



History Lives Pioneer Award Dinner

Recipient **Arnold Santucci** by *Cindy Martin*



This year's recipient is Arnold Santucci. Arnold has been a true pioneer in his own fields of publishing and editing. He has also been a pillar of support over many years to the Healdsburg Museum and Historical Society by serving on the board, heading the publications committee and editing the newsletter.

Arnold was born in San Francisco's Cow Hollow district in 1920. He attended St. Ignatius High School and then the University of California at Berkeley where he majored in English and Business. After graduating in 1942, he joined the Army Air Corps and spent the next three years stationed in Atlantic City, Alabama, Seattle and eventually the Aleutian Islands where he completed his tour of duty.

(continued on back page)

Please visit our Museum booth in the Plaza on Saturday, February 12th at the Wild Steelhead Festival - 10-4:00

We will have a display about fishing and the Russian River, featuring artifacts from the Museum collection and historical photos and post cards. We will have flyers on hand

to promote the new exhibit: "Russian River Good Old Days," opening February 16th. We will also display a few items from the gift shop to sell. Of course, we will bring membership envelopes to recruit new members!

New Exhibit: "Russian River Good Old Days," Opening on Wednesday, February 16th - 5:30 by *Holly Hoods*

This exhibit will feature early 1900s Healdsburg Water Carnivals, Fitch Mountain Resorts on the Russian River, Boating and other water fun. We will have an opening reception with wine and refreshments at the Museum. We will also present the awards to the winning student essay writers of the Museum's annual "Family History Essay Challenge." Please join us.



Water Carnival, 1909

Calendar

FEBRUARY, 2011

- 1-15 Museum Gallery closed for exhibit installation
- 2 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am (Museum Research Center)
- 12 Wild Steelhead Festival, Plaza, 10am-4pm
- 15 Board Meeting, 8:30 am, (Museum Research Center)
- 16 Museum reception of exhibit opening - "Russian River Good Old Days", and Family History Essay Challenge Awards, 5:30-7:00 pm

MARCH, 2011

- 2 HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am (Museum Research Center)
- 10 History Lives/Pioneer Award: Honoree Arnold Santucci, Trentadue Winery
- 15 Board Meeting, 8:30 am, City Hall

Healdsburg Museum

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Healdsburg, CA 95448
Telephone 707 431 3325 - Fax 707 473 4471

www.healdsburgmuseum.org
info@healdsburgmuseum.org

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, Curator



The Research Center has lately been abuzz with interesting folks with intriguing research inquiries. So far this year I have enjoyed sharing George Madeira's 1890s writings with his direct descendant; finding 1940s photos of the Steven Mann Tomato Ranch for visiting relatives; helping Gail Richard verify historic property boundaries; showing artist Joanne Taeuffer prune picking photos for possible painting inspiration; and assisting Healdsburg Patch Writer Christian Kallen with information and photos about local historic breweries. I was also delighted to provide Seventh-day Adventist scholar Paul Penno copies of the local 1889 newspaper coverage of the high-stakes defection of Church Elder D. Canright from the SDA Church (which took place in public debate in front of a packed house at Truitt's Theater in downtown Healdsburg). A Civil War researcher wrote to the Museum seeking copies of Roderick Matheson's letters from June of 1862 to learn his perspective on his regiment's participation in a critical Civil War battle. I love to share the wealth of resources at the Museum. We had over 900 research inquiries, nearly 4,000 individual visitors to the gallery and 12 school field trips in 2010. We hope to increase these numbers in 2011.

Collections Corner by Meredith Dreisback



As you can tell from the pictures in my article, I am going to tell the story of a couple artifacts from our collection. I am always intrigued when I open one of our storage cupboards and find an object that I have never seen before and question what it is and how it was used.

Hand fluter....do you know what that might be? A clue:....used by dressmakers, used by homemakers; most likely found with an ironing board. That should be the give-away clue unless you don't know what an ironing board is! Our collection has two hand fluters.

The first is the Geneva hand fluter, patent date 1866. It is from the W. R. Allen family and was donated to the Museum by C. Leon Hendricks. In 1862 Eben Danford (also known for inventing the Danford Reaper and Mower in 1851) and William Howell opened a foundry in Geneva, Illinois, where they manufactured smoothing irons, pickering pumps and other home necessities. When W. D. Turner came to the company as a partner, he brought his invention, the fluting iron. It was called



the Geneva Hand Fluter and was sold all over the United States. These hand fluters were used to make small pleats on clothes and for shaping collars and cuffs. With this fluter, the cast iron base was heated, and the fabric crimped with the grooved, hand roller.

The second hand fluter in our collection is a more "modern" version, patent date November 2, 1875. This fluting iron was used by Edwina Jones, a seamstress in Healdsburg for 25 years. The iron was brought from Kentucky in 1905 when Edwina moved to California with her mother. The rollers on the iron were heated by two rods placed inside the crimping rollers, which were then turned with a hand crank, much like a ringer on the old "ringer" washing machines. In this case, the grooved rollers left the crimped design on the collar or cuff.



Aren't we lucky such devices are not used today? Just think of all the burned fingers that probably happened when using these tools of the homemaking and dressmaking world.

