

THIRD CLASS

"What is the present, after all,
but a growth out of the past."
-Walt Whitman

SRDHS News

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S O C I E T Y N E W S

Officers and new committees formed for 1989 are listed below:

Robert Augusto, President; Recording Secretary, JoAnn Carr; Corresponding Secretary, Yvonne Pylman; Treasurer, Becky Wheeler; New Directors: Pat Ferrigno, Clarksburg; John Salisbury, Walnut Grove; Carol Watson, Courtland; Kathie Graham, Walnut Grove; Continuing Directors: Chris Giovannoni, Walnut Grove; Carol Gwerder, Walnut Grove; Leonard Souza, Ryde; and Joan Wilcox, Walnut Grove. Don Quesenberry, Past President, is an exofficio director. Ed Turner has resigned as Vice President and the Board of Directors actively solicits a replacement. (Please call Bob Augusto at 707-

Membership: Carol Gwerder, chairman, Becky Wheeler, Chris Giovannoni, Yvonne Pylman, and Pat Ferrigno; Annual Meeting Dinner: Joanne Wiseman, chairman, with committee to be chosen; Audit: Joanne Carr, chairman, Robert James, and Becky Wheeler; Museum Staffing: Bob Augusto and Carol Watson, co-ordinators, and monthly chairmen, Bob Augusto/ April, Jean Harvie/ May, Chris Giovannoni/ June, Carol Watson/July, *AUGUST IS UNFILLED*, Don Quesenberry/ September, and Joan Wilcox/ October; Refreshments: May 15, Walnut Grove-- Chris Giovannoni, Kathie Graham, Leonard Souza/September 18, Clarksburg--Pat Ferrigno, Dave Wilson/November 20, Courtland--Joanne Wiseman, Judy Eddy; Resource Center: Don Quesenberry, chairman, Carol Watson, Herman Fisher, Jan Quesenberry (oral history), Phyllis Elhert and Jennie Sheehan (Library); Dai Loy: Robert James (bookkeeping), Kathie Graham and Frances Armstrong (museum curators), *the position for special tours is unfilled*; Nominating: *to be filled*; Publications: Kathie Graham (newsletter and history booklets), Yvonne Pylman (newsletter and miscellaneous), Pat Ferrigno (newspaper notices). A chairman for a special publication of a coffee table paperback book of old Delta photos or a calendar is still needed.

A BIG THANKS TO ALL OUR COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS!!!

PROJECTS AND REPORTS:

107 members renewed their membership for 1989, and 30 new names have been added to the Society mailing list. Jean Harvie prepared an updated mailing list, and a member roster is being typed for this issue of the newsletter.

The Dai Loy Museum received 10,832 visitors in 1988. It has also been noted in a new book, America off the Wall: The West Coast. SRDHS member, Roger Carr, is printing the memorial in honor of Clarence Pratt which will be hung in the museum. A big thanks go to Connie King, who voluntarily has shown special tours through the museum and to Carol Watson for her help with other special groups. State Senator John Garamendi (D) Walnut Grove, presented a motion for a feasibility study to incorporate Locke into the State Parks System. The motion passed out of committee with a unanimous vote.

President Bob Augusto suggested that the Society consider a barbeque dinner meeting on the lawn at the Jean Harvie School in the spring of 1990. The proposed program for the November 20 membership meeting in Courtland has been suggested as "The Herzog Family."

Don and Jan Quesenberry and Robert and Jerry James represented the Society at the California Heritage Council dinner in San Francisco June 21. Robert accepted an award in recognition of the contribution to the state's heritage the Society has made by mainting the Dai Loy Museum.

Tyler Barnes, grandson of Mrs. Lucy Barnes and the late Dr. Paul Barnes, asked the Society to contribute to an historical marker at the Paul Barnes Community Park in Walnut Grove. The marker will be built as his Eagle Scout Project. The Board voted \$200 towards the purchase of a plaque and suggested the pertinent facts to be included in the plaque paragraph.

All the books, Historic Homes of the Sacramento River Delta, have been sold.

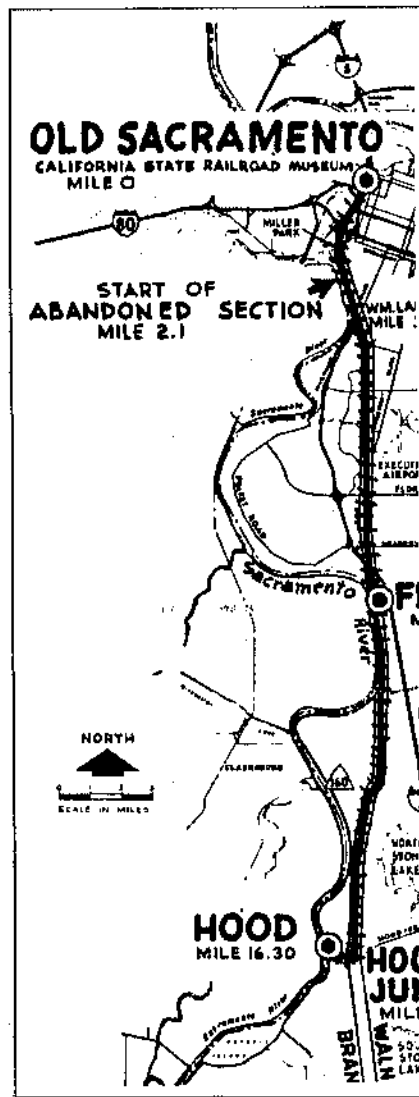
Walnut Grove resident, Mrs. Yasu Kawamura celebrated her 100th birthday in May.

50 YEARS AGO

From the Sacramento Bee: The Delta King and Delta Queen lost a long-distance, elapsed time steamboat race to the Mississippi Eagle. The Delta King took 8 hrs and 28 min. for the 90 mile run from Stockton to San Francisco, and the Delta Queen made the 110 mile run from Sacramento to San Francisco in 9 hrs., 39 minutes. The Golden Eagle sped from St. Louis to Cape Girardeau, Mo. in 9 hours and 10 minutes.

S P R I N G ' 8 9

From "Interchange": The Delta King, a historic riverboat which once plied the waters between Sacramento and San Francisco, opened for business with a big celebration on May 20th. After 5 years of restorative work, the riverboat, permanently docked in Old Sacramento, is ready for visitors. The Delta King has overnight accommodations, two dining facilities, a museum, and several shops.



From "On Track" by the California State Railroad Museum Associates

Today, the Sacramento Southern is on the brink of substantial growth. Over the past 5 years the State, the City of Sacramento and Sacramento Regional Transit jointly purchased portions of the former Walnut Grove Branch line as their funds permitted.

Recently, the State closed escrow on the last portion of the branch--between the communities of Freeport and Hood. This puts the entire 17-mile Walnut Grove Branch between Old Sacramento and Hood in public ownership.

Yearly expansion of the steam train's operable trackage will one day make possible a 34-mile round trip excursion train ride into the upper Delta, or a 17-mile train ride with a return trip to Old Sacramento by riverboat. There is definitely a green light ahead for the excursion railroad program.

L A B E L S

Member Jim Dahlberg spoke at the May meeting of the Society in Walnut Grove. His subject--River District Fruit Labels, which are the most-sought after among Northern California labels. Jim has an extensive collection, some of which he exhibits yearly at the Pear Fair in Courtland. There were once 250 labels registered from the River District. The grower or shipper hired a commercial artist at a lithographers, such as Schmidt Litho in San Francisco, gave the artist an idea which the artist drew up and presented for approval, and then the design was lithographed. The alternative was a stock label supplied by the lithographer on which the shipper's name was printed. The labels were patented and copyrighted and could be sold. The labels were affixed to the ends of a 46 lbs. lug box. (These boxes, also known as 4/5 bushel, were in use for 50 to 60 years.)

Of outstanding interest among the pear labels in Jim's collection were these: *Swastika* D.V. Miller Ranch (the swastika is an ancient American Indian symbol for peace); *Hustler* sold to the Sacramento River Association by the Hustler family of Sutter Island; *Open Trail* Joe Green Estate which noted "packed by white help"; *C. Ph. Wiedemann* with a picture of Carl Wiedemann; *Orwood Farm* O.Y. Woodard, one of only two extant from the Isleton area; *River Maid* Darsie & Gamble which was purchased by Blue Goose Growers, a subsidiary of American Fruit Growers. Other labels were *Orr* W.N. Runyon, cherries; *Daily* persimmons, *Daily* peas, *Daily* broccoli and *California* peas from Stillwater; *Greendale* lettuce from Holland Land, a A. Levi & J. Zentner label. Also a *True Green* asparagus wrapper of tissue paper from the Herzog Company, and an *Anglo-American Brand* asparagus canning label from Vorden.

Do you remember these River District labels? These were among those Jim shared:

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|---|--|
| <i>Blue Parrot</i> -Earl Fruit Co. | <i>Fancy Bartletts</i> -E.M. Simpson, Hood |
| <i>Buy the Best</i> -Sacramento River Assn. | <i>W.J. Dunnigan</i> -Courtland |
| <i>California Bartletts</i> -Lambert Packing Co. | <i>Big Game Brand</i> -Dennis W. Leary |
| <i>Capital Pak</i> -Lambert Packing Co. | <i>Orr</i> -Runyon & Dorsey |
| <i>Delta King</i> -de Back & Co. | <i>Smiling Thru</i> -Blue Anchor |
| <i>Delta Queen</i> -de Back & Co. | <i>Rio Vista</i> -Mabel Ruble & Mary McKinnon |
| <i>Court Brand</i> -Court Orchards, Courtland | <i>Island Brand</i> -Joseph Gwerder |
| <i>Lydia</i> -J.H. Thomas Co., Ryer Island | <i>King's Taste</i> -Runyon & Stephenson |
| <i>Pioneer Special Pack</i> -Lamber Marketing Co. | <i>Wm. Egles</i> -Walnut Grove |
| <i>Queen Brand</i> -American Fruit Growers | <i>River Gold</i> -Pacific Fruit Exchange |
| <i>Royal Orchard</i> -B.B. Green | <i>Sacramento River</i> -P.H. McGrath, Sutter Island |
| <i>Scotty</i> -John McCormack Co., Walnut Grove | <i>Western Shore</i> -Western Shore Orchard, Hood |
| <i>Wingdam</i> -Wingdam Orchards, Walnut Grove | <i>Orr</i> -"Buerre Hardy", Courtland |
| <i>C.W. Locke</i> -Locke | <i>Life Brand</i> -Dennis W. Leary |
| <i>Have One!</i> -A David J. Elliot Product | <i>Gold Crest</i> -Simons & French |
| <i>Gobbler</i> -Earl Fruit Co. | <i>Golden Cluster</i> -Pacific Fruit Exchange |
| <i>Fairy Brand</i> -Anita Land Co., Walnut Grove | <i>Diamond S</i> -E.M. Simpson |
| <i>Delta Brand</i> -Elliot's | <i>Circle C Brand</i> -E.J. Cowing, Hood |
| <i>Blue Goose Signal Brand</i> -Am. Fruit Growers | <i>Blue Flag</i> -Earl Fruit Co. |
| <i>Richland Orchard</i> -Hood | <i>Pride of the River</i> -C.W. Locke & Son |
| <i>Honeymoon</i> -American Fruit Growers | <i>Las Peras</i> -Joe Green, Courtland |
| <i>Sels' Best</i> -M.C.C. van Loben Sels | <i>Netherland Brand</i> -J.L. Aldrich |
| <i>Mealer Brand</i> -Mealer Bros, Walnut Grove | <i>Ideal Bartletts</i> -M.R. Dean, Courtland |

Jean Harvie Renovation To Begin in the Fall

A major renovation project at the former Jean Harvie School in Walnut Grove is scheduled to start this fall with some improvements to begin in a couple of weeks.

The bid package for the facelift-ing will be going out at the end of July and the project should be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Meanwhile, the North Delta Senior Citizens, Walnut Grove Boy Scouts, and River Delta Historical Society will begin moving out to prepare for the removal of asbestos on June 19. The process is expected to take about 14 days.

To help with the cost of necessary renovation, Sacramento County Department of Parks and Recreation was awarded another \$105,000 from the 1988 State Proposition 70 Park Lands Bond Act, under historic preservation. These funds will help with the added cost of the asbestos removal and other health and safety measures.

As the clipping indicates, the Society has temporarily moved from the Resource Center. Members who helped with the move were Bob Augusto, Ed and Chris Giovannoni, Leonard Souza, Becky Wheeler, Kathie and Midge Graham, and Don Quesenberry.

At present, everything from the Society's archives is stored in a storage unit at J & B Himebaugh Mini-Storage in Walnut Grove. All look forward to moving back to the Jean Harvie School in 1990.

Once the Society is able to move back into its space at the Jean Harvie School, Don Quesenberry, chairman, hopes to open the Resource Center once a month for a half day or on request.

Jim Dixon has donated many Walnut Grove Justice Court records (excepting those pertaining to fish and game matters and those records burned at an earlier date) to the files. Everyone is encouraged to keep the Historical Society in mind as you come across items of interest from the Delta's past in attics, basements, boxes, desks, cupboards or boarns for, either, loan to the Society or as gifts to the Society's permanent collection.

NEWS FROM OTHER HISTORICAL GROUPS

***This is Sacramento's Sesquicentennial Year, 1839-1989--150 years!

The Sacramento Birthday Celebration Committee is sponsoring a "Gala Evening Event" on August 12 at the Radisson Hotel. There will be live music, entertainment, dancing, a hosted Champagne Reception at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person, and replies are due by August 1st. For table reservations or information call 422-1627 or 925-2879.

***"Solano Women", an exhibit of photographs and artifacts illustrating the role of women in Solano County history is at the Vacaville Museum, 213 Buck Avel, Vacaville until September 24. The attraction includes an Oral History video.

***"The Story of Women's Clubs in Yolo County, 1886-1989" was the subject of a recent Yolo County Historical Society program. Among the clubs honored was the Clarksburg Garden Club.

***The San Joaquin Historical Society announced the addition of an Allis Chalmers UC wheel tractor to their exclusive collection. The tractor collection can be seen at the SJHS museum in Micke's Grove Park, Lodi. The SJHS newsletter notes that the Allis Chalmer company has a long history dating to 1847. Allis bought the orginial Decker and Seville firm in 1861. 1914 marked the introduction of the tractor line, and crawlers were added in 1925. Today the company is called Deutz-Allis.

***From the Sacramento History Center's "Centerlines" comes a review of Eleanor McClatchy Exhibit, "Mementoes of a Private Person": "She would have hated it is what some who knew Eleanor McClatchy have said of the exhibit; "Eleanor McClatchy: A Sacramento Woman," currently showing at the Sacramento History Center. It is a true assessment of Eleanor's probable attitude, but as a journalist's daughter who spent more than 40 years at the helm of the valley's leading newspaper, she also would understand the need for such a public tribute.... Her extra curricular interest in local amateur theater was well known, but not her love for collecting historic newspapers and printing specimens. The newspaper and printing collection was valued at over \$1,000,000 at the time of her death in 1980, and was destined for a private museum she had planned to build. However, the family felt the extraordinary collection could be better used by the community at the Sacramento History Center. The collection was given to the city, along with a substantial cash contribution to help complete the center. A video presentation prepared for local cable television runs continuously in the gallery detailing the life and accomplishments of this woman."

***The San Joaquin County Historical Society's "News and Notes" puts forward the idea that the famous ballad poem "Casey," which appeared in the San Francisco Examiner on June 3, 1888, might be about a central valley tale: "A local claim has as much merit as any in the tapestry of folklore surrounding "Casey at the Bat". Stockton was once referred to as "Mudville" by the captains of the paddle wheelers on the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. The Stockton Ports, the local baseball team, was originally called the Mudville Ports. One star player for the team in the late 1880's was one John Patrick Cahill. Could he have been Casey? Cahill could be our own local Casey for the purposes of fantasy; but no evidence exists that this was the hard, cold fact. But wouldn't it be nice to imagine the Mudville 9, with Cahill up in the ninth inning, two, out, two one, the score 4-2.....

