



Newsletter

WORKING FOR A FUTURE THAT
CELEBRATES THE PAST

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PRESENTATION OF HISTORIC POSTCARDS OF SOUTHERN MONTEREY COUNTY PLANNED BY SAVHA



An annual fall meeting and dinner of the San Antonio Valley Historical Association (SAVHA) is scheduled for Saturday, November 6, 2021 at the historic Hacienda at Fort Hunter Liggett. The public is invited.

The event will feature a presentation by Hanford Historian Michael J. Semas who is a collector of old postcards and photos. In the course of his collecting images of Kings County in the Central Valley he has

also acquired images pertaining to Southern Monterey County. Semas hosts a Facebook page with more than 21,000 followers called "Antique Images from the Collection of Michael J. Semas."

The event will include a 4 p.m. no-host social hour at the Fort Hunter Liggett Hacienda, a structure built for William Randolph Hearst that was designed by architect Julia Morgan. It is located a 1/2 hour southwest of King City and 1/2 hour northwest of Paso Robles, accessed via Jolon Road. It is now part of the Fort Hunter Liggett property that was originally part of the Milpitas land grant.

Hacienda staff will provide a buffet dinner at 5 p.m. The presentation by Michael Semas is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Price for the event is \$30 per person to be paid in advance. Reservations are required by October 25 by contacting event organizer Karen Jernigan at 831-594-3740 by phone or text or emailing karenjernigan2007@gmail.com

Seating is limited. Security clearance is required for entrance onto the military base. Fort Hunter Liggett's (FHL) Family and MWR are offering an exclusive 1-year MWR VIP Card to the FHL facilities. With the MWR VIP Card you can visit Fort Hunter Liggett and enjoy the facilities and services available from Family and MWR. Go to <https://hunterliggett.armymwr.com/happenings/mwr-vip-card> to find out how you can apply. Or for access to just this event, contact Karen Jernigan.



The San Antonio Valley Historical Association is a non-profit organization in Southern Monterey County that focuses on preserving the history of the area. More information about the group is available at the group's website <http://www.savha.org> or on their Facebook page [San Antonio Valley Historical Association | Facebook](#)

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

B Y P A U L G E T Z E L M A N

Now that summer is nearly at an end, I want to share with you what the association has been doing since we sent our last newsletter.

Over the past 18 months, although Covid-19 changed much of how we function, we were determined to keep the organization vital and active. With only an occasional glitch along the way, we learned to use Zoom to facilitate meetings and presentations for the membership. On May 22, we hosted one of our most successful events ever, the annual Spring Tour via Zoom. Our guest speakers, Len Tavernetti, Tom Pettitt, David Tavernetti, Mary and Jessica Rodgers and Esther Morgan, did a wonderful job of bringing the history of the Encinales Family ranch and adobe known locally as "the Indians Ranch", to life for us.

Another new and exciting milestone was the development of our new website, <https://www.savha.org>. Our goal is to make a majority of our historical archives available to the public online and we have included audio selections of recorded interviews with old timers in South County...first person recollections of their life and times. We've also included many selections from our photo archives. In addition to historical information being available to the people who want to fill in gaps in their family history, we hope history buffs will find new and exciting facts about the area as well.

I want to thank everyone who has contributed time, effort and financing to SAVHA this year. The Board of Directors is determined to continue to use these resources wisely in order to expand the knowledge of history about Southern Monterey County.

I look forward to seeing you all at our "In Person" Fall Dinner at the Hacienda at Fort Hunter Liggett on Saturday, November 6th. Look for more information soon!

T H A N K Y O U F O R Y O U R M E M B E R S H I P A N D
D O N A T I O N S

The San Antonio Valley Historical Association (SAVHA) relies completely on memberships and donations to fulfill our mission to preserve local history and structures and to maintain a growing archive. Support through your membership for as little as \$25 per year, makes all that SAVHA does possible. Those wishing to join or renew their membership can mail a \$25 check with the Membership form found on the back of this newsletter or sending donations at any time is gratefully appreciated. The organization gratefully acknowledges the following people who have made recent donations to SAVHA for one of the Rockwell prints.

