



A Remembrance of Fred Deadrick

by Will Bolton



I believe I have read all of Tony Hillerman's detective novels, which are set primarily in the Navajo Nation. Through those books, I became aware of the idea of a "valuable person." In their culture this is a person who, through their qualities and actions, are a particular asset to their community. I don't intend for this to be a biography or an obituary for Fred Deadrick. Rather, I would like to relate some things I learned from Fred, and about Fred, so you too can appreciate him as a valuable person.

I met Fred through the restoration of the 1920 Seagrave fire engine at the Duarte Garage. Because the Seagrave had been parked outside for many years, the wood and leather parts were, for the most part, unusable. Fred was an avid woodworker and member of a woodworking club. He applied those skills to reproduce the beautiful steering wheel and battery box one can see on the restored Seagrave and the equally impressive framework for the driver and captain's seat, which one can't see because it is hidden under leather upholstery. In fact, everywhere



you look around the Garage, you see Fred's legacy as a skilled woodworker. He made the frames for the new Garage signs, the donation box, the Livermore brickworks and jail cell displays - the last two with Jay Morris. Fred made an exact wooden replica of the original electric motor that powered the tools in the Duarte machine shop that is light enough to trust to the 100 year old 2"x 4" wood frame in the rafters.

Fred had an electrical engineering background. He applied those skills at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories for a full career. He retired at a reasonable point in his life but discovered that he didn't really care for retirement. That is commonly referred to as "failing at retirement." He returned to LLNL part time on a no-fee basis; however, his bosses kept piling on more and more work until he told them that, if they wanted him to work that much, they should start paying him. So they did. During this time, Fred worked on the National Ignition Facility. He described to me a performance monitoring system and display for NIF that he designed. A few years ago, I was fortunate to get a tour of NIF. When we passed the control room, through the



glass wall I could see Fred's display on a console showing the performance of the laser system - another, higher-profile part of his legacy. After working for a few more years, he retired again - successfully this time.

In addition to his professional career as an electrical engineer, he also had hobby interests in photography, ham radio, bicycling, interesting cars, and electronics. Fred told me that in the 1970s, he would drive across the Bay to attend meetings of the Home Brew Computer Club, an informal group of hobbyists interested in personal computing devices built around microprocessors, which were then new technology. Many notable names
(Remembrance, continued on page 89)

Above Left: Fred Deadrick with cylinder music; **Above Middle:** Fred with the wooden replica of the original electric motor for the Garage; **Above Right:** Fred with Jay Morris and the sharpener. Photos by Will Bolton.

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Heritage Garden: Gratitude in the Garden

by Loretta Kaskey

As the November newsletter is focused on gratitude and thanks, I reflect on how bountiful the past season's garden was, even as we look forward to what the next season will bring. We have pulled out the tomatoes, melons, and greens, and soon it will be time to do the same to the eggplant, peppers, corn, and squash. Lauren and Soraya have helped me start the transition to the winter crops by planting kales, cabbages, and broccolis. Soon I'll insist on getting the wheat, barley, and oats in; maybe even planting some buckwheat and fava beans this coming season. How lucky are we who like to garden, for perhaps one of the most rewarding aspects is the beauty of this small microcosm of nature and the ability to share it with friends.

I found the following meditation and thought it appropriate to include in this issue:

GARDEN MEDITATION

Rev. Max Coots

Let us give thanks for a bounty of people.

For children who are our second planting, and though they grow like weeds and the wind too soon blows them away, may they forgive us our cultivation and fondly remember where their roots are.

Let us give thanks;

For generous friends...with hearts...and smiles as bright as their blossoms;

For feisty friends, as tart as apples;

For continuous friends, who, like scallions and cucumbers, keep reminding us that we've had them;

For crotchety friends, sour as rhubarb and as indestructible;

For handsome friends, who are as gorgeous as eggplants and as elegant as a row of corn, and the others, as plain as potatoes and so good for you;

For funny friends, who are as silly as Brussels sprouts and as amusing as Jerusalem artichokes;

And serious friends as unpretentious as cabbages, as subtle as summer squash,

as persistent as parsley, as delightful as dill, as endless as zucchini and who, like parsnips, can be counted on to see you through the winter;

For old friends, nodding like sunflowers in the evening-time, and young friends coming on as fast as radishes;

For loving friends, who wind around us like tendrils and hold us, despite our blights, wilts and witherings;

And finally, for those friends now gone, like gardens past that have been harvested, but who fed us in their times that we might have life thereafter.

For all these we give thanks.



Above: Lauren Robbers and Soraya Rawlings among the corn and pumpkins; Early fall harvest of kale greens, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers and zucchini. Photos by Loretta Kaskey.

Hagemann Happenings

by Barbara Soules

In thinking about what I am grateful for, I have to say it is volunteers! Let me emphasize that the Heritage Guild has no paid staff. Every one of the folks who run the events, serve on the Executive Board, curate the museums and HistoryMobile, docent at the History Center, write the newsletter, manage the social media, or any of the multitude of other jobs are volunteers. All are dedicated to preserving the history of Livermore and making the Heritage Guild a smooth-running community organization.

During our 50th Year Anniversary we celebrated many of our accomplishments, created a few unique events, and had a lot of fun. The camaraderie and willingness of so many members to participate was truly gratifying and was the reason the events were all so successful. This group pulls together for the common good and it gets noticed. Our organization is well respected in the community and I feel this is part of the reason that the City and LARPD have given us the go ahead for the Midway School project. You will hear more about this in future communications and the newsletter.

Thankfully the volunteers at the ranch continue their daily work. The orchard is growing quickly and our garden crew, Karen, Sandra, and Tom added native perennials in the bed near the house to the north. John Slover spends most of three days per week doing various caretaking and landscaping jobs all over the ranch. We would be lost without his help.



Thanks to many Eagle Scouts over the years, many interesting features have been added or restorations accomplished. The two most recent projects have been done by scouts from Troop 939. Sohan Khedkar created a farm equipment display area near the front gate. He organized our many different pieces of farm machinery into categories and made dedicated spaces for them with bark ground cover. Eventually there will be descriptive signage for each space. Matthew Manausa was inspired to build an enclosure for the porta-potty that blends in with the Red Barn and disguises the potty. He placed it on a level gravel base and made it movable.

At the Halloween open house two new/old machines were introduced and demonstrated: a cider press and a corn sheller. The cider press was donated to us by Owen Parker and restored to pristine working condition thanks to Will Bolton. He had to recreate the hopper on top. Making the apple juice is a two-step process. First the apples are ground into chunks that pass into a wooden basket. That basket is then moved to a new position where the apples are pressed and the juice collected.

