



*Ronnie Devitt, President*



*Eric Ziedrich, Vice-President*

## New HM&HS President, Vice-President Elected

The Museum's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Membership Meeting was held at the Krug Center on Thursday, January 19. Seventy-Five Museum members and guests braved the cold, rainy evening and shared a delicious, potluck meal.

It was a busy evening that included our traditional brown bag raffle, the Executive

Director/Curator's highlights from 2016 and plans for 2017 and presentations of two historic preservation awards. Members in attendance also unanimously elected Ronnie Devitt as the Museum's board president and Eric Ziedrich as our vice-president.

Additional information and photos can be found in this issue starting on page 4.

### Calendar

#### February, 2017

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am<br>Museum Research Center  |
| 21 | Board Meeting, 5:30 pm<br>Museum Research Center |

#### March, 2017

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | HMVA Meeting, 9:30 am<br>Museum Research Center  |
| 21 | Board Meeting, 5:30 pm<br>Museum Research Center |

### Healdsburg Museum

221 Matheson Street  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

707 431 3325

Fax 707 473 4471

[www.healdsburgmuseum.org](http://www.healdsburgmuseum.org)  
[info@healdsburgmuseum.org](mailto:info@healdsburgmuseum.org)

Museum Hours:  
11:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Wednesday - Sunday

## History Matters



by Holly Hoods,

*Executive Director/Curator*

We have been making fun progress in organizing and unpacking items at our newly appointed Collections Storage facility. This is a big undertaking and we are trying to get this done right. Assistant Curator

Whitney Hopkins has been working with a dedicated volunteer crew each week. The Thursday afternoon volunteer team has included Stan Becker, Diane Carriger, Carol Peterson, Phyllis Chiosso Liu, Meredith Dreisback and Kay Robinson. Pat McCracken, Margaret Dean, Ann Howard and Jim Dreisback have also helped. I am only able to work on this effort some weeks, so I am beyond grateful for the wonderful work of these unpackers and organizers. Their progress has been impressive.

Lauren Carriere will be returning to the Museum this semester in a newly-created, paid internship, funded through the Healdsburg chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Her internship will be focused on historical building research and preservation. As a graduate student studying Cultural Resources Management at Sonoma State University, Lauren is eager to learn more about historic architecture. She assisted me with historical research and building descriptions for this year's Healdsburg Homes Tour, scheduled for May 2017. Lauren will also help us update our Museum website to include photos and information about the Museum's Historic Preservation Awards.

Our Museum was closed for two weeks for us to install the first exhibition of 2017. "Treasures from the Museum Collection" opened on January 26. Items on display include paintings, maps, fashion, furniture, ceramics, baskets, textiles, hats, weapons, tools and more. Some of these objects have never been exhibited. Visitors will see some of the artistic beauty, skilled craftsmanship and historical merit that characterize the Museum's collection.

We have also rededicated a significant portion of the upstairs gallery to Pomo, Rancho and Pioneer History, since many visitors seek out our Museum for these topics. Our first-floor gallery will commemorate the anniversary of World War I all year long with a display of local and national historical ephemera.

There will be a lot to see and appreciate in 2017. Come visit.

## President's Corner

by Ronnie Devitt,

*Board President*



I am honored to become HM&HS's new president. It is not something I imagined when I first stepped into the Museum about 17 years ago. At the time, I was one of those weekenders from San Francisco, but I loved the Museum at first sight. As I spent over an hour seeing and reading everything on display, the astute receptionist on duty was assessing my potential. Deciding that I wasn't just there to get out of the rain before the free meal at St. Paul's, she said, "Maybe you would like to become a volunteer at the Museum." I blithely replied, "Maybe someday when I retire."

Since then I have gotten to know and admire Holly, Jane, Whitney and many of the incredibly dedicated volunteers who make the Museum an absolute gem for Healdsburg. I am looking forward to working with them and especially our excellent Board of Directors.

At the time of writing this, the job is too new to know my priorities, but I do have some objectives. One is getting more members of our community into the Museum. Admittedly, not everyone likes to go to museums, but it is shocking to me that we have people in the area who go to museums all over the world and have not stepped foot into our Museum! Another objective is improving our website. It is the electronic door to the Museum and its appearance and user friendliness is as important as the newly painted front doors. Improving the website will require a little financial help from a tech angel who I am hoping will alight on my shoulder any day now.

