

WHAT VETERANS DAY MEANS TO ME

By **Dennis Whittaker**, U.S. Army 1969 - 1971, Airborne Ranger Infantry Lieutenant, Combat Vietnam Veteran

For me, Veterans Day is a very important day. Veterans comprise 1% of our entire nation's population past and present. Veterans Day serves as a day of remembrance for all of those who served our country in a military uniform in and for the defense of our country at home and abroad, in peacetime and in wartime.

Veterans Day serves as a day of education, specifically of remembering that Americans in uniform served in conflicts from our Revolutionary War, the Civil War, World War I, World War II, The Korean War, The Vietnam War, Iraq, Afghanistan, as well as so many lesser known, but important, historical involvements.

Veterans Day serves as a reminder of sacrifices made by veterans by leaving their homes, going through training with a new way of life, and putting all other significant parts of their lives aside to do their best and give their all at home and abroad for the betterment of their country. Their devotion is immeasurable.

Veterans Day also serves as a reminder that service men and women know that the welfare of their fellow service members is weighted heavily by integrity and honor. The feelings of self and selfishness take a second place to looking out for others in the right way for the right reasons. A stronger foundation for our country is constructed with integrity and honor at the forefront.



Finally, Veterans Day reminds me of the thoughts gained or reinforced by my military service:

1. Never take anything nor anyone for granted
2. Integrity, honor, and reputation are more important than personal gain
3. As long as you keep trying, you go further towards accomplishing your goal
4. Lead by good example and respect will follow

I am very grateful to all who have served in the military services. □



Our world is a better place because of their service and sacrifice
cupertinoveteransmemorial.org

VETERANS DAY

Saturday, November 11, 2017
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Memorial Park
Cupertino

Please join us as we salute our veterans, active duty military and first responders

Our Honor Guards:
Army, Fire, Sheriff

Our Speakers:
Major General **James Myatt**, *US Marine Corps, Ret.*
Rear Admiral and former Astronaut **Stephen S. Oswald**, *US Navy, Ret.*

Mountain View High School "Madrigals" Choir



Cupertino Historical Society & Museum

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Cupertino Historical Society and Museum is to preserve and illuminate Cupertino's past to inspire our youth, strengthen the sense of community, and shape a better future by making Cupertino history relevant and available to all.

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Donna Austin, Sharon Blaine, Ragini Sangameswara

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BULLETIN BOARD

CHS Board of Directors Meetings

Wednesday, November 15, 2017
4:00 p.m. QCC, Cupertino Room

Holidays: QCC closed

- Nov 10, 2017 - Veterans Day
- Nov 23, 2017 - Thanksgiving Day
- Dec 25 - 31, 2017 - Christmas holidays
- Jan 1, 2018 - New Year's Day

Museum Hours:

Located in the Quinlan Community Center, the museum is open to the public **Wednesday through Saturday** from **10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is FREE.**

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

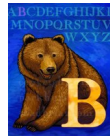


Donna Austin



Jane Alvarado

Dear members,
We have had a wonderful summer, finishing our bee exhibit, and beginning our *Slice of California History* exhibit featuring Cupertino through the centuries. The special opening reception for our exhibit was on October 11, and was co-hosted with the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce and Sister City Cupertino/Copertino. Many of our members, friends, city employees and city council helped us celebrate. We had more than 400 visitors come through from the Fall Festival and the Diwali Festival. The exhibit is quite impressive and covers so much history. If you haven't seen it, come by between Wednesday and Saturday or call us at 408-973-1495. We need volunteers to be docents in our museum. We will train on site.



One of the highlights of the new exhibit was the B is for BEAR DAY! Our preschoolers visited and looked for all the "B's" in our museum and all the bears! The preschoolers were fascinated with the bears on display and all the places they could find bears in the museum including on our California Bear Flag and exhibit books. Long ago, in Cupertino, bears and other wild animals roamed our area and valley. As you drive on Bubb



Road, you might find a very creative Cupertino Bear named Bubba that someone carved from a tree.

History is everywhere and history is in people's stories. Come to our museum and share your story or volunteer sometime to visit schools with our traveling trunk program. Our members and our board make the Cupertino Historical Society an outstanding organization!

Donna M. Austin

Donna Austin
Co-President

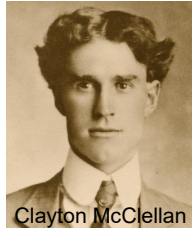
Jane Alvarado

Jane Alvarado
Co-President

McCLELLAN FAMILY

By Donna Austin Co-President, CHS

Can you imagine the McClellan children sitting around the fire at their ranch listening to stories about their parent's long trek overland in an ox-team of 40 wagons in 1849 during the great gold rush migration? William and Eveline had 5 children with them and buried one along the way. They had 5 more children in California, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. One of the grandchildren born on the farm was Clayton pictured here.



