



## Agricultural History Project

# Good Neighbor

Volume 25, Issue 2

www.aghistoryproject.org

June 2011

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Jim Scurich  
Felix Ybarra

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John Kegebein,  
**CEO**

Pat Johns,  
**Codiga Center &  
Museum Director**

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Joellen Bruce, **Editor**

### Contributors to this issue:

Fred Chamberlain, Georgeann  
Eiskamp, Lynne Grossi, Pat Johns,  
John Kegebein, Jennifer Lemon,

### Codiga Museum Hours:

**Thursday - Sunday**

**12 - 4 p.m.**

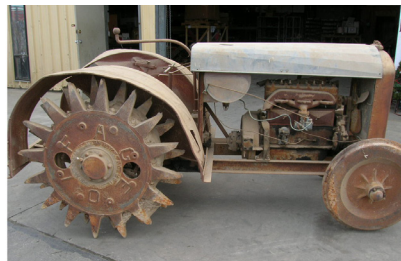
Other Days/Hours by

Appointment

**724-5898**

## The Fageol Tractor

When visitors come to the Agricultural History Project, one thing that they leave with is the sense of a *quality* collection. A perfect example of this is the magnificent Fageol tractor which is now being restored in the shop, at the Snyder Barn. This incredibly unique, and rare, tractor was donated to A.H.P. by Laura and Tom Rider, and its limited production numbers, make it a treasure to have in the museum. Built in 1919, this tractor was manufactured in San Jose with an alien set of back wheels. Please understand that in this picture, the tractor is



shown stripped down, and *without* fenders. The standard fenders would cover half the wheel on the driver's side, obviously protecting the operator.

Advertised as the "walking tractor", it was said to be able to go just about anywhere and walk over any ground. It had two gears, one forward and one backward, no clutch, and Barney has yet to figure out, where they put the airbag! Air conditioning was a standard feature on this particular model, but there wasn't any Tom-Tom, seat belt, roll bar or anti-lock braking system. The power for the machinery was a 4 piston, Lycoming engine, and the total weight was about 3,600 pounds! The end of the line for the Fageol tractor was 1923, so you can see that with few sales, and a limited production run, this is a rare California tractor. The owner's manual gets the last word on driving safety tips: *"To start the tractor moving with the motor running, take the operators seat. Place both hands on gearshift lever bar. Press both clutch pedals down as far as they will go, then, to go into forward gear, push right hand forward and pull with left. Do this with a quick motion to avoid rasping gears. Allow the clutches to come up evenly and the tractor should get away in a straight line."*

--Fred Chamberlain

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## Notes from Board President Rider

Changing of the guard.....

The past two years have gone by really quickly! It's time for new officers and board members.

First, thank you to board members going off the Board. Dennis Howell and Barney Stephens said they will still be around; Barney as a restorer of all things wood and maker of beautiful new wood items, a tractor driver and anything else in need of doing, Dennis as a field hand for Day on the Farm and a much needed member, and perhaps Chair, of the Endowment Committee.

Coming onto the Board are two new faces: Rosemarie Imazio and Felix Ybarra. New to the Board, but not the valley, both have lived here most of their lives and are, or were, involved with agriculture.

Two returning faces will join the Board: Chuck Allen and Allan Molho.

George Erickson will take over as President, with Fred Chamberlain as Vice president.

If you see *any* of these folks around town, please say thank you to them.

As Immediate Past President, I won't be going far either! Two years seems like a long time, but there are some loose ends that need to be tied up...how to get more youth involved in AHP, a roof over the tractors seats and there is a cone shaped wooden tool that John K. and I don't agree on what it is for: rope making or mashing tomatoes? That is the short list!

Perhaps what helped the two years go by quickly was the help I had and the folks I got to hang out with...caring folks with a common goal, respectful of each other's ideas, with varied and interesting back grounds with a willingness and knowledge to just get in and get things done. Thank you to them all, it made my job easier and fun!

--Laura Rider

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## Codiga Corner

### Watsonville.patch.com

Do you have access to the internet? Have you discovered the new local news service called Watsonville.patch.com? They are giving excellent coverage to AHP and other local non-profits for their activities. They also cover local news and businesses. Give them a try.

