

The Pioneer Press
 West Side Pioneer Association
 Tracy Historical Museum
 P.O. Box 117
 Tracy, CA 95378-0117

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Upcoming Events



Date	Time	Event	Location/Presenter
October 15, 2014 Saturday	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	<i>History Day at Museum</i>	Tracy Historical Museum
November 3, 2014 Monday	3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	<i>Special meeting for nominations and Election for 2015-2016</i>	Tracy Historical Museum
December 7, 2014 Sunday	7:00 PM	<i>Museum Holiday Open House</i>	Tracy Historical Museum
January 21, 2014 Wednesday	7:00 PM	<i>San Joaquin County, The "Earthmoving Equipment Capital of the World"</i>	Tracy Transit Station David Stuart
February 18, 2015 Wednesday	7:00 PM	<i>A California Gold Rush Woman: Louise Clappe's Letters from the Feather River, 1851-1852</i>	Tracy Historical Museum Marlene Smith-Baranzini
March 15, 2015 Sunday	2:00 PM	<i>Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner Fund- raiser</i>	Tracy Community Center

Please Note: Programs are subject to change.
 Call the Museum, to confirm schedule



THE PIONEER PRESS

West Side Pioneer Association/Tracy Historical Museum
1141 Adam Street, Tracy, California 95376
Phone: (209) 832-7278
E-Mail: tracymuseum@sbcglobal.net
Web: www.tracymuseum.org

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November-December 2014

WSPA President's Message Larry W. Gamino - President

"History is her story too."
Author Unknown

Rare is the opportunity for an institution of Tracy to commit to a comprehensive research, teaching, touring and public service to advance diversity, equity and inclusion but in the last 2 years, the West Side Pioneer Association has done just that. From the Mexican Migration to Tracy by Raymond Morelos at the Lolly Hanson Center to excerpts of Being Black in Tracy by WSPA member Evelyn Tolbert at the Tracy Historic Museum, our attendance has transformed a dominant majority to a pluralistic and multicultural audience.

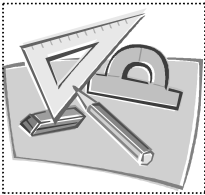
Thanks to continuous donations and membership dues plus collections of local artifacts, the supporters of the Tracy Historical Museum have invested time and monies to preserve and protect our local cultural history. Our knowledgeable Board of Directors has launched a long term initiative for the development of additional railroad and agricultural museums for the Tracy region. The need and expansion for this sweeping effort affects and involves every person now and in the future.

Finally, this President believes that the most important skill that a 21st century citizen must master is the intercultural competence which is necessary to successfully navigate among diverse ethnic groups in an increasingly globalized society which Tracy City now reflects.

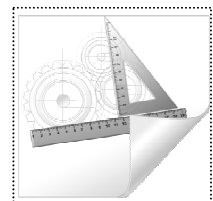
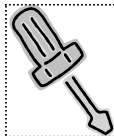
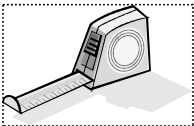
Renovations of Museum Display Cases

Last May, with the approval of the Board of Directors, a request by Tracy Museum Director Onalee Koster for castors or wheels on the bottom of seven display cases was approved. Today, all but four display cases have the ability to roll and lock in place. This additional feature to our display cases makes the rearrangement of the main lobby much more efficient and safer as demonstrated by our recent European Train Enthusiasts (ETE) visit and conversion. The hard plastic wheels secured in their new painted bases are durable and make movement for exhibits and meetings in the main lobby much easier.

Our contractor from San Francisco and former Tracyite John Mitracos and Company is currently transforming the remaining four display cases for the future. By disassembling the display cases, John reinforces the bases, adds uniformity towards appearance, removes metal legs which scratch the floor and upgrades substandard electrical boxes for lighting. His affordable non-profit rates and high craft skills have increased the longevity of our important display cases while adding flexibility for their preservation use.



Thanks, John!



