



VOLUME 37

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THE THEORY OF BLACK HOLES HAS BEEN PROVEN WITHOUT A DOUBT!

In May, I diligently arose from my sickbed to put together the *Trailblazer* on time, run the membership labels on time, deliver it to the printer on time and they printed it on time. HOWEVER- The employee who supposedly delivered it to the Post Office on time must have delivered it to an existing Black Hole (and then lied about it) because the Post Office had no record of receiving it, could not find 750 copies anywhere, therefore could not deliver on time.

When I discovered that the *Trailblazer* was Missing In Action, I ran another set of mailing labels, went back to the printer and had them print the run again and this time it was delivered to the right place BUT it was no longer on time.

The manager at the printers is a Nervous Nellie this month, but I am certain such an occurrence will not happen again-the employee is no longer with them and the manager himself, is taking the responsibility for delivering the mailing to the Post Office.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT? You can go to your Calendar and **MARK PIONEER LUNCHEON** on the **FIRST SATURDAY** of every March, June, September & December. Then Go To The Preceding Week & Mark On a Square *PHONE RESERVATION IN FOR PIONEER LUNCHEON-554-7587. This year, the remaining dates are June 1, September 7 and December 7. When you get your new calendar for 1997, sit down and mark in the 4 important dates immediately and you will have them saved for the Pioneer Luncheon, no matter what happens!

California Trail Days-Donner Party Sesquicentennial will be held at Donner Memorial State Park August 15-18, 1996. There will be a Commemorative Wagon Train to the park, August 14-16, A Reunion of descendants of the Donner Party; an archeology talk & walk, an 1844 Stephens-Townsend-Murphy Party breakfast, Emigrant Trail hiking Tour, Textiles 'n quilts show, Old Washoe Gunfighters Performance and presentations on many facets of the history of the Donner Party, children, women, etc.. Contact Frankye Craig, P.O. Box 16093, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151 or call 916-544-3053.

AUSTEN WARBURTON: A MAN OF HIS COMMUNITY

by David McKinney

A Tribute on the Anniversary of his passing.

I parked on Lexington Street in Santa Clara, across from St. Claire's Church, just half a mile from the family home where Austen Warburton was born. I walked through the Santa Clara University grounds because it was here I last saw Austen Warburton and I wanted to recall the day. It had been his 77th birthday, November 12, 1994, when he had conducted a tour of his own beloved Santa Clara for The Californians. The tour included historic sites throughout the city and a walk through the University grounds where Austen had served as Chairmen of the Board of Regents.

Those who attended the evening funeral filled all but the last row or two of the capacious old mission church. They ranged from an honor guard of Boy Scouts to prominent politicians like Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, Mayor Judy Nadler and long-time friend and former County Supervisor Rod Diridon. Letters were read from a diverse group that extended from Austen's grand-niece to the President and Mrs. Clinton. Afterwards, we attended a reception at the University Club- the very room, decked with oil paintings mostly of old California, where the tour group had taken a break from their day trip with a luncheon to honor Austen Warburton on what was to be his last birthday.

You begin to describe Austen Warburton, I suppose, where he began, in the City of Santa Clara, in the Santa Clara Valley, in the state he loved, California, in his region, The West, among the people he loved ... his family and many more. Those who could link their lines to his were all Austen Warburton's extended family. His community was family. A few months ago when he learned of Austen's colon cancer, San Francisco historian Dr. Albert Shumate wrote me and referred to Austen Warburton as "a living link to our history."

There was a sense of history, a sense of place about Austen Den Warburton that permeated and defined him. Originally trained as a teacher, Austen always retained that teacher's essence whether he taught us about our history, as he did on countless tours, or whether he taught us about getting along with each other, as he did on myriad boards and committees.

If you visited Austen Warburton at the law firm where he served for nearly fifty years, you would walk down corridors with walls covered by the art of native Americans. This art he had collected for nearly as long as he had practiced law, and it was often brought to him by itinerant artists, some of whom would become famous for their work. Austen had known some of the best of them before they were known by the public.

