

# Sutter County Historical Society

## News Bulletin

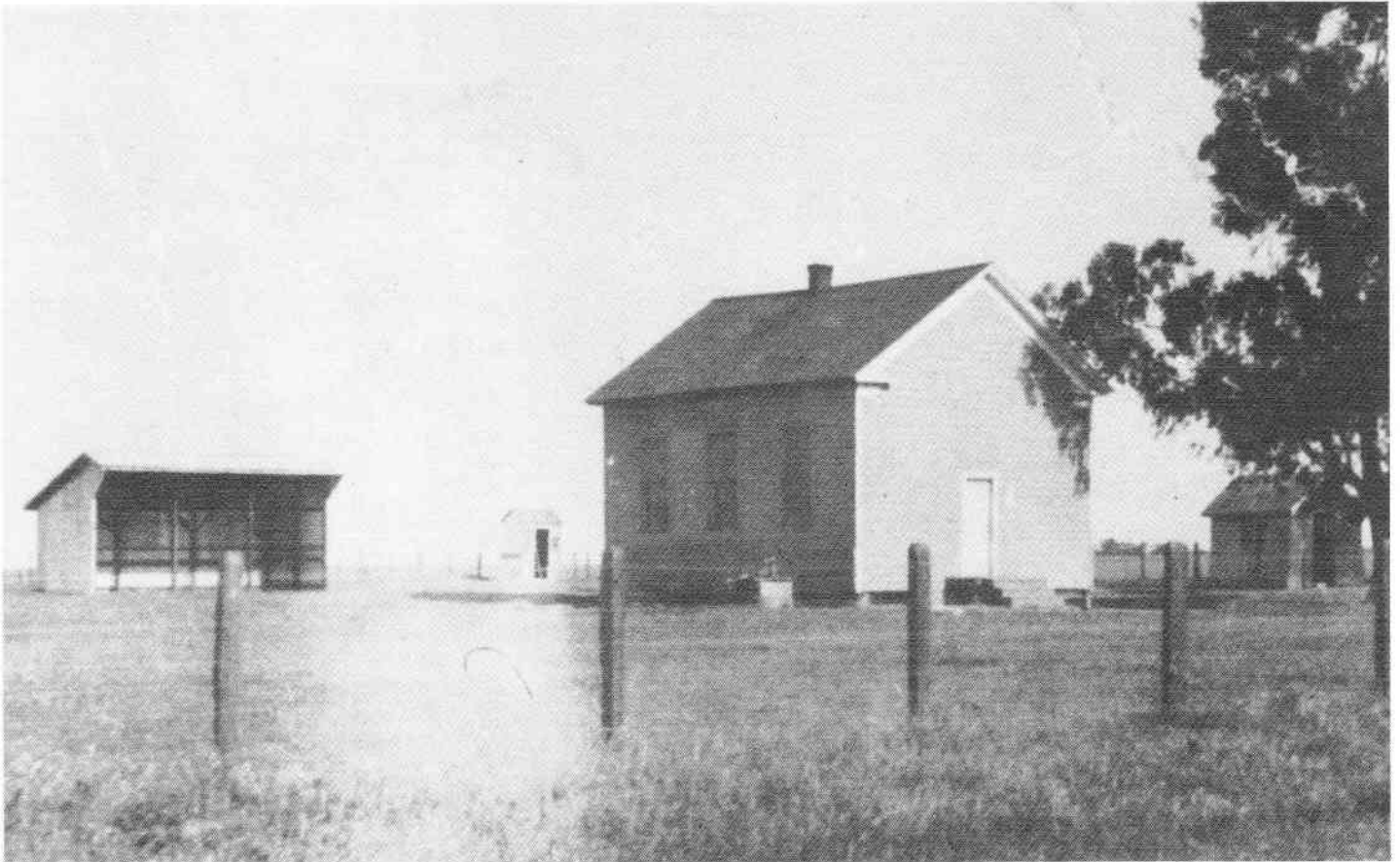
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Vol. XXXIV No. 3

Yuba City, California

July, 1993

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**BROWNS SCHOOL - RIO OSO, CALIFORNIA**  
(Circa 1890)

# Sutter County Historical Society

## News Bulletin

### OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Evelyn Quigg, President  
 Constance Cary, Secretary  
 Bruce Harter, Vice President  
 Linda Leone, Treasurer

### DIRECTORS

Constance Cary	Stephen Perry
Celia Ettl	Evelyn Quigg
Dewey Gruening	Ronald Ross
Bruce Harter	Randolph Schnabel
Leonard Henson	Sharyl Simmons
Linda Leone	Edgar Stanton
Jack McLaughlin	Elaine Tarke

The **News Bulletin** is published quarterly by the Society in Yuba City, California. The annual membership dues includes receiving the **News Bulletin** and the Museum's **Muse News**. At the April 1987 Annual Dinner Meeting it was voted to change the By-laws to combine the memberships of the Society and the Museum.

The 1993 dues are payable as of January 1, 1993.

Student (under 18)/Senior Citizen/Library . . . . .	\$10.00
Individual . . . . .	\$15.00
Organizations/Clubs . . . . .	\$25.00
Family . . . . .	\$30.00
Business/Sponsor . . . . .	\$100.00
Corporate/Benefactor . . . . .	\$1,000.00

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I feel it is an honor to be elected as President of the Sutter County Historical Society Board of Directors and will fulfill the job to the best of my ability.

In reviewing the history of the Society, I find the first meeting took place on January 28, 1954. The purpose of the Society is to gather, classify, and preserve old records and other valuable data pertinent to Sutter County History.

As everyone is aware, we need active and enthusiastic members to continue our cause of preserving this history. It would be nice if each current member could enroll one "new" member during this year. This would not only bring in new membership, but also new ideas, etc. Please give this plan some serious thought. With the help of all the members, we can make this a rewarding and productive year for the Society.

Evelyn Quigg  
President

## **HISTORICAL SOCIETY DOINGS**

### **1993-1994 OFFICERS**

Evelyn Quigg has graciously agreed to serve as President of the Historical Society. Evelyn was nominated and elected in absentia, unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Bruce Harter is the new Vice-President. He was healthy when he accepted the position, so there's no room for him to change his mind! Connie Cary has agreed to continue as Secretary and Linda Leone will continue as Treasurer.

### **NEW BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS**

We welcome three new members to the Board of Directors. Leonard Henson won the door prize at the Annual Dinner and was nominated to the Board. (No, it was not a condition of getting the prize.) Leonard is being joined on the Board by Jack McLaughlin and Steve Perry. The current members are looking forward to working with them.

### **JULY MEETING**

On July 20th at 7:30 p.m., Amy Schoap will present a program concerning Freda Ehmann and her role in the California ripe olive industry. This program ties in with the exhibit currently on display at the museum. If you haven't yet seen the exhibit, please stop in and take a look. Amy's enthusiasm for her topic is contagious. Please try to join us for the presentation.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Jackie Lowe

As I write this report, we are awaiting the passage of the State budget so that we might have a clearer idea of the impact it will have on the County budget and, in turn, on the Museum's budget. Regardless of the outcome, it is fairly clear that the Museum is in serious financial trouble.

The Sutter County Board of Supervisors is in a tough spot. They must continue to fund departments of county government that are mandated by State law, yet still try to serve the needs of the public that the State does not view as "essential." But what is essential? I would argue, and I would hope that everyone who belongs to the Museum and Historical Society would agree, that the Museum is an essential part of County government. People need roads to drive on and legal systems to help protect them. No one questions those basic necessities, but people also need to have a basic knowledge of and respect for the place where they live. Without that sense of the past, there can be no pride or sense of ownership in their community.

The popular complaint heard in recent years is that we live in a transient society, with little sense of family values. Museums help relieve that rootlessness caused by such intense mobility. Museums give people a context within their geographic location and reasons for identifying with the place they live. This sense of connection and value cannot be provided by a legal system or paved roads; it is something they have to discover, with help, from places like museums and libraries. That is an essential part of living and making a home in one location.

In the past few weeks I have been putting together all kinds of lists and statistics to support our reason for being. But the other day a small child showed me one of the most fundamental and moving arguments for the Museum's existence. She had been here earlier that day with her class on a school tour of the Museum. She had returned that same day with her father so that she could give him a tour of the Museum. I wish the Board of Supervisors could have seen the pride, the self-assurance, the sense of ownership, the joy that this child exhibited in guiding her father through the Museum. It was magic, and it is magic that we have seen repeated over and over again. I wish the Board could be here to talk to the elderly people who visit the Museum to share their knowledge of the area with the staff and see the look in the eyes of those people as they discover that they have something of value to share with the community by passing on memories. That is magic.

Magic is bringing a scholar to the Museum to talk about a subject of importance, not just locally, but nationally, and see the look of pride in the eyes of the audience as they realize that Sutter County's past has value and importance on a larger scale.

It is hard to define magic, and it is hard to define just how many roles the Museum plays in the life of the community. When we come to realize that this magic is an essential part of all our lives, and not a luxury, then we will no longer have to explain it. Until then, however, the Museum will continue to suffer onslaughts during the budget season. Lest you think that I am only interested in pulling at the heart strings of the Board and of our membership, here are a few facts for the fiscal year 1992/93:

Over 8,000 people visited the Museum. That figure does not include the children who were visited by the Traveling Trunk, the people who visited the Museum booth at the Prune Festival or attended the Wear and Remembrance Vintage Apparel Show, the people who have attended programs given by the Museum Director outside the Museum, or those who have been the recipients of local history publications written by the Museum staff.

1220 children visited the Museum through school tours, representing 34 schools in the Yuba-Sutter area.

1190 children were served by the Museum Outreach Programs of the Traveling Trunk. The Traveling Trunk visited over 30 schools in the Yuba-Sutter area.

204 children and 114 adults participated in three children's programs

Over 150 research requests were completed, including phone requests, staff and volunteers research, and public use of the Museum's research facilities.

The total proposed budget for the Museum for 1993/94 is \$82,409. With the population of Sutter County at close to 85,000, that is less than \$1.00 per person. Of that proposed budget, the County of Sutter contribution is projected at \$65,955, or 80% of the total budget. The Museum Commission, through its various fund raising events, the gift store, and membership contribute the remaining 20% of the Museum budget.

In the coming year we are going to begin to explore ways in which to raise funds so that the Museum's dependence on the County of Sutter can gradually decrease and we hope that when we ask you for your contribution that you will give generously. But any plan for the establishment of an endowment fund or the creation of a planned giving campaign will take time before we can begin to reap the benefits. Until then we need you to remind your Supervisors now that you consider the Museum an essential part of your life in Sutter County. Without the support of the community, both vocal and financial, the Museum cannot function.



### **TAX RATE FOR SUTTER LOW**

The tax rate for the county of Sutter will be in the neighborhood of \$1.50 this year. The board has not made a rate yet, but the above figures are what have been speculated upon. The rate is \$1.42 without the state tax which is 5 cents. That makes if a total of \$1.47. However, there is another tax to be added later if the board looks favorably upon the exposition tax for four years. Whether or not the fair tax rate will be settled at 6 cents has not yet been decided, but from the board's discussion of the subject they did not seem to look at the figure very favorably. They will probably make the rate 3 cents, so that the tax rate will be \$1.50. Last year the rate for Sutter county was \$1.70, and the state tax was 35 cents.

Oroville Mercury  
September 7, 1911



## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Once again we have several contributors for this issue.

This is the issue where we share the four winning essays from the contest. Kavneet Atwal, Brianne Brathwaite, Francisco Prado, and Abe Sanches all did a fine job. They should be very proud of their accomplishment. We hope they continue their writing endeavors. It was a pleasure to meet Kavneet, Brianne and Francisco at the Annual Dinner when they received their awards. Abe and his family had moved out of the area prior to the dinner. If you have a suggestion for next year's topic, give me a call. Remember this contest is targeted for the fourth grade level.

We would like to thank Quaid Grosz for his help in not only writing a history of the Browns School, but collecting the various items concerning Browns School. Quaid is the eighth grade teacher there and has been instrumental in getting the current students involved in the birthday celebration. He has been more than cooperative and allowed us to borrow the photograph which appears on the front cover. Our job would have been much more difficult without him. We also want to thank Miriam Duncan and Ruby Romovich for their article about Mrs. Peckham. Rob Hensley and Jeanne Brasher are students of Mr. Grosz' who interviewed Mrs. Swetzer and then wrote a paper about the interview. All of the adults who shared their stories with the students should be thanked also.

We would like to thank Elaine Tarke for sharing her notes and the piece she wrote for the 1974 Huskies Homecoming program. We would also

like to thank Don and Beryl Burtis for their help, patience and returned telephone calls. A thank you also goes to Joyce Smith and Joanne Raub, members of the Sutter Union High School Celebration Committee.

Shirley Schnabel makes her second appearance in this bulletin with comments about her school days. There's still more of Shirley to come.

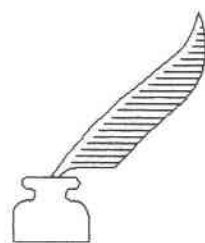
Zelma Corbin gets a special thank you for her contribution. Zelma, your contributions are always welcome. Keep them coming!

Burwell Ullrey was going to write a piece for us, but eye surgery gave him a good excuse not to do the job himself. Instead he allowed himself to be tape recorded. You'll be hearing much more from Burwell in future issues.

If you have a story to share, a memory to relate, an idea for an article -- call us. (Linda - 673-2721 or Sharyl - 674-7741) If you'd rather share your story over the tape recorder, we can arrange that too. Remember, it's up to you to help preserve the history of Sutter County.

The October issue will contain, among other things, an article concerning older houses/buildings in the area. Bert King is contributing to the October bulletin.

