
146th Grand Parlor Report

Despite having to meet in a hotel that was undergoing extensive noisy and dusty remodelling, Grand President Jeff Schmidt managed to run a smooth and effective 146th Grand Parlor.

Since no Grand Officer position were contested, there was no election and the officers shown above, led by incoming Grand President George Adams of Napa #62, were installed as the final action of the session.

Delegates considered and approved most of the thirty-odd resolutions presented by PGP James King and the Constitution Revision Committee, almost all dealing with changing and updating our Constitution.

The per capita tax set at $55.62, with a few budget items increasing slightly; major cut was virtually eliminating funds for sending The Native Son via U. S. Mail.

Play Day events went smoothly, thanks to the dedication of our volunteer chairpersons. The banquet was somewhat of a disappointment because it had to be a buffet since the hotel didn’t have staff or facilities for a regular meal.

Speaking of the headquarters hotel, the Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel, there is no other word than “disaster.” It was undergoing extensive remodelling, resulting in daytime noise and dust. Closed were the swimming pool, fitness center, atrium and lobby. The restaurant (when it was open) served food delegates said it was mediocre at best. Hotel check-in was a small room adjacent to the garage. Water to some guest rooms was turned off during the day, fortunately most delegates and guests left Thursday morning, because water was to all guests rooms was shut off from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday. Many delegates thought room cost, plus resort and parking fees, was way too high for what the hotel offered. the only “plus” for the hotel: most of the staff was friendly and helpful.
Native Son to be On-Line Only

For the past several years, our state newspaper, *The Native Son* has been sent to more and more of our members by e-mail. Still, some received it by U. S. Mail either because they preferred a hard copy or they didn’t have e-mail.

At the 146th Grand Parlor, incoming Grand President George Adams removed most of the $20,000 budget item that financed printing and mailing the publication. Denied were requests by some of the delegates (including long-time Editor Fred Codoni) that we produce one more issue so as to inform the U. S. Mail recipients of the change and urge them to seek some way to receive it the publication.

In an era of rapidly-declining membership in the Order, Editor Codoni predicted we would lose about 500 members whose only connection with their parlors and the Order is *The Native Son* by U. S. Mail. These are predominantly aged members who now may have no reason to retain their memberships.

It will be up to each parlor to determine how U. S. Mail-only members can receive the state newspaper. Parlor secretaries should ask their members for e-mail addresses—many may have them but have preferred to receive hard copies. Perhaps this change will convince that segment of membership to provide e-mail addresses.

Per Capita Tax Set at $55.62

The 2023-2024 budget submitted by incoming Grand President George Adams calls for a total expenditure of $345,085 with deductions of $35,748, making $309,337 the amount for the per capita tax. Based on current membership, this resulted in a per capita tax of $55.62.

Total for the general items budget is $126,433, a reduction of $11,299 resulting mainly from virtually eliminating the budget for *The Native Son* and entirely eliminating the Legal Fund amount.

The Grand Secretary’s Office Budget rose $3,514 to $218,652.

Resolutions Studied, Most Approved

The 146th Grand Parlor considered more than thirty resolutions, most dealing with adjustments in the Grand Parlor and Subordinate Parlor Constitutions. Most were approved on motions by Constitution Revision Committee Chairman PGP James King. The list is far too long to print in this issue of *The Native Son*; results will be printed in the Proceedings of the 146th Grand Parlor.

Grand Parlor Photos Available

Dirk Wentling, the official photographer for the 146th Grand Parlor, is offering a DVD or flash drive with hundreds of photos of our recent Grand Parlor. You can contact him at dirk@wentling-studio.com. Price is $45.
**PLAY DAY EVENTS**

**Trap Shooting**
By DUANE R. GAVIN, Chairman

The Trap Shooting Event was outstanding for several reasons even with only seven shooters. For starters the shoot for the first time was financially self-sufficient, with each shooter paying a twenty-dollar entry fee which allowed for a seventy-dollar donation to the Capital City Gun Club Youth Shotgun Shooting Program while also providing prize money for the shooters. This move to have the participants pay to play means that no monies were used out of the Grand Parlor Budget and should set an example for other Play Day Committees to follow.

The shooters and their scores in order are:
- Louis Langlamet – 64
- Chris Leon – 60
- John Ratto – 55
- Perry Pearson – 32
- Ric Nagle – 30
- Tom Perazzo – 12 (Two Rounds)

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**146th Grand Parlor Bowling Tournament**
By Brice Walker, Bowling Chairman

On our Wednesday Play Day, fourteen bowlers participated in our 9 Pin No-Tap Tournament. I appreciate the appointment from Past Grand President Jeff Schmidt. Thanks to all of my Brothers for participating!

