

est. 2012

Historical Society of Santa Rosa

Upcoming HSSR Events

always free admission!

September 12: History Hunt
October 10: Day at the Adobe

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Ed. Note: The following excerpt is from "The Carrillo Family in Sonoma County: History and Memories," by Alma McDaniel Carrillo and Eleanora Carrillo de Haney. Number four in a series.

The Story of Joaquin Carrillo and Llano de Santa Rosa Rancho

After having four beautiful daughters, a son arrived to bless Senora Maria Ignacia de Carrillo and Joaquin Victor Carrillo, Jr. The year was 1820. The son, also Joaquin, was growing into manhood at 16 years when his father passed away.

The responsibilities of the family then rested on his shoulders. He helped his mother prepare for the long journey from San Diego to Sonoma County. The journey was quite an experience for this young family.

All the male youths in those days were subjected to serve a certain length of time in the military. In Northern California, they served under General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, who was young Joaquin's brother-in-law.

About 1846 Joaquin was Alcalde (mayor) of Sonoma. One of the prominent citizens in Sonoma at the time the Bear Flag was raised, Joaquin was taken prisoner along with General Vallejo.

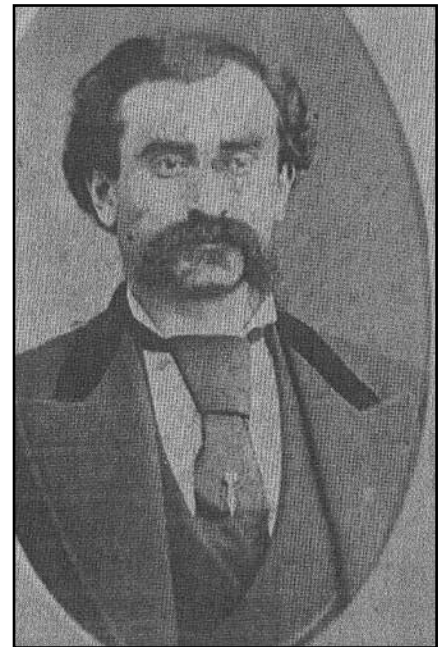
In 1849, Joaquin married Maria Guadalupe de Boranda in the Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma. Senora Maria Guadalupe's father was Francisco Caseres, who came from Spain in 1816. Senora Maria Guadalupe was beautiful, a gracious hostess and long remembered for her friendliness. Joaquin and Maria had a large family of ten children.

When Joaquin was about 24, he decided to have a rancho of his own. He was experienced, having helped his mother on Cabeza de Santa Rosa since the family arrived in Sonoma County.

The land to the west of the Cabeza was very rich and heavily wooded with pine trees. It had been assigned to Marcus West,

who had not occupied it the way the Mexican laws required. The claim was three square leagues or nearly 13,400 acres, and Joaquin petitioned Governor Micheltoarena in June 1843. He named the land Llano de Santa Rosa Rancho.

Joaquin was ambitious and soon was busy planting and cultivating between 100 and 300 acres in corn, barley and wheat. He built a small house and then a larger one.



Joaquin Carrillo

The crossing over the Laguna to Santa Rosa was about

one mile south of the present crossing. The view toward Santa Rosa and Mt. St. Helena was ideal where Joaquin built his second house, facing the Laguna. The family was increasing and very happy.

In 1840 thousands of Indians died of smallpox. Joaquin employed large numbers as laborers. After the American squatters arrived, the Indians gradually left the rancho. The price of survival in this new American life was not the way the gay caballeros wished to live.

Joaquin and his wife operated a large hotel in the area for years. Later, a portion of the hotel was moved to Bodega Avenue



Carrillo built Analy Hotel

Sonoma County Library

continued on page 3

A Look at Santa Rosa in the 1870s

1870 Santa Rosa now second largest in Sonoma County, exceeded only by Petaluma. One of every nine Santa Rosa citizens born outside the United States and one of every ten from Missouri. About 900 people call Santa Rosa home.

