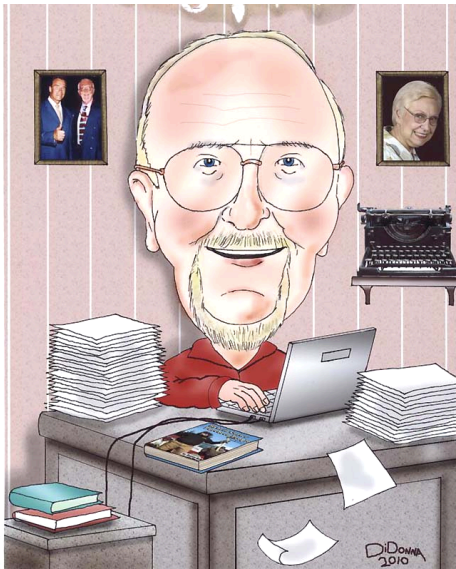




Barry Schrader: Storyteller and Change Maker

by Dottie and Meighen Eberly



“It has been a rewarding and heartwarming experience visiting people in all parts of the county, sitting around their kitchen or dining room table to collect stories, perusing family albums or mementoes of their lives. As one writer said many years ago: Every person alive today has a story to tell, it just needs harvesting by a story teller.”
— Barry Schrader, December 27, 2019, *DeKalb County Life*

While we have been staying home and sheltering in place, we’ve had occasion to observe our friends, neighbors, and community supporting each other during this unusual time. It has given us an opportunity to reflect on how very fortunate we are to live in Livermore — seeing residents supporting one another, patronizing local restaurants and businesses, walking outside and being surrounded by beautiful neighborhoods, parks, and vineyards. We are able to enjoy these things because of those who care passionately and become change makers. One such person is Barry

Schrader. Without him, there are many Livermore stories that would never have been told. Though we didn’t have the pleasure of meeting Barry Schrader while he was a Livermore resident, we have thoroughly enjoyed learning a little of his story through his biography and the memories shared from people whose lives he has touched here in Livermore.

In 1967, Barry Schrader came to Livermore from DeKalb County, Illinois by way of San Bernardino. His roots had always been in journalism, and together with his wife Kay, he owned and operated a number of local papers throughout his time in Illinois and in California. After a brief hiatus in Illinois between 1969 - 1972, Barry established himself and his family here in Livermore, first as the editor of the Valley Times, followed by the Livermore Herald. He then became a public information officer and science writer at Sandia Laboratory, before serving as a community relations manager and oral historian at LLNL. In 2006, he and Kay moved back to DeKalb County, having made an indelible mark of their own on the history of Livermore.

No matter where he lived, Barry invested deeply in his community. He was a founding member of the Livermore Heritage Guild and was recognized for his work many times in promoting the HistoryMobile and other

Above left: Barry as drawn by illustrator John DiDonna in 2010. Shown in the background are photos of his wife Kay, Barry meeting former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and his illustrated book *Hybrid Corn and Purebred People*. **Above right:** As Guild President, Barry greets former world champion cowboy Johnie Schneider at the 8th Annual General Meeting of the Livermore Heritage Guild. Photos courtesy of dekalbcountylife.com.

contributions to the Guild. Anna Siig remembers his persuasive nature fondly, saying, “Barry Schrader calls. You are very busy and yet, you just say yes.

“Paint railroad spikes gold and paint lettering on them; ‘Save the Depot?’ Yes. Gold spikes all over the place.

“Barry was concerned about the city’s time capsule leaking. We ought to find it

(Schrader, continued on page 10)



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Heritage Garden

by Loretta Kaskey

Spring is here at the Hagemann Ranch; even if you just drove by, you'd be greeted with a stunning yellow welcome by the gate as the Scotch Broom is bursting forth. The local bees have taken notice. Thanks to the recent rain, the winter crops (wheat, barley and oats) are lush and taller than this farmer.

We practice plenty of social distancing when it comes to the weeding of a garden. The barn cats aren't that helpful. As I set to work to pull weeds, the cats do keep me company as supervisory volunteers. And what do I come across in one of the paths? Some volunteer arugula that had reseeded itself from last summer's garden. It was bolting, shooting up its white wispy flower. Arugula flower is edible. It's mild nutty taste with a softer arugula bite, common to the leaves, makes them a delightful addition to egg dishes or to top salads.

