

FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26 -- JANUARY 25, 1994

QUARTERLY POTLUCK/GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1994

PROGRAM: LES HANNIBAL ON THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY
RAILROAD IN THE 1850'S

LOCATION: FAIR OAKS COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE
7997 CALIFORNIA AVE
6:00PM SOCIAL HOUR
6:30PM POTLUCK DINNER
(PLEASE BRING CASSEROLE,
SALAD, OR DESSERT TO SHARE)

PRESIDENT:

Ralph Carhart
961-6301

VICE PRESIDENT:

Iva Langness
967-5054

SECRETARY:

Marilyn Kendrick
967-7843

TREASURER:

Carol Crowther
961-7096

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Theo. L. Olson
967-5538

COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSONS:

AUDITOR:

Dorothy Dykeman
967-6713

BUDGET:

Gayle Anita
961-6912

DECORATIONS:

DOCENTS:

Lois Frazier
967-2967

HISTORIANS:

Robert Massey
967-6197

HISTORY CENTER:

Gayle Anita
961-6913

HOSPITALITY(kitchen,

open, set-up, amenities,
decorations, etc.)

MEMBERSHIP/

SUNSHINE:
June Melvin
967-5605

NEWSLETTER

EDITOR:
Nancy Sherman
967-1539

PROGRAM:

Iva Langness
967-5054

PUBLICITY:

Bob Erbacher
966-2542

REGISTRATION:

Marilyn Pearce
961-8415

WAYS/MEANS:

Horace Crandell
967-2102

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RALPH CARHART

Welcome to **1994**. The first thing I want to do is to **THANK Warren McWilliams** for his outstanding leadership the past two years. Warren became President of the Society prematurely upon the death of Bill McPhail, a cherished friend and true character. Thank you Warren for your dedication and to your wife Janet, for her solid support; the Historical Society has grown in size and strength and has enjoyed continuing camaraderie because of your endeavors.

I aspire to do as good a job as Warren. However, if anyone expects me to recite names, addresses, and fascinating anecdotes about each member as Warren can do, they will be sadly disappointed. Instead, I plan to hold down the head table and learn by assimilation as much as I can about the lore and lure of this unique and wonderful community. As Fair Oaks approaches its **CENTENNIAL YEAR - 1995**, the Society will be called upon to share its wealth of knowledge with the community.

I thank those committee chairpersons who have already agreed to continue their service this year. However, I am ever watchful
--continued next page--

The Fair Oaks Historical Society, Post Office Box 2044, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is a non-profit educational corporation established to develop, preserve, and share Fair Oaks community history. Public attendance is encouraged at quarterly meetings, scheduled on the fourth Tuesday in January, April, July, and October of each year. The potluck dinner meetings begin at 6:00pm with attendees bringing potluck dishes. To attend on Executive Board meeting or for further information regarding meeting agendas, contact the President of the Society. The Society is open to anyone interested in Fair Oaks regional history; contact the membership chairperson or an officer if interested in joining.

for more names of willing people to fill the open committees. We have a continuing need for docents to serve at the History Center on the second Sunday of each month (1:00 to 3:00pm). Please contact Lois Frazier or Gayle Anita if you would like to volunteer. Extra kitchen help is also appreciated, so don't hesitate to step forward.

Thanks to some valuable help by "Farmer" Bob Massey, Caltrans was able to authenticate the historical nature of the southern approach to the old Fair Oaks Bridge, thus advancing the availability of historical restoration funds for Sacramento County. It pays to save old photographs and farmers!

Finally, we need more volunteers to plan, produce, and market our Society's contribution to the **1995 FAIR OAKS CENTENNIAL** -- a pictorial history of Fair Oaks. We have several volunteers but we desperately need a chairperson to head the overall effort. Call me if you would like to be part of this historical challenge.

SEE YOU JANUARY 25.....RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND BRING A FRIEND.....

**PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
WARREN MCWILLIAMS**

It has been a great two years! I was sad to assume the President's duties because of the death of my close friend Bill McPhail, but the organization needed to carry on. Many things have been accomplished: we published the 1993 Historical Society Calendar; we increased membership by twenty people; we started the twice-a-year clean-up at the cemetery; we started the work on the 1995 Centennial celebration; we had our first walking tour of Fair Oaks; and we kept the History Center open each month. This was accomplished with the great help from all of the officers, committee chairpersons, and membership. **I thank you.**

With the leadership of Ralph Carhart, I'm sure the Fair Oaks Historical Society will grow and prosper.

**SECRETARY'S MINUTES
MARILYN KENDRICK**

The fourth quarterly general meeting, October 26, 1993, was called to order by President Warren McWilliams at 7:30pm. President Warren welcomed the members and thanked the kitchen crew -- Lois, Ione, and Elva. He called our attention to the historical display brought by Steve Abbott and announced that Fair Oaks is going to have a new magazine published by Ron and Paula Wessel.

--continued on next page--

IT IS WITH SADNESS THAT WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE PASSING OF KATHRYN HARRIS, A LONG TIME RESIDENT OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY AND DESCENDANT OF FAIR OAKS PIONEERS -- RALPH GILMORE AND RUTH SLOCUM

Secretary Marilyn referred members to their newsletter for the previous meeting's minutes. As no corrections were offered, a motion was passed to approve the minutes.

The Treasurer's report was given by Steve Abbott in Carole's absence. The Society had a balance on hand of \$4,655.20. The following bills were presented by President Warren: postage- \$29.00; copies- \$1.67; wine- \$41.00; cider and ice- \$5.61. The members approved payment to Warren. Warren also reported that the Executive Committee voted to give a \$1000.00 loan to the Centennial Committee to be used as start-up fund for the 1995 Centennial Year.

