

# 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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January - March 2017

The Novato Historian

Volume 41, Number 1



## Volunteer "Thank You" Party and December General Membership Meeting

On November 22nd, the Guild hosted a volunteer "thank you" party at the Buck Institute for Research on Aging. Tours of the Buck Institute were available to all.

At the December General Membership meeting, Guild business included the election of Guild Board Members and the approval of the budget for 2017. The guest speaker was Breck Parkman, Senior State Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison for California State Parks. He did a wonderful presentation on Olompali State Park.

A volunteer "thank you" party was held at the Buck Institute for Research on Aging situated on Mt. Burdell.



Outgoing President Susan Magnone and incoming President Jim Crumpler.



Guild members and volunteers (left to right) Diana Goebel, Kathryn Hansen, Sheila Brossier, Pat Eklund and Bob Manzoni.

## 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.*

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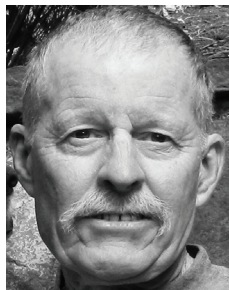
Deadline for the June issue is May 1st.

### City of Novato Staff

Recreation Operations Manager

### 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

Jim Crumpler

President, Novato Historical Guild

### What's new for the Guild in 2017

New Board Member Sharon

Azevedo. Sharon was one of the "leading ladies" in the latest movie filmed at the Novato History Museum. You can stop by the Museum on Thursdays to get her autograph. Sharon has been doing a wonderful job with the school tours for a few years now. We are very fortunate to have her talent on our board.

Bill Damon, unfortunately, had to leave the board due to work demands. Lucky for us, Bill will still be around to help in Collection management. Remember Bill was the person that found the ancient Novato land deed.

Yours truly has now moved up to "President" and at this time is still "Vice President!" Not exactly sure how this happened. This sort of thing isn't that uncommon for the Board. Kathryn Hansen is Treasurer and Secretary. If anybody knows someone who is interested in the positions of Vice President or Secretary, please give me a call.

Thanks to Carole Bennett, the Soroptimists International of Novato and the crew from Novato Community Television, there have been two thirty minute videos on our two museums. The first filmed in November at the Novato History Museum featured Susan Magnone, Sharon Azevedo and Bill Damon. The second filmed in January at the Hamilton Field History Museum featured Ray Dwelly, John Trumbull and Jim Davenport. I had no idea that our Guild contained such acting talent. Check out these two videos on YouTube.

There is now a new Keurig hot drink machine at the Novato History Museum, free to all docents and visitors. Stop by for a hot cup of your favorite beverage!

Kathy Kormos, our City Liaison has retired. She has been giving us advice and guidance for over twenty years.

We will really miss her, but we congratulate her on her retirement.

Breck Parkman, Senior State Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison for California State Parks, was our speaker at our December Members meeting. For those of you unable to attend, you missed a wonderful talk on the History of Olompali State Historic Park.

Dewey Livingston, Marin Historian and author of many books on Marin History, will be our guest speaker at our Membership Meeting on Saturday, March 11. Dewey was our speaker in 2015, giving us a very informative talk on the history of some of the ranches in Marin County.

Susan Magnone has a really big project for 2017...PastPerfect 5.0. Past-Perfect 5.0 is the latest Museum Collection Management software. This program will bring the Guild into the twenty-first century and eventually allow our collection to be online for all to enjoy.

I would like to thank all of our generous volunteers for giving us some of their precious time. Without you our doors would be closed. You are all greatly appreciated!

Hope to see you all at the March Membership Meeting, Saturday, March 11th at the Novato City Hall from 10 a.m.-12 noon.

New board member Sharon Azevedo.





# Novato-50 Years Ago

## (January, February and March 1967)

by Yvette Borloz Jackson

*“Novato 50 Years Ago” is a collection of items culled by Yvette Borloz Jackson from the January, February and March issues of the Novato Advance newspaper in the collection of the Novato History Museum and the Novato Advance.*

**Happy New Year dear readers, let's see a few of the things that happened the first three months of 1967.**

- Apparent winner of this year's "First Baby" contest, sponsored by the *Novato Advance*, is Baby Boy Altermatt, born at 12:33 a.m. January 2 at Marin General Hospital. The baby unnamed as yet, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Altermatt, 145 Montego Key. Along with the title is an array of gifts donated by Novato merchants. Baby Boy Altermatt, the heir presumptive of the title, weighed in at 8lbs 5oz. He has a brother Josh, 3 ½.

- The Rev. James Purcell performed the double ring rites in our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church on December 17, which united Marie Catherine Bastas and Michael Joseph Brownlee. Maid of honor was Kris Kraig of Terra Linda, and bridesmaids were, Kit McGrath, Mrs. Frank Bonomolo and Mrs. Robert Yarish, all of Novato. They wore full-length dresses of red velveteen. Serving as best man for his brother was Peter Brownlee. Ushers were Ronald Gubser and Denny Allen of Novato, and Richard Bastas of Santa Rosa, brother of the bride.

- Led by a raise of \$170 per month for Police Chief Robert DiGrazia, salaries for all five city department heads and City

Manager, John Baget got boosted by the City Council at Friday night's meeting. Raises totaled \$425 per month effective January 1st. Future city historians may find significance not immediately apparent in the fact that the council meeting was held in the Tiny Tot's room of the Community Clubhouse because council chambers were undergoing the rites of redecoration.

- California experienced its lowest death rate – 8.3 per 1000 population- in recorded history, according to the State Health Department. The lowest birth rate in 25 years was also recorded in 1966. Both the number of marriages performed and the marriage rate in California increased in 1966. Final decrees of divorce and annulment declined from 69,926 in 1965 to an estimated 68,000 in 1966. Tuberculosis in the total population has declined to 24 cases per 100,000 population. For the first time in several years infectious syphilis cases has decreased slightly Paralytic polio claimed 9 victims in 1966 the director reported. During the last four years there have been only 20 cases reported, a dramatic reduction which is attributable to the vaccination campaigns waged by the medical profession and public health.

- 01/25/1967: HALF YEAR'S SUPPLY DUMPED IN STAFFORD

A flood of trouble washed through Novato in a 50-hour rainstorm that dumped 6.9 inches of rain here from midnight Thursday to Sunday morning - two more inches of rain were added by new rains Monday evening through yesterday morning. Staf-

ford Dam gained a half-years supply of water, a gift of 350,000,000 gallons. The lake rose four feet in the weekend storm and started spilling over into Novato Creek by mid-afternoon Saturday. An oceanic problem developed in the area of the intersection of Highway 101 and 37 Saturday. H.C. Dustman rents a large acreage of grain field, known as the Hanna property, on the east side of Highway 101 across from and south of the Scottsdale development on the West side of the highway. Two pumps at Scottsdale, installed a year ago but never used before, were put to work when the rising waters at Scottsdale threatened to engulf the pumps and flood Highway 101 on Saturday. A choice had to be made by Supervisor William Gness and Public Works director Donald Frost: Should Highway 101 or Highway 37 area be flooded. They chose 37 and the pumps were put to use. (The article that the above excerpts came from was very long. There were many accounts of whole neighborhoods flooding, downed trees, stranded animals etc., but because of space I chose these items).

- The City of Novato celebrated its seventh anniversary of incorporation Saturday and Sunday, in grand style, according to the pages of the *Novato Advance*.

- Installed in a special ceremony held recently, were new officers of the Women's Society of Grace Lutheran Church: Mmes. Wilkes Johnson, president; Robert Fickenscher, vice president; Robert Stahoviak, secretary; and Russell Lantz, treasurer. The objective of

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# 50 Years Ago

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the Women's Society is to help the Christian woman to fill her role in the home, church and society through an emphasis on spiritual programs which develop more interest in world missions and more awareness of social needs of her community, country and world.

- Guest soloist with the Sonoma Valley Symphonette February 19 will be Stephen Halbe of Novato. The concert will be presented at 3:00 p.m. in the Sebastiani Theater, Sonoma. Halbe will play the Clarinet Concerto in A Major by Mozart. The symphonette is a non-profit organization made up of North Bay area musicians under the direction of Vincent Greco. Halbe attended San Francisco State College where he received his B.A. in education in 1960. He has been teaching in the Novato Unified District for the past six years. Halbe doesn't only play the clarinet, but plays the oboe and saxophone equally well. He plays the oboe with the Napa Symphony and the saxophone with a professional dance band. Halbe resides in Novato with his wife, Claudette and daughter. He owns and operates the Novato Music Center, a combination music store and music school.

- Two Novato students have been accepted as exchange students under the *Youth for Understanding* program. They are Michael Rothschild, 17 who will spend more than a year in Germany, and JoAnne Angeloni, 17 who will live in the Netherlands for two months. Both are seniors at Novato High. Michael, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene B. Rothschild, Lynwood Dr., has not been told where in Germany he will be sent. JoAnne, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Angeloni, Villa Place, will leave the end of June for the Netherlands and will return the end of August. Michael and JoAnne

were among six Novato High students chosen by the Community Ambassadors as candidates for exchange student programs.

