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VOL. 49

NUMBER 2

2008

Pioneers Luncheon

Saturday June 7, 2008 at Noon

Mariani's 2500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara

Reservations MUST BE MADE before

Thursday June 5, 2008

Call: 408-554-7587

Please note: Names will be checked off the reservation list as you enter, if your name is not on the list, you will be requested to wait until all those who reserved a place have been seated.

So Mariani's can prepare for our group, it is most important to place a reservation in advance.

Once you have made the reservation you are responsible for the \$25

Cost: Make \$25 checks payable to California Pioneers

Menu (make one selection per person)

Roast Pork served with Potatoes and Vegetables of the Day

Swordfish Kababs served with Shrimp Sauce, Rice and Vegetables of the Day

Meatless:

Manicotti (2) Pasta Tubes Cheese Filled with Marinara Sauce and Jack Cheese

Entrees are served with:

Green Salad, Rolls, and Butter, Dessert and Freshly Brewed Coffee or Decaf and Tea

Mariani's Restaurant is located on the south side of El Camino Real, two blocks west of San Thomas Expressway in Santa Clara.

President's Message

Last issue I wrote about all of the progress we are making on the Paulson House. I wrote about Bob Fisher's efforts to create a President's Hall and I asked members for donations of pictures of past presidents. I spoke of the addition of the Arbuckle stove to our kitchen and put out a request for an ice box and any other vintage kitchen items. I never expected such a response. Bob received several pictures of past presidents (please keep them coming) and I was contacted by member Jan Paull offering to donate a log cabin full of furnishings. The cabin, located in the Loma Prieta Mountains, was built by her parents in the 1930s and many of the furnishings belonged to her grandparents.

Jan Paull, Tim Peddy, Ken Machado, Bob Fisher and I took an outing to the old cabin in the mountains to retrieve the family items. As we forded a couple of creeks and followed the rocky dirt road in my large truck and Ken's 4 wheel drive SUV, I began to feel like a modern day pioneer. The trip took over an hour and I was feeling pretty "macho" until Jan told me that she had driven up to the cabin the day before in her 1955 VW bug. Well I guess some things never change, we all know that women have always been the toughest "pioneers".

Some of the items we retrieved were an ice box, Victrola, crank telephone, 1890's stove and a baker's table. Edith Pricolo and the Preservation Action Council of San Jose (PAC SJ) were also very generous, donating several boxes of kitchen items. I feel very fortunate to be part of an organization whose membership shares such a passion and dedication for preserving our heritage. I thank all for their generosity and help.

We have signed a contract for cabinet makers to begin building our large display/bookcase in the front office. The Paulson House provides Pioneer members a wonderful opportunity to preserve treasured items for generations to come. If you wish to donate items for this

display case, the general Pioneer collection or just want to contribute money to the construction of our cabinet, please contact me or any board member.

-2-

Hopefully all of you will have a chance to see and enjoy all of our new furnishings at our September BBQ which will be held on the SECOND SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER AT HISTORY PARK. Mark your calendars for the date and place change.

James Zetterquist

ORGANIZATION OF THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY PIONEERS

In June, 1875, five Pioneers met at the Santa Clara Valley Agriculture to form *The Pioneer Society*. They were Cary Peebles, who acted as President, A.P. Murgotton, Secretary, Coleman Younger, Judge A.L. Rhodes, John Trimble, Judge Davis Divine, and John M. Murphy who formed a committee to draft a constitution.

The first meeting was a basket picnic on June 22, 1875 at William O'Donnell's Zoological Gardens. An invitation was issued for those who had arrived on this coast prior to the 22nd of June, 1853 and many attended the first meeting.

Cary Peebles called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Coleman Younger stated the objectives of the organization which were to take steps toward the organization of a Pioneer Society for Santa Clara County, to cultivate social inter-course; to form a more perfect union among its members; to create a fund for charitable purposes; to form a library and cabinet, and to collect and preserve information concerning its members and the history of the State.

A slate of officers was elected with A.L. Rhodes as President, John Murphy and P.O. Miner, Vice Presidents, A.P. Murgotten, Secretary and John H. Moore, Treasurer. Elected as Directors were Coleman Younger, Davis Divine, John Trimble, A. Pfister, Cary Peebles and B.D. Murphy.

Two hundred seventy-four signed the log and paid \$2 each to become members.

"After the election, the balance of the day was spent in pleasant social intercourse and discussing old time reminiscences."

