



VOL. ⁴⁵~~46~~ NUMBER ⁴~~2~~

DECEMBER, 2004

The Christmas entertainment, by popular demand, will again be The Peninsula Banjo Band. This popular band will entertain us with traditional and Holiday tunes.

PIONEER LUNCHEON **\$17.00**

SATURDAY, September 4, 2004

NOON AT LOU'S VILLAGE green salad

chicken breast with apple-almond stuffing

red roasted potatoes

RESERVATIONS

rolls & butter

BEFORE

seasonal vegetables

WEDNESDAY

chef's surprise dessert

November 30, 2004

& COFFEE

554-7587

make checks to Lou's Village

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your board of directors continues to work hard and tend to the good works of the California Pioneers.

As was previously reported, we were able to have all of the Jackson Ranch house furnishings returned. Members of the board have been busy updating our inventory of all the furniture, paintings, and other items that are there. This work will continue until a complete and accurate inventory is obtained. Other board members have been working diligently to update our by-laws. The board should have their recommended revisions completed this year. We will make these available to the general membership before the

June 2005 quarterly meeting where we shall ask for the memberships approval of these necessary changes.

Some board members are busy keeping the Pioneer graveyard in New Almaden well maintained, Other directors have formed together as an insurance committee to make sure our properties and directors are covered, while one member has created and is working on our own Website (kindly see "<http://www.californiapioneers.com>")

Currently, the position of secretary is vacant. If you have any interest in serving kindly contact me (408-258-3269). Somebody is very much needed to fill this important post. If you have any desire to attend a board meeting, all members are invited. We shall next meet on November 8th at 4:00 PM. The location will be 1202 Lincoln Avenue in Willow Glen. Some directors have requested that board meetings be changed back to our previous location on Third Street in San Jose with a meeting time of 7:00 PM. This will be decided by those directors present at our next meeting.

I pray that you have an enjoyable Christmas season and I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas luncheon on December 4th!

Edward Allegretti

MESSAGE FROM YOUR FINANCIAL/ MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

As you know, this is the time that dues should be paid for the year 2005. Many of you have already sent your payment, but if you have not yet done so, send your \$15 per member made out to CALIFORNIA PIONEERS. to Melita Kelly, Membership, 460 North 15th Street, San Jose, CA 95112-1725. Please include a self addressed, stamped envelope if you wish your membership card sent to you. You may also pay at the December luncheon; just look for me at the DUES table. If you have questions or need applications for membership, give me a call. at 408-292-2385.

Melita Kelly

WELCOME TO ALL THE FOLKS WHO HAVE JOINED US THIS LAST YEAR.

NEW MEMBERS IN 2004

Patricia Alford	Rosemary Lazetera
Angelina Artana	Carmel Lewis
Angelina (Angie) Brawley	Jeanne C. Lewis
Marilyn Lynn Black	James Margason
Michael Boulland	Gladys McFarland
John Bumb	Catherine M. Moore
Dolores Chapman	Elaine A. Nelson
Nancy Clish	Marlene O'Donnell
Ann Darling	Eunice Phillips
Gerry DeRose	Letizia Picchetti
Bernadette Drechsler	Frances Rampy
Jo Drechsler	James Troy Rampy
John Richard Drew	Michael A. Shea
Ruth Fanara	Susan M. Smith-Bromley
Sam F. Federico	Kate Woo Snow
Myrna Gelpman	Elizabeth Steward
Florence Hirose	Chad Steward
Jan Hoy	Marvin Tanner
Shirley Israel	Richard Topham
Johna M. Johnson	Jo Anne Vincenzini
Arlyn C. Jorgenson	Theresa Winters
Gwen Klem	Jo Anne Yeaman
Mabel Laney	

GONE TO THE GOLDEN HILLS IN 2004

Ruth Mattos	Clayton Minninger
Jeanne Kolb	Doris Herschbach
Elizabeth Telfer	Victor Veloz
Nancy White	Margie Couch
Margaret Kraynick	Marian Hobbs
Edith Steiner	Sarah Glade Slater
Florence Stefman	Kathleen Tedesco

THE PIONEER AWARD was created in 1987 to recognize Pioneer members for service to the Community. The First Award was given to .

1987 - Clyde Arbuckle

1988 - Austin Warburton

1989 - Agnes Solari & Margaret Zaro

1990 - Frances & Theron Fox

In 1993, the award was renamed for Austin Warburton who virtually set the standards for community and pioneer service for those who followed..

1994

1995 - Hank Calloway

1996 - Barbara Johnson

1997 - Leonard McKay

1998 - Ernie Renzel

1999 -

2000 - Helen Stevens

2001 - Helen Mac Carthy

2002 - Richard Hill

2003 - Mary Lou Lyon

2004 - Rose Crimi Muench

David McKinney could not find a record of anyone receiving the award in 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1999. If anyone has information on these years, please let us know.



Rose Crimi Muench receiving award from president Allegretti on September 4, 2004

OF NATIONAL MUSEUM California Indian tribe members attended an historic cultural event in Washington D.C.; the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian.

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians contributed \$500,000 to help build the museum. The Museum of the American Indian is the Smithsonian Institution's 18th museum. The 250,000-square-foot National Museum of the American Indian kicked things off with a procession of Native Americans in tribal garb followed by a six-day First Americans Festival along the National Mall just west of the U.S. Capitol.

The whole museum evokes American Indians' view of harmony with nature, love of the land, and an abiding view of injustice at the hands of governments across the hemisphere. It's certainly the only museum in Washington with a small garden where corn, tobacco, beans and squash were growing .

INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

Our luncheons are held the first Saturday of March, June, September, and December, 12:00 Noon, Lou's Village.

Reservations Required.

When paying by check, please make your checks payable to: Lou's Village for the luncheon

The Californians for the trips

California Pioneers for dues and memberships

Please invite other members to join you at your table.

A SHOP KEEPER'S DAUGHTER by Edward Allegretti

Like most grandparents, my Grandmother Allegretti enjoyed telling stories about her childhood and youth. Since her mother died when she was just a child, most of her stories concerned her father, Salvatore Asaro.

Salvatore Asaro was a native of Bisacquino, Sicily. He arrived in New Orleans where he met and married Jenny Canova, also a native of Sicily. They left New Orleans and arrived in San Jose just after the turn of the century. They had four children. Three boys and a girl named Mary who was born in San Jose in 1906.

Although Salvatore Asaro was trained as a master shoemaker in Sicily, he became a grocer in San Jose. My grandmother recalls as a child that her father owned a grocery store on San Carlos Street. It was located just next to the Guadalupe River. The store was downstairs and their living quarters upstairs. She recalls one bad winter how the creek overflowed and flooded the store. Her father and she would walk down the stairs to pick out floating cans and other items to use for supper or breakfast. Later, they moved to Willow Glen where he had a house on Willow Street and a shoe shop on Lincoln Avenue. When her mother died she could remember (even though not yet three years old) the solemn funeral parade of her mother's that passed their house. A carriage, followed by a band, and then the mourners slowly walked by.

When Mary was about ten years old, the family moved to Hayward. In Hayward her father established a

shoe shop and also became a farmer, owning orchards just outside of town. Their house was located in the hills just above the then small village. On Sunday morning, their driver (her father didn't drive) brought the car to the front of the house in order to take Mr. Asaro and his children to church. After they all loaded into the car, the driver started to back up. Unfortunately, he reversed too far and they all tumbled down the hillside. Even though the car rolled several times and everybody was thrown out, miraculously nobody was hurt!

When Mary turned 13, her father decided she needed to be raised by a woman. Thus, she moved back to San Jose to live with her maternal grandmother, Stella Guarino Canova. Mrs. Canova also operated a grocery store. This place was located on the Alameda just across from the old Troy Laundry. My grandmother had many stories to tell about the various Italians of old Goosetown who would come to sit in chairs around the pot belly stove. She also recalled a nephew of their neighbor who often came to visit his aunt and uncle. It seems this aunt and uncle and Mrs. Canova thought that these young people should court and marry.

My grandmother was introduced to John Allegretti. They were allowed to have short visits in the parlor of her grandmother's house. The parlor door was always left open and Mrs. Canova would periodically peer in to make sure all was proper! They were never allowed to date unless Mary's father came to San Jose and took them out. I asked my Grandfather Allegretti how he felt about always having the father with them. He thought it was great. Since Mr. Asaro always paid and since he had a lovely car complete with driver, he had no complaints.

In 1925, John and Mary did marry in San Jose. John later became the owner of a small department store called the A&D Emporium. Thus, Mary continued her life with another "shop keeper."

TOURING WITH THE CALIFORNIANS December, 2004

Rose Crimi Muench -- Tour Director

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

Beverly Fisher -- Treasurer: 3435 Yuba Ave, San Jose,
CA 95117-2966

Pauline Hawkins -- Luncheon Registrations

REGISTRATION for WINTER TRIPS begins at the December 4 luncheon, 10:30 a.m. Checks are preferred, or exact cash. Preference is given to Pioneers members to register at the luncheon. Members present may register absent members after the luncheon, so that the members present have the opportunity to register first. We will accept checks for the first six people on the wait list, and notify them as cancellations occur. Non-members and guests may sign up starting December 13.

PICK-UP POINT (unless otherwise indicated) is at Valley Village, 390 N. Winchester Blvd., Santa Clara, on Dolores St. Note: Rose Crimi Muench will be on personal travel December 10 - 21.

