

Petaluma Museum Association

Quarterly Newsletter



SPRING 2012

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2

On the Cover

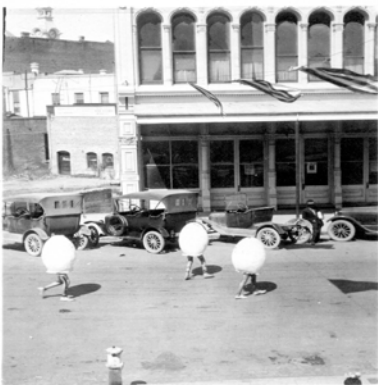
PETALUMA EGG DAY PARADE

This photo of a Petaluma Egg Day parade dates from the early 1920s. The photo was taken from the Continental Hotel, which was located at the southwest corner of Kentucky and Western, looking northward on Kentucky toward Washington Street. Today, this corner is the location of a branch of the Chase bank.

On the left side of the photo is the corner of a building no longer there. At the time C. Gervasoni and Sons delicatessen was there. At other times a butcher shop and sausage-making business were located in this building. Today it is the site of the building that houses Sleep City and for many years housed Carither's department store.

On the other side of Kentucky, in the middle of the block, was the A. F. Tomasini Hardware Co. The building is still there today and is the location of two clothing stores, a tattoo business, a hair salon and an upscale home decorating and housewares store. The latter was for many years the home of Bee's housewares. Next to that building, and set in off the street was a wooden structure that was both home and the business location of the R. Momboisse dyeing and cleaning. Their sign is clearly visible on the wall below the A. F. Tomasini sign. That wooden structure is gone and there is a one-story retail business there today.

The one-story building to the right of the cleaners is still there and today houses a Mi Pueblo restaurant. The building on the right side of the photo has a Western Avenue address and is today home to Earthsong. Old time Petalumans may recall that this site was home to Antler's Pharmacy for many years.
—John Benanti



Humpty Dumpty's in
Egg Day Parade

Aug. 21, 1920

*"The city as a center where, any day in any year, there may be a fresh encounter with a new talent, a keen mind or a gifted specialist / this is essential to the life of a country. To play this role in our lives a city must have a soul / a university, a great art or music school, a cathedral or a great mosque or temple, a great laboratory or scientific center, as well as the libraries and **museums** and galleries that bring past and present together. A city must be a place where groups of women and men are seeking and developing the highest things they know."
~Margaret Mead*

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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 June 12, 2012

"Life is so ironic. It takes sadness to know what happiness is, noise to appreciate silence and absence to value presence"

~unkown

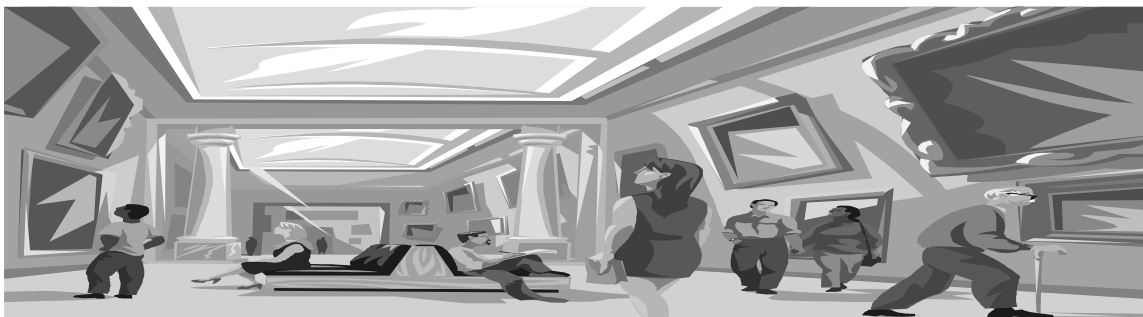
Did you hear Petaluma has a museum? It may sound like a silly question but as I get older I am much more appreciative of things I may have taken for granted years ago. As a kid growing up in Petaluma I just always assumed the skating rink would be there for me to visit or in high school knowing cruising the boulevard would last forever or even now expecting my little girls to stay little forever. It's too bad when it takes losing things or people to appreciate their impact on our lives. The passing of WWII hero Col. James Morehead was hard on a lot of folks, myself included. Even though he was 95 years old, it was still unexpected, it's like I assumed he would be around forever. As I attended the funeral and the eulogy was read I was honored the museum was mentioned for the wonderful parade and city tribute we provided for him last year.

