

Livermore Heritage Guild

Saving Yesterday For Tomorrow



P.O. Box 961, Livermore, Calif. 94551

www.livermorehistory.com

Phone 925-449-9927

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Civil War Veteran Lost Eye and Pension

You can call it the Brother's War, the War Between the States, the War of Southern Independence, or the Civil War – the fact remains that hundreds of thousands of the participants were injured. A number of those eventually lived here in the Livermore Valley. One of them was Charles August Paulsen.

Paulsen was born in Vordingborg, Denmark, on August 4, 1840. During the Civil War he served as an “ordinary seaman” on a number of ships from May 2, 1861, and was honorably discharged on March 17, 1864.

On July 15, 1862, Paulsen was aboard the USS Hartford during the Battle of Vicksburg, Mississippi. A 30-pound shell landed on the ship killing the man next to him; the shell took off that man's head and covered Paulsen with blood. Paulsen claimed that from that event he became totally blind in his left eye after the blast forced “his left eye out on his cheek” with major damage to his head.

Paulsen moved to California in 1865 and had a number of jobs in the Bay Area including sailor, lighthouse keeper near San Quentin, and Livermore rancher. We have found documentation online where Paulsen wrote (from Livermore April 28, 1904) to the

Secretary of the Interior asking that his pension of \$12 a month be reinstated. Paulsen wrote that he was “so badly crippled that I could not dress myself without assistance” and that he was destitute.

What followed was a long drawn out process in which Paulsen attempted to regain his pension as well as have the amount increased. Over time, Paulsen did receive his pension again and the amount eventually reached \$60 a month.

Paulsen was a very interesting person, having served in not only the US Navy but also the 2nd California Calvary. He died on November 5, 1920, having had four wives to share his hard life. He is buried at Roselawn Cemetery, Livermore, in the GAR plot.

It is interesting to note that at different times Paulsen's attorney was James H. Shepard of Oakland. Shepard was the husband of Eliza London, the daughter of Livermore resident and Civil War veteran, John London of Alden Lane, and stepfather of author Jack London. The notary public who witnessed some of Paulsen's papers was William Harold Wright, another Civil War veteran – on the Confederate side.

-by Richard Finn

A message from the President

June 30, 2008

Dear Members,

Bill Junk turned the key, the big 1944 Mack fire engine came to life, and with Susan Junk waving from the middle of the truck and me riding shotgun, we tested the siren and were off to ride in the Livermore Rodeo Parade. A few minutes behind us, the Guild's Model T fire car, into which Chuck McFann and Fred Deadrick have poured so much restoration effort, was pattering along to a 2nd place trophy in the antique vehicles class. Great work guys!

Since a parade is a community-generated display of those things we are proud of, I am happy to report that heritage is a recurring theme among the entrants. Besides the Heritage Guild's two fire trucks, there were other antique vehicles from Studebakers to military Jeeps, entries using old stagecoaches, and entries from family ranches that have been in the area, and in the family, for generations. Reinstein ranch entered a float with a worker hammering away at an anvil, much as he might have done 100 years ago and may well still do today. The ranch is still just north of Livermore as it was when Fred Reinstein, a transplanted Dane, established it there in the 1880s. Rowell Ranch Rodeo, which sent their Rodeo Queen, Jennifer Coyne, has been operating a rodeo just to the west of us since 1921. Civic organizations were there as well, including the Mosaic lodge of the Masons, chartered locally in 1871. Even as spectators glanced at cell phones or hoped to see themselves on television after the parade, they were there to enjoy the heritage that makes the Livermore area unique.

The Livermore rodeo was not an event that started quietly. When the first Livermore Rodeo and parade were first held 90 years ago, in 1918, their goal was to raise the \$1,200 assessed for Livermore for the Red Cross as part of the war effort, a target they handily exceeded. The dramatic Grand Entry was filmed by Universal Studios to be shown in newsreels across the country, and the event was such an obvious success that planning and land acquisition for the next year began immediately.

Enthusiasm outpaced infrastructure, so for the first few years, the large crowd was addressed with nothing more than a megaphone. The job went to the man best able to be heard, and so for the first few years announcing was done from horseback by "Foghorn" Murphy.

The Livermore Rodeo had made its mark and was to become an integral part of Livermore's culture through wars, depressions, blazing heat, and the growth of our city from a few thousand locals to the 80,000 who call it home today. The parade, too, became an institution, attracting entries from across California and serving to bring us out of our air conditioned homes to sit in the sun on the curb and watch another generation of dancers, riders, soldiers, and citizens celebrate the things that are important to us, the things that make up our heritage.

