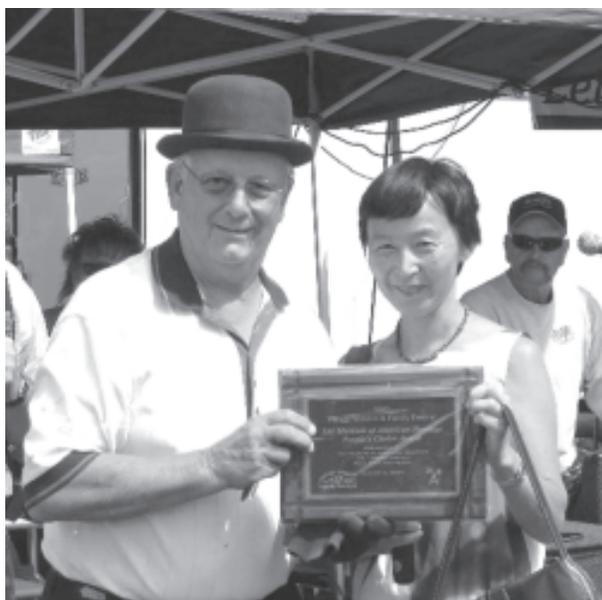


January - April 2008
Number 62

*Creating innovators of the future
through inventions of the past*

Images of Vintage Vehicles & Family Festival 2007



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From Our President

Donald Nusbaum



MOAH enjoyed one of its busiest and most successful years in 2007, thanks to the wonderful support of Members, Sponsors and Friends. When I became President in January 2007, I had no idea how much our small museum accomplishes in a year. And what a wonderful year it was!

2007 began with *Classic and Timeless Toys*, showcasing 50 of the best-loved toys of all time. The exhibit was a huge success thanks to efforts from our tireless exhibit committee, lenders, supporters and BayLUG partners. We also celebrated the 100th birthday of the Williams House in 2007, with two exhibits chronicling the history of the house and the world of the Williams family. Our collections committee kept equally busy completing the cataloguing of our 3,400+ item collection while also mounting exhibits from the collection.

Our education programs flourished in 2007. We hosted two summer camps, launched several new classes and offered outreach to numerous programs and festivals throughout our community. We also established the Meri and Joe Ehrlich Education Endowment at MOAH to ensure the long-term success of our education initiatives.

Finally, who can forget the great events of 2007? Our special lectures, weekend garden socials, volunteer events and, last but not least, Vintage Vehicles and Family Festival weekend were all widely attended and enjoyed.

To all our volunteers who work so hard to keep our exhibits, learning programs and events thriving, and to all our supporters and members who provide the means to undertake these activities, a sincere and heartfelt THANK YOU for all that you did in 2007. We hope that you will continue to be part of the excitement in 2008.

In Memory Of A True Friend of MOAH

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Melvin Bell Lane earlier this summer. Mr. Lane was a long-time friend and supporter of the Museum of American Heritage. His passionate environmentalism and commitment to conservation are legendary and are keenly felt here at MOAH, where he was instrumental in supporting the restoration of MOAH's gardens and the establishment of the Ruth Bell Lane Memorial Garden at the William's House. As we move forward with the implementation of the restoration of the historic gardens, his vision and support will remain in our thoughts. To his wife, Joan Lane, and other members of the Lane family, we express our sincere condolences. We hope that our own little garden oasis here at MOAH will remain a living tribute to his passion for nature and open space.

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MOAH Update is published tri-annually with the intent to inform, amuse and enthuse friends of the Museum.

Editor: Judith Lautmann

Printing: Columbia Printing

From The Executive Director

Gwenyth Claughton



MOAH's Sizzling Summer Fun in the Sun!

It was a weekend of partying, pistons and poodle skirts as MOAH celebrated our 4th annual Vintage Vehicles and Family Festival on August 4th and 5th. This festival of fun in the sun honored Meri and Joe Ehrlich for their incredible contributions to our community, while celebrating America's love of the road. Over 5,500 people attended the two-day celebrations, which raised \$59,000 to support the museum.



