

# THE NATIVE SON

VOLUME 62

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2023

NO. 2

## Celebrate Admission Day Sept. 8

In honor of our commitment to keeping California's history alive, we will be celebrating Admission Day on Friday, September 8 at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco.

The Native Sons and Daughters Parlors of the San Francisco District invite everyone to join in a luncheon, guest speakers and a fund-raising raffle.

Social hour is at 11:30 a.m., with lunch served at 12:15. Choice of entrees are Prime Rib au Jus, Salmon with Champagne Sauce or Vegetarian Pasta. Price is \$50 per person, which includes one raffle ticket.

There will be remarks by NDGW Grand President Rae Ann Rosas and NSGW Grand President George Adams. Keynote speaker is NDGW Past Grand President Dawn M. Dunlap

All proceeds from the celebration benefit the NSGW Historical Preservation Foundation and the NSGW Historical Home, the latter to assist with the continual upkeep and preservation of the Julia Morgan-designed Native Daughters Home in San Francisco.

Reservations are required no later than September 3. Make checks payable to "Golden Gate Parlor #29, NSGW." Please

Native Sons of the Golden West  
Native Daughters of the Golden West  
The Statehood Day Committee  
invites you to join us in honoring the  
Admission of California as the  
31<sup>st</sup> State into the Union.

## STATEHOOD DAY CELEBRATION

September 8, 2023

## SoCal Weekend Oct. 13-15

The Annual Southern California Weekend will be held in San Bernardino October 13-15.

Friday, October 13 will feature a reception in the Enterprise Building, with dinner on your own.

Tentative plans call for a dedication and initiation at the Enterprise Building (formerly the historic Andersen Building) on Saturday, October 14. The dinner location and the hotel are still being selected

Sunday, October 15 will be at St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica, with a possible dedication at 10 a.m., with Mass at 10:30.

The Charitable Foundation check presentation will take place after Mass, followed by a brunch.

More details will be available later in the year.

include your e-mail address, telephone number, parlor name and number, and choice of entrée. Send to Donna Fletcher, 1284 Skyline Drive, Daly City, CA 94015. Information from Donna at (415) 269-0859 [rdfflet29@yahoo.com](mailto:rdfflet29@yahoo.com). or Suzi Riley at (650) 465-5691 [ninersr@aol.com](mailto:ninersr@aol.com).

Free parking is available at the Basque Cultural Center.



## Mt. Tam, Fairfax Merge

Faced with declining and aging membership, the members of Mt. Tamalpais #64 voted unanimously to merge with Fairfax #307. The merger was finalized in mid-July.

Mt. Tam, one of the oldest parlors in the Order, was famous for its drum and bugle corps which often vied with Marin County's Sea Point Parlor's corps for honors in the frequent competitions which occurred before and shortly after World War II.

Mt. Tam was well-known for its annual chicken barbecues at Novato's Silveira Ranch which often drew several hundred Native Sons and guests.

Perhaps Mt. Tam's most well-known member was the late Artie Hecht ("Mr. San Rafael") who loved to sing our state song (all the verses!).

Fairfax Parlor welcomed its new brothers with a lunch on July 25. Attending were thirteen former Mt. Tam members, including Brother Jack Streckfus, 94, a 77-year member of the Order.



*Brother Jack Streckfus (right), a 77-year member of the Mt. Tamalpais Parlor, gives the thumbs-up to to Fairfax Parlor at a welcome luncheon July 25.*



LOTT'S LAKE

## Lott's Lake Report

By DAN FOPPE, Lott's Lake Chairman

With the snow finally melted, the Lott's Lake work week is now scheduled for August 29 through September 3.

Work to be completed is on the upper outhouse that burned down, Fun things to do include a fishing contest, .22 shoot and a pot-luck dinner. 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 [dnrtermite@gmail.com](mailto:dnrtermite@gmail.com).

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





## Native Son Official Passport Available

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.

## Napa “Shrimp Peel”

Napa #62 will have a “Shrimp Peel” at its hall on Monday, August 21. Price of \$20 include dinner and drinks. Cocktails are at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7. Reservations, call (707) 224-3213.

## Santa Rosa Parlor Has Monthly Dinners

Santa Rosa #28 welcomes Native Sons, families and friends to the parlor’s monthly dinners.

Held the 2nd Wednesday of the month, dinner is typically \$15 and includes beer, wine, soda and water, although donations toward drinks are always appreciated. (or bring something to share and leave for next month)

Santa Rosa Hall is located at 3318 Stony Point Rd South of Santa Rosa proper, just North of Todd Rd. Social is 6:30 p.m., dinner is served at 7.

August 9th dinner is a Steak BBQ which is \$20 to cover extra costs.

September 13 is scheduled to be Chicken & Polenta.

