



August 2019



From the Archives **Beatrice Orr**

In the 1930s posed photo in front of "Doc" Osler's Galt Pharmacy, Beatrice Orr appears to be dressed for a day of shopping away from the farm life she was used to. "Bea" as she was called, was born (1904) and raised on the John McFarland Ranch to George and Mary McFarland Orr and was one of five sisters which included Ann, Gladys, Eda, and Lida. Her mother was the niece of Galt pioneer, John McFarland. Bea would inherit the McFarland Ranch from her mother after her passing in 1940 and with her first husband, Charles Hayenga, would work the ranch until his passing in 1955. She married again to Otto Smithson and continued to live and work on the ranch until her passing in 1993. In her will, Bea Orr Hayenga Smithson bequeathed the ranch to the Nature Conservancy with the understanding that the home of John McFarland would be preserved for history. The Nature Conservancy sold a 35-acre portion of that land and the house to the Sacramento County Department of Parks and Recreation who in turn gave the Galt Area Historical Society a 99-year lease to preserve the property and turn it into a "Living History Ranch."

Charter Night Dinner and Elections

October 28th will be our annual Charter Night Dinner. The Velvet Grill & Creamery has agreed to cater the food. Once I hear what the cost per person will be for the meal, I will let you know. We will need RSVP and payment in advance for the food. Also that evening will be the election for the 2020 Executive Board. Nominations can still be sent in up to Sept 20th.

Annual Yard Sale

Our annual yard sale will be held October 18 (Fri) and 19th (Sat) from 8 am - 2 pm at our Hall at 550 C Street. Our Chairperson, LaVonne Riddlespurger, is starting to collect items now. If you have items you want to donate now and can bring them to the Hall, LaVonne will meet you there and open the shed to store them. Let's not wait until October to donate. It takes LaVonne and her crew a while to sort and tag everything. LaVonne's number is 209 200-2203. Please, no books and if you are donating clothes, please make sure they are in good condition.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

There are still many who have not renewed. Remember once several months have passed without payment, names will be dropped from our membership roster and you will no longer receive our newsletter. The month to remove names will be in June so please be kind and send in your renewal through our website or by mail ASAP. Individual dues are \$20, Family \$40, Business \$50, Student \$10, Individual Lifetime \$200 and Family Lifetime \$250. Dues are Tax Deductible!

Contact Rhonda Smith with any concerns about membership. rhonda@galtsmiths.com.

2019 Historical Society Executive Board

Janis Barsetti Gray ~ President
Ida Denier ~ 1st Vice President
Ralph Cortez ~ 2nd Vice President
Liz Haglund ~ Recording Secretary
Louise Dowdell ~
Corresponding Secretary
Dan Tarnasky ~ Historian
Bobbi Lewis ~ Treasurer

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A Message From The President

Each school year, we see approximately 2500 to 3000 (some years up to 4,000) school children who participate in our Pioneer Days at the McFarland Living History Ranch. The grades are mostly 4th and 5th graders. These are the grades where they learn about California history. When I was in 4th grade we did not have this opportunity. I only remember studying California missions. I would have loved to been able to learn about the history of my town and California; and enjoy activities from early California life. We have developed and sustained an education program for youth and adults. We have a training program that all teachers have to go through before they come to Pioneer Days. Those teachers also instruct the parents who come to help the children with the activities they have selected. Some of the activities that the teachers may choose from are: Gardening, candle making, Wood working, square dancing, rope making, roping, corn husk doll making, leather working, tin punching, clothes washing, camp cooking, and ice cream making. We also provide "filler" activities such as gold panning, old fashion games, and photos in an old buggy. How exciting this is for the children to be able to go back in history and replicate what life was in the 19th century. Times were much more simple and without social media or computer games. When children come to the ranch, we want them to have an experience that will stay with them through their lifetime. I know many adults who tell me they remember going to Pioneer Days at the Ranch; and they remember the activities they participated in. Our volunteers make sure that the supplies are all laid out before the class arrives and are available to help if the teachers need assistance or have questions. The volunteers supervise what is going on. We currently are in need of volunteers to learn the program and be there to assist. John Durand, who

has been handling the Galt Elementary Schools only, will now take care of all the schools who come to the ranch. His goal is to train volunteers to help with the Pioneer Days. The materials needed are generally brought by the schools for whatever activities they have selected. When we talk about preservation of our history, we think about the buildings or the stories, but through Pioneer Days, we preserve memories for the children. They have a better understanding about early California life because they are actually living it for a few hours. Some teachers are very creative and have their classes come dressed in period clothes.

