

4th

QUARTER
of 2025

A Quarterly Newsletter brought to you by the collaborative efforts of:

- Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company
- Pauma Valley Roadway Association
- Pauma Valley Community Services District
- With special thanks to our guest author, Shari Crall

Pauma Valley Community Newsletter

October 28th, 2025

5th Edition

Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company

There has been no new information submitted for this Quarter's Newsletter from the Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company.



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Pauma 1846: Justice, Loss, Jackson

By Shari Crall

A very old book and a very new book give us a bird's eye view of the Pauma Valley of the mid-nineteenth century, detailing violent battle, broken treaties, forced displacement, and a famous author who, with her novel, *Ramona*, had a similar impact on the nation's conscience regarding native Americans as Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, had for enslaved people. The old book is titled, *A Century of Dishonor*, published by Helen Hunt Jackson in 1881, who followed this non-fiction work with her novel, *Ramona*, in 1884. The new book is *The Temecula Massacre*, published by the Pechanga Tribe's Great Oak Press in 2024, written by tribal historians Gary P. DuBois and Lisa L. Woodward. I recently picked up both books, turning right to the pages about Pauma.

I was familiar with the December 1846 Battle of San Pasqual in Escondido and the ensuing Temecula Massacre, but I did not know there was a Pauma event between the two. All were part of the Mexican-American War that eventually forced Mexico to cede their northern territories, including California, to the United States. The story is complex with many factions.

The main combatants were the Mexican and American armies. However, land in Southern California had been granted by the Mexican government to wealthy citizens mainly of Spanish descent. Going by the moniker, Californios, they aligned with the Mexican government, wanting to keep claim to their land. In addition, local tribes protected their own interests, sometimes shifting alliances between the US and Mexican/Californio sides.

First, the Pauma Massacre and then a little information on Helen Hunt Jackson's research on the valley 35 years later. The Battle of San Pasqual was fought between US Army forces and the Californios, who were aligned with the Mexican government. Both sides

claimed victory, the Californios because of the heavy losses they inflicted on the Americans, and the Americans because they held the battlefield and eventually proceeded to San Diego, effectively taking control of Southern California. Tensions were high in the complex interplay of all the parties. Both Californios and Mexicans feared the more numerous Indians in the local valleys were siding with the Americans as tribal anger increased over Mexican harassment including killings, raping of tribal women and robberies.

After the San Pasqual battle, most of the Californios dispersed to their homes or toward Los Angeles. However, eleven Californio men traveled with José Antonio Serrano to the Pauma Ranch, which land he had been granted in 1844. According to DuBois and Woodward, the Californio men attacked and killed several "Indians while stealing a herd of Luiseño horses and other property." Luiseño referenced several tribes, including San Luis Rey, Pala, Pechanga, San Pasqual, Rincón, and Sobóba, who had been connected to the San Luis Rey mission. The eleven men, including several members of Serrano's family, were "eminent and highly positioned members of the Californio elite."

Manuelito Cota, the leader of the Luiseño bands, came to the Serrano adobe and apprehended the Californio men. Since Serrano and Cota had a friendly relationship, DuBois and Woodward stated the Californio contingent were perhaps unconcerned with the arrival of Cota and his men. The Californio men were taken to the Cupa Indian village near Warner Springs, also known as Agua Caliente. Here Luiseño and Cupeño leaders came together to discuss punishment for the crimes of the eleven men.

According to DuBois and Woodward, Cota was in favor of setting the men free. However, the decision of the

Pauma Valley Roadway Association

By George Pink, Board President

This year, our roadwork included slurry coating several streets within the community. Next year we will expand our coverage and have a major grind and paving of Pauma Valley Drive. Our goal is to grind and pave from the Country Club entrance and end at the back gate. To do this entire stretch of the road it will take two years. A consultant will be on site to ensure the work is performed up to the standard required.

It is important that members and guests observe the speed limits and drive with caution to ensure the safety of individuals on the roads. Our roads are subject to patrol by the Sheriff and violations can be addressed.

We encourage all residents to review and ensure that their trees and bushes do not interfere with the roads. This can cause a problem in the event of a fire or cause an accident related to individuals on the roads.

