



November 2020



From the Archives **Ulysses Mori**

Galt-area history is full of immigrants who came to this country for a better life. One such man was Ulisse (Ulysses) Mori. Born in 1889 in Santa Maria a Monte of the Tuscany region of Italy, Mori headed to America at the age of 16, stopping at the Ellis Island Immigrant Inspection Station. Heading to California, Mori settled in Amador County, where he eventually met and married Luigia Poggio in 1911. Around 1914, the two-headed to San Francisco, where Ulisse worked as a soap maker for Galland Laundry. The 1920s found the Mori Family living on Staten Island, where Ulisse worked as a farm laborer. In the 1930s, Mori tried his hand at owning a soft drink company. By 1940, Ulisse and Luigia Mori moved to Thornton, where Ulisse went to work running Louis Sartini's Victory Inn. In 1961, and at the age of 72, Ulisse Mori became a naturalized citizen of the United States, his proudest moment. Thornton's long-time residents raised eight children, Italo, Inez, Alice, Margaritte, William, Annabelle, Eleanor, and Bruno.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We welcome new member Kirk Swim. We look forward to meeting you 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.



It almost seems impossible that Halloween has just passed and Thanksgiving and Christmas are just ahead. We have had a turbulent year as a community and as a country. However, what is most optimistic is how our community looks forward. We cannot dwell on all the negative issues and happenings of 2020. The pioneers who came to Galt in the early 1850's had some pretty tough times. They had no electricity, no running water, no cars, etc.: Things we take for granted. What I see happening in Galt is a revival of our small town spirit and energy. We are a town trying to get back to normal. Organizations in town are working toward putting their fundraisers back together for 2021, as we are. Local groups of businesses and citizens are working together to come up with ideas and events to bring some normalcy to our community and its children. This happened for Halloween. The City Park and Rec opened up the Market grounds for a Trunk or Treat event where businesses decorated their trunks and handed out candy as parents drove the kids by. On Saturday, October 31, eleven Old Town businesses setup decorated tables on the sidewalk and inside their businesses and handed out candy as the kids, decked out in costumes, walked down the sidewalk. Both events brought joy and a normal night to our children. This is what makes Galt so great! Brainstorming is going on now to come up with more of this to help our citizens and our businesses get back to how life was before the virus. Through all this, we have learned to social distance and make a safe environment for all.



Now we come to that time of year when we give thanks for all we have: Our family, our town, and our friends. Some may say what do we have to be thankful for in 2020? This year will pass. Be thankful for the future where we can make positive changes. As I have said before, our history is part of us. It is where we came from. We also need to learn from it. What we do with this information is on us. We have many opportunities to get involved with our town and our organization. When you help and volunteer, you do get a feeling of accomplishment and self-worth. Others will be thankful that you helped. Support your local organizations, businesses, and our town.

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Please stay safe.

Janis Barsetti Gray

2020 Historical Society Executive Board

Janis Barsetti Gray ~ President
Lyle Lagge ~ 1st Vice President
Harry Souders ~ 2nd Vice President
Liz Haglund ~ Recording Secretary
Toni Gerling ~ Corresponding Secretary
Bobbi Lewis ~ Treasurer
Dan Tarnasky ~ Historian



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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Bits & Pieces

Biographies

I mentioned in a previous newsletter about submitting family biographies to Dan Tarnasky to be put on our website. Please, if your family has been in Galt (could be many years or within the last 25 years), we would like to post your family history on our website. This could be used as a genealogical tool for research. Dan would really like to tell your history. If you have questions about what he wants and how to go about it, contact Dan at: blckrssn@hotmail.com.

Halloween Watch

Thanks to Kathleen Amos for keeping any eye out for the Rae House Museum on Halloween night; and to Eric Schneider and some of the Clampers for watching the Liberty and Elliott Cemeteries. All reports were good with not activities.

Yard Sale

LaVonne Riddlespurger reports she is still getting more items for our yard sale. We hope that we can have the sale in the spring. Continue to contact her with the items you have so she can get them stored at our Hall on C St. Contact LaVonne at 209 200-2203. It is a good time to clean up and downsize now before the winter weather sets in.

