



**DAVIS HISTORY MATTERS**  
**Newsletter of the Davis Historical Society**  
**Volume 1, Number 4, March, 2003**

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**1. FEBRUARY 9<sup>th</sup> DHS MEETING LIVELY AND PRODUCTIVE**

Seventeen DHS Board, regular and nonmembers met at the Davis Branch Library Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> and completed some solid work and, as important, also had fun talking about the history of Davis.

Each of the nine standing committees made reports on their respective Davis history areas. Some of these are included in this newsletter and all of them have been or will be posted on the page belonging to each committee on the DHS web site. (These pages are in the left column of the site. The address is [www.davishistoricalsociety.org](http://www.davishistoricalsociety.org).)

One participant declared "I enjoyed the meeting" and observed that "there was an 'edge of chaos' quality that appeared [in the meeting] from time to time [that fostered having] an informative good time talking about both the history of Davis and the Historical Society of Davis."

This observer went on to say "I look forward to more contributions from folks like Jane, Howdy, and Phyllis." The reference here is to Jane Lewis, Howdy Howard and Phyllis Haig, descendents of Davis pioneers who enormously enlivened the meeting with stories about early Davis.

## **2. MAY 18: NEXT DHS MEETING**

The next quarterly meeting starts at 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 18 on the grounds of the Yolo County Museum, Woodland, where it will be a feature at the Museum's May Festival held that day.

The Yolo County Historical Museum is at 512 Gibson Road in Woodland.

All DHS quarterly meetings are Directors/Members/Public, which means that while it is a Board of Directors meeting, DHS members and not-yet members are invited to attend and to participate.

This participant-diversity worked very well at the first quarterly meeting of the Society on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Participants in that meeting look forward to equally rich quarterly meetings in the future.

## **3. HOUSE MOVING! 312 D MOVES TO 516 D MARCH 7<sup>th</sup>**

As DHS members were notified by e-mail on Thursday, February 20, the nineteenth century home at 312 D Street will be moved to 516 D Street:

**THE MORNING OF**

**FRIDAY,**

**MARCH 7<sup>th</sup>.**

Plans for DHS participation are in formation and DHS members and others will be notified of them.

## **4. PUBLICATION ACITIVITIES, REPORT, BY LYN LOFLAND**

The Committee is currently five persons strong, with the addition of Suzanne Mikesell who has recently joined the society. Other members are: Dennis Dingemans, Merrily Dupree, Tansey Thomas, and Lyn Lofland.

We are in the process of considering two publication possibilities: a short unpublished manuscript and a set of previously published materials. (At this early stage, public disclosure of content and authorship is inappropriate.) Both possibilities lend themselves well to web publication but we would hope that as funds permit, both pamphlets and books will also be feasible.

To date the Committee has conferred by e-mail, but we will be scheduling a meeting in the very near future to make procedural decisions on the items mentioned, to sketch out strategies for locating potential publications, and to discuss such matters as copyright, technical challenges, and the establishment of reasonable goals for ourselves.

There is one matter that we ask the Board to clarify for us, either today or at a later time. Are final publication decisions ours to make or are we, as it usually the case with unelected committees, advisory to the Board?

**[Editor's Note:** Reading the by-laws, the Board clarified that Publications Committee decisions on publishing are advisory. One major reason for this in this case is that the by-laws require Board approval for all expenditures, which publications would require.]

**5. ACTING LOGO**

Judy Fishette and Donna Lemongello have devised a logo that was reviewed by the Board at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. While we may want to hold a public, "logo contest" in the future, the Board thought the Fishette-Lemongello design was an excellent initial and "acting" logo. (It is at the head of this issue of *Davis History Matters*.)

**6. PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES, REPORT BY MERRILY DUPREE**

Since November the Historic Preservation Committee has focused on two major projects: supporting the Historic Resources Management Commission's decision not to allow new windows to be added beneath the existing ones in the Anderson Bank Building, and identifying pre-1934 houses still standing in Davis. Several Historical Society members spoke in opposition to owner Jim Kidd's appeal of the commission's decision at the City Council meeting on December 18, which was denied. Sadly, a fire in the building on the night of December 25 did extensive damage. More recently the committee has obtained photocopies of the town tax assessments for 1933. We've organized them by street, and are now checking houses against the footprints on the forms.

**7. EDUCATION ACTIVITIES, REPORT BY MARK DUPREE**

The Education Committee is considering several projects: putting out a calendar using historical Davis photos or present-day photos of historic houses (to appear in 2004), compiling a list of available speakers on Davis history, and organizing a community event celebrating one or more people from Davis' past.

**8. EMAIL ACTIVITIES, REPORT BY MERRILY DUPREE**

The Email Committee has obtained approval for the Historical Society to be placed on the DSN listserv. We've set up three lists: board, members, and general public.

**9. DAVIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INDEXED ON GOGGLE, NOTE BY JOHN LOFLAND**

It is one thing to have a web site, but it is another thing for it to come up when it is searched for in the top web search engine, Goggle. For a month or more after our site went online, a search on Davis Historical Society did not find it. But, just a few weeks ago, the DHS site started to come up in response to the search "Davis Historical Society."

This means that anyone, anywhere on the planet who can use Goggle can find our site by just putting our name into that search engine. In this sense, our organization is now "real." The more and better that we use that site, the more "real" it will become.

Indeed, I hope the site will soon become the "of course" first place one looks if she or he wants more than a superficial understanding of Davis, California.

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