

Volume 17 Number 1

September 1995

# CALIFORNIAN

THE

Magazine of the California History Center Foundation/De Anza College  
A Foundation Supporting the Study and Preservation of State and Regional History



**Franklin Hichborn:**  
**Progressive Era Political Journalist**

## It Was a Grand Celebration!

June 30 marked the end of our 25th anniversary year and we can look back and say we celebrated in grand style, reached our goal of raising \$25,000 new dollars, and are now ready to look forward to the challenges of the coming 21st century.

I thank all of you who participated: attended events, introduced new members to the center, gave generously to our various fund raising efforts, and voiced your support for the emerging California Studies program being developed.

A special debt of gratitude is owed to our Board of Trustees for showing its wonderful support with many hours of volunteer time and by collectively donating \$12,500 for our board challenge. They have given an incredible amount of both time and money to help us achieve our goals during this silver anniversary year.

What's on the horizon as we start our 26th year of operation? I want to update you on several things as we begin looking at the 95-96 year. We are continuing to develop the California Studies program. A group of about 10 full-time faculty is working with me to develop an interdisciplinary California Studies course that will hopefully be up and running in fall or winter of 1996-97.

Our small, focused classes will, in general, stay on hiatus for the time being. We are developing several fee-based, non-credit courses, however, in an effort to offer alternative education programming for our members and students during this transition. You will receive a special, separate mailing detailing the fall courses.

Once we have one or two 4-unit California Studies courses developed, the plan is to bring the smaller classes back in under the auspices of California Studies to support and augment the larger classes.

I think you will like the end result when we get our new program in place. We will broaden our focus and, through working with other departments on campus, be able to enhance the quality of teaching and learning you have come to expect from the history center.

On another front, programming for the next eighteen months or so, both classes and events, is going to be more low-key than recent years. In the fall, De Anza College is starting construction on a 28,000-square-foot expansion of the Learning Center, which stands adjacent to the CHC. This is going to have a direct impact on the history center both during and after construction.

The expansion, a 2-story above ground level, 1 below, is going to take over the staff parking lot next to the Trianon Building — approximately 50 feet from the side of us. What this means is we are not going to be a very pleasant place to

visit for a while — mainly dust and noise. But, we will be here, regular hours, regular days and hope you keep in touch!

While no new exhibit is in the works, the plan is to bring back some of our favorite early exhibit panels for display, which many of you have probably never seen. Of course the Stockmeir Library will be open for research, and we do have an event planned for each month — lecture and discussion by *San Jose Mercury* journalist Phil Trounstone on “the role of media as a watchdog” for October 5, our long-delayed Wills and Trusts workshop on November 2, and the Holiday Open House on December 1. You will receive more details on these in the fall.

So, we will be here and we will be doing things, but on a less visible scale. And we're hoping that being in the slower lane for a while will give us the time we need to get our California Studies Learning Community up and running. We have many exciting ideas in the planning stages that I will be sharing with you in the months ahead.

Again, it was a great year! Thanks to all of you for your continuing support of the California History Center Foundation. It is your dedication and commitment that enables us to continue our work, and be viewed by our community as a valuable and highly respected educational resource.

### Kathleen Peregrin

Director



*Game Day, May 20, 1995. Team “Peck’s Wards” formulating outrageous, if not correct, answers to California history questions (left to right) Willys Peck, Mel Harrison, Kay Roberts, Roy Roberts and Fred Chancellor.*

**COVER:** Franklin Hichborn, age 70, a California native and Santa Clara resident who became a vocal political journalist during the Progressive Era. After exposing corruption in Santa Clara County and San Francisco local governments, he zeroed in on the state legislature in Sacramento, publishing the voting records of state senators. Courtesy Santa Clara University Archives.

# CALENDAR

**9/11** CHC opens to the public. History center hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; closed from noon to 1 p.m.

**9/26** De Anza College classes begin.

**10/5, 6, 7** "Little Shoppe of CHC": arts, crafts, and specialized services on sale to benefit the history center; sponsored by the CHCF volunteers and supporters. Call for details.

**10/5** "The Role of Media as a Political Watchdog," lecture and discussion featuring *San Jose Mercury* journalist, Phil Trounstine. 7:30 p.m. at CHC. RSVP: (408) 864-8712.

**11/2** Seminar on "Wills and Trusts" presented by Joan Rogers, attorney and CHCF Board of Trustees

member. This is a free lecture and presentation open to the members and supporters of the CHCF. 7:30 p.m. at CHC. RSVP: (408) 864-8712.

**11/10** Veteran's Day observed. CHC is closed. De Anza classes do not meet.

**11/24, 25** Thanksgiving Holiday. CHC is closed; De Anza classes do not meet.

**12/1** Holiday Party at the history center; holiday gathering at CHC from 6 to 8 p.m., refreshments served. RSVP (408) 864-8712.

**12/18** Fall quarter ends. CHC closes for the holidays.

**1/8** CHC re-opens for winter quarter.

## Of Interest to Members

### October 5, 6, 7 Little Shoppe of CHC Trianon Building

A 3-day fundraising event sponsored by volunteers and supporters of the California History Center & Foundation featuring arts, crafts, skills and services. The Little Shoppe will be located in the California History Center Trianon Building. Stop by for some early holiday shopping. For hours and more information call (408) 864-8712.



CHC Director Kathi Peregrin looks on as a young visitor to De Anza Day Book Sale marks her favorite place to go in California. Is Yosemite a good guess?

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## PIONEER PROFILE

### Austen Warburton — 1917-1995 “The Consummate Gentleman”

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The California History Center lost a true friend this year. Austen Warburton, a longtime advocate, board member, benefactor and overall helper died this past May and he will be dearly missed.

The *Santa Clara Valley Weekly* published a special issue as a tribute to “Austen

Warburton, Father of Santa Clara.” One article lists “some of the many organizations [he] created, chaired or belonged to.” Thirty-six organizations or foundations were listed! Here was truly a generous man.

Warburton was a Santa Clara native whose family history dated back to the Spanish exploration of California. Perhaps this inspired his lifelong interest in California history. After attending Santa Clara High School where he was valedictorian, he earned a B.A. degree from San Jose State, and by 1941, held a law degree from Santa Clara University. World War II interrupted his career plans, but after his time in the Army he returned to the Santa Clara Valley to practice law. Since then he had been active in civic, philanthropic and academic circles, being monumentally, yet quietly generous. The California History Center was lucky to have a legal advisor as well as a friend in Austen.

Bill Lester, President of the Board of Trustees of the CHC, had an opportunity to speak at length with Austen just weeks before he died. “As a younger person, sometimes feeling overwhelmed by the demands of leading an organization and fundraising, I needed support and advice from someone who had been around for a while. Even during his illness, he was so enthusiastic and concerned about the center. I was touched by that.”

Lester admired Warburton for his “graceful diplomacy” and his ability to bring people “in different camps” together. Even when people disagreed, “he would find the common thread” that could connect people and their thoughts. “He was actually more judicial than lawyerly. He didn’t take one side exclusively. We will miss his counsel, wisdom, and advice.”

