

# Capitola Sunset

SPRING 2019

CAPITOLA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

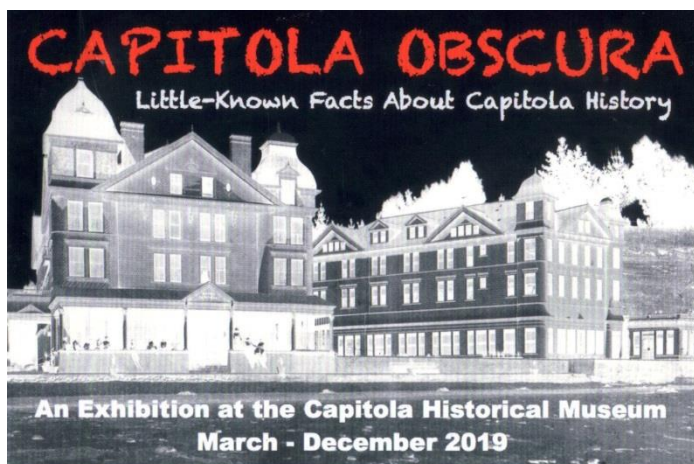
NEWS, EVENTS & INFORMATION

*"Providing a future for our past"*

## "Capitola Obscura" Reception March 16

This year's exhibition focuses on some little-known facts about Capitola History. "I think museum visitors will enjoy this year's theme and learn some new (and hopefully interesting) things about Capitola's past," says Curator Frank Perry. "There is purposely an element of mystery in the title, and that sort of thing raises people's curiosity."

Of course there are hundreds of obscure facts about Capitola history. To be included in the exhibition, however, each topic had to meet several criteria. 1) It had to be interesting. 2) It had to be something for which there are artifacts or photographs to tell the story. 3) It had to be something that most museum visitors, especially those from out of town, might not know about. 4) It had to be different from subjects covered in last year's "Frequently Asked Questions" exhibition.



The museum has many more photos and artifacts than can be displayed at any one time, so another goal was to display some things that have not been shown for a while. Longtime volunteers and regular visitors may recognize a few "old friends" from years past.

Please join the Museum Board and Curator for the opening reception, Saturday, March 16, Noon to 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

## Did you know?

The Brown Bulb Ranch, famous for its tuberous Begonias, also produced flower seeds. Museum Curator Frank Perry arranged images of these seed packets to create this poster that is available in limited quantities at the Capitola Museum for a suggested donation of \$35.00.



The seed packets were donated to us by Steven Graap, and the unframed poster measures 16 by 20 inches.

## In Memoriam—David Shoaf

Our community lost a good friend late last year. David Shoaf had a special charm, creating smiles on the faces of all the people he touched. David was a museum volunteer and past president of the Capitola Museum. He was also a Capitola Begonia Festival Volunteer and a great musician.

This year's exhibition is dedicated in honor of David Shoaf and the legacy that he leaves behind.



# Capitola's Namesake

By Brian Legakis

Capitola is an unusual name. Our beachside town was named Camp Capitola when the Hall family began their summertime tent cabin enterprise at Hall's beach, Soquel in 1874. Apparently someone in the family, perhaps Lulu Hall, a school teacher, was familiar with the writings of E.D.E.N. Southworth's novel, *The Hidden Hand*. In the novel a teenage heroine named Capitola Black became a popular nationwide sensation by the time of the founding of the Hall camp.



In 1889 the *Santa Cruz Surf* newspaper confirms that the town of Capitola was named after the Southworth heroine.

What was so special about the character of Capitola Black that attracted hundreds of thousands of readers to follow her soon after *The Hidden Hand* was released in serial form in the magazine, *The New York Ledger*, in 1859? The stories of Capitola Black were mailed to subscribers across America. It was not published in book form until 1888. *The Hidden Hand* was the 16th novel for an author who was one of the most popular writers of the 19th century.

Capitola was born in 1832 in rural Virginia before the civil war, to a rich father, Eugene le Noir (hence Capitola "Black") and a young orphan mother of French revolutionary parents. Capitola was also orphaned and brought up by an elder guardian woman in the crumbling tenements of Rag Alley in New York City. In her early teens she suddenly found herself destitute on the streets without family or home. Starving because no one would hire a young girl, Capitola eked out a desperate life of daily survival before selling her clothes, cutting off her hair, and buying a new outfit to disguise herself as a boy. Her fortunes immediately improved with job offers for this opportunistic "boy" of 13 years of age. Clearly it was on the streets of New York that she developed her tough, resourceful demeanor. With employment and stability, Cap, as she was then called, achieved remarkable confidence at this early stage of her life.

