

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 2017

The Novato Historian

Volume 41, Number 2



At the General Membership meeting in March, Dewey Livingston discussed the history of Marin County and spoke about some recently discovered old maps.



Third Grade Museum Tours

Pictured above is Laurie O'Mara, the Novato History Museum's Third Grade Tour Program Coordinator. Laurie leads students on a one-hour historical walking tour of downtown Novato. The students are also guided through the exhibits at the museum and one of the tour's most eye-opening moments occurs when the students learn about chamber pots and outhouses!

This year's volunteer history docents include: Laurie Gratiot, Joan Davis, Lauren Long, Bobbie Kettler, Jim McNern, Betty Jordan, Diana Goebel, Stan Palmear, Sharon Azevedo, Bobbie Kettler, Susan Trumbull, Carol Aregger, Kate Johnston, Celinda Current, and Mary Bicknell.



Mike Silva with Paul D. Lapachet, Grand President Native Sons of the Golden West, at the dedication of the Silva family 1913 bank building on Grant Avenue.

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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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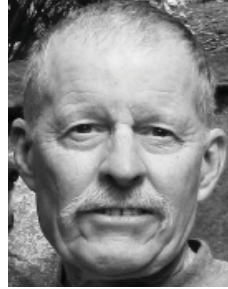
Deadline for the September issue is August 1st.

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Address Changes

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President's Corner

Jim Crumpler

President, Novato Historical Guild

Hope everyone who heard Dewey Livingston's talk last membership

meeting enjoyed it as much as I did. For those of you who missed it, Dewey discussed some recently discovered maps of Marin. The most interesting map, for me, showed the location of the docks on Novato Creek where the boats came to pick up produce near the junction of Center Road and South Novato Blvd. The docks were located at the confluence of Novato and Warner Creeks.

In March there was another interesting and overdue event, the historical dedication of the Novato Bank (Silva) Building by the Native Sons of the Golden West. This involved a wonderful ceremony in which a commemorative plaque was affixed to the building using a special mortar. The mortar is composed of sand and gravel from ALL the counties of California. The water is from ALL the missions of California and the cement comes from all the mills of California. At the end of the ceremony the participants were treated to a wonderful lunch at the Druids building (see picture on front page.)

In April a couple of milestones occurred. First we lost one of our dearest and most loved docents, Anna Morrison. Anna could be found almost every Thursday afternoon at the History Museum discussing what it was like growing up in the 30's, 40's and 50's in Novato. Anna will be greatly missed by her many friends.

On a happier note, the second milestone was the celebration of Libba Paterson's ONE HUNDREDTH birthday! Libba had a wonderful birthday party at the Margaret Todd Center with many friends and members of the Guild helping her celebrate this wonderful event.

One of our hardest working, most dedicated and talented docents, who is in charge of our school tour program is Laurie O'Mara (see picture on front page). I recently had the pleasure of tagging along with a dozen or so third

or fourth graders on Laurie's Downtown Tour. If you haven't done this, I highly recommend it. Laurie is dressed for the part, very entertaining and I learned a few things about the downtown that I hadn't known. Of course the toughest part of Laurie's job is the scheduling of about 20 docents for dozens of school tours. Laurie, you and your docents are doing a magnificent job, Thank you!

There really are some angels out there like Linda Land and Van White. Linda and Van have put together some wonderful travel documentaries, a combination of slides, video, narration and local music, chronicling some of the exciting places they have visited. Linda and Van have been showing these gems as a fundraiser for the Novato Historical Guild. Last year they used the Hamilton Field History Museum as a venue, but as their audience grew, they have moved to the Hamilton Community Center. In April they showed the first in a series of videos about their recent trip to Bali - it was terrific! There will be more in the series to come. I highly recommend them. Thank you, Linda and Van, for your support of the Guild.

A big thank you to ALL of our terrific volunteers who unselfishly give their precious time so that our Guild and Museums can continue to inform the public about the history of our wonderful city.



Anna Morrison, a longtime volunteer at the history museum will be missed.



Novato-50 Years Ago

(April, May, and June 1967)

by Yvette Borloz Jackson

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

Novatans were choosy about the meetings they attended during the last week.

- Only 35 turned out at Rancho School to hear what seven candidates for the Novato school board had to say. -- Elsewhere Novatoans, 450 strong, over crowded the Community Clubhouse last Thursday night to attend a town meeting sponsored by the Novato Advance, on the “The LSD-Marijuana Trap,” an attempt to explore the question “Why do young people smoke marijuana and take trips on LSD?”

- A meeting Monday night of the Planned Parenthood Association of Marin on overpopulation drew an audience of only 31. After discussing the dangers of overpopulation, the group spent most of the time discussing the “Pill” and its potential to increase promiscuity.

- What concerns and interests Novatoans was given another indication Sunday when 7000 people responded to a month-long community informational and test program on TB. Novatoans streamed to seven “Arrest TB” clinics Sunday to be tested for tuberculosis. The “Arrest TB” is a project staged by the Marin Tuberculosis Association as an educational effort here. The purpose two-fold: To combat the spread of TB, which has been the highest in Novato in Marin County, and to organize a prototype for similar community testing programs elsewhere.

- Mrs. Beverly Ehreth of the Novato Community Ambassadors and a foreign exchange student at Novato High School will be guest speakers at Friday’s meeting of the Novato Aggies 4-H Club. The Aggies had five demonstrations that were gold winners in the recent county-wide field day, held at Hill School. Those who presented them will compete in the regional field day at Davis on May 13. They are Charlene Manzoni and Joanne Skowronek, with a demonstration entitled “Add a Little Trim; Joni Eisenhower and Becky Johnson, “Willy the Wonder Worm”; Kristy Hook “Take a Giant Step”; Gary Melson “Home Sweet Home”; and Lynn Hathaway and Connie Jones, “Not All Pigs Are Hams”. Blue ribbon winners from the Aggies were Timothy Karinen, Robert Manzoni, Marian Baccaglio, and Marianne Camous. Green winners were, Susan Dimmick, Michael Karinen, Patricia Giari, Margie Chaon and Kenneth Eide.

- “Here We Go Again” The city council, which last year found buying a new civic center site such an urgent matter, last night didn’t find the matter so urgent any more and decided to forego the opportunity to purchase an adjoining lot to expand the size of the present site. (The lot in question was the Rodoni property next door to the Community Clubhouse.)

- Rayburn’s Food Center, which closed when its owner, Andy Rayburn, decided to retire, will be reopening soon. It has been bought by Ron Lipe and John Dent.

- NOVATO DOLLAR DAYS: McCARTHY The Apothecary; 9 Volt Batteries-10¢-Lucerne Calendar Watch-\$4.95. BEN FRANKLIN 5¢ & 10¢; Children’s Sweat Shirt-

83¢. HI-FI DRIVE IN; 5 hotdogs or 4 hamburgers or 4 cheeseburgers or tuna or 4 shakes- \$1.00, (in another ad they had) Prawns -60¢, Fish Fries- 40¢. MEDICINE CHEST PHARMACY; Cantrecre Nylons- 79¢. EVELYN PORTER’S; Prune Juice 2 qts- 49¢. NOVATO TV; Sylvania 8 Transistor Radios \$9.95. NOVATO PHARMACY; Free-Intoxication Perfume by Dorsay. WOMACK’S FABRICS; Bahia Rayon and Silk-45”, Cohama Duo-Tones-blend \$1.99 yard

- The Novato Volunteer Fireman’s Association added four new members to the roster last week: Lee Billbe, a barber; William Haymart, a truck driver; Robert Renati, an employee of the North Marin Water Department, and John Rentz, a bank clerk. In other business at last week’s meeting the association set the date for the annual barbecue put on by the volunteer firemen. It will be June 11 at the traditional location, the Silveira ranch.

- Square Rotarians were confronted at their luncheon meeting last Friday with the antithesis of their free enterprise beliefs--- a defender of the hippie culture. He was Patrick Gleeson, professor of English at San Francisco State College. Gleeson had hair almost to his shoulders and a ragged beard. His biblical appearance included a turtleneck sweater, jacket, wide buckle belt and boots. With him was his wife, Anne, dressed in a mini-skirt and white ribbed nylon stockings. “We won’t agree,” was Gleeson’s first statement, but “that’s alright. It’s time in our American culture we accept the position we don’t agree.” Gleeson went on to plead for a tolerance of

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50 Years Ago

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the many groups and sub-cultures, including hippies that make up America's pluralistic society.

- The housing market is good says Franz Tirre, San Marin community manager for Sunset International Petroleum company, "and it is going to get better." Builders with homes priced in the right range and extras the buyers are looking for should have a good year, in the opinion of Tirre, who says the pick-up will even be better next year.

- Over the years Novato has lost some of its fine general practitioners and pediatricians as they turned to other fields or sought to specialize. The latest to do so is Dr. Frederick Newirth, who is planning to join an insurance company (Fireman's Fund) and organize its new medical department.

- Playground equipment will be installed Sunday at Lions Park by members of the Novato Lions Club. The volunteer crew will put in swings, "horses" and other play equipment on the upper level of the park, above the roofed pavilion. The Lions Club is donating equipment for the \$400 project. Larry Cato is head of the project.

- The excitement and intrigue of the Orient await members and guests of the Jolly Rogers Chapter of Children's Home Society when they "board ship" May 20 for the annual Spring Cruise Ball to be held at Peacock Gap Country Club. Approximately 300 members and guests are expected to respond to the invitations designed by Richard Chapman of Novato, husband of one of the members. Captain for the cruise is Mrs. Randall Bechtel and her crew includes Mesdames Antonio Albini, invitations; Robert Lillie, reservations; R. Wayne Easton, decorations; Rubin Valtierra, raffle; and Dietrich Stroeh, publicity. Proceeds of the annual benefit are used to further the adoption services of Children's Home Society, the oldest and

largest privately supported adoption agency in California.

