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March 2020

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High-Wheel Donated to Pioneers



This High Wheel bicycle (picture above by Ralph Pearce), made in the 1880s, was donated to the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County by Rick Paul, owner of *Wheel Away Cycle Center* on Hamilton Avenue in Campbell. It is believed the bike has always been owned locally.

In 1960, Rick's late father, Bill Paul, acquired the bicycle from Louis Bohnett, who operated the long-gone Trader Lou's (a well known antique and amusement store on Monterey Highway in San Jose). The City of San Jose purchased the Bohnett Collection in the 1970s, which was combined with the Pioneers' Collection, resulting in the creation of the San Jose Historical Museum (now History San Jose).

The High Wheel has been in *Wheel Away Cycle Center's* front window for the past 60 years, with a sign stating, "We take trade-ins."

San Jose has a long history with bicycling. The city's first bicycle racetrack was on Race Street at Agricultural Park, once part of Roberto's Rancho de los Coches land grant. Past Pioneers President Clyde Arbuckle and several other San Jose Wheelmen were nationally recognized cyclists in the early 1900s.

The High-Wheel has even closer ties to the Pioneers and the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House, where it will be on display in the future. Another tie to the Pioneers is the aforementioned Louis Bohnett who was the uncle of Pioneers member and past board member, Joan Bohnett. The Bohnett family home sits around the corner from the Roberto Adobe in Palm Haven.

Rick Paul, is a friend of Pioneers President Jim Zetterquist since they were college roommates. Jim

gave Rick a tour of the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House during the holidays, telling him how the site was donated by the Bruzzone family. When Jim explained that volunteers staffed the 'admission free' museum, the Willow Glen native said he wanted to donate the High Wheel, saying, "One-good-turn-deserves-another." By the time Jim went to pick up the High Wheel, Rick and his wife, Carol, said they also wanted to donate a tricycle from the same era. The Pioneers thanks Rick and Carol Paul for this exciting donation.

We are still researching the history of both cycles and hope for an exhibit in the Suñol House in a few months. Ralph Pearce is heading up the research and restoration of the High Wheel. Paul Bernal will create the exhibit for the Suñol House with help from Russ Robinson and Bill Foley.

(Continued page 3)

Pioneers Quarterly Luncheon

Saturday, Mar. 7th, 2020

11:00 AM to 2:30 PM

THREE FLAMES RESTAURANT

Banquet Room—1547 Meridian Ave. in San Jose

Luncheon Presentation

San Jose Gambling

presented by

Ted Ramos

Make Reservations by Wednesday, Mar 4th

Email to **CaPioneerMembers@gmail.com**

or call 408-554-7587 with your menu selection

If, after reserving, you cannot attend the Luncheon
PLEASE call or e-mail to cancel your reservations.

WE HAVE TO PAY FOR NO-SHOWS !

LUNCHEON COST IS \$35

Pioneers do not make any profit from these charges.

Bring checks payable to
California Pioneers or credit card to Luncheon.

Menu Selections

Three Flames Special Steak
tri-tip steak topped with sautéed mushrooms

Breast of Chicken Sauté
Boneless breast with white wine & mushroom sauce

Grilled Salmon
[Above served with red potatoes & fresh vegetables]

Pasta Rosé
Penne Pasta, tomato-Alfredo sauce, mushrooms,
green onions and fresh basil

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 the separate banquet room entrance.*

Our Lunch Presentation

Ted Ramos is a 21-year veteran with the San Jose police force where he regulated the two casinos in San Jose, Bay 101 and Casino M8trix. While in that unit he discovered the cities gambling history, both legal and illegal.

Ramos will discuss how he came to write his book along with stories about the former card rooms in San Jose. He will present the reasons for their closing down and his talk will be augmented with photos.

Attend the luncheon and hear about the high-rollers and scandals of San Jose's past.



**Book cover: "San Jose Gambling"
by Ted Ramos**

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Gayle Frank, Editor

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High Wheel (Continued)

The Pioneers' High Wheel was produced in England by Bayliss, Thomas & Co. as the DEHF (Duplex Excelsior Hollow Fork) from 1879 through most or all of the 1880s. We don't have an end date, though high wheel production (by any company) ended in 1892 with the popularity of the modern, safer bicycle (the use of the smaller wheels made practical by the incorporation of gears). During the overlap period (about 1885-92), the safer bikes became known as "safeties" and the high wheels were called "ordinaries" (also called "penny-farthings").

In the United States, the DEHF was sold under the name "Harvard," so it's likely that our bike was originally sold under that name. Additionally, there is a metal tag with the date 1887 attached to our bike. This was clearly added later, though it may well be correct, as we know that the Bayliss bikes were still in production in 1886. Front wheel sizes typically ranged from 48" through 60", though 52" and 54" accommodated average heights. Production and popularity in the U.S. ran from about 1878-1892.

The Bayliss high wheel had a hollow



Hollow forks & radial spokes on Pioneers' High Wheel (Photo: Ralph Pearce)



This Fairy tricycle was also donated by Rick and Carol Paul.

