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"WHAT'S IN THE 1920's - 1930's SAFE?"

On Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. the West Sacramento Historical Society will open the 1920's-1930's safe to see what's in it. The event will take place at 817 Jefferson Blvd. (inside Liberty Safes of Sacramento) located in West Sacramento on Jefferson Blvd. between West Capitol Avenue and Merkley Avenue next to the Walgreens store. The historical society received the 2 ton cast iron steel safe from Dave Westin of Arkad Management Group and Arkad Income Properties based in Southern California. The name of the safe (AM Steam Safe Company) is imprinted in the casters supporting the safe. Westin states "Arkad and our family of companies wanted to reaffirm our long standing commitment to not only West Sacramento's present and future but also the community's past. This donation is a good will gesture to give something back to the community we work in." Westin will be on hand to answer questions on how Arkad Management Group and Arkad Income Properties recovered the safe and why they decided to donate the safe to the historical society. The safe originally came from the California Dehydration Company in West Sacramento which was the largest rice drying facility in the United States and was in one of the largest all wood structures west of the Mississippi.

Rick Vanina, Safe Cracker, from J & J Locksmiths was the actual person to get the safe unlocked. It was a comprehensive process which involved a auto dialer to determine the combination plus there were difficulties because the lock was tripping and jamming. Vanina had to do extensive research on the Sargeant and Greenleaf lock and was able to determine the approximate age of the safe by this lock. Vanina has been in the locksmith business for over 30 years and he could not find any information on the safe during his research. Over thirty hours were devoted to the safe in transporting it, cleaning it, researching it and finally getting it unlocked.

Mark Johannessen, President of the West Sacramento Historical Society, will also be on hand to discuss the gift to the society and open the safe.