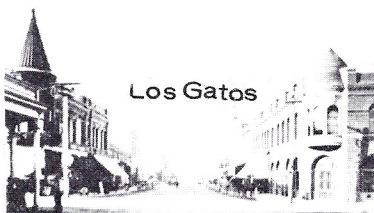
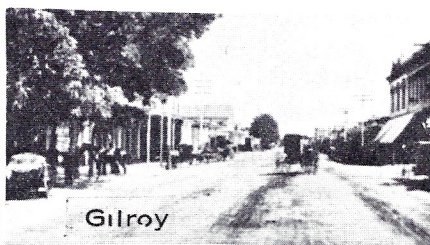
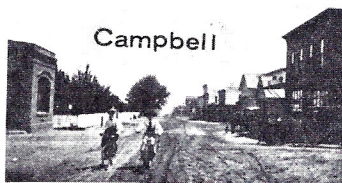
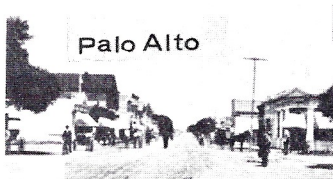
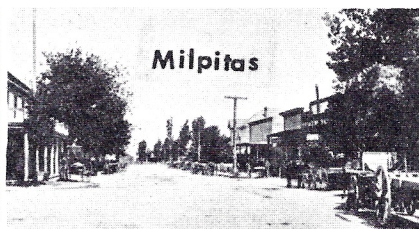
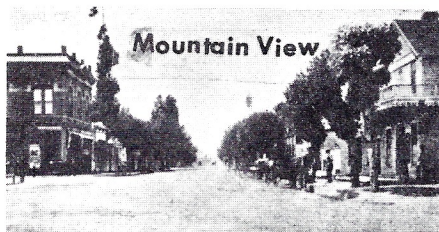


Volume 22

November 1982

Number 4



VALLEY COMMUNITIES

CIRCA 1895

▼▼▼WHALE BLAZERS▼▼▼

SAN JOSE 1898: - Horse stops at a watering trough at Santa Clara-Los Gatos and Stevens Creek Roads caused an orchardist problems. Parties stopping there repeatedly picked away at his fruit crops causing heavy losses. He pleaded with the county to remove the trough.

SAN JOSE 1898: - The town council said there were 308 places where liquor was sold, but the city was collecting taxes from only 77 of them.

SAN JOSE 1898:- Bicycle riders were permitted by the city council to ride their wheels on the sidewalk about the city. However, on approaching a pedestrian on the sidewalk, the rider was required to dismount.

SAN JOSE 1900:- Stiffly contracted throats necessary in singing the new faddish "ragtime" were ruining the modern generation's vocal powers said a local throat specialist.

SAN JOSE 1900:- Almost a thousand people were engaged in picking hops in and about the city. The pickers published a semi-weekly social news sheet called the "Hopgard News." They held Saturday night dances with the grand "hop" at the season's end.

SAN JOSE 1900:- A young lady driving a horse and buggy on First Street ran down a street sweeper, seriously injuring him. This was the second incident of a hit and run in a week's time. The city was also concerned about the automobile, there already being five of the contraptions in town.

SAN JOSE 1901:- Young men were parting their hair in the middle in what the local barbers termed a fad which was passing over the country.

SAN JOSE 1901:- There was agitation about doing away with the four secret fraternities in the local high school. A candidate in one initiation had been lowered by ropes in a coffin from a three-story building.

SAN JOSE 1902:- James L. Flood, son of James C. Flood of Comstock fame, returned to his Alma summer home following his honeymoon to Europe. His bride, formerly Miss Maude Fritz, was an Alma girl whom he met in the small mountain resort near Los Gatos.

H.C.



LAST RITES OF A LANDMARK

By Henry Calloway

This one-time home of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County recently lost its bid to exist. Despite the hard fought pleas of the San Jose Historical Landmarks Commission, the seventy-three year old fraternal hall that so long charmed and delighted the beholder, is destined to have its hide torn into because it lost the battle to a hard-shelled high rise era of concrete and glass.

The long familiar Greco-Roman style building, part of a Federal Historical Landmark District that circles St. James Park, failed to arouse the blurred history interests of our city officials.

