

# THE RECORD

## McKinley and Hoover Schools:

**A Centennial Celebration and a Rebirth Highlight the Mastery of Architect William H. Weeks** *by Jennifer Pfaff*

A century ago, McKinley -- Burlingame's first permanent elementary school -- located at Oak Grove and Grange (now Paloma), opened to great fanfare. Originally named Burlingame Grammar School, the classic brick building with stately columns was designed by renowned **architect William H. Weeks** (1864-1936). While the structure was being constructed, school children attended classes on Howard and Primrose, in a temporary 8-room structure known as "the little red schoolhouse".



Next Quarterly  
Meeting:

Sunday

Sept. 29, 2013

PAINT

BURLINGAME!



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*Architect William H. Weeks*

Roughly 20 years later, the same architect, William H. Weeks completed Herbert Hoover School, Burlingame's sixth elementary school. Between the McKinley and Hoover school projects, Weeks designed several other California schools, including Burlingame High in 1923, as well as banks, courthouses, lodges, and Carnegie Libraries throughout the state. Hoover School would be the last of the classically designed structures in the Burlingame School District. Unlike the flat parcels on which Weeks typically worked, Hoover's site presented challenging topography; the Spanish Revival style two-story structure was built into the heavily forested, largely undeveloped hillside.

Both Weeks' schools were later affected by the prevailing trends of their times. During the 1950s, much of McKinley's rich brick exterior was stripped of its detail and covered with stucco, then called "earthquake proofing." Hoover was closed in 1979 due to declining enrollment. *Continued on page 3...*

## NEW ACQUISITIONS



**THANKS TO:** Thanks to **Steve Dessin** for a 1890s Winchester lever-action rifle belonging to his grandfather, Burlingame pioneer and early Fire Chief **Wilkie Dessin**; **Russ Cohen** for a Burlingame Country Club vintage cigar box, for Gabriel Moulin's book, "Gabriel Moulin's San Francisco Peninsula", c. 1985; to **Linda Humber** for a July 28, 2001 *The Independent* article by Svanevik and Burgett on Hillsborough's Woodland Theatre;

to **Marci Leonhardt** for several newsletters (2005-2012) of the Burlingame-Hillsborough Newcomers Club; to **Chela Stoklosa** for a large framed photograph of the Burlingame Train station (c.1913) from the estate of Ginny Gates; to **Joanne Garrison** for a BHS "Little Big Game" program, Nov. 15, 2008; to **Richard Terrones (Dreiling Terrones Architecture)** for a "Project Narrative for Hoover Elementary School," May 2011, a "Due Diligence Report for the Burlingame Elementary School Board of Trustees on Hoover School," July 2010 and for an architect's watercolor rendering of the new building addition (see bottom of page 3) for the Hoover Elementary School campus, designed by Dreiling Terrones Architecture, Inc., Fall 2014; to **Linda Field** for printed matter related to the March 16<sup>th</sup> opening of the Peninsula Museum of Art, 1777 California Dr., to **Paul Constantino** for a reprint of the *SM Daily Journal* article entitled, "Everyday Memorial" (May 2013), featuring efforts of his son, Capt. Patrick Constantino of Burlingame and his Army company deployed in Southern Afghanistan, to commemorate fallen and wounded soldiers (2009-2013) with commemorative plaques and pictures; **David Chai** for a compilation of essays by various authors (in English and Chinese), a variety of printed information, website links, as well as a CD with powerpoint presentation and video, all related to Anson Burlingame's legacy in US-China relations, and to Prince Gong Yixin, who in 1867 proposed to the Chinese Emperor to recruit Burlingame to act as China's diplomat; to **Bill Lowrie, Burlingame Public Works**, for a chunk of 1970s era aggregate sidewalk and two crosswalk bricks, from the 1200 block of Burlingame Avenue; to **Alex Veech (with a big thank you!)** for an Excel file containing thousands of logged entries from the Memories section (c. 2003-2013) of our website; and to **Ron Bulatoff** for photos of Roosevelt School classes and faculty, orchestra and Cub Scout troop, 1953-1958.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Burlingame Historical Society undertook a research project in 2013 to identify the town's war memorials and then identify the names of those who died in military activities during war. We identified more than forty men and women from Burlingame who lost their lives in the Second World War, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War.

