

The Novato Historian

The Quarterly Publication of the Novato Historical Guild, the Novato History Museum, and the Hamilton Field History Museum



Preserving Novato's History News Section

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April - June 2016

The Novato Historian

Volume 40, Number 2

Third Grade Visitors this Spring

It's been another successful year of third grade tours. Twenty-six third grade classes from Novato's nine public elementary schools visited the museum and went on the Old Town tour. While viewing the current train exhibit, the students had fun pulling the cord to hear the train whistle. As always, our dedicated docents lead the tours. Appreciated were the addition of new docents Joan Davis, Kate Johnston and Melinda Mixer.



Laurie O'Mara and Sharon Azevedo leading a third grade tour of the Novato History Museum for Lu Sutton students on May 2, 2016.



Speaker "Abraham Lincoln" at the March Membership meeting.



Novato Historical Guild received the Community Service Award from the Recreation, Culture, and Community Services Commission of Novato on Feb. 27th. L-R Mayor Pat Eklund, Kathy Kormos, Jim Crumpler, Susan Magnone, Lorne Magnone and Pam Shinault

The Novato Historian

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Guild Mission Statement

Our Mission is to collect, preserve, and make reasonably available to the public, exhibits and information related to the historical and social development of the Novato valley, Hamilton Field, and the adjacent North Marin area.

Novato Historical Guild 2016 Officers

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Vice President	Jim Crumpler
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Treasurer	Kathryn Hansen

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Novato	Susan Magnone

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Typography, Layout, Composition

Carol Aregger

Deadline for the September issue is August 1.

City of Novato Staff

Recreation Operations Manager
Kathy Kormos

Address Changes

The Novato Historian is mailed by bulk mail and will not be forwarded by the Postal Service. Please notify us promptly of your address change at Novato Historical Guild, P.O. Box 1296, Novato, CA 94948.



President's Corner

Susan Magnone

President, Novato Historical Guild

Happy Fortieth Birthday to the Novato History Museum and Novato Historical Guild - Founded 1976

At the Guild's June 18th membership meeting, we'll celebrate both the Guild's and the Museum's 40th birthday with recognition of past presidents, board members and longtime Guild members. Photo albums of Guild and museum activities will be displayed and, of course, we'll have cake. There will also be an interesting speaker. So join us to celebrate on June 18th, 10:00 to 12:00, Novato City Hall. *See the back page of the Historian for more information.*

The NHG has recently received two recognitions for our work over 40 years. In February we received the Community Service Award from the Novato Recreation, Culture and Community Services Commission and in March the Novato City Council gave us a Proclamation in appreciation for our service. At both occasions some very nice things were said about the Guild. Here are my favorite parts:

"When the City budget cuts in 2009 resulted in eliminating a Museum Coordinator position, the Novato Historical Guild stepped up to fill the gap-and fill it successfully." (Community Service Award)

"The Guild's dedication to working collaboratively with the city provides a vital link to Novato's past. The NHG's dedication to the community and to the preservation of local history, contributes greatly to making Novato a great place to live, work, and play." (City Resolution)

Words we can be proud of.

The work goes on. There is new interest in continuing the Guild's Oral History Project for both the Novato and Hamilton Museums so there will be a training for anyone who would like to learn about doing interviews.

How to do Oral History Interviews

July 7th 10-12 AM. Location TBD.

Please register by emailing NHG1850@yahoo.com or calling Susan Magnone at 415-892-8458

Oral Histories are interesting and fun.

**DOCENTS NEEDED
HAMILTON FIELD HISTORY
MUSEUM**

Contact: Ray Dwelly
(415) 382-8614

Contact Us

Hamilton Field History Museum

Manager: Ray Dwelly
Museum phone: 415-382-8614
Email: Hamilton_museum@att.net
<https://www.facebook.com/HamiltonFieldHistoryMuseum/>

Novato History Museum

Manager: Susan Magnone
Museum phone: 415-897-4320
Email: NHG1850@yahoo.com
<https://www.facebook.com/NovatoHistoryMuseum/>



Novato-50 Years Ago

(April, May, and June 1966)

by Yvette Borloz Jackson

“Novato 50 Years Ago” is a collection of items culled by Yvette Borloz Jackson from the April, May and June issues of the Novato Advance newspapers in the collection of the Novato History Museum and the Novato Advance.

