



**A SUMMARY OF THE  
ACTIVITIES OF THE NEW  
ALMADEN QUICKSILVER  
COUNTY PARK ASSOCIATION**

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

**40<sup>TH</sup> YEAR  
PIONEER DAY CELEBRATION**

**OCTOBER 8, 2022  
AT THE CASA GRANDE  
NEW ALMADEN, CALIFORNIA**

Compiled by **Art Boudreault** for the 35th NAQCPA Pioneer Day in 2017 from the first ninety-eight issues of NAQCPA newsletters, with focus on the first ten years and augmented with his vast knowledge gained as the archivist for NAQCPA over several decades. Art engineered and deployed the first electronic historical archive data system used by County Parks and was a key contributor to the current Past Perfect system. **Ron Horii**, NAQCPA photographer and web master, provided the Pioneer Day summary table. **Mike Cox**, with assistance from electronic newsletter links provided by **Ron Horii**, added some recent and additional events. Item sources, if from the newsletters, are identified by issue with this symbol [Spring 1983].

## I. PURPOSE

The New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association (NAQCPA) held its first board meeting on February 22, 1983, and established goals as follows:

1. To increase public awareness, understanding, and enjoyment of the historical, recreational, biological, and geological resources of Almaden Quicksilver County Park.
2. To encourage and facilitate community involvement (within the park) in the:
  - a. development, maintenance, and protection of recreation facilities;
  - b. commemoration, restoration, interpretation and protection of historical resources;
  - c. interpretation, management, and protection of natural resources; and,
  - d. establishment and operation of interpretive programs and facilities. [Apr 1983]

## II. IMPORTANT SPECIAL EVENTS

### A. NAQCPA Board

The initial Board of Directors was elected in April 1983. It includes **Kitty Monahan, Dick Forst, Nancy Mason, Bob Clement, Scott Denham, Fred Celsi, Mike Cox, Kay Carmody, Steve Lorenz, and Peggy Melbourne**. [Apr 1983]

NAQCPA logo selected and accepted. [Apr 1983]

Board establishes priorities and begins regular monthly Board meetings and schedules regular annual events in Quicksilver County Park, including Pioneer Day and Trail Days.

NAQCPA incorporated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit. [8/1984]

NAQCPA has 500 members. [Fall 1994]

NAQCPA signed memorandum of understanding with Parks Department. [Aug 1997]

**Kitty Monahan** transfers her position to **Tere Johnson**, the new and second President of NAQCPA. Tere grew up in Almaden Valley and descends from **James Job and Eliza Kessell**, who lived and worked on the Hill. Active members support new Board comprised of **Tere Johnson, President; Mike Cox, Vice President; Art Boudreault, Treasurer; Lisa Laymon, Secretary; and Board Members (Directors) Kitty Monahan, Sue McLain, Ron Horii, and Richard Williams**. **Lynda Will** is the County Parks Liaison to NAQCPA. [Summer 2022]

B. Santa Clara Quicksilver County Parks

**Larry Norris**, New County Parks and Recreation Director, was appointed in April. [Apr 1983]

Possible acquisition of Rosetto property for Santa Teresa park. [Jan 1984]

County Parks purchases **Connie Perham's** original New Almaden Museum collection and leases her museum building until the new interpretive center is built at the Hacienda. [Sep 1986]

Park is a priority cleanup site by the State Department of Toxic Substances Control [Dec 1986] culminating in a five-stage remediation plan [05/1987]. The California Department of Health Services (later Toxic Substances Control) initially (late-1970s) ranked the New Almaden mines property number 215 out of 222 priority abandoned industrial sites involving mercury.

Jacques Ridge added to county park. [Fall 1994]

Reception for **Paul Romero**, new parks director. [Jan 1996]

Casa Grande is offered for sale to County Parks. [Fall 1996]

Purchase of Casa Grande close to completion. [Summer 1997]

As of 12/31/1997, Casa Grande is now owned by parks. [Winter 1997-1998]

**Constance Perham** retires and closes her museum at the Carson House. [Winter 1997-1998] The museum was built in 1949 and opened 1950.

New museum and interpretive center at Casa Grande opens on Pioneer Day with 54 docents. [Summer 1998]

**Robbie Lamons** is Director of the Museum. [Spring 1999]

**John Slenter** becomes a staff member of museum. [spring 2000]

**Paul Romero**, Parks Director, retires. [Spring 2002] **Lisa Killough** becomes Parks Director.

Casa Grande Renovation begins in fall 2008. [Winter 2008]

Casa Grande reopened in fall of 2010.

