Mission Peak
July - Sept 2013

Al Minard, Editor

3rd Quarter Calendar
Happy Birthday America-July 4th

**Monday, July 8**th, 10 AM
Bay Area Historic House Museums (BAHHM) Quarterly Meeting at Casa Grande in South San Jose.

**July 6-28** the Fremont Art Association will hold their Summer Showcase featuring “Around the Bay” by Jerry Harold Foreman.

**Sunday, July 14th** The Alameda County Water District is celebrating 99 years of providing water to Alameda County at Shinn Park, Joe Shinn was the first president.

**Thursday, July 18, MPHF** Board Meeting at the Shinn House in the Archive room starting at 7:15 PM

**Sunday, July 21st**
Ice Cream Social
Set-up at 11 am
Open to Public Noon-4 PM
Gun Fighters of the Old West will be performing! The East Bay Youth Jazzinators will perform from about 1-3 PM, and we will have a special “hanging”, by the Gunfighters. Acorn Model A’s Club will display their Model A Ford cars! See attached flyer for more information.

**Saturday, July 20th**
Niles Dog Show, No pedigree-No Problem, Niles Community Park, show from 10-3

**Monday, July 22,** Washington Township Historical Society meeting at the Museum of Local History starting promptly at 7:15 PM, everyone welcome.

**Saturday,August 3 & Sunday August 4, 2013,**
Fremont’s Festival of Arts from 10 AM to 6 PM
Paseo Padre Parkway from Walnut to Mowry and up Capitol

**Tuesday, August 6,**
National Night Out, 6 PM to 8 PM

**Wednesday, August 7th**
Shinn Open House
1-3 pm

**Thursday, August 15th**
MPHF Board Meeting
Pot Luck Dinner
7 pm

**Saturday, August 17th**
Hot August Niles Car Show, 9am-3 pm Niles Boulevard downtown.
Sunday, August 18th
Shinn Open House, 1-3 pm

Sunday, August 25th
Niles Flea Market & Antique Faire
6 am to 4 pm, bring your flashlight.

Monday, September 3, Labor Day

Wednesday, September 5th
Shinn Open House
1-3 pm

Sunday September 8, Shinn House Models paintings will have their opening reception at Mission Coffee of the paintings made at Shinn Park last year by various artists.

Friday, September 20
“Ports O Call” featuring Priscilla Whitaker, “The Tea Talk Lady”, Tea begins at Noon, call Michi Yee (510) 793-9352 for information and reservations, seating is limited. Cost $25

Thursday, September 21st
MPHF Board Meeting
7:15-9 pm

Sunday, September 16th
Shinn Open House, 1-3 pm

Wednesday, October 3rd
Shinn Open House
1-3 pm

Thursday, October 18th
MPHF Board Meeting with Nominations of Officers
7:15-9 pm

Other community activities that you might be interested in attending.

Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum has silent films every Saturday Night from 7:30 to about 10 pm. The cost is usually $5 per person. There is always a live piano player playing along with the movie just like it was done when the movies were shown in the 1920’s. Essanay Silent Film Museum is at 37395 Niles Boulevard.

Music in the Grove FREE Friday night concerts starting at 6:30 PM. July 26-Night Fever; August 9-Big Band Beat; August 23-Caravanserai Santana Tribute.

Fremont FREE Concerts in the Park at Central Park on Thursday evenings, July 11-Jukebox Heroes; July 18-Unauthorized Rolling Stones; July 25-Diablo Road; August 1-Big Cat Tolefree; August 8-East Bay Mudd; August 15-The House Rockers.

Newark has FREE Movies In the Park, at Newark Community Park, 35501 Cedar Boulevard at Chapman. July 19-The Croods; August 23-Grease, movies start at sunset

Olive Hyde Art Gallery, located on the corner of Washington Boulevard and Mission Boulevard in Mission San Jose has FREE admission and is open on Thursday thru Sunday from Noon to 5 pm. The current show is The Members Juried Show which runs until July 20. They have a special show with an Artists Reception and Ice Cream Social on August 4 from 2-4 PM featuring developmentally disabled students from Serra Center.

