

# e The Legacy e

Lompoc Valley Historical Society's Quarterly Newsletter

## Hi! Sign Corner's History

as told to Karen Paaske



*Hi! Restaurant photo from a 1960's newspaper*

The corner SE of E Street and Ocean has a varied past, but for many years in Lompoc it was the home of the Hi Restaurant. This location originally had homes, but in 1957- 58, Bill Schuyler bought two lots for a car lot. As this was a booming economy with Vandenberg arriving, two brothers named Hinton asked Bill to build a restaurant. It opened May 22, 1960. Vince Hakes was the manager-chef. Twelve people were employed and the restaurant had 12 booths, 26 stools and was originally part of a franchise. Breakfast and lunch were served. In 1967, Warren and Vi Bottroff purchased the restaurant from Bill.

There were many people who rented the property. Eldon Baird operated it for 14 years. In 1978, Mary Wilder bought the equipment from Eldon and rented the property. She ran it for 7 years.

In 1985, Bill and Judy Blackford ran it and then Bill, Jr. took over from them. The Blackford's had it for 11 years. The Blackford's had the sign refurbished with new neon lights. Locals met for breakfast here, it was their social club. Afternoons brought seniors, lawyers, and public officials. Bradford let seniors pay later if they didn't have the money and delivered meals to them if they were ill. People from Vandenberg

spread the word around the world and customers came to this little store-front cafe. Louie Dominques had it a short time. Vi Bottroff McNett sold the property to become to Jalama Beach Cafe and it was remodeled. The restaurant closed in 2016, but Vi retained ownership of the building and property which remained empty. Eventually it sold in January 2017 to a group who will build a Starbucks on the property. The old building was demolished in July 2017. The Hi sign was salvaged, declared Lompoc's #1 Landmark sign and is currently at the historical society for reconstruction. Eventually it will be installed at the American Host restaurant. (Thanks to Mary Wilder for the history)



The name "Lompoc" does not appear until 1837 when Gov. J. B. Alvarado of California signed a grant giving the Lompoc Rancho, containing 38, 335 acres to Jose Carrillo.

## THE STORY OF A CURB

By Donna Dimock

Fifty years or more can pass quickly but this is kind of a funny story. I was working at the Lompoc Record when a friend asked me if my husband had lived on "D" St? His folks had 5 acres on the corner of "D" and Airport where the little house still sits with the garage in the middle of the street, of course in 1959 it was in the country and all dirt roads where they were putting in a curb for the paved street. I told her he had lived there when he was growing up and she told me she was walking one day and saw his name etched on the curb. So we went over to look at it and sure enough there were the "Dimock kids" names; Larry, Pollywog (Michael) Richard and their sister Jennifer (Santos) etched in the wet cement from many years ago. The funny part is none of them remember it! A few years after that we had the opportunity to obtain the curb when they were digging it up to put in a new one that is handicapped accessible. We moved it here to our ranch on Jalama Rd and got a backhoe and dug a trench to insert the big, heavy chunk of cement. Easter 2017 those kids were all here together again so we got this picture of them in front of the relocated curb, where they etched their names almost 60 years ago.

Curb continued on Page 6



## List of Oldest Living Lompoc High School Graduates

*Updated from last year's list. Researched by Myra Manfrina*

Class of 1933, Luella Ray is the only survivor of that Class. Luella is in Santa Maria Merrill Gardens and is Mrs. Preston Shell Luella is the oldest living graduate of Lompoc High.

Then Lucy Pensa, of the 1934 Class is the only survivor and 2nd oldest graduate. Lucy married Mario Raffetto, and is doing quite well in Idaho at age 102, and is near her daughter Connie Cook.



*Lucy Pensa*

In 1935 Class, Margaret Canfield Margaret married Lloyd Kalin, Class of 1932. She is in her Buellton home.



*Margaret Canfield*



*Senta Tognetti*

1936 - Senta Tognetti survives. She is in Santa Barbara; her husband was James Foulon.



*Mary Silva*

1937 - I find one- Mary Silva, who married Pete Cabral, Mary is the oldest graduate living in Lompoc. And lives with son Alvin Cabral.



