



DAVIS HISTORY MATTERS
Newsletter of the Davis Historical Society
Volume 1, Number 10, September, 2003

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1. SEPTEMBER 1: LINCOLN HIGHWAY CARAVAN STOPS IN DAVIS

Monday September 1st at about 10 AM, a thirty car caravan celebrating the 90th and 75th anniversaries of the Lincoln Highway will stop at Fifth and B Streets in Davis. Representatives of the Lincoln Highway Association, organizers of the tour, will be presented a proclamation of welcome and celebration by Mayor Susie Boyd.

Following the route of the Lincoln Highway, the nation's first coast-to-coast auto route, the tour started in New York City on August 17 and will arrive at the end of the Highway in San Francisco the afternoon of this same day.

In Davis, the ceremony of welcome, commemoration and celebration will be held at the Lincoln Highway concrete marker at the southeast corner of Fifth and B Streets.

Mayor Boyd's proclamation stresses that the Lincoln Highway, which ran though Davis, was and is an aspect of Davis history that is important for us to recall and to celebrate.

The Hattie Weber Museum of Davis will be open from 9 AM and, along with the Davis Historical Society, will provide complimentary refreshments to members of the tour and the public.

The event is free and open to the public.

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DHS members are encouraged to volunteer to help out with the event or simply to attend. To volunteer, contact Lyn H. Lofland a lhlofland@ucdavis.edu or 756-8699.

2. THE SEPTEMBER 1st OPEN HOUSE AND CEREMONY

The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM, but the exact time is a little uncertain. Two of the main participants are traveling with the Lincoln Highway Anniversary Tour Caravan, which will be driving from Auburn to Davis the morning of September 1st. Traffic conditions may mean delay.

The Caravan will come to Central Park in Davis and stop for rest and the ceremony before proceeding on to the Vallejo Museum in Vallejo for a noon event.

Early arriving participants are invited to gather and to mingle at the Museum prior to moving to the Marker for the ceremony. Complimentary coffee and other refreshments will be available at the Museum. Historical materials on the Lincoln Highway will be on display.

Program

Emcee *Phyllis Haig, Curator, Hattie Weber Museum of Davis*

The Lincoln Highway Markers in Davis
John Lofland, President, Davis Historical Society

Greetings and Presentation of the City of Davis "Proclamation of Lincoln Highway Commemoration and Celebration Day in Davis" to Lincoln Highway Association Representatives Robert Lichty and Rosemary Rubin
Susie Boyd, Mayor, City of Davis

Historical Highlights of the Lincoln Highway
Robert Lichty, Lincoln Highway Association

The 90th and 75th Anniversary Tour of the Lincoln Highway
Rosemary Rubin, Lincoln Highway Association

Adjourn

3. SPECIAL EVENT NOVEMBER 16: TOUR OF THE HARRINGTON D STREET PRESERVATION/CONSTRUCTION

Mark your calendars!

Following the business part of the DHS Annual Meeting from 3 to 4 PM on November 16, we will walk one block to the new Harrington Preservation/Construction project at mid-block on D Street between Fourth and Fifth.

At that location, Davis City Council Member and Attorney Mike Harrington has been rehabilitating and preserving three cottages on two adjacent lots as well as constructing a modern office building behind them.

It is a unique melding of the old and the new that teaches much about well-done adaptive reuse and densification.

Several of the parties involved in designing and building the project will be on hand to explain various features of the complex .

More details about the tour will be published in next month's *Davis History Matters*. For now, reserve 4 to 5 PM on Sunday, November 16 for this unique opportunity to see history-in-the-making.

4. DHS DUES STRUCTURE TO CHANGE: THE 10-18-25 PLAN

In order to encourage longer-term memberships, the Board voted at its August 17th meeting to create an incentive for multiple-year membership by discounting dues for second and third year payments.

This policy becomes effective for the 03-04 dues-year and offers a one year membership for \$10, a two year membership for \$18, and a three year membership for \$25.

When the policy becomes effective in November (the start of the membership year), three years will be the maximum number for which one can pay dues. However, the Board wants also to consider other possible membership terms, including the possibility of a life membership.

The question of membership terms will be discussed at the Annual Meeting on November 16. If you have views you want to voice, by all means participate in the discussion at that time, register an opinion on the members email list, or write a letter to this newsletter.

5. THIRD PAPER ON DAVIS HISTORY: 19TH CENTURY BUILDINGS

Merrily DuPree's investigation of the number of nineteenth century buildings still standing in Davis in 2003 is the subject of Papers on Davis History Number 3.

Interested readers can try to guess what number she came up with and which properties are on the list. Then they can go to the DHS web site and see how close their guesses are to the empirical reality of the matter.

Are there 10, 25, 50, 100, 500, 1,000 19th Century buildings still standing in Davis?

Look toward the bottom of the list of Files to find the paper. It is labeled: 3. Papers on Davis History #3, Nineteenth Century Buildings

6. DAVIS CEMETARY HISTORY ON LINE: PART I

By Dennis Dingemans, DHS Treasurer

John Reynolds, Manager of the Davis Cemetery District, has agreed to list a link to our DHS site in his very impressive cemetery web site. I spent a pleasant hour with Reynolds recently learning some details behind the listing of most of our local cemetery records on the web.

You can see their site at "www2.dcn.org/orgs/cemetery/" and there you will find the name of anyone buried locally (northeast of the corner of Pole Line Road and 8th Street in Davis).

The web site makes available information that is otherwise only obtained by visiting the cemetery offices at 820 Pole Line Road (756-7807). Unusual and very useful is the feature that John Reynolds has made the listings fully searchable! The dates of birth and death, the details of the internment, the mapped location of the grave are given. It is easy to use and stands as a model of web accessibility for other cemeteries.

John Reynolds has added to the site some other features.

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It has a short history of the cemetery, in which we learn that Hattie Weber played a role in the 1922 incorporation of the district.

It reproduces some parts of Larkey's "Davisville '68" book, including the book's biographical entries for 16 prominent local pioneering families who have burials there.

The cemetery office at the cemetery itself also gives attention to these founding families by featuring these sixteen sites in its main orientation map for visitors.

The web project is a recent development, done entirely within the last year. Reynolds credits our DHS member John Chiles with suggesting that DCN might be willing to host the site. That it all moved from concept to reality in less than a year is a tribute to the initiative of our cemetery manager who reports that this was his first ever effort to build a web site!

[Ed: End of Part I. Part II will appear in the October issue of this newsletter.]

7. COMMITTEE NEWS

In the past several issues of *Davis History Matters*, each of the nine standing DHS committees has been provided space in which to report news of its activities since the previous newsletter. If no news was reported, the space was blank.

Because most such spaces have been blank most of the time, this effort seems to have no point and has been discontinued.

There was, however, a report from one committee. It is printed below as item 8.

8. AUGUST 16 PUBLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE BOARD

By Lyn H. Lofland, Chair, Publications Committee

There are, as earlier reported, two web publications in the Papers in Davis History series and they have now been joined by a third: A report of Merrily DuPree's detailed inventory of the 19th century buildings still remaining in Davis as of July of this year.

We also anticipate posting the first of the Larkey columns by early September. The principle we will be using is that of periodization. Not the chronology of original publication but the periods of Davis history dealt with in the columns. The initial postings will be of a selection of the columns dealing with the area before Davisville was founded—although at this point, we're uncertain just how many of these we'll use in this first installment. Eventually, of course, all her columns will be "republished" by us.

Once the initial Larkey columns are on the web, we want to begin acquainting the public with DHS publications. To this end the Publications Committee will be meeting some time in September to lay out a publicity campaign.

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