood’s Attic.” Earlier this year, Georgetown was featured on the popular television program “American Pickers.” A History Channel promo described the Georgetown episode: “Like a Hollywood back lot, the jaw-dropping collection includes an entire village built from scratch...every building is packed with classic cars and vintage movie memorabilia.”

Attendance to this private tour will be limited, so contact the Museum (707-431-3325) or go to our website (www.healdsburgmuseum.org) to buy your tickets NOW.

Calendar

June, 2013

- 1 Family History Essay Awards, 4:00 pm, Museum Gallery
- 5 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am Museum Research Center
- 18 Board Meeting, 8:30 am Museum Research Center

July, 2013

- 3 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am Museum Research Center
- 14 Georgetown BBQ and Tour, 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- 16 Board Meeting, 8:30 am Museum Research Center
- 22 Museum Closed for New Exhibit Installation

Healdsburg Museum

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

History Matters

by Holly Hoods, Curator



Thanks to Cilla Marshall, Stacey Stern and Diane Carriger who pitched in to help in the office while Assistant Curator Meredith Dreisback was out on medical leave. We are thrilled that Meredith has regained her health and will be back

this month.

We have already had an enthusiastic response to the “Movie Stars Next Door” exhibit. On May 15th, we opened to a crowd of nearly 100 people, who delighted in the heartfelt introduction by Kate MacMurray, the daughter of Fred MacMurray and June Haver, who are the “movie stars” featured in the exhibit. Kate made an eloquent pitch for increasing Museum membership and support. We certainly appreciate her involvement! Kate worked side by side with me and our talented exhibit volunteers, contributing not only photos, artifacts and photos, but also descriptive information and design. At the opening we enjoyed delicious wine donated by the MacMurray Ranch brand and scrumptious hors d’oeuvres artfully prepared by Gia Passalacqua.

If you came to the opening reception, we hope you come back to even better appreciate the exhibit now that the wonderful audio tour, narrated by Kate, is in place. You will love her intimate and insightful stories behind the photos and artifacts, professionally recorded and enhanced with music by our topnotch audio production team, Elizabeth Holmes and Fred Campbell.

We are also making progress on the new project to present the Museum’s collection of 16,000+ historical photos on our website. Board president Stan Becker is heading the project, assisted by volunteers Kay Robinson, Al Loebel and Aleena Conway. Lynn Rosenthal and college intern Megan Wells are currently enhancing the images to their best quality before we upload them to the website. Digital copies of Museum photos can be purchased for \$25 each.

President’s Corner

by Stan Becker, Board President



It is spring and the Healdsburg Farmers Market is back. At the far east end of the market you will find the museum’s booth, a table actually. Every Saturday two of our volunteers engage the market’s visitors in an effort to publicize the museum, get

new members and most importantly sell Instant Wine Cellar (IWC) tickets. The IWC event is the museum’s premier fundraiser so give it all the support you can.

The Langhart dinner was a blast; thank you all who attended to honor Nanci and Doreene.

HMVA News

by Ann Howard, HMVA Chair



Holly has created an in-depth new exhibit honoring actor Fred MacMurray, his wife June Haver and their Twin Valley Ranch by selecting from hundreds of photographs and personal items loaned by their daughter, Kate MacMurray.

A man of many interests and a talented artist, Fred used every corner of his sketch book pages. His favorite putter, Old Yeller, and a scorecard displaying a hole-in-one witnessed and signed by Jimmy Stewart are on display. I had the privilege to unwrap various fishing rods for display and added moth repellent to his wooden fly-tying case.

Fred’s many movies earned him a trophy for selling the most popcorn and sparked a memory. My hometown, Ida Grove, Iowa, was the popcorn capital of the world (selling to the Cracker Jack Company) in the late 1930s because of my grandfather Crawford’s grain business!

Speaking of fishing rods, Edson, our son Mike and I plan to drive to the Howard Ranch to spend July and August in the Colorado mountains. I am eager to hang out the “Gone Fishing” sign.

Have a wonderful summer!

Kate MacMurray Narrates Audio Tour

“The Movie Stars Next Door: Fred MacMurray, June Haver and the MacMurray Ranch” exhibit currently on display features in-depth audio tour interviews with Kate MacMurray, daughter of actors Fred MacMurray and June Haver.

