

LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD  
NEWSLETTER

Volume I Number 1 PO Box 961, Livermore, Ca. 94550 October 1973  
Meeting night: second Thursdays, Livermore Library meeting room, 7:30 p.m.

PRESERVATION OF THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC DEPOT The Livermore City Council through city manager William Parness has written to the SP stating in detail the desirability of preserving the depot at its present site. It was the "unanimous conclusion that this project is a very important one involving cultural and civic pride." Recognizing that the present location of the depot has substantial economic value, SP has been offered in exchange for donating the depot and property: a pledge that the exterior will be remodeled, reconditioned and landscaped within one year; that the railway will be given credit in its final development plan for off-street parking and onsite landscaping in proportion to the amount of property consumed by the depot; and that no competing commercial use would be permitted in the building but instead it would be used for community purposes that would enhance the value of the area.

The City further offered the Livermore Heritage Guild matching funds up to \$2500 to be used for the restoration of the building. The Guild has collected pledges of over \$600 so far and the total grows steadily. We urge all members and friends to send in their pledges of money and/or work hours. Hundreds of hours have already been pledged but we need many more.

Emergency work to protect the depot from winter weather has been undertaken. We hope that we will soon get an answer from the Southern Pacific so the work of restoration can begin in earnest.

AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE AMADOR-LIVERMORE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM has been issued by Bill Ray, the curator, to see the special exhibit of artifacts of the Ohlone Indians whose ancestors were residents of this area. The Heritage Guild plans to visit the museum on October 24 at 7:30 p.m. All Guild members and their friends are cordially invited. We suggest car pools. Call your friends and get together for an evening of study and pleasure. The artifacts are the property of the Ohlone Indians -- a very valuable collection.

LIVERMORE ARTS FESTIVAL At the Festival October 13 and 14, the Heritage Guild will have an exhibit of old Livermore photos and other materials, and members will be on duty to talk about our hopes and plans. The Guild is now a member organization of the Livermore Cultural Arts Council, the festival sponsors.

THE BUCKLEY HOUSE on Arroyo Road is being renovated through the good offices of Rev. Mike Petrillo, director of the Youth Service Center presently using the structure. The property now belongs to the City of Livermore, including the 24 acres of park around the several buildings. The Guild believes that all the buildings should be restored and made available for civic use. One possibility is to use the location for a display of several old Livermore buildings. The Guild has permission to hold an open house on the property in December. Our next newsletter will give details.

THE GUILD NEEDS: MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS, PLEDGES. ACT TODAY.



# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD

"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"

Volume 1 No. 3, December 1973

LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD NEWSLETTER

Box 961, Livermore, Ca. 94550

Meetings, Second Thursday, Library meeting room, 7.30 pm.

Join us.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC DEPOT Mr. Parness, the City Manager, has informed us that the SP has approached him about the possibility of making the old depot into a restaurant. We understand that the SP depot in Santa Cruz has been so developed in cooperation with the SP and that a similar operation might be feasible in Livermore. Our information is incomplete at this time.

"Adaptive Use" is considered highly desirable for restored old structures according to the National Trust for Historic Preservation - with the underlying assumption that the restoration is authentic. Adaptive use keeps the building alive. It is obvious that all old structures cannot be made into museums. Most of them are unsuitable.

The Guild favors making the building economically useful, provided that there are safeguards that will preserve the authenticity of the appearance of Livermore's cherished landmark. We are waiting to hear from the SP and until we do, we will continue to collect pledges of support for the restoration of the building. Livermore wants to keep the SP depot as a key to its downtown core and we are glad to report that pledges are still coming in steadily. We must not relax our efforts. We have made a great start and we must let it be known that we intend to succeed.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9, 1 - 4 pm. COME TO THE OPEN HOUSE AT THE BUCKLEY ESTATE.