There are two corn shellers that belong to Judy Bearrows. She and her late husband, Russ, used to demonstrate these machines at the County Fair. The

purpose is to take the kernels off the cobs so they can be used for seed or food. As we saw at the event, they do their job very well.

Hagemann Ranch, A History by John “Wes” Shaffer has just been released! Several years in the making we are thrilled to offer this book for sale at both the ranch and the History Center. Back in May 2020, having read Wes’ preliminary manuscript and being impressed with his in-depth research and fascinating retelling of the story, I wrote a Newsletter article based on his work. The book tells the definitive history of the ranch from the Mendenhalls through the present time. The twelve pages of endnotes, most from primary sources and all with fine details, attest to its accuracy. It’s a great read and I highly recommend it to anyone interested in the history of Livermore. Wes will be at the November Holiday Celebration for a book signing.

You don’t want to miss the Holiday Celebration on November 26. Santa will be there along with many artists and crafters for your shopping enjoyment. The Hispanic Heritage Center is bringing their piñatas and Salsa Dancers. Greg Pane will be on keyboard and a Festival of Lights display and goodies will be on hand. A local magician will be there to captivate the kids. We hope to see you there!



Far Left: Job well done! Troop 939 completed the enclosure project; photo by Barbara Soules. **Left:** The Cider Press; photo by Will Bolton. **Above:** Judy Bearrows’s Corn Sheller; Photo by Barbara Soules.

President's Message: State of the Guild

by Will Bolton

The 2023 edition of the Livermore Heritage Guild Annual General Meeting was held at the Duarte Garage on Saturday, October 21. Like last year, there was an experimental element to the event. In this case, the Guild's 50th Anniversary and the many special Anniversary events figured into the changes in the AGM. In previous years, the AGM included social time, a dinner, beverages, perhaps live music, a State of the Guild presentation by the President, and a speaker – generally on a historical topic. With the Gala Dinner and AGM less than two weeks apart, Dottie Eberly suggested that we consider the two of them together as equivalent to our traditional AGM. Therefore, we held an abbreviated AGM late in the morning on a Saturday with lots of social time, light refreshments, and the State of the Guild presentation.

With the streamlined nature of this year's AGM, I heard a few attendees comment that they were expecting to see a bare Garage with a few chairs. They were blown away by the setup - chairs and tables with bright tablecloths and runners, floral centerpieces, a serving table with cookies, homemade muffins, donut holes, and hot drinks. The AGM Committee (Kathy Lee - leader, Dottie Eberly, and Barbara Soules) hit this one out of the park.

Because a relatively small portion of the Guild membership attends the AGM, I am going to provide a brief summary of the slides accompanying the State of the Guild talk. The first piece of business was announcing the results of the 2023 election of officers and the transition from the previous officers to the new. Three Board positions were open this year: First Vice-President, Secretary of the Board, and Treasurer. The newly elected officers are Jeff Kaskey - First VP, Sylvia Chatagnier - Secretary, and Madelynne Farber – continuing for a second term as Treasurer. The Guild expressed its thanks to the outgoing Board members, Andrea Loyd – First VP, and Loretta Kaskey – Secretary, for their years of service to the Guild and hopes for continued involvement in its activities. As an aside, in the years that



we have been conducting the election of officers by mail rather than by in-person voting at the AGM, the percentage of the Guild membership participating in the election is substantially larger. This strikes me as a good outcome.

Over the last year, there continued to be a steady pace of normal operations and open houses and significant accomplishments. At the History Center, the number of docents available to staff the open office hours is slowly improving but continues to be a challenge. The core of dedicated volunteers is maintaining good open office hours. The LHG scholarship program provided one scholarship this year at Vineyard Alternative School based on a paper submitted on a historical topic. This program is to encourage high school seniors to continue their education and to encourage an interest in history. The History Center team was successful in getting Anne Homan's book, "Historic Livermore California: Illustrated, From A to Z" reprinted. This and a new, well-researched, illustrated book on Hagemann Ranch by Prof. John (Wes) Shaffer's (ret.), with book design and page layout by Linda Driver, are both now on sale at the Carnegie Building and other selected locations.

The Duarte Garage and Lincoln Highway Museum continues to have

regular monthly open houses, with a new Featured Car of the Month at each open house. The Garage Hard Corps is working on new displays, learning more about operating and maintaining the 1925 Star Four Touring Car, and hosting special events and organization visits. For example, in 2023 the Garage hosted the annual meeting of the California Chapter of the Lincoln Highway Association and a meeting and tour of vintage cars by the Durant Motors Automobile Club, International.

Themed open houses at the Hagemann Ranch continued this year with the introduction of some self-guided tour open houses. The themed events are great fun and draw lots of visitors but require much preparation by a large number of volunteers. The self-guided tours provide a more relaxed atmosphere with fewer visitors but allow more interaction with docents. The orchard north of the Hagemann ranch house was planted and the irrigation system around the house was extended to the orchard and much improved. The project to stabilize and reinforce the Hagemann House took a significant step forward with the engagement of Avelar Architects to prepare plans and specifications as part of a package to be

(State of the Guild, continued on page 5)

Above: The 2023 Annual General Meeting. Photo by Dottie Eberly.

4H Hagemann Paddock Project

by Dottie Eberly

The resident Hagemann Ranch Del Arroyo 4-H group has been very busy preparing for the predicted heavy winter rains. Lately they've spent many extra hours at the Ranch updating the "décor" of the horse paddocks. Previously the "flooring" of the paddocks was more dirt than anything else and was usually a muddy mess for days after any

significant rainfall. The crew has worked several weekends leveling the dirt, and adding a nice layer of gravel under the mats which should give the horses a much drier place to call home this winter.



Left: The tractor barely fits!; **Above:** Jeff Kaskey levels the gravel while Donna Costa supervises; **Top Right:** It's so clean and level - a perfect place for a Jeff Kaskey nap! **Right:** The end of the tail... er... tale. Photos by Lorissa Wayne.

State of the Guild

(continued from page 4)

submitted to the City. We continue to support the partner organizations, Sunflower Hill and 4-H, at the Ranch, who continue their traditional programs with their clients.

The HistoryMobile is operating well with the few nagging maintenance issues resolved. It visited 13 grade schools, 43 classes, and hosted over 1,000 students in the Livermore District. It also appeared at the Ravenswood Ice Cream Social and Hagemann Open Houses.

