

# Sacramento River Delta Historical Society NEWSLETTER

*"For what is the present, after all,  
but a growth out of the past."  
— Walt Whitman*

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 18, No. 2

DECEMBER 1998

## SOCIETY NOTES

The historic exhibit at the Pear Fair in Courtland was popular again this year. There was a constant and interested crowd throughout the day. Tom Herzog, Jerry Waterworth, Terry Alcorn and Jim and Barbara Dahlberg deserve the credit for setting up all those detailed displays. They also got to take them down and store them for next year--an onerous job well done! Thanks to those who sat in the exhibit to help people with questions. They were Terry and Jayne Alcorn, Barbara and Jim Dahlberg, Margret and Bill Shelton, Dorothy Hays, Tom Herzog, Grand Chairman Chris Fulster and Mary Fulster and June Werhan. Think about getting involved next year--it's really fun.

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The Resource Center is making haste slowly toward being accessible and organized. Terry Alcorn (775-1124) has agreed to arrange appointments for those who cannot get to the Center on the first Tuesday of the month between 10 am and noon.

Some gremlin is disorganizing our tenuously organized material. Believe it or not the tapes and transcripts are in order while we list and classify them. We come back to resorted materials and some have been borrowed. Please leave a note about who you are and what you take and also leave things in the same order in which you find them. It is difficult starting from square one every time we work. Thank you.

Our computer really works only as a word processor. As we are beginning to catalogue everything in the Center we find a need for more memory, alphabetizing skills, etc. Next time you update your system, please consider us for any leftover equipment. We can write a nice letter describing the donation which can be useful at tax time.

The Center will be open the SECOND Tuesday in January, January 12th 10 am - noon.

**WORK DAY!** Wednesday, January 13th at 1:30 pm. Come and select a project to help us become organized. At least come and poke around a bit--we need your ideas.

*(continued pg. 6)*

## SESQUICENTENNIAL

Historical societies throughout California have been heralding the arrival of the "Sesquicentennial". The three years between January 24, 1948, when gold was discovered in Coloma, and September 9, 1950, when California became a state, will be celebrated 150 years later by each hamlet and village that was around 150 years ago. We have been looking at what was going on in the Delta during that time so we can join the celebration.

Maps in the well-known "History of California" by H.H. Bancroft indicates this area was a swamp during that time. We know some of our early settlers arrived around then (early 1850s). Rueben Kercheval, Josiah B. Greene, Armstead, Solomon and O.R. Runyon, David T. Lufkin, Edward Figg, William Johnston, George A. Smith, John Sharp, and J.C. Beach to name a few. Reclamation began with the Swamp and Overflow Act of 1850. Rueben Kercheval on Grand Island and Josiah Greene on Merritt Island both started levees to keep the tides off their property.

Perhaps we should look through the eyes of the people who were here at the time. It is 1850 and I am 22 years old. My name is Onisbo and I live on the banks of the Sacramento River across from the head of Steamboat Slough. The river is sometimes deep and sometimes wider and not so deep. We ride logs or bundles of tules on the river. We spear fish, gather acorns and build our houses from willowbark and tules. When I was very young some men came looking for beaver. Unfortunately they also brought diseases which killed thousands of my people. About 11 years ago a boatload of men came up the river and camped at the fork of the next river. When the boat left there was a noise so loud that we heard about it. It frightened all the animals. Some of the men stayed and one, Captain Sutter, established a fort and a farm. Very few people came down into our country for many years. Two years ago more people started coming up the river. Many more boats crowded with people. This year "steam" boats started bringing more people at one time and they cut down trees to make them go.

*(continued pg. 6)*

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**ANNUAL POTLUCK DINNER**  
**MONDAY                      JANUARY 18th                      6:30 PM**  
**JEAN HARVIE CENTER**

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**SEPTEMBER MEETING**

Leonard Souza arranged a wonderful meeting about the history of the Japanese Community in Walnut Grove.

Mr. Tosh Sakai eloquently related the history of the Japanese in Walnut Grove. He attended the segregated Oriental school in Walnut Grove and graduated from Courtland Union High School. The elementary schools were segregated in Walnut Grove, Isleton, Courtland and Florin until 1942. There were Japanese and Chinese students and white teachers. The work was done in English. He also attended Japanese cultural schools after regular school and on Saturdays. Mr. Sakai worked in several businesses (Inaba, Hayashi) finally establishing an insurance agency. In 1937 he visited Japan. His four children all graduated from Courtland High and later finished college.

