



Grand Officers of the Native Sons of the Golden West, 2017-2018.

Seated: Grand Third VP Joe Castillo, Grand Second VP Carey Pearce, Jr. PGP Paul Lapachet, Grand President Erik Christeson, Grand Secretary Tom Perazzo, Grand Third VP James King, Grand Treasurer Don Schaffer. Standing: Grand Historian Doug Love, Grand Outside Sentinel Kris Nelson; Grand Trustees George Adams, Ron Brocco, Garry Devlin, Jeff Schmidt, Brice Walker, Carl Von Bargen, Steve McLean; Grand Marshal Jerry Stinson, Grand Inside Sentinel Kiwi Yarborough, Grand Organist Mark Spaugh.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By **ERIK CHRISTESON**

As I write my first Grand President's message, I feel the honor, duty and responsibility of this office and I understand the trust that you, my Brothers, have placed in me. I hope that I shall become a worthy link in that illustrious chain which has preceded me.

A few years ago, I spoke to Grand Parlor about pride in our Order, pride in the spirit of '49 and the Native Sons, but also the hope that our descendants will be proud of our efforts, in our time. I implored the delegates that year not to treat the mighty deeds of our predecessors as an excuse for failing to do what must be done.

With few exceptions over the last several decades, we have been content to listen to excuses, avoiding examination of the complicated set of changes that has weakened the Native Sons' relevance to our contemporary lives. We are too caught up in our

own politics, internal strife and dissension to honestly analyze and address the serious problems facing us. For too long have too many sat on the sidelines, giving voice to ideas, but never having the courage to step forward and take these ideas from the abstract to the here and now. Too long have lesser men allowed our great Order dwindle for lack of honest self-evaluation and vision. Too long has our reliance on our past deeds inhibited today's Native Sons from achieving contemporary significance.

The reality is that change is the only constant and we have done very little to keep pace. For example, communications with technology has exploded yet only recently have we begun to utilize it to our advantage and are arguably well behind the curve compared to other fraternal organizations. Too often we cling to habits of the past; not our traditions, history and ritual, but rather to mundane practices that do nothing to promote our aims

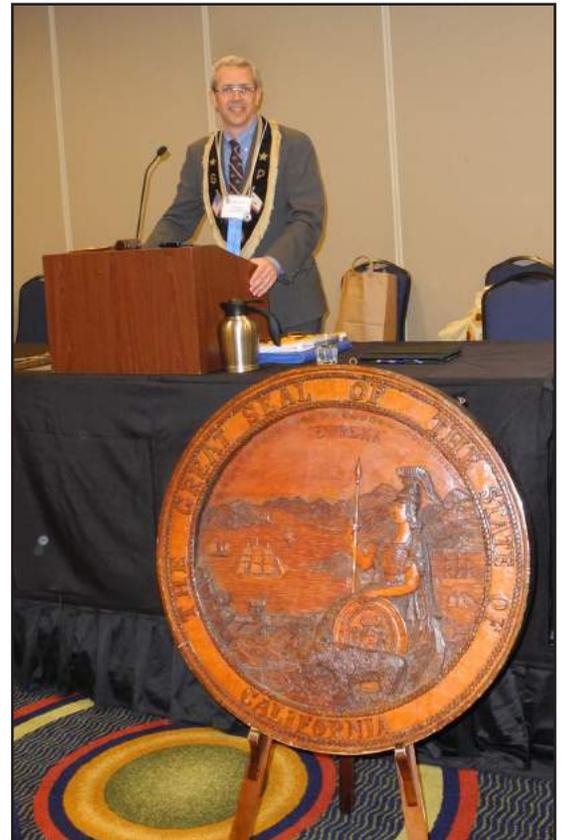
Continued on page 4

140TH GRAND PARLOR



ABOVE: First step for delegates and guests is registering for the 140th Grand Parlor. This may look like chaos but it is running smoothly, with no delays for those signing up. Delegates and guests receive badges, banquet and picnic tickets, program for the Grand Parlor listing all events, Advance Report (delegates only), and handouts concerning other upcoming events.

BELOW: Delegates and guests assembled at the start of the 140th Grand Parlor at the Monterey Marriott Hotel. Grand trustees' table is at the left, past grand presidents' seating is out of photo on the right. Final count showed 222 delegates and more than 100 guests.



Ready to preside over the sessions of the 140th Grand Parlor, Grand President Paul Lapachet poses with the venerable wooden California State seal from Redwood #66.



140TH GRAND PARLOR

Grand Parlor Resolutions

Delegates to the 140th Grand Parlor considered 28 resolutions. Most of them involved cosmetic changes to the Grand and Subordinate Parlor Constitutions and were passed. Listed below are resolutions involving other than cosmetic changes and the results thereof.

No. 1 - Eliminates Historical Landmarks Committee and moves duties to the California History Board. PASSED.

No. 10 - Adds subsection requiring parlor treasurers to present parlor bills at the first meeting of each month for authorization by membership. DEFEATED.

No. 11 - Allows parlor treasurer, financial secretary and recording secretary to sign checks, withdrawals or transfers of funds, while making optional other chair officers or parlor past presidents as signatories. Retains requirement for two signatures. DEFEATED

No. 16 - Changes section requiring election of subordinate parlor trustees every six months, each serving for eighteen months, staggered so term of one expires every six months, to the same requirements annually, one serving one year, one two years and one three years. PASSED.

No. 18 - Requires parlor recording secretary to insure that each elected Grand Parlor delegate is registered with the Grand Parlor and to provide each with a Grand Parlor packet. PASSED.

No. 19 - Permits parlors to appoint or elect (if provided by parlor by-laws) assistant recording secretaries, assistant financial secretaries and/or assistant treasurers, with the president having the option of appointing non-elected officers as provided in the parlor by-laws. PASSED

No. 21 - Makes mandatory that each member of Grand Parlor is entitled to only one vote, regardless of the amount of voting positions he may hold. This has been generally understood but it had not been written into the Grand Parlor Constitution. PASSED

No. 24 - Allows parlor to donate any amount of funds from the General Fund to the NSGW Charitable Foundation and NSGW Historic Preservation Foundation without consent of the Board of Control. PASSED

No. 26 - Prohibits income from Grand Parlor investments being used as a source of revenue. DEFEATED.

No. 28 - Grants Grand Secretary Emeritus status to the late Grand Secretary James Riley. PASSED.

Statehood Day Plans

Statehood Day, celebrating the 167th anniversary of California's admission into the Union, was once a state holiday but now is forgotten by almost everyone—except the Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West!

There'll be a fitting celebration, sponsored by Piedmont #120, on Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 11 a.m. to at least 4 p.m., at the Rowell Ranch Rodeo Park, 9275 Dublin Canyon Road, Castro Valley. Featured will be a refreshment center, barbecue, live music and a classic car show. Price is only \$10 for adults (\$15 after August 15 or without reservations); children 12 and under are free. Also on the agenda is a celebration of Piedmont #120's 129th anniversary!

Reservations, tickets and information are available from Chairman Dan Ryan (510-331-3355) or dano1888@yahoo.com.

Delegates Adopt 2017-2018 Budget PC Tax Set at \$36.58

Delegates to the 140th Grand Parlor adopted the Order's budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Major change from the budget proposed by incoming Grand President Erik Christeson was to continue to fund *The Native Son* newspaper; Christeson had proposed allocating only \$5,000 to the publication with the thought of having it delivered entirely by e-mail. Delegates agreed this was not practical at this time and therefore allocated \$30,000 which will cover the year's expenses of the publication. Plans are in progress to reduce that cost by acquiring more e-mail addresses and upgrading the Grand Parlor computer system to eliminate regular mail for those who wish e-mail copies. Anyone who wishes to receive U. S. Mail copies will be able to do so indefinitely.

Funds for general budget items totaled \$158,950 while the Grand Secretary's office budget was set at \$187,550 for a grand total of \$346,500. Deductions (from San Francisco Hall Association dividends, Special Fund Raiser, etc.) were tentatively set at \$63,217.98, resulting in \$283,282.02 for the per capita tax which, based on 7,744 members, was set at \$36.58 per member.

Scholarship Winners Announced

Choosing among ten applicants, the Grand Parlor Scholarship Committee made the following awards:

Academic scholarships went to **Ryan Heryford**, Bret Harte High School, Murphys; **Patrick Callagay**, Junipero Serra High School, Foster City; **Jake Linn**, Walnutwood High School, Folsom. A vocational Scholarship was awarded to **Karly Bridewell**, Vintage High School, Napa.

Bob Streich of Napa #62 was this year's Scholarship Committee chairman.

Play Day Results

Here are the results of the events held on Play Day at the 140th Grand Parlor.

BOCCIE: First Place Ed McLean, Ernestine Bianchi, Margaret and Wayne Crawford; Second Place John Sangiacomo, Paul Silva, Fred Schwab, Perry Dearson.

BOWLING: There were only 17 bowlers; everyone won a prize.

