

West Sacramento Historical Society Newsletter

May/June, 2007

www.WestSacHistoricalSociety.org

Museum and Visitors Center is located at 324 Third Street, West Sacramento (old Broderick district), California 95605.
Open Thursdays/Fridays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays/Sundays 12 noon-4 p.m. Phone (916) 374-1849



Installation of 2007 Officers held April 10th



Special points of interest:

- ⇒ **FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2006 ENCLOSED**
- ⇒ **NEW BOOK "PORT OF SACRAMENTO" ON SALE SOON !!**
- ⇒ **FUNDRAISING EVENT PLANNED—SEE BACK!**
- ⇒ **MORE WOMEN ISSUES SPEAKERS**
- ⇒ **WSHS WEBSITE NOW HAS PAY PAL OPTION TO PAY MEMBERSHIP FEES, BUY BOOKS AND T-SHIRTS**
- ⇒ **VIRTUAL TOUR ON LINE—TAKE A LOOK!**

Visit the WSHS Museum to see who this celebrated woman was and how she contributed to the history of Riverbank (later called Bryte) & Washington (later called Broderick) now known as West Sacramento.



The newly elected officers for WSHS were installed Tuesday evening by West Sacramento City Councilman Mark Johannessen who is also the Past President of WSHS.

Serving as 2007 President will be Thom Lewis, 2nd Vice President is Jim Brewer, Secretary Junia Potter, Treasurer Cecilia Vasquez, Member at large is Martha Mills and Chair of the Historical Committee is Jeri Hughes-Wingfield.

The ceremony was witnessed by a room full of WSHS members who also enjoyed coffee, tea, cake and cookies provided by Louisa Vessell & Cecilia Vasquez.

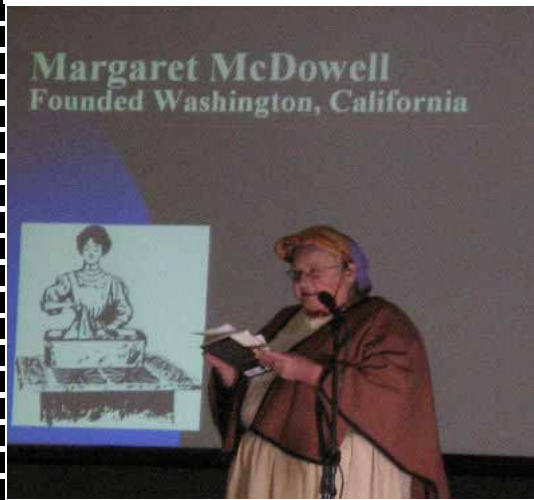
**The current exhibit
"Celebrating the Lives of
West Sacramento
Women" is being extended
until August 3, 2007!**

Thank a Volunteer:

The West Sacramento Historical Society & Museum/Visitors' Center is a community based non-profit organization dependent upon its' volunteers. There are many tasks to keeping an organization up and running as well as maintaining the Museum and Visitors' Center. Each of the WSHS members are urged to donate the equivalent of one work day (8 hours) during the 2007 year, contact Museum Director *Lana Paulhamus* at 371-5117 to determine when to start and what you can do!

Each of the 2007 WSHS newsletters will include a "BIG Thank You" list, watch for your name to be listed. Here are some of the 2006/2007 volunteers:

- Junia Potter* - Finance Committee & Secretary for 2007
- Kathy Perrigo* - Fundraising
- Roger Somsen & Pat Stanley* - Fire Apparatus Committee
- Joyce Miller & John Ohlson* - Faithful docents & meeting attendees.
- Alyce Cervantes & friends* - Docents
- Charlotte Dorsey & Jim Brewer* - Website Postings



March, 2007 marked the 20th Anniversary of the national Women's History Month. A salad luncheon was held in Woodland at the Holy Rosary Church with a program featuring "Generations of Women Moving History Forward". Several Yolo county women portrayed famous historical women including WSHS member Margy Yutzy. She enacted the story of Margaret McDowell, founder of the town of Washington, later known as Broderick. Margy was very much in character including telling the story of how her "rifle" was very necessary during



the early days when settling near the Sacramento River with her family. In attendance at the luncheon were many WSHS members including John Ohlson, Dennis & Sharon Freitas, Louisa Vessell, Charlotte Dorsey, Jeri Hughes-Wingfield and Lana Paulhamus.



