Volume 21 Number 1 September 1999

CALIFORNIAN

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



Back On the Road to Success

I looked back at my Director's message of one year ago and noted at that time that June 1998 had been the busiest June in my 20-year tenure with the California History Center. Well, something must be going right because this year has equaled and gone beyond last! I wonder whether this means we have started down a new road of rebirth and growth? I think so.

Doug McConnell from Bay Area Backroads kicked off our year in September and we just kept on rolling. November's California Studies conference "Life in the Fast Lane: The Environment Called Silicon Valley" brought the work of three San Jose State anthropologists to De Anza, while two art exhibits, a retrospective on artist Amelia Solomon and African American Art in Northern California 1860 to the Present introduced members of the arts community to the CHC. And of course we always enjoy the children's exhibit, Exploring the California Dream, which was developed this year by Stocklmeir School in Sunnyvale and completed its run in early June.

An author's talk and book signing in December, a teach-in during African American History month on "How and Why People Create," Women's history month programming focusing on women and spirituality brought us to the end of winter quarter.

Spring saw us collaborating on two more events. One was a Juana Briones Chautauqua co-sponsored with the De Anza Flor y Canto committee, and Four Immigrants Manga, co-sponsored with the college's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month committee.

And, in addition, since February, we have raised close to \$110,000 to bring a development professional into the fold to help us address our 21st century goals. Whew!

But, even with all of the successes, including being awarded the college's "Innovator of the Year" for our California Studies curriculum project, it is no time to rest on our laurels—it is on to our 21st century goals, and what promises to be a really exciting 1999–2000. We have an exhibit opening on October 1st that I think you will truly enjoy—it is oral history/photo collage art produced by a young woman born and raised in the valley and who documents personal reminiscences of an earlier time and presents them in a wonderful art medium.

An October 30th wine tasting, costume soiree, silent auction, book sale and signing is going to be our major fund



CHC Director
Kathi Peregrin
(left) with
Trustee Willys
Peck and his
wife Betty Peck
at the year-end
lunch at the
Peck home.

raising event for the year. We are already heavily into planning and I do hope you will attend this "evening at the 1890s Baldwin Estate." Invitations will arrive in September.

The November 5th conference and a number of activities planned during the year revolve around the theme of *Music as a Reflection of Culture, Time and Place*. You will be receiving detailed conference information in the mail in early October, but mark your calendars now. We have authors, musicians and historians that will be talking about and/or performing a wide variety of California music, from blues and country western to Asian jazz and salsa. Great fun!

In late January we will open the first major, original exhibit we have mounted in five years—*Rock and Roll in Northern California 1963-75*. This particular form of music, in this particular period of time, is a reflection of an idealistic group of young people that wanted to change the world. For us aging baby boomers, it should bring back some thoughtful memories of an important time in our lives.

In addition to some musical programming for women's history month and other of the celebratory months, we are currently exploring the idea of collaborating with several California State University campuses to produce a California Studies Journal sometime within the next several years. And, we received word in June that we were awarded a California Civil Liberties Education Program grant in partnership with San Francisco State, Sonoma State and the Center for California Studies at CSU Sacramento for a multi-faceted educational project about the Japanese internment during World War Two.

We have four books in various stages of progress, including one about California's first legislature that we are co-publishing as a sesquicentennial project with the State of California. It will be out in December and members at the \$50 membership level and above will receive one as their yearly book premium.

Unbelievable! I often ask myself how we do it and the answer always seems to comes back to—a small, dedicated staff passionate about California Studies and what it means, a corp of volunteers that comes in week after week to help with tasks in all areas of the operation, a wonderful Board of Trustees that is committed to helping us achieve our vision, and you. We owe a big debt of gratitude to you, our members, for your loyal, continuing support for everything we do! You have hung in there with us through the good and the bad, and it truly has made the difference in bringing us back to the road of success.

Get a good rest this summer—and be ready to rock-n-roll come September.

Kathleen Peregrin, Director

COVER: Replica of California's first statehouse, built in 1899 at Plaza Park for the fiftieth anniversary of California's first legislature. Another replica was built for the 100th anniversary in 1949 and was moved to Santa Clara County Fairgrounds where it stands today. Courtesy of the California Room, San Jose Public Library.

CALENDAR

9/8	CHC Opens to the public. History Center hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, closed from noon to 1 p.m.		Reflection of Culture, Time and Place." Featuring presentations and performances reflecting the diversity of musical styles in California. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at De Anza College. For more	
9/21	De Anza College classes begin.		information, see page 4–5.	
10/9	Railroads field trip. See page 4–5.	11/6	Golden Gate National Recreation Area field trip. See page 4–5.	
10/16	Railroads field trip. See page 4–5.			
10/16	Threatened California field trip. See page 4–5.	11/12	Veteran's Day observed. CHC is closed. De Anza College classes do not meet.	
10/17	Threatened California field trip. See page 4–5.	11/13	Golden Gate National Recreation Area field trip. See page 4–5.	
10/23	California Lighthouses field trip. See page 4–5.			
		11/25, 26	Thanksgiving Holiday observed. CHC is	
10/30	Special Wine Tasting event at CHC.		closed. De Anza College classes do not meet.	
10/31	California Lighthouses field trip. See page 4–5.	12/4	San Francisco Civic Center field trip. See page 4–5.	
11/5	4th Annual California Studies Conference.			
	"From Blues to Country Western: Music as a	12/10	Fall quarter ends.	



The Stocklmeir Library and Archives is in search of and would appreciate the donation of the following volumes:

California Historical Society Quarterly, Volumes 1-7, 11, 21, 22, 23.

Durham, David L. California's Geographic Names; A Gazetteer of Historic and Modern Names of the State. Word Dancer, 1998. \$195

Nunis, Doyce B. Jr. ed., *A Guide to the History of California*. Greenwood Press, 1989. \$65

Pattie, James O. *Personal Narrative of James O. Pattie*. Tamarack, 1988. \$14 paper back.

University of California Press, *Pacific Historical Review*, Volumes 10-15, 26-64.

Wunder, John R. ed., *Historians of the American Frontier*. Greenwood Press, 1988. \$75

An anonymous donor gave the Stocklmeir Library and Archives Captain Fredrick W. Beechey's *Voyage to the Pacific*. The two-volume set is valued at \$150. Leo Chavez, Chancellor of Foothill-De Anza Community College District sent Stocklmeir Library and Archives *The Burrell Letters*, edited by Reginald Stuart, 1950 which he received from San Joaquin Delta College.