### C. Field Trips - Trail Items

**Kitty Monahan** led first History Field Trip of the Park on October 22, 1983. [Sep 1983]

Park tours began in April 1984. [Aug 1984]

Fifty people turned out for first annual Trail Days to improve maintenance of trails. [Jan 1984]

Picnic area proposed near Day Tunnel. [5/1984]

April Trail established. [Spring 1989]

Plans made to add trails from Santa Teresa, Calero, and Quicksilver Parks. [Dec 1990] Stiles Ranch Trail in planning stage, built by volunteers. [Apr 1990]

1990 Trail Days to connect April Trail to Santa Isabel and the Randol trail. [Apr 1990]

**John Atwood** provides an excerpt from his mine survey record book. [Spring 1991]

Trail Plan update offered by **Mike Honda**, County Supervisor. [April 1992]

First Trails Day remembered (1876) to Woods Road. [April 1995]

Completed Great Eastern Trail. [Summer 1995]

150 Volunteers completed the Yellow Kid Trail. [Spring 1999]

NAQCPA is sponsor of Healthy Trails. [Winter 2008]

## D. Education

Monthly public programs started, with talks about wildlife (**Henry Colleto**), the mine (**Mike Cox**), and a showing of a 1960 documentary about New Almaden and the mines. [Apr 1983]

Slide shows developed to show to community organizations. [May 1984]

**Jerry Graham** from Bay Area Back Roads aired a segment on New Almaden featuring **Kitty Monahan**. [Sep 1987]

List of mine owners from 1824 through 1966 published. [Aug 1989]

**Bob Clement** reports on mushrooms in the park [Dec 1990]; teaches two short courses on the natural history of Almaden Quicksilver County Park April 24-25 and May 14-15 as part of the San Jose State University Field Studies in Natural History. [Summer 1993]

Living History Day in May 1990. [Aug 1990]

Delores Taranga mystery – who was namesake of the Dolores Taranga tunnel? [Aug 1990]

\$45,000 allocated to Pioneers to preserve the Hacienda Cemetery. Forty-one names listed on cemetery records according to **Dick Hill**. [Dec 1990]

Story about **Lydia Innes'** recollections regarding the family placing flowers every year since July 27, 1888, to commemorate the death of two-year-old half-sister **Jenny Danielson**, interred at the Hacienda Cemetery in New Almaden, by **Richard Battin** (from Mercury News of 07/11/1974) [April 1991]

Essay by **Gage McKinney**, *First Comish Miner at New Almaden*, receives first prize at Santa Clara County Historical Essay Contest. [Aug 1991]

September 1992 public meeting concerning mercury contamination at park. [Sep 1992]

**Gage McKinney** introduces **A.C. Todd** to NAQCPA. [Aug 1993]

The Friends of Los Alamitos Watershed (FOLAW) created by **Mike Cox**, **Mike Boulland**, **Kitty Monahan**, **Art Boudreault**, **Robbie Lamons**, and **Claire Teels** for the purpose of educating the public about mercury pollution and protecting the Los Alamitos watershed. (Jul 2006)

## E. NAQCPA Projects

Planning and design work started on restoring mine office at reduction works. [8/1984]

Grant applied for to secure the rotary furnace on Mine Hill. [8/1984]

Museum at Carson House opens (**Connie Perham's** home.) [May 1987]

Small rotary furnace and other Guadalupe mine equipment is donated and delivered by the Guadalupe Rubbish Company. [May 1987]

NAQCPA participates in Quicksilver Mounted Patrol. [Sep 1986]

NAQCPA receives grants to publish **Jimmy Schneider's** book. [Apr 1991]

\$41,000 grant received to restore the Mine Manager's House on the Hill [Jun 1985] (It burned to the ground Jan 1986 prior to any work.)

**Mike Cox** announces that the mine closure project is complete. [Dec 1985]

Museum center restoration delayed due to mercury vapors in the soil. [Sep 1986]

Museum catalog project started using the manual written by **Micki Ryan**. [Dec 1986]

Planning for monument at site of CCC Camp. [April 1992]

Powder House damaged by earthquake. Committee meets to restore it. [Dec 1993] Ultimately a FEMA grant was obtained by Parks and the powder house was rebuilt.

Army Corps of engineers pressured to clean up Mt Umunhum. [Dec 1993]

Artifact inventory by **Nancy Valby** is completed. [Fall 1996]

Plans to rebuild the Blacksmith Shop. [Aug 1998]

Ore cart mailbox at Casa Grande by **Dennis Moran**. [Dec 2000]

New Computer and special software designed by **Don Armstrong** added to save archives. [Apr 2000]

Museum Archiver now has 800 images. [July 2001] Blacksmith shop restoration completed [fall 2004]

Monument celebrating the civil war crisis at New Almaden (2005)

New book, *Images of America: New Almaden*, by **Mike Boulland and Art Boudreault**. [Aug. 2005]

*Images of America: New Almaden* sells out at book signing (current sales total 3,500.) [Apr 2006]

**Art Boudreault, Kitty Monahan, Mike Boulland, and Bob Dubeck** form the Committee for Almaden Historical Awareness (CAHA) to provide the Almaden Branch Library with display photos showing the early history of the Almaden Valley, especially the New Almaden mines.