(Photo: Gayle Frank)

backbone, hollow forks front and rear, double ball bearing front and single ball bearing rear, ball pedals, and a front wheel spoon brake. The large front wheel always has 60 spokes—a very modern bicycle for those years! The high wheel was not very light, but indestructible, which helped give Bayliss, Thomas & Co. a very deserved image of quality.

and restoring high wheel bikes off and on since 1985! ❖

—Jim Zetterquist
—Ralph Pearce
—Gayle Frank

Sources:

<http://bayliss-thomas1.british-ordinary-bicycles.ordinary-bicycles.antique-bicycles.net/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penny-farthing>

The Pioneers' tricycle (above) is a child's Fairy tricycle, produced in the U.S. by Worthington Manufacturing Co. in Elyria, Ohio from 1897-1916.

The Fairy tricycle, originally designed for women by W. L. Fay, was first produced by the Fay Manufacturing Company (established in 1885). The company also manufactured carts similar to modern wheelchairs that were used by Civil War amputees and polio victims. In 1891 the Fay Company was sold to Arthur Garford who changed the business's name to Worthington Manufacturing Company in 1897.

Locally, both Ralph Pearce, a Pioneers member, and retired firefighter David Wood have ridden a high wheel in San Jose for decades, memorably around the grounds of History San Jose during Living History Days and Victorian Christmas. Ralph tells us he has been riding



Another popular brand of high wheel.

“When San Jose Was Young—The Unconquered One”

This is a reprint of a 1916 series about local history written for San Jose's *Evening News* and attributed to Cora Older.

“The white bearded old man uncovered (took his hat off). His courtesy made one forget the tattered felt hat, the boots with toes playing hide-and-seek. I was looking at the last of the Dons.

The Don lifted the rusty keg band that fastened the twisted gate to the weather-beaten fence. In slow, difficult English he bade me enter.

“Tell me of the old Pueblo days,” I said.

“Ah,” he sighed sadly. “You come late. These years English I forget, and you speak no Spanish.”

“Let’s sit on your steps and try to remember.”

The Don limped up the walk of the barren, drab little garden. Water for grass costs, and the Don has no money, only memories of the life that should be in the Pueblo and is not.

The steps of the tiny cottage were hardly wide enough for us two.

He looked at me with kindly, inquiring eyes. Assured that I came from his friends, he began: “Yes, Spanish days were happy. That was a long time ago. Now there is much hard work, much new to see, but not happiness. There are many school houses. There are teachers...”

“Don’t you believe in education?”

“What for education if there is only more wrongdoing? Education does not make less hunger? What for, education?”

I was a visitor of the Don not to combat, but to listen.

“In the old Pueblo days we had no automobiles, no street cars, no trains. Everyone had a horse...”

“You don’t like automobiles?”

“For the rich. I go in the city, a street car comes in front, an automobile behind, a train at my side. Trains, automobiles, street cars only kill poor people. You like to die? If not, then you no like automobiles.”

“But,” I answered, “suppose you want to go to Gilroy. In an automobile you go quickly and the fare is only a little—”

“Yes, yes,” he chuckled unconvinced. “You meet another automobile, you die cheap! Automobiles not make happy. Money not make happiness. In Pueblo we have no money. What for money, if your belly is full?”

“Suppose,” I questioned, “in the old days you were so poor that you had no horse. You couldn’t travel?”

The Don smiled pityingly. “You don’t know old days. I go to my friend, I say I like to go to Los Angeles. I have one dollar. My friend say, “Take a horse.” I ride to Monterey. My horse is tired. I have no place to sleep. I stop

anywhere. Maybe the family has only one bed. They give it me. They sleep, no matter where. In the morning they say, “Take a fresh horse,” I take it. I not give money. If I give money they say, “you think we hungry?” I not insult Spanish people. I go to Los Angeles. I live there one month. All time plenty of friends, plenty laughing, plenty good time. I come back to San Jose. I have one dollar.

Spanish people not need money. You think you do that today? You say “Lend me your automobile, your street car, your train. No. All things is to please rich people and to kill poor people.”

“Then you would do away with automobiles, street cars, trains, and have everything as it was in the old Pueblo days.”

Why not so?” he replied. “Are people happy now? No. In old times plenty of wood. Today people shiver. They not make fire.”

The Don’s thin body shivered in his coarse gray shirt. “In old time plenty to eat, to dance, to have good time. Nobody hungry. In old time I kill beef cattle. I hang it up. I give one part to my brother, one to my neighbor, a stranger. The stranger very bad for Spanish people.”

“Americans?” I suggested.

“I not like make you offended, but American not justice. All same with those poor people in Mexico today. American come here in old time. They strangers. Spanish people give American beef cattle. They take no money. What for, money? The American, what he do? He squaate. Is squaate justice?”

I didn’t know what squaate meant.

(Continued pg. 5)



Who Brought the Potato to California?

Jean François Galaup, Comte de la Pérouse (1741-1788), of French noble birth, served in the French Navy for many years, even commanding a small fleet in Canadian waters assisting the Americans during their revolution.

After settling down on a farm in France for a few years, he was assigned to lead a four-year French expedition to California and explore throughout the Pacific region, gathering scientific information about the plants and animals along with mapping the coastlines and islands. In addition, King Louis XVI was curious if France could share in the fur trade with the Spanish and if France could learn the strength of the Spanish settlements.

