



Volume 37, Number 1

December/January 2018-19



Dear Sharpsteen Members,

As the smoke clears and the rains begin, I hope you are all breathing fresh air and enjoying the green hills. During this time of bad air quality, the Sharpsteen Museum has been able to keep the doors open as we continued to celebrate our Fortieth Anniversary. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped to make this milestone so successful.

It has been another productive and rewarding year for the museum. Here is what we have accomplished in 2018:

- Conducted numerous tours including elementary schools and senior centers
- Sharpsteen Museum was presented the 2018 Experts' Choice Award.
- Said good-bye to the board's secretary and treasurer, Kathy and Rick McCloskey, as they left to pan for gold
- Said hello to Marcia Ciarlo and Barbara Lencioni as the board's new secretary and treasurer respectively
- Received a concept drawing from Mervin & McNair Architects for SMA's storage collection project. Sharpsteen Museum Foundation (SMF) is meeting on a monthly basis as they gear up to generate funds for this project.
- Author Bruce Bradley presented his book *The Walker*, a history of Black Bart.
- Hosted *An Evening with Dario Sattui*, who talked about his vision for V. Sattui Winery and Castello di Amorosa
- Great attendance at the children's educational summer program titled "Libraries Rock"
- Museum website [www.sharpsteenmuseum.org](http://www.sharpsteenmuseum.org) is up and running and very informative
- Developed a new membership program; members can now renew their membership or make a donation online. Membership has increased.
- Ran a successful Instant Wine Cellar at the cool Boys and Girls Club
- The Great Cal Mart grocery grab with Fred Bott as the cart caddy
- Displayed two colorful special exhibits: *Early Day Automania*, featuring paintings by Ben Sharpsteen; and *Life*

*Continued on Next Page*

## There is Still Time . . .

## . . . To make a tax-deductible donation to the Sharpsteen Museum

For more than 40 years the Sharpsteen Museum has welcomed visitors to Calistoga. We have mobilized an outstanding group of volunteers to invest thousands of hours of service to present the history of the Upper Napa Valley for our community and its visitors. We thank those who have supported our endeavors through gifts and donations large and small. And thank you for taking the time to read through this request and considering renewing your gift or pledge this year! Your gift is very much appreciated.

Please consult with your legal or tax advisor before making a charitable gift. We can also assist you and your counsel with any specific language for your will or trust for bequests to the Sharpsteen Museum Foundation. Prospective donors are encouraged to visit the museum.

The Sharpsteen Museum Assoc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible. Fed. Tax ID# 94-2839021. Happy Holidays!

Kent Domogalla, Pres., Sharpsteen Museum Foundation



## Message from the President— Continued from Front Page

in the *Slow Lane-Brass Era Cars*, presented by the Bay Area Chapter of the Horseless Carriage Club of America

- Attendance to the museum has held steady; Sales are up in the museum store (books and gift items)
- Coffee Hour has become a very popular source of community information which covered topic such as State of Calistoga with Chris Canning, Calistoga's education system with Superintendent Erin Smith-Hagberg, and a slide presentation on the restoration of the Francis House by owners Richard and Dina Dwyer.
- Held two successful Art and Antiques Roadshows
- Members enjoyed a delicious dinner and history lesson at the Hydro during *Eat Like Sam & Party Like It's 1869*.
- The new museum roof did not leak—again.
- Awarded the Sharpsteen Museum Paul Claudon Scholarship of \$2000 to Cynthia Cortez
- The 30' diorama at the museum is being completely repaired, cleaned and restored.
- Painted the exterior of the Museum and Museum House
- Restored and rebuilt the porch balustrade and added hand railings at the Museum House
- Our docents are so dedicated we are able to keep the museum open 363 days a year.

If you missed our preview opening on November 9, 2018, of the special exhibit, "*Life in the Slow Lane-Brass Era Cars*", you will be able to view this excellent exhibit through April 2019. Made possible by the Bay Area Chapter of the Horseless Carriage Club of America, this exhibit makes the nineteenth one that Patsy Hahn has set up and organized. Thank you Patsy for your creativity and imagination in bringing these exciting special exhibits to the museum. As we all enjoyed sipping the wine and eating hors d'oeuvres, the large TV monitor showed a video depicting the history of Brass Era Cars, and the hobby of collecting them.

Please add these remaining 2018 museum events to your calendar: Sat. December 1<sup>st</sup> is the Christmas Faire at the Fairgrounds, 9 am-4 pm; and Wed. December 12<sup>th</sup> is our Annual SMA Docent/Christmas Luncheon at the Calistoga Inn starting at 12 noon. I hope to see you at these events.

