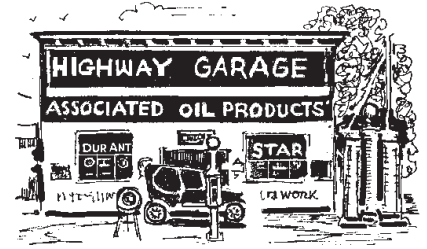


CARNEGIE LIBRARY

LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



HIGHWAY GARAGE

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JUNIOR \$3, LIFE \$150, PATRON \$100, SPONSOR \$25, LIBRARY \$5

October 2001

Vol. XXXI

No. 1

CALENDAR

ALL MONTH: The Livermore Art Association and the Livermore Heritage Guild welcome visitors to their displays of Livermore history and original art works. Carnegie Bldg. 2155 Third St., Livermore. Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wed. through Sunday, Info: 449-9927

Thursday, October 11 @ 7:00 p.m.
LHG Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

Sunday, October 14: 1890s costumed docents of the Ravenswood Progress League lead free tours of the more than 100 year old buildings and some of the 30 acres of grounds of Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore. The Tank House Gift Shop, craft demonstrations, Victorian croquet, miniature horse and buggy rides are available. 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info: 443-0238

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

REMINDER: It's that time again! Annual dues are due for everyone who is not a life member. You should have received a membership form last month.

Excerpted from Livermore Herald May 3, 1913

Plans to Disseminate News by Telephone

Company will launch new enterprise to be headed by assessor Horner

County Assessor C.F. Horner is the head of a new company which is preparing to inaugurate an enterprise that will completely revolutionize the dissemination of news. It

is in the shape of a telephone news bureau. It will not supplant newspapers for the reason that many people cannot afford such a service and many subscribers cannot remain in their offices or homes to receive the bulletins over the wire and the service will not be able to go into the detail that a newspaper does.

The outline schedule provides that at 8 o'clock in the morning the businessman at his breakfast may clasp the telephone receiver over his head and listen to a summary of all the morning news. About an hour later another summary is sent over the wires for the late sleepers, who may, if they prefer, listen to the dispatches while in bed. At 10 o'clock the market quotations from the east are to be given out, then at noon follows the market reports from the Pacific Coast cities. Almost every hour in the afternoon and evening the wires will carry the news fresh to the subscribers just as it comes from all parts of the world. In addition there will be stories and talks for children in the evening, music, jokes and other things that may be of interest. Lectures and sermons can be sent almost simultaneously with their delivery to those who remain in their parlors.

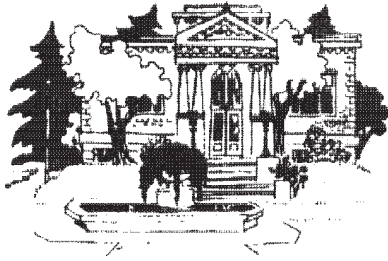
The schedule further provides that one buzz on the news telephone will be the signal for the routine matter that is sent daily; two buzzes will mean that a happening of unusual importance is to be given out, and three buzzes will mean that something of extra importance, such as a disaster or assassination, is to be announced. In addition, special musical service is to be arranged for Sundays.

The company of which Mr. Horner is head has been conducting an exhibition in the H.C. Capwell Company's store in Oakland. The management has announced no

definite plans beyond the fact that it expects to cover Oakland and the interior of the county with its service within the next year. This company, or a similar one, is also planning a service for Sacramento and vicinity and for Stockton and the San Joaquin Valley.

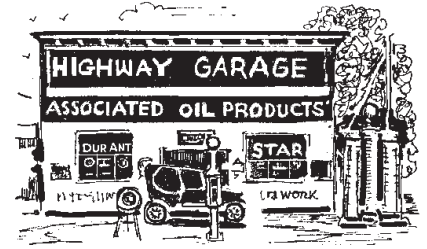
The proposed news bureau, while an innovation here, has been in practical operation in a number of European cities

for several years past. Editors are employed to put the dispatches into readable and interesting form and professional readers spend several hours a day in reading to subscribers over the wire. In the local enterprise it is proposed to employ mechanical reproducers instead of the readers.



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November 2001

Vol. XXXI

No. 2

Brick Making in the Livermore Valley

by Dan L. Mosier

CALENDAR

Thursday, November 8 @ 7:00 p.m.

LHG Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

The entire Livermore Heritage Guild wishes to thank everyone involved in the recent Open House held September 29 at the Duarte Garage. Special thanks to: speaker **Major J.R. Schlechter**, Altamont Cruisers, Round Table Pizza on E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore Dublin Disposal, Albertsons, Bireley Properties, Mel's Furniture, Valley Lube Center, Pat & Phil DiGiralamo, and Jim Schultz.

Wendy Weathers and **Anna Siig** did a wonderful job of organizing everything! Winners from Raffle Drawing: Suzie Sage - Collectible Danish Plate and a Dickey Brick; Robert Wilke - Picnic Basket for Two and a Dickey Brick; Janice Perkuchin - Cooler, T-Shirt and a Dickey Brick; John Stein - Lube and Oil Change at Valley Lube Center, T-Shirt, and a Dickey Brick; Kelly Ruiz - 2 oil lamps and a Dickey Brick; Elda Montgomery - 2 oil lamps and a Dickey Brick; Carol Wahrer - 4 bottles of wine from Thomas Coyne and Fenestra Wineries and a Dickey Brick

Executive Board members

Chairman: Tim Sage Vice-Chairman: Dick Lerche

Treasurer: Malvern Sweet Secretary: Barbara Bunshah

Ways & Means: Larry Mauch

Director to 2002: Joe Bishop

Directors to 2003: Susan Junk, Lorraine Raison, Karen Richardson, Henri Fankhauser, Don Meeker, James Winnick (new)



The recent demolition of the Crohare Bakery on N. Livermore Ave. yielded a number of bricks from various towns including some marked Star W.S. Dickey Clay Mfg. Co., which were produced in Livermore. The following story is a reprint from February 1983 LHG newsletter by Dan Mosier.

Brick making in the Livermore Valley probably began at Alexander Esdon's brickyard, located at the corner of Railroad and Livermore Avenues in Livermore. In 1870, Esdon dug a small clay pit and erected a crude firing kiln that molded enough bricks to build the first brick building in Livermore. This two-story building became the Farmers' Union. I believe it was torn down in the 1960s. It is not known if Esdon sold bricks for other buildings constructed in Livermore in the 1870s.

Commercial brick making in the valley began in 1889 with the Remillard Brick Co. in Pleasanton. This brickyard was established on the Southern Pacific Railroad about one and one-half miles northeast of Pleasanton. The clay deposit adjacent to the plant was 25 feet thick and was mined by a drag-line scraper operated by an electric hoist. The clay was loaded into cars and hauled by motor to the plant, where it was passed through wet pans, cut by soft-mud machines, dried under sheds, and fired in two 16-compartment Hoffman kilns, with a capacity of 20,000 bricks per day. Only common brick and stock brick were manufactured. These bricks did not have any trade name on them.

In 1893, Remillard produced 10,000,000 bricks. About 110 men were employed for six months, and this force was reduced to about 4 to 10 workers during the rainy months. Many examples of the Remillard's product still line Main St. in Pleasanton; a fine example is the Johnston Building built in 1896. The brickyard was destroyed by fire in June 1935, ending 46 years of operation.

The grounds of the old Livermore Fire Brick Works are now being developed into a new shopping center (in 1983, the K-Mart store occupies the site). About 1910, the plant was built to burn magnesite, mined in the mountains near

Livermore. That same year, the Livermore Fire Brick Co. took over operations under the management of F.A. Bishop, to manufacture fire brick from the clay on the property, which was on the Southern Pacific Railroad at the west end of Livermore.

In 1918, W.S. Dickey Clay Manufacturing Company, based in Kansas City, bought the brickyard to supplement the output of its subsidiary, the California Brick Co., at Niles. Clay was obtained from the property and mixed with clays from Amador and Placer Counties for the right consistency. This fine mixture was molded into fire brick, face brick, ornamental brick, hearth and mantle tile, and terra cotta.

In 1920, the brickyard contained six downdraught kilns (two 30-foot and four 26-foot), two round muffle kilns serviced by a 50-foot stack, one American repress machine with a capacity of 25,000 bricks, one auger machine with a capacity of 25,000 bricks, and one dry press with a capacity of 20,000 bricks. About 50 men were employed.

One of the most interesting orders gleaned from the newspapers was in 1932 when the company shipped over 40,000 bricks and 10 tons of fire clay to the Philippines for use in the construction of a factory. The bricks were packed in cartons, each holding 10 bricks, and the fire clay was transported in sacks. The brickyard was so busy that superintendent Charles Turner had to employ 25 additional men to complete the job.

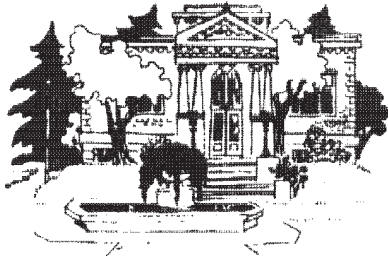
In 1936, the Stockton Fire Brick Company purchased the plant to supplement the output of its main plant in Stockton. During the war years, furnaces of industrial plants and boilers of Naval and Merchant vessels were

being lined with the product of this company.

