

UNOFFICIAL FAIRFAX PARLOR NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2025

NOTICE

I did not agree with the requirement instituted by parlor President Bill Madsen that each newsletter I produced be reviewed by parlor officers before it can be sent. Therefore, believing in a free press (no matter how small the publication) I will not be publishing the “official” Fairfax Parlor newsletter until further notice. However, there’s nothing to stop me from sending you an “unofficial” publication—and this is it. Thus this newsletter is not an official publication of Fairfax Parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West and the items therein may or may not conform to “official” policy.

Fred Codoni - Issue No. 602

On the Right Track!

Thanks to Brother Deborah Benson and her crew, it looks like the dues e-mailing crisis is at an end. Members can expect accurate notices in the future.

Business Meeting Decorum

Some of our last Fairfax Parlor business meetings have failed our standards of decorum. Such meetings should be conducted in an orderly manner, with respect for everyone’s opinions. Several of us are working to resume proper meetings and believe we will succeed in making the September 3 meeting quiet and welcoming for all. All of us deserve propriety—and we’ll make every effort to deliver it.

Membership Cards Coming

We will be furnishing each member of Fairfax Parlor in good standing a membership card. Unlike previous cards, it will list the date a member entered the Order instead of the years of membership. That’s so the cards will be permanent and not require changing each year.

As these cards are made individually, it will take some time to produce them and mail them to you, so have pa-

E-Mail or Snail Mail?

It is our goal to see that *every* parlor member receives a copy of this newsletter. If we have your e-mail address, we will send it to you that way. If all you have is snail mail, we will mail you a copy of pertinent data on an abbreviated version of the newsletter.

Membership Applications Available

Now that Native Son membership is open to every United States citizen, wherever they were born, there are now plenty of men and women who would like to participate in our activities—but they may not know about us. If you know a prospective member, have him or her go to fairfax.nativesons.com for details about the Order and our parlor.

Membership applications are available at our clubhouse and also at business meetings.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, September 3 – Business meeting, 7 p.m. Bar opens at 6.

Tuesday, September 9 (Admission Day) – Lunch. Bar opens at 11 a.m. lunch at 12:30.

Wednesday, September 17 – Dinner meeting. Bar opens at 6 p.m., dinner at 7:30. Reservations required from Kevin Courtz, (415) 717-4018, kcsbcourt@aol.com.

Tuesday, September 23 – Lunch. Bar opens at 11 a.m., lunch at 12:30.

Wednesday, October 1 – Business meeting, 7 p.m. Bar opens at 6.

Tuesday, October 14 – Lunch. Bar opens at 11 a.m., lunch at 12:30.

Wednesday, October 15 - Old Timers’ Night Dinner, honoring 25- and 50-year members and parlor past presidents. Bar opens at 6 p.m., with dinner (free for honorees) at 7:30.

Tuesday, October 28 – Lunch. Bar opens at 11 a.m., lunch at 12:30.

Thanks to All for Great Dinner

By Parlor Recording Secretary KEVIN COURTZ

A big Thank You for all those that helped make our Summer BBQ a success.

- Fred Schwab for cooking those delicious steaks!
- Fred Codoni for the great Risotto and Appetizers.
- Mike Codoni and Lou Langlamet for their help in the Kitchen.
- Chuck Trimble and his son and friend with helping serve and clean up in the Kitchen.
- Tom Teixiera for setting up the bar and bartending.
- Joel Bantly with his help setting up and cleanup of our club house.
- Matt Marcucci with his help setting up the clubhouse.

We had 66 attendees with five being visiting brothers and all enjoyed a delicious meal.

(Modestly, Kevin didn’t mention that he prepared the dinner flyer, took reservations and served at the door. -Ed.)

Know Your History?

As Native Sons of the Golden West, all of us should be interested in the history of our State, including the rich history of Marin. Here’s a little quiz. See if you can get the answers. If not, they’re on page 4.

What are today’s names of these Marin towns?

- Eastland
- Junction
- Pacheco (two towns once had that name)
- Tamalpais
- California Park (two prior names)
- Nicasio
- Olema
- Grove



Brother Rick Saber and wife Aldeana recently travelled to Australia where they rode on two of that country's famous trains: The Ghan which runs north and south of the continent, and The Indian Pacific, running east and west. ABOVE: At Alice Springs.



