



Chico Heritage Association – CHA – for 28 years a volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Chico's cultural heritage.

## CHICO HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

### CHA ANNUAL MEETING

#### **“TRAINS & REMAINS” RAILROADING IN CHICO**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2010

1:30 TO 4:00 PM

CHICO ART CENTER (DEPOT)

450 ORANGE STREET

A short business meeting will precede the following:

2:00 - **Introduction** on the very early planning (and scheming) to bring the railroads to Chico

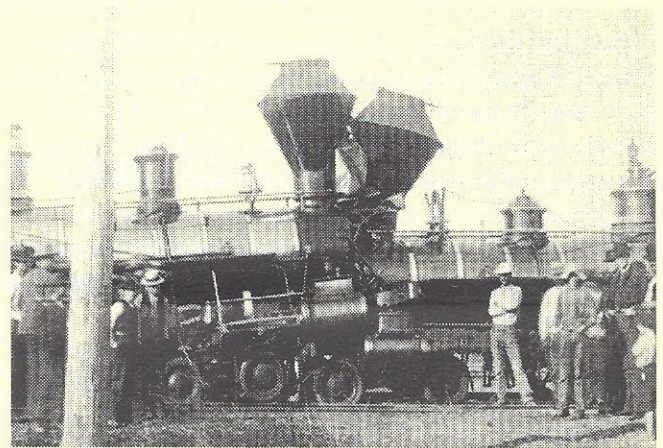
2:30 - **Mick Needham** - a PowerPoint presentation on the overview of early trains and streetcars in Chico

3:15 - **Allen Wood** - a PowerPoint presentation on the Sacramento Northern Railroad

We will have artifacts and displays of photographs and maps so come early, and stay late! Refreshments will be available after the presentations.

The 1892 depot was saved in the past thanks in part to our Chico Heritage Association's hard work, yet another of the ways we have been instrumental in saving Chico's cultural heritage.

*1887 train wreck pictured*



### MAKING THE BEST OF HERITAGE LOSSES



#### Joe's Bar

“Reconstruction” of the small building at 5<sup>th</sup> and Ivy known as Joe's Bar will begin soon. Built before 1900, it was a Chinese Laundry and a Chinese Herbalist business from about 1900 to 1939 when it became a restaurant and since 1985, Joe's Bar. It is terribly sad to lose the last building associated with our Chinese heritage that still has any vestige of its original character, but the condition of the handmade bricks is such that the building is unsafe. There is one other building on 6<sup>th</sup> and Flume but it has been covered entirely with modern surfaces. Ed Burns, owner, is committed to preserving as much of the old brick and other components as possible for reuse in non-structural ways, and to retaining the character of the building as much as possible while making it ADA accessible. He reports that he has been amazed at the extent to which Joe's Bar has become a Chico icon, with people coming from afar to go there one last time before changes occur. Additionally, during the construction process, archaeologists will monitor any subsurface work to retrieve artifacts and other historic evidence that can be found.

Ed looks forward to a reopening celebration in 3 to 4 months.

#### Tres Hombres

The fire at Tres Hombres (the old Bidwell Store) has been an unfortunate event, but the saving of the building is moving forward with hopes of not having to remove any exterior walls. The north wall is actually the only remaining intact wall of the original structure, built ca. 1861. On page 2 we have a picture of the building sometime before the 1930's when it was a two story structure. It is one of the first commercial buildings constructed after the town was laid out in 1861.

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE A New Look & Other CHA News Bites

This newsletter sports the new CHA logo, which we have been working on since last summer. Designer Karen Ann has constructed it to be flexible for a variety of uses, one of which will be a website which we are starting work on.

Heritage losses seem to be the news of the day, with the fire at Tres Hombres (John Bidwell's store) and the "reconstruction" of Joe's Bar. The good news, however, is that owners of these buildings care about Chico's historic character, and are committed to retaining as much of the character of the buildings as possible.