Her disguise was eventually revealed, and she was arrested by the police and brought before a magistrate. An old Virginia neighbor of her family discovered Capitola just in time and rescued her from her likely imprisonment. Capitola became his ward and together they returned to the Virginia region of Capitola's birth. She possessed little knowledge of her parents or her legal status.

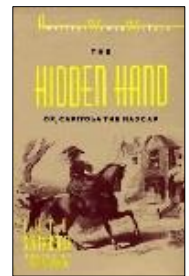
Surrounded by a rustic mansion with new clothes and servants to attend to her, Capitola became a young woman of leisure. With a meager childhood education

consisting mainly of reading, she was given access by her guardian "uncle" to a great library and tutored with daily lessons. The street smart Capitola was a quick study, and she mastered all that was given to her. Her spoken language incorporated the refinements expected of a hostess in Southern society, yet young Cap could not refrain from punctuating her sentences with the crude, colorful words of the street when she needed emphasis.

Cap's forceful tongue and strong will enabled her to wage battles with her uncle and against all who attempted to control or curtail her personal sense of freedom. Soon after learning how to ride a horse she decided to seek adventures beyond the confines of her castle-like home. These forays into the wilderness placed young Cap in situations of perilous danger, but she was more than willing to confront all her experiences with positive curiosity. Death defying moments were defused by a cunning girl without the use of magic or supernatural powers. Capitola Black could not physically overcome her adversaries. She succeeded instead by the brilliance of her wit and invention. Southworth claimed that the outrageous adventures of Capitola Black were all based on real life stories.

Capitola's obstreperous independence was not typical of women of the 1850s. Females of Capitola's era had limited political power after acquiring a degree of financial success working in the factories and shops of the new Industrial Revolution. Women with an education could find jobs in offices, hospitals and libraries as well as in the teaching world. E.D.E.N. Southworth began as a teacher in Wisconsin before she took up writing in Washington D.C., completing some 60 books during her career. In the 19th century women were portrayed in art and literature with varying degrees of accuracy and romantic exaggeration. Capitola Black is an example of the latter.

Capitola has never been a common name. It is almost unheard of in the English language before the 1860s. Its popularity received a gentle blip after the publication of *The Hidden Hand* and the sequel, *Capitola's Peril*. The founders of Camp Capitola selected an improbable name based on an improbable young woman with a rebellious and confident spirit, not unlike the resilient town of Soquel Landing. Capitola Black is a very modern character locked in the heart of the Victorian era.



**Writer's Note: You may find inexpensive used copies of *The Hidden Hand* and *Capitola's Peril* as well as free copies to be downloaded online. Some may be put off by the mid-nineteenth century elaborate sentence structures and vocabulary as well as gender and racial stereotypes, but the harrowing journeys of our very own Capitola are all worth it. Have fun.**



APPETIZERS

SHRIMP COCKTAIL .....	3.25
CRAB COCKTAIL .....	4.25
CRAB CREPE, Hollandaise .....	2.50
SHRIMP SCAMPI .....	4.50
DEEP FRIED CALAMARI .....	2.50
VEGETABLE TEMPURA .....	2.50

A LA CARTE

SHADOWBROOK SALAD .....	1.95
BOSTON CLAM CHOWDER .....	1.95
FRESH STEAMED ARTICHOKE .....	1.75
MUSHROOMS SAUTE .....	2.50
FRESH STEAMED VEGETABLE, In Season .....	1.25
VEGETABLE TEMPURA .....	2.50
BEVERAGE .....	.60

DESSERTS

MOUSSE DENISE DE CAFE .....	1.50
CREPE PATISSIERE .....	1.50
FRESH STRAWBERRIES, In Season .....	1.50
CREME DE MENTHE PARFAIT .....	1.50
CHEESECAKE .....	1.50
ICE CREAM w/ SHERRIT .....	.90
CHOCOLATE SUNDAE .....	1.50
CHOCOLATE TORTE, House Specialty .....	1.95

VISA & MASTER CHARGE HONORED

Personal checks accepted with 10% charge

SHADOWBROOK RESTAURANT

1750 Wharf Road, Capitola, CA 95010

DINNERS

Includes Washroom, Salad or Brown Rice (Dessert)

ABALONE

Dipped in Egg Sauce, lightly breaded and pan-fried. Served with Steamed Rice and/or Hot Tomato Sauce

13.50

SHRIMP TEMPURA

Crust Crust Shrimp Dipped in the Special Sauce and Deep Fried Served with Top 1 Cashew Sauce