A LETTER TO WSHS MEMBERS FROM NEWLY INSTALLED PRESIDENT THOM LEWIS AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The new board expresses their gratitude to both the nomination committee and to the membership for your vote of confidence. As always, we have many projects ahead. To prioritize them, a strategic planning session to develop yearly goals/timelines will be facilitated by a series of retreat-type workshops beginning April 21, 2007.

In January we celebrated our second year of the museum. We published another Images of America Series book; we completely revamped and improved the web site that now includes a museum virtual tour and Pay Pal options for donations and purchases and again we participated in the annual Neighbors Fair. Currently we have members working towards Oral History certification from UC Davis Extension. We continue to work towards establishing the Washington Historic District. Of this writing, we await the return of the volunteer built 1935 fire truck "Lizzie" from State Corrections. In addition, we are getting closer towards purchasing the State Historic Landmark Plaque (No.1040) acknowledging the first Pacific Coast Salmon Cannery.

Our new projects include installing Lincoln Highway concrete markers along West Capitol Avenue to designate the 1916 link through West Sacramento of the historic Lincoln Highway. The Financial Committee is hosting a Breakfast fundraising for May 19, 2007 to support our three historic fire engines. Finally, we continue our search for a permanent museum site.

Managing these programs, including preparing this newsletter, and ensuring the museum stays in operation requires volunteers. We need docents to keep the museum open, prepare exhibits and preserve and interpret the history of West Sacramento. We encourage you to contact either the Museum Chair at 372-5117 or the West Sacramento Historical Chair at 371-7678 and volunteer.

WSHS & Friends of the Yolo County Library are collaborating in a joint project to transfer back issues of the past twelve years of the News Ledger to 'microfilm' - when asked why microfilm, archivists believe it is more durable and less susceptible to corruption than digital formats. An ongoing agreement for continued routine service has also been reached with WSHS financially supporting part of the expense. WSHS thanks Lana Paulhamus for coordinating this project.



Sacramento County History Network-Consortium
reported by Louisa R Vessell

Each month, representatives from many local historical groups meet to share upcoming events and happenings. In March the meeting was hosted by the Florin Historical Society and next month the meeting will be hosted by Isleton. Many interesting reports given that attest to the deep commitment local folks have in preserving local history. One important upcoming date is the open house at SAMCC on May 11, 2007 where many of the organizations will have displays and information to share. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact Dr. Bob at drbob@winfirst.com or Louisa at lvessell@sbcglobal.net

Reports from WSHS Committees

WSHS Website Grows—by Charlotte Dorsey:

VIRTUAL TOUR—Visitors to the WSHS website can take an online VIRTUAL tour of the WSHS Museum and Visitor Center by clicking on the eBook Tour created by Dennis Blakely, Listening to Nature, Inc. Use of a panoramic camera allows the viewer to take a virtual stroll through the museum by panning around the rooms, exhibits and artifacts. Descriptions and stories about various items are provided as well as an archive section of past exhibits. The WSHS is extremely grateful to both Dennis Blakely’s company and Web Services West for their interest, involvement and participation in our projects.

PAYPAL/MUSEUM STORE ON WEBSITE—A new addition to the WSHS website is the use of Pay Pal to purchase items such as books, pay memberships fees or make donations to WSHS. This purchase feature offers security within the walls of our virtual museum.

SLIDESHOWS—Visit the WSHS website and view slide shows of WS History including Business and Working People, Boats and the River, Aerial Views and Progress of our fire truck Lizzie. More slides shows will be added in the future.

Upcoming Events—Mark Your Calendar:

