2018 Port Costa Christmas Party

Lorne Salt, Mitch Polzak, and Tom List pictured above, helping spread Christmas Cheer "by singing loud for all to hear"!
All photos on this page by Kristen Lucas.

The 2018 Port Costa Christmas Party was a delightfully cozy evening during which friends and neighbors gathered to celebrate the holiday season. The party was hosted by the Conservation Society and was held on Wednesday, December 5th. Despite the chilly weather outside, party attendees kept warm by singing Christmas carols, enjoying the wonderful potluck food, and imbibing in hot spiced cider and a special holiday beer brewed by the Port Costa Brewing Company. Santa and his lovely helper Sarah captivated adults and children alike with their unique and thoughtful toys given to all the good little girls and boys in attendance. Thank you to all who attended, contributed, and volunteered during this splendid event!

Membership Renewal and Upcoming Election

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a form to renew your PCCS membership. Some of you have already done that, and we Thank You!

As always, we appreciate your donation, membership and ongoing support. Every other year it is election time for the PCCS Board. We have five board members and two of these seats are up for election. Currently, Michael Domagalski and Anne Mann are sitting members and both are willing to run for another four-year term. Please do not let that discourage you; if you or someone you know wants to run, please present your nominations during the February board meeting (Feb. 18, 7 pm) or submit in writing prior to the meeting. Nominees must be active members to be eligible for nomination. Self-nominations are also accepted.

If we receive nominees for the election other than the two sitting members, an election will be held. No later than the last Monday of March, a ballot will be mailed to all current members of the PCCS. (This is why it is very important that you get that membership renewal in!!!) The Election meeting will be held at the regular April Board meeting.

Use of the Historic Port Costa School

The Port Costa School is currently being used by several different organizations and is host to numerous ongoing community events. To name a few:

- Port Costa Conservation Society Meetings, third Monday of each month, 7pm
- Port Costa Sanitary Meetings, second Wednesday of each month, 7pm
- Crockett Community Foundation Meetings, first Thursday in June
- Annual Green Cleanup, every May
- Fundraising Events, such as the Townwide Yard Sale in May and the Car Show in August
- Private Event Rentals, such as Memorials, Weddings, Birthday Parties, etc.
- Free Community Events, such as the annual Fourth of July and Christmas celebrations
- LITA cardmaking events (please visit litaofcontracosta.org for more information)
- Yoga, every Thursday, 5:30pm
- Community Garden and the Peripatetic Players, whose use of the space falls under the activity umbrella of the PCCS. For more information on upcoming event workshops hosted by the Peripatetic Players, please visit idiotstring.org
- **Upcoming Volunteer Day: Saturday, April 20 - 9:30am-1pm. In recognition of Earth Day, a Port Costa Shoreline Cleanup will be held. Please check the bulletin board as the date approaches for more details.**

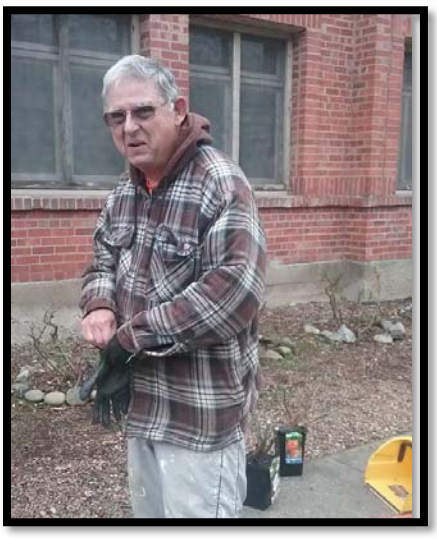
Recent Vandalism at the School

Many of you have probably noticed the boarded-up windows at the school. This is sadly the result of stones being thrown at the glass. And we might say, that it is no easy job to break these tempered windows, even with big stones- one must work hard at it. The broken window looking into the yoga room may have been an accident from somebody throwing a ball. Nevertheless, in only three months the expenses for installing new glass have accumulated to **$358.18**. This is equivalent to about 40 memberships and it is absolutely not the way we like to spend PCCS funds.

Rose Garden Report

On January 22, Victoria Ryan and Nola Peters, experienced gardener and popular author of "A Bit of Eden" column in the Crockett Signal, completed winter rose pruning. Victoria had all rocks around each rose bush removed from the school premise on request of the PCCS, due to security concerns and the high cost to replace broken windows, mainly on the rose garden side of the school.

Sincere thanks to Port Costa citizen Jim Thomas, who is retiring this year from watering and tending the Port Costa School rose garden, which he has done since the venerable bushes were transplanted from downtown in 2015. Two years ago, Victoria Ryan was delighted to begin sharing care maintenance tasks with Jim. Victoria is committed to 100% organic pest and powdery mildew control. Going forward, a new drip system installed by the PCCS will water roses as needed.



Jim Thomas, pictured above, in early 2018 with the rose bushes at the Port Costa School.
Photo by Victoria Ryan

Winter 2019 Newsletter
Port Costa Conservation Society
Box 36, Port Costa, CA 94569

Nonproft Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Port Costa, CA 94569
Permit No. 3

PCCS Grant Committee Meetings
are held the third Monday of each month
at 6pm, followed immediately by
PCCS Board Meeetings at 7pm.

Port Costa Museum Archive Project

The Port Costa Conservation Society is extremely pleased to welcome Sophia Shae Ramos, a Senior at San Francisco State University, who will be performing an internship with us at the school! Under the advisement of Suzanne Statler, Sophia will be undertaking the Port Costa Museum Archive Project. The purpose of this internship is to design an archival system/ database to categorize documents, pictures, videos, and artifacts so they can be retrieved and displayed in the *first* Port Costa Museum. This Museum will initially be housed in the library of the Historic Port Costa School. Sophia will be building on the significant efforts of current residents Theresa Jurik, Dee Stewart, Linda Clark, Betty Bailey, and others who have worked to preserve Port Costa's history.

Sophia is a lifetime Vallejo resident, currently working towards obtaining an undergraduate degree at SFSU. Sophia is a Studio Art/Art History Major, also pursuing a minor in Museum Studies and recognizes the opportunity the Port Costa School provides in giving invaluable experience in curatorial work and collections. Sophia says "The idea of preserving the past to educate the future has always resonated strongly with me… I want to be a part of something larger and more important that myself that makes an impact on the community in a positive and meaningful way." Sophia's mission statement is to "Keep Port Costa's history safe and accessible". (Could we be any luckier?!)

Sophia's work at the Port Costa School begins at the end of January and will continue through May 2019. Sophia will help bring the Conservation Society's archives up to Museum Standards, which will greatly help as we continue to apply for grants and opens the possibility of applying for museum stewardship. Please help us in welcoming Sophia to Port Costa- to say we are excited and grateful is a massive understatement! Thank you, Sophia!