

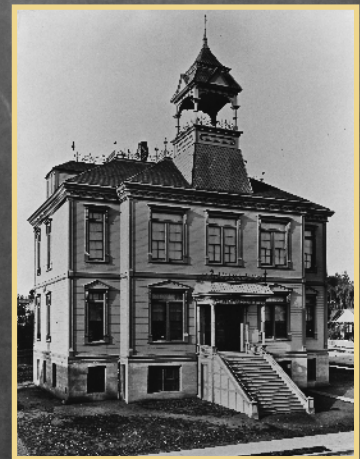


Petaluma Historical Library & Museum

Petaluma Museum Association

Preserving the Unique History of Petaluma and Providing Educational and Cultural Services to the Community

Quarterly Newsletter



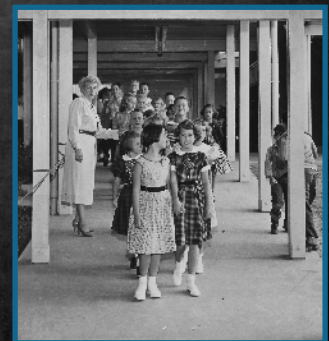
Pepper Kindergarten



Petaluma High School



Red Brick School



SCHOOL DAYS

Summer/Fall 2016

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 3

On the Cover

SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS . . .

by John Benanti

THE PHOTOS ON the cover, all from the museum's collection, portray three classic old school buildings which no longer exist and shots of students of a long bygone era.

The Red Brick School, as it was commonly known, (it was more formally known as the B Street School) was located at the corner of Fifth and B Streets. It was built in 1859 and had capacity for 250 students. It served the community for 52 years until it was torn down in 1911 to make room for the building that presently sits on the site. That building was known as the Lincoln Primary School and was designed by Brainerd Jones. The Lincoln School outgrew its usefulness by the mid-1950s and was converted into offices and served as the Petaluma School District administration building until it was sold and converted into a commercial office building. It continues in that capacity today.

The old Red Brick School may have been Petaluma's first public school although there are inferences that there was a small, one story wooden school building on that site before the Red Brick School was built. There was at least one, maybe two, private schools in town prior to 1859 to serve the town's small cadre of school age children in the earliest days of Petaluma's existence.

Petaluma High School has been around since 1874 in several different locations. The building pictured on the cover was the site of PHS for some 25 years and was located on Keller Street. When it left that location the site became the home of the Phillip Sweed School. The Sweed School was there for many years until it moved and in recent years the Sweed School building has been converted into residential space. Sweed was a prominent resident of Petaluma and a long time member of the Board of Education.

Petaluma High School was first located on D Street between Sixth and Seventh in a building purchased from the prominent Lippitt family who had a home in this block as well as a music conservatory. Lippitt built it for \$7,000 and the school district purchased it for \$3,800. Not a bad deal. Following WWI Petaluma High School moved to Fair Street where it has been ever since. However, the building on this site was far different in appearance from the buildings there now. The current building was dedicated in 1959.

The third classic old school building shown on the cover was the Pepper Kindergarten School. It has a unique place in Petaluma school history. William Pepper was a successful businessman and owned and operated a plant nursery.

(con't on page 12)

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The Petaluma Museum Association Newsletter is published quarterly and distributed to our members. Many thanks to all our contributors and to our proofreaders and volunteers who help with our mailings.

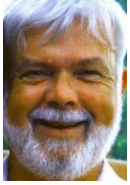
If you would like to contribute any news or item of interest to our newsletter you can email to mary@petalumamuseum.com

Deadline for submission is Sept. 15, 2016

Newsletter editor: Mary Rowe

**Petaluma Museum Association
20 Fourth St.
Petaluma, CA 94952**

President's Message



July 25, 2016

Hi All,

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful summer as much as I am. My garden responded to our rainfall this spring with a bounty of blooms – I hope yours is beautiful as well.

If you haven't visited your Museum yet this Summer, we have a beautiful, as well as factual and informative exhibit up: "Tribal Voices", a presentation of several of the neighborhood tribes. Joe Noriel curated this exhibit and we're all pleased to have Joe back working with us.

Your Facilities Committee under John Praetzel has been at work turning your monetary support into solid improvement. Today you will find the improvised spot lighting arrangement gone, to be replaced with a modern, museum quality, remotely controlled cable lighting system. This will provide superior lighting while improving the view from the balcony. And soon we will see European style string lights above the Garden Court, allowing evening events outdoors.

Check out the Summer / Fall Program of Events included in this magazine. We have a full schedule of entertaining and educational events for you to enjoy.

