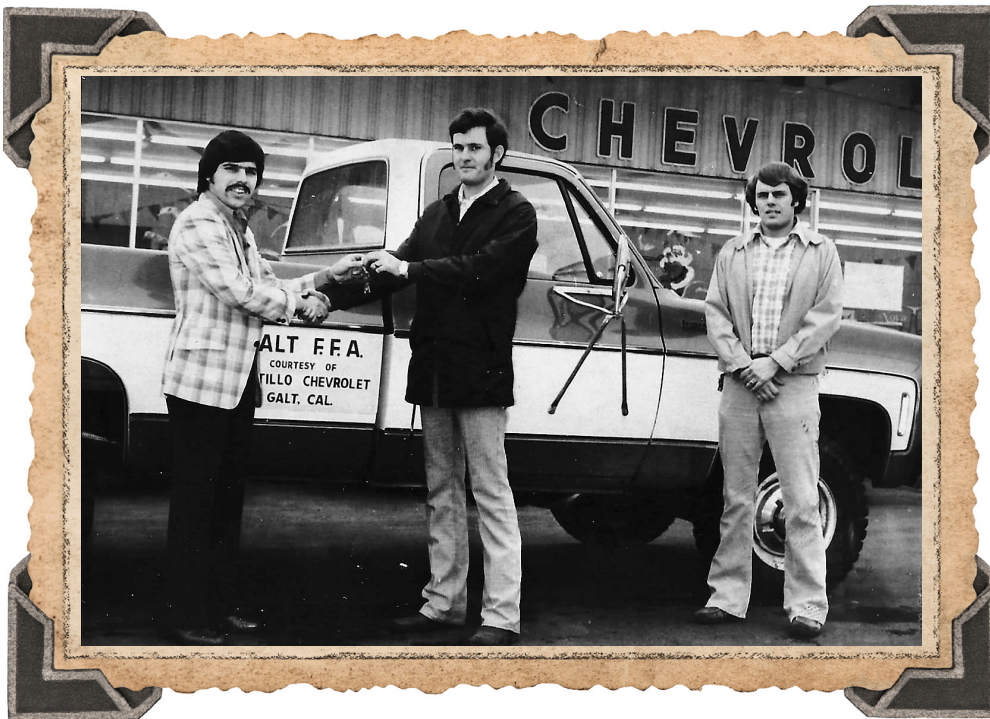




September 2020



From the Archives
Rudy Castillo Chevrolet

Over the years, there have been a few car dealerships in Galt. Henry Ehrhardt sold Fords in the 1920s. Ben Boessow sold Chevrolets in the 1930s. Ed Hall became a partner with Boessow and took the business over in 1941. Hall took on Al Herr as a partner in 1961. Upon Hall's departure, Herr maintained the dealership until he sold to Bob McGeary in 1966. It was in the early 1960s that the dealership was moved from Lincoln Way out to the State Highway 99 Frontage Road, where the Les Schwab Tire Center is now. Jim Loupe purchased the business in 1973 and sold it the next year to Rudy Castillo Sr., and Jr. Pictured is Rudy Castillo Jr. and Galt High School agriculture teachers John Strohmaier and Jerry Clark. At the time, Chevrolet had a vehicle lending program with the high school ag department. Strohmaier and Clark were turning one in and getting a newer model. The two teachers were asked which one they wanted, and they went for the best one. They were surprised when they got what they asked for. Thanks to the Galt Herald for the photo donation and John Strohmaier for the info.

**Liberty
School House**

Lyle reports that within 3-4 weeks, he and his crew will begin renovating the Liberty School House. The city has been very helpful on this project and we are sure will continue. Measurements for windows and doors have been made. Once Lyle has a chance to survey everything, we may have a list of possible supplies that we will try to get donated. The key is that this school house must be authentic to the 1850's. Finding the correct era pieces takes time.

**Thanks For
Donations**

We have recently received some items for our archives. Shaun Farrell gave us many of his mother's old recipe books: All from Galt organizations. Each book has many old ads from businesses. He also gave us old literature from past Galt Chamber of Commerce. Dennis McAllister is donating some seats from the old Galt High Auditorium and an old bus seat. Eventually, you will see it at the Rae at the Galt High display. Thanks so much for these items from Galt's past.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We welcome our new members: Joanie Corona Family, Jeanette Dean, Janet Horn Family, Aderian Hutson Family, David LaRoe Family, Lisa Marangi and Debbie Martinez Family. We look forward to meeting you all in person and sharing our goals of the Historical Society!

As a member of our Galt Area Historical Society you play an important role in protecting and preserving our historical records and also interpret the past to the public, especially our younger Galtonian. Each year that you renew your membership you join us in our mission of engaging and empowering each other to make history a meaningful part of our contemporary lives. Your membership helps preserve the legacy of our ancestors, commemorate local heroes and preserve our historic architecture. Our members in GAHS help answer the Who, What, Why, Where and When questions that make historical societies important. It puts those of us in the present in touch with the people of the past who shaped our landscape, named our landmarks, and made the decisions that ultimately affect us today.

