

THE LEGACY

Lompoc Valley Historical Society's Quarterly Newsletter

"Happenings at the Once Vibrant Corner of NE H and Ocean" part 2 is postponed to the next issue of the Legacy in the Fall.

THE SPIRIT OF LOMPOC AND THE RED CROSS IN WORLD WAR 1

Glancing over the "on line" Lompoc Journal headlines in April 1917, the outstanding patriotism shown by the ladies and gentlemen of Lompoc shines through. The United States formally declared war against Germany on April 6, 1917. The Journal's April 6th headline was "Patriotic Rally Saturday to Show Lompoc's Loyalty", followed by "Patriotic Rally Proves Our Loyalty", then "Home Defense Guard for City is Organized" and on April 27th, "Lompoc Branch of Red Cross Starts With Roll of Over 300".

The first mention of the Lompoc Red Cross is in the 1902 book "A Record of the Red Cross Work on the Pacific Slope", by American National Red Cross. In the book a detailed report was given from June 9th 1898 to January 10th 1899 of the Lompoc



Martha (McFee) Farnum

organization's inception and commitment by Mrs. C. A. Farnum, President of the Lompoc, Santa Barbara County Red Cross Society. Mrs. Farnum (Martha McFee) was also one of the twelve founding members of the Lompoc

Harmony Club, today's Alpha Club. She was elected to be their first president in 1898. (Parks, Mary Lou, "Her Story" "The Alpha Literary and Improvement Club" p12, 26)

1917-With America's entry into World War I and the knowledge that "our" boys would be deployed to the trench war conditions in Europe, President Wilson appointed a War Council in May for the American Red Cross to raise funds and increase its reach. By April 23rd, Lompoc was already holding a mass meeting of their newly organized

auxiliary branch of the Red Cross for Santa Barbara County. The officers were A. McLean, chairman; Mrs. Andre Lehman, secretary and Harvie Milo Hawkins, treasurer.

Mr. McLean was a past Republican

assemblyman, prosperous rancher and substantial citizen of Lompoc. He was well known as straightforward, fearless and a man of sound, common sense. (Journal June 30th 1916) Married to Mae McLean (daughter of W.W. Broughton), they both had prominent roles in the Lompoc Red Cross and helped fund drives to aid the starving Armenian sufferers, 1917-1918.



Four days later, the Red Cross membership committee in Lompoc, with chairman Mrs. L.E. Heiges (Margaret) urged all to “Show your patriotism and join” “We need you”. The First National Bank donated a room for their general use and Lompoc Power and Light Co. donated the use of electricity for the room. (Journal April 20th, 1916, April 27th, 1917)

Mrs. Heiges was deeply involved in her family, the Lompoc Red Cross, Civic Club, Alpha Club and church affairs. She made sure



Young Mrs. Margaret Heiges & Family.

Lompoc’s Red Cross WW1 war work quota’s and drives were more than filled and helped to beautify the city in many ways. This included but was not limited to; helping build the library, installing the Mission Style gateway at Ryan Park entrance and financing the flag pole monument honoring Lompoc’s WW1 heroes erected in the town center, 1925. Mr. Warren of the Lompoc Record wrote of her “You can lean the world up against Margaret Heiges and she wouldn’t even wiggle!” (Heiges biography H.S.)

Among the over 300 members who joined the Red Cross membership campaign in April, Harry Sakata, one of the leading Japanese farmers in the valley, had the distinction of being the first to take out a life membership in the order. He also held a life membership certificate in the Japanese

branch of the Red Cross. In another two weeks, membership reached 444 which included 86 from the Japanese community, 3 with life time memberships. (Journal April 27th, May 11th 1917) Gertrude (Loynachan) Learned’s “MEMORIES OF MY DAYS IN LOMPOC 1898-1923”(Legacy Vol 68) shares “Harry Sakata leased a goodly piece of bean land just north and west of our Ocean Ave. place. He was an intelligent and progressive man and sponsored over from Japan many young men desirous of living in America.” Mr. Sakata moved to Watsonville Ca. in 1918, but continued to help in Lompoc. He worked with the Lompoc Japanese community during the Red Cross War Fund second drive raising a large sum. (Journal May 31, 1918)

Harry (H.K.) Sakata Courtesy of Pajaro Valley Historical Association.