In 1943, Gladding, McBean and Company acquired the plant and continued the production of fine fire brick. Clay was shipped from its mine in Placer County and placed directly into the storage sheds. The raw clay was fed through a grinding machine, screened, mixed with water, and extruded as three narrow ribbons of stiff mud. An automatic wire-cutting machine simultaneously cut each ribbon into four brick units. The units were sent to the stamping machines, which imprinted the company name and brick type on each brick. Some of the names were "Livermore", "Star", and "Premier". The brick was hand-trammed to the drying tunnels, which were equipped with two sets of narrow-gauge tracks to accommodate the cars. There were 10 drying tunnels, each about 70 feet in length, and lined parallel to each other. After drying, the bricks were put in the kilns for firing. There were six round 10-burner, gas-fired, down-draft kilns about 26 feet in diameter, serviced by two rectangular stacks about 50 feet high.

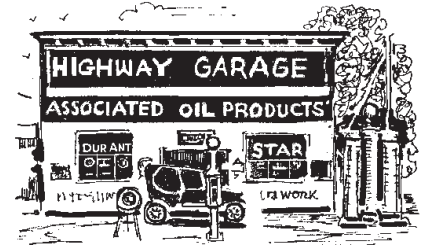
The fire bricks were shipped by railroad throughout the State. The Gladding, McBean and Company closed the plant in 1949, thus ending the brick making industry in the Livermore Valley.

Editor's note: The Farmers' Union building was actually torn down in 1939. Two more buildings were built using Esdon's bricks and are still standing: Charlotte's Web located on Railroad Ave. and the tattoo parlor located around the corner on Oak St. The Farmers' Union building actually occupied the land on the corner between these 2 buildings.



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December 2001

Vol. XXXI

No. 3

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

Saturday, December 8 Open House at Carnegie Bldg. 1-3 p.m. This is your chance to pick up Christmas gifts from both Livermore Heritage Guild and the Art Association. We might suggest these books:

Red Mountain The Rise and Fall of a Magnesite Mining Empire 1900-1947, Robert W. P. Cutler, \$21.55 inc. tax. This book is about magnesite mining in the Livermore Hills

Morning Side of Mount Diablo, an Illustrated Account of the San Francisco Bay Areas Historic Morgan Territory Road, Anne Marshall Homan, \$30.78 inc tax

Recollections: Early Life in the San Ramon Valley as related by Prof. James Dale Smith Headmaster, Livermore College, Gary Drummond, \$11.83 inc tax

Sunday, December 9, Ravenswood Yuletide
12:00-5:00 p.m. at the Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Road. Victorian Christmas decorations, performances by the Valley Dance Theatre and other entertainment.

Thursday, December 13 @ 7:00 p.m.
LHG Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

Note from Curator: Suddenly, within the past few months one of my fondest dreams for the History Center is coming true: The Guild has received for our permanent collection the papers, documents, publicity files, etc. of a number of organizations - nonprofit, commercial and governmental.

The influx of material has strained our present storage area to its maximum capacity, so we are planning a re-do of the Harp Room downstairs at the Carnegie Building to increase our storage space.

But before everything goes downstairs, I would like to ask our members to donate some time to the History Center - an hour or two or more of an afternoon to look at some of the publicity scrapbooks we have acquired and, possibly, identify individuals in the many photographs. I can name a few of them but not nearly enough and would like to have your help in this most enjoyable part of the History Center's work. We are open Wednesday through Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (major holidays excepted!) I would very much appreciate the aid.

The LHG 2002 Calendars are in! Price is \$8.50 each and they are beautiful with a watercolor of Robert Livermore in Monterey on the cover. Get your copy now for Christmas gifts as they will go fast.

Don't forget the Open House on December 8th.

LIVERMORE - A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME



2002 Livermore Heritage Guild Calendar

This year's calendar features tidbits from Elmer Still's files on Livermore history published in the 1930s. Price: \$8.50 including tax

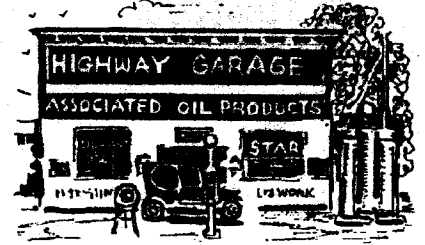
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January 2002

Vol. XXXII

No. 4

Excerpted from Livermore Herald, March 8, 1929

CALENDAR

Thursday, January 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
LHG Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

February at the LAA Gallery: "Hearts and Flowers". The Gallery will be decorated for Valentine's. Unique gifts and art are available for purchase. A Valentine's reception will be held Saturday, Feb. 9, 1-3 p.m. at the Carnegie Bldg., 2155 Third St. Livermore

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

The LHG 2002 Calendars are in! Price is \$8.50 each and they are beautiful with a watercolor of Robert Livermore in Monterey on the cover. Get your copy now as they are going fast.

.....

Excerpted from San Francisco Chronicle, April 4, 1896

Shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon (April 3) a fire started in Bock's tailor shop on First Street. The flames spread quickly to Day's livery stable, the Cosmopolitan Hotel, and Thomas Flannigan's saloon, destroying the buildings and endangering the whole town. Day succeeded in saving his horses and vehicles, but lost a large amount of hay, feed and harness. The buildings on the opposite side of First Street were scorched and roofs of dwellings several blocks distant were set on fire by flying cinders, but extinguished before much damage was done. The fire department did good service keeping the flames confined to the three buildings destroyed. A strong wind was blowing at the time, and several firemen were injured by a falling chimney, but no one was seriously hurt.... The loss is estimated at over \$8000.

(The buildings identified were directly across First Street from Baughman's).

Councilman Wm. Rees Tells Firemen History of Livermore Department

Interesting facts concerning the formation of the first fire fighting organizations in Livermore were presented in an address before the Livermore Fire Department at its annual banquet last week by Councilman Wm. Rees. He gave the following interesting details:

"More than fifty-four years ago the Livermore Fire Department came into existence through the organization of the Livermore Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1. The exact date was October 12, 1874, at which time fifty-six young Livermoreans met and elected J.H. Mahoney as their president. Other officers were Anton Bardellini, Vice-President; W. Jordan, Foreman; N.C. Burke, First Assistant Foreman; Fred Mally, Second Assistant Foreman; Fred Schlesinger Recording Secretary; A. Mueller, Financial Secretary; M. Hupers, Treasurer.

"M. Hupers, A Mueller, M. Meyer and W. Jordan were appointed to draw up constitution and by-laws which described in detail each duty of the officers and members and listed an imposing set of fines and penalties which could be assessed for absences and violations of the rules.

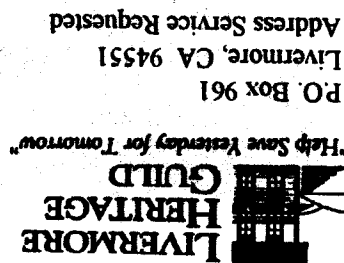
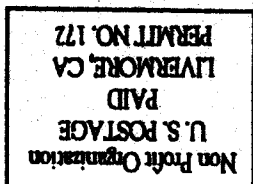
"Uniforms were obtained and a truck was purchased in San Francisco. Showing worthy ambition, the young department exerted effort to obtain a building in which to store their property and hold meetings. Partly by subscription and partly by issuance of stock, funds for the building were obtained and one year later a two-story structure was built

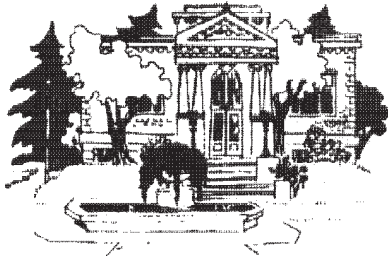
on Second Street, between K and L on property now owned by Carlo Ferrario. That same building is still standing in Livermore, having been moved to Third and K streets and rebuilt.

"Two years after the organization of the Hook and Ladder Company, another group of young men formed Niagara Fire Department Company No. 1 and Livermore began to enjoy its present efficient fire protection. On July 12, 1876, thirty-three men were enrolled in the company and the following officers elected: G.E. Freeman, Foreman; J.T. Campbell, First Assistant; W.S. Lowe, Second Assistant; O.S. Livermore, Secretary; and W.H. Church, Treasurer.

"A double-decker hand engine was purchased from the Stockton Fire Department and the two fire fighting organizations worked together for many years. The old engine, its days of usefulness long past, is still in existence, now standing in a corner of the town yard at Second and McLeod streets."

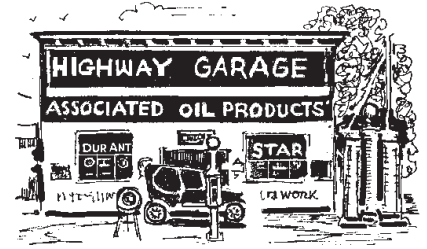
Much of the data from which Councilman Rees prepared his talk was obtained from the original constitutions of the companies which are in the town files, while other interesting facts were memories of talks he had had with his father, the late Jacob Rees, one of Livermore's earliest pioneers.





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February 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 5

CALENDAR

Thursday, February 14 @ 7:00 p.m.

