

# Yolo County Historical Society



**AUGUST 2012**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

By now you should have received your reminder that dues are due. I encourage you to continue your support of the Society. We have kept our dues the same while other historical organizations have raised theirs for a myriad of reasons. Yes, this is the same paragraph I started with in July 2011 BUT we will always need member support as we continue to work for the preservations of the historical riches of Yolo County.

Please check out the three events listed elsewhere which are opportunities for members to participate while supporting the Society.

Peace,

BJ Ford, President  
Yolo County Historical Society



### **The Hattie Weber Museum of Davis Annual Report 2011-2012**

The following is submitted to the City of Davis describing various aspects of the operation of The Hattie Weber Museum of Davis (Museum) for fiscal year 2011-2012 by the Yolo County Historical Society (YCHS) pursuant to its contract with the City.

### **Visitors:**

The total number of visitors recorded at the Museum: **3,476** - an increase of **956** over last year. Pig Day in March set the single day record at **161**.

Visitors who signed the guest book (not all do) came from **60** California cities other than Davis, **28** states other than California, plus the District of Columbia and **14** countries other than the United States. Mexico, China, Taiwan, Korea, India, Slovenia, Thailand, Brazil, Israel, Japan, England, France, Canada and Italy were recorded.

Four Scout troops and two classes of third graders also visited and enjoyed presentations by Assistant Director Adrian Gabriel and Director Dingemans. We hope to increase our outreach to Davis third graders next year.

### **Volunteers:**

As of February 2012, our volunteer staff included:

Jim Becket, PhD, Director Emeritus  
Dennis Dingemans, PhD, Director  
Adrian Gabriel, Assistant Director  
Stella Dinger, Collections Manager  
Mary Lee Thomson, Exhibit Coordinator  
Roberta Stevenson, Librarian, Senior  
Docent  
Gerri Adler, Tour Director  
Merrily Dupree, Researcher, Exhibit  
Assistant, Docent  
Barbara Sommer – Webmaster  
Lorna Robles, Docent in Training  
Mary Ann Harrison, Special Events  
Coordinator  
Margaret Hill, Special Events Assistant

Bruce Gallaudet will soon join us as fundraiser. Hatley Rose Thompson joined us in June as a Summer Intern.

Together the volunteers contributed more than **1,700** hours of service to the Museum.

We were saddened by the passing of Virginia Isaacs and Margaret Kautz, both of whom contributed immeasurably to the development of the Museum. We remember them fondly.

### **Exhibits**

In addition to maintaining the permanent exhibits, the following temporary ones were mounted:

#### **2011**

Aug. – Davis Industry: Windmills to Robots, Phase II

- Mothers, Grandmothers and other Exceptional Women

Sept. – Early Office Machines

Nov. – Precious Potty: Much Ado About a Loo

- Works Progress Administration Projects in Davis

Dec. – Antique Family Bibles

- Christmas in Davis 1898

#### **2012**

Jan. – Martin Luther King

- 1930's Davis: Challenges, Progress and Artifacts

Feb. – Antique Valentines

March – Suffrage Movement in Davis and Woodland (Courtesy of Davis League of Women Voters)

April – Tiny Davis: From 1870 to 1940 (Courtesy of John Lofland)

May – Memorial to Bud Henle (Courtesy of Henle family)

June – Davis Votes: Measures, City Council, School Board elections

- Chiles-Gyorke 1948 Wedding Attire

### **Events**

#### **2011**

Aug. - Brick Dedication and reception

Oct. - Halloween Treats and Count the

Pumpkins Game

Dec. – Goodie Bags similar to those in 1898 distributed to children

#### **2012**

Jan. – Book Signing by authors of Woodland book

Feb. – Celebration of Jim Becket's 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday and his becoming Director Emeritus

March – Pig Day, Pig Collections displayed, record 161 visitors

- 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Museum Opening Celebrated

April - Easter Egg Hunt for children

May – Booth at Celebrate Davis

June – Booth at Gibson House Spring Fair

### **Tours:**

Geri Adler continued her history tours of downtown Davis. She did four tours this year – spring and fall and two special ones for the University Farm Circle. She generously donates all proceeds from the tours to the Museum.

Dennis Dingemans did a special tour in May for spouses of attendees at a UCD convention. A generous contribution resulted.