Have a great summer and keep us in mind. We're here to serve you: If we can do better let us know. If someone is doing a good job let us know that, too. As volunteers your praise is our best reward!

Your support as a volunteer is always welcome. We have something interesting for everyone to do, and lots of friendly, interesting people you'd like to know.

Thanks for your support,

Harry
President, PMA



Regular Features

Petaluma
History &
Commentary:

"The Violent
Strike at Sunset
Line & Twine"

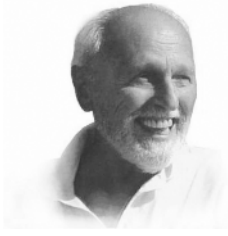
Museum
Highlights

Volunteer
Spotlight

Program of
Public Service
(insert)

Museum
Collection
Update

New Feature:
Historical News
of Petaluma



Petaluma History & Commentary

by Skip Sommer

THE VIOLENT STRIKE AT SUNSET LINE & TWINE



NEARLY 70 YEARS ago, in May of 1947, the controversial Taft-Hartley labor law, limiting the power of labor unions, was passed by the U.S. Congress. President Truman vetoed it, but the Congress overrode the veto to place it into law. No one would have guessed at the time that small-town Petaluma, California, would become the first test case for the bill. The price controls of Truman's administration, plus the increasing power of the unions, had already spelled doom to the poultry business in our town. Ironically, we would cease being the "Egg Basket of the World" and become a Taft-Hartley byline.

Sunset Line and Twine Co. had purchased the magnificent Carlson-Currier Silk Mill building in early 1941, after President Roosevelt halted the importation of silk from the "Orient" so the Silk Mill went out of business. Sunset was, by most accounts, a decent place to work with wages equal to other "like mills" in the east.

But 1947 was a year in which the civilized world had been rocked by labor unrest. Britain, France and Italy had already caved to violent union pres-

sure. Labor leaders here, such as John L. Lewis and Harry Bridges, were urging U.S. workers into massive strikes against poor conditions and mediocre wages.

It was a firestorm awaiting a match, as the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) became everyday names. However, many in our country were skeptical of this labor movement, as along with the strike problems. There were rumors and accusations of Communist infiltration into the unions and the "House Committee On Un-American Activities" had commenced a witch-hunt therein.

Sunset Line employees were 95% female, (tradition had it that smaller hands worked better at this particular job). One hundred of those workers voted to strike in August of 1947, amid nasty accusations. For seven years the workers had been represented at Sunset by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU). The union had previously organized the feed and milling warehouses in Petaluma. Sunset's argument was that their company was a different breed from the local feed mill companies and they could not all be lumped together.

Sunset's union contract had expired that July and the workers protested that they must compete wage-wise with textile mills in the east, and that their wages should be comparable. It was just the beginning of a long and bitter battle, evolving into violence in our community.

Ira Vail was the union representative, Jasper Woodson was the mill manager. The two men were total opposites in many ways. Vail had no compunctions about using force to get his way. Woodson (in his other job) was mayor of Petaluma. The Taft-Hartley law dictated the game rules.

The union was demanding a \$1.00-per-day cost of living hike, Sunset said "No" because that was not consistent with the industry standard nationwide and countered with a 10-cent-per-hour raise, plus three additional paid holidays a year. The union said "No" to that, and . . . the game was afoot.

The union countered Sunset with an hourly wage proposal for women of \$1.05 and, for men, \$1.27. Under Taft-Hartley, these arguments should have legally instigated a "30-day cooling-off period", but it was a brand new law and "labor" decided to test it . . . right here in Petaluma. A picket line was established around the Sunset building, with 300 pickets from all over Northern California. Work was halted and manager Woodson snidely decided this was an excellent time to take his annual two-week vacation.



Mayor Woodson

On September 10, Sunset reopened, saying that "30 workers wished to return to work." Upon leaving the job that day, those workers were taunted and harassed by union pickets, who followed them as they walked home. The union claimed, "The 30 were scabs." By now, the strike was labeled nationally as "The Taft-Hartley Test Tube," and it polarized our community, as the argument became very nasty. Argus editor Olmsted said of the strike, "It is an interference with the rights of the individual citizen, under the laws of our land."

In October, Mr. Vail brazenly stood in the way of a vehicle trying to enter the parking lot of Sunset. The driver was M. Aguirre, and he ran his car right into Vail. The plant manager, Pete Smith, came running out of the mill, a fight ensued, and threats were made. The following Saturday, Mr. Smith, while leaving his bank, was accosted by three men, thrown to the ground and kicked in the face, breaking his nose. Petaluma's businessmen had now had enough, and requested law enforcement help from both City and County to protect our town.

