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Administrator's Notes

by *Ralph Gibson, Museums Administrator*

As I write this, we are completing the installation of our last exhibit for this year: two displays for the Gold Country Fair. After that, we'll take a deep breath, catch up on some things, and start planning our next exhibit: Postmortem. This will replace the "What Killed the American Hat" exhibit in the Courthouse gallery.

Something else we are working on is the Cemetery Tour for October. The Old Auburn Cemetery Tour will be Sunday, October 6th at 1:30 pm. Like last year, a variety of docents and volunteers will be on hand to reenact the colorful lives of past Auburn residents. There is no need to call ahead or purchase tickets. Show up between 1:30-3:30pm at 170 Fulweiler Avenue, and the dead will rise to tell you their stories.

Fall Living History gears up at the end of September and runs through the first week of November and then we'll start decorating for the Holidays – but that's another issue. I hope everyone had a great summer and will have a great fall. Happy Halloween!

How do you take your tea?

The Placer Herald is getting a facelift thanks to one dedicated volunteer.

Do you know someone who has contributed to our understanding of Placer County history?

Mark the date for the Old Auburn Cemetery Tour.

Taking Tea

by *Kasia Woroniecka, Curator of Collections*

Tea became popular in Europe after it arrived from China in the early 1600s. As the demand for exotic beverages like tea, coffee, and chocolate grew, so did the variety and size of the porcelain and silver-plate sets used to serve them.

Some of the most elaborate tea services were produced in the Victorian era and could contain more than 40 pieces. The tea kettle and the coffee pot were added to the larger tea services, and coincided with the fashion for taking mid-afternoon tea. The tea pots were typically short and round, which allowed tea leaves to expand and steep, while coffee pots were tall and slender to retain the heat.

Tea service patterns were often influenced by the neoclassical elements of Greek and Roman art, while the curved forms were informed by the Rococo style. Silver tea sets were popular because they matched the pattern of any porcelain tableware. By the end of the 19th century, many silver service designs were influenced by the simplicity of the Arts and Crafts movement. Teaspoons, sugar spoons, and sugar tongs often accompanied these sets.

Tea is still enjoyed around the world today, with tea sets—old and new—part of the experience.



Haviland & Co. three-piece tea set: tea pot, sugar bowl and creamer. Haviland & Co. started in 1840's New York as a porcelain importer. In 1842, impressed with the quality of French porcelain, it opened a factory in Limoges and began production for the American market. Haviland & Co. became the chief supplier of porcelain services for the office of the President of the United States, including Presidents Lincoln, Cleveland and Harrison.

Placer County Museums Collection



A William Adams silver plated tea and coffee set. This set includes a coffee pot and teapot with black resin handles and knobs along with a kettle stand and burner, a sugar bowl with a lid, and a creamer. Made in Sheffield, England, circa 1902. The town is famous for Sheffield plate, the process of plating copper objects with silver, which made them cheaper than those made of solid silver.

Placer County Museums Collection



Porcelain tea set by unknown maker c. 1880-1900. The set includes a tea pot, sugar bowl with lid, a creamer, a candy dish, a set of cups and saucers, and a bowl. The bowl could be a slop bowl, which allowed tea drinkers to pour out the cold tea and leaves left at the bottom of the cup. Slop bowls became standard tea set equipment in the 18th century and came in different shapes and sizes. They were eventually replaced by the tea strainer and seldom appear in modern tea sets.

Placer County Museums Collection



Chinese tea set with tea pot, cup, and basket.

Circa 1930.

Originally tea was valued for its medicinal qualities, aiding digestion and boosting immunity. When tea was introduced to England in 1600s, it was drunk using the traditional handleless bowls the Chinese used and referred to as a “dish of tea” rather than a cup. The teacup handles were introduced at the turn of the 19th century.

Placer County Museums Collection



Mermod Jaccard quadruple plate four-piece tea set.

Mermod Jaccard & Co. was a St. Louis retail jewelry store that also sold silver. The company dates to about 1845. Mermod Jaccard silver was made by various silver manufacturers, but the store marked pieces with its own name. This set includes a tray, teapot, sugar bowl, and creamer.

