

JUNE 2008
VOLUME 31
NUMBER 8

The Tall Tree

PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL DINNER

Tuesday, June 3 at 6:00 p.m.
by reservation

Sheraton Palo Alto
625 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

HP and the Silicon Valley Way



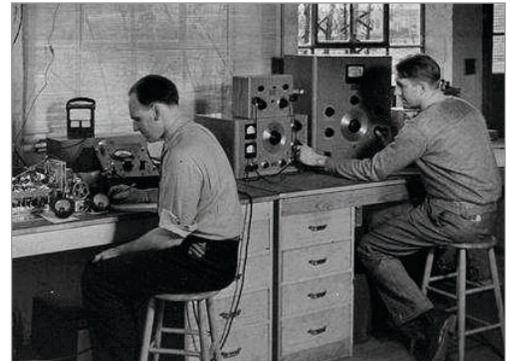
Michael Malone
Author and
Columnist for
ABC News.com

Clara University, earning his MBA there as well. Since joining the *San Jose Mercury News* in 1980, he has chronicled the beginnings and transformation of “the Valley.” Presently, he writes the “Silicon Insider” column for *ABC News.com*. He co-produced the Emmy-nominated PBS miniseries, “The New Heroes,” about social entrepreneurship. In his most recent book, *Bill and Dave*, and in his remarks at the PAHA dinner, he will compare and contrast the HP culture with that which emerged in Silicon Valley.

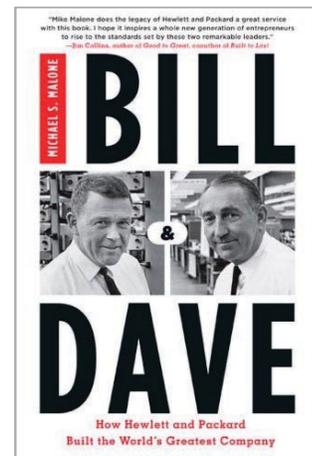
Join us for Mr. Malone’s presentation; make your reservations now for PAHA’s Annual Dinner. See the enclosed form for menu choices.

AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR, COLUMNIST FOR *ABC News.com*, and popular speaker and journalist, Michael S. Malone, has described Silicon Valley as a “little collection of suburban towns that changed history.” He adds that Silicon Valley is far more than just a place: it is a state of mind that has changed and is changing the planet on which we live.

Michael Malone is a local talent who grew up in Sunnyvale and graduated from Santa



David Packard in Hewlett-Packard Page Mill shop, 1942 (Guy Miller Archives, PAHA)



Bill & Dave, by Michael Malone
(book cover, courtesy of author)

The Tall Tree is published eight times a year by the

PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 193 • Palo Alto, CA 94302
650.326.3355 • www.pahistory.org

Jeanne McDonnell & Peggy McKee
Editors

Harriette Shakes, *Design*
Omega Printing, *Printing*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dick Rosenbaum Jan Murphy
President *First Vice President*

Gwen Barry Bardy Wallace
Second Vice President *Recording Secretary*

Carol Murden Bob Jack
Corresponding Secretary *Treasurer*

Steve Staiger
Historian

Beth Bunnenberg Vicky Ching
Brian George Betty Gerard
Georgie Gleim Karen Holman
Judy Leahy Jeanne McDonnell
Peggy McKee Carol Clifford Mitchell
Tom Wyman

The board meets first Wednesdays (except August) at Lucie Stern Community Center at 4:00.

Tale of Two Cities

OUR TALE OF TWO CITIES BEGINS IN A THIRD CITY, Cincinnati Ohio, the headquarters of Proctor and Gamble the company that was making millions of dollars annually selling soap and candles to American consumers. Second generation members of the families were wealthy by the late 1900s, and were ready to enjoy a life of leisure, but not the Midwest winters.

At least two Gamble family members moved to California. After spending several winters in Pasadena, David and Mary Gamble were ready to build their dream home in 1908. They found brothers Charles and Henry Greene, two young architects establishing their practice of designing “the ultimate” California bungalows. The brothers Greene designed one of the masterpieces of American architecture for the couple.

FROM THE DESK OF THE HISTORIAN STEVE STAIGER

The Gamble House was no bungalow in the normal sense. It was at least 3 or 4 times the size of the traditional California bungalows. The Greens along with master craftsmen, Peter and John Hall, used vast quantities of fine woods to build the house and most of the furniture.

At roughly the same time brother Edwin Gamble and his wife Elizabeth L. moved to Palo Alto so that their children might live at home and attend Stanford University. They bought a parcel on Waverley Street, south of Embarcadero Road, and built one of the first Palo Alto homes beyond the original town limits. The Colonial Revival home at 1431 Waverley Street was completed in 1902 for a cost of \$6000. A fine home, it was one of four Palo Alto residences featured in the September 1904 issue of the *Overland Monthly*.

Both sets of original owners lived in their respective homes until their deaths in the 1920's and 30's. Their children continued the family ownership and residence in the two homes for another 30 plus years. Cecil Gamble, the eldest son of David and Mary, lived in the Pasadena house beginning in 1946. The Gamble family retained ownership of the house until 1966 when it was gifted to the City of Pasadena.

Elizabeth Gamble returned to the family home on Waverley Street following her college days, and remained in the house until her death in 1981. After her parents' deaths she developed the property into the fine gardens seen today. She willed the property to the City of Palo Alto in 1971, stipulating that she and her brother could continue to live in the home until their deaths.

Today both properties are open to the public. The Pasadena house is one of the most popular house tours in America (www.gamblehouse.org/photos/index.html), and the gardens around the house on Waverley Street are celebrated locally.



Gamble House, Palo Alto at 1431 Waverley Street, 1981 (Guy Miller Archives, PAHA).

Architects Charles and Henry Greene's Gamble House, Pasadena, celebrating its centennial, 2008 (courtesy of Friends of the Gamble House, www.gamblehouse.org).



© Alexander Vertikoff / The Gamble Hou



MEMBERSHIP

Your tax-deductible membership helps pay for preserving information about the history of Palo Alto and informing the public about that history. Annual membership dues are: Individual \$25, Family \$40, Sustaining \$60, Business/Sponsor \$100 and Life Member \$350. Members receive this newsletter in the mail and a renewal notice in July.

You can join by mail or online. Make checks payable to Palo Alto Historical Association, mail to PAHA Membership, P. O. Box 193, Palo Alto, CA 94302-0193. Let us know if you require a receipt.

Or go to our web site www.pahistory.org. Click on MEMBERSHIP, then on Network for Good. Once on that site, press Donate Now, and put “membership” in the designation field. Give us your name and address. For gift memberships, also e-mail us at PAHistoricalAssn@aol.com with the name, address, and e-mail address of the recipient.

A Century of Compassion

THE PALO ALTO HUMANE SOCIETY IS CELEBRATING ITS 100TH anniversary. Founder of the city's animal shelter and manager of animal control for many decades for Palo Alto and surrounding communities, the organization is observing the pioneering accomplishments of the residents of Palo Alto and Mayfield who organized to protect the welfare of farm and draught animals as well as stray dogs and cats.

With the assistance of the Palo Alto Historical Association archives, the Palo Alto Humane Society is able to date its formation to 1908 and a meeting on June 19 of that year at the city hall, when members of an early Palo Alto SPCA voted to change their name to the current PAHS. The early SPCA, which was founded in 1902, included such illuminaries as Mrs. Jane Stanford and Dr. David Starr Jordan. The Palo Alto SPCA advocated for the establishment of a city pound, better enforcement of dog license ordinances, and watering troughs for horses. After the change of name to Palo Alto Humane Society, the organization began inspecting conditions of farm animals and established the City's first watering trough. Official incorporation of the organization followed in 1924.

