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Pioneers Honored in New Almaden

By Paul Bernal



Photo: Tim Peddy

Norma Tucker drives a buggy with Pioneers Paul Bernal, Eric Johns, Tim Peddy and Bill Foley, Grand Marshals in the New Almaden's Parade on September 14th.

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County were honored by the community of New Almaden for its success in preserving and restoring the Hacienda Cemetery this past year. Because of their leadership and volunteerism, Pioneers Bill Foley, Eric Johns, Tim Peddy, and Paul Bernal were named Grand Marshals of New Almaden's 33rd Annual Jump In Parade on September 14. The Grand Marshals quickly bonded with Amos - a percheron horse that pulled the wooden-spoked buggy with which they rode. The cart was ably driven by Norma Tucker of the Santa Clara

County Horsemen's Association. Craig Higgins assisted Tucker. At times, Amos weaved precariously close to the steep riverbank of the Guadalupe - being spooked by the siren mounted on the lead fire engine that announced the coming of the parade.

"The New Almaden Community Club board selected the Grand Marshals for their work in restoring the Hacienda Cemetery and keeping New Almaden, the wonderful historic town, beautiful," said the unofficial mayor of New Almaden, Kitty Monahan. She also served as the

parade chairperson. It was an old-timey neighborhood affair that started with a string of homemade parade "floats" and required neighbors to jump in as the line passed each home along the route. Ingenuity and humor were not lacking. Entries included a rat rod which had a spittoon above its carburetor, a doomsday urban assault vehicle, and an entire Hawaiian village with a volcano and hula dancers. A clutch of Pioneers motored down Bertram Road in a boat! Rich Robinson decorated his truck and attached boat into a float, for the purpose of transporting

(Continued on pg. 2)

Pioneers Honored (Continued)

Pioneers members such as Dr. Mike Shea and Rick Helin.

Some Pioneers participated with period costumes and vehicles. Claire Britton-Warren entered the stream of revelers on her velocipede. She restored it herself. Britton-Warren donned her reproduction 1883 ladies riding habit - a whale bone dress. But her modern version has steel rod "boning" which is more reliable, legal, and long-wearing. "The skirt unhooks and keeps a lady's ankles properly covered when riding side saddle," explained Britton-Warren. She was flanked by fellow re-enactors Jack Hale and Jill Ross. Longtime trails activist and Pioneers member Virginia Hammerness looked sporty in her cherry red classic mustang. Her car looked like it did on the day it came off the assembly line.

Many Pioneers members lined the parade route to cheer on the participants. Monahan was happy so many Pioneers members came out for the festivities, saying, "This is the largest turnout in decades."

New Almaden Day has historic roots. When James Butterworth Randol was manager of the quicksilver mine from 1870 to 1892, the Mexican miners took off many work days to celebrate the fiesta days of many saints. Randol said,



Sampling the great food at the New Almaden Day celebration.

(Photos: Tim Peddy)

"I will throw you a huge party if you give up some of your fiestas." He created New Almaden Day. When the mine closed, so did the festival.

The parade was rekindled again in 1935 and then again during the 1940s and 1950s. In the 1970s it was a huge community event for the public, but was scaled back in the 1980s to be just for neighbors. Monahan reported, "In 1980, all the neighbors showed up at the Community Club and were part of the parade. But no one was home to watch the parade. So, the following year we asked everyone to stay home and clap for the firemen, horses and floats and

then jump in the parade as we went around the 1.6 mile circuit, thus bringing everyone to the Community Club house for a BBQ. This worked!"

New Almaden Day chairperson Peggy Melbourne and all the New Almaden Community Club board members made the day special for the community. The BBQ lunch was particularly great. The Pioneers not only enjoyed the hospitality of New Almaden residents, but were grateful for the opportunity to participate in a shared adventure with another outstanding organization. ❖



Left, Kitty Monahan with Rick Helin.

Right, Jill Ross, Claire Britton-Warren and Jack Hale in vintage attire with Claire's restored velocipede.

(Photos: Carla Helin)



Message from our President



Photo: Tim Peddy

Ken Machado, President

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County

Most of you know that because of the generosity of the John Bruzzone Family, the Pioneers have recently acquired a precious asset in the form of the Roberto-Suñol Adobe & Lauraville. This is the historic home of Roberto Balermينو (c 1782-1847) a member of the local native Indian tribe known as the Tamien, and later the home of Antonio Suñol (1797-1865), an important and influential Spanish settler who came to San Jose in 1818 and established deep ties to the area by virtue of his marriage into the prominent Bernal family in 1823.

After Suñol, another early settler called this property his home, the Dalmatian sea captain Stefano Splivalo who acquired this home from Suñol in 1853.

