



September 2019



From the Archives

Marjorie Osterman

Over its eighteen-year history in Galt (1937 - 1954), The Sacramento County Fair had a queen of the festivities. In 1939, that queen was Marjorie Osterman. Even though she lived in Wallace in Calaveras County, Marjorie was invited to run for queen for the Sacramento County Fair. She won over competitors Jeanette Loll, Virginia Gaub, Hannah Horch, and Maxine Smoot of Galt and Violet Tonini of Elk Grove. For her efforts, Marjorie won a trip to Hollywood where she got to meet singer and film star Nelson Eddy (posing in the photo together). Not only was Eddy the highest-paid singer in the world at the time but he appeared in several MGM musicals with actress Jeanette McDonald. Marjorie Osterman Vliet is 96 years young and still lives in Calaveras County.



Charter Night Dinner and Elections

Our annual Charter Night Dinner and Election meeting will be catered by the Velvet Grill & Creamery. The cost will be \$15 per person. You must RSVP and pay in advance. There will be no payment at the door. Kirk has to have an exact count. The menu will consist of roasted chicken cut up, twice baked potatoes, and salad. The dessert for the evening will be a special ice cream with apple pie mixed in. In next month's newsletter we will have a reservation form that you can fill out and send in your money so look for it.



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

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A Message From The President

We are at the countdown for Galt's largest and most memorable celebration to date on September 14th. I was trying to imagine what Obed Harvey, John McFarland, John Rae, and other founding fathers of Galt would think. Would they be surprised that they made such an impact on us in 2019? Did they even dream their little town would still exist 150 years later? How would Chism Cooper Fuggitt from the Liberty City feel. He had just lost the town he founded because the railroad chose Galt to lay their tracks. It must have been bittersweet to pull up stacks and move a few miles away.

Hopefully, most of our present day citizens who turn out for the celebration will not only enjoy the day but will reflect back to 1869 and think back to what this day really means to our town. It was our true beginning. Times were difficult and families had to struggle to take care of themselves. They also knew they came to an area where they saw a future and a place they could raise their families. Many present day families in Galt and the area have been here for generations. There must be something to this Great American Little Town (GALT).

The Galt Area Historical Society has for years, since our inception in 1987, tried to preserve and help restore the history of Galt not only through written history, but the buildings in our area. We have an

extensive archives thanks to our present Historian, Dan Tarnasky. Unfortunately, some old buildings have fallen by the wayside. I guess some would call that "progress" to destroy historic sites to build something new. It is sad that Galt has lost some of our original buildings and houses. It is also sad that the city, in past years, did not do as some towns our age, and hold on to our past by having a strong Historical Preservation agenda. Some will say that buildings were not safe and were too costly to bring up to code. The Galt Area Historical Society is dedicated to preserving what we have presently in Galt and our surrounding area. We appreciate that the City of Galt has staff that truly care about the history of Galt and try to help us in every way possible achieve our goal. Please as members of our organization, be proud of what you have personally done to help with our mission. Enjoy September 14th and know that you, as our members, are a big part of why we are here today to celebrate and why this event is possible. I want to personally thank Shawn & Heather Farmer, Dan and Toni Gerling, Bonnie Rodriguez, and the many people on their committee for creating and promoting Galt's 150th.

~ Janis Barsetti Gray

Policy and Procedure Review

Discrimination / Harrassment / Bullying Policy

- I. Purpose:
It is the responsibility of the Galt Area Historical Society Executive Officers to maintain an environment that is free from discrimination, harassment and bullying.
- I. Policy:
 - A. Discrimination includes but is not limited to:
 1. Taking adverse action against another member based on that member's status.
 2. Treating that member differently with any regard to any aspect of volunteerism in society functions because of the individual's protected status.
 3. Taking an action that adversely affects the volunteer opportunities for members for a protected status.
 4. Engaging in harassment based on an individual's protected status.

All members are prohibited from discriminating against another member on the basis of race, color, age, spiritual belief system or sexual preference.