It is times like this that remind me of how lucky we are to have a museum in Petaluma. In this terrible economy museums all over the country are struggling to survive, and many doors are closing for their final time. How great it is that we can visit a museum in our own backyard that provides world class exhibitions that educate and enrich our community, offers a needed educational resource to our under funded schools and is one of the sole venues keeping classical music alive. Would you believe all of this housed in one of the most beautiful buildings in Petaluma!

I truly believe museums are needed now more then ever. People have the need to know their past in order to proceed to the future. A society without cultural heritage would be like a human who suffers from amnesia. If you feel the same way I do I would encourage you to make an investment in your community by supporting your local museum. We couldn't do it without you.

All my best,

Joe Noriel



IT ALL STARTED WITH THE PETALUMA CREEK

April's Butter & Egg Day Parade will celebrate the Petaluma River, and a more significant theme for this community, I couldn't name. This shallow slough created so much of what we are today. Imagine the awe felt by those exploring pioneers when they first viewed the Petaluma Valley and our river. Bear, elk and deer were everywhere, the sky was clouded over by winged game and great schools of sturgeon and steelhead swam in the creek.

In 1836, Martin Van Buren was President of the United States, Mexico had just become independent from Spain, the Alamo had been overrun and Charles Darwin was writing his Theory of Evolution. That same year, General Mariano Vallejo was awarded the rights to a vast wilderness here and it was the creek that decided the location for his Adobe Rancho home. At that time, the Petaluma Creek was navigable only for shallow draft boats for 16 miles up from the Bay, and Vallejos decision to build there had been questionable. It was, however, proven to be a good one.

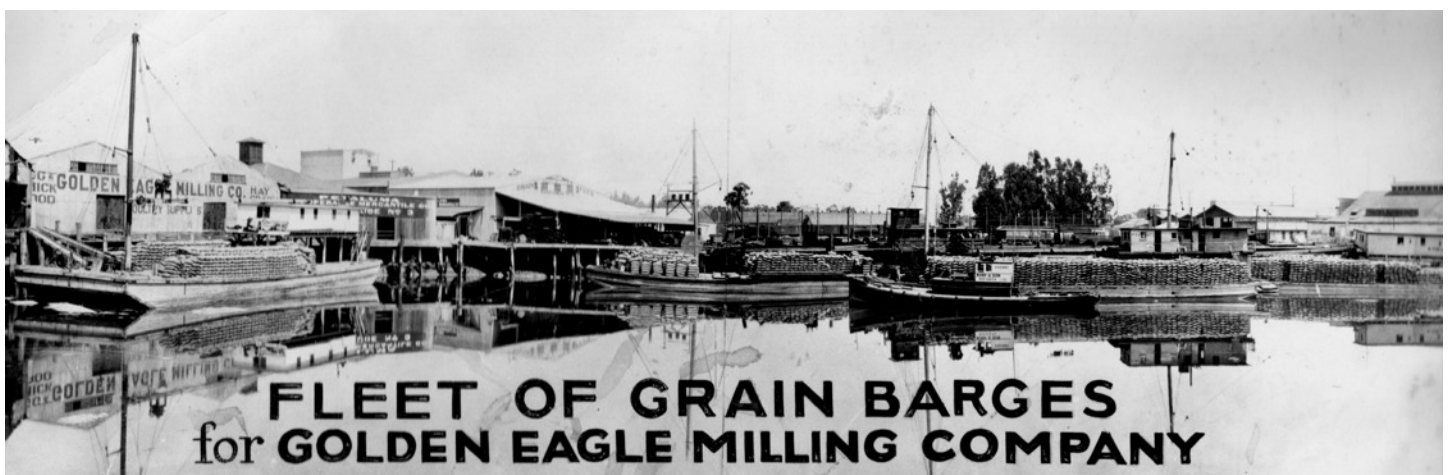
In that year of 1836, the "Indian wars" were raging in the frontier west of the Missouri River, but the Pomos and Miwoks of the Petaluma Valley were not a violent people. They were hunters and gatherers and the bounty of the Petaluma River basin made life relatively easy for them.

