



The Novato Historian

The Quarterly Publication of the Novato Historical Guild and the Novato History Museum

FEATURE SECTION

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September 1999

Preserving Novato's History

Vol. 23, No. 3

Editor's note—Anita Baccaglio Johnson lived her first thirty years in Novato in the early part of the 20th century. She recently wrote her memoirs entitled "My Forebears and Our Family", and at the July 1999 Baccaglio Family reunion in Novato, Anita and her daughter Carolee Lambert, presented a copy of these fascinating memories to the Novato History Museum. The memoir is extensive and we will publish 4 chapters in this issue with more coming in the December issue. As an introduction, here are Anita's first 3 chapters "Great Rejoicing", "Our Heritage" and "My Father and Mother" to tell a little about the Baccaglio family before "Our Home Ranch".

Great Rejoicing

by Anita Baccaglio Johnson

There must have been great rejoicing when I was born on December 5, 1907 to James and Fannie Baccaglio — the first girl after five boys. But I guess I was no longer "a novelty" since two other girls were born after me; Frances about three years after and Edna five years hence.

Frances and I must have been close enough so that I do not remember her very young years. My most memorable thoughts of her were how pretty she was—long, golden curls,

peaches and cream complexion, and everyone remarked at her beauty but of frail health (much to my concern.) I really believe that was the start of my shyness. I was just a plain little girl with straight hair.

Then when Edna came along, she had big brown eyes and brown curly hair that stuck out almost like an "afro." I remember my brother Jid carrying her around saying "Look at these eyes, they look like big black grapes". Jid's eyes were a pretty light blue. When Edna was born, Frances ran away since she wasn't the baby any more and walked about three miles to the Vischi summer home in

Indian Valley.

OUR HERITAGE

Giacomo (James) Baccaglio came to the United States in 1885 from a northern province in Italy called Piemonte (Piedmont). He was

born in a little town in the Italian Alps called Tappia in 1856, which is now deserted with only a few buildings standing. There are no vehicle roads to the town on the steep mountainside and the only way to get there would be to walk.

My father came to Novato, Marin County, California at the bidding of his uncle Antonio Baccaglio (old Uncle Antone). They worked for the old Novato Land Company which owned much of Novato.

The Faggiano family home in Old Town Novato consisted of 13 acres of land with a big two story house surrounded by some ancient Mission grapevines 5 to 6 feet tall that were old, gnarly and beautiful. It was up for sale or being auctioned. My great uncle and my father bid on this place and got it. Uncle Antone never married. Now they needed a woman to make it a home. My father often said he had many chances to marry some of the young immigrant Irish maidens, but he elected to return to Italy for his bride, which he did indeed, picking Maria Funicula Carolina Baccaglio, who was born in 1877 in the little town of Tappia. People did not migrate much so many were from the same family lines. Maria, or later called Fanny,

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Mimi Baccaglio's third birthday party, August 1946, in the gardens at the old Baccaglio home on then Nave Dr. (L to R) Front row: Sharon Connell, Martin Baccaglio, Mimi Baccaglio, Eddie Salmina, and Pat Keena (head down); 2nd row: Carolee Johnson, Michael Hoes, Sheila Keena, Michael Silva, Carmelann Regalia and Carole Hicok, 3rd row: Carole Derickson, Jo Ann Baccaglio

Rejoicing

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was one of his cousins (how remote I do not know.) She wasn't yet born when he left Italy for the first time. They were married in Italy and left for the United States. Papa came in steerage and he often said how terrible it was herded down below the deck like cattle. Many people were sick and such a stench! Going through Ellis Island was something else also. Parents separated from children etc., etc. Since Papa had become a U.S. citizen, Mama was automatically one when she married him so she did not have much trouble but tried to help the others find their families. They arrived in about 1898. Mama had never seen a Negro and couldn't imagine why he was so dark everywhere but in the palm of his hands. Once they were settled in their new home with old Uncle Antone or "Zio" (uncle) as he was called by us, the children began to come.

MY FATHER AND MOTHER

It is said that opposites in character make better marriages. Their marriage was a good solid one as far as we could see, even though Papa was almost 20 years older than Mama. Papa was more easy going than Mama, I believe, as usual. The mother, the main overseer and jack of all trades to a large family in those days, had to be. While she was very kind to us and we got everything we wanted in clothes etc., we knew our limits. We respected our parents and knew how hard they worked to raise a big family so I guess that helped a lot. When it came to spankings, which we got when we deserved it, mama took care of the girls and Papa the boys. Mama sewed well and dressed us well, as well as herself. The boys when small, as you

have noticed in early family pictures, when dressed up, were always in short sailor suits and ties and big wide brimmed straw sailor hats. But around the farm, "anything went."

Papa used to deliver milk to the Novato Cheese Factory several times a week. Many times I rode to town with him and it seemed he knew everyone, all greeting him with a "Hello Jim". Never once did we pass Scott's store but what he gave me a nickel for some candy or ice cream. No wonder I had a lot of cavities when young! He used a one-seated wagon with about a ten foot bed. But this wasn't any ordinary wagon. It was painted a light forest green with yellow striping and his initials J.B. inscribed on it. Who in town did this fine work I don't know, but I was always proud of this wagon.