### CHA Supports AB 827

The Chico Heritage Board voted to support Assembly Bill 827, which could provide funding for Counties to preserve and provide access to property and other records, through a very small fee per filed property document (no more than \$3), to be implemented only by vote of the Board of Supervisors.

### May is Preservation Month

During Preservation month in May we plan to present awards to outstanding local preservation projects. If you know of one that is worthy, please contact us for guidelines.



Chris Gauer, and others hard at work on the Wright-Patrick House. Photo thanks to Adrienne Pustejovsky

## WRIGHT-PATRICK UPDATE

This past fall saw a lot of progress on the Wright-Patrick House. Rotted and missing siding on the second story was replaced, thanks to the expertise of Chris Gauer and his helper Bob Stidhem. Bob Deter squared and reglued the upstairs porch door, then everyone scraped and sanded down to bare wood and applied two coats of quality primer as protection from the elements until next spring (thanks to Stan Thompson for the loan of equipment).

Our next projects will be to have Chris Gauer rebuild the upstairs windows, to start rebuilding the porch and railings, and to get a coat of paint on the entire building. In addition, we are continuing to document the history of the house for future reference.

Side note: our heirloom garden project was overtaken by the local rabbit population, who have undoubtedly multiplied a hundredfold due to the wonderful diet we provided them.

Thanks to all who have contributed so generously to the stabilization of this historic building. Our funds for this project are once again depleted, so we hope you will continue to support the ongoing efforts of our dedicated volunteers to save this invaluable piece of northern California history.

*Please consider making a donation sometime this spring before the construction season starts.*



Old Bidwell Store (Tres Hombres) as a 2 story before 1912

### CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting is the first Wednesday of month, 7:00pm, 635 Fume Street

Lucy Sperlin, President  
Adrienne Pustejovsky, Vice President  
Shelley Compton Hutchens, Secretary  
Margaret Siemsen, Treasurer

#### Other Board Members:

Darrell Deter  
Nancy Deter  
John Gallardo

Kathleen Hillman  
Mike Magliari  
Ann Sands

Liz Stewart  
Randy Taylor  
Jannis Wentworth

## CHICO HERITAGE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Memberships are due at the first of the calendar year, or if you wish, you may pay in any of the last three months of the preceding year for the following year. Our membership dues and donations provide our day to day expenses, which include our office rent, telephone, insurance, newsletter printing and mailing, photocopying and photography for research. We receive **NO** government funds, and have no paid staff.

Please help us save Chico's heritage by your membership and/or donations. Simply fill out and mail this form to:

**Chico Heritage Association, P.O. Box 3517, Chico, CA 95927**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership level:

\_\_\_\_ \$20 Individual    \_\_\_\_ \$35 Family    \_\_\_\_ \$50 Supporting    \_\_\_\_ \$100 or more-Patron

Please note if any additional donation is for the Wright-Patrick Preservation Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
the General Fund \_\_\_\_\_ or Other \_\_\_\_\_

Winter 2010 Issue

### ANNIE B'S THANK YOU LIST

Many thanks to the following donors who were able to add \$3,061.25 to our treasury for 2009-2010. All of our funds go to our overhead and projects, as we have only volunteer staff.

Signe Behring  
Andrew & Janet Bertagna  
S. N. Blyth  
W.Z.J. & Wendy Brown  
Nancy Campos  
Carolyn Cleek  
Wayne Cook  
Darrell & Nancy Deter  
H.L. Dreiss  
5<sup>th</sup> Generation Antiques  
Janet Foreman  
Kathleen Hillman  
Shelley Hutchens

Giovanna Jackson  
Jim & Mary Johnson  
Keith & Karen Johnson  
Robert & Sharon Johnson  
David Kelley  
Larry & Maureen Kirk  
James & Lorna LaForce  
Sam & Victoria Lewis  
Paul & Sandra Lieberum  
Michael Magliari  
S.L. Mason  
Joe & Maggie Navarro  
Louis & Susan Nevins