The following morning, Oct. 15, over 250 pickets, some carrying guns, showed up and were met by 30 lawmen. Strikers jumped on cars and broke windows, pushing and shoving and insults were thrown abundantly. Sunset worker, Alice Bettinelli, suffered a heart attack and the police finally moved-in and made arrests on charges of inciting a riot. Argus Editor Olmsted asked,

"Can we NOT hope for an end to violence, because men have lost their heads?"

Then, the crowd got even larger. Two hundred union workers from warehouses in Northern California came out to protest in Petaluma. Sunset decided to not open that day in October, and no one tried to breach the lines. Word was spread that ILWU leader, Harry Bridges (a self-proclaimed Socialist), was "controlled by Russia," and that he intended to take this fight to the streets of Petaluma, with physical violence! Argus Editor Olmsted said, "The line must be drawn to end communistic demonstration, or else Petaluma would soon be taking orders from Joe Stalin!" (How's that for incitement?)

That night, at the City Council meeting, Petaluma Councilman John King, suggested that Mayor Woodson recuse himself from leadership on this issue. (He did, but at the same time slammed the union for "shoving around the police" and said he would have "NO part" in the City, caving to union pressures. Petaluma Attorney John Lounibos then called for the preservation of law and order as a union rep stood to yell that "Taft-Hartley was unconstitutional!". (con't on page 14)



Work stations at Sunset Line & Twine

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS

OUR **TRIBAL VOICES** exhibit opened June 3. It features Native American art from Christine Cobaugh, Becky Olvera Schultz, displays from the Museum of the American Indian, artifacts from the collection of Dan Brown, interpretive panels from Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, and more. The exhibit will run until Aug. 28. If you haven't been in to see it be sure to stop on by. Joe Noriel, of History Connection and Brian Granados, Petaluma High School history teacher are co-curators of this exhibit. Their vision for this exhibit was to combine both contemporary art with historical artifacts.

There are two lectures happening in August:

Sunday, Aug. 7 at 2:00pm speaker Nicole Myers-Lim, executive director of the California Indian Museum and Cultural Center in Santa Rosa will talk about the lives, culture and traditions of native people from Sonoma County and the impact of colonization on tribal groups throughout the state.

Sunday, Aug. 21 at 1:00pm speaker Breck Parkman, RPA, Senior State Archeologist and Tribal Liason, California State Parks will speak on "Stone Age Economics."



Tony Redhouse, Navajo, performs a hoop dance on opening night.



Pomo Youth Dancers performed on July 10. photo by Christine Cobaugh

Fourth of July Bell Ringing Ceremony

Once again we continued our museum tradition of the Annual 4th of July Bell Ringing. Young and old were in attendance as the Petalumans of Yesteryear spoke of the history of this tradition. Mayor Glass read the Proclamation. We were entertained with the beautiful voices of the Deardorff sisters and Boy Scout Troup 9 led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Before entering the museum doors each person rang the bell and then went out back to our garden court for lemonade and cookies.



PMA Outreach Booth at the Rivertown Revival Festival 2016

Sarah Jochumson, PMA Board Director, pictured on left standing next to the Prize Wheel at our booth. Sarah says that they saw upwards of 120 people and got the word out about our upcoming events. With help from volunteer Emily Edwards and PMA Board Director, Debbie Countouriotis, membership brochures were distributed and a family membership was sold that day. Many individuals gave contributions to the museum. It was a very successful outreach opportunity.



Heritage Homes & Landmarks Gears Up for Biennial Tour

IS IT AN even-numbered year? That means the San Francisco Giants will go to the World Series. There's a presidential and/or congressional election. And here in Petaluma, Heritage Homes & Landmarks will present the popular Biennial House Tour, offering a peek inside some of the many vintage homes for which our city is famous.

Founded almost forty years ago with the mission to educate the public in the value of preserving Petaluma's architectural treasures, HH&L has offered house tours since 1970 as fundraisers for preservation efforts. Now that HH&L is part of the Petaluma Museum, all income from ticket sales goes to the PMA.

Mark your calendar: this year's Biennial House Tour is on Sunday, September 18. It will feature seven residences—one designed by renowned architect Albert Farr, two by Petaluma's Brainerd

Jones—and one large, newly renovated commercial building. Tour-goers will view the building interiors to marvel at the architecture of yesteryear and see how Petalumans live today in their historic residences. Docents will explain details and talk to you about the history of the buildings. Included in the price of the ticket is a collectible book full of photographs, stories about the houses and more information about HH&L.

The tour runs from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tickets will be available in early September at the Museum, Rex Hardware, and through the Museum website (petalumamuseum.com); price is \$25 before the event, \$30 on the day of the tour.

Please join us on this day of celebrating Petaluma's unique heritage! The photos on this page are of actual houses on tour this year.

~Kit Schlich



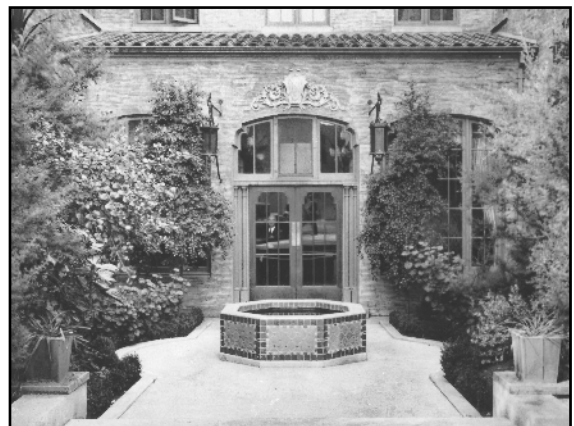
100 Sixth St



419 D St



1040 D St



Hotel Petaluma

Read what our members are saying about their NARM membership!

We have been members of the Petaluma Historical Museum for years now. It's housed in a beautiful building, the old Carnegie Free Library, and is a trip through history just walking through it's doors. The upstairs has a permanent display of Petaluma history which is always so fun to look at. Downstairs they have permanent exhibits, but also rotating special exhibits of a wide variety. I've also been to events at this museum that have been very enjoyable.

Recently we started renewing our membership at the supporter level, which is \$125 because of the NARM (North American Reciprocal Museum) benefits. Our favorite museums are part of NARM so our \$125 membership fee not only gets us into this museum, but also the Legion of Honor, deYoung Museum, our very own local Charles Schulz Museum and the somewhat new and delightful Walt Disney Museum.

We can take our granddaughters to all these museums as often as we want and trust me, we take advantage of that. They ESPECIALLY love the Schulz and Disney museums as do we!

If one goes to any of these other museums it's a no-brainer to invest \$125 for this membership.



Gia & Milly enjoying their visit at the Disney Museum

In particular for families whether it be your own kids or grandkids. There are SO many museums that are part of NARM it's impossible to name them, but you can see a list online. Another one we love is the USS Hornet and our very own Petaluma Arts Center where this membership gets you free entry. Oh and if you have a business, for just \$25 more you can get your business card in their newsletter.

I encourage people to visit this museum and to consider supporting it with an annual membership. It's also a great gift opportunity for those individuals and/or families who would appreciate something more unique and supportive of our community at the same time.

Anatasia & Joseph Schuster



Linda Buffo
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Please check out the membership brochure enclosed with this newsletter for more details.

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www.mythicacommunity.org



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM

Altar Workshop

Sunday 09/25/16 - 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Artist's Reception

Saturday 10/01/16 - 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Poetry of Remembrance

Friday 10/14/16 - 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Tequila Tasting & Food Pairing

October TBD - 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Procession

Saturday 10/29/2016 - 2:00 - 8:00 pm



*Docent led walking tours of
downtown Petaluma*

*Every Saturday at 10:30 am
until Oct. 31*

Meet at the museum steps

Free

(donations are appreciated)



**Petaluma Museum
Association**

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Minnie P. Raymond: A leading lady in Petaluma's fight for Temperance by Jessica Toy

AS ONE WALKS through hot historic downtown Petaluma this summer many may seek a place to cool off. On the corner of Western Avenue and Petaluma Boulevard anyone can find just that, a stone drinking fountain with the insignia claiming "Total abstinence is the way to handle the drinking problem." It has been One Hundred and



Twenty five years since the Women of the Petaluma chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union erected this stone monument. This fountain stands as a testament to numerous Petaluma women's fight for temperance, a movement which was very popular among ladies and gentlemen of the time. The WCTU was the first mass organization solely run by women who were devoted to social reform. They aimed to link religious and secular means to bring about changes in their communities. While you may know the history of the temperance movement in America and its path to prohibition, many may not know about one of Petaluma's leading ladies in the fight for temperance, Mrs. Minnie Penrod Raymond. Women such as Minnie believed that alcohol was a leading cause in the problems of the Country, and rallied together to fight against what they felt was destroying American families and society as a whole.