LHG Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

Saturday, Feb. 9, "Hearts and Flowers". The LAA Gallery will be decorated for Valentine's. Unique gifts and art are available for purchase. A Valentine's reception will be held 1-3 p.m. at the Carnegie Bldg., 2155 Third St. Livermore

Sunday, Feb. 10, The Ravenswood Progress League will hold A Victorian Valentine Tea at Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Two seatings: traditional Tea at 1:00 p.m., Champagne Tea at 3:30 p.m. The museum will be open and you are invited to take self-guided tours. 443-0238 for information

Sat. & Sun, April 13-14: LAA presents Spring Art Show 2002 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Reception Saturday 7-9 p.m. Judged art show includes oils, water colors, mixed media, sculpture and photography. Most art is available for purchase. Also many artists will have other art and fine crafts for purchase as well as demonstrating their skills.

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Excerpted from Livermore Herald, November 29, 1913

St. Michael's School Bell Has History

The sweet-toned bell in the belfry of St. Michael's school which rings the Angelus and rouses the people of Livermore from their slumbers in the early morning, has quite a history. It was purchased thirty-four years ago by Rev. Father Power, now as then the rector of St. Michael's Church, being shipped here from the foundry in Troy, New York. It was installed in a bell tower in front of the old church

which is now known as St. Michael's Hall. The tower was blown over in a terrific gale on May 22, 1884. The bell was saved from injury through its fall being broken by a tree in Peter Moy's yard. It was restored to its position and when the new church was completed in 1890 it was raised to a place in the belfry.

It was replaced by the present bell a few years later and when the Catholic church was built in Tesla it was presented to that parish and for a number of years summoned the people of the mining town to worship. As the old town was abandoned with the failure of the California Safe Deposit & Trust Company and the church was closed, Rev. Father Power secured permission from the Archbishop to return the bell to Livermore, and when the new school building was completed it was raised to what is hoped to be its final resting place in the belfry which surmounts that structure.

Excerpted from Livermore Herald, December 30, 1979

Fire Destroys Historic May School

Livermore – Historic May School, a 110- year old one-room building in North Livermore, burned to the ground early Saturday morning and a county fire spokesman said arson is a "strong possibility."

County firefighters, aided by units from the county's Office of Emergency Services, responded to May School Road at 12:41 a.m. Saturday but were unable to save the structure. "It was a total loss when we got there," said firefighter Randy Moore. Moore said it may be impossible to determine what caused the fire because of the extent of the blaze. "There's just not much left." Aside from arson,

Moore said electrical wires could have triggered the fire. He said there were arcing wires at the scene, and added that Pacific Gas & Electric workers were called out to turn off electricity at a power pole.

However, representatives for the Livermore Heritage Guild, which owned May School, said the power had been turned off at a switchbox outside the building and that no electricity had been used in several years. Said Janet Newton, chairwoman of the Heritage Guild: "It just makes me sick."

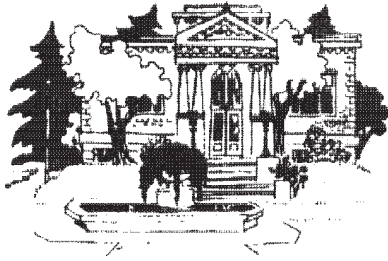
The building was not insured for fire because of prohibitive premium costs, Mrs. Newton said. "We spent years on the project and made a lot of plans," said Barry Schrader, who recently headed up efforts to restore May School. "That (fire) takes a big chunk of history out of Livermore."

May School dates back to 1869, the year Livermore became a city, according to Mrs. Newton, a well-known valley historian. It was named after George May, a local rancher who had been instrumental in establishing the town's first school, Livermore Grammar School, in 1866. For years, school children from north Livermore farms walked or rode horses to the quaint, wooden school house in the country. Later in the late 1960s, May School was used as a theater. In the 1970s a well on the property went dry, and the building was abandoned. In 1974, the

Heritage Guild bought the structure from the Livermore school district for \$1 and leased two acres surrounding the school for \$60 a year. After the purchase, the Guild spent more than \$5,000 on restoration work, including \$2,000 donated by the county's Bicentennial Commission that was used to rebuild the foundation. Guild members Dave and Dorothy Nielsen and others spent countless hours replacing shingles on the weather-beaten building, according to Schrader.

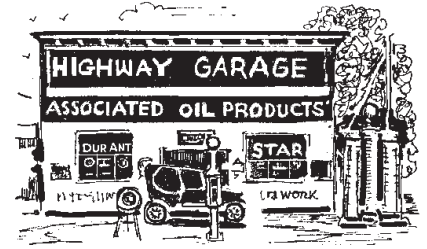
Ironically, the Guild had recently allocated \$1,000 so a fence could be erected around the school house and windows and doors could be boarded up. May School had been barricaded before, Schrader said, but vandals tore off the protective coverings. Vandalism was a continuing problem at the site. Schrader said plaster had been pried from walls, all windows were shattered and the school was also an apparent drinking hangout for some as evidenced by beer bottles collecting dust at the site.

Plans called for eventually moving the school next to the old Duarte Garage on Portola Avenue. Today, three outbuildings, once overshadowed by the picturesque school, are all that remain. There are handfuls of square-headed nails to be found, along with a furnace, stove and washroom sink that survived the fire. But May School, along with the history that surrounded it, is gone forever.



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March 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 6

CALENDAR

Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Treasures and Trivia annual fundraiser sponsored by Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild, First Presbyterian Church, 4th and K Streets, Livermore Info: 846-5897

Saturday, March 9, 1-3 p.m.

Open House at Carnegie Bldg. commemorating Women's History Month. There will be a display honoring the valley's AAUW's 50th anniversary through April

Thursday, March 14 @ 7:00 p.m.

LHG Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

April 13-14: LAA presents Spring Art Show 2002 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Reception Saturday 7-9 p.m. Judged art show includes oils, water colors, mixed media, sculpture and photography. Most art is available for purchase. Also many artists will have other art and fine crafts for purchase as well as demonstrating their skills.

Please Note: From now on hours at the Carnegie Bldg. for the Livermore Heritage Guild and Livermore Art Association will be 11:30 to 4 p.m. Hours will remain the same throughout the year.

We are looking for donations for this year's LHG AUCTION. The auction will be upon us soon. Donations of goods and services are greatly appreciated. All usable items will be accepted except books, clothing and furniture (unless considered antique). Unfortunately, computer equipment not working or more than 4 years old also cannot be accepted. Time to clean out those garages and let us help you dispose of those items that need a new home. Phone 449-9927 for pickup. This has been a fun event for everyone and we look forward to seeing you at the auction!

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Dorothy Hock

Oral history as taken by Pat Hoenig, Oct. 29, 1992

Early Livermore

Life in Livermore as a native as well as the first woman city clerk.

PH: You were born in Livermore. Who were your parents?

DH: My parents were Gertrude Cardoza Hock. My father's name was John Hock. My Mom was one of 10 children; all of them passed away except 4 who grew to adulthood. She and my Dad were married in 19...I can't remember was it 1917 or 1918? Anyway, and I was born in 1919 and my father passed away in 1925.

PH: They were married in 1918.

DH: And my mother raised my sister and I by herself and she died in 1951.

PH: You were saying that you sort of lived in the center of town.

DH: Yes, when I was little, first of all I was not born in Livermore. I was born in the city of Alameda. As I often say, my mother took me there to be born because there was no hospital at that time in Livermore. However, I have lived in Livermore the rest of my life. When I first was little, we lived on Third St. in the house which is still there. I see it every once in awhile and then we moved to L St. and I see that house lots of times and finally we moved to Fourth St. where we were directly across from the back of the Carnegie Library. In fact, when my sister was married, her reception was held in the basement of that building and we had a great time with the rest of the people at the wedding going back and forth across the street. Fourth St. was never as busy as it is now so some of us could even play in the street at that time.

PH: And that's the only house left in that block, the rest of them are all buildings. I think all the houses have been replaced but that's been restored now; on that side of the block.

DH: Yes, I believe you're right.

PH: Any other early recollections of Livermore you would like to share?

DH: Yes, one thing I can remember was the Portuguese Holy Ghost celebration which was held in the early part of the year and I've forgotten exactly what the proper dates were but one of the things that I can remember to this day is the fact that they had lots of fireworks and for some unknown reason I don't know why I was

totally terrified of them and I can remember being there because we all went. It was one of the great social occasions. It was held on the block where the Eagles have their building now.

PH: I remember hearing about that now because Philomena Madeiros talked about it.

DH: Oh and I forgot, my mother was the first Holy Ghost queen. They always had a queen in those days. In fact, the crown that the young lady would hold is now in the St. Michael's Catholic Church on display.

PH: Of course Dorothy I know you as "the" city clerk of Livermore. You were city clerk, I came in 1959 and you were just always city clerk and a wonderful image for our city, but how did you get to be city clerk? Did you do anything before that?

DH: Well, it was an odd situation, happy for me in a way but yet sad at the same time. I had gone to work for the city at the beginning of 1949. Mr. Young was the then city clerk and was an old friend. He and his wife and my mother were old old friends. I worked until 1951 as his deputy city clerk and the odd thing about that is that we did everything. We issued building permits...not building permits...we probably didn't do those but we did do the gas permits, the electrical permits, the plumbing permits. One of the men in the office collected the business licenses and he walked the street doing it. In other words, he walked in at each business and collected the license and his name was George Doten and he had been before John Michelis, the police chief.

