



THE NATIVE SON

Volume 58

December 2018 — January 2019

Number 4

NATIVE SONS PULL TOGETHER TO HELP WITH “CAMP FIRE”

By Thomas Widlund, Managing Editor

By now many of you are aware of the devastation caused by the November wildfires in California. The “Camp Fire” in Butte County has now become the most devastating fire in modern California History. A number of our brothers in Butte County have been personally impacted by the fire. According to Carl Von Bargaen of John Bidwell Parlor #21, at least 10 brothers have lost everything in the fire and many more have been evacuated. Approximately 9 prospective members of what was to be the future Paradise Parlor have lost everything as well.

In the spirit of our obligation, Native Sons have pulled together in friendship, loyalty, and charity to come to the aid of brothers and their families that have been affected by the fire. Within just days of learning of the devastation other Northern California Parlors went to work. The 1st parlor to lend support and send funds was Piedmont #120. Sonoma Parlor #111 was soon to follow with a semi truck load of supplies for evacuated animals. Just days after this Napa Parlor #62, Amador Parlor #17, Silver Star Parlor #63, Sutter Parlor #261, Bidwell Parlor #21, and Argonaut Parlor #8 had also collected money and supplies for the cause. Amador Parlor #17 president Jon Campbell personally delivered a check for \$5,000 on the morning of November 11. The son of Grand Trustee, Alfred Jones even donated \$500 that he had raised for an all star football game. I can say with confidence that by the time this publication reaches you many more parlors, individual brothers, and their families will be added to this list of generous donors.

Our current relief efforts are being managed through the Argonaut Parlor #8 and John Bidwell Parlor #21. Funds can be sent to “Native Sons of the Golden West, 1332 Huntoon Street, Oroville, CA 95965. Please note “Camp Fire” in the memo. All current funds are being used for a gift card program. These funds will be distributed by way of gift cards to those brothers and families in need to purchase much needed necessities.

Along with financial help, many brothers have pulled together and have offered housing, places to park RV’s, and other lodging to those in need. Carl Von Bargaen noted that his property is turning into a compound.

Knowing that the need will surpass the current availability of Parlor donations and the need will continue for many years to come, members are beginning to work on a benefit concert. Thanks to connections in the San Francisco Parlors this future event has the potential to raise a large sum of money for those in need.

Please continue to check Facebook, the Native Sons web site, and your email for information, and as it becomes available we will do our best to pass it on.

It is moments like these that show the true spirit of our order. May we continue to face this and other tragedies with the spirit that built California and may we always do so with friendship, loyalty, and charity.

TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE UPDATE

By PGP David Allen

Here is a brief update of where we are in the journey to the Tournament of Roses. As of today November 15, 2018, we are about 1/3 of the way there. Thanks to Amador, Arrowhead, Auburn, Excelsior, Fairfax, Georgetown, Guadalupe, Ione, National, Ramona, Santa Lucia, Santa Cruz, and Stockton for donating so quickly toward this spectacular parade and the Native Sons reentry to it. Thank you to the Grand Parlor Board for supporting this.

As stated previously this was a late entry so there was no

official budget, which is why it is being done the hard way. Since the entry is a piggy back on another group, much of the preliminary and entry format was already set. A few people have called or visited the Tournament of Roses office in Pasadena and have been informed first hand that all systems are go for Native Sons of the Golden West to be included in banners, program write-ups, and other publicity events.

Continued on page 8



Grand President, Carey D. Pearce
reaper is here.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Are we insured?

In the wake of the most recent fires in California, it reminds me that you never know how long it is going to be before it finally hits you and you lose everything. Sometimes you see it coming and can prepare a little. Other times it is grab your keys and get out the grim

The prepared situation is you have your ducks in order and you have insurance just in case either situation hits. You have a backup plan in case things are not going right. You have insurance for that unexpected or expected tragic event.

The unprepared situation is you sit back and sing Que Sera, Que Sera? Whatever happens will be. No insurance, no backup plan, nowhere to go. Are you hanging on the precipice waiting for life to pass you by? That is not my choice!

Which scenario is going to hit the Native Sons of the Golden West? Will we be prepared? Will we be insured with our future moving forward or will we stay in our little Que Sera, Que Sera world letting our numbers dwindle? We just lost a valuable part of our future this last week up in the Magalia / Paradise area. We had some Brothers and future Brothers working on starting a new parlor in that area. This is a huge loss we could not afford nor could they.

I am sad for all of them and I will do what I can to help. Will you? I am not stopping at just helping them, though. I have been working with others to start other parlors within our boundaries, with the resources and confines of what we have to work with in our Native Son world today. As I mentioned in my last letter we were working on that Parlor up in that area where tragedy struck. Were we prepared? Yes and no, nobody was prepared for the quick reality of let's grab our keys and run for our lives. But we are working on having our ducks in order and having insurance, so we are a little bit prepared for such tragedy.

This was not the only place where we are planning on starting a new parlor in our state. In this vein, I am asking for your help throughout the state. If you can help the people in the Magalia / Paradise area please do by all means and I know plenty of us have reached out and are lending assistance in many ways. The brothers who were stepping up to help get that parlor rolling are now the brothers who are helping that area bounce back and survive the everyday tragedy that is their reality in that area. Besides that particular location in our state we currently have at least three other places that are in the works. They are gathering names, finding places to meet, choosing their leadership and trying to get a Parlor started.

Brothers, three places of high interest in getting a Parlor started that I am currently aware of are San Juan Capistrano in Southern California, Truckee to the North, and the Clovis / Fresno area in the heart of California.