After lunch (or dinner as they called it then) he would go down and lay under the fig tree, put his hat over his face and take about an hour's nap. Don't know if he did this in the winter time. Mama, however, never stopped working. She must have been a hardy person, living to 82 years. At the end, her circulation was bad and she was mixed up at times. But she lived to see her grandchildren, enjoyed them and went to Europe with Carolee, our daughter.

Papa died of cancer at 69 years of age when Mama was almost 50 years old. He took down with cancer the first of 1925 and died September 25, 1925. I went to his bedside and told him I had gotten a

job as a secretary and he told me he was very proud of me and it made him happy. He died a month later.

OUR HOME RANCH

Our ranch was situated on the old highway through Novato. We lived in what was called "Old Town" about one mile from the Main Street in Novato. The main part of Novato had the post office, railroad station, two or three grocery stores, hardware store, two general stores, a laundry, one blacksmith shop, one



Baccaglio Home Ranch showing house, barn and family. Date unknown. Photo courtesy of Carolee Lambert.

machine or wagon shop, one shoemaker, and above all, the grammar school. It also had at one time a hospital. There were the inevitable saloons, about three, also a concentration of some homes. Old Town was where the schooners used to come up from San Francisco to bring supplies to Novato. It was called the Landing. There was a dredged canal or sloughs from the Bay which were abandoned long before I was born. The Landing, a good sized hole however, was thereafter used as a swimming hole for the kids of all of Novato and many a kid learned to

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Rejoicing

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swim there. No swimming instructor, just learned by themselves and no one drowned there. Two saloons still flourished in Old Town and an old hotel (on the old Connell place.) There was often an odd drunk or so around the saloons and when I would return home from school, I remember skirting the saloons by climbing over the fence and walking through two fields to go home instead of following the road past the saloons. We were afraid of the drunks.

The main saloon was Nave's Cabbage Patch. It was so called because the Nave family had a big vegetable garden in connection with their saloon. Mr. Nave and his boys peddled their vegetables once a week in San Rafael, traveling to and from San Rafael by horse and wagon.

Our house was built on a knoll surrounded by a vineyard and two tall, stately Italian Cypress which reached to the top of our two story home. Papa said if you built your home on a knoll it would never flood. How many times that came to my mind when the marshes that surrounded us would flood during big winter rains and we were snug up on our little knoll.

While it was a stately, high, two story white house with two tall Italian Cypress trees planted in front which were about as tall as the house, it was more of an empty shell inside. As I said, no inside plumbing, bathroom, clothes closets, washroom and none of the accepted things we now have in the most modest of our homes. An outhouse was a good 500 yards from the house! But in the summer the big close grapevines made it convenient when we couldn't or didn't want to make the

long hike to the outhouse. Then there was always the chamber pot upstairs in the hall on top of the stairs, which it was our job to empty each day.

There were three bedrooms upstairs, one big bedroom for Mama and Papa, a youth bed with sides and a single iron bedstead with a hard sisal mattress. No lights and about two coal oil lamps between three bedrooms and six family members. The children liked to read in bed at night. The boys usually got a lamp in each of their bedrooms and I was left with the lantern to read by. Ever try reading by a lantern? I was the one who slept in the hard single bed and Edna slept in the big youth bed after graduating from the cradle which stood next to the folk's bed. My bed was eventually moved downstairs to what was called the living room.

No one ever entered by the front door; it was always locked or swollen shut. There were two more rooms downstairs, one used to keep a big moveable closet for clothes, another closet for shotgun and other shells and miscellaneous things and also the sewing machine, and a table with a lot of clean clothes on it which we turned upside down continually looking for our clothes.

The room next door was used to store cheeses being made, milk in pans—sort of a storeroom. The kitchen was a later built-on affair with a wood floor which was scrubbed to splinters when company was coming and open ceiling because no one took the time to put a ceiling up. However, one of the cross members was a very convenient place to hang an enormous bunch of mistletoe every Christmas (our Christmas tree). There was a dark wooden sink in the corner with a wooden drainboard and a cold water faucet in the sink, the only plumbing in the house. Must have

drained outside as there wasn't any septic tank. Opposite to the sink, also at the end of the kitchen, was the cook stove, the only heat in the house. Often remember how I used to put my feet in the oven when cold. No wonder I had chilblains. Later years we had a coal oil stove sitting against the wall next to the wood stove which had an oven to set on top of the burners, but it never proved very satisfactory. The kitchen was our sitting room, family room, etc., and we spent most of the time in there when in the house and when we weren't sleeping. There was also a big credenza for dishes and drawers, as well as a smaller one near the stove for food, etc., and a dough table.

The kitchen table was a long table with a bench along the wall side and chairs around the other side. It was always covered with a print oil cloth. There was a big clock (a present from Joe Vischi) which also indicated the days and bonged on the hour and half hour, and a coal oil lamp on a hanger on the wall next to the kitchen table. The girls had to clean the lamp glass chimneys when smoked up. I remember once the glass chimney broke while I had my hand in it and it cut the side of my hand.