I want to get to know all of you who provide so much support for HM&HS. You have a wealth of knowledge about the history of Healdsburg and the Museum. Please share that and your thoughts with me about how we can make HM&HS even better. You can reach me at [ronnie@healdsburgmuseum.org](mailto:ronnie@healdsburgmuseum.org).

### Welcome Our Newest HM&HS Members

Jim Hildbold  
Louise Imperatrice  
Natasha & Mickey Mantle

## HMVA News

by Ann Howard, HMVA Co-chair



On January 5, I paid my first visit to our new Collections Storage facility. I had seen the building empty months ago with its lingering smell of Costeaux Bakery's cinnamon rolls. I was stopped in my tracks in awe of all that has been accomplished by our staff and volunteers during my absence of many months! Bob Rawlins would be so pleased!

That day I worked with Kay Robinson and Diane Carriger checking boxes of textiles. As Diane said, "It's like Christmas!" as we eagerly revealed the contents to see what treasures we would find.

The first flat textile box I opened contained one of Mrs. Marie Antoinette (Seaman) Matheson's dresses, an orange/cream-colored taffeta with black polka dots and black lace trim, not dated. I first noticed the small waistline of the dress, then the fabric-covered, molded-top buttons which I recognized as what we button collectors call "Gone with the Wind" buttons. They were machine-manufactured in the 1860s during the Civil War. The name for this type of button was later adopted, influenced by the 1936 novel by Margaret Mitchell and the 1939 movie. Netty Matheson, born in 1828 in New York, died in 1882 in Healdsburg, which also helped date her dress.

I shared photographs of Netty, her dress and the buttons with my fellow Sonoma County Button Club enthusiasts at our monthly meeting and via email with a collector/author of these buttons in Pennsylvania. It's amazing what you can learn from a button!

## How Annual Appeal Supports Museum

by Jane Bonham, Office Manager



On pages 8 and 9 of this issue of the *Review*, we have taken the opportunity to thank all those generous members of our Museum community who participated in the 2016 Annual Appeal. (That is, all those who responded as of mid-January. I would venture a guess that we may still hear from a few more folks.)

I love numbers, so I would like to share with you some interesting information that I have discovered. For nearly a quarter of the 2016 supporters, this was their first year to join the campaign. Welcome aboard! Coincidentally, a

comparable number have supported the Annual Appeal for five or more years.

This kind of support is vital to sustaining the work of the Museum community. HM&HS looks to the Annual Appeal to fund approximately 20% of our annual operating budget and the gifts received in the 2016 campaign will help us meet that goal. Lovely!

"And what about the rest?" you might ask. Approximately 40% of our annual budget is derived from events such as the Antique & Arts Fairs and the History Lives and Instant Wine Cellar extravaganzas. Memberships and *Review* sponsorships produce about 15%. The donation boxes upstairs and downstairs yield about 10%. Thank you all!

The final 15% of the pie lies in the foggy reaches of the future each year: What special funds or grants might arise? What projects will arise?

## Donald Frediani Bequest



The Healdsburg Museum & Historical Society has just received a generous bequest from the estate of Donald J. Frediani in the amount of \$25,000.

Don died in San Francisco on October 15, 2016 at the age of 87. The only child of Leo and Leonida Frediani of Healdsburg, Don was born, raised and educated here. Leo owned the DeSoto automobile franchise, and had hoped that his son would take over the business. According to Don's oral history recorded for the Museum, Leo soon recognized that his son was a "City Person," and understood his need to leave (then) small-town Healdsburg.