The first Japanese came to the river in the 1890s. The Japanese section of Walnut Grove extended from C Street to the railroad and in later years expanded beyond the railroad levee. There were fires in Walnut Grove in 1915 and 1937. At its peak, previous to World War II, the Japanese area included 2000 people. The pears and tomatoes required three pickings and this employed many people. They followed crops--grapes in Marysville and Lodi. At that time there were 9 grocery stores, 9 boarding houses, 2 public baths and 2 tofu plants. At the corner of A and Market Streets, Ben Matsuda opened a drugstore in 1907. His daughter and her husband, Shiego and Florance Kato, both pharmacists, operated Ben's Drugs until their retirement in the 1970s. Next door on Market Street was Matt's Shoe Repair, started in 1918 by Mr. Matsuoka and continued by his son into the 1990s. On B Street were located the Watanabe restaurant, Miyasaki Sweet Store, baths and Hayashi Market (still operating since the 1920s). The market was destroyed in the 1915 fire and rebuilt in 1916 by Kawamura and Hayashi. Today (1998) Hayashi's is run by Ralph Sugimoto's son. On A Street were a hotel, Japanese Association building, laundry, doctor and dentist offices, and the Methodist Church built in 1926. Most of these buildings became residences on Pine Street at the very back of town. The land under these buildings was owned by land companies. The Dye Company owned part and the Brown Company owned another block. The Japanese people could not own land until the early 1950s. Until now (1998) they have paid rent for the land even though they owned their homes. The last parcel is now being divided and the building and land will be under the same ownership.

The Japanese people were moved to internment camps in 1942 for the duration of World War II. In some cases friends took care of many of their properties, businesses and belongings but others were not so fortunate. They had good times in the twenties and thirties but things were not so good when only about 50% of the people returned to Walnut Grove after World War II. Isleton Japanese people were unable to return and so there are few Japanese in Isleton today. Over 50% of the Japanese people on the river came from Honshu; the rest came from other parts of Japan. The fishing is not as good here anymore. The young people have grown up and

moved away for jobs. Festivals include Christmas, Obon, and the early July Bazaar which started in 1952.

Our thanks to Mr. Sakai and Leonard and Lillian Souza for an interesting and fulfilling evening.

**BOOK REVIEW**

David Mas Masumoto is a grape and peach farmer whose ranch is south of Fresno. He also writes books. His first was Epitaph for a Peach, which told of a year of the life of his farm. His newest book, Harvest Son, tells the history of his family. "*Masumoto delves deeply into his family's history, beginning with his grandparents' emigration to America in 1899 and continuing through to the present day. The often troubled legacy of the Japanese-American community is explored, including his family's displacement in the Japanese internment camps of World War II and the slow demise of a distinct Japanese-American culture in California. But Harvest Son is also a book about the simple joys of living off the land: Masumoto, who decided to take over his father's farm after studying in Berkeley and Japan, is unabashed about his love for farm life--his lush prose lends poetry to such earthy subjects as pruning grape vines and fixing broken tractors.*" (Borrowed from a book review in a Northern California newspaper.)

**NOVEMBER MEETING**

The Rio Vista museum, 16 N. Front Street, is a joy to behold. We visited the museum for our November meeting arranged by Jim Tracy and guided by Dick and Bill Brann, Harvey Felt, Pat Houlton, Mary Belle O'Connell and Mike Oestrik. The museum was started during the bicentennial and it's been fun to watch it grow--both the collection and the building show hours of dedicated toil.

There is a collection of California automobile license plates complete 1914-1990. School memorabilia abounds -- Saint Gertrude's graduation lists, Rio Vista High School uniforms, Canright and Slough School diplomas, and other nostalgic mementos, Indian artifacts, clothing and old wooden hand tools add to the extensive presentations.

The kitchen area is a real treat with pots, pans, a churn, stove, washing machine, baby buggy and an iron with an ironing board. This exhibit gives a good picture of everyday life in the "good old" days. All the artifacts are easily viewed. Next to the kitchen is an alcove devoted to the colorful history of the Birds Landing, Collinsville, Shilo area.

Farm equipment is a major component of the museum. There is a "Go Devil", "Montezuma Chisel", and many wagons, buggies and other tools. One of the most interesting is the prototype for the sugar beet mechanical harvester developed on Ryer Island when all the labor left during World War II. There is even a gas engine used to raise the Antioch Bridge on exhibit.