- Mayfair Market offered: freshly cooked Dungeness crab, \$0.36 per lb.; Halibut center cut steaks, \$0.58 per lb.; Red Salmon, \$0.77 per lb.; baby Lobster tails, min wt 11 oz., (I am thinking that's for all 12) 12 for \$1. They also had available a hand painted statue of James Knox Polk 1845-1849 our eleventh president. "This hand-painted statue is yours free with coupon below (worth 19 cents) and any purchase of \$5 or more. And you can buy four others for only 19 cents each. The complete set of 35 Presidents will bring new excitement to American history for your children. Look for our parade of Presidents display." (Any one ever have one or still do?)

- Acting on the recommendation of Fire Chief George Cavalero, the Novato Fire Commission, at last Wednesday's night meeting, approved the advancement to permanent status of four firemen: Bruce Dawson, Clyde Keeley, Albert Enyeart and William Tomrose. The four men have completed their six-month probationary period. They were advanced to the first step pay of \$585 per month. The Novato Fire Department now has 25 men including the chief on permanent status. They work on two shifts at three Novato fire stations. There are 26 active volunteer firemen.

- Two major retail enterprises this week were holding liquidation sales prior to closing their doors. One was Rayburn's Food Center, a fixture on Grant Ave. for 31 years. Andy Rayburn, owner, said he was ready for a rest after 45 years. The other store, McAfee's department store, in the Nave Shopping Center. McAfee's history has not been as illustrious as Rayburn's, having opened here only a year and half ago. Robert Nave, whose father William Nave Sr. is

the owner of Nave Shopping Center where McAfee's is located, reported that the space might be immediately reoccupied by a new tenant.

- By a 4-1 vote last night the city council put a "stop sign" on relocating the Novato civic center for many years to come. Instead, with councilman Jack Adams providing the single dissent, the city fathers backed councilman Douglas Merrill's motion to get wheels rolling for acquisition of two properties adjacent to the present site at Sherman and Delong Avenues. The two lots would allow expansion to the north, and are owned by the Milton Rodoni and Robert Busher families. Planning Director, Robert Lagle estimates that the two lots and houses could be had for between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

- (03/15/67) A requiem mass was offered Monday morning at Our Lady Loretto Church for Mrs. Rose Alberelli, who died Friday at the age of 72. A member of an old Marin County family, she is survived by her husband, Arthur, a retired Marin County road department employee; two daughters, Mrs. George Gness and Mrs. Manuel Pimentel, both of Novato, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by three sisters, the late Mrs. Petronilla Mazzolini, Mrs. Maria Marshall and Mrs. Josephine Fillipini; three brothers, the late Daniel, William and Charles Bondietti and a son, the late Arthur D. Alberelli. Burial was in the family plot at Olema Cemetery.

- Easter Sunday was March 26th in 1967. There isn't enough space to recount all the Easter celebrations, as there were many.

*I hope you enjoy this article as I enjoyed culling the Novato Advance pages to bring them to you. Sure brings back memories.*

Yvette Borloz Jackson

# Novato Memories

by Jim McNern



## Annette Garatti Goltermann

*Annette Garatti Goltermann is the oldest daughter of the late John and Bess Garatti. She is a 1957 graduate of Dominican Upper School. Annette attended College of Marin and then went on to San Jose State University and received her California teaching credential. She was also a real estate broker for a number of years. Annette loved growing up in Novato and shares her Novato memories in this March edition of the Novato Historian.*

The John Garatti family, my family, was part of Novato's history from 1946 until 1991 when my father passed away and we sold the house at 708 Bradley Avenue. All our other holdings had been sold by then. My parents were business owners and active members of the community. My father was active in the Novato Lions, the Druids, the Native Sons, the San Rafael B.P.O.E., the Redwood Empire Association, the Novato Chamber of Commerce and other fraternal orders.

My mother was our Room Mother for most classes, Cub Scout leader, a founding member of the Novato Garden Club and the Novato and Marin G.O.P. Mother's good friend, Mabel Hartmann donated generously to Novato Lion's projects the year that my father served as president.

Since he had selected "Beautification of the Highway" through town as his major project, Mrs. Hartmann directed that her funds be used to such use and the redwood and falling water art project at 101 and Grant is the result of the city's search for a design. I do not believe Mrs. Hartmann ever approved of it! She had no children and wanted to leave something as her thanks to Novato. I hope that the memorial will be attended to in an appropriate manner in keeping with

the legacy of Mrs. Hartmann and her donation to the Lion's Beautification Project of the 1950's.

My mother's family, (the McNeils), has been in the Northern California area since 1854. They came across the plains in a covered wagon from Indiana, eventually settling in Mendocino County. My father's family, (the Garattis), immigrated from Lonate Pozzola, in Northern Italy, near Lago de Como and arrived in Marin County in the 1890's.

I am a fourth generation Californian. I was born in the Cottage Hospital in San Rafael. My three siblings were also born in the Cottage Hospital in the same room and delivered by the same doctor. I was the oldest, then my brother, Neill (John McNeill) Garatti, and then the twins, Joe and Mary.

My parents had just completed construction of a new house on Grand Avenue in San Rafael when I came along. Three years later we welcomed my brother. It was the beginning of WWII and my father volunteered as a sworn uniformed civilian guard protecting the Marin County water supply on Mt. Tam.

While he was away, Mother acted as a volunteer community guard. We walked the neighborhood looking for any unprotected windows (no lights could show) which could prove dangerous and lead to a possible coastal

attack. Our parents acted so brave, but we later realized just how scared they were.

In 1946, my parents bought an auto dealership in Novato at the corner of Sweetser and the 101 Highway. We moved out of Mom's dream house in San Rafael and into a rental at the end of Railroad Avenue near the present Sutter Hospital.

The house was torn down when the 101 Highway was realigned to its current location. We had an exciting time there. Neill and I had no close neighbors - so chasing wild rabbits in the fields, watching trains just outside our doorstep and putting pennies on the track was a big thrill.

Within the year we moved to another rental on First Street and then to our own house on Bradley Avenue in 1950. While living on First Street, we had a view of our new business, Garatti Motors. It was almost directly across 101 at Sweetser. It was a AAA contract station, a gas station (we actually pumped gas), an auto dealership and repair shop. The autos we sold were Studebaker, International Harvester, Tucker, and DeSotos.....all goners.

We then negotiated for the contract of Willys, Jeep and Kaiser-Fraser. The Willys Jeeps were very popular. I'll bet Jeeps of the '50's that were sold by

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# Novato Memories

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my dad still run through the local deer camps and dairies. In 1954 my dad received an award for the most Jeep sales throughout the west coast.

While we were at First Street, I began my Marion School experience. I walked along Vallejo Street from First Street to Marion Avenue during fifth and sixth grades. The Manzonis lived at the corner of First Street, then the Paolis and then us.

We played with Butch and Bob Manzoni and also Freddy and Virginia Paoli. Our house had a large fishpond with an island in the middle. I went to see 1109 First Street recently, but sadly there is no remnant of that wonderful pond. The lot had been split and resplit! It was while living there on First Street that I joined Girl Scouts and my brother joined the Cub Scouts. My little brother sold my cookies each year since he was good at sales and I was too shy to ask.

I was a member of the youth group at the Novato Presbyterian Church. We went on hayrides, had formal dances in the adjacent building that the church had added. After services, I taught Sunday school in the classrooms in the basement. I was a member of the choir and on the basketball team. Rev. Easter was our pastor. I am proud to see that our church is preserved and remains central to Novato's civic life.

At Marion School I formed friendships that have remained very special through the years. It was the fifties life! The Happy Days, Ricky Nelson, the Beaver Cleaver life! Friends were true...our teachers were tops! The quality of education I experienced while attending Novato schools was, as I look back, quite outstanding.

Almost my entire elementary and high school life had been at the private Catholic school Dominican Convent. The Dominican nuns dedicated themselves totally, it is true...yet, the public school teachers I had at Marion were extra special also....Mrs. Busher, Mrs. Steele, Mr. Slepnikoff and Mr. Wynn (a



Garatti Motors, at the corner of Sweetser and Highway 101, circa 1949. Notice the gas pumps in front that had to be hand-pumped.

student teacher).

A few of us were lucky to have Miss Lulu Sutton as our teacher for a special reading class when we were in seventh grade. All of our Marion School teachers were exceptional. Mr. William J.J. Smith was Novato's Superintendent of Schools. I believe our dedicated teachers were the reason I was inspired to become a teacher myself.

Novato in the 1950's....the ultimate life! The happy days, American Graffiti times....we thought it would last forever. Everybody knew almost everyone in town. We knew every business owner and his family. We spent a lot of time at the Novato Theater that Don Donahue presided over....no gum, no feet on the seats, he ran a tight ship. And it was great. We felt so safe.

The owner of the theater building was local businessman, Al Bowman. The old Novato Grammar School sat on the hill overlooking Highway 101 and Grant Avenue across from the theater. I remember Aschermans, Rayburns, Roger Wilco, the soda fountain

in the Novato Drugstore on the corner, Ray's Barbershop, Mary's Beauty Parlor, DeBorba's and Sid, the Chinese cook, who made great chop suey and burgers, the Novato library, the blacksmith shop, Modern Eve Dress Shop (owned by Helen Gray) where I started working at age 14 and left to go away to college at 19. I also remember Hale's Meat Market owned by Harry and Mary Hale; Marie Salmina who worked at Warden's Market yelling "Box Out" every time anyone with a large order came to the register; Maison Marin, which sat so stately on the hill above our new garage on Lamont Avenue still owned by the Young family; Tainter's Surplus across from our old garage at 7388 Redwood Highway.

