



RANCH CHATTER

VOLUME 2, Number 3

LAKE ELIZABETH RANCH CLUB

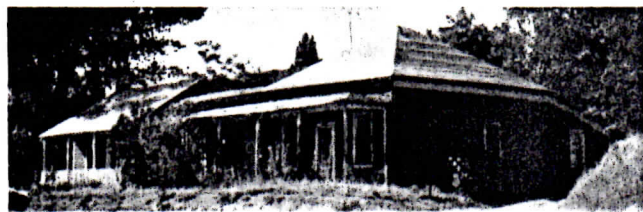
JULY 15, 1968

HISTORY OF LAKE ELIZABETH

Part V by R. T. Burnham, President

Since in our last episode we discussed the lake and its relationship to historical, El Camino Viejo de Los Angeles, it seems fitting to continue by moving in an easterly direction to the Club entrance, in use from 1947 until a short time ago. It was at this point, about three-quarters of a mile along the famed Camino, that the Elizabeth Lake post office was established and operated by our first pioneering family.

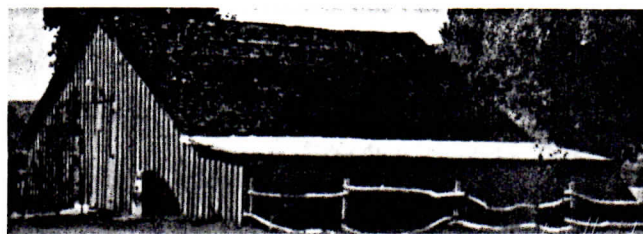
Yes, it was the Frakes family who emigrated to California in covered wagons to find in the eternal hills and lush valleys of the area a place to settle down; a place to establish a home as well as a way of life for themselves and numerous progeny. It was also this family who founded and operated the first post office in our countryside. Remarkable, we still are afforded historic continuity by the presence of our friend and neighbor, Mrs. Don Thompson, nee Frakes, who well recalls the halcyon days of our once important stopover!



Still on this original site are the buildings which was the last stage stop before crossing the desert.

Unfortunately, the decimation of wind, weather and time have now obliterated all traces of our erstwhile community post office. Yet we may still revel in our sense of neo-antiquity by again moving easterly along the Camino a short quarter mile to our two dwelling places built in the early eighteen-sixties, not only to afford sleeping quarters for horse-borne travelers, but to house the owners of that last stage stop before crossing the desert, or continuing through the westerly mountains to the north country.

Moreover, directly across the road from these time-mellowed structures you will note the old barn where mangers and corral were once used to feed, groom, even shoe the many horses of the stagecoach drivers as well as riders using the old San Francisquito canyon road from the Mission San Fernando. We were fortunate to acquire this strategically placed acreage some years past from our good friends and neighbors of many years, Mr. Alfred Bonner, now a resident of Las Vegas, Nevada.



The old barn as it stands today at the edge of our golf course.

Once again by proceeding east we are at the corner across from our St. Elizabeth Mission Church. Here for many years flourished Gray's Hotel, another stopover for the dust-laden weary traveler. Gray's hostelry burned to the ground, date unknown to the writer, but sometime after 1924 because the

(Continued on page 2)

RANCH CHATTER—ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Fellow Members,

Through the years many of our families have suggested a system of credit extension to members for Lodge Rentals, Dining room patronage, horseback riding and other facilities requiring cash expenditures during weekend and vacation periods spent at the Club.

Because of the extra overhead this sort of policy would entail by its very nature, we have been reluctant to make any change. Now, however, the time in which we live seems to dictate a change in our attitude toward acceptance of the conveniences of everyday living as represented by the necessity for not having on our persons a more than ordinary sum in cash.

These obvious reasons, coupled with our very cordial relationship with California's oldest national bank, moved your Board of Directors to institute the services of the Bank of California to set up our new "MASTER CHARGE" facility. Henceforth, for example, all Ranch Club members will be able to charge greens fees, cart rental, food and merchandise at our Golf course.

We encourage all of our fine members to accept this convenient offer of the Bank of California to make memorable vacation periods and even casual visits easier of accomplishment, by the use of your own personal MASTER CHARGE card.



Our Club President, "Russ" Burnham and James Stoll of the Bank of California displaying the shield of the "MASTER CHARGE" card which now may be used by our members for their convenience.

THE HOT LINE!