Although his absence has already been felt, Lester was pleased that Warburton’s legacy can live on at the history center because his niece, Joan Rogers, who shares many of Austen’s ideals, has agreed to be the new legal advisor and board member.

Former CHC Director Jim Williams said, “Austen was the consummate gentleman. He had accomplished so much but he did not brag. He was a modest man.” Williams went on to say that besides knowing him through the history center, they also served together on the Board of Directors of the Sourisseau Academy for State and Local History at San Jose State University. “He was extremely patient with everyone’s viewpoints because he had a genuine interest in people.”

Williams went to Austen’s office one day and commented on a painting hanging there. He was offered a tour of several works of art, all produced by Native Americans living on a reservation in Arizona. Evidently Warburton travelled often to the Southwest and actively encouraged some artists there. “I think most people at the history center don’t know that he was a true patron of the arts of the Southwest.”

CHC Director Kathi Peregrin explained, “Austen didn’t expect or want a lot of public accolades — he was a quiet giver. He gave because he believed in us and the importance of what we do here.” Last year the center was awarded a grant to purchase a Macintosh Quadra 610 for the Stocklmeir Library. The grant did not cover the entire cost, so Warburton stepped forward to fund peripherals, crucial to operating the system. Peregrin also noted that “he was always there for us. Even if he didn’t come to particular events, he always supported the center.”

The history center plans to publish the manuscript that Warburton wrote about some early Santa Clara families [see the feature article in this issue]. Photos for the book are currently being collected, and the book will serve as next year’s “premium,” one of the Local History Studies, given to those members who subscribe at the \$50 level or higher.

# Franklin Hichborn:

## Political Watchdog and Uncompromising Journalist

By Austen Warburton

*The following is an excerpt from a manuscript about Santa Clara families by Austen Warburton that will be published by the California History Center in 1996. The subject of this particular chapter is Franklin Hichborn, a self-taught journalist who was instrumental in exposing graft and corruption in post-earthquake San Francisco, as well as assiduously reporting the voting records of state legislators. The insert on page 10 is a description of ballot measures supported by women written by Franklin Hichborn in 1915. In it he identifies the supporters and detractors of the measures.*

An historical interest marker rests in front of the Hichborn house at 1091 Fremont Street, Santa Clara. Placed in 1970 by order of the city council and the historical and landmarks commission, it reads:

*American Colonial style adapted to California built in 1868 by Cary Peebles. Purchased in 1882 by F. Greenleaf Houlton of Houlton, Maine, father of Mrs. Franklin Hichborn. Franklin Hichborn was a journalist and political writer of national fame who exposed graft and corruption in California. His writings are preserved mainly at the University of California at Los Angeles.*

Franklin Hichborn was born in Eureka, California in 1869 to Frances Hunt and John Edwin Hichborn, a descendant of Thomas Hichborn who landed in Boston, Massachusetts about 1640. Thomas was the great-grandfather of Paul Revere, whose midnight ride still stirs the imagination of students, and Robert Hichborn — Franklin's great-great-grandfather. Robert was a member of the Massachusetts Militia and fought at Bunker Hill during the Revolutionary War.

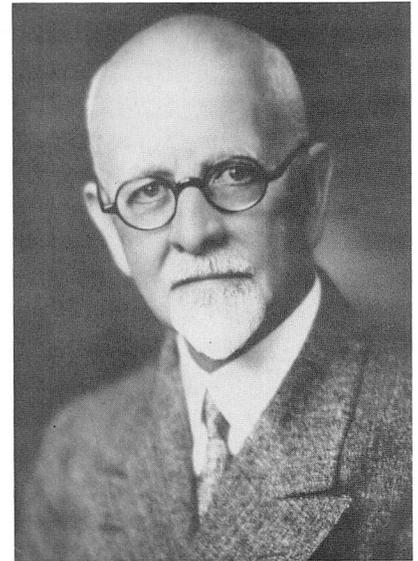
With the founding of the new republic, Robert and his family moved to Maine, where they started a shipbuilding plant at Stockton Springs. Two generations later, Franklin's father, John Edwin, married Frances Hunt, and in 1852 the couple came by ship around the Horn, to San Francisco. Later John Edwin established a produce business in Eureka and was involved in the construction of the city's first wharf. He had made and lost four fortunes when he died; Franklin was five years of age.

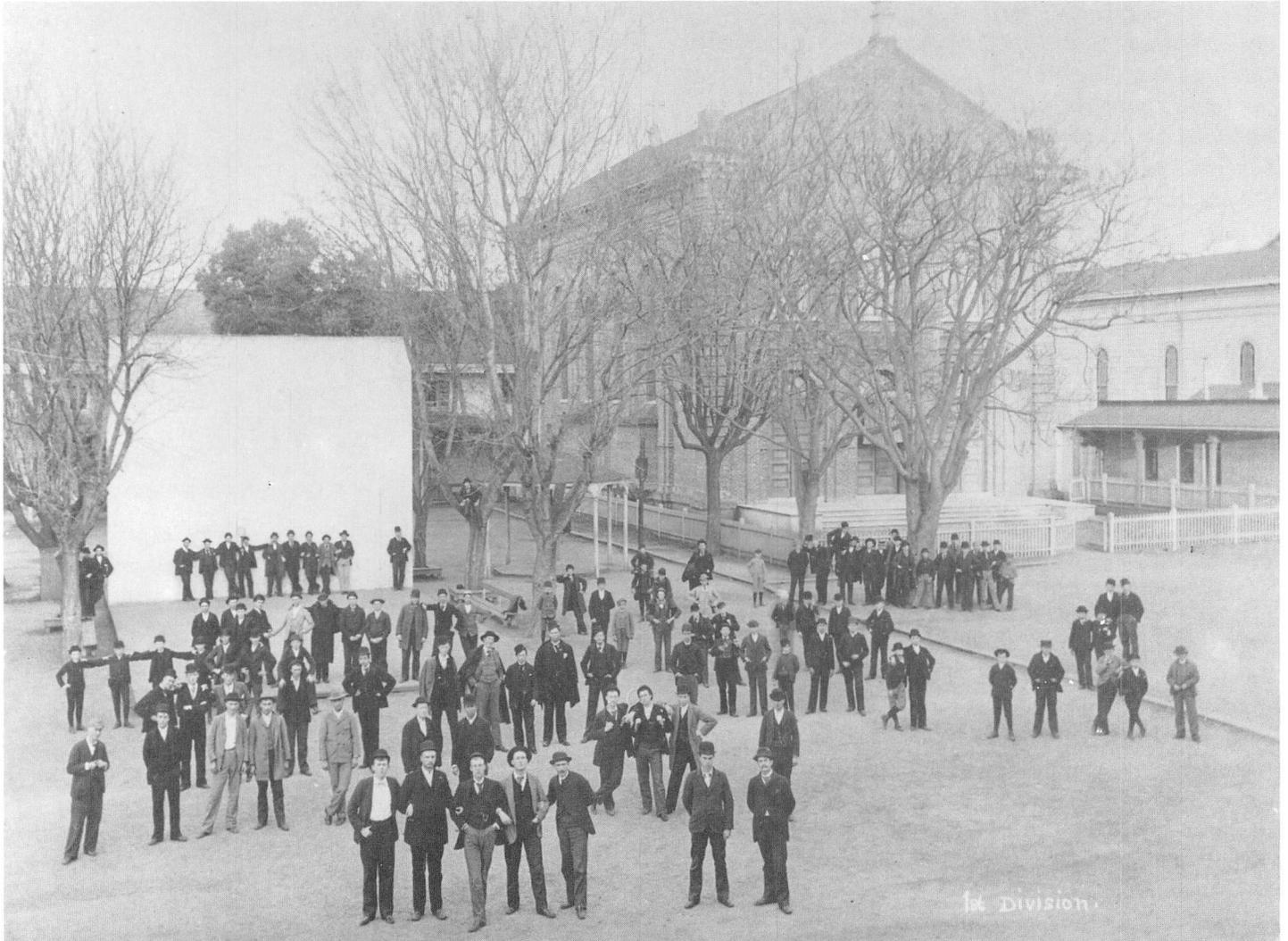
Franklin Hichborn made friends with the Indians in Humboldt County, learning their language, and when he was 16, he took a job as an interpreter on a trading schooner that made seasonal trips to Alaska. After his mother moved the family to San José, he briefly attended the College of the Pacific. At age 20, when