Brothers, this may be some insurance if we can pull it off. If you know of friends or family or just an acquaintance you have just met recently who lives in these areas please contact us with these names so we can forward them to the leaders of these efforts. Contact leads are: for the proposed Truckee Parlor will be Jeff Schmidt from Georgetown Parlor #91 (530)333-3210 & jschmidt.p91@gmail.com , for the San Juan Capistrano Parlor will be Byron Flint from Santa Ana Parlor #74 (714)994-0518 & maymbyron@yahoo.com , and for the Fresno / Clovis Area Parlor it will be Carey Pearce from Santa Lucia Parlor #97 (831)524-1712 & nsgwgp142@gmail.com or Dan Coffield (562)900-4543 & dansac3@aol.com .

I say this is insurance but it is not the only insurance we are working on. Again I am looking for each of you to make a contribution as always. This is an invitation that may or may not cost you a lot of money but it will cost the Native Sons of the Golden West if you do not make this contribution. This contribution is our future. I do not know how many times we can stress that we need new members. We are dying! Do we want to kick back and sing Que Sera, Que Sera whatever will be, will be! I don't think so! A lot of you members have a lot invested in our order. Look at all of the 50 year members we have, the twenty five year members. They have put in a lot of time to this order and they deserve better. They deserve more. We do not want to let them down on their watch. Please help us insure our future. Accept my challenge if your worth your salt, bring in a new member this year! Do it now! If you are more than worthy I will be presenting you with a buckle this year for bringing in a couple of new members.

And yes again I am asking for more! We need help with our Museum, we need help with our Archives please give me a call or e-mail with your questions on HOW CAN I HELP?

I look forward to seeing you soon!

In friendship, loyalty and Charity,

Carey D. Pearce

Grand President

Native Sons of the Golden West

RETRO RAMBLINGS

By Douglas Love, President—Napa Parlor #62

In 1962, John and Michelle Phillips were living in New York City, trying to start a career in music. Together, they wrote a song, *California Dreamin'*, which expressed their homesickness and longing for their previous home in Los Angeles. In late 1965, the song was released as a single by the newly formed The Mamas and The Papas. By March of 1966, the song peaked at #4 in the nation and became one of the anthems for the nascent counter-culture movement. By the end

of the year it was the #1 song in the nation, tied with *Ballad of The Green Berets*. But the song is more than just a wistful longing for home; in some way it encapsulates the very essence of California, the dream of it. For centuries, California has been a place of dreams, from its naming after a mythical Amazon queen, to the high tech hub of Silicon Valley, people have come here to dream, scheme, succeed, and fail spectacularly.

One of these dreamers and schemers was Dr. Oliver M. Wozencraft. Wozencraft emigrated to California via the Colorado Desert, after a cholera epidemic swept through his home of Brownsville, Texas. Once in California, he became a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in Monterey. In 1850, he was appointed an Indian Agent, negotiated treaties with 18 different tribes, all of which were rejected by the Senate and was, in 1852, no longer an Indian agent. Eighteen Fifty Four found him in the Colorado Desert again, in the Salton Sink, now the Imperial Valley, in the company of Ebenezer Hadley, to survey a route for a canal to irrigate the desert and turn it into farmland which would, “yield crops of almost any kind.” In 1859, Wozencraft, tried to lobby Congress for a grant of 300,000 acres to begin his dream of making the desert bloom. He died of a heart attack on November 22, 1887, in Washington D.C. while trying unsuccessfully to lobby Congress for the grant. His dream went unfulfilled, but it had not died.

In 1891, John C. Beatty incorporated “The California Irrigation Company” for the purposes of irrigating the Colorado Desert with water from the Colorado River. His plan was to begin a canal twelve miles north of Yuma, Arizona, connect it with one of the dry arroyos in Mexico and then into the Salton Sink. The Panic of 1893 forced this company into bankruptcy. In 1896,

Mr. C. R. Rookwood, a partner in the failed California Irrigation Company, created the “California Development Company” to try to bring water to the Colorado Desert yet again. The Company tried for two years to win a concession from the government of Mexico. This was only achieved after the Company formed a Mexican subsidiary. Work on the canal began in 1900 and on May 14, 1901, the first water began to flow into the Alamo Canal.



The Salton Sea

In 1901, the “Imperial Land Company” was formed to attract settlers, sell land and lay out towns in the Imperial Valley. Despite reports that the soil was too alkaline for cultivation, the Imperial Valley became one of the richest farming areas in California. By January 1, 1905, 120,000 acres were under cultivation and over ten thousand settlers lived in the former desert. But disaster loomed on the horizon.

The problem was that the natural forces which created the Colorado Desert were still at work. Once, the entire Imperial Valley had been part of a vast inland sea, connected to the Gulf of California. Over thousands of years, the silt of the Colorado River cut the northern part of the Gulf off from the southern and the river had filled the Salton Sink with fresh water. The river would change course and the lake would evaporate, leaving a desert. Then the Colorado would change course again, refilling the lake. Eventually, the silt that the river carried clogged the irrigation canal, reducing flow, and the Imperial Valley was in danger of becoming a desert again. Crops withered and died and settlers who depended upon irrigation water from the Colorado began to abandon the Valley.

There was a solution. Cut a new canal from the Colorado, bypassing the most heavily silted parts of the Alamo Canal and restore water flow to the valley. In December of 1904, such a new canal was cut, restoring water flow into the valley.

