

# The Heritage herald

SUMMER 2013 Newsletter of the Eureka Heritage Society  
Est. 1973 Eureka, California

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## Birds Eye Burl and Millwork Return Burned-out House to Former Glory

After seeing in the last Heritage Herald Chuck Petty's article "The Case of the Mystery Mansion," about the house at 1030 J Street, I thought the members would like a follow-up. That house had a fire in the front great room and dining room sometime in late 2012. blue Ox Millworks was asked by Barry Smith construction to reproduce the interior moldings, two light fixtures, and two doors all this was out of redwood and would not have been a problem, except for one small detail: All of the interior great room and dining room moldings were milled from OLD GROWTH CURLY REDWOOD, and the two light fixtures were turned from 12-inch diameter old growth BIRDS EYE BURL. All the woodwork was bright finished with a clear coat of finish. Second growth curly could never have been stained to match the existing.



The first challenge was to find the curly old growth redwood, which I finally was able to do at a small portable mill operation in Arcata, Bob's Lumber. It turned out that some years back Bob got a curly old growth log and cut 2" and 4" lumber of it for his wife. After much pleading and sharing of the story of the house—and a wheelbarrow full of \$\$\$, Bob agreed to part with his stack of treasure.

The next challenge was the difficulty of working with the curly. *P.3 continued*

College of the Redwoods  
**courses in**

**Historic Preservation  
NEED YOU!**

**Sign up now.**

**Contact Bill Hole at  
bill-hole  
@redwoods.edu**

**October 6 Annual Home Tour**

### **Heritage Action Calendar**

**All meetings – City Hall – 5th & K**

City Council  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 6:30 p.m.

Historic Preservation Commission  
1st Wednesday – 4:00 p.m.

Design Review Committee  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays – 3:30 p.m.

Planning Commission  
2nd Monday – 5:30 p.m.

### **2013 Eureka Heritage Society Summer Event**

**Saturday, August 17, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Members only – \$15.00**

**Scotia: What Next?**

**A presentation by Frank Bacik, President of the town of Scotia, beginning at the Winema Theatre followed by a tour of town and a catered picnic. lunch.**

**To reserve, all Mary Glavich at 445-0962.**

## Board Members

### Executive Committee

President Chuck Petty  
Vice President Ron Kuhnel  
Secretary Kathy Dillon  
Treasurer Mary Ann McCulloch

### Board of Directors

Mary Glavich Helen Hui  
Robin Kuhnle Robert Libershal  
Paul McNally Lonnie Magellan  
Xandra Manns Peter Santonio  
Ray Swedenburg Janet Warren  
Steve Werner

Founding Director Muriel Dinsmore

The Board meets the second Monday  
each month at 5:30 p.m. at the

**Eureka Woman's Club**  
1531 J Street

### Committees and Chairs

Membership Chuck Petty  
Preservation Ron Kuhnel  
Events Mary Glavich  
Webmaster Peter Santino  
Education Xandra Manns  
Historic Plaques Bob Libershal  
Green Books Mary Ann McCulloch  
Archival Project Bob Libershal  
Volunteers Lonni Magellan  
Correspondence Robin Kuhnle

### Mission

The Eureka Heritage Society  
will provide  
leadership, education and advocacy  
that preserves and enhances  
**Eureka's irreplaceable historic**  
structures and neighborhoods  
so as to ensure  
a legacy for future generations.

Heritage Herald Staff  
Kathy Dillon  
Jean Guthrie  
Janet Warren  
444-3314

*Contact us with your suggestions  
and comments.*

*Eureka Heritage Society website:  
[www.eurekaheritage.org](http://www.eurekaheritage.org)*

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## SUMMER IS HERE

A Message from Our President, Chuck Petty

Since our last issue of the Heritage Herald, Preservation Month has come and gone. The Heritage Society had a display at the Humboldt County Library for the entire month of May to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Eureka Heritage Society. We reused a display put together by Marian Brady for our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, updated to reflect the passage of another 20 years. The EHS banner was on display all of May, draped across Fifth Street and put up by the Eureka Fire Department.

And we hosted our Preservation awards ceremony at the Eureka Woman's Club on J Street, to honor some very worthy recipients of the preservation awards. The honored recipients were Bill Hole, Preservationist of the Year; Kim and Kurt Kramer for the Healy building Restoration; Picky Picky for Adaptive Reuse; 1515 L Street for Residential Preservation; and Christ Episcopal Church for Community preservation.

