

# FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER VOLUME 33 - JULY, 1995

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961-6301

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967-5054

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**HISTORICAL:**

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967-6197

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Marilyn Pearce  
961-8415

**PROGRAM:**

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**HISTORY CENTER**

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**NEWS EDITOR:**

Nancy Sherman  
967-1539

**PUBLICITY:**

Bob Erbacher  
966-2524

**REGISTRATION:**

Marilyn Pearce  
961-8415

**QUARTERLY POTLUCK / GENERAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1995**

6:00 P.M./gather - 6:30 p.m. /dinner - 7:30 p.m. /walking tour

**Program: Fair Oaks Village Walking Tour  
of Historical Sites**

Location: Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse, 7997 California Avenue  
(Veteran's Memorial Amphitheater)

Please bring a casserole, salad, or dessert to share with members  
Also bring a lawn chair, as we will be sitting outside weather permitting.

## P

### RESIDENT'S MESSAGE : RALPH CARHART

Continuing our celebration of the Fair Oaks Centennial, the July 25th meeting of the Fair Oaks Historical Society will feature a walking tour of historical sites in the Fair Oaks Village. The tour, which is being planned carefully by Iva Langness and Lois Frazier, will focus on twelve buildings or sites that were significant in the period from 1900 to 1920 (library, school, Slocum house, Slocum-Gore store site, Vaughn barbershop, Gore-Slocum bank, Conkley house, Murphy Block, butcher shop, ice house, plaza and Land & Stage Company.)

We are inviting the community to share in this special meeting which will include the traditional potluck dinner. So, please invite your friends and neighbors--especially those who did not make the Centennial Kickoff in January--to bring a potluck dish and enjoy the fun and education. This is also a great time to invite young people. Additional walking tours are planned for each Sunday beginning August 6.

The business portion of the July meeting will be brief, but will include ratification of Society life members Tony and Barbara Sestito and Norman Hongola. Also the selection of a Nomination Committee which will nominate next year's officers for election at the October meeting.

Don't forget to reserve a spot at **Fair Oaks Night at the Capitals**, at Gold River Tennis Club, an event planned by the Centennial Committee. Call Warren McWilliams at 961-9012 or Jeanne Hill at 967-5225 for tickets or information.

# Sacramento Birthday Dinner

## TREASURER'S REPORT : CAROL CROWTHER



Commemorating  
John Sutter's venture  
in the wilderness



Balance as of 3/21/95		\$4589.93
Income:		
Pictorial Book Sales	\$1401.00	
Memberships	253.00	
Raffle	130.00	
Amenities	57.00	
Calendars	36.00	
		1877.00
		6466.93

and the 100th Anniversary of the  
Folsom-Sacramento Electric Connection.

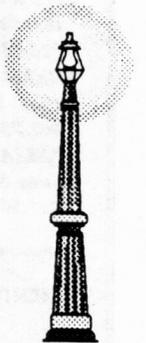
Expenses:		
Newsletter	\$84.00	
Historical Pictures	67.95	
P.O. Box	40.00	
Dinner Expenses	36.53	
Pictorial Books	15.07	244.53

Balance as of 6/1/95 \$6222.40

Saturday, August 12, 1995  
6:00 P.M.