A new record was set with every third grade class in the LVJUSD participating in the Gary Drummond Historic Downtown Walking Tours during the 2022-23 school year.

The quarterly "Then & Now" history talks, jointly presented by the Guild and the Livermore Public Library, have continued with great reviews.

A major project, Midway School (which has been years in the making), took a giant step this year. A sequence of

meetings with the City culminated with a review meeting of all affected City Departments, resulting in positive reviews and encouragement to submit a permit application to the City for review.

Perhaps saving the best for last in this accounting, the Guild celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a series of special events at the three Guild facilities and other locations around Livermore. A few words here can't begin to do justice to these great events: a special showing of "Livermore: The Movie" at the Vine, a Wine Cave and Ruins Tour, a Livermore Railroad Depot Reception, a yard sale at the Duarte Garage, a Progressive Dinner visiting the three major facilities, and the Gala Dinner – with the Annual Auction thrown in. Each of these were a great event and the sum of them showed what the Guild can do when it sets its collective minds to a task.

In summary, 2023 was a great year. The Guild is in a strong financial position and has big plans for the near- and long-term future. Primarily through the Golden Anniversary events, the Guild's membership has grown this year.



Reaching our goals will require the continued great support of the membership and, we hope, more members volunteering to join the fun and get the satisfaction of reaching our goals.

Above: Kathy Lee (left) and Barbara Soules (right) at the AGM. Photo by Dottie Eberly.

City Historian Report: Another Signature from the 1877 Nellie Scott album

by Richard Finn

In the last issue of the LHG newsletter, we wrote about an autograph album owned by a Mrs. Nellie Scott that was found by Martin Walker in the mid-1960s in a building about to be torn down on what was the Groth property at the corner of First and L streets. We highlighted one of the prominent Livermore area families: the Anthonys. In this issue we want to look at another prominent family.

Another person who signed Nellie Scott's album was her "loving pupil" Anna Inman. Anna was the daughter of Daniel Inman, born 1827 in Tennessee - died 1908 in Livermore, and Josephine Jones, born 1847 in Chiles Valley - died 1925. Anna was the middle child of seven children born to Daniel and Josephine. Anna was born 27 June 1869 near Livermore. More about Anna later.

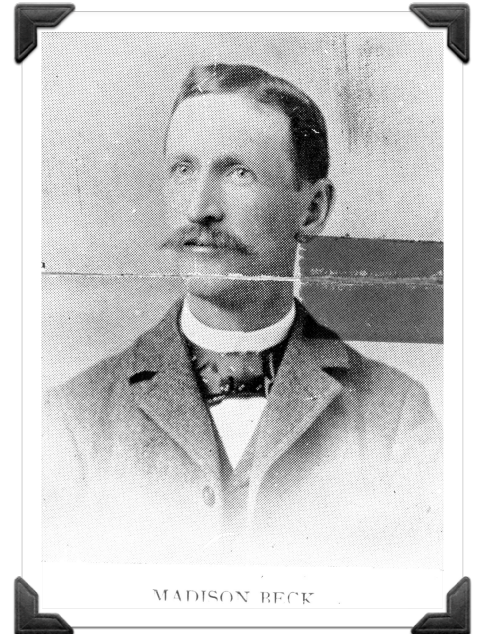
Daniel Inman was a very interesting person. He came to California in 1848 with his brother Andrew to mine for gold. It is reported he was a successful miner in El Dorado County. In 1848 he ran a hotel in Sacramento. Around 1852 Daniel was raising sheep and cattle in the Danville area. In 1854 Daniel, along with Jesse Bowles of Livermore, grew the first tobacco in Contra Costa County. About 1858, Daniel established the first harness and blacksmith shop in Danville. By 1865 he was raising grain and had about 90 acres of vines plus large pastures in the Livermore area. Between 1867 and 1868 he was a member of the County Board of Supervisors. In 1882 he was listed as a co-owner of a hardware store in Livermore. By 1887 he had 629 acres of fruit trees and grape vines. That same year Daniel was the president of the Farmers Union of the Livermore Valley which was a general mercantile and commercial business. At one time Daniel was the Manager of the California State Granger's Association which was headquartered in San Francisco. Daniel and Josephine were buried at Roselawn Cemetery in Livermore.

You can see that Daniel was a very busy person, kind of a Jack of all Trades. Some say the town of Danville was named after him. Others say it was named after the town his mother came from.

Anna's mother, Josephine, came from an interesting family. Josephine's father was John McCurry Jones. He was born in Hawkins Co., Tennessee in 1822 and died 1870 in Alamo. Josephine's mother was Mary Ann Smith. She was born in Bedford Co., Tennessee in 1825 and died in Alamo in 1918. Both John and Mary Ann were buried at the Alamo Cemetery.

John came to California in 1846 with his family in a wagon train. Their first stop was the Johnson Ranch which is now the site of the city of Wheatland. That's interesting because that is where Nellie Scott lived 31 years later. John and family first lived in Napa and San Jose. They arrived in Alamo 1851. Between 1852 and 1861 John was the first postmaster of Alamo. Among his other public duties he was at times the Contra Costa County Assessor, Justice of the Peace, and the Contra Costa County School Superintendent. John was a founder of the local Masonic Lodge and helped found the Union Academy High School. He and his wife were founders of the Alamo Cumberland Presbyterian Church (the first in the East Bay). Like Daniel, John was not a slacker.

Let's get back to Anna. She married Madison Hartwell Beck in December of 1886 at the Asbury Methodist Church in Livermore. She died in 1950 at Orland in Glenn County. Madison and Anna had three children: Florence 1887-1961 (she married Frederick Earle Eastman), Genevieve 1890-1944, and Inman 1901-1980 (he married Della Valentine Sanford). Madison was born 1859 in Ohio and died 1946 in Butte County. The Livermore census records list him as a clerk in a store and later a grocer. In 1910, when he lived in Berkeley, he was listed as a dry goods merchant and after he and Anna moved to Glenn County, he was listed as a farmer. Madison's father,



George, stayed in Ohio but brother William came to Livermore starting out as a farm laborer and in later years owned a drug store on First Street.

There was another Beck family that lived in Livermore that also descended from John Beck (1784-1853) and Mary Ann Bell (1797-1831). That was the Leonard (1814-1890) and Caroline Sherwood (1818-1908) family. This included John (1842-1917) who was known as "farmer John". He also was a road contractor and later a foreman at the sugar company in Pleasanton. Another son was "Oily" George 1853-1925. He was a grocer, postmaster, and director of the local Alisal and Livermore oil companies. George was a city trustee and a Livermore High School trustee. If you have lived in Livermore for a long time you will remember that Livermore Avenue, north of 580, was called Beck Road because of the Beck farms off the road. There is a portrait of "Oily" in the book *Vasco's Livermore, 1910* available at the Heritage Guild.

Above: Photo of Madison Beck (LHG1339). Courtesy of the LHG archives.

Distracted Driving in 1934

by Will Bolton

A couple of years ago, Dan Crawford, of Livermore, donated a 1934-ish Philco Model 10 automobile radio to the Duarte Garage. In looking into the history of this radio, I learned that a pervasive problem on the roads today – distracted driving – was a concern almost 100 years ago. The cause? That scourge of attentive, competent driving: the car radio. The Philco Model 10 was intended, in part, to address this problem.

The early 20th Century was a dynamic time. The fruits of the Industrial Revolution were bringing rapid change to life in the US. Two elements of this change were the increasingly wide distribution of automobiles and radios. Cars were becoming more affordable, better enclosed against the outside weather conditions, and more comfortable; roads were improving; and longer trips by automobile were becoming more common. Radios were rapidly being introduced into homes, radio technology was progressing, and the number and power of radio broadcast stations were multiplying - resulting in widespread availability of radio across the country. In 1930, 40 percent of American households had radios; by 1939, that had increased to 83 percent.

The notion of extending the information and entertainment afforded by home radios to the automobile was an obvious next step. However, there was concern that the distraction provided by a radio in automobiles would lead to increased car crashes and casualties. According to the American Safety Council, in the 1930s, laws were proposed in Missouri and Massachusetts to completely ban radios from automobiles. Ohio, Illinois, New York, and New Jersey proposed stiff fines for using radios in cars. On the other hand, drivers quickly became

accustomed to their car radios and the laws seeking to eliminate this source of distraction were nearly impossible to enforce. Therefore, interest shifted to reducing the distraction that radios in cars represented. This is where the design of the Philco Transitone radio came into play.

Chevrolet is credited with the first use of in-car radios in the early 1920s. However, they were bulky, heavy, and expensive. Early radios cost on the order of \$150 at a time when a new Chevrolet car cost under \$1,000 – so the radios sold poorly. Fortunately, radio technology was advancing rapidly. A prolific inventor named William Heina from the Bronx, New York, applied for several patents for a radio designed to be mounted in the dash of the car. His patents included several innovations, for example, using electrical power from the automobile, eliminating the need for a separate radio battery and reducing the cost, bulk, and weight of the radio system. The patents also included a large loop antenna mounted in the roof of the car and controls mounted near the steering wheel where they would be easily reached by the driver and not interfere with other controls and operation of the automobile. These patents claimed that the convenient location of the controls for the driver would simplify using the radio while driving. Heina's first patent was granted in 1927. He then formed the Heina Radio Corporation. Heina's company was purchased by the Automobile Radio Corporation, formed in 1927 to manufacture the Transitone radio.

In 1930, the Philco Company purchased the Automobile Radio Corporation and formed a new subsidiary, the Transitone Automobile Radio Corporation. The Philco Model 10 Transitone radio was

THE LISTENER IN April 7, 1934 Page 33

RADIO WHEREVER YOU GO!

WITH A
PHILCO
TRANSITONE
CAR RADIO

PHILCO Transitone Car Radio brings the joy of music, sporting results, etc., to picnics, outings and camps. It converts arduous journeys over long distances into pleasure trips and offers real company to the lonely traveller. PHILCO provides entertainment anywhere, in range, even in daylight, being exceptional.

PHILCO FEATURES

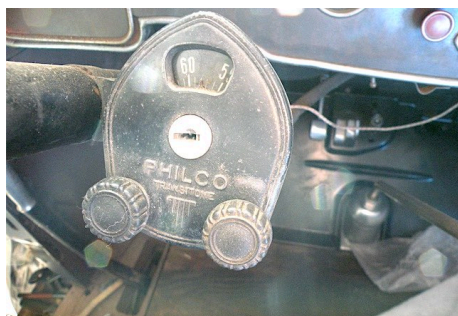
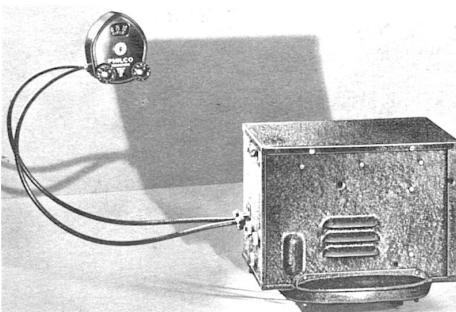
- No battery worries—it's all electric.
- 6-Valve Superheterodyne circuit for selectivity and range.
- Full-sized Dynamic Speaker provides unexcelled tone.
- Automatic Volume Control to counteract fading of stations.
- Non-slipping Controls, to prevent detuning due to car vibration.
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276 FLINDERS STREET, MELBOURNE
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introduced in 1934 at an initial price of \$55. The functional parts of the 6-tube radio were mounted in a metal enclosure (weighing 22 pounds, including the speaker), which would be installed under the dash of a car. There was a small remote control unit with a tuning dial, two plastic knobs, and a key lock, which would be mounted on the steering column of the car near the steering wheel. The two knobs on the remote unit were attached to two 27" long flexible shafts that actually controlled components inside the main case. This radio is mostly interesting as an early stage in the evolution of the car radio toward the in-car entertainment systems we now enjoy...sort of like the first fish equipped with feet that strolled up out of the ocean onto the beach to have a look around.

I am developing an idea for a mount for the Philco Model 10 radio. I hope to have it on display in the Duarte Garage soon.

Above: Evidently this radio was not only for vampires. (Australian advertisement for the Model 10 about getting reception "even in daylight"); **Far Left:** Advertising photo of the Philco Model 10 Transitone radio main case, cables, and tuning head. **Left:** Photo of the tuning head of the Philco Model 10 radio mounted on the steering column of a 1930s automobile. All courtesy of Will Bolton.



Musings and Memories: Pompi

by Mark Tarte

My first introduction to Mike Pompelio was as a boy, seeing him walking down East Avenue in his “uniform,” khaki shirt, pants and usually topped with a khaki overcoat. He seemed to be a strange but quiet giant of a man, never seemingly bothering anyone, but would growl at kids if they got too close to him. I used to see him occasionally in other parts of town, but usually on East Avenue. He was a big man, well over six feet tall, heavy set and known to all as “Pompi.”

One day, when I was a senior at Livermore High School, it was cold, and rain threatened. I was driving my father’s old Ford pickup and I saw Pompi walking along East Avenue, trying to thumb for a ride. He was in the road, rather than the sidewalk, and he looked like he could use a ride. He was also carrying a large crate of vegetables. I slowed for him and pulled up, asking if he would like a ride. He threw the crate into the bed of the truck and hopped in without saying a word. To say that he was “odiferous” would be putting it mildly. I got a closer look at him than I ever had before. He was very large, filling up the passenger seat and then some. His hands were like catcher’s mitts and looked like he had done manual labor all of his life.

I knew where he lived, a ramshackle shack along Vasco Road near the lab. As we drove, Pompi started talking, his voice raspy and high pitched. He explained to me how he was actually the owner of Livermore Valley and California, as he was the last descendent of Pio Pico, the last Mexican governor of California, and had a land grant from him that had been passed down through his family. He continued about that and would wave his hand at different farms we passed, saying they were his. We reached his shack, really a rundown old farmhouse that was stacked inside and out with crates and boxes of rotting vegetables that he seemed to have gotten

Free, Family-Friendly Activities

Holiday Celebration

Sundays at Hagemann Ranch
November 26, 2023, 1-4 pm



Artists and Crafts Bazaar; Piano music by Greg Pane
Hispanic Heritage Center, Piñata Celebration
Dance Performance; Diwali-Festival of Lights
Magic of The Amazing Cervantes; Visits with Santa Claus

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



455 Olivina Ave., Livermore

Sundays at Hagemann are free events held on the last Sunday of every month except July and December.

LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD
www.lhg.org

from every grocery store in town. He got out, grabbed his crate of vegetables from the bed of the truck, turned and, in his raspy voice, thanked me. I had seen him many times as a child but had never interacted with him until that day.

The next year, I was in the Air Force and overseas. In a letter from home, my dad had included a news article about Pompi from the Independent. It seems Adult Protective Services had gotten a court order from Judge Joe Schenone to take Pompi into their care and move him from his shack to more decent housing. My dad, Robert Tarte, was an Alameda

County Deputy Sheriff and the municipal court marshal for Judge Schenone. My father wrote that the shack was still lined with boxes and crates taken from grocery store dumpsters and were filled with rotting vegetables. He had to move Pompi and then, with about a half a dozen volunteers and the county fire department standing by, burned the shack as it was so infested with mold, rats, and other vermin that it had been declared a health hazard. My father and the other men were armed with .22 rifles

(Pompi, continued on page 10)

Remembrance

(continued from page 1)

emerged from this group, for example, Adam Osborn (Osborne Computers) and Bill Gates (Microsoft). At one meeting in 1976, Fred said that two men from the group came with a single-board computer they had built. The two were Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak. The computer was the prototype of the Apple 1. Fred was literally in the room during the years when Silicon Valley was born. Years later, continuing in the spirit of Home Brew Computer Club, Fred used his interest and skill with the Arduino microprocessor to implement LED stop lights hidden in a narrow slot in the back of the 1920 Seagrave fire engine. I posit that the Duarte Garage fire engine has the most sophisticated stoplights of any 1920 Seagrave in the world.

Fred had a good sense of humor and wasn't afraid to use it. As we were getting close to finishing the Livermore jail cell display, which includes the wash basin and toilet from the women's cell, Fred used his design, fabrication, and 3-D printing skills to make an MP3 player that would play flushing sounds when the toilet flush button was pushed.

In addition to these tangible objects that are visible to anyone who knows where to look, Fred had qualities that were evident to those fortunate enough to know him: he was quite intelligent and multi-talented, he had broad interests with active curiosity, he was a good teammate and a good friend. He was a good person. When Fred Deadrick passed away on July 9, 2023, we all lost a valuable person.



Left: Fred and Jay with gas pump; Above: Fred on the jail toilet. Photos by Will Bolton.

LHG Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
Wednesday, Nov. 8	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	Virtual Meeting
Saturday, Nov. 18	9:30am-12pm	Workday: Hagemann Ranch	Hagemann Ranch
Sunday, Nov. 19	10am-2pm	Duarte Garage Open House	Duarte Garage
Sunday, Nov. 26	1pm-4pm*	Sundays at Hagemann Ranch: Holiday Celebration	Hagemann Ranch
Wednesday, Dec. 13	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 10	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	Virtual Meeting
Sunday, Jan. 21	10am-2pm	Duarte Garage Open House	Duarte Garage
Sunday, Jan. 28	1pm-5pm	Self-Guided Walking Tour	Hagemann Ranch
Wednesday, Feb. 14	7pm	LHG Board Meeting	Virtual Meeting
Saturday, Feb. 17	9:30am-12pm	Workday: Hagemann Ranch	Hagemann Ranch
Sunday, Feb. 18	10am-2pm	Duarte Garage Open House	Duarte Garage
Sunday, Feb. 25	1pm-5pm	Sundays at Hagemann Ranch	Hagemann Ranch

*Note time change

Heritage Garden: The Oaks at Hagemann Ranch

by Karen Jefferson



Hagemann Ranch is fortunate to have 29 oaks of three native species on the property - Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*), Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), and Canyon Oak (*Quercus chrysolepsis*). According to the National Park Service, oaks are keystone species as they support more life forms including fungi, insects, birds, and mammals, than any other North American tree genus. In other words, our oaks are vital to the ecosystem.

In 2021 the Guild contracted with Buena Vista Trees Service to assess the health of the trees and provide

recommendations. From those recommendations, a group of volunteers developed an action plan to improve the health of the trees on the ranch, in particular the ecologically valuable oaks.

Over the last two years, volunteers have implemented this plan. To improve the soil health, compost and mulch was spread on the soil within the trees' drip lines. Oak leaves are now allowed to accumulate, as they provide valuable mulch. Late summer supplemental deep watering has also boosted the trees' health. And finally, as of October, the

oaks surrounding the house were pruned to maintain health and tree structure.

The next time you come to the Ranch, look at these magnificent trees, enjoy the wonderful shade they produce, and appreciate their importance to the ecosystem. The oaks are part of our California heritage and environment, and our volunteers will continue to care for these trees for years to come.

Above from left: Valley Oak (and windmill!) (*Quercus lobata*), Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), and Canyon Oak (*Quercus chrysolepsis*) Photos by Karen Jefferson.

Pompi

(continued from page 8)

and shot as many rats as they could, which ran into the hundreds, with even more escaping. My dad wrote that it was not a very "savory" assignment and that all of the men afterwards went home to shower and change.

