



QUARTERLY BULLETIN  
OF THE CALIFORNIA PIONEERS  
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
INCORPORATED 1875

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## PAUL BERNAL

Our speaker, a Life member of the Santa Clara County Pioneers, and a native of San José is descended from Juan Francisco Bernal who came to California in 1776 with Juan Bautista de Anza. With him were his wife Maria Josefa de Soto and seven children. His eldest son, Josef Joaquin Bernal, served as a soldier at the San Francisco presidio and at Santa Cruz before being granted the Santa Teresa Rancho in 1834. He and his wife, Maria Josefa Daria Sanchez had 13 children. His original adobe was where the Fairmont Hotel now stands. His sister, Teresa's adobe stood where Wells Fargo is today and his son, Juan Pablo's where the Sainte Claire Hotel is today. On the female side, he is also related to the Alviso, Berryessa, Sunols, Pico and José Ortega, who was the first to see San Francisco Bay.

Paul is a Deputy District Attorney for Santa Clara County, Chair of the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission, on the Board of the Preservation Action Society of San Jose, a member of the Bench and Bar Historical Society and Los Fundadores. He was the original lawyer against the developers of Mosby Ranch, who are again in the news as this is written. He has done research on interesting legal cases in our area and will present a few of them in an edited slide show.

## CLARA SHORTRIDGE FOLTZ

Suffragist and First Woman  
Lawyer

To Celebrate 75 Years of The Women's  
Right to Vote Nationally  
The Third Story of a Woman Suffragist  
In Our County

Clara Shortridge was born July 16, 1849 in Indiana. Her father was a minister although he had studied law and also practiced it. He told his daughter, it was too bad she was a girl!



With only 4 years of formal schooling, she married Jeremiah Foltz at 15. The Mother of 3 by 19, she followed her husband to Oregon in 1871, finally settling in San Jose, California where he sold real estate and kept a grocery store. Before she was thirty, there were 5 children. She wrote that because her children were robust and well behaved, she had time to attend lecture courses, speeches on women's rights and local political issues. She read books and entertained every educated person she could find. Her first public campaign was a letter writing campaign for the creation of a San Jose Fire Department. With the help of the *San Jose Mercury* editor, J.J. Owen, the first fire department was created.

In 1877, her husband died, leaving her with 5 children, the youngest barely in school. She began to read law with the firm of Black and Stephens in San Jose but the state law limited law practice to "white male citizens, only." She drafted a bill called the "Women Lawyer's Bill" to amend that code and sent it to Senator Bernard D. Murphy of Santa Clara. She lobbied in Sacramento along with Laura De Force Gordon who also desired to be a lawyer. Laura was in Sacramento as a correspondent for the *Oakland Daily Democrat*. The bill passed the Senate 22 to 9 but was held up in the Assembly. Through the efforts of several Assemblymen, it was brought up again for reconsideration and passed by 2 votes. Clara was told that the bill was dead, that the Governor would veto it, but she pushed through to his office and watched him sign it. Governor William Irwin signed the bill on April 1, 1878, noting that "This bill to entitle women to practice law is wise and just and I take great pleasure in signing it." Later that same year, on September 4, 1878 - She was passed by a committee of lawyers and took the oath to become a lawyer.

Clara campaigned for Laura Gordon to be a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1879. Laura was not elected but attended as a newspaper correspondent and spearheaded a Woman's Rights campaign. Article II, Sec. 18, admits women to all collegiate departments in the State University and Article XX, Section 18 states, "No person shall, on account of sex, be disqualified from entering upon or pursuing any lawful business, vocation or profession."

Although both Clara and Laura had already passed the bar, they applied to Hastings College of Law for admittance and were denied because of their sex. They took it to court and although Judge Morrison of San Francisco did not believe in women lawyers, he ordered the school to admit them. When the school appealed, Clara Foltz argued her own case before the California Supreme Court. In November, 1879, both women were admitted to the bar of the California Supreme Court. Clara later wrote of the petty annoyances at the hands of the fellow students at Hastings whom she never heard of again.

In 1880, Clara was the first woman clerk of the Judiciary Committee of the California State Assembly. While there, she wrote a brief on the constitutionality of women voting in all matters concerning public schools. The bill was defeated, but not on its constitutionality.

Both ladies had successful law practices in San Francisco, Laura as a defense attorney in criminal cases and Clara in probate, divorce, corporate and criminal law. They remained friends until Laura died in 1907, sharing an avid interest in Woman's Suffrage besides the law. After all of their gains, they still could not vote in California until 1911 which was too late for Laura.

