

# LOMPOC LEGACY

Lompoc Valley Historical Society, Inc.

Founded September 5, 1964 at Lompoc, California

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN **No. 102**

August 2010

## Some 1908, 1909 and 1910 Events

Edited by Vance Newcomb

### 1908

#### **The Great White Fleet Sailed around "the Corner"**

A local Historian in 1971 saw the list of a "great number of Lompoc residents who signed the register at the Point Arguello Light House way back at the end of April, 1908. The register made no reference to an event taking place. It didn't take long to find what the Lompoc folks went to see. The "Great White Fleet left Santa Barbara on April 30 and sailed into Monterey Bay on May 1. An excursion train took Lompoc 'tourists' out to Pt. Arguello to watch 15 battleships and 20 support ships sail around the Corner of California on April 30."

#### **The Ships were:**

Battleships:: CN, KS, LA, VT, VA, GA, NJ, RI, AL, IL, Kearsarge, KY, OH, MN, MO.

Destroyers: Hopkins, Hull, Stewart, Whipple, Lawrence, Truxton.

Supply and Repair Tenders: Celtic, Culgoa, Panther, Arethusa

Colliers: Yankton, Hannibal, Leonidas, Marcellus, Brutus, Ajax, Caesar, Abarenda, Nero.

35 ships, 14,338 men, 1,011 guns.

#### **T.L. Harris Retiring Editor of Lompoc**

##### **Looks Back on Last Three Years**

Street Lights from coal oil lamps to gas lights to electric lights. From one bank to two. 100 modern comfortable houses have been built. Two story brick Odd Fellows hall replaced little frame building. The Three churches enlarged and improved. Cement sidewalks replaced cow trails and wooden walks. Grammar school added one teacher. From one auto to several fine machines. Public Library established with

reading room and several hundred books and leading magazines. Oil industry has made great strides.

#### **Rev. James McClimon preaches in Lompoc**

Mary McClimon, in an apartment in Los Angeles, wrote to her mother in England April 23, "Well Mac is at Lompoc yet." (He was asked to preach there two Sundays, April 18 Easter and April 25.) "He had a very nice time last Sunday and the folks seemed favorably inclined. He seems to like both the place and the people...The country around is very pretty." April 27 she wrote, "Mac has received an invitation to the church at Lompoc (pronounced Lompoke), taken a house and almost bought some furniture. It nearly took my breath away when he got back and told me that."

#### **Baptists welcome new minister, Rev. James McClimon from Blackpool, England**

Lompoc, April 26, 1908 At the close of the morning sermon preached by Rev. James McClimon, The following motion was read by the Clerk and seconded by Bro. F. S. Lewis, Resolved that this church extend a call to Rev. J. McClimon to become our Pastor for one year at a salary from the church of \$550...from May 1<sup>st</sup>...passed unanimously, members present 17. W.W. Walley, Church Clerk

#### **Letters home to England**

Rev. McClimon's wife, Mary, wrote home to her mother in England on May 3, 1908 shortly after they got to Lompoc. (see Legacy No. 85, Nov. 2000) She wrote: "Here we are at last in our own home again. I am delighted with the house. I don't think I ever saw a more convenient one. Did I tell you the rent is \$15 a month...The water rate is \$1.50 per month and the electric light minimum is \$1." She added,

"Folks at the chapel are very kind.. We are being kept in vegetables, eggs, fruit and are often invited to dinner. One lady brought a delicious strawberry short cake and rich cream to use with it."

## 1909

### **The Wreck of the Sibyl Marston**

**January 12, 1909**

Excitement in Lompoc began in 1909 with the wreck near Surf of the Lumber carrying steam schooner, *Sibyl Marston*. Efforts to free the stranded ship failed and salvage operations included gathering up lumber strewn on the beach. Although the Santa Barbara Lumber Co. was in charge of salvage operations at least the house at 326 South H St. has 12 x 12 foundation timbers from the lumber off the ship. Also two houses, one at 105 East Olive Ave. and Attilio and Carolina Perozzi's house in the Lynden School district, were built using salvaged lumber. (See *Lompoc Legacy No. 99*).

### **Perozzi's Five Bedroom House**

In 1903 Attilio Perozzi purchased 330 acres in Lompoc Canyon, the present site of the South Vandenberg Headquarters. During the great flood of 1907 his children sat on the hill above the floodwaters and cheered as their (Lynden) schoolhouse was floating along with its school bell clanging in the belfry. They thought they wouldn't have to go to school any more! Alas, Perozzi donated a piece of his property where a new schoolhouse was soon built.

