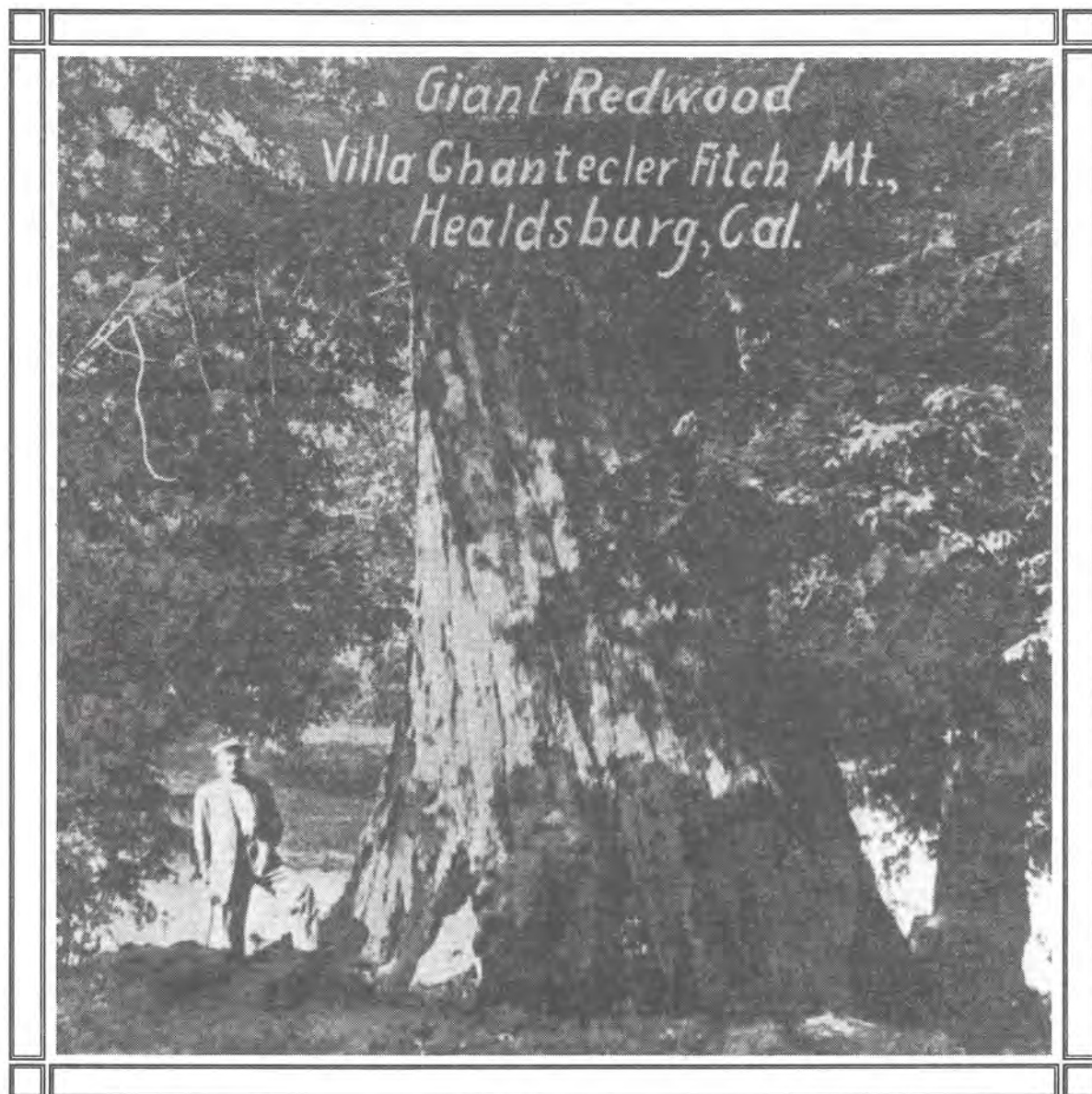


RUSSIAN RIVER



R E C O R D E R



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Of Special Interest

EXHIBITS

Currently showing at the Museum: *Sonoma County: The Untold Stories, 1830-1930*. This display features the last lynching in Sonoma County, drug addiction and death customs in Victorian society, a UFO sighting, and Indian slavery, among other topics. This exhibit has been very well received by the public, and was therefore extended through November, when we will feature our annual *Christmas Antique and Collectible Toy Exhibit*. Be sure not to miss the *Untold Stories*, they may not be heard again!