However, just thirteen years later, the California Gold Rush was to change everything. Thousands of men from all over the world flocked to California and some of those "49ers" brought their gold here to acquire land. By 1850, California's population had grown to 92,000, and although Petaluma was still a small village of just 560, the "word" was getting out.

Thomas Lockwood, who had sailed around Cape Horn to find gold in 1850, ventured up Petaluma Creek in a whale boat to hunt for game. He and his friends were armed with firearms and traps and they set up a camp on the banks of the creek. Among Lockwood's fellow adventurers were David Flogdell and Thomas Baylis, and these men pooled their resources and skills. At that time, a deer carcass went for \$20.00 in San Francisco and a dozen quail brought \$9.00. If you could bag a wild cow, courtesy of neglectful herding, it was worth \$80 bucks in Sacramento.

Also alongside the creek, Dr. August Heyermann had built one of the first cabins in the village. Heyermann had been a popular "trail doc" for a wagon train coming out from Missouri and found that dispensing opium for 25 cents/dose, had staked him to mining equipment. (Well, sure!).

Meanwhile, San Francisco and Sacramento were growing fast and they were in need of



meat and all agricultural produce from Petaluma and environs. The exchange products shipped back up-creek to Petaluma, included cigars, rifles, whiskey and gunpowder. (Not a good mix, I think).

In 1852, Baylis and Flogdell set up a trading post on the river at the end of what would become B Street. It was sort of a wilderness “7/Eleven” and it thrived. That same year, Garrett Keller built a warehouse on Water Street, and soon added a bunkhouse and an “eatery” to that. One year later, Keller laid out a plat of 40 acres for the town and that really put progress in gear. James Hudspeth had also built a warehouse on the creek and the waterway had become quite crowded with shallow draft schooners. A grocery and a hotel soon followed, and that same year William Zartman, John Fritsh and James Reed established Petaluma’s first blacksmith shop.

Population was almost all male then. Sanitation and hygiene were nonexistent, with no sewer or water systems. Such things as boils and burns could kill you, and pouring whiskey on wounds was the medical care . . . unless one went with the Indian cure of a cow dung poultice. (Yuck!).

By 1855, population had reached 1,200 as homesteaders were flooding in and we were no longer a small frontier town. The large number of saloons here were a testament, though, to the daily grind of survival. One relief from ills (if one had a \$1.00 per ill), were the girls working upstairs over the saloons. One could get a bath there with your choice of “cold water, warm water, first water or second water”. A lady to wash your back, was “extra”. . . apparently, the sailors liked this feature.

In 1858, Petaluma became a chartered city. We had acquired churches, schools and professional fire and police protection by then

and a lot of boats were plying our creek. We were soon to become the busiest waterway in the State of California, and in 1864, with civil war raging, northern sympathizers were welcomed in Petaluma. To accommodate that new creek traffic, the Board of Trustees voted for a TAX to pay for dredging of the waterway and the hiring of Chinese labor to accomplish that chore. (A tax was not a popular move then, or now).

The advent of steamboats caused another new problem on the creek. Explosions! And, by 1865, several of those steamers had been sunk to join other wrecks that had crashed in fog or run aground in the mud. The creek was clogged and dangerous, and the town, once again, turned to Chinese labor to clear it.

Merchandise was shipped by water in and out of our city well into the 1900s, and there were still 31 steam schooners plying the waterway in 1908. Then, however, hay, beef, butter and (guess what?) chickens and eggs had become the major outgoing Petaluma products for the exciting new century. But, by the 1930s, motor vehicles

and the new Golden Gate Bridge had changed the way of traffic and the sternwheeler Petaluma was to make her final run down river in 1950. That was a happy event for the ranchers and merchants wishing faster transit, but it was the end of a way of life for the river.

It had been a great 100 years of waterway activity. Warehouses, mills, railroads, shops and hotels had been built and the City of Petaluma had grown-up around them. We, who came here because of our river, appreciate that we have a River Festival, a Museum and a Butter and Egg Days Parade that today celebrate our good ol’ slough.



GIFT SHOP



Featured Book

“The Egg Basket” Cook Book

This book was republished by the PMA in 2004. It was originally put out by the Petaluma High School PTA in 1927. The women who contributed are long gone but their names will be recognized in their children and grandchildren still living here today. Many ads from 1927 in the book.

ONLY \$1.50/each (Great buy!)