Lois Frazier made a plea for docent volunteers to work at the History Center and announced that Gayle Anita is purchasing a cabinet for the Center's displays. The Society will host an open house at the Center on December 12, 1993.

Jean Hill, reporting on the Centennial Committee, said the members had chosen the theme: **YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW** to celebrate the Centennial. There will be a LOGO competition held for students at both public and private schools in Fair Oaks. George Dupray is looking into lighting for the Old Fair Oaks Bridge. The celebration will begin with a major event scheduled for January, 1995 and then an event each month following March, 1995.

June Melvin reiterated the members concern for the preservation of the local Fair Oaks Fire Protection District.

It was announced that members concerned about the development of the bluff property above the Fair Oaks Bridge should contact Hugh Gorman.

Mary Otis, representing Folsom Historical Society, announced the 100th Anniversary of the Folsom Power House. She spoke of the need for an active Regional Vice President to represent the area in the California Historical Society. The Society is working to develop a computerized data base for various libraries to include information on artifact location, genealogical records, etc. In addition, Dennis Witche of the El Dorado County Museum is seeking approval for highway signs indicating the locations of the historical museums.

The Nominating Committee reported the slate of officers for election to be the following: President- Ralph Carhart; Vice President- Iva Langness; Secretary- Marilyn Kendrick; Treasurer- Carol Crowther. A motion to accept this slate of officers by was made and passed by unanimous vote of the membership.

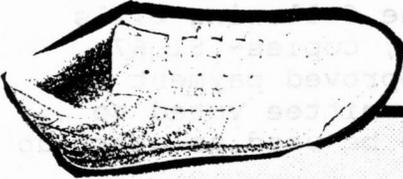
June Melvin's request to accept Jennifer and Don Kenmonth as new life members was approved by the membership.

Horace Crandell raffled off eight items earning monies for the Ways and Means Committee.

Bob Massey gave us an historical moment relating the story of Fair Oaks' first **moon girl**. It seems that someone named Sylvia used to walk around the east end of Winding Way "sans clothes".

--continued on next page--

Ralph Carhart introduced Mr. Stosh Groner, a member of the Sacramento Valley Astronomical Association. Mr. Groner showed slides, answered questions regarding the planets, and allowed us to view the heavens through his telescopes.



THIS SHADOW REMEMBERS.....that the rumor that Mr. Allred, Principal of Fair Oaks School had a spanking machine and that it was very hard for him to keep a poker face in the classroom.....that jumping rope to "double dutch" was a whole lot easier than jumping to "red hot peppers".....that standing in the "cloak room" was punishment during class.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Sounds of Christmas music, conversation, and laughter could be heard at the History Center on Sunday, December 12, 1993. About 40 guests attended and for many, it was their first visit to the Center. Everyone had a great time sharing cookies, hot cider, and coffee. Many **THANK YOUS** to the organizers for this event: **Gayle Anita, Lois Frazier, and Janet McWilliams**. The 20 children's books that were received from the guests were donated to the Fair Oaks Elementary School Library.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP DAY

Sunday, November 14, 1993 was a cold, crisp, windy day; yet many members braved the elements to help. Trash cans were painted, pot-holes were filled with topsoil, scattered debris and dead flowers were raked away by part of the crew while others worked inside the History Center, scrubbing, dusting, vacuuming, and re-arranging displays. **THANK YOU --** Gayle Anita, June Melvin, Lois Frazier, Bonnie Drago, Janet and Warren McWilliams, Bob Erbacher, Fred Easterday, Chuck and Marilyn Kendrick, Steve Abbott, Meg and Larry Smart, and Harry Voth.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE DR. HORACE CRANDELL

I'm back! Ralph's first order of business was to reappoint committee chairpersons. He also gave me the additional role of providing beverages and ice for the meetings. Now I can report not only on raffle ticket revenue, but, also, on liters of wine consumed.

Once more we topped \$100 in raffle tickets sold, giving us a yearly total of \$450. As we draw nearer to the 1995 Fair Oaks Centennial, it looks as though we will be able to afford a substantial contribution to

--continued on next page--

the events of 1995. Remember, if you have ideas for celebrating the 1995 year-long festivities, share your thought with Jean Hill, Chairperson for the Centennial.

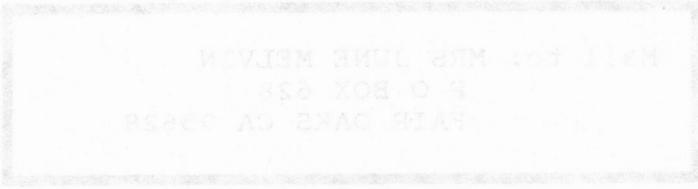
Five more calendars were sold by the end of 1993. The year may be over, but the pictures are treasures forever.

Please keep those great raffle gifts coming!

**Current Treasurer's Report
January 5, 1994**

Bills paid to	Warren McWilliams for misc. bills	\$ 53.76
	Gayle Anita for this display case	150.85
	Fair Oaks Post Office for box rent	35.00

Current balance: **\$3297.38.**



FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 528 FAIR OAKS CA 95028-1044

JANUARY IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH...WHY NOT RENEW YOUR DUES...and bring a friend to this month's meeting.....THANK YOU

membership form

NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL _____

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

amount of check enclosed: _____ for _____ person/people

Annual dues:

individual	\$ 8.00
family	\$ 12.00
supporting	\$ 25.00

Mail to: MRS JUNE MELVIN
P O BOX 628
FAIR OAKS CA 95628



FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 2044, FAIR OAKS CA 95628-2044

CHUCK/MARILYN KENDRICK
8056 WESTCAMP DR
FAIR OAKS CA 95628