Examples: Discrimination may include, but is not limited to, the following types of behaviors relating to an individual's protected status:

1. Making slurs or derogatory comments in any format.
2. Engaging in verbal or physical conduct, comments, or jokes relating to an individual's status.
- B. Harassment includes but is not limited to:
 1. Subjecting the member to unwelcome conduct related to a protected status.
 2. Being subjectively offensive to the member and it would be considered offensive to a reasonable person of the same age and characteristics under the same circumstances.
 3. Interfering with or limiting the member's ability to participate or benefit from membership due to the severity, pervasiveness, or persistency of the harassment.
- C. Bullying is unwanted and aggressive behavior that invokes a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, overtime.
GAHS Financial P-14 Original Issue: 5/8/17 Revised:

Discrimination/Harassment/Bullying Policy

- A. Examples of bullying behavior include making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. The determination of whether an action or collection of actions rises to the level of bullying is generally differentiated from an isolated occurrence when the behavior is repetitive and there exists a power imbalance that may include physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity used to control or harm another member.
- B. The Executive Officers will promptly investigate any complaint of discrimination, harassment or bullying.
- C. It is a violation of this policy to retaliate or engage in any form of retaliation against a person who has raised a concern, filed a complaint, or has been a witness to any form of discrimination, harassment or bullying. The Executive Officers will investigate any complaint of retaliation and take appropriate corrective legal action.
- D. Any member found to have behaved in violation of this policy may have his/her membership revoked.
- E. The Executive Officers are required to notify any person, or persons, accused of being in violation of this policy by certified, return receipt mail, and given 10 (ten) days in which to respond.

Calendar

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

Friday | September 13
Lincoln Highway Road Trip Thru Galt

Saturday | September 14
Sesquicentennial Celebration
in Old Town Galt

Monday | September 23 | 6pm
General Membership Meeting
550 C Street

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

Dates and Times are Subject to Change

Gossip from the Galt Gazette September 1882

Charlie Quiggle's
Arcade Bowling Alley,
Shooting Gallery,
and Drinking Place
is on B Street,
Galt d'ye moind that now?



A domesticated badger strayed
from the residence of S.A. Lewis
this week and a suitable reward
is offered for its return.



A Masonic Lodge will be
instituted in Galt shortly and
resident members of that society
are making the
necessary preparations.



C.W. Brewster is confined to
his room by sickness.



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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



Remember the Galt Centennial?

For those who don't know, this year the City of Galt will be celebrating its 150th birthday, formally called the Sesquicentennial. The event is going to be quite an occasion but won't come close to the 100th birthday celebration in 1969. The planning started the year before, and events lasted a large portion of 1969.

It all began with the late Dean Davy, advertising manager for the Galt Herald, who stood up before the Galt City Council in May of 1968 and told them that the Galt Post Office was turning 100 years old and from there he requested the Council study the possibility of making 1969 Galt's Centennial. It took civic leaders to get the ball rolling, and a Centennial Committee evolved in 1968 including High School Superintendent Orville Fletcher, Dean Davy, Judge Fred May, Elementary School Superintendent Robert McCaffrey, and Councilman Bob Lawrence as Committee Chairman. Representatives from local churches and organizations were encouraged to attend planning meetings.

The first Galt Herald of the new year had a large reminder that the Centennial year was beginning in Galt and that there were many and varied activities planned. Throughout the coming months there was something for everyone, but first, there were a couple of technicalities. Galt City Council passed resolution 338 proclaiming 1969 as Galt's Centennial and papers were filed to incorporate the committee as a legal non-profit named Galt Centennial 1969 Inc. That made all donations to activities tax deductible.

In January and February, the Centennial Committee was asking the citizens for help with a few projects. There was a call for pioneer names to list in a souvenir brochure dedicated to the history of Galt as well as a Galt Lions Club Memorial to those same pioneers in Galt City Park (now located within the swim complex grounds). Names were also being sought for the Centennial Sweetheart. She had to be female, 65 years of age or older, and a resident of the high school district. Another project



was the Citizen of the Century. This award would go to the person, dead or alive, that contributed the most outstanding community service in the history of Galt. Finally, there were the nominations for Centennial Queen. This young lady had to be 17 to 22 years of age and live within the high school district.