In addition to the arugula flowers, the heritage garden currently has two other edible flowers. Did you know you can eat chive and fava bean flowers? The chive flowers are very onion spicy, while the fava bean flowers taste mildly of fresh green peas. We also have Miner's Lettuce, though not cultivated in the garden, but freely germinated and growing along the fence rows and even against the red barn.

In a month's time we hope to harvest the grains and begin the summer garden, planting the standards of a kitchen garden: peppers, tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, and squash.



Top left: Scotch broom in full bloom; **Above:** Barn Cat Sophie supervising the weed pulling efforts and stopping to notice the arugula in flower with barley and wheat in the background and a few fava bean plants in the foreground; **Middle Left:** Miner's lettuce; **Below:** Fava beans in lower left, red oats in the upper left, winter wheat in the middle foreground and barley to the far right. All photos by L. Kaskey.



Historic South Side Homes

by Richard Finn

When some of us started talking about the Heritage Guild giving walks and talks about the great old homes on the south side of Livermore I was not sure how much interest there would be. I sure underestimated the interest. When I gave a talk about the homes at the Livermore Library the meeting had to be moved from the Community Meeting Room to the larger Story Time Room and even then a number of people had to stand and others left because of a lack of seating. It was a similar story when I gave the talk at Stoneridge Creek retirement home in Pleasanton. Other talks were planned but had to be postponed because of the Covid 19 virus outbreak.

We were asked by LARPD to give a walk highlighting the historic south side homes. We didn't know how many people might be interested. Not to worry. Once the signups started, the allotted list filled up right away. A backup list was started and it filled up. Before the virus outbreak closed things down we were able to give both walks.

Please allow me to highlight a few of the historic homes we feature. After leaving our starting place, the Carnegie Library Building, we stop at the corner of 4th and K and talk about a house many people have wondered about, the large white Beck House, built in 1924, for grocery and hardware store keeper and town trustee, Charles Edson Beck. At each stop we talk about the person who built the house, the age of the house, highlights about the family, why they are important to the history of Livermore, etc.

The next house we visit is the Taylor/Twohey House at the corner of 5th and J. This is one of my favorite houses. It, like most of the other great old homes, has been restored and maintained in great shape. Twohey reminds me to have our guests look down at the sidewalk as we move along. This is for a couple of reasons: some of the sidewalks have shifted because of tree roots and might be a tripping hazard. But the main reason is to look for the interesting contractor sidewalk stamps in the



Above: The 1895 Knox House on L Street, the first stucco house in town. Photo by Richard Finn.

concrete. They are a who's who of many of the old Livermore concrete contractors from the early 1900s – Cyril Twohey and Thomas Twohey being two of them.

South L Street is kind of a gold mine of historic homes. Starting on the west side of L near 5th is the Laumeister/Giovannetti/Meyers 1885 home. Dr. Meyers was part of the Meyers family that developed much of L Street between 5th and 6th streets. His brother Henry Haight Meyers was a very well-known architect who, after the 1906 earthquake, designed many skyscrapers, office buildings, retail stores, factories, and warehouses in the Bay Area. He designed Highland Hospital, Livermore's Arroyo TB Sanitarium, 10 veteran's memorial buildings, and many other homes and buildings. Some of the Meyers houses on L Street include the Oscar Meyers/Presbyterian Manse built in 1894, and the Taylor House (the Big White House) built in 1898.

In the midst of the Meyers designed homes is the Knox House built in 1895 by Thomas Elliott Knox. He had a long

list of occupations and community service including vineyard owner, contractor, plasterer, cement mason including sidewalks, postmaster, county tax collector, chairman of the Livermore Cornet Band, chair of the Board of Town trustees, in 1905 accepted the new flagpole as mayor, county chimney inspector, Livermore Union High School trustee, secretary of Livermore Mutual Building and Loan Assoc., and county supervisor among other things. This is reported to be the first stucco house in town.

