



Novato Historical Guild's Annual Christmas Party

The annual celebration of the Guild's Christmas party was held on Saturday, December 13, at Margaret Todd Center and was well attended by members and guests.

Rob Sundberg and his combo provided the entertainment and led the group in the annual singing of "The

Twelve Days of Christmas," to the enjoyment of all.

The refreshments provided by Hospitality Committee Co-Chairs Diana Goebel and Edna Manzoni and Board Members were delicious as always. Morton and Bassett Spices of Novato again donated a variety of

spices for door prizes.

The members approved the 2009 Budget and the slate of officers for the Board of Directors. Six heavy boxes of canned and packaged food were collected at the meeting and donated to the Novato Human Needs Center.



Out-going President Jim McNern introducing the 2009 Board of Directors

Docents Needed for Museum

There is a need for docents on either the first or fourth Wednesday of each month. Docents operate the museum during open hours of 12 noon until 4 p.m. While you are volunteering at the museum, you are responsible for greeting visitors, answering the phone, taking messages for the museum staff, selling gifts in the gift shop, and answering visitor's questions about the exhibits. Most of the exhibits are self explanatory

and if you do not know the answer, you can leave a message for the staff. If you have the time to volunteer on these Wednesdays, please contact Cindy Motsinger, Wednesday docent coordinator, at (415) 897-4881. We want to be able to keep the museum open on Wednesdays, so please give this serious consideration. It is the efforts of volunteers that make our museum possible.

Coming Events!

Tuesday, March 10, 1 p.m.

Board Meeting
Police Department Training Room

Saturday, March 14, 1 p.m.

General Meeting
Margaret Todd Senior Center
Speaker: Vernell Crittendon, Jr.

Tuesday, April 14, 1 p.m.

Board Meeting
Police Department Training Room

Tuesday, May 12, 1 p.m.

Board Meeting
Police Department Training Room

Saturday, June 6, noon

General Meeting and
1959 8th Grade Reunion
and "Old Timer's Day"
Margaret Todd Senior Center

Tuesday, June 9, 1 p.m.

Board Meeting
Police Department Training Room

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 2009 Officers

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

Board of Directors

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 Cindy Motsinger Pat Johnstone
 Edna Manzoni Roland Fuette
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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 Edna Manzoni
Membership Edna Manzoni
Nominating Mike Silva
Oral History Jim McNern
Publicity Bill McDill
Public Outreach Roland Fuette
School Tours Janice Bazarro
 Anne Lehan
 Cindy Motsinger
Sunshine Anna Morrison

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 Mike Read

Typography, Composition, Layout

Mike Clancy

City of Novato Staff

Community Services Division Manager
 Kathy Graves

Museum Curator

Samantha Kimpel

Original articles and photographs related to Novato history are welcomed!

Deadline for June issue is May 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

It is a New Year, the country has a new Government and I am the New President of the Novato Historical Guild. Let me introduce myself. My name is Ron Vela and I have lived in Novato since 1960. As the new president of the Guild, I and the board, will be faced with many challenges for 2009. The Hamilton Museum will need to be completed by volunteer labor and supported by our members and the City of Novato. It has been a decade and we are finally almost there. The City's budget will be an issue for the Guild this year since funding for the curator's position comes from the City and the curator's position is in jeopardy. The City and the Guild will need to be creative in order to keep the position funded especially with a new museum coming on-line. A goal of mine is to increase the membership of the Guild. Currently we have less than 1 percent of the population as members. I ask all the readers to ask a family member, a friend, your neighbor, a colleague to join. I would love to see our membership double this year. I challenge all of you to make that happen.

Since I represent an organization that deals in the history of Novato, indulge me and let me reminisce about some of my personal history in Novato. I went to Novato High, married my high school sweetheart and have been married for forty-four years. For those of you who were here during those times, Novato was a very different place forty-eight years ago. Highway 101 ran right through

downtown Novato with stop lights at Grant Ave. I remember sometimes on a Sunday afternoon we used to park our cars along 101, (now Redwood Blvd.), where the Viking sits and watch all the people come back from the river. Our daily hangout was the Hi Fi drive-in on First Street (where One Stop Oil Change now sits) and have a burger and coke and talk and carry on for hours with our friends.