No closets. Nails were in walls in all the rooms to hang clothes. Since there was no bathroom, the weekly bath was in a round wash tub that was set on the floor next to the stove in the kitchen. Water was heated on the wood stove in a clothes boiler or pots and put into the tub. In the summer I guess we went swimming in the old swimming hole or Landing where boats used to come up from San Francisco along sloughs, most of which has since filled in. Boys at one end and girls on the other. Far enough that each other couldn't see whether we had a suit on or not.

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Rejoicing

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Boys did not wear any swimsuits but we girls wore old dresses, cutoff overalls or such.

There was a cold water faucet out back of the kitchen, opposite the one in the sink inside. Under the faucet was a long bench which held three or four wash tubs. That was our laundry. Don't know where Mama worked when it rained.

On the north side of the kitchen there was a back porch. About in the

middle of this back porch were the stairs going down to the cellar. They just dug out the ground, but big enough to hold about six wine barrels, shelves for cheese and a screened cupboard where Mama kept all her canned goods. Also this cellar was festooned with Italian sausage and salami. It was cool and damp in the cellar so there would be mold on the salami and sausage, but that didn't matter. At the bottom of the cellar stairs, Papa had a seat; a macaroni box, I believe, where he always sat to cool off and often where he would invite a friend to sit with him for a drink of wine from a demi-john and a hunk of cheese cut by his trusty knife

which he kept in his jacket. Often we would go down to the cellar and he would offer us a piece of the cheese. If there was a little mold on it, we would question it and he would say "that's the best part", so we ate it and liked it. There were two doors that folded down flat over the cellar steps, so when closed, it made quite a nice back porch. It was a place to sit when it was warm and at one end, there was a safe (sort of a big square box but completely screened with a door) hanging from the porch ceiling. This was our refrigerator, you might say. Other perishable things were kept in the cellar.

To be continued

LEGAL NOTICE
COUNTY OF MARIN
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the County Clerk, Court House, San Rafael, at 11:00 A. M., Monday, October 10th, 1949, at which time they shall be publicly opened and read for performing work as follows:
 Construct new Sanitary sewer lines and accessories at the Marin County Hospital and Farm in Lucas Valley, Marin County, California.
 No bid will be received unless it is made on a proposal form furnished by the County Engineer. Each bid must be accompanied by cash, certified or cashier's Check, made payable to the County of Marin for an amount equal to at least ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, such guaranty to be forfeited should bidder to whom the contract is awarded fail to enter into the contract.
 In accordance with the provisions of Section 1770 of the Labor Code, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin has ascertained the general prevailing rate of wages applicable to the work to be done to be as follows:

Pickup carrying under 1000 lbs. 1.60
 Labores: Group I 1.755
 Group II 1.65
 Group III 1.525
 Plummers: Journeymen .. 2.25
 Foremen (not less than \$1.50 per day over Journeyman's rate).
 Positions not listed above shall be not less than the established prevailing scale.
 Overtime - one and one-half (1½) times the above rates.
 Sundays and holidays - one and one-half (1½) times the above rates.
 No bid will be accepted from a Contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with the provisions of Business and Professions Code.
 Forms of proposal, bond, contract and specifications may be obtained at the office of the County Clerk, Court House, San Rafael, California.
 The special attention of prospective bidders is called to the Proposed Requirements and Conditions annexed to the blank form of proposal, for full directions as to bidding, etc.
 The County of Marin reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
 Geo. S. Jones
 GEORGE S. JONES
 County CLERK
 Dated: September 19th, 1949
 Pub. Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 1949

SCHEDULE OF WAGES-1949	
Skilled Labor	
	Per Hour
Carpenter	\$2.16
Cement Finisher (journeyman)	2.15
Operator of power shovel and/or other excavating equipment with shovel type controls (up to and including one yard)	2.525
Tractors	2.225
Roller operator	2.225
Intermediate grade labor	
Apprentice oiler, power shovels or cranes	1.855
Blasters-powderman	1.755
Jackhammer operator	1.65
Truck driver (8 cubic yards water level capacity or more)	2.20
Truck driver (6 cubic yards and less than 8 cubic yards water level capacity)	1.83
Truck driver (4 cubic yards and less than 6 cubic yards water level capacity)	1.74
Truck driver (less than 4 cubic yards water level capacity)	1.61
Transit Mix:	
3 yards and under (manufacturers mixing capacity rating)	1.69
4 yards and under 5 yds. (manufacturers mixing capacity rating)	1.78

An Old Friend Returns!

A B C

FINE PERCALES

49c yard

Superfine A-B C percales have been missing from the yardage counters for many months. Women who sew and are quality wise will welcome the return of this old favorite! Extra quality, in patterns that will add zest to your sewing. A B C is unconditionally guaranteed tub-fast. 36 inches wide.

