

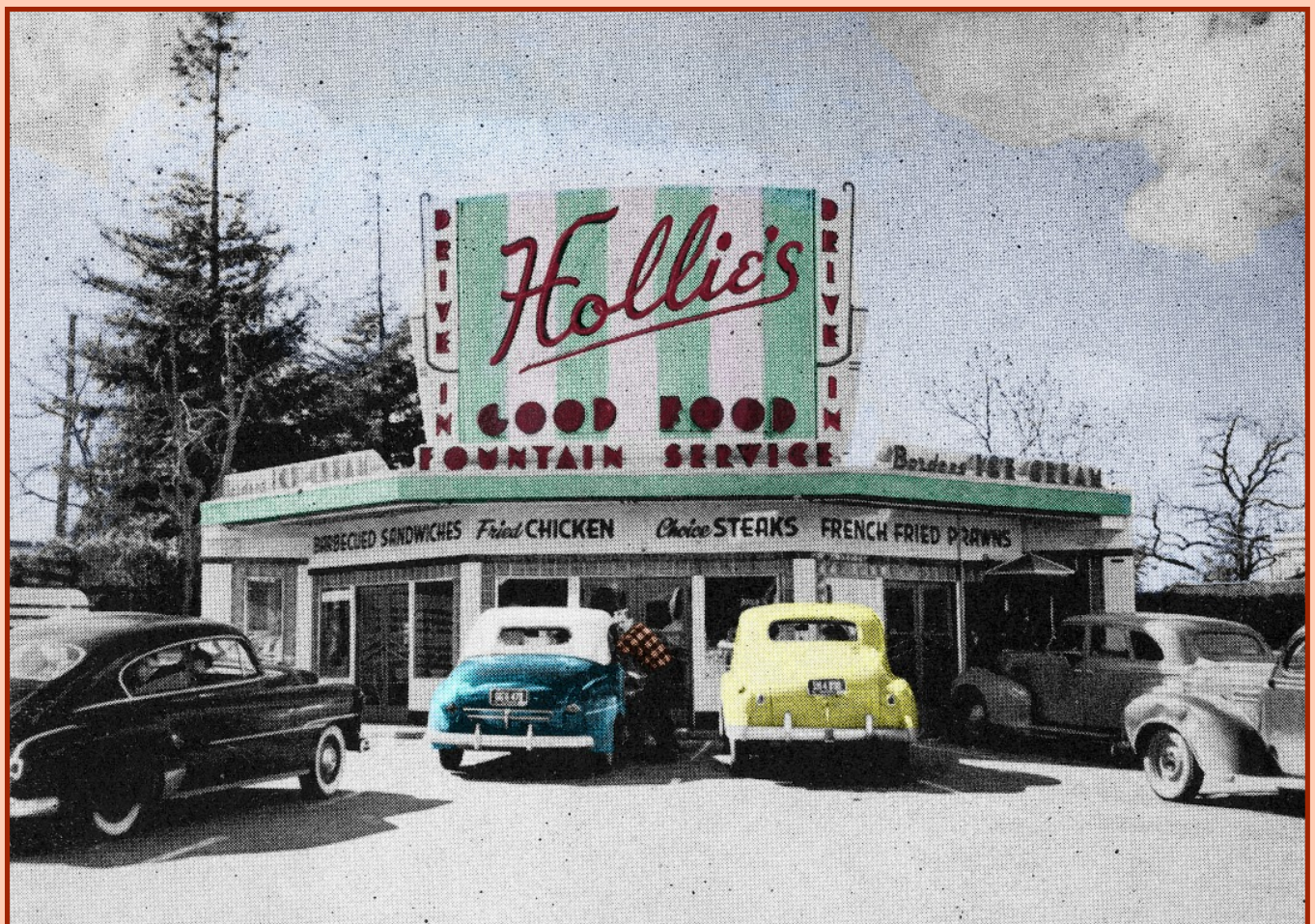


**Petaluma Historical
Library & Museum**

Petaluma Museum Association

Preserving the Unique History of Petaluma and Providing
Educational and Cultural Services to the Community

Quarterly Newsletter



Summer/Fall 2019

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 3

On the Cover



Hollie's Drive-In circa 1952

THE COVER FEATURES a colorized photo of Hollie's Drive-In Restaurant located where Century 21 Bundesen Realty is today. In this issue Terry Park explores the history of the drive-in restaurants' popularity and how they impacted the town of Petaluma. You can read his article on page 6.

I asked long time Petaluman and docent at the museum, Linda Shoemaker-Christensen, to share her memories of the drive-in restaurants. She remembered going to Lund's as a 15 year old teenager in 1963. She was on a date and they were having the usual hamburgers, fries and soda and also smoking a cigar in the car. She said it was one of the popular hang-outs and when they finished eating they decided to go to San Francisco. They scrambled to come up with enough change to get them over the bridge (the toll at that time was 25 cents!) She said the A&W was another popular drive-in and the carhops were on roller-skates. Teenagers at that time also favored the Snack Bar, located on the corner of East D St & Lakeville, a drive-thru restaurant. Burgers were 6 for a \$1.00 and the french fries were 15 cents and came in a very greasy brown paper bag. She remembers them as being delicious.

Does anyone have any memories of those days of drive-in restaurants in Petaluma? If you would like to share them with our readers please send an email to mary@petalumamuseum.com and they may be published in our next newsletter issue. ■

Petaluma Museum Association Board

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The Petaluma Museum Association Newsletter is published quarterly and distributed to its members. Many thanks to all the contributors and the proofreaders and volunteers who help with mailings.