As our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year winds down I would like to thank all the volunteers who have worked many hours to keep this gem of a museum open and thriving. During the first year of the museum (1978), one of the top songs was "Staying Alive". Today the museum is still alive and well as one of the heartbeats of Calistoga. If not for the support of our members this could not have happened. Please help us to continue the vision of Ben and Bernice Sharpsteen and their beloved museum. As we get closer to ending another year we humbly ask you to consider a year-end donation to the Sharpsteen Museum. We are an all-volunteer organization, with no endowment, and rely on the generosity of others. There is much to do and work is needed to keep our museum vitality ongoing. A donation in any amount is always appreciated. Please make checks payable to "Sharpsteen Museum Assoc." and mail to: P.O. Box 573. Calistoga, CA 94515, or you can donate online using our website, [sharpsteenmuseum.org](http://sharpsteenmuseum.org).

A very Merry Christmas and Happiest of New Years.

Alan Rogers, *SMA President*

## Membership News

Many thanks again to those who have returned their membership envelopes. If you haven't done so, please get them in ASAP via mail or online at: [www.SharpsteenMuseum.org](http://www.SharpsteenMuseum.org). Your generosity and commitment help keep the museum open 363 days a year, and also helps support the upkeep and ongoing maintenance of the museum. It's hard to believe that the Sharpsteen Museum has had its doors open for 40 years! As always, please call 707-328-4891 with any membership questions, or email me at [membership@sharpsteenmuseum.org](mailto:membership@sharpsteenmuseum.org). Looking forward to a great new year!

DeAnn Wylie, *VP/Membership*



1311 Washington St., P.O. Box 573  
Calistoga, CA 94515

Tel: (707) 942-5911 Fax: 942-6325

Email: [info@sharpsteenmuseum.org](mailto:info@sharpsteenmuseum.org)

Museum House Tel: 942-5916

Museum Hours: 11 am-4 pm daily,  
except Thanksgiving and Christmas.

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Alan Rogers- President

Kathy Bazzoli- first VP

DeAnn Wylie- second VP

Marcia Ciarlo- Recording Secretary

Barbara Lencioni- Treasurer

Marilyn Glaim- Docent Chair

Jackie Lang- Education Chair

Bev Barnes- Collections Chair

Pat Larsen- Ways & Means Chair

The Sharpsteen Museum Newsletter  
is published bi-monthly by the  
Sharpsteen Museum Association, a  
501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Editors: Gail Sharpsteen & Kathy Bazzoli

### MISSION STATEMENT:

The Museum's mission is to preserve  
and to provide for public exhibitions  
and study of the history of the  
community of Calistoga and the  
upper Napa Valley.

## Welcome New Members



Dave and Karen Allen

Joe Cerda

Jim Herndon

Corliss Meyer

Brad & Lynn Smith

### Contributing Members:

Bruce & Donna Dill

Dick & Edie Engelhard

Bill & Deborah Harlan

Barbara & Doug Herrmann

Maxine Maas

### Supporting Member:

Don Bauer

### Business Sponsors:

Blakeley Construction, Inc.

Embrace Calistoga

Calistoga Farmers Market

Silverado Ace Hardware



## New Exhibit Preview a Success

The evening of Friday Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> was the grand opening of our new special exhibit, "Life in the Slow Lane- Brass Era Cars", a true winner and one that the Sharpsteen Museum is proud to have on display through April, 2019.

This fine collection belongs to the Bay Area Chapter of "the Horseless Carriage Club". The museum had a full house of visitors, many of which were members of the club and had driven the many miles from the Bay Area for the event.

Many thanks to Adria and Norman Schwartz who arrived the week before pulling a fully enclosed cargo trailer loaded with the many beautiful brass items. Yours truly worked with them until 11 pm unloading and setting up the five display cases.

All were entertained during the evening with a movie (courtesy of the club) about the Brass Era playing continually on our media screen.

Thanks to Bev Barnes and Pat Larsen who tended the front counter. Also thanks to Rose Beck who organized the food table filled with appetizers donated by various members. Thanks to Jim Barnes for tending the liquid refreshments. The tiresome efforts of Barbara Maxfield and Lorne Glaim selling raffle tickets is not overlooked. This events raffle basket was ultimately won by Jo Ellen Noble. It was a beautiful evening and we are looking forward to the next exhibit in 6 months.