C Street Hall

As some of you know, we rent the hall from Dr Sanford DDS. The reason the overall lawn is dry is because when the city did some work a couple of years ago, they shut down the water to our sprinkler system. For some reason, they have not reconnected it. However, someone has been watering the big tree in the yard. We appreciate this. However, we have no one to cut this green grass that has grown around the tree. If someone has time to go over with a weed eater, it would be appreciated. We had put our hose away because our water bill went up and we suspected our water was being used by people other than members.

Rae Displays

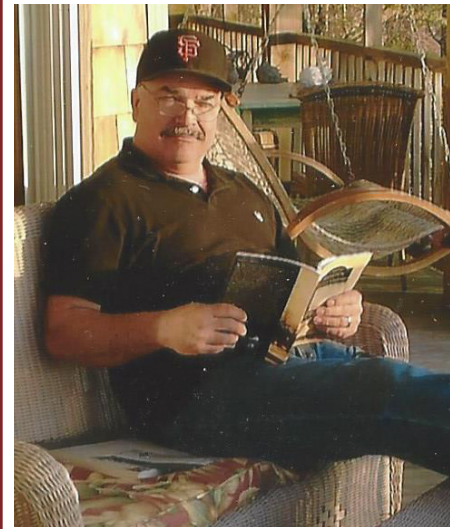
As mentioned before, Dan has been working very hard to turn the Rae House into more of a museum rather than a house. Once we open back up, you will be very surprised at what he has done. Dan is trying to make everything about Galt and our area. He has recently received some more donations to add to his archive. Please, if you have anything of Galt or our area that you would like to donate or loan for displays, please contact Dan. If you know anyone who may have things of Galt, please send them to Dan. He is telling the history of our town and area. I sincerely appreciate all Dan has done at the Rae.

Membership Renewals

If you are not a Lifetime Member of the Galt Area Historical Society, your membership is due January 1, 2021. Rhonda Smith will be sending out invoices sometime in December. Please send your membership fee in promptly. This membership renewal helps us with our daily operations. If you have friends or family who want to join, you can direct them to our website: www.galthistory.org and look for the membership tab to join.

We Will Miss You

Recently, Barbara Payne, member, former Mayor and Councilmember of Galt, has moved to Texas to be closer to her family. Mark Crews, also former Mayor and Councilmember of Galt, and his family are in the process of moving to Utah. Both have been outstanding community leaders as well as members of the Galt Area Historical Society. We will miss both of you very much. Best wishes to you and your families. Please keep in touch and let us know how you are.



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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Policy and Procedure Review

Purchasing Including Credit Accounts, Credit Card Purchases, and Member Reimbursements

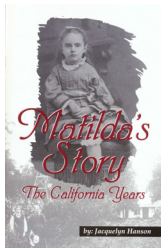
I. Purpose:

Resolution 2006-1 of the Gait Area Historical Society was adopted by the Executive Board on June 5, 2006 in order to improve credit control and monitor expenditures, especially credit accounts and individual and member reimbursements. The policy below is mostly taken from Resolution 2006-1.