- It was an important week at Hamilton Air Force Base last week. An expanded air defense headquarters role came into existence at Hamilton as two new organizations were formally activated - the West Coast NORAD Region and Fourth Air Force. In addition a new base commander took command and the first of a new rescue plane was delivered. Col. Charles L. Praul took over command of HAFB from Col. Ralph M Wanderer.

- Marin Highlands Units Approves: The tentative map for Marin Highlands units 2 & 3, 40 acres near Vineyard Road & Trumbull Ave. was approved by the county planning commission Monday. The area is proposed for division into 83 lots @ 10,000 square feet per lot.

- The Novato school board approved the appointments of six new teachers for the 1966-67 school year. One of the appointees was Miss Dannelle Smith, the first Novato High graduate to teach at her Alma Mater. Daughter of Mrs. Anita Smith, third grade teacher at Marion School, 22 year old Dannelle was graduated from Novato High School in June 1961, after completing the school's college preparatory course.

- Mrs. George (Joan) Whitten was re-elected president of the Novato Garden Club at yesterday's meeting at the Community House. Other officers who will serve for the coming year are Mmes. John Haines, first vice president: Arthur Rowe, second vice president: Louis Giovine, recording secretary: Anthony Jurkus, corresponding secretary and Ralph Michener treasurer.

- *This Week's Lunches in Local Schools:* Type A lunches (35 cents) to be served in the next week are: April 11- Spaghetti & Meat sauce, buttered spinach, carrot strips, hot buttered French Bread, cherry cobbler and milk. April 12: Hot Dogs on a bun, Chili Beans, Harmony Salad, Apple Goodie & Milk. April 13: German Beirocks, Buttered Noodles, Beet & Celery salad, Lemon Pineapple Gelatin & milk. *(If any one can remember these lunches & can tell us what a Harmony Salad or apple goodie was, go to the Novato History Museum Facebook page & let us know)*

- Safeway Easter Specials: Dubuque Canned Hams \$5.98 6 lb. tin, Dungeness Crabs whole jumbo from Eureka \$0.39 lb., Fresh Asparagus 4 lbs. \$0.69, Easter Lilies 6 blooms or buds \$1.89.

- Pfc. Robert Johnson, 18, the son of Mrs. Eleanor Kegg of 863 Pine St., was killed in action in Vietnam on Monday. The young man had been in the Army ten months and had been in Vietnam a little short of a month. Young Johnson was

born at San Rafael General Hospital in Sept 1948. He attended West Novato elementary school, Hill Junior High and Novato High School. He is survived by his Mother, a brother, Jack Kegg a student at Hill School, his maternal grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Strockbine, an uncle Gene Strockbine, a great uncle & aunt Mr. & Mrs. Everett Pozzi and a great uncle Al Regalia.

- Ed Salmina is home on an 11 day leave from Ft. Ord where he has completed basic training. He offered to cover yesterday's high school baseball game and witnessed John Dolinsek's sparkling no-hit performance.... Other Novato companions inducted with Salmina included Jay Johnson, married & also on an 11 day leave and Roger Tieche who is waiting to enter officers candidate school.

- Purity store offered Fuerte Avocados \$0.09 ea., VO5 shampoo 15 oz., \$0.99. Arrow charcoal briquets 10 lb. bag \$0.49.

- Mr. and Mrs. Marett Boissevain of Novato announced the marriage of their daughter Miss Elizabeth Anne Boissevain to Frank J. Bonomolo, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bonomolo of Novato. The nuptials took place on April 18.

