Election of MPHA Board

After more than 35 years of service as Archivist and manager of the Association's collection, plus being Secretary on the Board, Jeanne Bone has decided to step down and stay home. She will be missed, but not forgotten, as Jeanne will be still active as an advisor and will continue to clip local newspaper articles for the archive collection of local events.

The Board of Directors of the MPHA voted to confer the title of Emeritus to add to Jeanne's titles, thus giving her an honorary spot on the Board of Directors and archives.

It will be difficult just to replace her on the Board of Directors, to say nothing of her place as Archivist.

However, the nominating committee did, after a difficult session, come up with a possible replacement for her seat on the Board. The nominating committee, directed by Bill Weseloh, has asked Larry Johnston, son of the man once known as "Mr. Menlo Park" to stand for election to the Board. (Yes, Larry is the son of Larry Johnston, Sr., manager of the Bank of America in Menlo Park back in the 1930s and 1960s, and young Larry's occupation was also with banking, but is now retired.) He is an outstanding choice of a candidate.

Inside This Issue

- Annual Meeting
- Veterans Day
- Christmas & "The Book"
- Gordon Barker Remembered
- Esther Bearce Johnson

MERRILL HISTORY ROOM (at library) office hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday & Wednesday except holidays. www.menlopark.org/homepage/history
The nominating committee, while canvassing candidates for the board, was also looking for a replacement for the other vacant seat on the Board. Bill Weseloh’s three-year term ends this year. Bill Weseloh, an eminent local realtor, has decided, although still active in his own real estate firm, to stand for re-election to the Board of Directors — another great choice.

With these two fine candidates, the confirming vote asked for from all the members in good standing of the association will definitely not be difficult. We recommend a Yes vote for both.

The Board of Directors salutes Jeanne Bone for her years of service to the association and thanks both Bill Weseloh and Jeanne for their years of service on the Board.

—Frank Helfrich

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting serves as our “Superbowl” of the year, this year on Sunday, November 23, at 2:00 P.M. in the Library Meeting Room (downstairs). It combines business, the very important Board election, then a noted speaker, and ends with a celebration of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Three years ago Clifford Walker delighted us with anecdotes about bootlegging in our area and in greater California, stories from his book, One Eye Closed, the Other Red, the California Bootlegging Years.

Two years ago Earl “Duke” Douglass, whose grandfather, Leon, was a famous inventor, but amongst most of the gathered members was remembered more for the annual Christmas parties he gave for the children of Menlo Park, spoke of his family and about the recent efforts to save Douglass Hall on the Menlo School campus.

Last year Elena Reese spoke of the archeological work of Laura Jones and her team, of which she was a part, and gave the audience glimpses of life with the Stanford family in the late 1800s.

This year, in keeping with our tradition of featuring a renowned local authority, Margaret (Maggie) Kimball, Stanford University Archivist, will be our guest speaker. Maggie graduated from Stanford with an A.B. in history and returned to Stanford after earning masters’ degrees in history and library science at Case Western Reserve University and worked in a variety of positions in the Stanford Libraries’ Department of Special Collections and Manuscript Librarian. In 1997 she became Head of the Department of Collections and currently oversees public service for the Department of Special Collections and University Archives in addition to her duties as University Archivist.

Maggie’s work, highly respected, promises to make our Annual Meeting one of the best ever.

Coffee and cake will follow. Bring a friend — a potential member who enjoys history and Menlo Park.

Annual Meeting: Sunday, November 23, At 2:00 p.m. in The Library Meeting Room (downstairs)
Veteran’s Day and the MPHA

In the past three years alone, The Gate Post has honored not only the veterans of all our wars, but specifically many members of our own association who served our country in WWII. Joseph Beh, Joe Kelly, Frederick Becker, Dr. Sergius Bryner, Frederick Morris, all deceased, and Cal Jones and “his crew” from Stanford Village, Ken Wyatt, George Thenn, Charley Robbins, Tony Stetos and Herb Navis (Oct/Nov 2000) were some of the names remembered.

Our association has strong personal ties to those who have risked their lives to insure our freedoms. Their service displayed to us and the world that democracy involves very serious responsibility. Apathy and ignorance destroy democracy. Citizenship in a democracy is not simply an entitlement. It is a duty.

Therefore, we remember our Veterans on November 11. To honor their memories and sacrifices, the MPHA recognizes the necessity of keeping the hopes and dreams of our veterans alive in our community; to promote democracy by voting in an enlightened fashion; to promote democracy by taking civic responsibility; and to promote democracy by working to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. We recognize that to perpetuate our democracy we need hard work from the many, not the few.

We need new members to help bring our past to the present generation; we need people to step up to the responsibilities of citizenship and to give back in memory of those who fought for us. Helping the MPHA with your support and membership are excellent ways to remember Veteran’s Day on November 11. Recruit a few members. We have inherited a great legacy. We need you to help us cultivate and cherish it. The veterans have shown the way.

Christmas and “The Book”

We have a great suggestion for your Christmas Shopping. Why not do what most Historical Association members do? Own or give a copy of “The Book,” the story of Menlo Park written by Michael Svanevik and Shirley Burgett in their book, Menlo Park, Beyond the Gate.

