



Get On Board

Be A Part Of Saving Yesterday For Tomorrow



What comes to mind when you think of volunteers for a historical society?

If you only think of the stereotypical image of a stuffy, stodgy group of old people sitting and gazing lovingly at their collection of dusty artifacts, then you haven't considered the breadth of the work being done by the Livermore Heritage Guild. Members of the LHG do, for sure, get excited about the dusty old relics that come their way. But there's so much more that goes into *Saving Yesterday For Tomorrow*. The Livermore Heritage Guild does staff a traditional History Center museum, but also manages the historic Duarte Garage and cottage and Hagemann Ranch. Additionally, the Guild offers Downtown Walking Tours, complements the third grade curriculum by bringing the HistoryMobile to each Livermore school, restores vintage fire trucks and machinery of all types, maintains an authentic Heritage Garden, and just about anything else you can imagine. The volunteers for this historical society

Above: Jay Morris, Don Keech, and Ralph Moir celebrate total victory over the Star pistons (one engine down, two to go) at the Duarte Garage. Photo by Will Bolton.

definitely do more than sit and lovingly gaze; the dynamic volunteers who make up the Livermore Heritage Guild come from a variety of backgrounds and bring a diverse assortment of skills and interests to their work with the Guild.

As with many volunteer organizations, some members got involved because they were at a crossroads in their life, seeking opportunities to become more involved with the wider community. Their first acquaintance with the Guild was through the more traditional format of the museum and collections at the History Center. For instance, Loretta Kaskey "was at a stage in [her] career where [she] could start giving back to the community". She had just bought a house on the South Side of Livermore and came to the History Center to find out more about it. For some, such as Donna Stevens, the connection was serendipitous. Donna had retired a few months earlier, "was bored with staying home" and ready to volunteer. By happenstance, she and her husband sat next to Jeff and Loretta Kaskey at a concert at the Bothwell. They struck up a

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The focus for this issue of the newsletter is on the many volunteers who contribute so much to the Guild. A few have contributed their stories of how they got involved and have shared their most rewarding LHG experiences with us. Our hope is that these accounts will resonate with you, that you also find your membership in the Guild to be a rewarding experience, and that you might consider expanding your involvement -- perhaps by volunteering at a Hagemann Ranch or Duarte Garage Open House, by docenting at the History Center, by bringing your pruning shears to help in the Heritage Garden, or by attending a History Talk. All these events and more can be found in the calendar on page 11. If you can't come out to join in, perhaps you might keep LHG in mind as a charitable organization if any programs offered through your employer or simply by doing your online shopping through Amazon Smile. And if you have friends who are looking to get involved, please invite them to Get On Board! In a nod to LHG's roots with the historic Railroad Depot, you'll find our Get On Board symbol throughout this newsletter. Please look for it near the title of various articles to find great ways for everyone to join in!

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Heritage Garden: It's Rhubarb Season!



by Loretta Kaskey



LIVERMORE FRUIT MARKET	
(NEXT TO CENTRAL MARKET)	
Asparagus	5c per lb
Strawberry Rhubarb	4 lbs. for 15c
Spinach	5c per lb
Sweet Oranges	2 doz. for 25c
Bananas	25c per dozen
Pippin Apples	7 lbs. for 25c
Pippin Apples	\$1.25 per box
All Vegetables	3 bunches for 10c
River Potatoes	\$3 per sack
Phone 360	

Far Above: Victoria Rhubarb growing in the heritage garden at Hagemann Ranch. Photo by Loretta Kaskey; Above: A 1926 ad for the Livermore Fruit Market with rhubarb priced at 15 cents for 4 pounds.

In a front-page article in *The Livermore Herald*, dated April, 3, 1915, the editor declares:

“By far the best rhubarb that has appeared in the local market this year came from the ranch of August Hagemann. The variety is Wagner’s Crimson Winter. It is large and bright colored. Aside from its size, it has several other advantages. It grows through the winter as well as spring. It requires no peeling and commends itself especially to the housewife in that it takes less sugar in cooking than the ordinary kind.

“Mr. Hagemann says this variety, which was developed by Mr. Wagner in Pasadena, grows readily in this valley. While Mr. Hagemann is a general farmer and grows the rhubarb merely to supply his own table, others may take up its cultivation as a business and add another industry to the valley.”

There were some in the valley who did take up Mr. Hagemann’s suggestion. The *Livermore Journal*, in a report dated May 16, 1924, states that the Alameda County rhubarb season was one of the largest in history. Two hundred forty (240) carloads of rhubarb were shipped to Eastern markets while 43,000 boxes were shipped to markets on the Pacific Coast. Total commercial production was 325 carloads. In 1923 only 144 carloads were shipped to eastern markets.

Wagner’s Crimson Winter rhubarb does not appear to be available any longer but a variety known as Victoria Rhubarb has been grown for a very long time with great success. It is a nice substitute that has a milder and sweeter flavor, and we believe August Hagemann would be pleased that it is now being grown in his garden. Volunteers are always needed to help in the Heritage Garden. Contact lorkaskey@yahoo.com for more information.

