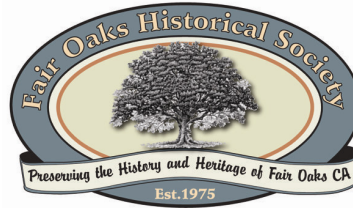


# *Fair Oaks Historical Society*

**Newsletter – October 2012**

Issue Number 102



## **QUARTERLY POTLUCK & GENERAL MEETING**

**6:00 PM, Tuesday, October 23**

Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse

7997 California Avenue

*Please bring a casserole, salad, or dessert to share.*

Newsletter distribution thanks to  
Jim Pearce and Maria Brugger

Check out the latest on our website at:

[www.fairoakshistory.org](http://www.fairoakshistory.org)

### **President's Message**

**Ralph Carhart**

Summer is over and we're coming up on our third quarterly meeting, Tuesday, October 23. I hope to see a big crowd because we have an excellent program (See below) and the best potluck dinner to be found in the region. We also have the annual Soup Night Fundraiser coming up on Friday, November 2. (I hope you have your tickets!)

The Officer Nomination Committee has performed its duties and will have recommendations for the election of the 2013 President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer at this meeting.

We still have the need for a newsletter compiler/editor, as this newsletter by yours truly could be seriously enhanced by the efforts of a creative and industrious person. Whoever steps up to this job will have the opportunity to make this an outstanding form of communication and documentation of our activities.

We have had a wonderfully productive year with the opening of the History Gallery and the continuing addition to our History Center of photographs, maps and documents of local historical significance. The coming year promises to be even more exciting as we complete the incredibly professional Gallery exhibits describing and illustrating local history and the role of water in that history. We will need increased participation to open the Gallery to more public exposure and spread the appreciation of our local history to newcomers and the youth of our community.

It was my pleasure recently to open the Gallery to a pack of cub scouts and give them an overview of our history. Their interest and questions reinforced my feeling that the Gallery will be a valuable resource to Fair Oaks.

I'll look forward to seeing you at the general meeting.

## **Program for October 23, 2012 General Meeting**

### **Folsom History Museum and Folsom Forge**

**Vice President & Program Chair, Trude Vasquez**

Our speaker for the October 23<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting will be Jerry Schroeder, local architect and ADA compliance expert. Jerry loves historic architecture, and was the architect for the restoration of the Crest Theatre. He was also executive architect for River View Plaza, a 17-story elderly housing project across from the Sacramento main jail. He also designs schools, industrial facilities and commercial projects.

Jerry is on the board of directors for the Folsom History Museum, and combining his love of history with his talent for blacksmithing, he founded the Folsom Forge that is operated by the museum.

As an advisor to our Society's History Gallery Committee, Jerry generously reviewed our plans for ADA accessibility compliance for the new facility. As an architect he has developed ADA upgrades for many clients, and his assistance to the Society is greatly appreciated.

**RAFFLE ITEMS NEEDED FOR SOUP NIGHT--** I am also responsible for gathering raffle items for our yearly Soup Night fundraiser. If you can donate an item (gift basket, gift cards, wearable art, etc.) please call me at 966-5499. I will be more than happy to come by your home or business to pick up your donation. --Trude

## History Center Report

Lois Frazier

During the September 15 annual Fair Oaks Chicken our History Center was open from 10 in the morning to 4 in the afternoon. Attendance was very good, and sixty-five people signed the guest book.

The following people have been docents or have helped at other functions this year: Jean Applegate, Lois Frazier, Larry and Meg Smart and daughter, Judy Blomquist, Bob Brugger, Annette Dansing, Jim Pearce, Warren and Janet McWilliams, Ralph Carhart, Fran Messinger, Barbara Roper, Linda Blue, Diana Lennon. Thank you!

If you would like to be a docent, please call me at 967-2967.

## History Gallery Report

Ralph Carhart

Physical improvements at the History Gallery are largely completed thanks to Joe Dobrowolski and his committee of diligent workers. As you may have noticed, the front patio, benches and artwork were installed in time for the Fair Oaks Chicken Festival. Brick planters were repaired and a walkway from the van-accessible parking space to the entrance was constructed.

New front doors, door hardware and thresholds were also installed, completing the improvements necessary to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities. Remaining work to be done includes Gallery signage, the planting of shrubs in the front planters, exterior woodwork repairs and painting.





Thanks to all, this work the Gallery was unveiled to the public at the Chicken Festival. Marilyn Pearce and her volunteers staffed the Gallery throughout the Festival and raised some additional money for the treasury by selling history- and chicken-related items from the front patio of the Gallery. Jim Pearce has also arranged for the production of classy Fair Oaks Historical souvenirs we'll all want to acquire.

Work on interior exhibits, artifact exhibits and interior lighting continues. Sarah Stark has developed seven additional panels for the water exhibit, "Nourishing the Dream". These panels have been reviewed by the exhibit committee and will be finalized by the General Meeting. We will have final proofs of these panels available for your perusal at that meeting.

## **Soup Night, Friday, November 2**

### **Claudia Thorn, Soup Night Chair**

Donations, donations, donations! If you are planning to donate a gift or prize for the raffle or silent auction please contact Trude Vasquez, 966-5499, by mid-October so arrangements can be made to pick-up your donation. We're trying to have all the raffle items organized before I leave for England to visit my new grandson.

Our planning has been coming along very nicely and I think you'll enjoy some of the improvements we've planned. Eleanor Brown has once again offered to organize the volunteers and to coordinate the students from Bella Vista. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Eleanor to see where help is needed.

This year, the students will be serving the soups instead of the adults. Wine will be served by the glass and the bottle, like last year. Bottled water will be sold as was requested. We'll also be serving a specialty coffee with biscotti for desert. We'll be asking for donations if you part-take of these items. Our center pieces will be hand made by Rosie Pearce, but you'll have to wait to see them.

We'll have some wonderful raffle items. Many of the Fair Oaks businesses have been extremely generous-- Home to Roost, Dianda's, Bella Fiori, the Fair Oaks Deli, Fast Frame, just to name a few.

If you have any questions about tickets, please contact me at 961-8291. I have a waiting list at this time, but there maybe some tickets available once I receive all the seating charts.

## **Minutes of July 24, 2012 General Meeting,**

### **Secretary, Janet McWilliams**

President Ralph Carhart called the meeting to order at 6:00, and lined us all up for a delicious Potluck dinner. Following dinner Ralph thanked the Blomquists and Saunders for setting up the kitchen and decorating. He also thanked Jim Pearce, Trude Vasquez and Maria Brugger for their efforts in getting out the newsletter. Thanks also went to Claudia Thorne (Ways & Means) and Tel LaBelle (Membership.)

President Ralph also acknowledged the passing of members Bill Hinsey and Phyllis Nygren.

Claudia Thorn reported that plans were proceeding with Soup Night, tickets are on sale tonight and going fast. Volunteers are still needed to fill some positions. Tonight new members Keith & Vicki Walter volunteered to chair the Bowl committee.

Guests were introduced.

Following dinner Trude Vasquez introduced our program for tonight, "California's Spanish and Mexican Land Grants," presented by Historical Society member Blaine Lamb. There were over 800 land grants of all sizes. In 1840 the grants in the Central Valley were given. Most were given to Mexican citizens. When California became a state, the grants had to be officially surveyed at the owners expense, which many could not afford.

Nominating Committee: The following members have agreed to serve on a nominating committee' Warren McWilliams, Ken Steen, and Tel Labelle. Maria Brugger moved that we accept the committee, seconded by Pat Vogel. Motion passed.

Minutes: The minutes of the last general meeting were approved as sent in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Joe Dobrowolski reported that the report was published in the Newsletter.

Status of History Gallery: Joe also reported that the concrete work will be completed in the next 3 weeks, following that other finishing work will be accomplished. He also reported that now that the bids are in, we will need app. \$5,000 more to complete the work. Dorothy Huggett moved to approve the expenditure, motion seconded by Ken Steen. Motion passed. The Gallery will open before the Chicken Festival.

History Center: Lois Frazier reported that we had 63 visitors during the Fiesta, and the attendance at the Memorial Day Program was largest ever.

Webmaster: Jim Pearce reported he has added several new items to the website.

The raffle was completed, and meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet McWilliams, Secretary