

OSLHP Newsletter - December 2004 and January 2005

President's Message

The OSLHP is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. Thanks to Mel and Dorothy Picanco for being founding members and Terry and Ray Eargle for celebrating 10 years in April 2005.

Look for a special 10-year celebration this year. It is the volunteers that make this organization so great and keeping it going.

I wish everyone happy holidays and a great new year!

Executive Council Notes

At the November Executive Council meeting the Council voted to terminate the membership of Ray Closs. This was not an easy decision, and there was a lengthy discussion about this matter.

By-Law Revisions

It was proposed at the Nov. 13th general meeting that the By-Laws be amended from all references to Old Sacramento Management to Historic Old Sacramento Foundation, who is now our parent organization. Changes will be voted upon at the January 8, 2005 meeting.

Volunteer Recognition

Thank you to Doug for updating and now maintaining the OSLHP web site. Thanks to Penny and her crew for the wonderful Santa Parade Float. Ken Knott for organizing the Lamplight Tours and all the people who participated.

Volunteer Hours

It would be great if I could get updates of personal time spent on OSLHP related activities. This would include

reading, sewing, research, strolling and such. Please do not include general meetings or any activity that had a sign in sheet. I got everyone's hours for ghost tours, gold rush days and the Riverboat cruise. To-date, members of the OSLHP have given over 2300 hours to the program. Amy

Parking Permits

You do not need to renew your parking permit this quarter. It has been changed to a 6-month permit, so you will not need to renew until the end of March 2005.

2005 Calendar Of Events

Please come to the January meeting to receive your revised 2005 calendar of events. If you cannot attend the meeting, I will place one in the mail. It has all our events and includes pictures.

Checking Account

Balance as of Nov. 26 is \$10,699.

Executive Council Meeting

January 4, 2005, 7pm. Members are invited to attend to observe and comment.

General Meeting

January 8, 2005, 10am, at the OSLHP center.

PAST EVENTS

Sutter's Fort Lantern Tour

by Ken Knott

On Saturday evening, Nov. 20th, some of us went on the annual Sutter's Fort Lantern Tour. I know several of

the docents who were participants in the various "vignettes," including Biscuits the blacksmith whom EVERYONE knows.

We arrived about ten minutes early and were greeted by Rudy Ramaris in his Californio outfit and modern eyeglasses. We were instructed not to talk to any of the Living History participants because they would act as though we were "ghosts of the future," and they wouldn't see us.

Here are a few of my impressions: The rooms inside the fort were very cozy and lit with lots of candles; they have a LOT of period-appropriate material inside the rooms that make it very authentic looking. The period attire was very good, with few notable exceptions, the most obvious being that about a third of the docents wore modern eyeglasses! You know how I am on that subject.

A few of the vignettes were outside, and it was cold. The wind was whipping sparks out of the campfires but luckily nothing caught on fire! Most of the skits had some humor to them, which we appreciated. The dialogues could have used some more accurate phraseology and vocabulary, but some of the docents were speaking in an accent, which was very well done and added interest.

Biscuits was in the blacksmith shop and had one arm in a sling as though he had suffered an injury, but it turned out he was just faking it to fool Captain Sutter into not giving him more work, since he already had a lot of work to do. Biscuits was trying to talk one of the Fort's hunters into helping him with his work, but the fellow had SEVERAL reasons why he couldn't do it. Sutter was pronounced "Suiter."

Altogether, the tour was a lot of fun, especially for us as living history re-enactors, because the history was well researched and the performances were convincing. At the end of the tour they served apple turnovers, pumpkin pie with whipped cream, coffee, chocolate or warm apple cider; YUM! It's a certainty that I'll return next year!

Sutter's Fort By Candlelight – Living History in 1846!

By Mary Carlson

Several OSLHP members were able to enjoy this annual event on November 20, 2004. It seemed to me we had stepped into a time tunnel, hearing James Marshall and others talk of their plans, past activities, and daily living situations. It was an evening to be remembered and ended with a repast of homemade treats and hot drinks.

Lantern Tours

by Ken Knott

The Christmas Lamplight Tours received enthusiastic approbation from the people attending the tours, and the Living History players who participated had a rollicking time putting it on. It was almost too much fun for the OSLHP members, who enjoyed it so much that they were sorry when the tours came to an end.

The Lamplight Tours were held only one weekend, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, December 10, 11 & 12. The evenings were cold and foggy, which lent a mystical quality to the Lantern Tours.

OSLHP discovered a new comedy team of Chambers and Melau, who had 'em roaring at Steamers when they performed "Only the Best Rum Will Do." Karen Leni and Amy Whitlatch delivered admirably as Frau Zins at the Old Schoolhouse, edifying the tour about the German origins of the Christmas Tree Tradition in America.

