

UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Founded by Myrla Raymundo, MBA

3841 Smith Street, Union City, California 94587, Tel. (510) 324-3298

Three Components

**(1) Museum & Artifacts, (2) Oral History (3) Preservation of Historical Homes
Museum Board meets quarterly at the Museum at 7 PM**

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**Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Editor/Writer
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MISSION STATEMENT

The Union City Historical Museum is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation, maintenance and protection of, and the education of the public about the architectural, cultural, natural and historical heritage resources of the City of Union City.

ABOUT THE UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM



The Union City Historical Museum, founded in 1997, is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation, maintenance and protection of, and the education of the public about the architectural, cultural, natural and historical heritage resources of the City of Union City

Museum's Three (3) components:

1. Museum & Artifacts – Displays artifacts and records.
2. Oral History – Interviews local residents and writes about their stories
3. Preservation of Historical Homes – Preserves historical homes and buildings

The Museum provides programs and services. Education on the history of Union City is foremost in the Museum's services to Union City. The Museum does presentations on the history of our city. The bi-monthly Museum Newsletter serves as a vehicle of information to the community. It contains a lot of historical tidbits and interesting information about the past and present Union City.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

The election of officers for the next term was held on the General Membership Meeting on **May 7, 2007** at the Museum.

Congratulations to the following officers/directors who were elected to the Board of Directors for the next term:

Officers - July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008

Teresita (Tessie) Gatan, President
Joey Golaw, Jr.-Vice-President
Marina Bamont-Secretary
Hugh McNamara, Treasurer

Directors- July 1, 2007- June 30, 2009

Dom Filardo
Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo
Angel (Jun) Villorente
Georgia Megue dela Cruz
Allen Cecil
Dana Hernandez

The following directors are serving two-year terms up to June 30, 2008

Mike Christ
Miles Price
Rorie Rabuy
Myrla Raymundo
Al Rose

MUSEUM BYLAWS CHANGES AS OF JULY 1, 2007

The General Membership approved the following changes to the Museum Bylaws on May 7, 2007.

1. *Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held **once every quarter**, but may be more frequent depending upon the corporation's needs.*
2. *Expenditures up to \$250 are to be approved by the **President and Treasurer**. Expenditures greater than \$250 are to be approved by the **Board of Directors**.*

FY 07-08 Museum Regular Meetings

July 2, 2007
October 1, 2007
January 7, 2008
April 7, 2008
June 2, 2008 (General
Membership Meeting-
Election of officers/directors)

**BILL FOURNELL
ASST. SCOUT MASTER**

By Myrla Raymundo



The following describe the Boy Scouts of America: Clean, reverent, trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty and brave. Bill Fournell is a Boy Scout. He is an embodiment of all the above qualities.

Bill Fournell is an Assistant Scout Master, Mission Peak District in Union City, California. He is also a Unit Commissioner and Color Guard Coordinator of the Boy Scouts of America in Union City, California.

Bill has served Scouting on the unit level since 1989 as a Pack Committee member. He has also served in his district as Unit Commissioner, District Training Staff, Merit Badge Counselor, Member-At-Large and on Roundtable Staff.

This Scouter has assisted at least 15 young men in attaining the Eagle Scout Rank. He has, for the past eleven years, spent innumerable hours managing a facility for district and unit scouting activities, which has several units who meet there. Bill has developed an exceptional Webelos-to-scout transition

presentation, which has significantly increased Webelos retention and reduce first year scout drop out rate.

In addition to scouting, Bill has served in numerous capacities. He is with the Union City Lion's Club. He has recruited youth to staff a holiday program that fed 300 senior citizens. He has also served in the Knights of Columbus, in the American Red Cross as an Instructor, has been on the Union City Redevelopment Committee as Vice-Chairperson, in the Citizens Budget & Financial Advisory Committee and Cable TV Franchise Committee, and attended the Union City Citizens Workshop to help citizens understand the function of the city better.

He is with the City's 40th and 50th Anniversary Committees. He is also a member of the Union City CERT (Community Emergency Response Team.) Bill has served on Hispanic outreach, as well as numerous other community service organizations.

Above all, he is an Adult Leader, Boy Scouts of America.

Bill was born and raised in Nebraska. After completing his college education, he came to sunny California. He did his Masters work at San Francisco State. His accreditations include General Building Contractors License, Red Cross Instructor (First Aid, CPR for the Professional, AED (Automatic Electronics Defibrillator) and Revivant Certified.

He came to Union City in the late seventies and has been in the construction remodeling business since 1983.