**Women’s Leaders**
- Ann Marie Simmons Georgetown #91 – 1st Place – 648 total score
- Lisa Roden Argonaut #8 – 2nd Place – 423 total score
- Aimee Leonetti Observatory #177 – 3rd Place – 374 total score

**Men’s Leaders**
- Jim Wilmarth Excelsior #31 – 1st Place – 580 total score
- Mike Franzoia Fairfax #307 – 2nd Place – 530 total score
- Dave Franzoia Fairfax #307 – 3rd Place – 516 total score
- Brice Walker Observatory #177 – 4th Place – 488 total score
- Bobby Wong Placerville #9 – 5th Place – 480 total score

The 146th Grand Parlor Golf Tournament was cancelled since there was no available course because of weather conditions.
GRAND PRESIDENT

My Fellow Brothers:

As the newly-elected Grand President of the Native Sons of the Golden West, I want to thank all of you for supporting and electing me to this position. It is a great honor to be your Grand President. We have already started this year off with the first dedication just hours after my becoming Grand President. We dedicated the Tahoe Trout Farm which has been in operation for 77 years teaching kids and adults alike how to fish. We had around 75 people at the dedication and about 30 that stayed to fish or just enjoy the fun-filled day with friends.

This year I will be promoting events with family activities like barbeques, a day at Disneyland, camp outs and much more. We need the parlor to participate to make this work. If you have an idea or an event that your parlor would like to promote, then let’s get it out to all members and make it happen. All of the grand officers are looking forward to a great year with official visits, dedications, installations and Family Day Events.

We are planning to make more improvements to our website along with utilizing YouTube and Instagram to help promote The Native Sons of the Golden West and let people know who we are along with utilizing YouTube and Instagram to help promote The Native Sons of the Golden West, I want to thank all of you for supporting and electing me to this position. It is a great honor to be your Grand President. We have already started this year off with the first dedication just hours after my becoming Grand President. We dedicated the Tahoe Trout Farm which has been in operation for 77 years teaching kids and adults alike how to fish. We had around 75 people at the dedication and about 30 that stayed to fish or just enjoy the fun-filled day with friends.

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In Friendship Loyalty and Charity,
George A. Adams, Grand President

A NEW PER CAPITA AMOUNT

A new per capita amount of $55.52 was voted in at the 146th Grand Parlor. This represents an increase of $6.20 or 12.6%. Our membership rolls lost 408 members this past year which puts us at 5,562 members. This represents a decrease of 6.8%. As we continue to lose members, our annual per capita amounts will also increase. The writing is on the wall and if we don’t start planning soon, we may be left with not enough members to pay for our rising expenditures.

If we knew that a hurricane was going to hit our home town, wouldn’t we want to plan and prepare for it? Well, that hurricane is knocking on our door and we continue to not plan for the inevitable. Perhaps it’s time to reconsider allowing non-Native Born Californians to become members in our Order. The longer we wait, the greater chance we have that the hurricane will severely damage us…….

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We are pleased to print your contributions, especially if they offer suggestions that can improve our Order and this publication.

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A Very Interesting 146th Grand Parlor

By FRED CODONI

The just plain awful condition of the Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel could have made the 146th Grand Parlor a disaster. When the 146th Grand Parlor Committee booked the hotel a couple of years ago, they certainly didn’t know that the entire venue was going to be sold and under refurbishment during our May 14-18 Grand Parlor.

While the sleeping rooms were intact, the atrium was being rebuilt, with constant noise and dust. The lobby was closed, so hotel registration was in a small room off the garage. The swimming pool, fitness center and banquet kitchen were also closed. Residents of some of the NSGW hospitality rooms on the second floor were told not to flush toilets during certain hours. The day we left (Thursday) water was shut off to all the sleeping rooms from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., a major inconvenience for those Native Sons staying over.

The Grand Banquet was a buffet dinner, the food coming from nearby Harrah’s. The daily charge included breakfast, but we had to pay for ours because we were told we “booked the reservation on the wrong site”—the site on the original flyer. We never found a public restroom on the second floor; the choice was to use one of the hospitality room facilities or walk almost the length of the hotel where there was a restroom on the first floor.

The so-called restaurant served a mediocre breakfast.

Was there ever been a worse venue for a Grand Parlor? Actually, yes. The staff, from room maids to parking attendants was uniformly cheerful and helpful and help make up for the atrocious conditions of the site.

So, how did the 146th Grand Parlor survive this mess? If you were present at the business sessions, visited the hospitality rooms or participated in Play Day events, you’d wouldn’t notice any differences from previous Grand Parlors!

NDGW PGP Suzi Riley ran the guest registration smoothly, even though it was in a crowded room on the first floor.

Grand President Jeff Schmidt presided over the meetings very competently. Obviously, he was well-prepared to fill the “dead time” that happens during every business session.

Banquet Chairman PGP Dean Zellers had the banquet seating chart filled well before the event, with everyone told where they would sit.

Play Day events also went smoothly. Members of George-town #91 provided a great barbecue in a park a few miles from the hotel. The usual events—shooting, bowling, horseshoes, Pedro—were “hitchless.” The golf tournament wasn’t held because weather conditions precluded finding an open golf course.


Significantly, the traditional resolution commending the hotel was not presented.