Placer County Museums Collection

A New Look For Placer News

by Kelsey Monahan, Archives Curator

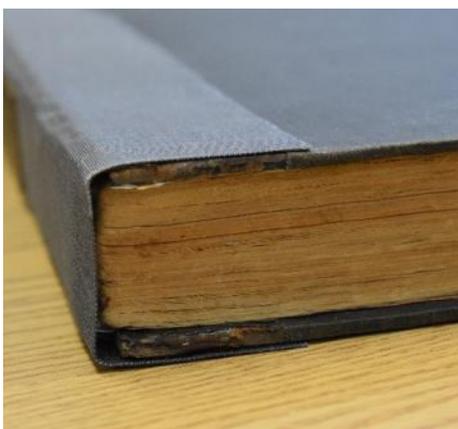


Newspapers are one of the most important resources we have at the Archives and Research Center. They contain important information on historical events, vital record information like birth or marriage announcements, and give us insight into what life has been like in Placer County over the years. One of our most frequently researched newspapers, available to the public in our Research Room, is *The Placer Herald*. The Herald dates to 1852 and was published weekly on Saturday. As you can imagine, some of the volumes are beginning to show their age. Ralph Petri has been volunteering for the Archives since 2014, and he has been hard at work repairing these bound volumes.

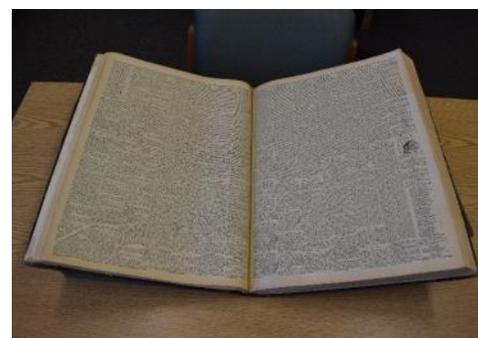
Ralph examines each page looking for tears or missing pieces that need to be repaired using a special material called Filmoplast. This acid-free tape is transparent, does not affect the chemistry of the material it is applied to, and it can be removed with water.



Once Ralph has inspected and repaired the pages of an annual volume, he puts them into a book vise, and double sews the pages together. The pages are then given a hinge that is glued with an archival adhesive. Equipped with this hinge the pages and the original covers can be reunited using a new spine cover.



To protect our historic newspapers during this process, all methods and materials are designed for archival purposes and are completely reversible. Once the covers have been attached the volume is ready to be returned to the Research Room for public use.



Repairing the bound volumes of the *Placer Herald* collection not only makes them easier to access and research but ensures the newspapers will be preserved for future researchers. This project is a perfect example of the important work done by volunteers to make our collection more accessible for researchers, staff, and other volunteers.

Ralph has now repaired almost 70 years of bound volumes! We are so grateful for his work on this project and his book binding expertise.



News from Placer County Historical Society

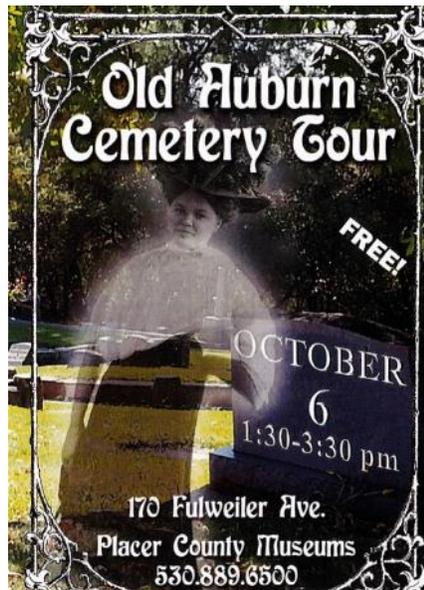
by April McDonald-Loomis, President

April400@wavecable.com (530) 823-2128

Who doesn't love Fall in the Foothills? This is probably my favorite time of year, not too hot, not too cold! A few Society projects have been completed. Part Two of the Art Sommers Collection has arrived and is in capable hands at the Placer County Archives. Art has also decided that there might be a Part Three. If that should happen, we would assist with financing. In the meantime, Art has donated several Placer County related books for the December Society Dinner Meeting.

The research books the Society helped fund for Kasia at the Placer County Collections Facility have arrived and she is delighted with all of them. All the research work has been completed for the plaques for the Old Town businesses. We just need to get them printed and distributed.

Mark your calendar for October 6, 2019 for the Cemetery Tour given by the Museums Docent Guild. This event gets better every year! These terrific individuals, all eighteen of them, will reenact stories of Auburn's past residents. Beside the regulars like Alma Bell and Rattlesnake Dick, they have several new stories to tell this year.



Be on the lookout for poor Katy Andrews, who died way before her time, Hattie Fellows, murdered in her backyard, and many more. These Docents do a fabulous job, making the Tour enjoyable for everyone involved. It runs from 1:30 to 3:30 and is free, although like any non-profit, the Guild is always happy to receive donations.

The Society is involved with other historical organizations in the county that are interested in presenting an annual History Award to an individual who has significantly contributed to Placer County History. If you want to nominate someone, we can provide you with the criteria for the award.

April McDonald-Loomis

Keep History Alive!

