

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM
1333 Butte House Road
P. O. Box 1555
Yuba City, CA 95991

\$1.00

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS BULLETIN

VOL. XV, NO.1

YUBA CITY, CALIF. 95991

JANUARY 1976

HEARST-SELIG PICTURES

ADVERTISING MARYSVILLE ALL THE WORLD OVER

See Clampers' Dedication of D-Street Bridge

LYRIC THEATER

TUESDAY, JAN. 25th - WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26th

The Second Episode of



IRVIN S. COBB

"GRAFT"

will be shown Tuesday, Jan. 25th

"FLIRTING A LA CARTE" L-KO COMEDY ALICE HOWELL FEATURED



THE FRONT COVER

These Herst-Selig motion pictures were taken the day of dedication January 1916, and were shown in the weekly news reel all over the United States. The scene is in the river bottom under the bridge. Some of the high ranking Clamper Officials in their regalia can be distinguished. The Clampers had marched in a parade from 5th & D Sts. As they passed on the bridge they deposited their little hammers in a coffin which was thrown into the river below. The Clampers then blew their little horns instead of knocking with the hammers. Small boys mined the river bottom afterwards to recover the hammers.

IN THIS ISSUE: A DISCUSSION OF THE HONORABLE ORDER OF
E. CLAMPUS VITUS ---- BY DAVID DUNLOP

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XV No. 1

January, 1976

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The NEWS BULLETIN is published quarterly by the Society at Yuba City, California 95991. The annual membership dues includes receiving the NEWS BULLETIN. Your remittance should be sent to Mrs. Keith Lennox, Treasurer, 677 Jewell Avenue, Yuba City. To insure delivery of your NEWS BULLETIN please notify the Treasurer of any change in address. Dues are \$3.00 per person, \$5.00 for family.

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An index and file of all the past issues of the NEWS BULLETIN may be found in the Sutter County Library and in the Marysville City-County Library.

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NOTE: THE APRIL ISSUE WILL INCLUDE AN ARTICLE ON THE HISTORY OF SOME OLD DAILY NEWSPAPERS OF THIS AREA.

* * * * *

THE WINTER MEETING

The January 20, 1976 meeting of the Sutter County Historical Society will be held on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Sutter County Library. The speaker will be Dorothy Higgins of Yuba City. She will speak on the Southwest Indians.

* * * * *

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have nothing but praise for the very appropriate dedication program of Sunday, October 19, of the Community Memorial Museum. The speakers' platform, the public address system and the adequate seating made the occasion pleasant and comfortable for the audience. Even the weather cooperated making it a joyous day for those of us who have anticipated the Museum for years.

A trustee of the California Historical Society recently made this comment "while more than 300 historical societies struggle for existence in California few receive any public funds, official status or even encouragement." Our Society is lucky to be one of the few who do. We could not possibly publish our Quarterly Bulletin without the services of the county print shop, whose services are made available to us by the county government. Sutter County is fortunate to have supervisors like Mary Knapp, George McFeely, Thomas Miller, Ike Norred and Burnard Taylor who are concerned with our heritage. Our Society is very much indebted to them.

At the dedication ceremony on October 19 there was a Mr. Garcia from the San Mateo County Historical Museum who complimented our Society for the excellence of our Bulletin, which evidently he has been reading.

It is with deep regret we note the passing of our members Leo Wadsworth, A. J. "Dutch" Krull, Henry Oji, and Thomas Mulvany. Our sympathy to their loved ones.

WANDA RANKIN
President

EDITORIAL: HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Where Are We Going

From its beginning the Sutter County Historical Society has had some particular objective in addition to its general interest in the history of the County. At first this goal was a documentary film depicting the development of the County. After this film was secured our attention was turned to the establishment of a museum, and a temporary museum was opened. But now, as a result of the generous gifts of Norma and Howard Harter and the rare interest and wisdom of our supervisors, we have an elegant plant operated by a professional staff and maintained by the county government. The result of this good fortune is that our Society is now without a particular objective, and we ought to have one.

A commendable and seasonable project for us at this time would be a contribution to the Bicentennial observance during 1976. It has been suggested that our Society, with the cooperation of any other interested groups or individuals, might prepare an inventory of historical landmarks in Sutter County. Then we might draw up a map showing the locations of these historical places which map could serve as a guide for a historical tour of the County.

Much of this work has already been done by two of our members. Dr. Michael C. Andres as chairman of a special committee in 1973 compiled a list of nine historical sites. Then Jessica Bird wrote a report giving some history of these landmarks, which report was published in our NEWS BULLETIN of October, 1973. But no doubt this list could be increased.

In addition to increasing the list of historical sites, our main project could be to prepare and distribute the map. And if we found it possible to finance such an undertaking, we might publish a commemorative brochure to accompany or include the map.

There are other appropriate projects which we might consider and undertake but which will be discussed later.

EDITORIAL STAFF

NOTES FROM COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM

CURATOR: JEAN GUSTIN

The Big Blue Marble came to the Community Memorial Museum in October. It was one of the 1000 plus items added to the museum collection, given by 47 different donors, from May through October, 1975. One and one-half inch in diameter, though large for a marble, it contrasts with our largest gift, a 1911 Baldwin player piano. We regard every item we have received as interesting and unique and having its own value in helping to tell the story of people and times gone by. A 1900's iron and brass baby bed, a 24-inch long Maidu Indian pestle, a 1918 letter from Winsor Castle written to the American troops, an 1870's Bohemian glass plate decorated with gold and platinum, an 1861 Godey's Ladys Book, 105 circa 1910 glass

negatives, a 1900 sugar "view" Easter egg, an 1895 map of Sutter County, the first San Francisco and Berkeley newspapers printed after the 1906 earthquake, 1930's plaster of paris Carnival Dolls, a metal tin of "Dr. Williams Indian Ointment" (with some of the ointment left) and an 1866 Oregon Stage Company Way Bill are a few of the more unusual items recently received by the Museum.

As each item comes into the Museum, it is given a permanently affixed number, it is accessioned (a complete description and its history noted), it is cataloged and cross-referenced into a card file so that similar or related items can be selected and compared. The location of every item, whether on exhibit or in the study collection in our storage area, is carefully noted and is kept up to date as items "move." It takes time to "process" even the smallest item (for example, our Big Blue Marble) through the Museum procedure.

The Community Memorial Museum Auxiliary was formed in mid-September, 1975. Made up of men and women volunteers, it has become a very important part of Museum operation. Coordinated by Auxiliary Chairman, Caroline Ringler, about 40 volunteers work on a regular basis as host/hostesses or work directly with the collection in accessioning and cataloging procedures, in the constant cleaning and brightening of displays and in the preparation of new exhibits. Specific talents of auxiliary members working as artists, typists, carpenters, in clock repair, etc., have been utilized. In the first seven weeks that the Community Memorial Museum Auxiliary was in operation, 530 hours of volunteer time were logged by the members.

Rotating displays of items loaned to the Museum for brief periods have been very popular with visitors. In October and

November exhibits of old fire equipment, Ray Frye's collection of old duck decoys, Keith Christie's fine western bronze sculpture, and Ted Howard's exhibit of desert glass were featured.

Museum attendance in the first few months of operation averaged 27 persons per day -- making a total of 1295 visitors from August 5 through October 31, 1975. This total does not include the 500 plus visitors on October 19, the day of the Museum dedication. In those same three months, thirteen groups, both children and adults, took advantage of Museum tours. Museum hours are 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and at other times with special arrangements for groups.

The Big Blue Marble was accessioned, marked, cataloged and its location listed. It now rests in the Children's Case in the Museum. I delight in telling its story to groups of children (and to those young-at-heart). In 1895, when Mrs. Emma Perkins was 7 years old, she traded a rag doll she had made to another child for the Big Blue Marble. It remained in her possession for 80 years until October, 1975 when Mrs. Perkins came to the Museum to give to us her Big Blue Marble. When I tell the story to children, I ask each one to save out one marble, and in 80 years they may bring it to the Community Memorial Museum to add to our collection of old marbles.

T H E C O M M U N I T Y M E M O R I A L M U S E U M

REALIZED AND DEDICATED

By

NORMA PETRO HARTER

October 19, 1975, was a happy day, indeed, when the Community Memorial Museum was formally given to the County of Sutter and dedicated to the Community in memory of the pioneers and veterans of the area by Howard and Norma Harter together with other friends of the community through additional donations!

Over five hundred attended the ceremonies held in the parking lot at the entrance on that warm sunny day as the Yuba City Union High School marching band, under the direction of Richard Morrissey, opened the program with well-chosen prefatory music selections, and Lonny Renfrow took over as Master of Ceremonies.