Minnie was born on May 1, 1865 to Eli and Martha Penrod in Edinboro Pennsylvania, a town which was founded by the Iroquois Indians and referred to as the "land of the living

snowflake." Minnie lived in Edinboro her entire childhood and most likely attended the Northwest State Normal School in Edinboro. It was during her school years that women in Evanston, Illinois created the Women's Christian Temperance Union in 1874, under the slogan of creating a "sober and pure world by abstinence, purity, and evangelical Christianity."

It was only a few years later, when in 1879, Petaluma, which would one day be Minnie's future home, would become one of the first California towns to establish a chapter of the organization.

At the age of twenty-two in late 1886 or early 1887 Minnie moved with her parents and her three siblings Harry, Lillian, and Ruby to Petaluma. She would remain living with her parents until 1896 when at the age of 29, Minnie married Ira Burnside Raymond in Petaluma.

Ira had also recently moved to Petaluma with his brother James. Ira and Minnie would go on to have two daughters Ethel and Edith while Minnie helped her husband run their family business, Raymond's Dry Goods store along with her husband's brother Jack at 121 Main Street.



Minnie is on the far left of this photo of the WCTU

Besides owning their own business, Ira and Minnie would build a home on 245 Keokuk Street in Petaluma, where they would raise their daughters and live out the remainder of their life.

However, Minnie was not only a housewife, merchant, and mother.

During the time that Minnie joined the WCTU in the late 1800s, Petaluma was a small town of 3000 inhabitants with over fifty saloons!

This may have been the reason why Petaluma became one of the first California chapters of the organization. Despite Minnie being a Petaluma resident, the majority of her WCTU happenings were chronicled in the Healdsburg Enterprise, where many of the Unions meetings were held and reported on. In the September 6, 1919 issue of the Healdsburg Enterprise they report on Minnie's WCTU happenings by stating that "Mrs. I. B. Raymond from Petaluma; county president, called the house to order promptly at 1:30, Sept. 4th, and guided the deliberations of the convention till final adjournment, with ease and dignity." Later in the article it is reported that the chapter reelected many of their officers, with "Election of officers resulted in reelections generally. Mrs. Minnie Raymond, president." Since it is known that Minnie was a Petaluma Chapter President, County President, and State Representative for the organization, it appears that by this time Minnie may have already ended her career as the President of the Petaluma Chapter and was now beginning her career as President of the Sonoma County Chapter. It would be less than a year after this meeting, when on January 16, 1920 prohibition came into effect. Prohibition was a constitutional ban on the importation, transportation, production, and sale of any type of alcoholic beverages in the states. While this would not deter individuals in Petaluma and throughout Sonoma County and the rest of the country from obtaining alcohol, it was a small step in the direction that Minnie and her fellow Union supporters were looking for. In the February 14, 1924 issue of the Enterprise, they report that Minnie has spoken to a large group of "very interested individuals" about their push to eventually have one million dollars and one million members in the WCTU. She stated

how they had already earned one million dollars and would soon have as many members. It seems evident that with Minnie's hard work in Sonoma County that the WCTU was flourishing, with chapters throughout many of the towns in Sonoma County from Petaluma to Cloverdale. Minnie would hold the office of President of the Sonoma County chapter until October of 1933 as well as being a director of the State organization of the WCTU. However the October 1933 issue of the Healdsburg Enterprise announces Minnie's resignation as President from the organization that she has



Minnie with her husband Ira and their daughters Edith and Ethel circa 1903.

dedicated much of her adult life to. Minnie's career as a public servant and advocate for temperance came to an end very close to the overturning of prohibition when only two months later on December 15, prohibition would be repealed. One may wonder if Minnie's health was waning at this time or if she simply knew she had done all she could for the WCTU. It would be less than a year later, when in 1934 Minnie would die at her home in Petaluma at the age of sixty nine. Minnie is buried in Cypress Hill Cemetery in Petaluma beside her husband.

Jessica Toy lives in Cloverdale and enjoys collecting antique postcards, newspapers, and posters. She has her bachelor's in history and her master's in museum studies. She has contributed to several exhibits at the museum.

HISTORICAL NEWS OF PETALUMA

THIS IS A new feature which will appear regularly in each issue of the Quarterly Newsletter. It is intended to be a retrospective of news articles from various sources other than the Argus Courier and Press Democrat. It will highlight the fact that Petaluma was sufficiently important in the California of the late nineteenth/early twentieth centuries to warrant the interest of statewide newspapers and their readers.

To begin with, it is necessary to acknowledge and be grateful to the California Digital Newspaper (CDN) Program of UC Riverside, the source of all of the items that are going to be presented in this column. The CDN Collection is a project of the Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research (CBSR) at the University of California, Riverside. The CDN Collection is supported in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

The CBSR has received three grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize California newspapers for the National Digital Newspaper Program.

For more information and learn how you can support an incredible and historically valuable resource visit their website: <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc>

But first, let me explain the genesis of this column. I officially became hooked on this site when I typed in "Petaluma" in the search box and got 129,980 results! Once I started poring over the crisp pdf scans, I could not stop saying out loud "Oh My!, look at that," over and over again. Article after article transported me back to that day of print. Present day news vanished from my mind and I became focused instead on what was going on in the fledgling community called Petaluma, on stories such as reporters meeting General Vallejo and describing the hills of Sonoma County in 1848. As I worked down my search terms I found that there awaited a collection of Petaluma stories that were waiting to be told ..again!

I am being assisted in this endeavor by Michael Slade who introduced us to the life of "Princess Petaluma" (Clara Belle Ivancovich) in the Spring/Summer Newsletter.

In reading the news articles we noticed how different from today the "Teaseline" or "Headline" was written. The object was the same as it is today, though. Namely, to be eye-catching and draw people in. In terms of what made the news or how the news was reported, however, the slant was different with a more straightforward use of words. Forget about *not* offending anyone that was being described in the stories. Mental illness, immigrants, social and racial issues, war with Mexico and the making of the State of California spared no words, which were used in a very direct manner by the reporters who used creative means to keep the reader hooked on every line.

So, in coming issues of the Newsletter, we look forward to sharing our enthusiasm for news worthy tidbits of Petaluma read by newspaper readers of the past with our readers of the present.

Our first historical news articles, complete with Michael's thoughts, feature Society's Aristocrats, Railroad Engineering and the River, and Taxes.

~ Solange Russek

San Francisco Call, Volume 111, Number 35, 4 January 1912 -
HER FIANCE [ARTICLE]

DEATH TRIES TO STEAL GIRL FROM HER FIANCE

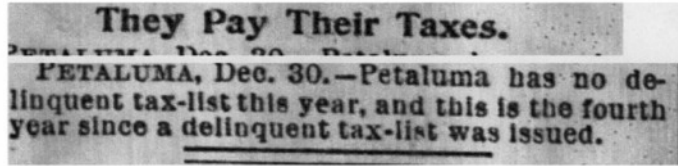
San Francisco Belle Turns Back on Dread Suitor

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

PETALUMA, Jan. 3.—Miss Miriam McNear, who is spending the winter in San Francisco with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George P. McNear, who returned to their Petaluma home for the holidays, was taken suddenly ill and operated on for appendicitis this morning at the Petaluma General hospital. The operation was successful and Miss McNear made a quick recovery from the anesthetic. Miss McNear has been much feted since the announcement of her engagement a few weeks ago to Lee Korbel of San Rafael.

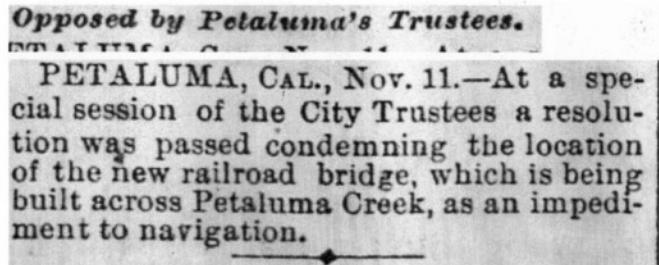
An early "National Enquirer" type of appeal to readers. Sensationalism in news reporting seems to have been around for at least 100 years.

San Francisco Call, Volume 75, Number 31,31 December 1893



Oh, for the good old days!

San Francisco Call, Volume 78, Number 165,12 November 1895. [ARTICLE]



Who were the City Trustees? They didn't do a very good job. It seems that the more things change, the more they stay the same. This was a headline in the Argus Courier on April 24, 2015. "New rail bridge may stall Petaluma River traffic".

School Days.....from page 1

In the late 1880's he and his wife visited Germany where he became aware of an educational movement referred to as "kindergarten" which encouraged early childhood education. Pepper was intrigued by this movement and brought the idea back to Petaluma. He tried to convince the school district to start such a program and offered property he owned at the corner of Liberty and Washington Streets as the site for such a school. When the district did not act quickly enough Pepper donated \$13,000 and established a trust fund and a Board of Trustees to organize and carry out the requirements of the trust. The building was built and opened in December, 1894 and remained in use until 1959 when it was demolished because of concerns for the safety of the students. The school moved to a new location on F Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets.