GOLF at Monterey Pines Golf Course: Closest to Hole: Dave Passalacqua, Benicia #89; Winning Twosome: Dave Passalacqua and Sam Peterson—Low gross 69. There were 32 golfers.

PEDRO: 1st - Matt Caselli; 2nd - Garry Milliken; 3rd - Joe Sangiacomo; 4th - Erik Christeson; 5th - David Delfino; Booby Prize - John Sangiacomo.

THE NATIVE SON

Fred Codoni, Managing Editor

Published bi-monthly by the Native Sons of the Golden West from its headquarters at 414 Mason Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94102, for distribution to its members. Parlors offering material for publication should send it, along with parlor newsletters, letters to the editor and advertising inquiries to Fred Codoni, 162 Porteous Avenue, Fairfax 94930, e-mail nsgwfpc@comcast.net. Send address changes to Grand Parlor, 414 Mason Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94102, or e-mail to nsgwgp@pacbell.net.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*from page 1*

and objectives, but instead hurt them. It would be very easy to continue as we have over the last few decades; to ignore change and dismiss it as a byproduct of the times, but it is not without its impact. Even today, we think of "loss of membership" as the major problem when in fact it is only a symptom of the underlying issue.

Moving Forward

In order to move forward, we must address our problems which I contend are threefold: 1) loss of our Native Sons identity as an observable and enviable way of life; 2) lack of a vested interest in the Native Sons that makes the fraternity relevant to our busy, contemporary lifestyles; and 3) involvement in our communities.



As Native Sons, we take our Order's identity for granted and we have allowed the general public to forget how important we are to the fabric of society. In order to promote our identity, we must acknowledge some difficult truths. We must recognize that much of the general public does not know we still exist, what our purposes are and perhaps more importantly that many current Native Sons do not understand the true meaning of our Order. We are

generally not visible in the daily life of our communities and there is little reserve of the positive memories of Native Sons.

Does this mean we do not support and provide invaluable services to the public? No, but we forget that what we do for each other, our parlors and ourselves enriches the quality of life for our families and communities and more importantly we forget to "toot our own horns." Think of your own parlor or district for a moment. How many scout troops, little league teams, charitable organizations, scholarship recipients and others would suffer if we were not there to lead the way and support their efforts with our time and money? There is a reluctance to be self-aggrandizing, but if we do not sing our own praises, who will?

Next, we must determine our desired image of the Native Sons. We must reassert our dedication to preservation of California's history; we must establish the relevance of Native Sons values to today's life; we must re-establish the Native Sons as an elite, serious fraternity dedicated to leadership in and improvement of our communities and State; and we should not forget that we must provide a camaraderie and trust in a dedicated brotherhood. Above all, each member must strive to be easily identified in his community by his actions and words as a Native Son, dedicated to the aforementioned principles.

Not The World of Our Founders

We are in a downward cycle and membership is at its lowest point in the last 90 years. People are busy and joining is no longer fashionable. What we have failed to accept is that the world is a different place that it was. If you live in a city, your 15-minute commute to work is now an hour, if you are lucky. Family time is squeezed into evenings and children have their own activities. Technology provides entertainment and activities that compete with ours. All of this means that if our Order wishes to attract and retain members, we must offer something of great interest to be even considered worthwhile.

When our Order was strong, there was no television, no radio and certainly no internet. In the evenings, when people returned home from work, there were things to do, some of which were in the category of drudgery, but more often than not the evening brought dinner and that was all. That left our predecessors with free time that was afforded fewer distractions than modern life offers, or perhaps even inflicts. Basically people had a choice of staying in their homes in the evening or going somewhere and being with like-minded friends.

We must recognize that we have individually and collectively allowed our lethargy to tarnish the jewel of the Native Sons. Our focus on the distant past has blinded us to the challenges of the present and it is the present we must address. Each of us has a responsibility to steward our Order into the future, calling on our own spirit rather than resting on our laurels.

We must begin to tap the wealth of resources we have, both on a state level and within each of our own parlors. We must leverage the assets we have in our 7,744 members, our good name for preservation of California history, our legacy of charity, our community relationships, our facilities, financial assets, past grand presidents and our young and enthusiastic members. Our skills and resources are great, but our tools are rusty. The work on the Native Sons public image begins with work on ourselves and individual parlors.

This year the goals and objectives committee laid out some very innovative and aggressive goals for our Order. To that end, in addition to rewarding membership gains with belt buckles and honor parlor awards, members and parlors will be rewarded with implementing any of the objectives outlined in the goals and objectives report or for developing new and creative ways to promote, preserve and advance our beloved order!

Tasks for Subordinate Parlors

I would ask each Subordinate Parlor to:

1. Plan meaningful activities that put Native Sons values into action. Consider how you can make each and every activity uniquely Native Sons and develop activities that involve the families of the brothers and the community at large.
2. Improve the environment of a parlor-based fellowship. Refresh the image, welcome new members, provide mentoring and strengthen communication.
3. Tap the talents of individual members to build a community of experts to help the Native Sons and our communities; then reach out to your communities to offer that assistance!
4. Offer Native Sons recognition and incentive programs for actions above and beyond that of a knife and fork member.
5. Share your success stories with other parlors!

Brothers, we must put aside old habits of saying, 'Oh, we tried that already' or "that's the way we've always done it" or "yes, but--". Cast off the negativity and turn your objections into a challenge to develop a solution! Share your ideas and take ownership of restoring the identity of the Native Sons through each and every action, regardless of how small. Make the Native Sons the fraternity you want, brother by brother, parlor by parlor.

I do not propose that we neglect our history or forsake our mission and legacy, but brothers, it is time to adapt and if we do not define the vision of our order for ourselves, others will do it for us and we will fade into obscurity as has been the fate of many other fraternal organizations.

Lotts Lake Work Week August 12-20

By TONY LARIOS

All you campers, hard workers and shooting enthusiasts, it is that time of year again to start preparing for our Lotts Lake Work Week, this year on August 12-20, with the Annual Potluck on Saturday, August 19. With all the snow this year there is bound to be plenty of work to be done during the work week—we can always use as many volunteers as possible to help out.

We are planning a little extra fun come Saturday before the yearly Lotts Lake potluck: the First Annual Lotts Lake Postal Shoot. Entry fee is \$5 per person and is limited to .22 caliber rimfire rifles with iron sites only. Targets will be supplied for four different shooting disciplines (Standing, Sitting, Kneeling and Prone). Each contestant will be scored on ten shots (supplied by the shooter) at each discipline. The person with the highest score will be deemed the winner of that discipline and awarded a trophy. We will need to know how many would like to attend and participate in the shoot so we can have enough supplies. Please contact Tony Larios (Quartz Parlor #58) before July 28 at tlarios6971@msn.com or at (530) 635-4887. If there are any questions, please contact Tony Larios or Mike Hemmings.

Special Drawing Winners

Following is a list of winners of the 2017 Special Fundraiser drawing. Proceeds go to certain Grand Parlor funds and help to reduce the per capita tax.

- 1st - PGP Joe Neitzel, Fairfield - \$1,000
- 2nd - NSGW PGP Bonnie Tabor, Modesto - \$750
- 3rd - Mark Spangl, no address shown - \$500
- 4th - Art Grosse, Rough and Ready - \$250
- 5th - Steve Leeds, Livermore - \$100
- 6th - Gary Corippo, Paso Robles - \$100
- 7th - Jack Quaid, Jackson - \$100
- 8th - Michael Gouvaia, Livermore - \$50
- 9th - "Bottom of the Fifth," Benicia - \$50
- 10th - William Wachob, Fairfield - \$50
- 11th - Larry Wilson, Crockett - \$50



Ladies attending the 140th Grand Parlor gathered for lunch at the top of the Monterey Marriott, enjoying a splendid view of Monterey Bay.

Check out the Native Sons Website
for *The Native Son* in full color and
newsletters from other parlors.
Just go to www.nsgw.org.

OPINION

Fred Codoni, Managing Editor

A Great Loss

Within 24 hours of each other, the Native Sons lost two Past Grand Presidents who served our Order well for many years.

PGP Ray Johnson, who was Grand President in 1972-1973 died May 7. Not content to retire from active participation in the Native Sons after his term, Ray continued to maintain an active interest in our Order, mentoring younger members and always maintaining a positive attitude. For many years he was Dean of the Past Grand Presidents Association, presiding over the annual PGP dinner and offering advice to those PGPs who came after him.

PGP Jim Riley, who served as Grand President in 1999-2000, soon stepped into the most important office in the Native Sons, that of Grand Secretary. He served with distinction in that post until his death on May 8.

Both these brothers exerted a positive influence on our Order for many years. We will miss them, but we will remember them as long as the Native Sons of the Golden West continues to exist. May they rest in peace in their well-deserved new homes in the Grand Parlor on High.