Located just south of the newest houses on the Arroyo Rd., the first right turn south of Superior Drive. Members will be there to show you around and there will be refreshments for sale. Copies of the 1889 lithograph and gold spikes will also be available. All proceeds will go towards the cost of restoring and developing the estate. At this time it is imperative that the areas to be preserved be fenced off and that a caretaker be installed on the premises.

In his best-selling book "Vines in the Sun", Idwal Jones quoted an 1899 account of the Buckley estate: "Mr. C.A. Buckley, the noted power behind the throne in State politics, sought this region for the sake of its rare climate, and for a resting spot, but has fallen in with the spirit of his surroundings, and planted about him sixty acres in vines. His vineyard is called 'Ravenswood', and has a beautiful cottage and grounds, where Mr. Buckley has spared neither pains nor expense, in preparing himself a veritable bower of roses in which to seek rest and recreation."

The vines are gone but the trees and shrubs remain in the gardens around the cottages. The fountain is in working order and the tank house and

the carriage house are in a good state of preservation. All the buildings could be used for community activities and the whole could become a home for other reminders of the history of the area.

One pleasant note from the past is that after the Buckleys left and before the Redemptorist Fathers moved in, Captain Joseph Concannon and Nina Ferrario were married in the house.

THE LIVERMORE TOTEM POLE The Guild is pleased that Livermore's own totem pole, created by the famous Adam Nordwall, will have a permanent home in Centennial Park. It will be visible to many people coming into the town and it will be relatively safe from vandalism.

From The Livermore Herald, Jan 19, 1918: "A truck from the Arroyo Sanatorium came to town Saturday forenoon to get the piano from Sweeney's Opera House for use in the dedication exercises. It could not be conveyed on their own truck, so they borrowed one for the purpose. The driver failed to lash it in place and when he made the turn into L. St. the piano toppled and fell to the pavement, literally breaking in two lengthwise."

OLD TOWN HALL The two-story structure at the northeast corner of Third and K Streets was Livermore's first Town Hall. It was a simple building originally, with one large room upstairs that housed the courtroom and the city offices and downstairs one room that was the fire station. The building had no porches. It had a false front. Next to it was a tower for the curfew bell, sometimes called the hoodlum bell, and behind it was the jail. The bell is still hanging behind the police station. An old cannon was out front (it is now at the Rincon Fire Station) that was fired every Fourth of July. The Town Hall was located where the Wells Fargo parking lot is now. There is a picture of it in the border of the lithograph.

Mr. Joseph Poli, the owner of the structure, wants to restore the building in return for variances from the City for parking requirements for a new building he wants to put on the lot. The City Council decided against granting Mr. Poli's request and since the cost of moving the two-story structure would be very high, it may not be possible to preserve the building. Not very much of the original structure remains.

From The Livermore Herald, Nov. 23, 1918: "Arroyo Sanatorium Wishes Temporary Loan of Piano...It will be handled with the greatest care and returned in as good condition as received."

CARNEGIE BUILDING The Guild has asked the City for part of the soon-to-be vacated Carnegie building for use as the nucleus of a Livermore museum and teaching center. Already the Guild has been given custody of valuable documents from the town's history and it will be a continuing responsibility of the town to find space to house them and make them available for study. The Carnegie Building is an old building that is unusually suitable for a museum.

Mr. & Mrs. Howard Reed have donated ledgers and documents that were found under the rafters of the old Beazel house at 4th and J Streets. They are most interesting and on behalf of Livermore's history buffs, the Guild thanks them sincerely.

BILL RAY HAS A NEW JOB The Guild is sorry to lose its good friend and board member, Bill Ray. He has accepted the position of Riverside County Historian. We wish him luck and hope he will keep in touch with us.

## CHRISTMAS IN THE LIVERMORE VALLEY

by Janet Newton

With best wishes for a Happy Holiday and a good New Year.

Families like to gather together for holidays and this was especially true of the Spanish Californians. At Christmas Robert Livermore and his family made the long journey over the hills to the ranch of his wife's family at Warm Springs, near Mission San Jose. The women rode in the ox-drawn, wooden wheeled carts that had been well padded with cushions and bedding, and the men rode horseback. The path of the Vallecitos Road was the one they took. It is one of the oldest routes of travel in California, part of the route from the San Francisco area to the central valley.

