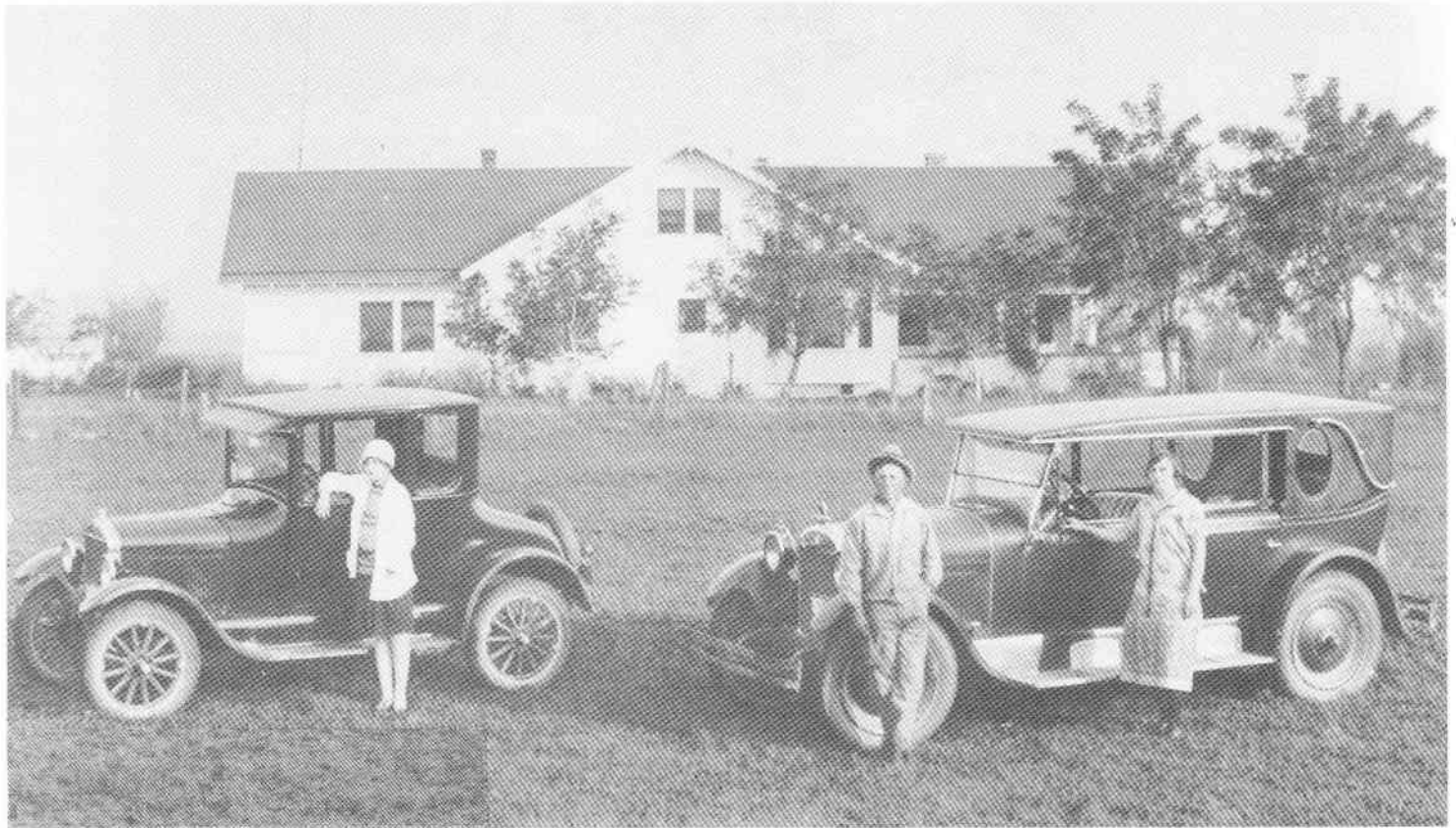


Sutter County Historical Society News Bulletin

Vol. XXXVII No. 4

Yuba City, California

October, 1996



**Ambrose Scheiber Dairy
Nicolaus, California 1926**
(Left to Right: Evelyn, Ambrose and Rose Scheiber)
(Photo Credit: Faye Scheiber)

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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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 1997 dues are payable as of January 1, 1997.

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

My good friends -- Realize that we have journeyed through another bountiful summer, and have completed about three-quarters of the year of our Lord, 1996. Realize also what we have accomplished in the recent yesterdays is history.

All the many events, all the many sounds, sights, touches, scents and flavors with which we have come in contact have made an impression upon our lives. And the contacts we have had with our fellow beings and they with us have also left an indelible imprint upon our lives. Whom did we touch? -- Who touched us?

Being a member of our local Historical Society should help to instill in each one of us the fact that we can all be historians. We need not only be paying our dues, attending events, lending a hand in various capacities, but we -- each one of us -- can joyfully write history as we see it unfold each day!

I believe that the following would be a bully idea: Each of us obtain a bound notebook and some time each day, jot down the current happenings, for example the who, what, why, when and where of the goings-on. Many of you perhaps already do such -- for those who don't, I urge us to do so. It's good self discipline, good reading for someone in the next century and who knows -- we may learn to even better appreciate our bountiful lives here in the United States of America.

Whom did you touch today? Who touched you?

Bruce Harter
President



Conference of California Historical Societies

"The Mission of the Conference is the preservation of California history by unifying and strengthening historical organizations throughout the State."

The Conference of California Historical Societies was formed in 1953 as a means to bring together the many historical societies and museums throughout the State to share their common needs and expertise, and to bind them together in the interest of history in California.

Meetings are held in various locations. The Annual Meeting in June alternates between northern and southern sites. The Fall Symposium meets in northern California. The Spring Symposium meets in southern California. The aim is to convince more people to attend all of the meetings and thereby increase the strength of history in our State.

The Sutter County Historical Society is a member of this organization. Our liability insurance coverage is purchased through this group. In the past, Dewey Gruening has attended some of the CCHS meetings, paying his own expenses.

Director's Report

The Museum has been fortunate enough to employ a new Assistant Curator, Kristen Childs. She comes to us with a strong interest in museums, a degree in history, and work experience at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu and volunteer experience at the Sacramento Archives. This enthusiastic young woman has stepped right into our busy schedule and has already proved indispensable. She is a native of Sacramento, but will soon be settled here in Yuba City. We welcome Kristen as part of our museum staff.

Liz Garrison, interim Assistant Curator, who did such an excellent job of filling the gap when the Museum staff was reduced by Jackie's resignation, has been induced to continue on several days a week until the East Indian exhibit is completed. Liz has been named Guest Curator in recognition of the great effort she has put into it, with countless hours of researching, collecting information and objects, meetings, writing text and labels, and, finally, in the exhibit fabrication itself. This has truly been Liz's project, and she has become intensely knowledgeable about the history of our East Indian community.

"A Continuous Journey: The Punjabi Experience in the Sacramento Valley" opens at the Museum with an open reception on Friday, September 27 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The exhibit will run through December 1. Several programs are planned during the course of the exhibit. A children's program of East Indian storytelling and dance will take place at the Museum on Saturday, October 12 at 1:00 p.m. There is no charge, but preregistration is required.

We are looking forward to a program on family history led by Jane Singh, an area native and professor at U. C. Berkeley. She and a panel will provide an interesting afternoon on Saturday, October 19 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. A portion of an exhibit created several years ago by Ms. Singh on Southeast Asians in North America is included in *"The Continuous Journey."*

A tour of the Sikh and Hindu temples in Yuba City will take place on Saturday, November 9, commencing at 10:00 a.m. at the Museum. Again, preregistration is required, although there is no charge. We hope that you will participate in these programs and enjoy learning, as we have, about our close neighbors in the Punjabi community. The Museum staff's collaboration with the East Indians for Community Enhancement to produce this exhibit has been a most pleasant and productive one.

As we look toward the holiday season, remember that you are invited to attend the Christmas ornament workshops on Wednesday, October 16 and Tuesday, November 12, both from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Bring a friend and help create the ornaments that will decorate the big Museum tree.

