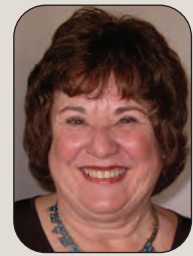




## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Priscilla Walton

I sit down to write this in the midst of the Covid-19 coronavirus crisis. We have been "sheltering in place" for several weeks now. I think that many of you have been reflecting on the impact of this virus on ourselves, our families, and the community we

live in, as well as the rest of the world.

It has become clearer that we are all connected to one another, wherever we live. What happens to someone in Italy, Iran, or China happens to me. Even more so, what happens to my neighbor also happens to me. The most important lesson of this pandemic is that we are truly connected in ways that are frightening, but also quite beautiful. Our lives are in each other's hands.

We have also learned that Carmel Valley is a "community" in the truest and the best meaning of the word. During this scary time, we have seen the best that is in us. While we are physically distancing ourselves from one another, we are still connecting socially. The concept of "community" in Carmel Valley has strengthened the bonds of caring and compassion we already have with one another. We have shown that in a community like ours, no one has to be really alone.

Residents are checking in with one another to help make certain that fundamental needs and basic necessities are being met. I cannot tell you the number of people who have called me and asked if there is anything I need as I try to protect my husband, who is among the high risk COVID-19 population, with underlying health issues.

Technology has given us the opportunity to see how communities around the world are also maintaining contact and community--the most colorful examples being the Italians singing opera songs from their balconies and the Spanish instructor leading calisthenics from the courtyard. In this context the world

continued on Pg. 4

## COPING MECHANISMS

### Valley Residents Practice Physical Distancing and Social Connection

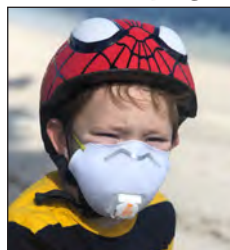
by Luana Conley

As fast as the Covid-19 crisis morphs from day to disturbing day, new recommendations and threat levels change frequently as the pandemic unfolds. Here are a few stories of how our neighbors are managing.

Danielle Carlson lives just off Laureles Grade with her husband Brent and their eight-month-old infant and especially misses the physical support and social life with her family and friends. She is concerned about the socializing of her daughter Violet, since video chats don't quite cut it with a baby who is nurtured by the tactile experience of meeting new people. A big fear of Danielle's is the supply chain, as a lack of coherent immigration policy is causing unpicked produce to rot in the fields, and the price drop due to the loss of school milk sales is causing dairies to dump millions of gallons of milk. She has an already established network of local gardeners who share bounty, including eggs, and a tight group of healthy people with no symptoms or exposure who are trading occasional child care.

Brent is home on leave from his bartending job, and the family's amusement is playing silly games with Violet. Brent is a gourmet cook, which makes up for the loss of going out to eat. He is spending more time on his home business to adjust to the loss of income, and Danielle is checking for relief offered by banks and utility companies.

One member of Danielle's support group is Heather Howe of Robles del Rio. She is frantically working full-time at her own accounting service, providing financial data for businesses trying to work through the federal relief programs, while dealing with her



Eli misses his Tularcitos friends. He's in his "spider mask."  
Photo by Heather Howe

very active six-year-old boy. Eli is "frustrated, sad, scared, and mad," and misses his friends. Heather says Tularcitos has been a great help with tablets and lesson plans, and she is streaming live karate lessons and biking with him through the neighborhood. She also fears for the local businesses' long-range survival odds.

Lynn Archer, in Robles del Rio, is getting back to basics, which she defines as her husband John, their doggie, the view of the hill and trees, health, nurturing food, the arts, music and writing. These are the essentials that bring her joy.



Lynn's meditative art project, "Allora."

She trades the negative of being among the vulnerable population for the positive of not being among those experiencing economic disaster. She appreciates curb pickup at Jerome's Carmel Valley Market which keeps her from exposure.

John and Lynne are currently working on a sectioned 1000-piece puzzle of birds, which reminds her that we each have our own part to contribute to the whole. They stay in touch with relatives and family with phone conversations and the Facetime app.

Linda Cheatham of Los Tulares is enjoying life without the routine distractions and says "This is an introvert's dream!" Her husband Rich calls their location a "hermit's paradise." Linda has more chances to deepen friendships via phone with friends and time to think about her path in life with a caveat of limiting time spent reading the news. Rich uses Zoom, a video conferencing tool, for his church board meetings but says it's like seeing people through a keyhole, while making him look like Boris Karloff.