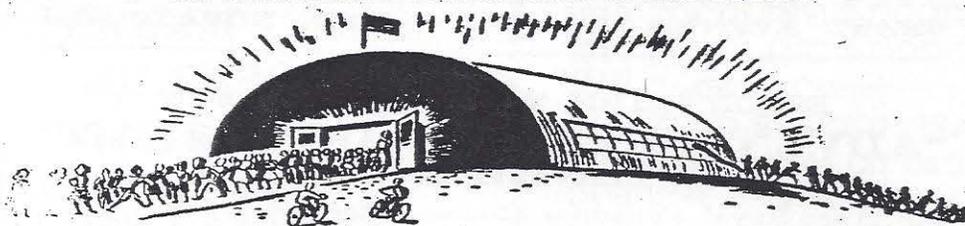
Leigh's

910 GRANT AVENUE

NOVATO

Let's Not CHEAT Our Children

100,000 ARE NOW GETTING ONLY SWING-SHIFT HALF-DAY SCHOOLING



Open California's educational opportunities for every child

This is a State emergency—every civic minded citizen must vote to help

VOTE YES on #1 for SCHOOLS
EMERGENCY ELECTION NOV. 8

Sponsored in the interest of Our School Children by

(advertisement)

The Fur Season Is Here Again!

Your furs might need attention. Maybe repairs, cleaning and glazing, or restyling into the latest styles, or just a small alteration. I have this all taken care of by expert furriers, who will change your coat into a brand new style, or any style you like. A new collar, or new sleeves will make a big difference in your last season's coat. Or you might have it made into a late style cape or jacket, and it will surprise you what these master furriers can do in making over furs.

Now, about a new fur coat. Quality, style, and price. These are the three main points in buying a fur coat. When I sell you a fur coat, no matter whether it's a high, low or medium price coat, I give you the very best quality for the price. I give you the style you like best, always at the lowest price for quality. Coats, capes and jackets in Mink, Ermine, Persian Lamb, Squirrel, Murkrat, Caracul, Baby Seal and many others. Fur coats, jackets and capes also made to order.

Neck pieces of all kinds, Martins, Mink, Fox, Sable, Kolinskys and many others. Fur collars for suits and coats, many styles at very reasonable prices.

SUITS, TOP COATS AND SLACKS

I now have a particularly fine line of both domestic and imported woolens. These have been very scarce for quite awhile. Made to order at a very fair price. I also have a complete selection of medium and lower priced suits made to order any style you like.

Alterations—suits, coats and slacks altered and repaired.

Kelly The Tailor

Phone 124

Petaluma

DeBorba's Inn

NOVATO
ANNA De BORBA, Prop.

TELEVISION!!!

THIS SAT. AFTERNOON
Stanford-Ore. St.

2:15 to 4:45

Mixed Drinks

Beer On
Draught

AMERICAN AND
CHINESE FOODS

Grant Ave. Phone 67-M

Desert Dan

By
W I S E



© Hamilton & Fields Syndicate

EXPERIENCE IS WHAT YOU
GET WHEN YOU'RE LOOK-
ING FOR SOMETHING ELSE

ELECTRICAL
CONTRACTING
DAN WISE

Novato Electric

All advertisements and editorial from Fall 1949 issues of the *Novato Advance* in The Novato History Museum collection.

Fur Village Mgr. To Be Farm Bureau Speaker Next Tues.

Novato Farm Bureau Center will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 27, at the Community House—8 p. m.

Leonard Coldwell, manager of the Marin Fur Village, Novato's newest industry, will be the speaker.

The subject of a Marin Co. Fair will be discussed.

Mrs. Buzzine will be in charge of the refreshments.

The public is cordially invited, according to Charles Clarkson, member of the Bureau.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

FOR SALE—Good level building lot 75 x 100. All utilities. \$700.00 cash. Phone 851-M or inquire Advance office.

FOR SALE—Grape Crusher and Wine Press. Alex Pellegrini Box 58.

LOST—Irish Setter answers to name of "Rex" Novato Bakery, Phone 71-R.

Subscribe to the "Advance"

\$2.50 Per Year

NOVATO THEATRE

GRANT AVENUE

PH. NOVATO 47-J

NOW PLAYING
ERROL FLYNN, VIVECA LINFORDS IN

"ADVENTURES OF DON JUAN"

PLUS "LEAVE IT TO HENERY"

Royal Canadian Mounted Serial

JACKPOT \$25.00

SUNDAY AND MONDAY

September 25 — 26

J. Wayne, B. Fitzgerald, T. Mitchell, I. Hunter In

"LONG VOYAGE HOME"

PLUS Johnny Weismuller In "THE LOST TRIBE"

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

September 27 — 28

ROBERT TAYLOR, AVA GARDNER IN

"THE BRIBE"

PLUS John Carroll In "ROSE OF THE RIO GRANDE"

SPECIAL BARGAINS

Used Cars

- '47 Chev. Coupe \$1500
- '40 Chev Sedan \$700
- '37 Buick Sedan \$400
- '37 Diamond T Truck \$650

Many Other Good Buys

Andersen Motor Co.

Chev.-Oldsmobile Dealer
NOVATO

Join the Rush of '49

CALIFORNIA State Fair

SACRAMENTO Sept. 1 thru 11

AGRICULTURE • INDUSTRY • ENTERTAINMENT • EDUCATION

GRANDSTAND AND HORSESHOW RESERVED SEATS
AVAILABLE AT YOUR WESTERN UNION OFFICE

save 40%



LIMITED TIME ONLY

TUSSY CREAM SHAMPOO

Handy, big \$1 tube

NOW **60¢**

No other shampoo can leave your hair more beautifully clean! And only Tussy Cream Shampoo contains Steractol. This exclusive Tussy ingredient—more effective than lanolin—leaves your hair soft, lustrous, easy to manage. And Tussy Cream Shampoo now comes in a convenient tube—can't leak, can't spill. You'll want several tubes at this get-acquainted sale price. Get them today!

