

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

Volume 35

February, 1994

Number 1

NATIVE SAN JOSEAN REACHES THE CENTURY MARK

By Elizabeth Walker O'Donnell

On December 6, 1993, Elisabeth Bean Telfer, a native San Josean, celebrated her 100th birthday. Family and friends gathered at the I.O.O.F. Home in Saratoga on a Saturday afternoon to honor this lovely centurian at an open-house reception. Born and raised mostly in the College Park District of San Jose, she has seen a great many changes between 1893 and 1993.

Her Quaker grandparents, two uncles, Joel and James, and her father, George Bean, came to San Jose in 1883 from Iowa and were influential in building the College Park Quaker Meeting House on Morse Street in 1885. Although small in members now, the meeting flourished in the 90's and early 1900's and can boast of several influential members in its past, including Herbert Hoover while he was attending Stanford University.

Elisabeth was the oldest of five children of George and Edith Bean and



Elisabeth Bean Telfer

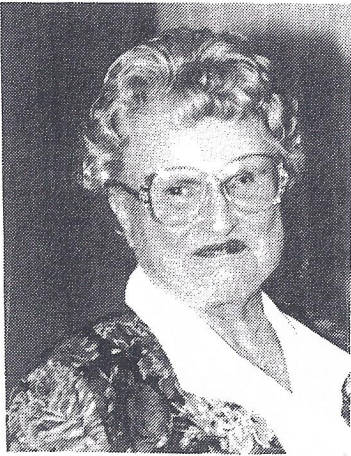
Continued to page 2

has only one brother, Jim, aged 98, still living. She lived her first nine years in the Victorian house on Magnolia Avenue. In those days, it was the first house off The Alameda on a large piece of property with a barn, a cow, chickens and a small woods between the house and The Alameda. The Alameda used to be the tree-lined part of El Camino Real with a street car which ran between the cities of San Jose and Santa Clara, and was known as "the select residence" avenue of the community. Elisabeth also has many happy childhood memories of visiting her grandparents in the Santa Cruz mountains by taking the old stagecoach which ran from Redwood City to Pescadero and had to change horses at La Honda.

Elisabeth attended the old two-story Hester School on The Alameda (torn down in 1971). The family moved to Sacramento for a short time; then to Pacific Grove, where in the early 1900's the Bean brothers and other Quaker families built summer cottages. It took two days to get to "P.G." by horse'n buggy from San Jose. While there, the 1906 earthquake struck San Francisco with some damage in San Jose but little in "P.G.". There was absolutely NO communication between cities for some time following the holocaust, and it took her father, George Bean, who had been in San Francisco, three days to hitch-hike and walk down to "P.G." to be reunited with his family.

Elisabeth spent a year at Pacific Grove High School; then the family moved back to University Avenue, College Park area, and she graduated from San Jose High School. College Park was the original location of the College of Pacific (U.O.P. now located in Stockton) and where Bellarmine Prep School is currently located. Elisabeth attended a year at the College of Pacific and was graduated from San Jose Normal School (now S.J. State University). She began her teaching career in a rural one-teacher school in Crows Landing and later was selected to be the first to participate in the then-new Home Teacher Program in San Jose.

She married Earl Telfer, and then bought a home on Myrtle Street adjacent to her parents' property on University Avenue. She has raised four children; two of whom are still living--a daughter, Eleanor (Mrs. Lu Dunton of Placerville) and a son, Richard Telfer,



President's Message

Miriam Clark

In an effort to assist in getting the TRAILBLAZER out earlier so that those of us who live in the northern part of Santa Clara County can receive our copies before the quarterly meeting in March in time to make reservations for the luncheon, I am attempting to write this message earlier. It does take a while to get into the swing of things and meet deadlines.

As your new president, I am not batting very high on attendance, for which I apologize. We always go camping over the Labor Day Weekend, so we usually miss that luncheon. Then in September the doctors decided some repair work needed to be done. Since I am still working, I needed to plan the surgery so I would be able to return to work the first day of the new quarter in January and still have six weeks to recover. Thus I also had to miss the Christmas luncheon.

Here's looking forward to a continued active, healthy 1994--I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and that 1994 will bring the same to you. Hopefully I will even be able to take a few more trips with the Californians. Barbara Johnsen always does such a wonderful job of coordinating the trips. She deserves much praise and thanks. The trip to Hawaii sounds great--especially since I have never been there.

In January the Board took an inspection tour of the Jackson Ranch house and were impressed with the completed restoration. You should plan to pay it a visit soon.

THE HISTORICAL JACKSON RANCH



View of Anderson Lake from Jackson ranch house

The Jackson Ranch lies east of Morgan Hill in the Mount Hamilton foothills five miles east from the intersection of Highway 101 and East Dunne Ave.