The family attended services in the Mission, where Robert and Josefa Higuera had been married in 1838, and where members of the Higuera family were buried. The Californians knew how to enjoy fiestas and they made them last for days.

Later, when Robert Livermore, Jr. and his wife Teresa Bernal lived in their beautiful house to the east of the Livermore adobe, they, too, celebrated a long Christmas in keeping with family tradition.

First there would be an all-day outing to the hills to get a Christmas tree. They would take a horse and wagon and they would have a picnic barbecue. Then on Christmas Eve the family would gather together for prayers, the Christmas tree and a holiday dinner. Teresa would sit with her rosary and the children would kneel around her saying their prayers. The prayers were said in Spanish and in English. Hair-ribbons and toys and candy and nuts were on the tree. Each girl always got a doll.

The first written record that I have of a Christmas in the Valley is in a letter written by young Annie Armstrong in 1873 to her aunt in San Leandro. She wrote "Well, Santa Claus got here with something for each one and better of all a little sister last Sunday . . ."

The Livermore Enterprise in December 1875 announced that there would be a GRAND CHRISTMAS BALL in Exchange Hall on Christmas Day. Tickets, including supper (probably a chicken dinner) were \$2. A "General Invitation" was extended to all.

The town was only six years old in 1875 and many of the residents must have been a long long way from their homes. But evidently they joined together for a great big party.

Livermore was a busy town by that time, having two daily passenger trains going each way and four freight trains a day each way. The ENTERPRISE reported that in 1869 when the town was born, there had been just one hotel, one store and one unused blacksmith shop. By 1875 there were over 600 people. The coal mines of Corral Hollow were important to the town and a stage for the Livermore Coal Mines met the 9:30 a.m. train each day. The fare was \$2 round-trip.

From then on, there were Christmas and New Year's Eve Balls both in Livermore and Pleasanton. One in 1876 had "good music for dancing, a Christmas tree for the children and Santa has promised to be there with presents for everyone . . ."

In Pleasanton in 1880 there was a Christmas Eve Ball at the Rose Hotel (\$2 including supper) and also a New Year's Eve party at Nevis Pavillion, given by the Whittier Library and Literary Association. It was to raise money to buy books for the library.

Leap Year was celebrated more enthusiastically then than now. In Livermore in 1880 there was a New Year's Eve Farewell to Leap Year party on December 31. Tickets, sold to ladies only, were \$1.

I asked Mrs. Zylpha Beck of Livermore if many children living on outlying ranches were unable to get into town for the Christmas festivities. The weather interfered with travel then, even more than it does now. At Christmas 1880, the paper reported "All the creeks in this section are now rapidly rising and unless there be an immediate

clearing up, all the fords in the large streams will soon be impassable. At the crossings of the Mocho and the Valle, south of town, the water now rises well up on the horse's sides." (There were not many, if any, bridges then and travel was by horse and wagon or buggy or on horseback or on foot.) Mrs. Beck pointed out that not all of the ranchers had to cross large streams to get into town.

In 1889, the paper of December 26 says "Rainfall during the past week: total for week, 3.12 inches, total for storm, 11.56 inches, for season, 15.3 inches." These are extraordinary amounts. By Christmas, evidently, the valley had had more than the average rainfall for a whole season.

Once in town, there was no lack of Christmas activity. The stores were full of holiday merchandise. In 1880, for example, Fred Mally's store advertised "Toys of every description from a penny whistle to a horse and wagon. Wax and China Dolls. Fancy cups and saucers. Handsome vases. Fine assortment of Bohemian Ware. Toilet Sets. Elegant Gift Books, comprising English and American poetry and prose. Albums. Toy Books. Papeterie and other articles too numerous to mention . . ."