Archives moves out of Casa Grande to the County Archive Center in preparation for the Casa Grande restoration. [Spring 2008]

Santa Clara County commends NAQCPA for its efforts to preserve New Almaden history. [May 2008]

New Almaden photos dedicated at Almaden Community Center library. [Winter 2008]

Map desk protected from the weather. [Dec 2009]

Work begins on "outdoor museum at Hacienda." [Spring 2009]

Signs for outdoor museum approved. [Winter 2010]

With NAQCPA assistance, FOLAW prepares and installs six interpretive signs at the Hacienda parking lot to explain mercury pollution and cleanup at Almaden Quicksilver County Park in support of creek protection and restoration projects. (Feb 2013)

Bell Tower completed by **Bruce Bartlett** and volunteers. (2015)

Water Tower at Casa Grande renovation begun. (2016)

Group lead by **Mike Boulland**, with NAQCPA members, forms Friends of New Almaden Ting (FONAT) to study the history of the Ting (tea house or pagoda) poles in storage at the museum. (mid-2017)

Charles Cox prepares a new set of six historical Ting photos for printing and display at the Almaden Library. (2022)

### III. CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

**Clyde Arbuckle:** *Notes on New Almaden – Most Unforgettable Character* [Oct 1988]

**John Atwood:** *From the Record Book of John Atwood* [Spring 1991, Summer 1991, and Fall 1991]

**Carl S. Balch:** *The Gould Rotary Furnace* [Jan 1988]

**Mary Becker:** *Hacienda Cemetery* [Winter 1991]

**Adele Boydston:** *Mary Hallock Foote* [Summer 1992]

**Kay Carmody:** *Trail Days* [Spring 1989]; *Old Timers Recall Glory Days at New Almaden* [Winter 1990]

**Bob Clement:** *Beware the Shrew* [Jan 1984]; *Rats in the Hills* [Jun 1985]; *The Cool off the Bay* [Aug 1984]; *There's Trash in Them There Hills* [Jun 1985]; *An Oldie but Goodie* [Dec 1985]; *The California Oak Moth* [May 1986]; *The Mourning Dove* [Sep 1986]; *The Call Heard Round the World* [Apr 1988]; *The Pygmy Forest* [Spring 1989]; *The Strangers* [Winter 1990]; *Quicksilver Park – A Good Place to go Batty* [Spring 1991]; *Beware the Docile Deer* [Fall 1991]; *A Plant for all Reasons* [Spring 1992]

**R. Lawrence Comstock:** *Henry Wager Halleck and the New Almaden Mine.* [Summer 1995]

**Mike Cox:** *Mine Closures* [Dec 1985]; *Muquis and Tommyknockers – Gremlins of the Mines* [Dec 1985]; *What's New with You?* [May 1986]; *Winter on the Hill* [Dec 1986]; *Update on the Mercury Contamination Issue* [Sep 1987]; *A Trip Underground by A. Felonious Miner* [Feb 1989]; *The New Idria Mine* [Spring 1989]; *Toxics Study Moves Forward* [Feb 1989]; *Toxic News Flash – More Meetings . . . More Waste* [Spring 1990]

**Dick Forst:** *Reasons to Run* [Dec 1985]; *Trails Policy Update* [Spring 1991]

**Frances Fox:** *History Awards* [Jun 1985]

**Nancy Greenfield:** *Mining Mountain Cabin* [May 1987]

**Virginia Hammerness:** *Pioneer Day – One to Remember* [Dec 1985]  
(Virginia was the lead for the Newsletters for, well, for as long as we can remember. She authored much of the content and took no credit for it, so we are recognizing her here. Kitty and Virginia were partners when it came to *Quicksilver County Park News*, with **Sue and Ron Wolfe** providing valuable word processing.

**Jeanne Howard:** *Sarah Boudreault* (her mother) [Aug 2008]

**Carol Kessler:** *Pioneer Day Reminiscences* [Mar 1987]

**Freidolin Kessler:** *A Walk Through Quicksilver* [Dec 1985]; *Looking Back* [May 1986]; *Horses and Hikers Can Coexist* [May 1987]; *Work Begins on CCC Commemorative Monument in Quicksilver Park* [Spring 1992]

**Sylvia Lang:** *An Eightieth Birthday Celebration on Mine Hill* (for Freidolin Kessler) [Fall 1993]

**Patricia Loomis:** *Signposts: Almaden Road* [1970s, reprinted Jan 1988]; *Signposts: McAbee Road* [1970s, reprinted Apr 1988]; *Hacienda Cemetery* [1970s, reprinted Winter 1991]; *Grave of First American to Own Mine to be*



*Marked* [Fall 1991]; *Grange Organizer Lives On* [1979, reprinted Summer 1993]

**Gage McKinney:** *Rev William Roberts visits New Almaden in 1847* [Dec 1989]; Summary of *The First Cornish Miner at New Almaden* [Summer 1991]; *The Origin of Hicks Road* [Winter 1991]; *The Chilean Miners of New Almaden* [Summer 1992]; *The Cornish in America* [Summer 1993]; *Cornish Cousins Indexing Residents of Mine Hill* [Fall 1993]; *Mining West of Turo Bridge, Why Miners from Devon Came to New Almaden* [Winter 1993]; Edited articles on important mining engineers [Spring 1994]

**Nancy Mason:** *Stanford University's Library Completes Work on New Almaden Collection* [Feb 1989]

**Peggy Melbourne:** *The Community Club* [Feb 1989]

**Bob Meyer:** *The Guadalupe Mine* [Summer 2007]

**April Moen:** *Guadalupe Madero* (her mother) [Sep 2007]

**Kitty Monahan:** every issue of the *Quicksilver County Park News* included a President's message, and Kitty wrote all manner of informative updates for the newsletter over its four decades of publication. *Impressive Statistics* detailed 10,072 hours of volunteer service to the Park since NAQCPA was incorporated five years ago. [Jul 1988]

**Russell Pearce:** *The Bulmores of New Almaden* [Aug. 1998]; *Water in the Mine* [Winter 1993-1994]

**Norm Pope:** *Unusual Events* [Oct 1988]

**James B. Randol** (reprint of 1890 article): *Report on the Technical Schools of New Almaden* [Summer 1992]

**Miki Ryan:** *Pioneer Day* [Dec 1986]

**Martha Schuss** (seasonal ranger): *Living Next Door to Almaden Park's Wildlife* [Apr 1988]; *Movements and Population Characteristics of Wild Pigs in Almaden Quicksilver County Park*. [Aug 1991]

**John Slenter:** *Early Underground Mine Lamps* [Spring 1992]; *Mining History Facts* [Fall/Winter 1992]; *New Almaden Mining Review The Stoper Rock Drill* [Summer 1993]; *New Almaden Mining Review Retort* [Fall 1993]; *New Almaden Mining Review Miner's Candlesticks* [Winter 1993]; *New Almaden Mining Review Mine Company Corporate Seals* [Winter 1993-1994]; *New Almaden Mining Review The Mine Toilet Car* [Spring 1994]

**Ray Stark:** *Back in the Thirties – Mining in the Quicksilver* [May 1987]

**Richard Wachs:** *Group Visits to New Almaden and Quicksilver Display at California Mineral Exhibit* [Spring 1990]; *Classy Classes* [Summer 1990]; *Class Act* [Winter 1990]; *Sag Ponds in Quicksilver Park* [Spring 1991]; *What We Did* [Summer 1991]; *Pioneer Day* [Fall 1991, Winter 1991]; *Wait at the Gate* [Spring 1992]; *New Almaden Vichy Spring – Tonic or Toxic* [Summer 1992]; Review for *Status Report of Environmental Assessment of Almaden Quicksilver Park* [Fall 1992]; *Almaden Quicksilver Site Community Meeting* [Fall/Winter 1992]; *Pioneer Day Number Ten* [Fall/Winter 1992]; *New Almaden Quicksilver Mine Course* [Summer 1993]; *Moon Festival and Living History Days 1993* [Fall 1993]; *Museum Status – The Study Continues* [Winter 1993]; *Blue The Powder House Remains* [Winter 1993]; *Pioneer Day XI* with Peggy Melbourne [Winter 1993-1994]; *Valle Vista Visits* [Spring 1994]

**Roger Welsch:** *Flying Field – A Missing Entry in Your Life List* [Winter 1993]

**Ron Wolfe:** *The Use of Quicksilver in Gold Mining* [Summer 1993]

**Dr. Ronald Wong:** *Sam the Boss* [Dec 2007]

**Agnes Yusef:** *Pioneer Day 1988* [Oct 1988]

## IV. AWARDS

**NAQCPA**, awarded Outstanding Volunteer Organization from the Junior League of San Jose and Volunteer Center of Santa Clara County [May 1984]

**Kitty Monahan, Roberta Jamison, and James Williams**, awarded Local History Award from Sourisseau Academy. [6/1985]

**Kitty Monahan**, named Citizen of the Year by Almaden Times. [4/1988]

**Kitty Monahan, Randi Kirshbaum**, Director of American Express, and **Gail Wilson**, wife of governor, receive the Take Pride in California Award [Dec 1993]

NAQCPA receives Most Outstanding Group Award from Parks Department. [Spring 1996]

**Art Boudreault** receives Volunteer of the Year. [Spring 2002]

President's Call to Service Award with letter from **President Barack Obama**, earned by NAQCPA members **Art Boudreault, Mike Boulland, Kitty Monahan, Ronald Horii**, plus three other Park volunteers. [2014]

At the inaugural Santa Clara County Preservation Alliance Historic Preservation Awards Night, May 21, 2022, **Bruce Bartlett** receives Distinguished Preservation award and **Kitty Monahan** receives

Preservation Lifetime Achievement Award. Due to illness, NAQCPA Board and friends later present the award to Kitty at her New Almaden residence.

Below are a portion of the other awards received by **Kitty Monahan** (thanks to the **Pantiga** and **Peretti** families for preserving Kitty's awards).

1979 Overfelt High School, Person of Distinction;

1985 Sourisseau Academy, California State and Local History Award;

1987 Almaden Times, Almaden Valley Person of the Year;

1987 San Jose Office of the Mayor, Commendation as Citizen of the Year;

Jun 1987 Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Service Award;

Mar 1988 California Legislature Assembly, Certificate of Recognition;

May 1988 WCO State and Federal Programs, Certificate of Participation;

May 1988 Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Women of Achievement Award, Certificate of Honor;

Jun 1992 Overfelt High School, 23 Year Service Award (Kitty retired 1993);

1993 State of California, Take Pride in California Service Award;

Dec 1993 Kiwanis Club, Certificate of Appreciation for Presentation;

Dec 1993 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation, Certificate of Appreciation;

Jul 1994 Sons in Retirement Branch 141, Certificate of Appreciation;

1994 Bay Area Ridge Trail Association, Trail Advocacy Award;

Dec 1994 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation, Certificate of Appreciation;

1995 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation, Volunteer of the Year;

1996 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Appreciation Award for support of Measure A;

Apr 1997 Sons in Retirement, Certificate of Appreciation;