Remember Your Oath

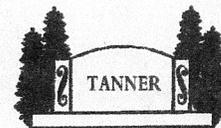
Each of us initiated into the Native Sons of the Golden West took an oath which included "I will not wrong a brother, nor any member of his family, nor permit them to be wronged"; and "I will do all in my power to prevent dissension in this parlor and among its members."

We have become aware of actions of a few members that contravene those oaths. We don't know all of the details, but it is obvious that there are instances where the oath has been violated.

One of the attractions of our Order is the fellowship engendered by those who not only live up to our oath but practice our cardinal virtues of Friendship, Loyalty and Charity. As with any organizations, members may differ from each other in their views on any and all subjects. We encourage friendly debate, but such differences should never alienate brothers. Our Order is too small to tolerate rudeness, vilification of a member for his views and outright hostility among brothers.

Those of us who fervently wish to perpetuate the Native Sons of the Golden West urge all Native Sons to live up to the Native Son Oath, respect each other and work together for the greater good of our Order.

J. M. Boone & Sons
CA Cont. Lic. #814604
All Types of
Cemetery Work



"A Boone Family Tradition"
Since 1880

3 GENERATIONS
NDGW & NSGW
MEMBERS

BOONE'S MEMORIALS

1st Quality Granites, Marble, Bronze, Vases, Benches

Urns & Mausoleums

G. TANNER BOONE
4th Generation
Cell: (209) 694-0766
Office: (209) 532-2506

3 GENERATIONS
Building NSGW & NDGW
PLAQUES & VETERANS
MEMORIALS

Located at
22039 Sawmill Flat Road
Sonora, CA 95370
Toll Free: (800) 532-8550

Buckle Commemorates the Argonaut Mining Disaster

By Erik M. Christeson, Grand President

On August 27, 1922 at 11:40 p.m., what would become the worst gold mining disaster in California history began with a fire in the Argonaut Mine, 3,000 feet below the earth's surface.

The Sunday night shift began without incident, depositing forty-three miners at the 4,500, 4,600 and 4,800 levels of the mine. Later that evening, the shift boss and five additional men were lowered to the 4,800 foot level and at 10:40 the skip tender was lowered with lunch and water for the men.



According to shift boss Clarence Bradshaw, "I was at the 4,200 foot level at 11:40 last night when I noticed smoke. Within hailing distance were Steve and Jocko, my skip tenders, but the rest of the shift were in the lower workings of the mine. I yelled to Steve and Jocko to get out fast, and with them ahead of me we headed for the shaft and the skip that would get us out. The smoke got thicker and thicker and we nearly choked to death at the 3,000 foot level. There was fire, too, by this time. It was a miracle we got out. Anyway, soon as we reached the surface I got Foreman Sanguinetti, and together we started back down the shaft. But we only got to the 2,800 foot level. We couldn't get through the fire and smoke, so we had to turn back."

Rescue Efforts Fail

The first of the many rescue crews was led by Byron A Pickard of the U.S. Bureau of Mines; he "took only the most skilled rescue workers with the most efficient apparatus available." [Amador Ledger, August 31, 1922]. Unfortunately, the rescuers were never able to make it to a point about sixty feet below the 2,700 foot level due to the fire, smoke and poisonous gases escaping the main shafts. In fact, the Stockton Record observed, "This morning rats began pouring from the Argonaut Mine in droves. Poison gas fumes are driving the rats from the lower levels and they come scampering up the timbering by the hundreds."

All hope of rescue through the Argonaut shafts was abandoned the night of August 28, but by Tuesday morning a last desperate effort began. Three years prior, a tunnel connecting the Argonaut and nearby Kennedy Mine collapsed after a disastrous fire. The tunnel was known to be tightly caved-in and was approximately 1,500 feet long. Rescuers worked in six-hour shifts, sixteen men to a shift, cutting through from the 3,600 foot level of the Kennedy to tap the 4,800 foot level of the Argonaut.

Finally, on Monday morning, September 18th, the rescuers emerged from the reconstructed tunnel into the bowels of the Argonaut. That afternoon at 4:28 p.m., they discovered a bulkhead at 4,350 that had not been there when the fire broke out. The bulkhead was opened and the air inside found to be foul, but about fifteen feet further, a second, less well constructed bulkhead was discovered.

"It was behind this second bulkhead the bodies of the 47 men, who went to work that Sunday night, three weeks before, were found. Some had fallen as they worked, others were sitting leaning against the wall and the Oberg's, father and son, were clasped in each other's arms." [Amador Ledger, September 21, 1922.]

Miners Lose All Hope

"The men were growing drowsy now, and they knew the rescuers couldn't reach them in time. There was no material to write with, but a message must be left for their loved ones. William Fessel, a leader to the end, took his carbide lamp and traced in smoke on the slate rock near where he fell: "Gas too strong, 3AM, Fessel." And so, through this thoughtfulness, the comfort that death came soon, without pain, was given to the loved ones left waiting." [Amador Ledger, September 21, 1922.]

Thus, it is with both profound respect and wonder of these mighty men of California, to whom this year's Native Sons belt buckle pays homage. The front of the buckle is a reproduction of a famous photograph taken by the rescuers soon after the gas had cleared from the Argonaut Mine, showing the messages left by Fessel and his fellow miners.

The buckle states, "Argonaut Mine—Site of the worst gold mining disaster in California history. On August 27, 1922, a fire and cave-in trapped 47 miners. It took over two days for the fire to be extinguished. Rescuers reopened tunnels between the Kennedy Mine and the Argonaut, but it took three weeks to reach their brethren. As oxygen dwindled, Argonaut miner Edward Fessel, using his miner's lamp, scrawled on a rock wall: "3 o'clock, gas getting strong." Another miner, scratched: "3:15, half knocked out." Fessel made a final entry at on August 28: "4 o'clock nothing more." The 47 miners paid the ultimate toll demanded of those who delve in the earth for gold; but the heroic valor of their brethren above exemplifies the spirit of Friendship, Loyalty and Charity."

Argonauts they lived; Argonauts they died.

If you'd like to read some of the articles from the Amador Ledger from this period, please visit <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/departments/library> and click on the "Amador County Local Newspapers" link. The digitization project of the Amador County newspapers from 1855-2008 was funded, in part, by Excelsior #31, Amador #17, Ione #33 with a matching grant from the Historic Preservation Foundation.

MILLBRAE AUTO REPAIR
 Brakes • Tune-Ups • Engine Work
 Electrical Diagnostic
 Test Only Smog
 650-692-7011
 Cell 650-464-7295
 Shahin
 Owner •
 Andre
 120 El Camino Real
 Millbrae, CA 94030

RETRO RAMBLINGS

By **DOUGLAS LOVE, Chairman, California History Board**

My Brothers, this will be my last Retro Ramblings as Chairman of the Native Sons' California History Board. After several years, it has come time for me to step aside and serve our beloved Order in other ways. I have enjoyed writing these articles for *The Native Son* and traveling to visit the places about which I wrote. It has truly been a pleasure. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed reading them as much as I have enjoyed writing them.

From my first article about Sonoma, through Fort Ross, Benicia, Donner Lake, Monterey and Los Angeles; with topics as wide ranging as natural and popular cultural history, I hope I have given you a bit of an insight into what I believe makes our Golden State so special. I hope I have inspired some of you to go out and discover some of our native state's history yourself.

This began, as many ideas do, in a hotel room in Jackson, after a few cocktails. I simply asked what, specifically, as Chairman of the History Board, I should do. Past Grand President Dean Zellers suggested that, as I visit historic places around our state, that I write about them. Thus began Retro Ramblings.

As I end my tenure, I want to remind you of some of the accomplishments you have achieved, my brothers. Together we helped keep many state parks from closing. Together, we have found many lost or misplaced dedication plaques. We helped keep Saint Serra's statue in the Federal Statuary Hall. There is still much work to be done and I hope to be a part of it. Now more than ever, we must work to preserve California's past, all of it, the good and the bad, to leave a legacy for our children as our fathers and mothers left a legacy for us.

So, what will happen to this little article? Well, I will continue to write Retro Ramblings as long as the editor of *The Native Son* will publish it. The focus may change at bit as I begin to write more about the history of the Order. But I will continue to write Retro Ramblings.

So, my Brothers, please go out and discover the grand history of our beloved state. Share your love of our native land with others. Go and have fun!

In closing, I wish to thank Past Grand Presidents Duane Gavin, Gene Perry, Jim Shadle, Dave Allen, Dwight Dutschke, Tim Tullius, Dean Zellers and Grand President Paul Lapachet for their faith and confidence in me. I hope that I have served the Order well. I hope to continue to serve the Order in the future. Finally, my Brothers, to paraphrase Scoop Nisker, long time reporter for KFOG in San Francisco, "If you don't like the history, go out and make some of your own."

MOTHER LODE MONUMENT CO.

Granite
Bronze
Crushed
Rock



Repairs
Engravings
Cement
Curbings

GARY PORTEOUS
Lic. No. 332320
13862 Ridge Road East, Sutter Creek 95685
(209) 223-1761

Order Mourns Loss of Ray Johnson, Jim Riley

Native Sons of the Golden West are mourning the loss of two past grand presidents who died within 24 hours of each other. Past Grand President Raymond P. Johnson died May 7, and Past Grand President and Grand Secretary Jim Riley died May 8.

Raymond P. Johnson

Raymond Johnson, dean of the past grand presidents, was born in Fresno on September 13, 1926 and was raised on the same 60-acre farm in Fresno which was established by Ray's grandfather Eric Johnson, who served with the Union Army in the Civil War. Ray served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, mostly on the Island of Guam. Ray joined Fresno #25 in 1950, transferring to Los Banos #206 when Fresno Parlor closed. Ray was elected grand president in 1972 and held his Grand Parlor in Fresno in 1973. He was proud to have attended 64 Grand Parlors. In 1985, Ray and wife Loretta moved to Pismo Beach where he resided at the time of his death. Survivors, in addition to Loretta, are son Eric and wife Pamela of Clovis; daughter Jan and husband Jeff Stoekle of Palmer, Alaska; plus grandchildren. Graveside service was held in Fresno May 12.



James Matthew Riley

Past Grand President and current Grand Secretary James Matthew Riley died May 8. Jim was born in San Francisco on February 6, 1941. He met Patricia, his wife of almost 55 years, while a student at the University of San Francisco. Jim joined South San Francisco #157 in 1972. He was elected grand president in 1999 and held his Grand Parlor in Redding in 2000. After his term, he was elected grand secretary and served 17 years in that position until his death. Jim was a long-time employee of the United States Postal Service, retiring as Postmaster at San Mateo. Jim was the consummate sports fan, loving the San Francisco Giants, 49ers and Warriors. He attended many World Series games and Super Bowls over the years and almost never missed a trip to the Giants' spring training in Arizona. In addition to Pat, Jim is survived by daughters Ann and Suzi and adopted daughter Monica Kraft. He was preceded in death by his daughter Carole. Funeral services were held May 11 in San Mateo.



Thanks from the Rileys

Thank you from the family of Past Grand President and Grand Secretary Jim Riley for the many kind notes and donations we have received in Jim's memory from Native Sons, parlors, and friends.

Sincerely, Pat, PGP Suzi and Anne Riley

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

PGP David Allen, PGP

Here is a preliminary report from the 140th Grand Parlor. The HPF committee wants to thank all who visited the HPF room at the Monterey Marriott. The donations received were up 45% from the last year to just over \$37K in the HPF room. The committee thanks all who donated; we continue to strive to earn your trust in our mission throughout the State of California.

Examples of what can be accomplished by parlors through their own commitment were on full display by Frank Cunha of Amador Parlor #17 who gave an inspiring presentation to the delegates at the convention. There will be a more complete report in the next edition of *The Native Son*.

Below are excerpts from the HPF report to the Grand Parlor:

I want to start by recognizing PGP Barney Noel, who was one of the founders of the HPF in the year 2000 and who is retiring this year after 17 years. After a very rocky start for the HPF with the Sesquicentennial in Sacramento, Barney was the guiding light and inspiration for many of us as he diligently guided the Foundation toward solid ground, helping it become an organization that has turned around and has a positive direction and increasingly successful mission.

Past Year's Results

Now, let's get down to the results for the past year. The HPF was able to see some of its past grant awards come to fruition. Examples ranged from the study of St. Helena Parlor Hall, which was completed, along with the reattachment of Father Junipero Serra's head, to the completion of Miner's Bend Park in Sutter Creek. New opportunities were presented to the HPF in Yosemite Valley with the reconstruction of an historic Native American ceremonial roundhouse and in Los Angeles with the potential remarking of the Battle of Los Angeles from 1847, to the replacement of the Olvera Street Cross located at the original birthplace of Los Angeles. The HPF has also donated toward restoration work at the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse and the Pasadena Playhouse. These historic preservation projects were funded by the HPF last year for over \$25K in grant awards.

There has been no final resolution on the three State Parks funding requests from last year, the Pioneer Monument in Truckee, Monterey Custom House, and the Vallejo Adobe in Petaluma. The focus of the projected work on the Pioneer Monument in Truckee has changed from one of restoration to one of maintenance. We are still waiting for reports and direction on that one and HPF Board members will continue to monitor each of these projects. Even though the Pioneer Monument project has changed considerably and barely re-started it can be considered one of leveraged success. Due to HPF influence and sponsorship of the Sierra State Parks Foundation, this project is moving forward. The HPF has helped raise the visibility of this project to one of optimism and inevitability after 20 years of no progress.

A Unique Organization

As I have mentioned many times before, the HPF is a unique organization that operates differently than what most Native Sons are familiar with—and that is by design. Basically, it never knows how much it will receive or to where it will go and to whom funds will be granted. The Foundation has never received a major donation and after an arduous journey is starting to receive recognition within and for the Native Sons. For the last several years, through the generosity of parlors and members, the HPF has been able to receive about \$25K in donations each year. The donations or matching grant amounts have increased accordingly, but we have only scratched the surface of the goals. There are still opportunities waiting for funding and recognition.

At the 2010 Grand Parlor in Rohnert Park, Joseph W. Knowland of Halcyon Alameda Parlor #47, the grandson of Past Grand President Joseph R. Knowland, one of the most significant figures in the first half of the 20th century, questioned why the Native Sons continue to under-represent their true mission; he recommended that parlors balance their donations toward the two Foundations. A few parlors understand this, but the majority do not.

From the prefatory in the Native Sons Constitution, "The Order of the Native Sons of the Golden West was organized for the mutual benefit, mental improvement and social intercourse of its members; to perpetuate in the minds of all native Californians the memories of one of the most wonderful epochs in the world's history—the 'Days of '49'—to unite them in one harmonious body throughout the State by the ties of a friendship mutually beneficial to all."

This statement of purpose tells each of us that the Order was founded and exists to have an historical focus.

Since the inception of the Native Sons in 1875, we have been charged with maintaining this historical focus. As I travel the state representing the HPF it is quite apparent that any person I meet who has an historical background knows what and how important the Native Sons of the Golden West has been to the state and citizens of California. Why in 2017 is it so hard for our members to universally recognize and support this?

History is of Great Importance

The relevance of history to our civilization is recognized by the following passages. Author Steve Berry, who was the first spokesperson for National History week, wrote, "History is not something obscure or unimportant. History plays a vital role in our everyday lives. We learn from our past in order to achieve greater influence over our future. History serves as a model not only of who and what we are to be; we learn what to champion and what to avoid. Everyday decision-making around the world is constantly based on what came before us. Why? Because history matters.

From the philosopher George Santayana, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." That is one of the reasons that history is taught and studied at every level of our educational system. Closer to home, it is clearly an important part of the mission of the Native Sons.

From our own dedication ceremony; "The present is like unto this mortar which we may mold and shape at our will. If we have made it according to the teachings of the past, it will harden into history that will glorify us; but errors on our part will forever show in the hardened mass. The present is ours, but the present will soon be in the past; we shall pass on into history".

Once again why is it so hard for our members to recognize our own historical significance and support this?

One of the positive by-products of the HPF's increasing growth and exposure is that it is now recognized as a resource not only for our members but for the outside public as well. The brand of the Native Sons of the Golden West is spreading throughout California and its vehicle is the Historical Preservation Foundation of the Native Sons of the Golden West. That is our unspoken mission. Many see the HPF and what it represents as the ultimate path of what will save the Native Sons from extinction. I am not alone in this belief and the list is growing. Again, why can't our membership recognize this?

Until next time, see you on the California Trail.



HPF Chairman PGP Dave Allen points to places where the Foundation has provided grants.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

By ERIK M. CHRISTESON, Grand President

The first time I ever witnessed a Native Sons dedication, I was immediately impressed by the words and ritual. After all, who could not be a little awed that the Native Sons had water from each of the missions, sand from every county and cement from every quarry in California? Then, I came to learn, it was only local tap water, the sand and cement from Lowe's or Home depot. I was a little disappointed, but I knew my obligation as a Grand Officer; gather these elements and in volume enough to pass them on to subsequent Grand Presidents and Grand Marshals.

So, from the time I became Grand Third Vice President, I was on a "mission," so to speak. As I traveled over our great State, I stopped whenever I could at the nearest mission. Sometimes it was miles out of the way, but when would I be closer? I enlisted brothers from every corner of California to help, and thus, early this year, the last water from each of the Missions was gathered and the contents of the various vessels combined into a 5 gallon bucket, to be kept and preserved for the future.