La Pérouse launched his adventure in July 1785 with two ships, *La Boussole* and *L'Astrolabe*. On board were scientists of all categories including a geologist, a botanist, an ornithologist, two astronomers, cartographers and illustrators.

The trip took them around Cape Horn, Hawaii and Alaska. From there they travelled down the coast and after other stops, reached Monterey Bay on September 14,

1786. The Presidio soldiers shot the cannons in celebration and gave the Frenchmen a warm welcome.

La Pérouse met with Governor Fages and family, then the padres at Mission San Carlos Borromeo in Carmel. The scientists and crew stayed for ten days collecting samples, exploring the region and trading with the citizens. The Indians were studied; the scientists concluded in the reports that the Indians' conditions were much worse than before the Spanish arrived. La Pérouse likened their condition to that of slaves on a plantation.

While in Monterey, La Pérouse traded with the Spanish, giving them cloth, iron tools, blankets, beads, seeds, implements, and potatoes from Chile.¹ In turn, the Spanish gave the French wood, cattle, chickens, milk, hay, water, vegetables, poultry, corn, beans and pease (British form of the plural pea). This is most likely how the potato arrived in California.

The expedition sailed away on September 24, 1786 and traveled to China,

Russia, Samoa, and Australia. But after leaving Botany Bay in March 1788, the ships were never heard from again. The French government sent search parties but no clues to their disappearance were found until 1826 when it was discovered the ships had been wrecked on a reef east of the Solomon Islands (an island called Vanikoro). Two monuments were erected to honor La Pérouse, one in Botany Bay and one on Vanikoro.

Fortunately, La Pérouse was insightful, sending expedition members with bundles of reports from three different ports back to France. All that research material was saved and compiled in three (originally four) volumes entitled, *Voyage de La Pérouse autour du Monde* (*Voyage of La Pérouse around the World*), published in 1797.

—Gayle Frank

¹ *Voyage of La Pérouse around the World*, Page 212; www.americanjourneys.org/aj-131/summary

The Unconquered One (Cont'd)

"The Spanish people say to American, 'Go away, please.' The American stay. No matter to Spanish people. Only a few hundred acres of land."

At last I understood that the Don was speaking of "squatters."

"Americans smart, no go away." Spanish say this land my land. Americans kill, Spanish people no fight. No worry. Americans take everything. Spanish people poor. Americans thieves.¹

They have all California. Now everybody hurry. Everybody work. In the old time---

"Even then, didn't the Indians work?"

"Indian work?" He laughed like a sad old Hamlet. "You don't know

Indian." The Don closed his eyes and almost snored. "Indian sleep all day, all night, and he eat like coyote."

As I was leaving the Don observed me curiously.

"You have white hairs. What for? You hurry too? Your face is young, thirty-five. Perhaps thirty. How old are you?"

"I am old," I evaded.

"What for you not say how old? I don't want to marry you. I was born in 1836."² ♦

—Evening News, Oct. 13, 1916

¹ *California landowners were defenseless; the California Land Law of 1851 was designed to invalidate Spanish and Mexican land grants. Men such*

as Vallejo went all the way to the Supreme Court, where he lost his suit in one of the most discriminatory decisions in the history of the Supreme Court. Between legal fees to

fight for keeping their land, taxes, unscrupulous lawyers, decreasing value of cattle, and not understanding the new law, the Californios quickly lost their land. In 1850, over 64% of Californios owned land worth more than \$100 (in 1850 dollars). By 1860, only 29% owned land. In 1870, 21% owned land, and in 1880-90, only 5% owned land.

² *Cora Older (1875-1968) was 41 in 1916 when interviewing the Don, who would have been 80 years old.*



Cora Older
(1875-1968)

Celebrating 100 years of Women's Suffrage

After a very long battle for the women's right to vote, the U.S. Congress finally approved the 19th Amendment in June of 1919. Three-fourths of the then-48 states ratified the Constitutional Amendment by August, 1920. To celebrate the 100th Anniversary, the Trailblazer will print a brief summary of one of our local suffragists in each issue through 2020.

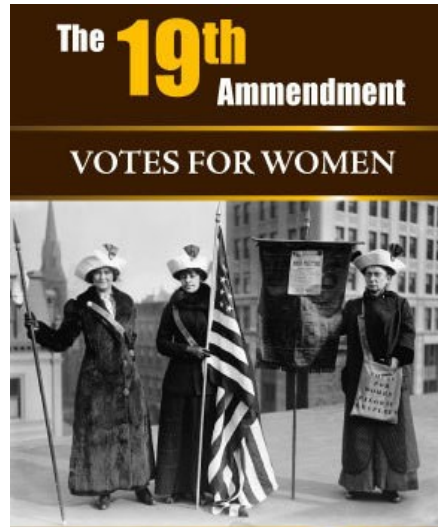
Clara Foltz: Lady Lawyer and Women's Rights Advocate

Clara Shortridge Foltz (1849-1934), the first woman attorney in California, was an extraordinary contributor to the law and women's rights. She was born in Indiana, lived in Iowa, Illinois, Oregon, San Jose, San Diego and Los Angeles. She practiced law in California, New York and briefly in Denver.

