



DAI LOY GAMBLING HOUSE MUSEUM

Attendance at the Dai Loy Museum in Locke totaled 11,579 visitors during the 1982 season. Tourists from forty states and twenty-four countries signed the guest register; among the more exotic countries represented were Fiji, Singapore, Thailand, South Africa, and China.

In addition to the regularly scheduled week-end openings, the museum has been made available to school and tour groups by special arrangements. The Exploration Cruise Lines visited the Dai Loy seventeen times this fall. Clarence Pratt served as guide and historic interpreter for these visitors. Also, Clarence welcomed other groups from Channel Star Tours out of Stockton and Yankee Tours and Cherokee Tours from Sacramento several times. Exploration Cruise Lines has already tentatively scheduled seventeen more visits for the spring of 1983. It is the policy of the society to charge \$25 per visit to all groups who come to the museum during closed days or hours.

Clarence has been on hand to greet classes from the Pittsburg schools and Walnut Grove Elementary School, as well as the Galt Scout troop.

The special introductory talk which Clarence gives to orientate visitors has now been taped by Jan Quesenberry. Other staffers can play this recording for those persons interested in a detailed briefing of the museum and points of Delta history related to the Locke area.

Special thanks go this year to Clarence Pratt for his work with all the numerous tours by appointment. Kudos also to Paul and Lucy Barnes who, serving as greeters for the first Saturday of the '82 season, spent much extra time dusting and sweeping to freshen the building after a winter of idleness.

The Dai Loy was staffed this year by volunteers responding to a postcard canvas. The staffing schedule and procedures for 1983 will be announced shortly by the new chairman. Thanks are extended to each and every member who helped by taking a turn as a "sitter". The museum with its unique collection of Chinese artifacts cannot continue without such faithful support.

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Election

Jennie Sheehan, chairman of the 1982 nominating committee which included members Jean Harvie, Jim Dahlberg, Judy Eddy, and Don Quesenberry, has submitted a report to the Board of Directors. On the recommendation of the committee the following slate of officers will be presented at the annual meeting in January: President-- Judge James Gualco; Vice President--Arthur Brown; Recording Secretary-- Chris Giovannoni; Corresponding Secretary--Mary Fulster; and Treasurer--Jim Dahlberg. Directors nominated for a two-year term are Neil Hamilton, Pat Merwin, Cathy Hemley, and Harvey Felt. Kathie Graham as immediate past president will also be represented on the board. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner of the Sacramento River Delta Historical Society will be held on Monday evening, January 17. A special invitation with complete details is enclosed with this newsletter. All members and friends are most cordially encouraged to attend.

Mary Fulster and Chris Giovannoni have volunteered to be co-chairmen for the event which will celebrate the seventh annual meeting of the society. Other members of the committee who will help to co-ordinate the pot-luck meal are Joy Agosto, Jennie Sheehan, Joan Wilcox, Marian Pietetti, Olga Andreuccetti, and Doris and Jerald Waterworth.

NOTES III

Past president, Judy Merwin, who works at the Railroad Museum Bookshop, shares the following information from the Sacramento Area State Parks Docent Council Assn.: "The museum experience brings railroading to life, but, something is missing. One of the most frequently asked questions is: Where can I ride the train? Surveys have shown that 85% of state park visitors feel the availability of a train ride to be an integral part of the Old Sacramento experience. Unfortunately, the huffing-puffing, sights, sounds, and smell of an operational steam passenger train are sensations that future generations may miss. We must act NOW to establish an operating steam excursion train at the Railroad Museum. It is hard to believe, but nearly 50% of the park visitors have never ridden a steam-powered "iron horse" The State of California now has the golden opportunity to purchase the abandoned Walnut Grove Branch Line . . . Regularly scheduled steam-powered passenger trains (would) run from the museum on this line, (an) enriching . . . experience. WE NEED YOUR HELP! A demonstration of public support for the acquisition of this rail line is essential . . . Write your State Legislators and tell them you support the purchase of the Walnut Grove Branch Line. Saving the . . . line is an investment in . . . the preservation of a meaningful element of our past." You may also write the Chairman of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, State Capitol, Sacramento 95814 and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee Senator Alfred E. Alquist, State Capitol Sacramento 95814.