Clara moved to San Diego in 1887 where she founded a daily newspaper, the *San Diego Bee*. In 1893, she represented the California Bar in Chicago at the International Congress of Jurisprudence and Law Reform at the World Colombian Exposition. In 1896, she was practicing law in New York City, the first woman to argue a motion in the New York City Courts.

The California Woman Suffrage Association had been formed in 1870 and both Clara and Laura served as President in the early 1880's. The first attempt to pass Woman Suffrage in California was in 1896. When she returned to California, she continued to work for the cause. Although near 60, she served as President of the Los Angeles Votes for Women Club from 1906 to 1911, while still practicing law in both Los Angeles and San Francisco. By 1911, they were ready for a second attempt at passage of a suffrage bill.

More than 60,000 personal letters were sent to leaders in various professions. Speeches were made in various men's groups from churches to labor unions. Fifty to sixty meetings were held each week, climaxing on September 30, 1911, with a mass meeting in Los Angeles. More than 4,000 attended and many more hundreds turned away from the largest political demonstration held up to that time in Southern California. Victory was attained. The amendment to the Constitution went to the voters on October 10, 1911. Los Angeles was the only major city to pass it, but the rural vote turned the tide and it passed by 3,587 votes. California was the Sixth state to enfranchise women.

In 1916, Clara began publishing a periodical, *The New American Woman*, which gave advice on voting and endorsements to sympathetic political candidates as well as articles on women's achievements and a column on laws pertaining to women. It ceased publication in 1918 because Clara's attentions went to The Woman Lawyer's Club.

In 1930, at age 81, she ran for Governor of California, polling 8000 votes. In 1934, at 85, she had planned to run again, but had a heart attack and died.

## FIRSTS by CLARA SHORTRIDGE FOLTZ

- First woman to be admitted to the bar in California.
- First woman to argue a motion in New York City courts.
- First woman member of the State Board of Charities and Corrections.
- First woman to attend law school in California.
- First woman member of the Board of Trustees of the State Normal school of Los Angeles.
- First woman deputy prosecuting attorney in Los Angeles.
- Wrote a bill abolishing a rule that women could not enter a restaurant without an escort.
- Wrote a bill on public defenders in 1893 in New York, introduced into 32 states & adopted in California in 1921.
- Wrote a bill establishing a parole system.
- Wrote a bill persuading San Francisco County Supervisors to stop confining prisoners in iron cages in the courtroom.
- Wrote a bill to segregate juveniles from adults in county jail
- Wrote a bill for the police matron system.
- Wrote a bill for woman's notaries.
- Wrote a bill on delinquent children.
- Wrote a bill to allow women to attend the state University and have vocations of their choice.
- Wrote the California Constitutional Amendment guaranteeing women their rights

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## PIONEER PRAYER

Almighty God, May the Torch of Endurance, Truth and Valor, Born in the Western Wilderness by the Early Pioneers, Ever be Upheld and Cherished by the Members of This Organization. May We Profit by the Experiences of the Founders of This Great State and May We Dedicate Our Lives to the Establishment and Continuance of the Principles of Justice, Liberty and Equality. May "Eureka" Ever be the Response of Those Who Here Seek Freedom and Opportunity. May Righteous and Everlasting Peace and Prosperity be Assured to This Golden Land. Amen

from Ruth Patton

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

At The Board of Directors meeting on July 10, 1995, Ruth Patton installed the members for the year July 1995 to June, 1996.

President.....	Robert Fisher
1st Vice President.....	David McKinney
2nd Vice-President.....	Jim Arbuckle
Corresponding Secretary.....	Jane Brownton
Recording Secretary.....	Doris Herschbach
Financial Secretary/Membership.....	Robert & Irene Johnson
Historian.....	Clyde Arbuckle
Archivist.....	Helen McCarthy
Audit.....	Fred Gardner..... Donald Tuston Marie Amaral... .. Bud Amaral

At the June, 1995, Board Meeting, Miriam Clark, Ken Clark and Ruth Patton resigned after serving for many years. We extend our thanks to all three for their service. We are pleased to announce that Donald Tuston has volunteered to return to the Board and will attend the July meeting. We are still looking for two additional Board members to fill the vacancies of Treasurer and Marshall. We also need a legal advisor to fill the position recently held by Austin Warburton who died in May, 1995. We will surely miss his counsel and support which he gave so generously to our organization over so many years.

The board will be directing its efforts in the coming year in the renovation of the Hacienda Cemetery in New Almaden. This work is being done under a grant from the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission under the supervision of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation. It will be completed in a two year period. Richard Hill is heading up the work and would appreciate any information about the gravesites so that proper headstones can be erected.