History Day

at the Museum

Saturday, October 25, 2014
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Civil War Re-enactors, Spinning, Basket Weaving,
Junior History Explorer Kids Activities

Plus student recitation of the
Gettysburg Address

Free – Bring the Family

Tracy Historical Museum, 1141 Adam Street, 209-832-7278, www.tracymuseum.org

Carrell, The Black Irishman

By

Nicholaus R. Buthmann

There's an interesting side note in our own Local and State History that should be explored further. That indeed leads to a much larger main topic.

This would be the fact our own Carrell of Corral Hollow sided with the likes of Joaquin Murrietta and his Gang. Not just out as a sensible move to ensure one's own personal safety and well being. He generally did not like the fact so many Anglo-Saxon and Celt Settlers from both Europe and the Eastern U.S. were by hook or crook taking Established California's Lands and mistreating them so. As a rule he did not like many of his Fellow Irishmen long prior to his coming to California from his service in the Seminole War in Florida. He had no love loss for the standard idea of a redheaded or Irishmen with fair features. Perhaps a "Culturalist" though not a racist per say. He was profoundly proud of his cultural ancestry which could be traced back to the Iberian Peninsula's "Milesian" People of ancient. Whose Nomadic Journey took them from what is now Spain across first Gaul (France), then Britain, and eventually to what would become Eireland.

Our own modern era is by no means the first time we as a human race created Mixed-Race People's as Carrell of Corral Hollow would likely attest to. One only need understand how both sedentary or nomadic tribes of that ancient era Carrell's and even some of my own ancestors came from would co-mingle, sometimes by force of the sword or even voluntarily. This was particularly true in regions all over Western Europe from Spain and Portugal to as far North as the British Isles and Scandinavia. Due in no small part to the early Berber Peoples later to be known as the Moor's. Who for almost a millenia were a force to be dealt with, equal in every way to the Viking's need to explore and conquer. Indeed my own family the Eagan's and Westons all had features commonly referred to in North America as Black Irishmen.

So it was only natural his sympathies towards the California's feeling a true brotherhood to Early California's Mexican Settler's. Than the newly arrived rabble of Europeans, Eastern Seaboard Yankees, and Southerner's. Undoubtedly he was deeply angered by the injustices wrought upon all the California's besides the particularly heinous one's that Joaquin Murrietta suffered. Which anybody of decent heart and soul would be offended by. We all know the story and if not you should Google the subject or go to the Library and check out a book on the subject. First driven from a wealthy gold claim in the Sierra's, his wife raped violently, Half-Brother lynched, and then himself horsewhipped like a slave would probably cause many people to go over the cuckoo's nest with vengeance as the only solution.

The irony of it all is both He and the Anglo's he hated had the same unpleasant homicidal intent towards the Chinese as supposedly sub-human and degenerate. The fact it's on record that he murdered at least twice as many Chinese (who knows if there were more or not) in the process of robbing them than Whites is sad testament to this.

One may find it sad that since the most ancient times we as a human race have likely been "Mixed-Race" as we now call it but, chose to recognize a few dominant features as a way to identify a particular group which was usually for Imperial ambitions. Perhaps Carrell's reasoning for his assistance of Murrietta with spyglass in one hand and signal fire blanket in the other is of only an interesting side note to California's Always Rich History but, I think it's an interesting study in human psychology if nothing else.

Museum Entrance Sidewalks Improved

From September 2nd thru the 5th, the Tracy Public Works Department began and completed sidewalk repairs in front of the Tracy Historical Museum. The subcontractors, Trident Contractors, jack hammered and cleared debris for repavement. The new and improved sidewalk will make pedestrian traffic to museum safer.