Attilio Perozzi salvaged lumber from the *Sibyl Marston* in 1909 and built a five bedroom home on the ranch. The house was finished just in time for his wife, Carolina, to give birth to their last child, William (Bill) Perozzi. Bill Perozzi was for many years the owner of Perozzi Hardware on the northwest corner of I and Ocean. He was the Lompoc Pioneer President in 1971.

## 1910

### **William Wallace Broughton, Founder of the Lompoc Temperance Colony, Died February 12, 1910**

#### **Temperance was his driving inspiration!**

W. W. Broughton married Amanda Anthony. She was a daughter George T. Anthony, a blacksmith in Santa Cruz, California. Her father

did not carry the image of a hard hitting blacksmith with a "colorful" vocabulary. He was a church going Methodist Temperance worker! There are some who say there is a family connection to Susan B. Anthony. When W. W. Broughton married Amanda Anthony in the mid-1860's he was in his 30's and his bride was 15. They both adhered to her father's belief in Temperance!

### **Lumber Delivered to Santa Ynez**

It was in 1868 that Broughton came with two shiploads of redwood lumber to be offloaded (into a rising tide) at Gaviota where the pier was yet to be built. A lawyer, he was engaged in operating the two Santa Cruz saw mills, whose lumber was being off-loaded.

### **A Valley of Dreams**

While he waited for the lumber to be brought ashore he visited the San Julian Rancho. Broughton discussed his dream with the Rancho majordomo George Long, of somewhere establishing a Temperance Colony. Long may have wondered about this strange idea, but he rode with Broughton to overlook Lompoc Valley. Sheep and cattle became hopelessly difficult to roundup in the tangles of brush, trees and artesian bogs in the vast expanse below, so one man's dream and the other man's desire to be rid of a poor "rangeland" gave birth to a mutual solution.

### **Lompoc Valley Land Company**

**Six Years Later - in 1874**

W. W. Broughton returned to Santa Cruz and with like-minded men in Santa Cruz, San Jose, Santa Clara, Watsonville and other places in California (and beyond) put into motion the concept of creating a Temperance Colony. The movement was fraught with problems along the way - some were weather related, drought, washed out wharves, etc. but it came down to unenforceable "laws" regarding forfeiture of land if alcohol is at issue, that finally ended the Temperance dream.

### **It Was the "Dry's" against the "Wet's"**

Howard Broughton, a son of Wallace W. Broughton, in a history of his father, wrote the following stories in 1930, 20 years after his father's death in 1910. Even in Santa Cruz when Howard was a small boy he paraded down the streets with other boys (and probably their

mothers) with banners of colored paper from Broughton's newspaper office denouncing local saloons and liquor traffic. Santa Cruz voted in favor of the saloons but he was satisfied that he had fought for better conditions. In Lompoc things were different.

#### **Fighting Booze in Lompoc**

The Temperance-believing "Dry's" were a moving force in the beginning. The first test came when the Drug Store on the southeast corner of H and Ocean was selling liquor (Probably for "medicinal" purposes). The women of the community marched in and broke the bottles and kegs of liquor. Later a hotel was suspected of dispensing liquor and considerable damage resulted from a mysterious blast.

The next story involves Howard Broughton's grandfather George T. Anthony, who had moved to Lompoc from Santa Cruz to be near his daughter Amanda's family. It's the story of pulling a "shanty" off its foundation using a rope with a lot of citizens and a real "tug of war". The owner of the shanty next door to Dinwiddie Hall had licenses from the county and the national gov't to sell liquor, so he refused to close up when requested by town officials. It was Saturday and all the people in Lompoc were in town, and all the folks from the surrounding area were there doing their weekly shopping. So when a temperance meeting was held in the middle of the street in front of the saloon, using a large dry goods box for a stage a very large crowd gathered. The usual program of prayer, singing, recitations by some of the young people of a poem on temperance and a temperance "sermon", was followed by one more appeal for the closure of the "shebang". Upon refusal, Howard's grand father George T. Anthony and "Uncle Jimmy" Saunders went to Rudolph's store and bought a long rope. It was placed around the building. Half the crowd pulled on one end and the rest of the crowd pulled on the other end. When it began to look bad for the building, someone inside cut the rope through a crack in the wall causing a big pileup in the street. "Uncle Jimmy" with a large horse pistol in his hand told the occupants he would start shooting into the building if the rope was cut again. The building was vacated, the rope was tied and the building was pulled off its foundation and was made useless.

