

Vol. 57, Issue 3

Sept 2016

*Inside this issue:*

Museum Grand Opening	1
Sept Quarterly Luncheon	3
What is a National Heritage Area?	4
Bruzzones Preview Our Museum	5
First Ship into SF Bay—Sketch by Jim Campbell	6
Meet One of Our Docents	7
Hidden Treasures	7
“When San Jose Was Young”—No. 3, <i>Life at the Mission</i> ”	8
First Auto Made in San Jose	11
Pioneers New Member	13
History San Jose Coming Events	13
Picture from the Past	14
Time Travel	15
Membership Report	15
Pioneers Gone to the Golden Hills	15
2016 Board of Directors	16

## Museum Grand Opening by Paul Bernal



*The Antonio Suñol Room inside the Suñol House at 770 Lincoln Avenue.*

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County extends a special invitation to our members for the Grand Opening of the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House on Saturday, August 27, at 770 Lincoln Avenue, San Jose. The parking lot opens at 10:00 am, the program begins at 10:30 am, and Open House with tours will be from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. President Ken Machado welcomes you: “I am pleased that the fruit generated from the countless hours and effort that our organization and especially our Museum chair, Paul Bernal, has contributed to this project is now going to be enjoyed by our members and the general public. The museum will be an extraordinary gift from the Pioneers to the community of Willow Glen, the City of San Jose and to all those who appreciate the history of our valley and of California.”

The Roberto Adobe & Suñol House have seen many eras: Native American, Spanish, Mexican, early United States, and modern

American. The museum was created to provide both docent-led tours and self-guided tours. Visitors will learn how the people who lived in these homes affected the history of our valley, and how the history of our valley affected the occupants of these homes.

Once open, this will be the only history museum in Willow Glen. Neighbors and tourists alike will learn the special nature of Santa Clara County, San Jose, and Willow Glen. The educational program will leave visitors with a “sense of place” about their community.

The museum is divided into three sections: an adobe, a brick house, and the gardens.

The adobe is an original Mexican-era adobe home, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The adobe has been staged to recreate the day-to-day life of the

*(Continued page 2)*

## Museum (Continued)

Roberto Balermino family in 1836. They were Native Americans.

The Suñol House was built by Antonio Suñol in 1847, as one of the first brick homes in California. It has been restored to its 1870 context.

The gardens will be the location of self-guided tours to explore artifacts and plants from the various periods. The Alta California Heritage Plant Program of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County will present cloned species that would have been grown here by former occupants Roberto Balermino and Antonio Suñol.

Jardín de Roberto will be planted with only the exact species of herbs that would have been enjoyed by Roberto Balermino in 1836. He was a cook for Mission Santa Clara, likely feeding the shepherd Natives who lived at this site when it was Rancharia San Juan Bautista. The herb garden will be the site of a school field trip program wherein children will learn about medicinal plants, culinary plants, the source of dye, self-sufficiency, water conservation, and fun.



***The Splivalo Room that tells the story of the house from 1853 to the 1870s. (Cover photo and photo above: Tim Peddy)***

The museum, three years in the making, will feature interactive games, role-playing, and video technology. You can be your own house detective to discover the interesting structural features of the homes. Nodes within the museum will highlight the Anza Expedition, Native American land grants, life at Mission Santa Clara, Rancho life, gold rush, orchards, and the History of Willow Glen. The family stories of the Balerminos, Suñols, Splivalos, Basuinis, Governor Peter Burnett, and Bruzzones will be told.

The day will include light refreshments. Parking will be limited. For ADA access, please arrange in advance at 408-xxx-xxxx. ❖

***Left, An authentic replica of a table and chair inside the Roberto Adobe (1836) that illustrates the style of living during the adobe-era days.***

***This table and chair was constructed by master craftsman, John Grafton.***

*(Photo: Paul Bernal)*



# Pioneers Quarterly Luncheon

**Saturday, Sept 3rd, 2016**

**11:00 AM to 2:30 PM**

## **THREE FLAMES RESTAURANT**

Banquet Room—1547 Meridian Ave. in San Jose

Luncheon Presentation

### **Broadcasting's Forgotten Father: the Charles Herrold Story**

presented by

**Mike Adams**

Make Reservations by Wednesday, Aug. 31

Email to [sccpioneers@aol.com](mailto:sccpioneers@aol.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 now \$30**

Please make checks payable in advance to  
California Pioneers and bring to Luncheon.

## **Menu Selections**

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

**Chicken Parmesan**  
Above served Red Potatoes & Fresh Vegetables

**Grilled Salmon with Dill Sauce**

**Pasta Rose**  
Penne Pasta in creamy Tomato-Alfredo Sauce

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 a separate banquet room entrance.*

## **Luncheon Presentation**

Charles Herrold of San Jose was an inventor and a teacher. In 1910 he started a trade-technical college at First and San Fernando, from where he began to prepare young men for careers in wireless and electricity. It was all very new and exciting. It was also early Silicon Valley. Using a crude transmitter of his own design, Herrold and his students began the broadcast of programs of music and talk for a small Santa Clara Valley amateur audience.

Charles Herrold started the first radio station. Learn why he didn't continue, why Herrold did not have an impact on history beyond the Bay Area. Author Mike Adams tells the Herrold story and explains its significance.

## **About Mike Adams**

Mike Adams has been a radio personality and a film maker. Currently he is a professor emeritus at San Jose State University where he has been the department chair of radio, television, and film, and the associate dean of the College of Humanities and the Arts. He is a creator of television shows about the history of radio, including the Emmy-nominated PBS series "Radio Collector," and "Broadcasting's Forgotten Father."

