



The Kern Grapevine

Kern County Historical Society
Post Office Box 141
Bakersfield, California 93302

VOL. 27, NO. 8

<http://www.kchistoricalociety.org/>

MAY, 2008

President's Message

My term as president of the Historical Society is nearing an end. I've had a wonderful experience. I would like to thank all the people who have helped me over the past two years including Don Arnot, Marilyn Bell, Jerry Ludeke and Gary and Jenelle Wilcox. I am so proud to have served in such a worthwhile organization.

Sincerely,

Lori Wear

Kern County History Publication

Jeff Nickell, Assistant Director of the Kern County Museum and the Kern County Historical Society's editor of *Historic Kern* wrote a book titled, *Chronicles of Kern County*. The latest book published by the museum is based on brief articles pertaining to Kern County history written by Jeff for a weekly radio program aired on KERN-1410. Over 40 photographs bring to life each story and provide a glimpse back at the early days of Kern County.

Historic Kern

If you are interested in submitting an article for the Historical Society's quarterly publication, *The Historic Kern*, please contact Jeff Nickell by email at jenickell@kern.org or by phone at 852-5032.

It Is With Great Sadness The Society Must Report The Passing Of

George Hanley and Joe Shell

Check Out Our Website!

The Kern County Historical Society's website contains information on upcoming programs, membership benefits, current issues of *The Kern Grapevine* and *Historic Kern Quarterly*.

Conference of California Historical Societies — Annual Meeting

The annual meeting is scheduled for June 26 – 29, 2008 in Los Angeles. Sponsored by the Los Angeles City Historical Society, the meeting will be held at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. All members of the Kern County Historical Society are welcomed to attend what promises to be an exciting and informative meeting filled with field trips to museums, libraries and "how to" sessions.

CCHS Raffle Items Needed

The Conference of California Historical Societies Fall Symposium will be held in October in Bakersfield. The Kern County Historical Society is currently collecting books on local history, gift certificates or goodies unique to our community for a raffle held during the symposium. If you have items you would like to donate, please contact Bill Burke at 323-0304.

Did You Know ...?

- 1806 – Three major canyons at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley, Tejon, Grapevine and San Emigdio were named.
- 1837 – Trapper and explorer, Peter Lebec, was killed by a grizzly bear at the top of Grapevine Canyon.
- 1853 – The Great Central Valley of California, known as the Tulare Valley, was renamed the San Joaquin Valley.
- 1856 – Kern County resident, John C. Fremont, is the new Republican Party's first candidate for President of the United States.
- 1858 – The telegraph connects the future Kern County with the rest of the United States.
- 1870 – The Frazier brothers discover gold in southern Kern County on what is now known as Frazier Mountain. (Submitted by Bonnie Ketterl Kane)



The Kern County Historical Society
Post Office Box 141
Bakersfield, California 93302

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Bakersfield, CA 93302
PERMIT NO. 870

Return Service Requested

Curtis Darling's Postcard Collection, Part II

By Jeff Nickell

Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 12:00pm
Bill Lee's Bamboo Chopsticks, 1203 18th Street
\$16.00 per person
Reservations due by May 9, 2008

Jeff Nickell will present a fascinating glimpse at a portion of Curtis Darling's collection of historic postcards. The postcards depict various scenes throughout Bakersfield and Kern County documenting decades of Kern County history. The luncheon will consist of a delicious banquet served family style at Bill Lee's Bamboo Chopsticks.

Jeff Nickell is the Assistant Director of the Kern County Museum. Jeff was born and raised in Bakersfield. He attended East Bakersfield High School. He received his Bachelors and Masters of Arts degrees in Sociology from California State University, Bakersfield. Jeff served as the President of the Kern County Historical Society from 2003 – 2005. He is currently serving on the Board of the Bakersfield Racquet Club. Jeff served as the President of the Racquet Club in 2006. Jeff is currently the Vice-President of the Kern County Human Relations Commission.

Please observe the reservation deadline, and get your reservation in early. If you make your reservations by phone, please send your check for the full amount by the reservation deadline. Because of the time frame for ordering the food, we cannot honor late reservations. — **Phone contact: 665-9864 or 852-5031**

Reservation Form

Name(s) _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Reservation for _____ at \$16.00 per person for the May 17th Meeting. Total \$ _____

Send your reservation form and check to:

Kern County Historical Society
P.O. Box 141
Bakersfield, CA 93302