Linda Leone  
Sharyl Simmons



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BUILDING AND TRUST FUND

In memory of **Mike Arnoldy**  
Jane & Walter Ullrey

In memory of **Joseph A. Capaul**  
M/M Larry Harris  
M/M John Jelavich  
Robert Schmidl Family

In memory of **Chris Christensen**  
John & Laura Keller

In memory of **Florence Coker**  
Burwell & Loretta Ullrey  
Sutter Buttes Doll Club

In memory of **Jack Curtis**  
M/M Robert Bryant

In memory of **Gene Dowdin**  
Bob & Jean Heilmann

In memory of **Ora Epperson**  
Margery Edmonds

In memory of **Emmett Frye**  
Ray & Lena Frye

In memory of **Marie E. Gallagher**  
Eleanor Holmes  
Barry Holmes Family  
Mary Fran Nicholson

In memory of **Frank Komatsubara**  
M/M Burwell L. Ullrey

In memory of **Dorothy McGee**  
Bee & Dick Brandt

In memory of **William M. McHugh Sr.**  
Constance Cary  
Fidelity Natl. Title Ins. Co

In memory of **Ruth White Morley**  
Judith V. Barr

In memory of **Grace Mosier**  
Geraldine Cheim  
Alice S. Wheeler  
Judith V. Barr  
Beta Chapter Alpha Sigma

In memory of **Eleanor "Myrle" Neal**  
Robert Schmidl Family

In memory of **Mary Rasmussen**  
Evelyn Quigg  
Caroline Ringler

In memory of **Robert "Cob" Saunders**  
M/M James Howard

In memory of **John L. Sims**  
Robert Schmidl Family

In memory of **Martricia Singh**  
M/M Robert Bryant

In memory of the first anniversary of the  
death of **Clarence "Sharkey" Rooney**  
Ruby Romovich

We unpacked our stuff and made our tents. I wrote things on a paper and went straight to sleep after that.

When we woke up the ladies were already up and cooking. We had lots of rice and beans.

This place is beautiful and does not look the same as home. It has trees, birds, and lots of mountains in the distance. There are lots of plants and animals here. There were some animals that were big and mean like the Grizzly bear and raccoons.

It was hot here mostly every day. The sun would always shine. But it got cold sometimes.

All the dinners were delicious. It was different from the other dinners at home. There are lots of things to eat.

I have to do work every day like clean my home, hunting, and cleaning the place.

We started to build houses on the land. We needed a lot of houses to fit everyone in. We all helped work on building the houses. It was hard at first, but we all got used to it.

The Indians were special people. There were not dumb. They were smart people that lived here.

There was a big room that was hot. It was called a sweat room. The Indians would sweat, then they would get a stick and scrape off the sweat, and then they would run and jump into the water that was near.

The women Indians would cook and clean. They would make baskets and some clothes for their people to wear. They made good food. We brought other kinds of food too.

When we needed water and it didn't rain a lot, they would call a Rain Maker. The Rain Maker would pray and

do some dances with the other Indians. He was a wise Indian.

There were lots of Indian dances here. I learned an Indian dance and I'm learning a new one. There are lots of Indian dances that the Indians made.

Your grandson,  
Abe Sanches



Third Prize  
Francisco Prado  
Robbins Elementary School

April 23, 1850

Dear Dad,

After I left Council Bluffs in Iowa it was a hard journey. After we passed Courthouse Rock a wheel broke on the wagon, but luckily we had an extra one. A few days later at Independence Rock we met up with other wagons. We met some very nice families and we have become best friends. We have shared so much and have so much in common. The Sweet Water River was smooth, sparkling and shiny. It was so good to have fresh water to drink and for bathing. A few days later we were in Salt Lake City. It was kind of cold that day. Then we arrived in Carson City, Nevada.

Finally we reached Sacramento where the shiny yellow nuggets were discovered on the American River. The most important thing was that we needed to have a gold pan so we could go mining gold and hopefully be wealthy and rich. We needed to have special boots to wear



to keep our feet warm. We needed to have a back pack to carry other supplies.

A whole bunch of people were looking for gold. Dad, I'm telling you this gold fever is hot. Looking for gold isn't easy. It is kind of hard because you have to know the spot where the gold is. I got some myself and I shouted really hard and all the people were staring at me. I shouted, "Yes, baby, yes!" and I said, "I have gold!" I was jumping up and down like a monkey.

I used my new found riches to buy some land up by John Sutter's property. I see golden fields of wild flowers spread across California's Central Valley. All of us help each other plow our fields and get them ready for planting. I also planted a little rose garden and I grew my first rose. It was beautiful. It was dark red. The soil is so fertile here.

I met a Maidu Indian. He has dark skin with strong white teeth. I went to his home. It is made out of mud. Some Indians don't have much food. Some times I see guys kill them. I feel sorry for the way people treat the Indians and the Chinese.

I go by a ferry to get supplies. It is too hard to get things across the bridge. How are things with you? Hope all is well. Write back when you can.

Bye for now,

Francisco Javeir Prado Carbartas



Second Prize  
Brianne Brathwaite  
YC Alternative School

Boston, Massachusetts  
January 15, 1858

Dear Minty,

I'm sorry I had to leave, but my Papa found the New Bedford Mercury advising that blacks should consider California as a place to settle. My Papa said there's lots of jobs for cooks, barbers, launderers and farmers. There's also lots of gold mines; we hope to get rich. We got here by a boat. We left Boston in 1851 and sailed south toward Cape Horn. It was 18,000 miles in five months. We decided to go this route because it would be safer. Papa said slave patrollers from the south like to capture free black people. On the boat me and my family would have to work. We cleaned up the quarters and put our possessions in order. Most of the time we would play cards. The voyage took so long that the food was turning bad. I was very scared I would get sick and die. I would look out to the sea and wonder if we were going to make it to California. When we arrived some people still weren't happy; they either lost a son, a daughter or a loved one during the voyage. Only 470 people survived the voyage.

When we got to Sacramento Papa and Mama started looking for jobs. They found out there were not many people and it didn't look much like we had read about in the New Bedford Mercury. So we moved on to Marysville. Marysville is a big town. There were more people here. It is a big strange town. The roads are

not paved and buildings are mostly made of wood. It is very different from Boston. The men dress different also. They wear leather over their pants. It is very dusty here. The sun shines a lot here. Also there are mountains that many say are filled with gold. There's lots of different kinds of people. They speak strange languages. Papa said they speak French, Spanish, and some people speak Chinese. Papa also said there's lots of Indians here. No one cares about what color you are.

There's lots of activity here in Marysville. Papa and I went looking for a job, while Mama and Brother went looking for a new house. As Papa and I looked for a job, we saw a blacksmith working. Papa asked if he could get a job here. The blacksmith said, "No, but there was a job in the brewery on First and C Street." A man by the name of Edward P. Duplex gave Papa a job in a mine called "Sweet Vengeance Mine" in Browns Valley. Browns Valley is a town near Marysville. There are a lot of saloons here in Marysville.

There were lots of black people coming here. Most of the them found jobs as barbers. The new people coming had to sleep in tents for a few days before they found a home.

Jesse and Dorothy McGowan helped a lot of people find jobs. Jesse worked as a barber. He knew a man named William T. Ellis who is well known here in Marysville. Dorothy, Jesse's wife, helped Mama find a job as a laundress, and Mama and Papa love their jobs.

Finally in 1853 blacks got to build a new Baptist Church. A person named Samuel T. Webster helped pay for the church. The church is called Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. There were only 15 members to start with. Now the Rev.

Charles Satchell will go and ask Marysville City Council for money to help build us a school.

Although I will miss you Minty, I think Marysville is a better place for my family and me.

Yours most sincerely,

Harriet



First Prize  
Kavneet Atwal  
Central Gaither School

January 24, 1849

My Dearest Brother,

Our long journey by sea was hard. Many people died of diseases and illnesses. Our water supply ran low and we had to watch how much water we drank. Only a few survived and I was one of them. Anyway, those who survived reached California after many months at sea.

