

# FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 29 --SEPTEMBER  
SPECIAL EDITION

PRESIDENT:  
Ralph Carhart  
961-6301  
VICE PRESIDENT:  
Iva Langness  
967-5054  
SECRETARY:  
Marilyn Kendrick  
967-7843  
TREASURER:  
Carol Crowther  
961-7096  
PARLIAMENTARIAN:

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  
961-6912

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  
966-2524

REGISTRATION:  
Marilyn Pearce  
961-8415

WAYS/MEANS:

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a special edition newsletter and mailing to let you know about one of this year's major fund-raiser activities -- the sale of the

## entertainment '95

**BOOKS.** This sale will be held mainly during September and October but will continue to December. Your contact people will be the following:

Nancy Sherman	967-1539	(not available 9/23-10/2)
Carol Crowther	961-7096	(not available 9/23-10/2)
Ralph Carhart	961-6301	

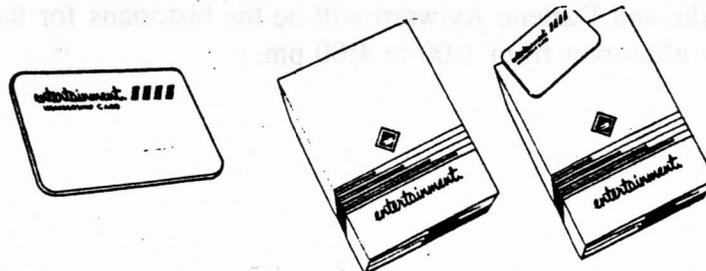
**\*\*The books are given on consignment --there is no up-front cost to start our fund raiser.**

**\*\*Unsold Books can be returned -- if we are unable to sell our books, we can return them in original condition for full credit. This makes our fund-raiser risk-free.**

**\*\*High dollar return for our effort -- the local edition of this book sells for \$40.00 and we make \$8.00 on each book sold.**

**\*\*Entertainment Books are easy to sell -- they virtually sell themselves. The savings from two dinners or a one-night stay in a hotel will more than pay for the whole book. Profit can be made by just making books available to the members of our organization.**

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE READ ENCLOSED BROCHURE\*\*\*\*** and call one of the three people listed above if you are interested in purchasing books or selling them to others for Christmas or Chanukah presents, birthdays, anniversaries, etc.



**TREASURER'S REPORT : Carol Crowther**

Balance 7/1/94.....\$4682.96

<b>revenue:</b>	raffle sales	\$ 123.00	<b>expenditures:</b>	name tags	\$ 8.81
	refreshments	32.03		newsletter	54.02
	historic tapes	25.00		amenities	15.06
	<u>Heart of California</u>	20.00		artifacts-pictures	50.00
	calendar sales	20.00		20 <u>Enter.95</u> Books	<u>640.00</u>
	membership	40.00		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$767.89.</b>
	20 <u>Enter.95</u> sales	<u>800.00</u>			
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1060.03</b>			

**Balance 8/31/94:** \$4682.96  
+ 1060.03  
\$5742.99  
- 767.89  
**TOTAL** \$4975.10

**CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE:** Bob Erbacher

With the Chairmanship of Jeanne Hill, the Fair Oaks Centennial Committee, representing about 17 local organizations, is moving rapidly toward filling the framework for the year-long 1995 celebration of **the founding of Fair Oaks**. Planning is proceeding at monthly committee meetings, the most recent on August 25 at the home of Rev. Steven Smith.

Each month of 1995 will be assigned to a specific group/organization which will determine the nature of its contribution toward the celebration. The tentative themes include the following calendar events:

- |                  |   |                   |                             |
|------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>January:</b>  | Historical Society kick-off potluck dinner. | <b>July:</b>      | Moon walk;                  |
| <b>February:</b> | "chickens of Fair Oaks".                    |                   | Fair Oaks Theatre Festival. |
| <b>March:</b>    | Churches.                                   | <b>August:</b>    | Symphony.                   |
| <b>April:</b>    | Spring concerts;                            | <b>September:</b> | Thursday Club Tea.          |
|                  | Fair Oaks clean-up.                         | <b>October:</b>   | Safe Halloween              |
| <b>May:</b>      | Fair Oaks Fiesta;                           | <b>November:</b>  | Postal Stamp Collection;    |
|                  | jazz bands.                                 |                   | Horse parades.              |
| <b>June:</b>     | Village Singers' concert;                   | <b>December:</b>  | Old Fashioned Christmas.    |
|                  | Fair Oaks Theatre Festival.                 |                   |                             |