his family moved to Santa Clara, he entered Santa Clara College (today's Santa Clara University), studying there for two years.

Interested in the law, Hichborn entered Stanford University the year it opened, 1892. While a student there, he and a friend started a weekly paper, the *Santa Clara Index*. The paper waged a successful campaign for a city-owned water system, but it folded in the panic of 1893. In debt from this experience, Hichborn quit school, and an event in San José changed his plans about going on to become a lawyer. An old family friend was arrested as a vagrant. Hichborn investigated the case and found that some corrupt people connected with the judicial system profited from the arrest of penniless men. He exposed the system in a pamphlet, beginning his lifelong career in journalism.

In 1894, Hichborn started the semi-monthly *San José Letter*, and laid bare the Southern Pacific Railroad Company connection with the political machine then running Santa Clara County. Hichborn was subjected to repeated denunciations from opponents and his *Letter* was driven out of business in 1897. Undaunted, he turned his sights to state political issues, first as a reporter for the *San Francisco Examiner*. In 1900, he returned to San José to publish the *San José Spectator*, and from 1902 to 1904, he edited the *San José Herald*, a forerunner of the *San Jose Mercury News*. He was news editor of the *Sacramento Union* from 1904 to 1906, and worked for a number of other papers during his career including the *Sacramento Bee*, the *Stockton Record*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the *Fresno Expositor*. From 1906 to 1927 Hichborn worked as both a writer and a lecturer on political and economic subjects, publishing the *Legislative Bulletin* in Sacramento between 1915 and 1917.





*Santa Clara College and students in front of the chapel, circa 1890s, the time period when Franklin Hichborn was a student there. Photograph taken by Andrew Hill. Hichborn evidently left Santa Clara to attend the brand-new Stanford, because the new school charged no fees. Courtesy Andrew Hill Collection, Santa Clara University Archives.*

Hichborn became well-known for his regular column in the *Sacramento Bee* about the political activities and affairs of the state, and he received particular notice for *Stories of the California Legislature*, his series of volumes on the 1909, 1911, 1913, and 1915 state legislative sessions. *Harpers Weekly* especially praised Hichborn for these works:

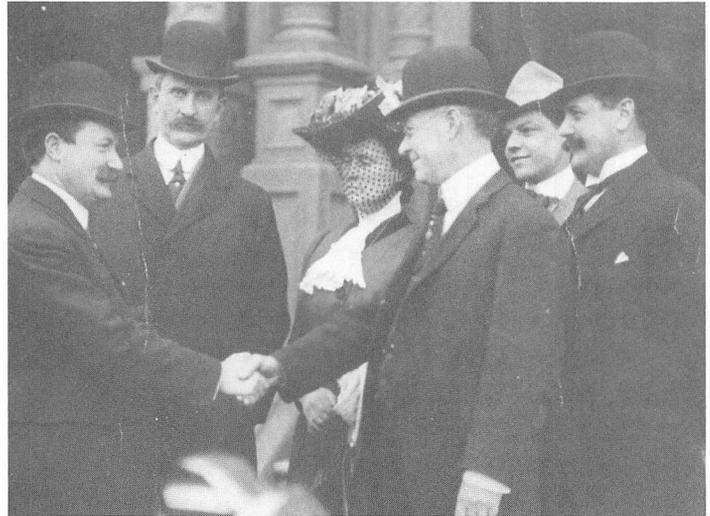
*To Franklin Hichborn, more than to any other journalist, is due the sweeping tide of political reform in California. The stern facts, marshaled in his "Stories of the California Legislature" for three successive sessions, have been fatal to those condemned by them. In the preface to his latest book, The System, he says "It is my purpose — as far as it lies in my power — to keep the cover off." In that phrase lies the temper of his service. Dispassionate as a recording angel, keen as a detective hero, he does not need to*

*muckrake but is content to let the logic of his facts bring their own unsparing conclusions. While the traditional 'machine' of his generation was still dominant in California, he saw that it was not so important to know what was done as to know how it was done; so he merely turned the clock around, took out the back and showed the voter how the machine worked. In other words, for the last six years he has devoted himself to telling, without fear or malice, the record of every man in the Legislature, on every important measure; to tracing the influences on special privilege through lobby and hall; to laying bare the hidden and interwoven roots which produce corruption.*

It has been said that Hichborn's "voice and pen have ever been at the service of justice, truth and right, and he has conducted several statewide publicity campaigns of great value in their salutary effort on public morals." In a 1912 campaign, his writings contributed to the defeat of an attempt via an initiative proposition to restore racetrack gambling in California. His work in 1914 was instrumental in bringing about ratification of the "red light" abatement act and, in his brochure published in 1920 on "red morals," he opposed the social evil of communism in Europe and America. He was a staunch advocate of national prohibition of alcoholic beverages plus an early advocate of public control of the state's water resources and hydroelectric power.

Hichborn's *The System Uncovered by the San Francisco Graft Prosecution*, a fine book exposing political corruption in San Francisco, contributed much to cleaning up that city's political situation in a struggle which occurred in the wake of the 1906 earthquake and fire. Francis J. Heney, who conducted the San Francisco graft prosecution, said of this work,

*I have read The System with deep interest. It is the only accurate and complete account of the San Francisco graft prosecutions which has ever been published in any form. Mr. Hichborn has performed a most important public service. The perpetuity of republican institutions depends upon the masses being able to secure correct information, and to thus acquire a correct understanding of the underlying causes of corruption and of bad government in our cities, states and nation. The System will make plain to every intelligent reader just what these underlying causes of corruption and bad government are. It should be read by every person in the State above the age of 12 years. It is a clear, logical, sane and fair history of one of the most important periods in the life of San Francisco.*



*Francis Heney (right) shakes hand of Detective William Burns, two participants in exposing corruption in San Francisco government. It was Heney who named Franklin Hichborn's book *The System Uncovered* by the San Francisco Graft Prosecution as the "only accurate and complete account of the San Francisco graft prosecutions." Heney was later wounded by gunshot in the courtroom. In the background are Fremont and Cora Older, Charles Cobb and Rudolph Spreckels. Courtesy California Historical Society.*

While Hichborn received many similar commendations for his work, some from such national periodicals as *Collier's Weekly*, not all people agreed with him. On one occasion in San José, one of his articles offended some folks enough that they accosted him in the street and threw him into a horse trough.

