

PLUGGED IN

FUN FOR KIDS

A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE, PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY, AND ART

GET connected connected

GET CONNECTED WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE:

 Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
805-966-7107; www.channelislands.noaa.gov

 Santa Barbara Mission Museum
805-682-4149

 Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation
805-965-0093; www.sbbthp.org

 Ganna Walska Lotusland
805-969-3767; www.lotusland.org

 Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
805-682-4726; www.sbbg.org

 Channel Islands National Park
805-658-5730; www.nps.gov/

 Santa Barbara Maritime Museum
805-962-8404; www.sbbmm.org

 Santa Barbara Museum of Art
805-963-4364; www.sbma.net

 Santa Barbara Historical Museum
805-966-1601

 Goleta Valley Historical Society
805-964-4407; www.goletahistory.org

 Elverhøj Museum of History & Art
805-686-1211 www.elverhoj.org/

 Santa Barbara Public Library System
805-962-7653; www.sbpblibrary.org

 Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum
805-962-5322; www.karpeles.com

 Carriage and Western Art Museum of Santa Barbara
805-962-2353; www.carriagemuseum.org

 Cachuma Lake Nature Center, Inc.
805-693-0691

 University Art Museum, UCSB
805-893-2951 www.uam.ucsb.edu

 Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
www.sbnature.org; 805-682-4711

 Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens
805-962-5339 www.sbzoo.org

 Santa Barbara County Parks
805-568-2461 www.sbparks.com

 Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum
805-966-5373; www.sbcfa.org

 Art From Scrap
805-884-0459 www.artfromscrap.org

 USDA Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest
805-968-6640 www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres

 South Coast Railroad Museum
805-964-3540; www.goletadepot.org

This Month's Theme: How Objects Tell a Story

Ever wonder why some museums are full of old things? Ever wonder where they came from and why someone kept them? Old things, objects, and artifacts, tell stories. Heirlooms, family treasures passed down from one generation to the next, carry stories as well.

Heirlooms

Objects can tell stories of the past, of the people who owned them, of how those people lived, and who they were. These stories help us understand where we came from and who we are. How do these objects tell stories? How do they help us remember the past? Why is that important?

Roll Call



Rancheros Vistadores guitar and case

Photo by Douglas Diller

Do you play the guitar? Guitars are often associated with cowboys and ranchers. At the Santa Barbara Historical Museum, we have a unique guitar case. The entire front and back of the 70 year-old leather case is covered with almost 150 signatures of past members of the Santa Barbara equestrian group, *Los Rancheros Vistadores*. Signatures include heavyweight boxing champ Max Baer and Chicago Cubs owner and chewing gum magnate Phillip Wrigley, as well as singers, comedians, saddle makers, and politicians. Rarely shown in public, this guitar case can be seen now through the summer in a special exhibit. Stop by and see if you can find Walt Disney's signature!

Visit the Public Library and look for books about heirlooms and stories such as: *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox; *My Mother's Pearls* by Catherine Myler Fruisen; *The Copper Tin Cup* by Carole Lexa Schaefer and many more.

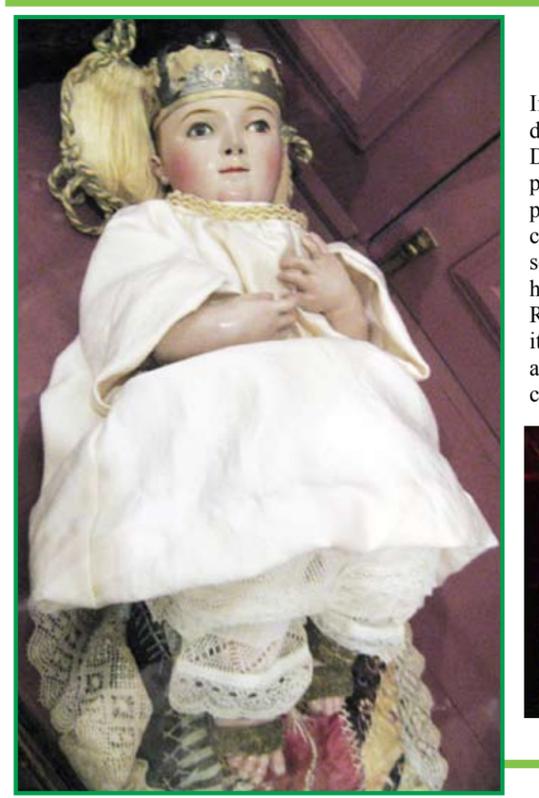
Treasured Teapot



Ida Hollister's Teapot

Photo by John Vampola

You can find the above object at the **Stow House***Rancho La Patera. The story behind this teapot begins with the legend of young Ida Hollister, who first arrived in the Goleta Valley in 1853. Early one morning on a stagecoach visit to family, Ida and her sister found no one to greet them when they got off the stagecoach. Out of the morning mist came a horse and buggy with Mister Sherman Stow aboard. He greeted the girls and escorted them to Glen Annie Ranch. From this chance meeting, Ida and Sherman fell in love and soon married. When Ida moved into the Stow House in 1872, she brought her teapot with her. What a special heirloom! What conversations took place around this teapot? How did the guests dress? It is fun to imagine the stories behind the objects in museums.

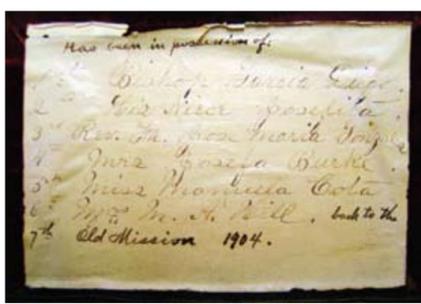


The Bishop's Doll

If the "Bishop's Doll" could talk it could tell us about many different owners. We know it first belonged to Bishop Garcia Diego who came to Santa Barbara in 1844. It was probably part of an old Christmas crèche display. Where else has this pink cheeked baby been? We can find some clues if we look carefully. Under the seat of the doll's tiny chair, you can still see the faded names of the doll's owners: first the Bishop, then his niece Josefita, then the Mission pastor Father Gonzalez-Rubio, then Josepha Burke and finally Manuela Cota who gave it back to the Mission more than 60 years after the Bishop arrived with it. Come see this much-traveled doll and his little chair at the Santa Barbara Mission Museum.



Bishop's Doll (far left), chair (right), and underside of chair.



Bishop's Doll photos by Kristina W. Foss

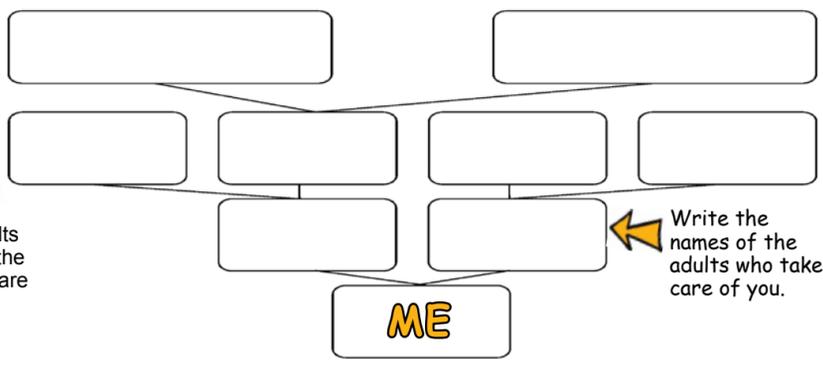
Museums are full of objects that tell stories. Use your **Passport to Santa Barbara** or download one from <http://www.sbert.org/programs.php> to visit our local museums for **FREE** to explore their stories. Hurry! The Passport program ends April 30, 2008!

Your Family Treasures

Someone in your family may have something they kept from long ago, maybe from a grandparent. You may have a treasure you want to keep and give to your children or nieces and nephews when you grow up. Look at the generation tree: can you fill in the names of some of these people in your family, the people that live with you and the adults that take care of you? Does someone have an object that connects more than one person on the family tree?

Can you go back farther, to another, earlier generation?

Write the names of the adults who took care of the adults who take care of you.



ME

Write the names of the adults who take care of you.

 Marine Science Institute, UCSB
805-893-8765 www.msi.ucsb.edu

 Kids Do Ecology
National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis
805-892-2500 nceas.ucsb.edu/nceas-web/kids

 Wildling Art Museum
805-688-1082 www.wildlingmuseum.org

 Ty Warner Sea Center
805-962-2526 www.sbnature.org

 The Outdoor School at Rancho Alegre
805-686-5167 www.theoutdoorschool.org

 The Center for Urban Agriculture at Fairview Gardens
805-967-7369 www.fairviewgardens.org

Page by Tina Foss, Santa Barbara Mission Museum; Robin Roe, Santa Barbara Historical Museum; and Cheryl Vampola, Stow House* Rancho La Patera.



Plugged-In Is Sponsored By **Rabobank**