If you missed the meeting, you can visit the RIO VISTA MUSEUM on Saturday or Sunday, 1:30 to 4:30. It's really fun browsing around the exhibits.

Our thanks to those who guided us and those who supplied the refreshments.

### PIERSON RECLAMATION DISTRICT #551

The Pierson lies within Franklin Township, Sacramento County. It is bounded on the west and southwest by the Sacramento River, on the east by Snodgrass Slough, on the north by Highway 160 which parallels what was once Hensley Slough, and on the south by the cross levee which defines the Libby McNeil District #369. Initially, the district was known as the Runyon District and extended down river as far as Tyler Island. In subsequent years the southern end of the district was lopped off to form the Libby McNeil District #369 and the Walnut Grove District #554.

The land was a back swamp of the Sacramento River, much of the area was covered with tules and oaks and the river banks were forested with riparian woodlands. It is unknown when the district's designation was changed from Runyon to Pierson. An even bigger mystery is who was Pierson and why the spelling which initially was "Pearson" changed to "Pierson". Perhaps the latter spelling is linked to J.C. Pierson, a consulting engineer, after the 1892/93 flood season.

As with most of the reclaimed Delta acreage the Pierson experienced its share of flooding. There were notable floods in 1862 and 1868. On February 20-21 of 1878 there was significant flooding and severe winds which destroyed barns, killing a number of horses. By May the 100-300 feet alluvial rim was once again being farmed, but water remained in the low center until the end of May. In 1876 the Union Savings Bank of San Francisco repossessed several 1000 acre parcels. After the flood of 1878 the back of the district was left virtually a lake and the Union Savings Bank became the owner of nearly 4000 acres. P.J. van Loben Sels, a resident of the district, was appointed by the bank to act as receiver for the acreage. In 1880 the Union Savings Bank sent van Loben Sels a letter which went in part: *"On Sunday, we went down to the south side of the District seeing most of the settlers. All were for reclamation. Most expressed themselves against the cross-levee and appeared to have no confidence in Bailey. (ed note: Bailey wanted to organize and manage the district. The settlers had little confidence in Bailey and his partner, James Simms, of Courtland, and preferred the Union Savings Bank.) We examined the cross-levee to the break and the fall of Snodgrass Slough into Tyler Slough. On Monday we went to the north end of the district, accompanied by D. Hollister, examined the Pearson Levee as far as the first break south of the point of timber. (ed note: the point of timber was on the south side of the district.) We found this section of about three and a half miles from Hensley Slough in very good condition: solid and perfect, only needing trifling repairs. Now, on Sunday at 10:am the settlers meeting was held at Courtland to entertain their Bailey proposition. Of the twenty settlers all were present except three or four..."*

Three years later in early February 1881, a tremendous outflow from the Yolo Basin at Rio Vista

effectively dammed the Sacramento River and significantly raised the river to within three miles of Clarksburg. At Courtland the river inched above its peaks of 1862 and 1868 and by the 2nd of February most ranches near Courtland were submerged. In 1889/90 high and unruly water again threatened the river land. A group of landowners in the Pocket, south of Sacramento, proposed cutting a sizable drainage canal to drain the swamp-like Pocket and proposed connecting the canal to Snodgrass Slough. The cost would have been treated as road drainage. Lower Sacramento County landowners objected to underwriting the Pocket landowners and the project was abandoned.

Flooding was experienced again in 1892/93 and in February and March 1902 there was a high water crisis. After the catastrophic Edwards break below Sacramento in 1904, the deficient levees were unable to withstand the volume of water and the district flooded. Incident to the '04 flood, P.J. van Loben Sels was elected President of the fractious River Improvement and Drainage Association. In March 1907 between the 21st and 24th, high tides, levee breaks, toppings and wind-whipped waves destroyed the levee system. The cross-levee broke on March 14 and the lower back levee the same day. Mokelumne River water backed up and over the back levees. Water approached six feet deep at Courtland. Twelve hundred dairy cattle were rescued, but 325 horses, dairy cattle and beeves were lost. The district was again dry by about mid-July. Under the direction of P.J. van Loben Sels, rebuilding the levees began in 1917. The massive back levee is a Pierson district landmark. It is seven miles long, 23 feet high, and 12 feet wide at the top. The levee cost over \$100,000. Over \$130,00 was spent on pumps to remove remaining water and maintain dry land. The bank paid for half the project and the landowners paid for the other half. It was an extremely costly project for the district. In 1917 the "Natoma" with a long-boom clamshell dredge began enlarging the massive proportions on the seven mile back levee. The work was completed in 1932 by the suction dredge "San Pedro". In 1955 the district was severely threatened by flooding. Between 150 and 300 people worked to protect the land. Over 200 dairy cattle meal feed bags were filled with sand for levee maintenance and Jonson & Sons' hydraulic bulldozer, operated by Art Johnson, was used at critical spots. At that time the district was strapped for cash. Afterwards, the Herzog leveling group helped reinforce the levee system along the back levee.