Hichborn and his friends inspired the movement early in this century that swept California to break the machine political controls over California politics and to provide a greater and more direct power to the people. Leading these reforms were the direct democracy tools of the initiative, referendum, and recall, but a number of other important constitutional amendments and legislative enactments also were adopted. Reformers succeeded in enacting blue sky laws, regulating securities sales, controlling public utilities, providing workmen's compensation, establishing minimum wages for women and children, instituting civil service, and pushing forward conservation of natural resources.



*Horsedrawn carriages and bicycles bedeck Main Street, Santa Clara, California in this early 20th century post card. Courtesy California History Center, Stockmeir Library/Archive.*

Partisan politics, which was deemed to have contributed in many areas to a type of “bossism,” was undercut at the local political level and elections within the counties were made non-partisan. Successful reform in California propelled Governor Hiram W. Johnson to national prominence, first in 1912 with an unsuccessful bid for the vice-presidency as Theodore Roosevelt’s running mate under Bull Moose Party, and then through his service from 1916 until his death in 1945 as a U.S. Senator from California.

Early in his career, Hichborn met Mabel Houlton, daughter of Greenleaf Houlton, and granddaughter of the founder of Houlton, Maine. They were married in Fresno, December 31, 1897, and acknowledging his historic ancestry, their eldest son (1898-1961) was named Paul Revere Hichborn. Generations of students at

Santa Clara High School remember Paul as an outstanding biology teacher, who held his students to high standards. He also was involved in other activities, including raising gladiolus in the vacant lot across the street from the old Block Packing sheds on the El Camino near Scott Blvd. Paul’s wife was Edith Bean, and he was survived by one child, Robert Hichborn.

Franklin and Mabel’s second child, Deborah, born March 8, 1900, was educated in local schools and married David T. Rayner, an orchardist who became the agricultural commissioner for Santa Clara County. They had two children, Donald E. Rayner and Drusilla R. Jones.

A third Hichborn child, Drusilla Hichborn, was born in Sacramento, May 3, 1904. She also was educated in local schools and, in remembering her youth in Santa Clara, said:

*continued on page 9*

# ANNUAL REPORT

1994-1995

## Sustained and Bountiful Life for CHCF

Certainly the unifying event of this year has been the celebration of our 25th Anniversary. It provided us with many occasions to both celebrate the past and to reflect upon the future. In reviewing recent year end reports by past CHCF presidents it is very clear that little remains static at the CHCF and that, like our weather this year, nothing should be considered unusual. Nonetheless, it does appear that the CHCF is, and has been, in the midst of significant change.

This year the board set for itself, what I believe, were ambitious goals. We set out to strengthen our relationship and involvement with the De Anza College community and with the Foothill/De Anza Community College District, we embarked on a membership drive, we endeavored to strengthen and to broaden our Board of Trustees, and we set a goal to raise \$25,000.00 in new dollars to be used for both scholarship funds and to provide seed funding for expanding and improving our services and programming. In cooperation with the CHC, we also wanted to take the first steps toward broader programming to include a California Studies focus within the larger framework of California history.

I believe these goals were, by and large, accomplished. The foundation has benefited from the active participation and support of the trustees. We have also enjoyed and very much appreciated the support and attendance of members of the De Anza College and the Foothill/De Anza District community at many of our events throughout the year. We believe we have strengthened our membership. To top it all off, we are very pleased to report that we have exceeded our goal of raising \$25,000.00 in new funds during this fiscal period. These funds will serve as a very important source from which to launch the next 25 years.

The key event of our 25th Anniversary celebration was the Testimonial Dinner honoring former directors Walt Warren, Seonaid McArthur, and Jim Williams. Certainly the highlight of the evening was the testimonials and reflections offered by the three past directors. True to form, they each provided entertaining and insightful recollections of their tenure at the helm of the CHCF. The Board used the occasion to announce a new student scholarship program to support deserving students and to pay honor to the past and future Directors of the CHCF. Coupled with the Testimonial Dinner was the opening of a new exhibit at the Trianon featuring a variety of materials and collections depicting the 25-year-history of the CHCF. This exhibit will remain on

display, albeit in reduced size, throughout the next year.

Another event which we hosted this year was our "Three Strikes and You're In" event for new members. Besides welcoming new members at this event we also paid tribute to Ed Bressoud, retired De Anza baseball coach, and former major league baseball player. Additionally, the CHCF had the privilege to host a farewell party for long time De Anza instructor and CHCF lecturer and supporter, Ken Bruce. This event was offered as a benefit for the CHC by Ken and allowed his many friends and admirers to bid a fond farewell and thanks to his many years of outstanding teaching and programs. I know that there are many CHCF members who have had their lives enriched through his excellence as a teacher.

A sad and tragic note to the events of this spring was the death of longtime CHCF supporter, board member and legal counsel, Austen Warburton. Although Austen had been ill for a period of time, his death was a surprise to us all and his absence will be felt for years to come. In addition to Austen's remarkable and outstanding service to a large variety of organizations in the region, his own personal knowledge and history represented a direct link to the early recorded history of the Santa Clara Valley. He was very special to the CHCF and I will personally always be grateful for his kind advice and encouragement.

In all it was a very full year. We believe there is great opportunity and promise in our collaboration with the CHC on its California Studies programming. This collaboration promises support for the classes, exhibits, publications, membership and other activities which we see as vital in providing the people of this region because it contributes to defining the heart and soul of California. Our Executive Director, Kathi Peregrin, along with new administrative assistant Tom Izu and CHCF Librarian Lisa Christiansen, have done an outstanding job in helping to form, define and translate these possibilities within the interests of the Foundation and its membership.

As unusual as this year's record breaking rainfall was, it did rejuvenate one of California's most precious natural resources. Perhaps the Sierra's abundant snowpack, once again able to provide a sustained and bountiful "life" to the environs below, provides us with a ready metaphor. We sincerely hope that the work which has been accomplished this year will aid in sustaining and providing support to the CHCF well into the next 25 years.

**Bill Lester**

President, Board of Trustees

## Stockmeir Library Doors Open and Swinging

The graceful French doors of the Stockmeir Library have been swinging frequently and briskly in this busy year of 1994-95. Exhibit, event and program-planning activity filled nearly every week at the CHC. The library provided a source of great material, whether data or decoration was needed. Our many events brought first-time visitors and old friends to the building where they witnessed the crowded conditions in the Stockmeir Library, a result of the "embarrassment" of rich donations of this and past years. Coming through our doors, also, were De Anza students, who make up about 80% of our yearly patronage. Students, home schoolers and graduate students (one of whom used the Michelle Ann Jacobson collection while doing research for her Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania) combed our shelves, as well. Authors (one from Great Britain), genealogists and video producers continue to use the Stockmeir collection. Two new categories of users appeared at our threshold, represented by a creator of a CD ROM virtual reality "history mystery" and two individuals from separate agencies working on peacetime conversion of military facilities.

