

QUARTERLY BULLETIN
OF THE CALIFORNIA PIONEERS
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY
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PRO-BASEBALL NOTHING NEW TO SANTA CLARA

February 1919: It was major news and 'big-time baseball' as far as Santa Clara was concerned when the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast League were establishing their spring training camp at the University of Santa Clara. The San Francisco Chronicle had announced Charlie Graham of Sacramento, who had just purchased the Seals, was one of the better known men in the game having held enviable records as a player and manager. It was at the University of Santa Clara where he picked up his knowledge of the sport. The Mission City provided the Seals with first class consideration in regard to board and room for 25 ball players, plus trainers and officials. This was declared a big boost for the town and a chance for which many larger cities strived.

By March 1919, scores of carpenters were on the University grounds rushing the project for the training opener on Sunday, March 23. The diamond was in perfect order. In fact, Father Jerome Ricard, the famed weather prophet, promised good weather. The event was hailed as 'Santa Clara Day' with a double-header involving the Seals and the San Jose Bears with the Seals winning the first game. Their second victory of the day they beat the Ireland Independents, a team made up of clever semi-pros. Between games two boxing matches were staged with fans getting their 35 cents worth for these exhibitions alone.

In haste another big day was planned for Sunday, March 30, as the previous Sunday drew the biggest crowd ever, numbering 2500. It was arranged through the efforts of manager Charlie Graham who obtained two aviators from Mather Field in Sacramento to give a flying exhibition and then landing just in front of the grandstands.

It was also planned to have aviators pitch balls while in flight to the ball players below, offering prizes for the best catchers. Every effort was made to make this a great day. Among the flyers participating was Lt. Dominic Di Fiore of San Jose, himself a Santa Clara University graduate.

By April 1, after having spent the greater part of a month in spring training here, the Seals left for San Francisco where the Coast League was scheduled to open shortly.

Graham said he was elated with the Santa Clara facilities and weather, having missed less days at work-outs than any other of the Coast teams in training.



WHALE BLAZERS

PALO ALTO, 1902 — Some townfolks back from an eastern trip reported the biggest bird killer of the time was the Washington Monument. It appeared the city of Washington was directly on the route taken by many migrating birds in flight between north and south, and twice a year thousands met their doom by flying against the tall marble shaft in the night. Most of the victims were said to have been black throated warblers and thrushes.

LOS GATOS, 1902 — D.C. Crummey was moving his Bean Spray Pump establishment to San Jose. Crummey, who kept his residence in Los Gatos, was going to his place of business in the morning and returning in the evening. Many citizens here deeply regretted this move.

SAN JOSE, October 1902 — After a long siege due to the lack of rain, Mayor Worswick along with the street committee had authorized the return of six water wagons until the dusty streets settled. In this emergency the local water works furnished water for this effort.

SAN JOSE, 1902 — Mrs. James H. Kelly just had a telephone placed in her home in the Willows district.

SAN JOSE, 1911 — With the view of improving the sanitary conditions of the local jail, Chief of Police Kidder was preparing to install hammocks in both the inside and outside cells, as well as a boiler along with wash tubs so the prisoners could launder their clothes. Kidder believed this order of things would curtail crime to a minimum by the application of the old saying, "cleanliness is next to godliness."

SAN JOSE, 1912 — Postmaster J.R. Chase has just received the parcel post regulations which went into effect January 1st. Chase then hurriedly ordered an automobile for such deliveries and pronounced it the fastest service in the state.

SAN JOSE, December, 1914 — San Jose High School Principal C.M. Osenbaugh, issued an edict that his high school was to have no more paid football coaches, and thereafter teams would be coached by members of the faculty. Prof. Ray B. Leland, athletic director, was then given the task of head coach.

SANTA CLARA, 1920 — Mr. E.E. Burke who had just completed guarding prisoners at San Quentin for a number of years had returned home here. He reported guard life was so much like slavery he was glad to breathe the air of freedom once more.

SANTA CLARA, 1921 — A popular course in tractor operation had begun at Santa Clara High School. The course was free to all students as well as men and women of the region. The lab fee was just two dollars for the gasoline used. The lab equipment consisted of a gas engine, four tractors, ranch and mechanic tools. Prof. Townsend, school principal, headed the program.

"An atheist is a guy who watches a Notre Dame-SMU football game and does not care who wins."... President Eisenhower.



President's Message

Bryan Millar

I should like to bring you up to date on some of the events taking place in our organization since my last message to you, and since our luncheon meeting of last September.

At our Board of Directors meeting on October 8, Beverly Wildermann was chosen to fill the vacancy caused by the death of James O'Connor, our Second Vice-President, who had served as a Director for several years.

Robert Oliver, our Marshal for the past two years, was elected Second Vice-President for the remainder of the year 1990-91. As this left us without a Marshal, our new Board member, Beverly Wildermann, was duly elected to fill the office.

The Board authorized a donation to the San Jose Public Library for the binding of Volumes 29-31 of *The Trailblazer* to be placed in the California Room with the previously bound volumes. George Kobayashi, California Room librarian, is also working with the Board to select memorial books honoring past presidents, Wade Brummel and James O'Connor.

We are always looking for possible storage space for some of our Pioneer items, such as archives and computer equipment. If you have an available area (perhaps in a garage) which we could use, please call me at (408) 377-2001, or notify any of our Board members.

My best wishes to all of you for a most happy and prosperous holiday season, and for everything good in 1991.

CALIFORNIA STATE TEACHER'S PENSION EFFORTS - 1911

The vital subject of pensions for teachers again was discussed at a meeting under the auspices of the Santa Clara County Teachers' Association. Addresses were made by Prof. M. R. Trace, Miss Agnes Howe and Mrs. Selma B. Olinder.

Prof. Trace, according to the San Jose Herald, had provoked much applause from the statement, "Owing to the trend of political events I will have to greet you all as men and brethren, and on account of woman's political emancipation in California from this time on the demands of our association will receive more attention from the State Legislature than ever before." Trace believed the pension question was a vital subject to the teachers and defined "pension" as a certain stipend for services which had been performed. "Our soldiers receive pensions from the government not out of charity, not because of influence and not in the nature of a salary, but because the people feel they have performed a service to the nation, for which they have never been paid. Those who enlisted under the Stars and Stripes in the Civil War fought for the preservation of the Union, but they got their enthusiasm from the public school teachers from whom they had learned lessons of patriots. Is it not time the public school teachers should receive the credit which is overdue them? The Nation cannot get along without the public school teacher and the Nation could never exist without our system of education. Our teachers are giving to the State and Nation a service invaluable and is it not right that they are insured comfort in their latter years?"

WILLIAM H. WEEKS PIONEER ARCHITECT

by Bill Chivers



Former Campbell Union High School

There is hardly a town in central and northern California that does not have one or more of the buildings designed by William Henry Weeks. He opened his first office in Watsonville in 1894, and when he died in 1936, he and his company had become one of California's most prestigious architectural firms.

Until a few years ago, there was not much written about him, but because of a lady from Watsonville by the name of Betty Lewis who has made a very comprehensive study of him, his family and his firm, and has authored the book, *W. H. Weeks, Architect*, we have a very detailed account of Weeks' beautiful buildings. Many of his designs and buildings are here in our own Santa Clara County. Some have been demolished and some are still in use as they were built, and others have been converted to other uses.

William Weeks had offices in Watsonville, San Francisco and San Jose. Monuments to his skill can be seen here in many of our school buildings; namely, Herbert Hoover Junior High School (1930), Woodrow Wilson Junior High School (1925), Westside Grammar School (1927), Franklin School (1930), and Berryessa School (1927). Also, Mountain View High School (1923), Los Gatos High School (1924), plus additions in the 1930's, Campbell Union High School (1936), now the City of Campbell's Community Center, and the Campbell Union Grammar School (1922) with additions by Weeks in 1926 and 1928. Weeks knew that the Grammar School kindergarten children would have to come a long distance to school from the surrounding ranches, so for a home-like atmosphere, he designed a fireplace for the children's room. In 1964, this building became the first campus of the West Valley Junior College and served in this capacity until 1976 when a new campus was built. The former grammar school was placed on the National Register of Historic Places, but after being purchased by a financial institution was torn down in 1984 except for the beautiful front facade which was incorporated into a new structure very much like Weeks' original design, and today is an office building. The University Avenue Grammar School in Los Gatos was designed by Ralph Wyckoff, a protege of W.H. Weeks. The grammar school (1923) is now called Old Town. Wyckoff went into business for himself and is credited with designing a San Jose post office, bank, and various buildings at San Jose State University, plus many more buildings in and around San Jose.