October 11 will be “something for the fall.”

November 11 is special Saturday Thanksgiving traditional dinner served at 5 p.m. always well attended by brothers and family.

December 13 is the parlor’s annual Christmas Buffet and Raffle. Attendees are asked to bring a gift to be raffled off with proceeds going to Cleft Palate Charitable Foundation.

Carpooling is advised and reservations are a must! Call Mark at (707) 350-1116 by the Friday prior to dinner.

Deadline for  
advertising and editorial submissions  
for the October-November issue  
of *The Native Son* is  
September 15, 2023

## Fairfax Lunches, Dinners Continue

All Native Sons and prospective members are invited to Fairfax Parlor’s monthly dinners on the third Wednesday of each month and its lunches on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the parlor hall.

Next dinner on August 16 will feature appetizers. Cocktails and fellowship are at 6 p.m., during which we will have our traditional appetizers of tomato cheese bread and stuffed mushroom caps. Dinner at 7:30 features salad, French bread, asparagus, risotto and steak, followed by dessert. Price is \$20 per person

Make reservations with Kevin Courtz, Reservations at 415 717-4018 / [kcsbscourt@aol.com](mailto:kcsbscourt@aol.com).

Next lunches are on August 8 and 22. Price is \$10 per person, with wine, beer and soft drinks available for purchase. Reservations from Kevin Courtz.

## Prawn Feed Sept. 16 at Estudillo Parlor

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](mailto:fleischman2882@att.net) or with Dan Shumaker at (925) 783-3070.

Parlor Meetings	
Amador #17	Calistoga #86
Argonaut #8	Chispa #139
Auburn #59	Col. Nelson M. Holderman #316
Benicia #89	Columbia #258
Byron #170	De Anza #312

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NSGW Project, Event, Initiation, Dedication, Etc.	NSGW Project, Event, Initiation, Dedication, Etc.
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## GRAND PRESIDENT

Being only two months into my Presidency I have been able to visit many parlor meetings and events. One of the most memorable to date is my visit to Petaluma Nicasio #183 parlor to hand out four of the fifty-year pins. It was an honor to celebrate a cumulative of 200 years of membership.

Membership has many facets, all of which play an important part of the survival of our organization and its relevancy to our communities. We must find a way to be relevant in the minds of those who wish to join us.



Find where each member fits into the puzzle that makes us complete. Many hands make light work but so too each must feel the fulfillment in their endeavors to create a more wanton need to push forward in our journey of preservation and social contributions.

Open and inviting events expanding our fellowship with an extended hand of an inviting friendship will help to open

the doors for more opportunity of membership. Think out of the box. Look for other organizations' events that we may team up with for an opportunity to promote our vision of historical preservation and charitable contributions. All members should be involved in some way that contributes to the ever-progressive carbon footprint we wish to achieve.

Moving out of your local bubble can help to show the strength in our numbers. Spread the word and visit our other parlors events. Pitch in where an extra hand is needed and don't wait to be asked to help, ask "where can I help?". Get involved!! You can be added to the email list for many of the parlor newsletters as well as visiting the NSGW website.

When you see an event you wish to attend find family and friend to bring along. There is much work to be done and your efforts to help carry the workload so that we can continue to thrive will guarantee our longevity.

*The Native Son* welcomes your letters and opinion pieces. We believe every member of our Order is entitled to speak on subjects relating to the Native Sons of the Golden West.

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

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:grandparlor@nsgw.org).**

## OPINION

### For the Good of the Order

**By BRICE WALKER, Grand Trustee, Observatory #177**

Last May at Tahoe, at the Grand Presidents first dedication, I heard a reporter interviewing one of our members. She asked him, "What does being a Native Son mean to you?" That question can lead to a lot of thoughts on the appropriate way to answer. My answer is simple. Being a Native Son means a lifetime obligation to something greater than yourself. I would like to push that thought one step further. I believe that it is a more than lifetime obligation to something greater than yourself, and I am going to explain why.

While we are here, we should strive to be the best Native Son that we can be. Additionally, we should be working on building a legacy that lives after we are gone. How do we do that? First is parlor participation. We need to attend all parlor functions and support our parlors. Another way to build that legacy is to get involved outside your parlor. You can do this by visiting other parlors for a dinner meeting or special event. Synergy between parlors is a great way to build each parlor up, a way to inspire ourselves outside of attending functions at our own parlor.

Yet another way, is to get involved at the Grand Parlor level. Attend any dedications or initiations that are close to you. Attend special events like Discovery of Gold or Statehood Day celebrations. Become a delegate to Grand Parlor, attend all sessions and vote responsibly on all of the resolutions. This is the best way to support our order and help shape how we move towards the future. Of course, the highest duty and honor is to run for a Grand Officer position and work your way through the chairs and become Grand President. This last item seals in a legacy that will last long after we have gone to the Grand Parlor on High. So aspire to do more, be present, and be an inspiration to all Native Sons!