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Some elementary schools will no longer participate in the Native Sons’ State Essay Contest, claiming they cannot be involved with a “racist organization.”

As we’ve tried to point out several times before, the Native Sons is not a racist group. We accept male and female applicants of every race and religious belief, as long as they meet one requirement: they must be born in California.

Like virtually every other fraternal organization, we were not always inclusive. Our membership was limited to the “white race” until that restriction was removed in 1967. Women were allowed to join in 1994.

Organizations far larger than the Native Sons similarly were open only to white men. The Benevolent Order of Elks was “whites only” until 1973, and the Loyal Order of Moose “whites only” until some time in the 1970s.

Our opposition to Japanese immigration was due not so much as racism as the fear, shared by the California press as well as many organizations, that Japanese farmers were taking over and forcing out American farmers. Likewise, our favoring internment of Japanese in the West resulted from the very real fear that they could act against America during World War II (which they never did).

These are portions of our history now long gone. We cannot—and should not even try—to erase that history.

But it is history! It’s not who we are today!

Look to yesterday, but judge us on what we are now! Look at the good we do: $7 million to help disfigured children, scholarship funding, an Historical Preservation Foundation, local support of youth sports teams—the list is long.

Judge us not by who we were decades ago. Judge us by who we are now!

The Lott’s Lake work week runs July 29 through August 6. Work to be completed is on the upper outhouse that burned down, fun things to do include a fishing contest, .22 shoot and a potluck dinner on the 28th. Other things you can do are 4-wheel dirt biking (outside of camp) and gold panning.

The .22 shoot rules are:
• You have to camp to complete
• You have to supply your own guns and bullets

You can bring family, friends, and potential members. It’s been a lot of fun for me over the years, with hopefully more years to come.

If you need combo lock information, you can reach out to me at 707-849-2240, or contact the Grand Parlor Secretary. My e-mail address is dhntermite@gmail.com.

I want to give a big “thank you” to former Lott’s Lake Chairman Mike Hemmings for all of his support to me.

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OPINION

When Will It End?

By FRED CODONI

Past Grand President Howard Earl Kern, the sitting Dean of the Past Grand Presidents, and a 65-year member of our Order, died March 27, 2023.

He served his parlor and our Order in many capacities, up to Grand President at the 97th Grand Parlor in Berkeley, and a Past Grand President since then. The last Grand Parlor he attended was the 132nd at Seaside.

Our condolences are extended to all his family and the members of the Order who knew him.

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THE NATIVE SON - JUNE-JULY 2023

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Native Son Official Passport

The Grand Parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West has created an NSGW “Official Passport” that will allow members to log their visits to parlors and Native Son events and become eligible for prizes.

There are pages for attending individual parlor meetings and events, and other events such as the Southern California Weekend, a Board of Grand Officers meeting, Sonoma's Flag Day and dozens of others. There’s space to list candidates which the passport holder has sponsored, and for parlor and Grand Officer positions held.

When attending an event, holder will present the passport to any parlor officer, who will stamp or initial the appropriate place in the passport. Receiving stamps or initials may make individuals eligible for prizes. Prize for Bronze Level (five stamps) is a lanyard with passport protector or other prize. Prize for Silver Level (15 stamps) is Grand President’s belt buckle. Prize for Gold Level (31 stamps) is a Passport Challenge Coin.

Passports are available from the Grand Parlor office or parlor secretaries.

Remembering Our Veterans

By PGP Joe Castillo

Monday, May 29 was Memorial Day and many people throughout California honored deceased veterans by placing American Flags at their gravesites.

There are other holidays coming up where Native Sons can honored their deceased veterans buried in local cemeteries by placing American flags at their gravesites. The Grand Secretary has purchased a collection of 10” tall American Flags and up to 100 flags can be requested at no charge by each NSGW parlor with only a small shipping fee charged for each order. The flags may be placed on Memorial Day, Independence Day or Veterans’ Day with cemeteries required to leave the flags standing for one week before and one week after the holiday. Argonaut #8, Georgetown #91 and Los Angeles #45 are three of the parlors that place American Flags at the gravesites of U. S. servicemen. Please help and continue NSGW efforts to honor American’s veterans by placing U.S. flags at their gravesites. It’s a small task but it means so much!

By PGP Joe Castillo

Jaime “Jim” Diaz (1955 - 2023) – Ramona Parlor #109

Jim Diaz, former recording secretary and marshal for Ramona Parlor and husband of SDDGP Teresa Diaz, died last month. A quiet but engaging individual who preferred to lead by example, he was one of the supporting and contributing NSGW members who helped bring success to the Order in Southern California.

Jim grew up in the Harbor City area of Los Angeles and graduated from Narbonne High School in 1973. He utilized his large hands to become a champion gymnast in the Marine League and received an athletic scholarship for gymnastics to Arizona State University. He would eventually work in the railroad industry, retiring two years ago.