Continued on page 9

PARLOR ACTIVITIES

Solano Parlor #39

- **February 2, 2019—Annual Crab Feed**—Solano Parlor's annual Crab Feeds scheduled for Saturday, February 2, 2019 at the Masonic Hall. The cost has not been set; we need to negotiate the price with our vendor. We Tickets will be "first come first serve" to all members of Solano Parlor in "Good Standing", which means dues paid. Because of the size of the Masonic Hall, we will only have 200 tickets for sale.

Fairfax Parlor #307

- **Every Tuesday —lunch for Native Sons and prospective members**, parlor clubhouse at 135 Mitchell Drive, Fairfax. Lunch \$8, beer and wine \$2, soft drinks \$1. Reservations are not required. Information from Fred Codoni, (415) 459-7082, nsgwfpc@comcast.net.
- **February 2, 2019— Crab Feed**—Santa Rita Hall. The event includes the best appetizers served anywhere within the Native Sons (or anywhere else, for that matter!), salad, French bread, pasta and all the cracked crab you can eat. Price is \$45 per person. Everyone is invited. No-host cocktails are at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7:30. Reservations are required and available from Tony Starelli at (415) 456-1867 or at numerounostar@comcast.net. Get your reservations promptly because this event always sells out!

Nicasio Parlor #183

- **January 4, 2019 —Annual Crab Feed**— At Hermann Sons Hall—860 Western, Petaluma, CA. 6:00 pm.
Kristofer Nelson (707) 332-2376
Dan Foppe (707) 763-1736
Larry Schork (707) 486-6897
Harold Matzen (707) 762-8007
- **January 27, 2019 —15th Annual Henry W. Chiosi—Stew and Polenta Feed** —At Hermann Sons Hall—860 Western, Petaluma, CA. 6:00 pm. \$20 per person. Contact Kristofer Nelson (707) 332-2376. This is a Cleft Palate Charity benefit.

Napa Parlor #62

- **December 09, 2018 —Christmas For Kids Party**— 1 to 4 pm. 937 Coombs st Napa , Ca. 94559 No cost—just bring a gift for Toys for Tots. Jump houses, face painting, crafts, snacks and a visit from Santa. If you would like to attend Contact Brother Stephanie Stephenson 707-318-3786 or email stephani.stephenson@gmail.com
- **December 31, 2018—New Year's Eve Party**— 937 Coombs st. Napa Ca. 94559. Dinner tickets are \$50.00. No ticket sales at the door. Tickets must be paid for by December 21,2018. No host Bar opens at 6:00 pm and Dinner at 7:00 pm in the dinning hall. Your choice of salmon or prime rib, includes desert, late night snacks and a glass of champagne to toast the New Year. Live Music and Dancing, Balloons and confetti drop at midnight from the ceiling of the big hall. Raffle tickets are 7 for \$5 and a Silent Auction for many great items. For more information or to purchase tickets call or email – Lisa Adams at medmom00@sbcglobal.net or 707 481 4298

Sonoma Parlor #111

- **January 19, 2019— Annual Surf and Turf Dinner** —Join us for the Sonoma Parlor Annual "Surf and Turf" Dinner! Join us a special 16oz Rib Eye steak and Shrimp dinner for Sonoma Parlor 111 members, future members, families, and friends are all welcome to attend. The event will start at 6:00 p.m. at the Sonoma Veterans Memorial Building, located on 126 1st Street West, Sonoma, CA 95476. The special Sonoma parlor price for this event is only \$45.00 per person – price includes dinner with wine and desert with coffee. Dancing and a cash bar will be available. This annual event has generated more than \$90,000 in the past years. And as always all proceeds will be donated to the N.S.G.W. Sonoma Parlor #111 High School Scholarship fund and other local school programs. Contact Michael Balich (707) 565-6158
- **March 16, 2019—Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner** - Vintage House, 264 1st St. E, Sonoma, CA 95476. \$15 per person.

PARLOR ACTIVITIES

Guadalupe Parlor #231

- **December 1, 2018 —114th Anniversary and Holiday Party**—We'll be having a great dinner, with choice of Salmon, Prime Rib, or Vegetarian Pasta, PLUS Patio Espanol's famous Paella! More information to come.
- **January 8, 2019—District Wide Initiation**— hosted by Guadalupe Parlor at their Meeting Hall the Scottish Rite at 19th & Sloat. Meeting starts at 6:30, Initiation starts promptly at 7:00 performed by a Grand Parlor Initiatory Team. Dinner will follow.

South San Francisco #157

- **December 8, 2018—Crab Feed**— 38th annual crab feed, December 8th, 2018 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, 60 Wellington Avenue Daly City. The cost will remain at \$45.00 this year. Social hour will begin at 6:00 pm with dinner served at 7:30 pm. Brother Mike Fauss, his brothers and their family will be preparing the dinner and making sure that everything is ready on time and that everybody goes home with a full stomach and a smile on their face. Payment is due around Thanksgiving, but waiting too long could put you on a waiting list, since we are limited to 300. For reservations please call Bill Segale at 707-887-9243.