## OPINION

### Same Old Problem, Same Old (Partial) Solution

**Fred Codoni, Managing Editor**

When will it be time to relax our requirement for members to be born in California? It made sense when we had 27,000 members and were the leading fraternal organization in the State. It still made sense when I joined over fifty years ago and we had more than one hundred parlors, more than 15,000 members and yearly increases in membership.

Now some of us believe our beloved Order cannot sustain itself with a membership of around only 5,000, continuing losses and dissolution of several subordinate parlors.

Let's think hard about allowing membership for those who were born out of California but who share our love for the State and an abiding interest in its history.

Once a "whites-only" fraternal society (as were most all fraternal societies in America), many years ago we erased all references to race in our Constitution. Then in 1995 we allowed women into our ranks. Both those changes have been beneficial to the Native Sons of the Golden West.

Admitting non-natives won't solve our membership problem entirely, but it will help strengthen our Order.

We can't wait any longer. We respect our historical requirement that members be native born. But our love for the Native Sons of the Golden West trumps that requirement. Let's allow our non-native friends to join. Looks like it's sink or swim.



**OPINION**

**Not All Change is Good**  
**By FRED CODONI**

[The opinions in the following, originally published in Fairfax Parlor’s Newsletter, do not necessarily reflect those of Fairfax Parlor or the Grand Parlor. While the references are to Fairfax, the same situations exist statewide as local control is being destroyed.]

We recently bid farewell to one of our brothers who is moving to Idaho. We don’t know why he’s moving, but we believe we know why many other Californians are deserting the state.

California is still beautiful and full of wondrous scenery from mountains to the sea, from north to south, but the “livability” of our state continues to erode. Perhaps the most egregious problem is the state’s mandate for housing, requiring hundreds of thousands of new homes and removing local control from any town or city that doesn’t comply with the state’s requirements. Little Fairfax will be forced to create hundreds of new dwellings—where? There’s hardly a vacant lot in town. Multi-story buildings might be the answer, but what will that do to the character of Fairfax? Where will we get more water? And then there’s traffic, which is already gridlocked. We know we need more housing but we really can’t handle much more than we have and still retain our way of life. Selfish? Probably, but also realistic.

And then there’s the so-called “renters’ rights” state and local legislation which basically severely limits the rights of landlords, in regard to which the Fairfax Town Council has authored a much more restrictive than the already-restrictive state mandate.

We could go on with this, but you’d probably stopped reading. As a fourth-generation Marin native, your editor has seen a lot of change in his 88 years—some good (Marin’s public land now preserved forever) and some bad (see above). Were we a lot younger, we’d consider leaving Marin and California for a place—such as Idaho—where the freedoms we enjoyed in Marin as we grew up, freedoms that are now severely restricted by our town and state—still exist.

We wish good luck to those who are brave enough to stay. It’s going to get worse.

**Check Our You Tube Page!**

The Native Sons of the Golden West has a You Tube Page. It’s easy to find: just go to You Tube and key in “Native Sons of the Golden West” and you’ll find a treasure trove of new and historic information about our Order. Grand Outside Sentinel and Flag Day Chairman Sean Padgett challenges everybody to go onto it, subscribe to the channel and comment on any one of the videos.

NEVER FORGET  
 THE CARDINAL VIRTUES  
 OF THE NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST:  
 FRIENDSHIP, LOYALTY, CHARITY

**Laing Says “Thanks”**

Brothers:

I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve our order as a Grand Officer these past 1001 days. This past year, as your Grand Marshal, I had the pleasure and honor of traveling 13,875 miles, often with now Jr Past Grand President Jeff Schmidt as well as other Grand Officers (thanks Gary Padgett, Dave Schaefer, George Adams, Larry Schork, Kris Nelson and others) visiting and attending well over 50 Parlors and Events and feeling welcomed each and every time I walked in the door.

From Fortuna/Eureka to El Centro, Fairfax to Murphys, be it North, East, South, or West, everywhere there is a NSGW Parlor in California, as a Brother, we are welcome to visit and participate.

I look forward to the slight slowdown this year, moving back to Supervising District Deputy Grand President I held prior, but still have plans to continue travels here in the Golden State and keep Jeff’s On the California Trail momentum going!

Get out there yourself and enjoy what’s available for you #On-theCaliforniaTrail.

