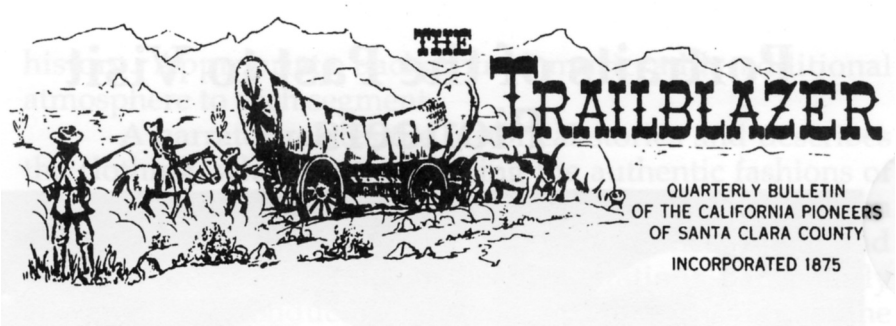

VOL. 52 NUMBER 3 SEPTEMBER, 2011

Pioneers Luncheon Barbeque

Saturday September 10, 2011 at
SAN JOSE HISTORY PARK
1650 Senter Road San Jose, California
Noon until 3:00 pm
Reservations MUST BE MADE BEFORE Tuesday September 8, 2010

So enough food can be prepared for our group, it is most important to place a reservation in advance…

For Reservation E-Mail to "sccpioneers@aol.com" or Call: 408-554-7587

COST IS $30 FOR ADULTS and $10 FOR CHILDREN 12 YEARS AND UNDER
(make checks payable to California Pioneers)
You must have your Name Tag on to be served
Commemorative Badges will be given to all paid registrants

Food will be prepared by Andy's BBQ on site

Menu

Pork Spareribs, Beef Brisket, BBQ Chicken, Smoked Sausage
BBQ Beans, Cole Slaw, Mixed Green Salad
Soft Drinks, Water, Cookies
Veggie Burgers are available (***please request when placing reservations)***

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Best to get to History Park before 11:30 am, free parking is available in the Parking lot behind the Hotel and the Phelan Road parking area, Handicap Parking is available outside the South Gate into the park. Drive in to drop off guests is OK but parking is not available inside

Why Admission Day?

California, more than other American states, enjoys profound reasons for her tradition of celebrating Admission Day. Many unique facts about the birth of our State are underlined by holding the Gold Rush centennial celebration of the day in San Jose this year.

With its capital established in San Jose one hundred years ago this month, California became the only American area ever to set up a constitution and a complete state government a year before formal admission to the Union.

Stirring historic, economic and moral forces assisted this spirit of enterprise and enthusiasm which has characterized California's tremendous development ever since. They prevailed dramatically over powerful and persuasive opposition in the east.

California is the only State, outside the original thirteen colonies and independent Texas, to be admitted to the Union without first serving probation as a territory. To win statehood direct from her status as conquered territory, ruled by the military, she had to convince the cautious that her sudden growth was stable and not just a "flash in the pan" of the Gold Rush.

She was isolated from the settled east by thousands of miles of supposed waste land, exposed to the ambitions of rival nations. By winning statehood on this then-distant and exposed Pacific Coast, she stood as final notice to all the world that America alone would continue to develop the vast continent between.

But it was in surmounting her highest obstacle to statehood that California had deepest influence upon the national ideal. Thirty states had long been deadlocked in the Senate — 15 free and 15 slave — when President Millard Fillmore's signature made California the 31st state, and the sixteenth free state, on September 9, 1850. Her admission broke the deadlock, marking the beginning of the end of American slavery. In the purge of the Civil War a dozen years later, California's rapidly developing resources were a decisive factor for victory.

No telegraph spanned the continent to flash word in 1850 to California that her governmental confusion was ended. Not until 40 days later did the sailing ship "Oregon" enter the Golden Gate and signal the jubilant phrase, "California is admitted", to the anxious state.

The signal touched off a tremendous celebration in San Francisco. Governor Peter H. Burnett of San Jose leaped into the driver's box of Crandall's jouncing stage to carry the news down the peninsula to the seat of government here.

It is hard for us in more orderly times to grasp the joy with which the news was received as Governor Burnett waved his stovepipe hat and shouted it to passers-by. At long last there was settled authority in California where confusion had been knotted, snarl upon snarl, through decades of Spanish and Mexican political instability and revolution, gold-greed lawlessness, and the clash of civilizations in the conquest.

In the memory of this jubilation, there has never been a year that California has missed celebrating its birthday. In 1851 and for 25 years thereafter the Pioneer Society sponsored the observance each year in San Francisco. When the Native Sons first organized there in 1875 they carried on the tradition as their first major project. In 1883 the Grand Parlor, N.S.G.W., took over the observance on a state-wide basis and in 1888 won its campaign to have the day made a legal holiday by state law. In joint patriotic fraternity, the Native Sons and Native Daughters have ever since recalled each year the joyous day on which this state was born.

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*****The Drop Dead Date for submissions for the December Trailblazer is Monday, OCTOBER 24. No submissions after that date will be included. Ye ED

California's State Flag Centennial

By John E. Stolp

The BEAR FLAG was first used by the American's residing in California when an open revolt against Mexican authority began on June 14, 1846. The Bear Flagger's standard, the design of which has been attributed to William Todd, was initially flown over the Plaza at Sonoma. This first flag has been described as having been comprised of white cotton sheeting with a strip of red flannel running along the lower border, the California Grizzly *passant* (on all four legs) centered on the field and facing towards the left, and a red star in the upper left hand corner. The lettering and artistic representation of the grizzly were produced by using blackberry juice, brick dust and oil as pigments.

The short lived Republic of California passed into the control of the United States on July 7, 1846 when the Stars and Stripes were posted at Monterey by the Pacific Fleet Commodore, John D. Sloat. The California Republic flag however, remained as the unofficial symbol of California during the last half of the 19th century. Many different versions of this flag were produced during this time, but the basic elements remained constant. In 1906, the original flag was lost when the Hall of the Society of California Pioneers in San Francisco was destroyed by the fires resulting from the earthquake of April 18th.

