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OCTOBER 1985

*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

VOLUME XII, NO. 12

OCTOBER 5 & 6 Livermore Arts Festival - Gardella Park and City Library Grounds

OCTOBER 17 LHG Board Meeting - LINCOLN HIGHWAY MUSEUM - 7:30 PM - Combination Business and work meeting to help get ready for the Open House

OCTOBER 20 Open House - Lincoln Highway Museum - North L & Portola - 12 to 5 PM

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LINCOLN HIGHWAY MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 - 12 NOON TO 5 PM

Bill ONeal and other volunteers have put together quite a display for a grand OPEN HOUSE at the Lincoln Highway Museum on Sunday, October 20. Featured will be several vintage Ford automobiles from the local Henry's A's Car Club... a working demonstration on our old letter press ... display of old City of Livermore Fire Trucks ... many pieces of antique winery equipment from the Valley ... and some very interesting archeological exhibits from the Ravenswood Winery and the original site of Robert Livermore's round the Horn home. The show begins at 12 noon. It is open to be public and best of all it's FREE. Bring your friends to see what progress has been made in renovating the Highway Museum at North L and Portola Avenue.

HISTORY CENTER - NEW GIFT ACQUISITION

The Guild has received a gift of a photographic album from Mr. William C. Marshall of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The album, identified as being of the Maltby Mines (on Red Mountain) contains over thirty black and white photos of an amazing clarity. The pictures are 10 by 14 inches, mounted on fabric. In his original letter offering the photos to us Mr. Marshall explained:

"It describes a mining operation and each photo has a typewritten description on the back of these photos which were made on a canvas backed paper.

"In 1931 I and my cousin worked at this mine which produced crude magnesite. The ore was calcined at the mine, shipped by truck to Livermore, and loaded into box cars for shipment. The final product made a cement called Oxychloride, and was used to make seamless floors or stucco for buildings.

"I am now 74 years old, having spent a good portion of my life selling Oxychloride Cements. Now life in Florida is my reward."

In his letter he also indicated that the photos had been taken about 1930. We hope that older members of the Guild will drop by at the History Center to see these photos and try to help us identify some of the men who appear in the pictures. The description on the back of each photo describes what and where, but not "who", so we would like some assistance from the members, please.

LETTERPRESS PRINTING CLASS, HIGHWAY MUSEUM

A Letterpress Printing Class will be held on the four Monday nights in October from 7 to 9 PM at the Highway Museum, starting Monday, October 7. Advance sign-up is required, with a maximum of 10 people. Call Barry Schrader after 5 PM at 449-7888. Work will be done on our recently donated 7x11 Chandler and Price handplaten press. Only requirements are an interest in handpress printing and a \$5.00 fee to cover the costs of ink and paper.

The brick building at the southeast corner of East First and McLeod Streets was built by Fordyce H. Hawley in 1882. On March 26, 1883, he opened the Bank of Livermore in it. (Later it became the Livermore Valley Bank.) From 1896 to 1903 the building was a boarding house operated by Mr. and Mrs. Detlaf Lafrenz, and its upper floor became known as Independence Hall. On Jan. 3, 1905, the City of Livermore voted to buy the building at a price of \$3000. It was used as a City Hall until 1957 when the city offices moved across the street. The building continued to be owned by the City. It was used as a fire house and police station. Its outer walls were covered with stucco by the depression-era Works Progress Administration in 1936. The building was sold to Dick Ryon and Ralph Moir on April 5, 1978.

When the Lafrenz family owned the building, the upper floor was often used for parties. A group would get together and hire an entertainer, perhaps an itinerant banjo player. Someone would pass the hat to defray the cost. Dennis Bernal often made up the deficit. Dennis loved to dance. He was a member of the Bernal family who were the grantees of the Rancho el Valle de San Jose, the largest rancho in the Livermore Valley.

#### NEWS ITEMS FROM THE PAST

Livermore Herald, July 2, 1879 - There is now but one vacant place of business on First Street and aside from the old Monteverde store on L Street and one or two places in Laddsville, no other in the whole town. Not for years before has this been the case. Our dwellings too, are nearly all occupied, there being scarcely a vacant house in the place.

Livermore Herald, June 10, 1880 - A marauding poultry thief invaded C. J. Stevens hen roost, last Friday evening, but with somewhat lack of success. The proprietor happened to be in the immediate vicinity, and discharged several pistol shots at the would be chicken manipulator, who fled with a degree of speed which would have distanced a quarter horse on the homestretch.

Livermore Herald, December 23, 1880 - The town of Livermore, Beazell Bros. and N. D. Dutcher have pooled their issues and drained and filled in the large mud puddle which has so long existed at the switch crossing on Livermore Avenue. This is a notable improvement.

Livermore Herald, August 4, 1881 - Much complaint has been made of late of the increase of smoke from the Livermore Mills and its offensive smell. This is caused by the change in coal from Livermore to Mt. Diablo. The former is much preferred by Mr. Laumeister, as it is cleaner, cheaper, and gives greater heat; but the mines are not being worked, and coal can not be had at present. Consequently he is compelled to purchase abroad.

#### LHG NEWSLETTER EDITOR CHANGE

Carolyn Parrish has valiantly served as editor of our Newsletter over the past two or more years, and has done an outstanding job. To give her a bit more time for family projects, she has asked Chet Fankhauser to take over the job. Beginning with this issue he will become responsible for all misspelled words and names, errors in fact or fiction, and will try to carry on her tradition of excellence. If any member has ideas for future stories or articles, please drop your suggestions off at the History Center.

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**LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD**

P.O. Box 961 Livermore  
CA 94550

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NOVEMBER 1985

*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

VOLUME XII, NO. 13

- November 9 15th Annual Community Christmas Bazaar, Recreation Center, 8th Street, 9 am to 5 pm, LHG will have a booth.
- November 14 LHG Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, History Center, Carnegie Building
- November 21 History Center and LAA Gallery will be open on each Thursday until 9 pm for your Christmas shopping expeditions.

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#### NEW GUILD PUBLICATION FOR SALE

FLOURISHING LIVERMORE 1907 - THE STATUS OF LOCAL BUSINESS is the title of a new brochure the Guild is offering for sale. Principally it is a reproduction of an article from the Livermore Herald of January 5, 1907, showing Livermore emporiums. Included in each description is further material researched by Barbara Bunshah from later newspapers, thus a pattern of evolution can be followed in the commercial stores of the city. The price will be \$2.75 per copy. It is 24 pages and includes several interesting photos and illustrations of many early businesses in Livermore. Perfect for a Christmas present.

#### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY COMMENDATION FOR JANET NEWTON

The Awards Committee of the AASLH honored Janet Newton, our History Center Curator, with a Certificate of Commendation for her contributions to the preservation of local history in the Livermore Valley. This year the Association selected 71 individuals nationwide who demonstrated excellence in programs or achievements in the field of state and local history. Gary Drummond and Sandra Elder helped prepare the nomination papers.

#### HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

City Manager Lee Horner announced that Livermore has accepted the Office of Historic Preservation grant for \$12,000 to begin restoration work on the Lincoln Highway Museum. The city will administer the grant with Garage Museum Curator Bill O'Neal as the LHG liaison. Guidelines for the Grant have been received. Work is expected to begin soon on display and lighting changes, roof and street door repairs, completion of a safe room, and other upgrading. Bill Miller, LHG member and draftsman deluxe deserves a special thank you from the Guild for putting the plans on paper for the grant application.

Barbara Bunshah, our super research sleuth, tracked down the date of the latest gift to LHG - photo album from the Maltby Magnesite Mine on Red Mountain. The album is the subject of a front page story in the Livermore Herald on July 1, 1922. It describes the photo album, but Barbara would still like help in identifying names of workers.

Barry Schrader's Letterpress printing class got off to a flying start on October 7 with eight aspiring printers learning how to sort type and set up print boxes for their first letterhead project.

A 36" long photograph of the First Livermore Rodeo sponsored by the Stockmens Association for the benefit of the Red Cross on July 3-4, 1918 is now on display at the History Center. The picture was loaned to the Guild by Rae Ising. Taken at the James Anderson Ranch, the picture shows several members of the first families of the Rodeo - Concannon, McGlinchey, Livermore, Moy, Rodriques, Ferreria, Anderson, Foscalina, Martin, Thiel, Zaro and others not named. Any help on further identification would be appreciated.

PEARL M. CARLISLE - IN REMEMBRANCE

by Janet Newton

A prominent member of the pioneer community of Livermore, Pearl M. Carlisle, died on October 9. She was ninety one. Miss Carlisle's grandfather, Calvin J. Stevens, was one of the first business men of Livermore. He owned the flouring mill for which Mill Square was named, and considerable other property in and near Livermore, notably the commercial land on the north side of First Street west of South Livermore Avenue.

Mr. Stevens came to California in 1852. He decided at the outset to settle in Alameda County, first in Alvarado (now Union City), then Centerville, and in 1869, in Livermore. In 1883, Mr. Stevens and his family were living in Oakland, where he also owned several properties. He was once the Treasurer and Assessor for Oakland, Mr. Stevens and his wife Malvina had three children. One of them, Abbie, married Herbert Carlisle. Pearl Carlisle was the eldest of their three children.

Miss Carlisle graduated from Mills College with a major in biology and a minor in physics. At one time she was a teacher at Mocho School near Livermore. She took a great interest in science, often visiting the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. As long as she was able, she would drive out to Livermore from her beautiful old home near Lake Merritt in Oakland in a mint condition Ford Model A Coupe. She was interested in a theory called "The World University Dynamic Building Plan."

(Editor's Note) Miss Carlisle joined the ranks of living legends of the Laboratory when she arrived at the South Gate one day in the late 1960's and announced to the astonished guards that she wished to discuss her Plan with the Laboratory Director. She then drove her Model A straight through the gate, hotly pursued by five or six officers. After a speedily arranged interview office was made ready, she spent the next three hours describing her theory to a security representative - who allegedly bade her farewell with slightly glassy-eyed reverence.

PARALLELS FROM THE PAST

by Chet Fankhauser

LIVERMORE HERALD, July 22, 1880 - More rowdyism and drunkenness and more brawling fights were displayed and took place in our town on Sunday last, than on any previous day for fully two years. Hundreds of farm laborers thronged our streets, saloons, and stores, the majority, however, being quiet and peaceable. A score or more, however, made both day and night hideous by their fighting, quarelling, whooping and yelling. We would earnestly inquire why these roughs are allowed to have full swing and follow the sweet will of their own drunken caprices, without molestation.

LIVERMORE HERALD, May 26, 1881 - The ladies of the Public Library Association of this place have decided to open an ice cream stand at the Library Hall on Saturday afternoons and evenings during the coming summer. The object is to furnish the library building, purchase more books, and secure the services of a librarian. They will begin operations on Saturday next, and will furnish cream by the plate, or in bulk, for family use.

LIVERMORE HERALD, August 25, 1881 - There is not now a good unoccupied dwelling house in Livermore. In no way would money bring a better interest than investing in half a dozen neat cottage dwellings, which would readily rent for 12 dollars per month each.

LIVERMORE HERALD, April 27, 1882 - Scott and Church have just placed a very handsome gilt mortar upon a neatly painted post, in front of their drug store. Attached to it is a hanging cord which connects with a bell inside the store, so that parties approaching in buggies or on horseback can call the attendant at all times without dismounting. The making, painting and gilding of this beautiful mortar sign were done here in Livermore.

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DECEMBER 1985

*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

Volume XIII, No. 2

## CALENDAR

- December 1 - Sunday Livermore Art Association Christmas Botique - 11 am to 5 pm  
Ravenswood Estate - Handcrafted gifts galore
- December 13 - Friday LHG Christmas Board meeting, 7:30 pm, Brown residence, Tesla Road.  
Please bring Christmas goodies.
- DECEMBER 25 HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all of our members from the Board of Directors  
of the Livermore Heritage Guild  
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HERITAGE GUILD 1986 CALENDAR NOW ON SALE AT HISTORY CENTER

1986 Heritage Guild calendars with fascinating illustrations from the Historical Atlas of Alameda County, 1878, by Thompson and West, are now on sale at the History Center for \$2.00 a copy. Designed by Carolyn Parrish, these useful date reminders are a great item for Christmas. Only a limited number have been printed.

NOTED GERMAN PHYSICIST VISITS VALLEY - IN 1905

Alan Winslow has given our Curator an account of a visit to Phoebe Apperson Hearst's home near Pleasanton by the famous German physicist Ludwig Boltzmann when he presented a series of lectures in June 1905 at the University of California in Berkely. Janet is preparing a condensation of the article. Prof. Boltzmann suffered from asthma attacks and stomach problems induced by Bay Area water during his stay. For anyone interested in reading the original, a copy of the visit report is available from Barbara Bunshah at the History Center.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS REMINDER

To insure receiving your LHG Newsletter and other mail from the Guild, members are urged to let us know when they move or change their mailing address in any way. Call the Hisstory Center, telephone 449-9927 or drop a note to LHG, P.O. Box 961, Livermore.

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

The Livermore Fire Department found several nozzles, hose tools, and couplings from our restored Mack Fire Engine and has donated them to the Guild. Thank you very much. Bill O'Neal has started the plans for restoration operations at the Lincoln Highway Museum. Drawings were given to the City Planning Department as the first step in obtaining State grant funding for work on garage improvements.

The LHG Board of Directors has approved a proposal by RoseMarie Wade to revise the cabinet areas in the History Center display rooms to improve the exhibit arrangements.

Don't forget to take advantage of the Livermore-Amador Genealogy Society's Library at the History Center. A large selection of reference books from throughout the country is available to check up on your ancestral beginnings and origins. The Society will soon install a photocopy machine to allow you to copy documents useful in your research effort.

The Tracy West Side Pioneers has invited members of the LHG to attend their next meeting at 7 pm, on Thursday, January 23, 1986, at the Tracy Community Center on East 10th Street. Their program will feature a slide presentation on the history of Corral Hollow. This would be a good time to learn more about Carnegie and Tesla.

Recently we enjoyed a tour of a windfarm in the Altamont Pass area east of Livermore as guests of the UCSF School of Medicine. We were seated on the upper deck of a double decker bus. It was a bizarre experience to be rollicking over hill and dale on a dirt road in the Altamont, in a double decker bus. The hostess stopped talking in mid-sentence while the driver negotiated a tight curve at one place.

There was no wind that day, which was probably just as well for the safety of the bus, but it would have been more interesting to see the windmills in action. There are at least ten different designs of windmills in the Altamont. Over 4000 have been installed since the fall of 1981, and by January 1985 they had produced 160 million kilowatt hours, or enough energy to meet the electric needs of 27,000 California homes for a full year. This is the largest collection of windmills in the world.

I remarked that we were very near, if not actually on, the path taken by Capt. Juan Bautista de Anza and Father Pedro Font in April 1776, as guests of Malvern Sweet at his ranch, that we were near the spot where we, as well as the explorers, could see the hills of the San Francisco Peninsula. The 1776 party saw the redwoods that had so impressed them when they named the place Palo Alto. Malvern later pointed out that we had been looking down the gap that is Niles Canyon.

