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CLYDE ARBUCKLE HONORED ON 90TH BIRTHDAY

By Harriet Duzet

(From the Argonaut Historical Society. Used by permission)

Clyde Arbuckle, City Historian of the City of San Jose, was honored at a reception given at Fiesta Hall, County Fairgrounds, on April 13, 1993, by a consortium of historical groups. The Argonauts Historical Society, an offshoot of the class taught for over thirty years by Arbuckle for the Metropolitan Adult Education Program (MAEP), spearheaded the effort.

Many members of the committee, however, represented historical organizations other than the Argonauts. Among them were the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA), the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association (NAQCPA), the San Jose Historical Museum and the SJHM Association, the Campbell Historical Museum Association (CHMA), and the O'Connor Hospital 89ers.

Well over 200 persons thronged the hall, decorated with posters created by Henry "Hank" Calloway, a banner from the Clyde Arbuckle Elementary School, and panels showing events in the life of Arbuckle in the course of his 90 years. A slide projector showed pictures of his home, his bike-racing days, his banjo-playing days, and, finally his deep immersion in the history of San Jose, Santa Clara County, California, and the West.

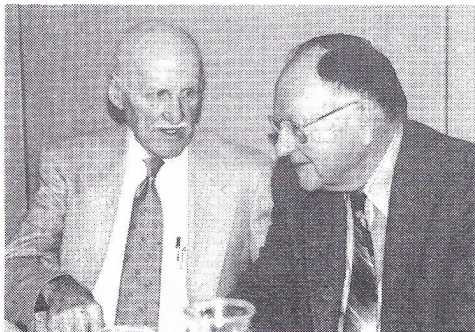
Leonard McKay, dedicated historian, publisher of "Clyde Arbuckle's History of San Jose," and proprietor

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of Memorabilia of San Jose, acted as co-Master of Ceremonies. He and Austen Warburton, City Historian of the City of Santa Clara and Parliamentarian of the Pioneers, alternated reading letters written in honor of the occasion. Letters were received from Theron Fax, one of the founders of the San Jose Historical Museum; Harry Farrell and Willys Peck, retired reporters of the San Jose Mercury News staff; E. L. "Gene" Fambrini of E Clampus Vitus with accolades for Clyde who once served as a "Noble Grand Humbug" (president of his chapter); Dr. A. C. "Cecil" Todd of Warwickshire, England, an old friend; State Senator Alfred E. Alquist and Assemblyman Dominic Cortese of the California Legislature; Earl F. Schmidt, also of E. Clampus Vitus; Franklin Maggi, President, Heritage Council of Santa Clara County; Thomas Hunt, OCTA; Gregory Franzwa, Patrice Press, Tucson, Arizona;

Colleen Cortese, Historical Landmarks Commission; Mary Pederson, CHMA; and Joseph Bourdreau, Sourisseau Academy, San Jose State University (SJSU).

In his opening remarks, McKay acknowledged the presence of Arbuckle's family: his wife, Helen; son, Jim; and daughter, Susan.



Clyde Arbuckle

Austen Warburton

Laughing, he said, "Here's a man who was married 61 years ago, who dug the basement of his house with a hand shovel in 1937 and is still living in the same house, still living with the same woman, and still ussing the same shovel!"

In addition to showing the wornout shovel, McKay also showed the banjo arbuckle played professionally in his youth.

In addition to the laudatory letters, Arbuckle received many certificates as follows: One from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors presented by Rod Diridon, Supervisor; from the U. S. Congress sent by Congressman Norman Mineta; from the Mayor's Office of the City of San Jose presented by



Ruth Patton



President's Message

This is the last "President's Message" that I will be writing, and there are so many things I want to say. The past two years have been both challenging and, I think, productive.

Whatever has been accomplished in keeping this organization active, supportive and on-going is due to the cumulative efforts of a hard-working, dedicated Board of Directors and you, the members. If you did not pay your dues, sign up for the tours and attend the quarterly meetings we would soon cease to be a vital, active part of our community. We have proven our longevity, and it is my hope that we will continue to play an energetic concerned roll in the future.

Our next Luncheon Meeting will be on June 5, 1993. This is the time when we announce the winners of our annual Historical Essay Contest. The winners are awarded cash prizes and tell us something about their essays. In past years this has proven to be a very interesting and informative program. We hope many of you will attend.

It has been my pleasure (and challenge) to serve as your President for the past two years. I wish to thank everyone who had any part in this tenure of office. Again - thank you!