*Wilson Burrill*

1938 - I haven't researched well -- but Dorothy Briggs, in Hawaii, Wilson Burrill in Washington State and Geraldine Lewellyn in Lompoc, are doing okay.



*Geraldine Lewellyn*



*Dorothy Briggs*

*In the foreground the Civic Auditorium currently located at the 200 block of South "L", built in 1932 with the old High School in the background.*



*Myra Huyck*

In class of 1939, Velma Kolding in Patterson and Myra Huyck, in Lompoc, both age 96, are ok.

If anyone knows of others in these classes who I've missed, please let us know -- mm21@impulse.net

Photos and article by Sherrie Chavez



## History in a Bottle

No, we aren't talking about an old note from the 1800's in a bottle that washed ashore because that would be truly amazing! We are talking about wine produced from some very old vines presented in a bottle that does look like a perfect vessel for a floating message.

The Historical Society received an invitation from Deborah Hall, maker of Gypsy Canyon Wines for a tasting and tour of her ancient Mission Grape vineyard known as "**Marcelina's Vineyard**", named after the first known female winemaker in Santa Barbara County. It has an estimated planting date of 1887, perhaps planted from cuttings of the Mission Padres of long ago. This vineyard is located up Gypsy Canyon off of Hwy 246 in

the Santa Rita Hills not far from La Purisima Mission. Deborah and her husband purchased the 130 acre property in 1994 with intentions of planting Pinot Noir vineyards and to sell the fruit and finish raising their children in the countryside. Unfortunately her husband passed away shortly after they purchased the property. She was now on this endeavor on her own!

While clearing a hillside they discovered three acres of hidden vines in the brush. They were originally thought to be Zinfandel grapes as such; later DNA testing revealed that they were Mission Grapes, not the most desirable for making wine in Pinot Noir country. Nobody wanted to purchase them.



^ 100 year old gnarled Mission grape vine

Inspired by her love of history Deborah delved into the Padres wine making notes at the Santa Barbara Mission archive library and decided to produce their favorite wine "Angelica", a fortified dessert wine that is golden orange in the glass and a beautiful treat to the palate. Deborah hand crafts this wine in the same style as the Padres and makes less than one barrel per year. **Her "Angelica" is bottled in a beautiful hand-blown glass bottle that truly compliments the history of the wine.**



*Pictured on the left is Alvin Cabrel (in plaid) with Jan Webb next to him. Steve Junak (with the mustache) sitting on the couch with Karen Paaske and Sandy Sanders then on the right is Deborah Hall.*

First we visited with Deborah in her beautifully restored Craftsman style home and tasted through her lovely wines. We then took a walk down a quiet dirt road and up the hill to this very special vineyard overlooking the neighboring bean fields and her other vineyards of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, as well as a newer Mission Grape vineyard that was planted from cuttings from the ancient vines. We walked the three acres together as she shared her stories of how the vines have been revived and what it looked like upon their discovery and how she by happenstance became a wine maker. She has even left a few vines as is, covered in brush. Perhaps paying homage to what was left dormant for over 100 years. As you can see in the photograph the gnarled vines definitely shows the age!

As we returned and said our goodbyes and thank you, Deborah presented each of us with a **bottle of her "Angelica"**. A small piece of history in a bottle that is truly special!

We would like to express our gratitude to Deborah for the generosity of her time and sharing her wine and her passion for the history of its origins.

From the Lompoc Record 8-9-73

#### **An 'I LIKE LOMPOC' button**

was none the worse the wear despite a 476,000 miles round trip to the moon on Apollo 16. The lucky button was in the hands of the Lompoc City Council today thanks to the generosity of Astronaut John W. Young, right, who put the button in his pocket two years ago during a visit to Lompoc Flower Festival. **The Button was pinned to Young's letter of explanation.**



#### **Letter's content**

July 18, 1973

City of Lompoc  
Mayor and Councilmen  
City Hall  
119 West Walnut Avenue  
Lompoc, CA 93436



Dear Gentlemen,

Enclosed is the "I Like Lompoc" button which flew to the moon on Apollo 16. I was hoping to have the opportunity to present it to the city in person, but it doesn't seem likely that that opportunity will be forthcoming.

