



The Tall Tree Newsletter

of the PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter of the PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION September 2015 Volume 39, No 1

Since 1913

Sunday, October 4 2:00- 4:00 PM
Lucie Stern Community Center
1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

Speaker: Bo Crane, independent local historian

From early Sierra Nevada Crossing to Jasper Ridge



PAHA LAUNCHES THE 2015-2016 SEASON WITH A PRESENTATION BY BO CRANE ON DENNIS MARTIN, an Irish immigrant who came to California with the first wagon train to cross the Sierra Nevada. Bo Crane was born and raised in Palo Alto, attended Palo Alto schools including Paly High and Stanford. His career in residential project management left him time to contribute to *Cycle California* and to write *The Life and Times of Dennis Martin*.

SPEAKER: BO CRANE

Crane was struck by, and will include remarks about, Dennis Martin's connection with Sarah Wallis, another early settler to our area. From late May through early November, 1844, Dennis Martin and Sarah Wallis (then Sarah Montgomery) were members of the same party on the 1600 mile journey, which took them from Missouri to Alta California. Later, they

lived within seven miles of each other, with Sarah in what was Mayfield and Dennis in what is now near Jasper Ridge, between Portola Valley and Woodside.

They found early success here, each becoming estate owners, with Dennis' sawmills providing much of the local economy for nearby Searsville. Although ultimately their fortunes fell and both sold their estates and left the mid-peninsula, Crane recovers the neglected legacy of these dynamic early pioneers whose lives spanned the formative early years of settlement in northern California and our immediate region.



PAHA's Public Meetings

GENERAL PROGRAM MEETINGS are held monthly

2:00-4:00 PM

October - May at the

Lucie Stern Community Center
1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

PAHA'S PUBLIC MEETINGS 2015

Sunday, October 4

"The Life and Times of Dennis Martin and Sarah Wallis"

Speaker: Bo Crane

Sunday, November 1

Speaker: TBA

Sunday, December 6

"Palo Alto Vignettes"

PAHA'S MEETING DATES 2016

January 31, 2016

March 6, 2016

April 3, 2016

May 15, 2016 and June 8, 2016

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In Memoriam: Harriette Shakes

Harriette Shakes (1944-2015) passed away on July 13, surrounded by her loving family and friends. PAHA already misses her vibrant personality, creativity, and commitment to local history. She chaired the Publications Committee as a PAHA board member and offered her talents as the graphic designer of *Tall Tree*, the PAHA newsletter. In addition to working on *Palo Alto Remembered* and the *Centennial Tall Tree*, she helped to develop the "Palo Alto Remembered" website and to raise funds for the "Out of the File Cabinet and into the Classroom" project. PAHA honored her dedication in December, 2014, with the Gloria Brown Award "for exceptional service."



Harriette Shakes, Palo Alto Online

Harriette was born in Chicago, IL and raised in Long Beach, CA. She graduated from UCLA with a double major in English and History, and a minor in Art. She moved to Palo Alto in 1970 and taught at Addison and Fairmeadow schools. As her education career wound down, her graphics business took off. PAHA benefited immensely from her skills and passion for her craft. Thank you, Harriette, for all that you've done for PAHA.

Welcome to New Members
Arthur and Mary Ann Roberts

Heritage Program on Channel 30

PAHA's October 2015 program will replay the October 2011 PAHA program titled "Sarah Wallis: Pioneer Suffragist" presented by Doug Graham. The schedule is

Wednesdays at 8 PM,
Thursdays at 10:30 AM, and
Saturdays at 1 PM

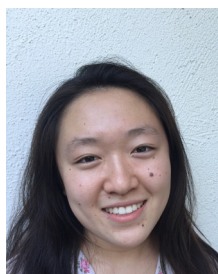
on Ch 30.

DVDs of previous programs may be borrowed at the Archives which are temporarily located at the Archive which are temporarily located at Cubberley, Room K-7. Hours: Tuesdays, 4-8 PM, Thursdays, 1-5 PM

In Memoriam

Esther Cameron Paddleford
1912 - 2015

Through an Immigrants's Eyes:



Christie Li, courtesy of Christie Li

For the last two years, PAHA summer intern Christie Li has been working on her Girl Scout Gold Award about Palo Alto immigration history. Her project consists of video interviews of locals who went through, or were involved in the immigration process. Now in the final stage of her project, Christie would like to invite the PAHA community to visit her website and spread the word to others. She will also be hosting a Q&A with the interviewees in late fall, so stay tuned! Visit: <http://paimmigrationhistory.tumblr.com/>

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 \$40 Family \$60
Sustaining \$75 Business/Sponsor \$150 Life \$500

Make check payable to PAHA and mail to: PAHA Box 193, Palo Alto, CA 94302. Or join online at pahistory.org. Let us know if you wish to volunteer for a PAHA committee. (Current members should have received renewal notices by post.)



The Tall Tree is published eight times a year by 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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