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Palo Alto  
HISTORICAL  
ASSOCIATION  
1913~2013  
Years

# The Tall Tree Newsletter

of the PALO ALTO  
HISTORICAL  
ASSOCIATION

January 2014 Volume 37, No 4

SPECIAL EVENT—Go with PAHA to the

## Opening Celebration of the Juana Briones Exhibit

Sunday, January 26 at 2:00 PM

at the

California Historical Society  
678 Mission Street, San Francisco 94105\*

## Juana Briones y su California ~ Pionera, Fundadora, Curandera, 1802–1889

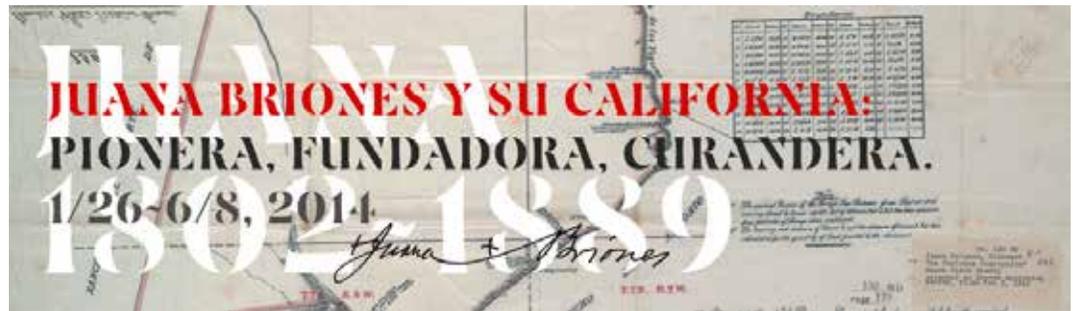


Exhibit image from the California Historical Society website, [www.californiahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org).

**IN THIS BILINGUAL EXHIBITION ABOUT THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JUANA BRIONES (1802–1889)**—pioneer, founder, healer—we experience the transformation of California under three flags: Spain, Mexico, and the United States. Through paintings, maps, portraits, legal documents, and artifacts, we realize a vision of Juana Briones as a woman adaptable yet undaunted in her pursuits, and we glimpse how some women, including those of Mexican and Spanish descent, influenced our history on a distinctively human scale.

In her time, this remarkable Californian managed a farm and a dairy in Yerba Buena (later San Francisco). She purchased and operated a 4,439-acre ranch in present-day Palo Alto. She adopted Native American orphans and used her skills as a curandera (healer) in the community. She successfully defended her land claims in U.S. courts, becoming one of the state's first women to own property in her own right. From the objects in this exhibition an image begins to form of this potent, resourceful, and creative woman who convincingly represents the spirit and promise of our state (text adapted from CHS website).

PAHA invites you to join us for the opening celebration of this special exhibit in place of our regular monthly meeting. Reservations are recommended. (See the green box for reservation and transportation details.)

\*For more information about the opening celebration of the exhibit as well as directions and parking for the California Historical Society, please visit: [www.californiahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org).

## Special Event:

JUANA BRIONES Y SU CALIFORNIA  
OPENING CELEBRATION

2:00 PM

Sunday, January 26, 2014

at the

California Historical Society  
678 Mission St., SF 94105

RSVP: email

[paha@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:paha@cityofpaloalto.org)

In addition to your rsvp, let us know whether you wish to carpool as either a passenger or driver.

*Carpool passengers and drivers:* plan to meet in front of Lucie Stern Community Center at 1:00 PM on Sunday, Jan. 26.