In Friendship, Loyalty and Charity  
 Mitch Laing  
 Former Grand Marshal 2022-2023



*PGP Joe Neitzel of Solano #39 was presented with his Lapsation Committee Award given by then-GP Schmidt at the 146th GP. Pictured with Joe are Grand 2nd VP Gary Padgett and SDDGP Steve Day.*

**SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER**

Since budget constraints forced us to eliminate U. S. Mail editions of *The Native Son*, many of our brothers who don’t have e-mail no longer receive our state newsletter.

All of our members need to know what’s going on in the Order. Perhaps you or your parlor secretary can print PDFs of this edition and:

- (1) post it on your parlor billboard if you have one;
- (2) have copies on hand at parlor meetings;
- (3) Send U. S. Mail copies to those members who do not (or are unable to) attend meetings.

Help us keep everyone informed!





**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](http://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](mailto:nsgwfpc@comcast.net)>

Monthly Mailer -

<[grandparlor@nsgw.org](mailto:grandparlor@nsgw.org)> <[grandsecretary@nsgw.org](mailto: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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 City Web Page: [www.ci.salinas.ca.us](http://www.ci.salinas.ca.us)

**THE NATIVE SON**

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 Native Sons of the Golden West

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 Managing Editor, 162 Porteous Avenue, Fairfax,  
 CA 94930 or by e-mail to [nsgwfpc@comcast.net](mailto:nsgwfpc@comcast.net)



**NEW MEMBERS**

**MAY 2023 INITIATIONS**

**Humboldt #14**

Steven Pritchard  
William Tregeser

**Golden Gate #29**

Eileen Lyles  
Steve Lyles

**Napa #62**

Richard Bottarini

**Georgetown#91**

Mark Bain  
John Cany

**Las Positas #96**

Daniel Stice

**Arrowhead #110**

Justin Prince  
Allen Stanly

Christian Shaughnessy

Ryan Stanly

Paul Ortiz

Sherilyn Long

Frank Piralo

**Gabilan #132**

Jeremy Green

**Chispa #139**

William A. Brubaker

**Los Banos #206**

Eduardo Espericueta

**San Luis Obispo #290**

Nora O'Donnell

**JUNE 2023 INITIATIONS**

**Woodland #30**

Steve Burgess

Jaedra Burgess

**Silver Star #63**

Joleen Williams

Diana M. Krentz

Michael Gustafson

**Redwood #66**

Michael Lo Schiavo

Steve Iwaki

**Benicia #89**

Mitchell Spahn

David Hayer

Nathan Hadaway

Dennis Lewis

Ian Dillingham

Arrowhead #110

John Mezia

Chrish Batyi

Jose Acquirre

Diana Cosand

Sonoma #111

Michael Ahern

San Luis Obispo #290

Keneth Bosch

Fairfax #307

Patrick Kelly

Kyle Miller

Matt Dacunha

Frank Maresca

Brendan Clifford

Geoff Johnson

**DEATHS**

**MAY 2023 DEATHS**

**Humboldt #14**

William Quill

**Eden #113**

James Batemen

**Chispa #139**

Douglas R. Brown

**Los Banos #206**

Jean Arambel

**JUNE 2023 DEATHS**

Amador #17

Michael Joseph Profumo

Arrowhead #110

John W. Anderson

Sonoma #111

Richard Facciola

National #118

Thomas Kassimos

Harry Pallas

Washington #169

John Perry

Petaluma-Nicasio #183

William Dabner

Robert Baker Jr.

Los Banos #206

Arthur Ramos

Columbia #258

David Brown

Fairfax #307

Henry Bellatorre



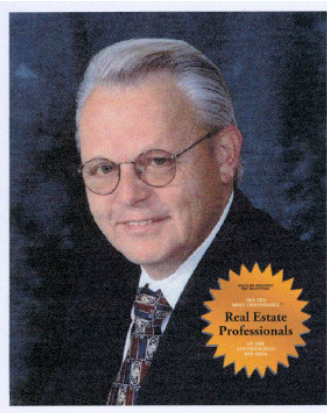
COMPASS

My business specializes in buying and selling a mix of residential, commercial and multifamily properties. As a landlord and developer, I am actively involved in my community. A proud member of the Native Sons Twin Peaks Parlor 214, The Olympic Club, Apartment Owners Association, SPUR, and The Residential Builders Association.

Please contact me today for all your real estate needs or questions.

**KM** Kevin McCollom  
415.710.8713  
KevinSF.com  
DRE 01947291

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# HISTORICAL PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

By **CARL VON BARGEN**

The 147th Grand Parlor Year is off to a spectacular start for Native Sons of the Golden West and for the Historical Preservation Foundation. The Historical Preservation Foundation had elections in early June. PGP Joe Castillo has ascended to Director Emeritus, joining PGP Barney Noel, PGP James Shadle, PGP Dwight Dutschke, PGP David Allen, Tony Colenese, and PGP "Bubba" Hargis. Additionally, Marcia Skeleton, Jedidiah Watson and GT Brice Walker were recommended by incoming Grand President George Adams and confirmed by the HPF Board of Directors unanimously. Finally, our new ex-officio members of the HPF Board are as follows: GP George

Adams, G2ndVP Gary Padgett, GT Richard Cortez and GT Ethan Phillips as Liaison to the Grand Parlor Board.

