



Volume 13, No 22

September 2009



Looking Forward

—By Jane Line, President

The First Annual Central Coast Railroad Festival

As members of the **South County Historical Society**, we have a chance to participate in making history during the first **Central Coast Railroad Festival** (CCRRF) scheduled for October 8 – 12, 2009. If successful, we hope this will become an annual event.



—Photo from CCRRF Press Release.

The CCRRF will be a broad based 5-day event with highlights focusing on railroading of many types and designed to attract the attention of avid and casual rail fans alike. The Festival will offer historical, educational and recreational events, elevating and enhancing the visibility of all Central Coast rail entities – and railroading in general.

For complete information & list of participating organizations and sponsors, go to www.ccrrf.com or call CCRF at (805) 773-4173, or **Curtis Reinhardt, Director, Central Coast Railroad Festival**, at curtis@curtisreinhardt.com. You may also pick up a rack card at the Patricia Loomis History Library, 134 S. Mason, Village of AG and other locations throughout the county!



South County Event Highlights Friday, October 9, 2009

Arroyo Grande—Fri Oct 9 & Sat Oct 10, 2009 — 1-5 PM, South County Historical Society, IOOF Hall, 128 Bride St. Rail memorabilia & rail photos from Oceano & surrounding areas. Historical rail books for sale.

Oceano—Oceano Depot, Fri & Sat 11-3 PM, Sun 11-4 PM—Rail memorabilia, rail cars, photos, historic Southern Pacific station house. Sponsored by the SLO Model Rail Association.

Pismo Beach—Fri 2 PM-3:30 PM Friends of Price House President, **Effie McDermott**, will present a program on the So Pacific Railroad promotional book, “The Road of a Thousand Wonders: El Pizmo Inn & SPRR’s Grand Promotion”.

Port San Luis—4 PM– 5:30 PM, Historic Harford Pier history walk & presentation by **Brian Craig**

Kreowski, President of the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society. Free Event. No host refreshments & food at Olde Port Inn. See the rare historical photos at the Inn.

Saturday, October 10, 2009 11 AM Hands on Model Railroad Construction for kids 8 years and up. SLO Library Community Room. Rail Celebration at the SLO Freight House, Sat 10 AM– 4 PM, sponsored by the SLO RR Museum and RR Historical District. 7 PM—Free family presentation by noted historian & author, **Loren Nicholson**, SLO County Library.

Sunday, October 11, 2009—**Arroyo Grande**, 10 AM-4 PM Bitter Creek Western Railroad — Open House & Live Steamer Run benefiting the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum. Advance tickets available at through SLORRM. Limited to 225 attendees. 805-544-6531.

2 PM– 4 PM —Lecture & walking tour of the Arroyo Grande Village to visit various points of interest along the historic Pacific Coast Railway route and at the current Village Railroad. Lecture starts at the Historic IOOF Hall (128 Bridge St) where **Norm Hammond** will talk about the railroad elements of the current exhibit at the Hall. **Gordon Bennett** will speak about rail history in the Arroyo Grande area. Attendees can then take a walk around the Village to view important Pacific Coast Railway locations before ending at Doc Burnstein's for ice cream and to hear owner, **Greg Steinberger**, talk about the shop's Village Railroad. (G scale) A new Pacific Coast engine has been added! **Grover Beach**, 12 PM-3 PM—Family rides on the Pacific Surfliner to San Luis Obispo and back. Organized by the Exploration Station. Contact Exploration Station or City Parks Department Grover Beach for \$7 advance tickets.

12 PM-5 PM - Pacific Coast Railway display, 415 East Branch St. in Arroyo Grande. This is the location of the EC Loomis Grain Mill which had a PCRY siding 100 years ago. It is the site where the PCRY line crossed Branch St. and approached the Arroyo Grande Depot. Historical photos will be displayed under the blue tent and a walking map of the area will be available. **Chuck Fellows** and the South County Historical Society are hosting this location.

CALENDAR of ACTIVITIES

~Heritage Square Museums~

**Santa Manuela Schoolhouse
Barn Museum & Heritage House**
Open Saturday, 12-3 PM
Open Sunday, 1-4 PM

**Historic IOOF Hall
128 Bridge Street**
Open Friday, 1-5 PM
Open Saturday, 1-5 PM

**Pat Loomis Library
134 S. Mason Street**
Open M-F, 1-5 PM

**Paulding History House
551 Crown Hill**
Closed for Renovation

**The Argonauts—Pat Loomis' Tour
October 7, 2009 9:00 AM**

Heritage Square

October 8-12, 2009
Central Coast Railroad Festival

Thurs., October 15, 2009
Noon — Heritage Garden
Arroyo Grande in Bloom
Celebration Luncheon

October 21, 2009

7:00 PM

Board of Directors Meeting
IOOF Hall

October 24, 2009

Arroyo Grande in Bloom

Clean Up at the Paulding History House

October 31, 2009

Happy Halloween



—clker.com image

**Our
deepest sympathy to
the family of D. G.
Porter**

PATTERNS OF THE PAST

Tidbits, Tribulations, and Tools for Survival

Health! Comfort! Elegance!

DR. SCOTT'S Electric Corset.



POSITIVELY secured with this beautiful invention. By a happy thought Dr. Scott, of London, the inventor of the celebrated Electric Brushes, has adapted Electro-Magnetism to Ladies' Corsets, thus bringing this wonderful curative agency within the reach of every lady. They should be adopted at once by those suffering from any bodily ailment; and she who wishes to ward off Disease, preserve her good health, and retain and improve the elegance of her figure, should give them an immediate trial. It has been found that MAGNETIC TREATMENT makes the muscles and tissues more plastic and yielding, and it is argued from this that Ladies who wear these Corsets will have no difficulty in moulding the figure to any desired form without tight lacing. A tendency to extreme fatness or leanness is a disease which, in most cases, these articles will be found to cure. In appearance they do not differ from the usual corsets, being made of the same materials and shape. (See cut.) They are worn the same, and fit the same, but give a more graceful figure.

The Secretary of the Pall Mall Electric Association of London "earnestly" recommends all "Ladies suffering" "from any bodily ailment to adopt" "these Corsets without delay. They" "perform astonishing cures and in—" "vigorate every part of the system."

In place of the ordinary steel busks in front, and a rib or two at the back, Dr. Scott inserts steel magnetoids which are exactly the same size, shape, length, breadth, and thickness as the usual steel busk or rib. By this means he is able to bring the magnetic power into constant contact with all the vital organs, and yet preserve that symmetry and lightness so desirable in a good corset. It is affirmed by professional men that there is hardly a disease which Electricity and Magnetism will not benefit or cure.

Dr. Wm. A. Hammond, of New York, late Surgeon-General of the U.S., an eminent authority, publishes almost miraculous cures made by him, and all medical men daily practice the same. Ask your own physician.

The cut gives a fair representation of the corset, which should be worn daily in place of the ordinary one, and will always do good, never harm. There is no shock or sensation whatever felt in wearing them, while benefit quickly follows. Being made with better material and workmanship than any corset sold, they will outwear three of those commonly used. In ordering be careful to send exact waist measure, and mention this publication. They are all of the same quality, differing only in size. The material is white, fine in texture, beautifully embroidered and trimmed. We will send it on trial, postpaid, on receipt of \$3, which will be returned if not as represented. Inclose 10cts. extra and we guarantee safe delivery. We will send it by express, C.O.D. at your expense, with privilege of examination—but expressage adds considerably to your cost. Or request your nearest Dry Goods or Fancy Store to obtain one for you, and be sure Dr. Scott's name is on the corset. Remittances should be made payable to GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York. They can be made in Checks, Drafts, Post-office Orders, Currency, or Stamps. LIBERAL DISCOUNT TO THE TRADE. Agents wanted in every Town. Send for circular of Dr. Scott's ELECTRIC HAIR BRUSH.

530

SCHS Archives. 83.16.12 — A Merchant Ad, one of several printed on one of the back flyleaves of the book, "Housekeeping in Old Virginia", Reprinted 1879, Louisville, KY.—in Pat Loomis Library .



Community Relations, Publicity and Web News
from the Desk of Publicity Director, Vivian Krug

Happy Fall to one and all. This is my favorite time of year. The air is crisp and clean, and soon we will have a chance of rain. It is the season for our annual Harvest Festival, Halloween, Thanksgiving and plans are already being made for the holidays which are right around the corner.

My column this month is focused on the Harvest Festival. The Society's publicity last month revolved around the Festival as the Society along with 22 other local service groups helped with the event. What better way to start this season than by honoring and celebrating our agricultural heritage and where we are today.

The 72nd annual Harvest Festival was a huge success! One of our own Society members, June S. Waller, was chosen as this year's Grand Marshal! We thank June and her family for all the wonderful contributions they have made to the Arroyo Grande Valley as well as to the Historical Society. Congratulations June for a long overdue and well deserved recognition. You can read more about June and the history of the Waller Flower Seed Company on the Society's website.