- The West Novato PTA Fiesta will be once again held May 7. Homemade tamales, barbecued hot dogs and hamburger and home baked pastries are attractions along with many games. The popular

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50 Years Ago

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“cake walk” will again be in operation as well as a plant booth, white elephant table, dolls, and an auction.

- This week (5/4) rock and roll sounds split the quiet serenity of the old Burdell manse, located 3 miles north of Novato on Highway 101. It may have been enough to wake up the dead. Actually the Rock & Roll music was by the “Grateful Dead”. They had rented the historic mansion and grounds for privacy and to conduct recording sessions.

- McAfee’s Dept. Store offered Mother’s Day gift ideas: Dreamy soft peignoir set- \$9.95, Nylon Shorty Length Gowns-\$5.98, Fruit of the Loom Nylons- \$0.99.

- The Reagan for Governor Committee of Novato has announced that Mrs. Reagan will be in Novato from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Friday (5/13). Mrs. Richard Brown will be hostess at her home at 648 Rowland Blvd. This will be the last

opportunity to meet Mrs. Reagan before the June 7 primary. While Mrs. Reagan is meeting people in Novato, Reagan will be in San Rafael, and both will attend a luncheon in Berkeley at noon.

- Marsha Baccaglio, 18 year old Novato High senior, was crowned Dairy Princess of the six-county District Three, Saturday night at a dance in Petaluma sponsored by the American Dairy Association. Marsha, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baccaglio, will go to Hollywood late next month to compete with other district winners for the State Dairy Princess crown.

- Western Week-end has come and gone. Lee Baldwin became the Western Week-end Queen. Frank Antonio got the best of show trophy in the beard contest. The parade lasted 2 ½ hours and there were many awards going to a number of parade entries in their particular category.

- A record number of graduates- 79 more than last year received diplomas during Novato High School’s commencement exercises

in the high school gymnasium. Efforts to shoehorn the crowd of well over 2,000 into the gymnasium were not successful even though Principal Robert Wisgerhof made an appeal to those on the bleachers to sit closer together.

- I have not run out of articles or information that I would like to pass on to you, but I am afraid I have run out of time. I only wish you could see the pictures that are in the *Novato Advance* newspaper. They are priceless. I hope you enjoy an eclectic view of April-June 1966, in Novato.

Call for Board Member Applications

Guild members are invited to apply to serve on the Novato Historical Guild Board of Directors for 2017-2018. The term of office is two years.

Requirements and Process:

- Have been a Guild member for a year prior to the election on Dec. 10, 2016.
- Complete the Guild Board Application and return it by August 31, 2016.
- Election will be held at the Dec. 10th membership meeting.
- Board Applications are available at each museum or by email.

Mail application to

Nominating Committee
PO Box 1296
Novato, CA, 94948

or email

NHG1850@yahoo.com

The nominating Committee will select a slate to be on the Dec. ballot by Oct. 1, 2016.

Interested individuals are encouraged to attend the Board meeting on August 9th at 1:30 at the Margaret Todd Center and to talk with board members about the role and responsibilities of serving on the Board.



At their March 15th meeting the Novato City Council passed a resolution in recognition of the NHG’s forty year partnership with the City. Pictured are L-R Mayor Pat Eklund, NHG Board members Susan Magnone, Sheila Brossier, Bill Damon, Pat Johnstone and Ray Dwelly.

Novato Memories

by Jim McNern



Sharon Azevedo

Sharon (Angeloni) Azevedo was born in San Francisco, California in 1953. Her family had been living in Novato since 1952 but there was no hospital in town at that time. Her father John Angeloni owned Nave Motors, having purchased the business with a partner from Louis Nave in 1952. The business was originally located on Redwood Blvd. next to Perry's Deli. The business also sold Dodge automobiles with the showroom for the new cars inside the building where Perry's Deli is now located. Sharon shares her Novato memories in this June edition of the Novato Historian.

My father always said he never changed the name of the garage because everyone knew the name Nave but no one knew Angeloni. For many years the customers often thought that he actually was Mr. Nave. He eventually bought out his partner and moved the business up north on Redwood Blvd. to the building that is now the Donut Works. He finally purchased property on First Street and had two large buildings built for auto repair and body work. Still selling Dodge automobiles and needing additional space he rented the property across the street from the Diaz family to show and sell the new cars. When the business stopped selling cars in the nineties the name was changed to Nave Motors. My father also served on Novato's first city council and was a member of the Druids, Knights of Columbus, Lions Club and Toastmasters.

My parents were John and Marie Angeloni and siblings were Charlotte, Fred, JoAnne and my twin sister Susan. My parents lived at the corner of Center and Diablo when I was born and moved to Patterson Ranch in 1954. At that time 7th Street did not extend from Grant Ave. to Novato Blvd.

The ranch property encompassed the area of both shopping centers there now (Novato Gymnastics Center to Lucky Market). The property went all the way to Novato Blvd., with the

Novato Creek running through the middle. The Novato Library is on part of once was Patterson Ranch. At the age of four I then moved to a larger home on Villa Place Attended Marion School for kindergarten. My teacher was Mrs. Lockwood, who taught both morning and afternoon kindergarten. Many children in Novato started their education with her as their teacher.

During that school year there was a fire on Easter Sunday. I lived on Villa Place at that time and we could see the smoke and we all joked that maybe it was the school because of where it was coming from. Turned out to be one of the abandoned sheds on the Patterson Ranch property across the street from the school that we had just moved from.

I attended Our Lady of Loretto, the new Catholic school, starting in first grade. My teacher was Mother Florence. We called the nuns "Mother" back then. My sister JoAnne just missed attending OLL because the school only went up to third grade initially adding another grade each year and she was going into fourth. We had Ursuline nuns who commuted every day from Santa Rosa since there was no convent built yet for them. Each class had fifty students - so yes - those poor nuns had to be a bit strict just to keep order as they had no aides for assistance. Classmates and friends had family names of Giari, Bormolini, Tur-rini, Bobo, Warden, Mariani, Len-

non, McGrath, Sittenhour and Hasik. I guess the most important classmate I met in first grade is my now husband of 44 years, Dan Azevedo. The pastor at the time was Father Charles Farrell. He seemed very strict and serious but he had a very soft side and would visit the classrooms occasionally and perform puppet shows for the students.

During the season of Lent in the spring all the students from OLL would walk down Grant Ave. from the school on Virginia Ave. to the Catholic Church (now Village Pizzeria) for stations of the cross every Friday afternoon until the new church was built on Novato Blvd. in 1963. It was quite a sight and I'm not sure everyone made it to the church since they didn't take roll.

I remember visits with Santa at the fire station on Grant Ave. and receiving an orange and a candy cane.

We loved to roller skate at Marion School because they had a long smooth cement hallway outside of the classrooms. We also enjoyed cardboard sliding on the grassy hills especially the hill on Marion Ave.

We would ride our bikes all over Novato. I remember thinking how brave anyone was to ride their bike down 8th street (I don't remember every being brave enough to try).

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Novato Memories

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My twin sister Susan and I took piano lessons from Mrs. Balz. She lived on Novato Blvd. near Simmons Lane. We shared an hour, each getting our own 30 minutes. I believe she charged 50 cents or a dollar. My mom would give us each our share so we could pay her ourselves. She made us do a lot of piano scales that were boring but she was a really nice lady.

The jet planes from Hamilton Air Force Base would fly over frequently. Sometimes they would fly fast enough to break the sound barrier. These were really loud booms that even rattled things a bit. We called them sonic booms and we got used to them so they weren't so scary. If I heard one today I know it would give me a fright.

We looked forward each year to the Western Week-end celebrations with the buckaroo breakfast, parade, carnival and professional rodeo at the Novato Horsemen's Arena on Bugeia Ave. on Sunday.