### Wataman Vegetable Label

Do you have or know of anyone who has an original of the Birbeck "Wataman" label? This is the one label in AHP's Fruit and Vegetable label collection (excluding the separate apple label collection) where we only have a copy of the label. If you know someone who would consider donating an original label to AHP, we would greatly appreciate it.

### E-newsletter

Would you like to assist AHP with containing mailing costs and printing costs associated with this newsletter? You have the option of receiving this newsletter electronically. The newsletters are posted to our website [www.ahghistoryproject.org](http://www.ahghistoryproject.org). When a new newsletter is published you will receive an e-mail notice then you can go to the web site to read the newsletter.

### Castro Adobe Lunch Drawing

Ag History Project and Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks are again partnering in making a special opportunity available to our supporters. You have the opportunity to win a drawing for lunch for 20 at the restored Castro Adobe near Watsonville. The Adobe is not currently open to the general public. Lunch, courtesy of Monterey Bay Caterers, will be served in the beautiful enclosed courtyard. The special menu, based on old Californio meals, will be created by Ken Schwan. This special event will be held on Sunday April 22, 2012. Tickets are \$100 and only \$100 will be sold. Tickets may be bought using the form in this newsletter. There is no limit to the number of tickets an individual may purchase. Get a group together to purchase a ticket/tickets if you prefer. In addition to a memorable lunch, you and your group will get a tour of the Adobe by Castro descendant Charlie Kieffer. The restoration efforts completed to date are remarkable. All proceeds from this drawing will be split evenly between Friends of Santa Cruz Parks for Castro Adobe restoration and the Agricultural History Project. We would love to sell out our tickets early. Drawing winner will be announced at AHP's Harvest Dinner on November 12, 2011.

-- Pat Johns

## From the CEO

We are well underway with the construction of the Borina Tractor and Equipment Interpretive Building. The foundation and cement pad have been poured and finished. The approaches to the building should be finished by the time you receive your newsletter. The Metal Frame of the building is to be delivered some time during the second week of July. The building will be erected with volunteers and that could start some time in August with a completion date of April of 2012.

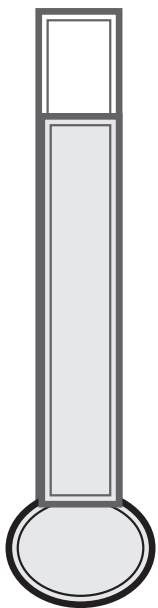
Every one is excited about getting this new building on line. When this new building is completed it will give more room to properly display the equipment and give more room to preserve additional artifacts.

The Capital Campaign has been moving along and we have reached about 75% of our goal. The campaign is not only to build the new building, but to put money aside for future maintenance of all of the buildings and to build new exhibits in the Codiga Center and Museum and also to develop exhibits around the use of the machinery we have in the collection.

There is still an opportunity for you to donate to the Capital Campaign. If you would like to learn more on how you can donate to this project please feel to contact the office and I will be happy to meet with you, show you the site and how we would be using your donation. All money received from the Capital Campaign will be used for the construction of the building, exhibits and maintenance of the facilities. None of the monies donated will be used for salaries as we are we all volunteers dedicated to preserving the History of Agriculture on the Central Coast of California. Donors will be recognized on the recognition board in the entrance to the Codiga Center and Museum. \$600,000

\$756,032 - pledged and received

*Capital Campaign*



*(continued from column 1)*

I would like to update you on the Endowment that we have with the Santa Cruz County Community Foundation. A decision by the Board of Directors of the Agricultural History Project in 1986 was that all life membership would be held in an endowment until such time that the total amount reached a certain level and then the interest would be used for projects established by the Board of Directors. Until 2009 the funds were held in a CD at First National Bank in Watsonville. As time went on, it was a concern by many people that a CD is not an endowment and could be spent with the majority vote of the Board of Directors.

After much deliberation (two years) it was finally decided that the money should be endowed with the Community Foundation. By endowing the life memberships means that at no time can the principle ever be spent, only the interest accumulated.

In 2010 the Board of Directors agreed to let the endowment grow to three million dollars and then at that time the Agricultural History Project would start drawing from the endowment to be used to enhance the Mission of the Agricultural History Project.

The return, even in this down economy has earned us over five percent, meaning that if you are a Life Member you continue to contribute to the Agricultural History Project. If you would like to learn more on how you can be a life member or just contribute to the Agricultural History Project's endowment with the Santa Cruz County Community Foundation, please call the office at 831 724 5898 and I will personally talk to you on how you can help in continuing to tell the story of Agriculture on the Central Coast of California.

*--John*

### **Capital Campaign Contributions**

Would you like to be able to make on-going contributions—monthly or quarterly—to AHP for the Capital Campaign without the hassle of needing to remember to write a check? Now you can do that. AHP now has the ability to set-up a re-occurring charge to your credit card. You decide what amount you want to contribute and it is charged to your credit card on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the designated months. If you are interested, please contact the AHP office at 831-724-5898 to sign up.

## ACCESSIONS

10/16//2010 -6/10/2011

**Trina Coffman-Gomez:**

Grizich Apple label

**Jake Dellamonica:**

Horse drawn IHC Deering Giant New Ideal hay mower

**Frank & Loretta Estrada:**

2010 California Brand Book

**Nic & Jennifer Keiderling:**

Vin-Max Puff Iron

**Gary Stubblefield:**

Book - "The Operation and Repair of Farm Machinery"

Salesman's sample of a wood baling machine

**Featured Board Member:****Jim Scurich**

Jim is probably one of the last of the youngest "old timers" when it comes to the intersection of ranching and farming in the Pajaro Valley. If you didn't see him in the corrals around Porter's or Kelley's or some other ranch, then you would most likely find him in the orchards along Silliman Road...getting work done in the middle of the night! There's not a soul on Earth that can say that Jim wasn't, or isn't a hard worker.

It has been rumored that when Jim Scurich was born, he was wrapped up in a golden silk sheet and placed on a drying rack, to dry with the rest of the apricots. Now, you may think that this is a bunch of baloney, but there is only one person that I know of, that grew and produced the finest dried apricots in all of the Pajaro Valley, and that was Jim and his magnificent mother, Madeline. He would often grouse about the cost of producing dried apricots versus what he made in return...and he probably was right! However, they were the best apricots to be found anywhere because they were handled traditionally, as the old timers would have done it. One year, a blight had blown through the area and killed most of Jim's trees, so out went the apricots and in went apples.

Here is a typical scene about Jim . It takes place at his shed at the intersection of Carlton and Thompson. A friend drives in to "b.s." and in the process, information about a particular subject in the Valley is exchanged. During that time, another truck may appear and another conversation may go on, and more information will be exchanged until by the end of the day, if there is an end to Jim's day, the current news of the day will have ended up in Jim's yard. It would be as if Jim were the switchboard for the Pajaro Valley! On one hand, it's just part of the day. On the other hand, it's an intricate form of networking or community linkage that doesn't seem to exist in today's electronic world. All this to say that as quiet and humble as Jim is, he's got more information about a wide variety of events than you would be led to believe.

Whether it's hunting or riding a Harley or driving trucks or taking a 'tiger cruise' somewhere, Jim Scurich has a full life and one that might not be recognized at first glance. And isn't that how the Pajaro Valley is? The A.H.P. is fortunate to have him on board.

--Fred Chamberlain

**Mark your Calendar****July**

4th.....Watsonville Parade

5th.....AHP Board Meeting, 7 .m.

16th.....Como Del Rodeo Parade, Salinas

**August**

2nd.....AHP Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

**September**

2nd - 4th.....Watsonville Fly-In

3rd.....Clean-up for Yesterday's Farm

6th.....AHP Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

10th.....Set-up for Yesterday's Farm

13 -18th.....Yesterday's Farm



For information about what's happening at the Agricultural History Project, become a fan of our Facebook Page today!

**AHP Needs**

- ✓ Oil for the tractors, 30 wt.
- ✓ Anti freeze for the tractors
- ✓ 50' garden hose
- ✓ Volunteers for Yesterday's Farm
- ✓ Garbage Cans



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## Sign Up for Yesterday's Farm

The Santa Cruz County Fair is fast approaching, September 13-18<sup>th</sup>, and with it the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual production of Yesterday's Farm! This year's theme "Dancing With the Steers for 200 Years" celebrates the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of fairs in the United States. Fairs were started as a community event to gather with family and friends to share information on agricultural inventions and improvements. AHP's Yesterday's Farm showcases what life was like 50-75 years ago when families worked together on the farm to grow and process food for their tables. It also answers fairgoers questions, such as "what's growing under those plastic hoops?"

There will be old favorites, in Claudia's Kitchen, Fred Silva's draft horses, the tractor show, and the nightly tractor parade. We invite you to become a part of the action and help welcome visitors to the AHP site and activities.

AHP site cleanup will be Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30 AM till 2:00 PM and setup for the Fair will be Saturday and Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30 AM. Come out and help us get ready for the fair!

Volunteers are needed for three-hour shifts during Fair operating hours. Fair admission and parking will be provided. We hope to do some simple demonstrations during the shifts, such as rope making, making butter, simple crafts, or ice cream in a bag. AHP will provide all the supplies we just need your help to involve interested fair goers! Wednesday and Thursday are education days this year and we need extra help with the morning shifts, so that all the students can be accommodated. Please indicate the shifts below that you would be interested in participating in and if you would like to help with a demonstration.

Please return this form to:  AHP, PO Box 1181, Watsonville, CA 95077

Tuesday, Sept. 13	Wednesday, Sept. 14	Thursday, Sept. 15	Friday, Sept. 16	Saturday, Sept. 17	Sunday, Sept. 18
Noon - 3 PM	9 AM - Noon	9 AM - Noon	Noon - 3 PM	10 AM - 1 PM	10 AM - 1 PM
3 - 6 PM	Noon - 3 PM	Noon - 3 PM	3 PM - 6 PM	1 PM - 4 PM	1 PM - 4 PM
6 - 9 PM	3 - 6 PM	3 - 6 PM	6 - 9 PM	4 PM - 7 PM	4 PM - 7 PM
	6 - 9 PM	6 - 9 PM		7 PM - 10 PM	

Note Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2010-11 Memorials & Donations

*Donations received 2/13/110 - 6/10/11*

The Ag History Project is grateful for the following memorials:

### **Paul Davis**

Bill & Cloy Codiga

### **Mary A. Fisher**

John J. Fisher

### **Bonnie Hagerty**

Nita Gizdich, Dorothy Bassmann, Frand & Loretta Estrada, Jack & Fran Osorio, Ken & Anne Dabler, Bill & Roberta Dodge, Diane & Don Cooley, Harry & Marguerite Bloom, Emil Yappert, Pat Michielssen

### **Bill Hayes**

Margaret Gnehm

### **Pat Hayes**

Margaret Gnehm

### **Gerry Hayes**

Margaret Gnehm

### **John Hayes**

Margaret Gnehm, Clint & Karen Miller, Frances Heick

### **Kats Hirahara**

Betty Vyeda

### **Helen Lauesen**

Bill & Cloy Codiga

### **Don Perlenda**

Emil Yappert

### **Norman Perryman**

Janet Meidl, Ethlyn Miller, Will Regan & Lee Ann Shankman, Brin Jack

### **Bob Sanford**

Karl & Charlotte Hackamack

### **Marie Skov**

Nita Gizdich, Elden & Renee Hansen, Chem Nut, Inc., Aurelia Bozzo, Pat Johns, The Jensen Family, Richard & Mary Travis, Ron & Gingi Kinninger, Charlie & Pat Mignola

### **Chester Turley**

Bill & Cloy Codiga

### **Walter Wright**

Pat Michielssen, Dennis & Mimi Woolen

~~~~~

## Celebrating Donations

### **Nic Keiderling Birthday**

Betsy & Chuck Teller

### **Frank & Loretta Estrada - 50th Anniversary**

Tim & Jody Akimoto

John & Jeannie Kegebein

## NEW (\*) AND RENEWING MEMBERS

10/1610 - 6/10/11

### **Benefactor**

Don & Lynette Allen

### **Sustaining**

Doug & Janice Buessing

Phillip Dexter

Fred Mossbarger

Stuart Yamamoto & Pilar Marien

Slavic American Cultural Organization

### **Family**

Jane Borg

Calvin & Jennifer Carr

Kathleen Dias

Joe & Donna Edward

Ken & Kathleen Escobar

Sharon Feuerborn

Rich Kirby

Pat & Alice Lewis

Tim & Linda Lorenzen

Richard & JoAnn Petznick

Roger & Dorris Pryor

Tom & Laura Rider

Richard & Mary Travis

### **Individual**

Marilee Alaga

Ellen Christie

Joydell Clark

Donna Cornell

John Fisher

Joe & Marcella Hall

Frances Heick

Mildred Hoffman

Marilyn Hyde

Mary Ellen Irons

Lorraine Jurach

Donald Love

Mary Ellen Martinelli

Pat Michielssen

Kathy Moe

Kathy Silva

Carl Watkins

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*Santa Cruz County Bank*

## Harvest Dinner set for November 12th

November and AHP's annual fundraiser, the Harvest Dinner, are just around the corner! As the sun finally begins to heat the Pajaro Valley fields, we look back over the last two months and realize how lucky we were to have some of the best spring weather during our Easter on the Farm and Day on the Farm events. We now look forward to Yesterday's Farm at the Santa Cruz County Fair September 13-18<sup>th</sup> and AHP's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Dinner on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Harvest Dinner committee, led by co-chairs Georgeann Eiskamp and Jennifer Lemon, began meeting and planning in January. There are a lot of great ideas to carry forward with this year's theme: "Preserving the Past, Building for the Future." The committee is seeking donations for both the silent and live auctions. AHP has traditionally been known for unique and sometimes old silent auction items. If you would like to make a donation, please call Georgeann (831-254-2111) or Jennifer (831-840-2241) or drop the item off at AHP during museum hours, Thursday through Sunday from noon to 4:00 pm.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Harvest Dinner on November 12<sup>th</sup>—more details will be available very soon.

## Day on the Farm a Huge Success

Thank you volunteers! Over 70 volunteers made the 2011 Day on the Farm on May 21<sup>st</sup>, a huge success. There was excitement from start to finish. A tractor fire in the field had the crew scrambling during setup; fortunately the problem was only a partially built bird nest next to the muffler and was quickly extinguished. The day ended with round of "Happy Birthday" and cake for Sam Gurnee who celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday by Sam and friends bringing antique cars to enhance the Day on the Farm views.

The cars and AHP's tractors held a parade through the fairgrounds to entertain diners enjoying the delicious St. Louis Rib BBQ being cooked and served by the Santa Cruz County Fair Heritage Foundation.


There were chicks, dairy goat kids, Mr. Bunny, and Star, the heifer, along with AHP's contented cows to entertain curious youngsters. Fred Silva's Clydesdale team pulled the wagon that took visitors to the field to watch hay mowing, raking, loading and baling demonstrations. You could even grab a wooden fork and help the crew move the hay.

On the AHP site, the volunteers helped visitors try their hand at making ice cream, butter, rope, candles and carving a wooden bowl. You could take a break and try some old fashioned games, make an animal visor or cornhusk doll. In the Codiga Center, the Apple Piecers sewed together the brightly colored quilt squares designed visitors.

Visitors also had the opportunity to learn more about honey bees, shoeing a horse, and weaving cloth as volunteers demonstrated these activities. At the Porter Building the cheese samples disappeared as fast as the cheese maker could produce another batch!

Miguel, age 4 ½, was the overall winner in the Toy Tractor Pull by moving six bricks. Over in the tractor arena Lindly Howes with 115 points outscored the other tractor drivers to win the tractor rodeo and cheers from fans. Thanks to C&N Tractors for providing the Kubota tractors!

Save June 2, 2012 for Day on the Farm next year!



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### AHP MISSION STATEMENT

*The Agricultural History Project (AHP) honors and promotes knowledge about agriculture on the Central California Coast, both past and present.*

*AHP preserves, exhibits, collects and builds community awareness of the economic, cultural and ethnic aspects of agriculture in the area.*

### JOIN AHP...enjoy members-only benefits and support ag history!

Yes, I/We will support the Agricultural History Project in the membership classification checked below:

Name or Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL:**  Regular (\$30 per year)

Sustaining (\$100 per year)

Benefactor (\$500 per year)

Life (\$1,000)

**FAMILY:**  Regular (\$40 per year)

Sustaining (\$100 per year)

Benefactor (\$500 per year)

Life (\$1,000)

**STUDENT:**  (\$20 per year)

**BUSINESS:**

Regular (\$250 per year)

Benefactor (\$500 per year)

Life (\$1,000)

**Donations to AHP are tax deductible. ID # 77-0165945**

Clip and mail to: AHP, P. O. Box 1181, Watsonville, CA 95077