BOOKS

	Price Includes tax
An Architectural Guidebook to SF and Bay Area	15.50
Celebrating Petaluma	30.00
Comrades & Chicken Ranchers	25.00
Cotati	21.50
Empty Shells	92.00
Fighter Training at Santa Rosa Army Air Field	21.50
Finding Pete	16.50
Golden Memories of the Redwood Empire	21.50
Heritage Homes of Petaluma	7.00
Highest Traditions	20.50
History of Petaluma – A Calif. River Town	27.00
NorthBay Savings Bank Collection Book	5.50
Petaluma California-Images of America	24.00
Petaluma – A History In Architecture	24.00
Petaluma and Santa Rosa Railway	24.00
Petaluma 1916 Promotional Brochure	1.50
She Built Ship	21.50
She Flew Bombers	21.50
Sports Memories of Sonoma County	21.50
The Better World (Childhood Memories)	11.50
The Egg Basket Cook Book	1.50
The Sonoma Heritage Book	3.50

DVD'S

Fun Times for Kids, Brent Holmes	16.50
Jan White – Sonoma County Poet	16.50
Petaluma Immigrant Experience, 2008	16.50
Pianos of Petaluma – Petaluma Pete	16.50
South American Guitar Music	11.00
Women Air Force Service Pilots	13.00

MISCELLANEOUS

	Price Includes tax
BEYOND T-Shirts	13.00
Celebrating Petaluma note cards	6.50
Clock T-Shirts	11.00
Old Petaluma Map Copies	8.50
Petaluma Fire Dept. Anniversary Boxes	5.50
Petaluma Maps (grey)	2.50
Petaluma Museum Christmas Ornament	10.00
Petaluma Museum T-Shirts	16.50
Petaluma Museum Thimble	5.00
Petaluma Tote Bag	13.50
Picture – train and depot	3.50
Refrigerator Magnets	5.00
Pirate T Shirts	15.00

Hold the evening of May 5th open for an **Old Adobe Benefit Concert** at the Museum. As you surely know by now, the Petaluma Adobe is threatened with closure due to the State's financial crisis. This is our opportunity to help preserve that important historic site. Marilyn Thompson is pulling together a marvelous program of Spanish and American music and all proceeds will go to Old Adobe.

While you're here visit our recently expanded and improved exhibit of Mariano Vallejo and his Rancho Adobe upstairs in our permanent collection.

Check the museum's website for updates.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Meet our Research Library Staff



John B



Fitz & Lucy



Solange & Fitz



Margaret & Lucy

John Benanti has been volunteering in the research library of the museum since 2001. During the period of 2002-2005 he was a member of the PMA Board of Directors and Vice President of the PMA. From 2001-2005 he was a member of the Museum's Finance Committee. John spent forty years working in human resource development, training, workforce education and consulting. He received a BA and MA degree in History from San Jose State University.

Lucy Kortum An early Museum member, Lucy Kortum served briefly as Board secretary and then helped Leoleon Hopkins when the Research Library and kitchen were squeezed into what is now the Archive Room (and three sittings of the Victorian Tea were served in the Museum!) She still volunteers in the Research Library, enjoying the expanded upstairs space to house its many treasures, and at the Public Library's History Room. Meanwhile, for an SSU history class she successfully nominated the Old Silk Mill to the National Register, and then the Petaluma and Healdsburg Carnegies. Her SSU MA project "California's Carnegie Libraries 1899-1921" became the basis for a multiple property nomination, "Carnegie Library Development in California and the Architecture it Produced, 1899-1921," for the State Office of Historic Preservation. The latter is part of a great web site (just Google California Carnegie Libraries) created by photographers Pat and Bernie Skehan. In 2005 Lucy received the Jeanne Thurlow Miller Individual Award from the Sonoma County Historical Society, and in 2006 she was named Petaluma's Good Egg, for her historical contributions. She most recently was a co-author of [Sonoma State University: Memories and Historical Highlights, 1961-2011](#).

Margarett Hadley has been volunteering in the research library for the past 11 yrs. Previously she worked at the Petaluma Public Library in the circulation department and also volunteered in the History Room

at the library along with Lucy. She teaches piano, music appreciation and Egyptology.

