



VOL. 43

NUMBER 1

MARCH, 2002

The well known **Yvonne Jacobson**, will be our speaker for the Quarterly meeting. In honor of the second printing of her book, *Passing Farms: Enduring Values, California's Santa Clara Valley*, (1985), she will bring slides and talk about the book. She will also have copies of the new softbound edition for sale at the meeting.

Yvonne grew up on a farm in the Sunnyvale area. Her grandparents, Carl Johan and Hannah Louise Olson, settled here in the late 1800's, seeking the American dream. the 50 acre fruit ranch in Sunnyvale. He was a holdout in the 1960's when so many orchardists sold out to land developers, continueing with his orchard.

Only recently, has the third and fourth generation of Olsons sold out the aged cherry orchard for housing. The familiar cherry stand built in 1933, full of fresh and dried fruit, remains on El Camino. It and the water tower are dedicated as symbols of an earlier time when blossoms filled the valley every spring and the fruit supplied the nation.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT, DAVID MCKINNEY

For our March meeting, we are honored to have our member, Yvonne Jacobsen, as our speaker. She will be speaking and showing slides on her book, *Passing Farms; Enduring Values*. Copies of the new edition will be availavble for purchase and signing. All the profits from sale of the book will go to History Museum, San Jose. Don't miss this special program!

Since my last message, the Pioneers have lost three of their most loyal members. Sara Miller, who served the Board as Treasurer, Jane Brownnton, who served many years as Corresponding Secretary and Laura Calloway, who with her husband, Hank, long served as *Trail Blazer* Editors. Their service to the Pioneers was much appreciated and they will be missed!

The Board has continued to work towards publication of Volume Two of the Pioneer Papers. I think we will have some new and positive news about the Pioneer Papers at the March Meeting.

Lastly, we still need one or two members to serve as Sunshine Committee. If you have a little time to serve, it is a small chore but very important to our members.

Don't miss the March Second meeting and *Passing Farms; Enduring Values*.
Eureka! David

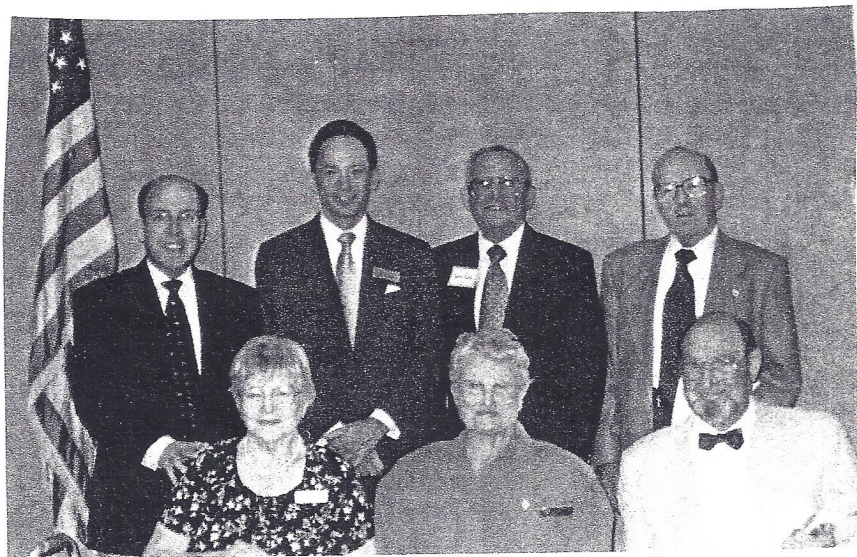
A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MELITA KELLY

Have you paid your dues for the year 2002? remember that if you have not paid your current dues, your subscription to *The Trailblazer* will expire. You may remit your payment by mail and receive your membership card by mail, but only if you include a self addressed stamped envelope. If you do not include the envelope, you may pick up your card at the Quarterly Luncheon Meeting.

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

*****Note***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.**

PORTUGUESE SPRING FESTIVAL at Kelley Park on Sunday, April 28, 2002, 10 a.m.to 5 p.m. by the Portuguese Heritage Society of California. A new book on the *Holy Ghost Fiestas in California* will be available. See the parade, the entertainment, folkloric dancing and the museum . Free.