EDUCATION

State and Regional History

The following courses will be offered fall quarter through the California History Center. Please see the California History Center class listings section of the Schedule of Classes for detailed information (i.e., course ID #, call #, and units.) For additional course information, call the center at (408) 864-8712. And don't forget, as a benefit of being a history center member you can register for history center classes (CHC classes only, not other De Anza classes) at the Trianon building.

History of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area:

Chatham Forbes

The movement by professional planners and environmentalists to establish chains of parks and open space lands accessible to heavily populated regions has taken exemplary form in the San Francisco Bay Area, where extensive areas have been integrated into the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The history and development of this regional complex will be discussed and studied in the classroom and the field.

Lectures: Thurs., Nov. 4, 11. Field trips: Nov. 6, 13.

Historic California Lighthouses: Betty Hirsch

California lighthouses dot a coastline that is rugged, forbidding, beautiful, often fogbound and frequently deadly. The earliest lighthouses were simply bonfires built on hillsides to guide ships. The first lighthouse served the old world city of Alexandria, Egypt in 285 B.C. The first American lighthouse came to life in 1716 at Boston Harbor. The first California lighthouse was built on Alcatraz Island in 1854. This lighthouse used a Fresnel lens, which focused light rays into a sheet of light that could be seen 22 miles away. Initially 10 lighthouses were built along the California Coast. Forty-four more were built between 1854 and 1950. Twenty six are still standing. Today, 10 are open to the public, and all are automated. The class will visit lighthouses on the San Francisco Bay and the San Mateo Coast.

Lectures: Thurs., Oct. 14, 28. Field trips: Sat., Oct. 23, Sun., Oct 31.

Railroads and the Building of the West: Chatham Forbes
The arrival of the railroad in the West accelerated growth more
than any other development or event. The railroad, as the
transforming technology of the late 19th century, became the
focus of both political and economic power. The history of



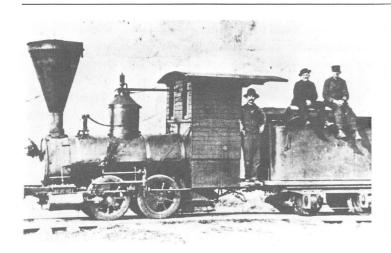
1876 Railroad Handbill. Courtesy Stocklmeir Library and Archives.

western railroads, particularly in California, will be discussed and studied in the classroom and the field.

Lectures: Thurs., Oct. 7, 21. Field trips: Sat., Oct. 9, 16.

History of San Francisco Civic Center: Betty Hirsch

Majestic San Francisco Civic Center, one of the world's most beautiful Civic Centers, houses buildings dedicated to government and the arts built in the Beaux Arts tradition. City Hall is



"Betsy Jean," a Capitola Railroad car that travelled between Watsonville and Santa Cruz. Courtesy Stocklmeir Library and Archives.

the crown jewel of San Francisco. Its sandstone and marble dome is modeled after St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and actually rises to a greater height than the dome of the United States Capitol building. With its Doric columns and gilt trimmed balconies, City Hall is the epitome of both grandeur and elegance. The history of these grand buildings, the people who built them and some of the people who rose to greatness in them will be discussed. A walking tour of Civic Center and a tour inside Davies Symphony Hall will be included.

Lecture: Thurs., Nov. 18. Field trip: Sat., Dec. 4.

Threatened California: Kristin Jensen-Sullivan

Threatened California explores the wonders of the beautiful state of California through the study of and visit to a variety of California's ecosystems including the coastal redwood forest, marshlands, Pacific tide pools and the rugged and spectacular mountain regions of the Diablo range. Students will discuss the many environmental factors that threaten California's flora and fauna including global warming, overpopulation, pollution, ozone depletion, deforestation and the biodiversity crisis. A major focus of the class will be sustainable use of California's varied resources.

Lecture/Orientation: Tues., Oct. 12. Field trips: Sat. & Sun., Oct. 16 and 17.

Mark Your Calendars

4th Annual California Studies Conference

California History Center/De Anza College 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Friday, November 5, 1999

From Blues to Country Western: Music as a Reflection of Culture, Time and Place

Tentative Schedule

8:30-9:00	Registration and morning refreshments
9:00-9:15	Welcome/introductions
9:15-10:15	Plenary Session—Presenters:
	Sarah Baker, Music as a Reflection of Culture, Time and Place
	Gerald Haslam, Country Western and the Central Valley Culture
	Shirley Ann Moore, Birth of Blues Clubs in WW II Richmond
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:30	Question/Answer/Dialog audience and presenters
11:30-12:30	Lunch—Performances
	De Anza students—"Vocal Flight" and instrumental Jazz combo
12:30–1:30	Brenda Boykin—The Oakland Sound—talk and performance
1:30-1:45	Break
1:45-2:45	Group TBA—Growth of Asian Jazz in Northern California—talk and performance

Tentative Cost: \$10/students: \$25/educators/community; \$50/business/corporate; \$75/ includes CHCF membership; \$100/membership and support for additional California Studies Programming.

FEATURE

California's First Legislature

San José, the Ill-prepared Capital

by Mary Jo Ignoffo

The following is an excerpt from an upcoming publication, Gold Rush Politics: California's First Legislature. The book is the story of the men who were elected to the first American governing body in the state, and examines the role each played in developing legal, military, and financial systems. It will be copublished by the California History Center and the State of California commemorating 150 years since the first session of the legislature. History center members at the \$50 level will receive a copy of the book as a premium late fall, 1999. This particular section describes San José and what the legislators encountered when they arrived in December 1849.

El Pueblo de San José huddled on the east bank of the Guadalupe River six miles from the southern end of San Francisco Bay. It sat just three miles east of Mission Santa Clara, but travel between the two could command a six-to-nine mile journey, depending on the Guadalupe's ability to hold flood waters within her banks. In 1797 within two decades of its founding, San José was reestablished slightly to the south in an attempt to avoid the annual flood waters. Since the Gold Rush, San José had become more popular as Argonauts passed through on their way to both the southern and the northern mining districts. It had become a gold miner's rest stop.