The best known of the early settlers was Armstead Runyon, after whom the district took its original name. Runyon and his sons, Solomon Runyon and Orrin Randolph Runyon, arrived in the Delta from Lockport, Illinois in 1849. Runyon fathered a very large family (21 children) and eventually several other children joined him in the area. Among them were William Neely Runyon and Alexander Runyon. Armstead Runyon established

Onisbo, was postmaster in 1854 and was instrumental in establishing Onisbo School in 1860. The Solomon Runyon Ranch was a landmark for voting and other community projects before it was sold out of the family in the early 1950s. O.R. and half-brother William Neely both built substantial landmark houses and owned large acreages. Armstead's son, Alexander, also built a house but on Randall Island and shortly thereafter returned to Michigan. Other family members moved to Santa Rosa, California and some married into other Delta families. Other early settlers were William Henry Barry near Onisbo, Lester Greene near Locke, Joseph Green and William Smith near Courtland, and Talbot, van Loben Sels, Wilson, Eastman, Aldrich, Jongeneal, Crofton, McMullin, Jonson, Stephenson and Herzog among many. The latter three were dairymen.

The Pierson District primarily was devoted to orchard crops and dairying. Tom Stephenson's dairy was opposite the Hamatani Ranch. Gus Johnson's dairy was along Snodgrass Slough, and the Herzog family operated the Delta Dairy beginning in 1923. The dairy was operated by Carl Herzog and had 200 producing Holsteins. The dairy products were shipped from Hollister Landing and the skimmed milk was fed to the hogs. The Glanvale Creamery was located on Vorden Road. The dairymen were members of the Cooperative Star Creamery and when it closed in 1917, the Northern California Milk Producers. The Star Creamery supplied fresh butter to the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco.

Along the alluvial rim orchards were planted. Stone fruits were tried but were ultimately unsuccessful due to the high water table. Pears were found to be best suited and proliferated. Among the bigger producers were the Runyon family, notably Orrin R. Runyon and his heirs, the Dorsey and Wheeler families, William Smith who was a director of the Sacramento Packing and Drying Company and the Pacific Fruit Exchange, Joe Green and Lincoln Chan. The center of the district was devoted to open crops and much of it today is in wine grapes. In 1887 the Alex Brown Company of Walnut Grove leased 3830 acres from the Union Savings Bank which he devoted to asparagus.

Four towns developed in the District. The oldest was Onisbo (near present day Russel Road). It was begun by Armstead Runyon in 1849 and a post office established in 1853. The "town" was named after "Chief Onisbo," the last Indian known in the Upper Delta. A schoolhouse with Masonic Hall on the second floor was built in 1860 at a cost of \$2200, but the settlement expanded no further.

Paintersville was settled by Levi Painter in 1852 or 1855. Painter was born in Indiana. In 1854 he settled on the land which became Paintersville. In 1855 he purchased the property. After losing all his livestock in the flood of 1862 he concentrated on building the little town. The town's life centered around the wharf, warehouse and general store, boarding house, saloon, and salmon cannery. He converted the boarding house to a dance hall, "Painter's Hall," plus in 1879 he converted 3¾ acres to saleable lots. A ferry connected the Pierson

District with Sutter Island at Paintersville. Early Paintersville is best known for Painter's "post-hole bank". Latter-day Paintersville is best known for the J.M. Buckley Trucking firm established in 1918.