Citizens and tourists enjoy regular stagecoach service to Calistoga.

The San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad comes to Santa Rosa via Petaluma. Depot was built at the foot of Fourth Street. Six streets added to original ten—Washington, Davis, Wilson, Beaver, Orchard and King.

1871 Pacific Methodist College relocates from Vacaville to Santa Rosa and College Avenue gets its name.

1872 Christian College opens on B Street.

1874 Fourth Street School opens with room for 600 students. The next year Santa Rosa High School occupies second floor with enrollment about 30. Santa Rosa becomes two newspaper town in 1874—the “Santa Rosa Press” and the “Sonoma Democrat.”

1875 Mark McDonald buys the water company. Issac DeTurk, who had produced wine as early as the early 1860s, is a leading vintner and builds a round barn for his race horses across the street from his winery and alongside the SF and NP railroad tracks. Thomas Lake Harris comes to Santa Rosa and establishes Fountaingrove, a mystical religious organization, on 400 acres north of town. He also produces wine sold in New York, England and Scotland.

south of the plaza. Parish of St. Rose established and includes



Grand Hotel at Third and Main (SR Avenue, today)

Sonoma County Library

Healdsburg, Guerneville and Cloverdale.

1877 Mark McDonald built the Santa Rosa Street Railway.

1878 Santa Rosa High School graduates first class—eight girls and two boys.



Grand Hotel Bar in 1870s

Sonoma County Library

1879 Mark McDonald constructs Mabelton and buys 130 acres of wheat west of McDonald Avenue.



SRHS occupied upper floor Fourth Street School
Santa Rosa High School Museum

1876 C.F. Julliard plants 13 acres of orchard just south of Santa Rosa Creek. The next year Luther Burbank moves in across the street. An iron bridge constructed across Santa Rosa Creek

President's Message

by Mike Grace, HSSR President



The past year was a spectacular one for the HSSR. We hosted nine events and almost doubled our membership to over 160. Our aim has always been to bring enjoyable, interesting programs to members and the town. After Gaye LeBaron and Staci Pastis started us off in September, 2014, we have continued to balance local history with a little fun.

In June we held a HSSR Membership Night at the Sonoma County Museum to view the photographs of Hansel Mieth and Otto Hagel. Curator Eric Stanley did his usual great work taking members through the exhibit, providing a feeling for their personal experiences and politics.

In mid-July Alan Thomas led about 40 HSSR members on a tour of the West End Neighborhood. Alan is a knowledgeable, central figure in the West End, so it was a treat to see the area through his eyes. We hope to schedule another tour in the future.

The second Historical Hunt took place in September and was another success. The number of participants doubled and, just like last year, they promised to take part in 2016. Thanks to Staci and Julia Pastis for organizing this event that directly brings Santa Rosa history to every one who takes part. We hope you look forward to next year's hunt.

On October 10 about 400 concerned Santa Rosans came to the Carrillo Adobe to realize what a community treasure it is and how critical it is to preserve. Nick Tipon and Bran Much did an outstanding job of organizing speakers as well as set up and clean up crews. From presentations to hands-on demonstrations, people were

involved in getting to know and understand the importance of the place.

We had the pleasure on November 3 of hosting "Two from the 'Greatest Generation:' Al Maggini and Bob Trombetta." They talked about their experiences in World War II and afterward. If you saw this program at the 6th Street Playhouse, you know how fascinating these two gentlemen were and how thoroughly the audience enjoyed them. Chris Smith of the Press Democrat was the moderator, and the three entertained all of us. By the way, Al is 100 years old and Bob is 93.

The last event of the year was the General Membership Night held at the Santa Rosa High School multipurpose room. HSSR members and their friends were treated to five exhibits about Santa Rosa history, including newspapers from the 1930s and 40s, a collection of local postcards and other treasures. We may do this again and increase the number of exhibitors and make it an annual affair.