In November, 2001, we proclaimed “The Book” ready for purchase at $43.00 apiece (tax included). It still is.

This year we again recommend “The Book” as an excellent Christmas present for yourself, family or friends. For two years Kepler’s and the Menlo Park Historical Association, largely through the efforts of Frank Helfrich and Harry Harrison, have sold almost all of them. There are so few left that they no longer need Harry’s garage for storage; now the few boxes left are in the MPHA History Room and can be easily purchased during our office hours.

Tell your friends, but be sure to have one yourself first.

A Great Present at a Great Price for a Great Cause!!
Menlo Park Historical Association
2003 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Life
Alvarez, Richard
Arnold, Mrs. Fanny H.
Beccione, Mrs. Paul V.
Black, Gordon
Blos, Mrs. Richard
Bonde, Wayne
Bone, Mrs. Jeanne W.
Buckley, Peggie
Caletti, Mr. & Mrs. Paul
Carr, Mr. & Mrs. George
Carter, Rev. Richard
Cleese, Mrs. John
Conway, John
Cottrell, Richard B.
Daschbach, Mr. & Mrs. Howard
Gado, Margherita B.
Harris, Mr. & Mrs. William N.
Helfrich, Frank
Legallet, Suzanne
Lorist, Kathleen “Suzy”
Maloney, Cornelius F.
Mills, Frank H.
Neylan, Bonnie
Parr, Mr. & Mrs. Edward G.
Papadopulos, Mrs. Marguerette
Prussing, Tom
Rovatto, Elizabeth
Samuels, Carolyn
Singh, Loren C.
Stephens, Robert J., PhD
Sturner, Don
Sutton, Ms. Robin Ann
Wear, Lyman
Weseloh, Bill & Jeanne
Windle, John

Honorary
Boesch, David
Collacchi, Paul
de la Peña, Don
Duboc, Lee-Mayor pro tem
Fredrickson, Karen
Jellins, Nicholas -Mayor
Kinney, Charles “Chuck” M.
Merrick, Mr. & Mrs. Carlos
Vogl, Mr. Frank
Winkler, Mickie

Pioneer-Founder
Barbour, Mr. John H.
Demeter, Michael
Diebels, Paul
Goette, Jean
Goodwin, Ann Morey
Goodwin, Mr. & Mrs. John H.
Merrill, Mrs. Mark
Narlesky, Betty J.
Smith, Raymond
Family
Amsbaugh, Mr. & Mrs. Allen
Angus, Mr. & Mrs. Richard
Anstead, Mr. & Mrs. L.M.
Bagel, Betsy
Braun, Mr. & Mrs. John
Buckhout, Blanchard
Cattermole, Mr. & Mrs.
Cutting, Mr. & Mrs. Lester
Dickey & family, Mrs. Maureen A.
Douglass, Mr. & Mrs. Earl S.
Durfey, Mr. & Mrs. George
Harding, Mike & Diane
Inglis, John & Joan
Lancestremere, Mrs. Eloise
Maloney, Mark & Lane
Matthews, Mr. & Mrs. Michael
McLoughlin, Bernie & Yvette
McLoughlin, Mr. & Mrs. Joe
Merrill, Frank & Clarice
Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Steve
Oakford, Mr. & Mrs. Robert
Russ, Mr. & Mrs. C. Wm.
Seccombe, Mr. & Mrs. Roger
Sonnichsen, Mr. & Mrs. D.C.
Stone, Marjorie & Herbert
Sutherland, Susan & Kenneth
Webster, Harriet & Jeffrey
Weeden, Mrs. Patty
Williams, Betty B.

Regular
Anderson, Peter
Barbour, Mrs. Dick
Bunnenberg, Leta Beth
Cooper, Dorothy Shepard
Dobberpuhl, Mrs. Dan
English, Dr. Jo
Eshleman, Wallace B.
Gallinetti, Christine
Goode, Timothy D.
Goode, Lauren
Gordon, Ms. Leslie
Harrison, Harry A.
Hedenkamp, Eleanor
Kiesling, Lulu
Landauer, Mrs. Janet
Legallet, Jok
Mason, Barbara
McCarthy, Raymond M.
Moran, Patrick R.
Morey, Nancy J.
Norris, Barbara
Notthoff, Arthur
Reavis, Nancy
Reese, Elena Lyn
Rothman, Ruth
Spangler, Nita
Thompson, Catherine
Wagstaffe, Mr. & Mrs. William
Wagstaffe, Susan
Walcher, Mr. Bruce
Walker, Mr. Sandy
Wood, Elinor E.
Workman, Mr. Gil
Zarcone, Julie

Student
Smith, Matt
Senior

Augustin, Elizabeth D.
Backlund, Dorothy & Fred
Barker, Charles
Barker, Gordon
Bethard, Mrs. Glenn A.
Blackmarr, Lois
Blunden, Denis
Bohler, Mary
Bohnert, Rev. Edward
Boucher, Lee
Bryner, Frances A.
Bugna, Ester
Carroll, Kathryn H.
Carter, George T.
Cassell, Louise
Ciardella, Mr. Louis
Curuisis, Olga T.
Dahlberg, Mary
Devincenzi, Mrs. Olga
Doyle, Mr. Bill
Dutra, Mildred
Fablunger, Mrs. Flora
Feldman, Carl
Fenner, Nancy
Fockler, Mary
Frol, Melvin R.
Frol, Richard
Gary, Jeanne
Genevro, Mr. & Mrs. Al
Godfrey, Dr. Lorraine
Green, Sally
Hatfield, Patricia
Helfrich, Dr. Philip
Herren, Elizabeth J.