In many ways, San José was archetypically Californian. It was the first city in Alta California, founded in 1777 at the direction of Governor Felipe de Neve as a community of sixty-eight Spanish, Indian and mixed-race *pobladores* (settlers). These first residents,

recruited from the *presidios* at Monterey and Yerba Buena were issued house lots and 10-acre plots of land, then loaned livestock, farm implements and supplies to begin farming. The fruits of their labor were to complement those produced a few miles away at Mission Santa Clara to support soldiers at the *presidios*.

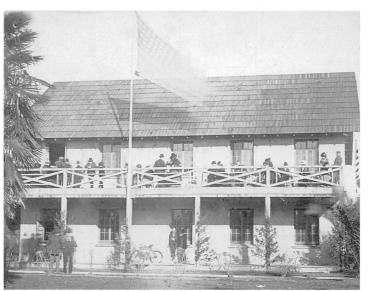
From the beginning, the relationship between San José and neighboring Santa Clara was a tenuous one. For one thing, the padres did not want a town so close to the mission

because they feared the settlers would disturb their careful control over the Indians. And for some time the two parties could not agree on a boundary. Nevertheless, the *pobladores* relied on the mission for religious services and they traveled the sweltering, dusty trail (in summer) or the muddy bog (in winter) to the mission. In 1799, Padre Magín Cátala directed his Indian charges in planting rows of willow trees along the path between San José and Santa Clara. The Alameda, as it came to be called, would become the most visible link between the two communities.

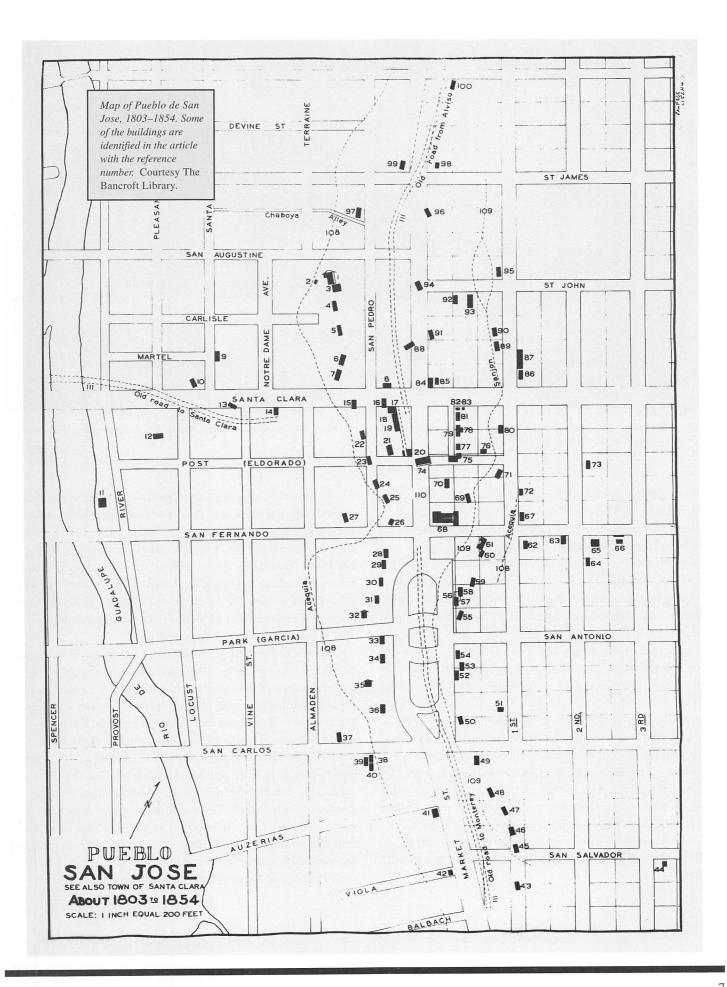
During the 1820s and 1830s, San José weathered the transfer of power from Spain to Mexico, but just barely. Local power struggles ensued as Spanish political appointees were replaced by Mexican-approved town councils. Spanish ships no longer brought supplies or provided military protection. On the plus side, heretofore prohibited foreign trade began to bring manufactured goods and people of a variety of cultures into the territory. Some foreigners settled in San José including Americans, Irish and Germans. Despite a slight population increase to about 850 residents in early 1848, San José remained a poor, quiet pueblo. An English visitor described San José as "a scattered, incongruous collection of poor houses" and noted that newer buildings were placed "without any idea or desire of order."

The pueblo was a collection of adobes clustered around a barren plaza. The site of today's César Chavez Plaza was roughly an open oval of parched dirt, the heart of the Spanish hamlet running from today's San Carlos Street north to about San Fernando and Market streets. It hosted bull fights, religious

processions, public meetings and civic celebrations. Many also found it a convenient place for slaughtering cattle to harvest hides, and it had become pockmarked by adobe-brick-making efforts to build the familiar California



Replica of California's first statehouse, built in 1899 at Plaza Park for the fiftieth anniversary of California's first legislature. Another replica was built for the 100th anniversary in 1949 and it was moved to Santa Clara County Fairgrounds where it stands today. Courtesy of the California Room, San Jose Public Library.





Adobe dwelling similar to those found throughout California in the early part of the 19th century. This one was near Mission Santa Clara, photograph by Fiske, circa 1875. Courtesy of the California Room, San Jose Public Library.

dwellings. Rotting carcasses and random ditches became such a nuisance that by 1850 many of these activities were outlawed.

The plaza was hemmed in by adobe houses, a few public buildings and a church. Evidently, the cross affixed to St.

Joseph's [68] was the only indicator that the "great unsightly barrack" was a church. The pueblo boasted ten *tiendas* (supply stores), and four blacksmiths, one *sillero* (saddler), a tanner, two shoemakers and a brickmaker. Two mills sat on the river's edge. *Panaderias* (bakeries) and *fondas* (small inns or saloons) bouyed the economy which was firmly based on harvesting cow hides and exporting them. Town lots were selling for \$15.50 and nearby plots of 100 to 300 acres were available for \$.75 to \$2 per acre.

Roads in and out of San José converged like a cross at the plaza. Coming from the south, the old Monterey Highway led directly into the heart of the plaza. North out of the plaza, the road leading to the Embarcadero at Alviso was overrun with traffic to and from the port. To the west of the plaza ran the road to Mission Santa Clara, shaded by the rows of willow trees along The Alameda. A marshy duck pond occupied the intersection of today's First and Santa Clara streets, and an *acequía* [108] or irrigation trench, wended its way through the pueblo from north to south.

