

# Petaluma Museum Association

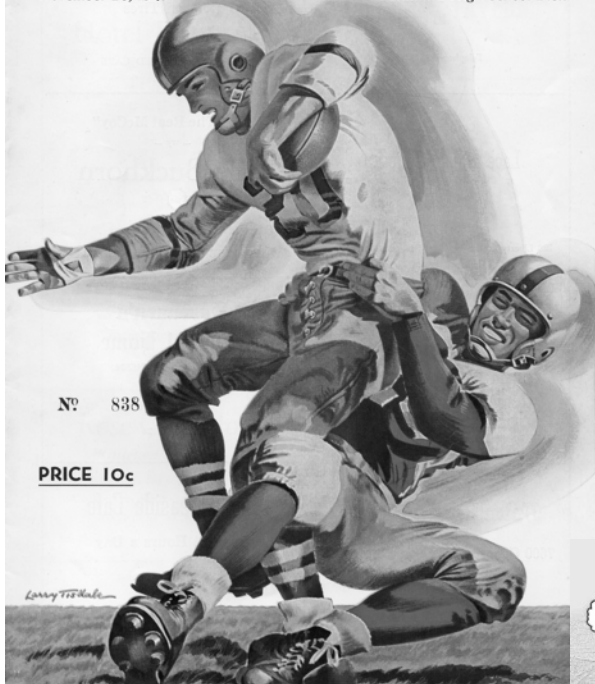
Quarterly Newsletter

**PETALUMA LEGHORNS**

— vs — **SACRAMENTO HAWKS**

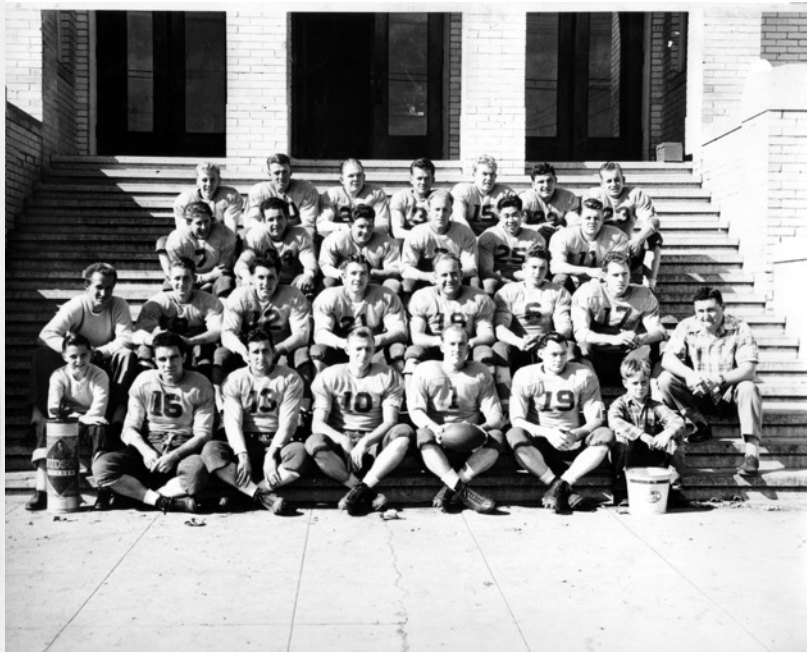
November 20, 1949

Petaluma High School Field



No 838

PRICE 10c



**FALL 2012**

**VOLUME 22, ISSUE 4**

## On the Cover

WHEN PEOPLE THINK of the fall season of the year they usually think of three things: pumpkins, turkeys, and football. In the history of Petaluma football is probably what most old-timers would think of first.

For a dozen years following the end of the Second World War Petalumans were mesmerized by the exploits of a group of young men who captured the imagination, not only of the town, but of a wide range of people in the Bay Area and football fans across the state.

The Leghorns were a homegrown team initially made up of locals looking for an outlet for all their youthful energy. One of the founders and the first coach of the team was Gene Benedetti. The Leghorns started off modestly with one game in 1946. The schedule, and the team's prowess and reputation grew from there.

They had an undefeated season. One season they were the third highest scoring team in the nation. One season they walloped the Oakland All Stars 101-0. They were not perfect and they did lose some games. But in their history they set a standard of excellence unmatched by any other semi-pro football team.

These young men, with so much pride in what they were accomplishing also recognized that the town had helped them in their accomplishments. Beginning in 1947 they held an Egg Bowl with the proceeds from the game being contributed to a variety of worthwhile projects and civic efforts.

The photos show a program cover from 1949, a team photo from 1947, an action shot during a late 1940's game and two of the many old Leghorns who attended a reunion event several years ago when the museum featured a Leghorn exhibit. The two gentlemen in the photo which appeared in the Chronicle are Fran Burke and Herm Jensen. Photo was taken by Chris Stewart.

~ John Benanti

In the entire circle of the year there are no days so delightful as those of a fine October, when the trees are bare to the mild heavens, and the red leaves bestrew the road, and you can feel the breath of winter, morning and evening...no days so calm, so tenderly solemn, and with such a reverent meekness in the air.

~Alexander Smith

Petaluma Museum Association Board

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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](mailto:mary@petalumamuseum.com)

Deadline for submission is Dec.15, 2012

**P**ETALUMA IS A pretty special place. I doubt you will come across a more compassionate, imaginative and diversely talented group of individuals living together anywhere on the planet. We have world renowned artists, actors, playwrights, historians, musicians, educators and even Little League Stars!