The actual start of festivities for Galt's Centennial was the month of March. A Centennial Tea sponsored by the Galt Women's Club at the Galt Library included a historic pioneer relic display. The annual Galt Jaycees Whiskerino Contest was incorporated into the centennial activities where all entrants would be judged on beards and mustaches and would run until the Galt Festival. Mary Pritchard was named Centennial Sweetheart at a dinner held at the Grange Hall.

April was the month that the Galt Lions Club dedicated a memorial to all the Galt Pioneers. Mayor Bob Biederman accepted the memorial on behalf of the City and County Supervisor Henry Kloss helped with the unveiling and received a copy of the Galt Centennial booklet. The fourth-grade classes at Fairsite School were present for the ceremony. The Lions Club also participated in a tree planting

program along with the local Boy Scout Troop.

In May, Carol Stanley was named Centennial Queen in a pageant at the Galt High School Auditorium. A special Founder's Day celebration included a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Lincoln Way Railroad Crossing, a luncheon at the Golden Acorn Restaurant, and the presentation to the City of Galt of a portrait of John McFarland, the person who named the town. The luncheon included Assemblymen Edwin Z'Berg and Leroy Greene.

Without much going on in June, July brought the Centennial-themed Old Fashioned 4th of July. Lt. Governor Ed Reinecke was the keynote speaker at Warrior Stadium accompanied by Miss Galt Carol Stanley and Centennial Sweetheart Mary Pritchard. Attendees ate a catered lunch at City Park. Old fashioned games and races were part of the day's activities. Two other honors were announced, Charlie Bellie became the Citizen of the Century, and former heavyweight boxing champion and one-time Galt citizen Max Baer became Athlete of the Century. In mid-July came the Centennial Revue featuring an old-fashioned melodrama and songs by the Centennial, a local youth choir. Next came the Galt Centennial Parade with Centennial Sweetheart Mary Pritchard as Grand Marshall.

The parade was supposed to be the last event, and the Centennial activities would come to an end, however toward the end of the year, The Centennial Committee wanted one more event. The Centennial Supper/Dance was held on New Year's Eve at the Administration Building in Galt Park. It's possible that the organizers had a few bills to pay and this would take care of that.

Looking back at the events for Galt's centennial, one can see things that would never happen again. It was a simpler, more innocent time dedicated to a festive atmosphere. Because of time constraints and finances, this year's activities won't be as varied and will be held for just one day. Hopefully, we'll see the same enthusiasm.

Liberty School House Update



Once the 150th celebration is over, Lyle and Ron and their crew will complete taking off and getting rid of the north side of the Liberty School House. The mover is waiting for that and then he will be down to move the building to the Rae Museum. Then the building will have to be placed on a foundation. Once that is complete, the renovating will begin. Anyone interesting in helping with this project, please let us know.

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Bits & Pieces

McFarland Cleanup

The McFarland Ranch continues an extensive cleanup under the direction of Lyle Lagge. The ranch has received much attention due to events such as the Chamber's Hot Air Balloon Festival. As Lyle says, it is important that people coming in have a great visual of the entire ranch. If anyone wants to come to the Ranch on Monday's to help with various chores, come out and see Lyle or Ron. I am sure they will put you to work.

McFarland Rental

Heather Farmer reports that she is receiving many calls and emails regarding rental of the McFarland Ranch for weddings and events. She received over 20 calls and emails the last week, and has been showing the ranch for potential weddings. She is aggressive with social media and has created a Facebook page for the Ranch. We are getting great reviews also. Rentals are one of our biggest source of income at the Ranch and the Rae.

