

SAN JACINTO VALLEY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION



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Jack Warneke
President

Museum Association President, Jack Warneke, has written concerning the arrangements about San Jacinto's efforts to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the flights of the Russian aircraft making the world's first transpolar flights. One landed in the State of Washington and the other landed in San Jacinto in 1937, including the visits by descendants of the Russian flyers. Jack was personally involved in much of that process, which began last March when the Russian Embassy's representative from San Francisco came to San Jacinto inquiring if the city would receive a delegation of Russian visitors to commemorate the 75th anniversary.

When it was apparent no visas were forthcoming by July 14th Jack continued our city's ceremony to August 18. Unfortunately, the Russians were unable to attend.

Jack was finally called on December 5th by the Russian team leader, Valery "Larry" Chkalov, the grandson of the pilot that landed in Vancouver. Valery Chkalov informed Jack the Russian delegation would arrive in San Jacinto that evening. Jack phoned City Hall to invite the mayor and city council to a reception at the museum at 10:00 a.m. the following day, and lunch at the museum at noon. Second, to Gail Wesson of the Press-Enterprise who interviewed our guests. Jack arranged with Peggy Szychowski, production manager RPS video productions, to video broadcast the reception on our local TV cable channel. He arranged for eight of the persons who saw the ANT-25 on the ground along Cottonwood Ave. in 1937, to visit with our Russian visitors.

Jack volunteered to be the escort for our Russian visitors and brought them to the meeting at our museum on December 6 where he presented the ladies each with a bouquet of roses. We received eight visitors: Larry Chkalov, Mike Kazantsev, interpreter, Valeria Chkalova, daughter of pilot Valery Chkalov, Olga Klyueva, daughter of co-pilot Andrei Yumashev who landed in San Jacinto. Olga brought her granddaughter, age 12, to help in translations. Olga's father painted the ANT-25 flying in the mountains of Washington, now on display in our museum, that she presented the Boykins in Moscow in 1991.

Across the street from city hall in Hoffman Park is a bronze plaque commemorating the 1937 Russian flight. In 1994, Russian Cosmonaut, Sergei Krikalev and US Astronaut, Kenneth Reighter visited our city to recall the 1937 flight. A brick is placed for each with their names in the park walkway. Krikalev and Reighter flew together on the Space Shuttle Discovery in 1991. Jack showed the visitors the park. When Larry Chkalov saw Krikalev's name and the photos from Jack's photo album. He presented a commemorative flag now displayed in the museum and showed a photo of Sergei Krikalev taking the flag to an 18,000 foot peak in the Ural Mountains of Russia in September 2012. On the flag was a figure of the ANT-25, and 75th anniversary of the first transpolar flight, along with photos of the 3 crew members who landed in Vancouver Washington. The flag was flown on the Ural peak dedicated to Russian Heroes.

When showing the visitors the Cottonwood Street landing site, their major comment was that the monument marking the location should be larger. Jack accompanied them to the March Field Museum for a curator's tour. They saw the ANT-25 display inside, and the six Russian aircraft including 4 MIG fighter jets outside. He left them with their plans for Disneyland the next day before returning to Moscow.

Our next museum meeting will be Monday January 21, at the museum at 6 PM for the potluck and 7 PM for the program. Bill Adams will tell us about his employment with Helms Bakery where he was one of the drivers. In the 1940s and 1950s, Helms Bakery had home delivery of bread, sweet rolls etc. The delivery vans went down the street like the ice cream vans with a special identifying horn sound to alert the housewives along the way. This was also the time of home delivery of milk and dairy products. Come to hear all about it and bring a friend.

Jack Warneke,
President



Sharon
Terracciano

MANSION MUSINGS

2013 Greetings from all the volunteers at the Estudillo Mansion. We hope all of you drove by during December to enjoy the beautiful outside decorations of lights around the grounds and house. For several years our own volunteer "Lighting Director" Laurie, has spent many hours hanging off ladders while stringing the lights at the many locations. This year's favorite was the beautiful Christmas tree on the front grounds. She hung 48 strands of 100 green lights on 21' tall wires topping with a star. Many thanks Laurie.

The inside of the Mansion was decorated for Christmas in every room. The entire staircase was strung with garlands and lights. The entire affect was awesome.

The gift shop did well thanks to donated items from the volunteers, especially the beautifully crafted ornaments made by Mary. Thanks to all of you.

Our first visitors for 2013 were Cub Scouts from Pack 6006 of Hemet. The boys and some of their parents came and were a delight to have.

"First People's Day will be April 6th. Watch for more details.

The pecans have produced a bumper crop this year. Last year's crop have now all been sold.



Betty Jo Dunham

HELLO FROM BETTY JO AT THE MUSEUM

We had very few visitors in November and December. I hope all of you drove by the Mansion during the holidays. Laurie outdid herself again in lighting up the Mansion for Christmas days. We were surprised in December with the arrival of the group from Russia. Thanks to the city for providing lunch.

Did you see the Ramona Play float and all the actors in the Rose Parade? There was even an article and picture in the Press Enterprise paper. This is a good year to see it again since it will be celebrating their 90th year.

See you at the potluck and meeting.

Betty Jo

A dues reminder, stay on the mailing list dues single \$10, couple \$15

Share your email address and save a stamp.

Send to: clwickham@roadrunner.com

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*Contributed by Steve Lech, Researcher of the History of Riverside County, CA:

The 2013 Riverside County History Symposium will be held April 6 Registration materials will follow. Hope to see you there.

Author of *Along the Old Roads* - A history of the portion of Southern California that became Riverside County, 1772-1893

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www.riversidecountyhistory.org

San Jacinto Museum Association

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Flag commemorating the first polar flight placed on the mountain by Sergei Krikalev



Painting by Olga Kiyueva's father



Olga Kiyueva, her granddaughter and Nancy Warneke



Valery Chkalov presenting Mayor Bartel with a book and commemorative medal



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

These lovely, cute needlepoint items decorated the museum during the holidays were made by Betty Jo



Celebrate all good things: The people you love...The places you're a part of...The memories you hold onto... And those unforgettable moments when you close your eyes and breathe in life with a smile...A new year is a reminder to celebrate all the things that are good in your world.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2013