Finally, on February 3rd, 1911, the California State Legislature formally adopted the Bear Flag as California's own and had specific language written into the Government Code describing its makeup. Unfortunately, variations as to the artistic representation of the state symbol remained, and a number of different versions were produced, all of which were "official". It would be another forty-two years until the matter of standardizing the image of the Grizzly itself was addressed. On June 14th, 1953, Governor Earl Warren signed a bill which finally established a specific, prescribed, and enforceable standard to which California's State Flag must conform.

So, as California celebrates its 161st birthday this Admission Day, realize that it has only been for 100 years that the State has officially had its flag, and that the design of which has only been fully standardized for 58 years! California Blue Book 1911 California Grizzly by Storer & Tevis

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

The Pioneers carries the embers of the past to the glowing fire of the future! As incoming president, I have great faith in our organization. Brightness and innovation lie ahead for our non-profit that was founded in 1875. How many groups can claim that?

Much of our current success is owed to our energetic immediate past president, Jim Zetterquist. He led with creativity and warmth and he brought many new ideas. The last few years have been a juggernaut of projects and activities.

We are fiscally sound. Our membership is robust. We are surrounded by wonderful, enthusiastic volunteers. I would like to especially praise the contributions of our outgoing board members, each of whom helped with a thousand fired irons: Tim Peddy, Robb Moore, Jan Paull and Jerry Rosenthal. They will remain active contributors because their love for the Pioneers remains intense. We are fortunate to welcome a strong panel of new board members: Mary Berger, Professor Rose Marie Beebe, Bev Blockie, and Joe Melehan.

Besides our latest major project "Westward Ho!," we are gearing up for a new local history trivia competition, our Admission Day BBQ, updating our website, completing an inventory of all archival assets, adding video screens to our museum to enhance each visitor's experience, creating a new pamphlet, expanding the scope and awards for our annual essay contest (we will reach fourth graders starting this year), creating a video to honor the Cochran/Jackson family just as we did so for the Stevens family, hosting the Fall Symposium for the Conference of California Historical Societies, and we are sponsoring many history events. And this is just for the next three months! We are a very active group. Please go to our website to learn more about these exciting projects: www.californiapioneers.com.

Where do we go from here? To guide us, I sent out a membership questionnaire; received input from the board and volunteers via a comprehensive written survey; and orchestrated a board retreat with professional facilitators. I always welcome ideas from our members – in fact, many of our best ideas come from our membership. Email me anytime at pbernal@scscourt.org. I look forward to serving you. Paul Bernal

Pioneer Essay Contest, 2011 Winners of the 2011 Pioneer Essay contest spoke about their subjects at the June meeting. They were: First Place, Elizabeth Ahrens-Kley on her ancestor "Dr. Benjamin Cory. "Second place was Gage McKinney on "A Life and Selected Poems of Thomas Clarence Urmy." This will be presented in a longer book form soon. Third place went to Kathleen Kozacek , "Where the Girls Are: Castilleja", A college prep school for girls in Santa Clara County. Honorable Mentions went to Jooanna Herz, "If Walls Can Talk.", Elizabeth Barratt, "The F.R.F.G. Women's Study Club of Gilroy." And to Susan Sargent for "Presidential Visits, Then and Now." It is time to begin working on YOUR story for the 2012 contest. Check our web site for the rules and the California Room at San Jose Martin Luther King Library for copies of all papers submitted since the contest began. New topics are welcomed.

THE NEW 2011-12 SLATE OF OFFICERS IS FOUND ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE TRAILBLAZER. If you do not receive your copy, call the MEMBERSHIP CHAIR.

New Pioneer Members for April-August, 2011

Douglas J. Foley is a native San Josean, lives in San Jose, and is a Consultant and Attorney. His mother came to California in 1937 and his father arrived in 1919. Doug's Pioneer ancestor is John F. Foley. Doug is the father of our Board member and Film Archive Chair, Bill Foley.

Tom Kearney is a third generation San Franciscan and lives in San Jose. His father came to California in 1927 and his mother arrived in 1948. He was the owner, Chief Financial Officer and General Manager of Santa Clara Lumber & Millwork from 1979 until 2009. He has resided in Santa Clara County since 1969 and received an MBA in Agribusiness and a BS in Biology from Santa Clara University. Tom has two grown children and two grandchildren.

Mits Mats is a native Californian and worked in the government. Mits parents were also born in California in 1920 and 1923. The grandparents arrived in California circa 1916 and farmed in the Los Angeles area.

Jonna Baker is a dental office Manager and lives in San Jose. Her family arrived in California in the 1900s and were natives of Australia. Her mother is Linda Sharp and her father is John Baker. Jonna is interested in history and genealogy.

Joseph Melehan has been reinstated for membership. He lives is San Jose and is interested in preservation of significant historic buildings and the history of agriculture and food processing in Santa Clara County. He likes historic film footage and golf. His family arrived in California in 1854. His Pioneer ancestors include John and Frank Stock, Peter and Elizabeth O'Brien Stock. His parents are Patricia Perrucci Melehan and James Stock Melehan. Joe is now a new member of our Board of Directors.

Ken McMurray lives in San Jose, served in the U.S. Navy and worked in HVAC. His family came from Tennessee and Virginia to California in the 1920s and 1930s. His mother is Opal McMurray and his father is Edward McMurray. Ken is interested in history and gardening.

***Lolla McMurray** lives in San Jose and was a secretary and office manager. Her family came to California in 1941-1942 from Oklahoma and Texas. Her mother and father are Jean and Clifford Kirby. Lolla is interested in art and history.*

Susan Sargent came to California with her parents in 1953 from Chicago, Illinois. Her occupations included homemaker, secretary and a paralegal. She and her husband Dave both graduated from San Jose State University and live in San Jose. Susan entered our 2011 essay contest. Her entry was entitled "Presidential Visits Then & Now" and won Honorable Mention. The essay can be accessed on our website at www.californiapioneers.com.

