

THE NATIVE SON

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NO. 3

GRAND OFFICERS NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST 2020-2021



Grand Officers for 2020-2021. Front row, left to right: Grand Secretary Thomas Perazzo, Grand First Vice President Ron Brocco, Grand President Joseph Castillo, Grand Second Vice President Jeff Schmidt, Grand Third Vice President George Adams. Back row, left to right: Grand Organist Mark Spaugh, Grand Outside Sentinel Mitch Laing, Grand Trustees Marcia Skelton, Brice Walker, Doug Love, Dave Schaefer, Steve McLean, Richard Cortez, Ethan Phillips and Grand Inside Sentinel Gary Padgett..

143rd Grand Parlor—An Unconventional Convention

Over the 145 years of its existence, the order of the Native Sons of the Golden West has seen two World Wars, two world-wide pandemics, the Great Depression and a recession—yet it has never failed to hold its annual session.

That record was in doubt in 2020 when Tachi Palace, the host hotel, closed because of the Corona virus, leaving Native Sons to find some way to hold the 143rd Grand Parlor. According to our Constitution, it can be postponed but never cancelled.

Thanks to the efforts of Grand 2VP Ron Brocco and many others, the 143rd Grand Parlor was able to convene in Building H at the Sonoma Raceway on August 19 and 20. The building was large enough to permit delegates to practice social distancing. Each delegate had to sign two waivers, absolving the Raceway from liability for Covid illness.

Upon entering the meeting hall, each delegate had his temperature taken and was asked about possible illness. Each was provided with a facemask and a bottle of hand sanitizer. Chairs were spaced at least six feet apart.

In contrast to a “normal” Grand Parlor, only the business session was held. Guests weren’t allowed. There were none of the traditional events which usually accompany Grand Parlor, such as the Ladies’ Luncheon, Native Daughters’ Visitation, Memorial Service, Grand Banquet, Play Day, hospitality rooms and the Cleft Palate March. To prevent possible contamination, lunch and dinner on August 19 consisted of box lunches.

During the business session, a few delegates provided major input on the proposed budget, citing need to reduce expenses in view



PGP Eiril Christeson and Office Secretary Caitlin check in attendees at the 143rd Grand Parlor. Each attendee received a mask and hand sanitizer.

of the Covid virus. Some cuts were made, notably to the expenditures for *The Native Son* (from \$35,000 to \$20,000), enough for just three issues a year instead of six, with this issue being the third



With race cars roaring in the background, delegates to the 143rd Grand Parlor pose in Sonoma Raceway's Victory Lane.

and last for this fiscal year unless additional funds are found and the Grand President's expense (from \$24,000 to \$18,000). Major increases were in Insurance (from \$46,000 last year to \$80,000 this year) and the Office Assistant's Salary (from \$54,000 last year to \$65,000 this year). Grand Parlor normally receives \$41,000 in dividends from the San Francisco Hall Association; this year the amount was zero. Fortunately, Grand Parlor received money in the form of a forgivable government loan to pay for salaries of the office staff.

After deliberations on the budget concluded, the per capita tax was set at \$48.46, an increase of \$4.39 from the 2019-2020 amount.

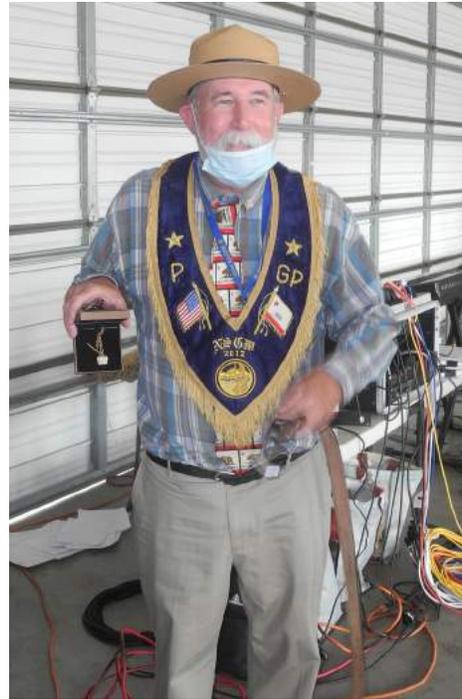
George Adams of Napa #62 was unopposed for the office of Grand 3rd VP. There were nine candidates for seven Grand Trustee positions; re-elected were Brice Walker, Observatory #177; Ethan Phillips, Bidwell #21; Marcia Skelton, Redwood #66; Steve McLean, Excelsior #31; and Dave Schaefer, Nicasio #183. New to the Board of Grand Trustees were Doug Love, Napa #62; and Richard Cortez, Ferndale #93.

Gary Ariso of Excelsior #31 stepped into the position of Grand Marshal, while Gary Padgett of Sonoma #111 was selected as Grand Inside Sentinel and Mitch Lang of Santa Rosa #28 became Grand Outside Sentinel.

