
RAMONA ROUND UP

Native Sons of the Golden West

*Ramona Parlor #109
P.O. Box 292
San Gabriel, CA 91778*

Chartered June 9, 1887

Issue No. 0001

February 2000

GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY February 10, 2000

6:00 DINNER/7:00 MEETING

Delicious Stuffed Pork Roast
Pasta with Eggplant
Tossed Green Salad
Bread and Butter

Cherry Pie
Beverage

\$6.00 per person

Earlybirds can play cards!

*Held at the
Grape Vine Room
Near Santa Anita and Mission
San Gabriel*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to Members and Friends,

Congratulations and welcome to Susan Camp, Nathan Diaz, John and Marie Fornelli, Lawrence and Shirley Maddox, Paul Matthews and Al Simone. They were initiated into our Parlor by Grand President James Riley and his initiation team in our Hall on Thursday January 13th.

A great time was had by members Harry Beardo, George and Gloria Carone, Frank Claro, Chris Deghi and guest Father Giovanni of St. Peter's at the Arroyo Seco Golf Course on January 26th. The air was fresh, crisp and cool. The balls flew high and far, but not always straight. Tiger Woods does not have to worry about a challenge from us!!

Our Parlor Hall and Museum will be officially dedicated on Thursday, February 3rd at 2:00 PM. All members and friends are invited. Light refreshments will follow. Please plan to join us at this very special event.

In Friendship, Charity and Loyalty

George Carone

BOWLING IS A BLAST!

Ten members from Ramona Parlor #109 and Arrowhead Parlor #110 participated in a bowling event that proved to be up everyone's alley. Held at Arcadia's Bowling Square, everyone who attended had a great time and can't wait to meet again.

Two members from Arrowhead, Jim Smith and Richard Weisner performed admirably. The high bowler for the day however was one of Ramona's own, Harry Beardo. Scores of 208, 207 and 183 placed him first with his 598 series. Harry had to work hard to stay ahead of George Carone who also bowled exceptionally well.

Everyone who attended had a lot of fun. If you missed this event, plan on attending the next one.

RAMONA GOLFERS SHOW THEIR STUFF! *No Birdies Killed*

The athletic abilities of our membership know no bounds! Planned on the heels of our popular bowling tournament enjoyed a fun day of golf at Arroyo Seco Golf Course on January 26th.

Participating duffers included Harry Beardo, George and Gloria Carone, Frank Claro and Chris Deghi.

The group was delightfully surprised when they were joined by Father Giovanni of St. Peter's Church. As usual, a wonderful time was had by all who attended.

**DEDICATION OF
BUILDING PLANNED
FEBRUARY 3RD
2:00 PM**

Grand Parlor dignitaries will be back to Ramona Parlor for the second time this year as they help us dedicate our new meeting place and Museum.

We hope that our members will all plan to join us for this very special event. President George Carone will act as MC for the traditional ceremony that will forever identify our new location as our permanent home. A beautiful bronze plaque has been prepared by Grand Parlor for the occasion. It will be installed on the front of our building so that our unique and important use of the building will never be forgotten.

Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West have used plaques to identify historic places all over the Golden State. Perhaps this ceremony will also mark a renewed interest in this worthwhile activity by our new members.

HOW RAMONA PARLOR GOT ITS NAME

This short paper describing how our Parlor was named was found among the many documents safeguarded in the Museum. The romantic implications of the "delicate compliment" paid to Del Valle because of his association with Miss Jackson is difficult to overlook so close to Valentine's Day. Ah, what is done in the name of love!

Ramona Parlor #109, Native Sons of the Golden West was organized in Los Angeles, state of California, on the 9th day of June 1887 by Senator Reginaldo F. Del Valle, who was its first President. United State Senator Stephen M. White was its first Junior Past President.

The name *Ramona* was given to this parlor as a delicate compliment to its organizer and first President.

As Helen Hunt Jackson sought material, atmosphere and location for a novel in which to portray a beautiful romance typical of southern California, she was induced, because of its associations and traditions, to select the ranch home of one of the early California families, a spot in this southern clime, whose environment and beauty would itself and around which she might entwine the romance Ramona, the heroine of her story.

Camulos, in Ventura County, the name of the ranch home of the Del Valles had long before this, become one of the showplaces in southern California and the mecca to which all roads led the Californian and visitors from other states.

Around this rancho, with its typical adobe and patios, gardens and verandas, she established the playground of the California novel, Ramona and *Ramona* was the name selected for the parlor then organized. A side view of the ranch house with its corridor appears on our banner.

Ramona is one of the many Christian names appearing on the calendar of Saints of the Catholic Church.

Respectfully Submitted,
A.G Rivera

H.C. Lichtenberger
A.E. Hamilton

Approved by R.F. Del Valle

MUSEUM REPORT

Rosemarie Lippman

Curator Susan Gleason has a problem. She has not been satisfied with our Native American hut since it was crudely assembled over a year ago. With an enthusiasm that can only be found in the energy of youth, she drives out to a remote area by the San Gabriel River and hacks down a score of willow branches with a machete. The material will serve to frame our new hut in its traditional basket-style, instead of the “lean to” we had before.

“Never was authentic,” she barks to her crew of willow strippers ready to help her rebuild the structure. “The new dwelling will still be only a shadow of the real thing, but it will definitely be closer,” she reports with satisfaction as she carefully bends another stiff willow branch.

It snaps. . .again. Needless to say, construction on this redesigned, improved version of our Native-American dwelling has been slow and tedious. We probably will not have it completed before our Dedication, but Susan is not dismayed. As a matter of fact, we have been pleasantly surprised at the number visitors in the past couple of weeks who stopped by just to see what the activity is all about.. Susan actually timed this project perfectly.

Three acres at Smith Park here in San Gabriel are currently being used to offer the community a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Gabrielino-Tonva people. Ramona Museum can now do the same.

Like to help? Bring a paring knife and wear old clothes on any Saturday from 1-4PM. Trust me, Susan will put you to work.

Our web page development is coming along slowly, but surely. Susan has entered about one quarter of the artifacts into the database and we would like to finish that before we post the site.

Scott Cullinane has offered to allow us to display his extensive collection of World War II memorabilia in a special exhibit right around Veteran’s Day, November 11th. We would like to invite all members and friends to consider sharing their artifacts and memories of those years with us for this very important exhibition. We plan on publicizing the event with various veteran’s groups and local schools.

Just a note: Save the first Wednesday in April. It looks like that will be the date of our 5th Annual Museum Turnaround. Oh my goodness! Our 5th Annual Turnaround is ON APRIL 5th! A lucky coincidence I'd say! Plan to join us. . .

SICK AND DISABLED

1999 was a difficult year for our membership. We have had so many wonderful souls pass from our grasp into the Grand Parlor on high. Our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the families and friends of our lost members:

Pete Pianta, Al Lingua, Vince Emeterio, Carlo Arrobio and Frank Vega. We will miss them terribly.

--Joe Nuccio is showing some improvement, but is still quite ill. A call or card would do him a world of good.

--Chris Deghi had knee surgery and looks wonderful. He will be at the Dedication and he was even spotted on the golf course.

--Dario Balzano just had a pacemaker installed in November. We hope to see him at the next meeting. We understand that he is recovering nicely.

--John Mackay is getting around pretty well. His wife Flora wanted to thank everyone for all of the soda tabs they collected. She uses them to benefit the Ronald McDonald House for children with cancer and their families. It is a very worthwhile cause.

INITIATION MEETING A HUGE SUCCESS

Ramona initiated eight new members and Rio Hondo Parlor initiated five in a huge ceremony on January 13th. These meetings are always very exciting as the traditional ceremony is interesting and informative for all who attend.

Ramona Parlor #109 is an old and respected group. Many members often forget the proud tradition of those that have gone before us. The Museum is an awesome reminder of what it might have been like when the Parlor was over 1000 members strong and in its prime. Traditions like the installation ceremony are

powerful reminders too. Ramona is well rooted in ceremony and ritual and members should not hesitate to celebrate these special times.

Loyal members recognized for their years of service included:

25 year Members: John Mackay, James Bisetti and Michael Lotito

Ramona Officers 2000

President.....George Carone
First Vice-President.....Fran Hubert
Second Vice-President.....Harry Scholar
Third Vice-President.....Verne Koenig
Jr. Past President.....Frank Claro
Sr. Past President.....Louie Bisetti
Trustee-18 Months.....Chris Deghi
Recording Secretary.....Art Claro
Assistant Recording Secretary.....
Financial Secretary.....Roberta Overton
Treasurer.....Mario Zanotti
Trustee-12 Months.....Ola Addante
Trustee-6 Months.....Leo Baudino
Marshall.....Dominic Billi
Inside Sentinel.....Roger DiVirgilio
Outside Sentinel.....Elsie Bracci

District Deputy Grand President

Ted Garcia

Ramona Parlor #109
Native Sons of the Golden West

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each Month
Grape Vine Room
Near Santa Anita and Mission
San Gabriel
(626) 289-0034

Happy
Valentine's
Day!