The Friends of Heirloom Flowers work every Tuesday in Shinn Park making the grounds look nice. come down and help them if you get a chance.
Mission Peak Heritage Foundation

“Ports ‘O Call”
Friday, September 20, 2013, at 12:00 noon

featuring Priscilla Whitaker, “The Tea Talk Lady”
who will be sharing her knowledge of tea, of
England, USA, China, Africa, and India

MENU
Consisting of tea sandwiches,
Scone with lemon curd, jam and whipped topping,
Appetizers, Fruit in season
Shinn Blend Tea
House tour available

Benefit for Mission Peak Heritage Foundation $25
Call for reservations, 510-793-9352
Victorian Ice Cream Social
Sunday, July 21, 2013
Noon to 4 p.m.
Shinn Park, 1251 Peralta, Fremont

Featuring Model A’s from the Acorn A’s, Gunfighters of the Old West, The Youth Jazzinators of the East Bay Traditional Jazz Band will perform from 1-3 PM, Beautiful Gardens maintained by the Friends of Heirloom Flowers, Docent led tours of the 1876 Shinn House and the Shinn Archive Room. We will have Ice Cream Sundaes, Popcorn, water & soda for sale. Enjoy a step back in time and the peaceful relaxation of the Shinn Historical Park, 1251 Peralta Blvd., Fremont

For more information call (510)795-0891 or E-mail: “alminard@comcast.net”
or see our website: www.missionpeakreporter.org
This is a benefit for Mission Peak Heritage Foundation
Joseph C. Shinn & The Alameda County Water District

Joseph Clark Shinn was a horticulturist, nurseryman, orchardist and quarry operator. Throughout his life he was among the most respected leaders in the community. Folks simply addressed him as “Joe” and knew him to be a worldly man with whom one could easily sit down and share a couple of beers and a few jokes.

After one year of studies at U. C. Berkeley, Joseph took over the family nursery business when his father’s health was failing, and was fully in charge by the age of 20. The business transitioned from nursery to orchard and farming. Since the Shinn property was next to Alameda Creek, Joseph also managed a successful gravel pit business. Gravel from the pits was used to rebuild San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake, used for the foundations of the Golden Gate and Bay bridges, and used to construct many of the original buildings on the U. C. Berkeley campus, as well as many other prominent structures around the Bay Area. The gravel pits, being fortuitously right next to rail lines, created substantial wealth for the Shinn family. The Shinn gravel pits and the gravel pits of other operators were later acquired by the Alameda County Water District and form the present day Quarry Lakes.

In 1900, Joseph Shinn, who had a keen interest in riparian water rights along Alameda Creek, started the privately owned Niles Water Company with a partner, A. J. Mayhew (the namesake of ACWD’s Mayhew Reservoir; Mayhew’s Landing in Newark; and Mayhew’s Road in Niles). In 1905, nearing the age of 45, he married Mayhew’s daughter, Florence, on her 25th birthday. Together, they had five children, Joseph Jr., Allen (famous WWII Navy Admiral), Lucy, Anna and Elizabeth. Florence was actively involved with many civic organizations including starting a health clinic for children that in time became Washington Hospital.

By 1910, Joseph was actively working to form a publicly owned water district and was instrumental, along with William Patterson (of Ardenwood Ranch), in getting the state legislature to pass the County Water District Act of 1913, one year after it had passed the Municipal Water District Act (Marin Municipal Water District was the first public agency created under that act). A referendum, as to whether the citizens of Washington Township (today Fremont, Newark, & Union City) wished to form a water district for the unincorporated county area, was held on December 30, 1913 – the measure passed overwhelmingly.

In April 1914, local citizens elected a five-member board for the Alameda County Water District, thus becoming the first publicly operated county water district in California. In May, the first board meeting convened and Joseph Shinn was named President of the Board. He served as a director for 28 years, from 1914 – 1942. He and fellow director William Patterson became statewide leaders in water conservation efforts and in the development of critically needed water supply resources for the burgeoning SF Bay Area.

Joseph was active in many other community affairs, too: He was a 10-year trustee and president of the Washington Union School District. Joseph was president for many years of the Alameda County Farm Bureau. He was a charter trustee in the Niles Congregational Church and held that position for more than 56 years. Joseph founded the Niles Improvement Club. And, he dedicated a portion of his land holdings to build Niles Elementary School and the beautiful Veterans’ Hall in Niles. Additionally, he was a member of the International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) and the Woodmen of the World.

Joseph, along with his brother Charles and John Muir, were founding members of the Sierra Club. He went on a Sierra Club expedition in 1898 where his group was the first to climb Mount Keith (Elevation: 13,983’). He contributed to the naming of Mount Bradley (Elevation: 13,182’) when his group was the first to climb it. And, Mount Shinn (Elevation: 11,013’) was later named after Charles for all of his epic work in the Sierras.

Joseph Shinn passed away in 1947 at the age of 86 while swimming with his wife in the quarry ponds situated between the “Big House” and the Alameda Creek. Joseph and Florence Shinn are lovingly buried beside one another in the Oakland hills at Mountain View Cemetery just below “Millionaire’s Row”.