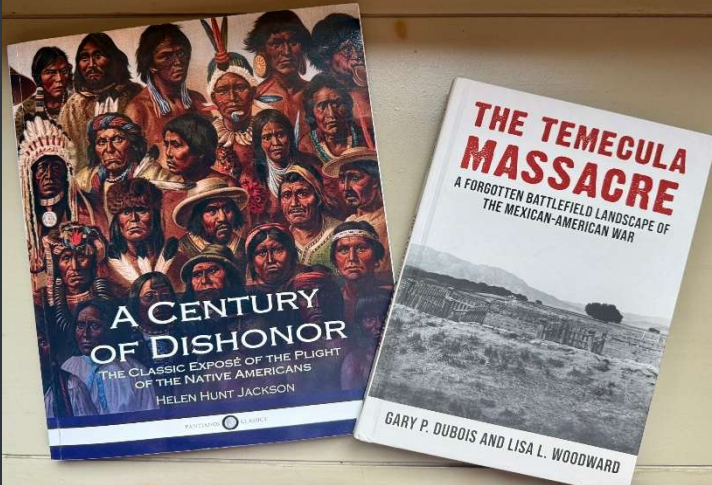
Roadway is responsible for the maintenance of the roads and collects an annual assessment from members that is due on January 1st of every year which is required by our legal documents. It is the responsibility of every member to maintain their contact information with Mauzy Management to ensure that we can communicate with them and that their invoice is sent to the proper address. In addition, every member is responsible to ensure that their landscaping does not encroach on the road. If they do not maintain their landscaping, roadway will make the adjustments and bill the member for the cost.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Mauzy Management at:

audrey@mauzymanagement.com

or (858) 618-3365 for George Pink, the President of the Pauma Valley Roadway Association.

George Pink, Board President



council was to sentence the men to death, which took place immediately. The authors pointed out that "calling the event the 'Pauma Massacre' is a complete misnomer, and demeans the well-considered judgment and sentencing of a multi-tribal council . . .".

These events set up the subsequent Temecula Massacre where up to one hundred Pechanga men were killed. Californio troops, aided by Cahuilla men from the Jurupa area who were aligned with the powerful Californio José del Carmen Lugo, laid an ambush. But that's a story for another day.

Skipping forward 35 years to 1881, Helen Hunt Jackson came to the area researching her expose, A Century of Dishonor: A Sketch of the United States Government's Dealings With Some of the Indian Tribes. In her book she documented the mistreatment of Native Americans across the United States. To make sure the story was known, she sent every member of Congress a copy at her own expense. Dissatisfied with the response, she followed the expose with the 1884 romantic novel, Ramona, which succeeded in bringing the attention to injustice that she desired. You have probably heard of or even attended the outdoor Ramona Pageant, which has run continuously since 1923, at the Ramona Bowl in Hemet.

"She sent every member of congress a copy at her own expense"

Shari Crall

The book gave short summaries on Pala and its Neighborhood, the Pachanga (sic) Indians, and the

Pauma Ranch. She described this valley as "a beautiful spot, surrounded by high hills, with wooded spars, and green bits of meadow here and there.... It has always been a favorite spot with the San Luis Rey Indians, some five or six hundred of whom are living in the region." Jackson discussed the local tribes and their distrust of the US government as tracts of land within reservation boundaries had been returned to the public domain "to be patented by whites." Hunt said this left very little arable land to the Pala tribe in particular.

Hunt described the Rincon Reservation as having better land and "a village of nearly two hundred Indians; their fields are fenced, well irrigated, and under good cultivation in grains and vegetables. They have stock – cattle, horses and sheep." Rincon members told Jackson they had lost faith in US government agents, "The commissioners come one day and tell us we own the lands and fields; the next day comes somebody and measures, and then we are out of our houses and fields and have to live like dogs."

Hunt's recommendation was for the Pauma Ranch to be purchased for "Indian occupancy," citing the original Pauma Ranch land grant which stated, "They shall have free the arable lands now occupied by the Indians who are established thereon, as also the lands they may need for their small quantity of live stock."

An exhibit in the book described the Pauma Ranch as lying "on the San Luis Rey River, between the Rincon and Pala Reservations. It contains three leagues of land, largely upland and mesa, good for pasturage and dry farming. It can be irrigated by bringing water from the San Luis Rey

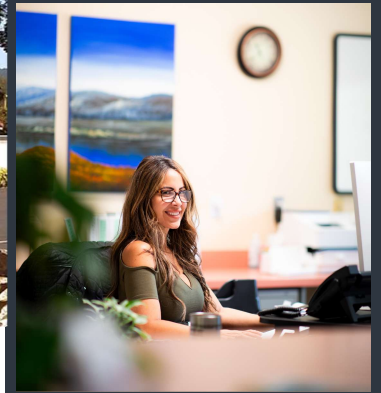
"She described this valley as "a beautiful spot, surrounded by high hills, with wooded spars, and green bits of meadow here and there..."

Shari Crall

River. There is some timber on it; also some bottom-lands along the river and along the Pauma Creek." According to Hunt, the land was owned by the Bishop of Monterey and Los Angeles, who had agreed to sell it to the US government for \$31,000 in gold coin.

As we enjoy this beautiful valley today, it is interesting to know more of our local history.

Shari Crall



From the General Manager's Desk

By Eric Steinlicht, General Manager

Welcome, Pauma Valley residents, to the fourth quarter of 2025!

As we approach year's end, I'm excited to share key updates on our District's progress, from community events to policy changes and future planning. Your active participation strengthens our community, and I appreciate the ongoing support that keeps Pauma Valley vibrant and resilient.

Our October 18th public workshop on the Cost-of-Service Analysis (COSA) and Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) annexation process was a resounding success. With strong attendance, residents engaged deeply, offering questions and feedback that will shape our decisions. Thank you to everyone who joined – your input is **invaluable!** The COSA evaluates service delivery costs to ensure fair rates, while LAFCO explores boundary expansions for compliance. For those who missed it, mark your

proposed rate increases: November 17th, 2025, at 10 AM at our administrative offices. If approved by the Board, these changes will start in January 2026, addressing rising costs while prioritizing affordability and transparency.

Externally, the federal government shutdown has delayed our cybersecurity grant funding. We've advanced projects and submitted for initial reimbursements, expected to process smoothly. However, following Board guidance, we're pausing further work until resolution to avoid risks. Our existing cybersecurity protocols remain strong, built from prior investments.

Internally, the Board approved an Ad-Hoc committee to review security division policies. A highlight is the new Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) policy, effective July 2026. It sets device costs at \$40 each, with a \$20 annual renewal fee, to support relative administrative

costs and maintenance of the system. Staff has also installed new signage at all community gates for improved clarity and safety, and we're finalizing a guest-specific sign at the front entrance. We're investigating alternative in-person payment options, such as contactless methods, and developing an intuitive online system for RFID management to simplify renewals and tracking.

Thanks to COSA insights and staff's creative cost-saving strategies we're advancing toward solid financial health. Post the COSA, we're on track to craft a District Strategic Plan, focused on Board objectives.

Please reach out with questions—I'm here to help. Together, we're ensuring Pauma Valley's bright future. Thank you!

Next Regular Meeting of the Board:

**Monday, November 17th, 2025,
at 10:00 AM**

Best Regards,

Eric Steinlicht

Upcoming Board Meetings

➤ Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company

WHEN: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17th, 2025, AT 2:00 PM
WHERE: 33129 Cole Grade Road, Pauma Valley CA 92061
WEBSITE: <https://www.ranchopaumamwc.com/>

➤ Pauma Valley Roadway Association

WHEN: TUESDAY, JANUARY 13th, 2025, AT 6:00 PM
WHERE: RTJ Room, Pauma Valley Country Club
WEBSITE: <https://www.roadwayassn.org/>

➤ Pauma Valley Community Services District

WHEN: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17th, 2025, AT 10:00 AM
WHERE: 33129 Cole Grade Road, Pauma Valley CA 92061
WEBSITE: <https://www.paumavalleycsd.ca.gov/>


PAUMA VALLEY
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

33129 Cole Grade Road, Pauma Valley, CA 92061
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