Also, within our membership area, remember to please contact us for any address, phone or email changes that you have. We need to have updated addresses or it costs us each time a newsletter is returned for incorrect address. But more important is we want to keep everyone updated and informed of all our events and activities!

Please email any concerns to Rhonda Smith, rhonda@galtsmiths.com or call, 209-745-4504.

2020 Historical Society Executive Board

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Lyle Lagge ~ 1st Vice President

Harry Souders ~ 2nd Vice President

Liz Haglund ~ Recording Secretary

Toni Gerling ~ Corresponding Secretary

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Dan Tarnasky ~ Historian

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A Message From The President

I hope all of you and your families have remained safe and in good health. What started as a normal year, turned quickly into a frightening and concerning time for all Americans and the entire world. We seem to have adjusted the best we can, following guidelines to help protect us. We go on living our lives trying to find some sense of normality and try to remain positive.

August saw our very own Louise Dowdell turn 102 years old. The celebration for Louise on August 14th brought joy to Louise, I am sure; as well as to all the Golden Living residents who came to watch and listen. Many of the residents have not seen family or friends up close in months. Because of Louise, many residents had a very uplifting day. Louise, you touched people in many ways on your birthday. There is more to read about Louise's birthday in this newsletter.

We now move into September. On September 9th we celebrate the day when California became the 31st state of the Union. The year before in 1849, the Gold Rush began in California. It caused many people from all over the country to migrate to California to try and make their fortune in the goldfields. Two years after California became a state, in 1852, within the Liberty Township, Liberty City was founded. They did find some gold in Dry Creek

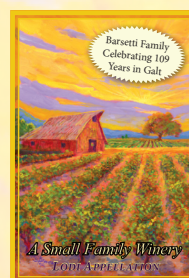
near the township. What is our town today, and the area was a frontier of sorts. Many traveled up what is Liberty Road to the goldfields of the Mother Lode. Others stayed in the Liberty City area creating a town, planting crops, taking care of animals. We all know the story that in 1869, the railroad decided to lay their tracks where Galt is today. Thus, causing Liberty to move many buildings, including our schoolhouse, to the town of Galt and disbanding their little town. In September of 1869, the first westbound train arrived in San Francisco. California has a very exciting history. To think that only 19 years after California became a state, Galt was founded.

I am going to switch gears a little here and talk about researching your family histories. How many have started looking into their genealogy? I know

I have done this for years. It becomes addictive and at times, I have to put it down. With the help of some distant relatives, I have my Barsetti family tree back to the 1500s in Italy. When you go that far back the first names get repeated over and over. The most interesting is when you begin your research, you start with yourself and work backward. There is much information on the Internet and different programs. I say this because our Historian, Dan Tarnasky, is trying to put more biographies of the people of Galt and of our area together. History does not have to be back a 100 years. If you know your family history in Galt 25-50 years ago, start working on it. Start with yourself and go back as far as you know. I have to warn you, when you start you will not want to stop. If you have parents, grandparents, or aunts and uncles who have knowledge or written information about your family, use them as a source. Then start researching on the Internet. There are good programs such as Ancestry.com, but they do have an annual fee. There are some free searches such as Familysearch.org. Once you start writing your history, send Dan a copy. We want to build our website with lots of biographies. On the days when we seem to be inside with not much to do, this will solve that. Good researching! Stay safe.

Janis Barsetti Gray

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We are open for tastings, wine by the glass & bottles to enjoy only in our shaded patio area at this time. We are practicing social distancing and following all required guidelines.

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rigjan@barsettivineyards.com • www.barsettivineyards.com



Policy and Procedure Review Property Taxes

Purpose:

The Bookkeeper for the Gait Area Historical Society fills out the annual Property Tax Report. The Rae House Museum is exempt from property taxes as long as it is used exclusively for the charitable purpose of a museum. Other uses not related to the primary charitable purpose may make the property, or portion thereof, ineligible for tax exemption.

II. Policy:

1. Revenue and Tax Code guidelines for exemption indicate that "regularly open to the public" means the facility must be open not less than 20 hours per week for not less than 35 weeks in a twelve-month period. As per the Sacramento County Tax Assessor, the GAHS currently meets this requirement by having the museum open the 1st Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m. and open anytime by appointment as stated on the marquee located at the front gate of the museum and also on the Society's website.
2. In the event the Society rents the Rae House property for events, it can be subject to property taxes.

Bits & Pieces

Barn CD

We moved some of the donated barn money into some CDs. They have matured and we made almost \$8K in interest. We will put them back into another CD until we need the funds for our project.

Weddings

We have received notice from Sacramento County Health and Services that weddings can take place at the McFarland. They must be outside and there can be NO receptions under the Covid-19 guidelines. Because of the size of the McFarland, there could be up to 100 guests, but they would have to be social distancing of 6 feet apart. This would have to be managed. This would have helped if we had this information in earlier months, as some people just wanted to get married at the McFarland and either come back later when we open and have a reception; or go elsewhere for reception.

New Flags

Our flag at the Rae House and the Liberty Cemetery have become worn. New flags have been bought. We are waiting for some help to get the new flag up at the Rae, due to the rope breaking. Ralph Cortez is trying to find us the equipment that can get us to the top. Eric Schneider is taking care of the flag at the Liberty.