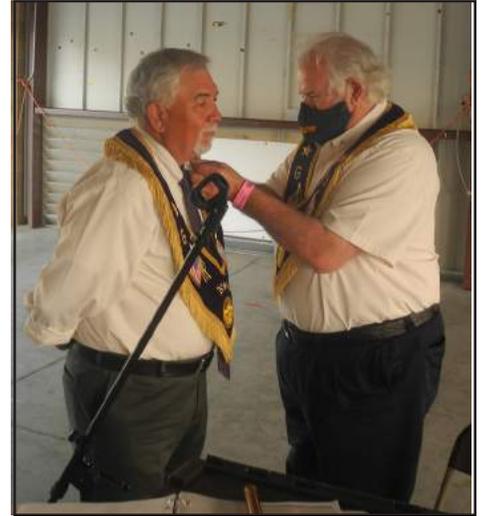
The business session concluded with the installation of officers, performed by PGP Fred Codoni, retiring Grand Marshal Kris Nelson, and PGP Paul

Lapachet of South San Francisco #158. There were 85 delegates present at the business sessions.

During the afternoon of August 20, members enjoyed a barbecue provided by the members of Piedmont #120 at Ron Brocco's compound in Sonoma.



As befits an honorary California State Park ranger, PGP and retiring chairman of the Historical Preservation Foundation PGP Dave Allen is wearing a ranger's hat presented to him at the 143rd Grand Parlor. Brother Dave is displaying a gold nugget with chain he received from his brothers.



Grand Secretary Thomas Perazzo places the Grand President Pin on incoming Grand President Joe Castillo at the conclusion of the 143rd Grand Parlor.



Grand President Joe Castillo and wife Silvia pose during picnic at Ron Brocco's compound in Sonoma.



Although the 143rd Grand Parlor was of necessity devoid of many traditional events, such as the Ladies' Luncheon, the Grand Banquet, Play Day and the Memorial Service, it ended with a great picnic prepared by members of Piedmont #120 on Grand IVP Ron Brocco's compound in Sonoma.



Having taken their oaths, incoming Grand Officers are being instructed in their duties by presiding PGP Fred Codoni. At right, retiring Grand Marshal Kris Nelson clothes a grand officer in the regalia of his office. Also participating in the ceremony was PGP Paul Lapachet.

GRAND PRESIDENT**Joseph Castillo**

To my fellow brothers, it's been nearly one month since I took the oath to be this Order's Grand President and I've been quite "busy" in that short time: committee appointments, SDDGP/DDGP appointments, seven-plus meetings including a 5-hour Board of Grand Officer meeting, reviewing emails and putting together a plan to make this organization just a little bit better.

These are challenging times but with every challenge comes opportunity. The newest brother elected to the Board of Grand Officers, Grand Trustee Richard Cortez, said it best: "I'll take the challenge and do the best I can and use all my resources available to me." What a great attitude! Even though my year is short, and we are challenged by the pandemic of the century and the economic disaster which has resulted, we can still work hard to meet these challenges the best we can and use every resource available to us. Catch the attitude of Grand Trustee Richard Cortez! This is the attitude we all need to get through life in California today.

The worst pandemic in a century, an economy which has been the hardest hit since the Great Depression, and uncontrolled wildfires causing severe damage to property and homes are obstacles that we all are facing in our personal and professional lives. The Native Sons have these same obstacles but as Grand President I need to do what Grand Trustee Richard Cortez said and accept the challenge, do the best I can and use all my resources available to me to get the Order through this difficult time.

As of this writing, I have directed the Order to move forward on projects which will benefit us in the long run. Here are some of the items we are moving forward on at this time:

- a) The NSGW Historical Collection has identified a number of possibilities for our future home;
- b) Constitutional revisions are being identified to enhance our current constitution, including signatories on our bank accounts;
- c) establishment of fiscal controls including expense reimbursements and purchase approvals;
- d) insurance coverage identification and premium payments;
- e) bylaw development by subordinate parlors;
- f) working with parlors on their virtual official visits which are expected to be completed by 12/1;
- g) establishment of a personal conduct guidance for our parlors and members to follow;
- h) establishment of virtual meeting protocols and dress code;
- i) developing a list of military veterans within the organization;
- j) establishing a list of events, fairs and programs which the NSGW can participate to recruit potential new members;
- k) exploring opportunities to host an online poker tournament fundraiser to benefit the Grand Parlor.

The new Board of Grand Officers has only been in office for one month but already we've accepted the challenge of these difficult times and are trying to do the best we can to move forward. I ask that every parlor look at ways they can accept the challenge of the times and move their parlor forward. If you try to do your best in this endeavor, you'll be surprised at what you can accomplish.....

A Big "Thank You"!

We had a wonderful 143rd Grand Parlor after postponing the event in May, and even though we held an abbreviated agenda and schedule, it still came off very well. The Sonoma Raceway

Continued on page 5

OPINION**Fred Codoni, Managing Editor****"Not with a Bang, but with a Whimper"**

That line was from poet T. S. Eliot's "The Hollow Men."

We thought of it on September 9, 2020, when we looked in vain for evidence that any of the public was celebrating (much less even recognizing) the 170th anniversary of California's admission into the Union. We thought also of the great celebrations of yesteryear, sponsored by the Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West, when September 9 was a state holiday featuring parades and other appropriate events.

Your editor (at age 15) was privileged to witness the 100th Admission Day parade in San Francisco, led by Brother Governor Warren of Oakland Parlor #2. Native Son and Daughter units marched and drove down Market Street by the thousands. Especially impressive were the many drum and bugle corps.

Looking further back, we've read the history of the 75th anniversary in 1925 where the celebration lasted a week, with athletic events, banquets, and three parades, all sponsored by our two Orders. The main parade, consisting entirely of Native Son and Daughter units, was 17-and-a-half miles long and took more than *five hours* to pass the reviewing stand!

