

# Old Homes of Fair Oaks

*Jim Pearce*

## Straith Home Update

We last updated the Society on the Straith house in January 2011 just after it had been moved from its original location to a lot further back from the bluffs. Most of the rest of the year and much of 2012 was spent installing the infrastructure for all the lots in the parcel.



Beyond our best hopes, last year the home was purchased by a married couple— Tim Carmichael and Carmel Comstock— who have two young children and were scouting around for a place to raise their family. Carmel, a decorative designer who hails from five generations of Sacramentans, knew that Fair Oaks was a definite possibility. She wanted a place where her children could safely walk the streets, where neighbors would wave as she drove by, and where there was a sense of community among the residents. Doesn't that sound a lot like Fair Oaks?



Catherine, Carmel & Claudia

At the last Fair Oaks Woman's Thursday Club meeting Carmel and her design partner, Catherine Reon of CRCW studio, gave a great presentation about how Carmel found the house, convinced her husband that it was perfect for them (She initially described it to him as a bit of a fixer-upper.), and how they plan to keep the 1900 home true to its origins while modernizing it to fit their family's needs. They are all genuinely committed to the project and its heritage.

At the end of the presentation, Trude asked them if they would speak at the Fair Oaks Historical Society after they had settled in to their new home; they agreed. It looks like that will happen at the October 22 meeting.