And now I must ask for assistance with the next step, worthy brothers! We must gather sand from each of the 58 Counties in California, especially those without a Native Son parlor (Alpine, Del Norte, Inyo, Modoc, Mono, Siskiyou, etc.). So far we have gathered sand from Amador, El Dorado, Imperial and Sacramento Counties. The best way to gather sand (and not clay) is to seek out a creek or river and to take the material from the banks or riverbed. If the material is dry, add a little water, then take a pea-sized amount of material and rub it between your fingers. If it rolls or "smears" it has too much clay and you should look elsewhere. If it passes that test, then take a larger, wet amount of the material and squeeze it in your fist. If it retains its shape, but breaks into larger segments, you've got what we need! Gather enough material to fill a zip-top sandwich bag, write the name of the county on the bag with a black felt marker and either deliver it to one of the Grand Officers or mail it to 157 Main Street, Jackson CA 95642. Each brother who is the first to gather the material and turn it in from an as yet unclaimed county will receive this year's belt buckle as a reward for their efforts.

With your help brothers, by the end of this year we may just have all of the material we need to move onto the final step, cement from the last running quarries in California! Thank you in advance for your help, and I'll see you down the road.

Letter from the Grand Historian

My Brothers:

It is my honor and pleasure to serve as Grand Historian for the 2017-2018 term. Grand President Erik Christeson has appointed me to work on some historical projects and record the history of our Order for the coming year. As chairman of the History Board, I was allowed great latitude in following my interests and, to a degree, this is still the case. I do have specific duties to perform however. According to Article VI, section 12 of the Constitution, I am to serve as a member of the California History Board, collate all possible information about the early history of our State and our Order, collect records, pamphlets and books about the early history of our State and Order and to prepare a volume to present to Grand Parlor.

This is where I need your help, my brothers. As your individual parlors engage in historical projects or get mentioned in local news outlets, I need you to forward me copies of any documents, articles or notices of any historical work you do. I will appreciate any articles of a local historical significance which you may write for your parlor newsletters or local newspapers. All of these I will add to the volume I will assemble to document the 2017-2018 term.

At the end of this term, I will not only produce a volume to present to Grand Parlor but I will also provide copies on CD-ROM to every subordinate parlor. It is my goal to document this Grand Parlor year and make that documentation available to every parlor. If you have anything you would like me to place in the records, you can email it to me at doug1066@gmail.com or call me at (707) 328-6177. My postal address is 2141 Warwick Drive, Benicia, CA 94510. I will also continue to write Retro Ramblings for *The Native Son* and a few more scholarly articles myself. With your help, my Brothers, we can document this year and preserve the "Spirit of 49" for years to come.

In Friendship, Loyalty, and Charity,

Douglas Love, Grand Historian, President, Napa Parlor #62

PARLOR ACTIVITIES

Raceway Has Big \$\$\$ for Parlors

The Sonoma County Raceway offers cash for your parlor! Parlor members provide services—usually ushering—during race events and earn money which goes to the members' parlors. The Raceway provides everything needed, including parking and meals. There'll be several events from June through September, 2017, the next one requiring help will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, June 23, Saturday June 24 and Sunday, June 25. Breakfast lunch and dinner are provided at no cost and there is an open bar at the end of the day.

For information, contact PGP Dean Zellers at (707) 996-5282 (business), (707) 337-9119 (cell) or at dean@zellersins.com.

Fairfax Tuesday Lunches

Fairfax #307 invites all Native Sons and prospective members to its clubhouse, 135 Mitchell Drive, Fairfax, for a great lunch every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. The wine-beer-soft-drinks bar opens at 11:30, although the clubhouse is open at 9 a.m. for those who would like to come and enjoy the beautiful Fairfax hills in a relaxed setting. Full lunch—normally salad, French bread, entree and dessert, is only \$8, all water and soft drinks are \$1, wine is \$2. Reservations aren't needed. Contact Fred Codoni at (415) 459-7082 for information.

MILLBRAE AUTO REPAIR
 Brakes • Tune-Ups • Engine Work
 Electrical Diagnostic
 Test Only Smog
 650-692-7011
 Cell 650-464-7295
 120 El Camino Real
 Millbrae, CA 94030
 Shahin
 Owner
 Andre

PARLOR ACTIVITIES

Vets Home Visit is July 16

The 57th Annual Yountville Veterans Home Visitation and Picnic will be held on the Veterans Home grounds on Sunday, July 16. Featured will be a steak (or hot dog) barbecue, with salad, chili beans, roll and dessert for \$20 per person, beginning with service to veterans at 11:30 a.m., followed by service to the public.

Parlors and individuals are urged to buy dinners for the veterans at \$10 each; send checks for veterans' meals, payable to "Col. Nelson M. Holderman Parlor #316," to Kara Taddei, P O Box 202, Yountville, CA 94599.

Following at 1 p.m. there will be messages from the grand presidents of the Native Sons and Native Daughters, plus a presentation to a Veterans Home representative.

This event is sponsored by NSGW Holderman #316 and NDGW George C. Yount #322.

Santa Rosa Steaks Are Back!

After a ten-year hiatus, Santa Rosa #28 is reviving its annual Fathers' Day Steak barbecue. Back due to popular demand, the event will be held Saturday June 10, 2017 at Gavin Park, Bennett Valley Golf Course, 3330 Yulupa, Santa Rosa. Picnic hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with steaks served at 1 p.m.—choice of medium-rare to medium-well, with sides of beans, corn, garlic bread and a variety of salads. Price is \$15 per person, with hot dogs for children only \$5. Homemade desserts will be available, with beer, wine, soda and water available for a donation.

Games include horseshoes, bean bag toss and more with tennis courts and golfing available (it may be necessary to reserve a tee time).

Guests may bring a salad, appetizer, side dish or dessert to share.

The barbecue is open to all members, guests, friends and family.

Reserve before Wednesday June 6 by calling Shirley Mattiuzzi at (707) 542-4356.

Bear Lodge BBQs Continue

Redwood #66 features third-Friday barbecues at 7:30 at its Bear Lodge, located in the redwoods above Redwood City. Everyone is invited. RSVP to Susannemc@att.net or (650) 402-0433. Upcoming menus include June 16 – Barnyard Chicken; July 21 – Surf and Turf; August 18 – Ribs.

San Jose Has Monthly Dinners

San Jose #22 has a dinner on the third Tuesdays of most months at Napredek Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Here are the menus for the rest of 2017.

June 20 – Barbecued Steaks, Beans, Corn, Salad, Bread, Melon.

July 19 – No dinner.

August 15 – Barbecued Tri-Tip Veggies, Potato Salad, Salad, Bread and Desert.

September 19 – Tortellini and Sausage, Antipasti, Salad Bread and Desert.

October 17 – Chicken Piccata, Rice, Veggie, Bread and Desert.

November 21 – Thanksgiving Dinner with Turkey and Ham, Potatoes, Veggies, Rolls and Pies.

December – No dinner; banquet lunch.



Like the legendary Phoenix, Bidwell #21 has risen from the ashes and now has more than 100 members. Recently obligated were (left to right) Christie Hicks, Frank "Tiger" Hicks, Veronica Prindle and Shana Suttle. Re-instated member Chris Lambert is not pictured.

Horseshoe Tourney at Las Positas #96 June 24

Las Positas #96 is holding a double-elimination horseshoe tournament at the Livermore Rodeo Grounds on June 24, starting with the practice and signups from 8 to 9 a.m., with a singles tournament at 9 a.m. There'll be a linguisa lunch at noon, followed by a raffle and a 1 p.m. doubles tournament. Horseshoes will be provided, with trophies awarded to the top two finishers. The lawn adjacent to the pits is available for families and friends. Members and guests are invited to attend. Raffle donations are appreciated. Each event is \$10. For information, contact Robert Jeffers 925-382-7914 or robert@jdgeneral.com.

Napa Valley Friday Lunches

A great tradition amongst the Napa Valley parlors is their first Friday lunches, held at one of three locations. All Native Sons and prospective members are invited. Schedule for the rest of 2017:

July 7 - St. Helena parlor hall.

August 4 - Napa parlor hall.

September 8 - Napa parlor hall.

October 6 - Calistoga parlor at the Fairgrounds.

November 3 - St. Helena parlor hall.

December 1 - Napa parlor hall.

Great Lunches at Guadalupe

Guadalupe #231 has a great lunch, open to Native Sons and guests, each first Tuesday at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in San Francisco. Price of \$10 includes the meal and all beverages. . Reservations are required from Wayne Warden (650 726-4597), wayne.warden@sbcglobal.net. Menu for the next few months:

June 6 – Bacon Cheeseburger and Potato Salad.

July 11 (second Tuesday since first Tuesday is a holiday) – Chicken Breast Kabob and Pasta Salad.

August 1 – Grilled Prawns.

September 5 – Italian Sausage and Herbed Cheese Polenta.

October 3 – Cube Steak with Mushroom Gravy.

November 7 – Baked Ham.

December 5 – Baked Salmon.

Gladys Keema, First Woman Native Son

Gladys Keema of Santa Lucia #97, died April 24.