What a difference in 2020! Not only was there not even a "whimper" about the most significant day in California's history, we are now witnessing attempts to hide our history and that apparently includes Admission Day.

Would we ever have believed the wholesale removal of monuments of our past? Where did the statues of past heroes go? What happened to the names of streets and buildings which were renamed because their namesakes had something in their past which was common and legal when they were alive (especially slavery) which we rightly condemn today? Is there anyone among them who didn't have something in his or her past which we know was wrong? Which one of us today doesn't have something in our lives of which we are ashamed?

No matter how much we try to hide the wrongs done by our forebears, we can't change anything that happened yesterday, much less hundreds of years ago.

Isn't it enough that the people of California ignore Admission Day (which most of them don't even know it exists)? Why must they try to conceal the reality of California's and United States history? Far better to acknowledge the past and learn from it.

As the Native Sons and Daughters decline in membership and influence, let us look to the past and vow that, with our last breath, we will honor our Order and our state and its history. As our State song concludes, "And I know when I die, I will breathe my last sigh for my sunny California."

THE NATIVE SON**Fred Codoni, Managing Editor**

Published 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 grandparlor@nsgw.org.

President's Message, from page 4

hosted our Order with a little more than 100 delegates but we completed all the necessary order of business. The installation of Grand Officers was simple and to the point and a wonderful bar-beque of chicken and ribs was held afterwards. But like any event it takes a number of good brothers to make it all come together.

The Grand Parlor Committee led by JGP James King, PGP Tom Perrazo and PGP Erik Christeson ran a well-organized and efficient Grand Parlor. Piedmont Parlor #120 with chefs Vern, Dan and Mike, cooked up all-you-can eat chicken and ribs with the trimming's for installation lunch; Sonoma Parlor #111 provided chairs, tables and all the necessary equipment to the Grand Parlor meeting, and Bidwell #21 brought all the drinks, additional equipment and supporting items for the Grand Parlor meeting and installation lunch.

Grand IVP Ron Brocco was fantastic in offering his business location with the tents, toilets and facilities as a site for the BBQ.

The Grand Parlor was a complete success due to the help of a number of very good brothers who exemplified our foundation's purpose of "in Friendship, Loyalty and Charity". I am forever grateful to everyone who helped and participated.....

Always Seeking Volunteers

Volunteers are the backbone of any organization and we are no different. If you are interested in volunteering for a district deputy position, committee assignment, special project or something that will help all members of the order, please send me an email (grandpresident@nsgw.org) or call me and I will be glad to get your information and get you involved in the Order. The time you put in is your choice but the fact you are helping to make us a better order will benefit us all....

Veterans Day

On November 11 we celebrate Veteran's Day. The Grand Parlor is trying to identify ways to honor our veterans and should have something within the month. As a way of recognizing all the deceased veterans in a parlor, Rio Hondo Parlor #294 has placed small flags on gravesites at selected cemeteries. The flags cost about \$1 each and we usually place 100-400 flags on Veterans' and Memorial Day of our deceased veterans. You can get good exercise by walking a cemetery and placing the flags for a couple of hours. The more volunteer help you get the less work there is for everyone. Afterwards, it really makes you feel good and on many occasions I've been thanked by people visiting the cemetery who appreciate our kindness and thoughtfulness....

Until Our Next Newsletter

If anyone has any thoughts, ideas or suggestions, just let me know what you have. You never know, your idea may be the one that is just what we needed and gets us through the Challenges of 2020!

Where's the Parlor News?

In my 25+ years as editor of *The Native Son*, I have always tried to get as much news of subordinate parlors into the publication. Sadly, because of the Corona virus, there is almost no parlor news. Parlors have cancelled business meetings and social events and there's no indication when these activities will be able to resume. This isn't all bad: we have room to print a number of historical articles which are in line with one of the original purposes of the Native Sons—to preserve the history of California.

Cal Parks Names New Director

Governor Gavin Newsom has named Armando Quintero, 64, of San Rafael as the director of the state Department of Parks and Recreation.

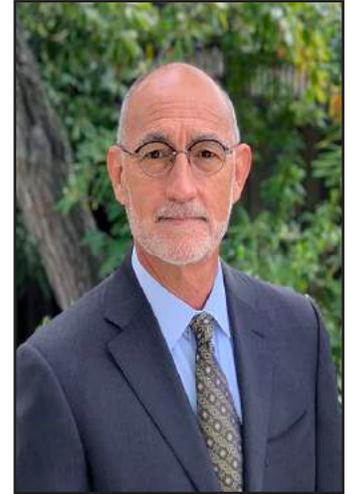
"It's an astonishing honor at an extraordinary time," said Quintero, a former park ranger whose love of nature rose from reading National Geographic while working in his father's auto shop.

Since 2015, Quintero has worked as executive director of the Sierra Nevada Research Institute at the University of California, Merced. Before that, he was director of development there from 2008 to 2014. He also has served on the Marin Municipal Water District board since 2009 and the California Water Commission, where as chairman he oversaw the awarding of \$2.7 billion in state bond funding for new reservoirs and other water projects.