The Cheathams amuse themselves watching

continued on Pg. 4

# HORSIN' AROUND THE VALLEY

by C.S. Noel

Horses and horse enthusiasts alike have a long tradition in Carmel Valley from ranches established as far back as the Mission era to modern day boarding and livery stables and neighborhoods where horses are still grazing in family backyards. Today, these elements embody the beauty and rural character of the Valley that so many residents of our area cherish. And, it can make our valley more sustainable, too! This is the first in a series of articles about our equestrian community. We invite you to saddle up and enjoy the scenic ride.

## Pastures of Heaven – How Horses Can Help with Climate Change

When local residents and horse lovers, Pierre Lessard and his wife Nina, saw the CVA President's Letter about sustainable communities in a recent issue of *Carmel Valley Voice*, they looked beyond the horse and buggy days and thought about how horses can help us with solutions to 21st century problems. Namely: Carbon Sequestration. Let's see just what that means.

Want a good excuse (uh, reason) not to mow and get a horse instead? Your grassy field will capture carbon dioxide from the atmosphere during the plant growth phase. The "biological processing" that ensues in the grazing animal returns the carbon to the soil in a way that improves both the atmosphere and the organic composition of the soil.

Of course, the amount of area needed to do this is a factor which could make it a challenge for individuals. But, there is also potential to implement this through composting in situations where horses are not kept in pasture but are stabled and eating baled hay. Added benefits of composting horse manure are that it kills all pathogens (such as E.coli, SOD - sediment oxygen demand, etc.) as well as many kinds of weed seeds due to the heat generated in the composting process. Composting will also reduce ammonia N-levels and water-soluble phosphorus in soils, thus protecting water quality at the same time (Jeffrey Creque, Ph.D. "Composting Horse Stable Manure" [ocos@earthlink.net](mailto:ocos@earthlink.net)).

In fact, in an area such as ours, where horses are still prevalent, there are exciting possibilities when these practices are considered at a community level. Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere can be transformed into soil organic matter. According to Dr. Christine

Jones (2006) of Australia, "Every one tonne increase in soil organic carbon represents 3.67 tonnes of CO2 sequestered from the atmosphere and removed from the greenhouse equation." That's a 267% bonus. The stock market should do so well! Combine an abundance of clean compost with the needs of our many residents who love gardening, plus the increasing interest in grow-your-own-food, not to mention the uptick in interest for sustainability in agriculture, and we can see the synergies starting to take off. A big shout out to Pierre & Nina for their enthusiasm and insights.



Carmel Valley residents & horse owners, Pierre & Nina, while on a recent trip riding across Mongolia.

And to our readers: If you have an interest in getting this idea out of the pasture and into the starting gate, just send a Yippee-Ki-Yay to C.S. Noel at [cvideas@aol.com](mailto:cvideas@aol.com). Let's get something started!

For more information, see [https://www.marincounty.org/-/media/files/departments/pw/mcstoppp/residents/a\\_horse\\_keepers\\_guide\\_to\\_compost.pdf](https://www.marincounty.org/-/media/files/departments/pw/mcstoppp/residents/a_horse_keepers_guide_to_compost.pdf)

**THE AIRFIELD** Have you noticed how many more are using the airstrip property these days —individuals, dog walkers, families, red-winged blackbirds, poppies, and lupines? This increased activity during our "shelter-in-place" only reinforces the importance of this property for our health, well-being, and entertainment during these difficult times. Carmel Valley Save Open Space ([cvsos.org](http://cvsos.org)) is continuing to look for ways to purchase this land for the community and appreciates all your support in our endeavor.



Photo by Mibs McCarthy

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# HISTORY CENTER EXHIBITS MAKE HISTORY COME ALIVE

by Cherie Ohlson

A mammoth fossil found in the Carmel River. A tule boat that propelled Native American peoples down the river. The Jamesburg Earth Station in Cachagua. A Civil War era piano in a Victorian era parlor. The CV Volunteer Firefighters, vintage airfield, land grants, ranches and families behind them. You've just looked back in time with these highlights. Their histories and many more fascinating stories about the truly unique character of Carmel Valley can be found in the exhibits of the CV History Center Museum at the east end of the Community Park.