The long-awaited ground-breaking for the Sacramento History Center was held November 16, 1982. The site is next to the State Railroad Museum at Front and J Streets. When completed, the museum will be an outstanding example of modern technology used to interpret the past. The completed project will give Sacramento a museum equal in quality and stature to almost any in the U.S. and surpassing most.

The History Center needs a complete suit of men's business clothes, preferably from the 1860's. They must be original and documented as to initial owner. A donation is preferred, but a 5-year loan can be arranged. The garments would have excellent care and environment. A complete outfit is needed, but pieces of the whole (trousers, coat, hat shoes, vest, shirt, and tie) are acceptable. Call Curator, Sherry Hatch at 447-2958.



The Early American Industries Association, Inc. with the assistance of the American Association for State and Local History would like help in compiling a comprehensive listing of tool makers who worked in America since Colonial days and covering a broad range of tools. The directory will include names, business and tradenames, dates, addresses and "hallmarks". It will identify the sources of information for purposes of verification and additional research. Without local participation the editors feel the contribution tools made in making America may go unrecognized. Contact Kathie Graham (775-1041) if you would like to help.



The California Historical Society's Historic Business Register update reports "Founding Sponsor" grants were received from Standard Oil of California (1879-Pacific Coast Oil Co.), Homestake Mining Company (1877), McClatchy Newspapers (1857), Barker Bros. (Barker & Meuller, 1889; retail home furnishers, Los Angeles), and Guittard Chocolate Company of San Francisco (1868). 1983

Delta Historical Society

A Society open to all residents and former residents of Delta towns and neighboring islands, interested in gathering and preserving the history of the Sacramento River Delta.

___ new	___ renewal
Membership Category:	
Regular \$ 6.00	Family \$12.00
Senior Citizen . . . 3.00	Student 3.00
Sustaining 20.00	Patron 50.00
Life \$150.00	

If this membership is a family membership, include names of all student age children.

Mail this Coupon with your Membership

Make Checks Payable to:
 Sacramento River Delta
 Historical Society
 P.O. Box 293
 Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Would you like a membership roster? If there is enough response, the Board of Directors might consider printing a supply.

Memorial contribution cards and envelopes may be obtained from the Corresponding Secretary, Mary Fulster.



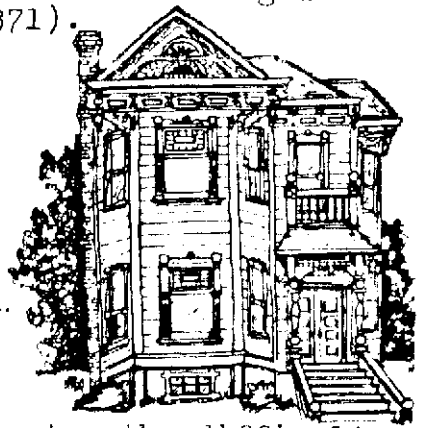
Presidio Press received an "excellent response" to their pre-publication offer on the book Delta Country. The Society received a \$100 donation for advance order placed by SRDHS members.

Antique Homes

The Sacramento River Delta Historical Society is now compiling material to be used in a book on Delta homes. The Board has completed a contract with Locke artist, Chris Spencer, to illustrate thirty area homes built in the 19th and early 20th centuries. His work in creating the illustrations from original pen and ink/watercolor full-scale pieces is almost finished. In addition he will design the format and layout for a quality soft-bound edition.