- Robert Ruzick, 24 of Novato, won the Bay Area Carpenter's Apprentice Contest held Saturday at Northgate Shopping Center. Final stage of the competition involved construction at Northgate of intricately designed hexagonal shelters. Ruzick was chosen on the basis of that and a written test. As the Bay Area winner he was awarded a \$75 savings bond, some tools, and an expense paid trip to the state contest. The contest was open to apprentices who have completed or almost completed a four - year apprenticeship program in carpentry. Ruzick is in his fourth year at College of Marin. A graduate of Novato High School, he lives at 649 Peach Street.

- Construction is to start this week on a new drive-in theater to be located mid-way between Novato and Petaluma. Called Midway Drive-In Theater, it will be built just north of the Sonoma County line of the Ina M. Austin ranch. The theater, which will accommodate 600 cars, will occupy eight or ten acres of the 17-acre parcel. Colombini Construction Company of Santa

Rosa is general contractor. Tresch Electric Company of Novato will do the electrical work.

- Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church was the scene of the double-ring wedding ceremony of Sheila A. Keena and Paul F. Brossier who were married Saturday afternoon by the Rev. Harold Pearce. The bride's sisters, Patricia, Kathleen and Eileen were maid of honor and bridesmaids. Also attending the bride were bridesmaid Diana McIsaac and flower girls Leona and Jeanne Brossier of Marinwood. Best man Patrick Meherin of San Anselmo attended the bridegroom and Leon Brossier and Thomas Keena Jr. ushered. Mrs. Rene Borloz, organist, accompanied Mrs. Manuel Medeiros who was soloist. The Elks Club at Maple Lawn in San Rafael was the scene of the champagne-buffet supper, which followed the ceremony, after which the couple left for a wedding trip to Carmel. They plan to live in Mill Valley.

So many articles and items that were interesting, I will put some in the next column.

Have a happy Summer

Yvette Borloz Jackson

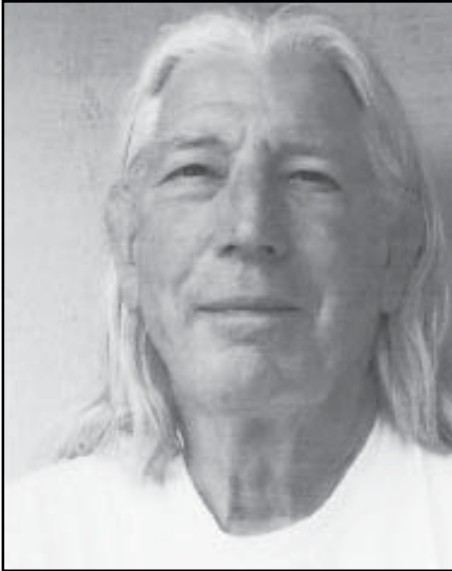
Happy 100th Birthday Libba Patterson

Libba Patterson with former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon and his wife



Novato Memories

Jim McNern



My 4-H Story

Briefly, 4-H is an organization originally designed for farm youth to encourage them and help them develop skills and habits that would lead to success later in life. This was done through enrollment in "projects" that mimicked life on the farm. The projects were overseen by adult leaders. Records for each project were kept and compiled in a Record Book. The last entry was a blank page titled "My 4-H Story."

In 1946, Novato was primarily an agricultural community with walnut and apple orchards, vineyards and chicken ranches, dairies, hay farms and small family farms. That was the year my parents, Ad and Gloria Schwindt, sold their comfortable home in Noe Valley and purchased a 3 acre parcel at the corner of Eucalyptus and Novato Boulevard from Alex Pelligrini, a local chicken rancher and grape grower. They moved to the property that same year with their 3 children, Valerie age 8, David 4, Richard 2 and a dream to build a family farm.

A small, four-room house sat in the corner of the property at the Eucalyptus/Novato Blvd. junction. A screened-in porch ran the length of one side at

Stephen Schwindt

Stephen Schwindt is the youngest child of the late Ad and Gloria Schwindt. He is a 1966 graduate of Novato High School. Stephen first attended Cal Poly and then went on to graduate from Sonoma State University. He worked for forty years as a farrier (horse shoer.) Stephen was an active member of 4-H and the Novato Horsemen while growing up in Novato. He shares his Novato memories in this June edition of the Novato Historian.

the end of which was a room just large enough to accommodate a sink, toilet and steel shower stall. The outside of the house was covered with a tarpaper composite material that simulated red brick. Also on the property was a garage workshop and a pump house, both sided with redwood board and batten. Chicken wire drying racks were hung from the rafters of the garage for the nuts harvested from the 2 walnut trees in back of the house.

There was a long chicken house in the middle of and to one side of the property which my dad would later configure into a barn suitable for the various livestock the family would raise in the future. The remainder of the property was planted in grapevines, only a few of which would survive the "remodeling" of vineyard to pasture.