Our local nonprofits are top notch supplied with a creative energy that enriches peoples lives living far outside our city limits. We are like one big family supporting and encouraging one another weaving the most amazing web of creativity. We value these friendships and frankly rely on them to get our job done. For example, we could have the best speaker in the world visit the museum but without a service like *Petaluma Community Access* filming and airing these presentations they would never have the opportunity to reach a wider audience.

We are lucky to live in such a wonderful community and I want to personally thank all those special people and organizations that continue to support their local museum. I think Dorothy said it best... "There IS no place like home".



All my best,  
Joe Noriel

**SPECIAL NOTE: We value your opinion. Please be sure to vote on our bylaw changes on page 16 and mail or drop off at the office. Thank you!**



### *PETALUMA'S GREAT THANKSGIVING OF 1918*

**T**HE PETALUMA ARGUS editorial of November 23rd 1918, proclaimed "Thanksgiving Day, 1918 will be the greatest in all history". President Woodrow Wilson had said much the same for our nation as, that week, World War I had ended and the worst pandemic in world history, the Spanish influenza, had also been declared over.

Petaluma had been saddened by the dead and wounded from those two catastrophes that plagued the world and, that November, there was much "bell ringing, whistle blowing, dancing in the streets and monster demonstrations" here.

Two other events also weighed heavily in the news that month: Prohibition ideas were under consideration as the U.S. Senate was debating a bill that would "make the nation dry by next July". (The brewers in New York State announced that they had just enough beer to get us through New Years of 1919). And, the President was also urging the Senate to pass a women's suffrage bill as a 'war measure'. He said; "we have made women partners in this war. Shall we not give them the privilege of the ballot?" (Hard to believe that was just 94 years ago).

That fall, Wilson had delivered his "14 Points" speech for peace and Germany's infamous Red Baron Von Richthofen, had finally been shot down. The Baron was replaced by a man named Hermann Goering, who would later rise to be Nazi Air Chancellor. And, in Russia, that fall, Czar Nicholas and his entire family, were assassinated on orders of Vladimir Lenin.

In cheerier newlines, Hollywood's big stars of the day were Doug Fairbanks, Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin and Mae West. While in sports, the 'names' were Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth and Jack Dempsey. The song, leading the 1918 hit parade, was 'K- k- k- Katy'. (Upbeat stories and music, in contrast to the overwhelming war and epidemic news).

On October 16th, the headline in The Argus was; 'GERMANY SURRENDERS!' Well... they hadn't yet.. and German subs continued to sink our ships well into mid-November. Petalumans raised \$1,425,000 in war bonds that fall, in response to the poster slogan: "The Hun



even steals the babies he has wronged, and raises them as Germans! Will you have that happen here?"

But the flu epidemic was just as tragic as the war. In early October, Petaluma's Police Chief Flohr and Mayor Gossage, officially cancelled "all public gatherings of churches, theaters and schools." And all employees of banks, stores and hospitals were ordered to wear masks. Even the "congregating of boys and girls in parks and streets" was strictly forbidden.

By the end of October, over 130,000 cases of flu and 2,600 deaths had been reported in San Francisco alone. Petaluma had over 150 cases and three deaths, by then. By the time the pandemic was declared over, more than 20 million people had perished world-wide and U.S. influenza deaths had exceeded those of the war.

Two notable local casualties of the influenza epidemic were Petaluma sisters Ruth and Viola Lundholm. They had both been nurses, working for the American Red Cross, when stricken. Mayor Gossage ordered flags to be flown at half-mast in the City.

Then, on November 21st, twenty German submarines surrendered, in-mass, on the coast of Scotland and the U.S. military was promising; "The boys will be home by Christmas." Two days later, Petaluma theaters, churches and schools were reopened and the fine for not wearing a mask was lifted as both the epidemic and the war were declared to be over. Rex Mercantile bought a half-page ad in The Argus saying: "It ought to be the greatest Thanksgiving, this year!"

Food rationing had been relaxed for that Thanksgiving, but Petalumans were still encouraged to shop for local poultry and wild rabbit. Along with ideas for holiday menus.. an interesting advertisement, catching my attention, was this one on November 23rd: "Every sick woman should try Lydia Pinkhams vegetable compound before submitting to an operation. !" (I wonder how many lawsuits that claim would start-up today)?

Final war tallies that November, were that over 50,000 Americans had died and 180,000 more had been wounded in "The War To End All Wars." However, The Petaluma Argus continued to carry a daily casualty list well into December, as more war-wounded soldiers would succumb to death.

The attendance at the 1918 Thanksgiving church and temple services in our town, broke all records and, by ecumenical agreement, the National Anthem was played and sung in every service. But, just to be on the side of caution, Father Kielty of Saint Vincents, sent out the word that; "those who wish to wear masks, may still do so at service on Thursday."



## MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS

### “I DO!” Exhibit

WITH THE EFFORTS and hard work of many volunteers the much anticipated exhibit “I Do!” opened on July 15th. Teresa Froschl, textile curator and Solange Russek organized a great team who logged in 500+ hours working on such tasks as creating and assembling the body forms to match the petite frames and corset-winned waists of the past brides, to repairing the dresses, researching the history of each dress, and gathering photos and other articles for the exhibit.



The museum's textile collection included vintage wedding gowns from the 1860's to the 1980's along with the veils, gloves, shoes and the dainty “unmentionables” that made up the brides' trousseaus. The fashions for the groom, ring-bearer and flower girl were also on display.

Many visitors have come to see this extraordinary view of our past and will spend hours marveling at the exquisite detail of the gowns and also the history of the person who wore it.



Custom cake made for “I Do!” by Bridget Adelaide's Cake Gallery

The Petaluma Museum Association wishes to recognize and thank the Sonoma Community Foundation for their generous grant that enabled us to purchase materials to make ten specialty mannequins for “I Do!” without which the exhibit would not have been possible.

