



August 2018



From the Archives Sego Drivers

Milk truck drivers pose in front of one of many milk trucks that transported milk from area dairies to the Sego Milk Plant. The Driver owned their truck and Sego Milk owned the contracts/routes. If a driver was put on another route, it usually meant you had to buy the truck that went with it. Milk was picked up twice a day, morning and evening from April thru October and then once a day in the evening November thru March. Sego Milk Company paid a percentage for each 100 lbs of milk that was brought in by each driver. Drivers could work more than one route/contract. An average route was 25-35 dairies. There were 17 different routes and they hauled all Grade B milk. Each truck could hold approx. 200 cans of milk and each can weigh 120 lbs. Sego Milk furnished the cans to the drivers. Each milk can had a number on it that was assigned to each dairy. When the milk plant stopped operation in 1961, some drivers took their truck and went to work for other milk processing companies. Posing in the photo left to right are Ed Erman, Enrico Listini, Irving Engel, and Oscar Doering. Photo donation courtesy of Dennis McAllister and the information came from former driver John Melhaff.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

On Monday, September 24th at our monthly General Meeting, we will have a Volunteer Appreciation Night with complimentary dinner for all members. There will be no charge. Our meeting/dinner will be held on the Rae House Museum grounds. Your Executive Board wants to thank all the docents and all those who volunteer for our many events, building projects, and taking care of all our properties. The Executive Board will be providing the food and beverages for this night. If you are able to come, please RSVP by calling Janis at 209 747-3861 or Ida at 209 745-1477. We just need a headcount for the food. We hope that you will join us in celebrating all that you do for the Galt Area Historical Society.

MEMBERSHIP

As a member of our Galt Area Historical Society you play an important role in protecting and preserving our historical records and also interpreting the past to the public, especially our younger Galtonians.

Each year that you renew your membership you join us in our mission of engaging and empowering each other to make history a meaningful part of our contemporary lives. Your membership helps preserve the legacy of our ancestors, commemorate local heroes and preserve our historic architecture. Our members in GAHS help answer the Who, What, Why, Where and When questions that make historical societies important. It puts those of us in the present in touch with the people of the past who shaped our landscape, named our landmarks, and made the decisions that ultimately affect us today.

A great big thank you to all annual members who have paid their 2018 dues. Our goal is to have 100% dues paid ASAP. A reminder that dues are due in January of each year. So, if you wait to renew too long it will seem like you have paid twice! You can submit your dues through the mail, PayPal on the GAHS Website or at our monthly meeting. Also, within our membership area, we encourage you to inform us when you have a change of address. Please email any concerns to Rhonda Smith, guildstreetsmith@sbcglobal.net or call, 209-745-4504.

Louise's Walk Down Memory Lane

I remember going to the Galt Pharmacy for an ice cream cone, Single scoop on a small cone cost 5 cents. Dr. Osler would use the smallest scoop and then got just enough ice cream so it wouldn't fall to the bottom of the cone. This was in the late 30's and I had gotten a halter top from Montgomery Wards Catalogue, The halter top was low in the back with navy blue shorts cut to the knees. Dr. Osler gave me the ice cream cone and then told me to get out of town before the sheriff runs you out for the outfit you have on. I told him, "My Mother helped me pick it out and he said get out of town NOW.



A Message From The President

Wednesday, August 1st, the Galt Area Historical Society hosted a lunch/meeting of the Sacramento Area Consortium. This group is made up of historical societies or associations within Sacramento County, Amador County, Placer County, and San Joaquin County. This group met at the McFarland Living History Ranch and was attended by approximately 30 people, plus 7 from our society.

The meeting is a sharing of reports and ideas and projects that we might be undertaking, and a learning seminar about what is out there to help us. It is also a group of people with common interests and goals. We have been members of this group for years. The group meets quarterly; and this time they asked to have it at the McFarland. Ron Jacobson, with the help of Sue Dean, gave a tour of the house. Those touring were so impressed how everything in each room matched to the era. Ida Denier cooked her usual scrumptious lunch for the members. Each of us gave a report about our particular society and what we do, and about our fundraisers.