As you made your way into his private office where more indigenous art was stacked like cordwood along the walls, your attention might be directed out his 11th floor window. To the east was San Jose State University (once San Jose Normal School) where he received his undergraduate education. Austen might proudly point out (as he did for me) the view to the south of the old Woodrow Wilson Junior High School where he did his student teaching. Later, he went on to the University of Santa Clara and took up his vocation as an attorney. In a biographical piece for the *San Jose Mercury News*, Austen told Leigh Weimers that he had thought he would like to take up law. He explained, though, that "being a sensible fellow" he thought he ought to have a little hedge just in case, so he earned a teaching credential first. It was for this avocation that he would become famous and beloved for Austen Warburton's real career was teaching people, and he spent more years than I have lived teaching and serving the people of his community. That service was legion.

I once reviewed a list of the committees and boards Austen served on and the list to name a few, included: The Santa Clara City Council, The City of Santa Clara Historic and Landmarks Commission and the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, The Santa Clara University Board of Regents, The O'Connor Hospital Foundation and the Board of Trustees of the Sourisseau Academy of San Jose State University. I realized that this was but a partial list and asked Austen about the missing ones. There were so many, he replied modestly, even he had trouble remembering them all.

Austen's nephew concluded an obituary in the *Spartan Daily* by asking, "Who's to replace him?" Austen took care of that eventuality. The answer is no person could ever replace Austen Warburton, but all the people Austen encouraged and cultivated into public service stand to take his place as he undoubtedly intended for them to do. Austen Warburton had that unique ability that often rests with great people to see the strengths of others and to guide them in the direction of their most valuable service. He also had that ability, shared by many great people, to make whomever he spoke with, no matter how humble, seem as though they were the most important person in the world at that moment . . . and they were. Austen always listened . . . Austen always cared!

Austen Warburton was the only materially rich man I have ever known (he had inherited wealth and accumulated more) who was truly generous with himself, with his time and with his money. He headed one of the largest law firms in the Santa Clara Valley, but he found time to personally go grocery shopping for some of his elderly

clients. From this personal service sprang the Heart of the Valley Program, an organization that helps elderly clients in San Jose and Santa Clara with the chores of everyday life. His generosity was not confined only to the elderly. Austen served on the county's Juvenile Justice Commission for thirty-five years and helped develop the James, Holden and Wright ranches which allow troubled youth to be locally rehabilitated.

Austen Warburton's legacy is all the people he touched, all the people he tapped on the shoulder, all the people he encouraged and inspired. These are the people Austen Warburton hand-picked to carry on his work. These are the people who will carry on his work and who won't forget Austen Warburton.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bob Fisher

Dear Pioneers,

The June quarterly meeting will conclude the Pioneer year 1995-1996 and I hope you are planning on attending. The agenda for the meeting includes the announcement of the Winners of the Essay Contest for 1996. A summary of the top essays will be given by the authors. This is always an interesting program.

The meeting will also include the nominating committee choices for the board of Directors for the year 1996-1997. I am happy to announce that Betty Nygren joined the Board at the April, 1996 meeting and will be our Marshal. She will be present to greet you as you come into the meeting on June 1, 1996. Betty is a native of San Jose and a graduate of San Jose State University. We are pleased to have her on our Board.

I am also pleased to announce that Mimi Wells has agreed to sit on the Board and act as Treasurer. With her financial background with the City of San Jose, she will be able to give us support in our financial reporting.

See you there on June 1.

Gone to the Golden Hills

Claire Bowden-May, 1995
Dorothy Mercuri-July 19, 1995
Robert Dexter-August 13, 1995
Mildred Yerkes-November 1995
Merle Hippler-Jan 19, 1996
Albert Tognazzini-Feb. 2, 1996
Patricia Ryan-February 23, 1996
Stephen White-March 1, 1996

Jean Kaffer-March 7, 1996
Clarence Unger-March 16, 1996
Chet Adams-April 1, 1996
Alice L. Olsen-April 13, 1996
James Muller-April 15, 1996
Anthony DeGregorio-April 26, 1996
James Klem-April 28, 1996

NEW MEMBERS

James D. Armstrong, Sr.	Katherine Hischer
Marylou Byrd	Elizabeth Johnson
Mary & Edward Berticevich	Grace Matthews
George & Delia Colacicco	Donna Miguelgorry
Vincent & Colleen Cortese	Linda Reeves
Claire Daggett	Frances Rice
Genevieve Ferrera	Elma Rodgers
Robert C. Fisher	Jeanne Rudy
Dorothy Fouch	Marian Scionté
Margaret Gaffaney	Virginia Sorenson
Dirk & Phyllis Headland	Shirley Stein

Introduce yourself and make them welcome.

