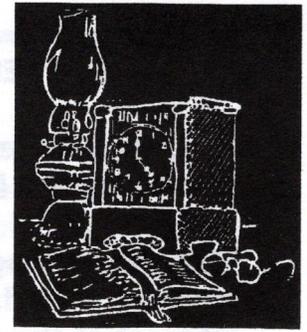


FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 51 — JANUARY, 2000 Editor: Nancy Sherman



QUARTERLY POTLUCK - GENERAL MEETING
January 25, 2000 6:00 PM
SPEAKER: Gayle Anita
Topic: MAIDU INDIAN CULTURE

FAIR OAKS COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE
7997 CALIFORNIA AVENUE

*Please bring a casserole, salad, or dessert
to share with members and hand your recipe
to Nancy Sherman, if you are so inclined....*



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: Peter White

From the ye Ol' Vice President to your New President..... It's been quite an interesting two years as your Vice President. We have had everyone from John Larkin to Johann Augustus Sutter. We've had the history of the railroad to tales of the emigrant trail. We've also had some unexpected characters show up and talk to us about early times. It's been quite a ride. I hope you have enjoyed it all.

Thank you for allowing me to become your new President. What a wonderful President Steve Abbott has been. Due to his outstanding efforts and with Lois Frazier's assistance, we now have a very fine MUSEUM with the newly acquired display cases and exhibits. Steve and Lois have also developed the framed early map of Fair Oaks for the Millennium. There is still time to pick up your copy at our next meeting.

And then there was Steve's presentation of "The Saloon across the River".

One of our goals this year is to expand our membership. How about bringing a guest to our January meeting. Adding to that request, I'd like to see a little more participation from our existing membership. If you are interesting in helping out, please contact me.

In any case, be prepared to have a good time!.....Pete

(Editor's note: We currently show 126 members according to Carol Baker's January List)

FROM THE VEEP.....RoseAnne Crandell

Following in Pete's footsteps, as program chairperson, will be a difficult task! What a wonderful job he did last year. Thank you, Pete.

This year's program should prove to be informative, exciting, and entertaining. This month's agenda includes Gayle Anita who will be sharing her knowledge and special interest of the Maidu Indian Tribe of the area. Maps, pictures, and artifacts will augment her talk.

For our April Meeting, the Fair Oaks Village Singers will entertain us with a Spring Medley of favorite songs.

Please mark your calendars now for our potluck and meeting schedule:

**January 25, 2000
April 25, 2000
July 25, 2000
October 24, 2000.**



See you there!.....RoseAnne

TREASURER'S REPORT: per Rose Anne Crandell/Russ Monroe

Current report will accompany the Proposed Budget Report to be handed out at the January Meeting.

DOCENTS' REPORT: Lois Frazier

On December 12, the members of our Historical Society held our Annual Open House at the History Center. There were 65 people who signed the guest book but I'm sure the actual number in attendance was much greater. Many thanks to all for so many delicious cookies. What a wonderful assortment we had. Mulled cider and punch were also enjoyed.

The following people were docents at the History Center during the past year: Steve Abbott, Lois Frazier, Meg and Larry Smart, Mary Nord, Marilyn and Chuck Kendrick, June Melvin, Harry Voth, Iva Langness, Diana Lennon, Bob Barrett, and Bonnie Drago. Now, would you like to be a docent in the first year of the New Millennium??????

There are several months still available for anyone who would like to be a docent in the year "2000"? The History Center is in the Administration Building at the Fair Oaks Cemetery and is open every 2nd Sunday of each month, from 1:00 – 4:00PM. Please call me at 967-2967 and schedule a month to assist. Thank you.

WAYS AND MEANS: Elise Mattison

Happy New Year and here is the list of raffle prize donors for 1999. Quite a few others either wanted to be anonymous or left donations on the table without leaving their names, so we should include them somehow. Also, please join me in thanking Marilyn Pearce, Sue Burmaster, Rachael Scott, and Carol Baker for donating and setting up the table decorations at each meeting.

Donors include the following persons and we thank you:

Carol/Steve Abbott
Carol/Dustin Baker
Sue/Ray Burmaster
Fred Easterday
Marguerite Goddard
Jeanie/Joe Maloney
Marilyn/Jim Pearce
Barbara Sestito
Ida/AI Volmer

Gayle Anita
Joyce Bauer
Eileen/Ralph Carhart
Susan Ferguson
Joan/Gordon Heidt
Mabel/Ike Merkey
Elva Reed
Elizabeth/Richard Shamis
Ethel/George Young

Jean Applegate
Beth/Burk Broadley
Carol/Glenn Crowther
Lois Frazier
MerrieLou/Norman Hongola
Ruth/Floyd Miller
Frances Sargent
Lois Tow
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"As many of you know, General C.H. Howard, partner in the Howard-Wilson Publishing Company, was instrumental in founding Fair Oaks Colony. Part of the advertisements for the colony were in the biweekly publication - FARM, FIELD, & FIRESIDE. Recently while searching for copies of this publication, I came across the fact that a complete set is among the papers of General Howard at Bowdoin College in Maine. Put that aside for a minute. Among the earliest investors in Fair Oaks property was J.B. Foster from Bangor, Maine. He never lived here to my knowledge! So I wondered why he chose such a remote place as Fair Oaks to invest his money. A short biographical sketch of General Howard mentions that he married a young lady whose last name was Foster from Bangor, Maine. Ah hah! Could it be that J.B. was investing in his son-in-law's venture? Probably, but I'll let you know for sure at our October meeting." **Quote from Steve Abbott's President's message in October, 1999 Newsletter.**

CHARLES HENRY HOWARD

Answer to Steve's procrastination per Steve's own words: "Yes! Charles Henry Howard did marry Mary Katherine Foster of Bangor, Maine on December 5, 1867. and her father, the land speculator, was J.B. Foster. By 1898, J.B. Foster owned land several places in Fair Oaks, but had divested himself of all these parcels soon after the turn of the century, 1900.