While these library users found information here to carry out to the world, scores of materials were finding their way into our collection. With the demise of the *Peninsula Times-Tribune*, a huge clipping, photo and microfilm morgue was orphaned. The California History Center was given microfilm of a number of local weeklies, a clipping file and a few photo collections, one of the building of Highway 101.

Many other fine gifts came our way this year. Ingeborg MacMillan of Sunnyvale contributed film footage of family life in 1930s Cupertino. Mrs Cecil Jowell of Johannesburg, South Africa, sent us a copy of her book *Joe Jowell of Namaqualand* (Mrs. Jowell took inspiration from Yvonne Jacobson's *Passing Farms: Enduring Values*). John Swensson, an instructor at De Anza, donated a number of newspaper sections with sensational headlines dating from 1903-1989. Rachel Craven of Santa Clara gave us a vintage photo of San Francisco and two brochures from the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. Dough Holley of the state of Washington sent us 165 photos from the Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks taken by his grandfather in the period 1905-1909. Board member Doni Hubbard provided us with copies of two books she authored: *Favorite Trails of Desert Riders* and *New Trail Adventures of California Horsemen*. Joanne Schott very kindly donated a Moulin Studios photo of San Jose's Market Street in 1949. Lennart Ahlkvist, a frequent donor to the history center, added the book *Mountain View and the Men Who Protect It From Fire* by James S. Graham and a 1916 map of California to our collection. Gale and John Donofrio donated oral history, books on California and the West (including how-to booklets on panning for gold), and the wonderful poster from the Ken Bruce heritage trips used in our tribute to Ken upon his retirement in June — "Go East Young Man, Go East!!"

James H. Marshall of Palo Alto gave, among other items, a copy of *Mabel McKay: Weaving the Dream* by Greg Sarris.

An astounding 150 book and map donation came from Richard and Mary Wheat. The materials are from the collection of famed historian of California and the West, Carl I. Wheat, and we accept them with great appreciation.

Bruce Bruemmer of the Charles Babbage Institute Center for the History of Information Processing at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis sent published guides to the Institute's oral history collection and to U.S. and Canadian resources in the history of computing. Robert J. Levy very kindly provided us with a copy of his new book *The West Side and How We Grew: A Geographic History of Cupertino*. Video producer Glenn Story donated source and edited tapes from his oral history project on the Greenmeadow Eichler neighborhood in Palo Alto. Gloria Brown of Palo Alto contributed 34 issues of *California History* to our collection. Elizabeth and Paul Archambeault gave us a number of wonderful western railroad books, and yearbooks from San Jose High School and San Jose Teachers' College in the 1920s. George Erskine of San Jose is a retired electrical contractor and power resource expert who has a long history of important contributions in those fields on the Peninsula and in the South Bay Area. He had donated some stories from his youth and information and artifacts related to power delivery at the time of the building of the Baldwin house in which the CHC resides. Volunteer Nancy Bratman gave us AAA maps from every corner of California; up-to-date and very useful. Janet Fire of Sunnyvale made a donation of posters from the Vietnam War era and from the fair housing movement in the mid-Peninsula.

Aubrey Abramson and family have provided enormous support to the library and its annual De Anza Day book sale for many years. Hundreds of books came from them this year and helped make the book sale a success.

Donations of funds came from Yvonne Jacobson for the Michelle Ann Jacobson Collection and from contributors to the Ken Bruce retirement fundraiser. Many thanks to all donors!

Contract employee and volunteer Janet Ilaqua is designing a format for computer database entries using Filemaker Pro brand software on the new Macintosh Quadra 610. Map, poster and postcard collections were included in our first trials. Nathan Rupp, a library student at San Jose State University, participated in our ongoing internship program. Nathan organized, analyzed, inventoried and continues, as a volunteer, to process a collection of oral histories, photos, essays, and ephemera on the subject of Santa Clara Valley water.

Every person who crosses our doorstep, in person, by letter, by phone, or electronically, leaves something intangible with us. Individuals come to the California History Center seeking information, inspiration, support, entertainment or even a repository for part of their heritage. Your interest in what is provided here strengthens and enriches our value to the community, the best reasons to keep the doors open and swinging.

**Lisa Christiansen**  
Librarian

# Volunteer, Because Change is Possible

The theme this year was "Volunteer, Because Change is Possible" and we all do our share to make it so. The 94-95 school year has been busy for the volunteers. We started in October with the "Little Shoppe" boutique organized by Mary Strong. It was a "HUGE" success and will be held again this October 5-6 & 7. We look forward to seeing members, friends and patrons of the CHC at "Little Shoppe" '95.

In November we were busy helping with the 25th Anniversary dinner and exhibit, "Silver Anniversary Golden Opportunity." The volunteers joined the ranks of hundreds of people who have given their time to the CHC over the last 25 years.

Our holiday get-together was at the CHC so we could decorate our last live Christmas tree. Fire regulations are preventing any live trees on campus next year. Do we want an artificial tree for Christmas 1995? Anyway the tree and decorations looked great for the holiday open house held for the membership.

Marge Carrere, a long time volunteer in our library passed away in February. She was the granddaughter of Judge Welch and spent much of her time at the Welch-Hurst hostel in Saratoga. A Marin resident, she gave much of herself and her time to Santa Clara County.

March was Women's History Month and we were fortunate to have Mary Jo Ignoffo, author of *Sunnyvale — From the City of Destiny to the Heart of Silicon Valley*, speak to our group about Laura Thane Whipple, the realtor who was instrumental in getting the Navy to purchase the land for Moffett Field.

National Volunteer Week was April 23-29 celebrated at the CHC with a lovely tea. A time to give ourselves and each other a "pat on the back." The crucial role played by volunteers in an organization can sometimes be overlooked. It was great to be recognized as part of National Volunteer Week.

May brought us together again assisting with the Farewell Retirement party for Ken Bruce, history instructor and longtime friend of the CHC. Our loss and Florida's gain. He will surely be missed. Thanks, Ken.

The end of the school year came too soon. Things to do but no more time. Our annual book sale on De Anza Day was very successful. This is the fundraiser for the library and all your donated books are greatly appreciated. Any books pertaining to California are kept for the library, the rest are sold by our volunteers.

Our annual volunteer gathering was June 19, held at the CHC. It was a time to catch up with each other and get some information on the future of the CHC, the California Studies program and the expansion of the Learning Center and its impact on the CHC.

Thank you to all our volunteers who gave a total of 1,541 hours.

