



Saratoga Historical Foundation

PO Box 172, Saratoga CA 95071

March 2015

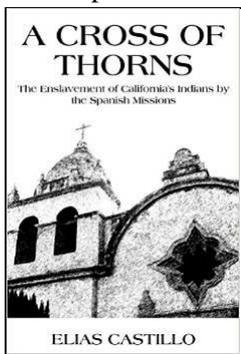
**March 12—A Cross of Thorns; March 21 Blossom Festival; New Exhibit on the PPIE; and April 18 Special Lecture by Laura Ackley on the PPIE.
Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership!!!**

March 12 Lecture --A Cross of Thorns: The Enslavement of California's Indians by the Spanish Missions

Elias Castillo, author of *A Cross of Thorns: The Enslavement of California's Indians by the Spanish Missions* will discuss how and why the missions were founded under the orders of Spanish King Carlos III and explain how Friar Junipero Serra disobeyed the king and instead of educating California's Indians for 10 years and then freeing them imprisoned them permanently in the missions and used them as slave labor. According to Castillo, "Serra's fanatical policies were possible because of the then enormous power of the Catholic Church. What very little people know is that all the Spanish governors were vehemently against the Missions."

Circle the Date and Time

The presentation will take place on March 12 and is



sponsored by the Saratoga Historical Foundation. The lecture will start at 7:30 PM and will be held at the Foothill Club in Saratoga. The potluck will precede the event at 6:30 PM. Bring food to share, your own plates and eating utensils. Coffee and tea will be provided. The event is open to the public.

Books Will be Available for

Purchase

Castillo's book will be available for purchase and for autographing. The lecture is free to SHF members, nonmembers will pay \$5 to attend the lecture.

Elias Castillo is a three-time Pulitzer Prize nominee and the winner of thirteen journalism awards. Born in

Mexicali, Baja California, Castillo holds two degrees



from San Jose State University and is a former reporter for the San Jose Mercury News and the Associated Press.

According to Castillo, "The Spanish missions of California have long been misrepresented as places of benign and peaceful coexistence between Franciscan friars and California Indians. In fact, the mission friars

enslaved the California Indians and treated them with deliberate cruelty. Beginning in 1769, California Indians were enticed into the missions, where they and their descendents were imprisoned for 60 years of forced labor and daily beatings."

Castillo has spent 10 years researching this book. The depictions of colonial cruelty in "A Cross of Thorns" are based on little known church and Spanish government archives and letters written by the founder of California's mission, Friar Junipero Serra (who advocated the whipping of Mission Indians as a standard policy), and published first-hand accounts of 18th and 19th century travelers.

Just a Reminder

The lecture takes place:

Date: Thursday, March 12

Time: 6:30, potluck; 7:30 lecture

Place: Saratoga Foothill club, 20399 Park
Place in Saratoga.

Come to the Blossom Festival Where "The Earth Laughs in Flowers."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Blossom Festival will bloom again on March 21 from 10-4 PM in the Heritage Orchard and Civic Center at



13777 Fruitvale Avenue in Saratoga. Be ready for a full day of fun and entertainment.

Old Time Music

The rhythmic beat of the Saratoga Taiko Drums will open the

Festival and maybe the blossoms, too. The Saratoga High School choir, led by Choir Director Andrew Ford will sing a medley of spritely spring songs. And a rousing Dixieland band, Toot Sweet will be followed by a toe tapping blue grass band, Bad Neighbor, to end the day. Music will be everywhere including the Heritage Orchard where youth bands will be playing.

See Shiny Vintage Cars

Old fashioned Chevies (not all are in Cuba!), Model A, Model T cars and early day gas engines and tractors will be on hand. Swap stories with the owners—that's part of the day's fun.

Learn about Saratoga History

Take a docent-led history walk through the Heritage Orchard; buy a local history book; look at aerial photos of Saratoga yesteryear; and see the charming Blossom Festival photo display. Don't miss hearing Author Tim Stanley tell the tale of the "Last of the Prunepickers" and Historian Ray Cosyn talk about "Saratoga, A Lumber Town." Taste history by sampling a prune, courtesy of Novakovich Orchards. And don't miss the vintage apron and cooking items display in honor and memory of Saratogan Jane Garrod.