The weekend kicked off with the premier of the *Vintage Vehicles Gala*. Attendees traveled back in time to enjoy a nostalgic, 50's-themed costume party at the amazing "Sparky's Hot Rod Garage" in San Carlos. Celebrities from the past, including Marilyn Monroe, Lucille Ball and the Rat Pack, entertained guests as they dined on fabulous diner-inspired food with a gourmet twist, courtesy of John McGannon of Wild Eats Catering and Fogarty Wines. Auctioneer Steve Player helped ensure the financial success of the evening with a very entertaining and profitable live auction. Thanks to the gracious Joe "Sparky" Bullock and his wonderful staff, the first ever VVFF gala and auction kicked off a new era of fun for MOAH.

The celebration continued the next day at the Vintage Vehicles Festival at El Camino Park in Palo Alto. More than 150 vintage cars and motorcycles lined the park for this 4th annual event. From 1920s Stanley Steamers to the futuristic "Ack Attack" motorcycle that broke the world land speed record at 342 mph, there was something there for everyone. LEGO® displays, interactive Meccano fun at the



MOAH booth, jugglers, magicians and radio-controlled car races entertained guests. The Broadcast Legends, Peninsulaires, Mike Rossi and the Johnny Cats Jazz Combo kept things lively with performances throughout the day.

A huge thanks to all our underwriters, sponsors, auction donors, volunteers, entertainers and event participants. Most of all, thanks to our MOAH friends and members who joined in the fun and made it such a memorable weekend. To our President, and VVFF Chair, Don Nusbaum, thanks for having the vision, the energy and the enthusiasm to help us take VVFF to a whole new level.



Volunteer Spotlight

John Shaw

Chris Carter



Back in the early 1960s, a young Chris Carter couldn't wait to pedal his StingRay bicycle to a vacant lot after he delivered the last newspaper on his route. The vacant lot was not all that vacant to him. What he witnessed there would shape his life forever.

What he saw were some older kids on motor bikes, perhaps pretending to be racing in a European Moto Cross. Despite his dad's disapproval and with the older boys' permission, Chris mounted, for the first time, a bike with a motor. Chris never looked back. He has been the owner of "Motion Pro" in San Carlos for 23 years, a 35,000 sq. ft. company that sells some unique but mostly necessary tools and parts to distributors of dirt and street motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and scooters. Visiting Motion Pro's web site must be a delight for these distributors, but visiting the non-virtual world of this company, one is surrounded by 45 very contented employees and many more pampered motorcycles of all vintages and from manufacturers from around the world. There is even a bike in Chris's office that doesn't appear to be a paper-weight.

Rewinding to the 1970s ... Chris started his steady climb toward making motorcycles the center of his life. He saved up and bought his first bike but, as he was too young to be licensed for street riding, his older friends would take turns riding him up to the hills on the back of his own bike and unleash him on open terrain, which at that time was unregulated "Marlboro skyline" country. After befriending an Atherton inventor of motorcycle parts, he soon started working in assembly in the inventor's shop behind the house. As a young adult he started competing in motor cross events nationwide, packing his bike in the back of his van, along with hopes and dreams. While at home, he found an additional after-

See Volunteer Spotlight, Page 5.

Kuo-Jung Chang



Taiwanese born and raised, Kuo-Jung Chang took immediate advantage of an opportunity to visit America in 1979 while working at a radio station in Taiwan. Mostly news media and what Hollywood projected to the world created her fantasies of America. In order to get a more complete understanding of the

western world, she decided to move here permanently in 1985 and has enjoyed a front-row seat of the real moving pictures of United States and made Palo Alto her home. As a new arrival, she was quite pleased to observe that not all Americans eat the fast foods they export to Asia. KJ is continually impressed with the variety of food that California provides, but there is one thing missing locally: an Asian supermarket in Palo Alto. She thinks it would be a very busy market with Palo Alto's sizeable Asian population; it would be a kind of "niche" market.

KJ recently retired from HP where she was a legal specialist in corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, and SEC reports. In addition to being a MOAH apprentice gardener, her current volunteer activities include being a director at Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic and helping out at Palo Alto's Urban Ministry. This combines three of her interests: people, books and food. She also offers a lot of food for thought when it comes to the topic of globalization. KJ enjoys translating books from English to Chinese, and her latest work in progress is "The New Argonauts" by Anna Lee Saxenian, which is about how high-tech foreign students from Israel, Taiwan, China and India come to the Bay Area to learn "the silicon valley way" and then return home to establish their own products with the intent of complementing U.S. technology. She considers herself a beneficiary of globalization. She recently talked via computer with an uncle in Taiwan and a brother in Shanghai in a conference call and cites this as just one example of the positive fallout of globalization, but she's aware of its negative aspects as well.