Clayton McClellan

One unforgettable story his grandfather told was the night he went to check on his grazing cattle above Stevens Creek. Imagine his surprise as he came around the bend to hear the stressed bawling cattle in the glen. He said he saw the small herd of cattle in a circle with the calves in the middle surrounded by their protective mothers. Two bulls stomped and snorted around the milling herd and on the edge of the clearing was a huge grizzly bear sitting on his haunches watching. McClellan had only a walking stick so he ducked and hid in some poison oak and buck shrubs. Then a bull charged the bear which side stepped him and flailing his paw knocked the bull to his knees. The bull backed off and continued circling the cows at a distance. The bear watched for awhile and then finally lumbered off into the brush. McClellan worried about whether he should stay hiding or seek the warmth and safety of his home. He finally decided to make the long scary walk home, saw the lamplight shining in the window and his dogs come splashing through the creek to greet him. The McClellan descendants have kept this story alive through the years.

Another story the children passed on was about Elisha Stevens who sold William McClellan land for their ranch. They thought he was a strange and eccentric person but very hospitable. The children loved to hear Captain Elisha tell stories of his frontier life. One of the McClellan daughters was said to have persuaded Elisha to have his photo taken and he agreed to pose with his hunting knife at his side to show his fierce independent nature.

Today McClellan Ranch is an 18.5 acre public park. The horse ranch still retains the original ranch house, milk barn and livestock barn.



The photo is of the McClellan house in the late 1800's. Left to right is Joe McClellan standing, Frank McClellan with son Clayton, and Grace McClellan.

COLLECTIONS CORNER

By Gail-Fretwell Hugger, Chair, Collections Committee

I hope you all have had an opportunity to come into the museum to see our latest exhibit - "Eureka! Early Native Americans, Explorers and Innovators". We've had great response from community visitors, business leaders, educators and students and it's great fun watching small children "growl" at our bear on display and examine the saddles and other artifacts.

Many thanks to Ragini - our museum director, Donna Austin, Janet Riddell, Paula Quintero, History San Jose, Brian & Leslee Warwick, Randy McCauley and historical society volunteers who helped put this exhibit together.

In the hallway leading to the Quinlan Community room, we have a set of historical panels - enlargements of the late Peter Emig's drawings that appeared in the Cupertino Courier many years ago. The panels trace the history of early Westside / Cupertino, from Native American and De Anza expedition days to the 1960's when Cupertino had already begun the process of changing from an agricultural community to the high-tech mecca that it is today.

Many thanks to Ragini for all her work in enlarging and hanging these panels. This exhibit will run through the end of the year, with a few changes as we put up our annual holiday decorations and join Cupertino City in their annual Tree Lighting Event.

IN MEMORIAM

November 14, 1921 - October 9, 2017

Letizia (Tish) Picchetti, wife of Elio Picchetti for 47 years, passed away peacefully in her home on Montebello Road on Oct. 9, 2017. She is survived by her sister Mary Roberts, daughter Mary and son John, 6 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and 1 great, great grandchild, sisters-in-law Pearl and Irene and numerous nieces, nephews, a large extended family, friends and the communities of Montebello Road and Stevens Canyon Road. Tish graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1940, then O'Connor School of Nursing in 1945. She worked as a registered nurse for 41 years. She was a long time member of the Cupertino and Sunnyvale Historical Societies, De Anza College History Center, 89ers, Young Ladies Institute (Maureen #136) and Friends of the Winemakers.



Cheryl Gagliasso reminisced recently about the long friendship the Gagliasso family had with Tish and her daughter Mary and the fun times when they would all go to lunch at local restaurants. Tish was always immaculate, stylishly dressed, coiffed, and with her signature red lipstick. She was a gracious, charming lady with a lovely smile and ready laugh who will be greatly missed by her family and many friends.



Cupertino Historical Society & Museum

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ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

The Cupertino Historical Society & Museum by preserving, presenting and actively connecting people and the community with its past, is passing the gift of history on to future generations.

Whether you are a resident of Cupertino or have a business here, you are a part of Cupertino history. Your help is needed to keep that history alive. Our hope is that you will respond with a commitment that will help keep the Cupertino Historical Society viable and continuing to provide community service.

Please send your gift this year toward the annual fund - a gift that gives back to the community the riches of our local history.
<http://www.cupertinohistoricalsociety.org/donate>

Thank you for your support and Happy Holidays!

Current resident or:

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

AUGUST 2017 thru OCTOBER 2017

RENEWING MEMBERS

Advantage Grafix
Sharon & Richard Blaine
Mary Egan
Michael Foulkes
Violet Humphrey
Jeffrey Johnson
Shari & Bill Kerr
Stacey & Wes Morse
Charlotte Niemeyer
Recology South Bay
Anthony & Sabrina Rizk
Janet Riddell
Bob Vitro

NEW MEMBERS

Gina Gaviglio
Patricia Peterson
Mary Picchetii



Planes, Trains, Dolls, Toys, Ornaments, Oh My!



The Cupertino Museum Collections and exhibit committee would love to display your vintage Christmas holiday decorations and family treasures in the December 2017 holiday exhibit. All loaned items will be safely and lovingly cared for and on view with your name attached. The exhibit will coincide with the annual Cupertino City annual Tree Lighting event to be held at Quinlan Center on Friday, December 1 at 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Please contact museum director Ragini Sangameswara at (408) 973-1495 or email: ragini@cupertinohistoricalsociety.org by Nov 20, 2017.