

DOWN WITH THE OLD UP WITH THE NEW

In 1964, the Fine Old Hall on Maple Street came down and the TVIC was homeless. Fortunately, this wouldn't last long. Since 1956, the TVIC had been in the process of purchasing a parcel of land approximately one acre in size. This land was located off Tennessee Valley Road and Marin Avenue. Plans for acquiring the site involved the Mill Valley School District, the State Board of Education, the Marin County Planning Commission, County Counsel Leland Jordan, and the property owner Allan M. Olds of Los Angeles.

In October 1959, Florence Glessner, a long time TVIC member and chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, received a letter of confirmation from Pacific Coast Title Company of Marin. It contained a policy of title and a letter stating that the deed would be forwarded after it had been copied in the records of the County Recorder.

At the next TVIC meeting a building committee was formed and plans for the development of the site began. The center planned at that time included a club hall, library, and meeting rooms.

Assisting Mrs. Glessner in acquiring the property were Esther and Joe Allen, Morris Batz, Grace Beals, Miriam Burdick, Ralph Groves, Nick Peneleton, Rich Perkins and Ovid Porter.

Going forward in time to 1968 when the new hall was completed, one has to marvel at what the members of the TVIC accomplished. They were true to the founders in their do-it-themselves attitude, and joined together to replace the Fine Old Hall on Maple Street.

The TVIC had a new address 203 Marin Avenue, Tamalpais Valley.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS

In 1994, the TVIC had to make some difficult decisions. Membership was declining and community involvement dwindled. The day of volunteering one's time was vanishing, the building and grounds needed maintenance and there was not enough money or manpower to continue as the TVIC had done for over 70 years. After numerous meetings the TVIC voted to enter into a 50 year lease for \$1.00 per year with the Tamalpais Valley Community Services District for their property at 203 Marin Avenue.

Though today Tamalpais Valley has a beautiful Community Center on Marin Ave, the decision was not an easy one to make.

Since 1921 the TVIC was the voice of the valley, they guided the valley through some difficult times, they provided the residents a gathering place for meetings, activities, and community events

The TVIC is still very active in community affairs and last year voted to sponsor and support the Tamalpais Valley Historical Guild, a small group of members who have been collecting the history of the valley since 1993.

The Guild has no pictures of fine old Victorian houses of the past. They do, however, have a picture of the Fine Old Hall on Maple Street that was built by TVIC members to serve all the residents of the valley.

The TVIC is also planning ahead for next year's production of the "Rhubarb Revue," their long running variety show and main fund raiser.

Read the Historical Notes in this edition of the "Progress." Become a part of the Valley's future and join the TVIC!

Eighty-five years and it keeps on going!