

The demolition of the small house and landmark "flag" garage on the Mid-Valley Fire House property is complete. They were beyond cost-effective repair. A possible small County Corporation Yard may go in there. According to Director of Public Works, Robert Murdoch, "Currently, the staff assigned to maintain County roads in the Monterey Peninsula area report to the County's Corporation Yard in Salinas. From there, they have to spend time traveling to their area of responsibility and back to Salinas within the workday. By locating a small Corporation Yard within Carmel Valley, staff would report to a location closer to where they work, increasing efficiency. The plan being reviewed would include a modular building for office space, a covered area for small equipment, and space for material storage such as sand." The concept was presented at a recent Road Committee meeting. While support was expressed, concerns were raised about what would be visible along Carmel Valley Road, specifically, screening of the equipment and sand piles was requested.

Below: R. Crumb's iconic "Short history of America," a cautionary tale that CVA takes very seriously. (Reprinted with the personal permission of Robert Crumb.)



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*Hidden Valley continued from Page 1*

ensemble. We have produced nearly 75 operas, commissioned new works, performed for nearly 400,000 enthusiastic clappers, and made an impact on the economic health of our beloved Carmel Valley.

As my personal time as General Director begins to come to a close (another few years, I expect), we have built a strong staff of highly talented people to carry forward the vision of Hidden Valley. Our wonderfully supportive trustees have been generous with their wisdom, time and resources and have learned the work that needs to be done to retain and mature the purposes of Hidden Valley. It has always been a simple idea...gather on one end of the log the students who have the ability and desire to learn and on the other end of that log put teachers who, as people and as artists, represent the finest to be found...and then get everything out of their way so real communication can take place as they learn by doing. The joy of seeing that happen is worth all the challenges of 50 years of building.

As we complete the celebrations for our first fifty years, we turn our attentions to the first opera we ever produced here, Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. Remarkable young singers from throughout America have been selected to perform this work under the guidance of Director Robert Darling and Conductor Stewart Robertson. The six performances open on September 9 and close on September 22. Tickets are available through the Hidden Valley office phone by calling 659-3115.

Peter Meckel is Founder and General Director of Hidden Valley Music Seminars

CVA wishes Hidden Valley a Happy 50th

# Carmel Valley Association

*To preserve, protect and defend the natural beauty and resources of Carmel Valley*

CVA Newsletter ~ August 2013 [www.carmelvalleyassociation.org](http://www.carmelvalleyassociation.org)

## CALENDAR

**Aug 3 & 4, 10am-6pm**  
**CV Annual Fiesta**  
CV Community Park, CV Village  
[www.cvclub.org](http://www.cvclub.org)

**Aug 3, 7:30pm**  
**Guitarist Bill Mize**  
Magic Circle Theatre  
8 El Caminito, CV Village  
659-7500; [magiccircletheatre.org](http://magiccircletheatre.org)

**Aug 16, 10am-4pm**  
**Concours d'Elegance**  
Quail Lodge, Valley Greens Drive  
620-8879  
[thequail@quailodge.com](mailto:thequail@quailodge.com)

**Aug 16-Sep 15**  
Herb Gardner's  
**I'm not Rappaport**  
Magic Circle Theatre  
8 El Caminito, Carmel Valley  
659-7500; [magiccircletheatre.org](http://magiccircletheatre.org)

**Aug 25, 10am-4pm**  
**Jewish Food Festival**  
Congregation Beth Israel  
5716 Carmel Valley Road  
624-2015; [congregationbethisrael.org](http://congregationbethisrael.org)

**Sep 9-Sep 22**  
**Mozart's Don Giovanni**  
Hidden Valley Music Seminars  
Carmel Valley & Ford Rds  
659-3115; [hiddenvalleymusic.org](http://hiddenvalleymusic.org)

**Sep 28; 7:30pm**  
**Singer Kiki Ebsen**  
Magic Circle Theatre  
8 El Caminito, Carmel Valley  
659-7500; [magiccircletheatre.org](http://magiccircletheatre.org)

**Oct 13, 11am-3pm**  
**Carmel River Festival**  
CV Trail & Saddle Club  
E. Garzas Road  
[PelicanNetwork.net/carmelriverfestival.htm](http://PelicanNetwork.net/carmelriverfestival.htm)  
667-2025 ~ 238-1683

## Hidden Valley 50th Anniversary

By Peter Meckel

Having completed fifty years of working with Hidden Valley Music Seminars, it may be time for me to reflect a bit on that half-century of fully engrossing effort to bring this little institution into being. It has been plenty of time to have made countless errors and to try to learn from them, it has been time to see the contributions that have been made to the thousands of lives it has touched, and it has been an opportunity to build friendships of such importance that it is clear that without them Hidden Valley could not have been.

Hidden Valley was incorporated as a 501(c)3 California non-profit educational corporation on May 2, 1963. We rented a small campus in the Angeles National Forest off the Palmdale Road above Pasadena. The first year was directed to enrichment programs in music, the arts, history, and language for elementary aged students. We quickly saw that our most important contributions could be made in music and the arts at the high-school level, and by the second year's operation that was the entire focus. It was clear that talented young instrumentalists and singers were not getting the opportunities to grow at the rate of which they were capable, and we found that with an intensive educational program for ten weeks in the summer we could give them nearly all they would gain in the first two years in college.

At the conclusion of the first four years of summer only programs, it was decided that a campus more central to California was in order to serve a student body from an ever-widening area. The summertime opportunity to use the beautiful cam-

pus of Robert Louis Stevenson school led to our move to Pebble Beach and two splendid years there. When the school's own summer programs began to develop, we moved to the wonderful campus of the York School where we ran our orchestra and choral programs for three years.

In late 1971 we learned of the Carmel Valley location which, within three months, became the location of our own permanent campus. It had originally been developed by Sally Church and the White Oaks Theatre, but, due to her illness, had sat empty for nearly three years when we found it.

We gathered a rag-tag group of former music students and great friends and built Wright Hall, which has served as our dormitory and dining building for 41 years, and housed approximately 4,500 summer music students and about 4,750 master class participants plus some 30,000 Road Scholar/Elderhostel participants.

In 1973 we began the summer Master Class programs, which have included teachers from the New York Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra, and many solo artists. Students came, and still come, from around the world for these intensive classes which will be important to them for the rest of their professional lives.

By 1974 we were able to begin the opera ensemble training program which has become so popular. We have offered training opportunities for young American singers who had completed their academic training but were not quite ready or experienced enough to move into the full-time professional work of singing. In the intervening years nearly 1,100 singers have been part of the



Conductor Stewart Robertson (l) and director Robert Darling preparing for Don Giovanni