Friday and Saturday nights we would sometimes stop at Burges Drive-In down in Ignacio. The Dollhouses, Trains and More store now sits on the property. We would get a hot deep-dish berry pie—theirs was the best. If we were out partying late at night, we would end up at the 101 Café on the corner of Grant and Highway 101 (Redwood Blvd.). West America Bank now sits on that property. I miss those days, they were simpler times. Now we have the memories of good times gone by.

Speaking of memories, we are always looking for long-time residents of Novato to reminisce about their experiences in Novato via oral histories. Our volunteers can conduct and print your stories in the Historian newsletter. If you know someone who would be able to share their memories, please give us a call or drop a line and let us know the contact information; we would greatly appreciate it.

I wish you all a prosperous year and hope to see and meet all of you at our general quarterly meetings.

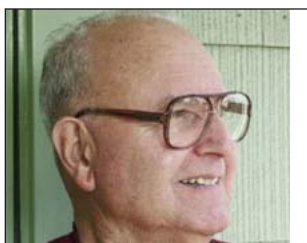
Many Donations to History Museum in 2008

The following items were formally accessioned into the object and archives collections of the Novato History Museum during January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008. Thank you to all the donors!

Gift of Lauren Boyd: Revere 8 Model 44 8mm movie camera, used by Lt. Col. Robert C. Beebe, USAF pilot; two

wooden coat hangers imprinted "Rickey's Rancho Rafael, Ignacio, Calif."; three discount membership cards to Novato Theater; six pin-back imprinted buttons, including "Novato National Bank," "Buck Center Yes!," and "Novato's Future, Novato's Choice"

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Novato—50 Years Ago (January, February and March 1959)

by Bill Almeida and Tonie Brown

“Novato—50 Years Ago” is a collection of items culled by Bill Almeida from the January, February and March 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 1959.

- Novato was significantly left off the list of communities where Safeway Stores, Inc. has announced it intends to build supermarkets during the coming year. In December the board of Supervisors turned down, 3 – 2, a request by Safeway for more commercial zoning on its 11 acre property to allow construction of a shopping center.

- A newly incorporated firm of doctors has picked up the option to purchase almost 8 acres at the corner of Canyon and Hill Roads. The property is owned by John Novak and may be the site of a future Novato General Hospital. Newly elected officers for the corporation are Dr. Ralph Weseman, president; Dr. Joseph Sereda, vice president; Dr. John C. Siemens, secretary-treasurer. The group plans to build a \$350,000 hospital with 25 to 30 beds.

- Heavy earth moving equipment was moved on the old Grant Avenue school property to start moving earth and eventually tear down the historic school structure, declared unsafe for earthquakes by the state. Once tenants can be lined up, a commercial building is to be erected on the spot.

- Miss Claudette Borloz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rene Borloz, and Stephen A. Halbe became engaged at a recent family dinner at the Borloz home. The young couple plan a June wedding.

- Pioneer Park no longer is a cemetery – it is a memorial park. So said the “Memos From the City Desk” in the January 28 issue of the Advance. The same column said dirt from the Grant Avenue school site is being dumped at the Lu Sutton school grounds because of the low marshy condition of the property.

- Vernon E. Dwelly of Novato, who for 29 years has been an officer of the California Highway Patrol, was presented with CHP badge No. 1 by CHP Commissioner B.R. Caldwell in Sacramento on February 10. Dwelly was given the honor in recognition of the longest record of service of any CHP sergeant in the state of California, having served in that capacity since 1938.

- A local physician confirmed that John Novak was paid \$40,000 for the property at Canyon and Hill Roads that will become the hospital.

- Riley Wingate and D.W. Peterson, both of Atherton Avenue and well known in the Black Point area, have started a venture called “Marin Lumber.” It is located at 45 Jordan Street in San Rafael. Both Riley and Dick have a thorough knowledge of lumber and building material.

- Novato’s new sheriff’s sub-station should go into operation the middle of March. The sub-station will be the old waiting room of the Northwestern Pacific Railway depot at the end of Grant Avenue. The sub-station will be manned by 4 deputies and an acting sergeant, Ed Levine, of the sheriff’s office. They will be on 24-hour call.

