

Golden Nuggets

DECEMBER 2006

SCHS Presents

"Father Christmas" Dolph Gotelli Christmas Ephemera

Throughout the Victorian Home

Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 PM at SAMCC

Dolph Gotelli, also known as Father Christmas, presents a multi-media talk, drawing on his extensive collection of Christmas ephemera. Gotelli will elaborate on rituals and traditions dating from the Victorian era. Topics may include the holiday table, tree ornaments, parlor games and play time.

An internationally acclaimed collector, curator, designer and lecturer, Gotelli owns one of the nation's most extensive collections of Victorian Christmas ephemera, including cards, prints, tree decorations, toys, books and games. His 1976 "The Santa Show" was one of the first major exhibitions on St. Nicholas and his transformations in the 20th century. Another of his acclaimed exhibits, "Compliments of the Season," was shown in 2001 at the Crocker Art Museum. Gotelli's exhibitions have been seen at Neiman Marcus and other stores and in museums throughout the West. His articles have been widely published.

Gotelli is Professor Emeritus of Design at UC Davis, and Director Emeritus of its Design Museum, which he founded. Seating may be at a premium for this presentation so plan to arrive early.

Contemporary cross stitch pattern adapted from the Thomas Nast drawing, "Merry Old Santa Claus."

www.scarletquince.com



A Tasteful Evening To Remember

It's almost impossible to believe it is December already. What happened to November? The days have flown by so quickly partly because of the Society's special event—A Taste of History, held on November 17th at the Towe Auto Museum. This year, with our inclusion of many of the Sacramento area's historical and cultural associations and museums, it was more successful than ever!

I would like to extend a very special public THANK YOU to the following organizations for participating with us:

American River Natural History Association
California State Library Foundation
California State Railroad Museum
Camellia Symphony Orchestra
Carvalho Family Wines
Filipino American National Historical Society
Folsom History Museum
Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park
Governor's Mansion State Historic Park
League of Women Voters of Sacramento County
Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park
Michael-David Family of Wines
Museum of Medical History
Old Sacramento Schoolhouse Museum
Portuguese Historical and Cultural Society
Sacramento Archives & Museum Collection Center
Sacramento Art Deco Society
Sacramento Chinese Culture Foundation
Sacramento County Historical Society
Sacramento Old City Association
Shasta Linen Service
State Capitol Museum
Sutter's Fort State Historic Park
Towe Auto Museum
Westerners International

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Right: Scenes From A Taste of History, 2006

Top: Paul Hammond and Cathy Taylor promote the State Railroad Museum fare with dinner chimes. **Middle:** An artistic-and tasty-display from the Portugese Historical & Cultural Society. **Bottom:** The Art Deco Society turned out in full costume to welcome visitors.

Photos: Dr. Bob LaPerrière

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Let us also not forget the individuals who made the arrangements, promoted the event or facilitated the evening's set up. They included Dr. Bob LaPerriere, Becky Carruthers, Susan Ballew, Lisa Wire, Jim Henley, Rick Bettis, Alan O'Connor, Lois Dove, Shelly Atkinson, Cathy Taylor, Pati Brown, Dylan McDonald, Carson Hendricks, Kristin Elder, Sherry Hatch, Patricia Johnson, Pat Turse, Janice Kelley, Brent Rogers, Mory Holmes, Bill Gaylord, and John Allen. I really appreciate your efforts on behalf of the Society. Thank you!!

A certain California State Parks District Superintendent hinted broadly that she really liked the event and very much wanted to move A Taste of History to one of her museums next year—the one with locomotives and railroad cars. I plan to hold her to that.

I hope to see you at our last event of 2006 at SAMCC. You won't want to miss this one. I think you will find Dolph Gotelli's program both fascinating and fun! You have my best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

- Mary A. Helmich, President



Marcia Eymann to Head Sacramento History and Science Division

Marcia Eymann has been appointed Manager of the Sacramento History and Science Division, which includes the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center. She will report to work in mid-January. James Henley, who has been with the Division for over 42 years and its manager for 38 years, will stay on and develop an orderly transfer of duties between January and the fall of 2007.

Currently a private consultant, Eymann has been working in history museums for twenty years. For many years she was Curator of Photography in the History Department of the Oakland Museum California, where she worked on several major exhibits including "Gold Fever" and "California and the Vietnam War." She co-authored the books *Silver and Gold*, a comprehensive study of daguerreotypes from the California Gold Rush, and *What's Going On? California and the Vietnam Era*. Before coming to Oakland, she was at the Henry Ford Museum in Michigan.

Eymann is extremely well regarded by her peers and has previously worked with Jim Henley. She is currently house hunting in Sacramento with her husband and evaluating local schools for their daughter. We look forward to her arrival.



Coming from Oakland: The I Street Jail Cell



Going to Oakland: A Ghirardelli delivery wagon

SAMCC Comings & Goings

By Dylan McDonald

On Thursday, November 9th, a complicated transfer of museum artifacts between the Oakland Museum of California and the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center was completed. Returning to its home in Sacramento is a 6,000-pound jail cell, formerly housed in the original Waterworks Building on I Street. The building also once held city hall and the police station. The iron prison measures 15x9x10 feet and is actually two separate cells, complete with 1800s graffiti. A moving company specializing in transferring museum artifacts moved the giant iron box to SAMCC's storage facility at McClellan Park. With the help of a heavy-duty forklift and some persuasion, the cell is now back home in Sacramento. A Ghirardelli delivery wagon, once displayed at Old Sacramento's Discovery Museum, was then taken back to Oakland by the moving company, completing the moves.

Sacramento State students in Professor Robin Datel's Urban Geography course are documenting the history and development of Oak Park, Sacramento's first suburb. Focusing on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (formerly Sacramento Boulevard), the class looked through numerous records, including maps, photographs, city council minutes, tax records, and building permits. The research, along with their field work with local residents, will culminate in a walking tour brochure. Prof. Datel plans to share their findings with the city as it begins a streetscape study of the boulevard. For more information contact Datel at (916) 278-5320 or datel@csus.edu.

Alisa Austin, a graduate student at San Jose State University and an intern at SAMCC, recently completed organizing the Howe Family Collection. It consists of family letters, military information, political and religious items, newspaper articles, artifacts, photographs and memorabilia of the Howe and Sunderland families as well as other related families. The materials date from the 1850s to the 1990s. The Howe family includes four generations of educators, and former city attorney S. Luke Howe. A finding aid to the collection is available. Alisa completed her internship this past summer and now works as a Library Assistant at the Grass Valley Library. She graduates with a Masters degree in Library Science this month.

Recent donations to SAMCC include aerial photographs of the City of Sacramento taken in 1991 (donor: GIS Department, City of Sacramento); Boy Scouting material from Troop 1 (donor: Loren Hov); Sacramento area rock-n-roll music, photographs, and ephemera from the 1960s (donor: Joseph Dryfka); and photographs of the St. Louis Meat Market at 11th and H Streets from the late 1800s and early 1900s (donor: Mary C. Greeley). If you're thinking of donating items to SAMCC, call (916) 264-7072.

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Call Bill Gaylord, 489-6865

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GOLDEN NUGGETS

Pat Turse, Editorial & Layout
newsletter@sachistoricalsociety.org
Deadline: 20th of month

Out & About

Date	Time	Event	Place & Contact
December 6, 13, 20 Wednesdays, & Sunday, 17	Wednesdays 6-9 PM; Sunday 1:30-6 PM	Nevada City Victorian Christmas Old-fashioned holiday street fair takes over historic town core. Kids will enjoy a visit from Father Christmas on Sunday.	Historic downtown Nevada City Nevada City Chamber of Commerce 530-265-2692 or 800-655-NJOY www.nevadacitychamber.com
9 & 16 Saturdays	5-9 PM	Old Town Auburn Country Christmas 20th annual holiday fair; lantern lit streets with craft vendors, food, hayrides, carolers and even bonfires to keep you warm.	Old Town Auburn Free shuttle from Fairgrounds Information: 530-888-1585 www.oldtownauburnca.com
19 Tuesday	7 PM	"Father Christmas" Dolph Gotelli A multi-media program on Victorian Christmas Ephemera in the Home.	SAMCC, 551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd., off the Richards Blvd exit of Interstate 5. Information: 916-264-7073
January 23 Tuesday	7 PM	A Collector's Program SAMCC members and others bring out their private collections and share their knowledge. A fun evening!	SAMCC More details later.