Novato never had its own fairgrounds so the carnival moved around to different locations over the years. One year it was on the Patterson Ranch property when we still lived there. Before the carnival left the property they gave our family a few stuffed animals for us children. One of the last carnivals was on Rowland Blvd at the south end before the road was completed and opened to traffic in the 1970's. The parades had floats, marching bands and a lot of horses with fancy costumes and shiny saddles. One of my favorites was the St. Mary's Chinese Marching Band from San Francisco.

Fond memories of riding my horse with friends Alvina Butti, Debi Homenko, and Julie Fedrick everywhere around Novato. We enjoyed riding through the Novato Creek, on Mt.



John Angeloni selling his first Dodge car after buying the garage and dealership from Louie Nave.

Burdell and where Pioneer Park is now located.

I remember seeing many of the original Disney movies at the Novato Theater. Going to the movies on Friday nights with your friends was a big thing when you were old enough to go without your parents. Sometimes on Friday nights the line for tickets wound all the way around the corner at Grant and Machin Ave. Once inside Mr. Don Donahue was always there to keep everyone in line.

We would use the pay phone at the laundromat on the corner (now an antique store) to call for a ride home. We would let the phone ring and then hang up before our parents answered so we would get our change back but the signal had been given to get picked up.

Shopping for clothes at Tot N Teen, WT Grant Dept. Store and later McAfee's Dept. Store (now Novato Post Office). We always shopped for shoes at Jansen's Shoe Store on Grant Ave. Mrs. Jansen was always so nice to all her customers. Shopped at Taylor Variety, Dean's Rexall Drugs, Wom-

ack Variety and Ben Franklin. Sometimes we would drive to San Rafael to shop at the old Macy's on Fourth Street. I remember my mom doing her grocery shopping at Ashermans, Food Fair, Curt's Market, Rayburns, Brice Brothers, Lee Brothers and later Roger Wilco. My favorite store was Creamy Corner (now La Hacienda) where we would get ice cream cones and lunch meat from Mr. Garaventa. All the different ice cream flavors were listed on a huge painter's palette on the back wall.

One store that was exciting to get gifts from was McDonald's Jewelry store. The business was run by Mr. and Mrs. McDonald. She always had her hair fixed neatly in a bun. The store was known for their gift wrapping with a beautiful rose bow on top. When you saw that bow you knew you were about to receive something special.

On the playing field of Marion School at the corner of Grant Ave. and 7th street in the sixties the Air-Force installed a retro-fitted jet plane for the children to play on. The mid-

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Novato Memories

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Nave's Garage and Dodge Dealership in 1952

dle had been hollowed out and you could crawl from one end to the other. You could also climb up into the cockpit. The plane was only there a few years and then just disappeared. Behind Brice Brothers grocery store (now Pini Hardware) on south Novato Blvd. there were large trampolines for jumping. They dug large holes in the ground and then stretched the trampoline material over the top. For a nominal fee you could jump for a certain amount of time. These also only lasted a few years.

When we graduated from 8th grade at Our Lady of Loretto School, our graduation breakfast was held in the restaurant at Nave Bowling Lanes. After graduating 8th grade I attended Hill Jr. High for one year.

The freshman had been moved to the junior high schools because of overcrowding at Novato High School while a new high school was being built. I remember being disappointed when I learned I would have to attend the new high school and not Novato High. All my siblings had attended Novato High and I fondly remember

attending most of the football games with my family during that time. I felt very connected to the gold & black.

I started at San Marin High School when it was brand new in 1968. The school opened with just sophomores and juniors so as to not move the seniors to a different school their last year. The actual campus was not complete at the start of school so San Marin students had to share the Novato High campus.

The Novato High students went in the morning and we had to attend in the afternoon. I remember the Novato High students looking pretty happy to be going off every afternoon to enjoy the sunny weather. There were times when I would be getting home from school in the dark.

During the first few weeks of school the San Marin students were able to pick the school colors and mascot still used today. Classes finally started at the new campus after the Thanksgiving break. There really were no upper classmen because the school was brand new to everyone. Not all the

landscaping and sidewalks were complete so I remember it being a muddy mess when it rained.