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County are now envisioning a new role for this state and nationally recognized historic property located on Lincoln Avenue in the Willow Glen neighborhood of San Jose. The property will become a historical museum which will tell the story of each of these three eras

of California history (Indian, Spanish and Mexican) along with a discussion of the more modern statehood era and thereafter, Willow Glen's role in the agricultural community of San Jose that later evolved to become Silicon Valley.

The process of establishing a museum, preparing its exhibits and telling the story you wish to tell is not a simple task. We wanted to assure that the museum is alive, relevant and responsive and that visitors will be encouraged to interact and engage in the story we tell. The first step is to define the story and our dedicated committee has now accomplished that task. The museum, by incorporating the home with its previous occupants, will tell the story of the native American people who first inhabited this land and particularly Roberto, his family's connection to Mission Santa Clara and his unusual position being an Indian grantee of a Mexican Land Grant of approximately 2219 acres.

It will follow with the story of the Spanish born Suñol and his prominence as a businessman and merchant in Pueblo de San Jose prior to its emergence as California's first capital.

It will then progress to Stefano Splivalo, the sea captain who along with many other immigrants arrived following the discovery of gold in California. The story continues with the establishment of statehood for California and finally through the modern era wherein the area becomes an agrarian hub for the country. All of this will be shown through the eyes and lives of the home's inhabitants, each of whom added to the physical structure of the home in their own way in order to fit their personal needs and customs.

The story ends with the gift of this historic property from the Bruzzone family and a final chapter honoring that family's commitment to preserving this home for the benefit of the community.

We are excited about this project and look forward to the next stage of determining HOW we will tell the story. What will the exhibits look like? How do we incorporate the story with the structure? How do we get visitors to interact with and become engaged in the story? How do we encourage the community to support this project?

I look forward to discovering and sharing the answers to these questions and others with you as the planning process unfolds. We begin yet another journey together as Pioneers. ❖

-Ken Machado

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The Pioneers is a 501(c)3
non-profit organization

Pioneers Quarterly Luncheon

Saturday, Dec. 14th, 2013

11:00 AM to 2:30 PM

THREE FLAMES RESTAURANT

Banquet Room—1547 Meridian Ave. in San Jose

Make Reservations by Wednesday, Dec. 11th

E-Mail "sccpioneers@aol.com" or call
408-554-7587 with your menu selection

Luncheon Presentation

Junípero Serra:

From Mallorca to Indigenous California

presented by

**Rose Marie Beebe
and Bob Senkewicz**

Cost \$25 (make checks payable to
California Pioneers and bring to Luncheon)

Menu Selections

Three Flames Special Steak

tri-tip steak topped with sautéed mushrooms.

Grilled Salmon Topped with Dill Sauce

Both above served with Anna potatoes
and fresh mixed steamed vegetables

Pasta Primavera

Veggies tossed with Penne Pasta and Marinara Sauce

All of the above served with Salad, Coffee and Dessert
No Host Bar for soft drinks, beer and wine

*Parking is limited in front of the restaurant; however, ample parking
is available in the rear and close to a separate banquet room entrance.*

Luncheon Presentation

About The Topic

Presenters Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz will discuss Junípero Serra: From Mallorca to Indigenous California at our December luncheon on the 14th.

In this presentation they will focus upon Serra the man and upon two aspects of his life and work that have not been brought together systematically in the voluminous historiography his career has spawned. Those are 1) his sense of his self-identity, that of an eighteenth-century Roman Catholic missionary priest, and 2) his relationships with the native peoples he encountered in the Americas. These two aspects of Serra's life and work, more than any others, defined him and provided him with a meaning and purpose for virtually everything he did after he left his homeland in 1749.

About Our Presenters

Rose Marie Beebe is a Professor of Spanish Literature at Santa Clara University. Robert M. Senkewicz is a Professor of History at Santa Clara University.

Their forthcoming book, *Junípero Serra: From Mallorca to Indigenous California*, which will offer a new interpretation of Serra based upon his own words and writings, is currently in production at the University of Oklahoma Press and will come out in 2014.

Together Beebe and Senkewicz have published a number of books on California before the Gold Rush:

- ◆ *This History of Alta California: A Memoir of Mexican California by Antonio María Osio*
- ◆ *Lands of Promise and Despair: Chronicles of Early California, 1535-1846 Testimonios: Early California through the Eyes of Women, 1815-1848*
- ◆ *To Toil in that Vineyard of the Lord: Contemporary Scholarship on Junípero Serra*

Outstanding Service Award

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County was pleased to present the “Outstanding Service Award” to Ken Machado. Ken, who is presently our President, was scheduled to receive this award at an earlier luncheon but he was otherwise occupied with the arrival of his first two grandchildren.