But what is drawing attention among rangers and parks advocates is Quintero's history in parks. From 1977 to 1998 he worked as a ranger or supervising ranger at Sequoia National Park, Point Reyes National Seashore, John Muir National Historic Site and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, as well as a stint in the National Park Service headquarters in San Francisco. He is trained in law enforcement, firefighting and scuba diving, and speaks Spanish.

"We're really encouraged," said Mike Lynch, president of the California State Park Rangers Association. "Armando is steeped in the values of parks from the National Park Service. It will be great to have a director who you don't have to explain to what a ranger, a maintenance worker or a lifeguard does."

The outgoing director, Lisa Mangat, is a former budget manager with the state finance department who was appointed in 2014 by Gov. Jerry Brown. She is credited with streamlining and organizing the parks department's budget systems after a prior director, Ruth Coleman, was forced to resign after officials discovered her department had \$54 million of unspent money in its accounts that had gone unreported to the state Department of Finance. Audits found no money was missing, but the incident embarrassed Brown, who was threatening to close parks, telling the public that funding was short.



Armando Quintero

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RETRO RAMBLINGS

By Douglas Love, Chairman, California History Board

Situated on the banks of the Sacramento River, near the confluence with Cache Creek, is the town of Knight's Landing. It is the oldest town in Yolo County and at one time it was a major point of embarkation and debarkation for river traffic in the county. Today, it is a sleepy river town of just under 1,000 people. Like many of the towns founded in the earliest portion of our state's history, Knight's Landing went through a boom and bust cycle and has become a small town serving the agricultural community around it.

Knight's Landing was founded in 1843 by Dr. William Knight, a physician from Baltimore. He founded the town on the site of a Native American mound where Cache Creek joined the Sacramento River. Originally, the settlement was to be named Baltimore after Dr. Knight's hometown but that name was soon forgotten.

Dr. Knight began operating a ferry across the Sacramento River which at a later time passed to J. W. Snowball. Dr. Knight played an important part in the Bear Flag Revolt, for it was he who warned Fremont about Lieutenant Francisco de Arce's plan to capture horses to use to drive American settlers out of California. William Knight also appears on Bancroft's and Murphy's lists of those who took part in the Bear Flag Revolt in Sonoma.

In 1850, one S. R. Smith ran a hotel in Knight's Landing and in 1853 the town was formally surveyed by Charles F. Reed and officially named Knight's Landing. In the same year, J. W. Snowball and J. J. Perkins opened a general merchandise store on the original settlement site. On January 1, 1854, Captain J. D. Updegraff opened the Yolo House hotel in the town. Visitors were brought to the hotel from Sacramento by steamboat for \$10 per person.

In 1860, D. N. Hershey and George Glasscock opened a brick-built hotel to replace the Yolo House. By 1890, a branch line of the Southern Pacific Railroad was completed and a bridge crossed the Sacramento River at Knight's Landing, shown as "East Grafton" on railroad maps, ending in Marysville. By 1933, SR-133 passed through the town and the current drawbridge was built then and expanded in 1949.

The Snowball and Hershey families were involved in two significant court cases involving the assessment of fees by a reclamation district. Both families claimed that the local reclamation district was assessing fees for levee repair which were out of proportion to the total cost of repairs. The families alleged that since the Board of Directors did not know what the final cost of the repairs were going to be, they did not have to pay the assessed fees. The two cases, Reclamation District v. Hershey et al, 160 Cal. 692 (1911), and Reclamation District No. 730 v. Snowball, 160 Cal. 695 (1911), were both found in favor of the reclamation district.

After SR-133 and SR-45 were completed, there was little need



A remnant of Knight's Landing's history.

for steamboats and trains. Knights Ferry began, like many other small towns do, to decline. By 2009, the only school in town closed. A year later, a charter school took over the property.

The Knight's Landing cemetery is the purported resting place of Charles Earl Boles, better known as "Black Bart". If his remains are interred in the cemetery, his grave is unmarked.

There are two places to eat in Knights Landing. There is Las Maracas Mexican Restaurant (9540 Locust St. Knights Landing, 530-735-6333) which has excellent carnitas and is open for take-out from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. daily. The other is Stingrayz Marina and Bar across the river from Knights Landing proper. It is a bar, boat landing and outdoor music venue with a limited menu. It is open on the weekends and was closed when I visited. There are many other options for refreshment in Woodland.

GETTING THERE: From 414 Mason Street, take Interstate 80 East toward Sacramento. From I-80 East in Dixon take the exit onto CA-113 north. Merge onto CA-113/I-5 North. Take exit 538 onto CA-113 North toward Yuba City. Stay on CA-113 N until you arrive in Knights landing. It is about a two and a half hour drive.

Calistoga Dedication October 10

Calistoga Parlor #86 NSGW and Calistoga Parlor #145 NDGW will dedicate a memorial to the Vallejo-Napa-Calistoga Electric Railroad in a mini railroad park on Washington Street in Calistoga at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 10.

The Napa Valley Electric Railroad started in Vallejo in 1902 and was extended to Calistoga by 1912. It ran until 1937, when the company shut down. The last portion of tracks in Washington Street, Calistoga, remained in the street until 2017, when the city decided to remove them as part of repaving project. As Sons and Daughters we fought for leaving the tracks in place which had been dedicated historical by us in 1999, but lost to the bulldozer. The city agreed to give us space across from the Fire Station for the mini railroad park.