El Juzgado [74] was situated north of the plaza at what today would be the intersection of Post and Market streets. The low-slung adobe was a multi-purpose jail and city hall that also was used as a school and for Protestant church services during the late 1840s. Thomas Fallon, an Irishman that would be San José's mayor a decade later, hoisted the American flag at the juzgado in July of 1846 to mark the American conquest of California. After the juzgado was razed in 1850, its bricks were recycled by a local man to build San José's first post office.

Many *Californio* families had made their home in El Pueblo de San José for generations. Antonio Suñol was a Spaniard who had been educated in France and had served in the French Navy until he deserted to remain in California in 1818. His wife was Maria Dolores Bernal and they settled in San José where he served in a variety of offices and on the *ayuntamiento* (town council) during the transition period. He operated a mill on the banks of the Guadalupe near today's River and San Fernando streets [11]. The Suñol family adobe [29] was on the west side of the plaza near today's San Fernando Street across from San José's Museum of Art. Just north of Santa Clara Street near San Pedro Street where today's Farmer's Union Building stands stood the adobe of Mariano Castro and his wife Maria Peralta [7]. He served as *alcalde* and held other local offices.

ANNUAL REPORT

1998-1999

Dear California History Center Foundation Friends:

I have just finished a year as President of the California History Center Foundation Board of Trustees and, amazingly, it appears that the Foundation has managed to survive a year with me at its helm. More, 1998–99 truly has been a positive year for the Foundation both in terms of concrete accomplishments and making progress toward long-term goals. Thank you *everyone* who helped make it happen.

This year we received a Packard Foundation matching grant of \$50,000 toward the goal of creating a new position of Development Officer to enable the CHCF to better formulate and accomplish its strategic goals. This grant was obtained through the sterling efforts of Board member Ward Winslow and others. This initial grant has already been matched thanks to the swift generous response of you, our members!



Trustee Thelma Epstein and Ray Epstein at the year-end potluck and thank you lunch at the Peck home.

Consequently, the Foundation was able to advertise and interview for the new position, and the Board is thrilled to announce that the Foundation's new Development Officer is Evelyn Miller. We are very pleased that she will be joining the Center staff and commencing work this fall. This is a major encouraging accomplishment that bodes well for the future.

Another banner accomplishment was raising to full-time the employment of Librarian Lisa Christiansen who operates the CHC's Stocklmeir Library. Fortunately, her increase in hours came just in time, as this year more people than ever have utilized the Stocklmeir's unique resources. Some of the increased traffic stems no doubt from the Center's new Web Site (calhistory.org) created by Trustee Michael Kimball as well as from increasing student research activities in the "History Lab" for students run jointly by the CHC and De Anza History Department conducted in the Stocklmeir. Success also brings challenges, though, and efforts to get more space and better facilities for the Stocklmeir continue.

The CHCF, as usual, put on interesting educational events this past year for members, the college and the general community, highlighted by the 3rd Annual CHC-sponsored California Studies Conference which was held at De Anza College last November entitled "Life in the Fast Lane: The Environment Called Silicon Valley." It was fascinating and well attended. This coming year's conference on California's "Music as a Reflection of Culture, Time and Place" will be held on November 5, 1999, and promises to be just as fun and interesting as the last.

These are just my own highlights of what I judge was a productive, promising year for the California History Center Foundation. None of this would have been possible without the sometimes-heroic efforts of our small staff and without the valuable services of dedicated volunteers and generous support of all our members.

David Howard-PitneyPresident, Board of Trustees

Library and Archives Values

What are library and archives values? Among the most important are acquisition, preservation, order and accuracy, increased access, increased use, and staff and volunteer work in these areas. In many ways, the Stocklmeir Library and Archives have added value this year.

Materials donations came from:

Aubrey Abramson, donation of 23 boxes of rare books;

Lennart Ahlkvist, issues of the *San Joaquin County Historian*, maps, and promotional material for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition;

Jennifer Bohrnstedt, *Narrative of a voyage to the Pacific* by Frederick W. Beechey, in two volumes (from our wish list);

Susan Bull, *California Gold: Story of the rush to riches*: by Phyllis Zauner and Lou Zauner;

Philip and Phyllis Bunnelle, William Kahrl's *Water atlas* and *Two years before the mast* by Dana;

Leo Chavez, The Burrell letters by Clarissa Wright Burrell;

Mary and Jack Davey, *The American West*, vols. 1 through 16 and 21, *John Wesley Powell: Voyage of discovery* by Dan Murphy and *The mighty Sierra* by Paul Webster;

Maurice Dunbar, *The California story book* by the English Club of UC Berkeley, 1909;

Vernon Galliart, *A view of Santa Clara County California* by the Greater San Jose Chamber of Commerce;

Ruth Gray, 43 hard cover and 11 soft cover books;

Mary Jo Ignoffo, Polk's Sunnyvale City Directory, 1966; Central California Santa Clara Valley: Its resources, advantages and prospects, homes for a million, 1887;

Yvonne Jacobson, *Bury my bones in America* by Lani Ah Tye Farkas, "An analysis of the University Village Complex" by Bert Gerow, "History of the Blossom Hill oil" by Ralph Rambo (letter) *Green vs. gold* edited by Carolyn Merchant and *Bibliography of California environmental history*;

Robert Juenemann, 6 boxes of books on California and the gold rush, many primary sources and a valuable Tuolumne County history to add to our growing collection of California county histories;

Beverley McChesney, video "History of South Los Altos" Part 1;

Betty Petersen, *Voices from the orchards* by Carolyn Marie Downey;

San Francisco Public Library and Susan Goldstein, *Town and Country Journal*, August 1905;

Eloy Rogers, 30 hard and soft cover books including a number of primary sources and the *Plein air painters of California*;

Jim Williams, 36 hard and soft cover books and reports, also journals, all relevant to California studies.

Generous gifts of money came from Yvonne and William Jacobson for the Michelle Ann Jacobson Fund and from Leslie A. Pantling of Santa Cruz Mountain Wine Company.

Thank you from the CHC to all our donors!

Librarian hours were permanently increased to 40 per week to help accommodate History 17 (US History) assignments. Largely as a result of the History 17 assignments De Anza College student visits increased to nearly 700. Students were assigned projects involving the use of primary and secondary sources to answer historical questions. The addition of journals, correspondence and official documents important to the study of history of California and the western United States will be a specific acquisitions goal for 1999–2000.