Save the Date: Fortieth Anniversary!



LHG Super Supper and Auction at the Duarte Garage Saturday, May 11, 2019

by Barbara Soules



A step back in time: The LHG Auction and Dinner is a 40-year tradition begun on May 17, 1980. Tickets were then \$5.00 for the Super Supper with a \$2 credit going toward a purchase at the auction. If you only came to the auction you paid \$2 with a \$1 credit going toward a purchase at the auction. The co-chairmen were Chet and Henri Fankhauser and, as we do, they were recruiting volunteers and donations of saleable items for the auction. Barry Schrader worked publicity resulting in \$900 profit from the event. In 1981 the auction was in October due to an unexpected expense of re-roofing the cottage. All other events have been in May. Throughout the years the auction has been the Guild’s main fund raiser.

The Super Supper in 1980 consisted of spaghetti and meatballs, tossed salad, garlic bread and homemade desserts. For this fortieth anniversary year, the Guild will recreate the same menu and serve it family style at tables so we don’t have to eat spaghetti on our laps. We need your help in providing the popular homemade desserts! Please let Dottie know at doteberly@comcast.net if we can count on you to bring a dessert to the Duarte Garage on May 11th.

The auction itself will be shorter with more high-quality items: we have acquired several pieces of lovely furniture as well as a large oriental rug, and our surprise auctioneer may tempt you by auctioning rides on a LHG fire truck or

the hay wagon in one of our Livermore Parades! Or perhaps you, or one of your family members, would like to use Hagemann Ranch as the venue for a special party. But, as the Fankhausers did in 1980, we still need nice saleable items from you, the members. Please contact Barbara at tbsoules@yahoo.com with donations.

Prices have increased a bit since 1980. You can purchase your tickets online at www.lhg.org or at the History Center for \$25 through May 10th. If any tickets remain on May 11th they will be available at the door at a cost of \$35. So, plan ahead and get your tickets early!

Thank You Usha

by Jeff Kaskey

Goodness how the time flies when you are having fun. It was back in August of 2012 when Usha Khullar answered a Guild volunteer solicitation to be our Treasurer. Volunteers in any role are always appreciated, but the office of Treasurer has a special set of challenges.

Most of the rest of us do our best to learn whatever role we have volunteered into, but a Treasurer has to hit the ground running and calculator at the ready. Plenty of learning is done on the job as well, but the Guild has some fairly involved finances, with various events, multiple sites, overlapping projects and very real IRS requirements. Grabbing all of those at once is not for the meek.

In this case, the Guild had, as we often do, some very helpful shoulders to stand

on, and my tenure at the Guild included a line of Treasurers from Dick Lerche, to Dori Campbell, to Theresa Tran. Each had contributed to, first, getting our books off of simple spreadsheets and into QuickBooks, and then restructuring our accounting to take advantage of that additional power. Budgets and board reports were getting automated. We were not in bad shape in terms of tracking our financials, but it was sometimes hard for board members to understand in the time of a short budget meeting what it all meant.

Usha worked with us consistently to make the budget tracking rational, understandable, and made it possible to see fairly quickly where we were. And while she was working with us, and raising her very active boys, she also

took a job at Las Positas College, working on their accounting. They use similar software and so both the Guild and the College benefited from Usha's expertise. It was certainly a pleasure for me as President to be able to rely on her diligence and expertise and perennially cheery mood.

So just as I have turned over the President's chair to Harry, Usha is passing the torch to Kathy Joseph-Stockman, but Usha will continue to be involved in Guild activities, in particular out at Hagemann Ranch. I want to thank Usha for her enthusiastic assistance these many years, and hope we continue to work together on our favorite Guild projects!

Meet our New Treasurer

by Meighen Eberly

Kathy Joseph-Stockman was born on Maui, HI and raised in Fremont. She lived in Milpitas and Fremont and then moved to Oregon. After living in Oregon for a short period of time, she moved back to California in 1978, but by then houses in Fremont had become very expensive. Livermore was close by, housing was cheaper and it still had a wide-open space, country feel to it. She bought a house in Livermore, where she resides with her husband, Randy.

Kathy earned her AA degree in Accounting at Ohlone College. Many years later, she returned to school to earn her BS degree in Business Administration-Accounting from Cal State, Hayward. She worked for small accounting firms, as well as a few start-up biotech and biomedical companies, before starting her own accounting and tax service. After 20 years, she sold her business and retired, in order to travel and volunteer.

Her accounting background got her drafted into being the Livermore Cultural Arts Council Treasurer and now

we will benefit from her at the Guild as well. Kathy has been a hardworking volunteer at the Ranch and attended many of our board meetings even though she was not required to. Eventually, she started doing accessions at the History Center and now, as Treasurer, putting her accounting skills back to work.

"I credit my parents (and their Hawaiian cultural upbringing) for instilling in me the interest in history and culture by taking us to historical sites and museums. They were very courageous to travel long distances to Yosemite, Oregon, and Yellowstone in a station wagon with five kids. All those trips made me appreciate the uniqueness of those places and the intriguing stories of the people who lived there and how important it is to preserve them.