After my time in the service, I came home and eventually became a Livermore police officer. In my time at LPD, I saw Pompi many times, now much cleaner, but still dressed head to toe in khaki. He was living at the Twin Palms home on South L Street and would walk around at all hours. He was never a problem, though once in a while,

someone would call dispatch about a "strange man" in their neighborhood. Their description of the unknown person would let the officer know it was Pompi and every time they arrived, their suspicions were confirmed.

My most memorable incident with Pompi though happened late one summer night. About 3AM, I had parked on South M Street next to the 7-11 to get a coffee and try to catch up on my crime reports. The coffee wasn't working, and I was starting to fall asleep. I had a vague sense of something large moving through the tall weeds in the lot across South M Street when suddenly Pompi was at my driver window in all of his

large self and saying "Hello!" To say I was startled is an understatement! I said hello back to him and he walked back into the weed filled vacant lot and I had no trouble staying awake for the rest of my shift.

Over the years, as Pompi aged, we saw less and less of him, until one sad day we were informed at the PD that Pompi had passed. He was never a problem, but always friendly, if in a gruff way that Livermoreans of a certain age remember. With his passing, Livermore lost one of its more memorable characters, characters that sadly have passed who made Livermore both interesting and notable.

Collections Corner: Bits and Pieces

by Jeff Kaskey

The Guild's collection items are often significant, intriguing items like Robert Livermore's hat or an impressive piece like our horse-drawn hay mower, but there are a lot of little things that show up. Something fun to see, or a bit of writing that is just a glimpse of an earlier time. This article features a few of those that might otherwise slip by without notice.

The first item is an epic California piece, though not specifically tied to Livermore. Depression era politics of the 1930s had allowed Upton Sinclair, a prolific writer and proclaimed Socialist to win the Democratic primary for Governor. His platform was EPIC, End Poverty In California, and our collection includes a small handbill, deriding him and proclaiming his plan as Easy Pickings In California. He did not win the office, so his policies which included the use of mental telepathy, were never instituted. Some of his more sane ideas, such as a pension for the elderly and a more progressive tax structure, later became the norm.

A banker box full of meeting minutes binders from the Townsend District Farm Home Department (soon to be Livermore-Townsend) includes the first meeting of Nov 28, 1922. The minutes are terse, just briefly noting activities through the years of cutting patterns, baking cookies, making hats, and so forth. We have a nearly complete set of monthly minutes well into the 1960s. In those decades of simple notes it is hard to find quotable pithy turns of phrase, but the continuity of a small group of women regularly assembling to share skills becomes its own image of life at the time. One simple note is an example for the many: "Circulars were distributed among all present on the making of different kinds of sandwiches. Fresh vegetable sandwiches were made and served at the luncheon at the conclusion of the meeting."

Another club leaving us their records was the Senior Citizens club of the 1970s. Their exploits were recorded not in meeting minutes but in news clippings. One Herald and News article was titled "If you're over 50 - you're a



senior citizen." (Herald and News, December 8, 1972) Many of the clippings were about improving transit access for seniors, one quote was "most of the senior folk do not feel comfortable driving outside of the city and therefore must rely entirely on bus service." (H&N, Nov 11, 1971) This was relevant as they were marking the installation of a phone booth at the bus station.

And finally we have a range of pieces from Agnes Dutcher Rees. She includes her school district employment offer from 1956, when she was being called back from retirement, with a salary of

(Bits and Pieces, continued on page 13)

Top: Opposition piece to Sinclair for governor; **Above:** Seniors welcome bus station phone booth. Courtesy of LHG archives.

What a Year!

by Dottie Eberly

Almost exactly one year ago I had a conversation with our President, Will Bolton, about LHG's upcoming 50th anniversary, and what he and/or the Board might be considering in the way of a celebration.

He answered by asking if I'd like to call a meeting to come up with some ideas. Knowing full well when someone calls a meeting for LHG that person usually ends up as chairperson of the event, I called the meeting anyway. I felt strongly that the Guild's 50th needed to be a big deal. I wanted to know if others felt the same way.

They certainly did. On November 5th a remarkable meeting was held at the History Center. Every chair was filled and the collaboration and energy in that room was unbelievable. We agreed that one of the primary goals of the year would be to spread the word to the entire community that we are the Livermore Heritage Guild and we are still going strong after 50 years! Our second goal was to attract new members by hosting a variety of events that would offer something for everyone. The ideas were incredibly diverse but by the end of the meeting we had come up with five major events which would be sprinkled in among our usual monthly Duarte Garage Open Houses, the monthly Hagemann Ranch Open Houses, our funky, quirky annual auction, and an AGM.

Loretta Kaskey chaired the first event in February at the Vine Cinema with a screening of "Livermore, The Movie," followed by a panel discussion with the director of the film and some of the

locals who were in the film. We added to the fun by hosting a private reception before the movie for our loyal volunteers and provided delicious food procured by Donna Stevens and Kathy Lee.

After taking a break to do a few Duarte Garage open houses, Hagemann Ranch open houses, and the infamous quirky auction, we got back to the 50th anniversary summer events. Donna Stevens met many challenges in putting her Wineries, Caves and Ruins Tour together. The June 4th event focused on visiting sites such as the Wentle Winery caves and the Dos Mesas site which included the Olivina Winery history. These locations are rarely open to the public and, as far as we know, a tour like this has not been done before. Nancy Rodrigue of Rodrigue-Molyneux Winery provided valuable guidance to Donna as she collaborated with the Livermore Wine Trolley, Winegrowers' Association, Wentle Winery, and LARPD. The June event was a blockbuster hit we are hoping to repeat in the future.

Then on June 17th, the Railroad Depot Open House was held. It was the actual LHG birthday celebration commemorating the day in 1973 a group of concerned people stopped the depot from being demolished. Barbara Soules and her team, Sally Nunes, Sylvia Sweet Chatagnier, Richard Finn, Alan Frank, and Anna Siig, obtained permission to use the Depot Community Room for the very first time. They used the not-quite-finished space for historical displays and to serve refreshments. Just outside the

community room a panel discussion was held by long time Livermarians, including Roger Brown and Anna Siig, who were part of the founding of LHG. Another highlight was Mayor Marchand presenting a proclamation from the City for our 50 years.

The weekend after July 4th we did a ginormous yard sale at the Duarte Garage put together by Barbara Soules and Kathy Lee, with a little help from me. The sale was successful in many ways. We cleared out stuff that had accumulated during the Pandemic and we made some money. Despite the fact that the new City sign ordinance had just gone into effect, we still drew a good crowd because of the location. We saw many old friends and made some new ones. I think we had more people with LHG name tags on that day than any other event I've worked, which meant we were able to spread the word about LHG widely. And bonus points: everyone working the sale seemed to have a great time.