Marilyn Frizzell is a native Californian and lives in San Jose. Her ancestors include the family names of Tidball, Hall and Whidden.

Glenn Louis Frizzell is also a native Californian and lives in San Jose. His pioneer ancestor includes a Berryessa. Glenn's occupation was a Right of Way Agent.

Pioneer Membership

As of the end of June we have 473 paid and Life members. We still have 93 unpaid members who will not be receiving our Trailblazer newsletter for the rest of the year unless they pay their dues. The date of your membership expiration should be printed

on the label of your newsletter. Please check your records to see if you have paid your 2011 dues. All Pioneer membership dues for the 2011 year were due on January 1st.

Gayle Frank is the new Membership Chairman. Since her husband, Robb Moore, was Chairman for the last two years, the phone number and address remain the same. If you have any questions about membership and your status, please call Gayle at 408-275-6889. Dues are $25 annually and can be sent to the address below. Life Membership is a one-time fee of $250. **California Pioneers of Santa Clara County Membership Chair, P.O. Box 8208 San Jose, CA 95155**

Bring a Friend to Join the Pioneers!

PIONEERS CO-HOST THE CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES NORTHERN SYMPOSIUM, 2011

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County and History San Jose are hosting the Fall Symposium for the Conference of California Historical Societies on Friday, September 30, 2011 and Saturday, October 1, 2011. Both groups are long term members of this state-wide umbrella group of historical societies and museums which was formed in 1953 as a means to bring together the many historical societies and museums in the state of California to compare notes and learn from each other. Our own Clyde Arbuckle was one of the founders and the first VicePresident. They meet in the north in the fall and in the south in February-March with the Annual June meeting alternating north and south. We also sponsor workshops to address common problems periodically.

Our proposed site of Napa County fell through so I agreed to sponsor the Symposium in San Jose. The last one here was in 1999. I have been on the Board of CCHS since the 1970's and took over Sites and Times after my presidency in 1983.

The theme for this symposium is in honor of the 100th anniversary of Women Suffrage in California which became law on October 10, 1911, the sixth state to enfranchise women. We are planning for 100 registrants and 2 buses. Tours will be in four groups of 25. The symposium hotel will be at the historic Hayes Mansion.

Mary Lou Lyon, Pioneer Historian
CCHS Past President

FALL SYMPOSIUM, SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 1, 2011 SAN JOSE
AT THE 1905 HAYES MANSION
THEME 100 YEARS OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29 5 PM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 HISTORY SAN JOSE,
10-12 AM WORKSHOP ON PRESERVING HISTORY THROUGH FAMILY FILMS IN UPSTAIRS FIREHOUSE ROOM BY BILL FOLEY

12 – 1:00 LUNCH IN PLAZA, SANDWICHES AND SALAD
1:30 – 5 TOURS OF HISTORY SAN JOSE TO INCLUDE
MAIN HOTEL BUILDING AND GIFT SHOP
PAULSON HOUSE – PIONEERS

CHINESE –AMERICAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM
PORTUGUESE IMPERIO
GREEK HOUSE
ART TOUR, HILL HOUSE, PASETTA HOUSE, PAULSON HOUSE
TROLLEY BARN
FIREHOUSE MUSEUM
HISTORY SAN JOSE COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

BACK TO HOTEL, REST, CHANGE FOR DINNER
HAPPY HOUR, SELL TICKETS FOR DRAWING
6:30 DINNER, HAYES MANSION
PORTRAITS OF THE PAST, 1 HOUR ON WOMEN SUFFRAGE
DRAWING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2011
8-9 REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT MEETING

9-BUS TOUR
9:30 – 10:30 BERNAL, GULAC, JOYCE RANCH- PAUL BERNAL & MIKE BOULAND
10:30 TO NEW ALMADEN HACIENDA CEMETERY 11:00 -11:30 TOUR
11:30 – 1:30 TO CASA GRANDE, BOX LUNCHES IN PATIO AND TOUR OF CASA GRANDE
2:00 ON BUS TO 1869 ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL
HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE TOUR OF 9 ST. JAMES SQUARE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS, INCLUDING RESTORED 1866 COUNTY COURTHOUSE,
1863 TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
1903 SITE OF PRES. MCKINLEY SPEECH
1933 POST OFFICE,
SITE OF 1933 LYNCHING
5:00 BUS TO HOTEL
5:30 –6:30 REST, CHANGE FOR DINNER, BUS TO THREE FLAMES ON MERIDIAN AV.
6:30 – 7:00 HAPPY HALF-HOUR, SELL TICKETS
7:00 – DINNER, HOUR PRESENTATION BY SPEAKER ON CALIFORNIA WOMAN SUFFRAGE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 9 -10 BOARD MEETING

This interesting meeting is open to all Pioneer members and CCHS members plus members of other historical groups in Santa Clara County.

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HACIENDA CEMETERY

I sincerely hope that you all have had a pleasant memorial Day weekend and have taken time to remember our veterans, living and dead, on this special day. I wish to thank all of you who have participated in service to our country, be it active duty in armed conflict, reserve service, or support on the homefront. Your sacrifices are greatly appreciated on this and every other day.

Today, in celebration of Memorial Day, once known as "Decoration Day," and in observance of the tradition that has been carried out for many years, I visited the Hacienda

Cemetery to decorate the grave of **Jenny Danielson.**

Jenny was the first child of John Danielson and Lydia Dahlgren, emigrants from Sweden, and was born "on a very wintry day in December" of 1886, as recalled by her half-sister, Lydia Innes, in 1974. Born Eugenia Danielson on December 7th in the small mining community of New Almaden, Jenny was "blue-eyed and beautiful," Lydia remembered, and was the pride of her father, a master metal smith who installed and repaired the cables that pulled the mining carts.