PH: Now Fred Young was a relative of Malvern Sweet, wasn't he?

DH: Yes, I don't remember what the relationship was, somewhere along the line. Anyway, Mr. Young had gone to a council meeting. I didn't go at that time. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon he said "I'm tired and going home", so he did. I said I would see him in the morning. So the next morning as I was walking to work which I could do at that time, John Michelis came along and picked me up on his way to work because the police station was in the same building we worked in and he told me that Mr. Young had had a massive cerebral hemorrhage and had died in the night and so I went to work not knowing exactly what was going to be happening. Later in the day, the then mayor, Lou Gardella, came and said they were going to appoint me as city clerk because I knew as much as anybody did about the job and I said "Oh no no no, uh uh". At the same time my mother was very very ill and I knew she was going to be dying shortly and so I was in somewhat of a turmoil but in any case, they said you're it kid so I was it. They had a special meeting later that day for appointing me which they then did and could do at that time because the position was not elective at that time. So I hired another person, Norma Lemay, who was a dear friend to come and work with me and we carried on. Then in 1952.... Oh I'm sorry it was elected at that point..it is not now. I had to stand for election of course then and no one ran against me or ever did.

PH: Did anyone ever run against you?

DH: No, never did, and my sister used to always tease me and say "Great! we really get a lot of choice when we elect a city clerk".

PH: In fact, what does a city clerk do?

DH: A city clerk is sort of like the secretary to the council and generally by law there are certain duties which are set up of course and I must do those. Others can be imposed by the council. I went to all meetings, took the minutes. Ordinances and resolutions are things that need to be processed further than the meeting of course so ordinances need to be published, which I did, took care of doing, and resolutions sometimes had to be routed around for various reasons and I did that. At the time I was also in effect the finance

director because there was no one else and so we had to do the books, Norma and I.

PH: Did you have anything to do with election registration?

DH: Elections are our problem. We registered people because it was a service we could offer and at the time it was a rather long form which was not filled out by the person registering. It was filled out by us. I feel there is certainly no impediment to registering to vote in these days....pick up a post card and fill it out and mail it in and I don't think anything could be simpler than that.

PH: So we know what the city clerk does. I think it might be interesting to also talk about Livermore. We said as we were having a conversation earlier, that Livermore is a general law city and now has a city manager who serves at the city council. Has it always had a city manager in Livermore?

DH: No. When I first went to work for the city, basically the council was sort of the manager and the city clerk carried out whatever duties that needed to be taken care of. I have forgotten exactly the date but I think it was in the early 50s for sure that they first decided, which they can do by general law...the council can decide to have a city manager. However, in this case they called it a city administrator and he was hired and came and stayed I think for about 2 years. Then Bill Parness arrived and he preferred the title of City Manager and so it was changed by ordinance to City Manager.

PH: Dorothy, you had something you wanted to say about elections as related to the job of city clerk.

DH: Yes. That was one of the nightmares of the job was elections because there were so many details involved. Each year the legislature in their wisdom always had a million changes that they made and so it was difficult to keep up with it. But in any case, in the early elections, the city not only had their own booths and equipment but we also had to go out and recruit the places for elections and also people to work. I think it paid something like \$10 at that time for the whole day, which was 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Now of course it's 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Anyway, that was always difficult to do. I used to cruise up and down the street to see if I could think of a place to have a booth. Anyway, we always had crises happening. One of the sad things was that at one time one of my election officers died while working and so we had to deal with that. The second thing I remember vividly was at one election, we had about somewhere in the neighborhood of 15-20 absentee ballots. We rarely had very many at that time in contrast to now. Anyway, who was elected rested on those absentee ballots....that few....it was close. Always at that time absentee ballots were not counted until a week later at the council meeting. At the time the council had to certify the election in other words. So it was I must admit a great difficulty to withhold myself from steaming open all those absentee ballots and trying to find out who was elected. As it turned out, one of the people...should I mention the name....it was an election wherein Mr. Gardella, who had been on the council for many years, Lou Gardella, and his job was up for grabs as it were. He lost and so he sort of retired then from civic duties.

PH: Who was running at that time? Do you remember?

DH: As I recall, Dr. Barney Burch at the Sanitarium. One other thing I would like to say before we get off elections. Mr. Gardella was a mayor for several years and at the time that I came to work I don't remember what I was making but think it was \$75 a month. One day Mr. Young came along and plunked a resolution in front of me and I couldn't figure out what that was all about but I looked about it and I had been raised to \$200 a month. I don't think any raise from then on ever made as much impression on me because I had never

thought that I would ever make \$200 a month.

PH: That's a lovely story.

DH: Elections continued to be a bugaboo I must admit, but eventually they got easier when the county did a lot of helping and they pretty much standardized where they vote. They also did the counting which was much more accurate.

PH: Is that done automatically now with those push button ballots?

DH: Yes the ballots are counted by machinery because of the little holes that we punch.

PH: The position of city clerk changed from an elective position to a staff position and it was voted upon?

DH: Yes it was and it did pass by a small margin but I was very pleased to know that it did pass. I felt that it was the right thing to do.

PH: You said you went to city council meetings every week. I remember being at city council meetings and seeing you there on the job. As you look back, were there any developments in Livermore growth-wise or any issues that were of particular interest to you that gave you the feeling that city was maybe going to be on the map more than it had been before?

DH: Most of the development was in houses from various parts of the city and in fact we had quite a few annexations of property which were outside the boundaries. By the way, just as an aside, when I came to the city offices, the city was a square...a total square...and the boundaries had been set many years ago of course by the time the city incorporated.

PH: Right, because Mendenhall laid it out pretty much in the block form.

DH: Yes...it was very square and the streets were mostly wide...wider than they are now in subdivisions as you can see when you drive around. Anyway, we did do many annexations and by the way annexations were a great part of what the city clerk must do as well insofar as notifying people of the fact that the annexation is taking place, giving the people a chance to protest if they want to, the people that live in the area and then filing maps and so forth. In fact, subdivision maps were also filed by the city clerk and those were Mylar type things which I had to sign and so forth. In fact, there are so many documents I'm sure in the city that have my signature on them that some day somebody will now wonder who the heck is she. Anyway, one particular person that I remember so much because I think he did such a lot of developing and was such an interesting man was Masud Mehran. He had developed so many things that we saw him often and he was always doing something.

PH: He certainly built a lot of Livermore. What about when there were variances that the developers came for? Did you have to follow through on that?

DH: Only to this point, variances were granted by the planning commission, which of course was established as a part of...which was always there but was only met when there was something that needed doing. As a matter of fact, I had to do some minutes of theirs too...I had forgotten that. Anyway, the planning commission granted variances if someone wanted to protest the variance, then appealed it to the council and at that point then we would see variances or acted upon by the council. I would of course have to convey that point to whoever the variance affected.

PH: Masud Mehran built an awful lot on the west and the south of Livermore. But Mr. Jensen did a lot...where we are right now at your house.

DH: Yes he did...out at what I think of Wagoner Farms now. After awhile people gave catch names that sometimes I couldn't remem-

ber what they were called. I knew them more as the Jensen annexation or the northeast annexation or some other title that we felt in the office was more appropriate because it gave an idea of where it was.

PH: Wagoner Farms referred to the original tract? There was a farm there because that was really the outskirts of town at one time.

DH: Yes it was...yes exactly.

PH: Now I thought I would interject something from an article that I read at your retirement time. The reporter asked you if you were ever going to work again and you said "Well if I get all the closets cleaned and all these other things that I have to do." Are you ever going to work again Dorothy? Of course you're probably working as a volunteer doing many things for our community.

DH: Well I think it was about a year or so after I had retired that the city of Dublin decided to be incorporated as a city and at the time a gentleman had to be hired by Dublin to get the thing in order and do all of the paperwork that needed to be done to incorporate a city and through the League of California Cities, he knew that I lived close and might be interested in helping so I said o.k. So for about 6-7 months I did work in Dublin and was their city clerk. By the time the 7 months was up, I was totally ready to quit because so much of the work that needed to be done there was the kind of things that I didn't do any more such as do typing and all the paperwork and office work.

PH: Because you were really more of an administrator by the time that you left.

DH: Yes. My deputies did lots of that sort of thing.

PH: How big was your staff? You said you hired another person when you became city clerk.

DH: Yes...there was myself, my deputy and the person in charge of the records retention program.

PH: What is that Dorothy?

DH: You can imagine that the city of Livermore having been incorporated many many years ago had much paperwork...there were minute books from the word go from handwritten minute books in fact. So we wanted to preserve that in case of a disaster either whatever kind of disaster might come along and so we started this program which microfilmed all kinds of records, not only the city clerk's records but also records from finance and all of the departments in fact.

PH: Where are those kept?

DH: There is a building if you notice on the outside of the office there which houses all of that and of course when you have microfilmed it, then you can destroy some of the actual records. You wouldn't destroy the minute books but you certainly could destroy other things.

PH: So they do have the minute books that were handwritten from 1869?