The old garage was a strange and scary place. Mr. Tainter once locked the twins in an antique chest and challenged us to find them; the IDESI Hall just behind our old garage where I would sit on the fence and listen to the poetic sounds of Harry Hale auctioning off livestock; I remember our old garage with the smells of auto work,

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# Novato Memories

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rubber burning as tubes were being recapped, the riveter noise, the huge leather straps and pulleys overhead spinning to make the compressors work; the big pit to walk down into to fix cars before we had lifts to get the cars up in the air, the five cent Coke machine; the actual pumps out in front of the garage that we pumped..you could see the golden gasoline as it was going into your car from the glass cylinder on top of the pump at \$ .36 per gallon.

Excitement as a Kaiser Darin was delivered to our showroom. It was such a futuristic car with sliding doors, sleek, padded dash, advanced ideas from Kaiser. I remember the many new cars that we got to try out. The baby blue two wheel drive 1956 Jeep that I got when I was 16!

The new garage site on Lamont didn't have quite so many unique sights and sounds. It was all about the efficiency and modern design. A corner showroom with lots of space for the new Kaisers and the Jeeps that were sold. The new building was built to the specifications of my dad by Bormolini



Bill Briggs, San Francisco Jeep District Manager, congratulates John Garatti for the most Jeep sales in the west coast in 1954.

Construction Co.

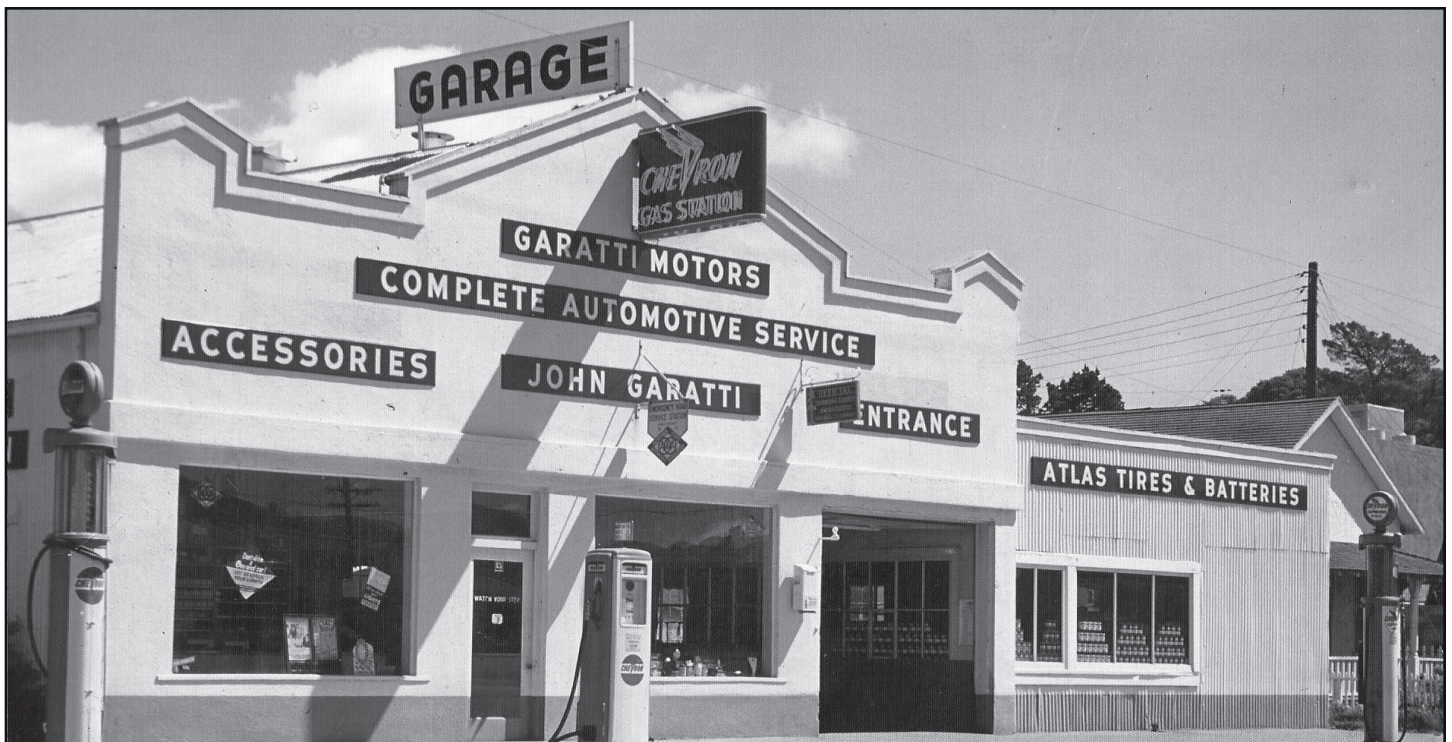
From Novato I went on to graduate with a teaching credential and taught first grade for ten years in Healdsburg and Petaluma and later taught upper grades at Two Rock School with Mrs. Helen Putnam. She was Petaluma's Mayor and Sonoma County Supervisor.