Our bus ride started at Wente Bros. Sparkling Wine Cellars. From there we went straight down Arroyo Road to L Street and on to the Freeway. No one was there to describe the roadside sights such as Ravenswood or show visitors a better route to the hills. It might be an improvement to develop a partnership with the tour bus companies to supply local guides and commentators.

#### PARALLELS FROM THE PAST

by Chet Fankhauser

LIVERMORE HERALD, May 11, 1882 - The Town Election held in this place, on Monday last was the most exciting contest of the kind ever seen in our burg. The issue was the liquor question. A caucus was held on Thursday evening at which was nominated a ticket which was unanimously endorsed by the saloon keepers and League of Freedom of our town. Later a second ticket was gotten up, composed exclusively of men opposed to that organization and not in sympathy with the saloon interest.

The result of the election shows a virtual victory for the liquor men. True, but three of the ticket endorsed by them were elected, but the election of two of the candidates upon the temperance, or law and order ticket, was due more to their own personal popularity, than aught else. G.E. Kennedy, the next highest candidate on the Temperance ticket, came within two votes of a tie, three of the election. 188 votes were cast, being the largest vote ever polled at a town election in this place. It was exceeded by four votes at the last election.

LIVERMORE HERALD, May 18, 1882 - Billy Laumeister says if our business men will, every Saturday morning, sweep up into piles in front of their places of business the rubbish of the week, he will furnish a team and wagon and haul it away without cost to them. We hope every person will accept this generous proposition, and make a morning job of it, so that we can say no town in the country has cleaner and better kept streets than Livermore.

LIVERMORE HERALD, DECEMBER 16, 1880 - Last week a complete count was made of all matter passing through each post office in the United States. The Livermore office forwarded 1050 pieces, which is considerably below the average business.

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JANUARY 1986

*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

Volume XIII, No. 3

## CALENDAR

- January 9, 1986 - Thursday LHG Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, at the residence of Fred and Mary Spaeth, 2343 College Avenue, Livermore
- March 22 - Saturday Barbara Bunshah has a limited number of tickets at \$7.50 each for the next LCAC Spring Dance at the Barn. Theme will be "Stage Door Canteen." 1945 period dress optional.

## HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

The Windsor Publishing Company has asked the Heritage Guild for information and suggestions about the possibility of a pictorial history book on Livermore. The volume would be similar to the recent book "Stockton" published by the company. Copies of "Stockton" can be seen at the History Center and Livermore Library.

On Monday, January 20, Janet Newton will be the speaker at a general membership meeting of the Committee for the Restoration of the Mission San Jose, to be held in the Restored Mission Church at 7:45pm at Mission San Jose. The topic will be the story of Robert and Josefa Livermore. This is an excellent chance to see the result of all the research and hard work done to achieve this restoration, and to see the recently discovered marble gravestone of Robert Livermore.

Under the direction of Bill O'Neal, construction plans are in the final stages to repair the windows and roof of the Lincoln Highway Garage.

1986 Heritage Guild Calendars are still available for \$2.00 a copy at the History Center. The calendar features six lithographs from the 1878 Historical Atlas of Alameda County with a short history prepared by Gary Drummond for each building. Illustrations include the James Beazel home, Livermore Collegiate Institute, Mill Square, Farmers Exchange Hotel, Daniel Inman residence, and the home and ranches of Robert Livermore, Jr.

NOTES FROM JANET NEWTON

Mrs. Jessie Dyer, mother of Carolyn Parrish, writes from her home in England that she has joined the historical society in the village where she was born and that she and her sister have been taping some reminiscences of their younger days. They mentioned that Carolyn lived in Livermore and their interviewer said "That is where the wineries are."

In the last issue in the article about the Altamont wind farms, some words were left out. It should have read, in part, "We were very near, if not actually on, the path taken by Capt. Juan Bautista de Anza and Father Pedro Font in April 1776, and that we were near the spot (on a private ranch) where we saw, as guests of Malvern Sweet, the spot where one can see (as Anza and Father Font saw), the redwoods that had impressed them when they named the place Palo Alto. Malvern afterwards pointed out to us that we had been looking down the gap that is Niles Canyon."

PARALLELS FROM THE PAST

by Chet Fankhauser

LIVERMORE HERALD, Dec 29, 1881 - There are now four restaurants, oyster and chop houses and five hotels in this place.

LIVERMORE HERALD, Jan 12, 1882 - The sale of the property of the Livermore Hook and Ladder Co. to the Town of Livermore will be made within a few days, the purchase money being now in the Town Treasury. The property consists of the 2 story engine house building and lot, on Second Street, the hook and ladder truck and appurtenances belonging thereto. The price paid is \$1,200. One half of the amount was raised by a town tax of 25¢ on the hundred dollars, and the balance being derived from the general fund. Proceeds of the sales of the property of the Hook and Ladder Co. will be equally divided among the several members in good standing of the organization.

LIVERMORE HERALD, Jan 19, 1882 - About 50 persons assembled at Library Hall, last Sat. evening to listen to a debate on the questions of the allowance of women of equal business and political privileges with men. The affirmative was represented by G.W. Langan and J.T. McDaniel, while F.A. Anthony and W.P. Barlett appeared for the negative. A sharp discussion ensued, carried on with much vigor by both sides. At the close the chairman decided with the negative. In a ballot being taken in the audience, however, the vote stood: blank 5; negative 12; and affirmative 20.

LIVERMORE HERALD, Jan 19, 1882 - The Town is about to put up 5 new street lamps on the outskirts of town. We shall then have 16 lamps belonging to the Town and 3, private property, lighted every night. Our street lamps are a convenience which we should now find it hard to get along without.

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS 1986 TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS FROM THE LHG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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FEBRUARY 1986

Volume XIII, No. 3

## CALENDAR

February 13, 1986 - Thursday LHG Board Meeting, 7:30pm, History Center, Carnegie Building

## HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

The Livermore Chamber of Commerce honored two very special members of the Heritage Guild at its 60th annual dinner meeting on January 25 at Castlewood Country Club. An award for historic preservation was presented to Barbara Bunshah who has served the past five years as volunteer coordinator for the LHG History Center. A Board member for five years, she has been secretary for the past three. Barry Schrader received his award for outstanding community service by an individual. Schrader, a charter member of the Guild, has been on the Board of LHG for many years. He has been active in many phases of the programs and projects undertaken by LHG. Congratulations to both for this community recognition of work well done and appreciated by our members.

A booklet of excerpts from an article written by the world reknown physicist Ludwig Boltzmann has been completed by Janet Newton. It describes Prof. Boltzmann's visit to the Livermore Valley in 1905 as a guest of Phoebe Hearst at her Hacienda del Pozo Verona, now the site of Castlewood Country Club. The booklet may be purchased at the History Center for \$1.25 per copy.

A special thank you from the Board of Directors of the Guild goes to Fred and Mary Spaeth who graciously hosted the Board at their impressively renovated home on College Avenue last month. Mary described the trials and tribulations of relocating and renovating the old Holdener Dairy ranch house which the couple moved from its Stanley Boulevard location several years ago.

Muriel Dean has now computerized our membership records which will result in updated lists and mailing labels for our publications and reports. The Guild had three new members and eight renewals during the last month. DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR LHG MEMBERSHIP.

NOTES FROM CURATOR JANET NEWTON

Mrs. Isabella Crosby McGeehon, died on January 3 in Walnut Creek. Mrs. McGeehon was born on the ranch of her father, William Crosby, southwest of Del Valle Park. Mrs. McGeehon, during the time I knew her was a rich source of historical information about the Livermore Valley. There is an exhibit about the Crosby family in the West room of the History Center. Members of the Heritage Guild are entitled to a free copy of the booklet about the ranch when they visit the Center.