Plaques and an informational sign are in place along with whatever pieces of straight track that could be salvaged.

Information from Dick Kuykendall, jrk905@yahoo.com (707) 815-1361.



San Francisco & Napa Valley Railroad train prepares to leave Calistoga for Vallejo on September 30, 1937, the last day of scheduled passenger service. During World War II, remaining trackage served Mare Island, originally with electric locomotives but later with diesels when it was found that the overhead wire interfered with the operation of cranes.

FACT OR FICTION?

Searching for Joaquin

California’s greatest folklore legend centers around Joaquin Murrieta.

There are those who say he was a real person, a Mexican miner who was discriminated against and beaten, turned to crime and became the first criminal in the State of California. There are those that say he was a combination of multiple men, all



Joaquin Murrieta

named Joaquin, who were in so many places that he could not just be one person. But let’s start searching for the facts around this enigmatic figure.

In the Gold Rush country of the Sierra foothills, there are an abundance of Gold Rush-era towns, settlements, claims and remnants which still remain. Each has a story to tell; many have stories related to Murrieta.

The stories start in Coarsegold, an old mining town named for the type of gold which was discovered

there. When the owner of a nearby mining claim named “Texas Flats” decided to sell his unprofitable operation, he spiced it up a bit by saying there were still profits to be unearthed. Ever since a \$15,000 nugget was discovered, gold fever swirled around Texas Flats. Four new owners were persuaded to buy the old claim but it didn’t look like a very good deal on their end until the group dug just a little deeper and a whole lot of success was achieved. The claim became very profitable and each owner earned more than they ever thought they would.

Eventually they sold the claim and went on to other opportunities. One of the owners was William “Bill” Henderson who would eventually resurface as one of the California Rangers who tracked down Joaquin in the Central Valley, ending the trail of the suspected outlaw.

In another town called “Hornitos” are remains of what was once Murrieta’s favorite hangout. The town was one of the most lawless and wild of the Gold Rush towns and was inhabited by Mexicans who had been asked to leave towns which they had lived in for years. Hornitos was the Spanish word for “little ovens” which was based on the oven-shaped above-ground tombs which populated the town’s cemetery. Joaquin was said to frequent the fandango in the center of town and even had a tunnel built to escape in case he was surprised by the law. But of course the counter story was that the tunnel was built to roll barrels of beer from the storeroom to the dance hall. However, Murrieta could still have used it for one of his escapes.

In the Central Mother Lode country, the small and historical town of Murphy’s remains in the same state with a number of

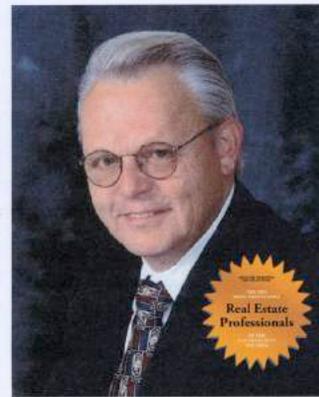
gold rush era establishments including a museum which houses the grave marker of Murrieta’s wife. It seems that Joaquin was working a nearby mining claim when his wife was attacked and killed, and was the reason that Murrieta turned to a life of crime. Just up the road was another small mining site named Calaveritas, which had a dance hall, bar and fandango that supposedly Murrieta spent some time visiting.

And finally, in the nearby area, is a Gold Rush town which is still as well preserved as any in the foothills and is named Mokelumne Hill. Known for its criminal activity and wild patrons, Mokelumne had its own hanging tree in the middle of town. The town was so untamed that for 17 straight weeks there was a killing each day. Joaquin Murrieta used the town to meet with his men and plan their next activity—or maybe just to have a good time.

These are only a few examples of Joaquin Murrieta in the foothills of the Mother Lode country but whether they are fact or fiction is something we may never know.

The Life and Adventures of Joaquín Murrieta (1854) by John Rollin Ridge was published one year after Murrieta’s supposed death.

Murrieta was possibly partly the inspiration for the fictional character of Zorro, the lead character in the five-part serial story “The Curse of Capistrano”, written by Johnston McCulley, and published in 1919 in a pulp fiction magazine.



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HPF REPORT

By **CARL VON BARGEN, Chairman**

The Historical Preservation Foundation continues to press forward during these trying times. Last month, Native Sons of the Golden West had an extremely short but productive Grand Parlor. This unfortunately eliminated the opportunity to have a hospitality room to showcase all of the HPF's accomplishments and endeavors or to present the accomplishments on the Grand Parlor floor.

We were able to get a few minutes of Grand Parlor time to recognize PGP David Allen for all his hard work on behalf of the HPF for the last 20 years. The Directors of the Historical Preservation Foundation pooled their resources and procured David Allen an authentic California State Parks Ranger's hat and belt. Additionally, the directors properly acknowledged the efforts and inconveniences that Shirley Allen has endured all these years as an NSGW/HPF widow and again pooled their resources and got her a gift to show our appreciation.

Another item of interest at Grand Parlor was Brother Jered Hampton of Amador 17 had created several outstanding hand-forged NSGW-branded pocket clip bottle openers as a fundraiser for the Historical Preservation Foundation. We appreciate his creativity showcasing NSGW and assisting the HPF to continue its mission. My hat is off to Jered Hampton and I look forward to expressing the appreciation of the whole board of the HPF to Jered at the next Amador #17 meeting. If anyone is interested in getting one of these spectacular handmade bottle openers, please contact Jered via his post on the NSGW Facebook page. Photo on page 11.