His insightful and intelligent comments, along with his astute knowledge of history, will surely be missed by his brothers in the Order.
Parlor Activities

Solano #39 Swine Dine
On Saturday, June 17, Solano #39 will hold its Annual Swine Dine at the Peterson Ranch in Gordon Valley. Cost is $30. Order tickets by texting or calling Chairman Mike Dillman at (707) 974-7442.

South Honors Its Italians
South San Francisco #157 announces “La Fiesta de la Repubblica Italiano” dinner is returning. The parlor will have its Italian Dinner in honor of the independence of Italy (when it voted to go from a monarchy to a republic) on Wednesday June 14 at the Janet Pomeroy Center, 207 Skyline Blvd., San Francisco. Social hour is at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Price is $20 per person—pay at the door. It includes all liquid libations. Menu will be chicken cacciatore and polenta, mixed Italian vegetables, salad, bread and butter. Reservations are required; call or text Matt Caselli (415) 823 3615. Reservations due by June 4.

Prawn Feed at Estudillo
Estudillo #223’s Annual Prawn Feed fundraiser will be held September 16 at the Veteran’s Hall, 1105 Bancroft Ave in San Leandro. It features all-you-can-eat prawns, salad, pasta and dessert. Price is $35. Seating is limited to 150. Reservations must be made by September 8; call Jim Fleischman (510) 760-1419 or by e-mail at fleischman2882@att.net or with Dan Shumaker at (925) 783-3070.

Ribs for Fathers’ Day
Santa Rosa #28 is having a Fathers Day Rib Barbecue on Wednesday June 14 at its hall at 3318 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa. This is one of Santa Rosa’s special dinners and parlor members hope to have a full house. As usual beer, wine, soda and water is available (tips appreciated) for social time prior to dinner. Reserve seats for all attending by calling Mark at (707) 350-1116 before June 9, allowing time to purchase enough food. Social hour is 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 7.

Food Banks Need Help
Most food banks see good collections during the holiday season—but people are hungry year around. It’s a shameful statistic for the supposedly most prosperous nation in the world, but one child out of four in America goes hungry. Look at the lunches and dinners listed in this issue: Native Sons eat very well, while people in their own neighborhoods may be undernourished.

You and your parlor can help—just contact your local food bank and they will provide you with a barrel into which your members—and others—can place donations.

The 2023 Grand Parlor Annual Meeting Committee of the Native Daughters of the Golden West is planning some fun things for the week of June 22-27 in Stockton. We are hoping that the Native Sons will join us for some of our events.

Visitation for the Native Sons will be Sunday, June 25, following the Childrens Foundation Luncheon at 1:30 p.m.

Mt. Tam, Fairfax Talk Merger
Citing declining membership and tiny attendance at parlor meetings, the members of Mt. Tamalpais #64 seek to merger with Fairfax #307. Most of Mt. Tam's members responded to a mail poll; every answer was in favor of the merger.

For the past decade or so, PGP Bob Rogers of Fairfax #307 has tried to hold Mt. Tam together, remembering his promise to Mt. Tam member the late Artie Hecht to keep the parlor alive. Recent developments in Mt. Tam make it no longer possible to save Mt. Tam, with the best solution being merger with a healthy parlor, saving Mt. Tam’s remaining 40-odd members and keeping alive Mt. Tam's Scholarship Contest.

Fairfax Parlor members will vote on the merger at the parlor’s June 7 meeting. Fairfax Parlor’s approval of the merger is anticipated.

Fairfax “President’s Dinner”
As is a long-time tradition in Fairfax Parlor, the third Wednesday in June will be a dinner for which the parlor president is responsible. Current President Burt Winn promises another outstanding meal at his dinner at the parlor’s clubhouse at 135 Mitchell Drive in Fairfax on June 21, featuring barbecued spare ribs, pasta, French bread and dessert. Price is $20 per person.

Open only to Native Sons and prospective members. Bar opens at 6, with dinner at 7:30. Reservations from Kevin Courtz, kcbscourt@aol.com, (415) 717-4018.

Sonoma Schedules Annual BBQ
Sonoma #111 will have its 62nd Annual Chicken Barbecue in Historic Sonoma Plaza on Saturday, June 17. Featured in addition to the barbecue will be live music by the Rich Little Band.

At 11 a.m. will be a ceremony at the Bear Flag Monument, followed by the chicken barbecue and hot dog meal service between noon and 4 p.m. Also at noon will be live music and dancing. Beer is sponsored by Lagunitas Brewing Company of Petaluma. All proceeds stay in the Sonoma Valley. Information is available from PGP Dean Zellers at (707) 996-5282.

Las Positas Horseshoes
The 30th anniversary Las Positas #96 Horseshoe Tournament will be held at the Robertson Rodeo Grounds Park on July 8. According to the parlor, “This is always a great event—you do not have to be a horseshoe-throwing champion or, for that matter, be any good at all to participate and have a great time. ‘I can’t hit the broad side of a barn but still manage to have a great time out there.’ There will be divisions for the good guys and the not so good guys (and gals).”

This is a Double-Elimination Tournament—Singles and Doubles. Practice and signups are from 8 to 9 a.m.

