

Pioneers Luncheon
Saturday December 11, 2010 at Noon



Mariani'

s 2500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara

Reservations MUST BE MADE BEFORE!! Thursday December 9, it is most important to place a reservation in advance... For Reservation E-Mail to "sccpioneers@aol.com" be sure to include your menu selection in the e-mail. or Call: 408-554-7587

Please note: Names will be checked off the reservation list as you enter, if your name is not on the list, you will be requested to wait until all those who reserved a place have been seated.

Cost: \$25 (make checks payable to California Pioneers)

Menu (make one selection per person)

Calamari Steak (breaded) with a Lemon-Butter Sauce and Red Potatoes

Roast Pork served with Potatoes and Vegetables of the day

Vegetarian:

Pasta Primavera Fresh Vegetables sautéed in Olive Oil, Garlic with Fettuccine

Entrees are served with:

Green Salad, Rolls, and Butter, Dessert and Tea, Freshly Brewed Reg. or Decaf Coffee

Mariani's Restaurant is located on the south side of El Camino Real, two blocks west of San Thomas Expressway in Santa Clara. Best to get to Mariani's before 11:30 am to get a parking place.

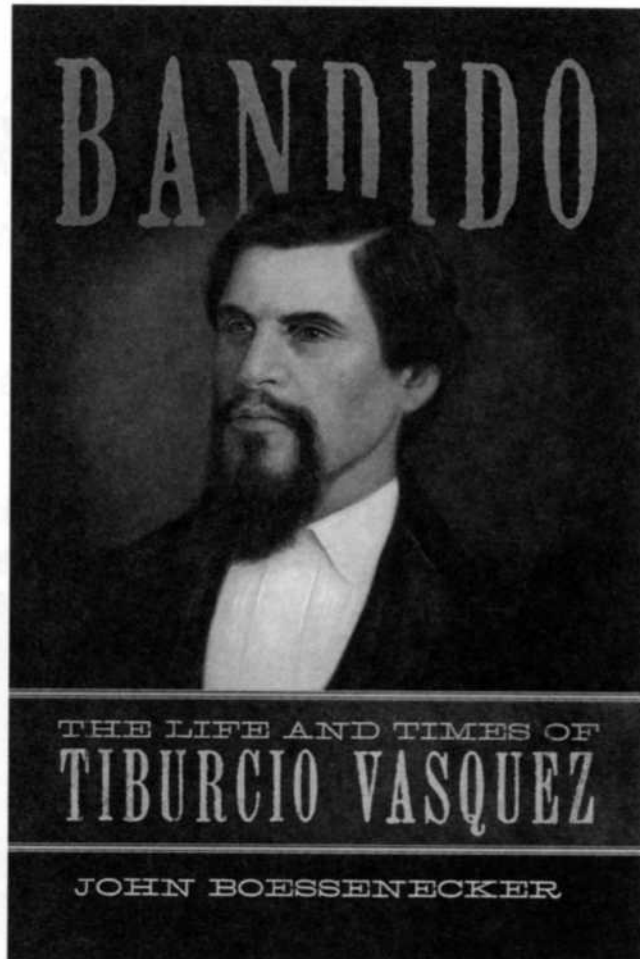
Our speaker for this meeting is an old friend who has spoken to us previously, JOHN BOESSENECKER. He is an expert on Lawmen and law breakers of the old west and often seen in documentaries about the Old West.

Tiburcio Vasquez is, next to Joaquin Murrieta, America's most infamous Hispanic bandit. After he was hanged as a murderer in San Jose in 1875, the Chicago Tribune called him the most noted desperado of modern times. Yet questions about him still linger..

After he was hanged as a murderer in San Jose in 1875, the Chicago Tribune called him the most noted desperado of modern times. Yet questions about him still linger. Why did he become a bandito? Why did so many Hispanics protect him and his band? Was he a common thief and heartless killer who got what he deserved, or was he a Mexican American Robin Hood who suffered at the hands of a racist government? In this engrossing biography, John Boessenecker provides definitive answers.

