

VIV - VERY IMPORTANT VOLUNTEERS

Old scrapbook pages rustle. Keyboards click and scanners swish. Packages are wrapped neatly in acid-free tissue, numbered in non-corrosive ink, and tied snugly in cotton twill ribbon. Historical discoveries are shared around the room – from details of a funeral in 1901 to the state of the school board budget in the 1990s. It must be another Wednesday morning in the Museum Waiting Room.

Curator and Historian **Beverly Lane** leads and manages this Collections Committee of volunteers who meet to read, assess, accept, reject, compile, computerize, repair, package and find appropriate storage for every single item in possession of the Museum. **Kathy Fitzpatrick** keeps the collections recorded on the computer with help from **Arni Habiger**, the scanner/photographer expert. **Jan Habiger**, skilled archivist and librarian also gently wraps items for storage. **Betty Casey** turns the pages of rare old scrapbooks, gleaming them for appropriate items related to the Museum's history. Collaborative decisions on acceptance or rejection of donated items are dealt with at a professional, attentive level by these volunteers, but they also have a good time and a great sense of humor. Several of the many donations logged into the traditional ledger for the Museum's collections this year included an extensive number of tools, desks for the One Room School, bottles found in the San Ramon creek, and information on the incorporation of Danville in 1982. It is delightful to observe the rhythm and style of these volunteers as they work on tasks individually and as a group.

Behind the scenes are others who give their time to this endeavor. **Vic Georgiou** is the technical advisor for the *PastPerfect 4* program and trainer for the computer helpers. **Marillyn Cozine** scans *The Danville Weekly* and *The Danville Times* noting relevant articles so that Bud Lentz can enter them into the computer. The Clippers' Club includes **Dorothy Chase, Millie Day** and **Ruth Stanton** who search out stories from newspapers relevant to Valley history and place them in files by year, city (town) and topic. **Muriel Roy** also assists **Jan Habiger** and **Kathy Fitzpatrick** documenting textiles.

We thank **Beverly Lane** and these dedicated Volunteers for being good stewards of the San Ramon Valley's treasures by maintaining the spirit of our local history for your enjoyment, education and the pride of our past. When you visit the next exhibit at the Museum take a minute to recall and appreciate all the initial work it has taken to bring these historical items to your attention!

Carmen Curtis
Volunteer Chair



Betty Casey preserves documents with acid free paper. Bud Lentz adds summaries of newspapers to the Museum's database.

CHEVRON WEEK OF CARING



Five eager Chevron employees descended on the Museum on a Monday in September to conduct a fall cleaning. They were released from their Chevron jobs in order to give the Depot its annual cleaning and buffing.

They were joined by Museum volunteers **Carmen Curtis, Betty** and **Paul Dunlap, Jan Habiger, Beverly Lane,** and **Eloise McTigue** who supervised and participated in the effort.

The project included cleaning all the lights, polishing the furniture, cleaning the displays and their tops and wiping down walls and base boards. The Chevron volunteers were also treated to a tour of the Museum.

Thanks to Chevron and their volunteers who helped bring the Museum into a great condition of which we can be proud.

Jim Lane
House Chair

The Branch Line

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley in the Depot

🌲 Winter 2007

