

NEWS from the SANTA YNEZ VALLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

For Immediate Release: October 18, 2018

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Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum 34th Annual Vaquero Show & Western Collectable Sale Set for November 9-11, 2018

~Events include Friday Preview Party and Dinner/Auction; Two-Day Show, Vaquero Demonstrations & Live Music



CAPTION: A highlight of the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum's Vaquero Show weekend is the gathering of noted artisans from throughout the United States displaying and selling quality Western artwork, apparel, memorabilia, as well as hand-tooled leather saddles, braided vaquero-styled riatas, bridles, reins and horse tack.

ALL photos available hi-res; request from laura@mariahmarketing.com

Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara County, California—The public is invited to attend the **34th Annual Vaquero Show & Western Collectable Sale** events from **Friday, November 9 through Sunday, November 11, 2018**, at the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum (SYVHM), 3596 Sagunto Street in downtown Santa Ynez. The weekend celebration honors the lifestyle, culture and renowned horsemanship of the California Vaquero (cowboy) which evolved into a distinctive style of apparel, tack, saddles and other unique horse equipment. All proceeds from the Vaquero Show & Western Collectable Sale events benefit the non-profit SYVHM in its mission of creating a better future for the Santa Ynez Valley by inspiring generations to find wonder and meaning in our past.

During the weekend, **25 noted artisans, craftsmen and collectors** from throughout the western United States gather to display and sell their custom, hand-tooled leather saddles, braided Vaquero styled riatas, silver spurs, bridles, bits, and reins. The show also features quality western art, classic apparel, old West memorabilia, custom boots, hand crafted jewelry, leather goods, hats, books and collectables. Throughout the weekend, there will be live demonstrations of the unique styles of the Californio Vaquero tradition from experts including 2012 Vaquero of the Year Bruce Sandifer.



An individual who exemplifies the Vaquero lifestyle or is actively involved in the preservation of Vaquero heritage is selected as the "Honored Vaquero" each year. **Paul Righetti has been named the 2018 Honored Vaquero (pictured at left astride his horse, Peyton Manning).** A fourth generation Santa Maria rancher, Paul was born in 1948 and is a graduate of Righetti High School (named after his uncle) and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. His great-grandfather started the Righetti cattle operation in 1886 and Paul took over the enterprise when his father died unexpectedly at a young age in 1979. In 1970, Paul married Susan Minetti (whose parents Clarence and Rosalie founded the Far Western Tavern); joining two celebrated Santa Maria families by marriage. All of Paul's family members and in-law relations are involved in the ranching enterprise including his son, Tim, and his daughter, Renee. The family is dedicated to organic ranching techniques and strategies as an integral part of their business plan. Paul's commitment to the Vaquero way of honoring the land and his family shine through his entire life.



Jim Stuckenberg has been named 2018 Vaquero Artist of the Year (pictured at left). He is known as one of the last true “Cowboy Artists,” as widely recognized and sought after as Frederic Remington and C.M Russell. Stuckenberg was born deaf in 1943 on a farm in St. Louis, Missouri; learned to read lips at age four; graduated high school and received a degree in animal science from Fresno State University. His love of horses led him to work for famed racehorse trainer D. Wayne Lukas where he began dabbling with watercolor painting and eventually moved into Western sculpture, oils, pen & ink, and pencil artwork. Stuckenberg’s artistic career has expanded exponentially over the decades, with many private and corporate collectors including President Ronald Reagan, Fess Parker, the Hearst family, and Wells Fargo; and he has shows in galleries and museums nationwide. He has also continued his equestrian life as the owner and trainer of many champion horses. Art critic George Batten stated, “One day Jim Stuckenberg’s works will be compared to the great artists of yesterday and today. But the fact is that it is already happening.”

Schedule of Events for 34th Annual Vaquero Show & Sale:

Friday, November 9, 2018

5:00 p.m.: Preview Party & Dinner/Auction - Attendees will enjoy visiting exhibitor displays and an opportunity for early shopping before the show opens to the public on Saturday, while sampling delicious appetizers, local wines, cocktails and listening to music performed by Sam Kulchin. Plus, a specially curated exhibit of the work of Cowboy Artist Jack Swanson (1927-2014) will be shown for the first time.

6:30 p.m.: Gala Dinner - Enjoy the presentation of the 2018 Honored Vaquero Paul Righetti and Artist Jim Stuckenberg as well as a spirited live auction of items donated by members and local businesses including a 4-day stay in Mammoth for 8 guests; trail ride and BBQ at the Chamberlin Ranch, and team sorting lessons at the Branquinho Ranch. A scrumptious plated sirloin and/ or pan-seared salmon dinner with all the trimmings catered by The Chef’s Touch will be served in the Museum’s courtyard. Friday evening event tickets are \$125 for museum members and \$150 for non-members. (Tickets include preview party, dinner, a drink ticket, auction and live entertainment).

Saturday, November 10, 2018

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Vaquero Show & Sale at the Historical Museum. A one-day pass for \$5 available at the gate.

11:00 a.m.: Live Vaquero Demonstration by Jeff Mundell and 2012 Vaquero of the Year Bruce Sandifer.

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: Cowboy BBQ Sandwich Lunch and Cocktails available for purchase in Museum courtyard.

12:00–4:00 p.m.: Musical entertainment by Brad Cooper in the Museum’s Courtyard.

5:00 p.m.: Exhibits close for today; will reopen on Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 11, 2018

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.: Vaquero Show & Sale at the Historical Museum. A one-day pass for \$5 available at the gate.

11:00 a.m.: Live Vaquero Demonstration by Jeff Derby and Bruce Sandifer, 2012 Vaquero of the Year.

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: Cowboy BBQ Sandwich Lunch and cocktails available for purchase in Museum’s courtyard.

12:00–3:00 p.m.: Musical entertainment by Owen Johnson in the Museum courtyard

3:00 p.m.: 2018 Show Closes

Advance ticket sales for the Vaquero Preview Party & Dinner/Auction are online at www.santaynezmuseum.org or at the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum, located on the corner of Sagunto and Faraday (3596 Sagunto Street) or by phoning 805-688-7889. Tickets for Saturday and Sunday Vaquero Show and live Vaquero demonstrations are \$5 per day and may be purchased online or at the gate.

The Vaquero Show & Sales is a community event sponsored, in part, by the **City of Solvang, C&D LLP, Platinum Performance and other local business supporters.** For more information, visit the 34th Annual Vaquero Show & Western Collectable Sale [Facebook Page](#) or www.santaynezmuseum.org

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