Bandido pulls back the curtain on a life story shrouded in myth a myth created by Vasquez himself and abetted by writers who saw a tale ripe for embellishment. Boessenecker traces his subject's life from his childhood in the seaside adobe village of Monterey, to his years as a young outlaw engaged in horse rustling and robbery. Two terms in San Quentin failed to tame Vasquez, and he instigated four bloody prison breaks that left twenty convicts dead. After his final release from prison, he led bandit raids throughout Central and Southern California. His dalliances with women were legion, and the last one led to his capture in the Hollywood Hills and his death on the San Jose gallows at the age of thirty-nine.

From dusty court records, forgotten memoirs, and moldering newspaper archives, Boessenecker draws a story of violence, banditry, and retribution on the early California frontier that is as accurate as it is colorful. Enhanced by numerous photographs many published here for the first time Bandido also addresses important issues of racism and social justice that remain relevant to this day. Bandido is the first full-length biography of Tiburcio Vasquez, 500 pages long with 70 illustrations. Published by University of Oklahoma Press, it is written for the general reader. He will have the books at the special price of \$30; the dust jacket price is \$34.95.



A San Francisco attorney, John Boessenecker has a B.A. degree in history from San Francisco State University and a J.D. from University of California, Hastings College of the Law. Since 1969 he has published numerous magazine articles on crime and lawlessness in the Old West. He is the author of *Badge and Buckshot: Lawlessness in Old California* (1988); *The Grey Fox: The True Story of Bill Miner* (1992); *Lawman: The Life and Times of Harry Morse* (1998); and *Against the Vigilantes: The Recollections of Dutch Charley Duane* (1999), all published by the University of Oklahoma Press, and *Gold Dust and Gunsmoke* (1999), published by John Wiley & Sons of New York. Boessenecker has appeared frequently as a historical commentator on PBS, The History Channel, A&E, and other television media.

Sheriff John Hicks Adams

John Hicks Adams is probably the most well known and famous Sheriff in the history of Santa Clara County where he served as Sheriff from March 4, 1864 to March 6, 1876. Sheriff Adams, the seventh Sheriff of this county, was born in Edwardsville, Illinois, on June 13, 1820. His father, John Adams Sr., was elected Sheriff of Madison County in 1838. John Jr., was appointed Deputy Sheriff; his duties included collecting taxes and taking care of court business.

In December, 1841, John married Mathilda Pomeroy. Their first child, May Hanna was born one year later on December 21, 1842. They had 8 children.

In May of 1847, during the Mexican War, Adams joined Company J, Fifth Regiment of the Illinois Volunteers. During the march south, the commander of his company, Captain Niles, died; John was promoted to Captain of Company J, the rank he continued to maintain throughout his year and half of active duty. John served most of his time in the Southwest, fighting Indians. Captain Adams was discharged from the service on the 12th of October, 1848.

When word spread East that gold had been discovered in California, John was struck with gold fever. He headed West In August 1849. with a six-mule team and light wagon, accompanied by Allen Pomeroy, William Reynolds, and Dr. C. N. Lusk, leaving from St. Joseph, Mo., April 8, 1849. They passed heavily loaded trains, guarded carefully against Indian attacks, were joined by several other parties, and after many hardships and deprivations from lack of water, arrived at Hangtown August 1, 1849. Captain Adams mined and ran pack trains in various camps in Northern California for two years, then went back to Illinois via Panama and

arrived at Edwardsville, October 12, 1851. A year later, in the spring of 1852, he again started for California, but this time he was accompanied by his family. They settled in Manhattan Creek, near Georgetown, where John continued mining successfully.

In August, 1853, Captain Adams removed to Santa Clara County and settled on a farm near Gilroy. The present Adams district school near Gilroy still stands on the land which he donated to the county for that purpose in 1856. Those were Wild West days, to be sure, when upon arriving at the schoolhouse in the morning, bear and lion tracks were to be found in front of the door and around the building.

Mr. Adams organized the Home Guards in Gilroy during the Civil War and was their captain. He also served as president of the South Almaden Quicksilver Mining Company.

John started his political career by running for and winning the office of County Supervisor for Gilroy and Almaden Township in the September election of 1861. In 1863, John ran for Sheriff, beating William Aram by more than 500 votes. With the passing of Sheriff Kennedy on February 6, 1864, the Board of Supervisors appointed Adams (who would have been sworn in as Sheriff in March) to finish out Kennedy's term. Adams ran for re-election in 1865 and 1867, winning both elections. He became the first Sheriff in Santa Clara County to be elected to three successive terms. Retiring for a couple of years in 1870, he again ran for re-election in 1871 and 1873, winning both terms. In 1875 Adams lost an election for the first and only time in his life, losing to Nicholas Harris, 2,854 to 2,140.

