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CALIFORNIAN

THE

Magazine of the California History Center Foundation/De Anza College
A Foundation Supporting the Study and Preservation of State and Regional History



More Than A Century of Jewish Life:
From San Francisco to the Santa Clara Valley

LAST CHANCE MINE
1882

EXHIBITS-PUBLICATIONS

Endowment Funds Jewish Legacy Exhibit

"Over a Century of Jewish Life: San Francisco to Santa Clara Valley" is the Fall 1984 area of study, documentation and exhibition. The center is especially fortunate for the past six months to have the leadership of Stephen Kinsey, exhibit curator, Ben Gruzen, CHC volunteer, Jewel Altman, president B'nai B'rith, Jeanne Bennett-Gruber, director Women's Division Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose Endowment Fund to provide enthusiasm and outreach necessary to document the valley's Jewish heritage. Under their leadership, many volunteer hours have been spent "cleaning out the closets" where organization, family, or temple history has been "filed" for years (and collecting lots of dust).

CHC exhibits are worthwhile "closet cleaners" for we have often seen memorabilia from Moffett Field to Paul Masson Winery to Fort Ross shoved away in boxes, left unidentified and uncared for. The Jewish Life exhibit will once again represent the first time documentation is being pulled together on a dimension of valley history. Without our initiation of the exhibition activity, it is likely that memories and mementos on this very vital and rich aspect of our ethnic heritage would be lost to future generations.

We think the history of Santa Clara Valley needs to recognize the contributions of the region's Jewish community, and are glad the Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose Endowment Fund agrees with this need by co-sponsoring the exhibit with a \$2500 contribution toward our effort. Should other organizations or families like to support the exhibit, which will be permanently housed in the new San Jose Jewish Community Center, a \$25 contribution or more will place your name on our introductory credits panel.

Valley's Farm Era Subject of New Books

Grants to the California History Center from the California Council for the Humanities will result in two new publications next year on the valley's agricultural past. Released this fall in cooperation with William Kauffman publisher, is Yvonne (Olson) Jacobson's book **Passing Farms: Enduring Values**. This will be the most comprehensive illustrated history of Santa Clara Valley published since 1922, and one of the finest records written on the region's transition from agriculture to high technology. A special author's signing party will be held November 2 at the Olson's Sunnyvale cherry ranch.

Next Spring the CHC plans to release a study of the valley's early Japanese settlers currently being researched by professors Gary Okihiro (history) and Timothy Lukes (political science) of the University of Santa Clara. Okihiro had contacted the center during the Spring '83 Japanese exhibit and was enthused about our documentation efforts. The CHC shared its materials gathered for the exhibit, and encouraged the researchers to apply to the California Council for the Humanities to fund a book. The publication, tracing the arrival of Japanese from rural southern provinces to the valley in the 1890s, to their establishment of major fruit, vegetable and flower farms to their interaction with landowners and San Jose's "political machine," will provide a lasting document on this important dimension of our ethnic heritage.

Seonaid McArthur
Director, CHC



April 12, 1984 marked the closing of Moffett Field's 50th Anniversary Celebration. A time capsule was buried during the ceremony which included "The Californian" magazine and commemorative poster. Left to right, retired Navy photographer Lt. Commander George A. Carroll, CHC Director Seonaid McArthur and Captain J. D. Piccioni, commanding officer, NAS Moffett Field. Photo courtesy Moffett Field.

CALENDAR

9/4 CHC Reopens

9/5 Anza Trail

A workshop sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Interior to study the feasibility of establishing a Juan Bautista De Anza National Historic Trail.

9/24 Fall Quarter Begins

10/13 Exhibit Preview

Co-sponsored with the Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose Endowment Fund. A traditional Havdalah ceremony marking the Sabbath's end. Authentic klezmer music and kosher wine and foods. 7:30-9:30 p.m.

10/14 Jewish Heritage Exhibit Opening

Co-sponsored with the Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose Endowment Fund and the Greater South Bay Council of B'nai B'rith Women, the public opening of the exhibit includes traditional music, folkdancing, and foods. 1-4 p.m.

10/20 Riverboat Excursion

Journey the waterways from San Francisco to Sacramento with Frank Wooters, co-owner of the riverboat. Explore Old Sacramento, return to De Anza by bus. Orientation, slides, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 17. Cost: \$45 members, \$50 non-members. 7:45 a.m.-9 p.m.

10/26-28 Mendocino Weekend

Explore Mendocino and regional redwoods with ecologist Lee Van Fossen. A walking tour of the town's Victorians, a presentation on early lumber industry, and a ride on the Skunk train. Orientation, 4 p.m. Oct. 15. Cost: \$125 members, \$135 non-members.

11/3 Valley of the Moon Inns

Tour nine historic inns and resorts, led by Toby Smith, publisher of "Northern California Inns." Dine at the newly renovated Sonoma Mission Inn. Cost: \$28 members, \$35 non-members. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

11/3, 4 Jewish History in Gold Country

Instructor Steve Kinsey will lead students on a fascinating exploration of historic landmarks, businesses, and cemeteries in Mother Lode country, examining the Jewish presence in the area. Orientation, 7-9:30 p.m. Oct. 29. Cost: \$10 members, \$15 non-members.

11/10 Passing Farms Booksigning

Meet with Yvonne (Olson) Jacobson, author of recently published "Passing Farms: Enduring Values" on the Olson farm. Refreshments and a special demonstration of early day farm machinery. Members free, \$3 non-members. 2-4 p.m.

11/17 Monterey Aquarium

Visit Monterey's new aquarium with ecologist Lee Van Fossen. It features natural habitats for a native collection of sea life, and a "hands-on" tank. Cost: \$22 members, \$28 non-members. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

12/1 Christmas Flowers

Join instructor Betty Hirsch on a special tour of Bay City Flowers, Bongard's Tree Farm, and Ah Sam's florist for a look at the flowers and trees that give grace to the Christmas season. Cost: \$15 members, \$20 non-members. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

12/15 Victorian House Tour

Restorationist Norman Koepernik will conduct an illustrated lecture and walking tour of the restored Victorians in the Hensley Historic District following brunch at the recently restored Sainte Claire Hilton. Cost: \$18 members, \$23 non-members. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

12/16 Annual Holiday Celebration

Join us as we celebrate the holidays with a visit to the Fairmont Hotel for a no-host brunch, then a matinee performance of the Nutcracker, performed by the San Francisco Ballet. Cost: \$37 or \$28 members, \$40 or \$31 non-members, (orchestra or balcony circle). 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

12/19 Hannukkah Festivities

Festivities commemorating Hanukkah, the Feast of Lights will include the lighting of a menorah.

12/22 Fall Quarter Ends

For more complete events details please see the CHC's Fall "Calendar of Events."

COVER:

Levi Strauss, first local Jewish clothing manufacturer, originally fashioned his pants from canvas, switching later to denim. Word spread in the Gold Country about the durability of "those pants of Levi's," and an American tradition was born. Photo 1882, courtesy Levi Strauss & Co.

