

VOL. 43

#3

SEPT. 2002

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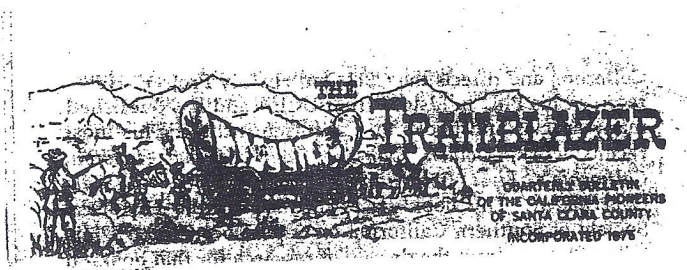
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VOL. 43 NUMBER 3

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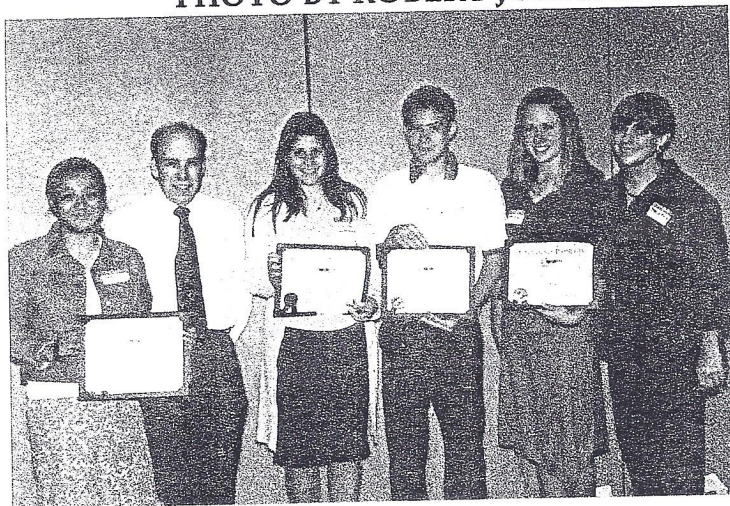
We have a real treat for you on our first Saturday of September luncheon meeting, September 7. The title of the talk is "The Art and History of Preserving Big Basin Redwoods State Park Since 1902: Founding Visions and Photographic Realities On Its 100th Year". Jim

Woodward loved doing history and archaeology with California State Parks for over 20 years. Though he has a strong background doing field surveys and archival research, he admits that understanding the history of Big Basin was overwhelming at first, and his best archeological survey at the end. His epiphany of this magnificent park came through photography. Seeing this landscape through the eyes of Andrew P. Hill helps us realize why this area has served so many as a natural cathedral, where people somehow recreate their connection with Nature.

Since the road from Santa Clara to this civil sanctuary was built by the state, there is more to the story than good intentions. Jim's 2-projector, dual screen presentation combines historical and recent photographs, along with humor and insight. Jim is a past sherriff and long-time program deputy for the Sacramento Corral of Westerners, and also served as president of the Society for California Archaeology. The talk about our redwoods, though, will be down to earth, high in fiber, and positively rich with tall but true tales in the big trees.

Thanks so much for this wonderful opportunity. I'm really looking forward to putting on a good show for everyone on this, the 100th anniversary of the park. To my knowledge, this was the first time any government, anywhere, purchased private land to preserve a natural area as a park.

PIONEER ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS
PHOTO BY ROBERT JOHNSON



Roxana Loreda, (3rd) "San Jose and the 1906 Earthquake"
President David McKinney, Konstantina Panayotopoulos
(1st), Nathan Tom, (Honorable Mention), "The Battle of
Santa Clara and the Mexican American War", Sarah Roberts
(2nd) " Temple Emanu-El" and teacher Kathryn Philp.

I hope that you saw the two short articles in the
Mercury News about the winners of our annual essay
contest., one on June 25th and one on June 18th. This one I
am copying was in the *Willow Glen Resident* which many of
you do not receive...

"High school students win top honors in essay contest"

by Amy Jenkins

When she entered an essay contest sponsored by the
California Pioneers of Santa Clara County and she was
asked to write about a person place or thing that has
influenced Santa Clara County, Konstantina Panayotopoulos
didn't hesitate in choosing to write about her grandfather-
Anargyros (Roger) Panayotopoulos.

The 16 year old Willow Glen High School student was
given the option of entering the contest in lieu of writing a
history term paper. "This was the longest I have worked on
a paper," says Panayotopoulos, who won first place and

\$500 for her 24 page essay. "I worked on it diligently for one month."

