

Golden Nuggets

April 2009

SCHS Presents
 William Burg
M Street and Sacramento's West End
Tuesday, April 28, 2009, 7:00 PM
 Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society
 Bldg. 5380 Elvas Ave, Sacramento



The Eagle Drugstore/Agnes Hospital, 1405 Fourth Street, was both a drugstore and a full-service hospital for the Japanese community. Druggist Tsunesaburo Miyakawa opened the facility in 1922 because he was dissatisfied with how Japanese were treated in Sacramento's hospitals. -Sacramento State University Dept. of Special Collections

Historian William Burg, newly elected president of SCHS, will present a historical perspective of the evolution of M Street/Capitol Avenue between the 1850s and the 1950s. Drawing on photos mostly from the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center (SAMCC), Bill will cover the area's early residential neighborhood—featuring the homes of prominent Sacramentans like Leland Stanford and Charles Crocker, the early industries near the waterfront, the development of Japanese community and later African-American neighborhoods. Finally, Bill will review the redevelopment era and the City Beautiful Movement.

This will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about Sacramento's legendary but long gone West End. Ample parking is available behind the building and along Elvas Ave. Please join us!



Above: Stage at the Mo-Mo Club, 600 Capitol Ave.
 -Colorformia magazine

Below: Japanese Methodist Church, 313 O St., Easter Sunday, 1918. - Sacramento State University Dept. of Special Collections



SCHS May Meeting
 featuring
Gary Kurutz

Moved to Tuesday, May 19th
 See Out & About, page 4, for details

Record Attendance for Awards of Excellence

By Pat Turse

Ninety people, including about a dozen past and present SCHS Board members who helped orchestrate the event, attended the Awards of Excellence dinner festivities last month. What recession? We were not expecting such a huge crowd, but reservations just kept pouring in. Tables were tightly packed, but spirits ran high. It was a very convivial group. Our congratulations to the award recipients, and our thanks to all who contributed to the evening.

A number of visitors came early to tour the Medical Museum, hosted by Dr. Bob LaPerrière. Assorted antipasti and some lovely wines, donated by Mary Helmich and Tom Herzog, preceded the meal. Susan Ballew spent hours ordering, picking up, and preparing the food, with some assistance from Mary Helmich. Thanks to Susan's efforts, dinner for 90 looked almost easy.

The awards presentation was emceed by SCHS President William Burg, who stepped into the job quite nicely in just the second week of his presidency. Hopefully photos of the award presentations will be in next month's newsletter. If not, they will be posted online in the coming weeks. Speaker Jim Dahlberg's presentation on historic crate label art of the Sacramento river Delta was excellent. (See highlights on page 3, shown in color on our web pages.) And his donation of posters as door prizes made four lucky people very happy.

Every good party benefits from the right setting, and the event décor especially deserves mention. Assembled by Mary Helmich from an assortment of objects she has collected over the years, the centerpieces reflected the agricultural theme. OK, they were chickens, to be precise. These weren't your fuzzy little Easter peeps either. They were large, colorful ceramic critters, some glazed in life-like hues, sitting on red and white checkered mats and lit by flickering red votives. It was quite chic—or should that be chick? Thanks to Shasta Linens, who donated the white and red table linens.

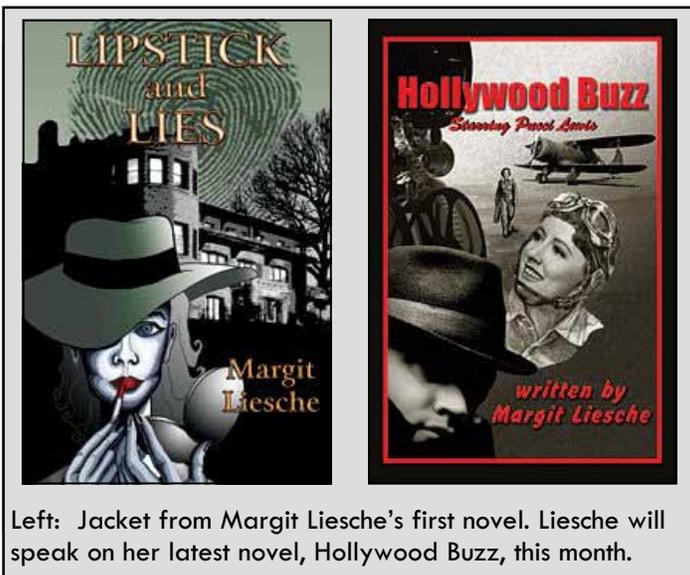
It was a very enjoyable evening, as we have come to expect annually. See you next year?

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Book Tour Coming to California Museum

Margit Liesche Blends History and Fiction

By Kelly Bitz & Pat Turse



Northern California writer Margit Liesche has developed an intriguing new series of adventure/mystery novels that blend World War II history

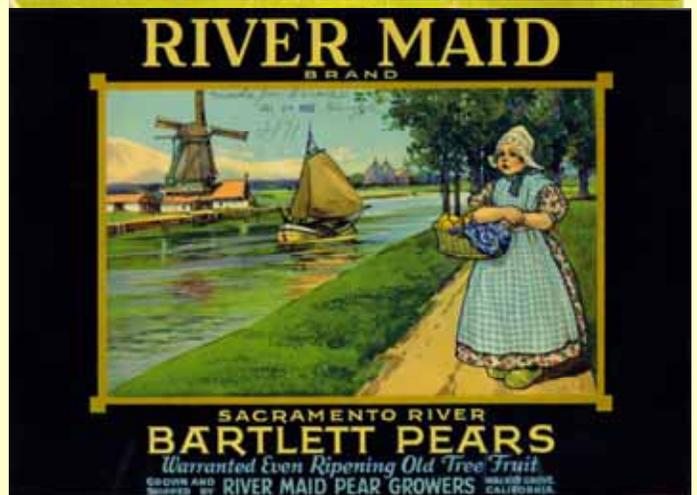
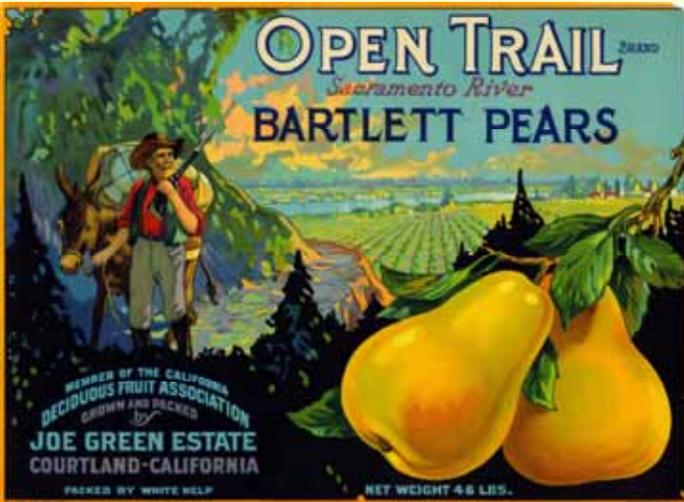
with fiction. Her young female heroine, Pucci Lewis, is a Women Airforce Service Pilot or WASP. Liesche's recently released second novel, *Hollywood Buzz*, is a "wide-eyed adventure packed with tidbits about aeronautics, vintage Hollywood and the war, honoring the underappreciated women who made such a difference," according to Kirkus reviews. On first look, these novels seem to leap beyond the bright, but definitely secondary, female driver character in the PBS *Foyle's War* series, opening a door to what one expects might be a wealth of women's World War II era history and historical novels. See and hear for yourself: Liesche will talk, show historical film clips, and sign books on April 30 at the California Museum. Details on page 4.

Newsletter Editor/Helper Wanted
For Golden Nuggets

Starting in September
Some Training Possible

news@sachistoricalsociety.org

A Selection of Jim Dahlberg's Full Color Fruit Labels
 Color versions at www.sachistoricalandsociety.org under Newsletter link



For those of you who missed the Awards of Excellence, and those who want another look at the true colors of these gorgeous labels, here's a little reprise of some of the more colorful ones. You'll have to go to the SCHS web pages to see the color, but then you can see what all the newsletters look like in color. The BIG GAME label (bottom left) stems from orchard owner Dennis Leary's fascination with the annual Stanford-Cal game excitement. Note that the football uniform looks like Stanford's cardinal and gold. The RIVER MAID label (lower right) is from 1933 and the Darsie and Gamble ranch, on Andrus Island, about four miles north of Isleton. It is the earliest of three similar River Maid versions in Jim Dahlberg's extensive collection, each one from different farms but with very similar "maids."

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Pat Turse, Editorial & Layout

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Please deliver by April 17, 2009

Out & About

| Date | Time | Event | Place & Contact |
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| APRIL 24 Friday | 5:30 to 8 PM | Dinner & Writer's Talk features California Mandarin cuisine pioneer Cecila Chiang. Her <i>Seventh Sister: My Culinary Journey from Beijing to San Francisco</i> offers classic recipes framed by her gripping life story of escape from the Japanese occupation of China. \$25 | Holiday Villa Restaurant 7007 South Land Park Sacramento, California RSVP to Karun Yee, 916-591-8181 or yee911@aol.com |
| 28 Tues through May 31 Sun | 90-minute tours every 30 min., 9 AM to 12:30 PM | Feats of Clay This is year number 22, and it may not last forever. Tour working Gladding McBean terra cotta factory, see clay competition pieces, more. Minimum visitor age is 10. | Get tickets from Lincoln Arts 580 Sixth St., Lincoln, CA 95648 916-645-9713 www.lincolnarts.org/featsofclay.htm |
| 30 Thurs | 6:00 PM | Hollywood Buzz Talk & Book Signing Author Margit Liesche presents documentary film clips on the Women Airforce Service Pilots and related WWII era clips and discusses her latest Pucci Lewis military mystery. | California Museum 1020 O Street, Sacramento 916-653-7524 www.californiamuseum.org/visit/events |
| MAY 19, THIRD Tues in May | 7:00 PM | SCHS Presents: Knights of the Lash California State Library Director of Special Collections, Gary Kurutz, will deliver his much-anticipated talk—postponed from last fall—on some of the colorful characters who were stage drivers of the Old West. | Sierra Sacto. Valley Medical Society bldg. 5380 Elvas Ave., Sacramento SCHS Message phone: 916-443-6265 Directions to SSVMS: www.ssvms.org/directions.asp |