Saratoga Historical Foundation Officers
The mission of the Saratoga Historical Foundation is to preserve the unique history of Saratoga for the education and enjoyment of the community.

Executive Committee

Annette Stransky, President

Bob Himel, Vice President

Ron Hagelin, Recording Secretary

Yuchi Wang, Treasurer

Newsletter

The Saratoga Historical Foundation newsletter is produced 6X a year. If you have comments or suggestions, e-mail: annette@saratogahistory.com
The Saratoga History Museum, McWilliams House and schoolhouse are located at 20450 Saratoga-Los Gatos Road and open from 1-4 PM Friday through Sunday. Call 408-867-4311 to arrange group or docent-led tours. Be sure to visit our gift shop. Visit our website: <http://www.saratogahistory.com>.

Lavender sachet, hand crafted pillows and straw items, pottery, bags, scarves, vintage buttons and more will be on hand to tempt you.

Children's Activities!



Children can choose to do gardening, straw art, henna designs, petting zoo, face painting, robotics, Chinese paper cutting, Chinese knot making, origami, and flower plate making. Or even juggling with the California Theatre Center. Don't miss the story hour provided by the Saratoga library ...and a chance to

sit.

A Sea of Blossoming Art

Artists will be painting, selling and exhibiting fine art including hand crafted cards.

Get an Autograph

Enjoy poetry hour with over 10 local poets and poet laureates who will also be selling their books. Or get an autographed copy of *The Last of the Prunepickers* or of *Clarence Urmy, California Toubadour*. Or meet the Saratoga Fire Commissioners who will be on hand to sell the book, *Saratoga Fire—A Century of Volunteer Fire Fighting*.

Talk to Colorful Characters

Costumed Saratoga historic figures will be walking around. Be sure to ask Sunshine Williams if this Blossom Festival matches his first.

Could There be More?

Stop and see: Santa Clara Valley Beekeeping; California Native Plant Society; Master Gardeners; Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society; Youth Science Institute; Open Space Mid-Peninsula; West Valley Clean Water; and Science by Nature.

And talk to local organizations: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, AAUW, West Valley Kiwani's, Saratoga Rotary, Silicon Valley Shakespeare, CERT, OCAWSV, BookGoRound, Hakone Gardens, Prospect Interact; Japanese American Museum, Parks and Recreation Commission and more!!

Gourmet Food Trucks

Gourmet food trucks will be waiting to take your order. And there will be plenty of tables and chairs to sit and "people watch."

History of Event

The Blossom Festival originated to celebrate the end of three years of drought in 1900 with the anticipation of a good crop. The festival continued to grow and prosper until World War II. It was a day of community, celebration and gentle fun. Join us as we continue that unique Saratoga tradition.

Calendar of Events

Feb. 13-	Exhibit: Pan-Pacific 100 th
June 28	Anniversary at the Museum
February 28	Hakone Gardens Centennial Exhibit opens, 1PM
March 1	Lunar New year, 11 AM at Hakone Gardens
March 12	A Cross of Thorns—lecture by author and historian Elias Castillo potluck and lecture
March 21	Blossom Festival held in the Heritage Orchard and Saratoga Civic Center
April 18	Author Laura Ackley, 2:00 PM
May 14	Membership meeting and lecture

Hakone Gardens Celebration Begins February 28



Hakone's Centennial Exhibit opening reception will be held at 1 PM, Saturday, Feb. 28, in the Cultural Exchange Center. The exhibit tells the story of Isabel Stine's inspiration to create her own Japanese estate after visiting the Japanese Pavillion at the Pan-Pacific International Exposition in 1915. Featured for the first time will be photographs from the Stine family albums. A

premiere showing of the video, Hakone: A Century of Beauty and Endurance will also be featured. Tasty refreshments will be served. This event is open to the public.

The Centennial exhibit is the first event in a series planned during the next three years to celebrate 100 years of success!

Hakone Gardens is located at 21000 Big Basin Way in Saratoga.

Lunar New Year Festival on March 1

Hakone Garden's Lunar New Year Festival, Celebrating the Year of the Ram, will take place March 1, Sunday, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The colorful event will include a double lion dance by the Far East Dragon Lion Dance Association; musical numbers by Jennifer Liu on the Chinese zither; a kung fu demonstration by Shaolin



Shaolin Martial Arts; tai chi performance by Saratoga Tai Chi and a performance by YaoYong Dance. A highlight will be a children's lunar festival costume parade. Children age 14 and under and wearing festive Asian outfits are invited to join in the colorful parade that takes place in the gardens. All participants will receive a raffle ticket for prizes. Bring your camera! The entrance fee to Hakone Gardens is \$8. Free shuttle bus will be available at: 14460 Big Basin Way (in front of the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce).

Annual Fremont Older House Tour



The free Fremont Older House & Garden Tour will take place Sunday, April 26th. More information about this will be available at the end of the month on <http://www.openspace.org>. Please check the beginning of

March for reservation information on this page. The call-in reservation date will be March 27th with reservations taken on a first call, first serve basis. The house tour is free.

Fremont Older (August 30, 1856 – March 3, 1935) was a newspaperman and editor in San Francisco, California for nearly fifty years. He is best known for his campaigns against civic corruption and efforts on behalf of Tom Mooney and Warren Billings, wrongly convicted of the Preparedness Day bombing of 1916. His wife, Cora Older was a prolific author who wrote several novels and non-fiction books, including important works about San Francisco and the California missions, along with dozens of articles. When not researching or writing, she tended hundreds of pink rose bushes on the Woodhills property, a hobby that earned her the nickname "The Pink Lady."

Their home was a popular meeting place to some of the most well-known writers, politicians, lawyers and artists of the time. A guestbook (which can be seen during the tour) kept track of both well known visitors and those lesser known.

They had a close friendship with Senator Phelan and visited often. Cora Older once planted pink geraniums along Phelan's driveway at Villa Montalvo.

In Memorium
Charlie White

Circle the Date of April 18 Special Lecture on the PPIE by Noted Authority Laura Ackley

Historian Laura Ackley will give a special presentation on April 18 at 2 PM on the Pan-Pacific International Exposition in Saratoga.



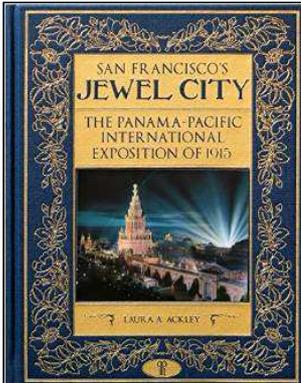
Hosted by the Saratoga Historical Foundation, her talk will cover, "New Technology at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition". The lecture will be held at the Saratoga Federated Church at 20390 Park Place in

Saratoga. Cost to attend the lecture for everyone is \$5.00. Afterwards people can walk across the street to the museum and see the exhibit on the PPIE.

Buy the Book!

Ackley's book, *San Francisco's Jewel City* will also be on sale and Ackley will autograph copies.

One of the main purposes of World's Fairs always has been to introduce the "latest and greatest" to the public. At the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition, no exhibit could be considered for an award of merit unless it was based on a product or process new since the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Ackley will discuss a variety of the new technologies displayed at the



fair. Ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous, these exhibits may elicit warm nostalgia, amazement, laughter and even a wince or two. "Sample" wonders from many areas of the fair, including the Palace of Food Products, the Palace of Liberal Arts, The Palace of Horticulture, and the Joy Zone. "Ride" on the Strauss Aeroscope, visit the Panama Canal in miniature and walk through a model mine before learning the Secrets of Mental Telepathy.

About the Author

Architectural Historian Laura A. Ackley holds graduate degrees from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design and from the College of Environmental Design at the University of California, Berkeley.

Her master of science thesis at Berkeley was titled "Innovations in Illumination at the Panama-Pacific

International Exposition of 1915."

Ackley's interest in the 1915 world's fair began in an undergraduate "cultural landscapes" course at UC Berkeley. Much of the research for this book was completed at the Berkeley campus' Bancroft Library, where she helped catalog the Exposition's original records.