Vorden, originally known as Trask's Landing, was settled by Charles Frederick Trask, a native of Massachusetts. He arrived in the Delta in 1868 to run the 200-acre ranch his late mother had purchased in the Pierson District. By 1878 it appears that Trask had left the area. In 1890 van Loben Sels changed the name to Vorden, that of his native town in the Netherlands. Rico Simoni from Lucca, Italy settled in 1898 and opened a tavern. Vorden, in its heyday, had a wharf, two grocery stores, saloon, hotel, post office, school, Catholic chapel, a granary, and a number of homes. Del Monte operated the river bank asparagus cannery. Nearby was Vorden School and Glanvale Creamery. The River Rat Saloon survived to about 1950. Among early Vorden area families were deBack, Herzog, Andreucetti, Stevenson, Goodman, Simoni, Eastman, Jongeneal, McMullen, Crofton, and van Loben Sels. Vorden also furnished Locke's earliest settler Tin Sin Chan.

Courtland is by far the most important of the four settlements. It was founded in 1870 by James V. Simms and named after his son Courtland. Benjamin Bates and Albert Foster were also both prominently associated with early Courtland. Foster built the town wharf around which the town centered until levee rehabilitation around 1910-14. The post office was relocated in Courtland from Onisbo and by the turn of the century the town was growing and prosperous. In addition to the post office there were several stores--among the best known Miller and Jackson General Merchandise--several hotels, an express office, a butcher shop, I.D.E.S. Hall, Native Sons Hall, electric, blacksmith and barber shops, livery stable, brickyard, ferry, ice house and Joe Fisher's Saloon. A flourishing Chinatown was located at the upriver end of town and the shanties overhung the river. It burned December 24, 1879, and was rebuilt on the inside of the levee but burned again in 1906 and was rebuilt in 1915. The Bates Joint Union School District was centered in Courtland. Courtland was to acquire all the amenities of a small 20th century town. Names associated with the commercial aspects of the town over the years are Miller and Jackson, Bauer, Fisher, Simms, Foster, Isham, Schiller, Hall, Morgan, Simpson, Kirtlan, Farmer, Westerberg and Primasing. The Courtland Telephone Company, operated by Bert Hart, which covered the Delta, was headquartered in town and new residential areas developed. For many years the tallest structure in town was the town pump windmill. Courtland was the seat of the local Justice Court and the seat of the Delta Constabulary District. Courtland experienced a well-documented bank robbery and dealt with the spillover from the 1934 San Francisco Tong War.

The Pierson District included parts of three school districts. Vorden School (1904-1920) was located on Herzog Road just beyond the drainage canal near the back levee. The last students to graduate were Joe Herzog, Henry Andreucetti, and

Marie Ericksen. Harriet "Teach" Wilson started her teaching career at Vorden School before moving to Bates School where she was principal for almost thirty years. Courtland School (1882-1914), sometimes referred to as the "Randall Island School," was located next to Hensley Slough on Joe Green property. A very large oak tree sheltered the little building. Onisbo School (1815-1914) was located three miles down river from Courtland near the juncture of Russel Road and South River Road. The Bates Joint Union School District was formed in 1915, combining the three district schools and schools from the Richland District and Grand Island. Bates Elementary School was subsequently built about 1920 on land donated by Benjamin Bates. Courtland Union High School District was established in 1916 and the school building constructed in 1921. Part of the high school property was purchased from the Simms estate. Among the landmarks in the Pierson District have been several TV transmission towers in the southern end of the district and three bridges and, of course, the stout back levee. The Paintersville Bridge (sometimes referred to as the Courtland Bridge by non-locals) is a double leaf bascule bridge built in 1923 by the Strauss Bascule Bridge Company of Chicago. Originally the decks were wooden and the concrete abutments fitted with handsome electroliers. The "Orphan" Bridge, a swing bridge, spans Snodgrass Sough. Built with leftover funds n 1931 it stood isolated until the Twin Cities Road crossed it in 1933. It was built with wooded trestle approaches, later replaced by prestressed concrete. Between 1947 and 1964 it opened for water traffic only twice. The third bridge is a short trestle carrying Lambert Road traffic across Snodgrass Slough.

(Written by Kathie Hutchinson)

**4110 FOLSOM ROAD**

Few people know that the East Lawn and the 4100 Folsom Boulevard property is one of Sacramento's historic sites.

The Breuner Ranch, as it was called, fronted Folsom Boulevard from 47th to 39th Streets and back to T Street. The address of the Breuner home was 4110 Folsom Road. The property was owned by Louis Breuner, the son of the founder of the John Breuner Company (furniture makers). After a decade the trees planted on the grounds hid the house from view. A concrete guttered swimming pool was located atop a knoll a few hundred feet to the rear of the house. A portion of the estate was reserved as pasture for the Breuner Company draft horses which pulled the company's furniture drays.