Grant Writer Hired

The Board has hired a Grant Writer to seek out funds to help us build our event center. Fundraising is great for small projects, but something this huge requires large grants. We are pleased to have finally selected a writer who has great experience and success in getting grants for organizations like ours. Maybe there is "light at the end of the tunnel."

TOT Application Submitted

Speaking of grants, Liz Haglund has just submitted our application for Sacramento County's grant for TOT (tax collected from hotels). We have asked for funds to help with more repairs for our museum, the Rae House. The Rae received some minor repairs that we could afford, but there are some major issues that have to be taken care of. So we will keep our fingers crossed that this year we will be successful and receive a grant from the county.

Clampers Schedule Workday

The Clampers have contacted me and plan to be at the Liberty Cemetery on September 28th. They have purchased some cameras and signage to mount. They are hoping this will deter people from dropping garbage off at the cemetery. They also plan a workday.

Annual Car Show

Our annual Car Show, "Drive Down Memory Lane", is coming together. We are getting quite a few participation forms and checks. The car show will be held again in the field near the new restrooms. LaDeana has already agreed to perform her great singing as a donation during the event. Elk Grove Tire is again our huge sponsor. If anyone knows someone with a hot rod, custom, pickup, motorcycle, camper, etc. that is 1972 or older, have them go to our website and pull out the application and send it in with their money.

Pioneer Days

John Durand is working with the schools getting Pioneer Days and Pumpkin Patch organized. If you are interested in having training to work both of these children events, please contact me and I will forward your info to him.

General Meetings

General Meetings begin again September 23rd. At that time, those nominated will have a chance to speak. If they are unopposed, they do not have to speak. Shaun Farrell, our Nominating and Elections Chairman says the Nomination deadline period to send in your forms is Sept 20. You must fill out the forms yourself if you want to run. Elections will be at the October meeting, Oct 28.

New Gardener

The new gardener at the Rae is doing a great job. He is deadheading roses as well as lawn mowing and trimming.

Historic Plaques

The Historic Plaques that have been ordered have arrived. We will make arrangements with the donors to have a day they can come and pose for pictures near the buildings. The plaques will go on the former Quenell Garage (now owned by Spaans and across the street from their shop), the Quenell relatives have donated funds for this plaque, the Barber Home in Thornton donated by Charlotte Cameron, the plaque for the Galt Railroad Depot donated by Mike and Linda Greer, and a plaque that will go on the Liberty School House when renovation is completed.

Lincoln Highway Reenactment

As a reminder, on Friday September 13th (day before our 150th Celebration), the Lincoln Highway Association's reenactment of Eisenhower's trip across the country in 1919, will come to Galt. They will be staying for lunch. The Galt Chamber of Commerce has arranged their lunch. There should be over 70 old military style vehicles that will be on display while they are at lunch. They will leave Galt and plan to be at their final stop in San Francisco area the next day. I hope many of you can come down and enjoy some military history.

Chamber Luncheon at the Rae

The Galt Chamber of Commerce will hold their September lunch at the Rae House Museum from 11:30-1 pm. The guest speaker will be Don Nottoli. If you want to attend, the lunch is \$25. It will be catered by the Velvet Grill. You must RSVP and pay by going to: www.galtchamber.org or by calling their office at 209 745-2529.

Sip & Snack 2020

The Board is still working on the date for next year's Sip & Snack at the MAC. It will be in the fall so we can stay away from the heat of July. We will keep you posted.

Historical Society Authors

Finally, we have three authors among our members. We know that Dan Tarnasky has written one book about Galt. He now has another book about Galt then and now, showing pictures of what Galt buildings and Galt area looked like and what they are today. Mike Greer has written a book on Galt and the Railroad. It is a very interesting book and brings back memories for all of us who remember the train depot and the train stopping in Galt. He has done much research. It is a must have book. Thirdly, our own Durlynn Anema has a book on writing your memories. If you will remember, Durlynn gave a great talk at one of our meetings about writing your memories down. It is important to write our own history for those coming after us so things do not get left to guessing. Their books are all for sale.



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