Previously, the author worked for Lucasfilm, Bechtel Corporation, and Autodesk. She has published articles about the San Francisco Bay Area special effects and animation industries and has taught 3D computer modeling and animation at Harvard and UC Berkeley, where she received an Outstanding Instructor Award.

PPIE Exhibit Opens at the Museum

Be sure to see the PPIE exhibit at the Museum from 1-3 PM Friday-Sunday. The exhibit ends on June 28.

The PPIE had many innovations in technology; famous visitors; and interesting stories.

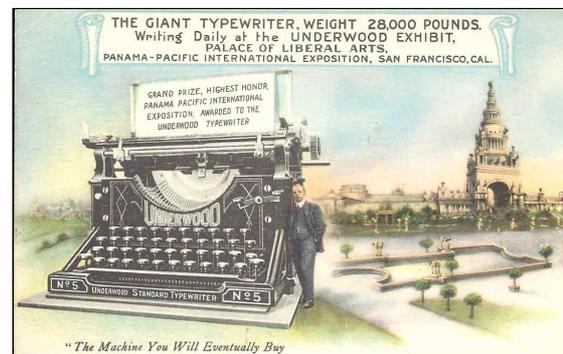
More than 19 million people passed through the gates of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition between February 20 and December 4, 1915 in San Francisco.

Special lighting at night was one of many special effects for the Fair.

-A battery of forty-eight spotlights, collectively known as the Great Scintillator, were projected through colored gels into the famous San Francisco fog to form effects with such evocative names as "Devil's Fan" and "Fighting Serpents and Octopus."

-Specially designed, 2-inch cut glass "Novagems" were hung from the central Tower of Jewels to create a constant shimmering under the colored spotlights.

Technology was also on display. A giant typewriter in the Palace of Liberal Arts printed news bulletins in letters three inches high. The mammoth typewriter was used daily for news reports.



Senator Phelan invited Vice President Thomas Marshall to attend the Blossom Festival in conjunction with attending the PPIE and spend a few days at Montalvo. Due to rain, he was unable to attend the Blossom Festival but sent Franklin Roosevelt instead.

Do You Recognize This Historic Home on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road?



Charles and Lillian Miller would be surprised today to learn that the home they built in 1909-1911 is still standing in Saratoga and in fact, it is on the prestigious California National Register of Historic Places.

In 1906 Charles Miller moved from Wisconsin to Saratoga. He worked as a postal clerk in the San Jose post office. In his spare time, he established the Cornet Band as a means of meeting other young people. Miller continued to be both band leader and organizer. Practice sessions were held after working hours in the orchard drying shed of Earl Melone, the band's bass drummer. Later Earl's sister, Lillian married Charles.

For six years the Cornet Band played for the Blossom Festival, parties, dances, and the Fourth of July celebrations. Until interest in the band began to wane.

The Millers built a home between 1909 and 1911 on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road using Frank Delos Wolfe as the architect. Lillian inherited the property, originally 40 acres, jointly with her sister. The property had previously been a fruit ranch, and the Millers kept the trees. Miller ran a gas station (Union '76) on the property as well as a small general grocery. Lillian sold homemade cookies which according to a sign on the property advertised that they were "Really Good". Miller also used the barn on the property to do machine work and to repair cars. The gas station was closed in 1968, but Mrs. Miller continued to live on the property until it was sold.

About the Architect

Frank Delos Wolfe (1862-1926) was the most important architect practicing in San Jose, California in the beginning of the 1900s. Although his clientele spanned across a great portion of northern California, most of his work was done in San Jose where his designs make up significant parts of many of San Jose's historic neighborhoods – Naglee Park, Hanchett Park, Vendome, Hensley District, and Palm Haven.



Wolfe was born in Fremont, Ohio, September 29, 1862. As a young man, he and his wife Nellie moved to Newton, Kansas, where he worked for architect W. L. Ross and where his son Carl was born. In 1888, he moved to San Jose, California, where he set up shop as a contractor and builder, and by 1895, he had established himself as an architect and hired Charles McKenzie.