The house was one of the largest in Sacramento. It had a large attic and a full basement! (The Breuner boys used the attic as a roller skate surface and the basement for games and dances.) The entire family slept on a rear upstairs sleeping porch the year round. The house also had a bread-rising room, an upstairs carpentry center for the boys, a dust drop that went from the third floor to the basement, and a built-in vacuum system driven by a motor in the basement. There were other practical items such as top-hinged window seats which provided storage and five neat pegs for the five boys, Louise, Clarence, Richard, Wallace, and Robert, to hang their coats and hats.

Louis's wife, Clara, died in her fifties, and Louis sold the house and built a smaller house on 45th Street. The house at 4110 Folsom was sold to the Glide family, then the Bittner family, and lastly to the Gordon Pollocks.

**BOOK ORDER**

To order a copy of "Historic Houses of the Sacramento River Delta", send \$12.95 per copy (mail order) to SRDHS, P.O. Box 293, Walnut Grove, CA 95690.

No. of copies: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name (mail to) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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**ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN**

Do you know someone, family or friend, who would enjoy hearing about and supporting the Sacramento River Delta Historical Society? It's fun to be part of preserving and sharing our local history.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
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P.O. Box 293, Walnut Grove, CA 95690

The Sacramento River Delta Historical Society publishes the SACRAMENTO RIVER DELTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (SRDHS) NEWSLETTER twice a year (December and June).



SESESQISTENNIEL (continued)

If too many people come we will do what we do when the water rises and move toward the hills.

We also have a report from a descendant of an early white settler. "Early in 1850 my grandfather, John Wesley, and my grandmother, Sophia Barrett Sharp, and their two little ones arrived at Sutter's Fort from Ohio after a long, hard trip by covered wagon. My grandmother never forgot what a welcome sight the Fort was with the flag flying--it meant safety for the first time in many months. After a short time at the fort, they decided to follow the Sacramento River in search of a new home. It was not an easy trip, as few people had been down that way. It was very beautiful--the river. Clear six feet down with fine large trees, elderberries, wild grapes and flowers, and even a few deer. After several days they came to a place that was specially beautiful. Formatted with enormous oak and walnut trees. Under three of these walnut trees they put their belongings. The view down the river was beautiful and the sunset gorgeous. They both felt that they had found their home and they named it 'Walnut Grove.' First grandfather built a house and began clearing off the land. Little did Grandfather know that the thickets he cleared had been used as cover for bandits and cattle thieves. No one else was there, except a few Indians. The hunters and trappers had moved on, but wanderers passed through and since there was no place for them to sleep or eat Grandmother began to take them into their home. The first school was started by Grandmother, in the house, too."

[Composed by Carol Watson.]

THINGS TO DO

The Discovery Museum, 101 I Street -- the History of the City of Sacramento. Interesting Archaeological Digs--Trash piles from the City and a beautiful Gold exhibition.

The Rae House on Oak Street in Galt. Open on Saturday afternoons in December.

The Rio Vista Museum (see article p.2)

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NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor ..... Kathleen Hutchinson
Co-Editor ..... Carol Watson
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FOUNDING MOTHER -- This is Sophia Barrett Sharp, wife of the founder of Walnut Grove, John Sharp. She came across the plains with him. She was the grandmother of Elizabeth Sharp Dye and Amy Dye Brown. Notation on back of photo indicates the "Barrett" portion of Mrs. Sharp's name was after Elizabeth Barrett Browning, the poet. This photo was taken by a Stockton photographer, O. Elliott.

SOCIETY NOTES (continued)

We have purchased a copy of the doctoral thesis of John Thompson (two vols.). He wrote his thesis at Stanford University during the 1950s on the Settlement and Geography of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California. There is a wealth of information and the references are even more intriguing. Walnut Grove Library also has a copy.

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HOLIDAY TREAT. Have lunch or dinner at C.J's on Franklin Boulevard in Franklin. The building, built in 1902 and used first as a mule station and later as an "ice house" during prohibition, provides satisfaction for our appetites for both food and history. You can talk to our Vice President too!

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Remember to renew your membership at the January Potluck, so you can continue to receive the newsletter. Please note the \$5 increase in individual dues. We do appreciate your support.

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