On The Cover

A copy of a postcard owned by Roy Root postmarked, 1914.

President's Address

Bill Caldwell

Dear members and friends,

I was overwhelmed by your response to our request that you write to the City Council Members and the newspapers expressing your concerns regarding the budget cuts to the Museum. I know that the Council Members were astonished at the amount of letters they received. Unfortunately, they did vote to make the cuts with no changes.

We therefore must face the reality of the here and now and do our best to carry on. For the months of July and August, we have increased the hours of Claire Rithner, who was originally hired to assist Hannah. As you know, we have a campaign going to raise \$25,000 to pay a curator for the coming year.

The Historical Society Board of Directors, with the help of our loyal docents and other volunteers, will try to maintain the Museum and artifacts. We are hoping to get some relief from the City Council in the coming year. Again, I thank you for your support and action.

Healdsburg Historical Society

Ed Langhart, Founder

1993 Officers

President	Bill Caldwell	433-3888
Vice-president	Norbert Babin	433-1552
Recording Secretary	Leslie Davis	431-8220
Correspondence	Fern Naber	433-3811
Treasurer	Richard Iverson	431-8088

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Phil Smith	433-6594	Jack Soracco	433-2056
Eleanor Zak	433-3059	Betty Reukema	433-0384
(Gift Shop)		(Membership)	
Susan Bierwirth	433-5432	Docent Coordinator	

Staff

Claire Rithner 431-3325
(Assistant Curator)

Director's Desk

Hannah Clayborn

If you read the local newspaper you already know that the Healdsburg Museum has had a wild fiscal ride over the last few months. If you haven't kept up on local news, I will skip the suspenseful plot development and cut to the climax: as of June 30, 1993, the City Council cut the Museum budget from about \$42,000 to \$7,000, thereby eliminating, among other things, the Director/Curator's position.

Since the Council's decision was made official on June 21, my last week was a near impossible scramble to tie up loose ends, make final recommendations, and clear my desk of 13 years.

For many of us here - volunteers and staff alike - it has been a very confusing, harried, and hurried spring. I personally feel a little like a record that is still spinning on the turntable by momentum after the plug has been pulled. Yet, despite all the uncertainty and emotional gear-grinding that drastic changes bring, there are a few things I want myself and all museum supporters to remember.

Over the last 13 years the Healdsburg Museum has developed from a charming homegrown institution into one of the finest regional history museums in the State. With the combined energy, determination, and imagination of many individuals, we have overcome seemingly immovable obstacles - first to find a permanent home for the collection, then to raise the money to refurbish and establish the Museum in that home, the 1910 Carnegie building.

The Healdsburg Museum now has an impressively varied and fine collection, well documented and cataloged for the future. Its distinctive permanent and temporary exhibits have drawn comment not only from the local historical community, but from visitors from all parts of the nation.

The Museum's research library is much in demand by scholars and historians. In many ways, the Healdsburg Museum has been used as a model for other developing museums in the north Bay Area.

In a 1990 television broadcast the host stated that any community in the Bay Area would be proud to have a Museum facility like the one in Healdsburg. I hope that you are also proud of it, as I truly am. It is a great accomplishment; one that will only become more valuable as time goes on.

No matter what the future holds, I am certain that if you continue to invest your time, energy, imagination, (and money!) in this fine museum, it will flower into an even greater gift to future generations.

It has been an honor to be your Director/Curator during these tumultuous and challenging formative years. I will treasure the memory of our mutual achievements. *Onward!*