Already 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 our mission to preserve, protect and educate everyone on the wonder that is California and its great history.

The Board of Directors of the Historical Preservation Foundation would like to thank the following parlors and their members for their very generous donations for this 147th Grand Parlor Year: Fairfax Parlor 307, Michael Obrien (Redwood 66), Calistoga Parlor 86 and GP George Adams and his whole crew that made the special fundraiser so successful.

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 various events during the 147th Grand Parlor Year, including the Admission Day Event at the Basque Cultural Center in San Bruno, the Rededication of the Broderick-Terry Duel plaque in Daly City, Piedmont Parlor's Rowell Ranch Annual Picnic and the Ione Dinner BBQ. We look forward to discussing ideas for fundraising and worthy projects to showcase what Native Sons of the Golden West are all about. 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

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Richard Cortez - [Nsgwrichardcortez@gmail.com](mailto:Nsgwrichardcortez@gmail.com) - 707-499-7843

## WE LOOK BACK

### Federal Prohibition Men Raid Patroni's Resort San Mateo Daily News-Leader, July 23, 1923

While the Halfmoon Bay Parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West was holding a banquet at Patroni's at Princeton on Saturday night, Federal agents working out of San Francisco swooped down upon the place and removed a bottle of wine from each place. The party was a largely merry one according to some of the guests, and wine was provided at each plate. There was no disturbance when the officers arrived, but when they left all of the wine left with them or had been destroyed, and from that time on the banquet was termed a dismal failure. Giovanni Patroni, proprietor of the place, was arrested and charged with illegal possession and usage of liquor, and was ordered to appear in San Francisco today before the Federal commissioner for arraignment.

### Native Sons Sponsor Boy Scout Troop Set of Marching Flags is Presented at Public Meeting Here

Humboldt Times, September 1, 1923

At a public meeting last night at Pioneer hall, Humboldt Parlor No. 14, N. S. G. W. presented to Scout troop No. 2 of Eureka a set of marching flags. The presentation address was delivered by C. L. McKnerney the Grand Director of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

After outlining the scope of the work of the Native Sons and their loyalty to the State of California, Mr. McKnerney explained to the boy scout troop the historical significance of the American flag, and the "Bear" flag, which is the flag of the Republic of California and the emblem of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

At the conclusion of the presentation the scout troop entertained the visitors and the Native Sons with a knot tying contest, first aid drills and a representation of their marching formation.





# RETRO RAMBLINGS

**By: DOUGLAS LOVE, Grand Trustee, Napa Parlor #62**

Sitting on a windswept bluff above Eureka sit the remains of one of the most important military outposts on the west coast. There isn't much there today, a couple of buildings, one of which is a reconstruction, some informational signs and an outdoor exhibit of logging equipment; but in its heyday, Fort Humboldt played an important part in the military history of the west coast and of the United States.

The end of the Mexican War and the discovery of gold brought sweeping changes to California. Before the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill, immigration to California had all but come to a standstill, partially due to the press reports of the ill-fated Donner-Reed Party and the start of the Mexican War. Yet, the situation changed with President Polk's announcement in his December 5th State of the Union address that:

It was known that mines of the precious metals existed to a considerable extent in California at the time of its acquisition. Recent discoveries render it probable that these mines are more extensive and valuable than was anticipated. The accounts of the abundance of gold in that territory are of such an extraordinary character as would scarcely command belief were they not corroborated by the authentic reports of officers in the public service who have visited the mineral district and derived the facts which they detail from personal observation.

## Argonauts Stream to California

Argonauts from around the world began making their way to California. These individuals fanned out across the state, looking for gold in every stream and river. Before long, the prospectors, miners, gold seekers, traders, and con men who rushed into California came into conflict with the Californios and Indigenous People who already lived here. More importantly, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo guaranteed that the United States would respect the "property, language, and culture" of Mexicans now living in the United States. As a result, many of the United States army troops who had fought in Mexico now found themselves being sent to California to perform garrison duty and to shore up United States control of the land at the edge of the continent.

The discovery of gold on the Trinity River by Major Pierson B. Redding, for whom the City of Redding is named, in July of 1848 opened what had once been a remote area of California to non-Indigenous settlement and in 1849 and 1850 thousands of gold seekers entered the area. With the influx of new people came inevitable conflict.