We stop in front of 24 houses on our walk. Unfortunately we cannot list them all in this article but let me mention a couple of great interest. One is the Thomas Hart house, said to be built in 1860 or 1875. It is perhaps the oldest standing house in Livermore. Hart was a vaquero for Robert Livermore and it is reported that he is the one who sold about 680 acres to William Mendenhall, who in turn laid out the town of Livermore in 1869. The other house I must mention is the very large 1888 Twin Palms/Ansbacher House at the

(Homes, continued on page 7)

Hagemann Happenings

by Barbara Soules

Shelter in Place has had an enormous effect on activities at the ranch. All Sundays at Hagemann events have been cancelled until at least June. If it is safe to congregate by the end of June, we'll have the Mad Hatter Tea Party then. Children's Day that was scheduled for March will be held in September.

But the ranch is not totally quiet. We are installing some security cameras with motion detector lights to help keep us all safe. Tom Eberly is doing all the electrical work. Sunflower Hill has had to cancel all their school programs, but the staff are very busy planting summer crops and harvesting winter ones. They are supplying Culinary Angels with produce which they, in turn, distribute to cancer patients and other needy families.

The 4-H horses have supplied the major excitement for the season. Two mares, Cache and Cupcake, gave birth within ten days of each other. There are two adorable foals frolicking in the far paddocks near the arena. They are spreading lots of positive energy, hope and joy to those of us lucky enough to be able to watch them grow. Did you know horses walk within a few minutes of being born? They are still practicing on their very long skinny legs. Dache already accepts human contact but it will be a while longer before Dasher learns that people are OK.

I spent some more time digesting the content of John "Wes" Shaffer's research on Hagemann Ranch. I'd like to share the story of how the Hagemann family came to Livermore and became involved with the Mendenhall farms.

It all starts with a very courageous, independent woman, Cecelia Marie Kolln, from Seester, Denmark (Province of Holstein). At the age of 24, Cecelia married Matthius Hagemann. Two years later the Danish War began and Prussia took over the province of Holstein. Matthius wanted nothing to do with the Prussians and quickly left Denmark for New York, leaving Cecelia and their two-year-old son, August, in Seester. After three years in New York, he became an American citizen and sailed to San Francisco. He bought a 270-acre



Above: Even in the midst of the lockdown, Hagemann Ranch continues to thrive. Photo by Brian Odell.

farm on the San Mateo coast. Feeling well established in California, he sent for his family. In 1868 Cecelia and August boarded the steamer Germania for the four-week trip across the Atlantic. Three cabins down from them on board was a fellow who will play a very large part in this story, Mass Luders. Luders was on his way back to San Francisco after attending his mother's funeral in Holstein. He was returning to work in California on the William Mendenhall farm west of what is now Isabel Avenue. The neighboring farm was that of William's brother, Martin, the current Hagemann Ranch.

This fairytale story assumes that Cecelia and Mass met on board the ship. They had a lot in common. They were from

neighboring villages in Denmark. They were both married but alone on the long trip. They were both headed for San Francisco and were very close in age. She was 29 and he 31.

What happens when Cecelia gets to San Francisco is the reason I describe her as courageous and independent. She meets up with her husband, Matthius, and, since there was no house on the San Mateo property, they settled in the city. Matthius had recently hired a house servant, sixteen-year-old Cecelia Weis, also from Seester. It seems that Cecelia #2 became more than a servant for Hagemann because in the spring of 1869 Cecelia #1 filed for divorce on the grounds of adultery. Luckily for her, the

(Hagemann, continued on page 5)

Hagemann

(continued from page 4)

week before the divorce was finalized, they sold the farm in San Mateo for \$9,000 and she got half of the profits. Cecelia is now a single mother, living in a new country. But not for long.

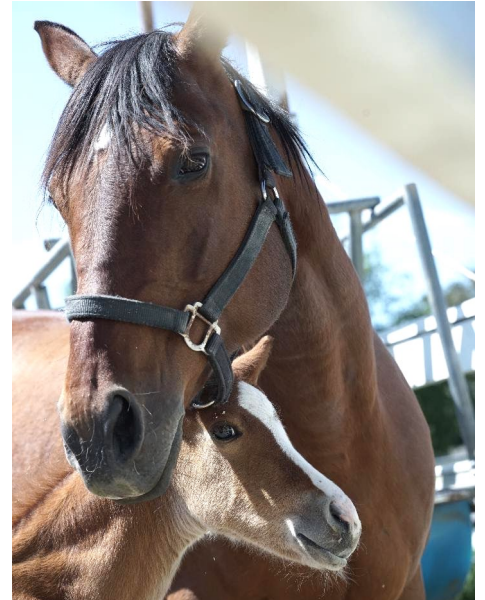
At the same time, back in Livermore, Mass Luders' wife and young son die of unknown causes around 1870. They had been married for eight years and their son, Mass, was only a year old. He is now a widower working the large farm.

There was a cupid who somehow, without the internet, brought a single mom in San Francisco and a widower in Livermore together. The truth is that we don't know how this transpired, but in 1872 Mass and Cecelia were married and Cecelia moved to the Mendenhall Farm west of Livermore.

The farm became quite profitable and by 1881 the Luders were able to buy all 650 acres from William Mendenhall outright for \$37,000. Now the Luders were the Martin Mendenhall's next-door neighbors.

How the Martin Mendenhall farm becomes the Hagemann Ranch is another story, but suffice it to say that it all hinges on one bold woman, Cecelia Luders. She was Herb Hagemann's great grandmother.

Clockwise from top: Dache Buttercup, born April 6 and her mom, Cupcake. Photo by Steve Herman; Dasher's Gold, born March 28 and his mom, Cache. Photo by Steve Herman; The restored wash house, the milk house side not yet restored. New shingle roof, walls fully restored, retaining every bit of existing historic lumber, new support for stove chimney. Amazing work again from Phil Dean and Don Bartlett. Photo courtesy of Jeff Kaskey.



amazonsmile

Would you be willing to help 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!

A Message from the President

While under quarantine lockdown since March, the Guild continues to operate behind the scenes using Zoom and other teleconference meetings. These on-line meetings are the wave of the future.

The LHG Board held two special meetings to update our Operations Plan regarding current and future projects. This activity prompted a subsequent planning session for moving or dismantling the Midway one-room schoolhouse currently at a local ranch.

To compound matters, I broke my elbow playing with AWANA teenagers on March 1. It required surgery to pin and wire together. Now out of the cast, it still needs more strength and flexing. Requisite therapy was unavailable and even the surgeon saw my elbow via a Zoom appointment. I could not drive or do physical labor. Guild and church members drove me around in the early days of recovery when it was much needed. Now, quite healthy and at home with those few exceptions, I worked on the LHG website. See: www.lhg.org

I extracted master spreadsheets from PastPerfect (our museum database). One

spreadsheet for Photos appears on the Photos page. The other spreadsheet for Objects, Books, and Archives appears near the bottom of the main page. These let you search our entire database at home by using Microsoft Excel.

There is a new page listing digitized films from the 1930's and 1950's found by Ann Pfaff-Doss and processed by the Museum on Main (Pleasanton). See: https://www.lhg.org/links_film.html

If you see your younger self in these 1950's films, or you know the name of an explored store, please e-mail me at brileyh@comcast.net to improve my web descriptive text for that film.

A new (but old) Oral History page came from our former long-ago website. The interviews of these 'old timers' tell of Livermore long before 1953. See: https://www.lhg.org/Audio/Oral_History/Oral_History.html

A new YouTube Channel has two short LHG videos posted so far. Search for Robert Livermore (but of course). If you subscribe to that channel, YouTube will then inform you about our future videos.



Links to these several new web features appear on the main LHG page, the Photos page, and the revived Oral History page. Enjoy!

We hope to see you afresh once they lift the quarantine. Watch our website for the latest calendar details.

Harry Briley

Meet a Board Member: Susan Junk

by Dottie Eberly



Above: Susan Junk wearing her famous lightbulb hat at the One Million Hour Party in 2015; photo by Dan Rosenstrauch, Bay Area News Group.

If you have been keeping track, you've noticed that of all the Board members profiled so far, not one has been a Livermore native. That makes this issue's featured Board member, Susan Junk, very special. Not only is she Livermore born and raised, but so was her mother. Her great-great grandparents came to the Livermore area in the 1860s. Susan was born at St. Paul's Hospital on South J Street and lived with her parents in a Jensen built house on Yale Way. She attended Jackson Avenue, East Avenue Middle School, and is a third generation Cowboy from Livermore High School.

Throughout her childhood, Susan probably had no choice in her involvement with the Guild. Her mom, Kitsy, served as LHG Treasurer and Membership Chair, while her dad, Bill, was at different times the Vice Chairman, the Curator of the Duarte Garage and Lincoln Highway Museum, and then a Director at Large.

Susan, following in her dad's footsteps, was appointed as a Heritage Guild Director at Large in September, 2016. She has also taken on the herculean task of keeping the History Center staffed with docents, which means that she is very often the first smiling face you will see when you visit the History Center. She is also the newsletter staff's dependable go-to person when a quick fact-check or last-minute photo is needed for the next edition.

When not involved in Guild activities she continues living her commitment to Livermore's treasured history by serving as a costumed docent at Ravenswood. In 2021 you will find her donning her lightbulb hat for the 120th birthday celebration of our famous light bulb, and soon after that she hopes to attend the grand opening of our new-old Midway School. Susan says that "when it comes to preserving Livermore's history, it is not just civic pride, or patriotic, it is personal".

Duarte Garage

by Will Bolton

We appreciate all the visitors to the Duarte Garage but, on February 21, 2020, we had a special visitor: a person who popped popcorn in the Manley popcorn popper.

A few years ago, as the Garage crew worked on the Manley popcorn machine - which had come from the State Theater on First Street in Livermore - we wondered if there was anyone still in town who had used the machine at the theater. After much speculation and some enquiries, including a notice in a recent issue of the Livermore Heritage Guild Newsletter, we found that Irv Stowers had met just such a person at a Garage event: Margaret Sorensen. With an introduction by Irv, Don Keech made arrangements to bring Margaret to the Duarte Garage to take some photos of her with the Manley popcorn machine and to have a conversation about her experiences working at the State Theater.

(Duarte, continued on page 9)



Above: Margaret Sorensen visited the Duarte Garage on February 21, 2020, to share her memories of using the Manley popcorn machine when she worked at the State Theater in Livermore while attending Livermore High School. Photo by Will Bolton.

Homes

(continued from page 3)

corner L and College. We get more questions about that house than any other. This house was built for Philip Anspacher, born 1846 in Kentucky and died 1925 in San Francisco, but he never lived there. Anspacher Bros. owned a number of warehouses (near the railroad tracks) and stores in Livermore and San Francisco. Philip's sister Emma, born 1856 in Kentucky and died 1924 in San Francisco, lived in this house with husband Samuel Seller, born 1845 in Germany and died 1919 in San Francisco. Samuel was a hay, grain, & lumber merchant with Anspacher Bros.

As we give these walks every now and then, an owner will come out and ask why we are stopped in front of their house and are talking about it. Once we tell them why, they all have been most gracious and supplied details about the house I did not know. But even better than that is being invited into these great old homes. The first one we went into was the 1934 Robertson House where Lynn Tobin and her daughter Jennifer

told us about Lynn's grandfather, Dr. John Robertson, founder of the Livermore Sanitarium and internationally known psychiatrist. They are in the process of writing a book about Dr. Robertson, how he changed psychiatric treatment, and the very interesting history of the Livermore Sanitarium.

Another great old home we have been fortunate to visit is the very large 1895 Gables where owners Barbara and Lee Savoy not only told us the history of the building but also took us on a tour of this

amazing structure. The Savoy's also have a very interesting story to tell: the history of the building, the difficult move to the present site, and the reconstruction. They have a lot of documentation including photographs. I very much hope they will write a book and share their knowledge.

Once the virus outbreak is under control and we can meet in groups again we are planning on offering more talks and walks featuring the Historic Southside Homes. Please join us.



Above: Richard Finn leads a tour during less socially distant times. Photo by Kathy Lake.

Musings and Memories

by Anna Siig

The first time I met Virginia Fellingham... was probably in the 1970s as for some years we lived in the old Holmes/Baughman house which we moved from town to property almost eight miles out on Tesla Road.

One day, an acquaintance was helping repair fences so he could run some sheep on the front field. It was one of those quiet, still, spring days when it is as if the world is standing still. It felt like we ought only whisper. It was gently warm; the grass was green on the hills, the air still, no sounds; just quiet.

Then we heard horses' hooves on the road. Due to a small hill, we were unable to see what, or who, was coming. Soon came into view a team of horses, followed by another team and an outrider. We all stood staring. Then came a stagecoach and two more outriders. After a long, quiet pause, our acquaintance looked at his watch and said, "What year is it?"