Also thanks to the brides and their daughters who made it possible for their gowns to be shared with us so many years after their weddings.

During the exhibit run we have received many more newly donated items which has sparked and interest in bringing back “I Do!” sometime in 2014. Stayed tuned!

**Coming soon by visitor demand, “I Do!” postcards available for \$2.00.**



Our wedding party. Sasha Cohen, Samantha Royall, Kael Barend, Arielle Lehmann & Sydney Redfearn

Another wonderful event during this exhibit was the visit from the McNear descendants organized by Solange Russek and Paula Freund (who provided a delicious luncheon for our visitors). Skip Sommer also gave a McNear speech that was appreciated by all in attendance.

**Rivertown Revival Festival 2012**

The PMA made their presence known at the Rivertown Revival Festival this year. We created a booth with a wedding theme to promote our exhibit and also displayed books and other museum related items.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out that day to make this a success.



Marge, Liz & Faith staying cool in the shade.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY TEA  
SAVE THE DATE!  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2012 at 3:00pm  
MASONIC LODGE  
9 WESTERN AVE, PETALUMA  
More information about ticket purchase to come!  
Check our website for details at [www.petalumamuseum.com](http://www.petalumamuseum.com)

## CONGRATULATIONS !

Our President, Joe Noriel was presented with the Jefferson Award by KPIX Channel 5 News for showcasing human rights related exhibits in the Bay Area. He was also recognized for his work with local veterans issues. A news segment on the Petaluma Museum and Joe aired on KPIX Channel 5. You can see this video by going to our website at [www.petalumamuseum.com](http://www.petalumamuseum.com) or <http://www.jeffersonawards.org/about>



Filming the video for KPIX, Channel 5

# Calendar of Events

## Current Exhibit

### Korea – The Forgotten War

Opens October 13 – 1:00 p.m.

We are actively seeking your loaned artifacts and stories now

Call us at 707-778-4398

## Confirmed Speaker Dates :

### October 20<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 p.m.

Major General Gary Medvivy

Deputy Commanding General 8th Army,

Yongsan, Korea will discuss current developments in Korea

### October 27<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 p.m.

### Edgar Dean Mitchell, Sc. D.

Apollo 14 Astronaut, celebrated “Moon Walker”

Edgar Mitchell also served as a pilot in Korea.

Please check [www.petalumamuseum.com](http://www.petalumamuseum.com) for the latest information

## Annual Cemetery Tour

Saturday, October 27, 2012

Cemetery at Two Rock Valley Presbyterian Church

7063 Bodega Avenue, Petaluma

11 a.m. (Rain or Shine)

Your leader this year will be Mr. Mel Todt:

Famous for the "Return of the Missing Jones Boys Tombstone"

Also in attendance will be Brad Davall

(sparked the research On the "Jones Boys" tombstone)

and Rev. Dr. Cornelia Cyss Croker

(minister at the Two Rock Valley Presbyterian Church)

## Downtown Docent-Led Saturday Walking Tours

Every weekend through the *Last Saturday of October*

**Meet at the steps to the Museum at 10:30. Free-Donations Accepted**

## Annual Holiday Tea – Save the Date!

Sunday, December 2, 2012

More information about ticket purchases to come!

Check our website for the latest information

## Docent/volunteer meetings

Second Monday of month at 2:00 p.m.

## Board Meetings

First Tuesday of month at 6.00 p.m.

Follow us at: [www.petalumamuseum.com](http://www.petalumamuseum.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PetalumaMuseum](http://www.facebook.com/PetalumaMuseum)

Twitter: @petalumamuseum





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



## ***History of the Walking Tours of Historic Downtown Petaluma***

The first walking tour began on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1995 and was an accumulation of the efforts and research of many volunteers. This devoted group met at least once a week, more often twice, to learn about the history of Petaluma and to do training walks. They researched the history of the Petaluma river, the growth of the town, the visionary and ambitious early settlers, the booming economy reflecting the farming, dairy, poultry and manufacturing industries and much more. To heighten the interest in these tours the guides dressed in period costumes to reflect a character from Petaluma history. Our present tour guides continue this tradition.

There were originally thirteen guides, four had lived here 8-24 years, seven were newcomers and two were born and raised in Petaluma, having moved away for a time and returned to their roots. They were Ron Bausman,



Patricia Cunningham, Mary Alice Gilroy, Bill Hammerman, Connie Hammerman, Mildred King, Elizabeth McBride, Carolyn Mack, Mary-Dee Roy, Kathy Schmelz, Stephanie Simon, Fran Lees Solberg and Keith Weaver. Some of the characters they impersonated were William Howard Pepper (Bill Hammerman), Brainerd Jones (Ron Bausman), Isaac Wickersham, John McNear, and many others. Also key in making this such a success was the knowledge and expertise of Hoppy Hopkins (a popular city historian), Debi Riddle, Mary Ann Curme, (river history), Dave Acorn, Barbara Lynch (textiles), and Jack Balshaw.

These tours continue today and are given on Saturdays at 10:30am meeting at the steps of the Petaluma Museum and last about an hour. They start in May and continue until the end of October (weather permitting) Tours are free. Donations may be made to the museum.

**JOIN THE FUN! BECOME A WALKING TOUR DOCENT! CALL 778-4398**

## *MEET OUR PRESENT WALKING TOUR DOCENTS*

*In their own words.....*

### **Barbara Harden (AKA Ida Belle McNear)**

I have been a Guide for more than 5 years. I have been here for 16 yrs.

I am a "People Person". Having been a teacher, I enjoy and feel very comfortable talking to groups. My love of art led to an interest in Architecture and Petaluma downtown has wonderful examples of "High Renaissance Italian" ,and "Period Style" architecture that I am able to explain to tourists. I also have a great love of Petaluma for its extraordinary friendliness.