II. Policy:

1. Only authorized persons shall use established Society credit accounts for the purchase any items and/or services for the Society. The Society executive officers shall be in charge of authorizing such persons. Contact current Society President for authorization.
2. No member of the Society or individual shall establish a new credit account, make any purchases on behalf of the Society or incur any other debt to the Society without express consent of the Society executive officers. Contact current Society President.
3. All original credit receipts shall be submitted to the Society Bookkeeper within 30 days of the transaction date. In addition, each receipt shall indicate a description of the items or services purchased, a notation as to the need for the purchase and for what project, activity, repair, etc the purchase was used.
4. No member of the Society or individual shall be authorized to sub-contract any services, repairs, etc. for the Society without the express consent of the Society executive officers. Contact current Society President.
5. Any claim for reimbursement for Society related items and/or services from a Society member or individual shall be subject to prior Board approval and submitted to the Society Bookkeeper within 30 days of the transaction date. Reimbursements will not be honored after the 30 day period. All claims shall include the original receipt, a description of items/services purchased, and a notation as to the need for the purchase and for what project, activity, repair, etc. this purchase was used.
6. When requesting the authority to make a purchase on behalf of the Society, the member making the request needs to provide the Board with three quotes if the purchase will cost over \$100.
7. Any reimbursement for fuel shall follow the requirements in Item 5 with the exception of fuel for individual mileage. Individual mileage will be paid only to individuals that have been pre-approved by the executive officers to receive mileage reimbursement. All mileage reimbursement will be paid for the actual miles traveled for Society related business only and shall be submitted to the Society Bookkeeper within 30 days of occurrence on the approved mileage reimbursement form as attached. Mileage reimbursement rate shall be at the current IRS guidelines. Mileage forms shall be available on request from Gait Area Historical Society.
8. Any misuse or nonuse of this procedure by a member will result in losing privileges of using the Society's credit accounts, credit cards, and receiving reimbursements for purchases.

LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS



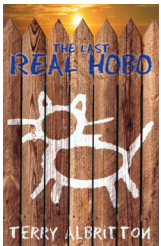
Matilda's Story

by Jacquelyn Hanson
(Shellenbarger)

This story has been fictionalized, but clearly based on fact about Jacqueline's family coming

to the Galt area and settling in Hicksville. It is about a farming community in south Sacramento County the last half of the 19th century.

(Available at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room or the GAHS website)



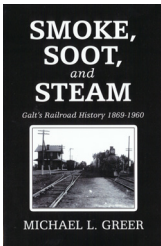
The Last Real Hobo

by Terry Albritton

This is a historical fiction, loosely related to the history of Galt. It tells about the life of a hobo

coming into town by train. Terry says that some old timers in Galt may recognize the resemblance to some towns people.

(Available only through Amazon)



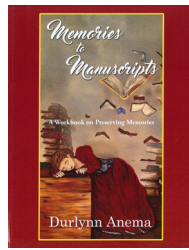
Smoke, Soot, and Steam

by Mike Greer

Use this vivid, well-documented book as a guide to walk down Main Street and experience the sensations of smoke, soot,

and steam from 1869 to 1960 in a Central California community as it grew from a berg to an incorporated city and found its spot in the history of the golden state of California.

(Available at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room or by contacting the author: igocamp.greer5@gmail.com)



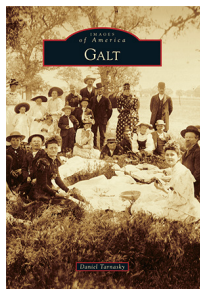
Memories to Manuscripts

By Durlynn Anema

Memories accumulate over a lifetime to be pleasantly recalled, especially when we are

older. Your memories tell a great deal about a unique time and a unique you which needs to be preserved. This book evolved from a class Durlynn Anema taught called "Memories to Manuscripts." This book helps you go through the complete process from the simple act of writing to the final product. Learn writing techniques to turn your life into a book of memories.

(Available at Barsetti Vineyards Tasting Room or by contacting the author: durlynnca@gmail.com)



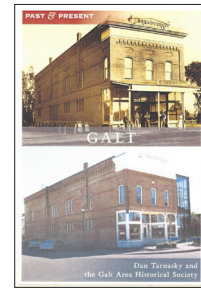
Images of America: Galt

By Daniel Tarnasky

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.

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.



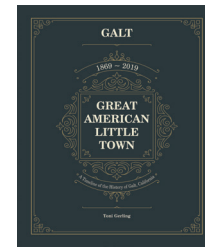
Past and Present: Galt

By Daniel Tarnasky

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

By Toni Gerling

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 from 1869-2019.