Singles Event starts at 9 a.m. sharp. Registration Fee: $10 per event; horseshoes will be provided and trophies awarded for the top two finishers. The lawn adjacent to the pits is available for family and friends to enjoy linguica sandwiches with chips which will be on sale. Raffle will be held during the break between events.

For more information call: Robert Jeffers (925) 382-7914 or robert@jdgeneral.com or James Burness (209) 601-0630.
Native Sons of the Golden West has three resources available to reach out to all brothers be they near, far or wide. The Native Son newsletter, the Monthly Mailer and NSGW.ORG Calendar of Events.

Use these tools to announce your meetings, dinners and special events in a timely manner.

Be sure to send your information to:
The Native Son - <nsgwfpc@comcast.net>
Monthly Mailer - <grandparlor@nsgw.org> <grandsecretary@nsgw.org>
NSGW Calendar - https://nsgw.org/calendar-of-events/

City of Salinas

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Councilmember, District 3
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Inspiring Brothers
By Brice Walker, Grand Trustee, Observatory #177

I have long believed that these beautiful words can be used to inspire greater participation from our parlors. I believe that our regular knife and fork members, who rarely get a chance to hear our rituals, could be inspired to do more than just show up for a monthly dinner. Getting these members to just one dedication can drive more participation. Since dedications are open to the public, members could invite their friends to share in the inspiring words, which could then drive conversations about the Native Sons, and added membership. So how do we do this?

Advertising of course! First of all, any time we have a dedication, every parlor within an hour’s drive should receive an extra notification. This can happen with the help of our Grand Secretary and our district deputies. The easiest thing we can do is advertise for ourselves, to ourselves. Notices on our nsgw.org website are another way, but we need to push visitors to that site so they will know. Working with other historical organizations can also build synergy to drive people to our events. Finally working with local news agencies is key. These events are usually well planned, and we have the time if we take it, to interact with these outlets to get our message out.

I am not saying anything new here. I am taking this opportunity to challenge every Native Son, from a regular member to all Grand Officers to start taking that extra step to promote Our Order. Let’s take this step together and make the changes we need to move into the future.

Texas Hold ‘Em tournament Chairman Mark Spaugh presents the Dwight Dutsche first-place trophy to Lynn Harmston of Amador #17. The annual event at the 146th Grand Parlor raised funds for our charitable organizations.
NEW MEMBERS

Native Son Parlor #0
Alexis Pacheco
Humboldt #14
Duane Hemley
William Quill
Amador #17
Leonard Weinrob
Excelsior #31
Colin Simonson
Thomas Moran
Solano #39
Tyler Smith
Elk Grove #41
Wyatt Froloff
Zackary Barnes
Napa #62
Richard Bottarini
Kathryn Creaves
George White
John Herkins IV
Archie Euser
Calistoga #86
Kerri Abreu
Wendy Johnson
Carol Uschyk
Ellen Frediani
Benicia #89
Stephen Dale
Mark Santos
Paul Freitas
Las Positas #96
Carlton Jamison Jr.
Ramona #109
Dominique Heffley
Arrowhead #110
Justin Prince
Allen Stanly
Christian Shaughnessy
Ryan Stanly
Paul Ortiz
Sherilyn Long
Frank Piralo

DEATHS

San Jose #22
Carlo Marenco
Haley–Alameda #47
Stephen Zecher
St. Helena #53
Peter Molinari Sr.
Auburn #59
Dennis Auftenkamp
Charles “Buddy” Bloxham
Ken Tokutomi
Mt. Tam #64
James Nichelini
Redwood #66
Mikke Lowrie
Vallejo #77
William B. Moore
Benicia #89
Rolland Van Blaricom
Ronald Azevedo
Carlo Braito
William Retz
Alfred Bertelloti
Mark Parish
Las Positas #96
Tad Anthienien
Anthony Escalona
Leonard Marchy
Sonoma #111
Angelo Sangiacomo
South SF #157
Thomas La Grave
Los Banos #206
Jean Arambel

NEW MEMBERS

Guadalupe #231
Linda Greer
Jeanette Ryan

CENTURY 21 Real Estate Alliance
Bob Evans (Evjenth)
Call: (650) 308-5902
Marketing Director
Cell: (415) 308-5902
bf_evans@pacbell.net
www.BobEvansSF.com

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CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

By BOB SANTOS

Here is a list of recent donations to our CF in Honor of 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. When you make a donation to the Charitable Foundation NSGW in Memory of a family member, friend or loved one an acknowledgement card is sent to the person you put down who you would like to receive it. You can use our donation envelopes or go to nsgw.org to copy or send your donation with instructions. We always send a card with the name and donor and also the name and donor will go into The Native Son.