DH: Yes and we also have the assessment books because the city used to collect their own taxes by the way and that was one of the things to me that was a bugaboo when I first came because I had to prepare that role and collect those taxes. Afterwards, that was given to the county on a contract basis and so of course the county collects our taxes now and they have a whole assessor's department.

PH: So, you have a woman now who is on staff, Carol Green, is our present city clerk.

DH: Yes. She worked with me for about 5 years before I retired. Then one other thing after my Dublin experience, I was asked to do the same thing when San Ramon incorporated. The same man was

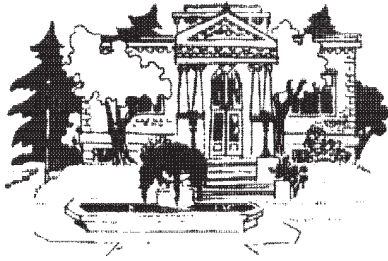
there... I remember his name... it was George something. He had been a county administrator at one time and the League of California Cities they keep a list of names of people who might like to go and fill in for a month or 2 in a job.

PH: That was sort of interesting, you helped the valley.

DH: By then I had learned my lesson and I didn't want to get stuck again for months so I said to George "fine I'll be glad to type all the ordinances and resolutions that are needed but I want a warm body in there to start training and if you can do that for me, I will be happy to help you out." So over a period of maybe 6 months or so in the beginning I had to go to several meetings and worked quite extensively but after awhile then the young person, who is the current city clerk in San Ramon, she came and we worked together and eventually then I did not work any more. Those were the only 2 work experiences afterwards and by then I said to myself "no more."

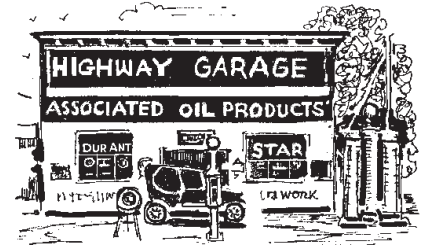
PH: But I hear you talking about volunteering and non paying jobs but contributing to the community. What kind of things are you doing in your retirement?

DH: Mostly I have been a volunteer at the hospital at Valley Memorial and work one day a week from 9 to 12:30 p.m. and that's very interesting. I meet lots of nice people, do hopefully a good service. I drive for the American Cancer Society which involves taking people to their treatments in Pleasanton and that's about it as far as commitments are but there are always a few others hanging around.



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April 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 7

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 11 @ 7:00 p.m.
LHG Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

April 13-14: LAA presents Spring Art Show 2002 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Reception Saturday 7-9 p.m. Judged art show includes oils, water colors, mixed media, sculpture and photography. Most art is available for purchase. Also many artists will have other art and fine crafts for purchase as well as demonstrating their skills.

Saturday, May 25, Livermore Heritage Guild Annual Auction and spaghetti dinner, Duarte Garage. Auction preview begins at 5 p.m., dinner starts at 6 p.m. and **auction starts at 7 p.m.** Tickets for the dinner are \$6.00 and can be purchased in advance at the Carnegie Bldg. or at the door. Price includes dinner, coffee and dessert.

Sunday, May 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Art in the Vineyard At Wente Vineyards, Tesla Road, Livermore. Art exhibitions, demonstrations, sales, wine tasting. Free admission

We are looking for donations for this year's LHG AUCTION. The auction will be upon us soon. Donations of goods and services are greatly appreciated. All usable items will be accepted except books, clothing and furniture (unless considered antique). Unfortunately, computer equipment not working or more than 4 years old also cannot be accepted. Time to clean out those garages and let us help you dispose of those items that need a new home. Phone 449-9927 for pickup. This has been a fun event for everyone and we look forward to seeing you at the auction!

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

The Livermore Heritage Guild now has a new official Preservation/Conservation Committee. At the February 14, 2002 Board, it was voted to accept a proposal for such from Pat and Clarence Hoenig. They have volunteered to be co-chairs for this year. Joe Bishop, Vanna Born, Bill Junk, Anna Siig and Jim Winnick also volunteered to serve on this committee.

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Excerpted from Livermore Herald, March 12, 1921
Makes Appeal for Easter at Arroyo Sanatorium

Easter at Arroyo Sanatorium, where 150 patients, 35 of whom are mere children, are making their brave way back to health, will mean only what the people of Alameda county wish it to be to them. Out at the County infirmary, near San Leandro, 750 men and women are waiting the religious ceremonial day with a bit of misgiving. The Alameda County Hospital Association is once more sponsoring the happiness of this band of citizens whose health and poverty have separated them from their fellows. An Easter token--a basket of candy eggs, a booklet, a card --are little things that bring a heap of joy. A humble task, perhaps, but the hospital association is asking the public to join them in it.

Besides the little gifts, there will be appropriate Easter programs at the institutions. Automobiles will be needed to carry the participants.

Excerpted from Livermore Herald, April 17, 1925

Easter Program at Arroyo Sanatorium
Entertainment Given by Committee for Patients at Hospital
Arroyo Sanatorium and Del Valle Farm patients were visited on Easter Sunday by the Alameda County Hospitals

Christmas Committee, which entertains the patients on various occasions. The entertainment and gifts are presented at various holiday periods and financed with money collected in the annual Oakland Community Chest drive. On the hospital committee are Herman T. Johnson, Chairman; W.J. Bergsma, Secretary, and E.F. Garrison, Treasurer.

The Easter program was presented before the joint body of patients from both Arroyo Sanatorium and the preventorium in the auditorium at the former hospital. Following the program the Easter baskets containing gifts were distributed.

Excerpted from Livermore Herald, April 9, 1926

Easter Program at Arroyo Sanatorium

Christmas Committee has Entertainment Sunday for Patients

The following program was presented Easter Sunday for Arroyo Sanatorium and Del Valle Farm patients under auspices of the County Hospital Christmas committee, being sponsored by E.F. Garrison of Oakland:

Selection: Fay Nobel and orchestra

Bell Hop Dance: Jeanette Thompson

Bowery Dance: Mildred Dettmer and Violet Thompson

Banjo Solo: Diehl Graham

Garden Dance: Katherine Jaske

Scarf Dance: Babe Pretious

Miramba Solo: Leighton Show

Song: Elvira Brophy

Dance: Evelyn Johnson

"Curtain Party", song and dance: Bernice Rittler and Winifred Johnson

Violin Solo: Fay Nobel

Dance: Jackie Brophy

Dutch Dance: Katherine Jaske and Jeanette Thompson

Acrobatic Dance: Babe Pretious

Recitation: Rita Nichols

Tango Dance: Mildred Dettmer and Violet Thompson

Song and Dance: Jeanette Thompson

Russian Dance: Katherine Jaske

Song and Dance: Bernice Rittler and Winifred Johnson

Chinese Monologue: H.T. French

Gypsy Dance: Mildred Dettmer, Violet Thompson, Babe Pretious

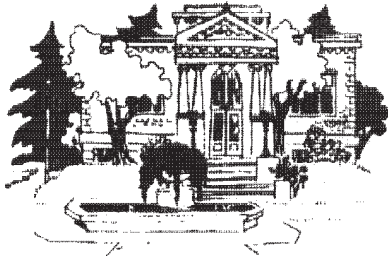
French Dance: Katherine Jaske, Jeanette Thompson

Dance: Evelyn Johnson

Comedienne: Gunther Hoffman

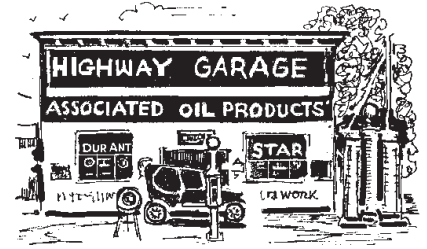
Vocal Solo: Mayme LaRue

Military Parade: by entire company



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May 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 8

CALENDAR

Beginning Saturday, May 4: Livermore Art Association Gallery is hosting a public reception to introduce a unique show entitled "Adornments" where artists will show their creations in wearable and decorative arts. Carnegie Bldg. from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with reception at 1 p.m. Admission is free

Saturday & Sunday, May 4 & 5, Wine and Honey Festival, downtown Livermore
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday

Thursday, May 9 @ 7:00 p.m.
LHG Board Meeting, Carnegie Bldg.

Monday, May 13: In honor of National Historic Preservation Week, at the May 13 city council meeting Tim Sage of LHG will present certificates to this year's 5 award winners. Prior to the council meeting, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., Pat & Clarence Hoening will host a reception for LHG members and guests at the Carnegie Bldg. The council program is slated for 7 to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14, Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society @ 7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Emek on College Ave. at M St. in Livermore. Speaker: Dr. Grace Devnich

Saturday, May 25, Livermore Heritage Guild Annual Auction and spaghetti dinner, Duarte Garage. Auction preview begins at 5 p.m., dinner starts at 6 p.m. and **auction starts at 7 p.m.** Tickets for the dinner are \$6.00 and can be purchased in advance at the Carnegie Bldg. after May 10 or at the door that evening. Price includes spaghetti dinner, coffee and dessert.

Sunday, May 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Art in the Vineyard At Wente Vineyards, Tesla Road, Livermore. Art exhibitions, demonstrations, sales, wine tasting. Free admission

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

LHG would like to thank Francis (Fran) Duarte for donations to the Duarte Garage display: typewriter, brass fire extinguisher, and tire

pump. These are original items that were used when the Garage was open for business. Thank you Fran for a wonderful addition to the Duarte Garage!