The Europeans and others who flooded the area soon had a multitude of gold claims almost entirely without Indigenous permission or consideration for the traditional boundaries of tribal settlement. There were

violent clashes between the Indigenous peoples and the interlopers. The devastation wreaked upon the Indigenous people of the area is well documented and is deserving of a more detailed telling than I have room for here; suffice to say that depending on the tribe and the estimate, 75 to 95% of the Indigenous population died through a combination of disease, competition for resources, starvation, and outright murder.

## Fort Humboldt is Established

In January 1853, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Robert C. Buchanan and the 4th U.S. Infantry arrived to establish Fort Humboldt and mediate between the Natives and settlers in the region. By 1857 there were 14 buildings situated on the bluff overlooking Humboldt Bay. The Army's mission to bring peace between the European settlers and Indigenous tribes was hampered from the beginning.

The settlers in the area wanted the Native Peoples removed to reservations and did not support the idea of the military authorities negotiating with the tribes. Seven treaties were negotiated and signed with the tribes who lived between Clear Lake and the Klamath River. None of those treaties were ever ratified and the Natives never received any of the land nor any other considerations which were contained in the treaties.

While unsuccessfully trying to maintain a sustainable peace between the settlers, gold seekers and the native peoples, Fort Humboldt also served as a supply depot for many other forts and outposts in Northern California and Southern Oregon. On January 5, 1854, Captain Ulysses S. Grant arrived at Fort Humboldt to serve as the quartermaster and take command of Company F, 4th Infantry.

Grant and Buchanan did not get along and the tedium of garrison duty did not sit well with Grant. He was a newlywed and missed his wife and he felt very isolated and depressed. He often rode to a

*See RETRO, page 10*



*Today, only the hospital building remains of the original fourteen structures. It is now an historical museum dedicated to telling the story of the Fort and the Native American groups, including the Wiyot, Hoopa and Yurok of this region. In the 1980's the Surgeon's Quarters was reconstructed and there are plans for its establishment as a period house museum. In 2001 an historic herb and vegetable garden was recreated adjacent to the Hospital.*



**RETRO** *continued*

nearby tavern and found solace in drink. After being reprimanded, Grant resigned his commission effective July 31, 1854 and went home.

Grant was not the only soon-to-be-famous officer to be stationed at Fort Humboldt: Gabriel Rains, who became a Confederate Brigadier General; George R. Crook, who rose to fame during the Civil and Indian Wars; and Dr. Lafayette Guild, who became Medical Director of the Army of Northern Virginia—all served at Fort Humboldt.

**Indigenous People Massacred**

On February 26, 1860, one of the darkest incidents in the history of California occurred, one that the garrison of Fort Humboldt was supposed to prevent. On that day, a group of “vigilantes,” calling themselves the “Humboldt Volunteers, Second Brigade,” attacked and massacred 80-250 Wiyot people who lived on Tuluwat Island in Humboldt Bay. Called the “Indian Island Massacre,” this event showed just how ineffective the U.S. Army was at protecting the native people.

Many of the survivors of the massacre were put in “protective custody” at Fort Humboldt and eventually transferred to Klamath

River Reservation. The island was then owned and ranched by European settlers. It was also the site of a shipyard. In 2019, the City of Eureka deeded the island back to the Wiyot people.

With the coming of the Civil War, the regular U.S. Army troops were withdrawn from Fort Humboldt. The fort was garrisoned by units of the California Volunteers. In 1866, the US Army re-garrisoned the fort and it was abandoned in 1867. As surplus land it was sold to W. S. Cooper in 1893; the Cooper family owned the site of the fort and its one remaining building until 1923, when Mrs. Laura Cooper donated the land to the City of Eureka as a public park. In 1955, Eureka deeded the site to the state and Fort Humboldt became a state historic park in 1963. The park is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

**GETTING THERE:** The park’s address is 3431 Fort Avenue, Eureka, CA 95503. Phone number: (707) 488-2041. From San Francisco take US 101 North to Highland Avenue in Eureka, a total of 266 miles. Turn right onto Highland Avenue and then left onto Fort Avenue. The park is on your left.

**“I Love You California”**

Do you know all the lyrics of our State Song? After all, Native Sons and Daughters were largely responsible for the adoption of “I Love You California” as California’s State song! Here are the complete lyrics, as composed by A. F. Frankenstein and F. B. Silverwood in 1913.

I love you California, you’re the greatest state of all.  
I love you in the winter, summer, spring, and in the fall.  
I love your fertile valleys, your dear mountains I adore.  
I love your grand old ocean and I love her rugged shore.

**CHORUS**

Where the snow crowned Golden Sierras, Keep their watch o’er the valleys bloom.

It is there I would be in our land by the sea, Every breeze bearing rich perfume.

It is here nature gives of her rarest. It is Home Sweet Home to me.