The month of September the HPF finished funding for the Kennedy Mine Headframe restoration and enhancement as well as for Georgetown's Oddfellows Hall restoration. I had the opportunity to visit and tour the restoration of the Georgetown Odd Fellows Hall and the brothers of Georgetown #91 have outdone themselves and completed a spectacular job of restoring a historic meeting hall for all of Georgetown.

I have not had the opportunity to visit Jackson, and tour the progress of the Kennedy Mine Headframe restoration and enhancement by Amador #17, Ione #33 and Excelsior Parlor #31, since Excelsior has been not meeting due to COVID-19, but I anticipate the opportunity to see what the HPF grant has helped to accomplish will present itself very soon.

Covid-19 is proving to be an extreme challenge to fundraising efforts, but Native Sons of the Golden West's Parlors continue to be supportive and charitable, and as a result, the Historical Preservation Foundation will continue to fulfill our mission. We are



Chairman of the HPF Carl von Bargen with wife Karen.

fast approaching the time when the Board of the HPF will start approaching benefactors outside the Native Sons to help us expand our support of historical preservation and education throughout California.

The Board of Directors of the Historical Preservation Foundation continues to look forward to assisting several parlors in the coming year on fundraising and worthy projects. Please reach out to your local Director of the HPF if you have new ideas for fundraisers, a recommendation of a corporate donor that you feel we should approach, or information about a project that you feel should be investigated and supported that will enhance historical preservation or education in California.

The HPF is ready to work with you and your parlor.



Former HPF Chairman cuts the ribbon marking the start of rehabilitation work on the Donner Monument.



Mike Lynch, President of the California State Parks Rangers Association (CSPRA www.cspra.com) presents an award naming former HPF Chairman Dave Allen as an honorary California State Parks ranger at a ceremony at the Donner Memorial State Park.

LETTERS

Brothers:

First and foremost, thank you for your support as I became Grand Outside Sentinel at the end of our 143rd Grand Parlor.

This very unique Grand Parlor went off with hardly a hitch, proving that as brothers we can band together and make things happen safely.

As you are reading this in *The Native Son* newsletter I want all to be aware that with the loss of the Hall Association Dividend it was voted to reduce the newsletter budget and publish limited editions this term. Printing and postage costs continue to increase and that is the majority of the expense associated with *The Native Son*.

You can offset this by submitting your email to the Grand Parlor office and request email-only delivery. Ask brothers in your parlor to do the same. Consider dropping all newsletter mailing in your parlor and print out newsletters for your brothers who don't have email.

Your parlor could receive a kickback and our per capita might actually decrease in the next budget.

AND...keep buying NSGW Lucky Calendars!

In Friendship, Loyalty and Charity
Mitch Laing, Grand Outside Sentinel

Brothers:

I'm pleased to announce that Grand President Joe Castillo has agreed to appoint former Grand Marshal Kris Nelson as my successor as Supervising District Deputy Grand President for District 14.

I have promoted this move for several months and was relieved to hear that Joe and Kris connected and worked out details.

As you should know, Brother Nelson served several years as Grand Trustee followed by Grand Outside and Inside Sentinel, just completing his term as Grand Marshal. While GT he has also served as District Deputy to District 14 Parlors and even when not DDGP has attended many district meetings and events, often cooking his gumbo for parlor dinners.

Kris Continued to serve as Grand Marshal during this extended term, and will now take over duties as District 14 Supervising District Deputy Grand President as I move to Grand Outside Sentinel.

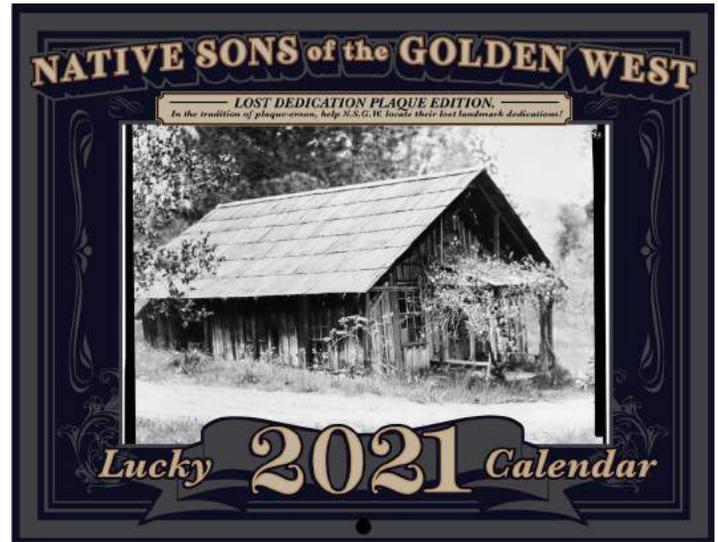
I'm positive District 14, the largest district in our Order, will gratefully benefit from Kris's knowledge, input and direction.

Please join me in congratulating Kris Nelson as he transitions from Grand Marshal to Supervising District Deputy of our Best in the Order District 14.

In Friendship, Loyalty and Charity
Mitch Laing, Grand Outside Sentinel



Native Sons proudly display the Bear Flag on the steps of Smartsville's historic church after the re-institution of Yuba Parlor #55. Article on page 10.



