

Christmas flashbacks

# Victorian Society of America; heritage seminars

**THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY** in America, founded in 1966 in New York, "to promote an awareness and appreciation of Victorian culture, architecture, decorative arts, design and craftsmanship, and to encourage their protection and preservation," now has its headquarters in Philadelphia, a membership of 2,000, and a young, enthusiastic executive director.



That director, Joan Thill, visited Humboldt County during the holidays, looking over the county's collection of Victoriana, while staying with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Facey, Fortunas.

Ms. Thill, who works out of the VSA office in East Washington Square near Independence Hall, comments, "The Victorian society's future is west of the Mississippi. We're trying to interest people in the West. It's like Eureka — especially where the emphasis is on architecture. But we're also trying to broaden the members' interest to include landscape design, so they'll know what to look for when they've got a garden, we're also working to focus on the decorative arts, so that members can become more informed."

"Also, art and literature are other interests — to help increase the understanding of the entire period. Architecture is just the beginning."

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A native of Montana, graduate of UC at Riverside, who earned her MA degree in museum administration and American history from the University of Delaware, she took her post with VSA (modeled after the Victorian Society in England) last year. She was previously in Denver, Colo., as curator of the (Unsinkable) Molly Brown house.

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ed by the Colorado folk heroine, she was in charge of running the home, overseeing the 200 volunteers who gave the tours, seven days weekly to the more than 50,000 annual visitors. The Molly Brown Victorian (which escolated in popularity after the Meredith Wilson performance in "Unsinkable") was the property of Historic Denver, Inc., a preservation group.

"All the volunteers were in Victorian costume — to give a feeling of Denver's history as well as of Molly Brown and the house. We tried to sneak a little preservation in at the same time — it was a fun job..."

The challenge now of her VSA job encompasses a broader scope of publishing "Nineteenth Century," an illustrated quarterly magazine concerning Victorian life and

## Accentuating

By Muriel Dinsmore

culture; the VSA bulletin, a newsletter, planning for the annual tour and meeting to be held this year in Savannah, Ga. — and the annual workshop, scheduled for Philadelphia, Sept. 10-11, with emphasis on many arts of the bicentennial.

Possibly working to increase that 2,000 membership, Ms. Thill told how any residents of Victorian-oriented areas able to form a VSA chapter — "simply by having 20 people sign a petition." Then as a chapter, that group can do pretty much what it wants to in setting up its meeting schedule, and areas of emphasis. Individual, non-chapter memberships in VSA are available, also.

For further information, the personable Ms. Thill can be contacted by writing The Victorian Society in America, The Athenaeum, East Washington Square, Philadelphia, Penn., 19106.

And when the VSA board meets there one of the vice presidents who may be attending is Charles Hall Page, San Francisco city planner, recently an evaluator for the Eureka Heritage Society's architectural survey, while a board member present may be Robertson E. Collins of Jacksonville, Ore. A frequent visitor to Eureka, Collins will be returning on a very special mission this coming Thursday and Friday:

"**ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE** Appreciation Seminars" will be the reason for his visit. And Collins, also a trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and one of the strongest forces in the preservation of Oregon's historic Jacksonville, has the honor of opening the series of seminars, sponsored by the College of the Redwoods.

He will speak Thursday night at 8 o'clock in the CR forum on the topic "Heritage Appreciation of the Pacific Coast" (a subject in which he is highly qualified) and on Friday he will conduct a seminar from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., broadening his presentation, in the CR Lakeview Room.

The brainchild of Dr. Andrew Vangelotas of the CR administrative staff, the seminars are in keeping with the nation's and CR's focus on the bicentennial, as well as the growing awareness of heritage appreciation. The announcements of the seminars are some of the most professional and distinctive this writer has seen published in this area and a credit to Vangelotas and Barbara Cantrell of the CR publications staff. (see Victorian sketch.)

Collins, widely traveled and highly knowledgeable, is the



VICTORIAN sketch announces CR seminars

perfect choice to open the seminars and leads a list of other distinguished speakers. They are Carol Galbreath, regional planner with the trust's San Francisco office, who will conduct the Feb. 10-11 presentations; Aaron Gallup, staff historian with the state office of historic preservation, Sacramento, slated as the April 1-2 speaker and Dr. Marion Ross, architectural historian, professor and head of the department of art history at the University of Oregon. Their respective topics will be "Economics and Town Conservation," "Historic Preservation: Planning and Programs," and "A Broad Survey of the Architectural Development on the Pacific Coast."