For his broadcast history research he received the AWA Houck Award, the RCA Ralph Batcher Award, the TCA Stokes Award, and he is a CHRS History Fellow. He is the author of 7 books, including *Lee de Forest, King of Radio, Television, and Film*, Springer, 2012, *The Radio Boys and Girls, McFarland*, 2015, and *Columbus Radio*, Arcadia Press, soon.

## **Trailblazer**

is published quarterly by  
the  
California Pioneers  
of Santa Clara County  
*Established 1875*

**Gayle Frank, Editor**

Contact us at  
[info@CaliforniaPioneers.com](mailto:info@CaliforniaPioneers.com)  
P.O. Box 8208, San Jose,  
CA 95155

© 2016 California Pioneers  
of Santa Clara County

The Pioneers is a 501(c)3  
non-profit organization

# What is a National Heritage Area?

The County of Santa Clara is exploring the possibility of pursuing a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation. What is a NHA?

A NHA is designated by congress as a place where natural, cultural and historic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally important landscape. The NHAs tell nationally important stories that celebrate our nation's diverse heritage and can make heritage relevant to local interests and needs.

This program is a community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development. The NHAs support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects. Each NHA entity serves as a catalyst for community and economic development.

Presently there are 49 NHAs in 32 states that have been designated by Congress since 1984. There is no NHA in California. The National Park Service (NPS) passes funds to NHA entities through annual Congressional appropriations, which range from \$150,000 to \$750,000 per year.

NHA designations do not affect private property rights.

The NHA program furthers the mission of the NPS by fostering community stewardship of our nation's heritage. NPS has partnered with NHA entities to provide technical assistance and to distribute matching federal funds from Congress. NPS does not assume ownership of land inside heritage areas or impose land use controls.

The benefits of NHA activities include:

**Sustainable economic development** by creating jobs, generating revenue for local governments, and sustaining local communities through revitalization and heritage tourism.

**Environmental health** by restoration projects such as improving water and air quality and providing recreational opportunities.

**Improved quality of life** through new or improved amenities and educational /volunteer opportunities.

**Education and Stewardship** by connecting communities to natural, historic and cultural sites through educational

activities, which promote awareness and foster interest and care of heritage resources.

**Community engagement and pride** that strengthens sense of place and community.

In 2015 \$57 million was leveraged to carry out a diversity of heritage projects and programs and 1,523 formal partners engaged in heritage area activities, while 43,151 volunteers contributed over one million hours on heritage area projects.

Examples of these activities include reviving historic downtowns, preserving battlefields and industrial sites, and sharing our nation's history through the arts. Other benefits for 2015 also created more vibrant healthy communities, developed and maintained miles of trails, removed invasive species, replanted, cleaned up toxics and educated future leaders in history and science.

The Santa Clara County Taskforce includes two members from the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County: April Halberstadt and Larry Ames. ❖

Source: [www.nps.gov/heritageareas](http://www.nps.gov/heritageareas)

## Docent Opportunity for the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House

For more information contact Sylvia Hew at:

*hewmum@gmail.com or 408-265-5371*

# Bruzzones Preview Roberto Adobe & Suñol House

On May 31, the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County invited the Bruzzone family for a preview of the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House. Although there were still final touches needed before the museum opened to the public, the Pioneers wanted to share the great progress with the Bruzzones, who bequeathed the site to the Pioneers. Their father, the late John Bruzzone Sr., restored the facility in the mid-1970s.

May 31 was chosen for the get-together because it was John Bruzzone Sr.'s birth date. In the photo, right, the Bruzzone heirs are in the Bruzzone Room in the Suñol House. A photo of their parents, Julie and John Bruzzone Sr., hangs on the wall behind them. ❖