Yard Sale

We have all been trying to figure out a way to have our Yard Sale, but we have come to the conclusion that we just should wait. Our plan is to hold the yard sale in March or April at the Hall. However, we will still be taking in items to store for the sale. Please call LaVonne at 209 200-2203 if you have items to donate and she will make arrangements to get those items.

Fire Extinguishers

We recently had to update some information at the request of our insurance company. We had all the fire extinguishers at the McFarland Ranch and the Rae House updated and certified. We are in total compliance. Thanks to Dan and Lyle for handling this. Dan has completed the evacuation plan for the Rae and Lyle is working on one for the McFarland House.

Rae Displays

The Rae Museum will have a new look the next time you set foot in the door. Dan has been spending a lot of time redoing and rearranging items to tell the story of Galt's History. The Rae will look much more like a museum. Dan and Toni Gerling have helped with the professional displays of pictures and lettering.



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Louise Dowdell's 102nd Birthday Celebration

August 14th, the day before Louise Dowdell's actual birthday, a celebration of her 102nd Birthday took place at Golden Living Center. The staff at Golden Living surrounded Louise with an arch of balloons as she sat waiting for the parade. Many residents and staff of Golden Living, friends, and family gathered to watch too. Good Day Sacramento was there videoing the event for their morning and evening television, and local DJ Brian King played oldies music for the crowd. The Cosumnes Fire Dept. led the parade with a fire truck and several other vehicles, followed by Galt PD cars and motorcycles, next Ron and Judy Jacobson, Carole and Jim Snow and a group of old cars, Harry Souder with his beautiful red tractor, followed by family and friends in their cars waving and honking. The parade went through the parking lot 3 times before stopping. At that time Louise was presented a proclamation by County Supervisor and her Great Nephew, Don Nottoli, declaring August 15th as Louise Dowdell Day in Sacramento County. Shawn Farmer, Galt Council member and GAHS member present Louise with a proclamation from the City of Galt declaring August 15th as Louise Dowdell Day in the city of Galt. Louise took the microphone and talked to the crowd and gave her many thanks for the day. Brian King played Happy Birthday and everyone sang to Louise. What a great day for a great lady.

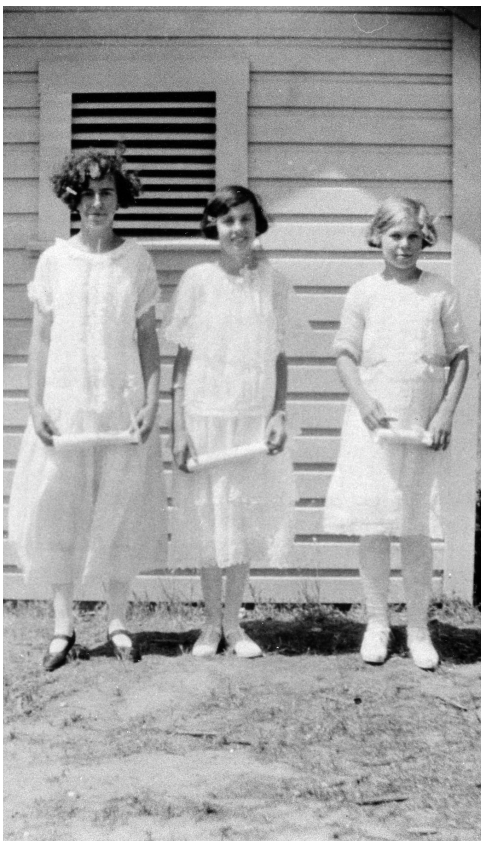


Can you help us identify these Galt area citizens?

We have several photos that are unidentified. If you know who one of these people are, contact:

Dan Tarnasky - GAHS Historian

Email: blckrssn@hotmail.com | Phone: (916) 952-2368



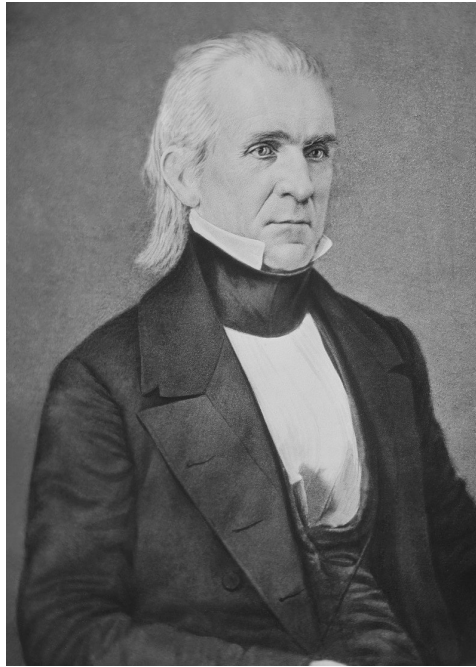
The Incident at Murphy's Corral or The Real Beginning of the Bear Flag Revolt

This is the second part of a three-part series from Terry Albritton's article on the Bear Flag Revolt. The first part contained Martin Murphy Jr. and his family coming to Alta California, his unintentional involvement in John Sutter's personal army in support of Governor Manuel Micheltorena, and his subsequent settling on a piece of property north of the Cosumnes River.



