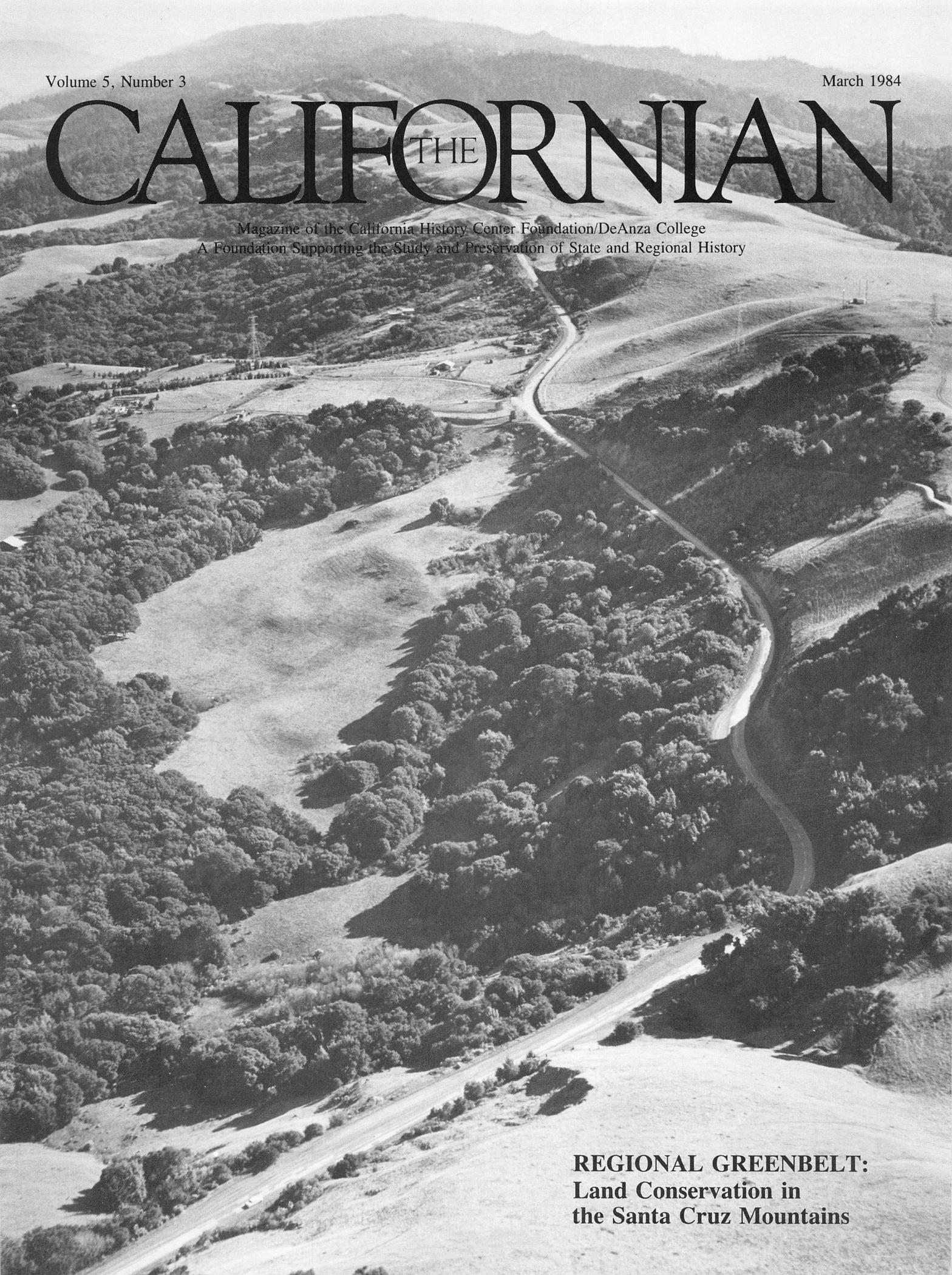


Volume 5, Number 3

March 1984

# CALIFORNIA THE CORNIAN

Magazine of the California History Center Foundation/DeAnza College  
A Foundation Supporting the Study and Preservation of State and Regional History

An aerial black and white photograph of a winding road through a hilly, forested landscape. The road curves through the center of the frame, flanked by dense trees and open fields. The terrain is undulating, with hills and valleys. In the background, more hills are visible under a clear sky.

**REGIONAL GREENBELT:  
Land Conservation in  
the Santa Cruz Mountains**

# EXHIBITS

## 1984 – the Year to Rededicate Your Interest in Preserving History

Writing the year 1984 in my checkbook, on letters, or membership literature brings a flash of Orwell's vision to mind. The recurrent image is of Big Brother looking out the TV screen — the TV we all have usually in the most occupied room in the house. There is a sense of apprehension in the year "1984." It's as if you don't want to look too closely at the dehumanization of our daily lives, the reality of hazardous wastes "living" next door, the misplaced values dictating decision making.

It is a year that rings of the need to rededicate ourselves to preserve our individuality, our God-given uniqueness and identity. What is the source of that identity if it is not the collective "happenings" of the past? What is a community's identity if it isn't the design of its town buildings which reflect the business activities of our town's founders? There is a legacy of the past influencing the growth and development of everything and everyone around us.

The better that legacy is understood, the better its meaning and importance is integrated into the present, and hopefully, the future. The legacy teaches us lessons - in aesthetics, in philosophy of life, in technology and science lessons - about ourselves.

Santa Clara's Silicon Valley is a prime example of progress hurtling us into the future without taking the time to assess the impact of decision making upon the special identity towns and regions had in the past, or the disruptive impact on future livability.

We need your membership in the CHC Foundation to help us document, assess and teach the meaning of the past; its relevance to our present and future generations.

Renew your membership, if you can at the \$50 level, so that the funds can support areas beyond the cost of handling your membership.

Encourage your friends to join the foundation. Bring them to our events or tours. Help them understand that their contributions make our community services possible.

**Seonaid McArthur**  
Director, CHC

### COVER:

*Andrew P. Hill's dream of an automobile and carriage road stretching from San Francisco to Big Basin along the ridge of the Santa Cruz Mtns., came to fruition in the early 1900s with the completion of Skyline Road. It was designated California's second State Scenic Highway in 1968. Photo by Donald Aitken, courtesy Peninsula Open Space Trust.*

On Friday, February 24th the history center opened its Spring Quarter exhibit "Regional Greenbelt: Land Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains," honoring the individuals, families and organizations which have been instrumental in preserving our open space heritage. Without the support of the community these exhibits would not be possible. Regional Greenbelt will be on display in the Trianon through June 22, M-F 8-noon, 1-4:30 p.m. Docent tours for groups are available by calling 996-4712.

