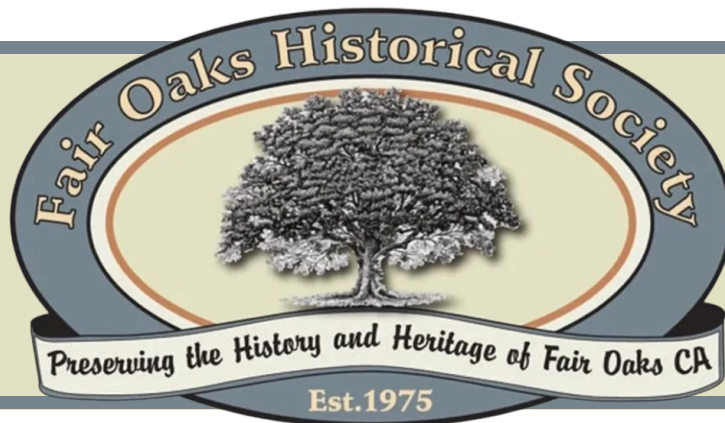


Something to Crow About



Spring 2024

Issue 148

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

The April Quarterly meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 23rd** at the Faith Lutheran Church (4000 San Juan Blvd.) from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

We will have our traditional potluck, so bring a salad, main dish, or dessert to share. We will also cover some business topics, including the **results of Soup Night**, and since we've had a change in our Executive Board, we will initiate a vote for our **new Vice President, Pete Schroeder**.

Our guest speaker will be **Janice Kelley**, who is the author of "**Mornings on Fair Oaks Bridge**." Janice will present her knowledge about the bridge and its relationship to our community. We look forward to seeing you at our meeting!

April 23, 2024 at 6:00 pm
Faith Lutheran Church
4000 San Juan Ave, Fair Oaks

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LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

By Claudia Thorne, President & Carolyn Spotts, Vice President

Soup Night was the most successful event in the past 17 years! Much thanks to everyone who volunteered to serve on the Soup Night Committee and those who attended our event. We were all so pleased that everyone enjoyed the soups and had a fun time. For more information, see the Soup Night article on page 9.



As some of you know, **Carolyn Spotts** will be stepping back from her VP position to spend more time with her family. Fortunately, **Pete Schroeder** has agreed to serve as our new VP. **Thank you, Pete and Carolyn, for all you do.**



Thanks to Carolyn, we've been talking with **Rebekkah Mulholland**, Assistant Professor, History Department at **Sacramento State**. She is hoping to find several student interns to assist **Chris Highsmith** at the History Center. We're looking to reinstate video interviews with members so we can enjoy the stories and memories from our past. **If you would like to be interviewed**, please contact Chris Highsmith at the History Center. We're also hoping to have volunteer students help us with other projects at the History Center.



2

Tax season is here again, and we would be honored if you were to designate the Fair Oaks Historical Society as your charitable donation. If you are looking to reduce the taxes on your **IRA (Required Minimum Distribution)**, please consider making a direct payment (**Qualified Charitable Distribution**) to the Fair Oaks Historical Society (a qualified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization). Just contact your IRA broker and they can write a check from the cash portion of your IRA. Or some brokers will give you a checkbook so you can write a check. It's very easy to do and those QCD donations are **fully deductible from the taxable income** on your 1040-SR line 4b.



Have you marked your calendar for our **monthly Welcome Hour**? The event is the first Saturday of the month (September – June) from 11:00 – Noon at the History Center. Thank you to our amazing Program Director, **Sandra Navarro**, for your continued commitment.

Last, we're always looking for more help from our members to keep the **History Center** open and thriving. There are many ways to help and we welcome anyone who is interested. If you have some extra time and would like to become more involved in the Society, please send

an email message, call, or drop by the Center. We would love to hear from you!

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, April 23rd for our next **Quarterly meeting**. We will have our traditional potluck, some business updates, and a great guest speaker. Take care in the meantime!

Claudia J Thorn, President
Carolyn Spotts, Vice-President



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New/Returning Members

Mark & Sandy Rice
Brian Fischer & Mailinh Tompkins
Village Ventures LLC
Dale Herd
Pete Schroeder (Life)
Lisa Rigby & Larry Godwin
Pat Santillanes (Life)

Renewals at the Patron Level (\$100 - \$149)

Terry & Sherry Clifton
Denis & Joanrae Deluchi
Wayne & Laurie Donaldson
Sandra & David Navarro

Renewals at the Supporting Level (\$50 - \$99)

Bob's Cycle Center
Ronnie & Sheila Mitchell
John & Beth O'Farrell
Jane & Anne Taylor
Richard & Claudia Thorn
Village Ventures, LLC
Woman's Thursday Club



THE DOCENT CORNER

By Bob Sours, Retired Docent

By golly, the first blossoms were JUST-NOW appearing on our front yard plum tree. A very pretty pinkish white blossom. No matter if we have a troubled world, nature beckons us to smile and be joyful at this colorful part of the new year. Gloom be gone it says.