THE CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES 1996 ANNUAL MEETING will be held June 20-23 in The Antelope Valley at the City of Lancaster. The Theme is Native Americans, Pioneers and Aerospace Exploration. Thursday, June 20, the meeting will open with Registration at the Lancaster Performing Arts Center Lobby. The CCHS Board Meeting will be at Lancaster City Hall from 2-5 p.m.. and at the same time free tours of the Western Hotel/Museum, Museum/Art Gallery and Historical Lancaster Railroad Display will be given every half hour. Dinner will feature a talk on Antelope valley Colonies from Yesteryear in the new Lancaster Performing Arts Center. Friday will begin with the Regional Vice President's meeting and the Annual Membership Meeting (The Pioneers are members along with some 400 other historical groups in California so you are a member, too.) Choices between a talk at lunch on Mining in the Antelope Valley by Glen Settle, historian and owner of Tropico Gold Mine followed by a talk on Joshua Trees and our Desert Woodland and the Prehistory of Antelope Valley Indians or a bus tour to Edward's Air Force Base with box lunches. Friday dinner will feature the Boogie-Woogie Mamas and a talk entitled, "If This is the Antelope Valley, Then Where Are All the Antelope?" Saturday will begin with the Genealogy Breakfast and a talk by local genealogists followed by two bus tours, one to the Indian Museum and Old Lillano Colony and the other to Blackbird Airpark and 1890's Palmdale Grammar School and the Palmdale Bulge on the San Andreas Fault. The Annual Awards Luncheon will follow. From 3:30 to 5:15, two workshops will be held, one on Historical Women of the Antelope Valley which includes early suffragettes and Judy Garland...followed by a session on Ideas and Issues for Local Historical Societies in Historic Preservation. The Annual Meeting Dinner will feature installation of officers for the next 2 years and a talk on Bootlegging Tales from California and the Mojave Desert.

After the meeting finishes, the City of Lancaster will present an Outdoor Silent Movie, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame."

If you are interested in attending, call Mary Lou Lyon for a copy of the Registration Materials at 253-9514.



Touring With The Californians

Register for our summer trips at the June 1 luncheon or call Nancy Hill beginning June 3. Guests and non-members may register beginning June 10. **June 14 & 15, 1996 Friday & Saturday Sesquicentennial (150 years) Celebration of the Bear Flag Revolt in Sonoma.** This tour is filled, but you may place your name on the waiting list in case of cancellations. Please see the description in the March Trailblazer or Trips flyer.

July 23, 1996, Tuesday. The Faberge Collection and The Palace of the Legion of Honor. We have the opportunity to see unique traveling exhibits at the De Young Museum. We will have a docent tour of the Faberge Collection created by the 19th Century jeweler, Peter Carl Faberge for the Czars of Russia. We also have time to see the charming Japanese Folk Art exhibit at the Asian Museum. Following an included lunch, we will have a docent tour of the European collections and see the results of a three year \$36 million restoration and expansion. We will also see two traveling exhibits: Treasures of the Berlin Pergamon Museum featuring elements of the 2nd Century B.C. Hellenistic Temple and artifacts from the National Swedish Ballet Company. Leave 8 a.m. return 4 p.m. Price \$44.

August 7-10, 1996 Laguna Arts Festival This tour is filled, but you may place your name on the waiting list in case of cancellations. A brochure is available.

Late August-Stanford Theater Old Time Movie Night. Arrangements are in progress for a silent movie night and organ concert at Palo Alto's Stanford Theater following dinner. Approximate times are 4:30-9:30 p.m. Watch the June Trips Flyer for details.

September 10, 1996, Tuesday- Angel Island, the largest in San Francisco Bay has a colorful history ranging from Miwok hunting grounds, cattle ranch, U.S. Army Post, Immigration Center to Prisoner of War Camp. We travel to Angel Island via a scenic ferry ride from San Francisco.

We will have a narrated tour of the island by tram with stops at the Immigration Station and the Museum housed in the old Quarantine Station. Included lunch is at the Cove Cafe with hot entree, salad, beverage & dessert . Leave 8:15 Am.. Return 4: 15 p.m. Price \$44

September 29-October 10, 1996 Canadian Rockies highlights include four days aboard the Rocky Mountaineer Train, Vancouver, Banff, Jasper, Sulphur Mountain and Jasper Tramway Rides and the Columbia Ice Fields. Cost includes airfare, 18 meals, Trip Cancellation Insurance and gratuities. A Brochure is available. Tour cost \$2295, \$495 single supplement. Deposit of \$300 due at Registration.