Out of the five contest entries, the top awards went to students from Willow Glen High School this year. Second place winner Sara Roberts, a sophomore at Willow Glen High School, wrote about Temple EmanuEl of San Jose and third place winner Roxana Loreda, another sophomore at Willow Glen High. The annual contest is open to students AND adults. (next ones due April 15, 2003 -- begin writing now.)

Since her grandfather died last October, Panayotopoulos researched his life by asking her grandmother, mother and other family members questions about him. She also relied on her own memory and stories he told her. (primary sources!) Originally from Greece, the late Antonopoulos and his wife, Patricia, lived in Willow Glen for 52 out of their 54 years of marriage. The two met in Salinas in 1946 and married a year later.

Although Antonopoulos had an exciting life before becoming a U.S. citizen-he was in the Greek Merchant Marines-the restrictions of the essay contest forced Panayotopoulos to focus more on his life in San Jose and Santa Clara County. She did, however, mention that he was born in 1921 in Pireaus, Greece and experienced hardships growing up in Greece such that he decided to become a U.S. citizen-which he did in 1943-and join the U.S. Army.

In Santa Clara County, Antonopoulos became a popular restaurateur, feeding local student athletes and the poor and translating for Greek immigrants in cases in the Santa Clara County court system. He was honored with the presidency of the Santa Clara County Restaurant Association and became a member of the Santa Clara Civil Grand Jury. In 2000, at 79 years of age, he became a Santa Clara County wedding commissioner, authorized to perform civil marriage ceremonies; however, he died a year later, before he could perform his first marriage.

In 1952, Antonopoulos bought the first of the four restaurants he and business partner Angelo Lygizos owned in San Jose. The first restaurant, on the corner of First and San Antonio Streets, the Old Colony Steak House, was

where Antonopoulos started his "hamburger poll." Because he loved to discuss politics with his patrons, he started to take a poll from customers about who they thought would win the presidency. This continued from the 1952 presidential election of Dwight D. Eisenhower until the 1988 presidential race between Michael Dukakis and George Herbert Walker Bush. "Every year they would count the ballots before the election and every year the customers made the right prediction," says Patricia, thus making their predictions correct 10 times.

The other restaurants he owned were the Alpine Restaurant, Angelo's Steak House and the Steer House. "These restaurants became very popular during the 1950's and 1960's because of their good food, friendly service and fair prices." Panayotopoulos writes in her report. "People of all walks of life became customers of these restaurants."

* * * * *

All of the papers submitted to the contests over the years can be read in the San Jose Library California room. It might be a good idea to see what has been written in the past before you start your paper. Family histories of many of you are contained in this county for several generations. The contest is open to all. High School students, college students and Adults. If you are working on Memoirs of yourself or your family, you may be eligible to enter and vie for one of the prizes.

One book was published of some of the winners many years ago and a second book is ready to go to the printers. We need people to enter using primary sources found only in their families or there will not be any secondary sources available for those who follow us. Many are from varied ethnic groups still found in our valley, Yugoslavians, Italians, Chinese, Japanese, French, Spanish, Mexican, and immigrants over the trails all go way back in our county's history. What are the backgrounds of these ethnic groups? What kinds of jobs did they get when they came here? Why did they choose our valley? What kind of life did they lead? Sharpen your pencils and start digging and writing...Maybe you will get one of the checks next year.

Ye Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Jim Arbuckle

Twenty-five years have passed since the last Arbuckle was president of the Pioneers Society. Though Clyde's aptitude and passion for history were not altogether passed on to me, and I was out of San Jose for 30 years, I did acquire a little just by being around him and my mother. There are other assets that I can bring to the office. I want to bring them to bear on three particular topics.

New members.....Essay contest Jackson Ranch

When I looked at the list of presidents from my father's time, the yearly turnover of officers was apparent. The pool for them to draw upon then was larger. I believe we can expand the membership by applying the associate form of membership to many people who are passionately interested and involved with San Jose history, but who do not qualify for full membership. Parents of essay contest winners have wanted to join, but did not qualify, and I believe that we may gain a few new members from local preservation groups.

Essay contest notices will go out earlier; many will be hand delivered. Also, I believe that recent subject matter has tended to stray from Article II of our Bylaws, which list terms such as early settlement, lives of its early pioneers, and articles of historical value of pioneer days. Perhaps the notices should better emphasize the Valley's early history?

The Jackson Ranch preservation project has lost momentum. This has been after the County has put about \$650,000 into the project. Our newly formed committee will be meeting in the very near future with Supervisor Don Gage to restore momentum.

The better to work on the above tasks, I think it would be helpful to have committees. If you have an interest in working in a particular area, please "sing out."

