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Hello Spring!





FROM THE DIRECTOR

A new year brings new adventures for HAHS! For now, the status quo remains. I have no new news to share about the building. I can reiterate that we are not closing. Since breaking the news late last year, there have been a lot of panicked phone calls from people thinking we are closing our doors any day. While there is a possibility that we might have to move to a new location, we will give our members and community plenty of notice if that has to happen. Our goal, though, is to stay in the Foothill location.

We are still planning a lot of entertaining and interesting things this year with a variety of exhibitions and programs. We already hosted a great program for Black History Month in partnership with Palma Ceia Baptist Church Women's Ministry with the showing of "Gina's Journey" and a conversation with the filmmaker Regina Mason. We could not have done the program without the generous support of KMS Unique Angels & Gifts. There will be other similar adult programs throughout the year—keep checking the calendar listings in your Adobe Trials or on the website for those announcements.

Children's programs are actually expanding a bit. We will continue our popular Toddler Time programs on the second Thursday of every month. We are also introducing Family Crafts at McConaghy House on the first Saturday of every month. The biggest change to our programming actually is that while admission to the museum remains free, we will charge a nominal fee for participating in programs. Of course, HAHS members get into all our events and locations for free.

The one thing you will see often (hopefully in not an annoying way!) is our asking for your support both of the financial and spiritual kind. As trite as it sounds, money doesn't grow on trees and we need your support to keep doing what we do. Your continued membership is a huge help and if you can give a little more, that would be pretty awesome too.

And if you can't afford to give any more, show us you're with us. Stop in and say "Hi", attend a program, come see the exhibits (even if you've seen them before), or tell your neighbor "Boy, that Historical Society really does some great stuff. You should join!"

We love what we do here at HAHS. We can see the impact we make in the comments visitors share with us and in the adorable thank you letters from our school-age guests. Seriously, I don't think there is anything better than a 7 year old stopping at the front desk to say "This place is so cool! I want to come again!" or a 70 year old stopping to say "I so appreciate you telling this story." We want to continue doing what we do for many years (I'll even say decades) to come!

—Diane Curry, *Interim Executive Director*



HAYWARD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[Venues]

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HAHS MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

Historical and cultural exhibits and events plus a children's gallery, museum store, and cafe! Open Wed - Sun, 10AM - 4PM.

22380 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD, HAYWARD



McCONAGHY HOUSE

A lovingly preserved 1888 Eastlake style Victorian. School tours available. Open the first weekend of the month, 11AM-4PM.

Tours at the top of the hour, last tour at 3PM.

18701 HESPERIAN BOULEVARD, HAYWARD



MEEK MANSION

Built in 1869 by William Meek. Located on nearly 10 acres.

17365 BOSTON ROAD, HAYWARD



SAN LORENZO PIONEER CEMETERY

Final resting place of over 2000 residents from politicians to paupers and Hayward area pioneers.

HESPERIAN BLVD. & COLLEGE STREET
SAN LORENZO

Cover image:

An image from the 1957-1958 scrapbook from the St. Gerard's Women's Club collection. For more information, see page 8.

MARCH & APRIL PROGRAMS



22380 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD, HAYWARD



This program for our very youngest visitors occurs on the second Thursday of each month from 10:30-11:30 AM. We share songs, stories and activities geared for children ages 1-5 years old and their caregivers - siblings are always welcome! We provide engaging, developmentally appropriate activities for a morning full of learning and smiles. Starting in February, there will be a \$5 program fee per each adult for attending Toddler Time. HAHS Members are free.

Transportation

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Cars and trucks and things that go! Trains and airplanes, too! Come hear songs and fingerplays about the busy, bustling world of TRANSPORTATION. Stay afterwards for some zooming, vrooming crafts and activities.

Teddy Bear's Picnic

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

Bring along a special stuffed animal friend to celebrate! Taking a cue from the classic song "The Teddy Bear's Picnic" (composed in 1907), we will sing songs and play games with our stuffed animal friends, to acknowledge the special place they hold in our hearts and imaginations. NOTE: There will be no actual food served during this program.



18701 HESPERIAN BLVD, HAYWARD

Family Crafts at McConaghy House

New! Starting in March, we will have family-friendly crafts and activities at McConaghy House on the first Saturday of the month. Each month's theme builds on the Museum's Toddler Time theme and will include activities for older children. Come explore this historic Victorian farmhouse, then stay afterwards to play upstairs in Archie's Playroom. Family Crafts are included with house admission.

