



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

Preserving Novato's History

News Section

Contents © 2010 Novato Historical Guild, Inc.

October-December 2010

The Novato Historian

Volume 34, Number 4

Hamilton Hometown Festival



On October 2, Ray Dwelly and Joe Williams manned the Guild's booth at the Hamilton Hometown Festival that was held at the Unity Church. Eleven of the HFHM T-Shirts were sold at the event which made \$214. Ray is wearing one of the B-25 T-Shirts.

Nominees for 2011 Guild Board of Directors

At the December General Meeting, members will be asked to approve the following slate of nominees to serve as the Guild Board of Directors:

President	Mike Read
Vice President	Tom Keena
Secretary	Kathryn Hansen
Treasurer	Charlotte Urban

Board of Directors

Ray Dwelly	Bill McDill
Roland Fuelle	Cindy Motsinger
Diana Goebel	John Trumbull
Yvette Jackson	Ron Vela
Louise Koenig	Sheila Brossier
Pat Johnstone	

Hamilton Field History Museum Hosts Many Visitors



Several groups have visited Hamilton Field History Museum each month. In September, Cub Scout Pack 79 toured and held their meeting at the museum.

Jacqueline Moore

Jacqueline Moore, a volunteer director of the Novato History Museum for 13 years, died October 20 in Chandler, Arizona, at age 96. Mrs. Moore also was a Girl Scout leader for eight years and a teacher at Olive School for eighteen years.

Reminder!

**General Membership
Meeting and
Christmas Party
Saturday, Dec. 18
1 p.m.**

**Margaret Todd
Senior Center**

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 2010 Officers

President Ron Vela
Vice President Mike Read
Secretary Kathryn Hansen
Treasurer Charlotte Urban

Board of Directors

Cindy Motsinger Roland Fuette
 Edna Manzoni Pat Johnstone
 Ray Dwelly John Trumbull
 Tom Keena Diana Goebel
 Yvette Jackson Bill McDill
 Louise Koenig

Honorary Historian

Eleonora Lafranchi

Committee Chairs

Cemetery Joe Giari
Finance Mike Read
Fund Raising Mike Read
Gift Store Pat Johnstone
Grants Edna Manzoni
Hamilton Museum Ray Dwelly
Hospitality Diana Goebel
 Edna Manzoni
 Bill Almeida
Mailing Bill Almeida
Membership Edna Manzoni
Nominating Yvette Jackson
Oral History Jim McNern
Publicity Bill McDill
Public Outreach Roland Fuette
School Tours Janice Bazarro
 Anne Lehan
 Cindy Motsinger
Sunshine Diane Campbell

Newsletter Editorial Board

Bill Almeida Jim McNern
 Pat Johnstone Tonie Brown
 Mike Read

Typography, Composition, Layout

Mike Clancy

City of Novato Staff

Community Services Division Manager
 Kathy Kormos

Museum Curator

Samantha Kimpel

Original articles and photographs related to Novato history are welcomed!

Deadline for March issue is February 1.

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, 75 Rowland Way, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94945.



President's Corner

by Ron Vela

President, Novato Historical Guild

This will be my last President's Corner since my two-year term is nearly over. It has gone by much too fast just like my birthdays have. I have had a wonderful time and enjoyed working with a great board and, of course, our curator Samantha. It has been a challenging two years with City budget cuts and all. We have been very successful in the two years I have been president. We published two books which pay royalties to the Guild and provides people access to a piece of history about Novato and Hamilton Field. We opened the Hamilton Field History Museum in May and we are pleased and delighted with the number of visitors that come and visit each week. We are excited about the future and look forward to creating new exhibits and anticipate the day when the Hamilton Museum will be a well-known destination to those who visit Novato.

I have said it many times, thank you to the people who donate their time and volunteer to be docents. You

make it possible to keep the museum doors open. It is the dedicated docents who educate the 3rd grade classes who come each year to visit the museum. Many thanks go out to the interns who volunteer their time and catalog the inventory of both museums. A special thanks goes out to Iva Young who spends countless hours cataloging file after file of photographs and documents from the Hamilton collection. A small group of dedicated men and women did all the physical labor of finishing the interior of the Hamilton Museum; they donated thousands of hours of their time. If it were not for them, it would not have been possible to complete the Museum. We thank Ray Dwelly who managed the project. We especially thank the people who spent the great majority of the hours working diligently at the museum; special thanks to Roland Fuette, Robert Lowry, John Trumbull, Bob Manzoni, Tom Keena and Dan Johnstone. Thank you so much for what you have been able to accomplish.

