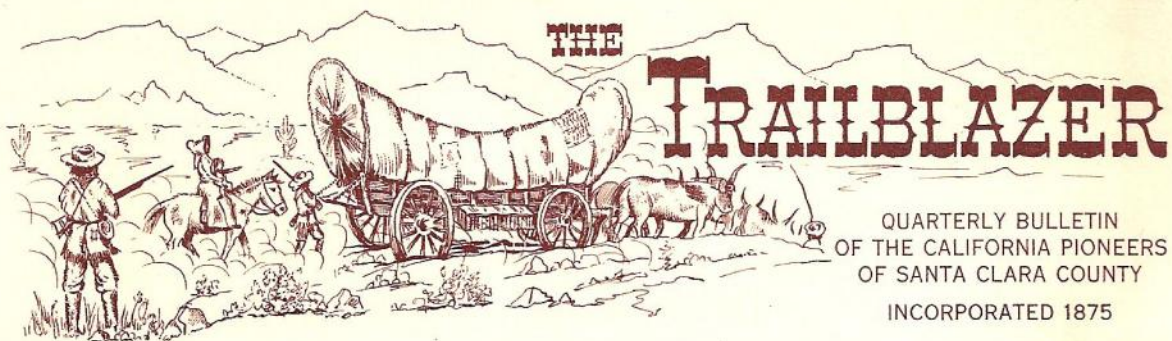




QUARTERLY BULLETIN
OF THE CALIFORNIA PIONEERS
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY
INCORPORATED 1875

Volume 18

August 1978

Number 3



WAGON WHEELS & PETTICOATS

WHALE BLAZERS

San Jose, July 19, 1877 :- The Daily Herald announced, "The temperance fountain on Santa Clara Street, which was recently toppled by James Clayton's horse, had been repaired and re-erected. Ted Gebler stitched up the skirt worn by the 'angel' and now everything is as good as heaven."

San Jose, Oct. 1877 :- "The Golden Gate Fruit Canning Factory closed down for the season, and sold its last can of fruit. During the season the Company put up almost 180,000 cans of valley fruit. This, considering the scarcity of fruit, is not a bad showing."

Sacramento, Feb. 1880 :- Sarah Winnemucca, the Piute Princess, was a woman of medium height, not very dark with full expressive black eyes, a notable mouth and much animation when she smiled. She was educated in San Jose and for years was employed by the Government of Nevada as interpreter. Her wardrobes were usually black to dark brown suits with satin trimmings with a touch of color. She wore her hair banded.

San Jose, March 9, 1886 :- The will of General Henry M. Naglee, who died on March 6, 1886 at 71 years in San Francisco, was filed for probate. The will was dated March 2, 1886. It provided his sister, Mrs. Mary N. Burke of Philadelphia, \$1000 a year during her life and his sister-in-law, Mrs. John Naglee of Virginia, \$75 a month for life; to his brother, Joseph, \$50 a month for life; to his nephew, John Naglee Burke, all interest in the cattle on the Pescadero ranch. The remainder of his property was bequeathed to his daughters, Marie and Antoinette, under the guardianship of his sister, Mrs. Mary N. Burke, share and share alike and not to be petitioned until Antoinette be 30 years of age. The youngsters were requested not to marry until they were 25 years of age. The estimated value of the estate was one million dollars and consisted of real estate in this county, San Joaquin, Sacramento and San Francisco counties; also horses, cattle and 100,000 gallons of brandy.

Naglee, a widower, married late in life.

H.C.

Recreation:

1910 *by Curt Bailey*

The stories in the last issue of the Trailblazer stirred up memories.

Luna Park reminds me that young Meyers, whose father owned the San Jose State League Ball Club, had a joint venture in providing the peanuts and soda pop for the fans in the grandstand.

We would receive a large sack of roasted peanuts from Shorty Hines, who ran a successful refreshment stand opposite the Victory Theatre on N. First St. The two of us would bag at our stand on the ground level of the ball park at the corner leading to the bleachers. In this way we were able to see part of the games free.