**DOCENTS' REPORT:** Lois Frazier

The History Center, at the Fair Oaks Cemetery on Olive St., has been opened on August 14 with June Melvin and Harry Voth as docents. Several people attended and signed the Guest Book. On September 11, 1994, Mike and Darlene Aylward will be the historians for the day. Everyone is welcome to spend the 2nd Sunday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

this footstep

has a

# SHADOW.....

by Gayle Anita

*"as luck would have it...."*

At a time when I was a Sacramento city girl and Fair Oaks was a "far country". Twelve years old and teetering on the brink of adolescence, I felt the tweak of adventure taking hold.

Somehow, I found my way to the South Land Park area and to the College Riding Stables where I hung around long enough to be considered part of the landscape. I loved the smells of the horses and the dried summer grass. The wind that ruffled the tops of the wild oat and rye whispered freedom in my young ears. I was intensely happy there.

Over the next two years I cleaned horse stalls, fed and watered the animals and learned to saddle up the rental horses. For my labor I was rewarded by being allowed to ride the great horses and was eventually given my own horse, a beautiful Morgan mare with a buckskin coat. It was the best of times.

The kindly owners of the stables, Greg and Jeannie Frees, seemed to enjoy the company of waifs like myself. The place was a refuge for kids that needed to connect with something true and beautiful. I made friends with my fellow "stable mates" and I remember so clearly how we looked after one another. It was as if we knew that our time together was precious.

Then it happened. At fourteen I developed an aching crush on a boy named Bob. He was a handsome young cowboy of my age. He rode a dancing red mustang pony which I could spot a mile away coming through the pasture toward the ranch house.

Jeannie could always tell if Bob was riding in because the blood would drain from my face and I couldn't eat. "Gayle, aren't you going to eat your strawberries?" she would say; then smiling, "Oh, I get it -- Bob is here."

One day Bob invited me to his parents' ranch in Fair Oaks. For me, it seemed a wondrous place, like something in the movies. Bob had a younger sister, Suzy, and a brother, George. They were full of fun and laughter as we all pitched in to do the morning chores. In the afternoon Bob brought out a big pinto horse. "Let's go on a picnic," he said. With a helping hand under my foot from George, I vaulted onto the horse on behind Bob.

We rode through the tall grasses without saying much. It was too perfect for the intrusion of words. The heat bugs did most of the talking with their high pitched buzz. The smell of tar weed imprinted my senses. At a little creek we slipped off the horse and sat on a shady, clovered bank. While eating the sandwiches his mother had made for us, we talked.

"Someday, I want to be a veterinarian," Bob stated, continuing with "What do you want to be?" "I haven't quite decided yet," I responded. "I think I want to be a writer -- or an artist -- or maybe a singer. I love to sing."

"What songs do you know?" asked Bob. I bragged, "Oh, I know almost every song! Do you want to sing one?" Bob flashed a big smile. His eyes were warm and sweet as he spoke: "Ok, but you start." I never needed coaxing to sing:

oh, we ain't got a barrel of money --  
maybe we're ragged and funny --  
but we'll travel along --  
singin' a song --  
side by side.

Bob leaned back on his elbow laughing, "That was great!" He fell suddenly quiet, and I could see that he was looking intently at the clover. "Wow! Look at this," he whispered. He picked one of the clover stems. "It is a flour-leaf-clover." I looked down at the clover and discovered a miracle: "They're all four-leaf-clovers!"

"This must be a very special place." Bob suggested with a reverent tone. "I don't think I will ever forget this day." I agreed and assured him that I also would never forget this day.

He held my hand and we picked several samples of our treasure to show his family. My heart was full and overflowing with happiness.

The late afternoon sun washed our faces in a hot golden light as we rode back to the ranch. The big pinto seemed to know the way as the grasses crackled under each hoof step. In a flash of entrepreneurial excitement I exclaimed: "maybe we could harvest some of the clover and put them in key rings, and sell them and become fabulously rich." Bob thought about it and answered, "I think we should just keep it between you and me. It will be our secret place for always."