Gladys was the first woman “brother,” having been obligated by then Grand President Fred Codoni on June 20, 1994. To avoid having the two women whose lawsuit resulted in the Native Sons being required to admit women become the first females to enter, GP Codoni found a truly worthy candidate in Gladys, who had served as Santa Lucia’s secretary for many years and was familiar with the workings of a parlor and the Order. He traveled to Salinas and obligated Gladys, despite her protests that she did not need to be a member of the Native Sons. With that obligation, she was a pioneer of the Order, becoming an example for the many women who followed her into membership and who have been a true asset to the Native Sons.

After becoming a Native Son, Gladys continued as parlor secretary and also attended eleven sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate. May she rest in peace in the Grand Parlor on High.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS**Working Toward E-Mail**

In this rapidly-advancing electronic age, we are becoming more and more dependent on e-mail. Many of you already receive *The Native Son* electronically. Our goal is to have any member who wants *The Native Son* by e-mail to receive it that way and no longer receive a snail mail copy. Each member receiving only e-mail results in a saving of about \$3 per year on the Grand Parlor budget.

The problem thus far has been caused by the obsolescent program in the Grand Parlor membership computer, from which the Grand Secretary’s office has been unable to eliminate snail mail for those who are receiving e-mail; thus, our e-mail members still receive a hard copy.

We continue to solicit your e-mail addresses; e-mails are sent as blind copies to our recipients so no one can steal anyone’s e-mail address.

We hope to have the computer problem fixed very soon; until then, everyone will still receive a hard copy of *The Native Son*. Thereafter, you will have a choice: e-mail only, e-mail and hard copy, hard copy only. Be assured, that if you want to receive *only a hard copy*, you will receive it now and in the future. It will be your choice.

Cemetery Seeks Donations

The Native Sons Cemetery and Memorial Park near Georgetown is the final resting place for Native Sons. Individuals and parlors are urged to purchase memorial bricks to commemorate their members. Information on this project is available from Grand Trustee Jeff Schmidt at jschmidt.p91@gmail.com or (530) 333-3210. Schmidt is also soliciting donations for the project; send contributions in any amount to “NSGW Cemetery Foundation,” P O Box 635, Georgetown, CA 95634.

Get Your Lucky Calendars!

NSGW Lucky Calendars for 2018 are available from your parlor secretary or from the Grand Secretary’s Office for just \$25. The calendars contain full-color photos of many of the Native Sons monuments as well as descriptions of our activities. Prizes range from \$25 to \$3,000; winning tickets are returned to the drawing—many people have won more than once. Proceeds go to support Native Son activities and reduce the per capita tax.



Delegates present their donations to the NSGW Charitable Foundation during the Annual Cleft Palate March at the 140th Grand Parlor. Contributions to the General and Memorial Funds totalled \$151,688. Foundation member Bob Santos, foreground, is recording the donations as they arrive.

James Duval Phelan, Native Son Benefactor

James Duval Phelan, a United States senator and active in many endeavors, is remembered by Native Sons for two funds he established: one to fund dedications and the other to pay per capita tax for indigent members. Now often characterized as a racist, Phelan was a man of his times when anti-Asian sentiment was rampant in California.

James Duval Phelan (April 20, 1861-August 7, 1930) was the son of Irish-born immigrant James Phelan, Jr. who arrived in the United States, living in New York until news of the Gold Rush swept the East Coast in 1849. A true forty-niner, his father chartered three large shiploads of provisions needed by miners and had them sail to San Francisco, arriving in August, 1849. One of his shipments never showed up. He sold the contents of the remaining two ships at fantastically-inflated prices, amassing a \$100,000 profit. He then diversified his profits in businesses, banking and insurance.

James D. Phelan Born

In 1858 he married Irish-born Alice Kelly raising three children, one of whom was James Duval Phelan. James graduated from St. Ignatius High, the University of San Francisco, and UC Berkeley, obtaining a law degree he would never use.

After traveling extensively in Europe Phelan became a partner in the banking firm of Phelan & Son but showed little interest in what he called "the sordid mess of business and trade." He saw himself instead as a political leader and a patron of the arts.

Without previous political experience Phelan was elected mayor of San Francisco for three two-year terms beginning in 1897. Phelan loved to make speeches by which he would define his complex visions for the city: how it would be built, city government, and social patterns. A leading proponent of beautification, Phelan adorned the city by contributing decorative fountains, statues and monuments, while encouraging others to do the same. He never tired of promoting a failed plan to extend Golden Gate Park to Market and Van Ness.

Phelan warned of the dangers of monopolistic utility companies and in 1901, as a private citizen, bought several key foothill properties and applied for the right to use the Hetch Hetchy Valley as a reservoir, preventing it from falling into speculators' hands. He transferred his claim to the city in 1903. Phelan's plans were for the region and this was an important role in bringing the Hetch Hetchy Project to reality. As a private citizen he would also acquire municipal streetcar franchises and later transfer them to the city.

Post-Earthquake Activities

After the 1906 Earthquake, Phelan was a member of the Committee of Fifty, put together by Mayor Eugene Schmitz to manage the crisis. He became Chairman of the Board of Red Cross Relief Funds and was designated by President Theodore Roosevelt as custodian of those funds, amounting to nine million dollars.

Phelan was also on a committee formed just six days after the fire to relocate Chinatown to Hunters Point and was perhaps it's

strongest advocate. Out of an estimated 15,000 Chinese in San Francisco before the Earthquake and Fire, only 400 remained in the city as most fled to Oakland's Chinatown, tired of multiple relocations by the Army. After long drawn out and failed manipulative efforts by the committee the Chinese were allowed to return and rebuild what would become one of San Francisco's icons.

In the aftermath of the Earthquake, Phelan toured the United States, assuring capitalists that San Francisco was a safe place to invest money for the city's rebuilding.

First President of SF Hall Association

A long-time member of Pacific #10, Phelan always found time to take an active interest in Native Sons affairs. He was the first President of the Hall Association when building #2 was dedicated in 1912.

While President of the Hall Association Phelan ran successfully for the U.S. Senate, serving one term from March 4, 1915 to March 3, 1921. While in the Senate he was the chairman of the Senate Committee on Railroads and the Senate Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation of Arid Lands. He sought a second term but was defeated, many said because of a racially run campaign whose slogan was "Keep California White."

Villa Montalvo

After his time in the Senate, Phelan returned to banking and collected art. In 1912 he began to build a grand estate in Saratoga on 175 acres. An Italian Mediterranean Revival mansion which he called Villa Montalvo would become his favorite home. Upon his death in 1930 Phelan bequeathed the 19-room two-story mansion and several other large structures including two theaters and his art gallery along with sprawling gardens to the State. It is now run in partnership with Santa Clara County as a non-profit cultural center.

Phelan, who never married, was not afraid to spend his fortune furthering public projects. By all accounts he was an admirable man, leaving a uniformly positive mark.

Phelan not only loved to make speeches but loved entertaining as well. Native Americans, celebrities and notables of the era came to his lavish country Villa. Among the many guests were Jack London, Ethyl Barrymore, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks. Photos and mementos are displayed inside the mansion's library and can be viewed while attending an event. The mansion is a historic landmark awarded inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Phelan Hall

Phelan Hall at the University of San Francisco was named after its distinguished alumni but recently, after protests against Phelan's racist policies, it was renamed "Burl Toler Hall" in honor of a star player on USF's 1951 football team. An injury prevented Toler from playing professional football; he became the NFL's first black official.

Many years after his death, Native Sons continue to benefit from his generosity as they use the interest from his two Native-Son funds to assist in paying for dedications and to help members who cannot afford their dues.



NSGW CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Here is a list of recent donations to our Charitable Foundation in honor or in memory of. Such donations are a fine way to honor deceased members, friends or relatives. The Charitable Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) organization and all contributions are tax deductible. You can find the 2017 Cleft Palate March, Total Donations and our Donation Form on our website, nsgw.org. Click "Community Involvement."

To Cleft Palate Fund

Donald Schnarr
 Thomas E. Casey
 Vic Hansen
 Your Cause Applied Materials
 Applied Materials Foundation
 James & Mary Deignan
 Donald Scott
 United Way California Capital Region

In Memory of Leroy Paulucci

Gene & Debbie Perry

In Memory of Albert Souza

Cambria Parlor #152

In Memory of Jane Norgren

Santa Anna Parlor #74

In Memory of Peter Samardizch

Joe & Linda Neitzel

In Memory of Robert Wallace

Harly & Judy Harty
 Joe & Linda Neitzel
 Suzi Riley PGP NDGW

In Memory of Lido Galli, Peter Samardizch, John Bowers, Tom Mitchell

National Parlor #118

In Memory of Allan Edward Jefferson

Ann & Larry Ellis
 Harry D. Wardwell
 Haysahi & Wayland
 Ocean Mist Farms
 Stephen & Margret de Lorimier
 Salinas Pump Company
 Henry Hibino Farms
 Ryan & Rachelle Lightfoot
 Shirley J. Killpack
 Wilbur-Ellis Inc

Kay & Kenny Ginn
 The Tottino Family, Karen Antle,
 Tony & Cathy Alameda, David & Michele Pecci

BBS Inc. Roy Alsop
 Bengard Ranch Inc.