Every effort is made by the new editor, Mary Lou Lyon to see that the Trailblazer reaches every member in 7-10 days before the meeting. It contains all the up-to-date information regarding meetings, trips, current events and some historical vignettes on our county.

Our quarterly meetings have been averaging about 175 out of a total membership of nearly 700. We would like to see more of the members at these Saturday luncheons. We would like to know what kinds of activities appeal to you most. Please set aside the first Saturday of September, December, March and June for learning more about our great history and keeping up old friendships. Your attendance at the quarterly meetings is one measure of the Board's success in serving its membership. If you have suggestions, please send them or bring them along. We appreciate your support.

## THUMB NAIL SKETCH OF PRESIDENT ROBERT G. FISHER

Our new President for the year 1995-96 was born at O'Conner Hospital on Race Street, June 17, 1918. His parents, both native Californians, were George J. and Helen M. Fisher. His grandparents, Fiacro C. and Gertrude Fisher were also native born. The Fisher family started when his Great Grandfather and Grandmother came to this area in 1845 and purchased the Laguna Seca Grant of 20,000 acres in Coyote, California.

Bob was raised on a fruit ranch on Prospect Road in the Cupertino area. He attended Cupertino Union Grammar School and Fremont Union High School.

In 1940, he graduated from San Jose State with an AB in Business.

From 1941-1946, his employer was the U.S. Army Air Corps, primarily overseas in the CBI theater of operations. He left the Air Corps with the rank of Captain.

FMC became his employer in April, 1946 and he remained with them until retirement in September, 1983. During this period, he held various accounting positions, ending with the job of controller for a Division.

He and his wife, Beverly are parents of three children and now indulge three grandchildren, all of whom live in the San Jose area.

Since retirement, he and Beverly have enjoyed traveling around the country and overseas. They particularly enjoy historical trips and have a goal of seeing all 50 states. In the past, he was active in the United Fund Drives for San Jose. Today, he enjoys bowling, reading, travel, his family and grandchildren ... and we hope the Santa Clara County Pioneers.

### NEW MEMBERS SINCE MARCH

Margaret Abreau	Eleanor Garrissere	Ruth Mirassou
Mary Bates	Claudia Greathead	Jean McNamara
Jo Ann Bjerkhoel	Phyllis Gurries	Patricia Ryan
Anne Campbell	Dominic Gullo	Dottie Temby
Nano Conway	Lorraine Gullo	Kathleen Thaw
Arline Cox		Betty J. Verret

Welcome to all the new members. We hope to see you at all the meetings. If you have a friend who is eligible and not a member, pick up an application at the meeting from the Johnsons or phone them and they will mail you one. Ask your friends if they need a ride to the meeting and bring them.

**First Vice President, David McKinney** traces his heritage on both sides to many pioneers of the area. On his Mother's side were the Gishes, Bernal, Hicks, and Hughes. His father's ancestors were old East Bay settlers, the Gages and Hunts. Captain Gage was fond of keeping gibbons as house pets or when company came in a screened -in gazebo. The Hunts were in lumber.

David still works in the lumber business, but it is specialized as Wholesale Hardwood Lumber. The bulk of the business is in the south and he does not spend 8 to 5 every day working at it. Much of it is done today by phone and fax.

That has left David time to lobby government relations, and volunteer in different branches of local government. He has served on the Sunnyvale Planning Commission and is now on a Housing Committee. He also served for a time on the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission as well as the Board of the Santa Clara County Pioneers.

**Second Vice President-Jim Arbuckle** is the son of the well known and loved Clyde and Helen Arbuckle. Much of his interest in history and writing comes by osmosis. He is a graduate of Willow Glen High School and has Engineering and Business degrees from U.C. Berkeley. He pursued the engineering in San Diego until the big defense lay offs when he returned to San Jose. He is a gourmet cook and often takes over those duties to Helen's delight. One of his specialties is home made bread. He has now started a new career as a technical writer which allows him to use both his interest in writing and his technical background. His interim jobs were as a substitute teacher, mostly in math. Any teacher or student can tell you the pitfalls of that job. His interest in history does not run as strong or deep as that of Clyde or Helen, but is an inborn thing which manifests itself at times-like working with the Pioneers.

Mary Lou Lyon, Editor of *The Trailblazer*, will offer again through MAEP, *California and the West* from 7-9 Wednesday evenings at Markham Junior High School (Willow Glen Educational Park) on Cottle Avenue. Classes will begin September 6-december 20. The plan is to begin with the Military Rule of California at the end of the Mexican War in 1848, examine our area and San Francisco, taking things chronologically as we go. Classes include lectures, discussions, field trips, some slides and appropriate films. Classes do not include assignments, tests or grades.

