



Local Legend, Fred Furth To Speak November 12th by Ted Calvert

We are pleased to announce that Fred Furth will be our Endowment Lecture Series speaker this year. His is a living success story going from rags to riches.

Thursday, November 12th preeminent antitrust litigator, attorney and founder of The Furth Firm in San Francisco will share his thoughts on everything from his work as a famed litigator of high profile cases, and founder and member of the International Judicial Conference; to international jet pilot, author, philanthropist, and founder of Chalk Hill Estate Winery & Vineyards.



Mr. Furth has touched so many segments of our lives and society that we anticipate a spirited and engaging lecture that will amaze, amuse and inspire all who attend. This is an extraordinary opportunity to get the inside story on what makes Fred tick.

He will delve into an early upbringing which he credits for having instilled a passion within "to be the best, not the biggest," as well as explore what challenges him today.

Fred Furth's philanthropy includes establishing the Mary Agatha Furth Conference and Event Center at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Windsor California, and the Megan Furth Academy School on Fillmore Street in San Francisco.

The Museum's ENDOWMENT LECTURE SERIES offers the public insights on history through those who *make* history.

This year's lecture will be Thursday, November 12, from 5:30 - 8:00pm, at the Alexander Valley Community Hall, 5512 Hwy 128 in Geyserville. (Doors open 5:00 pm).

Tax Deductible Endowment Lecture Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased in Healdsburg at the Museum Store, 221 Matheson (707)431-3325; Levine & Co Books; and Copperfield's Books; in Windsor at the Mary Agatha Furth Center (707) 953-4862. For more information contact Ted Calvert: (707) 433-2211 or ted.calvert@yahoo.com.

(More information on Furth's philanthropy inside)

Historic Preservation Awards Nominations by Frances Schierenbeck

It's that time of year again to honor those individuals and business that make the effort to preserve Healdsburg's architectural heritage. Nominate your favorite home or business restoration, or recognize someone for lifetime maintenance/preservation of their historic building. The committee will choose one or more deserving structures and present the award at the Annual Meeting in January. Nomination forms are available at the Museum and are due by December 1, 2009.

Special Museum Holiday Exhibits, "Magical Toyland", Toys from 1860s - 1960s

- Saturday, December 5th, 1-3:00 pm

Kids' Open House , Toys, games, puzzles, trains, storytelling, treats - FREE Admission

- Saturday, December 12th, 1-3:00 pm

Kids' Open House at Healdsburg Museum, 1-3:00 pm

Toys, games, puzzles, trains, storytelling, treats - FREE Admission

- Saturday, December 19th, 1-3:00 pm

Grandparents' Reception, Bring your grandchild(ren) to see our holiday exhibition of toys from the 1860s to the 1960s.

Calendar

NOVEMBER, 2009

- 4 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am
- 12 Endowment Fund Lecture, Fred Furth, Alexander Valley Hall, 5 pm
- 17 Board Meeting, 8:30 am
- 27 "Magical Toyland", Toys from 1860s - 1960s, Museum (Nov 27-Feb 1)

DECEMBER, 2009

- 2 Christmas Open House
- 2 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am
- 5 & 12 Magical Toyland Exhibit, Kid's Open House, Storytelling, 1-3 pm
- 15 Board Meeting, 8:30 am
- 19 Magical Toyland Exhibit, Grandparent's Reception, 1-3 pm

Healdsburg Museum

221 Matheson Street
Healdsburg, CA 95448
Telephone 707 431 3325 - Fax 707 473 4471
www.healdsburgmuseum.org
HealdsburgMuseum@sbcglobal.net
Museum Hours: 11:00 - 4:00 pm
Wednesday – Sunday,
CLOSED MONDAY and TUESDAY
Research Center open by appointment:
Thursday – Saturday

History Matters by Holly Hoods

The Wilson Winery 100th anniversary celebration on October 17th was a great party! If you weren't there, you missed something special. It was wonderful to see the descendants of the former winery owners proudly discovering their family's history on display in the large room that Wilson Winery had cleared out for our exhibit.



Ralph & Karen Hanahan, Lorraine & Frank Castelli, Ken & Diane Wilson (L to R)

Ken and Diane Wilson, the current owners and winemaker, warmly welcomed everyone to the old tin-clad winery, built in 1909 by George Kunz for the Gaddini family; then operated by Bellis, Massonis and Scatena as Healdsburg Wine Company from 1911 through the early 1950s; then managed by Stacy Belli for Louis Batlin before becoming Fredson Winery in 1967. Artifacts on display included: the carpenter's tool kit that had belonged to George Kunz, Tom West's color photos of grape crushing at Fredson Winery in the 1970s, wine barrel stencils from Healdsburg Wine Company--bonded Winery #303, Jo Fredson's grape tally records, Prohibition-era permits to make sacramental wine, and a number of turn of the century vineyard management artifacts on loan from Vince Colombano, thanks to Ann and Edson Howard. Ann, Janet Sbragia Pisenti and Meredith Dreisback were invaluable exhibit team members, assisting me with their creativity, flair and skill. Janet, Anna Darden and Sue Phillips, helped out tremendously by serving as docents in the room with the exhibit, answering questions, handing out Museum literature, inviting people to visit the Museum, and recruiting new members. Ted and Kay Robinson provided friendly and professional handling of ticket sales at the front door. Al Loebel stepped in with technical troubleshooting. By the way, seeing Sue, our Executive Director, stomp grapes in a half barrel, was a hoot! She worked hard to coordinate and promote the event with Dee Ahlin, Wilson Winery Tasting Room Manager, and Kent Mitchell. Thanks to everyone involved especially Ken and Diane Wilson, for thinking of this 100th anniversary as an occasion to raise funds for HM&HS. (another photo on page 5)

So what else have we been up to in the Research Center? Scott Rodolph from the Healdsburg Public Works Dept. has spent several productive afternoons with me recently, researching historical maps and tax records to clarify easement and storm drain matters that impact current property owners and utility projects. The Public Works staff members have been borrowing and digitizing (scanning) many of our historical documents to make them more accessible to people who need the information they contain. I look forward to continued collaboration with Public Works. I also hope to add some of these great old documents to our website.

Kathy Sbragia and Kendal Georgeson of Sbragia Winery spent several hours delightfully perusing our historical photographs before selecting their favorite images to buy to use in their tasting room and marketing. Two graphic artists from Swarm Gallery of San Francisco were also dazzled by our vast collection of wonderful photos. They came to find local history images to use to decorate the new hotel being built next to the Chamber of Commerce. Another happy research customer was the architect who wanted to see historic images of a former winery building to assist in envisioning and planning its restoration. He left with six images on a CD. There is no question that photo scanning has enormously enhanced our capability to serve our community.

George Clough has been working with me and Collections Manager Meredith Dreisback to create new "finding aids" for some intriguing artifacts in our collection. He is writing descriptive summaries of the photo albums and scrapbooks in storage, which are not currently catalogued in the Museum's database. If you think you would enjoy helping us with this type of collection/research work, please talk to me or Meredith.

I am currently seeking vintage toys for the upcoming holiday exhibition at the Museum: "Magical Toyland." It will be opening at the Museum gallery November 27th. If you have colorful, fun or magical toys to loan, at least 45 years old, that we haven't displayed in the past 10 years, please call me *soon*.

From the Director's Chair

by Sue Ross, Executive Director

What an extraordinary month! Holly and Janet Pisenti's dedication to detail, tremendous research, fine eye(s), outreach, and willingness to burn the midnight oil resulted in two excellent Special Exhibits on display in our gallery: **CELEBRATING THE GRAPE** and **BARREL MAKING: The Art of the Cooper**. Many members enjoyed viewing the exhibits at a Members' Only reception where both 99 year "young" George Greott, and Ken and Diane Wilson (of the Wilson Winery) reflected upon the history of the wine industry.

On October 21st I enjoyed meeting many members of our business community at the Chamber of Commerce's monthly "Business After Hours," and will be extending my involvement in the community through my new membership in Soroptomists International.

On October 24th I attended an "Educational Summit." The HUSD and Healdsburg Educational Fund have joined forces to improve Healdsburg's educational system. School administrators, teachers, parents and business owners spent three hours together on a Saturday morning evaluating ways to increase the level of excellence in Healdsburg schools.

As a former High School teacher and College instructor, Teacher Center director and Middle School tutor, I was thrilled to meet educators determined to serve the needs of students, teachers and community. It was an exciting opportunity to explore ways HM&HS can work with the schools to bring history to life. Under discussion are ways to expand opportunities for teachers and their students to utilize HM&HS resources within the gallery, Research Center, "hands-on" workshops, and classroom visits. By entering into a strong partnership I am confident that HM&HS can develop programs that will inspire and excite a whole new generation of future historians.