The next event will be August 17 in Scotia to have Frank Bacik, President of the Town of Scotia, share plans as Scotia transitions from a company-owned town to private ownership. Scotia is possibly the last company town in the United States. Frank will present a cast study of the town at the Winema Theatre, give a cultural geography lecture, and discuss the historical significance of the town. Then we will get a chance to tour the Scotia museum and other architectural gems of the town, followed by a picnic lunch. This promises to be a fun and informative event, so please reserve and make it down to Scotia on August 17.

The Annual Home tour on the first Sunday in October is shaping up as we lock in homes to include on the tour. We should have quite a unique array of homes and public buildings on the tour this year, so mark your calendar for October 6. In December we'll have what has become a tradition for the Eureka Heritage Society, the Holiday Luncheon at the Ingomar club, with the McKinleyville Choir to entertain us and enrich the holiday season.

I am heartened by all the preservation activity in Eureka, as evidenced by our award winners, the fires restoration of the Hine house at 1030 J Street, and the continued efforts of the Historic preservation Commission of the City of Eureka. The Preservation Commission successfully applied for and won a Certified Local Government grant from the California State Office of Historic Preservation, to completely update the section of the city's website devoted to historic preservation under the Community Development Department. Keep watch as the site is developed at

<http://www.ci.eureka.ca.gov/depts/cd/default.asp>

### Home Tour Sunday, October 6

This year's home tour will include a sampling of Eureka's historic architecture from the early twentieth century: post-Victorian transitional; Neo-Classical, Craftsman, and Period Revival. The Society will be showcasing homes and neighborhoods from McFarlan Street on the east side of Eureka to Fairfield and Garland on the west side, and southward from downtown to Buhne Terrace. Live music and antique cars be at each site.

Also a prominent local architect, Franklin T. Georgeson, will be featured in a display of photographs, memorabilia, and two buildings: a commercial building in the Classical Revival style (1925), and a church in the Craftsman style (1914), designed by Frank Georgeson.

The Heritage Society needs your help to bake cookies, serve refreshments, be a host for one of the homes, or work on an organizing committee. Please call Mary Glavich (445-0962) to volunteer for the Home Tour.

# 2013 EHS Residential Award

to Seth and Jaime Lancaster  
for their house at 1432 L Street, Eureka

By Bob Libershal

When the Lancasters acquired this house in May 2012 they found it structurally sound, except for a leaking roof in poor condition. After first replacing the roof, they worked at many other interior and exterior repairs and maintenance needs, which owner/builder Seth has modestly described as “cosmetic repairs.” The Lancasters applied a basic preservation approach to bring this house back to life.



In 1909 Eli Barkdull moved this stylish two-story house to the 15<sup>th</sup> and L Street corner site, from H Street south of 17<sup>th</sup> where it had been built in about 1890. Alterations after the move, during and after its almost twenty years as the Barkdull family residence, include the full-length side porch, a rear addition, the dormers, conversion to two flats (apartments), and in the 1950s a re-siding with asbestos shingles. The house history after Barkdull, after 1929, also involves periodic years-long vacancies.

In recent years, the house suffered from neglect rather than alteration. The Lancasters fortunately acquired much historic fabric to restore and preserve. They re-plastered damaged walls and fallen ceilings, and restored wood floors. They retained historic light fixtures, built-in cabinetry and shelving, wainscoting, and pocket doors. While preserving the floor plan and historic architectural features, the revitalized the residential services and appliances for contemporary living. The Lancasters sensibly rehabilitated the house for continuing use as two rental units.



The large two-over-two wood sash windows and a stained glass window were treated as needed by Megan, a former student in Bill Hole's HPRT program at College of the Redwoods. To restore more of the prominent L Street façade's elegance, beyond the exterior cleaning and repainting, Seth removed the asbestos siding from the front bay stack and the front porch roof skirting. That project, which uncovered the need for repairs and replacement of some wood shingles and moldings, Seth completed in May 2013.

## *Curly, wavy grain continued*

As any of you woodworkers will know, wavy grain tends to chip out when being shaped in a molding machine. To make matters worse, these were wide patterns with deep cuts. Fortunately, my luck held again, as I remembered a talk with an old molder man some 40 years ago. He shared with me that the old timer's trick was to hone a very small back bevel into the knives, thus scraping the wavy grain rather than cutting it. This trick worked and the moldings were made!