- ◆ **May 1st Dedication of 15th Street Firehouse, was home of WSHS ‘Old Mary’ Firetruck.** Invitations are being sent to WSHS members by the City officials in charge of this event. **Good photo opp with Old Mary firetruck!**
- ◆ **May 6th 2 pm Mary Gillon, Alzheimers Association guest speaker.** This presentation is in conjunction with the “Celebrating the Lives of WS Women” exhibit. Ms. Dillion will talk about memory loss, dementia and Alzheimers disease as it relates to women. Refreshments served!
- ◆ **May 19th 7 am to 12 noon - WSHS is holding a celebration and fund raising due to the return of “Old Lizzie” fire truck to her family of Yellow Bird and Old Mary.** A breakfast will be served continuously from 7 am until 12 noon at the V.F.W. Hall on Drever Street. The tickets are \$6.00 each and can be purchased at the WSHS Museum & Visitors Center, phone 374-1849 or call Junia Potter at 363-4119. Tickets may still be available at the door and there will be door prizes. A raffle of items donated by local West Sacramento merchants will be held with all of the proceeds going to the restoration and up-keep of the three old restored fire engines. Bring your camera and get a photo of you and/or your family by an old historic fire truck.
- ◆ **June 10th 1—4 pm Book launch “The Port of Sacramento”** WSHS authors will discuss their newest book with guest speakers followed by refreshments
- ◆ **June 24th Join the San Pedro Association** for their annual dinner at San Pedro Park—call 421-5768 for details and tickets.
- ◆ **June 30th WSHS Annual BBQ at Lake Washington**—contact Mickey Fausett at 372-5036 or email MickeySAC@aol.com for more information.

WSHS Board of Directors’ Highlights

By Martha Mills, Member at Large

WSHS continue to work towards the establishment of a permanent Museum and advocates for the preservation of the historic Washington District. Mark Johannesen, WSHS Past President and newly elected City Council person, is actively supporting the establishment of an ordinance that formally recognizes the Washington area as an historic district. He continues to seek support of the City leaders and fellow council representatives regarding a permanent site for the WSHS Museum and Visitors’ Center. Mark encourages WSHS members to contact City Council representatives and to attend city council meetings to advocate for these initiatives.

WSHS members who attend any City Council meetings should sign in as representing the West Sacramento Historical Society. Currently there are several planning meetings being held that would be a good opportunity to be involved in.

WSHS members can contact Martha Mills if you have questions about upcoming WS City meetings or WSHS; her phone is 373-1892 and her email is marthamills@charter.net

MORE DOCENTS ARE NEEDED TO KEEP THE MUSEUM OPEN AND AVAILABLE FOR VISITORS— PLEASE CALL LANA PAULHAMUS. AT 372-5117 AND SIGN UP FOR A 4 HOUR SHIFT!

**WEST SACRAMENTO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM AND VISITORS CENTER**

WWW.WESTSACHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG

Located at 324 Third Street (old Broderick district)
West Sacramento, California 95605 Open Thursdays/Fridays
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays/Sundays 12 noon to 4 pm Phone
916 374 1849

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1202
West Sacramento, California 95691

*We are on the Web!
All WSHS newsletters are posted
in color on the website—see
“What’s New” at
www.westsachhistoricalsociety.org*

If there is a STAR near your mailing label, that indicates that the fee for a membership in the West Sacramento Historical Society is due. Individual dues are \$17.50 or \$22.50 for a couple; with a senior and/or student discount, the cost is \$11.50 for an individual and \$16.50 for a couple, Mail in your check and renew today!

**Take a Virtual Tour of the
WSHS Museum & Visitors
Center on the website!**

**2007 WSHS Board/Officers &
Committee Chairs:**

President – Thom Lewis
(thoml4@earthlink.net) phone 372-7438
1st Vice President & Museum Chair -
Lana Paulhamus phone 372-5117
(lpaulhamus@earthlink.net)
2nd Vice President - **Jim Brewer** phone
617-2288 (jbrewer@webserviceswest.com)
Treasurer - Cecilia Vasquez 372-7438
Secretary - Junia Potter, phone 372-7636
Member-at-Large - Martha Mills phone
373-1892 (marthamills@charter.net)
Past President– Mark Johannessen
(mfjlaw@gmail.com) phone 371-0661
Historical Society Chair - Jeri Hughes-
Wingfield (jериwingfield@sbcglobal.net)
phone 371-7678
Recycling Project - Mickey Fausett
phone 372-5036 (MickeySAC@aol.com)
Newsletter - Sharon Freitas phone 421
5768 (safreitas@aol.com)



**West Sac Historical Society
Pancake Breakfast/Raffle
FOR THE ANTIQUE FIRE ENGINES
“YELLOW BIRD” “OLD MARY” “LIZZIE”
SAT MAY 19, 2007 7AM TILL NOON
V.F.W. HALL 905 DREVER ST WEST SAC
COST IS \$ 6.00
FOR MORE INFO CALL 374-1849
WWW.WESTSACHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG**