



TIME AGAIN

A monthly publication of the Fallbrook Historical Society
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Outstanding Contributors to Fallbrook Honored



Fallbrook Historical Society President **Roy Moosa**, right, and Vice President **Jeff Duhacheck**, left, present 2022 awards to, from left, Member of the Year **Pat Saunders**, Pioneer of the Year **Lorena Harris**, and Business of the Year (Berry-Bell and Hall Mortuary) Owner **Steve McGargill**.

It was standing-room only at the Oct. 8 Fallbrook Historical Society (FHS) annual Awards Ceremony, during which time two members and a local business were honored for their outstanding contributions to the community. The event took place at the historic Reche Schoolhouse near Live Oak Park.

FHS founder and second-generation Fallbrook resident **Lorena Harris** was bestowed top honors as Pioneer of the Year.

“Lorena’s entire life is a legacy of contributions to our community,”

said FHS President **Roy Moosa**. “She served as librarian for her alma mater Fallbrook High School for 32 years, mesmerizing thousands of students with her personal recollections of growing up in our town.”

“And, as one of the founders of our organization, Lorena’s personal contributions are visible throughout the main museum, including a beautiful pink dress made by Lorena’s mother and grandmother for the 1935-36 California-Pacific International Exhibition in Balboa Park,” Moosa added. “Few would argue that Lorena, whose material grandmother **Mildred**

Geyer received the honor in 1992, is well-deserving of this very special honor.”

Pat Saunders, often referred to as the “Face of the Fallbrook Historical Society,” was honored as Member of the Year.

“Pat may be the hardest working volunteer at the historical society and she is definitely the nicest,” said FHS Historian **Tom Frew**. “Her leadership keeps a team of volunteers meeting regularly to continuously improve the

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Annual Awards Presentations

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displays in our facilities. Everyone appreciates her cheerfulness, her energy, and the new ideas she brings to the group.”

“As a longtime resident of Fallbrook, she brings valuable insight to the historical society on all things Fallbrook,” Frew added. “She is also an artist. Her creative talents allowed her to image what our museum gift shop should look like, and she made it all happen through her inspiration.”

Saunders joined the FHS in 2019, quickly becoming indispensable. She began as a member of the Asset Committee and shortly thereafter became curator of the main museum and gift shop.

Since then, she has become Membership Committee chair and one of the primary event organizers, adding her magic touch and endless energy to creating bigger, better and more profitable events.

The prestigious Business of the Year award was presented to **Steve McGargill** who, with his brother Scott, have owned and operated the historic Berry-Bell and Hall Mortuary since 2001.

“The McGargills not only ensure outstanding and compassionate end-of-life services for the departed and their loved one, but they are actively involved in supporting the community-at-large,” said FHS Vice Present **Jeff Duhachek**.

Berry-Bell and Hall supports several organizations throughout the year, including donations to the Fallbrook Senior Center, the Foundation for Senior Care, as well as providing a bagpiper to play taps during the



*Photos, clockwise from top left, show (1) the official ribbon cutting for the new walking trail on the schoolhouse grounds followed the awards ceremony. Participating are FHS members, from left, President **Roy Moosa**; Landscape and Outdoor Displays Curator **Scott Spencer**; Facilities Manager **Don McLean**; Museum and Gift Shop Curator **Pat Saunders**; and Community Display Chair **Mary Belton**. Photo 2 shows 2019 Pioneer of the Year Award presented to **Vince Ross**, who was unable to attend the 2019 event. Photo 3 shows Certificates of Commendation from Fifth District Supervisor **Jim Desmond** presented by his Community Liaison **Marisol Edozo**. Photo 4 shows some of the cars on display from the Fallbrook Vintage Car Club.*

annual Chamber of Commerce 911 Remembrance Ceremony.

