

SHARKBITES

Buena Vista
MUSEUM
of Natural History & Science

2018 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 324-6350
buenavistamuseum.org



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS!

*Going back in time to
revisit the past and
create a better future*

museum finally rests old bone
August 9, 1996



Mike and Tonya Metz at the
20th St. opening in 1996

Michael and Tonya Metz, who have been married for 25 years, were the first to see the museum through the windows of the restoration room. "People will be able to view fossil preparation in progress," Metz explained. Paleo-restoration classes already have been held for the museum. All labor was done by volunteers.



Museum Hours: Thursday-Saturday 10am-4pm and Sunday 12pm-4pm.



First Board of
Directors 1994

Mike Metz

President

Sal Massaro

Vice President

Ben Nafus

Secretary

Gale Simmons

Treasurer

Inez Devlon-Kelly

Vice president 1995

Chuck Church

Treasurer 1995)

Current Board of
Directors 2025

Cori Kitchen

President

Dr. Robert Yohe

Vice President

Mark Hodson

Secretary

Jeffrey Johnson

Treasurer

Board Members

Carol Bowman

Dr. Anthony Rathburn

Jon Sampson

Dr. Bob Allison

Stephen Montgomery

Gary Paddock

Paula Bray

Kaitlin Hulsey

Jaime Viveros

Valerie Perez

Tim Elam (Emeritus)

Koral Hancharick

Executive Director

Spring- Summer 2025

A Note From the Director...

All year long in 2025, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the museum serving our community and visitors as a science resource. Over the past 30 years, the museum has grown significantly! From a small, 800 square foot exhibit of Sharktooth Hill fossils at CALM to owning a 20,000 square foot building with current displays of anthropology, archaeology, anatomy, astronomy, biology, geology, paleontology and an interactive hands-on discovery center. The growth over the past 30 years is due to the incredibly generous individuals and corporations who donated and supported the dream of what the museum could be. The museum also owes its success to the dedicated and like-minded volunteers who have contributed their time and talents in so many ways, as well as the board of director's strategic planning and goal setting along with the enthusiastic and devoted staff who coordinate daily and implement the operations of the museum. You all are appreciated more than words can express.



Koral Hancharick (2019)
Executive Director

I Thank You All!

It is with your help and continued support that the museum has survived and thrives. It truly is an honor to work with so many wonderful people for the past 20 years, and I look forward to what is yet to come!

With Sincere Gratitude,
Koral Hancharick
Executive Director



OVER THE YEARS...



VOLUNTEERS OVER THE YEARS

Buena Vista Museum strives to provide a wonderful and educational experience for our visitors, and we know that starts with our volunteers. Our volunteers are what keep us going, and we would like to take this opportunity to show our appreciation.

Over the years, in the museum, we have had numerous volunteers that have helped in every aspect. These are the just some of the museum's volunteer of the year!

-Tonya Metz

-Steve Schneider

-Gary & Linda Mayberry

-Jean McJannet

- Sherry Pauley

- Joe Phipps

- J.P. Stegall

- Brittanie Smith

- Travis Bibbee

- Ben and Jean Nofus

- Tim Elam

- Mark Hodson

- Ed Isch

- Carol Bowman



Tim Elam

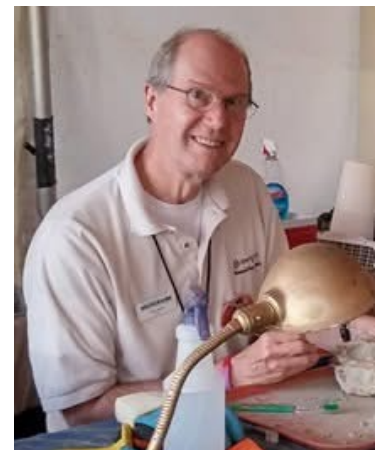
Who's been around the museum the longest?

- Tim Elam (30 years)

- Mark Hodson (30 years)

When asked about his time in the museum, Tim says that it's a lot of fun being a part of the museum as well as being able to do presentations in the current years and tours in the past. He has loved seeing kids' faces light up when they would see the different gems and fossils that have been found locally at Sharktooth Hill. Tim is also excited to see the museum growing to its full potential and still thriving!

When Mark was asked about his time at the museum, he stated that it has not been easy, but he has enjoyed the fun he's had at the museum. He enjoys teaching people who may not have ever known about geology or paleontology. He is also very excited to see the continuous growth of our beloved museum and its exhibits.



Mark Hodson



Koral Hancharick

A pivotal point in the museum's history was hiring the first Executive Director in 2004

Special shout out to all of our volunteers who help with Summer Science Camp over the years!



VOLUNTEERS OVER THE YEARS

Continued...



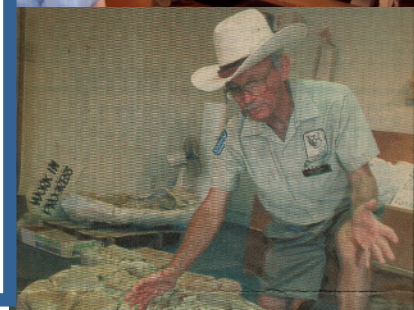
Still, after 30 years, we love and appreciate all of our volunteers. This wouldn't be possible without them. Our volunteers give their time freely. They donated over

9,000 hours of their time to the museum in 2024. At this time we would like to give a huge shout out to all of our volunteers for all their hard work in making this museum what it is today. Thank you for your talents, generosity, and kindness to help the museum.