TOP RIGHT: Rick rides a camel. BOTTOM: Sitting in the locomotive engineer's seat.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! SEPTEMBER

NAME	DATE	YEARS
Bob Legnitto	1	31
James Adam	1	74
Greg Giesen	3	29
Tim Knittel	4	35
Robert Milani	4	60
Geoff Cunningham	5	9
Rich Lafranchi	6	40
Larry Giambastiani	7	37
Charles Cornwell	7	14
Eric Bowen	8	2
Leon DeLisle	10	11
Steve Sibley	11	28
William Curry	11	47
Michael Thiercof	11	57
Dan Hanlon	13	25
Michael Jue	14	10
Rich Carson	15	18
Mark Fiore	15	6
Robert Bonderud	15	6
Jud Simmons	16	27
William Goodwin	21	15
Fred Bernardini	24	22
Steve Ardigo	24	14
Rod Oates	25	46
James Filippo	25	27
Mike Isetta	26	45
Paul Geraghty	26	44
Michael Brusati	26	40
Joel Bantley	27	21
Anthony Bricca	29	43
Pat Martinez	30	32



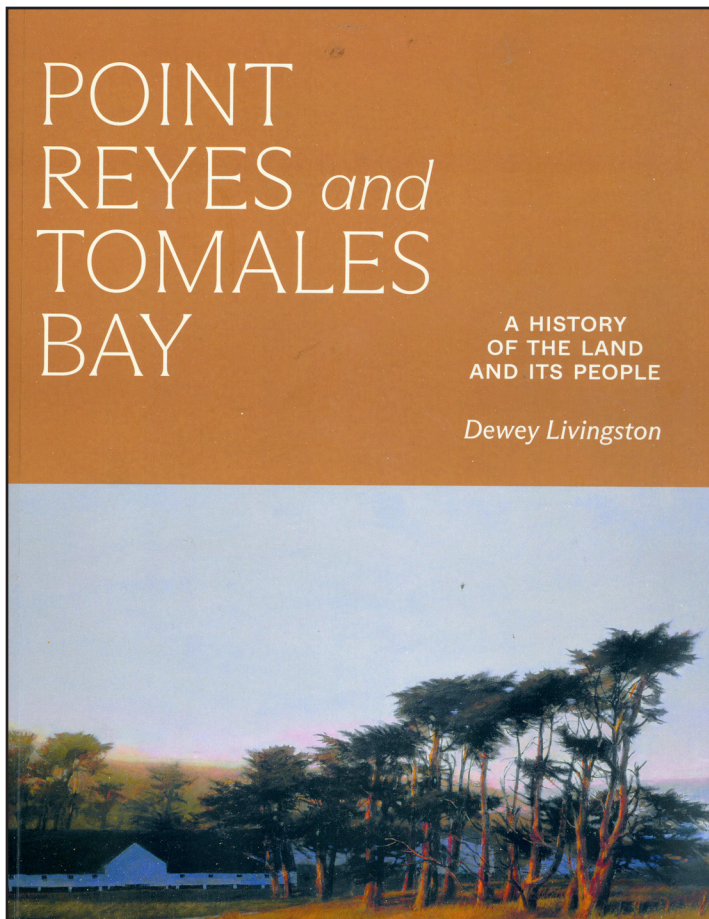
Deceased Member Plaque Available

We honor members of Fairfax Parlor who have gone to the Grand Parlor on High with a plaque. The plaque contains the member's name and has a Bear Flag and other information. We will present the plaque to a survivor of the members or, if the survivor requests, we will place the plaque on the parlor wall with plaques of other deceased brothers.



Want (or need) a Native Son Belt Buckle?

Grand President Gary Padgett will give you one if you bring in two or more new or reinstated members during the membership year, which ranges from May 1, 2025 to April 31, 2026.



Point Reyes and Tomales Bay, A History of the Land and its People. By Dewey Livingston. Soft cover, 575 pages. \$40.

Reviewed by Fred Codoni

There's plenty of history in Marin County, including of the area around Point Reyes Station and Tomales Bay. Beginning with countless generations of Coast Miwok Indigenous people, through the advent of Spanish soldiers and missionaries, to the establishment of dozens of dairy ranches, to the modern era, Dewey Livingston has chronicled all of them in his definitive work on the Tomales Bay area.

Not at all a dry history, but an eminently readable chronicle that's hard to put down despite its hundreds of pages. Many of today's Fairfax Parlor members can trace their roots back to those early settlers. In addition to the many Swiss and Portuguese who made up the majority of Marin's dairymen, there were people from many countries who came to make their fortunes through hard work and judicious purchases of land.

Livingston's book describes the major change brought by the arrival of the North Pacific Coast Railroad from Sausalito the Tomales in 1875. No longer would the farmers and the ranchers have to haul their products to Tomales Bay for water transport to their main market of San Francisco; now the City was only a few hours away by rail.

One of our favorite chapters is "Prohibition: Booze Flows at Point Reyes." Prohibition didn't stop West Marin's residents from drinking alcoholic beverages—it just changed the way they received their spirits. The area was a hotbed of illegal booze, which arrived by boat and was moved inland in several ways, including hiding it in a hearse with a real body in the casket.

Dewey Livingston has been West Marin's leading historian for decades, and has penned many accounts of this fascinating area. This, however, is his masterpiece. Every Marinite should have a copy in his or her library. The book is available at Marin bookstores, including Wayfinder Books at 9 Broadway in Fairfax.

Looking for a Parlor Third Vice President

Fairfax Parlor needs a third vice president to complete our list of officers. Duties are minimal: providing snacks for our business meetings. Usually that entails just a telephone call to a local pizzeria.