Dec 1997 The Friends of Santa Teresa Park, Certificate of Recognition;

Jul 1998 National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials, Award of Excellence and Volunteer of the Year;

Jul 1998 California Assembly, Jim Cunneen, Letter of Recognition as Volunteer of the Year;

Jul 1998 Sons in Retirement Branch 74, Certificate of Appreciation;

Oct 1998 Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Resolution of Commendation for over 1,000 hours per year of volunteer service;

1999 California Coastal Commission, Outstanding Public Service Award for Adopt-a-Beach Shoreline Cleanup;

May 1999 Sons in Retirement Branch 10, Certificate of Appreciation;

Mar 1999 County of Santa Clara, Recognition for Docent Advisory Group Contributions and for County Parks and Recreation Volunteer Coordinating Council, Spouses and Childrens' Committee;

Dec 1999 The Friends of Santa Teresa Park, Certificate of Appreciation for Dedication to our Parks;

Apr 2002 Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss Certificate of Commendation for 3500 Hour award pin for volunteer work on behalf of County parks and people of the County;

Sep 2002 Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, Certificate of Appreciation for work on the Community Outreach Volunteer Program;

Feb 2003 The Friends of Santa Teresa Park, Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding support and volunteer help;

March 2003 City of San Jose, Commendation for Women's History Month;

Sept 2003, Sons in Retirement, Branch 38, Certificate of Appreciation for service;

Dec 2003 Santa Clara County Horsemens Association, Honorary Membership for 2004;

Jan 2004 The Friends of Santa Teresa Park, Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding assistance with community volunteer projects;

Feb 2006 Friends of Santa Teresa Park, Pork Barrel Award for unselfish volunteer hours;

Apr 2006 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 6,500 Hour Award for volunteer service through 2005;

2007 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation, Director's Award;

Jan 2007 Daughters of the American Revolution, Certificate of Award for Excellence in Community Service;

Mar 2007 California State Society of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Second Place-Los Gatos Chapter, Certificate of Award for tireless and well-publicized efforts in open space conservation in New Almaden and Santa Clara County with over 6,500 hours (of NAQCPA) service as Parks volunteer in just year 2005;

Apr 2007 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 7,000 Hour Award for volunteer service through 2006;

2009 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, Certificate of Appreciation 8,500 Hour Award for volunteer service through 2008;

Apr 2010 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 9,000 Hour Award for volunteer service through 2009;

Feb 2010 Friends of the Los Alamitos Watershed, Recognition Award for service in support of protecting the Los Alamitos Creek watershed;

Nov 2010 Friends of the Los Alamitos Watershed, Resolution Expressing Appreciation for Coastal Cleanup and other volunteer work in support of protecting the Los Alamitos Creek watershed;

Apr 2011 Santa Clara County Supervisor Don Cortese, Certificate of Commendation for 9,500 hours of volunteer service to SCC Parks and Recreation in 2010;

Apr 2012 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 10,000 Hour Certificate of Appreciation for volunteer service through 2011

Apr 2012 County of Santa Clara Supervisor George Shirakawa, Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation for volunteering over 10,000 hours to County Parks;

2012 New Almaden Community Club, 1980 to 2012 minus 1 Endurance Award for New Almaden Days volunteer work;

Sept 2012 E Clampus Vitus, Clamp Affidavit of Exemplary Merit;

Oct 2013 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 11,000 Hour Service Award for volunteer service to date;

Oct 2015 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 12,000 Hour Service Award for volunteer service to date;

Aug 2016 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 14,000 Hour Service Award for volunteer service through 2019;

Apr 2020 Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, 11,000 Hour Service Award for volunteer service to date;

Feb 2020 Friends of Santa Teresa Park, Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding volunteer help;

May 2022 Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Commendation for lifetime achievements.

## V. PUBLICATIONS BY NAQCPA MEMBERS OR ABOUT NEW ALMADEN

### A. Books and Booklets (some historical)

*Down in the Cinnabar Mines*, **J. Ross Browne**, Harper's New Monthly Magazine, (October 1865)

*Geology and Quicksilver Deposits of the New Almaden District, Santa Clara County, California*, **Edgar H. Bailey** and **Donald Everhart**, Professional Paper 360, U.S. Geological Survey (1964)

*Angle of Repose*, **Wallace Stegner** (1971)

*Life in the Mines of New Almaden*, Reprints of Harper's magazine articles from the 1800s, **San Jose Historical Museum** (1972)

*A Victorian Gentlewoman in the Far West: The Reminiscences of **Mary Hallock Foote***: Edited by **Rodman Paul** (1972)

*Crisis at Quicksilver Hill*, **Norman Pope** (1975) [Summer 1990]

*Cornish Miner in America*, **A. C. Todd** (1967) [Aug 1993]

*Cinnabar Hills*, **Milton Lanyon** and **Laurence Bulmore** (1967) [Sep 1996]

*South Bay trails*, **Jean Rusmore** and **Frances Spangle** (1985)

*Quicksilver*, **Jimmy Schneider** (1991) [Spring 1991]

*Four Mining Engineers*, **Art Boudreault** (1996) [Sep 1996]

*Legend of Santa Teresa*, **Mike Boulland** (1996) [Sep 1996]