HMVA News by Ann Howard



A warm thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the Annual Meeting on January 20 a grand success with about 75 in attendance. At new receptionist Mike Bellagio's suggestion, a raffle was held of 10 unique donations and raised \$715.00. The potluck dinner

was delicious, the crowd jovial, and Holly's plans for one of the New Year's exhibits (in July) sent chuckles through the crowd - "Twisted History" - tidbits and photos she has "collected for years!"

I would like to personally thank our 100 volunteers who logged almost 12,000 hours last year. As I end my first year as Coordinator of HMVA, created in 1994 by Betsy Bippart to keep the museum doors open, I appreciate every instance when someone stepped in to help. I enjoy working with all of you.

As outgoing Board President Kent Mitchell announced at the annual dinner, we are operating with a deficit. We need to find ways to replenish our operating budget. Holly mentioned that she makes every dollar count. If any of you have ideas on how we can inspire donations, please let us know. When someone asks me "what are you doing these days," I mention my pleasure of giving my time to the museum society with our love of local history. Please encourage friends, family, and young people to volunteer. They can call Kaye Stallard, who trains receptionists, 473-0988, or Sandy Barrett, calendar girl, 529-3669. By giving just 2.5 hours a month, we can share our wonderful exhibits with visitors who come from far and wide. There are also

Contributions to Endowment Fund:

Susan Arbios, Dry Creek Neighbors Club
Jean Taeuffer, Clay W. Green,
The Rose Benson Family (Patricia Gray)

Contributions in Honor of:

The Buchignani Family - from Ann & Dale Amtower
**The Children for Christmas : Megan, Will & Sam
Harry, Jack, Abbie, Lucy & Anna Porter** - from
Shirley Buchignani

Contributions in Memory of:

John Delisle - from Barbara Baxter
Rose Demostene Benson - from Barbara Baxter,
Lois & Nick Grace
Judy Hurlbert Nystrom - from Darla Budworth
Diane Passalacqua - from Sally Brandt Smith, Marcia
Teuschler, Lois & Nick Grace
Charlotte Anderson - from Rosemary Furlong
James Cameron - from Donna Garvey

many other interesting opportunities for volunteers.

A sale in the museum store offers many great gift ideas. Any suggestions regarding items for the store can be directed to Pam Vana-Paxhia at 227-6427.

Award Recipient Arnold Santucci (cont.)

After serving his country, Arnold returned to San Francisco and spent the next few years working for newspapers and publishers. Nineteen fifty was a big year for Arnold. He moved to Healdsburg, purchased the *Healdsburg Tribune*, and married Vi Miller, a teacher from Wisconsin. A few years later they purchased a home in Hidden Acres where they still reside today.

Arnold spent the next twelve years publishing, writing and editing the *Healdsburg Tribune*, and becoming involved in the community he and Vi had chosen as their home. He became a familiar face to all of our citizens as he turned up at city council meetings, sports events, fund raisers, board meetings and school events. If he wasn't scribbling notes on a pad, he was behind a camera taking pictures. The town of Healdsburg expanded and transformed under Arnold's watchful eyes. He recorded the conversion of this small farming community of 3,300 to today's trendy town of 11,000. Arnold seemed to be everywhere, covering every event, but he still found time to join the local Kiwanis (where he is still a member after 50 years) and, of course, edits their newsletter. He was also a member of the Elementary School Board for eight years and served as President for the American Field Service Exchange Student Program. He currently sits on the Advisory Council of the Salvation Army at Lytton Springs,

and is also on the Board of Directors of the Friends of Lake Sonoma (where he – what else? - edits their newsletter!).

In 1958 Arnold was awarded the first Healdsburg Chamber of Commerce "Citizen of the Year" award, which was the first time the Chamber had honored a citizen for outstanding service to the community. He has also edited a book, "A History of Healdsburg as reviewed through articles appearing in the Russian River Recorder 1977 – 2000". Arnold now considers himself retired, but continues to spend time on his computer editing newsletters. He is currently active in the museum volunteer force as well as other service organizations. His face is still a welcome sight at local events and activities and will continue to be for a long time.

Healdsburg Senior Writing Project

by Shonnie Brown

In the spirit of encouraging seniors to write their own stories, I am currently teaching memoir writing classes at the Healdsburg Senior Center and am looking for more people to join us in a safe group environment. February 1 was the kickoff date for the Healdsburg Senior Writing Project. The classes will meet every Tuesday 10:00 a.m. until noon for the duration of the project. There is no fee. You only need to have an interest in writing and getting support and the intent of fairly regular attendance. And you needn't have any writing experience to do this! Our goal is to create and publish an anthology of memoirs in professional book form, supported under the auspices of the Healdsburg Community Center and the Healdsburg Senior Center. For information call the Senior Center 431-3324.

Board of Directors: Ted Calvert (President), Dennis O'Neel (Vice President), Kent Mitchell (Past President), Darci Rosales (Recording Secretary), Stan Becker (Treasurer), Bob Rawlins (Assist. Treas.), Kathi Engler, Rawleigh Fjeld, Louise Fowler, Mark Gleason, Ann Howard, Ann Mahoney, Karen Tynan, Frank Zak, Directors: Sandy Beddow, Lockie Gillies, Larry Orr.

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): \$50
Business: \$75 Individual: \$25

Newsletter Editor: Barry Stallard, Printing by Amoruso