

CALEDONIA ENTERPRISE

PO Box 326, San Miguel, CA 93451 | 805-467-3357 | <http://www.rios-caledoniaadobe.org>

Who are Friends of the Adobes?

Friends of the Adobes, Inc. is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1968 for the purpose of bringing together persons interested in history, especially the history of northern San Luis Obispo county and southern Monterey county. The organization's major function is to promote the restoration and maintenance of adobes and other landmarks of historical significance in these areas.

Rios-Caledonia Adobe

San Miguel, CA; California Historical Landmark No. 936

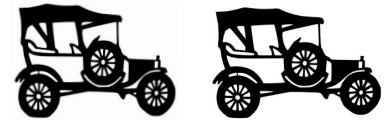
This former residence, inn, and stage stop was constructed in 1835 and is located on the old mission trail between San Francisco and Los Angeles, adjacent to the San Miguel Mission. Preserved adobe buildings currently house a Museum and Gift Shop as well as a recently opened Research Library. Picnic spots and restrooms are available. If you haven't yet visited, please come by! The Adobe is open Friday through Sunday from 11 AM to 4 PM. Take the San Miguel exit on Highway 101 (eight miles north of Paso Robles) to 700 S. Mission Street, San Miguel.



Estrella Adobe Church

Paso Robles, CA; California Historical Landmark No. 542

The Estrella Adobe Church, the first Protestant church in northern San Luis Obispo County, was built in 1878-1885 by early pioneers. The church prospered for a few years but then fell into disuse and began crumbling into ruins. The church was restored through the efforts of the Paso Robles Women's Club and was rededicated in 1952. It is opened for a memorial service annually (on Memorial Day weekend), but you are welcome to visit the grounds any time. The church is located on Airport Road in Paso Robles, 2½ miles north of Highway 46 East.



Rios-Caledonia Adobe Annual Car Show— FREE admission!

Date: June 4, 2016, Saturday

Hours: 10 AM to 3 PM

*Where: Rios-Caledonia Adobe,
South Mission Street,
San Miguel*

*Featuring: Model A's, Model T's,
and early V-8's*

*Participating Car Clubs: Central
Coast Model T Club, Paso Robles
Model A Club, Atascadero Early
Ford V8 Club*

The event will include:

- *Food and drink for sale by "The 3 Amigos"*
- *Live music by Jeff Beaumont and Friends*
- *Wine tasting by Villa San Juliette*
- *50-50 Drawing*

You can also picnic on tables beneath shade trees, tour the historic Adobe, shop for vintage treasures in our Gift Shop, and even see a rare piece of the old highway. (Paved in 1915, only 14 pieces of the old highway remain... and we use ours!)

Five EASY ways to help or be involved...

1) Join

Membership is an easy way to provide support and ensure you keep updated on our activities. Memberships start at \$10 and can be given as gifts. Visit our website for more information: www.rios-caledoniaadobe.org

We also welcome new Board Members with fresh ideas!

2) Shop

The Rios-Caledonia Museum's Gift Shop offers truly unique antiques and collectibles as well as fascinating books. You just might find the perfect gift for someone special, or perhaps something for yourself!

3) Donate items

Donations of antique/vintage items to sell in the Museum's Gift Shop are very much appreciated! In addition to bringing in money, new Gift Shop items help bring in repeat visitors and shoppers.

4) Donate funds

We are always very grateful for monetary donations of any amount! And, please keep in mind that we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit!

5) Volunteer

Volunteers are always appreciated! In addition to working as docents, in the Gift Shop, and at special events, volunteers can help with clerical tasks, exhibits, fundraising, research, landscaping, website updates, publicity, and special projects. If you have a special talent or are willing to help in any way, please contact Joyce at (805) 440-7173, or email her at hermanjah11@yahoo.com.

President's Message

By Gary McMaster, President, Friends of the Adobes

I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank and welcome all of our new Members. Your support means everything to us! Without your dues and the help of generous donors, we would not be able to operate.

I'd like to also welcome Tom Taylor, who has just joined our Board of Directors. After fifteen-plus years with the Board, First Vice President and former President Bob Tullock has stepped down, and Tom agreed to take his place. This allows Anne Collins to stay as Second Vice President and continue with her wonderful work as Membership Chair and Editor of our newsletter (which she has greatly enhanced). We will sincerely miss Bob, as he has been an inspiration and a hard worker for Friends of the Adobes for so many years! His replacement, Tom Taylor, has also been active with school gardens, a Cuesta Grade project, and the Camp Roberts Museum Board.