The memorable experience I have is taking people from all over the world on tours. I have met people from Japan, France and Russia .

I love becoming "Ida Belle Mc Near". At age 25 she was the first President of the "Petaluma Woman's Club" of which I am a member, and she and her friends studied an entire country for a year. At this time women were not to be educated. She also gave away 200 trees to

anyone in Petaluma and many of the trees are still there.



## Nancy Sasser

I've been doing the walking tours for the past eight years.

Previously I enjoyed volunteering as a tour docent at the Filoli house and gardens in Woodside down on the Peninsula. I've always loved Petaluma and its rich history and was happy to find the museum's walking tour program. I learned the tour by following the other docents on their tours and reading (and re-reading) Adair Heig's history, *Petaluma, A River Town*, the 1877 Atlas of Sonoma County and other local historic resources.

My most memorable tour was a large extended family reunion group from Southern California who were staying at the KOA. Some of the family members were from China so California history was new to them. This gave me the opportunity to explain how integral the Chinese were to building the railroads that enabled western expansion and locally how Chinese workers had straightened the Petaluma River and dug the McNear canal. We had a great time.



## Marshall West (AKA Isaac Wickersham)

I have been a walking tour guide for about 15 years, since 1997. Having moved from Denver in 1995, I wanted to be interested and involved in my new city. The inspiration to become a tour guide came from my own daughter, Stephanie Simon, and her next door neighbor Connie Hammerman. Both ladies rejuvenated the Museum's walking tours in the early 90's, and they wrote the script for the downtown tours.

Being new to town, and knowing very little about its unique history, I studied under such early historians as Hoppy Hopkins, Debi Riddle, Ross Parkinson, and Don Campeau and later began to do the weekend walking tours, then the elementary school tours, and finally the custom "step-on" tours with bus loads of folks from all over California.

I think the most memorable of my tours were the Dolphin boat cruises from the turning basin down to the Highway 37 bridge and back, with Captain Ronn Patterson. One trip was done with Ronn and I up front in the wheelhouse, and Susan Villa on the upper deck - all with microphones. We three narrated and talked for three hours about the Petaluma River, its flora and fauna, the city, its architecture, and its rich history. We had a packed house, and it was fun for all. Another memorable tour was a bus group from the Sacramento area who had watched the movie "American Graffiti" on their bus on the way to Petaluma, then they picked

me up at the museum and we drove by all the filming spots around town. I used the map created by the American Graffiti group and I figured out where those sites are today.

All in all, being a walking tour guide is a great way to volunteer. You meet a lot of people, it is good exercise for everybody, and you see Petaluma up close and personal. And, you are helping to preserve Petaluma's history by relating stories about its inhabitants, its architecture, and its history.



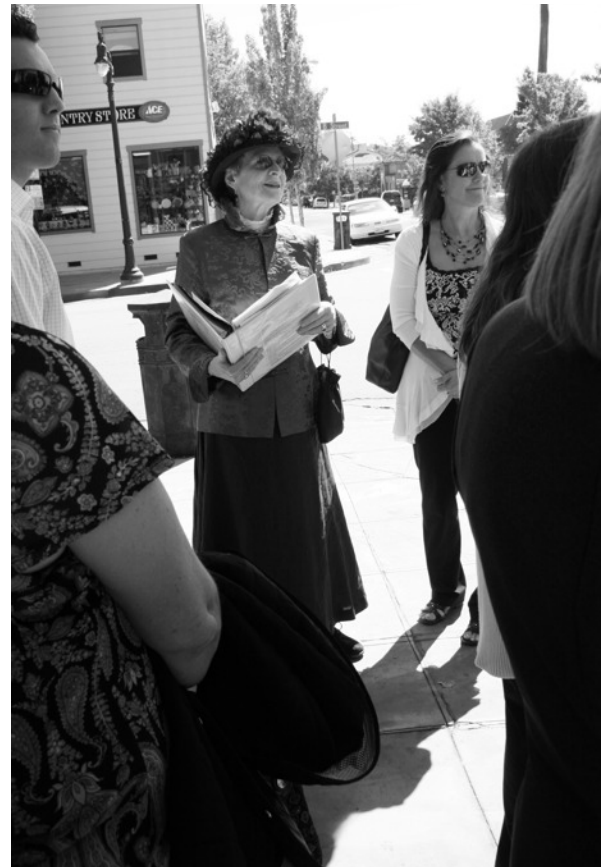
**Susan Coolidge** (AKA Clara McNear)

I started giving walking tours after taking a course given by Bill Hammerman in 1998 on Petaluma History through Adult Education. We had moved into town at the end of 1997; my mother in law, Sylvia, and I decided this would be a good way to learn more about our new home town. At the end of the series of classes, Bill asked if anyone would like to become a walking tour docent; I was the only serious taker! Connie furnished me with a wonderful sort of Edwardian summer outfit, and I was ready to learn the ropes. Since that time I have also become a Petaluman of Yesteryears, taking on the persona of Clarinda Williams McNear, John's first wife, after Kathy Shmelz retired.

Why did I join this group? I am a ham at heart, and enjoy people, so it seemed a good fit. Telling others about Petaluma is a great way to meet people and to continue to look for more stories about our community's past. I find most people can latch on to history through stories more easily than hearing a recitation of facts and dates.

Memorable experience? On my first tour, one of my group turned out to be the engineer who built the Keller Street Parking Garage. He also was involved with the Quabbin Reservoir in Massachusetts, designing the tunnels used to pipe water to Boston. I learned his story because he could tell all of us about the stonework on the side of Bluestone Main, showing us how he knew it had once been attached to another building beside it because he could see the mortar remaining.