This is what I came home to and where I lived my first 2 years after being born in August, 1948. My dad commuted to his job in the city by Greyhound bus. My sister and brothers were at school during the day. I was home with mom. Life was good.

In 1950 my dad built a bigger home for us at the south end of the property - I don't know where my dad got the plans or who drew them but they neglected to include a room for me; I shared a room with my sister until she married and moved out.

After we moved into the new house, my grandparents, Richard and Emma Meriwether, moved from San Francisco into the little "brick" house. Dick

was a barber and worked in Ray Lightner's shop on Grant Avenue for many years. When the Schwindt boys' and Johnson boys' (David, George, Steven) hair got too scraggly, Dick would open shop in his garage and give us all haircuts. We tried not to get our hair cut too close to when school pictures were taken; Dick liked to cut hair close.

Emmy was just the best grandmother a boy could have. She always had a plate of Toll House cookies and a cold pitcher of Kool-Aid for me and my friends when we stopped in to visit after a hard day of play, hiking on Mt. Burdell or exploring Novato Creek. It was also 1950 when the creation of a farm began in earnest.

My sister joined 4-H when she was 10 years old. My brothers followed suit when they turned 10. So, it was only natural that I follow in their footsteps; but I was really a 4-H'er from day one. I was involved in a lot of 4-H activities before being an actual member. I marched in the 4-H parades, went to the fairs and attended 4-H camp (my mom was camp nurse while my dad helped supervise "Boys Camp").

The first project my sister enrolled in was the Sewing project which was her primary focus in 4-H. She became really good at it and won many awards at the fairs and 4-H fashion shows. I still have a couple of shirts she made for me packed away somewhere.

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Novato Memories

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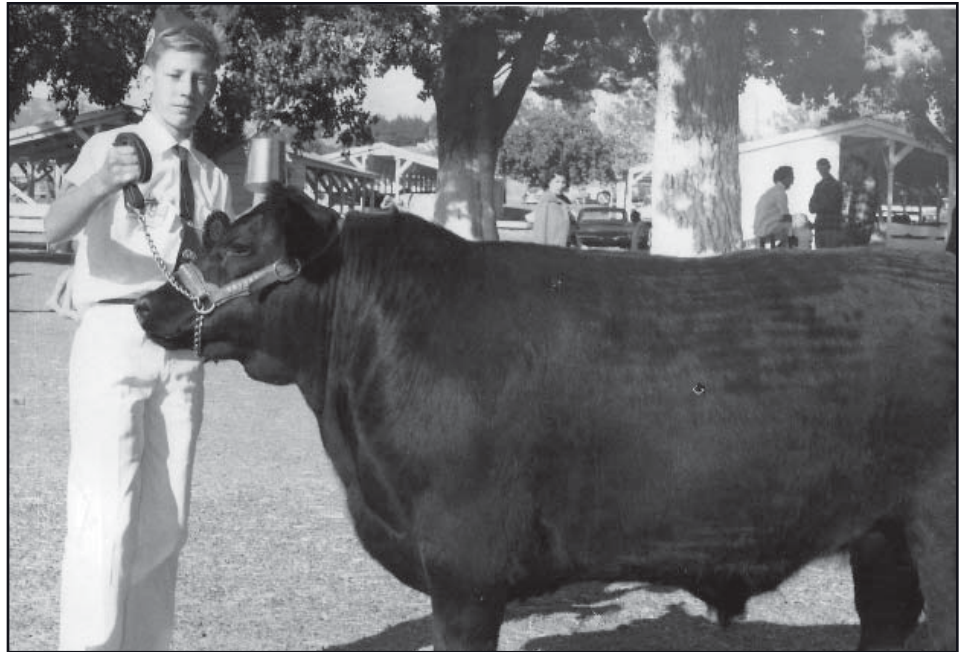
My brothers' first projects were Rabbits and Chickens. These were raised for meat and what didn't go into our freezer was sold to neighbors. I have vivid memories of killing chickens. David or Richard would hold the bird by its legs and wings, neck extended over the chopping block with my dad wielding the ax. He would admonish them "don't let it get away." Well, invariably one got away and I can tell you there is nothing both more terrifying and hilarious than watching a headless chicken running around the yard, blood spurting from its neck.

When they got a little older my brothers milked the family cow. That became their Dairy project. The excess milk was also sold in the neighborhood. Our dairy cow was a Jersey. We always bred her by artificial insemination to Angus for the ease in calving. Watching that procedure was an eye-opener, but the real payoff was watching Petunia give birth to a slick black calf nine months later. That calf became my "project."

They also raised beef steers which they showed and then sold at the Sonoma County Fair in Santa Rosa. With all the various livestock there were lots of daily chores to be done before and after school, feeding the animals, throwing hay to the horses, cleaning pens, milking the cow. One of my first chores was to clean the 'water troughs, which were old bathtubs. On hot summer days, after I cleaned the troughs and filled them with cold water, I would go for a "swim." This was much more refreshing than running through the sprinkler.