November 19-22, 1996 Palm Springs, the home of the Agua Caliente Indians is now a modern oasis in the desert. Among the places we will visit are: tour of Palm Springs, Tram ride to Mt. San Jacinto, the Living Desert Wildlife and Botanical Park, Desert Museum, Shields Date Farm, a performance of the Palm Springs Follies, Summerfest and more. Cost includes motorcoach transportation, hotel, meals, entry fees and gratuities. A flyer will be available at the June luncheon.

The Californians Tour Committee: Rose Crimi-Tour Director
Nancy Hill- Phone Reservations (258-3449) M-F before noon
Fern McLaggan-Treasurer, 60 Palomar Real, Campbell, 95008
Helen Brooks & Pauline Hawkins-Luncheon sign ups.

MY HUSBAND THE HISTORIOGRAPHER

by Helen Arbuckle

Something funny happened the other day. I met a person who hadn't heard of Clyde. I started to tell her about him. After two hours she left and I wasn't through yet. . .

Many of you have heard him tell, or read of the circumstances of his birth on Jackson Street in Santa Clara. Although I wasn't present when this event occurred, I have been able to piece together some of the details.

On April 11, 1903, Clyde sprang like the Phoenix from his mother's womb in full voice, total memory spanning centuries of history and adding to the store of information from time to time. Unlike other babies, he did not wear diapers, but a stiff hat and khaki clothing which he continued to wear into the ninth decade of the 20th Century.

Once he became earthborne, he assumed human capacity for eating, sleeping, bike riding, playing ball and whatever else kids do before they grow up.

The family Clyde was born into consisted of Mrs. Molly Gordon, widow and mother and William Goodrich Arbuckle, widower, with grown children on both sides. In Clyde's own generation, he had a brother who died in infancy. Occupying the same house were Gordon sisters and brothers and Arbuckle children. The kids old enough to work helped their dad and mother in Arbuckle's restaurant and haypress in Santa Clara.

Figuring out how his family related to each other was a puzzle. A son by Mr. Arbuckle's (Clyde's father) first marriage married a daughter by his mother's first marriage. They were step-brother and step-sister, then they became husband and wife. They had six kids. What did they call each other? Uncle? Aunt? Who was gran'ma and gran'pa? Clyde had nieces and nephews older than he was. It was during this period that the kid who became the famous comedian Roscoe (Fatty) Arbuckle learned to flip pancakes and other tricks in his father's restaurant.

As a growing boy, he played with the neighborhood kids, attended school until the mandatory age of sixteen. He then worked at an assortment of odd jobs, one of which was on the *Santa Clara News* setting type by hand. He remembers setting the type announcing the effectiveness of the 8 hour day. Another job at age 14 was delivering the *Mercury* for \$7 a month.

For the rest of the story, see Leonard McKay's 90th Birthday Biography of Clyde.

THE HISTORIOGRAPHER'S WIFE

by HER

My Mother, I'm sure, was relieved on April 21, 1908, when a ten pound bundle of joy fell from heaven upon the place beneath, which was the farm belonging to John and Augusta Fisher, six miles north of Dickinson, North Dakota. They already had three sons, so hopefully, they were pleased to see a girl.

My father and his family came from Cumberland County, England, in the 1870's and homesteaded in Stark County, North Dakota. My mother, one of five children of Mary and Ludwig Hamann of Gadebusch, Germany, yielded to the lure of free land and to avoid the certainty of military service in the Prussian army for their two sons. The Hamanns also settled in Stark County, but the two families did not know each other.

During her girlhood, mother worked as a hired girl in various homes in Dickinson. Her last place was with the mayor of Dickinson and his wife, where she met my father. Dickinson, in the early days was a lively place on the route of great cattle drives and shipping point for mountains of slaughtered buffalo hides.

While I was growing up, I was practically an only child. My brothers were older, and the nearest neighbors over a mile away. It was safe to play outside . . . no cars, electric wires, or weirdoes. Sometimes, the neighbors' bull got out of his pasture and charged into our yard.

If I tired of brushing and braiding my doll's hair, I could help my mother churn the cream for butter, shell peas from the garden, or help my father pump the forge while he repaired tools or turn the grindstone while he sharpened the sickle. Sometimes, I sat on the wagon seat and drove the horses while my brothers loaded the wagon with hay.