We rushed down the long driveway to meet up with the stage. Yes, the stage stopped and for the first time, we met Virginia Fellingham, a neighbor. She seemed quite bemused at how excited

we were to see her, the stage and the teams of horses. We learned that Virginia, a widow with two young children, had taken over her late husband's job of driving stagecoaches for Wells Fargo.

The second time I met Virginia... another neighbor, Alice Myners, invited me to come to her place for tea. She lived just down Tesla on the other side of the road at the former Andrew Brown/Copeland place.

Upon my arrival, she explained that she was waiting for Virginia's son, Paul, to come to shoot a skunk. She had seen one outside and she was concerned it might be rabid.

We sat and visited. Someone came to the door. It was Virginia Fellingham, with a rifle over her shoulder. She asked Alice where the skunk was. Alice was a bit flustered, saying she had not meant for Virginia to come. Virginia explained that Paul was away, so she came to kill the skunk and Paul would come later to bury it.

Virginia went into the yard to the east of the house. We soon heard a



Above: Anna Siig. Photo courtesy of A. Siig.

shot. Virginia came back, put the gun down on the porch and joined us for tea.

While I didn't get to know Virginia well, I came to like and respect her. She had a great sense of humor. She was a no nonsense; get it done kind of person. She continued driving stagecoaches for Wells Fargo for over thirty years, driving the coach to hundreds of branch openings, fairs, parades, and festivals. She bought and trained the team horses, starred in a Wells Fargo commercial, and drove her stagecoach in Richard Nixon's inaugural parade, as well as numerous Livermore Rodeo Parades.

Anne Homan wonderfully captures Virginia's personality in her book, *Historic Livermore, California: A to Z*, page 164.

I would very much enjoy hearing your memories and stories about Virginia and I believe her children, Patsy Gilbert and Paul Fellingham, who both live in the Livermore Valley, would too.

You can contact me at siig@comcast.net.



Left: Virginia Fellingham and Earl Duarte as Grand Marshals of the Livermore Rodeo Parade. Photo courtesy of Keith and Kathy Erickson.

Duarte

(continued from page 7)

After taking some photos of Margaret with the Manley popcorn machine, Margaret, Don Keech, and Anna Siig sat in front of the machine and talked about their memories of people and places in Livermore, primarily during the period around and after WWII. Margaret had lived across the street from the Duarte Garage, for a time, in Joesville and walked from there to St. Michaels School in early grade school. Margaret and Don agreed that young children walking that far to school was not unusual at the time. Livermore only had about 2,500 residents and was considered a safe environment.

When Margaret was 16 years old, she got a job at the State Theater making popcorn. The popcorn was sold by the bag and Margaret stated that the popcorn made money for the theater because "It was about 90% profit." After making the final batch of popcorn for the evening, Margaret and other theater employees would take some popcorn up to the loge seats in the balcony and watch the last showing of the feature film of the night.

Margaret advanced through a succession of jobs at the State theater, from popcorn maker, to usherette, head usherette, ticket sales, and – during WWII – running the projectors. She told of an embarrassing event when she was projectionist. A movie was generally too long to fit on one reel, so they had two projectors. As each reel was reaching its



Above: Don Keech, Margaret Sorensen, and Anna Siig discussed mid-20th century Livermore during her visit. Photo by Will Bolton.

end, the projectionist would switch off one projector and simultaneously switch on the second projector holding the next reel. Usually, this transition was almost unnoticeable to the audience. Margaret said that there were two sets of reels for a movie that was showing, one in color and one in black and white. At a switch point between reels, she got a black and white reel on the second projector instead of the color reel. When the movie suddenly changed from color to black and white, she immediately heard about it loudly from the audience.

Another interesting anecdote came from when Margaret was an usherette as a

high school student. She said that sometimes the high school boys would be rowdy and it was her job to kick them out of the theater. However, she said that the boys respected that she had a job to do and she never had any trouble.

Margaret, Don, and Anna's conversation provided lots of interesting history of mid-twentieth century Livermore, complete with many human interest details that provide a more complete picture of life in that era. Fortunately, I was able to video tape about an hour of their conversation, which I will make available for access through the LHG History Center.