Ken has been on the Board of the Pioneers for 11 years. During that time he was key to the legal process and property transfers through which the Pioneers received generous donations of property from Gladys Jackson in the 1980s and Helen Stevens in 2010. These bequests have allowed the Pioneers to help fulfill our mission to promote, preserve and celebrate the history of Santa Clara County. In addition, Ken has been an excellent resource as our legal consultant for other issues. ❖

Right, Past Pioneers President Jim Zetterquist presents Outstanding Service Award to Ken Machado.

Photo: Tim Peddy



San Jose High Alums at Pioneers Luncheon



Photo: Tim Peddy

Left to right standing: John Weller, Gertrude Wright, Edith Lewis-Walter, Barbara Peddy, Rose Crimi Muench, Florence Wray, Tim Peddy, Pat Baio, name unknown, Helen Gammell, Ethel Reinegger, Susan Sisneros, Grace Praisewater, Jack Nadeau. Seated: Melita Kelly, name unknown and Helen Papas Garza.

Original Mission Olive Tree & Grape Vine Donated to Laura Ville

By Paul Bernal

In 1998, the Mission Olive Preservation Restoration and Education Project (MOPREP) was founded in part to save any known original California Mission olive trees, propagate them, and replant them at missions to keep the strains alive. Having successfully accomplished its goals, the organization no longer exists. But one of its former board members, Nina Keene in Sonoma, recently donated an original species tree from her collection to the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County. She had three original propagated trees left.

This is exciting news to the Pioneers because it fulfills its mission of educating the public about the history of Santa Clara County. The Pioneers' Roberto-Suñol Adobe and Laura Ville was the hacienda of Rancho Los Coches. Rancho Los Coches was part of Mission Santa Clara's grazing lands, in what is today the Willow Glen region of San Jose. Any olive trees at the hacienda would have likely been from California Mission stock. The donation of one of the last MOPREP olive trees will allow the Pioneers to tell this story and the connection between Rancho Los Coches, Roberto Balermينو, Antonio Suñol, and Mission Santa Clara.

Interestingly, Suñol was the person who later donated the ancient olive trees that are now within the Mission Gardens at Santa Clara University (as opposed to the Mission's orchard which no longer exists).

The MOPREP tree that will be planted at Laura Ville was grown from a cutting of a 1790 tree that was planted in a Mission La Purisima Concepción olive grove by the Native Americans who worked at that mission. Typically, as each new mission was opened, they would get cuttings from the mission closest to them (about 20 miles away.) Missions pressed the olives into oil,

which was used for cooking, healing wounds and lubricating machinery, as it had been in Europe for over 4000 years. Batches of oil were also blessed and used in sacramental ceremonies. Brined olives were used as a flavoring for meals.

Through DNA analysis, MOPREP determined the California Mission Olive originated in Morocco. They researched the Spanish Galleon manifests to determine the ships stopped in Cordova to get olive trees headed for Nueva Espana (Mexico). Some of them were planted for Mission La Purisima's olive grove in 1790, which is the only known extant original grove.



Authentic California Mission olive tree selected for the Pioneers by landscape architect Desiree Garon. This tree was the smallest of the trees available but had the best, most interesting shape of Nina Keene's three potted specimens.

The grove is on a sloped south-facing hill that had a spring above it and an Indian rancheria nearby for its labor and annual harvest. This is in Lompoc today. The orchard is now on private land. MOPREP cut 2-3 inch sections of limbs, put the cuttings in moist sand for 1 year until they sprouted, then planted the saplings in soil.

In addition to the conservation efforts at La Purisima Concepción, MOPREP helped several grassroots recovery teams plant olive trees at Missions San Francisco Solano (Sonoma), Santa Barbara and San Jose (Fremont); Mission Soledad has replanted a full California Mission Olive grove; Mission

San Inez (Solvang) has 20 olive trees planted by MOPREP; and Mission Santa Cruz has added a number of authentic California Mission Olive trees to their property. Missions San Jose and San Inez have vast orchards and are once again harvesting their trees for oil.

Archaeologist Michael Imwalle of the Mission Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation recently donated to the Pioneers an original Mission grape vine that was saved from Mission San Gabriel and propagated at Mission Santa Barbara's Presidio Heritage Gardens. Imwalle was instrumental in assisting MOPREP President Ron Chapman re-establish olive trees at various locations. [Editor's Note: Imwalle is a Bellarmine College Preparatory classmate of author Paul Bernal. In the world of synchronicity, these two friends met at a school named for the Saint for whom adobe owner Roberto Balermينو was also named.]

