

# THE HERITAGE HERALD

FALL 2010 Newsletter of the Eureka Heritage Society  
Est. 1973 Eureka, California

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Holiday Party  
Luncheon at the  
Ingomar Club  
11:15 a.m.-2:30 p.m.  
Saturday, December 18

Annual Meeting  
Recognition of historic  
Eureka City Hall  
at Avalon Restaurant  
Saturday, January 29, 2011

## Heritage Action Calendar

### All meetings – City Hall – 5th & K

City Council  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 6:30 p.m.

Historic Preservation Commission  
1st Wednesday – 4:00 p.m.

Design Review Committee  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays – 3:30 p.m.

Planning Commission  
2nd Monday – 5:30 p.m.

## A BIG HAND FOR THE LITTLE LADY



*Brittany Higgins, CCC, exemplifies the triumphant spirit of community atop the new roof of the Annie B. Ryan.*

*Photos by Bill Hole*



*Above, members of the California Conservation Corps remove layers of old shingles, exposing the original skip sheathing of the roof. Below, Wes Marshall and Mike Coop, students in the Field School, along with instructor Bob Felter, repair the front gable.*

**T**he Annie B. Ryan Historic House and Field School, 1000 F Street, recently received a new roof made possible through generous donations of time and materials. It was truly a community effort for this 1892 Queen Anne cottage, not unlike a “barn raising” of yesteryear. Bill Hole, professor in the Historic Preservation and Restoration Technology program at College of the Redwoods, coordinated the project. McMurray and Sons donated the new shingles. Members of the California Conservation Corps (CCC), the students in CR’s Field School under the tutelage of Bob Felter, members of the HP & R Club, a local roofer, and other volunteers were involved in the work. Old layers of deteriorated roofing materials were removed; new plywood sheathing and underlayment were installed; and valley flashing, rafter tails, and fascia boards were repaired or replaced in kind. The new shingles were in place and all the work completed literally hours before the first seasonal rains began to fall in October. We can all be proud to live in a city where an accomplishment such as this can occur.



## Board Members

### Executive Committee

President	Janet Warren
Vice President	Charles Petty
Secretary	Ron Kuhnel
Treasurer	Mary Ann McCulloch

### Board of Directors

Kay Bradford	Kay Kaylor
Muriel Dinsmore	Robert Libershal
Jean Gladstone	Lonni Magellan
Mary Glavich	Xandra Manns
Helen Hui	Paul McNally
	Peter Santino

The Board meets the first Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Eureka Woman's Club 1531 J Street

### Committees and Chairs

Membership	Jean Gladstone
Preservation	Mary Ann McCulloch
Events	Muriel Dinsmore
Webmaster	Peter Santino
Education	Xandra Manns
Romano Gabriel	Mary Glavich
Historic Plaques	Bob Libershal
Preservation Awards	Mary Glavich
Green Book	Jean Gladstone
Archival Project	Bob Libershal
Volunteers	Lonni Magellan
Correspondence	Xandra Manns

### Mission

The Eureka Heritage Society will provide leadership, education and advocacy that preserves and enhances Eureka's irreplaceable historic structures and neighborhoods so as to ensure a legacy for future generations.

### Heritage Herald Staff

Kay Bradford  
Kay Kaylor  
Janet Warren  
444-3314

Contact us with your suggestions and comments!

Eureka Heritage Society website:  
[www.eurekaheritage.org](http://www.eurekaheritage.org)

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Janet Warren

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I would like to acknowledge our members for helping so enthusiastically on the Home Tour. The Home Tour could not happen without an army of volunteers, and this year we had eight sites to staff with docents and ticket sellers. Thank you all again.

The board voted to establish the job of volunteer coordinator, and Lonni Magellan has accepted this position. If you are interested in being more active in the Eureka Heritage Society, check out the list of committees on the left side of this page and call Lonni at 442-7819 to ask questions and to discuss areas of interest to you. Lonni will be eager to hear from you.

The board also established the position of corresponding secretary. As the Eureka Heritage Society has evolved, the board found the need to separate some of the duties of the recording secretary, events chair, and president for correspondence that required a more personal touch. Xandra Manns has graciously offered to take on this job.