Auction Rescheduled

by Barbara Soules

In the February newsletter we asked you to save May 9th for the annual auction. A lot has happened since then and life is quite a bit different. Since large gatherings will certainly not be possible or welcome by early May, we are rescheduling the auction for a Saturday evening in September. The date has yet to be determined. We will combine it with the Annual General Meeting. The

auction will serve as the entertainment for the evening.

The Guild auction crew has already spent a couple days collecting, sorting and arranging some lovely baskets to be auctioned off. There is also a nice assortment of vintage furniture, some art, and as usual, experience items such as hayrides and rides on the fire trucks in

the parades. The menu is already set and the decorations planned. It should be a lovely event.

We look forward to a festive evening in September when we can all gather to dine together, learn about the state of the Guild, and raise some money for the organization with a rollicking auction. We hope to see you then!

Schrader

(continued from page 1)

and put everything in a better container. Of course, we will be there... each of the three times it took to find the capsule.

“A light bulb has been burning for 100 years and there ought to be a birthday party? The mayor told Barry to do it, when he suggested in council that there be a party. Barry called and I said yes.”

Most agree with Anna’s memories that Barry’s most memorable contribution was his focus on Livermore’s Centennial Light Bulb. Stewart Gary, Livermore-Pleasanton’s Fire Chief from 1994-2005 shared that, “Many will know that Barry researched and wrote the book that made the Livermore Fire Department Light Bulb known to be the world’s oldest, longest burning bulb – but only as far as the book reached around Livermore. Many [may] not know that Barry was the driving force in getting the bulb known around the world! If Barry had not cared, and known how to get me on board, none of that party nor all the

events after would have occurred. His passion for the bulb attracted hundreds of thousands or over a million views between the web site, a U.S. produced documentary movie, and international documentaries.”

Tim Sage first met Barry when they worked together at Sandia Laboratory. He remembers Barry’s boundless energy, curiosity, and enthusiasm. According to Tim, “Barry knows everyone and he is so darn good at building a team and accomplishing a task. If you [got] a chance to team up with him, go for it, and get set to enjoy bountiful ideas, staunch convictions, great wit, and positive energy.”

Dick Jones, who worked with Barry on a number of projects, noted that Barry was “the glue that over the years has kept us all together.” He has many great memories and photos of their collaborative efforts.

Referring to his long history with the Guild and the community, Susan Junk shared memories from both Barry’s newspaper career and his involvement in local history. She summed it up by



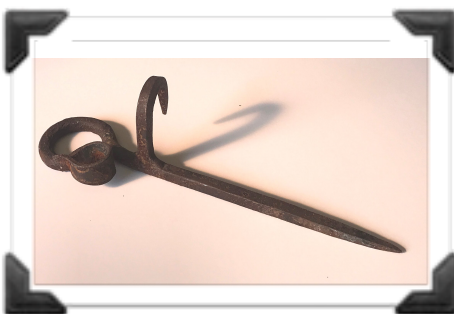
Above: Barry in a screen capture from the filming of the PBS documentary featuring “local eccentrics” about the lost time capsule and the famous light bulb. Photo courtesy of dekalbcountylife.com

saying that “Barry is the type of guy you could write a book about and one of those people you wish to ask when confronted with a question. ‘Hmmm... I bet Barry Schrader would know the answer.’”

Stu Gary declares that “Livermore is a far better place for having had Barry’s caring for us and our history.” And Anna Siig expresses it best, for all of us, when she says, “Thanks, Barry, for all you have done to save Livermore’s history and helping everyone have fun while at it!”

Mystery Solved!

by Jeff Kaskey



Last month’s piece of twisted wrought iron was what my mother called a Sticking Sammy. This precipitated one of my little victories over the internet: Google has NO entry for Sticking Sammy. It’s comforting that some small bit of our family lore is not yet engraved in Google’s stone tablets. Apparently though this is at least partly because a more common name for this device is the Sticking Tommy. I wonder if there was a Tommy in our lineage who took exception, and thus the substituted moniker? More formally referred to as a

Miner’s Candle, this device was a simple but multifunction utensil for keeping a candle stable and convenient while working. The smallest ring near the center holds a candle, and the other appendages allow mounting the candle in different ways. My mother explained the use relative to farm life – the spike would be shoved into the gap between boards, or the hook hung over a wood rail during chores in the barn.