Exhibits bring the history of Carmel Valley up close and personal. They are an interesting challenge to create and are always a learning experience for the exhibitors as well as visitors. An exhibitor's job is to tell a story in such a way that it satisfies the casual as well as the serious-minded viewer, with sensitivity to those whose first language is not English. Many resources are tapped during an exhibit's creation, including Carmel Valley History Society (CVHS) archives, the internet, books and articles, Valley old timers, other subject matter experts, actual artifacts and memorabilia, and above all, photographic images.



Curators Maxine Callinan and Cherie Ohlson launch the Centennial exhibit during the 2019 Carmel Valley Fiesta.

The saying, "a picture is worth a thousand words," is especially true in exhibits. The use of photographs is a powerful and timeless technique in telling a story. We obtain the highest quality images available and print them in a format and size to best fit an exhibit. There may be an analog collection of photos with separate captions on a storyboard as in our recent exhibit "The Carmel Valley 1989 Centennial: But Was It?" or in digital files that range from a few to 10 or 15 megabytes in size as in our Geology and Rusticating exhibits.

Most exhibits have unexpected donations that add immeasurably to their interest. For the "Robles del Rio Story," it was a room key and two dinner plates from the Lodge restaurant. For the Joan Baez exhibit, the photojournalist who traveled with Martin Luther King, Jr., for 20 years allowed us to use his images of the times and spoke at the opening event. The dress and bonnet on the mannequin in the recent Centennial exhibit were worn during the celebration. The Ranching exhibit has a century-old piece of barbed wire. A fire chief's helmet was added to the CV Fire Department exhibit. And, many old-timers will remember the siren that alerted the community for decades - well, it took three firefighters to bring it into the History Center it was so heavy!

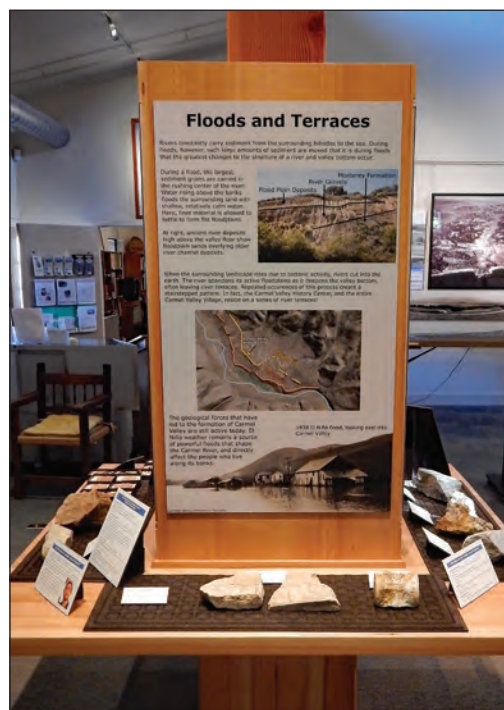
The Society's Exhibit Committee reviews progress and offers ideas and support to

the primary curator and his or her team throughout the development stages of an exhibit. Special attention is paid to text wording and font readability. And, when the exhibit is ready for presentation to the community, there's a great sense of satisfaction in having visually captured yet another chapter of CV history for visitors to view and enjoy.

Exhibits are also designed to "go on the road," which may require reformatting. Currently there are exhibits at the Discovery Center at Palo Corona Regional Park and in the gallery at the CV Library, where we display typically in March or April. More venues are planned.

None of the exhibits today are in their original form. We continue to add newly donated artifacts like the fainting couch to the Hatton Family Parlor exhibit and stitching saddle to the Ranching exhibit as well as look for other ways to keep the exhibits fresh and interesting for the visitor.

No experience is necessary to work on an exhibit, just an eye for detail and desire for delving into local history. A fun fact is that none of the three curators who prepared exhibits for the History Center's opening in December 2013 had ever curated an exhibit before! They simply had the interest and drive to create something special for the community -- and they did.



One of four panels from the Geology exhibit, curated by Kim & Seth Williams. Both photos were taken by Jeff Ohlson.

Coping, continued from Pg. 1

old black and white comedies together and are taking their usual long walks. Rich reports a much-increased use of the airfield land and enjoys hollering hello to neighbors from a safe distance. They are very grateful that their retirement income shields them from the hardships others are facing.