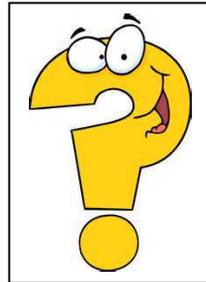
Wolfe & McKenzie Years

In 1899 Wolfe and Charles McKenzie became partners. Wolfe & McKenzie had a very fruitful partnership for the next 11 years. Wolfe & McKenzie worked in a range of styles, from Japanese-influenced to Mission Revival to Colonial to Craftsman. In 1907, they published a book of their designs that shows their wide range of styles. Clients embraced the designs they called "Frank Lloyd Wright bungalows." Wolfe later teamed with his son and the team became nationally known for unusual and exciting architecture. Some of their best known are a Prairie-like style. The Prairies appeal to both those who like modern houses and those who love old houses. With their flat roofs, cubic form, classical ornamentation, tilework, and beautiful art glass windows, the Wolfe & Wolfe Prairies are timeless works of art.

Wolfe designed 9 houses in Saratoga but few are still standing. Incidentally, in 1914, Wolfe designed Woodhills, Fremont Older's home-- see story on page 3.

Think You Know Local History?

Information to answer the following questions were



provided in the presentations given in 2014 and 2015 at membership meetings. See if you remember.

Answers are on page 8.

1. Whose husband's body was delivered in a barrel of rum?
2. What is the botanical name of the apricot?
3. Who was the editor of the San Francisco Call/Bulletin for 50 years?
4. What city's name means Peaceful Mountain?
5. Walt Disney used to ride on this man's railroad?
6. What was the second largest crop in the Valley of Heart's Delight?
7. Mort Levine started the Milpitas Post as well as what other popular local newspaper?
8. Who wrote the book Of Human Kindness, a rebuttal to John Steinbeck's book, Grapes of Wrath?
9. What first lady is the only first lady to have spoken an Asian language?

The Story of the **Hoo-Hoo House** and the Panama-Pacific International Exposition

By Louis Stocklemir, Senior

The Panama-Pacific Exposition took place at a time when war was looming on the horizon in Europe. San Francisco and many countries had already begun building in anticipation of the opening day.



“The Pacific Northwest and other producing timber areas with their incomparable lumber assets was representatively identified with the Hoo-Hoo Building, it being an Exposition Club House for all Lumbermen.

It is said that the term or word Hoo-Hoo is used as a warning signal when a tree-faller is about to topple a forest giant.

Actually it is the name of the “Concatenated Order of Hoo-Hoo” with membership at one time extending throughout many of the State of our Republic as well as extending into a number of foreign countries.

Primarily it is a Lumbermen’s Organization (organized circa 1891) and according to one of their brochures in the year of 1910 (5 years before the Panama-Pacific Exposition) the objective of the Order was “the promotion of Health, Happiness and Long Life of its Members.” (A most worthy objective, as anyone must admit, to be desired by everyone.)

George Hensley’s first acquisition in the area of Monte Vista was about 20 acres East of the PRR and North of Stevens Creek Road. ..Hensley journeyed to and from his Monte Vista Development and elsewhere in a chauffeur-driven Renault Brougham, with a wooden body of hardwood deeply engraved with ornamental frescoes and designs. This automobile was Renault’s showpiece on display at the Exposition and was said to have cost \$17000 to place on exhibition.

Hensley decided his Inspiration Heights development needed a clubhouse. He chose the Lumbermen’s Hoo-Hoo building at the Exposition and purchased the building.

The building was dismantled for shipping b3 train. Logs weighing eight to ten tons, roof trusses and beams, wood partition walls separating cubicles from dance pavilion, balcony verandas, interior hardwood wall paneling from all parts of the world, outside rustic tree

bark covering and a tall observation tower with stairway all fell into place.

The Stevens Creek Road grade was better known to most people as Hoo-Hoo Hill than was the name of Stevens Creek Road.

A prospective new auto buyer usually stipulated “if your car can climb Hoo-Hoo Hill, I’ll buy it.”

The walls of the Hoo-Hoo House resonated with the sounds of orchestras on Saturday nights. On August 16, 1928 the Hoo-Hoo House caught fire and burned to the ground. Boo Hoo.

Let There Be Peace



Did you know the Peace rose is one of the most popular roses?