During the first year, three of the members died, "One by one the old pioneers of the county are being taken

-3-

over the range, to fathom the unknown, and still greater country beyond the confines of earth."

Expenses were heavy, but at year's end, the Treasury had \$469.85. \$300 was put at interest.

It was decided at the Annual Meeting in June, 1876, to hold Quarterly Meetings on the third Wednesdays of March, September and December at a public hall and June in O'Donnells' Gardens. President Coleman Younger was elected, a position he held for four years. Mr. Alex P. Murgotten held the office of Secretary from the beginning and through his individual exertion and zeal the society accumulated a vast amount of pioneer information and was possessed of a very interesting cabinet, composed of articles of great value as pioneer relics.

An ad in the *Pioneer Newspaper* of June, 1877 published weekly by Alex P. Murgotten for

O'Donnells' Zoological Gardens and Park

Open for the Summer Season

Corner of Ninth and William Streets

Many New Attractions!

This beautiful Resort Now the Finest in the State will hereafter be conducted in the style of Woodward's

It contains a

Large Variety of Animals, Birds and other Living Curiosities, And every convenience has been looked to and arranged for the benefit and pleasure of the public. Among the many attractions there is a

Commodious Dancing Pavilion, Skating Rink and
Observatory

The grounds abound in lakes and ponds filled with fish!
One containing a Rotary Raft.

Also arbors, grottoes, shady nooks, trees and flower beds,
making the most complete picnic grounds to be found
anywhere in California.

The New Southeast Side Railroad Passes the Park, and will
convey passengers for the nominal fare of 5 cents, to or from
this resort.

Special Arrangements

-4-

Made with schools, churches, benevolent societies, etc. for
holiday excursions.

The general admission will be 25 cents; children with their
parents, free. Come one, come all, and enjoy yourselves.

Wm O'Donnell, Proprietor

William O'Donnell emigrated from Ireland in 1852.

He was a nurseryman by profession and a member of the
city council in the early 1860's. His nursery and orchard lay
between Ninth and Tenth, Reed and William Streets. When
he turned it into a park, it became one of the most popular
recreational places in pioneer San Jose'. No one has discovered
a list of what animals were in his zoological gardens,
except for a sea lion.

According to the *San Jose Mercury*, the largest sea lion
escaped one Saturday night, climbing over a five foot high
picket fence, hobbling through the grounds onto William
Street, meandering down to the corner of Ninth Avenue,
then turning north towards salt water. At 5 a.m., a gentleman
saw him and notified Mr. O'Donnell who immediately
started after him.

His trail was easy to follow for the first two miles,
then he slid into a ditch off Empire Street. He was discovered
by a property owner who drove him into his yard. O'Donnell
drove him into the road and made him retrace

his steps to the garden. They reached home about 10 p.m.,
having traveled about three miles. O'Donnell was glad to
have his \$600 investment back and took steps to prevent
further escapes.

The Saturday, June 23, 1877, *The Pioneer*

The Design of the Badges

"The new badges for the Santa Clara Pioneer have
arrived, and are now ready for distribution at the office of
the secretary. They are of pure silver, circular in form and
about the size of a half dollar, both in thickness and cir-
cumference. One side is plain, and on the front is an
engraving, showing the route across the plains. The main
figure represents a man cutting down a tree while in the rear
and to the right is shown the emigrant wagon, with the

-5-

camp kettle hanging from a tripod near by. A range of
mountains form the background to the picture. Surrounding
these, on the face of the medal are the words, "Santa Clara
County Pioneer." Each one is numbered consecutively on
the back, so that if lost they can be distinguished."

Wouldn't it be great to find one of those?

The organization prospered rapidly, until its
membership reached six hundred and thirty, but the dull
years came, and the scarcity of money, in some degree,

The Annual Meeting in June, 1877 was a picnic at
O'Donnell's Gardens. 2500 invitations were sent out to old
timers. 10,000 attended that day from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

President Younger made the main address. Then
veterans of the Mexican War in uniform were escorted in by
a band. Mr. Houghton made an address and a Reception
was given for Governor Irwin who had come down from
Sacramento.

Basket lunches were spread out and enjoyed.

The President of the State Agricultural Society found
the gardens and San Jose' so delightful that he announced

his intention of going back to the legislature to ask for \$10,000 to properly improve the grounds of San Jose State College, so it could be an honor to San Jose'.