Some of the other schools Weeks designed were the Santa Clara Union High School (1922), Morgan Hill Grammar School (1934), Los Altos Grammar School (1920's), and in Sunnyvale the 1926 Fremont Union High School. During the year 1930 alone, 22 schools and additions to schools throughout the state were commissioned by Weeks. Schools were not the only type of building designed by him. Some of his work in San Jose included the Hotel DeAnza (1931), the Sainte Claire Hotel (1925), the 11 story Medical-Dental Building (1927), and Paul Masson Store and Hotel (1930). The old Vendome Hotel was rebuilt in 1907 from Mr. Weeks' plans. He designed the Gilroy Wheeler Hospital (1929) and the Carnegie Library, which is now the Gilroy Museum. He built many Carnegie Libraries throughout the state, and a few are still standing as museums. Livermore's Carnegie Library became the art gallery of the Heritage Guild, and the San Luis Obispo Library is a museum.



Casino and Natatorium, Santa Cruz

Will Weeks designed many beautiful churches throughout the state, also court houses, banks, stores, gymnasiums, auditoriums and hundreds of homes. One of his most unusual jobs was the huge casino and natatorium (bath house) at the Santa Cruz beach. In Watsonville alone, he designed about 60 buildings and over 90 homes. In many of his schools he put in ramps instead of stairs to the second floor, and in the interest of safety, many of his schools were built of reinforced concrete.

California was indeed fortunate in being the home of this great pioneer architect. Many towns and cities all over the state were visibly improved by W.H. Weeks' designs. He had built 20 hotels, 400 schools, 1,200 school room additions, employing 53 draftsmen, and had three offices in three different cities.

Further information about location, and pictures of his buildings can be obtained in the book, *W.H. Weeks, Architect*, authored by Betty Lewis.



If you have nothing to do—don't do it here.
Make friends before you need them.

1905 — WHEN STOVEWOOD WAS A HOUSEHOLD CONCERN

Oakwood, like gasoline today had reached spiraling prices in our valley as elsewhere. There was no better fuel wood to be found, and as a result thousands upon thousands of magnificent oaks became victims of the axmen. Compared with some 90 years ago there are very few live oaks left and today, admirers of these elegant specimens are pleading that those remaining be preserved as ornamentals and for shade.

When Santa Clara Valley was settled by Americans, it was highly

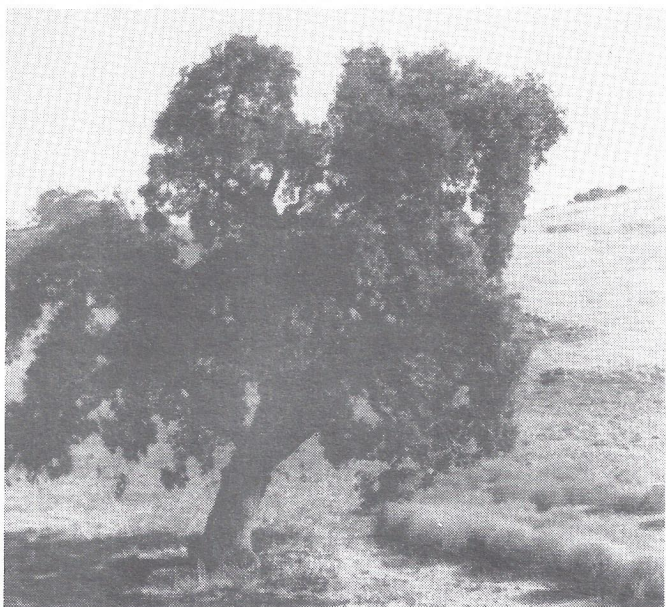
spangled with live oak and as a result thousand upon thousands of our valley's oaks, called "Robles" by the Spanish, fell. According to the University of California Press it was a pity indeed to see the landscape denuded of them as the onslaught continued.