** Elizabeth Archambeault	*** Dee Liotta
** Nancy Bratman	Joe Liotta
Marjorie Carrere	Gail Mann
Lisa Christiansen	Elsie Matt
Helen Coughlin	Tess Moore
Chatham Forbes, Sr.	Betty Petersen
*** Gertrude Frank	** Helen Riisberg
Josephine Harper	Eloise Rosenberg
** Janet Hoffman	Nathan Rupp
Janet Ilacqua	*** Mary Strong
** Maureen Kelly	

\* over 40 hours  
 \*\* over 100 hours  
 \*\*\* over 200 hours

For their uncounted hours we also thank the CHCF Board of Trustees: Bill Lester, Marion Grimm, Willys Peck, Austen Warburton, James Feng, Nan Geschke, David Howard-Pitney, Doni Hubbard, Yvonne Jacobson, Roy Roberts, Barbara Rogers, Bob Smithwick, Ward Winslow, Larry Burke, and Jay Jackman.

**Dee Liotta**  
 Volunteer Coordinator



Annual volunteer gathering, June 19, 1995, held at the history center (left to right) Lisa Christiansen, Helen Driscoll-Coughlin (partially hidden), Elizabeth Archambeault, Trudy Frank and Dee Liotta.

# Financial Summary

## Revenue Category Definitions

Membership – new and renewing memberships

Donations – general donations; library donations; endowment donations

Publications – books/resale; sale/CHC books; restricted publications

Exhibits – exhibits; restricted exhibit funds

Donated facilities and services – facilities, services, salaries and benefits provided by De Anza College and volunteers

Miscellaneous – subscriptions; library/photo fees; library endowments; interest

## Expenditure Category Definitions

Administration – general printing; postage; telephone; salaries; equipment repair; cost of goods sold

Donated facilities and services – facilities, services, salaries and benefits provided by De Anza College, private corporations and volunteers

Publications – Californian; printing; restricted publications; salaries; design

Exhibits – design; fabrication; openings; printing; salaries

Library – library supplies; books & photos; periodicals; salaries

## 1994-1995 ASSETS

Cash	\$67,751
* Market Rate Account	27,201
Inventory	28,555
Trust Fund	38,624
Endowment Fund	35,490
Fixed Assets	45,342
Accounts Receivable	4,022
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$246,985</b>

\* Includes revenue for projects in progress

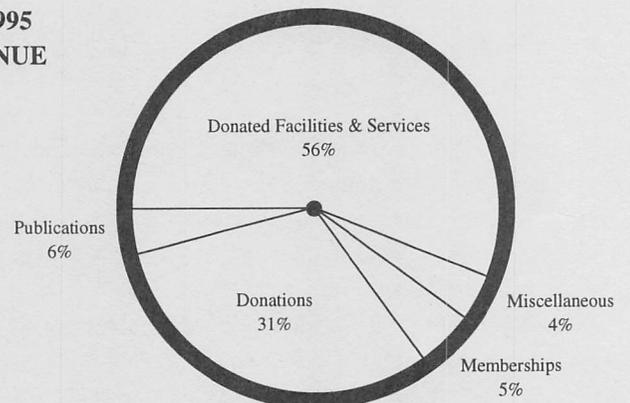
## 1994-1995 REVENUE

Memberships	\$13,843
Donations	80,576
Publications	15,554
Donated Facilities and Services	140,134
Miscellaneous	10,100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$260,206</b>

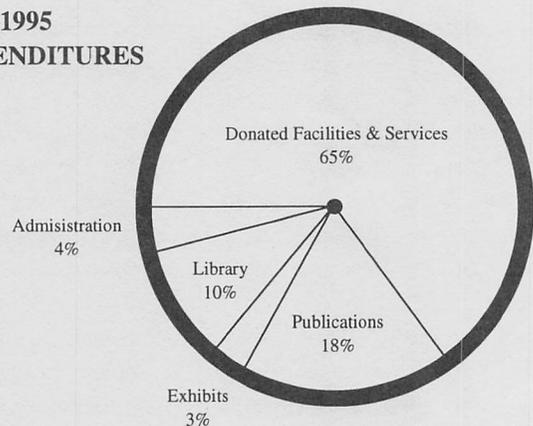
## 1994-1995 EXPENDITURES

Administration	\$9,154
Donated Facilities and Services	140,134
Publications	39,639
Exhibits	5,726
Library	21,400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$216,053</b>

## 1994-1995 REVENUE



## 1994-1995 EXPENDITURES





Trolley tracks once extended down Franklin Street, one of Santa Clara's main thoroughfares in the early 20th century. Courtesy California History Center, Stockmeir Library/Archive.

*I grew up in Santa Clara in the same big old house my mother grew up in. My father had offices in San Francisco and commuted by train. He was away a great deal, but was usually home on weekends. In Santa Clara of that day — dirt streets, hitching posts at the gates, big barns, huge yards, chickens, rabbits, dogs, cats, coons in cages, the huge old houses of the Spanish families, and the deep sense of belonging made it a memorable childhood. There was even a secret stairway in our house. Like other old homes of the time, fig trees were trained to make rooms for outdoor entertaining in the summer.*

Drusilla graduated from the last two-year Normal School in California and, after teaching two years in Pasadena, returned to San José State College for her B.A. Degree. She taught at San José schools and worked as a curriculum consultant at the central office, received her M.A. Degree from Stanford, and then taught

at San José State. She also taught at Fresno, San Francisco and Sonoma state universities, served as a consultant for some 30 years to the Sonoma County school office, and became active in the National Council of Teachers of English. Drusilla moved to Santa Rosa, but she holds a life membership in the Santa Clara Chapter of the Eastern Star.

Franklin and Mabel also had Mabel and Frances, twins born January 31, 1907. Mabel died while young, but Frances went to local schools and studied librarianship at San José State College, later marrying George Purser, an engineer. Frances had two sons: Roald, a well known artist in glass who lives in Seattle; and Eric, who became an officer in the Merchant Marine. She was associated for many years with the library at Humboldt State College in

## Measures Supported by Women

by Franklin Hichborn

Reprinted from *Story of the Session of the California Legislature of 1915* by Franklin Hichborn

The principal organized effort of women at the 1915 session to secure the enactment of given measures was through the Women's Legislative Council of California. This Council represented twenty-five women's organizations with a total membership of 75,000.

The council endorsed six bills covering five subjects. The records show that the second bill supported by the Council became a law. It did. But not with the provisions it had contained when the women endorsed it.

As originally introduced the measure amended the Child Labor law by raising the age limit at which children may be employed in gainful occupations. It:

- (1) Prohibited street vending by boys under fourteen and girls under eighteen.
- (2) Prohibited children under sixteen working in specified dangerous industries.
- (3) Provided that labor in canneries shall not be construed as a horticultural pursuit. Indeed, the original measure explicitly provided that "horticultural shall be understood to including the curing and drying, but not the canning, of all varieties of fruit." The measure provided that "nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the employment of minors at agricultural, horticultural or viticultural, or domestic labor during the time the public schools are not in session, or during other than school hours."