Mr. Sakata became a successful lettuce grower/shipper in Watsonville Ca. He purchased the Historic Gilroy Hot Springs in 1938, now part of Henry Coe State Park. After

WW11 and being relocated and interned at Poston, Arizona with his family, Mr. Sakata offered his Gilroy resort as a hostel for those returning from internment camps. He became an American citizen in 1953. (California Historical Landmarks, Issi Oral History Project, Watsonville Collection)

May was a busy month for the Lompoc Red Cross. The “cutting committee” organized sewing schedules for pillow cases, sheets, operating caps and gowns. Yarn was ordered for knitting. Chairman McLean was

in Santa Barbara and met a Red Cross nurse just returned from the hospital in France. An interesting fact she mentioned was home-made woolen socks were needed by men in the hospital suffering from “trench feet” caused by standing so long in the mud for days. Indeed, the American Red Cross launched a mighty campaign for the home front to knit wool sweaters, mufflers, socks and wristlets for “our” soldiers.

Lompoc High School quickly became involved in the Junior Red Cross. In the first week of May, Vice-Principal and High School teacher (soon to be Principal) Miss Lillian P. Williams asked in Assembly that as many as possible join the Red Cross. A great many of the students had joined and all seemed very glad to help in such a worthy cause. (Journal May 4th, 11th, 25th 1917,)



Lillian P. Williams

June 18th-25th was deemed Red

Cross Week. The goal set in Lompoc was \$5,000, with the actual total reaching close to \$6,000. Of the total per cent of the money raised 25% could be used for local (Santa Barbara County) Red Cross needs and 75% was sent to Washington for Red

TO MISS WILLIAMS
 IN AN EFFORT TO
 EXPRESS THE
 GRATITUDE WE
 HOLD IN OUR
 HEARTS FOR THE
 WONDERFUL AND
 UNSELFISH
 SERVICE YOU
 HAVE GIVEN US
 FOR SO MANY
 YEARS, WE WISH
 TO DEDICATE THIS,
 OUR FIRST
 ANNUAL, TO YOU.

*Lompoc Union High School
 dedicated their 1923 annual
 to Miss Williams*

Cross work throughout the world.

According to reports, Lompoc was the banner Red Cross town in the county and made the best showing of any section. (Journal June 22nd, 1917)

In August, the young ladies of the Red Cross with Miss Vivian Saunders, chairman, were engaged in making “comfort bags” to be presented to all the boys numbered in Lompoc’s quota of the three drafts. The bags contained a sack of tobacco, tooth brush and paste, a pad of writing paper and envelopes. The contents were not included in the outfit furnished by the government. (Journal August 24th, October 12th, 1917)



Vivian Saunders (Shanklin)

The Lompoc Journal notes Vivian’s involvement with the Red Cross and also the formation of the Junior Red Cross at the Lompoc grammar school in January 1918 with Vivian as their 3rd grade teacher. Lompoc Legacy Vol 16 “THE SAUNDERS... PART1” profiles Vivian and her pioneer Saunders/Shanklin family.

Meanwhile, the Lompoc Red Cross met for work every afternoon except Saturday. Per the committee on knitting, Mrs. Heiges, Mrs. Lehman and Mrs. McLean, knitters were needed to complete 25 sets (sweater, muffler and wristlets) by October 1st. Instructions were issued and published in

the Journal for knitting the complete set. (Journal August 31st 1917)

Note: your Historical Society friends are presently busy knitting this complete set for you to see on your next visit to our Historical Society museum!

Lompoc sent 35 knitted sets to Santa Barbara the end of September, 10 more than promised for the big drive of knitted goods going to France October 1st. Per chairman of the knitting committee, Margaret Heiges, we are now knitting for our own boys and 60 sets must be completed within a month. "Do your bit by helping our own boys be comfortable!" The clicking of knitting needles could be heard throughout Lompoc. (Journal September 28th 1917)

By November, every mail of the Lompoc Red Cross received letters of appreciation from their Lompoc soldiers for the knitted sets they received. As published in the November 30th 1917 Journal; Not to be outdone, the sewing group sent off the third box of hospital supplies which included bed shirts, pajamas and bathrobes. Plans were also being made to send a Christmas box filled with candy, nuts, raisins, gum, handkerchiefs and writing paper to each of "our" boys. (November 23rd, December 14th 1917)

