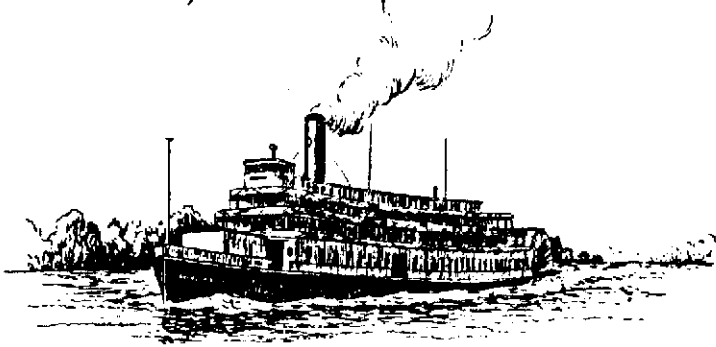


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"For what is the present, after all,
but a growth out of the past?"
-Walt Whitman

VOL 008 #001

M E M B E R S H I P N E W S

As the Sacramento River Delta Historical Society enters its second decade of service, an area wide Membership Drive is underway. Chairman Becky Wheeler and committee members Carol Gwerder, Chris Giovannoni, and Yvonne Pylman are coordinating a mailing to enroll new members and inform residents of the work of the Society. A card file of current and prospective members is being prepared as a permanent record. Names of any you think would enjoy supporting the Society would be most helpful.

REMINDER: If your label is marked with a red dot, your dues renewal has not been received; won't you do that TODAY! Also, please check to make sure your address is correct. (as of 3/1/88)

M E E T I N G N O T E S

The Society held its Annual Meeting January 18, 1988, in Walnut Grove at St. Anthony's Hall. President Don Quesenberry gave his "State of the Society" report noting recent developments: The second floor of the Dai Loy has been closed due to insurance coverage and lack of a fire escape; the Dai Loy flooring is spongy and needs repair, and the footing underneath the building needs replacement; the sidewalk in front of the museum has been leveled and re cemented; Francis Armstrong and Kathie Graham refurbished museum displays; 10,571 visitors came in 1987; the Society will establish an office and library at the new Resource Center at the Jean Harvie School Community Center in Walnut Grove. Don also commented on the Membership Committee's efforts and exploration toward publishing a book of old Delta photographs as 1988 projects. The program was presented by Mary Hanel, Cal Trans Librarian, who shared a delightful film featuring original footage from the planning, construction, and opening of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

The March membership meeting was held at the Isleton Community Center. Tom Bernardo of the Forestry Service brought a program featuring the Mt. Diablo State Park.

The Board is exploring possibly having the September meeting include a visit to the Towe Ford Museum in Old Sacramento followed by dinner aboard the "Delta King." The tour (without formal meeting or other speaker) has been tentatively set for September 19. If you would be interested in such a meeting, please return the attached card.

M O R E N O T I C E S

Carol Watson and Phyllis Ellert will chair the staffing program in '88 for the Museum. During '87 staffing problems forced the Dai Loy to close 8-10 times. (Connie King graciously opened it several times for genuinely interested parties.) President Don reminds members that irregular openings translate into bad publicity and when visitors complain, "It's never open when I'm there," attendance will suffer. Carol and Phyllis are exploring better and easier ways to staff, so let's all help them: many hands make light work!

Clarence Pratt has resigned his duties at the Dai Loy due the continuing fragile health of his wife, Emma. The Society presented him with an engraved plaque which honored his dedication and contribution to the Society and especially to the Dai Loy Museum.

Linda Cummings has agreed to meet the Exploration Cruise Line boats and open the museum for visiting passengers.

Chris Giovannoni, assisted by Carol Gwerder, will chair the 1989 Annual Dinner.

The Board of Directors voted to explore publishing a book of old photographs from the Society's extensive collection. The photos would be accompanied by short captions. Tentatively, the Board envisions the book covering the first 70 years of Delta history (1850-1920). The book would be a modestly priced edition and should be of much interest to the public.

