

President's Message

Kathie Nippert

Happy and Prosperous New Year to all of you.

My name is Kathie Nippert, your new President of the Rocklin Historical Society. I, along with recently elected Officers, Hank Lohse (Vice President), Russ McNeill (Treasurer), Patrice Cardott (Secretary) will be serving you for the next two years.

I've been asked about my goals for



**Rocklin Historical Society
President Kathie Nippert**

2015. Here goes:

1. Break ground and complete the replica of Fire Hose Company Number one, Rocklin's original firehouse.
2. Continue to staff the Museum with excellent Docents.
3. Help the Chapel Committee bring in more events to the beautiful Old St Mary's Chapel.
4. Attend events to increase recognition of the Historical Society and its projects in our community.

(Continued on page 2)

Sharing Rocklin's history with the younger generation

Gloria Beverage

Nancy Lohse is preserving Rocklin's history – one student at a time. A resident of Rocklin for 38 years, the retired teacher delights in sharing stories of Rocklin's past with third graders.

It didn't start out that way, though. Lohse grew up in Weed, a community no bigger than Rocklin was 30-plus years ago. While studying biology at Sac State, she was invited to work with a biology teacher at Grant High School.

"That's where I discovered a passion for teaching," Lohse said. "I went back and got my teaching credential."

While her teaching career focused on kindergarten through sixth grades in Lincoln and Rocklin, Lohse admits she had the most fun teaching science. "My classes always had something growing. It was very hands on," she explained.

And she was particularly fond of third grade since that was when the curriculum focused on local history, another of her passions.

As part of the curriculum, Lohse developed a field trip taking stu-

dents through Rocklin's historic district to see the old buildings and listen to stories of its past. She often invited then Rocklin Fire Chief Bill Summers and Gene Johnson, who grew up in



Nancy Lohse

Rocklin, to share stories of Rocklin's early days, including describing the fire that destroyed what was then downtown Rocklin.

Highlight of those early field trips was a stop in front of Old St. Mary's Chapel in its original location on Front Street. She would tell the students about the missing bell, the deteriorating steeple and the sad fate of Rocklin's oldest building. In 2004, one group of

(Continued on page 10)

Make your reservations now for the Rocklin Historical Society's Installation Dinner on THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2015
See page two

*(Continued from page 1)
President Nippert*

Lastly, our organization is blessed to have many wonderful volunteers. This space is too small to list them all but we could always use more! Please consider volunteering, we can always find room for you! Call me at [916-630-9073](tel:916-630-9073) or email me at knippert@sbcglobal.net and let's talk about our volunteer opportunities.

Please send me your email address!

Christy Barros

Your historical society uses email for notifying members of upcoming events. If we don't have your correct email address you are not being so notified. We use email addresses only for RHS purposes. So if you want to ensure that we have a correct email address for you please send a message to me at: christy@inetinc.net

Also, RHS is expanding the email address file to include non-members who have an interest in Rocklin's history. If you know of such people please send their email addresses to me or ask them to send me a message and I'll add them to the list.

EBay assistance needed

The board of The Rocklin Historical Society is proposing to raise funds by continuously soliciting donations of used items and marketing them on EBay. The plan is to recruit a person to conduct this activity and possibly to compensate them with a percentage of the net proceeds. If you are interested in helping the society to raise funds in this way please contact Neil Davis at:

segmented-woodturner@gmail.com
cell: [916.616-0923](tel:916.616-0923)

THE ROCKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO THE INSTALLATION DINNER OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS AND SILENT AUCTION

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2015
NO-HOST COCKTAILS AT 5:00 P.M.
DINNER AT 6:00 P.M.**

**AT
CATTLEMEN'S STEAKHOUSE
2000 TAYLOR ROAD, ROSEVILLE
RSVP BY JANUARY 19, 2015 TO:
GAY MORGAN 916-624-2355 or
gfmorgan@att.net**

\$37.50 per person – prepaid only – please mail checks to

**P.O. Box 1, Rocklin CA 95677
Choice of Teriyaki Chicken, Top Sirloin Steak,
Atlantic Salmon, or Pesto Spinach & Cheese
Ravioli**

Dues for 2015 are due

If the label on this newsletter's envelop shows 2014 (14), your \$20.00 dues for 2015 are due as of January 1, 2015. If the label shows an L you are paid-up as a lifetime member. Your dues support the Rocklin History museum and programs to entertain and educate Rocklin's citizens about Rocklin's history. Please mail your \$20.00 dues for 2015 or \$200 for a lifetime membership to:

**Rocklin Historical Society
P.O. Box 1
Rocklin California 95677**

A new membership in the historical society would add to the reach of this newsletter and make a great gift. Google the society's website for a membership application.