As I reflect back to last Wednesday on what I told the attendees about all the properties we own; i.e. The Rae House Museum, the Elliott Cemetery and the Liberty Cemetery; and our 99 year lease with Sacramento County for the McFarland Ranch, what we do as a group of volunteers to raise money to support all these assets, I realized that what we do as an organization in this community and area is huge. It takes a lot of volunteer support through physical work and donations to keep everything running like a clock. Both the Ranch and the Rae Museum have monthly costs for electricity, water, and insurance. All the money to pay these bills come from our fundraisers, such as Sip & Snack at the MAC, our dinners, our Ice Cream Social, and private donations. We are a very well organized society.

Based on questions I was asked throughout the day last Wednesday, such as how do we do all this? My answer was simple. We are organized, dedicated to our mission, we support our events, we connect with our Chamber of Commerce, Shop Local, and have a large presence in the community. It does not hurt that many of our members have strong

ties to our history because their families have been her for generations. Our town supports our events. No organization can survive by putting everything on the backs of their own members. We try to help in the community when and where we can. I think we are a "well oiled" machine. There may be disagreements from time to time on how something should be done, but in the end, we work together for the same common goal: To preserve and restore the history of Galt and the area we support. I am very proud of all we do and the volunteers who accomplish it.

Next time you attend one of our fundraisers and pay to come in, remember that money will be used for a good cause or a project we are trying to pay for, such as the funds from Sip & Snack will go toward painting the McFarland House at the end of this month. Thank yourself for making it happen. Between our Evening In Italy Dinner and Sip & Snack, we raised more than enough to repair the outside of the McFarland House and paint the house. Regardless of what part you played for an event, it is all important for the cause. Most importantly, thank you for being a member of the Galt Area Historical Society; a great organization that does great work on a daily basis in our community as for our community

~ Janis Barsetti Gray



2018 Historical Society Executive Board

- Janis Barsetti Gray ~ President
- Ida Denier ~ Vice President
- Ralph Cortez ~ 2nd Vice President
- Liz Haglund ~ Recording Secretary
- Louise Dowdell ~ Corresponding Secretary
- Dan Tarnasky ~ Historian
- Bobbi Lewis ~ Treasurer



The Dark Side of Galt History

Every town has its history they would like to forget. In the 1880s, Galt was caught up in the hysteria involving the discrimination of people of Chinese descent. According to one of Galt's early newspapers, the Galt Gazette, bigotry reared its ugly head and Galt was guilty.

James Marshall's gold discovery at Sutter's Mill caused people from around the World to come to California to seek their fortune in the gold fields, including those from China. As placer gold dried up and competition for it increased, the Chinese were driven out by white miners and moved into the cities to do low wage jobs like restaurants and laundries. After the Civil War (1861-1865), the Chinese became the scapegoats for depressed wages because they would work for less. The United States Congress passed, and President Chester A. Arthur signed the Chinese Exclusion Act (1882) which prohibited the immigration of Chinese laborers to the United States. Because of the new law, any Chinese who left the United States couldn't re-enter without first getting certification and made Chinese immigrants permanent aliens by excluding them from U.S. citizenship. What's this have to do with Galt you ask?

Without knowing it, newspapers like the Galt Gazette helped create hysteria against the Chinese living in Galt. It first told the story of the Rock Springs Massacre in Wyoming (September 1885) where white miners killed twenty-eight Chinese miners over a perceived lack of jobs. Another article told the story of Stockton passing an ordinance prohibiting Chinese laundries, and yet another report claimed Chinese armed themselves in response to a Chinese massacre

in Washington state. In February of 1886, Red Bluff citizens began boycotting Chinese businesses, and Chinese citizens left Redding through the efforts of the "Committee." The stories were similar in Galt.

According to the Gazette, an anti-Chinese held a meeting in Galt on the 13th of February 1886. The paper said the presence of people of Chinese descent was a curse. Galt's founder, Dr. Obed Harvey, spoke and stated that the Chinese were a threat to white labor and suggested boycotting them. A few days later, the owners of tenements occupied by Chinese laundrymen had given them notice to move out by March 1. Then in a reversal on previous articles, the Galt Gazette tried to calm the hysteria by deploring the violence against Chinese people and published a story stating that Chinese laundrymen of Galt had not yet retired from their business. A week later, the Galt Anti-Chinese Association met and local businessman, D.K. Stringfield, attended the Anti-Chinese Convention in Sacramento as a delegate from the Galt organization.