A sudden illness struck Jenny less than two years later, and the cholera epidemic that swept California in 1888 claimed another victim when little Jenny died on July 27th. She was buried in the Hacienda Cemetery with a small stone marker over her which survives to this day. John Danielson and his wife Lydia had their second child, Emil, the same year that Jenny died. A third child, Josephine, was born in 1893, but John passed away a mere three weeks after her birth.

On his deathbed, John Danielson asked his best friend, Alexander Innes, to support his wife and children as long as he could. Innes kept this promise, burying John in an unmarked grave next to his daughter in the Hacienda Cemetery, and seeing that Lydia and her two surviving children wanted for nothing until his death in 1931.

From Jenny's death in 1888 to the present day, her grave has been cared for. Emil Danielson regularly brought flowers to his big sister's grave until his death, as did his son, Warren Danielson, until he moved away from California. Lydia Innes continued the tradition as long as she could, but was forced to hand off the task when she, too, was no longer able. Various family members and relatives have decorated the grave throughout the years, especially on Memorial Day. The Pioneers were entrusted with this tradition when they took over the cemetery, and I took great pride in planting flowers on Jenny's grave today.

I cleared the grave of faded mementos left by others, including a weatherbeaten teddy bear and a ceramic Victorian boot, and other flowers that were left last year on Memorial Day and throughout the year. Jenny now sleeps beneath several brightly colored daisies, orange and pink, and a dahlia that has just begun to blossom.

The New Almaden Road was lined with American Flags today, and the sky was bright and clear above the cemetery. As I patted the soil down over Jenny's grave, a father and his daughter walked up to me, exploring the cemetery. John had been to the spot before and thought his young daughter, Caitlin, would like to see it. Caitlin was particularly fascinated by Jenny's grave, and read the sign describing her life with great interest. As they left, they thanked me, and the Pioneers, for maintaining this historic spot, and preserving its beauty. Jenny and her father would have been very happy. Bill Foley Cemeterian

IN HONOR OF THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN CALIFORNIA-----Suffragettes and California

Commonly held opinions are that the Suffragettes were women pushing for the vote. While that is true, that is not complete. California women were pushing for equality,inheritance, wages, property rights, education, as well as voting. While many of their goals have been achieved, any modern woman can agree that Equality has not been 100% attained.

Under Spanish law, California women were allowed to inherit land and keep it separately from their husbands- they had property rights. They could retain separate ownerships of land

acquired before marriage and any property acquired after marriage was held equally by both spouses. Upon the death of either spouse, the property was kept intact and managed by the survivor before being passed down to heirs. Wives could have their own wills and widows had real power over marital property.

Women were not given equal status in the workplace because, for the most part, there was no workplace as we have today. Women lived at home until married. Women were not given equal rights for education, but were trained to do the jobs they were expected to do, which would include languages and music in wealthier homes, and running a household. Poor folks were taught how to do the menial tasks.

Of course, Spanish law did not allow women to vote, either, but governing was done only by the upper class men. Other states under Spanish law included Texas, Louisiana, and Florida, all inheriting the law from their previous colonial experiences with Spain and France.

When California sought to become a state and wrote the first Constitution of 1849, most of the delegates were from the eastern United States and brought English Law with them. Common law as inherited from England said that a woman's legal status changed upon marriage. She became invisible to the law, subservient to her husband. She could not own property, and any property she had brought to the marriage became his to manage, sell, gamble or do whatever he pleased with. In exchange, the wife was given Dower Rights, which were supposed to protect her during marriage and in widowhood. If the husband was profligate, many women and families became victims without any protection from the law. By mid-19th Century, those laws were being attacked in some states as unfair to women and many states were trying to protect women from intemperate or unfortunate husbands.

In 1857, the California Legislature ended equal no-fault division of common property upon divorce by granting judges certain discretionary powers. By 1870, California wives were worse off than eastern wives protected by Dower Rights, in spite of safe guards in the first Constitution.

In July, 1869, a small number of women met in San Francisco to establish the California Woman Suffrage Association. As in the eastern states, membership was mainly white, Protestant and middle class. The 1848 Seneca Falls, New York Declaration of Sentiments had been aimed at the single issue of suffrage. The California reformers agenda included economic, marital, occupational and political rights. Their experiences in the 1850's and 1860's in the labor market where many female émigrés were driven to support themselves in the frontier economy had pushed some to rise to the occasion.

An old saying of the Gold Rush was "The Miners came in '49, the whores in'51, Between them both, they raised the native Son." While this may be partly true, there were many respectable wives who came west, both overland and by ship. Sometimes, husbands did not survive the trip and the widow was in a strange land with children to support. Sometimes, although the husband tried very hard to find gold, the prices were so high that the wives had to help support the family. Many found that cooking was a respectable opportunity to earn money, as was running a boarding house. Others labored beside their husbands in small stores or on a farm.

There were some others who came west with their own printing presses who began publishing newspapers and magazines, first for the female audience and then for a more generalized audience. An all male San Francisco typographical union battled to exclude female typesetters from the higher paying jobs. Women fought back.

At the same time, women in the south were reacting to abolitionism and the post Civil War fight for suffrage for the freedman, ignoring equal rights for his former master's educated wife. In the east, south and west, women were banding together to protest for equal rights.

The first state to grant Full Woman Suffrage was Wyoming in 1890, as they applied for statehood. Probably, if they didn't count the brave pioneer women who settled there, they would not have had enough votes to become a state! It is interesting to note that of the first 14 states allowing women to vote, all are west of the Mississippi. **Second was Colorado in 1893, Third and Fourth, Utah and Idaho in 1896, Fifth, Washington state in 1910, Sixth, *California in 1911*, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth, Oregon, Kansas and Arizona, Tenth, Alaska Territory, Eleventh and Twelfth, Montana and Nevada in 1914, Thirteenth and Fourteenth, South Dakota and Oklahoma AND in** *1920, the 19th amendment to the U. S. Constitution won the necessary 2/3 ratification from state legislatures.*

THREE INTERESTING LOCAL SUFRAGETTES
SARAH ARMSTONG MONTGOMERY GREEN WALLIS

One of the local ladies who was ultimately, a Suffragist was Sarah Armstrong Montgomery Green Wallis. She had come west with the Stephens-Murphy-Townsend party in 1844 as the hired girl for Dr. and Mrs. Townsend. At the age of 18, she had married Allen Montgomery, a gunsmith, also traveling with the Stephens-Murphy, Townsend Party of 1844. While she and the other ladies waited at Sutter's Fort for the men to return from the Bear Flag Revolt, she had attended a class in Reading and writing taught to the children in the fort by Eliza Gregson, who had come west in 1845 with the Grigsby-Ide party. Whether she had learned to read then, or had brushed up on her reading, is not known.