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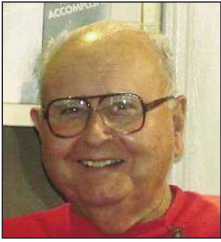
Farewell and Thank You to Anna

Anna Morrison has resigned as Hospitality Chairman after serving 18 years in that position. Anna celebrated her 90th birthday on October 15 and feels it is time to "retire." She has been responsible for sending out sympathy cards; 50th anniversary cards; "Get Well" cards; and milestone birthday cards. When members have notified Anna of these events she has faithfully sent out appropriate cards. She still has beautiful handwriting.

Diane Campbell has agreed to take over Anna's duties. We know Diane will continue the fine work of Hospitality Chairman.



Anna (third from left) at work in the museum with several of her co-docents.



Novato—50 Years Ago

(October, November, and December 1960)

by Bill Almeida and Tonie Brown

“Novato—50 Years Ago” is a collection of items culled by Bill Almeida from the October, November, and December issues of the *Novato Advance* newspapers in the collection of the Novato History Museum and microfilm at the Novato Library. Tonie Brown retypes the articles for the newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading the names and happenings of 1960.

- Hundreds of Canadian geese and canvasback ducks were seen on Stafford Lake.

- The giant pine trees along Novato Boulevard were planted in 1869 and 1870 at the behest of Joseph Sweetser and Francis DeLong, by Robert Trumbull, father of the late North Marin Supervisor Robert Trumbull, according to Al Lerch, Novato’s indefatigable historian. The giant sentinels of Novato attest to the interest in civic beautification of Novato’s pioneers.

- Novato High School Hornets defeated a hustling Marin Catholic football team, 12-6. The winning touchdown was set up by an alert intercept of a Marin Catholic pass by Moe Sparrow on the Wildcat’s 35. Dennis McCormick carried to the 3 yard line before quarterback Don Scribner sneaked over for the score.

- The Novato High “Buzettes” made their first appearance at half time of the Hornet-Wildcat game. They are a troop of 32 Hornet girls precisely trained in close-order drill. They were snappily attired in black wool stadium skirts, which each girl had made for herself, gold cotton blouses, gold canvas shoes and white gloves. The girls were trained by physical education teachers, Miss Virginia Bertoli and Mrs. Diane Conlin, in the afternoons after school.

- The engagement of Miss Natalie Merritt of Novato and Mr. Walter Sundberg of San Francisco was announced informally at the Open Door Club. Miss Merritt is a teacher at Novato High School.

- On October 18, the city council voted to rezone 11.5 acres for Safeway. The proposed shopping center is on Diablo Avenue. It was the third time the matter had come up, twice before the county and finally before the city. The vote was 4-1 with Councilman Charles Johnson opposed.

- Former football teammates Charles Coleman and Jack Sparrow met on the football field at Villanova, PA; however, they were not opponents. They met after a game in which College of Pacific beat Villanova 24 to 7. “Chuck” was attending military prep school at Bainbridge, Maryland, while Jack was a backup quarterback for College of the Pacific.

- Rumors that the new Novato hospital will have only 16 beds are unfounded according to its directors. The hospital on Hill and Canyon Roads will open in about two months and contain 30 beds. Ref: Novato Advance issue of 11-16-60.

- Funeral services were held for Manuel S. Azevedo, 73, a pioneer resident of Novato who died after a long illness. He came from the Azores Islands at age 11 and had lived here ever since. His wife, Marion, died in 1924 leaving him with nine children who survive him. He was a member of U.P.E.C. Portuguese Lodge of Novato.

- A spacious subdivision with one-acre lots was recently approved by the county planning commission. Called “Wild Horse Valley,” 89 acres will be cut up into 97 lots, most of

them 20,000 square feet. North Marin Planning Commissioner Worth Fenner said “It was one of the finest subdivisions I have ever seen.”

- Rumors that petitions were circulating in the Lynwood, Monte Maria, and Forest Park subdivisions to annex that area to the Novato Unified School District could not be confirmed by the Advance. Though only a short distance from Novato High School, the homes are in the San Jose Elementary School District, but children must attend San Rafael High.