It was developed by French horticulturist Francis Meilland

in the years 1935 to 1939. When Meilland foresaw the German invasion of France, he sent cuttings to friends in Italy, Turkey, Germany, and the US to protect the new rose. It is said that it was sent to the US on the last plane leaving before the German invasion where it was safely propagated by the Conard Pyle Co. during the war.

Because Meilland had sent out his cuttings just before the war, communication between the cultivators was not possible, which is why the rose received different names. In France, Francis and Alain Meilland decided to call the cultivar 'Madame A. Meilland', in honor of his deceased mother. In Italy it was called Gioia (Latin for joy), in Germany Gloria Dei (Latin for glory of God) and in the USA, Sweden and Norway 'Peace'.

In early 1945 rose grower Meilland wrote to Field Marshal Alan Brooke to thank him for his key part in the liberation of France and to ask if Brooke would give his name to the rose. Brooke declined saying that, though he was honored to be asked, his name would soon be forgotten and a much better and more enduring name would be "Peace".

The adoption of the trade name "Peace" was publicly announced in the US on April 29, 1945 by the Conard Pyle Co. This was the very day that Berlin fell, a day considered a turning point in the war in Europe. Later that year Peace roses were given to each of the delegations at the inaugural meeting of the United Nations in San Francisco, each with a note which read: "We hope the 'Peace' rose will influence men’s thoughts for everlasting world peace".

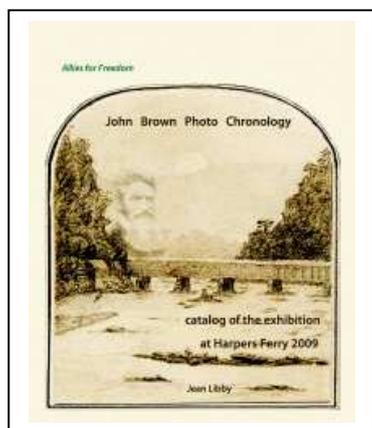
Free Lecture on California Pioneers of Color from San Francisco Bay to San Jose on April 18
 Standing Witness: Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and Abolishing Slavery-- a Symposium entitled, "California Pioneers of Color from San Francisco Bay to San Jose; Civil Rights and Civil Liberties in Santa Clara Valley from Emancipation to Turning the 20th Century.

The symposium will take place April 18 at the new San Jose State Student Union Auditorium from 1:30 to 4:00 PM. The Student Union is located on 9th and San Fernando Streets in San Jose, CA. The symposium is sponsored by Canterbury Bridge, Episcopal Ministries at San Jose State University, Rev. Kathleen A. Crowe, chaplain.

The symposium is part of a weekend commemoration of Peter Williams Cassey, his wife Anna Besant Cassey, and other African American Pioneers in San Jose. Sunday, April 19 will have two services, morning worship, and Evensong, with guest ministers from the Episcopal Black Ministry and a Fellowship choir from local churches at Trinity Cathedral in San Jose, 81 N. 2nd Street.

Participating in the symposium will be Associate Professor Herbert Ruffin from Syracuse University who recently authored, *Uninvited Neighbors: African Americans in Silicon Valley from 1769 to 1990*; Stan Yogi from the American Civil Liberty Union and co-author of *Wherever There's a Fight: How Runaway Slaves, Suffragists, Immigrants, Strikers, and Poets Shaped Civil Liberties in California*.

Other participants include Historian, Reverend Jerry Drino, Episcopal priest and coordinator of the Cassey Memorial Project. Third generation free slave, Peter Williams Cassey was ordained a deacon in Trinity Church on August 13, 1866 in San Jose. He was the first African American to be ordained in California and probably west of the Mississippi River. He was among the original founding communicants of Trinity Church in 1861.



“The Devil in Silicon Valley; Northern California, Race, and Mexican Americans.”

Historian Bonnie Montgomery will speak on the plight of Chinese laborers in San Jose in the late 1800s. Montgomery is a member of the Market Street Chinatown archaeological project and the Stanford Archaeology Center.