Rippling River is a housing facility for mostly low-income, disabled, and/or senior residents. The president of their residents' association, Sharon Miles, reports some residents experienced panic due to unfounded rumors that the food bank and Meals on Wheels were cutting services. There is difficulty comforting all residents with correct information when many are already disconnected by chronic conditions and mobility issues. She relies on online messaging to relay reliable information targeted particularly for neighbors with compromised immune systems who already have trouble getting out for supplies.

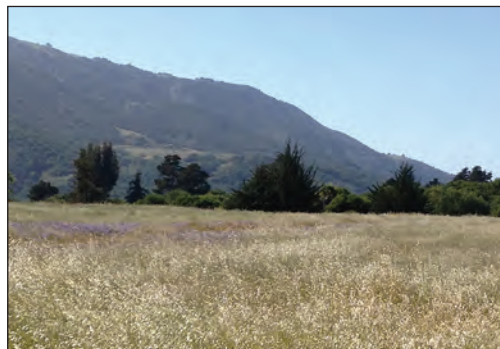
Sharon misses most the gatherings with friends during the regularly scheduled Residents Association activities at Rippling River: crafts, bingo, shared meals, and companionship. She isn't particularly fearful but wants to stay healthy, so she discovered that old bras make good masks and is especially proud of one that's pink and lacy. But she also enjoys the lack of guilt in sitting and doing nothing.

Another Rippling River resident, Ruth Notwazki, reported a concern after finding that public restrooms are closed in all the stores after accompanying a disabled resident into town for an essential service.

Lorraine Suprenant, with husband Ed, was urged to abide by strict shelter-in-place requirements early on, because her children, living in urban areas, engaged in their first episode of "reverse parenting" and demanded they avoid all but essential activities. Lorraine misses the routine and hasn't set her alarm or checked the calendar. She says it's easy to cope with gratitude for living in this beautiful valley with our gorgeous spring and enjoys walks in the neighborhood and facetimeing with friends and family. Lorraine is managing supplies by continuing to get fresh organic vegetables and fruits delivered from JP Organics, community-sourced agriculture, and is completing long overdue projects like cataloging her record collection. She finds it hard not to go house-to-house to check on neighbors but has been convinced by daughters not to do so.

Family members who are caregiving for loved ones add another layer of complexity in coordinating doctor visits, tests, and treatments. Families who rely on electricity for medical equipment, such as oxygen concentrators, are particularly concerned about sustaining utility services with loss of workers due to the virus. One family caregiver relates the extra precautions necessary for home health care workers and delivery services. She is also grateful for neighbors and friends who are consistently thoughtful toward those in this circumstance.

Clearly, coping methods of individuals and families vary according to how well-fixed or how financially fragile they were at the outset and the makeup and previous routines and obligations of the family unit. The World Health Organization officially adopted the term "physical distancing" rather than "social distancing" to recognize that social connection improves physical health and emotional well-being. Remember that there is help out there, and subscribe to the free Carmel Valley Association e-bulletin for up-to-date resources and news.



Locals are enjoying the airfield land in greater numbers, with plenty of room to keep your distance! Photo by Lorraine Suprenant

President's Letter, continued from Pg. 1

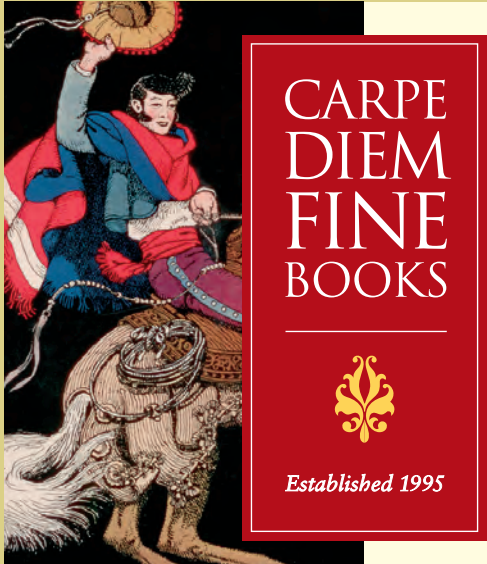
shrinks, and we see multiple new examples of how to help one another.

We see friends calling those who live alone to encourage them and to lift them out of possible depression and anxiety. We who live in this valley are fortunate because strong bonds of community have long existed and throughout this ordeal have only been growing. Witness, the marvelous adaptation and response to the local community and local institutions. Our markets are steadily supplying our basic needs in a safe and sanitized environment with great efficiency and kindness. Our local restaurants are adapting to take-out dinners to not only feed us, but more importantly, keep their workers employed and help stave off financial ruin for many of them. We see people who continue to pay the wages of housekeepers and caregivers who should not leave their homes, basically keeping them from financial ruin. These are but a few examples of our Carmel Valley community and what makes Carmel Valley and our people so special.

Most importantly, I know that, as a result of this pandemic, I value community more than ever. I also see that, if we unite together, we can make Carmel Valley what we want it to be.

It gives me great hope that once this crisis is over, we can join together in person to protect the Carmel Valley rural character we all so deeply value. I know that we can continue to remain a "community" in the truest and best meaning of the word. Until that day comes, please stay connected, and please stay healthy!

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# CARMEL VALLEY MAGAZINE ACCEPTED INTO SMITHSONIAN ARCHIVES

By Sandy Schachter

Attention, historians and aviation fans! Dr. James Sanders, retired from the physics department of the US Naval Postgraduate School and a Carmel Valley resident since 1962, recently announced that the prestigious Smithsonian Institution is going to archive 164 scanned issues of the magazine he edited and published in Carmel Valley for over 40 years, Small Air Force Observer (SAFO). In the Smithsonian's acceptance letter, Polly Khater, Assistant Director of Discovery Services at the Smithsonian Libraries, states "Researchers using SIL's National Air and Space Museum Library will find this donation a valuable addition."

The publication, whose mission is "to encourage international cooperation in the study of the history and aircraft of air forces of the smaller countries of the world and to publish the results in a quarterly magazine," began in 1975 when Dr. Sanders, a member of the International Plastic Modelers Association, wrote to that organization to ask for information on Polish aviation, as he is of Polish descent. To his astonishment, he soon found himself its "Polish Specialist" and clearinghouse for information on all small countries. As soon as his new position became known, "I soon found myself deluged with offers of help from people in the Netherlands, Denmark, Poland, Czechoslovakia, etc.," says Dr. Sanders. Wishing to share the data he was collecting on small air forces, he began SAFO with 100 subscribers at \$3.00 a year. "The number of subscribers has varied over the years as the Cold War ebbed and flowed but never dropped below 300 with readers in 36 countries," he added. "Over half the readers have English as their second language."



When the final issue was published in 2018, praise began to pour in from amateur and professional aviation historians and airplane modelers all over the world. They cited the periodical as the only resource in the world for this kind of detailed first-hand information, noted its significance for understanding the history of the past century, and called it a source of inspiration and an irreplaceable treasured archive.

Dr. Sanders was born in Ohio and showed early interest in airplanes and aviation. He thought he was going to be a garage mechanic until a high school science teacher urged him to aim a little higher. He attended Kent State and Cornell University, leaving with a Ph.D. in physics with a specialization in acoustics and heading away from the snow for a job at the Naval Postgraduate School. He moved with his wife Marilyn and infant daughter Kathy to Pacific Grove in 1961 and Carmel Valley in 1962. Daughters Maria, Renee, and Ariane arrived over the next years. While at the Navy School, he co-authored an acoustics textbook which is still used in universities around the world. He retired from teaching in 2004.



Wildlife roams near Garzas Creek, photos by Mibs McCarthy.

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## WALKING WITH PURPOSE



Laura Lee Lienk suggests putting on your garden gloves and walking with a purpose. It is a perfect time to pull Italian Thistle and Genista (French Broom) from along roadsides and trails.



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**Banner photo of outer valley, looking across Anastasia, by Don Gruber**

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The Carmel Valley Association Board of Directors sadly announces the passing of Donna Kneeland, longest-serving member of the current board, chair of the Communications Committee, and chief editor of the Carmel Valley Voice.

Her dignity, common sense, and sense of responsibility served the valley well and will be missed. Karin Strasser Kauffman, former Monterey County supervisor, has said of her: "It's hard to believe that Donna won't be here anymore to run a strong Communications meeting and offer her expertise on fundraising efforts. She was always actively engaged and a terrific ambassador for CVA. And what an early, stalwart supporter and participant in the Carmel Valley incorporation effort."

Donna is survived by her four children Stuart (Ann), Marshall (Andrea), Sally Petru (Anthony), and Nancy Whitelock (Thomas).