Artifact Donations

Thank You

The following generous people have donated artifacts to our collection since our last publication:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| <i>Eleanor McCauseland</i> | <i>Jane Jenson</i> |
| <i>Bob Jones</i> | <i>Florence Rovai</i> |
| <i>Suzanne Furber</i> | <i>Henry E. Bender</i> |
| <i>Douglas Hassett</i> | <i>Sara Lee Calhoun</i> |
| <i>Dr. Frank Norman</i> | <i>Rena Phillips</i> |
| <i>Lillian M. Duman</i> | <i>Vincent Colombano</i> |
| <i>Helendale Barrett</i> | <i>Angela Rizzo</i> |
| <i>Maria Toomey</i> | <i>Bob Wainwright</i> |
| <i>Hannah Clayborn</i> | <i>Emmett Purcell</i> |
| <i>Olive Donetti</i> | <i>Dr. Frances Ritz</i> |
| <i>Pat Schmidt</i> | <i>Bob Curtis</i> |
| <i>Cloverdale Museum</i> | <i>Susan Hardaway</i> |
| <i>Corrie Isaacson</i> | <i>Ed Mannion Estate</i> |
| <i>Joe & Annette Odggard</i> | <i>Darla Budworth</i> |
| <i>Ed & Eleinor McConnell</i> | <i>Lorelei Lee</i> |
| <i>Serio Giometti, in memory of Josephine Giometti</i> | |

The Villa Chantecler:

A History

Roberta Iverson Alexander

In its day the Villa Chantecler was the leading French Resort north of San Francisco. It accommodated as many as 200 persons on special holidays and had an average summer long attendance of 75 vacationers.

The "Villa" was established in 1910, when a Frenchman by the name of Pradel built several cabins and a screened dining pavilion and informed French organizations in San Francisco that this was the ideal spot for their vacation. A road, now known as Powell Avenue, was built from Healdsburg up to the Villa Chantecler, while a road for wagon use was built down to the river below Eagle Rock, to what was known as the "Frenchman's Orchard". When trains arrived a horse and buggy was sent to the depot in downtown Healdsburg to take people to the hill. Later, a small bus replaced the horse and buggy.

In 1912, August Laurens purchased the "Chantecler Farm" and made many improvements to the bungalows in readiness for the many visitors he expected to entertain for the summer season. Funds were solicited from the businessmen of Healdsburg to put the road leading from the city limits to the Chantecler Resort in splendid condition before the arrival of the summer visitors. (I wonder how "splendid" these roads were? Felix Lafon remembers that his father's two speed Model T Ford would have to back up on the steepest part of the road to get to the Chantecler.) In 1905, a road was built from Healdsburg to a summer camp called Camp Rose which was on the south side of the mountain. In 1921 these roads were declared public roads. The following year, the roads were rebuilt and connected on the east side of the mountain

to form a continuous road, both ends reached the city limits of Healdsburg, making a loop about six miles in length.

In 1916, Victor Cadoul purchased the Villa and expanded the facilities. On June 18th, the Healdsburg Tribune's headline read: "VILLA ENJOYS BIG RUN". The paper enthused further, "It is one of the most popular places for the French Colony of San Francisco. At the present time there are nearly 100 guests there enjoying the pleasant surroundings bordering on the beautiful Russian River. The guests are well pleased with the splendid local stores, and merchants report business in every line with the guests of Chantecler." The building had a kitchen and bar. The dining area was a large screened porch on the north side. Cabins were on the east side of the grounds. Later, individual rooms were built in one building. When rooms were not available (or affordable) to late comers, tents were erected. About this time, the custom started of taking all vacationers at the "Villa" on a weekly trip to the Italian-Swiss Colony at Asti.

Ownership changed hands several times during the years. The Healdsburg Chamber of Commerce history states that Adrian Cayre purchased it in 1924; Peter Roquier in 1926, then Victor Cadoul again in 1930. If Cayre actually owned it in 1924, there is no credence to the following interesting story: "Peter Cadoul leased Chantecler to Rouquier in 1926, after which he, Cadoul, built a home on the spot which would now be on Samantha Court off Borel Road. Rouquier was doing very well with business at Chantecler and, when the lease was up, in 1930, Cadoul decided not to renew it but would take Chantecler back and run it himself, at which time a new dining room was built and it was claimed to be the largest between San Francisco and



Dining room, Villa Chantecler (circa 1905)

Eureka. Not needing the home he had built, Cadoul sold that to Rouquier, who built cabins around it, added a large dining room and called the new resort Bellview Villa. He retained many of his Chantecler customers."

In 1934, Mr. and Mrs. Lucien Delagnes of San Francisco leased the Villa Chantecler for a number of years. The lease covered the buildings and business; the owner, Victor Cadoul, retained control over most of the approximately 130 acres he still owned in the vicinity. The Healdsburg Enterprise of April 19, 1934 states: "VILLA CHANTECLER OPENS SATURDAY FOR BUSINESS UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT": "Called by its new owner, Lucien P. Delagnes, '40 acres of Fun on the River,' the newly refurbished Villa Chantecler officially opens for business on Saturday, April 21, with a public housewarming. There will be a dinner dance in the main dining room on Saturday evening and a bowling contest on the new outdoor alley, just installed, as a feature of the day on Sunday.