If you would like to contribute any news or items of interest to our newsletter, you can email

mary@petalumamuseum.com
Deadline for submission is Oct. 1, 2019

Petaluma Museum Association
20 Fourth St.
Petaluma, CA 94952

President's Message

Greetings, PMA Supporters,

I hope you're enjoying summer and you've joined us for one (or more) of our many events! We continue with our robust programming. Here's a recap since our last newsletter:

We were overwhelmed (in a good way) by the response to our Heritage Homes Spring Garden & Parlor Tour on May 11th. While hoping for 150 attendees, we ended up greeting over 400! It was an amazing day. Look for our Heritage Homes Holiday Parlor Tour in December or let us know if you'd like to participate or volunteer. On May 15th, in conjunction with our exhibit of his photos, Scott Hess gave a presentation sharing the backstory to some of his stunning images. On May 24, Russian virtuoso Jura Margulis returned for his 11th Annual Concert at the Museum. We are thrilled that he continues to visit Petaluma. We kicked off our season of hosting "Story Time Under the Oak" on May 9th. It gathered as well on May 23rd and July 11th, and will also be held on August 8th & 22nd, to end on September 12th.

On the last day of our Clo exhibit, June 8th, Clover hosted a CLOsing Party/Ice Cream Social in the garden court. Photos with the birthday girl, kids activities and ice cream sundaes were all a hit. On June 10th, the PMA held our Annual General Meeting & Election. We are so pleased to welcome Jamieson Bunn and Katie O'Neill Tran to the Board of Directors. On June 16, we co-hosted our first "Schubertiade" celebrating the life and music of Franz Schubert. It was a lovely afternoon of beautiful music and Viennese refreshments.

The Boy Scouts raised the flag and Mayor Barrett read the proclamation at our Annual Bell-Ringing Ceremony on July 4th, a Petaluma tradition, since Helen Putnam started it in her yard on B Street. Thanks to Marshall West, Homer Johnstone and the Petalumans of Yesteryear for leading the patriotic event. Two days later, on July 6th, we had the Opening Reception for the Joe Wayne Photography Exhibit. Thanks to the Poehlmann family for the donation of these glimpses into Petaluma 100 years ago, and to Solange Russek and crew for curating this fine exhibit. At the volunteer meeting on July 10th, we were fortunate

to have Solange share details about the images as well as family history and stories. On July 13th, we hosted the Sonoma County Heritage Network meeting. (Thank you to Petaluma Coffee & Tea for the coffee service donation.) Representatives from local museums, historical societies, libraries, etc. gather quarterly to network and share what's happening with their organization as well as work together on projects/events. After the meeting, Solange gave a curated exhibit talk to the attendees.

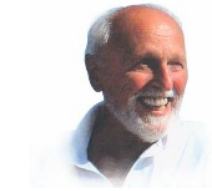
We're kicking off our "Year of the Family" with three Movie Nights at the Museum. The first is on August 17th, "Mary Poppins" (1964), then on Sept. 14th, "The Wizard of Oz"; and finally on Oct. 5th in honor of Dia de Los Muertos, Pixar's "Coco." Join us for some free family fun. On August 25, is the 4th Annual History Trails Walk with the Petalumans of Yesteryear. Locations come to life on this historical walking tour of downtown. (Make your reservations online or at the Museum.) On September 22nd, pianist Elizabeth Walter will give a Benefit Concert; more details to come. Our Annual Cemetery Tour is scheduled for October 19, during which the Petalumans of Yesteryear share the history of their personas at Cypress Hill Cemetery. (Make your reservations early as this event sells out.)

Don't forget to take our Historic Downtown Walking Tour on Saturday mornings through October, led by costumed docents. It meets on the front steps of the Museum at 10:30 am and strolls our fascinating town. Then, check out our current exhibit. Visit our website for updates to our event lists as we add more throughout the year.

And in closing... After serving over two years, this will be my last "president's message". It has been an honor and a joy supporting the PMA in its mission and programs. The PMA is in a great place and I look forward to continue helping the Museum move forward in its endeavors.

Thank you.

Kathy Barron-Fries



Petaluma History & Commentary

by Skip Sommer, Historian

PETALUMANS RUSHED TO ALASKAN GOLD IN 1897

THE FIRST YUKON gold rush really got going in early July of 1897, when a ship docked in Seattle and the world press blared that miners returning from Alaska were toting “Bags Of Gold” and that the gold strike along the Klondike River was *huge!* “More than A TON OF SOLID GOLD!” was coming out of Alaska, they said. Exciting words that started a stampede of ill-equipped and ill-advised adventurers to the cold, cold North.

In Petaluma, The Daily Courier on July 21st, 1897, stated,

“The Alaskan gold fields are taking-up the attention of the fortune hunters of the Pacific Coast. Petaluman A.P. Whitney” (a partner in the Golden Eagle Mill) “will leave for the Klondike next week, in company with Laurie Adams and Thomas Magee, the real estate agent.”

William McKinley was U.S. President in 1897 and the national focus was upon (guess what?) the economy and the gold standard. It was a jolly good time for a gold rush. Sonoma County novelist Jack London thought so too, and he left from his Glen Ellen ranch on July 25th for Alaska, a journey that would enthuse him to write some of his greatest stories.

On July 27th, The Petaluma Courier stated “The gold fever in Santa Rosa is spreading and thirty men will be on their way to the Klondike, this week. Some of them are Fred Thompson, James Goodwin, Tom Blakeley and C.L. White, the liquor dealer, who said: “The Yukon is the richest mining country in the world.” (Well, sure it was, if you brought along a lot of booze to sell to freezing miners there.)



Fairbanks family circa 1890

But, on July 31st, D.W. Ravenscroft, Editor of the Petaluma Daily Courier, cautioned: “No doubt, it is a rich gold field in the Klondike, but it is a very cold, barren and perilous country. Deprivation, starvation

and death stalk the entire region.” Good advice, “D.W.” However, his words fell on the deaf ears of those seeking quick riches.

Then this announcement, on August 2nd: “Young W. H. Fairbanks of this city, will sail with friends, for the Yukon. They will take a portable boat, a complete outfit weighing six tons, plus 7 mules! A bon voyage dinner was given for these Petaluma boys at the posh University Club in San Francisco, and the San Francisco Examiner commented “These young men are conspicuous as society leaders.”

This was a big deal in Petaluma. “W.H.” (William Hiram) was the teenage son of Petaluma pioneer Hiram Fairbanks, who had made his fortune in the 1849 California gold rush. He later brought his gold here, and built the Golden Eagle Milling Company and also founded the Petaluma Savings Bank, as well as being elected mayor of our town for three terms. The wealthy Fairbanks family had built Petaluma’s largest home (8,500 square feet, eight bedrooms, five baths) and that grand Victorian is still standing here at the NE corner of D and Eighth Streets. (The marble carriage stepping-stone out-front has the name *Fairbanks* chiseled upon it.) “W.H,” it was said, had also had been given some business duties to perform on this trip. His father’s partner, A.P. Whitney, was already in Alaska and Hiram wanted to know more about the



Fairbanks Mansion at NE corner of D & Eighth St

Tragically, the true conditions of that first Alaskan gold rush were very bleak. The Chilkoot Trail and the White Pass alone had claimed hundreds of lives in '97 and most of those attempting those challenges had turned back. It was too steep, too desolate and too cold

burgeoning fur trade up there, so he fronted his son \$5,000, for his explorative venture in both gold and fur.

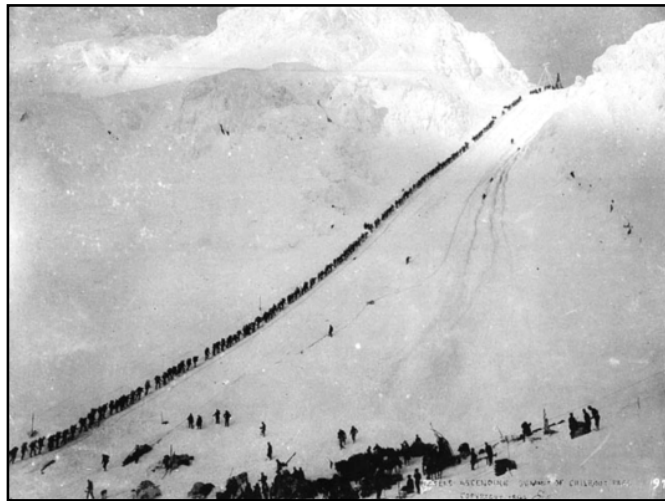
The S.F. Examiner social columnist went on to say: "These boys have sworn they won't come back until they have made a fortune." The fact was that "W.H." had really promised his mother they *would be home by Christmas*. But would they be home by Christmas? NO. In its New Year's Eve review of the year just past, The Petaluma Daily Courier remarked: "Worries are abundant about the boys' location." But the worries were for naught. The "boys" had struck-out on their quest for gold and the fur trade wasn't what Daddy Fairbanks desired, so they eventually returned to Petaluma in the spring of 1898.

A sidelight here was that the town of Fairbanks, Alaska, was named for a relative of the Petaluma clan, the Indiana Senator Charles Fairbanks, who, in 1905, was to become U.S. Vice-President under Teddy Roosevelt. I've found no reference of contact in Alaska between the Senator and the Fairbanks group, during their time in the Yukon, but I bet there was.

Many of the Alaskan gold adventurers started returning as early as December of 1897 and, once again, the world press couldn't resist a hot promo item: "The Steamer Excelsior, arrived in S.F., from the Klondike with a half million in gold dust," and this one: "The Steamer Portland arrived in Seattle with 3.5 million in gold dust!" The

wild unwarranted excitement continued to beckon the ill-prepared novice.

Tragically, the true conditions of that first Alaskan gold rush were



Miners climbing Chilkoot Trail

very bleak. The Chilkoot Trail and the White Pass alone had claimed hundreds of lives in '97 and most of those attempting those challenges had turned back. It was too steep, too desolate and too cold. Three thousand pack animals died on those trails. The very determined adventurers who actually made it through to the gold fields found that local Alaskans had already claimed the "good spots" and that the stories of great gold riches had been much exaggerated. There would be another Yukon gold rush in 1902-06 that was much more successful, but that one saw very few of those disappointed fledglings from 1897.

1897 was also an eventful U.S. year for (ready for this?) "Alien Invasions"! In April, it was reported that an "Air Ship" had fallen out of

the sky in a "great ball of purest white" into a farmer's field in Jefferson, Iowa, and a large crowd had gathered around the smoking hole in the ground, while a man was lowered into it. Upon being hauled out, the guy proclaimed he had entered "The Ship" and found it to be "neat and clean" inside. For many months following, there were reports of strange things happening, and little aliens wandering over our countryside. And in Aurora, Texas, another mysterious craft was reported to have crashed into a windmill and the deceased pilot was described as "not from this world," with papers found upon his body,

"written in strange hieroglyphics." Add to that story the front page headlines from the San Francisco Call Newspaper of a "Winged ship cleaving the air like a huge Condor" over Sacramento and Stockton, as another interesting example of the strange panic that was gripping our country that year.

H.G. Wells' science fiction story, "War Of The Worlds," had just been published in Cosmopolitan magazine and Bram Stoker's novel "Dracula" was just out, as well. Could those have started the launch of a bunch of alien stories for decades to come? That's not a clear assessment, but here's a positive thing from 1897: It was then that Germany's Bayer Company brought out something they called "aspirin" (in case you had become prone to migraines

(Con't on pg 15)

Petaluma Drive-In Restaurants

by Terry Park

DRIVE-IN RESTAURANTS WERE at the epicenter of the 1950s and 60s “tooling”, “tooling”, and “cruisin” car culture. Disposable teen income and “having wheels” moved hangouts from the soda fountain to the drive-in which remained open much later extending the sense of freedom. So, it was very appropriate that the opening scene of the movie *American Graffiti* was at a drive-in restaurant.

The first drive-in restaurant is believed to be the **Pig Stand** in Dallas, Texas which opened in 1921. The founder’s philosophy was people in cars are so lazy that they don’t want to get out of their vehicle to eat. The Pig Stand had *carhops*, young men on roller skates wearing white caps, white shirts, and black bow ties. They claimed their customer by hopping on the car’s running board as it drove up, hence the name carhop. The term continued even after American produced cars with running boards ended in 1948. Women replaced male carhops not only because of World War II but also because a pretty girl sold more food. Each carhop was expected to wait on eight to twelve cars at a time.

The concept really took off especially in southern California where the warm climate made

eating in one’s car convenient and a good example is Bob’s Big Boy of Glendale, founded in 1936 by Bob Wian.

In San Francisco, the bright neon sign of **Mel’s Drive-In** was seen in many scenes of the movie. Mel’s Drive-In was founded in 1947 by Mel Weiss and Harold Dobbs and located at 140 South Van Ness Avenue. It had capacity for 110 cars and



Mel's Drive In circa 1958

inside for 75 people. The first month after the opening they made \$120,000, which almost covered the cost of the new building. It was not surprising that the owners chose to expand the business into a chain because by the mid-1950s, California had the highest rate of car ownership in the nation. Regrettably Mel’s Drive-In chain closed, and the South Van Ness location was demolished in the fall of 1976. The location remained a parking lot for years but today is occupied by an eight-story condominium complex.

Petaluma had its’ own drive-ins to meet the needs of families and teenagers alike. Earlier this year Ken Jones, current owner of Pinky’s Pizza which opened in 1962, tipped me off to a sign on the south wall of **Sax’s Joint** restaurant which reads “Tray Service Bob Blackwood”. In 1937 Bill Eaton, who owned White Dairy since 1919, built a new building for his business modeled after an English Inn.

He added a fountain and sandwich shop up front to his milk, cream, and ice cream producing business in the rear. He retired in 1941 selling the milk business to Petaluma Co-operative Creamery and the fountain to Carl Werner and Guy Mock who began

a tray service to motorists, thus becoming Petaluma’s first drive-in restaurant. In 1944 Bill Blackwood purchased the business and created the sign on the south side of the building. Unfortunately for Bill, in 1946, Tomasini Hardware erected a building for its farm implement business, on the south side which hid Bill’s sign. The one-foot gap between Sax’s and Pinky’s buildings on Petaluma Boulevard South still allows one to see Bill’s sign today.

A series of drive-ins occupied today’s Century 21 Bundesen



Lund's Drive In



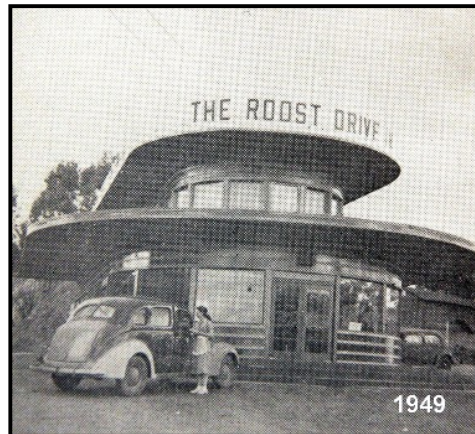
A&W Root Beer

Realty on the corner of Petaluma Blvd S and I St. **Quinley's Drive-In** opened in 1946 owned by Elvin and Faye Quinley. In 1948 it was bought by Holly Heglin and became **Hollie's**. In 1956 it was purchased by Milt Lund, who worked at Quinley's in 1946, and became **Lund's**. Milt sold the business in 1961 and bought it back in 1963 before it finally closed in 1964. Hollie's and Lund's sported the name "**The Hang Out**" and the Pacer's Car Club also considered Lund's their second home.

In 1948 the **Roost Drive-In** opened on the north end of town (today, Enterprise Rent-A-Car). Old timers talked about "tooling" between Quinley's and the Roost but Alas, the Roost closed in 1950.

A&W Root Beer, home to the **Big "O" Burger**, had two drive-in restaurants on East Washington St. From 1959 to 1968 they were at what is now Golden Land Realty at Wilson St and from 1969 to 2001 at what is now Plaza Tequila Cocina at Edith St.

The last drive-in built was **Sonic Drive-In** at Petaluma Blvd N and Payran St, and was open from 1989 to 1994. The building is currently vacant.



The Roost Drive-In

For some teens, the drive-ins were the high point of their social lives. For the owners, the teenagers were troublesome and were one element driving

them out of business as the family trade dwindled. Teens didn't order large meals, yet made the order last for hours, littered lots, increased traffic caused by perpetual cruising, radios blared and tempers flared.



Carhop at Hollie's Drive-in

One by one the drive-ins switched to take-home, self-service, or fast food operations or ceased to exist. Even though today there are limited retro drive-ins to recreate a nostalgic facsimile the real McCoy has long been retired to memory. ■

Upcoming Events Schedule

Historic Downtown Walking Tours



May through October
Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.
Meet at the Steps
to the Museum
Led by costumed docents
Free
Donations accepted



Movie time: 5:30 pm
August 17 - **Mary Poppins**
September 14 - **The Wizard of Oz**
October 5 - **Pixar Coco**
Free Admission
All Ages Welcome
Concessions for sale

Third Wednesday Dialogues

August 21 at 7:00 pm
Wayne's World 1910

Solange Russek will talk about the life and work of
photographer Joseph C. Wayne

Children's Story Time



Under the Oak
Thursdays, 10am - 11am
August 22 and September 12

Fourth Annual History Trails Walk with Petalumans of Yesteryear

Sunday, August 25
Time: 1-3 pm
Cost: \$20 general / \$15 Museum Members

Tickets online petalumamuseum.com
or call 778-4398

Piano Concert



Sunday, September 22
at 4:00 pm

Benefit for the Petaluma Museum Association and
Sky Hill Cultural Alliance
Featuring the music of Mozart, Beethoven, Ravel
and Ginastera

Tickets: petalumamuseum.com or 778-4398
General seating \$40 in advance or \$50 at door
Bacony seating \$50 in advance or \$60 at door
Complimentary wine and cheese

Sonoma County Archives Crawl

Saturday, October 5, 10-4 pm

The Petaluma Museum will participate in the event
co-sponsored by Sonoma County Library and the
Sonoma County Historical Records Commission
designed to celebrate archives and encourage
visitors to explore and engage with Sonoma county
institutions and organizations that collect
and hold archival materials.