Bill is a remodeling contractor. One of his many projects is a six story hotel remodeling.

He and his wife Margaret, who is in the accounting business, have two grown children, Cristine and Matthew, an Eagle Scout.

There is a saying “Give it to a busy person, and it will be done.”

Bill’s professional memberships include Purchasing Managers Association (PMA), National Micrographic Association (NMA), Business Forms Management Association (BFMA), Data Processing Management Association (DPMA), American Production Inventory Control Society (APICS), and International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO).

He serves on the Board of Directors of the Equitable Health Corporation of America, Professional Health Systems, Frank I. Kendell, Inc., Computer Health Systems, Executive Consultants Association and Liberty Park Homeowners Association.

Is there life after lists? Yes, Bill can be seen selling candy in front of the church as a fundraiser for the Boy Scouts.

On Sunday morning, one can see Bill going around the church pews. He is head usher at St. Anne Catholic Church. He has been doing this work for 18 years.

St. Anne Catholic Church



Bill Fournell is Head Usher for the 10:00 AM mass at this church. He has been doing that volunteer work for 15 years.

Hugh McNamara is Head Usher for the Saturday 5:00 PM mass also at this church. He had been serving in this capacity for a very long time.

Father Geoffrey Baraan is the Pastor of St. Anne Parish, which is one of the oldest churches in Union City.



OLD ALVARADO MEMORIES

By Myrla Raymundo



Bruce Bennett, Jr.

Do you remember the Naharro Theater in Old Alvarado?

Bruce Bennett Jr. visited this Editor at the Museum and showed a lot of old pictures of his family, including the owner and operator of the Naharro Theater, Eliseo Naharro.

Bruce, Jr., age 29, lives at 31176 Union City Blvd with his grandmother. He attended school at Alvarado Middle School and graduated at Logan High School in 1998.

His job is to customize cars and paint them. He is a member of the prestigious West Coast Kustoms.

Here's his genealogy as told to this Editor.

Victor Naharro, his great grandfather, owned a shoe store at Watkins Street.

His grandfather Joseph Sanchez was a volunteer fireman at Alvarado Fire Station. Joseph is married to Evelyn Naharro who co-owns the Naharro Theatre at Union City Boulevard, with her brother Eliseo Naharro.

His father is Bruce Bennett and mom is Julie Sanchez, age 56. They still live in Union City.

About the Alvarado (Naharro) Theatre....

E. Naharro owned a big Alvarado business block, which included the Alvarado Theater and the Doughnut Shop.

He had a baseball team named the Alvarado Theater team, which played Sundays at the high school grounds at Centerville. His brother-in-law, Joseph Sanchez, managed it.

The movie house not only showed the latest pictures, but also had modern equipment, nice easy chairs, and the best of accommodations.

The Union City Historical Museum has a piece of memory from the theater. It is a chair from the theatre.

The Museum also will keep the old pictures given by Bruce Bennett, Jr. in an album. Feel free to visit the Museum to see the nostalgic photos.

Bruce Bennett, Jr. loved history. As young as he is, he made sure that his family's documents and story are preserved for their historical values.

**A VERY INTERESTING
EXPERIENCE - A HISTORY**

By Myrla Raymundo

I am part of the Faith Base Committee of the 50th Anniversary of the City of Union City, which we will be celebrating in the year 2009.

Rev. Jerome Brown, Sr. of the Brown Temple is the Chairperson and I, from St. Anne's Catholic Church, am the committee's Vice-Chairperson. The churches and temples in Union City are part of our committee.

We started the trek to the different Faith Base Temples and Churches on June 3rd, 2007. Our mission was to witness the different faith's way of worship and cultural presentations.

First stop was the Thai Temple at 36054 Niles Blvd. in Fremont. It is a very beautiful temple surrounded by large and beautiful trees. Lee Guio showed us the temple and their way of worship. We were introduced to their monk leaders. We also watch the different dances performed by exotic Thai presenters.

Next stop was the Sikh Temple at 300 Gurdwara Road in Fremont. It is also a very beautiful and big temple close to the hills. Sarabjit K. Cheema was our leader. She led us in a tour of the temple and gave us some interesting facts about the Sikh Religion.

The word Sikh means disciple. A Sikh is a person who believes in One God and the teachings of the Ten Gurus, enshrined in the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh Holy Book. Additionally, he or she must take Amrit, the Sikh Baptism.