In December, that officer will become the second vice president. The first and second vice presidents are in charge of dinner meetings at the parlor and dinners at outside locations. In truth, those duties are actually done by others in the parlor.

The major job of the first, second and third vice presidents is to learn the workings of Fairfax Parlor and, eventually, succeed to the parlor presidency.

We need a third vice president!



Lou Langlamet Reports

Santa Rosa Parlor now meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in order to avoid conflict with other parlors dates. The new date and dinner on August 12 was supported by 4+ parlors with Fairfax well represented by Kevin, Joel, Irene, and Lou.

We started with appetizers, refreshments and lots of camaraderie; then we were treated to a wonderful salad, bread, beans, steak and brownies. Grand Inside Sentinel Dave Schaefer and assistant Mark and crew did a great job cooking. Supervising DD Mitch Lang MCed with introductions and much merriment. A good time was had by all.

A reminder we are Native Sons and can visit other parlors throughout California plus Grand Parlor has Lotts Lake, a gold mine, museum etc.

Beauties of Lott's Lake By LOU LANGLAMET

Lotts Lake is beautiful, wild, primitive—and ours. Any Native Son can camp there, depending on the weather. RVs have gone in but I don't recommend it, you need a high ground clearance vehicle, it's narrow in a lot of spots, plenty of washboard areas. The road can fool you, you get a nice smooth spot then big dips and rocks, even some paved road around the PG&E campground, then repeat the above. Then after 1-1/2 hour drive from Paradise, WOW you'r there, the history, the beauty! Along the route we even saw a sign, "Lake Amador 29 miles."

During the year there are work parties to maintain and improve our property. If enough people want to, they have a trout derby and 22 shoot. Remember to pack out what you pack in.



Area near our beautiful Lott's Lake shows destruction caused by a wildfire. The Native Son's property suffered no damage.

Answers to Know Your History

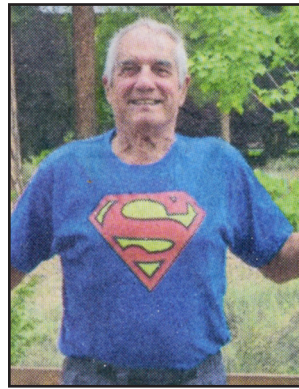
Here are today's names for these Marin County towns:

- Eastland (Mill Valley)
- Junction (San Anselmo)
- Pacheco (two towns once had that name) Manor and Ignacio
- Tamalpais (Kentfield)
- California Park (Oakmere) (Schuetzen)
- Nicasio (San Geronimo)
- Olema (Point Reyes Station)
- Grove (Tocaloma)

Frank Dittle 1945-2025

Brother Frank Dittle was born in San Francisco on December 18, 1945 and re-joined Fairfax Parlor on October 21, 2001 after being on leave for several years.

Brother Frank was a graduate of Tamalpais High School. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. Return-



ing to Marin, he received his degree in Physical Education from San Francisco State University. Frank played baseball with a San Francisco Giants minor league team. Accepting a job with the Richardson Bay Sanitary District, he spent forty years with the district. He retired in 2006.

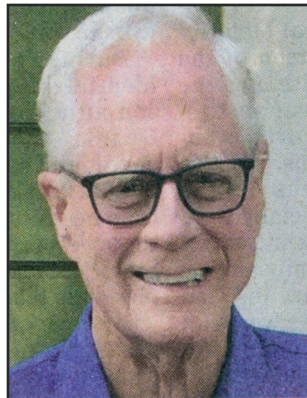
Frank married Jill in 1996; they had two sons.

A celebration of life will be held at Deer Park Villa from 2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9 (Admission Day, a fine day to honor a loyal Native Son!) Please RSVP to <https://ever-loved.com/life-of/frank-dittle/funeral/?flow=2>.

Joseph William Daly 1939-2025

Brother Joe Daly died peacefully at his Fairfax home on August 13.

Joe was born in San Francisco on February 17, 1939 and grew up in The City. He attended Riordon High School and San Francisco City College. After serving in the U. S. Navy,



he joined the San Francisco Police Department. Deciding he liked fighting fires rather than fighting bad guys, he had a 28-year career with the SF Fire Department, retiring in 1991 as Lieutenant of the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

Joe joined Fairfax Parlor on August 7, 2002. He was a past president of the parlor, and active in cooking our Tuesday lunches. He served as a member

of the Fairfax Parlor Scholarship Committee; a future scholarship will bear his name.

Survivors include three children and four grandchildren, including son Mike who is a member of our parlor.

Native Sons are invited to a memorial and lunch at 12 noon on Wednesday, October 1, at Deer Park Villa.

Gifts in honor of a our deceased brothers are always welcomed by the Fairfax Parlor Scholarship Committee. Make checks payable to "Fairfax Parlor NSGW," noting on the checks that they are for the committee and naming the brother in honor of whom you are donating.

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20 Bolinas Road
Fairfax, CA 94930

David Simonini
Attorney



Law Offices of David M. Simonini

679 Bridgeway
Sausalito, CA 94965
davesimonini@gmail.com
415 289-0242

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