Look for the Museum booth at Beckwourth Frontier Days in Riverfront Park on October 5th and 6th. See you at the Historical Society dinner meeting in Nicolaus.

Julie Stark
Director

Letter from the Editors

This issue is the result of two *very* cooperative ladies. No, not Sharyl and Linda. Ruby (Woolever) Romovich has contributed three articles and two photographs to this issue. She has much more information to share and we will be hearing from her in future articles. In addition to telling us about Rose and Ambrose Scheiber's home and other information concerning the Nicolaus area, Faye Scheiber provided us with the wonderful cover picture; this is just a portion of a large picture depicting the Scheiber ranch. The large photograph shows the out buildings, Mrs. Scheiber's turkeys, cows, etc. We know the picture was taken on a Monday because the washing is hanging on the line in the background. I understand there are other "ranch photos" similar to this one of other ranches. Was there a photographer who came through the area in 1926 taking these pictures or was this an idea developed by certain ranchers/farmers in this area?

We have an article about Jim Taresh of Rio Oso which space did not allow us to print in this issue. Jim and his wife, Gene, will share their "Expo '39" stories in the January issue. Jim's article will appear later in the year.

We have been gathering "Expo '39" stories for the January Bulletin. Contact us if you attended and share your memories of how you got there, what you saw and what impressed you the most. We have the names of some people who attended and will be contacting them to hear what they have to say about the experience.

Give us a call at 673-2721 (Linda) or 674-7741 (Sharyl) to tell us about your trip to "Expo '39."

In the April Bulletin, we will be focusing on "Entertainment." We see this as covering a large area of activities. We want to hear what you did for fun whether it was attending or playing in the ball games which were so much a part of the communities, belonging to clubs or organizations, or going to the dances. We'd like to hear about the various dance locations in Sutter County and the bands who played there. What else did you do for entertainment?

Other articles planned for next year include another submission by Carol Worthington. Carol will be writing a piece about S. J. Stabler. Don Burtis will be submitting an article concerning the "Hock Farm" doors located on Garden Highway and the building to which they belonged.

Articles or information submitted to us does not need to fit into those categories so contact us and share your stories or research with us. Remember, we're all in this together.

One of our past contributors has recently published a book. Dorothy Jenkins Ross of Live Oak has written about her family's farm. The book is titled Jenkins Farms and is available for viewing and for sale at the Museum. Stop in and take a look; we think you will enjoy it.

Linda Leone
Sharyl Simmons



Memorial Contributions

Following are memorial contributions made to the Sutter County Historical Society and the Community Memorial Museum.

In Memory of **Josephine Boardman Andrews**
Howard & Ruth Anthony

In Memory of **Barney Barnickol**
Richard & Elaine Tarke

In Memory of **Robert Chandler**
Joe & Patti Benatar

In Memory of **Howard & Francis Cull**
Richard & Elaine Tarke

In Memory of **James E. Darrough**
James F. Gilpatric

In Memory of **Edward Davis**
Jane & Fred Boone

In Memory of **Sadie Drew**
Richard & Elaine Tarke

In Memory of **Harold S. Edwards**
Wanda Rankin

In Memory of **Betty Boardman Frandrup**
Howard & Ruth Anthony
Bill & Betty Arnett

In Memory of **Gerald "Skipper" Frye II**
Alpha Sigma, Delta Chapt.
Bernice Amarel
Ray & Janice Anderson
Dale & Alma Burtis
Ruth & Jackie Chandler
Leo & Alice Chesini
M/M W. D. Chipman

Joseph V. Costello, Jr.
The Forderhase Family
Patricia & Frank Fournier
Ray & Lena Frye
M/M Thomas Frye
Don & Leila Gillett
Frank Gilpatric & Family
Bill & Carol Hamon
Howard & Bobbie Hardie
M/M Larry Harris
Jim & Joeann Henderson
Woodrow & Dorothy Jang
Bob & Jean Kells
M/M Albert King
Edward & Carol Koelker
Ned Lemenager
Ron & Liz Long
Eugene Lonon
Robert Mohammed
Dewey Mostad
Dean & Andra Munson
M/M David Nall
Donald & Marjorie Nelson
Mrs. Frederick Onstott
Ida Philpott
Norman & Loadel Piner
George & Dottie Post
Rachel L. Rees
Fritz & Marilyn Strain
Wm. Struckmeyer Family
Louis & Betty Tarke
Richard & Elaine Tarke
Suellen & Tom Teesdale

In Memory of **Anna Gilbert**
Norman & Loadel Piner

In Memory of **Arleatha Gillett**
Richard & Elaine Tarke

In Memory of **Euna Proper Hall**
James F. Gilpatric
Norman & Loadel Piner

In Memory of **Angela Hauss**
Eleanor Holmes

In Memory of **Matthew J. Heir**
Joe & Patti Benatar
Norman & Loadel Piner

In Memory of **Norman K. Hoffman**
Joe & Patti Benatar

In Memory of **Willard "Red" Jeffries**
Joe Benatar
Connie Cary
Lucile & Jim Hall

In Memory of **Karoly Kitchens**
Joe & Patti Benatar

In Memory of **Joan Lamey**
Sam & Becky Anderson

In Memory of **George Meyers**
M/M Roger Chandler
Dennis Wolfe & Carol Carpio

In Memory of **Jane Hauck Moiso**
Georgia & Wilbur Green

In Memory of **Takeo Nakano**
Joe Benatar

In Memory of **Mary J. Phillips**
Dale & Alma Burtis
Marilyn & Robert Smith

In Memory of **Bill Powers**
Connie Cary
Linda Leone
Sharyl Simmons

In Memory of **Jim Putman**
Dale & Alma Burtis
Tom & Marnee Crowhurst
M/M Robert Masera
Norma & Deanna DeWitt

In Memory of **Tess Putman**
Tom & Marnee Crowhurst

In Memory of **Geraldine Restivo**
Joni Adams

In Memory of **Ron Ross**
Richard & Elaine Tarke

In Memory of **Edgar Stanton III**
Richard & Elaine Tarke

In Memory of **Anita Putman Steele**
Jim & Harriet Harbison

In Memory of **Bill Thomas**
Arthur & Jane Coats

In Memory of **Barbara Reines Weller**
Betty & Bill Arnett

In Memory of **Jeanie Zaniroli**
Howard & Ruth Anthony



In Honor of **Burwell & Loretta Ullrey's**
62nd Wedding Anniversary
Frank & Joyce Carleton

Historical Society News

October Meeting

Our October meeting will be held at Hermann Sons' Hall in Nicolaus on Tuesday, October 15. The door will open at 6:00 p.m. and dinner (a "light German meal") will be served at 6:45. Ron Scheiber will provide music for the evening. Bruce Harter is once again in charge of the raffle. The evening is not limited to members only, so join us and bring a friend. There is a \$10.00 charge which covers expenses. Reservations must be made prior to October 9 so we can give a "head count" to the cooks. For reservations or information, please call Linda at 673-2721.

January Meeting

The January 21, 1997 meeting will be held at the Museum. Margit Sands will present a "Sutter Buttes Slide Show." In addition to showing her slides, she will share some of her vast knowledge of the Buttes with us. Join us at 7:30 that evening.

Hock Farm Monument

Members of the Board of Directors of the Historical Society have been contacted concerning repair to the "Hock Farm doors" on Garden Highway. As you may have noticed (especially since they put in that stop sign at Messick Road), there has been damage done to the doors which serve as a monument to John Sutter's Hock Farm. The Board voted to become involved in repairing this piece of history. Due to the cost, other groups and/or individuals will be involved in the restoration. President Harter is in the process of appointing a committee; we will keep you informed. In the meantime, Don Burtis is working on an article about the monument for a future issue of the Bulletin.

Last Call for Ornaments!

A limited number of "Sutter Buttes" ornaments are left. You may not be able to own a piece of the Buttes, but you can own a Christmas ornament on which they are depicted. This would make a great Christmas gift for a realative or friend who no longer lives in the area -- give them a little piece of "home." To see the ornaments or make a purchase, stop by the Museum. The cost is \$7.00 each.