Reference inquiries came from, among others, Disney Co. and The History Channel of the Arts and Entertainment Network, both of whom found us on the World Wide Web. We worked with Mary Wasik at Blach Intermediate School on a Juan Bautista de Anza project.

Staff and volunteers worked in concert including Nancy Bratman on slides, Carole Chapman and Mireya Arteaga of Learning Center Technical Services on book inventory, Janet Ilacqua on computer catalog, and versatile Elizabeth Archambeault, where needed. Trudy Frank and Betty Petersen sat in for special assignments. Helen Riisberg works furiously on the clipping file out of her home. Happily, we see her at almost all of our events. Maureen Kelley, who has in past years contributed so much to the cataloging of the Michelle Ann Jacobson collection, is on hiatus from her volunteer work with the center due to the demands of her job. We hope to see her soon. Projects anticipated for next year include preservation work on our book and photograph collections. We have already started purchasing supplies toward these tasks. Thank you, all!

Many thanks also go to Dennis Copeland, archivist, for his careful work evaluating the Stocklmeir Library and Archives for De Anza College.

Making use of past, present and future human effort, the



Stocklmeir Library and Archives will continue finding ways to add to its value in the community.

Lisa Christiansen Librarian

Librarian Lisa Christiansen (rear) and Volunteer Nancy Bratman.

Volunteers, Last Year and Next

Many people contributed to this year ending up as a "two thumbs up year." Without the support of dedicated volunteers, the events and programs of the history center would not be as successful. This past year, our volunteers put in over 865 hours to help in a variety of capacities. A review of the events of this past year can indicate the many needs for volunteers that the center has for the upcoming year.

The history center is becoming well known in academic circles for sponsoring what has become its annual California Studies conference. Last year's conference, "Life in the Fast Lane: The Environment Called Silicon Valley" brought almost 150 students, faculty and the general public from the Bay Area region to De Anza College campus. CHCF volunteers put together packets of information in advance of the conference. On the actual day, they greeted the attendees, handed out prepared information, directed participants through the day-long event, and were able to participate in the conference itself.

The center will also need help on November 5, 1999 for the fourth annual conference "From Blues to Country Western: Music as a Reflection of Culture, Time and Place." This event will feature performances as well as other presentations, and the history center staff will need plenty of helpers.

In December of last year, the annual holiday party was coupled with a book signing with former CHC instructor Charles Sullivan featuring his new book published by University of California Press A Companion to California Wine: An Encyclopedia of Wine and Winemaking from the Mission Period to the Present. The book has been awarded the Julia Child Wine Book of the Year. Sullivan gave his time to speak at the event, and volunteers helped to coordinate the decorations and refreshments for the festivities.



Children's Exhibit opening, April 1999.

On October 30, 1999, the history center will be hosting a wine tasting fundraiser at the Trianon, our 1890s chateau built at a vineyard. Again, Charles Sullivan has agreed to speak on wine making in California history. A number of volunteers are needed to help at this fun event.

The 1998–99 academic year saw three exhibits grace the exhibit room at the center. Several volunteers acted as docents for the exhibits, and some helped with the installation itself. The Amelia Solomon sculptures came to the center as "A walk through a lifetime of dreams." In the winter, De Anza College Instructor Cozetta Guinn curated "In Celebration of African American Art in Northern California Since 1858." The spring found a children's interpretation of life in California. Each exhibit brought new audiences to the center.

Academic year 1999–2000 also promises to need volunteers to help with exhibits. In the Fall, Christie Santos, a San Jose State University photography student will show her collages of historical photographs and oral histories. Winter will mark the opening of "Rock and Roll in Northern California 1963-75". Both exhibits will draw a large audience and installation and well as docent help will be necessary.

A variety of other events and programs have been very popular at the history center including the Women's History Month series, the Chatauqua presentations of Juana Briones and Japanese internees, walking tours of local communites, and the publications.

The history center would like to acknowledge the following volunteers who have given their time to help at many of these activities:

Thank you to all our volunteers who gave over 865 hours this school year!

- * Elizabeth Archambeault—Library
- * Nancy Bratman—Library
- ** Trudy Frank—Office
- * Janet Hoffman-Office
- * Janet Ilacqua—Library
 Dee Liotta—Office
- * Betty Petersen—Office
- * Helen Riisberg—Library
- * over 40 hours
- ** over 100 hours

Thank you to all our current volunteers for their loyalty and dedication. If you would like to find out how you can volunteer or offer your services for a specific event or program, please call the center at (408) 864-8712.

Financial Summary

Revenue Category Definitions

Membership – new and renewing memberships

Donations – general donations; library donations; endowment donations

Publications - books/resale; sale/CHC books; restricted publications

Exhibits - exhibits; restricted exhibit funds

Donated facilities and services - facilities, services, salaries and benefits provided by De Anza College and volunteers

Miscellaneous – subscriptions; library/photo fees; library endowments; interest

Expenditure Category Definitions

Administration – general printing; postage; telephone; salaries; equipment repair; cost of goods sold Donated facilities and services – facilities, services, salaries and benefits provided by De Anza College,

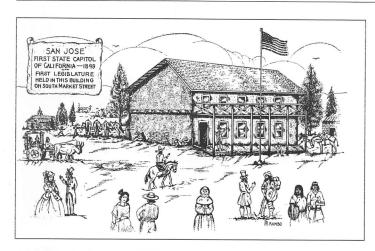
private corporations and volunteers

Publications - Californian; printing; restricted publications; salaries; design

Exhibits – design; fabrication; openings; printing; salaries

Library – library supplies; books & photos; periodicals; salaries

* Market Rate Account Inventory 32,690 Trust Fund 98,235 Endowment Fund 48,834 Fixed Assets Accounts Receivable TOTAL ASSETS * Includes revenue for projects in progress * Ineludes revenue for projects in progress \$11,779 Donations \$136,352	98-1999 ASSETS		1998-1999		
Inventory 32,690 Trust Fund 98,235 Endowment Fund 48,834 Fixed Assets 45,342 Accounts Receivable 4,926 TOTAL ASSETS \$436,690 *Includes revenue for projects in progress 1998-1999 REVENUE Memberships \$11,779 Donations 136,352	ish	\$179,177	REVENUE		Miscellaneous
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A Ralph Rambo depiction of California's first statehouse in San Jose, 1849. From a post card, Courtesy the Stocklmeir Library and Archives, California History Center, De Anza College.