Foltz reached San Jose in 1875 with her husband, four young children, her parents (the Shortridges) and four brothers. Her fifth child was born in San Jose. Foltz found that the women's suffrage scene in San Jose was well on its way thanks to Sarah Knox-Goodrich. At that time, the San Jose Suffrage Association had several hundred members including some intelligent businessmen. Clara Foltz joined Knox-Goodrich and other suffragists for meetings, parades, conventions and entertainment events.

Early in life Foltz had dreamed of "oratory, fame and political recognition." So when she needed an income for her large family after divorcing her husband in 1879, she embarked on a speaking circuit using woman suffrage as one of her timely topics. She first studied the law with her lawyer father, Elias Shortridge, and continued with San Jose attorney C. C. Stephens as she embarked on a legal career. But Foltz soon discovered that the California code provision presented an obstacle to her career goal.

Since the Code of Civil Procedure,



describing qualifications for California lawyers, restricted women from practicing law, Clara Foltz drafted an amendment (referred to as the Lady Lawyer Law) deleting the words "any white male citizen" and substituting "any citizen or person" could be admitted as attorney or counselor (providing other requirements were met).

After a long legislative battle, the bill reached the Governor's desk and at the last minute before midnight of the last day of the legislative session (April 1, 1878), Foltz pushed her way into Governor Irwin's office and politely asked that he sign the amendment, which he did.

Clara Foltz returned to San Jose, studied extensively, passed the Fourth District bar examination and took her professional oaths in September of 1878. She was the first woman admitted to the California bar because of the amendment she had drafted, promoted and which had become law earlier that year.

In only a few months after passing the bar, Foltz's practice flourished and she successfully advocated for her clients. But she felt she would improve her skills if she attended law school so she applied to the new Hastings College of Law in San Francisco. After two days of classes in January 1879, she was rejected by the Hastings Board of Directors and

sent home. Foltz and a second woman applicant to Hastings, Laura de Force Gordon, challenged the admission policy in both the District Court (by Foltz) and the California Supreme Court (by Gordon who was a fellow suffragist and Foltz ally).

During the Hastings admission trial in the Fourth District Court, the San Francisco Chronicle reported in detail the dress, jewelry and hair of both Foltz and Gordon while ignoring the legal arguments made by the two young ladies. However, the next day the Daily Alta California (Feb. 26, 1879) reported that Foltz presented her case with "both force and polish." The same article described one of the opposition arguments--referring to lady lawyers as "dangerous to justice inasmuch as an impartial jury would be impossible when a lovely woman pleaded the case of the criminal."

Foltz answered this ridiculous argument by stating that she had expected counsel to focus on the legal aspects of the case, and further, she objected to

(Continued page 7)



Clara Foltz—admitted to the California bar in 1878, the state's first lady lawyer.

Women's Suffrage: Clara Foltz (Continued)

the many discriminatory references to women. On March 5, 1879, the judge awarded in favor of Foltz and Gordon! The Hastings Board appealed, but during that time Foltz studied for and passed the State Supreme Court bar. Foltz won the appeal case in the California Supreme Court in November of that year.

One of Foltz's primary interests was women's rights, including the right to vote. In 1880 she wrote and lobbied for a bill to allow women to vote in state school elections. Though it failed, she established herself as a woman suffrage leader on the West Coast and was elected president of the California Woman Suffrage Association in 1881 at the age of 31. However, she found herself a target of mean-spirited articles that made fun of her and the suffrage movement. Foltz delivered pro women suffrage speeches throughout California and other states for the next thirty years, although after she relocated her law practice to Los Angeles she was forced to scale back this activity.

By 1909 Foltz resurged as a vocal activist for women suffrage, becoming president of the popular and vocal Los Angeles Votes for Women Club. She argued against the tactics of the "pink tea brigade" who were the rich elite. She also complained that the state suffrage leaders were too disorganized, incompetent, and feared they would not be successful.

A California women suffrage amendment was drafted by Foltz in 1911, which succinctly stated that, "Women citizens of this state who comply with election laws and are twenty-one years old shall be entitled to vote at all elections." Foltz then actively campaigned for a variation of that amendment, which passed in California in November of 1911.

When the nineteenth amendment for women suffrage throughout the nation was introduced, Foltz worked diligently for its passage. However, she voiced

her concern that the suffrage issue diminished the U.S. efforts in WWI in 1917. Foltz was one of the few early suffragists who lived to vote in the federal elections in November of 1920.

Many of Clara Foltz's legal reforms, some resulting in major legislation, and groundbreaking activities include:

- Advocated for and created the public defender system, introduced in 32 states.
- Exposed extensive abuse of justice within many district attorneys' offices where convictions superseded truth and objectivity.
- Was the first woman appointed deputy district attorney in Los Angeles at age 61.
- Developed numerous penal reforms on both local and state levels.
- Abolished iron cages used to confine prisoners during trials in San Francisco.
- Advocated for better treatment of prisoners in jail.
- Obtained segregation of juvenile offenders from incarcerated adults.
- Established matron appointments to serve in county jails.
- Drafted and procured passage of a parole system for California prisoners.
- Was responsible for California laws allowing qualified women to act as administrators, executors, and notaries public.
- Encouraged women to become lawyers and mentored many of them.



Clara Foltz in later years.