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Olive Tree & Grape Vine Donated (Continued)

The Pioneers has retained adobe garden expert Desiree Garon to help plan the scope of its outdoors historic interpretation. She is a licensed landscape architect in Sonoma. Depending on the scope, the Pioneers are ready to receive the following original Mission species offerings from Imwalle: Pomegranate from Mission San Antonio, Pear from Missions Carmel and La Purisima, Mediterranean Sweet Orange and Willowleaf Mandarin from Mission San Gabriel. They were cloned by the UC Riverside Citrus Clonal Protection Program for Mission Santa Barbara's huerta (garden).

The Pioneers, through the Roberto-Suñol Adobe and Laura Ville Museum, is happy to join the small band of fruit preservationists in California who are keeping the mission species alive for future generations. Not only will the clones enhance the visitors' experience at Laura Ville, but it will afford divergent locations for these rare species to thrive, in case there is plant disease at the other locations. ❖



**Original Mission grape vine from Mission San Gabriel
that will be delivered to the Pioneers by
Santa Barbara Archaeologist Michael Imwalle.**

The Valley of Heart's Delight

The Valley of Heart's Delight

**The Santa Clara Valley is
To those who hold it dear
A veritable Paradise
Each season of the year.
One loves it best in April
When the fruit-trees are in bloom;
And a mass of snowy blossoms
Yield a subtle sweet perfume.
When orchard after orchard
Is spread before the eyes
With the whitest of white blossoms
Neath the bluest of blue skies.
No brush could paint the picture
No pen describe the sight
That one can find in April
In "The Valley of Heart's Delight."**

By Clara Louise Lawrence
From "Poems Along the Way"
published by Tucker Printing Company,
San Jose, 1927.



In earlier times
Santa Clara
County earned
the nickname
"The Valley of
Heart's
Delight," a
modern day
Eden because
of the acres
and acres of
trees laden
with fruit
blossoms.

Clara Louise Lawrence was known for her descriptions of the early Santa Clara Valley— an example being her poem "Valley of the Heart's Delight." She resided in San Jose on Randol Avenue near The Alameda between 1922 to 1942. She was a poet of local significance, a member of the San Jose Poetry Club and also wrote children's stories. Lawrence was one of the original members of the San Jose Branch of the League of American Pen Women that was founded in April of 1922. ❖

New Home and Equipment for the Pioneers Film Archive

By Bill Foley

The Pioneers Film Archive has become one of the Pioneers' most popular and visible programs, but until now it was hidden in a small corner of History San Jose's facilities. Thanks to the help of Ken Middlebrook and Jim Reed at History San Jose, our extensive film collection now has a larger, more secure, and more environmentally stable home in History San Jose's state-of-the-art Collections Center at 1660 Senter Road. Here we will store our films, safe from damaging heat, humidity, and dust.

Additionally, the Pioneers Film Archive is upgrading and expanding its

operations! In September, the board approved the purchase of two new film scanning machines, which will digitize 8mm and 16mm film frame-by-frame in 1080p High Definition. So those faded, dusty, flickering home movies in your closet can be seen bright and clear in stunning HD!

The upgrades don't stop there, however, as the Pioneers Film Archive operation has moved to new, larger office space in the Roberto-Suñol Adobe & Laura Ville Museum on Lincoln Avenue. In this new space, the Pioneers Film Archive volunteers will scan old negatives, restore glass plate slides, digitize movie film, and catalog the

thousands of films that our generous donors have allowed us to preserve for future generations.

Remember, you can always see clips and whole films from the Pioneers Film Archive at our website, www.CaliforniaPioneers.com.

If you have films, slides, or photos of the Santa Clara Valley, we'd love to see them. Email us at Film@CaliforniaPioneers.com to find out how we can help you preserve your family's memories. ❖



Visit Pioneers' Calendar

The "History Calendar - Santa Clara County" is on our website at www.CaliforniaPioneers.com and then click on "Calendar."

You will find more details about the events described below.

Upcoming History Events in the Valley

Saturday, November 9th, 11am – 3pm.
Dig Into The Past at History Park, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose. Archaeology Day will offer children an opportunity to be junior archaeologists. Stanford Archaeology Center students will be at History Park conducting a mock excavation, screening, artifact identification and artifact reconstruction.

Thursday, November 14th, 6:15 pm—
PAC*SJ Movie Night and 1950s Potluck. See early films of Santa Clara Valley produced and edited by Bill Foley. San Jose Woman's Club, 75 South 11th Street, San Jose. Free.

November 22-24: The **50th Anniversary of the Century 21** Dome theatre on Winchester Blvd. *2001: A Space*

Odyssey and *It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* will be shown. A post-movie reception on November 24th will commemorate the venue's first 50 years.

