



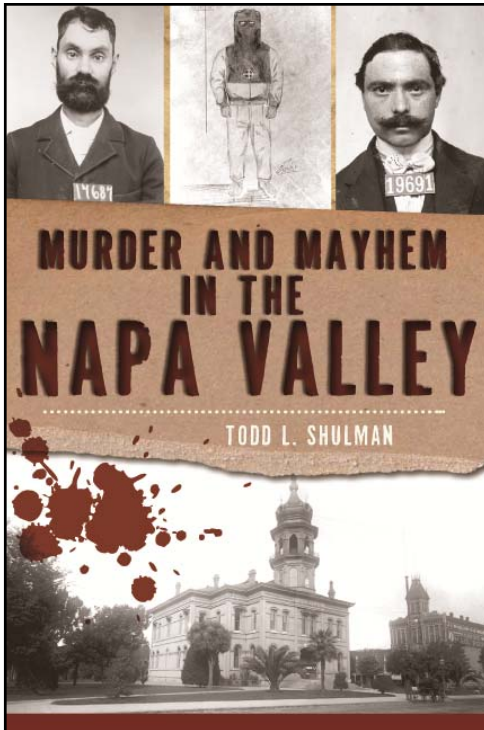
ST. HELENA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

THE ELECTROLIER

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ILLUMINATING ST. HELENA'S HISTORY

Mark Your Calendars for January 8th, 7:00 pm



“Murder & Mayhem in the Napa Valley” is the topic at the St. Helena Historical Society’s next program. On January 8th at 7:00 pm, Todd Shulman, author of the book of the same name, will present a slide show and lecture about how he researched and wrote this unusual and captivating book about frontier “justice” and lawlessness, and the cold cases that still haunt the Napa Valley.

Shulman is a Napa detective and the founder of the Napa Police Historical Society. His research relies on newspaper accounts dating from the 1850s, and he even accessed historical files at San Quentin Prison for photos of some of the miscreants.

Shulman’s book includes a recounting of the tragic murder of John Weinberger, a wine industry pioneer and prominent citizen of St. Helena. A disgruntled employee and pursuer of Weinberger’s daughter shot him at point-blank range. He begins the book with a shameful chronicle of the genocide of local native peoples.

The program will be hosted by the American Legion Hall, located at 1291 Madrona Avenue at Oak Street in St. Helena. No RSVP is necessary. For more information call 707-967-5502 or email shstory@shstory.org.

MURAL UNVEILED AT WELLS FARGO BANK



Check out the mural that was unveiled at the St. Helena branch of Wells Fargo Bank (corner of Main and Mitchell Streets) on December 10, 2012. Skip Lane, SHHS president, is on the right. The bank’s managers and staff were joined by society board members and community leaders for the dedication. The mural features historic views and maps of Main Street, vineyards, and local businesses, among other scenes, and was made into a collage from photographic images. Three more murals adorn the walls of other Napa branches. The Wells Fargo Express Company—pony, that is—opened in St. Helena in 1866, later taking on banking.



Cornerstone

By Skip Lane, President

In our tenth anniversary year, I think the Historical Society can look back on 2012 as our most successful year. We certainly had greater attendance at our events than in any past year. Here are a few highlights of the year.

In March, we held the biannual "Museum for a Day," which featured displays by established St. Helena families and service organizations, as well as vintage vehicles. The community came out in droves.

A month later, we cosponsored the day-long "Pope Valley Day" with Napa County Historical Society. About 400 people visited the blacksmith shop, the Pope Valley store, an old mine, and the Pope Valley Winery. Also included was a tour of the Aetna Springs resort, followed by a catered lunch in the new clubhouse.

In May, we were involved in the dedication of the new American Legion War Memorial at the St. Helena Cemetery. Members of the society researched, wrote, and published a 32-page booklet commemorating the 28 men whose memories were honored.

For the first time, our annual cemetery tour was held at Holy Cross Cemetery and featured presentations about the famous winery owners who reside there.