Like other California towns, San José was transformed by the Gold Rush. Most of the American settlers in the pueblo set out to the gold mines. Doctor Benjamin Cory, a twenty-five year old physician who had settled in San José in 1848, tried his hand at gold mining. Josiah Belden, San José's first American mayor and the most successful merchant in town with a store at Market and San Antonio streets, went too. Both returned within a few months to resume their previous professions. Cory opened a doctor's office on Santa Clara Street and saw patients from 6 to 8 a.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m. He would be elected to represent San José in the assembly for the first legislature.

Californios in San José, for the most part, did not head for the mines. The French Consul Jacques Moerenhout, who frequently reported goings-on in California back to the King of France, wrote in June of 1848

At the Pueblo de San José all the foreigners are preparing to leave. . . . One remarkable thing is that this movement has up to now been confined to the Americans and other foreigners, because except for a few Sonorans here, who are experienced and know the method of washing the sands and auriferous soil, hardly a Mexican or Californian has yet left.

That same summer, a St. Louis doctor, Victor J. Fourgeaud sent his impressions of California to his hometown newspaper, the *St. Louis Republican*.

At the Pueblo San José, sixty miles from San Francisco, we have the Italy of California. The temperature is uniform and agreeable, unsurpassed I believe, by any in the world. It will be the place for residences par excellence. In point of natural beauty and fertility, it is a perfect Eden.

Despite many accolades, San José remained a backwater. Even its ardent supporter, the *Alta California* which often praised the pueblo, had to search for attributes other than good weather.

though we have never failed to express our warm admiration for its [San José's] fertile fields, its cloudless summer skies, diversified scenery, and so forth, we have always felt a less lively appreciation of its intellectual strength and growth which perhaps has been because of its position, so removed from the bustle of life, so out of the sphere of eventful doings peculiar to the country and age in which we thrive.

When the constitutional convention was over in the fall of 1849, it was clear San José would have an important role in establishing the new state because it was named the new state capital. By the time the legislature convened in December 1849, San José had almost 4,000 residents.

By October of 1849, real estate values in the old pueblo were skyrocketing. French Consul Moerenhout wrote to his correspondent in France, "since it was chosen as the capital . . . a great deal of land has been purchased there and property has increased from a hundred to a thousand per cent in value."

Among the new arrivals to San José was the Bascom family, fresh from Kentucky. They had left behind a large plantation. Dr. Louis Bascom, a practicing physician, suffered from asthma. Annie Bascom was an extroverted, young mother of six children, ranging in age from a few months to ten years. Later she would recall, "We sold our home and the poor black people. Of course we saw that they had good masters. . . "



Dr. Benjamin Cory represented the San Jose district in the first Assembly and went on to serve several terms on San Jose's city council. From History of Santa Clara County published in San Francisco by Alley, Bowen & Company in 1881.

the World edited by H. S. Foote in 1888. The Bascoms bought a small, leaky house at Second and San Fernando streets in December of 1849. The small, plank-floored house had two rooms, one with a fireplace and chimney and overhead hung a loft. Annie opened her home to boarders during the first two sessions of the legislature. At one time she had as many as thirteen boarders paying her \$20 per week. Her home became her own little gold mine.

Young Mrs. Bascom was unaccustomed to cooking, however, since back home her slaves had taken that task. Willis, the one slave the Bascoms had brought on their cross-country trek, had died of cholera enroute. Nevertheless, for the first several months, she hosted several boarders, and even put them to work hauling water, brewing coffee and flipping hotcakes. Young Al Bascom dubbed his new home "Slapjack Hall" commemorating the number of hot cakes produced there. In the spring, Dr. Bascom purchased another slave, David, to do the cooking in the Bascom home from another transplanted southerner for \$800. "Folks said he wouldn't stay," said Annie, "-for, of course, he was free in California—but he did. He lived with us for four years."

The population increase began to cause a variety of problems for the pueblo. Trash accumulated at an alarming rate and the city council had to pass an ordinance prescribing the "cleansing of the city." The regulation required all owners or occupants of dwellings or vacant lots to collect "all animal and vegetable offal, ... and all refuse substances, wet or dry" and leave them in a heap at the nearest street by 8 a.m. every morning. Failure to clean up the garbage was punishable by fine. Regulations



Joseph Aram represented San Jose district in the first Assembly. He became a prominent nurseryman in the California. From Pen Pictures From the Garden of

prohibiting bull fights, the slaughter of cattle in public areas including the plaza, and mud excavation to produce adobe bricks were put in place as the population grew. There was an attempt to close Pacheco Street, a narrow street which cut diagonally from Post and Market streets, northwest to San Pedro and Santa Clara streets. Drunkenness, gambling and other criminal activity seemed concentrated there.

As the elected officials made their way to San José, their routes took them over the varied terrain of California. The fellows elected from San Francisco paid \$32, the going fare for a stagecoach ride to San José. Or the "senators, representatives, clergymen, editors, doctors and not a few office-seekers besides a sprinkling of 'lobby members'" boarded a steamer that would drop them at the Embarcadero at Alviso. This option meant a sixmile hike to San José or an occasional stagecoach or more likely an adventure upon a carreta, a Mexican kind of clumsy rickshaw. A correspondent for the Alta California expressed his hope that a railroad would soon be an option.

It is contemplated also, to build a railroad from there [Alviso] to San Jose. I am informed, and most fervently do I wish for its accomplishment; for of all the cold, wet, uncomfortable rides it was ever my lot to suffer, that one from Alviso to San Josenine miserable miles—was the worst. My feet are not warm yet, and my teeth chatter when I think of it, although I have sat for the last two hours, directly in front of the largest and brightest fire I ever saw in California.

Travellers coming from San Francisco on horseback took the path described by a young traveler of the time:

The road is in a high degree interesting, running for the first twenty miles in sight of either the bay or ocean & sometimes of both. The hills run up into the mountains, from which ravines & slopes extend to the water, covered at the present time with grass that is just high enough to form a carpet of green sword beautifully varigated with flowers. Cattle & horses by the thousand are feeding quietly on the slopes. The road is sufficiently undulating and sweeping to constantly open new scenes, yet is very easy in grade and admirably adapted for travelling purposes. The land for the entire distance to this place is fertile, and susceptible of cultivation.