- Founded, edited and published *San Diego Bee*, a daily newspaper from 1887 to 1890.
- Edited and published the monthly magazine, the *New American Woman* from 1916 to 1918, encouraging women's rights, stating that, "Women must have a voice in the nation's affairs; they must acknowledge no political or other limitation; they must prepare to think intelligently upon great matters of state, and cease to regard themselves as a second-rate power ..."
- Foltz became the first woman to serve as a legislative counsel, to prosecute a murder case, to hold statewide office (the State Normal School Board), and to become a notary public.

Foltz practiced law continuously for fifty years. Toward the end of her life she confessed that though she was proud of her worth-while accomplishments in the legal and women's rights fields, she regretted missing the pleasures of young motherhood, "having lost more for myself than I have gained for all women." (Continued page 8)

Inside the Suñol House

Potent Libations

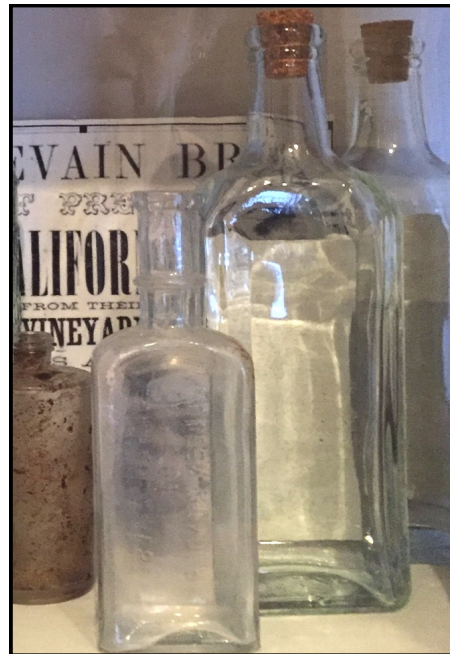
Antonio Suñol planted a vast vineyard around his home that sits in what is now Willow Glen (The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County Museum at 770 Lincoln Ave). His grapes were used to make wine and aguardiente, a Spanish grape brandy. Suñol distilled grain alcohol, and even sold distilling equipment to Johann Sutter of Sutter's Fort in the summer of 1841.

Suñol's sister-in-law Maria Encarnación Bernal Argüello had a son named Luis Argüello who became Governor of California. In 1823, Governor Argüello called for an investigation to stop Suñol from selling a "quite potent" grog. Argüello wrote, "Antonio Suñol had introduced into the Pueblo a quantity of rum and honey to sell at retail, concocting there

from a drink that was causing much harm." The investigation must have ended in Suñol's favor, because he kept selling his grog.

When William Kelly visited Suñol in 1850, he recorded that, "Suñol took pride in showing me through [his garden] and afterwards politely invited me to partake of lunch, when he produced a red wine of domestic manufacture which though rather heavy and fruity for my taste, possessed a very agreeable flavor...there was also another liquor of Californian distillation on the table, of which I tasted, called "aguardiente;" it is an extract of the grape, very palatable and potent, and improves very much, I understand, by age." ❖

In the Suñol Room at the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House, one of the displays discusses the potent liquor that Antonio Suñol was known for serving and selling.



Women's Suffrage: Clara Foltz (Continued)



Clara Shortridge Foltz (ca. 1890s)

Foltz was always interested in politics and ran in the Republican primary for California governor in 1930, at the age of 81! She had no illusions of winning but ran on women's rights issues to forward the cause.

A few of Foltz's posthumous recognitions included a degree of Doctor of Laws in 1991 granted from Hastings College of Law and the Los Angeles Criminal Courts Building was renamed the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center. ❖

—Gayle Frank

Sources:

—"Clara Foltz: Pioneer in the Law," by Mortimer Schwartz, Susan Brandt, Patience Milrod; originally published in *Hastings Law Journal*, Vol. 27, Jan. 1976.

—"Clara Foltz Entry: American National Biography—volume 8;" by Barbara Babcock; wlh.law.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/AmNatBiogentry.pdf

—"A hundred years later, a trailblazer gets her due," by Kristina Horton Flaherty; *California Bar Journal*, June, 2011. www.calbarjournal.com/June2011/TopHeadlines/TH1.aspx

For more information on Clara Foltz see "Woman Lawyer: The Trials of Clara Foltz" by Barbara Babcock, retired Stanford Law Professor, Stanford University Press; 2011.

Contact our Sunshine Chair if a Pioneers member is ill or needs cheering up.

Madeline Streight: 408-259-4422
or madeline.streight@att.net

Member Dues Paid* for 2020—Thank You!