In remembrance of....

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| - Jesse Merle Babb | - Martie Isch |
| - Skip Blount | - Carla Mast |
| - Ridgely E. Dorsey | - Jean D. McJannet |
| - Robert "Bob" J. Ernst | - Benjamin E. Nafus, Sr. |
| - Ed Isch | - Jean M. Nafus |
| - Carla Topel | - Cathy Paddock |



REMEMBER THE TIMES...



PLEASE COME JOIN US FOR
OUR....

30th Annual Anniversary and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Dinner, Dessert, and door prizes

Saturday, April 26th, 2025
Starting at 6:30 PM

MEMBER: \$25
NON-MEMBER: \$35

*In honor of
our
Volunteers*



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- **Free** admission to BVM as long as you are a member!
- **Free admission to Bakersfield Museum of Art, Kern County Museum and CALM!**
- **Free** entry to our regular-admission priced educational programs like our "Just for Kids" events and monthly science talks.
- **Free** admission to over hundreds of ASTC participating museums outside your local area! (www.astc.org)
- **Discounts** on other museum events and a 10% discount in our museum store.

Did you know? Your membership now includes access to Bakersfield Museum of Art, Kern County Museum & CALM plus hundreds of other museums and science centers.



ASSOCIATION OF
SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY CENTERS

For the full list, visit ASTC.org



The growth over the past 30 years is due to the incredibly generous individuals and corporations who donated and supported the dream of what the museum could be along with the like- minded volunteers and the enthusiastically devoted staff.



EVENTS

For more info on upcoming events, please visit: buenavistamuseum.org



SCHOOL & GROUP TOURS

BOOK YOUR SCHOOL OR GROUP TOURS TODAY AT
BUENAVISTAMUSEUM.ORG/SCHOOL-TOURS OR
SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW.



Special Admission Days!

Family Day - First Saturday of each month
2 adults and up to 6 children are only \$20!
Senior Day - Second Saturday of each month
Admission for Seniors (60+) is only \$2!
\$2 Day - Every third Thursday. All day, all ages
admission is only \$2!

April

4/26 30TH ANNIVERSARY VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

6:30 PM, Come celebrate our 30th year of operation and our very important volunteers who make this museum such a success!

May

MURDER MYSTERY (TBD)

July

7/1-7/4 FIREWORKS BOOTH

October

10/17 10/18 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

10/24 10/25 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

November

11/22 FALL GALA (TBD)

May - August

Last Saturday of each month

SCIENCE SATURDAY!

Come and learn about science with hands-on demonstrations from our very own community science groups, organizations and vendors.

Then



Now



The mission of the Buena Vista Museum is to educate, engage and inspire our community to explore the wonders of science through enrichment activities, exhibits, and special programs.

CONSIDER A DONATION

BVM is looking ahead to the exciting goals and growth that we have planned, and we want you to be a part of our future! BVM's average year operating expenses are about \$22,500 a month, or approximately \$740 per day. No donation is too small; in the end it all adds up! Your continued support is what enables the museum to serve our community as an educational science resource.

*****cut and detach*****

Name_____E-mail_____

Address_____City_____State____Zip_____

Phone:_____Cell:_____

In memory of : _____

____Enclosed is my donation for the general operations in the amount of \$ _____

____Enclosed is my donation to BVM's endowment fund \$ _____

____Enclosed is my donation in support of many educational programs \$ _____

____Please charge the above amount to my credit card # _____

Name on Card _____Expiration date _____

Signature_____

Please contact me at Ph # _____Best time to call _____

Please mail to Buena Vista Museum,
2018 Chester Ave, Bakersfield, CA. 93301 USA

You can also call **661-324-6350** or donate online at the link below.

Donate Online

buenavistamuseum.org/donate



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

DIAMOND

Tim & Pat
Elam

Carol
Bowman



Trichell Family
Foundation

Scott
Rosenlieb

SILVER



Lazzerini Family
Foundation

Tejon Indian Tribe

BRONZE

Jeff Johnson

David and Laura
Fiddler

Robert and Heidi
Allison

Water Association of Kern

SUPPORTERS

Gary
Paddock

Mark and
Randi Hodson

Jack & Mary
Lou Thomson

Bakersfield
Hyundai

Laura Stockton

Deborah
Olson

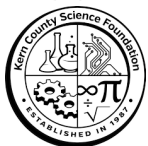
Jon and Jennifer
Sampson

Ortega's Pest
Control Solution

Gregg Wilkerson

Melissa
Danforth

Leonard Sanoian



Kern County Science
Foundation



Jim Burke Ford

Ben & Gladys
Arkelian Foundation

Brown Armstrong



Valley Oaks Charter School
Kern County Superintendent of Schools

GRANTS



With *sincere gratitude*,
we thank you for your
support of the



www.buenavistamuseum.org



MUSEUM HOURS

THURSDAY - SATURDAY

10:00am - 4:00pm

SUNDAY

12:00pm - 4:00pm

EXPLORE TODAY

2018 CHESTER AVENUE

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301



EMAIL: INFO@BUENAVISTAMUSEUM.ORG

PHONE: 661-324-6350

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

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