1918-In the New Year, a girl's class, under the direction of Miss Hill, was formed at the high school in connection with the Junior Red Cross. Every week a visiting, trained nurse taught the girls how to roll bandages and make necessary articles for Red Cross work quotas. The Junior Red Cross at Lompoc's grammar school was organized



with many pupils joining. Each of their names was highlighted in the Lompoc journal. They began to collect old postage stamps and had their first food sale for the Red Cross. (Journals January 11th, 25, March 1st 1918)

In spring, an important Red Cross drive in May was approaching. A large meeting was held to plan the drive and to discuss whether or not the Lompoc Red Cross should succeed from the Santa Barbara chapter to form a chapter in Lompoc, including Santa Ynez Valley. This would allow a percentage of all money secured in the drive to go into the local treasury, used under the direction of the Lompoc chapter officers.

The Second Red Cross War Fund drive was a huge success, raising just under \$14,000. This represented three times "over the top" of Lompoc's goal. Lompoc was awarded its own chapter, no longer under the jurisdiction of Santa Barbara. Officers of the Lompoc chapter of the American Red Cross were: Alexander McLean, Chairman; Mrs. A. Lehmann, Vice-President; R.C. Jones, Secretary; A. Lehmann, Treasurer. (Journal May 18th, May 31st 1918, Legacy Vol 82)



Mrs. A. Lehmann with Marcelle and Lucien

Mr. and Mrs. Armand Lehmann came to Lompoc in 1881 and operated Klein and Lehmann Gen. Merchandise. In 1907, Mr. Lehmann organized the Lompoc Produce & Real Estate Co. Their daughter, Marcelle, was part of the 1918 Lompoc High School graduating class whose motto was "Impossible is Un-American" (Historical Society)

In September, Miss Williams announced two periods for girls and boys every Wednesday would be devoted to Red Cross work. In addition, the Junior Red Cross was expected to take charge of the old clothes drive for the Belgian Relief.

Mr. F.M. Clark, chairman of the Home Service Section of the Lompoc Chapter, American Red Cross wrote in the September 20th Journal, "We are ready and eager to help and serve you. We will furnish you with any necessary advice whether financial, medical or legal and get information of the whereabouts of the men in service. Come see us for all your problems. It is a privilege and duty the government has turned over to the Red Cross.

World War 1 ended November 11th, 1918. A recording by Ruth Anderson (part of the Lompoc Oral History Project) at the Lompoc Museum, describes the celebrations in Lompoc.

The Lompoc Museum is offering programs related to World War I on the 11th day of each month through Nov. 11, which will be the 100-year anniversary of the end of the war. On May 11th WW1 presentation at the Lompoc Museum which will be highlighting the Red Cross in Lompoc. For more information, call the museum at 736-3888 or by email lompocmuseum@gmail.com



Marcelle Lehmann with friends (from left to right) Vera Balaam and Minnie Rennie (Center woman ?) Marcelle Lehmann and Myrtle Pierce in WW1 outfits with musical instruments taken at war end.

Mr. E.A. Vaughan, Superintendent of the Lompoc Light and Power Company, writes in his diary, Legacy Vol 82, "In addition to Hospital day shirts, bed shirts, mufflers, sweaters, pajamas, socks, wash cloths, bandages, etc. the chapter packed and mailed 56 Christmas boxes to soldiers in U.S. hospitals and shipped 2570 lbs. old clothes for the Belgian Relief commission. By Dec. 1918 the Lompoc Chapter had a war fund balance on hand of \$3,326.66"

Marcia Harris Hart



Bustles and Bonnets on "B" Street

March Quarterly Meeting

Feb, Mar, & Apr 2018 Memorials & Membership

Welcoming New Members

- Larry & Deb Craig**
- Timothy Bazza**
- Ronald & Rose Reid**
- Barbara Nyman**
- Alan & Cindy (Schuyler) Shutz**
- Carol Mertens (Life)**