Jeff Kaskey
Livermore Heritage Guild President

Livermore Legacy Tour 2008 Great Success!

We couldn't be more pleased – the Livermore Legacy Tour was a grand success! It was a hot day, but that didn't seem to stop anyone from coming out and enjoying our lovely homes, vintage cars, and shaded garden stops!

Back in March of 2007, the Guild discussed and approved the idea of a home tour to raise money for the History Mobile. Our goals at the time were to raise \$12,500, to encourage Heritage Home preservation, to contribute to the public's knowledge and appreciation of and pride in their local heritage, to contribute to a city-wide sense of community, and to appeal to a new group of volunteers. We have met or exceeded most of our goals.

In the end, we raised \$17,000 through ticket, cookbook, and tote bag sales for the History Mobile! In addition to the 651 tickets sold, we engaged more than 200 volunteers, and gave some 35 comp tickets to sponsors—a total of almost 900 persons involved in the event. To top off the tour, we had a gratitude dinner prepared for all our volunteers following the event at Veterans Hall. It was a lovely way to end the day celebrating our success with all who helped make it happen.

In a random survey of more than 100 attendees and volunteers, 97% said they would attend or volunteer again! Everyone had such a good time that they were already asking when the next tour was going to be held! We were also surprised to learn that people wanted to hear even more history than we shared during the tour. Folks were hungry to learn more about their hometown, and that was really affirming! There was an almost tangible feeling of pride and community about the day that was communicated by the many questions, smiling faces, and neighborly courtesies.

Marilyn Buckzeke, a docent at the Gable House,

witnessed one of many acts of courtesy. An elderly woman and her daughter were going down the stairs when the elderly woman lost her footing and began falling. She had built up quite a bit of momentum and was in for a hard fall. Marilyn began moving toward her trying to cushion her fall but feared she wouldn't get there in time. Just then a gentleman appeared out of what seemed to be thin air and



caught her, just in time. When Marilyn asked for his name to thank him, he said, "That's okay, you don't need my name; I believe I was meant to be here at this moment." He then helped the woman down the steps to the walkway and went on about the tour. We thank this nameless man along with many other good Samaritans with stories from the day.

A special thanks also goes out to the Livermore Legacy Team for their commitment, perseverance, and hard work. Please join in thanking our Data Base Lead, Sheri Ann Dante, our Docent and Guidebook Lead, Deanna Starnes, our Treasurer and Ticket Sales Lead, Nancy Mulligan, our Gratitude Dinner Lead, Ellie Hagans, our Location Lead, Tammy Dunson, our Logistics Lead, Zandi Bothwell, our Marketing Lead, Alison Atkinson, our Boutique Lead Carrie Buczeke, and our Garden Stop and Catering Lead, Linda Mosier. We also want to thank Anna Siig, Gary Drummond, and Lydia Carpenter for their committed support. Lastly, a thank you to all of our

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Antique Racecars Visit Duarte Garage

On Sunday, June 8th, many heads turned to check out the line of antique racecars that stopped for lunch and a pit stop at the 1915 Duarte Garage. The Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club sponsored an antique racecar and speedster timed race from Santa Clara to Livermore and back by way of Mt. Hamilton. This was the 39th annual 200-mile endurance run. Pine and L Streets were lined with some 50 pre-1927 racecars and another 50 or more pre-1940 cars. The cars returned to Santa Clara by 3 pm for an awards ceremony.



Volunteers Help Preserve Guild Collections

The Livermore Heritage Guild is dedicated to the preservation of Livermore's material history. In May, the Board approved four projects that will enhance existing preservation programs. The projects include 1) re-housing our fascinating photographs in protective sleeves, 2) encasing our historical maps in individual, archival-quality folders, 3) moving our beautiful textile collection into better-protected storage, and 4) re-shelving our framed artwork in accordance with museum standards.

Thanks to enthusiastic volunteers like Jackie Luton, Helen Anderson, and Christopher George, we have already started on the photograph project. The Guild has more than 5,000 photographs, so you can understand why we so deeply appreciate the splendid effort of these three wonderful volunteers. We have much work to do and need more help. If you are interested in assisting with any of our projects, please contact Terry Berry at terry@berry.org or 925-200-9807.



Jackie Luton, Helen Anderson, and Christopher George (left to right) help preserve LGH's historical photo collection.

