



A Street by Any Other Name Would be an Avenue, Boulevard, Circle, Court, Drive, Lane, Road...

Connecting With Our Past

On Camarillo Streets

I live on West Greenvale Drive. Three houses from me with no break in the street is Greenvale Drive. Six houses away is Green Lawn Street and then

Green Glade is two blocks past that. Confusing?

It is for delivery trucks! But those of us who live on these streets, we always find our homes.

Then, there are some streets that are named for very prominent persons in our community, such as

Adolfo Camarillo, his daughter, Carmen, and Earl Joseph or long-time farming families. The city now has a process and guidelines for a naming street after community members.

They are:

- The person has to be deceased.
- They must have made a significant contribution to the city either economically, politically, or another notable contribution.
- Most often, a family will nominate the person.
- The name is reviewed and final approval is by the city council. A resolution is passed by the council.

The first person to be honored under the revised policy is Mike Loza.

“Regular” street names in developments are usually chosen by the developer and submitted to the planning department and the city.

General guidelines for names are:

- Easy to spell.
- Easy to pronounce.
- No duplicates in the city or county.

by

Bev Taylor



Gerry Road

As told by Eloise Gerry Mansfield to
Bev Taylor

In 1945, three members of the Gerry family purchased 177 acres in the Santa Rosa Valley from Israel Hernandez. And, since all of the ranches along the road off Santa Rosa Road were owned by the Gerry family, it was called Gerry Road.

Eloise does not know when the road was officially put on the valley map as Gerry Road. She read through her father's diary and didn't see any mention of that.

Eloise remembers telling people how to find their ranch. She'd tell them, "Take the Santa Rosa Road to the little white bridge. Just after the

bridge, turn left and come up the road.”

Members of the Gerry family are still farming there today.



Petit Street

by

Beth Miller

Down along Dawson Road is a neighborhood that was completely disconnected from the City when the 101 Freeway made its way through Camarillo. In the early years of its history, the area was Camarillo Ranch acreage. Then it became Rancho Rosal, the home of Alfred and Rosa Camarillo Petit and their children. Rosa was Adolfo and Isabel Camarillo’s daughter.

Lemon and walnuts groves covered the area of what was to become Petit Street. Adolfo’s Petit grandchildren and great-grandchildren played around the trees and the rose gardens by their home. They rode their ponies to what is today the playground of Rancho Rosal School.

Today children play in a park down from Petit Street that once was Rancho Rosal.



3274 Petit Street

Home of Adolfo's
daughter and son-in-law
Rosa and Alfred Petit



The Petit tree that once stood on Rancho Rosal is seen above on the right and was located south of the Petit home





Tweedy Camarillo Rouse and Rancho Adolfo on Adolfo Road

by

Sherry Reynolds

Tweedy Camarillo Rouse (*Adolfo's daughter-in-law*) and her sister were getting up in years, and neither had husbands, nor children. This piece of property had been left to Tweedy in Adolfo's will. They thought it would be good to live close together, and Tweedy thought starting a senior Mobil home park might work to their advantage.

Each sister had a beautiful home overlooking the golf course. They lived next door to each other (I know which homes were theirs!).

Regarding the street names within Rancho Adolfo Estates...

To begin, the neighborhood is on Rancho Adolfo Drive. It's a no brainer!

Tahquitz Drive is kind of a mystery as to why the name was chosen. Tahquitz Canyon is a sacred place to the Aglua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. Tahquitz was the first shaman created by Mukat the creator of all things. Taquitz became the guardian spirit of all shamans and he gave them power to do good.

I don't see the connection to the family.

Mike Loza Drive

by

Beth Miller

Longtime resident Mike Loza, who owned El Tecolote Restaurant, passed away in 2001. He was commemorated with a street name in 2014. Active in the community, he served on the Boys & Girls Club and even donated a home on Barry Street in 1967 to serve as the organization's meeting place. He provided lunch for young people during sports tournaments. Loza started Viva La

Comida, an annual enchilada dinner fundraiser, for the Boys & Girls Club. To make it a top fundraiser, he even collected donations of enchilada ingredients for the dinner. His philosophy was friendship and community involvement.

He was a close friend of Adolfo Camarillo, the first grand marshal of the Camarillo Fiesta Parade in 1980 and a 25-year member of the Rotary Club of Camarillo.



Loza was also a friend and supporter of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's deputies participated at the ground-breaking ceremony for El Tecolote at its current location.

As a successful businessman, Loza encouraged others to invest in themselves and their community by starting their own businesses.

In his 2007 book Camarillo and Other Remembrances Mayor Emeritus, Stan Daily, wrote he wanted "to honor all that Mike Loza did for the community." Mike Loza Drive commemorates those many contributions of this public-spirited member of the community.