See Volunteer Spotlight, Page 5.

News & Notes



Volunteer Spotlight, *continued from Page 4*

Chris Carter

school job at a Redwood City bike shop. He was learning from his experiences in the shop and on the road, making many long-term friends along the way. Soon it was the big time; he won a gold medal in 1976 at the prestigious "International Six Day Trials," a grueling European off-road event that was held in Austria that year. Chris opened his first version of Motion Pro in 1984, with 1,500 sq. ft. and a small office shared by four employees. He can now stretch his feet out on his desk in his current mega-square-acre home away from home.

Chris is now carrying the torch that was handed to him by MOAH'S Marshall Mathews. Chris is a Board member who enjoys making major contributions to the *Vintage Vehicles & Family Festival* event. He is hoping MOAH will find more company sponsorships. It is obvious that he knows how to build and sustain a growing business, and MOAH is giving him plenty of room to stretch his ideas.

Kuo-Jung Chang

Three other famous books Kuo-Jung contributed to translating are Lee Iacocca's autobiography, "One Minute Manager," by K. Blanchard and "Diet For A New America," by John (thirty-one flavors) Robbins.

She and her husband enjoy Stanford baseball and football. KJ learned the rules of baseball by watching Taiwan little league baseball. Some Taiwan major leaguers come to the U.S. to train in the minor leagues and then return with newly acquired skills ... another example of globalization. Maybe someday the baseball "World Series" will truly be a world series.

KJ enjoys hanging around the Williams House and garden. Her commute from home to MOAH can be measured with a Stanley tape measurer, as she's a next-door neighbor. KJ's fortune cookie predicts good things for MOAH: "Workaholic baby boomers will soon retire in droves and beg for volunteer work."

MOAH is very happy to have KJ as both a member and a gardening apprentice. As she quoted Buck Cox, "When you clean a path and look back, you have immediate gratification."

Looking For A Career In History?



A retired local dealer in historical newspapers has offered MOAH the opportunity to sell his remaining inventory of 75,000 issues on eBay® with the profits to go to MOAH and the seller. We need someone willing to do ALL the work in selling these items, including the write-ups, listing on eBay® and mailing the sold newspapers, for which you will receive 25% of the profits. We have enough newspapers available to use several people. The donor will provide complete training so, in addition to payment, you will learn the ins and outs of eBay® and the mail order business. If you are interested in U.S. history, here is your opportunity to read original, genuine newspapers back to the 1790s. These include practically every major event over the past two hundred years, from George Washington's presidency to that of George W. Bush. If you have a specific topical interest, many newspapers are available in which you can specialize. Contact Gwenyth Claughton at 650.321.1004 for more details.

Got Gear?



Our camping exhibit will open in 2008. If you have pre-1970s camping equipment that you would be willing to loan the Museum for six months, please call the MOAH office at 650.321.1004. We are especially looking for old wooden-frame backpacks, as well as skis, snowshoes and camp stools from the 1930s-40s.

Let us know if you can help us with artifacts for this exhibit.

Real Estate Commission Offer



MOAH Community Advisory Board Member and long-time supporter, Anne Wilbur, has generously offered to donate 25% of her commercial or residential real estate commissions to MOAH when there has been a referral by a MOAH supporter. Contact Gwenyth Claughton at 650.321.1004 for details.

Education Department

Wendy Breu



Fall Workshop Report

In October, Jim Wall taught the *Basic Electric Circuits* workshop to a group of home-schooled children, mostly from the South Bay. All of these students were new to MOAH. Jim received great reviews from all the parents who audited his class.

Also, in October, Dan Russell revamped his *How to be a Super Internet Searcher* workshop and changed its name to *Super Internet Searcher Challenge*. It is a practicum that condenses many time-saving tips and techniques into 10 competitive search games. We had a full class, and students all had fun working through the challenges. For one student, attending this session had an additional, unexpected benefit; he earned extra credit in class when he was the only one who correctly identified that the echidna is related to the platypus. How did he know? As it happened, Dan had students look up the difference between an echidna and a hedgehog during the Internet search class! His parent commented that *all* our workshops were excellent and that her child had learned excellent skills.