Saturdays my dad usually had a project for my brothers that had to be done before they took off with their friends. I remember Steve and Marshall Taylor being over a lot of the Saturdays to speed things up. Norman Johnson was around a lot, also helping out. Sundays we had off to do as we pleased. After Mass.

By 1955 the farm was a going concern and was the front page feature article of the April 16th edition of the *Marin Magazine*, a Saturday supple-



Stephen Schwindt with his Champion Angus and Reserve Grand Champion steer at the Sonoma County Fair, Santa Rosa, 1962.

ment of the I.J. The title of the article was "How 4-H Program Affects Family." This resulted in our place becoming a regular stop for my grade school class field trips, and I led them. We were just one of many 4-H families. I can remember family names as far back my sister's 4-H days: Olson, Porter, Purdom, Nolan, Gness, McNern, Burgi, then there was Ruzick, Pronzini, 3 Johnson families, Taylor, Thompson, McClelland and Carrillo. In my day there were Lear, Hogan, Grossi, McIsaac, Thorsson, McGrath, Roach, Royce and a host of others.

In 1958 I officially joined The Novato Valley 4-H Club. Valerie was grown and had moved out (finally had my own bedroom). David and Richard would graduate from high school in a couple of years and would move on and I would become an "only child".

My first projects were Electricity and Beef. The rabbits and chickens were gone. I had no interest in them anyway as I wanted to be a "cattleman" and a cowboy.

My dad was my Electricity and Beef leader. I learned a very important lesson at our first project meeting that

had nothing to do with electricity. I remember this as if it happened yesterday. There was one other boy in the project. He was missing his index finger and 2 others down to the first joint. He struggled so to grip a pair of pliers I wanted to cry. Dad asked him how he lost his fingers. When the boy said "lawnmower accident, dad just looked at me and I got the message. I have avoided lawnmowers ever since.

My first steer was a Hereford purchased from the Bear Valley Hereford ranch in Olema where the National Park is now. In subsequent years I raised only Angus.

By the time I was 12 my brothers were out of the house and all their chores became mine alone. I took over their "dairy business." Our old cow was pretty worn out so I bought a mature Guernsey from Bob Carrillo. He had a dairy just a little west of us on the Blvd. She was a good producer and threw a beautiful black calf. I milked her morning and night, pasteurized the milk and sold it to my regular customers for \$1/gallon. I milked that cow all through high school.

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Novato Memories

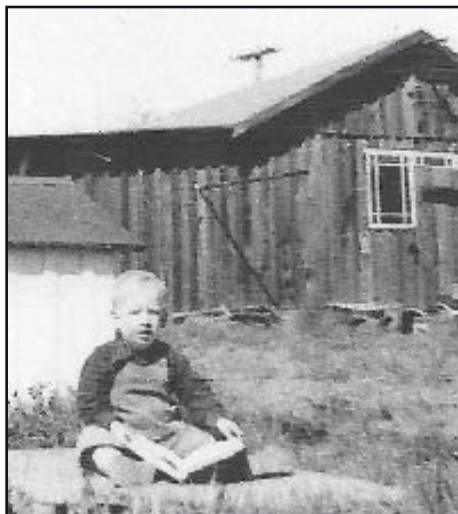
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Selling milk was quite a lucrative business for me and how I earned what spending money I needed. Most of the money I kept in a savings account. I distinctly remember my mom and I opening my first savings account at Crocker-Anglo Bank on the southeast corner of Machin and Grant. Peter Ferrarese was the bank president (or was he manager?) and personally opened my account. I was just a little kid at the time, with a small deposit, but Pete treated me like it was a million bucks. I paid for my first year of college with the "milk money" I had saved in Pete's bank.

Dad wanted to put some lamb chops in our freezer so around 1960-61 I bought 5 Suffolk ewes and a ram from some folks on School Rd. I instantly had a Sheep project. My leader was Nita Lear (and my dad). I raised a lot of lambs over the years. The ones we didn't keep for ourselves I sold to other 4-H'ers for their projects. Whenever I happen to bump into Mike Royce today, the first thing he asks is "got any lambs for sale?"

I wasn't big enough or strong enough to do the shearing so my dad did that. We wrapped up the "pelts", bagged them and sold them to a wool marketer in Petaluma. Lambing time in the Spring was always a period of high anxiety. Sheep are notoriously difficult birthers. Whenever we discovered a ewe in trouble my dad would hold her down and I would reach way inside, straighten out the head and legs and then pull the lamb out of its mother. I'd then clean the mucus from its mouth and nose and give it a good shake to get it breathing and then lay it in fresh straw next to its mother. This was an exhilarating moment for me, being a part of bringing new life into the world. I pulled quite a few lambs and the experience never got old. The memory is one I will hold forever.