John "Fitz" FitzGerald has been involved with the Petaluma River since the early 1980s'. Fitz recently retired and closed his consulting land surveying and civil engineering business. He now is contributing his expertise and passion about local history to the Research Library at the Petaluma Museum. In addition to nearly 42 years' experience in his profession, Fitz has been an active Petaluma Chamber of Commerce member and a River history advocate. He was a founding member of the Petaluma River Festival in 1986, and has also been an appointed member of the Sonoma County Water Agency Zone 2-A Flood Control Advisory Committee (1988 to present), the City Parks, Music & Recreation Commission (1995-1999), the Petaluma River Access & Enhancement Plan Advisory Committee (1990-1996), the Central Petaluma Specific Plan Advisory Committee (1997-2003), and Petaluma's Development Code Advisory Committee (2007-2009). Because of his many years of significant contributions to the promotion of Petaluma and its River, Fitz was awarded the 2004 Argus Courier/*Chamber of Commerce* "Petaluma Citizen of the Year".

Solange Russek brings her extensive knowledge working for the National Park Service for the past 23 years to our research library. She is currently employed with the NPS as a Park Ranger at the Marin Headlands Visitor Center in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Some of her duties there are maintaining the reference library, managing an Art Gallery and coordinating various volunteer projects and events. One of her current projects is collecting of WWII documents for historical value for the Marin Headlands and possible donation to the veterans project at the Library of Congress.

The Research Library is open Monday & Thursday from 1-4pm. Call the museum or email research@petalumamuseum.com

Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Honoring WWII Native American Code Talkers Comes to Petaluma



"My language was my weapon." —David Patterson (Navajo), 4th Div., U.S. Marine Corps.

"The secret of war lies in the communications" - Napoleon

Many stories from World War II have become legend, such as the Doolittle Raid and the battle of Iwo Jima. Some amazing stories are still waiting to be told. The Smithsonian exhibit "Native Words, Native Warriors" examines one of the most intriguing collaborations to take place in the history of the US military.

It was December 7th 1941 when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, in the months after Japanese victory in the Pacific seemed an inevitable reality. As the Japanese continually monitored American military communications to their advantage the Americans came up with the most improbable solution, the use of Native Americans and their unique language. The Japanese, who were skilled code breakers, remained baffled by the Native American dialect. The Japanese chief of intelligence, Lieutenant General Seizo Arisue, said that while they were able to decipher the codes used by the U.S. Army and Air Corps they could never crack the Native American codes used by the Marines. Some men discovered that words—in their Native languages—would be their most valued weapons.

Native Words, Native Warriors, developed by the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), will tell the remarkable story of soldiers from more than a dozen tribes who used their Native languages while in service in the U.S. military. The Petaluma Museum was selected to be the exclusive California exhibitor, running from April 21st through July 1st.

"We are extremely proud to be hosting an exhibition from such a prestigious institution," explains Joe Noriel - Museum President. "The Code Talkers received little recognition for their service after the war, even though their efforts were instrumental in the victory in the Pacific. We are honored to tell the story of these unsung heroes".

The exhibition will also include local artifacts and stories representing local tribes. The exhibition will coincide with Memorial Day. The Museum will offer free admission to Veterans on that day.

The U.S. military first enlisted American Indians to relay messages in their Native languages during World War I, even though the United States did not consider American Indians citizens until 1924. These encoded messages proved undecipherable by the enemy and helped the United States achieve victory.

The involvement of the code talkers expanded during World War II. Soldiers from the Comanche, Meskwaki, Sioux, Crow, Hopi and Cree nations, among others, took part in the effort. The best known of these projects is the formerly classified Navajo Code Talker Program, established by the U.S. Marine Corps in September 1942. The encoded messages proved to be a fast, accurate and indecipherable-to-the-enemy alternative, which suited the demands of the battlefield better than the painfully slow military devices that had been standard.

Twenty-three years after the end of World War II, the U.S. government declassified the Navajo and Comanche code talker programs and revealed America's unsung heroes. In 1999 the U.S. Army presented the last surviving Comanche code talker with a the Knowlton award for outstanding intelligence work, and in 2001 President George W. Bush presented the Congressional Gold Medal to four of the five living veterans of the original 29 Navajo code talkers.

A special speaker series has been developed for the exhibition. Native Americans have served in many conflicts and offer unique perspectives on their experiences. Larry Yepez a Native American who served in Vietnam will speak on May 12th at 3pm. Mr. Yepez is currently participating in an upcoming Smithsonian exhibition on Native American soldiers serving in Vietnam. A speakers list is available on the museum web site - www.petalumamuseum.com.