By the fall of 1905 there was such a demand for live oak, prices soared to \$8 a cord, considered outrageous at the time. Two reasons were given for such prices. First there had been such a demand in the state for labor on ranches and in the orchards thus leaving fewer woodsmen to supply the woodbox.

Quotations at the time for stove length wood retailed, delivered: live oak \$9 a cord, madrone \$8, fir or pine \$7.50, redwood \$4.50 to \$5. White oak and other kinds of oak were about the same as madrone. Wood in cord lengths, that is, four feet long, was delivered directly from the railroad car to the customer; this meant a saving of 50 cents less on the quoted prices. The California cord in stove lengths was never a true cord, but just three-fourths of a cord. The one-quarter was deducted for sawing and splitting. A four-foot stick cut into stove lengths made four sticks. When this was cut and split, three tiers eight feet long and four feet high were called a cord.

Nearly all live oak wood coming to this valley's market, at the time, came from San Luis Obispo County for a period of three or four years. In 1901 there was cut and shipped from that point 50,000 cords. The following year shipments did not exceed 20,000 cords. A considerable amount of live oak came from Monterey County also, but not near the quantity of some years before. Redwood, madrone and fir were also a Monterey County outlet.

Whatever the price of coal, oil or wood, the fact remained the tidy housewife prefer-



Valley Oak Tree from Almaden area

red wood for its cleanliness and freedom from soot and smoke, as well for its considered safety.

Today, as living space becomes more critical, admirers of the long populous tree plea it be spared. It would indeed be a pity to sweep our remaining vistas of them.

—Viva los Robles!

H.C.

— PUNKINS —

1918 WAR HERO HOME FROM FRANCE



April 1919:

Bearing the wound and still suffering a gassing which he received at the Argonne, Little Punkins, the bull terrier mascot of the 27th Engineers had arrived in Santa Clara which was to be his permanent home.

Punkin's master, Wm. H. Hall of the 27th Engineers, who had taken the little fellow overseas, had cared for him during all the fighting and had now brought him safely back home, was spending some peaceful time with his mother

Mrs. Mary Hall and of course with Punkins along, they had become the idols of the town.

According to the Santa Clara Journal, at the time Punkins was the only dog ever given a regular discharge from the United States Army and was a real little hero. He was taken overseas when just a few weeks old having been smuggled aboard a transport in a suit case. It was revealed he was with the 27th Engineers ten months, and stuck with his outfit during engagements at Aisne-Marne, Oise-Asne and the Mense-Argonne offensive along with his master at Chateau-Thierry.

According to Hall's accounts, he had rescued his little buddy from a shell hole in 'No Man's Land' where he had become a victim of the deadly fumes that swept over that sector in October 1918. It was months, said the Journal, before Punkins recovered from his ordeal and even then he tired very easily and had to rest often.

From the 18th of July in 1918 until the signing of The Armistice the following November, the little guy was constantly under shell fire and became so accustomed to the noise and vibrations of the big guns that on the day The Armistice was signed and firing ceased, he waited fifteen minutes and then joined a tour of inspection among the gun crews to see what the matter was and for several days was not himself due to the unusual calm.

Punkins had a neat little khaki coat which the Y.M.C.A. volunteer girls from Camp Merritt, New Jersey, had made for him. It bore the insignia of 'his outfit' and a gold service stripe including a gold wound stripe which the girls from the San Francisco Presidio "Y" had added to his red discharge stripe. Punkins, it was reported, seemed to know that the "Y" huts were about the only warm places where dogs were permitted. When Hall had been chosen by the government to take part in the Victory Lane Drive, this soldier with his mascot, Punkins, had been chosen to ride in parades during a three week period aboard a huge war tank mustering huge ovations.

Hall was a veteran soldier having served in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection. His company, the 27th Engineers, which saw service in many areas of France and Belgium, was made up of men from the west and all over the age of 35 years. They were called the "Cow-Punchers and Miners Division."

Hall and his idolized pet had been besieged with offers from the Pantages theater people for unlimited bookings on their circuit as pictures of both appeared in the big dailies from coast to coast.

It was also disclosed an eagle-eyed major who had once spotted Punkins as the outfit was lined up on a pier for roll call snapped, "Bring that mutt here." If Hall and other Californians knew anything 'bout Punkins' welfare he was to be shipped to San Francisco. Punkins snapped at the major who finally sought refuge elsewhere while Punkins took to his suitcase haven. "This dog goes back to San Francisco" Hall related to his buddies. "He was gassed in the Argonne because he scratched the mask off his face and he has a wound and a service stripe. No Hoboken major gets him!"