There were originally three memorials in Burlingame. Today, only two remain: a plaque at the Recreation Center and a bench memorial at Burlingame High School field. A third memorial at the Post Office on Park Road has disappeared. The Post Office memorial contained the names of 2,000 townspeople who served during World War II.

*We are grateful to our Society member, Lee Livingston, for spearheading this ambitious project.*





## Paint Burlingame!

Please join us for *Paint Burlingame*, the Society's Annual Fundraiser. Even if you are not an artist, you will enjoy seeing *Plein Air* artists with their easels and paints working throughout town creating works of art on the day of our event. At **4 p.m.** join us when the art will be displayed for judging and



**Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013**  
**Reception begins at 4pm**

reception held at **1426 Burlingame Avenue** (Malouf's former store).

Ten percent of the sales price of each work sold at the reception goes to our historical society. **THANK YOU to all of our loyal sponsors.** For more information about participating or being a sponsor, please visit the "**What's New?**" link on our website: <http://burlingamehistory.org>

## Thank you!:

We are grateful for the generous donation from **Vicki Jacobs**, in honor of her late mother, **Ruth Jacobs**, for (a belated) Mother's Day! Many thanks to **Joseph Cotchett** for a very generous donation to our society made on behalf of **Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy LLP** in honor of retiring Councilwoman and two-time mayor, **Cathy Baylock**. A big thank you to **Dave Capps of Capps Glass**

**Co.** for generously replacing a large broken window in the Gunst Carriage House Archive.

## Welcome New Members!:

**Individuals:** Marci Bowers, Heather Hansma, Linda Holden, Nance McGee, David Smoot

## In Memoriam:

Donna Wright

## Celebrating 150 Years of Peninsula Rail Service!

October marks 150 years of train service between SF and Menlo Park. In conjunction with Caltrain's celebrations, our museum will be open on **Saturday, October 19th**. We will be displaying some beautiful train station images as part of this event. **Please check our website for updates and times.** On **Saturday January 18, 2014** we will once again participate by opening our museum when Caltrain celebrates the 150th year of extending the SF line to Santa Clara.

## McKinley and Hoover, continued from page 1

The Shinnyo-en Buddhist organization purchased Hoover and conducted its various activities at the school until closing its operations at the site in 2007.

McKinley celebrates its Centennial on **September 23, 2013 from 2-4pm at McKinley School** (*check McKinley School's website for details*) with the recent restoration of many of its original assets. Hoover was reacquired by the Burlingame School District in 2010 and is currently undergoing renovation. In April school district officials broke ground for an attractive new addition that will include five classrooms, a main office, conference and staff rooms and a daycare room. With the recent renovations, these two iconic schools seem destined to last another century. We can only imagine Weeks would be pleased.



**Address Service Requested - Time Dated Material**

Calendar

**Quarterly Meeting**

**Paint Burlingame!**

**Sunday, Sept. 29**

All day; artists' reception at 4 p.m.

**McKinley Centennial**

Sunday September 22,

2-4 p.m. at McKinley, Check school website for info.

**Peninsula Rail Service 150th**

Saturdays Oct 19 and Jan. 18

(Times to be determined)

**Museum: (closed Labor Day weekend  
Sun. Sept. 1)**

**Open:** Sunday Oct 1 and Nov. 3 1-4pm

& Saturday Oct. 19th, check our website for times

*Please remember us  
in your will!*

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THE BURLINGAME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUMMER 2013, ISSUE # 135

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**President's Message**



We history lovers have much to look forward to this Fall. Numerous organizations are celebrating important milestones - a

reminder of an ever-growing appreciation (dare I say "hunger"?). As discussed in our lead article, **McKinley School** will hold a Centennial Open House on Sunday, September 22. **Music at Kohl Mansion** (our local chamber music program) just finished its 30th year. It is marking the anniversary with the publication of a book due out in October. On October 19th, we will open the

museum as part of **Caltrain's** celebration of 150 years of rail service. Our tree-lined county road, **El Camino Real** was paved through Burlingame in 1913.

The opening of schools, cultural events and new modes of transportation have all been significant developments along our community's journey. One other development, which we now frequently take for granted, was the installation of city water pipes. This year -- 2013 -- is also the **100th anniversary of city water**. So, please join us this Fall as we celebrate our local institutions. We hope to see you at *Paint Burlingame!* as well.

*-Jennifer Pfaff*

**Current Officers 2012:**

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