Eden Parlor #113

- **January 28, 2019 —Crab Feed**— Salad, Pasta, Garlic Bread, All the Plain and Marinated Crab you can eat. No tickets sold at the door, reservations money must be in by January 15, 2018 Checks made out to Eden #113—\$45 per person. Mail to Joe Reynaud 17629 Trenton Dr. Castro Valley 94546. Call for reservation Joe Reynaud 510-538-3096 or Bob Santos 510-604-7392. Bar 6PM Dinner 7PM. Veterans Building - Hayward - Alex Gualini Plaza, 22737 Main St, Hayward, CA 94541, USA

Piedmont #120

- **December 13, 2018 —Christmas and Tamale Feed Celebration** — This is our traditional and annual event held every year at Christmas time. On December 13, 2018 (Social 6PM – Dinner 7PM), we invite you to an evening of good food,

great friends, celebrating the history of the State of California. We will be serving beef and chicken tamales, beans, rice, tortillas, salad, salsa, guacamole, chips, and liquid refreshments (including Tom and Jerry's). We are also bringing back, by popular demand, our "pull tabs." As a reward for continued service and membership in NSGW 120, this event will be sponsored and paid for by NSGW 120 for its member's, member's families and cherished guests. This event is NOT open to the general public. Please RSVP to our Tamale Feed Chairman, Past President and 1st Vice President, Paul Berlin by Friday, December 7, 2018. Please contact Bob Santos 510-604-7392 or rrsantos@sbcglobal.net

National Parlor #118

- **December 14, 2018 —Christmas Dinner**— The 6:00pm No-Host Cocktail Hour will include hor d'oeuvres. Your 7:00 pm Dinner choice is Prime Rib, Salmon, or a Vegetarian Pasta with Marinara Sauce, Soup, Salad, Bread, Desert, & Coffee. Tickets are just \$40.00 each, Widows are always free and as always all the ladies will receive a gift. Basque Cultural Center - 599 Railroad Ave, South San Francisco, CA 94080, USA

Santa Rosa #28

- **February 13, 2019 —Crab Cioppino Dinner**— Members, families and guests welcome. Cost is \$15.00. Reservations call Shirley Mattiuzzi (707) 542-4356. Native Sons Hall - Santa Rosa - 3318 Stony Point Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95407, USA

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2019 LUCKY CALENDAR

The 2019 Lucky Calendar is Distributed and Available.

Your usual Calendar Salesperson, Visiting Grand Officers, Supervising District Deputies or Your Parlor's Recording Secretary should be able to provide you with calendars.

Changes for 2019 Calendar: Now Just \$20! The Daily Drawing will be \$20, Saturdays \$75, Month end \$150 and don't miss the \$1000 Jan 1, 2019 Early Bird Buyer Draw. Final Draw of 2019, Dec 31, 2019 is back to a whopping \$3000!

That's \$15,440 in 2019 Prizes to be presented.

Buy your calendars, submit the filled-in tags with payment to the new address in Santa Rosa (envelopes with calendars) and wait for your Check in the Mail! It's as Easy as that!

Speaking of Prizes, you can still buy 2018 Calen-

dars (or request to be in the drawing via email below). \$15 each or 2/\$20. The Month of December we give away \$3125 including a Cool \$2000 for the Dec 31, 2018 Final Draw. Make sure you are in the draw for that!

Now about the 2020 Calendar. 366 Days worth of Prizes to be Given Away and we are looking for Suitable High Quality Photos Appropriate for the 2020 Calendar. If you believe you have a photo for 2020, email a Full Res Version to nsgw28mitch@gmail.com. Be sure to include your contact info!

Here's To Your Luck in the remaining days of 2018, and to All 365 Lucky Days in 2019!

Native Sons of the Golden West



2017 Pioneer Day Parade - Paso Robles, CA

Now only a
\$20
donation

2019 Lucky Calendar

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

By PGP David Allen, Chairman

The HPF is not normally very busy during the holiday season and this year is no exception. At the last meeting in September, the HPF agreed to match the funds that had been previously received from San Francisco Parlors and individuals to restore a statue of Frank Marini at Washington Square in San Francisco. He was the founder San Francisco Parlor #49.

Ramona Parlor #109 has in their possession the Rockaway carriage that John C Fremont and his wife Jessie Benton Fremont used in Los Angeles for his 75th birthday in 1888. The parlor submitted a grant request for the preservation of the carriage which includes paint matching and other cosmetic work as necessary. This will be done by Hanson Wheel and Wagon Works in South Dakota. Auburn Parlor has used them in the past for wheels and found them to be very reputable. The Rockaway Carriage was an upscale vehicle used to transport important people to and from their appointed rounds. It was either named after the town of Rockaway, New Jersey or the route from Jamaica, Queens, New York to Rockaway Beach on Long Island, but that is for historians to debate. This funding is a match with the Ramona Museum of California History, Ramona Parlor #109, and the HPF.

The Pioneer Monument in Truckee is moving along. The HPF has almost reached its goal of \$100K which would enable the Foundation to pursue corporate funding. Half of the 1st goal is coming on a 2 year installment through its own reserves. Like any project of this size, the more parlors that support this the better it appears to outside donations as it shows that the Native Sons are behind this. A few parlors are using an installment plan of up to three years to make their contribution. In the next edition of the Native Son, there should be a more complete report of the fund raising activities to this significant project.

Board members of the HPF are available to make presentations on the Pioneer Monument and its significance to the Native Sons and the HPF has a few scheduled in the near future. The upcoming Donner Monument Project is not only important for the obvious reasons; it represents the next step of the HPF reclaiming the Native Sons previous position as a major contributor to the recognition, restoration, and preservation in California. In addition with the advent of the Donner Monu-

ment Project the HPF is able to move closer to its original intent.

One of the strengths of the HPF is its ability to function as an independent organization from the Native Sons. This has enabled the Foundation to respond quickly to requests and necessary changes in its structure. It has also permitted the HPF to increase the size and frequency of grant requests and awards. Everybody knows what the basic mission of the HPF is: California history. Many of you have heard this before, but the unspoken mission is the promotion of the Native Sons of the Golden West. As the HPF continues to grow and thrive, the by product is the re-introduction of the Native Sons to the outside world which hopefully leads to membership.