Gladys Jackson died in December, 1984, at the age of 88, and in loving memory of her grandmother, Aphelia Cockrane, bequeathed her interest in her residence and the surrounding property consisting of approximately 38 acres of land, and the furniture and furnishings contained in the residence, to the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County.

Gladys Jackson was born and reared in Morgan Hill and had lived almost her entire life in the same Victorian ranch house which was built in 1904. In 1952, the house was hauled up from the banks of Coyote Creek to its present site on the rolling hillside to make way for the Anderson Reservoir.

The house contained several bedrooms, an inside bathroom, and a porch overlooking the lake. Furnishings had been shipped from the East by wagon train in the 1860's.

John Cochrane of Amherst, N.H. arrived in California in 1848 after sailing around Cape Hope. He

Continued to page 5

Continued from page 4

and his wife, Aphelia Cochrané, bought the 5500-acre McElroy ranch in 1869, and took up residence in an 1832 adobe, which was later covered by waters of Anderson Reservoir. John died in 1899, and Aphelia Cockrane continued to manage the ranch. The Cockranes had a daughter, Aphelia May, who married Alfred Joshua Jackson. The Jacksons had two children, Gladys and Alfred John.

The house was badly damaged in the 1984 earthquake. Because of the outstanding county property taxes in excess of \$7 thousand dollras, and the existing liability combined with horrendous restoration and/or maintenance costs, the California Pioneers found it prudent in 1988 to lease the 38-acre Jackson Ranch property to the County of Santa Clara for an addition to it's Parks and Recreation facility for a term of 50 years.

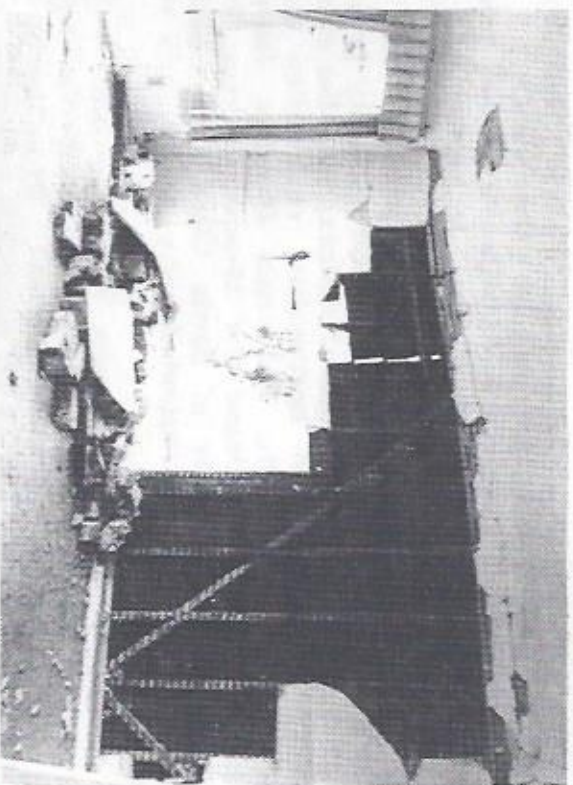
A Grant Application was made by the Historial Heritage Commission jointly with the California Pioneers and the Parks and Recreation Department, for qualification of the site as an Historical property. This made it possible to obtain funds to restore the structures on the property. A Museum to display the many antiques bequeathed to the California Pioneers will be in the old Victorian.

The house has been restored, and several members of the Board of Directors toured the facility on Saturday, January 22, 1994.



*In the living room at the Jackson Ranch
Doreen Oliver, Irene Johnson, Tom Warren, Robert Johnson*

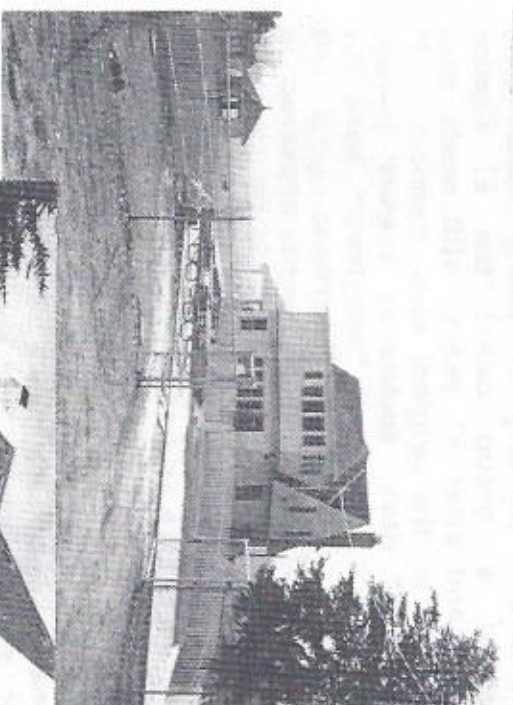
CALIFORNIA PIONEERS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY HISTORICAL JACKSON RANCH