The main participants were arrested and were tried for "Riot" They were acquitted with Howard's father, W. W. Broughton as part of the defense.

#### **Fighting the Good Fight to the End**

Broughton was at heart a liberal democrat and served the community in many capacities. He used his newspaper, *The Lompoc Record* to promote candidates in elections including himself or issues and always promoted Lompoc. He encouraged the library, reading and intellectual pursuits. He, with his college education, taught his young wife and gave her space to express herself in his paper with the byline, A. E. Broughton. She liked to write poetry.

#### **Achievements during 12 years as Supervisor**

**Good Roads:** Early roads in Lompoc were ruts and bogs in the winter and insufferably dusty in the summer. Shale from the hill near Miguelito Park was used to surface graded road surfaces in the winter and wells were dug with windmill towers and tanks to provide sprinkling water to keep the dust down in the summer.

**Municipal Water:** Tanks at the springs up Miguelito Creek and pipes to carry the water into town for distribution in a city owned system was achieved during his service as Supervisor in 1894.

**Electricity?:** Although there is no record of it, perhaps he had something to do with a locally owned generating plant in the first decade of the 1900's.

#### **His Life Achievement**

Howard Broughton ends his 1930 tribute to his father (who died Feb. 12, 1910) by saying "Everywhere I go in Santa Barbara county I am continually approached by people who have something to say in commendation of what he did for them or their father personally, or for some act in his public career. Twenty years is a long time to be remembered."

#### **Tribute to the Late Judge**

#### **William Wallace Broughton**

#### **Eloquent Eulogy Pronounced at the Funeral of the Deceased by C. R. Corning**

C. R. Corning had been the pastor of the Baptist Church from 1894 to near the end of the 1890's. He and W. W. Broughton had enjoyed countless intellectual discussions during the first decade of the 1900's, and Rev. Corning had given up the pulpit ministry. His three column

Eulogy was quoted in its entirety, extolling the intellectual qualities of Broughton. It was no history of his founding of Lompoc and no documentation of Mr. Broughton's family. But it was a tribute to Broughton's efforts to attain the ideals he sought to achieve.

1<sup>st</sup> In the Home: Our brother's home life was an ideal one. I always felt when I entered his door that I was being admitted into the abode of harmony and love.

2<sup>nd</sup>. In the Community This is next to home, the place where our life makes its record. Besides what I have mentioned in regard to his efforts to develop Lompoc and its surrounding territory, much might be said of other things than material advancement. In his life is written into the growth of our town, so it is also in our hearts.

3<sup>rd</sup> In the broader field of Public Life Mr. Broughton's efficient work during his twelve years as Supervisor has the general commendation of the people of Santa Barbara County...In the Temperance movement he rendered especially valuable service. There was not a saloon in his district at the close of his service as a member of the board.

"Let us take up the work that he has laid down. Let us strive to serve our age and generation-to give better things to our posterity."

## 1910 – 35 Years of Lompoc

### *The Lompoc Record*

#### **Waiting for the Flood to Subside**

Broughton brought new equipment to begin publishing the Lompoc Record when he came from Santa Cruz in 1875. He planned to start publishing in January 1875, but encountered a flooding Santa Ynez River and Lompoc was on the other side! He had to wait until April 10 before he could ford the river and prepare to publish the first issue.

*Incidentally the flood encouraged the town to move the cemetery from the first riverside location to higher ground (the present site) including the three first people buried there.*

In that first issue Broughton promoted Lompoc Valley including its virtue as a Temperance Colony. He also put in a pitch for the Lompoc weather. "Saturday April 17, 1875: The

mornings and evenings are warm and pleasant, and the midday breezes prevent excessive heat. The nights are always cool and comfortable."

#### **In that Issue He Promoted a May Party**

"It is suggested that a May Party be held at the grove up the Miguelito, three miles from town. It is befitting that a little festivity be mingled with the busy life of the present. Let us all celebrate that day."

"Sat., April 24, 1875

#### **GRAND MAY DAY PICNIC**

"There is to be a grand picnic and dance in the Park Grove up the Miguelito on Saturday of next week, May First. The lumber is already on the ground for a large platform and preparations are being made..."