Patsy Hahn, *Exhibit Chair*



## *A Magical Evening*

Have you ever wanted to go back in time? Well... Our Historical 'Eat Like Sam' Dinner was just like being transported back to 1869. The venue was perfect. Hydro Bar and Grill, located in a vintage Sam Brannan era building, added to the ambiance. The lights were turned down low and the music was from the 1860s. Our gracious hosts Gayle Keller and Alex



Dierkhising, owners of The Hydro, prepared an authentic and intimate 1860s dinner buffet. The dinner was so special that Sam Brannan himself showed up along with his wife Ann Eliza and treated the lucky diners to a walk down history lane extolling his memories of life in early Calistoga.



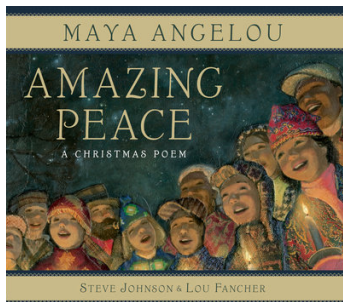


# Christmas Lessons at the Book Store

The simple word “Christmas” conjures up our most precious memories, as if by magic we find ourselves reliving first our childhood then coming forward to the present. We remember sharing those times listening to the stories read to us as children, then again as we read to our own children, then to our grandchildren.

The written word is meant to be shared; it reminds us that life is good, lessons taught with each passing sentence, that there truly are happy endings. All you need is love, a little faith, and an open heart.

A variety of titles are available now at our store waiting for a good home; waiting to be shared.



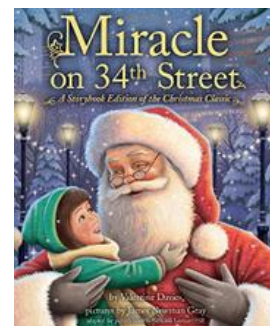
“Amazing Peace”, a Christmas poem by Maya Angelou also includes a cd of her reading her poem to you.

*Peace, My Brother*

*Peace, My Sister*

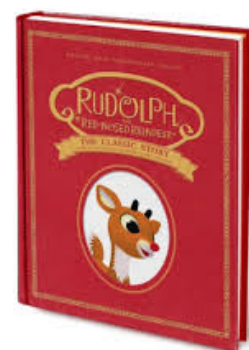
*Peace, My Soul.*

“Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street” by Valentine Davies, a story of a little girl’s journey to find her spirit, \$17.99. “Mouse’s Christmas Gift” by Mindy Baker. By the simple lighting of a candle, a little mouse demonstrates that even the smallest of creatures can make a big difference, \$16.99. “Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer” by Thea Feldman. Follow this timeless story of an innocent reindeer as he learns to use his difference, his red nose, to save Christmas. This book is a hardcover, collector’s edition, \$12.99.



There are more titles available of course, always more. You’ll just need to visit us and see for yourself. Members receive a 10% discount. While supplies last. Joyous Holiday Wishes to you all.

Kathy Bazzoli, *Book Chair*, and Lorne Glaim, *Co-Chair*



## Grand-Slam Grocery Sweep

Did you attend the Instant Wine Cellar this past August? As guests began a bidding war for the auction prize of a 3-minute grocery sweep at Cal Mart, Bob Branstad came out on top, gaining an extra 30 seconds for his final bid.



On October 24<sup>th</sup>, Bob’s friends, family and supporters met at Cal Mart as the store closed at 9 pm. Two shopping carts were decorated ready for the sweep. Balloons hung high throughout the store, munchies were set out, and wine was served as Sonia Murphy kept the crowd excited with her much loved bull horn.

9:30 was quickly approaching as Bill Shaw welcomed everyone, the race for groceries was about to begin. Bob stood poised and ready to run; his caddy, Fred Bott, grabbed the first cart. The countdown began and the crowd began to chant, “3, 2, 1 GO!”

“Faster Bob, faster!” the crowd roared as Bob and Fred peeled down the aisles. The faster they went, the louder the crowd cheered waving their arms until finally the countdown to end the sweep was heard.

We watched as GM Bill Braddock scanned Bob’s winnings. The result, those 3-½ minutes brought the winner almost \$1200 worth of Cal Mart’s finest.

Congratulations to Bob, and our heartfelt gratitude to Bill Shaw and Cal Mart for their never-ending generosity. What a night that was, what a night.



# Docents: We Couldn't Have Done It Without You

Meet two of our docents— Donna Dill, who has lived in Calistoga most of her life, and Jane Bennett, a new transplant from Norfolk, Virginia. They share a love of bringing Calistoga alive for visitors through the detailed dioramas at the Sharpsteen.



Donna says, “My town— my heart— is here at this museum.” Before she became a docent about five years ago, she helped choose and set up the temporary displays every six months. Now she loves talking with the visitors as they stroll through “Ben’s Room” and past the diorama of Calistoga as it was in Sam Brannan’s day. “Best of all,” she says, “is hearing the stories that the visitors share from their travels.” To help all of us keep up with museum events, Donna creates the scrapbooks that remind us of all that has happened during the year.