I'm premature in sharing this good news, as I'm a bit ahead of the newsletter, and by the time you are reading this the Blossoms will be EVERYWHERE. Hope then you too, are blessed with that feeling of peace from nature's message AND we will spread signs of peace TOGETHER.

Now that we are all smiling, I am going to ask you a favor. I'm concerned that we are sailing through this year so fast (near March already) that our Village construction project will be finished, and we will not have taken that last walk through the Village. *Did we take pictures?* Is there anything you notice that was forgotten and could be fixed as we wind down to the finish? Certainly we are not the oversight committee, but remember what Dad said, and still does, as we drive around the corner from our house for vacation "DID WE CLOSE THAT GARAGE DOOR, AND TURN OFF THE COFFEE" ? Yup, us humans make mistakes, disappointed in things we have done, or just forgotten.

SO - if 20 or 30 thousand

people do a REAL slow studious walk throughout the Village construction area and report back to "DAD" yea or nay on changes (possibly seeing chickens in the bushes waiting to come back) we might stay away from disappointments later on. (CAUTION: Don't cross the fence lines nor interrupt progress).

I suspect most of you will be taken by surprise and pleased what you see on your tour. Our thoughts can then go forward on event planning, joy among all residents, and the feeling we were in good hands by updating our treasured Village.

Why now is a retired Docent excited about the finish of a freshly coated and beautified Village. Because we see the VISITORS every day in our volunteer work, and cannot wait to spread the word about OUR TOWN.

Believe me folks, in a few short few months this beautiful Village will be the BIGGEST news on the block and beyond. So make it yours!

Sometimes it's only once in a lifetime that we can feel that our help and patience kept our village special and a "must visit" for all others.

You too can volunteer to be a docent - stop at the history center after your walk of appreciation.



Call for Volunteers: Museum Docents



and the benefit is that you get to meet very nice people and learn more about our little town.

Lately, the History Center has been quite busy from **Noon – 2:00 on Saturdays**. We normally have only one Docent available during this time, and that one person cannot always speak with all the visitors at once. So, **we are looking for volunteers** to help greet visitors and educate them about Fair Oaks history. It's just two hours,

If you would like to help at the **History Center**, please send a message to **Chris Highsmith** at fairoakshistorycenter@gmail.com. Thank you!

50TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING



The year **2025** will bring **many reasons to celebrate** in Fair Oaks. Not only will the Historical Society be 50 years old but Fair Oaks itself will be **130!!!** It was founded in 1895.

The FOHS Board would like to celebrate the Society's milestone and **Chris Highsmith** is leading the event planning. We have many great ideas but would like to hear from you!

If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, **please join us!** Contact Chris to learn how:

fairoakshistorycenter@gmail.com



WELCOME HOUR AT THE HISTORY CENTER

By Sandra S. Navarro, Welcome Hour Program Director

The Fair Oaks History Center's themed **Welcome Hour** program is held on the first Saturday of each month from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.



A Lady's Hobby: Hand-Painted Plates of the Early 1900s

January 6, 2024



FOHS member **Marilyn Pearce** with her display of hand-painted dishes.





**Be My Valentine: Children's Valentines
from the 1940s and 1950s**

February 3, 2024



FOHS member **Margge Taylor Wood** enjoys the valentine display and a cup of coffee.