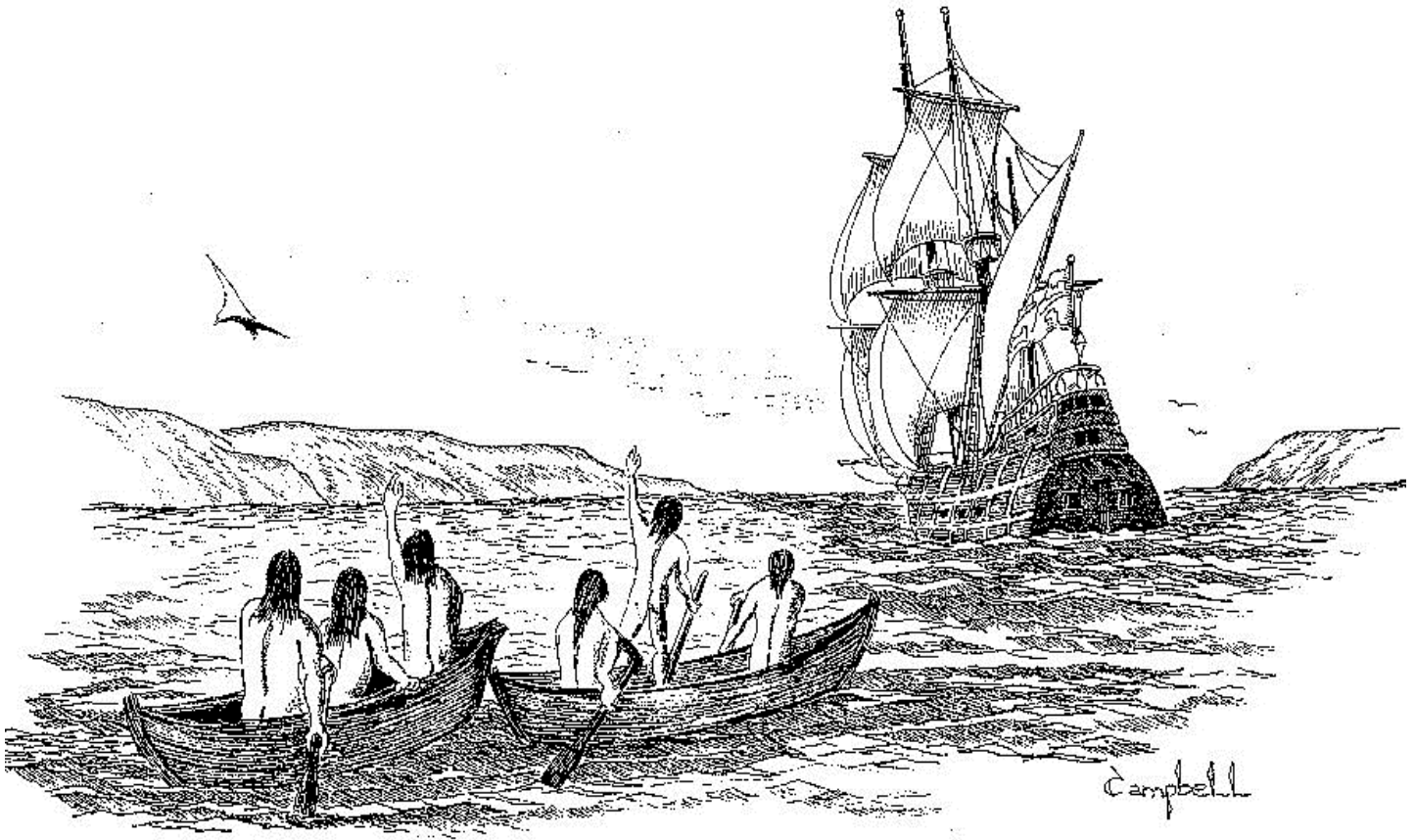
*Joyce Lo Franco, Jeanette Bruzzone and John Bruzzone Jr. inside the Bruzzone Room at the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House. They appear in front of a hanging photograph of their parents, Julie and John Bruzzone Sr. (Photo: Gayle Frank)*



*Left, John Bruzzone Jr., Joyce Lo Franco and Jeannette Bruzzone show off the birthday cake, celebrating their late father's birthday.*

*(Photo: Tim Peddy)*

# First Ship Into San Francisco Bay—A Sketch By Jim Campbell



On August 5, 1775, the Spanish packet *San Carlos*, under the command of Lieutenant Juan Manuel de Ayala, became the first ship to enter San Francisco Bay. The unclothed Indians paddled canoes made of tule stalks lashed together, and welcomed the Spaniards.

The crew spent a month and a half surveying the bay from its southernmost reaches to the northern end of present-day Suisun Bay. The *San Carlos* departed September 18, 1775.

The *San Carlos* was anchored in San Francisco Bay for forty-four days, first off Fort Point then off Angel Island. From the Angel Island

anchorage, pilot Don Jose de Canizares led a crew in the ship's launch to explore and map the San Francisco and San Pablo Bays.

Their map shows Spanish names which survive today in Anglicized form. *Isla de los Angeles*, *Saucelito*, and *Isla de Alcatrazes* became Angel Island, Sausalito, and Alcatraz. (The Ayala expedition actually gave the name *Isla de Alcatrazes* to the island later named Goat Island, then Yerba Buena Island, but an English sea captain drew a map in 1826 which showed the wrong island labelled Alcatraz, and his mistake prevailed.) ❖

*Source: California Registered Historical Landmark No. 236. Plaque placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with the San Francisco Twin Bicentennial, Inc., August 5, 1975. The commemorative plaque is located in the Aquatic Park Historic District in San Francisco. Behind the plaque, a square-rigger sits in the background, the Balclutha, docked at the Hyde Street Pier.*

<http://noehill.com/sf/landmarks/cal0236.asp>

# Meet One of Our Docents

Diane Alves has been a member of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County for ten years and serves as a docent in the Paulson House along with her aunt, Madeline Streight, also a member of the Pioneers and Sunshine Chair.

Diane and Madeline have been docents for six years! And to complete the family involvement, Diane's cousin, Joanne Souza has joined them as a Pioneers member and docent.

Diane now lives in Hollister but was born at San Jose Hospital and raised in San Jose. Diane is also a member of the Native Daughters of the



*Diane Alves*  
*Paulson House Docent*

*(Photo: Tim Peddy)*

Golden West. Her paternal grandparents were from Madeira Island while her maternal grandparents were from San Miguel Azore Island.

Diane worked for Santa Clara County VTA (Valley Transportation Authority) for 38 years and is now retired.

Diane's hobby is sheep ranching in Hollister where she lives on ten acres. Her sheep are bred for meat, not wool, since their fur is different. Diane says that the sheep are well behaved and give birth on their own without human help. ❖

**-Jonna Baker**

## Docent Opportunity for Paulson House at History San Jose

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

# Hidden Treasures

Here is a snapshot of the "artifacts" to be buried in super fine sand at the Roberto Adobe & Suñol House. Why, you might ask? The buried treasures will contribute to the children's hands-on archaeological dig experience. By now, Paul Bernal has submerged these "artifacts" that will be lying in wait for visiting children to discover.

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County thanks Linda Hylkema at Santa Clara University for making this project possible. ❖

*(Photo: Paul Bernal)*



# “When San Jose Was Young—No. 3, Life at the Mission”

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

A few days after the cross was raised under the laurel trees, Father Murguia, another devout Franciscan missionary, arrived from Monterey with material for construction of the Mission church. He also brought with him a herd of cattle, the first cattle ever seen in the Santa Clara valley. The governor had decided that the Mission must help supply the Presidio with meat. These cattle were the cause of the Fathers' first struggle with the Ohlone Indians. Father Pena and Father Murguia gave the Indians meat to eat. They liked it. The Ohlones had no sense of private property. In fact, they had never heard of any beyond a pipe or a hide. And so, they took cattle from the Mission.

The Fathers had come to save the souls of the Indians, not to be robbed by them. But theft disclosed how deep was the Indians' need of salvation. The Fathers sent to Governor Fages at Monterey for protection. The governor had several Indians flogged and two or three of them killed, but he never entirely cured the Indians of cattle stealing.

There might have been an impassable breach between the Mission and the Indian but for an epidemic among the Ohlones a few months after the establishment of the Mission. Many of the Indian children died. The priests baptized the children and



through the mystic rite of baptism the Indians and Fathers came together.

The first year there were 77 baptisms at the Mission. Eight were adults, the rest were children. Twenty-five deaths of Indians were recorded. At the close of the year a church had been built, six by twenty varas.<sup>1</sup> Besides this there were two dwellings, one six by twenty-two varas and the other five by thirty-one varas. The buildings were made of timber, plastered. The roofs were of clay. A bridge crossed the stream leading to two corrals.

During the year 1777 the first baptism among the "gente de razon" (cultured people) was that of an illegitimate son of Jose Antonio Gonzales and of a woman who was married the following year to another man. The first death among "gente de razon" was that of Jose Antonio Garcia in 1778.

The first year of the Fathers among the Ohlone Indians was most fruitful. They stirred the sluggish Indians to activity, and they made them understand the

Great Spirit of the Christian religion.

The Ohlones' good "Cooksuy"<sup>2</sup> was terrible, vindictive. The Indians were gentle, tractable. They responded to the gentle, forgiving Great Spirit of the patient, generous, kindly Fathers who lived in the little thatched houses under the spreading laurels.

The Indians liked the new Spanish foods, the new clothing, the new music, the new half-understood soft words, the new ceremony of kneeling before the Cross. They liked everything the Fathers had brought, but—work.

The floods forced the Fathers to give up the beautiful "Place of the Laurels." Four years later they selected another spot at Gerguensum, or the "Valley of the Oaks," not far from the present broad gauge station at Santa Clara. In order to build the new adobe church, Father Murguia and Father de la Pena needed all their inspired zeal and the inspired zeal of the neophytes ardent with the story of Jesus, and ardent to build a house for the worship of the Great Spirit.

(Continued page 10)

## Life at Mission (Continued)

The church itself was of adobe, but the great beams and rafters were of redwood trees, brought from the Santa Cruz mountains on the Indians' shoulders. Today the polished upper railing of the sanctuary at Santa Clara is one of those beams.

Father de la Pena and Father Murguia even stirred in the Ohlones an aesthetic sense. When it came to decorating the church the Fathers had no paint, but the Indians told them of the juice of the cactus, with which they painted their bodies on gala days. The first decorations of the new church were done with cactus juice. The strength of many prayerful men went into that second mission church of Santa Clara, and the life itself of Father Murguia was given. Four days before the dedication, his body was placed in the church. The Indians shook their heads. They almost doubted the goodness of the Great Spirit. After all, was he not like their own cruel "Cooksuy," always creating beautiful beings only to destroy them?

Messengers hurried to Monterey. Father Serra seldom left the Mission at that place, but he decided to go to quit Monterey for the dedication of the new church. This took place on the nineteenth of November, 1781—Father Serra with several other priests presiding. The Cross, which that day was erected, has since been beaten down by storms and time, but a portion of it is still preserved under glass at the base of the



bright new cross at Santa Clara. King Charles III sent three bells for the church, on the condition that they should ring daily. For more than a century and a quarter one bell has rung every day.

But even this beautiful new church, so splendidly dedicate, could not survive the earthquake of 1818. For the third time, ground was broken for the Mission Church. It was placed where it now stands, and many of the decorations and much of the material of the second church are in the third.

As the Mission grew, it was found necessary to have attendant buildings in which to instruct the Indians and for use as work shops. That is why the four walls were built around the square, open at one side. In one portion of the building was kept the male Indians, and on the other side, called the "nunnery," were the women. Both males and females were

locked in at night. The Fathers held the keys. Occasionally, love laughed at the locksmith, and there was an elopement, but such violations of the Fathers' discipline were met with severe chastisement.

On one occasion when a woman left her husband for a handsomer Indian, Father Catala sternly brought the lovers back, locked them in a cell without food. Soon there came outcries from the cell. The sinners vowed that they had seen serpents. This was one of Father Catala's miracles, most effective in putting an end to evil love.

As a rule, the Indian women were docile and industrious. They sewed, wove, ground grain in metates,<sup>3</sup> and learned housewives' duties. The men became artisans or tilled the soil.