There were other diversions. Back in 1876 there had been a school for dancing and calisthenics and in 1880 there was an ad for "Billie Morgan, teacher of boxing, Exchange Hall, Livermore. Private lessons given on reasonable terms. Friends cordially invited."

For a long time, it was not the general custom to have a Christmas tree in each house. Children would hang their stockings at the foot of their beds for Santa to fill.

The Presbyterian Church used to have a big Christmas tree and a party for the children where gifts were distributed. The children would present a program of recitations and songs and skits. In the long program for 1889 a recitation was given by Bessie Hargrave (now living in Walnut Creek) and Lloyd Hawley of "Her Cat and His Dog."

At a later date, when the town had electricity, there would be a Christmas tree by the flag pole and lights strung from the flagpole to nearby buildings. The flagpole was then in the middle of the street.

Sometimes Livermore merchants distributed gifts to their customers. There are two examples known to us. One is a china dessert plate in the collection of Mrs. Earl Odell. It is decorated with California poppies and inscribed "From the store that appreciates your trade, Arroyo Grocery Company, Livermore." The other is a porcelain plate from the collection of Mrs. Charles Edmonston of Tassajara, inscribed "Compliments of G.M. Churchill, Livermore." This one has a gold border and a design of yellow roses.

At Christmas 1914 there was an account in the paper of a letter from France. "Jean Gourdou Tarbe, who left Livermore about three months ago to join the Allies army in France, writes to a friend at the Livermore Hotel that he is with the artillery and the work is quite strenuous, that the snow is a foot and a half deep; that they have to be on duty long hours but get plenty to eat, and that in the hospitals the wounded and sick are given the best of care, irrespective of nationality."

In December 1914, Livermore's Mc Kown & Mess drug store advertised "Kodaks: Brownie No. 1, \$1; Brownie No. 2, \$2; vest pocket Kodaks with anastigmatic lens, \$10 . . ." The Bell Theater's special features included "The Perils of Pauline" five reels; "Cricket on the Hearth" by Charles Dickens, and "The Barefoot Boy," five reels. One of the most beautiful productions ever staged."

A nice ending for a piece on Christmas in Livermore is an account of when the County Sanatorium for Tuberculosis patients was established south of town. It became known as the Arroyo San. Dr. Chesley Bush, its Director for 30 years, said (according to an article by Joan Agar) "From the first, the town of Livermore was very cooperative and helpful to the Sanatorium.

"The first Christmas, in 1919, he was invited to the office of Supervisor Dan J. Murphy in Livermore. When he arrived, he found that the long mahogany table in the office was heaped with gold pieces, which Murphy told him was a present from the merchants of Livermore to the Arroyo San. With the money, Dr. Bush hired the first teacher for the Arroyo, Miss Delia Lord Davis, who taught elementary grades for child patients at the sanatorium." Dr. Bush and Miss Davis still live in Livermore.

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# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



## Monthly Newsletter



"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"

November, 1981

Livermore, California

Volume IX, No. 2

### CALENDAR

Nov. 12, 7:30, Guild Board Meeting  
Carnegie Bldg.

Nov. 13, 10a.m. - 8p.m. & Nov. 14, 10a.m. -  
2p.m., Christmas Community Bazaar  
Recreation Center, 8th & H, Livermore

Nov. 13 - Dec. 30, Edna Tunison and  
Claire Haratani Exhibit, State Savings  
(Preview Reception, Nov. 13, 8-10p.m.)

### HISTORY CENTER Janet Newton, Curator

For the LCAC Christmas Bazaar we will have a new calendar, a new greeting card of a photo of the Southern Pacific Depot at Altamont, and some old Livermore newspapers. Chet Fankhauser has published a facsimile edition of a Chamber of Commerce Booklet for Livermore of 1927 that he has offered to the Guild for sale as a benefit for our Lincoln Highway Museum.

We enjoyed having Mrs. Reitter's class of 31 third graders from Las Positas School in the History Center recently. They travelled to the Center by Rideo bus. They were especially interested in our exhibit about Las Positas Rancho.