Commander George Williams of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, W. E. Tucker Post 2563, presented the imposing 30 foot tapered aluminum flag pole, with their bronze plaque imbedded in the cement base, after which the Native Daughters of the Golden West presented both the National and State flags, represented by their Grand President, Lila S. Hummel, and Maxine Dodge, Americanization and Civic Participation Chairman, District 8. The Live Oak Boy Scout Troop #3 formed the Color Guard, proudly raising the two flags aloft, and a slight breeze unfurled their glowing colors as the pledge of allegiance was given in unison after which the band struck up the Star Spangled Banner.

Rev. Edgar Nelson of the First United Methodist Church offered the invocation, followed by the introduction of guests. Greetings of welcome were then given by Norma Harter, and a resume of the

beginnings and development of the project by Howard Harter, who traced its beginning and development from the March 8, 1972 Dedication of the Memorial Park Site and the first planting of trees (now numbering over 350) up to the Ground Breaking Ceremonies for the Museum building September 17, 1974 (with Arbor Day tree planting each year intervening) and this final glad day of formal opening of the Museum Building (although the doors have been open to visitors since August 5). There followed the presentation of the two beautiful bronze plaques by the County and the Harters, respectively. These will be installed at the entrance for permanent viewing.

Another number by the band preceded the fine address of the eminent Dr. Albert Shumate, noted San Franciscan, and historian, and the ceremonies were closed with the eloquent dedicatory prayer of Burnard Taylor, Supervisor of District 3.

Visitors were welcomed into the Museum by the Museum Staff consisting of Jean Gustin, Curator (of whom we are all so proud and grateful) as well as Joan Haak, our Museum assistant, together with the members of the Museum Auxiliary, acting as hostesses headed by Caroline Ringler, able chairman of this fine group.

Many had already enjoyed the Vintage Auto Display of the Mid-Valley Auto Club, outside, as well as visiting the Museum preceding the ceremonies.

In keeping with the Bi-Centennial theme, the garden bed centering the walk was planted with red, white and blue flowers, the colors also used for the hostesses' badges.

A magnificent flower arrangement was the gift of the Yuba City Floral & Gift Shop, while the two beautiful plants were the personal gift of Burnard Taylor, as was the handsome fern given by Alice Christ Berg.

A special showing of the bronze statuary and paintings of Keith Christie, the self-made Western artist-sculptor, painter and draftsman -- a master craftsman in his own right was the focus of attention, as was the duck decoy display loaned by Ray Frye. (Some of them dated back from 60 to 100 years)

Many enjoyed listening to the old tunes played on the authentic old player-piano recently reconditioned and given to the Museum by Dora Wood.

Original copies of the Call-Chronicle-Examiner printed April 1906 (the day after the San Francisco earthquake), and that of the Berkeley Reporter "Extra" of that date, printed on the presses of the Oakland Tribune and given to the Museum by the families of George Fred and Maude Otis, fascinated all viewers.

To each and every one of these fine people who helped so appreciably we extend most grateful thanks for making our day of dedication so memorable.

While our dream has materialized, the responsibility still remains to pay off the some \$25,000 yet remaining to be paid on the loan which the Trustees were forced to procure August 27, 1974, since it is a legal requirement that all monies for a public building be on deposit before contracts are let.

As people come to see and enjoy all that is offered here, we have faith to believe that more and more gifts will be made either as outright gifts, in memory or in honor of someone, and in any amount. Large or small, all gifts are greatly appreciated. Pledges are likewise welcomed, and remember, all gifts are tax deductible. Donors are likewise urged to send in family histories to be permanently recorded.

A permanent record of names of all donors are kept up to date in the Book of Donors. They likewise appear on the overhead wall at the entrance to the Museum. Those sending in after September 23 (when the latter was made) will have their names listed there at a later date.

* * * * *

List of Donors continued from October BULLETIN

PARK FUND

Mildred Jones	in memory of Mabel L. & Edward T. Hughes
Stanley & Hazel Coppin	in memory of Mrs. Cora Prichard
Gordon & Hazel Sterud	in honor of Mamie Meier on her 90th birthday
Phydellia Wagner	in memory of Archie Dorris
Phydellia Wagner	in memory of Thomas Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. Peter & Family	in memory of Thomas Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Ramos	in memory of Thomas Mulvany
Anne Bain, Bill, Charles and Cindy	in memory of Thomas Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Wise	in memory of Thomas Mulvany
Mrs. Mabel Stephani	in memory of Thomas Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Scheidel	in memory of Thomas Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. Ray B. Nowell	in memory of Thomas Mulvany

THE MEMORIAL TRUST FUND (continued)

Mrs. Verna M. Sexton	in memory of Robert Verne McPherrin
Leroy Meyer	in memory of "Dutch" Rainville
Mr. & Mrs. Burwell Ullrey	in memory of E. R. (Jim) Lovell
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip A. Holmes	in memory of Bob Gene Duncan
Mr. & Mrs. Burwell Ullrey	in memory of Laura E. Barlow
Howard & Norma Harter	in memory of Henry Oji
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Greene	in memory of M. Edward Mock
Perry & Edith Mosburg	in memory of Howard F. Sims
Perry & Edith Mosburg	in memory of E. R. (Jim) Lovell
Mr. & Mrs. Pierre Carr	outright gift
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Schnabel	in memory of Henry Oji
Mr. & Mrs. Burwell Ullrey	in memory of Mrs. Verne G. Hall
Bill & Wanda Rankin	in memory of Robert C. Triplett
Dorothy Flurry	outright gift
Verna M. Sexton	in memory of Mrs. Verne G. Hall
Verna M. Sexton	in memory of Albert Krull
Mrs. Hugo Del Pero	in memory of Dr. Marie Faus
Mrs. Hugo Del Pero	outright gift
Dr. & Mrs. C. D. Shane	in memory of Howard Sims

Bogue Country Club	in memory of Howard Sims
Elizabeth Nelson	in memory of Howard Sims
Burwell & Loretta Ullrey	in memory of Lola Ballou
Loretta & Burwell Ullrey	in memory of Dr. John W. Linstrum
Mrs. Virgil Walton	in memory of Dr. John W. Linstrum
Howard & Norma Harter	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Darlene Davis (Mrs. Edwin)	in memory of Alice Margaret Queen
Mr. & Mrs. Percy Davis	in memory of Alice Margaret Queen
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Holmes	in memory of Jeanette Androus
Minnie & Fred Lynn	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Lawrence & Gladys Abel	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Jessica Bird	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Eva Johnson, Esther Fortna and Addie Meier (her three daughters)	in honor of Mamie A. Meier on her 90th birthday, October 31, 1975
Larry & Mardell Matchett	outright gift
Larry's Business Machines, Inc.	outright gift
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Greene Jr.	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Rankin	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Miss Callie Allison	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Schnabel	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Dr. & Mrs. A. F. Petzinger	outright gift
Mr. & Mrs. Julian H. Rolufs and Family	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Maude K. Roberts	in memory of Howard Sims
Harriett C. Harter	in memory of Chauncey J. Harter
Claudine B. Rolufs	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Randolph Schnabel	in memory of Edgar W. Plantz
Richard, John & Nate Wise	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Edward R. Davis	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Marian D. Hankins	outright gift
Stanley & Anne Hawthorne	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Allen & Florence Kincade	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Beilby	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Mrs. Belle Dahlgren	in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Howard H. Harter
Mr. & Mrs. James F. Taresh	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Dewey	in memory of Alice M. Queen, mother of Bernice Dewey
Mr. & Mrs. Kent Dewey	in memory of Adele Olson
Tom & Indra Nason	in memory of Wilmuth Stoker Tull
Tom & Indra Nason	in memory of Thomas C. Mulvany
Estelle Herr	in memory of Howard Sims
Mr. & Mrs. E. E. Reed	in memory of Howard Sims
Howard & Norma Harter	in memory of Hulda Taylor Ledford
Howard & Norma Harter	in memory of William C. Eden

SUTTERANA

Serenade -- Major General John A. Sutter, who has been on a sojourn of several days to our city, was honored on Wednesday night by a delightful serenade, given by a musical band of Germans recently organized under the leadership of Mr. John King with the title of "Sutter Band." The compliment was highly appreciated by the venerated pioneer, to whom it was a just tribute for the blessed country which his daring and fortitude have been the means of erecting into a powerful nation.

From the Sacramento Union of November 18, 1853

Compliment to General Sutter -- General Sutter, after a sojourn of a couple of weeks in our city, took passage for his home at Hock Farm yesterday morning on board the Governor Dana. The "Sutter Band" organized under that title a few days ago, escorted him to the steamer and discoursed several of their sweetest airs on deck by way of a deserved compliment to the veteran pioneer.