Some People Make Things Happen! Some People Watch Things Happen. Some People Look and Ask, "What Happened?"

## 1995 Pioneer Essay Contest.

Archivist Helen Mac Carthy reports the following :

1st Prize-Valerie Peters, *The Guadalupe River: Mapping Boundary, Founding Father or Recurring Nightmare,*

Teacher- Kathryn Philp

2nd Prize-Kenneth McNamara, *Marsh to the Skies*  
(Moffett Field, 1933-1995)

3rd Prize-Michael Juhyun Cho, *Chinese Americans of Santa Clara County-* Teacher-Dan Hood

Honorable Mention-James C. Williams- *Not Just A Sanitarium: Gilroy Hot Springs Resort.*

Honorable Mention- Brandon Macias-*The History of Aviation in San Jose. From the Air Age to San Jose International Airport.* -Teacher-Kathryn Philp

Honorable Mention-Daniel Elek, *Steve Jobs: Man On A Mission,-* Teacher-Kathryn Philp

Other entries--Patricia Smith-The History of Delphine Michael Delmas and the Stanford White-Harry Thaw Murder Trial

Kristin Kiley-The San Jose Mercury News: From Past to Present

George S. Erskine-Treasure at Silver Dollar Beach

Kate Schatz-A Past Unearthed: The Buried Treasures of Oak Hill Cemetery and Memorial Park.

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### THE GUADALUPE RIVER

The native Americans of our area built their villages near the banks of the Guadalupe for many years because of the plentiful foods found in and near it. Trout, salmon, sturgeon in its water; oysters, clams and salt water fish in the bayland; deer, rabbits and other game in the nearby brush and hills and wild berries, seeds and acorns in the surrounding area.

The first use by the early Spanish settlers for the Guadalupe in 1777 was as a boundary between the lands of the Pueblo of San José and Santa Clara Mission. They built their first adobes too near the river and the raging torrent when winter came flooded out their farms as well as their houses, so they moved from where the County buildings are today to the area near Market Street.

In 1849, when California's First American Legislature met in San Jose, was one of the wettest winters which kept the legislators uncomfortable and the Capitol moving. Subsequent flooding happened in 1871; January, 1911, (12.38 inches); November 13-December, 15, 1950; December, 1955; 1983; and 1995 . . . Papers filed in S J Library Calif. Rm.



## Touring With The Californians

### SEPTEMBER 13, WEDNESDAY-LIVERMORE VALLEY WINE COUNTRY

As of press time, there were a few openings for this trip. Call Nancy Hill for availability. Leave 9 a.m. Return 5 p.m. Price \$28.

### OCTOBER 13 (FRI) TO 21 (SAT) KENTUCKY AND THE OHIO RIVER CRUISE ON THE *MISSISSIPPI QUEEN*.

Last call for registrations. Brochures are available. A meeting for participants will be held in late September.

**Fall Trips**-Register for the following trips at the September 2 Luncheon or call Nancy Hill beginning September 5. Guests and non-members may register beginning September 11.

### NOVEMBER 4-SATURDAY- RESTING IN PEACE IN COLMA.

Since the 1890's, San Francisco's famous, infamous and ordinary folks have found their final resting place in the dozen or so cemeteries of Colma. We will have a guided tour of Cypress Lawn Cemetery noted for its beautiful Tiffany glass windows and art glass domes and ceilings in an imposing mausoleum. (& Emperor Norton!) We will also visit Holy Cross Cemetery, the oldest in Colma, dating from 1887 and the Italian Cemetery with its rows of family chapels reminiscent of the monumental cemeteries of Genoa and Milan. The Children's section is graced with lovely angel statues. As we drive around the area, we can glimpse several other cemeteries as well. Lunch is included, compliments of Cypress Lawn. Leave 10 a.m. Return 4 p.m. Price \$12.

### DECEMBER 14, THURSDAY CHRISTMAS AT THE CAMERON-STANFORD HOUSE & UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Along the shores of Oakland's Lake Merritt stands the graceful Cameron-Stanford House built in 1876. On our guided tour, we can enjoy the Yuletide decorations enhancing its authentic Victorian furnishings. We will also have a guided tour of the Lake Merritt United Methodist Church with its inspiring Tiffany glass panels and fine statuary. Lunch is included. Leave 9 a.m. Return 3:30 p.m. Price TBA

Projected Trips for 1996

Please sign up with no obligation, for any or all of the out-of-state tours of interest to you. A show of interest will help us plan our schedule for next year. Sign up sheets will be at the September Luncheon or by phone to Nancy Hill beginning on September 5.