A Closer Look at Two Geyserville Victorians *by Ann Howard*

On September 22 Holly Hoods and five HMVA volunteers had the privilege of taking a tour in Geyserville of the Hope-Merrill house built about 1885, a Stick-Eastlake Victorian, and the 1904 Hope-Bosworth house, a "transitional style between Queen Anne and Neo-Classic*".



Joseph Merrill home in 1916.
(Courtesy of Ron Scheiber)

Both were beautifully restored by Robert and Rosalie Hope in the 1970s, and Hope-Bosworth was the first bed and breakfast inn opened for business in Sonoma County.

Previous owners had remodeled the Merrill home over the years, lowering ceilings and creating multiple lodging, but luckily had not changed the façade.

Both are currently owned and operated by Cosette Trautman-Scheiber and Ron Scheiber across the street from each other at 21253 Geyserville Avenue.

Harry Bosworth believes that Joseph Merrill built this beautiful home in about 1885 for his wife Martha and their children. They had come from Oregon after

1882. Sadness touched the family with the death of daughter Birdie age 18 and Annie age 5 in 1887 and daughter Mabel age 15 in 1892. They are buried in the Olive Hill Cemetery that Harry's grandfather George opened in 1900. (Harry thinks the original graves may have been moved from the small cemetery behind what is now Isis Oasis Resort south of town center, or from the Merrill property, known then as Merrill Addition.) Holly and Ann are interested in digging into records of this beautiful building.

After the tour, Sue Phillips, Kaye and Barry



Hope-Merrill Bed and Breakfast Inn today.

Stallard, Norma Passarino, Ann Howard, and Holly enjoyed their lunches on the patio under a huge per-simmon tree in back with Cosette and Ron. They have been in business for thirteen years and had many stories to share.

We then toured the

George M. Bosworth home across the street, known as "The Palms," built in 1904. Harry's grandfather George had traded this piece of property for two plots in the cemetery that Joseph Merrill needed.



George Bosworth on left, son Obed (Harry's father) about age 10, wife Ida May, her brother Allen Kilgore, and daughter Georgie. The old Wells Fargo Barn and Geyser Peak can be seen on the left. Wells Fargo operated in Geyserville from 1860-1910. (Courtesy of Harry Bosworth)

Fortunately this house had not been altered and mainly needed cosmetic and building code work.

Our tour of both inns was a memorable step into the past of Geyserville. The high ceilings and silk-screened wallpapers of the Hope-Merrill House are in marked contrast to the low ceilings and smaller rooms of the more humble Hope-Bosworth House built twenty-five years later.



Hope-Bosworth Bed and Breakfast Inn today.

We walked down the street and briefly visited the George M. Bosworth and Son General Merchandise (since 1912), and the small museum, but Harry was out tending a problem with the town's water system, one

of his many jobs in this unincorporated village. (*Holly Hoods, Research Curator, and Fran Schierenbeck, Architectural Historian).

Wilson Winery 100TH Anniversary

by Sue Ross

On October 17th friends old and new attended the 100th Anniversary of Wilson Winery's Old Tin Barn. A fundraiser for the Museum, the Wilsons enthusiasm and respect for history and those who had played roles *in* that history was infectious.

After guests viewed the wonderful temporary exhibit mounted by Janet Pisenti, Ann Howard, Holly Hoods (photo L to R) and Meredith Dreisback, they went on to sample award-winning wine and feast on tri-tip BBQ to spirited music, then view our film "Life in Healdsburg" in the Barn - popcorn and all.

What made the afternoon *most* special was having old friends and new come together for the festivities. In fact, many descendents of the families who had owned the winery, or been otherwise involved over the past 100 years were on-hand to share their stories, and history sprang to life.



The part of the afternoon I will personally remember longest however, was the *Grape Stomp*, as "yours truly" had the opportunity to experience the most intense 3 minute aerobic workout imaginable!

I want to thank the Wilsons for celebrating this important anniversary as a fundraiser for the Museum, and encourage everyone to read Holly's excellent,

comprehensive article on The Old Tin Barn in the *Russian River Recorder*.

Lawyer Fred Furth Pays \$5 million for Catholic Church

(portions extracted from article by Carolyn Jones, Chronicle Staff Writer Thursday, July 28, 2005)

Parishioners at Sacred Heart church in San Francisco's Western Addition have been praying for a miracle since Christmas, when the Roman Catholic Archdiocese closed their beloved 109-year-old church. This week, they got their miracle.