In Memory of Allan Edward Jefferson

Joanne Nissen
 John & Mary Richerson
 Kenny & Sherrie Lazerzini
 Christine Gomes Bellone
 Lyon Brothers
 Tommy & Jo Ann Powell
 John & Mary Jones
 Don Chapin
 Robert & Karma Nilsen
 Dave & Debbie Pedrazzi
 Joseph & Martha Domenighini
 Miguel & Dorothy Errea
 David & Frances Delfino
 The Nunes Company Inc.
 Mark & Nita Thomas

In Memory of Edward Pat Garriott

Joe & Linda Neitzel

In Memory of Norman Liebig

Leanora M. Grenz

In Memory of Chuck Orchard

Leanora M. Grenz

In Memory of Barbara Buchanan

Eden Parlor #113

In Memory of Ben Ferro

Joe & Marilou Ursino
 Robert & Kathy Santos

In Memory of Wes Davis Sr.

Frank & Kay Compani
 Quartz Parlor #58

DEATHS

May the Lord grant eternal rest in the Grand Parlor on High to these brothers.

HONORED DEAD

Evelyn Rose Alexander, Arrowhead #110: Attended the 135th session of Grand Parlor as a delegate

Richard Camozzi, Nicasio #183: Attended nine sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate.

Charles Metz, Nicasio #183: Attended nine sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate.

Bernard Ferro, Napa #62 (a 53-year former member of Col. Nelson M. Holderman Parlor #316): Attended seventeen sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate, the 88th session as Chairman of Board of Control, three sessions as a member or Chairman of Board of Appeals, twenty-one sessions as a member or Chairman of the Finance Committee, the 90th session as Grand Outside Sentinel, the 91st session as Grand Marshal and served as Grand Trustee at the 92nd, 93rd, and 94th sessions.

William M. Barry, Observatory #177: Attended seven sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate.

Stockton #7

Albert B. Dal Porto

Humboldt #14

Raymond I. Thomsen

Amador #17

Bill Marre

San Jose #22

Manuel Esteban

Santa Rosa #28

Carl E. Jacobson

Solano #39

Donald Orin Cahan

John Elmer Ellsworth

St. Helena #53

Edmond A. Chaix

Quartz #58

Wesley Donald Davis, Sr.

Napa #62

Adam Javaras

Vallejo #77

John F. Lammon

Georgetown #91

Steven Gau

Richard Grimes

Frank R. McCall

Las Positas #96

Malcolm David Bankhead

Donald Robert Frick

Arrowhead #110

Marcel Cherpin

Paul Wayne Pinckney

Richard L. Preciado

Sonoma #111

Charles "Bud" DeLauer III

Ernest P. Ruggeri

Robert Tacherra

Piedmont #120

Robert Wise

Gabilan #132

Allan Edward Jefferson

Phillip Louis Spiegl

Chispa #139

Sammy Marshall

Nicasio #183

Charles Baranzini

William Barboni

William DeMartin

Steven Lakatos

Jim Peter Larsen

Leroy Paulucci

Domingo Pereira Jr.

Carlo Ricci

University #272

John Hiss

Gerald Kruse

San Luis Obispo #290

John Feliciano

Fred Muff

Fairfax #307

Ronald Barone

Milton Thomas Hain

Timothy Pult

Col. Holderman #316

Michael James Garrity

DEADLINE FOR
 ADVERTISING AND
 EDITORIAL MATTER FOR
 THE AUGUST-SEPTEMBER
 NATIVE SON IS
 JULY 15, 2017.



A.M. BAIRD
ENGINEERING & SURVEYING

Allan M. Baird
 Principal

DESIGN & CONSULTING
 SPECIAL REPORTS
 PERMIT ACQUISITION
 BUILDING DESIGN
 SURVEYING & TOPOGRAPHY

1257 Main Street - P.O. Box 396 - Fortuna, CA 95540
 (707) 725-5182 - FAX (707) 725-5581 - (800) 675-5182
 email: ambaird@suddenlinkmail.com



The long-forgotten plaque on the Cary Ranch outside Anza was placed by the Native Sons in 1924. It honors the San Carlos Pass through which Juan Bautista de Anza led the first white explorers to cross the mountains into California in 1774. Plaque is at far right, partially hidden by Grand Trustee Jeff Schmidt.

LOST AND FOUND HISTORY

By Erik M. Christeson, Grand President

On February 10, 2017, ten intrepid Native Sons Grand Officers set out from Northern California on the annual De Anza Trek. As part of the journey, Grand Third Vice President James King, during his extensive research on Native Sons plaques, rediscovered a long-lost bronze tablet not too far from where the expedition would be taking our adventurous Grand Officers. A two-hour detour later, a piece of our lost history was found.

In 1924, the Native Sons of the Golden West dedicated San Carlos Pass near the town of Anza. The text of the plaque reads, "On March 16, 1774, Juan Bautista de Anza, Indian fighter, explorer, and colonizer, led through this pass (named by him San Carlos) the first white explorers to cross the mountains into California. The party traveled from Tubac, Arizona to Monterey, California. On December 27, 1775, on a second expedition into California, Anza led through this pass the party of Spaniards from Sonora who became the founders of San Francisco. Tablet placed by Historic Landmarks Committee, Native Sons of the Golden West, 1924."

The plaque resides on the Cary Ranch outside Anza, California which has been in the Cary family since 1938 and where Mr. Richard Cary still resides today. The original land grant for the property dates from 1916 and the legal description of the

property boundaries are still delineated in chains, metes and bounds. When the Cary family first moved to the property, they resided in an original adobe while their house was being built. Through the 1950s, the property boasted nine springs, 50 fruit trees and the family grew alfalfa, corn and barley over the years. In 1967, all but two of the springs had completely dried up and the trees were removed not long after. The two remaining springs run intermittently, and Mr. Cary notes that which one produces better depends on when the last earthquake happened and rerouted the flow!

In another interesting tie to the Native Sons, Cary family lore states that Ramona Lubo from the nearby Cahuilla Indian Reservation rode on the Cary buggy or buckboard when they would pass by on their way to town and as a thank you one day Ramona presented a woven basket to the Cary family in gratitude for their kindness.

It has been argued by experts that Ramona Lubo may have been after whom the novel *Ramona* and our own Ramona Parlor #109 may have been named! Some assert that Ramona was an entirely fictional character; the Carys beg to differ!

The property is also home to a unique item called a solstice site or solstice stone and during the June and December solstice, the sun creates a "vee" at the cupoles carved into the rock.

Mr. Cary informed us that he cannot remember Native Sons ever visiting the property since 1924, but hopes that more will venture to the ranch in the future. He charges a modest \$200 or \$15 per person for a very extensive and informative tour, and can be reached at (951)927-9541 or at myrdsle@verizon.net. These tablets are part of not only California history, but Native Sons heritage and we encourage all of our brothers to join us in rediscovering our lost (and hopefully found) history.

For more information on the San Carlos Pass plaque and dedication, please see page 12 of the June 1924 edition of *The Grizzly Bear*, available online at <https://archive.org/>.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members joining in March and April! We hope you will be active in your own parlor and visit neighboring parlors.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Stockton #7
Dean Fitzgerald | Ferndale #93
Kelly Patrick |
| Argonaut #8
Jeromie Crismon
Kalyn Crismon | Las Positas #96
John M. Haynes
Dean Stamatias
Barry Wood |
| Modesto #11
Thomas Hicks | Glen Ellen #102
Nils Derickson
Danielle McConohy |
| Humboldt #14
Ben Shepherd | Ramona #109
Matthew Weise
April Marie Monge |
| Amador #17
Thomas A. Coyle
Bradlee Conklin
John S. Miller | Sonoma #111
Frank Bethany
Anthony (Tony) Grant
Patrick Cain |
| San Jose #22
Patricia Ann Brewer
Thomas Edward Brewer
Anthony Joseph Cistulli
Benvenuta Pardini
Linda Sotelo
Richard Bayuga Sotelo
Ben F. Seward
Sue Seward | Arrowhead #110
Jimmy Hill
John N. JaQuess
Mimi Ryan
Susan Stephan |
| Ione #33
James Kevin Boyd | Sonoma #111
Frank Bethany
Anthony (Tony) Grant
Patrick Cain |
| Solano #39
Howard Franklin McGill
Elwood W. Youman | Eden #113
Christopher D. Stapp
National #118
Andrew Fred Bacigalupi
Ronald Zolezzi |
| Quartz #58
Michael Lynch Good | Chispa #139
Richard Chris Rush |
| Auburn #59
John Anderson
David Chaix
Todd Kuchar | Cambria #152
Michael Joseph Perry |
| Redwood #66
Darren Brooks | Byron #170
Michael Lescure |
| Monterey #75
Elena Soto
Rebecca Ybarra | Observatory #177
Christopher Allan Bousman
Danielle Louise Cadwallader |
| Calistoga #86
Gerry Turgeon | Benicia #89
David Batchelor
Bart Sullivan |
| Georgetown #91
Charles E. Carroll
Jess G. Hanschild
Carl Hoelscher
Carlton Jacobson
Andrew S. London
Daniel L. Rainey
Kim P. Robertson
Dennis T. Smith
Dave Ward
Paul E. Williams | Nicasio #183
Ed Ruda |
| | San Luis Obispo #290
Eric E. Peterson
Carolyn Lopez |
| | John C. Fremont #293
Steve Max Tietjen |
| | Fairfax #307
Steven A. Jones |

Downward Spiral Continues

Membership in the Native Sons of the Golden West is now 7,744 as of May 1, 2017.