- The county planning commission approved the tentative map of “St. Francis Heights,” John Novak’s subdivision in West Novato, consist-

ing of 10,000 minimum square foot lots. The subdivision is 32 acres and is to be divided into 96 lots.

- Jack Kidder was promoted to captain by the fire commissioners on March 25. The commissioners also voted to abolish the posts of assistant fire chiefs. Robert Manzoni and Frank Manzoni are currently serving in this capacity.

- Miss Lulu Sutton, dean of Novato school teachers, suffered a mild heart attack on Feb. 14 and was hospitalized for examination and a cardiograph. She was resting in San Rafael General Hospital. Miss Sutton retired from teaching in June of 1958 after 40 years as teacher and principal in Novato schools.

- The county’s new dump on the Smith Brothers. ranch north of Novato only received a “D” mark from the Bay Area Air Pollution Control District; it wouldn’t receive any passing marks in any local popularity pool either.

- Almost 90 percent of residents in Loma Verde have signed petitions opposing the proposal to locate a nearby cemetery. Copies of the petitions have been sent to James Cuzner, North Marin Planning commissioner, and William Gness, North Marin supervisor.

- Barbara Dwelly successfully concluded an orientation class for Junior Pink Ladies of Marin General Hospital. She and four other young ladies completed training in December and are now volunteers at the hospital.

- Rayburn’s celebrated the grand opening of their modern, spacious new supermarket at 850 Grant Avenue, Thursday, January 29. The market is at the foot of Sherman Avenue.

Historical Guild Board Highlights

by Pat Johnstone

November 2008

Curator's Report – Samantha Kimpel reported that Jim McCabe is still working at Building 500. Funds from the city to pay Jim are exhausted. Budgeted funds from the Guild were transferred to the City of Novato to cover Jim's pay.

An exhibit on Hamilton's history is on display at the South Novato Branch Library and will remain there through winter. Another exhibit was placed at the Margaret Todd Center to coincide with the Health Fair. This exhibit contains memorabilia from Dr. Ralph Weseman's practice.

It was reported that roof shingles on the museum, in the area over the

kitchen, are missing and need to be replaced. Roland Fuette said that he is getting someone to check and see if we need to repair or replace the shingles

500 Building at Hamilton – Ray Dwelly reported that water entered the building after the last heavy rains, but did not encroach on the area occupied by the Guild. Ray said that the sump pump was broken and he reminded the city's Dept. of Public Works about the existence of the pumps in the building.

901 Sherman Ave. Project – Mike Read reported that the Old City Hall will be moved approximately 100 yards within the next two weeks. Historical Permits have been issued.

shortfall for 2009/10. At risk for the museum is the City's support of the Guild's newsletter production currently provided by Mike Clancy at \$200 per issue and it is possible that the position of the museum curator could be eliminated. Budget information is available on the City's web site.

Hamilton Budget Meeting – The Hamilton committee met to review & revise the Hamilton Plan. The original document outlined expenditures of \$155,500 to complete the interior of the Hamilton Museum, but the group revised it downward to \$69,625. The majority of reductions came from labor saving realized by using volunteer rather than paid labor.

Curator's Report – Samantha Kimpel reported that Jim McCabe is still working at Building 500 and has begun the process of attaching digital images of the artifacts to their records in Past Perfect. She also said that the museum repair list was still pending with the City.

Hamilton Museum – Ray Dwelly reported that the phone lines should be installed in the museum today and next week PG&E should install the electrical meter. Installation of handrails might be delayed unless the City approves additional funds to cover the work.

The restroom partitions are still unresolved because to meet ADA requirements would require a stall partition to be placed over a floor drain.

January 2009

Guest Speaker Gordon Walker would like to do a lecture on the Marin County Country Club at the Country Club and put our name on the invitations as recipient of the funds. \$500 would go to the Country Club and the balance would go to the Guild. After much discussion a

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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.