Mrs. Putnam was one of the many fine people I have had the pleasure of meeting in my lifetime! My brothers

and sister all retired from PG&E and all live nearby except for Neill who is in either Arizona or Colorado, depending on the weather and fishing. In 1978, I began my real estate career and in 1990 we opened Petaluma's first country B and B on our home place... Goltermann House and Gardens.

It was all good...it was a wonderful life! And...I will always call Novato my hometown!

In the early 1950's, the Garattis had a new building erected at the corner of Lamont and the old Highway 101 (now Redwood Blvd.)



# Military Aircraft Nose Art

By Michael Corlette

Since the earliest of times, warriors have decorated their weapons of war, or themselves. The Romans decorated their chariots, the Vikings their ships, Medieval Knights their shields, the Zulus, Samurai and Native Americans painted their faces. There were several reasons for the decorations, among them, personal identification, to ward off evil spirits or to bring luck.

In the early 1900's, the new weapon of war was the airplane, and decoration of the Flying Machine followed almost immediately. Aircraft decoration was started by German and Italian pilots. The first documented piece of aircraft art was a sea monster painted on the side of an Italian Flying Boat in 1913. Toward the end of WW1, the Germans began painting the art near the aircraft propeller, hence the term, Nose Art.

It is generally agreed that Nose Art really came into its own during WWII. Early on, Nose Art in the USAAF consisted of drawings and photographs clipped from popular magazines, such as *Esquire* and *Look*, and then the pages were attached to the nose area of the aircraft. The art soon evolved into actual painting on the aircraft skin. Initially a ground or flight crew member with some artistic talent would do the painting.

As the war progressed, draftees, who happened to be commercial artists, would make side money doing Nose Art. Cleveland Institute of Art graduate and USAAF flight crew chief Don Allen charged \$35 per plane. Tony Starcer of the 91st Bomb Group painted over a hundred pieces of Nose Art, including the famous "Memphis Belle."

Much of the Nose Art was to remind the pilot or crew of the "girl back home." Famed Fighter Pilot Chuck Yeager's art was simply lettering which read Glamorous Glennis, his girlfriend and future wife. Dick Bong, America's "Ace of Aces" had a photo of his

future bride prominently displayed on his P-38 fighter. (Bong learned to fly the twin engine P-38 at Hamilton Field in 1942). Hometowns, states, female movie stars like Betty Grable and Rita Hayworth, religious figures and patriotic renderings were all represented on aircraft fuselages.



However, the most popular art was the pin-up girl, followed by depictions of various cartoon characters. Much of the pin-up art was inspired by Peruvian painter, Alberto Vargas. Vargas contributed pin up sketches, which became known as the Varga Girls, to *Esquire Magazine* and later to *Playboy*.

The USAAF Command did not like the idea of Nose Art, but tolerated it because it had become a morale booster. Pilots, crews and the ground crews could become very attached to their aircraft. Nose Art personalized the plane and gave it and their crews an identity and uniqueness that a serial number never could. In addition, it made it much easier for ground personnel to quickly identify planes returning from bombing or fighter missions. While the USAAF grudgingly approved of the practice, the Navy and Marines prohibited it.

As the war went on the art got more risqué. The further a unit was from headquarters or the public eye, the more explicit the art became. For example, nudity was more common on aircraft in the Pacific Theater than it was in Europe. After the war, when many aircraft were being ferried back home, it was thought prudent to paint over the more explicit renderings.

Probably the most famous WW2 Nose Art was the shark-face painted on the P-40Bs of the American Volunteer Group, (AVG) also known as the Flying Tigers. The shark-face was not originated by the A.V.G. however.

The pilots copied the design from an article in *India Illustrated Weekly*, which had a photo showing the shark-face on the noses of P-40s belonging to an RAF squadron.

In the early 1970's, Air Force Chief of Staff John Ryan called for a moratorium on Aircraft Nose Art. However, after a few years, the art began its comeback. But times were changing and rules accompanied the Nose Art resurgence. In the late 1980s and early 90's, the Strategic Air Command (SAC) allowed the return of pin-ups as Nose Art, although this time, the women depicted must be

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Dick Bong, America's "Ace of Aces," with his future bride painted on the nose of his P-38 fighter plane.