Welcome Hour, continued

**Flat Irons, Heavy
and Hot!**
March 2, 2024

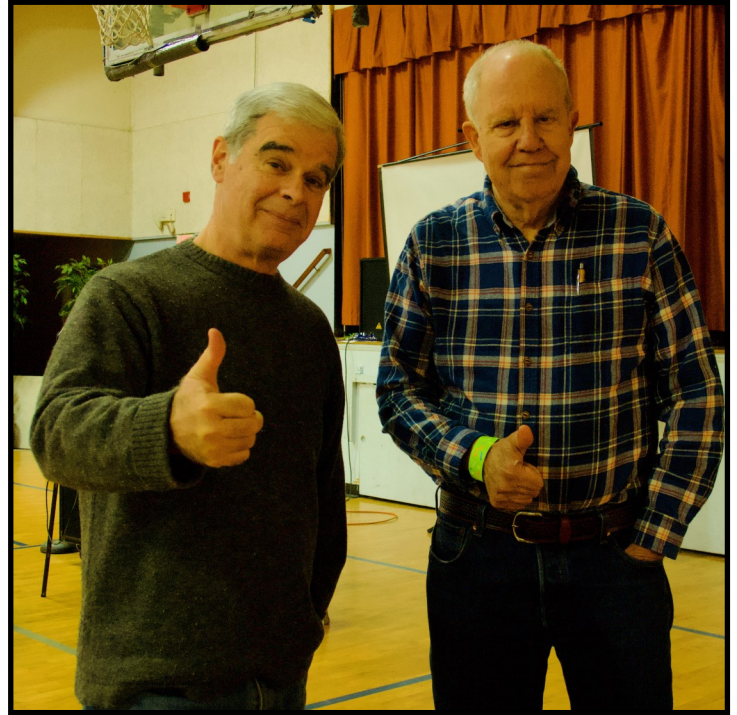


FOHS member **Kathryn Beebe** curating March's Welcome Hour display.

SOUP NIGHT



The **17th Annual Soup Night** fundraiser was our most successful to date! The event was held on February 9th at the Faith Lutheran Church Hall. Soup was donated by five of our favorite local restaurants: **Brahma Bar & Grille, Café Italiano, El Gallo, Fair Oaks Brew Pub, and O'Café**. The event was emceed by **Mike Maddox** and a live auction was hosted by **Pete Schroeder**. The raffle consisted of over 80 gift items including art, jewelry, home goods and more.



*See more Soup Night photos
on next page!*



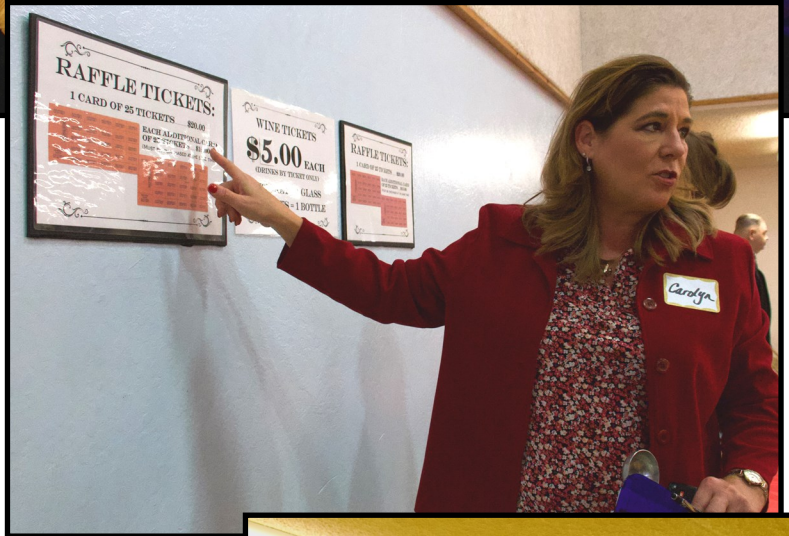
The event was truly a wonderful evening for all and the Executive Board has reported that **we raised over \$12,000** for the Society. Thank you to all the volunteers, committees, and to the outstanding students and staff from both **Meraki** and **Bella Vista** high schools. Congratulations to all!



17th Annual Soup Night

February 9, 2024





*Thank you
High School Volunteers!*



FROM THE ARCHIVES

By Chris Highsmith, History Center Operation Manager



In 1974, the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce printed this photo of the Northridge Shopping Center, located at the corner of Sunset Ave and San Juan Ave, in the Fair Oaks Business and Professional Directory. The stores that were located on the north of Sunset Avenue were:

Bank of America, Fair Oaks Hardware, Groth's Bootery, Jet Auto Supply, Ken's Mobil Station, Lady LaVerne Beauty Salon, Northridge Barber Shop, Northridge Coffee Shop, Raley's Drug Center, Raley's Super Market, Northridge Music Center, Northridge Shoe Repair, Richardson's, Swanson's Cleaners, TG&Y Family Center, and The Round Table Restaurant.

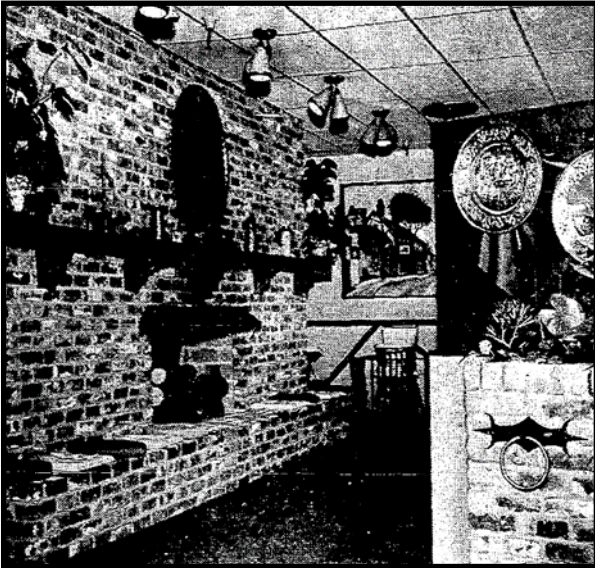
The stores on the south side were: Curly's Cleaners, San Juan Club, Sunset Barber Shop, and Sunset Food Spot

By the following year, Gorth's Bootery, Richardson's, and TG&Y Family Center had closed.

