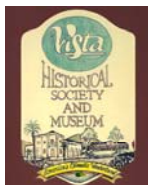


# Vista Historical Society

Published Bi-Monthly  
**FEBRUARY 2008**  
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**P.O. Box 1032**  
**Vista, Ca 92084**  
**(760) 630-0444**  
**1315 Hot Spring Way**  
**Vista, Ca 92081**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our museum has moved to temporary quarters for about six months. Our old museum building has been torn down to make way for a new "Fire Station".

We are saddened, but have formed a committee to look for a new home for our museum. We are working with the City of Vista to see if they will help us find a suitable location.

Our temporary quarters are open to members for shopping and, of course, our business office and gift shop. We will be open soon. Please call 760-630-0444 for more information.

I think you will enjoy seeing our new showings that will change every few weeks.

Come by and see us. We are off of Sycamore going west or Melrose going east. The new address is 1315 Hot Spring Way, Suite 110, in the business park in Vista.

Diane

**Attention: There will be no mail delivered to the Hot Spring Way address.**

**All mail should be addressed to** Vista Historical Society  
**P.O. Box 1032**  
**Vista, Ca 92085-1032**

**Telephone and Fax: 760-630-0444**

## CHRISTMAS TEA

The 2007 Christmas Tea was held Sunday, December 9, at the Brengle Terrace Park Recreation Center Auditorium.

Well over 100 people attended the event.

Santa Claus made his traditional appearance, much to the delight of the children in attendance.

Ted Huntalas, former owner of Rancho Minerva and a Historical Society member, reminisced on Christmases past at Rancho Minerva. His parents traditionally celebrated Christmas with an open house for friends and family.

Paul Eckert gave an update on the museum move and our temporary location at Hot Spring Way.

There was a raffle with happy winners. The refreshments were excellent.

The tea also saw the debut of the 2007 pewter medallion and the 2008 Historical Society Calendar. The medallion this year is Rancho Minerva. It is the sixth in a series of historic Vista buildings, issued yearly since 2002.

The 2008 Calendar is the third yearly calendar issued by the Historical Society. It is the second issued in the "Then and Now" format, showing historic buildings as they were and their current view.

Overall, the Christmas tea was one of the best that we have celebrated.

**MEMORIALS**

As of January 27, 2008

**IN MEMORY OF DR. E.A. OPACITY**

Luz and Margarita Duran

**IN MEMORY OF EMILY SEXSMITH**

Don and Eve Cole

**IN MEMORY OF PAUL L.V. CAMPO**

Vista Optimist Club Foundation  
Judy Ritter

**IN MEMORY OF BERNARD L. DOMINGUEZ**

Jean Bice

**DONATIONS**

Dale and Anne Blust

Most of what was in the old museum is in boxes in the storage area of the warehouse.

Volunteers are still needed. They will staff the reception area and gift store, and assist the curator with research. Since the stairs to the upper floor are the only access, a research area will be created downstairs.

Our volunteer chair, Melinda Andersen, is setting up the volunteer schedule. If you previously have not volunteered and are interested, please contact her at 760-724-5119.

The gift store will have many interesting items, including Tee Shirts, Cookbooks, Calendars, License Plate Holders, Magnets, Videos, Note Cards, History Books, and Postcards. We also have a hooded sweatshirt that can be special ordered. Pictures of some of these items are included elsewhere in the newsletter. We will be open for members soon. Call us at 760-630-0444 for more information. We hope to see you there.

**OUR NEW PLACE**

As you are aware, the Society was required to relocate because the City of Vista is putting a new fire station at our old location . We have temporarily relocated to 1315 Hot Spring Way, Suite 110. We hope to be at this location for only a short time, perhaps 6 months to a year. The Society Board of Directors has appointed a committee to discuss a new location downtown with the City. The site on Hot Spring Way is a new suite in a new industrial building in the industrial park. It is located off Sycamore Avenue. A map to the new location is on page fifteen of the newsletter. The new facility is a warehouse. It consists of a large area for storage, an office, a reception area and two bathrooms. The storage area also has a mezzanine over approximately one half of it. A temporary kitchen has been created in part of the downstairs warehouse. The office will be used by the director for normal office uses. The reception area will have some displays and a gift store. The upstairs area will be used by the curator for research and cataloging.

**MAIL, PHONE AND E-MAIL**

Please address any mail to the Vista Historical Society to our post office box:

**VISTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 1032  
VISTA, CA 92085-1032**

We will not receive mail addressed to our new location. We cannot guarantee that we will get any mail not addressed to our post office box.