Copies of old photos. Recently added to the catalogue of old photos available for copying is an air photo of Livermore taken from just east of St. Michael's Church about 1925.

New exhibits are being planned for the History Center. We will tell about them in the next issue of the Newsletter. In the meantime, come and visit the fine genealogical library now in the East room of the Center maintained by the Livermore-Amador Genealogy Society. A photocopy machine will be installed there this month.

PARALLELS FROM THE PAST

by Chet Fankhauser

LIVERMORE ECHO, Jan 12,1888 - Livermore Public Schools for January 1888 - 386 enrolled; daily attendance 286. Teachers; Miss E. Frank, Miss M.M. McKee, Miss Grace Campbell, Miss K. Davies, Miss E. C. Smith, Miss M. E. Tuttle. William A. Cowdry, Principal.

The Trustees of the Livermore public school will hereafter refuse admission to scholars residing outside of the district, for the reason that the school building scarcely affords accomodation for the pupils residing in the district.

LIVERMORE ECHO, Jan 26,1888 - Some mischievous boys last Sunday broke several lights of glass in the public school building by firing stones from a "sling shot". Prof. Cowdry ascertained the names of the culprits and notified their parents who promptly repaired the damages.

LIVERMORE ECHO, Jan 12,1888 - Now that improvements are the order of the day, would it not be a good idea to number the buildings on our principal streets, allowing, say, 25 feet of frontage per number, and also to erect signs bearing the street names, at least, on one of the four corners where streets intersect? Without the latter, as at present, it is often extremely difficult for newcomers to locate any particular place to which they may desire to go. Besides this, a business advertisement, card, or letter head, bearing a street number falling under the eyes of a stranger, would give the impression of a town of much more importance than would otherwise be the case. Please, good City fathers, let us have the signs and numbers.

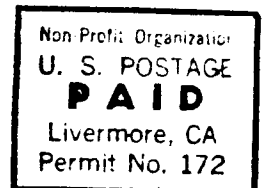
LIVERMORE ECHO, Jan 12,1888 - An enterprising Livermore merchant sprinkled the sidewalk in front of his premises last cold Wednesday morning, Result: a miniature ice skating rink and cuss words uttered by passing pedestrians.

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MARCH 1986

Volume XIII No. 4

CALENDAR: - A busy month for everyone!!!

- Saturday, March 8 - Treasures & Trivia - Livermore Amador Symphony White Elephant Sale  
The Barn, 10am to 2:30; Everything from plants to pants on sale.
- Thursday, March 13 - LHG Board Meeting, 7:30pm, 567 South L Street
- Fri. - Sat., March 14-15 Friends of the Library Used Book Sale, Fri. eve 7 - 10pm; Sat  
morning 9am - 1pm, The Barn - Books and magazines for every taste.
- Saturday, March 22 - LCAC Spring Dance, "Stage Door Canteen" Theme, The Barn, Tickets  
available at \$7.50 per person from Barbara Bunshah, History Center
- Sat. - Sun, April 5-6 - LAA Spring Art Show, The Barn - Preview, Evening, April 4
- Friday, April 11 - Benefit Art Auction for Liv High School Band Trip to EXPO '86, Veterans  
Hall, Donation - \$3.00; Preview 7-8pm; Auction - 8:00pm

#### HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Beginning Sunday, May 18, Gary Drummord will conduct a weekly Sunday afternoon walking tour of Livermore's historic South of Fourth Street neighborhood. Gary will talk about the architecture and history of the neighborhood. Every tour will last about one hour. A sign-up sheet is available at the History Center. Each tour group will be limited to 16 people. Interested tourists who have signed up will meet at 3pm on the steps of the Carnegie Library History Center, and from there walk south down L Street, cross to M Street, back up L to Seventh and around Fifth Street School. For sign-up, priority will be given to paid up members of the Livermore Heritage Guild, but the public is also welcome to join this fascinating lecture tour of one of the more picturesque areas of our city. Gary will host the tours each Sunday through the summer.

Bill ONeal, Anna and Roger Brown hosted a visit through the Lincoln Highway Garage by Thomas Winter from the Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento last month. They reviewed plans for the renovation and exhibit areas at the Garage with the State official. Bill reports that Mr. Winter was very impressed with the current display material and made several suggestions on how the Garage could be best utilized by the community and the Guild.

The Guild thanks LHG member Larry Mauch for his contribution of three interesting pieces of memorabilia to the Lincoln Highway Garage. One, a bottle of Monomobile Motor oil; two, a bottle of car cleaner good for "one hundred washes" with a label showing a 1930's auto; and three, a wood gas tank dip stick to measure up to 10 gallons of gas on which is printed "Compliments of F. H. Duarte Garage." The gifts will be added to the display material at the Garage.

Preliminary plans are underway by Ways and Means Chairman Henri Fankhauser for the annual May Fund Raiser for the Guild. She is considering a dinner followed by a silent auction to be held in the Lincoln Highway Garage on Saturday evening in early May. Items to be auctioned will include local artifacts as well as services and items of special interest to members of LHG and the public. Expect a call for volunteer service sometime soon.

Barbara Bunshah and Bill ONeal report that the latest storms did not bother any Heritage Guild property. No water damage at the Carnegie Building occurred, and at the Garage one of the southwest windows sustained only minor wind assault problems.

LHG membership is now 240 paid-up members. Join or renew your dues in the Guild.

NOTES FROM CURATOR JANET NEWTON

A new exhibit in the History Center is being planned on the theme of "Earning a living in the Livermore Valley - People at work."

The first record I have of how people earned a living in this valley is a copy of the hand-written State census of 1852. It is not always easy to decipher. The word "rancherio" which occurs many times might mean rancher or ranch hand.

The occupation "housewife" is not listed, though there must have been many of them, either employers or employees, or self employed. There is one entry of a "domestic" however. There are a number of "vaquario's", laborers, two carpenters, some farmers, some "hunters", a stock farmer, a tanner, one school master, one lawyer (John W. Kottinger), a blacksmith, and a man who was a noted writer, named Josiah Royce. His occupation is given as farmer.

The two carpenters are not the ones who built Robert Livermore's "Round-the-Horn" house. They were from Germany and John Strickland who built the Livermore House was English.

We can assume that most of the residents of the Livermore Valley at that time worked - and worked hard - at providing for the families that they were a part of. They must have kept busy processing food, laundering, dressmaking, making cheese and butter, and working on the ranch. The census does not list gold-miners, but there must have been a great many of them, either on their way to the mines or on their way back.

We will continue to collect information from other sources.

PARALLELS FROM THE PAST by Chet Fankhauser

LIVERMORE ENTERPRISE - Jan. 23, 1890 - The foot bridge at the L Street crossing of the Mocho Creek was again carried away by the high water on Thursday.

Water from a canyon southeast of town flowed down East Avenue and Lizzie (South Livermore) Street last Friday forenoon in such quantities as to threaten the place with inundation, transforming Front Street and the vicinity of the depot into a raging river. Some pretty lively work was done for a couple of hours, when the flood subsided, having done no great amount of damage. The like was never before seen in Livermore.

LIVERMORE ENTERPRISE - Jan. 30, 1890 - The high water in Las Positas creek last Saturday washed out a large quantity of growing vegetables in A. DeMartini's garden on the Robert Livermore place and vegetables of all descriptions are now scattered along the banks of the creek for a long distance below.

According to the gauge at the depot, the rainfall of the past week has amounted to 1.79 inches making a total for the season of 20.54 against 7.11 inches to same date last year.