Hjelm, Patricia C.
Holding, Rosemary C.
Hoss, Mrs. Harold
Jacimo, Louise
Janczewski, Mrs. Claudia
Johnson, Mrs. Francis
Johnon, Mr. John R.
Johnston, Mr. Larry
Jones, Alan C.
Jones, Calvin
Kavanagh, Lil
Kellogg, Marjorie
Kelly, Claire
Kennedy, Alanna C.
Knapp, Mr. Willis
Larabie, Marie R.
Latorre, Helen M.
Laurie, Robert
Lawrence, Sr. Lorraine
Leonardi, Mrs. Mary
Leonardi, Ursula
Lopez, Dr. Carlos
Massard, Mrs. Carol G.
Maisas, Louis
Mattingly, S.S., Rev. John F.
McLinden, Mrs. Hugh G.
Meissner, Ernst
Morris, Frank
Morrow, Ms. Nancy

Nicoli, A. H.
O'Sullivan, Deirdre
Oliva, Mrs. Josephine
Patterson, Mr. John
Patton, Marian
Pease, Caroline A.
Reavis, Jane
Roach, Mrs. James
Robbiano, Mr. Paul
Robinson, Mr. Kelsey
Rogaway, Betty Jane
Routson, Mary
Sain, Grace
Sakuda, Nancy
Searles, Dorothy
Stocker, Jim
Taft, Elizabeth
Tona, Jeannie Bettini
Treadwell, Ann Classen
Waaland, Mrs. Charlotte A.
Walker, Rita A.
Ward, Adrian L.
Whitehead, Mr. Warren
Wolfe, Mrs. Elsie
Gordon Barker Remembered

WE PROMISED IN OUR LAST ISSUE to update you on details concerning our longtime friend and member of the MPHA, Gordon Barker, who passed away two months ago in Kauai. We received from his brother Charles a heartfelt description of the last weeks of his life as he personally helped care for his sick brother.

We would like to share the last paragraph of Charles’ letter:

“We grew up in a loving family, and my brother and I continued our love for one another. His ashes will be spread in a beautiful spot on the mountain where his mother and father’s ashes lie. This was one of Gordon’s last wishes. His sons will do this for him. So now, the three of them have blended into the Hawaiian landscape beneath that splendid sun and brilliant moon. They lie at peace in the land they loved so well.”

Oh Danny boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling
From glen to glen, and down the mountain side
The summer’s gone, and all the flowers are dying
’Tis you, ’tis you must go and I must bide

Esther Bearce Johnson

ESTHER BEARCE JOHNSON, 90, a longtime resident of Menlo Park, died, despite her brave battle, on October 21, 2003, from health problems caused by pneumonia.

She was born in Morgan Hill, California, on December 3, 1912, and moved to Menlo Park in 1923. Her father, Mr. H.H. Bearce owned the Menlo Park Pharmacy from 1923 to 1951.

Esther was a member of the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church. She had joined on April 20, 1924, as member No. 150 and she had the longest years of membership in the church.

On February 17, 1935, she married Francis C. Johnson at the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church. They met in the Sunday School where Esther helped her mother, Gertrude. They had three children, daughter, Carolyn, and twin sons, Brian and Barry.

Esther was a member of the Menlo Park Historical Association and she helped man the historical displays at the Victorian Days in the Park in San Mateo.

She was well known for delicious homemade desserts of carrot cakes, lemon bars and apricot pies. Her double layer chocolate nut bars were a big hit at Menlo Park Historical meetings.

Esther was a world traveler after Francis retired. They would be gone for months on end to see places like Sweden, Norway and the Swiss Alps …her favorite spot.

She was loving, generous person to her family. She donated her body to the Stanford University School of Medicine Division of Human Anatomy for the purpose of teaching and research.

Esther is survived by daughter, Carolyn Gulledge; twin sons Brian and Barry; two sisters-in-law, Ruth Bonham and Ruth Bearce, both of Palo Alto.

Friends are invited to honor Esther and Francis on Saturday, November 15, 2003, from 9:00 A.M. to noon at Fremont Park across from the Presbyterian Church at 950 Santa Cruz Avenue. If it’s raining, please call (650) 323-5268 for new date and time.

Donations to the charity of your choice or KCSM-FM (91.1) jazz station, which was one of Esther’s passions. She will be truly missed by all who knew her.

Barry Lee Johnson, 1305 Hoover Street Menlo Park, CA 94025, (650) 323-5268

Stanford University School of Medicine, Division of Human Anatomy, Stanford CA 94305, (650) 723-2404

—submitted by Barry Johnson