More details to come

Annual Cemetery Tour



Saturday, October 19
at Cypress Hill Cemetery
with the Petalumans of Yesteryear
More details to come
petalumamuseum.com

Board of Directors Meeting

Every second Monday of each month
at 6:00 pm

Location: 20 4th St.
Open to the public
(Please enter through back door)



News from Heritage Homes & Landmarks

Does your home and garden bloom in the spring or look especially festive around the holidays?

The Heritage Homes Committee is looking for homeowners who are interested in participating in future Heritage Homes tours. We are currently planning for the Holiday 2019 Parlor Tour and Spring 2020 Garden & Parlor Tour. If you are interested, or have any questions, we would love to connect and share more information about participating in Heritage Homes. These exciting community events raise funds for the Petaluma Museum Association and are a great way to share your pride for your historic home. If interested please reach out to heritagepetaluma@gmail.com



Image from our current Joe Wayne exhibit

2019 Spring Garden & Parlor Tour a Surprise Success

—from the Heritage Homes & Landmarks Committee

The weather was warm and sunny, the houses and gardens were gorgeous, and the day was perfect for strolling outside during Mother Nature's most extravagant month. Three Petaluma homeowners opened their property for the 2019 Spring Garden & Parlor Tour on Sunday, May 11, for three hours of viewing by the paying public.

The event was a fundraiser for the Petaluma Museum Association, our first-ever attempt to join historic homes with ornamental gardens. Accordingly, the Heritage Homes & Landmarks committee was envisioning modest ticket sales for this maiden event. But demand for tickets swelled to three times the amount anticipated, necessitating additional print runs.



Garden at Henning property

And it was a win-win! Tour-goers raved about the properties, homeowners had reason to feel proud and the PMA netted close to \$9000.

The PMA and HH&L committee heartily thank our homeowners Marie Girolo, John and Kathy Henning, and Caroline Hall and Brad Villegiante for preparing and opening their properties for this event. Thanks are due, too, to the over 30 volunteers who served as HH&L docents to guide the tour-goers to a wonderful experience.

The success of the tour leads us to do it again next year. For that, we need to find owners of vintage homes who are also avid gardeners to step up and offer their properties (please see the invitation on this page). What a great way to support your Museum!

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS

Concerts and a Clover Ice Cream Social happened in the months of May & June

Jura Margulis, the world-renowned virtuoso pianist who has developed quite a loyal and dedicated following in Petaluma appeared for a return performance on Friday, May 24th. Jura played works by Tchaikovsky, Schumann and Mussorgsky. Once again concertgoers were not disappointed. Jura's creative mastery of the piano and his unique interpretive skills raised these pieces to a level of sound few of us had ever heard. A truly unforgettable performance. This was Jura's 11th performance on the Henry F. Miller concert grand – we are left deeply hoping for a 12th performance.

June 8th we had an Ice Cream Social out in the Garden Court. Clo was there to greet visitors and the Clover ice cream truck treated all to delicious sundaes. There were balloons, a face painter and an activity table. Fun was had by all.

We had our very first Schubertiade event at the museum on June 16. Guests were delighted with the relaxed atmosphere. Presenting were professional musicians, poets and vocalists celebrating all things Schubert.



People gathered together to participate in the July 4th Annual Bell Ringing

This annual tradition continued again this year with the boy scouts leading the pledge of alliance and the POY giving a historical presentation. Mayor Barrett was there to present the "Fourth of July Bell Ringing" proclamation. At the end of the ceremonies all attending continued the celebration in the Garden Court with lemonade and cookies.



Private dinner for twelve offers a "one of a kind" experience at the museum

The PMA had the first private dinner catered by Preferred Sonoma Caterers for one of three recipients who bid on this auction item at the March 2019 fundraiser "Night at the Museum". Guests enjoyed the ambiance of the night and the delicious food.



Co-curators Solange Russek, Barbara Maxwell & Michael Lanham (left)
Al Poehlmann holding City of Petaluma Proclamation (right)

Exhibit opens with a reception celebrating Petaluma photographer Joseph C. Wayne

On July 6th visitors, including many Wayne/Poehlmann family members, got their first look at the exhibit of J. C. Wayne photographs. Family members were so proud to see his work displayed in such a well thought out presentation. As you walk through the exhibit you experience a journey through time as you view Wayne's collection of work as a photographer in Petaluma from 1910 to 1916. You become familiar with who the man was through his photo sessions in the studio and at various locations throughout Petaluma.

One of the highlights of the night and a surprise for the Wayne/Poehlmann family was a proclamation by Mayor Teresa Barrett declaring July 6, 2019 as Joe Wayne day. A certificate was presented to Al Poehlmann, the grandson of Wayne.

Thank you to co-curators Solange Russek, Barbara Maxwell and Michael Lanham for bringing this excellent exhibit to the museum. Thanks also to Jill Albright, Jamie Frattarelli, Alexandria Lowery, Amelia Martinez, Teresa Saltzman, City of Petaluma General Services, Amy Hogan, Jack Hogan, and Wayne Dunbar of After-tec.

This exhibition is dedicated to the Poehlmann Family whose generous donation made this possible.



The PMA's "Artist-In-Residence", Barbara Maxwell, paints a backdrop for the current J.C. Wayne exhibit. Using one of the photos from Wayne's studio sessions she recreated one of the painted scenes he used for his portrait backgrounds. She used a muslin roll, donated by Teresa Saltzman, as her canvas and water based paints.

Thank you Barbara for volunteering your talents to enhance the presentation of this exhibit.



Smiles all around as new copier/printer is installed in the Research Library

Special thanks to Larry Reposa of Advanced Business Equipment Technologies for helping us to secure state of the art equipment for the research library's needs. This will vastly improve their ability to augment their services to the public.

Help the Petaluma Museum Association Celebrate Women's Suffrage

Did anyone in your family participate in the women's suffrage movement? Do you own photographs or other mementos documenting their participation? If you do, please consider loaning your artifacts for display in the Petaluma Museum Association's upcoming exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage.

