

## Memories from Joe from San Francisco

The Monte Rio Community Show amazes me each and every year. For me, the first exposure was at the church with Bud Scollin leading the way. I stayed with the show, when asked, for the better part of 30 years taking on different roles as one of the organizers, a performer or the host MC. What a thrill that night was. The locals kept stepping up their game and growing the crowd, because we had moved from the school to where we are today!

The show line up was ALWAYS one of a kind peppered with internationally recognized talent, but the showman who silenced the crowd each year was the diminutive violinist who stood alone on his spotlight stage playing *Ave Maria*. John Creighton Murray thrilled the audience until he could return no more.

**Monte Rio Variety Show Note:** *Joe was instrumental in moving the show to the current location in the Amphitheatre. He quietly inspired the community to broaden access to the show and the catalyst for the idea to share the proceeds for our three community entities - Church, Fire and School. And, for those reading who have attended for decades, he was the "Sonny" of the Sonny and Cher act that performed several years on stage!*