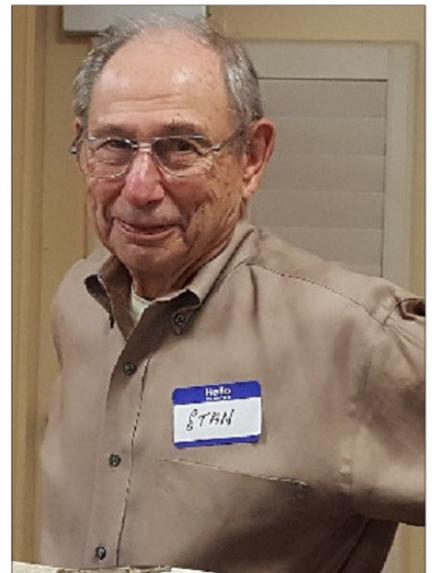
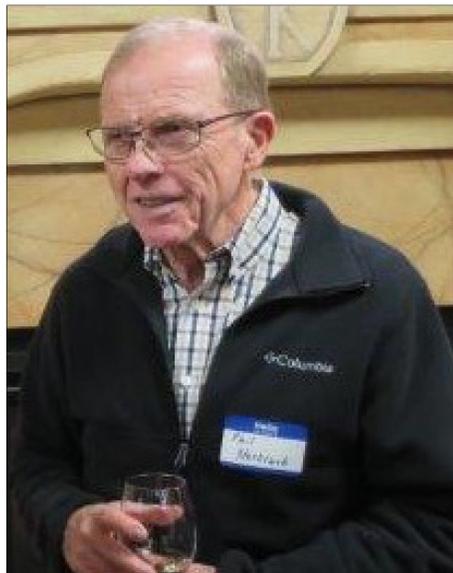
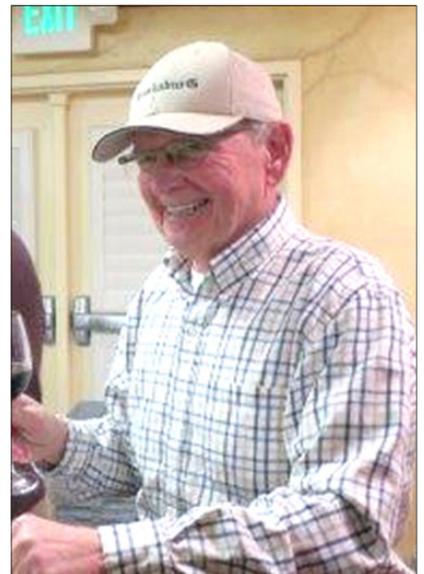
Don graduated from Stanford University and served in the Korean War as a naval officer. A long-time resident of San Francisco, he fully enjoyed the vibrant cultural and social life of the City. Prior to his retirement, he was Vice-President of A. Levy & J. Zentner Co., purveyors of fresh fruit and vegetables, where he headed the export division. Don and his wife Renata Gasperi maintained homes in Healdsburg and Italy and visited both places often. The couple enjoyed world travel, international art and fine cuisine. They were devoted supporters of our Museum as well as many cultural institutions in San Francisco.

We are very honored by this bequest from our memorable friend and benefactor, Don Frediani. He will be missed.

# 2017 Annual Membership Meeting

photos by Lauren Carriere, Mike Haran, Ann Howard



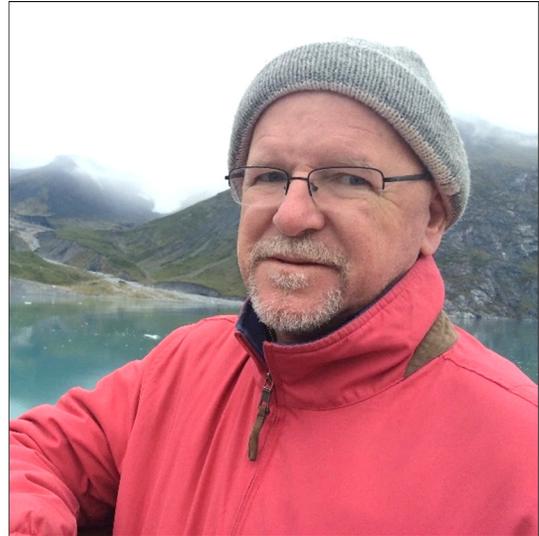


## HM&HS Board of Directors

On Thursday, January 19, the Museum membership in attendance at the annual meeting officially installed a new president and vice-president, Ronnie Devitt and Eric Ziedrich. Both of these talented individuals have a wealth of experience to offer the organization. Ronnie and Eric have provided a brief summary of their backgrounds by way of introduction.



*President Ronnie Devitt*



*Vice-President Eric Ziedrich*

I attended Marquette University where I met my husband Tom on the first day of college. We married the day after graduation a mere 54 years ago. Our daughters arrived shortly thereafter. After earning a M.A. in sociology, I was a college instructor for five years in the Boston area and at Dominican University after we moved to San Francisco.