If you are willing to share your treasures, please contact Paula Freund at paula@petalumamuseum.com.



Image: University of Chicago Library, in the House of Women in America, W027612

Petaluma Museum Association

Preserving the unique history of Petaluma and
providing educational & cultural services to the community

Petaluma Historical Library & Museum, 20 Fourth Street, Petaluma, California, 94952-3004
707-778-4398, petalumamuseum.com



The Threads that Connect Us

A PMA exhibit of vintage and antique quilts coming in January 2020

A CALL FOR QUILTS

Do you have a vintage or antique quilt you would like to enter in our upcoming 2020 exhibit? Our last exhibit in the 1990's featured many Heritage Homes member's quilts. We look forward to including them again along with other quilts which may be submitted.

This revival of the quilt show is the idea of Barbara Confer, a guild member and wife of Don Confer, the second president of Heritage Homes. The quilts will be displayed for the month of January along with it's history as we discover, through a series of talks, how these quilts were created and found their way to our community

It's been quite few years since our last quilt show so we're anticipating a great deal of interest in both exhibiting quilts and attending the show. Throughout the month the museum will feature speakers, quilting demonstrations and educational activities for kids and adults too.

If you would like to enter your quilt, please contact Barbara at barnbarn181@yahoo.com or Clint Gilbert, the PMA liaison at projectman@me.com

In Memoriam



Dick Dunbar
May 18, 1927-May 15, 2019

Dick Dunbar was born in his family's residence on the corner of Post and Stanley Streets in 1927. After graduating from PHS he served in the Merchant Marines and then the U.S. Army before returning to Petaluma after World War II.

In 1947 he was hired as temporary Christmas help at the post office but ended up staying four decades before retiring as postmaster. A recognized authority on the history of the postal service in Sonoma County, Dunbar presided over the 1985 ceremony that placed the post office at Fourth and D Streets on the National

Register of Public Places. He retired in 1986 when the North McDowell regional postal center opened.

Retirement allowed him to pursue his true passion, fine furniture restoration. Working with his brother Robert, he learned how to restore old furniture and antiques. An exceptional example of his work, an elegantly restored parlor set, a settee, a gents chair and a ladies chair highlight the Victorian parlor display at the museum.

An avid historian Dunbar served as President of the Petaluma Museum Association and was instrumental in establishing the Petaluma History Room at the Petaluma Library.

Excerpts are from Harlan Osborne's column Toolin' Around Town, January 31, 2007.



John Pedroni
1922- June 26, 2019

John Pedroni, age 96, passed away on June 26. He was a lifelong resident of Petaluma.

John was the youngest child of Swiss Italian immigrants Baptista and Albina (Martignoni) Pedroni

and was raised in the family home at 214 Fifth Street. He attended St Vincent Grammar and High School, graduating in 1941. He attended the University of Santa Clara for one year.

John served with the 1st Infantry Division of the US Army during [World War II](#). He saw combat in the Belgian Bulge, the Ardennes, and in battles west and

east of the Rhine. He spent one year in the Army of Occupation after the war. Upon returning home, he met and married Evelyn Bayless, the girl across the street. John worked alongside his brother, Al, for over forty years, as co-owner of Pedroni's Delicatessen, a business established by their father in 1921.

John enjoyed good food and wine. He was an avid golfer and a 49er faithful. From a young age, he was a photographer and a collector. In his later years, he wrote about his memories of an earlier Petaluma, his time at war and his family. (Notice from the Argus Courier)

John and his wife Evelyn have been long time members and supporters of the museum. John will be missed by the PMA family.

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*Make your next event
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Musical Mondays at the Museum
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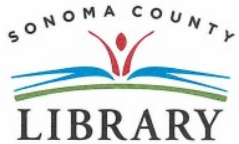


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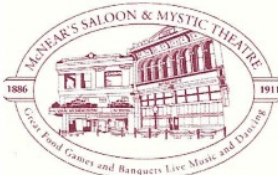
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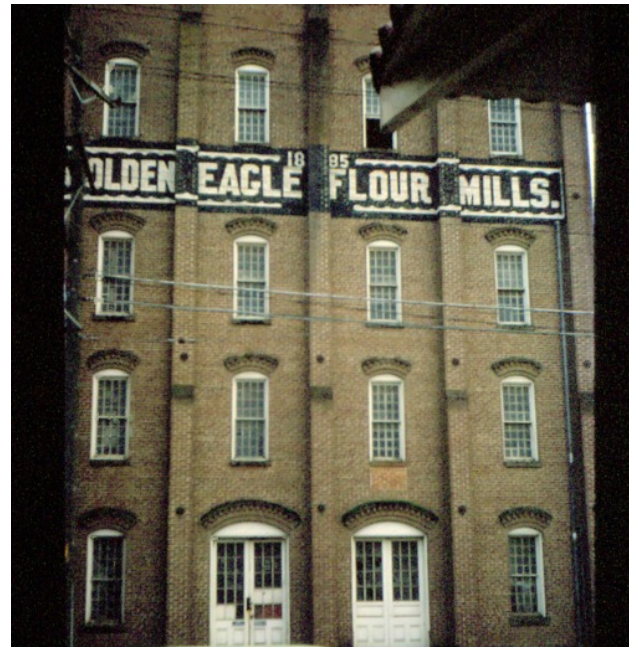
SUMMIT
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Alaskan Gold....from page 5

over aliens?). Interestingly, 41 years later in 1938, *War Of The Worlds* would be aired as a very frightening realistic radio news show, produced by actor/director Orson Welles (no relation to "H.G."). This was, I believe, the first *real* "fake news" in the media. (Smile).

