

NEWSLETTER - 2011

MUSEUM

Corner of Florida Avenue & State Street
P.O. Box 334
Hemet, CA 92546
Tel: (951) 929-4409
Website: hemetheritage.org
Email: hemetheritagefoundation@yahoo.com
Open: Tuesday thru Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

GENERAL MEETINGS

Open to the public from September to July – Dark in August
Date: 2nd Monday of each month
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Diamond Valley Middle School
291 Chambers Street, Hemet

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Hemet Heritage Foundation reaches out to the public to illuminate and bring awareness to areas and subjects of historical interest to the people of Hemet and the San Jacinto Valley. Its primary purpose is to preserve, restore, protect and maintain our historical heritage for the benefit, education and enjoyment of present and future generations. The historic Hemet Depot is the home of the Hemet Museum

The Board of Directors

Officers	Rob Lindquist, President	Bonnie Figgins, Secretary
	Heloise Marsh, 1 st Vice President, Membership	Susan Weeks, Treasurer
	Russ Jacobs, 2 nd Vice President, Programs	
	George Ott, 3 rd Vice President, Facilities	
Directors	Margaret Bagby	Rosemary Sears
	Betty Bothner	Carol Tellis-Johnson
	C. W. Cecchi	Joy Ward
	Nancy Hippert	Mary Whitney
	Don Miller	

The Hemet Museum

Each year, local people and out-of-towners visit our wonderful Hemet Museum located in the Freight House of the historic depot. Here, one can find displays ranging from a Pleistocene mammoth tusk to walls filled with the delightful images of an earlier Hemet when much of the San Jacinto Valley was filled with tree-lined roads and friendly farms and ranches. Notable is

the museum's extensive Native American Indian pottery and basketry exhibits. A new Native American relic, a remarkably large, clay, water storage olla was added to this section. And there is always a dedicated docent, ready to greet you, show you through the exhibits and answer your questions.

We Bring History to our Youth – The Schools Program

Students from schools in Hemet Unified School District, including parochial and charter schools, are offered the opportunity to learn about the museum's exhibits and artifacts as well as Native American and pioneer activities and life-styles. In 2010, our tenth year with this program, eight hundred ninety-four third grade students participated in these free field trips! This "know your community" program is carried out by loyal volunteers, many of them former educators; among these, retired teachers Bettie Smith, Rosemary Sears, Diann Bradshaw and Heloise Marsh.

The Heritage Picnic

This coming Memorial Day, May 30th, the Foundation will host its annual "Heritage Picnic," an event that began with yearly reunions of the area's earliest "pioneers" in Hemet's Weston Park in 1930's. The Heritage Picnic takes place in the Valley-Wide Recreation and Park District Sports Center on Esplanade Avenue between Hemet and San Jacinto. The 2011 picnic will start at 11:00 AM out of respect for the early morning Memorial Day ceremonies at the San Jacinto Valley Cemetery. Traditional recognition awards will be given out at 12:30 PM and the event will close at 3:00 PM. All members of the public, regardless of their home community or address are welcome to this annual valley-wide celebration. For those not bringing "picnic baskets", lunches can be purchased.

Historic Hemet Depot

The Hemet Depot Building, housing the Hemet Museum and the new "B & G Bagel Station" bagelry and coffee house, is an historic structure. The third Hemet train station, its passenger section was completed in 1914. The adjoining "freight room", housing the Hemet Museum, was constructed in 1898 and then moved to its present location. Thanks go to retired merchant Jack Stuckeman and to Rick Truskowsky of True Value Hardware and for providing American and California flags for the property's flagpole.

"Save Our Hemet Elementary School"

The 1927 Hemet Elementary School building on Kimball Street near Downtown Hemet is the last significant public building remaining intact, in the form and appearance originally conceived by its gifted architect. The Heritage Foundation is publicly pressing for the building's repair and restoration for the benefit of the community and region at large.

“Save Our Hemet Stock Farm”

The Foundation supports restoring and preserving the surviving the grandstands, buildings and trees and fences that comprise what remains of this centerpiece of our community’s history.

“Save the historic Hemet Theater”

Martin’s Hemet Theater is the Downtown district’s centerpiece. The Foundation would like to see this building restored in order that it might again serve both as a movie house and a venue for live concerts and stage productions.

Recognizing the Ramona Bowl

The Foundation recently gave a gift of \$5000 to the Ramona Bowl Association which has been reorganized and reenergized with active, dedicated, community leaders committed to improving the Bowl facility with its story of “Ramona”, the longest running outdoor play in this country.

Shideler Home recognized with Historical Residence Plaque

A Hemet Historic Home plaque was awarded last year to Margaret Bagby and her family in recognition of their historic residence located in south central Hemet on Central Avenue between Santa Fe and Buena Vista streets. Margaret’s son Matt and his family reside there today. The original core structure was built in 1906.

Monthly Programs a Feature Foundation Activity

Since the formation of the Hemet Area Museum Association in 1973, we have been bringing monthly programs of historical and cultural interest to the valley through our general meetings. This past year’s programming has included outstanding talks, photo and power-point a photographic presentations of Hemet, a fine program on Soboba History and a talk on the history of Idyllwild and the San Jacinto Mountains. The Foundation members and general public are invited to join us for these programs presented on the 2nd Monday of each month (except August) at 7 PM in the Library Room of Diamond Valley Middle School located at 291 Chambers Street. Turn right off State Street onto Chambers.

Books and Publications

The Hemet Museum operates a boutique and mini-bookstore with gifts, souvenirs and a nice assortment of historical books and publications, a number of them by local authors.

Membership and Support – WE NEED YOU!

The Hemet Heritage Foundation cordially invites you to become a member. Please fill out the enclosed membership application/form, along with your dues and/or donation, or ask for a Membership application at the Museum when you visit us.