8.95

TEMPURA PLATTER

A combination of Scallops, Prawns & Vegetable Tempura

9.95

SOLE VANESE

1 lb of Sole Dipped with Shrimp, 1 cup of French Sauce Served with Steamed Rice

9.95

CALAMARI

Deep Fried Calamari Served with Steamed Rice and Hot Tomato Sauce

7.50

SALMON FILET

Baked King Salmon, lightly breaded and pan-fried. Served with Steamed Rice and/or Hot Tomato Sauce

9.95

SCAMPI

Large Crust Shrimp Served with Steamed Rice, Cashew Sauce and Hot Tomato Sauce

9.95

SCALLOPS TEMPURA

A combination of Fresh Scallops Dipped in the Special Sauce and Deep Fried

9.50

PETKALE SOLE

Served in Butter Sauce, Served with Steamed Rice

7.95

LOBSTER

Crust Crust Lobster Served with Steamed Rice & Hot Tomato Sauce

14.95 (two eat) 10.95 (one eat)

SCAMPI & SIRLOIN

9.95

TEMPURA PRAWNS & SIRLOIN

9.95

LOBSTER & SIRLOIN

15.95

CHICKEN TERIYAKI

Deep Fried Breaded Chicken Served with Steamed Rice and Hot Tomato Sauce

7.50

SIRLOIN TERIYAKI

Crust Crust Sirloin Served with Steamed Rice and Hot Tomato Sauce

9.95

PRIME RIB

Served with Creamy Horseradish Sauce, Hot Potato and Steamed Rice

11.95

CHOICE TOP SIRLOIN

10.95

FILET MIGNON

10.95

CHOICE NEW YORK

10.95

VEGETARIAN PLATE

5.95

CHILDREN'S DINNERS

4.95 (one eat) 3.95 (two eat)

Don't miss it!

Dine at the world famous Shadowbrook Restaurant to support us!

Reservations are recommended!

Chances are you won't be allowed to order from this 1980 menu, but you are guaranteed to have a great time while supporting a good cause.

# JOIN THE CAPITOLA HISTORICAL MUSEUM BOARD FOR COMMUNITY TUESDAY AT THE BEAUTIFUL SHADOWBROOK RESTAURANT

## MARCH 19, 2019

### Community Tuesday Night

The Community Tuesday Program is an excellent opportunity for the Capitola Historical Museum to raise funds effortlessly while members and supporters socialize, network, and enjoy a delightful evening at an award-winning restaurant. Shadowbrook donates one-third of the evening's sales to our organization! Make your reservations directly with Shadowbrook Restaurant as early as 28 days prior to the event date above. In order to avoid confusion when making reservations, let the receptionist know who you are dining for. You may also wish to enjoy appetizers and cocktails in the Rock Room - just let your server know you are dining for the Capitola Historical Museum. \* Any promotional prices; however, will not be applied.

Let the restaurant know you are dining for the Capitola Historical Museum

Dine in the Rock Room Lounge or in the main restaurant - you choose!

### SHADOWBROOK RESTAURANT

1750 Wharf Road  
Capitola, Ca 95010

[www.shadowbrook-capitola.com](http://www.shadowbrook-capitola.com)

831-475-1511

\*Note: Does not apply to Two-Fer Tuesday Promotion



## Welcome Youth Member Joshua Henshaw!

Joshua joined the Capitola Museum Board a few months ago. We asked him to write about his motivation to join the board and to tell us a little bit about himself. What follows is a *very slightly edited* article written by a very talented New Brighton Middle School eighth grader!

I am Joshua Henshaw, the new Capitola Museum Board youth member. I joined the Capitola Museum Board because I am interested in history and curious about Capitola and its people. For example, I enjoy how the board works together and how they commemorate people who were a big part of Capitola. Like the people who dedicate their time and money to help preserve artifacts and photos of Capitola's past, present, and future.



And, such as how there used to be a carousel, a cable car, and even an airport. I want to know more about the place I live, and I want to be a part of it, so I decided to be a youth member on the board. We moved to Capitola last summer so we could be closer to the ocean and my mom's family who live in La Selva. Within the first few weeks of being here I made friends. To me, I felt everyone was a lot nicer and friendlier. I just knew I would love it here.

In my free time, I love to surf at 38th, the Hook, Sharks, and Pleasure Point. I also love to do jigsaw puzzles, and the biggest I've ever done had 5,000 pieces. Sometimes on the weekends, you might find me on the beach looking for sea glass.

I like to travel. I have been to many states and countries like; Mexico, Japan, Australia, and Indonesia. I hope to visit my grandpa this summer at his new house in Costa Rica. I love to go mountain biking with my dad and run/walk with my mom.