And I know when I die I shall breathe my last sigh, For my sunny California.

I love your redwood forests - love your fields of yellow grain.  
I love your summer breezes, and I love your winter rain.  
I love you, land of flowers; land of honey, fruit and wine.  
I love you, California; you have won this heart of mine.

I love your old gray Missions - love your vineyards stretching far.  
I love you, California, with your Golden Gate ajar.  
I love your purple sunsets, love your skies of azure blue.  
I love you, California; I just can’t help loving you.

I love you, Catalina - you are very dear to me.  
I love you, Tamalpais, and I love Yosemite.  
I love you, Land of Sunshine.  
Half your beauties are untold.  
I loved you in my childhood, and I’ll love you when I’m old.

**CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

By **BOB SANTOS**

Here is a list of recent donations to our Charitable Foundation 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 NSGW Charitable Foundation in Memory of a family member, friend or loved one a acknowledgement card is sent to the person you put down who you like to receive it. You can use our donation envelopes or go to [nsgw.org](http://nsgw.org) to copy and send your donation with instructions. We always send a card with name and donor and also send it in to *The Native Son*.

**In Honor of Dean Zellers PGP**

Jaye Lapachet

**In Memory of Joseph John Sangiacomo**

Robert & Kathy Santos

May X. Lapachet

Joe & Marilou Ursino

Jerry & Sandra Driscoll

Jan Fauss

Suzi Riley NDGW PGP

Jo Ann Marotto

**How to Give.** Giving to Cleft Palate can be done either directly or through a gift model that can provide tax benefits. Also, a gift can be given through your employer matching funds. Check with your tax consultant for different programs.

From Dr. Vargerik of UCSF “Every penny of your gift is used to provide team care for our needy patients, and we adhere to our promise of not turning any child away.

**Mission Statement.** The Native Sons of the Golden West Charitable Foundation is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to helping children who are born with a cleft lip and palate and other craniofacial birth defects.

**Hospital Donations.** At its last meeting the CF board has tentatively schedule hospital donations with St. John’s in Santa Monica in October, UCSF in November and Sutter’s Health in December. Actual dates have not been set yet and donation schedule may change.



**MAY CALENDAR WINNERS**

**JUNE CALENDAR WINNERS**

\$20	Jason Ferreira	Aptos	1-May-23
\$20	Paul Giusto	Sonoma	2-May-23
\$20	Victor Crespi	San Francisco	3-May-23
\$20	Sarah Malcomb	Fortuna	4-May-23
\$20	John Souza	Manchester	5-May-23
\$75	Daniel Valerio	Chico	6-May-23
\$20	Kathy Romines	Acworth	7-May-23
\$20	Thomas Kyne	San Anselmo	8-May-23
\$20	John Banks	Petaluma	9-May-23
\$20	Mark Rodriguez	Sacramento	10-May-23
\$20	Taylan Alves	Fremont	11-May-23
\$20	Edward Silva	Santa Rosa	12-May-23
\$75	Gabriella Salcido	Pleasant View	13-May-23
\$20	Daniel Holley	Murphys	14-May-23
\$20	Leanne Velasco	San Jose	15-May-23
\$20	Judi Thacker	San Miguel	16-May-23
\$20	Shirley A. Post	San Luis Obispo	17-May-23
\$20	Michael Ryan	Danville	18-May-23
\$20	Carol Liley	San Leandro	19-May-23
\$75	Dan Houk	Pleasanton	20-May-23
\$20	NSGW #62	Napa	21-May-23
\$20	Fairfax Parlor #307	Fairfax	22-May-23
\$20	Brice Walker	San Jose	23-May-23
\$20	Leo O'Brien	Fremont	24-May-23
\$20	Cody Bright	Folsom	25-May-23
\$20	Dawnda Schaefer	Santa Rosa	26-May-23
\$75	JoAnn Alonzo	Pacifica	27-May-23
\$20	Ray Galligan	Sonoma	28-May-23
\$20	Bill Schwoerer	Murphys	29-May-23
\$20	Larry Day	Fairfield	30-May-23
\$150	Fred Montini	Sonoma	31-May-23