Sutter hired Montgomery to whipsaw some lumber for him in 1845 and he built a small cabin in the woods where Sarah had the First Quilting Bee in California in 1846.
All the people in the area had attended, estimated as high as 20! Montgomery deserted Sarah, sailing to Hawaii on the *Julia* in 1847. He was never heard from again. They had no children.

Sarah moved to San Francisco, where she ran a boarding-house. She met and married wealthy Talbot Green, who had come west with the Bartleson-Bidwell party. He had carried with him a heavy bag of metal he claimed was lead for rifle balls. He ran for Mayor of San Francisco ion 1851 and was recognized by an acquaintance of Sarah as being Paul Geddes, a fugitive bank clerk from Pennsylvania, who had stolen gold from his bank and left behind a wife and children when he emigrated to California. He admitted this was true to his partner, Thomas Oliver Larkin. He was escorted to a ship and went back to Pennsylvania to clear the matter up, leaving Sarah pregnant. He did eventually send her some money. She continued to run a boardinghouse to support herself and her son, Talbot H. Green.

In July, 1854, at age 29, Sarah married Joseph S. Wallis, a prominent attorney and politician from Santa Clara County. He later became a Judge and a State Senator. Judge Wallis had come to California, around the Horn, from his birth state of Massachusetts in 1849. He had helped open up some mines in Yuba County, then returned to San Francisco to read law with William H. Rhodes. He was admitted to the Bar on August 15, 1855 in Sacramento before the California Supreme Court.

In 1856, Sarah bought Mayfield Farm from Elisha Crosby to settle a debt he owed her. The property was held in her own name. She had a large home built, surrounded by orchards and gardens. Sarah became involved in Community Affairs, including starting the First Women's

Club and she lobbied for a railroad station in Mayfield (California Avenue, Palo Alto, today) . She lobbied the State Legislature on Women's Rights Issues, including property rights, access to state college for women and allowing women to practice law. Sarah was chosen Presiding President of the California Women's Suffrage Association in 1870.

Sarah loved to entertain in her magnificent home and was famous for her parties. She included Susan B. Anthony as one of her guests, but the pinnacle of her success was a party in 1877 for President Ulysses S. Grant .

Sarah Armstrong Montgomery Green Wallis had five children who all became successful California citizens. In 1878, the Wallises suffered financial losses and sold their Mayfield Farm to Edward Baron, and moving to a smaller place nearby.

Judge Wallis died in 1898 and Sarah moved to Los Gatos where she died January 11, 1915, six years before the California Legislature gave the vote to the women in our state. Both are buried in Plot 115 in Union Cemetery in Redwood City at El Camino Real and Woodside Road.

No picture of her seems to exist, but included is one of her house. There is a State Historical Marker #696 at the site of her house on La Selva Avenue which burned in 1936.

FIRST CALIFORNIA STATE SUFRAGETTE MEETING IN SAN FRANCISCO

When the suffragettes met on January 26, 1870, in San Francisco's Dashaway Hall to form the first state-wide California Suffragette Society, the person named as president for the four day convention proceedings was Sarah Wallis of Santa Clara County. The first discussion was to decide how the president should be addressed. It was finally decided that she should be addressed as Mrs. President, not as Mrs.Chairman or Mrs. Chairwoman.

After four days, they had organized a state society and elected Mrs. A. A. Haskell of Petaluma as President. There were 10 vice presidents, one being Georgiana Kirby of Santa Cruz. Their plan was to address audiences throughout the state.

Meanwhile, LAURA DE FORCE GORDON came to California in 1867. She addressed the women suffragettes in 1868, the first speech dedicated to women's rights. She was a spiritualist who had appeared in front of many audiences from the age of 15. One of 9 children, born in Pennsylvania, she attended public schools in Erie county and later in Chautauqua County, New York. She was an excellent writer and speaker, her early speeches on spiritualism. The entire family had embraced Christian Spiritualism in 1855 when one of her brother's died. They believed in freedom of conscience and direct inspiration from trance induced speeches and were against male dominance, believing in sexual equality between men and women. Her mother Katy was a strong example, educating two girls from a middle class family. Newspapers of the day were hostile to both woman suffrage and to the trance induced speeches and papers, trying to link them to clinical insanity.

However, several periodicals became supporters of the woman's movement, including spiritualist publications and the *San Jose Mercury* owned by J. J. Owen. Laura was invited to come to California by the Friends of Progress, a spiritualist Association in San Francisco. They knew that Laura's fine personal magnetism might energize the Woman's movement. She came West, stopping in Denver, Salt Lake City and Virginia City to speak. She spoke to crowded assemblies every day for a week in a single location. Her first public call for Woman Suffrage in California was from Platt's Hall in San Francisco on February 18, 1868. "The Elective Franchise: Who Shall Vote?" Although her fame was from Spiritualist speeches, in California,

she was known for her speeches on the issues of women's equality. Her family continued their Spiritualist beliefs in private.

She proclaimed, "Let the Constitutions of the several states be amended, so that white and black, red and yellow, of both sexes, can exercise their civil rights. She asserted that the "spirit of divine unrest" provoked "thousands of women everywhere into open organized rebellion against the social and political despotism which denies woman the right to choose her own vocation, or those who should rule over her."