Who would like to join Hank Boyle in an albacore hunt August 8th? A fine boat, good company of other fishermen and women. The charter will be out of San Diego at about 1 P.M., Fisherman's wharf. Call the office to make your reservation. Cost is minimal for a lot of fun. Bring food, but beverage is served aboard!

Did you know that Eileen and Larry Williams have moved to the Club preparatory to building their own permanent residence at Lake Elizabeth? Larry is quite the horseman. We saw him cavorting around the corral on a beautiful animal recently purchased. Wonder what Eileen thinks of her new cowboy, or are they sharing the rides?

Mary and Dale Schudlack are very much in evidence at the Ranch and on the Golf Course since starting to build their own Lodge. Members these many years we extend a warm welcome to this fine couple. Additionally Dale as a building contractor is helping some of our other families with problems of remodeling.

Jean Arnold informs us springtime infection started at the corral leading to the production of one small perfectly formed colt. She is so proud of the little beauty, since it became a new member of the family, that some thought of charging admission for viewing is being considered!

Josephine and Warren Nute enjoyed their recent Hawaiian vacation, storing up so much energy in the warm sunshine of that state, they've decided to go in big for golfing! Let's all remind them that the name of the game is "stick to the fairways". And what about that 27 foot put, Jo!

The long awaited "Family Plan" is now in effect for all Charter, Permanent and Golf Members. Response has been very good, but we could use more participants. For \$30.00 per year what a bargain! Incidentally, hayrides on Moonlite trail rides are not included in the annual fee. We still have to feed the horses and ponies!

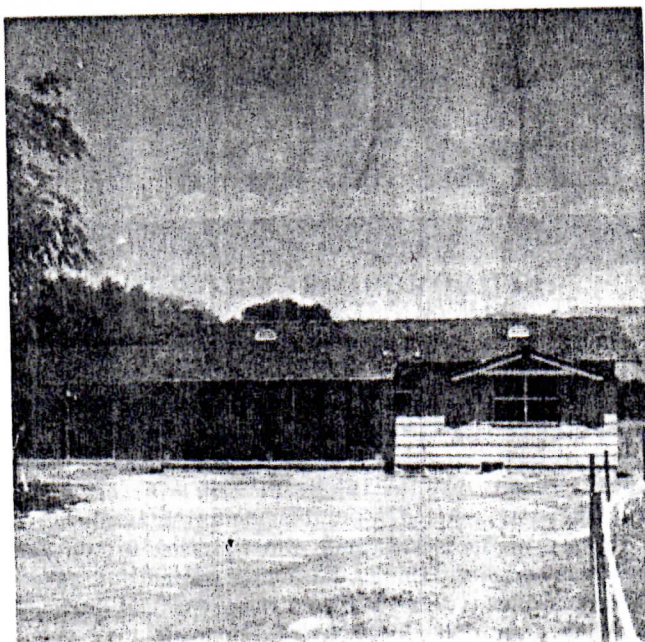
Special square dances are now scheduled for the first Saturday night of each month. Gaylord Crouse our own famed Southland caller officiates, doing an outstanding job of teaching and calling. Make it a point to join in all the fun—besides the exercise will do you a world of good.

The Gordon Messicks spend about one full weekend at the Club month after month. This should keep our Lodge Owners in very good humor. This kind of support certainly encourages more building and better accommodations. Our thanks to the Messicks—fine members.



BUILDING NEWS by BERT KOCH

LODGE CONSTRUCTION Rancho Sierra



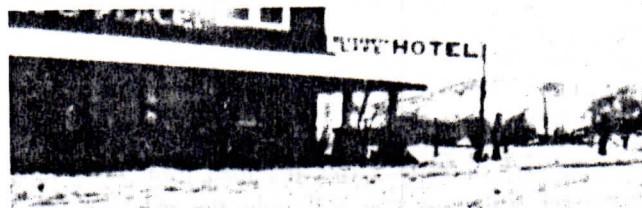
We proudly present the above photo of our model, built by our company, Rancho Sierra Construction Co. Drop in and get acquainted, see the quality construction plus other plans and ideas that may be of interest in the development of your own lodge at Lake Elizabeth.

Thayer and Pearl Cooley have moved into their new lodge also Dale and Muriel Priest, welcome neighbors and good luck to both of you.