As for the turned light fixtures, our luck held yet again. Many years ago I had bought a large chunk of true bird's eye burl that was big enough to make the turnings out of and match the grain perfectly.

Bottom line is the house is once again in its curly glory.

# *Eureka Heritage Society Preservation Awards for 2013*

## Preservationist of the Year

The Eureka Heritage Society is very honored to present our Preservationist of the Year Award for 2013 to College of the Redwoods professor and preservation leader, Bill Hole. Upon his arrival in Eureka, Bill was instrumental in the restoration of the Madaket. It's impossible to imagine Eureka having a historic waterfront without the presence of that 100-year-old ferry boat.

Then Bill guided the restoration of the Ricks House for College of the Redwoods and initiated that school's nationally acclaimed Historic Preservation and Restoration Technology program. While the HPRT Program itself has been acknowledged and honored by the Eureka Heritage Society and many others in the past, we at the Society felt that the creator of the program should be singularly acknowledged for his outstanding contribution to preservation and restoration in Eureka over the course of his career.

*More About Bill on page 6.*



## Community Preservation

The members of the church are recognized for continuing a tradition of preservation for their church buildings and grounds.

The community Preservation Award for 2013 was accepted on behalf of the congregation.

When the present church at 15<sup>th</sup> and H Streets was built in 1938, many elements of the original building, built in 1870 along fourth Street, near E, were incorporated into the new construction. The church bells, stained glass windows, some of the church furniture, and the organ were moved and preserved.

A few years ago the remodeling necessary to accommodate a grand new organ was sensitively done. This latest instrument continues the important tradition of organ music at Christ Church Episcopal. More recently, church members volunteered and prepped the buildings for exterior repainting. The congregation also chose to replace the rectory's brick chimney, reconstructing an important feature of that building following earthquake damage to the original a few year ago. Not unnoticed is the work of maintaining the lawns and landscaping around the half-block site.

*“Preservation Month is our Opportunity to Showcase Historic Preservation in the City of Eureka”*

## Adaptive Reuse Preservation



Picky Picky Picky Surplus, located at 304 Sixth Street in Eureka, is owned by Dan and Amy Reike. The building began its life in 1915 as the home of (Fred S.) Bair's Garage. It replaced a residence, the Dwyer House, which was moved to 14<sup>th</sup> and L Streets, property owned by E.R. Barkdull.

Bair's Garage, a fireproof structure of reinforced concrete, cost \$8,000 and was “fully equipped with the latest machinery, being the most complete machine shop in the county.” Mr. Bair had the agency for the Locomobile, Cadillac, and Oakland automobiles, as well as Knight & Savage tires. Knight tires carried a guarantee of 5,000 miles.



When Picky Picky Picky needed to expand its store space beyond their location on Sixth and E Streets, the Reikes purchased the former garage, which was still serving as a car dealership. Minor and sensitive remodeling to the exterior was completed to make the building suitable for retail, and today the former Bair's Garage is again, as stated on the front page of the Humboldt Standard, August 3, 1915, a “credit to the city.”

## Commercial Award: Healy Brothers Building

As a violent earthquake hit the region in 2010, doing a great deal of damage to many of Eureka's buildings, one in particular suffered what appeared to be a grievous hit. The building called the Healy Brothers building when it was constructed, but more popularly known as the Old Town Bar and Grill in recent times, is located on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street between D and E. An unreinforced masonry brick structure, it suffered substantial damage, and a portion of the wall on the east side broke off and crashed through the roof of the space below.

The city moved quickly, and soon thereafter the City Council approved a demolition order for the building. A few days later Kurt Kramer, awarded Preservationist of the Year in 2010 by EHS, purchased the building and planned not only to do a seismic retrofit, but also to return the building to practical use.

The building is now beautifully finished and has been restored to practical use. The façade has been painstakingly restored. Appropriately-sized windows have been cut into the west-facing wall. The ground floor is home to a bar and a business. The second and third floors are devoted to office space and a gallery for the Ink People.

Kurt Kramer is to be congratulated for preserving yet another of the City of Eureka's historic structures.

## **HPRT at *CR* needs You**

### **Courses in historic preservation for Fall 2013**

Fall 2013 HPRT courses at College of the Redwoods are starting August 24, so sign up now! With upcoming program review of HPRT and its potential discontinuance, now is the time to support this valuable Humboldt County asset by enrolling in available courses.

