

# RANCHO BODEGA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## RBHS 20th Anniversary Celebration Coverage

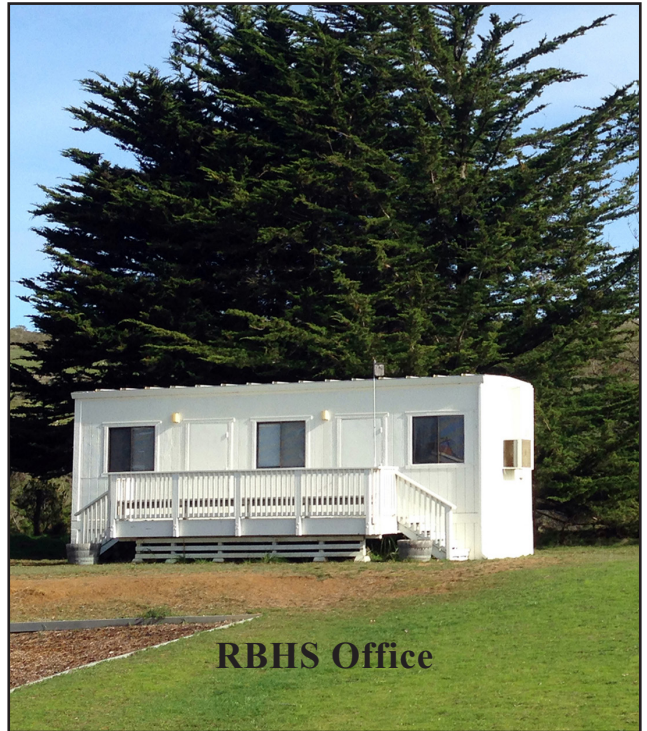
*by Robin Rudderow - 2011*

The Rancho Bodega Historical Society's story telling night, September 23, was a great success. Fifty story tellers and enraptured listeners packed the Bodega Bay Elementary School. The proceedings began with an open house of the RBHS office, which is located on the school grounds.

Students and elders alike informed and entertained the group with stories from all eras of Rancho Bodega's interesting and colorful history. Bodega Bay School students Joshua Collins, Alex Tucker and Isaac Collins gave presentations about the area's geology, pre-history flora and fauna, and Native American life. Diego Collins and Danielle Collins told about the early Spanish and English explorers. Elsie Castro spoke about the Watson School.

Adult storytelling started off with Tooch Colombo, who told about his family's past, going back to Captain Stephen Smith (first owner of the Rancho Bodega land grant) and Smith's Coast Miwok mistress. Nancy Conzett relayed a personally illustrated story about her friendship with Rose Gaffney. Dante Calvi and Glenice Carpenter told logging and fishing tales from their lives growing up in the region. Delia Moon told tales of the arrival of back-to-the-landers in the 1970's, and Annie Springer Murphy reminisced about the wild and crazy Bodega Volunteer Fire Department during that same era.

RBHS members Deanna Osborne and Robin Rudderow captivated the audience with research about Bodega Bay namesake, Don Juan Francisco Bodega y Quadra, also about bottles discarded in the ocean by Chinese sailors. Master of ceremonies Abby Myers Killey orchestrated the storytellers, who were enjoyed by all.



**RBHS Office**



**Rose Gaffney**

# Bodega Bay