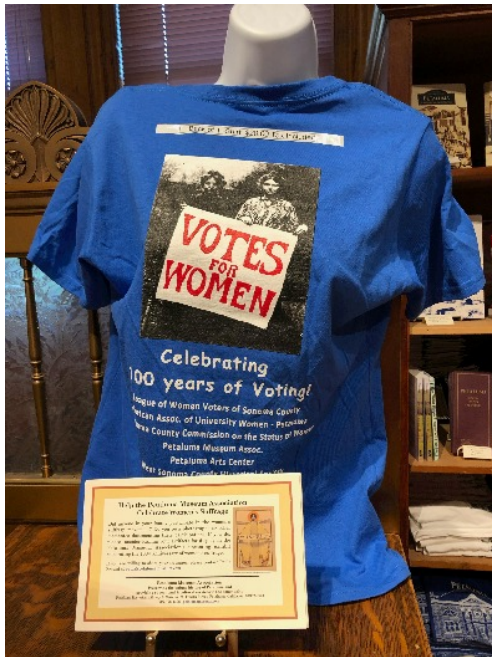
Back in Petaluma, that fall of 1897, you could "get clean" at the Western Avenue Barber Shop with "hot and cold running water at all hours. Just 12 cents!" Meanwhile, from the well-known Petaluma dentist, Dr. Lovejoy, with offices at 833 Main Street, you could acquire (I love this): "TEETH, a full set, \$7.00 and up." Also while there, you might just experience "Painless extraction, 50 cents, using the modern Electro MouthLamp." Progress was rampant here.

The year 1897 closed, with our Petaluma Daily Courier happily noting on December 24th that: "Nearly every wagon that left our city today had, as part of its load, a Christmas tree." The young Fairbanks and his pals, eventually returned safely home after the Alaskan thaw in April of 1898, and "W.H." soon went to work in his Father's Golden Eagle Flour Mill, located where Grocery Outlet is today on East Washington Street. A fairly happy ending to an unusual year, I think. ■

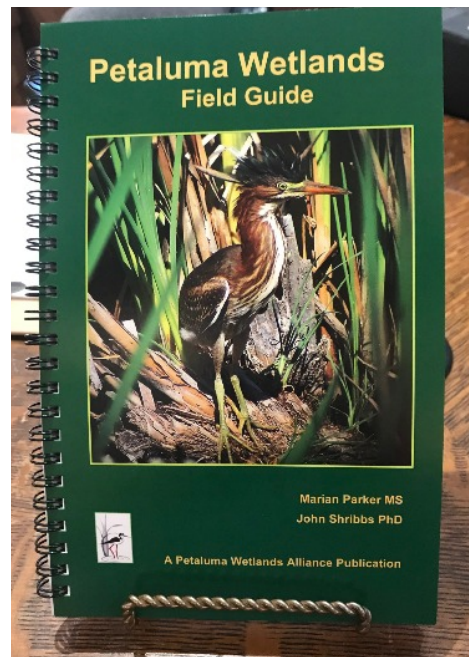


Golden Eagle Milling Company

New arrivals in the Museum Gift Store



Centennial T-Shirt celebrating
100 years of Voting
\$20/includes tax
Color of shirt is royal blue



Petaluma Wetlands
Field Guide
\$23.80/includes tax

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

by Mary Rowe

Barbara Russell-Cambra



Barbara was born in Independence, Missouri in 1934. Her family moved to San Bernardino, CA in 1942, when she was 8 years old. Her father, who was in the military at the time, was transferred to Norton Air Force Base to be part of a radar development team. She

lived there from grade school up to Junior College where she got her AA degree. She had decided that she wanted to be a teacher and transferred to San Jose State as a Junior where she received her BA and teaching credential. She met her future husband, Bruce, when he transferred from Santa Rosa Junior College to attend San Jose State for his Junior and Senior year. Bruce grew up in Santa Rosa. His father worked for the Heinz Company. Bruce's grandfather was a pastor in the bay area and a fundraiser for his denomination for many years. Bruce attended the Baptist Church made from one redwood tree when it was still located on B Street in downtown Santa Rosa.

They married when Bruce was in the middle of his Senior year at San Jose State and she was in her first year of teaching primary children in Cupertino. Bruce and Barbara moved to Berkeley so Bruce could go to seminary. She got a job teaching in Castro Valley and taught there for 4 years and received her Life Credential. After seminary and 9 months to get a teaching credential, they move again so Bruce could assume a Christian Education position in a church in

Denver, Colorado. They lived there for approximately 2 1/2 years and their son, Brent, was born. While they were there Barbara did a full year of teaching and a year of substitute teaching. Bruce again moved to a position in a church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Barbara did substitute teaching and a full year as a primary teacher.

Through all these moves they finally made the decision to return to California and found their home in Fremont. Barbara taught in nearby Newark for 25 years before retiring. Bruce died in 1983 at 53.

Barbara married again to Joseph Cambra. They met when Joseph was transferred from another school in the district to the same school she was teaching in.

After Joseph and Barbara retired they moved to Brentwood, near Tracy. He died in 2011 at the age of 84.

In December of 2012 wanting to relocate and be near her son Brent, who has lived in Petaluma for 30 years, she found a home at Valley Orchards Retirement Center.

Barbara is very interested in genealogy and history. She is 9th generation American from German and Dutch ancestry. She decided to volunteer at the museum because her work contributes to the preservation of the city's history and she is able to learn about the community she has chosen to call home. The project she is working on at the present is archiving and organizing photographs by putting them in acid free envelopes and labeling them. She said she enjoys this kind of basic work so others can develop the museums resources on a higher, accessible level.

At the Petaluma Regional Library

Monday, October 14, 2019

7:00pm - 8:30pm

How the West was really won: a talk by Will Gorenfeld

How the West was Really Won in Northern California: A tale of displacement, slavery, and genocide.

Courts, politicians, miners, settlers and Indian agents, with little exception, found nothing amiss in exploiting, displacing--and murdering--the indigenous people on their way to acquiring their own wealth and land.

The Unspoken Local Legacy of Indigenous Peoples Day: you may have learned about the Sand Creek or Wounded Knee but did you know that similar massacres occurred to the Pomo and Yuki people just a few miles outside of Petaluma at places such as Clearlake, Hopland and the Eden Valley?

Come to the Petaluma Library Forum Room to hear more about how this confluence of cultures created great wealth at the expense of indigenous peoples and carries this legacy even today.