Kate generously agreed to work with the Museum’s audio tour producers, Elizabeth Holmes and Fred Campbell, to record dozens of behind-the-scenes stories about her parents’ lives and careers.

Did you know that Fred MacMurray was discovered because he was the tallest musician in the orchestra pit? (That led to a walk-on, cameo role that launched his acting career.) Did you know that June Haver had her own radio program when she was seven years old? (She - and her whole family - were paid in ice cream!)

Be sure to make time to listen to this engaging collection of stories about the MacMurrays, as told by their articulate, accomplished daughter. The Museum is privileged to collect this oral history from Kate, which brings the exhibit on display to life in a unique and heart-warming way.

Family History Essay Winners

This year's Healdsburg Museum "Family History Essay Challenge" produced many insightful stories and compelling writing. Students were invited to write about one of their ancestors and encouraged to interview a parent, aunt, uncle or grandparent to discover things they never knew about their own family's history. The Healdsburg Museum started the Family History Essay Challenge 13 years ago.

A panel consisting of Museum Board member Bob Rawlins, Board member and retired teacher Phyllis Chiosso Liu and retired teacher Carol Adams evaluated nearly 200 essay submissions from Northern Sonoma County schools, grades 2-6. The essays were judged on research, style, spelling and grammar, applying the grade-level Common Core Standards for English Language Arts. The judges were impressed with the overall quality of the essays.

We will present prize certificates and cash awards to the winners at the Museum on Saturday, June 1st at 4:00 pm.

Grades 2, 3

1st Place – Max Numainville, 3rd Grade, St. John the Baptist School

2nd Place – Nolan Postal, 2nd Grade, St. John the Baptist School

3rd Place – Kate Hall, 3rd Grade, St. John the Baptist School

Grades 4, 5

1st Place – Ulysses Olnay, 4th Grade, West Side School

2nd Place (tie) – Hannah Dyer, 4th Grade, Windsor Christian Academy

2nd Place (tie) – William Wooton, 4th Grade, Windsor Christian Academy

Grade 6

1st Place – Eva Molinari, 6th Grade, West Side School

2nd Place – Orion Johnson, 6th Grade, West Side School

3rd Place – Aiden Klick, 6th Grade, West Side School

2013 Instant Wine Cellar *by Bob Rawlins*

At this time, the IWC is rolling along smoothly. E-mails have been sent to more than 270 wineries asking for a donation of four bottles of their fine wines. Responses are flowing in and the prize lists are being assembled.

Raffle tickets were mailed to the membership and Chamber contacts toward the end of May. Most of you may have already received the letter, and hopefully responded.

As I keep dingling on everyone, this is the Museum's major fundraiser and we truly need all to participate.

How can you help, you ask? Well, I reply, we need members to visit participating wineries and pick up their wine offering. This is *fun* help. Call me 707-431-1109 to volunteer.



New Artist *by Pamela Vana-Paxhia*

In addition to our regular merchandise in the Museum Gift Shop, we are featuring the work of a talented local woodturner, Don Velez. Don says, "Discovering what nature has formed beneath the bark of a tree is exciting. The grain, swirls, eyes, bark inclusions and color variations are what a woodturner looks for as he turns a bowl into the desired shape."

While on display in the Gift Shop, Don is generously donating a portion of his sales to HM&HS.

Welcome Our Newest Members

Claudia Baron
Deino Baron
Lynda Guthrie
Angela DiPiero
Dan and Sonja Erickson
Pam and Pete Everson
David and Winky Merrill



Langhart Awards

by Ann Howard

On Saturday, May 11th, over 70 of us celebrated the evening at Tayman Park Golf Club to honor volunteers Nanci Gunnerson and Doreene White Zanzi. Al Lobel spoke in detail of Nanci's twenty years of dedication to the museum as a receptionist and work on a number of committees. Holly spoke of Doreene's years as receptionist and particularly of her Sunshine duties sending cards of condolence and cheer for many years. Doreene and husband Jack were joined by many family members to celebrate.

