



Native Sons News

Fairfax Parlor #307

September 2024



The Kegerator is Here!!

Thanks to the work of the 5-Year Plan Committee we now have one. See what's next - article on page 2.



I don't think I've ever seen Joel Bantly this excited...

Aug 13th Luncheon

Simply amazing. Dan Freeman's tangy and tantalizing 5-Spice Pork Tenderloin with roasted potatoes, caramelized cauliflower and salad, not to mention a crazy good assortment of appetizers, made for a meal fit for kings. Wow. That was really something. Thanks Dan!



Sous Vides Locos

L-R Bob 'The Brick' Burrows, Dan 'Kingmaker' Freeman, and Neal 'The Prestidigitator' Polachek

Saint John's Cleft Palate Team welcomes back the Native Sons of the Golden West

Sunday, October 6, 2024



Fairfax Parlor 75th Anniversary & Family Appreciation Day

September 21st

The big day has finally arrived! Come join us at our CANON CLUB on Saturday Sept. 21st from 3 - 7pm

We'll start off with an assorted food selection catered by Comforts in San Anselmo, followed by a Hot Dog and Hamburger BBQ at 5pm. The food is free. **FREE!!**

There'll be Speakers talking about the history of our Parlor and its notable members beginning at 4.

Bring your kids for the pool, ping-pong and pickleball. Play, socialize, relax – a great afternoon!

RSVP: Kevin Courtz: kcbcourt@aol.com

Please advise: #adults, #children

Reservation Deadline – Monday, September 16th

Open to all Fairfax Parlor 307 Members and Family

Come celebrate this momentous occasion with us, all your brothers, and especially your family!

FAIRFAX PARLOR CALENDAR 2024

Wed., Sep 4 – Business Meeting, 7pm Bar opens at 6.

Tue., Sep 10 – Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Bar opens at 11:30.

Sat., Sep 21 – 75th Anniversary Fairfax Parlor #307 with:
Family Appreciation Day BBQ, 3 - 7pm

Tue., Sep 24 – Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Bar opens at 11:30.

Wed., Oct 2 – Business Meeting, 7pm. Nomination of Parlor Officers

Tue., Oct 8 – Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Bar opens at 11:30.

Wed., Oct 16 – Old-Timers Night Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Bar opens at 6.

Tue., Oct 22 – Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Bar opens at 11:30.

Other Parlors Events

Sep 11 – Petaluma-Nicasio #183 Social/Dinner/Meeting, 6pm RSVP: (707) 763-1736, Hermann Sons Hall, Petaluma

Sep 11 – Santa Rosa #28 Social/BBQ Ribs Dinner

RSVP 707-350-1116, NSGW Hall, Santa Rosa

Sep 14 – Napa #62 Lotts Lake Benefit Dinner - 6pm

RSVP: (707) 849-2240, Napa NS Hall, Napa

Sep 16 – Napa #62 Social/Dinner, Schnitzel - 6pm

RSVP: (707) 224-3213, NS Hall, Napa

Oct 21 – Napa #62 Social/Dinner, Oktoberfest – 6pm

RSVP, 707-224-3213, NS Hall, Napa

FAIRFAX PARLOR OFFICERS, 2024

President – Matt Marcucci 1st VP – Bill Madsen

2nd VP – Eric Bowen 3rd VP – Chris Wand Sr.

Jr. Past President – Burton Winn

Financial Sec – Our Trustees Treasurer – Stan Rowan

Recording Sec – Kevin Courtz

Newsletter Editor – Bill Madsen uubmadsen@sbcglobal.net

Website Manager – Mark Fogg FairfaxNativeSons@gmail.com

5-Year Plan Committee Notes

Present: Joel Bantly, Dan Hanley, Bill Madsen, Chris Reilly, Tom Teixeira. (Absent: Lou Langlamet, Mark Fogg)

Identification and Prioritization of projects:

- 1 Lounge/Bar area. Committee agreed this is the best place to start. Start by building bar - request \$5000 from Parlor for materials, cabinets. Need additional meetings to discuss design of lounge.
- 2 Fireplace. Second priority because of potential increase in seating area. Once begun, this project needs to be completed ASAP to minimize impact.
- 3 2024-25 Covered Balcony (Requires design and bids)
- 4 2024-25 Bocce Ball Court. This could be a fun project – could begin earlier with enough support.
- 5 2025 Back Deck (to pool area) with accessibility ramp. (Cost-split with Club. Requires design consult)
- 6 2026 Kitchen Remodel (Requires design and code requirements consult – may be cost-prohibitive.) Joel wonders if it could be moved downstairs?

