



SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT

Fair Oaks Historical Society

April 2022 Newsletter

Issue No.: 140 Editor: Wendy Key

President's Message

Bob Sours

Thanks, as always, to Wendy, our Newsletter Editor, for her special talent, and creative ability in putting together a product to look forward to each quarter. AND of course, "Something to *really* Crow About".

This message is probably overkill from me, as I have the pleasure of writing a weekly BLOG for you each week. We've heard time and time again "History repeats itself", and we can learn to live better and safer just by the study of History. So - that said, let your mind go back a couple of years, and then forward again. We've dealt with a Pandemic, Election struggles, and now a war that is affecting most parts of our world in one way or another. Now, go way back in History, maybe to the early 1800s and then the early 1900s. What do we find? Yes, Pandemics, wars, and political struggles. In so many cases had we studied History, ideas and answers might have jumped out to save us from making the same mistakes again in the most recent couple of years.

HISTORY CAN SHOW US A BETTER PATH TO TAKE, BASED ON THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST. Looking back, I now wish my education had included more of, at least, American History. In many respects, most of our Fair Oaks' culture and trends were the results of things that molded the History of the United States. How we handled the earlier settlers, land accumulation and purchases, and how we shaped our towns and cities.

HISTORY IS FUN, EDUCATIONAL, AND HUMBLING AT TIMES. JOIN US AT THE SOCIETY --
-----WE NEED YOU!!

Fair Oaks Artist Spotlight: Karen Austin - Soft Pastels on Sandpaper. Thank you, Karen!!

We'd love to feature YOUR work in our newsletter! Please submit only original artwork or photography via our Facebook page, by email to keywendy@gmail.com, or in person. Be sure to identify your submission with #NewsletterArt so that we know we've got your permission to publish.



Remembering Pete White

Jim Pearce

Long time FOHS member Pete White passed away January 30, 2022. He was very active in the Society, serving as President in 2000 and 2001.

Pete's hobbies included his H0 scale model railroad which took up an entire bedroom in his Bannister Ave. home and many collectible toys which he lent as table decorations for our quarterly meetings. Here he's shown with his vintage Red Ryder BB Gun. He was generous with the society, donating a Greek dinner for eight at his home as a Soup Night raffle item, bought by Ray Burmaster as a gift for his wife Sue. Marilyn and I were also invited, getting a tour of his model railroad room and various other collectables around the house.



He was truly one of the nice guys. His full obituary is on our website.



Fair Oaks Artist Spotlight:

“American River Parkway Cyclist” submitted by Jody Reese.

Thank you Jody!



History Notes - Women's Thursday Club

Sandra S. Navarro, Ph.D.

The Woman's Thursday Club of Fair Oaks was organized in the summer of 1902. In the early years, members met in the Fair Oaks Hotel and later in the San Juan Hall (above the Fair Oaks Hardware and Variety Store).

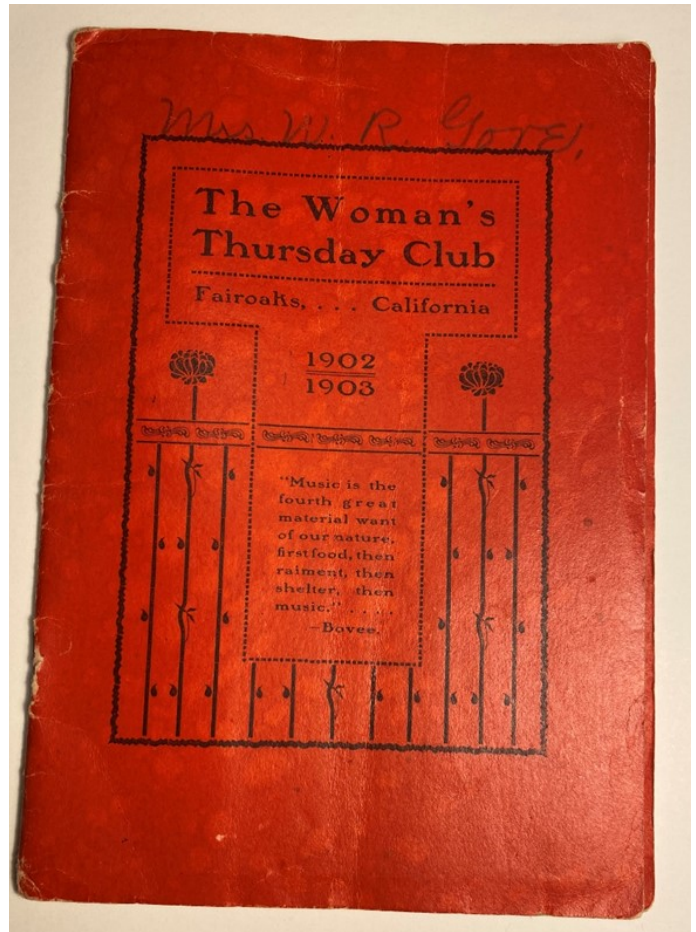
The Woman's Thursday Club of Fair Oaks is still active in 2022. The club maintains an archive documenting its 120-year history.

This archive includes a red, 4" by 6" booklet of six pages. This particular booklet belonged to Mrs. W.R. Gore who wrote her name across the top of the cover. Contents include a list of the club's officers, committees (Literary Committee, Musical Committee and Social Committee) and committee members.

Additionally, the booklet lists the year's program (November through May) which features a classical musical agenda (George Friedrich Handel, John Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, Felix Mendelsohn, Frederick Chopin, Robert Schumann, Giuseppe Verdi, and Richard Wagner).

The booklet includes the club's constitution (Article II, "The object of this club is social intercourse and the intellectual betterment of its members") and by-laws (Section 1, "Meeting shall be held at 3 o'clock in the afternoon on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month").

Mrs. Joseph C. Buffum was the club's first president. Thirty-seven members are listed, along with the sentiment, "Fail not for sorrow, falter not for sin, but onward, upward, till the goal ye win." In her club booklet, Mrs. Gore has penciled in seven more members' names.



OFFICERS.

President, MRS. JOSEPH C. BUFFUM
Vice-President, MRS. STEPHEN E. KIEFFER
Recording Secretary, MRS. E. L. COSBY
Corresponding Secretary, MRS. WALTER B. VANHORN
Treasurer, MRS. ANNA B. CRAFTS



LITERARY COMMITTEE.

MRS. ANDREW T. HODGE.
MRS. STEPHEN E. KIEFFER.
MISS ANNIE W. GILBERT.



MUSICAL COMMITTEE.

MRS. E. L. COSBY.
MRS. WILLIAM ROTHE. MRS. ROBERT N. BRAMHALL



SOCIAL COMMITTEE.

MRS. GEORGE STRAITH.
MRS. T. HIRAM WATSON.
MRS. LAFAYETTE COZZENS.

THE WOMAN'S THURSDAY CLUB.

Organized March, 1902.

President, MRS. JOSEPH C. BUFFUM.

MEMBERS.

Fail not for sorrow, falter not for sin.
But onward, upward, till the goal ye win.

—Frances Anne Kemble.