Rancho Sierra is starting construction on lodges for Edward and Barbara Amstutz, Harry and Elsa Lumich, and Maurice and Tiona Pecaut and more in planning stage.

HISTORY OF LAKE ELIZABETH (Cont. from page 1)

accompanying photograph was taken during that year. We are told that Gray's really jumped during its heyday.



Gray's Hotel, as it appeared in the year of 1924.

Proceeding south at this intersection we next encounter the present Thompson residence. Also noteworthy is the schoolhouse next on the left side of the highway. This school was established in 1859. It was the first and only school between Los Angeles and Bakersfield. Many of our local people were introduced to their 3-R's in this rural school. Our school continued to operate all through the years until the Tehachapi earthquake resulted in condemnation. Yet it remains a proud building, though the playgrounds are now neglected and choked with weeds.

Next, we'll move on to other places of interest in another time period out of the past.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

GOLF MEMBERS, RANCH CLUB MEMBERS

Course is open 7 days a week but the Pro Shop and Coffee Shop are closed on Mondays.

NEW GREENS FEE RATES:

Ranch Club Members

\$3.00 Weekdays, \$5.00 Weekends

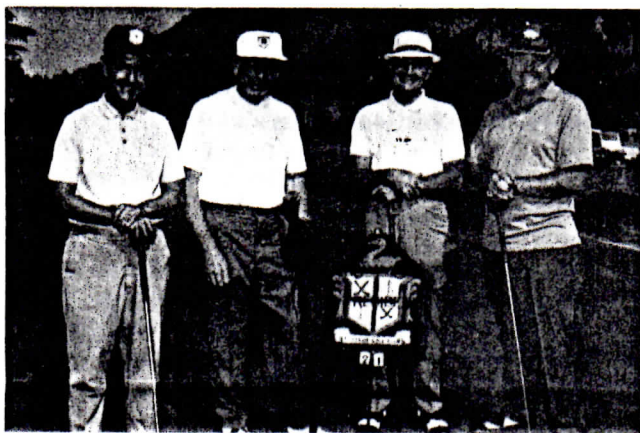
Guests

\$3.00 Weekdays, \$5.00 Weekends

(Prices above are an all day rate, as many holes as you wish to play. After 3 PM, half price.)

DRIVING RANGE OPEN:

The driving range is available to all Ranch Club Members and their guests. We have 50c buckets and \$1.00 size range balls with clubs for you to use free of charge. Come down and sock a few.



Above are four handsome eager beavers of the golfing fraternity who played in the recent pro-am at Lakeside, C.C. From left to right, Mr. Simmons, Bill Heavey, Brookside, our own Allen Jones and Men's Club President Gene Martin.

The Men's Club Best Ball Championship play-off was held on June 9. Congratulations to Bill Freed and Russ Burnham for winning. Runner up honors went to the team of Smitty White and Harry Maltbe, and third place to the team of Dick Winzer and Carl Jensen.

The Hackers Tournaments have been drawing large attendance with the June Tourney put on by the Women's Club having more than eighty participants. Over the Fourth of July weekend more than ninety attended a Las Vegas hackers tourney followed by a wonderful Beef K Bob dinner put on by Gale Dillenbeck.

Plans are under way for the Men's Club Championship in September and tournament chairman Bob Schoonover expects the largest field ever entered during the three years this event has been held. Men's Club has almost sixty members and some of the new members are excellent golfers. They will give our Club Champion, Vern Larsen, and his number one contender Clem (wipe out) Carlson a real run for championship honors this year.

The Golf Club is really starting to roll with new members joining every week. The course is in the very best shape ever. Everyone seems to be having a real good time, with all the members really beginning to know each other in sharing a lot of friendly days of golf.

MILITARY NOTES

Bob Priuett, celebrated his promotion to "Chief" by spending a weekend at the Club with his mother and family. His mother, our own Vera Grimm, tells us Bob has recently returned from a three year stay with our naval air forces in Japan. Also daughter, Leslie, has just returned from assignment in the same country.

David Arnold was home again on leave before reassignment. It's amazing how these young people mature when Uncle takes over.

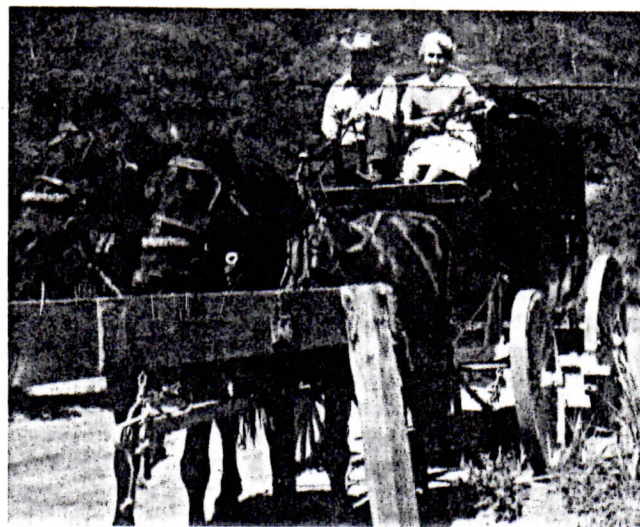
Craig Coley is back in the Pacific on an aircraft carrier. Ask Wilson and Margie about collect phone calls from the Orient!

How about your own boy or girl in the service? Let us know before our next issue goes to print.

AN NARY AN INDIAN OR HOLD-UP MAN!

As an extra precaution, when the stage coach was taken on a Breakfast Ride recently this young lady volunteered to ride shotgun. Mrs. Hazel Flavell reported that the trip was successful, safe and most of all fun.

By the way if you have never had breakfast on the trail, better find out about it. It is the beautiful time of the morning. The ride takes you thru the back trails of the Ranch. The views are inspiring. The stop at the Chuck Wagon for a hearty breakfast right off the griddle makes this a must for every out door buff.



SUMMER RULES AT LAKE ELIZABETH GOLF COURSE

To the non-golfer, this means little, but to the golfer, it's a great milestone passed successfully.

Summer rules, the first time on a new golf course is the result of many, many working and planning hours of the management and working crews. I really feel we have a wonderful rapport between these two groups. Our greens crew work in such a dedicated manner, many work hours overtime just to get a job well done.

You'll have to agree, the course shows this dedication.

I feel a great vote of thanks is due these men who make the condition of the course their primary concern.

Happy golfing and *repair* those *divots*.

BEAR FACTS BY SCHULTZIE

March 17:

Erin Go Braugh, the wearing of the green and all that stuff. What a nice hard time dance at the Ranch Club. So many poorly dressed members! The Mann's were the worst off, long johns and barrels must be the very last straw. They were awarded first place. The family of Norm Coleman, with their freckles, corn cob pipes and patches walked off with the second place trophy. Maggie had a wonderful buffet, as usual. Esther Pasek made green nylon corsages for the ladies, and white carnations for the men, each having numbers on them for a partner dance. What fun! Thanks Esther. The music was dreamy and everyone had a grand time.

April 6: was "Blitz Day" at the ranch, and all the L.E. representatives and wives made a bright and "Fresh Paint" area in the picnic grounds. Did you notice? The golfers had another one of their Hackers, the ladies outdoing themselves with chicken and dressing. Ask Ethel Martin for a putting lesson with two balls. Then to finish the day, Gayle, our square dance caller had a hoe-down for about three squares.

April 14: It's Easter Sunday and our members look so dressed up today, especially the young ones. An egg hunt for the children at noon, my gosh! who is that Big Bunny? Entertainment by Mrs. Ford's dancing class from Lynwood. Thoes girls were pretty and danced so well. Thanks so much. A parade for all the Easter Dandies with a lollipop for reward, and of course the little baskets from the Ranch Club. A wonderful Ham and Sweets dinner in the dining room. Some had a long wait, but it was well worth it. Did you see the excitement in the corral? Someone held up the stage, a fist fight followed, and did you see them hang that poor fellow? A big hand for the wrangler, Dick, and his buddies for such a good show.

April 27: What a busy day at the club. The men golfers are finishing their best ball tournament, the Jr. golfers had an election and a tournament, and the gals are finishing the electric tourney. It was the Wild Flower Dance, and what entertainment we had. Judge George Pasek, Claude Ballard and Bob O'Rear had their hands full picking the winner from the members applause. Lori Barto, the little Hula dancer was picked for first place. Nora and Tom White singing a duet, came in second; Terri, Pam and Mary Ann singing trio with a guitar were third; and a sailor, Wayne Ray, who also played the guitar and sang won a consolation prize. The music was furnished by the Gold Coast Four, and they were so good I found myself dancing the Bear Waddle all alone in my cage. Maggie had an especially good buffet, those pork chops were soooo tender, and that Blueberry Fluff has to be the greatest. Nice busy fun day and night. I'm all worn out!