New officers and Board members elected by mail-in ballot are Don Quesenberry, President; Bob Augusto, Vice President; JoAnn Carr, Recording Secretary; Yvonne Pylman, Corresponding Secretary; Becky Wheeler, Treasurer; Leonard Souza and Joan Wilcox, new Board members, and Jim Dahlberg, Chris Giovannoni, Carol Gwerder, Curzon Kay, and Carol Watson, Board members with continuing terms. Judy Cleaver is the immediate past-president, and Kathie Graham is Librarian.

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P1

BOARD QUESTIONS...
 ANSWERS...
 REQUESTS...
 REPLIES...

HISTORY NEWS/OTHER PLACES

"Preservation News" reports: "They're taking great pains to sleuth the history of the Hastings-Crocker House in Sacramento. The 1850's Italianate-style home is being refurbished as part of the city-owned Crocker Art Museum next door. While the demolition crew prepared the house for reconstruction, architect Tom Winter peered, poked, scraped, and otherwise delved into the evolution of the house's interior. He has uncovered stenciling and other painted surfaces, wallpaper, woodwork, plaster and metal ornamentation and a load of other fragments--many which will be useful in reconstructing part of the interior as a Victorian period room. The exterior of the old house will be restored to the early 1870's period. Reviving the house and building a new link to the museum, estimated to cost \$6.5 million, should be ready by the spring of 1989. Banker B.F. Hastings built the house and sold it ten years later to E.B. and Margaret Crocker, who later connected it to the art museum they built--said to be the first public art museum in the west.

The Walnut Grove Chamber of Commerce asked the SRDHS to help identify significant old building in Walnut Grove. The Board agreed that the Society could help.

Carol Watson is researching the robbery of the Bank of Courtland on Valentine's Day in 1928. If you have any information or remembrances of the event to share, please call her at 775-1537.

Gracious memorials have been received in memory of Mrs. Marion Aldrich Brown. Memorial cards and envelopes are available from Society treasurer, Becky Wheeler (776-1202).

Only 62 books, Historic Delta Houses, remain to be sold; 150 remain on consignment. Buy yours now before they are all gone. Use the coupon printed below. (Sales tax & postage are include in \$14.50.

MAIL ORDER FORM

Mail order form to:
 SACRAMENTO RIVER DELTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 P.O. Box 293
 Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Please send me _____ copies of HISTORIC HOUSES OF THE SACRAMENTO RIVER DELTA @ \$ 14.50 each.

Payment of \$ _____ enclosed.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HISTORY NOTES/AROUND THE AREA

Sacramento and Stockton both had several army camps and posts established nearby which have long disappeared. In July 1849, Camp Anderson was established in a swamp south of Sutterville about a dozen miles from Sacramento for the purpose of staging an advance to the Bear River near Marysville to establish Camp Far West. A few days after establishment, the camp was moved out of the swamp to the natural levee on the Sacramento River. The Camp was abandoned in September 1849.***Camp Union near Sacramento was established in 1861 as a training ground for the California volunteers in the Civil War. California was the most prominent provider of troops in the far west and 15,000 troopers trained at Camp Union. The camp's first site, which had to be evacuated due to flooding, was located across the Sacramento River from Sutterville, on what had been a racetrack. The subsequent camp was relocated on the east side of the river at what today is the intersection of Sutterville and Del Rio Roads. The camp was abandoned in 1866.***In Stockton, Camp Halleck was also established on a racetrack in May 1861. 700 men of the 3rd California Volunteers from Benecia were stationed at the camp. On July 12, 1861, 600 of the men left on an overland trek to Salt Lake City to establish Fort Douglas. The camp was abandoned in 1863.***Camp McDougall (also called Camp Gilmore) was established in 1861 to accomodate an infantry regiment. Located on French Camp Slough, 3 miles south of Stockton, the camp was active recruiting and training California volunteers for the Civil War. The post was composed of tents for rank and file, hospital and kitchen. ***Camp Stanford was a Civil War tent camp established in 1863, and occupied 2 square blocks on the undeveloped Stockton city perimeter at what today is bounded by Rose, Acacia, van Buren, and Monroe Streets.