VACANT LOTS TO GROW VEGETABLES

In June of 1912, the San Jose Chamber of Commerce sponsored a plan for planting all vacant lots in the city to vegetables.

WHALE BLAZERS

SANTA CLARA, May 1911 - Along with the line of progress had come Free Mail Delivery aimed at Santa Clara after some years of pleading. However, the Postal Service had set forth a few rules and requests that its citizens were to observe for the proper distribution of their mail. Every residence was to be numbered, plainly seen from the sidewalk, along with a mail box equipped with a lock and key. No mail was to be left where occupants failed to comply. In the business section, a slot in the door would suffice. Also, examinations for clerks and carriers were announced; age limit 18 to 45. Married women were not to be admitted. This rule did not apply to women who were separated and supported themselves, but they would be eligible only as mail clerks.

May, 1927 - OUCH! A rolling pin hurling contest at the picnic area near the Salinas River by the Santa Clara County Rod and Reel Club was the center of much interest when 22 women entered the event. The champ was Mrs. C. R. Bogart who hurled a pin for the record breaking heave of 70 feet 9 inches.

May 6, 1912 - Palo Alto's police department was in need of a bicycle with the request put before the City Council. The department, for some five years, had peddled about on a rented one. Now they insisted on their very own for the downtown midnight patrol beat.

PALO ALTO, May 1912 - Arrested for permitting children to beg on the streets of this county, an apparently blind organ grinder discarded her smoked glasses to glare balefully at the Justice who set her bail at \$200. which she promptly paid from a well-filled leather sock.

SAN JOSE, May 1936 - Good times were said to be here again as the California State Employment office here revealed that there were more jobs than applicants. In the 'soda jerking' field for instance, several jobs were available paying \$15. per week in addition to free meals.

From page 2 ARBUCKLE

Councilwoman Margie Fernandez; and one from the Iron Man Museum presented by William Coops.

Many people went to the podium to extoll the many achievements of Clyde Arbuckle over his busy life as an historian: first, as curator of the Statehouse Centennial replica at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, which eventually became the San Jose Historical Museum; then as teacher and tour guide for the thousands of people who signed up for his classes and tours over the many years he was associated with MAEP; and, finally, as City Historian, whose phone rang constantly for help with historical questions. Some of these speakers were Dick Forst of the NQCPA; Dan Furtado of the O'Connor Hospital 89ers; Ruth Patton, president of the Pioneers; Jeanette Roberts, president of the Argonauts; William Coops of the Iron Man Museum, Westinghouse, Sunnyvale (formerly Josua Hendy Ironworks); and Patrick Aloysious Sweeney of E Clampus Vitus.

A generous portion of the funds collected for the reception will go to establish a Clyde Arbuckle Scholarship Fund to provide grants in the amount of \$500. per calendar year for the study and investigation of local history, to be administered by SJSU's Sourisseau Academy. Further contributions can be made to this scholarship fund on a continuing basis by sending checks made out to the Argonauts Historical Society, 1641 Carmel Dr., San Jose, CA 95125. For further information, call Lyn Bean (408) 295-4514.

The reception committee was composed mainly of Argonauts Jewel Bean, Lyn Bean, Rosemary Chivers, Barbara Door, Harriet Duzet, Virginia Hammerness, George Hesse, Pat Loomis, Leonard McKay, Mary Mueller, Ruth Patton, Jeanette Roberts, Mary Wahlberg, Leslie Masunaga of the SJHM, and Jane Brownton of the Pioneers.

A keepsake biography of Clyde Arbuckle was distributed to attendees.

June 15, 1912 - Chris Shannon, member of the San Jose Police force for forty years, and who had never been outside Santa Clara County since he came here, left on a tour of the state.

★ THE GALLERY ★



Bill Adams



Maryjane Adams



Clara Quirke



Marian Perkins



Mildred Hansen



Betty Ann Chandler



Louise Catania



Ann Apgood



Genieva Bentel



Marlene Kielsmeier



Don Kielsmeier

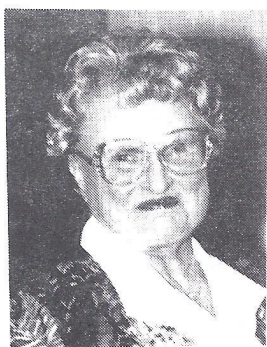


Edna M. Morgan

REAL ROYAL CARPET FOR FAIR QUEEN

The coronation ceremonies of the 1960 Santa Clara County's Fair Queen was regarded as being really regal indeed. According to Fair officials, a good portion of the 'royal carpet' used by England's Queen Elizabeth on her visit four years before to the United States, was flown in from the manufacturer's warehouse in Pennsylvania to be spread before the feet of Miss Judy Pepper, the beautiful 17-year-old Fair Queen as she approached her throne fronting the main grandstand on opening night. The original red carpet was 2400 feet long and 3 feet wide.