DAHLGREN'S Drug Store

2nd and Grant Novato

FREE PEARS!

Mrs. Q. J. Boone, who resides on Novato Blvd., states

that anyone wishing to bring his own container, may pick pears on her property free of charge. Please call mornings only.

Compare These Prices

NEW CARS OF QUALITY

1949 FORDLINE 2-DOOR	\$1699.40
1949 FORDLINE 4-DOOR	\$1746.40
1949 Business Coupe	\$1607.40
1949 FORD STATION WAGON	\$2594.20

All Prices Include Oil Bath — Air Cleaners and Oil Filters
Overdrive — The Feature All Cars Should Have — Only \$96.90 Extra In Any Model

30% DOWN 30 MONTHS TO PAY

Dohemann Motor Co.

866 Fourth Street, San Rafael

Ph. S. R. 734

H and P Motors

"76" Station, Novato

Phone Novato 44-J

Represented By Walter McKenzie Brown

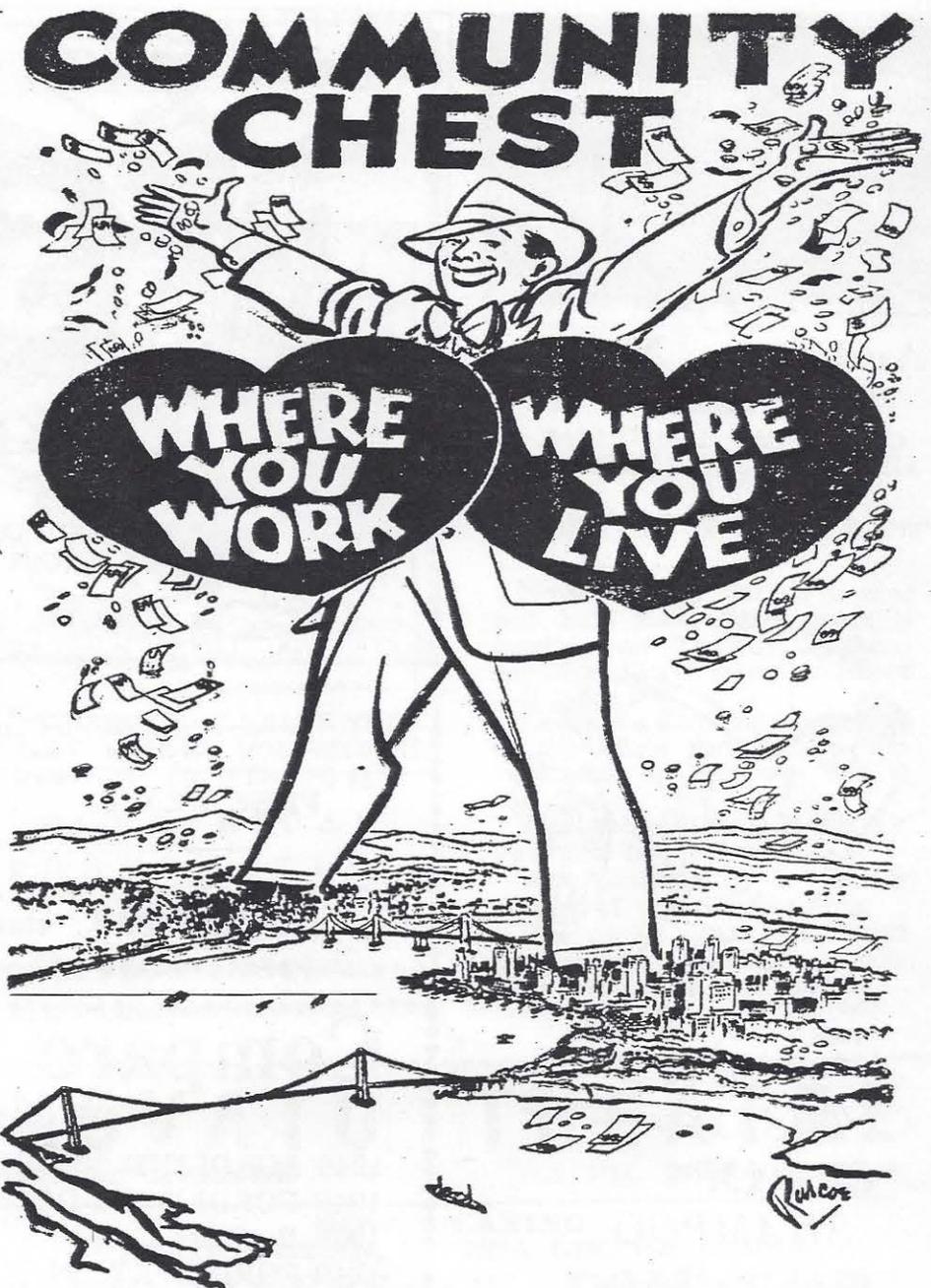
"The Honest Car Salesman!!"