We aided Wells Fargo with historical photos and research used in the bank's new mural and joined them in the unveiling in December.

Also in 2012, we welcomed John Komes, president of Flora Springs Winery, to our board, and look forward to his participation in the coming years.

Fa-la-la-la-la

Members braved a cold, rainy evening to enjoy a sumptuous meal and convivial talk held in a private hall at and catered by Farmstead Restaurant, with desserts baked by the incomparable Susanne Salvestrin.



Holiday Festivities



Mariam Hansen filled us in on the ownership history of the Logan-Ives-Bellani farm, now owned by Long Meadow Ranch and located next to LMR's Farmstead Restaurant.

SHHS Activities in 2012

Programs

Room at the Inn: Lodging in the Upper Valley Since 1850 (Don Winter)
Andrew Jackson Grayson: Audubon of the West
Pope Valley History
Pope Valley Day
War Memorial Dedication
Pollyanna in the Park
St. Helena High School 100th Anniversary Dedication
St. Helena High School Sports (Jim Hunt)
Holy Cross Cemetery Tour
The Lost Submarine documentary
Holiday Party

Exhibits & Displays

Andrew Jackson Grayson
Cheers! (town history)
Harvest Festival (festival history)
Museum for a Day (multiple historical exhibits)
Napa Soul (artifacts photos)
St. Helena Public Library (business artifacts display; Pope Valley exhibit)

Lectures

Daughters of the American Revolution (on Chinese)
Rotary Club (on Chinese)
Sooptimist Club (on two women)

Publications

Electrolier issues (4)
St. Helena Star articles
Tidings (NCHS newsletter) articles
War Memorial 32-page booklet

Collaborations

American Legion Post 199
Cameo Cinema
Napa County Historical Society
Napa Valley Heritage Fund
Rianda House Senior Center
St. Helena Public Library

Anniversaries in 2012

Land was purchased to found the town from Maria Bale on May 16, 1854, 158 years ago,

The town of St. Helena was incorporated on March 24, 1876, 136 years ago.

The society celebrated its tenth anniversary in February 2012.

Lots of Stuff Accessioned in 2012!

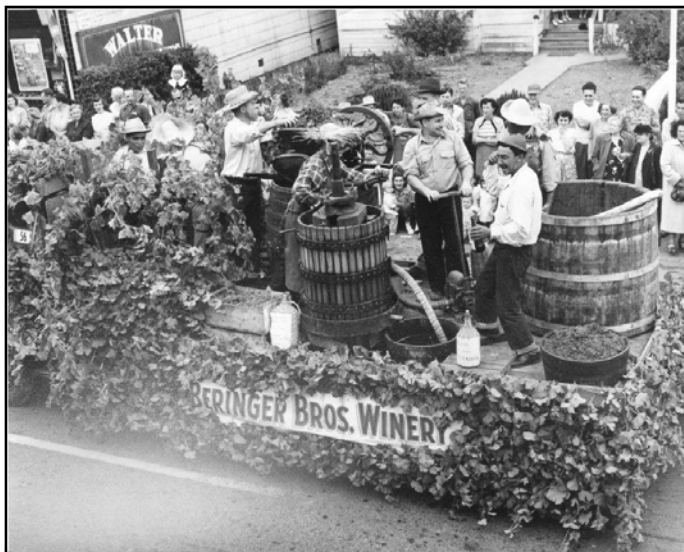
From the Desk of Kim Farmer, Collections Committee

During 2012, we accessioned lots of stuff! Here's a sampling of some of the things we acquired:

- Many Far Darters (the name of the original St. Helena High School yearbook) and Silverado yearbooks
- Architectural drawings of White Sulphur Springs Resort (1927)
- An ashtray from Mickey's Bar (circa 1951), which was displayed, along with other business advertising items from our collection, in the St. Helena Public Library display case from April through July
- Mid-20th-century menus from various local restaurants
- Archives and personal papers of Robert Glos, who served and died in World War II, and Julius Caiocca, one-time county supervisor
- Photos, letters, and other papers of the Lemme, Crane, McPike, Mills, Timmons, Grayson, Schilling, and Siegemann families
- Written records from the Societa Operaia de St. Helena



- A small photo of "Ah Charlie," the Gluyas family cook in the late 1800s (pictured above)
- Photos of the Harvest Festival Parade held on September 30, 1951
- Photos by Art Merla of his St. Helena National Guard unit, who were called up together to fight in the Pacific during World War II
- Aerial photos and contour drawings of the St. Helena area dating from the 1960s.