Transportation

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

From trucks to trains, carriages to cargo planes, come enjoy crafts and activities about the busy world of transportation through the years. Learn all about cars and trucks and things that GO!

Teddy Bear's Picnic

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The novelty tune "Teddy Bear's Picnic," written as a two-step in 1907, has become a beloved part of bedtime and story-time for many families. Celebrate the magic of the connection between children and their stuffed animal friends. Bring along a favorite stuffed animal or teddy bear for your visit!



Carl Ekoos' World Understanding

by John Christian, Associate Archivist

HAHS has everything you might expect in a museum collection. We have chairs, lamps, old fashioned toys, typewriters, Victorian era clothing, school memorabilia, and even a casket. One recent addition however stands out—a box containing masks, scripts and props used in Carl Ekoos' "World Understanding" presentation.

The presentation was a scripted performance explaining the emerging balance of power in the post-World War II era. Carl would put on a series of masks and personify communism as Joseph Stalin or Chairman Mao Zedong as well as Western democracy in the guise Winston Churchill (complete with cigar), or as the generalized character, Uncle Sam. The theatrical performance, as titled, was to give the audience history and context for the rise of America, the expansion of communism and the decline of British colonialism.

So who was Carl Ekoos? Carl was a lifelong educator, principal of San Lorenzo High School and later the Assistant Superintendent of the Hayward Union

High School District. Ekoos was also active outside the classroom. He was a longtime member of the Hayward Rotary Club. He developed his "World Understanding" presentation in the late 1940s.

Theatrics aside, these masks are not something we would consider appropriate today, as they can be considered simplistic and even offensive. Nonetheless, it was a dynamic and interactive way of presenting history and political science which is something we in the history field are always seeking to do. Just as important, it represents a newfound awareness Americans, including Hayward area residents, had for their country's new role in international affairs in the post war era.

It's not every day you get a history lesson in a box—literally. But we're certainly grateful to receive Ekoos' unique materials, where local and world history intersect. I bet those who saw it still remember it vividly.

Our thanks to Genie Lester and the late Nels Nelson for getting Carl's collection to HAHS.



Thank You for the Thank You Notes

by Eleanor Katari, Education and Program Manager

In 2018, nearly 2000 local school children visited the HAHS museum and McConaghy House on field trips. They churned butter, made orange juice, and played vintage Victorian games on the grounds of McConaghy House. At the museum, they learned more about the Ohlone who lived in the area, then heard stories of the Spanish missions, Don Guillermo Castro, the Gold Rush, William Hayward and Hunts Cannery. Students on the Downtown Walking Tour learned to read the landscape for the stories buried underneath our daily lives: Where did Mission Boulevard get its name? What was the price of a hot dog in 1968? Where can you stand directly on top of the Hayward Fault?

Through school tours, we invite students to touch the past, to handle it and imagine it. We invite them to step into the shoes of people who lived long ago, and to understand how their choices and journeys have shaped who we are today. Our dedicated team of volunteer docents help to create meaningful, memorable experiences for students that help history come alive.

Here's the thing, though. Our schools are struggling. I'm sure you've heard of

the budget challenges that are facing our public schools, in California and across the country. Last year, educators across the country went on strike for better working conditions, from West Virginia to Arizona, Colorado and Oklahoma. The recent teacher's strike in Los Angeles demonstrates how stark the situation is.

Teachers struggle to provide even the basic necessities in their classrooms, and field trips can feel like an impossible luxury.