Laura attended the first organized meeting of women suffragists in the state in January, 1870. There she argued that all should be admitted, not just delegates, "that all who registered and paid the fee should be admitted." She cajoled the women, sitting timidly into action, "ladies must not sit like mummies, but open their mouths and vote audibly." She was not elected to a leadership position at that first meeting. She referred to those who were as the "Board of Control." Even so, she became their most prominent local advocate. In the next two years, Laura delivered an estimated 200 speeches along the Pacific Coast, speaking in Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory as well as California.

Laura was nominated by the San Joaquin Independent party as its candidate for the California State Senate in 1871. She used that platform to deliver the feminist message. She also helped organize the Nevada State Woman Suffrage Association in 1870 in Battle Mountain. Her proposed Constitutional Amendment in the Nevada state legislature lost by only one vote.

She was invited by Clara Shortridge Foltz to contribute to California's first official suffrage convention. She presented the first political appeal for woman suffrage to the California State Legislature in 1870, leading the delegation of three who represen-ted over 3,000 petitioners from the state.

Two years later, they were more prepared with a total of 8 legislative bills already drafted for specific marital, economic and property rights for women in California. Again, their efforts failed, but when introduced again in 1874, with Laura's lobbying efforts, they secured the right to run for certain educational offices. (Of course, men had found that school board positions were not always to their liking!)

Laura continued to struggle for women in California for the rest of the century, pressing for women suffrage. She was President of the California State Women Suffrage Society from 1884-1894, following her friend and co-advocate, Clara Shortridge Foltz.
Some years, the suffrage effort was stronger than in others.. After the Colorado women earned the vote in 1893, they attacked the issues with renewed vigor. Meanwhile, other state legislation advancing the civil rights of women were won.

One of the first was lobbying for the Ladies' Silk Culture Society of California and their proposed school. She pushed it through with 3 days remaining in the session and secured the signature of the Governor one hour before the close of the session. That bill gave the Silk society $7500 in appropriations and established the State Board of Silk Culture with a majority of women required by law.

In 1889, Laura and her colleagues prepared three petitions asking for both muni-cipal and school suffrage and the right to hold all educational offices. The bills were favored by a majority, but not by the two-thirds required. *In 1891, she pushed 4 bills through the legislature regarding notaries, probate and property rights*. She often submitted oral and written briefs to the state legislature on issues germane to the women's cause. *Laura and Clara secured the right for every California woman to enjoy the profession or education of her choice in 1879.* They ushered in "The Women's Lawyer Bill" as a Constitutional Amendment securing the right of

women to pursue, among other things, careers in law. All of these before allowing women to vote!

In 1878, Laura ran for the position of delegate to the State Constitutional Convention. Although she lost, she was able to monitor the deliberations, voice her opinion and urge the suffrage plank in her alternate role as a newspaper correspondent in attendance.

Time after time, Laura appeared before the legislature and the inevitable taunts of those who ridiculed woman suffragists. While politicians and citizens looked forward to public debates as "a feast of reason and flow of wisdom", there were those who prepared burlesque speeches on the subject, including a protest containing the names of all the convicts in state prison. Some continued even after the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution was passed.

The McClatchy journalist wrote, "In those days, California journalism was not very respectful to aspiring suffragists, and Laura DeForce Pump Gordon was about the least offensive of the names showered upon her by the 'male brutes' of the press. But Mrs. Gordon went her way, not bothering her head about the variegated verbal vegetables that were hurled at her-she possessed self-poise as well as plenty of courage-and she soon so won the admiration even of her condemmers that one by one they gradually came to write and speak of her with respect."

Laura had started a career in journalism in 1873. She was hired by *The Narrow Gauge* to write and edit the women's department. When that paper failed, she bought the printing material of the *Stocktonian*. By September,1873, she was publishing the first *Stockton Weekly Leader*, a semi-literary newspaper. It was so well received that she soon published it daily. After moving it to Sacramento in 1875, she sold it and bought the *Oakland Daily Democrat* which she published until her exit from reporting in 1878.

She had grown to hate reporting and editing but used it as a platform for woman suffrage, reporting on legislative activities both for and against. As a reporter at the Constitutional Convention, she lobbied the passage of the Women Lawyers Bill. She did continue as a free lance reporter, but meanwhile was privately reading the law.

She and Clara applied to Hastings College of Law in 1878 and actually attended several lectures before the admissions committee denied their applications. Basing their claims on the constitutional amendment they had drafted, they appealed separately, Laura to the California Supreme Court and Clara to the trial court. With two suits pending, the College of Law was at a disadvantage. Both women won initially and on appeal. Mean-while, they both studied the law independently and so completely that they were admitted to the bar by the California Supreme Court on December 6, 1879. Neither ever actually attended the law school.

Laura opened a San Francisco office in criminal defense and general practice two months later. Her first case was defending two women who had been barred from working in a San Francisco saloon. Her defense was that they had the right to enjoy an occupation of their choice. The judges voted in her favor 8 to 2.

Later, that same year, Laura was on the defense team for a man being prosecuted for murder. It was the first time a woman had argued in a murder trial and reporters and the public packed the courtroom. Laura presented the opening argument for the defense and the bailiff spent 30 minutes restoring order. She began again and with legal logic and common sense. The jury needed only 30 minutes to return the verdict of not guilty.

One of her most notable cases was in 1882, when she defended E. R. Sproul, who had confessed to the murder of James S. Andrews in Butte, California. Sproul, owner of a profitable local mine explained that he had intended to kill another man. Somehow, Laura secured a not

guilty verdict, ending up convincing the entire courtroom, including the district attorney that he was not guilty. Another client was the Pacific Railroad who gave her an unlimited lifetime pass on the railroad. She was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court on February 3, 1883, although there is no record of her arguing a case there.