Nanci read her charming poem and has allowed me to share it with everyone:

*I hope you'll bear with me while I jog my memory.
A 20-year museum run has been some work, but mostly fun.
I think it was the fall of '92 ['93] when HMVA made its debut.
There were about a dozen hardy souls; museum success the only goal.
Madrona Manor was an elegant start honoring June and Bob Jones at the 1st Langhart.
My job was to sell tickets for the 75-dollar event.
Imagine my dismay when the local paper printed 7 dollars and 50 cents!
I did the museum calendar for a couple of years. In those days there weren't many volunteers.
For ensuing calendar girls I have high regard. Making 40 dates a month can be hard.
One day Betsy called to tell me the museum had a new employee.
Recommendations were all good. Betsy thought the employee's name was Hollywood!
The gift shop had a committee of four and the budget was such that we couldn't buy much.
But into the city we'd go to shop at the bi-annual gift show.
Hours of labor, collections from all over town produced a barn sale of local renown.
We sold trash and treasures from near and far. I still have Katie's grandmother's ginger jar.
Eight of us stirred, baked, lunched and tested to publish a cookbook we hoped couldn't be bested.
Indexing of late has been my fate.
Dates and events that make up histories may even unravel family mysteries.
Thank you all for coming tonight. You've made this occasion a real delight.*

Thank you to Darla Budworth and her committee for making the Langhart Award dinner such a fine and enjoyable event.

Contributions in Memory of:

LeRoy Posilippo - from Joel & Harlene Wright
Marcia Teuschler

Norm & Peachie Dunlavy

Ralph Wareham - from Darla & David Budworth

Patricia Saini - from Ernest Frandsen

Robert H. Meyers - from Jeannie & Tom Benton

Joel Kiff - from Ron & Cheryl Pourroy

Contributions in Memory of:

LeRoy Posilippo - from Ron & Cheryl Pourroy

Marcus Johnson - from Ron & Cheryl Pourroy

Phil Rice - from Mr. & Mrs. Ron Kron

Betty Budworth - from Dave & Darla Budworth

John Naber - from Jack & Doreene Zanzi

Mildred Harris - from Jack & Doreene Zanzi

Collections Corner

by Stacey Stern

Twin Valley Ranch (TVR) Cattle Brand



In 1941, Fred MacMurray purchased land in the Russian River Valley and established Twin Valley Ranch (TVR). He raised prize-winning Aberdeen Angus cattle - a link to his Scottish ancestry. At the height of operations, the herd topped

400 and won many awards.



Twin Valley Ranch branding iron and sample brand

The history of branding is tied to the history of using animals as a commodity. People have raised cattle for thousands of years, but it was the population explosion of the 19th century in Europe and America that turned cattle into an industry. The use of brands as identification dates back 4,000 years

to ancient Egypt in distinguishing Temple and Royal herds from other herds. The Romans used the process to brand slaves as well. The American custom of cattle branding was adopted from the *vaquero* tradition in Mexico, where ranches marked their herds with their family coat-of-arms.

A unique brand meant that cattle owned by multiple ranches could graze freely together on the open range. Cowboys could separate them easily at roundup time for driving to market. In the early years, brands covered the entire side of an animal. When hides became more profitable, brands were made smaller yet maintained their visibility and distinctive symbols. When a rancher decides on the type of brand he wants to use, the legal procedure is to register his mark. Today there are hundreds of thousands of cattle brands registered in the United States.

Most brands in the United States include capital letters or numerals, often combined with other symbols such as a slash, circle, half circle, cross, or bar. Brands are read from left to right, top to bottom, and when one character encloses another, from outside to inside. Reading of complex brands and picture brands sometimes depends on the owner's interpretation, and it may require an expert to identify some of the more complex marks.

Board of Directors: Stan Becker (President), Ted Calvert (Past President), Steve Babb (Vice-President), Phyllis Chiosso Liu (Recording Secretary), Bob Rawlins (Treasurer), Lynne Rosenthal (Assistant Treasurer), Maggie Bates, Diane Bertoli, Rawleigh Fjeld, Francie Forchini, Louise Fowler, Lockie Gillies, Nydia Goode, Ann Howard, Jeanne Leal-Hartlaub, Kent Mitchell, Larry Orr, Gail Richard, 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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