All Aboard the European Train Enthusiasts (ETE)

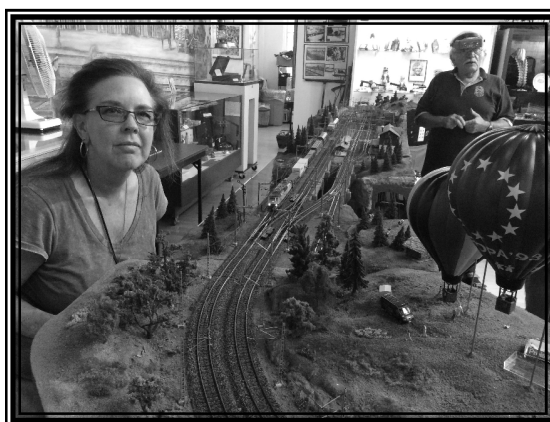
From August 30 to September 14th, the European Train Enthusiasts (ETE) visited the Tracy Historical Museum for their 7th annual operating model train display. The ETE brought their HO scale European model trains and seven piece touring track layouts to brighten the Taste of the Valley Festival. The Danville based ETE module group created a remarkably detailed scale versions of European landmarks including mountains, villages, bridges, farms, lakes and industries which come alive with a little imagination!!

Each day throughout the run of the exhibit, Tracyites, especially, the young and former “rails,” enjoyed seeing a wide selection of locomotives, freight and passenger cars from various countries in Europe. This year’s modules included two new colorful scenes of hot air balloons lifting off and trains passing a large pumpkin patch growing next to the mainline.

Every year, the European Train Enthusiasts of Danville, the premiere North American organization for European railroading focuses on the public education for travel enthusiasts and preservationists. Founded in 1973, ETE makes some of the most spectacular models and layouts of European countryside. To those who attended this years exhibit, please come back next year along with newcomers, Admission is free to take another railroad ride using your imagination! All aboard for the next train exhibit in 2015!!



WSPA member Evelyn Tolbert points out unique freight train on mainline



WSPA member Carolyn Gamino enjoys a freight train passing with hot air balloons rising in the background

Tracy Press Photo Negatives Preserved

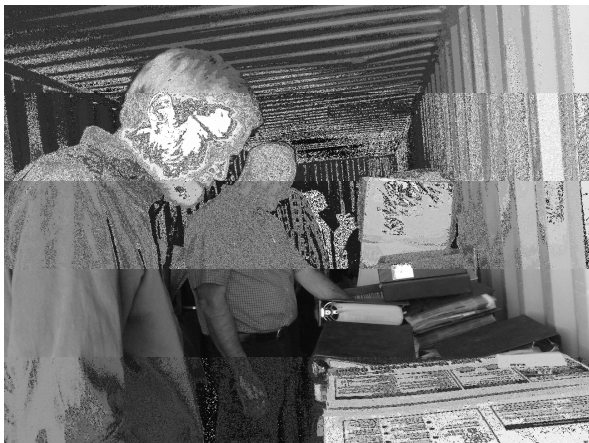
By
Larry Gamino

On August 26th, a Monday morning, WSPA President Larry Gamino and 1st Vice-President Bill Carter met with Executive Director Davis Stuart and Archivist Leigh Johnsen of the San Joaquin Historical Society and Museum in the Tracy Historical Museum. The purpose of this appointment was to discuss the preservation of a recent donation by Tracy Press Emeritus Publisher Sam Matthews to the WSPA. This massive collection of negative photos is a huge opportunity for the Tracy Historical Museum to protect images of mid-20th century Tracy for the future.

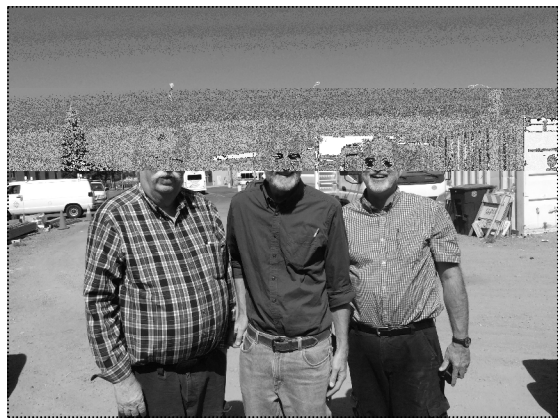
As a reporter and photographer and eventual co-owner and publisher of the Tracy Press, Mr. Matthews has generously given the museum photo negatives from 1957 to the late 1990's. Hauling several boxes and binders of dated photos, the huge number of negatives range into the thousands. At a recent Board of Directors meeting, it was decided that this important undertaking was worth saving. First, we need to protect the negatives with special photographic storage boxes. And second, we need to digitalize the photo negatives into archival format for future generations.