July 21, 1877

The Santa Clara County Pioneers have fitted up a room and made all arrangements for a library and cabinet. They therefore call upon all the members of the Society and friends to donate to the same, any old mementoes that have a history attached; old pieces of coin; specimens of mineral; curiosities of any kind will be thankfully received and notice given of the donors. There are many things of trivial value, that when collected together form subjects of great curiosity and help retain the history of past events and times. Send in your contributions to Room No. 1, Commercial Bank Building.

August 25, 1877

Get Your badges. The members of the Santa Clara county Pioneers must not forget to procure their badges, as they will

-6-

be the only thing recognized at the gate. You only have to buy them once and it will save an immense amount of trouble. Call on the Secretary and get them right away.

Rancho Map

The newest addition to the walls of the Paulson House is the framed Rambo-Arbuckle map of the Ranchos of Santa Clara County. A gift of the Jim Arbuckle estate, this map shows the locations of the ranchos starting at the San Mateo county line and going south to the Monterey, San Benito, and Merced lines.

Many of our Pioneer members have connections to these places that are only currently noted as parks or streets. From time to time, Tim Peddy and I will note these Ranchos and how to see them from the various roads, highways and

freeways as you travel through and around our beautiful county.

The land grants were originally given for military service but later all that was required was a favorable answer from the current governor. A rough map usually accompanied the request. The grants were revisited by the U. S. Land Commission after California became a state and new patents were issued. Under Spain and Mexico, there was no private ownership of land. If the grantee did not use it, it reverted to the grantor. The ranchos were surveyed using U.S. measurements. A league is 2.6335 miles or 5,000 varas. A square league equals 6.935 sq. miles or about 4.438 acres.

Our President Emeritus, Bob Fisher's family roots were planted in the area that was the Rancho de Laguna Seca. You know part of it as the Coyote Valley. The original rancho ran on both sides of the Coyote Creek from just above the 12 Mile House (Coyote) at Metcalf Road down to the 18 Mile House (Madrone) where Cochrane Road is today. The foothills were the western boundary while the ridge that forms the shore of Anderson Lake seems to be the eastern edge. A cruise down Santa Teresa Road takes you through the heart of this old rancho. In 1834, Juan Alvires was granted four square leagues headquartered at

-7-

Madrone. Six years later, Captain William Fisher purchased, at auction, the entire rancho for \$5,000.

Fisher's widow and her husband, Dr. L.C. Bull, claimed 19,973 acres which the U. S. Land Commission confirmed in 1865. In 1880, Fisher heirs were still living on the Rancho.

Next time, Tim will describe his family's grant near where Stanford University is today.

Jerry Rosenthal

GONE TO THE GOLDEN HILLS

Dominic Gullo
Claudia Greathead
Lorinda Foss
Karen Ott
Joseph Fletcher

Henry Volkman
Ann Carlino
Marguerite Heintze
Irene Clark
Leonette McCulloch

NEW MEMBERS

Shirley Gotro
Lee Schmidt
Alan Thomas
Marilyn Fields
Agnes Galusha
Jean Merten
Amy Vera Stout
Robert Senkewicz
Lou Anna Klein
Caprice Silva

Judi Henderson
Karen Thomas
Robert Burrill
Larry Furlow
Anita Malovos Chow
Ben Priest
Rose Marie Beebe
Maria Brand
Lenora Tucker

Thank Yous from Bev & Bob Fisher for the Paulson House

The many kitchen items such as the kitchen table, Victrola, telephone, chair, kitchen stove and ice box from Jan Paul, The embroidered tea towels and flag from Ruth Fischer, The canning kettle, set of china dishes, tableware, napkins, bread-making bowl, sifter and flour from Mary Lou Lyon, The canned fruit and vegetables from Debbie Lyon, Antique chest of drawers from David and Jackie McKinney,

-8-

The Clyde Arbuckle collection of books, papers, documents and artifacts, kitchen stove, chair and oil lamp from Susan Arbuckle and

Special Thanks to Tim Peddy for the many hours, time and talent he has given to fix things in the Paulson House.

VISITORS have been coming to the Paulson House. Last Sunday afternoon, some 49, between the hours of 11 and 4.

They were from all around the bay, plus Texas, Oklahoma, Sacramento, Spain, France and the Netherlands! The house will be open from 12 to 5, on weekends, starting in May.

!NOTE: THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE ON THE !
! SECOND SATURDAY, THE 13TH, A PICNIC AT SAN JOSE
! HISTORY PARK TO CELEBRATE ADMISSION DAY !

MY LUCKY PENNY

I spied a penny on the ground.
It was lying there all alone...
Reached down and picked it up;
My pocket's now its home.

Now that lonesome copper coin
Current passersby do disdain...
But this depression-reared boy
Remembered what it would buy again.

That lucky copper bought a lot
For this youngster of long ago;
A long braid of licorice black or
A jawbreaker to suck real slow.

For a mere five of them, I
Could buy a cold bottled coke.
Try that this present day and age...
The red machine labels that a joke.

Took ten of them together
To purchase a plump loaf of bread,
Or a quart of milk with cream atop
Helped our family to be fed.

-9-

My hour's work got four of them for
Picking a great big box of prunes,
Or cutting the ripe golden cots

While singing old Gene Autry tunes.

Well, those times are done and past.
One cent won't buy a thing today,
But my pocket's still a 'jingling,
Reviving dreams of yesterday.

Leonard McKay, 1991

Melita Kelly, Membership / Financial Secretary

Just a short note to let you know that so far we have had a very good response from our members in remitting dues for 2008. It is my wish and hope that we can do as well as last year in having only a handful of delinquent members at the end of the year. If you have not yet sent your dues for this year, please do so now. Make your checks payable to the **California Pioneers** and send to Melita Kelly, 460 North 15th Street, San Jose, CA 95112-1725. If you have any questions or need membership applications, give me a call at 408-292-2385. Thank you. Current dues are \$15.00 per member. Life memberships are \$150.00 for a single person, \$250.00 for couples.

!NOTE: THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE ON THE !
! SECOND SATURDAY, THE 13TH, A PICNIC AT SAN JOSE
! HISTORY PARK TO CELEBRATE ADMISSION DAY !

-10-

TOURING WITH THE CALIFORNIANS

Rose Crimi Muench - Tour director (408) 293-0896
Marie Rider - Phone reservations and cancellations.

(408) 251-7887, M - F, mornings
Beverly Fisher - Treasurer, 3435 Yuba Ave., San
Jose, CA 95117-2966
Nancy Hill - Luncheon reservations

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER TRIPS begins at the June 7 luncheon, 10:30 a.m. Checks are preferred or exact cash. Preference is given to California Pioneers members to register at the luncheon. Non-members and guests may sign up starting June 16. Members may register absent members after the luncheon, so that members present have the opportunity to register first.

PHONE RESERVATIONS or CANCELLATIONS: call Marie Rider. After reservations are confirmed, send check payable to The Californians to Beverly Fisher.

PICK-UP POINT: Valley Village, 390 North Winchester Blvd., Santa Clara on Dolores Avenue.

DAY TRIPS

JUNE 19, 2008, THURSDAY NEW ALMADEN

Following the New Almaden talk and slide show at our September luncheon, one of our presenters, Michael Boulland, has graciously agreed to organize a tour of New Almaden for the Pioneers. Michael will ride on the bus with us and narrate a visual presentation. We will first visit the New Almaden Museum in Casa Grande built 1855. The museum tells the story of the cinnabar mining and how cinnabar was essential to extract gold from the 1849 gold fields. We will explore some of the historic homes and businesses along Almaden Road and the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park. A catered lunch is included. Finally, we can't miss the opportunity to visit Hacienda Cemetery, rescued by the California Pioneers from destruction. Richard Hill, a Pioneers member, will give us a

tour of the cemetery, and tell of the work that our members have done to preserve it. -11-

Leave 9:00 a.m. Return: 4:00 p.m. Cost: \$ 30

JULY 18, 2008, FRIDAY CARMEL and TOR HOUSE

The charming village of Carmel-by-the-Sea has earned international acclaim for its unique shops, lovely art galleries, and attractive architecture. We will have an opportunity to enjoy all this as well as its hidden treasure in Tor House. Pulitzer Prize winning California poet, Robinson Jeffers, who was attracted to the rugged coastline resembling Great Britain, selected a dramatic outcropping of rock – a tor in Scottish – to build a Hobbit-like stone cottage, and for his wife, Una, a 40 foot tall Hawks Tower. After Jeffers' death in 1962, Tor House was preserved by a foundation, and is now a National Trust for Historical Preservation site. The home is surrounded by natural gardens in the English tradition.