- Dr. Joseph Sereda was named as chief of the medical staff of the Novato General Hospital. Dr. Sereda was elected at a meeting of doctors of the hospital’s medical staff.

- Kevin, the infant son of the Kenneth Morrisons, was guest of honor at a surprise baby shower given at his home on December 3. The shower was arranged by members of the Homemakers Club to which Mrs. Morrison belongs.

- Novato postmaster, James M. Morris, gave a deadline of December 12 at 5:30 p.m. to accept bids on the contract to conduct a brand new post office in the Ignacio area for the next three years. The bidder must furnish clerical service and at least 150 square feet of space in a location convenient to the public.

- The city council authorized that bids be sought for three police cars and voted to restrict the bidding to Novato car dealers. John Angeloni, himself a Dodge dealer who would be unable to bid, proposed that the bidding be limited to city dealers.

- Grace Lutheran Church, at 1787 Grant Avenue, was being repainted by church members in celebration of

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Novato Historical Guild Board Highlights

by Pat Johnstone

August 2010

New Business – A motion was made and approved that the memorial tiles for the Hamilton Brick Patio be one foot by one foot. The NHG will have a booth again at this year’s Hamilton Hometown Festival which will be held at the Unity Church on October 2.

Curator’s Report – Downtown Novato Way Finding Signage Program would like two members from the Guild to be on the committee. Ron Vela and Mike Read volunteered. A request has been put in to repaint the downtown museum’s hallway and stairwell.

Hamilton Museum – Memorial tile donations of \$250 should be

acknowledged with a letter to the donor according to IRS rules.

Museum Stores – Sales from May 12 to August 5 at the HFHM were \$1,408.50 and donations were \$698.

September 2010

New Business – Anna Morrison is retiring from the volunteer position of Sunshine Chairperson, a position that she held for many years. Diane Campbell has agreed to chair the committee. The museums will be closed November 24 & 25, and December 22, 23 and 25.

Curator’s Report – Both museums will have new exhibits featuring families and/or individuals. A special thanks to Roland Fuelle for installing a safety railing on the stairway at the Downtown Museum. Sharon Jones has volunteered to collect oral histories and she and her sister Cheryl will volunteer 10 hours a week inventoring documents and artifacts. Permanent signage at Hamilton Field History Museum is being planned for major donors.

Treasurer’s Report – Cash Receipts for August \$1579.32, Cash Disbursements \$3,923.87, Net Loss \$2,344.55. Total balance in checking is \$13,121 and the Linsco Investment account is \$148,157. The calendar year 2011 budget will be prepared for the next Board meeting by the Finance Committee.

Old Business – a motion was made and approved to purchase and install blank bricks at the Hamilton Museum. Cost is approximately \$1,500. Randall Bros. is donating wine glasses with the NHG logo on them for the fund raiser at Pacheco Winery.

October 2010

New Business – 2011 Board meetings will be held the second Tuesday of the month and General Meetings will be held the second Saturday of the month. Next year, the Paint the Town Red Committee is planning a smaller event for Thursday, January 20. The “Citizen of the Year” is recognized at this event. On October 30, NHG will join Downtown Merchants who invite children to visit their businesses for Halloween Treats. The museum will use “meet the ghost of Henry Jones” as its theme.

Curator’s Report – Patching, painting and new exhibits for the hallway are planned. The railroad ties outside the museum are deteriorating and need replacing. Requests for research are taking time away from Curator’s other museum duties.

Hamilton Museum – 1,600 visitors have been to the museum since May’s opening. Rack cards for the museum will be given to local hotels.

Gift Shops – NHG received another royalty check from Arcadia Publishing for the Novato and the Hamilton Field books in the amount of \$773.09. So far, the Guild has received \$2,885.79 from Arcadia. September sales were \$643 from Hamilton Gift Shop and \$164 from Downtown Novato gift shop.

Membership – Renewal forms are going out in mid-November.

MEMORIAL PLAQUE ADDITIONS

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.

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. By donating appreciated stock investments, you will:

- avoid capital gains taxes,
- receive a sizeable charitable deduction, and
- support the Guild in “preserving Novato’s history.”

Plaques cost \$250 per person named.