As has been stated many times, none of this would be possible without the continued support and belief in the HPF by the members of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

Until next time, see you on the California Trail

SUTTER CREEK, CALIF.

EST.  2014

LEONI

FARMS

Jon Campbell, SDDGP District #11, Proprietor

Tasting Room: 67 Main Street, Sutter Creek, CA 95685
 Directly across the street from the NSGW hall. 20%
 discount to all NSGW and NDGW members

EDEN PARLOR #113 PUTS ON COUNTY WIDE INITIATION



Timney and Lou Pinkoft. Into Piedmont #120: Tony Hare and Glen Sears. We welcome all into the Native Sons of the Golden West.

The initiatory team was PGP Paul Lapachet- President, Grand 3rd Ron Brocco- 1st, PGP Tim Tullius- 2nd, Eden #113 Marv Rodriguez 3rd, Grand Trustee Jeff Schmidt-Marshal, Eden #113 Ron Holliday- Inside, DD Ed McLean-Senior Past and PGP Joe Ursino- Junior Past.

A countywide initiation is a great way to get many parlors together and do one initiation. After the initiation there was a bean and lingusia feed put on by Eden and Piedmont Parlors.

Eden Parlor #113 Ron Holliday SSGP organized a countywide initiation. We had 8 new members initiated into the order. Into Eden #113: Michael Hokett Jr, William Raynor and Paul Vecchio. Into Halcyon #47: Terry McCauley, Dan

Rose Parade, Continued from page 1

The cast is set. Riding on the wagons will be Grand President Carey Pearce, Santa Lucia #97, Grand 1st Vice President James King, San Miguel #150, Grand 2nd Vice President Joe Castillo, Rio Hondo #294, Grand 3rd Vice President Ron Brocco, Sonoma #111, and Past Grand President David Allen, Auburn #59. Carrying the banner in front of us will be Luke Bramon from Ramona Parlor #109 and Mark Cochran from Santa Ana #74. Keeping in the spirit of the entry, all Native Sons participants will be in period attire of the day with regalia and all of the members of the Gold Rush Fire Brigade will be in their black and red fireman's attire.

If you are interested in donating to the cause, please forward your check to:

Native Sons of the Golden West
414 Mason St. Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94102

Put Rose Parade on the memo line



1898 Chiefs buggy from Placerville, California owned and operated by the Gold Rush Fire Brigade.



1890 shop built ladder wagon from Virginia City, Nevada. Owned and operated by Auburn Parlor #59

Board Meeting
 (Mark your calendar)

January 18-20, 2019
Sacramento, CA

Discovery of Gold Weekend will also host a Board Meeting and will be held in Sacramento.

Retro Ramblings—Continued from page 3

By March of 1905, the Colorado had flooded three times and the entire river was beginning to empty into the Imperial Valley. By June, the Colorado was flowing, not to the Gulf of California, but into the valley, threatening to flood the entire area. Back in January, the California Development Company had secured a loan from the Southern Pacific and now most of that capital was used to try to stop the flooding. The Southern Pacific's tracks were inundated as was the town of Salton and the New Liverpool Salt Company's salt works and the towns of Calexico and Mexicali were partially flooded. After four failed attempts to stem the flooding, the Southern Pacific, urged on by President Theodore Roosevelt and its President, Edward H. Harriman, finally built a rock dam and returned the Colorado to its natural course.

The result was the creation of the Salton Sea, a large shallow freshwater lake in the deepest portion of the Imperial Valley. Fed by inflows from the Alamo, New, and White-water Rivers, the lake became a resort area in the 1950's and attracted investors and Hollywood stars. Bob Hope had a vacation house on the shores of the lake. The towns of Salton City, Bombay Beach, Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores, Desert Beach, and North Shore all became vacation resorts in the 1950's. The completion of the All-American Canal in 1940 began the diversion of water from the lake and the lake began to evaporate.

Today, the Salton Sea is a fraction of its former size, highly saline and polluted from agricultural runoff. All of the resort communities and facilities have been largely abandoned, although there are still a few residents. There have been plans to restore or conserve the lake, due to worries concerning the toxic dust blown from the dry lake bed, but none have come to fruition. The Imperial Valley is still one of the richest agricultural areas in the state, but the Salton Sea is a reminder that dreams can fail.

GETTING THERE: From 414 Mason Street, take I-580 East toward Livermore and then merge onto I-5 South toward Los Angeles. Take Exit 161A onto I-210 East toward Pasadena. Take Exit 85B into I-10 East toward Indio. Keep right onto CA-85S toward Brawley and El Centro. Turn left onto Sunrise Drive. Salton City is about an eight hour drive from San Francisco.

Discovery of Gold Weekend

January 18—20, 2019

In Old Town Sacramento

Hotel: Vagabond Inn—Old Town
 Board Meeting: Will be held at The California Railroad Museum
 Late Lunch on Saturday at Rio City Café (2:30 pm)

A flyer with more details will be out soon. For more information please contact Grand Historian Kathi Pearce - katkr8s@gmail.com

PARLOR ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

By Thomas Widlund, Managing Editor of The Native Son

Let us know what your parlor is up to. Whether it's a regular monthly meeting or a special event/dinner we want to know. To have your event or activity listed please submit the following:

1. Activity/Event Name
2. Parlor #
3. Date/Time
4. Contact Info.

All submissions must come via email to t.widlund@yahoo.com prior to the 15th of January for publication in the February—March 2019 issue.

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CHARITABLE FOUNDATION DONATIONS

Here is a list of recent donations to our charitable Foundation in honor or 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 2018 Cleft Palate March, Total Donations and our donation form on our website, nsgw.org and go to charitable endeavors.

In Memory of Raymond E. Shine
David Williams
Quartz Parlor #58

In Memory of Andi Brandi
South San Francisco Parlor #157
Pat Riley

In Memory of PGP Jim & Carole Riley
Pat Riley

In Memory of Robert Gius
Quartz Parlor #58

In Memory of Bill Hart
Santa Cruz Parlor #90

In Memory of Dano Mattiuzzi
Shirley Mattiuzzi

To the Cleft Palate Fund
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Pat Riley
Walter Schnitius
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Anonymous Donor
St. John's Fines
Edward & Judyth Shelley

In Memory of Ray Fazio
Santa Cruz Parlor #90

In Memory of John David Eric Huley Jr
Steven & Patricia Day

In Memory of Richard "Dick" Day
Pat Riley

How to give- Giving to Cleft Palate can be done either directly or through a gift model that can provide tax benefits. Also through your employer matching funds. Check with your tax consultant on different programs.

In Memory of Barbara Buchanan
Ron & Rita Holliday

In Memory of Tom Hannigan
Joe Neitzel

WHEN YOU MAKE A DONATION:

When you make a donation to the Charitable Foundation NSGW Cleft Palate in Memory of family member, friend or loved one, an acknowledgement card is sent to who you like to receive it. You can use our donation envelopes or go to nsgw.org to copy one or send your donation with instructions on where you like the acknowledgement to go. We always send a card with the name and donor and also the name and donor will go into the Native Son. The Personal Donations, Cleft Palate March Donations, Memorial Fund Donations and our Investments Income are totaled and divided to the 3 Hospitals. The Cleft Palate March is the major part of our donations and is so important in continuing substantial donations to the hospitals. Without the continued support of all of you, the Charitable Foundation would not be so recognized by the 3 hospitals for our important work.

The Charitable Foundation started in 1953 with its 1st donation to UCSF and has continued for 65 years.

The De Anza Trek Hosted by Parlor #312 February 8—10, 2019

Friday, February 8:

6:30 pm: Dinner on your own or meet at Famous Dave's at Across the parking lot from the hotel

Saturday February 9:

9:00 am: Carry the California Bear Flag in the Holtville Carrot Parade. Meet at 9:00 am at 5th St and Maple in Holtville. We will have a pickup for people who can't carry but want to be in the parade. Limited space in pickup.

2:00 pm: Dedication and tour will be held at 1246 W. Ross Rd. El Centro, CA. 2pm with history of Apiary business and tour of honey facility. name on sign : Bud Ashurst American Honey

5:00 pm – McConnell Ranch

Initiation of new members followed by dinner

The cost of dinner will be \$25.00 per person.
Address – McConnell Ranch 2341 McConnell Rd., El Centro, CA Please send your money for dinner to:
De Anza #312, Gail Parish, 2117 Willow Dr., El Centro, CA 92243. Her number is 760-352-2529 or e-mail is tdssw@aol.com.

SAINT JOHN'S CLEFT PALATE CENTER CELEBRATES 50 YEARS WITH
NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

Grand President Carey Pearce celebrates 50 years with St. John's with a check from the Charitable Foundation for \$85,000. In attendance were GP Carey's Grand Officers and all Southern California Parlor members. In 1967 Doctor Holve head of Pediatrics received a check for \$5,000 from the Charitable Foundation Native Sons to start 50 years of continuous donations to St. John's Cleft Palate Clinic. Ongoing support for the Clinic has totaled approx \$2,000,000 over these 50 years.



Grand President Carey Pearce and Officers

St. John's has become a leader in Cranio-Facial defects and with the help from the Native Sons provides diagnostic, surgical, speech, dental, social and educational services to children with cleft lip and palate and other craniofacial anomalies.

Sons of the Golden West serves as beacons of hope to the children and families of the Cleft Palate Center. Through their generosity, they keep alive the memory of pioneers who made California great." The Native Sons can be proud of giving for 50 years to St. John's Cleft Palate clinic a leader for its innovative approach and emphasizes family center care.

Steve Faessel Southern California Coordinator and member of Santa Anna #74 welcomed everyone and introduce Native Sons and Daughters that were in attendance. A real treat for the day was a St. John cleft palate patient who sang for everyone she was only 14. Closing remarks from the CEO Robert Klein and other staff members all thanked the Native Sons of the Golden West and their generosity for 50 years of continuous donations to the Cleft Plate Clinic.

St. John's has put a display of the history of the Native Sons support in the main lobby for 6 months and a permanent display in their visitor's center with a plaque of appreciation for 50 years.

A quote from Sister Maureen of St. John's " The Native

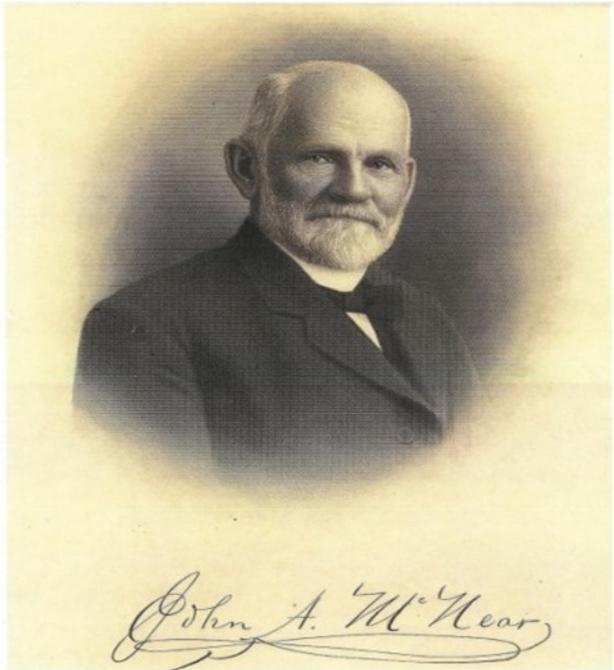


Sister Maureen

The Tribute ended with a check giving to Sister Maureen Craig. The staff of St. John's Cleft Palate Center expresses its sincere appreciation for the generous continue support they received from the Native Sons of the Golden West. All Charitable Foundation funds donated to these hospitals specify that they shall be used for treatment of children, with no overhead costs deducted.