Duarte Garage/Lincoln Highway Garage History
Mr. Frank H. Duarte built this garage in 1915 on what was then the Lincoln Highway. He built the front part of the building and added the small cottage around an already existing tank house. The back part of the garage structure was added in 1923. Helen and Frank Duarte raised their sons Earl and Francis on this site and operated the Garage for many years. They sold gasoline, did automobile service and repair in the Garage and sold Star, Chevrolet, Durant and Flint automobiles. Frank H. Duarte ran the Garage from 1915 until 1949. In 1926, immediately before the Lincoln Highway markers were put up across the country by the Boy Scouts, all in one day, the Lincoln Highway route was changed. It went direct from Sacramento to the Carquinez Straights near Vallejo and then down the east side of the Bay to Oakland.

Francis "Fran" Duarte attended a mechanical engineering school. Upon graduation, he went to work with his father. He attempted to enlist in the service and was turned down. Later, however, he was drafted and served in Africa. He returned to Livermore and to their business at the Garage. He began running a machine repair shop in the Garage, repairing farm equipment and other machinery. In 1970's, the city purchased the land for the park on Portola and Livermore Avenue, bordered on the west by the Duarte Garage and cottage. It was then that Mr. Duarte closed his business. The Livermore Heritage Guild tried to convince the City to let Mr. Duarte continue his business and to reside in the cottage. However, it was too late. The Livermore Heritage Guild then petitioned the City for the use of the property.

The Heritage Guild has done a lot of work on the site, including replacing the roof, putting a new floor in the rear section, painting the buildings three times, and continuing maintenance on the cottage and the garage. The Heritage Guild also maintains some exhibits inside and continues progress toward completion of the Garage Museum. Car clubs have come to the Garage as part of their club activities; we have held open house at the Garage for the public; the Garage is used as a polling place. The Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction are held the Saturday of Memorial Day in May every year.

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The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society meeting on May 14 will feature Dr. Grace Devnich. Dr. Devnich was a doctor to a large number of Livermore's citizens having started her practice here in 1948. After retirement, Dr. Devnich traveled to over fifty countries, wrote two books, wrote a number of articles on travel, Livermore history, and medical subjects. Dr. Devnich will speak on the medical history of the Livermore area, the large number of hospitals here, the doctors without licenses, a most unusual duel, and why she and her husband moved here in the first place. The Livermore-Amador Genealogy Society general meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of each month and is held at Congregation Beth Emek on College Ave. at MSt. in Livermore. Please see website www.l-ags.org or call 925-447-9652 for more information.

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Excerpted from Livermore Herald, May 7, 1921
May Day Fete Held at Arroyo Sanatorium

In the presence of several hundred patients and visitors, a May Day Fete was presented at Arroyo Sanatorium last Sunday afternoon. When the program had been about half completed rain interfered with the arrangements for an outdoor affair, and the last numbers were given in the large social hall. The program was varied and contained an unusually large number of interesting and entertaining features. Livermore, Pleasanton and University of Santa Clara talent combined to provide the entertainment.

"The Spirit of May"

(An original poem written by Charles D. South of Santa Clara in honor of the occasion and dedicated to Arroyo Sanatorium).

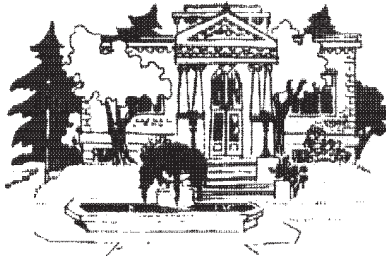
The palms wave their banners aloft in the breeze,
The bird choirs are trilling their joy in the trees,
While the hearts of the roses are wooed by the bees
And the fields are in golden array;

For the poppies are curtsying over the scene
In a coy minuet o'er a carpet of green.
And the sun frames the picture in glorious sheen
In its radiant welcome of May.

From the glow and the warmth of the fire in the blue,
From the angels attending it all the day through,
From the verdure it summons to sip the sweet dew,
From the pearls of the dew by the way,
From the trees and the birds and the laugh-rippling streams,
From the hills and the dales where the golden-cup gleams,
From the gardens as far as our heaven of dreams,
Comes the wonderful spirit of May.

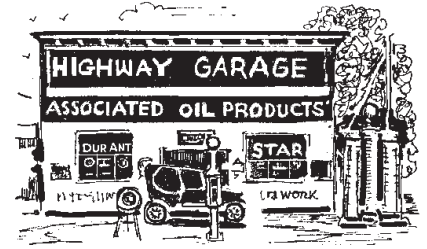
And that wonderful spirit pervading the earth
Thrills the pulses with life, fills the land with its mirth,
Calling Love, Faith and Hope into blissful re-birth
Where they froze 'neath the winter-king's sway;
Makes the old and the young sing the gospel of cheer
And to all of its sunshiny precepts adhere,
As with laughter and song they bring heaven down here
Through the magical spirit of May.

Come, dance and be gay in our kingdom of glee
Swing, lassie and lad, 'round the Maypole with me;
And our silver-haired playmates, as blythe as can be,
Shall join in our revels today;
Bid the spirit of Care to invade nevermore
Either gold-fruited valley or gold-pebbled shore,
That our goldland may vie with the Eden of yore
Through the mystical spirit of May



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June 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 9

CALENDAR

Reminder: The Livermore Art Association and Livermore Heritage Guild will be open until 8 p.m. on Thursday nights during Farmer's Market

Tuesday, June 11th, 7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Emek, College Ave. at M Street, Livermore

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will feature Sharing Your Finds and Tips. Members will be sharing many of the great finds that they have made this past year. Even more interesting might be the clever ways they made these finds. These finds and tips might include newly discovered websites, long lost cousins, and old family items found in the attic. Bring your finds and tips and share them with us.

Saturday, June 8, Livermore Rodeo Parade downtown Livermore, 10 a.m. to noon **Note: History Center will be closed all day**

Sunday, June 9: 1890's costumed docents of the Ravenswood Progress League lead free tours of the more than 100 year old buildings and some of the 30 acres of grounds of Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. The Tank House Gift Shop, craft demonstrations, and Victorian croquet are available. Hours: 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info: 443-0238

Thursday, June 13 @ 7:00 p.m.

LHG Board Meeting, **Recreation Center Room 3**

PLEASE NOTE: LHG Board meetings move to Recreation Center, Room 3 June to October at 7 p.m.

Excerpted from Livermore Herald, March 27, 1931 **Old Livermore College Building Will Soon Be Only a Memory**

Sixty-one years ago when Livermore, just established as a shipping point on the Central Pacific railroad, was developing from grass covered range into an embryo city, a magnificent, three-story building dominated the southern corner of the townsite housing the only private institution of learning in the eastern end of the county—the Livermore Collegiate Institute.

Today it is rapidly being reduced to a pile of old lumber, stained by time and charred by flames. Once the most prominent educational institution in central California, the Livermore College, as it has been more commonly known, is fast moving into history. Within a few weeks, wreckers will have removed the last vestige of its material being but its name and fame will forever be prominent in the historical archives of the community.

In 1869 the Central Pacific railroad ran its tracks through the valley and the city of Livermore was born in the vision of Wm. H. Mendenhall. He presented twenty acres to the railroad on which a depot was erected, and immediately surveyed a townsite. Business enterprises were attracted to the new town, among the first being C.J. Steven's grist mill, A.J. McLeod's Livermore Hotel, and Whitmore's store, and the community began to take shape through the erection of homes. A grammar school was already in operation but Mendenhall, ambitious to establish his community in an educational way, was not satisfied.

Accordingly, in 1870 he presented six acres of ground to Rev. and Mrs. W.B. Kingsbury and with residents of the valley freely contributing the required funds, the building was erected.

The old "History of Alameda County," published in 1883 described the building in the following words: "It is situated on the north bank of the Arroyo Mocho, a wooded stream skirting the suburbs of the bustling town of Livermore. The main college building is three stories in height, is flanked by lesser additions and numerous out-buildings, and surrounded by beautifully shaded and kept grounds. Located as it is in the very center of the mountain-locked Livermore Valley, the view from the cupola of the building is very extensive, and one of the most beautiful in the state."

For five years Rev. and Mrs. Kingsbury operated the college, increasing the size of its grounds by purchase and establishing it as one of the finest educational institutions in the state. In 1875, J.D. Smith, whose memory is revered by hundreds of former pupils, purchased the property and for twenty years the college progressed under his direction. An average of fifty students attended the school and a list of their names would include many of the most prominent citizens of the state.

Smith had felt the pinch of poverty as a youth, his schooling having been made possible through the generosity of Wm. Lynch who had enabled him to attend McClure's Military Academy in Oakland, and the old professor never forgot his debt. No pupil was ever denied the benefits of education at the Livermore College, Smith extending to all the same sort of assistance that had been furnished to him. To his dying day he was proud and happy in the realization that of those whom he had helped, all had justified his benevolence with one lone exception.

Smith's career as an educator at the college drew to a close in 1895 and the property, then comprising 48 rooms,

became the original home of the Livermore Sanitarium. For ten years the sanitarium occupied the old college moving at the end of that time to new buildings on L Street.