In 1901, Laura closed her law practice and retire to her farm in Lodi. Her constant travel with her law practice and work for woman suffrage had caused problems in her private life. Her husband Charles H. Gordon, a medical doctor from Scotland, had served during the Civil War as a captain in the third Rhode Island Cavalry stationed in New Orleans. She had traveled with him, including a commission later in Mexico with the liberal army of president Juarez. Their letters are in the Bancroft Library. By 1877, she had filed for divorce and proclaimed herself a widow. Many in her large family had relocated to the San Joaquin Valley. She had often spent weekends with them while working in San Francisco. She adopted a child who later married one of her nieces. Their child died in 1906 and Laura slipped into depression, finally at rest April 5, 1907. She rests in Harmony Grove Cemetery, Lockeford, California.

THE THIRD LOCAL WOMAN WAS CLARA SHORTRIDGE FOLTZ, 1849-1934-THE FIRST WOMAN LAWYER

Clara Shortridge was born in Indiana in 1849. Her minister father told her it was too bad she was a girl! She had only 4 years of formal schooling, marrying Jeremiah Foltz at age 15. By the age of 19, she had three children. She followed her husband to Oregon in 1871 and then to San Jose, California where he had a grocery store and sold real estate. Two more children arrived, but they were robust and well behaved which gave her time to attend lecture courses, speeches on women's rights and local political issues. Her first public campaign was a letter writing campaign for the creation of a San Jose fire department. With the help of publisher J. J. Owen, the first fire department was created.

Jeremiah died in 1877, leaving her with five children to support, the youngest barely in school. She began to read the law with black and Stephens Law firm in San Jose. since the state law limited law practice to white male citizens, only, she drafted a bill called the "Women Lawyer's Bill" to amend the code and sent it to Senator Bernard D. Murphy of Santa Clara. She lobbied the legislature in Sacramento along with Laura De Force Gordon. The bill passed the Senate 22 to 9 but was held up in the Assembly. It was brought up again in the Assembly and passed by 2 votes. Clara was told the bill was dead because the Governor would veto it, but she pushed through to his office and watched William Irwin sign the bill on April 1, 1878. He said, "This bill to entitle women to practice law is wise and just and I take great pleasure in signing it." She was passed by a committee of lawyers and took the oath to become a lawyer on September 4, 1878.

Clara campaigned for Laura Gordon to be a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1879. Laura 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."

In 1880, Clara was the firs woman clerk of the Judiciary Committee of the California State Assembly. 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.

Clara, as well as Laura, had successful law practices in San Francisco. Clara's was in probate, divorce, corporate and criminal law. She 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 Columbian Exposition. In 1896, she was practicing law in New York City, the first woman to argue a motion in the New York City Courts.

Clara also served as President of the California woman Suffrage Association in the early 1880's. When she returned to California, she continued to work for the cause. From 1906-12911, she was President of the Los Angeles Votes for women Club, while practicing law in San Francisco and Los Angeles. The bill had failed in 1896, but by 1911, they were ready for a second attempt. More than 60,000 personal letters were sent to leaders in various professions. Speeches were made in men's groups from churches to labor unions. Fifty to sixty meetings were held each week, climaxing on Setpember 30, 1911 with a mass meeting in Los Angeles of over 4,000 attending and many more turned away. 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.

Clara, unlike Laura and Sarah, had lived to see the fruit of their endeavors. From 1916 to 1918, she published a periodical, the *New America 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.

In 1930, at age 81, Clara ran for Governor of California, polling 8000 votes. She had planned to run again in 1924, at 85, but had a heart attack and died.

FIRSTS BY CLARA SHORTRIDE FOLTZ

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

Donna C. Schuele, "Taming the Elephant: Politics, Government and Law in Pioneer California," *California History*, Volume 81, Number 3 &4, 2003.

H.S. Foote, *Pen Pictures in the Garden of the World, Santa Clara County*, 1888.

Pamela Gullard & Nancy Lund, *History of Palo Alto: the Early Years*, Scottwall Associates, San Francisco, 1989.

Donovan Lewis, *Pioneers of California: True Stories of Early Settlers in the Golden State,* 1993.

Corrine L. Glib, Notable American Women, 1607-1950: Harvard University Press, 1971.

Elwood-Akers, Virginia, "Clara Shortridge Foltz, California's First Woman Lawyer," The Pacific Historian, Fall, 1984, Vol XXVIII, No. 3

Robert J. Chandler, "In the Van: Spiritualists as Catalysts for the California Women's Suffrage Movement", *California History*, Fall, 1994.

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The PIONEERS have endorsed the long running class for Older Adults in Santa Clara County History. Clyde Arbuckle taught it for 38 years, following someone else who had taught it for 38 years, also. He endorsed Mary Lou Lyon to follow him and she taught it for 25 years, until Metropolitan Adult Ed canceled all classes for 50+. The class, however, will continue, sponsored by the Campbell School district. It will meet on Wednesdays, from 1 to 3 P.M. at Blackford High location on Blackford Avenue beginning the first Wednesday after Labor Day, September 7, We will continue our study of the ethnic groups in our county with the Japanese and San Jose Japan town.

TOURING WITH THE CALIFORNIANS

Mike Console: Tour Director (408) 246-1080

Marie Rider : Phone reservations and Cancellations
(408) 251-7887 M.-F. mornings
Beverly Fisher: Treasurer, 3435 Yuba Ave.
San Jose, CA 95117-2966
Marylou vonRotz: Trip Registrations at the luncheon
Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. Members may register absent members after lunch. Checks or exact cash are preferred.
Phone Reservations or Cancellations: Call Marie Rider.
After reservations are confirmed, send a check payable to:
The Californians to Beverly Fisher.
PICK-UP POINT: Valley Village Apt., 390 North Winchester Blvd., Santa Clara ,Ca. (on Dolores Avenue side)