In Memory of Ron Azevedo
Joe Neitzel

In Memory of Pat Riley
Robert & Kathy Santos
Bob & Martha French
Ron & Rita Holliday
Joe & Linda Neitzel
Fred & Denyce Codoni

To Cleft Palate Fund
Network for Good
Network for Good
Grand Parlor

In Memory of Denise Gouvaia
Robert & Kathy Santos

In Memory of Janet Kaye Peterson
Joe Neitzel

As the 146th Grand Parlor, the Doctors and Nurses from UCSF, Sutter Health and St. John’s Medical Center made excellent presentations on one-stop care that is available at their hospitals. Video and slide presentations were used to explain the new technology and use of the one-stop process care to cleft palate patients. Each hospital showed how our continued support has helped children with a cleft palate or craniofacial birth defect.

The doctors and nurses are very appreciative of the continued support from the Native Sons of the Golden West over these past 70 years.

The March was run by Paul Lapachet Chairman with Joe Ursino, Jim Wilmarth, Mike Linn and Robert Santos directors. At the table counting checks were Tom Perazzo and Fred Codoni.

These are only our preliminary counts at this time because all donations are not in yet are.

Parlors--------$55,871
Others--------$3,299
Memorial------$13,809
Pledges--------$5,750
TOTAL-------$78,729

This is very close to how we started out last year and we increased to $100,000 after the March. We are hoping the same will happen again this year. A donation now will provide immediate increased support to the hospitals. Dr. Vargerik of UCSF states “every penny of your gift is used to provide team care for the needy patients, and adhere to our promise of not turning any child away”.

If you missed the march and wish to make a donation please contact Robert Santos at rrsantos@sbcglobal.net; forms can be emailed. Any donation is most welcomed and appreciated.

The Board of Directors of the NSGWCF feels there is no more worthy cause than to ensure that all children, of whatever race, color or creed, have the opportunity to hold their heads up without shame or embarrassment. We are a separate nonprofit corporation and fully-accredited 501(c)(3) charitable organization. As such all donations are fully tax-deductible.

More information may be obtained from the Grand Secretary’s office 1-800-337-1875.

Thank you for your Generosity
The Board of Directors of the NSGWCF

Delegates in line to present their donations to the NSGW Charitable Foundation in the Annual Cleft Palate March.

PGP Paul Lapachet of the Charitable Foundation reads list of donations at the Cleft Palate March.

There are still seven months’ worth of prizes to be awarded to purchasers of the Native Sons of the Golden West Lucky Calendars. Daily prizes range from $20 to $500—and you can win more than once since tickets drawn are always replaced in the “barrel.” Calendars are available from the Grand Parlor office or parlor secretaries for $20. All proceeds go to help your Order.
Winn Honors Winn

[Burt Winn, great-great-grandson of our founder, General Albert Maver Winn, and president of Fairfax Parlor, celebrated Albert Winn’s birthday with a ceremony at the Winn grave in the Sacramento Pioneer Ceremony on May 7. We reprint Burt Winn’s talk here to let all our members know the storied history of our founder.]

We have come here today to celebrate and memorialize the birthday of the founder of the Native Sons of the Golden West, my Great-Great Grandfather General Albert Maver Winn. I have been here many times over the years and I wanted to share this experience with you.

Albert Winn was born on April 27, 1810, some 213 years ago, in Loudoun County, Virginia. After moving to Zanesville, Ohio, at age 16 he became a carpenter’s apprentice. He married Catherine Gaffney in 1829 and they moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi in 1832.

Conscription (the “draft”) was mandatory in Mississippi at that time, so Winn attended military training. A Southerner, Winn was made a colonel in the Mississippi Militia which became the Mississippi Rifles. He was on an election board that elected Jefferson Davis to Colonel of the First Mississippi Regiment of Volunteers and later served under Davis in the Mexican War. Politically, he was a Jackson Democrat.

During that time Winn also became President of the Master Carpenters and Joiners Society of Vicksburg, where his skills as an organizer led him to be ordered to bring his talents to settlements out west as part of the policy of Manifest Destiny.

Traveling by steamboat to New Orleans, then overland through what is now Northern Mexico to Durango, Winn continued to Mazatlan and took a boat north to San Francisco arriving on May 28, 1849, after waiting some two weeks for the fog to lift to find the Golden Gate.

Gold Rush Days

The Gold Rush had started.

Winn sailed to Sacramento and arrived at Sutter’s Fort on June 15, 1849. My late half-sister Beverly told me that during the cholera epidemic of 1850 Winn built coffins for the deceased using wood from the abandoned boats in San Francisco harbor. These boats were quickly abandoned and left when their passengers dashed off to the gold fields.

It is said that of all his many activities, Winn was most proud of founding the Native Sons of the Golden West and requested the Order perform his funeral service and bury him under a monument erected by the Native Sons.
Winn Keeps Organizing

In keeping with his long-held belief in 100% Americanism and fostering a lasting national identity on its native culture, in 1869, Winn attempted to organize a society to promote the culture and lineage of the founding fathers of American California based upon apprentices in the artisan and craftsmen trades.

This initial society failed because it faced a combination of hostility from big business and criminal discrimination from foreign ethnic political machines. So instead, Winn cultivated the members and in 1875 successfully rallied master craftsmen and small farmers in perfecting and establishing the organization which later became known as the Native Sons of the Golden West on July 11, 1875.