Jody Lane

by

Barbara Burrows

with

Bruce Jochums

In the year 1962, the lemon orchard owned by Harold and Nancy Neish was originally part of an Anacapa Drive address.

The parcel was purchased by two couples who were friends, Robert & Annie Laurie Jochums and Charles & Gwen Reedy. The lemon trees were removed, piled in the middle of the lot and lit on fire. The grading of the parcels for home building began

shortly afterwards. The 2-story home at 404 Anacapa Drive (the northeast corner of Anacapa) was built by contractor John Jochums, the brother of Robert Jochums. John and Robert built 5 of the 8 homes on Jody Lane, one of them being the Robert Jochums family home which is now 50 Jody Lane. Charles and Gwen Reedy helped build their house which is now 35 Jody Lane, and lived there for many years. John and Merrie Jochums lived just down the road at 160 Anacapa Drive.



During the building of the first 3 homes, both Robert and Charles wanted to have the cul-de-sac separated from the Anacapa address, so, along with John Jochums they all headed to the County offices on Poli St. in Ventura. They presented the paperwork to the clerk not knowing

what they really wanted to call the new street. It was the suggestion of the clerk to use the first 2 letters of Jochums and last 2 letters of Reedy to form Jody. Now they had to decide whether to call it Circle, Drive or several other suggestions by the clerk. John Jochums suggested Lane after his only son, Lane. That's how the naming of Jody Lane came to be! After the separation from Anacapa Drive was approved, both Robert and Charles went back to the County offices to have numbers assigned to each lot. Robert and Charles agreed to keep the numbers simple, so they suggested to the clerk the numbers on the north of Jody Lane be: 20, 30, 40 and 50. The numbers on the south side of Jody Lane be: 15, 25, 35 and 45.

There were 3 different contractors who built the remaining 3 homes, one of them was a Baptist Minister and his family. This home was built in 1965 and they only lived in the house for 2 months. I would sit and have my breakfast and watch this elderly minister and his son tack and hammer every shingle on that very steep roof. I would just say "the good Lord is watching over him".

Most of us have lived on Jody Lane a long time, myself and family at 20

Jody since 1964. There's a young couple remodeling the house at 25 Jody Lane and they hope to move in by early spring.

Bruce and Ellen Jochums, (son of Robert and Annie Laurie) live at 35 Jody Lane, the former home of Charles and Gwen Reedy.

My Favorite Street

by

Mike Morgan



My favorite street in Camarillo is Ventura Boulevard.

After moving here in 1962, Ventura Boulevard in Old Town Camarillo quickly became my favorite street. At that time, many businesses were located in the area.

Earl Joseph's Shoe Store was a kick to buy my loafers and have great conversations with the mayor regarding the city.

Sometimes I would go to Max Riave's store for clothes.

I shopped at Bob Kildee's for my letterman's jacket. The snack shop at the Flying A Gas Station was the place to be for teenagers in Camarillo. It was similar to Arnold's hang out in the television program "Happy Days."

I remember going to Henson's Music Store and buying a guitar that I never actually learned to master.

The movie theater, which was located across from Dizdar Park, was one of the few attractions we had in Camarillo. The Library, which eventually became the Chamber of Commerce building, is where I met many friends.

Camarillo Plumbing and Paint owned by the Nunn family was the primary

hardware store in Camarillo where my dad and I would go for supplies.

Located at the other end of Ventura Boulevard was the Ranch House Restaurant where I worked one summer. Inside the restaurant was a large cage with parrots. Part of my duties included feeding the birds...which I did not like due to their aggressive nature.

The Ski Hut was great when Donna and I learned to snow ski in 1973. They had the newest of everything needed before getting to the snow.

I am proud that I was able to help revitalize Ventura Boulevard in Old Town through the initiation of the redevelopment district while I was on the Camarillo City Council. Today, the boulevard also includes the active train depot, historic churches, unique shops, factory outlets, and multi-screen theater.