Our phone and fax number remains **760-630-0444**.

**NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL**

This is the last newsletter that will be sent to the same person by both E-mail and regular mail. Unfortunately, due to our move and the change of our internet provider from AT&T to Cox, our information may not be up-to-date. Please let us know how you would like the newsletter sent to you.

## ALVORA BECK NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Board member and longtime volunteer Alvora (Al) Beck was named Vista Historical Society Volunteer of 2007 by Society President Diane Eckert. The announcement was made at the January monthly volunteer luncheon at the Coyote Cafe last January 9. President Eckert cited Mrs. Beck's many hours of work at the old museum as well as the new one, her time spent talking to people about the Historical Society, her research into historic Vista business locations, and the many photographs that she has taken on the society's behalf. She was rewarded with a Society hooded sweatshirt.

## RAY EBERSOLD HONORED

Longtime Historical Society and Board of Directors member Ray Ebersold was honored by the board for his long service both on the board and in the Society. Mr. Ebersold was one of those instrumental in building and maintaining the old museum. He has been an active participant on the board for many years. He was presented with a Society hooded sweatshirt by President Eckert at the January meeting.



Alvora Beck, Vista Historical Society Volunteer of 2007, left, and honored Board of Directors member Ray Ebersold, right, at the Vista Historical Society Board of Directors January 16 meeting. Both are wearing the new Vista Historical Society hooded sweatshirt presented to them.

## GENERAL MEETINGS IN 2008

The dates of Vista Historical Society meetings in 2008 are listed below. As always, the exact day of the Annual Meeting and Dinner Downtown are subject to change. In addition, the July General Meeting date and location may also change. Because our normal meeting place no longer exists, the location of these meetings may change.

**General Meeting:** March 22, 2008, located in The Park Terrace Café at the Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace.

**Annual Meeting:** June 2008, location TBA.

**General Meeting:** July 26, 2008, located in The Azalea Room at the Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace.

**Dinner Downtown 8:** September 20, 2008, location TBA.

**Christmas Tea:** December 14, 2008, located in The Park Terrace Café at the Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace

## MARCH GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

The March General Meeting of the Vista Historical Society will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in The Park Terrace Café at the Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace.

In addition to great refreshments, we will have a great program. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Herbert Gabriel, who will talk about trains. His father, Oscar Gabriel, worked as a road master for the Santa Fe Railway. His presentation will include photographs of local railroad history. The train line between Oceanside and Escondido that will soon be used by the Sprinter began in 1887.

Dr Gabriel recently gave a similar presentation to the Oceanside Historical Society. See the J. Stryker Meyer column in the January 24, 2008, North County Times. Be sure to come; you will have a great time.

## NEW WEBSITE

Financed in part by a grant from San Diego County, The Society has contracted with Web designer Jay Medina for a new Website. It will include many new features. More information will be available soon .

**DONATIONS IN 2007**

The following is a list of donations to the museum in 2007 of items other than direct financial donations. The museum cannot exist without donations of all types, and all are greatly appreciated.