PAST PRESIDENTS PRESENT AT DECEMBER MEETING

David McKinny, Edward Allegetti, Robert Fisher, Brian Millar, Ruth Patton, Miriam Clark, Leonard McKay

photo by Sophie Birk

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

FRANCIE BALLANTYNE

FRED DREW

RUTH DREW

FLORENCE (BETTY) GRIZZLE

JANET HODGKINSON

C. DANIEL KNOWLES

JUDITH A. MABIE

EVA D. ORTON

JACKIE PARENGER

ANNA PEDERSEN

MARIE B. SMITH

HENRY A. (BUD) VOLKMAN

NANCY P. WESTON

GONE TO THE GOLDEN HILLS

MILLIE L. HARMER,

SARA M. MILLAR,

LILLIAN BRISBIN,

JANE BROWNTON,

EUGENIE KEENAN,

LAURA CALLOWAY,

VERONA KINSER

NOVEMBER 3, 2001

NOVEMBER 18, 2001

JANUARY 6, 2002

JANUARY 8, 2002

JANUARY 8, 2002

JANUARY 14, 2002

JACKSON RANCH

GLADYS JACKSON was a descendant of John Cochrane for whom Cochrane road near Morgan Hill is named. Cochrane settled there in 1848, acquired 5500 acres, and lived in an 1832 adobe house. He died in 1899 and his wife, Aphelia, managed and lived on the ranch until her death in 1949 at 103 years. John and Aphelia's daughter, Aphelia May, grew up on the ranch. Aphelia May married Alfred Joshua Jackson, and they had a daughter, Gladys and. taking in Ruth Lowe, a child whose parents died in the 1906 earthquake. Gladys inherited the ranch and lived on it, with Ruth for 80 years, until Gladys' death in 1984. Gladys willed the 38 acre ranch, the parts not covered by Anderson Reservoir, to the Pioneer Society to serve as a park in perpetuity.

Unfortunately, the earthquakes of 1984 and 1989 severely damaged the two story Victorian house, which was built in 1904. In 1988, Austen Warburton, a lawyer and Past President of the Pioneers, arranged for the county to lease the property from us for 50 years and add it to the park system in a way that would preserve its historic nature.

Supervisor Susanne Wilson sponsored the county into restoring the house, bunk house, barns and prune drying structure for use as a museum and quarters for a park ranger. In the last ten years, the county has put more than \$500,000 into the project, but the area is still not open to the public, nor are the antique furnishings, (paintings, inlaid furniture, musical instruments, etc.) on display. Before allowing public access, the county believes more improvements need to be made. These include improvements to a 0.25 mile road from East Dunne Avenue, a parking lot and sanitary facilities. The water supply is also from a creek, and not safe for public use.

The County Parks has paid the back taxes from acquisition funds in the Parks Charter Fund, making it a County Park, (not open to the public yet) put the house back on a foundation and restored it. They wish to have the title to the property and furnishings turned over to them before proceeding with upgrading the road, which slides shut during the rainy season, and is not safe for school

buses or cars, building a parking lot and bringing county water into the house. They do have a Park Ranger living there to protect the property.

The Pioneers assert that Gladys Jackson's will gave them the property because she and Austen Warburton, her attorney, were afraid that the County Parks would accept the property, then sell it. She wanted her historic house and the 38 acres surrounding it to be available to community groups like the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County and the San Martín Horsemen's Association in perpetuity. Meanwhile, the antique furnishings bequeathed to the Pioneers for the house, given in loving memory of her grandmother, Aphelia Cochrane, are in storage.

Certainly, the Pioneers do not have the funds nor manpower nor expertise at this time to run the historic ranch and house, nor could they pay the county back for the funds already expended. If they are ever going to have a home base and museum somewhere, they need to begin to gather funds together to that end.

Meanwhile, no one is satisfied with the arrangements, not the County, nor the Pioneers.

CITY OF SANTA CLARA SESQUICENTENNIAL, 1852-2002

The city has a full plan of celebrations monthly all year. On March 9, there will be a dedication of the El Camino Real Bell at 1 p.m. at the Santa Clara Woman's Club Adobe, 3620 the Alameda.

April 13-14, there will be a musical performance of "Conjunto California" at 8 p.m. Sat & 2 p.m. Sun. at the Agnews Historic Park Auditorium, Palm Drive at Lafayette Street.

April 19-June 23, The Triton Museum of Art will exhibit, "Then and Now, Photographs of Santa Clara". Open Thurs - Tues, 1505 Warburton Avenue.

April 27, Sesquicentennial exhibit of historic memorabilia at City Hall Open House. 9 to 1 p.m., Sat at City Hall, 1500 Warburton Avenue.

May 4, 11 & 25, Santa Clara History Days walking tours of the historic district. Times to be announced.

May 18, Dedication and tours of the restored Berryessa Adobe, 12 noon Sat at 373 Jefferson St.

May 18-19, Re-enactment and demonstration by historic military actors from the 1st New York Regiment. 2 p.m. Sat and 12 noon Sun. at Harris-Lass Historic Museum, 1889 Market Street.

May 27, Walking Tour of Mission City Memorial Park. 8:30 a.m., Mon. 420 Winchester Blvd.

SAN FRANCISCO PRESIDIO MAIN POST OPEN HOUSE

will be held on Saturday, February 23, 2002 from 9-3, rain or shine! FREE. it will include tours of 2 dozen historic buildings, the USAF Travis Brass Quintet, NPS Ranger led walks, Archeology exhibits, Panel discussions, Tenant open houses and childrens activities. Activities begin at the Presidio Officer's Club. Parking is limited. There is a free Presidio Shuttle connecting with MUNI and Golden Gate Transit. Info at www.presiotrust.gov/shuttle or (415-561-5418)

SAN FRANCISCO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

February Meeting, Thursday, February 21, "The California 100 and their adventures in the Civil War". speaker, James McLean, author of *California Sabers*. The meeting will be at the Fort Mason Officers Club at Bay and Franklin Streets. To attend the dinner meeting or inquire about the club, contact Mrs. Joan Keller (415-752-4156)

There are TWO books out on the Cal Hundred. The Civil War devoured men. In summer of 1862, President Lincoln called for 100,000 more. The War Department, however, did not wish to bring California regiments east due to the expense, but Californians did not want to spend time guarding isolated, dull overland routes. Arrangement made to enlist men under the quota of the State of Massachusetts; first one company, the OneHundred, and then 4 more companies, the Battalion. All fought in the 2nd Cavalry, Mass Volunteers, in the Shenandoah Valley against John S. Mosby.



TOURING WITH THE CALIFORNIANS

March, 2002

Rose Crimi Muench -- Tour Director

Marie Rider -- Phone Reservations: (408) 251-7887 M-Fam

**Beverly Fisher -- Treasurer: 3435 Yuba Avenue,
San Jose, CA, 95117-2966.**

Pauline Hawkins -- Luncheon Registrations

REGISTRATION FOR SPRING TRIPS begins at the March 2 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 March 11. 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.

MARCH 26, 2002, TUESDAY OCTAGON HOUSE and the HAAS-LILIENTHAL HOUSE Registration is in progress. The Cow Hollow neighborhood of San Francisco between Pacific Heights and the Marina district got its name from the herds of cattle grazing in the valley from the 1850's until 1890. We explore this area beginning with a visit to the *Octagon House*. This was built in 1861, during a time when eight-sided houses with cupolas were the latest national craze. Operated by the *Colonial Dames of America*, it features decorative arts and historic documents of the Colonial and Federal periods and a beautiful garden. We will have free time and lunch on your own on Union Street, lined with Victorians converted to boutiques, galleries, and restaurants. Wander through courtyards and patios such as *Charlton Court*, which once served as a depot for milk wagons. Or, visit *St. Mary's Episcopal Church*, built in 1891 in the Craftsman style. In the afternoon, we will have a guided tour of

the 1886 *Haas-Lilienthal House*, among the last remaining upper middle-class homes, which once lined the streets of Pacific Heights. This Queen Anne style Victorian, which survived the 1906 Earthquake, has rooms furnished in decorative styles dating from the 1800's to the 1920's. We will also drive by other notable buildings in the area including the Italian Consulate and the Bourn, Flood, and Spreckels mansions.

Leave: 9:00 a.m. Return: 4:00 p.m. Cost: \$ 27

RAMONA and the MISSION TRAIL, PART II

APRIL 19 -- 23, 2002 In conjunction with Mary Lou Lyon's History Class, we will visit *Missions San Luis Obispo, San Buenaventura, San Juan Capistrano, La Purisima, and Soledad*, and attend the *Ramona Pageant*. Also, we will tour the *San Bernardino Asistencia, the Southwest Indian Museum, the Santa Barbara Presidio*, and the beautiful *Riverside Mission Inn*, a National Historic Landmark. Cost is \$450 and \$130 single supplement. **Flyers are available.**

MAY 28, 2002, TUESDAY MENLO PARK

Continuing our exploration of Peninsula cities, we visit Menlo Park, originally a part of the *Rancho de las Pulgas* Spanish Grant. In 1854 two Irish brothers-in-law bought 17,000 acres and named their property Menlo Park after the Irish town of Menlough. Docents from the Menlo Park Historical Society will lead us on a bus and walking tour of the historic area, including: the train station, *Church of the Nativity*, and *Vallombrosa*, whose mansion dates from Civil War times. Our first two stops will be the **Sunset Gardens** to enjoy a self-guided tour of their spring plantings, representing the diverse climate zones of California; and the **U. S. Geological Survey**, whose building is on the National Register of Historic Places. Exhibits display early California maps, earthquake maps, old testing instruments, and the geology of the area. At lunchtime, we have the opportunity to choose one of many restaurants along **Santa Cruz**

Avenue for lunch on your own, and visit some of the unique shops. Leave: 9:00 a.m. Return: 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$ 18

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.

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

ROYAL BRITAIN JUNE 14 -- 26, 2002

Highlights include: London tour and a theatre performance, *Windsor Castle*, *Stonehenge*, *Salisbury Cathedral*, *Bath*, the *Cotswolds*, *Stratford-upon-Avon*, *York*, *Edinburgh*, *Culloden Moor*, *Inverness*, *Isle of Skye*, *Glasgow*, *Stirling Castle*, and more. The cost of **\$2849** includes: round trip airfare, transfer to and from SFO with a minimum of ten passengers, and baggage handling. Optional cancellation insurance at \$110 allows for cancellation -- for any reason -- up to departure time. **A current passport is required. Brochures are available.**

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

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 for an overnight stay 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. The cost includes: round-trip airfare to Kansas City and return from St. Louis, one night in Kansas City, four nights in Branson, one night in Memphis, five breakfasts and four dinners on land, Branson show tickets, four-night *River Explorer* cruise with all meals and shore excursions, all tips at airports, hotels and barge, and baggage handling. Brochures are available at the December 1 luncheon. We urge you to send in your \$200 deposit early. Barge cabin space is very limited, and several *Golden Gate Tours* groups will be booking into this tour. Brochures are available.

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

Highlights include: Three days in Prague, motoring to Nurenberg to board the deluxe "*Viking Neptune*", launched 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. A slide presentation on this trip will be given on Tuesday, February 19, 2002, at 2:00 p.m. R.S.V.P. to Rose Crimi, (408) 293-0896.

How about New Year's trip ideas: San Antonio? Tucson? Rose Parade? Others? We need your feedback . . . soon!

ARGONAUTS: We are invited to participate in the following trip. Please call Margaret Allvey 408) 997-7507 for details. **MARCH 7, 2002, THURSDAY MARE ISLAND** Cost \$57, including bus, lunch and tips. Highlights include: St. Peter's Chapel with its Tiffany windows -- the oldest Naval chapel in the United States, 1900's Officer Row mansions, and a slide show history of the shipyard.

Checks for trips must be made to *The Californians*

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408-253-9514 **DEADLINE- for JUNE Trailblazer MAY 1, 2002**

P.O. BOX 8208 SAN JOSE CA 95155
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PIONEER LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, March 2, 2002

NOON AT LOU'S VILLAGE

swiss steak

RESERVATIONS *garlic mashed potatoes*
seasonal vegetables

BEFORE

green salad

WEDNESDAY

strawberry mousse

February 27, 2002

& COFFEE

554-7587

make checks to Lou's Village

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