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ST. HELENA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THE ELECTROLIER
Illuminating St. Helena's History

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Get Ready for a Busy Fall Season!

This fall is shaping up to be a busy season for the Historical Society. We're excited to be participating in *Festa Italiana* again, and we'll be at the Harvest Festival, offering tours of the Heritage Center.

August 7: [Hilos Visible/Visible Threads](#) Workshop at the Heritage Center Museum. Join us to make your own quilt square that tells your Hispanic heritage story. 11:30am-1:00pm, 1255 Oak Avenue, St. Helena.

September 14: St. Helena's dive into the history of its Pioneer Families continues, with a look at the Chaix Family. 7pm at the Heritage Center.

October 1: Italian Flag Raising and Festa Italiana: A celebration of all things Italian in Lyman Park, 12-6pm.

presenting the 16th Annual Spirits of St. Helena Cemetery Discovery Walk.

October 14: New exhibit: *Hilos Visibles/Visible Threads*. This is an art and fabric project that's part of a county-wide celebration of Latino culture. Each participant uses quilt squares to tell the immigration story or what it means to be Hispanic in Napa Valley. Quilt square kits are available at St. Helena Library. [More info](#)



October 15: We'll be manning a booth at St. Helena's Harvest Festival. We'll also be giving guided tours of the Heritage Center.

November 2: Congressman Mike Thompson will be talking with former Historical Society President and fifth-generation St. Helenan Stephen Taplin on "Growing up in St. Helena".

Volunteer Focus: Mariam Hansen

Mariam was born and raised in St. Helena by German-Armenian immigrants, and she grew up on the corner of Zinfandel Lane and Silverado Trail. She received an Associates Degree from Santa Rosa Junior College, then completed a business degree in 1977 from San Francisco State University. Her first job was at an air freight consolidations company at San Francisco Airport.

She began a career in financial services

Mariam spoke Spanish, and Wells Fargo Bank's International Division hired her as a credit analyst for the Latin American division. She was soon chosen for Wells Fargo's officer training program and was assigned to the loan syndications department. It was her job to call unsuspecting Midwestern banks and convince them to lend to Brazil. When that job ended, Mariam took her severance package and took off for Europe.

Mariam became an uber volunteer

Mariam married Dennis Hansen and had two children, Anna and Mark. Dennis's fertilizer company, Napa Valley Ag Supply, was successful enough so that Mariam didn't have to work. Instead, she embraced volunteering—in her kids' schools, and later, when the Historical Society was formed, “I was all in the first day—I found my calling. I have been president, program chair and now research director. It's lots of fun!” Mariam is also secretary and historian for the St. Helena Public Cemetery Board of Directors.

Mariam spends countless hours researching the history of our town. She's our resident oracle.



IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Membership renewal letters were mailed in late May. If you've already renewed your membership, we thank you! If you haven't sent in your check yet, please do so now. Either use the form we mailed to you, or go to our [website](#). You can download a membership form or pay online. If you are not a member yet, we urge you to join! Membership critical to the historical society's success!



Volunteer at the Heritage Center!

Open the First Saturday of the Month from Noon-4pm

We're looking for [volunteers](#) to help staff the Heritage Center on the first Saturday of the month. Noon-4pm shifts. Contact

shstory@shstory.org

1255 Oak Avenue, St. Helena, CA 94574

SHHS Board of Directors, 2022-2023

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A red, rounded rectangular button with the word "DONATE" in white, bold, uppercase letters.

Support St. Helena Historical Society

Visit the Heritage Center: 1255 Oak Avenue, St. Helena, CA 94574 • SHHS

Mailing address: PO Box 87, St. Helena, CA 94575 • shstory@shstory.org

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