But then, as quickly as it started, the hysteria fizzled. Nothing more was reported in the newspaper. Either the Galt Anti-Chinese Association accomplished what they set out to do, or their cause never caught on. At the time, Galt had a small Chinese population. The only records in the historical archives state that there was a laundry on 5th Street that supplied fresh linens to hotels and restaurants. That business and the Chinese citizens disappeared years ago.

~ The Historian

Calendar

August 11 - 8 a.m.
Workday at the Rae House Garden

September 1- 8 a.m.
Workday at Liberty Cemetery

September 2 - 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Open House at the Rae Museum

September 15 - 8 a.m.
Workday at McFarland Ranch

September 22
Car Show at McFarland Ranch

September 24 - 6 p.m.
General Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Rae House

October 13 - 9 a.m.
Workday at Liberty Cemetery

October 12 & 13
Yard Sale at the Hall

October 27 - 8 a.m.
Workday at Elliott Cemetery

November 10 - 8 a.m.
Workday at the Rae House Garden

November 17 - 9 a.m.
Workday at Liberty Cemetery

December 2 - Christmas Open House
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Rae House
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - McFarland Ranch

December 9 - Christmas Open House
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Rae House
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - McFarland Ranch

Dates and Times are Subject to Change



Louise Turns 100!

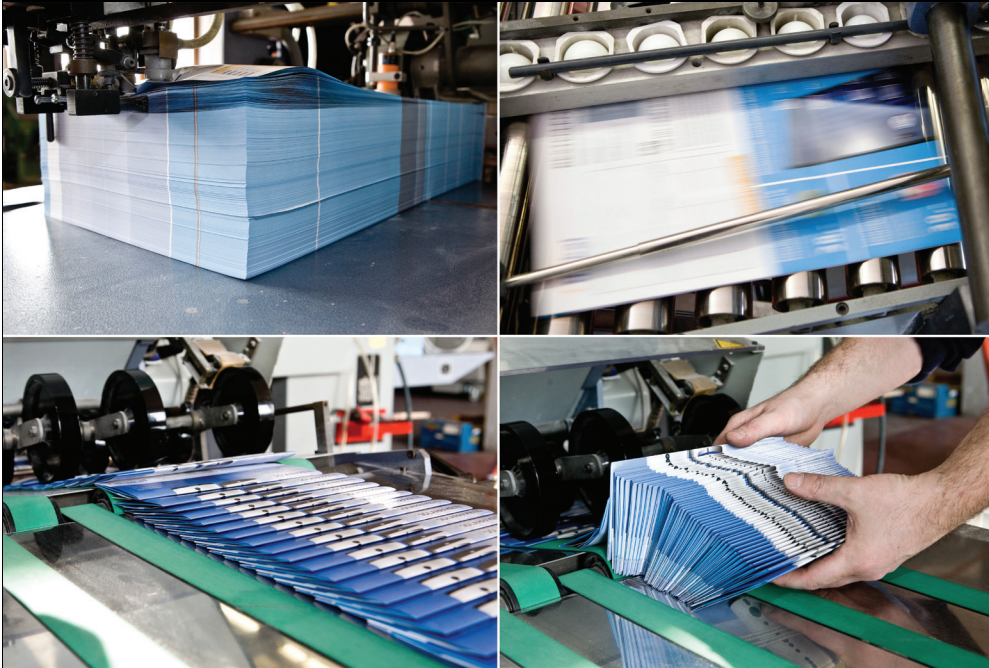
August 15th, our dear friend and Executive Board Member, Louise Loll Dowdell will turn 100.

On August 15th from 2:00-3:30 p.m. there will be an open house to celebrate her 100th birthday at Golden Living, 144 F Street, Galt.