Fair officials were said to have treated it with all of the guarded secrecy of an armored truck bankroll. Only the date of its arrival was announced. On September 6, the 'royal carpet' was taken from a Pacific Airline plane at the San Jose Airport, then by Loomis Armored Car to the First National Bank's main office in San Jose to be stored in its vault until Fair time.



Miriam Clark

MIRIAM PLANNED PROGRAMS

Miriam E. Clark, First Vice President of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County has been responsible the past two years for planning all of the programs at our quarterly luncheons, all of which have been most interesting. Many thanks, Miriam!

FIRE ENGINE "EMPIRE NO. 1"

In 1854, "Old 41" became the first fire engine for San Jose and the proud possession of Empire Co.

It was used as early as 1820 by the Volunteer Fire Department of New York City, and then acquired by San Francisco in 1850.

On the acquisition of 'new' apparatus by San Francisco, "Old 41" was sold to San Jose to be renamed "Empire No. 1".



Beyond The Sunset

Mary F. Doeltz
Ruth I Lasich
MaBell Smith

Margaret Spink
Helen Tyson

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

Chris M. Amaral
Jerone M. Amaral
Joseph M. Amaral
Steve M. Amaral
Emma Rita Anderson
Helen M. Hammel

Margaret M.
Amaral-Lombard
Alfred J. Mattos
Mathew Simon
Ann Martha Speciale
Rosalie V. Speciale
Leslie M. Woody

PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCHEON ON JUNE 5th

UNDER THE WEATHER

Kindly keep your officers informed as to the condition of any ill member and report any sickness or death to the chair of our SUNSHINE Committee -- Leah Warren, 2032 Emory Street, San Jose, CA 95128
(408) 241-8942

Touring With The Californians

JUNE 24. GOLDEN GATE PARK, DE YOUNG MUSEUM. Some space is still available for this guided tour of the exclusive exhibit of treasures found in the Teotihuacan pyramids near Mexico City. They are evidence of a culture existing 2000 years ago. An included lunch will be served in the California Room of the De Young Museum. There is time to visit other exhibits such as: Arts of the Americas, Costume Gallery or European and Asian collections of Art. You may want to just enjoy The Park! Call Nancy, (408) 258-3449, for reservations NOW!

JULY. A one-day tour of all new "attractions" will include a visit to the Jackson property which overlooks Anderson Lake. In Almaden we will see the historic Hacienda Cemetery. Both are owned by The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County. You have heard about them, now is your chance to see them! More information and reservations at June 5, Pioneers Luncheon.

AUGUST 21-22. THE CLAYPIPERS ARE COMING!! It's a leisurely weekend in the Gold Country. Details will be available on the June 5th Quarterly Brochure of Trips.

SEPTEMBER 10-26. The Easternmost Provinces of CANADA will be visited: NEWFOUNDLAND, NEW BRUNSWICK, NOVA SCOTIA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. A few spaces remain. Call Nancy Hill for more information or to request a special brochure.

After the June Luncheon, flyers may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed, legal size envelope to:

THE CALIFORNIANS
1365 Lindsay Way
San Jose, CA 95118

For reservations, call Nancy Hill, (408)258-3449 Monday thru Friday, preferably in the mornings.

DUES UP-TO-DATE?

Please check your membership cards to see if you are currently renewed through December 31st, 1993. Over 200 members have yet to pay their 1993 dues. Dues are \$7.00 per year, and you can become current by mailing your check together with a stamped self-address envelope to California Pioneers, P. O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA 95155. You will receive your membership card in the mail.



Leah Warren

Tommy Warren

Membership Chairman/Financial Secretary, Tommy Warren will be at the June luncheon to accept dues also. If you have any questions, call Tommy 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 cents for each returned TRAILBLAZER.



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* LUNCHEON *

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ESSAY
FINALISTS

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1993

BONELESS BREAST
— OF —
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• DESERT
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preceding LUNCHEON DATE.