Although Dairy and Sheep were both projects, I never showed Dairy at the fairs, and Sheep only once. My main focus was my Beef project. The other kids in the project were Ron Lear, my best friend, and his cousin Jerry



Stephen at two years old at the 3-acre family property in 1950.



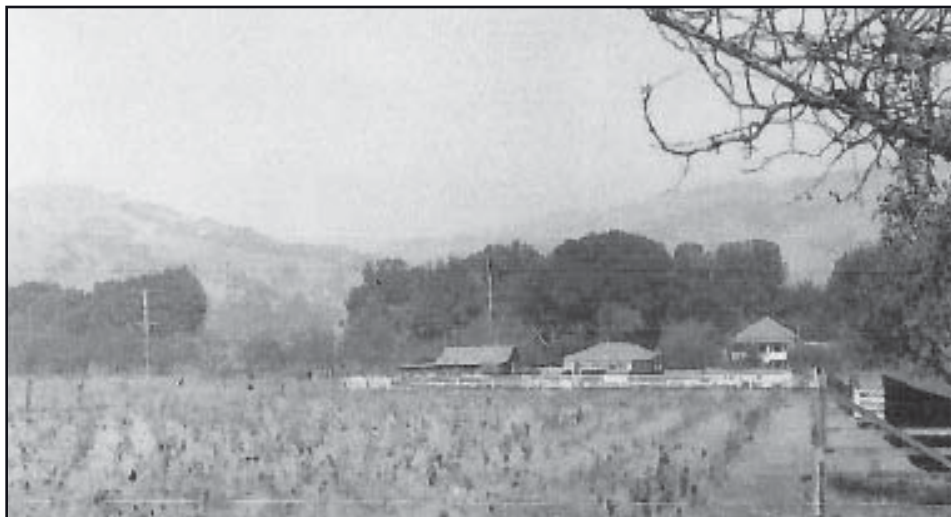
4-H Parade down Grant Ave. circa 1956. Lester Thompson and Stephen.

Hogan. They lived over on Sutro. One of the first things we learned was how to make a rope halter from a single length of rope with no cutting or splicing. We also learned how to balance a ration that would optimally fatten a steer while providing necessary nutrition. Initially, I mixed my own feed, purchasing feed in bulk from Dairy-men's Milling Co., barley, rolled oats, beet pulp and cottonseed meal. Some years later, when Jim Grossi started a feed mill on his dairy by Stafford Lake, I bought the "steer mix" they made available.

The ultimate goal of the project was to raise a market steer that would be shown, judged and then sold at the Santa Rosa Fair. I got pretty good at it and raised two champion steers. In

1962, my Champion Angus went on to be judged Reserve Grand Champion of the Santa Rosa Fair. Four years later, the year I graduated from Novato High and my last year in 4-H, my Champion Angus went on to be judged Grand Champion, the best of the best. For all my efforts I got a couple of nice trophies and sold the steers for a lot of money. I spent the money but still have the trophies.

I could go on and on with 4-H memories. All the fun we had at the fairs and 4-H Camp, the ski trips, skating trips, Field Day and Achievement Night. But I think I've run out of space. I will leave you with one last entry. In 1992, my daughter Rachel joined the Miwok 4-H Cub here in Novato and I became a project leader. Full circle.



A view of the Schwindt's first family house with Mt. Burdell in the background. The Schwindts built a bigger home on the south end of the property in 1950.

The Osage General



By Michael Corlette

Lieutenant Colonel Clarence L. Tinker arrived at Hamilton Field to become the 2nd Base Commander and assume command of the Army Air Corps 7th Bombardment Group on December 4th, 1934. He arrived in a rather spectacular way by leading the initial flight of 15 B-10 Bombers from March Field in Riverside, CA to the Air Corps newest base.

Tinker was one-eighth Osage Indian and was born in November of 1887. In 1825, the Federal Government moved the Osage tribe to a reservation in Kansas. In 1870, the tribe was forced to move again into Indian Territory, which is now Oklahoma. Two years later, they were displaced for the 3rd time and had to move 80 miles to the west. However, the 3rd time was the charm. In 1897 oil was discovered on the reservation. Once the oil started flowing in the 1920's, each Osage member received a yearly stipend or "Head-right" from the lease of the oil rights. As a result, Tinker, throughout his military career, never had to rely solely on his military income.

Although only one-eighth Osage, Tinker was raised on the reservation and learned the language and culture of the tribe. Well educated as a young man, he enrolled in Wentworth Military Academy in 1908. Upon graduation,

he was commissioned as a third lieutenant and served in the Philippine Constabulary until 1912. In 1912, he was commissioned as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Infantry. In early 1913, his unit was transferred to Hawaii where he met and married his wife, Madeline Doyle, in October of 1913.

Tinker rose steadily through the Infantry ranks, but he really wanted to fly. In 1919, he took flying lessons on his own and in 1922 he transferred to the Army Air Corps. As a point of interest, in the early 1920's there was a rule in place that said a married man could not be put on flying status without a consent certificate from his wife. Tinker attended the Army's Command and Staff School, (one of his classmates was Dwight D. Eisenhower), then it was on to London to serve as Air Attaché to the US Embassy.

During the 1930's he held various positions and gradually rose up the command structure. His two years at Hamilton consisted of overseeing the continuing base construction and the training of the 7th Bomber Group pilots. Tinker was described as "stern, but likeable" He also worked with Hap Arnold to promote air power in the minds of government leaders and the general public.

In February of 1939, Tinker gave the commencement address at the Air Corp Training Center at Kelly Field in San Antonio. He had the pleasure of presenting a diploma to, and pinning the wings on his son, 2nd Lt. Clarence L. Tinker Jr.

A few days after the surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, in a huge shakeup, the Commander of the US Fleet, the Commander of the Hawaiian Department and the Commander of the Army Air Corps in Hawaii were all relieved of their duties. On December 18th, Tinker was named Commander of the Seventh Air Force and tasked to reorganize air defenses in the Hawaiian Islands.

In January of 1942 Tinker was promoted to Major General and became the highest-ranking officer of Native American heritage in the US Army.

The decisive Battle of Midway began on June 3rd, 1942. On June 7th, after the battle had been decided, Tinker chose to lead a group of LB-30 bombers from Hawaii to strike the retreating Japanese forces on Wake Island. The 2500-mile trip required a refueling stop on Midway. Shortly after leaving Midway, Tinkers plane lagged, lost altitude and nosed over into the overcast and out of sight. There was no radio communication between Tinker's aircraft and the rest of the group, so what caused the ill-fated plane to crash into the ocean is not known. Tinker's body, along with those of the seven crew members, were never found. Major General Clarence Tinker, 54 years old, became the first US general to die in WW2.

After his death, many questioned why a man of his rank would choose to lead such a risky undertaking. Key documents of the time showed that he did not have to be on that mission. The Osages would say that, "an Osage leader is never at the back of his band

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Lt. Colonel Clarence L. Tinker with Hap Arnold

The Osage General

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of warriors." Throughout his life, Tinker always wanted to be where the action was.

Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City is named in his honor. The Osage also honor Tinker and other veterans annually at their 4-day In-Ion-shka celebration in the Pawhuska Indian Village in Oklahoma.

As a postscript, on May 19, 1944 Tinker's son, Major Clarence Tinker Jr., leading a squadron of P-38 fighters out of Tunisia, was shot down in a dog fight with German fighters over the Mediterranean Sea. And like his father, no trace of him was ever found.

Sources for this article:

Osage General by James L. Crowder, 1987

Gen. Tinker still honored by native Indian Tribe by Randy Roughton, Air Force News Agency, 2013

Clarence L. Tinker, Wikipedia



In 1942, Lt. Colonel Clarence L. Tinker was the highest-ranking officer of Native American heritage in the US Army.

Novato Historical Guild Board Highlights

by Kathryn Hansen

January 2017

Unfinished Business

Past Perfect Software - the Version 5.0 has been purchased. Will be installed. No network capabilities yet. There is a second computer at the Downtown Museum for *Past Perfect* only. Edna will have remote access to that computer.

New Business

Confirmation of Committee Chairs

- Collection Management – Bill Damon & Jim Crumpler
- Finance - Kathryn Hansen
- Fund Raising - all Board Members
- Gift Shop - Pat Johnstone
- Governance - George Gness
- Historian - Jim McNern
- Hospitality - Judi Brady & Sharon Azevedo
- Membership - Edna Manzoni
- Nominating - Susan Magnone
- Publicity - Sheila Brossier
- Public Outreach - Jim Crumpler
- School Tours - Laurie O'Mara
- Sunshine - Diane Campbell

Election of Officers

- Jim Crumpler – President
- TBA – Vice President
- Kathryn Hansen – Secretary & Treasurer

Committee Reports & Updates

Hamilton Museum

The Soroptimist will be video-taping on Thursday. Building 500 (storage) had water leaks but not in the Guild's area. Museum had 2,581 visitors (up 121 from last year), 1,349 docent hours, 1,685.5 non-docent volunteer hours, and 6 fund raisers (222 visitors raised \$1,095.00). The Hap Arnold Display insurance is due (\$120.00 annually)

Downtown Museum

The museum had less visitors than the year before. It could be partially because of less parking due to

construction next door. The most visitors were on Halloween and the 3rd Grade tours.

Membership – Membership renewal letters are going out this month.

February 2017

City Report - An interim replacement for Kathy Kormos has yet to be assigned

Unfinished Business

Election of Director - Jim Crumpler nominated Mike Read to be elected to the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy. On motion made and seconded, the vote was approved unanimously.

Collection Policy - Susan Magnone reported on changes to the Accession Criteria to the Collection Management Policy of the Guild.

Past Perfect Software - Susan Magnone reported on the installation of Version 5.0. The installation should be completed by the end of February.