The estimable Greg Tracy portrayed Ned, the Lonely Miner, who joined the tour to improve his prospects at Christmas Park where Father Christmas portrayed by Doug Peterson browbeat General Winn into giving Ned a job and proving yet once more the triumph of the redemptive Christmas message.

The OSLHP Christmas Carolers filled the air with the spirit of Christmas at the Visitors Center with their rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Participating were, Terry and Ray Eargle, Eileen Carey, Mary

Carlson, Penny Adams, Loretta Dobbins, and a couple of guest singers from Sutter's Fort.

To those who participated, thank you, you were great! We all had a lot of fun doing it, no matter how much or little money was raised from the endeavor!

ONGOING EVENTS

Walking Tours

Reserve America will be taking reservations for school tours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 1 through November 30.

Links to the Past

If you have a web site you would like to share please send its address and a brief description about why it is useful. Information can be sent to Richard Sneed at rsneed5820@aol.com

COMING EVENTS

Sutter Rifles Drill

By G R Tracy

Sacramento's premier militia company is conducting the first of many monthly Close Order Drills. The drill planned for Sunday, January 30, 2005, will be centered around the encampment set-up in Waterfront Park. The militia company plans to talk history, practice marching, practice the manual of arms, and maybe end the drill with the firing of a volley. The goals for this event are practicing living history, promoting OSLHP, and educating visitors about our city's rich history. As with most events extra help is always needed.

If you are interested in participating, the encampment will be discussed at the January meeting. It will be fun having a slice of Gold Rush Days every month.

Free Museum Day

February 5, 2005. Let's have a table for the OSLHP to recruit new members. Please sign up with Amy.

Evening at the Crocker

Volunteers are needed to perform meet-and-greet functions at the Crocker Art Museum mixer, February 26, 2005, 6 to 10pm, food and beverage included. This is for the annual Gifted and Talented Education meeting of educators in California. This is sure to be a fun event and great way to promote Old Sacramento and our walking tours. Sign up with Amy-264-8142.

Women's History Day

March 5, 2005

We will need the usual people to read poetry, give speeches and march around Old Sacramento. New this year will be an Afternoon Tea and presentation.

The afternoon tea and presentation will be aboard the Delta King. There will only be 100 tickets available to this event. For members the first 2 tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15 other advance tickets will be \$25 and at the door \$30. Members need to come in costume.

For the afternoon tea, OSLHP will need 5 volunteers to host and serve food from the buffet. These volunteers will attend the event free.

The presenter is author and re-enactor Chris Enss. Chris is currently on a book tour for her latest book, *The Cowboy And The Senorita*, A biography Of Roy Rogers And Dale Evans. Her other books include: *With Great Hope*, *Women And The California Gold Rush*; *She Wore A Yellow Ribbon*, *Women Soldiers And Patriots Of The Western Frontier* and *Love Untamed*, *Romances Of The Old West*.

OSLHP Newsletter - February 2005

President's Message

Everything is going well with our organization. A new Volunteer Handbook is in the works. I hope to have the next draft in early February for members to review.

In April, the Executive Council will be having a planning retreat to work on 2005-2006 budgets and events. If you have items or ideas you would like to have considered please contact Ken Knott or Amy Whitlatch directly.

General Meeting

February 9, 2005, 7 pm, at the OSLHP center.

Executive Council Meeting

March 5, 2005, 7 pm. Members are invited to attend to observe and comment.

Parking Permits

You do not need to renew your parking permit this quarter. It has been changed to a 6-month permit, so you will not need to renew until the end of March 2005.

ONGOING EVENTS

Walking Tours

Reserve America will be taking reservations for school tours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 1 through November 30.

Monthly Encampment

Sacramento's premier militia company is conducting monthly Close Order Drills in Waterfront Park at 10 am the last Sunday of every month. The militia company plans to talk history, practice marching, practice the manual of arms, and maybe end the drill with the firing of a volley.

The goals for this event are practicing living history, promoting OSLHP, and educating visitors about our city's rich history. As with most events extra help is always needed.

Links to the Past

If you have a web site you would like to share please send its address and a brief description about why it is useful. Information can be sent to Richard Sneed at rsneed5820@aol.com

COMING EVENTS

Free Museum Day

February 5, 2005. Let's have a table for the OSLHP to recruit new members. Please sign up with Amy.

Evening at the Crocker

Volunteers are needed to perform meet-and-greet functions at the Crocker Art Museum mixer, February 26, 2005, 6 to 10pm, food and beverage included. This is for the annual Gifted and Talented Education meeting of educators in California. This is sure to be a fun event and great way to promote Old Sacramento and our walking tours. Sign up with Amy-264-8142.

Women's History Day

March 5, 2005 We will need the usual people to read poetry, give speeches and march around Old Sacramento. New this year will be an Afternoon Tea and presentation.

The afternoon tea and presentation will be aboard the Delta King. There will only be 100 tickets available to this event. For members the first 2 tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15 other advance tickets will be \$25 and at the door \$30. Members need to come in costume.