If you want to visit her or send her a card, here is her address at this time: Golden Living, 144 F St; Galt 95632. Attn: Louise Dowdell. I am sure she would love to hear from the members. I bet everyone she talks to at Golden Living knows all about Galt's history.



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Curator's Corner

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Friday Night at the Rae event on July 13th. For those of you who don't follow our Facebook page, the event brought 70 visitors through the museum that evening. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge Sue Dean and the fantastic group of docents who assist at the museum. Your contribution is very dearly appreciated.

The museum has undergone some changes in regards to the exhibits and displays. It is a work in progress and you can expect to see modifications throughout the year.

The Ice Cream Social was a lovely event. Thank you to LaVonne for orchestrating everything, and thank you to the volunteers.

We are looking forward to our next Night at the Rae event on Friday August 24th. We are hoping to see many new faces in attendance. Thank you for your continued support of the Rae House Museum and thank you for allowing me to play a role in its important and special legacy.

~ Julie Clark Brownfield

Loss of Member

On July 28th, we lost a dear member and friend to many, William "Bill" Ward. For many years Bill took care of the Elliott Cemetery. He was a special person who loved his family, friends and his community. You could tell by the many people who attended his funeral, just how much he was loved. Our sincere condolences to Ginger, Gary, and Colleen and their families. We will miss Bill.

Largest Ice Cream Social Ever

Our Ice cream social on Sunday was one of the largest ever. Thanks to LaVonne Riddlespurger and all her helpers for putting on the event. We made \$422, including donations and purchase of books. It was a great time sitting around with friends and new faces, having ice cream and root beer floats. Most of those attending also toured the house with its new look inside. Thanks to all the docents and Sue Dean for providing the tours.

Gossip from the Galt Gazette August 1882

George McCauley and David Ford were engaged in a friendly wrestling match Sunday evening last. Ford accidentally fell in such a way as to break two bones inches above his ankle. Dr. Nestell attended the broken limb.

★

The Brick Saloon in the Whitaker and Ray Block in Galt. Tom Still, proprietor.

★

Would like to see our streets covered with straw same as they were a year ago, keeps down the dust.



DRIVE DOWN MEMORY LANE CAR SHOW

1972 & Older Vehicles

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 22, 2018**

9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

**McFarland Living
History Ranch**

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

VENDORS ~ MUSIC ~ FOOD

PIE SALE ~ RAFFLE

Public Admission

\$5.00 Per Person

(Children under 12 free)



Docents Needed

Just a reminder of the car show on September 22 at the McFarland Ranch. I know I have called on a lot of you these past few weeks and I do appreciate all of you for all the help that you give. When it is closer to the car show date I will contact you with times. I do hope to have at least 6 docents. Put it on your calendar.

If there is anyone that has not signed up to docent, and would like to join us, you can contact me at sjdean36@gmail.com. We can always use more docents.

~ Sue Dean

Sip & Snack at the MAC Best Ever!

Our 8th Annual Wine, Beer and Food event, Sip & Snack at the MAC was our largest fundraiser since this event began. Thanks to almost 500 people who attended and enjoyed samples from the wineries, breweries, and food vendors, we were able to net after expenses, \$11,594.00; the expenses of only \$1335 were about what was expected. Therefore, between this fundraiser and the funds from our Evening In Italy dinner, we will be able to pay for the outside repair and painting of the outside of the McFarland House this month. Our raffle alone generated \$2740. Maria and Bobbie and your helpers did a great job getting the items, decorating them, and doing the raffles. You are the best in the raffle business. We want to thank the following participating businesses. Without your support, we could not put on an event like this. To our members, when you can, please support these businesses.