We are always looking for submissions to our newsletter, so if you have a memory of Santa Rosa that you'd like to share please send it to info@historicalsocietyofsantarosa.org, and Mike Daniels, our editor, will contact you. In addition, if you have an idea for an event you think we should pursue that will help us have an even better year in 2016, please let us know.

See you at the next event,

Mike Grace, HSSR President

Joaquin Carrillo, continued from page 1

and was a rooming and boarding house for many years. The two tall palm trees in the front yard were quite a landmark.

In 1870 Joaquin turned over most of his estate to his wife. When she passed away in 1875, it was appraised at \$48,000, and the remaining 1,200 acres was appraised at \$46,000. Maria Guadalupe was buried in the Petaluma cemetery.

Joaquin married his second wife, Mary Caffera, in 1875. She was a young Italian girl of 20 and he was 56. Mary Caffera had been raised by the Springer family of Bodega. Mary's father was captain of a ship and took long sea voyages. On one, he wished his wife would accompany him, so they left their baby girl with the Springers. They never returned from the trip, but the baby had a good home. Mary used the name Springer, and that is how written history has been incorrect for years. When she and Joaquin were married, she put her maiden name on the marriage license. Five children were born to the marriage, and Mary Caffera de Carrillo helped raise some of the children of Joaquin's first marriage. They all continued to live in the "Analy Hotel."

The last years of Joaquin's life were spent in Santa Rosa. He died in his home on First Street, west of Main Street on July 15, 1899 and was buried in Petaluma Calvary Cemetery. Mary

Caffera de Carrillo died in Cloverdale on October 17, 1901 and was also buried in the Petaluma cemetery.

Visit the HSSR web page!

www.historicalsocietyofsantarosa.org

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A Look at Bennett Valley History

The earliest inhabitants of the Bennett Valley area were Native Americans--Southern Pomo and Wappo. These hunters and gatherers lived there beginning about 2,500 to 3,000 years ago. They referred to the area as "Yulupa."

Mariano Vallejo, commandant of the Mexican forces, claimed the valley until James Bennett and his family settled there. When California became a state in 1850, the United States Land Commission rejected Vallejo's claim.

In 1854 Bennett sold some of the land he may or may not have had legal claim to. The buyer was Coleman Talbot, who planted grapevines and built a house and barn about where Bennett Valley Road and Grange Road come together.

John Taylor, after whom Taylor Mountain is named, struck it rich in the gold fields and came to the Santa Rosa area. He bought acreage on the west side of the valley and built White Sulphur (Kawana) Springs, a resort that attracted people interested in "taking the waters." The 1906 earthquake shut off the springs until the 1969 quake started them flowing again. Taylor, according to legend, was the first subscriber to the fledging Democrat, the newspaper that would become today's Press Democrat when in 1854 he gave a five dollar gold piece to founder Alpheus Russell.

When the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad reached Santa Rosa from Petaluma in 1870, the production of Bennett Valley agriculture boomed. Orchards and vineyards, wheat, corn, hay, poultry and cattle became common in the valley and throughout Sonoma County. Harvests were taken to the railroad at the foot of Fourth Street in Santa Rosa, loaded on cars and shipped to Petaluma where the Petaluma River provided access to San Francisco and other

markets.

Just as today, vineyards in the 19th century were a focus of the agricultural community. In 1862 Issac DeTurk, he of round barn and horse trotter fame, planted at the foot of Bennett Peak what was prob-



The Talbot home on Bennett Valley Road, about 1909

Sonoma County Library

ably the first vineyard in the county.

The first in Sonoma County, the Bennett Valley Grange was built in 1873 and is still active today with monthly meetings and an annual picnic among other activities. The Grange today is the oldest continuously operating Grange in the same hall in the United States.