FEATURE

Jewish Reflections of Santa Clara Valley: 1850-1900

by Stephen D. Kinsey and Lynne E. Kinsey

Stephen Kinsey received his M.A. and B.A. in history at San Jose State University, with his thesis on San Jose Jewish History. He teaches in the Franklin-McKinley School District. Lynne Kinsey received her B.A. at San Jose also, with one year of study at Tel Aviv University. She also has a certificate in Jewish Communal Studies from Hebrew Union College. Both of the Kinseys are trustees for Commission for the Preservation of Pioneer Jewish Cemeteries and Landmarks, Judah Magnes Museum, Berkeley, and active in numerous local Jewish organizations.

The earliest settlers of the Santa Clara County Jewish community came in the 1850s from Europe, not knowing where they would settle in America. Their hope was to live in peace and harmony and practice their religion freely. It can be theorized that most European Jews who sojourned to San Jose at the time did so because California was young and expanding. Also, it was located on the Pacific Coast, the remotest part of the United States from the European birthplace which many wished to forget. The fertile soil of the area attracted those with agricultural skills. Furthermore, in the 1850s many politicians and lawyers flocked to San Jose, believing it would become the permanent residence of the California legislature. With this influx, the business profession became quite lucrative. Thus the Jews, who brought their trades from Europe around the Horn or across the Isthmus, believed they would prosper here.

As in most early California Jewish communities, the need to officially organize comes about with the first death, and the religious and personal need to properly prepare and bury the individual, and the requirement to maintain the burial ground. In March 1857, five acres of land was received in Oak Hill Cemetery and thus the first evidence of a Jewish communal organization emerges in San Jose. The oldest known grave is that of Joseph Brownshield, born August 1, 1856, died March 5, 1857.

Local Jews, Marcus Stern, Jacob and Hyman Rich, and others organized and requested their fellow "Israelites" to meet at City Hall August 5, 1861, "for the purpose of organizing a Hebrew Society," and the name Congregation Bickur Cholim, meaning visiting the sick, was adopted. The purpose of this Society was three-fold: assist the needy and sick, bury the Jewish dead and encourage education of the youth in Hebrew religion and language. Today this organization is known as Temple Emanu-El, located at 1010 University Avenue in San Jose.

High Holiday services were held that year at the Masonic Hall and there was a \$1.00 charge for all seats. The services were conducted by local residents, Morris Lubliner and Hyman Rich. The Jews made contributions to the Masonic Hall to show their appreciation for its use, but on August 29, 1863, after incorporating that year, a motion was made at a board meeting to investigate the cost and location "for the ultimate purpose of erecting a synagogue." Such a site was located, the northeast corner of Third and San Antonio Streets, for \$850.00.

With land purchased, the society continued for seven years before their own building was built and dedicated. In 1864 the community purchased a Megillah, the scroll read on the holiday, Purim. In 1867 \$300.00 was spent on improvements to the cemetery—a gravel road through the grounds and trees. No other major changes were needed until 1878. In 1869 the deed for the cemetery was recorded by the County. In 1872 the Hebrew Ladies Benevolent Society was organized and existed for many years; in 1872 the short-lived Young Men's Hebrew Benevolent Association formed.

On Sunday, August 21, 1870, Congregation Bickur Cholim's synagogue was dedicated and an inaugural Ball held. Funds for this construction came from as far away as Paris, France.

When the synagogue was dedicated, the congregation numbered thirty-nine families: thirty-one resided in San Jose, one in San Juan Bautista, two in Gilroy, one in Watsonville, two in San Francisco, and one in Santa Clara: with the residence of one being unknown. In addition to possessing their own structure, they also hired a rabbi, Henry Loewenthal, from Illinois. Although well qualified, Loewenthal was not an ordained rabbi. He served the San Jose congregation for one-and-a-half years.

Congregation Bickur Cholim's first ordained rabbi, London-born Myer Sol Levy, was hired in 1873. Upon arriving in San Jose, he sent for his wife, Annie Teacher Levy, and his son, Sol, whom he had never seen. Announcements of Rabbi Levy's holiday observances were announced in the local press. "Rabbi Levy will preach a new year service. Our Hebrew citizens will close their places of business throughout Monday and Tuesday." (*San Jose Daily Mercury*, September 21, 1873)

The year 1874 must be acclaimed as one of great accomplishment for Congregation Bickur Cholim and Rabbi Levy. Many new innovations were introduced to San Jose's Jews. "The first public confirmation at the Jewish Synagogue in this city took place on Sunday last." This ceremony, occurring on May 24, was composed entirely of girls. Late that year, Jesse Levy, a son of



Meyer Bloom's Shoe Store was just one of the early Jewish businesses in San Jose. Photo courtesy Mr. and Mrs. Irving Levy.

Mayer Levy, the congregation's first president, became Bickur Cholim's first Bar Mitzvah.

Exemplifying his cooperation with the non-Jewish residents of San Jose was Rabbi Levy's appearance before the Unity Society in San Jose in 1879. This was the first time that a rabbi had ever spoken from a Gentile pulpit in San Jose.

In July 1881, Rabbi Levy informed the congregation that he was leaving to accept the pulpit at the First Hebrew Congregation (now Temple Sinai) in Oakland. The congregation was not able to stop Rabbi Levy's departure, but the rabbi must have been quite gratified knowing that there were forty-two students attending the religious school, that the congregation had real estate valued at \$10,000, and that there were approximately 265 Jews residing within the city.

Three additional rabbis served the congregation until the end of the century: Reverend Henry Philip Loewenthal, 1881-1893; Gustave Adolph Danziger, 1894-1896; and Rabbi Aaron B. J. Brown, 1897-1899.

Selected Jewish Personalities

The first known Jewish merchant in San Jose was Gershom Joseph. Following him were Jacob Rich, who owned a tailor shop; the Levys and their clothing store, and on Santa Clara Street, Lazard Lion opened a general merchandise business. These

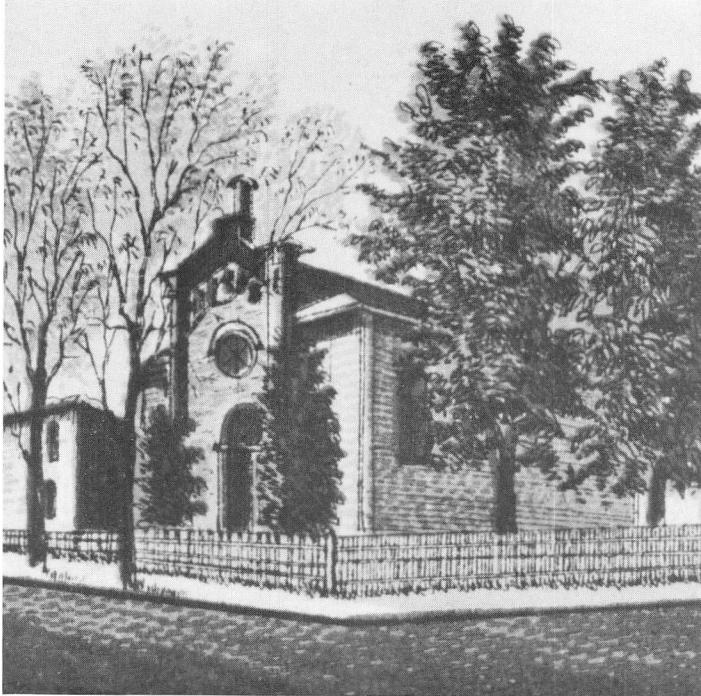
firms, along with Louis Linoberg's Central Action Store, Hyman Rich and Max Blumenthal's clothing store, Leopold Hart's corner store, and Marcus Stern's saddlery shop, were representative of the Jewish merchants of that time. A few of those merchants whose business or whose role in the community was particularly noteworthy were as follows.