But more about Charles Henry Howard. He graduated from Bowdoin College in 1859, and then spent a year at West Point with his older and more famous brother Oliver Otis Howard. Both brothers entered the Union army in 1861. Both were wounded at the Battle of Fair Oaks, Virginia: Charles, in the thigh; Oliver, more seriously in the right arm, necessitating amputation. This has significance because we are told in The Fair Oaks Citizen of 1911 that the Howards named Fair Oaks, not only because of the obvious "fair oaks" but also because the terrain reminded the Howard men of the terrain of Fair Oaks, Virginia, where Charles and Oliver had been wounded in the Civil War. Charles went on to fight in the battles of Fredericksburg, Lookout Valley, and Missionary Ridge.

After the war he established freedmen's schools in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, where, coincidentally, he later established land colonies prior to Fair Oaks, California. He later served in various positions in the Congregational Church, notably in educational positions. He learned the publishing business as the editor of the Congregational Church's newspaper. He then served as Inspector of Indian Agencies under President Garfield and edited the National Tribune. In 1885 he purchased the magazine FARM, FIELD, AND STOCKMAN, later changing the name to FARM, FIELD, AND FIRESIDE, a Chicago Publication, and the one responsible for developing Fair Oaks Colony.

Interestingly enough, one of his sons, Otis McGaw Howard, who was also an officer in the publishing company, bought land in Fair Oaks as president of the Fair Oaks Olive Association, a venture that probably never got started. And another son, Burt Foster Howard, born in 1872 became a doctor and lived at 1224 40th Street, Sacramento, about 1932.

So there! More than you wanted to know. But not all that there is to tell. But following the lines of the most recent Clinton policy, if you don't want to know more, 'Don't ask!' I promise that I won't tell!"

Please meet Gayle Anita, artist and writer, long time resident of Fair Oaks, who had her first "one woman" Show in New York City. Since that time, her work has been exhibited nationally, winning many awards.

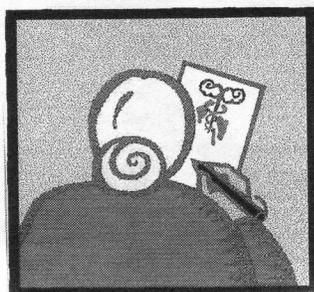
As a committed naturalist, Gayle's paintings and magazine articles reflect her interest in wildlife and the historic, California Native American culture. For several years she managed the Pacific Western Indian Gallery in Folsom. The experience deepened her respect and admiration for the art and culture of these California native people.

Some of Gayle's commissioned works include the following:

**Mural at the Folsom Historic Society Museum;
Three panels at the Yosemite Indian Museum;
Illustrations for "CALIFORNIA INDIAN ARTIFACTS";
Mosaic panel at Aerojet Corporation;
American Eagle oil painting on display at the California State Capitol; and
Book cover for Naida West's "EYE OF THE BEAR".**



Gayle's mosaic on display at the Pacific Western Gallery, Folsom:





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News Editor:	Nancy Sherman.....967-1539
Publicity:	Bob Erbacher.....966-2524

I am now accepting 2" x 3" business cards as advertisements in the next four issues as a means to defray the cost of printing and publishing this newsletter. If you would like to help out please contact this editor. The charge is \$25.00 for 1 year (four quarterly issues) or \$10.00 for a single issue. Please make checks out to Fair Oaks Historical Society and enclose with your business card to send to Nancy at the Fair Oaks Historical Society, P O Box 2044, Fair Oaks CA 95628. Thank you.

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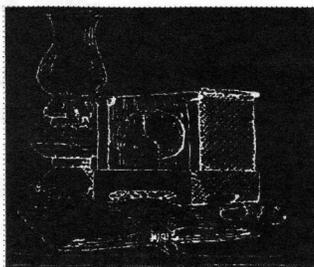
NABESHE LIMITED

from

FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 2044

FAIR OAKS CA 95628



FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY APPLICATION

JANUARY, 2000

NAME _____ **NEW / RENEWAL** _____ **DATE** _____

ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____

STATE _____ **ZIPCODE** _____ **TELEPHONE** _____

Membership fees for the fiscal year include:

*Dues are payable
on January 1 and
shall become
delinquent after that
date.*

Individual.....	\$ 12.00
Family.....	16.00
Supporting.....	37.00
Single Life Member.....	150.00
Family Life Member.....	225.00

Amount enclosed \$ _____ **for** _____ **number of persons.**

Mail with check made out to "Fair Oaks Historical Society" c/o Carol Baker

P O BOX 1177, Fair Oaks, CA95628