No matter how often I sit in on our workshops, I always manage to learn something new. This is because all our instructors constantly refine and improve their class content by integrating the latest information into the courseware, and by incorporating new designs into class projects. For example, consider the mechanical workshop, *Fun with Simple Machines* -- since this class's inception, Michael Glenn has redesigned the trebuchet several times. His most current version is so novel that Michael applied for and was granted a design patent.

Upcoming New Classes and Events

Jeff Risberg, instructor of *Design for Superheroes*, is working with his college-bound son Brandon to develop a brand new workshop. This class, *Introduction to 3-D Modeling for Games*, will be the *only* one of its kind in Silicon Valley! Students will learn an easy-to-use 3-D modeling program and then create 3-D models with lighting effects. After a discussion of how scenes and characters are created for computer games, students will design, build and then play their game using an industry-leading gaming engine! There is no prerequisite to this class, so no prior 3-D modeling experience is required. Watch for this exciting new workshop in February 2008.

Also in the works are *Secrets of Flying Rings* by Alan Adler and *Rocket Science* by Elaine Wall. We hope to have more to report on these two workshops in the next newsletter.

Instructor Spotlight

It is long overdue for us to highlight one of our new instructors.

Dan Russell earned his doctoral degree in Artificial Intelligence from the University of Rochester. We first met Dr. Russell when he helped install Google Earth at the *Art and Evolution of Navigation* exhibit here at MOAH in 2006. Nowadays, he is a senior research scientist at Google, where he is trying to find the answers to "what makes Google users tick" and "how the search engine [differentiates a user's success versus failure] in order to make [the user's search next time] that much better."

He developed the workshop on Internet search techniques as a way to help Internet users master their "Internet search" skills. Dan has taught several sessions of this workshop to teachers and students.

MOAH Outreach

In September, Bob Boschert (Mr. Science) "edu-tained" hundreds of attendees at the Sally Ride Science Festival at NASA. To prepare for this event, Bob built a brand new Tesla Coil, as well as many fun electronic devices. From the sounds

See *Education Department*, Page 7.

MOAH UPDATE

Education Department, *continued from Page 6*

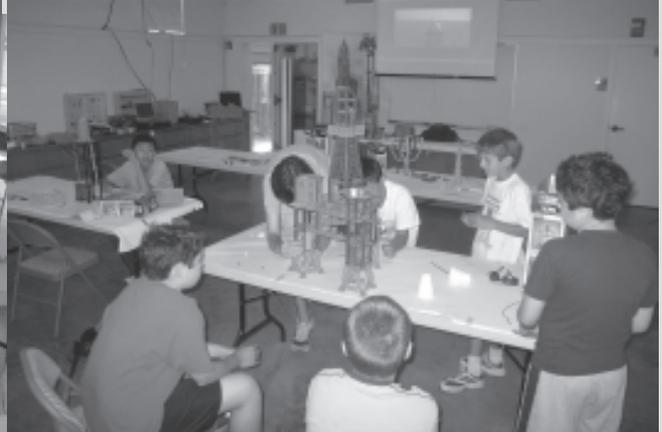
of thrills and delight, there was no doubt visitors enjoyed working through all our hands-on activities.

Our next off-site outreach will be at the Science Fair at Jane L Stanford Middle School in January, 2008.

Getting Latest Updates

Our 2008 class schedule is now available. To get the most current information on classes and special events, check our web page at www.moah.org/education ... and please spread the word!

Summer Camp 2007!



Current Exhibit - *Toys From The Attic*

November 16, 2007 – February 24, 2008

Theodora Nelson

“Toys keep you young!” exclaims Fred Zillmer, smiling broadly. Surrounded by literally thousands of toys from the 1940s and ‘50s, this enthusiastic collector illustrates the point. Looking and acting much younger than his chronological late ‘60s, Zillmer obviously is living out his dream.

When he was young, his parents would give away most of his last year’s toys and replace them with new ones each Christmas. Now all these toys have come back to him, with interest! He began collecting in the early 1980s, and his first acquisition was his father’s Lionel train set. Trains were soon joined by other transportation toys: cars, trucks, boats, airplanes. But he didn’t limit himself; his collection



contains nearly every toy an American child might have had in the ‘40s and ‘50s ... Tinkertoys and Erector sets, wooden blocks, board games, tin soldiers, toy typewriters, baking sets and much, much more.