The San Joaquin Historical Society and Museum Director and Archivist agreed in the interest of local preservation and community history to find suitable storage and later transfer these negatives to an environmental controlled location. The transfer to digitalize could possibly take place through an internship or museum sponsored project. The final method and location would be negotiated by the WSPA and SJ Historical Society and Museum. This is a huge project in terms of time and some monies. Stayed tune on our mission to preserve the Tracy Press collection since 1957.

Thanks, Sam!!



San Joaquin County Historians examine rich photos of Tracy Press



1st Vice President Bill Carter, Archivist Leigh Jensen and Executive Director David Stuart of San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum tackle the issue of photo preservation

Escalon Historians Visit Tracy Museum

By
Larry Gamino

On Monday morning of July 14th, President Barbara Willis and Curator Dorothy Miller of the Escalon Historical Society visited the Tracy Historical Museum. The purpose of their visit was to return the 3rd Annual Frontier Days Pageant Trophy of 1939 which a local Escalonite turned in assuming it belonged to Escalon, not Tracy. Fortunately, the silver trophy now rests in Tracy.

Motivated to return the pageant award in person, we arranged for this exchange to take place on July 14th, so our Tracy Museum Director Onalee Koster could take them on a sentimental journey of Tracy's past. They gave high praise to our railroad mural and farm living display.

Sharing an agricultural heritage, the Escalon representatives of approximately 8,000 residents applauded our main floor layout as spacious, very clean, organized, impressive and overall a pleasant experience. They also expressed a friendly atmosphere as they met our docents, filers, archivists and officers.

The WSPA president and museum director hope to reciprocate this visit in the future at the Escalon Historical Museum on 1630 Main Street. We look forward to this meeting of the minds to better our common purpose of preserving local community history. For more information on Escalon history, www.escalonhistoricalmuseum.org



Escalon historians enjoy classic Tracy
railroad mural

Museum Holiday Open House

We have a special Treat this year. Our **Holiday Open House** will be held in conjunction with the McHenry House Holiday House Tour that will feature down town homes, including the Museum and McHenry House itself. Stop by the Museum for festive decorations, and refreshments.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 7, 2014**. The exact time is to be set with the McHenry House program.



**Tracy Historical Museum
Holiday Open House
Sunday, December 7, 2014
(Time to be set)**



Special Nomination and Election Meeting

On November 3rd, the first Monday of the month, there will be a special meeting to nominate and elect officers for the 2015-16 term. This special meeting will take place at the museum from 3:00PM to 3:30PM. All are welcomed



Current List of Lifetime Members*

Mitra Behnam
Stephen Brenkwitz
Tom/Barbara Brenkwitz
Nick Buthman
Rich Calderon
Larry/LeEtta Celestine
Celeste Garamendi/Mark Connelly
Ray/Carol Fosse
Betty Grande
John/Cindy Gustafson
Brent/Linda Ives
Bill/Mary Kaska
Kimberly Krohn
Rose Lighty
Albert Celeste Navarra
William Noblitt
Leroy/Sue Petz
Robert Patrice Raspo
Ruth Sanford
Dale Shupe
Evelyn Tolbert
Bob Young
Marc Valdez

*Lifetime Membership is \$150

Thank you for all your support!!!