"I have never seen a more tireless group than the Board and volunteers who work for the Guild. Because they believe in the mission, they will step up to any challenge and see that it gets done. I am honored to add my small contributions to such a wonderful and caring group."



Above: The multi-talented Kathy Joseph-Stockman applying her rose pruning skills at Hagemann Ranch. Photo by Dottie Eberly.

A Message from the President

What is my philosophy about historical sites and museums? Prior Presidents, Larry Mauch and Jeff Kaskey, counseled me with their visions for our three city-owned physical sites while increasing visitor traffic.

There are various approaches taken by historical societies and museums. High-quality but static museums entice few repeat visitors (Alviso Adobe Community Park in Pleasanton, Blackhawk Museum in Danville, San Joaquin County Historical Museum in Lodi, Haggin Museum in Stockton). Frequent turnover of display content attracts more local visitors (Museum of San Ramon Valley in Danville). Events draw local repeat visitors (Ravenswood events, Hagemann Ranch Open Houses, Car Clubs at the Duarte Garage, and Forest Home Farms Historic Park in San Ramon).

If we focus solely upon events, we lose an emphasis upon truly historic artifacts and buildings. If we focus solely upon static historic displays, we lose funding and volunteer interest among the local community. If we focus upon turnover of displays, we have to triple our costly storage space to hold artifacts in protective archival conditions until displayed again three years hence. Some potential artifacts, like windmills, become static displays simply due to their sheer physical size and immobility.

Some local museum specifics

All museums feel this static display versus dynamic events balance. Blackhawk, by means of a single

benefactor, purchased an entire over-the-top quality Western museum from Cody, Wyoming and built the building for it! It has a mission to be a well-endowed static display that blows away the competition. It is costly to curate. This clearly high-class 'go to' museum draws worldwide tourists who travel to the Bay Area even though it has limited repeat visitors. This top-notch museum draws external visitors from which Bay Area business conferences take advantage.

The local-history (as we are) Museum of San Ramon Valley manages their bi-monthly display turnover with enormous (to me) nearly free storage at a former Nike missile site. Their storage is waterproof with low temperature fluctuation. It takes six dedicated people to handle display turnover, not counting the staff required for daily operations.

The Museum on Main in Pleasanton has one large room for their static historic artifacts. A smaller more active room hosts quarterly traveling displays (including Smithsonian exhibits). The Museum on Main inadvertently discovered that their popular Ed Kinney re-enactor lectures has refocused their general mission. Their sold-out events fill both the Amador Theater and require double showings at the Firehouse Theater. The City of Pleasanton provides the theater space and a few key corporate sponsors enable the Museum to keep event ticket prices low enough to pack in 440 people each month.

My personal vision for our own three sites is such a combination approach. That is, I want every site to have annual



display turnover of our smaller artifacts (provided we find low-cost storage), offering free public events (leveraging our volunteer system and city-maintenance), and computerized research documentation of our holdings.

Past dreams at risk

I inherited some past dreams. For example, we hold the original square grand piano that came around the Horn owned by Robert Livermore. For years (first under LARPD at Ravenswood and then LHG care), it has been stored at \$100 a month. This piano has cost many thousands of dollars in fees, boxed, not publicly visible, and unrestored. Square grands go out of tune fast. That is why so few remain as pianos. How can we best display this Robert Livermore-centric artifact?

Harry Briley



Amazon Smile

by Dottie Eberly

Are you still looking for a way to support the Guild but have very little free time? Do you shop at Amazon.com? If so, here's an easy way for you to support the Guild!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as

Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to The Livermore Heritage Guild.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you are

prompted to select a charitable organization. Type in The Livermore Heritage Guild and then you are ready to begin shopping. It's just that easy!



Hagemann Happenings

by Barbara Soules

For a very long time, the Heritage Guild has been waiting for the city to perform hazard abatement work on the ranch house. In early November, they completed the work of removing all the hazardous material from the inside of the building and encapsulating the exterior paint so there is no danger of lead or asbestos. It now becomes the responsibility of the Guild to stabilize the foundation and create structurally sound walls. A historical architectural firm has been consulted that will provide us with estimates and plans for the work required on the house and several other buildings.

The holiday celebration in November was an opportunity for folks to shop the many craft tables in the Red Barn. We were excited to welcome representatives from the Hispanic and Hindu communities. Women from Shiva-Vishnu Temple set up an educational table about Diwali, the Festival of Lights, a craft table, and did henna painting on the kids. IDK Catering sold authentic Indian food to guests. The Hispanic Heritage Center hung a piñata in the backyard. At 3:30pm a crowd of about fifty kids circled the piñata waiting to break it. When it finally did break, there was a mad scramble for candy. Greg Pane provided peaceful holiday music on his keyboard and Kathy Lee completely transformed Chicken Coop #2 into Santa's house. Rick Irby donned his Santa suit and welcomed those kids who were not afraid of that man in the strange red suit.

Sweethearts Day on January 27th was the first event of the new year. Many new families spent the afternoon touring the ranch, making Valentines and buttons, buying antiques and enjoying the band, The Gatherin'. Artisan Marshmallows sold luscious Valentine treats, two jewelers displayed their handiwork and the blacksmith shared his skills on the forge. It was a beautiful afternoon and folks were able to just enjoy the peaceful atmosphere at the ranch.

On February 24th the theme will be Vintage Toys and Collections. A varied



Above: There are nine very friendly 4-H horses on the ranch. Guests are constantly asking their names. So, Ron Chaffee decided to rectify this situation and created weatherproof, movable name signs for each of the horses. Thank you Ron! Photo by Barbara Soules.

group of about twelve collectors will be on hand to display their collections and answer questions from guests. There will be everything from wooden toys and tool art to coins, tools, stamps, and bells. Especially notable will be a display of articles from the Pan American Expo in San Francisco and some novagems. Some old-fashioned toys and games in the backyard will entertain the kids.

The beginning of the year seems like a good time to recognize some of the people who volunteer their time, talents and energy to make these Sundays at Hagemann events a reality. These people work together incredibly well and focus on hospitality and making the afternoons fun for everyone who walks in the gate. They are professional and independent thinkers who help create the activities. We are so very grateful to all of them. In total there are over 30 volunteers on the Hagemann list. For each event, fifteen to twenty of them participate. At the risk of forgetting someone, I'd like to recognize those people who are "regulars" and seldom miss an event.

There is always a lot going on behind the scenes to prepare for each event: **Dottie, Meighen, and Alison Eberly** create the pattern for the buttons and then on event day they help the kids create their buttons; **Kathy Lee** creates the extensive decorations, plans the menu for the refreshment table, and on event day she supervises the installation and set-up; **Ann Pfaff-Doss** creates the postcards we use for publicity; **Lee Jaworski** comes at 3:30 every afternoon after his work to help us clean up.

On the day of each event, several people can be found at their regular positions:

- **Donna Stevens** and **Cherie Moore** are permanent fixtures at the Welcome Table.
- **Ann Pfaff -Doss** is our unfailing tour guide with **Jeff Kaskey** as back up. Jeff also portrays various historical figures and drives the tractors.
- At the food table we usually find **Kathy Joseph Stockman, Kathy Lee** and often **Cathy Tonne**.
- **Loretta Kaskey** is the creator and gardener in our Heritage Garden. On event days, when she isn't portraying a historical character, she gives tours of the garden and provides fresh produce for guests.
- **Susan Junk** is our trusted floater who can fill in anywhere she is needed.
- The ongoing maintenance of the golf cart is handled by **Tom Eberly** so **Tom Soules** can drive it on event day.
- **Russ Bearrows** is our resident blacksmith who dons his apron and demonstrates each month. Several months he is the tractor driver for the hayrides.
- We have guest artists but **Sue Vincent**, the potter, is there almost every month helping the kids work with clay.

It takes the commitment and dedication of each of these people month in and month out to create the positive, welcoming atmosphere that permeates each afternoon at Hagemann. When you see these folks at the next event, thank them for all they do!

Announcing... The Gary Drummond Historic Downtown Walking Tours

by Dottie Eberly



For twenty-five years the Guild has offered a docent narrated walking tour of downtown Livermore thanks to the late Gary Drummond. It seems only fitting to rename these tours in his honor. Gary, who was a vital part of the Livermore Heritage Guild from 1975 to 2001, realized the unique character of our town and created the downtown walking tours. Originally conceived as a supplement to the Livermore school curriculum, they were (and still are) offered to all third grade classes. Gary, seeing these tours as a way to ensure that even the newest citizens of Livermore would know the stories behind these wonderful old buildings, then began doing tours for the public as well. The Livermore Heritage Guild is pleased to continue Gary's mission, offering these tours to school children and to the general public. Each tour will begin by recognizing Gary and his significant contributions to the Guild and to the community.

Public tours offered November - March, 1pm, second Sunday of the month; April - October (Farmer's Market), 6pm, second Thursday of the month. To schedule please call (925) 449-9927 or sign up at the History Center. There is a limit of 20 people per tour.

Above: Gary in April 1990, at the Left Bank Café, Paris. Photo by Marvin Gunn.

Free, Family-Friendly Activities

Sundays at Hagemann Ranch

Vintage Toys & Collections

February 24, 2019, 1-4 pm
455 Olivina Ave., Livermore

Toy, Bell & Tool Collections

Rocks & Rock Painting

Stamp & Coin Collectors

Metal Wrench Art & Native American Jewelry

Pan Pacific Expo display with novagems

Games & Vintage Toys for Kids

Ongoing activities: Refreshments, Tours, Blacksmith Shop and Art Demonstrations

www.livermorehistory.com

March 31—Children's Day
April 28—Mad Hatter Tea Party
May 26—Vintage Cars & Engines
June 30—Ranchero Day

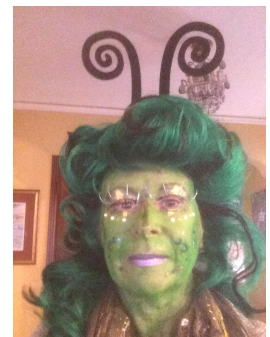
August 25—Go Outside & Play
September 29—This Old Ranch Day
October 27—Halloween
November 24—Holiday Celebration



Alien Creature Wins Contest

Thank you to this alien creature (a.k.a. Loretta Kaskey) for entering - and WINNING! - the HOME Campaign Award for Best Costume in the "Run for Home" event at LLNL. She won the right to select the charity who would receive her \$100 prize and our favorite alien chose The Livermore Heritage Guild. Many employers enthusiastically support non-profit groups by offering grants, matching gifts, or other funding opportunities such as costume contests. On such occasions please keep the Livermore Heritage Guild in mind.

