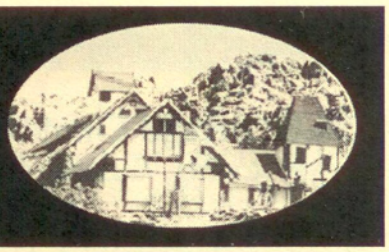
FAVIM Bulletin

Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum



P.O. Box 1171
Lancaster, California 93584

October, November, December 2011
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Friends of AV Indian Museum Annual Meeting

by Anne Kittlitz, Historian

The Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum held its annual meeting on June 25, 2011, at the Indian Museum.

The activities began with a nice lunch which was enjoyed by all. Then President Don Borchers introduced the new Board for the 2011-2012 year.

- President: Don Borchers
- Vice President: Cy Crites
- Treasurer: Betsy Matheny
- Secretary: Darrel Walters
- Membership: Sandi McClure
- Corresponding Secretary and Historian: Anne Kittlitz
- Gift Shop: Sandi McClure
- Member-at-Large: Mary Shoemaker

The Indian Museum Curator, Peggy Ronning, announced volunteers who have worked at the museum since it opened in October. She introduced the new volunteers and awarded hour pins to several who have reached over 100 hours or more during the last year.

Thirty people attended. It was wonderful to see so many volunteers from the past and new volunteers, as.well as Friends from years past. Among those attending were: Edra Moore, the previous Curator, Jean Leland and Stephanie Love who were both volunteers from the early 80s, and Todd Amspoker and his family.

After the meeting, the Museum was open for all to enjoy and many spent some time visiting with old and new Friends.

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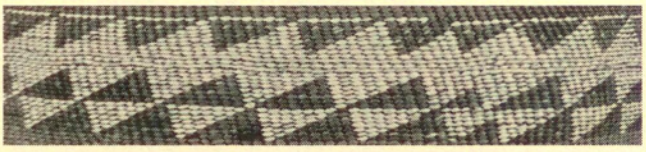


2011-2012 FAVIM Board Members

left to right: Darrel Walters, Mary Shoemaker, Anne Kittlitz, Don Borchers, Cy Crites, Betsy Matheny, Sandi McClure

In Memory of Irene Swenson 8/9/1919 - 6/30/2011 by Anne Kittlitz

We are sorry to report the recent death of Irene Swenson. Irene and her husband, Arlynn, who passed away in 2001, were faithful volunteers at the Indian Museum since the early 1990s. Irene was born in Lancaster, and graduated from AVHS, AV Community College, and USC. She spent most her life in the AV. She will be missed very much by her Friends at the Indian Museum. Her obituary says, "Irene Swenson loved Lancaster", and her friends at the Indian Museum loved Irene.

Joshua Cottage Climate Stabilization

by Peggy Ronnig, Museum Curator

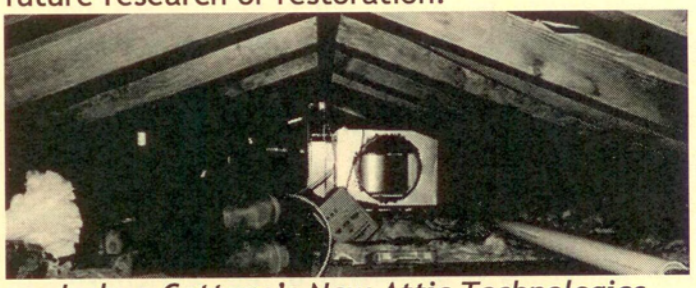
Thanks to a generous donation from Beryl Amspoker, a climate control system has been installed in Joshua Cottage. A stable climate will help preserve the art and objects that are displayed in Joshua Cottage. It will also be more comfortable to use as a meeting space.

C&D Refrigeration began work July 19. They were greeted by the FAVIM Board members who were holding their monthly meeting in Joshua Cottage. C&D installed a heater in the attic above the meeting room and vents in the meeting room ceiling and bedroom wall. The second day, they installed all the ducts in the attic. They also put the condenser in place and installed the pipes and wiring to connect the condenser and heater. On day three they installed the exhaust vent in the roof, ran ducts from the attic to the kitchen, and completed the condenser installation.

C&D Refrigeration Welcome to AVIM

To improve the efficiency of the new climate control system, the project will also involve the installation of an insulated roof. The Roof Smith began work on August 30th. installing new plywood and asphalt shingles on the roof, and insulated foam board between the plywood and shingles. Although the roof will be 2 inches thicker, it will still present the same overall appearance as before.

Throughout the project I photo documented all the changes to the building. Joshua Cottage is a historic building on the National Register of Historic Places. While the new climate control system and insulated roof are necessary for this building to serve its purpose as an art gallery, any changes to the building need to be recorded as part of the building's history and so that changes could be reversed in the future should that become necessary. For this reason, I curated all the pieces cut out of the walls, ceiling, and roof, so they will be available for future research or restoration.



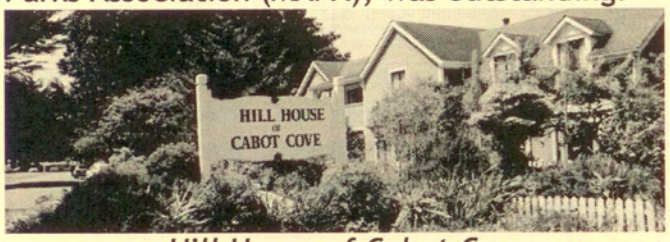
Joshua Cottage's New Attic Technologies

In addition to the expected outcome of the project (stable climate and better preservation of the collection), the project resulted in new historical knowledge. From historic photographs, we know that the meeting room of Joshua Cottage was constructed in the 1930s by H. A. Edwards. In 1945, Grace Oliver added the kitchen and bedroom wings to the building. As we do not yet have any good historic photographs of the interior of the meeting room, it wasn't known if the ceiling was original or if the rafters were originally exposed as they are in the kitchen and bedroom. During this project, I was able to examine the construction in the attic space. The rafters are not painted. Also, instead of having a redwood board roof as in the kitchen and bedroom, the roof is composed of the same particle board as the ceiling. Historic photographs show that the particle board was covered with a metal roof. The original particle board of the roof is also in very poor condition with big holes in it. These holes are covered by plywood, tar paper, and shingles from later roofing projects. Based on these observations, I concluded that there was probably always a ceiling in the meeting room. Although this might seem like a minor piece of information, it will be important to know if Joshua Cottage is ever restored to its historic appearance inside.

CALPA Conference 2011

by Don Borchers and Betsy Matheny

The Annual CALPA Conference was held in picturesque Mendocino, May 12th-15th. It was the largest CALPA Conference in many years. Over 150 state park nonprofit association members and state park staff attended. The events were held in the Hill House Inn, which was familiar to a number of attendees since the exterior of the building had been used as the Inn at Cabot Cove in the long running TV series, "Murder She Wrote". As usual the hospitality of hosting group, Mendocino Area Parks Association (MAPA), was outstanding.



Hill House of Cabot Cove

A reception was held the first evening in the Ford House, one of the historic Mendocino buildings. The next morning was filled with interesting sessions, such as expanding and partnering, and improving the interpretation of your park's "story." Lunch brought the big surprise. 70 State Parks on the closure list were read from Elizabeth Goldstein's Blackberry in real-time as they were announced in Sacramento. Ms. Goldstein is the President of the California State Parks Foundation. Needless to say we were surprised and reacted negatively to the announcement since we had recently reopened and had more than $2 million in state money invested in our park infrastructure and improvements. A trip on the "Skunk Train" and an outdoor BBQ that evening rounded out Friday's activities.

Saturday brought more sessions including ones on how to increase the size of the donations to your cooperating association; how to manage the paperwork that is required by the State and Federal government for your organization; and how to measure the effectiveness of your board. The afternoon was devoted to nearby field trip for a treasure hunt for unique plants and trees in the Pygmy Forest area of the Van Damme State Park.

Ruth Coleman, Director of CA State Parks

The closing banquet was held that evening and the speaker was Ruth Coleman, who is the Director of State Parks. Her talk was Top Ten Ways to Save State Parks. Next years Conference will be held in San Diego.zs

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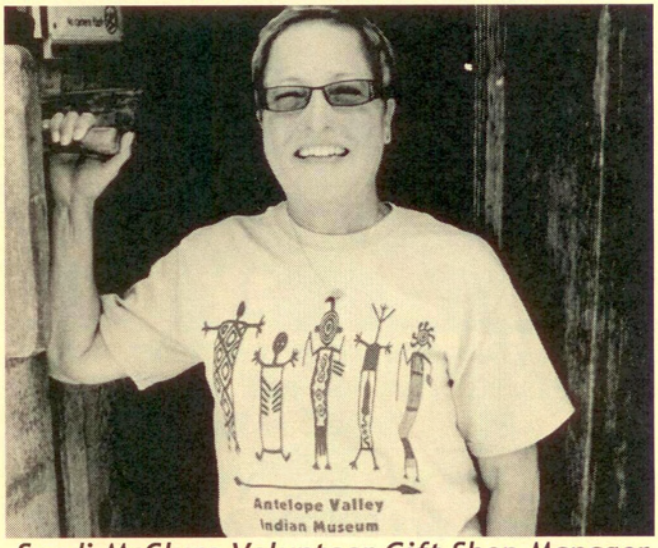
AVIM GIFT SHOP: T-Shirts & Much More



Sandi McClure Volunteer Gift Shop Manager

The old is new again. We are so excited to sell the "new" Indian Museum tee shirts again. Thanks to Cy and Jodie Crites for their original silk screens. We have handmade Native American jewelry, dream catchers. feather pony tail ties for "bad hair days", NEW ITEM AVIM canvas shopping bags, and more.

If you are looking for some creative ideas for gifts, the AVIM Gift Shop may just have what you need.

FAVIM
East Avenue M Between
150th St. East and
170th St. East
Lancaster, CA

Phone:
661-946-3055

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

http://www.avim.parks.ca.gov

Your membership is important!
FAVIM raises funds to support projects and activities at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum.Membership needs to be renewed each September, except in the case of a Life Membership. Please make membership checks payable to "Friends of the Atelope Valley Indian Museum" (or "FAVIM"), and Mail to the return address on this bulletin.
If you are not yet a member, and would like to support the Museum, and receive a quarterly FAVIM Bulletin, and a 10% Discount of AVIM Gift Shop purchases, please send your name, address, and check, to the return address on this bulletin.

Dues:

Individual	$ 15	Organization	$ 35
Family	$ 20	Patron	$ 50
Life	$ 200		

If your name or address on this bulletin is incorrect, or if you have moved, please call 661-946-3055 or mail the correction or ned information to the address above, which is the return address on this bulletin.

Friends of the Antelope Valley
Indian Museum
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