Earthquake damage to the living room

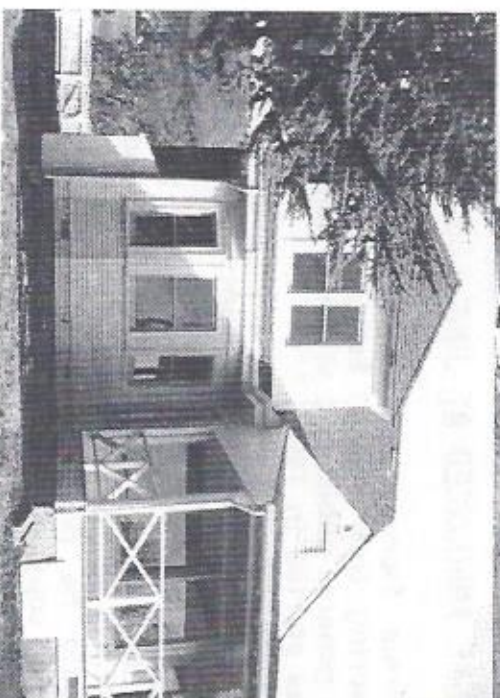
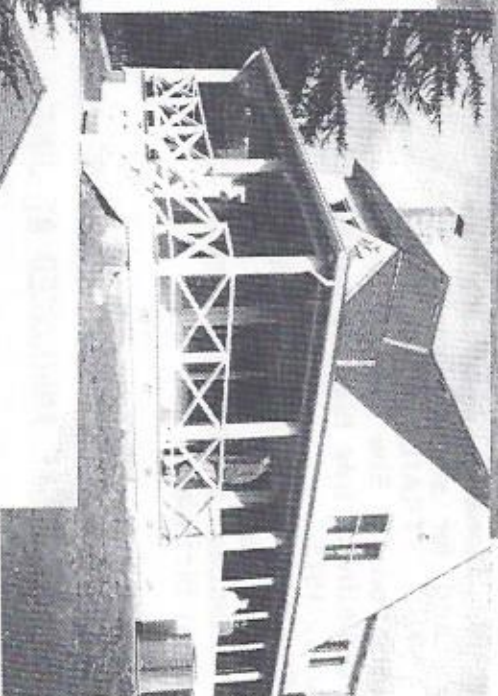


*Outside, the chimney
came tumbling
down.*



*House viewed
from entrance
to property*

*Wrap-around
veranda*



*Veranda
overlooking
Lake Anderson*

who lives in Soquel. Elisabeth has seven grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

She is the last of the original "young ladies" who, in 1912, formed a group called the El Camino Embroidery Club and after 81 years, still meets with daughters of some of the original club members. In the "horse'n buddy" days, socials at friends' homes, picnics at Alum Rock Park and "songfests" were the main entertainments. The neighborhood girls met weekly and articles of these social events appeared in the San Jose Mercury News. As the girls married and started families, they changed to monthly get-togethers. Over 200 ladies have belonged to the club and the "Baby Roll" between 1914 and 1942 totalled 98 children. The current group honored Elisabeth at a club luncheon meeting on her birthday.

Elisabeth has been an active member of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County since the 1930's and for several years, she was a staff reporter for THE TRAILBLAZER, the bulletin of this organization. She has published several articles in the bulletin of this historic society which was organized in June, 1875.

Gratitude for her many contributions to documenting San Jose's historic heritage and many good wishes are extended to Elisabeth Bean Telfer on her one hundredth birthday.

ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST DEADLINE APRIL 29TH WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT JUNE LUNCHEON

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County are again sponsoring their annual Essay Contest which is open to the general public and students alike. The essay contest was started in 1958.

The subject matter can be about any person, place or event concerning Santa Clara County and should be from 3,000 to 10,000 words in length.

The first prize is \$500, second prize is \$250, and third prize is \$125. In addition three honorable mention awards of \$25 will be given.

Entries should be post-marked by Friday, April 29, 1994. For a copy of the contest rules, contact Helen MacCarthy at (408) 578-4485.



Beyond The Sunset

Eileen G. Rose
Josephine F. Perry
Elsie Ryan
Dale H. Slater

On behalf of the members of the California Pioneer Society of Santa Clara County, the TRAILBLAZER extends sincere sympathy to the relatives and friends of our departed members.

Welcome New Members

Bonnie L. Herschback - Life
Jane K. Harmer
Dorothy Anne Johnson

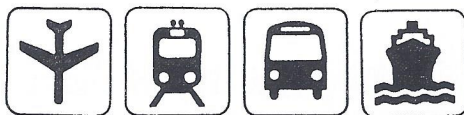
PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE LUNCHEON ON MARCH 5th

THE TRAILBLAZER issued February, May, August & November

Editor: Vanley Batchelor
P. O. Box 1208, Santa Clara, CA 95052-1208
(408) 243-4167

Miriam E. Clark, President (415) 968-3059	Ruth Patton, Marshall (408) 258-6257
David McKinney, 1st V-President (408) 732-1946	Fred Garner, Audit Committee Chair (408) 269-4241
Robert Oliver, 2nd V-President (408) 867-3255	Kenneth Clark, Audit Committee (415) 968-3059
Maxine Dixon, Recording Secretary (408) 252-4321	Robert Johnson, Audit Committee (408) 275-1389
Jane Brownton, Corresponding Secty (408) 269-9143	Austen Warburton, Parliamentarian (408) 296-3388
James Reid, Treasurer (408) 723-8736	Clyde Arbuckle, Historian (408) 269-5324
Tommy Warren, Financial Secretary and Membership Chair (408) 241-8942	Helen MacCarthy, Archivist (408) 578-4485
	Irene Johnson, Sunshine Chair (408) 275-1389

SUNSHINE: Please notify of SICKNESS AND DEATHS
Irene Johnson, 445 No. 15th St., San Jose, Ca 95112
Telephone: (408) 275-1389



Touring With The Californians

MARCH 17, THURSDAY "TULIPMANIA"

"TIPTOE THRU THE TULIPS" Wander among the thousands of tulips in bloom on San Francisco's Pier 39, then enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many restaurants (or bring a sandwich). Leave Valley Village, Santa Clara, at 9:00 am and return at 3:00 pm. Just \$12.00 per person. Call Nancy Hill (408) 258-3449 to reserve your space on the bus.



APRIL 23-30, SATURDAY TO SATURDAY

CRUISE HAWAII This cruise features six days ashore in five different ports-of-call. We cruise between the islands at night and have our choice of many optional land tours during the day. Or you may choose to relax and enjoy the soft Hawaiian air on board our floating hotel. Request the brochure with all the details from: THE CALIFORNIANS, 800 Blossom Hill Road #362, Los Gatos, CA 95032.

MAY 24, 25, 26, TUESDAY-THURSDAY

DANISH WINDMILLS AND SPANISH MISSIONS

We will explore them, with AUSTEN WARBURTON leading the way! Bring your checkbook and your roommate and confirm your trip reservation at the March 5th Pioneer's Luncheon.

JUNE

A one-day tour of an all new destination. Details at the luncheon.

After the quarterly luncheon, trip flyers may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed legal size envelope to THE CALIFORNIANS, 800 Blossom Hill Road #362, Los Gatos, CA 95032.



\$\$\$\$\$

MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$\$\$\$\$

Annual dues are NOW past due! Of our 860 members, 325 have yet to pay their dues. Those members who have not paid for 1994 by March 14, 1994, will be considered delinquent and will not receive THE TRAILBLAZER. The Financial Secretary, Tommy Warren, will be available at the March 5th luncheon to receive payments.

Those who wish to mail their payments can do so by sending the \$7.00 check along with a stamped self-addressed envelope to California Pioneers, P. O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA 95155. You will then receive your membership card in the mail.

Any questions? Please call Membership Chairman/Financial Secretary, Tommy Warren at (408) 241-8942.

MOVING? Let us know as soon as possible -- The Post Office will not forward your TRAILBLAZER. Worse yet, we are charged 29¢ for each RETURNED TRAILBLAZER and an additional 29¢ to remail it to you.



Tommy Warren

CALENDAR FOR 1994

Saturday, JUNE 4, 1994 Luncheon

The program is the presentation of the winners of our annual Essay Contest.

Call in reservations by Wednesday, June 1st.

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 3, 1994 Luncheon

Program to be announced.

Call in reservations by Wednesday, August 31st.

Saturday, DECEMBER 3, 1994 Luncheon

This is our annual Christmas Program

Call in reservations by Wednesday, November 30th.

Please Call.. **554-7587** For Reservations
24 HOUR SERVICE *Please CALL by Wed. Prior to LUNCHEON*

CALIFORNIA PIONEERS

P.O. BOX 8208
SAN JOSE, CA 95155

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
San Jose, California
Permit No. 1234

Hi Folks
Make Ready for Our
LUNCHEON

AT..

LOU'S VILLAGE



Saturday **MARCH 5th**

Featuring.. CROSS RIBS OF BEEF,
- SALAD, MASHED POTATOES, VEGETABLE
ICE CREAM, BEVERAGE 11⁰⁰

Phone 554-7587... For Reservations