

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT THE MUSEUM

In 2007 *Special Programs* at the Museum reached more than 5,000 students and hundreds of their parents. The *Tassajara One Room School* taught third graders and parent chaperones about school in 1888. Under the direction of **Joan** and **Don Kurtz** and numerous volunteers, 1,950 students were introduced to life as a child in the Valley before 1900. In the fall, our *Indian Life* program, under the direction of **Gail Faber**, **Michele Lasagna** and volunteers, taught 1,488 fourth grade students along with parents and teachers about Indian family life in the Valley.

Gail Kamerer directed the *Passport Program* for 1,000 third grade students. This introduces children to the history of the Valley, Town of Danville, and the Alamo Cemetery through a workbook "passport" directing the students and their parents to find answers to questions by visiting these sites.

In the late spring, summer and early fall the Museum offers *Walking Tours* of the town of Danville. **Patty Dobbins** and her committee have escorted 712 children and adults. This program will also be offered to school districts in 2008.

A new program offered in the fall of 2007 called *Living Treasures* will continue into 2008. The series highlighting interesting people in our community is open to all adults. Events are held in the evening at the Museum for a donation of \$5. Our first offering of the year will be March 26 at 7 p.m. Guests will be participating as students of the One Room School, under the tutelage of schoolmarm **Joan Kurtz** and Superintendent **Don Kurtz**.

We are very pleased with our acquisition of 94 collections. These range in size from one item to 105. All were numbered, described, photographed and stored by a core group of volunteers under the direction of our curator **Beverly Lane**.

Special Programs
Betty Joyce



Millie Freitas stands with her father's dresser, which she recently donated to the Museum.

The
Branch Line

NEW COLLECTIONS COME TO THE MUSEUM

Some interesting new items have been given to the Museum in the past months. Photographs of the *Valley Pioneer* from 1945-1948 have come from **Ernest Holly III**, whose mother **Beverlee** was the first editor in 1945, and from **Barbara Fredrickson Parks** who worked at the *Pioneer* after high school. A "new" photograph of the Legion Follies of 1948, which shows **Lee Ferreira** and others, was also donated by **Chuck Ferreira**.

Millie Freitas has given the Museum several items from her family, including dressers which were owned by her father, **Joseph Francisco Freitas**, in the early 1920s. He and his first wife **Anne Regello Freitas** lived on Hartz Avenue (today's #439) and, after she died of consumption, he married **Julie Noia Freitas** who was Millie's mother. Millie Freitas was born in that house and has many wonderful stories of growing up in Danville.

Millie also gave the Museum Annie Regello's childhood Catholic missal, photographs, and written explanations which will provide important history when the items are on put into an exhibit. A heavy wooden maul or mallet (used for pounding wooden fence posts) is already on display in the current Agriculture exhibit.

Thank you Millie, Ernie, Chuck and Barbara!

Beverly Lane, Museum Curator