The Sikh religion was founded by Guru Nanak, who was born in 1469 AD in the village Talwandi, now called Nankana Sahib, near Lahore (Pakistan.) Right from his childhood, his keen mind would not accept all the groundless rituals, superstitions and dogmas, which passed for religion in those days. Guru Nanak and the nine Gurus who succeeded him, set a wonderful example of living spiritually, while yet taking an active and secular part in the world.

Cheema led us to the temple. We have to put turbans on our heads and remove our shoes, line up, bow and cross our hands on our chest and sit cross-legged on the floor for a few minutes while listening to the chanting. The men were on the left side of the room; the women, on the right. It was a very beautiful ceremony.

After that, we were led to the dining area. Again, we have to remove our shoes, line up for Indian food and sit cross-legged on the mat and place our food tray in front of us. The food was delicious.

It was a very happy and interesting memory to keep forever.

Next and last stop for the day was the Purple Lotus Temple and School at 33615 9th Street in the historic district of Decoto in Union City.

A little bit of history of the Purple Lotus...Purple Lotus Institute is a private Buddhist school, grades 1-12, located in Union City. There is a regular school setting, including a Buddhism Teaching. On the grounds of the campus is cement Kuan Yin Wall. Several days

prior to Easter Sunday 1999, visitors to the campus discovered the miraculous appearance of the images of Christ and the Virgin Mary on this wall.

John and Meiyun Chyan, Public Relations Managers were our leaders. The building was huge and beautiful with three huge statues in front. Their leaders and their monks met us.

We were led to the dining hall and we were served with delicious desserts and coffee and tea. We watched the presentation of their different dances and performances.

After that, we were led to their chapel. Again, we have to remove our shoes. We sat cross-legged on nice, bright red pillows and the chanting of the monks began. There were the beautiful sounds of the instruments, and the monks did a beautiful chant and prayers. They did the Supplication for the blessing of Living Buddha Lian-Shen. The different pictures of Buddha adorned the walls. We were also given a brief history of their religion and culture.

Our day ended with awe and admiration of the different temples and their religion and culture. I am so glad I am part of the committee.

The Faith Base Committee still has a long ways to go. We will visit some more churches and temples in the next few months.

September 15, 2007 is our first presentation for the 50th Anniversary of Union City. It is a Dinner Concert (Fund Raising Event) to be chaired by Sarabjit K. Cheema.

LETTERS, LETTERS

May 25, 2007

Dear Myrla Raymundo,

We truly appreciate Museum member Francisco (Kit) Santos' gesture bringing us to the Museum.

We are truly impressed and proud of you! Imagine, Union City Historical Museum founded by a Philippine-born immigrant!!! You did a good job! You really need to be commended! Being a curator is no joke – you and your husband Ray have the interest, commitment, knowledge and passion!!!

You are also very creative – putting all those “antique memories” of Union City!

Keep up the good job! We are proud of you.

Henry & Marly Dy-Liaco
Milpitas, CA

June 1, 2007

Dear Myrla,

I'm so glad you're my friend. The world is a much better place with you in it!

Sincerely,

Emy White
Virginia Beach, VA

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Teresita "Tessie" Gatan

The Union City Historical Museum has a new set of officers/directors.

Hopefully, the incoming leadership will pursue the purposes of the Union City Historical Museum, which is to preserve, maintain, protect and educate the public about the architectural, cultural, natural, and historical heritage resources of the City of Union City.

I would like to continue with the strategic plan started by the Founder/CEO, which would be the end result of the objective and purpose of the Union City Historical Museum.

The officers/directors plans are to have membership drives and to stress to all that they could reap excellent benefits by being Museum members.

There are many tasks to be done in the Museum.

The assigned Executive Director Myrla Raymundo, is doing an excellent job of the day-to-day work in the Museum.

The new leadership will begin the work on fundraising to generate the funds to keep the Museum going.

There will be a combined effort of the Museum and the Chamber of Commerce to stage open houses and mixers to let the people know that the museum is existing and available to serve the residents.

Some of the members work as docents and are doing great jobs in telling the history of our city.

The Editorial Staff composed of Myrla Raymundo, JoAnn Lew, Miles Price and Ray Raymundo are continuously publishing the Union City Historical Museum Newsletter, which is a very good source of historical news and new happenings in the area.

The Museum website contains information about the Museum.

The Historic Preservation Chairperson, Myrla Raymundo, will continue to work on the historical designation of historic homes and buildings.

Again, thank you for helping me and the Museum officers and directors in the achievement of our objectives and goals. We will continue with our good works.

