

From the Archives

by Katie Watts

What was happening in Petaluma
150, 100, 50 years ago? Let's take a look.

150 years ago

◆ We are told on what we believe to be reliable authority that a very large majority of the permanent residents of Marin County have avowed it to be their earnest desire that at the next session of the Legislature the county line of Marin should be extended eastward so as to include all that portion of Sonoma County lying between the present county line of Marin and Sonoma and the Napa line and as far north as may be necessary to embrace the Two Rock and Big valleys, etc., thence on to the mouth of the Estero Americano and that Petaluma shall become the county seat of Marin. That such an arrangement would be greatly to the advantage and accommodation of a majority of the residents of Marin, no one at all conversant with the country will doubt. A large majority of the residents of that county either reside along or in the immediate vicinity of the present line between Marin and Sonoma, or in the northern and western portion of the county. To these people, Petaluma is of easy and speedy access and much nearer than San Rafael. Further, it is the point where they transact all their ordinary business affairs of trade. (Aug. 3, 1860)

◆ The lecture before the Petaluma Institute at its last meeting was upon the subject of phonetics. The lecturer, Mr. Parker, considered the orthographical difficulties attending the present system of spelling. The next meeting of the Institute will consider the principles on which a grammar department should be conducted. (Aug. 3, 1860)

◆ We notice an ugly-looking hole in the planking of the draw bridge at the foot of Washington Street from which, unless immediately attended to, serious trouble or loss is certain to result to somebody. (Aug. 3, 1860)

◆ Mr. Tustin has left at this office a fine sample of raspberries growing on his grounds near this city. They are of a native variety, in many respects resembling the Dorchester except that the Dorchester has a short season and this variety might be termed a perpetual bearer. He obtained the slips in the woods near the mouth of the Russian Rover and informs us he procured another, a very late variety, the fruit of which is golden and of almost fabulous size. (Aug. 3, 1860)

100 years ago

◆ A household necessity, "U-Need" hand paste, the modern hand soap, put up in paste form, that instantly removes all machine oil, paints, stains, etc. Guaranteed harmless and effectual for all scouring purposes. 15¢ and 25¢ cans at Young-Herold Drug Co., dependable

druggists. Two stores: handy to you in either part of town. (Aug. 1, 1860)

◆ The carcass of a big wildcat is on exhibition at the Murphy Butcher Shop on Main Street. The animal was shot by Peter Murphy on Sunday while enjoying an automobile ride with his family near Inverness. (Aug. 1, 1910)

◆ A bald head is no joke. Indeed it is really criminal negligence for a man to lose his hair when it can easily be saved by a few applications of Parisian Sage, the money-back cure for all diseases of the scalp. (Aug. 1, 1910)

◆ The busiest little things ever made are Dr. King's New Life Pills. Every pill is a sugar-coated globule of health that changes weakness into strength, languor into energy, brain-fag into mental power, curing constipation, headache, chills, dyspepsia and malaria. 25¢ at Towne's Drug Store. (Aug. 1, 1910)

◆ For sale. \$450. Easy terms. Corner lot, Walnut and West streets. (Aug. 1, 1910)

◆ Biggest little show on earth, Kaufman-Ricker Zoo, 300 species of rare animals, the horned cassowary, blue storks, the hen that mothers monkeys and Big Betsy, the largest boa constrictor on earth. (Aug. 1, 1910)

50 years ago

◆ A traveler can circle the globe these days carrying hardly more than an attaché case. There's no longer any need for extras since the drip-dry era has dawned - bringing easy suds and rinsability to everything from raincoats to pajamas. (Aug. 1, 1960)

◆ With a program loaded with entertainment features and a record-breaking number of displays and exhibits the 1960 Sonoma-Marin Fair opens Aug. 11 for a four-day run. Highlighting the opening festivities are the annual Miss Sonoma County Queen Pageant with Phil Arden as MC and organist, and the marimba merrymakers The Wheelers. Providing mirth and merriment for young and old are Geraldo the Clown and Daddy Longlegs, Great Western shows on the carnival midway, two free shows daily by Stan Volera on the 110 foot high sway pole and four free shows daily by Hindra the Mechanical Man. (Aug. 2, 1960)