When Father Junipero Serra had come out from Mexico, the  
(Continued pg. 11)

## Life at Mission (Continued)

Viceroy Jose Galvez, then at La Paz, and who thought of everything big or little, sent with Father Serra, a shipload of seeds and grains for sowing, and trees and vines for planting. So there was great new life and interest for the Indians who at the rancherias passed their time in idleness and sports.

In the year of 1812 the Indians planted the olive trees at Santa Clara. They set out the grape vines and the pear orchard. With much bewilderment they looked at the crude plow sent from Monterey, but they soon learned to use it. The soil was young, and so grateful for devotion, that it gave bountiful harvests. The Indians delighted in the corn, peas, beans, melons, pumpkins, figs, and the varied of European fruits, which replaced their

simple herbs, nuts and bumble-bee honey.

Huge granaries were built, and the Christianized Ohlones often returned to their Rancherias to tell their friends of the strange beautiful things earned from the white men who came in big canoes thousands of miles to relate the story of the Great Spirit.

Often the unchristianized Indians stolidly smoked their pipes and grunted that it was not wise to eat and drink with strangers. As for tearing up the earth with strange implements—it was unforgivable and foolish. Did not the forests give all man should eat? If they deserted their fathers' god "Cooksuy," the new foods would make them sicken and die. They must not anger "Cooksuy."

However, the women, more fluid, more eager for an intense new form of life, put their pa-pooes upon their backs and followed the Christianized Indians back to the Mission to hear the strange bells ring, to listen to the sweet music, to see the brilliant splendid vestments and to hear the wonderful priest, Father Catala. They knelt at the foot of the Cross. The men of the tribe followed the women.

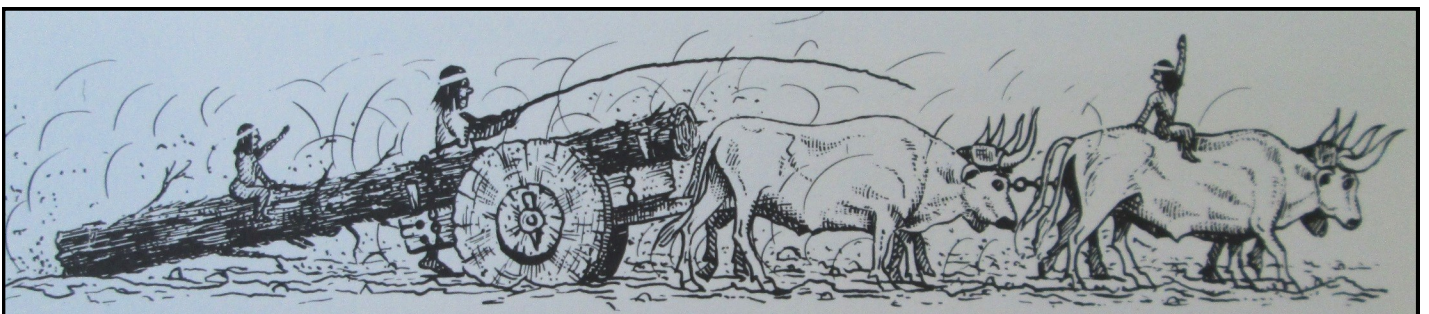
And so, grew the Mission. ❖

Source: The Evening News, Sept. 21, 1916 Vol: 67, Issue: 71, Pg 6.

### Footnotes

- 1 A vara is an obsolete Spanish measurement of length a bit shorter than a yard.
- 2 An Ohlone Indian deity
- 3 A grinding stone tool for processing grains and seed.

Drawings by Ralph Rambo from "Lo, the Poor Indian of Santa Clara Valley," 1967, by Ralph Rambo; Rosicrucian Press.



## Pioneers to Participate in History San Jose's Mini Maker Faire

Sunday, September 4, 10:00 AM—6:00 PM

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County plans to share a special project for children and adults at the Maker Faire. In front of the Paulson House, we will teach guests to make Buzzer Buttons, a favorite pastime and toy through the ages. Donations of buttons about the size of 25 and 50 cent coins would be gratefully accepted. You can bring your buttons to the Paulson House between 12:30-3:30 PM on Sundays before August 24th. If you would like to volunteer at the faire contact us at [scpioneers@aol.com](mailto:scpioneers@aol.com).

Join us for a day of learning, creating, and exploring with over 100 different Makers, Artists, Crafters, Tech Enthusiasts and Inventors! See page 14 for ticket prices. For more information, visit: [makerfaresanjose.com](http://makerfaresanjose.com).

# First Auto Made in San Jose on Exhibit

By Gayle Frank

On June 19, Fathers' Day, History San Jose displayed its newest acquisition—the first auto ever made in San Jose! George H. Osen and William F. Hunt designed and built their vehicle in 1899 at their bicycle shop at 69 S. Second Street in downtown San Jose. There were at least five of these Osen-Hunt auto prototypes built that looked more like a buggy than the antique autos we are used to seeing that were manufactured a decade later. That's because the components came from buggies, such as the seat, steering mechanism and umbrella covering. Bicycle components also furnished important necessities such as tires, wheel parts, sprockets, chains, bell, and lights.

According to Osen's own words, the nickel-coated frame supports a metal box containing a CREST 2.5 horsepower, single cylinder, air-cooled engine that was purchased. The axels, wheels, and 2-speed transmission were



*Sam Seibert sits in the 1899 Osen-Hunt, Dan Erceg tells the story of the car, while Ken Middlebrook and Alida Bray, from History San Jose, stand by.*



*Osen-Hunt auto; Feb. 2016*

made in the bicycle shop. The wheel hubs were turned in the shop. The steering gear, knuckles and axles were hand forged and turned. The gas tank was “constructed out of a 5-gallon gas can encased in wood with a tube and cradle wicking as the carburetor.”