As our Order ages, we see more and more of the losses attributed to deaths.

On the bright side, we initiated 490 members and reinstated 27—but only 25 parlors had a net gain. Parlors with an increase of ten or more members were Humboldt #14 (+13), Amador #17 (+15), Bidwell #21 (+14), San Jose #22 (+10) and Santa Lucia #97 (+12).

Too often a parlor's only enticements to prospective members is the number and quality of the meals it serves and the availability of inexpensive cocktails. Too often forgotten are the original purposes of our Order: "To preserve the Spirit of the Days of '49 so that it shall not perish from the hearts and minds of man."

Many prospective members, looking at our Web site or reading about our past, come to the Native Sons seeking a chance to study and preserve history and participate in community projects and are disappointed to find that too many of our parlors fail in their duty to live up to the hopes of the founders of the Native Sons of the Golden West. Is your parlor's membership declining? Are you having trouble recruiting new members? Perhaps by honoring history and having community projects you will gain publicity for your parlor and attract new members.

New, redesigned and attractive membership applications are available from your parlor secretary or the Grand Parlor office. The tri-fold application gives a brief description of our activities, and has one panel for the applicant to fill out. The form is designed for the parlor to remove the applicant's data and leave the rest of the form with the applicant. There is room for parlor data on the reverse of the application.

MEMBERSHIP BOX SCORE

Membership 5-1-16	7,940
Gains	
Initiated	366
Reinstated	39
Tfd In	14
Total Gains	419
Losses	
Suspended	295
Resigned	123
Withdrew	0
Died	183
Tfd Out	14
Total Losses	615
Net Change	-196
Membership 5-1-2017	7,744

Parlors With Net Gains

Humboldt #14	+ 13
Amador #17	+ 15
John Bidwell #21	+ 14
San Jose #22	+ 10
Sunset #26	+ 1
Golden Gate #29	+ 1
Quartz #58	+ 6
Auburn #59	+ 3
Monterey #75	+ 7
Mt. Bally #87	+ 2
Downieville #92	+ 1
Santa Lucia #97	+ 12
Glen Ellen #102	+ 3
Ramona #109	+ 8
Santa Barbara #116	+ 1
National #118	+ 4
Piedmont #120	+ 1
San Miguel #150	+ 1
Cambria #152	+ 2
Observatory #177	+ 4
Los Banos #206	+ 6
Twin Peaks #214	+ 3
Pebble Beach #230	+ 1
Guadalupe #231	+ 2
J. C. Fremont #293	+ 2

Contributions to the NSGW Charitable Foundation and the Historic Preservation Foundation are tax deductible, since each Foundation is registered as a 501(c)(3) organization. Your generosity makes the work of these groups possible.

**GRAND PARLOR
NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST
414 Mason Street #300
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Jefferson City, MO
PERMIT NO. 210

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

JUNE-JULY 2017

CALENDAR—CLIP AND SAVE

This calendar is compiled from parlor newsletters, press releases and information supplied to Managing Editor Fred Codoni. Please advise him, at the address on page 4, at least 60 days before an event to insure timely publication. Note that some events are for members only. Further information on many of these events can be found in the pages of this issue of *The Native Son*.

Every Tuesday - Lunch for Native Sons and prospective members at Fairfax #307's hall, 135 Mitchell Drive, Fairfax (415 457-7766). Reservations not required..

JUNE

- 6 - Guadalupe #231 lunch.
- 2 - Napa Valley First Friday Lunch. Napa Parlor hall.
- 8 - Sloat Landing Ceremony, Monterey Custom House.
- 10 - Fairfax #307 parade entry, 10 a.m.
- 10 - Santa Rosa #28 Steak Barbecue, Bennett Valley Golf Course, Santa Rosa.
- 13- San Jose #22 Dinner, Napredek Hall, San Jose.
- 16 - Redwood #66 Bear Lodge Barbecue.
- 20 - San Jose #22 Dinner, Napredek Hall, San Jose.
- 24 - Horseshoe Tournament, Livermore Rodeo Grounds.
- 24 - Volunteer opportunities at Sonoma County Raceway.

JULY

- 6 - Napa Valley First Friday Lunch St. Helena parlor hall.
- 11 - Guadalupe #231 lunch.
- 14 - Redwood #66 Dinner at Bear Lodge.
- 16 - Vet's home visitation, Yountville.
- 21 - Redwood #66 Bear Lodge Barbecue.

AUGUST

- 1 - Guadalupe #231 lunch.
- 4 - Napa Valley First Friday Lunch Napa parlor hall.
- 12-20 - Lott's Lake Week.
- 15 - San Jose #22 dinner, Napredeck Hall.
- 18 - Redwood #66 Bear Lodge Barbecue.

SEPTEMBER

- 5 - Guadalupe #231 lunch.
- 8 - Napa Valley First Friday Lunch Napa parlor hall.
- 9 - Statehood Day Celebration, Rowell Ranch Rodeo Park, Castro Valley.
- 15- Redwood #66 Bear Lodge Barbecue.
- 19 - San Jose #22 dinner, Napredeck Hall.
- 20 - Solano #39 Taco Salad Dinner.

OCTOBER

- 3 - Guadalupe #231 lunch.
- 6 - Napa Valley First Friday Lunch Calistoga parlor at the Fairgrounds.
- 14 - Solano #39 60th Anniversary Dinner.
- 16 - San Jose #22 dinner, Napredeck Hall.

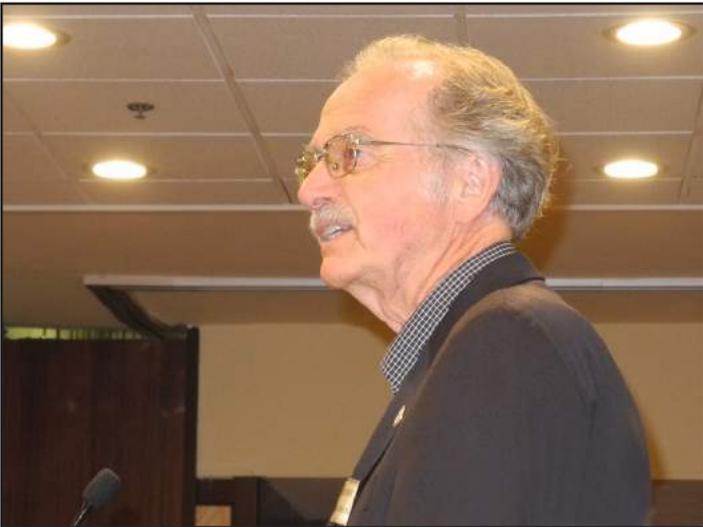
NOVEMBER

- 3 - Napa Valley First Friday Lunch St. Helena parlor hall.
- 7 - Guadalupe #231 lunch.
- 15 - **San Jose #22 dinner, Napredeck Hall.**

DECEMBER

- 1 - Napa Valley First Friday Lunch Napa parlor hall.

140TH GRAND PARLOR



Monterey Mayor Clyde Roberson welcome the delegates to the 140th Grand Parlor. A native of Oakland, he was given a Native Son application.



One-stop shopping: delegates and guests could sign up for Lott's Lake, Play Day events, lucky calendars and workshops at this table in the 140th Grand Parlor registration area.



Grand trustees are attentive at Grand Parlor sessions. Left to right Kris Nelson, Jeff Schmidt, Joe Castillo, Carl Von Bargen, Garry Devlin, George Adams and Ron Brocco. Grand Marshal Matt Caselli is at the podium.

140TH GRAND PARLOR



During the traditional visitation of the Native Daughters, the grand presidents exchange gifts. Here, NDGW Grand President Sherry Farley reads card from Grand President Lapachet.



Grand President Paul Lapachet and wife Jaye in formal attire for the Annual Grand Banquet.



Members of Fairfax #307 and wives were among more than 300 people attending the Annual Banquet.



ABOVE: Native Sons and guests formed a long line for the serving table. No one went away hungry.



LEFT: Steaks on the barbie. Members of Santa Lucia #97 prepare steaks for the Grand Parlor Barbecue in Monterey's Custom House Plaza.