I very much enjoyed being at your Flower Festival two years ago and wish you a successful event this year.

Very truly yours,

John W. Young  
Captain, USN  
NASA Astronaut



John W. Young enjoyed the Longest Career of any astronaut, becoming the first person to make six space flights over the course of 42

Young Career continued on page 6

GOOD FOR 5 CENTS TOKENS COULD BE GOOD FOR 5 BUCKS MAYBE EVEN 10 . . .

Hi, Bill Sudbrink here. I'm the guy referenced in the Spring 2016 "The Legacy" concerning treasures in your junk drawer. Since the article a number of folks have brought in their accumulation of coins and there have been a number of interesting pieces. However, only two people brought in Lompoc "good for tokens", one family donated their pieces to the Society, but the other person was not interested in donating theirs. Bottom line, the society has not been very successful in obtaining more examples of Lompoc "good for tokens" for it's collection.

Consequently, I've obtained permission from the Society to purchase needed examples. The price range for the tokens not already in the Society's collection would probably be in between \$5 and \$20 each, depending on the specific example and it's condition; i.e. like new, badly worn, bent, etc.

If you have any Lompoc "good for tokens" that you are interested in donating or selling to the Society, email the token's details to our President, Karen Paaske, at kpaaske@verizon.net and/or me at vze2br4w@verizon.net, or call me at 201-370-1491. Be sure to include a telephone number where we can reach you. Thanks for your consideration and have a great LOMPOC day.

Young Career continued from page 5 years of active NASA service, and is the only person to have piloted, and been commander of, four different classes of spacecraft including Gemini, the Apollo Command and Service Module, the Apollo Lunar Module, as well as the Space Shuttle. He drove the Lunar Roving Vehicle on the Moon's surface and is one of only three people to have flown to the Moon twice. He also commanded two Shuttle flights. Young retired from NASA in 2004.

Curb continued from Page 2

On "D" St their house was very close to the airport; which is where the shopping center and Lompoc High is located between Pine and College. There was a blimp base located there in the mid 40's and Larry has fun memories of the blimp flying low over their house and throwing out candy to their driveway.

May, June & July 2017  
Memorials & Membership  
Welcoming New Members  
Charles E. Blair  
Alvin Cabral  
Eva Hamon  
Elizabeth Lewis  
Heather Beadford  
Margaret Courtney  
Lynn Pedersen &  
Ricard Lindekens Family

Total Number of Members: 428

Bruce Fall  
Eugene Huseman  
Lyla Sechrest  
Recently passed away

Memorial Contribution in Honor of  
Eugene Huseman

#### From the Treasurer's Desk....

Jeannette Wynne

Summertime is here! With that comes membership renewals for those on an annual renewal basis. If you are a Life member, move on to the next paragraph. For those of you who pay your dues on a yearly basis, read on. As a reminder, LVHS is NOT run on a "calendar year" but a "fiscal year." Our "fiscal" year runs from September 1 of this year to August 31st of the following year (2018 coming up). Some of you continue to pay dues in December or January of the current year, but that is not our fiscal year. When I send out renewals this month of August, your annual dues are DUE SEPTEMBER 1st of THIS YEAR. I will be most appreciative if you send your dues in to LVHS, P.O. Box 88, Lompoc, CA 93438 in a timely manner. We count on your annual/fiscal year dues to keep our bills paid current. By the way, if you don't receive a dues notice it means you are either a LIFE member or you are paid ahead and can skip this year. Anytime you want to pay for 2 years at a time is fine with us. We keep a record

Treasurer continued on Page 7

# Karen's Chronicles

Hope everyone has had a terrific summer!

Many classes are anticipating Reunion weekend during Labor Day. The class of 1947 will be celebrating their 70th graduation! Large groups from other classes are expected to attend. Our most special celebration is for the class of 1967, their 50th! The Lompoc High Alumni will induct 3 graduates into the Hall of Fame. Anyone is welcome to attend the dinner at the Elk's Sep. 1 or the BBQ at Ryon Park Sunday, the 3rd. A special Open House at the Historical Society will take place Saturday, September 2 from 10am to 1pm. Myra Manfrina will be in the reference room.

