

Milpitas Muse

March 2025

The Milpitas Historical Society Newsletter

Volume XLVI, No. 2

**Next Meeting: March 12th at 7:00 pm
LIBRARY MAIN AUDITORIUM
160 N. MAIN STREET, MILPITAS**

The Presentation

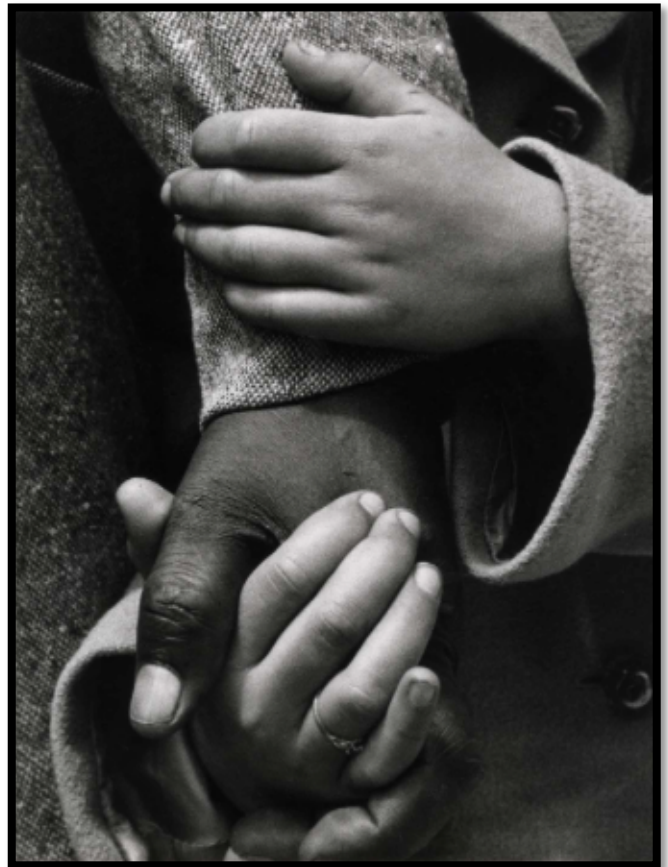
RUTH BERNHARD: AMERICAN MASTER PHOTOGRAPHER AND TEACHER

This month provides an opportunity to learn about the German-born American female photographer Ruth Bernhard (1905-2006). Distinguished by an exquisite use of light, her photographs have been internationally recognized and acclaimed by her peers; prestigious museums and universities in San Francisco, New York, Washington, D.C., London, Paris, Frankfurt, Tokyo, & Mexico City have collected and exhibited her work.



"I am most interested in the little things that nobody observes, that nobody thinks are of any value."

It will be a very interesting presentation about an amazing photographer who compels us to look at what we might overlook.



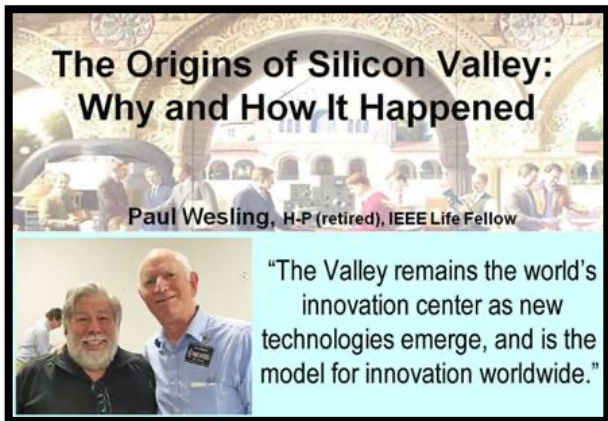
Our Presenter



Robert Burrill is a passionate photographer who is a long-time member of the Milpitas Historical Society and is the Samuel Ayer High School teacher/creator of the 1976 classic horror film, "The Milpitas Monster."

