



Patterson Township Historical Society

# Spokes

September 2017



## **CITY APPLIES FOR STATE GRANT FOR RENOVATION OF MUSEUM**

The city of Patterson, which owns the Center Building that houses our museum, has applied for a state grant that would be used for needed repairs on the 107-year-old structure.

The City Council recently approved a resolution used in seeking a grant from the California Cultural & Historical Endowment Fund. The grant application was forwarded to the state in mid-August.

The resolution links the city, which had owned the building since the mid-1940s, and the Historical Society in the grant application.

The city had the original electrical wiring in the building removed about eight years ago. Some years back the structure was re-roofed and re-painted.

However, over the years the west concrete porch and its wooden structure has sunk several inches in places. Drainage from the roof is suspected to have contributed to this problem, and this issue is expected to be addressed in the renovation process.

Dry rot and termite damage may also be addressed.

The project could exceed over \$300,000 in cost. The state grant could provide up to \$160,000, or half of that total.

Town founder T.W. Patterson had the building constructed in late 1909 as a real estate location for the purpose of selling some 18,000 acres of agricultural, commercial and residential property. In January 1910, it became Patterson's first post office and provided that space until 1931. It also served as the temporary location of the Bank of Patterson as its building was being constructed across the street.

The Center Building housed the offices of the Patterson family's local business operations until 1960. The family owned the Patterson City Water Co. until 1984 when it was sold to the city of Patterson.

Working with the city on the grant application has been society board member Vivian Ratliff. She deserves the thanks of all members for her many hours of labor.

### **NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM**

The annual Night at the Museum scheduled for September 28 has been cancelled this year due to illness of Board Members.

## President's Message

The PTHS had a very large attendance of visitors at the Museum through the Apricot Fiesta and we owe thanks to board members and to all the docents who helped us out during those three days. We couldn't have done it without them.

Throughout the summer, the PTHS has had special committee meetings to discuss and apply for a Grant that would allow the City to make some badly needed repairs on our Museum. The Center Building is Patterson's oldest building and needs to be preserved for our young and future generations to enjoy. We appreciate all the hard work and hours this committee has put into this project and thank the City's committee also.

It is hard to believe that Fall is just around the corner. The PTHS usually holds it's Night at the Museum in the Fall but unfortunately it will have to be cancelled this year. Several of our board members are unable to participate due to illness which leaves only a few to try to put the event together. We know you all understand and will join us again next year.

*Linda Briggs*, President

*Spokes* is a quarterly newsletter of the  
**PATTERSON TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P. O. Box 15, Patterson, CA 95363

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## MEMBERSHIP

Any person interested in the history of this area who applies for membership in any classification and who tenders the necessary dues may become a member.

### Annual Dues:

Household .....	\$20.00
Business .....	\$100.00
Life Membership .....	\$150.00

Annual dues are payable as of January 1<sup>st</sup> each year and are tax deductible. Dues will include mailed copies of *The Gateway* and *Spokes* newsletters to each membership.

## 2016-2017 PTHS Officers and Project Leaders

Linda Briggs, President .....	892-7176
Carol Scoles, Vice President .....	892-6068
Faye Hill, Secretary .....	892-6533
Chris Dennis, Treasurer .....	415-850-3022
Phil Breasher, Director .....	892-6714
Carole Dompe, Director .....	614-6404
Burta Herger, Director .....	892-3301
Kevin Nelson, Director .....	631-9378
Vivian Ratliff, Director .....	892-5141

### APPOINTED

Carol Scoles, Curator .....	892-6068
Bob Kimball, Tour Director .....	892-8664
Kenny Herger, Curator, Large Equipment .....	681-5604

## VOLUNTEER HELP

PTHS wants to thank recent volunteers who have been both keeping the museum open limited hours and undertaking filing work in our Research Center.

MUSEUM – Darla Youngblood and Ida Tucker

RC – Barbara Hartsell and Susan Guest

## BARNSTORMERS PLANNING A PARTY

Although the Historical Society's annual evening party at the museum has been cancelled for this fall, another party is in the works.

The Barnstormers, a group of local antique farm equipment enthusiasts headed by Kenny Herger, is in the initial planning stage of organizing such a gathering. Society members should watch for an announcement.

Herger says The Barnstormers expect to make an announcement about a major acquisition of antique equipment. Although they currently have a few pieces of much interest, including a 100-year-old harvester, the new acquisition would add greatly to their collection.

## THE PATTERSON ELEVATOR COMPANY



The Patterson Elevator Company was built in 1921 on land owned by the Southern Pacific Company. It soon began to list toward the railroad tracks – 26". The foundation was shored up in 1923. It was known as Elevator N. 1 by the California Farm Bureau Association.

It was the first bulk grain system elevator in California and a sensation when it was built. It cost \$20,460.80 and was 100' high. It was used to store barley and milo.

The Patterson Elevator Company was organized and incorporated in 1925 for the purpose of acquiring and operating the elevator from the California Farm Bureau Elevator Corporation.

The original shareholders were: H. L. Heintz, Otto H. Jons, Walter D. Jons, William J. Jons, Claus Krohn, the Patterson Ranch Company, Manuel Rogers, and the Charles Zacharias Company. The Charles Zacharias Company was the largest shareholder.

John Delphia acquired all the shares in the 1950's. Joe Inaudi was the last manager of the company which closed in 1961. It had been in use for 40 years.

The Evans Bros. of San Ramon tore the building down in 1979 for the Southern Pacific Transportation Co. which owned the right of way.



Early Patterson Business

**Patterson Township  
Historical Society**  
P. O. Box 15  
Patterson CA 95363

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