We have renewed our agreement with Kathy Dillon to produce four more issues of *Architectural Legacy*. The first of this new series is included in this edition of *The Heritage Herald*. I think you will be delighted with Kathy's articles highlighting the neighborhood around Ross Park.

This is the end of my third year as your president. There will be a new slate of officers to be voted on at the annual meeting in January. I have enjoyed my term as president, and I look forward to continuing my involvement with EHS. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the board of directors for all their hard work and support.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following members who joined or renewed their membership in the Eureka Heritage Society at the Home Tour and during this past month:

Merle Lynn Easton  
Cheryl Edwards  
Leo and Louise Fredrickson  
David and Becky Grant  
John and Laura Hennings  
Raymond Hillman  
Aleksandr Holm  
Christine Holm  
Mr. and Mrs. Evan Kopald  
Steven Lazar

Frank and Carol Maurer  
Debra Pecaut  
M. Reuter  
Carmen Smith  
Doralee Smith  
Stephen Sottong  
Brent and Susan Terry  
Joy Thomas  
Elizabeth Thompson  
Lanette Watkins

Just a reminder, all memberships are from January to January, and most members find it convenient to renew at the Annual Meeting, which will be January 29, 2011. More information about the Annual Meeting will be forthcoming in the new year.

## A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY

by Bob Libershal



The cottage at 1634 I Street (shown above) was built on Lot 8, on the northwest corner of the intersection of 17th and I Streets. Its older twin, whose footprint is apparent on Lot 7 on the 1920 Sanborn map (shown at right and indicated with an arrow) is long gone.



If you noticed on the 2010 Home Tour brochure that the history of 1624 I Street is stated differently than what is printed in the “Green Book,” Here’s why:

Once upon a time in Eureka, there were two cottages of similar shape and size, twin like, though with almost ten years age difference, and on adjoining lots at 1622 and 1634 I Street. About 41 years ago one of those houses was removed and replaced by a parking lot. The remaining one, on the corner at 1634 I, was photographed and researched at the time of the Eureka Heritage Society survey in the 1970s. Its identity was then misunderstood — it’s not the Selvage house.

How did I learn of this, and what explains it?

For researching buildings in Eureka, the EHS survey files are a great place to start. While seeking further information about the house at 1634 I Street for the recent Home Tour, I stumbled across this case of mistaken identity.

Interpreting the improvements data on property tax rolls is tricky, especially for large parcels or properties with more than one lot. Where on a multi-lot parcel, for example, was an improvement located? Apparently that dilemma, and seemingly a lack of reference to Sanborn fire insurance maps, resulted in an erroneous assumption by the survey researchers. See the Green Book Inventory for 1634 I Street.

The wife of local attorney Thomas Selvage obtained a two-lot parcel (Lots 7 and 8 on Block D of the Glatt Tract) in November 1891. There were no improve-

ments 'til a residence was built, likely in the latter half of 1893. Water company records of late 1893 and an 1898 city directory listing for Selvage state the location of the residence as on the west side of I street between 16th and 17th Streets. Property tax rolls indicate no further improvements 'til after Patrick Larkin obtained the two lots in May 1902.

So what does the 1900 Sanborn map show for the Selvage residence? On the west side of I Street between 16th and 17th, near midblock, it's on the area of Lot 7. That has to be it, as the corner Lot 8 area is empty. Noticeably, the Sanborn footprint, shape, and size for Selvage's cottage in 1900 — then with street address 1620 I — is basically the same as the house now at 1634 I Street. The 1920 Sanborn shows that Larkin's improvement was a nearly identical cottage on the corner.

It seems remarkable that two cottages built about nine years apart would be so similar. Retired rancher Patrick Larkin was a small-scale owner of rental housing in Eureka. He used his two I Street cottages as rentals. Larkin, like other owners of the era who had rental residences built, had a penchant for identical houses of two, three, or more in a row. In 1903–04, Larkin had three identical houses built on 7th Street near P — at 1426, 1432, and 1438 7th Street.

Today we can admire the cottage at 1634 I Street for its own identity, as the younger half of a former pair, and see it for a clue to what the Selvage cottage once looked like.

