

El Paso de Robles Area
PIONEER MUSEUM
ANNUAL REPORT
2008-2009



Gathering for the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce's Agri-Business Tour, May 2006 (Photo courtesy of Gary Smith)

2010 Riverside Avenue • P.O. Box 461 • Paso Robles, CA 93447

Annual Report for 2008-2009

This report covers the fiscal year July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009. It also will be a report on the status of the Museum on June 30, 2009. To be complete, it will be necessary to include some history. This will be limited, but it is necessary to fully explain who we are as of June 30, 2009.

In 1973 the City Council by ordinance and according to State law, established the El Paso de Robles Area Pioneer Museum. There was a group of seven trustees given the task of raising money for the construction and operation of the Museum. They were to meet at least twice annually and to give an annual report to the City. A 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation had been established in 1971 to give the donors of money and artifacts to the Museum a tax break. The land that the Museum occupies was purchased by individuals and given to the City for the express purpose of housing the Museum.

As of June 30, 2009, the Museum has a total of approximately 67,000 square feet of land, of which 26,000 square feet is under roof. The Museum is more than just the buildings, as many artifacts are on display on the grounds as well as in the buildings. Admission to the grounds and the buildings of the Museum is free, and has been from its inception in 1973 through the present. Also there are no paid employees. No report would be complete without listing the names of those many people who have worked hard this past year.

The number of trustees has grown from the original 7 to 14 at present.

Trustee:	Year of appointment:	Hometown:	Officers:
Bartley, Cathy	2006	Bradley	
Bryant, Bob	1988	Templeton	President
Desmond, Chuck	2008	Paso Robles	
Muggelberg, Glenn	1997	Paso Robles	
Mullis, Melody	2006	Atascadero	Assistant Sec.
Nelson, Bonnie	1993	Paso Robles	
Pemberton, Margaret	2008	Paso Robles	Treasurer
Radford, Milene	1993	Templeton	Secretary
Radka, Larry	2002	Paso Robles	
Root, Byby	1992	Paso Robles	
Smith, Gary	2004	Atascadero	
Steaffens, Dave	2005	Paso Robles	Vice-Pres.
Taylor, Wade	2008	Paso Robles	
Tullock, Bob	2008	Paso Robles	
<i>Inactive:</i>			
Sudden, Jean	Charter member (1972)	Paso Robles	

As you can see the trustees are from the Paso Robles *area* and do truly represent the area. The trustees have met 13 times during the year. Most all meetings are joint meetings as City trustees and as directors of the 501(c)(3) corporation.

At the meetings there are liaison members present from other organizations who have an interest in the Museum and the grounds. From the

Pioneer Day Committee: Walter Kuhn (president), Jan Hanson (board member) or Debbie Vandergon (board member)
Jeanesville Oil Pump Museum: Larry Eastwood (board member)

During 2008, the liaison members from the City Council were Duane Picanco and Fred Strong. After the Council election this spring, the liaison members have been Nick Gilman and Ed Steinbeck.

To keep the Museum open on Thursday through Sunday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 o'clock, and on many unscheduled days for special occasions, a dedicated cadre of docents is necessary. The following served as docents during 2008-09 and, because of their dedication, the museum was open 208 days:

Betty Aikenhead, Jane Belmont, Ken Birks, Mickie Bonde, Shirley Bonnifield, Debbie Chanley, Judy Crownover, Nita Drennan, Paul Ernst, Violet Ernst, Harold Franklin, Karen Franklin, Thelma Friedrich, Wilma Garrett, Wayne Harris, Don Hirt, Les Hoffman, Paul Hohman, Anna Hohnan, Jim Howe, Louise Jennings, Paul Kinne, Pat Krout, Ed McDonald, Marion McKee, Pat McKinney, the late Bick Moe, Karen Moench, Janice Mumford, Glenn Muggelberg, Margaret Pemberton, Carolyn Price, Milene Radford, Larry Radka, Ken Riedel, Clara Riedel, Cheryl Gay Rambo, Bud Requa, Marie Requa, Treva Roth, Lynette Shanahan, Gary Smith, Thora Snelson, Dave Steaffens, Diane Steaffens, Daryl Stinchfield, Charlotte Stinchfield, Jean Sudden, Keith Tarwater, Kay Thorne, Cliff Tucker, Danielle Wallace, and Terrie Walter.

Another group of people who have spent endless hours on behalf of the Museum is the volunteer construction crew. These folks, who do the maintenance and construction, are:

Jerry Bonnifield, Bob Bryant, Skip Cary, Herman Chavez, Chuck Desmond, Jim Erickson, Jack Guffey, Ron Hodel, Roy Marzorini, Larry Radka, Keith Rhyne, Gary Smith, Dave Steaffens, and Keith Testerman.

Toward the end of the 2008-09 year yet another group of men, the Central Coast Woodworkers, have taken on the project of restoring an antique water wagon. They meet two days a week, and they hope to have the wagon ready for the 2009 Pioneer Day parade. They are:

Ron Colvin, Rusty Fielder, Rob Mahoney, Lou Marcott, Kenny Moore,
Gary Robillard, Joe Scott, Jerry Sprouse and Keith Williams.

The Central Coast Woodcarvers meet at the Museum for their monthly work sessions. The sessions are viewed by our guests and are quite enjoyable and informative. The woodcarvers who usually participate are Melody Mullis, Matt and Cindi Pomerico, Jean and Laura Thompson, Bob and Marsha Goss.

The Santa Lucia Rockhounds have a display at the Museum, which they maintain. The third weekend of September they have a two-day show in the building, on the grounds and at Pioneer Park. The show brings 1,000 to 1,500 people to the museum. The 2008 event was under the direction of show chairpersons Mike Doherty and Estella McElwain.

During the spring of 2009 the Paso Robles Historical Society was able to move back into the Carnegie Library. They had been occupying a room at the Museum, which had been built by Museum volunteers especially for them after the 2003 earthquake. It was given to them to use rent-free for the past five years. We shall miss them, but are happy that they have their former headquarters back. The Museum furnished volunteer help to move them back to the library, and also helped them unpack, set up cabinets, and whatever else was needed. The room they vacated is to become our major climate-controlled room for the storage of original photographs, files and other memorabilia. Space is also being provided to the Pioneer Day Committee to store their photographs and other documents, which have needed more tender loving care.

During the latter part of 2008, a gas-fired ceiling heater was installed in our conference room. This has made year-round meetings possible without the need for fur coats and other arctic attire. As a consequence the number of groups using our conference room has increased. In addition to the Pioneer Museum board, others using the room are the Pioneer Day Committee, Kiwanis Noontime Board of Directors, Santa Lucia Rockhound Board of Directors and membership. No charge is made for the use of these facilities. Each group has made a very positive impact on the operation of the Museum.

The following page shows our income and expenses for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

PASO ROBLES AREA PIONEER MUSEUM

Financial report, July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009

INCOME

1.50 Donations at door	1,668.45
2.00 Patrons	8,767.36
2.10 Memorials	6,495.00
3.00 Donations-org	3,562.15
3.20 Paso Gathering	10,145.00
4.01 Gift shop -taxable	5,392.41
4.02 Gift shop -non taxable	728.42

TOTALS \$ 36,069.95

EXPENSES

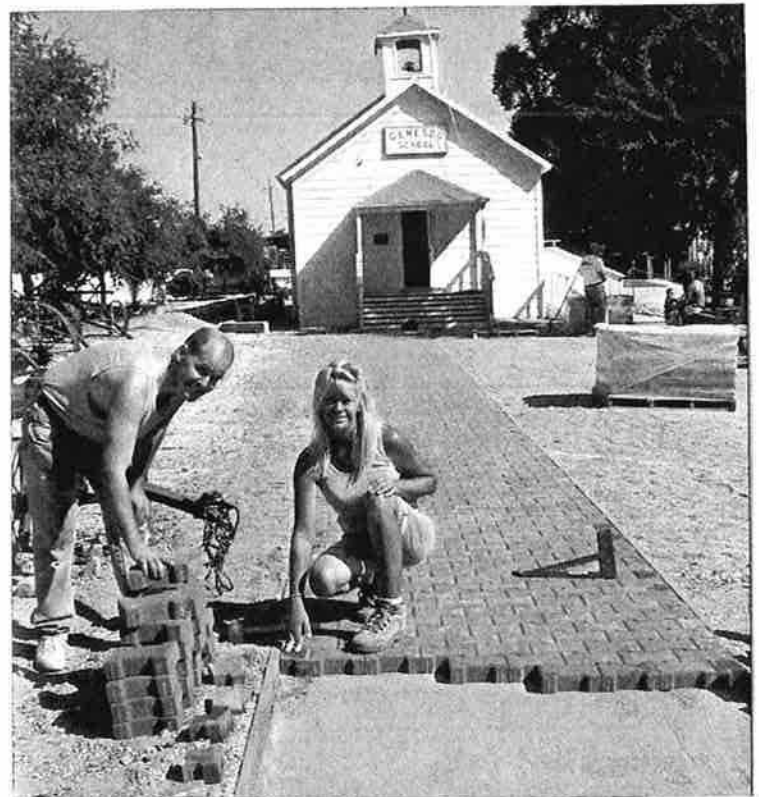
7.00 Operations	3,376.09
7.10 Utilities	2,028.47
7.20 Newsletters	473.89
8.00 Special events	698.46
8.05 Gift Shop	2,596.33
8.20 Paso Gathering	5,557.99
9.00 Display Improvements	4,399.25
9.30 Capital Improvements	42,086.58
9.50 Repairs	1,359.57