Marcus Stern, was born in Frankfort, Germany, July 23, 1823, where he stayed until 1846 mastering the harness and general leather workers' trade. He moved to America, staying on the East Coast for six years and then came to Santa Clara in 1852 where he worked for a tanning firm as a harnessmaker.

Marcus did not intend to stay in San Jose or even the West Coast, but he built up his own saddlery establishment after returning to Frankfort, marrying and returning here.

He was an active charter member of the Bikur Cholim Society, serving in various capacities as a member of the congregation's board between 1863-1883. He was the first Bikur Cholim charter member to suggest the construction of the synagogue.

Although Marcus Stern's saddlery business has changed in nature and scope since his death in 1905, the three locations of the family owned Stern's luggage in San Jose and Monterey represent the oldest continuous establishment in Santa Clara County.



Congregation Bickur Cholim was organized in 1861 to serve the local Jewish community and survives today as Temple Emanu-El. Photo from Bancroft Library, Berkeley, courtesy Stephen Kinsey.

The leader of Bickur Cholim's first High Holiday services was Hyman Rich of Krosnowitz, Poland. He came to America "because he deserted the Polish Army." He was a highly versed Talmudic scholar; individuals came from the entire county to reap his knowledge.

In 1853 Hyman Rich and Max Blumenthal opened a clothing establishment in San Jose, which was in existence at least until 1891. He married a San Jose woman in 1865 and they had five children. Active in a variety of community organizations Hyman Rich belonged to the Ariel Lodge #248 of B'nai B'rith, the Odd Fellows, and the Knights of Honor.

Hyman Rich's brother, Jacob, also born in Poland, learned tailoring and hatmaking while residing in Germany. In 1853 he traveled with his partner and close friend, Hyman Levy, to San Jose, where he established an affluent tailoring enterprise, Rich and Levy, on Market Street.

Jacob was also one of the founders of Congregation Bickur Cholim and served on its board as President, Vice-President, Treasurer, or Trustee for over twenty-five years.

Jacob Rich amassed sufficient funds to become involved in the streetcar business, the successful South East Side Railroad of San Jose in the mid 1870s. He subsequently became involved with other streetcar ventures, which finally collapsed in 1893.

There is no doubt that Jacob Rich was a remarkable individual. He was instrumental in the establishment and growth of the congregation and its synagogue building, was a bank director, involved in the San Jose Library Association, and the San Jose Woolen Mills Company. He was also a Mason, a member of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, and, as was his brother, Hyman, President of Ariel Lodge, of B'nai B'rith.



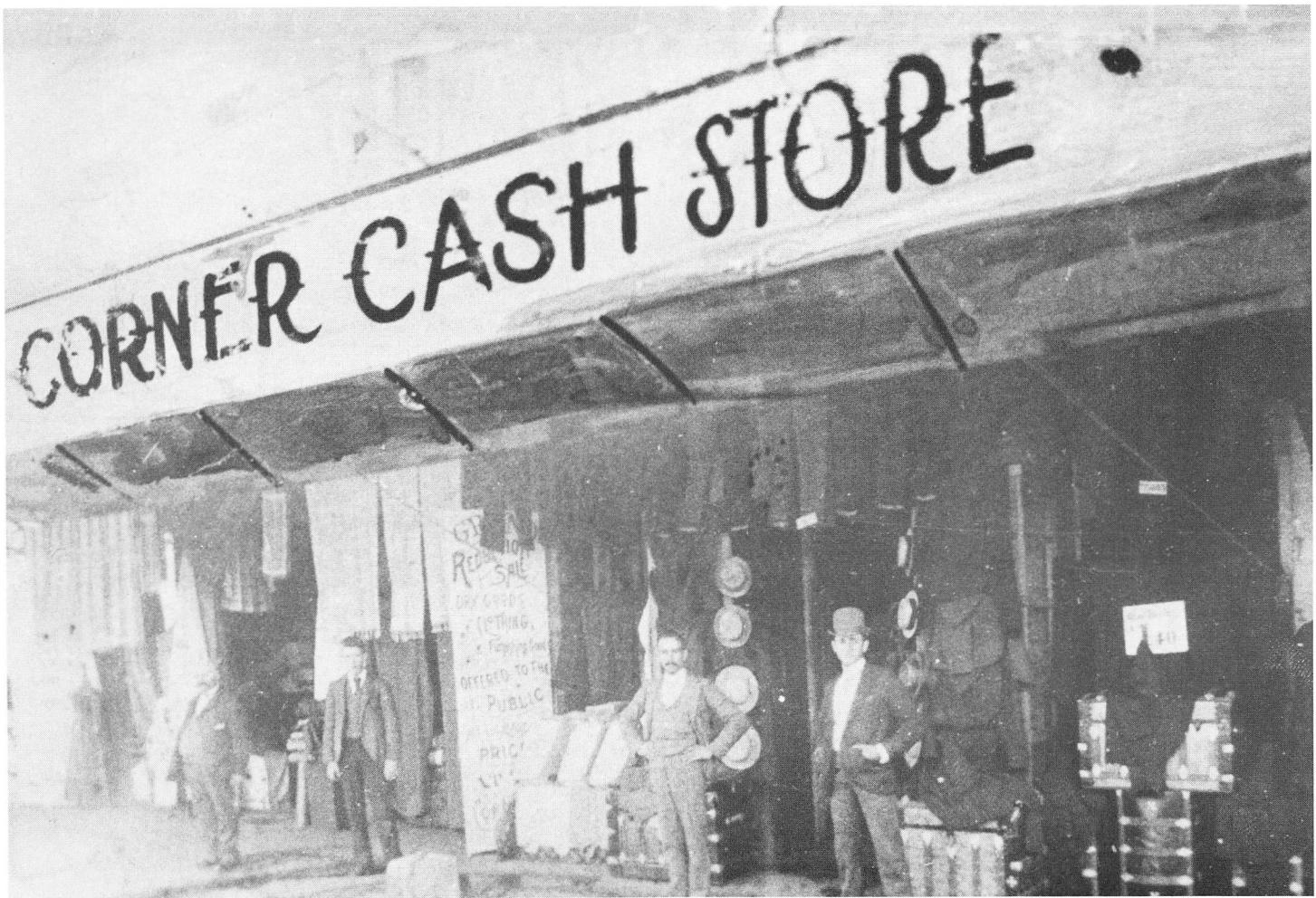
Historical Atlas Map of Santa Clara County (page 54) circa 1876, includes the following businesses, Feist Brothers and Schoen and Weil. Photo courtesy Stephen Kinsey.