JOHN A. MCNEAR — A PROMINENT PIONEER OF PETALUMA

By Jerry L. Pozo, Re-enactor



Of all the prominent pioneers of the state, there is none more deserving of the esteem and good will of the people than John A. McNear. For wherever his name is known it means that he has stamped some indelible action in that locality that has almost made his name a household word.

Without doubt he has done more to develop Petaluma, the town in which he lives, than any other individual.

He was typically a Californian by adoption. Always of the most loyal kind, honorable, upright and a man who forged his way to the front through the exercise of talents given him by nature. And while doing this there has never been a time that he has neglected the duties of a citizen.

MY LIFE

My name is John Augustus McNear and I was born on December 23, 1832 in Wiscasset, Lincoln county - Maine. I was of Scotch ancestry, but a 7th generation resident of the United States. The male members of my family have followed the sea as master of ships, and a number of them found a watery grave, never having been heard from after being reported lost.

I was reared in Maine, among its rugged hill and coast country, and received my education in the common schools of that day. It was natural that I follow in the footsteps of my ancestors and began to study navigation at an early age. I even made several voyages with my father, but after public school I entered and graduated from West Pittston Academy and was prepared to enter the profession of teaching, but did not do so. I instead shipped before the mast on a new ship in 1852, and in 1853 accepted a position as master of the brig Tiberius. Over the next few years

I took command and traded along the East Coast and sold several ships receiving shares as my salary.

Shortly thereafter, I accompanied a voyage with family members to New Orleans and was put in charge of building a sawmill on the Pascagoula river, and the next year took a 1/3 ownership. One of the cousins was 16 year old Clarinda Damsen Williams, and we were married in Pascagoula on September 3, 1854.

In early 1856 my Father-in-Law George Williams, who was in Petaluma sent me a map of Petaluma creek and told of the wonderful country of the coast. So I made up my mind to see the country, and if not satisfactory would return and take up my duties as before.

In the fall of 1856 I took passage in New York, crossed the Isthmus of Panama, and took The Sonora bound for San Francisco arriving November 3rd, and 3 days later in Petaluma with \$3,000 that were saved shares from the lumber mill.

I immediately interested myself as a dealer in real estate, loaning money and merchandising. In 1857, I bought the Washinton livery stable, realizing that the area would be rapidly settled so was not backward in investing my money. By 1859, 2 more warehouses were built, one at Lakeville and another on East D street. (How well he prophesied is now seen from every viewpoint in our beloved city)

In 1860 I began a grain and produce business, shipping to San Francisco in which my brother George W. was interested as a partner. In 1864 we erected the largest warehouse in the state, and this brick building is now a part of the Golden Eagle null.

From 1862 to 1865 our company carried on an extensive business in dealing in hardware and machinery in connection with other business interests. In 1865 we sold other interests in order to focus on the grain and shipping business. George in San Francisco and myself in Petaluma and Sonoma county.

I used reinforced concrete in 1864 for the first time in California as floors for my warehouses, and feed boxes at the dairy. In 1866 I was credited with setting out the first eucalyptus grove in Sonoma county, and originator/patented of dipping pipes in tar and asphaltum for the steam pipes of the Petaluma water work. In 1865 I commissioned the fast passenger and freight steamer named the Josie McNear expressly for Petaluma trade.

Continued on page 13

Continued from page 12

But tragedy struck when my wife, Clara died on January 17, 1866, 3 months after the birth of our 5th son. So I started Cypress Hill Cemetery in her honor. The next year on May 15, 1867 I married Hattie Miller in the Church of the Advent and had 2 more children with her. Perhaps my best known work has been the development and beautifying of Cypress Hill Cemetery where our family plot lies. It is located on the outskirts of Petaluma on a rise which one can get a view of the surrounding country and it is improved upon a scale that makes it equal to any other public enterprise of its kind in the state.

In 1867, I secured at great personal expense and erected our present residence opposite Walnut Plaza at 4th and D street. It is a block of ground which is one of the most beautiful places in the city, and on the edge of town. Enclosed with a 700 foot stone fence, beautiful trees and shrubbery embellish the lawn and makes the house appear as a jewel in its setting,

In 1868 I purchased Point Pedro (now McNear Point) on the Bay with over 5 miles of valuable water front land. Later it was expanded to over 2,500 acres of exceptionally fine grazing land and with my son Erskine B. built a large brick plant here making about 80,000 bricks per day. I also funded a canal along Petaluma creek of nearly a mile length with a 250' x 500' turning basin, so steamers could enter at any time. I employed Chinese workers to eliminate the bends, and cut the channel.

In 1876, I brought George P. (another son) in to manage the business end (just 2 months shy of graduating from high school), which was a success. I also helped Lyman Byce, a Canadian inventor that developed the incubator business and thus induced the chicken & grain industry locally.

