

HISTORY FORUM SUMMARY FOR 2022

It's been a dynamic year for the History Forum! We welcomed several new members from throughout the county, took a closer look at our local history, past to present, and celebrated major achievements. Our supportive partnership with the Museum of Art History is stronger than ever and we appreciate the staff's energy and deep commitment to our mission.

History Talks: Since making the transition back to in-person quarterly events, we hosted these presentations with special thanks to members Rick Hyman, Carey Casey and Bonny Hawley.

Beach Hill's Victorian Carmelita Cottages; A Sidewalk Companion to Santa Cruz Architecture: The New Edition; Noteworthy Artists, Musicians and Performers buried at Evergreen Cemetery; The Restoration of the Castro Adobe, Our Newest State Park

Field Trip: The September guided tour at Felton's Quail Hollow brought together two dozen members on a gorgeous fall afternoon. We learned fascinating details about this jewel of County Parks with a focus on the Lane Family (owners) who defined Western living in their magazine: *Sunset*. For most of us it would be our last outing with Stan Stevens who passed on soon after. Stan will always be remembered as a pillar of Santa Cruz County History. (See * below)



Photo courtesy of Susan Krevitt

Dolkas/Mertz Award: The Awards Committee (Traci Bliss, Judy Jones, Reed Geisreiter, Joe Mikalak and Marla Novo) awarded \$2500 for an innovative approach to documenting the **History of the Tannery**. We are pleased to support ground-breaking research about such a significant place. The committee also awarded \$500 to the **Stan Stevens Emerging Historians Project**. If you would like to contribute in memory of Stan, please contact MAH Archives Specialist, Jessie Durant at: jessie@santacruzmah.org who describes the project as follows:

**Stan loved local history and archives, and the MAH wants to honor him by cultivating this same passion in the students of Santa Cruz County. The project, in the very early stages, will include outcomes such as: downloadable lesson plans for teachers to bring into the classroom, field trips to the MAH archives and support that helps classes to complete local history projects.*

Annual Gift to MAH: The MAH will soon complete the final touches on and installation of an informational Kiosk at Evergreen Cemetery's entrance. By combining two annual gifts (2021 and 2022) the History Forum has funded the entire project. We expect the Kiosk to be an inviting addition continuing major progress made in 2022. In October, *The Restoration of Evergreen Cemetery*, a short documentary made possible by the History Forum, received *The Spirit of Action* award from the Santa Cruz Film Festival (to view Google: Evergreen Restoration 2022). At the end of October, MAH held a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the stunning ADA accessibility pathway. Robert Rittenhouse, one of the HF founding members in the 1990s and now in his 90s, says, "What has been accomplished at Evergreen is truly spectacular."



Photo courtesy of MAH

As we move to an all-digital format, our heartfelt gratitude to Carol Ferris who has carefully managed our membership through MAH's many changes since 2015. Sally Iverson, local writer and co-author of *Davenport*, has replaced Carol on the History Forum Board. Sally contributes her exceptional biscotti to several HF events!