Another noteworthy gentleman in the development of Congregation Bikur Cholim was Lazard Lion from Forbach, Alsace-Lorraine; an adventurous and enterprising general merchant. Although Lion was an active member of the Jewish community his wife and children were Catholic. Lion helped establish the City of Paris department store in San Francisco, was director and long-time president of a San Jose bank, owned a 5,500-acre ranch near Gilroy, and was involved in numerous merchandising ventures in San Jose. Lazard and his son, Gustave Lion, arranged for their financially troubled Commercial and Saving Bank to merge with Amadeo Peter Giannini's Bank of Italy (today's Bank of America). Lion was thus responsible for establishing the first branch of the Bank of Italy outside of San Francisco.

Leopold Hart came to San Jose in 1855 to work for his half-brother Lazard Lion. Eventually he opened a dry goods and clothing business in Santa Clara. While residing there he was elected city treasurer and served as a member of the volunteer fire department.

Having been a success in Santa Clara he purchased A. B. Steinbach's corner Cash Store on Market Street in San Jose, becoming L. Hart and Son Company in 1902 when his son Alexander joined the concern and gradually took over its management. Until just recently Hart's Department stores were still in business in San Jose and Sunnyvale.

Although many individuals came to California because of the discovery of gold only one man in the San Jose Jewish community, Solomon Eisner, was connected with this occupation. An active charter member of Bickur Cholim, Eisner also worked for a time in the New Almaden mines.



Corner Cash Store, owned by Leopold Hart, was one of the predecessors of Hart's Department Stores. Photo circa 1884, courtesy Mark Levine, Stephen Kinsey collection.

Epilog

Regarding the San Jose Jewish community of the 1850s-1900s it is evident that it was a small community made up of strong individual personalities; but it was a cohesive Jewish community whose focal point was, unquestionably, their synagogue. The religious aspects of the group are harder to discern. The Jews that came brought with them the practices and beliefs of the communities from which they came; mostly German Jews, interspersed with Jews from France, Russia, Poland and England.

The variety of rabbis serving Bikur Cholim were of a variety of religious backgrounds. Rabbi Myer Sol Levy practiced Judaism but he introduced many reform innovations into the San Jose congregation. The leader of the national reform movement, the Union of American Hebrew Congregation in Cincinnati, Isaac Mayer Wise, spoke at the San Jose congregation and invited them to affiliate. They did not choose to affiliate until 1917. Rabbi Henry Philip Loewenthal, who followed Levy, had practiced orthodoxy at his previous congregation in Sacramento.

Interestingly the community of the 1800s had mushroomed into today's 20th century community of approximately 5,300 families representing all the major branches of Judaism. The Santa Clara Valley houses approximately 11 diverse synagogues, a new facility has been purchased to house a Jewish Community Center,

the Jewish Federation, the Jewish Family Service Agency, and a Jewish Day School; all currently housed under separate roofs. Numerous men's, women's and youth groups meet for educational, service, and social purposes.

Basically the early history of San Jose Jewry, as previously outlined, is the story of a single congregation and of its individual members. From this seed has blossomed over 75 Jewish organizations throughout Santa Clara Valley.

PIONEER PROFILE

Everyone Knows His First Name



One of the best known words to come out of the West is a man's name . . . his first name.

From Caracas to Copenhagen, from Whiskey Flat to Manhattan Island, his name is common currency. He was not a statesman or a world figure whose pronouncements are recorded in history. No almanac records his achievements in the world of sports. He didn't fly the highest or dive the deepest. But he did do something spectacular: he created a pair of pants.

The man was Levi Strauss. The pants he created are Levi's jeans. Levi Strauss was 17 years old when he came to New York in 1847, an impoverished Bavarian immigrant who spoke little English. He spent his first years in America working for his two older brothers, peddling clothing and household items throughout the towns and villages of rural New York and Kentucky, sometimes sleeping on the side of the road or in vacant barns.

Spurred by exciting tales of opportunities for instant wealth in the Gold Rush country in California, Strauss booked passage on a Clipper ship and sailed for San Francisco in 1853, loaded with dry goods he intended to sell the burgeoning population.

He was one of 33,000 immigrants to come to the hectic city that year and Strauss, supplied by his brothers in New York, kept busy selling his goods to the scores of prospectors and settlers. He soon opened a shop on Sacramento Street. He had included

in his stock rolls of canvas for tents and wagon covers. But after a short visit to the gold country he realized there was a better use for the durable material.

"Should have brought pants," said one old prospector. "Pants don't wear worth a hoot up in the diggins."

He took his unsold canvas to a tailor and had him fashion a pair. Word soon spread about "those pants of Levi's," and the young Strauss set up shop in San Francisco, not far from the present location.

He began turning out dozens of pairs of waist high overalls, as they were called then. He later switched from canvas to denim, a tough cotton fabric loomed in Nimes, France, and called serge de Nimes. This fabric, which came to be known as denim, was probably the strongest loomed in the world. A special indigo dye, which could be depended on for its unvarying color quality, was developed for the denim.

Over 1 billion pairs have been sold since those first days and Levi's jeans, the West's most famous brand, have become as much a part of Western lore as the 49'ers and cowboys who wore them.

Strauss never married but spent much of his time at his home at 621 Leavenworth or with his nephews and their families. He also served as director of the Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank, the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company and was a supporter of the Valley Railroad, besides serving as advisor to numerous other businesses.

In 1897 he provided funds for 28 scholarships at the University of California at Berkeley and during his career supported the private education of many young men and women.

Strauss earned a reputation as a generous philanthropist as well as a successful businessman and when he died in 1902 the San Francisco Call devoted a full-sized picture plus three front page columns to his obituary. One of the headlines read: "His Life Devoted Not Only to Fostering the Highest Commercial Conditions, But to the Moral, Social and Educational Welfare and Development of the Young Men and Women of the State."

Reprinted with permission from Levi Strauss & Co., San Francisco

EDUCATION

State and Regional History

Members: Special evening registration for members taking history center classes only, 5-8 p.m., Thursday, September 6.

New Almaden Quicksilver Mine: Chatham Forbes

An exploration, in the classroom and at the mine itself, of discovery, development, ownership and significance of the new Almaden Quicksilver Mine in California and national history.

Hetch Hetchy: A California Water Controversy: Kevin Fish

Examine one of the most exciting topics in American conservation history - the drive to convert the Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park to a reservoir to supply water to San Francisco.

The Birth of California Narrow Gauge: Bruce McGregor

Through lecture and field trips a look at the six small, narrow gauge railroads which sprang up, almost overnight it seemed, to offer the Southern Pacific Railroad competition in the 1870s.