We had a great principal in Hank Moroski. The other administrator that made a big impact on so many students was Bill Stiveson. I remember being able to take sewing, cooking and typing classes. Our PE teacher was Joan Smith and when we would play field sports that first year the fields were still literally cow fields.

Our first football season, since we had no seniors, the school could only field a junior varsity team. We also had no football field so we shared the field at Novato High. With all the big juniors on the team we dominated the league our first season. One of the first San Marin quarterbacks was Ken Gness, now a Sonoma county judge.

During my sophomore year in high school I had to have my tonsils removed. Our family doctor, Dr. Weseman did the surgery. I was told it was the last (or one of the last) surgeries he performed. He was a great doctor taking care of all our family ailments. It was interesting because of his religion his office was always closed on Saturday but often open on Sunday. Dr. Weseman would also make home visits if needed.

I remember what a big thing it was when McDonald's restaurant opened in 1969. The original restaurant had only outside seating. Before that everyone would go to HiFi or Carousel drive-in and later A&W Root Beer (now California Grill). Other restaurants we ate at were Berkeley Farms, Spiro Red Vest, Sizzler Steak House and Galli's. One of the first take-out places to deliver was Chicken Delite on SouthNovato Blvd.

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Novato Memories

Continued from Page N-7

Changes to Novato:

The biggest change to Novato would have to be the housing growth and increase in population. The freeway bypass in the seventies had a huge impact on the traffic on Highway 101. Before that change cars were always backed up on the week-ends because of Novato's infamous signal lights.

It's hard to remember that Redwood Blvd. was once Highway 101. I was fortunate that all my three sons were born at the original Novato Community Hospital on Hill Road. Now parents must go outside Novato to have their babies because there are no birthing facilities at Novato Community Hospital.

I'm glad that there are now more activities for youth available. It's especially nice that there are so many sport opportunities for girls. There were no organized sports open to girls while I was growing up.



Nave's Garage and Dodge Dealership in 1952

Just as when I was younger one of my favorite things still is to hike on Mt. Burdell. Novato was and still is a great place to raise a family. My husband and I have been fortunate to call

Novato home and raise our sons Tom, Jerry and Jeffrey here with all the opportunities that were available to them growing up.

Museum Treasures

We never know what we will find in the Novato History Museum's Archives. Upon inventorying the west wall of the archives room, we came across two photo albums from the Clarkson Family. The albums showed snapshots of family life, vacations to several National Parks, and even some Parks in Canada. But the most interesting of Charles Clarkson's photos were some taken of the USS Maine. If you remember, the Maine was destroyed in an explosion in Havana Harbor in 1898. Some years later, the United States raised the wreckage to investigate what really happened to her. It seems that Clarkson actually got to go aboard her and take photos! There are about 12 amazing photos that probably have never seen before. A fascinating journey into American History.



The Clarkson Family album included photographs of the USS Maine, which was destroyed in an explosion in Havana Harbor, Cuba, in 1898. The USS Maine explosion started the Spanish American War.

Novato Historical Guild Board Highlights

by Kathryn Hansen

February 2016

Unfinished Business – Report to Membership A draft of statistics was presented that will be in the “Historian” comparing last year to the year before in several categories: number of volunteers, volunteer hours, etc.

Conflict of Interest – A Conflict of Interest Policy and Form was sent to all members. The IRS now requires all non profits to get a signed statement annually from Board members as to any conflict of interest they may have.

New Business – It is customary for the Vice President to become president but in this case our Vice President, Jim Crumpler is not able to accept that role in 2017. Action Item: The Nominating Committee will search for another candidate.

March Membership Meeting – The speaker will be Roger Vincent, who impersonates Abe Lincoln. He speaks about what is going on in the U.S.A. at the same time as what is going on in Novato. The award that the Guild is getting from the California Parks and Recreation Association (District #1) will be mentioned and displayed

Public Outreach – May is Museum Month - how to publicize museums.