Why The Native Sons of the Golden West?

Speaking of his object in organizing the Order General Winn said: “For twenty years my mind had been running on some lasting style of monument to mark and perpetuate the discovery of gold. I could not think of anything that would not perish in course of time. At last, it came to my mind that an Order composed of native sons would affect the object and be sustained by pride of parentage and place of nativity, while it would be an imperishable memento, an institution that would last through all time.”

The following year, in honor of the centennial, he organized the descendants of the Revolutionary War to march in the Independence Day Parade at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco in 1876. After the march, he organized the body which went on to become the Sons of the American Revolution. This organization elected Winn as their first President, an office he held for five years.

He died in Sonoma on August 26, 1883

Winn’s Legacy

As I have described, Winn left a legacy: He helped build the current, modern, great state called California, a land of sunshine, gold, and vast opportunities in agriculture, fishing, mining, the arts and sciences. Now nearly the world’s fourth biggest economy, if she were a separate country, California is a leader in technology, entertainment (both movies and TV and digital), and has the fifth largest output of world food productions as well.

California is America’s gateway to Asia and the Pacific Rim and is a world financial and manufacturing center. The most populous state in the union, and third largest by area, California also leads in higher education, and is one of the favorite destinations for both world and domestic travelers. Many of the social, artistic, lifestyle, and political movements we enjoy today (or abhor!) started here.

There is a lot to see in California, from Disneyland to the Mojave Desert to the Redwood Empire; from rugged mountain wilderness to the seeming infinity of the Pacific Ocean beaches and the Pacific Ocean itself.

So, as we currently enjoy this legacy endowed upon us by our founders, Winn and others, we must keep one eye on this legacy, and preserve and enhance it. But with our other eye we must look to our future, a future that is so far unwritten and that we will create ourselves.

The Native Sons is now 147 years old. To preserve Winn’s dream of an “institution that would last through all time,” we should learn to accept and embrace the changes that are surely coming, just as they have come to us in the past. Change and growth are among the constants of living here.

California is a state, and the California Dream, a state of mind. California is an open place that welcomes the future, that defines the future, and embraces the future, and creates the future for that is our destiny.

So, with acceptance and openness we here today stand fast in the principles of Friendship, Loyalty, and Charity, to further the work Winn started in pursuing the California Dream and the dream of The Native Sons of The Golden West.

Thank You and Happy Birthday to Albert Maver Winn

General Winn's monument has been restored several times, the last time in 2004.

ABOVE: Grand President Schmidt displays one of the awards given him by the three grand vice presidents.
RIGHT: Members of Georgetown #91 prepared a fine barbecue for members and guests of the 146th Grand Parlor.
### MARCH CALENDAR WINNERS

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### APRIL CALENDAR WINNERS

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<td>Rebecca Clowers</td>
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## Monthly Calendar of Native Sons Parlor Meetings

**Compiled by Mitch Laing  NSGW28Mitch@gmail.com**  
**Website NSGW.ORG**  
**Revised February 2023**

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<th>Week</th>
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<td>1st</td>
<td>Halcyon-Alameda #47 7 PM</td>
<td>Amador #17 6:30PM Guadalupe #231 11:30AM San Jose #22 6:30PM Santa Lucia #97 7 PM Business</td>
<td>Argonaut #8 7PM Chispa #139 7PM Fairfax #307 7:30PM Business Ione #33 7PM Lodi #18 7PM Santa Cruz #90 6PM Solano #39 7PM Business Twin Peaks #214 7PM Washington #169 Sept-June Woodland #30 6PM</td>
<td>Excelsior #8 6:30PM JC Fremont #293 6:30PM National #118 11:30AM St Helena #53 Meeting Sunset #26 7 PM</td>
<td>Santa Ana #74 11:30AM</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Eden #113 7PM Elk Grove #41 7PM Humboldt #14 7:00PM Napa #62 6PM Business Sonoma #111 7PM Quartz #58 Sept-June</td>
<td>Auburn #59 7PM Fairfax #307 Luncheon Placerville #9 7pm San Luis Obispo #290 7PM Vallejo #77 7pm Yuba #55 6 pm</td>
<td>Byron #170 7pm Columbia #258 7PM Dolores #11 11:30AM Estudillo #223 5PM Business Ferndale #93 6 PM Dinner Hydraulic #56 6PM Los Banos #206 7PM Modesto #111 6:30PM Napa #183 7PM Pebble Beach #230 6:30pm Santa Rosa #28 6:30PM Dinner South SF #157 7PM</td>
<td>Benicia #89 (Dark July, Aug) Col.Holtermann #316 Gabilan #132 6:30pm Georgetown #91 6:30pm Las Positas #96 7PM Mt Tamalpais #64 6PM Piedmont #120 6PM Ramona #109 7PM Meeting Redwood #66 7:30PM</td>
<td>Konoti #159 12PM (When Able) Los Angeles #45 (Rio Hondo + University) 10AM Juan Sanchez Adobe in Montebello</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Napa #62 6pm Social Santa Ana #74 8PM Santa Lucia #97 6:00PM Dinner Sutter #261 Sept-June</td>
<td>Watsonville #65 1PM</td>
<td>De Anza #312 6:15PM Fairfax #307 7:30PM Dinner Ferndale #93 7PM Business Golden Gate #29 7:30PM Humboldt #14 7:30PM Ione #33 7PM Lodi #18 7PM Observatory #177 5:30PM Solano #39 6PM Social Twin Peaks #214 7PM Washington #169 Sept-June</td>
<td>Monterey #76 6PM Silver Star #63 7PM (Dark July, Aug June &amp; Dec Dinners 6PM)</td>
<td>Chispa Social Dinner Redwood #66 Bear Lodge (May-Oct)</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>Eden #113 7PM Dinner Humboldt #14 Dinner Napa #62 6PM Business</td>
<td>Auburn #59 7PM Calistoga #86 7PM Fairfax #307 Luncheon San Jose #22 11:30AM Arrowhead #110 6PM Dinner 7PM Meeting Estudillo #223 6PM Social 7PM Dinner Presidio #194 1PM South SF #157 7PM Stockton #7 6:30PM</td>
<td>Las Positas #96 7PM *Last Thurs (4th or 5th) Piedmont #120 6PM San Miguel #150 7PM St Helena #53 Dinner</td>
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**Verify Meeting Times and Locations – Parlor Contacts Listed in The Directory**  
Downieville #92 On Call  