As a retired teacher who still volunteers at the elementary school, Donna is well-practiced at listening and sharing. She completed her teaching career in 2002 right here in grades five and six at the Calistoga Elementary School. Now her passion is traveling with her husband to far-away places and photographing their journeys. As much as she loves her travels, she is always thrilled to return home to her little Shiatsu-mix Daisy and to her volunteer days at the museum.

Jane Bennett bought a home in Calistoga four years ago to use as a vacation cottage, but the more she visited, the more she wanted to stay. Last June she made Calistoga her permanent home and settled here with her two blond labs. If you happen to be walking on Cedar Street fairly early in the morning, you’ll see her flanked by her happy companions.



She credits Jackie Lang, one of our long-time docents, with getting her interested in the museum as a place where she could learn more about the history of her adopted town. She stopped in one day to explore and decided it would be a good place to become a part of the community. She volunteered on the spot, went through the training, and started volunteering in November. Her favorite museum spot is the Sam Brannan Cottage.

When she is not at the museum, she works from home at a career she has pursued for many years. She is an independent broker and registered representative for New York Life. Her job, her home, and her dogs keep her fully occupied, so we feel especially lucky to have her join the docent team.

Marilyn Glaim, *Docent Chair*

## Best of the Best Docent Team for Sept.-Oct. 2018:

Bev Barnes	Marilyn Glaim	Sue Morton
Kathy Bazzoli	Bill Hahn	Jo Noble
Gwen Becker	Patsy Hahn	Anne Scott
Ray Branstetter	Pat Haynes	Lauren Thollander
Geri Burquez	Gisela Huesmann	Rita Tucker
Judith Cornils	Jackie Lang	Wendy Watson
Al Derrick	Pat Larsen	DeAnn Wylie
Donna Dill	Sylvia Marciano	Helen Yost
Claire Flickinger	Shelley Martin	Ron Yost
Lorne Glaim	Barbara Maxfield	

Gold Star Awards to those docents working the most shifts: **10 shifts-** Judy Cornils; **7 shifts-** Pat Larsen; **6 shifts-** Kathy Bazzoli; **5 shifts-** Jackie Lang, Anne Scott, Lauren Thollander and Wendy Watson.

independent broker and registered representative for New York Life. Her job, her home, and her dogs keep her fully occupied, so we feel especially lucky to have her join the docent team.

## Annual Docent Luncheon

All docents are invited to a Christmas lunch at noon, Wednesday, December 12, at the Calistoga Inn Restaurant. This is the museum’s gift to its hard-working docents. A sign-up sheet with menu choices will be available at the museum right after Thanksgiving (Last day to sign up is Dec. 5). Docents are welcome to bring guests. The charge is \$45 per guest, to be paid directly to the museum at time of sign up.



Great gift ideas  
await you in the  
Museum  
Bookstore and  
Gift Shoppe!





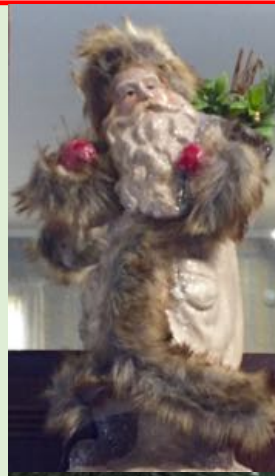


## Christmas at the Gift Shoppe

Wow, Christmas already. This year has flown by. We have so many beautiful donations this year in members' treasures that would be perfect gifts for friends and family. This year I have ordered tons of ornaments to create whimsical trees. There are plenty of fun things for the kids too. Great stocking stuffers!!!

Please come in and see what we have. Remember, SMA members get a 10% discount.

Becky Turner,  
*Gift Shoppe Chair,*  
and Sierra Turner, *Co-Chair*



## CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

**Sat. Dec. 1.** Christmas Faire, Fairgrounds, Oak St.

**Wed. Dec. 5,** 5:30 pm. SMF (Sharpsteen Museum Foundation) meeting.

**Wed. Dec. 12,** 12 noon. Annual Docent Luncheon, Calistoga Inn. Sign up at Museum by Dec. 5

### JANUARY 2019

**Wed. Jan. 2,** 5:30 pm. SMF meeting.

**Wed. Jan. 9,** 10:00 am. SMA Board meeting, Museum House.

### FEBRUARY

**Wed. Feb. 6,** 5:30 pm. SMF Meeting.

**Wed. Feb. 13,** 10:00 am. SMA Board Meeting.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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