After a series of dry years, my folks sold the farm and planned to move to California. Just a week before departure, papa died. Knowing there would be adjustments and adaptations to a new life, my mother bravely made the move to San Jose accompanied by two of my brothers. After a spell of homesickness, we returned to Dickinson, but a winter of shoveling coal and snow changed her mind and we returned to San Jose permanently.

From then on, I became a teenager and an adult. During high school, I was friendly with a girl who had brothers. The brothers had friends, one of whom was Clyde. They had their own interests. . . hunting, fishing, guns, but maintained a polite, distant friendliness with their friend's sister and her friend. Besides, I was overweight. We were mutually disinterested. Furthermore, I had brothers whose antics influenced my taste in fellows.

Over the years, the guys married and moved away. Clyde was driving horses for the Express Company. I'd seen him downtown occasionally, no dates, though. I graduated from San Jose High and attended San Jose State, not knowing what I wanted to do or be.

Meanwhile, in 1928, I joined the Starlight Chapter of the Eastern Star and participated in their activities. Tillie Brohaska, a member and well-known musician used to play the ritual music, and after chapter meetings, dance music for the members. The Masonic Temple at that time was at 272 South 1st Street. Clyde heard the music and came to join in the fun. I was one of the few single girls there, so he asked me to dance. From then on things gradually happened. We went together about two years. We were married August 7, 1932 in the depth of the depression and traveled by railroad pass to the Olympic Games in Los Angeles for our honeymoon. We celebrated our Golden Wedding in August, 1982 at the Saratoga Foothill Club.

At first, we lived with my mother, then moved to a little furnished house on South 26th Street and started raising cats. We didn't have a car the first few years, but got around by street car or on the train.

Our family began with the arrival of son, Jim, on Palm Sunday, April 14, 1935. In those days, it was customary for women to stay in bed ten days, even without complications. For sentimental reasons, I selected Dr. George Fowler as my attending physician because he had delivered Clyde, and I was his last obstetrical case. The doctor bill was \$50 and the hospital, \$55.

Our daughter, Susan, was considerate in scheduling her arrival on September 30, 1936. The doctor got his SOS about 3 AM. An hour and a half later, he was back home in bed. Alls well that ends well.

While the children were still small, we moved into our house on Franquette Avenue on a July 4 weekend. Clyde had dug the basement for the house. Jim and Susan attended San Jose schools their whole life, most of the time under some member of the Buchser family, an eminent teaching family. Then it was on to Berkeley U.C. for both.

Meanwhile, I took a job in the County Recorder's office to help pay college expenses. Tuition then, was \$37 a semester. They worked summers to help pay their own way.

Anticipating my imminent departure from the Recorder's office, I enrolled in writing and photography courses and achieved some small successes in western history magazines and garden articles for the *San Jose Mercury*. One teacher stressed the importance of selecting offbeat topics. As a result, I received \$75.00 for my article on outhouses.

Jim and Susan finished Cal; I left the recorder's office; Clyde's and my life merged into mostly his activities . . . Statehouse Museum which became the Historical Museum, tours for the Pioneers with Gertrude Bernhardt; Adult Education; Historical Organizations; trips to far away places, England, Spain, Canada and the Western U.S.

At age eighty, Clyde says retirement is for old people.

THE 14th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OREGON CALIFORNIA TRAILS ASSOCIATION WILL BE IN ELKO NEVADA, AUGUST 12-18, 1996 Pre-convention tours will be on the Donner Trail & Hastings Cut Off Sesquicentennial and to gold mines. Tours during the convention will be to North Ruby Valley & Humboldt Wells or Gravelly Ford or Record Bluff. Many papers will be given on Wed. & Thurs., Aug 14 & 15. Post convention tour will be to Black Rock/High Rock Desert for 4 wheel drives. OCTA PO Box 1019, Independence, MO 64051-051

MEMBERSHIP DUES are indicated on your mailing label. If it still says 95, you have forgotten to renew. If it says 96, Thank You! Of our 734 members, 60 have yet to pay their 1996 dues. Bob and Irene Johnson will be available at the June 1st luncheon to receive payment. If you wish to mail your \$7 check, please send it along with a stamped, self addressed envelope to...Bob Johnson, 445 North 15th Street, San Jose, CA, 95112-1726 and your membership card will be returned to you.

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