Some of us on the Board plan to take John's class so we can understand the program better. I hope that some of you will decide to sign up also. If anyone would like me to email the training manual, please let me know. There is a lot of history of the ranch and California in this packet. While we think of the McFarland Living History Ranch as a place for events and weddings, it is much more: It is a learning ranch. As the name states, it is a living history ranch. If you know any retired teachers who are looking for something to do or any friends who may want to join this program, please contact me. I know that you will gain so much by seeing the children learning about our history through these activities. It would be wonderful if we could extend this to adults and have it as a summer program someday. However, we first need the manpower to keep the program going. Please think about volunteering.

~ Janis Barsetti Gray

Policy and Procedure Review

Fundraising Events

- I. Purpose:
Figuring out the details for the event will depend on knowing what the event is trying to achieve.
- II. Procedure:
 1. Fundraising Goals: In conjunction with the event committee, organization staff, and key fundraisers, you must decide what amount of money you plan to raise at the event. For a truly fundraising event, everything in the event plan will be geared to raising this specific amount of money. The amount you choose should be what you hope to net after expenses.
 2. Leadership: As part of the fundraising efforts, your event will have a committee with a chairperson and one or more specific committees and chairpersons, such as a food chairperson with a committee, raffle chairman with committee, etc. These people are responsible for contributing their specific area of the event; and report to the Committee Chairperson. There will be committee meetings prior to the events and after for follow up.
 3. Budget: Every fundraising event plan should contain a complete budget, listing all of the expenses that will be required to hold the event. Your budget should include staff (if paid), invitations, rentals, catering, entertainment, transportation, security, utilities, and anything else that will be required to make the event a success. Your budget should take into account your fundraising goal, ensuring that you raise that amount above and beyond all expenses. Be sure to leave a little extra room in your budget for unforeseen costs.
 4. Insurance and Security: Any event that we organize must have adequate insurance for the event and security, especially if alcohol is served. Contact the Bookkeeper to find out how to set these up and who to contact. In addition, it is the responsibility of the Fund Raiser Chairperson to make sure that all volunteers have a Release of Liability Form on file.
 5. Target Audience: For an event, we have to decide what audience the event wants to attract. For example, if it is a wine tasting, no one under 21 years allowed. The committee must decide who they will target to come to the event.
 6. Set-Up: The committee will decide set up well in advance of the event. Set up includes entertainment, will food be served, beverages, what is itinerary for event. Set up also includes a committee to set up tables, chairs, canopies, table linens, ice, water, etc.; and tear down at the end of the event and put away.
 7. Marketing: Someone from the committee must be responsible for media, social media, newspaper ads and generally, getting the word out about the event. They should use the network of the nonprofit such as email or regular mail. The committee must order tickets and posters from the printers.
 8. Soliciting Funds from Public: Before funds or prizes are solicited from the public, volunteers must request approval from the Board. Once approval is given, volunteers may be given proper documentation (copy of IRS Determination Letter) and instructions so that all donations are properly acknowledged as required by the IRS (see procedure on Charitable Contributions).
 9. Sales: Once the event is marketed, there must be a way to sell tickets, such as through websites, direct by phone, or other outlets. Advanced ticket sales are important to gauge how many may attend. This must be monitored daily as well as the Pay Pal account.
 10. Cash Handling: Please follow the guidelines in the policy and procedures regarding the handling of cash, counting cash, and depositing cash.
 11. Know Your Place: Before the event, everyone should know their position; and what their role will be prior to the event, during the event, and after the event. Make sure you have enough people to work at all stations.
 12. Keep Good Records: Make sure you keep good records of every meeting you have with your committees during the planning of the event. These notes will be helpful for following years to know how to organize this event from beginning to end, what was positive about the event and what problems may have arose. Maintain a list of your volunteers and provide them with a Volunteer Timesheet to record their volunteer hours.
 13. Thank You: Once the event is done, immediately send thank you's to volunteers, donors, vendors, and anyone who helped make your event a success through their help.

Calendar

Sunday | August 4 | 1pm - 4pm
Ice Cream Social and
Rae House Museum Open House

Thursday | August 8 | 2pm
Executive Board Meeting
500 C Street

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
August 9-11 | 8am | 5am-11am
Hot Air Balloon Festival

Sunday | September 1 | 1pm - 4pm
Rae House Museum Open House

Thursday | September 12 | 2pm
Executive Board Meeting
500 C Street

Friday | September 13
Lincoln Highway Road Trip Thru Galt

Saturday | September 14
Sesquicentennial Celebration
in Old Town Galt

Saturday | September 28 | 9am - 3pm
Drive Down Memory Lane
Annual Car Show

Dates and Times are Subject to Change

Gossip from the Galt Gazette August 1886

Estate of "Uncle" Johnny Wall sold.
Two lots on Front Street between
B and C. Value \$1225.

★

Mrs. P. Archibald of this vicinity
was examined by the Commissioners
of Lunacy and committed to the
hospital in Stockton.

