

# TEMECULA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER



Wolf Store

August 2022  
Volume 22 Issue 8

*It is our mission to identify, preserve and promote the historic legacy of the Temecula Valley and to educate the public about its historical significance.*

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P.O. Box 157

Temecula, CA 92593

[www.temeculahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.temeculahistoricalsociety.org)



*Darell arrives at special event in "vintage style". James "Stew" Stewart participated in a ruse to get Darell to the event at appointed time.*

## Farnbach's Honored At Special Vail HQ Event

On the afternoon of Thursday, July 7 the Temecula Valley Historical Society in concert with Artec Partners the owners of the Vail HQ property, conducted a special event to unveil some new signs and acknowledge the contributions of both Darell & Rebecca Farnbach.

With an audience of 50+ Darell arrived in style, as the passenger in a bright red '53 MG open 2-seater sports car that is a recent acquisition of James "Stew" Stewart's vintage car collection. Before Darell got out of the MG, "Stew" drove him to the back of the property to show off a new sign on the barn garage near the blacksmith shop that reads "Darell's Garage". This work space was Darell's base of operation during the rehabilitation and restoration of the HQ complex.

In a shady area near the stage was where the attendees congregated to witness the main item of dedication. The entertainment stage area will now be known as "The Farnbach Stage" and a sign with that wording now graces the front of the stage. Also on the front area, but mounted lower is a plaque that reads: *"The Farnbach Stage -- To honor and recognize Darell and Rebecca Farnbach, whose tenacity and dogged determination were responsible for sav-*

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# Farnbach's Honored At Vail HQ Event

*ing this historic location. The community of Temecula and generations to come will benefit from the origins and legacy of this special place.”*

Bonnie Martland also presented a beautifully framed painting she recently completed of the Wolf Store to the Farnbachs.

Jerry Tessier, the managing partner of Arteco Partners was asked to say a few words. He related the long and frustrating road to finally getting the approval to begin work on the HQ project, and was very complimentary of the involvement and dedicated assistance provided by Darell during the time of construction.

Darell had an opportunity to speak and say a few words of thanks for the honor, but reminded all that lots of others were always helping behind the scenes. All of the ceremonies were followed by refreshments – and a good time was had by all.

In addition to members in attendance, special attendees included Jerry Tessier and Teryn Henderson from Arteco Partners, Whitney Wilkinson, a great-grandson of Walter Vail, as well as some Farnbach family members, and 4 of the nurses on Darell's hospice care team.



*The garage / shop area at the back of the now restored machinery barn was an area where Darell spent many hours during the rehab and restoration of the ranch site.*



*Those attending the event numbered more than 50, after the event they stayed around to enjoy some fine eats and have a chance to chat with Darell, Rebecca and others.*



*Following the unveiling of the new sign on the outdoor stage at Vail HQ, Darell came forward to thank everyone, and remind all that many of those in attendance helped in realizing the dream of seeing Vail HQ becoming a reality.*

## President's Message

August, 2022



As follow-up to the Smohl Rock fiasco, it has been reported by Rebecca Farnbach that many lifelong residents combed through the debris at both the site and the dumpsite, not a fragment of the 1890 carvings were found.

Phone calls, text messages, and emails were circulated between local historians. Some of us who are concerned with the loss of the historic treasure contacted our County Supervisor, the road crew who did the demolition, the County Archeologist, the State Historic Preservation Office, and others.

Finally, a representative from the County of Riverside Transportation Department called with a conciliatory message. Not only were they sad to have had any part of the demolition, but they also offered to erect a memory panel for what has been dubbed Smohl Rock, in honor of one of the men who carved on it long ago.

While we can no longer walk to the rock or climb upon it, having the memory panel is a good way to ease the loss. We are hoping the 5' X 2' double-sided panel will have a home in an attractively landscaped area outside the new French Valley Library where it can be viewed even when the library is not open.

We plan to feature pioneer history on one side and Native history on the other. Stay tuned for information on a dedication ceremony.

— *Dick Fox*

## Monthly Presentation

As Pearl Harbor was being attacked that early December morning in 1941, a company sized group of U.S. Marines that comprised the American Embassy Guard in Peking, China waited anxiously. They were anticipating the scheduled arrival of the SS President Harrison a Merchant Marine ship to pick them up and move to new assignments as the Embassy was being closed. The ship didn't arrive and all 203 members of this unit were immediately taken and held as POW's for the entire duration of World War II.

Their story will be told by Dick Fox, during our monthly presentation on Monday, August 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Little Temecula History Center (the red barn next to Kohl's). Dick's father was one of this group as a U.S. Navy Corpsman attached to the Marines.

# EVENTS CALENDAR

- Every Tuesday** — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vail HQ Farmer's Market. Antique store open and train rides for kids. Same schedule every Tuesday.
- Friday, August 5** — 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Summer Concert Series. LIVE music every Friday evening on stage at Vail HQ from May to August. Bring lawn chairs and blankets to set up and enjoy.
- Saturday, August 6** — 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Ramble On Classic Car Show 100+ cars expected. Live music.
- Sunday, August 7** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday Family fun, entertainment and vendor market.
- Friday, August 12** — 6 to 9 p.m. Summer Concert Series. Live music. Bring lawn chairs and blankets.
- Saturday, August 13** — 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. Thistle & Sage Vegan Market. Vegan friendly vendors and food.
- Sunday, August 14** — 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday Funday Family fun, entertainment and vendor market.
- Friday, August 19** — 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Summer Concert Series, last one of the season.
- Saturday, August 20** — 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Caribbean Nights. Vendors and live Caribbean music.
- Sunday, August 21** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Funday School of Rock mid-season Showcase 4 to 8 p.m. Family fun, entertainment, and vendor market.
- Monday, August 22** — 6 p.m. monthly history presentation at History Center. Dick Fox will relate the History and story of a company of Marines in North China at the outset of WWII, and his father's part in this chapter of history.
- Friday, August 26** — 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Starlight Bazaar Kickoff of "Carnival Nights" event weekend. Ticketed attractions, activities for all ages.
- Saturday, August 27** — 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Carnival Nights, day 2. Ticketed attractions, all ages.
- Sunday, August 28** — 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Carnival Nights Day 3. Ticketed attractions.