Admission is \$5.00 general, \$3.00 Seniors and Children under 12 years. Children under 5 are free. Docent lead school tours are available by appointment. For more information please call Joe Noriel at 707-776-7534.

Mark Your Calendar!

Notable Dates: April through June

Saturday, April 21 - Exhibit Opening!
Native Words, Native Warriors; the
Code Talkers of WWII.

Saturday, April 21, 12:00 noon – Good
Egg Award – Annual event officially
kicks off Petaluma's Butter & Egg Days!

Saturday, April 28 – Butter & Egg
Parade steps off at noon! Watch for our
entry!

Saturday, May 5 – Downtown Docent-
Led Walking Tours Begin. Meet at the
steps to the Museum at 10:30. Free,
donations accepted. Until the last
Saturday of October.

Saturday, May 5 – Old Adobe Benefit
Concert. Program and other details
follow – check the museum's website
for updates.

Saturday, May 26 – We commemorate
the 75th Anniversary of the Golden Gate
Bridge with our own special display and
celebration. Check website for details.

Saturday, May 26 – Jura Margulis
Evening Concert. More information to
come!

Sunday July 1 – Native Words, Native
Warriors Exhibit Closes.

Thursday, July 12 – "I Do" Exhibit
begins. Exquisite display of the
Museum's collection of vintage wedding
gowns. Through Sunday, Sept. 30.

Recurring Events
Docent/volunteer meetings – second
week in each month
April 9
May 14
June 11

Board Meetings
April 30
May (Undecided – Holiday)
June 25

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS



Coming Home

Our Museum was proud to present a special speaker series in January for our returning Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. It was part of a Sentinels Exhibition, showcasing the art of Vietnam Veteran Mike Dowdall. The exhibit included artifacts and photos from the returning veterans. Many attended and the veterans also spoke to the high school students during the week. We want to thank them for sharing their stories.



Argus Photo
We were entertained with some great bluegrass music by the Brothers Comatose and many got up to dance. The wide selection of brews on tap was also a big plus. Thanks to all who attended and made this event a successful one.

IT WAS A definite "fun" raiser at the **Lagunitas Brewery** in Petaluma in January of this



"Women Who Fought for Civil Rights"

was designed to show how women from all classes, races, cultures and ethnicities have fought to overthrow discrimination that has denied the civil rights of many people based on their race or gender. These are women who saw injustice and wanted to make a change. This was a Black History Month exhibit that went far beyond the civil rights of black people into the civil rights for "all people." "Women Who Fought for Civil Rights" was presented by Petaluma Blacks for Community Development, a local organization that has been in existence for 34 years.

The work of 25 women was shared in this exhibit. We are familiar with some of these women, like Rosa Parks, Sojourner Truth and Dolores Huerta. There are others, such as Lillian Eugenia Smith, a white southern woman back in the early 1930s who denounced racial segregation openly; Elizabeth Peratrovich in the 1940s went before the Alaska Legislature to fight for the rights of Alaska native people; and Viola Liuzzo, a white woman who gave up her life during the American civil rights movement. These are only six of the 25 strong, powerful women highlighted in this exhibit. Along with the women's stories were beautiful quilts and African fabrics on display. The quilts were made by the late Margaret Kay and the South African fabrics are part of her collection. Her husband, Steven Kay loaned them to us.

The exhibit opened with a wonderful concert on February 3 by the "Foxes in the Hen House," a talented group of local women who sing and play strings and other instruments. "Wings of Glory," a vocal group directed by Patrecia Graham, packed the house for a gospel hour on February 12. Both of these events were well attended and talked about for days afterwards. There were several movies, "Ending Jim Crow in Alaska," a documentary about Alaska natives fight for civil rights, "Boycott," a film about the 1955 bus boycott that was the result of Rosa Parks refusal to give up her bus seat to a white person, "Standing on My Sisters' Shoulders" a powerful documentary about the courageous women of the Mississippi civil rights movement; and the story of "Ruby Bridges," the six-year-old who integrated a New Orleans elementary school. The recent release "The Help" was shown on the final day of the exhibit.

The exhibit has been memorialized in a book; you can obtain a copy at the Museum for \$5.50.



MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

Anela Alvidrez, Steve Countouriotis, Ellen De Leon, John Estrada, Nick & Colleen Falcone, Josh Fowler, Nicklaus Hoffman & Family, Moe & Beverly Jacobson, Matthew Jensen, Sue Lovelace, Brandon Morey, James Pera, Andy Pyburn, Tawnya Sharke, Philip Straub, Lawrence Wei

RENEWALS

John Agnew, Sharon Andreassen, Lewis & Janet Baer, Earline Barron, Gladys Bien, Jennifer Bryan / Center Stage Kids Productions, Victor Chechanover, Michael Corradi, Charles Craig, Jan & Don Curry, George Daum, Sue Davis, Judith Dover, Peter Fitzgerald, Mike Ford, Vivienne Frost, Barbara Harden, Kay Hardy, Kim Jacobsen, Kate Keaton, Owen & Joan Cooper Lang, Kit Lofroos, Joe Luevano, Ron & Heather Matzen, Joseph & Janet Mauro, Leslie & Dave Malloy, Steve & Patricia Marquez, Vicki McDill, Mary J. Moses, Charles & Glee Murphy, T.J. & Dorothy Nelson, Charlene & Kenneth Nugent, Flo B. Olsen, Stuart Righter, Mary Tappan & Dean Randle, Phyllis & Bruce Sharrow, Bill & Ellen Throop, Lee & Marj Torliatt, Marilyn Vitalie, Dave Zacks

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

Jack Dei, Sr., Paul & Marlene Lewis, Skip Sommer, Scott & Meredith Young

DONATIONS

Dick Sharke / Coming Home- Iraq-Afghan Speaker Series

The Museum Association Welcomes New Members! Tell a Friend!

Benefits include a quarterly newsletter, opportunities to serve as tour guides, docents and resource persons, and VIP seating during downtown parades.

Name _____ New Renewal (circle one)
Address _____ PHONE _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ EMAIL _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 Contributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 Limited Income/Senior | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300.00 Life Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00 Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00 Sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 Business | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000.00+ Benefactor |

Are you interested in volunteering? If yes, please specify interest. (Opportunities include: docents, gift shop, newsletter, publicity, fund-raising, membership, gifts & bequests, research, oral history, cataloging, exhibits, carpentry, textiles, school programs, grant writing, special events, photos.) _____

Please return the above form with cash or check made payable to the Petaluma Museum Association, attention: Membership Administrator, 20 Fourth St., Petaluma, CA 94952 (tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.)

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL APPEAL DONORS

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 Phyllis & Bruce Sharrow
 Skip Sommer
 Clarice Stasz
 Loretta Stoddard
 Len & Ruth Svinth
 Mark Tomlinson

Volunteers Needed

We need help with our upcoming 'I Do'

*Exhibit in July. This is an exhibit showing
 wedding dresses from 1850's to the early 1900's. We
 need hand stitcher's to help repair the vintage
 wedding dresses and help with making mannequins.*

*Come join us and have fun learning new
 experiences.*

*Contact Teresa or Sandy at 778-4398
 teresa.froschl@petalumamuseum.com*



BUGGY WHIP NEEDED!



**We need to complete our Studebaker
 Buggy Exhibit. A donation of this item would
 be greatly appreciated.**

Please call the museum at 778-4398

Petaluma Museum Association
2012 Election Ballot

Please return to office or by mail (must arrive in office by April 27th to be counted)

DIRECTORS (Choose up to 7):

- Dan Brown (incumbent)
- Liz Cohee (incumbent)
- Skip Sommer (incumbent)
- Mark Tomlinson (incumbent)
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Canidate Statements are on back of this ballot.

(3) Proposed Bylaw changes

As many of you may have noticed, our bylaws have become very outdated over the years. A committee was formed to start the process of modernization. This will be a gradual yet necessary process and the first few changes, approved unanimous by the Board, who urge your support, are attached for your review and vote at the AGM. A 2/3 approval is required for any bylaw change so your Board hopes we can rely on your support. A full version of the bylaws is available upon request should you wish it. Changes are indicated in bold.

ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

*Section 1. The President shall be the principal Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings, appoint chairpersons of the Standing Committees with the approval of the Board of Directors, ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, and **the Elections Committee**, and perform all duties incident to the office of President.*

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

*Section 1. The Officers shall be elected to serve a two (2) year term and their term of office shall begin on June 1st. The Directors shall be elected to **serve a two (2) year term** and their term of office shall begin on June 1st.*

Section 4. For continuity of direction, the Board of Directors shall stagger terms such that approximately 1/2 of the Directors, and two of the officers, stand for election every year.