By 1846 the Rancho had become a way station for explorers, trappers, military officials, and native Californios headed to or from Sutter's Fort. Among the notable persons who stopped there were William Tecumseh Sherman, Edwin Bryant, and Bayard Taylor. Western explorer, John C. Fremont, known as the Pathfinder, did business with Martin, Jr. He wanted to purchase cattle and horses for his newly funded expedition—the search for a direct route to the Pacific Ocean. Commissioned by President Polk, Fremont was married to Jessie Benton Fremont, daughter of the outspoken Missouri senator, Thomas Benton. Senator Benton championed “Manifest Destiny” as a rationale for U.S. expansion to the Pacific Coast. While a guest of the Murphy family, Fremont was accompanied by legendary wilderness scouts, Kit Carson and Alex Godey. The entourage also included an artist and six Delaware Indians.

From various documents of the era, it is surmised that Murphy, Jr. was illiterate. This may explain his earnest search for a teacher to educate his children. There were no public schools, but through Fremont's connections, Martin found an Irish teacher named Patrick O'Brien who had joined the Army and come into California with one of the Pathfinder's expeditions. Revealing few details of his past, O'Brien was eager to sign on as a teacher in what became the first school in the Sacramento Valley. From primary sources, it is known that O'Brien was a strict disciplinarian and much feared by Bernard (Bernie) Murphy, only four years old at the time. Fortunately for little Bernie, the schoolmaster took frequent



President James K. Polk

holidays to fortify himself with alcohol. Martin Jr. overlooked these absences, but nearly lost his children's teacher when William Tecumseh Sherman (of Civil War fame) came to arrest O'Brien as a deserter from the Army. Pleading with Sherman to forego the arrest, Murphy convinced him that it would be impossible to find another teacher.

As far as can be determined, the Murphy clan had no enemies and harbored no animosity toward the major players in the unfolding political drama over control of California. Their Miwok neighbors were helpful and friendly, preferring to quarrel among themselves than to initiate hostilities toward American settlers. For the initial months of 1846, life in and around the Rancho was prosperous with plentiful game, thriving livestock, and abundant grain. The Mexican authorities and native Californios were too distracted by local politics and their own divided loyalties to pay much attention to escalating events between the United States and Mexico. They were unaware that the U.S. Congress declared war on Mexico on May 13th. In Washington President Polk fully embraced the goal of Manifest Destiny by ordering General Stephen Kearny to lead his armed forces from Fort Leavenworth to California

in support of John D. Sloat, Commander of the Pacific Fleet, who had been instructed to seize California's seaports.

Neither John Sutter nor John C. Fremont was aware of the U.S. declaration of war. Had either of them known about hostilities, the incident at Murphy's Corral might never have occurred. On June 7th, under orders from General Castro, a 27 year old Mexican lieutenant named Francisco Arce left Sonoma with 170 horses and an escort of eight men. His instructions were to deliver the horses to General Castro in Santa Clara. En route to their destination, the group spent the night of June 8th at Sutter's Fort. On June 9th they proceeded south to Murphy's Rancho where they were supplied with shelter and provisions.

Unbeknown to the Mexicans or to the Murphy's, Fremont had been informed of the Arce mission and the trajectory of the trip. He was supposedly reconnoitering the area for his geological survey although his team of “surveyors” included a motley group of adventurers and ruffians who called themselves “Bears” or “Osos”. They had time to traffic in gossip and rumors, the most alarming of which was that Castro planned to use the horses to pillage properties of the American settlers and to drive them from the Valley. Their rough-hewn patriotism itched for a fight that would free California from Mexican control.

Congregated at Sutter's Fort, the Osos were joined by a group of concerned Valley property owners. Fremont suggested a campaign to seize the horses corralled at Murphy's Rancho. Unwilling to lead the Oso Rebellion, himself, Fremont appointed the coarse, tobacco chewing Ezekiel Merritt as Field Lieutenant of the Bears. “Stuttering Zeke” had the reputation of a fierce Indian fighter whose tomahawk was carved with multiple notches to record his victims. He had also been a soldier in Sutter's ill-fated Army of the Sacramento to support Micheltorena and in opposition to Castro. With Fremont directing action behind the scenes, Merritt left Sutter's Fort with a band of fewer than ten Bears and headed south for Murphy's Rancho

to surprise the unsuspecting Mexicans settled comfortably at the outpost where they had always been welcomed.

Francisco Arce had no idea what was coming. He seems to have been educated, and at the time of the incident at the Corral, he served as General Castro's secretary. His detailed memoirs, "Memorias Historicas", dictated in 1897, indicate that he had also been loyal to Micheltorena. He may have been instructed by Castro to prevent harm to Micheltorena because of past favors. At the least, Arce was aware of ongoing strategic communication between the two generals, supposedly enemies. In 1845 the newly arrived Murphy emigrants had suspected that the conflict between them was somewhat

contrived and had requested their leave from Micheltorena's forces.

