



Native Sons News

Fairfax Parlor #307

November 2023



PickleBall Fund Raiser = Big Success

On Saturday, Oct. 14th Fairfax Parlor #307 donated our pickleball courts for a fund-raiser to benefit Play Marin. Play Marin is a local non-profit providing opportunities for children of diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds to learn and grow through play and sports.



Brother Sean Aguilar did an incredible job organizing and managing this event, which netted \$4500 for Play Marin. Special thanks also to Brothers Joel Bantly and Kevin Courtz for their assistance.

It was a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the NSGW's involvement in the community and support for those in need!

Parlor Survey

At the October business meeting a motion was made and carried directing the Canon Club Management Committee to present a Mission Statement and Five-Year Plan to the Parlor for review and approval.

Brother Sean Aguilar suggested that the vision for the Club should come from the Parlor, not the Club itself. To this end, Fairfax Parlor #307 is going to form a Survey Committee to draft a survey to be sent out to all Parlor members to gather input.

If you're interested in being part of the Survey Committee, please attend the Nov. 1st Parlor Business Meeting or contact 2nd VP Bill Madsen at uubmadsen@sbcglobal.net.

FAIRFAX PARLOR OFFICERS, 2023

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| President – Burt Winn | 1 st VP – Matt Marcucci |
| 2 nd VP – Bill Madsen | 3 rd VP – Eric Bowen |
| Financial Sec – Bill Addy | Treasurer – Stan Rowan |
| Recording Sec – Kevin Courtz | |
| Newsletter Editor – Bill Madsen | uubmadsen@sbcglobal.net |
| Website Manager – Mark Fogg | FairfaxNativeSons@gmail.com |

Message from the President

Burt Winn

The month of November finds the days getting shorter and colder as we anticipate the warmth of Thanksgiving and the coming Holiday Season.

November is a month of transition, not only for the seasons, but also for our Parlor. The election of Parlor officers takes place at the November meeting and I wish to congratulate the nominees; Matt Marcucci for President, Bill Madsen for First Vice President, Eric Bowen for Second VP, and Chris Wand for Third VP. Eric and Chris are new members and Eric was appointed to finish the current term as third Vice President. Thanks to both for stepping up to run. The installation of new officers takes place during the second half of the December meeting.

Look for our November business meeting agenda on our website: fairfaxnativesons.com. Please note there won't be a third Wednesday, November Dinner due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Make Your Reservation for Our Sat. Dec. 2nd Annual Xmas Dinner at Saint Rita's Hall!!

6 pm appetizers, 7:30 pm Dinner \$65/person

Choose: Rack of Lamb, Salmon or Filet Mignon.

Reserve by Nov 29th: Kevin Courtz kbcscourt@aol.com

Other parlor functions of note:

Petaluma/Nicasio Parlor Turkey Dinner:

Wed. Nov. 8th, 7 pm **RSVP Kris Nelson (707) 332-2376**

Santa Rosa Parlor Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner:

Sat. Nov 11th 5pm. **RSVP 707-350-1116**

Also, our Christmas Potluck dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, December 20th at 7pm.

Things are going well for both the Parlor and Canon Club, so let's keep up the good work!

Have a Great Thanksgiving!

FAIRFAX PARLOR CALENDAR

Wednesday, Nov 1 – Business Meeting, 7 p.m. Bar opens at 6.

Tuesday, Nov 14 – Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Bar opens at 11:30.

Wed., Nov 15 – Thanksgiving? Dinner, 7:30. Bar opens at 6.

Saturday, Dec 2 – Xmas Dinner – St. Rita's Hall Bar opens at 6

Wednesday, Dec 6 – Business Meeting, 7 p.m. Bar opens at 6.

Tuesday, Dec 12 – Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Bar opens at 11:30.

Wednesday, Dec 20 – Christmas Potluck, 7pm.

Wednesday, Jan 3 – Business Meeting, 7 p.m. Bar opens at 6.

Tuesday, Jan 9 – Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Bar opens at 11:30.

Old-Timer's Night, Oct. 18th

An evening of friendly fellowship, fine food and greasy fingers. Juicy ribs, beans and slaw, lovingly cooked with plenty to spare. Appreciated by more than 60 members.



Smoke Showing: Cooks (L to R) – Matt 'The Meat' DaCuhna, Smokin' Joe Artigiana, Radical Ray Potter, Lou 'Le Cuisine' Langlamet. With lots of help from: (not pictured) Joel Bantly, Sean Aguilar, Stan Rowan, Tom Teixeira and Kevin Courtz. Salud!

Meet your New Chairs

On Oct. 4th we voted to approve two new 3rd Vice Presidents. Eric Bowen will assume the responsibilities of the unfilled 3rd VP position for the remainder of this year, and Chris Wand will become our incoming 3rd VP beginning in December.



Eric Bowen

Chris Wand

Born in Southern California, Eric enjoyed a life most of us can only dream of – surfing, skateboarding and working on his tan. But don't hate him for it, he was forced to move to Oregon at the tender age of 12, where he had to learn how to wear coats and long pants, and where, when he experienced rain for the first time he asked his parents, "Why is God crying?"

Law school in Berkeley brought him to the bay area, where he lived in Sonoma and San Francisco before settling in Larkspur in 2014. Eric's a clean energy entrepreneur who enjoys hanging out with his 12-year-old son Marcello, playing pickleball and soccer and surfing the frozen waves of the Sierras. Welcome, Eric!

Chris grew up on Mason Street in North Beach, a product and testament to the public schools of SF, a street-wise Galileo graduate and City College alumni.

A citizen of the world, he's lived in the Midwest (a moment of madness), South America and Europe. But now he's back in Marin and here to stay.

Residing in Ross, he's a gardener, historical S.F. photo collector, public school teacher, proud father, and doting husband. Welcome, Chris!

Both Eric and Chris bring enthusiasm, fresh perspectives, and invaluable skillsets to the parlor – we're incredibly lucky to have them!

Website Update

Mark Fogg continues his tireless work on our website: fairfaxnativesons.com

He's created a password-protected link to *Member Services* which will allow us to share our business meeting agenda and minutes online.

There's a Parlor events calendar, links to our newsletter, the Grand Parlor's newsletter, as well as news from other parlors. Visit the website to find out about the **Grand President's Membership Rewards Program** for this fiscal year.

The new version of the website is intended to facilitate communication around the Parlor. Future website improvements include a Parlor Business Directory and the ability for members to pay their dues online.

If you have any suggestions or ideas that could help, please contact Mark at: fairfaxnativesons@gmail.com

November Birthdays

Nov. 2nd: Mark Escabar (25)
Nov 5th: Michael Allen (19), Kevin Geraghty (40), Michael Pon (24)
Nov 8th: Chuck Cate (19), Ron Moresco (32)
Nov 9th: Anthony George (1)
Nov 10th: Wayne Stranton (7)
Nov 11th: Michael Mackintosh (10)
Nov 12th: Wayne Clerk (4)
Nov 18th: Gary Podesta (23)
Nov 19th: Al Bernes (48)
Nov 20th: Mike Courtz (45)
Nov 21st: Jim Arrigoni (16)
Nov 22nd: John Payne (49)
Nov 23rd: Jeff Birkenseer (5)
Nov 24th: Kevin Baumsteiger (25)
Nov 25th: Philip Anderson II (16)
Nov 27th: Lou Langlamet (10)
Nov 28th: Don Legnitto (32). Monty Stephens (16)
Nov 29th: Ron Potter (26), Bruce Wilson (16)

Tuesday Lunch 10/10/23

Crispy Mediterranean chicken, sauteed potatoes and onions – an amazing lunch that really tickled our ivories.



'The Silver Spoons'

Bob 'The Bohemian' Burrows and Dan 'Al Dente' Freeman



Codoni's Corner

Pull up a chair, sit down, stop flapping your gums and maybe you'll learn something...

75th Anniversary Coming! The Beginning

Early on the evening of Wednesday, September 21, 1949, a parade formed on Bolinas Road in Fairfax. Led by the combined drum and bugle corps of Mt. Tamalpais and Sea Point Parlors and the Marinita Parlor Native Daughter Drill Team, 93 candidates marched to Fairfax Pavilion. The entourage included Fairfax City officials and Grand Parlor dignitaries.

District Deputy Grand President Arthur Hecht of Mt. Tamalpais Parlor and his team of Native Sons performed the rituals of installing the officers and welcoming the new brothers.



Fairfax Pavillion – 12/31/1949

Top left: Artie Hecht. Bottom center: Frank Monte.

In recognition of her efforts in organizing the parlor, Mrs. Agnes O'Connell was named "Mother" of Fairfax Parlor. She later presented the altar used at the meetings in memory of her husband, charter member Michael O'Connell.

After the usual speeches, there was an open house, refreshments and dancing—and Fairfax Parlor was on its way!

The first regular meetings of the parlor were held in the Fairfax City Council chambers, but were quickly changed to the Fairfax Women's Club to accommodate the large membership.

When the charter was closed on December 31, 1949, there were 110 members.

D. Frank Monte, first president of Fairfax Parlor, was born in San Francisco but came to Marin in 1923, attending San Rafael High School and returning to The City to graduate from the University of San Francisco. Frank became mayor of San Anselmo and was a member of the San Rafael Elks Club and president of both San Rafael and San Anselmo Druids. During his term as president, Fairfax Parlor was launched with enthusiasm and energy.

Next: The Early Years

In Memory of Gene Ardito



This artwork was donated by the Gene Ardito Family to Fairfax Parlor #307 in memory of longtime financial secretary Gene Ardito. The art was created by M. Kathryn Thompson, a long-time Fairfax artist.

The art will be displayed in our clubroom, which is dedicated to Gene.

Tuesday Lunch 10/10/23

Don't Mess with the Cooks

A delicious repaste of perfectly grilled steak, potato salad, coleslaw, macaroni salad, followed by a dessert consisting of a few knuckle-sandwiches.



Forged in fire Stan 'Don't even start...' Rowan gives the evil eye to someone asking for seconds while Smokin' Joe Artigiana gets ready to restrain him. Joe 'Oilcan' Allen (below) looks on in horror; 'For God's sake, Stan, don't kill another one!'

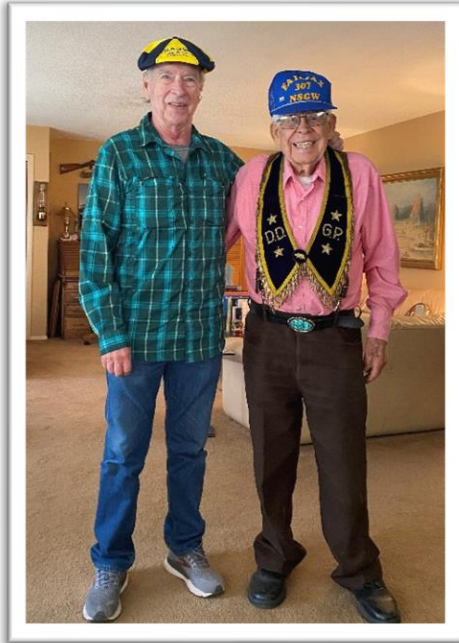


Meet Native Son Andy Saez

A Travelogue by Burt Winn

Sometimes you'll meet a Native Son of the Golden West in the most unlikely of places. I had that experience in September when my wife and I traveled to the Rocky Mountains and met with an *active member* of Fairfax Parlor #307, 93 years young Andy Saez who lives in

Durango, Colorado.



We were on a short late summer vacation partly to visit and ride the Durango & Silverton Steam Railroad. We also saw many major National Parks on the trip.

Durango, a railroad and

mining town, is situated in a valley at 6,600 Ft. elevation surrounded by the Rockies, and Silverton, an old mining town and destination for the railroad is at 9,300 Ft. in an alpine valley. It snows so much in Silverton that Olympian snowboarder Shaun White built a half-pipe practice run in the hills above town. The train ride is slow and spectacular following the course of the forested Animus River through cliffs and canyons.



Andy is a Railroad guy. And he and his wife, Lucille, run a Railroad Museum. Or, to be completely accurate, live next-door to said Museum. It is in his backyard,

between his house and the D&SRR tracks. I could see his museum from the train window as we went by.

His museum is filled to the brim with memorabilia, artifacts, pictures, statues, and countless railroad souvenirs. Andy is very proud to have accumulated over a century of memories, including a full caboose and tracks. He even tells me Fred Codoni's saxophone is in there, and I saw it. His enthusiasm was contagious as he described many of his exhibits including full dress Railroad uniforms from the day on mannequins, model railroad cars, pictures, furniture, communications equipment, advertising posters, and more.

Andy and his wife Lucille enjoy celebrating their wedding anniversary every year on the D & SSRR by riding to Silverton and back. Active, he can still get around though his vision is weakening and his wife must now do the driving. Finishing our visit, the couple took us to their favorite Mexican Restaurant, Frida's Cantina down the road from the museum, where we had a variety of very fine Mexican dishes, Colorado style.



Membership in the Native Sons has its perks. One of them is meeting Brothers like Andy Saez in the most unlikely of places. If you ever find yourself visiting Durango, Colorado, look him up and take a tour of his museum. His contact info is available from us at the Native Sons at Fairfax Parlor #307.

Oh, and by the way Andy, thanks for the hat!

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