The Ambrose Scheiber Family

by
Faye Scheiber

I was born on July 29, 1919 in Granden, South Dakota. My father had a ranch there, but decided he wanted to come to California. The family moved to Ontario, California and bought a grocery store when I was about one year old. In 1926, my father purchased land in a subdivision directly across the river from the ranch where I now live. It had been the Rideout ranch and was divided into twenty-acre lots. My father bought the land from a salesman who came to southern California; it was a promotional deal where twenty acres in peaches would make you rich. Mrs. Scheiber told me that Ambrose Scheiber had worked on the Rideout ranch as a cowboy before going into the dairy business.

When I was in high school, I met Les Scheiber at a dance at Hermann Sons' Hall in Nicolaus. Otto Scheiber had a Swiss orchestra which played there. We were married in the Catholic Cathedral in Reno on May 9, 1939.

Les and I lived with his mother, Rose, and his brother, Carl, for two years at which time we built our house directly south of the "Big House." Our house started out small and grew as our family grew. We have four children. Michael is a plumbing contractor in Sacramento, Bill works for a service company for gas wells, Bob and I have the ranch together and I call him the "Ranch Manager", Martha married Peter Hamilton and is a pharmacist on staff at Stanford. Then I have what I call my 7-11 family; I have

seven great-grandchildren and eleven grandchildren.

The two years we lived with my mother-in-law, I was part of the family and did the chores that had been done by Ruby Romovich and the other girls who had previously boarded in the home.

Mrs. Scheiber was a very organized woman with a set schedule. Mondays were wash days; Mrs. Scheiber sent the sheets and some of the clothes to a laundry in Sacramento which washed the items and sent them back unironed. Tuesdays were ironing days and Wednesdays were mending days. On Thursdays she went to town and did the shopping. Fridays the weekly house cleaning started with the bedrooms and bathroom. Saturdays the rest of the house was cleaned, chickens were cleaned and a cake was baked. On Sundays she visited with family and friends. The food which was set out was always the same. I can still smell the coffee; there was bread and butter and jelly, salami, cheeses and often canned sardines. She made angel food cake from scratch; she had certain eggs she set back to make the cakes because fresh eggs don't whip. When the cake mix boxes came out, she used those.

Although Mrs. Scheiber had a cook, she planned and oversaw the meals. She told the cook what to fix, how much to fix and tasted the food before it went on the table. Mary Patmon, Mrs. Thompson's sister, was the cook when I was living in the house. Breakfast was

served at 6:00 a.m. By then the men had worked half a day and they expected and had earned a big meal. When that bell rang at 6:00, you'd better be there to eat because no one would save the food for you; meals were always served on time. Every man was treated the same; family was treated a little better. It wasn't like in some boarding houses where whoever had the longest reach got the most food. If one man was starting to take too much out of the dish, she told him so. There was a set routine for the whole week for breakfast. There were delicious milk pancakes three days a week. You and I couldn't make them now unless you could get raw milk. And eggs; not bacon, it was too expensive. There were always hash brown potatoes. There were hot biscuits certain days of the week and there was always hot mush. Dinner was served at noon and was another big meal. There was always soup, often served with hunks of cheese which is the Swiss style. There were meat and potatoes and a dish of some type of macaroni or beans. There was always a dessert. Dessert at noon was usually pudding; Sunday's dessert was pie. The evening meal was left overs with hot bread like cornbread and canned fruit. They ate at least two quarts of canned fruit at the evening meal. Sunday evening's dessert was a three-layer cake.

Mrs. Scheiber's family had an inn at Elk Horn in Yolo County. Her parents, Frank and Mariana (Holdener) Linggi, were from Switzerland. They had a small dairy and ran an inn at Elk Horn that catered to the market duck hunters who came to the area. Mrs. Linggi died when Rose was a girl of 12 or 13. When Rose was sixteen years old, she was a cook on

the Scheiber brothers' dairy. Morris, John and Joe Scheiber were uncles of Ambrose and had a large dairy at Nicolaus. That is where Rose and Ambrose met. Rose's sister, Frances, married Joseph Scheiber and lived at Lincoln; Rose's sister, Anna, married John Scheiber and lived at Nicolaus. Rose was a wonderful cook; to this day people swear that you can't make chicken fricassee the way she did. She was especially good with the ducks and geese which Mr. Scheiber and the boys got.

In the early years, there were a lot of big dairies in the Nicolaus area. Sacramento was just a town and the Nicolaus area supplied a lot of the fresh milk that went to Sacramento. Morris Schieber had at least 200 dairy cows; John Scheiber and the Fasslers had big dairies too. The dairymen made cheese and sold it from wagons in Sacramento before refrigeration made it possible to transport the milk.

Ambrose was born in Canton Uri, Switzerland in 1885. His mother died shortly after his birth and his father remarried. Ambrose was about six years old when he came from Switzerland to live with his uncle John. He purchased his uncle Anton's dairy and he and his family lived there until Ambrose and Rose built their home. They had five children: Emil, Elmer, Evelyn, Carl and Les. Carl remained single, lived in the family home, ranched and took care of his mother. Evelyn, now Evelyn Gengler, resides in Marysville. Ambrose died in 1932; at that time, Emil was in college, Elmer was married, Evelyn was attending business school in San Diego, Carl and Les were in high school. Rose Scheiber became the

head of the family.

I understand Ambrose and Rose purchased their property about 1917, the buildings were built in 1918 and they moved into their home in 1918 or 1919. The house was built by Holderner Construction. Mr. Holderner, a cousin of Rose's, also built the Morris Scheiber home. Ambrose designed the house. Rose told me she became tired of stairs when she lived in Anton's house. They cooked downstairs, the living quarters were upstairs, she had the babies pretty close together, and she did a lot of stair climbing. That's the reason the house is extended as it is. There are two bedrooms upstairs and four bedrooms downstairs. The walls are plaster with coved ceilings which was quite advanced for a farmhouse. The west end of the house is the kitchen-dining-family room which was heated by a wood stove. These walls had an oak veneer. The kitchen cupboards had glass doors; I see they're starting to put them back in houses again. The dining room had a built-in china cabinet. The woodwork was great. There were screen porches on the west end of the house which helped keep some of the mud out of the house. There were wash trays there too, although the washing was done in one of the out buildings. The four bedrooms and bathroom are in the middle of the house and had no source of heat. We slept on feather beds in the winter. These came out about Halloween. They were made from the feathers of the ducks the Scheibers had shot. The two big bedrooms on the north side of the house have sleeping porches. The livingroom is at the east end of the house. It was heated by the brick fireplace which has a

beautiful oak mantle. One of their prize possessions was the player piano. There was a mohair sofa and chairs which was the style at the time. There is also a cellar which is where Mrs. Scheiber kept her homemade jelly and her canned fruit. It was a beautiful home; the house is in sad shape now and used mostly for storage. We plan to take it down and put up a machine storage shed.

The first year the family lived in their new home, all of the cooking was done in the home and everyone ate at the kitchen table. This didn't work too well and the following year, the cook house was built.

The tank house had a room upstairs where one of the hired hands lived. The big redwood tank gave water pressure to the house. The bottom of the tank house is where the milk was stored in a refrigerated room in cans. A milk truck came every morning about 10:00 o'clock to pick up the cans; this was before the tanker trucks. There was an ice machine in there and the room was very well insulated; it was like a walk-in refrigerator. They also made ice in that room; chunks were then put in the ice box. There was a place to hang meat and a place to keep the vegetables cool. A lot of ducks shot on this ranch hung in there until they got picked.

I think the big white "S" on the barn roof was my brother-in-law Carl's idea. My son, Bob, took the old roof off and put on a new metal roof; he's the engineer of the "S" on there now. There is also a horse barn. They had two teams of work horses and two beautiful riding horses.

In 1926, they had milking machines, but by the time I moved here in

1939, they were milking by hand again. The old machines would fall off the cows when they were through milking. They didn't have penicillin or antibiotics and mastitis was a problem. The machines are now state-of-the-art and there aren't the problems there were with the old ones.