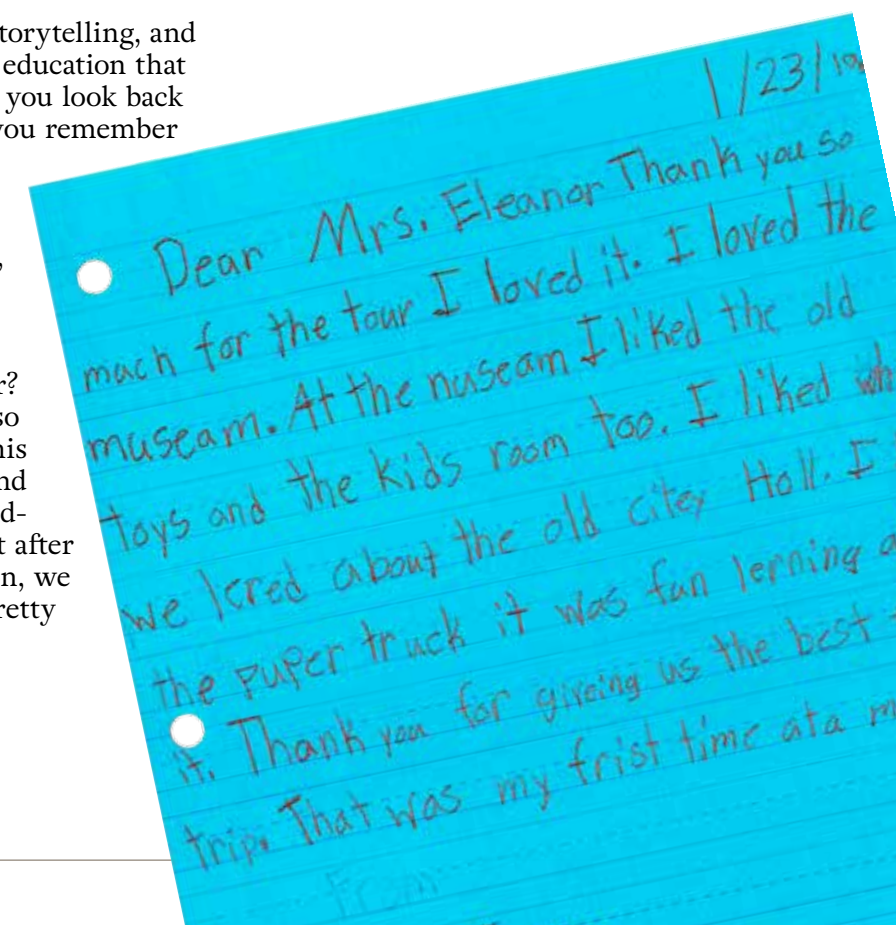
I've seen a teacher pay for her class's field trip with a Ziploc bag full of one-dollar bills, collected in a jar on her desk for weeks from students and parents donating until they could cover the cost of a field trip. I've seen teachers ruefully pull out their own check-books to pay for a field trip, and laugh at me when I asked if they needed a receipt for a reimbursement.

That's where donors can make a real difference. HAHS member Berty Nebenzhal has donated funds to help cover the full costs of field trips for Title 1 schools in the Hayward area. This makes it possible for classes to participate in field trips who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it. The members of the San Leandro Optimists Society have stepped in with a donation to subsidize more field trips for Title 1 schools, where funds are

often tightest. With the power of these special ear-marked donations, I get to hear the surprise in teachers' voices when I say that yes, the cost of their school tour will be covered. I get to hear how the teachers are always so grateful they are to be able to provide this experience for the children in their classes.

I believe that hands-on teaching is how children learn best, and that belief is renewed every time I lead a school tour. It's heartwarming to see our children, who are surrounded by so much technology these days, get excited about simpler, low-tech activities. They gasp with wonder at an old Victrola or a kitchen ice box, peer curiously at a 1950s tv set, and carefully handle the sharp point of an obsidian arrowhead.

There is power in the act of storytelling, and of the hands-on, experiential education that museums can provide. When you look back at your own school days, do you remember the worksheet that you did in 3rd grade? Or do you remember the smooth wood of the pumper truck's handle, the clear sparkle of a salt crystal flaking in your hand, the pungent smell of sugar-beets, the taste of fresh butter? I know that the teachers are so happy to be able to provide this experience to their classes. And the students? Well, if the hand-made Thank You notes we get after school tours are any indication, we have an idea they might be pretty happy about it, too.



Women's Collections

by John Christian, Associate Archivist

It goes without saying that confining the contributions of women's history to the month of March doesn't nearly do justice to the legacy of more than half the world's population. Nevertheless, we think it's a great opportunity to highlight a few archival collections that speak to the impact of Hayward Area women.

American Association of University Women Hayward-Castro Valley Branch (AAUW)

The AAUW collection includes a wide variety of documents dating back to the local branch's founding. It also includes their more contemporary efforts on gender equity—especially their work on women and girl's education through STEM programs and scholarships.

St. Gerard's Women's Club

This recent addition to our archive contains meeting minutes, scrapbooks and photographs of club activities. The collection highlights the contributions the group has made not only to St. John's Church and School, but the larger San Lorenzo community.