On our way we had to go through the Straits of Magellan. It was narrow which made it dangerous. We passed by a lot of countries such as Brazil, Argentina and Panama. We made a port call to get supplies so we didn't get to look around. From Panama we went to Mexico. Finally we reached Yerba Buena. From Yerba Buena I went to New Helvetia. I had heard people on the ship talking about gold that was supposed to be found near the American River. I decided to see if I could stake a claim there. From New

Helvetia I went to Sutter County where the gold was expected to be found.

Sutter County wasn't what I expected it to be. It is quite different compared to Switzerland. The roads are made of planks that squeak as the wagons go over. It is full of dust that flies around everywhere. You also have to haul water out of wells by yourself.

The people around here are called Indians. They don't look like me or many other people who are settling here. Their tribe is called the Maidu. The Maidu live near a small mountain range they call the Histum Yani. The Indians are brown colored and have black marbly eyes. The men wear deerskins around their waists and the women wear furs around their bodies.

The gold rush is becoming very well known. A lot of people are coming from other states and countries. Many are settling in California. I only went digging for gold once because it was too tiring and very difficult for one person on his own.

It was hard because the water was cold which made my feet cold and damp. Also, it took a hard day's work just to get an ounce of gold. I guess I will try to find a job constructing homes.

Towns are growing. A lot of new homes and businesses are being built. Blacksmiths and seamstresses are becoming well known. Stores are being built and started.

Living away from home isn't as easy as you think. There are not many Swiss around here so that makes it even harder. I miss all of my friends I have in Switzerland and most of all I miss you, Mom, Dad and the rest of the family. All I want you to know is that I will always miss home.

I am very excited about this new land though. It will take some time and hard work to get settled and used to.

Sincerely,

Jennie



### BUTTE MUST PAY FOR ONE PUPIL

YUBA CITY, Sept. 2 -- School Superintendent Hobart Heiken has notified the two counties of Butte and Nevada of a claim Sutter county has upon each of them for \$84.93. The money is to pay the costs of two students in the Sutter Union High School last year. The money will be given to the Union High School District to go on next year's fund.

Oroville Mercury

September 2, 1911

**BROWNS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**Rio Oso, California**  
**1863 - 1993**

By Quaid Grosz

Browns Elementary School was erected on land granted by the United States to Zachariah Brown in 1862. The original grant was issued under an "Act of Congress donating public lands to the several states and territories, which may provide Colleges for the benefit of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts." It is unclear whether Browns School was always at its current site. Mrs. Lela Smith, whose husband was a direct descendent of Zachariah's, reports that the school once was close to the Bear River in section 17 or 22 of Township 13. Zachariah also owned the Central Hotel located in this area. This information was related to her by George Algeo, former Sutter County Superintendent of Schools in the 1940s and Carrie Peckham, former Browns School teacher from 1930 to 1953. This is not to be confused with Bear River School that was further east on Bear River at Kempton's Crossing. Other area residents believe that the school was always at its present site.

The present school site is in Section 27 of Township 13 on land originally owned by William Henley Smith who married Zachariah's daughter, Sarah, in 1856. Some speculate that Sarah was the first school marm at Browns School. William Smith later became a respected Sutter County Supervisor.

The Browns School District was formed in 1863 from a portion of the Bear River School District. Bear River School was the first school in Sutter County,

established in 1852 at Kempton's Crossing on the Bear River. In 1879 there were three school districts within the current Browns School District. These included Bear River School, Fairview School, and Browns School. Although the schools were in close proximity to each other, they were necessary because of the difficulty children had getting to and from school during the winter months. The Natomas Company did not begin construction of the levee system until 35 years later. There was often local flooding along the Bear River, Coon Creek, and Yankee Slough, and many times the roads were impassable. Traveling longer distances was often impossible.

The Browns School District budget for 1879 totaled \$729.00 which included \$580.00 for teacher's salaries, \$39.00 for school apparatus, \$110.00 for repairs, fuel and contingent expenses. At that time the enrollment was 37 pupils.

Jane D. Christiensen was the only teacher at Browns School in 1897 and had been associated with the school since at least 1882 when her name appeared in a program for an "exhibition" at the school on Christmas Day. She recited a poem entitled "Christmas Tide." She may, however, have been a student in 1882.

It appears that many community members other than students performed in the 1882 Christmas Exhibition. Henry Simerning, a school trustee, performed a song. W. H. Smith and R. C. Berry served on the program committee. Berry later

became a State Senator. George Smith, 20, and Edward Smith, 16, sons of Sarah (Brown) Smith, also took part in plays. The night was topped off with a temperance drama called "A Little More Cider."

For the 1902-03 school year, the Browns student body consisted of 7 boys and 8 girls, with 9 students in the primary grades and 6 at the grammar school level. There were also 6 children under the age of 5 at the school. All 21 children were native born. There was one female teacher whose salary was \$60.00 per month. The school year was 150 days long. There were 268 books in the school library. The total school budget expenditures were \$554.38. Grace Arfsten, a former Browns student, became the teacher in 1904.

This was essentially the way things were until 1913. If you rode up the gently sloping hill that the school was built on you would see a small, plain-looking wood frame building. There was a shed for the horses, a handpump for water, and the outhouse behind the school. According to Mrs. Lela Smith, who attended Browns from 1913-1918, marbles, hopscotch, baseball, and charades were the popular playtime activities.

In 1913 the Browns School District Trustees, A. D. Arfsten, F. G. Dooley, and W. L. Hudson called for a bond election to raise \$2,500 to build a new school and to purchase furniture and equipment. The March 6, 1913 edition of *The Marysville Appeal* reported, "the people of Browns district are progressive and wide awake, and they, as a rule, believe in keeping abreast with the times. No opposition to the bond issue has sprung up yet, although it is likely there will be a few who will register their votes against the issuance of

the bonds." The original building was torn down, and a new building with a bell tower was constructed. It eventually became a tradition for graduating eighth grade boys to climb the bell tower and carve their names as a last reminder of their years at Browns. There were now two outside privies, one for boys and one for girls. Mrs. Smith also relates that they were, of course, knocked over every Halloween.

In 1925, an addition was made to the school building which included a classroom north of the bell tower, an office and restrooms. By 1930 there were two teachers at Browns School, Carrie Peckham and Ethel Roberson. Each teacher taught four grades. Carrie Peckham soon became principal and remained at the school until her retirement in 1953. She is still spoken of fondly by many members of the community who had her as a teacher. She was said to be very strict, but combined her strictness with love for her students. Many stories are told about her occasional use of rulers and being hit by an eraser thrown by Mrs. Peckham when you weren't paying attention. For a more complete biography of Carrie, see the article by her daughter, Miriam Duncan, and her former student, Ruby Romovich.

The ritual of eighth grade boys carving their names in the old bell tower came to an abrupt end in 1971. On December 22, 1971 when the construction of a new Browns School was almost complete, a fire, probably caused by a short circuit in the wiring and aggravated by strong winds, destroyed the old building. The entire building and bell tower burned to the ground. The historic school bell was recovered in three large pieces and repaired. It was displayed on



a frame in front of the school, but was later stolen.

The students, staff, and community members of Browns School have been researching the history of our school and community. Many interviews of former students and long-time residents have been made. This information will be combined into a history book and computer database which will be available at the Sutter County Branch Library on the Browns School campus. A great celebration and reunion will be held at the school on August 14, 1993 to commemorate our school's 130 years. Browns continues to provide a delightful rural atmosphere while maintaining a high standard of academic excellence.