## UPCOMING REGULAR PROGRAM MEETINGS 2014

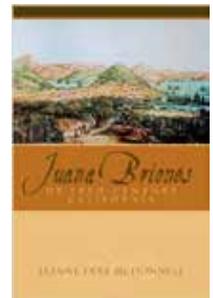
March 2

April 6

May 4

June 4: Annual Dinner

Note: This issue of the *Tall Tree* is two pages because the editors are working on a centennial commemorative edition. The *Tall Tree* will return to its regular length in March. ☞



Did you know Jeanne McDonnell, Palo Alto historian and PAHA board member wrote a definitive biography of Juana Briones? Her book, *Juana Briones of Nineteenth Century California*, will be featured at the CHS exhibit. Kudos to Jeanne!

# History Jaunts

**“Relocation: A Constitutional Mistake of Historic Proportions,”** a presentation on the forced removal of Japanese from the Pacific Coast during World War II given by Steve Okamoto, February 15, 2014, at 1 PM, at the San Mateo County History Museum. Okamoto is a Foster City Councilman and leader of the Japanese American Citizens League. Attendees will be invited to explore the Museum’s gallery, Land of Opportunity: the Immigrant Experience in San Mateo County, which gives historic background on the Japanese American experience on the Peninsula. This lecture is a part of the Museum’s “Courthouse Docket” series, sponsored by the Cypress Lawn Heritage Foundation.

**Charles Parsons’ Ships of the World Gallery** reopens with a special family day, free to the public at the San Mateo County History Museum, Sunday, March 16, 2014 at noon. The exhibit features 24 expertly crafted model ships created by Charles Parsons with newly painted murals by Fred Sinclair. The exhibit includes interactive stations for children, and photos and videos of Peninsula shipbuilding and shipwrecks. At 2 PM sea chantey singers will entertain the Museum visitors.

The San Mateo County History Museum is located at 2200 Broadway, Redwood City. Admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and seniors. See [www.historysmc.org](http://www.historysmc.org) or call Mitch Postell 650-299-0104 for information.

**Juana Briones y su California—Pionera, Fundadora, Curandera**, January 26, 2014– June 8, 2014 at the California Historical Society presents. In this bilingual exhibition about the life and times of Juana Briones (1802–1889)—pioneer, founder, healer—visitors experience the transformation of California under three flags: Spain, Mexico, and the United States and navigate alongside Juana through the social, economic, political, and legal upheavals of nineteenth-century California. Paintings, maps, portraits, legal documents, and artifacts present Juana Briones as mother, landowner, business woman, and humanitarian.

The California Historical Society, located at 678 Mission, San Francisco, is open Tuesday through Sunday, 12:00–5:00 PM. For information, see [www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/exhibitions/upcoming\\_exhibitions.html](http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/exhibitions/upcoming_exhibitions.html) or call 415-357-1848.

## WELCOME to a New Member

Justin Wang,  
Network for Good

## In Memoriam

Elizabeth “Jing” Lyman  
Ann C. “Ancy” Fletcher  
Pauline Brown

## Heritage Program on Channel 30

PAHA’s December program, “Palo Alto Vignettes,” facilitated by Karen Holman, will be on TV during February.

Broadcast schedule:

Wednesday: 8 PM

Thursday: 10:30 AM

Saturday: 1 PM

DVDs of programs can be borrowed from the Archives temporarily located at Cubberley Rm. H-5. Hours: Tue. 4–8 PM, and Thurs. 1-5 PM.

## Become a Member of PAHA

We invite you to become a member of the Association and join those who care about Palo Alto and enjoy learning about its history. Your dues make our work possible: we maintain the archives, assist researchers, and disseminate historical information through our publications and public programs. Your generosity will be appreciated for generations to come. Join today!

Individual \$25

Family \$40

Sustaining \$60

Business/Sponsor \$100

Life \$350

Make check payable to PAHA and mail to: PAHA Box 193, Palo Alto, CA 94302. Or join online at [pahistory.org](http://pahistory.org). Let us know if you wish to volunteer for a PAHA committee. (Note: current members will receive renewal notices in July.)



THE PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
Our mission is to collect, preserve and make available to the public information about the history of Palo Alto.



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