## Military Aircraft Nose Art

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fully-clothed. During the Gulf War, suggestive pin-ups had to be removed from aircraft before being deployed to Saudi Arabia, so not to offend the inhabitants.

In 1993 after SAC had been disestablished, the Air Force Mobility Command required that all Nose Art be gender-neutral. A 2015 Air Force memorandum requires that any Nose Art suggestion must now be submitted for a comprehensive approval process.

The "Wild West" days of Nose Art during WW2 and the Korean Conflict are long gone. However, the tradition of Military Aircraft Nose Art continues to this day, albeit with much more oversight. The HFHM has an Aircraft Nose Art display which includes several "family friendly" photos of Nose Art that adorned various aircraft stationed at Hamilton Field.

Sources for this article:

**Nose Art, 80 years of Aviation Artwork**, J.P.Wood, 1999

**Classy Chassy, American Aircraft "Girl Art" 1942-1953, 1977**, Ian Logan, Henry Nield

<https://thinkingouttabox.wordpress.com/2013/11/10/airmen-fly-girls-and-shark-teeth/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nose\\_art](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nose_art)

<http://flyinggirls.awardspace.com/>

<http://parentseyes.arizona.edu/militarynoseart/ww2-3.htm>

## Novato Historical Guild Board Highlights

by Kathryn Hansen

### October 2016

#### City of Novato General Plan 2035

The 20 year plan lays out the community's vision for the future of the City and creates a road map on how to get us there. It will guide City decisions that affect future jobs, housing and growth in our community. Written details were distributed. A thumb drive of the Plan was given to the Guild. It can be read on [www.Novato.org/General Plan..](http://www.Novato.org/GeneralPlan..)

#### Informational Items

The Guild Presentation & Walking Tour – November 9th for the Chamber of Commerce.

The Novato History Museum will be filmed for TV on November 10th..

#### Unfinished Business

*Copperfield's Display* – the display is in the window of the store. The Guild will get 10% of the proceeds when a customer presents the flyer at point of purchase on October 8th & 9th.

*Volunteers Thank You* - Invitations went out to volunteers for the event at the Buck Center, Wednesday, November 2nd from 2PM-4PM.

*Focus Areas for 2017* – Susan – Further discussion and approval of the Guild's focus areas are for 2017.

- Improve public awareness.
- Increase public access to the museums' collections through social media (website and Facebook) and technology.
- Revise Collections Policy with the City to expand Novato's history into the 60's and 70's.

#### New Business

No new business available

#### Committee Reports & Updates

Publicity – N/A

Public Outreach – N/A

Hamilton Museum – November 12th is a reception for the Coast Guard Exhibit designed by Megan Gimble, Girl Scout. This was the project for her Gold Award. Two bus tours organized by Doug McConnell for *Backroads* TV show will be visiting this month.

Downtown Museum – Susan– N/A

### November 2016

*City Report* - N/A

#### Unfinished Business

*Copperfield's Display* -- The NHG display on the windows of the bookstore in October was well received. "It looked nice." The Guild is awaiting the promised donation of 10% from purchased items.

*Volunteer Thank You* – Susan applauded the efforts of Sheila Brossier and Diana Goebel for an interesting and enjoyable "thank you tea" for our volunteers. Guests loved it.

*Focus Areas for 2017* – Susan discussed issues such as increasing NHG membership, improving awareness of museums' rolls in preserving Novato history, increase access to collections by using technology and web site, and expand scope of collection to 60s and 70s.

*Logo* -- Jim showed the revised logo design possibilities. Some members favored the NHG in black oval above a more descriptive Mt. Burdell. We are closer to making a choice.

Discussion followed about increasing publicity for upcoming events via social media, *Historian*, emails etc..

Continued on Page N-10

## Novato Historical Guild Board Highlights

Continued from Page N-9

### **New Business:**

*Calendar for 2017* -- Susan passed out copies of the 2017 calendar for Membership and Board Meetings.

### *Membership Meeting Dec 10* –

The guest speaker, Senior State Archeologist Breck Parkman will discuss Olompali State Park.

Meeting will include the election of Board members and the approval of the budget for 2017.

*Accession Items* – NHM was offered former councilman/mayor Hugh Turner mementos by his family. Items were reviewed and it was decided to keep three that reflected Novato history and not solely about Turner. Susan briefly described accession protocol.

### **Committee Reports & Updates**

*Nominating Committee* – slate will be presented at the general meeting.

*Publicity* – Sheila will send announcements of events to the IJ and the Novato Advance.

