



# Saratoga Historical Foundation

PO Box 172, Saratoga CA 95071

January 2016

## A Cocktail of Old Time Films Covering the Valley of Heart's Delight Will be Shown on January 27

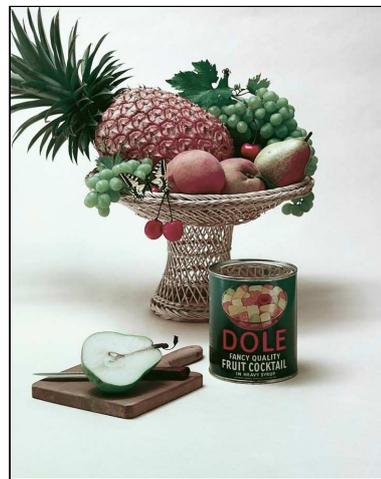
Memories of working in canneries, fruit orchards, and more will come alive as the California Pioneers along with the Fruit Cocktail Club present a medley of films from the 1920-50's on January 27. The films will cover the agricultural period during the Valley of Heart's Delight. Sponsored by the Saratoga Historical Foundation, the films will start at 7:30 PM and will be held at the Foothill Club. The Foothill Club is located at 20399 Park Place in Saratoga. The event is open to the public. The lecture is free to SHF members, nonmembers will pay \$5 to attend the lecture.

The potluck will begin at 6:30 PM—bring food to share, your own plates and eating utensils. Coffee and tea will be provided.



According to Fruit Cocktail member, Jim Zetterquist, "The first film is a promotional film produced by Dole at their San Jose fruit cocktail cannery during the 1950s. This film is a nostalgic time capsule reflecting the technology, diet and gender roles of the era. Much in the Valley of Hearts Delight has changed since then; it is an entertaining film."

The second portion of the presentation will include a clip show of vintage home movies, newsreels, and slides of Santa Clara County history, with a focus on Saratoga and surrounding areas. Included in the show will be never-before-seen clips of Saratoga Avenue in 1940, local sports highlights,



orchard scenes and Blossom Festival clips.

Attendees are encouraged to interact and participate in the screening by asking questions, shouting out recognized people and landmarks, and cheering for the local teams.

Zetterquist says, "Films were never meant to be silent, and this one certainly won't be!"

The Fruit Cocktail Club got its name from the television station KPIX. The Club was featured on the popular program, Bay Area Back Roads when they showed a 1950s promotional film produced by Dole. The film was about the fruit cocktail plant in San Jose.

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County are known not only for preserving films from the past but also preserving history in the form of buildings, people, and more. Founded in 1875 they are one of the oldest historic groups on the peninsula. Membership is for those who have lived in California for 50 years or more.

## The Truth about Fruit Cocktail

The exact origin of fruit cocktail is somewhat of a mystery.

Canner JC Ainsley of Campbell began marketing a product called fruit salad in 1893 under the Golden Morn label. The fruit salad contained cherries as well as diced fruits.

But the credit appears to be shared with Herbert Gray and Dr. William V. Cruess.

Modern fruit cocktail, offered in today's supermarket, includes the following fruits: pears, grapes, cherries, peaches and pineapples. USDA ensures that this mixture is labelled fruit cocktail.

Incidentally the cocktail part of the name does not include alcohol. The secondary definition of cocktail is an appetizer made by combining pieces of food, such as fruit or seafood.

In 1958 an article written for a journal called Canner and Packer credited Herbert Gray of San Jose's Barron-Gray Packing Company with the invention of fruit cocktail. Gray would later be quoted as claiming to be the inventor of fruit cocktail.

Dr. William V. Cruess, a pioneer in the field and professor at UC Berkeley from 1911 until 1954 was credited by the academic field of Food Science with originating fruit cocktail.

It is generally agreed that fruit cocktail was developed as a way of making use of the fruit scraps

**Saratoga Historical Foundation Officers**  
The mission of the Saratoga Historical Foundation is to preserve the unique history of Saratoga for the education and enjoyment of the community.