I always look forward to learning from the folks on my walks. Another time the artist who painted the mural on Washington Street decided he should learn more about the town whose history he was depicting. It is fun to see who decides to join us! My last tour included a very well behaved dog and 12 humans...



**Homer Johnstone** (AKA Captain Thomas Fulcher Bayliss)

Captain Bayliss predates all the other "Petalumans" in terms of early arrival, having first come in 1850. On the other hand, I have only been here since 1995! Originally from Manahattan Beach, California, in my military career I've resided many places in the world, ultimately arriving here from San Francisco.

My wife Marcia was my inspiration for joining the group; she gave tours herself, and I became interested through her. When the original Captain Bayliss, Keith Weaver, moved to Washington about eight years ago, I was fortunate enough to inherit all his research. That was the push I needed to "volunteer." I might say that I also received a lot of support from the Hammermans, to whom the program owes so much.

There is no particular experience that stands out as being exceptional. Each tour has its own unique character, and they have all been very enjoyable to me. The early history of Petaluma is really, really interesting -- and it tends to sell itself. Sharing it with others is a true delight.



Homer on a recent tour this year. I tagged along on this tour and can see why it is such a valuable asset to our community. Some of the folks on this tour had been on others and commented on how they appreciate how each volunteer brings their own flavor to the walk. ~Mary Rowe

## Coming to the museum on Oct. 13th Korea, the Forgotten War



To many the conflict in Korea remains largely unknown, overshadowed by WWII and Vietnam. Yet Korea marked a turning point in the political and military history of the post war world. On June 25, 1950, the cold war turned hot. Soviet-supported North Korean leader Kim Il Sung launched an invasion of South Korea in an attempt to reunify the peninsula under Communism. President Harry Truman interpreted the invasion as an attempt by Moscow to expand its domain and test Western resolve. He committed American troops and rallied support in the United Nations (UN), establishing a coalition of sixteen nations to defend South Korea and contain Communist expansion. A brutal war ensued that took the lives of over three million people in the most terrible conditions. Although fierce fighting lasted over three years the war has not officially ever ended.

The exhibition will tell the stories of those local veterans who served in this war. Authentic artifacts will be presented along with interpretive panels documenting the history of the conflict. On display will be an actual MASH unit and interactive video presentations.

In conjunction with the exhibit a speaker series will include a special presentation on October 27th by Apollo Astronaut and celebrated “Moon Walker” Ed Mitchell who served as a pilot in Korea. In addition, on October 20th Major General Gary Medvigy, Deputy Commanding General 8th Army, Yongsan, Korea will discuss current developments in Korea, local Korean War veterans will also share their experiences as part of the series.

“We are pleased to honor our local Korean War veterans on the 60th anniversary of the Korean War,” said Museum President Joe Noriel. “This exhibit will give visitors a chance to reflect on the sacrifice made by those who served in this ‘Forgotten War’ “.

The exhibition will be on display from October 13th to December 16th. Admission is \$5.00.

**Opening Day Ceremonies at 1:00 p.m., Oct. 13**

**Korean War Remembrance Day with presentation of colors by Coast Guard, City proclamation and a bag pipe performance.**

Saturday, October 20, 2012 3:00 p.m

Saturday, October 27, 2012 3:00 p.m.



**Major General Gary Medvivy**

Deputy Commanding General 8th Army, Yongsan, Korea

Medvivy, an Army Reserve brigadier general, will discuss current developments in Korea.

Admission \$5.00



**Edgar Dean Mitchell, Sc. D.**

***Apollo 14 Astronaut and Korean War Veteran***

9 Western Avenue  
Petaluma-Hamilton Masonic Lodge  
(Downtown Petaluma)

*Tickets to the event are \$5.00 each and limited to 300.*

*They can be purchased at the Petaluma Museum or by calling 707-778-4398.*

*(Checks or cash only payment required for reservation)*

**Korean War Symposium**

November 11th, 2012

Location: Veterans Building

Featuring the following Korean War Pilots:

**Brig. Gen. Robert F. "Earthquake" Titus USAF [Ret.]**

Brigadier General Robert F. Titus is the inspector general for the North American Air Defense Command and the U.S. Air Force Aerospace Defense Command, with consolidated headquarters at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo

**Brigadier General Garry Willard Jr. USAF [Ret.]**

Brigadier General Garry A. Willard Jr., is director of aerospace safety, Air Force Inspection and Safety Center, Norton Air Force Base, CA.

**Major General Norman Deback USAF [Ret.]**

**Col. John Lowery USAF [Ret.]**

KOREA: 334th FIS, 4th FIW; 43 Missions, F-86 Sabre, 5000 Hours in Fighters; 13, 500 Hours Total Time—and Still Counting! 25 Years Active Duty; 24 Years Instructor in Sabreliner & King Air Flew F-86s, TF-86s, F-80s/T-33s, F-100s, F-104s, F-105s, F-5s & F-4, FAA Designated Check Pilot for 10 Years Professional Pilot of the Year in 1978.

**Check our website for more detailed biographies**



Museum Highlights cont.

Annual Volunteer Luncheon 2012

It was a lovely day out in the courtyard and we had a marvelous lunch thanks to Pat Donegan and the other volunteers who helped set up and decorate our tables. Joe Noriel was there to honor all our hard working volunteers and handed out some special award plaques to those who have given their time over the years. Not in attendance that day but who also received a plaque were Barbara Harden and Althea Torliatt.