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## **Browns School**

By Deanna Adams and Katie Pike

Imagine being in a small two room school in 1922 with only 40-50 kids in the entire school. The wooden waxed floors were old and creaky, and there was thick black smoke coming from the four burning oil lamps. The students came from their cold farmhouses to learn about Arithmetic, Geography, History, Reading, and Science. Miriam Duncan and Jim Taresh experienced this every day of their childhood. George Derby worked as the janitor, coach, and drove the bus.

A typical day in the fall for these students was tiring. In the morning the

children did chores, such as the following: milked the cows, fed the animals, collected firewood, and got water from the well. All the women in the house, including the mothers and daughters, made breakfast and washed the dishes after their meal.

On foot or on horseback the children went to school. At the time Ethel Roberson, Dorothy Spicer, Carrie Peckham, and Mrs. Hensen, later known as Mrs. Almond, were teachers. Mrs. Peckham was Mrs. Duncan's mother. She also served as the principal for a long time. Usually there weren't subs for the teachers back then. When one of the teachers was sick or couldn't make it to school, a mother from nearby would come and teach until the teacher came back.

Many games were played during recess time. The most popular card game was Quist. The other games were marbles and mumblethepeg. Usually the boys played mumblethepeg. They would draw a circle in the dirt with their pocket knives. They then took turns throwing their knives into the circle. When the knife landed, a line was drawn. After everyone had thrown his knife into the circle, the one who had the largest piece won. For the girls hopscotch, jump rope, and rings were popular.

At 3 o'clock school ended and they went home to do their chores. Some of the chores were collecting water from the well, milking the cow, getting firewood, feeding animals, and collecting eggs. The boys would fish, hunt, or collect insects. The girls would sew patch work quilts or sew a new dress for a special occasion.

Our class enjoyed hearing about the old times Mr. Taresh, Mrs. Duncan and Mr. Derby shared with us.

## CAROLINE M. PECKHAM

By Miriam (Peckham) Duncan &  
Ruby (Woolever) Romovich

Caroline McNamara Peckham (affectionately called "Carrie") was born in Nicolaus, California on March 29, 1885. Her family farmed on the property near where Julian and Nancy Rolufs now live. Julian's Father, Ted Rolufs, and his family were neighbors of the McNamara's. Carrie's sister Anita is the mother of Barbara Worth, the well-known horsewoman known throughout the world.

Carrie and her sister Anita attended high school in Marysville but her daughter Miriam does not know if they graduated from that school. In 1910 she began her teaching career in the Lone Tree District which is the Smartsville-Spenceville area in Yuba County. She "boarded" with the Peckham family who had a young son named William or "Bill", who became her husband around 1921. They had two daughters who died in infancy. Their surviving daughter is Miriam Peckham Duncan. After teaching in Lone Tree for two years, she went to the Cottonwood district for half a term. Next she taught in Crockett, then in Sheridan. From the latter school she went to Browns School.

She became a teacher in Browns School in 1930 and one year later she was named the Principal. She remained there until the Fall of 1953 when she retired at the age of 68. She taught the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. She probably never fully realized the impact that she made on the lives of SO many students during the years she taught! She was strict. She would use a ruler on the boys' knuckles -- I never

saw her do it on the girls -- when they were misbehaving but they all agreed when they became adults that "Mrs. Peckham was the best teacher I ever had!" She loved us all and praised us when we accomplished a hard task, but at the same time she was known to say, "Now, don't you think you could have done better?" We all strived to please her because we knew she truly wanted us to achieve at whatever we did. We could stay after school and she was never too busy to talk to us. If a student had problems learning their spelling lesson, she would either help them or ask another student to stay and "go over and over" the words until they could spell them.

After we entered high school, most of us continued to stop by Browns at some time and tell her what "was happening to us in school." She truly was a dedicated teacher who loved each one of us and believed in us. So many who went on to be very successful in life attribute the early training that they received from her as a "stepping stone" to their success.

When she retired in 1953, her retirement party was held in the Rio Oso Community Hall and over 400 people attended. Included in this number were families where more than one generation experienced the teaching skills and kindness of Mrs. Peckham. The McLain family came from Oregon -- Frank McLain had been a trustee at Browns in the 1930s. Some guests came from Los Angeles, some from the Crockett area, and some former students from the Sheridan school were there.

After she retired she continued living in the home place near the Browns School, and was active in the community until just a few years before her death at the age of 91-1/2.

She died on October 20, 1976 and her funeral services were held in the Fairview Christian Church on Saturday, October 23, 1976 at 2:00 p.m. A reception was held in the Rio Oso Hall following the services and many of her former students came back to say a final "good-bye" to a beloved teacher and a good and faithful friend to all who knew her. She is buried in the Peckham Family plot in the Wheatland Cemetery. Her two infant babies were already buried there and now her husband William lies beside her.

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## MRS. SWETZER

By Rob Hensley &  
Jeanne Brasher

Imagine driving all the way to Wheatland from Rio Oso without having to pay attention to your driving. All a person had to do was start his Model T and go. This was one of the stories Mrs. Swetzer told when we interviewed her.

Mrs. Swetzer moved here in 1924 at the age of 17. She moved here from Auburn, after living in Loomis for a short period of time. Her children went to Browns School and graduated from East Nicolaus High School. She married Walter Swetzer (now deceased), and they moved where she lives now.

One of the best stories she told us was the one where James Taresh wrote in his diary about his job and the school. His wife was disgusted because there was nothing about his family.

The Natomas Building Company, which built all the levees we know now,

had it headquarters down the road from the Rio Oso Post Office. The land now belongs to the Farm Bureau. The Farm Bureau also hosted town gatherings (such as potlucks) in the Community Hall.

The Community Hall was at one time just a warehouse. It was located down the road from the post office by Jim Taresh's house, near the south side of the Bear River levee. Then it was removed from that site and placed at its present location. According to Mrs. Swetzer all the fellows used logs and mules to move the hall. The hall was also donated by the Natomas Company. The fellows moved most of the logs by hand and some by mules. While most were huffing and puffing some men were rolling the logs by hand. It was hard for most of the men to do this job. Mrs. Swetzer said, "Mr. Taresh and Mr. Derby had part of this duty also." Mr. Derby said, "They used logs to help the mules out."

The post office was located in a store that was on the west side of Highway 70, which was in the parking lot of where Beets Trucking is now. In the store they also gave haircuts for 25 cents.

The bus drivers were George Derby, Willard Brown, Walter Brewer, Dale Haymore, and our current bus driver, John Hammersla.

Mrs. Swetzer told us about the men who went to war and the girls who would race on the tractors to see who could get to Four Corners and drop their load of peaches first.

We hope you enjoyed our story on Mrs. Swetzer and enjoyed this history of Browns School.

# **SUTTER UNION HIGH SCHOOL**

## **Sutter, California**

### **1893 - 1993**

The following information was found in the "Program of Dedication Exercises" for Sutter Union High School. The dedication was a two-day event held March 13 & 14, 1913.

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SUTTER UNION HIGH SCHOOL**

Compiled by Ethel C. Peters, Department of English

The desire for a High School in Sutter City had been agitating in the minds of the people in that place and surrounding districts for some months, when one morning in 1892 Mrs. J.P. Smith, then of Sutter, read an article describing the organization of a Union High School District. She gave this paper to Mr. William Ellington, also of Sutter, and he in turn interested a number of others; among them were R.W. Tharp, W.M. Wadsworth, George Saye and Joseph Girdner. A number of outlying districts favored the plan. Accordingly a petition for an election was circulated; a sufficient number of signers was obtained, and the election held in the Spring of 1893.

Fifteen districts, namely: Union, Washington, Farmer, Hill, Slough, West Butte, Prairie, Noyes, North Butte, Meridian, Winship, Salem, Brittan, Live Oak and Rome joined the Union. The law provided that the Clerk of the Board of Trustees from each district should be a member of the High School Board of Trustees. J.Q. Lisle, W.M. Wadsworth, George Betty, Wm. Hardy, Ira Wood, James Carroll, John Schlag, Charles Vivion, Frank Graves, H.B. Spilman, A.H.

Albertson, P.E. Garmire, H. Poffenberger, E.J. Tharp and William Niesen, comprising the Board of Trustees, met for the first time May 18, 1893.

Brittan district owned a large Grammar School building, only a small portion of which was in use. This district offered to deed the remainder of the building to the High School, so long as it used the building for school purposes. In accordance with this agreement, they located there under the name of the "Sutter City Union High School."

In September, 1893, school opened for the first term with fifteen pupils enrolled. Mr. J.C. Ray, the first teacher, arranged a three year course of study, which was completed in 1896 by four students: Florence Davis, Hattie Wren, Maude Hawley, and William Hoffman.

Another year's work was added to the course in 1900. The school won recognition and was accredited by the State University in 1901.

The first interest in school activities is discernible in 1906, when the Senior Class organized the "Debating Society of the Class of '06 of the Sutter Union High School." This society met every Friday for a time, but soon adopted the plan of



meeting every alternate Friday. Under this arrangement, the society became permanent and changed its name to "The Literary Society" in which all members of the student body and faculty of the High School hold membership. This Literary Society was instrumental in publishing the first school paper, the "Gold and White." The regularly elected staff of officers of this paper, which is published annually, has grown in number from nine in 1906, to nineteen in 1913.

A German Club was organized in 1903 and has met off and on ever since.

Interest in athletics exceeds that of any other activity in the school. In 1900 S.U.H.S. held its first track meet at Gridley, where they won a trophy cup. Several times, the track team has taken first place in the Northern California High School Athletic League. At present they hold the Fiesta Arborea Perpetual Cup. For a number of years there has been a lively interest in baseball and basketball. Every care is being taken that the physical development shall be of great value in the mental training of the students.

One of the most profitable and loyally supported school activities is that of Debating. The "Debating Society" has a lively membership which is planning for splendid achievements in the future.

The High School faculty numbers five, who offer courses in History, English, Science, Languages and Commercial Work to a student body of one hundred members.

The efficiency of the Sutter Union High School is evident when a survey is made of the pursuits of the Alumni. There are doctors, dentists, stenographers, teachers, nurses, elocutionists, merchants, clerks and farmers, each of whom is successful in his line. All of the members

of last year's class (1912) are taking some course of higher training. Such records certify to the fact that the Sutter Union High School is producing capable, useful men and women.

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The following information was previously printed in the Sutter High School Homecoming program in 1974. It was written by Elaine Tarke and we present it here with her permission.

Three courses of study were offered. A two or three year business college course, which prepared for office work; a high school course which fit the student for work on the farm or in the trades; and an academic course which enabled one to enter the university. A branch high school was located in East Nicolaus which offered the regular academic course. (East Nicolaus offered only a three year program. If you wanted to take the four year college preparatory program, you had to attend Sutter High School for the fourth year of study.) Students living at a distance of five or more miles from the school were refunded transportation money amounting to one cent for each mile traveled in going to and from high school, or were entitled to free transportation by buses specially provided for this purpose.

During the school season, community programs including moving pictures, were given on Thursday evenings in the Sutter Union High School and on Friday evenings in the branch high school. Two publications served to keep up interest in the affairs of the institution, namely: The Sutter Union, a bright four-page, four column weekly and the annual Gold and White.



The Trustees of the Sutter Union High School in 1913 were L.F. Tarke (President), E.S. Wadsworth (Clerk), A.W. Graves, J.M. Hampton, and W.E. Gault. The faculty consisted of W.F. Turner (Principal) who taught Science, Mathematics, and Drama; Ethel Clara

Peters (Vice-Principal) who taught English and History; J.S. Brown who taught Latin and History, Elsie Kimball who taught German and Commercial classes; and Martha O'Neil Stemm who taught English, Mathematics and Drawing.

## **COURSES OF STUDY (1913 CURRICULUM)**

- Literary:** 1st year - English, Algebra, Latin, History  
2nd year - English, Geometry, Latin, History  
3rd year - English, German or Latin, U.S. History  
4th year - English, German or Latin, U. S. History
- Scientific:** 1st year - English, Algebra, German, Free Hand Drawing  
2nd year - English, Geometry, German, Mechanical Drawing  
3rd year - English, Algebra, Trigonometry, Chemistry  
4th year - English, Algebra, Solid Geometry, Physics, U. S. History
- General**  
**Culture:** 1st year - English, History  
2nd year - English, History  
3rd year - English, History  
4th year - English, History
- Commercial:** 1st year - English, Bookkeeping  
2nd year - English, Bookkeeping  
3rd year - English, Stenography, Typing  
4th year - English, Stenography, Typing

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### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The High School's annual publication is known as the Gold and White. There have, however, been exceptions. In 1934, the publication was called Sea of Memories. In 1942 and 1943, it was called The Husky.

## SOME MEMORIES OF MY SCHOOL DAYS

By Shirley Dean Schnabel

(The following is the result of an interview Linda Leone did with Shirley Schnabel on March 18, 1993)

I went to Brittan School. It was located where the school is now, but the building has all been rebuilt. There weren't too many youngsters; we had two classes in each room.

My sister, Edwina, and I went to school in a horse-drawn cart. They had a barn there for the horses. Some people rode their horses. Usually we had pretty good driving horses. We'd always have races with other people. Ours could out-trot most of those other horses so we'd always have a race going to school.

All of my classes were good. I remember Miss Hill. Eleta Hill. She lived out at West Butte. She came to school with a horse and buggy too until she finally graduated to a Ford coupe. I think that's what she had. She was a great teacher. Sam Betty was a teacher in our upper classes. He was a baseball freak. During the World Series, most of the boys got excused to go listen to the baseball game on the radio.

The girls played baseball. We played other schools. I don't remember which ones now. I tried to play. I wasn't a very good player but with Sam Betty being a baseball nut, he was out and he had us all gung-ho on baseball. The boys had track too. I don't remember the girls playing track so much, but we did play baseball. I attended the Sutter High School which burned. They have no

record of whether I went there or not. I took general classes preparatory for college. My favorite teacher was Dot Edgar. She spent a lot of time with us.

She taught P.E. and sciences, I guess. Lois Stollard taught math. Dot must have taught science. Through her I learned a lot about the flowers in the Buttes because she used to ride with me up in the Buttes; tell me about all the flowers and things. Learned a lot through her.