Our Society's new collaboration with the Saratoga Historical Foundation

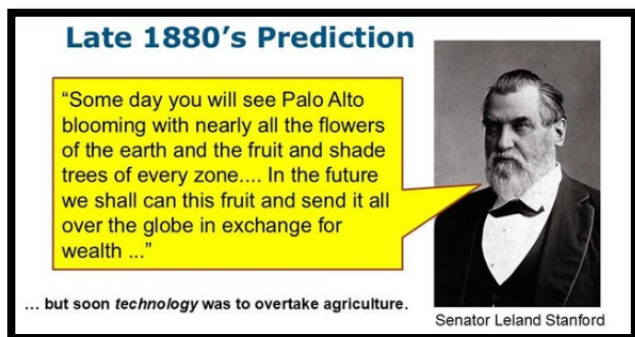
The Milpitas Historical Society is announcing the next meeting of the Saratoga Historical Foundation, which will be on Tuesday, March 25th, 7PM in the large facility in Immanuel Lutheran Church at 14103 Saratoga Ave in Saratoga (there is plenty of parking).



Paul Wesling (shown with Steve Wozniak, founder of Apple) explains how our Valley became preeminent for leading innovation around the world.

IEEE Life Fellow and Distinguished Lecturer Paul Wesling is guest speaker. Following his extensive research into Bay Area history, he brings us back to the 1910s -- to angel investors in new technology, the sinking of the Titanic, local ham radio operators trying to break RCA tube patents, Fred Terman and Stanford University, the local invention of high-power tubes, WWII and radar, William Shockley's mother living in Palo Alto, and the San Francisco Bay Area infrastructure that arose. These factors determined that the semiconductor and IC industries would be located in the Santa Clara Valley and that our Valley would remain the world's innovation center as new technologies emerged -- computers, then their software, mobile, biotech, virtual reality, autonomous vehicles, and now artificial intelligence -- and we would become the model for innovation worldwide.

Come find out about the "secret sauce" that permeates our Valley, and some of its colorful characters -- Cyril Elwell, Lee De Forest, Bill Eitel, Charles Litton, Fred Terman, David Packard, Bill Hewlett, and Bill Shockley.



About the Presenter

Paul Wesling has observed the Valley for decades as an engineer, executive, resident, and educator. He received degrees in electrical engineering and materials science from Stanford University, and then worked at companies including Lenkurt Electric, Sperry-Univac, and Amdahl, and in 1985 joined Tandem Computers in Cupertino. Paul retired from HP in 2001, after which he served as "Mr. IEEE" for the San Francisco Bay Area for 10 years. He is a Life Fellow of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) and he has received the IEEE's Centennial Medal, the Board's Distinguished Service award, the Society Contribution Award, as well as the IEEE's Third Millennium Medal. He edited a roadmap for prediction of technology directions in electronics packaging.

Advance tickets are \$10 per person (\$25 for a family) Reservations at <https://tinyurl.com/3f44f3w4>. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 at the door, which will open at 6:30 PM.

A FREE Society Membership Benefit

The Society continues to offer its commemorative floaty pen for free to all of its active members. To receive it we simply ask that you come to a monthly meeting to pick it up. (*I brought the pens to the Xmas Party at Kim Parker and Peter Herrera's house but was too busy to hand them out. Then I brought them to the Installation Dinner event, but the same story.*) I hope to see you at this meeting.



Renewal of Annual Society Dues

It's that time of year again. The renewal form is included in this mailing for your convenience and some of you have already paid. If your copy of the newsletter does NOT have a renewal form in the envelope, that is confirmation that we have received your dues.

Our Society's Contact Information

You can contact the Milpitas Historical Society:
- by mail at 160 N. Main St., Milpitas CA 95035
- by email at tmhs@milpitashistoricalsociety.org
- our website: <http://milpitashistoricalsociety.org>
- by land-line at 1-408-262-1776 (Bill Hare)