The society is a 501-c3 non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible in many cases. Check with your tax advisor.



**232 pages with
65 historic pho-
tos and images**

Available now from
Sierra College Press
and Heyday:

***Sierra Stories:
Tales of Dream-
ers, Schemers,
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Rogues***

\$17 in paperback at book
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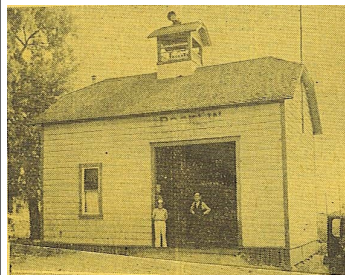
Author, *Professor Gary Noy*

Firehouse Project update

Cris Gerard,
Project Manager

Rocklin's Hose Company Number One, Rocklin's first fire department, occupied this firehouse. It was on the site of

today's Old Saint Mary's Chapel on Front Street. The Rocklin Historical Society is building a replica of this firehouse to the south of the chapel.



The Firehouse Committee is delighted to report good progress on the replica project. Thanks to the design

detail work of Williams and Paddon, building plans have been submitted to the City of Rocklin for a building permit.

Pre bid letters are going out to interested contractors with bid letters expected to be sent in mid-January. Planning is in process for the ground breaking ceremony. And the Rocklin Fire Department is working on suggestions for the type of artifacts to display on the interior.

The Rocklin History Series continues in February

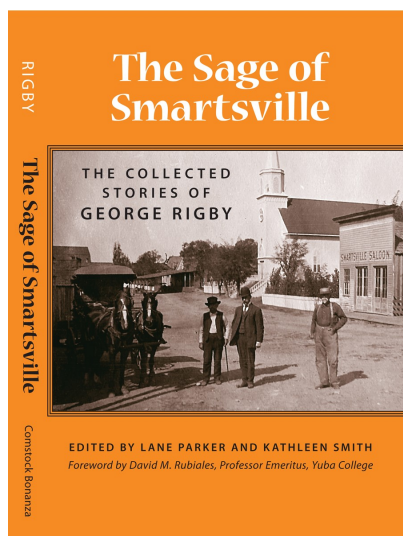
With Historian Kathy Smith on

The Sage of Smartsville

The Collected Stories of George Rigby

Kathleen Smith is descended from four gold rush era families. She lives in Sacramento and is active in many historical organizations, including The Nevada County Historical Society and The Yuba County Historical Commission. She is co-author of *Smartsville and Timbuctoo* and the author of the upcoming Arcadia Publications' *Mining in Yuba*.

Kathy is Vice President of the Smartsville Church Restoration Project, which has much in common with the Rocklin Historical Society's St Mary's Chapel Restoration Project. She will be describing Smartsville's experiences with the restoration of the Smartsville Church.



**Sunday
February 22, 2015,
2 pm**

at

**At Old Saint Mary's
Chapel**

**5251 Front Street in historic Downtown
Rocklin**

**Join us after the event across
the street**

at

**Cante Ao Vinho
for free refreshments and no-
host wine tasting**

scenes from the October 5, 2014 Firemen's Ball

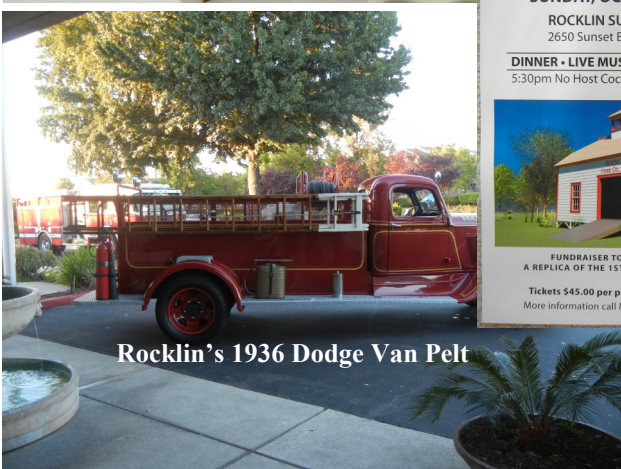
Photos by Ronna Davis and David Baker



making the centerpieces



Past President Dan DeFoe and First Lady Karin



Rocklin's 1936 Dodge Van Pelt

THE ROCKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& ROCKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT
PRESENT:
THE FIREMEN'S BALL
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2014
ROCKLIN SUNSET CENTER
2650 Sunset Blvd. | Rocklin, CA
DINNER • LIVE MUSIC • SILENT AUCTION
5:30pm No Host Cocktails ~ 6:30pm Dinner