April 4: We've been invaded by square dancers. They are coming by the bus loads, by the car loads, my gosh! look at those dudes. Did you know Gayle called to 17 squares? Everyone seems to be having such a good time, they had to move the ping pong tables outdoors, and even take a few tables out of the dining room. I think I could do that swing and chain bit. I have one in my cage, if they want to borrow it.

May 11: First Moonlight Trail Ride. Kinna cool for all those people on the hay wagons, just snuggle a little closer. I sure love all those people out here with me at night. Those hot dogs smell so good. Joe Pronto is in good form tonight, but that Mountain dew is taking all that harmony indoors.

May 25: Smell that Bar-B-Que? Must be the first Fiesta Day. How about that tug of war, prize for the winning teams was watermelon. Wow! In the evening was the Teen-age Dance; music supplied by the Precious Pills. Those Go-Go girls were the most. The kids really had a ball. Gary Jones, son of our popular Pro danced up a storm. I wish I were young enough to dance like that.

Memorial Weekend: Several lucky members with a four day holiday enjoying the many activities at the club. Weather was perfect. The golf club busy with their first Jack and Jull Tournament on Friday, and Saturday was the very popular Hackers Night. They had over 60 golfers, I could smell the steak bake way up here, and also hear the laughter. Gene and Audrey Martin can dream up the wildest contests. Was that a cold cucumber I saw, and what were they doing with it?

June 8: This was Member-Guest Day at the Golf Club, with a wonderful turnout for the second annual tournament. The men played either a calloway or partners best ball, and the gals played a cross country. Many happy winners of gift certificates. A bar-b-que dinner was enjoyed by all. Later that night the second Hay Ride, too bad it was cold again, but, don't you have your love to keep you warm?

June 15: The pool is open, come on you brave ones, don't see me standing around, do you?

June 16: Breakfast ride up into the hills, some on horses and some in the stage coach. Who is that brave gal riding shotgun? There is a breakfast ride every other Sunday morning for you pioneers. Nice warm day at the club with just enough breeze to keep it comfortable.

RIDING LESSONS

3 Group Lessons — \$10.00, including horse rental.

Private Lessons — \$5.00 per hour, including horse rental.



Stan Kellogg, professional photographer, historian, writer and a foremost authority on the history of stagecoaches in the development of the west presented the above shot of Ken Walker's authentic stage. Mr. Walker brought the stage to the club for the enjoyment of our western buffs. Many thanks to Messrs. Kellogg and Walker!

BIG OAKS LODGE

Serve the finest SHISH-KEBAB BUFFET to be found anywhere in the U.S. Ask any member who has tried it.

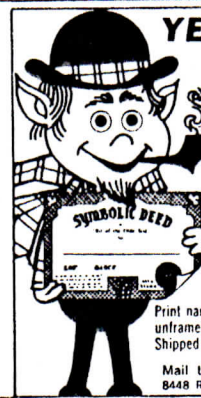
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July 20th

MID-SUMMER DANCE

The members' favorite event. Our famous outdoor barbeque served in the picnic area from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Ballroom dancing in Club House from 8 p.m. to Midnight. Les Errick and his Band. The same band we all enjoyed so much as the Wildflower dance.

Aug. 3rd

MOONLIGHT TRAIL RIDE

There is nothing like a Bright Moonlight Night in the Country.

Ride the haywagons and sing along the trail or if you're over 12 years old, join one of the groups riding horses. 1st ride out 7:30, other rides are out approximately every hour during the evening. Outdoor wiener bake, singing by the fire pit and dancing in clubhouse. A real Western Ranch Party the entire family will enjoy.

Aug. 17th

FIESTA DAY

This is family day, bring friends and join in. A true Outdoor Western Barbeque served in the picnic area, from noon until evening. Games and contests all day starting at 11:00 a.m. with prizes for winners, climaxed with the Pinata for the children. A lot of fun for everyone — regular Saturday night schedule in the Club House.

Sept. 2nd

LABOR DAY

Beauty Contest. Help select our Queen Miss Lake Elizabeth of 1968, also Master and Miss Wading Pool, (toddlers under six years).

Sept. 7th

MOONLIGHT TRAIL PARTY

Last ride of this summer.

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

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