Martin, Jr. knew "Stuttering Zeke" Merritt from the Army of the Sacramento in which both had ridden with Sutter to support Micheltorena. Murphy was also known to Arce who dictated in his memoirs that he "was happy to see the honorable Martin Murphy and his family who had a well established cattle ranch." Indicating that he had also previously encountered Merritt, Arce describes him by name as "that ferocious adventurer."

Acting on Fremont's indirect and discreet orders, Merritt and his motley band of Bears left Sutter's Fort on June 9th and rode all night to the Rancho on the

Cosumnes. With rifles and knives raised, they surrounded the sleeping Arce and his group at dawn on June 10th. His rifle trained on Arce, Stuttering Zeke declared his intention to seize the horses and to shoot the entire Mexican party.

Awakened by barking dogs and commotion at the corral, the Murphy family rushed outside. Merritt continued to harangue that he and the Osos knew the horses were to be used to drive American settlers out of the Valley and make war on the Bear Flaggers. He turned to his compatriots, asking them if he should take the Mexicans as prisoners or shoot them. At that point, Mary Murphy and her young son stepped between Arce and Merritt, shielding the lieutenant with their bodies and her shawl. Pleading with the Osos to desist, she swore that she and the Murphy family would remain forever indebted to the Flaggers for an "act of mercy" that spared the Mexicans' lives.

Not known for his charitable tendencies, Merritt must have been moved by something in Mary's emotional entreaty. Or, perhaps, he foresaw Fremont's potential ire at the slaughter of ten Mexicans on the doorstep of Martin Murphy who had always been hospitable to the Pathfinder and his men. Or, maybe, it was all bluff. Whatever the reason, Stuttering Zeke put down his rifle and returned Arce's sword to him. He issued a final challenge to the Mexican lieutenant. "Tell him (Castro) to come after the horses if he dares." Members of the Murphy family persuaded Merritt to leave a horse for Arce and for each of his men. Without further incident, the Mexicans left Murphy's corral, presumably headed to report their losses to General Castro in Santa Clara.

With the captured horses, Merritt and the Osos returned to Fremont's camp at the Sutter Buttes just north of Sutter's Fort. At Fremont's urging, they took on additional Bear reinforcements to ride for Sonoma, the provisional seat of government in California. Again wishing to obscure his role in the revolt, Fremont did not accompany them.

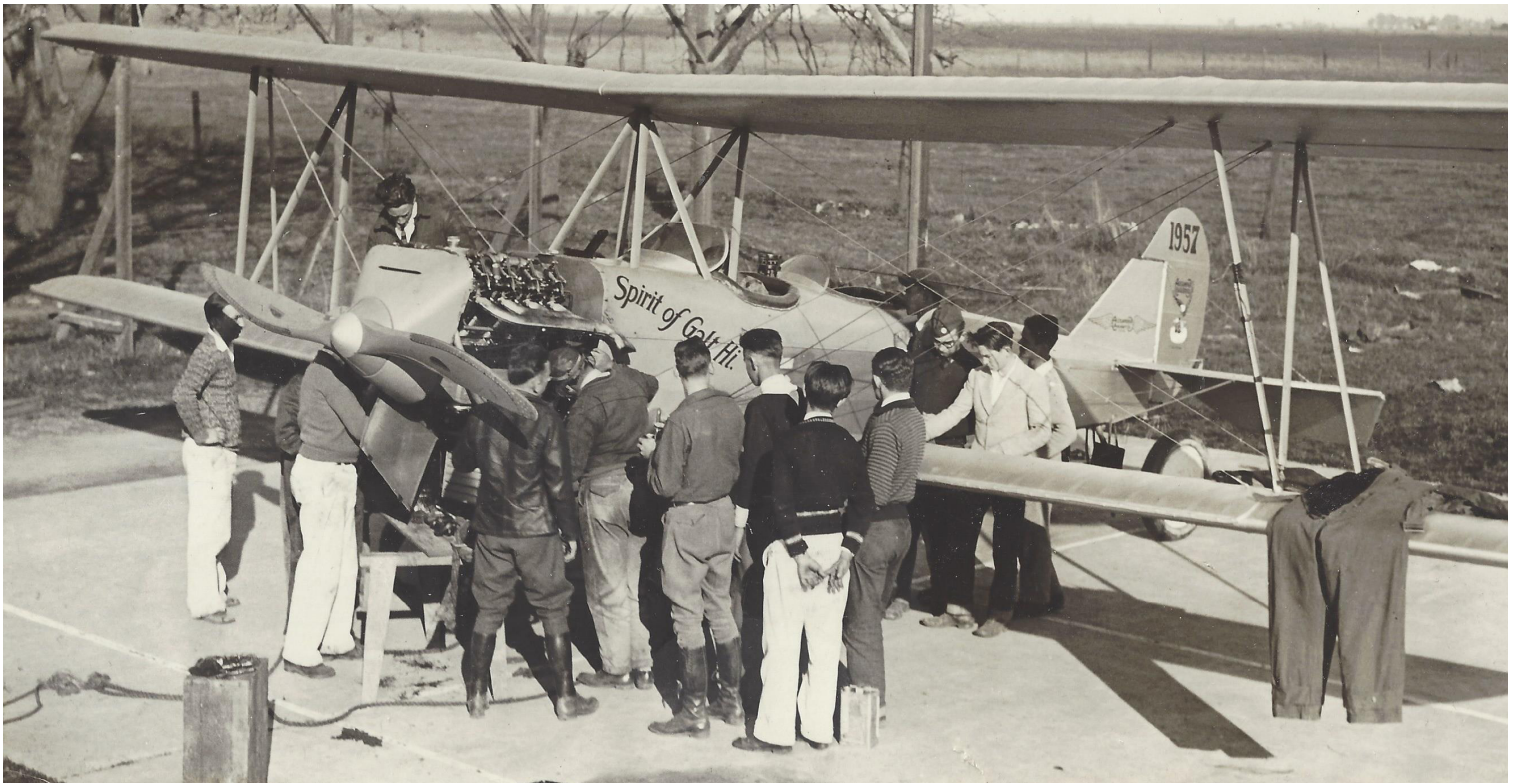
The small Mexican garrison housed at Sonoma was ill equipped and unprepared to do battle with the Osos. On June 14th, 1846, the Flaggers declared California an independent republic.

To be continued ...



John C. Fremont

The Rise and Fall of the Flying Schoolmaster



Aeronautics School ~ 1928

By now, most people are familiar with the Galt Technical Junior College for Aeronautics. The program was instituted by Galt High School Principal William Rutherford. Students came from miles around to learn the basics of flight, including navigation, mechanics, and weather. Upon completion of a four-year course of study, students would receive cadet flyer status in the U.S. Navy or Army Air Corps. All of the stories and articles written in the past mention that the Great Depression was the downfall of the program. Nothing could be further from the truth. It all begins and ends with the "Flying Schoolmaster."

William Rutherford was born in Montoursville, Pennsylvania, in 1895. He graduated from the University of Oregon with a B.A. degree in 1917 and a Master's degree from Stanford in 1921. His first job in education was a teacher in the Sacramento Unified School District before receiving

a Superintendent of Schools position in Dayton, Oregon. Before coming to Galt, Rutherford was the citizenship instructor and basketball coach at Sacramento's Part-Time High School. After the 1926 resignation of Ernest Oertel as Principal of Galt High School, the Board of Trustees and local citizens interviewed twenty candidates and chose William Rutherford.

In the fall of 1926, Rutherford instituted a couple of aviation courses, Principles of Flight and Physical Geography. It seemed that William Rutherford was gauging the interest of flying within the student body because of his interest in flight. The arrival of Charles Lindbergh for a speaking engagement in Sacramento encouraged Rutherford to have a meeting with the GHS Board of Trustees and the citizens of Galt. By the time school started in the fall of 1927, Galt High School had two graded runways, an 8,000,000

candle power aviation light beacon and floodlights installed on a tower, a set of weather instruments for observation and forecasting, an airplane hangar for storage and mechanics instruction, and a four-year course of study in aviation. In the end, students would receive cadet flyer status in the U.S. Navy or Army Air Corps. From all of the publicity, the program was receiving, Rutherford became known as the "Flying Schoolmaster."

In the summer of 1928, things started to unravel. An unknown source filed a complaint with the Sacramento County Grand Jury. They could not figure out how Rutherford financed uniforms and equipment. In December of 1928, they held a special session in Galt that included school officials, trustees, and prominent local citizens. An investigation revealed a maze of unusual financing where Rutherford transferred money from one account to



William Rutherford

hitched a ride with a milk truck driver who drove him to Elk Grove. Thomas was able to get a ride back to Galt from another Galtonian Fred Sehlmeier. He filed charges with the Sacramento County Sherriff.

By the end of May 1929, the Sacramento County Grand Jury completed its investigations of the Galt Technical Junior College for Aeronautics and Principal William Rutherford. They found another issue that needed attention. There were reports of Rutherford hosting "booze" parties. In one instance, a party began in Galt and then moved to the outskirts of Sacramento, where Rutherford supplied the students with bootleg liquor (remember this was during Prohibition). One student passed out, and Rutherford himself was under the influence. The Galt Technical Junior College for Aeronautics began to implode.

As June rolled around, William Rutherford resigned from his position. People came forward with complaints of unpaid debt. The Bank of Galt produced a promissory note for \$209. M.J. Bacon of Lone lost \$610 when Rutherford promised to repair his airplane in the school shop but never completed the project. The Industrial Finance Company sued for \$308. The Visalia Chamber of Commerce purchased a \$700 airplane motor that was not delivered. The Hastings Clothing Company was owed \$750 for uniforms (we have one on display at the Rae House).

The most considerable unpaid debt came from the undelivered airplane that was purchased by a former student. J.C. Selser had arranged to buy a brand-new aircraft through William Rutherford. Selser met with Rutherford and had \$1,200 sent to the school from his mother in two checks, \$1,000 for the plane, and \$200 for shipping. The Grand Jury alleged that Rutherford put the checks in an envelope to send to the manufacturer, but when Selser left, the \$1,000 check was sent to the Hastings Clothing Company for uniforms. No one knows where the \$200 went.

Because of the \$1,200 debt, Sherriff's Deputies arrested Rutherford on a grand theft charge. He could not post the \$4,500 bail and spent several days in the Sacramento County Jail. J.C. Selser refused to show for court hearings, so the DA dropped the charge and released Rutherford pending trial on the other amounts. Over the next few months, the school and Rutherford settled any remaining debts. A few older obligations appeared but were settled quietly in early 1930.

After the departure of William Rutherford, the Galt High School Board of Trustees hired Albert Rathbone as principal for a couple of years. During his tenure, Rathbone eliminated most of the Aeronautics School except for a few classes so students could finish the program. By the end of the 1930/1931 school year, the program disappeared. Most of the equipment that was on loan from the Federal Government went to Oakdale High School for a similar program. Anything else was sent back to manufacturers to settle a debt.

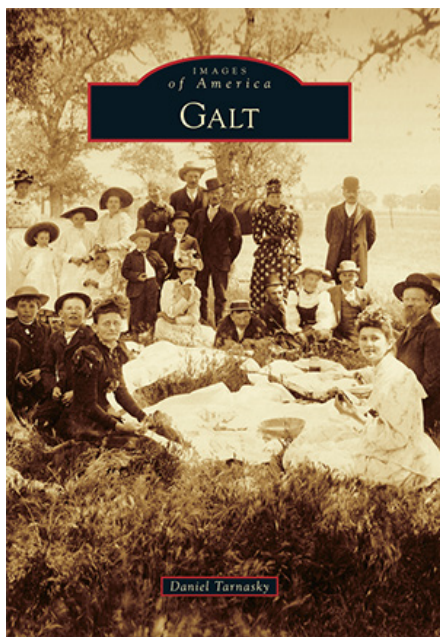
After the dust settled, William Rutherford sold pianos for a couple of years before taking the principal/superintendent job at the new Grant High School District in Sacramento from 1932 - 1946. From 1946 - 1956, he operated the Donner Summit Lodge. After a one-year stint for the State of California, William Rutherford lived the rest of his life in Winnemucca, Nevada where he died in 1965.

After reading through the research, it appears that William Rutherford's enthusiasm caused him to establish the school too quickly. He would have benefitted from purchasing equipment as money came in. The irony of it all is the school was about to come across a large sum of money. The War Department had just approved \$15,000 per year to support the program, and the California State legislature was working on a smaller amount to send to Galt. What is the old saying, patience is a virtue?

another; in other words, "robbing Peter to pay Paul." The Grand Jury also believed that the "transactions" were carried out in the interests of the aviation school and not for personal gain but presented a poor example for future students. Further investigations by the Grand jury and the school board would continue.

In February of 1929, a series of Letters to the Editor in the Sacramento Bee would "fuel the fire." A Galt poultryman named Albert Thomas wrote a letter voicing his displeasure with school funds paying for the light beacon installed on the aviation school airstrip. After the Galt Lions Club started paying for the beacon operation, Thomas continued to write letters to the Sacramento Bee. Twice Galt High School Board member Earl Desmond replied to Thomas's letters by writing his own by stating that Thomas did not have all of the facts, and the criticism was unfounded. Things went from bad to worse.

The day after Albert Thomas wrote his last Letter to the Editor on February 25th, six youths kidnapped him. He was bound, gagged, and had a "gunnysack" placed over his head. Thomas was then driven out thirty miles east of Galt and left without his shoes. He walked back to Sheldon and



Local History Books Available

Images of America: Galt

Contains vintage photos of Galt's past and a little history to go with it. The timeframe is 1869 to 1969. The Galt Area Historical Society is the source for the photos and historical information. Other Galtonians shared their photos, information, and memories.

Past and Present: Galt

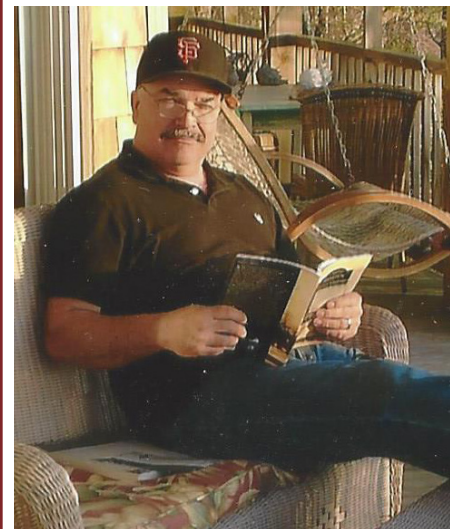
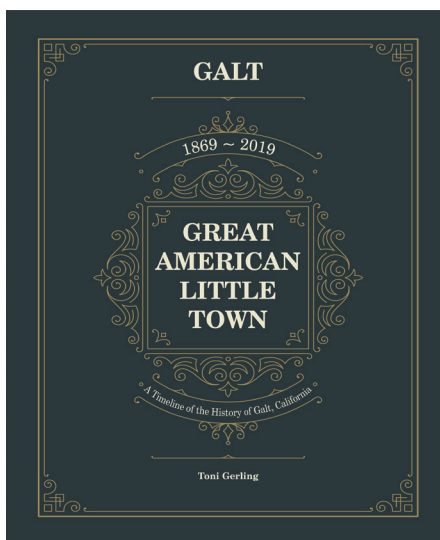
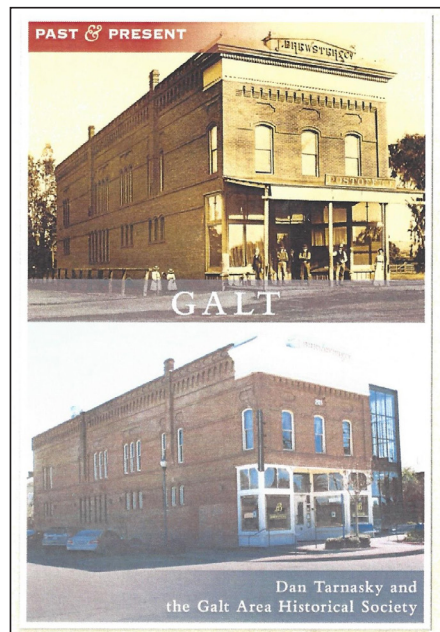
Contains vintage photos of buildings from Galt's past and what the building looks like now. Some places are unchanged while others have completely disappeared. All are still contained in the memories of those who grew up in their small town.

Books can be purchased at Barsetti's Tasting Room, 400 4th Street, Galt, through the GAHS website (www.galthistory.org), or by contacting the author, Dan Tarnasky at blckrssn@hotmail.com.

Great American Little Town, A Timeline of the History of Galt, California

Wrapping up a year of celebrations, the Galt District Chamber of Commerce has published a book commemorating Galt's sesquicentennial year. Only offered through the chamber and select businesses throughout Galt, the 100-page book is the 'labor of love' of long-time resident Toni Gerling of Express Type & Graphics. The book features a timeline of this area and includes photos and news clippings covering important milestones in local history. The book can be purchased at the following locations for \$25, which includes a commemorative pin.

- Galt Chamber office
604 N. Lincoln Way
- Express Type & Graphics
740 Spaans Drive #2
- The Coffee Shop Bakery
239 Fourth Street



Contact the Historian

☞ If you need or have Galt area historic information (includes Herald, Thornton, Liberty, Hicksville, Clay Station, Arno, Elliott, Colony, and Arno).

☞ If you have historic Galt area or family photos for us to scan and return.

☞ If you have area historical artifacts to display at the Rae House Museum.

Dan Tarnasky
Historian/Archivist
(916) 952-2368
blckrssn@hotmail.com

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Looking for Photos

If anyone has photos of these businesses or know someone who might, please contact the Historian at blckrssn@hotmail.com.

Patton's Pharmacy – Had a soda fountain; closed 1940.
 The Club – Jim Bradford and C. Tufts Bar and Café
 Bank of Galt – W.C. Anderson, President
 The Hardware Store – 305 4th Street
 Galt Auto Supply – Lassiter and Shields / Hwy 99
 Lifman's Department Store – Ben Lifman
 John Paavola Shoe Repair
 Koontz Place – "Boss" Koontz / On the Hwy
 Wegat's Place – Fred Wegat / Lunch Counter, Restaurant, and Bar on C Street
 Galt Bakery – Albert Clary / 217 4th Street
 Pelisse Tailor – L. Pelisse / 108 5th Street
 A.F. Bettreund Jewelry Repair – On the Highway
 The Curve Service Station (1935) – Les Mendes / South of Galt / Highway 99
 Colonial Beauty Shop – 213 4th Street / Harms Building
 Galt Safeway Market
 Slacks Economy Market
 Pacific Telephone and Telegraph – 314 5th Street
 Galt Electric Appliance Store – August Lauchert / Stefan Building
 Matt's Tavern – Matt Lavey / Highway 99 / Twin Cities Corner
 Patton's Barber Shop – Dexter Patton
 Quenell's Garage – Angus Quenell / NW Corner 5th and C Streets
 Tip Top Café – Mrs. A. Tardiff / 4th Street / 3 doors south of bank
 Original Standard Service Station – Ted May before 1936
 Galt Produce Co. – Fred Pitts / North of VanEvery's Service Station
 Clover Made Jersey Cream Farm – O.C. Mays / North of Galt
 Thornton Canning Co.
 Galt Café – 4th Street between C and D Streets



News from McFarland Ranch

Lyle and his volunteers have been working on many projects; and have an accumulative work hours of 1,000 volunteer hours so far this year. They are 75% completed repairing the fence around the McFarland House. In a previous newsletter, it was mentioned that all the benches had been rebuilt for the Pioneer Days. The Board got a chance to sit on them when we had a meeting. They are beautiful and well built. General clean up happening all the time. It is unfortunate that we do not have any events going on due to Covid-19, but it has given the crew valuable time to work on projects.



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