The public will some day awake to the abuses which are possible under that exception (So long as the employment of children in agricultural, horticultural and viticultural labor is unrestricted the public must be alert against the grossest abuses. At the town of Santa Clara a few years ago an attempt was made, with the sanction of the School Board, to dismiss the children from school a few minutes before twelve each day, that they might "work in the fruit," which included work in canneries. The schedule was to have the school open at eight in the morning and kept in continuous session until the hour of dismissal. The children could then report at the canneries at one o'clock and continue to work until late at night. At eight o'clock the next morning, they would begin their day. The plan was actually in operation for several days, but, owing to vigorous protest of parents who do not exploit their children, was abandoned. There is some reason to believe that had not this protest been made, the plan would have been put in general operation throughout the State.

Incidentally it may be said that the people of California are raising fruit that they may raise and properly bring up and educate children. They are not raising children that they may raise fruit, although not a few chambers of commerce, some parents, and most canneries apparently hold to this mistaken theory). Then the law to protect children against exploitation will not contain such provision. But the original of Senate Bill 257 provided a step in the right direction by declaring that cannery labor is not horticultural labor.

In the country districts canners can make money by exploiting child labor. These canners, and those in sympathy with them, are politically important; they can compel legislative consideration. A second amendment was offered in the Assembly to the child labor bill, and adopted, to make "canning" a horticultural pursuit. The Senate concurred in the amendment providing for boy street vendors, but refused to concur in the amendment making "canning" a horticultural pursuit. The Assembly receded from this last amendment, and the bill became a law.

Women were also particularly interested in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 22, introduced by Kehoe. This resolution set forth the Legislature's attitude on the question of woman suffrage (Whereas, The operation and effect of the enfranchisement of women in California is being constantly misrepresented in such States and used there as arguments in opposition to the granting of suffrage to women; therefore, be it resolved by the Senate of the forty-first session of the Legislature of the State of California, the Assembly concurring. That the experience of this State amply justifies the adoption of Woman Suffrage by the people in October, 1911; and, be it further resolved, That so successful has been the operation and effect of granting political rights to women equal to those held by men, that it is generally conceded that were the question to be again voted on by the people of this State, it would be re-endorsed by an overwhelming majority; and, be it further resolved that the adoption of Woman Suffrage by California is one of the important factors contributing to the marked political, social and industrial advancement made by our people in recent years, and that any disparagement of the cause of Woman Suffrage attempted elsewhere on the ground that Woman Suffrage is not satisfactory to this State, has no basis in fact, and is signally disproved by the acknowledged intelligence and discrimination shown by women voters in the settling of our great political and industrial problems at the polls).

The resolution was adopted in the Senate by a vote of 21 to 0.

The resolution was adopted in Assembly, but by viva voce vote, no roll call being taken to record the votes of the individual members.

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Arcata, first living very nearby and later moving to a cottage overlooking Trinidad Bay. When she retired, Frances was the reference librarian at Humboldt State, and she also spent much time working with the area's Hoopa Indians. Frances passed away in 1981.

Franklin Hichborn insisted on accuracy in reporting, his daughter Deborah remembers, and in his later years he manifested a similar concern about protecting his records and the memorabilia he accumulated over many years. After her husband died, Deborah assisted Hichborn in preparing a massive autobiography and in preserving his records. Among their task was preserving the treasure trove of autographed pictures that lined the walls of his study, including among them noted California political figures such as Hiram Johnson and Herbert Jones, the latter a state senator who pressed for legislation protecting the state's water resources and who was active in many Santa Clara County organizations such as the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County.

Hichborn was a member of the San Francisco Press Club, the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, Liberty Lodge 299 F&AM of Santa Clara, and the National Economic League. Despite his work writing and participating in state and area politics, he especially enjoyed working in his garden. Many of the trees and shrubs that surround his home at 1091 Fremont Street in Santa Clara were planted by him between 1905, when he moved in, and the early 1960s. His neighbors well remember him working in his garden and sharing his flowers and plants. In another hobby carried out at his summer cottage overlooking the ocean near Capitola, he collected marine fossils from the nearby beaches.

Franklin passed away December 28, 1963, and Mabel died in February 1971 in Santa Rosa. At a dinner given in Franklin's honor by the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County a year before he died, Dean B. McHenry, first chancellor of the University of Santa Cruz, praised Hichborn in a moving tribute as one of the great figures in California's history. Today his papers are filed in the Hichborn Room of the UCLA library and at the library of the University of California at Santa Cruz. Franklin and Mabel's contribution to the well-being of their community and state remain a significant part of the Santa Clara saga.

#### FOR FURTHER INQUIRY

*"For Further Inquiry" suggests additional reading on the subject of the feature article and poses questions for continued thought and debate.*

Some books by Franklin Hichborn:

Hichborn, Franklin. *The Anti Vice Movement in California, I. Suppression, II. Rehabilitation*. New York: America Social Hygiene Association, 1920. (prostitution in California)

Hichborn, Franklin. *Story of the Session of the California Legislature of 1902-1922*. 5 volumes. San Francisco: James H. Barry Company, 1902-1922. (California government and politics)

Hichborn, Franklin. *"The System" As Uncovered by the San Francisco Graft Prosecution*. San Francisco: James H. Barry Company, 1915. (political corruption in San Francisco)

Hichborn and others worked hard to publish voting records of legislators to inform the public just how their representatives were acting in the halls of government. Today we have easy access to voting records through the Internet or just picking up a newspaper. Do we pay attention to decisions our legislators make and do we make them accountable?

Women's rights advocates fought for decades for the right to vote in California and the country. How many of us take the time to be an informed voter?

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# FOUNDATION NOTES

## Changes on the Roster of the Board of Trustees

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One of the values of the Board of Trustees of the California History Center has been its ability to adapt to significant changes at the community college level. The board has had to draw on various members with different talents and strengths to work for the organization, building a path toward California Studies. This organic nature of the board, constantly changing, growing and reevaluating will be called into play this year as three board members conclude their terms, and three begin theirs. In addition, the terms of two other board members came to an end in 1994: **Audrey Butcher** and **Margaret Wozniak** who served for six and four years respectively.

### Thank you

**Bob Smithwick** leaves the board of trustees after a three-year "official" term, but actually thirty-one years of involvement. He participated in the preservation and relocation of the Trianon building and worked closely with Mary Levine and Louis Stocklmeir, former De Anza College President Bob DeHart, and District Chancellor Calvin Flint.

Smithwick, who has acted as liaison between the history center and Foothill-De Anza College District explained, "Love of history does not come naturally to a lot of people. As a person grows older, they become more interested and see the importance of history." He added that "the history center has created a niche for itself to let younger people know the value of history. It has been a very creative vehicle." He hopes for the best for the future at the history center.

**Barbara Rogers** has also served a three-year term, and she leaves with regret but believes no one individual is irreplaceable. She looks forward to "hearing great things from the history center" like the eventual use of the adobes to take pressure off Stocklmeir Library and Archive. She noted that newer board members have lots of enthusiasm, and the longer-term ones have demonstrated that they are flexible enough to change to be viable in tough economic times. She sees it has become more of an "action board," committed to increase the visibility of the center at the college and community level. "The staff at the center are bright and committed and both De Anza and the Foundation are lucky to have them." She feels that the goals of the center are in sync with those of De Anza College President Martha Kanter, "and those are laudable goals," she added.