The Whiskerino Contest making a big comeback from years past was great fun. Anyone recognize the revivalist in the photo? Yes, that is our own Charles Silva!



by President Abraham Lincoln and Lt. Col. Knox.

The Society as always was involved in many Festival events. Ross Kongable headed up the Costume Contest and Kathleen Sullivan the Spelling Bee in the Schoolhouse. The Barn was host to the SLO Model Railroad Assn.

Ballooney kept the kids entertained all day in Heritage Square Park and ended the day with a costumed kids parade led

All the Festival's new events went better than expected! The new Wiener Dog race was a huge hit with spectators lined around the race track three deep.



The Big Ditch Derby was in all its glory starting off with a release of balloons, and back this year was a fly over by our local Banner Airways bi-plane.

The Pie Eating Contest also drew spectators three deep for seven rounds which included one round with four local candidates for office competing with Blueberry Pie!



The Heritage House lawn was host to the Baking, Pie, Cake and Canning Contest. The Baking Contest headed by Teri Kelly Nixon was bigger than ever with over 90 entries! I was lucky enough to be one of the four judges for that contest along with Fire Chief Mike Hubert, Council-member Jim Guthrie and Police Chief Steve Annibali. It was a tough job, but we managed!

The Heritage House Gardens were also the site for afternoon tea and the camp ground for President Lincoln and Lt. Col Knox. The new parade route went well, the streets were lined with parade viewers and we had over 75 entries.

Our newly restored Fire Truck, thanks to Chet Thomas and John Stilwell, was in the parade as well as our Loomis Seed Truck. And, once again our tractors were also a hit in the parade!



Other members joined in on the fun too. Sam Cotton and Gary Hoving were on hand to display their guns and badges. Gary was also on hand to sign copies of his new book along with co-author Jean Hubbard.

Paulette McCann manned the book booth and sold over 30 books!

The festival had record crowds and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time in our corner paradise.

You can see all the contest winners and lots of photos from the event on the official Festival website, www.AGHarvestFestival.com.

Arroyo Grande in Bloom and the America In Bloom Competition

Our representatives from Arroyo Grande are now in Hershey, PA attending the America in Bloom Symposium and 2009 awards ceremonies. This year we're competing against Fox Lake, Ill. Greendale, WI, Lyons, Ill. & River Falls, WI.

We'll soon know who this year's winners are. Keep an eye on our Society Website as I'll be posting the results as soon as they are announced.

-All photos by Vivian Krug

Contact Me. If you want to participate in any of our upcoming events or have information I can use for publicity or to be included on our website, I'm easy to reach by phone 458-3321 or email: Vivian@EmotionsCards.com. Stay Connected! Viv



of
site,

~~Joe's News~~

We would like to thank all of those who helped make our part in the 2009 Arroyo Grande Harvest Festival run so smoothly! Let's hear it for these hardworking members!

Heritage House

Barbara Main, Norma Harloe, Jeanne Frederick, JoAnne Connally, Dalene Caldwell

Heritage House Tea Garden & Cakes

Carol Sargent, Stephanie Cochran, Norma Burton, Barbara Main, Berneda Cochran, Norma Harloe, Elaine Parrent

Santa Manuela School & Spelling Bee

Kathleen Sullivan, Lia Kalpakoff, M.J. Munro

The Barn

Orville Schultz, Bob Sullivan, SLO Model Railroad Train Guys

Parade Participants

Chet Thomas: 1925 Ford Model T, John Stilwell: 1923 LaFrance firetruck, Jim Bergman: 1937 Farmall Tractor, Jackie Thomas: Design & Decorations

IOOF Hall **Jane Line**

Editor's Note:

The Heritage Series: Dr. Paulding's Letters

With this issue we again continue the Paulding letters with our readers. Reproduced on this page is number fourteen of fourteen letters written by Dr. Paulding to his sister "Tene" when he first left his home and headed West. The letters are reproduced here without editing or corrections as he wrote them. This is a later dated letter, technically the last, or #14, but we have elected to reprint #13 in the next newsletter due to lack of space and because of the charming drawing it carries.

Arroyo Grande, Cal.
Jan 31 '88

Dear Tene,

This is your birthday I believe, and it is not more than civil to wish you many happy returns of the same which I do with the qualification that they may not come too often while in the state of single blessedness and that the years may tread lightly and leave little imprint upon your face as they march along.