## REGIONAL GREENBELT Exhibition and Documentation Credits

The CHC Foundation wishes to thank the following individuals and groups for their assistance:

**Curatorial Research:** Gerry Kenny & Seonaid McArthur

**Exhibition Design:** Sherry Scott under the guidance of Ted Cohen, Museum Designer, Oakland Museum

**Mounting Assistance:** Betsey Soreff, Lesley McCortney, Don Buck, Kathi Peregrin, Mary Jane Givens, Ken Robison, Donna & Jeff Harris

**Banners:** Mary Jane Givens, Sherry Scott

**Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District:** Charlotte MacDonald, Kay Duffy, Herb Grench, Joyce Nicholas, Lindy McLeod

**Sempervirens Fund:** Tony Look

**Peninsula Open Space Trust:** Robert Augsberger

**Committee for Green Foothills**

**Friends of Hidden Villa:** Liz (Duvneck) Dana

### Photographs:

Dorothy Varian, Artemas Ginzton, Roy Cameron, Louise (Garrod) Cooper, Vince Garrod, Jr., Dick Garrod, Mort and Elaine Levine, Tish and Elio Picchetti, Nonette Hanko, Jean Sorensen, Wallace Stegner, Austen Warburton

**Video Documentation:** Kal Kalenda, Robert Burns

### Wineries Support:

Congress Springs Vineyards	Cronin Vineyard
Martin Ray Vineyards	Fogerty Vineyard
Ridge Vineyards	Katheryn Kennedy/The Vineyard
Sherrill Cellars	Page Mill Winery
Sunrise Vineyards	Woodside Vineyards

# CALENDAR

## April

**Monday, 2nd • Spring Quarter begins.**

**Friday, 6th • Wildflowers in Watercolor**

Noted local watercolorist Jean Sorensen of Los Altos, will present a water color demonstration in preparation for two days of lessons in "plein air" painting on April 7 and May 19, 7 p.m., CHC. Demonstration free to members, \$5 non-members. Painting sessions, limited to 25 participants, \$15 members, \$20 non-members, both sessions (does not include materials) first come, first served. Payment deadline March 23.

**Saturday, 7th • Watercolor Lesson #1**

Outing to Edgewood Park with Jean Sorensen to paint such wildflowers as larkspur, tidy tips and goldfields, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. See cost details above.

**Thursday, 12th • Moffett Field Ceremony**

Ceremony marking the end of Moffett Field's 50th Anniversary celebration. The CHC's exhibit on Moffett will be on permanent display and opened at the base officially on the 12th. Call the center for additional details.

**Saturday, 14th • Sacramento by Rail**

Historian, rail buff Paul Trimble leads a train trip to Sacramento for a tour of the California State Railroad Museum, Old Town and Chinatown. 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., \$30 members, \$35 non-members.

**April 28-29 • Victorians of Nevada City**

A weekend tour to Nevada City to participate in the annual Victorian house tour. Cost: \$90 members, \$100 non-members.

**April 28-29 • The Ramona Pageant**

A celebration honoring the 100th anniversary of the publication of the early classic California romance "Ramona." Cost \$225 members, \$240 non-members. Orientation Thursday, April 19, 7-9:30 p.m. at CHC.

## May

**May 4-6 • Springtime in Yosemite**

A weekend combining the best of Yosemite's natural, historical and epicurean delights led by popular De Anza biology professor Lee Van Fossen. Cost: \$190 members, \$205 non-members for lodging at Yosemite Lodge; \$120 members, \$130 non-members for tent cabins at

Curry Village (limited to 15). Orientation, 6-7 p.m., April 10 - CHC.

**May 12-13 • Castle Rock Weekend**

A rare opportunity to learn the natural and human history of Castle Rock with a myriad of botanists, geologists, historians and people who spearheaded efforts to save the Castle Rock area. Cost: \$15 members, \$20 non-members with a \$3 overnight vehicle charge and \$5 per person camp fee collected by park ranger. Orientation 7:30 p.m., May 2 - CHC.

**Friday, 18th • Volunteers Coffee**

Join us for morning coffee and explore ways to enrich your spare time and help the history center as a CHC volunteer. Volunteers help with exhibits, the library, videotape program, social functions and other activities. Bring a friend. 10-11:30 a.m. CHC.

**Saturday, 19th • Watercolor Lesson #2**

The second painting lesson with Jean Sorensen will be held at the Duveneck Ranch where farm animals and a house from the 1860s offer stimulating subjects. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. See details under April 6 - Wildflowers in Watercolor.

## June

**Friday, 1st • Tile-laying Ceremony**

A ceremony to celebrate the completion of Phase II of Project Immortality. The tiles, which commemorate friends and supporters of the history center, will have been placed in the courtyard next to the Trianon. 2:30 p.m. - CHC.

**Sunday, 3rd • De Anza Day**

Trianon will be open for touring. Exhibit "Regional Greenbelt: Land Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains" will be on display. Original watercolors by Jean Sorensen in Grand Salon and South Gallery. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Friday, 22nd**

Spring Quarter ends.

**Friday, 29th**

The history center will close for the summer and reopen on September 4.

For more complete events details please see the CHC's Spring "Calendar of Events."

# REGIONAL GREENBELT: Land Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains

by Gerry Kenny

*Skyline: . . . the line along which the sky seems to touch the earth; . . . the visible horizon. At Windy Hill. At Saratoga Gap. At Montebello Ridge. At Castle Rock. The Skyline that, sometimes on a valley floor hot summer day, entices billowy, white waterfall fog to cover its corridor of madrones, redwoods, oak and Douglas fir with moisture-laden, life-giving air conditioning. The Skyline of Sunday drives and horseback rides, of steep hikes and shaded jogging runs, of quiet picnics and artistic photography, is the grande dame that links the common history of Land Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains to preservation of a Regional Greenbelt in the midpeninsula foothills.*

## **The Beginnings — Skyline**

It began with Andrew Putnam Hill. As a prolific, well-known San Jose photographer and artist, Hill had organized the Sempervirens Club which eventually won a legislative appropriation to purchase Big Basin as a California Redwood Park in 1902, the first California State Park. Even though the fight to obtain initial funding had been freighted with arduous campaigning, promises given but not kept, midnight train rides, stop-the-presses emergencies, and countless frustrations, Hill had successfully shepherded his dream to Save the Redwoods. In 1906, barely rested from that triumph of determination, he undertook a nine-year battle to complete an automobile and carriage road from the metropolis of San Francisco to the seclusion of Big Basin to “exploit the sentiment of the great size and remote age of the forest and the trees” (A. P. Hill). The only existing road started up from Santa Cruz but the new road would be less than four hours ride from the leading hotels of San Francisco and would be a “versatile route that formed a natural park during its length” (A. P. Hill). Using the Panama-Pacific Exposition of 1915 as the impetus to make the park accessible to California and the world “so that no tourist to the exposition could afford to go home without seeing this wonderland” (A. P. Hill), the lobby of Hill’s enthusiasts, including Sempervirens Club members, celebrated the completion of Skyline to Big Basin on May 8, 1915.