*A High and Holy Place*, **Gage McKinney** (1997) [Sep 1997]

*When Miners Sing: The Grass Valley Carol Choir*: **Gage McKinney** [Sep 2001]

*Mary Hallock Foote, Author-Illustrator of the American West*, **Darliss Miller** (2002) [Dec 2009]

*Quicksilver Reflections*, **Kenneth Holmes** (2002)

*Guide to Wildflowers of Almaden Quicksilver County Park*, edited by **Art Boudreault** (2003) [summer 2003]

*Crosses in a Gold Field*, **Gage McKinney** (2005) [Apr 2005]

*Images of America: New Almaden*, **Michael Boulland** and **Art Boudreault** (2006) [April 2006]

*From Cinnabar to Quicksilver*, **Jim Campbell**, (2009) [Spring 2009]

*Residents and Owners of Casa Grande in New Almaden*, **Art Boudreault** (2010)

*The Last Surveyor on Mine Hill*, **John Atwood**, limited printing for family and friends. (Apr 2014)

*Samuel Fowler Butterworth*, **Art Boudreault** (2014)

*Whoppers and Ghostly Tales from Rancho Santa Teresa*, **Mike Boulland** (2016)

*The New Almaden Ting Project at the Casa Grande* booklet by **Linda Lin**, **Michele Dexter**, **Jennie Chan-Yeung**, **Mike Boulland**, **Charles Cox** (Feb 2021)

## **B. Poems**

*It's the Thanksgiving Season so it's Time to Give Thanks For* (Anonymous, prob. Peggy Melbourne) [Dec 1986]

*A Walk in Quicksilver* (Peggy Melbourne) [May 1987]

*Mine Hill* (Patricia Loomis) [Jul 1988]

*A Tale by A. Guilty Ol'Miner* (Mike Cox) [Feb 1989]

*Quicksilver Park* (Bill Parker) [Summer 1989]

*The Red Cave and Gold*, Richard Wachs. [Dec 1990]

*New Almaden Field Trip* (J.C. Cal Keator) [Fall 1992]

*New Almaden*, Edwin A. Falkowski. [Fall 1995]

## **VI. FUN STUFF**

**New Almaden Cinnabars** won their baseball game against the **Mercury News sports staff** at Living History Day. [6/1985]

**Connie Perham** corrects an earlier article about her age. She is 82, not 89. [Apr 1990]

Visit by **Fred Hauck Jr. and his sister Irene**. [Summer 1995]

15th Pioneer Day honors the 100th anniversary of Diamond Jubilee of British Queen Victoria's coronation. **Gage McKinney** interviewed on BBC because this was the only celebration in the U.S. [Aug. 1997]

Discovered that the **Delores Taranga** tunnel is named for a male miner and not a woman. [Spring 2002]

**Dr. Ronald Wong** describes his descendants from "**Sam The Boss**".

The *Quicksilver County Park News* often contained trivia and other fun facts for readers.

## VII. QUICK FACTS

Half of park is within the boundaries of the New Almaden National Historic Landmark District.

Indigenous peoples were the first miners- digging a tunnel into the Hill reportedly about 100 feet long. No one knows how long the indigenous people mined the ore, perhaps hundreds if not thousands of years before European contact. Their name for the ore was reportedly mohetka and they called the place pooyi.

New Almaden was originally named La Mina de Santa Clara when first claimed by Andres Castillero in November of 1845 and was the first officially filed mining claim in California and the first mercury mining claim in North America.

100 species of wildflowers occur in the park.

New Almaden is possibly the richest single 19<sup>th</sup>-Century mine in the State, having gross receipts of about \$60-million dollars over its history, nearly all of which came from the singular New Almaden mine.

At its peak population of about 2,600 persons in the 1870s, roughly ten percent of the population of Santa Clara County lived at the mines.

New Almaden produced just under 86,000,000 pounds of mercury.

There are 18 principal vertical mining shafts in the Park and about 330 mine openings of other types, such as tunnels (opens to surface in more than one place) and adits (opens to surface in only one place). All are closed except for a few remote locations, and three have ventilation closures (the Cora Blanca mine, the San Cristobal Tunnel, and the M-66 2<sup>nd</sup>-Exit vent in the San Francisco opencut.



The mine workings on published maps measure at 49 miles in the main mine and an additional five miles in the other “outside mines,” but estimating mileage in the individual stopes is error prone and the estimate does not include perhaps 5 miles of workings above the 300-level. The QSMC reported the mine to comprise about 100 miles of workings.

## VIII. OBITUARIES

**James Madison Arbuckle** (1935 - 2007), San Jose historian. [Sep 2007]

**John Franklin Atwood** (1944 – 1921), the last professional mine surveyor on the Hill. Worked for New Idria Mining and Chemical Company at the New Almaden Quicksilver Mine from November 1968 until September 1969. John was a dedicated NAQCPA member and Board member and made significant contributions in organizing and photographing maps and drawings of the New Almaden mines in the archives, developing displays to illuminate the surveyor’s craft and tools, delivering talks, and helping with all manner of work projects around the museum and park. John was a professional surveyor with the County of Santa Clara for 33 years. John was a member of the Cambrian Art League. He served as a Quartermaster during the Vietnam War aboard the USS Gridley (DLG-21) where he became an Honorable Shellback in the realm of King Neptune.