In Memoriam

The Guild mourns the loss of the following members:

Lillian Wrosch
Arthur Knutson
Jacqueline Moore

The Guild

Extends Sympathy to

The family of Lillian Wrosch.

Carol Dillon-Knutson on the death of her husband, Arthur.

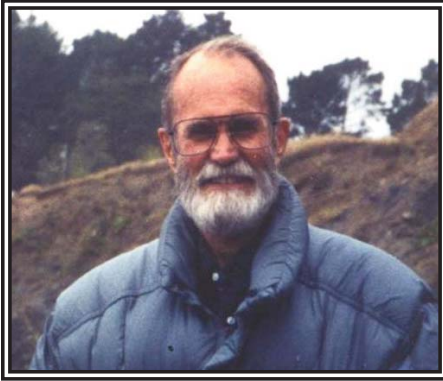
Nancy Leslie and Bill Moore on the death of their mother, Jackie Moore.

Spiro and Mary Kay Stratigos on the death of his mother, Helen Stratigos.

Edith and Leon Willat on the death of their daughter, Nicole Evatz.

Novato Memories

By Jim McNern



Foster Q. "Frosty" Wright

Foster Q. "Frosty" Wright was born in the Ross Hospital. He is a 1946 graduate of Novato Grammar School. Frosty now lives in Mill Valley, but comes to Novato often to visit family and friends. He shares his Novato memories in this December issue of the Novato Historian. Frosty remembers:

- Living on the 629 acre Wright Ranch called "Rancho Del Pantano," which was two miles north of Novato with his parents William Q. and Eleanor Wright and his brothers Bill "Willie," and Larry. Part of the ranch is now the county airport called Gness Field. Before moving to the ranch, the family lived in Sausalito and various mining towns in the Sierras.

- Shortly after he was born, a nurse at Ross Hospital asked his mother what she was going to name the new baby. When she was told his name was to be Foster, the nurse said that "Frosty" would be much better and that name has stuck to this day.

- His neighbors to the north were the Hales, and to the south were the Bullettis. (Both neighbors leased their land from the Bodkin estate.)

- Rancho Del Pantano means "ranch of the marsh."



From the Staff Desk

by Samantha Kimpel
Museum Curator

Now Hiring: Volunteer Jobs!

Since it opened in 1976, the Novato History Museum and Archives has been operated mainly by volunteers. In the past decade, those volunteers have worked alongside a part-time professional staff member, the museum director and/or curator. In a small museum, this position has many functions that would typically be assigned to many different staff members. Although my position is titled curator, it actually contains a little bit of director, registrar, curator, preparator, archivist, marketer, volunteer coordinator, and more.

We could not do the work we do without our volunteers. We regularly work with over 100 volunteers, and I hope that we thank you enough for what you do. Since the curator position is now funded at just 20 hours per week and we now manage two small museums, we need volunteers to take on increasing responsibilities. These

volunteer "jobs" are what keep our doors open to visitors and researchers.

One job created in the past few years is the Docent Scheduler position. Currently Cindy Motsinger, Pat Johnstone, and Yvette Jackson hold these jobs. They are assigned to manage the volunteers for days that the museums are open, and they schedule docents for each quarter. When a docent cannot make their shift, the docents from their group (for example, Wednesdays in the downtown museum) frequently call one another to trade shifts. Otherwise, it is up to the Docent Schedulers to find an alternate from their established lists. We need a few more Docent Schedulers.

We also rely on Research & Archive Assistants to maintain our

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- The Wright boys called their mother "Mom," and their dad "Bill."

- His dad ran Rancho Del Pantano, including the ranch operation and the seed mill. On the side he did some engineering consulting work.

- Attending Novato Grammar School and having Miss Baccaglio, Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Busher, Mrs. Steele and Miss Sutton as his teachers.

- Many of the boys at school were in love with Miss Baccaglio, as she was a young and attractive teacher.

- The school bus picked up the Wright boys in front of the ranch each morning for their ride to school.

- His classmates and friends: Bill Stuve, Bob Manzoni, Paul and Erwin Scheller, Bob Mattos, Fred Thompson, Dick Lieb, Barbara Ann Simmons, Dee Dee Ruhlman and

Aileen Breg.

- Another good friend was Bill Sandbach who attended parochial school.