Although **Yvonne Jacobson's** term as a board member does

not expire until 1996, she submitted her resignation and has decided to cut back on work with the center which has dated back to 1984. For eleven years, including a stint as president of the board from 1987-1989, Yvonne has helped the center in innumerable ways, with events, publications, exhibits and programs.

Jacobson is particularly pleased that the board has become more active, especially in raising funds. She is happy about her involvement with the people at the center over the years and has found the work very rewarding. She looks forward to hearing about the developing California Studies program.

### Welcome

**Nan Geschke** has a broad interest in historical issues and has participated in preservation projects and historical societies. She was recruited to the history center by Yvonne Jacobson. Geschke is the chair of the Los Altos Historical Commission and is on the committee looking into the expansion of Los Altos History House. She is the producer of "Los Altos History Show" which airs on channel 16 in Los Altos twice a week. Geschke has also served for three years on the executive committee of the Palo Alto Chapter of the Red Cross.

She believes the primary function of the board of trustees is to raise funds to support the programs at the history center. She looks forward to beginning her term on the board in the Fall.

**Joan Rogers** is an attorney whose Santa Clara practice focuses on estate planning, family and business law. She contacted the history center about the publication of her uncle, Austen Warburton's manuscript. After some conversation, she was invited to join the board, and take Warburton's place as legal counsel. "No one, of course, can really take his place," explains Rogers, but "it is an honor to be invited."

Rogers is a native Californian and grew up in Santa Clara. Her father was a mayor of Santa Clara, and her mother taught school there. Before getting her law degree she was a manager of marketing communication, running an in-house publishing company. She attended Santa Clara University Law School at night, and passed the bar the year she graduated, in 1991. She has been in private practice ever since.

**Mary Jo Ignoffo** is author of the CHC publication *Sunnyvale From the City of Destiny to the Heart of Silicon Valley* (1994), and is currently editor of *The Californian*. She is also co-editor

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## Upcoming Events and Programs

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Gathering for out-going board members, June 1995 (left to right) Margaret Wozniak, Bill Lester (background), Audrey Butcher and Roy Roberts.

with John Kensit of *Council News*, newsletter of the Heritage Council of Santa Clara County, of which she is a board member. She is a past board member of the Sunnyvale Historical Society & Museum Association, and the 1995 recipient of their annual "Heritage Award."

Ignoffo has had an association with the history center since 1990, and is particularly interested in fostering the development of the California Studies program and encouraging the center's shift toward interdisciplinary study of California-related topics.

Clearly both the out-going and in-coming board members share a concern for the center, for its economic viability and its impact on the community and the college.

"Three Strikes and You're In" Baseball party held in February (left to right) Don Perata, Martha Kanter, Ulrike Perata, Ed Bressoud and James Custodio.

### Programs:

"The Role of Media as Political Watchdog" by Phil Trounstein of the *San Jose Mercury News*. In keeping with the theme of the feature article in this issue of *The Californian*, the program will focus on the broader topic of journalism and California politics. Thursday, October 5, 1995, 7:30 p.m. RSVP and confirm presentation, (408) 864-8712.

"Wills and Trusts" by Joan Rogers, attorney and CHCF board member. Ways to plan your will or estate to benefit organizations or charities is the topic of this program. Remembering the California History Center Foundation in your estate planning can help to preserve California's heritage and assure that it is shared with future generations. Thursday, November 2, 1995, 7:30 p.m. RSVP (408) 864-8712.

### Events:

Holiday Party at the California History Center on December 1, 1995, 6 to 8 p.m. RSVP (408) 864-8712.

### Fund-raiser:

October 5, 6, 7, 1995. "Little Shoppe of CHC" an arts, crafts and specialized services faire at the history center sponsored by CHCF volunteers and supporters. Last year's Little Shoppe was very successful due to the high quality of the art and services for sale. Join us in making this year's event a success as well.

### 1995 Premium Book

The California History Center has published Keith E. Kennedy's *George Washington Patterson and the Founding of Ardenwood* (1995). It is the 1995 Premium, sent to those CHC members who have subscribed at the Supporter level or above. We know you will enjoy this latest publication.



## Event and Program Recap

### Game Day: "It was hilarious."

On May 20, CHC members and supporters challenged each other in a friendly, but competitive "Game Day," where teams formed to play a form of California history "trivial pursuits." Teams were presented with words relating to California's history and asked to give their meaning or creatively guess at what the meaning might be. Some of the answers were hilarious, and so we thought we'd share some of them with the magazine readers who were not able to attend game day.

WORD	CORRECT MEANING	REPORTED MEANING
Candlestick Park	S.F. ballpark opening in 1960, named for pinnacle rock, now long gone, that was on that site.	Fr. Serra said, "What a helluva place for a ballpark," as he lit a candle to look for his CSAA map.
Mono Lake	Lake named after local Indians who other Indians (mainly Yokuts) derisively dubbed the Monachi, or "fly people," because of the large amounts of fly pupae they ate and traded at the lake.	Not to be confused with Stereo Lake.
San Diego "Chargers"	The professional football team was founded in 1961 as the Los Angeles Chargers. Until 1966 the team was owned by Conrad Hilton's son Barry Hilton, a hotel executive in Beverly Hills. The team's name was a play on words as Hilton also owned a large credit card company.	A plastic pro football team sponsored by VISA.
Fort Ross	This was the nucleus of Russian activity in California between 1812 and 1847. The name was chosen by lot in 1812 after the Russians. "Ross" was an old poetic term for Russian.	First Russian settlement in California — originally fur traders who moved into the garment industry, now known as Ross Stores.

The teams were: Grimm's Reapers, Lester's Lightning Rods, Peck's Wards and the D.J.'s. The grand prize winning team was Grimm's Reapers, for total points scored (primarily "creative" answers rather than correct answers)! Participants are looking forward to next year's challenge at Game Day.

*Game Day, May 20, 1995. Team "Lester's Lightning Rods" concocting their "answers" (left to right) Debbie Newman, Charles Newman, Martha Kanter, Carl Brown, Bill Lester and Hazel Lester.*

### De Anza Day Book Sale

Thank you to all who stopped by on De Anza Day to buy books at our annual book sale. This is the annual fundraiser for the Stockmeir Library and Archive. While parents browsed through the rows of books, children were asked to mark their favorite spot to visit on a map of California.

### Ken Bruce Retirement



*Ken Bruce bids adieu at his retirement party, June 1995.*

The CHC bid a fond farewell and good luck to longtime friend and instructor Ken Bruce. He will, however, continue to teach one course per year and host his famous heritage tours. Ken will be living part time in Florida, and will be getting married soon to Carol Miller. Thank you, Ken, for your support of the California History Center.

### Member Challenge

Over \$20,000 was raised during the member challenge of this past spring. These funds will be used to set us on the right track to begin the next 25 years. A special thank you to all who contributed.



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## 25th Anniversary Challenge Donors

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De Anza College

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