ARTICLE XV: CHANGES TO BY-LAWS

Section 1. Each proposed change to By-Laws shall be considered by individual section; the defeat on any single proposed by-law section change does not invalidate the remaining by-laws unless it is in direct conflict with another section, in which case the bylaw as written stands.

Section 2. These By-Laws may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new By-Laws may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by the Board of Directors for submittal to the general membership.

*The **proposed** new Bylaws may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the membership attending a Annual/General meeting, **or by mail-in ballot, if authorized by a 2/3 vote of the Board, where the membership is offered a yes/no choice.** At least **thirty (30)** days written notice must be given to the membership of the date and time of the meeting. **In either case, a copy of the proposed By-Laws changes must be included in the notice.***

Section 3. Any election to change the By-Laws shall follow the procedures laid out for the Elections Committee.

Candidate Statements for 2012 PMA Election

Dan Brown, Incumbent

I am a 20-year resident of Petaluma and a 30+ year employee of the National Park Service, starting as a carpenter and now for the past 12 years serving as an Exhibit Specialist, running the Point Reyes National Seashore Historic Preservation Crew. A board director since 2009, I bring my Historic Preservation skills as well as a collector's / amateur historian's eye for local history and helping with displays. My vision for the PMA's future would be to continue to diversify our programs to appeal to a broader slice of the local population, and make the Museum a place of ever-increasing interest to the community.

Liz Cohee, Incumbent

I hail from another river town -- the steel town of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania -- then went on to spend the majority of my career life in technical and computer-related fields, serving the needs of prominent entertainment law firms in the Los Angeles area. I bring to the PMA my organizational and people skills, attention to detail, and familiarity with various electronic media (I currently operate the Museum's website). I have managed the office at the Museum since 2010 in my job as Museum Coordinator, involving me with volunteers, exhibit and event preparation, and the daily tasks that keeps the PMA operational. I bring to the community my love of sharing with and making available to them the many exciting opportunities available to them through the Petaluma Historical Museum. From preservation to education, I continue to support the Museum with my very best efforts.

Skip Sommer, Incumbent

I'm nearing the end of my first year on the PMA Board and I wish to continue in this capacity. During this year as a member of the Exhibits Committee, I inventoried the basement storage and the permanent exhibits. With the help of John Benanti and Lucy Kortum, I produced a detailed timeline of Petaluma's historical events from the Pomo-Miwoc times through to current times. This list will be used in the future when

considering our exhibits. I also write the History & Commentary for our "Update" newsletter.

I designed and had printed the new exhibit (my personal donation) honoring John and George P. McNear for our permanent displays. This exhibit was hung this February. I commissioned and hung a directional sign, "Visit Our Upstairs Exhibits," located at the lower entrance to the northeast stair (also my donation.).

Dan Brown and I have audited our permanent displays and proposed improvements that can be accomplished with little expenditure. This revitalization is a work in progress which hope to complete in my next term.

My other credits include restoration of Victorian homes and historic buildings in Petaluma (including the Great Petaluma Mill and the Farrell House on the river). I am an honorary life member of Petaluma's Heritage Homes and have been the History Editor of the Petaluma Post for 23 years. I am a recipient of Petaluma's "Good Egg of the Year" award and I was co-author of the 2008 history book Celebrating Petaluma.

Mark Tomlinson, Incumbent

An incumbent director for the past three years, I am a semi-retired longtime resident of Petaluma (providing time to commit to PMA activities), having raised my family here, as well as maintaining a number of business interests in the community. I also have a background in senior management as well as information technology, skills that have proven useful for the PMA.

I am involved in several committees as well as being a very active Board member, and am currently particularly focused on updating the long overdue (and incomplete) bylaws for the organization, as well as supporting and promoting the activities of the Museum in our community, work that needs to continue for some years ahead. Recently I obtained City and US Congressional Recognition for the work of the PMA, something not possible without the dedicated Board and Volunteers we are so lucky to have involved.

COLLECTOR'S CORNER



This postcard was submitted by Dan Brown from his collection. It was taken circa 1905 and is looking down Petaluma Blvd. From Washington.

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