### **Executive Committee**

Annette Stransky, President  
Bob Himel, Vice President  
Recording Secretary, Open position  
Yuchi Wang, Treasurer

### **Newsletter**

The Saratoga Historical Foundation newsletter is produced 6X a year. If you have comments or suggestions, e-mail: [annette@saratogahistory.com](mailto:annette@saratogahistory.com)  
The Saratoga History Museum, McWilliams House and schoolhouse are located at 20450 Saratoga-Los Gatos Road and open from 1-4 PM Friday through Sunday. Call 408-867-4311 to arrange group or docent-led tours. Be sure to visit our gift shop. Visit our website: <http://www.saratogahistory.com>.

left when bruised or damaged fruits could not be used in canning. Fruit cocktail can be served fresh or canned in a simple syrup.

The Barron-Gray Packing Company was formed in 1922 in San Jose by Ernest S. Barron and Herbert Gray. They bought the JF Pyle Cannery at Fourth and Keyes Street that year. The company was also involved in growing fruit, buying orchards in Lodi in 1944. They sold the plant to Dole in 1948.



The term fruit cocktail premiered in 1938. Fruit cocktail was positioned as a stylish dessert suitable for formal dinner parties and entertaining. May 13 has been recognized as National Fruit Cocktail Day!



Many people remember fruit cocktail as part of their childhood while others associate it as a staple found in cafeteria

food.

## Mouse in the House

The first computer mouse was introduced to the public on December 9, 1968 in San Francisco at the Fall Joint Computer Conference. Stanford Research Institute scientist Douglas C. Engelbart

demonstrated it with colleague Bill English. The "mouse" was a sleek box. E-mail and word processing was also demonstrated for the first time

at the conference.

Calendar at a Glance	
Nov. 27	Home for the Holidays exhibit runs through January 31
Jan. 27	Membership program— A Fruit

### Calendar at a Glance

- Nov. 27** Home for the Holidays exhibit runs through January 31
- Jan. 27** Membership program— A Fruit Cocktail of Films by the California Pioneers
- Feb. 12** New exhibit opens covering Sanborn Park and its Pioneers
- March 19** Blossom Festival
- March 23** Membership program— Pacific Congress Springs and book signing by Ian Sanders and Michael Brookman

## Circle the Date—Celebrate the Blossom Festival on March 19!



Antique cars, music of the 40s, craftspeople, art, poetry, food trucks and more will be featured at the Saratoga Blossom Festival on March 19. The community

event pays homage to the original festival founded by Rev. Sunshine Williams. Some have called the festival a slice of hometown Americana. Join us in the Heritage Orchard and Civic Center on March 19 from 10-4 PM and enjoy a day of unfettered fun. Or as Sunshine Williams said, "Enjoy the God-given glory of springtime." Funded by the city of Saratoga and produced by the Saratoga Historical Foundation.

## Sister City Pays a Visit



Representatives from the Saratoga Muko Sister City Affiliation in Japan will pay a visit to Saratoga on January 19. Included on their itinerary will be a visit to the Saratoga Historical Park where they will receive a tour of the museum, McWilliams house and the one-room schoolhouse.

## Toy Drive, A Success



The toy barrel was over-flowing in the museum for the annual Sacred Heart community toy drive. The Saratoga Historical Foundation thanks all those who brought in toys for distribution.

## New Partnership with Boys Charity Team

The Boys Charity Team will begin partnering with the Saratoga Historical Foundation in 2016. The organization is a volunteer service organization dedicated to developing an altruistic spirit in young men through active participation of parents and sons in philanthropic projects in their communities. It is a national organization with a chapter in Saratoga.



Boys begin membership in the 7th grade school year and are members through the 12th grade.

The group will be supporting the museum by providing a museum docent (parent plus son) each month beginning in March. The group will also help the museum with other projects. Stop by the museum and welcome these folks!

## American Alliance of Museums Survey Finds

### History Museums Most Trusted

In a recent survey, the American Alliance of Museums found the public perception of trustworthiness of history museums most trusted as a source of information.

Trustworthiness of other sources: Art museums, 6.4%; Wikipedia, 5.7 %; local newspaper, 5.7%; academic researchers and professors, 5.7; science centers, 5.2%; us government, 4.9 nonprofit researchers; 3.6% corporate researchers.

## This Land is Your Land— New Exhibit on

### Sanborn Park and its Pioneers

Parks preserve nature's diversity and provide a wealth of information—geology, plants, animals, history – in addition to beautiful scenery. Come to the museum on February 12 for our new exhibit and imagine what the land looked like before it became Sanborn Park. You'll get a glimpse of the pioneers who eked a living out of unfriendly ground. Some remnants of their life still exist. And you'll see the master plan for the present—and the future of the park.