Captains Named For Chest Drive In Novato

Thursday night at the Community House, a small but enthusiastic group of captains got started on the local Community Chest drive. Although exact figures on the number of workers was still unavailable, W. J. J. Smith, local chairman, estimated that the number might reach forty before the territory was completely covered.

Assisting in the campaign is Conrad Johnson, manager of the Hamilton Field branch of the Bank of America. Mr. Johnson will handle the coordination of the field solicitations. Captains now with definite assignments are: Mr. and Mrs. Edwin A. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Huestis, Mrs. Caryl Askim, Mrs. A. J. Rupprecht, Miss Eleanor Lafrancki, Rev. Peter Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Porter, Mrs. Lance, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Sandbach, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lewis, Mr. Stephen Bruff, Mrs. J. M. Bagshaw, Mary Manning, Mrs. Arthur Gustafson, Mr. Chas. Boyd, Mrs. Bergala, Mr. Cye Whipple and Mrs. Earl Farris.

By this week end, Mr. Smith stated, there will be displays in various local stores and that these would be rotated from week to week. He pointed out that in view of the great need this year greater effort on the part of the community as a whole will be necessary. Last year's quotas are as outmoded as a horseless carriage. Novato has grown and so has its population, said Mr. Smith. Our quotas for services rendered by the youth agencies of this county must rise in proportion to growth. The Novato quota is \$2,700.00. This amount can easily be raised, Smith said. The campaign will be aimed at an intensive effort to raise the amount in the shortest possible time.



Catholic Parish Purchases Property

Announcement was made last Sunday by Father John J. Ryan at services at Our Lady of Loretto Church that the parish had purchased six acres of land at the corner of Grant and Virginia Avenues.

Father Ryan said today that the property was bought with plan for future church development in mind.

The sale of the former M. B. Azevedo property was handled through the Fable Farm Realty firm.

MUST SELL

Our Lot Is Full

MAKE US AN OFFER

1931 Model A Panel
1931 Model A Pickup
1933 1½ Ton Chevy
1934 Chevrolet Tudor
1935 Chevrolet Tudor
1936 Oldsmobile

Nave's Garage
DODGE - PLYMOUTH

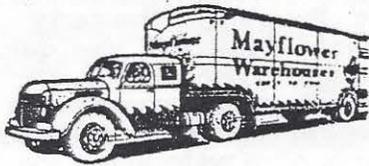
All advertisements and editorial from Summer 1949 issues of the Novato Advance in The Novato History Museum collection.

MAYFLOWER
handles the
whole job/

MOVING

STORAGE

PACKING



NOVATO CALL
PETALUMA 340

**Petaluma Van and
Storage Company**

24 - THIRD ST.

HUNGRY FOR A
GOOD STEAK?

TRY

**The G. & H.
Truck Stop**

101 HIWAY — NOVATO

More-for-your-money DODGE "Job-Rated" TRUCKS

PRICED
WITH THE
LOWEST!

**NEW
B-2
series**



Dodge "Job-Rated" Chassis Features

- SUPER-FRICTION CLUTCHES. Large frictional areas. "Job-Rated" for smooth action and long life.
- RUGGED 3-, 4- or 5-SPEED SYNCHRO-SHIFT TRANSMISSIONS—"Job-Rated" for the load. Carburetized gears; heat-treated shafts; antifriction bearings throughout.
- FULL-FLOATING REAR AXLES... Hypoid design; banjo-type housing... "Job-Rated" for the load. Long life... low upkeep cost.
- CYCLEBONDED BRAKE LININGS (no rivets) prolonged brake life.
- CROSS-TYPE STEERING... Sharp turning angle; easier handling... simplified parking.
- SAFETY-LOCATED GAS TANKS... Outside the cab, NOT inside!

★ ★ ★

NEW STEERING COLUMN GEARSHIFT... Standard equipment on 1/2-, 3/4- and 1-ton models with 3-speed transmissions... provides easier handling, more unobstructed floor space, greater safety of operation.

"RIGHT-SPOT" HAND BRAKE... under the center of the cowl... right where you want it. Standard on all 1/2-, 3/4- and 1-ton models. Provides unobstructed floor space; easier passage through either cab door.

Dodge "Job-Rated" Engine Features!

- FAMOUS DODGE L-HEAD TRUCK ENGINES... "Job-Rated" for your loads; save gas, oil.
- COMPLETELY SPLASH- AND DUST-PROOF ELECTRICAL SYSTEM... with high-output generator. Resistor-type spark plugs, and high-output coil, insure amazingly smooth engine operation; longer plug life.
- EXHAUST VALVE SEAT INSERTS... resist wear and pitting; reduce valve grinding.
- REPLACEABLE PREFITTED MAIN BEARINGS... reduce maintenance costs.
- FULL-PRESSURE LUBRICATION... positive pressure to main, connecting rod and camshaft bearings and camshaft drive, prolongs engine life.
- FULL-LENGTH CYLINDER COOLING... 4-RING ALUMINUM ALLOY PISTONS... OIL-BATH AIR CLEANER and many other money-saving features!

