TIME AGAIN

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Fallbrook Remembers...

Don Rivers

Donald (Don) Rivers was 16 years old in 1944 when his family moved to De Luz from Phoenix. They settled on a 500-acre ranch with no electricity or phone, and cold running water only at the kitchen sink. Young Don helped his father develop the land and he

hauled hay and other heavy loads in a 1933 Army surplus truck with no brakes, over narrow dirt roads. Life in the backcountry was hard then.

When Don returned from the Korean War, he married his Fallbrook High School sweetheart, Mary Martin. They lived in town where raising their three children proved more comfortable than country life. He joined the Camp Pendleton Fire Department as a trainee and retired 30 years later as the Fire Chief.

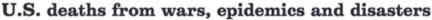


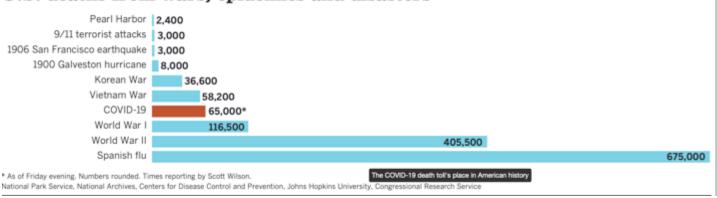
In retirement, Don joined the Fallbrook Historical Society and served as president from 1997-2003. He and Mary undertook the ambitious project of compiling and editing eight volumes of written memoirs, Fallbrook in Review. Stories and pictures were contributed by descendants of early residents, some from pioneer days. The Fallbrook histories captured in those volumes are even more valuable and treasured now than when first published nearly 20 years ago.

Don Rivers died in 2005. The following year, the Fallbrook Historical Society began constructing a barn on the museum grounds. Modeled after the old Bartlett farm at Ivy and Orange, the new barn was built to display Fallbrook's agricultural heritage.

The barn was dedicated to Don's memory in honor of his contribution to saving Fallbrook's history so it can be shared with all who follow. The Barn is known as the Donald J. Rivers Interpretive Center.

The COVID-19 death toll's place in American history





How the 1918 flu pandemic affected San Diego

- Sept 26: Naval training camp in Balboa Park was quarantined after several suspected cases were encountered.
- Sept 27: Camp Kearney was identified as being infected.

Early Oct: Camp Kearny, the Balboa naval facility, Fort Rosecrans on Point Loma, and the naval air station on North Island all were under quarantine.

- Oct. 13: First civilian cases of flu were identified (10), and 7 reported from the county jail.
- Oct. 13: City Board of Health closed all public amusement and facilities, including theaters, motion picture houses, churches, dance halls, swimming pools, gymnasiums, schools, bath houses, auction sales, billiard and pool halls, libraries, women's club meetings, and outdoor meetings except Liberty Loan bond gatherings.

Fire Dept. employees were to spray the nose and throat of those requesting it with a quinine bisulphate solution at various points throughout the city.

- Oct.14: 63 cases; 1 death
- Oct. 18: Citizens were urged to wear protective gauze masks.
- Oct. 20: 329 cases; 11 deaths
- Oct. 24: 488 cases; 18 deaths
- Nov. 17: Quarantine was lifted.
- Nov. 29: 100 new cases; 8 deaths.
- Dec. 4: 165 new cases; 6 deaths
- Dec. 6: Quarantine re-imposed
- Dec. 13-15: 76 new cases, then 47, and then 13
- 1918 Total: 4,392 cases and 324 deaths.
- 1919 Total: 648 cases and 44 deaths.