Right: Alien selfie by Loretta Kaskey.



What Is It?

by Jeff Kaskey

Another in our irregular series of “What The Heck Is It?” This brightly colored donation came to the Hagemann ranch along with a very respectable, and likely lethal, hay fork. We were told it was a mower. This past weekend, between raindrops, I took a closer look at this thing and the one thing I can tell you for sure is that it is not a mower! From a distance it does have the look of a classic reel-type push-mower, with the slightly spiral blades spinning just above a cutting bar. But it is not, and we’ll talk about why.

By the way, for the curious among you, the reel-type mower is still the superior way to cut your lawn. The traditional rotary mower takes a vicious mid-air chop at all of your grass and flays the tip, leaving shards of grass which will die quickly and neither look the best nor are the healthiest for your lawn. The reel-type neatly trims the tips essentially like scissors, leaving a healthy square tip that stays green longer. The fact that they are available as human-powered models also

means they are probably healthier for you. No, I don’t use one either, and the thing we are talking about here isn’t one, but I know you are curious.

Our curiosity device does in fact have a thing that looks like the reel on the reel-mower, but there are no wheels to propel it, and indeed the reel just rolls along the ground if you angle it right. But with it angled that way, the three back spikes barely touch the ground because of a flat bar. The bar is a good inch from the reel, so it is not doing any scissor cuts, but maybe the bar gets dragged through the dirt somehow.

I’m assuming it is some sort of cultivator, but the action of the reel, bar and spikes suggest either a very specific purpose, or maybe just a novelty item that was sold by showing it fluffing through loam and nobody ever used it in real dirt. And note that I could not find a single identification mark on this. Do any of our Guild sleuths out there know anything more?



Above: The mystery object. Photo by Jeff Kaskey.

While I’m asking for input, my encounter with this latest hay fork has me wondering why we did not hear more about mortal hay-fork accidents. The long fine pointed tips on the end of a substantial handle being ritually plunged into hay and flung, maybe over your shoulder or somewhere behind, just seem right up there with Lawn Jarts in the category of things likely to maim someone in a split-second unguarded moment. Anyone know if these injuries were actually quite common, or am I the only klutz?



“I Spy Summer” is the theme of this year’s Alameda County Fair, June 14th – July 7th, and it promises to have something for everyone. But with YOUR help, there will be an additional bonus for the Guild.

The Fair uses volunteers to work various jobs in guest services, building, concert, and race track attendants, and even a few spots in shuttle services. Volunteers are not paid directly for their time but instead earn money for their non-profit organization. ACF compensates by the hour - \$4 - \$6 per hour depending on the time/area you work. For example: if we had 10 people choose to work three 6-hour shifts at \$5 per hour, LHG would receive \$900. All volunteers will be

I Spy Summer

by Dottie Eberly

trained and volunteer workers receive free admission to the fair and parking for any day you are working so that you could attend the fair as a guest before or after your shift. As a bonus, you receive two more admission tickets to the fair to go back and enjoy it on a day you are not volunteering.

The volunteer scheduling is done online and is on a “first come, first served” basis. When you log in to schedule you will have free choice of what is available, so the earlier you log in to schedule, the more shifts that will be available. For the shifts in the coveted spots (such as shuttle), log in time will be taken into account and they will do their best to make sure you get at least one of your choices. There are three shifts per day ranging from 3-7 hours each. The earliest shifts begin at 10:30am; the later shifts start after 3:00pm, with the latest one ending at 11:15pm.

As this newsletter goes to print, we have not received this year’s official packet which will contain the online scheduling dates. The anticipated dates are March 25th to May 20th and we encourage you to start checking the website on the 25th. You will be able to find the link at www.alamedacountyfair.com. Click on the “Fair Info” sign, then “join”, then “volunteer program” once the registration is open.

As soon as the Fair Volunteer Program information is received it will be posted at www.lhg.org and a Mail Chimp will be sent out. You are also welcome to email Dottie at doteberly@comcast.net with any questions or concerns.

Please consider being a Livermore Heritage Guild volunteer at the Fair. It’s a great opportunity to have fun and earn money for LHG at the same time!

City Historian Report

by Richard Finn



Tilli Calhoun book collection: I have been working with the Calhoun family to find a home/homes for Tilli's history book collection. Because of limited space in the History Center only books that deal directly with Livermore area history will be added to the collection. Harry Briley and Linda Driver have selected a number of books to add, but we need to find a home for the remaining books.