At Grand Parlor Aug 19, Brother Mitch Laing of Santa Rosa Parlor handed the NSGW Lucky Calendar over to new Chairman Aaron Brown of Ramona Parlor #109.

Three days prior to Grand Parlor Napa Hall #62 provided hospitality and To-Go Rib Plates while brothers from Sonoma, Bidwell, and Napa parlors assembled 2500 2021 calendars. Boxed, these calendars were ready for statewide distribution via Grand Officers, Supervising District Deputies and others who attended our delayed and shortened Grand Parlor at Sears Point Racetrack in Sonoma.

New GT Cortez and GT Phillips took boxes North. GT McLean and PGP Allen took boxes East. GT Skelton, Ramona President Mary Garcia, Santa Lucia brother and others took boxes south, as well as brothers from Fairfax, Calistoga and other Parlors have new Calendars available as well. As Chairman Brown travels back and forth between Ramona and Sonoma, respectively, he will make Lucky Calendars available during his adventures up and down the state.

In past Chairman Laing's words, "with limited opportunity to buy, we will have a good supply available thru The Grand Office but be sure to check with your local sales people when you have an opportunity to ask them about new 2021 Lucky Calendars and maybe even remaining 2020s."

In the spirit of past chairman Laing, Aaron Brown would like to remind brothers that the NSGW Lucky Calendar is an opportunity to lower Per Capita tax, plus the chance for you to have your Lucky Calendar ticket drawn again and again!

Please support Chairman Brown and our NSGW Lucky Calendar! Contact Chairman Aaron Brown at aaronlewisbrown@gmail.com or call the Grand Parlor office at 1-800-337-1875.

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Welcome to Yuba Parlor!

Story and Photos by

Grand Trustee Ethan Phillips, John C. Bidwell No. 21.

In a three-part ceremony on the grounds of the Catholic church in Smartsville on June 14, a team of Native Sons reinstated Yuba Parlor #55, installed its officers and initiated its first class of members.

PGP David Allen led the reinstatement and officer initiation teams, while Grand Second VP Ron Brocco led the initiatory team.

After all the work was completed there was a social and barbecue to welcome the brothers of Yuba Parlor #55, and at this time they opened the Catholic church to showcase their progress on the restoration of the church interior. I applaud their ambitious efforts on saving this piece of early California history. A special thanks to the following brothers who came up to prepared the barbecue: Brothers Vern Purcell of Piedmont #120 and Brother Dan Foppe of Nicasio #183.

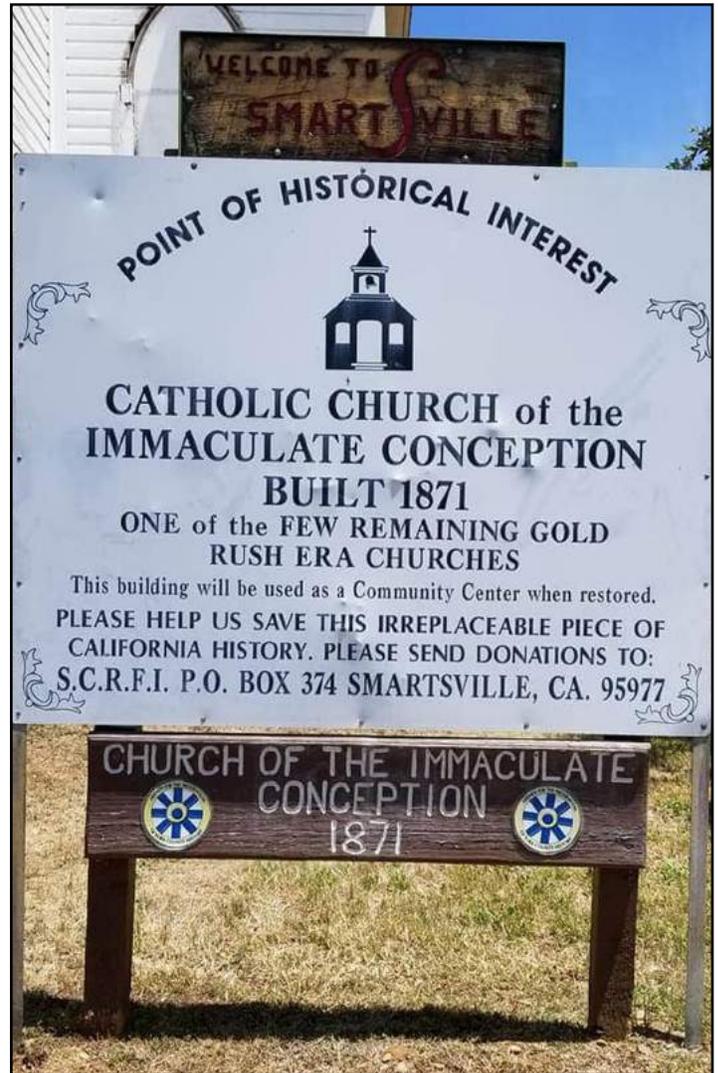
The late Huell Howser of NPR's *California's Gold* produced a program on Smartsville which you can watch on the internet at <https://blogs.chapman.edu/huell-howser-archives/2009/01/14/smartsville-californias-gold-11001/>

Where's Smartsville?