Sunday, November 24th, 12-4 pm.
Celebrate **San Jose's 236th Birthday** at the Peralta Adobe Historic Site. Meet members of Founding Families, and take tours of the Peralta Adobe and Fallon House. San Jose or El Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe, the first Pueblo of California, was founded November 29, 1777.

Saturday, November 30th, 7 am-5 pm.
A Photo Tour of the Santa Clara historic core at Santa Clara Senior Center, 1303 Fremont Street. Photographs by

Gabriel Ibarra who is a native Californian. Free.

Saturday, December 6th -7th. **Santa Clara Historic Home Tour** will feature four private residences and the Saint Clare Hook & Ladder Fire Museum.

Saturday December 7th, 11am – 4pm.
Heritage Tea & Tour at the Fallon House Historic Site, 175 West Saint John Street, San Jose.

Sunday, December 15th, 1pm – 3pm.
History of the New Almaden Air Force Station – Umunhum Conservancy at Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum, 21350 Almaden Road.

Heritage Fig Tree Crop Results in Unique Ice Cream

By Rick Helin

As Fall fruit began to ripen in August, my wife Carla and I went over to see the oldest fruit bearing fig tree in Santa Clara County - at the Roberto-Suñol Adobe & Laura Ville. This historic site is a recent acquisition of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County. The swollen figs were ripe, many of them having made their way to the backyard patio surface. We rigged-up a netting system along the arbor to catch the figs and prevent them from staining the patio's stonework.

As we toiled, we felt it a shame not to harvest such a bumper crop of heritage figs. Therefore, we harvested a small sampling. Just a few at first, but then quickly realized we had filled a large white bucket. Over a ten day period, we returned to the Adobe to pick more than one hundred pounds of Black Mission Figs. Bringing them home, we prepared to convert the figs into a usable puree. First the stems were cut off, then the fruit was quartered and placed into a large pot half way to the top. About two cups of water was added to begin the steaming. Lemon juice, brown sugar, salt, cinnamon and ginger followed. The covered pot simmered on medium for forty minutes until the figs were super soft. Then the

emersion blender was used to produce a smooth emulsified jam. The freezer was the jam's home while we thought on the best possible dessert that could be created.

We discovered and sought out a wonderful gentleman named Chris Leahy at Mission City Creamery.

He provided the expertise to turn the fig puree into a delightfully creamy, hand-made organic ice cream. At the Pioneers' September luncheon, attendees all enjoyed a dish of this fig ice cream for dessert. The official name for the ice cream was designated "Roberto Balermino's Heritage Fig" ice cream. After the luncheon, there was even enough left for the board members to enjoy at the following board meeting.

Leahy was generous with his pricing for the Pioneers and we hope many of our members take the opportunity to travel to his creamery to taste and purchase his tempting creations. The Creamery can be found at 2905 Park Avenue where it meets The Alameda near Santa Clara University. ❖



A dish of Roberto Balarmino's Heritage Fig ice cream served at the Pioneers' Luncheon.



Above, the trunk of our massive heritage fig tree at the Roberto-Suñol Adobe & Laura Ville. Left, the patio arbor supports the spreading branches of the fig tree over much of the patio.



Photos: Gayle Frank

Adolph Pfister Helped Found the California Pioneers

By Maria Brand

Adolph Pfister served on the first Board of Directors of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County in 1875. Like many of the Pioneers founders, he was very active in community affairs.

Pfister was a German pioneer who was born in Strassburg, Elsass, in 1821. He arrived in California in 1847. In 1870 he was elected Mayor of San Jose and served 3 terms.

He founded the first free public library in San Jose. On April 3, 1871, a meeting was held regarding a potential library in San Jose. YMCA representatives attended and offered several hundred books from the YMCA reading room to any board of trustees member who might establish a free library. At that meeting Pfister immediately wrote a check for \$1,000 and pledged to donate his mayoral salary for the library. He stated, "It is my desire that by establishing this library, care should be taken to keep it free from sectarianism, and make it in fact as well as in name, a public library." By this single action he set in motion a fund drive which opened a window to the world for the citizens of San Jose. Pfister tended to the library by serving the institution for seventeen years as a trustee, ten years as its president.

Pfister was well-known for his honesty. His store on the corner of Santa Clara and First Streets served as an early bank in town. Miners and other citizens left their valuables with Pfister and could be sure everything was intact when they returned, sometimes years later. It was above his store that the Germania Verein Amateur Orchestra practiced. This Orchestra was the foundation of the San Jose Symphony. Pfister himself was an accomplished musician.

