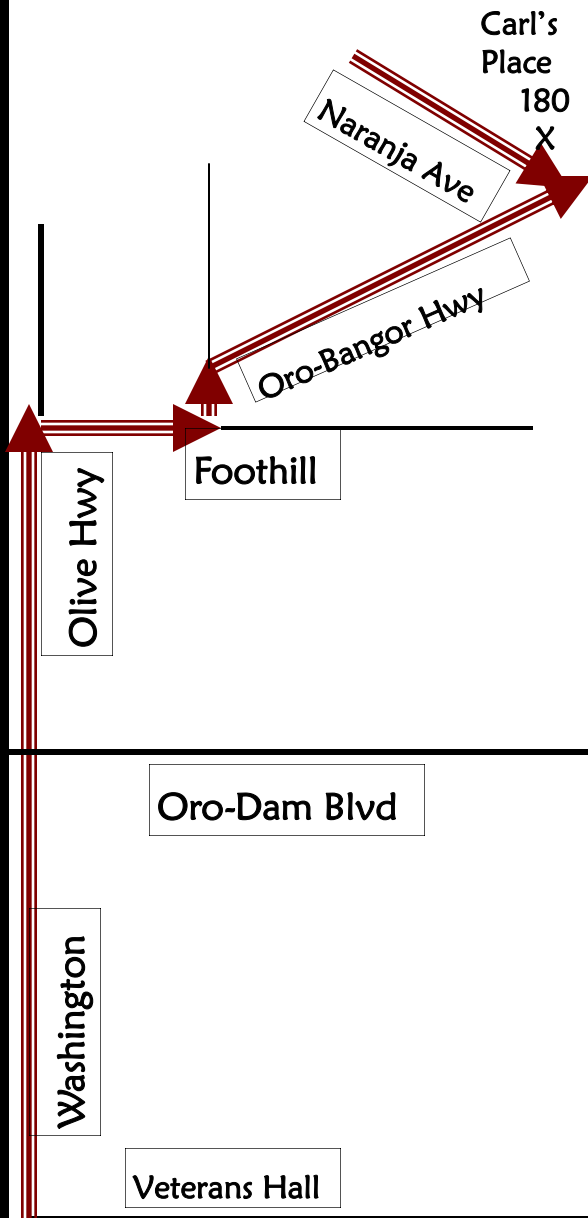


Carl & Karen's home at
180 Naranja Ave.



Discovery of Gold

On January 24, 1848, James Marshall discovered gold in Sutter's Mill, in Coloma. In 1849 a State Constitution, Governor and Legislature were established and as part of the Compromise of 1850, California became a State.

On July 4, 1848, John Bidwell discovered gold near the Middle Fork of the Feather River. He set up barter trading with Native Americans. Trading food for the yellow rocks that were of no use to the natives. Bidwell's Bar was a gold mining camp which lay at the end of the California Trail, about 6.5 miles northeast of Ophir.

The first suspension bridge west of the Mississippi River, at Bidwell's Bar, was destroyed in an 1852 flood, but was rebuilt, being completed in 1856. It's most recent replacement just celebrated its 50th anniversary.

In 1853, Bidwell's Bar was made the County Seat, after some political wrangling that took it away from Hamilton. But, the gold played out in the area and by 1856, Bidwell Bar was all but abandoned, and miners and the County Seat moved to the town of Ophir, later renamed Oroville.

Oroville has the honor of having the second Fire Department in California, north of Sacramento.

Oroville Dam is the tallest dam in the United States, and Lake Oroville is the 2nd largest man-made lake in California.



Discovery of Gold
Jan. 22-24, 2016



Chairman Michael Grainger
NSGW Argonaut #8
NSGW Bidwell #21
NDGW Gold of Ophir #190
NDGW Annie K. Bidwell #168



Friday, January 22, 2016 Bidwell Parlor 1332 Huntoon St.

- 2-8pm Early Registration/Check in at Bidwell Parlor
- 2-6:30pm Welcome No-Host Cocktails at Bidwell Parlor
- 4-6:30pm Committee Meetings various locations
- 6:30pm Grand President's Surf & Turf Challenge BBQ at Bidwell Parlor

Saturday, January 23, 2016 Veteran's Memorial Hall on Montgomery St.

- 8am-6pm Late Registration/Check in
- 8am Grand Trustees Meeting
- 10am Grand Officers Meeting
- 1pm Lunch in Dining Area
- 2:30pm HPF Meeting
- 2:30pm Charitable Foundation
- 2pm No-Host Cocktails
- 5pm Grand Parlor Formal Initiation at Ballroom
- 5:30pm Installation of John Bidwell #21 2016 Officers
- 6:30pm Grand Parlor Banquet at Ballroom
- 7:30pm Dessert and Keynote Speech by Congressman Doug LaMalfa
- 8pm Dance with local live music

Sunday, January 24, 2016

- 8-10am Breakfast at Oroville Inn at 2066 Bird St.
- 10am Grand Parlor Dedication of the Historic Oroville Inn
- 10:30am Grand Parlor acknowledgement of plaque
Argonaut Charter in the Pioneer Museum on Montgomery
- 11am Self Guided Tour of Pioneer Museum
- 12pm FREE BBQ at Grand Trustee Carl von Barga's House