Soon afterward, a band of Confederate partisan rangers, known as Captain Ingram's Partisan Rangers from the San Jose area robbed two stage coaches in the Bullion Bend Robbery near Placerville. During the pursuit, Deputy Sheriff Staples of El Dorado County was gunned down when he surprised them at a rooming house the next day. Information filtered to Sheriff Adams that the Confederates were holed up in a shack near Almaden. Sheriff Adams and a posse of Deputies surrounded the shack, and demanded their surrender. The robbers failed to obey the order and tried to escape. A shoot-out ensued, like one in a western movie. All of the Confederates were either captured or killed in the volley of shots. Sheriff Adams was wounded when a bullet struck his pocket watch and glanced into his ribs.

Later that year and the next Adams pursued another gang of "partisan rangers", the Mason Henry Gang who had rapidly

degenerated into a vicious gang of outlaws, committing robberies, thefts and murders in the southern San Joaquin Valley, Santa Cruz County, Monterey County and Santa Clara County, preying on stagecoaches, ranchers and others, especially if they were known Union men in the vicinity. Adams pursued the gang with the help of two companies of Native California Volunteer Cavalry from Camp Low during the summer of 1865, but no one could locate their hideout at Loma Prieta. In June, 1865, a posse of nine soldiers and five citizens led by Sheriff Adams searched the area around the Panoche Valley in what is now southern San Benito County in search of the gang after receiving a reliable tip that they were planning a raid on the ranches there. However, a system of spies set up by the secessionists had warned the band of their approach. When Sheriff Adams arrived at Panoche, Mason and Henry were already retreating towards Corralitos. Despite some encounters, they were not caught, but Adams' pursuit made it so hot for them they soon left for Southern California. There Henry was killed by the Sheriff in San Bernardino County in September 1865 and Mason by a bounty hunter near Fort Tejon in 1866

On January 24, 1878, Adams and ex-County Clerk Cornelius Finley left San Jose for the last time, leaving San Jose to mine gold in Arizona's Davidson Canyon. In late August, Adams and Finley were appointed Deputy United States Marshals for the Arizona Territory. Ten days later, the headlines in Arizona and San Jose newspapers told the story of their murders. Adams and Finley had left the Washington mine and were in route to Tucson when they were ambushed by five Mexican bandits. Finley died instantly with a gun shot to his heart, but Adams put up a fight. Shot once in the side (which was not sufficient to cause his death), but appeared to have been beaten to death with clubs and rocks. The murderers were caught in Mexico and held in a Sonorian jail, but Mexican officials refused to extradite them to the United States for the prosecution of the murders.

While Captain Adams was Sheriff, he was second to none in skillful pursuit of wanted outlaws. Although he didn't personally capture the highwayman Tiburcio Vasquez, it was his information that led to Vasquez's arrest and capture in Los Angeles, Vasquez was hanged before a large crowd of men, women and children in the yard of the Santa Clara County Jail.

In 1864, a band of renegade Confederate soldiers from San Jose robbed two stage coaches near Placerville. During the pursuit Deputy Sheriff Staples of El Dorado County was gunned down.

Information filtered to Sheriff Adams that the confederates were holed up in a shack near Almaden. Sheriff Adams and a posse of Deputies surrounded the shack, and demanded their surrender. The robbers failed to obey the order and tried to escape. A shoot-out, right out of a western movie, ensued. All of the confederates were either captured or killed in the volley of shots. Sheriff Adams was wounded when a bullet struck his pocket watch and glanced into his ribs.