August brought the Progressive Dinner. This was the brainchild of Judy Bearrows. It sounded so simple last November. And so brilliant. How many historical societies can boast four museums? A progressive dinner with informative talks by each of the museums' curators would be a great way to showcase all of them to the public in one evening. We began at the History Center with appetizers and Carol Wahrer-original-mocktails. From there it

(What a Year!, continued on page 13)

Below: Some of the 105 attendees at the Gala Dinner. Photo by Dottie Eberly.



Bits and Pieces

(continued from page 11)

\$5940 for the year. This is notable, as the Census Bureau tells us that median male income in that year was \$3600, and median female income was \$1100.

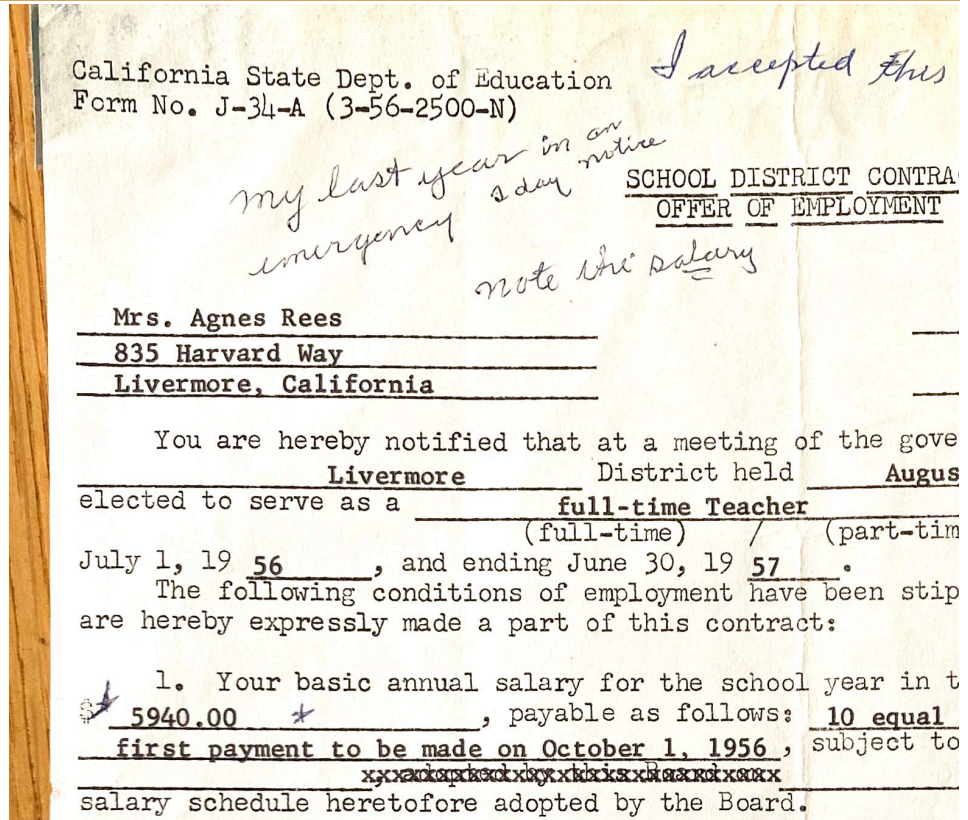
We also have a number of stories she has written about local history. In most cases they are the usual stories about Robert Livermore or the Bernals or the Missions. Fortunately, she also gave us her own story, typed on classic onion-skin typewriter paper, in 1958.

Her personal story in Livermore begins with her arrival to teach at age 20 in 1908. She started teaching in Townsend District (just south of town) and earned \$80 per month. Selected excerpts:

"The pupils had a great interest in nature and kept a beautiful king snake under the front stoop as a pet. We had a fine collection of butterflies, moths and lizards. Our study of local wild flowers afforded great pleasure."

"Mr. Joseph Callahan worked in the Commercial Store (Chas Beck and Harry Winegar). R. A. Hansen (Rassie) had a bicycle shop. Joseph Concannon, the Wentz boys - Dewitt Dutcher and Earl Crellin were the eligibles of that time. Of course there were other fine beaux in and about town, but the few mentioned were our crowd."

"In 1896 a movement was set up to dam the Mocha creek to supply Livermore with water. John Aylward Sr., Mr. Frank Fasset, Norman McLeod, and George Fitzgerald were very active in trying to arrange this. A side issue was proclaimed to whereby turbine wheels run by the overflow to produce



electricity for all the needs of Livermore."

"History repeats itself - the same idea has been presented several times. Now in 1958 the Arroyo Biau is being surveyed and tested for a dam site."

I believe that Biau is one of the variations for how Arroyo del Valle was pronounced. Valle becomes "Vaay-ay" which with the Spanish melding of V and B becomes "Baiaiy". So this refers to the early days of Del Valle reservoir.

Agnes describes some of the newspaper ownerships, including Bartlett and then Henry at "The Herald" and Elmer Still at "The Echo."

"Elmer Still is a brilliant and unique character. He retired as city clerk after many long years of service to our community. He has many words in the dictionary credited to him. [...] His main food is cabbage. He buys 8 or 10 heads at a time and claims it has great medicinal and health value. (His father wore high buttoned women's shoes.)"

And that seems a good place to leave our story. As always, if you are willing to help us sort through and catalog this rich collection, let us know!

Above: Agnes Dutcher Rees gets a nice job offer. Courtesy of LHG archives.

What a Year!

(continued from page 12)

was a short drive to Hagemann Ranch where the HistoryMobile was also onsite. This was the location for the main course featuring Ron Chaffee's famous tri-tip and a variety of side dishes. The evening ended with a choice of desserts: root beer floats or ice cream sundaes at the Duarte Garage and

Lincoln Highway Museum. The event was co-chaired by Judy Bearrows, Rickie Friedli/Giono, Carol Wahrer and myself.

And suddenly it was October 8th, time to end the year of celebration with the Gala Dinner at Poppy Ridge Golf Course. What a beautiful event! Our thanks to Sheri Ann Dante, Nancy Mulligan, Judy Bearrows and Sally Nunes for putting the festive dinner together for us. We hope everyone enjoyed the evening. It

seemed to be a great way to end a great year.

Did we meet our goals? I think so. We attracted a large, diverse group to attend our events. Primarily because of those events we are thrilled to say we have welcomed 55 new members. I'm going to call that a win and say Happy 50th Anniversary LHG!