TESSIE GATAN

FOUNDER'S CORNER

ANNUAL REPORT

(FISCAL YEAR 06-07)
July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

**UNION CITY
HISTORICAL MUSEUM**
3841 Smith Street
Union City, California 94587
(510) 324-3298

**Presented by:
Myrla Raymundo, MBA
Founder/CEO**

July 1, 2007



INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Union City Historical Museum, I am presenting this FY06-07 Annual Report.

This document contains information about our goals and objectives, our activities and accomplishments for this fiscal year and the people who contributed to make the past fiscal year productive and successful and to fulfill the city's request to account for our activities.

Our Mission Statement – The Union City Historical Museum is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation, maintenance and protection of, and the education of the public about

the architectural, cultural, natural and historical heritage resources of the City of Union City.

Our Board of Directors

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder
Tessie Gatan, President
Hugh McNamara – Treasurer

Directors: Miles Price, Al Rose, Al Minard, Lupe St. Denis, Dom Filardo, Joey Golaw, Bruce Hevelin, Myrla Raymundo and Timothy Swenson.

In the middle of the officers' term, President Ben Elias resigned. Vice-President Tessie Gatan took over the presidency. Secretary Laura Manansala did not fulfill her position for the rest of the term. Lupe St. Denis and Bruce Hevelin resigned in May 2007 and did not complete their term on June 30, 2007.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We welcome the new members in the Museum. We presently have a total of 103 members.

The Museum continues with its objective of educating the community on the history of Union City. We did presentations on history for students of the New Haven School District. We conducted Museum Tours for visitors. Visitors did their research work in the Museum.

We continuously receive artifacts from Union City residents.

We continue clipping and filing newspaper articles about Union City.

In connection with the City's Preservation Ordinance, which identifies and encourages preservation of historical

homes and buildings, the Museum sent out letter to owners for possible historic designation of their properties. We received some replies. We will continue to work on the Cultural Resources Inventory.

We interviewed Union City old-timers and Union City officials for the Oral History component of the Museum.

We published the Museum Newsletters on a bi-monthly basis.

We updated the Museum website with information on the community.

For the Museum fundraising, Casino Bus trips were held.

CONCLUSION

In closing, I would like to thank all the officers, members and volunteers of the Union City Historical Museum and the community for their valuable contributions during the past fiscal year 2006-2007. I would also like to thank the City of Union City for their financial assistance.

The Museum is a good vehicle to make us aware of our beautiful heritage and culture. This is the only way to preserve our history. The Union City Historical Museum pledges to continue to provide services to the residents of Union City.



History Presentation to Children



Interviewed-Police Chief Greg Stewart



Museum/Chamber Mixer



Union City Fire Dept Expo

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder/CEO

Officers - July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008

Teresita Gatan, President

Joey Golaw, Jr.-Vice-President

Marina Bamont-Secretary

Hugh McNamara, Treasurer

Directors – July 1, 2006-June 30, 2008

Mike Christ

Miles Price

Rorie Rabuy

Myrla Raymundo

Al Rose

Directors- July 1, 2007- June 30, 2009

Dom Filardo

Ray Raymundo

Angel Villorente

Georgia Megue dela Cruz

Allen Cecil

Dana Hernandez

Past President

Ben Elias

EDITORIAL BOARD

FY 2007-2008

Myrla Raymundo, Editor

Jo Ann Lew

Miles Price

Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo

(Layout Artist/Production)

MUSEUM TOURS

Tours are conducted by Museum docents every Thursdays and Fridays. If you are interested to know the history of Union City, please stop by the Museum.

READ ALL ABOUT IT

News coverage about Union City are clipped and filed by subject matter and are available at the Museum.

Myrla Raymundo started the collection in 1971. The Union City Library gave the Museum news clippings from 1800 through 1970.

MUSEUM LIFETIME MEMBERS

Phil & Leila Verzola

John & Cathy Tester

Timothy & Catherine Swenson

Eva Kamakea

Georgia Megue & Mike dela Cruz

Ligfinio (Ray) & Myrla Raymundo

Gina Lewis

Reiner & Sheryl Glausch

Al & Marsha Badella

Barbara Scheifler

William & Dorothy Hubbard

Bob & Leslie Swartz

Steve Miller & Diane LaMountaine

Fernando & Helen Cabiles

Allen & Simona Cecil

Josephine Pando

Frank, Jr. & Elvamae Borghi

Angelo dela Cruz

Marcos. Jr. & Tessie Gatan

Joey and Vilma Golaw

The book **“UNION CITY THROUGH THE YEARS”** authored by Myrla Raymundo is available. Call her at (510) 489-0133 if you wish to buy the book about the history of Union City from its beginning to the present.