All these playthings are neatly organized in categories and lined up on shelves in his spacious warehouse. And still he collects, traveling all over the country to toy shows and swap meets, acquiring more. “You want toys in as good condition as possible, but played-with,” he muses. “I like to think that some child enjoyed the toy – but a careful child!”

Now the Museum of American Heritage is pleased to present a small sampling of this fantastic collection in the exhibit *Toys from the Attic*, on view now through February 24, 2008. Those of a certain age are sure to recognize dozens of toys we played with as children. And everyone will leave the exhibit just a bit younger than when he or she arrived!



For their generous support of MOAH, our thanks to.....

Vintage Vehicle and Family Festival Underwriters

Roger Smith Family * Anderson Honda Superstore * Anonymous * The Cvengros Family * Mathews-Carlsen Body Works * Motion Pro, Inc. * The Private Bank of the Peninsula

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Special Thanks To

Bob Asadorian * Bay Area LEGO® Users Group * Joe Bullock * Catherine Grillos Entertainment * Janet Norton * Johnney Cats Jazz Combo * Mike Rossi * Tara Scarioni * Rebecca Wallace * Wild Eats Catering

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A Special Thanks to our Fall Lecturer: Jeff Risberg

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Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for some fun and rewarding volunteer experiences with interesting people? MOAH has numerous opportunities to get involved. For more information about volunteering at MOAH, please contact Gwennyth Claughton at 650.473.9070.

Gallery Docents

Looking for something fun to do on weekends? Do you love to meet new people? How about working as a gallery docent on either Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays? Duties include greeting guests, conducting tours, helping with general museum activities.

Gift Shop Assistant

When you go to a museum, do you immediately head to the gift shop? How about spending some time in MOAH's gift shop? We have opportunities on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Work with great people and cool merchandise, and enjoy some retail therapy without spending a dime!

Garden Volunteers

Are your thumbs green? Or, do you just crave some exercise and fresh air? How about working in MOAH's historic gardens? Be part of the restoration of this unique historic garden. There are opportunities for both light and heavy yard work.

Education Instructors and Assistants

Do you have some untapped teaching skills? Do people like to listen to you teach, or do you just wish they would? How about teaching a weekend workshop or a multi-session class at MOAH? We offer classes on a wide variety of topics, from basic electronics to old-fashioned household activities.

Exhibits Team Member

Do you love to work with others on creating educational and entertaining displays and exhibits? Do you have a passion for history? How about being a part of MOAH's exhibits Team? We mount three exhibits each year and are looking for team members to assist with all aspects of research, development and installation.

Publicity and Public Relations

Are you interested in communications and public relations? Do you wish more people knew about all of MOAH's great services? How about working with our publicity team to get the word out to our community?

Special Events

Do you love to get involved with special events, fundraisers and parties? Do you like the excitement of working with a team to plan and execute themed functions? How about being a Special Events Volunteer? If you love old vehicles or the fun of planning a gala and community celebration, how about volunteering for Vintage Vehicles & Family Festival 2008?

Welcome, New Members!

Beverly & Jan Aarts
Jeanne & Michael Althouse
Ginny & William Bechtold
Eda & Andrew Carlson
Terrie Crenshaw
Mary & Stan Doten
Sid Espinosa
Sharleen Fiddaman
Warren Hargrave
Husna Hashmi
Debra & Spencer Johnson
Genie & Ken Lange
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Anna Mancini
Chris McCleary
Tom McGuinness
Patsy Moore
Victoria & Brian Reid
Didi & Robbi Smith-Robbins
Teresa & Rick Strathearn
Bonnie & Bryan Street

Thanks to Renewing Members who have upgraded their memberships!

Sponsor

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Mr. & Mrs. William Settle
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In Memorium

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Moya Eyerly
Melvin B. Lane
Hilda Weisberg

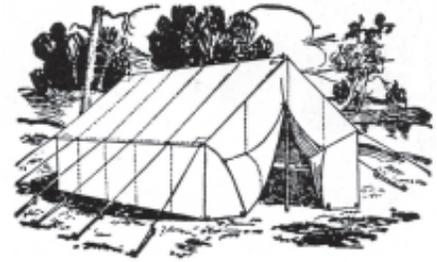
Next Exhibit - *Bonfires & Bugs:* *The Art And Science Of Camping*

March 7 – August 17, 2008

Theodora Nelson

Bonfires, Bugs – and Maybe Bears, Oh, My!

Although camping still offers the same basic attraction it did a century ago – the opportunity to get up close and personal with nature – camping equipment has undergone a sea change. Heavy canvas tents have been replaced with lightweight silicon-coated nylon, supported by lightweight aluminum poles. Sleeping bags and jackets are filled with feather-light synthetics that wick moisture while keeping one snug and warm.



The camper can purchase a stove that burns filtered white gas and cooks with both convective and radiant heat. The humble backpack has become a state-of-the-art means of carrying an array of tools and supplies earlier adventurers never dreamed of. Think of the revolution brought about by freeze-dried food. And what about GPS systems and cell phones?

Are all these changes an improvement? Or are some of the old ways still the best?

MOAH founder Frank Livermore was deeply involved in Boy Scouts for his entire life. The Collections Corner reflects this interest as we explore the history of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls.

There is even an area for youngsters to get hands-on experience tying knots and performing other skills essential to successful camping.

The exhibit, *Bonfires and Bugs: The Art and Science of Camping*, runs from March 7 through August 17, 2008. Be sure to check it out before you take that summer camping trip!



How to Join and Get MOAH for your Money!

Museum members receive this newsletter; attend lectures free of charge; receive a discount on youth workshops, special events and gift shop purchases; and are invited to special members-only receptions for each exhibit. Circle Members also receive tours of private collections and are invited to an annual reception.

- President's Circle \$ 5000
- Director's Circle \$ 2500
- Benefactors' Circle \$ 1000
(Annually for five years)
- Patron \$ 1000
- Sponsoring \$ 500
- Supporting \$ 300
- Sustaining \$ 100
- Family \$ 50
- Individual \$ 35

For more information:
Phone: **650.321.1004**
E-mail: **mail@moah.org**
Website: **www.moah.org**

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Remit to: **Museum of American Heritage, P. O. Box 1731, Palo Alto, CA 94302-1731**

MOAH EXHIBITS, CLASSES, EVENTS

Exhibits: Open Friday - Sunday, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Group tours available at minimal fee)

Toys From The Attic

Now through February 24, 2008

Bonfires & Bugs: The Art & Science Of Camping

March 7 - August 17, 2008

Living LEGO-CY Holiday Exhibit

Now through January 6, 2008

Events & Lectures

Members Reception for Bonfires & Bugs

Thursday, March 13, 2008, 5:00 - 7:00 PM

2008 Class Schedule

Electrostatics

Sat. 1/12, 19, 26 (10:00 AM - Noon)

Instructors: Jim Wall & Dor Hesselgrave

Designing for Superheroes

Sat. 1/12, 19 (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Instructor: Jeff Risberg

Magnetism & Electromagnetism

Sat. 2/2, 9, 16, 23 (10:00 AM - Noon)

Instructor: Larry Pizzella

Basic Electric Circuits

Sat. 3/8, 15, 22, 29 (10:00 AM - Noon)

Instructors: Dor Hesselgrave & Jim Wall

Transistors & Vacuum Tubes

Sat. 4/5, 12, 19, 26 (10:00 AM - Noon)

Instructor: Larry Pizzella

Build a Crystal Radio

Sat. 5/3, 10, 17, 31 (10:00 AM - Noon)

Instructor: Larry Pizzella

Integrated Circuits

Sat. 6/7, 14, 21, 28 (10:00 AM - Noon)

Instructor: Larry Pizzella

Permanent Exhibits of the Early 20th Century

General Store
Kitchen
Print Shop
Williams Gardens
Smith's Shop Machine

Collections Corner

Laundry Area

Lab

Recent Acquisitions

Mini-MOAHs (Offsite Exhibits)

Stanford Federal Credit Union

694 Pampas Lane, Stanford

Little House

800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park

Bell's Books

536 Emerson St., Palo Alto

For the latest information and class
registration materials, visit

www.moah.org or call 650.321.1004.

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