John and Karen Jernigan

Susan Raycraft

Karen Woodfill

Ben and Jeanna Ellsworth

ROCKWELL PAINTING OF THE DUTTON SOLD TO THE MONTEREY MUSEUM OF ART

The San Antonio Valley Historical Association (SAVHA) recently sold the “California Wayside Inn” watercolor painting of the Dutton Hotel to the Monterey Museum of Art (MMA) after it spent years on display in various places in King City in memory of Rachel Gillett, who co-founded SAVHA and worked for many years to help preserve the historic adobe and photos of southern Monterey County

In the 1890's, a topographical survey engineer and artist who was working for the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, came through the town of Jolon and most likely stayed at the Dutton Hotel during his surveying and mapping of the Big Sur Coast and Monterey County. His name was Cleveland Salter Rockwell (November 24, 1837 – March 22, 1907) and he conducted numerous coastal surveys and mapped harbors and river systems on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States during his career filling his sketchbooks with the scenes from his travels. One of those sketches was of the Dutton Hotel which became a watercolor painting that Rockwell called the “California Wayside Hotel”. The watercolor was purchased by the San Antonio Valley Historical Association (SAVHA) in 1984 and in January, 2020 it was appraised at \$6000.



SAVHA Board Members Patricia Woodfill and Maria Weinerth deliver the 1890 watercolor painting of the Dutton Hotel by Cleveland Rockwell to John Rexine (left), manager of collections and exhibitions at Monterey Museum of Art, in March.

In March of 2021, MMA purchased the painting and now it will be displayed where it can be enjoyed by all who visit the museum. SAVHA will use the money from the sale of the painting to fund a new website (<http://www.savha.org>) and for historical preservation work on the site of the Tidball Store. SAVHA donates money to the University of California at Riverside, to pay for uploading vintage copies of the King City Rustler, which currently is available online from 1901 to 1936.

As part of the purchase agreement, SAVHA was allowed to photograph the painting and prints were made to be sold as a fundraiser to help pay for future projects SAVHA has planned. Unframed prints are \$50 and framed are \$150. If you are interested in owning one of the limited edition prints, contact SAVHA at savha4@gmail.com or any board member.

HOW AN IMMIGRANT CAN GROW-UP IN UP IN SOUTH MONTEREY COUNTY

BY WILLIAM (BART) BARTOSH

I am writing this article at the request of our friend Marvin Daniels, whom many of you know. Marvin has been passing along snippets of his mother's diary, and even before they are fully organized, they make an excellent read.

This also is a story of one of the best historical resources I know - ourselves, and of a particular diary kept by our longtime friend Pearl Daniels of the (historic) town of Peachtree along what is today Highway 25 in Southeastern Monterey Co. While the San Antonio Valley Historical Association (SAVHA) focuses on the San Antonio Valley with its greater population, it has long been concerned with most of South Monterey County.

Pearl Daniels was a member of my prior generation; I first met her when looking for the ranch we eventually bought in Indian Valley, as we would drive down from Hollister many weekends. And I might add, she was one of the best. She had the historical connections through family, but even more important an interest in the history of the area. For me as a natural California history buff, with a special interest in the way things were and how they developed, her diary has been wonderful reading (I like to say to folks when explaining my interest in such history that I am working hard to have grown up here, one of the most beautiful and least "spoiled" parts of California) rather than in Chicago where I was through high school. She had a grandmotherly loving way but was also sharp - a canny observer of the family and community in her days, and an ability to write brief passages that capture the sense of that community.

In 1937, Pearl was given an older family diary by her mother Virginia, and it occurred to Pearl it would be a good idea to follow suit which she did daily for most of the next 65 years.

Lilla Pearl Rist Daniels was born Sept 12, 1912, in King City to Benjamin Franklin Rist and Virginia Belle Bousfield Rist. Besides the ranches the family had a home in King City. She was a fourth generation Californian - one of her maternal great-grandfathers Joseph Valentine Matthis came from New York to California and the other, Robert Lee Valentine Bousfield, from Lowdham, Nottinghamshire, England. Her paternal grandfather, Henry Martin Rist came from Minnesota to live in the south Monterey County.

On my first meeting with Pearl, at least 35 years ago, she and her husband Clarence were living at the ranch in the old town of Peachtree. On one of SAVHA's Spring Tours to that area, she pointed out the location of the cemetery and schoolhouse (a building still standing at Jamesburg near Tassajara Hot Springs). She also recollected that one of the two large warehouse-type buildings that used to stand along Hwy 25 south of the double S curve had been used as a dance hall.

Pearl and Clarence were both hospitable, offering a snack before I continued my way, and discussing a bit of local California history. I'll always remember Clarence as well, who used the phrase "come to country" describing the ranch area as he had migrated to from Kansas.



Clarence and Pearl Daniels Family,
1942

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CONTINUED
HOW AN IMMIGRANT CAN GROW-UP IN UP IN
SOUTH MONTEREY COUNTY

The last time we saw Pearl, not long before she passed away, we were driving home down Peachtree Rd and saw her parked at the ranch house. We stopped and volunteered to help her with her groceries, so my partner Tony, got to know her better as well. Pearl was always a lot of fun and who wouldn't enjoy the worked-up image at Grim's Funeral Parlor of Pearl standing on a surfboard, riding the waves!