McCollier/Collier of Collier Canyon: We received a query from Linda Donahue Dufurrena, of Nevada, who wanted to know if she was really a

descendent of the Collier family of the same named canyon. Upon researching the Collier family I found that she was, indeed, a direct descendent of the family and is also a second cousin of Mary Foxworthy Rasmussen for whom a house plaque was recently awarded. Linda remembers a vineyard behind her house on Seventh St. just south of East Ave. She thinks it may have belonged to the Wenthe family. I have talked to a number of "old timers" who grew up in Livermore. None of them agree. Some think it might have been a Concannon vineyard. Don Keach thinks it was a little vineyard and is trying to remember the owners' names. We did find out that the Collier place is now the Marciel ranch which is just north of Los Positas College. There are a lot of well known Tri-Valley surnames related to the Collier family, such as: Burns, Pritchard, Ferrario, Fraser, Mannix, Donahue, and Mortensen.

Petersen/Peterson/Pedersen: I continue to research the Petersen/Peterson/Pedersen families who lived in the Los Banos & Gustine areas and may be related to Joan Petersen Detjens, widow of the late Walter Detjens of the pioneer Vallecitos Road Detjens family. (The Petersens lived in Livermore some time ago.) I haven't found that link yet, but discovered that my wife is a distant

relative of the Knudsen family of Los Banos, and Joan thinks she may also be related to them.

Bunshah and Meeker Indexes: We received great news, for anyone interested in local history, from Blanche Angelo of the Livermore Library. The Library has added the Bunshah and Meeker Indexes to their website. On the Livermore Library website, go to About the Library, then click Digital Library, then Local Links, and then Local History and Genealogy.

Barbara Bunshah and Don Meeker put a huge amount of work into creating these indexes. Now because of their efforts, lots and lots of information will be available for people researching local families and events right in their own homes.

Livermore Plaque book: We continue work on the book about the many Livermore area plaques. There were over one hundred at last count. Terry McCune, a new volunteer at the History Center, found yet another plaque we did not know about and so far have been unable to find much about the person it honors: Margaret Mead of the LARPD.

Above Left: Richard Finn. Photo by Janet Van Toussaint.

Janis Kate Turner (1943 - 2018)

by Jacky Poulsen

On November 14, about a dozen women from an informal local group in town called AWOL (Active Women of Livermore) joined Richard Finn on a fun and very informative historical tour of Livermore. This was initially organized by long time AWOL member Janis Kate Turner. Unfortunately Janis passed away shortly before the tour was to take place. But her friends decided to stick with the plan; that's what Janis would have wanted. At the end, a donation to LHG was made in Janis' name. Janis was a long time Livermore resident and had a strong interest in local history, which is why she was excited to organize this historical tour.

For those who didn't know Janis, she was quite an extraordinary woman with an impressive variety of interests and involvements. To name a few:

- She taught K-8th grade in a variety of schools in Livermore, and continued substitute teaching in her retirement.
- She was involved for many years with the Tri Valley Sierra Club.
- She was president of TriValley CARES
- She volunteered with the Laundry ministry for the homeless
- She had an insatiable appetite for adventure, including hiking, biking,

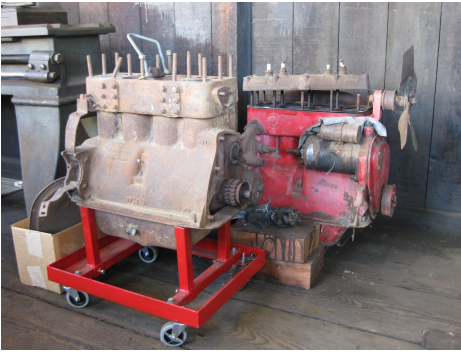
backpacking and cross country skiing.

- In her early 60s she and two other women rode their bikes across country, from the Pacific Ocean to Virginia Beach.
- She was a master gardener, specializing in native plants
- She volunteered for several Bay Area theaters
- For decades she was part of two other unique groups: a 'dream group' and a 'wild women' group!

Janis leaves behind her son Brian, his wife Leslie, and her beloved granddaughter Piper. And many, many friends who will sorely miss her!

Star Chamber Interim Report

by Will Bolton



Early in the history of the Duarte Garage, Frank Duarte sold Chevrolet, Durant, and Star cars. The names "Durant" and "Star" are painted in the north windows, matching early photographs of the Garage. For many years, there were two very rusty four cylinder Star engines, that had been stripped of most of their external components, sitting in the machine shop. In 2016, Curtis Freih, a member of the Durant Motors Automobile Club and a Star owner, donated an almost complete Star engine of approximately 1924 vintage - painted red - to the Garage. The three Star engines have been sitting in the machine shop taunting us for several years.

Gradually, a Master Plan for Global Domination emerged. The first element

would be to dress the red engine with as complete a set of components as we could muster. Next, we would free up as many functional internal components in one of the rusted blocks as we could, so visitors and the curious could turn the engine over and see how a crankshaft and connecting rods and pistons and a camshaft and valves worked together to provide motive power from gasoline (sadly, this knowledge is increasingly rare). The final step would be to display the remaining internal engine parts separately so visitors could examine them closely.