California's Agricultural Communities: Brian Smith

This class emphasizes California's agricultural past from Hispanic times through the Gold Rush and on to the contemporary high-value and orchard crops. Four field trips included.

Sonora and the Southern Mines: Bill Palmer

A detailed study of the Sonora region including the founding of the town in 1848, followed closely by Columbia, Jamestown, Chinese Camp and Tuolomee City. One Saturday trip planned.

Monterey Peninsula in the Fall: Lee Van Fossen

A course for the study of coastal wildlife, Marine resources, geology and historical roots for the Monterey region. Includes one Saturday field trip.

Trails and Parks of the Santa Cruz Mountains: Tom Taber

Taught by the author of "The Expanded Santa Cruz Mountains Trail Book," this course is an overview of the opportunities for recreational walking in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. Two Saturday walks planned.

Neighborhoods of San Francisco: Frank Clauss

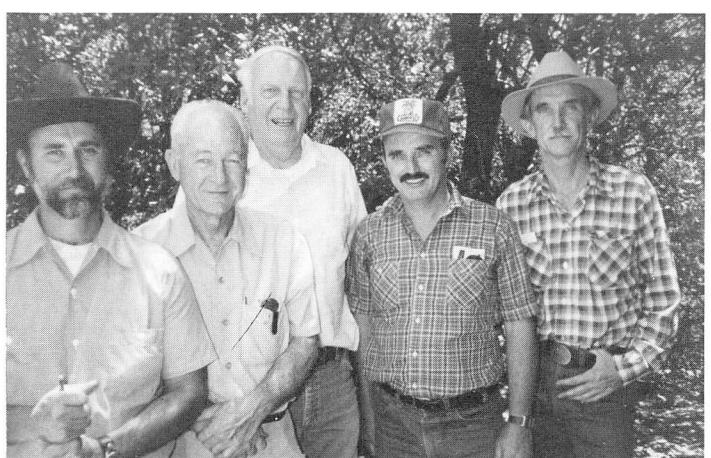
Four slide-illustrated lectures for field trips to the following areas, the Waterfront, Fisherman's Wharf, Aquatic Park, Market Street, Embarcadero Center, Civic Center, Union Square, Golden Gate Park, Haight-Ashbury and Japantown.

California Politicians: Ken Bruce

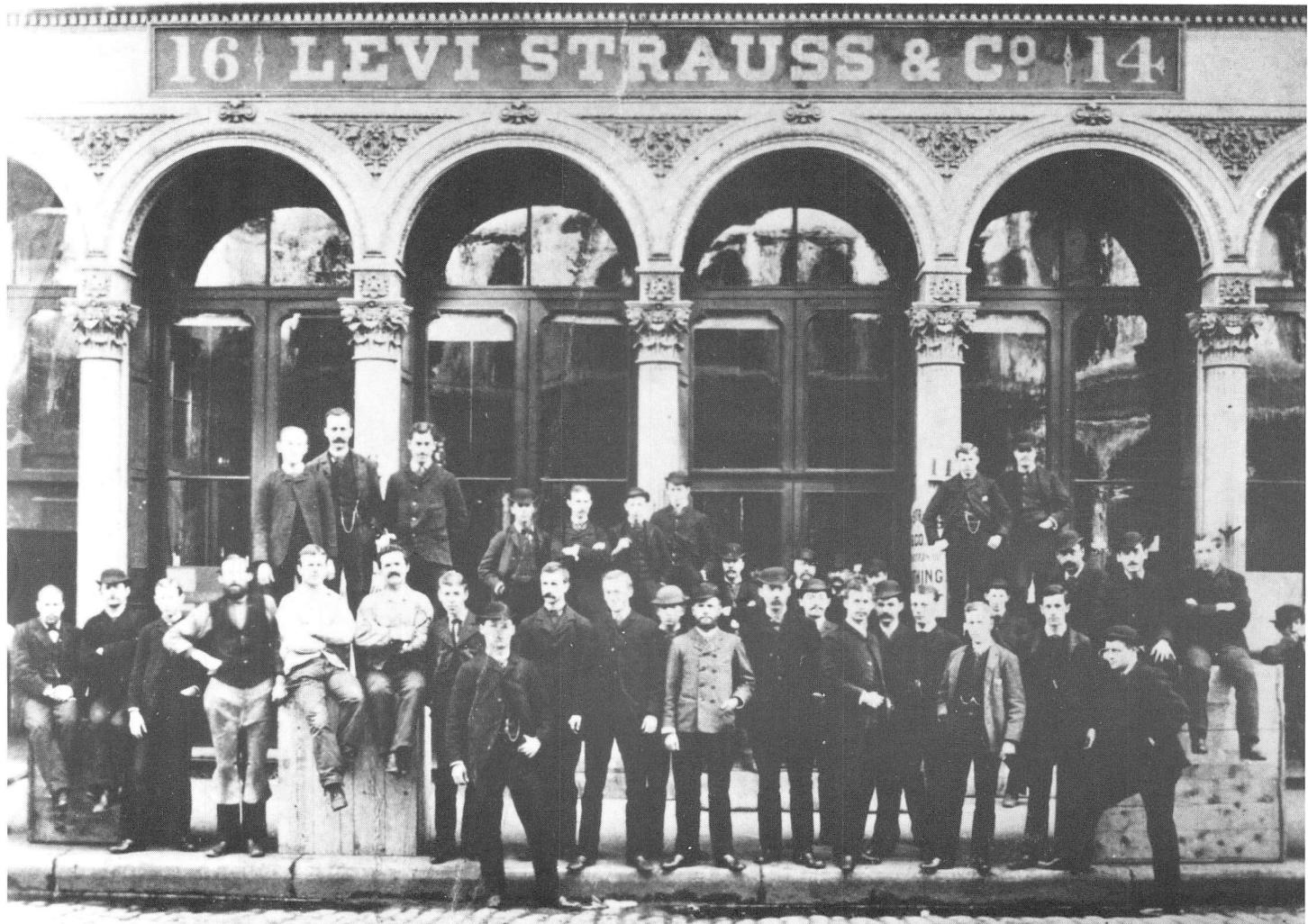
The imitable Ken Bruce looks at California's politicians, from John C. Fremont to "Governor Moonbeam," and how they have influenced national politics.



Castle Rock - A Camping Weekend was a myriad of activity including the study of wildflowers, trees and shrubs, nature photography walks and feasting on barbecued chicken followed on Sunday morning with sourdough pancakes.



Leaders for the Castle Rock weekend study of history, geology, biology and ecology included, left to right, Larry Silva, Maurice Tripp, Ken Robison, Lee VanFossen and Don Buck.



Employees pose outside the offices on Battery Street in the late 1800s. The building was later destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and rebuilt at 98 Battery. Photo courtesy Levi Strauss & Co.

The Best of Stegner: Maurice Dunbar

An exploration of the life and works of one of the best and most versatile contemporary writers in America, Wallace Stegner, with an emphasis on those works having a bearing on California's culture and history.