## Membership News

*Welcome new member;*

*Joann Mitcham*

*Renewing Members:*

*Valeri Sexton*

*Amber Gentry*

*Dennis Hibberts*

*Bryant Rich*

*Julie Gilbert*

*Thanks for your support*

# 100 Years Ago in Temecula

Selected items from Lake Elsinore Valley Press, Temecula Gossip Column – July 1922

**August 4, 1922**

**By Mrs. V. B. Sands**

C. R. Swanguen shipped two cars of hay last week. G.A. Burnham is having considerable repair work done at his residence. Mr. Jacobs is doing the work.

F. E. Dinsmore, of Riverside, was calling on the citizens here Monday, soliciting their votes in the August election.

McSweeney Farm has shipped over a hundred cars of potatoes and is still shipping one and two a day.

George Sawday shipped fourteen cars of cattle to Los Angeles Monday.

Vail Bros. shipped three cars of cattle to the Oehl Packing Co., at San Bernardino, Tuesday.

Temecula Men Lease -- J.W. Bishop of Long Beach, who has been interested in oil possibilities in Temecula for some time, this week filed 22 more oil leases in that region with the county recorder. Large tracts on the Temecula Rancho were leased from Melville W. Thompson, Roy C. Thomas, C.J. Thompson, Alex B. Matteson, Homer N. Wickerd, Jacob Lambert, T. Ray Wickerd, D. E. Buchanan, Mary A. Rail, C. R. Swanguen, O. R. Rail, Herman S. Garrison, Caroline L. Ebert, August H. Servel, George Lambert, Vernon F. James, Annie Laurie Davis, Paul H. Thompson, John A. Farthing, William C. Anderson, Frank W. Fezler, John Ingham.

**August 11, 1922**

**By Mrs. V. B. Sands**

The school board met at the regular meeting last Monday evening. A new hot and cold air heating system and quite a bunch of playground apparatus were ordered, which will improve the school building and grounds, and also help the pupils to be more efficient in their work.

The religious service conducted by the six workers under the auspices of the Holiness church held its last meeting Sunday evening; the workers going to their various homes Monday.

Henry Gray has purchased another five-ton truck.

A. Escallier is selling out his stock of dry goods and groceries at a big reduction.

W.T. Barton sold his Ford truck to Ellen Higgens.

Mr. Roripaugh of Fallbrook was the successful bidder for driver of the school bus, and will move his family here in the near future. School will open Monday September the eleventh.

**August 18, 1922**

**By Mrs. V. B. Sands**

G.A. Burnham and Son's store was broken into last Tuesday night. The culprit broke the glass in one of the big windows in front of the store and then smashed the small door opening into the store from the display window off its hinges. Knives, cigarettes, candy and other small things were taken. A few dollars had been left in the cash register but apparently the register had not been tampered

with, which leaves the impression it was the work of amateurs.

Mrs. A. Knott delightfully entertained ten little folks Saturday afternoon in honor of the sixth birthday of her little daughter and son, Vera and Vernon.

Donald Starr, who has been driving a truck for his uncle, Henry Gray, left Saturday for El Centro, where he will attend school this winter.

George Sawday shipped 11 cars of cattle to Cudahy Packing Co. at Los Angeles last Wednesday.

Joe Escallier and Richard Escallier are playing baseball with the Yellow Taxi Co. of Los Angeles.

Vail Bros. shipped five cars of cattle to the Oehl Packing Co., at San Bernardino Wednesday.

H.W. Maltmueller of Pittsburg, PA., was a business visitor here Sunday.

Arthur Escallier was the star player for the Alberhill Cubs at Murrieta Hot Springs Sunday.

**August 25, 1922**

**By Mrs. V. B. Sands**

H. W. Maltmueller was a visitor here Monday, he was showing a letter which read as follows: "To whom it may concern: This is to certify the H. W. Maltmueller, who was arrested August 5th at Temecula, Calif. By the Sheriff of Riverside County on information furnished by this office, beg to advise that at the time we held felony warrant charging H.W. Maltmueller with the crime of burglary. At the preliminary hearing in Long Beach, August 17th, the case against him was dismissed. The trial brought to light the fact that W. W. Maltmueller instead of H.W. Maltmueller was the party who had committed the crime of burglary." Signed, C.F. Robinson, captain of detectives.

W.M. Friedemann and family have moved into their beautiful new bungalow.

Thomas and Henry Elder and Mr. and Mrs. H.S. West, who have been working on the Pauba ranch, left Tuesday morning for their former home in Mena, Ark.

Mr. Hansen, who organized the Sunday school here last spring was here last Sunday and was very much pleased with the little Sunday school, especially the attendance and workers. He is urging everyone to attend Sunday school the next few Sundays as the 24 different schools are going to have a rally day on September 3, and the one that has the most attendance will plan the entertainment to come later. This school has a good chance to be the winner if everyone will make an effort to attend.

George Sawday shipped fourteen cars of cattle to the Cudahy Packing Co., at Los Angeles, Monday. The Santa Fe is giving a special service for the shipments, which are about every ten days, trains with the empty cars leaving San Bernardino, coming straight through and after loading the cattle goes through to Los Angeles, putting the cattle at their destination in a few hours after loading.

S. G. Veazy spent the weekend in Los Angeles.