

# The Tall Tree

JUNE 2013  
VOLUME 36, No 8

NEWSLETTER of the PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING \* OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Wednesday, June 5 at 6:00 PM  
ANNUAL DINNER and MEETING

Ming's Restaurant  
Reservations required

*Speaker: Larry Klein, Attorney and City Council Member*

## Turning Points in Palo Alto History

LARRY KLEIN, OUR LONG-TIME CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, has been both a force for change and an observer for decades here in Palo Alto. More than almost anyone, Larry knows how Palo Alto has changed, and why. A Tall Tree Citizen of the Year, Larry is helping lead us into Palo Alto's future. Let's hear how we got here.



*Speaker: Larry Klein*

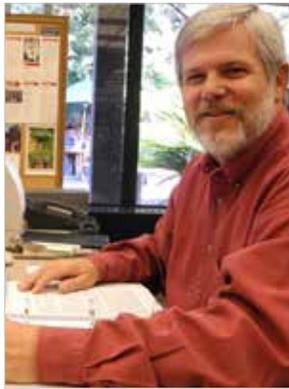
Larry is a local attorney and co-founder of the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District. A native of Miami, he is a graduate of Cornell University and Harvard Law School. Larry has lived in Palo Alto since 1967, and he served on the City Council from 1981-89. After a hiatus from politics, Larry was elected in 2005, and re-elected in 2009. He served as mayor in 1984, 1989, and 2008.



*The May Fete Parade, 1984—the year speaker, Larry Klein, first became Mayor of Palo Alto (Guy Miller Archives).*

# A New Home for PAHA's Archives

AS I WRITE THIS COLUMN, WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF MOVING THE ARCHIVES. After 55 years in the Main Library, we are moving to a temporary home at the Cubberley Community Center as the Main Library closes for a renovation, scheduled to reopen in late 2014.



FROM THE DESK OF THE HISTORIAN  
Steve Staiger

The Archives has moved before. For many years, Guy Miller, the first historian, worked in the basement of the old Carnegie Library at the corner of Hamilton Avenue and Bryant Street where City Hall stands today. Miller went

through 60 years of old news-papers, clipping and filing thousands of obituaries and stories that make up the heart of our present-day archive.

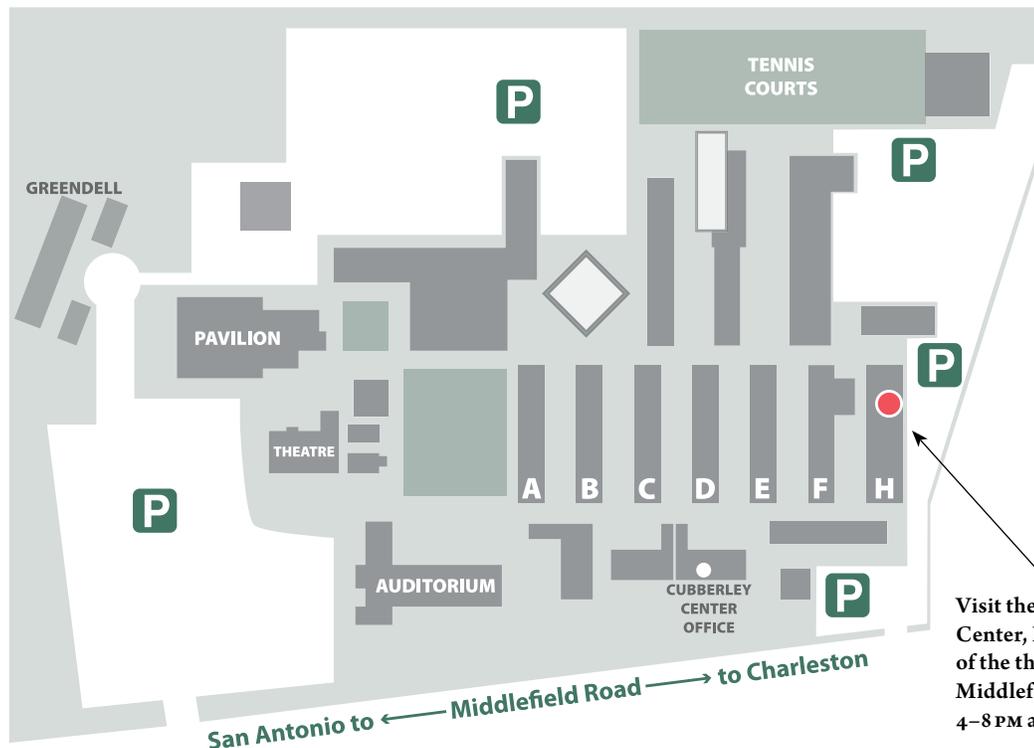
A couple of years after Guy Miller's death, the Archives was moved to the new Main Library in 1958. As part of the move to the Main Library, the City and the Association signed an agreement that recognized the Association's role in collecting and managing the collection while recognizing the City's role as the owner of the material in the collection.