Last Saturday was a day which will be long remembered in Livermore. During the previous night nearly two inches of rain had fallen, which added to the moisture with which the ground was previously saturated caused a flood of water, such as the oldest resident had never seen before, to pour into Livermore from the south-east. It commenced coming in at about 5 o'clock in the morning, good sized creeks flowing down Lizzie Street, East Avenue, and along the railroad track, threatening to inundate all that portion of town lying North of Second Street. By 7 o'clock nearly every man in the place was hard at work trying to prevent prevent the flooding of cellars, etc, and by 3pm all danger of serious damage was past. Some water found its way into the cellar under the McLeod block, and also into a few other cellars in the northern part of town, but the damage all told was very small.

A proof that Livermore has the finest natural streets in the world is found in the fact that, notwithstanding the flood of water which passed down First Street but two days before, workmen engaged Monday excavating for a culvert found the ground perfectly dry below a depth of two inches.

LIVERMORE ENTERPRISE - Feb. 27, 1890 - Water having found its way into the cellar occupied by Zaballa Bros. saloon, they have placed a bar in a small room on the ground floor and named it the "Hole in the Wall."

Editorial Comment - Too much water nowadays to suit even the temperance people.

I've been turning out the LHG Newsletter now for about six months. If anyone has any comments or suggestions for improvement or other items of interest, drop a note off at the History Center. It's been fun plowing through the papers.

Chet Fankhauser - Editor

**LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD**

P.O. Box 961 Livermore  
CA 94550

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# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



NEWSLETTER

Phone: 449-9927

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APRIL 1986

VOLUME XIII No. 5

## CALENDAR

Sat - Sun, April 5-6 LAA Spring Art Show, The Barn, 10AM-5PM; Preview, Fri, Apr 4, 7:30PM  
Thursday, April 10 LHG Board Meeting, Carnegie Building, 7:30PM  
Friday, April 11 Benefit Art Auction for Liv High School Band Trip to EXPO '86,  
Veterans Hall, Donation-\$3.00; Preview 7-8PM; Auction= 8:00 PM

## HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Bill ONeal, Curator of the Lincoln Highway Garage, is putting together the preliminary bid package for the State grant funding for repairs to the Garage. The contracts are being administered by the City of Livermore and must be submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento by April 30. Bill's list is growing daily and progress will start as soon as the detailed procedures are completed and approved by the State.

Don't forget to take advantage of Gary Drummond's special summer walking tour through old South of Fourth Street neighborhoods in Livermore. During the one hour walk Gary will discuss the special architectural features and the history of the area. Tour groups will be limited to 16 people. There is no cost for the tour and interested participants should sign up ahead of time at the History Center in the Carnegie Building. The first tour begins on Sunday, May 18, 1986, and will continue each Sunday throughout the summer. Each trip begins at 3PM on the front steps of the Carnegie Building. Special attention will be given to clubs or groups of people who wish to take the outing through one of the more interesting and historic sections of Livermore. Get your name on the sign-up sheets soon.

SPAGHETTI DINNER AND AUCTION will be held Saturday, May 17, at the Lincoln Highway Garage. Spaghetti and meatball dinner plus salad and dessert, starting at 6PM. Silent auction of great items at 7PM followed by a short program of Gary Drummond's slides and comments on interesting old Livermore Buildings. Advance tickets \$3.00 (Available at the History Center on May 1) or \$3.50 at the door. MEMBERS: PLEASE ATTEND, BRING YOUR FRIENDS, SUPPORT THE GUILD AND HAVE FUN AT THE SAME TIME.

NOTES FROM CURATOR JANET NEWTON

EARNING A LIVING IN THE LIVERMORE VALLEY - PEOPLE AT WORK (Part II)

1860 - From the 1860 State census: There were 60 ranchers, 26 farmers, 26 laborers, 8 stock-raisers, 8 shepherds, 3 herders, 3 teamsters, 2 blacksmiths, 3 cooks, 3 hotelmen, 2 merchants, 2 teachers, 3 servants, 2 nurses, and one each, miner, carpenter, printer, bricklayer, seamstress, hostler, tinsmith, one proprietress of ranch (Josefa Livermore) and one "gentleman". One of the nurses was Ah Ping, born in China and one was Bridget Connelly, born in Ireland.

1870 - From the Federal census: the population had developed and diversified as follows: the largest number were listed as "at home". The next largest group were laborers and the next largest were "at school". Of the occupations given, there were 20 cooks, (most but not all Chinese), 18 carpenters, 16 merchants, 13 blacksmiths, 10 shepherds, 11 hotel-keepers, 11 laundry workers, 9 saloon-keepers, 7 shoemakers, 6 hostlers, 6 store clerks, 5 bakers, 5 teamsters, 5 gardeners, 4 butchers, 4 engineers, 4 miners, 5 schoolteachers, 4 wheelwrights, 4 telegraph operators, 3 tinsmiths, 3 physicians, 3 printers, 2 attorneys, 2 lumber agents, 2 druggists, and one each: artist, constable, railroad agent, dress-maker, watchman, harness-maker, nurse, tanner, and marble cutter. Next to the nurse is a resident marked smallpox. This compilation is for the whole of the Livermore Valley, including Dougherty's Station, Pleasanton and Livermore.

COMMENT by Carolyn Parrish

Nowadays people wish they had more time to do more leisurely things, or express the frustration that they will never have enough time to tie up all the loose ends of daily life. I find myself wondering lately if we have all developed an alarming habit of having to keep busy tiring ourselves out on activities which on close inspection may prove to be quite unimportant in the general realm of things. When I finally run out of time, I don't think I'll be proudest of all the endless shopping, freeway driving and house scrubbing I did.

Historically, Livermore has long been known for its community activities, its "heart", a real place on the map and not just a name conjured up out of a developer's dream. We have some wonderful groups and clubs here which add to the quality of daily life, and which nurture the cultural needs of this community. But, you know I recently realized that things are changing in our town, even in the short period that I've been here. The folks who started the different groups are growing older and there are not the younger people in the community interested enough to participate and take over. As Livermore grows will it lose that core of cozy "small town-ness" because nobody can spare any time?

We seem to have a city council with a stagnant cultural arts policy, perhaps it's succeeded in cultivating a little general apathy. For the size of our community we should be capable of successfully supporting our special interest groups. Before time runs out on us and we find ourselves bemoaning the fate that once-upon-a-time Livermore did have some great things to do, please whip up some enthusiasm for all of the cultural arts groups, the Heritage Guild included, and encourage your whole family to support them -- even perhaps those new neighbors???

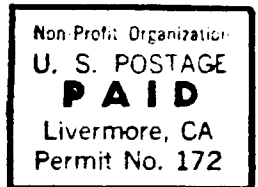
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**LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD**

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*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

MAY 1986

Volume XIII No. 6

## CALENDAR

Thu, May 8 LHG Board Meeting, Carnegie Building, 7:30 PM  
 Sat, May 17 Annual LHG Fund-Raiser Dinner and Silent Auction, 6 PM, Lincoln Highway Garage  
 Sun, May 18 Gary Drummond's Walking Tours of Old Livermore begin, Sign up ahead of time at the History Center. Tours begin at 3 PM at Carnegie Building.  
 Fri, June 6 Annual Membership Meeting, Old Town Hall, 142 McLeod St, 8 PM

ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION AND DINNER FUND-RAISER SET FOR 6PM, SATURDAY, MAY 17, LINCOLN HIGHWAY GARAGE

LHG members, their families and friends are invited to attend our annual dinner and silent auction beginning at 6 PM, Saturday, May 17, in the Lincoln Highway Garage. Dinner features spaghetti and meatballs, salad and dessert. At 7 PM the silent auction will begin giving everyone a chance to bid on and buy old Livermore artifacts, coupons for goods and services from local merchants, Valley wine, antiques, furniture, old tools and lots more. Gary Drummond will close the affair with a short program of slides and stories about old Livermore. Advance tickets at \$3.00 each will be available at the History Center on May 1 or can be purchased at the door for \$3.50 each. HELP US FINANCE THE GARAGE RESTORATION ---PLAN TO BE THERE !!!!!