For the afternoon tea, OSLHP will need 5 volunteers to host and serve food from the buffet. These volunteers will attend the event free.

The presenter is author and re-enactor Chris Enss. Chris is currently on a book tour for her latest book, The Cowboy And The Senorita, A biography Of Roy Rogers And Dale Evans. Her other books include: With Great Hope, Women And The California Gold Rush; She Wore A Yellow Ribbon, Women Soldiers And Patriots Of The Western Frontier and Love Untamed, Romances Of The Old West.

2005 Living History Workshops

Plans are shaping together for the Old Sacramento Living History Program new member classes this spring. We decided to call the classes "Workshops," as it sounds less intimidating and more fun.

Talking about fun, this year's sessions will really be a lot of fun! I have been revising last year's program, and the plans are ongoing at this point in time. The Training Class Committee will be meeting to evaluate the classes from last year and make suggestions on how to improve. That meeting will take place before this edition of the newsletters hits the newsstands, but stay tuned for more exciting news in next month's newsletter.

UPDATE: The Living History Workshops will begin March 12, 1to 3pm with an Open House and Orientation..

In the meanwhile, if you have any flashes of inspiration, you can send them to me at: timetraveler49@comcast.net, and I will try to incorporate them into the workshops. - Ken Knott, Vice President, Training Coordinator

Bonnet Promenade

Please start bringing in your extra trims to be used to decorate Easter eggs. We need trim, glitter, sequins and such but also yogurt containers or other small plastic tubs to hold trims.

Gold Rush Days

The first meeting for Gold Rush Days is being held February 17 at 7pm at the Living History Center.

Santa Parade 2005

A contest is being held for the theme of the 2005 Santa Parade Float. All entries should be made by Feb. 20 so that a vote can be cast in March. Entries can be submitted either in writing or at the February general meeting.

Web Sites of Interest

Acanthus Books- Facsimile reproductions and non-facsimile reprints of antiquarian culinary works, as well as scholarly works on food and culinary history. www.acanthus-books.com

AzRA Historical Resources -www.ushist.com

Beaver Buckets Reproductions wooden buckets, washtubs, butter churns, and other wooden containers. www.beaverbuckets.com

The Graceful Lady - historical dressmaking business specializing in women's clothing from the Civil War era

but will customize for an 1850s "Gold Rush appropriate" look. www.thegracefullady.com

ReproductionFabrics.com is a source of cotton reproduction fabrics for costumers and quilters. Fabrics of time periods 1775-1950, as well as natural indigo-dyed prints. www.reproductionfabrics.com

Reenactment Eyewear - Don Griffin is a PA optician and reenactor who can supply competitively priced prescription glasses for periods from the 1500s to the 1920s. www.reenactmenteyewear.com

Texas Sutler - Early 19th Century wares. www.texassutler.com

OSLHP Newsletter - March 2005

President's Message

I really does not pay to get sick. I took off 1 week with the flu and have spent 10 days catching up.

Things are moving along. Plans are in the works for a new and smaller set up for the Gold Rush Days. In case anyone missed it, we are now moving to the small grassy area along J street by the jewelry store and alley, a 35'X75' space. Less to set up and take down.

Other plans include the 10th anniversary and volunteer recognition party for July. Mark your calendar for July 16th in the evening. This will be a party you don't want to miss.

So much going on with the group, Women's History day, OSLHP Open House and New Member Orientation, Easter Bonnet Promenade and the monthly encampment. Please pick and choose your activities so you still have time for your life.

General Meeting

March 12, 2005. 10am, at the OSLHP center.

Executive Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2005 at 7pm. Members are invited to attend to observe and comment.

Parking Permits

Please see enclosed for letter allowing you to obtain the new permit after March 20th. Amy will renew your permit for you if you leave it at the office.

OSLHP Meeting Space

By late March the large meeting room will be occupied by the Old School House. They will be using the room as an additional schoolroom until Mid-June. We will be using the storage room in the front for meeting space.

There will be limited use of tables but plenty of room for chairs once it is cleaned up and organized better.

Old Sacramento Boardwalks

The new sidewalks/boardwalks will be completed by March 24 according to the City. Finally a break from all the portable sidewalks and construction.

Volunteer Handbook

For those who wanted a copy the handbook is ready to view. We will be discussing it during the executive council meeting March 8 at 7pm.

Costume Closet Policy

The policy for borrowing items of apparel from either the Ladies' or Men's Costume Closet is for the borrower to go through the coordinators, Terry Nelson for ladies and Jason Hollingsworth for men, or Amy Whitlatch if coordinators are not available.

The required deposit must be left at the time the garment is taken. Your check will be held until the item is brought back to OSLHP and said check will then be returned to the borrower.

Apparel being returned will be checked at that time, and the decision will be made as to whether or not you will need to pay a cleaning fee. Any cotton items can simply be laundered in cold water before returning and frock

coats can be brushed to remove soil.