The Sacramento County Public Library order \$312 worth of the assorted booklets sold at the Dai Loy Museum. You may also purchase these from the Society by using the following form.

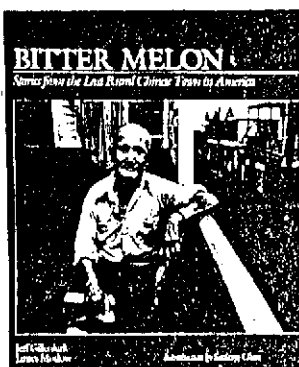
MAIL TO:
 Kathie Graham
 P.O. Box 98
 Walnut Grove, CA 95690

PLEASE SEND ME

- Discover the Sacramento River Delta
- Discover Walnut Grove
each \$1.60
- Discover Courtland
- Discover Locke
- Discover Paintersville, Vorden
and Ryde
- Discover the Dai Loy Gambling
Hall Museum
- Discover the Games Played at the
Dai Loy
each \$1.30
- All 7 for \$10.00, tax & postage incl.
(or add 25¢ perbooklet if ordering
separately)

The University of Washington Press

Bitter Melon
 Stories from the Last
 Rural Chinese Town in America
 by JEFF GILLENKIRK and JAMES MOTLOW
 at the River Road Art Gallery
 Main Street, Locke, California



Civil War Trivia: In 1863, the war cost the U.S. government \$2.5 million daily***The major cause of death was disease***The average height of Union soldiers was 5'8½"***Pay was \$13 a month (raised in May 1864 to \$16***The all wool uniform worn both winter and summer weighed 6 lbs.***Instant coffee was first widely used during the Civil War***Walnut Grove had an Armory built at the outbreak of the War. It was the headquarter of the Walnut Grove Union Guard. Dr. Josiah Poole, M.D. of Isleton was the Guard's First Lieutenant.

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RESOURCE CENTER

May 1, 1988, is the target date for the opening of the SRDHS Resource Center. It is centrally located in Walnut Grove at the Jean Harvie School Community Center. Sacramento Parks and Recreation Department rents the room to the Society for \$50 per month plus payment for heat on a pro rata basis. It is expected that the Resource Center will be open once a month and by appointment. In preparation for the move, Randy Baranek will clean out the accumulated jumble in the room as his Eagle Scout project.

All are encouraged to attend the May 16th Membership Meeting which will be held in the Center and provide ample opportunity for inspection.

The Library Committee at the RC is headed by Kathie Graham, assisted by Jennie Sheehan, Carol Watson, and Phyllis Ellert. Phyllis is with the Sacramento Public Library (Delta Division) and will serve as liaison to that facility. The committee is actively soliciting loans or gifts, specifically, material which pertains to the Delta in forms such as these: letters, journals, records, ledgers, diaries, oral histories, handbills, circulars, programs, specimen newspapers, pamphlets, government documents, photographs, maps, drawings, yearbooks, histories, reference books, biographies, and directories. (Copies may be given, if you wish to retain an original.) Small artifacts may also be accepted if they are integral to the collection and germane to the Delta. (No clothing or any thing larger than one cubic foot, please!)

The Library also appeals for bookcases and free-standing easels or bulletin boards for display purposes. Please contact any of the committee members if you can contribute in any way: Kathie (775-1041), Jennie (777-6558), or Carol (775-1537).

The Board of Directors is drawing up a collection policy with responsibility of implementation residing with the Board of Directors on recommendation of the Collection Management Committee. Various criteria are being reviewed. A policy on loans to the collection and outright gifts will be specified, and management, deaccessioning, and loans from the collection to recognized organizations and institutions procedures will be outlined.

