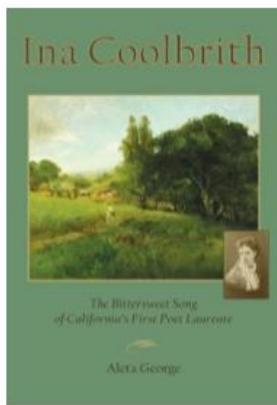


THE SOCIETY PAGE

FEBRUARY, 2017

JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT:

Author Talk & Book Signing



Aleta George

Saturday,
March 4
at 2pm



Ina Coolbrith: The Bittersweet Song of California's First Poet Laureate is a new biography about a pioneer poet, Oakland's first public librarian, and the most popular literary ambassador in the early American West. In post-Gold Rush San Francisco, Coolbrith was known as the pearl of a tribe that included Bret Harte, Mark Twain, and John Muir.

George's deftly told and deeply researched book follows the struggles and triumphs of Coolbrith from her birth in 1841 as a niece of Mormon founder Joseph Smith to her death in 1928. 2015 marked Coolbrith's centennial of being named California's beloved first lady of poetry and America's first laureate. Autographed copies will be available for purchase.

Co-sponsored by the Gilroy AAUW and the Gilroy Historical Society.

Gilroy Library, 350 W. Sixth St., Gilroy, CA (408) 842-8207 www.sccl.org



HAVE FUN BOWLING WITH US!

By Linda White

Can't believe this is Year Seven for our Bowl-a-thon, coming up on March 25th at 2:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Museum Endowment Fund. As always, in addition to a ton of fun, there will be some great prizes and yummy finger foods. The best part is, you don't need to be a regular bowler! Team up with your friends and submit your entry fee of \$25 per person, by March 8th, to Linda White, Connie Rogers, or the Museum. If we still can't convince you to bowl, please consider giving a pledge to someone.

PROGRESS ON OUR ENDOWMENT FUND

By Connie Rogers

Maybe you've wondered just where we are going with our Endowment Fund with the Gilroy Foundation and would like to know the current status. We keep asking and you keep giving so generously. Of course you'd like some answers!

Our goal has been to reach \$500,000 in our combined Endowment Funds as that is the amount we'd need to produce enough income to pay a half time person at \$20/hour. We recently began discussions with the City about how we could hire a Museum Director or Curator. Would that employee work for the Society? Or the City? Pros and cons of each pathway. Who would do the hiring? Would it be possible or practical to hire someone for less than half time? Your Board has decided to begin working on defining the role of such a person. We'll ask other similar museums for their job descriptions and then begin composing our own job description for the Gilroy Museum. We're also exploring the possibility of applying for grants to help us reach our goal.

Thanks very much to your dedication and generosity we deposited \$17,975 in the Gilroy Historical Society Museum Fund with the Gilroy Foundation in 2016. That is amazing! And, as you may have noticed, the stock market has done well in 2016 too. At the end of 2016 our balances were as follows:

Gilroy Historical Society Museum Fund - \$196,598.35

Ray and Frances Lindeleaf Fund - \$93,466.40

So, you can see we are almost 3/5 of the way towards our goal, thanks to your incredible generosity and belief in our mission. Much of the money, over \$75,000, came from the estate of our former board member and respected Gilroy teacher, Linda Burnett. The Lindeleaf fund is almost entirely due to the generosity of Warren Lindeleaf in honor of his parents. If you share their special feelings for Gilroy's history, you too could remember the Society in your estate planning. Let us know if you are considering that.

Last month we published a partial list, but here is a complete list of our 2016 donors:

MUSEUM
BENEFACTORS GOLD
LEVEL - \$500

Kai & Elizabeth Lai
Linda Lester
Tom & Joanie Lewis
Richard & Barbara Petersen Shurtz

MUSEUM
BENEFACTORS
SILVER LEVEL - up to \$250

Articulate Solutions Inc.
Joseph & Barbara Biafore
John & Lee Blaettler
Don & Karen Christopher
Timothy & Janice Filice
Julia Gimenez
Bernard Habing
Habing Family Funeral Home
Lenore Hailstone
William C. & Ruby Hart
Ric & Jodi Heinzen
Heinzen LLC
R. Scott Lynch
Moe & Kathy McHenry
Danny & Nita Mitchell
Marian Niiyama
Carol Peters
J. David Sturla
Gary Walton
Linda White
Russell & Terry Wolfe

MUSEUM BENEFACTORS

BRONZE LEVEL – up to \$100

Charles & Alice Anderson

Phyllis Armenta

Richard & Barbara Armenta

Dick & Elizabeth Barratt

David & Liliias Barton

Howard & June Bell

Angelo Benassi

Barbara Bottini

Philip & Joan Buchanan

Mario & Eileen Cavallaro

Trudie Conrotto

Donald Culver

Barbara Curtis

Barbara Drewitz

Kathleen Earnshaw

James Ebaugh

H. W. Fabing

Bill & Terri Faus

Joe & Jeanne Filice

Tom & Becky Fischer

George & Nancy Fohner

John & Dolores Kent

Kristiane McKee Maas

Ed & Elaine Maier

David Matuszak

James Oates

Ben & Loretta Pappani

Alan Porcella
Michael & Claudia Salewske
Rick & Debbie Santos
Chris & Debby Stuker
Judith Stutheit
Linda Burnett Trust
Lynn Wagner
Shirley Willard
Paul & Bess Yoshikawa
Lani Yoshimura

DO YOU HAVE A NOMINATION FOR OUR
2017 ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS?

Have you noticed an historic building that is “looking good” this year? We want to honor people who have invested in the preservation and beautification of their home or building, a significant effort that makes Gilroy a better place. And you can easily nominate a building for the 2017 Architectural Awards to be presented at the Society’s Annual Meeting in June. Send your nomination by March 31st using any of these methods:

E-mail: Gilroy.Museum@ci.gilroyca.us

Mail: Gilroy Museum, 195 Fifth St., Gilroy, CA 95020

Phone: the Gilroy Museum at 408-846-0446

Please include your name, the street address of the nominee, and a brief explanation of why you think the building or residence deserves an award in one of these categories:

Architectural Awards Categories:

1. **Historic Design Award** – for a new building in the downtown area that complements the original historic buildings or enhances the Downtown Historic District area
2. **Historic Commercial Building Award** – for a building at least 50 years old in the downtown Historic District or on an Historic Site that restores, retains or preserves the building’s historical, cultural or architectural values.
3. **Historic House Award** – for a home that is at least 50 yearx old that is an outstanding example of restoration and renovation. Exterior only.
4. **Certificate of Commendation** – for residential, commercial or “other”. This could be for new construction, restoration, renovation, additions, landscaping, painting or significant improvement.

OUR NEW WEBSITE

Check out our new and improved website at gilroyhistoricalsociety.org

We hired Lori Van Meter who applied her expertise and worked tirelessly to get it up and running. Thanks to Lori, Linda White and Eileen Cavallaro we have an updated look!

BETTY'S TELEPHONE PROGRAM WAS A BIG SUCCESS!

Here are a few photos from our event on January 28th. Notice the rapt expressions on the faces in the audience. Twenty-nine of us enjoyed Betty's explanations with many lingering to visit and enjoy cookies afterward.

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO BE A FIREMAN???

Now is your chance! The Society could use four good men to help pull our antique hose cart in Gilroy's Memorial Day parade. If you can walk about a mile, that's all it takes. The hose cart is very well engineered and pulls easily, even senior citizens can do it! The pullers wear khaki Bermuda shorts, a white tee shirt and red suspenders (from WalMart). We meet at the Gilroy train station parking lot about 10 AM, the parade begins at 11 AM and marches along Tenth Street past Gilroy High School. If you want to live out your secret desire on Memorial Day, May 29th, let Connie Rogers know at 408-842-8494 or jrogers@garlic.com.







BOOK SIGNING SPONSORED BY HISTORY SAN JOSE

Dia Book Signing & Discussion with Tom Zaniello
Author of *California's Lamson Murder Mystery: The
Depression Era Case that Divided Santa Clara
County*

Wednesday, February 22, 6:30 pm

Fallon House

Admission \$5, HSJ Members Free!