The origin of the sentimental edifice dates back to 1907 when the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies talked of a hall of their own. According to "California's First Century of Scottish Rite Masonry," published in 1963, tells when on March 10, 1908 the preseverant brethren paid \$1500 for a building lot at 148 North Third Street. The stirring little lodge with some one hundred members had taken on a whopping building indebtedness of \$18,000. None-the-less, their mission was accomplished when their Temple rose to completion in 1909 and dedicated on January 22, 1910.

In less than a dozen years as their membership multiplied, the lodge found they had outgrown their temple once considered overly spacious. On January 5, 1924 ground breaking ceremonies were held for their new-born temple at Third and St. James Streets. With the arrival of May 8, 1925 the \$400,000 splendid temple was dedicated.

The old temple, left to years of short leases and rentals, was to lure the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County to take over the available meeting hall. On December 6, 1936 a news story in the San Jose Mercury Herald revealed, "More than one hundred members and friends of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County gathered at the society's new headquarters at 148 North Third Street. The occasion marked the installation of a plaque dedicating the new Pioneer Building to the memory of the pioneers of Santa Clara County. A fitting tribute to those whose memory the plaque honored were paid by Attorney Arthur M. Free, speaker at the memorable quarterly December meeting."

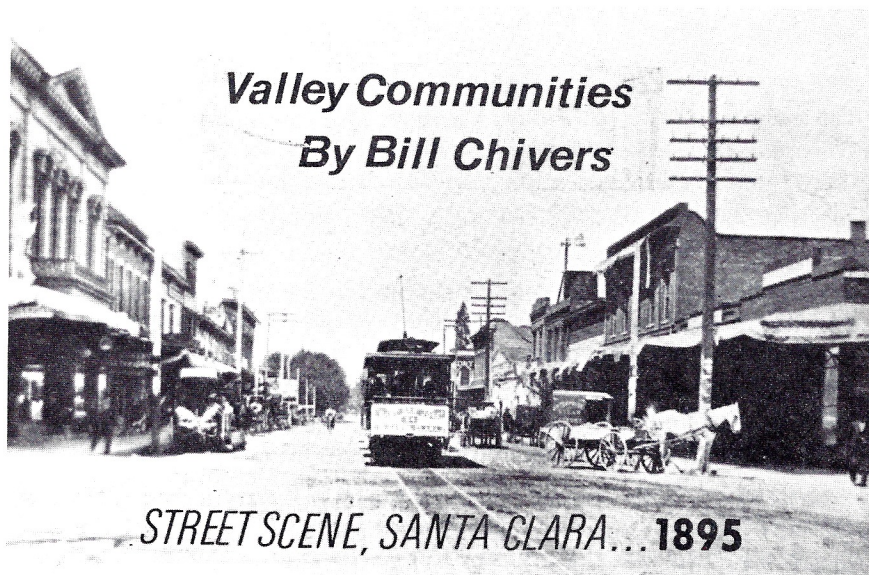
This new seat of operations had cost the Pioneers \$15,000, a price tag that later spelled out a siege of financial hardships. The witness to the ordeal are the recorded Pioneer minutes taken at the time. "Mrs. C. E. (Stella) Hailstone, president reported the Eagles had offered a price of \$16,000 net for the Pioneer Building. After considerable discussion, the president appointed Mr. Charles Payne and Mr. Dan O'Connell to discuss the proposition with the Eagles."

From the minutes of February 10, 1941, "It was resolved that the Board of Directors of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County dispose of the building for \$16,000 net, subject to the approval of the Society. All directors present voted to adopt the resolution. The Society's indebtedness toward the Pioneer Building amounted to \$9,528.67."

From the minutes of March 1, 1941, "President Mrs. Stella Hailstone opened the regular quarterly meeting. Mrs. Hailstone spoke of the extensive repairs needed toward the building and the constant loss of hall rentals making the income less than the out-go. There was concern, too, as how to meet the spring installment of taxes and liability fees. A calm and thorough discussion of the situation was participated in by many members. All speakers expressed themselves decidedly in favor of placing the net proceeds from any sale in a special building fund that could not be used for any other purposes. It was ascertained that sixty-three qualified ballots were cast: 52 for yes, 5 for no, and 6 were blank. Thus, the Directors were authorized to proceed with negotiations for the sale of the property. Treasurer Charles A. Payne reported bank deposits were at \$212.16."

Minutes of March 18, 1941: "A special meeting of the Board of Directors of our Society was called by President Mrs. Stella Hailstone. A committee from the Eagles was present to discuss details with the board. They said they hoped to begin renovating the building by the 10th of April.