Newspapers:

The San Jose Tribune, September 13,1861

The San Jose Mercury, September 10,1863, March 3,1864, September 14,1865, October 1867

The San Jose Weekly Mercury, August 15,1872, September 11,1873, March 25,1875, September 12,1878, January 30, February 27,1879

The San Jose Daily Mercury, September 13,1878

The Pioneer, February, 3, 10 & 17, 1877, January 23,1878, September 14,1878

The Arizona Weekly Miner, September 6, October 4,1878

The Arizona Star, September 12, 26,1878

Books;

Sawyer, Eugene T., History of Santa Clara County, Historic Record Co., Los Angeles California, 1922

Boessenecker, John, Badge and Buckshot, U. of Ok.Press,1988

Rambo, Ralph, Tiburico Vasquez, Rosicrucian Press, San Jose California, 1968

GONE TO THE GOLDEN HILLS

DEANE BARBIERI 11/23/2008

ELSIE KINSEY 1998

AMELIA J. ARMSTRONG 9/16/2010

MARY MALKASON

RUSSELL T. WOLFRAM 9/16/2010

HISTORY OF THE PAULSON HOUSE by Marylou vonRotz

I want to make some remarks in appreciation of what has occurred in the Pioneers' Paulson House during the past several years. When the Paulson House opened in 2007, we accommodated the Digital Clubhouse Network, who were young people recording stories of service of our men and women who had served our country in military service. I personally talked to some of the families of these special veterans and most of them told me the same story "that their dad had never spoken about those days to his family or anyone." The descendants were so happy to learn more about their dads' early lives. It was very touching to all. (www.digiclub.org/sofs/)

At that time, Jerry Rosenthal, wanted a Pioneer presence in the Paulson to assist ,if necessary, while the families and DCN were there working.

Jerry and his daughter, Jan French, Melita Kelly and I , along with a few others did this with pleasure. It was indeed an experience to meet so many of these special men and women who were there to give their stories of service.

People, who now visit the beautiful Paulson House, have no idea as to some of the early history. Jerry Rosenthal, who was the president of Pioneers, was the impetus behind what you see today in this lovely house/museum. He deserves great accolades for undertaking and seeing to completion this project. It is my personal belief that all of this would not have been possible without these forebears.

When we first opened the house to the public, we didn't have a lot of things that people were interested in. Bob and Bev Fisher were right there helping. I, as a new docent, would just express a desire or a thought and these two people would do their best to fulfill the task and furnish things that would be of interest. Bob's parents' carpet is in the dining room. Bob and Bev also worked as faithful docents each month and on special occasions when I needed them.

Tim and Barbara Peddy came on board and again, anything that I felt we needed in the house, was accomplished and even more. Barbara brought a lot of her personal things to the house for display. These were the things that interested people. Barbara has great decorations and enjoys putting them in the house for others to see and enjoy. Tim can fix almost anything. Tim and Barbara also work as Sunday docents and help on other occasions.

All of the above people are those who helped keep the Paulson House open to become what it is today. They are greatly appreciated.

I wish to thank all of the others who have also helped make your Pioneer Paulson House a success.

Marylou vonRotz, Lead Docent

PAULSON HOUSE NEWS Marylou von Rotz

We have five new docents who are fresh and eager. They are: Diane Alves, Merle Featherstone, Betty Ann Moore, Joanne Souza and Madelene Streight They join Melita Kelly, Judith Mabie, Pat & Walter Moorhead, Adele Smith, Tim & Barbara Peddy and Beverly & Bob Fisher who have been on hand since we opened in June, 2007. They have made it possible to have the Paulson House open every Sunday from 12:30 to 4:00 and for other special occasions. I also wish to thank Jan French, Fern McLaggen, and Bev Blockie for their help in the past.

We would welcome others to become docents. We would like to be open on Saturday afternoons as well as Sundays. We are open every Sunday from 12:30 to 4:00. See Marylou von Rotz to sign up. We will train you for this fun job.

The House was closed for tours on Halloween but Barbara and Tim Peddy and Mary Lou Lyon sat on the decorated porch for 4 hours dressed like witches, handing out goodies to the young trick or treaters. We think we saw about 500 children in all sorts of garb, from princesses to pirates, cowboys and robots.



NT

COME VISIT THE PAULSON HOUSE-
OPEN EVERY SUNDAY FROM 1-4



AUCTION AT MARIANI'S

The Luncheon committee is planning to hold a silent auction and also some items to buy out-right at the December luncheon. These are items that belonged to Helen Stevens and would make very Special Christmas presents or presents for ones self. There are some very nice jewelry sets, knickknacks, linen tablecloths and napkins, aprons etc. The beginning price will be very reasonable. Money made will go towards expenses at the Paulson House.