Sarah Newton  
Philip & Anne Nordhus  
Valene Posey  
Adrienne & Myles Pustejovsky  
Jeanne Lawrence & Kenneth  
Rose  
Walter & Patricia Rothe  
Tony & Ann Sands  
Delbert & Margaret Siemsen  
Emmett & Ann Skinner, Jr.  
Lucy Sperlin  
Maria Teresa Vail  
Marilyn Warrens

#### WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Kathryn Hislop

#### IN MEMORIAM

John Copeland

#### SOME CURRENT RESEARCH

Liz Stewart met with people at the CSUC Special Collections Library for members of the Avenues Neighborhood Association so that she could help them to research their homes and neighborhoods. Liz is a long-time member (and on our CHA Board) and

is a retired librarian from the Paradise Library. She can also arrange for other individuals to meet if they desire. Contact her at 345-6986. Her time and your knowledge will be best used if she can have four or less people at a time.



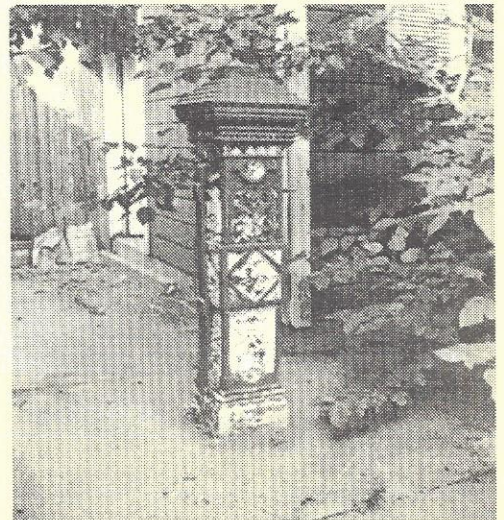
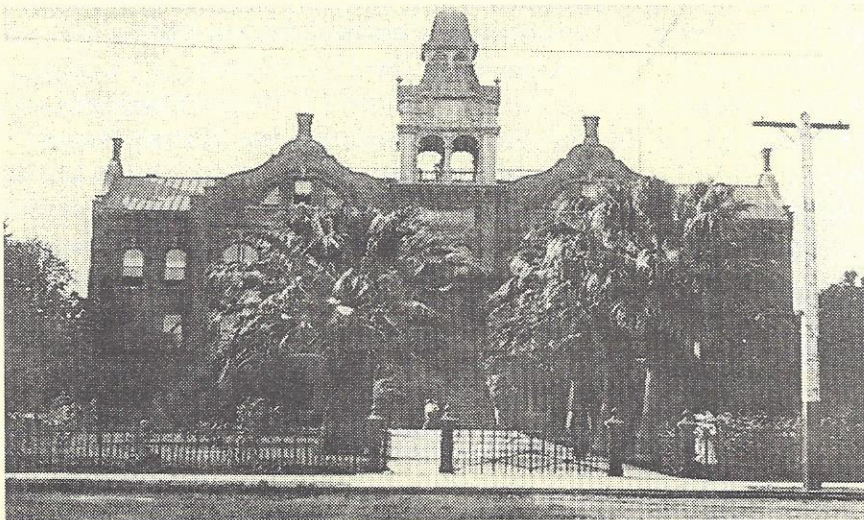
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### **ANOTHER MYSTERY SOLVED**



A local citizen who lives in Chico's South Campus Historic District inquired as to where the post in his yard came from. Several of our CHA board members decided to see if they could find out. Sure enough Randy Taylor, a CHA Board member, was able to find this photograph of Chico Normal School. It may be hard to Make out in our small picture, but it was determined that it was one of the posts for the fence in front of the campus. We aren't sure where any of the others are, but we are glad to know where at least one artifact is.