Each drawing will be accompanied by caption stories about the homes, their histories, architectural data, or other unique information which would set the house apart. Careful research must be done to make the booklet a sound historical record as well as an attractive pictorial account of the outstanding homes in the Delta area. Anyone interested in assisting in gathering, checking, or supplying information is encouraged to call Kathie Graham (775-1041) or Frank Wilcox (775-1371).

Many homes were considered for inclusion in this volume which is focused on the pre-1920 period. A working list includes the following houses in each local area: Clarksburg--Schibig and Munk; Merritt Island--Bunnell and Bump/Thomas; Hood--Rosebud; Randall Island and area--Hollister and Bishop/Dean; Courtland--George Smith; Grand Island--Leary, Goldman, Meyers/McDowell, Wm. Smith's "the Castle", L. Meyers's "River Mansion", Reynolds, and Eising; Pierson District--Talmadge, Runyon, Dorsey, Runyon, Carmany/Greene, and van Loben Sels' "Amistad"; Walnut Grove--Brown; Andrus Island--Robinson; Rio Vista--Gregorsky, Bader; and Montezuma Hills--Mayhood. This tentative listing illustrates the difficult task of accurately reporting the past, in that there are many different ways of naming or designating each house. The policy set by the Board for information contained in the book would insure that exact locations or contemporary data would not be included in order to protect the privacy of owners, and each current owner must give written permission before a home will be included.



The Society undertakes this project to fill a need for accurate records dealing with the history of the Sacramento River delta area. In the effort to document these early homes, the group hopes to foster a further awareness and appreciation of the past and build a broader understanding of the need of preservation to prevent careless compromise with the Delta's heritage.

This will be the SRDHS's first major publishing venture. The Board hopes for moderate success which could lead to a second volume. A publication date will be announced as soon as the preliminary research and lay-out is complete.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Members attending the SRDHS meeting in September enjoyed the talk and slide show presented by Professor Gregg Campbell of Sacramento State. He is currently researching the social history of the Pocket area, tracing the intertwining stories of the Portuguese and Japanese who first settled the region.

There are a number of items which may be of interest to Society members.

"Sacramento on Stone: A Display of Historic Urban Views 1849-1981" is at the State Library for an extended show. Lithographs and prints are featured from the collection of the State Library, State Archives, Sacramento History Center and private collections.

For those interested in California Gold Rush lore and artifacts, there is an excellent display on the concourses off the main terminal buildings at the Sacramento Metropolitan Airport.

The largest collection ever displayed of historical surveying artifacts is now attracting interest at the Huntington-Hardford building at the California State Railroad Museum. The exhibit will close April 8, 1983.

The Delta Natural History Assn. at Brannan Island S.R.A. now has a Park Visitor Center with several displays featuring the Delta and local flora and fauna. During the Rio Vista Bass Derby a seminar on striped bass fishing was conducted by John Tremeroli of Hap's Bait Shop.

The Rio Vista Museum is undergoing renovation and will reopen after the New Year.

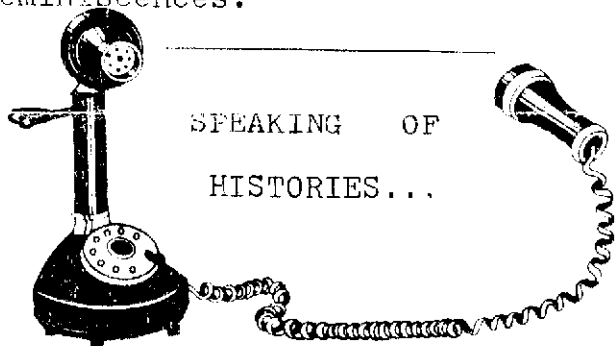
In a report on the Sacramento City-County History Week observed in August, it was noted that "if you get a chance to see the Sacramento River Delta History Society's display at the old gambling hall in Locke, it's well-worth the drive."