It was Pearl who, at a SAVHA history tour in our own Indian Valley, brought up the history of Delia Monroe Matthis, who migrated to Indian Valley, driving 3,000 sheep along with her three daughters in the face of a bad drought in the 1870s. One daughter, Lenora, was Danny, Marvin and Marlene Daniels' 1st cousin twice removed and is buried at the tiny Indian Valley Cemetery very near our ranch. Note that this history was part of a diary given to Pearl by her mother Virginia Belle Bousfield. On that tour Pearl mentioned also that her grandfather, Bousfield was the postmaster at the Valleton Post Office (at one time at the intersection of Big Sandy Rd with Indian Valley Rd). To this day, we still call the beautiful ranch now owned by Tony Lombardo high above that site "The Bousfield". Hiking up there we found the stone foundations and one of two cypress trees still alive that for years we had observed several miles down the valley from our ranch (the other had died and was gone by then) at the homesite.

Besides many family details and activities, Pearl notes social group events she took part in including Church and "Lodge" - the Rebekahs of course - as well as Peachtree 4H and Grange. My favorite such group was the one Marie Eade of Lewis Creek - yet further out than Peachtree - used to refer to as the "Home Department" or "Home Ec" in the diary. Pearl notes such nationally important events as the institution of conscription before WWII, the 3rd election FDR won, and the setting of the date of Thanksgiving in the late 1930s.

Being community-minded, and with three children - besides Marvin his brother Daniel ("Danny") and sister Marlene - Pearl was almost always on the go - up to Bolado Park near Hollister, or out to the ranch from King City or vice versa, and wonderful vacations in a smaller and less crowded California (as with the vacation in Yosemite staying at "motor courts").

Pearl also recounts more local vignettes, such as Clarence serving jury duty at the small district court in San Ardo where we heard on the San Ardo Spring Tour that Judge (Justice of the Peace, really) Alphonse Garriserre presided, sheep shearing at the ranch with an itinerant shearer, buying and working cattle, farming etc. One item of special interest was the story of the Red Ball "firebomb" which I first encountered in the home of the Sayler family in Lockwood. It was a glass ball filled with gas that was meant to fall off its tenuous perch and break to dispense a fire-retardant gas that would help in the event of house fire.

Putting it all together, you can get a great feeling for life in Southern Monterey County from the 1930s through the turn of the century. I've been reading and then organizing and re-reading the diary with material coming in with some early and late chunks missing. I'm looking forward to reporting more from Pearl's Diary and glad she was a part of my life.

San Antonio Valley Historical Association Newsletter

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KING CITY UPDATES

BY KAREN JERNIGAN

SAVHA has continued to be very supportive of efforts to promote the history of King City and the surrounding area as neighbors of the San Antonio Valley.

Board member John Jernigan, and his wife, Karen, have been offering Historic Walking Tours of Downtown King City as well as tours of the King City Cemetery. The next downtown tour is scheduled for Saturday, September 25 at 9 a.m. The next cemetery tour is scheduled on Monday, November 1 at 10 a.m. on All Saint's Day. The tours are free but reservations are required. Tours generally last 75-90 minutes and cover about a mile of walking. The events are designed to be fun and interesting. To reserve a spot, contact the Jernigan's at 831-594-3740 or at karenjernigan2007@gmail.com

Efforts continue to get all 120 years of the King City Rustler included in the California Digital Newspaper Collection hosted by the University of California at Riverside. SAVHA board members recently authorized another \$2000 payment that will allow more years of the newspaper to be viewable online. Currently CDNC hosts years from 1901 to 1936 allowing fascinating reading and searching from your home computer. This additional funding should allow more years into the 1940s to be included. Watch for these additional years to be available toward the end of 2021. See CDNC.ucr.edu

The City of King is continuing to plan for the conversion of an empty lot and historic building at the corner of Broadway and North Vanderhurst to be a Downtown Plaza that would include a park and a King City Visitor and History Center. The city has applied for grants to develop this land and is awaiting word as to whether the funding is approved. Stay tuned.

The Jernigan's are also working with SAVHA member Howard Strohn to produce a King City history book for Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series. The trio are following in the footsteps of Sue Raycraft and Ann Beckett who years ago put together the San Antonio Valley history book for Arcadia. Each book contains about 200 photos and captions that give a pictorial look at past years. The King City book is scheduled for printing during 2022.