- The Halloween Costume Parade at Novato Grammar School during WWII, when the three Wright brothers went as stretcher bearers with Larry in the stretcher. As he got older, he participated in various pranks around town,

- A large decorated Christmas tree was set up at school before the holidays.

- Exchanging valentines with classmates.

- Everyone respected Miss Sutton - even the toughest kids. She was also the best marble player.

- His 8th grade graduation was in

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Staff Desk

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photograph and archive files. This includes cataloging new collections, or inventorying old collections, or researching requests from outside scholars and patrons. At present, Iva Young is hard at work setting up the Hamilton Field archives, and Mary Haas takes on research projects as assigned. Ideally, we could use someone to be in charge of all the research questions that come into the Museums, and distributing them to volunteer researchers. If not, I am looking for researchers who are willing to be "on-call." The main requirement is a desire to get to know our archives and research materials in one of the museums. We need a few more Researchers.

One ongoing need is computer-savvy Collections & Database Assistants. This job entails entering information about the objects and items in our permanent collections into the museum collections database,

the church's tenth anniversary.

- Highway patrolmen, who covered three accidents in Novato in one day, were frustrated by the fact that there was no existing state law to cite drivers for "inattentive driving." Note: 50 years later we have one!

- A Butane truck careened driverless down a steep hill on Laurel Avenue in Black Point before smashing into the kitchen of Wayne

PastPerfect. It could also include photographing or scanning the items in our collection, attaching them to the database records, and helping to set up key word indexes within the database. (If you know what I'm talking about, you are a great candidate!)

If you are interested in taking on any of these roles, please call me at 415-899-8236 or email me at skim-pel@cityofnovato.org. Have a happy holiday!

50 Years Ago

Continued from Page N-3

Westcott's home at 131 Iolanthus Avenue. A fire was avoided when the driver turned off pilot lights in the house. A defective handbrake was the cause, according to the C.H.P.

- Novato's first five patrolmen were selected by City Administrator John Baget and Police Chief Roy McLaren. The five were drawn from the top ten candidates. Heading the list was Robert diGrazia of Novato, who was serving as a deputy sheriff in the Novato area. He scored highest in examinations. Others selected were Wayne Knutilla, 39, of Colma; Glen Wright, 34, of Benicia; Maurice Lafferty, 29, of San Jose; and Howell Hollowell, 32, of Carlsbad.

- Novato's entire six-man police department was to be on duty on New Year's Eve. Police clerk and dispatcher Florence Canmariato was to start at 5 p.m. and work until 2 a.m. The police station was in the old Northwestern Pacific Railroad depot at the east end of Grant Avenue.

- In November, one building industry executive stated Novato had seen its last tract house built for under \$20,000. Land was becoming too expensive.

- Sale of Food Fair Market to Mr. and Mrs. Dan Blaga was announced by William Jonas, original owner of the long-established supermarket on Front Street. Jonas was preparing to open his new Roger Wilco supermarket in Ignacio early next year.

- The Chamber of Commerce was making plans to celebrate the first anniversary of Novato's incorporation (January 20) with a birthday party. Irv Chapman, Al Bellucci, W. J. J. Smith, Dr. Dan Aughney, Lee Wise, and Mayor Wayne Womack were on the committee.

Welcome New Guild Members

Through December 2010

Individual Memberships:

- Nancy Gerdes
- James Hallstrom
- Robert W. Melone
- Susan Potter
- David Roberts
- Joe Williams

Please support our Guild

Business Members:

- Acme Digital and Screen Graphics

- Bank of Marin
- Heirloom Storage (House of Daniels, Inc.)
- Marin Landscape Materials
- McIsaac Dairy
- Novato Horsemen
- Now and Then Antiques
- Pini Hardware
- Suburban Alternatives Land Trust
- 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.

We Hope You All Had A Happy Thanksgiving!

Novato Memories

Continued from Page N-5

the Community House. Miss Sutton picked him to deliver the valedictory speech (which she wrote). It had to be memorized, and half way through the speech, he went blank. After what seemed like forever, he recovered and finished.

- Fishing in Rush Creek for striped bass.

- Going up on Mt. Burdell with guns and shooting targets, birds, and small animals.

- One day he tried to shoot a bird sitting on a wire - he missed the bird and hit the wire that broke and came down.

- The family's first telephone was a crank phone and they were on a party line. The family ring was "one long and three short." Five rings alerted all volunteer firemen of a fire.

