



VOL. 43

NUMBER 2

JUNE, 2002

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MELITA KELLY

DID YOU PAY YOUR DUES FOR THIS YEAR? This year we have had an extremely large number of members who have not yet paid their dues for 2002. They were DUE in DECEMBER and are now Delinquent if not yet paid. Check your mailing label. It should indicate 02 after your name if you are paid up. Remember that if you have not paid your current dues, your subscription to *The Trailblazer* will expire. Annual Dues are \$10 per member each year. Life Memberships are available at \$100.00 for a single member or \$175.00 for a married couple. Make your check payable to The California Pioneers and send to Melita Kelly, 460 North 15th St., San Jose, CA 95112-1725 You may remit your payment by mail and receive your membership card by mail, but only if you include a SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. You may pick up your card at the Quarterly Luncheon Meeting.

*****Note***DIFFERENT checks for ACTIVITIES**

Checks for the luncheon should be made to Lou's Village.

Checks for trips must be made to The Californians and

Checks for Dues, to The California Pioneers.

Summer, 1966 *The Trail Blazer*...did you know that weekly mail service was established between San Francisco and Monterey via San Jose in April, 1847? It came by boat to San José and by horseback from here to Monterey.

OLD SAN JOSE by Edward Allegretti

Good old saloon days, said my grandfather. Yes, that is what one woman said of this photograph. That was what my grandfather, John J. Allegretti was saying to me when I inquired, while going through an old photograph album about the old picture of him behind the bar. What I actually was looking at was a photograph of him and his partner, Lawrence Durso, inside of their small department store, the A & D Emporium. Although the structure still exists as the Saratoga Building on Santa Clara Street between 2nd and 3rd, the A & D Emporium left in the 1950's.

For most of his working life, my grandfather spent 10 hour days, six days per week tending to business in his store which sold paintings, artist supplies, appliances, eye glasses, and musical instruments. He enjoyed visiting with customers, seeing friends, and making deliveries in an old truck with real oil paintings attached to the sides as advertisements. At least, the pay was a little better than his first job as a boy in San Jose where he helped a man gather metal scraps all day for a cream puff!

No doubt, most of his days at the store during the 1920's, the Depression and into the 1950's were similar. He did recall how he enjoyed visiting at George Payne's Office. Mr. Payne, at that time, was proprietor of the *San Jose News*. Although my grandfather had to personally visit monthly in order to obtain some money for the account Mr. Payne had at the Emporium, he enjoyed seeing the office wall's full of framed photographs of Mr. Payne with famous and near famous who had visited San Jose. My grandfather also enjoyed recalling how his friend, San Jose Judge Percy O'Connor, often slept on the couch in the back office of the store in order to sleep off some of his libations!

One of John's more particular customers was Mrs. Edward Bernal (Rena). She came to buy artist supplies and always had to wet the tips of the brushes before selecting just the right one. Rena's only daughter later married John's only son, my parents.

My grandfather also liked recalling visits to the Hayes family (who owned the *San Jose Mercury*) house at Eden-

vale. With it's extensive gardens, one needed to drive over several winding roads. Along the way, were many small shacks that the Japanese gardeners occupied. They would politly point the way to the main house as my grandfather drove along.

He also told of how Mr. Hart of Hart's Department Store didn't drive. He always had a car and driver. At the formal dinners at the Hart house on the Alameda, numerous footmen were at attention behind the guests, ready to serve as required.

When my grandfather turned ninety, (he died in 1994 at age 92), I asked if he would have changed anything about his life. His answer was, "No." He enjoyed his career, his 69 1/2 years of marriage to his wife Mary (herself the daughter of a local merchant and orchardist) and was proud of his son. When I asked why he didn't buy farm land like his more successful cousin, Vince Cortese, (Grandfather of San Jose City Councilman, David Cortese), he replied that "Someday I may have a grandson who will ask such impertinent questions!"

NEW MEMBERS

Vida H. Anderson

Rod Diridon, Sr.

Lida A. Hayland

Laverne Hamilton

Janet Hodgkinson

C. Daniel Knowles

Sue Ellen Laurie

Judith A. Mabie

Eva D. Orton

Georgia Poole

Jackie Prenger

Joseph "Rick" Rechenmacher

Virginia S. Rose

Gerald "Jerry" Rosenthal

Martha B. Rosselott

Marie B. Smith

Norma J. Speciale

Frances Spencer

Ernestine Thatcher

Sandra R. Thorpe

Shirley E. Weiland

From *The Trail Blazer*, Summer, 1966

Did you know that there were 1,492 farms in Santa Clara County by 1880? there were an estimated 1,600,000 orchard treesm most of them apples. by 1890, there were twice as many trees, mostly prune.



Touring with the Californians

June, 2002

Rose Crimi Muench -- Tour Director

Marie Rider -- Phone Reservations: (408) 251-7887 M-F a.m.