Old volumes of the City of Livermore Assessment books were offered to the Guild and we accepted them because we believe such records should be preserved, even though finding space for them is difficult. Preserving the records of local history is one of the prime objectives of the Livermore Heritage Guild.

Barbara Bunshah continues to supply visiting scholars with historical reference material. Janet Newton attended the "Collections Care Seminar" at the Camron Stanford House.

### AUCTION RESULTS

Despite the bad weather and low turn-out, an estimated \$500 was made at the auction. There were many excellent donations. Something for everyone.

Many thanks to cochairmen, Chet and Henri Fankhauser, for all their fine work. Also thanks to Nancy Bireley, refreshment chairman, and to members who made donations, helped set up and attended the auction.

### DUARTE GARAGE NEWS

Antique Farm Wagon: Livermore resident, Rich Turner, has donated to the Guild an antique Studebaker multi-purpose farm wagon. Built with iron tires and wooden spoke wheels, the wagon has an expandable length. It may be seen in the Duarte Garage. Many thanks to Mr. Turner for this very valuable gift.

Fire Truck: On Oct. 10th as part of the Fire Prevention Week festivities, East Avenue Station firemen drove Smokey the Bear around in our fire truck. The truck was also on view at the station that day.

Roof: The cottage roof has been replaced with fiberglass asbestos asphalt shingles by Don Phillips Construction Co. at a total cost of \$2750.

### NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Be Haera, a long-time Livermore resident, is very interested in our local history and a very good addition to our Board. Bill Junk has held several positions in the Guild and brings much experience to the Board.

#### TUNISON EXHIBIT

Edna Tunison, coordinator of the LAA Gallery extends an invitation to all Guild members to a preview reception for her exhibit of zipper art on Nov.13, 8-10p.m. at State Savings, 999 Stanley Blvd. Livermore.

#### CHS CONCANNON CELEBRATION

On Oct.12 at Concannon Vineyard, California Historical Society members enjoyed a harvest feast, the Ballet Folklorico, tours of the winery, and a visit to the scene of Edward Deakin's painting "Farming in Livermore Valley", 1875. Local artists, Margo Kirkewoog and Tillie Calhoun, painting at the same scene, greeted the visitors. CHS will be selling a special wine with a label copied from Deakin's painting.

LHG Chairman, Bill O'Neal, greeted CHS members and answered questions about Livermore history and the Guild. Also on hand, thanks to Janet Newton, were packets containing a "Brief History of Livermore", List of LHG Publications, and a welcoming letter.

#### LCAC CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Visit the Guild booth for baked goods, candy, hand-made items, Guild Christmas cards, Heritage Calendars, and antique newspapers. Also this year a Chet Fankhauser replica of a 1927 Livermore Chamber of Commerce Brochure will be on sale. The Chamber's motto then was "Live Longer in Livermore".

Member contributions of food stuff and hand-made items are needed. Please contact Henri Fankhauser, 447-3809 or Barbara Bunshah, 447-5065.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Please check the coding on your mail-label. It notes when your dues have expired. And please keep those dues coming in to Kitsy Junk.

#### ASSESSMENT BOOKS

Livermore assessment books, 1887-1927, are a recent Guild acquisition. The books list property valuations, locations, landowners, and taxes assessed.

#### SILENT FOLLOWING

The Heritage Guild has been in existence for nine years now. It has a long list of preservation accomplishments, good publications, and a growing vital history center.

It also has a large "silent following" - people who are supportive, some of whom pay dues - but most of whom are seldom seen or heard. Well, we need to hear from you. We want your ideas, criticisms, and suggestions. We're aiming for a stronger, more active Guild. Would any of you be interested in speakers on historical preservation or antiques or whatever? How about tours to historic places. We could carpool and go as a group. A slide-show or mini-course on Livermore Valley history might be particularly valuable for transplanted Easterners as well as local school children. Please let us hear what you'd like the Guild to be doing. Help us to plan future activities. Drop me a line, Mary O'Neal, P.O.Box 961, Livermore or call 447-5957. Thank-you.