Mr. Scheiber was known for his cars. He had several over the years. The one he and Mrs. Scheiber are standing in front of in the picture on the cover is a Reo.

Mrs. Scheiber enjoyed entertaining family and friends on Sunday. In the Scheiber family, you went to a lot of weddings and showers; sadly, you went to a lot of funerals too. Mrs. Scheiber made bed pillows from the feathers of the ducks Mr. Scheiber and the Scheiber boys shot; these were her customary shower gifts. Mrs. Scheiber enjoyed canning and making jelly. Blackberry jelly was her favorite, but if there was anything around she could make jelly out of, she would try it.

Christmas was special. Mrs. Scheiber always had a big tree that went up in the livingroom at least a week before Christmas and didn't come down until a certain holiday in January. She had ornaments that were handed down; the 1955 flood damaged the ones I had and I got rid of them. The family gathered in the kitchen area on Christmas Eve. It was the tradition that Santa Claus came and brought the presents. There was a tin horn and real sleigh bells on a leather strap. Santa would come into the livingroom while everyone else was in the kitchen area at the other end of the house, leave the packages, blow the horn and jingle the bells, yell down the hall "Merry

Christmas to all!" and slam the door. We had Tom and Jerrys to drink; after the evening meal, the hired men would join us in the house and have a couple drinks with the family. It was an Old World custom to share Christmas with the men; they left the house that evening with a bag of candy from Mrs. Scheiber.

The hired men weren't paid that much. They received room and board; they ate a lot and they ate very well. I think the cooks made a little more than the men. Mrs. Scheiber took care of them when they were sick. "Old John" was an Englishman who worked for Mrs. Scheiber. She bought his clothes to make sure he had warm ones and took care of him when he got sick; he lived to be in his 90s. He did what he saw needed to be done; he gathered the eggs, brought in the wood, mowed the lawn and clipped the hedges. He had a name for his wheelbarrow, but I can't remember what it he called it. He would come to the door in the morning and afternoon and Mrs. Scheiber would give him a drink.



Editor's Note: In 1917, C. F. Stolp purchased land from Daisy Corliss. On March 19, 1918, deeds were recorded in Sutter County showing Ambrose Scheiber purchased two parcels of land from C. F. Stolp and Edna Pearl Stolp, his wife; one parcel consisted of 64.18 acres and the other parcel consisted of 83.38 acres. It was on this property that the house was built.

Nicolaus Notes

by
Faye Scheiber

My daughter, Martha, was a Sutter County 4-H All Star. As one of her projects, she got a Point of Historic Interest designation for Nicolaus. She had to prove that Nicolaus was the first County Seat for Sutter County. We did a lot of research about Nicolaus at that time, but the final proof was found at the Clerk's Office where Joey Hall walked to a stack of records and said, "Here." and handed us a little old 10-cent notebook that had the minutes of the first Board of Supervisors meetings in it.

Nicolaus was the first county seat for Sutter County. It had warehouses and hotels and was a stage stop; it also had a ferry. At one time it was thought that Nicolaus was the head of navigation. Later they found that the boats could get up to Marysville and there went Nicolaus' hotels and stage stop.

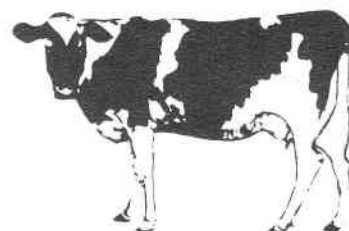
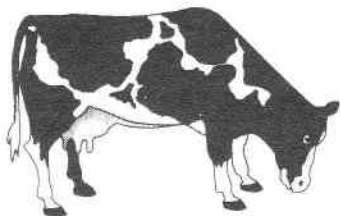
There was nothing between Nicolaus and Sacramento but tules; it was one big tule patch. The major highway was the river. There was a road that went from Sutter's fort, through Pleasant Grove to Nicolaus. Nicolaus was an isolated community. They had their own lodge, German-speaking of course. Nicolaus had one of the first post offices in Northern California. There were a lot of people

who lived in Nicolaus; single men on the ranches and several big families.

Nicolaus had the old Bridge House which should have been saved as an historic building; there were card games every day and night. There were restaurants, a general store and a school. I remember when the school had two school rooms. My son, Bob, had the same teacher for eight years -- Edith Finch. Marian Regli taught there before she taught at the high school.

Two of the Linggi brothers, Mrs. Scheiber's brothers, had riverboats and it was a 24-hour service. They would make the round trip between Nicolaus and Sacramento. They carried freight and passengers and also towed barges. A lot of the ranchers had their own docks. Sometimes in the evenings, they would pull up to a dock, pull out the accordion and have a dance because they had a barge.

Nicolaus Altgeier was a fur trapper who had worked for Sutter. I've seen his name spelled several ways, I've seen it spelled and pronounced Altgeier which is Swiss. I think that's the correct way. Anyway, Sutter owned him money and instead of receiving money, he was given a square mile of land.



My Memories of the Rose Scheiber Home

by

Ruby (Woolever) Romovich

I became acquainted with Rose Scheiber and her family in the Fall of 1936. I was entering my Senior year at East Nicolaus High School and I realized that I would need some "extra" money to buy such things as my school ring (which the class later voted not to buy), to have my Senior picture taken, my Senior Prom, Graduation clothes, etc. Those were "depression years" and I was the oldest of five children so I knew that it would be a hardship for my parents to supply all of the above.

My friend, Emma Herger, told me that she heard that "Rose Scheiber in Nicolaus was looking for a school girl to live in and help with the housework and be a companion to her." Mrs. Scheiber talked to my mother and it was agreed that I would live with the Scheiber family during my Senior year. I would receive \$5.00 a month and my room and board. In 1936 (and 16 years old), I considered \$5.00 a LOT of money.

So, in September 1936 I moved in to the beautiful white house (I thought it was the nicest home that I had ever seen) and became a part of the Scheiber family. She had two boys at home who helped her "run the ranch." They were Carl A. and Leslie, called Les. They had a dairy and hired several milkers; they milked by hand because that was before the "milking machines" were popular. There was a cook house on the premises and they had a wonderful, motherly-type cook by the name of Mrs. Thompson who became a

special friend to me. Everyone ate in the cook house during the week but on Sundays Mrs. Scheiber, Carl, Les and I ate in the "big house" because Sunday was considered a "loafing day" and nothing was on schedule. I usually went to a dance on Saturday night so I slept in! Other mornings we all got up at 5:30 a.m. and I had my chores to do in the house until time to get ready to catch the school bus around 8 o'clock.

Every morning around 5:30 Mother Scheiber would knock on my bedroom door and then open the door and say, "Time to get up, Ruby." I soon learned that she meant right then. In my own home when my mother would tell me it was time to get up it meant I could sleep a few more minutes, but not with Mother Scheiber. She was already dressed and on her way to the cook house to help Mrs. Thompson set the table and get ready for all of us to eat breakfast -- the milkers and the family. After I ate, I fixed my lunch to take to school and went back to the house. Before I dressed for school I was expected to do such things as sweep off the steps and walkway. I had certain mornings that I did things like dust the furniture, scour the bathroom, tidy up the kitchen sink, etc. I soon learned that on Mondays I did one thing and on Tuesdays and on until Friday morning I did the same thing. On Friday nights, just as soon as I got home and changed my clothes, I went out on the porch and washed certain things by hand on a rubboard. She sent

out the big things to the laundry because she did not have a washing machine. Looking back, I am sure some of those clothes weren't very clean because I was in a hurry to finish and get ready to go either back to a game at the high school or out on a date. She never scolded me if I didn't do things just right.

On Saturdays we (she worked right along with me) gave all the rooms a good cleaning after breakfast was over and we came back to the house. We cleaned in the morning and after lunch we often drove into Nicolaus to the post office, visited her sister Anna who was married to John Scheiber; they had a beautiful home too. I looked forward to those visits; she would bring out the cheese, salami, and good coffee made in an old fashioned coffee pot on top of the stove -- no electric coffee pots then. Many Saturdays we would drive over to East Nicolaus to Johnny Wise's store. It was like a "dry goods store" and had everything a woman would need in her home and it was the only store around. He and his wife Anna were two of the nicest people you would want to know and they employed dear Evelyn Smith who worked in the store and was also the postmistress. She was on the Board of Trustees of East Nicolaus High School she presented our diplomas to us at graduation -- I know she gave me mine. She died May 21, 1965 and is buried in Fairview Cemetery, Rio Oso, beside her husband George.