Sutter's Fort Historic Park

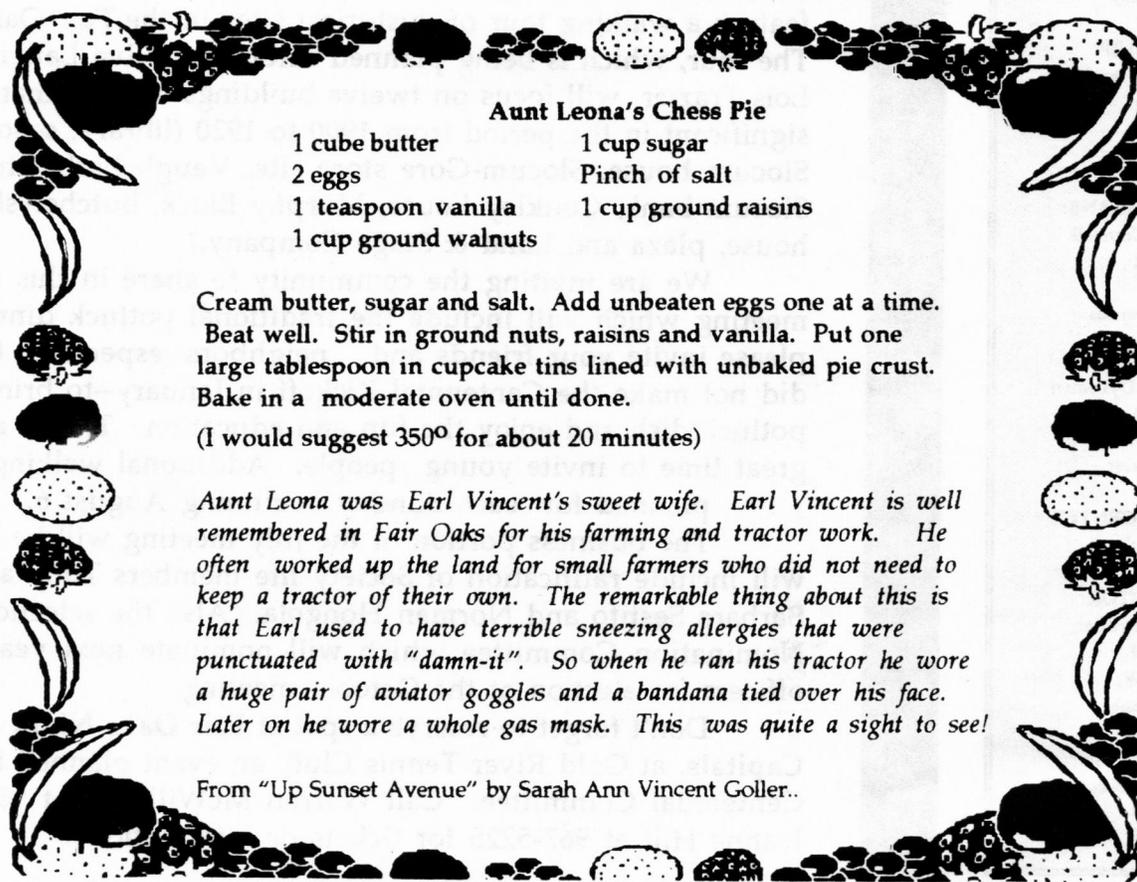
Sutter's Fort Living History Presentations, Displays  
of County Electrical History, Champagne,  
Full Dinner, Program, Powerhouse Melodrama,  
Commemorative Wine Glass



For information call:  
(916) 264-7057

Sponsored by the Sacramento County Historical  
Society and the Discovery Museum

Advance Reservations Required



### Aunt Leona's Chess Pie

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 cube butter        | 1 cup sugar          |
| 2 eggs               | Pinch of salt        |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla   | 1 cup ground raisins |
| 1 cup ground walnuts |                      |

Cream butter, sugar and salt. Add unbeaten eggs one at a time.  
Beat well. Stir in ground nuts, raisins and vanilla. Put one  
large tablespoon in cupcake tins lined with unbaked pie crust.  
Bake in a moderate oven until done.

(I would suggest 350° for about 20 minutes)

Aunt Leona was Earl Vincent's sweet wife. Earl Vincent is well  
remembered in Fair Oaks for his farming and tractor work. He  
often worked up the land for small farmers who did not need to  
keep a tractor of their own. The remarkable thing about this is  
that Earl used to have terrible sneezing allergies that were  
punctuated with "damn-it". So when he ran his tractor he wore  
a huge pair of aviator goggles and a bandana tied over his face.  
Later on he wore a whole gas mask. This was quite a sight to see!

From "Up Sunset Avenue" by Sarah Ann Vincent Goller..

# D

DOUG'S footsteps.....



UNCLE BILL

GEORGE HINSEY

OLIVE PITTS

## *A reminiscence of my mother upon looking through the family photo album.....*

"That's not a pile of dirt those three fellows are half buried under in that photograph. That's a mountain of olive pits. My cousin Gretta took that picture about 1915 when I was a little girl. It shows my uncle Bill and two of his plus playfully half-entombing themselves in the tailings from the olive processing plant at the Fair oaks Fruit Company. Bill was the superintendent of the olive curing process in the plant which was located on the west side of Sunrise just north of the town square. Gretta was a clerk in the plant office across the street.

My family both raised fruit and worked in the packing plants. The earliest packing plant was across the river past the shanty town near the railroad depot. This plant packed the fruit from the huge orchards down river on that side. I remember in particular the large orchards and estates of the Cunninghams and of the Beeches on that side. My mother clerked for a little while at that packing plant. My uncle Harry learned carpentry by constructing fruit crates there.

My own family's three orchards were northeast of Fair Oaks. One, an orange orchard, was on the west side of Illinois Avenue just north of Winding Way. Another, a variegated orchard of deciduous trees--cherries, pears, peaches, apricots -- was on the west side of Hazel Avenue across from the third local packing plant, the one owned by Mr. and Mrs. Phoenix. Our third orchard was up Hazel Avenue, on the east side, closer to Orangevale.

There was a lot of partisan competition between Fair Oaks Fruit Company and the Phoenix family packing plant. Each claimed to be a superior operation.

The Fair Oaks Fruit Company was owned or managed (I never knew which) by Mr. Hinsey. The Hinsey family home was south of Bridge Street on the next hilltop east of the hilltop where the Church and the Woman's Clubhouse stood. Further due east beyond the Hinsey hill and on the bluff overlooking the river was the Gore house.

I clearly remember visiting all these families homes, the Phoenixes, the Hinseys, the Gores, the Cunninghams, the Beeches. My family socialized with them all.

Oh, that's uncle Bill on the left in the photograph, half buried in olive pits. The young man in the middle is George Hinsey, Mr. Hinsey's oldest son. (I went to school with the youngest Hinsey boy, Bob.) I don't know who the fellow on the right is -- one of Bill's many buddies. Bill and his brothers and George Hinsey and a lot of other young men -- (I particularly remember Art Holtz) -- were quite a wild group of young blades. I always knew when they had been "into town" for the evening because the next day I found pieces of candy left for me in hidden jars and vases. I never let them know I knew how the candy got there."



contact NANCY SHERMAN  
967-1539 in August, 1995

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY FUND RAISER.



FREE FREE FREE

Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce  
Proudly Presents.....

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

6:00 P.M.  
Village Park

July 27th..... Ben Ali Shrine Band  
August 24th ..... Sweet Adelines  
September 28th..... Air Force Jazz Band,  
"The Commanders"



**THE WOULD-BE GENTLEMAN**

A MUSICAL OF THE NAUGHTY NINETIES  
DIRECTED BY ROBERT IRVIN

Now thru July 23rd  
FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

For information call  
**916-966-3683**

THEATRE UNDER THE STARS IN OLD FAIR OAKS VILLAGE!

FAIR OAKS THEATRE FESTIVAL

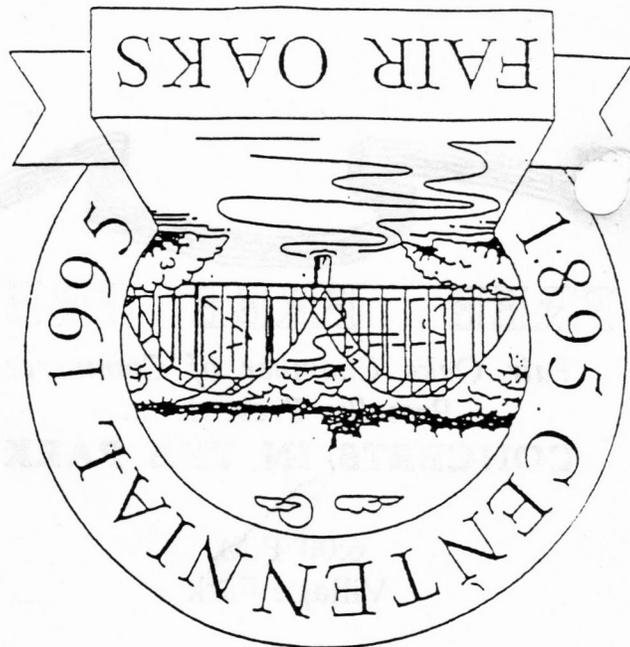
**EDITOR'S COMMENTS:** *you will be receiving this newsletter while the Shermans are "on the briny" well supplied with Dramamine in one hand and fresh ginger in the other, cruising the Straits of Canadian waters. An early thank you to our close friends and relations, Janet and Warren McWilliams, who will be doing editing, publishing, and distributing of this month's edition.*

*I would like to start an Editor's Column with the following inquiry:*

*Why can 't we historians start a campaign to enlist the assistance of the Fair Oaks Community to gain the use of the old Park and Recreation Building and Office, Temescal St. and California Ave., for our historical artifacts and donations.*

?????

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, OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR. THE POTLUCK DINNER MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6:00 PM WITH ATTENDEES BRINGING POTLUCK DISHES. TO ATTEND AN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING OR 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 ANY OFFICER IF INTERESTED IN JOINING .



BONNIE DRAGO, #155  
12633 FAIR OAKS BLVD  
CITRUS HEIGHTS CA 95610

FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
POST OFFICE BOX 2044  
FAIR OAKS CA 95628



**FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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

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

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ amount of \$ enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ number of persons.

**ANNUAL DUES -- ALWAYS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, OF EACH YEAR:**

INDIVIDUAL	\$ 8.00
FAMILY	12.00
SUPPORTING--	25.00
(organization or business)	
LIFE	100.00
FAMILY LIFE	150.00

**MAIL TO: MARILY PEARCE  
4104 EARNSCLIFF AV  
FAIR OAKS CA 95628**