MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

It’s hard to believe that we have come to the last quarter of the year. We have overcome and endured a lot of changes these past few months. To say that these are unprecedented, uncertain times is putting it very mildly. Even with our gallery being closed due to COVID-19 restrictions and operating minimal office hours, we have managed to raise some funds and manage our investments; we were sought out by the public and private sector to access our collections; we even increased our board, and our membership. Your leadership team has worked hard navigating virtual board meetings, virtual finance meetings, virtual membership drives, and virtual member events, and we will continue to do so.

What 2021 will bring will be new challenges as we work to restructure our gallery and fundraising events. We have been working on increasing our social media presence and virtual footprint to be able to allow you access to our collections and virtual events as seamlessly as possible. We will be shifting the board...
positions around a bit, with some hat swapping, and we continue to have new opportunities for all members to volunteer on one of our many committees.

I am truly grateful to be part of this organization and consider myself very lucky to have served as President alongside such amazingly talented and hard-working board members. I look forward to these next 3 months with all the challenges that our country's upcoming election and the COVID-19 pandemic will bring this winter. I just ask that everyone stay safe and remain physically and mentally healthy. Happy end of year holidays to you and yours.

Alfonso Voychez, President

Continued from previous newsletter

My Family, by Mickey Fausett (photos by the author)

About 1937 my grandmother’s second-born son from the Montana family came through Sacramento while on a trip. The address he had was from a card they received in Montana announcing my Aunt Peggy’s graduation from high school. Ernie knocked on the door after being coaxed by his wife, Elsie. Peggy was on the other side of the door wondering who was knocking on the door early on a Sunday. She opened the door and Ernie told her a quick version of the family from Montana. The family here in Sacramento had no idea there was another family in Montana.

That same trip my Aunt Peggy and 2-year-old cousin Kathy got in the car with two “strangers” and went to Montana. A very close family relationship quickly developed. After that initial meeting and trip, the Montana family including the ex-husband is visiting in Broderick in 1940.

My father Robert spent his teen years’ summers up in the Bitterroot hanging out with his big brother, Ernie. Uncle John from the Montana family was well-known in the Bitterroot as a hunting and fishing guide. When the Bukers came down to Sacramento for a visit, it was always a big thing to spend an hour showing slides of his trips. I think my first trip up to the Bitterroot was when I was 12, about 1958. This was the days before the interstates. I remember the motels we stayed at had lots of trees and shade. Even crossing Nevada. The desert seemed to go forever. I don’t remember being real excited about visiting the Bitterroot
Valley as I am now. I sure wish I could go back in time and walk down the main street and see more horses hitched than autos.

After Grandma Fausett’s passing, at her request, her remains were transported to the Bitterroot by rail and are buried in the Victor, Montana, cemetery next to her father’s and facing the valley.

My cousin Jack Buker inherited the family ranch and lived in the middle of a hundred and fifty acres. A trip to Montana wasn’t complete without a visit with Jack. It wasn’t until 2007 I got to know Cousin Jack a lot better. One of the goals in my life was to go on a “work party” to Big Creek Lake, up in the mountains behind Jack’s. The trip into the lake was 10 miles by horseback. Supplies were brought in by packhorse and helicopter. We would work hard for 10 days resurfacing the dam. It was a little on the cool side so we didn’t spend much time fishing and hiking after work hours. Two years ago, Cousin Jack was tending irrigation ditches and stirred up a swarm of hornets. Although he had the allergy stuff, it wasn’t enough and they killed him in just a couple of minutes.

Rita and I attended the memorial services for Jack in mid-September of 2017. I hadn’t planned on going to the Bitterroot that summer because of all the fires and smoke through Idaho and Western Montana. When I got the news about Jack, I called Rita to see if she wanted to take a trip. Not a day trip but about 10 days. The only issue we had is should we get one or two rooms. That’s another story. Turns out the weather turned wet and put all the fires out. It actually snowed up on Lost Trail Summit. Leaving the Bitterroot we headed for the Lolo Pass and down the Lochsa River system. It is a beautiful drive and we had no problem with fires or smoke. Didn’t even see any.