As I said before, we all relaxed on Sundays and did our own thing. Usually I would have gone to a dance the night before so was happy I could sleep in. Dancing was our "life" in those days! At least it was for me and my close friends. If

we had to miss a dance on a Saturday night, we felt like "how can we wait until next Saturday." There were dances held at Hermann Sons Hall in Nicolaus some times and Otto Scheiber's orchestra played. Some families would even bring their small children and they would eventually fall asleep on the benches. We had good Swiss music and I still think those polkas are the best! Around 11:30 the orchestra would take a break and we would go into the kitchen and drink coffee and eat good garlic sausage sandwiches. I call it that but I know there is another name for that sausage. I have tried to buy sausage like that in Sacramento and I guess they don't make it anymore. After the break we would go back to the hall and dance until wee hours in the morning. No one ever wanted to go home -- often there would be a fight either in the hall or out on the street when someone would drink too much. Leo Muller was one who really liked to fight and later Don Laird was known to swing a few.

Other places that my friends and I attended dances from the time we were about 15 years old were Marysville at the "E Street Dance." It was held on Wednesday night and the boys would buy tickets at 10-cents each. We would go up to the "Moon" which was an open air ballroom out in the middle of nowhere and it seems to me like it was between Yuba City and Gridley. We had a lot of fun there. We went to one up in Sutter City and I believe it was called "Wintergarden." Several of the Nicolaus girls met boys there that they later married. They are: Regina May married Clifford Stewart; Florence Schwall married Allen Kincade; Bernice May married

"Hezzy" Lemenager, and I believe Leona Michel met Jim Baldwin there.

My favorite dance hall was in Wheatland. I began going there in the summer of 1935 with my friend Emma Herger. Her parents let her use their pickup truck and many times we would drive the almost nine miles from Rio Oso to Wheatland during the winter time when the fog was so thick she and I would take turns sticking our heads out of the window to see the road. I would begin and give her orders and when my head was so cold I couldn't even talk from my teeth chattering, I would hold the steering wheel and she would stick her head out of the driver side to be sure we were on the road. It is a wonder we didn't get killed! But she never had an accident and we did a lot of driving late at night on those dark country roads.

We attended those dances in Wheatland from 1935 until late 1937. People came from all over! Irene (Hill) Hollingshead and her brothers "Wib" Hill and "Rob" Hill, Don Taylor and Fred Logan from Lincoln usually made up the orchestra. I remember it cost 10-cents to get in. We would go over to "Muck's" and have the best hamburger for 10-cents and coffee was 5-cents. Emma and I often talk about the good times we had at that dance and I still keep in touch with many of the young people I met there.

Once in a while I would have a date that would bring me to Sacramento to "Rainbow Gardens" on Auburn Boulevard where the name bands came and that was really exciting.

It didn't cost very much money (and who had much?) in those days to really have good clean fun for young

people.

We did go to the State Theater in Marysville once in a while, but that was usually on Sunday afternoons. Whenever and wherever we could find a dance on Saturday night, we went! And some boys didn't dance but they would come to the dance hall anyway just to meet people. I am sure if you took a poll of the people around my era they would say they have been to all the dances I have mentioned above. My folks would never let me go to one that had a bad reputation but there were only a few of them and I never did go.

Jim Taresh played the drums for a 3-4 piece band that played on Saturday night in the Rio Oso Community Hall in 1932-33. I was in the eighth grade and that is when I began my love for dancing.

Mrs. Scheiber had two sons who were married. Emil had married Bernice Renner of Rio Oso and they lived in Martinez, California and Elmer had married Bethyl Coppin of Pleasant Grove and they lived in Sacramento. Elmer came out to the ranch a lot because he raised beans on a part of the ranch. Carl A. remained a bachelor until his death and Les married Faye Flamme of the Tudor-Wilson area.

Her only daughter was Evelyn Chipman who lived in Yuba City with her husband Bill and a beautiful little girl named Janet. Bill worked in a bank and he died quite young. Evelyn became the Auditor for Sutter County; she married Herman Gengler many years later. She is now a widow and lives in Yuba City. She is the sole survivor of the family.

Mrs. Scheiber paid me \$5.00 a month but she did much more than that.

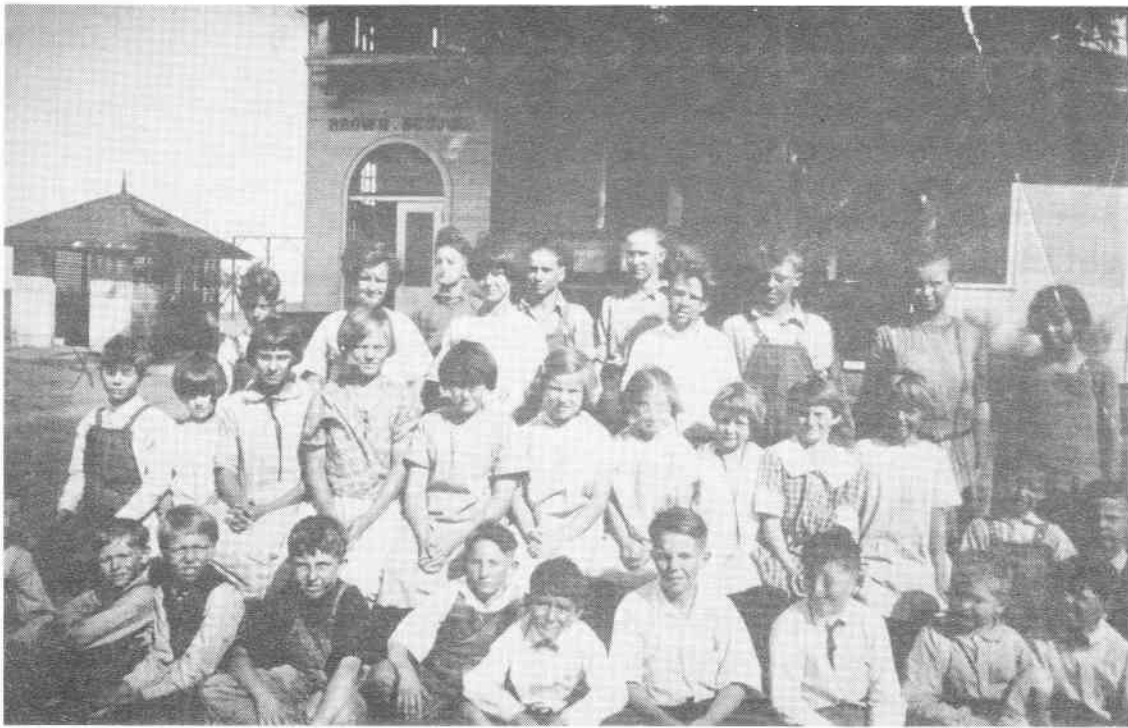
She would go into Sacramento on Thursdays to do her "business." Many times she would have to go down on 2nd Street and recruit new milkers because they had a habit of working for a couple of weeks, get paid, come into town and go on a good "drunk" and she wouldn't see them again so she had to go to the Employment Office on 2nd Street and get new ones to bring out to the ranch. I looked forward to her trips to Sacramento because she usually brought me back something -- sometimes it was a box of kleenex, a pair of hose, a bottle of toilet water (popular in those days), and many times she would buy some material and make me a dress. She never made me feel like a housekeeper but rather as one of her children. She taught me many things about housework because in my home my dear mother did everything for me, so I am grateful that I learned discipline from Mrs. Scheiber.

Although I only lived in the Scheiber home for one year, I treasure the happy memories of that time! She was like a second mother to me and as I grew older I called her "Mother Scheiber." She was as beautiful on the inside as she was on the outside; she was so kind to me and to all of the people who worked on the ranch. I remember a small, elderly man named "John" who had been with them for many years who was no longer able to do any work, but she continued to give him a home and each afternoon he would knock on the back door and Mrs. Scheiber let him in and he would very politely ask her for a "wee bit of whiskey" -- he would hold his two fingers and measure the amount. She would pour it for him and chat with him for a few minutes and then

he would thank her and slowly walk down the back steps. That act of kindness made a big impression on me because it showed just how great a person she was. And, there was a nice man named "Domingo" (his last name) who was a Portuguese and didn't speak good English but he and I became very good friends. He had been with the family for many years -- his own family lived in North Sacramento and he would go to see them every few weeks. I enjoyed talking to him because he was such an interesting man and he enjoyed telling me about his wife and children. About 10 years later I met him again on "K" Street in Sacramento and we hugged each other because we were so happy to see each other again -- he told me he had retired from working for Mrs. Scheiber and was with his family in North Sacramento.

Two weeks after I graduated on June 9, 1937 I entered the "Western School of Business" in Sacramento. Mrs. Scheiber drove me into town to the home of the family that I was going to work for in exchange for my room and board. She handed me a \$5.00 bill "to help get me through the first month" she said; we hugged each other and I thought I my heart would break. I was entering a strange new world to me and I was one frightened 17 year old!

Yes, the beautiful white house with the large "S" on the barn which still stands brings back many happy memories to me - - that was almost 60 years ago. I am SO thankful that Mother Scheiber and her family became a very important part of my life -- the tears still flow every time I go out to Nicolaus and drive down the road that leads by the old home place.



Browns School
1914 — 1925
One Room Building



Browns School
1925 — 1930?
Two Room Building

My Memories of Browns School

by

Ruby (Woolever) Romovich

My family moved to Rio Oso in 1931, the year that I entered seventh grade. My teacher was "Carrie" Peckham.

Browns School consisted of three rooms. Dorothea Spicer taught 1st and 2nd grade; Ethel Robinson taught 3rd, 4th and 5th grade; Mrs. Peckham taught 6th, 7th and 8th grades. The next year, Laura Wilson replaced Ethel Robinson. Both Mrs. Spicer and Mrs. Wilson lived in Marysville. Mrs. Peckham and her daughter, Miriam, lived in the Earle District and would stay in Rio Oso during the week, returning home on Friday night to join Bill Peckham.

I remember there was just one drinking fountain, small rest rooms and a "supply closet" on the back porch directly outside the back door. That supply closet also was the place Mrs. Peckham would take students when she wanted to talk to them in private. After we grew up, I heard a few stories from others of "conversations" in that supply closet.

Browns School celebrated 130 years (1863-1993) at a memorable (to me) get-together on August 14, 1993. The Committee spent many, many hours and days planning the reunion and it was a huge success! I learned so much of the history of Browns School that I didn't know.

Browns Elementary School was erected in 1862 on land originally granted by the United States to Zachariah Brown. It is unclear whether Browns School was always at its original site. Mrs. Lela

(Corliss) Smith, whose husband was a direct descendant of Zachariah Brown, 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 F. Algeo, former Sutter County Supt. of Schools from 1931-1942. [This is not to be confused with Bear River School that was further east on Bear River at Kempton's Crossing.] Some 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 then owned by William Henley Smith who in 1856 married Zachariah's daughter, Sarah. Some speculate that Sarah was perhaps the first schoolmarm 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 include Bear River School, Fairview School and Browns School. At Browns school, the building consisted of a small plain-looking wood frame building; there was a shed for the horses, a handpump for water and the outhouse was behind the school. Browns School District budget for 1879 totalled \$729.00, including \$580.00 for teachers

salaries, \$39.00 for school apparatus, \$110.00 for repairs, fuel and contingent expenses. There were 37 students enrolled. Jane D. Christensen was the only teacher in 1897; she may have been a student in 1882. She is buried in the Fairview Cemetery.

For the 1902-03 school year, the Browns School 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. The teacher's salary was \$60.00 per month. Grace Arfsten, a former Browns student, became the teacher in 1904; she is buried in the Fairview Cemetery.

In 1913, the Browns School District Trustees called for a bond election to raise \$2,500 to build a new school and purchase furniture and equipment. The original building was torn down and a new building with a bell tower was constructed. It eventually became a tradition for graduating eighth graders to climb the bell tower and carve their names as a last reminder of their years at Browns.

In 1925, an addition was made to the school building which included a classroom north of the bell tower, an office and restrooms. Perhaps the "supply room" that I referred to is what they considered an office for the teachers. It held all the paper supplies, extra books, etc. when I attended in 1931-33. Leland and Loran Mebine (twins) attended Browns and theirs was the first class to use the expanded school. Loran, now living in Alameda, sent me pictures shown in this article. His twin brother, Leland, lives in Flower Mound, Texas. They graduated

from Browns in 1926. *[If you can identify a student in the picture, I would appreciate hearing from you.]*

I can't find the information on the year that the third room was built, but it was there when I started in September 1931.

I always enjoyed going to school. We had the usual classes for that period like reading, writing, arithmetic plus history, geography, art (in which I deserved an F -- no talent at all!). I especially liked history and I was so thrilled to read the stories of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and the early American Indians. I never dreamed that some day I would be privileged to visit the home of George Washington at Mt. Vernon and stand in the same theater where Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. Mt. Vernon looked like a mansion to me in the history books when in reality it isn't very large or spectacular, but the surrounding grounds are spectacular. And, as we stood on the very spot where President Lincoln was sitting when he was shot, I couldn't help but think of the privilege I had at that very moment. I was a long way from Rio Oso where I had read about these famous people. Never in my wildest dreams growing up did I ever dream that could happen. History still excites me -- our United States is so rich in history and many of us fail to enjoy the opportunities we have been offered throughout our lifetime.

My classmates were: Keith Beidler, Mary Boley, Bob Finley, Oria Hieter, Jerry Kendall, Jewell Popovich, San Nelson, Albert Schoonover and Myrtle Swanson. We graduated in 1933 and I have kept in touch with all of them. Bob Finley was

killed in an accident several years after we graduated; his family moved away from Rio Oso the summer after graduation. Keith Beidler died several years ago and is buried in Fairview Cemetery; Mary Boley lives in Sacramento; Oria Hieter lives in Everett, Washington; Jerry Kendall (now spelled "Geri") lives in Novato, California; Jewell Popovich lives in Orange County; Sam Nelson lives in Healdsburg; Albert Schoonover died earlier this year; Myrtle Swanson lives in Wheatland; I live in Sacramento.

We had a simple childhood looking back. Those were depression years so most of us worked during the summer to earn money for school clothes. I know I picked peaches and prunes. In grammar school we played simple games like baseball, kickball and had relays. I remember when we went over to Central Gaither School to compete in the spring of 1933. Mrs. Peckham entered me in "running" -- called "track" these days? I don't remember how I did, but I know I didn't come in first. It was fun because it meant that we would all get on the school bus (usually on a Friday afternoon) and drive to the different schools. Remember, in those days children didn't get to drive all around the country like today. I can't remember ever being in Pleasant Grove or Nicolaus until I entered high school. We looked forward to March arriving because that meant baseball season and we could visit other schools and compete. It never failed -- when we were playing Wilson school, there was some excitement because Mrs. Peckham thought their team played "dirty" and she would march out on the field and stop the game until she "told the umpire off." We had a good baseball

team. I remember that Sam and his brother, Lester "Pat" Nelson, were the pitcher and catcher; I believe Howard Dunbar played first base. Other players were Raymond Melton, Gene Schneider, Bob Finley and Lee Norene. I have a picture of the baseball team that year and I treasure it!

Our music teacher was Frank Freeman who came from Marysville once a week. We had a small music room behind the school building. Myrtle Swanson played the piano and good too! Mrs. Peckham persuaded Oria Hieter and me that we should learn to play the bass violin. We knew no one else would take it, so we took lessons just to please Mrs. Peckham but neither of us really did a good job. We just did not have any music ability! We did play in the band the night of our graduation in the Rio Oso Hall.

When we were in the 8th grade, Mrs. Vera Taresh came to the school once a week to teach the girls sewing. I remember learning to embroider and "pulled strings" from the edges of a flour sack that had been bleached and it became a dishtowel. It was exciting to us; it was something different. Myrtle Swanson was the only one who already knew how to sew.

I remember several weeks before our graduation in 1933, Mrs. Harry Schneider (who lived next door to the school) invited the 8th graders and Mrs. Peckham to her house for lunch. She set the table with her best china and silverware (I thought it was elegant) and we had each brought something to eat. She probably told our mothers what to send. Anyway, I still remember how grown up I felt! I wonder how many years

after our 8th grade she continued this -- at least the next year because her son, Gene, graduated.

On graduation night (I remember as if it were yesterday), I wore my first pair of hose and heels that were borrowed from my older sister. My parents had taken me to Bradley's in Marysville and let me choose my dress; I picked a pretty yellow eyelet summer dress. I still have the "four year diary" that my sister gave me for a graduation gift; I really did write in it the four years I was in high school. We had our graduation exercises in the Rio Oso Hall; it was in June, but I don't remember the exact date like I do the

night I graduated from East Nicolaus High School which was June 9, 1937.

Our beloved school burned on December 22, 1971. Gone, but not forgotten by all of us who had attended. Nor have we forgotten the dedicated teachers over those many years who taught us discipline, good family values, and instilled in us the determination to do the best we could in life and we would be a success. Pages could be filled with success stories of people who "came out of Browns School." One person who can be credited with many of those success stories is Carrie Peckham.



Peckham - McNamara Wedding **Popular Nicolaus Girl Weds Prominent Young Man of Waldo District**

A wedding that came as quite a surprise to the friends of the contracting parties took place in Auburn on September 24th. William T. Peckham of Waldo, Yuba county, and Miss Caroline McNamara of Nicolaus slipped quietly away to Placer county and were married by Rev. L. B. Hinmann and it was several days before news of the wedding got around. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. McNamara, pioneer residents of the Nicolaus section, and has made a success of teaching, having taught in Sutter and Yuba counties and also at Crockett. She is at present in charge of the Sheridan school and will continue to teach the same.

The groom is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Peckham, prominent residents of Waldo, and is actively associated with his father in farming. He is an industrious young man with many warm friends. Mr. and Mrs. Peckham will build a home near Waldo where they will reside in the future. They are now receiving the congratulations of their many friends. They spent their honeymoon at Cisco.

Sutter County Farmer - 10 October 1919

My Favorite Teacher

by
Ruby (Woolever) Romovich

Caroline "Carrie" McNamara Peckham was born in Nicolaus on March 29, 1885. Carrie and her sister, Anita, attended high school in Marysville. Anita is the mother of Barbara Worth, an internationally known horsewoman who now resides in Sacramento.

In 1910, Carrie began her teaching career in the Lone Tree District which is in the Smartsville-Spenceville area of Yuba County. She boarded with the Peckham family who had a young son named William who became her husband around 1921. They had two baby girls who died in infancy and a daughter, now Miriam Duncan, who lives in Sacramento. Carrie taught at Lone Tree for two years and went to Cottonwood District for half a term. Next she taught in Crockett, then in Sheridan. From the latter school, she went to Browns Elementary School.

She became a teacher in Browns 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 and knew how to apply a ruler to some knuckles and she could throw an eraser across the room to someone who was "acting up;" she had a good aim too! She taught three classes in one room so she could keep an eye on someone in the 6th grade while she was at the other end of the room hearing the 8th

grade lessons. Those same people who at times felt the sting of a ruler or had an eraser hit them on the head have told me "She was the best teacher I ever had!". We knew that she loved us and wanted us to learn. She was never too busy to stay after school to help someone with their spelling lesson or discuss arithmetic problems. Just before graduation from the eighth grade, we were required to pass a County Civics Test and there were always a few "slow" students who needed some extra attention; she would keep them for an hour or so after school for as many days as it took to prepare them for the Civics test. She would always take them home. When the students got through the eighth grade, they were ready for high school; she made sure of that! She made the children respect her and the parents were behind her 100%.

In the 1930s (depression years) there were times when some months rolled around and there wasn't enough money in the budget to pay the three teachers so Mrs. Peckham would tell the trustees to pay the other two. She was known to use her own resources many times and when they couldn't afford a piano, she moved the piano from her home to the school and it remained there until her retirement. When a child would come to school in the winter without a coat or needed shoes, she would buy them with her own money and no one would know about this but the parents who have told these stories since that

time.

How many former eighth graders remember reading the poems "Lady of the Lake," the story about Captain John Smith and Pocahontas, and one called "Evangeline?" She would cry every year. She made the stories come alive to us. I remember when I was in the seventh grade (you could hear the other classes recite) she cried and the next year she did too. I am sure that happened for many years.

After I started East Nicolaus High School in September 1933, I would get off the bus at Browns School to talk to her. For one thing, I missed her very much -- missed our discussions and her encouragement. She was always so interested in knowing what I was studying; many times I would ask for her opinion on what classes I should take. For many years I knew that I wanted to be a teacher and she knew that because when I was in the eighth grade, there were a few occasions when Mrs. Spicer would be absent and Mrs. Peckham let me teach her class. When I entered East Nicolaus High School, I took typing the first semester and I soon knew that I was going to change my "vocation." I told Mrs. Peckham that I was going to be a secretary. It took me some time to convince her that I *really* wanted to be a secretary -- which I was for 35 years.

So many of us continued to stop by to talk to her long after we were adults. Up until the time that she died, her former students (who had moved to all parts of the United States) would stop by and that made her so happy. She was always anxious to discuss the world activities and remained *very* sharp on just any subject

you talked about and voiced her opinions on how "the education system was changing for the worse, too much crime and not enough discipline." She remained very loyal to helping the American Indians and felt that they had not been treated fairly.

She retired from Browns in 1953 and the community gave her a retirement party in the Rio Oso Hall. People came from all over. Frank McLain and his family came from Oregon; he had been a school trustee in the 1930s and his children had graduated from Browns. People came from Los Angeles; former Crockett and Sheridan students came; former students then residing in Sacramento came. She had taught many students and later taught their children. We went back to pay homage to a Great Lady, one who had truly made a difference in our lives!

On her 85th birthday, March 29, 1970, the community celebrated in the Rio Oso Hall with a "Carrie Peckham Day."

We honored her again on May 25 and 26, 1974 when we celebrated the 50th anniversary of East Nicolaus High School. She came in a wheelchair, pushed by her son-in-law, Harold Duncan, but she was there both Saturday and Sunday greeting so many old students and friends and loving every minute of it! On Sunday afternoon we paid special honor to her. My brother, Ray Woolever, a former student of hers, was Master of Ceremonies and paid tribute to her for her many years of being a dedicated teacher who was loved by so many. Bill Melton presented her with an orchid corsage. Bill had graduated from Browns in 1951 and was now Captain Bill Melton of the U.S. Marine Corps. He had planned this trip

for a long time, coming from across the United States just to be at the high school celebration. He had kept in close touch with Mrs. Peckham and she was so very proud of his accomplishments. She would really be proud of him today because he retired as a Lt. Colonel in August 1992.

She talked about that weekend for a long time. I visited her often and it made me so happy to hear her re-live conversations with former students and her joy on being able to see them after a lapse of so many years. She had a remarkable memory! Alta Mae (Duncan) Woodworth (Class of 1932) came from Nevada and she had been a favorite of Mrs. Peckham and they had such a heart-warming visit.