Persons interested in attending the series — for credit or non credit — or attending one or several of the programs, may sign up the night of the opening lecture, or call the College of the Redwoods, 443-8411, for information.

**CHRISTMAS FLASHBACKS:** Joe Frazier, Eureka mailman, receives our "nicest guy of the Christmas season," award. In his role as a Eureka postal delivery man, he delighted both adults and children on Christmas day dressed as Santa Claus, stepping out of his mail delivery vehicle — to deliver late packages. And the nicest thing of all? It was his own idea...

Barbara Backlund, via a Humboldt Cultured Center project, received a Lanore Cady gift — a watercolor of the Sheridan House in San Diego. Ms. Backlund was the lucky winner of the painting, awarded as a fund raiser by the center — and as the result, the center will receive its "gift." Refinished floors — made possible by the \$830 raised by the project. The painting was a generous contribution by the Arcata artist, and the funds raised a generous show of support for the center, at 422 First St.

## People and places

Eureka Arcata

**REV. LORNA SHOEMAKER**, assistant pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Eureka, was guest speaker at the December meeting of the American Business Women's Association, ABWA, Redwood Empire chapter, held at O-H's Towne House. The speaker, telling of her work, explained that out of 80 denominations that ordain women, less than 5 per cent of the clergy are women, although 30 per cent of the members are women. She discussed, also, the pros and cons of the ministry as traditionally a men's field. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, portrayed by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jackson, distributed gifts and Christmas songs were led by Darlene Miller.

**POCAHONTAS**, Arkata Council No. 148, plans a cake walk at its Friday meeting with proceeds going to aid retarded children. The council has been visited by Bea Lanphear, Great Pocahontas of the Reservation of California. The visitor was honored at a dinner at the Bella Vista Inn, preceding the evening meeting at which Edna Palmer presided. The degree team performed a ceremony of adoption on one candidate, Opal Galloway. Dignitaries from neighboring lodges were introduced. Committee members included Mildred Balke, hall decorations; Florence Hill, table decorating; Mary Steiner, serving; Peter Mintz, kitchen cleanup; Frank Thornton, hall cleanup.

Arcata Senior Citizens Club meet Monday, 1 p.m., business meeting, followed by fellowship and games. Arcata Community Center, 14th and D streets. Open to persons 50 years of age and older. For information call President Ron Grebner, 822-5883 or Norma Kinshella, treasurer, 442-5603.

## Ex-wife stands in for new one

**PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI)** — Thomas L.R. Moore's intended bride was sick in bed so Moore's ex-wife stood in for her at the wedding ceremony.

The Rev. William Gardner of the Good News Tabernacle performed the marriage and said the groom, 57, and his exmate were "obviously still good friends."

"I know all about things like this," the former Mrs. Moore said. "We were married for 15 years."

Moore, a retired rodent control specialist, and his proxy wife have been divorced for more than a year.

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## --Belly dancer, boa



(Continued from page 9)

of five children in her family) since her father's a dentist and she learned nutrition in school. "But no one bothered to explain why. Now I can see the results. I can run circles around what I used to do, due to exercise and proper diet."

Perhaps when her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Clyde F. Brunson of Salt Lake (her mother is a part-time instructor of future teachers at Westminster College) visit here this month, her father will be pleased to see the results of good eating habits — and exercise.

The Brunsons will also see their daughter belly dance for the first time — and perhaps as an unusual "moment to remember" of their trip to California. Brunson can assist in bathing Zahara in a tub of warm, sudsy water.

For among the impressive things we noticed about her boa was his cleanliness along with his lovely colors of rust, brown, tan and black — and his skin's interesting pattern — clearly visible, even at a distance.

## North Coast calendar

**DAR**, (Daughters of American Revolution,) Redwood Forest, meet Saturday, 1 p.m., "Good Citizens" program. Seniors from area high schools to be honored are Tom Brants, Del Norte; Catherine Dickerson, Arcata; Leslie Valentine, Fortuna. Parents and counselors invited to the event arranged by Betty Scott and committee, Helen Thomas, good citizens, chairman.

During the taqseem of the belly dance, Rachel Jill will cast off her veil

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**Comfy Girdle**  
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 Natural D-cup, 2 for \$9

**Crossover Longline Bras**  
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 \$9 D-cup sizes ..... 7.19

**Midleg Girdle**  
 Regular \$7.50 **5 49**

**Long-leg Girdle**  
 Regular \$9 **6 49**

**Long-leg Girdle**  
 Regular \$11 **7 99**

**Full Figure Bra**  
 Regular \$6 **3 99**  
 \$7 D-cup ..... 4.99

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