★

Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Patton left Galt
for Stockton. Owned Galt Hotel
for 19 months. Left because they
did not care to live in Galt.

★

Nomination of James Sawyer on the
Republican ticket for Supervisor will
have a good effect on strengthening
the entire County ticket.



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AUGUST 10-11

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Balloons Launch
at Sunrise

McFarland Living
History Ranch
8899 Orr Road | Galt

GaltBalloonFestival.com

Tickets available at

Galt Chamber of Commerce | Express Type & Graphics
Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room | L'Chayim | River Rock Brewery
State Farm Insurance | Coffee Shop Bakery
Farmers & Merchants Bank



The Galt Balloon Festival is a Weather Permitting Event



Galt 150 Gear

For those of you who live "out of town", Sesquicentennial Memorabilia can now be ordered and shipped to you. To see a list of items available click on the website: Galt150.com and then click on Galt 150 Gear. There are still a few Challenge Coins available as well as t-shirts, hats, garden flags, hot/cold drink cups, and enamel lapel pins. Proceeds from the sale of Sesquicentennial items will fund the community celebration on September 14, 2019 in Old Town Galt.



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House Moving in the Early Days

The question has often been asked, "how were buildings moved from Liberty to Galt back in the 1870s?" Looking back at some of those buildings makes one think that the job must have been daunting. Many of those from Liberty were two story like the Devin's Exchange Hotel and the Christian Church. Were they loaded onto extra large wagons and pulled by horses or were they dismantled and taken to a new site piece by piece? The answer lies in Barbara Filbin's book: Pioneer Town of Liberty.

According to Joe Sawyer, his father James and uncle John were accomplished builders in Galt's early days and took up house moving when the occasion presented itself. Most of the houses and businesses moved from Liberty to Galt were moved by the Sawyer Brothers. He also said that they used a horse and a windlass to do it. A little research tells you it probably wasn't a windlass but it's cousin the capstan. The difference between the two is a windlass winds a rope on a horizontal plane like turning the crank on a water well to bring up the bucket. A capstan is turned on a vertical plane like the ones used on a sailing ship to bring up an anchor.



The accompanying photo shows how the Sawyer brothers probably moved buildings from Liberty to Galt. A rope or cable is wrapped round the building and each end is attached to a capstan which is staked to the ground maybe two hundred feet down the road. A horse is attached to the capstan and walks in a circle around the capstan until the rope is completely wound. The capstan is then moved down the road and the process is started again. Joe Sawyer added that there were two large rectangular beams running the length of the building and attached underneath while large round logs

were used as rollers underneath and perpendicular to the beams. As a roller went out the back of the building, it was brought back to the front and used again.

As one can see, this process took hours to accomplish. To stake the capstan to the ground and winding it 200 feet probably took about 30 minutes. Most buildings were 1.5 miles out of town so it took about twenty hours to move them. The furthest building to be moved was the Christian Church which was located at the Liberty Cemetery. The Sawyer Brothers moved the church 2.5 miles of mostly flat land until they got to Dry Creek. Once there, they had to go downhill, across a sandy river bottom, and then up hill. The complete moving job took about a day and a half. John and James Sawyer did the moving routine at least a dozen times and it could only be done 6 months out of the year because of weather. The Sawyer Brothers could be considered local legends for their feats of house moving. Thanks to shiawasseehistory.com for the photo.



Sip & Snack at the MAC

Sip & Snack at the MAC was another success. Unfortunately, the heat of the day and lack of the delta breezes, kept some people away. The crowd was still good and all enjoyed themselves. We had 28 different participants from wineries, breweries, and food businesses. After expenses, we netted \$8610. Our raffle table made \$2165 (included in net). I want to thank all the volunteers who helped in all areas: serving food, at the gate, docents, ice distribution. A special thanks to Lyle Lagge for overseeing the setup and tear down, with the help of Heather Farmer, Jack Jenkins, Steve Matz, Rita Martin, Kirk Swim and Trevor Currier. Thanks to Ron and Judy Jacobson for coordinating the docents in the house. We have the best raffle table thanks to Maria Spannuth and her "crew." To Ralph Cortez, my "go to guy" who helped everywhere, thanks so much. Without the support of our volunteers, all the businesses who participated, and all those who donated to our raffle, we could not have been a success. The Board is discussing moving Sip & Snack to the fall in 2020. Once that date is finalized, we will let you know.



Bits & Pieces

Liberty School House

We are still waiting for the house mover to put us on his schedule to move the Liberty School House to the grounds of the Rae House Museum. The City of Galt has come up with the best route for the mover to use. We are all waiting for things to happen.