Yes, You would probably pass for sweet sixteen, in a country where people are old at twenty-five, at least look old. But I don't know how you look, do you realize the fact that I never had a picture of your handsome face except a measly little tintype which I value most highly, seeing it is all I have!

Oh! by all means go into that memory class! When you have signed a note for \$300 not to give it away, if you tell or let any one see it or acquire by any means the knowledge it is given to impart. You promise to pay that sum. Then chuck it into the stove, or hide it with great fear of its discovery by some one, till you have time to work out a list of presidents or kings and wish you had the five dollars with which to buy yourself a new hat or pair of shoes. Not one of our class of ten has gotten a very brilliant reputation as yet for memorizing. All waiting till we have lots of time, I s'pose!

Yes we eat butte every day and on Sundays have all we want. It costs 25 cts a pound and is the best better anyone ever ate. We buy none but A, No. 1, strictly gilt edge dairy butter and will take no other. It beats Miami Co., Western Reserve, Orange Co., N.Y. or any other man and I can whip the man who says it cant.

Eggs cost 35 per doz and we have them every morning for that is very cheap for eggs. I have a notion to start a hen ranch and quit doctoring sometimes. In a land where hens lay 366 eggs in a year like this, and chickens sell for 35 cts each, I believe it would pay as well as anything.

Buttercups are in bloom, so are China lilies. I tell you this to remind you that there is a land where life is not a down hill slide on ice and snow, but is a romp through flowering meads and pastures green. There are no flies now. They are not perennial, neither are fleas. I have not had a flea on me for six weeks, nor been pestered by any flies.

Our huckster brings us turnips, radishes, lettuce, cabbage, parsnips, beets, salsify, celery, onions, spinach and potatoes. If one can't live on that, but wants green corn, peas and watermelon this time of year he ain't fit for heaven.

I have been making Mary a bookcase and ebonizing it. It is the nicest I ever made and will just go into her big trunk. I tell her, I will not give it up till she gets married and she says she may get it sooner than I suspect. Can it be she is engaged? If so you will have to come out to help make a home for mother. Don't say anything about this gossip.

Did you write across the top of your letter? You always skimp your letters to me. It is late or I would write you a real long one. It is nearly half past ten.

Mother lost her drawers in church tonight. She slipped behind the organ and pulled them off her feet.

Well, good night.

Ed L. Paulding



Museums Curator

-Jan Scott

(SCHS Curator is out of town, and submits the following request.)

Do you ever shop at Marshalls? Do you ever buy breakable items? If so, KEEP THAT TISSUE PAPER. By accident, we discovered that it is ACID FREE. While we won't trust our textiles to it, it can be very useful for wrapping artifacts. Our acid-free tissue costs a fortune to buy, and Marshalls is giving it away. If some of you get some, and have no use for it, PLEASE send it our way.

You can drop it at the IOOF Hall, Thursday, Friday or Saturday afternoons after 1 PM. The Curatorial Staff would be ever grateful (as would our budget). Many thanks.

Pacific Coast Railway

Points Of Interest In Arroyo Grande



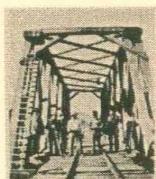
1. E.C. Loomis Grain Mill
Building still exists in original location.



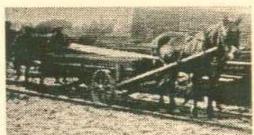
2. & 3. Arroyo Grande Depot with Water Tower in Background
Antique Mall is located in the approximate location of the Depot.



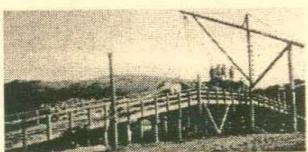
4. Caladero Products Co. Dehydrator
Site is now a business complex.