The book can be purchased at the following locations for \$25:

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

Brown School



Elizabeth Gann

on the right, where we hung our coats and left our lunch pails. Massive double doors guarded the outer entrance, and inside, lighter weight double doors opened into the classroom. In the west corner sat a pot-bellied stove encircled with a high asbestos-lined metal blanket with only space enough to open the door forward. No heat escaped into the room. If a child were freezing or had water-soaked shoes, he or she would be permitted to sit in a chair directly in front of the stove door for a while. A blackboard was on the wall behind the stove, and sometimes chilled students could use that area. It was the only warm spot in the entire room. On the left side (east) stood the teacher's desk. Directly behind that was the "library." It consisted of a built-in cupboard with glass doors on the upper part and wooden doors on the lower section. Books were kept in the upper chamber, and supplies of scratch paper, foolscap, pens, pencils, ink, paste, crayons, chalk, rulers, and drawing paper were in the lower chamber.

To the left of the teachers' desk, a piano stood against the wall. On the north wall was a pendulum clock, a flag centered over the double doors, a picture of George Washington on one side of the flag, and Abraham Lincoln. There was also a hand crank Victrola between the doors and the Library. It was used to play stirring marches on rain-filled days, and we marched up and down the aisles. It was fun and good exercise. We also did calisthenics.

The floor was oiled once a year, and two older students were hired to do the janitor work. Sweeping (daily), putting up the flag in the morning and taking it down in the evening, ringing the bell to call the students in when it was time for classes to begin. The wood box was filled as needed. On Friday, erasers were gathered up and taken outdoors to remove the chalk dust. Blackboards were also washed. Windows



Annabel Hauschildt

In the early days of this area's history, small schools dotted the countryside as pioneer farmers and ranchers came into the area and settled. A place to educate their children was essential to them, and they worked together to build a school and staff it with a teacher. One of those schools was the Brown School. Louise Dowdell was a student there, and these are her recollections.

The original school was located on Clay Station Road, one-half mile south of Borden Road. It was either a casualty of fire or was closed for some unknown reason, and local families built a new one at the intersection of Alabama and Simmerhorn Rd, around 1918.

Brown School was a one-room building facing north. A large porch across the front with wide railings was a favorite place to sit. The grounds were fenced with a wooden stile centered in the middle of the front school entrance. A two-story tank house and windmill supplied water. Inside the school's immediate hall were two anterooms - - boys on the left, girls

were locked and door padlocked before janitors left. The pay was \$4.00 per month for each student worker.

About 50 feet behind the building stood the two "necessities." Girls on the east, boys on the west. They were about 30 feet apart.

In the east back corner of the yard was a shed with stalls for horses and space for carts or buggies. Louise (Loll) Dowdell rode a pony to school, Minnie, a dappled Chestnut with white mane and tail. One day Louise "encouraged" Minnie to climb the steps and ride around on the porch. Miss Mullins had to cover a smile while telling her she shouldn't do that again.

Classes were from 9-4 daily. Recess 10:40-11am, lunch 12-1pm and recess 2:40-3pm. Various games were played - Dodge Ball, Drop the Handkerchief, Stealing Sticks, Dare Base, Baseball, Basketball, One-o-cat, Hop Scotch, and the girls' favorite, Jump Rope. Sometimes a difficult version of hopscotch was played beginning with a center square and continuing outward in an ever-widening

circle. If the circle became quite large, it became a particularly challenging and difficult game.

Irma Wiles, a County health nurse, visited once a year. Mr. Golway was the county superintendent and came once a year. He was a large man with a big stomach. He had a mustache, wore a brown tweed suit, and would sit in the teacher's chair while she stood nearby.

Mr. Goldsmith, the Physical Education teacher, was a small, wiry man. He came once a year, and he would bring a tiny tube of Colgate toothpaste for each student.

Miss Phillips, the music teacher, came once a year with her little pitch pipe. She had gray hair and a lovely smile. She would choose a song, most likely America, blow a short note, and we would sing, and then she went on her way.