No previous experience is needed to succeed in CT 7 and CT 15.

#### **CT 7 Material Science: Glass (Section # 4710)**

This is a course that will teach you the various skills necessary to produce and repair stained glass panels, both lead cane and copper foil types. Etching with sand blasting, laser, and traditional glue chip will be taught, along with soldering and glass cutting.

Tuesday & Thursday mornings 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
Eureka Main Campus, room AT 109

#### **CT 17 Advanced Material Science**

This course is lab-only for students to come back and work on independent projects with guidance of instructor Bill Hole.

#### **CT 15 Carpentry for Existing Buildings Section # E4242)**

This course will be held at the Annie B. Ryan house at 1000 F Street, Eureka. Students in the class will continue the restoration, conservation, and weatherization of this classic 1892 cottage. Students have worked for the last seven years completing all various tasks and learning the skills of building reuse by doing the work. This fall students will continue working to help this house into its future as a beautiful and functional working house, after nearly 30 years of abandonment. Please come and join in learning by doing.

Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.  
First class at Eureka Main Campus, room AT 109

#### **CT 14 Advanced Field School**

This one is also a lab-only course for students to come back to work on advanced projects with guidance of the instructor, Bill Hole.

#### ***More About Bill***

Bill Hole has taught many construction technology course at College of the Redwoods since 1991 and pioneered the award-winning Historic Preservation and Restoration Technology program, still the only one in California. He's created numerous courses for students, builders, and artists in stained glass, plaster restoration, casting and moldmaking, along with architectural millwork. His early training in ceramics, photography, metal work, carpentry, cabinetmaking, and boat building have all facilitated his fun style of teaching design and hands-on job skills. Bill takes the classroom into the community using a Field School setting where students can learn to restore and conserve historic buildings, skills that transfer to any community

He has volunteered on boards like Humboldt County Historical Society, Green Employer Council, Preservation Trades Network, Ryan Family House an Gardens Association, helps Humboldt Folk Life Society and is a City of Eureka Historic Preservation Commissioner. He has facilitated student internships through California State Parks, BLM, National Forest Service, Historic Green in New Orleans, and HistoriCorps.

# 2013 Eureka Heritage Society Membership Form

\_\_\_ **New** or \_\_\_ **Renewing Member** (January to January)

- |                         |                            |                       |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ___ \$20 Individual     | ___ \$50 Nonprofit Sponsor | ___ \$150 Patron      |
| ___ \$30 Family         | ___ \$75 Private Sponsor   | ___ \$300 Benefactor  |
| ___ \$10 Student/Senior | ___ \$75 Business Sponsor  | ___ \$500 Life Member |
| ___ \$15 Senior Family  |                            |                       |

**Additional Contribution (s)** to the Eureka Heritage Society for:

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Scholarship Fund**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Carson Carriage Maintenance Fund**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Emergency Preservation Fund**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is my check in the total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
payable to Eureka Heritage Society.**

## ***The Eureka Heritage Society needs volunteers.***

*If you are interested in volunteering, or need further information, contact our  
Volunteer Coordinator Lonni Magellan at 442-7819 or email at [heylonni@yahoo.com](mailto:heylonni@yahoo.com)*

- Events, including annual Home Tour: docents, host/hostess, serving refreshments
- Education
- Publications, including mailing and distribution
- Archival Project and Research
- Serving on the Board

Additional comments/suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

**Eureka Heritage Society P.O. Box 1354 Eureka, CA 95502-1354**



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*CR* COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS - HPRT  
**Historic Preservation and Restoration Technology Classes**

*A.S. Degree Option*

<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Units</i>
Intro. to HPRT	3.0
Architectural History	3.0
Research/Documentation	3.0
Historic Building Analysis	3.0
Field Techniques	3.0
Architectural Millwork	3.0
Material Sciences (select 8 units)	
Wood	2.0
Masonry/Plaster	2.0
Interior Surface Materials	2.0
Glass	4.0
Casting/Mold Making	4.0
Survey of Wood Technology	3.0
Carpentry Theory I	3.0
Beginning Carpentry I	3.0
Technical Drawing Fundamentals	3.0
Occupational Safety and Health	3.0
<i>Total Major Units</i>	41.0

*Certificate of Achievement Option is available and requires a total of 20.0 units.*