Abney, Tim
 Alexander, Catherine (Loomis Level)
 Alves, Diane
 Ames, Larry
 Aning, Rick
 Arnoldy, Carol
 Atmore, Cindy
 Baker, Jonna
 Barnhart, Judy
 Behringer, Lu Anne
 Bjerkhoel, Jo Ann
 Blockie, Beverly
 Boehm, Paul (Loomis Level)
 Bright, Jeffrey (Loomis Level)
 Carter, James & Terri
 Carter, Robert P.
 Cassin, Colleen
 Chargin, Jan
 Corley, Jacqueline
 D'Aloia, Vito & Marilyn
 Davis, Helene
 Dixon, Heather
 Edwards, Robert
 Enright, Drew
 Johnson, Duane
 Johnson, Philip
 Falkner, Gary & Angela
 Faulkner, Linda Lee
 Fissel, Lauren & Neil
 Fitzpatrick, Mary Lou (new member)

French, Mike
 Frizzell, Glen & Marilyn
 Gammell, Helen
 Garza, Helen,
 Girard, Patricia
 Green, Gloria
 Grialou, Pat
 Gustafson, Edward
 Gwinn, Norma
 Hanel, Mary
 Heigho, Anne Louise
 Herz, Joanna
 James Jr., James
 Jensen, Jan & Marv (new members)
 Leonard, Jeffrey
 Leung, Nancy
 Lindsey, Cheryl
 Lynch, Audry
 Maggi, Franklin (Loomis Level)
 Maloney, Mary Anne
 Martin, Nancy & Mary
 Martinez, Lynda
 McDaniel-Fischer, Rachel
 McDonald, Charles
 Midwin, George
 Moellering, Jan
 Moore, Bernie
 Moreno, Nicole
 Mullen, C. E.

O'Donnell, Marlene
 Pelizzari, Catherine
 Prolo, Martin
 Rasor, Noriene
 Renk, Jo Ann
 Rezendes, Helen
 Roberts, Jeanette
 Robinson, Russell & Norma
 Salazar, Randy (new member)
 Samson, Madeleine
 Sargent, Susan
 Sciba, Kathleen
 Shea, Michael
 Sisneros, Susan
 Smestad, Greg
 Souza, JoAnne
 Souza, Mary Jane
 Spicher, Elizabeth
 Streight, Madeline
 Sutherland, Jean
 Tanner, Marvin
 Tom, Barbara
 Traill, Bill
 Vuica, Ildo & Carol
 Wool, Jennifer & Bruce
 Wyman, Beth
 Zittlow, David

** Paid as of Jan. 21, 2020*

**Dues for Membership in
 CA Pioneers of Santa Clara County
 were due on January 1st**

**Regular membership is still only
 \$35**

**IF YOU HAVEN'T RENEWED YET —
 Please pay at March Luncheon or Mail to:**

**CA Pioneers of SCC
 Membership Chair
 P.O. Box 8208
 San Jose, CA, 95155**

**Roberto Adobe &
 Suñol House**

770 Lincoln Avenue, San Jose

**FREE TOURS
 Saturdays 12 to 2**

Not open on major holiday weekends

Gratis tours en Español con cita previa

CaliforniaPioneers.com

Story of San Jose's Bicentennial Plates

When San Jose was preparing to celebrate our nation's Bicentennial in 1976, the plates pictured below were authorized by the San Jose Bicentennial Commission. The San Jose Jaycees were then commissioned to produce and market a set of four plates showing historic structures in San Jose.

Jim Campbell, a local artist and well-known in northern California, was chosen for the artwork. Jim is also the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County's resident artist.

The two scenes of the Old Post Office and the Old City Hall had been exhibited at History San Jose earlier. The other two works, the Peralta Adobe and the County Courthouse, were designed exclusively for use in the Bicentennial Plate Collection.

At that time, Campbell, as an expert marine artist, had also been commissioned by the U.S. Postal Service to use his handsome drawings on Limited Edition Exhibition covers.

The Bicentennial plates were of high quality porcelain with a gold rim border and smooth contours. Back in 1976 when they were issued, they cost \$29.95 for the set of four.

They were the only Commemorative Plates endorsed by the San Jose Bicentennial Commission and they each received the official San Jose Logo on the back. The limited first edition included only 2,000 sets of plates.

The text on the backs of the plates: are shown below each plate.

(Continued page 11)



The Old Post Office

The Old Post Office, located on the site of the Plaza of the old Spanish Pueblo of San Jose, where public meetings, bull fights, church processions and hangings took place. The Post Office was built on this site in 1892 using sandstone from the Goodrich quarry and from 1935 to 1971 served as the city library. After 1971, the building was transformed to the San Jose Museum of Art.



The Old City Hall

This Victorian beauty served as San Jose's City Hall for nearly 70 years before the wrecker's ball smashed it to a pile of red brick rubble in 1958. The building, designed by architect Theodore Lenzen and built for \$139,482 in 1889, stood where Park Avenue now meets Market across from the new Paseo de San Antonio.

Workdays & Maintenance for Pioneers Sites

Two workdays are scheduled for two of our sites.

1) Roberto Adobe & Suñol House on April 18th at 9 am.

2) Hacienda Cemetery on May 16th at 9 am.

Volunteers are encouraged to participate. It's always fun. For more work-day information visit :

www.CaliforniaPioneers.com.

Recent maintenance for the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House, supervised by Pioneers Board member Tom Kearney, included the following:

- The HVAC system was tested and cleaned.
- The gutters and downspouts were cleaned.

The Pioneers are still waiting for Santa Clara County Grant Program results concerning our application for funding upgrades to the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House. We hope to hear back by Spring. ❖

Plates (Continued)



Peralta Adobe

Built late 1790s and the only remnant of Spanish construction left from the first pueblo in California, San Jose de Guadalupe, founded Nov. 29, 1777. Probable builder was Manuel Gonzales, an Apache Indian who came with Juan Bautista de Anza in 1775-76. Gonzales died in the adobe in 1804. It was later owned and occupied by Sgt. Luis Maria Peralta (comisionado del pueblo from 1807 to 1822) until his death in 1851.