Early experiences as a young man benefited Pfister as well as the residents of San Jose. As a journeyman tinsmith, he



*Adolph Pfister
(1821– 1905)*

traveled through France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, visiting workshops. This was expected of a young man who wanted to become a master of his trade. While Pfister improved his skills as a tinsmith, he also learned several languages and experienced varied cultures along the way. Above all, he learned tolerance.

During Pfister's administration, a rugged area in the east hills became a park named Alum Rock. By promoting the library, the orchestra and the park, Pfister had the foresight to provide an environment that would nourish and sustain the souls of this rapidly growing population for generations.

In 1856, Pfister was one of the founders of the Germania Verein club in San Jose. This organization granted equal voting rights for women club members as early as 1875. The club still endures today.

Pfister was generous by nature but he had his limits. When members of the Methodist Church came to ask for funds to build a church, he donated \$1,000. The church members had

underestimated their need and asked Pfister for a second donation. This time he gave \$500. When the church burned down he again was asked to donate. Pfister vigorously shook his head and said, "No, no, I build God one church. If he is such a fool as to burn it down, I won't build him another."

Pfister married another native German, Louisa Glein. Louisa was the sister of one of Pfister's friends, Karl Glein. Karl Glein was a fellow journeyman with whom Pfister traveled. They lost contact with each other in Paris. Upon Pfister's arrival in San Francisco, the first person he ran into was his long lost friend, Karl Glein. They talked of Europe and caught up where they had left off several years before. Glein told Pfister of a pretty little sister he had at home and said, "She will make you a good wife." Pfister agreed. Glein promised to bring her back after visiting Germany; but first Glein returned to the mines to make his fortune.

Glein was the first man to take California gold to Germany. The newspapers reported that Glein was invited to the court of the "Grand Duke of Hesse" to convey the facts about a land called California. On August 5, 1849, Karl Glein, Louisa, and her sister Mary with new husband Henry Messing, set sail for California. The journey took them to Rio de Janeiro, around Cape Horn, Valparaiso and on to San Francisco. On April 8, 1850, almost eight months after they had left Germany the captain lowered the boats and the passengers rowed to shore; there was no wharf. They had arrived at their final destination.

The wait for Pfister's bride was over. Louisa and Adolph were married seven weeks later, on May 29, 1850, at Grace Chapel in San Francisco. The couple had six children and lived to celebrate

(Continued on pg. 11)

Adolph Pfister (Continued)

their golden anniversary. Pfister became a citizen of the United States on August 22, 1855, in the County Court in Alameda.

Pfister's community service continued with his children and grandchildren. One of his sons became a justice, the other a county clerk. His granddaughter Louisa Ayer was the first woman to serve on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in 1935.

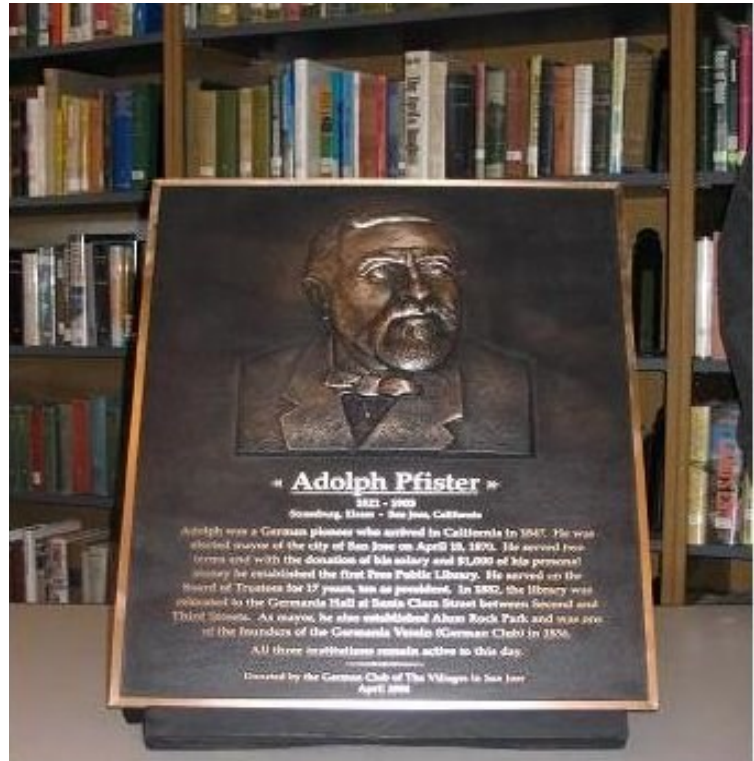
The Villages German Club was proud to honor Adolph Pfister with an historic plaque on April 3, 2006. It is mounted in the California Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. San Jose Main Library. ❖



Photos from Maria Brand

*Left, Louisa Pfister,
wife of Adolph Pfister*

Maria Brand, a long-time member of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, was pleased to tell us her website, www.germanamericanpioneers.org, has been accepted to become part of the permanent archive at the Bavarian State Library and Archives. Her website includes many biographies of local German pioneers.