Project Underway

The Oral History program has gone forward over the past year as a continuing project of the SRDHS. Kandy Korth Cashen, Jan Quesenberry, Janet Lokke and Cathy Hemley have contributed much time and talent in producing manuscript drafts and finished oral history records from taped interviews.

There are many more reports which can be transcribed, typed, and initially recorded given the available time and volunteers. Those who are interested in helping in this area are encouraged to contact Kathie Graham.

Oral histories have been collected from the following local residents: Lenore Allen, Clifford Smith, Dick Phipps, Clarence Pratt, Gabriel de la Torre, Dennis Leary Sr., Gertrude Dennison, Raymond Primasing, John Wheeler, Herman Fisher, Agneda Lample, Harriet Figg Connaughton, Vernon Hutton, Mas Ito, Yasu Kawamura, June Watanaba, Alena Balsmeier Richardson, Earl Stewart, Loyal Mealer, and Roland Lauritzen. In addition there are tapes from early meetings of the Society at which longtime Deltans spoke on their family histories and other reminiscences.



SPEAKING OF
HISTORIES...

100 YEARS AGO: There were several interesting articles in the "Sacramento Union" Thanksgiving Day re-publication of a few pages from its July 31, 1882 issue. Of note was the Sacramento County Republican Primary Convention Notice, which resolved, Article 7 that "The places for holding said primary election and the names of the persons constituting the Election Board at each of the said places, and the number of delegates allowed each of the said places are as follows, viz: (among those mentioned)--Franklin-3 delegates. Polls at Korn's Store. Inspector J.E. Hall and judges H. Erhardt, J.B. Bradford. Richland (Hood)-2 delegates. Polls at Schoolhouse. Inspector William Johnson, judges Charles Gammon, Isaac Bryan. Courtland-3 delegates. Polls at Myer's Store. Inspector, Dwight Hollister, judges M.H. Myers and J.R. Olsen. Walnut Grove-3 delegates. Polls at Sharp's Hotel. Inspector Joseph Wise, judges B. Westfall, William Jackson. Isleton-3 delegates. Polls at Hotel. Inspector Hart F. Smith, judges P.H. Gardiner, R. Webb. Emmaton-2 delegates. Inspector J.M. Upham, judges D.L. Perkins..."

To Read

BOOKS ACROSS THE EDITOR'S DESK

Capitol Park Trees--A Users Guide (\$9.95) Available at the Capitol Book Store, Rm. 124, State Capitol or by mail at \$12 inclusive--zip 95814

History of California by Hubert Howe Bancroft. 7 volumes: a facsimile edition published by Wallace Heberd. (Since it was first published in the 1880's it has been the cornerstone of all later writing on California and is believed by many to be the best large-scale state history written.)

From Italy to San Francisco--The Immigrant Experience by Dino Cinel, Stanford University Press. (\$25) (Covering three generations, it is a panoramic study of 2,000 Italian families who immigrated between 1850 and 1930 and shows the profound affect of regional differences on adaptation to American life and characterizes the true immigrant experience.)

The World Rushed In by J.S. Holliday. (The book reveals with total authenticity the experience of the greatest gold rush in history and reveals the essential goodness and the moral courage of ordinary men and women who coped with the extraordinary circumstances.)

BOOKS COMING TO PRESS

Sacramento, Heart of the Golden State edited by three members of the Sacramento County Historical Society.

The Tulebreakers: The Story of the California Dredge by Edward Dutra. Ed wrote the book with John Thompson, Professor of Geography at the University of Illinois.

Kathie Graham

SOCIETY BOOKLETS

The history pamphlets produced by Kathie Graham and Jean Harvie continue to sell well at the museum. Copies of these four booklets offered at the Dai Loy have been given to the five local county branch libraries and to the Bancroft Library in Berkeley, the Holt-Atherton Center for Western Studies at UOP, the California State Library-California Room, and the California Historical Society-Schubert Hall Library in San Francisco. According to the Bancroft Library, these records are well received as there is very little narrative on the Delta in most collections.