We are moving to the "H" wing at Cubberley which is across the access road from the Charleston Shopping Center. The Friends of the Palo Alto Library's bargain room and the Chinese Reading Room are neighbors in the "H" wing. Housed in a room formerly used by the City for computer training, visitors to the Archives will use the larger City training room, offering ample space to examine archival material.

We look forward to working in the new space, and welcome your visit to H-5. The hours will remain Tuesdays 4-8 PM and Thursdays 1-5 PM. There is room for several additional file cabinets, allowing the collection to spread out a bit. We have made arrangements to provide the microfilm of the various Palo Alto newspapers (including the old *Palo Alto Times*) during Main's closure. Housing the Archives at Cubberley is a temporary solution. In fact, we may move to other rooms at Cubberley in the future as the City's space needs change. Ultimately, we hope to find a permanent home on the second floor of the Palo Alto History Museum's Roth Building at 300 Homer Avenue. It would be



Cubberley Community Center, Room H-5, is the new home of the Archives. (Photo: the former Cubberley High School, 1960: Guy Miller Archives)



a great space for the Archives, but the history museum still needs to be fully funded.

We thank the City's Human Resources people for generously offering to share their training space at Cubberley with us. And we would especially like to acknowledge the efforts of Library Director Monique Le Conge in helping us find and secure this new home for the City's historic archives.

Visit the Archives at Cubberley Community Center, Room H-5. (The campus is just south of the Charleston Shopping Center on Middlefield Road.) Office hours: Tuesdays 4-8 PM and Thursdays 1-5 PM.

# Good Morning, Palo Alto!

MUSIC WAS IN THE AIR IN MAY, with the wonderful Sunday lecture of Andy Bernstein, focusing on the music of the Warlocks, the Grateful Dead, Asleep at the Wheel and



FROM THE PRESIDENT  
John Hackmann

other music makers who enlivened Palo Alto. We hope many of you watch the program, on Channel 30 (see box below). Or, buy Bernstein's book, *California Slim: The Music, the Magic, and the Madness* or even see his interview on CNN soon!

Andy told of days he worked at Foster Freeze on El Camino Real, by the Beacon Station, where Jerry Garcia would come by, pull out his pockets to show no money and get some free

eats from Andy. And you may remember Andy, going from El Carmelo, Hoover, Walter Hays, Jordan and Paly schools into the music scene, creating light shows along the way at the Fillmore. Grand times, most of us knew a small part of.

There was more music in the air Saturday, as band after band stepped high into Heritage Park, playing everything from the "Washington Post" march (I think!) to "It's All Right Now!" I never do get tired of the Stanford Band, or starting to dance when they crank up.

The May Fete parade had a good wind up on a sunny and beautiful and green grass day. So many children, a real delight. To represent and tell people about the new and coming Palo Alto History Museum, Doug Graham, Bardy Wallace and I, and many others helped out at Booth 19 with the Museum folk. They have a very organized presentation of what is going to happen, and how it is going to happen, to make the Museum a reality. PAHA stands ready to help, and we can't wait to see the Museum open at Heritage Park. THAT would be music to my ears.



## Heritage Program on Channel 30

The June television feature will be "California Slim; the Music, the Magic and the Madness," the PAHA's May program presented by author, Andy J. Bernstein. Broadcast schedule: Wed. 8 PM, Thur. 10:30 AM, and Sat. 1 PM. DVDs of previous programs are available at the Archives at Cubberley, Rm. H-5; office hours: Tue., 4-8 PM & Thur., 1-5 PM.