H.C.

HONOR ROLL

Miss Margaret E. Schallenberger was principal of the San Jose Normal Training School when she was appointed State Commissioner of Elementary Schools.

Dr. Schallenberger left for Sacramento when notified of her appointment by Edward Hyatt, State Superintendent of Schools. Schallenberger began her new task January 1, 1914 with a salary of \$4,000 a year. This was said to have been the highest salary received by any woman in the employ of the State at the time.

A "VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS" gets underway at THE SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM December 8-9, 1990

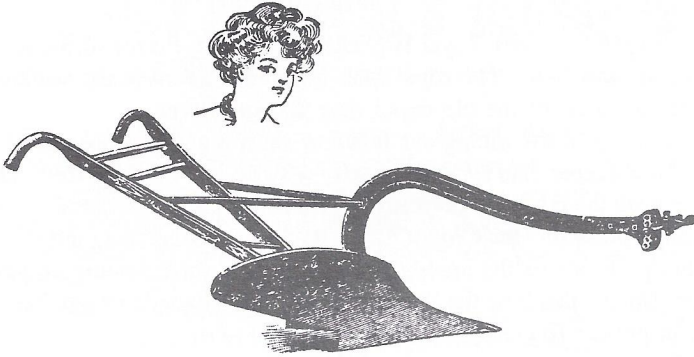
COME! Sally forth to this 5th Annual Experience - Holiday sights and sounds from trolley car rides, working blacksmiths, lovely gowned ladies and top-hatted gentlemen - including the delights of British Bangers, hot roasted chestnuts, apple cider - also showcasing a Doll Lover's Delight. You are encouraged to come in costume. Admission: \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors, \$2 for young people 6-17, children 5 and under free.

CAMPBELL HISTORY BOOK PUBLISHED

An exciting history book, "*Campbell, the Orchard City*," has been published for the Campbell Historical Museum Association by our own Pioneer members. With Jeanette Watson as author, she was assisted by *Trailblazer* Assistant Editor, Bill Chivers who did extensive historical research for the book, and member Bob Sneed who did the engineering to have the book published with Bill's assistance.

The book is for sale at the San Jose Historical Museum, the Campbell Historical Museum and Forbes Mill Museum in Los Gatos.

SHOULD A GIRL OF 16 PLOW 10 HOURS



This was the question asked of a number of doctors in 1915 in response to the interest roused by the case of a Miss Dora Clay, daughter of an orchardist on Fremont Road near Cupertino.

The doctors were not told if this particular young lady liked her job or was forced to it, whether an old-fashioned or modern plow was used, or if the ground was level, hilly or stony.

"It is not fit work for a girl," said one doctor. "It takes a pretty strong man to plow and would be quite a task for even a big boy at that age." Ten hours is too long for a growing girl to work at anything, however, no man should be allowed to use his daughter as a drudge and it is being done in this case and should be stopped. But as the active physical side, plowing is less likely to be detrimental to a woman or girl than ironing, lifting tubs about or spading.

"There are not many girls in this age and in this country who could do a day's plowing with pleasure," Dr. Richards said, "but it is too much to ask of them. Of course in Vienna women do hard manual work, even hod carrying but they are misshapen and old at 30 as a result. I should say there would be a possibility, at least, of lasting bad results from a single summer of plowing. It cannot, of course, be compared with basket ball, because no one plays basket ball for hours at a stretch. Some girls couldn't stand half an hours plowing while others would be benefited by that vigorous exercise. But I certainly do not believe in forcing a girl to plow. If that is being done, I would say get the humane officers after the case at once. But if a girl wants to plow a little, I don't see why she shouldn't."

"If a lazy man makes his daughter or his wife do the plowing for him, he ought to be taken to a good old-fashioned whipping post - but if a big strong girl plows because she likes it, I don't think it would hurt a bit. It might be fun exercise and certainly easier than a day's sweeping or ironing or other such farm work like picking prunes or strawberries."

"But after all, plowing for hours is not a woman's work!"

Congratulations to Mountain Charlie, Chapter 1850 of Santa Clara County, for plaquing the old Santa Clara train depot on October 20, 1990, it being the oldest station in continuous use in the State, having been built in 1863.

CROWN PRINCE OF SIAM VISITS OUR VALLEY

November, 20, 1907 — His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Siam had arrived in San Jose at an early hour. The royal train was side-tracked in the shadow of a fruit packing house just west of the old depot near Bassett Street.

While the chimney of the dining car failed to show signs of smoke until 9 o'clock, the curtains of the sleeper cars remained drawn with no one from the royal suite making any attempt to ease the curiosity of perhaps a dozen or so who loitered about the area. By mid-morning, however, the Crown Prince and his staff members left the parlor cars having had to tip-toe across the muddy streets to mount their waiting horses at nearby Market Street. During this time the future King of Siam chatted and laughed with secret service men in perfect English.

The U.S. Government had taken care of all arrangements and expenses while he enjoyed the Big Trees and Mt. Hamilton.

Just five feet one inch in height, the twenty-two year old Prince was educated at Eton College and Oxford University in England, and also did a 'hitch' in the English army. Eleven of the King's 132 sons had also been educated in England and Europe just to be soldiers, sailors, then lawyers and engineers. It was believed the Crown Prince was already collecting a harem of his own with some additions from the U.S.

Welcome New Members

Audrey E. Butcher
Robert T. Butcher
Lorraine Deem
Mary F. Doeltz
Kathy (Kathleen) C. Earnshaw
Rosalie G. Freeman
Anna Gorini

Robert W. Gorini
Norma A. Heidt
Elizabeth B. Molica
Darwin T. Miller
Dolores M. Miller
Helen Perrin
Catherine A. Sala
Betsy F. Smith

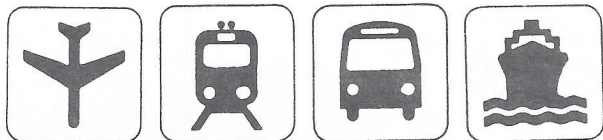
Beyond The Sunset



Warren L. Adamson
Ione F. Emery
Ruth W. Gross
Judge Marshall Hall

Marie C. Inderbitzen
William E. Moore
Dorothy D. Trevethan

HELP! Anyone with information concerning the death or illness of a Pioneer member should call Leah Warren, Sunshine Chairperson at (408) 241-8942.



Touring With The Californians

RESERVATIONS NOW BEING RECEIVED FOR THE FOLLOWING TRIPS.
Call NANCY HILL at 258-3449, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
PREFERABLY IN THE MORNING

DECEMBER 21 — THE VOICES OF CHRISTMAS AT GRACE CATHEDRAL
on Nob Hill in San Francisco.

DECEMBER 31 - JANUARY 1 — GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE celebration in San Francisco.
Special performance of "La Cage" and overnight in the Sir Francis Drake Hotel.

APRIL 27 -MAY 13, 1991 — GRAND TOUR OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL led
by Austen Warburton. Send stamped, self-addressed envelope to:
The Californian, 1365 Lindsay Way, San Jose, CA 95118 requesting
the brochure with complete details on this exciting tour. A once
in a lifetime experience!

AT THE PIONEERS LUNCHEON, DECEMBER 1ST,
SIGN-UP FOR THESE TRIPS WILL BEGIN:

JULY 23-28, 1991 — MT. RAINIER NATIONAL PARK. Mt. St. Helens Volcanic
National Monument, the Columbia River and the Rose City of
Portland are highlights of a trip to our neighbor states to the north.

ALL NEW DESTINATIONS FOR THREE ONE DAY TRIPS IN JANUARY,
FEBRUARY AND MARCH.

ANNUAL DUES REMINDER

January 1, 1991 dues become "due". An increase in dues was approved by those members attending the September Luncheon meeting. The annual dues are now \$7 per year; so make out your check to CALIFORNIA PIONEERS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY and send it to California Pioneers, P.O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA 95155, along with a *stamped self-addressed envelope*, in order to receive your membership card by return mail. Better yet, save 50 cents; pay your dues at the December 1st luncheon.

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SAN JOSE, CA 95155

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Please **Call 554-7587** *For Reservations*

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Menu..... Baked Ham



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