From the Sacramento Union of November 22, 1853

* * * * *

THE AUTHOR

David Dunlop, author of the article on E. Clampus Vitus in this issue of the NEWS BULLETIN, himself is a member of the historic organization on which he has done extensive research. He is enrolled with the Bull Meek-William Morris Stewart chapter of E. Clampus Vitus in Nevada City.

He has been a history instructor at Yuba City High School since 1968. He is active in various community projects, is varsity tennis coach at the school and is Cubmaster of Cub Pack 15 in Yuba City.

Born in San Francisco, he came to Marysville in 1948 and attended both elementary and high schools here, graduating in 1956. He enrolled in Yuba College to receive an AA degree, and then entered the University of the Pacific at Stockton, where he attained both BA and MA degrees. His master's thesis was entitled "History of the Water Problem in the Yuba-Sutter Area; With Special Emphasis on the Great Flood of 1955." His first history teaching position began in 1962 at Wheatland High School. Mr. Dunlop, his wife and two children now reside in Yuba City.

A DISCUSSION OF THE HONORABLE ORDER OF E. CLAMPUS VITUS

by

David Dunlop

In the Gold Rush Days in California, an organization known as E. Clampus Vitus flourished throughout the diggings, as a joke, or sort of parody of the solemn and mysterious fraternal orders then so popular in the States. Every member of any order whatsoever made an attempt to assemble members of his particular group for a fraternal purpose. Many miners were not eligible for membership in the other orders, and these men took to the Clampers like a duck takes to water. Perhaps this was because the Clampers made every member a chairman of the Most Important Committee, and every member held an office of equal indignity.

Much has been written about the Ancient and Honorable Order of E. Clampus Vitus. Most historians familiar with the Gold Rush period of California know it as the "noble wheeze," the incomparable confraternity, a bibulous brotherhood that spread with the speed of gossip from one mining camp to another, from Siskiyou to Mariposa County in the 1850's.

E. Clampus Vitus existed principally for the purpose of taking in new members, and for the entertainment and refreshment thereby provided for the old members at the neophyte's expense. By the time the candidate (PBC) had sat on the Expungent's Chair, passed through the Cave of Silence, ridden the Rocky Road, experienced the Elevation of Man, taken the fearful oaths, endured the Obliterating Obfuscation, received the Staff of Relief, and seen his initiation fee converted into liquid assets and consumed by the assembled Clampers, he was under no misapprehension as to what had happened to him. He had

MARYSVILLE EVENING DEMOCRAT

VOL. LIX.

MARYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1916.

N. 5.

DEBATING TEAMS MEET TONIGHT IN PLIGHT OF BELGIANS MAKES ONE'S RAISIN GROWERS MUST STAND BY
HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM HEART FEEL SAD STATE ASSOCIATION

This strip of headlines recall some historical matters. High Schools were yet matching debating teams in contests. World War One and its atrocities were getting through to American concern. The raisin industry was yet of interest to Sutter and Yuba Counties.

CHICO TO HAVE CLAMPER LODGE NUMBER THREE

Chico has beat Woodland to it. Chico Lodge, E. Clampus Vitas, will be No. 3. Dr. Herbert Rodley and Louis Olkher, both members of Marysville lodge, and both prominent residents of Chico, have started the Clamper movement in their city, and feel sure that they can raise at least a thousand members for Lodge No. 3.

Both Dr. Rodley and Olkher wrote to Tommy Richards, Monday night, assuring him that they, with Judge Louis Faulkner, would start securing signatures to a petition next week. As soon as they secure twenty-five names, they will send them to Richards to turn over to President L. E. Crook, and will apply for a charter.

Dr. Rodley, Olkher, and Judge Faulkner will be at Oroville the night of the 27th, and will talk the proposition over with the members of the Marysville and Oroville lodges.

"We want to have Lodge No. 3 in Chico," Dr. Rodley wrote Richards, "for we have come to realize just what the Clamper movement means to Northern California. Both Olkher and myself have talked it over with several business men here and all believe it would be a good thing for Chico.

"We feel that it's about time we 'buried the hammer and blew the horn' between all the cities of this part of the state. We've been held back too much by petty inter-sectional jealousy. If we want to succeed and boost our part of the state, we'll have to work in harmony.

"The Clamper movement gives us this chance, and believe me, we Chico men are going to take advantage of the opportunity. The movement is bound to spread all over this part of the state and within a year I believe that every important city and town in Northern California will be in line.

"Chico needs the Clampers and the Clampers need Chico. You'll find us a live bunch of boosters, and the lodge here will be composed of members who will go behind any worthy object and boost it along. We're with you, Marysville and Oroville, and we'll soon be No. 3."

The reference to the Chico lodge indicates the position which the Marysville lodge had assumed. Legal strategy made Marysville the grand lodge with authority to issue or withhold charters to or from other lodges.

All of these news items reproduced in this issue were photographed directly from the MARYSVILLE DEMOCRAT of January, 1916.

been "taken in," and he was as eager as the other brothers to find another sucker, so that he might get even.

E.C.V. afforded a perfect excuse and occasion for the horse play that served as a safety valve for the accumulated animal spirits of the young men at the mines. Ridiculous paraphernalia was concocted, burlesquing that of the serious fraternities.... the Blunderbasket and the Sword of Justice Tempered with Mercy, of Bunyanesque proportions and the great tin horn of Hewgag, that sounded a horrendous blast to call the boys in from the diggings whenever a new candidate was caught.

Soon business in the mountain towns was running on a closed shop basis; no merchant could hold his customers, no drummer could make a sale, no man was safe from social ostracism until he had joined the new benevolent order which, it was said, had been formed by the miners for the relief of the widows and orphans, but more particularly of the widows.

Historians have tried to trace the course and development of E.C.V. in California and have found themselves hampered by the lack of written records. This fact was readily explained by that great old story-teller of Columbia, the late George Napoleon, who had been a Clamper in the old days himself, and knew whereof he spoke. "The trouble was that during the meetings none of the brothers were in any condition to keep any minutes, and afterwards nobody could remember what had taken place."

However, despite these difficulties, it is still possible to find some of the unsteady tracks left by the roisterous brethren. Old county histories list E.C.V. along with the most respectable fraternal orders, and give lists of members, with their exalted

titles, for the Clampers adhered to the democratic rule that every member was entitled to be an officer, and that all offices should be of equal indignity. There are listed titles such as Clamps Petrix, Clamps Vitrix, Clamps Matrix, and Royal Platrix, High and Mighty Hangman, Grand Gyascutis, and the presiding officer, the Grand Noble Humbug.

One of the county histories, The History of Plumas, Lassen and Sierra Counties, by Farris and Smith, 1881, claims that E.C.V. was first organized in Sierra City in 1857. The following selection is from this history:

In 1871, a grand Fourth-of-July celebration was held in Sierra City, on which occasion J.H. Tinny read the declaration of independence to a vast audience. A prominent feature of the day was the laying of the cornerstone of Busch's building on Main Street, by E. Clampus Vitus.

This fact of origin is not correct. A lodge was formed in Sierra City, but it was no means the first.

One of the first acknowledgements of E.C.V. in California in the 1850's appeared in the Sacramento Union, September 28, 1852:

E. Clampus Vitus

Some of the San Francisco editors are wondering what can be the objects or aims of a newly created secret society, hearing this name in that city.

Although we are not prepared to say that the association is precisely similar to the one we have heretofore known, yet we can state for the information of the curious, that the term implied a degree of waggery to be practiced by the knowing ones upon green-horns; and that its existence was merely nominal --- its meetings being held only when a victim contributed to the fire companies we presume was intended merely to create mystery to the good citizens of the Bay City.

E. Clampus Vitus is mentioned on March 12, 1853, by the Daily Placer Times and Transcript:

The Order of E. Clampus Vitus celebrated Washington's Anniversary by dinner, toasts and speeches.

The San Francisco Herald mentions the organization in their edition on October 18, 1855:

It is stated that a movement is under foot in this city for the permanent establishment of a Society under the title of E. Clampus Vitus, and that there will be a meeting held this evening for the purpose of initiating a large number of candidates for membership into the secrets of that order.