- Their next telephone number was 144-W. The warehouse number was 144-M.

- Belonging to the Novato 4-H Club and attending meetings in the Community House and club car. Miss Gertrude Lane and George Orr were 4-H leaders at that time.

- He and his brothers had Jersey cows as their 4-H project. His cow was "Cobena," and Bill's was "Brenda." (Both were named after female characters on the Jack Benny Show.) Larry's Jersey was named "Dynamite." The first cow on the ranch was named "Molly."

- A very special family pet dog named "Dinah."

- Drinking coffee when they were kids at Meyer's Bakery.

- Catching the San Rafael High School bus each morning on the old 101 Highway across from Novato Grammar School. It returned to Novato right after school each afternoon, so if you wanted to go out for sports (practice after school) you had to take the Greyhound bus home or hitch-hike. There weren't many who had cars.

- Memorable teachers at San Rafael High School were: Mr. Hugh Patterson, Mr. Lauriston Tardy, Mr. Estes, Mr. Dresia, Miss Newcomer and Mrs. Palmer.

- Early jobs started on his dad's ranch in the summers starting at age 8 or 9 taking care of the cows and chickens. As he grew older, he drove the harvester, worked in the seed mill, and worked part time at the airport.

- Being the youngest person to have soloed at the airport.

- Running the cows back and forth across the 101 Highway and milking the cows out in the rain.

- The family didn't feel the depression years too bad. They had their own cows, pigs, chickens, guinea hens, fruit, and vegetables.

- The 1945 Pini fire was a memorable event for everyone in town. He found a 1/4" socket set and melted coins in the debris.

- Running the harvester at other ranches around Marin County. The area that is now the Village Shopping Center in Corte Madera as the Dickson Ranch. He harvested rye grass on that ranch. The Dickson family also had a ranch in Black Point.

- Marching down Grant Avenue with his Jersey cow in the annual 4-H Club parade.

- Playing basketball inside the Community House.

- Swimming on hot days in Rush Creek and spending at least a month each year at his grandmother's house at Brockway at Lake Tahoe.

- Going to the Novato Theater, which was built after the Pini fire, was a lot of fun, especially if you could sneak in the back door.

- Novato boys did a lot of walking and hitch-hiking to get around, and by mid high school many had use of family cars.

- Learning to drive at 9 or 10 years old.

- His first car was a '37 Chevy, and

later a Model A Roadster, which he drove to Baja, California, all the way to La Paz.

- Checking the family mailbox (P.O. Box 12) daily at the Novato Post Office.

- His dad, William Q. Wright, taking over as Fifth District Supervisor to complete Robert Trumbull's term when Mr. Trumbull died in office. His father was supervisor when Frank Lloyd Wright was hired as architect to design the Marin Civic Center.

- Many Novato boys got their first jobs working on the Wright Ranch each summer.

- The long freight and passenger trains that went through Novato. Those trains had to be carefully watched for when the Wrights went back and forth from their house to the ranch property on the other side of the tracks. They could be a nuisance because long freights would sometimes stop and block out crossings for long periods of time.

- The hoboes that would come to the ranch. One was a knife sharpener who would sharpen knives and tools for a meal.

- The day his dad came out to the field and announced, "The Japanese have attacked Pearl Harbor!"

- The "blackout curtains" that people had during the war years, and the volunteers who would come around checking to see if any light was shining through.

- Ben Edwards was the family accountant who later opened Edwards

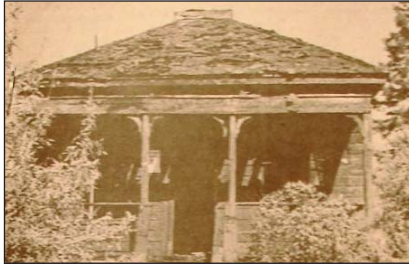
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Things To Do Today

- ✓ Support the Guild—pay your dues.
- ✓ Visit the museum, especially if you haven't.
- ✓ Volunteer for a docent position.

Novato's Treasures

LAS GUITARRAS DE NOVATO



Then



Now

Built in 1900, this Victorian style home at 1017 Reichert Avenue was owned by a Portuguese, who had a winery under the house, until he sold it to Phil Sheridan for \$19,000. Phil raised the house one inch a week until it was high enough to make it a two-story house. A fire in early July of 1978 gutted the structure. Miles Sosso partnered with Phil, and restored the house in June 1979. Las Guitarras de Novato, Inc., now has a Mexican restaurant in the building.