Malca Chall Papers

Malca Chall's papers span a lifetime's worth of scholarship and civic activism. Highlights include documents related to her studies at Reed College, the creation of the Women's Emergency Shelter Program, and her work with the League of Women Voters of the Eden Area.

Hill and Valley Club Collection

This collection contains ledgers of meeting minutes spanning the club's 1910 founding through the mid-1950s. Each ledger documents the contributions to the Hayward community made by the area's longest continually operating club.

These are just a few of the collections that call out the stories and history of women in our community. Together, with others, they are the collections that help tell a more complete history of the area.

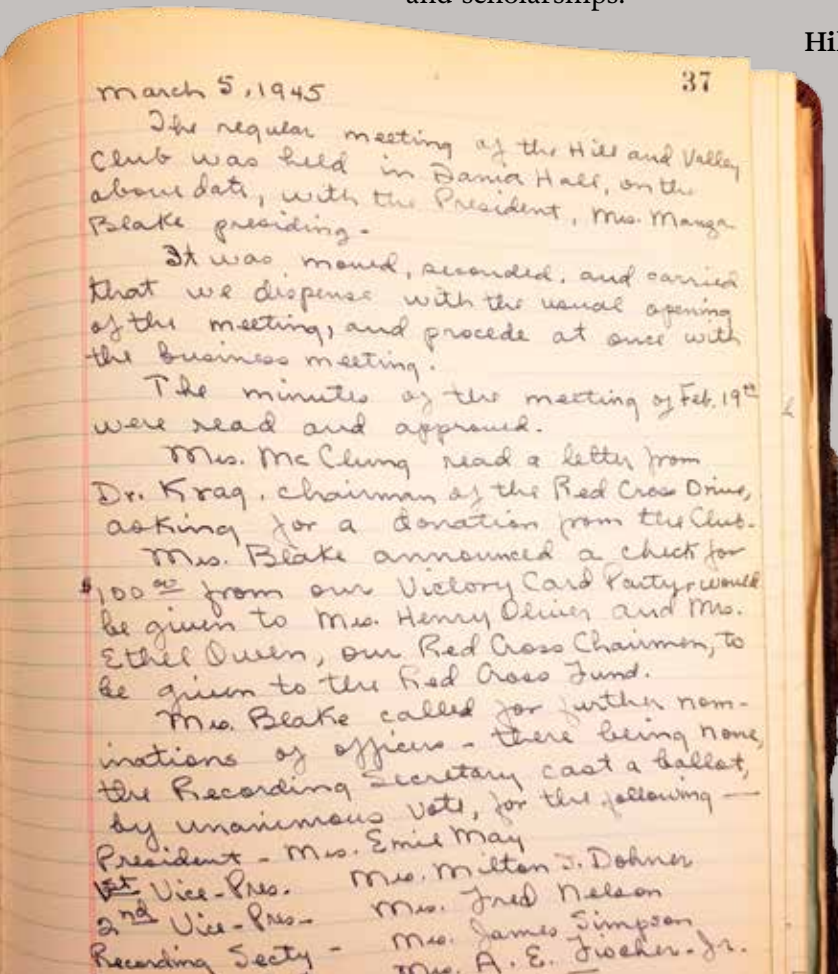
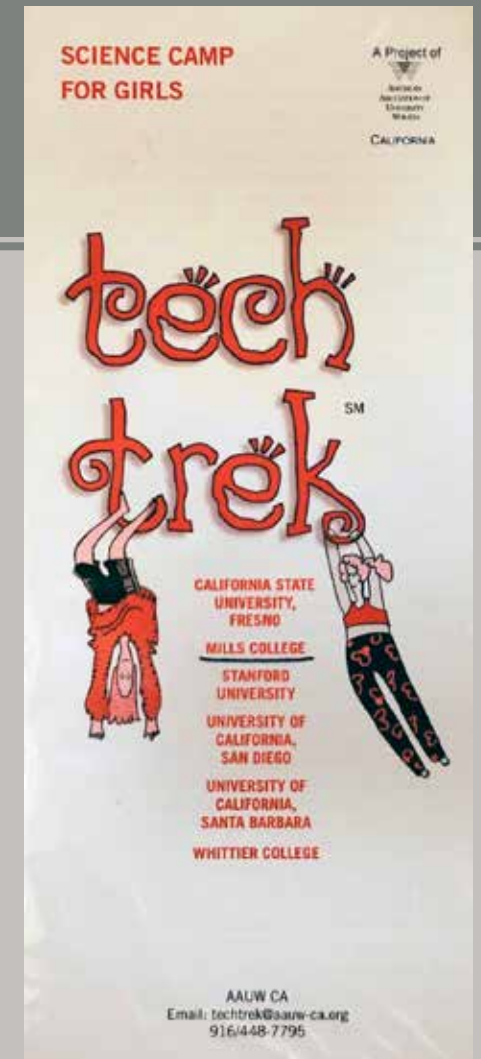