Special events were Christmas with a tree and real candles, Valentine's Day with a

crepe paper decorated box which sat on one corner of the teacher's desk (we made lots of our valentines), and the biggie - Last Day of School. Students performed at Christmas and on the last day of school -- songs, recitations, piano solos, and a play. Electricity didn't arrive until the late '20s. Kerosene lanterns that hung on the walls served in those earlier years. Some years we had the last day picnic, instead of the performances, on the banks of the lagoon on the Barney McEnerney ranch. There were swimming holes located up and down the lagoon. This one was about a mile east of Alta Mesa Road and a mile north of Highway 104. It was then called Twin Cities Road.

Some of the early teachers were Hazel Pampel, Phoebe Hobday, Mrs. McQuirk, Charlotte Waldraff, Effie Allen, Elizabeth Gann, Luella Goff, and Annabel Mullins. Miss Mullins later married Clarence Hauschildt and taught at Galt Grammar School.

During Miss Gann's term (1925-26), a dangerous episode took place. A man referred to as "Old Man Goins" went on a murderous rampage killing several Noble family members and Mr. & Mrs. Marengo and their daughter. Miss Gann's father was constable of the Lee Township, and he sat in his Model T coupe by the side of the road in front of the school with a gun at his side (rifle or shotgun). We learned later threats had been made against the Gann family as well as others in the area.

In 1932 the school was permanently closed for lack of students. The building was sold to the Woodbridge Women's Club and is still there on Lower Sacramento Road in Woodbridge. It is used as a Grange hall now. The bell which had called so many students into class went to the William McEnerney ranch.



Our year to date financials versus 2019.
Income is down due to no fundraisers, but expenses are also down.