LATE BULLETIN: History Center Storm Damage, Oct.28 - The Carnegie Building's leaking roof caused considerable damage to the History Center's photographic materials and artifacts. The LCAF exhibit materials were ruined. Walls are still wet. Ceiling covering material has fallen in side rooms. LAA has had some paintings damaged. Work on the Carnegie Building roof was completed in Sept. Some leaking still occurred after the first rains and LARPD was notified. The problem was supposed to be solved. The Center would have sustained more damage if it had not been for quick thinking and hard work by Barbara Bunshah. She was joined in her salvage efforts by Janet Newton and Bill O'Neal. Much material, including the Assessment Books, has been moved out of the Carnegie Building and the Center will be closed until repairs are completed.



# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



NEWSLETTER

MEMBER OF: THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STATE & LOCAL HISTORY; THE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY; THE CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

GUILD MEMBERSHIP DUES: INDIVIDUAL:\$7. FAMILY:\$10.(2 persons). JUNIOR:\$2.(18 or under). SENIOR:\$3.(65 or over). SPONSOR:\$25.(1 or 2 persons). LIFE:\$100.(1 person). LIBRARY:\$5. PATRON:\$100.(Business). FISCAL YEAR: OCT 1 to OCT 1.

MAY, 1985

*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

VOLUME XII, No.8

- May 4, Printmakers swap-meet, Highway Garage, 11 to 4. End of L Street.
- 9, LHG Board meeting, History Center, 7:30 p.m., Carnegie Building
- 11, ANNUAL LHG AUCTION, Highway Garage, pot-luck supper & preview, 5 p.m.
- 13, Archeological dig, Ravenswood. Call Bill O'Neal, 447-5957
- Jun 16, ANNUAL MEETING and election of officers. See below.

*Annual General Meeting*

*June 16 - 3:30-5:30pm*

*GARY DRUMMOND*

*"In pursuit of Livermore Trivia"*

*FOLLOWED BY SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEA  
AND RECITAL BY A LOCAL MUSICIAN.*

*Downstairs at the Carnegie Bldg.*



Nominating Committee, slate of nominees;

Chairman, to be announced. Vice Chairman, Garrett Drummond  
Secretary, Barbara Bunshah. Treasurer, Malvern Sweet  
Way & Means Chairman, Henri Fankhauser.

Directors to 1987: Wm. Junk, Wm. O'Neal, Carolyn Parrish, Lorraine Raison, Muriel Dean.  
Elected members of nominating committee, Marilyn Calhoun, Peggy Concannon.

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#### History Center

The exhibit about the family of John Young, Malvern Sweet's ancestor, is now complete, with the exception of an old sewing machine. The machines were a great help to the hard working housewives of old ranches. All the family's clothing used to be made at home. This exhibit completes the a series of stories about old ranch families. We will continue to develop exhibits about other families.

The old house museum on the County Fairgrounds has been slated for demolition, \$17,000 having been allocated for the cost of the destruction. Anna Brown is working hard with a committee trying to reverse the decision, pointing out to the Fair Board and the County Supervisors how the building could be made useful and profitable to the community. A letter from the building's first curator, now the Executive Directory of the Kentucky Derby Museum in Louisville, Kentucky (none other than our old friend Wm. W. Ray) gives his professional opinion of the value of saving the building, and outlining a plan for its use. If you would like to help, call Anna, 447-7780, or Supervisor Ed. Campbell.

We are indebted to Alan Winslow for sending to us a copy of an article about the Viennese physicist Ludwig Boltzmann, who, in 1905, when he was giving a series of lectures at UC Berkeley, was invited to visit Phebe Hearst at her hacienda near Pleasanton. Boltzmann describes traveling to Livermore by train and being met by Mrs. Hearst's coachman and gives an account of his stay. We will include an excerpt from this article in a future NEWSLETTER.