In addition, the business supports the local 4-H and Future Farmers of America organizations by purchasing animals at the Del Mar Fair to benefit local youth and every three years participates in the California Highway Patrol’s Every 15-Minute Program. The program, directed at high juniors and seniors, brings them face-to-face with the tragic dangers of driving under the influence.

A special moment took place with the presentation of the 2019 Pioneer of the Year Award to **Vince Ross**, who was unable to attend the 2019 event. Ceremonies in 2020 and 2021 could not be held due to the COVID pandemic.

In addition, Certificates of Commendation from Fifth District

Supervisor **Jim Desmond** were presented by his Community Liaison **Marisol Edozo**.

The awards ceremony was followed with a ribbon cutting for the new on-site walking trail and tours of the historic grounds upon which it sits. Attendees also got the chance to view an impressive collection of mint-condition vehicles brought by members of the Fallbrook Vintage Car Club – who also happen to be members of the Fallbrook Historical Society (FHS).

“For the past two years, we have been unable to publicly award these very special honors, due to the COVID pandemic,” said Moosa. “We were excited to resume this event, which is one of the most important celebrations for the historical society.

Summer Visitors and Activities Help Promote Historical Society



Fallbrook Historical Society Vice President **Jeff Duhachek** welcomes the Fallbrook High School Homecoming Court to the Heritage Center on Aug. 13. The court was given a tour of the museums by Duhachek and Railroad Historian **Rod Stuart**.

Calendar of Events October

- Oct. 4 - Board Meeting at 5 p.m. (Zoom)
- Oct. 8 - Annual Awards Ceremony at Reche Schoolhouse
- Mondays - Toastmasters Meeting at 7 p.m. in Ford Room*
- Thursdays - Administrative Meeting at 3 p.m. (Zoom)
- Saturdays and Sundays - Heritage Center open for tours from 1 to 4 p.m.
- Third Saturday of the month - Fallbrook Reche Schoolhouse, 1319 S. Live Oak Park Road, open for tours from 1 to 4 p.m.

Professional artist **Pat Saunders**, who also serves as curator of the main museum and gift shop, taught three summer art classes for local youth at the Reche Schoolhouse. Students learned the art of acrylic painting on July 16 (top photo). A second class, held Aug. 20, introduced students to the art of Native American basket weaving (center photo), and a third class, held Sept. 17, offered a lesson in water color painting. The cultural arts classes were made possible by a grant from the David T. and Dorris E. Staples Foundation. "The classes were a lot of fun for the students and myself," said Saunders. "I hope to be able to teach another round of classes next summer."



Annual Civil War Remembrance Ceremony Nov. 19

The annual Remembrance Event, sponsored by the local chapter of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will take place Saturday, Nov. 19, at 10:30 a.m. at the Pittenger House.

The national organization was established to preserve the history and legacy of United States Armed

Forces veterans who fought in the Civil War. The local organization pays special tribute to Sgt. William Pittenger, one of the first recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, who built the house in 1895.

The ceremony also will commemorate the 159th anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.



Supporters Acknowledged for Donations

The Fallbrook Historical Society gratefully accepts and acknowledges the generous donation from Laurette Beeson of her \$100 gift in memory of Dwayne Wright, Don McLean, Sr., and Russ Vatnsdal. This donation will help us continue to bring history to life for the community we serve.

We also gratefully accept and acknowledge the generous donation from Necyne Wright for her \$600 gift in memory of Dwayne "Red" Wright, Marian and Don McLean, Sr., and Russ Vatnsdal to be used toward projects at the historic Reche School House.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

A Toyland Christmas

**SUNDAY
DEC. 4
1 to 4 p.m.**

OPEN HOUSE

THE FALLBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1730 S. HILL AVE
(Corner of Rocky Crest and Hill Avenue)

FEATURING:

- Santa and Mrs. Claus with "selfie" opportunities
- Guided tours
- Entertainment
- No-Host Food Truck Service
- Crafts for Kids
- Cookies and Hot Cocoa

Admission is Free