With Jack passing, and later my Cousin Kathy moved to Idaho, my family to visit was cut down to two. Just Kathy’s Brother Norman in Hamilton, and Jack’s Sister Kay out of Victor. While I’m still alive my goal is to get a “caravan” going up to the Bitterroot. Family members are interested and I’d like to get back up there and meet all the Bitterroot family younger generations as well as showing the Fausett side of the family why I was going up there.
**The British Empire game of Cricket in West Sacramento**

So, why do an article on this British Empire game of cricket? For the past several years during the summer months, I’ve noticed this game of cricket being played on Sunday morning at Summerfield Park while walking the dog. I’ve stopped, took time to watch them play, and came to the conclusion, I don’t understand this game, but wow. This historic game is being played on one of our city parks in West Sacramento, and most persons walk through the park and don’t take the time to watch. Cricket may not have spectators like the game of soccer, yet this team is part of a larger league of cricket teams in Northern California.

Below is the history of cricket, Cricket in Northern California and Cricket in Sacramento information, and the basics of how cricket is played. In any case, our community is diversified in culture and we should take time to learn and embrace other cultures. Why not begin with cricket?

**History of Cricket**

The British brought cricket to India in the early 1700s, with the first cricket match played in 1721. In 1848, the Parsi community in Bombay formed the Oriental Cricket Club, the first cricket club to be established by Indians. After slow beginnings, the Europeans eventually invited the Parsi to play a match in 1877.

**Cricket in Northern California**

Northern California Cricket Association (NCCA)
Established 1892
http://www.nccacricket.org/NCCA/viewClub.do?clubId=1191

**Cricket in Sacramento**

Sacramento Cricket Association (SCA)
Established 2002
https://cricclubs.com/GOSCA

**West Sacramento Team-Summer 2020**

Team Name: Gladiators CC
Captain: Zafar Iqbal
V. Cap: Iqrar Khan
Players: 38
Home Ground: West Sacramento
Field: Summerfield Park, 2950 Linden Road

**For more information, please see this video**

https://youtu.be/JipHE63bWs
“Ceremony Marks Naming Of Bryte”

Some 75 persons gathered at the Bryte post office at 1 p.m. yesterday as a plaque commemorating the 50th anniversary of the naming of the post office was unveiled in ceremonies by local postal officials and the West Sacramento District chamber of commerce.

The plaque, which arrived unexpectedly at the post office Monday morning, was donated for the occasion by retired Air Force Colonel Walter Bryte, Jr., of Washington, D. C. Bryte said he is a second cousin of George Bryte, one of three children of Michael Bryte, original owner of the land on which the town is located and the family for whom the post office was named. Bryte Peterson, a Sacramento attorney and the great-grandson of Michael Bryte, outlined the Bryte family history in a brief speech and unveiled the plaque with the assistance of Mrs. Zetta Leinberger, Broderick postmaster.

Others taking part in the ceremonies were Raymond E. Jones, superintendent of the Bryte Post Office which since 1957 has been a branch of the Broderick office; Boris Nazaroff, former acting postmaster in Bryte and now assistant Broderick postmaster; and A.F. (Gus) Blanchard, president of the chamber of commerce. Among those attending were a number of Bryte family members still living in the Sacramento area, Assemblyman Ray E. Johnson and County Supervisor S.W. (Sam) Combs.