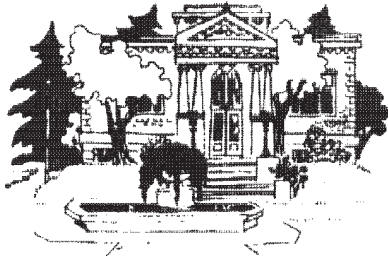
In 1908 John McGlinchey, now County Fire Warden, vice-president of the Livermore Rodeo Association, and for 27 years president of the Livermore Stockmen's Protective Association, established his family in the building which has remained their home ever since.

Memories of the days when poor and humble seekers for knowledge found as ready a welcome as those of wealth and affluence have been maintained in the old building by the McGlinchey family. Throughout the state, it is famous as a home where hospitality is a religion, where the latch-string is always out for the visitor and where the guest is not a guest—but juts another member of a happy family.

Many changes have occurred since the original building was erected in 1870. Additions have been made from time to time and with its purchase by McGlinchey the building was completely remodeled, several rooms being removed while a wide porch was constructed.

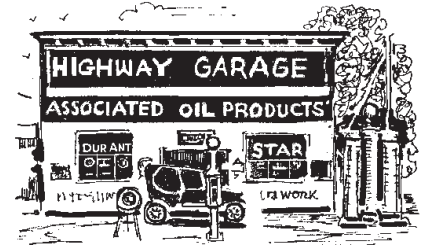
The fire last month brought an end to the life of the building, destroying the upper story and damaging the remainder to such an extent that rebuilding was not advisable. Early this week wreckers attacked the rusted nails and time-worn boards and the once proud building is rapidly being obliterated.

In its place will rise a new home for the McGlinchey family, a modern residence as different in construction as the present city of Livermore differs from the early settlement by the railroad depot.



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LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD



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July 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 10

CALENDAR

Thursday, July 11 @ 7:00 p.m.

LHG Meeting, **Recreation Center, Room 3**

Saturday, July 13, 9-1 p.m.

GARAGE SALE at DUARTE GARAGE

Saturday & Sunday, July 13 & 14, Art Under the Oaks, Alden Lane Nursery, Livermore. Artworks, art in action, entertainment. Free admission

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Thanks to Lynn Owens and the other volunteers for making this another wonderful auction! As usual, this year it was another big hit. LHG sold 107 spaghetti dinners at this year's annual auction and spaghetti feed. Gross total for this year's auction (includes dinner, drinks and auction) was \$5,140.91. Some of the more interesting items sold at the auction were: rifle holster \$140.00, primitive hope chest \$320.00, wooden wine box parts \$200.00, parking meter head \$50.00. About 77 paddles were given out with about 52 buyers. We sold approximately 146 items in 2 1/2 hours.

The 2002 Preservation Conservation Award Committee would like to thank Anna Siig and Sue Marchand for their expert art work and calligraphy for the award certificates. Sue and Anna accomplished this feat in an efficient and timely manner. The Guild would like to thank Pat & Clarence Hoenig for chairing this years Awards Nominating Committee.

News Flash!: Newly revised and expanded edition of Dan Mosier's "History of Tesla" book is now in stock at LHG Carnegie Bldg. Same price as before but with many more photographs.



In our ongoing project to turn the Duarte Garage into a transportation museum, the Guild members feel the following projects need special attention. Interested people who are willing to donate their time will be greatly appreciated!

Duarte Garage Projects

1. Clean & paint old floor jacks
2. Clean & paint roll-around gasoline tanks/pumps
3. Repair or replace unsafe tables
4. Move Seagrave southwest

5. Print & laminate descriptive signs for all displayed items
6. Display cases: Install casters, repair rear doors and provide locks, install lights
7. Repair (or provide wheeled dollies) for all displayed items so they can be easily moved
8. Reinforce/strengthen Carnegie bookcase bases
9. Paint & assemble the sorgham press and return to Ravenswood
10. Replace headlight & clearance light on HistoryMobile
11. Assemble roll-top desk
12. Clean & repair old town siren
13. Install new oil filter housing on Mack
14. Check HistoryMobile brakes
15. Move Carnegie bookshelves to south end
16. Locate & display "license plate wall"
17. Move model T, Seagrave and gravel wagon
18. More history board?
19. Get rid of extra drill press



Excerpted from Livermore Herald, June 29, 1956

Grand and Glorious 4th in 1901

However Livermoreans observe the Fourth of July it will be different than they would have celebrated Independence Day half a century ago when Fourth of July celebrations were the biggest event of the year.

"Old timers" will assert there is nothing today as grand and glorious as an old-time Fourth of July celebration which began with a salute at sunrise from Livermore's old cannon and ended with a blaze of fireworks at night. It was always the "grand and glorious" Fourth.

Typical celebration was that held in Livermore in 1901, which gave the community a day packed with excitement and thrilling action, much of which could not be duplicated in a similar celebration today.

Parade In Morning

First event was the parade, starting at 10:30 a.m., featuring, of course, decorated carriages and other horse-drawn vehicles. Outstanding always was the float bearing the Goddess of Liberty, early-day predecessor of Miss Livermore, Rodeo Queen, of today.

Busy Afternoon

The literary exercises came at 1:00 p.m. in Farmers Union Hall, then located at North Livermore and Railroad Avenues, long since torn down. Features were the reading of the Declaration of Independence

dence and the patriotic oration. This speech was always of the "make the eagle scream" type and designed to arouse the audience to patriotic fervor.

During the afternoon there was dancing in the Company I armory, a band concert by the Fifth Infantry band of Oakland, a sham battle by Company I and bicycle races. Livermore was a bicycle racing center in those days and boasted many champions among its home town riders. The races were usually run on South Livermore Avenue, then Lizzie Street, or East Avenue.

Fire departments always had a big part. This particular year featured a hose cart race between Livermore and Pleasanton, the latter winning by getting a stream of water first through its hose. Sometimes these events went a bit further and ended as "water fights", the rival companies turning their hoses on each other.

The Horribles

In the evening was the inevitable horribles parade, which excited

young boys as nothing in any celebration can do today. They were half scared to death, and at the same time fascinated, by the antics of the horribly dressed marchers.

A military ball closed this particular celebration, although usually it was a grand display of fireworks. There were no laws against fire crackers in those days and nearly every youngster had burned fingers and/or faces when the last giant cracker had been exploded under a tin can.

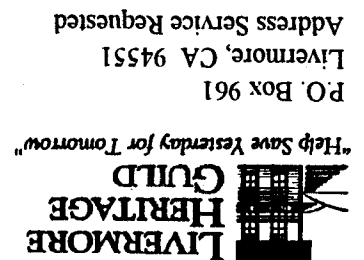
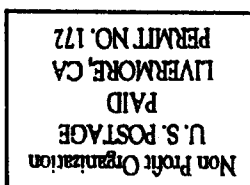
In its report on the big day The Herald particularly mentioned the colored electric lights along First Street, a decoration now reserved for the Christmas season.

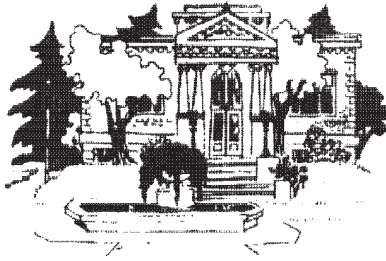
Livermore, Pleasanton, Hayward and Washington township towns alternated observing the Fourth on a sort of hit-or-miss schedule, so there was always a celebration within train ride, driving distance for those who had fast stepping horses or riding distance for the young sports who had fast bikes.



"Eureka" and her attendants

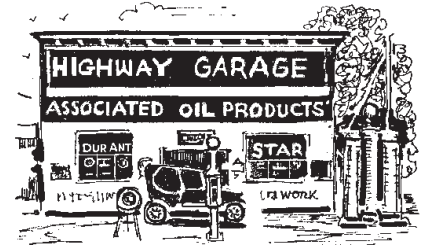
L-R: Mattie Fennon, Goddess of Liberty; Mayme Gallagher; Henrietta Wagoner; Dollie McKown; Anne Wagoner; Ella Concannon; May Wentz, who will be "Eureka".





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August 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 11

CALENDAR

Thursday, August 8 @ 7:00 p.m.

LHG Meeting, **Recreation Center, Room 3**

Sunday, August 11, Ravenswood Progress League will hold its annual Ice Cream Social, 1890s costumed docents lead free tours of the buildings and grounds of Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

Ice cream, music, Tank House Gift Shop, craft demonstrations, Victorian croquet, and more are available. Hours are 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Info: 443-0238

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Anna Siig rode in the back of the Guild's Mack fire engine in the Livermore Rodeo Parade and with the help of LCAC's sound system, told about the Livermore Heritage Guild's goals and activities and gave commentary on the historical significance of buildings and sites as we progressed along the parade route.

For the County Fair Parade in Pleasanton, Anna also urged parade watchers to visit their local history facility in Alameda County and remarked on some of the historical aspects of the fairgrounds. The crowd response from both events was very positive. Look out Connie Chung: Anna is moving up!