A big thank you is also in order for Barbara Bilyeu and her helpers, Joyce Herman, Linda Elmerick, Jean Schweitzer, and Karen Wood-Mitchell, who worked countless hours to get the Rios-Caledonia Research Library up and running. Thanks also to those who helped with the Library's recent Grand Opening. It's great to have such a comprehensive library on area history, built around the books left to Friends of the Adobes by the late educator and historian Wally Ohles. It was wonderful that Wally's sister came all the way down here from the Redding area to see the library dedicated to Wally. I was fortunate to know him as a friend, and now his memory is preserved here, as well as at Paso Robles High School and the Paso Robles Historical Society. (See page 3 for more information about the Library.)

1885 Corn Muffins Recipe

Although construction of the Estrella Adobe Church began in 1878, it was not until 1882 that it was plastered inside and out and then finally completed in 1885. (Keep in mind that the building was built free of debt, with six early pioneers contributing most of the money and labor: John Fortney, Francis Stovall, John Marden, William Guffy, Joseph Moody, and Dwight Reynolds.) To honor the completion of the church that year, here is a recipe from the 1885 Farmer's Almanac. We haven't tried it, but if you do, let us know how it turns out!

Corn Muffins for Breakfast (1885 Farmer's Almanac)

Pour one quart of boiling milk over one pint of fine cornmeal. While the mixture is still hot, add one tablespoonful of butter and a little salt, stirring the batter thoroughly.

Let it stand until cool, then add a small cup of wheat flour and two well-beaten eggs.

When mixed sufficiently, put the batter into well-greased shallow tins (or, better yet, into gem pans) and bake in a brick oven for one-half hour, or until richly browned. Serve hot.

The Research Library is officially OPEN!

By Barbara Bilyeu, Librarian and Lead Library Volunteer

A lovely group of local residents, former residents of the Adobe, and many others attended the Grand Opening of the Rios-Caledonia Research Library recently, including family members of Wally Ohles, who bequeathed his collection as a nucleus for the library. Some books were set out on the table to show off, as well as some of the photos of old San Miguel which Laverne Buckman and her team will be working with. We had a few serious researchers and professionals come by to see what we have to offer, and we even had some old hymns played on the little pump organ! The library was looking good with new wooden signs outside, new tablecloths and flowers on the tables, and a lovely plaque in commemoration of Wally Ohles along with his photo on the wall.



Extensive thanks to all who helped with the creation of the library, including Joyce Herman, Linda Elmerick, Jean Schweitzer, and Karen Wood-Mitchell (who created the online catalog). Thanks also to those who helped with the Grand Opening: Joyce Herman, Linda Elmerick, Ron and Meagan Friberg, Laverne Buckman, Jean Ross, Florence Von Dollen, Paul Burkle, Joy Patterson, and Anne Collins.

Our "open" hours will be on Friday afternoons from 12:30 to 3:00, but we will need help from our Friends to keep it open during this time period and hopefully expand our hours to the weekend. If you have any interest in the history of our area and would like to spend a couple hours every now and then surrounded by fascinating books and other "treasures" in the Adobe environment, please call Barbara at (805) 434-2708. No library experience necessary! Since this is a research library and nothing may be taken home, this would be a great opportunity to spend some time reading as well as discussing our history with visitors. We look forward to seeing you at the Library!



Clockwise: 1) Wally's sister, Laureen Ohles, and family friend, Christine Haggard; 2) Barbara Robinson with her daughter and granddaughter, and volunteer Laverne Buckman; 3) A few of the Library bookshelves; 4) Paul Burkle playing the Library's reed organ.



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Estrella Adobe Church Annual Memorial Service, May 29

Your once-a-year chance to attend a non-denominational service in the historic and beautiful Estrella Adobe Church happens with the Annual Memorial Service on Sunday, May 29, at 2 PM. *(By the way, in case you saw it, the Paso Robles Magazine's May issue had incorrect information about the Annual Service—including the wrong date!—because somehow they reprinted last year's article.)*

Rev. Dan Katches, of Covenant Presbyterian Church of Paso Robles will be the guest pastor, and Cactus Sam Harris will provide music on the antique pump organ (accompanied by Krista Moore on flute), with Lynne Schmitz leading the singing. We are also very pleased that Emma Marie Dart, the 2015 Pioneer Day Belle Attendant for the Estrella area, will be in attendance.

In addition to remembering those buried in the Estrella Adobe Church cemetery, we will also remember Lester Rougeot, who passed away in July. Lester and his wife Barbara were supporters of Friends of the Adobes for many years and Lester served on the Board of Directors.

Last, but not least, the Agua Caliente chapter of the Questers will once again provide delicious refreshments.

Please join us for this very special event! You'll be glad you did!

Adobe buildings in California ...

Adobe construction was introduced to California by the Spanish in 1769. The Spanish used adobe widely, and every Spanish presidio, pueblo and mission was made up almost exclusively of adobe buildings. These buildings were also used later on during the Mexican and Early American Periods of California. Adobe buildings are some of the oldest buildings in California and serve as important links to our past as a colony of Spain, a province of Mexico, and during our early statehood.

(Excerpt from California State Parks "Adobe Buildings" brochure, 2009)