DAY TRIPS

DECEMBER 9, 2004 THURSDAY CHRISTMAS IN THE ADOBES Monterey, the early California capital under Mexican rule, is blessed with many preserved adobes. We will have the pleasure of seeing the interiors of several adobes decorated for the Christmas season as they might have appeared in the 1840's. Docents will share stories of the original occupants and how they lived. Casa Sobranes will offer guests Mexican hot cocoa, and fandango dancers will perform at the Custom House, the oldest public building in California. On arrival at 3:30 p.m., we will have an included early dinner at Montrieo Bistro housed in a restored landmark building that was Monterey's first fire station in 1910. We will then visit several adobes on foot and by bus. Walking maps will be provided. This trip is filled, but you may add your name to the wait list.

Leaves: 2:00 p.m. Return: 9:00 p.m. Cost: \$57

JANUARY 20, 2005 THURSDAY, ASIAN ADVENTURE

We will be collaborating with the Argonauts on a tour in San Francisco featuring: the Asian Art Museum, a tour of Japan Town, luncheon at a Japanese restaurant, a tour of the Japanese Tea Gardens, and tea in a Japanese tea house. This trip is an appropriate introduction for our tour of Japan in April. We will have two pick-ups: the first at Hacienda Shopping Center on Foxworthy and Meridian Avenues at 8:30 a.m., and the second at Valley Villages at 8:45 am. Return at 4:45 Valley Village 7 5 pm at Hacienda. Please indicate your preferences when you register. Cost \$58.00

FEBRUARY 22, 2005 TUESDAY

MONTEREY PENINSULA in the MOVIES

Note: This trip is being repeated to accommodate those on the wait list for the November 5 trip. Nearly 200 films have preserved the beauty of the Monterey Peninsula over the past 100 years. On arrival, we will transfer to a special bus where our guide, Doug Lumsden, will tell us the behind-the-scene stories and show us the actual locations in Monterey, Pacific Grove, Pebble Beach, 17- Mile Drive, and Carmel, while we watch the same movie scenes on overhead monitors. Our included 1:00 p.m. luncheon at the renowned Lodge at Pebble Beach will have a choice of several entrees plus a beautiful view of the ocean. Very little walking is involved. We are limited to 31 people due to the bus size, so sign up early. If you must cancel, do so promptly so that we can notify those on the wait list.

Leaves: 8:30 a.m. Return: 4:00 p.m. Cost: \$84

MARCH 22, 2005 TUESDAY, ALLIED ARTS GUILD

After being closed for two years, the Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park has re-opened following an \$8 million restoration. The property was once part of the Rancho de las Pulgas land grant given to Jose Arguello, Commandant of the Presidio of San Francisco. In 1929, Garfield Merner built the Spanish Colonial complex in the tradition of arts and crafts guilds he had admired in Europe. The guild later became a non-profit operation for the benefit of Stanford Children's Hospital. We will have a guided tour of the

facility followed by luncheon in the on-site restaurant. We will have free time to explore the shops and gardens. Leaves: 9:30 a.m. Return: 2:30 p.m. Cost: \$33

EXTENDED TRIPS

December 30, 2004 – January 2, 2005

New Orleans New Year's

Agency: Golden Gates Tours. This trip is filled, but those still interested may be placed on standby in case of cancellations. Registrants are invited to a Document Party on Tuesday, December 21, 3:00 p.m. at Mama Mia's, 200 East Hamilton Avenue, Campbell. R.S.V.P. to Rose Crimi, (408) 293-0896 by December 8.

APRIL 28 – MAY 9, 2005

JAPAN

Highlights include: Osaka tour, a ride on the Bullet Train, the moving Hiroshima Memorial Park, Kyoto temples, Kobe sake museum, Nara the first capital, Korakuen Garden in Okayama (San Jose's Sister City), Nikko National Park, Mt. Fuji and Hakone National Park, and a Tokyo tour including the Edo Museum and the Tokyo Tower. Also, we will see medieval castles, a kimono fashion show, tea ceremony, and many other fascinating sights. An extra bonus is the azalea blooming season in May. We have already reached our minimum of 15 people, but we welcome more registrations. The cost of \$3160 includes airfare, hotels, three meals daily, all sightseeing entry fees, taxes, baggage handling, and tips for the bus driver and the tour manager. The deposit of \$100 is fully refundable until January 28. See our brochure for details. A share for a single man is available. Optional trip cancellation insurance is available.



ON YOUR OWN-OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE will be presented again this year in the MISSION SAN JUAN BAUTISTA BASILICA from November 26th to December 19th, Thurs. thru Sat. at 8 pm; Sundays at 4 & 8 . Adults \$20, Seniors & Students \$16, \$12 children under 12. El Teatro Campesino has presented these traditional, colorful Christmas plays for over 25 years., Tickets sell out, so plan ahead --831-623-2444 -10-

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