*Public Outreach* – Jim talked with local real estate brokers about adding the 6 Museums brochure and possibly a copy of the Historian in “welcome packets” given to new residents. There will be a ½ hour video filmed in the NHM on Nov. 10th. No TV viewing date yet. Jim discussed the possibility of doing a virtual tour of the museums to be put online.

*Hamilton Museum* – There will be an event Sat, Nov 12th at Hamilton showing the project created by student Megan Gimple for her Girl Scout Gold Award. 35 people have already signed up.

*Downtown Museum* – Nov 10th filming (see above). Susan will give a presentation to the Novato Chamber of Commerce Leadership Novato group on Nov. 9th

### **December 2016**

#### **City Report - N/A**

Kathy Kormos is retiring February 3rd – an interim will be assigned

The Accession Policy needs revision.

The Guild agreement with the City should be reviewed every five years (2021).

### **Unfinished Business**

*Logo* – the Board voted for example “B” to be the new logo for the Guild.

*New Museum Update* – the estimate for a new museum is \$1.5M. There was a discussion on how to raise the funds. The next step is talk to the new City Manager. A larger museum does not necessarily mean the Simmons House.

*2017 Calendar* – the revised schedule of meeting dates was distributed.

### **New Business:**

*Open Position on the Board* – there was a discussion on how to fill the open position and what skill-set the Board needs.

### **Committee Reports & Updates**

*Hamilton Museum* – the eleven year old computer has been upgraded. It would be wise to get the latest version Past Perfect for the new computer.

*Downtown Museum* – Susan– would also like to get the latest version of PastPerfect and tutorials or a subscription to support services.

### **WILLIAM T. PALMER MEMORIAL TILE FUND**

To commemorate his service to our country in WWII and his service to the Guild during its formative years, some of us think it would be appropriate to remember him with a tile on the Hamilton Museum’s *Patriot Wall*. If you are of similar mind you may contribute to the cost of the tile by sending your check or money order, payable to the “Novato Historical Guild”, to John Trumbull at 2035 Eldorado Court, Novato, CA. 94947

## Welcome New Guild Members

### Novato Historical Guild Membership Report March 2017

No new members reported at this time

### **Business Memberships:**

### **Please support our Guild Business Members:**

AAcme Digital and Screen Graphics  
Andrew McAghon Landscaping  
Bank of Marin  
Goltermann Garden & Country Inn, Petaluma, CA  
Indian Valley Golf Club  
Marin Landscape Materials  
Marin Trophies  
Mclsaac Dairy  
Nave Enterprises  
Novato Builders Supply, Inc.  
Pini Hardware  
The Wright Salon  
Trumbull Manor Inc. – Novato  
Valley Oak Wealth Management  
Zenith Instant Printing

*If you have questions about membership, call*

*Edna Manzoni,  
Membership Chairman,  
415-892-9603.*



### 2017 Board Meetings

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

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

Guild members are welcome to attend the Board meetings. Please check with the President, Susan Magnone at NHG1850@yahoo.com or 415 897-5705, in case a meeting has been changed.

## In Memoriam

### In Memoriam

**Eleanor Angulo**  
**Teresa Torassa Grossi**  
**Virginia "Ginny" Maloney**  
**Erwin Scheller**  
**Mary Wilkinson**

### The Guild Extends Sympathy to

The Angulo family on the loss of Eleanor Angulo

The Grossi family on the loss of Teresa Torassa Grossi

The Maloney family on the loss of Virginia "Ginny" Maloney

The Scheller family on the loss of Erwin Scheller

Bob Wilkinson and family on the loss of Mary Wilkinson



### 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.

## Contact Us

**Hamilton Field History Museum**  
 Manager: Ray Dwelly  
 Museum phone: 415-382-8614  
 Email: [Hamilton\\_museum@att.net](mailto:Hamilton_museum@att.net)  
<https://www.facebook.com/HamiltonFieldHistoryMuseum/>

**Novato History Museum**  
 Manager: Susan Magnone  
 Museum phone: 415-897-4320  
 Email: [NHG1850@yahoo.com](mailto:NHG1850@yahoo.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/NovatoHistoryMuseum/>

### DOCENTS NEEDED HAMILTON FIELD HISTORY MUSEUM

Contact: Ray Dwelly  
 (415) 382-8614

### 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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## YOU ARE INVITED

### General Membership Meeting ~ Novato Historical Guild

**Saturday, March 11, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon**  
Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Ave., Novato

**Dewey Livingston will be giving a talk on the History  
of Marin County with an emphasis on Novato.**

Come enjoy refreshments, good company, and an interesting presentation.  
Guild Members and anyone interested in Novato 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**