The pinto blew air from his nostrils and quickened his walk as he caught sight of the barn.

"That's the best thing," I agreed, but I thought silently to myself of the future waiting in the wings, about to make its entrance upon my stage.....Would I truly remember ????

Fortunately, after many years and many changes, of course, I finally settled in the "far Country" of Fair Oaks, a destination my roots have tapped for the last twenty-four years. And in some notebook or journal, in some drawer or box is a dried, pressed four-leaf-clover. I have no idea where but I feel confident it still exists -- this small remembrance of first love, and the days when the hot valley summers actually felt good. Now and then, I catch a faint whiff of tar weed and I remember through my senses those warm summer days of childhood. Perhaps a four-leaf-clover really does bring good luck.

**this footstep**

**has a**

**SHADOW, TOO.....**

**by Mike Aylward**

Autumn still is a time for many special father-son activities but there was one reserved for colder climates where every house had a basement and a coal furnace. On a cold Saturday morning father and his boys would go to the basement to perform a not-too-ancient ritual. With the boys assigned specific tasks, father would place a piece of lead in a long handled iron ladle. The ladle was then put through the open door of the asbestos-coated furnace. When the lead was melted, it was poured into a waiting mold which, in the opinion of the boys, took years to cool. Finally, the boys could open the mold and carefully pry out four lead soldiers to be added to the standing army preparing for the winter's battles.....

Our houses were painted inside and out with lead-based paints. Furnaces, steam, and hot-water pipes were swathed in asbestos. We played with lead soldiers and lead painted toys. Some floor and ceiling tiles also contained asbestos. How did we ever survive in such great numbers ?????

HAVE YOU EVER PONDERED: How did the streets in Fair Oaks get their names????? *Minnesota, Pennsylvania, New York? Shangrila, Plumeria, Bamboo? Greenridge, Greenvale, Greenbrier?* If you have a factual clue about the naming of your street, will you jot the information down or call the editor, please. ??????

IF YOUR FOOTSTEP HAS A SHADOW: And you can recall a memory of some particular event or persons and would like to share that memory, please call or write the editor.

FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ renewal/new member(circle one) DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

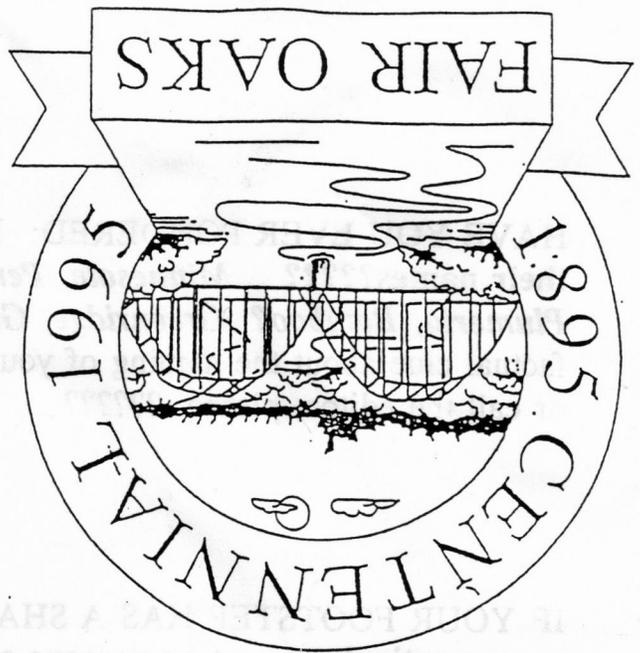
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of money enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ number/persons

How many years have you lived in this area? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in serving on a committee? \_\_\_\_\_ which one? \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES— always beginning with January 1, of each year:**

Individual	\$ 8.00	MAIL TO: CAROL CROWTHER, TREASURER
Family	12.00	F.O. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Supporting(org./bus)	25.00	P.O. BOX 2044
Life	100.00	FAIR OAKS CA 95628
Family life	150.00	



FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 2044  
FAIR OAKS CA 95628



CHUCK/MARILYN KENDRICK  
8056 WESTCAMP DR  
FAIR OAKS CA 95628