From that time forward many citizens struggled to protect the natural and geological beauty of Skyline but met much local opposition and intrusive government policies that, at times, seemed to be responsible to no one. A three-county effort, fueled by wide involvement of many civic and fraternal groups found temporary respite in the 1965 Redwood Road Committee envisioned by Governor Brown to stretch from the Mexican to Canadian borders. But it was cancelled in 1966 by the new Governor Ronald Reagan.

Strongly convinced that Skyline was in eminent peril the concerted effort next sought federal designation as Skyline Parkway, but irreversible development along the route hampered the government’s precise restrictions. The fingers of progress continued their jaunt. “The world at the top remains a land of flowers, verdant hillsides, of madrone and live oak and fir, of high ridges and dazzling views — a place where Bay Area families go for Sunday drives, hikes and picnics. The world at the bottom is suburban living. The gentle slopes have been mutilated and destroyed; wild flowers have been buried by subdivisions” (Skyline Scenic Parkway booklet), by uncontrolled suburban sprawl with what Karl Belser would name “The Making of Slurban America.” But finally, on a fog-veiled January day in 1968, Skyline became the State of California’s 2nd designated State Scenic Highway.

## **Big Basin**

The earliest property contiguous with Skyline Road and conserved as parkland is ironically associated with the founders of an early high-technology company. The story begins around 1910, when John Varian with his three sons, Russell, Sigurd, and Eric, and some friends began to explore the region around the majestic ancient windcarved sandstone called Castle Rock, east of Big Basin. They would “arrive by train, carry their gear up the winding road to Castle Rock or sometimes they hired a rig at Congress Springs for larger campouts and less energetic expeditions” (Castle Rock - West of Skyline). Russell Varian grew up loving the region so much that he proposed that the state set aside 600 acres for a state park, but without much initial success. Determinedly, Dr. Varian privately financed the purchase of the first 27 acres. When he died in 1959 while on a trip to Alaska, funds donated to the Sierra Club Russell Varian Memorial Fund continued his dream for park acquisition and his widow, Dorothy Varian and her two partners in Conservation Associates “have devoted their efforts to add land to the park.” By July of 1968, 513 acres were dedicated as Castle Rock State Park. Long-range goals include eventual boundaries of the 2,500 acres of the San Lorenzo watershed that Dr. Varian felt “enobling to the spirit whether the most colorful or dramatic, or of simple garden quality. For Castle Rock State Park is a place for sauntering, for contemplation — a place for the spirit, of sweetness and light.”

“To enter the wilderness world,” Russell Varian once said, “one must go unencumbered by the values of the world which one has fled, and find anew the values that are ages old.”



*Family camping provided outdoor fun for valley residents even in the early years of the century. Photo by F. Roy Fulmer, courtesy Fulmer Collection.*

Also, in 1968, after long periods of inactivity, The Sempervirens Club was reorganized by Sierra Club members Tony Look and photographer Howard King, who then formed a joint partnership with Dorothy Varian's Conservation Associates to continue raising land acquisition funds for both Castle Rock and Big Basin. The two organizations continue their objective. "Each year since 1968, land and trees have been added — forty acres here, a prime holding of redwoods there. The final addition is not in sight. Those interested in the preservation of the redwood trees and the lands want to finally say . . . "We have saved the redwoods!" (Big Basin - Sempervirens Club).

#### **Committee for Green Foothills**

In May of 1962, 26 people, with Pulitzer Prize novelist and conservationist activist Wallace Stegner as founding president, the Committee for Green Foothills catapulted into being. It was organized originally as "Keeping Factories Out of the Foothills," a referendum fight (which they lost) to prevent 254 acres of Stanford University lands from being annexed to Palo Alto for industrial development. However, this new regional conservation

group would eventually concern itself with an infinite range of land-use planning and open space acquisition in both San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Their "marching greenfeet" became their battery with the ardent aspiration to preserve for everyone "remote feeling places."

As the committee grew they cultivated highly professional legal, geological, botanical and economic input to present precise documentation of all their conservation stances against the inevitable opposition. They often turned, as is so true with many other like-minded organizations, to marvelous rhetoric and prize winning photography. A short and very partial list of some of their avid interests include: development of the baylands, foothills housing construction, the proposed routes of Highways 92, 1, and 280, sand dune removal, proposed Army Corp of Engineers Pescadero Dam Project, vanishing farmlands in the Santa Clara Valley, Kaiser-Permanente relandscaping, offshore drilling, Devil's Slide bypass, and a truly noteworthy initiative towards the Coastal Act of 1976.



*Incredible vistas such as this draw valley residents to the Santa Cruz mountains for peaceful rejuvenation. Photo by Phillip Hyde, courtesy Sempervirens Fund.*

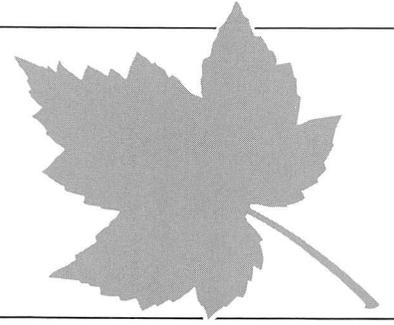
“As long as life lasts, the battle to preserve the wonders and beauties of nature will have to be fought. It is the challenge of the Committee for Green Foothills to make citizens and local governments aware that continuing consumption of open space is a threat to life and the economic well-being as well as the impoverishment of human spirit” (20-20 Vision booklet - Eleanor Boushey).