**FEBRUARY OR NOVEMBER-LAND OF THE MAYA CRUISE**  
8 Days on the Regency Spirit to Cozumel, Mexico- Belize, Honduras and Guatamala with shore excursions to outstanding Mayan ruins of Chichen Itza, Copan, Tikal and Altum Ha as well as visits to beaches, villages and plantations. Approximately \$1800 including air fare.

**MAY-SPRINGTIME IN MICHIGAN**  
10 days- Holland tulip festival, Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum, President Gerald Ford Museum, Sleeping Bear Dunes, Mackinac Island Grand Hotel, Sault Ste Marie, Bavarian Frankenmuth, etc. Approximately \$2250 including air fare.

**AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER- CANADIAN ROCKIES ROCKY MOUNTAINEER RAILTOUR**- 12 days. Vancouver, Kamloops, Jasper, Columbia Ice Field, Lake Louise, Banff-viewing spectacular snow clad mountains and crystal lakes-Approximately \$2500 including airfare.

**THE CALIFORNIANS TOUR COMMITTEE**

**ROSE CRIMI-TOUR DIRECTOR**

NANCY HILL-phone reservations (258-3449) M-F before noon.

FERN MC LAGGAN-Treasurer, 60 Palomar Real, Campbell, CA 95008.

HELEN BROOKS- Luncheon Signups

MARJORIE RUSHT has retired from the Tour Committee after 20 years of faithful service. We thank her for her dedication. We will miss her.

Anyone interested in joining the Tour Committee for luncheon sign ups please call Rose Crimi (293-0896)

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THE ARGONAUTS invite you to participate in their "Big Rig" Christmas Parade Trip to Eureka, December 8-10 and the Death Valley trip, April 9-13, 1996. Call Fern McLaggan (371-9169)~  
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**BEYOND THE SUNSET**

OUR SYMPATHIES GO TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF OUR FORMER MEMBERS WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE.

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| DOROTHY HITCHMAN | ALFRED METRESSAT |
| ESTHER ADAMS     | CLARISSE K. BECK |
| FRIEDA CULBRETH  |                  |

# CHAFF AND GLEANINGS

BY

HELEN ARBUCKLE

*THE PIONEER, JUBILEE ISSUE, DECEMBER 15, 1899*  
MEMORIAL TREE.

At ten o'clock today, the Mayor of San Jose will plant a "Sequoia" tree in the City Hall Park in memory of this event. (Golden Jubilee) Major E.A. Sherman has gathered earth from all the famous battlefields of American History and noted spots of the Eastern States and of California. The tree will be planted with appropriate ceremonies. (The city arborist reported that the tree died last year and was taken out.)

*Trailblazer*, Fall, 1964 issue. Bus Tour. Saturday, Nov. 21. "My Fair Lady" Coronet Theatre. San Francisco. Leave 11:30 a.m. Lunch en route. \$6.50.

*Trailblazer*. Summer, 1960. Last month, Hart's Department Store on the corner of West Santa Clara and South Market Streets. closed its doors for the first time in 102 years.

"TALE OF A TIN LIZZIE Ye of long memory will recall that there was a Ford assembly line at the 1915 Expo in the Marina, turning out one car every 10 minutes for three hours a day; most were sold on the spot for \$450, reduced from the standard \$500. Well. Elmer Worcester of Morgan Hill bought one. In 1919, his son Howard used it for his honeymoon in Monterey. Fifty years later, he and his bride drove the beloved flivver on their Golden Anniversary Party." Stay with us.. "Howard's son, Lee Worcester of Los Altos still drives the amazing car...a shiny black roadster 'in absolutely mint condition.' He says, 'with brass radiator and headlamps'...The hand-cranked beauty is still a star, too. It'll be at the Horseless Carriage Concourse d'Elegance at Stanford next Sunday, and of course, it has a horn that goes 'Ahh-OO-oah!'"

Addendum: Clyde and Helen were guests at the Worcesters' Golden Wedding Party and saw them take off in their plus fifty year old Lizzie for parts unknown

Addendum 2: Howard Worcester was on the Board of Directors and served as treasurer of The California Pioneers off and on during the 1960's and 1970's.

P.O. BOX 8208 SAN JOSE CA 95155  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# PIONEER LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 1995  
AT NOON LOU'S VILLAGE

## MEMBER PAUL BERNAL

Deputy DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
"THE GREATEST CRIMINAL CASES  
IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY"  
A SLIDE SHOW



RESERVATIONS

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FRESH VEGETABLES  
ROLLS & BUTTER  
SHERBERT & COFFEE