



**City of San Bernardino  
Historical and Pioneer Society  
P.O. Box 875, San Bernardino, CA 92402**

**LIBRARY NEWS MAY 2012**

By Richard D. Thompson, Librarian

**THE SATURDAY PROGRAM FOR MAY IS BY MEMBER AND RETIRED LOS ANGELES COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, STUART A. FORSYTH, WHO WILL PROVIDE A KEYNOTE (POWERPOINT) PRESENTATION ON THE BOMB PLANT IN WORLD WAR II SAN BERNARDINO. WE WILL MEET AT THE HERITAGE HOUSE, 8TH AND D STREETS, AT ONE P.M. ON SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2012.**

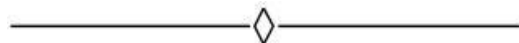
Stuart Forsyth has done extensive research for building a model of the rail facilities and the San Bernardino Bomb Loading Plant located on Mt. Vernon Avenue, north of Highland Avenue. His talk will focus on the role of the railroad in shipping products to and from the plant, as well as their use during the war. He also will discuss the Rialto Ammunition Back-Up Storage Point and the Los Angeles Port of Embarkation, to which carloads of incendiary bombs were shipped from the plant.

I well remember the concrete bunkers that dotted the area south of Little Mountain. These were present for decades after the war, and were not removed until the current golf course was built. (Northwest of Little Mountain was the quartermaster depot at Camp Ono, which may be the subject of a future presentation by Mr. Forsyth.)

The Bomb Plant presentation includes maps and photographs. Mr. Forsyth recently gave a highly-acclaimed talk at the Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society, entitled "Cajon at War." The May program will be more focused on the bomb and bomb storage sites in San Bernardino and Rialto, but broader questions can be asked following his presentation.

A good deal of information about this wartime activity has been uncovered by recent government studies, which can be found at the Feldheim Library, San Bernardino County Library and the National Archives at Riverside (Perris), CA. However, as far as I know, Mr. Forsyth is the first person to utilize the information from these studies and present it to the public.

**BE SURE TO MARK THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR.....YOU PROBABLY WILL NOT GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO SEE SUCH A UNIQUE PROGRAM.**



**DONATION OF TRANSPORTATION EPHEMERA**

Robert L. Gaddis, a Bakersfield collector of material pertaining to public transportation in California, selected out some items on the greater San Bernardino area and sent them to the Society. Some of the items are originals and they consist of bus line schedules or time tables, and what he calls "fare forms," which include tickets, transfers and passes.

He sent copies of the older, rarer items, which can be quite interesting. Below are a couple of examples:



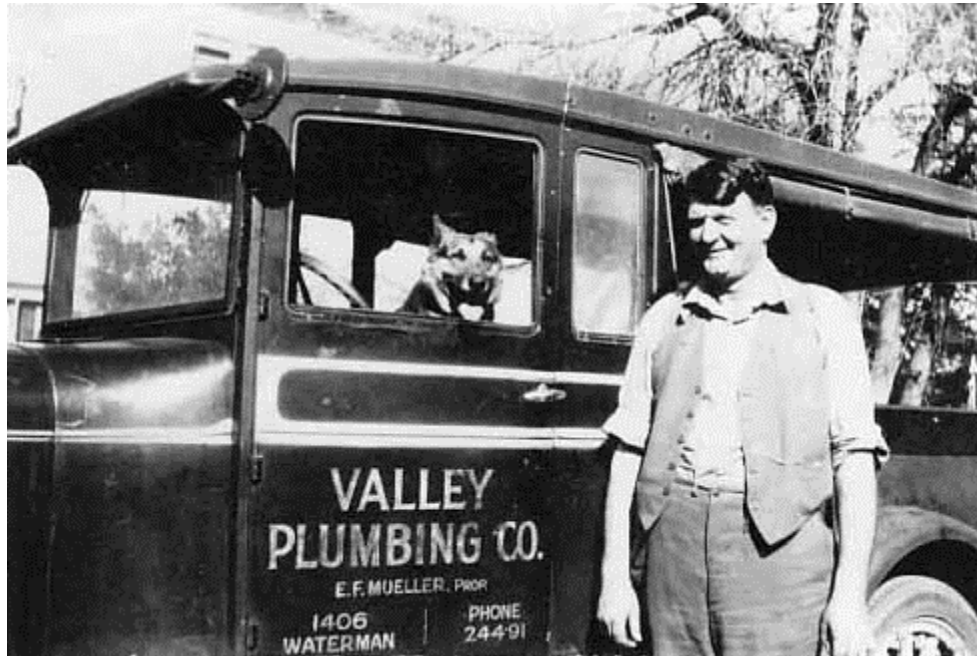
Gaddis gives the dates of 1901-1911 for the San Bernardino Valley Traction Company...



...and 1887-1903 for the Highland Railroad Company

#### DONATION OF PERSONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Four photographs belonging to Ann (Mueller) Ronning were recently donated to the Society, two of which appear below. One shows Ann's father, Ebenezer F. Mueller, standing next to his plumbing truck. As you can see, the business, Valley Plumbing Co., was located at 1406 Waterman. It looks like it might have been taken in the 1920s. That's Danny, a German Shepherd, sitting in the driver's seat.



**Eb Mueller and Danny**



**Nobody seems to know what connection, if any, Ann or her father had with the Prest Electric Co., and the location is unknown**

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