This Could Be The Last Newsletter

After 10+ years as newsletter editor, this is a good time to pass the torch to someone with more energy and creativity. With that being said, the board has discussed several options beginning in January 2021. I’d like to thank those who have endured proofreading and making much needed corrections: Jane Yeung, Anita Russell, Louisa R. Vessell, and Sharon Freitas. If the newsletters were successful, it was due to your proofing. Thank You!
WHILE THE CURRENT EXECUTIVE BOARD IS SHUFFLING AROUND A FEW POSITIONS, NOTHING IS FINAL UNTIL THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. IN ANY CASE, POSITIONS NEEDED WILL BE FOR:

-PRESIDENT-
-VICE PRESIDENT-
-TREASURER-

These are 2-year terms. If you are interested in being only a board member, this is a 1-year term.
**Newsletter and Media Update, submitted by Vice-President Ileana Maestas**

Since this is the last newsletter from the WSHS, I wanted to take an opportunity to acknowledge Thom Lewis who has been the chief wrangler of the newsletter for the past few years. Thom was relentless in his glee to get the newsletter out for our membership. With gentle prodding and countless emails, Thom kept our letter going a lot longer than any of us realize. Thank you, Thom, for all your hard work. And thank you to all the members and board members who contributed articles, images, recipes and columns that ended up in the newsletter.

So, what is next? The WSHS is headed (albeit a bit late) into the 21st century. Over the past year the board has been exploring a social media program beyond our Facebook page. We have been examining other forms of social media like Twitter and Instagram to see what would best fit our mission and our resources. Ultimately the board decided to contract with a museum professional to create a program that while fulfilling our mission, also takes into consideration that the WSHS is an all-volunteer organization.

This new program on Twitter and Instagram will allow the society to not only tell our history stories, it will also allow members to participate in the conversation. Many times, we receive emails inspired by newsletter articles; these emails are always delightful to read because most of them are fond memories inspired by the article. Of course, sometimes we got it wrong in an article and those sentiments were communicated to us also. These new social media programs will also be public, allowing anyone to see what the West Sacramento Historical Society is contributing to the conversation. We look forward to sharing these new programs with our membership.

One more thing.... the board did have extensive conversations about how not everyone has Twitter and/or Instagram accounts (including some board members). We are exploring how to reflect the social media information on both the website and the Facebook page. We hope these efforts keep everyone up to date on all our activities.

**2020 Sacramento Archives Crawl**

In the last 5 years, we attended 4 of the Sacramento Archives Crawls, either at the downtown Sacramento Public Library or Center for Sacramento History. This year, well, this year was a little different due to the current health pandemic, we did a virtual tour. A milestone event, it marks 10 years for the Crawl and began Thursday, October 1. It allows state, county, city, and historical organizations the opportunity to showcase and share their collections with the general public. In the past, we shared our archive of photos, documents, maps, and posters. This
was no different, however, we included showcasing our entire collection from fire trucks, signs, models, including our archival material through a mp.4 format converted from a PowerPoint.

The Center for Sacramento History and downtown Sacramento Public Library have been very good to us and we really appreciate their invitation. For this year's virtual tour, please go to:

http://sacarchivescrawl.blogspot.com/

or

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZISpup-IH3 - fxzLfHk7Q

FINANCIAL UPDATE
Submitted by Billi Hanlon, Treasurer
June 1, 2020, through September 30, 2020, from Edward Jones Investment interest and First Northern Bank.

INCOME $15,376.00
EXPENSES $ 4,189.00
BALANCE $11,188.00

Gee, I wish I had a coaster for my beverage. What? We have a set of 4?

New members and renewing members receive a FREE set of these specially made coasters. Thereafter, each set will cost $4. Hurry up and join or renew your membership.

West Sacramento Historical Society Board Members and Chairs
- Alfonso Voychez, president
- Ileana Maestas, vice president
- Billi Hanlon, treasurer
- Jackie Rossi, secretary
- Don Schatzel, immediate past president
- Cecilia Vasquez, board member
- Jane Yeung, board member
- Barbara Smith, board member
- Mickey Fausett, committee chair
- Thom Lewis, committee chair
- Tom Nelson and Bob Hollis, webmasters

Contact Information: phone (916) 374-1849; e-mail WSHistoricalS@gmail.com