Senior Cut Day she took the group down to her place on the Russian River. We had Model T Fords and I went with the Meischkes in a Model T Ford. There must have been six or seven of us in that. Now days, they wouldn't dare let kids do that. Anyway, we went to the Russian River and had a great time down there. Spent the weekend. Kids were drafted into all different types of chores to carry on. I guess all this was set up and organized ahead of time. Other teachers were chaperons. Kids could swim in the river or they could do whatever they wanted to do. Go hiking. We had a great time.

I'm sure there were under thirty in my graduating class (1931). It was a pretty intimate class. Some of us had gone through grammar school together too.

## **REGULATIONS OF THE SCHOOL 1913**

(Program of Dedication Exercises - Sutter Union High School)

Sixteen units of work are required for graduation, one unit being obtained by a passing mark in a subject which requires five recitations a week for one school year.

All units not prescribed in a course are elective from any work given in the school, for the given year of the student.

A recitation in school presupposes a preparation of forty-five minutes. Thus a student taking the regular course of four subjects should study at least one hour at home.

Spelling and Penmanship are required of all students.

Parents and friends are requested to co-operate with the faculty in bringing before the students the desirability and necessity of consistent, thorough work throughout the year.

The Principal is anxious to confer with the parents on all subjects at any time during the year.

The public is cordially invited to attend all sessions of the school.

The school is a member of the Northern California High School Athletic League. For a student to participate in one of its contests he must be doing passing work in four subjects and recommendable work in three subjects.

The school building is opened at 8:30 a.m. and closed at 4:00 p.m. All parents are requested to see that the students do not leave home too early nor arrive at home too late to conform with these hours.



### **Sutter Out for Speed Ball Title**

Sutter City, Oct. 29, 1924 -- Speedball, a game introduced this year into interscholastic athletics, is being developed at Sutter Union school and a fast squad organized here has prospects of winning sub-league championship. Last Friday Sutter won from Live Oak 4 to 3, and will play Williams here on the coming Saturday. Live Oak was considered the most favorable opponent and Sutter fans believe the local school will win the pennant.

The Sutter County Farmer  
October 29, 1924

## ANOTHER FIRST!

Contributed by Zelma Corbin

My first teaching position was at Central Gaither School in 1933. My seventh and eighth grade girl students asked me if I would start a Girl Scout's group. Thus, the first Girl Scout Troop was formed in the Tudor area in Sutter County. We were known as Lone Troop #1, with membership ranging from fourth grade through Yuba City High School. We had as many girls from High School as from the elementary grades and all were from the Tudor area.

Our meetings were held at the Boy Scout's clubhouse which was on the Saunder's property. Our meetings were geared to cover interests of the various ages.

This troop was formed in the Spring of 1934. Mrs. John Heiken (Inga Hess) with whom I lived, was one of the Board members. She and her husband, who was a Sutter County Supervisor, made arrangements for our troop to spend a weekend at a hunting club near Colusa. We also had outdoor get togethers with the Boy Scouts.

A friend of mine who was a teacher at Barry School asked me to help her start a girl's troop at Barry. After marrying in June of 1935, I moved to Meridian. There, in 1936, I started another Girl Scout Troop which existed for as long as I remained there--for four years.

So, within a period of a few years, I started three troops and was leader of two of these -- the first and the third in Sutter County.



## CELEBRATIONS!

*Browns School is celebrating its 130th Anniversary this year. On August 14, 1993 a reunion/birthday party will be held at the school. For further information, please contact the school at 633-2523.*

*Sutter Union High is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year. Activities are scheduled for the 24th and 25th of September. For further information, contact the school at 741-5161. The Office will be open mornings during the summer.*

## *Happy Anniversary!*

## WEST BUTTE SCHOOL

By Burwell M. Ullrey

(The following is the result of an interview Linda Leone did with Burwell M. Ullrey on June 22, 1993.)

I was about five-and-a-half years old when I started at West Butte School. My first teacher was Christine Wilbur. She taught school there -- was teaching school when I started to school. I don't recall what year she left. Verona Hill was my second teacher, the second teacher that I had there and when she retired, the school retired. That's when the school closed down and they retired her. She had a sister, Eleta Hill, who taught grammar school in the town of Sutter. She finished up teaching my wife at Sutter Grammar School.

We studied reading, writing, and arithmetic. Spelling too, of course. I won't forget spelling.

It was a neat little school. There were about 12-14 students when I was there and when we had our recitation of our lessons for the day, why we always went and sat on a big bench in front of the school and our teacher would talk to us and ask us our questions or whatever she wanted to do and then when that class was finished, she would ask for maybe the fourth grade or the fifth grade to come up. Usually there was only one or two in the eighth grade. That was my experience as a student out at West Butte.

Discipline was handled by Mrs. Wilbur and Miss Hill. They didn't have any problem with the children because they loved their teacher. We all lived right there, pert-near as one big family so we thought a great deal about each other.

There weren't any problems. To my knowledge, I never saw Verona Hill raise her voice to anyone at school.

The school was a one-room school house and we had two rooms outside. In each corner of the playground was a room -- one for the boys in one place and one for the girls in another. The rooms were pretty close to the edge of the ditch bank. We had no running water. Our water system was a handpump in a little pumphouse out in back of the school that had the concrete floor and the rest of the building was made out of lattice work with a roof over the top of it. Occasionally, we had things come in there that weren't exactly right for the students and we'd take and get the rattlesnakes out when we had to and get rid of them. We killed 'em. The teacher never had to do that 'cause usually it was when we decided we wanted to go get a drink of water during class time, well, that's when we'd find the rattlesnake in the pumphouse and take care of it.

The school had a woodburning stove. That's another thing we had to do, carry the wood in. Dad saw that they had the wood there. My brother and I would help him with that too.

We walked about three-quarters to a mile to school. We took our lunch with us and then we walked home. We usually had a lunch pail of some type. Many of them were made out of pipe tobacco cans that had been discarded. They made a



good lunch box so that's what we packed our lunch in. We had very good lunches. We probably had two sandwiches, some type of a green vegetable or maybe a carrot or celery or something like that. Sometimes we'd take a cooked vegetable in a jar and eat it there and usually had an apple or an orange or a piece of cake for dessert.

We had one ball and one bat and if the ball wasn't lost and the weather was right, we played ball or we played hopscotch or if the weather was raining, why then we spent the rest of the time in the school house. And as far as what kind of games we played in there, I don't remember.

We had inkwells and we changed pen points whenever we'd break one of them or bend it or something. Paper and pens were supplied by the school. We had a very dear teacher who would go into Marysville whenever she could and she'd go to G.W. Hall's Stationery Store and that's where she got the pens and pencils and paper for us to write on. And spelling books also. The ones where she'd give out the word and you'd write it down. Twenty-five words now and then. Maybe a hundred at examination time.

I went to school with George "Bud" Wallace, his sister Emma Wallace (Mrs. Howard), Josephine Marty from over on the Sacramento River, her sister Margaret Marty, and her brother Joseph Marty, and Joyce Ballew. My best friends were my brother, Leigh, and Bud Wallace.

Getting ready for summer, if there wasn't any work we had to do on the ranch, Leigh and I'd take and walk the rock wall fences with our sling shots and kill rattlesnakes. That was our pastime. I

moved from West Butte when I was thirteen years old and in the seventh grade. We moved to Yuba City. My folks moved very shortly after school started. I stayed with my aunt and uncle, Art and Sylvie Adams. They lived over on the Sacramento River, just south of the Garmire Warehouse, on the Kirkpatrick ranch. I came to Yuba City at the Christmas vacation break.