Legacy continued from Page 3

sponsors for without them, our expenses would have been much greater. Our sponsors paid nearly all of our expenses allowing almost 100% of ticket sale to go towards the History Mobile.

In addition to doing well with the tour, we also did quite well with the Livermore Legacy Cook Book. We printed 50

copies and sold out! Thanks to the author, Ellie Hagans, to Pat Hoenig, who contributed many recipes, and all others who submitted their family treasures. This local cookbook was quite a gem full of heart-warming stories, recipes, and humor. If you didn't get a copy and want one, let the History Center know. We may reprint the cookbook but want to be sure there is interest.

Our work is not yet over. While we have raised \$17,000 towards replacing the present History Mobile, we still need to raise more. Given the popularity of the Legacy Tour, it is safe to say we will be doing another in 2009. We will also be forming a History Mobile committee to do the important work of updating the mobile. I recently attended a third grade History Mobile visit to Sunset Elementary. The teachers shared how invaluable this was as a teaching tool, but they didn't have to tell me. I could see it in the lit-



up faces of the children who were mesmerized by local Indian, Spanish, and rancher history! Tilly and her assistant made our rich history come to life for these kids. This is such a wonderful cause and

one that needs to continue for the sake our children and future citizens. We need volunteers for both of these valuable endeavors. If you are interested, please call 925-858-2085. Livermore Legacy Tour 2009, here we come!

-by Deborah Fields

Old Friend Delivers History Lecture

Our good friend and founding Guild member Barry Schrader was back in Livermore for a visit and delivered the June 18th history lecture to an enthusiastic crowd. Barry's talk, titled "The Lincoln Highway - DeKalb, Illinois, to Livermore, California," drew on the research he has been doing in his new home in DeKalb. Barry, a longtime Livermore resident before returning to his roots in Illinois, took the opportunity to talk about his current research on the history of the Lincoln Highway.

New LHG Exhibit

Linda Owens has mounted a new display of her antique butter stamps-molds at the Carnegie Building. Her collection consists of many rare as well as common designs from all over the U.S. and Wales, from where Linda and her husband, Lynn, trace their family.

Many of the molds were hand carved; others were machine carved in factories. Designs range from simple floral, animal, fruit, or wheat patterns to Pennsylvania Dutch geometric patterns. Linda says, "The hand carved wooden



butter stamps and molds are really works of art to be enjoyed for their beauty."

The Exhibit is at the Carnegie Building, on 3rd Street between J and K. Open Wednesday through Sunday 11:30 to 4 pm; late on Thursdays. Want more information? Call 925-449-9927.

Gary Drummond will be offering his four-week course on Livermore history in the fall. The class begins with Spanish explorations, covers the beginnings of the community from 1869, and concludes with a review of current local issues. Watch the September issue of the Guild newsletter for time and place.

Membership News

I want to thank and welcome the following new members who joined the Livermore Heritage Guild during 2007/2008:

Kathy Benapfl
 Tammy and John Dunson
 Ronald and Nancy Geren
 Andrew Glazier
 Ellie Hagans
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hartwig
 Patricia Hughes
 Doug Jones
 Phyllis Minoggio Frasier
 Nancy Mulligan
 Mary Pudhoff
 David and Jennifer Livermore
 D W and Isabel Nolte
 Tim Peck
 Terry Rossow
 Jackie Luton
 Ann Mueller
 Jason Bezis
 Kathleen A. Mayer

I know that joining an organization can feel like a big commitment. However, without the support of you and our other terrific members, the LHG would have a difficult time achieving its many ambitious goals. In fact, without our members to interpret our treasures and engage others, these things would have little importance. It is you—our living, breathing members—who give life to the events and the citizens from the past.

Although it might feel like a long way off, I would like to remind all of our renewing (non-Life) members that October 1 is just around the corner. For those of you with internet access, now is the time to log on to www.livermorehistory.com, print the membership application form, and send in your check. If you have provided an email address, we will send you an email reminder in August. If you don't have a computer and would like to renew your membership early, stop by the History Center during business hours. If you don't make it by early August, that's okay, too! We'll send you a renewal notice in the mail!

Our goal at the LHG is to devote as much of our funds (and energy) as possible toward the projects that directly serve the community. By sending in your renewal form in a timely manner, not only will you help us save resources, you will also ensure that you get your membership card earlier in the membership year. By keeping your membership active, you'll also guarantee yourself the ten percent discount on ALL Guild merchandise!

Matthew Schellenberg
 2nd Vice President —Membership

History Walks Over for the Season

Another season of third-grade downtown history walks has ended. Students from three schools, Sunset, Emma Smith, and Croce, participated this year. The number of walkers was about 360 children, parents, and teachers.

Susan Canfield and Dick Finn joined Marie Abbott and Gary Drummond as walk guides in leading this year's excursions.



Auction Rooster Debuts on 1st Street

A large, metal, brightly painted rooster and an egg basket were donated to the Heritage Guild Auction this year by Valerie Huff.

The rooster and egg carrier were won by Tilli and Wayne Calhoun after heated bidding.

The Guild thanks both Mrs. Huff and the Calhouns for their contributions to the Heritage Guild.

The rooster has already gone on to stardom. He appeared on stage during the Riders in the Sky performance at the Bankhead Theater. He was among the Calhoun family's addition to the props for the show on Rodeo weekend. The Calhouns are pleased that their rooster was in the show, adding to the ambience of the evening!

Calendar

LHG Board Meeting, Wednesday, July 2, 7 pm. Carnegie Building (Third and J streets), downstairs. All welcome.

History Talk, Wednesday, July 16, 7:30 pm. Loretta Kaskey presents "Learn How to Research Your Old House." Doors open at 7 pm. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. Light refreshments.

Duarte Garage Open Sunday, July 20, 10-2 pm. On the Old Lincoln Highway at the corner of Portola and L Streets.

LHG Board Meeting, Wednesday, August 6, 7 pm. Carnegie Building (Third and J Streets), downstairs. All welcome.

Duarte Garage Open Sunday, August 17, 10-2 pm. On the Old Lincoln Highway at the corner of Portola and L Streets.

History Talk, Wednesday, August 20, 7:30 pm. Don Meeker and John Shirley present "Ground Zero: Livermore Fall-out Shelters and Civil Defense." Doors open at 7 pm. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. Light refreshments.

Newsletter Mailing, Saturday, August 23, 11:30. Carnegie Building, Third and J Streets. Help get the newsletter ready for mailing. Call Maxine at 925-422-6539 or just drop in.

LHG Board Meeting, Wednesday September 3, 7 pm. Carnegie Building (Third and J streets), downstairs. All welcome

Successful 29th Auction

The Guild's 29th Annual Auction was one of the most successful ever. Half of this year's proceeds will go toward refurbishing the Duarte Garage office; the other half will be added to the income from the Legacy Tour to pay for a new History Mobile.

As always, Lynn Owens, ably assisted by his wife, Linda, kept things moving rapidly and smoothly as he auctioned off hundreds of treasures. Lynn's auctioneering and Linda's spotting skills make them a terrific team! A huge thanks to both of them.

Thanks also go to the many donors who filled the Garage with a diverse collection of furniture, collectibles, dishware, hardware, toys, and more. Joe Adams was the Auction chair this year; bringing new ideas and display talent. Anna Siig and Bill Junk were again the chief collectors and sorters.

But the many the many volunteers made it happen. According to Anna, "we had people who showed up to help only for a couple of hours one day and who made a huge difference as we'd just received a pickup truck full of stuff. And there were others who came for an hour for many days, fitting the auction work in when they could. Another volunteer came a few times, staying for quite a while, doing good work and even thinking on her own and doing what needed doing.

A huge measure of thanks goes to everyone involved, not the least the attendees and bidders

We have already accepted our first donation for the 2009 Auction! Remember the Auction when you are cleaning, sorting, or changing decor. Call Bill Junk, 447-4561 or Anna Siig, 447-5475 for help.

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Masthead Photo: Southern Pacific Railroad Depot on L Street. The photo was taken sometime after the 1906 earthquake since the brick chimney is gone. The tracks on the left side of the building were realigned in the early 1970s.

1944 Mack and Model T in 90th Livermore Rodeo Parade



The Guild's newly restored Model T fire car (left) won second place in the 90th Rodeo Parade. Driving is Gary Bausch with Patty Stowels, who is wearing her grandfather's duster coat. Ninety percent of the work on the Model T was done by volunteers Chuck McFann and Fred Deadrick according to Garage curator, Bill Junk.



The Guild's 1944 Mack fire engine (right), a frequent entry in local parades, participated again this year in the Rodeo Parade. Driving is Bill Junk. Guild president, Jeff Kaskey, and Susan Junk went along for the ride.

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