I went to law school at the University of San Francisco where I fell in love with patent and trademark law. To qualify for practicing patent law, I added 40 units of chemistry to my resume. Education completed, I spent the next three decades practicing law in San Francisco. My volunteer activities then centered on speaking, writing, and leadership in the legal profession. I was the first woman in many of these positions: Board of Directors and President of the Intellectual Property Section of the State Bar of California; President of the San Francisco Intellectual Property Association; and member of Council of the Intellectual Property Section of the American Bar Association.

After retiring in 2010, I began calling Healdsburg home and the center of my volunteer activities. I co-chaired the AAUW Healdsburg Homes Tour for three years and will finish my term as AAUW president in June.

I, along with my bride of 37 years, Janet, have been residents of Healdsburg since 1984.

I am a native Californian – born in San Francisco and raised on the Peninsula and Santa Rosa.

Both of us graduated from Montgomery High School. My education includes a BS-Finance from Cal State Chico, McGeorge School of Law and Golden Gate University in Accounting.

Janet and I were both banking professionals in San Francisco when we had the good fortune to purchase Healdsburg Lumber Company in 1985.

We raised three daughters (Jill, Amy and Laura) here in Healdsburg. We are now blessed with two sons-in-law (also originally from Healdsburg) and two granddaughters living in nearby Windsor. (I won't comment on the extreme shortage of affordable housing in Healdsburg!) Daughter Jill has joined me at Healdsburg Lumber Company as the General Manager of Hudson Street Design.

After years of involvement on the Healdsburg School Board, Planning Commission, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and others, I cut short my third term on the Healdsburg City Council. I am looking forward to becoming more active and involved with HM&HS.

## 2017 Historic Preservation Awards

Two historic preservation awards were presented on behalf of the Healdsburg Museum and Historical Society at the Annual Membership Meeting at the Krug Center January 19.



*210 Center Street, 1884 lithograph*



*210 Center Street, 2017*

Recognition for **Residential Lifetime Maintenance** was awarded to Pete and Marian Foppiano for their home at 210 Center Street. The house, a vernacular Italianate built in 1880 by Jacob Pimm, has been in Pete's (Oddone/Foppiano) family since 1942 when his grandparents and parents purchased it. The cottage retains its historic integrity and charm. At the meeting, Pete accepted the award, noting how happy it would have made his mother, Angelina Foppiano.

### Thanks to Our Latest Endowment Fund Donors

Susan & Bill Arbios  
Carol Novak



*709 Healdsburg Avenue, 1982*



*709 Healdsburg Avenue, 2017*

The award for **Commercial Historic Preservation** was presented to Eric and Mary Drew for their Queen Anne at 709 Healdsburg Avenue. Today housing the Sotheby's International Realty office, the building was built in 1893-94 for Si and Minnie Hilgerloh. When the Drews purchased the building in 1975, it had been recently converted to commercial use as the office of Mid-Town Realty. At the meeting, Eric fondly recalled his early real estate career with Catherine Curtis and Gerry Medford at Mid-Town Realty.

The awards were presented by architectural historian, Fran Schierenbeck, chair of the HM&HS Historic Preservation Committee. In addition to Fran, the 2016 committee consisted of Holly Hoods, Jon Lacaille and Pam Vana-Paxhia.

## Annual Appeal Donors

Thanks to the generosity of so many supporters, a significant portion of the Museum's operating budget has been raised through our Annual Appeal. As of January 15, donations from the following people and organizations totaled more than \$52,000!

For more information on the important role that the Annual Appeal plays in the Museum's financial profile, please see Jane Bonham's column on page 3 of this issue.

Jeff & Heidi Abramson  
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Marge Barnard  
Barbara Barnes  
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*Our sincere appreciation to all of our generous supporters!*

**It's not too late to join this important group of supporters!**

You can always donate online ([www.healdsburgmuseum.org](http://www.healdsburgmuseum.org))  
or by calling the Museum (707-431-3325).