Items that smell of perspiration or too much perfume will require cleaning. Dress shields can be worn and perfume avoided to protect the garments and eliminate the need for most cleaning fees.

The Deposit Policy will be strictly enforced, and the cooperation of members is greatly appreciated.

A New Site For Gold Rush Days

I was initially very distraught that we would not be located in Waterfront Park for Gold Rush Days this year, as we have been for the last seven years. I was particularly unhappy with the two locations that were first suggested to us, Pony Express Park - too hilly with an Interstate Freeway roaring past in the background, or the street in front of the Big Four Building - dusty gravel underfoot and drilling through concrete to drive tent stakes.

But then Amy was able to negotiate another site, on J Street next to the Tehama Block (Skalet Jewelers), and although it's not Waterfront Park, it's better than the other choices. Then I started studying how we could fit all of our tents and flys on the site, and I began to feel better about it.

Unfortunately, the Marquee Tent would take up too much space, but if we downsize the Stinking Tent Saloon to a 10' X 12' wall tent and locate the gaming tables under a 10' X 12' fly in front, then we will still have room for everything else. I started to think it would not be so bad!

Maybe we can tighten up our act to make it ever better than last year. Amy suggested that we can have a tent where a few of the activities can rotate thereby making it easier to offer a greater variety of activities. We can even add some new things such as an Express office (suggested by Ashley Sianez), and a Tinsmith Shop (I know a tinsmith who wants to join OSLHP).

At the Gold Rush Days planning meeting on Feb. 17th, I put up three site plan options which were discussed, and although nothing has been carved in stone at this point, we are at least optimistic that we can make it work. Once we have a vision of how it will all work out, nothing can stop us from making it happen! *Ken Knott, Vice President*

ONGOING EVENTS

Walking Tours

The regularly scheduled walking tours will begin March 2 and go through Sept. 28. Tours are Saturday, Sundays, and Wednesdays at 11am. The price has also changed to \$7 general admission and \$5 for over 60 or under 12. Members can attend in costume free. Ruth or Greg will be your tour guides.

Monthly Encampment

Next date: April 24, 2005. 10 to 4pm.

Sacramento's premier militia company is conducting monthly Close Order Drills in Waterfront Park at 10 am the last Sunday of every month. The militia company plans to talk history, practice marching, practice the manual of arms, and maybe end the drill with the firing of a volley.

The goals for this event are practicing living history, promoting OSLHP, and educating visitors about our city's rich history. As with most events extra help is always needed.

Links to the Past

If you have a web site you would like to share please send its address and a brief description about why it is useful. Information can be sent to Richard Sneed at rsneed5820@aol.com

COMING EVENTS

Women's History Day, March 5, 2005

We will need the usual people to read poetry, give speeches and march around Old Sacramento. New this year will be an Afternoon Tea and presentation.

The afternoon tea and presentation will be aboard the Delta King. There will only be 100 tickets available to this event. For members the first 2 tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15 other advance tickets will be \$25 and at the door \$30. Members need to come in costume.

The presenter is author and re-enactor Chris Enss. Chris is currently on a book tour for her latest book, *The Cowboy And The Senorita*, A biography Of Roy Rogers And Dale Evans. Her other books include: *With Great Hope*, *Women And The California Gold Rush*; *She Wore A Yellow Ribbon*, *Women Soldiers And Patriots Of The Western Frontier* and *Love Untamed*, *Romances Of The Old West*.

2005 Living History Workshops

The Old Sacramento Living History Workshops for 2005 will commence with an Open House on Saturday, March 12th at 1:00 p.m., after our monthly members' meeting.

Current members are invited to come meet and welcome our new prospective members. We will have a sign-up for Mentors at the March meeting for those of you who would like to be assigned a new member to mentor.

Workshop classes begin on Saturday, March 19th with *Early Sacramento History* and *Women's Historic Attire*. Again, current members are welcome to attend and especially those who missed one or more classes last year may make it up this year.

A full schedule of Workshops will be available at the March meeting. *Ken Knott VP, Class Coordinator*

St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 17, 2005, 6pm. Please plan to come to this fun parade. Those who need to ride in a carriage will be provided transportation, otherwise I encourage people to walk and greet the crowd.

The parade starts at 6pm, but the streets close at 5pm and special parking restrictions will be in place. Please ask the parking attendant to use your pass to get the discount instead of paying the flat rate. Please meet the group in Lot W behind the RR museum.

Bonnet Promenade

Please start bringing in your extra trims to be used to decorate Easter eggs. We need trim, glitter, sequins and such but also yogurt containers or other small plastic tubs to hold trims.

Riverboat Cruise

April 12, 10:30am to 1pm. Due to popular demand the OSLHP has been invited back to act as meet and greet aboard the Spirit of Sacramento for their luncheon cruise. This was a lot of fun last year. Instead of doing presentations we are to do small group or meet and greet activities. Lunch is included and people who did this before had a lot of fun.