HOW TO REACH US

Do you have a comment or contribution? Would you like to express an opinion to the board? Would you like to become a board member? SAVHA is always looking for fresh and old ideas, so if you would like to recommend a Spring Tour site or guest speaker for our Fall dinner and lecture, please forward the information to one of the below board members

We can be reached by mail at P.O. Box 145, Lockwood, CA 93932, or by email through the following board members:

SAVHA email: savha4@gmail.com

Paul Getzelman: pcgetzelman@gmail.com

Patricia Woodfill: patran2@gmail.com

Rustler to Move To New Home Over Week End

This issue of The Rustler will be the last published from the building it has occupied for the past twenty-two years. Before this edition reaches you we hope to have our equipment on its way to the new location on Vanderhurst (the new Habes building) just off Broadway.

It's like the parting of old friends to vacate our present home for the Talbott building and The Rustler have been synonymous since the edifice was built. But things move along and this new modern building seemed better suited to our needs, hence the change.

We hope to have everything in ship-shape for next Tuesday's edition—watch for it. And incidentally—call around and see our new home after we are settled.

9 January 1931

*The historic
castle-like
building at 110
North
Vanderhurst is
in the planning
stages to be
renovated into a
King City Visitor
and History
Center.*

BLACK WALNUT – A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK, BUT WORTH IT!

BY PATRICIA WOODFILL



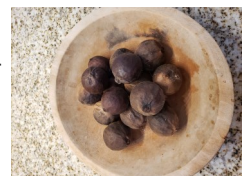
At the entrance to what once was the Newton, Dorothea and Valance Heinsen property on Lockwood-Jolon Rd (about 1/2-mile east of Cross Rd) there stands a single Black Walnut tree with multiple trunks which makes it look like a large shrub. When surrounded by other trees, black walnuts will commonly grow tall and straight up to 50 ft, but in the open, the tree will branch out closer to the ground, developing a spreading shape that makes it easier to harvest its nuts. In Chico, CA there is a Southern California Black Walnut registered as one of California's Big Trees. It grew to 129 ft and is 259 inches around.

For several years, I have admired the beautiful shrub-like tree on Lockwood-Jolon road and collected the fallen nuts from underneath, not knowing that the Black Walnut is a California native. I always thought they were native only to the east but while doing research for this article I found that the Black Walnut is native in 32 states and Canada! In California, there is the Northern Black Walnut *Juglans hindsii* and the Southern Black Walnut *Juglans californica*. There have been 3 documented observations of the Southern Black Walnut in Monterey County – two on the coast side of the Santa Lucia Mountain range and 1 on Fort Hunter Liggett not far from Sam Jones and Salmon Creek Roads, near Woodrow reservoir. I uploaded several pictures of the tree in Lockwood to the Calflora database (<https://www.calflora.org>) using their app called "Observer Pro". Hoping another observer will help clarify the exact species of this tree – Northern or Southern Black Walnut.

The Black Walnut is a beautiful shade tree valued not only for its nuts but is highly sought after by woodworkers for its beautiful wood. I read in Farmer's Almanac that "its logs are in such demand for veneer that "walnut rustlers" have made off with trees in the dead of night and even used helicopters in their operations". Walnut wood has historically been used for gun stocks, furniture, flooring, paddles, coffins, and a variety of other wood products. Due to its value, forestry officials are often called on to track down walnut poachers; in 2004, DNA testing was used to solve one such poaching cases.

Native people and settlers not only ate the Black Walnut nuts raw but also used them in cooking of soups, stews, and breads. They also used the bark in tea as a laxative and chewed for toothaches and even made an insecticide with it. A "Black Ink" was made from the hulls of the nut that was used in drawings and for dyeing hair and clothes. When shelling, make sure you wear gloves, because the hulls will also stain your hands. The same compounds that make a dye and blackens your hands, also stain sidewalks, porches, and patios, so be careful where you plant one in your yard for shade, and never plant near a garden or other landscaping as a toxin known as "juglone" will kill other plants under or near the tree. Records of walnut toxicity to other plants have been observed as far back as the first century when the Roman author, naturalist and natural philosopher Pliny the Elder wrote: "The shadow of walnut trees is poison to all plants within its compass." Horses and cattle can develop illnesses from exposure to black walnut.

If you would like help in identifying the trees and plants around you – it's really made simple by all the applications (apps) that are available to install on your cell phone, I use Observer Pro, PlantID and iNaturalist, to upload pictures taken with my phone and get the identification almost instantly. It's fun! Now get crackin'!



2021 MEMBERSHIP / DONATION FORM

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