When Raley's first opened in the early 1960s, they had some well-known sport figures like San Francisco Giants players Willie Mays, Tom Haller, and some players from the San Francisco 49ers sign autographs. Northridge Music Center was first on California Avenue where the Fair Oaks Brew Pub is now then moved to Northridge Shopping Center. The Round Table Restaurant was not a pizza place. The manager of the restaurant was Joe Campoy. William Amantea designed the interior and exterior of the building and painted the murals. The replicas of battle gear used in King Arther's time were created by Facundo Campoy.

If pizza was desired, the nearest place to Northridge Shopping Center was Shakey's Pizza on Winding Way near San Juan, which is now Mirabelle Café.





Images of the restaurant are from the *Sacramento Bee*, June 11, 1961.

Suzy-Q Drive In

FISH & CHIPS – SHRIMP AND CHICKEN BASKETS
FROSTY CONES – HAMBURGERS – SANDWICHES – SOFT DRINKS – FOOD COOKED TO ORDER
Across from Johnny's Recreation Center

10344 Fair Oaks Blvd. **961-2214** Fair Oaks

Also, in the 1974 Fair Oaks Business and Professional Directory is an advertisement for Suzie-Q Drive-In which is now the Sunflower Drive-In on the corner of Sacramento Street and Main Steet (next to the History Center).

We always enjoy receiving photos and stories pertaining to the history of the Fair Oaks area. If you have something you would like to share, don't hesitate to contact the History Center.

Attn: Chris Highsmith
Fair Oaks History Center
P.O. Box 2044
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Email – fairoakshistorycenter@gmail.com
Phone – (916) 844-7103



SPECIAL DISPLAY AT THE HISTORY CENTER

March 2024

Twelve **clothes pin dolls** will be on display at the Fair Oaks History Center during the month of March 2024. These intricately dressed and appointed dolls were crafted by **Edith Ellen Sachs De Giorgis** (1913-2008), a native of Sacramento, in her later years.

Mrs. De Giorgis was the daughter of Charles (Karl) W. Sachs (1883-1943), an immigrant from Germany. He was an engineer with Sacramento's Buffalo Brewery for 30 years. Mrs. De Giorgis' mother was Rosina M. Sachs (1886-1976), a native of Zamora, California.



THE HISTORY CENTER

In the Fair Oaks Village

10340 Fair Oaks Blvd
(next to the Sunflower Drive-in)

Welcome Hour event

1st Saturday of each month
11:00 am - noon

Regular Hours

Tuesdays 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Thursdays 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Saturdays 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Admission is FREE





Fair Oaks Historical Society Membership / Renewal / Volunteer Application

Name:	Phone - Cell:
Address:	Phone - Home:
Email Address:	
Emergency Contact:	Phone – Home or Cell:

Dues are collected on an annual basis in January. New members joining after October 1st shall be considered paid for the following year. Membership dues are: (circle one)

Individual \$20, Family (2 persons) \$25, Supporting \$50,
Patron \$100, Benefactor \$150, Life Membership \$275
Add \$10 to receive a printed copy of our newsletter.

By requesting membership, we encourage you to be an active participant to further the work of the Fair Oaks Historical Society. Please indicate your interest(s):

<input type="checkbox"/> History Center Docent <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Collection preservation <input type="checkbox"/> Inventory record management <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews <input type="checkbox"/> Walking Tours <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> Committee Chair <input type="checkbox"/> Liaison Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity \ Advertising <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media \ Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Tech \ Media <input type="checkbox"/> Other
--	---

Signature: X	Date:
------------------------	--------------

Send this application with your check to:

Fair Oaks Historical Society
P.O. Box 2044
Fair Oaks, CA 95628



You may also use the PayPal system:

<https://fairoakshistory.org/join/join.htm>

Thank you for your support!

Memberships at or above the Supporting level will be recognized in our quarterly Newsletter.
For questions, please contact Terry Clifton at (916) 501-4045 or FOHistory1@gmail.com.

Membership Coordinator use only:

Amount paid: \$
Check # or PayPal Date:
Date received:



2024 HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Welcome Hour	April 6
Executive Board Meeting	April 16
Quarterly General Meeting	April 23
Welcome Hour	May 4
Executive Board Meeting	May 21
Welcome Hour	June 1
Executive Board Meeting	June 18



Fair Oaks Historical Society
P.O. Box 2044
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

To: