

March 2022

From the Archives

Quiggle House



This nondescript little building still exists on the original property and was built over a hundred and forty years ago. The very first residence of Volaski "Lac" Quiggle was built around 1875 and sat within eyesight of Quiggle's Herald Store. Native Ohioan Lac Quiggle and his wife Isabella purchased 320 acres of land near what is now Herald in 1875. In 1911, Quiggle bought two lots from the Central California Traction Company, which

had just constructed a passenger line from Stockton to Sacramento and was near his property. He built a store on one side of the tracks, and on the other side, he built a small depot. They needed a name for the stop, so they took the first syllable of each CCT Co. owner's first names, Herbert Fleishaker and Alden Anderson, and came up with Herald. The property is no longer in the Quiggle family.

March 2022 Newsletter GAHS Membership Updates

We welcome new member Ric Wilson.

Please be aware that 2022 dues are due at the end of this month. If you are not a Life Member, annual dues are due on January 1 of each year. A 2nd email or mail reminder has been sent this month. If dues are not paid membership will be terminated. Please send your dues in as soon as you can! huge thank you to those who responded on our first & second request: Durlyn Anema, Twila Aschieris, Mike Ballew, Allison Barsetti, Matt Barsetti, Margaret Brummer, Thomas Cannon, Jensie Caquimbal, Emily Cippa, James & Susan Connick, Ralph Cortez, Elaine Douglas, Galt Chamber of Commerce, Marguerite Genasci, Philomena Hall, Dave Hamilton, Mike & Lisa Haug, Julie Hughes, Joanne Ishizuka, Mark King, Yvonne Miller-King, Lyle Lagge, Rosemary Lanza, Otto & Kay Linberger, Rich & Pam Lozano, Norene Luis, John Maggy, Deborah Martinez, John Melhaff, Susan Nelson, Rev. Maurice O'Brien, Dennis Sartini, Toni Scully, Roger & Sammi Watson, Gale Webber, Diane Weiss, Violet Whaley, Tara & Robert Wilson, Randall Wittie, Linda Helmer, Athena & Don Buchanan, Linda Stroh, Amber Veselka, Galt Chamber of Commerce, Ralph Cortez, Mike & Lisa Haug, Julie Hughes, Jean Biles, Jim Spaans and Peter & Mary Hall.

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!

Contact Rhonda Smith with any concerns about membership. rhonda@galtsmiths. com. Or 209-745-4504.



President



It seems like I should welcome you to Spring, but realistically, we are still in winter. Let's hope for some much needed rain before Spring officially arrives on March 20. I am sure that those who settled in Galt and the area in 1869 faced the cyclical droughts and flooding that we experience today.

Moving on to some of the items that your Executive Board and Committees have been working on to improve and enhance the McFarland Ranch, as well as promoting our mission of historical preservation in our area. We have some major projects going on at the McFarland (some you will read about later in this newsletter). There will be more information and discussion at our general meeting in March. The good weather has allowed for much work to be completed. However, as always, we are in need of more volunteers to continue this work and add on new projects. Unfortunately, we have the same few people trying to work on several projects at once. If you want to help in gardening, be a docent at the McFarland House, carpentry, landscaping, etc., please contact me and I will put you in touch with the person heading up each project. Our volunteers are not just working on the McFarland Ranch, but also the Liberty School House at the Rae Museum. There is lots of work to go around.

It has been a tough two years for everyone. Now is a good time to get out in the fresh air, helping with some projects, and make your mark on Galt's historical preservation. If you want to work inside, Dan has lots to do at the Rae Museum. All funds generated from fundraisers, donations, events go toward historical preservation. Obviously, we have monthly bills to pay for the operation of the Rae and the MAC.

We are excited with the four major events we have planned this year: Kite Day/ Eggstravaganza April 9th, The Ladies Tea at the Rae May 7th, Our annual car show, August 27th, and Sip & Snack at the MAC Sept 24th. Committees are gearing up for preparation for all of these events. If you want to help, contact me. Everyone is excited to finally be able to have our fundraisers again. It is also evident that the community wants to participate in our events too.

I like to think of the coming Spring Time as a time of rejuvenation. It is a great time to "spread our wings" and get involved. If we do not save Galt's history and that of our area, who will?

I hope you all enjoy all that comes in March: Mardi Gras, St Patrick's Day, and Spring.

Janis Barsetti Gray



2022 Historical Society Executive Board

Janis Barsetti Gray ~ President
Lyle Lagge ~ 1st Vice President
Gale Webber ~ 2nd Vice President
Liz Haglund ~ Recording Secretary
Len ReidReynoso ~ Treasurer
Dan Tarnasky ~ Historian



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Membership Meetings Back in March

As we stated at our December meeting, due to the cold weather, we opted to not have membership meetings in January and February, but we will have them from March thru December this year. Once the barn is updated, we will reevaluate this. The month of March's meeting will be held at the McFarland Barn starting at 6 pm. We will have coffee, tea, and water. If anyone wants to bring some snacks to share, that would be great.

Newsletter

We will resume our monthly newsletter starting in March. Did you know that you can go to our website, www.galthistory.org, and see all the newsletters back to 2018? If you lost your newsletter or want to look back, or you want your friends to see something, here is where you go. Thanks to Gale Webber for updating these files.

Website and Advertising

We will be updating our website to include a page advertising weddings and events at the McFarland. Word of mouth is great to an extent, but so many younger brides are online looking for venues, etc. for their weddings. We are also working with the Lodi Chamber of Commerce for an ad in their Destination and Relocation ad. We will feature the McFarland with wedding photos and ranch pictures. We always work with the Galt Chamber and will update our information for weddings with them also.

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2022 GAHS Events

Along with Kite Day, on May 7th will be our Ladies' Tea held at the Rae House Museum. If you want to help or attend (tickets will be available soon), contact Joan Werblun who is the Chair Person. August 27th is our annual car show, "A Drive Down Memory Lane." We already have cars registering for this event. It should be a large gathering of cars again. There will be vendors and food trucks. If you have a car, 1970 or older, contact Chair person, James Guthmiller, Janis, or Gale. Sip and Snack will be back, September 24th. We already have wineries and breweries signing up. The band is in place. It may seem early, but always good to get commitments now. We will be visiting restaurants and caterers to get their commitment.

Kite Day and Eggstravaganza

Each year we have our Kite Day in April. This year we are combing Kite Day with Eggstravaganza on April 9th. Kite flying will be in the same field near the barn. Eggtravaganza was an event that was held in downtown prior to Covid by the Galt Chamber. The Galt Area Historical Society is now sponsoring this event. The Chairperson is Gale Webber, who has chaired this for years in town. She has lots of vendors coming, food trucks, there will be egg hunts, etc. See the flyer within this newsletter. Anyone who want to help as a volunteer for the event, contact Gale. If you want to help docent in the house, contact Kathleen Amos. It is a free event. However, we are getting fees from vendors and food trucks.

Barn Update

Our engineer/architect has cleared most of the hurdles with the county and the plans. He is beginning to put the bids out to contractors. We really hope to have this project done by year's end. It will be a very needed addition to the ranch for our meetings and for event rentals.

Liberty School House

Lyle, Earl and Dan are getting things going at the school house. Lyle and Earl have made windows to go in the schoolhouse. We are getting bids for the roof. We really hope this project will be done by October. Anyone who wants to help or give donations toward this project, please contact me.

MAC Projects

For those of you who have not been to the ranch in a while, much work has been done getting the ranch ready for another season of events and weddings. We have graveled all the parking lot and all roads coming in and out of the ranch, including up to the barn. We had the road from Orr graveled awhile back also. Lyle and Earl and their crew will start painting all the board fences, coming from Orr Road into the ranch up to the ticket booth, the carriage house, the work shop, and the older restrooms, white. It will look spectacular when they are done. Joan, Rita, Bernice and Sammy have been working on the Bride's Room and making another building into a Groom's Room. They are also working on landscaping with Lyle and Earl.

Liberty Cemetery Update

We are very thankful to Gallo Vineyards near the McFarland Ranch for, again, mowing the grass at the Liberty Cemetery. They plan for another mowing before too long. They have helped us for several years. On another note, we do have a very bad problem with squirrels. The board received several bids for squirrel removal and awarded the bid to Azevedo's Pest Control. There are close to 100 holes at the cemetery. Azevedo's baited the holes Friday 2/18 and will be back two more times. Squirrels are a problem every year. They have caused problems with headstones and grave plots. With that said, we have the Clampers coming out either in March or April to do a lot of work at the cemetery. They donate their time weed eating around graves and fence line, cutting limbs, general cleanup. They will look into the possible restoring of some of the grave markers. We appreciate all they do for us.

Fireworks Booth

We will be having a fireworks booth this year as a fundraiser. Anyone who can volunteer to help from June 28th to July, call Gale at (209) 471-1525.

In Memory

One of our great volunteers at the McFarland Ranch, recently passed away. Roger Watson was a big part of Lyle's crew at the McFarland every week. We are very sorry and send our sincere condolences to his wife, Sammy. We will miss Roger very much.

Track Meet from 1963

Gene Nunez's first year as coach. Bob Loose was his assistant.



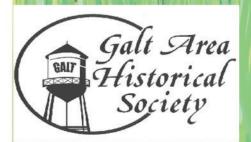
13th Annual Galt

Eggstravaganza & Kite Day

Saturday, April 9, 2022 9 AM—4 PM McFarland Living History Ranch 8899 Orr Road

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Pie Eating Contest * Crafts * Egg Drop
Games & Activities * Balloon Animals
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Upcoming Events

March 6: Rae House Museum Open House 1pm - 4pm

March 14: Executive Board Meeting 4pm at Rae Museum

March 28: General Meeting 6pm at McFarland Barn

April 3: Rae House Museum Open House 1pm - 4pm

April 9: Kite Day/Eggstgravaganza 9am-4pm at McFarland Ranch

April 11: Executive Board Meeting 4pm at TBD

April 25: General Meeting 6pm at McFarland Barn



Saturday, April 9th 9 AM - 4 PM McFarland Living History Ranch • 8899 Orr Road

This year Kite Day has been added to the Eggstravaganza to include a free, fun filled day for the whole family.

We have 70+ vendors signed up, including local non-profits and organizations, law enforcement, CSD Fire, etc.

Old City Kites will be on hand for Kite Day.

Food trucks include - Fry Boys, Daisey's Ice Cream and Philly Boys.

Galt Sunrise Rotary will be hosting a Pie Eating Contest.

CSD Fire will bring a ladder truck for the Egg Drop.

Bernard will be on hand doing balloon animals and shapes for the kids.

There will be an egg hunt on the ranch.

BSA Troop #1119 will host activities for the kids.



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St. Christopher's Catholic Church

When Dr. Obed Harvey and the Central Pacific Railroad laid out the grid that would define the boundaries of Galt's new little valley town, they agreed to set aside land in all four quarters of the grid to be donated to four churches. They have been listed in the Galt Master Plan's "Historic Element" as landmark structures. They are St. Luke's Episcopal Church, St. Christopher's Catholic Church, the United Methodist Church of Galt, and the Galt Christian Church, which now is the home of Iglesia Rosa De Saron. Each of these churches lists pioneer names in its early roster.

One of these historic Galt churches, St. Christopher's Catholic Church, remains almost as built. The Galt Area Historical Society has placed a plaque to identify it as a historical landmark in our community.

On October 12, 1885, the little brick Catholic Church of St. Christopher's was built and dedicated in Galt at the corner of 3rd and F Streets. St. Christopher's Catholic Church was the second of the four promised churches, each in a quarter of the original town grid.

As it happened, the day of the dedication of St. Christopher's Church was also the 393rd anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, so the members of the congregation chose the patron saint of travelers, Saint Christopher, as the name of the church.

The Galt Weekly Gazette of October 10, 1895, reported that the Italian man-of-war, Christopher Columbus, was lying at anchor in San Francisco Bay, ready to fire an honorary salute at the precise hour of the dedication of the Galt Church. Present for the dedication ceremony was Governor George Stoneman and Patrick Riordan, Archbishop of the San Francisco Diocese.

At first, the church had no pastor, and the priest from Jackson performed the pastoral duties. In 1919, St. Christopher's became an independent parish with Father James Grealy as pastor and remained until 1927. The first baptism recorded in St. Christopher's Parish Register is that of Angelina Batchelder, and the first marriage was that of Mary McEnerney and August James Beakey. Other pioneer families known to be a part of the Galt church history are Kenefick, Rae, Valensin, Lippi, Denevi, McCauley, McEnerney, and Marengo.

On October 12, 1985, St. Christopher's celebrated its 100th birthday. Its Etruscan spire was refurbished, and some cement



decorations were removed for safety. A new handicap ramp and brick stairway replaced the old cement stairs, but the body of the church and its stained-glass window over the altar is still original.

In 2001, a new church was built and dedicated to meeting a growing congregation's needs. The new church was

built on south Lincoln Way, not far from Kost Road. It is Spanish mission style and has a large stained-glass window taken down from the west wall of the old church and moved to the new one.

The old St. Christopher's Church is still used as a Catholic Community Center.

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