Plan: Share minutes of meeting with Parlor and request \$5000 for work. Talk about potential Lounge design:

- Bar roll-away design to maximize space utilization.
- Railroad theme to honor Fred and establish a 'feel'.
- How to co-exist with Erik's tennis area
- Most efficient floor and seating design

Discussed assembly of kegerator:

Hope to have it up and running by Sept. 4th Business Meeting.

September Birthdays

Sep 1st: James Adam
Sep 2nd: Daniel Freeman, Tom Kyne, Dan Murphy, Richard Saber,
Sep 3rd: Greg Giesen
Sep 4th: Timothy Knittel, Robert Milani
Sep 5th: Geoff Cunningham
Sep 7th: Pablo deAlmeida, Charles Cornwell, Larry Giambastiani
Sep 8th: Eric Bowen
Sep 11th: Steve Sibley, Michael Thiercof, William Curry
Sep 13th: Dan Hanlon
Sep 14th: Michael Jue
Sep 15th: Robert Bonderud, Richard Carson, Mark Fiore
Sep 16th: Judd Simmons
Sep 18th: Brett Nelson
Sep 21st: William Goodwin
Sep 24th: Steven Ardigo
Sep 25th: James Filippo, Rodney Oates
Sep 26th: Paul Geraghty, Michael Isetta
Sep 27th: Joel Bantly, Richard Rushton
Sep 29th: Anthony Bricca, Russell Zappetini
Sep 30th: Patrick Martinez

August 21st Dinner

Thanks to everyone for making our Dinner a great success! 66 Native Sons packed the clubhouse, 11 of those journeying from three other parlors. Thank you to our Chefs; Fred Schawb and Fred Codoni! What great steaks and risotto!



Chuck Trimble sort of assisting 'Fighting' Fred Schawb at the grill



L-R: Fred Codoni, Chris Jackson, Connor Trimble, Michael Codoni and Lou Langlamet

Many thanks to Matt Marcucci, Joel Bantly, Dave Franzoia, Stan Rowan, Kevin Courtz and Tom Teixeira for their help with set-up and clean up and bartending.

I know I missed some members – you have my apologies.

By the way, besides a great evening, we made \$685 profit for the Parlor.

Kevin Courtz

August 27th Lunch

Joe's Special. What more do you need to say? A classic San Francisco firehouse staple cooked the right way by the right guys. Always a crowd-pleaser. Never any left-overs.



The Specialists

L-R: John 'Beefcake' Beckerly, Rick 'Serve it up' Seramin, And John 'Portion Control' Payne

Humboldt Parlor #14 Official Visit

By Burt Winn – The Traveling Trustee

California has many different climates and environments, from the dry heat of the Mohave Desert in the Southland to the tall Redwood trees and cool climate of the North Coast. Humboldt County has the privilege of being in the cooler North Coast part of the State, with foggy summers and rainy winters; it is a refuge from the summer heat of the scorching inland and Central Valleys.



Into this environment, I did my first Official Visit as Grand Trustee for the Native Sons by visiting historic Humboldt Parlor #14 at their Old Town, Eureka NSGW Hall on 3rd Street this past August.

Now, Official Visits require some preparation; you need to communicate with the Parlor, get a date for the visit, send them a welcome letter and transmit forms that are needed to be completed by the time of your visit.

Then you need to travel there, book a hotel before hand if the visit is an overnight stay, then find the location and get there on time. And you need to review what to present to the Parlor as an outreach representative of the Grand Parlor and help the local Parlor with whatever difficulties they may encounter.

Leaving the hot and smoky interior coastal valleys of Hi 101 in the Northern part of the State, we drove into a misty coolness as we traveled further north, descending to the coast as we approached Eureka. We were headed to Trinidad, my wife and I, for a quick break from the Bay Area to celebrate our wedding anniversary. Since we were already going to be in the area, I decided to include my Official Visit to Humboldt Parlor, so I booked it. Trinidad is a scenic coastal hamlet north of Eureka.