December 2008

City Budget Update – Kathy Graves reported a \$500,000 shortfall in the current fiscal year budget which is being covered by City reserves and a projected \$1.77 million

In Memoriam

The Guild mourns the loss of the following members:

- Grant Bird**
- Archie Patton**
- Maria Novak**
- Claire Witzel**

The Guild Extends Sympathy to

Jean Bird on the death of her husband Grant

Jim & Leta Hill on the death of her sister, Claudia Hamblin

The Family of Maria Novak

The Family of Archie Patton

The Family of Ron Witzel on the death of his mother Claire Witzel

Novato Memories

By Jim McNern



Frank Paladini

Frank Paladini was born at home on the Durbrow Ranch with 84 year old Dr. Allen assisting in the delivery. He was a member of the 1940 graduating class from Novato Grammar School. Frank now lives in Woodland, California, but comes back several times a year to visit family and friends. Frank shares his Novato memories in this March issue of the Novato Historian. Frank remembers:

- Living on the Durbrow Ranch at the end of Wilson Avenue with his parents Guido and Gelsomina Paladini, his sister Anna, and brothers Louis and George.
- The Durbrow Ranch had 20 acres of vineyard and fruit trees. His dad, Guido, was the caretaker of the property. The closest neighbor had a still during prohibition and the feds would occasionally raid it.
- His uncles Primo, Cherubino and Nello Paladini, and his cousins Fernanda and Aldo.
- His mother speaking Italian.
- Attending Novato Grammar School and having Miss McGowan, Miss Hayes, Miss Clark, Mrs. Reese, Miss Walsh, Mrs. Busher, Mrs. Steele, and Miss Sutton as his teachers.
- Telling his teacher on the first day of First Grade not to give him a



From the Staff Desk

by Samantha Kimpel
Museum Curator

Honoring Our Volunteers

Volunteer Update

Please join us on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, to celebrate the contributions of the Museum volunteers over the past year. At the event, which will be held at Margaret Todd Senior Center Room 3 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., we will thank those who volunteered during 2008, have a brief orientation for the 2009 3rd grade docents, and welcome anyone interested in becoming a new volunteer.

In 2008, over 60 regular volunteers contributed in excess of 3,000 work hours to support the operation of the Novato History Museum. These volunteers are museum and 3rd grade tour docents, researchers, collections and archive assistants, and help in the up-keep of the museum and its grounds.

I am also happy to welcome a new volunteer student intern. Brittany Spencer is a Junior history major

from Sonoma State University, and she will be working with us through the spring to inventory items in the Hamilton Collection.

Adding to Collections

In this issue of the Historian, we are including a list of all the items accessioned into the Novato History Museum collections during 2008. It is a diverse list, and includes advertising and imprint items from Novato businesses, various pamphlets and programs from local organizations, as well as a number of important artifacts and photographs.

One of the most important questions that we ask as we review each item is from our Collections Management Policy: "Is the object in itself of significant quality and rarity, or of sufficient historical or cultural value as to merit its inclusion in the collection?"

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book, as he could not read.

- His best friend was Calvin Probasco, whose family had a turkey ranch at the end of Hatch Road. He and Calvin worked on a glider that crashed on take off from the turkey barn roof.
- The rough landing with his homemade parachute when he came off the roof at home.
- His classmates and friends: Johnny Rupprecht, John Azevedo, Glenn Westlund, Harry Eide, Leland and Jimmy Hill, Joe Giari, Lester Taylor, Lester Cash, Lorraine Robertson, Patricia Young, Leonora Valim, Eleanor Pacheco, Barbara Cardoza, Jane Ruhlman, and Anna Anderson.
- Getting free hot dogs from Mr. D'Ambrogio at his market.

- Buying BB's for 5 cents a tube at Pini's Store and getting Levis from Joe Foisey's Mens' and Boys' Store for \$3.25 a pair.

- Getting a ride to school (3 1/2 miles) each morning, but walking home most of the time and having mud fights on the walk home.

- All of the work on the ranch; picking fruit in the spring and summer and pruning trees and picking up debris in the winter. His side job was taking care of the rabbits.

- On Halloween, junk was strewn all over Grant Avenue.

- Valentines were always exchanged in class for Valentine's Day.