ACQUISITIONS: Mr. and Mrs. James Barnes of Hood have given the Society the original and amended maps for the town of Hood, the By-Laws of the Netherlands Hotel Corp., and cash ledgers, etc. Also recently received from Tim Wilson are two very old fruit baskets and the form on which the Chinese made them from the Point Ranch on Andrus Island. Newell McMullen has donated a pair of beautiful handmade Chinese shoes to the museum.

CLARKSBURG COUNTRY

Society members are invited to enjoy an "Architectural and Agricultural Tour in Yolo County" sponsored by the Friends of the Yolo County Archives. On Saturday, April 30, from noon to 5 p.m., the \$10 ticket will offer opportunities to tour homes designed by 1920's architect, Raymond Yelland; visit a winery and tasting room, a reclamation district pumphouse, and a dichondra mill; and sip tea in a poolside garden. As an added attraction, a special buffet luncheon, by reservation only, will be served at the Clarksburg Community Church from 11:30 to 1:30 for \$7.50. For tickets and more information call Isabelle Heringer 775-1342, Kathie Merwin 744-1376, or Pat Merwin 775-1553.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

In recognition of National Women's History Month, the California State Capitol Museum presents "Reclaiming the Past...Rewriting the Future: California Women Together", State Archives Exhibit Room, 1st floor of the Capitol March-July. Also, at the Sacramento History Center, only during March, will be "Profiles of Women in Sacramento's History". Among the profiles will be that of Adaline Bloom Runyon (Mrs. Solomon Runyon) and her part in women in agriculture.

"Life in the Public Eye: California's First Ladies 1862-1917" will be featured through March in the State Library Exhibit room, first floor of the Capitol.

"California Vacation," an exhibit of premier vacation spots as seen from 1850-1940 will be at the History Center in Old Sacramento until July 25, 1988.

A RESEARCH UPDATE

UCLA's Professor Hung-hsiang Chou notes that what we have called a (Chinese) liquor bottle is always used exclusively for medicinal wines. These bottles were produced mainly in coastal Shanghai, and the wine was used to ease rheumatism and to increase vitality or "life's strength."

The continuing research notations are used in identifying items on display and exhibits at the Dai Loy Museum.

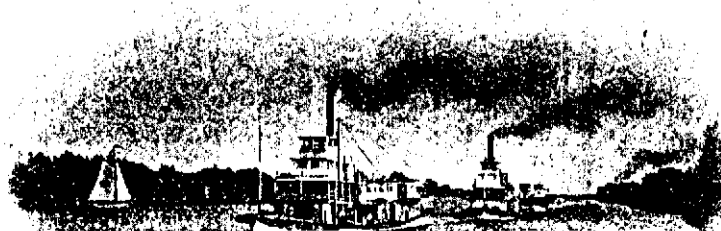
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TELEPHONE CAP. 188-R

Chas. H. Rippon
and
Sadie G. Bunyon,

Married

Tuesday, August tenth, 1886,
Live Oak Ranch,
Covilleland,
Sacramento River,
Cal.

HISTORICAL NOTES/AROUND THE AREA

Some significant sites in Sacramento County that are not well known according to two state historians are these: the 16th Street crossing of the American River, which was a pre-bridge major crossing; Sheldon's Mill at Sloughouse; the Central Pacific Railroad engine shops in the Southern Pacific Yards; the Nisenan Indian village site in Discovery Park; Pioneer Hall on 7th between J & K Streets; the 1827 campsite of Jedediah Smith, which was in the Perkins area; John Sutter's landing site at 30th and C Streets; Japan Town in Walnut Grove; Arcade Creek near the Junior Museum which is the site of the oldest find of prehistoric people in the Central Valley (It was also the beginning of the Sierras according to the Central Pacific Railroad); Sacramento City Cemetery; China Slough, which is now filled and part of the SP-RR Yards; the Sacramento Valley railroad path that begins at 2nd and R Streets and follows R St. in Folsom (The railroad was the first build west of the Mississippi.); McCartney Slough near present Sacramento State, filled and beneath J Street near the school's main entrance (A remnant of tules still grows nearby at the firehouse on Carlson Dr.)