Donor	Description	Donor	Description
Adams, William	World War I gas mask	Cole, Eve	LA Times and San Diego Union newspapers
Amend, Howard and Anne	Folder pertaining to Boys' Club Auxiliary 1967-1975 includes minutes, memberships and publicity and numerous scrapbooks belonging to Bee Meyer, including the Bee Line	Dawson, Elva	Miscellaneous San Diego Union newspapers, LA Times
Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum	Ribbon received for participating as a vendor in Steam Engine Museum's spring event	Dura Paints	One glass display case with wood trim
Beck, Alvora	First issue of Vista Press Volume 1 Issue 1 dated 09/24/1926 and acid free copy of first issue of Vista Press Volume 1 Issue 1 dated 09/24/1926	Eckert, Diane	55-cup coffee maker
Beck, Alvora	Marstons' Sixtieth Anniversary, San Diego Union	Eckert, Diane	Framed picture of Class photo (1st or 2nd grade class) 1939-1940
Beck, Alvora	Petrified wood found on Buena Creek Road Vista, CA July 21, 2007	Eckert, Diane	Large picture of grade school children taken around 1939-1940. Jefferson School on Vista Village Drive. Used to be Jefferson Street
Beck, Alvora	Photos of docents' tour of Valley Center History Museum, March 13, 2007	Eckert, Diane	The Journal of San Diego History Volume 53 Winter/spring 2007 Numbers 1&2
Beck, Alvora	Picture frames 7-1/2 x 5-1/2	Escondido Public Library - Pioneer Room	Thirteen Archival Boxes
Beck, Alvora	Vista Panthers Megaphone and Little House on the Prairie Season 1	Fields, K. B.	Wide brim hat covered completely in feathers with a long dark feather extending beyond the brim; Smith Corona Typewriter and numerous articles relating to Orbee Mihalek
Beck, Alvora	Volunteers' visit to Grape Day Park, Escondido Historical Society	Fotheringham, Karen	Scrapbook containing articles about the Vista Art Guild. Newspaper articles about Joe Fotheringham (Vista's First Mayor); Report Cards belonging to Joe Fotheringham when he was in 5th grade in Buffalo NY in 1896 and 1897; Flier on avocados and citrus fruits
Berk, Lucy	Photos from Union Tribune	Gardner, Jessie	Scrapbook containing photos, articles and other memorabilia belonging to Anastasia Weil as well as medical certificates belonging to Dr. Walter Weil
Bobbett, Robert	Arrival and departure records of Santa Fe Railroad Station in Vista	Gillespie, Nancy	Military items used in WWI belonging to Wallace Johnson. Photos and other items relating to Ada Hayes military record
City of San Diego	Proclamation recognizing museum's 40th Anniversary signed by Bill Horn		
City of Vista	Flyer promoting a Yes vote to build a swimming pool for public and school use		
City of Vista	Four large maps of City of Vista		
City of Vista	Two plaques and magazines relating to City of Vista donation of ambulance to Mexico		
Clift, Mary Lou	Wooden cabinet designed and built by Tom Clift and picture of Vistacado Mural		

**DONATIONS IN 2007 CONTINUED**

Donor	Description
Hayward, Mary Lou	Ceramic house with interior lights to be used as a Christmas display
Klafehn, Janice	Compaq Presario computer, with flat screen and printer
Klafehn, Janice	Sides to EZ pop up tent
Lomeli, Jessie	Vista Unified School District dedication of the 1972 new Vista
Lomeli, Margaret	Scrapbook containing articles regarding Vista Irrigation District
Martinson, Blake	Office supplies including Pendaflex hanging folders, frames, acco fasteners, tape, pads, etc.
Miller, Read	Six large framed historical photos of Vista
Nesvold, Terri	10 school pictures of Al Nesvold's friend, 1938-1939
Packard, Ron	American Flag flown over United States Capitol on June 8, 1994
Ragsdale, Rosemary	Magazines and newspapers
Rancho Guajome	Pamphlets entitled County of San Diego Landmarks
Rozells, Noel	Catalogs and booklets relating to San Diego County
Rozells, Noel	Items belonging to George and Emily Sexsmith
Shada, Alan	Centennial Edition of Los Angeles Times. Headlines 1881-1981

Donor	Description
Sloan, Dolores Davis	Business Card for Italian Kitchen and Bar, 1715 E. Vista Way; Smyth Insurance Company; and Leabo State Traffic Officer
Trocinski, Susan	Robert Lewis Stephenson Jr. High Yearbooks 1927 and 1928 belonging to Julia (Leitner) Wallace. Now called Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School, 725 S. Indiana St., Los Angeles, CA
Unknown	DVD containing copy of NBC News September 1971 "Brinkley Report" in which David Brinkley stated "Vista is one of the best places in the United States to live." Note: David joined the Historical Society after visiting here
Vandling, Louise	Original painting of downtown Vista Main Street, formerly Vista Way, 1970-1980. Depicts local stores Crocker's, The Cobbler, Mr. Jones Hardware, Shelhousps, Croziers, Don Vincent's, the Daisy Pot, Dutch Bakery and Chiropractors.
Vista Chamber of Commerce	Folding Rocking Chair belonging to Emily Sexsmith
Vista Community Center	Kodak slide projector
Vista Historical Society	North County Times article about VHS 40th Anniversary and article on painters and watercolor Display
Vista Historical Society	Photos taken at the Historical Society Downtown Dinner September 2007
Vista Historical Society	Photos taken of 40th Anniversary of the Historical Society

**VOLUNTEER MONTHLY LUNCHEON**

The Vista Historical Society volunteers hold a monthly luncheon.