◆ During the summer heat young moderns should use makeup sparingly. A young person who is healthy can get along with lipstick and perhaps a little powder. Heavier makeup - foundation cream or, perish the thought, rouge - will bring your glamour stock down as the heat soars. And be sure to dress comfortably. If you wear foundation garments launder them often as the human body can produce a gallon of perspiration on a single sweltering day. (Aug. 2, 1960)

◆ The first showing of the movies of the Sonoma to Petaluma Walkathon opens at the State Theater Aug. 10. (Aug. 4, 1960)

Skalagard... (from page 1)

might have been like aboard these heavily loaded masted vessels, sailing in often very unpredictable weather." The paintings are part of a traveling show featured at various venues, including the Maritime Museum of Monterey.

Skalagard began painting at the age of 8, and by 14 was carrying on the family's seafaring tradition, becoming an apprentice seaman on a square-rigged ship. Thus, he began his experiences that allowed him to create accurate paintings of such ships.

Skalagard served on merchant ships during World War II convoys. He survived the sinking of four ships in six years, enabling him to draw on these experiences and paint a series of 10 North Atlantic convoy scenes.

He moved to the United States in 1943 but returned to Denmark after the war to study at the Royal Academy in Copenhagen. In New York, he had studied with the marine painter, Anton Otto Fisher, where he had a one-man show in 1954. In 1961, his works were exhibited at the Legion of Honor in San Francisco. He remained in California, becoming a fixture in his Carmel gallery, Skalagard's Square-Rigger.

He has had numerous one-man shows both in the United States and in Europe. His paintings hang in many public buildings, including the Naval Post-Graduate School in Monterey, the Los Angeles County Maritime Museum, the Allen Knight Maritime Museum and galleries in Norway, Denmark and his native Faeroe Islands. His paintings are owned by admirals and collectors world wide. He is the holder of six gold medals for his work.

A reception for the artist will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday August 22nd, where there will be a raffle for one of Skalagard's recent paintings. The exhibit runs until September 5th, 2010.

MAY - JUNE 2010

NEW MEMBERS

Kim Arfsten, Terry Bell, Janine Bender, Michel & Monique Braud, Ruth Browning, Jean Witte Brian, Marina Brians, Steven and Linda Christensen family, Collin Coleman, Gary Corippo family, Brook Hermann, Karen Johnson, Ross & Karin Jones, Mary Lim, Linda Manella, Betty Myers, Darice Murray, Krista O'Connor, Ned Orrett, Robert Rafael, Marco Solano, Michael Von Der Portem, Roger & Eileen Weeks

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Send your email address to Liz at
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stay informed on all that's happening
at the Museum. Everyone who sends
their email address gets a free historic
Dick Shell print.

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Celebrate a life, recognize a special occasion or
honor an achievement while supporting the
Museum. The Donor Wall is located in the
Museum's lobby. Individual names start at \$100;
corporate sponsorships are \$500. Your contribution
includes a free one-year membership to the
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Those who have contributed \$100 or more for
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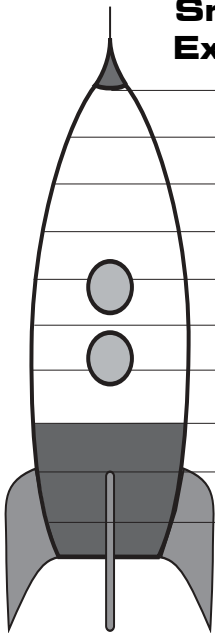
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**Smithsonian "Beyond"
 Exhibit goal: \$10,000**



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Benefits include a bimonthly newsletter, workshops, special member events and opportunities to serve as tour guides, docents, volunteers and resource persons.

- | | |
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Please return the above form with check made payable to the Petaluma Museum Association, attention: Membership Administrator (Tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.)

The museum is open to visitors Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday from noon to 3 p.m. and by appointment. For special walking tour arrangements, please call 707-778-4398 or email: pmuseum.info@PetalumaMuseum.com