Rae Repairs Completed

The Rae House minor repairs have been completed and we have received the funds from the City of Galt's Community Benefit Grant to help pay for this. However, the Rae House is in need of major repairs. We have had the contractor go all through the house, top and bottom, and give us prices. Liz Haglund is working on the Sacramento Co TOT Grant paperwork to hopefully get a grant to fund all these repairs. As we know, older homes like the Rae, need constant attention and care.

Grant Writer

Speaking of grants, Dan Tarnasky has been working on finding us grant writers to help us proceed with the building of our event center at the McFarland Ranch. Grant writers are really the only way to go when looking for large sums of money for projects. They also cost money. The Board will be deciding how to proceed at next meeting.

Cemetery Tours

Dan Tarnasky is working with the Galt Cemetery to develop tours at the Galt Cemetery of historic persons' graves. Once this is done, the tour will be placed on our website so people can print it for themselves and go on the tour. It should be ready by the time of our 150th Celebration.

New MAC Caretaker Supervisor

The Executive Board has appointed Lyle Lagge as supervisor to the Ranch and to oversee the caretaker position. We appreciate all the hard work Lyle does at the Ranch. At any time if you need assistance at the Ranch or need something, please call Lyle at 916 834-6321. He is the contact person at the McFarland Ranch.

Donation

Thanks to Bill and Judy Castle for the donation of a pot belly stove for the Liberty School House and an old milk can. Thank you so much for your generous donation.

MAC Clean Up

Cal Waste has donated two very large dumpsters to help with the major cleanup at the McFarland Ranch. It is important that the Ranch be maintained and free from clutter. Appearances are very important when someone decides if they want to have their wedding at the McFarland. We cannot afford to lose business just because of any lack of organization. If you want to help this week or next, please contact Lyle Lagge at 916 834-6321.

Ticket Booth and Main Entrance

Thanks to Ron and Francis Jacobson and Lyle Lagge for finishing the ADA area in the parking lot and walkway, and for making the ticket booth functional as a ticket booth for events. The booth has been moved into position; and they are putting on the finishing touches.

New Gardener

The Board has hired a new gardener to take care of the Rae House Museum grounds. Eventually, he will take over the Hall yard once the landlord gets the water back so we can water the lawn. At the Rae, he will not only be mowing the lawn, weeding, & blowing the yard, but he will be deadheading the roses. This will be a welcome help to our volunteers.

Historic Plaques

We are having four historic plaques or markers made that will be placed at historic sites. Three of the plaques have been paid for by donors: Michael & Linda Greer have donated the plaque that will go near where the railroad depot stood in 1869, Charlotte Cameron is the donor for the Barber Home in Thornton, The Family of Red & Ethel Quenell donated the plaque for Quenell's garage, and the Galt Area Historical Society will put the plaque on the Liberty School House after it is renovated. We hope that all plaques will arrive and be in place for the 150th Celebration.

Car Show

Our annual car show, A Drive Down Memory Lane, will be held Saturday September 28th at the McFarland Ranch. If you or anyone you know has a vehicle that is 1972 or older, please enter your car. Cost is \$20 for entry. Vehicles can be pickups, muscle cars, custom, special interest, street rods motorcycles, and vintage campers: As long as they are 1972 or older. It is a fun day with raffle prizes and vendors and food.

Events

The Chamber of Commerce is looking for volunteers to help at the Hot Air Balloon festival August 10 and 11. If you want to volunteer, contact Gale Webber at 209 471-1525. She can tell you what jobs they need help with.

On September 13th, the Lincoln Highway Association military convoy reenacting Eisenhower's trip in 1919, will roll into Galt for lunch. We are honored that they chose to stop here. They will stop in Old Town where the Chamber of Commerce has arranged lunch for them. There could be up to 100 vehicles that will be on display. I hope many of you get a chance to view the vehicles and speak with some of the group.

Galt's 150th celebration of our town being born will be held September 14th in Old Town. 4th Street from A to E will be blocked. The committee is in its final planning stages. There will be many activities, music, vendors. All will be to the period of the late 1800s early 1900s. We hope that everyone who comes dresses in period clothes. It is going to be the biggest celebration Galt has seen.

Pioneer Days

John Durand has agreed to help coordinate Pioneer Days for the school children not just from Galt schools but from all schools who have come to the ranch in the past; and train volunteers who want to help. He is contacting all the schools and giving them his contact info for booking the days. If anyone is interested in helping, please let me know so I can get you in his class. Basically, the teachers and the parents handle the activities the children are doing, our volunteers need to know what to do if they are asked questions. It will be mostly supervising.

New Wedding / Event Reservationist

Heather Farmer will be handling all bookings and coordination of weddings and non GAHS events at the McFarland and the Rae. She will be working close with John Durand to make sure the bookings of Pioneer days and events do not conflict. Heather has much expertise in handling bookings, as she has handled all the bookings at the Estrellita Ballroom for years. Her knowledge of advertising and social media is a big win for us.



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