### **Regional Planning Begins**

“Progress might have been alright once,” Ogden Nash quipped. “But it’s gone on too long!” Like a virginal spring exploding through winter-greyed haze, the dynamism of the 60s, when bombs detonated on battlefields and college campuses, ordinary people began to question steam roller ethics and expressed skepticism towards their government at many levels. A realization that grassroots organizing could accomplish great and worthwhile goals, fanned across the nation. The 1960s were a turning point in conservation of midpeninsula Santa Cruz Mountains and foothills.

On October 9, 1965 a regional conference with the theme *The Shape of Our Future/A Vision for Tomorrow* convened at Foothill College. It brought together over 600 persons “who represented the diverse interests of the communities: some people were concerned about conservation, others were not; some were concerned with the quality of urban development, those with local concern, others with regional interests; some whose actions affect the natural and manmade environment, and others who wish to influence public and private policy” (*The Shape of Our Future* report). This conference had the direct effect of opening local policy problems to an extensive understanding of the whole regional perspective.

A variety of preservation action groups were formed and the Santa Clara County Planning Department, under the leadership of Karl Belser, started to organize the threatened impact of rampant development. Through newsletters, media, persistence, dedication, formidable skill, the county and local groups led the assault to preserve open space and pristine wilderness. Conservation Associates, Sempervirens Fund, several equestrian and hiking



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trails committees, Santa Clara and San Mateo County Planning Offices, People for Open Space, Committee for Green Foothills, Midpeninsula Open Space District, and the Peninsula Open Space Trust are the outstanding organizations directly involved in the Santa Cruz Mountains and midpeninsula foothills, although various city jurisdictions and local groups like the Palo Alto Civic League, Audubon Society, Sierra Club, and private land-conservancy foundations certainly deserve mention.

Another outgrowth of that conference brought together, at the home of Artemas Ginzton, a Women's Workshop for Regional Paths and Trails. The gathering included women from trail user groups plus other women elected or appointed to parks, planning, or various councils. They discussed the political authorizations necessary to permit bike lanes, shortcuts across open space lands, bridge crossings over creeks, trail easements, and the construction of a vaster interconnected network of hillside trails. They had taken hold of an idea and meant to see it mature.

As Santa Clara County began to hold hearings to originate a County Master Plan for parks and open space acquisition (but not the building of trails), the ever-present and persistent Mrs. Ginzton kept asking . . . "and does this include trails?" until the final Master Plan provided funding "to be used to build trails within and to come out of" these parks. In June of 1972 the Santa Clara County Parks Trust Fund came before the voters as a charter amendment, which needed a simple majority to pass rather than the two-thirds favorable vote required of a bond issue. The passage of "Yes on C" built an intercity tax district with the ability to implement an Urban Development/Open Space plan by outright acquisition or easement restrictions that superseded less effective city-by-city zoning ordinances.

Also in 1972, another parks acquisition plan came before the Santa Clara County voters. It had been triggered by an earlier 1970 Jay Thorwaldson Palo Alto Times editorial chafing at "Conservationists, such as those in the Committee for Green Foothills, (who) seem to be in danger of falling into the old conservationist trap of fighting rear-guard battles. If the conservationists and others who value the view from the flatlands are really serious, they should take this time to examine their ultimate priority — undeveloped open space — and move to set up an agency capable of being a recipient for land, either donated, willed or purchased through whatever local, state or federal funds may be available. This worked in the East Bay. Why not in the West?"

In response to the challenge of that editorial, Nonette Hanco invited 12 persons to her home to begin formulating plans to accomplish such a goal. These "seedling trees quickly grew to include wide-spread acceptance for an idea whose time had come" as all city and county council hearings held within the proposed boundaries of the district from San Carlos to Los Gatos drew enthusiastic support. A survey taken within these 17 communities revealed that 73% of the registered voters would support the formation of a two-county district and this led to the initiative being accepted for the November 1972 ballot.

#### **Open Space District Becomes a Reality**

The main hurdle might have been the Santa Clara County Plan due to come to a vote six months before in June of 1972, as the two measures seemed to be competing for the same available tax dollars especially after the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors voted 3 to 2 to remove the measure from that county's ballot. The regional district measure was given little chance for survival. But it too passed and by the overwhelming majority predicted by the earlier survey. On November 7, 1972 the Proposition R — Room to Breathe — became the Midpeninsula Regional Park District. Later the title would be changed to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) to reflect the district's tenet as a low-intensity wilderness . . . "To acquire and preserve scenic and recreational lands . . . and in keeping the unique and natural and cultural history of each site intact" (MROSD - 10th Anniversary pamphlet).

With the hiring of Herb Grench as executive director, MROSD drew up a masterplan towards the "ideal goal" of obtaining an ultimate 50,000 acres to be preserved as open space. This would be accomplished by outright purchase, scenic or conservation easements, or by the purchase of leaseback of lands used for agricultural purposes. Then MROSD began land acquisitions in 1974.

To be congruent with the pre-election political spheres-of-influence of those cities bordering the foothills, the boundary of MROSD was drawn along existing water, fire, or school taxing districts. But this boundary does not necessarily concur with the real geographical or visual "viewshields" that make intact acquisitions wholly open space. Because of this problem, two percent of the district monies had to be spent outside the boundary but yet within the corresponding legal sphere-of-influence of MROSD to round out and protect established preserves.

After the crushing disappointment of the San Mateo County pullout, supporters of the new district began all over again to

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## Families Share Their Land

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organize support for that county's annexation to the Santa Clara County MROSD and, as ballot measure Proposition D on the June 6, 1976 ballot, San Mateo County voters did approve the tax district but only by a narrow margin. "The fact that the district was formed proves that an ordinary group of citizens using the laws of the state could, through their perseverance, bring a dream to the voters" (Nonette Hanko).

Five years after the formation of MROSD, Grench foresaw the necessity to create a private, non-profit land conservancy which could complement the tax supported entity. Functioning as a pre-acquisition landholder, Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), formed in 1977 with Bob Augsburger as executive director, can promote private land stewardship through donations or tax and other financial benefits to the owners, until such time as the land can be acquired through public agencies. As, in the case of the Windy Hill Preserve, the land had been donated to POST in 1979 and POST held the land until MROSD qualified for federal matching funds, and then Windy Hill was sold to MROSD at less than fair market value in January of 1981.

Acquisition of open space along Andrew P. Hill's Skyline is not yet completed. But a significant portion has been set aside for future generations to whom unspoiled wilderness may be even rarer and more priceless. Hill's own sentiments reverberate down through the 70 years since he first wrote them in a circular letter fostering enthusiasm for his road from San Francisco to Big Basin: "When this road is built, (the route will transverse) a country of great beauty and fertility. The views along the road are almost unexcelled and inspiring, consisting of long vistas overlooking deep wooded canyons of redwood and Douglas fir, with little valleys nestling here and there along the beds of streams, while in far distance may be seen the deep blue of the sea. It is a versatile route that forms a natural park during its whole length."

May the Hills of the world, volunteers all to the preservation of irreplaceable beauty, rest a little easier.

*Numerous Santa Clara Valley pioneer families have sold or donated portions of their land to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District in recent years. By doing so they have helped preserve a part of our environmental heritage for enjoyment by future generations.*

### The Fremont Olders

In 1913, Fremont Older, crusading editor of the "**San Francisco Bulletin**," and his wife Cora purchased 120 acres at the end of Prospect Road, Cupertino. The Olders, along with leading reformers and intellectuals of the day, had talked for a long time about a "communal" colony in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

"Woodhills," as the house was known, became a meeting place for leading political, literary, musical and educational figures of the era as Older's influence grew as a leading editor on the West Coast. The reformer's interest in helping parolees and the downtrodden to a better life led many such to become temporary residents of the Older ranch.

After Fremont's death in 1935 and Cora's in 1968, the house and ranch went into decline. The executor of the estate made a sale to a neighbor who planned a subdivision, and the house was slated for demolition.

The newly-formed Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District decided to prevent the subdivision by purchasing the land, but had no funds for the restoration of the tumble-down home. A plan to offer the house on a lease basis to someone who would restore it to its 1913 appearance was finally approved by the District's Board of Directors in 1978. In 1979, community newspaper publishers Mort and Elaine Levine agreed to take up the lease, in order to make Fremont Older's house their home and to preserve a unique historical landmark recalling an important journalistic era.

### The Picchettis

Vincenzo Picchetti was one of the earliest Italian viticulturalists on Montebello Ridge. During the 1870s, he brought his vineyard skills first to assist the College of Santa Clara's Jesuit fathers' production of sacramental wines at the Villa Maria retreat in Cupertino. Then with his brother Secundo he purchased 160 acres of land near Monte Bello Road for \$1,500 and set about clearing the lands of timber, building a large ranch house in 1886 and winery by 1896.

*A volunteer research assistant with the history center, Gerry Kenny has taken numerous classes at the center and is involved with the center's video and docent programs.*

*This article has been compiled from newsletters, publications and personal interviews of the agencies mentioned above and has used significant quotes from those sources. Contributing background research also included *The Making of California Redwood Park*, partially written by Andrew P. Hill, and Stewart L. Udall's *The Quiet Crises*.*



*Thanks to the conservation efforts of thousands of people over the years, future generations will be able to experience the untouched beauty of the regional greenbelt.*  
Photo by Woody Woodward, courtesy Peninsula Open Space Trust.

The first few years the grapes were sold in bulk to local wineries, then with construction of the winery red and white wines were produced under the "Montebello" label. The Picchetti Winery produced only a limited amount of wine following Prohibition and stopped making wine altogether by 1963.

In 1976 the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District purchased 200 acres of the ranch and began seeking a lease arrangement with a winemaker for the preservation of the historic winery buildings and original uses of the land. In 1982 Ronald and Rolayne Storz, owners of the Sunrise Winery in Santa Cruz, began renovation of the buildings into an operating winery for hikers and visitors to Montebello.

#### **The Duvenecks**

Frank and Josephine Duveneck bought Hidden Villa Ranch in 1923. The white house, part of which dates from the 1860s, served as their home until the present home was built in 1930. The Duvenecks considered their land as open space for the public to enjoy rather than as a private property. Early activities included a youth hostel, established in 1937, and an interracial summer camp in 1945. The ranch is still used for these purposes as well as hosting an environmental education program and farm tours for small children.

The Windmill Pasture area was used by the Duvenecks as a horse pasture for many years. The horses were supplied with water that the windmill drew from a well. The Duvenecks' 1977 donation of 430 acres of Windmill Pasture to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is the largest single gift of land to the District.

The Trust for Hidden Villa, a non-profit corporation established by the family in 1960, runs the educational programs and will receive most of the 1700 acres of ranchland and wilderness for the enjoyment of future generations. The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is buying the development rights to the land, thus ensuring the ranch will remain as open space in perpetuity.

#### **The Garrods**

In 1894 David and Sophia Garrod joined Ralph Creffield, Sophia's brother, in a partnership which purchased 110 acres from the Mt. Eden Orchard and Vineyard Company in the hills northwest of Saratoga. Soon the partnership was split and the land divided between the Garrods and Creffields. The David Garrods and their children, R. V., Harold and Mary, retained 65 acres. A barn, still standing, was built in 1902.

The Garrods acquired adjacent land as it came up for sale until there was a total of 242 acres, some of which was planted in apricots and prunes. Eucalyptus seedlings, raised by Sophia Garrod, were planted on the non-crop land.

R. V. Garrod left the Garrod Farms to his children, Richard, Vince and Louise, who sold 118 acres of non-crop land to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District in 1980 as an addition to the Fremont Older Open Space Preserve.

The Garrod Farms stables, established in 1962, are presently managed by Jan Garrod, a fourth-generation member of the family. Many of the stables' original trails are now part of the Fremont Older Open Space Preserve, where they are used regularly by equestrians.

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## State and Regional History

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### **Transportation in California:** *Brian Smith*

An in-depth study of transportation methods and their effects on the growth and development of the state. Five field trips included.

### **Bodie - The Legend and the Reality:** *Bill Palmer*

Traces the heritage of this legendary and colorful region including Bodie, Dog Town, Mono Diggins, Lundy and Monitor. Weekend field trip May 18-21.

### **Yugoslavs of California:** *Elsie Matt*

Lectures, films, research and two field trips are included in this exploration of Yugoslav-American heritage.

### **California's Spanish/Mexican Heritage:** *YaYa DeLuna*

A course for the study of the culture, traditions and contributions of the Spanish and Mexican to California. Three field trips included.

### **History and the Camera - A Workshop:** *Bruce MacGregor*

A combination of lectures and field experiences designed to teach the concepts and methods of photography as an interpretive medium in history. Four photo field trips planned.

### **Neighborhoods of San Francisco:** *Frank Clauss*

Historical development, ethnic and cultural background and architectural features of neighborhoods as diverse as Pacific Heights, Cow Hollow, North Beach, Nob Hill and Chinatown are covered.

### **The Best of Stegner:** *Maurice Dunbar*

Explores the life and works of one of the best and most versatile contemporary writers in America, Wallace Stegner, with an emphasis on those works having a bearing on California's culture and history.

### **Native Art - Australia & California:** *Ilse Gluckstadt*

A comparison of the aboriginal art of Australia with that of the California Indian taught by an instructor just returned from Australia. Two field trips included.

### **Six Flags Over Sonoma:** *Betty Hirsch*

This course is a study of Sonoma including the meaning of the name, the legend of how the county clerk stole the courthouse records thus making Santa Rosa the county seat and the heroes and legendary figures of the area. Two field trips included.

### **Historic Marin County:** *Betty Hirsch*

Through lecture and field study, this course explores Marin from the early times of the Miwok Indian to the suburban dwellers of today. Four field trips planned.

### **California and France - The Wine Tradition:** *Charles Sullivan*

An exploration of the French influence in California winemaking emphasizing the contributions of such California wine personalities as Paul Masson, Charles Le Franc, Louis Vignes and others.



*Watercolors by area artist Jean Sorensen will be on display in both the Grand Salon and the South Gallery during the Regional Greenbelt exhibit, February 24 - June 22.*



The actual "Castle Rock" for which this area is named. Students will have an opportunity to explore this wilderness area during a spring weekend. Photo by Philip Hyde.

## **Exhibit Program:**

### **REGIONAL GREENBELT: Land Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains**

*The impact of post World War II industrial and urban growth posed serious threats to the preservation of the valley's unique natural environment. Spring Quarter's exhibit on the area's open space movement, co-sponsored with the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, chronicles regional land conservation efforts resulting in a 14,000-acre, tax-supported park district. The following courses are offered to enhance this study of California's natural history and conservation efforts.*

#### **Trails and Parks of the Santa Cruz Mountains: Tom Taber**

Taught by the author of "The Expanded Santa Cruz Mountains Trail Book," this course is an overview of the opportunities for recreational walking in the mountains of San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. One day of walking planned.

#### **Spring Wildflowers of the Santa Cruz Mountains: Buck/Burling**

A repeat of Spring 1983's popular field study course to various locations in the Santa Cruz Mountains and foothills to view and identify common spring wildflowers.

#### **Natural History of Northern California: Lee Van Fossen**

Taught by De Anza biology instructor Van Fossen, this course examines the historical and ecological development of the San Francisco Peninsula from Half Moon Bay to Santa Cruz. Two field trips.

#### **Point Lobos to Big Sur: Chatham Forbes**

Land and shoreline use and conservation of this maritime region from Indian and Hispanic times to the present day will be studied. One weekend field study and one Saturday trip to the area are planned.

#### **Santa Cruz Mountain Weekend - Castle Rock: Seonaid McArthur**

This very special weekend brings together a range of specialists in the history and natural history of the region with individuals who helped shape the history of Castle Rock State Park.

For more detailed information on CHC courses, please refer to the De Anza College Schedule of Classes.

# PIONEER PROFILE

## Andrew Putnam Hill

by Carolyn de Vries

More than sixty years have passed since the death, in 1922, of Andrew Putnam Hill, a noted artist, photographer and conservationist of California. Born in 1853 in Indiana, Hill traveled to California with an uncle at the age of 14. His first stay in Santa Clara County occurred in the years 1868 and 1869 when he began high school at Santa Clara College.

Already well-established as an artist and photographer, Hill's interest in conservation began in March 1900, when he was commissioned to illustrate an article about a forest fire in the Santa Cruz Mountains. He went to the Felton Big Trees Grove to take his pictures and during the course of his visit, learned that many of the magnificent redwoods were to be felled for railroad ties and firewood. Awed by the beauty of the redwoods, Hill refused to accept the trees' fate without attempting to save them. Every action he took from that time was geared toward his goal of preserving a part of the coastal redwoods, known as Big Basin, and making them easily accessible to all people. His philosophy of conservation could be likened to that of John Muir - the preservation of natural beauty. But more than that he viewed the trees through the eyes of an artist.

And it was as an artist that he felt the strong need to preserve the redwoods because he saw them as a natural wonder and could not envision them being destroyed by man.

Hill's determination to save the giant redwoods as a wilderness area proved to be a successful beginning for the park known today as Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Through his efforts and those of some close friends, Hill was able to rouse the conservation-minded members of the surrounding communities to the importance of a public park for all to enjoy. His campaign in the local newspapers encouraged citizens to recognize the scenic and recreational value Big Basin offered. With the formation of the Sempervirens Club of California, Big Basin had found its John Muir in Andrew P. Hill and a Sierra Club in the Sempervirens. Like Muir, Hill could not stand idly by and watch the sawmills destroy the redwoods; the campaign to save the trees had become a concerted effort, spearheaded by Hill.

Tributes to Hill's work live on at Big Basin where a memorial drinking fountain was erected to his memory. Also, at Park Headquarters, there is a small display telling of his efforts for the park. However, the greatest tribute to the man and his work occurred in 1956 when the name "Andrew P. Hill High School" was chosen for a new school in southeast San Jose.

While these tributes are impressive, the fact remains that few today are aware of the reasons why Hill has been memorialized.



*Sempervirens Club members, with founder Andrew P. Hill, center, behind man seated on ground, gather round a giant redwood in Big Basin State Park. It was their efforts to "Save the Redwoods" that served as the impetus for future conservation efforts in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. Photo circa 1902, courtesy Sempervirens Club.*

Perhaps the answer is that while John Muir expounded his conservation ideas in national magazines, Hill chose to enlighten the people of his generation, of the need to preserve the coast redwoods, through local newspapers. He deserves no less a place in the history of the conservation movement than does Muir. Andrew Putnam Hill wanted to preserve the beauty of the Big Basin for posterity, and by diligent effort, he succeeded. Hill gave his life to Big Basin. He did, indeed, "Save the Redwoods."

*De Vries, descendent of pioneer families Gallant and Parrish, wrote the book "Grand and Ancient Forest - The Story of Andrew P. Hill and Big Basin Redwood State Park." She also has taught numerous classes for the history center including Quicksilver Mines of New Almaden, History Research Techniques and Ghost Towns of the Santa Cruz Mountains.*

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# FOUNDATION NOTES

## De Anza and Foothill Need Your Vote

On April 10, 1984, voters in Cupertino, Sunnyvale, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View will have an opportunity to make an historic choice regarding the future of Foothill and De Anza Colleges. District Trustees have placed on the ballot, Measure A, which proposes a nominal property tax to provide funds for limited purposes: buying necessary laboratory, technical and scientific equipment for better transfer and job training programs in our high-tech community, library acquisitions, major maintenance and needed improvements to deteriorating college buildings, and energy conservation projects for increased efficiency.

No community college finance plan under discussion in Sacramento will meet these accumulated needs. Available funding for our colleges is below the state average for community colleges and the funding level for most school districts. Under state law, money made available through Measure A cannot be deducted from state funds coming into our District. The money will be locally controlled, spent only on our own colleges, and protected from the ups and downs of state government. The District's Board of Trustees can reduce or repeal the tax if additional funds are found, but under no circumstances can the Board increase the tax. Even if the Board feels the funds continue to be needed, the tax must be returned to the voters every four years. The ballot measure has been endorsed by Donald Kennedy, president of Stanford University and Members of Congress Ed Zschau and Norman Y. Mineta.

The Foothill-De Anza Taxpayers Association both needs and welcomes the endorsements, financial support and volunteer efforts of area residents who wish to help. Your efforts can make the difference in the future of our colleges. If you want to help, call (415) 961-4810 to find out what is needed.

**Thomas W. Fryer, Jr.**

Chancellor, Foothill-De Anza Community College District

## New Docents Sought

Being a docent/volunteer is a rewarding experience and we are always looking for people, both men and women, willing to share some of their time with the center. A coffee for people interested in being docents is planned for Friday, May 18th. Join us and bring a friend.

## CHC Foundation News

The opening of the exhibit "Moffett Field: 1933-1983" created a great deal of community interest in a facility that is very important in California's (and in particular, Santa Clara County's) history. People from 6 to 90 years old were taken back in time to the era of dirigibles, advancing to World War II, and on to the present and future with the research being done at NASA-Ames located at Moffett Field. Everyone seemed to enjoy having a close-up view of a sonobuoy or the construction and function of a parachute. There is little opportunity for most people to have this kind of a learning experience, so for this reason alone, the California History Center Foundation performs a unique community service in funding the exhibits. Everyone involved in the research, construction and installation of each exhibit deserves a big "Thank You" from all of us.

Keeping in mind that volunteers are being asked to do more to help the California History Center function smoothly, we are going to ask volunteers to fill out a survey to show each individual's interests and abilities. In this way we should be able to better utilize the talents of our Docents/Volunteers. We hope to have such an active and able group of volunteers that the CHC will be the envy of other similar institutions.

With the opening of the new exhibit "Regional Greenbelt: Land Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains," on Feb. 24th, we have the rare opportunity to learn about the many individuals and organizations who have struggled to keep some parts of California green and golden.

**Mary Jane Givens**

Dir. Docents/Volunteers

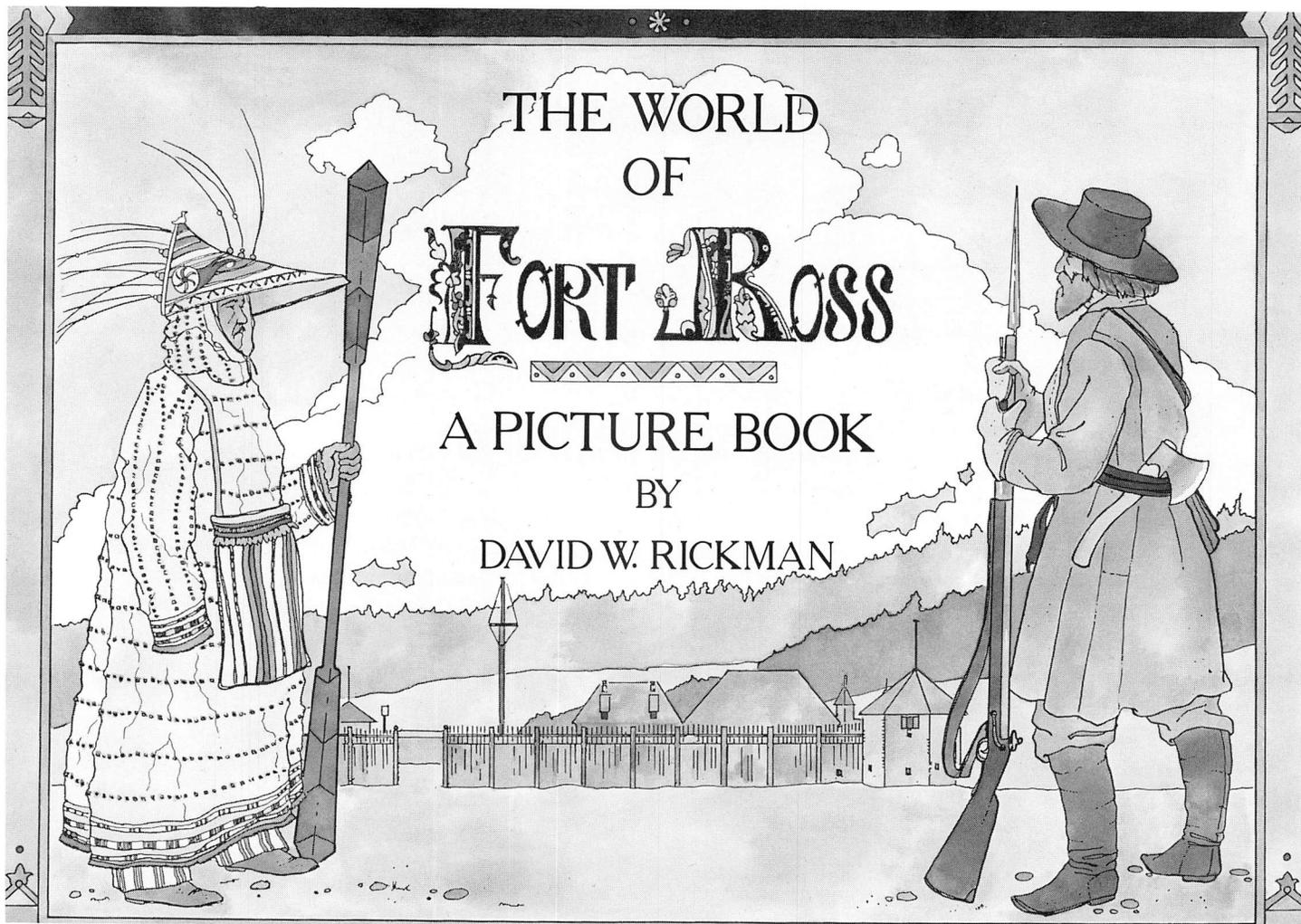


Illustration by David W. Rickman

## Fort Ross Book Due Out in May

An ethnographic picture book of the Russian era at Fort Ross (1800-1840), to be released in May, will be the next book in the center's local history studies series. The book was researched, written and illustrated by David Rickman, former exhibit designer for the history center. It will be available for purchase at the center and will be used by the State of California Parks Foundation to help raise funds to complete the restoration of Fort Ross. Members in the foundation will receive copies in the mail.

## Artifacts/Information Sought

The center's Fall Quarter exhibit will focus on the history of the Jewish people in California. If you have any artifacts or information pertinent to this subject, or you know someone who does, please contact the history center, 996-4712.

Also, the theme for this year's DeAnza Day celebration is the Olympics. We have been approached about doing a "mini-exhibit" on the history of the Olympic games for that day. If you have any memorabilia connected with prior Olympic games, please call the center *immediately*. DeAnza Day is June 3.

## History Goes Video

Old places, silicon furnaces, Duveneck Ranch, to Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, are the range of topics to be aired over Cupertino and Sunnyvale cable networks. "Silicon Valley Story" will be a new television series co-produced by the history center and the American Association of University Women, Cupertino-Sunnyvale. The AAUW video technology group, chaired by Carol Greenleaf and Mignon Trice, has been trained in the new De Anza Television Studio, using cameras, lights, and editing equipment, to literally put on its own show.

The history center has been looking for a means to share its documentation of valley history with a broader audience. The AAUW will provide the studio camera crew and the CHC will provide the content for the shows. Producing "Silicon Valley Story" will be Diana Anderson and Seonaid McArthur, with Jeannie Ottinger as the series host. The series will run as part of "AAUW Presents," Thursday at 8:30 p.m. on Channel 3 and Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on Sunnyvale Channel 29. The CHC is looking for volunteers interested in learning the television/video field.



Roy and Kay Roberts have been active participants with the history center for five years. Roy recently was elected to serve on the foundation Board of Trustees. Kay and Roy enjoyed a French country picnic when they attended the opening of the wine exhibit in 1982.

## New Trustee Elected

The foundation is pleased to announce the election of Roy W. Roberts to its Board of Trustees. Roy and his wife Kay, residents of the Bay Area since 1959, have been very active members of the foundation since 1981. Actually they first became involved with the center in early 1979, during our "paint and scrape" weekends to get the Trianon ready for occupancy.

According to Roy he didn't even like history in his younger years, but when he and Kay bought a house in historic New England, he had to learn the local history as a self-defense to the myriad of relatives who visited and wanted to see the "local sites." The love of history has been with him ever since.

Roy brings an industry background to the board, having worked most recently at Lockheed and Dalmo Victor. The foundation is indeed fortunate to have a new trustee with the interest and enthusiasm of Roy Roberts.

## Project Immortality – Phase II

Dedication of the second section of our memorial tile courtyard will take place on Friday, June 1, at 2:30 p.m. A special ceremony will honor the donors and all those commemorated through the tiles. Everyone is welcome to attend. R.S.V.P. requested.

## Corrections

Two errors slipped by us in the last issue of *The Californian*. In the article on the high tech heritage project, it was stated that the center was the only organization actively documenting history. That should have read the only organization actively documenting Santa Clara Valley history.

Also, while the Picchetti family did suffer the loss of two family members this fall, Elio Picchetti was incorrectly identified as having passed away.



Dave Norman, founder of Businessland, left, Gordon Kraft, right center, founder of GKE Software, and Tom Clements, Jr., right, manager of Businessland, Los Altos, were thanked at a special celebration recently for their generous donation of a computer and accompanying software.

## New Members

### Family: \$35.00

Lola M. Carte  
Jacqueline & William Cathcart  
Katherine & Otis Haslop  
Sheila & Warren Heid

Kidd Family  
Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Santucci  
Steve Tisdale & Gayle Benty

### Regular: \$25.00

Eric A. Bracher  
Roy Cameron  
Alice Carvo  
Bernadette Couly  
Marlene Duffin  
Gertrude E. Frank  
Eleanor Gavcus  
Carol M. George  
Barbara H. Gleichman  
Miriam C. Greene  
Louisa Henderson  
Daisy R. Holt

Kandice Knight  
Jeanne Kvamme  
Sharon Landsness  
Billy G. Link  
Shirley A. Meyer  
Treva E. Moore  
Jeff Norment  
Dorothy M. Quate  
Lillian Rondeau  
Joseph Scholten  
James J. Vargo  
Barbara Voester

### Subscriptions

City of Pomona  
Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge #1983  
Cupertino Jaycees  
State of California Department of Education

## Tile Donations

Ray, Chris, and Lynne Bock, and Iris (Benson) Gardner for "Doc" Patnoe  
Kevin Fish for Orville "Reddy" Redenbacher  
Donna Mae Flynn  
Madeleine and Kenneth Malovos for Chargin Family  
Eunice Nemeth and Pamela Warren for Lynne Lawson Bock  
Roy and Catherine Roberts for Leslie and Anne Roberts  
Ernest ZumBrunnen and Karen Moore for Harriet Mayer

## Major Donations

\$6000 Stella B. Gross Charitable Trust  
\$1000 Will Lester  
Morton and Elaine Levine  
Dorothy Varian

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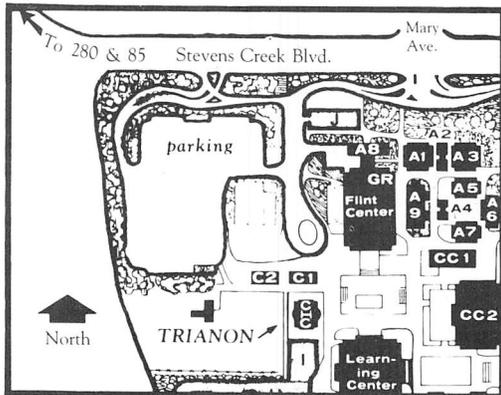
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, Calif. 95014 (408) 996-4712

**Trianon Bldg. Hours:**

Monday–Friday:  
8:00 am–noon, 1:00–5:00 pm

**Exhibit Hours:**

Monday–Friday:  
9:00 am–noon, 1:00–4:30 pm  
Docent Tours may be scheduled  
by calling 996-4712.



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