Smartsville, home of Yuba Parlor #55, is a California Historical Landmark town located at an altitude of 660 feet about 15 miles northwest of Marysville along State Route 20.

With an area of just .7 square miles, Smartsville boasted a population of 177 in the 2010 census.

The town was named for James Smart, a local hotel proprietor during the days of the Gold Rush. In the spring of 1856, Smart built a hotel. The town gained a post office in 1865 when mining was at a peak; extensive placer mining tailings remain throughout the area.



Members of reinstated Yuba #55 have been working on restoring Smartsville historic Catholic Church for many years.



PGP Dave Allen (far right) gives the Native Sons oath to new members of Yuba #55.

CF DONATIONS

By BOB SANTOS

Here is a list of recent donations to our CF in Honor of 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. Total donations and our donation form on our website, nsgw.org.

In Memory of Craig M. Moreno

Louise, Hayden & Chase Moreno
 Bill Lockfeer
 Ralph and Ruth Chapman
 Mitch Bassignani

In Memory of Ed Boddington

John & Chery Atkins

In Memory of Teresa Ursino

Joe & Marilou Ursino

In Memory of Lloyd Ferreira

James & Susan Ferreira
 Gabilan Parlor #132

In Honor of Audrey Neil

Mt. Tamalpais Parlor #64

In Memory of John Duggan Sr.

Pat Riley

In Memory of Harly Harty PGP

Dr. Laura & Steven Workman

In Memory of Ted Ammiro

Joe & Marilou Ursino

In Memory of Steve Jones and Julie

Leanora M Grenz

In Memory of Paul Haavik

Robert & Kathy Santos
 Ron & Rita Holliday

In Memory of Barbara Gent

Ron & Rita Holliday

To Cleft Palate Fund

Your Cause LLC Applied Materials (2 donations)

To all: The Charitable Foundation is still running its Cleft Palate Mail March. Many parlors did not attend the 143rd Grand Parlor or hold meetings because of the COVID-19 virus. You can still send a check to CF and note its for General, Personal or Memorial Fund. Make check payable to "NSGW Charitable Foundation" and send to Grand Parlor. Thank you.

Mail March Totals as of Sept 1:

General Fund- \$52,192.53 Memorial Fund- \$13,922.00

Welcome to Amazon Smile. The NSGWCF has joined with Amazon Smile. Amazon will donate .5% of the price of your eligible purchase. Use our unique charity link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-6094641>. Remember start with smile.amazon.com.



Brother Jared Hampton of Amador #17 has produced hand-forged bottle openers for sale for the benefit of the HPF. (See page 8)

LUCKY CALENDAR WINNERS

Here are the August Lucky Calendar Winners.

There is \$6,245 remaining to hand out and more 2020 Calendars are available. \$20 could get your \$2,000 December 31, 2020.

The 2021 Lucky Calendar is available from most Grand Officers, Supervising District Deputies and through the Grand Parlor Office. Over \$15,000 will be awarded, starting with \$1,000 January 1, 2021, There are special draws for \$500 on Flag Day and again on Statehood Day, and \$2,000 for December 31, 2021.

We understand without parlor meetings it may be hard to locate a Lucky Calendar but check with your usual parlor sales people or contact the Grand Parlor Office, 414 Mason Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 392-1223. Remember that every dollar in profit helps reduce the Per Capita Charges

DATE	AMT	WINNER	CITY
Aug 1	\$75	Amanda/Alex Gonzalez	San Miguel
Aug 2	\$20	Kristin Johnston	Sonoma
Aug 3	\$20	M. Brocco & Sons Inc	Sonoma
Aug 4	\$20	Josh King	Redlands
Aug 5	\$20	Jennifer McCarany	Monrovia
Aug 6	\$20	Bob Siegfried	San Leandro
Aug 7	\$20	Chris A Beckman	San Francisco
Aug 8	\$75	Renee Amaro	Pleasant Hill
Aug 9	\$20	Rachelle Henley	So.San Francisco
Aug 10	\$20	Jane Core	Benicia
Aug 11	\$20	Riley Keichich	Chico
Aug 12	\$20	Daylin Hawkins	Santa Rosa
Aug 13	\$20	S San Francisco #157	Forestville
Aug 14	\$20	Redwood Parlor #66	Redwood City
Aug 15	\$75	Silvia Alvarado	Alhambra
Aug 16	\$20	Kristin Johnston	Sonoma
Aug 17	\$20	Halcyon Parlor #47	Alameda
Aug 18	\$20	Tim Santos	Fremont
Aug 19	\$20	JoAnn Hoffmann	Paso Robles
Aug 20	\$20	Mike Valim	Sonoma
Aug 21	\$20	Justine Brocco	Sonoma
Aug 22	\$75	Ron Brocco	Sonoma
Aug 23	\$20	Jill Molson	San Bernardino
Aug 24	\$20	Vernon T. Parcell	Brentwood
Aug 25	\$20	Harold Paulson	San Leandro
Aug 26	\$20	Peter Aregger	Novato
Aug 27	\$20	Karen Borrelli	Gustine
Aug 28	\$20	John Decarli	Chualar
Aug 29	\$75	Mike Kimbrough	Lincoln
Aug 30	\$20	Teresa Diaz	Rosemond
Aug 31	\$150	Sharon Mosley	Bryan, TX



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