- A Christmas tree was always set

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New Board Members

Kathryn Keena Hansen

Kathryn Keena Hansen is a new board member and is the Guild's new secretary. Her father, Bernard Keena, was the Guild's first president (1977-1978), and her mother, Esther Silacci Keena, was Guild president in 1983. Kathy was the controller for Guide Dogs for the Blind for many years before her retirement last year. She is a CPA. She is currently secretary of the Marin Ballet and serves as CFO of the N.U.S.D. School Fuel Foundation.



Kathy's grandparents were Michael and Mary Keena, who came to Novato in 1911, and bought the Keena family property on McClay Road.

William C. McDill

Born: San Francisco, 25 November 1940.



Education: St. Ignatius High School.

U.C. Davis – B.S. Biology Science.

University of Colorado Medical Center -- Physical

Therapy Certificate.

Military: U.S. Army, Commissioned Feb '63 through ROTC, 5½ years active duty, 8 yrs. reserve

Family: Married to Vicki in March 1963, one daughter, two sons, five grandchildren.



Ray Dwelly and Diana Goebel are returning Board members.

Vernell M. Crittendon, Jr. To Speak at Guild's March General Meeting

Vernell Crittendon, Jr. completed two years at City College of San Francisco while working as a San Francisco Police Cadet from 1973 to 1976.



Crittendon

Mr. Crittendon began his professional career with the California Department of Corrections in April 1977 as a Correctional Officer at San Quentin State Prison. In May 1986 he was promoted to Correctional Sergeant, and in December 1990 to Correctional Lieutenant, the position he held when retiring in December 2006.

During his nearly 30-year career, Mr. Crittendon held many positions at San Quentin. He worked in the inmate housing units and served as a member of the Special Security Squad and Special Emergency Response Team. Mr. Crittendon was a member of the Hostage Negotiation Team serving as the primary Hostage Negotiator.

Novato Historical Guild Board Highlights

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motion was made not to participate in this event. The motion passed unanimously.

Farm Day – For the first time, the Guild will have a booth at Marin Farm Day on March 19 from 9-12 at the Marin Center Exhibit Hall, San Rafael. Celebrating its 25th year, this event provides hands-on educational experiences for children.

901 Sherman Avenue – The City asked the Guild for a member to be on its Community Fund Raising Committee. This committee would come up with ideas on how to acquire funds to purchase items to complete the interior of the restored City Hall. Ron Vela volunteered to be on this committee. The City also asked if the Guild would set up an account to hold funds for this committee. A motion to hold the funds was made and it passed unanimously.

Gift Shop -- Pat Johnstone reported that total sales for 2008 were \$7,357.15.

Novato's Treasures

THE FLATIRON BUILDING



Located at Scott Ct. and Grant Ave., the Flatiron building is now an upscale gift shop. The photo on the left was taken in about 1970; the one on the right in approximately 1990. It was built by Abraham Yelmorini in 1908. The Wells Fargo Express Office was housed there. Later Charles Carlisle opened a hardware store in the building. Novato's first newspaper, the Marin County Banner, also operated from this location.

Novato Memories

Continued from Page N-3

up in the school auditorium, and Santa would arrive to give an orange and candy to the students.

- Miss Sutton was a very stern teacher. She didn't take any "guff" off anyone. She was fair and treated everyone alike. Miss Sutton was a great marble player.

- The weekend he and some friends decided to pull a prank by making an anonymous phone call to Miss Sutton's house. She had the call traced and they were reprimanded on Monday.

- Moving from the Durbrow Ranch in 1939 to property at the corner of Wilson Avenue and Vineyard Road into a house that Louis Bormolini had built for them.

- His mother died of polycystic kidney disease when he was in the eighth grade.

- Being named valedictorian of his class and graduating in the Community House in June of 1940.

- The long plays performed for graduation ceremonies including: Pinocchio, Aladdin, and Man of the Mountain.

- Selling seeds and salve door to door to earn money to buy roller skates and a bicycle.

- The Donkey Baseball games that were held in the DeBorba field, and having apple wars on haybale forts during the games.

- Catechism classes at the I.D.E.S.I. Hall.

- Attending Mass in the old church on South Novato Boulevard before it burned down and swiping apricots off the tree on the church property.

- Riding the bus to San Rafael High School each day and harassing the bus driver.