Left: A Hill and Valley Club ledger containing meeting notes and minutes from 1945

Above: A certificate awarded to Malca Chall for her work of behalf of the League of Women Voters.

Right: Brochure for the Tech Trek science camp for girls. The Hayward-Castro Valley Branch of AAUW is a participant and coordinator for our area's Tech Trek initiative.

Below: The 1957-1958 scrapbook from the St. Gerard's Women's club collection.



Fundraising on Facebook

Did you know you can host your own fundraiser to support HAHS? A popular way to celebrate a milestone or a birthday nowadays is a fundraiser on Facebook and HAHS is a recognized nonprofit on the social media platform! This is an easy way to both spread the word and raise funds about your favorite historical society at the same time.

Our first Facebook fundraiser was hosted by Board Member Amy Nelson Smith to celebrate her birthday. She quickly raised \$265, which will go directly towards supporting HAHS. Thanks, Amy!

Hosting a fundraiser is easy! Start by clicking on "Fundraisers" in the left menu of your News Feed. Click the "Raise Money" button, and select the "Nonprofit" category and choose the Hayward Area Historical Society as your organization. Fill in the details of your fundraiser and click complete when you are finished. As easy as that, your fundraiser is live!

You can also set up a recurring monthly donation on Facebook through our page. Search for Hayward Area Historical Society in the Facebook search bar. Once you are at our page, click the "Donate" button and complete the form.



HAC Members Exhibition

JANUARY 26 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2019
HAHS Museum of History & Culture
22380 Foothill Blvd, Hayward

HAHS and the Hayward Arts Council (HAC) have a long standing partnership. We are so pleased to host their annual member's exhibition this year in the Community Gallery. The exhibit features works from over forty-five artists including watercolors, acrylics, digital and fabric art, ceramics, and mixed media sculptures. HAC stimulates community interest in visual and performing arts, promotes opportunities for artists to exhibit, and encourages public participation in free art demonstrations. Their members and the work they produce show the amazing artistic talent found in our communities. Stop by and see the exhibit!

A Mosaic of Helping Hands

by Eleanor Katari, Education and Program Manager

I want to take a moment to appreciate everyone who was able to make it out to the Volunteer Meeting in January (as well as all the great volunteers who I know weren't able to make it!). There was a truly impressive range of tasty dishes to share at the potluck dinner. After we got a head-start on the food, we took a moment to just go around the table and introduce ourselves. Each person stood up and shared a little bit about what they do at the museum, and how long they've been helping out.

It was pretty simple, but also pretty powerful. Volunteers are key players in nearly every aspect of the organization. You help out at the front desk and catalog materials in the archives. You lead school tours at the museum and McConaghy House. You tell stories and sing songs for Toddler Time. You pull weeds and load wheelbarrows for cemetery clean-ups. As Gallery Guides, you recruit visitors and enrich their visit to the museum. You help out with tabling and outreach for special events, both in the community and at the museum. You pour so much of yourselves into this institution, and we really, truly could not do it without you.

It can happen sometimes that we are each in our own little corner, plugging away at what we do best, and we don't always get a chance to zoom out and see how all the pieces fit together. But it really is like being part of a mosaic – this bit of blue over here, these shards of pink in this corner – all of them together add up to create something bigger than any of us could ever create alone.





HAYWARD
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Show your LOVE for HAHS

SMALL BUT EFFECTIVE WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY



- Visit the Museum, attend programs, and give us feedback
- Host a Facebook fundraiser on your social media - see page 10 for more information
- Shop at the Museum store and round up your purchase with a donation
- Increase your membership or ask us about sustaining membership
- Tell your friends and family about who we are and what we do
- Make an annual donation to support our programs

For more information regarding other ways to help, please call (510) 581-0223 or visit www.haywardareahistory.org.