Annual Report - Susan Magnone provided a copy of the proposed Annual Report to be presented at the Membership Meeting on March 11. Following a discussion, it was decided to use the form as presented. It was noted that Kathryn Hansen should be prepared to answer questions that may come up at the meeting. Discussion followed about increasing publicity for upcoming events via social media, *Historian*, emails etc.

New Business:

Conflict of Interest Forms - Susan Magnone asked for the Directors to complete, sign and turn in their forms.

Tables and Chairs for Novato Museum - Jim Crumpler suggested that the Guild purchase a table and chairs to

Continued on Page N-10

Novato Historical Guild Board Highlights

Continued from Page N-9

accommodate meetings of outside groups of a dozen or so people. The purpose would be to increase visitors to the museum. It was decided to look into possible locations at the museum to store the table and chairs.

Simmon's House - Jim Crumpler reported that he spoke with a member of the Novato City Council, and the subject will be on the Council's agenda soon.

Committee Reports & Updates

Hamilton Museum - Ray Dwelly briefly reported on activities at the museum.

Downtown Museum - Susan Magnone presented a Visitors Report for 2016. She noted that the museum had fewer visitors than the year before, 1,207 for 2016 as compared to 1,316 for 2015. It could be partially because there was no new museum exhibit for 2016 as compared to the railroad exhibit in 2015. She also passed on comments from the railroad depot researchers that the Guild's records relating to the depot were excellent.

March 2017

City Report - Regan Candelario introduced himself and summarized his past experience working in city government. He would like to focus on Outreach to bring more of the community together to understand more about the city operations (i.e. budgeting, long range planning).

Susan was on the interview committee for Kathy Kormos' replacement. There were 80 applicants, eight were interviewed and seven were well qualified. Second interviews will be next week.

Unfinished Business

Past Perfect Software - Past Perfect has been installed.

New Business:

Downtown Museum - Jim Crumpler invited City Council to use the Downtown Museum.

Petaluma Museum - Jim Crumpler suggested that the Guild visit the Petaluma Museum in July.

Simmon's House - ongoing discussions with City Council.

Novato Art & Wine June 10th & 11th - Guild will be looking for volunteers for the booth.

Budgeting - Lonnie Karste suggested having a capital budget/building fund. Action Item: Committee will form to discuss the idea (Lonnie, Susan, Kathryn) 2017 Calendar - the revised schedule of meeting dates was distributed.

Committee Reports & Updates

Downtown Museum - Four discs were found that have artifact photos on them but those artifacts are in in *Past Perfect*. Docents are in the process of recoding the artifacts in *Past Perfect*. Third Grade Tours start and will continue through May. Regan suggested notifying the police so that they can have an extra patrol that day. City Maintenance Department is working on the outside landscaping.

Outreach - Brochures for the six Museums were given to Real Estate agents to add to the "newcomer" package given to new home buyers

Call for Board of Directors Applications

Guild members are invited to apply to serve on the Novato Historical Guild Board of Directors for 2018-2019. The term of office is two years.

To apply, submit a Guild Board of Directors Application by August 31, 2017.

Board Applications are available at each museum or by email to NHG1850@yahoo.com.

Mail application to Nominating Committee, PO Box 1296, Novato, CA, 94948 or email to NHG1850@yahoo.com. Election will be held at the Dec. 9th membership meeting.

Interested individuals are encouraged to attend the Board meeting on August 8th at 1:30 at the Margaret Todd Center and to talk with board members about serving on the Board.

Welcome New Guild Members

Novato Historical Guild Membership Report June 2017

Individual Membership:

John J. Geoghegan
Betty Jordan

Family Membership:

Mr. & Mrs. Howard Nurse
Everett and Lane Yee
Bernice (Busher) &
Sara van Ammelrooy

Business Memberships:

Marin Volvo/Saab

Patron Membership:

Annette Garatti Golterman
Carol & Stephen Taylor
Winston Wood

Life Membership:

William Cope (Col. retired)

Please support our Guild Business Members:

Acme 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

Rommel "Rom" Bondoc
Clarence Bracey
Jerri Levy
Anna Paladini Morrison
Rudy Picarelli
Grace Terrell
Clarence "Bud" Tobin

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

- Jone Bondoc and family on the loss of Rom Bondoc
- The Bracey family on the loss of Clarence Bracey
- Bill Almeida on the loss of his sister, Jerri Levy
- The Almeida family on the loss of Jerri Levy
- Kevin Morrison and Michele Ling on the loss of his mother, Anna Morrison
- Frank, Louis and George Paladini on the loss of their sister Anna Paladini Morrison
- The Picarelli family on the loss of Rudy Picarelli
- The Terrell family on the loss of Grace Terrell
- The Tobin family on the loss of Clarence "Bud" Tobin

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/>

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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TIME VALUE



YOU ARE INVITED

General Membership Meeting ~ Novato Historical Guild

Saturday, June 17, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon
Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Ave., Novato

**Marcie Miller will be giving a talk on Mt. Olivet Cemetery,
with an emphasis on familiar Novato personalities.**

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