My favorite thing about being on the board for the museum is that I feel like I get to be a part of this town and help with events and fundraisers. I have seen and heard of things such as the Begonia Festival, the Art & Wine Festival, and the Sand Castle contest; I want to learn more about them, and help with them. I cannot wait to learn more about the vast past of Capitola and be a part of its future.

## History Fair May 18

On Saturday, May 18, noon to 4 p.m, the Capitola Museum will be hosting the Santa Cruz County History Fair in the Community Center at Jade Street Park. Over twenty historical museums and societies from around the county have signed up to participate. There will be displays of historical artifacts, old photographs, and resources to help those interested in historical research. "This is one-stop shopping for anyone interested in Santa Cruz County history," says Museum Curator Frank Perry. "The History Fair is a great way to bring all these groups together under one roof and share resources." This is also a good opportunity for people to bring photos they want identified. Chances are, there will be an expert who can help.

The first History Fair was held at UCSC in 2015. In 2016 it moved to Louden Nelson Community Center in Santa Cruz. Now, after a three-year break, it comes to Capitola. "We are pleased to be the organizer and host this time and are certain it will again be a big success." says Frank. The event is free, but donations are welcome.

*Santa Cruz County*  
**History Fair**  
Displays, Demonstrations, Old Photos  
Activities for all ages  
Saturday, May 18, 2019, 12 noon to 4 p.m.  
Capitola Community Center at Jade Street Park, Capitola  
Free Admission





# Volunteer Orientation for Capitola Obscura

By David Peyton

Nearly 40 volunteers attended the annual Capitola Historical Museum Volunteer Orientation on Saturday, February 23. The annual event is hosted by the museum board of directors. Museum Curator, Frank Perry, began his presentation by describing a few obscure facts about Capitola—how a steam locomotive that rode the rails around town almost a hundred and fifty years ago is now on display in the Smithsonian, and that the inventor of a still-popular gopher trap lived in Capitola.



Dave Peyton who works the crowd with his booming voice and sense of humor gives the audience a recap of board activities and objectives.

These and other unusual facts about Capitola will amaze and surprise visitors to the museum's newest exhibition, Capitola Obscura—Little-Known Facts About Capitola History, opening on March 16.

After introductions, noting three new board members, Rebecca Hobson, Brain Legakis, and our youth board member, Joshua Henshaw, Board President Niels Kisling acknowledged those volunteers that went above and beyond in their support of the museum. Special mention went to Kathleen Church, Paul Parsons and George Wightman, each exceeding 50 hours behind the desk! Twelve other volunteers were recognized for more than 20 hours of service.

George Wightman gave 50 hours to the museum last year. He is seen here accepting his service recognition award.



Though the highlight of the orientation is undoubtedly Frank's short program on the newest exhibit, the board of directors takes this opportunity to review past work objectives and discuss future plans. This past year, the board succeeded in its drive to recruit volunteers and now nearly 50 volunteers keep the museum open during 10 months of operation. A task force was created to handle increased training needs and to seek ways to enhance the visitor and volunteer experience. Thanks to Georgette Neal and

Harold Raphael, a dual scheduling system has been put into place synchronizing the on-line (Volgistics) scheduling program and the up-to-date, volunteer-friendly, paper calendar at the front desk.

Plans for the coming year call for; the establishment of a "sub-list" that volunteers can use for last minute substitutions, a suggestion box, new name badge holders, and the continuation to fine tune and support the labor intensive dual scheduling system. The task force will begin meeting soon and it was noted that museum volunteers are welcome to attend and participate.

The board portion of the orientation finished with a reflection on the past year's success in recruiting and training many wonderful volunteers and the "victim of our success" challenges now faced by the museum. Due to a large number of volunteers who are now willing and able to work, the board has decided to initiate a suggested minimum number of hours that a museum volunteer would commit to making each year. It was decided that eight hours (four shifts) would be reasonable considering that there are an average of 350 shifts available during the year (10 months). The board also noted that besides volunteering behind the desk there are also opportunities to assist during special events like the Capitola Art & Wine Festival or helping around the museum.

At the conclusion of the board portion of the orientation, Frank began his much anticipated slide show, a sampling of what awaits everyone in the museum. The full story about a famous athlete, a child survivor, and a long ago place name are just a few of the obscurities that join favorites such as the display case containing "What are these objects?" on display from the early 1900s, and the always popular coloring lounge. Frank's presentation received many laughs and a rousing applause of appreciation.