DOCENT DUTY SCHEDULE*

Day	Date	Time	Docent	Docent
Sunday	October 11, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Onalee Koster	Open
Monday	October 12, 2014	9 am - 2 pm	Onalee Koster	Jean Shipman
Saturday	October 17, 2014	10 am - 2 pm	Bill Carter	Open
Sunday	October 18, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Dennis Maddox	Burke Sorti
Monday	October 19, 2014	9 am - 2 pm	Onalee Koster	Jean Shipman
Saturday	October 25, 2014	10 am - 2 pm	Bill Carter	Open
Sunday	October 26, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Onalee Koster	Open
Monday	October 27, 2014	9 am - 2 pm	Onalee Koster	Jean Shipman
Saturday	November 1, 2014	10 am - 2 pm	Bill Carter	Dave Middleton
Sunday	November 2, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Onalee Koster	Open
Monday	November 3, 2014	9 am - 2 pm	Onalee Koster	Jean Shipman
Saturday	November 8, 2014	10 am - 2 pm	Bill Carter	Open
Sunday	November 9, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Dennis Maddox	Burke Sorti
Monday	November 10, 2014	9 am - 2 pm	Onalee Koster	Jean Shipman
Saturday	November 15, 2014	10 am - 2 pm	Bill Carter	Dave Middleton
Sunday	November 16, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Onalee Koster	Open
Monday	November 17, 2014	9 am - 2 pm	Onalee Koster	Jean Shipman
Saturday	November 22, 2014	10 am - 2 pm	Bill Carter	Open
Sunday	November 23, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Dennis Maddox	Burke Sorti
Monday	November 24, 2014	9 am - 2 pm	Onalee Koster	Jean Shipman
Saturday	November 29, 2014	10 am - 2 pm	Bill Carter	Dave Middleton
Sunday	November 30, 2014	1 pm - 4 pm	Onalee Koster	Open

* **REMEMBER, IF YOU CANNOT WORK, PLEASE FIND A
REPLACEMENT OR ALTERNATE AND CALL ONALEE KOSTER,
209-835-2493. VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOMED.**



Volunteers needed for Museum and Living History Program

Our Historical Museum is run by volunteers. We need your help to volunteer to staff the Museum when it is open and the wonderful 3rd grade living history programs that Museum operates.

- Regular Museum Hours:
Monday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm OR by appointment for groups.
- 3rd Grade Program at Museum: Mondays 9:00-11:00 on school days
- Historic Lammersville Pioneer School Program: School days in January-May (one or two days a week)



If you can commit to a few hours one day a week or every month, or on special events, we can use your help to keep these wonderful programs going. Please call the program coordinator for more information and to lend a helping hand:

- Museum Coordinator - Onalee Koster – 209-832-7278
- 3rd Grade Museum Program Coordinator – Judy Lee - 209-814-3358
- Historic Lammersville Pioneer School Program Coordinator – Janice Johnson - 209-836-3770



Come out and volunteer and have fun at the same time.

We need you!!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2015

Annual Membership Dues
(Starting every January)

Adults	\$10.00
Couples/Families	\$15.00
Students	\$ 5.00
Organizations	\$10.00
Commercial	\$20.00
Lifetime Membership	\$150.00

Have you forgotten to provide your Email Address



Although we are a historical museum, there are some technological advances we need to adopt! Because email is now a common form of communication, we are going to start to update our membership records with email addresses. We will continue to issue the *Pioneer Press* in print. Please consider providing your email to us as it is the most cost effective way for us to communicate with members about program updates and reminders. You can add your email to the Annual Dues Payment Form included in this issue when you send in your check, or you can email the Museum at tracymuseum@sbcglobal.net with your name and address. Thank you for your help and support.

West Side Pioneer Association Board of Directors for 2013-2014

Elected Board Officers

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Telephone #</i>
President	Larry Gamino	209-836-9687
1 st Vice President	Bill Carter	209-834-6170
2 nd Vice President	Celeste Garamendi	209-914-0792
Recording Secretary	Judith Ann Lee	209-814-3358
Treasurer	Wes Huffman	209-879-3155
Corresponding Secretary	Jean Shipman	209-835-8933
Museum Chairperson	Onalee Koster	209-835-2493
Old Lammersville School	Janice Johnson	209-836-3770
Landmark Committee	Pete Mitracos	209-835-0270

Elected Board Members at Large

David Middleton	209-835-3797
Ruth Sanford	209-835-6023
Virginia Mynatt	209-836-1171

Appointed Board Members

Bill Kaska	510-773-7066
Mitra Behnam	209-740-2764
Kathy Bergthold	408-569-8931
Betty Galli	209-836-4046

Ex-officio

Immediate Past President	David Lee	209-814-6658
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