**Thanks to Our Latest General Fund Donors**

Yvonne Schell & Steve Miller  
David & Carmen Bettencourt - Bettencourt Realty

## Oak Mound Cemetery Update

by Jim Dreisback, Project Manager



*The team from The Welding Shop installing the fountain*

The photograph you are seeing is not “fake news.” The fountain has been re-installed at the Oak Mound Cemetery. The photo shows Scott Cavallo, The Welding Shop, and his employee installing the newly refinished fountain. What you can’t see is Joe Lickey, Denny’s Electric, running his crane, carefully lowering the fountain pieces in place. Many thanks to Scott and Joe for their efforts and determination in keeping the fountain project moving forward.

Leda and the Swan is ready for installation as soon as some minor plumbing is completed and the security system is installed. Once the pump and filter system are up and running, all that remains is to repair the rock wall that surrounds the fountain, then preparing and planting the flower bed. A good stretch of dry weather will go a long way toward seeing the completion of the fountain project.

There is more good news on another important segment of the cemetery project. Diane Carriger completed entering the cemetery’s records into the Museum’s database.

This has been a monumental task with 15,649 records listed on the spreadsheet. Diane says she is now able to go through the records and clean-up any duplicates and add section numbers as needed.

Thanks you to all who have supported the cemetery restoration project. Through the generosity of the Healdsburg community we have been able to bring the historic section of the Oak Mound Cemetery back to life.

### Thanks to Our Latest Cemetery Restoration Project Donor

Cheryl Bly-Chester -  
Rosewood Environmental Engineering

#### *Contributions in Memory of:*

**Betty Miller** from: Jim & Meredith Dreisback  
Pam Vana-Paxhia & Jon Lacaillade

Ted & Kay Robinson  
Norma Passarino  
Ed & Phyllis Liu  
Billie Harrison

**Don Frediani** from: Nina Blake

**Marion McConnell** from: Herb & Wendy Steiner

#### *Contributions in Memory of:*

**Kent Mitchell** from: Lois Grace  
Sue Ross

**Norma Rafanelli** Cousins from: Lois Grace

**Ray Puccioni** from: Lois Grace

**Ruby Wasson** from: Lois Grace

**Charles Baranzini, Jr.** from: Norma Passarino

**Steve Hajdu** from: Lois Grace

**Eugene Mackey III** from: Kathryn & Art Dublin

## Collections Corner



I've been enjoying my research on World War I in preparation for our yearlong display on the first-floor gallery.

This photograph of Charlotte Reeves (Nalley) is a favorite of mine. In our collection, we also have

Charlotte's hat, worn in this photo.

Charlotte worked in Base Hospital 43 in Blois, France during the War. The hospital had a capacity of 1,000 beds, but by the end of the war, it housed more than 2,000 patients.

Reading the September 11, 1941 *Sotoyome Scimitar*, I came across a wonderful story about Charlotte. The article noted that Charlotte and her family had just had a six week visit from Miss Charlotte F. Mulqueen of Glen Rock, New Jersey. The newspaper reported that Charlotte Reeves Nalley was an army nurse in France during World War I, and among her patients was a young Marine, Jack Mulqueen, who was very badly wounded. Charlotte cared for him and, upon his return to civilian life, Jack married and eventually named his second daughter after Charlotte Frances Reeves, the Red Cross Nurse who had cared for him. Mrs. Charlotte Nalley had written to the Mulqueen family and invited Charlotte Mulqueen to visit. As this story demonstrates, echoes of the War, both happy and sad, continued for many decades following the Armistice.

*by Whitney Hopkins, Assistant Curator*

I wish we had more photographs in our collection of home front activities and of those Healdsburg residents who served overseas. If you have any photos of this type that you would be willing to share, we can make arrangements to scan your photos adding the photos to our collection and return the originals to you



*Charlotte Reeves Nalley*

*Board of Directors: Ronnie Devitt (President), Jim Brush (Past President), Eric Ziedrich (Vice-President), Phyllis Chiosso Liu (Recording Secretary), Phil Hartlaub (Treasurer), Barry Stallard (Assistant Treasurer), Rawleigh Fjeld, Lockie Gillies, Ann Howard, Jeanne Leal-Hartlaub, Larry Orr, Carol Peterson, Ken Spadoni (Directors)*

***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:***

*Benefactor: \$1000 Sustaining Member: \$500 Supporting Member: \$250 Contributing Member: \$100  
Business Premier: \$500 Business: \$100  
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**Newsletter Editor: Pamela Vana-Paxhia, Printing: Amoruso**

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