

Slickens
BUTTE COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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July/August
2023
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BUTTE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

buttecountyhistory.com visit us on Facebook buttehistory@sbcglobal.net

Upcoming Events

Yard Sale Fundraiser: Saturday, September 2nd
9 am to 2 pm. At the Ehmann Home
1480 Lincoln Street in Oroville

Join us on Saturday, September 2nd as we hold a Yard Sale fundraiser for BCHS. We have lots of cool stuff that has been donated, and we can assure you there will be something there to interest you.

As in the past, this event is held in conjunction with the Mile Long Yard Sale in downtown Oroville. Be sure to visit us and support us in our mission to preserve Butte County History!

If you have items to donate please contact us at (530)-533-9418



Movie Night at the Oregon City School
Saturday, September 9th
Movie starts at 7 pm.
Suggested donation of five dollars.

Join us at the historic Oregon City Schoolhouse for an outdoor showing of the 80's spooky movie *Children of the Corn*.

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and snacks. We will have bottled water available.

The Schoolhouse will be open to tour from 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Please remember, the Schoolhouse and grounds are no-smoking areas.



The History of the Thermalito Colony and Rancho Golden:
*, From Showcase Commercial Citrus Grove to Post WWII
Veterans Housing Development.*

Saturday, October 14th at the BCHS History Center
1749 Spencer Avenue, Oroville California. 2 pm to 3:30 pm

Mark Karr will discuss the economic conditions of the late 19th century that prompted local business leaders to seek reliable sources of revenue, leading to the development of Oroville's nationally famous citrus industry and eventually, to development of affordable housing for veterans of World War Two.

Watch for more information on this program in our September Slickens



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*Joining the Butte County
Historical Society*

BCHS is primarily supported by memberships and donations from the people and the friends of Butte County and receives no direct government funding. Membership in BCHS is open to all.

Members receive:

- Slickens (monthly newsletter)
- The Diggin's (quarterly publication)
- 10% discount on museum store purchases
- Early notice of BCHS programs and activities

BCHS PROPERTIES

Ehmann Home
1480 Lincoln, Oroville
(Temporarily Closed)
530-533-9418

Museum - Archives
Corner of Spencer and Baldwin
Oroville
530-533-9418

Museum
Friday from 9 am - Noon
Saturday from 11 am - 3 pm

Archives
Thursday and Friday
9 am - Noon

Oregon City School
2100 Oregon Gulch Road
Oregon City, CA

530-533-9418

Bangor Church
5730 LaPorte Road, Bangor, CA
Noon to 2 pm on 1st & 3rd Saturday
Closed: Dec., Jan., Jul. and Aug.
530-679-2112

BCHS Membership Application

Check one:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	(\$35)	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	(\$55)
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	(\$45)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	(\$105)
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior	(\$30)	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization	(\$35)
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Family	(\$40)		

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Mail with your check to: BCHS, P. O. Box 2195, Oroville, CA 95965

Ehmann Home Rehabilitation Project



Old buildings, which are such a vital part of BCHS, need constant work to maintain them. With limited funds, this can present challenges. In order to keep ahead of the curve, it has been determined that roof and other building inspections are a necessity so that the distribution of available dollars is more efficient.

There are already plans in place to do significant work on the Ehmann Home over the next five years and, possibly longer, depending on the extent of repairs needed and availability of funds.

To date we have approved expenditure of approximately 3,000 dollars for termite control and 9,000 dollars to replace the damaged pipes that provide water to the home This includes removal and replacement of a section of City sidewalk. These repairs should allow us to re-open the downstairs of the home for regularly scheduled tours and some events. The next phase will tackle the larger problems.

Our goal in this fundraising campaign is to raise 100,000 dollars. These funds will begin the process of rehabilitating the home to the extent that the upstairs could be re-opened. The funds will be used for:

- Professional assessment of our interior plumbing and electrical needs.
- Assessment of the number of windows that need to be repaired or replaced.
- To the extent possible, an evaluation of termite damage and dry rot that needs to be remediated. It is nearly impossible to put a number on the cost of these repairs until the walls are actually opened.
- Development of plans and engineering for the repairs and Matching funds for grants to assist in this process and aid in purchase of materials for repairs.

Watch for future news of the Ehmann Home Rehabilitation Project in our Newsletter “Slickens”. On our BCHS and the Ehmann Home Facebook pages.

The Olive Festival Committee thanks all those who supported this year’s event.
Thanks to all the vendors, volunteers, raffle sponsors and members who participated
in the 2023 Butte County Olive Festival

Raffle Sponsors

Bell Carter Foods Lindsay Olive
California Olive Ranch
Home Depot Oroville
Feather Falls Casino
Sohnrey Family Foods
Hodge’s Family Nursery
The Lavender Ranch
Edward Jones / Natalie Williams
Corning Chamber of Commerce
Maisie Janes



Event Sponsors

BCOE- Butte County Office of Education
Bell Carter Foods Lindsay Olives
The Olive Pit
Ben’s Toilet Rentals
Rental Guys
Recology
Mooretown Rancheria
Unforgettable Bridal Boutique
Auraville Collective Healing Arts Festival
Hilltop Treasures and More – Auburn

The Research Corner

By Nancy Brower



City directories are one of the most used reference sources at the Archives. I was reminded of that this past week when I fielded a question asking about the names of the 5 and 10 cent stores in downtown Oroville in the 1950s. A brother and sister were fairly sure that they were Rasco's and Ben Franklin, but they wanted confirmation for a personal reminiscence. The city directory provided that. This led to a further question from the same party regarding the businesses that occupied the area where the Oroville Raley's is now located. Previously Currier Bros. (Raley's predecessor in Oroville) was located in a different position on the property. A check of the city directory revealed that Gibson's Pharmacy, Woolworth's, a beauty salon, a coin laundromat, and Gallenkamp's Shoes were arrayed down one side of the lot. Over the passage of time it can become difficult to remember exactly what was located where when the building configuration has changed.

And then there is the issue of changing street names. A frequent one involves the former name of Oro Dam Blvd. in Oroville. Obviously that wasn't always its name. Those who moved to this area after the development of Oroville Dam frequently don't realize that until the mid-1960s what we know as Oro Dam didn't exist between Lincoln Blvd. and the Marysville Highway (now Feather River Blvd.) The Richter brothers bulldozed the road in, and development quickly followed.

As I've mentioned in a previous article, city directories are ideal for locating people. Early city directories provide not only names, but also occupations. Husbands and wives are generally both included, in addition to adult children living in the family home. The directories can help track the arrival or departure of individuals from an area, particularly in the ten year period between censuses. So don't forget city directories for help with both business and family research. The Archives has a significant collection covering multiple decades. Unfortunately, the earliest directory wasn't published until 1907. There is an 1881 directory, but it has very limited information.

The BCHS Mission
is to preserve Butte County's rich and varied history, making it engaging and meaningful for all.

Board Meets at the Butte County History Center the
2nd Wednesday at 7 pm

2023 Officers

President - Larry Tracy
Vice President - Dale Wangberg
Vice President, Finance - Larry Mauch
Secretary - Sandy Brodrick
Treasurer - Janet Bertagna

Board Members at Large

Marjorie Daley
Dixie Hargrove
Lynsea Wells
Peggie Adamson
Daniel Ballard
Dorothy Lindsay

Past President

Kent Fowler

Publications Staff

Diggin’s - Nancy Brower
Slickens - Dale Wangberg

Welcome!

New Members

Marybeth Wuerthner - Chico
Bruce & Mary Ann Aldrich - Oroville
Robbin McMaster - Cherokee
Janet Kelly - Oroville

Save the Date !

September 2: Yard Sale!

September 9: Movie night at Oregon City

**October 14: History presentation
by Mark Karr**

**November 18: Annual Members meeting and
program. TBA**