Shinn Park history compiled from various sources by:
Paul Sethy, Member, Board of Directors, Alameda County Water District, June 2013
History Day Report
By Al Minard

We had a number of students from Fremont make it to the California State Championships for History Day. First I would like to recognize the Counselors at Hopkins Junior High School, Thom Birbeck and Charles Jennings. I also want to recognize the Counselor at Mission San Jose High School, Risha Krishna. The topic for this year’s History Day Competition was, “Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events. The State competition was held in Sacramento on April 26-28, 2013. There were 1055 students from all over California that entered this competition.

Here are the entrants from Fremont:
Andrew Choi and Advaith Sethuraman did a Junior Group Documentary titled, “Thirteen Days on Edge”. They are from Hopkins Junior High School.
Angela Wang, Max Wu, Eric Zhu, Shawn Yip and Jennifer Wei did a Group Performance titled, “The Voting Rights Act of 1965: The Senate Debates”. They are also from Hopkins.
William Bei did a Historical Paper titled, “The Sinkings of the Akayi, the Kaya, and Soryu and How they Changed History”. He is also from Hopkins.
Joshua Chan did a Senior Individual Exhibit titled, “The Kent State Shootings: The Day the War Came Home”. He is from Mission San Jose High School. Here is a picture of his exhibit.
Dominque Huang and Madeline Zheng did a Senior Group Documentary titled, “Value of the Vote”. They are from Mission San Jose High School.
Olivia Zheng, Vivian Chang, and Grace Dong did a Senior Group Performance titled, “Denishawn and the Birth of American Dance”. They also attend Mission San Jose High School.
Laura Chen, and Catherine Wang did a Senior Group Website titled, “China’s Third Plenum: The Road to Reform”. They are also from Mission San Jose High School. They went on the Kenneth E. Behring, National Championship Contest at the University of Maryland, College Park from June 9-13, 2013.
Katrina Cherk did a Senior Historical Paper titled, “The American Polio Epidemics: Redefining Philanthropies, Reforming Medical Research and Catalyzing the Disability Rights Movement”. She is also from Mission San Jose High School.
Anu Asokan did a Senior Historical Paper titled, “The Banning of Sati: How India’s Perspective Changed”. This student is also from Mission San Jose High School. Mission Peak Heritage Foundation applauds the work of these students who made it to the California State Championship for History Day. The Theme for History Day 2014 is, “Rights and Responsibilities in History”. The Alameda County competition will probably be held in the Oakland Museum and the state competition will be held in Riverside, California in the Convention Center. No dates have been established for either of these competitions.
Photos of our parade entry for the 4th of July Parade in Fremont

Judy Peterson’s granddaughter, Judy Peterson, Joan Serafino, Fran Shinn, Dick Shinn and Karen Mueller in front of the Acorn A’s Model “A” Fords carrying our banner in the parade.

Karen Mueller, Dick Shinn, and Fran Shinn, by the side of one of the Model A Ford’s from the Acorn A’s

Judy Peterson, Judy’s granddaughter and Joan Serafino in front of Joan Serafino’s 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle.
Photos of our May 2013 Arts & Crafts in Shinn Park event
Paint Your Pumpkin
Sunday, October 20, 2013
Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Shinn Historical Park
1251 Peralta Blvd., Fremont

We will provide pumpkins for the first 100 visitors at $2 each. Ribbons can be won for the Best Painted Pumpkin in three age groups, 0-6, 7-12, and 13-Adult. We will give a ribbon for the best costume of any age. Judging will begin at 2 pm. There will be FREE games for the children to play at which they can win prizes. Hotdogs, popcorn, cookies, coffee, soda and water will be for sale. Docents in period costume will provide tours of the Historic Shinn House for $5 per adult and $2.50 for children 5-12.

For more information call (510) 795-0891
or E-mail: alminard@comcast.net

This is a benefit for Mission Peak Heritage Foundation, PO Box 3078, Fremont, CA 94539
The Research Library in the Shinn Archive Room is available for research on the first Wednesday of each month from 11 AM to 4 PM. Please enter by knocking on the door of the archive room behind the tank house. For special appointments or questions please call Barbara at (510) 782-9663. This Library has collections of Shinn writings and local Alameda and California History. It is open to the public but if you want to check out any of the books you would need to become a member of Mission Peak Heritage Foundation. There are several books that pertain to the horticulture of this area as well as the history of the Shinn Family.

Mission Peak Heritage Foundation
Board Members
President: Joan Serafino (510) 795-0891
Vice-Pres: Barbara Anderson (510) 782-9663
Secretary: Al Minard (510) 552-4839
Treasurer: Dick Shinn (510) 828-1869

Directors At Large
Karen Mueller (510) 797-8330
La Vonne Minard (510) 552-4842
Dottie DiFranco (510) 793-9352
Sandrea Woehl (510) 790-2633
David Schipul (510) 477-0977

Patterson House Advisory Board
Jessi Stokes (510) 797-5439
Al Minard (510) 552-4839