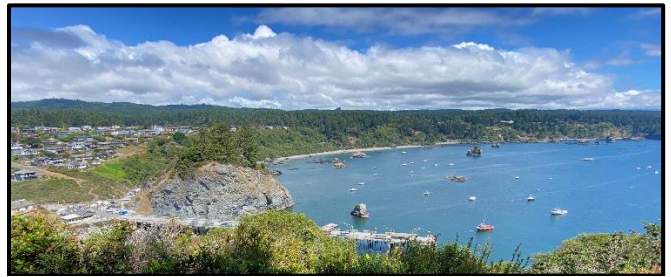
Arriving at 6:30pm at the NSGW Hall in Eureka for the Official Visit, there was still evening daylight and I found parking right out in front of the building on the street. The doorway of the Parlor was open, so I ascended the stairs to the second story and was met by Humboldt Parlor President Joe Gosselin, a friendly host, who showed me around the historic building including a Great Hall occupying most of the upstairs floor. Like many buildings of this age, the Hall needs a new roof and some window work, but wears its age well."

Erected in 1887 by L T Kinsey, the structure was bought by the Humboldt County Pioneers in 1890, then it was sold to Humboldt Parlor #14 NSGW June 15, 1897, who are the current owners. A Dedication Plaque on the front door details this.

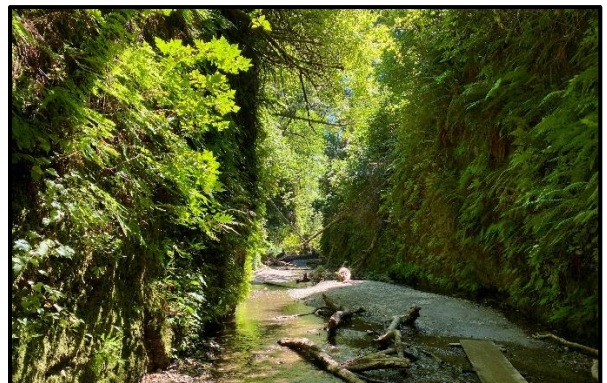
The Official Visit went pretty well. I was initially concerned about things going wrong and making mistakes. Like riding a bicycle for the first time, I thought, maybe I'd fall off, but I didn't."

We met in a well-lit room by the Kitchen. I studied the material to present, and the Parlor had their paperwork together. Treasurer Joyce Davenport presented the completed forms when she arrived for the meeting. Not many Brothers were present, mainly the officers, with the Recording Secretary Jerry Colivas joining remotely by phone. I also had some help as HPF chair Carl Von Barga and Past Grand Trustee Richard Cortez were in attendance. I reviewed with the Parlor the new Lapsation Program, the Historical Preservation Foundation, and the Grand Presidents awards. Over in about 45 minutes, I stayed for the rest of the meeting to get a feel for the Parlor. This Parlor is in good shape."

We had a few days open after the Official Visit to explore the beautiful North Coast, driving to Redwood State and National Parks and the local beaches."



One of the most spectacular places to visit is Prairie Creek Redwoods' Fern Canyon about an hour north of Eureka on Highway 1 and at the end of a 7 mile dirt logging road. After fording streams in the car and wondering when the rough road will end (and would we get stuck in a creek?), we ended up at a parking lot and the entrance to the Canyon. Hiking into the Canyon is like going into the distant past, into a prehistoric, ancient time. Like a from a scene from Jurassic Park II (some of which was filmed there), I expected to see dinosaurs, or extinct animals, roaming the creek and climbing the walls that form the Canyon.



It is worth a trip to visit both Humboldt Parlor and to see the surrounding attractions of the North Coast. This part of California is not as visited as Yosemite or the other major areas, and not as crowded.

You should go.

Cont'd: The Fish That Needed To Get Away:

A NATIVE SON OF THE GOLDEN WEST STORY

By Russ Knudson

Chapter 2: Kissing Tunnels

The ferry boat passengers received only glimpses of sunlight on the crossing. Sammy Sun was battling the Bay Area's Natural Air Conditioner known as the Ferguson Family of Fog. On the crossing from San Francisco this day, the Ferguson Family was having its way.

As soon as the inlands of the Marin County hills were to be reached Sammy Sun would flex his muscles, burn off Ferguson and invite his friend, The Blue Sky. Ferguson and Sammy loved their daily battle!

The congregation from early Saucelito caught glimpses of the ferry boat through the veils of fog. Sitting in the plush seats of a North Pacific Coast Narrow Gauge Beauty, these dignitaries had already glued their bottoms to any seat in any car they could find a seat! They weren't gonna miss out on this glorious, historical January 7th, 1875 Day!

San Franciscan's had an unobstructed northern view of a Miwok land of beauty, known as The Chief Marin Lands..... and today, they were gonna see it first hand!

A beautiful coastal mountain, Mount Tamalpais, was the ring leader of Marin's beauty. Tamalpais meant "The West Hill" for the Miwok. And in story of lore, the mountain was also known as "The Sleeping Lady".

This inaugural Saucelito train ride was a celebration of years of hard work by the ownership of the North Pacific Coast Rail Road (NPCRR). This train would cross a forgotten trestle that was built on shallow water in Richardson Bay. This train trestle would lead to Strawberry Point. The tracks then headed north and then west through the Larkspur Lands, towards The Junction (The Hub) at Red Hill and into the lands of Lord Fairfax. Just west of Fairfax the train would meander through a couple of Kissing Tunnels with remnants that still exist today!

Chapter 3: Whiskey Flasks

The dignitaries from San Francisco stepped off of the ferry boat with inebriated smiles and a liquored breath that would get a blind squirrel drunk from the exhaling whiskey fumes. Arguments and fist fights had already broken out. The alcohol consumption and a bit of a wavy ferry boat ride causing sea-sickness didn't help solve the several intoxicated verbal and physical altercations about... *...who won the Civil War.*

Apparently in the minds of many in 1875 harsh feelings ran deep about the US of A's greatest internal war based on... *...what is a true human.*

We still fight today and bloodshed is still shed...but not like the Civil War... over 600,000 perished.

"All Aboard" was announced by conductor Fred Codoni and the shouting matches turned into cheers of "Chugga Chugga Choo Choo!...Let's go!" The festivity of this inaugural moment returned... and so did the whiskey flasks.

Chapter 4: A PAIR OF DEUCES

The Party Go-ers were united! The iron wheels of the locomotive slowly turned, a loud whistle blew that stirred up a million seagulls and a plume of "perfectly black" charcoal smoke arose into the air... a connected black smoky line... from a steam powered Iron Horse... the "perfectly black" eventually disappeared into an almost virgin smoke free atmosphere...only the smoke of Indigenous campfires and a few log cabin fireplaces of early settlement invaded the pristine Marin air at this time.

Three ex-soldiers made their late exit off the ferry as they were in a drunken stupor. They ran after the slow mover, laughing and swearing. Drunk of foot but swift enough to run along side, they grabbed an exterior steel ladder of a fully loaded passenger car. The passengers tried to kick them off. They scurried to the roof of the car and found enough sitting space to continue their 5 card stud poker game. The deck of cards was marked with tobacco spit and horse manure from their fingernails that were never manicured.

5 card stud poker is a game where cheatin' gives one advantage... and these three were cheatin' experts. Their eyes were on each other's hands at all times and if one got caught in the cheatin' act, the other two were allowed to give the cheater a free bare knuckle round house punch... these guys were missing a lot of teeth.

They were ragged, they were frumpy, they were uncouth...but for men like these... it was survival in the westward lands where law and order was always light-years behind. The card game resumed, the train was a slow go-er at around ten miles an hour, thus the cards stayed put as they lay down their cheatin' hands. There was no wind or air movement to blow these cards away....they played and they played.

One soldier was an ex-Confederate, Chester Courtz. Chester carried a chip on his shoulder, forever angry at the Southern Defeat he partook in. Chester was angry at everyone, especially his two Confederate adversary poker mates. Somehow these three had nothin' good to say to each other... but they were soldiers... and soldiers stick together.

Four eyes were on Chester as it was his poker move and any "slight of hand" maneuvers would have to be done with the skill of a Houdini. All Chester had was a pair of Deuces and you know what they say... **A PAIR OF DEUCES... NEVER LOOSES.**

To be continued...

This is the second installment in a series Russ is writing for our Parlor and the Canon Club community.

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