**Dr. Edgar H. Bailey** (1915 - 1983), mercury commodity geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey and 20th-Century expert on California geology. Lead author of *Geology and Quicksilver Deposits of the New Almaden District, Santa Clara County, CA*, USGS Professional Paper 360, 1964 [9/1983]

**R Bert Barrett** (1884- 1959), his arm is buried at New Almaden in the Hacienda cemetery. [Dec 1999]

**Dick Barrett** (1911 - 2005), Mercury News local history writer. [Dec 2005]

**Mary Lee Baiocchi** (1934 – 2020), long-time NAQCPA member and docent at the Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum. As the granddaughter and daughter of New Almaden Quicksilver mine workers, she had a strong connection to the rich history of the area. She served as a history docent for over 30 years at the New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum and served on the board of the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association, activities that she shared with her lifelong friend Kitty Monahan. She was recognized as the Santa Clara County Parks Volunteer of the Year in 2006 and was noted for numerous other volunteer and charitable activities.

**Sarah Boudreault** (1933 - 2008), wife of **Art Boudreault**, NAQCPA volunteer, provided food for parties, supported Pioneer Days [Summer 1998]

**Hank Calloway**, noted historian, preservationist, artist, and NAQCPA member. [summer 1995]

**Geraldine Camilleri- Behme** (1919 - 1988), with husband **Reno “Andy” Camilleri**, operated Andy’s Pet Shop on N 1st St. in San Jose and funded rebuilding of the Mine Hill rotary furnace plant in 1956. The 30-ton-per-day plant processes ore for independent miners. They called this “Andy’s Mercury Retort, Inc.” The company also made the San Francisco and America mine open cuts on the Hill, in search of shallow mercury ore.

**Kay Carmody** (1917 - 2001), avid horsewoman, returned from safari to Victoria Falls in Zambia three weeks before she died. Kay was a close friend to Kitty, and Kitty wrote these words in memory of her: “It is with deep sorrow that I announce the death of our dear friend, Kay Carmody. Kay was a founding member of our Association and on the Board for as long as we have been in existence. She made each of our board meetings enjoyable with her humor and dedication to the Quicksilver Park. Her love of the Park showed in the many days she rode her horse, first Shotgun and then HiTops, and worked on trails and helped with Pioneer Days. [Jul 2001]

**Albert DeRome** (1885 - 1959), painting of Guadalupe Mine. [Dec 2005]

**John Richard Drew III** (1930-1922) Fourth generation of Cornish Drew mining family who came to California in 1850 and settled in New Almaden in 1884. Ardent supporter of the NA Museum and volunteer docent. John’s grandfather, John Drew, worked at the mines for over forty years and was the Superintendent of mines that oversaw the opening and development of the Senator mine, an enterprise that kept many miners gainfully employed at held off bankruptcy for a time during the closing days of the Quicksilver Mining Company at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century.

**Leroy Epperson** restored the cabinet that was in the Mine Office. [Summer 1998]

**Gina Farnquist** (1939 - 2002), charter member of the Board of Directors of the “Christmas in the Park Parade.” [Winter 2004]

**Friedolin Kessler** (1913 - 1995), one of the WPA’s most exceptional artists, worked as a CCC volunteer, created the linoleum cuts of New Almaden that line the hallway between the living rooms and mining rooms at the New Almaden Museum, and erected a monument to the CCC in Englishcamp. [summer 1995]

**Lisa Killough** (1955 - 2016), Parks director, instrumental in supporting the Casa Grande restoration and NAQCPA activities.

**Dutch Mapes** (1915 - 2009), Professional Mason and contractor, Masonry Institute instructor, he completed the Tillman monument at age 92. Expert Horseman and trail guide,' often taking long trips in back country with wife **Nancy Mapes**. [Dec 2010]

**Sydney Lee Melbourne** (1936 – 2021), resident of New Almaden since 1970 with wife of sixty-four years, Peggy (né Carter), and beautiful daughters Julie Melbourne - Weaver and Dawna Melbourne. Syd was a constant loving and welcoming presence in the community, whether on reliably consistent daily runs and walks or helping out at all community events, including Pioneer Day. Syd, with Peggy, stood among Kitty Monahan’s closest friends and were great supporters and volunteers for the Community Club, Park, and Museum.

**David Miller** built the blacksmith office at Casa Grande. [Summer 1998]

**Dorothy Minkel** (1921 - 2007), New Almaden Postmaster. [Apr 2007]

**Robert F. Meyer** (1940-2010), Bob was a resident of New Almaden, a Board member of NAQCPA, and a consistent and constant volunteer for all manner of activities. Bob was especially committed to Pioneer Day, trail building, docenting, and scanning records for the museum’s Past Perfect database.

**Kathleen “Kitty” Louise Monahan** (1932 – 2022) Words are entirely inadequate to describe the love and contribution this “force of nature” gave to the world. Kitty was ever-smiling, always thinking ahead, and always working for a positive and brighter future. Her contributions are merely scratched at herein. A host of angels rejoiced at her arrival. May we hold her memory dear and pray that legions will rise to fill the void left by her passing, for legions is what will be required.