*The board appreciates the support of Gayle's Bakery and Peet's Coffee for providing refreshments.*

HARRY HOOPER'S FLUME—Well, not really Harry's Flume, but Harry Hooper was trained as a civil engineer and he helped design the flume that drains Soquel Creek overflow when the lagoon is dammed up for the summer. The flume was built in the 1940s and is a testament to good engineering. It seems as if this year more sand has retreated from the beach, exposing the flume more than usual. Check it out at low tide.



## Volunteer Spotlight—Deb Aaron

I was born and raised in San Jose. Like many Bay Area residents, I spent most of my summers quite happily on Santa Cruz beaches. My husband, David, also grew up near the beach, so we share a love for the coast and its way of life. We both had careers in the Bay Area, and always considered the privilege of actually getting to reside in Santa Cruz County, a far off (and unachievable) dream. For many years, we happily spent most of our weekends at the beach, feeling thankful that we lived close enough to get away as often as we did. We continued that habit after we became parents, and we were thrilled to discover that our daughter also enjoyed being near (and in!) the water. As we got to know our daughter better, we realized that the pace in Silicon Valley was too fast for her, and that she needed one parent to be home with her full-time. As we considered our options, it became clear that moving to the coast would benefit all three of us. We found a house in Aptos, and we have never regretted relocating to this county.

While living in Aptos, we got to know Capitola and fell in love with the town. We enjoyed wandering the Village, dining in the restaurants, and relaxing on the Esplanade. We also discovered the Capitola Historical Museum and looked forward to the new exhibits. The more time we spent in Capitola, the more we started considering trying to find a home there. Several years ago that dream came true! We love the sense of community here as well as living in an area where we can walk to so many wonderful places.



Deb and Audrey pose for this picture at one of their favorite places—Capitola Beach! The Capitola Museum is lucky to have Deb and this mother and daughter are lucky to have each other.

I continue to be a stay-at-home mom. My family and I run several times a week. We enjoy many of the local races (Wharf-to-Wharf, Surfer's Path series, and the Little Wharf, for example). My daughter and I spend most of our days exploring and enjoying the Village together, often relaxing on the beach or on a bench along the Esplanade. We both enjoy opportunities to get to know residents and visitors. We all enjoy participating in the many events the city hosts: music on the beach, the car show in June, Capitola Beach Festival.

About a year ago, I saw a post in NextDoor announcing openings for Capitola Museum volunteers. I was so excited to find an opportunity to give back to and participate in a community I've come to cherish and appreciate. I've always enjoyed visiting the museum, so volunteering to spend more time there is an easy commitment. I'm fascinated by the history of the town and all the twists and turns its story has taken over the years. It's fun to chat with tourists about their excitement in being here and to share some of the history of our town. It's also a treat to meet people who grew up in the area and are back in town to visit their favorite haunts. I think it's the shared appreciation for what a special place Capitola is that makes my time at the museum most rewarding. That, and an occasional coloring session with one of the visiting youngsters!

The Capitola Museum has recently received generous donations from:

<b>Steven Burbank</b>	<b>Al and Marian Carlson</b>
<b>Rickey Feldner</b>	<b>Lani Hall</b>
<b>Kris Houser</b>	<b>Kathleen King</b>
<b>Gayle and Joe Ortiz</b>	<b>Paul Parsons</b>
<b>Barbara Reding</b>	<b>Karen Ruland</b>
<b>Santa Cruz County Assoc. of Realtors</b>	
<b>Jerry and Robynn Walters</b>	
<b>Yvonne Zannis and Demian Sherinian</b>	

Recently, the following artifacts were generously donated to the Capitola Museum:

**Minna Hertel:**

Three Begonia Festival T-shirts and two photo books

**Margaret Cheney:**

Photos of Capitola Sand Sculpture Contest, 1990s

**Brian Legakis:**

Commemorative medallion showing Patty Reed's Doll

**Capitola Begonia Festival Committee:**

Collection of digital photos of past festivals

**Ellen Yeoman:**

Map and historic photos

**Mark Lewis:**

1930 business directory for Santa Cruz County

Capitola Sunset is published by:

**The Capitola Historical Museum**

410 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

Website: [www.capitolamuseum.org](http://www.capitolamuseum.org)

E-Mail: [capitolamuseum@gmail.com](mailto:capitolamuseum@gmail.com)

Telephone: 831-464-0322

Museum Hours: Thursday through Sunday 12-4 P.M.

Curator: Frank Perry.

Board Members: Niels Kisling (President), David Peyton (Vice President), Pam Greeninger (Secretary), Rebecca Hobson (Treasurer), Brian Legakis, Georgette Neal, and Gordon van Zuiden. Museum Youth Board Member: Joshua Henshaw.