Gary Drummond will begin his weekly Sunday afternoon walking tours on Sunday, May 18, through Livermore's historic South of Fourth Street Neighborhood. Potential tourists should sign up ahead of time at the History Center for a specific Sunday during the summer. Tours will be limited to 16 people and will last about one hour, Tour groups will meet at 3 PM on the steps of the Carnegie Building, and with Gary as your guide, will walk through some of the most historic areas of Livermore. Don't miss this chance to see and hear stories about our local heritage from a well known expert. Be sure to sign up ahead of time for each trip.

LHG annual general membership meeting will be held in the second floor meeting room of Old Town Hall, 142 McLeod Street, on Friday, June 6, at 8 PM. LHG Curator Janet Newton and other guests will describe the centers of civic government over the past years. An election of next years' officers for LHG and a short meeting will precede the talks. Dessert will be served following the lectures. Members of LHG and the public are invited to attend.

Locks on the Lincoln Highway Garage have been changed. Replacement keys for the new padlocks are available from Bill O'Neal.

Nominating Committee members Peggy Concannon and Barry Schrader have proposed the following slate of 1986 officers for LHG: Chairman - Gary Drummond; Vice Chairman - Nancy Bireley; Secretary - Barbara Bunshah; Treasurer - Mal Sweet; Ways and Means Chairman - Chet Fankhauser; Directors to 1988 - Bea Heara, Janet Newton, Tim Sage, Larry Mauch, and Anna Brown.

Three new glass display cases have been purchased by the Guild to upgrade some of the older equipment at the History Center. A new exhibit area will be set up and other changes in the History Center will be made during the month of May.

Barry Schrader will repeat his letterpress printing class beginning Monday, June 9, and will continue each Monday through June 30. Using the 7x11 Chandler and Price handplaten press, students will meet from 7 to 9 PM at the Lincoln Highway Garage. Advance sign-up is required with a limit of eight students for the courses. A fee of \$6.00 is necessary to cover the cost of all printing supplies used. Interest students may call Barry Schrader after 5 PM at 449-7888 to sign up for the hand press printing classes.

There will soon be two vacancies on the City's Historic Preservation Commission. Any LHG member interested in applying can call Gary Drummond or Jan Brice for information or obtain applications from the City Clerk at the Livermore City Hall.

HELP WANTED - ORAL HISTORY CHAIRMAN - Immediate opening. No experience necessary. Will train. Must like people and have a curiosity about local history. Long/short assignments with varied duties. A volunteer job with no pay but you can set your own hours. Thirty oral history tapes have been completed. You can encourage others to add to our LHG collection. Be your own boss. Apply now!!!!!! Call 447-6861

NOTES FROM CURATOR JANET NEWTON

EARNING A LIVING IN THE LIVERMORE VALLEY - PEOPLE AT WORK (Part 3)

In the Murray Township portion of McKenney's District Directory of Alameda County, published in 1879, there are 59 entries for Altamont. Three had 80 acres, and one, the highest number had 7,382. Only one man is listed as a farmer and one a sheep raiser, but it seems more than likely that they were all ranchers.

There are eight entries for Dougherty's Station, including John Green, 1,320 acres, general merchandise and farmer.

Dublin had 30 entries, including Mrs. Mgt. Murray, 9 acres, and Charles McLaughlin, 55,630 acres, no doubt acquired in connection with his work for the railroad. James W. Dougherty had 7,105 acres. No occupations are given but from the wide range of the size of the holdings, it seems likely that some were for businesses other than farming.

There are 369 entries for Livermore. Ten of them do not give any acreage, but give their business instead. The acreages given are from one acre to 2,775 acres for R. T. Pope. The businesses are quite varied by this time, but by far the most are connected with farming. The next highest number are connected with personal needs and homewares. Do saloons come under personal needs? If so there were quite a number of them. But often they are part of a hotel. One man is listed as a capitalist. There is one real estate agent, one hairdresser, one wine seller, and many other occupations.

For the community of Midway there are 16 entries, all farmers including S. Zimmerman who was also the proprietor of Mountain House.

Pleasanton has 118 entries, from 1½ acres to John Kottinger's 2,607 acres. There is a physician, a capitalist, a hairdresser, the noted carriage maker J. A. Bilz, plus attorneys, teachers, and a telegraph repairer.

Sunol - "a romantic little place.." has 70 entries, including the well-known map makers Duer and Nussbaumer, listed as farmers. \* \* \* \* \*

Wente Sparkling Wine Cellar is searching for photos or news articles concerning Cresta Blanca or Ruby Hills wineries in the old days for their Museum Room. If you have something of interest they would like to reproduce your copy and display it. If you can help call 447-3023. \* \* \* \* \*

COMMENT

Dear Editor,

I wish to answer Carolyn Parrish's comment in the April 1986 Newsletter.

Carolyn, I have been enthused this past few months by all of the progress being made by the Heritage Guild such as the speakers presenting Livermore history to adult and student groups, the on going work at the Duarte Garage, the plans for sufficient and correct storage to protect the collections, photographs, maps, memorabilia, etc., of Livermore's past, Gary Drummond's Sunday Architectural Walking Tours - and most exciting to me is the work to be done in May for the upgrading of the History Center in the Carnegie Building.

I particularly like this last project as I believe it will make the History Center a much more visible and inviting place for young and old to visit, learn about their town, and perhaps some will even want to come around and help out.

The upgrading will require a lot of man hours as well as that old demon money. As I am unable to give of my time, at present, but would like to feel I am doing my share - I am enclosing a check to art an "IN LIEU OF" Fund (in lieu of the fact that I can't work, I will participate by helping with the funding). If anyone out there would like to join me and help with the upgrading of our Livermore History Center, why not join with me with whatever you want to spare for this project. If you can give of your time, call the History Center at 449-9927 and let them know. If you can't give of your time, why not join me with a donation for this project by sending a check to LHG "In Lieu Of", P.O. Box 961, Livermore, Ca 94550.

Yes, Carolyn, we do care about the Livermore History Center.

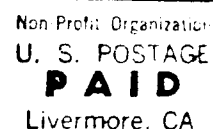
Rose Marie Wade

FREE - Big Annual Gas Up - Tracy Westside Pioneers, June 6,7,8. Wind, heat, dust and vintage farm vehicles in authentic setting at Koster Ranch. Call 449-9927 for location directions.

**LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD**

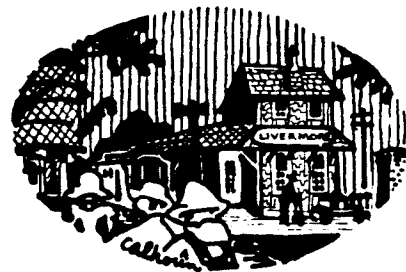
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# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



NEWSLETTER

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JUNE 1986

VOLUME XIII No. 7

## CALENDAR

Fri, June 6 Annual Membership Meeting, Old Town Hall, 142 McLeod St, 8 PM  
Sat-Sun, June 14-15 Livermore Rodeo Parade - Sat; Rodeo on Sat. and Sun.