The photos of students on the cover are from various Petaluma schools except for the one of the woman holding up an open book in front of a group of youngsters. That photo is from the Carnegie Library building (the current museum building). The event is the children's story time, one of the most popular recurring events at the old library which continues today as part of the current library program.


We invite you to come to the museum to see these photos and others chronicling the history of Petaluma schools. You will find that exhibit upstairs along with other exhibits capturing the rich heritage of Petaluma and the people who have made it the place it is today.



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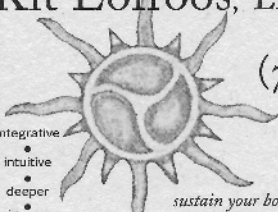
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SUMMIT
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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

by Mary Rowe



Liz Young



Liz became a member of the PMA in September of 2015 and inquired about volunteer opportunities here. She has been a desk docent, helped us with our mailings, assisted our volunteer coordinator by taking the minutes for the monthly meetings and in February became a valuable addition to our research department. Liz told me that she was working at the docent desk one day and recognized Lucy Kortum as she was coming in to do her regular volunteer hours as part of our research library staff. Lucy worked at Sonoma State University in the office of the nursing department at the same time Liz worked in the SSU library. Lucy asked Liz if she would be interested in becoming part of the research team and the rest is history. Lucy commented that having her help

in the library is greatly appreciated. I asked Liz to tell me a little about herself and this her response.

Born in Seattle, I moved to San Francisco at age 3. San Francisco in the mid-1950's was full of kid-friendly neighborhoods with much for families to enjoy. Our family was outdoors-oriented and fortunate to be able to spend many weekends and summer vacations in Sonoma County, starting in 1957.

When I finished college I was eager to move full-time to this county, working first in medical clinics and a marine biology lab. Next came 5 years in viticulture and a winery hospitality center, meeting visitors from around the world. Then for 28 years I worked in a job I absolutely loved, helping students and faculty with academic research at SSU's library.

To me Petaluma includes many qualities I love in a place to call home, including friendly neighborhoods, pretty gardens everywhere, rural surrounding areas, vibrant agriculture, regional parks and active arts. Many residents take an active interest in town issues, the environment, and supportive services.

And then there is Petaluma's fascinating local history and a wonderfully congenial museum and historic library. I started learning in November 2015 on my first volunteer shift and look forward to continuous learning going into the future at the museum.

A Special Thank You to the Petaluma Post

The Petaluma Museum Association would like to acknowledge Terry Smith and Karen Phillips for their many years of service to the community of Petaluma through the publication of the Petaluma Post. We are especially thankful for the ongoing support in advertising the museum concerts and events.

Sunset Strikefrom page 4

Battle lines were drawn, as the City voted 5 to 2 to make violence on a picket line illegal (in Petaluma anyhow). The ILWU blew a gasket over this vote. The Argus Editor stated the next day, "If Jasper Woodson were to run for re-election to Mayor tomorrow, he would be elected hands-down."

Then, on Nov. 7, Sunset employee Silvino Sousa, his son Victor, and a third man, Henry Potter, were violently run-off Corona road by four men in another vehicle. The four then jumped out, shattered Sousa's windshield and beat the three passengers. Labor negotiations came to a complete stop then, as the union appeared to be out of control. In December, the National Labor Relations Board attempted to mediate this situation in a trial. Their initial decision dismissed Sunset's complaints of violence. They stated that, "Taft-Hartley did not interfere with freedom of speech." The union jumped on this ruling by taking out a full page ad in the Argus, saying that "The workers desperately want to return to work."

Sunset appealed that NLRB verdict on the basis that the situation in Petaluma was "a precedent setting case, nationally." Eight months later, in April of 1948, Federal Judge George Harris ruled for Sunset, stating that the NLRB was the determining body under Taft-Hartley, BUT, "unless the union officials signed the non-Communist oath, It could not, in good faith, bargain." The judge further stated that the union acts of violence in this case, rendered it guilty. The NLRB then, stated the opinion that, "Labor could not interfere with the right to work under Taft-Hartley." Thus, the strike came to an end on October 25, 1948. The picket line was withdrawn and one of Petaluma's most disturbing years was concluded.

This episode and conclusion for Petaluma was labeled nationally as "The most important decision under the Taft-Hartley Law" and the ILWU was ordered to immediately "end intimidations." Gradually, a few workers went back to work at Sunset, but the company's business had been cut in half by the nasty year-long strike and, sadly, it never returned to its pre-strike eminence.