The Golden Triangle –

Pleasant Valley

by

Bev Taylor

You may have heard about the Golden Triangle in Southeast Asia or perhaps the Golden Triangle in mathematics. For Camarillo, the Gold

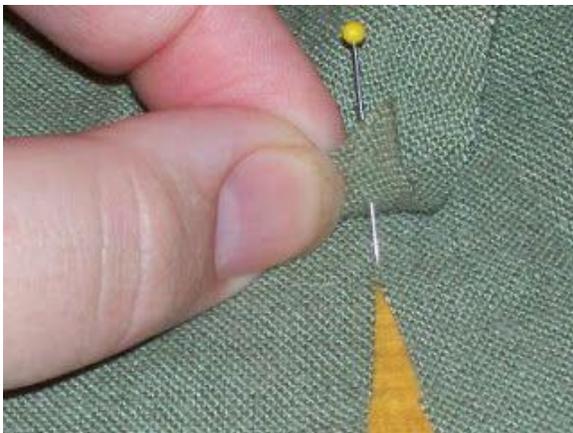
Triangle is a wedge of fertile land with the northern border of Las Posas Road and the southern boundary is Ventura Blvd./Lewis Road starting at Central Avenue. The Ranchos surrounding the triangle are: Rancho Las Posas, Rancho El Rio Santa Clara o La Colonia, Rancho Santa Clara Del Norte.

This special piece of land – Pleasant Valley- was historically known as “The Gore” (as a gore in a shirt sleeve). It was also known as “The Golden Triangle.”

Pleasant Valley Historical Society has an outstanding map of this triangle. When the museum reopens, visit and study the map. The write up with the map tells us, “When California was known as Alta California and a part of Mexico, this area is known to have been used by the adjoining land grants to graze cattle. This triangular piece of land had somehow avoided being claimed by one of the surrounding Mexican land grants (Ranchos). As such, it became public land after the Europeans arrived, open to settlement and homesteading. These early settlers, some of whom arrived in the 1860s, farmed the land with some degree of success, as the soil were fertile and water was usually obtainable. The

townsite of Springville was founded in 1870, and thought to have been chosen because of the nearby springs.”

“The federal government opened the land in 1874. Only two of the original purchasers (settlers) of the land in the “golden triangle” were “homesteaders,” the rest purchased the land outright for cash at the time. The homesteaders were John Saviers and William Walker.” After this fertile land was declared Public/Federal Land, most of the land was purchased by a few forward-looking Northern Californians. They sold it to our early settlers.



Sewing gore is a triangular piece of textile used in shaping a garment to fit the contours of the body.

Early Settlers and Homesteaders of the Golden Triangle

John Armstrong

John Z. Barnett

Cyrus Bellah

Charles Brooks

Robert Buckingham

John Crinklaw

Elmer Drake

Joseph D. Davenport

Henry J. Davenport

Isaac Harris

William A. Hughes

Joseph B. Robins

Daniel Roudebush

John Saviers

John W. Sebastian

Charles M. Simmons

Henry M. Stiles

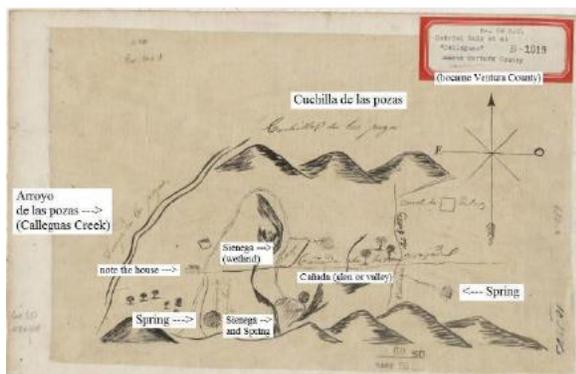
Charles K. Thomas

Henry Walbridge

William R. Walker

William R. Wooley

Many of the streets that you and I live on were named after these early homesteaders and land purchasing families. How many street names in Camarillo or Oxnard do you recognize in remembrance of these early families?



Las Posas Road

by

Lynn Preiss

In Spanish geographical nomenclature, a distinction is made between **poza** (also spelled **posa**) which means a “puddle,” and **pozo** (also spelled **poso**) which means a “well” as in a “deep pool in a river.”

In Spanish California, however, either word (**poza** or **pozo**) was apparently used indiscriminately for “**water hole**” in the widest sense. The various spellings (including **posa** and **poso**) were found in the names of several land grants, and on many diseños (“designs” as in “maps”).

The Rancho Calleguas diseño shows “Arroyo de las pozas” [Calleguas Creek] and “Cuchilla de las pozas.” Loosely translated, it would be “Brook/Creek/Stream **of the water holes**” and “Crest/Ridge **of the water holes**”

“**de las pozas**” becomes **Las Posas**: On a different map (circa 1901) showing the route from the Camarillo Train Line to the Southern Pacific Rock Quarry, Calleguas Creek was labeled as “Arroyo **Las Posas**” (a variation of the earlier Rancho Calleguas diseño labeling it as “Arroyo **de las pozas**” while the Conejo Creek was labeled as “Arroyo Santa Rosa.”

Please send your stories and photos to Karin Farrin. kg.farrin@gte.net

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Special Thanks to

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