But the formal name bespeaks its use underground, where the hook could be hung in the loop at the front of a miner’s cap as well as from a nearby beam. While such a device seems both impractical and dangerous in the mining environment, these were not one-off blacksmith curiosities, many were produced by large companies, including Ludlow-Saylor and Varney. My unanswered question is why this was a good idea. Wick oil lamps had been known for millennia, and mine safety

lamps were invented by 1815, so why a miner would carry a wax-dripping unsheltered flame on his forehead for mining work is not explained in any of the reading I have done so far. The same internet unfamiliar with my mother’s jargon was unable to produce a single contemporary photo of a miner using or wearing such a candle. However, many photos of the items themselves are available, with one great source being <http://www.miningartifacts.org/minerscandleholders.html> Looking at the dozens of examples, it strikes me that although they differ in details, they are all very similar even across the country, so the concept must have been well refined. I did find an article about the “Ideal” model from Ludlow-Saylor, claiming that the candlestick was warranted to last a lifetime. Given the danger of mine work, accompanied by an open flame, that seems a rather timid guarantee.

Welcome New and Renewing Members!

January - March 2020

Sponsor

Sandy Clark
Thomas and Denise Cross
Jennifer Dayrell - NEW
Muriel Dean
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Finn
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gardner

Family

Richard and Sandra Clay
Jack and Ann Dini
Reggie and Jessie Gaylord
Charlene and Kim Grandfield
Richard Irby
James and Peggy Kervin - NEW
Tom and Jude Rognlien
Mike Shaw - NEW

Life

Sally Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Tschritter

Individual

Cynthia Bird
Charles Crohare
Margaret Fazio
Dona Fontes
Diana Geyer
Young Han - NEW
Andrew Koponen - NEW
Kathleen Mayer - NEW
Ken Nather
Jeff Snell - NEW
Joseph Viera - NEW
Kathleen Young

Senior

Janice Beyer-Erickson
Sheri Ann Dante
Jane Drummond-Mullarkey
Valerie Frosini-Gutierrez - NEW
Steve Goodman
Gale Hudson
Steve Leeds
Deborah McCabe - NEW
Barbara McDonald - NEW
Jay Morris
Nile Runge - NEW
Madeline Scullion
Dennis Uhlich
Beth Wilson

In Appreciation

Donations

Bill Cervenka
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Tschritter
Jeffrey Williams

LHG Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
Wednesday, May 13	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, June 10	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	Virtual Meeting
Sunday, June 28*	1pm - 4pm	Sundays at Hagemann Ranch: Mad Hatter Tea Party	Hagemann Ranch*
Wednesday, July 8	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	History Center*
Wednesday, July 15*	7pm	History Talk	Main Library*
Sunday, July 19*	10am — 2pm	Duarte Garage Open House	Duarte Garage*
Wednesday, August 12	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	History Center*

* Information is subject to change pending Shelter in Place mandates. Be sure to check the lhg.org website frequently for updated information.

Mystery at the Museum

by Jeff Kaskey



Above: Photo by Jeff Kaskey

This time we have a whole collection of things found in a box at Hagemann Ranch. No idea what any of it is, except for the bolts. Maybe these pieces belong together, or maybe they just ended up in the same box by random chance. Obviously some are related, like C1 and C2, the brass knuckles for someone with too many fingers. And maybe B is part of that, or maybe it is another version of the same thing. Maybe you know the name, or just know what one of the pieces was used for, or saw a similar piece that might help us understand. If you have any ideas, please send them our way! *The answer to the Mystery at the Museum from last issue can be found on page 10.*

Free, Family-Friendly Activities

Hagemann Ranch

455 Olivina Ave., Livermore

We are all looking forward to the return of our monthly events. But, if we have learned anything from the past weeks, it is to error on the side of caution. The events will return just as soon as it is safe for everyone. Keep yourselves well. We miss you all.

Historic
HAGEMANN RANCH
www.lhg.org

Tentative Schedule

June 28—Mad Hatter Tea Party
August 30—Backyard Adventures
September 27—Children's Day
October 25—Halloween
November 29—Holiday Celebration

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

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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.