Total Number of Members: 423

- Carol Calvert (Life)**
- Horace Fabing (Life)**
- Shirley Mertens (Life)**
- Mary Moore Smith (Life)**
- Howard Dean Morehart**
- Dr. Karin Jamison (Life)**
- Recently passed away

Memorial Contribution in Honor of

- Ronald Williams**
- Dorothy Emmons**
- Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Burton**
- Horace Fabing**
- Howard Dean Morehart**
- Carol Calvert**
- Victor Sousa**
- Tony Domingos**
- Shirley Mertens**
- Jim & Mimi Laubly Hoag**

Our President and the festivities MC, Karen Paaske sporting a hat from the Historical Society's collection



The evening's presenter Nancy Wear

Live model Brea is wearing a day cap and preparing to don a bonnet to wear out on the town during a demonstration of the layers of clothing when dressing in the 1860s.



"Clothes mean nothing until someone lives in them."

Marc Jacobs Fashion Designer



A hat from our collection on display as a table centerpiece.

Nancy mingling with attendees Teresa and Christine McLaughlin at Mission Valley Events located at 138 North B Street.



CYCLING IS FASHIONABLE

Factoid learned from Nancy Wear's presentation: The bicycle craze of the 1890s change women's fashion forever and ushered in an age of freedom as women began to abandoned their corsets for a set of wheels.

Karen's Chronicles



Roses are blooming everywhere!

Come stop by to see the landscaping and the new rose garden from Dr. Blake Jamison, planted by Jesse Jones and Dan Dutra. Jo Hoag is caring for the garden. Sure could use more help with this area if anyone has a few hours a month!

The **Steak BBQ** by the River Bottom boys is a month away.

Hi Sign Update! A fabulous offer arrived from two former Lompoc residents, Mark Dewald of Park City, UT and Gary Macdonald of Altadena, CA who offered to restore the sign. An agreement was recently signed, so hopefully restoration can commence in the next few months. Special thanks to Lompoc attorney, Leslie Johnson for his legal help, Jerome White, Lompoc architect and Sean Pierce, Structural Engineer for all of their assistance.

Travel Writers visited the house a few weeks ago were very impressed and look forward to seeing their articles about Lompoc in the future.

Myra is celebrating her 97th birthday later this month! The Historical Society and the community is so fortunate to have her expertise.

Karen Paaske

Bricks salvaged from the yard's makeover.



Dr. Blake Jamison working on the roses at the Spanne House

From the Treasurer's Desk....

Jeannette Miller Wynne

Happy Spring everyone! That means summer is coming up fast. Two items to mention:

- (1) The JUNE BBQ at the Fabing/McKay/ Spanne House is on the 10th. **Reservations are due in my hand by June 1st.** Our crew needs to know for fixins' to purchase and how many to cook for. **PLEASE** put your reservation form in the mail by May 30th so I receive it in time. (Form can be found in this newsletter)
- (2) Looking ahead, Membership renewals (for those on an annual basis) will be going in the mail in August. For new members, our membership year is from Sept. 1st, 2018 until August 31, 2019. I really appreciate receiving your dues in a timely manner after you receive the notice.

See you at the June 10th BBQ !!

Up and Coming Events...

Executive Board

Karen Paaske - President
Ardeane Machado Eckert - 1st Vice President
Dr. Blake Jamison - 2nd Vice President
Linda Warren - Secretary
Jeannette Miller Wynne - Treasurer
Jan Webb - Corresponding Secretary

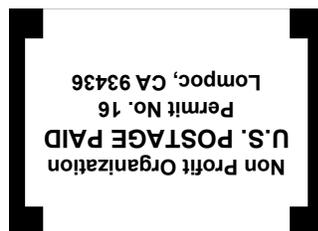
Directors

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

Honorary Board member
Carolyn Huyck Strobel

- **MAY 26 open house**
- **JUN 10 Quarterly Event BBQ**
@ **The Spanne House**
- **JUN 23 open house**
- **JUL 28 open house**
- **93rd Pioneer Reunion**
Labor Day Weekend
- **AUG 31 Quarterly Event Reunion Dinner**
@ **The Elks**
- **SEP 1 open house**
- **SEP 2 Chicken BBQ @ Ryon Park**

WMI
U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN
100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE COMMEMORATING



Lompoc Valley
Historical Society
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