President's Corner

Continued from Page N-2

At the board meeting on October 12 candidates for the 2011 board officers were nominated and will be presented at the December general meeting for a vote. The proposed slate of officers for 2011 are Mike Read as president and Tom Keena as vice president, Kathy Hansen as secretary and Charlotte Urban as treasurer. Edna Manzoni's term on the board (six years) will be over in January. We will miss her smiling face, but the good news is that she will remain as membership committee chair. The proposed replacement as director to take her place is Sheila Brossier. The 2011 general meeting calendar dates at the Margaret Todd Senior Center are: March 12, June 11, and December 10. The September meeting will be the 10th at Hamilton—please mark your calendars. It has been brought to the board's attention that some members don't come to the general meetings because they don't

have rides, so we are going to try to accommodate those who need rides. Our contact will be Roland Fuette (his phone number is 415-892-4980); he will try and arrange for a ride.

The next general meeting and the Christmas Party will be December 18 at 1 p.m. at the Margaret Todd Senior Center. We will have a food drive where the participants (donors) get a raffle ticket for each food item they bring. The food items will go to the Marin Community Food Bank. Music will be provided by the Novato Music Association (NMA) Choir. They are a wonderful group and we look forward to their holiday carols. Coffee and holiday cookies will be served as refreshments.

Notice
 The phone number for the
Hamilton Field History Museum is
415-382-8614

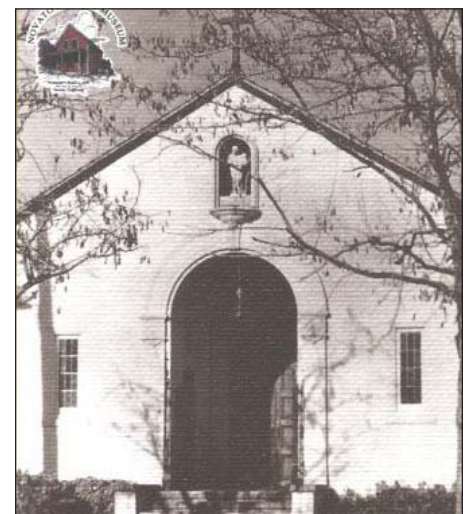
Novato Historical Guild 2011 Proposed Budget

INCOME

Books	\$ 6,000
Fund Raising Event	3,000
Brick Sales	3,000
Donations – General	2,500
Donations – Hamilton	2,500
Gift Shop – General	2,000
Gift Shop – Hamilton	2,000
Membership Dues	8,500
Misc.	100
Transfer	7,770
TOTAL INCOME	\$37,370

EXPENSES

Bank and Credit Card Charges ..\$	500
Brick Expenses	900
Director's Contract Expense	5,000
Director's Support	18,000
Dues & Fees	200
Education	200
Fundraising & Promotion	200
Fundraising Events	1,000
Hamilton Building Expense	2,000
Hospitality Committee	800
Membership Drive	200
Memorial Plaques	50
Merchandise for Gift Shop	2,000
Museum Archival Supplies	500
Museum Exhibit Supplies –	
Hamilton	2,000
Museum Exhibit Supplies –	
Downtown	1,000
Newsletter Support	800
Office & Computer Equipment ..	200
Office & Computer Supplies	600
Postage, Bulk Permit	800
Sales Tax	340
Sunshine Committee	80
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$37,370



Our Lady of Loretto Church long before it became Cacti Restaurant.

Novato Memories

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Stationery Store on Grant Avenue.

- The 504 foot radio towers being built on the Wright Ranch in 1948 that transmit signals for CBS.
- Graduating from Stanford University in 1954 with a degree in Mining Engineering.

• Visiting Tainter’s Second Hand Store, which had a bunch of junk and interesting stuff.

• Old Novato families with the names: Potter, Bruff, Leveroni, Lieb, Orr, Ruhlman, Scheller, Sandbach, and Stuve.

- The many changes that have taken

place over the years: Novato is no longer a small, rural town; Highway 101 no longer runs through downtown; no more Novato Grammar School overlooking downtown; and Novato now having two high schools.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to You All

THE GIFT SHOPPE

The Museum Gift Shoppe has the perfect unique Novato gift!

Books & Pamphlets

- *Novato Township** the definitive history of Novato by May Ungemach \$30.50
- *Novato, Then and Now* by Novato Historical Guild \$21.00
- *Hamilton Field* by Novato Historical Guild \$21.00
- *Hamilton Airfield History* \$2.00

Videos & DVD's

- Hamilton Field History (VHS or DVD) \$15.00
- Novato History (VHS or DVD) \$10.00 (available only through the museum)

Sweatshirts (S, M, L, & XL) \$20.00

- Novato History Museum (blue or green)

Ornaments

- Novato History Museum \$7.00
- Novato City Hall \$10.00

T-Shirts (M, L, & XL) \$11.00

- Guild Historic Buildings (3 designs):
Postmaster's House, City Hall/Church, Railroad Depot

Miscellaneous

- Novato Historic Buildings Notecard Sets \$10.00
- Guild Tote Bags \$15.50
- Ceramic Thimble \$1.00
- Novato History Collector Cards . . . \$3 per pack or 30¢ each
- Hamilton Field Historic Picture Reproductions \$10.00
- Mugs \$5.00
- Laminated Place Mat (11 x 14) \$5.00 (available only at the museum)

Leather Goods

- Coin Purse \$15.00
- Business Card Holder \$12.50
- Small Purse \$23.00

We accept VISA or MASTERCARD

* All proceeds from the sale of *Novato Township* go directly to the support of the History Museum. All prices include sales tax. To Order: Call the museum at 897-4320 or email patjohnstn@aol.com for shipping charges and information. Supporting and Life Members receive a 10% discount at the Gift Shoppe!

Membership Form

Please mail checks to **Novato Historical Guild, 75 Rowland Way, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94945.**

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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership | \$20 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family membership | \$30 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron membership | \$100 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting membership | \$200 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life membership, individual | \$350 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life membership, joint | \$500 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$1,000 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business membership | \$50 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate membership | \$1,000 | year |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Additional donations? _____

Interested in volunteering? _____

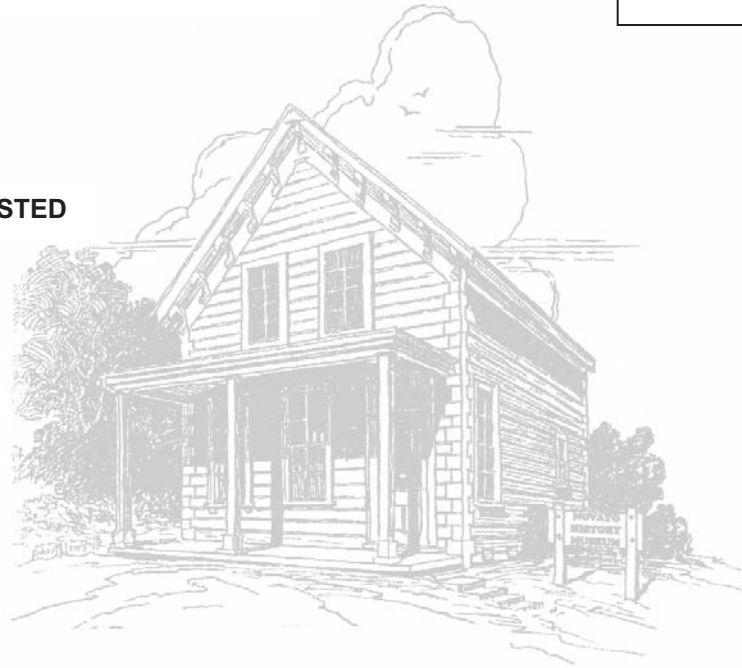


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The Novato Historical Guild

*Wishes you all Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year
and cordially invites you to the*

*December General Meeting
Election of Officers and Christmas Party*

Saturday, December 18, 2010, at 1 p.m.

Margaret Todd Senior Center

Members and prospective members are welcome

**NOVATO HISTORY MUSEUM, 815 Delong Ave.
HAMILTON FIELD HISTORY MUSEUM, 55 Hangar Dr.**

COME VISIT AND BRING A FRIEND!

The Museums are open 3 days a week—Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday—Noon to 4 p.m. • 897-4320 or 382-8614

Closed Major Holidays