



Cotati Historical Society  
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 CotatiMuseum.org 707-794-0305  
 A 501(c) (3) non-profit, Tax ID# 300421172

## Newsletter

## Summer/Fall 2023

### Cotati Turns 60

**D**uring July, the City of Cotati turned 60 years old! Incorporation was approved by 84% of the voters in 1963. That is a number you just don't see in voting on most any topic these days.

Here are some other notable differences between 1963 and 2023:

<u>Item</u>	<u>1963 prices</u>	<u>Today</u>
Loaf of bread	\$0.22	\$4.50
Dozen eggs	\$0.49	\$4.82
Box of cereal	\$0.27	\$6.00
Ground beef (per lb)	\$0.45	\$5.43

Today, Cotati is a fully-fledged city with an efficient form of government, independent police department, public works, community development, recreation, and planning and building departments and an active citizens' planning commission.

The downtown's general stores of the past have given way to sidewalk cafes and restaurants, salons, and shops, and former farmland on the west side of town is home to industrial and business parks. But Cotati citizens remain as independent and forward-thinking as those early small-farm owners and business people who created the charming and quirky, artistic and musical, country-town energy that Cotati continues to pour forth.

Happy Birthday Cotati, You look great!



Cotati City Hall today (above) and when it was a school.



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## Free Walking Tours Return

**O**ur very popular History Walking Tours of the downtown area are back! Last summer was the first year we provided these and they were at maximum capacity.

Here is this year's tentative schedule:

July 15, August 12, September 9 and October 14.

Tours last for approximately 1.5 - 2 hours and begin at 11 AM in La Plaza Park.

You can sign-up by sending us an email at [cotatimuseum@gmail.com](mailto:cotatimuseum@gmail.com) or by leaving a message at 707-794-0305 and leave your name and the date you are interested in and how many in your group.

Make sure to wear comfortable walking shoes. Since it will take place outdoors, don't forget the sunscreen!

### Ongoing Business Memberships

Church of the Oaks

Exchange Bank

Hines Signs

History/Genealogy of Sonoma County

Professional Framing Services

## CHS Unveils New Logo and Website

**W**ith the professional work done by Flannel ([flannelbrand.com](http://flannelbrand.com)), CHS has unveiled our new logo and website.

Look at the features on our revised website which allows the user to search for names that have appeared in articles and a host of additional features. Dennis and Liz Derammelaere provided expertise along the way in developing our new logo and website redesign and continue to assist us in adding new features to our website.

Be sure to bookmark our new web address ([CotatiMuseum.org](http://CotatiMuseum.org)) and update your contact list with our new email address ([cotatimuseum@gmail.com](mailto:cotatimuseum@gmail.com)).



# *Time* **TRAVELERS**

The Cotati Historical Society is now a member in Time Travelers. As a member of the Cotati Historical Society, you can receive discounts and other benefits at Time Travelers member museums around the country. There are currently 49 museums in California and over 400 across the country. It simply works off the honor system, you only need to mention you are a member of the Cotati Historical Society to receive benefits. No membership cards are needed. The Museums you visit, if they choose, will look at the website to see if the Cotati Historical Society is one of the participating members and trust that the individuals are in fact, members. That's it!

## **What Is Time Travelers?**

Time Travelers is a free reciprocal membership network for historical museums, sites, and societies throughout the United States. The Missouri Historical Society created the program in 1998 so that members of historical institutions could receive exclusive benefits and privileges at museums and historical sites nationwide. Currently, the Time Travelers program includes over 400 organizations in more than 45 states across the country. Members of these organizations can receive a variety of exclusive benefits and privileges, such as free admission, gift shop discounts, and much, much more.

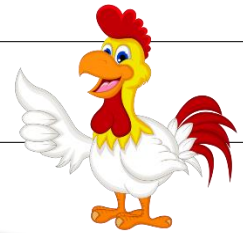
**For the most updated information, including a list of participating organizations, please visit [timetravelers.mohistory.org/institutions/](http://timetravelers.mohistory.org/institutions/)**



The former Cotati Realty Co. building, currently Super Burger.



## Chicken Barbecue is Back!



Images top to bottom: Grilling the chicken around 6 AM; vintage and roadster car show a huge success and turnout; serving up the delicious food; and volunteers from local schools.