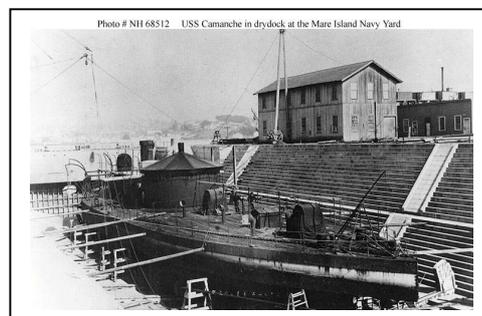
A review of Author Ronald Pitti's book,

Historian Jean Libby, author of *John Brown Photo Chronology: Catalog of the Exhibition at Harpers Ferry*, will speak on Abolitionist John Brown's family who lived in Santa Clara County.

Following the symposium will be a roundtable discussion on building a coalition for common heritage within the community and campus. The roundtable will be led by Lovie B. Spencer, Junior and run from 4:30 to 6:00 PM.

Attendance to the symposium is free. For more information email, editor@alliesforfreedom.org.

Editor's Note: For newer members to the Saratoga Historical Foundation, Abolitionist John Brown's second wife and daughters moved to Saratoga to live in the 1800s. Many members of the Brown family are buried in the Madronia cemetery in Saratoga.



Civil War and Monitors

California was a distant outpost during the course of the Civil War. There were

no armies and therefore little conflict. However, the Union Navy felt that the San Francisco Bay was vulnerable to Confederate raiders so as a result an Ironclad Comanche was built on the east coast, disassembled and taken by the sailing ship Aquila around Cape Horn to her home for the next 25 years, San Francisco Bay. The Aquila with the disassembled Comanche arrived in 1863. Unfortunately during a major storm in November the Aquila sunk while tied up at dock near what is today China Basin taking the Comanche with her. It took until 1865 to resurrect the contents of the Aquila and build the first of two monitors to cruise the Bay. Fortunately the war had ended by the time the monitor had been commissioned so it spent most of its time tied up with an occasional foray along the Pacific Coast. After the Spanish American War the ship was sold and converted to a collier working at that trade for a number of years until it seems to have disappeared off the registry of ships in the bay. It is reasonable to assume that it is buried in the mud of the bay somewhere off Mare Island. Alas there was no exchange of fire between the poor little Comanche and an ironclad like the Virginia as happened off Hampton Roads.

Written by Historian Ray Cosyn



Saratoga Historical Foundation
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[www.facebook.com/SaratogaHistorical Foundation](http://www.facebook.com/SaratogaHistoricalFoundation)

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Answers to the Test

1. Fiesty novelist Gertrude Atherton's husband George was sailing to Chile when he died. He was shipped back in a barrel of rum to preserve his body.
2. The botanical name of the apricot is *prunus armeniaca*.
3. Fremont Older was the editor of the San Francisco Call/Bulletin for over 50 years.
4. Monte Sereno means Peaceful or Serene Mountain in Spanish.
5. William "Billy" Jones (1884–1968) established the Wildcat Railroad in Los Gatos, California. Walt Disney heard of his success and visited him many times in Los Gatos. Billy Jones even drove the narrow gauge locomotive on opening day in Disneyland in 1955!
6. The second largest crop in the Valley of Heart's Delight was apricots.
7. Mort Levine who started the Milpitas Post also started the Saratoga News.
8. Ruth Comfort Mitchell, who also lived in Los Gatos, and was an accomplished author wrote the book, *Of Human Kindness* in 1940. The book was a counterpoint



to Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* by providing the rancher's side.

9. Lou Hoover (1929-1933) was the wife of President Herbert Hoover and First Lady from 1929-1933. She was the first First Lady to speak Chinese and is the only First Lady to speak an Asian language. She was also the first First Lady to make regular, nationwide radio broadcasts to the American public.

These snippets of information were from the following presentations: Robin Chapman's, *California Apricot—the Lost Orchards of Silicon Valley*; Doug McNeil, *The History of Monte Sereno*; Mary Jo Ignoffo, *Noteworthy and Notorious Women in California*; and John Ralston, *Fremont Older and the 1916 San Francisco Bombing*.



Donations—Can You Help?

The Saratoga Historical Foundation recently received a box of photos from the estate of Neil and Mabel Ross who used to reside at the Toyon Lodge. If anyone knows the Ross family and can help identify some of the photos please call: 408-867-4311 or e-mail info@saratogahistory.com. Thank you.