California's Art History: George Roberts

This class will trace the history of California Art from 1850 to the present through four evening lectures and four Saturday trips.

Exhibit Program:

Over a Century of Jewish Life:

From San Francisco to Santa Clara Valley

Since the days of the Gold Rush the Jewish People have made significant contributions to the development of California. Fall Quarter's exhibit co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose Endowment Fund, will feature cherished objects brought from Europe, ketuvot (marriage contracts), kiddish cups, talysim (prayer shawls), prayer books and mementos from regional Jewish families. The collections at the Judah Magnes

Museum in Berkeley will also be on view for the first time in the South Bay. The following courses are offered to enhance this study of Bay Area Jewish life.

The Jewish Community Today: Ilse Gluckstadt

An introduction to Jewish art, music, business, religious and social organizations, philanthropies and ethnic foods. Field trips included.

California Jewish Heritage: Hirsch/Kinsey

This class will examine the significant contributions made by Jewish people to the development of California beginning with the Gold Rush and Levi Strauss and continuing with Anthony Zellerbach, Anthony Fleischacker, Adolph Sutro and more. Six field trips included.

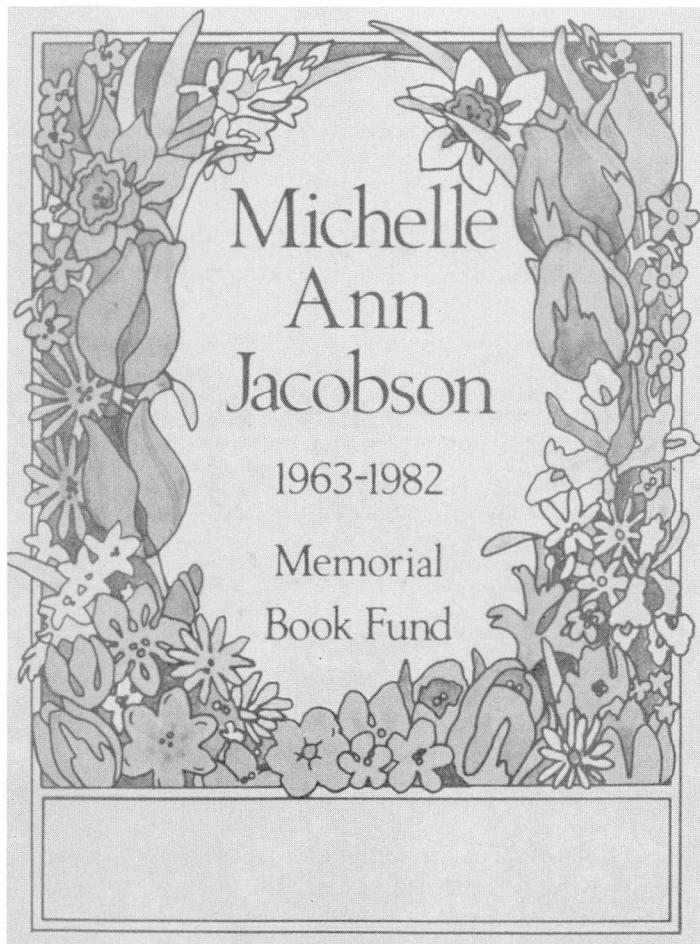
American Jewish History: Stephen Kinsey

A two-part study of American Jewish history from colonial times through the 19th and 20th centuries, from the earliest Jewish settlements in America through current Jewish contributions.

FOUNDATION NOTES

A Lasting Remembrance

A wonderful way to remember a loved one is through the CHCF Endowed Book Fund. With a contribution of \$1,000 or more, a book fund is established to buy books at the request of the family, or to order books which will enhance the growing collection in the Louis Stocklmeir Regional History Library at the center. A beautiful bookplate is printed, which, when placed in each book purchased, serves as a lasting memorial for family or friend. (Actual book plate size 3 x 4")



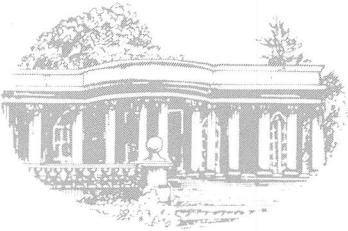
Business and Industry Support

A thank-you to the following for their invaluable support during 1983-84

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Tile Donations

Stephen & Lois White for Sr. Louis de Gonzague,
Sacriste S.N.D. Den
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Patricia Snow for Pierre Klein, Mira Valle
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Martin & Marie Mordin for Antone Zarevich and Ned B. Mordin
Joseph and Doris Adamo Family



New Members

Sponsor: \$100.00

Ken Bruce, Albert and Loraine Campbell, James and Pat Compton, Chris Marchese, Jack Mariani, Martin and Marie Mordin, Jack and Bea Taylor, Richard Taylor.

Supporter: \$50.00

Alden and Tressie Campen, Hugh Center, Lois Crozier-Hogle, Lawrence Dawson, Janet Gray Hayes, Nadine and Michael Hunt, James Jackson, Laura Jason, Tom and Nicol Legan, Kathleen Malovos, F.J. and Edith Stapleton, Donna Weiner, Rhona Williams.

Family: \$35.00

Suzanne Arnold, Janet and Herb Brynjolfsson, Thomas Carter, Edmund and Janice Chang, Carol and Barrie Coate, Ya Ya De Luna, William and Glenna Dupree, Don and Rosalyn Frolich, Jean Givens, William and Gloria Grant, Fran and Del Hack, Sunny Herman, Joanne and Richard Hesse, Howard and Janet Hill, George and Glenna Hunter, Neil and Mary Ison, Roderick and Pat Jensen, Catherine Labudak, Elwin and Dorothy Laughlin, Leo and Carmen Lawrence, Rita Leitner, Ferguson and Alice Lester, Howard and Audrey Matthews, Mary and Harrison McCreath, Sandra Morgan, Johnny and Rose Mary Musser, Pauline and Cecil Pennington, Elizabeth Peterson, Barbara Reid, Lillian Rouse, Enzo and Beverly Santucci, Ronald and Rolayne Stortz, Darlene Thorne, Lee Van Fossen, Thomas and Charlotte Wendel.

Regular: \$25.00

Marjorie Arnold, Antoinette Bakotich, Russell Bartlett, Cindy Bernard, Donna Bettencourt, Louise Bevier, Silvia Bianco, Antoinette Bilicich, Gwendolyn Brechin, Harris and Mary Brock, Patricia Brown, Lois Burns, Carolyn Caddes, Crystal Casey, Judy Collard, Robyn Crumly, Pat Del Villar, David Downey, Diane Duckworth, Zee Ebeling, Mabel Eschenbruecher, Lawrence Fagan, Jane Harold, Karen Hawkins, Otha Henn, Marjorie Holgerson, Hermia James, Arleen Jankowski, Maureen Johnson, Rolanda Jolin, Billie Lewis, Jeanne Marlow, Rosemarie McKernan, Mary McLean, Barry Menges, Josephine Mikulaco, Bill Peterson, George Pfeiffer, Ron Quan, Spiro Rafalovich, Heather Ross, Isabel Salvador, Joseph Paul Scholten, Sherry Scott, Patricia Snow, Rosslyn Sullivan, Steven Timme, Karyl Tonge, Sallie Trainer, Paul Trimble, Ellen Turner, Lorraine Ustruck, James Vargo, Beverly Walz, Eleanor Watanabe, Olive Weller, Heather Wheelock-Ross, Gerald White, Florence Worrell.