In those days I was playing sand lot baseball and the \$1.25 balls were hard to come by; so I thought up the bright idea of trying to recover a foul ball in the potato field behind the bleachers where most of them were hit on the theory that losers were weepers, and finders keepers.

I did not have long to wait, until one was hit over the fence, and I immediately buried it with dirt, and went about my chore of a peanut butcher. That evening I rode the electric car back to Luna Park and retrieved the ball. Our sand lot nine was in business again.

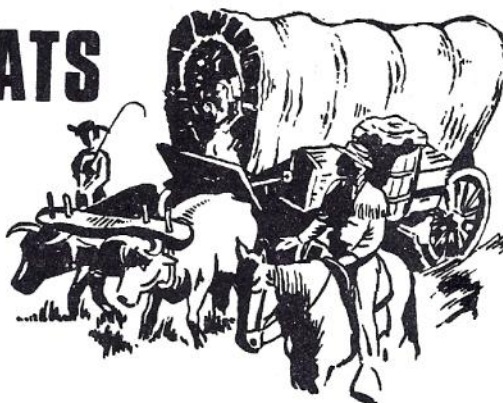
We played our games at Sodality Park and the vacant lot across from where the steam train to Alum Rock round house was located. This is where the Western Pacific crosses Santa Clara St. in East San Jose.

I remember the Halla Coffee Co. at N. First Street and Devine St. I would walk from the present site of the San Jose Hospital through St. James Park to buy Halla's Mexican coffee, and also pick up some tobacco stems from the cigar manufacturing place next door.

I had a flock of pigeons and the stems were placed in the nests to prevent lice from taking over.

(Thanks, Curt. Please be reminded nostalgic accounts by our members are welcomed by your editor.)

WAGON WHEELS & PETTICOATS



Our intrepid pioneer mother and daughters met the brutish migration West from 1841 to 1866 head on. They came on horsebacks, walked, pushed handcarts and bull-whacked oxen tugging at the family's lurching wagons.

The short sturdy wagons when loaded became vise tight. Yet, our petticoated pioneers pressed a mite more allowing space for her combs, mirror, hair brushes, a little lace, dabs of bright ribbon, sachet bags or better still a cherished bottle of perfume.

Feminine vanity won out when neither blizzards, accidents, pots and kettles, a burial or restless Indians could defer those plucky ladies from personal tidiness or that infrequent opportunity to primp.

Water was not always plentiful. What was available was used for cooking and drinking. When it came to bathing, streams and rivers or a sudden rain provided a long overdue sudsing. The delicate question of body odor was seldom mentioned in wagon circles, although it must have disturbed most on the long primitive trek west.

The ladies discovered, too, if they arose before sun up, they could scrub themselves with dewed grass or leaves and thus reap a good share of chlorophyll from both, all containing nature's own built in deodorant.

Keeping "decent" was largely a do-it-yourself proposition. Gusty winds had a tendency to lift skirts. To combat this, weights were sewed into their hems, thus keeping three petticoats from a hasty gaze.

Teeth care offered no problem. Baking soda and one toothbrush served the entire family. Breath was freshened by chewing known wild plants or applying oil of peppermint or clove to the gums.

Dashing off to powder a nose - one had to be content with a dusting of cornstarch in lieu of face powder.

With a total lack of complexion creams, milk or buttermilk was used to bleach and soothe parched faces and dry cracked hands.

Crushed roots and berries were applied to add color to pale cheeks and lips. Although, it must be mentioned "proper" ladies knew just how much glow to impart.

Hairdos were simple, but strict, often piled on top or worn in a prim little bun. Haircare was just keeping it washed with rain water, brushed and combed. The more affluent petticoat overlander concocted a shampoo with a mixture of castor oil and pure whiskey scented with lavender. It was considered shameful for a lady of virtue to alter her hair color. Seldom did she take to bark or sage tea to "touch up" a trace of untimely grey.

Feeling good and clean all over was something to write home about as Lydia Waters did from Plumas County, California after the long journey in 1855. "I discovered a settler who had built a bathhouse nearby and asked permission to use it. The water had an exhilarating effect," she wrote. "Made me feel as lively as champagne."