FUNDRAISER TO HELP CONSTRUCT
A REPLICA OF THE 1ST FIREHOUSE IN ROCKLIN
Tickets \$45.00 per person ~ Cocktail Attire
More information call Marie Stone 916-315-8699



Karen Lokey and auction items



chow time

A big year at Old Saint Mary's

Nancy Lohse
Old Saint Mary's Chairperson

Since 1883, Old St. Mary's Chapel has been the site of many memorable celebrations. This year was certainly no exception. In 2014, sixty-three couples happily rang Old St. Mary's bell announcing to the world they were now partners for life. A few of these couples were renewing their vows after years of marriage.

Our little chapel was also the site of five memorial services. The quiet beauty and serenity of the chapel fit well with these celebrations of life.

We even hosted a birthday party for a six year old! The parents wanted an outside location far from the usual distractions of playground equipment. The children enjoyed playing old-fashioned games like sack races, relay races, and even hitting a piñata. The chapel was a perfect spot to take children back in time!

All these activities couldn't take place without the intrepid band of Old St. Mary's volunteers. A big thanks to the 2014 team: Patrice Cardott, Skip Gebel, Angie Goebel, Nancy Ustaszewski, Patsy Pattison and Ronna Davis. No only do they answer phones, clean the chapel, and restrooms, and meet with prospective clients but they also have been called upon to calm jittery nerves!

The beautiful picture of Old St. Mary's shows her all decked out in her Christmas best for the Tree Lighting ceremony.

If you missed it this year, mark December 5, 2015 on your calendar for the next one. The ceremony is becoming a Rocklin tradition!



Photo by David Baker

Call to set up a private tour for your special day!

916-415-1150

www.OldStMarysChapel.com

email: oldstmaryschapel@gmail.com

Do you want to join the Fixers?

Bob Mart
Fixer Chief

Ready or not, 2015 is upon us! There are many maintenance and repair chores at your RHS Museum and Old St. Mary's Chapel to be accomplished. Remember, we've changed our work day Tuesdays, to the second and

fourth of every month.

Hopefully, those dates will work better for you? We definitely could use some more help. Stop by one morning and you'll see we're



just chugging along on our to do list, and very often working on an urgent task requested by an RHS member or Mother Nature.

It's amazing the volunteer help we've received in the last 12 months. We've accomplished dozens of tasks, large & small. The City of Rocklin, as many of you know, has also made many improvements on Front St., with many more planned. Additionally, the RHS Firehouse Project should see ground breaking early this Spring. All of that, I suspect, will add a few little projects for the Fixers. So, once again, we are asking for more volunteer help.

Contact me, Bob Mart, at: 916-435-9360 or martsplace@sbcglobal.net. Even easier, just show up at the Chapel around 9:30 AM.

Hope to see you, and thanks to those volunteers who've already pitched in.



If you are not a member of the Rocklin Historical Society, please join.

Your Rocklin Historical Society is an all-volunteer organization which conducts projects to educate citizens concerning Rocklin's unique history and to preserve artifacts of that history.

The society needs your financial support. Please send your name, address, email address, and a check for the dues, only \$20 yearly for an individual or family, to:

Rocklin Historical Society, P.O. Box 1, Rocklin, 95677.



Bill Marble is keeping up with Joel Parker Whitney (1835—1913)

a study of Whitney's personal diaries and writings

Whitney was one of Northern California's largest landowners. Western Rocklin is astride 12,000 acres of his 20,000 acre Spring Valley Ranch.

J. P. Whitney's comments on the fate of the Indians and the buffalo

Bill Marble

In the 1860s and beyond, J. Parker Whitney traveled extensively across the plains of Colorado. Initially his travel was by wagon train and later, as the transcontinental railroad construction progressed, he traveled by train. His experiences with both the Indians and the buffalo during this period are well reported in his book, "Reminiscences of a Sportsman." Some brief excerpts of his reports are provided here to describe his perception of how the life of the Plains Indians and the buffalo changed with the arrival of the white man.

The wagon train traffic across the plains was highly organized by the government to maximize safety for the travelers, "...All the teams as they came along were held up by government officials, who compelled an aggregation of at least one hundred men with each caravan before allowing a departure. Printed regulations were distributed requiring an organization among the men of each outfit, giving rules of proceedings for the election of officers and general management; how to establish picket guards in dangerous localities, and how to provide against attacks. These regulations were important and generally observed."