I was planning a party on her 90th birthday, but she explained to me that she "really wasn't up to it." It was very hard for me to accept because to me Mrs. Peckham was indestructible and would live forever. She only lived one and a half years longer. She had her picture made for her 90th birthday and wrote a long letter to me, which I still have. Her beautiful handwriting was as firm as it was

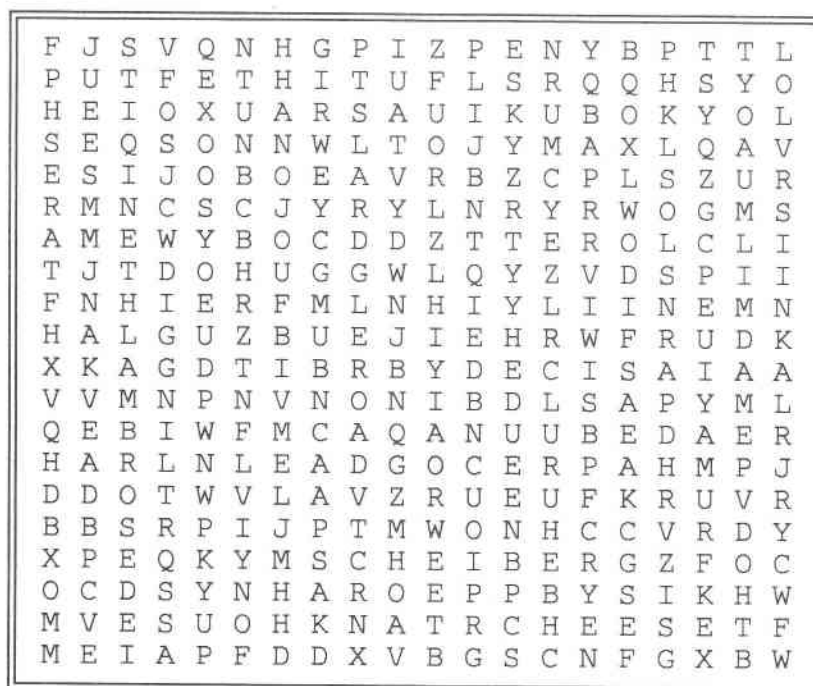
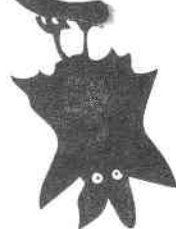
in the days when I was in grammar school.

After her retirement, she continued to live in the home place near Browns School and was active in the community--member of the Rio Oso Coffee Club and the Rio Oso Garden Club -- until just a few years before she died 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 so many of her former students and friends 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.

I kept a scrapbook on Mrs. Peckham and after she died I was given a copy of a beautiful tribute that appeared in the Appeal Democrat entitled "A Dedicated Teacher." The author was not listed. If you are the author, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Ruby Romovich, in addition to writing articles for the Historical Society News Bulletin, also writes monthly articles for the South Sutter Connection. The Editors are especially grateful to Ruby for all the information and leads she's given us for articles in the Bulletin. Let's pay her back. If you can supply information she's requested, please write to her in care of the Historical Society, P.O. Box 1004, Yuba City, CA 95992.

Kid's page



HIDDEN WORDS

AMBROSE
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SCHEIBER

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LAUNDRY
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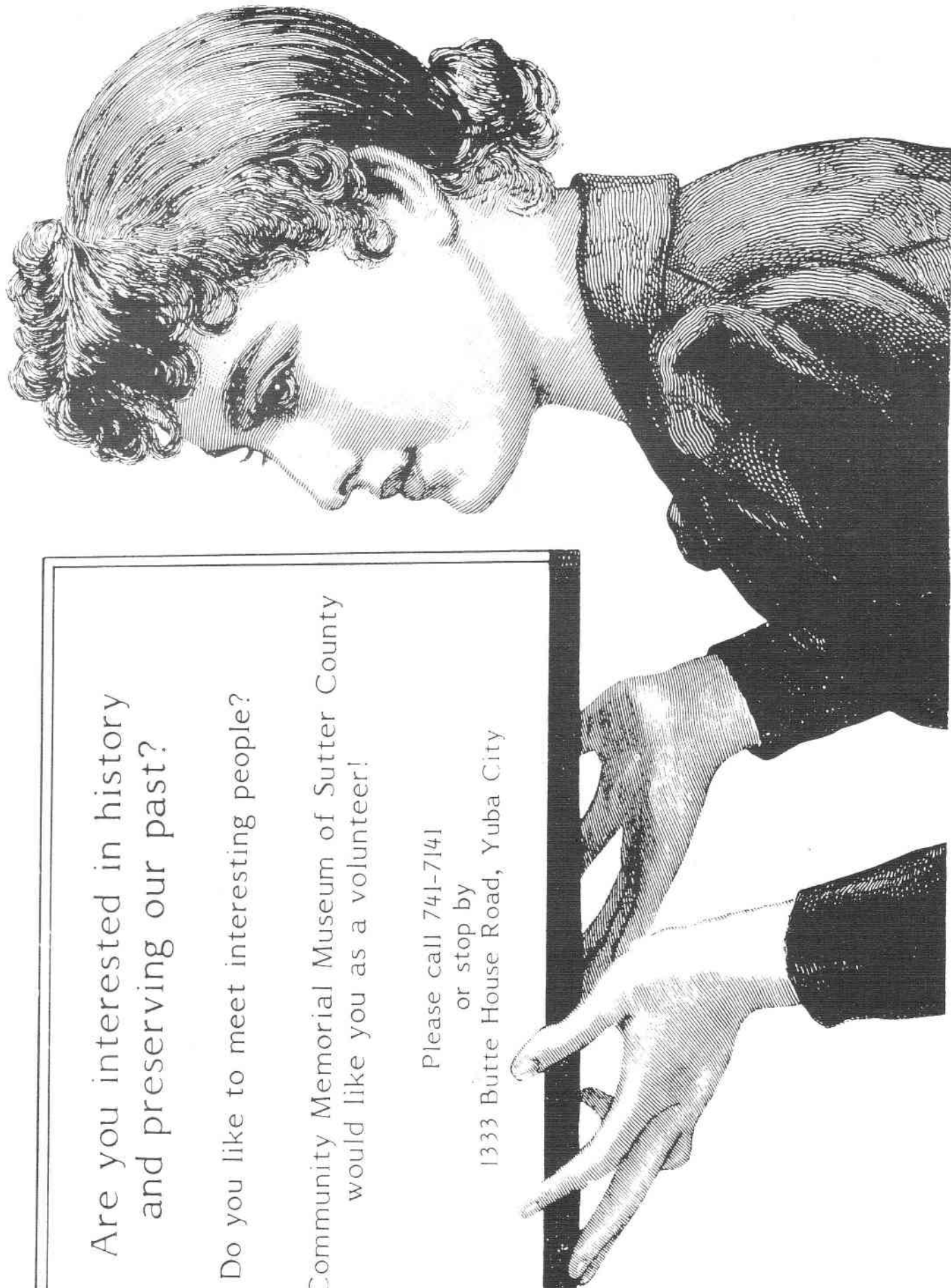
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Coming Events

October

- 4-6 Beckwourth Frontier Days
Beckwourth Riverfront Park - admission charged
- 8 Museum Volunteer Appreciation Tea — 10:00 a.m.
- 12 Children's East Indian Storytelling & Dance Program
Museum 1:00 p.m. No Charge Refreshments
Reservations Required 822-7141
- 15 Historical Society Dinner/Meeting — Nicolaus
Hermann Son's Hall — 6:30 p.m. — \$10.00 — RESERVATIONS
- 16 Christmas Ornament Workshop 10:00 a.m. to noon
- 19 East Indian Program on Family History
Jane Singh of UC Berkeley & Panel
Museum 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
"History of the Mary Aaron House & Its Builder"
Call Mary Aaron Museum for Information 743-1004
- 26 Mary Aaron Museum's Autumn Evaluation Day
Call Mary Aaron Museum for Information 743-1004

November

- 2 RODEO! Exhibit closes - Mary Aaron Museum
- 9 Sikh Temple & Hindu Temple Field Trip
Contact Museum for Information 822-714
- 12 Christmas Ornament Workshop 10:00 a.m. to noon
- 14 "Produce for Victory" - Smithsonian Exhibit Opens
Mary Aaron Museum
- 16 East Indian Harvest Festival — Dinner & Program
Tickets available at the Museum

December

- 1 *A Continuous Journey: the Punjabi Experience in the Sacramento Valley*
Exhibit Closes
- 12 Mary Aaron Museum's Holiday Parlor Tour
Call Mary Aaron Museum for Information 743-1004
- 14 Trees & Traditions Celebration at the Museum
Tickets available at the Museum

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