"Delagnes came to Healdsburg from San Francisco, where he was managing owner of the Hotel Gotham. He has been in the hotel business for many years in the Bay section.

"With the assistance of Harry E. Kimball,

marine engineer, who has supervised all new installations at Villa Chantecler, Delagnes has put in new lighting fixtures throughout the living quarters. In addition, each room has been redecorated and furnished with new beds and mattresses.

"The resort boasts of two cows, which will supply fresh milk to patrons, and a fine cherry orchard where they will be welcome to help themselves. A children's playground is being built and under the old redwood 'stovepipe' tree a grotto is being built where bridge fans may have a quiet game. This ancient redwood tree is hollow and standing inside its trunk one can look up to the sky through the top.

"The Kitchen at the Villa Chantecler has been remodeled and fitted with the latest in cooking and serving equipment, including a modern electric refrigeration unit. The kitchen will be in [the] charge of Robert Layne, chef, who promises some fine French foods, served in the real French manner.

"Delagnes is an experienced and aggressive hotel man and is receiving many congratulations on the improvements he has made at the Villa Chantecler."

Madeline Delagnes liked to serve fresh vegetables and would buy them from Pete Giametti and his brothers who

had a large garden on the new (now old) Healdsburg Avenue near the L&M Motel. Guests from San Francisco enjoyed gathering around to help string beans and snap peas. Seven course meals were served with a bottle of wine. During prohibition the wine was served in a cup. They had a 4 piece orchestra for dancing. Accordion music was also featured. Mrs. Gromo helped care for small children.

On June 29, 1945, Delagnes sold the resort with 17 acres of land to two men, Jack Kent and W. Johnson, who along with "financial backers", planned to transform it into a gambling casino. Three months later, in September of 1945, the dining room was burned to the ground, but by the middle of 1946 the new and present Villa Chantecler was under construction. This was an elaborate structure completed in 1947, replete with a basement wall safe for casino cash. Just before it was scheduled to open, a story was printed in the San Francisco and Santa Rosa papers stating that one of the "invisible partners", Nick DeJohn, who reputedly had connections to the Chicago mafia and the Al Capone Gang, was found strangled and stuffed into a car trunk in San Francisco. Jack Kent, the principal owner of the Villa denied any connection with DeJohn and demanded a retraction of everything that had been said in the papers, threatening a lawsuit if they could ever trace the source. However, shortly after that, and before the landscaping and development of the grounds could be finished, the owners declared bankruptcy and all further construction ceased.

The Villa Chantecler was bought in a sheriff's auction by Swedborg and Korbus. The Chantecler, a big Redwood structure, was built at a cost variously estimated at \$80,000 to \$150,000 in 1946 and 1947. It never opened. It contains a large dining room, dance floor, lounge and bar. Swedborg and Korbus, among others, filed liens against the property shortly after construction ceased, to protect unpaid bills. Owners during the construction period were Joseph D. Johnson and Jack V. Kent of San Francisco; then Kent, and Finally Kent, Inc.

On March 24, 1955 the Healdsburg Tribune reported: "At a special City Council meeting Monday noon, the council met with Herbert Korbus, one of the two owners of the property, to discuss final details of the purchase of the famous Villa Chantecler property atop Fitch Mountain. A resolution authorizing Mayor Arthur Ruonavaara and members of the City Council to purchase the Villa Chantecler property passed. The City bought the 17.04 acre Chantecler property, including the Villa, some 20 outside cabins, plus all equipment for \$45,000. The resolution signified that the property will be used for general purposes as well as park purposes. Landscaping and some renovating will have to be done. Since its acquisition the city has developed the picnic area, installed air conditioning in the dining room, modernized and equipped the kitchen, and furnished water and sewer to the premises. The custodian, Joe McMasters, took pride in maintaining this as the outstanding banquet rental in the county. The buildings and grounds are suitable for dances, banquets, receptions, and barbeques, and are continually in demand."