PMA MEMBERS RIVER CRUISE**Friday Oct. 28, 2016****4-6:30pm(please arrive ½ hour early,
boat leaves promptly at 4:00pm)**

Narrated cruise of this historic waterway. Light refreshments will be served. Meet at the Cavanagh Landing. Tour begins at the Turning Basin in downtown Petaluma to near the mouth of the river in San Pablo Bay and returns.

Cost is \$50 (limited to 35 people so please call early to reserve your spot)

For tickets call 778-4398



Petaluma Museum Association Board of Directors meetings are on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. They are open to the public.

Follow us at: www.petalumamuseum.com

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Facebook:**



Petaluma Historical Museum

Spring Work Day at the Museum



A special *Thank you* to all the volunteers who gave their time at a work day to beautify the grounds around the museum. Also a shout out to Bill Bertolucci of Sonomar Landscape who donated the mulch for the project.

SONOMAR LANDSCAPE
Bill Bertolucci
2500 Petaluma Boulevard North • Petaluma, CA 94952
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Todd & Dione Tamura, M. Thayer, Mary Tilbury

RENEWALS

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Bill & Joan Almeida	Ray Hendess
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John Fitzgerald	Penny Shofner
Marlene Gastelum	David Watts

*Thank you
for your
support!*

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1. Visit our website, petalumamuseum.com, complete the membership form and make a PayPal, Visa or Mastercard payment
2. Complete the attached form, pay with Visa or Mastercard or enclose your check made payable to the **Petaluma Museum Association** and mail it to our address on the payment form
3. Call the **PMA** office at (707) 778-4398 Monday through Friday, between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM, and pay with your Visa or MasterCard.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS & CATEGORIES

BASIC BENEFITS OF ALL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

- Discounted admission to temporary exhibits (admission to the library & permanent exhibits is free to all)
- Reserved seating at the Butter & Egg Parade
- Subscription to and acknowledgement in the PMA newsletter
- Personalized membership card
- 10% off Museum store merchandise
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- Invitations to previews & receptions

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All Basic Benefits
(\$20 memberships are available in this category to: Seniors, Educators, Students. Military is free)

FAMILY / DUAL \$70
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•Extension of Basic Benefits to an additional adult & children in the same household up to age 17
•Two personalized membership cards

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If you join the PMA at the Supporter level (\$125) or higher, you will receive free or discounted admission to more than 600 museums in the U.S. Some of the top Bay Area participating museums are:

Asian Art Museum • Walt Disney Family Museum • de Young Museum • Legion of Honor
CA Historical Society Museum • Charles M. Schulz Museum • Sonoma County Museum

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•Listing of your name on the Museum's Donor Wall

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Museum Collection Update

by Solange Russek
Museum Collections Manager

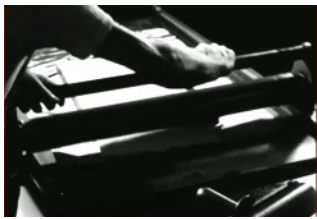
The Petaluma Museum Association Is Moving into the Digital Age!

Since 1978 the Petaluma Historical Library & Museum has become the repository home of over 5000 historic photos, 16mm home movies, and video and audio tapes. Thanks to the funding resources provided to the California Audio & Visual Preservation Project (CAVPP) from the National Endowments of the Humanities (NEH) and California Libraries grants, the PHL&M staff and volunteers are transporting the PHL&M's collection from the 19th & 20th century to the 21st century!

Archival Digitizing accomplishments for 2015-2016

Thanks to funding the CAVPP received from NEH grants that UC Berkeley is providing through grants, the museum submitted visual and audio media collections that are related to Petaluma histories. Files will be uploaded to Archive.org for free public access.

The films listed below will soon be on display.



Argus Courier
Newspaper 1940's



Petaluma Rotary Club
1st Meeting



G.D. Thompson Ranch
Home Movie



Petaluma Yacht Club



2nd Annual Egg Bowl Football Game

Ongoing unfunded digitizing projects performed by Petaluma Historical Library & Museum volunteers:

Scanning over 5000 historic photos, family photo albums from the 1800's carte-de 'visits, cabinet cards, glass negatives and post cards. The Research Library contains over 1000's of Ephemeral memorabilia including WWII letters, records, journals, and biography and obituary files including 19th century scrap books.

Additionally, the PMA is planning an exhibit for the summer of 2017 with the working title, "**Portraits of Petaluma's Pioneers.**" A major goal of this endeavor will be to create an on-line archive of the portrait photographs for genealogical research and the pleasure of our community members.

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El Dia De Los Muertos Exhibit
Schedule of events on pg 8