### **Bricks:**

We sold 46 red and summer wheat bricks this year. At \$50 per brick, the gross proceeds were \$2300. Unfortunately the brick company was unable to deliver the bricks on time. We are just now getting the final ones and will schedule a dedication/reception in the near future.

On a brighter note, we have a beautiful new centerpiece for the patio, created and donated by Susan Shelton, a nationally known Davis ceramicist and a very gracious lady.

**The Hattie Weber Museum**, located at 445 C Street, Davis, Ca. is open to the public on **Mon. & Wed.** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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## Winters History Project

Members of the Winters History Project Committee have been busy contacting families whose ancestors settled near the pioneer town of Buckeye between 1855 and 1875, with the plan of sponsoring a photographic Buckeye Exhibit in 2013. To date, two meetings with descendants of these families and a successful fund-raiser have been held.

Among the identified family names associated with the town of Buckeye, which preceded Winters by 20 years, are those of: R.C. Briggs, William Campbell, George W. Chapman, H. Craner, Henry Cooper, Lorenzo Dexter, Benjamin Ely, Henry Fredericks, Joseph Griffin, Joseph H. and J. L. Harlan, M. O. Harling, Rev. Shadrack Harriman, J. O. Maxwell, James McMahan, Lorenzo Moody, George W. Scott, Aaron J. Wilgus and M. R. York.

George Griffin, chairman of a volunteer Buckeye Exhibit Committee, is grateful to those who have who have shared old maps, photographs, stories and artifacts and would welcome access to more, which could be used or copied. The committee would welcome the names, addresses and telephone numbers or e-mail addresses of pioneer Buckeye families who could be contacted and invited to subsequent meetings. Anyone willing to help with the exhibit or wishing more information may contact Nicki Chapman at 795-2676.

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### **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DEADLINE:**

Articles for the newsletter will be accepted until the **20<sup>th</sup> of each month**. Please either email B J

Ford at: [bjford@pacbell.net](mailto:bjford@pacbell.net) or mail to the YCHS at P.O. Box 1447 Woodland, CA 95776



**Gable Mansion**

Society members have a unique opportunity to be part of Woodland's Stroll Through History on September 8th in that they have been invited to be docents at the historic Gable Mansion at 659 First Street in Woodland.

Docents will receive a ticket to visit the other open homes. The orientation date has yet to be set. If you would like to volunteer, please give me a call at 662-0952 or e-mail me at [bjford@pacbell.net](mailto:bjford@pacbell.net). Shift times have yet to be set, however we do know they will be for two hours.

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**Searching** for a past article from our newsletter? Go to Yolo County Historical Society web address: <http://ychs.org/>

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**Society publications** available for sale at a variety of locations. For more information on book sales, contact Mary Aulman at 666-0743.

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**Don't forget** – if you have not already renewed your annual membership, please do! It's members like you who keep our endeavors going!!

**Yolo County Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 1447**  
**Woodland, CA 95776**

**Address Service Requested**

**Dated Material**



**“SHEEP THRILLS AND MUDDY  
WHEELS”**

**Wednesday, August 15th to the 19th**

It is that time again. The Spring Lake School House will be open for public viewing during the Fair. That means that we have to have volunteers who can welcome our visitors. Our school House Coordinator, Kathy Harryman, continues to add, and change a few things, but generally speaking it is just as it was in 1869. Information is available to answer people's questions and it is always a joy to see a student who has visited during the school year drag

parents in to show where he or she sat when their class visited.

Now here is where you come in. Please, don't wait to be called about donating some time at the School House during the Fair. Save Jeanie Sherwood a phone call AND contact her. Jeanie can be reached at 530-574-1660 or email at [jeaniesherwood@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeaniesherwood@sbcglobal.net)

Needed shifts are:

Wednesday: 6 to 8:30 or 8:30 to 11 p.m.

Thursday - Saturday: 12 to 2; 2 to 4; 4 to 6; 6 to 8:30; 8:30 to 11P.M.

The School will be closed on Sunday

Kathy Harryman will open the School House at noon each day, and BJ Ford will close the School House at 11 P.M.

Volunteers can pick up a parking pass at the office upon their arrival so that they can park at the School House. The pass must be returned at the end of your shift.