356 BASIC CHASSIS MODELS, RANGING FROM 4,250 TO 23,000 LBS., G.V.W.

COMPARE These New B-2 Series Dodge "Job-Rated" Trucks... Feature for Feature, Price for Price, Value for Value—with any other trucks! They're More-for-Your-Money... Any Way You Look at Them! See Your Dodge Dealer... and Save Money!

LIBERAL TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE ON YOUR PRESENT TRUCK

Can you think of anything else that
Does so much . . . costs so little?



All advertisements and editorial from Summer 1949 issues of the Novato Advance in The Novato History Museum collection.

**H. F. SOLDIERS,
COUNTY EQUIPMENT
FIGHT FIRE THURSDAY**

Equipment from various parts of the county, as well several shifts of 150 each of Hamilton Field soldiers, were called upon to assist the Novato Volunteer Fire Department on Thursday when a grass fire broke out in the hills of the Bodkin ranch at Ignacio. The fire, which started from unknown causes in the midmorning, lasted into late in the day.

Another alarm, this time a small grass fire, was sounded during the noon hour on Thursday. The blaze, which was on the Bacigalupi property on Novato Boulevard, was quickly brought under control.

The local department also responded to three still alarms north of Novato along the 101 Highway, earlier Thursday morning.

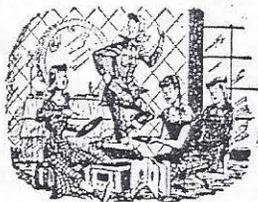
Vacuuming six room-sized rugs for a penny's worth of electricity. . . that's one example of how P. G. and E. service gives you your biggest household bargain in these days of high-cost living. Matter of fact, it's the best gas and electric buy in the nation.

Bay region people, for instance, pay less for service than those in any other of the country's 25 largest cities. And P.G. and E. farm rates are much lower than the national average for all utilities—including tax-free cooperatives and government-owned systems.



Remember back when it took the best part of a day to wash-board the clothes? Now a penny will buy the electricity to scrub two tubs of laundry. All you do to put it to work is touch a switch.

P. G. and E. SERVICE — does so much . . . costs so little



For fun as well as work, P.G. and E. service is a budget-stretcher. You can hear five of your favorite radio programs for a penny. Can you think of anything else that does so much for so little cost?

for the record

Nearly 17,000 people
... a payroll of over
\$62,000,000 annually

...49,900 miles of power lines...
72 generating plants... it takes
all these to
bring you and
a million other
customers reliable, low-cost
power.

STRAYED
SEPT. 28 FROM
McClay Road

**ONE BLACK
Suffolk Buck**
**ONE BLACK FACE
Suffolk Ewe**

Any Information Notify
Constable Fred Nave or
H. H. Spomer, Rt. 1, Box
136, Novato.

LIBERAL BEWARD

P.G. and E.

Novato — 50 Years Ago

continued from page F12

The Novato Fire Department adopted a uniform for the first time for the Chief and the day-man. The new uniform consisted of black jeans, blue shirt with black tie and a cap.

Bernadette DeSouza was appointed secretary for the North Marin County Water District which had their office on Sweetser Avenue.

The classified ads carried an ad for a 1937 Studebaker sedan with radio and heater for \$200. Phone 100-R.

A number of Novato business houses were "taken in" by a bad check artist on August 15 or 16. The man waited until the local bank was closed and then cashed checks drawn on the Novato Bank. He left the vicinity before he was detected.

The Novato Bank congratulated Virginia Orr, Bonnie and Joe Tubb, Bobby McClelland, Karl Olson, Ronald Dennis, Bud Thompson, Joyce Kingsley and Claudette Borloz. These young people took prizes in 4-H competition at the Sonoma County Fair.

Virginia Orr came home with three 1st place prizes, a 2nd place and a champion ribbon on her senior yearling bull "Indian Valley's Royal Lad" at the 12th Agricultural District Fair at Ukiah.

Nave's Garage advertised used cars: 1934 Plymouth for \$95, 1941 Plymouth for \$695 and a 1943 Plymouth for \$895.

Funeral services were held for Charles B. Jansen on August 24. "Charley", as he was known to his many friends and acquaintances, was employed by Howell's Plumbing Shop (today's Buck's Saw Service). He was involved in community and civic affairs and always available when help was needed.

The Colony, 9 miles north of Novato on Highway 101 (at today's Petaluma Blvd. South exit) was advertising a full course fine Italian dinner for \$2.

Postmistress Alberta Frankamp was warning local postal patrons of a "swindle" letter being circulated throughout California. A local resident received one which was turned over to the Postal Inspector in Charge.

Mrs. Q. J. Boone was offering free pears to anyone who would pick them. The Boone property was located on Novato Blvd. opposite today's Star Restaurant.

The Novato Advance's "A Bird's Eye View" column called Mr. J.C. Foisey a VERY active octogenian. Mr. Foisey celebrated his 80th birthday on September 2. He operated a men's and boy's clothing business from his garage on Railroad Avenue. Eddie Salmina was a little boy living next door to "Pop" Foisey. Whenever a shipment of clothing arrived, Eddie would be over helping open boxes.

The Advance carried an ad offering a 5 room cottage, furnished, for \$85 per month. The Advance also carried many fruit, poultry, egg and vegetable ads during summer and fall.

Louis and Margie Saffores welcomed a son, Gregory, born at Stanford Hospital in San Francisco.

Services were held for Louis D'Ambrogio who passed away on September 17. Mr. D'Ambrogio operated a meat market and grocery store, located just east of the Novato Theatre, until his retirement in 1940. He was a pioneer citizen and highly respected as attested by the large gathering at his services.

Louis and Alice Mazzoleni welcomed son, William Edward, at San Rafael General Hospital with Dr. Weseman attending.

Virgil Westlund and Donna Satterwhite were married Sept. 4.

Merchant's lunch was advertised for 80 cents at G & H Truck Stop on High-

way 101 (near Redwood Blvd. and Vallejo Avenue where today's Capra's Restaurant is located) in Novato. The phone number for G&H was 116-R.

Black Point residents were surveyed on whether they wanted fuel gas service from PG&E or continue using other fuel sources such as propane or butane.

Ralph Parks, U.C. Davis agricultural safety engineer said "Accidents just don't happen, they are made. Believe it or not, people still use matches to look into gasoline tanks."

John Thorsson and his son, John Thorsson Jr. of San Rafael purchased a body and welding shop from John Rothgery. The shop was located on Machin just behind Hale's market on Grant Avenue and became known as "Thorsson's Fender and Body Shop."

Governor Earl Warren signed a bill creating a second Superior Court judgeship in Marin County.

Ralph and Thelma Kemerer purchased Novato Pharmacy from Paul Elmore and William Ney. It was Novato's only drug store and was located at the corner of Grant Avenue and Highway 101, now Redwood Blvd. in the present Marin Trophies premises.

Barbara Sparrow, in her column "A Bird's Eye View", asked "Is there anything to talk about but baseball, football and deer hunting?" Novato was a simple place to live in 1949.

Black Point was facing a garbage crisis. So many people were dumping their garbage into the Petaluma River that the garbage man was faced with giving up his business in Black Point. Supervisor Robert Trumbull suggested referring the matter to the county health officer and the Novato Sanitary District.

Novato—50 Years Ago is a collection of remembrances culled by Bill Almeida from the July-September 1949 issues of The Novato Advance newspaper in the collection of the Novato History Museum. We hope you enjoy seeing the names and happenings of Novato 50 years ago! ♦

Novato — 50 Years Ago

by Bill Almeida

Portuguese Voice of Marin was celebrating its second year of broadcasting on KTIM in San Rafael. Agnelo Clementino was director of the program that had many listeners in Novato and other parts of Marin County.

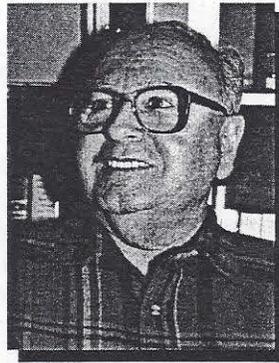
Graveside services were held at Novato Cemetery (now Pioneer Cemetery) for Fred Zeh, a civilian employee of Morrison-Knudson Construction Co. building an airstrip on Wake Island in the Pacific. He was a roller operator and was captured when the Japanese invaded Wake Island on December 23, 1941 and died February 28, 1944 of pneumonia in Fukuoka POW camp in Japan. Zeh was a Novato resident for many years and attended San Rafael High. He was 39. His gravestone in Pioneer Cemetery is marked XPWJ meaning ex-POW Japan.

Allied Fur Farms recently purchased the Hoes Ranch on Novato Blvd. (Yukon Way area). The ranch was used for mink and chinchilla raised for their fur. The new owners planned land use exclusively for the raising of mink.

Cliff Cook opened a new sporting goods department in his existing Cook's Appliances store featuring guns, fishing tackle and ammunition. His store also sold radios and household appliances. It was located next to Novato Bank across from DeBorba's

Cocktail Lounge.

Black Point fishermen were complaining of no fish—it meant going home to work around the house and that was not good!



Eleanor Amaral and Elmer Gladden were married July 17 at Our Lady of Loretto Church on Grant Avenue at 2nd St.

"White collar" workers in Marin County government sought to get their long fought for plan for old age retirement on the November ballot. The county employees objected to a state plan and were requesting one for county employees. They said the state plan was too "rigid."

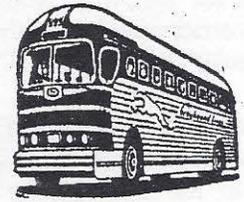
Martha Stroeh and Robert Wells were married in Reno on July 23.

Novato was expecting the largest school enrollment in history on September 12—opening day of school.

Frank Gustafson and his horse had a disagreement. The horse won and Frank spent 2 weeks in Vallejo Permanente Hospital with a cracked pelvis.

continued on page F11, see 50 Years

WHY DRIVE?



Go GREYHOUND
... save 2/3
the cost of driving
There Are No Lower Fares!

Portland	\$10.60
Reno	4.80
San Francisco65
Los Angeles	6.10
New York City	50.45
New Orleans	87.35
Elmo O. Smith Ph. 82-M	
101 Highway and Grant	

MUTT AND JEFF

By Bud Fisher



Comic strip and old advertisements from Novato Advance newspapers, Fall 1949