Hamilton Museum – Hap Arnold Exhibit insurance expires in March. Susan Magnone was contacted by *Marin Magazine* for a picture of the Burdell Mansion. Bill and Suzanne are taking inventory and cataloging items in the Archive Room. Judi and Sharon are taking notes on Anna Morrison’s recollections.

March 2016

Unfinished Business: Community Service Award – Novato Parks &

Recreation Dept. narrative was distributed that explains the Guild’s accomplishments that led to the 2015 Community Service Award. Action Item: put a copy of the award description on the website. Send a copy to the *Novato Advance* (Marinscope).

March Membership Meeting – There was a discussion about what to present at the General Meeting. The 1866 document signed by Andrew Johnson, VP will be displayed.

Board Officers for 2017 – Bill Damon has accepted becoming the nominee for president since Jim Crumpler (who was next in line) is unable to accept. The Nominating Committee will be made up of Ray Dwelly (Chair), Sheila & Pat.

New Business – Resolution from City March 15 – the Novato City Council will present a resolution to the Novato Historical Guild in recognition of forty year partnership and for receiving the Community Service Award. Members are encouraged to attend.

Presentation Request - The Guild has been asked to make a 20 minute presentation about Novato’s Past at a Real Estate Professional’s event April 20th at Ghiringhelli Restaurant 6-8PM. Other presenters will cover the present and future. All agreed it would be good exposure for the Guild to participate.

Committee Reports & Updates

Public Outreach – May is Museum Month– a suggestion is to hand out flyers saying that if someone visited four out of six museums in the month they would get a free membership in each museum, a \$180 value. This might increase attendance and membership. All agreed to the idea.

Hamilton Museum – Ray Dwelly is recruiting docents because he

has lost many due to health, or relocation. The duty is only four hours per month. The Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit was on display for Black History month.

Downtown Museum – Susan Magnone was contacted by Chevy’s Restaurant for historical pictures. Bill discovered the Clarkson Family album that contains original pictures of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor. On April 25, 1898 the United States declared war on Spain following the sinking of the Battleship Maine in Havana Harbor on February 15, 1898. The war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris on December 10, 1898.

April 2016

Unfinished Business – Logo Update – A sample of 26 possible logos was presented. The Board reviewed them and made no decision.

Copperfield’s Book Store - Susan would like to display some historical pictures for their grand opening this week.

City & Guild Agreement – The agreement between the Guild and the City is not complete.

New Business: Novato Art & Wine Festival – No information has been received regarding applying for a booth.

4th of July Parade - No information has been received regarding parade participation.

Accession Process – The procedures require three committees to review accession items.

Oral History Training – Video equipment will replace a tape recorder for oral histories. Those interested in taking oral histories will be trained on the new video equipment.

NOVATO'S TREASURES

Verissimo Building



1918



1914

Joao (John) Verissimo Teixeira came to California in 1897. By 1901 he had taken over the lease and dairy of the Scown Ranch.

Jan. 4, 1913 "Sutton would sell two lots (# 4 & 5 Block G) to Teixeira." He would start using his middle name for his last name some time in the 1910's.

April 1914 "Work was begun on the Verissimo building and the house was moved to the rear of the lot." The house was built before 1890 as the house shows up on the 1888 map of Novato.

Henry Pini would open up his first store with his friend Mrs. Mary Bazzini in 1916.



2003

The only good picture we have, (shown at top) has E.J Duclos Barber Shop, R. Pagliaro Shoe Maker and American Lunch Room in the building sometime around 1918. Duclos moved his barber shop in December 1917 to the Verissimo building.

In May 2003, the Golden Egg Omelet House next door burnt down, doing damage to the Verissimo building. The Verissimo building had its last remodel in 2009.

It now has two restaurants in the building, My Thai II and Masa's.