Here's to the next 50 years!

Livermore Almost 150 Years Ago

by Harry Briley



In October, a friend gifted to me an original copy of the *Livermore Enterprise* dated 11/18/1876. Back then, the transcontinental railroad had served the town for only seven years and it would be seven years before Jack London's family moved into the poor section of town. The History Center bookstore carries two local railroad books (*Depot* and *Parallel Paths*) and a book about Jack London's Childhood.

The 1876 edition of the paper reported the results of November General Election. Based on various articles, politics has not changed much. Only the names and number of voters have changed. The Murray township returns showed two Livermore precincts (170 votes cast in Precinct 1: 88 Democrats, 82 Republicans, and 236 votes cast in Precinct 2: 138 Democrats, 98 Republicans). Pleasanton and Altamont rounded out the Murray Township with Democrats outnumbering Republicans. Hayes handily won the Presidential

Election to succeed General U.S. Grant among the Sunol and Milpitas voters.

The ornate wooden Catholic Church had workmen finishing up the topmost spire (148 feet high according to our *Early Livermore* photo book), making it "the most stylish in the district". The total loss of this building by fire in 1916 convinced Livermore to purchase its first pumper fire engine, the 1920 Seagrave (lovingly restored and on display at the Duarte Garage).

November was a tough month for haying, noting that "Very little hay has been shipped the past week from this station." Plowing the fields had begun with more land cultivated than the prior year.

The many ads by local businesses proved that this was still a Western horse town. Blacksmithing, saddlery, boots, carriage repairs, stables, and the finest "horse nails". The hotels in town vied

for the railroad passengers with "fresh oysters in every style" and baths (hot water was extra). The saloons had stiff competition, each identically touting the finest "Wines, Liquors, and Cigars" (except for the lone seller of "Seegars" at the Washington Bath House).

The four-page single sheet newspaper was pre-printed with general (and generally useless) articles with San Francisco lawyer and medicinal ads. It had plenty of room for local ads but only a half-page for local news (page 3). I scanned the fragile paper as quarter pages and hand knitted them back into a facsimile PDF of that edition. Enjoy a trip to early Livermore 147 years ago at our LHG web site under Documents (select "Publications") here: https://lhg.org/Documents/Menu_Publications.html

Above: Front page of the November 18, 1876 edition of the *Livermore Enterprise*. Courtesy of Harry Briley.

A Man of Many Talents

by Dottie Eberly

We have recently learned one of our frequent Hagemann Ranch volunteers has another hobby that we should take advantage of when planning our LHG events.

Greg Pane is the keyboardist and composer who has played at many Hagemann Ranch open houses and entertained us at the Gala Dinner. Not long ago he shared with Barbara Soules his other passion: weather! He calls himself a "self-taught local climatologist". As a kid in Livermore he noticed that the TV weather reports often

got the Livermore temperatures wrong. He bought some weather equipment and began taking readings. Eventually his numbers were used on the Channel 5 weather shows from the late 1970s to the early 1990s. As a Livermore resident he is very adept at predictions and summary reports for our town. In July he made his forecast for December 2023. He says it will be warmer and drier than normal based on long observed pattern tendencies. He is also predicting a deluge in January. Find those rain boots!



Above: Greg at a Sundays at Hagemann Event. Photo by Barbara Soules.



Thank You to Our Supporters

In this season of Thanksgiving, we wish to acknowledge the many contributions of members and friends of LHG who have so generously supported the work of the Guild from October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023.

Contributors this year have included:

Individuals

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Organizations

Amador Valley Garden Club
Frank Bona and Halloween Players
Boy Scout Troop 939
Buena Vista Tree Service
Choose Love Livermore
Lance Cavalieri Jewelers
Fertile Groundworks
Hispanic Heritage Center
Joey T and Friends
L-AGS
LARPD
Livermore Lions Club
Livermore Public Library
National Charity League
Mony Nop Real Estate Team
Pawse
Questers, Amador Chapter
Rodrigue Molyneaux Winery
Story Coffee
Sugar Bear Band
Wente Vineyards
Winegrowers' Association
Young Mens' Service League

Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed their time, talent, and finances to the work of the Guild this year. Your contributions are truly appreciated. We could not Save Yesterday For Tomorrow without you.

Welcome New and Renewing Members! July - September 2023

Life

Merry Carter
Brenda Lang
Dereck Livermore
Brian O'Dell
Nancy Rodrigue

Patron

Thomas and Denise
Cross

Sponsor

Jeff Kaskey
Barbara Soules
Darrell Sweet

Household

Mr. and Mrs. Ken
Common
Eberly Family
Mr. and Mrs. Mark
Eckart
John and Diane
Gandolfo

Charlene and Kim

Grandfield
Loyd Family
Kevin Markl - NEW
Dan Moser Family
Tom and Jude Rognlien
Janis and James Stepen

Mr. and Mrs. Alan
Teruya

Individual

Ron Chaffee
David Darlington
Dona Fontes
Kathy Lee
Jay Morris
Allen Olsen
Karen Parkinson
Cheryl Remillard
Nile Runge

Senior

Shirley Anderson
Christine Boczanowski
Kathryn Braun

Peggy Collins

Carolyn Cordrey
Joel Eckels
Madelynn Farber
William Flower
Rickie Friedli/Giono
Ann Giannini
Candace Harding - NEW
Gale Hudson
Karen Jefferson
Cathy Kiely
Peter Kitchingham
David Livermore
Gloria Malone - NEW
Opal Mendenhall
Nancy Mulligan
Terry Murray - NEW
George Naval
Sally Nunes
Madeline Scullion
John Slover
Donna Stevens
Joanne Volponi
Business
Rock House

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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.

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Donations

Beverly Schell Ales
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Tim Sage
Don Smith
Barbara Soules

Jacquie Williams-Courtright

In Memory Of

Gayle Fachner Diltz by Susie Calhoun

The Livermore Heritage Guild History Center is located in the historic 1911 Carnegie Library building at 2155 Third Street.
925-449-9927

Hours for the History Center are varied at this time. Please call ahead or check the website for updated information as it becomes available.

www.lhg.org

Annual membership dues are: Individual \$25.00, Household \$35.00, Senior (age 62+) \$15.00, Student \$15.00, Sponsor \$75.00 and Patron \$150.00. Life (Individual) \$500.00 memberships are also available.

Please make checks payable to "LHG."

Livermore Heritage Guild
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 at lhg@lhg.org and we'll let you know about all the heritage happenings!