The tragedy lies in the destruction of the venerable hall, a building with character, a building with soul and in losing it whole or in part, San Jose will once more crucify a touch with its past.



CAMPBELL - City named for Benjamin Campbell who officially sub-divided part of his one hundred sixty acre ranch in 1887 for a town site. The first post office was established on November 11, 1885 in his home on what is now called Campbell Ave. It was formerly called Campbell Station for the railroad station there. The city was incorporated March 28, 1952 - nickname: "The Orchard City."

CUPERTINO - named for an Italian Saint of the seventeenth century. It was originally known as Steven Creek when in the late 1840's Elisha Stephens settled there. It was later known as West Side. The post office was first established as Cupertino on the J. T. Doyle Ranch May 10, 1882. The post office and the name was discontinued June 20, 1894. It was again called Cupertino in July 1900 and was incorporated as a city October 10, 1955.

GILROY - named for John Gilroy who was the first non-Spanish European to settle in what is now California. The original settlement was known as San Ysidro for the land grant of that name and later as Gilroy. The post office was established on October 21, 1851 and the city was incorporated March 12, 1870. Gilroy is known as "The Garlic capital of the world."

LOS ALTOS - meaning "The Heights." Subdivided and developed in 1907. The post office was established on November 14, 1908 and the city was incorporated December 1, 1952.

LOS ALTOS HILLS - Locally known as "The Hills" is an exclusive resident-only community of one acre minimum lots. Incorporated January 27, 1956.

LOS GATOS - James Alexander Forbes built the first grist mill here in 1854. The settlement was called Forbes Mill, later Forbestown and eventually Los Gatos. The name was derived from the Mexican land grant "Rinconada de Los Gatos" meaning the corner of the cats. The town was incorporated August 10, 1887. The nickname is "The Gem City." The post office was established on December 8, 1864.

MILPITAS - Crops that once grew there may have suggested the name, for it comes from the Aztec "milpa" which derives from "milli" (land sown with seeds) and "pa" (in); it means "cornfields" thus milpitas are "little cornfields." Frederick Creighton built the first building and opened a store in 1855. He was also the first postmaster when the first post office opened May 31, 1856. The city was incorporated in 1954.

MONTE SERENO - means "Peaceful Mountain"; was incorporated May 14, 1957 and is the county's smallest municipality, about one and one half square miles. Monte Sereno is a branch of the Los Gatos post office.

MORGAN HILL - named for the early rancher of the same name who was married to Diana Murphy, daughter of the pioneer Murphy family. The city was incorporated November 2, 1906 and the post office was established January 9, 1893.

MOUNTAIN VIEW - named for the view of the Santa Cruz Mountains, Mount Diablo and Mount Hamilton. It started as a stage station in the early 1850's and in 1864 the name was given to the railroad station there. It was incorporated November 7, 1902 and the post office was established January 18, 1854.

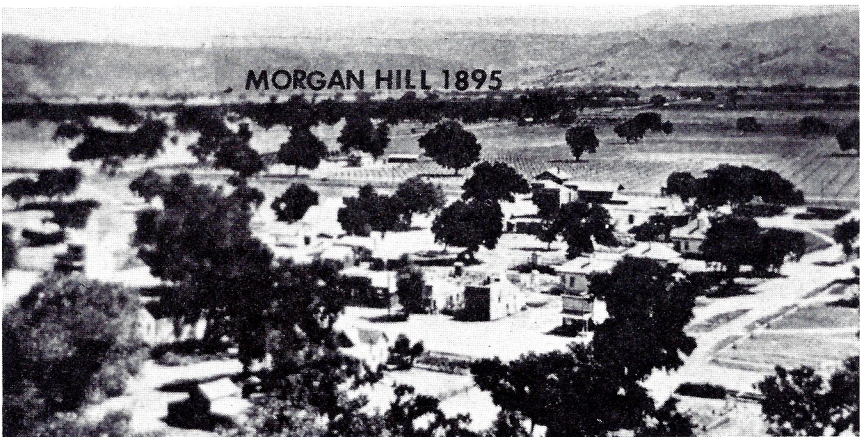
PALO ALTO - tradition connects the origin of the name with the tall redwood tree still standing by the railroad bridge and could have been the tree Portola camped under on November 6-11, 1769 on the expedition that discovered San Francisco Bay. Palo Alto owes a great deal to Leland Stanford who opened the nearby university in 1891. The city was founded in 1894 and incorporated in 1909. The post office was established May 31, 1892.