Welcome New Guild Members

Novato Historical Guild Membership Report June 2016

Individual Memberships:

Philip Lieb
Melinda C. Mixer

Student Memberships:

Family Memberships:

Patron Memberships:

Life Memberships:

Lorne Magnone

Please support our Guild

Business Members:

Acme Digital and Screen Graphics
Andrew McAghon Landscaping
Bank of Marin
Burrous Bros. Floor
Goltermann Garden & Country Inn,
Petaluma, CA
Indian Valley Golf Club
Marin Landscape Materials
Marin Trophies
McIsaac Dairy
Nave Enterprises
Pini Hardware
The Wright Salon
Trumbull Manor Inc. - Novato
Zenith Instant Printing

If you have questions about membership, call Edna Manzoni, Membership Chairman, 415-892-9603.

A gift membership always meets the need for that person who has everything.

In Memoriam

In Memoriam

Tony Albini
 Jean Reuter Craemer
 John "Frank" Giari
 Eva Cazzaniga Hall
 Geoff Lang
 Claire Byers Paysee
 Don Urban
 Joan Whitten

MEMORIAL PLAQUE GIFTS

You may honor a friend or loved one by having his or her name engraved on an individual brass plate on the Memorial Plaque in the History Museum. Please call the Museum at 897-4320. All contributions are tax deductible. Plaques cost \$250 per person named.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

You may make a gift of appreciated securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) to the Novato Historical Guild. Your gift is not only tax-deductible, but if you have held the shares for more than one year, your tax deduction will equal the full value of the securities on the date of the gift.

The Guild Extends Sympathy to

The Albini family on the loss of Tony Albini

The Craemer family on the loss of Jean Craemer

The Giari family on the loss of John "Frank" Giari

The Hall family on the loss of Eva Cazzaniga Hall

The Lang family on the loss of Geoff Lang

The Byers and Paysee families on the loss of Claire Paysee

Charlotte Urban and family on the loss of Don Urban

The Whitten family on the loss of Joan Whitten



Congratulations

Happy 90th Birthday
 Libba
 Patterson

2016 Board Meetings

Second Tuesday of the month
 Margaret Todd Senior Center
 1560 Hill Road
 Time: 1:30- 3:30 PM

Jan 12	July (no meeting)
Feb.9	Aug 9
March 8	Sept 13
April 12	Oct 11
May 10	Nov 8
June 14	Dec 13

Guild members are welcome to attend the Board meetings. Please check with the President, Susan Magnone at NHG@Yahoo.com or 415 892-8458, in case a meeting has been changed.

Membership Form

Please mail checks to Novato Historical Guild. P.O. Box 1296. Novato. CA 94948.

Yes, I want to join the Novato Historical Guild and help preserve Novato history! new renewal

- | | | | |
|---|--------|------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (full time) membership | \$10 | year | Name _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership | \$20 | year | Address _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family membership | \$30 | year | City _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron membership | \$100 | year | State _____ Zip _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting membership | \$200 | year | Phone _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life membership, individual | \$350 | year | Additional donations? _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life membership, joint | \$500 | year | Interested in volunteering? _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$1000 | year | Email address: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business membership | \$50 | year | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate membership | \$1000 | year | |



Novato Historical Guild
P.O. Box 1296
Novato, CA 94948



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TIME VALUE



YOU ARE INVITED

General Membership Meeting
Novato Historical Guild

Saturday, June 18, 2016 – 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
Novato City Hall – 901 Sherman Avenue

Presentation by Nick Tipon, Pomo Elder from the Graton Rancheria
*California Indians and the Changing Environment: Historical, Social,
Political and Research Perspectives.*

Enjoy refreshments, good company, and an interesting presentation
Guild Members and prospective members are welcome

Novato History Museum

815 Delong Avenue

(415) 897-4320

Hamilton Field History Museum

555 Hangar Avenue

(415) 382-8614

COME VISIT AND BRING A FRIEND!

The Museums are open three days a week -- Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday - Noon to 4 p.m.

Closed Major Holidays