**Oral Histories:** are an invaluable method to preserve local history. To volunteer, help record, or give an oral history, contact: Carol Mitchell at [carolcmitchell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolcmitchell@sbcglobal.net).



Looking down California Avenue, c1909, the downtown of Mayfield, a few years before the story below (Guy Miller Archives)..

## A Slice of Life, Mayfield 1918

IN 1917 THE UNITED STATES DECLARED WAR on the German Empire and entered World War One. Maurice H. Moore, a resident of Mayfield joined the Army Air Corps and trained in Texas as a flight cadet, later being commissioned as a lieutenant. He carried on a voluminous correspondence with his future wife, Henriette C. Bauchou, also of Mayfield. The following is an excerpt of a letter from Henriette to Maurice in May, 1918:

...We had to sell our horse Nellie and the cart. It was getting too expensive to keep a horse—\$30.00 per ton for hay and Pa can't afford it any longer. This is a sad day. Pa will take the trolley car to work in Palo Alto, Menlo and Atherton to do his gardening work. The trolley car is only \$3.00 a month. We have to save!... The Red Cross drive has started again—they are giving so many services that they need more money. We all want to do our bit.

There sure is a lot of traffic on the streets of Mayfield now... Ester McMinnis lost her dear friend—he has enlisted and was sent to Georgia. We are just a bunch of old maids now. All the Young girls are getting married. Two girls in the [typing] class are leaving to be with their beaux—one going [to] New York and the other to Boston. They said the railroad rates are going up soon, so they had to leave now. Looks like there will be very little travel this summer...

In a future issue of the *Tall Tree*, we will excerpt one of Maurice's letters back to Henriette. —Doug Graham



**FROM THE EDITORS:** Each month, authors, Jeanne Farr McDonnell and Doug Graham, will post a "snippet" like the one above from their new book about Mayfield to catch your interest. Look for the book in spring 2014!

Other books by PAHA are *Lucie Stern* and *Palo Alto Remembered*. Both are available at local bookstores. Pick up a copy when you're out and about in Palo Alto!

*Our mission is to collect, preserve and make available to the public information about the history of Palo Alto.*

## Elections and Nominations for PAHA

PAHA's Board of Directors elected officers for the fiscal year 2013-2014: John Hackmann, President; Harriette Shakes, Vice President; Chris Botsford, Treasurer; Bardy Wallace, Secretary; and Leah McGarrigle as Member at Large of the Executive Committee.

The Board accepted the proposed list of new nominees: Pat Briggs, Ralph Britton, Julie Cardillo, Rich Green, and Rachel Kellerman. In addition, current Directors, Larry Christenson, John Hackmann, Jeanne McDonnell, Harriette Shakes and Bardy Wallace have agreed to stand for re-election for an additional 3-year term. The nominees will be presented to the membership for election at PAHA's Annual Dinner and Meeting on June 5.

Four Directors will retire from the Board: Gwen Barry, Joyce McClure, Carol Mitchell and Diane Rolfe. We thank them for their service—we shall miss them!

## History Jaunts

**An Old-Fashioned Fourth of July:** San Mateo County History Museum will present a program for children in its 103 year old former county courthouse at 2200 Broadway in Redwood City, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Children may hand-crank homemade vanilla ice cream, and participate in making traditional Independence Day crafts to take home. Museum admission will be half price on July 4: adults \$2.50, seniors and students \$1.50, and free for 5 and unders.

**Correction:** in the May *Tall Tree*: October 12 at the Museum of American Heritage will be LEGO Open House Day, not the Fall Repair Café. MOAH is located at 351 Homer Avenue: [mail@moah.org](mailto:mail@moah.org) or 650.473.9070.

## 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 support the preservation of our archives, assistance to researchers and dissemination of Palo Alto historical information through our publications. 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.)

## PAHA's Public Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on  
Sundays, October through May,  
at the

Lucie Stern Community Center  
1305 Middlefield Road



PAHA ANNUAL DINNER  
& MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5  
Ming's Restaurant, Palo Alto

Speaker: Larry Klein  
"Turning Points in  
Palo Alto History"

Reservations required:  
\$50 per person



### PALO ALTO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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