DAY TRIPS

SEPTEMBER 15, 2011-Thur. WINE TASTING AND LUNCH Right here in our very own back yard we have the Bay Area's oldest continuously operating winery in Los Gatos. The Novitiate Winery began production with the harvest of Oct.11, 1888. The Jesuits constructed the winery of two-foot-thick hand chiseled sandstone walls, which are still standing today. The Husband and wife team of Rob and Diana Jensen purchased the winery in 1993 and renamed it TESTAROSSA, (Italian for -red-head) a nickname Rob got while a student in Italy. Rob and Diana are proud to continue the Jesuit tradition of winemaking at the Novitiate Historic Winery. We will have a brief History Tour of the grounds and buildings along with some Wine Tasting. Leaving Testarossa Winery we head West into the Santa Cruz Mountains to the beautiful BYINGTON WINERY .
Originally conceived as a family residence, the Byingtons welcome you into their home-away-from-home. The winery was established in 1987 by entrepreneur Bill Byington and the family is still actively involved in the day to day operations of the winery. We will have a yummy Picnic Lunch in their out-door Patio (Picnic) Area surrounded by lovely landscaping, gardens and views. After lunch, we will take a Tour which includes a 45-minute educational and entertaining tour through their vineyard, their production facility and into their wine cave. During the tour, your host will present you with a selection of their current releases YES- MORE WINE!! Special discounts on purchased Bottles.
LEAVE: 10:20 A.M. RETURN: 4:00 P.M. COST: $67.

OCTOBER 15,2011—Sat. HALF MOON BAY ART & PUMPKIN FESTIVAL
Half Moon Bay's "Autumn Classic" Celebrates its 41st Anniversary.

Titanic, mind-boggling, Volkswagen-sized weigh-off championship pumpkins on display, the remarkably talented "Picasso of pumpkin carvers" sculpting and shaping a monster giant pumpkin into the likeness of animated supervilain MEGAMIND, harvest-inspired crafts by America's top artists and great foods and Pumpkin pies to die-for. There will be three stages of blockbuster entertainment for your enjoyment and everyone's favorite home-spun parade. The never-ending search for the Great Pumpkin, and a bumper crop of 3,000+ tons of the beloved orange orb waiting to be picked from one of the many rustic pumpkin patches around town are among the featured, not- to- be forgotten attractions. It's the real thing---the authentic "autumn classic" and did I mention : lots and lots of good food!!!!
LEAVE: 9:30 A.M. RETURN: 5:00 P.M. COST: $ 30.

EXTENDED TRIPS FOR 2011

Brochures with interest sign-ups will be available at the SEPT. luncheon or by calling Mike Console at (408) 246-1080. If there is enough interest we can set up a Pioneer's trip. Also, individuals may sign up for unescorted trips.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011 HERITAGE OF AMERICA (Nine Nights-Ten Days)
Breakfasts daily and 5 dinners. We will tour Historical places in the following Cities: New York City, Philadelphia, Lancaster (Amish Country), Gettysburg, the Shenandoah Valley, Charlottesville, Williamsburg, and Washington, D.C. Conducted by: Collette Vacations Cost: $ 2899 per person /double occupancy and includes: round trip Air with home pick-up & return to and from the Airport. Nine Nights of Accommodations, professional tour manager, meals as listed, admissions to events, baggage handling, and all taxes and gratuities are included. A brochure will be available with full details of the daily activities and a sign-up sheet, Call Mike Console (408) 246-1080 or pick up at the luncheon.
OCTOBER 16, 2011 SOUTHERN CHARM (Six Nights- Seven Days)
Collette Vacations . Includes 10 meals. Places to be visited are: Charleston, SC; Beaufort & Savannah, Georgia; Jekyll Island; St. Simons Island; St. Augustine & Jacksonville, FL. Cost: $2269 per person/double occupancy. Includes all the amenities mentioned above in the Heritage trip . Call Mike for brochure with itinerary details and sign-up sheet, or again, pick up at the luncheon.

HAPPY TRAVELS

As you may have noticed, the two one day trips are the same as last quarter. I am repeating them because they are not quite half full. We need to have more sign-ups to avoid having to cancel and disappointing the loyal participants who have signed-up. If you have already signed up—Thank You, you do NOT have to re-sign.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Trip participation has dropped off considerably in the past year or so, for various reasons (the economy, aging, health, I've been there, seen that 3 times etc) the question comes up ? Does the trip program still fill a need and is the service a benefit for the Pioneer Membership. YES_____ NO_____
If yes, WHY:

IF no, WHY:_____
Do you now participate : Yes _____ No_____ How often:_____
If No: What would need to be added or changed to encourage you? :_____
_____
Suggestions for trips , or comments:_____
_____
(fill free to add comments on another sheet of paper)

Mail to: Mike Console 3527 Parkland Ave.
San Jose, Ca. 95117

In fairness to everyone the following TRIP RULES will apply:

1. RESERVATIONS

A) The *California Pioneers of Santa Clara County* members are given preference. Reservations **for members only** will be accepted on a first-come basis at the quarterly luncheon , and for the following week. Thereafter, guests will be welcome. A reservation will be accepted by phone if full payment is mailed within 48 hours. Your reservation will be given to the next person on the waiting list if payment **is not** made when due. If you are on a waiting list**, please call** and remove your name if you find you are no longer available to go on the trip.

2. CANCELATIONS

A) A **$5.00** bookkeeping charge is made for all refunds in addition to any other deductions.
B) Unless a substitute can be found and minimums are met, refunds for cancellations will be minus any prepaid expenses we have incurred. **NO SHOWS will NOT** receive a refund.
C) Credit resulting from a cancellation can be applied to another trip which is listed on the quarterly trip brochure.
D) If there is insufficient reservations for a tour, *The Californians* will cancel the tour 14 days prior to the departure date, and a full refund will be automatically applied.

3. SEAT ROTATION will be at the discretion of the tour leader.

4. DRIVER GRATUITIES are included in the trip prices.

5. *The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, Inc* acts only as agents for participants in its travel programs, and as such holds itself free of responsibility for delay, loss, or accident occasioned by the fault or negligence of any person or company entrusted with such service, or any cause whatsoever. The transportation companies concerned are not responsible for any act, omission, or event during times when passengers are not on board their conveyance.

WEB SITE www.californiapioneers.com

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