GALT AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC
GALT CALIFORNIA

Annual Budget - All Funds
Thru 10/31/2020

		<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>
		\$ 576,072	\$ 570,504	\$ 570,504	\$ 546,529	\$ 559,373
000	1000 Revenues - All Funds					
000	1001 Donations & Dues	\$ 15,347	\$ 9,800	\$ 11,080	\$ 15,500	\$ 18,174
000	1002 Special Event Income	\$ 34,165	\$ 15,000	\$ 18,742	\$ 19,000	\$ 890
000	1003 Facility Rental	\$ 32,225	\$ 21,000	\$ 23,571	\$ 41,000	\$ 5,325
000	1004 Grants	\$ 48,404	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 1,961,500	\$ 1,000
000	1005 Sales	\$ 1,552	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,438	\$ 1,500	\$ 157
000	1006 Other Income	\$ 11,597	\$ 10,917	\$ 9,663	\$ 12,432	\$ 2,835
000	1007 Interfund Transfer - In	\$ -	\$ 14,500	\$ 21,100	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,958
	<i>Total Revenues</i>	\$ 143,290	\$ 83,517	\$ 96,593	\$ 2,053,932	\$ 35,338
000	2000 Personnel Services - All Funds					
000	2001 Personnel - Caretaker Only 2020	\$ 8,400	\$ 9,600	\$ 7,100	\$ 12,000	\$ 2,508
000	2002 Workers Compensation	\$ 500	\$ 346	\$ 520	\$ 432	\$ 394
000	2003 Payroll Taxes & Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,789	\$ 1,712
	<i>Total Personnel Services</i>	\$ 8,900	\$ 9,946	\$ 7,620	\$ 14,221	\$ 4,614
000	3000 Maintenance & Operations Expense - All Funds					
000	3001 Advertising / Communications	\$ 2,654	\$ 3,300	\$ 2,545	\$ 3,656	\$ 2,244
000	3002 Vehicle / Fuels / Service / Insurance	\$ 5,129	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,033	\$ 3,591	\$ 2,459
000	3003 Office Supplies	\$ 128	\$ 550	\$ -	\$ 223	\$ -
000	3004 Liability Insurance	\$ 2,651	\$ 3,854	\$ 3,377	\$ 3,955	\$ 3,028
000	3005 Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 4,142	\$ 4,800	\$ 2,759	\$ 2,402	\$ 1,296
000	3006 Preservation Projects	\$ -	\$ 2,200	\$ -	\$ 2,200	\$ -
000	3007 Professional Services	\$ 4,845	\$ 4,900	\$ 4,753	\$ 23,210	\$ 7,625
000	3008 Property Insurance	\$ 8,512	\$ 5,250	\$ 9,410	\$ 5,160	\$ 5,003
000	3009 Property Tax	\$ 61	\$ 62	\$ 61	\$ 63	\$ -
000	3010 Rent	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350
000	3011 Sales Taxes and Gov't Fees	\$ 92	\$ 650	\$ 509	\$ 750	\$ 65
000	3012 Sales Expense	\$ 3,946	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ -
000	3013 Special Events	\$ 26,911	\$ 2,250	\$ 4,164	\$ 2,400	\$ -
000	3014 Supplies & Materials	\$ 1,105	\$ 2,830	\$ 579	\$ 1,875	\$ 4,513
000	3015 Utilities	\$ 11,739	\$ 10,300	\$ 9,546	\$ 10,645	\$ 8,043
000	3016 Interfund Transfer - Out	\$ -	\$ 20,500	\$ 21,100	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,958
000	3017 Refund	\$ 2,260	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,350	\$ -	\$ 4,565
	<i>Total Maintenance & Operations</i>	\$ 74,525	\$ 65,496	\$ 65,537	\$ 63,731	\$ 46,149
	<i>Total Expenses = Personnel + M&O</i>	\$ 83,425	\$ 75,442	\$ 73,156	\$ 77,952	\$ 50,763
	<i>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</i>	\$ 59,866	\$ 8,075	\$ 23,437	\$ 1,975,981	\$ (15,425)
000	4000 Capital Projects - All Funds	\$ 8,610				
001	4001 Liberty School House Relocation	\$ -	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	\$ -	\$ -
001	4002 Liberty School House Renovations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -
001	4003 Rae House Preservation Improvm.	\$ -	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,220	\$ 151,500	\$ -
002	4001 McFarland Restrooms / ADA	\$ 1,595	\$ -	\$ 858	\$ -	\$ -
002	4002 Parking Area Improvments / Disabled	\$ 4,218	\$ -	\$ 390	\$ -	\$ -
002	4003 Repairs	\$ 3,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
002	4004 MAC Roof Repair	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200	\$ -	\$ -
002	4005 MAC HousePainting	\$ 11,875	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
003	4001 Barn Event Center	\$ 35,535	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,200,000	\$ -
003	4002 Parking Area Improvments / Disabled	\$ -	\$ 15,050	\$ 15,400	\$ -	\$ -
	<i>Total Capital Projects</i>	\$ 65,433	\$ 32,050	\$ 34,568	\$ 2,361,500	\$ -
	<i>Surplus / (Deficit) Including Capital</i>	\$ (5,567)	\$ (23,975)	\$ (11,131)	\$ (385,519)	\$ (15,425)
	<i>Beginning Fund Balance</i>	\$ 576,072	\$ 570,504	\$ 570,504	\$ 570,504	\$ 559,373
	<i>Surplus / (Deficit) Including Capital</i>	\$ (5,567)	\$ (23,975)	\$ (11,131)	\$ (385,519)	\$ (15,425)
	<i>Ending Fund Balance</i>	\$ 570,504	\$ 546,529	\$ 559,373	\$ 184,985	\$ 543,948



Liberty School House

Our hope is that the renovation on the Liberty School House will begin sometime in November. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Lyle Lagge at: lblag22@gmail.com. The Board has reviewed several pictures of old one-roomed school houses in our area and have decided on how the renovations will look. The Liberty is missing a bell steeple on top and a small front porch like all the others had in our area. They could have very well been on the school house when it was built. We want the school house to resemble what an 1852 school looked like. With that said, if anyone knows of a large school bell for the steeple that someone may want to donate or one that we could locate, please contact myself or Dan Tarnasky. We will also be in need of wood shingles for the roof of the school house. The original wood shingles had been replaced with composition. If anyone wants to donate material such as paint, wood, or supplies to renovate; or funds to help us, we would gladly appreciate the help to finish this project. Those of you who remember "Save the Rae" project and how it helped to renovate the museum, know the power of our members in completing a project. We want to thank Eugenia Luna and Gloria Stemler for their recent monetary donations towards the school house renovations.



