

Yolo County Historical Society



Prez Says

Well, it's here!! Summer has roared in with a bang! I can hardly believe that it is May and almost half of the year is gone! I decided to research the month of June and discovered a great column on the internet about June celebrations. I knew Flag Day, the beginning of summer and my birthday, but the other dates were a surprise (see page 4).

There is a lot happening in our world. We just finished Big Day of Giving. I have listed the names of the contributors in the article below. You all are super. You helped us reach a goal that will get us closer to painting the Fair Museum at the fairgrounds. Thank you, thank you.

Our annual meeting is on June 8 at the Railroad Museum here in Woodland. We are meeting at 6 p.m. and the Kiwanis are cooking for us. Please RSVP to either Pat Campbell at 530-666-3021 or Mardi Bagan at 530-666-6596. We will have our annual meeting, share what has been going on in the Society, elect officers for the coming year, give awards, and have a tour of the facility.

Hope to see you all there.

Remember, as always,
History Rules!

Kathy Harryman, President

Diolch! 감사 해요! Dziękuję!

Thank you! Big Day of Giving by Kathy Harryman

Thank you to the following individuals who contributed monies to the Big Day of Giving:

Mary Aulman, Vasey Coman, Ed & Carol Conley, Barbara Graham, Kathy Harryman, Janette Levenson, Thomas Lewis, Jenny & Nate Lillge, Gloria Lopez, Erin Montgomery, Chuck & Claudia Owens, Lon Springer, Elaine Yamaguchi, Pat & Don Campbell, Rob Coman and Tom & Meg Stallard.

Special Thank You to Tom and Meg whose donation from "Stallard Family Fund of the Yolo Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation" enabled us to match our donations.

Also thank you to the following groups who helped:

Friends of the Yolo County Archives, Historical Society of Winters, Hattie Weber Museum, Native Sons of the Golden West Parlor 30, and the Union Church of Dunnigan.

You are all wonderful.

Honoring a Senior: Stella Eilola

by Mardi Bagan¹

Stella Eilola was born in 1921 in Michigan. She was the sixth child of eight. Stella lost both a sister and a brother during the influenza that came at the end of World War I. After high school, she attended Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, and then transferred to Central State Normal School Grand Rapids where she received her teaching credential. In Michigan she taught kindergarten through fifth grade. It was there that Stella met her future husband, Albert, who was the school principal. They were married in 1945.



In 1956, the Eilola family moved to California with their two daughters. Stella taught in the town of Zamora, first through fourth grades, for one year. She then was hired at Beamer Elementary. Later, she worked at Freeman Elementary. Albert taught in West Sacramento.

Stella and Albert purchased a Victorian home in 1961 and Stella still lives there. She was active with the Gibson House Museum.

Upon retirement, Stella joined the Woodland Hospital Auxiliary in 1983. Her first job as a volunteer was to take menus to the patients and help them select meals. She also sorted and distributed the meals. That job was eliminated. So, then the volunteers had a coffee cart on the second floor that offered coffee and hot chocolate to both the patients and the visitors. This little service ran from 9-12 and from 1-3. This job was also eventually eliminated. She then became a greeter at the front desk. Stella said that her favorite activity was once a month the group would get together and make tray favors. These favors were then distributed on a special day during that month. This activity was also eventually eliminated.

When Stella reached 90 years of age, she thought she might be too old to work, and she was having a little problem with her hearing. She is still going strong at 101 and is so delightful. She drives to Holy Rosary Catholic Church every day for daily mass. If you see her out and about, be sure to stop and chat for a minute or two.

¹ This interview was done by Mardi Bagan.

Join or Renew!

Yearly dues (membership runs from 7/1 to 6/30)

\$25 Household

\$50 Business (name in all the newsletters)

\$100 Patron (name in all the newsletters and a discount on our trips)

We are a 5013c tax deductible organization – ID# 23-7086043

Make out check to Yolo County Historical Society.

Mail to: **YCHS**

PO Box 1447

Woodland, CA 95776



Who Knew?

by Kathy Harryman and Christie Donnelly

Did you know that each day of the month has its own celebration? Wow! I wonder who thought of all this? Was it Hallmark Cards? Anyway, I thought I would share this with you. The article is by Christie Donnelly and was found on the internet at <https://www.thespruce.com/reasons-to-celebrate-in-june-4164029>

Our annual meeting is on June 8, Best Friends Day. That is so appropriate.

Enjoy.

- June 1: World Milk Day
- June 2: National Rocky Road Day
- June 3: National Egg Day
- June 4: Hug Your Cat Day
- June 5: National Donut Day
- June 6: National Gardening as Exercise Day
- June 7: National Chocolate Ice Cream Day
- June 8: Best Friends Day
- June 9: National Strawberry Rhubarb Pie Day
- June 10: National Iced Tea Day
- June 11: Corn on the Cob Day
- June 12: National Jerky Day
- June 13: Weed Your Garden Day
- June 14: Flag Day
- June 15: National Lobster Day
- June 16: Fresh Veggies Day
- June 17: National Apple Strudel Day
- June 18: National Splurge Day
- June 19: National Dry Martini Day
- June 20: The First Day of Summer
- June 21: National Smoothie Day
- June 22: National Onion Rings Day
- June 23: National Pink Day
- June 24: National Pralines Day
- June 25: National Strawberry Parfait Day
- June 26: Tropical Cocktail Day
- June 27: Great American Picnic Day
- June 28: National Tapioca Day
- June 29: National Camera Day
- June 30: National Meteor Watch Day

Hattie Happenings

by Merrily Dupree

As the weather warms up, the Farmer’s Market becomes a hot bed of activity, and the Hatti receives many visitors. The following is from a monthly report from the Hatti.