AUTHORS

Authors are invited to bring their books to sell at the Christmas meeting. Make a reservation with Tim Peddy for a table at miltpeddy@aol.com or 408-377-6054

FRONT PARLOR, PAULSON HOUSE MARYLOU VON ROTZ AT PIANO



MEET OUR NEW PIONEERS

- Mary Ellen Madden resides in San Jose and arrived in California in 1959. Her ancestors were from Indiana (Dr. E. M. Lipetska). Teaching is her profession.
- Viki Walker Matthews resides in Fremont, is a native Californian and has worked on her family's genealogy for over 15 years. Her ancestors who arrived in Santa Clara County are Jonathan Parr, who settled in Los Gatos in 1846, and Robert Walker, a Scottish pioneer from Canada who married Parr's daughter, Eliza, in 1871.
- Susan Elizabeth Sisneros resides in San Jose and is a native Californian. Her California ancestors include her grandmother, Laura Hall, and her aunt, Melita Kelly, who serves on the Board of the Pioneers. Susan is a descendent of Don Jose Hernandez, grantee of Rancho Rinconada de Los Gatos in 1839.
- Thelma (Lee) Walker resides in San Francisco and is a native Californian. Her grandmother arrived in Lompoc, California as a young bride and there, Thelma's mother was born in 1905. Thelma's father arrived in California in 1925 by way of Kansas and Texas.

Welcome to the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County!

JUDGE AUGUSTUS L. RHODES,

FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE CALIFORNIA PIONEERS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, 1875-1876

Augustus L. Rhodes was born in Oneida County, New York, in 1821. He died October 23, 1918 was the 10th Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California.

Judge Rhodes was educated at Hamilton College, where he studied law. He moved to Bloomfield, Indiana, being admitted to the bar there in 1846. Rhodes married Elizabeth Cavins 1830-1901, a judge's daughter, in 1846.

He served one term as the prosecuting attorney for the circuit court in Bloomfield in 1849, and departed for California in 1854. Settling in San Jose, he became District Attorney in 1859 and then California State Senator in 1860. He was elected to the Supreme Court in 1864 and served until 1880, being Chief Justice from 1870 to 1872. From 1899 to 1907 he served as a Superior Court Judge in Santa Clara County.

Rhodes remained active to an advanced age. He gave an address at the annual convention of the California Bar Association in June 1918, 4 months before his death at the age of 97.

Pioneer Estate Sale

Pioneer Board Member Joan Bohnett graciously offered her landmark house in Palm Haven for the Pioneers estate sale, held on Oct. 23rd. Forty vintage hats and 30 hat boxes were displayed on the front patio while other collectibles and jewelry were set out under the porte-cochere. Merchandise included aprons from the 1940s to 1970s, china, silver, linens, perfume bottles, compacts, knick-knacks, books and much more. Visitors streamed through between 8 am and 4 pm and purchased much of the merchandise. Board member Robb Moore baked fresh oatmeal-raisin cookies for all, which vanished by 10 am. Luckily, the rain held off until 4 pm. The Pioneers thank Joan Bohnett, Gayle Frank, Robb Moore, Jim Zetterquist, Bill Foley, Marylou vonRotz, Barbara Peddy and Tim Peddy for making this event a success.

PIONEERS FILM ARCHIVE

As of September, the archive contains 300 separate films and subjects, from 1906 to the present. In the month of September, 14,951 feet of film was digitized. This is about 17.4 hours of footage. It took over 100 manhours of editing, film repair work, color correction and preservation. The total amount of footage in our archive is now over 50 hours.

The Pioneers Archive Youtube Channel went live on October 15 and will be continuously updated with films of Pioneer events plus interviews with local historians and prominent figures. This presence on Youtube will provide people worldwide with a means of contacting Pioneers, donating films and finding films based on keywords, years, locations and people in the films.. They can also be found on Google by a search.

Film has been shown at the PAC-SJ 20th anniversary gala and the Casa Grande re-opening in November. They have been used in a documentary about the We & Our Neighbors Club, relevant footage with Hangar 1 Museum at Moffett Field, the Campbell Historical Museum and the Los Altos Museum.

To donate your films, contact Bill Foley. IAMSPARTACUS@GMAIL.COM

