

July 1995 marks the fortieth anniversary of the Lindsay Museum Alliance and provides an opportunity to reflect, to celebrate and to recognize past achievements.

Reports of the successive years, 1955 - 1995, will allow you to realize the extraordinary and enthusiastic support of The Lindsay Museum Alliance in the formation and operation of The Lindsay Museum.

1960

The sixties arrive – fund raising is paramount and in full gear. Service to the museum is continuing to distribute registration forms to all schools for the summer workshops. Older students are now attending classes at DVC and 7-12 year olds are at Walnut Creek School.

In February 1962 the sought after Virginia Stanton, Food Editor for "House Beautiful", was speaker for a luncheon and tickets were in demand. When Sandy Lindsay died this year at age 44, the museum's name was changed to honor him and his foresight and commitment to the children of the entire Diablo Valley community.

May of 1963 – Alliance members packed delicious food in cute made-over shoe boxes and sold lunches, transportation and tickets to the San Francisco Giants vs Philadelphia Phillies game at shivery Candlestick. October 1964, the big money making effort by the Alliance was the delightful Little Fox Theater

Party with a benefit performance by the Fantastics. It's 1966, the Museum has a home to call its own - East Bay Mud's Pump House in Larkey Park. Once only ten strong and still only 35 members, the tiny group of women who support the Museum sometimes thought it would be forever homeless, but never did the members give up hope. With the new home, the Alliance conceived new ways to raise money and all were enormously successful - a bookstore was opened, a luncheon at El Charro restaurant where the arts and fashions of Mexico were the attraction. Members were asked to model clothes for the opening of the W&J Sloane store in Walnut Creek and the money raised benefited the Museum and museum displays were always in view

Our logo Owl pins were first ordered in the sixties-the original pins cost \$4.00. The Pet Library was started.



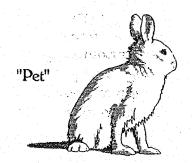
Marching into the 70's, the annual Christmas Boutique continued to bring in crowds of buyers and money. A Dodge van, housing a traveling exhibit of reptiles and animals which visited schools and other locations, was donated.

"We're Having Company" a cook book of favored recipes of Alliance members was made in '73 with all copies sold at first printing.

The Alliance in '75 was really alive. We were asked to donate money for the Wildlife Rescue Program, as well as for TV films, canoes, carriers and construction materials for cages. The cages then required the purchase of a band saw, a radial saw, drill press and other tools to equip the Museum Woodshop. The Docent Council request for \$1,000 to enhance and expand the school program was honored.

A delicious Food Fare and raffle of a nature design quilt provided the means to purchase a photo enlarger, but the grand raffle of all time was the needlepoint rug designed and made by members of the alliance in 177. This gave us the opportunity to buy two freezers – a walk-in model and one for freeze-dried specimens.

In 1978 the first large rummage sale was held in a closed grocery store. Christened "Pack Rat", the sale now in its 17th year, continues to "pack in and pack out". Autumn Elegance was the table setting party in the beautiful hilltop home of a member. This was also the year that jurisdiction of the Pet Library was moved to the museum board.



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The necessity for a larger up-dated home ushers in the 80's. Location, architecture, design for animal needs, development and the ways to bring about a new museum dominate every meeting and fund raiser.

Christmas card sale parties are held in member's homes and at the museum. Books of cards are delivered by a dedicated member to banks, real estate offices, shopping centers and to tables in front of selected locations. Profits were small but continued to grow to a major funding account.

After 20 years in the pump house, remodeling was necessary. The store, all 84 angled feet, made the largest profit to date, over \$5,000. The best available copy machine was purchased for the staff and development director, whose offices were in the White House. The woodshop behind them was always in use.

The scramble to move the large fashion show luncheon from the beautiful gardens of a member to the multi-purpose room of a near-by school was reluctantly made because of rain. Nevertheless the tightly packed guests were rewarded with outrageous banter and flirting from the two celebrity commentators.

To celebrate the remodeling of the museum, a tented Safari Party complete with a jungle bar, African dancers and Leopard Lounge was held in October '87. An enthusiastic crowd enjoyed the balmy evening with authentic safari food. Tickets were \$50 a plate and each member was responsible for four couples.

The last five years of the '80's the alliance reached their goal of giving to the museum \$100,000.





In quiet moments inspiration comes and ideas form that germinate seeds of learning to benefit all, especially the youth. In 1955 a small group of citizens, headed by Alexander "Sandy" Lindsay, formed a non-profit corporation called the Diablo Junior Museum. Following that formation an organization of volunteer women known as the Alliance was formed. Its purpose was to contribute to the support of the Museum.

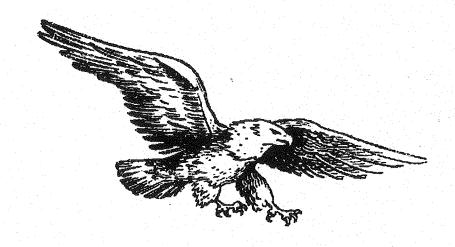
Seven Hills Ranch, home of the Lindsays. became the permanent address for the Museum and provided the guest cottage where Alliance members made items for the first ever Christmas Boutique. The invitation boutique continued for many years and the "stand-in-line" crowds for the doors to open provided generous monetary support. Animals were housed and cared for at the Lindsay's and were used for the summer program, including the first Bobcat shipped from Idaho by the brother of an Alliance member. Sachet, the de-scented skunk, frequented workshop

cottage. At the close of 1955 a Junior Museum Fair was held in conjunction with the Walnut Festival and Alliance members prepared the exhibit and refreshments.

That first year a six-week summer workshop program of natural sciences was offered. Alliance members were in charge of enrollments and transportation duties, thus was launched the program to educate children about animals and the environment.

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"Sachet"







Perfect weather greeted guests for the rare opportunity to tour the spacious homes of Old Diablo in May of '91. Ticket sales were large and proceeds were phenomenal, exceeding all past fund raisers. Tea time became lunch time as guests lingered poolside and on the veranda of a member's lovely old home, as frantic kitchen help tried to keep ahead of the rapidly disappearing food trays.

In '92 we acted as host for a fashion show produced by Nordstrom. Changes were made in the store to further our growing sales.

This is the "big year". In '93 the Alliance hired a full-time manager for the store. The awaited for moment arrived with the opening to the public of the museum on December 5th. The response was fantastic. There can be no doubt that the hopes of the Alliance of 40 years ago had surpassed every dream and expectation.

In 1994 more than \$45,000 was given to the

museum for computers, mini-blinds, feed for the animals, year-end operating expenses, as well as additional displays for the enlarged store.

The Alliance has always attracted members of creative and artistic abilities, organizational skills and women who were challenged by committed hard work.

As we celebrate our fortieth anniversary we should reflect on a quote from Sandy Lindsay: "The Diablo Junior Museum will grow and prosper and succeed in a accomplishing its purpose in life. It will do so because the community, people of all ages, want it to succeed. In the process, problems will arise and will be solved; delays and minor frustration will be met and surmounted; fund needs will be raised; and, of great importance, the children of all the Mount Diablo area will have the chance and encouragement to explore and enjoy the wonderful world of nature."

Others had that vision and dream. Dreams become reality as the Museum continues to grow solidly