Two of our volunteers, Aaron Wedra and Lulu Zhang, have recently published articles in the Enterprise. In “**View from the Saddle: Getting an Up-close Look at Davis History**” (4/3/23), Aaron describes happening upon a sign commemorating the J.H. Oeste Ranch while cycling along Roads 98 and 99, between West Covell Boulevard and County Road 29. Curiosity led him to research Davis’s Oeste family, who came to the area in 1868 and eventually acquired a large amount of agricultural land, which they farmed for over a hundred years. J. H. Oeste, or John Henry Oeste, was a son of the original pioneer Jacob William. He farmed the area in partnership with his uncle, Heinrich Strippel, from 1876 to 1905.



Lulu Zhang came from mainland China to attend UC Davis. Her article, “**The Past Can Bring Us Closer, Now**” (5/6/23), begins with difficulties she experienced in communication when she came to Davis as a student, – not with Americans, but with other Chinese students from Hong Kong. They spoke Cantonese, which she, as a speaker of Mandarin, could not understand. Gradually she discovered that although the other students were from a British colony, they shared her own Chinese culture.

She connects this cultural misunderstanding with the naming of Larue Road on the UCD campus. Jacob Larue was a prominent advocate of the University Farm, yet the naming of the road was something of an embarrassment because “La Rue” means “the road” in French. So, Larue Road actually means “The road Road.” Confusion exists whenever cultures interact, and history preserves evidence of it.

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● **Business Buddies** ●

● Please support these local businesses. ●

● They support the Yolo County Historical Society. ●

● **Corner Drug** ●

● **Legislative Intent Service** ●

● **Pleasant Pheasant** ●

● **Simas Family Vineyard** ●

● **Yolo Ice & Creamery** ●

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Another Big Thank You

by Kathy Harryman

On May 1, 2023, the Board of Directors of the Woodland Sunrise Rotary Foundation (WSRF) funded our grant application for building improvements (painting) to the Yolo County Fair Museum at the Yolo County Fairgrounds. I requested \$10,000 and they approved \$7,500. The WSRF is a 501(c)3 charitable organization formed in 1999 which has funded a wide variety of projects and programs since their formation. We are now part of their project.

We will receive their grant after their October 14, 2023, event at the fairgrounds. We will keep you posted.

Woodland Sunrise Rotary Foundation

Grant Application

Education and Literacy Category

1. Name of the organization – Yolo County Historical Society and Woodland Parlor 30, Native Sons of the Golden West
 - a. Address: PO Box 1447 Woodland, Ca 95776 Phone 530 650-6311 (Kathy)
 - b. Number of paid staff 0, number of volunteers, hours/year? 50 volunteers with both groups, approx. 4000 hours per year
2. Contact person Kathy Harryman, 1622 Edwin Ave Woodland, Ca 95695 530 650-6311
 - a. khwoodland@aol.com
3. Address where donation should be sent. Yolo County Historical Society PO Box 1447 Woodland, Ca 95776
4. We have established a museum composed of 11 historical groups throughout the county. We are currently housed at the Yolo County Fair in the old office building. We have been working to improve the building. We have new flooring, new lighting, and display cases in the building. We have established a timeline of the history of Yolo County and it is currently in the museum. Each of the 11 groups have a display case that they organize. We are now working on the outside. We would like to have funds to paint the outside. We have selected a color scheme that has been approved by the fair management. Our objective is to have a county museum where the citizens of the county and visitors to the county can come to see our rich history. We are currently opening the building on the 2nd Saturdays of each month. During the Fair it will be open all 5 days and during special events, we will also open the building.
5. IRS number is 23-7086043
6. Who will benefit from this program—all residents and participants who visit the fairgrounds. We also plan to open it up to 3rd grade students when they visit the schoolhouse. Although the museum is small it has a wide range of historical entities and artifacts to interest all age groups.
7. The project will be carried out at the Yolo County Fair Grounds. It will be carried out by the chosen painter.
8. There is not another museum in the county that deals with all the historical groups. Many of the groups are regional and meet on their own. This gives all the historical groups an opportunity to come together to meet other groups and to celebrate our rich county heritage.
9. We are requesting \$10,000.00.
10. We have received \$2,500.00 from Big Day of Giving in the past. That money was used for the flooring and lighting. We just received \$1,000.00 from the Stroll Through History for the painting.
11. The funds will be used only to paint the outside of the building.
12. This project will not need to be sustained as it is a one time project.
13. Submitted by Kathy Harryman 530 650-6311 khwoodland@aol.com
Date April 15, 2023

Patrons

The following folks support the *Yolo County Historical Society*. We could not run this organization without their help. Thank you very much!

You, also, can be a patron by **contributing** \$100 or more.

Starr and Jeff Barrow
Ryan Baum and Alice Wong
Bob Bigelow
Don and Pat Campbell
Odette & Dana Christensen
Katharine Ashly Cobb
Rob & Liz Coman
Carol & Ed Conley
Tom Crisp
Paul & Leila Crist
Ginger & Bob Day
Mark and Merrily DuPree
Jon and Barbara Durst
Gerda & Marc Faye
Barbara Graham
Richard Harrison
Kathy Harryman
Dan and Sarah Hrdy
Steve and Teri Laugenour
Dr. Frank and Mrs. Liz Lemus
Nancy Hatcher McCullogh
Jane Niehaus
Jim Niehaus
Claudia and Chuck Owens
Marjorie Pearce
Jane Proctor
Marcia Reemts
Carol Rose
Meg and Tom Stallard
Roz Stone
Mike Truitt Family
Phil and Kris Turner
Ramon and Karen Urbano
Lydia and Steve Venables
Lynn Wilen
David Wilkinson
Peggy Witham