The representatives from Sacramento boarded a steamer that made a few stops before docking at Alviso. At Benicia, the steamer picked up more passengers, some who may have ferried across the Carquinez Strait aboard Robert Semple's converted whale boat which was making him a fast fortune.

From Monterey they encountered the path that William T. Sherman described when he said

... we crossed over the Santa Cruz Mountains, from which we had sublime views of the scenery, first looking east toward the lower Bay of San Francisco, with the bright plains of Santa Clara and San José, and then to the west upon the ocean, the town of Monterey being visible sixty miles off.

Southern Californians ventured north on El Camino Real, finding the various old mission sites along their journey. They would have continued past San Juan Bautista, on into the Santa Clara Valley.

Essayist Bayard Taylor, who had passed through San José on his way to the constitutional convention in Monterey, was astonished at its transformation in four weeks' time. His journal had noted the pueblo was "a collection of adobe houses, with tents and a few clapboard dwellings . . . scattered over a square half mile." When he came back "the town seemed to have doubled in size." Hotels were opening, French, Chinese and American restaurants set up shop and "the sound of saw and hammer, and the rattling of laden carts, were incessant." Cattle and horses wandered at will around the pueblo.

One of the first tasks facing the new lawmakers was to find living accommodations. The Sainsevain hotel, an adobe two story fronting the plaza roughly where today's Fairmont Hotel stands, would be completed as the new Statehouse [57]. The property had been purchased for \$34,000 by nineteen Americans in San José represented by James Reed and Charles White. The investors anticipated a windfall because of San José's new status as a state capital. Their aspirations would not come to pass.

The former "Miner's Hotel" was upgraded to the "City Hotel" when the town became the new capital, and was first choice of many where the going rate was \$5 in gold per day for room and board. More often than not however, visitors were relegated to the barroom floor "with other travelers and fleas which could not be counted. Local historian Frederic Hall would later quip, "If a man scratched his head, nobody for moment supposed it was for an idea." As one of the few frame buildings in town, this one and a-half story hostelry on the west side of First Street rapidly filled to capacity.

Most were forced to the Jones Hotel, a passable establishment or the fashionable and most expensive hotel in town, the two-story Mansion Hotel. The sitting room of the Mansion House had a huge fire place where cold travelers mingled and imbibed to regain their strength after leaving horses at an adjacent livery. They would have to venture out to the back yard to find the privy and a couple of washstands. Some legislators camped at personal residences and Captain Fremont and his wife Jessie were guests of the Grove Cook family. Dinner in the pueblo cost \$2 or an egg could be had for fifty cents.

Living on the legislative wage of \$16 per day would prove more challenging than anticipated. Even though most of the new legislators were accustomed to hardship simply by being in California, most were not willing to put up with insufferable cramped, cold, wet and muddy conditions of San José during the winter months of 1849–50. George Tingley representing the Sacramento district, found himself paying an exorbitant price to sleep on a dining room table. It is not surprising that within the first week of the session, Mr. Tingley introduced a bill to move the capital out of San José. California's first legislature got started on a very precarious footing indeed.

FOUNDATION NOTES

Foundation's New Employee

The CHCF has hired Evelyn Miller as its new Development Officer, a position that is funded by a matching grant from the Packard Foundation. Earlier this year, a successful fundraising effort by the CHCF matched the \$50,000 Packard grant, which will fund the two-year development officer position.

Evelyn Miller received her Bachelor's degree from Radcliffe University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She comes to the center with ten years experience in non-profit fund raising. She has worked as a non-profit consultant for the Santa Clara County Bar Association Law Foundation and the Adult and Child Guidance Center in San Jose. Previously she worked in development for the Eastfield Ming Quong Foundation and for the San Jose Musuem of Art. She is currently a member of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives.

The development position is "exactly what I was looking for—a small organization where I can leverage my experience to make a major difference in many areas of fundraising." Miller and the CHC staff members look forward to a strong working relationship to put the foundation on stronger financial footing.

A VINTAGE CELEBRATION

A BENEFIT WINE TASTING AT THE TRIANON

Join in a celebration at the historic Trianon originally built in the 1890s as a summer home on a prolific vineyard.

Elegant attire or come as your favorite character from California's past.

Saturday, October 30 7-10 p.m.

Silent auction Live music

Wine, non-alcoholic beverages and hors d'oeuvres Presentation by wine expert and author Charles Sullivan

\$50 PER PERSON

Tickets available in September, 1999 For more information, call (408) 864-8712

"Innovator of the Year" for California Studies Curriculum Project



The California History Center was selected as the De Anza Community College 1998–99 League for Innovation award winner for its work with San Francisco State University, Sonoma State University, CSU Sacramento, Santa Rosa Junior College and Napa Valley College to develop a core California Studies interdisciplinary curriculum that will take college students from the community college through the four-year CSU system. De Anza faculty and staff involved in the project were honored at the May 17th meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Foothill/De Anza Community College District. Participants from De Anza College were Thelma Epstein, History; Tom Izu, Staff, California History Center; Kathleen Peregrin, Director, California History Center; Eugene Rodriguez, Painting/Creative Arts; Tim Shively, English; Jim Williams, History/Technology/Environment; and Eloy Zarate, World History/ICS.

Nominated projects must meet at least one of the following criteria: Quality: increases quality in the course, program, office or institution

Efficiency: contributes to a more efficient way of doing things Cost effectiveness: adds a value to the institution without additional cost

Replication: can be replicated in other institutions with minimal difficulty

Creativity: as original as possible or creative adaptation Timeliness: no more than five-years-old

Innovator of the Year awards are given under the auspices of the League for Innovation, a nationwide consortium of community college districts that are considered to be "State of the Art" in promoting teaching and learning. There are nineteen League districts in the U.S., and one in Canada, including among others, Miami/Dade, Callas, Sinclair in Dayton, Ohio, Monroe in Rochester, N.Y., Humber in Toronto, Canada, and Kern Community College District in Bakersfield. Districts become members of the League by invitation.