Merv Nichols took the first tentative steps by squirting penetrating oil into the cylinders of one of the engines. About two months ago, we reached the tipping point and began attempting to take one of the rusted engines apart. Saying the engines were rusted doesn't really do justice to their actual condition. One of the engines had sat outside so long that some grass had grown up into the crankcase, through an open valve, and - as we later discovered - had filled one cylinder with a tangled mat of grass that was seeking sunlight.

The Duarte Garage Hard Corps working on the Star engines comprised Don Keech, Jay Morris, Ralph Moir, Steve

Racca, Fred Deadrick, and me. Our secret weapon was Don, who has experience rebuilding Star engines back in the day. (I'm not sure when "back in the day" was - but it was a long time ago.) I get a real kick out of the fact that, after many decades, people are once again working on a 1920's Star engine in the Duarte machine shop. The internal parts of the engine are in much better condition than they have any right to be, given the years that the engine sat outside. We have a good start on getting one of the rusty engines able to turn. We are missing some internal parts that make the valves move but we'll figure that out in due time.



Above Left: Red engine - donated by Curtis Freih; rusty engine - a long-term resident of the Duarte machine shop; **Far above:** Ralph and Don removing a valve by whatever means necessary; **Above:** Don and Will having a conversation with piston #1 about leaving home, aided by a hammer and wood block; **Left:** Ralph, Don, and Steve celebrating total victory over a Star valve. All photos provided by Will Bolton.

Get On Board

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From top: Tom Eberly receives the coveted Hero of Mano a Rattus Cage Match award for duties above and beyond in ridding the Duarte Cottage of rats. Photo by Janet Von Toussaint; Kathy Lee makes last minute adjustments to Max, the Grinch's dog, on the LHG float for the Holiday Sights and Sounds Parade. Photo by Dottie Eberly; Chicken Coop #2 was transformed by Kathy Lee into Santa's house during the Holiday Celebration at Hagemann Ranch. Photo by Loretta Kaskey.

conversation and the next thing Donna knew, she was serving as a docent at the History Center.

Harry Briley also became involved after his retirement. He'd heard of the Guild through the History Talks, but didn't realize the range of options available for volunteers. Instead of becoming a docent, Harry's first involvement was in repairing pre-electrical office hand-crank calculators. Many volunteers become involved just like Harry, getting connected to a project and then spring-boarding to other interests. For Dottie and Tom Eberly, it was the History Mobile. The Eberlys had just moved to Livermore when Dottie saw an ad in *The Independent* advertising the need for HistoryMobile docents. When Dottie realized that the HistoryMobile was, at the time, "more of a dream than reality", she and husband Tom quickly became a part of the group of volunteers who restored the 1986 Barth motorhome to the museum on wheels that it is today. Kathy Joseph-Stockman was also drawn in by the HistoryMobile, becoming a docent and "learning so many interesting details about Livermore [she] did not know, even though [she has] lived here for so long". For Harry, Dottie, and Kathy, those initial experiences expanded to greater involvement with the collections, Hagemann Ranch, and now as President, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively, of the Guild.

The idea of using skills or interests to meet a specific need in the Guild is another way that many become involved. Often it's a current Guild member who sees a match between a potential volunteer and a need. In the 1990s, Joe Bishop asked Jeff Kaskey to take a look at an old mimeograph machine that had been donated to the Guild. Jeff came to the basement of the Carnegie building without knowing much about the building or the Guild, and in spite of determining that the mimeograph "was best left in peace," Jeff's attention was captured. And it was Bill Junk who, during a Duarte Garage Open House, suggested that Will Bolton take a look at the Seagrave fire engine. Irv Stowers and Chuck McFann had just started the restoration project and Will was hooked.

Like many other volunteers, Will discovered that that one project led to another. And with that work comes many benefits - chiefly the chance to get to know amazing people and to learn more about the community. Will finds that "the rewards of involvement in LHG activities are the opportunity to associate with talented and interesting people while working on projects to preserve Livermore history and historical artifacts and sharing them with members of the community." Donna Stevens also recognizes the dual appeal of being involved with the Guild: "the many great friends I've made and all I've learned about Livermore's very interesting history."

It's the heritage of the Livermore area, with its diverse mix of agriculture and technology, that also contribute to the broad scope of the Guild's involvement. Some find that getting involved with something very different than their 9-5 work can be nerve racking, but also immensely satisfying. Jeff Kaskey admits to some trepidation in getting involved with the management of Hagemann Ranch, "but an opportunity to expand our operations into the last piece of a 150 year old ranch from the original Mexican rancho that also included the City of Livermore itself was too amazing to decline." For Barbara Soules, the force behind the hugely popular Sundays at Hagemann events, the Ranch is her very special place and she is "thrilled that the ranch is being restored and open to the public."

No matter the activity: participating in the Rodeo and Holiday parades, bringing the HistoryMobile to Livermore's third graders, conducting Downtown Walking Tours, pruning roses and weeding in the Heritage Garden, restoring and maintaining historical sites, completing property research, accessioning items into the collection, making displays, docenting at the History Center, planning receptions, lectures, and auctions, bringing vintage machines and vehicles back to life, the Livermore Heritage Guild members attack these varied tasks with gusto. It's this wide range of tasks that make the Livermore Heritage Guild unique.