- Buffum, Mrs. J. C. X
- Bramhall, Mrs. R. N. X
- Bailey, Mrs. W. F. X
- Burker, Miss Clara X
- Birchard, Mrs. A. L. X
- Cozzens, Mrs. H. E. X
- Cozzens, Mrs. LaFayette X
- Caulfield, Mrs. Charles X
- Crafts, Mrs. I. V. X
- Cosby, Mrs. E. L. X
- Cunningham, Mrs. A. X
- Craig, Mrs. S. B. X
- Caulfield, Miss Kathleen X
- Douglas, Miss Mary T. X
- Ellis, Miss Nellie X
- Fitch, Mrs. X
- Gilbert, Mrs. Anne Ward X
- Hodge, Mrs. A. T. X
- Kieffer, Mrs. Stephen E. X
- King, Mrs. George E. X
- Lapham, Miss Cora X
- Levy, Mrs. Henry X
- Murphy, Mrs. Francis X
- Osgood, Mrs. S. X
- Robinson, Mrs. George absent
- Rothe, Mrs. William X
- Straith, Mrs. George X
- Smith, Mrs. Ewing X
- Smith, Mrs. A. G. Miss
- Sprague, Miss Cherry B. X

- Gore, Mrs. W. R. X
- Van Horn, Mrs. W. Booth X
- Watkins, Mrs. U. B. X
- Watson, Miss Geneva X
- Vail, Miss Emily. X
- Ward, Mrs. Thomas X
- Watson, Mrs. Virginia X
- Miss Salvin, X
- Mrs. Murcell, X
- " Sloan, X
- Mrs. Homer, X
- " " X
- " " X
- " " X



RFD, Fair Oaks

Jim Pearce

Ask anyone where the township of Fair Oaks is and you'll probably be told it's the Zip Code 95628. Well, only since 1962 when Zip Codes were implemented nationally. Prior to that, in 1950 RFD numbers were replaced with street names and house numbers. So, not so far back, the mail system was different.

The Fair Oaks Post Office was established by Leonard Shelton in his general store on Main Street in 1896, several months after the first excursion train arrived in Sacramento from Chicago. Shortly after that, the U.S. Postal Service began to implement the Rural Free Delivery Service, picking up and delivering mail to post boxes in front of residences around eastern Sacramento County. RFD #1 (the American River north to Greenback) was serviced by Horace Massey (farmer Bob's father) from 1910 until his retirement in 1956.

We noticed that, among the local Fair Oaks history segments on the website, we didn't have anything on the history of the Post Office, so we cobbled together a complete history. Check it out on the website.



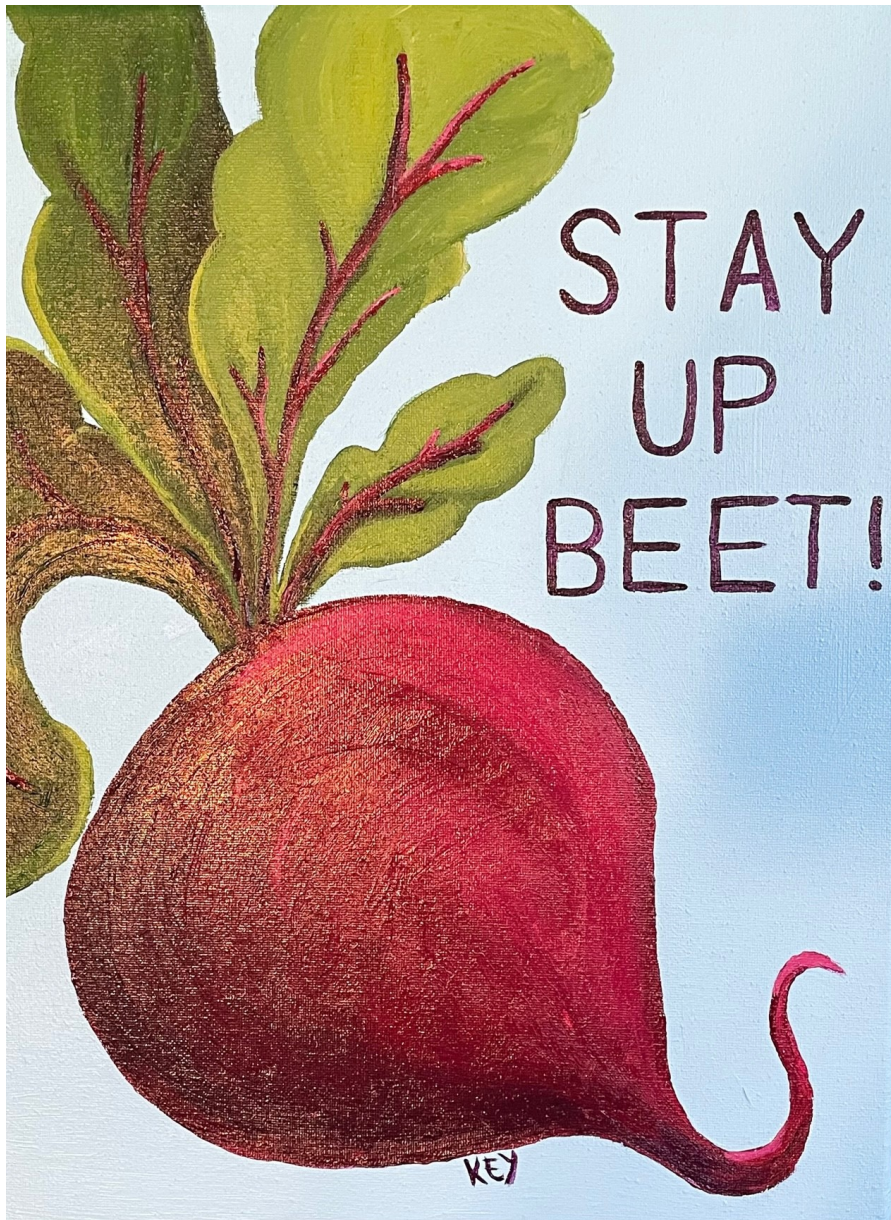
Treasurer's Report - First Quarter 2022 Summary