In 1992, the City Council decided it was time to renovate the Villa again. Originally the estimated cost was \$800,000, but by June 1993 that estimate had grown to \$1,330,000. The rehabilitation project includes renovating the electrical and heating/cooling systems, refurbishing the kitchen and bar areas, and cleaning the redwood interior paneling and ceiling. A new paved parking area is completed, and long-range plans call for a paved lower parking and picnic area, a public address system, portable stage equipment and bringing all exits up to code to meet the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Villa renovation is being completed as an energy efficiency demonstration project. The city water, sewer, and electric enterprises are all being tapped for part of the bill, as is the CRA and parks fund. The Villa enterprise fund also made a contribution. Our Park and Recreation Department Director is quoted "...Now the building will be solid. We won't have to go in there for another 50 years."

The Curator's Fund

Norbert C. Babin

Effective July 1, 1993, the City of Healdsburg eliminated the position of Museum Curator. Rather than ringing our hands and considering closing the Museum, the Historical Society decided to establish a "curator fund" to raise \$25,000 by the end of July. The fund is a stop gap measure, but it will allow the Museum Board to operate the Museum with professional staff for another year. The fund could be used by the Museum Board to retain Hannah Clayborn, or if Hannah decided against returning, to employ another curator, to handle the day to day operations of the Museum. By the time you read this article, we will have achieved the financial goal. You will be hearing more good news when the Museum Board adopts and carries out its plans for the Museum's continued operations.

By way of history, on July 6, 1976, the Healdsburg City Council enacted and approved Ordinance 608, establishing the Healdsburg Museum as a separate public entity (a city department) with a Board of Directors of five citizens, appointed by the Mayor with approval of the City Council. The Museum Board, by State law, is authorized to determine museum policy, select a curator, etc. However, as time passed, while the Museum Board set the operating policy and submitted a planned yearly budget, it was no longer a separate department of City Government.

The Healdsburg Historical Society was established as a charitable corporation, whose activities are directed by a member elected board. The purpose of the Society is to provide monetary and non-monetary services to the Museum Board. The Society conducts fund raisers to purchase museum equipment, operates the gift shop, and provides a paid assistant curator. We are also responsible for the docent program.

Currently, the Museum Board is under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Department, however it continues to set Museum operating policy, and the Historical Society continues to operate as it

has in the past. To assist the Museum Board, the Society has increased the hours of the assistant curator.

With respect to the future, the "Curator Fund" is just a beginning as the Museum Board and the Historical Society attempt to find ways to operate the Museum so that it remains central to our community. The Museum Board is working on an endowment program, which in a few years will generate sufficient revenue to reduce the Museum's need for funding from the City. The Historical Society, instead of having to plead for emergency contributions, such as the "curator's fund," will be able to provide the type of financial support which will see the Museum grow so it can continue to preserve the great heritage of our community.

In writing this article, I have attempted to consider what each of us can do to ensure the success of our Museum. There are obvious things like: more and larger financial contributions, and continually reminding our elected officials of our commitment to the Museum. However, I have concluded that the greatest contribution we can make is communicating to others our belief in the importance of the Museum for recording and preserving the history of the people and events in our wonderful community. In this hectic world we live in, it can be difficult for young people and new parents to slow down to consider what the past has contributed to the present and what the present will mean to the future. However, if we can encourage this large group of people to take an interest in the Museum and Historical Society, there will never be any doubt about the ultimate success of our wonderful Museum.

I leave you with one final thought: I recently saw a license plate frame which read, "I love living in Healdsburg." What more can be said?

Thanks for all your support.

Life at Merryland: Part Two

*An interview of: John Naber
Conducted by: Fern Naber*

From 1935 to 1943, my parents, John and Clara Naber, were proprietors of the Merryland Auto Camp, which stood where the Memorial Beach parking lot is now. I have many vivid memories of my "life on the beach" at the Merryland.

My parents and Uncle Vincent Naber began with a five year lease of the Merryland. They entered into a verbal agreement with the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Ferrance, at the local Bank of America. Merryland auto camp consisted of a "Mom and Pop" grocery store and gas station, 4 cabins with kitchen facilities and a campground. Also available were kerosene, beer and soda. When gas was delivered for the gas pumps, the oil dealers gave as much kerosene as we needed at no charge.