Solange Russek "Rising Star"



Flo Fadelli



Shirley McDonald



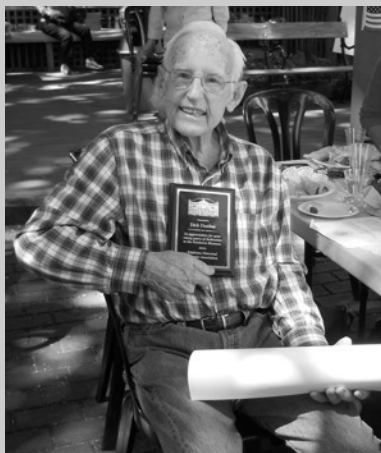
Diane Dorfman



Millie King



Lil Krulevitch



Dick Dunbar



Evelyn Pedroni

# Membership

## NEW MEMBERS

Architectural Plastics, Inc., Jama Bruce, Jodi Clinesmith & Chris Samson, Janet Crosby, Carola DeRooy, Christy DeWitt, Helaine Dorenfeld, Deb Hendricks, Bruce & Gerry Lewis, Elaine Marlow, Andrew Martin, Carol Russell

## RENEWALS

Lourdes Acuna, Ann Amyes, Virginia Anderson, Mary Ball, Eolah Bates, Melissa & Ben Becker, Charmaine Burdell, Kaaron Carver, Chalet Florist, John & Helen Charlson, Lynn Cominsky, Dr. Frances Ann Edmonston & Carl Levinson, Maria Do Ceu / Out West Garage, Pat Donegan, Meg Ensign, Ted Feldman, Paula Freund & Paul Heavenridge, Marilyn Gambonini, Helen HagopianRay & Pat Handyside, Mike Healy & Beth Wissing-Healy, John Hill, Jr., Elizabeth Howland, Stephan Jensen, Richard Keith, Jan Klebe, Carolyn Mack, Elizabeth Marquardt, Janet Mobley, John O. Nelson, Harlan Osborne, Lois Pasini, Nancy Rapulus, Maureen Friedrichsen-Reed, Janet Rodd Adrienne Rodgers, Kit & Steve Schlich, Donald O. Scott, Allen & Kaye Stack, Dr. & Mrs. David Strange, Tim & Janet Talamantes, Marilyn Thompson, May Tomasetti, Don & Joy Waite, Dick & Dorothy Wilcox

## NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

Alice & Donald Forsyth  
Alice Guglielmetti  
Tom & Kathy Brandal  
Miriam Hodge

## DONATIONS

Jim & Liz Cohee  
Paula Freund / Donation of mannequins for "I Do!"  
Lily Krulevitch  
Caroline Orrick / McNear Reunion  
Katherine Rinehart / For "I Do!" exhibit

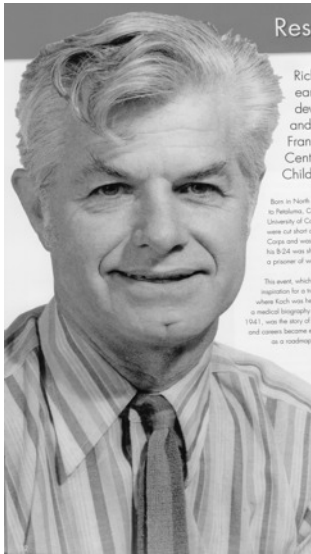
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## LIFETIME MEMBERS

Linda Adams & Ken Larson, Mr. & Mrs. Marv Ashman, Ron Bausman & Art Wagner, Jim Becker, Ann & Gordon Blumenfeld, Walter & Marilyn Bragdon, Tom & Kathy Brandal Virginia Breedlove, Arthur & Selma Cader, Codding Foundation, Clark & Susan Coolidge, James and Liz Cohee, John Cota & Teresa Barrett, Jack Dei, Sr., Angela E. De Carli, Daniel & Elissa DeCaro & Family, Marvin & Shirley Dolowitz, Diane Dorfman, Karen & James Ely, June Ferguson, Bonna & George Flynn, C. Michael Forrest, Alice & Donald Forsyth, Jim & Kris Foster, Kathy & Richard Fries & Family, George & Margaret Gambonini & Family, Cheryl & Derlin German, Ken & Annette Goltermann Family, Margaret Gossett, Alice Guglielmetti, Bill & Connie Hammerman, Ann Hobrecht, Miriam Hodge, Gary & Lynn Imm, Carol Isaak, Toby Kaehler, Steve & Karen Kemmerle, Mildred King, Bill & Lucy Kortum, Jack & Verna Krout, Rollie & Shirley Leeburg, Catherine & Theodore Lehmann, Paul & Marlene Lewis, Blanch Lieb, Sid & Gerry Lipton, Constance Mahoney, Amy Malaise & Gary Fusco, Peter Masi/Master Cleaners, Charles & Evelyn Matteri, Shirley B. McDonald, Mc Dowell Drug Task Force, James & Sue Mc Isaac, Keith & Debbie McNeil, Robert & Virginia Merwin, Max Mickelsen, Pierre & Sonja Miremont, Tim & Lori Nelson, Tammara Norman & Edwin Hamilton, Ross Parkerson, Edward & Barbara Peterson, Ray & Ettamarie Peterson, Charles & Mary Pheil, Russel Pleech, Shep & Velma Porter, Lawrence Reed, Ed & Bernadette Ricci, Tim & Deborah Riddle, Katherine & William Rinehart, Walter & Emily Roeder, Rotary Club of Petaluma, Jerry & Mary-dee Roy, Gloria Salick, Nancy Sasser, Richard & Lucille Sharke, Shep & Lou Shepherd, Alba Silva, Skip Sommer, Springfield Place, Clarice Stasz, Thomas & Mary Stelzner, Charles & Althea Torliatt, Barbara Tornberg, UBS Financial Services, Gene & Lenore Urbain, Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 563, Michael & Elaine Von der Porten, Marcie Waldron, Ruth Walker, Ron & Judy Walters, Margery Wolf, Sarah Young, Scott & Meredith Young, Nick Zaillian

# Notable Petalumans

## Dr. Richard Koch



After Dr. Richard Koch died in Los Angeles, on September 24, 2011, a lengthy Los Angeles Times obituary, as well as Research Highlights (Spring 2012) published by Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, described his notable life and career. Both mention that he attended elementary and high school in Petaluma, graduating in 1941. Eventually that news trickled up here and we were able to find a little about his time in Petaluma.