**Volunteer for
Placer County Museums**

(530) 889-6500
museums@placer.ca.gov

Placer County Historical Organizations

Colfax Area Historical Society

Chris Miller
(530) 346-8599
colfaxhistory.org

Donner Summit Historical Society

Bill Oudegeest (209) 606-6859
donnersummithistoricalsociety.org

Foresthill Divide Historical Society

Sandy Simester
(530) 367-3535
foresthillhistory.org

Fruitvale School Hall Community Association

Lyndell Grey
(916) 645-3517

Golden Drift Historical Society

Sarah Fugate
(530) 389-2121

Historical Advisory Board

Glenn Vineyard
(916) 747-1961

Joss House Museum and Chinese History Center

Richard Yue
(530) 346-7121

Lincoln Area Archives Museum

Elizabeth Jansen
(916) 645-3800
laamca.org

Lincoln Highway Association

Bob Dieterich
bobd@iname.com
lincolnhighwayassoc.org

Loomis Basin Historical Society

Karen Clifford
(916) 663-3871
ppgn.com/loomishistorical.html

Maidu Museum & Historic Site

Kaitlin Kincade
(916) 774-5934
roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum

The Museum of Sierra Ski History and 1960 Winter Olympics

David C. Antonucci
(775) 722-3502
tahoemuseum.org

Native Sons of the Golden West Parlor #59

Dave Allen (530) 878-2878
dsallen59@sbcglobal.net

Newcastle Portuguese Hall Association

Mario Farinha
(530) 269-2412

North Lake Tahoe Historical Society

Marnie Carr
(530) 583-1762
northtahoemuseums.org

Old Town Auburn Preservation Society

Lynn Carpenter
(530) 885-1252

Placer County Genealogical Society

Toni Rosasco
(530) 888-8036
pcgenes.com

Placer County Historical Society

April McDonald-Loomis
(530) 823-2128
placercountymuseumsociety.org

Placer County Museums Docent Guild

Fran Hanson
(530) 878-6990

Rocklin Historical Society

Hank Lohse
(916) 624-3464
rocklinhistory.org

Roseville Fire Museum

Jim Giblin (916) 538-1809
rosevillefiremusem@gmail.com
rosevillefiremuseum.org

Roseville Historical Society

Denise Fiddymont
(916) 773-3003
rosevillehistorical.org

September

- 5** 2:00pm Placer County Historical Society Board Meeting, Room 10, Auburn City Hall, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn. (530) 906-4901
- 9** 6:00pm Rocklin Historical Society Board Meeting, Parks & Recreation Office, 5460 5th Street, Rocklin. (916) 624-3464
- 10** 4:00pm Roseville Historical Society Board Meeting, Carnegie Museum, 557 Lincoln Street, Roseville. (916) 773-3003
- 16** 6:00pm Forest Hill Divide Historical Society Business Meeting, Forest Hill Divide Museum. (530) 367-3535
- 18** 6:00pm Loomis Basin Historical Society General Meeting, Loomis Library. (916) 663-3871
- 26** 7:00pm Placer Genealogical Society Meeting, Beecher Room, Auburn Library, Auburn. (530) 885-2216

October

- 3** 6:00pm Placer County Historical Society Dinner Meeting, Auburn Veteran's Hall, 100 East St, Auburn. (530) 906-4901
- 6** 1:30pm Old Auburn Cemetery Tour, 170 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn. (530) 889-6500
- 8** 4:00pm Roseville Historical Society Board Meeting, Carnegie Museum, 557 Lincoln Street, Roseville. (916) 773-3003
- 14** 6:00pm Rocklin Historical Society Board Meeting, Parks & Recreation Office, 5460 5th Street, Rocklin. (916) 624-3464
- 16** 5:30pm Historical Advisory Board Meeting, Bernhard Winery, 291 Auburn-Folsom Rd. Auburn. (530) 889-6500
- 16** 6:00pm Loomis Basin Historical Society General Meeting, Loomis Library. (916) 663-3871
- 24** 7:00pm Placer Genealogical Society Meeting, Beecher Room, Auburn Library, Auburn. (530) 885-2216

Placer County Historical Society Dinner Meeting

When: October 3, 2019

Time: 6:00 Dinner, 7:00 Program

Where: Veterans Memorial Hall, 100 East Street, Auburn

Cost: \$16 per person

Menu: TBD

Program: We are honored to have historian Phil Sexton for our speaker. Phil has been involved with the California State Parks for many years and is considered an expert on many facets of California history. The topic for the presentation will be the Transcontinental Railroad.

PLEASE RSVP BY SEPT. 26th and mail dinner checks to:

PCHS c/o Jane Hamilton,
1871 Crockett Road, Auburn, CA
95603. (530) 885-7839 or
hamiltonjanel@me.com

DO NOT BRING ALCOHOL.



PLACER COUNTY MUSEUMS

101 Maple Street
Auburn, CA 95603



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