Fred Furth, a 71-year-old antitrust attorney and vintner who lives in Healdsburg, paid \$5 million to purchase the church on Fillmore Street and its rectory, convent and play yard, saving the buildings from demolition. Furth intends to use the church and other buildings to expand Sacred Heart's school, which has continued to operate since the church was closed. He plans to keep it a Catholic parochial school and rename it the Megan Furth Academy after his daughter, a teacher, linguist and Olympic horse rider who died in 2003 at age 31.

In addition, Furth raised \$10 million to establish an endowment for the school, which includes 172 kindergartners through eighth-graders from the former Sacred Heart and St. Dominic schools. Most of the students are African Americans from the Western Addition neighborhood.

Although Furth has not worked out the details, the church building will probably be used as a community space when not in use by the school, he said. It's likely that Catholic services will be held in the church again, although Furth and the archdiocese had not yet decided what to do with the church's altar, stained glass windows and other religious artifacts. Furth may want to remodel the inside of the church, but he plans to keep the facade and will try to avoid doing anything to upset preservationist.

The archdiocese closed Sacred Heart because membership had declined to the point where only about 150 people were attending services regularly, and because the church needed \$5 million in seismic work. Church officials planned to sell the property to a housing developer.

Furth grew up poor in the Midwest, the son of German and Polish immigrants. He arrived in San Francisco in 1965, practiced law with future Mayor Joseph Alioto and then opened his own firm. He also owns the Chalk Hill winery in Healdsburg. He has long been active in the archdiocese and in financing its struggling inner-city schools. He took a particular interest in the students at Sacred Heart and St. Dominic, whose schools were merged in 2003 in an attempt by the archdiocese to save money. (continued on page 5)

Endowment Fund Contributions:

Generous Contributions from:

Yvonne M. Schell

In memory of:

Henry Nardi - Jack & Doreene Zanzi, Della Faloni
Randy Rafanelli - Jack & Doreene Zanzi, Gloria Christensen, - Peachie & Norm Dunlavy, Charles Burgans & Gloria Christensen

Betty Belliago - Peachie & Norm Dunlavy, Gloria Christensen

Joyce Rochioli - Peggy Daniel

Welcome New Members:

Bob & Beth Salisbury, Margaret Coffman

Kudos! *by Sue Ross*

Although many people have helped with a vast number of events and activities this past month, we'd like to extend *special* thanks to:

- *Ted Calvert* - for putting together the upcoming Fred Furth Endowment Lecture.
- *Ann Howard* - for the lovely display in our Community Case on the 2nd Floor, articles for the *Review* and help with installations.
- *Dan Maraviglia* - for giving generously of his time and legal expertise whenever needed.
- *Janet Pisenti* - for her vision and work with Holly on our current wine exhibits and Wilson Winery's 100th Anniversary Display.
- *Bob Rawlins & Al Loebel* - for working countless hours updating our Membership database, and service to our Members.
- *Pam Vana-Paxhia* - for her able leadership of HMVA and efforts in partnership with staff.
- *Marva Wiedemer* - for helping craft a comprehensive HM&HS Marketing Plan to help us raise our visibility.

YOU ARE HEROES & S/HEROES ALL!

Lawyer Fred Furth Pays \$5 million for Catholic Church (continued from page 4)

Last year, Furth gave more than \$1 million to buy desks, uniforms, books, computers, projectors, kitchen equipment and other amenities for the school. He has also arranged for a new science lab and teacher raises, and possibly for paying students' college tuition.

Wilson Winery Event (continued from page 2)



Peggy & Nick Belli, Judy & Mike Belli, Diane Wilson, Lorraine Castelli, Norma Passarino (L to R)

Board of Directors: Kent Mitchell (President), Ted Calvert (Vice President), Ann Mahoney (Past President), Bob Rawlins (Recording Secretary), Stan Becker (Treasurer), Anna Darden (Assist. Treas.), Mel Amato, Louise Fowler, Mark Gleason, Al Loebel, Dan Maraviglia,, Darci Rosales, Celso Rosales, Frank Zak.

The mission of the Healdsburg Museum and Historical Society is to record the history of the Healdsburg area through the collection and preservation of historical materials; to actively foster the appreciation of local history of the Healdsburg area through educational programs, activities and historical research; and to provide finances for, and to support, operate and manage the Healdsburg Museum, Edwin Langhart, Founder.

Membership Dues:

Harmon Heald: \$1000 Josefa Carrillo: \$500 Edwin Langhart: \$250 Gold: \$100 Family (2 or more): \$40
Business: \$75 Individual: \$25

Newsletter Editor: Barry Stallard, Printing by Amoruso