



Aptos History Museum

Aptos Historian

Winter/Spring 2013 - Volume #1 - Issue #2

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What's New?

A Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Greetings, *Aptos History Museum* members!

My name is Nicholas Laschkewitsch and I am the Editor-in-Chief for the *Aptos Historian* newsletter. I wanted to create this newsletter so museum members could have yet another benefit of belonging to the *Aptos History Museum*. If you have any comments for me, feel free to send me an email:

nicholas@laselva.com

I'd love to hear your thoughts or even any stories you'd like to share with the membership!

Here are some facts you might not have known about Aptos:

- **1769:** Gaspar De Portola, together with Father Crespi, leads the first overland expedition through the Santa Cruz County area October 8-22, and although they discovered signs of the native peoples, they never actually saw the "heathen".
- **1774:** The second Governor General of California, Capitan Don Fernando Javier De Rivera Y Moncada, together with Father Palou, passed down the coast from San Francisco to Carmel and on December 11th, discovered the Aptos Indian village of eleven huts above the river.
- **1867:** Jose Arano built the first General Store with a residence above, at the corner of today's Soquel Drive & Aptos Wharf Road, which connected to Castro's wharf at the beach. This is the oldest existing house in Aptos.

We'd like to personally thank *Aptos History Museum* Board Members Mary Russell and Bob Wall for sponsoring the costs of this issue of the *Aptos Historian*. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support.

-Nicholas Laschkewitsch,
Aptos Historian Editor-in-Chief



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This Old House x 2

The two oldest houses in Aptos and the families that built them! This successful event first took place on Thursday, January 22 and was immediately repeated a week later due to its immense popularity. The event included complimentary wine in the oldest house in Aptos followed by a history talk from Dick Garwood and John Hibble at Au Midi Restaurant and Bistro. The talk focused on the Joseph Arano and Vincente Castro houses. The Aptos History Museum would like to thank Kevin Newhouse and Jennifer Root for opening their home for the event, Au Midi for hosting the dinner, and all who participated in the evening's festivities.

-Nicholas Laschkewitsch



Above: The Arano store/house built in 1867 as it looks today.



More pictures on page three!

Did you know?

Between 1896-1904, John J. Montgomery visited the ranch of Thomas, John and James Leonard, between Aptos and Manresa Beach. He experimented with model gliders off the railroad trestle. He also developed a gold separator which the Leonards used to extract gold from the beach and later financed the construction of the building in Aptos Village in which Café Sparrow now resides.

Upcoming Events

--History Sail on the Chardonnay II:

May 16, 2013 - Time: 4pm-6pm

Speakers will be Sandy Lydon and Garry Griggs. Appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. \$45 for members, \$50 for potential members. RSVP by calling (831) 688-1467. Half sold-out!

--50th Anniversary Celebration of Nisene Marks:

May 19th, 2013

John Hibble of the Aptos History Museum will be the bagpiper at this event! See link below for event details:

<http://advocatesfnm.org/>

--Yappy Hour:

June 29th, 2013

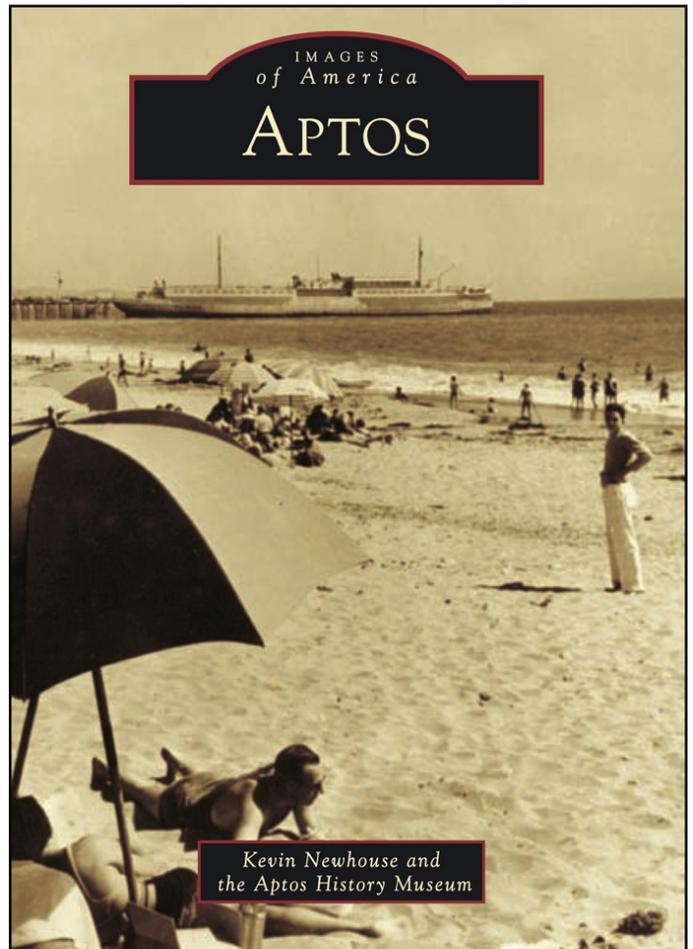
Check out the flier on the back of the newsletter!

New Aptos Book

“Images of America: Aptos” is the newest publication featuring the history of Aptos. The book contains over 150 images spanning the earliest days of Aptos’ history to more modern events such as the building of Aptos High School, the 1982 storms, and the Loma Prieta earthquake. The book is part of the Arcadia Publishing series, which also feature local topics including, Santa Cruz, Soquel, and soon to be released: Capitola.

This is the first published work by Kevin Newhouse who has been volunteering at the Aptos History Museum for the past 4 years. The idea of writing a book came up during a fundraising brainstorming session at the museum. Kevin, who had written a shorter version of this book for a local history class, had offered to expand his work into a full-length publication. “Images of America: Aptos” will be available for purchase on June 24, 2013. All proceeds will go directly to the Aptos History Museum.

-Kevin Newhouse



Above: Aptos History Museum members enjoy dinner at Au Midi Restaurant and Bistro. | **Below:** John Hibble discusses the oldest homes in Aptos.



Upcoming Event:

YAPPY HOUR!

Dog Walk & History Museum Beach Tour

Saturday, June 29th, 2013

9:00 a.m. to noon

\$20 members - \$25 non-members

(lunch not included in cost)

We will meet at 9 a.m. at the Cafe Rio entrance with our best friends (the furry ones). Walk will take approximately 1.5 hours, then meet back at outdoor roped off area at Cafe Rio for lunch.

Please join us for an easy walk with your dog and learn about these fascinating subjects:

1. The 1925 "Shootout at Seacliff".
2. The story of the cement ship, S.S. Palo Alto.
3. The history of the Rio Del Mar Beach esplanade area.

Reservations are required.

Call (831) 688-1467 now, as space will be limited!

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Aptos Historian. Thank you!

Next Issue

In our next issue, you can expect to see

articles on Aptos history, news about fu-

ture events, photos, stuff you didn't know,

and a whole lot more! Thanks for reading!

-Nicholas Laschkewitsch

JOIN US TODAY!

Call (831) 688-1467,

or visit www.AptosHistory.org to

download a membership form!


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