The Palo Alto Humane Society has served the mid-Peninsula for 100 years with a variety of services. Officers assisted in the rescue of farm animals in the 1940 floods in Sacramento and traversed thousands of miles to save animals left behind by Japanese Americans interned during the war year of 1942. Its visionary mid-century director, Gerald Dalmadge, led a successful public campaign to protect the shelter animals of Palo Alto from a Stanford initiative to seize them for medical research.

In 1972 the Palo Alto Humane Society ceded the management of the shelter to the City, and concentrated on providing education and subsidized spay and neuter services. PAHS continued to provide night and weekend emergency animal pick-up services for a number of years.

In recent decades, the Palo Alto Humane Society has carried on the vision of its founders by advocating for the welfare of animals through public policy and legislative initiatives; educating the public on humane issues; and intervening for the welfare of animals through its subsidized spay-neuter services for homeless animals and pets in financial need and by financing the care of stray animals in need of rehabilitation.

The Palo Alto Humane Society welcomes archival materials, including photographs and anecdotes, from members of the historical association, to help PAHS celebrate a century of compassionate service to the animals and communities of the mid-Peninsula. The Palo Alto Humane Society is collocated with the Animal Art Gallery, which raises money for its programs. Visit the Palo Alto Humane Society at 520 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park or online at www.PaloAltoHumane.org. Their telephone number is 650-424-1901.

Preserving Palo Alto's Oldest

ATTORNEY SUSAN BRANDT-HAWLEY WILL PRESENT A CASE on June 5 at 9:00 a.m., at Superior Court in San Jose to support the position that for so valuable a resource as the Juana Briones House, the California Environmental Quality Act requires an Environmental Impact Report. The desired outcome will be that the house, part of which was constructed in 1844 by that eminent California woman, will be protected from demolition. Ideally, the property may one day again be open to tours by the public and school children. Concerned citizens may attend the hearing and learn the decision and other updates at forjuanab@yahoo.com.

Thanks to Professor Albert Camarillo, Stanford Special Collections is beginning to acquire materials about Juana Briones.



"Lucky dog" (courtesy of the PAHS archives)



Mid-century shelter director Gerald Dalmadge and cat at the Palo Alto Humane Society (Guy Miller Archives, PAHA).



Three rooms of the original casa de Juana Briones remain much as they looked in this early 1900s photo. (Guy Miller Archives, PAHA.)

Visit...

THE CHINESE OF CALIFORNIA, an exhibit created by Bancroft Library, California Historical Society, and the Chinese Historical Society of America, at the Chinese Historical Society, through August 30, 678 Mission Street, San Francisco, 415-357-1848 x217.

Keeping Us Safe

FOR NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MONTH, the Santa Clara County Archives in San Jose has an exhibit about the history of the County Sheriff's Office based on materials collected by Sergeant Rick Sprain. The exhibit, which closes May 31, is on view Mon. through Wed. 9 to 5, Thurs. 9-3:30, and Fri. 9-12. For directions call 408-792-1895.



Channel 30

IF YOU WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND GAIL WOOLLEY'S fascinating talk about Mayfield, way bigger than present California Avenue, or if you want to confirm what you thought you heard (such as, Peter Coutts built a strange tower, but also stimulated the economy with his grand dairy farm and weekly payroll of \$5,000 in silver and \$2,000 in gold), Brian George's videos of the program

will be shown in June, Wed. 8 p.m., Thurs. noon, Sat. 1:00 p.m. Also see www.communitymediacenter.net.

PAHA Meetings

June 3: ANNUAL DINNER
at the Palo Alto Sheraton
Hewlett, Packard, and
the Silicon Valley Way
Michael S. Malone

Next season of public programs
begins in October 2008

*Make your
reservations
by May 30!*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

LandSmith Construction
Jody Davidson
Craig Ramos Family
Dorothy Ross Warren

New Life Member
Elizabeth Baum

The Tall Tree

JUNE 2008

PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 193
PALO ALTO, CA 94302
www.pahistory.org

NEXT MEETING:
June 3
ANNUAL DINNER
Reserve now!