We will be doing a second cruise in the fall. I am working to get those who participated tickets to go back on a cruise at a later time for their enjoyment.

Volunteer Appreciation Day And 10-year Anniversary Party

Save the Date: July 16, 2005. We will keep you up to date with details. Already we are looking into a catered BBQ and performance by Bob O'Brien and the Coyote Contra Band.

OSLHP Newsletter - April 2005

President's Message

Spring was here briefly, and like many people, I took time to enjoy the great weather. I hope you did too.

Thanks to everyone who keeps coming to meetings, attending events, and planning for the OSLHP future. I cannot do half my work without the dedication of the members. When I meet people and they ask what I do, I say I direct a volunteer re-enactment group of about 75 people. And when I am asked how I do it, I simply say, "My job is the easy part, I try to make sure everyone has what they need to do their parts. Any of the doing is the hard part." I don't know many people who can portray another person and love doing it or dressing up in 100-degree heat.

So I think my job is easy compared to being a volunteer. Thank you again for volunteering. Keep up the good work.

General Meeting

General Meeting: April 13, 7pm, come at 6:30pm for the Gold Rush Meeting.

Executive Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 2005 at 7pm. Members are invited to attend to observe and comment.

Checking Account

The OSLHP has a checking account balance of \$7500

Nominations For Officers

Nomination for officers: Terry Nelson and Sandra Hand.

Status Report Request

All officers and coordinators should make a brief report on current status and what needs to be improved or changed. Please submit by April 15 for review by the executive council during the retreat. Submit to Amy.

New Events/Fund-raisers

If you have any ideas for a potential new event or fundraising opportunity please write a brief paragraph and send to Amy at a general meeting or email at: oslhp@oldsacramentolivinghistoryprogram.com or mail to 1002 Second Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Member Updates

Tara and Amber Rankin gave a performance at Brooks Elementary School portraying their Living History Characters for their high school senior project.

Richard Sneed has returned home after convalescing from numerous illnesses for several months.

Volunteer Recognition

Sorry, I do not do this regularly. Thanks to Ken and his workshop volunteers, this year will prove to be the best; Ruth Chambers for coordinating Women's History Day; Shelly Green, Sandra Hand, and Ken Knott for work with the Easter Bonnet Promenade.

Executive Council Retreat

The retreat has been rescheduled for April 17, 11am to 3pm. If you have any concerns or would like certain items discussed, please contact either Jan Bullard or Jason Hollingsworth from your member roster.

Name the Newsletter Contest

A fine bottle of wine is waiting for the winner of our "Name the Newsletter Contest." All you have to do is use your imagination and creativity to think up a clever name for the OSLHP newsletter. If you want to get fancy, you can design a Masthead that incorporates the new name.

The deadline for entries is June 8th, the date of our June membership meeting. You can bring your entries to the meeting or give them to Ken anytime before then or mail them to Ken Knott. Email entries may be sent as text within the message or if a graphic, as a PDF or JPEG to: timetraveler49@comcast.net

PAST EVENTS

Women's History Day Recap

Tickets sold: 55

Comp tickets: 14 returned

Cost: \$2411.19

Income: \$1200

LOSS: \$1,211.19

Almost everyone who came had a good time. It was not quite what we expected and next year it will change again.

Bonnet Promenade

Saturday, March 26th, was a glorious day for a Bonnet Promenade! The sun was shining, but the temperature was a perfect 70 degrees.

Penny Adams, Dennis Brehm, Mary Carlson, Loretta Dobbins, Ray and Terry Eargle, Sandra Hand, Douglas Peterson, Wanda Garnett, Jim Lundsten, Terry and Sandy Melau, Jan Sorci, and yours truly, stepped out from in front of the Discovery Museum at 12:20 for a leisurely perambulation around Old Sacramento. At Waterfront Park we were greeted by Amy Whitlatch, Ruth Chambers, and Shelly Green. Everyone agreed that it was a beautiful day to be outside and enjoy the occasion.

If there were anything that could have made this event even better, it would have been if there were more of us

to enjoy it. Let's hope that those who missed it this year will be able to join us for the next Bonnet Promenade. -

Ken Knott, Vice President

ONGOING EVENTS

2005 Living History Workshops

Our Spring classes kicked off on Saturday, March 12th, with an Open House, followed by Women's & Men's

Historical attire on March 19th, and Early Sacramento History on March 26th. Our classes for April will be:

- 4/2: Popular Culture & Gambling
- 4/9: Material Culture & Tour of the Discovery Museum
- 4/16: Weapons & Gold Rush Medicine
- 4/23: Moral Culture & Etiquette
- 4/30: Research & Character Development

We have not had as strong attendance as in previous years, as some of the people who expressed interest in our program were unable to attend one or both of the workshops due to illness or prior commitments.

For any of our current members who have already gone through the Old Sacramento Living History new member training classes, this is your opportunity to pick up any class that you missed. Even if you have been a member for a long time, new subjects have been added that were not offered when you went through the training.

Many of us can benefit from attending one or more of the classes, and please remember that you are invited to attend in costume if you so desire, to meet and talk with some of our new members and make them feel welcome. - Ken Knott, Training Coordinator.

Historical Walking Tours

We could use another tour guide. Guides get paid \$25 a tour. All tours are 1 hour long, and we provide training. We need help with weekday tours for school groups.

Living History Days/Encampment

April 24, 10am to 4pm, Waterfront Park. Members are encouraged to come and stroll, demonstrate skills or crafts and interact with the public. We have the park to ourselves so we can spread out. If it is going to be warm there will be shade provided. We hope to be able to shoot weapons in June.

COMING EVENTS

Riverboat Cruise

April 12, 10:30am to 1pm. Due to popular demand the OSLHP has been invited back to act as meet and greet aboard the Spirit of Sacramento for their luncheon cruise. This was a lot of fun last year. Instead of doing presentations we are to do small group or meet and greet activities. Lunch is included and people who did this before had a lot of fun.

We will be doing a second cruise in the fall. I am working to get those who participated tickets to go back on a cruise at a later time for their enjoyment.

J. S. Holliday Speaking Engagement

The Historic Old Sacramento Foundation will be having Jim Holliday speak at their next fund-raiser April 29, 6:30 to 9pm. His talk is "America, Only More So," Origins of California's Risk-Taking Culture. Tickets will cost \$125 per person. If you would like tickets or more information call: Steve Huffman (916) 445-3054.

Gold Rush Days

We are having two planning meeting in April to accommodate everyone. April 9, 11am to Noon, and April 13, 6:30pm, before the general meeting. Please plan to attend one of these meetings.

Volunteer Appreciation Day

Of course no sooner than one day gets planned than it has to be canceled. The new date is July 17, 10:00 to 12:30pm. We are reserving space aboard the Spirit of Sacramento's Champagne Brunch. This is a 2-hour brunch cruise. Pricing will be decided by the April meeting. Look for reservation forms to come in May.

OSLHP Newsletter - May 2005

President's Message

Spring is finally here, and the OSLHP is getting many reservations for tours and meet-and-greet events.

Looking forward to the months ahead, we are very busy.

At the executive council retreat it was decided that some of our events need changes, and we will be looking to all the members to help for ideas and making changes. Please see a full report in addition to the newsletter.

An official photograph of the OSLHP is overdue. We have had many changes to the organization, and I hope everyone makes the effort to come in costume, don't forget you can rent a temporary costume.

I will not be at the May General Meeting. This day happens to coincide with the Annual Crohn's and Colitis Foundation fundraising walk in Sacramento. Like many of you I participate as a volunteer in several organizations, and the CCFA is important to me since I also suffer from Crohn's Disease. Ken will be taking over the meeting, and the elections of officers will proceed as planned.

General Meeting

General Meeting: Saturday, May 14, 2005, 10 am.

We would like to go back having entertainment at our general meetings. We have not done this in a few years.

If you would like to make a character presentation or a presentation of interest to the organization at a meeting please contact Amy. Currently all dates are available.

Executive Council Meeting

New date for the Executive Counsel meeting: Monday, May 9th, 7 pm. Members are invited to attend to observe and comment.

Nominations For Officers

- Vice-president: Ken Knott
- Secretary: Mary Carlson
- Treasurer: Penny Adams
- Member at large: Shelly Green and Greg Tracy

You can still be nominated for officer positions either by contacting Amy in advance of the May general meeting or at the general meeting when nominations are called from the floor.

New Events/Fund-raisers

If you have any ideas for a potential new event or fundraising opportunity please write a brief paragraph and send to Amy at a general meeting or email at: oslhp@oldsacramentolivinghistoryprogram.com or mail to 1002 Second Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Member Updates

Welcome back Barbara Alfi. It is great to have you as part of the group.

COMING EVENTS

Meet-and-Greet

May 18, 2005, 6 to 9:30 pm. This meet-and-greet is for the Society of Government Meeting Planners and includes state and local government meeting planners. Mainly at the Railroad museum some people will be needed to be at hotels and greet people and give a short overview on the bus. Please contact Amy if you can

help. The OSLHP will get paid \$25 per volunteer for this event.

Jazz Jubilee Parade:

May 27th at Noon. Arrive by 11am for parking. This is a great parade to be in full of energy and excitement.

Author Event

June 2, 2005, 7 to 9pm, in the Banquet Room of California Fats, 1015 Front Street. The Historic Old Sacramento Foundation will present an evening talk on African-Americans and the Early West, presented by author Shirley Moore and historian Joe Moore. Specifically Shirley will talk about African-American women and Joe will talk about African-Americans along the American River during the Gold Rush. Bringing this all together will be the Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau and the coming Juneteenth celebrations June 17th and 18th at Granite Park in Sacramento and Negro Bar State Historic Park. Cost is \$5 for members of historical organizations and \$10 for the general public. Members of the OSLHP get in free in costume. RSVP: Steve Huffman 445-3054.

Columbia Diggins

June 2-5, 2005, at Columbia, California. This is similar but much larger than Gold Rush Days. Our own Ken Knott will be spending the weekend their performing for the public.

Name the Newsletter Contest

A fine bottle of wine is waiting for the winner of our "Name the Newsletter Contest." All you have to do is use your imagination and creativity to think up a clever name for the OSLHP newsletter. If you want to get fancy, you can design a Masthead that incorporates the new name. The deadline for entries is June 8th, the date of our June membership meeting. You can bring your entries to the meeting or give them to Ken anytime before then or mail them to: Ken Knott, 2227 4th Ave., Sacramento, CA 95818. Email entries may be sent as text

within the message or if a graphic, as a PDF or JPEG to: timetraveler49@comcast.net

Picture Time

June 25, 2005, 11 am to 1 pm., The OSLHP has hired Nicholas Peterson to shoot a group picture and stage photographs to be used for postcards. Group photo will be taken about 11:30am. If you would like to have your picture taken individually outside the group, please contact Nicholas to set up a time the same afternoon by calling (916) 939-8701. If you have a suggestion for a staged photo please contact Amy.

Volunteer Appreciation Day and 10th Anniversary Party

Invitations are in the mail. Please have your payment in By June 27, 2005. You must arrive by 10:30 am to be on the ship when it leaves the dock. There will be no refunds for missed timing.

ONGOING EVENTS

Historical Walking Tours

We could use another tour guide. Guides get paid \$25 a tour. All tours are 1 hour long, and we provide training. We need help with weekday tours for school groups.

Living History Day/ Monthly Encampment

There will be no living history day in May. The next one is June 25, 2005, 10am to 4pm.

PAST EVENTS

Living History Workshops In Final Stretch

Yes folks, it is true - the 2005 Living History Workshops are winding up on May 21st. We have had some great classes, and I would like to thank Doug Peterson and Sandra Hand for their wonderful presentations on Material Culture, Greg Tracy and Bob Flaherty for their outstanding job on Guns and Weapons of the Gold Rush, Terry Melau for a memorable class in Gold Rush Medicine, Jan Bullard for a terrific presentation on Etiquette, and Amy Whitlatch and Catherine Hanson-Tracy for a fantastic class on Research. The last three classes are:

- May 7th: Language, Historical Interpretation and Improv.
- May 14th : Music.
- May 21st: Class Presentations and Graduation.

Again, I would like to invite anyone who is interested to join us for these classes, meet and talk with the new folks and make them feel welcome. We are getting a terrific bunch of new members from this year's workshops, and I know you will want to get to know them. Ken Knott, Workshops Coordinator

Riverboat Cruise

Thanks to Mary Carlson, Greg Tracy, Jan Sorci, Bob Flaherty, and Jason Hollingsworth for taking the voyage.

There is another cruise scheduled for October 12, 2005, if you missed this one and would still like to participate.

Historic Documents At Sutter's Fort

On April 2nd, I had a rare opportunity to take a good look at some rarely-seen (by the general public) historical documents at Sutter's Fort. The event was a fundraiser for the Sacramento Historic Sites Association, a group organized to preserve artifacts of material culture and documents that shed some light on local history. Steve Beck, historian and archivist at Sutter's Fort organized the event to which interested parties were invited to see displays of some of these rare documents distributed throughout various rooms of the fort. Some of the documents that I saw included: a "Marriage Book," listing those couples who tied-the-knot at Sutter's Fort in

1847, including Elitha Donner and Perry McCoon, Lansford Hasting and bride, etc.; a ledger written by John Bidwell, dated 1846, which listed items sold to various people who worked or visited the fort that year, it contained a notation regarding payment in cash made to Indians; a diary written by James Reed in 1846 with maps drawn showing the route taken by his party to rescue survivors of the Donner party; relics of the Donner party; a book of brands from 1844; the manifest documents of various ships during the gold rush and what merchandise they unloaded including: sangaree, muscatel, claret and Rhenish wine, and the original draft of the Bear Flag Proclamation, dated June 15, 1846, signed by William B. Ide.