## GUILD HAPPENINGS

Our Annual Membership Meeting of the Heritage Guild will be held at 8 PM, Friday, June 6, in the second floor meeting room of the Old Town Hall, 142 McLeod Street. Following a short business meeting and election of next years Board of Directors, Curator Janet Newton will present a historic overview of the several Town Halls used in governing Livermore. Former City Clerk Dorothy Hock will then discuss various officials and changes in the civic affairs of our community and review her long career in city government. Refreshments will be served following the talks. The public and all members of LHG are invited to attend.

The dinner and silent auction last month was a great success. Everyone busily bid and paid for many items and gift certificates. Gary Drummond closed the affair with a well received lecture on old Livermore. Nancy Bireley and Henri Fankhauser sold out their spaghetti dinner and thank everyone who helped. Bea Heara and Barry Schrader helped add local merchant gift certificates to the fifty items on sale. Over \$650 has been added to the Highway Garage Restoration Fund.

Gary Drummond's weekly Sunday walking tours of old Livermore have been filled to capacity. He will continue them through the summer. Sign up by calling the History Center and reserving your date.

Barry Schrader will begin his next letterpress printing class on Monday, June 9. The four week course will be held each Monday in June from 7 to 9 PM at the Lincoln Highway Garage. Advance sign-up is required with a limit of 8 students. A \$6.00 fee is required to cover the cost of printing supplies. Call Barry Schrader after 5 PM at 449-7888 to sign up for the courses.

The LHG Board of Directors wishes to express its sincere appreciation and thanks to the family of Ernest Gohler, Sr. and Marie Gohler Ralph for their generosity in contributing historical items to the permanent collection of the Guild. Included in the material were old records of Coast Manufacturing Company, a complete uniform from the 1930's Livermore Marching Band, and several tools used in manufacturing the fuse and powder products at the Trevarno factory site.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY MUSEUM

On September 9, 1915, the fourth page of the Livermore Echo published the birth certificate of the current Lincoln Highway Museum. It read:

"Erecting Garage Along Highway - Frank Duarte, late of Niles, has purchased from Mrs. Jos. Ginger, the triangular lot at the end of North L Street and fronting on the Dublin Road State Highway, and is erecting a first class garage there, having a brick front, corrugated-iron sides, and cement floor. Mr. Duarte, who learned the machinists trade in the East, proposes to open an up-to-date garage there in a few weeks and has removed here with his wife."

Formally named the Highway Garage by its owner, the garage sold gas and oil for the Associated Oil Company and became the distributor in Livermore for the Durant and Star automobile line. The late Robert Livermore, Jr., was one of the salesmen for the agency during the early 1920's. In 1923 the garage was enlarged to double its size to 5200 square feet. The garage continued to operate as a central service station and repair shop in Livermore on the old Lincoln Highway which is now Portola Avenue.

In the 1940's the garage was converted into a shop for rebuilding machinery, particularly farm machines and bottle-capping machinery used by the local wineries. The City of Livermore purchased the triangle shaped lot in the early 1970's to convert into a city park. The Heritage Guild began its campaign in 1976 to preserve the old sheet metal building in a near-by cottage for use as a historical museum featuring farm and automotive displays. The City in September of 1976 signed a no-fee 10 year lease with the Guild authorizing preservation and restoration of the garage as a local museum.

Through its own fund raising campaigns the Guild has earned \$31,000 to date for the Garage museum. Of this amount, \$20,000 has been spent thus far in repairing and restoring the buildings. After applying to several local, county and state agencies for grants to continue restoration, the Guild was successful this year in receiving a State grant for \$12,000 to undertake final stages of repair. A permanent curator, William O'Neal, was appointed by the LHG Board to oversee the restoration program.

Among the items on permanent display at the Lincoln Highway Museum are: a 1944 Mack Fire Truck, totally restored; a Model T Fire Truck in final stages of restoration; several local farm implements, a 1920's Seagrave Fire Truck to be restored; and a display of artifacts from the Ravenswood estate excavated last year.

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## LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD

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*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

JULY 1986

VOLUME XIII No. 8

CALENDAR

Fri, July 4 Annual Fourth of July Celebration - Gardella Greens

Thurs, July 10 LHG Board Meeting - Carnegie Building, 7:30 PM

GUILD HAPPENINGS

The Guild's Annual General Meeting on June 6 featured two prominent local speakers, Janet Newton, LHG's History Center Curator, and Dorothy Hock, former Livermore City Clerk. The theme of the evening was Livermore city government. Janet Newton presented a historic overview of the several town halls occupied by the city and spoke briefly of the notable personages in city government. Dorothy Hock discussed her career as City Clerk during a tenure that began in 1951. She described the arrangement of the McLeod Street city offices, and the growth of city government from 1950 when Livermore's population was 4200 people, until her recent retirement.

In other business the Guild membership ratified the slate of officers for 1986-87 and new Board members presented by the Nominating Committee. Gary Drummond was elected as chairman, and Nancy Bireley as vice-chair for the coming year. Barbara Bunshah, Malvern Sweet, and Henri Fankhauser will continue as Secretary, Treasurer and Ways and Means, respectively. Directors to 1988 will be Anna Brown, Be Haera, Larry Mauch, Janet Newton and Tim Sage. The Executive Board thanks this year's Nominating Committee, whose general members were Peggy Concannon and Merilyn Calhoun, for their participation in recommending an outstanding roster of officers.

An amendment to the Guild's By-laws was passed by the membership which provides that "Any objects acquired by the Guild, by gift or long-term loan, shall be stored inside a Guild-approved facility within two weeks of acquisition, and thereafter, except when they are on loan to display or study".

.....IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AGAIN .....

PLEASE DETACH; MAIL TO LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD, BOX 961, LIVERMORE, CA 94550

For Fiscal Year Oct. 1, 1986 to September 30, 1987 Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership, check one:

- Individual \$7 \_\_\_\_\_
- Family (two persons) 10 \_\_\_\_\_
- Junior (under 18) 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- Senior (over 65) 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- Sponsor 25 \_\_\_\_\_
- (one or two persons)
- Life (one person) 100 \_\_\_\_\_
- Library 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- Patron (business) 100 \_\_\_\_\_
- Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) you want on membership card:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships and donations are tax-deductible

IN OTHER NEWS....

Gary Drummond has announced that the last Sunday Afternoon Old Livermore Walking Tour until autumn will be on Sunday, July 13. ("Because it's gettin' too hot!!") He reports that almost 50 people have participated in the afternoon tours. One walker, who had not been in Livermore since 1975, remarked that because of the changes in the city in the last 10 years, she would have been lost without a guide.

AND....

Duarte Garage Curator Bill O'Neal reports progress in the Garage architectural work package, required by the OHP in conjunction with the state grant, by the consulting firm of James Miller and Associates: they have completed the drawings and report, and hope to have the specifications for renovation complete by mid-July.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IN EARLY LIVERMORE

Livermore did not have a school until four years after the school district was formed, and then the school was not built and maintained by public funds at the start. The district, predating the town of Livermore by seven years, was organized February 17, 1862, when the county board of supervisors divided Murray Township into two school districts, Livermore and Murray.

The location of that first school house, near the Portola - Pine intersection, is difficult to understand because of its considerable distance from Laddsville, which had developed into a small village. The school opened in May, 1866, in a building that had been constructed the previous autumn by Israel Horton, later a prominent Livermore businessman, who donated his services. A fund raised by popular subscription paid for the materials.

Desks were financed by a dance given at the school shortly before it opened. With thirteen students, Miss Esther Weeks was the first teacher, and her salary was apparently paid by tuition charges. In December, 1866, the first free or "public" school was opened in this building with J.M. Ginn as teacher. In the spring of 1869, still before the town of Livermore was established coincident with the beginning of Central Pacific railroad operation in the fall of that year, the school building was moved to a site about where Livermore High School now stands. School Street presumably was named because the school was on or adjacent to it. A second building was soon erected, and F. R. Fassett was named principal. (It was Fassett, who as Sacramento legislator, in 1891 introduced the concept of school unification which formed the Livermore high school district.) The next move was to the site of the present Fifth Street School, where a two-story building was erected in 1877 on land donated by William Mendenhall, founder of the city. Only the lower floor - four rooms - was finished, and in 1880, the second floor, with four more rooms, was completed.

This building lasted until 1922 when the present building was erected. Traditionally known to old-timers and former pupils as Livermore Grammar School, especially after the high school facilities were separated from it in 1891, it was in 1940 that Alton Scott, then principal, argued that it should be called Livermore Elementary School. (Officially, the name has always been Livermore School District.) The present Fifth Street School building, although no longer used for elementary pupils, continues to serve the educational needs of Livermore students.

REMEMBRANCE OF TIMES PAST.....

"Intention of the board to purchase a dumping ground for the disposal of garbage and refuse came before the meeting of the town trustees Monday evening, and a resolution of intention to purchase 5 acres from Fred Shidaker for this purpose was adopted....This property is known as the Tom Jones place....There has been a need for a dumping grounds for some time...The town's garbage dump at the corner of Locust and O Streets has become disagreeable to nearby residents." Livermore Herald, May 27, 1924

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**LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD**

P.O. Box 961 Livermore  
CA 94550

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# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



NEWSLETTER

Phone: 449-9927

MEMBER OF: THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STATE & LOCAL HISTORY; THE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY; THE CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

GUILD MEMBERSHIP DUES: INDIVIDUAL:\$7. FAMILY:\$10.(2 persons). JUNIOR:\$2.(18 or under). SENIOR:\$3.(65 or over). SPONSOR:\$25.(1 or 2 persons). LIFE:\$100.(1 person). LIBRARY:\$5. PATRON:\$100.(Business). FISCAL YEAR: OCT 1 to OCT 1.

AUGUST, 1986

*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

VOLUME XIII No. 9

GRAND OPENING OF THE REMODELED AND REFURBISHED CARNEGIE BLDG.

LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD

AND LIVERMORE ART ASSOCIATION

in conjunction with Art in the Park

SPECIAL DISPLAY OF HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

courtesy of Barry Schrader

Refreshments

Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday Aug 10, 1986



The following is from The Livermore Herald of October 20, 1933

**THIRTY YEARS AGO IN LIVERMORE**

(From The Herald of Oct. 17, 1903)

Federal authorities planned to deport Joseph Bonetti, said to be a member of the Mafia, who had stabbed Nightwatchman Pat Coughlan here.

Small boys had been disturbing entertainments given at the high school and Principal W. J. Connell had secured appointment as Deputy Marshal and threatened arrests.

String bean more than thirty inches in length were being raised on the Fritz Werner ranch.

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**TWENTY YEARS AGO**

(From The Herald of Oct. 18, 1913)

Plans for repairing First street were held up as Chamber of Commerce officials requested the board to await result of a survey to determine cost of paving the thoroughfare.

Talking movies made a big hit at the Bell Theatre. They were of the first of the present-day talkies, sound being carried on a phonograph record which was synchronized with the film.

A prize-winning three-year-old bull, owned by H. B. Goecken, was sold to a rancher in San Salvador and had been shipped to that country.

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FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN....

Is your Heritage Guild membership due to be renewed by October 1 ?  
Why not encourage a friend to join also !!

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*"Help save yesterday for tomorrow"*

SEPTEMBER 1986

CALENDAR

Volume XIII No. 10

Thurs, Sept 11 - LHG Board meeting, LARPD Meeting Room, LARPD OFFICE BUILDING, Trevarno Road, 7:30 PM

## GUILD HAPPENINGS

A large crowd of LHG members and visitors toured the renovated History Center and Art Gallery on Sunday, Sep. 3. Their comments on the display set ups were very favorable. Anna Brown and Barbara Bunshah spearheaded the renovation aided by Bill O'Neal, Carolyn Parrish, Larry Mauch and many others. Barry Schrader showed his collection of historic newspaper front pages. Livermore Area Park and Recreation District Board sent the following letter to the LHG Board:

The LARPD Board of Directors and staff are aware and appreciative of the recent improvements made to the Carnegie Building by you and many other volunteers. The renovation of the Gallery and History Center enhances the facility and will make it much more enjoyable for future visitors. We thank you for your interest, time and effort. It is people like you that make the difference.

The LHG Board especially thanks Lynn Leavitt of Livermore who, although in an arm cast, helped strip and refinish the oak desks and publication cabinet for the grand opening.

Coming up in October will be a special display honoring the community contributions of the late Maitland Henry, long time owner and publisher of the Livermore Herald. On exhibit will be memorabilia and newspaper articles from Mr. Henry. A special booklet is being published by LHG outlining his long career as a newsman. More details in our next issue.

The City of Livermore approved a renewal of its lease with LHG for another ten years to operate and manage the Highway Garage of Livermore (the official new name of the old Duarte Garage). Bill O'Neal reports receiving partial payment from the long awaited renovation funds from the State. Mission San Jose has donated several of its old display cases to LHG for use in the History Center and the Garage. Anyone interested in helping renovate the cases is urged to call Bill O'Neal for details.

New replica picture postcards of old Livermore scenes are now in process and will be on sale soon.

SPECIAL STORAGE ROOMS DONATED

One of Guild's more pressing problems has been finding and setting up a protected and environmentally controlled storage facility for our collection of artifacts and memorabilia that has been donated to LHG over the years. LARPD is making available two rooms in their main building which would allow us to consolidate our papers, photographs, and other items at a central secure location. The LHG Board will hold its September meeting at the Trevarno Road LARPD headquarters to inspect and discuss the new storage area. Members interested in this project are invited to attend the meeting at 7:30 on Thursday, September 11.

DEDICATION OF RAVENSWOOD COTTAGE HOUSE

Dedication of the newly renovated cottage house at the Ravenswood estate will be held on Saturday, October 25. Opening ceremonies will begin at 10 am with a dedication of the restored cottage. From 11 am to 4 pm history walks will be conducted by guides through the estate. The Guild has been asked to urge any members who may have articles from the original Buckley estate to contact Brian Tibbetts, LARPD Offices, telephone 447-7300. He is interested in discussing acquisition of any item that may be useful in returning the restored cottage to its former state.

PARALLELS FROM THE PAST - Chet Fankhauser

LIVERMORE ECHO, Sep 27, 1894 - One dollar per ton appears to be the ruling price for grape picking. At this rate pickers are making from \$1 to \$1.25 a day.

Candidates desiring "puffs" in this paper will please come to the centre. The Echo will hereafter be conducted (politically) on the new tariff plan for revenue only; with incidental protection for the interests of the editor.

LIVERMORE ECHO, Sep 10, 1903 - A party came to town the latter part of last week and located in a store on the South side of First Street with a peanut roaster having a whistle attachment that for ear-piercing capacity and all-round depravity is a world beater. Residents of that part of town were rapidly becoming, in consequence, subjects for examination by a commission on lunacy, when the Marshal happened along and in response to an earnest appeal called on the owner of the satanic contrivance and secured a promise to be a little more merciful to his suffering fellows. The thing is supposed to do duty as an advertisement - but unless its object is to drive everyone as far from it as possible, it may be set down as a very loud failure.

LIVERMORE ECHO, Aug 20, 1903 - Tickets to the State Fair at Sacramento will be sold from August 29th to Sept 12th, good to return on Sept 14th, for \$4.20 for the round trip.

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