TOTALS \$ 62,576.93

BALANCES as of	July 1, 2008	June 30, 2009
Checking	34,231.62	2,179.73
Savings	2,372.55	14,848.01
American Funds	27,440.10	21,276.81

Reporting the income and expense does not give a complete financial picture. It is not possible to put a price on the artifacts and displays in the Museum. Some are priceless and could never be replaced. Some we could put a price on, but since we could never have an accurate total, it would be a pointless exercise. For the buildings, at a replacement value of \$200 per square foot, the 26,000 square feet of buildings would be roughly \$5,200,000. Add to that, the value of the improvements to the grounds of at least \$800,000, and we have a total value of the physical buildings and grounds of \$6,000,000. But, we still cannot have a total asset valuation. The good news is that on the liability side, the total long-term liability is ZERO. The short-term liabilities are only those associated with the monthly operation, and those amounts are less than the reserves.

The most obvious changes in 2008-09 were in the improvements to the outdoor displays and to the grounds. Over 200 lineal feet of split-rail fence was installed to delineate the walks, exhibits, and parking. The paver-tile walkway was finished from the schoolhouse to the Jeanesville Oil Pump. The exhibit area around the windmill was cleaned up and enhanced. The bell tower on the school was removed, the original bell placed in the tower and the tower replaced. Again people stepped up and donated their time and equipment, namely John Wright of John Wright Construction, for his crane.



Volunteers Gary Karger and Susan Buchanan installing pavers; August 2008



Agenda Item #8 Page 6 of 8



Swinging the belfry with its original bell back to the roof of the schoolhouse; June 9, 2009



April 3, 2009

The truly big project was the paving of nearly 10,000 square feet of the parking lot. This was made possible by a donation of seed money many years ago by Ken and Nancy Harris, and a very generous donation by Glenn and Millie Muggelberg for this express purpose. Add to these cash donations, the donation of equipment by Mark Switzer Excavating and the donation of fuel by Ken Dewar of the J.B. Dewar Company, and a twenty-year dream was realized.

The Jeanesville Oil Pump group also added a paver-stone approach to their building along with two areas of rose planting.

During the last part of the year, money was obtained from a private donor to reconstruct the Paso Robles jail, circa 1886. Plans were drawn and the review process began with the planning and building departments so that construction can begin in late 2009. This is the realization of another dream. Yes, we have one of the original doors that will be used, and a replica of this original door is being built for the other "guest" room.

While not attempting to replace any of the activities in the city park on Pioneer Day, but rather to enhance the activities of Pioneer Day, the Museum has expanded its list of activities after one o'clock in the afternoon to better show the people of Paso Robles and its surrounding area the efforts of our pioneer families to build a culture and community of which we can all be proud.

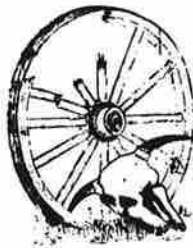
The economy of 2008 has had an impact on the financial donations. Nevertheless, the public has continued their support. To continue to operate, and grow, we are planning to enhance our fundraising efforts. Plans are already underway for these efforts in 2009-2010. We are proud of our past and look forward to the future. We would like to thank all those people, who through their donations of money, time and effort, have made possible the wonderful Paso Robles Area Pioneer Museum that we have today.



EL PASO DE ROBLES AREA
PIONEER MUSEUM

P.O. Box 461 • 2010 Riverside Ave.
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(805) 239-4556



Hours:
Thursday through Sunday
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.