The first test run took Osen and Hunt to Alviso. Arriving at their destination, Osen describes picking up the auto (~600 lbs) and turning it around since there was no reverse gear. On the return trip, while stopping to show off this horseless carriage in downtown San Jose, Osen and Hunt created quite a sensation with a growing crowd of onlookers. But then the auto failed to re-start so Osen pushed and Hunt steered back to their shop on Second Street. Other test runs were made to Oakland, travelling 15-20 mph, though the speed limit in some spots was only 8 mph. Road rules stated that when meeting a horse-drawn carriage, the auto driver had to stop the vehicle, turn off the engine, and lead the horse(s) past the silent auto. Osen said they amended this rule by painting a camouflaged canvas and throwing it over the car, enabling the horse to pass on its own without incident.

Osen and Hunt soon realized that manufacturing automobiles was not as lucrative as selling cars produced on the East Coast.

*(Continued page 13)*

## First Auto (Continued)

Later, after partnering with A. E. Hunter (Osen & Hunter) and then O. C. McFarland (Osen-McFarland Auto Co.), and selling a variety of cars (Locomobile, Oldsmobile, Columbia, Mitchell, Empire, and Hudson), George Osen operated Osen Motor Sales Co. Inc., a successful Dodge dealership.

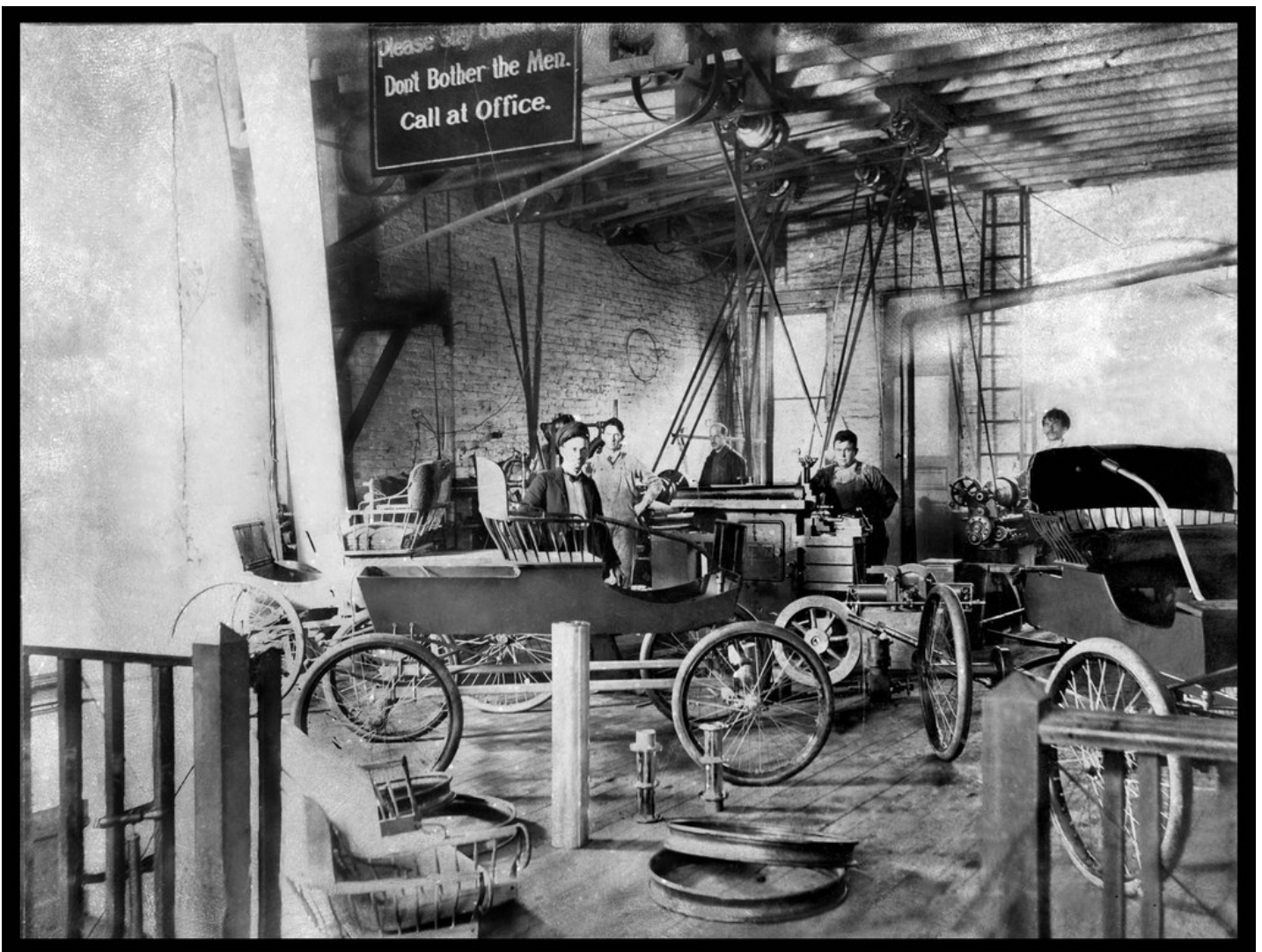
By then, any traces of his early Osen-Hunt prototype from 1899-1900 was thought to be lost. But in 1939, this Osen-Hunt prototype was discovered in Niles, brought back to

San Jose, refurbished and prominently displayed in the Osen showroom. After George Osen died, the Osen-Hunt was eventually sold to a private collector in the 1950s. It has been verified that this Osen-Hunt at History San Jose was the first prototype built by George Osen and William Hunt.