Email Corrections to Mitch Laing via  NSGW28Mitch@gmail.com
The 146th Grand Parlor in South Lake Tahoe was an extremely successful event for Native Sons of the Golden West and for the Historical Preservation Foundation. The HPF had nine directors in attendance, the new HPF brochure was released, and many new long-term relationships have been formed. Several new possible grant opportunities to increase Native Sons of the Golden West’s exposure have been discussed, new sources for donations to improve the HPF’s abilities to provide grants have been shared, and ideas for new activities to promote fundraising have been evaluated.

It is a good time to reflect on essence of the Historical Preservation Foundation. Per its articles of incorporation, the Historical Preservation Foundation is “to preserve, protect and educate regarding the amazing history of the Great State of California.” Supporting the Historical Preservation Foundation has been a source of pride for members of the Native Sons of the Golden West for decades as it fulfills its mission to preserve, protect and educate everyone on the wonder that is California and its great history.


The Historical Preservation Foundation continues to need your help to keep providing grants to fund historically significant education and restoration projects. All donations help to keep our Foundation operating. Any amount can assist the Historical Preservation Foundation to continue to support the mission of the Native Sons of the Golden West to preserve, protect, restore, and educate the world about California’s incredible history and treasures.

The Historical Preservation Foundation looks forward to the 147th Grand Parlor Year, collaborating with several more parlors on fundraising and worthy projects. Please feel free to reach out to your local Director of the HPF, as listed below, if you have new ideas for fundraisers, or if you have a recommendation of a corporate or individual donor that you feel we should approach, or information about a project that you feel should be investigated and supported that will enhance California Historical Preservation and Education.

We look forward to working hard for each and every Native Son for the coming year. We appreciate the opportunity to assist the Native Sons of the Golden West to prosper and grow.

**HPF Board of Directors 2023-2024**

**Greater San Francisco Area Directors**
- Dan Ryan - Dano1888@yahoo.com - 510-331-3355
- Doug Love - Doug1066@gmail.com - 707-328-6177
- Marcia Skelton - Nsgwskelton@gmail.com - 650-787-8779
- Robert Bruno - bigbobbbruno@gmail.com - 650 678-7641
- Dennis Valerio - Dennis.valerio@comcast.net - 510-523-4101
- Brice Walker - Valk_man@yahoo.com - 408-623-1014

**Greater Southern California Area Directors**
- Joe Castillo - joe castillo@aol.com - 626-205-0017
- Alfred Jones - Siraj5773@gmail.com - 530-693-8089

**Gold Country Area Directors**
- Lee Adams - Hangman@ips.net - 530-289-3506
- Jedidiah Watson - I.Haas.food@gmail.com - 816-352-5410
- Steve McLean - Mclean616@att.net - 209-304-0094
- Jeff Schmidt - Jschmidt@gmail.com - 530-333-3210

**Greater Northern California Area Directors and Liaison to Grand Parlor**
- Carl von Bargen - Orovillegolf@gmail.com - 530-828-2039

**Thanks from HPF**

During the week of May 14 through May 19, the Foundation had a hospitality room open at the 146th Grand Parlor in South Lake Tahoe. Chairman Carl von Bargen and the Board of Directors wish to thank the volunteers who staffed the room, especially Sean and Lisa Roden, Karen von Bargen and Bree Aichele. Finally, we wish to thank all of the donors for their generosity and support. Without all of you, we could not continue to fulfill our mission of preserving California’s rich history for future generations.

Thank you.