- The fish salesman from San Anselmo named Tombolini who came to the ranch once a week selling fresh fish. He had very sharp knives.

- Torassa's Bakery delivered fresh

bread all over town.

- Working on Holly Tiedeman's hay baling crew each summer.

- Seeing Roger Lane (a track legend at San Rafael High School) running up and down Wilson Avenue.

- Picking pears on the Guth Ranch and prunes on the Carrera property on Center Road.

- Cleaning chicken houses for Alex Pellegrini and hoeing weeds and clearing brush for his uncle Primo Paladini.

- Working with Pete Baccaglio at the Poultry Producers next to the railroad tracks. He volunteered to work at Poultry Producers for two weeks and stayed for 27 years.

- Novato kids made their own fun. They made sleds out of barrel staves and would sled down hills. Boys hunted birds with BB guns and swam and went trout fishing in Novato Creek. Another game that boys enjoyed was a form of baseball called "Numbers."

- Kids walked or rode their bikes to get around town. Their parents didn't drive them around.

- The 101 Highway being shut down for the Portuguese parade to pass.

- The many chicken ranches around town that were owned by the Gustafson, Cervarich, Gness, Sjoblom, Buhn, Lieb, Peterson, Lewis and Dep Chain families.

- Dairy ranches owned by the Corda, Grossi, Faustine and Pacheco families.

- A special family dog named "Sport" who would hunt down rabbits and bring them home.

- Picking mushrooms on the Trumbull Ranch.

- Seeing Jid Baccaglio and Walt Simonds working at Henry Hess lumber yard.

- Reno Pronzini driving his truck and Leo Pacheco driving a '37 Chevy sedan to Novato Grammar School.

- Seeing Bruno Schultz waving his cane to keep Novato kids in line.

- His first car was a tan 1935 Plymouth.

- The Wulbern Turkey Farm on Vineyard Road and Robertson's Turkey Farm on Center Road.

- The Paladini family's telephone number was 950-M, and his cousin Aldo's number was 721-0. They got their first phone when they moved to the Wilson Avenue house. Kitty Chaplin was the telephone operator in town and most people were on party lines.

- The day during World War II when a plane flying out of Hamilton Field crashed into the Villadsen's chicken house on Atherton Avenue killing all the broilers.

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Accessions

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Gift of Ann Fredrickson Bruner: Yearbook, "PANIK!: USAF ROTC Summer Training 1958, Hamilton AFB"

Gift of Joseph Giari: Three volumes of cemetery records, "Cemetery Records Marin Co., California, Vol. 2" "Valley Memorial Park, Vol. 3," and "Marin Co. Records; Burials at the County Farm and Other Small Cemeteries"

Gift of Elizabeth Gness: Photo of Novato girls softball team, 1950, and a souvenir program "Grand Opening & Dedication of Novato Druids Hall, 1940"

Gift of Duane Graf: Novato Dairy Chocolate Milk bottle cap

Gift of Frances Hernandez: Drawing of an historic DeLong Avenue house

Gift of Pat Hogue: Marin Independent Journal article, "Novato Women's Improvement Club," January 30, 1951

Gift of Jim McNern: Hamilton AFB civilian employee 1948 photo i.d. card, and 1960 photo i.d. pin for Margaret McNern; four yearbooks, San Rafael High School "Searchlight," 1921-1924; Our Lady of Loretto souvenir programs, "Benefactors & Donors to New Church Building Fund, April 1937-January 1938,"

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Staff Desk

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Items considered “memorabilia” are rarely accessioned into the collection. This may include items such as old issues of magazines and common household items without a story that make them unique to the Novato region or its residents.

We accept items for three distinct collections. The first is the Primary Collection. Each of these items is given an identification number (accession number) and we care for and preserve these items according to professional museum standards. These items tell a clear story about what defines and shapes the history of Novato.

The second is the Research Collection. These items are not usually given accession numbers, and this collection consists of copies of photographs, news clippings, and

books that provide information about families, places, and events in Novato. You find many of these materials in our research and archives room.

The final group is the Education Collection. These items are often referred to as props. These objects don't meet the criteria for the Primary Collection, and are utilized either as props in exhibit displays or in hands-on history lessons.