The Adolph Pfister plaque in the California Room before being mounted on the wall.



Moses Schallenger Home — a sketch by Jim Campbell



California Pioneers of Santa Clara County member Moses Schallenger (1826-1909) was 17 years old when he started west across the continent with the Stephens-Townsend-Murphy party. This was the first wagon train to cross the Sierra Mountains. The party leaders were Dr. John Townsend, who was Schallenger's brother-in-law and guardian, and Captain Elisha Stephens, for whom Stevens Creek Boulevard is named (but misspelled). By November 1844, on the edge of Truckee (Donner) Lake, Townsend and Stephens decided to abandon half of their wagons. Schallenger and two other young men volunteered to stay behind to guard the wagons.

A log cabin was built to protect the men. (This same log cabin later served to shelter the Breen family, members of the tragic Reed-Donner party.)

Heavy snows and lack of food convinced the wagon guards to escape by snowshoe. But Schallenger became ill and remained behind. After three months of isolation and now 18 years old, he was finally rescued in February 1845.

After working in Monterey, Schallenger came to San Jose in 1850 to manage the estate of Dr. John and Mrs. Elizabeth Townsend. Elizabeth was the sister of Moses. The Townsends both died while nursing the sick during a cholera epidemic. Schallenger adopted their son. By 1854, Schallenger married Fannie Everitt and eventually had three daughters and two sons.

The Schallenger home pictured above was built in the early 1870s and was reported to be surrounded by

beautiful grounds. The house cost \$13,000 to erect and was part of a 115-acre farm that produced fruits and vegetables.

This farm was described as two miles north of San Jose on the Coyote River. The Schallenger home was located on the San Jose Mercury News site (soon to be sold) near Brokaw Road and Highway 880. Schallenger Road was officially named in the mid-1890s.

According to "Pen & Pictures From the Garden of the World" from 1888, "Moses Schallenger was a member of the Santa Clara County Pioneers Society by which association he is held in the highest regard, both on account of his trials in the early days, and his character as a citizen." ❖

What's In The Paulson House? By Mary Lou Lyon

Boss of the Plains

When the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County set up the rooms in its Paulson House Museum, board member Rick Helin asked his friend to construct a mannequin to look like Clyde Arbuckle, the history mentor for so many of us. All Clyde's friends were accustomed to seeing him with his fawn-colored hat sitting straight on his head. While Clyde was alive, he complained bitterly that the Stetson Company had discontinued making "his hat." He could not replace his worn Stetson with a new hat as he had done every so many years. The style of Clyde's favorite hat was "Boss of the Plains."

After Clyde died, the Pioneers recovered the last hat he had worn, which was in poor condition. The Pioneers also received a black hat that he wore at E Clampus Vitus events, but that was generally not accepted by Clyde's friends as "his" trademark hat.

When the mannequin arrived, it fell on me to dress him in Clyde's clothing, which was a bit embarrassing as everyone watched when I pulled on his pants and tucked in his shirt. Finally, we could either go with the tattered fawn hat or the better black one, while continuing to look for an appropriate hat in better condition. We went with the tattered hat.

Then I remembered there was a hat shop named Fino Fino in Menlo Park that made hats. It is owned by Carolyn Busch. I took the old hat with me to meet Busch's hatter and ordered a replica. The hatter was Wayne Wichern, of Wayne Wichern Millinery in Burlingame. We chose the color of felt that looked right and waited for the copy. When delivered, this hat turned out to be the wrong color, so for the second time, we carefully



Photos: Tim Peddy

The mannequin of Clyde Arbuckle wearing his new "Stetson" hat at the Paulson House Museum.

chose the color. I brought Wichern along with the tattered hat and the new wrong-colored hat to the Paulson House to "discuss" hats with Clyde. After another wait for Wichern to do his magic, the final hat came back perfect. The only difference from the original hat is that it does not say "Stetson" inside.

You can see from the photograph that the new hat fits perfectly. Clyde is smiling happily as he sits at his old typewriter that was used to write his *History of San Jose*. His many students and friends can be satisfied that now the mannequin really looks like Clyde Arbuckle. ❖



Clyde in his black hat. It just wasn't Clyde!