Excerpted from Livermore Herald, March 8, 1929

Tells History of Fuse Manufacture

R.E. Merritt Traces Development of Industry in Talk to Lions

History of the manufacture of fuse was related to the Livermore Lions Club Thursday noon by R.E. Merritt of the Coast Manufacturing & Supply Company, who was the guest of C.G. Clarke, chairman of the day. He stated that the history of fuse dated back nearly 100 years, when it was first devised by Wm. Bickford, an English minister of Cornwall, who was actuated by a desire to save lives which were being lost in the Cornish mines through the use of dangerous methods of blasting then employed. He was assisted by Samuel Davie, a blacksmith.

In 1836, Robt. Bacon manufactured the first fuse in the United States to supply copper mines in Connecticut, learning from Bickford, the methods he employed. In 1839, fuse was first made in Germany. Until 1867 practically all the fuse was made in the one factory in Connecticut, but in that year the first plant was established on the Pacific Coast, being on the bay shore of Alameda county. It later developed into the present plant of the Coast Manufacturing & Supply Company at Livermore.

Mr. Merritt explained the various processes necessary in the making of fuse and detailed the development from the early hand methods to the present days of automatic machinery. Hand methods prevailed until about 1850, when machinery was introduced, crude at the start but developing into the present fast and efficient processes. Under hand methods, it took several hours to produce 50 feet of what would now be very inferior fuse, while

machines now turn out 150 to 175 feet a minute. Chemistry and other modern methods are also important in the production of the present high-grade product, which must undergo rigid tests. The Livermore factory produces 150,000,000 feet of the 850,000,000 manufactured annually in the United States.

Mr. Merritt explained the necessity of cooperation in manufacture, and applied the principle to service clubs and other enterprises which must observe it if they are to be successful.



Excerpted from Livermore Herald, June 10, 1911

President Knox of the Library Trustees has requested the HERALD to announce that the mischief done by boys in the Library Park must cease or the offenders will be prosecuted. The fountain basins are filled with rocks as fast as they can be cleaned out, and rocks have been thrown into the entrance of the library building itself. The stone of the basins and the delicate terrazzo of which the steps have been made are already chipped. The vandalism must be stopped and the parent of the offending children are warned that warrants will be sworn out the their arrest for the next offense.

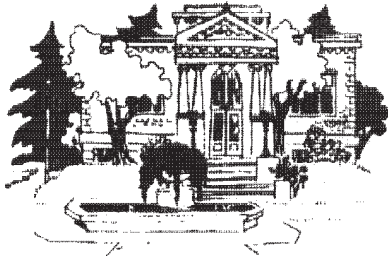
Excerpted from Livermore Herald, April 30, 1921

Many Are Attracted Here

The beauty spots of the mountains south of Livermore attract many visitors at this time of the year. Cresta Blanca is too crowded for comfort on Sundays and there are visitors at this popular picnic ground every day of the week. The Mines road was recently given publicity as a scenic drive on the automobile page of the San Francisco Examiner.

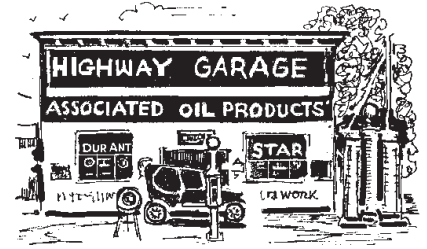
We learn from the Tracy Press that a May Day picnic is planned for Cresta Blanca by one of the large social clubs of that place.

The Sierra Club, the best known outdoor society on the Pacific Coast, with headquarters in San Francisco, will visit this section on May 14th and 15th, when a trip will be made to Cedar Mountain. The party will leave San Francisco Saturday afternoon and camp at Camp 12 on the Mines road Saturday night, and ascend the mountain on Sunday.



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September 2002

Vol. XXXI

No. 12

CALENDAR

Sunday & Monday, September 1 & 2

Harvest Wine Celebration, noon to 5 p.m.

LHG History Mobile will be at the Concannon Vineyard

Monday, September 9 @ 7:30 p.m., Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society meeting at Congregation Beth Emek.

Speakers: Jim Concannon and James Lyster

Thursday, September 12 @ 7:00 p.m.

LHG Meeting, **Recreation Center, Room 3**

Friday, September 13 @ 7:00 p.m.,

LHG Annual General Meeting

Livermore City Council Chambers

Speaker: Eileen Vergino, Deputy Director at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She will be talking about the 50th anniversary for LLNL.

Refreshments will be served

Save Sunday afternoon, September 22 for a step back into the 1920s and 30s at the Heritage Guild's Lincoln Highway (Duarte) Garage. Around 1:00 p.m., 6 to 10 cars from the Durant Automobile Club will arrive for photo opportunities and story swapping. If you have an old car, bring it along!

HERITAGE GUILD HAPPENINGS

Emma C. Smith

(written by Bessie Hargrave Drury, her niece, in 1949)

Emma Caroline Smith was born February 8, 1850 in Mission San Jose, California. She was the daughter of Henry Clay and Mary Harlan Smith, both California pioneers.

Mr. Smith came to California in 1845 with eleven young men, who left St. Joseph, Michigan on horseback on July

4, 1845. They arrived at Sutter's Fort, now in Sacramento, December 25, 1845. Mrs. Smith came to California by wagon train with the Harlan Party, of which her father, George Harlan, was the leader. They were with the first wagon train to go around the south end of the Great Salt Lake. They arrived at Sutter's Fort, October 28, 1846.

The Harlan Party went to the Mission of Santa Clara, where they remained during the Mexican War. Mr. Smith joined Fremont's Battalion and went to the border. Upon Mr. Smith's return, Henry and Mary were married. As soon as gold was discovered at Coloma, the Smith's went to the mines. They returned to the Mission of San Jose where Mr. Smith opened a store in the Old Mission. It was here Emma was born.

Mr. Smith was elected to the California Legislature at Benicia, in 1852 and introduced the bill to make Alameda County. It took a piece of Contra Costa, San Joaquin and Santa Clara Counties; the new county "Alameda" for the creek which ran the length of it.

The Smith family moved to Alvarado, where Mr. Smith built a home, which still stands. The first Court House in Alameda County was on the second floor of Mr. Smith's store.

In 1861 interested in the development of the mines in Nevada, the family went over the Kingsbury grade to Nevada. They lived in Virginia City, Silver City and Carson, returning to California in 1864. As a girl, Emma experienced the exciting period of the Civil War, the Indian Insurrection, the arrival and departure of the Pony Express, the Stage Coach, and the great mule teams hauling freight.

At the age of four, Emma was sent to boarding school at San Antonio, which is now a part of Oakland. Then to school in Alvarado, where the teacher was employed by the parents, then to the first Public School in Alameda County.

In 1867 the Smith family came to Livermore and built a home on the Altamont road. Emma attended the Livermore College and San Jose Normal. She taught her first school in Deer Valley Contra Costa County. In 1877 she joined the teaching staff of the Livermore Grammar School (Editor note: Fifth Street School is there now) where she remained until June 1919, when she resigned and retired to Oakland, California. She loved her teaching and her association with her pupils was very dear to her. She often said that was a part of her life she would like to relive.

She was an active Church member. She joined the Livermore Presbyterian Church in 1881, when Mr. Phelps was the Pastor. For thirty-five years she was Secretary and Treasurer of the Sunday School. Her wicker basket of cards, leaflets and papers was a familiar object each Sunday morning. She also served as President of the Guild, and was ever ready to direct an entertainment at the Church Bazaar when funds were low.

Emma Smith never married and lived with her mother, lovingly called "Aunt Mary", by all who knew her. Their home is still standing at 462 L St. (Editor note: this house no longer stands today). Always interested in the world about her, Miss Smith delighted in travel. Many trips were taken with her friend, Mrs. Fassett, and many of her fellow teachers. She went on a European tour at the age of seventy-five and when 80 years old to Alaska and the Yukon. She was a keen observer and a wonderful storyteller, with a delightful sense of humor.

One of Miss Smith's greatest thrills was her first crossing of the Bay Bridge, February 19, 1937. Quoting from her diary: "The day was lovely. The bridge was like a dream, beautiful beyond words. I was so thrilled it brought tears to my eyes, to think I had lived to see such a wonderful feat of engineering. I remember the first time I crossed San Francisco Bay. I must have been about eight years old. My

father, My sister Julia and myself drove from Alvarado to San Antonio, now East Oakland, where we boarded a steamer for San Francisco. It was my first ride on a steamer. We were so excited as we neared the City. There seemed to be hundreds of ships at anchor all with tall masts. When we landed, the Hotel Runners were yelling "What Cheer House", "American Exchange" etc. A man grabbed our carpetbag and started off but Pa told him to put it down. We stopped at the American Exchange. I have crossed the Bay many times, but the biggest thrill is the Bay Bridge when I am eighty-seven years old. It fills my old heart with joy and thankfulness that the Good Lord has spared my life to see this, I might say miracle of man's power."

Her last years were happily spent at the home of her niece, Bessie Hargrave Drury, in Walnut Creek, California. Every year former pupils, friends and relatives celebrated her birthday. Her pet yearly project was the "Livermore Picnic", which brought many old Livermore friends together at Mosswood Park in Oakland.

Emma C. Smith passed away March 27, 1939 at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley, California at the age of eighty-nine.

(insert picture of Miss Emma C. Smith here)