The Spring Membership Festival, held the week of June 11-15, resulted in 134 new memberships and over \$4,000 in revenue.

Our new computer is in constant use these days, as Lesley McCortney is inputting membership files and using the word processor for letters, calendar of events and "The Californian."

Renewing Members

Sponsor: \$100.00

Maurice Dunbar, Otis Forge, Edward and Artemas Ginzton, Laura Jason, Jean Kuhn, Dorothy Lyddon, Peter and Carole Pavlina, Lorin Trubschenck.

Supporter: \$50.00

Henry and Laura Calloway, Victor and Suzanne De Mattei, Helen Ewbank, Catherine Gasich, Gordon and Anne Handforth, Leslie W. Knott, David Loomis, Bill and Pauline Novak, Angelo and Linda Quintero, Mae Regnart, Nicholas and Camilla Rokitansky, Noelle Steinbronner, Zee and Jack Tieger, Diana and Dick Wright.

Family: \$35.00

Abe and Valerie Abid, Irv and Jewel Altman, Harry and June Amos, Sue Bebb, Donald and Barbara Bowen, Noel and Agnes Brown, La Vonne and Jack Cayot, Donna and Nick Dunckel, Muriel Grieshaber-Schwartz, Donna and Earl Harris, Melvin and Sarah Hawley, Eldon and Kathleen Hendrickson, Rose Hernandez, Ann Hines, Bryn Housh, Hermia James, George Jensen, Alexis and Gary McCool, Patrick and Virginia McCue, Alice McGregor, Joseph and Helen Nevin, Leona Pickle, Michael and Felicia Pollock, George and Lynne Rice, Dorothy Righetti, Jackson Roe, Ernestine Roebuck, Eiichi Sakauye, Bill and Roz Schwartz, Frank and Isobel Seeley, Louis and Jewel Smaus, Eileen Snider, Barbara Wistrom, Beth Wyman.

Regular: \$25.00

Aubrey Abramson, Evelyn Bagrash, Doris Beezley, Ilse Bershader, Shirley Black, Anne Bliss, John Buck, Dorothy Buhle, Leonore Chaplik, A. P. Christiansen, Mary Edith Clifford, Marlene Duffin, Don Ewing, Hazel Fretwell, Mercedes Garrahan, Anita Goldwasser, Alma Gould, Barbara Guerin, Marie Halfyard, Andrea Hart, Cathy Hart, Grace Hartley, Jill Hayashida, Anna Lisa Hemphill, Nancy Hertert, Signa Horsman, Thelma Johnson, Elizabeth Kemp, Brian Kestner, Mary Lusk, Ann Malatesta, Edith Mathes, Lewis Meisenbach, Charles Newman, Ellie Oller, Betty Ortez, Megan Purdy, Margaret Reed, Maude Smith, George Sousa, Frances Spangle, Sue Ellen Sprague, Daniel Stone, Regina Waltz, Beverly Walz, Pearl Ward, Sylvia Wells, Bernice Will, Yvonne Willyoung.



ANNUAL REPORT

1983-84

Message to CHCF Members

Reviewing the past year of accomplishment for the California History Center Foundation is a pleasurable task.

The 1983-84 year began last July with the opportunity to take part in the 50th anniversary celebration of Moffett Field. The CHC played its part in bringing together a remarkable exhibit, with special guidance from trustee Stephen White. The well-attended exhibit was a centerpiece of goings-on at the main giant hangar. After a stint in our own Petit Trianon Gallery, the exhibit is now in a permanent display room adjacent to the BOQ at Moffett.

Our second major exhibit was the blockbuster on **Regional Open Spaces in the Santa Cruz Mountains**. Pulitzer-prize winning novelist Wallace Stegner highlighted a memorable reception to open the exhibit.

Another reception enabled us to honor the generosity of **Businessland and GKE Software**, each of whom made important gifts to the Foundation. Our new computer is an invaluable aid in carrying forth our staffwork efficiently.

On the publishing front, we just released in June an exciting book on **Fort Ross**, written and illustrated by David Rickman. The book combines historical accuracy with a chance for youngsters to color-in line drawings.

A major publication achievement is the **Passing Farms** book by Yvonne Jacobson, which is expected this fall. This will be the most elaborate and important publication in which we have participated.

The year also saw an expansion of our docent and volunteer efforts along with our first membership campaign.

The Foundation has also completed another year of diverse and successful field trips and excursions. These ranged from a grape-crushing at Ridge Winery to a guided tour of the Stanford Linear Accelerator by one of its founding physicists, Dr. Marvin Chodorow. We also took trips to Napa Valley, the Vatican exhibition at the DeYoung, Oakland's picturesque Dunsmuir house at Christmas, a day of hunting wild mushrooms, weekends in Yosemite, Nevada City, grand old Victorians, historic Benicia and Capitola.

Castle Rock State Park was a campout experience for many of our members, as was a trip to Yugoslavia and a wildflower painting session with local water-colorist Jean Sorensen.

This year also saw the beginnings of a new effort at documentation of the fabulous high technology growth in our area. Videotape interviews with pioneers of the industry are a priceless addition to our archives.

With special help from Shirley Clements and many tireless volunteers, we've made great strides in our library cataloguing and public usage.

Our quarterly, **The Californian**, continued to be a successful communication link to our members and the public at large.

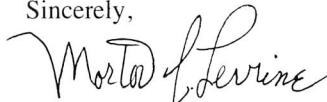
Many of these achievements came in an environment of tightened budget and increased fees.

The trustees of the Foundation are proud of the history center efforts, celebrated at founder Walt Warren's home in San Francisco, the sweep of the decade and a half recalled from the first struggling efforts to restore the Trianon.

The cumulative impact has been great.

We hope the 83-84 year has added to that record.

Sincerely,



Morton I. Levine

President

California History Center Foundation



A Victorian house and garden tour, brunch in the Old Stone Hall and a tour of Grass Valley's Empire Mine are just some of the activities the CHC enjoyed during the Nevada City weekend in April.

Library Progress Continues

The 1983-1984 school year brought a windfall of valuable library materials from the estate of Father William Abeloe, past director of "Historic Spots In California." We are honored that he selected the California History Center to be his depository. Father Abeloe's collection includes boxes of newspaper clippings on Californiana, all carefully dated and documented, as well as many books and magazines. The Learning Center has cataloged the books so they are now on the shelves.

Most of the oral histories are now catalogued. Among the tapes was a two-part interview with the late Dr. Howard Deisner, former college trustee. Our interviews cover reminiscences representing many ethnic groups which make them particularly interesting.