Merryland Auto Camp (circa 1941)

The five year lease called for the building of two cabins each year. My dad and uncle decided to build them all in the first two years, so 14 cabins could be rented as soon as possible. In the summer, the cabins were rented year after year by families from the San Francisco Bay Area. In the winter,

cabins were rented by WPA workers who worked on projects in town. (I don't know where they lived in the summer.)

The campground was an open field, with no electric hook-ups. Water was available from nearby faucets. Electric lights were provided throughout the trees, enabling campers to have lights at night. My parents shared the free kerosene with campers.



Water slides, Merryland (circa 1925)

Older "old timers" recall a water slide at the beach. When we arrived at the Merryland Auto Camp, some of the dilapidated framework of the slide was still standing. I experienced rides on Leonard Avilla's train and ferry boat. Both rides were 10 cents per person.

Leonard Avilla made a working model steam train. It made a trip beginning at the dam (today's Memorial Beach site) and continuing south in a circular track through the trees. For a child, it seemed like a ride through the jungle, as there were more than just the willows you see today.

The ferry boat Leonard made later was a more popular attraction. It accommodated more passengers than the train. Many kids would follow behind, surreptitiously riding the waves. It may have been fun, but adults were concerned for their safety!

At present time when someone mentions a skating rink in Healdsburg, most people recall the Palomar around Fitch Mountain. The skating rink at the beach, which burned completely to the ground in '45 or '46, was between the river and the buildings at the Merryland. The building, erected in the mid 1930s for use as a dance hall, was built by a group of local businessmen. At the first few dances, name bands preformed. This drew many people from the Bay Area. Attendance fell when name bands were no longer used, and the dances were discontinued.

Mr. Shoemaker tried to rejuvenate the building as a skating rink. He advertised that the first thing he was planning on was a skating marathon--by himself! He wanted to set a world record on continuous skating. He didn't set a world's record, but his marathon lasted four or five days. He'd rest and eat, taking a five minute break each hour. Before I went to bed, I'd always check the progress at the rink. The door was open and the lights were on. Sometimes he was there and sometimes he wasn't. I'm not sure where he was.



Rollerdrome Logo (circa 1942)

He also planned to skate around the top of the Bank of America Building. (The original location was where Edward Jones and Co. is now, at Healdsburg Ave. and Plaza St.) I've always wanted to see the top of the building, there must be a kind of a parapet, I don't know how wide it is. Although the marathon skate took place, the skate around the top of the Bank of America building didn't.

Phil Pike managed the skating rink later. He had previous experience with such a venture, and did well. The "River Garden Rollerdome" was open all year, with longer hours in the summer. There were contests with skaters from other rinks, each having its own emblem. The beach was lit at night by lights from the skating rink. After the skating rink closed for the evening at 9 or 9:30 p.m. we'd head for the river for a swim.

Admission was 25 cents which included renting a pair of skates that clamped on your shoes. If you needed a strap, it was 5 cents extra. I didn't have to pay because I helped Phil with the skates, etc., whenever he needed. If I had a dollar for every hour I spent at the rink I'd be rich. I was lucky too. I never had to buy a pair of skates. Whenever Phil Pike would get a new pair of skates, he'd give me his old ones--SHOE SKATES!

The roller rink was closed again when Phil moved to Santa Rosa. Some local businessmen opened a manufacturing plant, hiring many local workers. They made hexagon wooden pipes for culverts in about 20 foot sections. All of the pipes went to San Francisco docks and shipped overseas, prior to World War II. Before assembly of the pipes, pallets of wood were dunked in a tank of boiling creosote. Its a wonder the building didn't burn during that time. The creosote didn't drip completely off, consequently everything was soaked throughout the building, a real fire hazard.

After the war started, the manufacturing

plant was shut down, and Mr. L.D. Gilbert used the building as a processing place for lumber. All the lumber at that time came from Mill Creek. As it expanded, other places were needed to house the lumber. In addition the roller skating rink lumber was stored where Luciani Pump and Wright's feed store is now.

On July the 4th, fireworks were displayed in front of the Plantation. (It was Jim Kennedy's house then.)

Healdsburg

was well known for its night parades on the water. Floats were built on barrels and lit by flares at night.

Today no one is allowed to jump or dive off the car bridge. However, for a few years on Fourth of July, a man was paid to dive off the auto bridge, wearing a suit of long underwear soaked in Kerosene. After his underwear was ignited at his feet, he would stand on the bridge with his arms outstretched, waiting for the flames to reach his chest. At that moment, he made a spectacular swan dive into the river, ablaze all the way.