A letter was published in the Mountain Democrat of Placerville on January 19, 1856, commending the deeds of the organization:

To the Editor:

It has always been a favorite opinion with me that the benevolent deeds of individuals or societies should be publically noticed. A few days ago I visited a sick and destitute family, living in the suburbs of our city, and accidentally witnessed the noiseless and liberal manner in which some societies perform their mission of charity. The head of the family in question had been ill for some time and unable to work, and they were greatly distressed and desponding. A wagon loaded with provisions drove up to the door. Without a word, the provisions were transferred from the wagon to the house of the suffering family. With tears of gratitude the generous donors were blessed. The charity did not end. A few days subsequent I again visited the family, and with pleased surprise learned that clothing had been furnished in the same mysterious manner.

I at length learned that the society or whatever other name it is called, of E.C.V., had furnished the provisions and clothing. May the blessings of heaven rest upon them. They have the prayers of the poor, for their advancement and prosperity.

Many California Historians have mentioned the existence of E. Clampus Vitus in their writings. Thomas Edwin Farish, in his book, The Gold Hunters of California, tells of the chapter in Downieville, California:

About 1855 in Downieville, the Ancient and Honorable Order of E.C.V. was established. The initiation fee of which was made always to suit the pecuniary circumstances of the proposed initiate: and usually expended in paying for beer.

Lawyers, bankers, merchants and miners were members of this institution. And when the Hewgag, a big horn, rang out, for miles around miners came, stores and banks and places of business were quickly closed and all their managers soon repaired to the Clamper Hall.

The candidate was prepared for the initiation by being divested of most of his clothing, then blindfolded. In this condition he was led around the hall, stopping at different points where he was chastised and lectured in the most fatherly way, by different officers of the body.

William T. Ellis, in his book Memories: My Seventy Two Years in the Romantic County of Yuba, California, speaks of the night he joined the organization.

The night I joined, the meeting was held in quite a large hall, and there must have been about one hundred men present. When the proceedings were about to commence and the meeting called to order by the presiding officer, whose title was "Noble Grand Humbug," those present were seriously admonished to keep quiet and preserve due decorum during the initiation.

I was then led out by two husky men and was stationed before the Noble Grand Humbug, who proceeded to ask my name, my age, my occupation and this was followed up by some very embarrassing questions.

As far as I can learn, this lodge of E.C.V. started in the mountain areas for amusement purposes during the long winter months, when snows prevented mining and when there was little or no communication with the outside world except the mails. Several of the larger mountain towns had their separate lodges and they really did a lot of charitable work. I remember that at Downieville

one time, a miner was accidentally killed, leaving a wife and several children; a meeting of the full membership of the lodge was called and everyone was expected to contribute to a charity fund which was at once turned over to the widow amounting to several hundred dollars.

However, my initiation was not forgotten and I swore to get even on someone and shortly afterwards, I helped to start a lodge of E.C.V. in Marysville. We had a large hall on the second story of the present brick building at the southeast corner of D and First Streets; we raised funds and had a complete set of necessary paraphernalia, obtaining a copy of the ritual from Downieville and were ready for business. Almost every week we would have an initiation and every member knew when a sucker was had for an initiation that evening when the hewgag sounded, which sounded like a fog horn and could be heard all over town.

John Walton Caughey, in his book Rushing for Gold, tells how the organization spread like wildfire in the 1850's:

It was in the fifties that the Ancient and Honorable Order of E.C.V. first appeared on the California scene. After a hard day in the dirt and mush of some of Sierra's diggings, where else but in the Clamper's Hall of Comparative Ovations could a man rediscover those values that seemed otherwise so lacking in the hard life of the California canyons?

E.C.V. spread like wildfire through the mountains. Few, indeed, were the camps where the order's great horn, the Hewgag, did not on occasion horsely bray. Surely, the Constitution of the Order displayed its roisterous spirits as could nothing else.

E. Clampus Vitus was still in existence in California in 1915. The following article appeared in the Marysville Appeal Democrat, November 13, 1915:

Blow the Horn and Bury the Hammer, will be the slogan of the local lodge of E.C.V. when the order takes charge of the celebration of the opening of the D Street Bridge, which will be held some time near the end of the month.

The slogan was invented by County Supervisor L.B. Crook, President of the Clampers, and who was appointed to take charge of the bridge opening celebration by both the Yuba County Supervisors and the city council of this city.

The Clampers intend to commence a novel system of advertising throughout the United States and members of the lodge predict that within a year everyone in the whole country will know of this section. Every Clamper is pledged to boost for Yuba and Sutter Counties and any member of the order caught knocking will be expelled from the order, which has a membership of more than 900.

Today, there are more than 10,000 members in 28 active Chapters in California and one in Nevada. The roster of membership includes names of governors, lieutenant governors, Supreme Court judges, United States senators, State senators, congressmen, assemblymen, superior court judges, authors, etc.

Clamper leaders explain that E. Clampus Vitus is considerably more than an un-regenerated group of tosspots. They explain that scores of historic monuments have been erected and dedicated to the memory of great events and great men. They have monuments honoring the accomplishments of Sam Brannan, who helped touch off the Gold Rush, just to name one.

Their acts of helpfulness and kindness are usually done in secrecy. Files of the early California papers contain hundreds of cards of thanks to unknown benefactors, believed to be representative of E.C.V.

In 1931, a group of San Francisco attorneys, business leaders and University of California professors decided it was high time for another revival of E.C.V.

Active in the revival were Leon O. Whitsell, Carl I. Wheat, George Ezra Dane, Edgar B. Jessup and Douglas S. Watson. They

CLAMPERS WILL INVADE OROVILLE OVER ONE THOUSAND STRONG

This report of a "rousing" meeting of the Clampers discusses the proposed trip to Oroville and a proposed celebration on July 4, 1916. How many names in this news item do you remember? How many are yet living?

CHARTER WAS GRANTED FOR LODGE NO. 2 AND
IT WILL BE ORGANIZED THURSDAY
JANUARY 27TH

LOCAL LODGE ALREADY MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO
HAVE BIG CELEBRATION HERE ON
JULY FOURTH

A rousing and enthusiastic meeting of Marysville Lodge No. 1, E. Clampus Vitas, was held in Moose hall, Friday night, the regular meeting night of the lodge, and the blowing of the hew gag at 8 o'clock brought out something like three hundred members. Every member who attended the meeting last night has commenced to be imbued with the boost spirit that has already become the motto of the Clampers. Every member of the Clampers of this city knows that it is up to him to boost and not knock. The charter application of Oroville Lodge No. 2, E. Clampus Vitas, was presented to the local lodge Friday night, and contained five hundred signatures. The charter was grant-

ed, and Thursday night, January 27, was the date selected by the Marysville lodge to run an excursion to Oroville for the purpose of installing the new lodge.

The first step towards this excursion was taken last night when a committee composed of Andy Galligan, chairman; J. M. Morrissey, J. E. Lewis, and Phil Divver Jr. was appointed to act in conjunction with Grand President L. B. Crook. They will attend to all of the details and all that they ask of the other several hundred members of the lodge is that they make the trip, which promises to be one of the biggest excursions ever run out of Marysville.

(Continued on Page Four)

CLAMPERS WILL INVADE OROVILLE OVER ONE THOUSAND STRONG

Continued From Page One

Rates over the three railroads, the Northern Electric, Southern Pacific, and Western Pacific, all of which have easy access to Oroville, will be asked, and the one giving the lowest rate and the best accommodations will be given the preference. A committee composed of Andy Galligan, chairman, Phil Divver Jr. and A. T. Baldwin was appointed to look after the railroad facilities. The committee will interview the local agents of the three railroad companies and will make a detailed report at their earliest convenience as to the route to be taken. It is expected that the round trip fare will be eighty cents.

The general committee will attend to the installation ceremonies and inform each officer of the Clampers as to his duties during the installation of the Oroville Lodge No. 2.

Fourth of July Celebration.

Now that the Clampers lodge has been organized here with one of the largest memberships ever recorded in any lodge in Northern California, they have decided to take up the matter of a Fourth of July celebration in Marysville, and preliminary plans for such were taken up at the meeting Friday night, when a general committee composed of the following was selected to interview the local business men to ascertain if they wanted a

Friday night, when a general committee composed of the following was selected to interview the local business men to ascertain if they wanted a July 4th celebration, and if they would support the movement: H. M. Smythe, chairman; Arthur Goodman, G. W. Hall, William Spillman, Searls Wright, Duzen Niemeyer, Ed Lewis, George Herzog, Frank Bevan, Jack Kelly, Edward Johnson, Howard Thompson, Earl Munson, Cop Galvin, Ben Herboth, H. E. Hyde, Phil J. Divver, Fred Roberts, Mat Arnoldy, Dr. J. F. Tapley, John Mock, R. E. Bevan, Ed Taber, Ed Wilcox and H. H. Dunning. The committee will report at the next meeting of the lodge.

It was suggested by Grand President L. B. Crook at the meeting Friday night to give a benefit dance for the Marysville band, all of the members of whom are members of the Clampers lodge. "The members of the band," said Crook, "have extended the Clampers many favors in furnishing music gratis whenever the occasion arose, and it is no more than right that we should reciprocate by giving a benefit dance in their honor." The matter was referred to the dance committee of which Louis Seiber is chairman and a report from them will be heard at a later date.

It was decided at the meeting Friday night to allow the charter to remain open for thirty days more to allow members to come in for the initiation fee of \$2.50, and those who have not already become members should do so immediately or before the charter closes, because after that the initiation fee will be raised.

Financial Condition.

The financial condition of the Clampers was reported good, as the treasurer reported that there is a

large sum of money in the treasury and this is sufficient assurance that anything the Clampers undertake will meet with success. A report of the committee in charge of the dance held December 17th showed that there was a balance of \$49.70 from the dance which would be added to the amusement fund of the lodge.

Sam Harrington, a well known resident of this city, and a member of the Clameprs lodge now, and in the years past when the old lodge was first organized, addressed the members of the new lodge last night and told how he honored the lodge for the patriotism shown by each and every member and of how he hoped he would see the spirit of the Clampers progress and envelope the entire state of California. Mr. Harrington was greeted with cheers and the entire membership joined in singing "The Star Spangled Banner," following the close of Mr. Harrington's address.

were aided in their preliminary planning by Adam Lee Moore, an octogenarian with a good memory and a former Noble Grand Humbug of the E.C.V. Chapter in Sierra City.

The members of the organization have shown considerable interest in local history. The following article is from The Marysville Appeal Democrat, March 16, 1956:

Camptonville, Yuba County

The memory of William Bull Meek, early day merchant, stage driver and fraternal leader will be honored by E.C.V. gold rush fraternity, at ceremonies May 6th when a marker will be dedicated on the town's main street.

The ceremony will be conducted by the William Bull Meek Chapter of the pioneer fraternity which chose Meek's name to designate the chapter title because he best exemplified the hardiness and spirit which built the west.

The present-day Clampers have revived the organization and preserve the spirit of the days of gold. Professor George Stewart calls it the peculiar spirit of the West: a love of fun. Clampers also have a keen love for the relics and scenes of the early days. They have visited in person the exact spot where gold was discovered, where Bret Harte roamed, and where Joaquin Murietta held up a stagecoach. Therefore, instead of meetings called solely to initiate a sucker, they now have one meeting as near the date of Marshall's Gold Discovery as is convenient, and usually one other each year which takes them afield to historic sites. These pilgrimages have kept the old spirit alive and have gained friendships that are priceless. It is hoped that the Clampers can pass on to others the same desire to keep alive this fading vision.

E.C.V. IN THE YUBA-SUTTER AREA 1915-1916

The exact founder of E.C.V. in Marysville and the Yuba-Sutter Area is still a mystery. We do know that W. T. Ellis did help found the chapter. The initiations were weekly and the copies of the rituals were received from the Downieville Chapter.

The lodge in Marysville was practically put out of business on account of the publicity in many newspapers of the State because of the initiation of an English Lord; this occurred January 25, 1896. This was Lord Sholto Douglas, a younger son of the Marquis of Queensbury, who was greatly interested in prize fighting in England and who first drew up the rules of the game which were and still are known as the "Marquis of Queensbury Rules." It seems that young Lord Sholto Douglas had married a London dance hall girl, which got him into disfavor with his father. In consequence, and on the strength of his title, he and his wife started a vaudeville show to make a living and came to America on tour. They came to Marysville and gave a show one evening in the old Marysville Theatre; it wasn't a very good show and as they had been having very slim attendances in California when they gave their show in Marysville, they were about broke.

A few of the Clampers thought of an opportunity for some amusement, so a committee from the Clamper's Lodge called on the young Lord and told him that if he would give another show the following night, the Clampers would guarantee the theatre rental and some other expenses and would sell tickets to help him make some money.

The only catch about the Clampers selling the tickets and raising the money for the Lord was that he would have to join the Clamper's

lodge that evening. He consented and he got what was coming to him. The lodge hall was packed.

All the newspapers in the State had accounts of his initiation in the lodge room. After his initiation he said, "Brother Clampers; I say, you are a rum lot of chappies, I can't say that I really enjoyed this extraordinary initiation you have just inflicted upon me, but you tell me that this is the usual thing in California and as I have always heard that California was wild and woolly, I know now that it is so and I will always remember you and this Lodge and I want to tell you that I really appreciate what you are doing for me tomorrow by helping me out of a blasted financial hole and I thank you, by Jove ' I do."

REVIVAL IN MARYSVILLE 1915

On October 8, 1915, the following notice appeared in the Marysville Appeal: "Road Agents or other Criminals are Preferred. WANTED -- Several young men with extraordinary strong constitutions, no near relatives and with absolute disregard to what might happen to them. Men crossed in love, too much married, would-be suicides or professional road agents preferred risks. ADDRESS L. B. CROOK, FINANCIAL SECRETARY, CLAMPER'S CLUB, MARYSVILLE."

Several prominent citizens had decided to revive the Clampers organization in Marysville. L. B. Crook, at one unofficial meeting held October 7, 1915, was unanimously elected to bear the initial expenses of the organization.

On the suggestion of Art McRae, candidate for president, it was decided to limit the future membership to those who had no family support. Acting-Treasurer Arthur Brannan moved that the financial

secretary be empowered to purchase six kegs of giant powder, a hundred pound box of dynamite, and a can of strychnine for initiation purposes. This motion was seconded by William Davies and carried.

Charles Wetmore, provisional vice president, was ordered to draw up a set of bylaws and to communicate with several accident insurance companies for the benefit of new members.

Ike Erickson, legal advisor for the club, suggested that cremation be adopted as a means of disposing of candidates who did not successfully pass the initiation tests. His motion was overruled, as the majority of officers wished to patronize home industry.

The Undertakers' Journal was chosen as the official organ of the club.

The election of officers for the new chapter was held on October 15, 1915. They also decided on an official and social program for the winter season. After the election it was decided to hold a ball sometime in November. A committee on bylaws was appointed by President L. B. Crook, who was unanimously elected to the position. A report was received on a crematory to dispose of the bodies of unsuccessful candidates, but its erection was laid over until the next meeting. An insurance order to take care of the families of those who did not survive the initiation was suggested by Guardian Art McRae. This was also tabled.

The following officers were elected: L. B. Crook, president; Floyd Forbes, vice president; Art Brannan, master of arms; Chester Smith, treasurer; Art McRae, guardian of historical documents; Ike Erickson, outside sentinel; William Davies, inside sentinel; Dr. W. J. Guinan, reviving physician; Lee Smith, financial secretary; C. P. Clement, corresponding secretary; Charles Wetmore, legal advisor; and Charles J. McCoy, guardian of the great seal.

**This bulletin is
continued in Part 2.**

Sutter County
Historical Society
News Bulletin
Jul 1976
Part 2

WARM RECEPTION OF OROVILLIANS REVIVED COLD SPIRITS OF FIVE HUNDRED VISITORS

(By C. P. Clements.)

Five hundred cold Clampers stumbled out of the cars when the special train arrived at Oroville, Thursday night, but the welcome they received from 500 more Clampers waiting for them soon thawed them out. Oroville was there strong. Only one citizen didn't turn out. He had just been taken to the morgue.

The Oroville boys band, headed the parade. The members of Oroville Lodge No. 2 followed. Then came the official Clampers' band, the only one in existence, followed by the officers and the Marysville Clampers. Grand

This is a first-hand description of the Clampers reception in Oroville. It can be noted here that Jack Dooley now a retired manager of the Bank of America in Marysville was in 1916 a Clamper of Oroville.

President L. B. Crook and President-elect Frank Egan of Oroville marched in front and led the way, accompanied by the standard-bearer.

Red fire burned all along the line of march. Every telephone pole had its string of exploding firecrackers. The streets were lined three deep with cheering people. If President Wilson had come to Oroville he could not have received a warmer reception.

We forgot the cold cars; we forgot our anger at being late, and remembered only that we had come to a city of brother Clampers and that they were giving us a real, old-time, Northern California welcome. We marched through several streets and all along the line of march we were received with cheers. Then we knew that we were at home and that Oroville and Marysville in the future would be twin cities, cemented by the Clamper bonds.

We entered the large exposition hall. Everything was in readiness for the installation of Oroville Lodge No. 2. First Installing Officer Edward Lewis formed a nominating committee of the Oroville Clampers. They gave him the list, and Clampus Petrix Phil Divver and Clampus Vitrix Dick Barrett escorted the new officers to their seats as their names were called.