From this draft, three copies were known to exist: one went to the Mexican Governor of California, which ended up with the Society of California Pioneers and was destroyed in the San Francisco earthquake and subsequent fire of 1906, a second copy went to Captain John Fremont who immediately tore it up and said something to the effect that he wanted nothing to do with it, and a third copy, which was sent to Sutter's Fort but was lost and has never been found. This original is the only existing copy. According to Steve Beck, it was donated to Sutter's Fort in 1926 by the son of James Ide after he died. William Ide had left his effects to his brother James, whose son brought a box of old stuff to Sutter's Fort. A clerk at the Fort looked through the box, sorted out the papers, rubber-stamped each one, "Property of Sutter's Fort," wrote an accession number on each one in ink, and entered it into the accession book as "letter." About 15 months ago, someone came across it while looking through a box of papers and recognized the importance of the Ide Proclamation after 159 years!!

Ken Knott, Vice President

OSLHP Newsletter - June 2005

President's Message

Thank you for your patience regarding the June newsletter. Between moving offices, no phone for 2 weeks and still no internet access I completely forgot to send the information to Jane in a timely manner. I am writing the newsletter this month, although it is not in its usual great format I hope you find the information helpful.

What happened to Spring? It went from rain to heat in days. During the summer heat please be mindful of dehydration and heat stroke. If you participate in outdoor events bring plenty of water, take breaks and stay in the shade if possible. My move to the new Foundation office has left me without internet access as of this writing. My new number for the office is 445-3101 and of course you can always call me on my cell phone at 916-524-7249 for non-office hours help.. In June I will be on vacation June 19-23. Please call only in dire emergency on my cell phone otherwise please call Ken Knott. Thanks Ken for running May's general meeting. The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation raised over \$115,000 that day from the combined walks the same day.

General Meeting

General Meeting: June 8, 2005 at 7pm

Office

OSLHP office has moved to 1002 Second Street. Only Amy has moved, her office is now a volunteer office. All meetings will still be held at the Living History Center. Please come down to use the library or look through the vast amount of research we have available. Call Amy for an appointment during the week between 9am and 3pm or before meetings. The new phone number is 445-3101.

Executive Council

Thank you to Jason Hollingsworth who has served for several years as member at large, Shelly Green will replace him on the council starting July 1, 2005. Congratulations to Shelly. The next meeting of the Executive Council is July 5, 2005 at 7pm.

Member Dues

Dues are now payable for the next year. Dues are \$12 for individual seniors of 60 years of age, and \$16 for senior couples. General individual membership is \$25 and \$35 for families.

Gunfighter Insurance

For those members who would like to shoot their weapons you will need to provide proof of supplemental insurance and knowledge of weapon safety before participating in any shooting re-enactment. The OSLHP has a group roster for the American Federation of Old West Re-enactors. Several of us have joined their organization which also allows members to participate in special events sponsored by the organization. You can check out their website at www.afowr.com or Amy can give you an application. The cost is \$40 for individuals and \$50 for families. It must be renewed at each calendar year. You can shop around for other supplemental insurance. For safety information please contact Ray Eargle or Mark Hobbs.

Member Handbook

Of course once we have a final document changes need to be made. In June we will be voting to approve the following changes and additions:

Change: Page 18, Article XII. Injuries and Worker's Compensation

Change to: Volunteers are covered under the Historical Old Sacramento Foundation's Worker's Compensation

insurance(not general liability insurance) in the event of an injury from rendering a volunteer service. A member injured while volunteering services to the OSLHP should report any injury or incident to the Director of the OSLHP immediately.

Addition: Addendum 1. Disciplinary Actions

The Director of the OSLHP will be responsible for keeping a record of all disciplinary actions and inform the Executive Council of any actions taken. The following will be the procedures used for disciplinary actions:

First infraction: Oral warning and conversation attended by the OSLHP Director and 1 member of the Executive Council

Second Infraction: Written notification of infraction and reminder that a third warning may result in termination of membership rights. Member will be asked to address the entire Executive Council to come to a resolution.

Third Infraction: Written notification and the member must address the Executive Council. Upon review the Executive Council may proceed with termination of membership rights.

Fourth Infraction: All membership rights terminated.

ONGOING EVENTS

Walking Tours

Reserve America will be taking reservations for school tours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 1 through November 30. Regular tours now Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday at 11:00.

Links to the Past

If you have a web site you would like to share please send its address and a brief description about why it is useful. Information can be sent to Richard Sneed at rsneed5820@aol.com

COMING EVENTS

Living History Day

June 25, 2005 and July 30, 2005 10am to 4pm at Waterfront Park

Picture Day:

Finally here. Please arrive by 12:30 for the group picture. Better yet, come early and be apart of the Living History Day. Between 11am and 1pm staged photos will be taken. If you have any suggestions let Amy know now.

4th of July Victorian Picnic and Croquet Tournament:

10am to 2pm in Waterfront Park, there will be a picnic and Croquet tournament for members of the OSLHP.

Please contact Jason Hollingsworth immediately for more details.

Volunteer Appreciation Day and 10 year anniversary:

Please join us for the Captains Brunch Cruise on July 17, the ship leaves promptly at 10:30am. Tickets are \$10 for members and \$25 for guests. Come for the good food and company.