Docent Opportunity

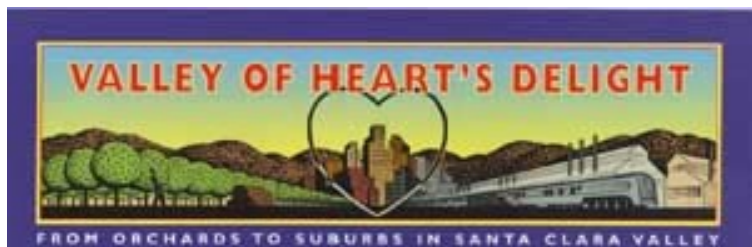
The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County offers a unique opportunity to become a docent in our Paulson House at History San Jose, open on most Sunday afternoons.

For more information, call Bev Blockie at 408-274-1625 or email her at bev@blockie.com.

Welcome Pioneers!

New Members

- ⇒ Marilyn Dion is a descendant of Seymour Allen and Lester Allen.
- ⇒ Julie Goode is a descendant of Frank LoGuidice and Anna Reitano.
- ⇒ Nicole Moreno is a descendant of Arturo Moreno and Margaret Catalan of New Almaden.
- ⇒ E. John Weller lives in San Jose and is a descendant of Antonio Suñol, the same Suñol that bought the Roberto Adobe and built his brick house next to it.



The logo above was created for History San Jose for their exhibit of the same name.

Naturalist John Muir wrote the following description of our County. "The landscapes of Santa Clara Valley were fairly drenched with sunshine, all the air was quivering with the songs of meadowlarks, and the hills were so covered with flowers that they seemed to be painted."

During the last mid-century, Santa Clara County was filled with at least eight million fruit trees planted on 600,000 acres. The Valley was the world's leading producer of canned fresh fruit and processed dried fruit. But now more than 95% of the orchards are gone and the most incredible scenery has disappeared. ❖



**Membership dues are owed
on January 1st, 2014**

Membership Report

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County have 477 members as of November, 2013. Annual dues for 2014 may be paid at the December luncheon or you can mail them to CA Pioneers, Membership Chair, P.O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA. 95155.

Please go to CaliformiaPioneers.com and select "Membership Information" from the menu on the left. There you will see the various benefits and categories of membership.

Additional donations or higher membership levels are appreciated. If you are over 70 ½, this year the IRS allows charitable giving straight from your IRAs or 401Ks and then deducted from your MRD (minimum required distribution) for the year. And please don't forget the Pioneers in your estate planning.

If you have questions, please contact April Halberstadt at 408-293-2860 or email her at aprilhalb@gmail.com.

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County Membership Categories

Individual	\$25
Family Level	\$45
Loomis Level	\$75
Lifetime Level	\$250
Arbuckle Level	\$500
Younger Level	\$1000
Murgotten Level	\$5000

Time Travel

San Jose, 1902: “Hotel Vendome announced the opening of their bathing pavilion to the public with a competent attendant on hand. A swimming professor was available for lessons also. Wednesday was ladies day when no gentlemen were admitted.”

San Jose, November 1902: “The Board of Education was in the midst of weekly fumigating each schoolroom thoroughly by burning sulphur. Officials believed contagious and infectious diseases might occur at anytime with crowded conditions.”

San Jose, 1903: “The Letcher Machine Co. here made it known its expert mechanics not only repaired cash registers, slot machines, music boxes and dental equipment but also automobiles.”

Palo Alto, 1907: “The stone barriers forbidding gasoline buggies on the Stanford campus were being removed.”

San Jose, December 1911: “With a shortage of \$1900 in the police fund, ‘blue coats’ were informed they would have to accept a pay cut for the month and would have to make both ends meet on half pay.”

San Jose, 1912: “Rup Jeffkins, Australian “Speed King,” motored from Oakland to San Jose in 47 minutes bearing a message from the Oakland mayor to Mayor Monahan of San Jose. Minutes after its delivery he was arrested on a charge of reckless speeds.”



News of The Past



Would you like to go green and read the Trailblazer online? Do you toss the Trailblazer after reading it? Why not save paper and receive an email notification and link to read the newsletter online? Just notify Gayle Frank at 408-275-6889 or gaylefrankCA@gmail.com and you will receive an email and Trailblazer link as soon as the newsletter is ready. Using less paper means saving trees and reducing water consumption from paper manufacturing. Did you know that the United States uses a quarter of the world's paper products – more that 748 pounds per person per year?



Check out the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
on the social media sites listed to page 16.

Pioneers Gone to the Golden Hills



William (Bill) J. Adams Jr.



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California Pioneers of Santa Clara County Happy Holidays from the 2013-2014 Board of Directors

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Our Mission is to promote, preserve, and celebrate the history of Santa Clara County and the heritage of its past generations. We collect, archive, educate and encourage research and scholarship.