An exciting event drawing crowds from other areas, especially Sacramento and the Bay Area, was the racing of Hydroplanes. They made the south turn between the Ark and the roller rink, north under the bridges by Basalt. A number of times a hydroplane would be traveling so fast, it would whisk out of the water and make an unexpected exit onto dry land. I don't remember anyone ever getting hurt.

I recall meeting many unique individuals who found their way to the river

area. Woolly showed up when the weather was warm, May or June, and he'd stay until school started, then head south where other places beckoned. His outward appearance, except for the bottom of his feet, gave Woolly

his name. He drove a Model T, accompanied by his skunk, turtles, badger and many opossums. Woolly let the animals forage for their food. My dad was not fond of the opossums' favorite place to find food:

his grape vines and fruit trees. Woolly made his living by selling 5 cent postcards, taken of him, his rig and some of his animals.

Harry Dutton, a local barber, gave Woolly some clothes. Harry was a Healdsburg citizen with a big heart, always helping people in need. He provided shoes for many a needy child. Harry undertook the project of helping Woolly experience roller skating. Woolly didn't wear shoes. Shoes to fit Woolly were no where to be found, as it seemed his feet were as wide as they were long. Harry resourcefully made a pair of shoes out of old tire rubber and some leather, enabling Woolly to skate.

In '35 and '36, many a nameless "hobo" rode the rails and made the stop in Healdsburg, which was known to be a good place to eat. Most of them had a bit of money. A sandwich could be purchased for a nickel. Many people gave them food. My Mom and Julia Sbragia, who was across the river at the Ark, gave away many sandwiches, at any time of the day.

(continued on back page)



Memorial Beach (July 4, 1942)

Special Events*Don Reukema*

On May 1 we had our Spring Fund raising dinner at the Madrona Manor. We planned to have Champagne on the garden terrace, but if you recall, at that time we were suffering through some cold wet days. We socialized indoors with interesting Hors D' Oeuvers and drank excellent Champagne contributed by Piper Sonoma. Chef Todd prepared a memorable dinner for us which was accompanied by fine wines donated by local wineries. The menu included:

*Stuffed Radicchio served with
1991 Pedroncelli Chenin Blanc.
Asparagus and fresh seafood
accompanied by Domaine St. George
N.V. Chardonnay.
Rack of lamb served with Souverain
Cellars N. V. Zinfandel and Domaine
St. George N.V. Cabernet Sauvignon.
Rose geranium and vanilla bean cream
was joined by a 1985 harvest
Riesling from Hafner Vineyards.*

Needless to say, the food and wine were superb and the company was exceptional! Wonderful people participated in organizing this event and we made \$2400 for the Historical Society. Be sure to join us at the Spring Dinner next year!

On June 27 the Madrona Manor celebrated its 10th anniversary with an afternoon garden party. Several wineries set up pavilions and served food and wine. There was continuous entertainment which included a bagpiper, who kept everyone's spirits soaring. The Historical Society and Face to Face were the beneficiaries of this gala affair.

We sold raffle tickets for three separate drawings for a night at the Madrona Manor,

and an auction was held for items donated by local businesses. A delightful afternoon was enjoyed by many smiling people, and \$1,279 was raised for the Historical Society.

Many, many thanks to John and Carol Muir, proprietors of the Madrona Manor, for their continued support.

Join Us for Winetasting

The Historical Society is holding its annual fall fund raiser on **Sunday, October 3rd**. It will be held at the Field Stone Winery and Vineyard. Mark your calendars now, so you can look forward to a day filled with good food, wine, and fun!

Welcome*New Members*

*Jody & Frank Wilson
Virginia Mc Laren
William Mc Dowell
Diane Honeysett
Katherine E. Teraji
James Crabtree--Crabtree Land Surveying
Helen Jane Lynd
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Mullen
Mrs. Lani Stites*

Docent Report*Susan Bierwirth*

Since last report we have six new docents at the Museum. Gerry Barbieri, Margaret Boyse, Dee Eastwood, Mary Jeanne Lewis, Mae Malone and Jeri Myers have all signed up to help staff the Museum's information desk and gift shop. The recent elimination of Curator Hannah Clayborn forces the Historical Society to rely even more heavily on volunteer labor to run the Museum. Without the time and support of our docent staff, we would not be able to remain open to the public.