Whitney reported on the reaction to encountering the vast herds of buffalo, "We had not proceeded many days before we came into the buffalo range, and struck the flank of an immense herd proceeding northward, from which several were killed for use of the caravan. The following day we were in the midst of immense numbers stretched over the plains in all directions. A marvelous sight, one which would impress an observer with the belief



that it would hardly be possible to have such numbers exterminated in the brief space of a few years. The building of the Union Pacific and the Kansas Pacific railroads sealed the doom of the buffalo. With the invasion of thousands of hunters brought upon the buffalo grounds by the railroads, who sought no more than the skins of the slain as their reward, who found the buffalo defenseless, without shelter from attack, and of too slow and cumbrous action to escape, it is not surprising that they soon disappeared."

In his book, Whitney connects the fate of the buffalo to the fate of the Plains Indians, "...Coincidental with

the passing of the buffalo was that of the Plains Indians. Stretching from the Mississippi River to the mountainous backbone of the continent in our day were successive tribes of Indians which have all disappeared. Their very existence was woven in with that of the buffalo. The real great protector of the Indians was the buffalo, which supplied food, raiment, and shelter. And with the passing of these two great elements of nature, what is left to show their existence? Nothing but a few crude Indian hieroglyphics on the face of rocks and a few mud wallowing pits of the buffalo. Even the bones of the buffalo are not in evidence, all gathered up in the eager race for gain after the holocaust of destruction for the carbon works of Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri."

The book describes far more of his encounters with the buffalo and the Indians than I can provide here. J. Parker's experiences were fascinating both from the standpoint of how they affected his life and, more importantly, how they impacted the development of our country.

an early twentieth century Rocklin tragedy

Gary Day

In 1900 Rocklin's granite quarries had survived the economic depression of the mid 1890s and were busy shipping stone for many of Northern California's monumental buildings. Rocklin's roundhouse was busy servicing the engines needed for Trans-Sierra trains. And the city's population peaked above 1,000 in the late stages of an influx of first and second generation Finnish immigrants.

Times were good in Rocklin and notwithstanding an active Finnish Temperance Society Rocklin's saloons were flourishing.

But in October that year tragedy was afoot. Thirty-four-year-old Russell Landis, his wife, twenty-seven-year-old Lizzy, and two daughters, ten-year-old Lollie and seven-year-old Annie lived near the roundhouse on Front Street across the tracks from Lizzy's parents' house on Railroad Avenue. During their 10 year marriage the Landis couple had befriended Rocklin Township Constable William Clydesdale, brother of James Clydesdale who was Rocklin's fire chief during the conflagration which leveled Front Street in 1914. William Clydesdale and Russell Landis were good friends and sometimes worked odd jobs together. But Landis thought that the friendship between Lizzy and Clydesdale was suspiciously close and there was tension in the Landis household.

Russell Landis was a drifter, often away from Rocklin for several days, even weeks at a time. He sometimes lived at home while he was in town but the rumor in the neighborhood was that Lizzy was ready to file for divorce and take custody of the two girls. Landis was not going to let that happen.

On the night of October 3, Landis steeled himself with alcohol at a local saloon, grabbed a double-barrel shotgun, bought a box of shells, tromped to his home in a stupor and knocked on the door. Lizzy woke from her sleep, donned her night clothes and met Landis in the doorway. Annie was awake and Landis wanted to take her, but Liz-

zy blocked him. Landis was enraged. Lizzy was frightened and she bolted, possibly intending to cross the tracks to reach help at her parents' house. Russell shot her in the back of her head with both barrels as she ran, decapitating her while little Annie looked on.

Russell Landis then looked unsuccessfully for William Clydesdale in nearby saloons. He eventually found Clydesdale at home, reading in bed. "You have done me up once but your time has come," said Lan-

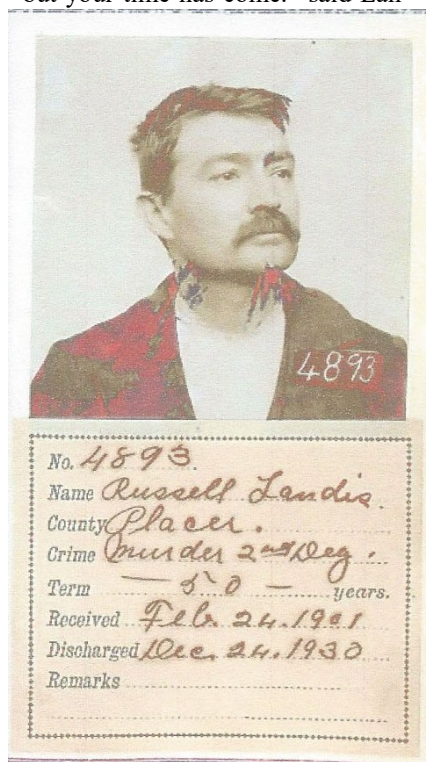
murder on January 8, 1901. He claimed temporary insanity in the rage over his wife's affair and testified in his own defense. About 80 other witnesses testified, including little Annie. On the first jury ballot, voting on first degree murder, the jury hung temporarily. Eight jurors voted guilty and four voted not guilty. After the trial a reporter speculated that the four not guilty votes represented justification for killing a spouse and a lover caught in an infidelity.

Eventually the jury was unanimous on second degree murder and on February 24, 1901 Landis started a 50 year stint at Folsom Prison. He walked free on release on Christmas Eve 1930, at age 64, after serving 29 years.

Rocklin's population had declined by 25 percent by then as most of Rocklin's quarries had closed and roundhouse operations had moved to Roseville. So Landis might never have returned to Rocklin. His name doesn't appear in the Rocklin Historical Society's records after his release date.

Lovers William Clydesdale and Lizzy Landis are interred in the Rocklin Cemetery. According to historian Valarie Vine, Russell Landis' mother, Annie Melissa Landis, moved away from Rocklin after the murders, probably to escape her son's notoriety, but after her death in San Jose in 1912 a son-in law interred her in the Rocklin Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

Rocklin Kiwanis President Elect, Cris Gerard, is the great granddaughter of Fire Chief James Clydesdale.



From the Folsom Prison archives

dis as he shot Clydesdale twice in the lower abdomen and left him for dead.

Landis returned to the saloon, bragging to his buddies: "I got them both and made a good job." He then surrendered to Rocklin Sheriff Keenan who locked him in the county jail in Auburn.

Clydesdale survived and was hospitalized at the Sisters of Mercy, Mater Misericordia Hospital in Sacramento. Physicians operated but Clydesdale died of his wounds on October 19. He was 24 years old.

Russell Landis went on trial for

about Old Town Rocklin

Gene Johnson

During the Holiday Season we saw that a red Santa cap had been added to a metal silhouette of Roy Ruhkala working granite in the Meyer's St. Roundabout. .

The railroad demolished Rocklin's roundhouse in 1912. The city is excavating at the site as they build a roundhouse-themed park. They are uncovering below-ground wooden framing of the roundhouse's service stalls,

There might be as many as 28 of these stalls. An area resembling a turntable is also coming into focus near the eucalyptus trees to the north of the site. In finishing the park the city is working with tin roofing and 19th century RR track salvaged by Rocklin Historical Society volunteers.

South of Old St. Mary's, the city continues beautification of Rocklin's railroad corridor. Front Street is straightened and the area is cleaned and graded. Arbors are in place for entry to a planned orchard.

The City of Rocklin's public services organization has installed, at the corner of Front Street and Rocklin Road, a prototype of signs that will be placed around town to identify Rocklin's Quarry District. The prototype sign is attractive and the signs will be fitting reminders of Rocklin's history as a

producer of granite building products, including the stone for some of California's monumental buildings in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Mike (Buck) Clark donated a Traeger BBQ netting \$850 for the Fire House Project. Thanks Buck! When you shop for a Traeger BBQ and Supplies, stop by at Buck's BBQ's on historic Front Street.

Kiwanis See's Candy Shack staff included a number of historical society volunteers. Some were members of Kiwanis and some, like Hank Lohse



and Bob and JoAnn Mart, were simply seeing if they could qualify as candy sales people.

Proceeds of the candy sale support the annual K-Kids Christmas Shopping Spree for 120-140 underprivileged children recommended by Rocklin and Loomis Schools.

Bob Pywell, recruited at the Kiwanis candy shack to play Santa Clause, is becoming Rocklin's Santa of choice. This year he assumed the role at the K-Kids Shopping Spree, the tree lighting and at Breakfast with Santa.

The reindeer and sleigh that Janet Currier and family repainted doubled as props for the Rocklin Tree Lighting and then showed up at a home at the corner of Rocklin Road and 5th Streets for the remainder of the holidays.

As we closed 2014, the 150th anniversary of Rocklin's founding in 1864, we note that the Rocklin entry signs that previously read "Established 1893" have been corrected to read "Incorporated 1893."

It was Gayaldo's White Spot Café in the 1950's; recently it was Icing on the Cupcake and then la Aubergine. And now its Greg Dobson's [Family BBQ & Sweet Treats](#) offering generous BBQ portions and Fudge-a-licious fudge One meal is enough for two standard eaters.

The Rocklin History Series continues in March

With Historian Bill Marble on

nuclear power and

Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima



Historian Bill Marble

The presentation will briefly touch on the science that is the basis for creating electricity from the energy released when uranium atoms are split in the process known as fission. It will then move on to the history and status of the implementation of nuclear power around the world. The basic characteristics of the two major types of nuclear power plants, both boiling water reactors and pressurized water reactors, will be described. The discussion will

then provide an overview of the events that occurred during the three major incidents at nuclear power plants. The problems at Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima will be described.

Sunday, March 22, 2015,

2 pm

at

At Old Saint Mary's Chapel

5201 Front Street in historic Downtown Rocklin

Join us after the event across the street

at

Cante Ao Vinho

for free refreshments and no-host wine tasting

Rocklin's Christmas Tree Lighting brings thousands to Front Street

Jill Gayaldo and Gene Johnson

Eighty-three organizations, businesses, churches, schools, service clubs, the City of Rocklin and the Rocklin Historical Society made the Fifth Annual Old Town Rocklin Tree Lighting a spectacular community event.

A beautiful evening brought a crowd of about 4300 to Rocklin's historic Front Street District to kick off the Christmas season.

Kiwanis Club co-sponsored the event with the City of Rocklin.

The Whitney High School Band and Champion Baton Twirler Leah Mayer led the opening parade of 22 entries which included, horse-

Placer and Rocklin-Loomis Basin Rotary Clubs, Jerry Dizon State Farm, Rubino's Restaurante, and LIFEhouse church served Chili, Lasagna, 3000 cookies and 150 gallons of beverages.

Buck's Traeger Barbeques served chicken and Cub Scout Pack 102 served popcorn.

The Crossroads Church's live nativity scene marked the reason for the season.

Thousands of lights outlined the Old St. Mary's Chapel and the stone, Barudoni building.

Master of Ceremonies Dan Gayaldo introduced incoming Mayor George

Magnuson, Assemblywoman

Beth Gaines and special guest,

best selling author Luis Montalvan,

who led the countdown to the

lighting of the Tree – a perfect

ending to a perfect evening.

The Rocklin Tree Lighting Committee,

established by members of the

Rocklin Chamber of Commerce Rediscover

Rocklin Committee,

is planning for the 2015 event.

Interested persons & organizations should call Gene Johnson at 916-

624-2378.



Santa Claus arrived in the Rocklin Fire Department's 1936 Dodge Van Pelt. Children and their parents queued at the Old Saint Mary's Chapel patio for a talk with Santa

Photo Bob Blakesly

drawn wagon, trains, dogs, cars, fire trucks and Santa.

The award winning Springview Middle School Jazz Band played while children from Springview Middle School, Parker Whitney School and The Professional Voice choir performed songs of the season.

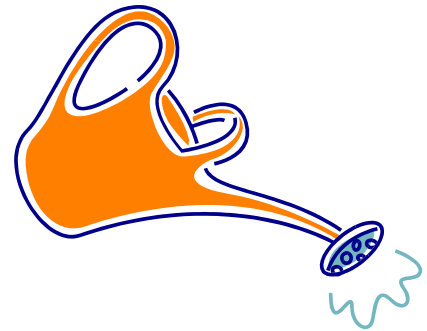
Kiwanis served 1000 hot dogs. The Lions Club served 95 pizzas. South

Garden Report

Sally Huseby

As we sit snug in our homes while healing showers water our parched land, we can be thankful the Historical museum and St. Marys chapel gardens will be refreshed for springtime growth and hopefully some beautiful flowers.

We had professional landscapers come to the chapel in November to do a thorough pruning of our larger bushes. They also trimmed a few trees. It helped when our members decorated the chapel grounds for our annual De-



cember tree-lighting festivities. They will come twice a year to prune and maintain the structure of the plants. We will also have to fertilize as the soil had no previous nutrition, being along the railroad side of the street. We are happy that the gardens are doing well but we need to keep up our efforts to maintain them.

Happy Holidays to everyone.

Docents needed

Kathy Nippert

The Rocklin History Museum needs docents. If you can volunteer please call me at [916-630-9073](tel:916-630-9073)

RANDY PETERS
CATERING & EVENTS
PLAN . PARTY . REPEAT .

(Continued from page 1)
Lohse

students were horrified to learn the building was about to be destroyed, so they organized a coin drive in hopes of saving the church.

Lohse mentioned the students' fundraising effort to Gary Day, her neighbor and an active member of the Rocklin Historical Society. After he mentioned it to Gene Johnson, one of the founders of the non-profit organization, the fundraising campaign, "Give Your Change to Change Rocklin," took off. Third grade students throughout Rocklin dropped their coins into jars, ultimately raising \$850.

Inspired by the student's efforts, the community pitched in and the church was moved to its current location in 2005 where it was lovingly restored by volunteers under the supervision of the Rocklin Historical Society.

Third grade classes continue to hold coin drives, Lohse said. The money raised has been used to purchase the floating granite ball water feature on the chapel's patio and the plaque marking the pyramid at the Whitney family mausoleum.

Now retired, Lohse has found a way to blend her love of local history with her passion for teaching by ensuring all Rocklin third grade classes get a chance to tour Rocklin's historic district.

At Old St. Mary's, Lohse lets the students know that third graders played an important role in saving the building from destruction.

"We talk about the steeple, which blew down in 1937 because woodpeckers [had weakened the structure]," Lohse said. "And I tell them somebody stole the 600-pound bell and that it was never found. The bell we have now belongs to another church that doesn't need it any longer."

At the Rocklin Historical Society Museum, several museum docents are stationed in each room ready to share tidbits of the city's history, Lohse said. The most popular spot is the laundry room where students can pump the antique vacuum cleaner and check out the washing machine and iron.

The field trip also includes a visit to the Whitney pyramid, the stone arch bridge in Clover Valley Park and the mahogany doors from the Whitney mansion now gracing the entrance to Sunset Whitney Country Club.

At the conclusion of the field trip, Lohse issues a challenge to the students. They are asked to write an essay describing what they learned on the field trip. A winner from each classroom is selected and receives a blue ribbon.

Each teacher is given a packet of study materials, including a coin jar to continue the Change for Rocklin drive. Lohse credits noted Roseville historian and author Leonard Davis with providing the bulk of the handouts.

"He found out I was teaching Rocklin history," she said. "I spent a day with him. He had word searches, workbooks – pages that he had done by hand. My daughter, Amanda, needed community service for high school, so she typed them up and I put them in a binder. I make copies for the teachers."

In addition to overseeing the field trips, Lohse and a team of volunteers oversee the rental of the chapel. "We went from 37 weddings last year to 63 this year," she said.

Lohse is thrilled that proceeds from

the chapel will go into a scholarship fund for high school seniors planning to study history.

While a good portion of her energy is focused on local history, Lohse hasn't lost her interest in science. She admits to spending hours in her garden and exploring the Internet searching for the latest breakthroughs in science.

Help preserve Rocklin's history and support history-related arts projects.



The Rocklin Heritage Fund at the Placer Community Foundation supports the Rocklin Historical Society

Now it is possible to make tax-deductible gifts and perpetual endowments that will

support Rocklin Historical Society programs including both visual and performing arts related to Rocklin's heritage.

Please contact Veronica Blake at 530-885-4920 to learn how you can contribute, or go to www.placercf.org.



Local giving. Lasting value.

in memory of Lee Roullier

Laurie Lauletta-Boshart

In 1966, Sidney Leon Roullier, better known as Lee, emigrated with his family from England to Rocklin, which at the time had a population of just over 1,000 people. He was contracted by Alcan Cable Corporation to oversee the building of a \$10 million manufacturing plant, where he stayed on as manager of engineering and industrial relations until 1975.

During that time, Roullier and several fellow businessmen saw the opportunity for future development and business growth in Rocklin and worked together to help form the Rocklin Area Chamber of Commerce. In its second year of operation, Roullier was elected president and Chairman of the Board. During his tenure, he launched the popular Rocklin Jubilee event and also founded a group known as POP, Productive Older People, where he and other business leaders encouraged older people to get involved and stay active in their community. A small strip of land in downtown Rocklin was developed as a park to give older community members a place to hang out and socialize. Roullier also led a group of young and old volunteers to clean up the Old Whitney Ranch estate. While working for Alcan and volunteering for the Rocklin Chamber, Roullier attended law school classes at night, eventually obtaining his Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree and entering the field of law.

As a corporate attorney, he spent 10 years with large manufacturing companies in Montreal, Canada and Chicago and then in private practice in Placer County. He began to teach and mentor students at Lincoln Law School of Sacramento, where he also became Dean of the paralegal program and a member of the accreditation committee. After retirement, he served as an attorney for Placer County Legal Services, as a pro bono judge for Sacramento Superior Court and as a legal advisor and mentor for the Gathering Inn, a Roseville shelter for the homeless. In 2005 he was awarded Pro Bono

Attorney of the Year by the Chief Justice of California. In August of this year, Lee passed away at the age of 91.

Roullier's oldest daughter, Elizabeth Roullier-Bunz, has fond memories of helping her father with the Old Whitney Ranch cleanup and the downtown park. "It was very important for my dad to get people involved in the community, young and old alike," says Roullier-Bunz. "So my brother, sister and I, along with other neighborhood families, helped with the many different projects he was involved in."

As an adult, Roullier-Bunz first became involved with the Chamber in 1986, when she joined as a member with her newly opened dental practice. One of the first events she participated in was hosting a Chamber Mixer at her practice in the



Lee Roullier

Granite Creek Center in Rocklin. Married to well-known former football player Danny Bunz, Roullier-Bunz suspects that he might have been part of the draw for that first event.

"Our first Chamber Mixer was really well attended," says Roullier-Bunz. "The people that came were very friendly and supportive, but I think several of them came just to meet Danny, but that was fine with me. He has been a big part of my success." Roullier-Bunz practiced dentistry for 30 years, treating

many multi-generational families before retiring earlier this year.

The couple has now embarked on a new journey and started a lavender farm known as Bywater Hollow Lavender. To get connected to the Chamber and the business community again, Roullier rejoined the Chamber this year.

Located along the picturesque Placer County Wine Trail and near the hiking trails of Hidden Falls Regional Park, Bywater Hollow Lavender Farm is open to visitors during the summer months of June through August. Guests can enjoy "U-Pick" days and purchase products directly from the farm shop. Bywater Hollow also features an online store where visitors can purchase homemade lavender products like soaps, lavender water, sachets, lip balm, candles and more. For Christmas, special lavender gift baskets are also available for purchase. For more information about Bywater Hollow Lavender Farm, visit www.BunzLavender.com online at

For nearly five decades, the Roullier and Bunz families have been an active part of the Rocklin community. Roullier-Bunz hopes to expand her new business by offering classes on how to grow lavender and how to make lavender crafts and products.

"My dad really loved this community and so do we," says Roullier-Bunz. "After I retired from dentistry, I really missed my patients. But now I get to see them again with my new business and show them a whole different side of me."



Rocklin Historical Society **Board of Directors**

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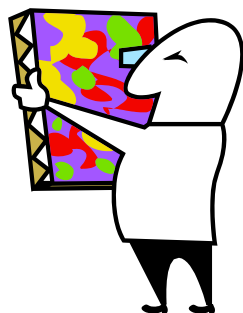
special collections wanted

Gay Morgan

If you have a special collection you are willing to share, we would be happy to put it on display in the Rocklin History Museum for a limited time.

We have the display cases and lighting to highlight and enhance the look of your items.

It doesn't necessarily have to be of a



historic nature. In the past members have displayed Elephants, Fountain pens and writing materials, China tea

cups and linens, old mining era artifacts, clocks, personal grooming items and more. Some visitors come to the Museum just to see the special collections. All of our visitors seemed to enjoy them.

Call me at 624-2355 and I will help you set up your display.

Mark your calendar

January 26, 2015

Springfield History Club monthly meeting

1 pm at the Springfield Gables

Free admission

Bill Marble with *The Babe Ruth Story*

January 29, 2015

Rocklin Historical Society installation Dinner

See Page 2.

February 22, 2015, 2 PM

Old Saint Mary's Chapel

5251 Front Street in historic Downtown Rocklin.

Historian Kathy Smith with *The sage of Smartsville*

Kathy will also describe Smartsville's efforts to restore a church similar to Rocklin's Old saint Mary's Chapel. See Page 3.

February 23, 2015

Springfield History Club monthly meeting

1 pm at the Springfield Gables

Free admission

Chris Enns ,author of several books about the western US. Her latest "*Wild Women of the Wild West*" has been published and will be available soon.

March 22, 2015

Old Saint Mary's Chapel, 2 pm

5251 Front Street in historic Downtown Rocklin

Bill Marble with *Nuclear Power and*

Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima. See Page 8.

March 23, 2015

Springfield History Club monthly meeting

1 pm at the Springfield Gables

Free admission

Arnold Kunst with *Lincoln: Wit and Wisdom*

April 27, 2015

Springfield History Club monthly meeting

1 pm at the Springfield Gables

Free admission

Michael MacFarland with *From Anger to Empathy*

Note:

For access to the Springfield Gables dial 631 at the Springfield gate then hit the "Call" key and the gate will open.

Also:

Rocklin Historical Society board meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 6 pm in the Old Saint Mary's Chapel annex. If you have comments or questions for the board of your historical society this is your chance.

And Rocklin Historical Society planning meetings are held every Tuesday at 7:30 am in the cafeteria at Oracle, corner of West Stanford Ranch Road and Sunset.