The first settlers in the valley area to busy themselves in full-scale farming as a living were brothers Richard and Robert Crane, famous today for the family's Crane melons. Their property bordered Sonoma Mountain on the east and Taylor Mountain on the north and stretched across the Santa Rosa plain. Three members of the family were among the first class to graduate from Santa Rosa High School in 1875.



Bennett Valley School, built about 1885

Sonoma County Library

A Look at the Nation in the 1870s

- 1870 First African American was elected to the United States Senate—Hiram Revels of Missouri. The Confederate States of America officially dissolved as Georgia readmitted to the union. The population of the U.S. was 38,558,371. Robert E. Lee dies.
- 1871 The first professional baseball game played when the Fort Wayne Kekiongas beat Cleveland Forest City by a score of 2-0. The Great Chicago Fire blazed its way through the city. The National Rifle Association granted a charter by New York State. Boss Tweed arrested on multiple charges of corruption.
- 1872 Yellowstone established as the first National Park. Susan B. Anthony illegally casts ballot in New York to publicize women's rights. U.S. Grant reelected President. San Francisco sees its first cable cars. Samuel F.B. Morse dies. Construction begins on the Brooklyn Bridge.
- 1873 Jesse James and the Cole Younger Gang commit first successful train robbery. Five-year economic depression begins.
- 1874 The Republican Party elephant debuts in a Thomas Nast cartoon. The Greenback Party is organized by farmers hurt financially by the depression. Former President Millard Fillmore dies.
- 1875 Civil Rights Act gives African Americans equal rights in jury duty and accommodations. It's later revoked. First Kentucky Derby is run.
- 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition opens to celebrate 100 years of USA. Battle of Little Big Horn wipes out General Custer and Seventh Cavalry. Mark Twain publishes *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Former President Andrew Johnson dies. First successful telephone call. Wild Bill Hickok shot and killed.
- 1877 Irish Terrorist Society disrupts mining in Pennsylvania and is broken up. Mormon leader Brigham Young dies. Sitting Bull surrenders and Crazy Horse assassinated. Cornelius Vanderbilt, richest man in U.S., dies.
- 1878 Poet Carl Sandburg is born. Thomas Edison patents the phonograph.
- 1879 F.W. Woolworth open first five and dime. Albert Einstein is born.

Baker and Ross, Carriage Makers on lot donated by Julio Carrillo

Sonoma County Library



Santa Rosa Creek Bridge and Luther Burbank

Sonoma County Library

Hustling History Hunters Chase Down Clues in S.R.

Ed. Note: The following by Lee Torliatt first appeared in the Sonoma County Historical Society Historian. Used by permission.

The energetic Historical Society of Santa Rosa scattered 50 or so contestants out around town to compete in the second annual History Hunt in September.

Karen Weeks and Karen Stone, working as a team, took first place honors and shared the \$50 first prize.

Participants, given clues to various historic sites in Santa Rosa, had to hustle around to locate the "special places." At each of ten sites, three members of the Santa Rosa High School History Club handed participants a "historic site card" which provided appropriate historical data.

Participants got to see such places as Luther Burbank Home and Gragens, the Church Built of one tree, the Mary Jesse Hospital and Pedersen's Furniture Store.

The event has already become something of a family affair. In 2014, Thomas Pastis, son of Pearls Before Swine comic strip creator Stephan Pastis, came up with the idea of for a history hunt. When Thomas graduated and moved on to UC, Berkeley, his freshman sister at SRHS, Julia Pastis, took over as chairman, doing research and rallying fellow students to the cause.

Chairman Pastis had special praise for two "under 30" participants, David Mertz and Andre Gandreau, who impressed with the intensity of their efforts.

HSSR Welcomes New Members

Michael Franchetti
Sonoma County Library
Marion McMurtry
Bob Parker
Joan Reinking
Sherie Sbrazza
Chris Zeek

Sharon Franchetti
Chrisy Martignoli
John Murphey
Robert Reinking
Abigail Greene Ryan
Art Valenia

\$25 Individual membership | \$40 Household Membership

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