These criteria can only be applied on an item-by-item basis, and I admit that they can seem vague. If you have an item that you believe should be part of the Novato History Museum, please contact me, and I will be happy to help assess its relevance to our wonderful collections.

Accessions

Continued from Page N-7

and “Dedication, September 19, 1937” book, “The Novato Senior Citizens Bicentennial Cookbook,” 1976

Gift of Anna M. Morrison: Novato Theater Company programs from seven shows, May 2007 through April 2008, including ticket stubs and postcard mailers

Gift of Michael Ann Mareck: Novato High School cheerleader skirt, 1959

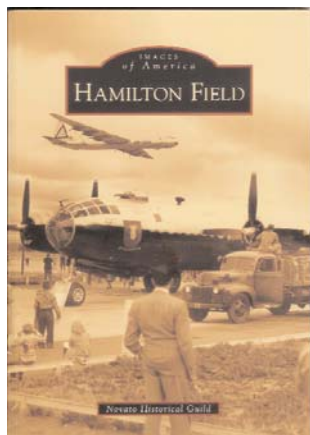
Gift of Michael Read: Photo album containing 210 original photos of Novato, circa 1903

Gift of the Family of Clifford R. Orr: Book, “Registration of Dairy Cows Owned by Indian Valley Farms”

Gift of Agnes Roderick: Commemorative program, “Hamilton AFB Open House, September 7, 1975”

Gift of Judy Smith: Assistant Post Master’s keys to Novato Post Office

Hamilton Field History Book



This book was published in September of 2008 and so far 1,500 copies have been sold. You can still purchase this 128-page softcover pictorial history book at the Novato History Museum for \$21. Other local retailers that sell our book are: Randall Brothers Automotive, Zunino Shoe Repair, and Pini Hardware.

Welcome New Guild Members

December 1, 2008 thru January 31, 2009

Individual Memberships:

Tonie Brown
Dorothea Garaventa
Ron Smith
Patricia Vachini
Norman Wolff
Blake Buxton

Family Memberships:

Robin & Todd Allen
Laura & Scott Colvin
Kathy & Lonnie Karste
Nancy Peters-Janover

UPGRADED MEMBERSHIPS:

Patron:

Saralee and Richard Kunde
Norma Jean Bellucci

Supporting:

June Born

Life Membership:

J. Dietrich Stroeh
Anna B. Young

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, Zenith Instant Printing

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

Novato Memories

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- During World War II, the army set up a radar station on top of the hill on the Magetti Ranch (now the Sinaloa School property).

- Volunteers would take shifts manning the “lookout stations” to spot enemy aircraft during the war years. His dad, and sister Anna,

would volunteer at the station on Wilson Avenue between Center Road and Novato Boulevard.

- Old Novato families with the names: Gness, Baccaglio, Silva, Pacheco, Rupprecht, Gustafson, Lane, Dunlap, Frost, Ruhlman, Eide, Westlund, Robertson, Alberelli,

Lafranchi, Zunino, Torassa, Pini, and Nunes.

- Novato has changed from a rural area into a bedroom community for San Francisco. Cars used to drive “through” Novato, now they “live” here.

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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
- Hamilton Field by Novato Historical Guild \$21.00
- Hamilton Airfield History \$2.00

Videos & DVD's

- Hamilton Field History (VHS) \$15.00
- Novato History (VHS) \$10.00
- Novato History (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
- Hamilton History Museum \$10.00
- 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 \$5.00
- 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 | \$5 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership | \$15 | year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family membership | \$25 | 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? _____

Notice
General Membership Meeting
 of the
Novato Historical Guild

Saturday, March 14, 2009 — 1 p.m.
 Margaret Todd Senior Center
 1560 Hill Road

Our guest speaker will be Vernell Crittendon, Jr. Mr. Crittendon had an extensive career as a correctional officer at San Quentin Prison for many years.

NOVATO HISTORY MUSEUM

COME VISIT AND BRING A FRIEND! • 815 DeLong Avenue

The Museum is open 3 days a week—Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday—Noon to 4 p.m. • 897-4320

Closed Major Holidays



NOVATO HISTORICAL GUILD
 75 Rowland Way, Suite 200
 Novato, CA 94945

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