HISTORICAL NOTES/TRACING A FAMILY

The Kercheval family was from Orston, Nottinghamshire, England and owned a secondary seat at Dunster near Knaresborough in the West Riding of Yorkshire. The family descends from a John Kerchecheval (sic) Master of the Horse to Queen Anne of Bohemia, wife of England's Richard II in the 14th century. The earliest date for the family in Orston is 1515. The name is half Latin and half French-ker taken from currit, to run in Latin, and cheval in place of the Latin equus meaning horse. The family crest pictorially and precisely describes the name. Evidently, around 1730, the last two brothers carrying the surname Kercheval left Orston for Virginia. Additionally, the Kerchevals directly descend from a long line of DuVals from France. Mareen DuVal, the Huguenot refugee, migrated to Maryland in 1658 as a servant. His great great grand daughter Mary Pottinger married James Kercheval. (see next column)

We the People, A Story of Intermment
by Mary Tsukamoto & Elizabeth Pinkerton--\$17.00
(Pinkerton Prints, 8780 Jadestone Ct., Elk Grove)

Saloons of the Old West
by Richard Erdoes--\$12.50
(Howe Bros, Salt Lake City)

West Sacramento: The Roots of a New City
by Shipley Walters--\$9.00
(Yolo County Historical Society, Woodland)

Yolo County: Land of Changing Patterns
by Joann Larkey & Shipley Walters--\$25.95
(Windsor Publications)

Japanese American: From Relocation to Redress
ed Daniels, Taylor, Kitano--\$24.16
(University of Utah Press)

SAMFOW: The San Joaquin Legacy
by Sylvia Sun Minnick--\$25.00
(Panorama West Publishing)

"Friendly Trials of Skill: Sacramento Baseball
in the 1860's and 70's"
Sacramento County Historical Society
(Available at the History Center, Old Sacramento)

Heroes of the Golden Gate
by Charles F. Adams--\$24.95
(Pacific Books Publishers)

History of Concord, Its Progress & Promise
by Edna May Andrews et al--\$33.90
(Concord Historical Society, P.O. Box 404;94522)

Late Harvest: Napa Valley Pioneers
by California Indigeneous Arts Organization
(C.I.A.O., Box 6707, Napa, 94581)--\$4.00

Homes of Old Merced
by Jeff & Henry DuPertuis--\$19.00
(Merced County Historical Society, 95340)

History of Amador County, California, Index
by Choice M. Glover--\$10.00
(322 Via Verde, Sutter Creek, 95685)

*An American Treasure: The Stanford House
in Sacramento*
by Dorothy F. Regnery--\$3.95
Stanford Historical Society, Stanford, 94305)

The Notorious I.C. Woods of the Adams Express
by Albert Shumate--\$16.50
(Arthur H. Clark Co.)

The Southern Pacific 1901-1985
by Don L. Hofsommer--\$44.50
(Texas A & M University Press)

*Through Our Eyes: the 20th Century as Seen
by the San Francisco Chronicle*
ed Howard I. Finberg--\$8.95
(Chronicle Publishing Co.)

San Francisco Bay Area Landmarks-Four Centuries
by Charles Kennard--\$35.00
(Tioga Publishing Co.)

Landmarks of the West: A Guide to Historic Sites
by Kent Ruth--\$17.50
(University of Nebraska Press)

*The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition
Vol 3, August 25, 1804-April 6, 1805*
(University of Nebraska Press)

FAMILY- continued

Collaterally, the Kercheval's through the DuVal's are related to the Tyler family of Virginia and Lewis/Louis Kercheval (the father of Reuben who settled on Grand Island) was the brother-in-law of Abraham Lincoln's niece, Mary Grume. From Virginia, the family spread westward into Kentucky and Tennessee and worked its way into Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and by 1850 to Missouri. Many of the family settled near Sheridan, Indiana where the local jeweller's is Kercheval's. It is a singular name and all Kerchevals are related to each other, however distantly.

Many thanks go to Kathie Graham who collected and prepared the material for this newsletter.