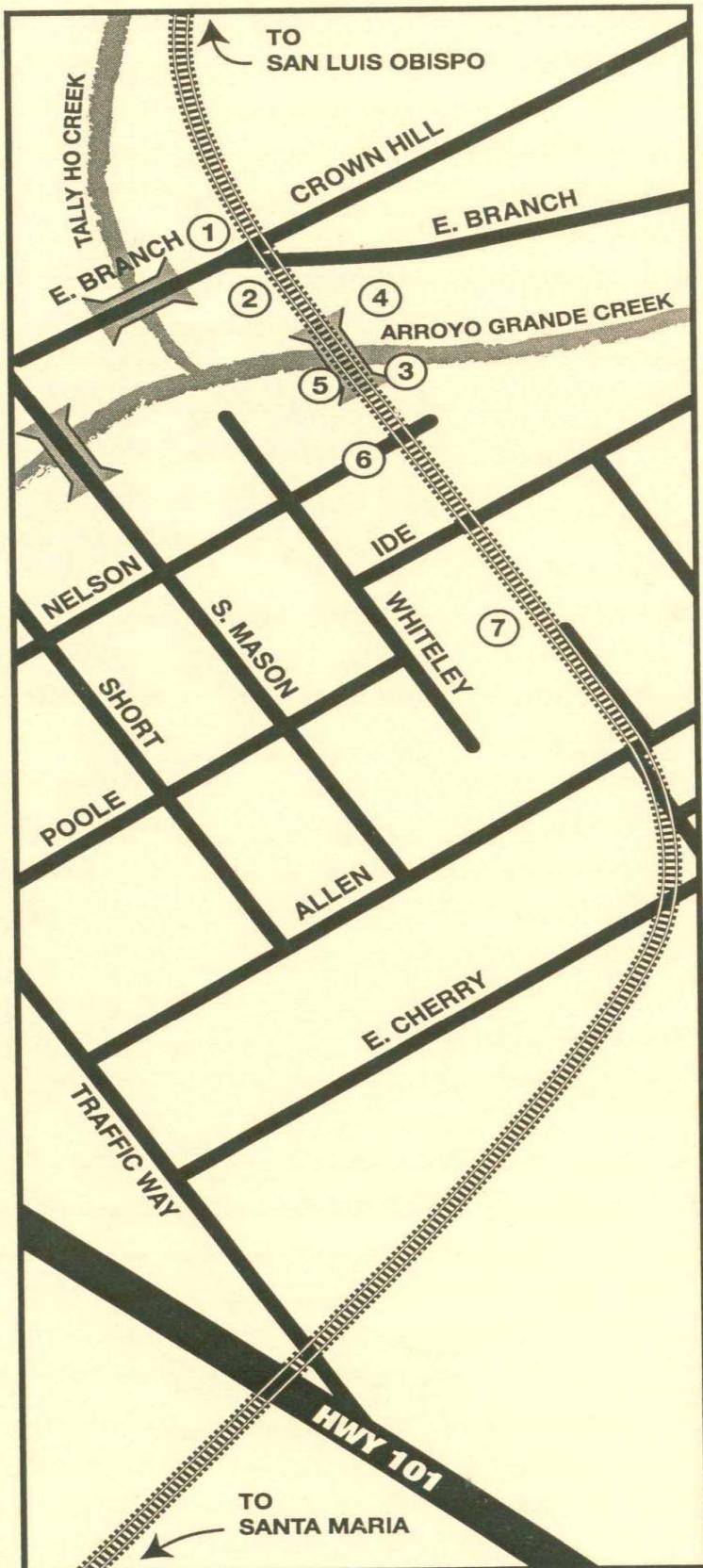
5. Bridge Over Arroyo Grande Creek
Rebuilt twice due to floods in 1893 & 1911.



6. Oregon Improvement Co. Lumber Yard
Currently a residential area.



7. Sugar Beet Loading Platform
Site is now an avocado grove.



Images: Bennett-Loomis Archives • Central Coast Railroad Festival • October 8-12, 2009

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

**Board Meeting: October 21 — 7:00 pm
IOOF Hall 128 Bridge St**

SCHS ANNUAL MEETING

**Tuesday, November 10, 2009
Hiawatha Lodge 6:30 pm**

We Welcome our New Members! (In chronological order)

**Kathleen Kemper, Mary Leizear, Bonny & Russ
Snow, Carolyn & Floyd Moffatt, Sue Bello Geiger,
Lynn Stewart, Mary & Richard Kirkpatrick,
Adeline Bottorff, Art & Joan Coplin, Carolyn &
Philip Gray, Faraline Houts, Anne Brown**

★ THANK YOU! ★
★ A special thank you from us to Ruth and Jack ★
★ Brackett for their \$200.00 Patron Membership. ★

MAJOR SUPPORTERS OF THE SOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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RUTH & JACK BRACKETT
JOAN BUTCH
CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE
DOC BURNSTEIN'S ICE CREAM LAB
PATRICIA & MORLEY FARQUAR
TOM GOSS
CAROL HIZEY
GARY HOVING
VARD IKEDA
DOUG & BARBARA LESAGE
PATRICIA LOOMIS
HOWARD & AILEEN MANKINS
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