Sanborn Park is the fifth largest park in the Santa Clara County. It opened in the 1970's. Located on Sanborn Road just off Highway 9, the lushly wooded park of over 3,688 acres, is nestled in the Santa Cruz Mountains between Saratoga and Skyline Boulevard. This mountain park offers hiking, camping, RV camping and picnicking opportunities year round. Weddings and other special events provide a memorable setting. During the summer you can enjoy plays by Silicon Valley Shakespeare in a woodsy environment.

### How the park got its name

Sanborn Park got its name from Kendall Clark Sandborn—one of many petitioners who petitioned Santa Clara County in 1875 for a bridge over the creek. Because his name was the first on the petition, the road was named after him and ultimately the park. The name was altered by dropping the "d."

### Who lived there

Pioneers who made their home in the hills originally came from the France-Italy-Swiss Alps area. Today their names can be found on trails, creeks, and scenic areas in the park. Remnants of their life can be seen in the gates, orchards, and other items left behind.



Families such as Aubry, Bonnet, Taudt, Pourroy, DiFiore, Lotti and more made a living from cutting timber, firewood, charcoal, tanbark and later from making wine and planting orchards. The exhibit will tell their story of why they came to Saratoga.

Many artifacts as well as recipes from the Pourroy family will be included in the exhibit.

You'll also learn about the father of Highway 9, the first scenic highway, Judge Welch and his summer home that later became a youth hostel; Vernon Pick's home—the uranium millionaire—his home now Walden West and HP Dyer's home which houses the Sanborn Science and Nature Center, a science and nature education facility operated by the Youth Science Institute.

### *Verdant land and interesting geology*



Information about five interesting trails offer a chance to explore nature, learn about the San Andreas fault and see interesting geology.

The exhibit runs through the end of June. The Saratoga History museum is located at 20450 Saratoga-Los Gatos Road in Saratoga. Admittance is free. The museum is open from 1-4 PM Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

# And A Child Shall Lead Them

Claude Pollard, an enterprising seventh grader at Oak Street School in Saratoga printed a four page newspaper, The Item in 1895. The newspaper was both edited and published by the seventh grade student. The four page newspaper was printed every Thursday with subscription rates at 60 cents—payable one year in advance.

According to Florence Cunningham's "Saratoga's First Hundred Years", "The tiny paper was



described by a writer of that period as a 'clean paper, the tone of which is distinctly moral.' She went on to add 'Its tone is distinctly religious' for sometimes the leading editorial was composed of extracts from the extremely orthodox sermons of the editor's father, a minister of the Christian Church."

When Pollard graduated from grammar school he improved the paper, which had originally been only four eight by eleven inch sheets, considerable.

The paper was eventually sold to George O. Kinney, who published the first issue of "The Saratoga Item" Nov. 2, 1896. Subscription rates were \$1.00 a year in advance and 50 cents for six months. Advertising rates were 50 cents an inch with liberal discount to long-time or large advertisers.

This paper played an important role in the community, according to the Cunningham book. The paper provided comprehensive coverage of all local events as well as neighboring towns.

In a farewell announcement on March 3, 1899, Kinney wrote "The 'Item' is now like 'the Last Rose of Summer' - blown out. During its struggle for an existence, I had three classes of people to deal with; those who took the paper and were not inclined to pay for it; those willing to pay for it but

not take it; and those who dropped a dollar in with their prayers."

## Olivia deHavilland Turns 100 This Year!

Olivia deHavilland turns 100 this year! She was born



July 1, 1916. De Havilland was educated at Saratoga Grammar School, the Notre Dame High School in Belmont, and Los Gatos High School. In high school, she excelled in oratory and participated in the school drama club. In 1933, she made her debut in amateur theater

in the lead role in Alice in Wonderland, a production of the Saratoga Community Players based on the work of Lewis Carroll. She would later remember:

"For the first time I had the magic experience of feeling possessed by the character I was playing. I really felt I was Alice and that when I moved across the stage, I was actually moving in Alice's enchanted wonderland. And so for the first time I felt not only pleasure in acting but love for acting as well."

Local Producer Dorothea Johnston was instrumental in getting deHavilland started in



acting. The Academy Award winning actress always remembered her friends in Saratoga and returned to

Saratoga frequently prior to moving to Paris.