Beverly Fisher -- Treasurer: 3435 Yuba Avenue,

San Jose, CA, 95117-2966.

Pauline Hawkins -- Luncheon Registrations

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER TRIPS begins at the June 1 luncheon. Checks are preferred, or exact cash. Preference is given to Pioneers members to register at the luncheon and through the following week. Non-members and guests may sign up starting June 10. If you do not get a trip Flyer at the luncheon meeting, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to our Treasurer.

PICK-UP POINT (unless otherwise indicated) is at Valley Village, 390 N. Winchester Blvd., Santa Clara, at the Dolores Street side.

JUNE 25, 2002, TUESDAY PESCADERO

On our visit to the picturesque town of Pescadero near the San Mateo County coast, getting there is half the fun. We take the scenic route on Highway 9 through Saratoga to Skyline Boulevard, skirting Upper Stevens Creek Park, and then on to Alpine Road and Pescadero Road through a couple of San Mateo County parks. The highest elevation is 2634 feet at Saratoga Gap. In Pescadero, our three-course included lunch will be at Duarte's, the old stagecoach tavern founded in 1894. Duarte's still has the Old West atmosphere and regional dishes such as artichoke soup, artichoke ravioli, and ollalieberry pie. After lunch, we take a guided tour of Stage Road, the town's main street. Sights along the way include the Country Roads Antique Store, Arcangeli Grocery

and Bakery, the 1867 Pescadero Community Church, and the 1870 St. Anthony's Catholic Church. We then travel to San Gregorio for a stop at Peterson and Alsford General Merchandise country store, with its Old-time Western style and wood-burning stove. We continue north on Highway 1, along the scenic Pacific Coast to Half Moon Bay, across Highway 92, and south on I-280 for our return to San Jose. This trip is filled, with a long wait list. We will try to offer it again next year.

Leave: 9:00 a.m. Return: 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$ 44

JULY 18, 2002, THURSDAY

U.S.S. POTOMAC and JACK LONDON SQUARE

Following up on our visit last October to Hyde Park, New York, the home of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, we now have an opportunity to visit Roosevelt's presidential yacht, the U.S.S. Potomac. After a 12-year, \$5 million restoration, the 165-foot vessel, now a National Historical Landmark, is permanently docked at the Oakland Clay Street pier. We will have a two-hour narrated history cruise along the San Francisco waterfront, around Treasure Island and Alcatraz. Before the cruise, we will have free time in Jack London Square. Maps with restaurants and attractions will be distributed, including a history tour of Jack London locations, such as: Heinhold's First and Last Chance Saloon, built in 1889 from timbers of an old whaling ship, London's log cabin transported from the Yukon, bronze statues of London and one of a Yukon wolf. Choose from among 15 restaurants for lunch on your own and visit some of the unique shops.

Leave: 9:30 a.m. Return: 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$42

AUGUST 22, 2002, THURSDAY ETERNAL EGYPT EXHIBITION

The Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco will be hosting a traveling exhibit of Egyptian art from the British Museum. One hundred and fifty pieces will be displayed in chronological order from 3100 B.C. to the Fourth Century, A.D. This is a wonderful opportunity to see genuine artifacts from one of the oldest civilizations in the world. Displays will include sculptures, jewelry, funerary art, papyrus sheets from the Book of the Dead, carved reliefs, and decorative

art. We will have a self-guided tour. Audio guides will also be available at \$4. Our included lunch will celebrate the great civilization of China half a world away from Egypt, at the Hong Kong Restaurant on Geary Street.

Leave: 9:00 a.m. Return: 4:00 p.m. Cost: \$45

SEPTEMBER 17 -- 27, 2002 RIVER BARGE CRUISE and BRANSON

Highlights include: four nights in Branson, Missouri, to see some outstanding shows including Yakov Smirnoff, Shoji Tabuchi, Andy Williams, and Jim Stafford; a city tour including College of the Ozarks; dinner cruise on Table Rock Lake; a drive through the Ozarks to Memphis with a visit to the Museum of Rock-n"-Soul, Beale Street, Museum of the Mississippi River on Mud Island; board the M/B River Explorer for a four-night cruise with stops at Caruthersville and Reelfoot Lake, confluence of the Ohio River, and Paducah, Kentucky with the National Quilt Museum. Cost is \$2530 for an outside cabin, or \$2730 for a balcony cabin.

Brochures are available.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2002

HOLLISTER, OLD AND NEW

Continuing on our "Know our Neighbors" tours, we travel to Hollister in San Benito County. Hollister was founded by Colonel William Welles Hollister who left Ohio in 1855 with 50 men, driving 6000 sheep across the country to the San Justo Land Grant! A building boom began in 1870 when the Southern Pacific Railroad reached Hollister. Touring the historic downtown area, we will see a number of homes, businesses, and public buildings in the Victorian and Craftsmen styles, reflecting Hollister's history. We will also visit the San Benito County Historical Museum housed in the 1905 Wapple House built for the town dentist.