**Viril O. Norton**, (1915 - 1995), won Great American Horse Race of 1976, noted as an expert horseman and for taming two Zebras and training them to pull a sulky cart. [April 1995]

**Constance B Perham** (1909 - 2001), founded Almaden Museum in 1949. [Jan 2001]

**Dr. John Rowe** (1915 - 2003), author of many books about the Cornish in America. [Dec 2007]

**John Joseph Slenter** (1941-1921) was a professional window dresser for J.C. Penny stores. John joined the Association and Board early on, and after

he retired from Penny's he began working as a docent at the New Almaden Museum when it was relocated to the Casa Grande. John was immediately noted for his ability to assemble top-quality educational displays and he was hired by the Parks Department as the principal interpreter for the museum. When the museum was removed from the Casa Grande during the building restoration, John took advantage and assembled exceptional displays that eclipse the first installations. John was active in many historical societies and was especially fond of Bodie, CA, where he spent time each year volunteering.

**Ray Stark** (1910 - 1999), member of independent miners working in the 1920s and 1930s on the Hill. Lived in shack near the Buena Vista shaft circa 1926-1936. Often said, "Everything is going to turn out all right." [Aug 1999]

**Patrick Tilman** (1976 - 2004), New Almaden native, professional football player, died fighting for USA in Afghanistan. [Spring 2007]

**Dr. Arthur Cecil Todd**, (1909- 2003), Cornish scholar with an acute interest in New Almaden. [winter 2003]

## IX. PIONEER DAYS

No	Year	Day	Location	Theme
1	1983	1-Oct	Casa Grande	Recollections of Englishtown, Spanishtown, Hacienda residents
2	1984	13-Oct	Casa Grande	Recollections of Englishtown, Spanishtown, Hacienda residents
3	1985	12-Oct	San Cristobal Tunnel	Re-opening of the San Cristobal Tunnel
4	1986	11-Oct	Old Mining Museum	Re-opening of the Mercury Mining Museum in New Almaden
5	1987	10-Oct	Old Mining Museum	Grand opening of the Mercury Mining Museum
6	1988	8-Oct	Englishtown	Englishtown School House memories
7	1989	19-Oct	Bull Run	Delores Taranga tunnel
8	1990	10-Oct	Powder House	Powder House
9	1991	12-Oct	American Mine	The America Shaft
10	1992	10-Oct	Englishtown	Dedication of CCC monument, honoring CCC alumni
11	1993	9-Oct	Englishtown	"Our Cornish Cousins"
12	1994	8-Oct	Victoria Shaft	Powder House reconstruction dedication
13	1995	14-Oct	Spanishtown	Memorial to Friedolin Kessler, Mexican

No	Year	Day	Location	Theme
				miners
14	1996	12-Oct	Casa Grande	Tour Casa Grande, Ole Opry Players, pioneer stories
15	1997	11-Oct	Casa Grande	100th Anniversary of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria
16	1998	17-Oct	Casa Grande	Museum dedication
17	1999	9-Oct	Englishtown	Church Hill celebration, art and New Almaden trivia
18	2000	14-Oct	Englishtown	The Chinese at New Almaden
19	2001	13-Oct	Day Tunnel	Day Tunnel dedication
20	2002	12-Oct	Buena Vista Shaft	History of the Buena Vista shaft
21	2003	11-Oct	Senador Mine	Senador Mine sign dedication
22	2004	9-Oct	Blacksmith Shop	Casa Grande 150th Anniversary, Blacksmith Shop dedication
23	2005	08-Oct	Hacienda Entrance	Abraham Lincoln and the New Almaden Mines
24	2006	14-Oct	Spanishtown	Spanishtown sign dedication
25	2007	13-Oct	Santa Isabel site	Santa Isabel Shaft dedication
26	2008	11-Oct	Wood Road	Wood Road dedication
27	2009	10-Oct	Englishtown	Map House dedication
28	2010	13-Nov	Casa Grande	Reopening of the Casa Grande after reconstruction
29	2011	8-Oct	Outdoor Museum	Outdoor Museum dedication
30	2012	13-Oct	Outdoor Museum	Include Railroad sign dedication
31	2013	12-Oct	Outdoor Museum	Outdoor Museum and Cornish Miners
32	2014	11-Oct	Rotary Furnace	Rossi Retort dedication
33	2015	10-Oct	Hacienda entrance	Hacienda Bell Tower dedication
34	2016	8-Oct	Casa Grande	Pathway and memorial bench dedication
35	2017	14-Oct	Outdoor Museum	NAQCPA 35th Anniversary
36	2018	17-Oct	Outdoor Museum	Interpretive Sign Restoration
37	2019	12-Oct	Casa Grande	Wagon restoration, Estaban Tunnel
38	2020	10-Oct	Cancelled	COVID – boo hiss!

<b>No</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Theme</b>
39	2021	9-Oct	Cancelled	COVID – boo hiss!
40	2022	8-Oct	Casa Grande	NAQCPA Rejuvenation and New Beginnings

Notes:



Photo courtesy of History San Jose, Constance "Connie" B. Kambish and Douglas Perham, on trip to Gold Country. Handwritten note on reverse: "Taken March 10, 1956."

"We need to preserve things from yesterday so our children will know where they came from. We own nothing of the Earth, we are only the caretakers."

**Connie Perham**