SAN JOSE - named for Saint Joseph, spouse of the Virgin Mary. The village was founded on November 29, 1777 and is the oldest civic municipality in the state. In 1849 San Jose became the state of California's first state capital. The city was incorporated March 27, 1859 and the post office was established November 8, 1849. The nickname is "The Garden City."

SANTA CLARA-site of the 1777 Mission Santa Clara de Asis named for Saint Clare of Assisi, founder of the Order of Poor Clares (nuns). It is nicknamed "The mission City." The town was incorporated as a charter city on July 5, 1852. The post office was established July 28, 1851.

SARATOGA - first called "Campbells Gap" after William Campbell (father of Ben Campbell namesake of Campbell) who built a saw mill on what is now called Saratoga Creek in 1847. Later it was called McCartysville after Martin McCarty who surveyed and laid out the town in 1851. On March 13, 1865 the name was changed to Saratoga because the mineral springs of the nearby Pacific Congress Springs resembled those of Congress Springs of Saratoga, New York. The first post office was established in McCartysville November 22, 1855 and the post office name changed to Saratoga March 13, 1865. The city was incorporated October 22, 1956.

SUNNYVALE - formerly called "Murphy's Station" when in 1864 Martin Murphy, Jr. permitted the Southern Pacific Railroad a route through his land. In the 1890's the school district and post office was called "Encinal" after the Spanish word meaning a place where the live oaks grow. On March 24, 1901 the people approved the name change to "Sunnyvale" and on December 24, 1912 it was incorporated as a township and became a charter city May 18, 1949. The post office was established February 12, 1898.





President's Message

John W. Clark

The end of another year is rapidly approaching. As we enter this blessed holiday season let us all be mindful of the true meaning of the Christmas season. Let us count our blessings and give thanks for this past year and then look forward to the unknown joys that the new year holds in store for all of us.

Let us be mindful of our Pioneer Society by being alert to any activities that may try to infringe or even destroy our historic possessions that we have all worked so hard to house and maintain at the San Jose Historical Museum in Kelly Park.

We have had great essay contests in the past and even now are making plans for bigger and better ones in the future. If anyone has any suggestions that would help the committee, please feel free to contact any member of the Board of Directors.

The By-Laws of the Society have been slightly revised. The Board of Directors has reviewed, studied and approved the changes. The membership will be asked to vote on the revised By-Laws at the December meeting. Copies will be available at the meeting for any that wish to review them before the vote is taken.

SPECIAL BULLETIN!

Patricia Loomis, renowned newspaper journalist who is continually at the historic scene of action and an active member of the California Pioneers, will be present at our December 4th Luncheon to introduce and autograph copies of her long awaited work, SIGNPOSTS.

SIGNPOSTS is the story of San Jose through the history of selected streets named after folks who came here from everywhere.

Pat's fascinating publication began as a series in the San Jose News lasting a full ten years. SIGNPOSTS, the book, is a collection of fifty articles chosen from the series written 1971-1977.

SIGNPOSTS is a handsome hard-cover well illustrated achievement produced expressly for distribution by the SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION. SIGNPOSTS is yours with a minimum \$25 membership in the Museum Association. We encourage you to join and to consider additional memberships for Christmas giving....Help intensify preservation. Join us now.



Touring With The Californians

RESERVATIONS for trips can be made by calling Ruth Gross at 294-9830 between 9 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday. Members of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County are given preference over guests with reservations taken on first-come, first-served basis. Reservations for MEMBERS ONLY will be accepted for the first week after each quarterly luncheon meeting; thereafter, non-members will be welcome. Subject this rule, anyone may sign on a waiting list. The right is reserved to decline or accept any person as a member of any tour.

THE CALIFORNIANS, P.O. BOX 32121, SAN JOSE, CA 95152

Dec. 1:- Glow to the warmth of an early day Christmas in the most fabulous Southern Mansion from here to Dixie - the Dunsmuir House in Oakland. Three and a half hours are yours to behold and lunch at the most astonishing show place of the 1890's all wrapped in Christmas finery.

Dec. 30 - Jan. 1, 1983:- NEW YEARS FROLIC and ROSE PARADE in Pasadena. Here's an action packed nifty. Includes a dinner show production of "Gigi" at the Grand Hotel, visit to a float construction site, performance of the epic "kingdom of the Dancing Stallions." New Year's Eve exeks with a prime rib dinner and party, entertainment and dancing to Big Band sounds, Grand Rose Parade seats. Three dinners and box lunch included. Better hurry!

