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.
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.

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.
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 Caioocca, 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.

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.
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 Trinchero
- 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 & Jepp Rice
- Joanne & John Sales
- Dario Sattui
- Jim Smith
- Thomas & Diana Smith
- Lois & Bill Swanson
- Bonnie & John Thoreen
- Roger Trinchero
- 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.

*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.*