Jim Pearce

A successful February Soup Night enables us to move ahead with our proposed budget for 2022 approved by the Board at the March meeting. In addition to funding the History Center, it includes community service projects to spend down our checking account to acceptable levels for our tax-exempt status. In the coming year we will fund two \$1,200 scholarships for our local high school seniors, renovation of the displays at the Bluffs Plaza, signage for historic Fair Oaks buildings, and renewal of our Quarterly meetings (suspended because of Covid).

Thank you to everyone who participated in Soup Night and contributed to its success!!





Fair Oaks Artist: Wendy Key; Acrylic on Canvas

DO YOU WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED?

Maybe you enjoy searching for artifacts. Maybe setting up and refreshing displays is your thing. Love researching local historical topics and sharing what you've learned? Us too!! We're always excited to take on more volunteers. If you'd like to get more involved, please let us know. We could use more contributing writers and artists for the newsletter, researchers and scrapbookers for the History Center, members willing to document and share their memories or experiences living in or visiting Fair Oaks. If you see a niche you'd like to fill that you think is missing, let us know that too and we can create a space for you to do whatever it is you do best (so long as it fits in with the FOHS mission, of course).



NEW MEMBER APPLICATION AND MEMBER-RENEWAL FORM

Dues are for the Calendar Year, January 1 to December 31.
Dues are payable on January 1, and become delinquent February 1.
New members joining after October 1 will be considered paid for the following year.

Please check one: NEW MEMBER APPLICATION RENEWAL

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL REQUESTED:

Individual \$20 *Family (2 Persons) \$25* *Supporting (Business) \$50*
 Single Life Member \$150 *Family Life Member \$225*

I AM ADDING \$5 FOR PRINTED NEWSLETTERS

(DELIVERED QUARTERLY BY US POSTAL SERVICE)

I AM INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING DONATION TO SUPPORT THE HISTORY CENTER:

Contributor \$100 *Supporter \$250* *Patron \$500*

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Check number _____ Date of check ____/____/____

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JIM PEARCE: 916-961-8415 jpearce4104@gmail.com

Mail a copy of this form with your check payable to the Fair Oaks Historical Society.

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