It is believed the street sign off of Cox was named in her honor.

# Saratoga Celebrates 60 Years in 2016

## The History of Incorporation

According to the late Saratoga Historian Willys Peck who wrote that back in the 50's, "The incorporation movement really was hatched in the Saratoga Lions Club, at that time the only national service club in town. The membership included a number of movers and shakers, among them an impressive roster of retired military officers who knew all about the chain of command. The club had sponsored a study into the matter of incorporation in 1953 and this led to a detailed study by the non-profit Coro Foundation the following year. The Coro Foundation did not make any recommendation as such; the report simply laid out the probable results in terms of taxation, local control and the various requirements of city government.

Early on the battle lines were drawn. The pro-incorporation group under the banner Save Saratoga! was opposed by the Saratoga Protective Committee, which compiled a list of arguments as to why the town didn't need to become a city.

The deciding factor in this controversy was the City of San Jose and its aggressive annexation policy of the 1950s. There had already been two defensive incorporations, Campbell in 1952 and one failed incorporation vote, and Cupertino in 1955. While it was true that legally "inhabited" territory, notably orchards, could be annexed with the concurrence of the owner.

## **Keep it rural! Rallying cry**

This was at a time when there was still substantial orchard acreage in the valley, and, to an orchardist ready to move on to land development, the siren song of San Jose was hard to resist. Minimum residential lot sizes, generous commercial zoning policies, these things made big bucks into bigger bucks. They also scared the pants off pro-incorporationists. "Keep it rural" was a dominant theme. The possibility of strip commercial zoning along a street like Saratoga Avenue, where San Jose could have annexed well into present Saratoga

boundaries, was just one of the factors that prompted a nearly 75 percent voter turnout on September 25, 1956.

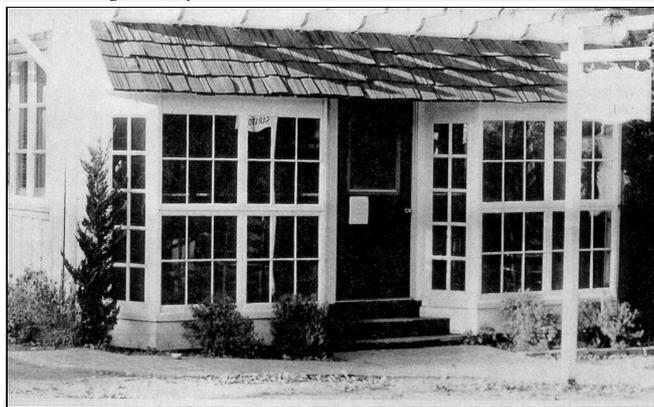
Each side had done its work well in terms of persuasion. The vote, including the absentee ballots, was 1,729 to 1,570 in favor of incorporation, a margin of 159 votes." *Reprinted from a*

*Stereopticon Column, 2008*

## First Mayor

Dr. Burton Brazil was the first mayor of Saratoga. The Stanford graduate had a 36-year faculty career at San Jose State where he served as chair of the political science department, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and executive vice president of the university. After helping incorporate Saratoga, as a city, he was appointed its first mayor in 1956 and served two four-year terms.

*The first city hall office was located on Saratoga-Los Gatos Road and was known as "the doll's house" due to its petite size. The little building was moved to the present location of the city hall and used for five years until a larger facility was built. The mayor and city council used a wooden picnic table for holding meetings. Construction for the new Saratoga City Hall began in 1960. In 1962 a council chamber-auditorium was designed by architect Warren Heid.*



**Cont. from page 6**

**Building legacies**

The former mayors of Saratoga have dealt with development and change. They have faced budget crunches and struggled with business downturns. They have sought to maintain and improve infrastructure, retain open space, save the hillsides, and keep the streets safe.

They have left legacies, such as the Saratoga Library, Hakone Gardens, Quarry Park and have put in place policies that have made Saratoga one of the



country's most pleasant places to live.

The city council consists of five council members elected by the public for four-year terms. Elections are staggered, with three council members elected in one year and two elected two years later. Each year, the council selects one of its members to serve as mayor. The mayor leads meetings and sets the council agenda.

In the early years, the process was more informal.

- Burton R. Brazil-1956-1963
- William E. Glennon 1963-68
- Kenneth R. Harman 1968
- Samuel L. Tyler 1968-1970
- Charles H. Robbins 1970-72
- Jerome A. Smith 1972-1974
- Colman M. Bridges 1974-1980
- Henry J. Kraus, Jr. 1978-80
- Linda A. Callon 1980-83

Well-liked mayors could serve a number of years before being replaced. Brazil was mayor for seven years, from 1956 to 1963. His successor, William Glennon, was mayor for five years, from 1963 to 1968.

In later years, council members rotated annually through the mayor's chair, with the council usually selecting the next mayor in line by seniority.

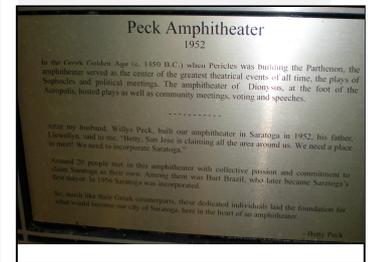
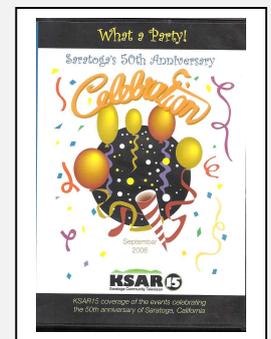
**Tireless Saratoga mayors**

Saratoga mayors have each made a contribution to

the success of the city. The list of Saratoga mayors is impressive.

**Celebrate Saratoga**  
*Saratoga has celebrated its anniversary starting with the bicentennial celebration in 1976 through the years with city-wide parades, dinners, exhibits, and more. The last big celebrate was 2006. What will 2016 bring?*

- Virginia Fanelli 1984-1985
- Marty Clevenger 1985-1986
- Joyce Hlava 1986-1987
- Don Peterson 1987-1988
- Karen Anderson 1988-1989
- Marty Clevenger 1989-1990
- Francis Stutzman 1990-1991
- Willem Kohler 1991-1992
- Ann Waltonsmitth 1992-1993
- Karen Tucker 1993-1994
- Ann Marie Burger 1994-1995
- Paul Jacobs 1995-1996
- Gillian Moran 1996-1997
- Don Wolfe 1997-1998
- Jim Shaw 1998-1999
- Stan Bogasian 1999-2000
- John Mehaffe 2000-2001
- Nick Streit 2001-2002
- Nick Streit 2002-2003
- Ann Waltonsmitth 2003-2004
- Kathleen King 2004-2005
- Norman Kline 2005-2006
- Aileen Kao 2006-2007
- Aileen Kao 2007-2008
- Ann Waltonsmitth 2008-2009
- Chuck Page 2009-2010
- Kathleen King 2010-2011
- Howard Miller 2011-2012
- Jill Hunter 2012-2013
- Emily Lo 2013-2014
- Howard Miller 2014-2015
- Manny Cappello 2015-2016



*Betty Peck had a plaque made for the amphitheatre in their backyard marking where many of the incorporation planning sessions took place*





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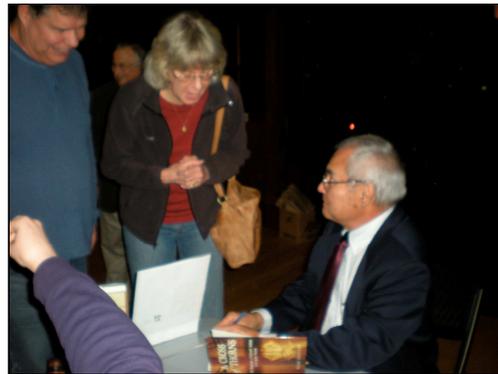
## Put a Sock in It



Ever wonder where the expression, “put a sock in it” came from? In the late nineteenth century and earlier years of the twentieth century, when gramophones or phonographs amplified the sound through large horns, woolen socks were often stuffed in

them to cut down the noise; hence the phrase—“put a sock in it.”

## Time to Renew Membership!



Membership dues help fund programs and services for the Saratoga Historical Foundation.

Notices have gone out to members to renew. A special offer to give a friend a one year membership for only \$15.00 will expire in February. The gift of membership includes receiving the newsletter 6x a year—a wonderful present of Saratoga history for those who live away from Saratoga. The newsletter also provides a calendar events for those who live in Saratoga. Renew today!