Catering With Chef Arturo
 C Street Deli
 Hunan House
 Stratton's Pizza
 Michael David Winery
 Grace Vineyards
 E2Family Winery
 McConnell Estate Winery
 Sue's Fine Wines
 Watts Winery
 Fenestra Winery
 LangeTwins Winery
 Klinker Brick Winery
 Weibel Family Winery
 River Rock Brewery
 Delta Sierra Beverage
 Roberts Ferry Nut Co
 The Coffee Shop Bakery
 Raleys
 Brewsters Bar & Grill
 Papa Murphys Pizza
 Five Window Beer Co
 Barsetti Vineyards
 Lockeford Meats & Sausage
 Consumnes River Winery
 Bueno Italiano Café
 Velvet Grill & Creamery

We also want to thank the Real Men's Club for their help and use of their trash cans and ice chests, Jim Mulrooney for the use of his generator lights, and the Lions Club for the oven to cook the pizzas. A very special thanks to Lyle Lagge and Earl Frey who stuck it out with us and set up the large canopies for vendors and raffles; and took them down. We could not have done it without you. A special thanks to all the wonderful docents who

showed the McFarland house to the guests and told the McFarland story and to Trevor Currier for handling the hayrides. I hope that I have not left anyone out. Finally, to my co chairman, Ida Denier, the Duracell Bunny, she just does not stop. Thank you so much for all you do every day. Remember next year's date will be July 27, 2019 for our 9th Annual Sip & Snack.



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Bits & Pieces

1. Thanks to Cal-Waste for providing us with several large dumpsters so we could have an extensive cleanup around the buildings. And a special thanks to Dan and Toni Gerling, David Bullard, Shawn and Heather Farmer, Kirk Swim, Julie Clark Brownfield, Lyle Lagge, Earl Frey, Ron Jacobson, and Ralph Cortez for all their help with the cleanup.

2. I am meeting with a gentleman this week regarding having a Civil War re-enactment at the McFarland Living History Ranch especially for Pioneer Days. More news to follow next month.

3. Do not forget to start signing up for our Annual Car Show, Drive Down Memory Lane on September 22 at the McFarland. We are hoping for 100 cars this year. It will take some legwork to spread the information out and go to other car shows to hand out flyers. If you are able to do so, please let us know.

4. Our annual Yard Sale October 12 and 13 at the Hall on C Street is going to be huge. We just received a lot of items from an estate. LaVonne Riddlespurger will be handling this event. More information as we get close.

5. Please be diligent with all the fires popping up. We have had several near the McFarland Ranch. If anything looks suspicious, call the police or sheriff.

6. Our Night at the Rae will be August 24th. It will be another night of music, food, fun, and tours of the house. Curator Julie has made some wonderful changes in the house that you need to see.

7. Ida wants me to let everyone know that the McFarland Ranch is sold out for wedding through November 14, and already booking quite a few in 2019. June of 2019 is fully booked already.

We're Still Looking For Archival Materials



There is still a lot of Galt History out there that Galtonians or former Galtonians have stashed in boxes in closets, basements, and attics. Whether you donate items to us or let us "scan and return," please search through those boxes and collect the items listed below. You can drop them off (Barsetti Vineyards, 400 4th Street #150, Galt, Ca) or mail them to us. Many of you don't realize that what might be insignificant to you is very significant to us. The only requirement is it has to do with people and places in our Historic Area (Galt, Herald, Thornton, Liberty, Elliott, Hicksville, Arno, or Colony). Remember that Galt Area History is 1869 to 2018.

1. Photographs (People or Places)
2. Old Property Deeds
3. Diplomas
4. Awards
5. Newspaper or Magazine Clippings
6. Store Receipts
7. Programs from school or specials events
8. Church Programs
9. Wedding Announcements
10. Funeral Programs
11. Advertisements
12. Business Cards from any business
13. High School or any Elementary School Yearbook
14. School Report Cards from any school
15. Old Galt Herald or Galt Gazette Newspapers
16. Matchbooks
17. Calendars
18. Military Induction or Discharge Papers and Commendations
19. Tickets to any events in our Historic Area
20. Anything else printed that has to do with Galt, Thornton, Herald, Liberty, Elliott, Hicksville, Arno, or Colony.



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Rae House Facebook Page

With the addition of the Rae House page we now have **three** Facebook pages. Just go to the search bar at the top of the page and type in Galt Area Historical Society, Snapshots of Galt History, or Rae House Museum. Stay in touch and enjoy your Galt Area Historical Society. Be sure to "Like" and "Follow" all three pages to stay informed of Historical Society news.



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Ron & Judy Jacobson were the Honored Citizens of Herald Day in the parade.