Plans for the new Livermore Valley Wineries Museum are progressing rapidly. At the recent Open House at Ravenswood, Dr. Wm. Bullough, author of the book, THE BLIND BOSS & HIS CITY, gave us some valuable leads for historical research.

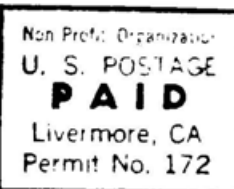
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From the Membership Chairman: We are pleased that many members have renewed their membership recently. Please check your mailing label to check if your membership is up-to-date.

#### LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD

P.O. Box 961 Livermore  
CA 94550

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



PHONE 415 449-9927

*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP OCT 1 TO SEPT 30: FAMILY \$10, INDIVIDUAL \$7, SENIOR \$3  
JUNIOR \$3, LIFE \$100, PATRON \$100, SPONSOR \$25, LIBRARY \$5

January 1988  
Volume XV No. 4

## CALENDAR

January 14, 1988  
LHG Board Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.  
7:30 p.m.

February 7, 1988  
Open House Featuring New Drug  
Store Display  
Carnegie Bldg., 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

## HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Sales of the 1988 Nostalgia  
Calendars have been brisk. There  
are approximately 100 calendars  
left, so don't delay.

A drug store exhibit featuring  
artifacts from McKown and Mess,  
Beazell's, and Duarte's Drug  
Stores is currently being as-  
sembled and will be complete for  
the Open House on Sunday, February  
7. This display traces the  
history of Livermore drug stores  
since 1871. The majority of the  
artifacts in the display were  
donated by Manuel Duarte and John  
Sarboraria, including a wooden

drug cabinet used by J. O. McKown,  
circa 1890, several prescription  
ledgers and many beautiful  
apothecary jars from the turn of  
the century. We hope you will join  
Manuel and John at the Open House.

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Don't forget -- the Heritage  
Guild relies on your support  
through your membership. If you  
haven't already renewed for 1988,  
please do so.

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NOTES ON OAK KNOLL CEMETERY  
by Janet Newton

In the book Centennial Year Book  
of Alameda County, by Wm. Halley,  
published in 1876, on page 349, it  
states that the first burial at  
Oak Knoll was in January, 1873.  
But according to a piece written  
by Mrs. James Swent, whose husband  
is a descendant of William Menden-  
hall, she says "This was evidently  
the first Mendenhall cemetery,  
for Mendenhalls were buried there  
from November, 1855, when Sophia,  
daughter of Martin Mendenhall was

buried there." It was Mendenhall land.

Again quoting Halley, on page 302, "Thomas Hart ... died at his residence in Livermore, September, 1970. He was buried in Dublin, then the only burying place in Murray Township...."

I once read that a member of the Harlan family, of San Ramon, was first buried at Mission San Jose, and then moved to Oak Knoll. Historical note: the Thomas Hart, mentioned above, lived in the house at 799 South L Street, that was according to Mrs. Josephine Bernal, whose house was next door, the oldest house in Livermore. It still stands.

EXCERPTED FROM HISTORY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1883

On June 6, 1867, a fracas of a fatal character occurred at the ranch of Robert Livermore, in Livermore Valley. A Californian named Moche, who had been drinking heavily, made an attack with a knife upon a young man called Foscalini, who avoided him several times, but finally turned upon him and discharged his pistol

at him, emptying three chambers of the weapon, each shot taking effect. Both parties were on horseback. The wounded man instantly wheeled his horse, rode away rapidly and soon disappeared. When about three miles from the place of shooting, Moche fell heavily from his horse, head foremost, to the ground, and when approached was found to be dead, his neck having been broken by the fall. It was found, however, that either of the shots was sufficient to kill him. Foscalini surrendered himself, and after an examination before Justice Mark of Pleasanton was dismissed. Moche, who was partly paralyzed, was, nevertheless, considered a desperate and dangerous man. Some ten years previous it was said he attacked a stage single-handed, and on the refusal of the driver to pull up, sent a shot from his revolver through it.

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