His photograph appears in the PHS Enterprise of 1941. In the year book it states that Rich was the President of the Student Body, Secretary of Boys' League, Secretary of Finance, and Secretary of the Sophomore Class. He played football, basketball, and tennis, and was a member of Block P. He was also a Gold Sear Bearer.

John Pedroni stated from a paper we found in our research library that Richard lived on the 200 block of 4<sup>th</sup> St and we lived on the 200 block of 5<sup>th</sup> St. We were in the same class at St. Vincent's grade school. He came from a very large family of 7 or 8 children. All of Richard's brothers and sisters were brilliant.

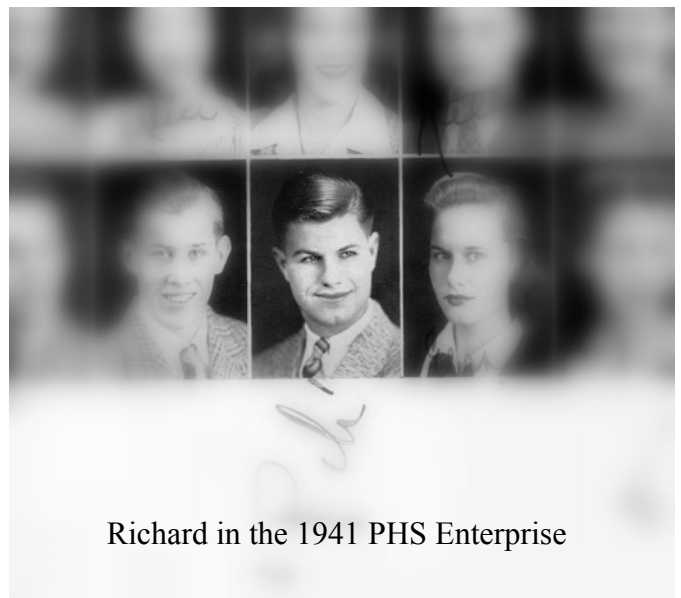
An Ed Fratini radio broadcast (transcribed by Nancy Bauer) about Vernet Smith tells us that "Verne ran a service [station] for 23 years at the corner of Washington and Howard St where the 7-11 store is now located. Some of his employees were Ed Struve, Ed Potts, and Richard Koch, who is now the nationally known Dr. Richard Koch."

From the obituary and Highlights we learned that he earned a scholarship to UC Berkeley but that his attendance there was abbreviated when, in 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and trained as a bombardier. After his B-24 was shot down over Germany, he was a prisoner of war for 13 months in Stalag Luft 1. Among the few books in the prison library was The Doctors Mayo which provided the inspiration for his life's work.

After the war he returned to college and in 1951 graduated from the University of Rochester School of Medicine in New York. He then returned to California, but further south. He interned at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, joined the Medical Genetics staff, and became a Professor of Pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine, all affiliated with the University of Southern California. A colleague described Dr. Koch as a "true physician-scientist and an inspiration" as a clinician, researcher, and advocate in his work with the developmentally disabled, focusing on Down's Syndrome and other metabolic disorders, and most notably PKU babies. He became an internationally recognized expert on the subject, published more than 200 articles, established traveling clinics and the model that became the Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center of which he was the first director. He actively promoted the legislation requiring screening for all newborns in California. Other contributions in the realm of advocacy included traveling to Peru for Project Hope with his family and, inspired by family backpacking in the Sierra, active efforts to save Mineral King as a National Park. He is survived by his wife and five children.

We hope some who knew the Koch family in Petaluma will help us fill in their biography and that more Petalumans will now know of Dr. Koch's exemplary career.

~Lucy Kortum



Richard in the 1941 PHS Enterprise

**Dear Members,**

As mentioned at the past AGM, we are closely examining our bylaws and working towards clarifying and modernizing them, among many other activities to improve our organization. We need to do this to allow greater flexibility in this fast paced world, as well as improved transparency and fairness to all. Below are the changes we hope to adopt for your consideration.

**Please check either YES or NO against each section of our bylaws that are affected. A 2/3 affirmative vote is required for the bylaw changes to pass.**

As it is likely there will be at least one more round of improvements to be made, if you are interested in being involved in the bylaws committee, please contact PMA on 707-778-4398.

*(1) Allowing membership categories to be defined by the Board to allow more flexibility in fund-raising as our City funding has all but ceased in the past few years. Previously categories were defined in the bylaws and reflected the ideas of 30 years ago.*

<b>ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 2. Classification of Memberships are to be determined by the Board by majority vote.	<b>NO</b>	

*(2) Changing the appointed position of Historian to be Librarian, and potentially making the position a voting member of the Board in recognition that this is an essential function of the PHL&M.*

<b>ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 8. Librarian: The Board of Directors may appoint a Librarian, by majority vote, whose duties shall include, but not be limited to, serving in an advisory capacity, assisting with research questions and photo identifications, acting as a liaison between the Petaluma Museum Association and related entities and in general promote the activities of the PHL&M. The term of the Librarian shall be for one (1) year. The Librarian may be a member of the Board of Directors and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.	<b>NO</b>	

*(3) Allowing committees to be defined by the Board and as our focus changes, particularly towards increased emphasis on raising funds to keep the PHL&M operating. Previously committees were stated in the bylaws (though their purpose not defined) and reflected the ideas of 30 years ago, and not all were relevant to today.*

<b>ARTICLE XI: STANDING COMMITTEES</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 1. The Standing Committees shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Descriptions and duties are printed in the GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES MANUAL.	<b>NO</b>	
Section 2. Standing Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors, with the exception of the Nominating and Elections Committees which have different procedures defined.		