Feminine daintiness didn't come easy as Hannah Ropes relayed to her mother, "... river water is the color of dirty dishwater. Before my bath I let the water settle until the mud was not more than a finger deep at the bottom."

Another trail letter disclosed, "I have my little flat hat covered with dainty flowers and we all wear red flannel underwear."

Jane Gould, in her diary dated August 4, 1862 near Salt Lake, wrote, "The wind blew in our faces and nearly suffocated us with dust. The dust is worse than the pesty Indians, storms or winds or mosquitoes or even wood ticks." (The Goulds later settled in the San Felipe Valley near Evergreen.)

Our calico overland heroines were required by necessity to make the family's serviceable garments. Unbleached muslin, linsey-woolsey, calico and cretonne were the fabrics of the day. They carded, spun, loomed woollens, knitted stockings and even made, at times, their own footwear.

Yes, our bullwhacking petticoated pioneer may have had to work like a man, but she still strived on smelling like a woman. May they rest in peace.

H.C.

THE ALAMEDA

A PASSING SCENE

The Alameda, a once reposeful San Jose residential stronghold was threatened with commercial intrusion over fifty years ago.

Irrked property owners of the pretentious area deplored the likes of rinky-tink fruit stands, bill boards, filling stations, live stock stores and factories moving in to mutilate the tranquility of the broad stately thoroughfare.

The section involved, still free of commercial encroachment at the time, extended from Magnolia to McKendrie Streets, virtually to the Santa Clara city limits.

In 1924 an aroused group of property owners mustered to ward off the infestation. It was headed by R. H. Borchers, Arch Bowden, W. J. Leet, Mrs. P. J. Booner, Dr. Coolidge and others.

Said one leader, "To permit the invasion of cheap business structures would be fatal. It simply would give the entire community a black eye. Furthermore," he continued, "The Alameda has been an important factor in attracting a more desirable class of new residents."

By April 1925 with the filing of the restriction agreement, success was sealed when more than eighty signatures were secured.

It specified that no structure could be built within forty feet of the sidewalk and none might be erected costing less than \$10,000. Buildings must be separated by a space of at least fifty feet. No old houses could be moved into the restricted area and no alien could own property. The only non-citizen building permitted would be servant's quarters. Also, buildings were to be no more than three stories while bungalow courts, hotels and tenements were explicitly forbidden.

It was also contended, because of this patient perseverance, impressions gained by visitors passing through this spacious segment, of historic El Camino Real, arboored with trees and imposing homes would be long retained after some of the less delightful local scenes were forgotten.

H.C.



Donald O. DeMers, Jr.

This new business year affords all members of the California Pioneers an excellent opportunity to evaluate and strengthen the effectiveness and purpose of our organization.

Organized June 22, 1875, the Pioneers is one of the oldest historical organizations in California and has one of the largest memberships in the State. According to our By-laws, one of the main objectives of our group is to "... transmit to future generations a faithful and correct history of the past so as to maintain as far as possible a continuity of historic narrative for the future."

This high-minded goal will only be reached if each and every member takes an active role in Pioneer activities and lets the Board of Directors know your ideas, suggestions and comments.

Because this larger goal can only be reached by establishing and meeting short-term goals in the coming year, I want to share with you some of the objectives as I see them:

- 1) To continue to expand our excellent Californians tour program for our members;
- 2) To broaden the areas of competition for the annual essay contest, and to continue to strengthen our ties with academic institutions that have similar goals and interests;
- 3) To identify and help to preserve the writings and artifacts of all pioneer groups who contributed to the history of the Valley.

Any ideas or projects that you would care to see implemented during the next year would be most welcomed by myself and the Board of Directors.

I look forward to a most productive and rewarding year.

We are happy to welcome four new members to our Board of Directors for the ensuing year: Victoria Malatesta, Leonard McKay, John Clark and Norman Huber.

Frances Fox is our new Sunshine Chairperson.

To those they have replaced a most appreciative thank you for your nose to the grindstone perseverance.

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County Historical Essay Winners Named

President Don DeMers presented certificates of achievement and cash awards to winners in three categories at our June Luncheon.