\$20	Shery Harmston	Sutter Creek	1-Jun-23
\$20	Ray Galligan	Sonoma	2-Jun-23
\$75	Riley Kucich	Chico	3-Jun-23
\$20	Matt Steinberger	Vallejo	4-Jun-23
\$20	Bob Bizzini	Gustine	5-Jun-23
\$20	Carol Robb	Grand Terrace	6-Jun-23
\$20	Carrie Carothers	Cerritos	7-Jun-23
\$20	Lilly Perazzo	Sacramento	8-Jun-23
\$20	NSGW #62	Napa	9-Jun-23
\$75	Bob Gilson	Sonoma	10-Jun-23
\$20	Rich Pharo	Sonoma	11-Jun-23
\$20	James Linder	Salinas	12-Jun-23
\$20	Gary Edwards	Sonoma	13-Jun-23
\$250	Rose Twyman	Sonora	14-Jun-23
\$20	Mary Linda Daddona	Walnut	15-Jun-23
\$20	Fairfax #307	Fairfax	16-Jun-23
\$75	Gary Edwards	Sonoma	17-Jun-23
\$20	Edward Matraia	San Leandro	18-Jun-23
\$20	Dave Schaefer	Santa Rosa	19-Jun-23
\$20	Steven Reinhart	Pioneer	20-Jun-23
\$20	Cindy Mulholand	Alameda	21-Jun-23
\$20	Steven Reinhart	Pioneer	22-Jun-23
\$20	Anthony Neves	Los Banos	23-Jun-23
\$75	Becca Dawson	Santa Clara	24-Jun-23
\$20	Nancy White	Foothill	25-Jun-23
\$20	Vernon Parcell	Brentwood	26-Jun-23
\$20	Sean Behrens	Angwin	27-Jun-23
\$20	Stan Rowan	Fairfax	28-Jun-23
\$20	Mary Valerio	Alameda	29-Jun-23
\$150	Don Mock	Cupertino	30-Jun-23



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# Monthly Calendar of Native Sons Parlor Meetings

Compiled by Mitch Laing NSGW28Mitch@gmail.com

Web Site NSGW.ORG

Revised July 2023 B

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1st	Halcyon-Alameda #47 7PM	Amador #17 6:30PM Guadalupe #231 11:30AM Santa Lucia #97 7PM Business	Argonaut #8 6PM Chispa #139 6:30PM Fairfax #307 7PM Business Ione #33 7PM Lodi #18 7PM San Jose #22 Meeting 11AM Santa Cruz #90 6PM Solano #39 7PM Business Twin Peaks #214 Social 7PM Washington #169 7:30PM Sept-June Woodland #30 6PM	Excelsior #31 7PM JC Fremont #293 6:30PM National #118 11:30AM St Helena #53 Meeting 5PM Santa Ana #74 11AM Sunset #26 7 PM			
2nd	Eden #113 7PM Elk Grove #41 7PM Humboldt #14 6:30PM Napa #62 7:30PM Business Sonoma #111 6PM Dinner 7PM Meeting Quartz #58 6PM Sept-June	Auburn #59 7PM Fairfax #307 Luncheon Mt Bally #87 May-Dec Placerville #9 6pm San Luis Obispo #290 7PM Vallejo #77 7:30pm Yuba #55 6 pm	Byron #170 7pm Columbia #258 7PM Dolores #1 11:30AM Estudillo #223 5PM Business Ferndale #93 6 PM Dinner Hydrault #56 7PM Los Banos #206 6PM Modesto #11 5PM Petaluma-Nicasio #183 6PM Pebble Beach #230 6:30pm Santa Rosa #28 6:30PM Dinner South SE #157 7PM	Benicia #89 (Dark July, Aug) Col. Holderman #316 6:45pm Gabilan #132 6:30pm Georgetown #91 6:30pm Las Positas #96 7PM Piedmont #120 6PM Ramon #109 7PM Meeting Redwood #66 7:30pm		Konocti #159 12 PM (When Able)	Los Angeles #45 (Rio Hondo + University) 10AM Juan Sanchez Adobe in Montebello
3rd	Napa #62 6:30PM Social/Dinner Santa Ana #74 8PM Santa Lucia #97 6:00PM Dinner Sutter #261 7PM	Watsonville #65 1:30PM	De Anza #312 6PM (dark July, Aug) Fairfax #307 7PM 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 Business 7PM Washington #169 Sept-June	Silver Star #63 6PM (Dark July, Aug.)	Chispa Social Dinner	Redwood #66 Bear Lodge (May-Oct)	
4th	Eden #113 7PM Dinner Humboldt #14 Dinner Napa #62 7:30PM Business	Auburn #59 7PM Calistoga #86 7PM Fairfax #307 Luncheon	Arrowhead #110 6PM Dinner 7PM Meeting Estudillo #223 6PM Social 7PM Dinner San Jose #22 11AM Lunch South SF #157 7PM Stockton #7 6:30PM	Las Positas #96 7PM *Last Thurs (4th or 5th) Piedmont #120 6PM (Dark Nov, Dec) San Miguel #150 7PM St Helena #53 Dinner 6PM Sunset #26 7PM			

\*\* Verify Meeting Times and Locations -- Parlor Contacts Listed in The Directory  
Downville #92 - On Call Presidio #194 - No Meetings

Email Corrections to Mitch Laing via NSGW28Mitch@gmail.com