News from McFarland Ranch

McFarland Ranch has several projects, big and small. These projects are completed by volunteers. This year we have already logged over 1,300 hours of volunteer time and have plenty of work for next year. If anyone is interested in helping at the McFarland Ranch we have work days Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Hope to see you there.

We are starting work on a project on the front lawn of the main house. We want to make the meters to have more eye appeal. we are planning on building a mini tank house. The material is onsite and it will resemble the main house and the original tank house.

We would like to add more eye appeal to the entrance of the ranch. We can accomplish this with a lot of paint. Anyone interested in painting, we have a lot to do. We have the paint, paint brushes, and a power painter. Anyone with experience with power painters would be a huge benefit to the ranch.

When the weather changes, we have an indoor project. We will be building tables for the Pioneer Days events. The tables are used to assist the building of small projects for the folks that attend these events. We have all of the materials and are prepared for the winter project

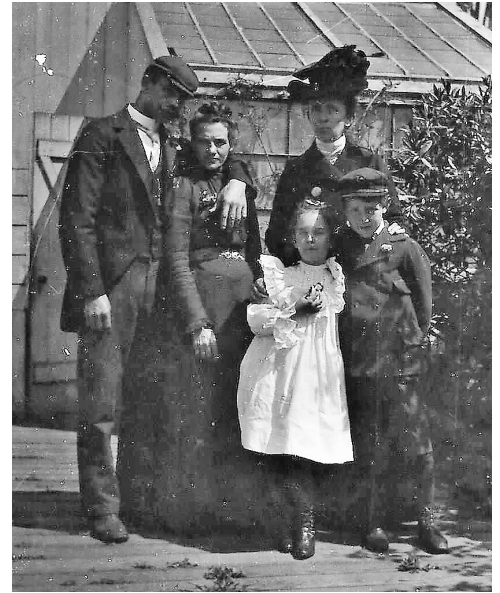
We are also hoping to acquire a bandsaw so that we can do more ornamental work to add to the beauty of the ranch and the ranch grounds.

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 History of Clay, CA

Have you ever heard of the town of "Clay"? Well, it once was one of Galt's neighboring towns. Where is Clay? Along with several other small pioneer towns, Clay is in the Herald area, northeast of Galt. Like the others, Clay is lost to the all-encompassing name of "Herald." There was a time, however, that the town was known as "Clay Station" since it had a train station where folks could catch the lone train into Galt to shop or to connect with the train to Sacramento.

The first settler in Clay was Thomas Steele, who settled in the area in 1858. He built a store in 1875 and was the postmaster and Wells Fargo agent there. In 1884 he had a brick two-story home built, sold his store to his nephew, and became a realtor.

The first woman in Sacramento County to "prove up" on government land was Elizabeth Lewins. Elizabeth's husband was an experienced cabinetmaker who had worked for Brigham Young. While in Salt Lake City, he took some boards from his wagon and made a cabinet for Brigham Young. That cabinet is on display at the Museum in Salt Lake City. When Mr. Lewins died,

Elizabeth and her five daughters managed the ranch at Clay Station. Elizabeth later married Curtis Bolton. They had three more children, including Isabelle, who married Volaske Quiggle. A granddaughter, Cora Belle, married William Bottimore. Their descendants reside in the Herald and Galt areas today.

This area's soil is a mixture of gravel and adobe with considerable red loam and sandy soil. Because of this, the area was called "Clay Station." There was once a creek filled with water coming from Amador County, known as Laguna Creek. In winter, it often overflowed its banks half a mile wide. Reservoirs and water diversion have cut back the flow to a small amount of water today.

Although it is close to Galt, Clay's people are not a part of the incorporated city. They are a part of the Sacramento County area that is northeast of Galt. In recent years, families seeking a quiet rural life have built their homes in that area. Their children attend Arcohe Elementary School and are currently bussed into Galt to attend Galt High School.



Thomas Steele



Gathering before a horse race in front of the Steele Store



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