

KEEPING THE BEST OF THE PAST
FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



February 2009

Dear Members and Friends of Visalia Heritage:

Our motto, "Keeping The Best Of The Past For A Better Tomorrow", has become a reality during the past year.

On June 2, 2008 Visalia Heritage presented a check in the amount of \$150,000 to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors which then was given to the Tulare County Children's Library project. We have been raising this money for the past fifteen years. Thanks to all of you and your support, sales of our afghans and Visalia Pictorial History books, we were able to present the largest single donation, within the Library Foundation, to the library project.

During the month of September the grand opening of the library as well as a public tour were held. Overall, the basic architectural style has not been changed. However, the children's library is now a secure entity for children only, with enough space for plays, story telling and expanded areas for books, tables and chairs. If you have not had the opportunity to view this beautifully up-dated building, may we urge that you do so!

Head Librarian Brian Lewis and his staff are now located in the restored building with the entrance on Oak Street. The Annie Mitchell History Room, created by Visalia Heritage in March of 1984, is located in the upstairs area of the regular library. It has been expanded to make available more of the biographicals and documented history of Tulare County.

We have donated \$1,000 toward restoration of "The Robin" a marble fountain at the entrance to the library. The fountain was designed by the Three Rivers artist, Carroll Barnes, and given to the library in 1944 by a prominent local family.

P.O. Box 216 • Visalia, CA 93279

February 2009

We are continuing to offer our assistance to the City of Visalia concerning Home Builders Tract #1 for our Historic Preservation project. we have completed the groundwork and are awaiting city approval. Visalia Heritage is also available to assist the city with Home Builders Tract #2. This area is bordered by Mineral King Avenue, Dollner Street and Main Street.

We are continuing to provide the upkeep of arbors 14 and 15 at Mooney Grove.

Our Annie Mitchell Scholarship of \$500 is given annually to a deserving COS graduate. This is to aid in furthering their education towards a teaching credential.

We, as board members, wish to thank you for your continued support over the years. With your help, our dream of the childrens library has come true!

Gladwyn Burris, President
Visalia Heritage, Inc.

Board of Directors
Members:

John Bianco
Ron Burris
Jane Nash
Joseph Vicenti
Ann Switzer Watson
D'Anne Williamson