History San Jose acquired this significant piece of San Jose history through the generous donation from Captain Sam Seibert, S. J. F. D., and his grandson, Luke A. Walton, who purchased the auto and gifted it to History San Jose.

Earlier, Dan Erceg, who was the driving force for this important project, learned of the potential sale of the Osen-Hunt from his friend, Ed Archer. After Sam Seibert and his grandson purchased the Osen-Hunt, Dan performed minor restoration work on the car before it arrived at History San Jose. It runs well, as we experienced at History San Jose on June 19, but heats up after about two runs through the park.

This auto has special meaning to me, since I learned that my grandfather, *(Continued page 14)*



*Bicycle Emporium at 69 S. Second Street in 1900. William Hunt wears the hat and bowtie. Osen-Hunt prototypes sit in the shop.*

*(Photo: Courtesy History San Jose, Clyde Arbuckle Collection)*

## New Member— Welcome!

**Richard Zappelli** lives in Willow Glen, San Jose. His pioneer ancestor, Dario Zappelli came to California in 1896. Pioneers member Joan Bohnett sponsored Richard's member application.

# History San Jose Summer Events

## Spirit of '45 Benefit Dance

Friday, August 12, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Admission \$10. Dance under the stars and light tower at History Park to the big band sounds of the 1940s

## Spirit of '45 Day

Saturday, August 13, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Active Service people & Veterans are free!  
Tickets: \$5, children 3 and under free. Celebrate the end of World War II! Presented by HSJ and the Digital Clubhouse Network. For more info, visit [www.spiritof45.org](http://www.spiritof45.org).

## Italian Family Festa

Sat./Sun. August 27/28, 11:00 AM–8:00/6:00 PM (Sun). Free Admission! For more info, visit [www.iabfsj.org](http://www.iabfsj.org).

## Annual San Jose Mini Maker Faire

Sunday, September 4, 10:00 AM—6:00 PM  
Advance Tickets: adults \$12, children 3 and older \$8. At the Door: \$15, \$10. HSJ Members: adults \$7, children \$3. See page 11 to read what the Pioneers will be offering at the Faire.

## Antique Autos at History Park

Sunday, September 11, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Tickets: \$5 for adults & children 3 and older. Free Admission for HSJ Members and children 2 & under. Presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club; over 200 antique vehicles from the late 1800s to 1945; displays, food, live music & children's activities! ❖

## First Auto (Continued)

Fred Reinegger (1882–1969), who was a master mechanic for over thirty years at Osen Motor Sales, was the person who refurbished the 1899 Osen-Hunt after it was found in 1939.

Dan Erceg had remembered the story about Fred Reinegger, as told by his son, Glen Reinegger (1912-2005), my father, many decades ago. So last year, when Dan learned of the availability and location of the Osen-Hunt, he checked with my mother, Ethel Reinegger (long-time Pioneers member), to verify the story. She filled him in on the details and Dan proceeded to find help getting the historical vehicle to a place where the public could experience this early piece of San Jose automotive history. As Dan said, now that the Osen-Hunt lives at History San Jose, "This just seems really right that the car is here. It's the perfect setting." ❖

### Sources:

-Dan Erceg and Ethel Reinegger

-*"History of Early Automobile Business,"* by George Osen, 1943.



(Color Photos: Gayle Frank)

**Dan Erceg cranking up the Osen-Hunt engine for a ride around History Park.**

# Pictures from the Past



The Osen McFarland Auto Company resided at North First and St. James Streets (200 North First St.) The building was originally built by Clarence Letcher as his second garage in 1905-06. Shortly after, Letcher sold this building to Osen & Hunter in July, 1907. This photo was taken a few years later when George Osen partnered with O. C. McFarland.

The building, that was once transformed as the Oasis nightclub, was demolished back in April, 2010. The lot still lies vacant waiting for a huge development that also requires the iconic First Church of Christ Scientist, seen in the background, to be restored. ❖

## Why is Local History Important?

There are many benefits to understanding an area's local history; the following benefits are three of the most important.

**All history is local** and as we focus on a specific geographical point, we find greater detail that sheds light on our own families, politics, culture and surroundings.

**Local history helps us understand our ancestors in context.** What events or persons affected our towns and cities? World and local events going on at a certain time period had an effect on our ancestors' lives.

**Local history helps shape who we are.** The places in which we live play a significant role in who we are and how we perceive the world. Studies have shown that local culture and history do matter and knowing one's past, such as family, neighborhood and city, contributes to a person's self-perception and well-being. ❖

*Source: "3 Reasons Why You Should Know Your Local History," Apr 6, 2016, by Tyler S. Stable, <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/3-reasons-local-history/>*



# Time Travel *(Past News from Newspaper Archives)*

**Evergreen, CA, 1870:** “F. J. Smith was the postmaster at the Evergreen Post Office. This position paid a salary of twelve dollars a year.” *(The office was discontinued in 1914.)*