Board News

The slate of officers for the academic year 1999–2000 has been established and they are: President, **David Howard-Pitney**; Vice-President, **Mary Jo Ignoffo**; Secretary, **Michael Kimball** and Treasurer, **Bill Lester**. Trustee **Doni Hubbard** had been serving as Vice-President, but resigned in April. Doni has been particularly supportive of the CHCF in the area of events and fund raising. Her talents and skills will be sorely missed. However, she did offer to help on future projects and she will remain an active member of the center.

The CHCF welcomes three new board members. **Ron Bottini** is a marketing and public relations consultant who has been a friend to the history center for many years. Previously he was Director of Marketing and Communications for De Anza College. In the early 1990s he served as guest editor of the CHC's magazine *The Californian*. Ron brings valuable skills and experience to the organization, and is already working on updated brochures for the center.

Cozetta Guinn has become a friend to the center through an exhibit that she curated in January of 1999 "In Celebration of African American Art in Northern California Since 1858." Cozetta is an artist, an art teacher and an African art historian. She teaches the history of multicultural art at De Anza College and she has taught at many other institutions as well. She has been a docent at the De Young Museum in San Francisco.

Darlene Thorne has been a member of the history center since the Trianon was restored, and she and her late husband were married there. She is an editor and publisher of *The Wedding Guide*, a bridal planner. Previously Darlene was the director of the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce. She has generously supported the center through the years. The foundation is pleased that this longtime friend will join the board of trustees to help guide it toward its goals.



Directors' Scholarship

Recipient of this year's Directors' Scholarship is John Clarke who has earned an AA Degree in Liberal Arts at De Anza College. The scholarship was established in honor of the current and past directors of the California History Center to recognize students who have demonstrated involvement in the social and intellectual issues facing California. A scholarship committee, made up of Director Kathi Peregrin, former Director and De Anza College History Instructor Jim Williams, Librarian Lisa Christiansen, Administrative Associate Tom Izu and Trustee Jennifer Bohrnstedt specifically looked at the educational, professional and volunteer activities of the applicants.

Clarke explained that California "has given me its beautiful landscapes; its beaches, it forests, its hills and mountains, and its skies, where I have spent many hours thinking, enjoying and feeling alive. It has also given me a social climate that is perhaps one of the most diverse in this country." He also stressed that he believes "volunteer work, grass-roots involvement and community activism" as some of society's greatest needs. John's application was accompanied by strong letters of recommenda-

tion by two of his instructors. One noted that "I am personally aware of John's deep concern with social issues and am most impressed by his commitment and willingness to implement his social philosophy with deeds and actions."

Clarke will be going on to University of California at Santa Cruz this fall.



Directors' Scholarship winner John Clarke with Executive Director Kathi Peregrin.

Left to right: Librarian Lisa Christiansen, Volunteer Trudy Frank, Director Kathi Peregrin, Development Officer Evelyn Miller and Administrative Associate Tom Izu.

CHC is Awarded Civil Liberties Public Education Grant

A Consortium of San Francisco State University, Sonoma State University, Sacramento State University and De Anza College has been awarded a grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program to fund a project on the WWII Japanese American Internment (JAI).

The federal Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and the California Civil Liberties Public Education Act of 1998 encourage educators to un-do the silence of history about Japanese internment. The aim of this project is to bring the Japanese American internment history directly to hundreds of teachers and thousand of students in California' K-12 and Community College educational systems.

The history center's part in this project will be a live-viasatellite teleconference in which student will be able to discuss interactively with legislators the JAI issues and their relevance to civil liberties issues. The teleconference will be held at the De Anza College television center and it will be in the spring of 2000.

In Memory

Local historian **Glory Anne Laffey** died this past spring after a year-long battle with cancer. She was a longtime member of the California History Center and was consistently generous with her knowledge and time in historic preservation efforts around the valley. The CHCF Board of Trustees closed their meeting in honor of Glory Anne on April 21, 1999.



Year-end potluck and thank you lunch at the Peck home. Left to right: Elizabeth Archambeault, Mary Jo Ignoffo, Janet Hoffman and Ron Bottini.

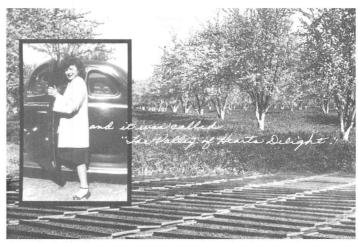
Exhibits

The Valley of Hearts Delight

A photographic and oral history exhibit by Christie Santos will be at the CHC October 1–December 15 1999. Santos created the art work for a photography class at San Jose State. "As an art/photograpy student, I wanted everyone to see that the Bay Area is not just computers, it's people coming from a place that is rich in history—a history which is often overlooked. . . . I asked Bay Area residents what they remember about growing up here." She created photo-collages and oral history stories to tell the history of this valley. The exhibit has also been on display at Santa Clara City Library and the Headen-Inman House in Santa Clara.

Rock and Roll in Northern California 1963-75

This original exhibit, specially created for the history center, will open in January 2000. It manifests the history center's theme of academic year 1999-2000, "Music as a Reflection of Culture, Time and Place" which begins with a conference in November 1999 (see p. 4-5). Details about the exhibit opening celebration will be in the next issue of *The Californian*.



"and it was called 'the Valley of Hearts Delight,'" a photo collage by Christie Santos.

Packard Foundation Grant

This past spring, the Packard Foundation awarded a \$50,000 matching grant to CHCF to fund a new development officer for the Foundation (for an introduction to our new employee see page 12). The following donors contributed a grand total of \$59,150.

Major Donors

Mrs. Morris Doyle, Marion and Bob Grimm, Doni and Sidney Hubbard, Yvonne and William Jacobson, Bill and Jean Lane, William Lester, Dorothy Lyddon, Hazel Lester, Leslie Masunaga, Keith and Katherine Peterson, Helen Riisberg, Susan Varian Hammond, Ward and Holly Winslow.

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\$3 per Issue

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit Number 310 Cupertino, CA

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CALIFORNIAN

is published tri-annually by the California History Center & Foundation. The Magazine is mailed to members as a benefit of annual membership in the CHC Foundation. Membership categories: \$30 Individual; \$40 Family; \$50 Supporter; \$100 Sponsor; \$500 Patron; \$1,000 Colleague.

Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. The value of goods received as a benefit of membership must be deducted from the amount of all contributions claimed as a deduction. CHCF members receive tri-annual issues of "The Californian" magazine and members who contribute at the \$50 level and above also receive a yearly Local History Studies publication.

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ISSN: 0742-5465