The luncheon is open to anyone who is interested in finding out more about the Vista Historical Society and Museum and meeting staff members and volunteers. For more information, call the museum telephone number, (760) 630-0444. Mailing address is P.O. Box 1032, Vista, CA 92085-1032.

### NEW MEMBERS IN 2007

We want to welcome all those who became members of the Vista Historical Society in 2007. They are listed below. New members are the Society's life blood and we thank them for joining. New members are always welcome. If you know anyone interested in history, suggest a membership. For more information, call the Society office at 760-630-0444.

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Mr. Steve Bern                      | Mr./Mrs. Elliott and Sara Moberly        |
| Mr. Art Clement Chavez              | Nancy Montgomery                         |
| Mrs. Melinda Corona                 | Mrs. Lorene Nans                         |
| Mr. Jim Elder                       | Mrs. Christine Reed                      |
| Mr./Mrs. Chester and Leliah Elliott | Mr./Mrs. Ricardo and Elizabeth Rodriguez |
| Mr./Mrs. George and Nancy Flanders  | Mrs. Ellen Skafish                       |
| Mrs. Lili Johnston                  | Mr./Mrs. Morris and Janice Vance         |
| Land Planning Consultants           | Mr./Mrs. William Vandling                |
| Minnie Leno                         | Velia Villasenor-Telles                  |
| Blake and Lina Martinson            |  |

### PICTURES FROM THE CHRISTMAS TEA



Paul Eckert addresses Christmas tea

Ted Huntalas addresses Christmas tea





Many thanks to all who participated in our 2007 Christmas tea.

### MUSEUM GIFT STORE

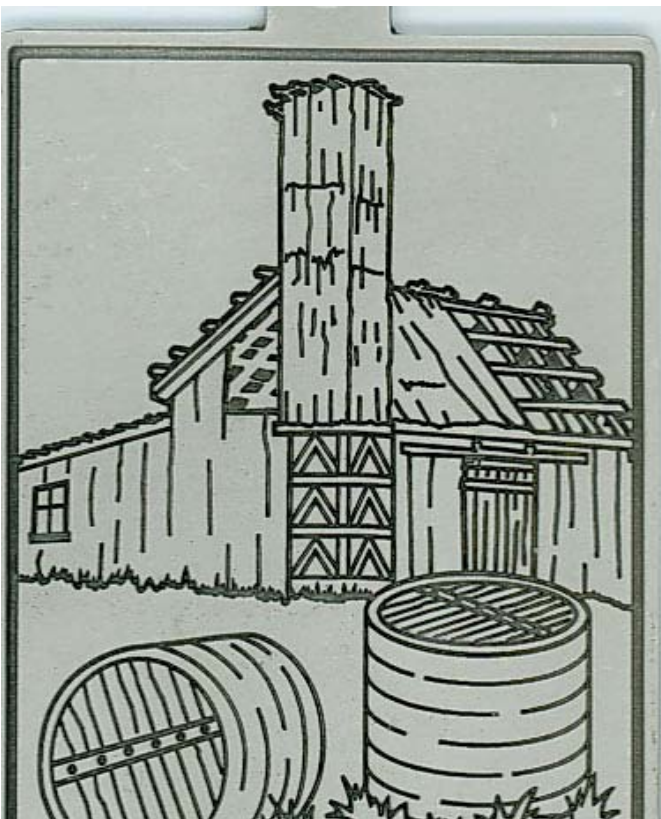
When we open our new facility to the public, we will maintain our gift store. Since many may not be familiar with the store, we picture some of the items for sale in the following pages. A full price list is on page 14.

### MEDALLIONS

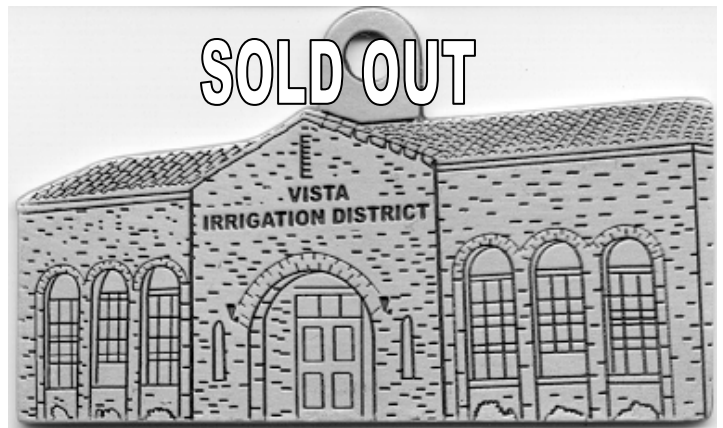
Since 2002, the Society has issued 6 pewter medallions of historic Vista buildings. Five of them are still available. The price is \$15 each.