In 1886, I commissioned Brainerd Jones, Architect to design the High Victorian Italianate McNear Building which is a double-sided brick and iron facade building on both Fourth St. and Petaluma Boulevard. An adjoining more modern building was commissioned by George P. in 1911 which includes the Mystic Theater, one of the first silent movie theatres. In all matters for the up building of Petaluma I was always ready and willing to assist to the best of my ability. Through my influence the: silk factory, shoe factory, and many other manufacturing interested were secured. I gave land for venues, and thousands of dollars to promote civic interests. We promoted the electric railroad, extend roads, and waterways. Most every business enterprise in which I engaged has prospered including building the Water Works to supply the growing needs of the city, acting as president of companies, organizer of the Sonoma County Bank, designer and builder of many of the best blocks in the city. Imagine Petaluma without: the McNear buildings, McNear Canal, McNear Park, McNear School, Petaluma Golf and County Club, Cypress Hill Cemetery, the neo-boroque bank building at Main & Washington Street,

the great Petaluma Mill, and the old Petaluma and Santa Rosa Railway tracks.

On June 20, 1918 at the age of 85, I took my last breath and died peacefully at home.

But I live on in my son George P., whose character and habits resemble mine as a shrewd, hardworking man who devoted himself to his business affairs with unblinking concentration.



John A. McNear



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NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members joining in September and October. We hope you will be active in your own parlor and that you will visit neighboring parlors.

Dolores-California #1

Michael Daniel Dreith
Michael Joseph McCann
Curtis Powell
Victor M. Zolezzi
Vincent Paul Marcellino

Amador #17

Cameron Begbie
Glen Campbell
Khomei Brown
Scott Humes
Brian Robert Luy
Michael Spinetta
Jim Wickware
Stephen Ogburn
Jeff Hamlin
Kasey Cribbs

John Bidwell #21

Kurtis L. Eppard
Donna Hernandez
Robert Hernandez

Sunset #26

Pamela Weil

Solano #39

Joshua Birch
Hayden Thornton Moreno

Halcyon-Alameda #47

Scott Fraser

Redwood #66

Bria Christine Michelsen
David Baird

Ramona #109

Anne Collier
Jason Pu
Ortencia Ramirez
Isabel Gonzalez
Aaron Brown

Piedmont #120

Anthony John Hare
Steven Sanderson
Kevin W. Hall

Pebble Beach #230

Kathleen Ann Noonan
Phillip Edward Miller

San Luis Obispo #290

Fred A. Hampton
Allen Sweeney

Rio Hondo #294

Paul Mark Kirsten

Fairfax #307

Daniel B. Morse
Stephen Mark Cossman
Vincent Galasso
William Paul Menke

Humboldt #14

Jerry L. Carrick

Benicia #89

Robert Cates

Ferndale #93

Mark Ellis
Brandon Head
Bryant Head
Thomas George Head
William Mobley

Las Positas #96

Michael Shawn Ludwig
Mark Piche

Santa Lucia #97

David Doris
Adam Ruie
Gary John Haas

Sonoma #111

Colin Blackshear
Rich Little
Jayden B. Brown
Brooke Zellers

Eden #113

William Raynor

Los Banos #206

Jon Zabalbeascoa

Guadalupe #231

Rose Mary Murphy

DEATHS

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

HONORED DEAD

Larry R. LaPierre, Napa #62: Attended the 131st, 132nd, 134th, 135th, and 137th sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate.

Guido Pastorino, Redwood #66: Attended the 119th session of Grand Parlor as a delegate.

L. Vene Thompson Jr., Sutter #261 (a 37-year former member of Argonaut Parlor #8): Attended the 130th session of Grand Parlor as a delegate; the 125th and 126th sessions as chairman and a member of Statehood Day Committee; served as Grand Trustee at the 127th, 128th, and 129th sessions of Grand Parlor; sat at the 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, and 137th as the SDDGP of District #13.

Frank A. Scammon, Guadalupe #231: Attended the 133rd, 134th, 135th, and 136th sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate and the 132nd session as chairman of Statehood Day Committee.

Marvin Bassi, Cambria #152: Attended nine sessions of Grand Parlor as a delegate.

DECEASED BROTHERS

Argonaut #8

Mark A. Cannizzaro

Santa Rosa #28

Christopher E. Colgan

Solano #39

John Sheldon Hopkins
Carole Joann Rutherford

Quartz #58

Raymond Earll Shine
Robert Leonard Gius

Napa #62

Peter Bovinich (former member
of Col. Nelson M. Holderman
#316)
Roy Rota

South San Francisco #157

Andrew John Brandi

Pebble Beach #230

Jack Lee Ellis

Lodi #18

Donald Haynes

Solano #39

Thomas Michael Hannigan

Auburn #59

Laurence Leal

Vallejo #77

Gregory W. Compagno

Benicia #89

John Paul Lico

Ferndale #93

Ralph Miller
Jeffrey F. Happ

Santa Lucia #97

Frank D. Gattis
George R. Musante Jr.

Nicasio #183

Leroy L. Rossotti
Frank Haynes
Steve Govan
Calvin Dolcini
Vernon De Bernardi
Allen Braga
James Bettinelli
Bruno Albini

Los Banos #206

Irvin Morris

Columbia #258

Ronald Steven Colombani

Fairfax #307

Robert J. Cuneo
Ernest Heath
Peter Deetken
Larry Balakian

National #118

Edmund Galli

Cambria #152

Newell Terrill

**GRAND PARLOR
NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST
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THE NATIVE SON

Tom Widlund, Managing Editor

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Send address changes to Grand Parlor, 414 Mason Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94102, or e-mail to nsgwgp@pacbell.net.