We will have a one-hour tour of the house and gardens, and a visit to the small gift shop, as well as a view of the rocky Carmel coast. Because of size limitations, we will do five intimate tours accommodating seven people at a time. Our bus will shuttle each group from downtown Carmel. We will also offer optional shuttle service to The Barnyard and Carmel Mission. Lunch is on your own at any of the downtown restaurants or at The Barnyard. You will be given a pictorial map of the downtown area showing restaurant locations. You may also wish to visit the Cima Collina wine tasting in the Paseo Courtyard or Galante Vineyards on Dolores Street, both \$5 for several tastings (see map.) We are limited to 35 people. However, we can take an additional 10 people who do not wish to go to the Tor House. These will receive a \$7 cash refund.

Leave 9:00 a.m. Return: 5:30 p.m. Cost: \$ 35

AUGUST 5, 2008, TUESDAY

LEGION of HONOR, WOMEN IMPRESSIONISTS

San Francisco's Legion of Honor features two special exhibits for our self-guided viewing. The first is "Treasures The second is "Women Impressionists" which features four women artists emerging in the late 1800's in Paris among their better known male colleagues. (The first female art

-12-

students were not admitted to the Sorbonne until 1883!) The most well-known of the four artists is the American Mary Cassatt. This collection was assembled from Frankfurt, Germany, and the Legion of Honor is the only American venue. Optional audio narration is available. The museum's café is available for lunch on your own. The museum's permanent collection, outdoor sculptures and gift shop can be explored.

Leave 9:00 a.m. Return: 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$ 27

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008, TUESDAY

HISTORIC WATSONVILLE and the GIZDICH RANCH

The Pajaro Valley Historical Association docents host us for an exploration of the rich farming heritage in the Pajaro Valley, where one of the largest Bird's Eye frozen food processing plants operated until a few years ago. The 135-year old farm house of the 100-acre Bockius Farm, established in 1852, houses a collection of historic artifacts including: photographs, displays on local farms and businesses, oral histories, costumes, and tools. Next we take a short drive to the Gizdich Ranch, still a working farm growing apples and berries. We will have an included country lunch of deli sandwiches and chips, fresh pressed apple juice or coffee, and apple or berry pie a la mode. We will have a tour of the farm showing apple harvesting and juice pressing operations. Perhaps you can bring home some fruit, jam or pies. Lastly, we will stop at Annieglass for a demonstration of how hand-crafted glass dinnerware and glasses with textured surfaces are made. Their outlet store has samples which you can take home.

Leave 9:00 a.m. Return: 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$ 42

EXTENDED TRIPS

JUNE 3 - 8, 2008 PORTLAND ROSE FESTIVAL

There was not enough interest for this tour. You may call Royalty Tours, which is doing a similar tour.

JUNE 24 - JULY 1, 2008 PACIFIC COASTAL TOUR

(Trieloff Tours) Travel the Pacific Coast from San Francisco

-13-

to British Columbia for wonderful ocean views and fascinating attractions along the way. From San Jose we take a shuttle bus to San Francisco to join a group from southern California. As we drive north, stops include: the Russian River valley, Korbel Winery, Redwoods National Park, Ferndale, and Eureka. Entering Oregon, we stop at Coos Bay with a visit to the Sea Lion Caves, home of the Steller sea lions, and Cape Perpetua. We continue on to Portland for a city tour, and drive the scenic route along the Columbia and the Hood rivers.

Entering Washington, we stop at the Mount St. Helens Volcano Center, featuring the dramatic eruption of 1980. Next we head for the Olympic Peninsula with a picture stop at the state capitol building in Olympia. We cruise on a ferry to Victoria, British Columbia, for a city tour and a visit to world-famous Butchart Gardens in its summer splendor.

Back in Washington, we experience Olympia National Park with its waterfalls, forests and glaciers. Finally, we ferry back to Seattle for a city tour including: the Boeing aircraft plant, salmon ladders at Chittenden locks, Puget Sound and Fisherman's Wharf before our Seattle to San Jose flight. Cost is \$ 1649, or \$ 2149 for singles, which includes: air fare, deluxe motor coach touring and ferries, 7 days hotels and 11 meals.

A valid passport is required. Brochures are available now. Cancellation insurance is available at \$ 99 or \$ 149 for singles payable with tour payment.

OCTOBER 13 - 24, 2008 MEXICAN RIVIERA CRUISE

(Golden Gate Tours) Norwegian Cruise Line "Sun" will be cruising round trip from San Francisco to the ports of Mazatlan, Acapulco, Zihuatanejo, Puerto Vallarta and Cabo San Lucas. No flights! Bus transfer to and from pier included. Cost is \$1030 inside, \$1220 to \$1330 ocean view, and \$1550 to \$1575 balcony, plus \$ 77 per person fuel surcharge.. A valid passport is required. Optional cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Brochures

-14-

and deck plans are available. Register now with a \$ 400 deposit. Final payment is due July 25. If you are a single, we will try to match you with a roommate.

OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 6, 2008 DISCOVER

CROATIA(New) (Collette) Croatia, once a part of Yugoslavia, and before that of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Roman Empire, enchants visitors with its sunny beaches, snow-capped mountains, scenic coastline, lakes and waterfalls. Highlights include the capital Zagreb and its impressive Old City; Lake Bled, Slovenia, with a pletna boat ride to the island cathedral; Lipizzaner horse farm; Trieste, Italy; the amazing Plitvice Lakes, a UNESCO World Heritage site with 16 lakes and hundreds of waterfalls; the ancient city of Split and its 3d century Roman palace of Diocletian, the island of Korcula, home of Marco Polo, and the grand finale of Dubrovnik, another World Heritage site surrounded by medieval walls and filled with Venetian style buildings - and no cars to dodge!

Rose Crimi has just returned from Croatia in March, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Cost is \$ 3014 or

\$3554 for singles (10% off brochure price!) which includes: air fare from San Jose or San Francisco, 5-star hotels, and 15 meals. Cancellation insurance is \$ 200. A deposit of \$ 250 is due by May 27 to guarantee air fare. Final payment is due August 28. A valid passport is required.

DECEMBER 26, 2008 - JANUARY 3, 2009

MISSISSIPPI RIVER NEW YEAR'S CRUISE (New)

(Talbot) Celebrate New Years on the "American Queen" with one night in New Orleans! Ports of call include: Natchez, Vicksburg, St. Francisville, Baton Rouge, and Vacherie. Shore excursions include: antebellum homes, Civil War sites, the State Capitol, Oak Ally plantation - and more! Cost is from \$ 2885 to \$ 4085, depending on cabin preference. Deposit is \$ 500. Final payment is due on September 26. Cancellation insurance of \$ 169 to \$ 279 is available.

-15-

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TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

TEA AT THE PAULSON HOUSE

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TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

BEVERLY FISHER AND MELITA KELLY RREADY FOR THE TEA

TOURING WITH THE CALIFORNIANS...AND ROSE CRIMI MUENCH

-16-

OFFICERS 2007-2008

www.californiapioneers.com

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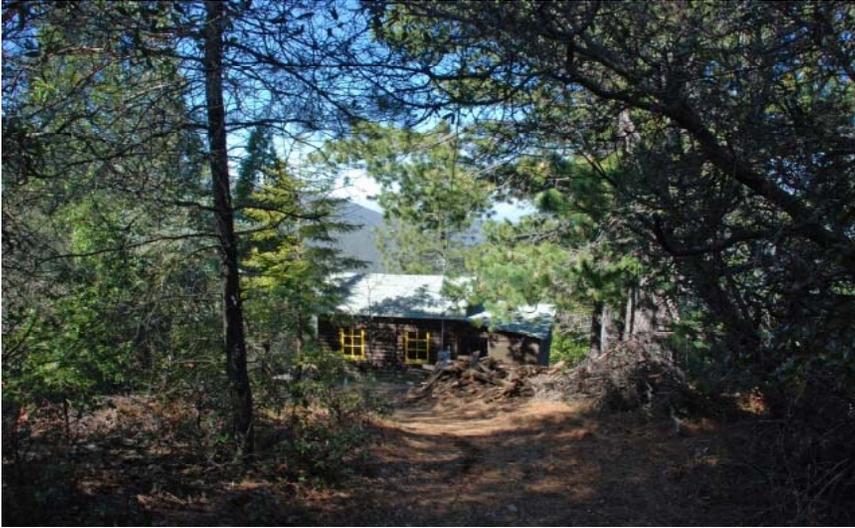
-17-

PORTRAITS OF THE PAST AT THE MARCH MEETING



CHARACTERS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY HISTORY

-18-



JAN PAUL'S FAMILY CABIN IN THE WOODS



THE CREW-- JIM ZETERQUIST, JAN PAUL, BOB FISHER,
KEN MACHADO PICTURES BY TIM PEDDY, PHOTO-
GRAPHER FOR THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY PIONEERS

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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