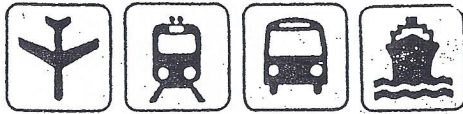
Jim Arbuckle

www.jarbuck@attglobal.net

GONE TO THE GOLDEN HILLS

Tosca Catania on June 9, 2002 at 91.-a member since 1977,

NEW MEMBERS are so numerous, they will have to wait until March to be listed. Good job! Melita Kelly



Touring With The Californians

September, 2002

Rose Crimi Muench -- Tour Director

Marie Rider -- Phone Reservations: (408) 251-7887 M-F a.m.

Beverly Fisher -- Treasurer: 3435 Yuba Avenue,

San Jose, CA, 95117-2966

Pauline Hawkins -- Luncheon Registrations

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER TRIPS begins at the September 7 luncheon. Checks are preferred, or exact cash. Preference is given to Pioneers members to register at the luncheon and through the following week. Non-members and guests may sign up starting September 16. If you do not get a trip Flyer at the luncheon meeting, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to our Treasurer.

PICK-UP POINT (unless otherwise indicated) is at Valley Village, 390 N. Winchester Blvd., Santa Clara, at the Dolores Street side.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2002, TUESDAY HOLLISTER, OLD & NEW

Continuing on our "Know our Neighbors" tours, we travel to Hollister in San Benito County. Hollister was founded by Colonel William Welles Hollister who left Ohio in 1855 with 50 men, driving 6000 sheep across the country to the San Justo Land Grant! A building boom began in 1870 when the Southern Pacific Railroad reached Hollister. Touring the historic downtown area, we will see a number of homes, businesses, and public buildings in the Victorian and Craftsman styles, reflecting Hollister's history. We will also visit the San Benito County Historical Museum housed in the 1905 Wapple House built for the town dentist. Hollister also has a John Steinbeck connection. The author's father and grandfather lived there, and Steinbeck wrote about characters and stories of the town. The "*East of Eden*" house was a

location for the filming of Steinbeck's novel. It is amazing that these old buildings have survived, considering that Hollister is built over the San Andreas fault and experiences frequent earthquakes. Fifty years ago, Hollister gained national attention as the location for the Marlon Brando film, "The Wild One." There is still a motorcycle connection, as we will see on a tour of the Corbin Motorcycle plant. Their newest product is the Sparrow II, an electric two-seater, three-wheel runabout. We will also have a couple of "sweet surprises" and an included lunch at the 1950's style Wizard Café. This trip is filled, but you may place yourself on the wait list.

Leave: 9:00 a.m. Return: 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$ 32

RIVER BARGE CRUISE & BRANSON SEPT. 17 - 27, 2002

Agency: Golden Gates Tours. Highlights include four nights in Branson, Missouri, and then a four-night cruise aboard the M/B River Explorer. Cost is \$2530 for an outside cabin, or \$2730 for a balcony. The flight is to Kansas City and return from St. Louis. Some space is available. Brochures are available.

CONFERENCE of CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES - EUREKA, OCTOBER 3 - 7, 2002

Those who signed the interest list to attend this event will have received a Conference registration brochure. Also included was an information and registration sheet for the touring the Pioneers will be doing going to and returning from the Conference. If you did not sign the interest sheet but want the registration material mailed to you, please call Marie Rider 251-7887 immediately. Conference registration fee increases from \$25 to \$35 after September 4! We have some interesting activities on our journey including: Healdsburg Plaza, the Grace Hudson Museum, "Sun House" in Ukiah, the Pacific Lumber Mill logging museum in Scotia, (the mill is closed), driving through the "Avenue of the Giants" redwood grove, the Skunk Train ride from Ft. Bragg to Willits, Mendocino County Museum in Willits, and a winery stop or two. In addition, the Conference activities include Victorian Eureka & its museums, Victorian Ferndale, it's museums and houses and history, breakfast at the Samoa Cookhouse, an interesting workshop on uncovering

your pictorial history and dinner meetings with historical speakers on the Prehistory of Humboldt County, Early European Settlement in Humboldt County and Maritime History of Humboldt Bay followed by a special tour of Eureka Victorian homes.

ROMANTIC DANUBE RIVER CRUISE OCT 16 - 27,

Agency: Premier World Tours. Highlights include: three days in Prague, and a 7-night cruise from Nuremberg to Budapest. Cost, depending on cabin category is \$3130, \$3490, and \$3770, now on a space-available basis. Brochures are available.