<b>ARTICLE XII: SPECIAL COMMITTEES</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 1. Special Committees may be created by the President or the Board of Directors, with approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, for purposes and terms as are specified at the time the Committee is appointed.	<b>NO</b>	

*(4) Clarifying a few procedures and responsibilities of the Treasurer.*

<b>ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 4. The Treasurer shall have charge and be responsible for all funds of the Association. The Treasurer shall supervise the maintenance of current financial records and oversee the production of monthly financial reports, with full details of income and expenditures, which shall be submitted to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis. The Treasurer shall be responsible for scheduling the annual audit and the filing of Annual Corporation Reports and required IRS and state tax forms. The Treasurer shall also ensure that insurance is in place for all assets in the care of PMA, as well as all other necessary insurance for the organization.	<b>NO</b>	

<b>ARTICLE XIII: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 4. The Treasurer is responsible for the creation and dissemination of an annual budget, quarterly reporting against that budget, and all financial reporting and required filings at end-of-year.	<b>NO</b>	

5) Streamlining the election process by reducing it to one method of candidacy only. If someone wishes to stand for election, an application must be filed by a fixed date in the election cycle. This eliminates the approach of write-ins and floor candidates at the AGM as we feel this does not give our membership sufficient information to make a considered voting decision and levels the playing field for all candidates.

<b>ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 5. All candidates for election must file their paperwork, based on guidelines published by the Nominating Committee so that all details may be published in advance for the membership to consider. Applications will not be accepted after this date.	<b>NO</b>	

(6) As there is much to be done, and we are forming working committees to focus on different issues, each headed by a Board member, we recommend expanding the Board to be up to 10 elected directors (actual number to be defined by the Board depending on future needs), with a minimum of 7 as now. By doing this, we will be able to cover more ground, more quickly, as we work on the most critical challenges that face us.

<b>ARTICLE X: BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 1. The Board of Directors of the Association shall be the Executive Committee and between seven (7) and ten (10) Directors (at the discretion of a majority vote of the Board), to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and one Director appointed by the Recreation, Music and Parks Commission, who shall have full voting privileges.	<b>NO</b>	

(7) As there is much happening, there is often a need to work on items outside of regular Board meetings, sometimes involving the need for a vote. In the past there has been some confusion about how to go about this. This change clarifies polls may be taken using any reasonable means in current use, rather than limited to the technology available when the original bylaws were written. We recommend you support this measure so your Board can conduct business between meetings if necessary.

<b>ARTICLE X: BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 4. In the event that the Board members are to be polled by any method other than at a Board meeting for a decision on an important Board issue, the President or a duly appointed Board officer or Director, shall conduct such a poll, using the accepted means of communication, and contact all Board members for their votes and the results of such a poll shall be duly recorded in the minutes of the next Board meeting following the actual poll. The required number of votes are governed by the issue type defined in this document.	<b>NO</b>	

(8) We often have to provide a notice period to our members. It is frequently difficult to determine when this period starts due to the vagaries of the postal system and other channels. Your Board recommends we define notice as starting when a prominent posting in the Museum is done (as is consistent with most entities). We would continue to use all the means we presently use, so we would be adding this additional approach.

<b>ARTICLE V: MEETINGS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
Section 5. Posting notice of any meeting in a public area of the Museum shall constitute basic notice though additional timely means are to also be used to reach the membership fully as possible.	<b>NO</b>	

Additionally, there were some minor changes made to the bylaws to correct grammar, spelling, and to make the document easier to read. None of these changed the meaning of any sentence so have not been included. A complete set of bylaws are available upon request should you wish to review these items.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

It is also worth saying that any member has the right to see Board minutes and other documents of the association if you should wish to keep track of how these changes are being implemented, and your Board is always eager for your feedback and any suggestions.

Please vote by placing a check next to either YES or NO for each change.

Please return your ballot (by mail or drop-in) so that it reaches the PHL&M by close of day Nov. 12th

Please return your ballot, in a sealed envelope, clearly marked BYLAWS to: Petaluma Musuem Association  
 20 Fourth St.  
 Petaluma, CA 94952

*Thank you for being an involved member - your ongoing support is very much appreciated.*



# COLLECTOR'S CORNER



Arrow points to location of Cosmopolitan Hotel

## Cosmopolitan Hotel Petaluma Cal. Merchant Token.



Here is a nice example of a Petaluma merchant token. It says "Cosmopolitan / Hotel / Petaluma / Cal." on one side and "Good For / 5¢ / In Trade" on the other. This token probably dates from 1900 to 1910 or so and was probably used to purchase a drink or a cigar at the hotel bar. The Cosmopolitan Hotel began operating about 1884 (Petaluma City Directory) and the last listing found in the PCD was 1918. It was located where the empty lot next to McNear's restaurant is today.



PETALUMA MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

20 Fourth Street, Petaluma, CA 94952

707-778-4398 FAX: 707-762-3923

[www.PetalumaMuseum.com](http://www.PetalumaMuseum.com)

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**The Forgotten**

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HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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**October 13**

**December 16**

**WAR**