VISTA COMMUNITY CENTER 2002



DELPY'S BUENA VISTA WINERY 2004

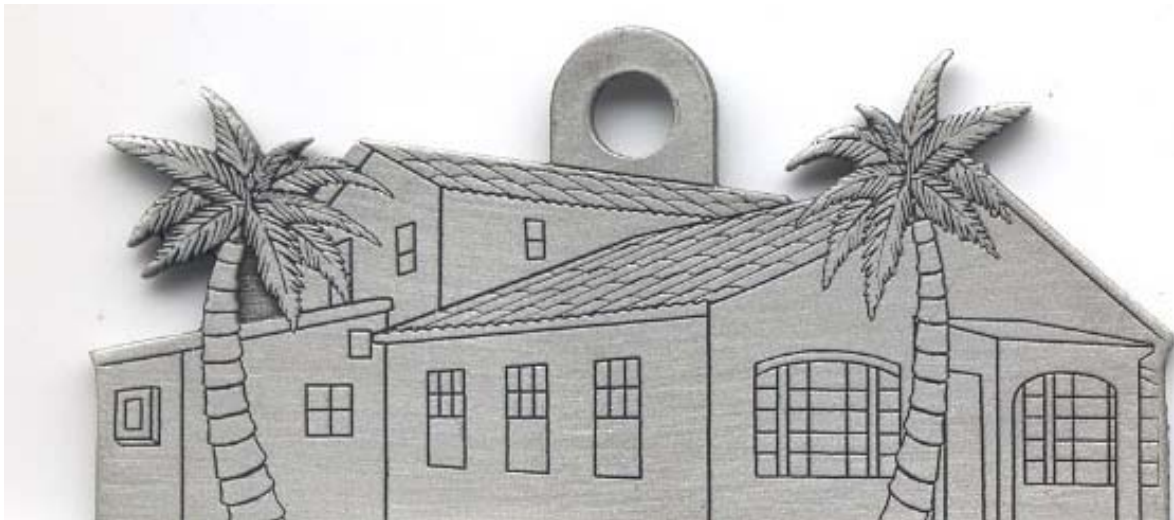
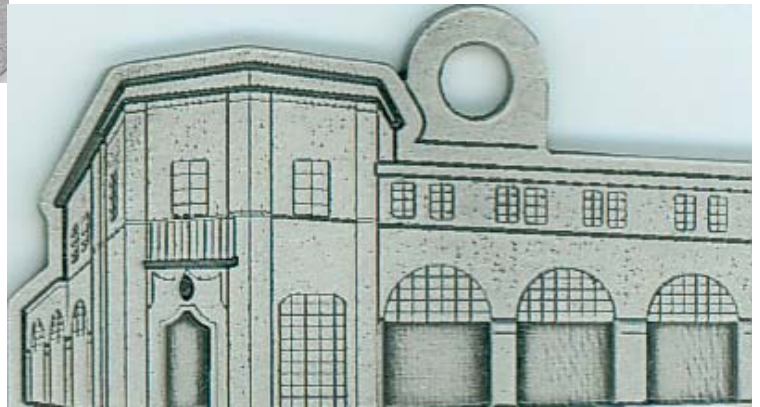


VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT 2003  
**SOLD OUT**



RANCHO BUENA VISTA 2005

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING 2006



OUR NEWEST MEDALLION, RANCHO MINERVA 2007

**OTHER GIFT STORE ITEMS**

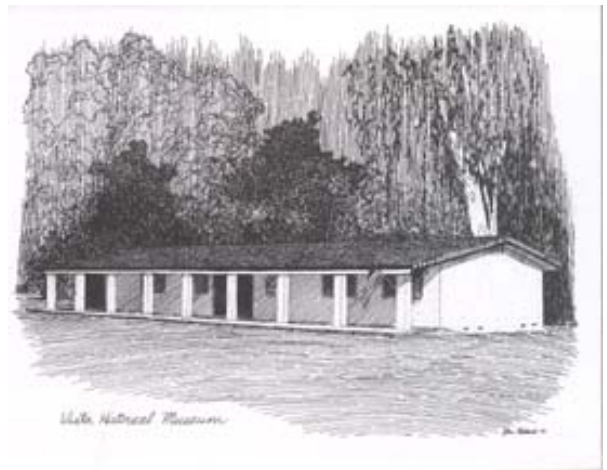


POSTCARDS 2/\$1.50



Historic Vista California

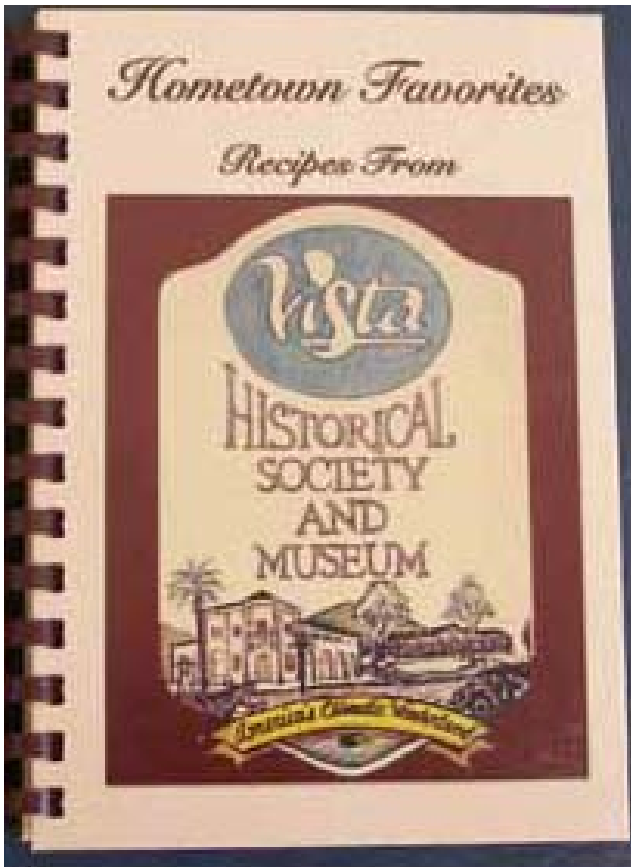
NOTE CARDS 2 BOXES/\$5.00



NOTE CARDS 2 BOXES/\$5.00



Donch's Bannock Vista  
Vista California



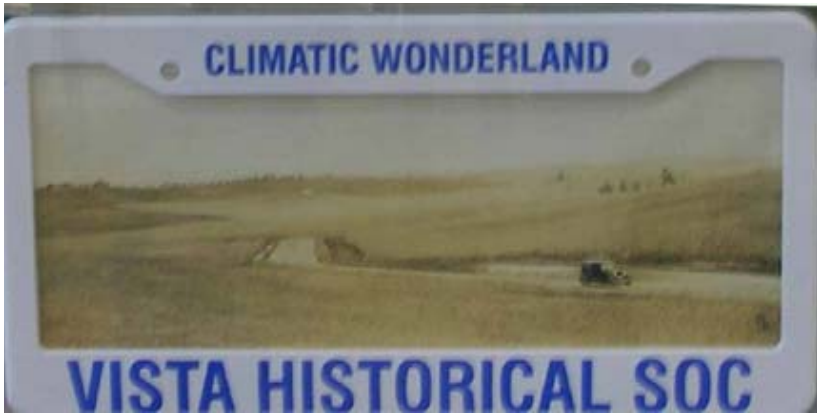
COOKBOOK \$7.00



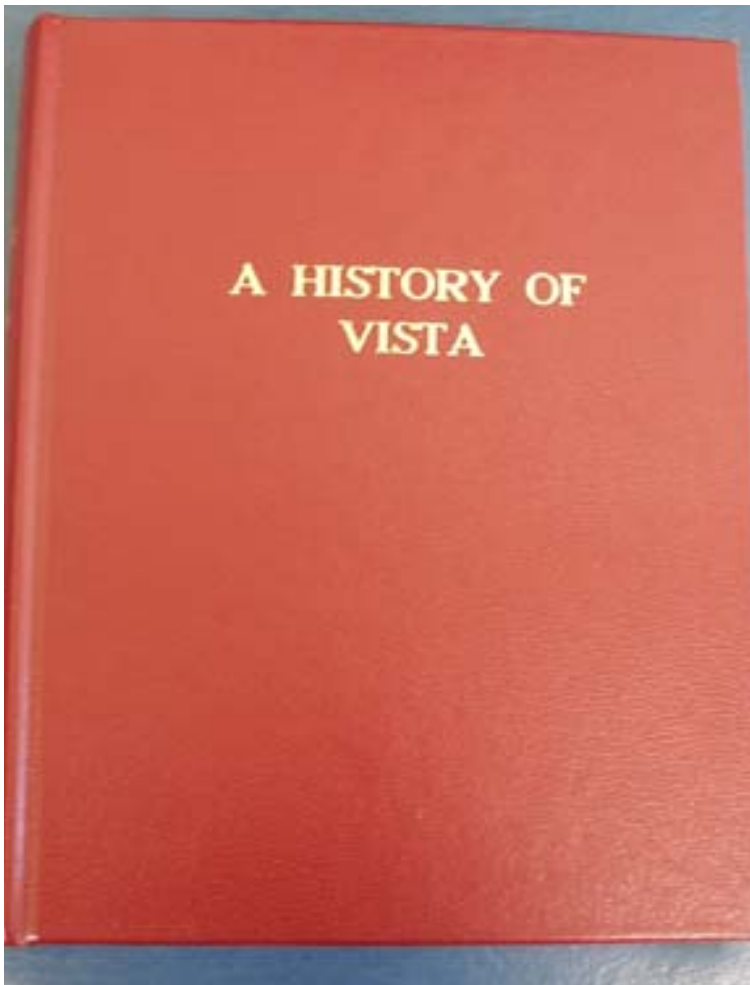
TEE SHIRTS \$12.00

LICENSE PLATE  
FRAME \$3.00





LICENSE PLATE FRAME  
USED AS PICTURE FRAME



HISTORY OF VISTA, BY HARRISON AND  
RUTH DOYLE: \$30.00 FOR MEMBERS, \$40.00  
FOR NON-MEMBERS.

**VISTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
2008 CALENDAR  
VISTA THEN AND NOW**

**FIRE STATION NO. 2**



**VISTA THEN  
DECEMBER  
12, 1967**

This picture of Fire Station Number 2, at 2236 South Santa Fe Avenue, was taken on December 12, 1967. This date is famous for the snow that fell throughout the western part of the county. The fire station was Vista's second, complementing the downtown headquarters station. It opened in the late 1950's and was replaced by the station on Thibodo Road in the early 1990's.



**VISTA NOW**

2008 CALENDAR \$15.00

In addition to the items pictured, the gift store has other items in limited supply. These items are listed on the price list on page 14.



**PRICE LIST**

<b>NEW</b> 2008 CALENDAR ...	Reg. \$ 5.00	
MEDALLIONS.....	Reg. \$15.00	
TEE SHIRTS .....	Reg. \$15.00	<b>Sale \$12.00</b>
COOKBOOKS .....	Reg. \$10.00	<b>Sale \$ 7.00</b>
LICENSE PLATE		
FRAMES .....	Reg. \$ 5.00	<b>Sale \$ 3.00</b>
2007 CALENDAR.....	Reg. \$ 5.00	<b>Sale \$ 1.00</b>
CAPS.....	Reg. \$ 4.00	<b>Sale 2/\$ 6.00</b>
NOTECARDS .....	Reg. \$ 3.00	<b>Sale 2/\$ 5.00</b>
POSTCARDS .....	Reg. \$ 1.00	<b>Sale 2/\$ 1.50</b>
MISC. MAGNETS.....	Reg. \$ 1.35	<b>Sale 2/\$ 1.75</b>
VIDEOS...Nuestro Vista	Reg. \$ 8.00	<b>Sale \$ 5.00</b>

