

THE ALPINE SUN SHOPPER – June 7, 2007
Tattered Tidbits: Alpine Historical Society

HISTORY DAY CELEBRATION 2007

Music, good food, old friends, new friends, children laughing and playing—what more could one want on a beautiful Saturday afternoon? The Alpine History Day Celebration, held on Saturday, June 2 at the museum on Tavern Road, was the culmination of a year of preparation by a large group of dedicated members. Countless hours were spent in a myriad of ways—from research and documentation projects which continually unearth new and updated information about the history of Alpine to the significant improvements made to the Nichols House this past year. Donations of artifacts for the bee display, construction of a replica of the Harbison Hive, a new blackboard for the Nichols House Schoolroom, the fantastic display on the History of Beekeeping, the wonderful observation hive where live bees were seen continually at work, the third grade essay contest winners and the generous underwriting by the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians all helped to make this year's event spectacular.

Those in attendance were treated to a wonderful lunch of homemade chili, salad, bread, a drink and an ice cream sundae while listening to the mellow music of the Buckshot Band and watching youngsters enjoy the fun jump. A silent auction provided the opportunity for attendees to purchase many wonderful items that had been donated by generous individuals and businesses. The Alpine Clodhoppers use this venue for their annual reunion and appear to truly enjoy the music.

Each year the third grade students of Alpine study local history. Part of this unit includes a visit to local historical places—the museums, of course, are one of the stops. This year 130 essays were entered in the annual Historical Society Essay Contest by students from Boulder Oaks and Shadow Hills Elementary Schools. The winners for the category “Life in Alpine 100 Years Ago,” were Madison Kurtz and Jillian Kleine, a tie for first place, Eric Kingery, second place and Whitney Henderson, third place. Makena Andler took first place for her essay on John Harbison in the category “My Favorite Person in Alpine History.” Dominique Markowicz wrote about Dr. Sophronia Nichols for second place and Tyler Sinkovich took third place with an essay about Emma Everhart. Kellen Whyte and Shay Florance took first and third places, respectively, with their essays on Alpine Cemetery in the category “My Favorite Historical Place in Alpine.” Second place, an essay on Viejas Mountain, was presented to Trevor Sanders. Budding artists Hayley Hawkins, Emily Petsch, Dylon Church, Jessie Hobbs, Wendy Moreno, Cassidy Shaffer, Sara Harris and Savannah Ernsbarger were recognized with honorable mention awards for their drawings relating to Alpine History. All essays entered in the contest clearly showed the level of understanding Alpine students have of local history. Each of the entrants is a credit to our community and all are to be commended. The task of choosing the winners was truly difficult—they were all well done!

The Alpine Historical Society continues to make excellent progress in the documentation of local history, the preservation of the pioneer buildings and the collection of artifacts. A group of dedicated volunteers works continually toward the goal of developing a Heritage Park in Alpine and expanding and refining available documentation. The driving force behind this group is Carol Morrison, our dedicated President. Carol's work ethic and quiet leadership provide inspiration to all who are a part of this wonderful group. If you have an interest in history and would like to help—join us today! Everyone is welcome.

Carol Walker and her husband Paul have lived in Alpine since 1988. Carol is the Membership Chairman of the Alpine Historical Society. She can be reached at cwalker@alpinehistory.org or 445-4024.



Pete Holtzen points to the Queen bee in his Observation hive, which was set up at the Alpine History Day.