Old Courthouse

The cornerstone of the Old Courthouse at 161 N. First Street was laid in 1866 and is one of the architectural triumphs of pioneer Levi Goodrich. Dedicated Jan. 1, 1868, it has been in continuous use since and is a distinctive example of the Neo-classic, Roman Corinthian Order. It has weathered fires, earthquakes, stormy trials and public disturbances. Renovation in 1972-73 marked the third dedication for public use. *(Editor's note: Most recent renovation completed 1994.)*

In Memoriam—Jerry Rosenthal

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County Past President Jerry Rosenthal passed on November 9th, 2019 after a long, active life. He was a native San Josean who was eager to join the armed services after the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941. In fact, at 17 years old, he fudged on his age and signed up immediately with the Army Air Corp.

Initially he was assigned instructor duties in physics at Fort Ord but later succeeded as a gunnery radio operator. His gunnery instructor was Clark Gable! He traveled throughout the U.S. and eventually became part of the air general flight crew toward the end of the war as a bombardment gunner and radio operator, participating in operations in Italy, Corsica and North Africa. He flew 57 missions and during his service rose from a private first class to Technical Sergeant.

When Jerry left the military at the end of WWII, he attended Stanford, majoring in Political Science. But when Jerry's father, Aaron Rosenthal, became ill, Jerry left school to run his father's business, the Workingman's Store on W. Santa Clara Street. Later he opened his own store which he wrote about in the March 2003 Trailblazer. It appears that Jerry knew almost everybody in town and was very active in a variety of pursuits. History was one of them.

In the 1960s, Jerry and Lynne met through Lynne's roommate while she still attended San Jose State University. They were married for 53 years. Lynne said when she was asked why she married an older man, her reply was, "He's the most intelligent and interesting man I know."

Jerry was best friends with the late Leonard McKay, historian extraordinaire, so when he and Lynne moved to the Villages around 2001, Leonard persuaded Jerry to join the Pioneers. He soon found



Jerry (Gerald) Rosenthal

Jan. 8, 1924—Nov. 9, 2019

himself on the audit committee, then Vice President in 2004, and finally president of the Pioneers from 2005-2007.

This was an exciting time for the Pioneers which had previously inherited the Jackson Ranch. The Pioneers had leased the ranch site to the County for numerous years with an agreement that the County would establish a history museum featuring the local ranch. After realizing that the County was not going to follow through, Jerry was instrumental in selling the site to the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority and using the money, along with other raised funds, to renovate the Paulson House at History Park for the Pioneers.

The Paulson House permitted the Pioneers to exhibit some of the Jackson furnishings and artifacts and operate as the Pioneers headquarters by 2007. In Jerry's last President's Message in the Trailblazer (Dec. 2007), he thanked all who had donated and volunteered to make the Paulson House Museum a reality. He especially thanked Pioneers members Bob and Bev Fisher for all they did with the furnishings and décor in the Paulson House. It really did take a village. Today, the Pioneers still hold the monthly Board meetings at the

Paulson House every second Monday at 12:15.

The Pioneers presented the Austin Warburton Award to Jerry in 2008 for outstanding service to the Pioneers and to the community.

Jerry was an avid hunter and collected antique duck decoys. He wrote a unique article for the Pioneers Trailblazer about the Sports Chefs in the June 2017 Trailblazer. It described how the local, enthusiastic hunters presented grand gourmet dinners with the meat from their hunting trips. Jerry also enjoyed fly fishing.

Jerry participated in and supported the Digital Clubhouse Network (DCN) that started out recording histories of local pioneers over 100 years old. The project expanded and documented histories from pioneer families and servicemen. DCN worked from the Paulson House during its early years after renovation.

Over his lifetime, Jerry served on many Boards, received many awards and

(Continued page 13)



A very young Rosenthal receiving a medal while in the military.

Returning Again This Year!

2020 History Essay Contest

Prizes Awarded for Best Essay

Essay Subject: Any person, place or event concerning Santa Clara County from its beginning to the recent past.

For Details and Rules go to: www.CaliforniaPioneers.com

Submittal Deadline:
August 10, 2020

For more information contact: CaliforniaPioneers@gmail.com

Jerry Rosenthal (Continued)

medals--too many to name here. Over his lifetime, he was politically active and socially involved in many endeavors. In later years, he enjoyed participating in the History San Jose's *Spirit of '45* every August and entertained visitors at the Paulson House with his WWII stories.

Just recently during the Stanford Big Game last November, he was honored for his work with the Stanford football program during the 1970s and 80s.

A last word from Jerry taken from his writings: "Thank God for the romantics, those who still believe that service is important, that heroes are not those who play sports, and that "duty, honor, and country" is still important."

Jerry, The Pioneers members are forever grateful for your contributions to this organization and may you rest in peace. ❖



A Young Cowboy Jerry.