The family moved to Yuba City because my dad was going into the (funeral) business here at that time with a man by the name of Jones. That partnership only lasted three years and my dad sold out to Jones. He went back into the sheep business again and he had sheep pastured up where Camp Beale is today.

I attended Yuba City Grammar School on the corner of Bridge and Plumas Street. The school building, of course, is no longer there. They tore it down and put in a new one. They tore some of the main buildings down that they had built after I had graduated from grammar school, but the new building is built way back off the street now. Being a country boy and not being in town too very much, why of course, about the first thing they decided to do -- Chester Winship was the principal of the school when I started there in the middle of my seventh grade. Our classrooms were upstairs in the old building and Mr. Winship says -- I don't think I'd been there a week -- he came up and he said, "Bud, will you push that button up there, please." I did and the siren went off and it was a fire drill. And I tell you, it scared the devil out of me. We didn't have fire drills (at West Butte School) and I think he just did it for meanness because he knew I was new.

# Kid's Page

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Can you find these words?

ABE SANCHEZ

GIRL SCOUTS

MISS BRATHWAITE

BEAR RIVER

HUSKIES

NATOMAS

BIRTHDAY

BROWNS SCHOOL

J C RAY

RIO OSO

CARRIE PECKHAM

KAVNEET ATWAL

SUMMER

CELEBRATION

SUTTER HIGH SCHOOL

CENTRAL GAITHER

LEE DEWITT

THE GOLD AND WHITE

FRANCISCO PRADO

LITERARY SOCIETY

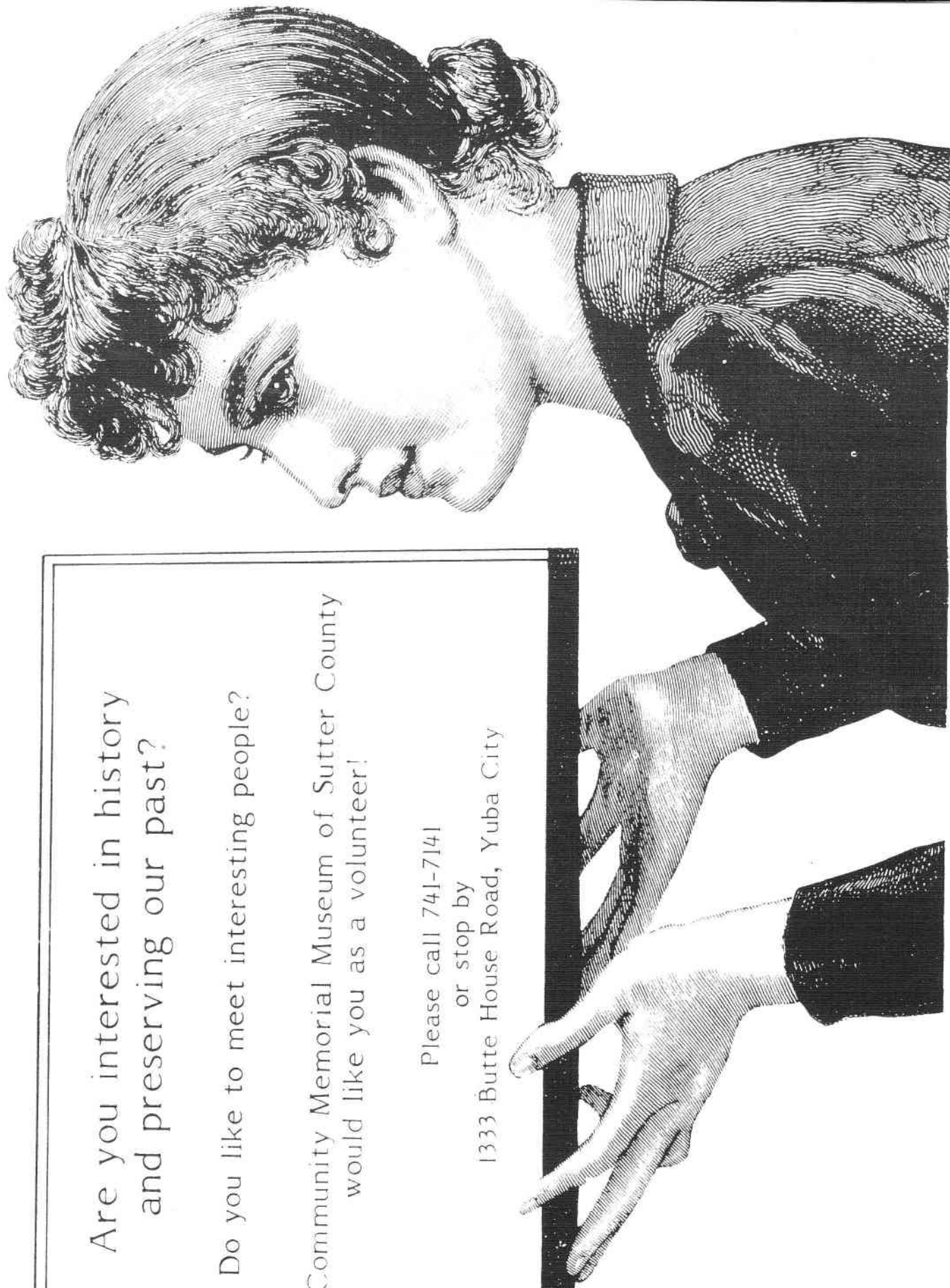
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and preserving our past?

Do you like to meet interesting people?

The Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County  
would like you as a volunteer!

Please call 741-7141  
or stop by

1333 Butte House Road, Yuba City



## COMING EVENTS

### JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 7 Lilliput Players - Sutter County Library - 7:00 p.m. (musicals)
- 14 Children's Workshop - 1:00 - 3:00 at the Museum  
Story Teller: Jack Surmani  
Project: Build olive crate/learn olive curing process
- 15 Children's Reading Program - 3:30-4:30 at the Museum (no charge)  
Voices & Visions - American Poetry Comes Alive (Reading/Discussion)  
Community Memorial Museum - 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Historical Society Meeting - 7:30 p.m. at the Museum  
Speaker: Amy E. Schoap Topic: Freda Ehmann
- 22 Children's Reading Program - 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Museum  
Voices & Visions (Discussion) - Sutter County Library - 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Yuba-Sutter Fair begins 5-day run
- 29 Children's Reading Program - 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Museum  
Voices & Visions (Discussion) - Sutter County Library - 7:00 p.m.

### AUGUST

- 4 Lilliput Players - Sutter County Library - 7:00 p.m. (Shakespeare)
- 5 Children's Reading Program - 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Museum
- 12 Children's Reading Program - 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Museum
- 14 Browns School 130th Birthday Celebration
- 18 Lilliput Players - Howard Harter Memorial Park (behind the Museum)  
6:30 p.m. (full-length play)
- 19 The Development of the Agriculture Experiment Stations in California  
Speaker: Dr. Andre Lauchli (UC Davis) - 7:00 p.m. at the Museum

### SEPTEMBER

- 5 Freda Ehmann exhibit closes
- 6 Labor Day
- 11-12 Prune Festival
- 24-25 Sutter Union High School 100th Birthday Celebration

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