

FEBRUARY 2010

**Cemeteries of Yolo County
Stones, Bones and Stories**

**Davis Cemetery
820 Pole Line Road**

**Sunday, February 28, 2010
2 P.M.**

This presentation will review the history of the Davis Cemetery and illustrate how local history can be learned at the county's cemeteries. Refreshments and a guided tour will follow the talk, with two electric vehicles available for up to a dozen of the mobility-challenged among our guests.

Presenters will include:

Peggy Perrazo, author of "Stone Quarries and Beyond", and co-creator (with her husband) of web sites describing Yolo County's half-dozen largest and many smaller cemeteries.

Dennis Dingemans, retired UC Davis professor of historical geography and chair of the Davis Cemetery District Board.

The cemetery is located at E. 8th Street – meeting will take place in the heated office building.

President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January 1, 2010, Time to make those New Year's Resolutions which will probably be broken by the end of the month, if not before. I decided not to make any this year so I won't feel guilty when I falter. If I lose weight, great. If I go to the gym, regularly, great. If a new President for the Society emerges, GREAT.

The last program for the Society presented by Dorothy O'Neil on her book on Winters published by Arcadia Press was held at the new library in Winters. We were the first group to use their Community Room and I was the first to set off the alarm which took a trip from Davis by Sara Ferguson, the head librarian, before the Fire Department let her shut off the siren. Dorothy was not sure what she would say about her book but once she got going and with questions from the audience we were all enthralled by the extent of her research and her knowledge of Winters history.

In talking with her husband, Jim, about how they met, etc. I was given a book he had written entitled "The Kid from the 313th - My Boyhood Years from the streets of Chicago to D Day plus 8". If you served in World War II, or are just interested in its history, this book is for you. Jim and Dorothy live in Winters and a call to him would be welcomed.

Our first program of the New Year, January 24th, will be the first in a series on Yolo County Cemeteries which are being researched by Board Member, Dennis Dingemans. Those of you who enjoyed our trip to "Solano Hills and Waterfronts" know that Dennis leaves no stone unturned when researching a program.

Peace,

BJ Ford,

HATTIE WEBER MUSEUM

Hattie Weber Museum Celebrates Christmas – 1898!

On Christmas Eve 1898, members of the Davisville community gathered at the Presbyterian Church for a Christmas cantata and party. According to the account in *The Enterprise*, a 20-foot Christmas tree, adorned with 106 25-cent presents for the Church Sunday School children, was the centerpiece of the event. Under the tree were 200 sacks, each containing an orange, an apple, nuts and candy to be distributed to all of the children who attended.

The Hattie Weber Museum of Davis honored this occasion with a Christmas tree (somewhat shorter than the 1898 one) and "goodie bags" for all visiting children; the bags had similar contents to those of 1898!

The decade of the 1890's was recalled in an exhibit of what was here in Davisville at that time. It includes pictures of homes and businesses and features dolls and a book of the period on loan from Margaret Hill. There is also mention of what was to come: electricity, paved streets, the University Farm, indoor plumbing, etc. The Museum gives visitors a glimpse of what life was like in Davisville for the 700 or so residents in the 1890's.

Other exhibits currently on display in the Museum include Davis Families, Davis Schools 1870 to 2009, Jerome Davis' Farm, Early Railroad and University Farm artifacts, the Davis Libraries of 1911 and 1966, and Hattie Weber herself.

Mary Lee Thomson

Hattie Weber Volunteer

HISTORIC WOODLAND TRAIN DEPOT

Waiting Room Nears Completion

Major work on the waiting room of the former Woodland Southern Pacific depot was completed last year by the volunteers of the Sacramento Valley Historical Railways. Much of the work involved undoing what the Greyhound Bus Company did when they leased the room from 1056 until the depot closed in the 1980's. It is now being restored to what it originally looked like when the depot was completed in 1911.

The original stucco finish on the ceiling and walls was repaired and stabilized for painting, including repair of water damage and the patching of several cracks in the ceiling. New material was milled to replace missing pieces of the wooden wainscoting and chair rail and the wooden sills were repaired with an epoxy material to strengthen them. The ticket window to the station agent's office received a great deal of attention. The counter was repaired, new bubble glass was installed in the window and missing trim was replaced. After a great deal of research, the entire room was then painted in the original Southern Pacific adobe color. Two patches of the original paint on the wainscoting were covered by glass for comparison to the new paint.

Correct period signs were recreated and placed above the ticket window and to the door of the men's restroom. After a nationwide search, a period drinking fountain matching the

Southern Pacific Common Standards was located and donated by SVHR members. In addition to continuing work on the restrooms, work will now focus on the women's retiring room which adjoins the waiting room.

The Sacramento Valley Historical Railways would like to thank the Yolo County Historical Society for its generous grant to help restore the waiting room, and MG Painting for its help in painting this room. Please visit our website at www.SVHR.org or contact me at SacValRR@gmail.com if you would like further information about the Historic Woodland Train Depot or how to join the Sacramento Valley Historical Railways. Work days are on the first Saturday of the month. The schedule is available on our website.

Mike Adams
President
Sacramento Valley Historic

Railways

RED DOT REMINDER

If you have a red dot on your mailing label it is a reminder that your subscription to the Yolo County Historical Society is past due. We know that we all need reminders now and again, so this is our way of letting you know that we hope you continue your membership in the Society.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DEADLINE: