

Clarke Historical Museum

Spring 2012
Quarterly Publication

AN EXCITING MYSTERY...

On Saturday, May 5th the Clarke Historical Museum is holding its first annual Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball at the Eureka Woman's Club located at 1531 J Street in Eureka. This event is sure to be a great deal of fun! The price of admission includes a buffet dinner, a performance by the Ooh La La Girls, and a professionally directed murder mystery. Dinner, music and a show for only \$50, and all proceeds go to the Clarke Historical Museum. To get in the spirit of the event feel free to dress in any costume, and masks will be provided free of charge for those who would like one. Also part of the festivities is a silent auction, featuring great prizes from local businesses. To quench your thirst, a cash bar will also be available. Doors open at 7 PM and the show runs to 10 PM. For tickets or more information please call the Clarke at 707-443-1947. Hope to see you there... if you dare!



Help us advertise this event. Please tell your friends!

EDWARDIAN TEXTILE EXHIBIT



The Clarke has a new textile exhibit up featuring the clothing of May Pearsall. Born in Eureka in 1874 as Hettie May Wilson, she married Clarence E. Pearsall in 1898. The couple became wealthy through timber sales around this time. The Pearsalls lived in a house on Second Street, today home to the Looking Glass Restaurant. This magnificent collection of clothing from the 1910s to the 1930s reflects the family's wealth.

The Clarke Museum thanks the Petitt family for donating this fantastic collection as very few items of clothing from this era have survived. The quality of materials, care and styling that went into this collection is simply amazing. Clothing such as the lace afternoon dress, the pink silk tea dress, green wool opera coat and two-

piece worsted wool riding suit clearly demonstrates that May Pearsall was an elegant and stylish woman of exquisite taste. How lucky we are to be stewards of this fine collection.

The Mission of the Clarke Historical Museum is the acquisition, preservation and educational display of objects relating to the history of Eureka and Humboldt County, in order to further appreciation by residents, visitors and school children of the area's rich and diverse heritage, and to promote increased visitation to our historic region.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The President's letter is a new addition to the quarterly newsletter. To begin, a special thank you to all the board members who have fulfilled their terms and have stepped down: Jeff Bowser, Shirley Laos, Chuck Petty, Roy Sheppard and Ann Sullivan—thank you very much for all the great work over the years. Also, a warm welcome to our newest board members Dina Fernandez, Ron Johnson, Mary Jane Risling and Mariah Wellman.

Since 2008 and the ensuing recession, the Clarke has been forced to drastically reduce its overall budget, which primarily fell on reducing payroll. The Board and staff send a heartfelt thank you to Pam Service for her 12 years of hard work and wish her all the luck in the future. To help address the budget shortfall, I'm pleased to announce the newest annual fundraiser for the Clarke Museum, the **Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball** on May 5th. Along with the annual **Salmon Barbeque** in August, many smaller events are planned throughout the year, so keep checking the Clarke's website for upcoming events.

The leaking roof in the 100 year old historic Bank of Eureka building is the major infrastructure issue we are addressing. While countless hours of work have been poured into trying to fix the roof by volunteers, we are now turning to the professionals. We are focusing our grant writing on addressing this issue as well as holding a community wide fundraiser in hopes of raising the necessary funding for these needed repairs.

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS



The Clarke has an exhibit of uniforms, badges, photos and memorabilia commemorating the Girl Scout legacy in Humboldt County. Initially called the American Girl Guides, the first troop was established in Savannah, Georgia on March 12, 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low. The items on display are on loan to the museum from Eliane Reed and the Girl Scouts of Northern California Heritage Committee and will be at the museum through June. Are you a current or former girl scout? Come into the museum to celebrate the 100 year anniversary today!

NEWS FROM NEALIS HALL

Summer and early fall will bring changes to the exhibit on Karuk art and culture, titled Pi'êep Káru Payêem: Long Ago and Today. In May, the contemporary artists' section will be rotated, giving us the opportunity to display new artwork from Karuk artists. May is also when the debut of the catalog, produced by Julian Lang, will be available for sale. But come September, the exhibit will leave the Clarke Museum and travel to the Karuk museum in Happy Camp, called the People's Center. The Karuk Tribe's museum committee is deciding what display themes to focus on; we are all excited to see the exhibit's second life! While it's hard to see this great exhibit leave the Clarke, we are proud to announce that the Clarke Museum will host Ron Johnson and Colleen Kelley Marks' exhibit on "made for the trade baskets" in November. This exhibit focuses on baskets produced for the national market during the early 1900s and opens at the Trinidad Museum in early summer.

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WELCOME MEMBERS!

Thanks to the following friends for joining or renewing their Clarke Museum memberships in the last few months:

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Kathleen Timm
Candida Vodden
Lonnie & Lynn Wellman
Chris Weston
Christine White
Jane Wilson
John Winzler
Vivian Ziegler

MEMORIAL FUNDS


A new memorial fund has been established for Pat Carter by Jim & Pat Moranda and Lonnie & Lynn Wellman. Pat Moranda was a great friend and volunteer for the museum and she will be greatly missed by the Clarke community.

Donating to these or establishing your own fund is a way to honor someone's memory and support the museum that preserves Humboldt County's heritage. Please include with your donation information on the honoree and who should be informed of your gift.

GIFT SHOP GOODIES

The Clarke Museum gift shop is currently undergoing an expansion and redesign. This means there are new products by local artisans coming in weekly. New items include beautiful ceramic artwork by Cathy Pierson and exquisite jewelry by Christina Anastasia. We also have hand knit wool hats by Mariana Krattiger and new products from Fire and Light. As always we have a fantastic book collection too. There is something here for anyone who loves Humboldt history or supporting local artists. Don't forget, as a member you receive a 10% discount on all products sold in our gift shop — hurry in today!

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