
RAMONA ROUND UP
Native Sons of the Golden West

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

Chartered June 9, 1887

GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, May 14, 1998

6:00 DINNER/7:00 MEETING

Chicken Cacciatore
Chard
Rice Pilaf
Tossed Green Salad

Dessert
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 Brothers and Friends:

I am very happy to announce that next month we will be able to enjoy our first meeting in our new clubhouse.

I am so proud that so many of our brothers answered the call for help and participated in the remodeling, moving, clubhouse and museum organization. Each committee worked very hard. It was wonderful to see what cooperation and communication can do.

It is my hope that Ramona Parlor #109 will once again become one of the most important parlors in Southern California. Once we have settled into our new home, our next priority will be to increase membership. I am asking that each member consider bringing in one more person. Let's try and double our membership!

I want to encourage all members to forget the problems of the past and look toward a bright future for our club in our new home and museum.

Thank you all.

In Friendship, Loyalty and Charity

Frank Claro

Minutes in a Minute

Art Claro

Applications were read for two new members, Theresa Greco and George Musacco. We all looked forward to meeting them next month.

Visiting brother, Ted Garcia from Parlor #45 was introduced; and our two new members, Mary Linda Daddona and James Lorenzo were presented.

Building Committee Louie Bisetti presented the three bids for remodeling our building. The lowest bid was Pine Bark Construction for \$21,880.00. It will cover demolition work, a new ceiling, a handicap accessible unisex restroom, kitchen counter and cabinets, added picture windows and arches. The expense was approved by the membership. The finished areas will be 1200 square

feet for the Museum and 1100 square feet for our meeting room, plus all of the upstairs for records, research and storage.

Next month we will host the area Speech Contest and the event will replace the meeting. A vote for donation of \$40.00 for the Area Speakers was approved.

A “White Buffalo” Sale and a 50/50 will be just tow of the activities planned for our Anniversary BBQ on June 28th. Donated items should be brought to the May Meeting.

A 50-year pin was happily presented to Henry Casillas. Congratulations!

A secret ballot was taken for delegates to Grand Parlor. Dominic Billi, Mario Zanotti and Leo Baudino were elected and Joe La Casella was an alternate. It was voted that our brothers going to Grand Parlor be paid \$300.00 each to help them with their expenses. There was a stipulation that next year we will have a fund raiser specifically to raise funds exclusively for that purpose. Whatever is earned from the event will be used for our delegates’ travel expenses. It was approved that we give Grand Parlor’s Cleft Palate Foundation the same amount as we did last year, \$1000.00. Again, it was made very clear by the membership that our annual Grand Parlor Cleft Palate contribution should be actively raised or donated by our members throughout the year and that the amount given in 1999 should reflect what we have collected through the efforts of the group.

Public Speaking Contest

Fran Hubert

Famous Californians dominated the speeches given at the April meeting. Raymond Pon, one of last year’s contestants, placed first with his speech about Jack London. Sonny Holloway from West Covina High School was the runner up. Ramona Parlor #109 hosted Los Angeles Parlor #45 and the first place went to Bronwyn Olsen with her speech about Julia Morgan--Architect. Bronwyn is the daughter of Ken Olsen, a Ramona brother.

Many thanks to the brothers that helped out with this year’s contest. Our judges were Mario Zanotti, Ted Garcia and Harry Scholar. The timekeeper was Verne Koenig, and tellers were Louie Bisetti and Harry Beardo. Special thanks to Harry Beardo for all his support and direction for the program from Grand Parlor.

The Home Stretch...

Speaking Contest Area 2 Finals

Harry Beardo

Public Speaking Contest for Area 2 Finals were held at Centinela Adobe in Inglewood, Thursday April 23rd at 7:30 pm.

The \$50.00 first place prize was captured by Jennifer Ku of Whitney High School in Cerritos. Her subject was the “California Gold Rush”. She will represent Southern California Area 2 at Grand Parlor in San Louis Obispo this year.

Runner-ups received \$25.00 each for their efforts:

Mike Paches (South Torrance High School)

“Easy as Boysenberry Pie”

Geren Piltz (Carpenteria High School)

“Pack your Bags: Traveling the Great 101”

Bronwyn Patricia Olsen (John Marshall High School)

“Julia Morgan, First Female Architect of California”

Raymond K. Pon (San Gabriel High School)

“Jack London”

Our thanks to SDDGP Bud Utter of University Parlor #272 for making all arrangements for our Southern California Area 2 Speaking Contest. A fine job, well done.

Thirty-five members and their guests were present. Grand President Jesse Garcia and his wife Dora of Santa Barbara Parlor #116 attended. DDGP Ted Garcia of Los Angeles Parlor #45, Past President Ed Lane, Jr and Past President Jim Caron from Rio Hondo #294 were also there to offer encouragement and support. DDGP Mario Zanotti and District 3 Speech co-chairman Harry Beardo both represented Ramona Parlor #109.

It was a wonderful event enjoyed by all who attended.

Building Committee

Louie Bisetti

Let me begin for thanking all of my committee members and helpful brothers who got the Literacy building in shape for our first meeting and for the movement of artifacts into the Museum. They painted, swept, cleaned, moved and breathed the spirit of Ramona Parlor into our new building: Henry Casillas, Frank Claro, Chris Deghi, Grady Hardy, Verne Koenig, Harry Beardo, Mario Zanotti, Art Claro, Pat Gabriele, Fran Hubert and Don Hubert, Rosemarie Lippman, Roberta Overton and Lottie Scavo.

When the Literacy people moved out, three remodeling bids were received and Pine Bark Construction was given the work. We had to have the remodeling completed before the artifacts could be moved in and our storage time was running out with the City of Los Angeles. Pine Bark finished the work in record time. They were quick, professional and clean. Our own brother Marty Diaz (Martin-Paul Electric) took care of the electrical, and after three bids, Valley Carpets laid new carpeting in our meeting room. The whole place looks beautiful. It might be smaller, but with the remodeling, paint and carpeting, it turned out to be a very friendly and inviting place. Home.

The museum artifacts were moved in within the time allotted to us by the city. The carriage takes up a good portion of the front display area, but everything has been moved in safely.

The Museum Report

Susan Gleason and Rosemarie Lippman

The artifacts are in! The museum space has been reduced dramatically, but Susan has devised a floor plan that supports the collection very well.

The Building Committee continues to help the museum staff every step of the way. They were there when we received over six truckloads of boxes, desks, supplies and display materials. They were there when we painted the walls and cleaned the existing carpet and they continue to be there, helping us build the platforms, corrals and cases necessary to display our collection.

The Museum contains two rooms. There is an outer large display area that houses the Fremont carriage, Native American, Mission, Rancho and Statehood displays. A blacksmith shop has been recreated in the smaller secondary room. The Building Committee is currently constructing a cut-out of a turn-of-the-century house in one of the corners of that room. A smaller room has been set aside for the Biscailuz Collection. The library contains well over 100 boxes of material including many of the original records for Ramona Parlor and other parlors long since disbanded.

Susan will be working in Washington this summer and so the staff is working feverishly to situate most of the collection before she has to leave. Her sister Janet and her fiancé Larry have proved to be indispensable (Larry is very strong), Verne Koenig and his wife

Laura have come back to work regularly (Thank Goodness!) and our tireless student, Nicole Daddona will be joining the effort as often as she can. It's a good group of regulars, if you would like to join us you are more than welcome to come. We will be delighted to show you how you can help. We work every Saturday from 1 pm-4 pm and after we open in mid-June we will be taking groups through by appointment as well. Plan to stop by for a visit!

Every summer the City of San Gabriel hosts a Family Festival on Saturday nights. We would like to extend our hours until 9 pm . If you would like to volunteer to look after the artifacts and can spare a few hours on a Saturday night, please call Rosemarie at (626) 675-2023 and let her know.

Finance Committee

Roberta Overton

Two representatives from Home Savings and Loan met with the Finance Committee to explain some of the options available to protect and invest the Fletcher Fund. They will return on May 11th when the committee meets again. Committee concerns included the Federal Insurance limit of \$100,000 per bank, signature protection and the setting up of specific accounts and interest on the accounts. A complete report will be given at the next General Meeting

Ways and Means Committee

Plans are finalized for Ramona Parlor's annual celebration of its anniversary. The event will be a Bar-B-Que this year with a western theme reminding us about that this is the year marking the sesquicentennial of the gold discovery in Northern California. We have included a flyer in this newsletter, please get your reservations in early. The price is \$20.00 and includes the following menu: Steak or chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, baked potato and all the beer, soda and wine you can drink. There will be dancing, a "white buffalo" sale, a raffle and a lot of fun! Invite your friends and family. All profits will go to Cleft Palate.

Hope to see you there!

HELP!!!

Only He-Men or Amazons Need Apply

There are three very large file cabinets at Art Claro's warehouse in Alhambra that need to be moved into our new place. If you feel healthy and ambitious, please volunteer to move them for us. Once we have these cabinets we will be completely moved in...*WHEW!*

By-Laws Committee

Harry Scholar

Slow, but steady progress has been made bringing our by-laws from the 70's into the 90's. Much of the wording has to be changed to reflect changes in Grand Parlor policies. Ramona Parlor has changed as well; we no longer meet every Friday night, nor do we have an organist (although you can see our old organ in our meeting room now). The Fletcher Fund needs to be protected for its intended purpose (to support our home and museum) and the by-laws must be amended to ensure that future generations of the club will always have a place to meet and display our collection. I am collecting by-laws from other parlors so that we can see how to improve ours. Any changes will be brought up for free discussion at our General Meetings and nothing will be altered without the approval of the group.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR WHITE BUFFALO SALE

**Bring your unique pieces to the next
General Meeting**

For more information call
Fran Hubert (626) 332-1203

Ramona Officers 1998

President.....Frank Claro
First Vice-President.....Chris Lotito
Second Vice-President.....Fran Hubert

Third Vice-President.....Al Lingua
Jr. Past President.....Louis Bisetti
Sr. Past President.....Wellesley Peters
Trustee-18 Months.....Harry Scholar
Recording Secretary.....Art Claro
Assistant Recording Secretary.....Pete Pianta
Financial Secretary.....Roberta Overton
Treasurer.....Joe La Casella
Trustee-12 Months.....Leo Baudino
Trustee-6 Months.....Chris Deghi
Marshall.....Dominic Billi
Inside Sentinel.....Verne Koenig
Outside Sentinel.....Lou Francone

District Deputy Grand President
Mario Zanotti

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
(800) 507-0450