(Photos courtesy Lynne Rosenthal)

In Memorium

Richard (Dick) Hill (1923-2020)

Richard (Dick) Hill was born in Napa, California in 1923 though his father Harry G. Hill was a San Jose native. Dick's grandparents were George Edward and Carlotta Cornish Hill who had a prune ranch on Cornish Lane in the Berryessa neighborhood. In fact, Cornish Lane was named after Dick's grandmother but it has since been swallowed up by developments.

Dick was a long-time member of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, becoming a Lifetime member in 1983. He chaired the Hacienda Cemetery and Jackson Ranch Committee for many years, worked on the Audit Committee, and served as the Records Coordinator, 2nd VP and finally 1st VP from 1998-2001.

In the Trailblazer's President's message (December, 2005), Jerry Rosenthal commented about Dick, saying, "Dick Hill kept records on the Pioneers' art and objects that astounded the [History San Jose] curators."

Jerry's point was that over 20 years, Dick kept precise records of the Pioneers possessions and documents. These records were a great help for a History San Jose exhibit in the Pacific Hotel.

Dick received the Pioneers' Austin Warburton Award in 2002 for outstanding service to the Pioneers and to the community. ❖

History San Jose Events

Linda Ulleseit Book Talk Saturday, March 14, 2020 1:00 PM

To commemorate Women's History Month and the opening of the *Her Side of the Story* exhibit in the Arbuckle Gallery at History Park, author Linda Ulleseit will talk about her book *Under the Almond Trees* that profiles three of her ancestors who were Northern California women (the first having arrived in San Francisco via the Isthmus in 1851). The talk takes place in the upstairs of the Empire Firehouse at History Park. Free to HSJ members; \$5 general admission. Register online at:

www.historysanjose.org

Peralta Adobe & Fallon House Historic Site Tours

History San José and San Pedro Square Market are excited to welcome you to the Peralta Adobe & Fallon House, a historic treasure in the heart of our modern city. HSJ hopes you'll attend the guided journey back in time to experience San José before cars, computers and smart phones. These two beautifully restored homes and their furnishings offer a glimpse into the lives of San José's early inhabitants. From the early period of "El Pueblo de San José de Guadalupe" in the late 1770's to California's induction into the United States in 1850. Tickets are \$5.00 for those 13 years or older. Tickets for children 12 and under are free. Available through June 27, 2020.

Join Us As a Greeter or Docent for the Paulson House at History San Jose

For more information or to
volunteer, contact Jonna Baker at
(408) 533-3256 or
J234belle@yahoo.com

Docent or Greeter Opportunity for Roberto Adobe & Suñol House

For more information or to
volunteer, contact Sylvia Hew at
408-265-5371 or
hewmum@gmail.com

Membership Report

The membership dues for the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County are **due on January 1st every year**. Basic dues are only \$35.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2020 please do so. Dues for 2020 will be accepted at the March luncheon or you can mail your check to CA Pioneers of SCC, Membership Chair, P.O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA, 95155.

Check your mailing label on your Trailblazer

and it will indicate when your dues have expired. For example, if after your name it says, Dec-2020 your Pioneers membership is up-to-date until the end of 2020.

Additional donations or higher membership levels are always appreciated. Visit www.CaliforniaPioneers.com for more details. And please, don't forget the Pioneers in your estate planning and consider donating from your IRA's required minimum distribution to lessen your taxes. ❖

For Questions
contact
Membership Chair
Walt Gil

If you have questions
about your membership
status, contact
Walt at
wgil@cpi-re.com
or 408-978-1090.

Time Travel (*Past News from Newspaper Archives*)

San Jose, 1869: According to Herald accounts of the day, a new sport had arrived on the scene. It appeared that the carriage factory of John Christian, at the corner of First and William Streets, was turning out some remarkable velocipedes. The approved item had created a tremendous demand for this new type of "French bicycle." Its popularity had even motivated a 'training school' at the local Armory Hall. Terms of tuition along with the use of the bike ran from ten cents for 20 minutes or \$1 for 100 minutes. "Twenty minutes," reported cyclists, "was all a beginner's muscles could endure."

San Jose, March 1907: Every youngster in the city was having a chance to



earn money since the Board of Health was paying 'bounties' from one to five cents for every mouse or rat brought in. A goodly number of young people had already taken to the extermination program head on which authorities hoped would end with such planned annihilation. With just five days into the 'trap program,' bounties had been paid on 57 varmints. One lad brought in 13 he had trapped in a restaurant.

Santa Clara County, 1912: to better acquaint Santa Clara County, the Board of Supervisors authorized the expenditure of \$2,707 for advertising in the "Country Gentleman."

Santa Clara County, 1914: The Palace Hotel in San Francisco began running jitney bus excursions to Santa Clara County to better acquaint all with the wealth and beauty of the region.

San Jose, 1914: A senator believed a one-eyed man was entitled to operate an automobile saying, "A one-eyed man can't see nearly so many people to run down as a two-eyed driver can."

San Jose, 1936: How many recall when 'traffic control' here placed a peanut underneath the tire of a prospective overtime parker? Well, if the peanut was whole and hearty after an hour the parker was issued a citation, if crushed and oozing the driver escaped for the time. ❖

Pioneers Gone to the Golden Hills

RICHARD (DICK) HILL
LAWRENCE C. HOLIAN
GERALD (JERRY) ROSENTHAL



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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.