Celebrating Life Members

As we celebrate the contributions of our volunteers, we especially wish to acknowledge the loyal commitment of our life members. The trust and support these members have shown in the Heritage Guild by purchasing Life Memberships is truly appreciated. If you wish to purchase a Life Membership, please visit www.lhg.org or inquire at the History Center.

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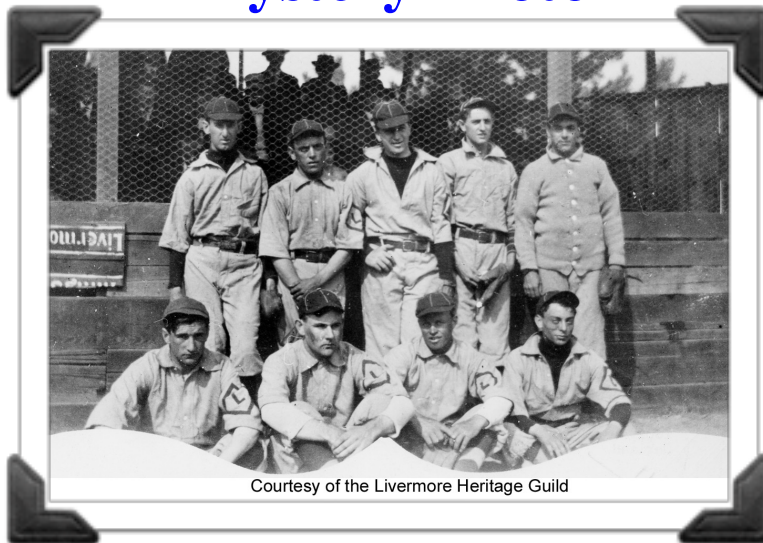
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LHG Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
Wednesday, February 13	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	History Center
Saturday, February 16	9am — 12pm	Workday at Hagemann	Hagemann Ranch
Sunday, February 17	10am — 2pm	Duarte Garage Open House	Duarte Garage
Sunday, February 24	1pm — 4pm	Sundays at Hagemann Ranch: Vintage Collections and Toys	Hagemann Ranch
Wednesday, March 13	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	History Center
Sunday, March 17	10am — 2pm	Duarte Garage Open House	Duarte Garage
Saturday, March 23	9am — 12pm	Workday at Hagemann	Hagemann Ranch
Monday, March 25		Schedule Online - Volunteer for Alameda County Fair	
Sunday, March 31	1pm — 4pm	Sundays at Hagemann Ranch: Children's Day	Hagemann Ranch
Wednesday, April 10	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	History Center
Wednesday, April 17	7pm — 8:30pm	History Talk: What's New and Old at the Duarte Garage	Main Library
Saturday, April 20	9am — 12pm	Workday at Hagemann	Hagemann Ranch
Sunday, April 21	10am — 2pm	Duarte Garage Open House	Duarte Garage
Sunday, April 28	1pm — 4pm	Sundays at Hagemann Ranch: Mad Hatter Tea Party	Hagemann Ranch
Wednesday, May 8	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	History Center
Saturday, May 11	5pm	LHG Auction	Duarte Garage

Mystery Photo



Courtesy of the Livermore Heritage Guild

The 1908 Livermore Baseball Club is pictured above. L-R: standing: unidentified, Joe Cavagnaro, unidentified, unidentified, Charles Oswell; sitting: far right, Willard Barber. Photo from Vernon J. Sappers. Who are the unidentified players? It might be possible to compare this photo to similar photos from earlier or later years to see if the same players are named. We've tried doing so and can possibly identify one more player. For someone who could spend the time, this might be an interesting piece of detective work. Please contact Linda Driver or Jeff Kaskey if you think you know!

Welcome New and Renewing Members!

Welcome New Member!

Jeffery Williams

Membership Renewals

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Steve Goodman
John Sarboraria
Mr. Gale Hudson
Bill Cervenka
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Finn

Sue Dyer
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In Appreciation

Donations

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Donations in Memory of Janis Turner

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The Livermore Heritage Guild newsletter is an official publication of the Livermore Heritage Guild.

Contact the newsletter editor with comments or suggestions.

Livermore Heritage Guild

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www.lhg.org

The Livermore Heritage Guild History Center is located in the historic 1911 Carnegie Library building at 2155 Third Street.

History Center hours generally are Wednesday through Saturday,

11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Phone: (925) 449-9927.

Free admission.

Annual membership dues are: Individual \$25.00, Family \$35.00, Senior (age 62+) \$15.00, Student \$15.00, Sponsor \$75.00 and Patron \$150.00. Life (Individual) \$500.00 and Business \$300.00 memberships are also available. Please make checks payable to "LHG." Mail to P.O. Box 961, Livermore, CA 94551.

If you have not heard about our various events, then maybe we don't have your email. Please update us and we'll let you know about all the heritage happenings!