This spring June Smith accompanied Hannah to the Sonoma County Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. June is perhaps the Museum's most devoted volunteer. She has worked one day a week at the Museum, for more than a decade, handling research requests and newspaper indexing. June also keeps up the computerized lists and labels that are used for every aspect of museum mailings.

Gift Shop

Eleanor Zak

Now that the decision has been made to keep the Museum open, I can make plans for the gift shop. I hope you, the public, will make plans too--visit the Museum. It's a remarkable jewel in Healdsburg. While visiting, please stop at the gift shop. Although it is small, we offer a wide variety of items for children and adults. Furthermore, all proceeds benefit the Museum!

Among the new items this summer are jewelry and historical postcards. These items were procured with the help of Marty Pogue, another committed volunteer. The postcards were produced locally and were taken from historic photos of Healdsburg contained in the Museum's archives. There are two lines of jewelry, one from the Silver Horse Trading Company whose pieces are sterling and of Indian design. The other line is from J. Whitesell Design. They are styled after Victorian fashions. There are pins, rings, earrings, and bracelets, all of which are very reasonably priced. I hope you will stop by the gift shop to see these new treasures. A purchase from the gift shop is one way to support the Museum.

The Recorder Staff

*Verna Lafon
Claire Rithner
Steve Perkins*

Memorium

We regretfully acknowledge the following society members who have passed away:

Bera Beeson
Majorie Porter Anderson
Presley Mothorn
Avis Lamb
Rossaline Maher
Dean Lesher

Memorial Donations

Thank You

In memory of Bera Beeson:

*June & Bob Jones Rossaline Maher
Dave & Kieth Lampson Esther Berry
Mr & Mrs. Robert Meyer Wardine & Ben Herrick*

In memory of Majorie Anderson:

Rossaline Maher Rich & Virginia Jansen

In memory of Zeke Brigandi:

Dave & Kieth Lampson/ Oak Crest Farms

In memory of Harold Hoskins:

Lampson Tractor & Equipment Co.

In memory of Harry Gossage:

Horace & Eunice Edrington

In memory of Elizabeth McClish:

William & Bernice Auradou

In memory of Presley Mothorn:

Phillis Brassler

In memory of Avis Lamb:

Phillis Brassler

In memory of George Crane:

Horace & Eunice Edrington

In memory of Rossaline Maher:

*Ruth B. Peletz Marie B. Lauritzen
Don & Pat Schmidt Milt & Mary Brandt
Fred & Fern Naber Mrs. A. B. Herrick
Mrs. Gladys F. Barnes Mrs. Laura Wagel
Duvall Bell Lola & Carles Boring
Roy & Doris Lowe Genie & Jerry Ohman
Harry & Corlei Metke Catherine Curtis
Dave & Kieth Lampson/Oak Crest Farms
American Legion Auxiliary, Sotoyome Unit III*

The concrete pipe business was across the road from the Merryland. Cracked pipes, rejected for retail sale, were put in a "bone yard" under the Basalt bridge. Hobos would roll the pipes together, put a piece of cardboard on one end to make a place to sleep. Some stayed all summer. They scrounged for food; fruit was plentiful. They collected aluminum and copper pots, bases of light bulbs, brass and different metal. Their metal was purchased by a business which stood where the Bank of America is now, on the corner of Healdsburg Ave and Piper St. (Recycling thirties style?)

A couple of times just prior to World War II, a group from the Presidio in San Francisco set up tents along the river for a few days. As well as "R&R," it was a time for the anti-aircraft battalion to practice. I didn't see much practicing. I observed more

of a steady stream of foot traffic to and from Foppiano Winery with gallon jugs. After about the third day the uniforms were noticeably blotched with purple stains.

A money-making venture for kids was selling fish bait to out of town fisherman. We sold crawfish and baby eels (the size of the night crawler) for a nickel each. That was BIG money. Fresh water clams were the ideal bait for catching black bass. The best place to get the clams was not too far below where the freeway goes over the river now. We'd dig for them in the sand bar on the west side of the river, finding some about two inches in diameter. We always looked forward to fishing season!

Living at Merryland auto camp was an adventure. My "life on the beach" was never boring.