President Frank A. Egan was the first to be led to the altar of sacrifice. His entrance was greeted with enthusiastic cheers. He was evidently the right man for the place. Then some "dirty" work was shown. B. B. Meek wanted J. H. Dungan elected high priest. Dungan said Meek should have the honor. The officers of the mother lodge looked the two candidates over. Dungan was tall and thin. So was Meek. But Meek had the highest altitude and more of a

(Continued on Page Eight)

WARM RECEPTION REVIVED COLD SPIRITS OF VISITORS

(Continued from Page One)

hop pole frame than Dungan. He was unanimously chosen. Again the crowd went wild. Meek was deservedly popular.

George Jones was elected Clampus Vitus and W. W. Gingles, Royal Patrix. J. C. Dooley was elected financial secretary and treasurer, and made a Knight of the Golden Gourds, esides being presented with a silver sword of his office.

William Penhallegon was elected recording secretary, Dr. W. F. Gates Reviving Surgeon; Charles F. Belding, Clampus Petrix; R. C. Tyler, Clampus Vitrix; C. F. Huntington, outside doorkeeper, and R. P. McCune, inside doorkeeper.

Then the officers were escorted to their seats, and the charge given them by Installing Officer Lewis.

Brother Sam Harrington was then called upon by Grand President Crook to present a set of colors to Oroville Lodge No. 2 for its altar. The colors were an American flag and a Bear flag.

Now, Brother Harrington is an old sailor, and when he commenced to talk Star Spangled Banner, he had that crowd right off their feet, cheering all the time. It was a short speech, but every word had a kick, and afterward the Oroville officers declared they'd never heard a etter patriotic talk even from a professional spellbinder.

Then the Grand Lodge took charge and closed the meeting. Grand President Crook, Guardian of the Dead, Waldo Johnson; Master of Arms, Art Brannan, and four pall-bearers took part in this impressive closing ceremony. By the aid of the Clampers' magic button, the "corpse" was brought to life, and, after examination by Grand Surgeon William Glunan and Surgeon Gates, a spark of life was found and the dead one was declared "in."

After the closing ceremonies, the Marysville and Oroville Clampers fraternized over a splendid lunch furnished by Lodge No. 2, and when the Grand Lodge went to the train, it was accompanied by the new brothers and sent on its way with cheers.

The Clampers' official band was voted by Oroville Lodge to be the best band in this part of the state, and the band was given a vote of thanks by President Egan for their Clamper-like spirit in accompanying the Grand Lodge to Oroville.

The following auxiliary officers were then unanimously elected and installed into office by the Grand Officers with suitable ceremonies: Dr. W. J. Guinan, chief mourner; Hugh McGuire, first assistant mourner; Judge James Morrisey, second assistant mourner; Al O'Banion, caretaker of the crypt; Philip Divver, head grave digger; Duzen Niemeyer, King of the Opium Ring; Richard Barret, Chief Wahoo; J. J. Casey, second Wahoo, Harvey Eich, custodian of the hashish pipe; Phil McCune, handler of the fiery furnace.

On October 16, 1915, a special meeting was held for the purpose of making all former members of E.C.V. honorary members of the re-organized club. The only former member of the organization to receive special recognition was William S. O'Brien, former Chief Hewgag blower of the Clampers. He was appointed the new Hewgag Blower. Art McRae, custodian of historical documents, was instructed to get in touch with old members of E.C.V. to secure any historical data they had on the order in the early days.

The Marysville Appeal, October 22, 1915, announced the official gathering of E.C.V. for the purpose of swearing in officers and members. "The officers and members will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at First and D in linen dusters and dark hats. Headed by the Hewgag in the automobile of honor, the Clampers will march to the designated meeting place, where the officers will be sworn in after taking the oath of officer and then the bylaws will be signed by them and the charter members of the organization.

Cards of application for membership will be distributed by Brother Chester Smith, who is treasurer and financial secretary of E. Clampus Vitus. He will turn the cards over to the credentials committee which will pass on the eligibility of the proposed members.

If accepted they will be notified where and when to appear for initiation.

President L. B. Crook has had several letters from Clampers in various portions of the State who intend to organize lodges as soon as the local order is formed. The inquiries come from Quincy, Oroville, Sierra City, Chico, Watsonville and other places."

The Marysville Appeal, October 23, 1915, told the story of the organization of the new lodge. "When the Marysville Band... whose members are also members of the Lodge... started playing the dead march, and the red lights commenced burning forth, casting a sinister glow on the youthful features of Worthy President L. B. Crook, no less than 170 Clampers were in line. They followed Ye ancient Hewgag, that wonderful musical instrument, the gift of Pharoah the 46½th of Egypt to the first lodge of this ancient and honorable order.

Supporting President Crook was grand treasurer Chester Smith who was guarded from danger of robbery by a band of stalwart Clampers, each armed with a concealed brick. On the other side of the President marched Charles A. Wetmore, legal advisor. He carried a book of statutes of California, a ham bone... for he had no dinner... and a bottle of red ink. The other officers followed, headed by Grand High Priest Harry Hyde... who is also Mayor or something on the outside... bearing aloft his insignia of the officer of Great Pujolomonsum.

Brother William Freeman of Sierra City told of the work of E.C.V. in that city two decades ago and in response to a call from the chair, Judge Morrissey paid a touching tribute to the dead members of the former order.

On arriving at 6th and D Streets marching through the dense crowds of spectators and amidst the cheers of the multitudes, the

Clampers took machines and were driven to the meeting place of the order. As a solemn oath was taken never to reveal this secret spot, the meeting place cannot be told. The oath was first given to the officers of the lodge who knelt in a circle around the 'sacred rock,' the emblem of the order. Following this they went to the Moose Hall where the further ceremonies of the evening and the issuing of the password took place.

The emblems of the office were presented to the worthy president and then the following ritual was subscribed to by the order:

We do solemnly swear and promise to chvbfnjbny vjughn bjvn and mgnf bhgingh gnhiszgffx gnfsdbt and shd the ajdnfh x.t and to xver the holy xhfbvgeyfh and never, never to divulge this secret. Old Clampers were called up for advice. Dr. J. H. Barr, Judge James Morrissey and others responded and told of the work and the good done to the community by the old order.

It was decided that the Charter would remain open for a week and that anyone wishing to become a charter member should apply for a membership card to an officer of the order."

E. C. V. PARTICIPATES AT RICE CARNIVAL

The Rice Carnival was an event of the same nature of a County Fair, organized by the merchants of Marysville and Yuba City. The usual exhibits and attractions of a fair were provided. The main purpose was to celebrate and stimulate the rice industry. Rice growers were reaping good prices caused by the war in Europe, and the cultivation of rice was being expanded in both Yuba and Sutter Counties.

The Marysville Appeal, October 29, 1915, told of the participation of E.C.V. in the Rice Carnival: "Followed by a trail of red fire, more than 400 members of E.C.V. marched along D Street headed by the Marysville Band and the drill team of the woodmen to the Rice Carnival grounds last night, where they formally resurrected old E. Clampus Vitus from his coffin where he had Rip Van Winkled in for the past 20 years.

Grand President L. B. Crook presided at the festivities assisted by Legal Advisor Charles Wetmore, Grand Treasurer Chester Smith, Chief Wahoo Richard Barrett, High Priest Harry Hyde, and the officers of the organization. On reaching the carnival grounds the band struck up the 'dead march'. Even Richard Carvel, the official burro, looked mournful and was observed weeping salt tears.

The total attendance, paid admissions, to the Rice Carnival, was more than 1200 last night, for nearly everyone who came was there for the purpose of seeing the Clampers."

The Marysville Appeal, November 2, 1915, related the first marriage license issued by Phil Divver. "When Thos. J. O'Connor, second assistant grave digger of E.C.V. walked up to Philip Divver, the new County Clerk and first assistant grave digger of the order, and asked for a marriage license, Divver made him first give the hailing sign. O'Connor gave it. Divver then made out the license and paid for it himself. It was the first official action of Divver as County Clerk and he was more than pleased that this first service was to a brother Clamper. The license taken out by O'Connor was to marry Miss Annie Gertrude Meade of Smartsville. The ceremony was performed last night at St. Joseph's Church in Marysville by Rev. Father E. J. Enright.

Both young people are well-known here and O'Connor will be given a special 'welcome home' by the Clampers when he and his bride return from their honeymoon."

The Marysville Appeal, November 6, 1915, told of the E.C.V. participation in the Catholic Ladies' Bazaar, November 5, held in Marysville. "This was the first time since its organization that the members of the order had a chance to show their public spirit and to patronize in a body a worthy object. The Clampers patronized the booths, took chances on everything going and had the time of their lives. All a pretty girl had to do was to wave a ticket in front of a man with a linen duster, and it was his.

Before attending the bazaar, the Clampers met at Moose Hall and adopted a constitution and bylaws. The official yell was adopted and other business of a secret nature conducted. President L. B. Crook announced that the local lodge of E.C.V. would have charge of the opening of the D Street Bridge Celebration, and the brothers present joined in a promise that it would be 'some' celebration and worthy of even the Clampers. 'Blow the Horn and Bury the **Hammer**' will be the official slogan for the celebration. There will be an abundance of features for the day. The celebration will commence with a monster parade, headed by the Marysville band, and which will include several novel attractions. At night there will be a display of fireworks and dancing on both ends of the bridge. The 'hammer' will be officially buried with appropriate ceremonies and the 'horn' blown for the better prosperity of Marysville, Yuba and Sutter Counties. There will be something doing from sunrise to sunset and from sunset until dawn. Estimation of the total costs is about \$800 to stage the celebration."

The Marysville Appeal, November 10, 1915 printed the lyrics of the official Clamper Song, "Let's Go, Let's Go, go out and boost for the city, and, as President L. B. Crook of E.C.V. would say, 'blow the horn and bury the hammer,' is the title and sentiment of the Clampers' official song. The words by Otto Stoll and the music by Bert Thacker, sung for the first time last night at the Liberty Theatre, the occasion being the first Clampers' night at the theatre in accordance with the kind offer of manager Adelberg last week. The song which was received with cheers by the assembled Clampers is as follows and was sung by Bert Thacker himself:

Gather, Clampers gather, there is music in the air;
Don't you hear those good times calling
Won't you meet me there?
Meet me in the land of Gladness.....
Land of old Care-Free,
The Golden Land of good Western hospitality.

CHORUS

Put on your Sunday Clothes,
And when the Hewgag blows
Sing out for harmony, prosperity and liberty,
Let Clampers join their hands
Join in the song so grand
"I Love You California."
We'll turn night into day
Drive the gloom away... Lets Go.
Bands are playing, flags are swaying
in the evening breeze
Get your hat and linen duster;
do just as you please.
We will have a hot time in this
old town, boys, tonight,
We'll sing for love, We'll sing for peace,
We'll sing for all that's right."

On November 11, 1915, the Marysville Chapter of E.C.V. received the official document giving the local lodge sole right to exist:
"The charter gives the local lodge the sole right to the name under the incorporation papers and if any other cities or towns wish to

MOVIE ACTRESS IS BOOSTING FOR CLAMPERS ORGANIZATION

In a few more weeks all the moving picture actors and actresses in the film-producing center, Los Angeles, will be unofficial Clampers, and already the comedians are using our hailing sign in the pictures, especially Billy Richie of the Universal and Roscoe Arbuckle of the Keystone. And pretty Dorothy Gish of the Triangle is to blame.

Dorothy has a friend in this city and through that friend learned of the Clamper hailing sign, she left hand to the ear. Immediately she commenced using the sign to her friends on every occasion. They demanded an explanation. She declared she had been made honorary member of E Clampus Vitas of Marysville, and was forced to use the hailing sign on every occasion.

Then the balance of the movie stars commenced using it. Arbuckle and Ritchie took it up, then Charlie Chaplin followed suit. So, when you recognize the hailing sign in the pictures, you'll know that pretty little

Dorothy was our booster in the film capital.

Dorothy is a strong booster for Northern California and generally manages to spend part of her vacation in the Sierras. It is her ambition to appear in a great production made in the Feather River canyon, and she has several good "locations" picked out for Producer Tom Ince when he finds time to bring his company up her a Clamper pin, out of gratitude

When the company does come, which may be some time this coming summer, Miss Dorothy will be made an honorary member in fact, but Tom Ince will have to take the initiation.

It is proposed to make Miss Dorothy an honorary member, and to send her a Clamper pint out of gratitude for her boosting for Northern California.

If the film is made in the Feather River Canyon, it will be one of the biggest boosts ever given to this part of the state, and will make Eastern people realize the true beauty of the Feather river and the Sierras.

Senior movie fans will find this reference to stars of sixty years ago nostalgic. But the Clampers of 1916 found the association and attention very gratifying.

CLAMPERS' RECREATION PARK IS NOW PROPOSED

At a recent meeting of a committee from the Marysville Lodge of E. Clampus Vitas No. 1, composed of Grand President L. B. Crook, Mat Arnoldy and C. A. Smith, the matter of improving the Western Pacific property south of the passenger depot on K street, was taken up, and according to the plans an ideal park will be made out of it, to be known as the Clampers' recreation park. A personal visit will be paid by a committee to be appointed to C. M. Levy

of the Western Pacific company in relation to the same. All the committee desires is a trespass permit to go ahead with the work with no expense whatever to the railroad company. The Clampers will have the property cleaned off and plant trees and shrubbery which will make it an ornamental spot in that section of the city. The Clampers are doing some good work and it is to be hoped that they keep on with it in the future as they have in the past.

The Clampers found a very popular project in this recreation park because at the time there was no adequate baseball grounds. They spent many Sundays cleaning and improving this Western Pacific land.

organize lodges of Clampers they will be required to secure sub-charters from the local lodge. The local lodge was incorporated as E. Clampus Vitus Lodge No. 1. It will not remain the only lodge long, as several other cities in the state intend to organize similar lodges and were waiting until they could secure a date to organize from the local order."

The good deeds of the Clampers in Marysville continued. Plans were made to send needy children to an Exposition in San Francisco. A special Northern Electric Train took the participants to and from the Exposition. The Clampers collected money from local business firms and they also assessed all their members 50 cents.

The Clampers continued to prepare for the celebration of the opening of the D Street Bridge on December 10, 1915. At a general committee meeting on November 30, many subcommittees were formed and headed by the following men: L. B. Crook, Fred Roberts, Chester Smith, Frank Bevan, W. H. Spillman, Ed Lewis, Art Brannan, C. A. Hedges, A. L. Galligan, Frank Roch, C. A. Smith, C. L. Bowen, William Brown, Ed Johnson, Jack Kelly, L. A. Smith, W. S. O'Brien, P. J. Delan, Harvey Eich, Walter Kynoch and W. M. Meek.

The Marysville Appeal, December 11, 1915, related some of the events of the dedication of the D Street Bridge.

"The big feature of the day began to burst forth at 1:30 p.m. when the Clampers, a thousand strong, gathered at 4th and D for the parade. Headed by the Band, the Clampers marched slowly down D Street to the music of a funeral dirge. Six honorary pallbearers carried the coffin on their shoulders... a hammer... the symbol of the knockers of the community. Hidden in their inner pockets were horns, still dusty from lack of use. A balky mule presented the symbol of

reluctance as metaphorically expressed by the hammer.... The line of march was directly to the speaker's stand.... In front of the stand High Priest Harry Hyde and President L. B. Crook of the Clampers performed the last rites over the 'remains' as the fire bell tolled its solemn note as Clampers filed by and dropped their hammers into the Drugy coffin which was hurled over the side of the bridge to its final resting place in the river."

Other towns were already asking for Clamper chapters in their areas. District Attorney Ray Manwell, stated that the Marysville Lodge would help organize a lodge in Oroville.... Lodge No. 2. "It would mean a great deal to this town to have a Clamper Lodge." On December 22, 1915, Zan Frye received a telegram from Grass Valley and a check for \$10.00 to pay the initiatory fee for four citizens of that town who hoped to form the nucleus for a branch lodge in that city. The applications were from B. A. Barton, Frank Bently, Bert Ashton and A. G. Doherty. Chico was also desirous of forming a branch lodge. L. A. Faulkner, former city attorney of Chico, declared that he was going to father a movement to have Lodge No. 3 organized there.

On Christmas Day, December 25, the Lodge Number 1 issued a formal Christmas Greeting and Proclamation:

Christmas Proclamation

To all members of E. Clampus Vitus wherever disposed over the globe..... Greetings:
Just a word on Christmas Morning
To wish you joy and cheer
May its happiness and pleasures
be with you all the year.
May you line up to the precepts of the order which is patriotism, love for our state, and a boost spirit.
In the coming new year, may you all be as loyal to the cause as you have been in the year just passing out and bear in mind always our slogan: "Bury the hammer and blow the horn."

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and prosperous
and happy New Year.

Yours fraternally
L. B. Crook

Grand President
Marysville Lodge No. 1
E. CLAMPUS VITUS

On January 7, 1916, at a meeting of Marysville Lodge No. 1, the application of Oroville Lodge No. 2 was presented with 500 signatures. The Charter was granted, and Thursday night, January 27, was the date selected by the Marysville Lodge to run an excursion to Oroville for the purpose of installing the new lodge. Other cities were also seeking charters. On the basis of petitions, Lodge No. 1 voted to have accepted Chico as Lodge No. 3. "Dr. Herbert Rodley and Louis Olkher, both members of the Marysville Lodge and both prominent residents of Chico, started the Clamper movement in that city and at this time they feel that they can raise at least 1000 members for Lodge No. 3. In Stockton, the Stockton Merchants' Association is also in favor of getting Stockton in line for a lodge. President L. B. Crook received a letter from A. F. Harder, managing editor of the Roseville Register, asking for information on a possible charter."

The Marysville Appeal, January 19, 1916, printed this quotation from the regular humorous column signed by J. Impson Weed: "When this Clamper movement started I didn't think it would amount to anything. But with a thousand members in Marysville, 600 more in Oroville, Chico applying for a charter, Stockton and Roseville going to apply, Grass Valley, Woodland, Willows and other cities interested, it seems as if it was destined to be the largest order in this part of the state. That's just what I object to.... it's getting so large and so powerful

that it's going to wake all Northern California up. I'll got so enthusiastic that I'll go to work. Sure I joined the Clampers.... as a humble private in the ranks... I've been offered no less than six jobs. I had hard work formulating excuses to refuse them. But if these Clampers keep on and insist on shooting energy juice into the whole population... I'll run out of excuses. When they keep these cities on the jump, the reflex action causes me to jump also. It's causing lots of us oldtimers to feel the unwanted sensation of youthfulness. We don't want to feel it. Somebody ought to be arrested."

The following is the official Ode adopted for E. Clampus Vitus, The song was composed by President L. B. Crook and will open and close the meeting of the Mother Lodge and will probably be adopted by other lodges:

OPENING ODE

Here come a bunch of Clampers.
They are several hundred strong;
The hammers they have buried
But the horns are there some strong.
Goodbye to all knockers, farewell everyone,
As a bunch of boosters and good fellows
You can bet on everyone.

CLOSING ODE

Our work we have completed;
The hewgag does not blow;
The spirit of good boosting we always hope to know.
And when we leave this meeting,
With our slogan in our minds,
We will boost for Northern California, so everyone
get in line.

Crook had 1000 copies of the Official Ode printed and distributed.

In preparation for the Oroville Celebration of their new chapter, Clamper Pins went on sale at Poole's Jewelers. Poole designed the pin which is of blue enamel showing the letters E.C.V. in gold ending

in a gold crab claw. Poole patented the design which is the official Clamper pin for this area."

The Marysville Appeal, January 28, 1916, told the story of the Oroville Initiation: "Five hundred cold Clampers stumbled out of the cars when the special train arrived at Oroville Thursday night, but the welcome they received from 500 more Clampers waiting for them soon thawed them out. The Oroville boys' band headed the parade. The members of Oroville Lodge No. 2 followed. Then came the official Clampers' Band, the only one in existence, followed by the officers and the Marysville Clampers. Grand President L. B. Crook and President-elect Frank Egan of Oroville marched in front and led the way accompanied by the standard-bearer."

"We entered a large exposition hall. Everything was in readiness for the installation of Oroville Lodge No. 2. First Installing Officer Edward Lewis formed a nominating committee of the Oroville Clampers. They gave him the list and Clampus Petrix Phil Divver and Clampus Vitrix Dick Barnett escorted the new officers to their seats as their names were called.

President Frank A. Egan was the first to be led to the altar of sacrifice. His entrance was greeted by enthusiastic cheers. Then some dirty work was shown. B. B. Meek wanted J. H. Dungan elected high priest. Dungan said Meek should have the honor. The two candidates were looked over. Both were tall. Meek had the highest altitude and more of a hop pole frame than Dungan. He was unanimously chosen.

The officers were escorted to their seats and the charge given them by Installing Officer Lewis.

After the closing ceremonies, the Marysville and Oroville Clampers fraternized over a splendid lunch furnished by Lodge No. 2 and when the Grand Lodge went to the train, it was accompanied by the new brothers and sent on its way with cheers."

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Newspapers provided the sources and Mr. Earl Ramey provided the action that made much of this local information available for this article.

MR. DAVID DUNLOP

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GLEANINGS

Marysville Appeal, July 27, 1881

A Disastrous Runaway

A pair of horses harnessed to a Chinese wood peddler's wagon ran down Seventh Street to D yesterday and down D to Fifth, coming to grief in front of Crook's grocery store. They got on the sidewalk at that point, and brought the wagon into violent collision with the awning posts. The canvas of the hanging awning was torn from top to bottom, and one or two of the posts displaced. The watering trough was also knocked out of position. The pole of the wagon was broken, both horses were badly cut and one of them had a hoof crushed. Two men were at work all day yesterday repairing

the damage to the awning, etc.

Marysville Appeal, August 17, 1881

A Slight Miscalculation

A man named Green, employed by D. E. Night, blew up a snag in the Feather yesterday with results rather surprising to himself. He had moored a raft in the river above the snag, and having fixed his giant powder cartridge in the snag, lighted the fuse and cast off his moorings, expecting that the current would swing the raft around the snag and carry the raft down stream out of danger. The force of the stream, however, carried the raft right over the snag and held it there. Green was obliged to plunge into the river and swim for his life to a boat nearby, which he reached in safety. When the charge of powder exploded it blew the snag and the raft to pieces. The tools which Green had on the raft are lost for good, as he was intoo much of a hurry to take them with him.

Marysville Appeal, August 12, 1881

A Fine Saddle -- W. L. Lawrence has just received a number of side-saddles. One of them is for Miss Trevethick of Oregon House. It was made in Hartford, and is covered with fine buckskin beautifully dressed and stitched. The saddle and bridle that goes with it cost together \$65.

Abe Schneider was a landmark in the history of Marysville for seventy years. Many organizations valued his membership not only for his musical ability but also for his warm camaraderie. The clampers fondly referred to him as the GRAND ORGANIST.

The item with reference to Mrs. Casey recalls a tragic event when Supervisor Casey was drowned when his automobile ran off the Brownsvalley grade landing upside down in a ditch filled with water.

SCHNEIDER COMPOSES A MARCH FOR THE CLAMPERS

"The March of the Clampers" has been composed by Grand Organist Abe Schneider of Marysville Lodge No. 1. He played it for the first time at the Knight Templars' ball at Masonic hall Friday night, and it was vigorously applauded.

The march composed by Schneider for the order will probably be adopted as the official march of the Clampers, to be played by the Clampers' official band when it accompanies the lodge on visits to other cities and when it holds celebrations here.

Schneider wishes to secure words to his march so that it can be sung by the members of the order while marching, and will have the music in shape for the verses in a few days. Just at present he has the orchestra parts written out, but has not yet polished it up into final shape.

The "March of the Clampers" is a stirring piece of music and one that will enable the marchers to keep time while following the band. Schneider will publish it later, and it will be on sale at all music stores in cities which have the Clampers' organization.

Schneider will demonstrate the "March of the Clampers" on the piano at the next meeting of the lodge, Friday, 11th. Then the boys will have a chance to hear the piece composed by their grand organist.

CLAMPERS NEW MARCH TO BE PLAYED AT LYRIC

Grand Organist Abe Schneider of the Clampers will be at the new orchestra piano at the Lyric theater Tuesday night, and will play his new "March of the Clampers" at that time. He has recently composed the march, and has played it at dances where it made considerable of a hit. He has also written words for the chorus which he will distribute at Friday night's meeting. The new orchestra piano was tried out by Schneider Sunday, and he was extremely pleased with it, declaring it to be one of the best of its kind he had ever used, and congratulating Manager Benham on its acquisition.

The new orchestra piano is not only a piano, but also contains drum, cymbal, flute, violin, and other attachments, making it almost a complete orchestra. Schneider says that when he plays his "March of the Clampers" on it that it will sound like a whole orchestra.

MRS. CASEY IS EXECUTRIX.

Mrs. Abigail P. Casey, widow of the late J. J. Casey, was appointed executrix of the estate of the latter in the superior court here Monday afternoon. The estate, which consists mostly of real property, is valued at \$6275. The will was made November 28, 1904, and bequeaths the entire estate to the widow with the exception of \$300, which is left to Mrs. Winifred Casey, mother of the deceased.