First place in the elementary division was Scott Long (\$15); second place, Heather Maynez (\$10); with Steve Krause (\$5) claiming third place. All are from Westwood Elementary, Santa Clara.

The secondary school division also had three winning essayists which was co-sponsored with San Jose State's Sourisseau Academy: Chris Miner, Leland High, first place \$150; Michele Lee, Homestead High, Santa Clara, second place, \$75; to Denise Ellstead, Santa Clara's Buchser High, third, \$50.

In the general category (college students and everyone else), first prize of \$150 went to Charles Sullivan for his paper on "The Pioneer Wine Industry." Sullivan is a member of the Pioneers and a former member of our Board of Directors. Linda Larson, University of Santa Clara claimed her \$50 and second prize for her essay on student life at Santa Clara College in 1875.

Goodrich Quarry - Off Camden Ave.

Scars remain where brownstone was quarried for the San Jose Hall of Justice, U. S. Post Office and St. Mary's Church, the original buildings of Stanford University and Carson City Mint. A plaque near a loaf shaped structure built of quarried rock around 1875 and used for food and quarry tool storage was dedicated June 10, 1978 by Mountain Charlie Chapter No. 1850 E Clampus Vitus.

Historic Home Recognized

The Luis Arguello home in Santa Clara is being designated as a point of historical interest by the Santa Clara Historical and Landmarks Commission. The two-story classic Georgian colonial revival house was built before 1870 by Luis Arguello, son of the first governor of California under Mexican rule.

Old County Road Holds Out!

Seven city blocks of curbstones between Hedding and Newhall Streets still remain scribed as "Santa Clara-Los Gatos Road." Remember? We herald it today as Winchester Blvd. We thank our observant Gladys Higgins for this curbstone strike.

TOUR NEWS

PUEBLOS ADVENTURE! 17 days, Sept. 22 to Oct. 8, 1978
Austen Warburton, narrator; Southern Arizona & New Mexico
Call Ruth Gross NOW for this extraordinary WILD WEST VEN-
TURE.

Our travel brochure for the balance of 1978 will be
available at the Sept. 2 Luncheon. Make reservations at
that time or after Sept. 2 by phone to Ruth Gross.

SAN FRANCISCO SPECIAL, Friday, Sept. 15, 1978 to
behold the dazzling display "Peru's Golden Treasures"
Marvel to hundreds of captivating ancient Inca discover-
ies sculptured from pure gold!

HAWAII, Our Sept. brochure will reveal a leisurely
planned 9 days to OAHU and KAUAI - April 18-26, 1979

Remember this SPECTACULAR! Central Europe for the
PASSION PLAY IN OBERAMMERGAU, GERMANY - September 1980.
This play is given once every ten years.

FOR TOUR RESERVATIONS: Call Ruth Gross, 294-9830
between 9 AM & noon Monday through Friday ONLY. When
confirmed, make check payable to "The Californians" and
mail to The Californians, 100 Serena Way, Santa Clara,
CA 95051.

Grand and Ancient Forest authored by o u r own Jr.
Past President Carolyn de Vries pays tribute to natural-
ist, photographer and artist, Andrew P. Hill. This dili-
gent conservationist worked for the creation of Big Basin
Redwoods State Park, the first unit in the state park
system. Profusely illustrated - 100 pages; soft cover
\$3.95, hard back \$10; at most book stores or The Semper-
virans Fund, Los Altos, CA 94022.

The old Hacienda adobe store at New Almaden, damaged
by fire in 1973, has been purchased by Stan Pfeiffer and
Cliff Peterson. Pending a Federal grant the 1862 quick-
silver company store will be restored.

A defunct vintage San Jose service station that
cranked gasoline for the wants of Maxwells, Chandlers,
Locomobiles, Essexes and Model T's, you name them, has
found a home at the San Jose Historical Museum at Kelly
Park. This station loyally retailed at Market and St.
John Streets for over a half a century. Built in 1927,
it operated as an Associated Oil Company outlet by Mr.
Max Rosenthal then later by Guy C. Brouse. Indeed a sta-
tion living up to its early slogans: "More Miles to the
Gallon," and "Let's Get Associated."

There is no question about Charlie Espinosa not being qualified as a Pioneer. His mother, Rafalia Figueros was born near Market and El Dorado (Post) Streets in San Jose in 1859. Charlie was one of 15 children of Jose and Rafalia Espinosa. Jose was a native of Spain.

Mary Espinosa, Charlie's wife, was raised at New Almaden. Her brother, Henry Yturriaga was born in the settlement in a cottage still standing.

Hank Calloway (your editor) is presently occupied in renovating a number of the grave markers from the Hacienda Cemetery which our Society owns and maintains. Among these we find: Lucia Yturrage, Native of Monterey, 1836, died 1912. Lucia was Mary Espinosa's grandmother.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. New active members upon payment of \$1.00 initiation fee will have the option of paying the \$3.00 yearly dues or purchasing a \$45.00 Life Membership, (\$75.00 for husband and wife subscribing at the same time).

The same Life Membership privileges are extended to present members.

Welcome New Members

Anna J. Avery
Frank Baglione
Agnes G. Barry
Elma K. Barry
Trina Cano
Vivian Chubb
Walter H. Curry
Doris Ebert
Howard W. Ebert
Adelaide Ehle
Archibald Finney

Hazel Fitzpatrick
Dorothy Flanders
Jeanette Jorgensen
Ethel A. Hill
Loretta W. Hughes
Isabel K. Ireland
Raymond Larson
Violet Larson
Dorothy Lawrence
Nellie Leedom
Billie B. Lewis
Irma C. Marks

June Meyer
Irene Miller
Yvonne Paul
Anita Marie Root
Elizabeth Santos
Frank M. Santos
Muriel Sarrensen
Louis J. Silva
Carolyn Sprankle
Roy Terrell
Violet Terrell



Beyond the sunset

Doris Ainsworth
Evelyn Fisher

C. R. Nelson
Minna D. Malosky
Dorothy Plummer

Robert Scholz
J. Winter Smith

DUES of \$3.00 each for 1978 are now due.

Check your ID card to avoid loss of membership.

Call or write the Financial Secretary, John

Clark, 1900 Emory St., San Jose, CA 95126.

Phone 294-3176

HELLO PIONEERS

SEPT. 2nd. IS OUR LUNCHEON MEET

Members are asked to CALL

247-6606

FOR YOUR *Reservations*

PLEASE! *If you must cancel, call this same number ...*
THIS IS A 24-HOUR 7-DAY WEEK TELEPHONE ANSWERING SERVICE

DOORS OPEN 10:30  LUNCHEON AT 12.

ATTENTION!

MEMBERS, PLEASE BE MORE CONSCIENTIOUS ABOUT SENDING IN
CHANGES OF ADDRESS. IF THIS TASK IS LEFT TO THE POST OFFICE,
WE ARE CHARGED 25¢ PER **each returned Trailblazer**

P. O. BOX 8208
SAN JOSE, CALIF. 95155

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED

Return Postage Guaranteed

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. P O S T A G E
P A I D
San Jose, California
Permit No. 1234

THE TRAILBLAZER

Issued: February, May, August, November
Editor: Henry Calloway, 1899 McDaniel Ave., San Jose CA
Associate Editor: Laura Calloway
Staff Artist: Ralph Rambo
Subscription rate to non-members . . . \$2.00 per year

OFFICERS FOR 1978-79

President Donald O. DeMers Jr.
1st Vice President Victoria Malatesta
2nd Vice President Henry Calloway
Recording Secretary Donald Tustin
Corresponding Secretary Leonard McKay
Financial Secretary John Clark
Treasurer Alexander Gauger
Directors: Clyde Arbuckle, Robert Armstrong, Carolyn
de Vries, Meta Huber, Norman Huber, Omar Margason,
Anthony Sapena, Austen Warburton

DUES: \$3 per year (tax exempt) To John Clark, Financial
Secretary, 1900 Emory Street, San Jose, CA 95126

SICKNESS and DEATHS: Please notify Frances Fox at 1296
Yosemite Ave., San Jose, CA 95126 Phone 293-1879