Hollister also has a John Steinbeck connection. The author's father and grandfather lived there, and Steinbeck wrote about characters and stories of the town. The "East of Eden" house was the location for the filming of Steinbeck's novel. It is amazing that these old buildings have survived, considering that Hollister is built over the San Andreas fault and experiences frequent earthquakes.

Fifty years ago, Hollister gained national attention as

the location for the Marlon Brando film, "The Wild One."

There is still a motorcycle connection, as we will see on a tour of the Corbin Motorcycle plant. Their newest product is the Sparrow II, an electric two-seater, three-wheel runabout. We will also have a couple of "sweet surprises" and an included lunch at the 1950's style Wizard Café.

Leave: 9:00 a.m. Return: 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$32

ROMANTIC DANUBE RIVER CRUISE OCT. 16 -- 27, 2002

Highlights include: three days in Prague, motoring to Nuremberg to board the deluxe "Viking Neptune", launched just this year, daily shore excursions to medieval and Renaissance towns along the Main-Danube Canal and the Danube River, including: Regensburg, Passau, Melk Abbey, Vienna, and Budapest. Cost, depending on cabin category (all are outside cabins,) is \$3749, \$3899, and \$4189; which includes: transfer to and from SFO, round-trip airfare to Prague with return from Budapest, all shore excursions, all meals on board, and baggage handling. Brochures are available. Spaces on this tour are now on a space-available basis.

New Year's trips survey -- The greatest response was for the San Antonio trip and the second was for Palm Springs. We will offer the San Antonio trip. If there are other local groups offering a Palm Springs trip, we will notify those interested.

SAN ANTONIO RIVERWALK NEW YEAR'S

December 29, 2002 – January 3, 2003

San Antonio, with its Old Spanish flavor, plazas and its famous Riverwalk, is an inviting warm-weather site to ring in the New Year. Activities include a Riverwalk boat cruise, a tour of San Antonio, the Alamo, San Jose Mission, the top of the Tower of the Americas, Texas Cultures Museum, and a New Years Eve Party. Excursions to Austin and the Texas Hill Country with Fredricksburg and the LBJ Ranch are also included. The cost is \$1399, single supplement \$400. We have only 15 single spaces for our group, so make your reservations with a \$250 deposit early. Brochures will be available at the June 1 luncheon.

**2002 OFFICERS CALIFORNIA PIONEERS
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

David McKinney-- President P.O. Box 6772 , San Jose CA, 95150-6772
408-732-1946

Jim Arbuckle, 2nd V. P. 988 Franquette Av. San Jose ; 95125-2619

Ed Schwartz -Recording Secretary - 6262 Mojave Dr, San Jose, CA
95120-5324 408-268-3129

Robert G. Fisher-Treasurer 3435 Yuba Av. San Jose, CA
95117-2966 408-241-0224

Melita Kelly Membership 460 N. 15th St., San Jose, CA 9112-1725
408-292-2385

Helen MacCarthy-Archivist 270 Umbarger Road #123 San Jose, CA
95111-2032 408-578-4485

Paul R. Bernal-Legal Advisor 70 West Hedding, San Jose, CA 95110
408-299-7400

Kenneth Machado, Jr. Legal 1674 Mulberry Ln, San Jose, CA. 95125-494
408-723-4056

Leonard McKay-Historian 250 W. St. John St., San Jose, CA 95110
408-292-8901

Audit Committee -Hal Messimer 18950 Sara Park Circle, Saratoga, CA
95070-4177 408-253-3888

Audit Committee -Bob Johnson 445 North 15th St., San Jose, CA

Parliamentarian -Irene Johnson 95112-1726 408-275-1389

Sunshine Virginia Bittle 520 S. Frances St., Sunnyvale, CA 94086-9601
408-736-3772

Marshall -Carol Arnoldy 1342 Prevost Street, San Jose, CA 95125-1754
408-298-9043

Nominating Committee Edward Allegetti, 10981 Edgemont Dr., San
Jose, CA . 95127-1740 408-629-6360.

THE CALIFORNIANS-TOURS

Rose Crimi Muench 1289 Martin St. San Jose, CA 95126-2628
408-293-0896

The Californians -Reservations Marie Rider-251-7887 .

The Californians Treasurer Beverly Fisher 3435 Yuba Av, San Jose, CA
95117-2966 408-241-0224

Hacienda Cemetery & Jackson Ranch

Richard Hill 10393 Doris Ct. San Jose, CA 95127-3013 408-258-3449

Bud Amaral 6001 Vera Cruz Dr. San Jose, CA 95120-4864 268-4078

Bob Fisher 3435 Yuba Av San Jose, CA 95117-2966 408-241-0224

* * * * *

Mary Lou Lyon- Editor 879 Lily Ave, Cupertino, CA 95014-4261