Sat., May 1, 1875

"THE PICNIC TODAY...Great Preparations have been made by the committee to render the May Day party a most grand affair... Mr. O. L. Abbott (Corresponding Sec. of the State Grange)...will deliver the address and Miss Lansdell will sing several...pieces with piano accompaniment. Let us...cultivate a sociability that shall make the residents of this valley friends and neighbors."

#### **"Fourth of July**

The 'Glorious Fourth' will soon be here when we shall have, no doubt, the largest and best (picnic) of all."

Sat., June 5, 1875

"Fourth of July...Several of our patriotic citizens desire to know how the colonists feel about a grand 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at Park Grove

Sat. June 19, 1875

"Fourth of July...The several committees are vigorously at work preparing for the celebration...It is desired that all come with a goodly supply of edibles as there are many among us not yet provided with a better half."

Sat., July 10, 1875

"The Glorious Fourth was ushered in at Lompoc at the usual salute from fircarms and anvils in truly patriotic style. And such a day, so different from any day in any other state. It was clear and balmy, warm enough for all outdoor pleasures, but instead of a blistering sun or sultry heat or fear of thunder showers, we had a most pleasant and gentle breeze tempering the warmth to the most desirable degree.

#### **Looking ahead**

"The next public entertainment will be the harvest feast of the Grangers when the valley will send in their offerings and return thanks for the thousand of blessings we enjoy."

See *Lompoc Legacy No. 41*, Spring 1984 for more "Early Celebrations."

2010 Labor Day Weekend Festivities  
September 3<sup>RD</sup> through September 5<sup>TH</sup>  
Schedule of Activities

Friday, September 3  
Dinner at Lompoc Elks Lodge

6pm No Host Cocktails  
7pm Dinner...BBQ Beef, beans, salad, bread, dessert, coffee  
\$25.00 per person  
(This includes Elks rental fee and 15 % gratuity per person required by the Elks Lodge)  
Paid reservations due BEFORE August 20, 2010

Saturday, September 4  
Open House

10 am to 2pm  
Fabing-McKay-Spanne House  
207 North L Street  
Donations Accepted

Sunday, September 5  
Chicken BBQ at Ryon Park

Served at Noon  
BBQ Chicken, Beans, Chopped Salad, Bread, Fruit, Water, Coffee  
\$10.00 per person - PAYABLE AT THE PARK  
Do not send money for this - we just need a guest count for groceries.

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RESERVATIONS FORM - DETACH AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK

DINNER AT ELKS LODGE - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2010

NAME OF EACH GUEST  
ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER AND E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00 EACH \_\_\_\_\_

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SUNDAY CHICKEN BBQ RYON PARK - \$10.00 EACH

PAY AT THE PARK - A COUNT IS NECESSARY FOR SUPPLIES

NAME OF EACH GUEST  
ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING THE CHICKEN BBQ \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT INCLUDE PAYMENT FOR SUNDAY'S BBQ- PAY AT THE PARK

Mail Check Payable to Lompoc Valley Historical Society, PO BOX 88, LOMPOC, CA 93438

Lompoc Valley Historical Society, Inc.  
PO Box 88  
Lompoc, CA 93438

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## Calendar

### OPEN HOUSES AND WORK DAYS FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

*All dates and times below are open for tours and research*  
Each Monday and Thursday during the month except

National Holidays:

8am to 11 am

Saturday Open Houses:

August 28<sup>th</sup> 10am to 1pm

September 25<sup>th</sup> 10am to 1pm

October 23<sup>rd</sup> 10am to 1pm

Lynn Clock usually plays the Aeolian Organ  
on the Saturday Open House.

Mark Your Calendar

## Lompoc Valley Historical Society, Inc.

LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA

I WISH TO JOIN THE Society - I am enclosing  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment for the year \_\_\_\_\_

MARK CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP

*\*ANNUAL DUES\**

Single Membership - \$25.00

Family Membership - (in household) \$35.00

Sustaining: person or group offering monetary support  
without participation in activities -

Individual - \$50.00 and Groups - \$100.00

Patron - and Businesses, etc - \$250.00

Junior membership - Under Age 18 - \$5.00

*\*LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP\**

Individual - \$250.00

Family - \$350.00

Organization - \$500.00

*\*MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION\**

Special memorials may be made in the name of a deceased  
person in any dollar amount.

Please give year of birth and death for that person.

Include name and address for deceased family members.

Please mail with check to

Lompoc Valley Historical Society, Inc  
PO BOX 88, Lompoc, CA 93438