Feb. 1-13, 1983:- CARIBBEAN CRUISE (11 days) Come aboard the Sun Viking for a vacation of a lifetime - calling on the Virgin Island, South America, Dutch West Indies, Jamaica and Haiti.

June 15 - July 2, 1983:- SCANDINAVIA BECKONS Tour Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland. Come where the sun stays up 18 hours a day. Come to where there's more to see and more time to see it.

April 23-30, 1983:- ARIZONA WITH AUSTEN Warburton. Deluxe motor coach through a state brimming with amazement. Reservations begin at the Dec. 4 Christmas Luncheon.

We are planning more one day trips in January, February and March. Remember, too, the CANADIAN ROCKIES in September 1983. Details later.

TRAILBLAZER GOES CALLING

Pioneer Curt Bailey says his father, Robert, was a golden grad of San Jose Normal, now San Jose State University. His first position was principal of a Marin County Public school at Tomales Bay in 1887. Curt's mother, Laura Bacon Bailey, was also a golden grad of San Jose Normal, graduating in 1896 and going on to receive three other degrees. She received a Bachelor of Education in 1938 at the age of 79 becoming the oldest graduate from San Jose State College.

Our Esther Voorhees, a native American, is a member of the Agua Caliente Band of the Cahuilla Indians in Palm Springs. Esther is a resident of Cupertino.

The Cupertino Historical Society announces the purchase of the Kaiser Permanente Fire Truck for \$1.00. A group of Los Altos fire truck hobbyists have volunteered to pitch in with free maintenance. Bouquets to Kaiser, too.

Pioneer Charles Downs was born in the Lancaster Gold Mine Quarters in Krugersdorp, South Africa. His father, Charles, was the son of John Downs who had migrated to New Almaden about 1872. He worked the quicksilver mines at New Almaden and New Idria of San Benito County before moving to San Jose. San Jose Historical Museum records reveal his father's name on the roll of the New Almaden Methodist Church (circa 1888). Charles states his family spent several years in the South Africa mining district where he was born, returning to San Jose in 1906.

Pioneer Merle Nancy Figoni informs that her great grandfather, John Barton Pennyton, was the Presbyterian minister of the Marcus Whitman wagon train, the first wagon train to enter Oregon in 1843. Her grandmother was born just three days after its arrival.

Pioneer Bernice Helstrom is a native of San Francisco. She was raised on Telegraph Hill going on to see the family residence razed to make way for the Coit Tower. She is a 1930 graduate of St. Peter's Academy. Her church pastor was Rev. Peter York, once known by most as the savior of the labor movement in San Francisco.

Pioneer Margaret Halla's father, Thomas Maloney, was for many years a constable in Santa Clara. Her uncle was Pat Concannon, a popular mayor of Santa Clara. Margaret is the daughter-in-law of the long time prominent San Jose coffee importer and merchant, William M. Halla.

Pioneer Beverly Barnes Doyle is the maternal great-great granddaughter of Pioneer Christian Bollinger who came from Bollinger County, Missouri in 1852. He settled in Santa Clara County in 1853.

Welcome New Members

Emily Ablett
David K. Boggini
Marie Bonsall
Sue Brown
Hermon Buchser
Patricia Buchser
Lucille L. Buck
Alice R. Cocke
Alverta N. Gilleran
Evelyn G. Hamrick

Frankie H. Hanson
Gertrude M. Hiatt
Robert E. Jansen
Martha Leonesio
Anne M. Motta
Anthony S. Motta
Francis P. Muller
Gloria M. Muller
Elizabeth O'Donnell
Marian T. Perkins
Fanny H. Piendl

Clara R. Quirke
Ursula Ramos
Alvina D. Rohlfes
Kathleen L. Ryan
Marie Schulenburg
Hilda M. Vargas
Esther Voorhees
Mary E. Wahlberg
Dorothy M. Williams
Robert G. Windsor



Beyond the sunset

William B. Calvert
Genevieve Ferrel

Mervyn H. Hassler
Myrtle C. Lytle

Margaret W. Walker
Evar W. Wenburg

DUES...Delinquency again has compelled us to remove over 100 Pioneers from membership. Prevent this hurt by mailing your dues of \$3 to Meta Huber, Financial Secretary, P.O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA 95155

MOVING? PLEASE LET US KNOW!

DEC.
4th

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- Dessert
- Beverage

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