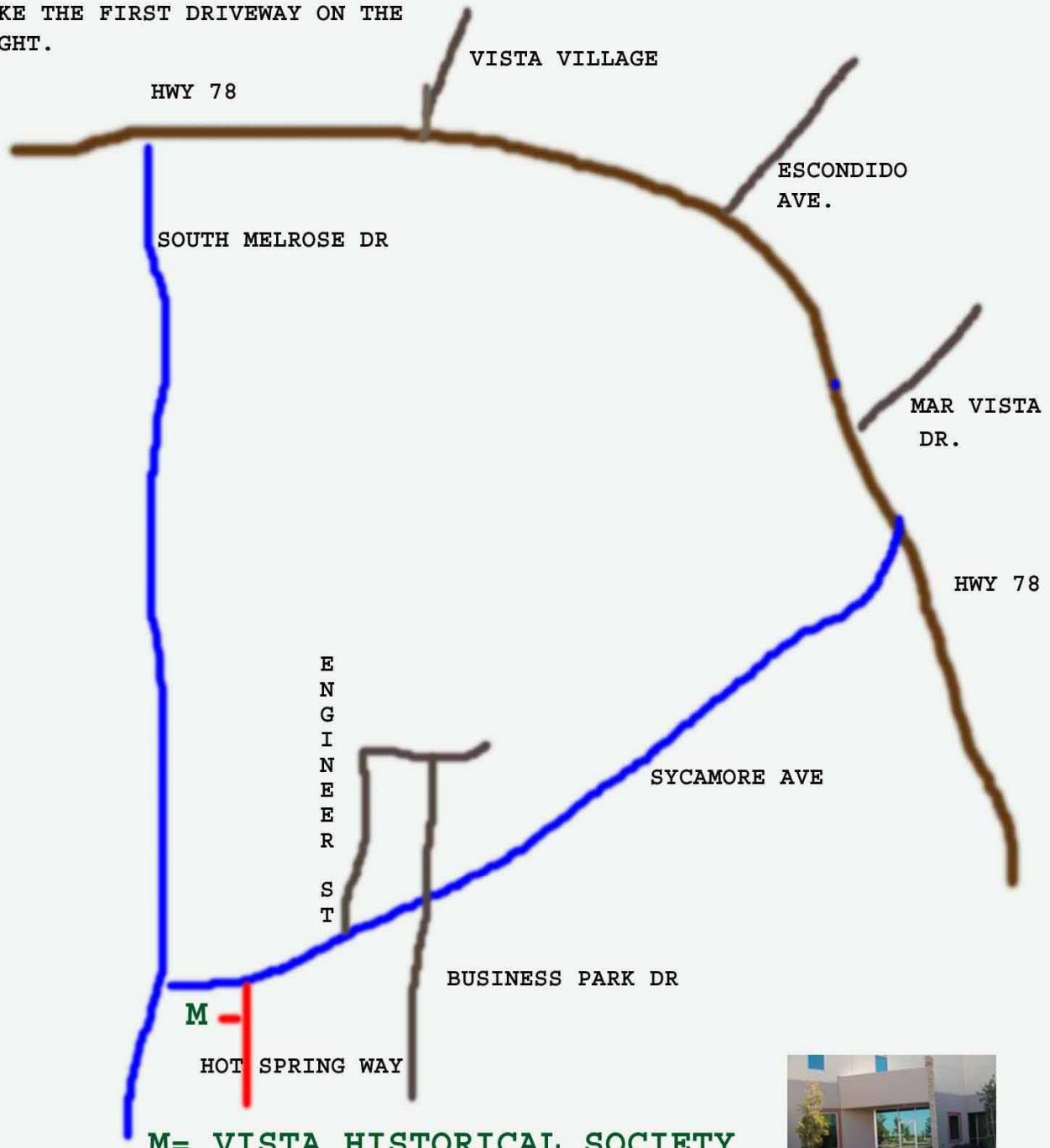
~HISTORY OF VISTA~  
MEMBER \$30.00 NON-MEMBER \$40.00

~MEMBERSHIPS~  
STUDENT \$ 5.00 SINGLE \$25.00 FAMILY \$45.00

# VISTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1315 HOT SPRING WAY SUITE 110

FROM THE WEST: TAKE HWY 78 TO THE MELROSE DR. OFF RAMP. GO SOUTH ON MELROSE TO SCYAMORE AVE. TURN LEFT ON SYCAMORE. GO TO HOT SPRING WAY (THE FIRST SIGNAL) TURN RIGHT ON HOT SPRING WAY. TAKE THE FIRST DRIVEWAY ON THE RIGHT.

FROM THE EAST: TAKE HWY 78 TO THE SYCAMORE AVE OFF RAMP. GO WEST ON SYCAMORE TO HOT SPRING WAY (THE LAST SIGNAL BEFORE MELROSE). TURN LEFT ON HOT SPRING WAY. TAKE THE FIRST DRIVEWAY ON THE RIGHT.



M= VISTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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VISTA, CA 92083

### **PROGRAMS AVAILABLE**

Programs are available for presentation on request for schools, clubs and other organizations. In addition, other presentations can be customized to fit your needs. For more information, call 760-630-0444.

**The next newsletter will be published in March 2008. Please submit articles by February 15, 2008 .**