Harvey, Jesse, Brian and Dan worked tirelessly on the yard remodel. New wide sidewalks are installed and look terrific. Soon new trees and plants will be in place, along with a couple of benches. The roses look terrific thanks to Dr. Blake Jamison and Jo Hoag. Dr. Jamison has contributed several new roses to replace those that didn't survive the transplant away from the house.

Hope you saw Joe Avila and Dan Dutra in the Model T racing roadster in the Flower Festival Parade. Brian Donelson & Joe displayed it at the Old Town Market July 1.



The Hi sign was removed in April thanks to John and Chad Valla and Dustin DeVaux. Sunbelt Rentals donated use of a high-level fork lift to hold the sign while demolition occurred. The sign resides at the historical society during restoration. A GOFUNDME page along with check donations

has raised \$3683.00 toward restoration with lights, new metal areas, new pipes inside. Jerome White, a local architect is currently working with a structural engineer so it will be correctly installed at American Host Restaurant. To contribute, mail a check to Lompoc Valley Historical Society PO Box 88 Lompoc, CA 93438

## NOTICE !

Karen Paaske

There will be no Victorian Christmas Décor this year at the Spanne House. After over 15 years running, Ardeane, the Keeper of the House will be taking a break due to conflicting commitments this year.

Treasurer  
continued from Page 6

of how long your dues are covered AND we can save a little on renewal postage. 😊  
Thank you so much!

Next up is the annual Class Reunion dinner at the Elks Lodge on September 1st. Those reservations are due soon, so keep them coming. A reservation form can be found elsewhere in this publication. They MUST arrive at least 10 days before the event to assure you a place at the table. Also, make note on that form how many are coming to the picnic at Ryon Park on Sunday Sept. 3rd. You will pay for the BBQ at the event, but our cooks need to know how many to prepare for. If you have any questions or want info about reservations for the Elks dinner, please contact the Reference Room at the Spanne House OR by calling (805) 735-4626. You can leave a message and someone will return your call.

**In closing, I'd like to ask if there is someone in our membership that would be willing to take over the position of Treasurer. I've been doing it for about 16 years now and I would really like the extra time to work on some of my own family history projects that seem to take a backseat to everything else. I also acquired a 2 day-a-week job a few years ago that takes up more time. I am supposed to be "retired." So, if you're interested or I can twist your arm a little, can we meet and chat about the possibility? Give me (Jeannette) a call at 737-1170. Thank you!**

# Up and Coming Events...

## Executive Board

Karen Paaske - President  
Ardeane Machado Eckert - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Harvey Wynne - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Julie Ann McLaughlin - Secretary  
Jeannette Miller Wynne - Treasurer  
Jan Webb - Corresponding Secretary

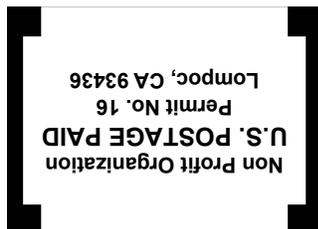
## Directors

Barbara Mundell Cabral, Myra Huyck  
Manfrina, Dan Dutra, Rose Machado  
**Roberts, Readon "Donnie" Grossi Silva,**  
Jesse Jones, Brian Donelson, Irma  
Gadway, Don Fletcher, Sherrie Chavez,  
Debbie Schuyler Manfrina, Lynn Benedict  
Romine and Larry Huyck

Honorary Board member Carolyn Huyck Strobel

- NO open house in AUGUST
- SEPT 1-3 Pioneer Weekend
- SEPT 23 open house
- OCT 28 open house
- DEC 14 Holiday Event  
@ the W. W, Broughton House

JOIN US FOR THE  
ANNUAL PIONEER  
WEEKEND CELEBRATING  
92 YEARS OF  
COMMUNITY SPIRIT



Lompoc Valley  
Historical Society  
P. O. Box 88  
Lompoc CA 93438

