

KEEPING THE BEST OF THE PAST
FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



ANNUAL NEWSLETTER - 2004
TO
MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF VISALIA HERITAGE, INC.

This has been an exciting year for Visalia Heritage, Inc. !!!

Our biggest and most extensive project is about to begin. The plans for the Children's Library have been completed and accepted and are now on display at the Tulare County Library. Visalia Heritage, Inc. has pledged \$150,000 to this endeavor with the sale of the Visalia Afghans. The Afghans have been our major source of revenue since 1995 and we have sold over 1600 to date.

Also the new and only book of its kind, *Visalia - A Pictorial History*, is our second fund-raising project. The book took a committee of five people four years to complete, three of those committee members being Directors of Visalia Heritage. The book has been available only two years but over 1386 copies have already been sold.

Members of the committee will be working on book number two in the near future and are asking for more pictures any of you would like to share that concern Visalia. If your photo is chosen you will be acknowledged in the book.

As always, all profits from the books and Afghans will be used for the Children's Library.

If you would like to help us reach our goal you can send a check to:

Tulare County Library Foundation
P.O. Box 116
Visalia, CA 93279

Along with this undertaking we are working with the Historic Preservation Board and the Visalia Planning Commission in bringing the Visalia Homebuilders Tract into a Preservation District. This area encompasses the homes between Noble Avenue and Mount Whitney High School and from Conyer Street to Watson Street.

As in years past, we continue to award the annual \$500 Annie Mitchell Teacher Scholarship to a deserving COS graduating student.

With your support, we have repaired and maintained our two arbors at Mooney Grove. If you picnic at Mooney Grove, be sure to ask for arbors 14 and 15!

As always, if any of you have any questions or need information concerning the history of Tulare County be sure to visit the Annie Mitchell History Room upstairs at the Tulare County Library. Maureen Anderson (retired Mount Whitney High School librarian) and her very helpful staff of volunteers are available afternoons Monday through Thursday. The History Room can be reached at 733-6954, extension 206. Incidentally, many of the furnishings and equipment in the History Room have been donated by Visalia Heritage.

We as board members thank you for your continued support. All are welcome to attend our board meetings, held the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 in the evening. For the location of the next board meeting please call Gladwyn Burris at 732-3734 or Jane Nash at 732-0668.

We could not accomplish what we have without you!

Sincerely,

Gladwyn Burris, *President*