Membership

NEW MEMBERS

Suzanne Biaggi, Laura Lee Burns, Carol Cook, Eric Holmberg, June Hudnall, Jane Jernigan, Hebert Kaufman, Kimberly & Christopher Michell, Bridget Mortimer, Junko Rich, Barbara Robbe, George Thomas, Anita Waite

RENEWALS

Dave Alden, Bonnie Bard, Oralee Bean, Kathleen Billings, Michel Braud, Ruth Browning & Karl Scherumann, Karl Bundesen, Irene Carnazola, Linda Carnes-Jenkins, Kaye Chandler & Don Lounibos, Mary Cohn Steve & Debbie Countouriotis, Gail & Gordon Cox, Megan Cusimano, Kerry Davison, Dick & Rita Dunbar, James & Beth Eckenrod, Diane & Mike Ellis, Kathleen Favot-Blanquie, Ted Feldman, Kathy Ferrando, Deborah Fox Fitch, Maureen Friedrichsen-Reed, Linda Gibson, Karin Gjording, Dr. L. Martin & Joyce Griffin Jr, Evelyn Gurevitch, Helen Hagopian, Ray & Pat Handyside, Robert & Patricia Hanson, Mike Harris, Scott Hess, Vernon & Margaret Hodapp, Vasanti Jayaswal, Charlotte Johnson, Diane Judd & Ron Krempetz, Muriel & Robert Knapp, Kathleen Kneeland, Michael Lanham, Janice Lee, Catherine Lehmann, Kit Lofroos, Donna Maddex, Constance Madrid, Margo McDowell, Nita Miller, Gary & Mo Miner, Connie Mygatt, Bente Niles, Julianne O'Keefe, Diane & Christopher Olson, Harlan Osborne, Gwen Petro, Sandra & John Potter, Freyda Ravitz, Gerald Reinartz, Jack & Joyce Schipper, Sonoma County History & Genealogy Library, Patricia Souza, LaVerne Stout, Bill & Carolyn Tennyson, Maybeth Thayer, Mary Tilbury, Theresa Toombs, Pamela Torliatt, Joy Waite, Karen Weeks, Karen Weissberg, Katherine Yates, Linda Yenni

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Steve & Debbie Countouriotis, Vernon & Margaret Hodapp, Charlotte Johnson, Lucy Kortum in memory of Dick Dunbar, Connie Mygatt, Mary Tilbury.

In Memory of John Pedroni: Oralee & Leroy Bean, Dennis & Kathy Chambers, Peter Paolino, Dolores Peter, Margaret & Robert Proctor, Janet Rodd, Royce & Carol Van Bebber

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BASIC BENEFITS OF ALL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

- Discounted admission to temporary exhibits (admission to the library & permanent exhibits is free to all)
- Reserved seating at the Butter & Egg Parade
- Subscription to and acknowledgement in the **PMA** newsletter
- Personalized membership card
- 10% off Museum store merchandise
- 10% off gift memberships
- Invitations to previews & receptions

INDIVIDUAL \$35

All Basic Benefits
(\$20 memberships are available in this category to: Seniors, Educators, Students. Military is free)

FAMILY / DUAL \$70

All Basic Benefits, PLUS:
•Extension of Basic Benefits to an additional adult & children in the same household up to age 17
•Two personalized membership cards

RECIPROCAL MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES - "Museum Goer" Benefit

If you join the **PMA** at the Supporter level (\$125) or higher, you will receive free or discounted admission to more than 600 museums in the U.S. Some of the top Bay Area participating museums are:

Asian Art Museum • Walt Disney Family Museum • de Young Museum • Legion of Honor
CA Historical Society Museum • Charles M. Schulz Museum • Sonoma County Museum

SUPPORTER \$125

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•**Reciprocal Museum Membership Privileges**

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All Supporter Benefits, PLUS:
•Personalized exhibit tour for you and 10 guests
•Listing of your name on the Museum's Donor Wall

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Signature: _____

All membership dues are valid for one year beginning the month of enrollment and are tax deductible as provided by law.

If you prefer, you can join online at petalumamuseum.com, or call 707-778-4398

Petaluma Museum Association
Petaluma Historical Library & Museum
20 Fourth Street
Petaluma, CA 94952-3004



Fourth Annual History Trails Walk, 2019 With the Petalumans of Yesteryear

When: Sunday, August 25, 2019

Starting point: The Balshaw Bridge, Western Avenue at Water Street,
near Water Street Bistro

The walk begins at the FOOT OF THE BALSHAW PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
(NOT at the museum); where Western Avenue meets the Petaluma River
at the Water Street Bistro location at 2:00 p.m.
Please arrive 10 minutes early to check in.

Cost: \$20 general / \$15 Museum Members

Time: 1 – 3 p.m.

This is your chance to meet some of Petalumas most colorful, influential and fascinating characters, including John McNear, Benicia Vallejo, Lyman Byce (inventor of the practical incubator) and other important Petalumans, and may include surprise appearances! Along the way, historic sites will be pointed out, and each character will delight with their humorous, sad, and riveting stories, which took place right here in our historic town!

The walk is moderate in length (1 – 1.5 hours), the pace leisurely. Remember walking shoes, hats, water and sunscreen to be comfortable. Light refreshments served outdoors at conclusion of walk in the Museum Garden Court. Walk limited to 20 people per group (hoping to form 2 groups)!

Tickets online at petalumamuseum.com or call 778-4398

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AUGUST 17 · 5:30PM
MARY POPPINS (1964 VERSION)

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THE WIZARD OF OZ

OCTOBER 5 · 5:30PM
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PIANO CONCERT

Performed by Elizabeth Walter

Featuring the music of Mozart, Beethoven, Ravel and Ginastera

A benefit for the Petaluma Museum Association
and Sky Hill Cultural Alliance



Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 4:00 pm

For Tickets: Petalumamuseum.com or 707-778-4398

General seating \$40 in advance or \$50 at door

Balcony seating \$50 in advance or \$60 at door

Complimentary wine and cheese