(photos by Jerry Pagnusat)





## Chicken Barbecue is Back!



Images top to bottom: people enjoyed both outdoor and indoor eating; dessert table goodies; The Bluebyrds entertaining the crowd; and silent auction items. (photos by Jerry Pagnusat)



## Thomas Page Academy 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip

The annual educational experience for Cotati fourth graders was started back in 2011 by Lisa Moore.

This field trip for the fourth graders of Thomas Page Academy once again resumed after missing this event for two years (COVID-related). The students arrived by school bus on April 5 to absorb more knowledge of California's history and to hear how city government works.

Forty-two students, teachers Ms. Kiyoko Nakano and Ms. Katherine Ness, and other chaperones were present for the event. The visitors were divided into four groups and guided by CHS volunteers Marie Aggio, Pamela Wilford, Margie Cassero, Sandy Divine, Greg Fautley, Ed Gilardi, Elizabeth Olson, and Judy Gustafson through four learning stations.



Velma DiMeola greeted the students in the museum to explain the contents of the museum and gave the rules for a set of scavenger hunt questions which the students busily completed making sure to spell the answers correctly and capitalize proper nouns.

Lisa Moore guided each group through each department in City Hall introducing the workers and described the type of work done in that office so the students could understand. An officer met the students at the police station to explain the function of the police department and its equipment. This is always the students' favorite stop on the field trip. Marie McNaughton gave a wonderful slide show presentation of Cotati's history starting with the local Coast Miwok people and moving on to the Cotati Rancho, the Page family, and finally the forming of the city of Cotati.



Thomas Page Academy 4<sup>th</sup> graders recently enjoyed a field trip to Cotati City Hall with visits to the Museum as well as the various Departments including the Police Station.

Each student went home with a goodie bag from the police department, a bookmark and historical information from the museum, and a reusable shopping bag donated by Recology. Thankfully, Jerry Pagnusat comes to the event each year to take pictures for our collection. Ed Gilardi snapped a few as well.

# Thank You To Our New and Renewing Members and Donors

March 27, 2023 – July 31, 2023

## Individuals and Families

Mark & Shannon Ackerman  
Lillian Blodgett  
Margie Cassero  
Vanessa Aching Davenport & Family  
Vicki Dougan  
June Kimball  
Patrick & Anna Marshment  
Marie McNaughton  
Barbara Morrow  
Dan & Gemma Pardini  
Barbara Minatta Ryan  
Gary & Reta Santero  
Carol Williams

## Business Memberships

Millerick Bros., Jeffrey & Donald  
Rancho Adobe Firefighters Assn

## Memorial Donations

**Marion Ackerman** by Mark & Shannon Ackerman  
**Prue Draper** by Vanessa Aching Davenport & Family  
**Jennie Faletti** by Barbara Morrow  
**Mae Fisk** by Carole Otani  
**Ted & Tillie Millerick** by Millerick Bros  
**Ed & Annie Minatta** by Barbara Minatta Ryan  
**Ron, Barney & Evelyn Santero, Joe & Clara Santero, and Gus & Mary Bianchi** by Gary & Reta Santero  
**Kenny Warick** by Dan & Gemma Pardini

## Donations

Mark & Shannon Ackerman  
Vicki Dougan  
Marc Libarle  
Muriel Mahall  
Patrick & Anna Marshment  
Dan & Gemma Pardini  
Barbara Minatta Ryan  
Carol Williams

**Our Dues Have Changed –  
see back page for details**



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### 2023 Board of Directors

President	John Allred
Vice President	Ed Gilardi
Secretary	Velma DiMeola
Treasurer	Bobbie Veronda
Archiving Administrator	Judy Gustafson
Communications/Outreach	John Dell'Osso

### The CHS Mission

Our mission is to preserve Cotati history through the acquisition and preservation of artifacts, photos, archives, and other historical materials. We provide resources for visitors and researchers interested in Cotati's unique past. Our community outreach program enables us to support Cotati-related cultural activities and events and to maintain reciprocal relations.



### Membership/Dues/Donations 2023

This form may be used for new & renewal memberships, general or memorial donations. Thank you for your support of Cotati Historical Society.

**Dues: Individual \$20, Family (All members of same household) \$25, Business \$40**

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want to join/renew my/our membership thru 2023: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ An additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Member Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

A memorial donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an acknowledgment to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to: **Cotati Historical Society, PO Box 7013, Cotati CA 94931**