BELLA TUSCANY NOVEMBER 3 - 11, 2002

Agency: Premier World Tours. We will be based for six nights near Florence in Terme Montecatini, noted for its spas. We will take day trips to Florence, Assisi, Perugia, Pisa, Lucca, San Gimignano, Siena, and finally a day and a night in Rome, including a tour of Vatican City and St. Peter's Basilica. The cost is \$1799 per person, double, \$400 single supplement. The cost includes: round trip airfare from SFO, airport transfers and baggage handling; seven nights first class hotel accommodations; 11 meals: 7 breakfasts and 4 dinners; professional tour director; deluxe motor coach; admissions per itinerary; and comprehensive sightseeing. An optional two-night Rome extension is offered at \$299 per person double, \$399 single. The extension includes a trip to the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel, and an excursion to nearby Tivoli and Hadrian's Villa. Optional cancellation insurance is available. A current passport is required. Brochures are available. A document party will be Tuesday, October 22, 2 p.m. at Rose Crimi's home. R.S.V.P (408) 293-0896.

DECEMBER 10, 2002, TUESDAY

SOUTH BAY CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS.

Let's celebrate the beginning of the holiday season in our own backyard! Our first treat will be a festive 4 p.m. dinner at Eulipia Restaurant in downtown San Jose, across the street from the 1927 Fox Theater, the new home of Opera San José. You have your choice of steak or salmon, plus salad, dessert and beverages. Next we visit a San Jose tradition, "Christmas in the Park" in Cesar Chavez Plaza. Remember when it

all started as a small display on the lawn of the Lima Family Mortuary on Willow Street? (See September, 2001 for story) Every year it has become bigger and brighter, dazzling crowds of all ages. Don't forget to go into the Fairmont Hotel lobby so see the beautiful decorations. Then we board our coach for a ride through Palo Alto and Los Altos neighborhoods with brilliantly decorated homes to put us in a happy holiday mood. Leave: 3:30 p.m. Return: 10:00 p.m. Cost: \$ 55

SAN ANTONIO RIVERWALK NEW YEAR'S

December 29, 2002 - January 3, 2003

Agency: Premier World Tours. San Antonio, with its Old Spanish flavor, plazas and its famous Riverwalk, is an inviting warm-weather site to ring in the New Year. Activities include a Riverwalk boat cruise, a tour of San Antonio, the Alamo, San Jose Mission, the top of the Tower of the Americas, Texas Cultures Museum, and a New Years Eve Party. Excursions to Austin and the Texas Hill Country with Fredricksburg and the LBJ Ranch are also included. The cost, including airfare, is \$1399, single supplement \$400. Brochures are available.

2003 TRIPS

These trips have guaranteed departures, whether we have enough in our group or not. Only ten people are needed for a group. Brochures will be available at the September luncheon.

WINTER IN PARIS January 23 - 28, 2003

Agency: Collette Vacations. Scenes from La Bohème! January is the high season for Paris events. The nearby Metro subways take you everywhere. Cost of \$1079, includes airfare and departure tax from SFO, Eiffel Tower dinner, evening Seine River cruise, city tour, and four nights at a first class hotel.

EAST COAST CRUISE April 26 - May 10, 2003

Agency: Golden Gate Tours. Begin with a night at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City and a city tour. Then board the *Norwegian Sea* for a 13-day cruise including: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Boston, Martha's Vinyard, Norfolk, Baltimore, Charleston, and Philadelphia. Cost, depending on cabin choice, is \$2005 to \$2505, including airfare, taxes,

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Jane Schwartz-corresponding Secretary 95120-5324 408-268-3129

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PIONEER LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, September 7, 2002
NOON AT LOU'S VILLAGE

Green salad

Chicken Parmesan

Penne pasta

Seasonal vegetables

Seasonal fruit desert

& Coffee

make checks to Lou's Village

\$16.50

Make Your RESERVATIONS BEFORE

WEDNESDAY August 28, 2002 554-7587

from p. 11

transfers, and baggage handling. Shore excursions are optional. A presentation will be given Friday, September 27, 2 p.m. at Rose Crimi's home. R.s.v.p (408) 293-0896.

PLANTATIONS and GARDENS of GEORGIA and SOUTH CAROLINA May 16 - 23, 2003

Agency: Collette Vacations. Enjoy Southern hospitality and spring flowers with tours of Atlanta, Charleston, Beaufort, Savannah, Jeckyll Island, and St. Simons Island. Cost is \$1769, including airfare and 12 meals. A presentation will be given Tuesday, October 8, 2 p.m. at Rose Crimi's home. R.S.V.P (408) 293-0896.