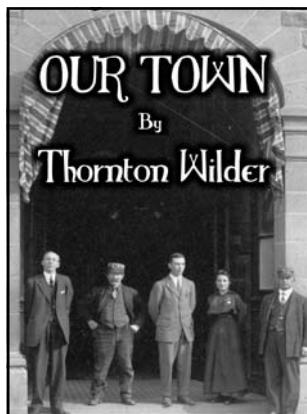


This photo of the Beringer Winery entry in the 1951 Harvest Festival was shot at Main and Adams Streets.. It is one of a number of photos taken for the Chamber of Commerce and donated to the society by Michael Micheli.

The largest accession was the historical collection from the St. Helena Public Library—over 200 items, including Vintage Festival and Harvest Festival photos and archives; Chamber of Commerce, school, business, civic committee, and personal documentary artifacts and photos; Dr. Wood photos and artifacts, and a bottle of Larkmead Muscatel!



The Collections Committee will continue to install a rotating exhibit at Napa Soul (see page 4). We provided many photos for the mural at Wells Fargo Bank (see page 1). And a number of photos from the collection were used in the recent St. Helena High School play "Our Town" (the photo at left was taken in the entryway to the Star building).



We also provided research services to companies and individuals, and offered images for sale from the photos in our collection.

Thank You to All Our
Loyal Members in 2012!

I ♥
HISTORY

All of your continuing memberships are important to us. It shows that you are invested in advancing our collective knowledge of this town of St. Helena that we love. We'd like to acknowledge those members who gave a little more in 2012, who know that those extra dollars go toward the many things needed to advance our historical cause.

Life Members (\$500 one time)

John Gantner
Holly Hughson
Roberta Oswald
Pam & Mark Smithers
Bob Trincherro
Diane Wilsey

Business Members (\$200)

Long Meadow Ranch
Napa Valley Vintners
Rutherford Grove Winery
Salvestrin Winery
Silver Oak Cellars
Spottswoode
Wells Fargo Bank
William Cole Vineyards

Contributing Members (\$100)

Del Britton
Jill Davis & Bruce Frank
Jule Grant
W. Alston Hayne
Mabel Johnson
Patrick Kenealy
Jennifer Lamb
Marie May
Lydia Money
Robyn & Joe Orsini
John Pershing
Valerie & Earle Presten
Linda & Jeep Rice
Joanne & John Sales
Dario Sattui
Jim Smith
Thomas & Diana Smith
Lois & Bill Swanson
Bonnie & John Thoreen
Roger Trincherro
Gayle & Harry Willett
Susan Wren



It's so easy to join the society. Ask your friends who are interested in history to check out the website for membership levels (beginning at only \$30 for individuals) and the many benefits. Membership is accepted all year long. Or invite folks to come to a program so they can see what we're up to!

SAVE THE DATE!



February 8, 7:00 pm, John Holson & Associates from Pacific Legacy, at the St. Helena Public Library, for an update on findings from the St. Helena dig in Vineyard Valley, done as part of the Napa Valley Flood Control Project.



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HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The name of the series is "Stories from the Soul" and the advertising for the current exhibit says, "Napa Soul proudly joins with the St. Helena Historical Society to share these photographic glimpses into our communal past." Thus, in November, was a rotating exhibit launched at Napa Soul's new location between Sunshine Foods and Wells Fargo Bank. The current selection of photos, taken by Mark Salvestrin, are of some of the artifacts discovered during the St. Helena "dig." The photos will be on exhibit all of February at the St. Helena Public Library, and a new exhibit will go up at Napa Soul.