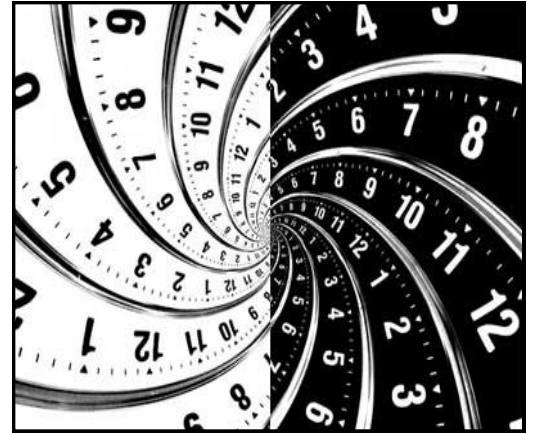
**Feb. 24, 1877:** “The Pioneer” (the fore-runner of the Trailblazer) reported that “The annual patching of our streets has been going on for some time. The last hole will be filled in time to commence over again.” It further commented, “It will be a great convenience to the students and the public generally, if the East Side Horse Railroad track goes through, instead of around the Normal School Square.”

**San Jose, Jan. 20, 1877:** “The Pioneer” quoted, “The expenditures of the United States Senate for the year ending June 30, 1876 show that there were purchased during that period ten gallons of cologne, thirteen gallons of bay rum, one dozen and half bottles of Martinique

snuff for the Senate Chamber, and one hundred pounds of camphor, besides many other articles for the comfort and the convenience of Senators.”

**Saratoga, 1890s:** Kermit Butler was head timber faller for Hubbard & Carmichael’s mill above Saratoga in the 1890s. The burly muscular blond, well over six feet, was a master woodsman. Butler had no fingers, born without them, and just short stubs with a pair of hefty thumbs. His axe was said to be the fastest and most capable in this entire timber area.

**Coyote Point, San Mateo County, 1906:** Mrs. Sarah Winchester owned a boat landing at Coyote Point. It was here where she took refuge after the 1906 earthquake on a palatial house boat that became her home for over five years.



**San Jose, 1915:** The Blossom Loop Trolley Special interurban cars departed from the Bassett Street Depot. Here began a 65-mile moving picture whirl through the heart of the valley – all for one dollar. Ads proclaimed, “It’s like going through heaven without dying.” ❖

## Membership Report

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

You can pay your annual dues for 2016 by mailing them to CA Pioneers, Membership Chair, P.O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA, 95155. Basic dues are still only \$25.

Check your mailing label on the Trailblazer and it will indicate when your dues have expired. For example, if after your name it says, Dec-16, your Pioneers membership is up-to-date until the end of 2016. Additional donations or higher membership levels are always appreciated.

Visit [www.CaliforniaPioneers.com](http://www.CaliforniaPioneers.com) for more details. And please don’t forget the Pioneers in your estate planning.

If you have questions, please contact April Halberstadt at 408-293-2860 or email her at [aprilhalb@gmail.com](mailto:aprilhalb@gmail.com). ❖

## Pioneers Gone on to the Golden Hills



*Gertrude “Gertie” Klem  
Ruthalee Mauld*



# CALIF. PIONEERS of SANTA CLARA CO.

Established 1875

P.O. Box 8208  
San Jose, CA 95155

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
CUPERTINO, CA 95014  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 543

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

We're on the Web!  
[www.CaliforniaPioneers.com](http://www.CaliforniaPioneers.com)



[facebook.com/sccpioneers](https://facebook.com/sccpioneers)



[twitter.com/sccpioneers](https://twitter.com/sccpioneers)



[youtube.com/sccpioneer](https://youtube.com/sccpioneer)



[pinterest.com/sccpioneers](https://pinterest.com/sccpioneers)



[pioneerfilms.tumblr.com](https://pioneerfilms.tumblr.com)  
[inravedanger.tumblr.com](https://inravedanger.tumblr.com)



[vimeo.com/sccpioneers](https://vimeo.com/sccpioneers)

## California Pioneers of Santa Clara County 2016 Board of Directors

Ken Machado, President; [7m.kenmachado@gmail.com](mailto:7m.kenmachado@gmail.com)

Jim Zetterquist, Vice President; [thewoodencrown@att.net](mailto:thewoodencrown@att.net)

Tom Kearney, Treasurer; [tpkearney35@att.net](mailto:tpkearney35@att.net)

Walt Gil, Business Secretary; [wgil@cpire.com](mailto:wgil@cpire.com)

April Halberstadt, Membership; [aprilhalb@gmail.com](mailto:aprilhalb@gmail.com)

Melita Kelly, Parliamentarian; [melikel@pacbell.net](mailto:melikel@pacbell.net)

Paul Bernal, Immediate Past President;  
[PBernal411@gmail.com](mailto:PBernal411@gmail.com)

Jonna Baker, Member-at-Large; [J234belle@yahoo.com](mailto:J234belle@yahoo.com)

Mary Berger, Member-at-Large; [marsieberger@yahoo.com](mailto:marsieberger@yahoo.com)

Gayle Frank, Member-at-Large; [gaylefrankCA@gmail.com](mailto:gaylefrankCA@gmail.com)

Michael Shea, Member-at-Large; [md6996@sbcglobal.net](mailto:md6996@sbcglobal.net)

Tim Peddy, Member-at-Large; [miltpeddy@aol.com](mailto:miltpeddy@aol.com)

Bill Foley, Film Archives; [film@californiapioneers.com](mailto:film@californiapioneers.com)

Jim Campbell, Resident Artist for Calif. Pioneers of SCC

Madeline Streight; Sunshine Chair; 408-259-4422 or  
[madeline.streight@att.net](mailto:madeline.streight@att.net)

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.