Bob Libershal, who serves on the Eureka Heritage Society Board of Directors and as Chairman of the Archival Project and Historic Plaques, is a frequent contributor to *The Heritage Herald*. He is a member of the Humboldt County Historical Society and volunteers at the Humboldt County Library in the Humboldt Room. Bob enjoys sharing what he has learned from his research.

## CARSON CARRIAGE COMES FULL CIRCLE

by Janet Warren and Kay Bradford

Janet and Bruce Cox shared with us the following local history. In 1975, county supervisor Sam Mitchell presented the Eureka Heritage Society with the pieces of a carriage that once belonged to William Carson.

Carson's 1908 Studebaker Phaeton is a sportier model than a typical family carriage. A sales brochure for a 1908 World Phaeton similar to the Studebaker model advertised the list price of \$61.95. The one bench seat and compact size of this carriage was perfect for short errands and drives about town.

After William Carson's horse ran away with the Phaeton downtown, he decided not to use it anymore and gave it to Sam Mitchell's father. The elder Mr. Mitchell continued to deliver milk to the Carson home in his horse-drawn milk wagon. According to Bruce and Janet, Sam remembered coasting down hills in the carriage, and it remained in Sam's family for 60 years. When Sam offered the carriage to the Eureka Heritage Society in celebration of America's Bicentennial Celebration, the carriage was in pieces with both the front axle and main frame bent. The lacquer and paint had become brittle, and other components had moisture damage.



*Bruce Cox used this illustration of the Phaeton produced by World Vehicles to aid him in his restoration of the Carson carriage, a 1908 Studebaker Phaeton.*

To begin the restoration, Gene Diddy, treasurer of the Eureka Heritage Society, contacted Ray Foster of Foster's Drayage Company, located near Schmidbauer's and Westfall Stevedore on Washington Street. Ray, Janet Cox's father, was interested in old cars. Bruce Cox worked as a mechanic for Ray Foster in 1975, and repairing the carriage became a priority for Bruce for the next three months. The Eureka Heritage Society hoped to have the carriage operable for Eureka's own bicentennial celebration.



*Janet and Bruce Cox*

With the carriage literally in pieces, Bruce researched and found period carriage illustrations to aid him in his restoration. He fabricated the rubber on the wheels (buggy tires required sending back to Pennsylvania) by using a 3/4" thick rubber industrial belt and a body grinder to shape the tires' rounded crown and then industrial glue to adhere the tire to the wheel. A young man named Barry who worked for Swing's Upholstery on California Street refurbished the leather bench seat, pulling each button by hand for the tufted seat. Sam Mitchell selected the color for the restored carriage, Brewster Green, an authentic paint color for Model A automotive restoration. Jay Cooper, an artist, painted the pinstripe freehand in a contrasting color of apple green.

Bruce Cox was successful in completing the Carson carriage restoration on time and in fine shape for the bicentennial. Gloria Barnwell drove the carriage in the Rhododendron parade on May 1, 1976.



*The Carson carriage driven by Gloria Barnwell and pulled by her feisty Morgan with husband Philo Barnwell walking with his mule*

## 2010 HOME TOUR

*Thank you all for another wonderful afternoon of distinguished structures, vintage cars, and live music!*



*Bill and Coleen Hole surrounded by memorabilia in the Vieyras' "Elegant Victorian"*



*Architectural Legacy editor Kathy Dillon and Events Chair Muriel Dinsmore in the foyer of the Tix-Furlong home*



*Leslie Lollich, Melanie Kuhnel, and Paul McNally on the new front porch (circa 2010) of Josh Kuhnel's 1885 cottage*



All Home Tour photos by Ron Kuhnel

*Musicians led by Dick Laforge in the parlor of Dennis and Sylvia Scott's home*



*Doug Vieyra and Mark McCulloch with Dennis Scott in the rumble seat of Doug's vintage automobile at the Eureka Inn*



*Kay Escarda and Lynn McKenna in the front garden of Dr. Joseph Humble*



*Carl Zander and daughter Belinda in the foyer of "Abigail's Elegant Victorian"*



*Xandra Manns and Debra Pecaut on the porch of the Scott home*

## HOME TOUR "AFTER PARTY"

Our first ever Home Tour "After Party" for homeowners, docents, and volunteers was held immediately following the Home Tour in the lobby of the Eureka Inn.



