

Communication "N"; September 6, 2011 Calistoga City Council Meeting
Item E2: Sharpsteen Museum Association Annual Report

SEP 1 2011

SHARPSTEEN MUSEUM ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CITY OF CALISTOGA FOR THE YEAR JUNE 2010 - MAY 2011

The Sharpsteen Museum of Calistoga History was built by Ben Sharpsteen and donated to the City of Calistoga. One of the original Sam Brannan Cottages was donated by Calistogans and moved to the Museum Site to be a permanent part of the Sharpsteen Museum. The City owns the building and cottage and is responsible for the physical maintenance, heating and air conditioning systems and the utilities.

The Museum is operated and staffed by the volunteer members of the Sharpsteen Museum Association. During the 2010 – 2011 year, the museum was kept open from 11:00 to 4:00 daily (except a few major holidays) by an average of 36 docents a month. In the 2010 – 2011 fiscal year there were 8,618 visitors. These visitors come from all over the world and we strongly believe that the Sharpsteen Museum is a very valuable asset to the City of Calistoga. To that end the Association maintains a website and places information pamphlets at the Information Center and stores, B &B's and wineries. We would also like to mention that we count on and are very pleased with the publicity provided the museum by the local newspapers.

Fundraisers included the 22nd Annual Instant Wine Cellar held in August and the Christmas Bazaar Booth which featured homemade crafts and baked goods.. Other monies used for daily operations came from these fundraisers, and from memberships, donations and gift and book store sales.

The Museum partnered with the Calistoga Public Library to put on a Summer Reading Series for children in June and July entitled "Make a Splash". The programs were held in the Museum except for a final party held in the library. One of the programs called Rocking Reptiles and Amphibians was a big hit with the children. The featured boa constrictor was very fond of curling up in museum kitchen display. All the events were very enjoyable if not as exciting as the reptile show.

The Sharpsteen Museum Foundation sponsored a history talk in March at the Tucker Farm Center which featured noted columnist Gaye LeBaron.

Two special exhibits were previewed. In November we were very fortunate to have on display 12 paintings by artist Sara Barnes loaned to the museum by the Calistoga Water Company. The artist was in attendance to meet and greet the preview goers. In April a new installation went in our special exhibit area called "Petaluma of Yesterday" which included many interesting artifacts of that Sonoma town.

Two members of the Sharpsteen Association Board served on the Chamber of Commerce's 125th Anniversary Committee to help plan Calistoga's 125th Birthday Party. The first event of 2011 was held on January 6th on the Museum steps commemorating Calistoga's incorporation as a city on that date in 1886.

The BBC One Documentary Film Crew made a visit to the Sharpsteen from London in October to get information and film part of a segment on Edward Muybridge, the famous 19th century photographer who came to Calistoga in 1884 for the purpose of murdering his wife's lover. The verdict in 1885, a crime of passion, and he was set free to continue his career.

Election of new officers took place in May of 2011 and the new president and board members were installed at a luncheon at Brannans on June 7th. The new officers are:

President	Sue Mauro
1 st Vice President	Allan Rogers
2 nd Vice President	Shirley Blomquist
Treasurer	Elke Strunka
Recording Secretary	Kathy McCloskey
Docent Chair	Judy Cornils
Education Chair	Jo Noble
Collections Chair	Bev Barnes
Ways and Means Chair	Pat Haynes

The 2010 – 2011 year was a good one for the Sharpsteen Museum and our association looks forward to a long relationship with the City of Calistoga in the continued operation of the Museum.

Pat Haynes
President - June 2009 – May 2011
Sharpsteen Museum Association