Projects related to documenting regional electronics history has resulted in the indexing of Santa Clara County Business Journal and a large influx of student research papers on the electronics industry.

Meanwhile, De Anza students of California History are continuing to contribute excellent research papers and oral histories to our unique research library.

Shirley Clements

CHC Librarian

Video Productions

Our exciting new project of videotape interviews got off the ground in March 1984 with a program related to the Open Space Exhibit titled "Preserving Open Space." The guests were Vince Garrod of Garrod Farms in Saratoga, and Robert Augsburger, Executive Director of the Peninsula Open Space Trust.

In May, we did two interview programs on aerospace industry, the first in the California History Center's High Technology Project. The first involved three men who had been research pilots at NASA Ames in the 1940s and 1950s, and had very interesting and exciting episodes to relate. The second program featured two men who were pioneers and are now elder statesmen of aeronautical research in the country. Walter Vincente and Robert T. Jones, both with Ames in its early years, during and following WWII when so much new and innovative research was being done, related their personal as well as professional memories of these exciting years.

In the Fall of 1984 and into 1985, we plan to continue our documentation of other areas of high technology and look forward to interviewing others who represent the expertise and the vision that has become synonymous with our valley.

Diana Wright

Video Coordinator

Docents Have A Good Year

The CHC has kept pace with modern technology with the acquisition of a computer and word processor and that is as it should be but there is still a great deal of work that has to be done by people. Without the willing and dedicated Docents/Volunteers the CHC would find it much more difficult to function. The docents led an average of 3 tours a month, volunteers made great progress in cataloguing books, student papers, photos, etc. in the library, volunteers helped research and mount (also dismantle) the two exhibits, docents/volunteers baked dozens of cookies and loaves of nut bread used at CHC functions where they worked as hosts/hostesses. Over 1400 hours were given to the Center but many people volunteer time that is never recorded. The following is a list, in alphabetical order, of those docents/volunteers who gave 40 or more hours to the CHC from Sept. 1983 through June 1984:

Shirley Clements	Marion Hanson	Lorene Speth
Ken Givens	Lida Kluzek	Dixie Thomas
Mary Jane Givens	Kay Peterson	Diana Wright
Ben Gruzen	Helen Riisberg	

Mary Jane Givens

Docent/Volunteer Coordinator

Reaching the Community 1983-1984

Exhibits

Moffett Field 1933-1983:

Exhibit opened at July 4th Air Show at NAS Moffett Field. On view at CHC Sept.-Feb., 1984; April, 1984 permanently installed at Naval Air Station, Mountain View, estimated viewers: 25,000.

Regional Greenbelt: Land Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains

Grant funded by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. Original conservation in Western Foothills (Sempervirens, County, MROSD, Post, Farm families, wineries). Research by Gerri Kenny. Traveled to Los Gatos Historical Museum Summer 84. Section on history of farm families to become permanent part of MROSD exhibit, estimated viewers: 5,000.

Publications Released

Fort Ross A picture book by David Rickman based on research and original illustrations.

Video Production

Videos produced by Seonaid McArthur, Diana Wright, hosted by Jeanne Ottinger, in cooperation with American Association of University Women. Completed titles include:

Preserving Open Space (28 min) Vince Garrod, rancher, Bob Augsburger, Executive Director, Peninsula Open Space Trust.

Aerospace History Tape 1 (28 min) NASA Ames: Test pilots - George Cooper, Fred Drinkwater, Jim Nissen. Tape 2 (28 min) NASA Scientists - R. T. Jones, Walter Vincenti.

Video Histories - Dorothy Varian, Ed Ginzton, Herb Grench, Louise Cooper, Dick and Vince Garrod, Mort and Elaine Levine, Roy Cameron, Kay Duffy.

Library

Cataloging of 600 books, 300 oral histories, thousands of photographs and clippings completed under Shirley Clements direction, Val Abid, Lida Klusek, Diana Wright, Marion Hanson, Lorene Speth, Helen Riisberg, assisting.

Education

Offering 49 credit courses, 16 non-credit educational programs involving 665 participants.

Special Community Events

Board of Governors Reception for the San Francisco Symphony; speaker presentations to: Croation-American Cultural Association, California Archaeological Society.

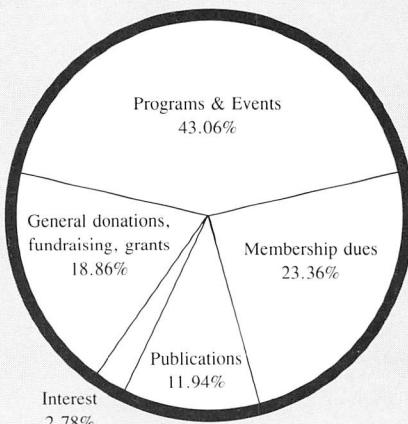
Museum Assessment

Evaluation of CHC program through Museum Assessment Program grant. Completed in April.

Financial Summary

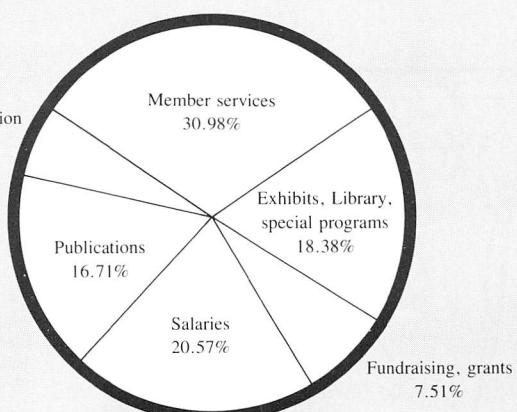
REVENUE

Total \$85,419.00 - includes value of capital donations
Budgeted \$119,313.00



EXPENDITURES

Total \$82,600.00
Budgeted \$119,313.00



California
History Center
Foundation



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\$1⁵⁰ per Issue

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TIME VALUE



California History Center & Foundation
A Center for the Study of State and Regional History
De Anza College

21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, Calif. 95014 (408) 996-4712

Trianon Bldg. Hours:

Monday-Friday:

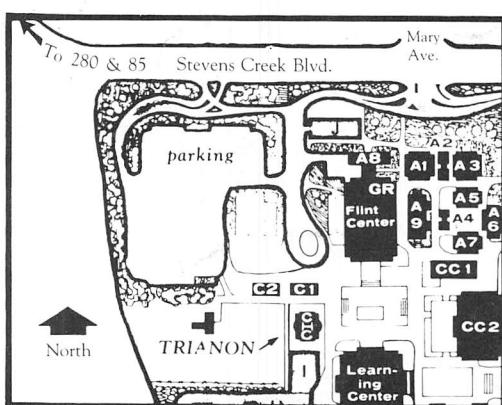
8:00 am-noon, 1:00-5:00 pm

Exhibit Hours:

Monday-Friday:

9:00 am-noon, 1:00-4:30 pm

Docent Tours may be scheduled by calling 996-4712.



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