All Home Tour photos by Ron Kuhnel

Ray and Randi Swedenburg



Mary Glavich and Wendy Petty



"After Party" in the lobby of the Eureka Inn



## COMMENTS

by the  
*INSPECTOR GUY*

### TIME TO GIVE THANKS

It's that time of year to reflect and give thanks. Those of us that have an interest in the great architecture that abounds in Arcata, Eureka, and Ferndale, as well as other areas in Humboldt County, are very fortunate to have a community college that has a great historic preservation program. CR offers two curriculums in historic preservation: the Certification program and the Associate of Science Degree program.

Bill Hole, Jill Macdonald, Peter Santino, Bob Felter, and Dane Cowan do a wonderful job sharing their knowledge and talents with those who wish to learn this valuable trade. If you know any of them, take the time to say "THANK YOU." They deserve it.

If you know any of the trustees for College of the Redwoods, be sure to let them know how much you appreciate the Historic Preservation and Restoration Technology Program offered through the Construction Technology Department. They need to know.

Dave Smith, MCI, CNCS, Redwood Coast Inspections, has been in the inspection business for ten years. Born in Eureka, he has been a lifetime resident of the area.

If you have a question about an item in your home, submit it to Dave for comment. Questions for comment can be sent to:

[recoinspect@sbcglobal.net](mailto:recoinspect@sbcglobal.net)



## 2010 HOLIDAY PARTY *DON'T MISS IT!*

Our Holiday Party is set for Saturday, December 18; mark your calendars. We will gather at the Ingomar Club a little earlier this year to allow for old friends to meet and greet each other properly.

- ◆ The Carson carriage will be on display on the grounds of its original home.
- ◆ An incredible luncheon prepared by the Ingomar chefs is planned, and the menu choices will be listed on the reply card of your invitation.
- ◆ Seasonal entertainment will be provided by the brass quintet from the Scotia Band in uniform.
- ◆ Hosts Ron Kuhnel and Chuck Petty will give small group tours of the mansion after the program.

*As the leaves fall and the weather changes, it is often  
a time for reflection and thoughts of renewal . . .*

*So it is with the Eureka Heritage Society.*

*Consider a membership as a gift to a friend, relative, or yourself!*

## 2011 Eureka Heritage Society Membership Form

\_\_\_ New or \_\_\_ Renewing Member (January to January)

\_\_\_ \$20 Individual

\_\_\_ \$50 Nonprofit Sponsor

\_\_\_ \$150 Patron

\_\_\_ \$30 Family

\_\_\_ \$75 Private Sponsor

\_\_\_ \$300 Benefactor

\_\_\_ \$10 Student/Senior

\_\_\_ \$75 Business Sponsor

\_\_\_ \$500 Life Member

\_\_\_ \$15 Senior Family

**Additional Contribution** of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Eureka Heritage Society's **Scholarship Fund** for an advanced student in the Historic Preservation & Restoration Technology Program at College of the Redwoods.

**Enclosed is my check in the total amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable to Eureka Heritage Society.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**The Eureka Heritage Society needs volunteers.** Sign up for any of the following:

- Events, including annual Home Tour: docents, host/hostess, serving refreshments
- Membership
- Education
- Publications
- Research
- Archival Project
- Serving on the Board
- Romano Gabriel Sculpture Garden landscape care
- Articles for *The Heritage Herald*

Additional comments/suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

**Eureka Heritage Society**  
**P.O. Box 1354, Eureka, CA 95502-1354**



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## COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS - Spring 2011

### Historic Preservation & Restoration Technology

*Material sciences classes have been expanded to a full semester with 4 units credit.*

CT 8 – Material Sciences: Casting & Mold Making	TTH 8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Main campus
CT 12 – Historic Research & Documentation	W 6:05 p.m.–9:20 p.m.	Downtown site
CT 14 – Advanced Field School Techniques	S 8:30 a.m.–5:20 p.m.	Annie B. Ryan
CT 15 – Field Techniques for Historic Preservation	S 8:30 a.m.–5:20 p.m.	Annie B. Ryan

**Complete CR class schedule online: [www.redwoods.edu](http://www.redwoods.edu)**

For more info, **contact Bill Hole by calling 476-4353**  
or via email: [bill-hole@redwoods.edu](mailto:bill-hole@redwoods.edu)