



# The Cupola

## Newsletter of the Pardee Home Museum

Spring / Summer 2015

Oakland City Landmark  
1975

National Register of Historical Places  
1976

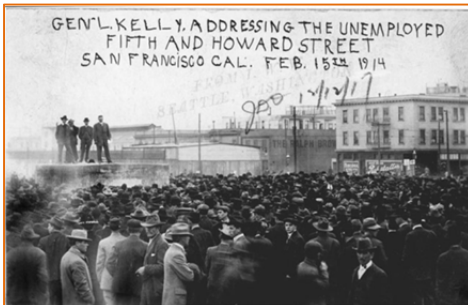
Alameda County Historical Society Landmark  
1985

California Historic Landmark  
1998

### The Myth of Pick-Handle Pardee

By Ron Bachman

The United States faced a great depression during the time Dr. George Pardee was Mayor of Oakland (March 1883 – March 1885). Unemployment was as high as 18%. An army of jobless workers from the eastern part of the country, formed under its leader Jacob Coxey, marched to Washington DC to protest their unemployment and to encourage Congress to create Public Works jobs. The marchers were known as Coxey's Army.



Kelly's Army assembling several months before leaving San Francisco

The western section of Coxey's Army was known as Kelly's Army, named after its organizer, General Charles Kelly. It consisted of over one-thousand unemployed men whose goal was to march from San Francisco to Washington DC to join the unemployment protest. The group sought funding from then San Francisco Mayor C.R. Elliot who assisted 600 of them

on April 3, 1894, but only to get them as far as Oakland by ferry boat.

Mayor Pardee was infuriated and responded with the statement, "Oakland already has tramps". He then assembled a group who met at the hardware store of Frank K. Mott and were reportedly issued ax handles to assist in escorting the army from Oakland. Although Mayor Pardee denied this, there are many historical reports of this occurring.

Frank Mott became a close friend of Mayor Pardee and served on his City Council and continued in this position until 1905 when he was elected Mayor of Oakland. There will be more on Mayor Mott in future issues of the Cupola.

Recently, in the depths of a closet in the Curio Room of the Pardee Home, a single wooden wheel spoke was found that had been carefully wrapped in paper. No ax handle has ever been found at the Pardee Home. In 1894 Mott's Hardware Store would be just as likely to sell wooden wheel spokes as they were to sell ax handles. At that time there were no automobiles, but there were many carriages that required spokes for their wheels.

Perhaps his nickname really should have been "Spoke-Handle Pardee" which does not sound nearly as good as "Pick-Handle Pardee".



Spoke Handle found in left Curio Room Closet

So, please stop by for a tour and ask to see this historical spoke handle.

### Upcoming Events

**July 4, Noon:** Our traditional Family Fun Day at PHM

**September 27, 2pm:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Delilah Beasley Tea to celebrate POWER (Progressive Oakland Women Empowering Reform)

**October 17, 7pm:** Our 9<sup>th</sup> Public Ghost Investigation at PHM

## Family Fun on July Fourth

Pardee Home Museum will host its annual July 4th Family Fun Day from noon to 4:00pm on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.



Ann Gibson and Frederick Hodges

A highlight will be the return of Frederick Hodges and Ann Gibson who will provide music in the shaded back garden amid tables and chairs for our guests. A barbeque of burgers and hotdogs, freshly boiled Brentwood corn on the cob plus many other tasty treats will be served. Guests will be able to enjoy lawn games of badminton and croquet. Guests will also have an opportunity for prizes. Tours of the interior of the Pardee Home will be available by our volunteer docents for an additional \$5/person. This is a great opportunity for the Pardee friends and neighbors to celebrate July Fourth at our historic home. Please call **510 207 8498** to make reservations or simply show up at our Carriage House on 12th St. Prices are \$15 for Adults (12 and older), \$5 for those 5-11 years old and Free for children under 5. For additional information check the Pardee Home Museum website at <http://pardeehome.org/>



## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Delilah Beasley Tea

By Richelle Lieberman

On Sunday, September 27th, Progressive Oakland Women for Empowering Reform (POWER) will hold their 4th annual Delilah Beasley tea in the Pardee Home gardens from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The annual tea is celebrated in memory of Delilah Beasley (1871-1934), a former newspaper columnist for the Oakland Tribune and the first African American woman to be published regularly in a major metropolitan newspaper. As a historian, Ms. Beasley's works remain among the critical sources for both black California and African American women's history to this day. The tea affords POWER and the community the opportunity to honor and celebrate extraordinary Oakland citizens and institutions whose vision and leadership inspire, enrich, transform and empower our communities.

This year's honoree is Arabella Martinez. Ms. Martinez has over 40 years of experience in developing strong community directed institutions that support the economic self-sufficiency and empowerment of women and communities of color. Recently retired as Chief Executive Officer of The Unity Council in Oakland, she leaves as her legacy a \$100 million national model of sustainable neighborhood revitalization linking land-use, transportation and community development that is considered exemplary.



Arabella Martinez

In 1969 she was appointed as the first executive director of the

Spanish Speaking Unity Council. In those early years she created its initial economic development base of business, education and employment. In 1977 she was appointed Assistant Secretary for the Office of Human Development by President Jimmy Carter, the first Latina appointed to a sub-cabinet level position in the history of the nation.

Her legacy is an amazing story of social empowerment for Latinos and women in Northern California.

The POWER tea has become known for a beautifully presented affair, with delicious sweets, pastries, savory finger sandwiches and an array of fine teas and coffee. Live music will be offered. Local community leaders and other attendees will enjoy the lovely gardens of the Pardee Home Museum.

Tickets purchased by June 30 are \$20 per person and \$25 thereafter. Seating is limited. Reservations and info: 510.381.1973 or at <http://www.waterfrontaction.org/power/>

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## The Times They Are A Changin'

Pardee Home Museum has new times for its weekly tours of the governor's home. Every Saturday at 10:30AM a docent will be available for walk-in guests. In addition we will continue to have a tour at 2:00PM on the second Sunday of each month. The every Wednesday tours at 10:30AM are no longer held. The PHM will still make tours available to groups that schedule tours at specific dates and times. The Board and Docent Committee believe that a weekend regular tour will meet the needs of more of our potential guests. We ask for a donation of \$5 - \$10 for the tours.

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**Thank You to Members and  
Volunteers at PHM**

By Kay Cheatham

The Pardee Historic Home Museum hosted in the Pardee Home living room, an evening on April 19 to thank members and volunteers for their support. The program centering on the life and work of Isadora Duncan was presented by Lois Flood who gave background information about the world-renowned dancer from the Bay Area in the early 1900's. Then the talented Ms. Flood performed exquisite dances from the historical repertory of Isadora Duncan. The audience truly experienced Isadora Duncan come alive, as Ms. Flood danced barefoot, clad in flowing silk tunics and flowing scarfs in the evocative, natural style of Isadora Duncan.



Lois Flood as Isadora Duncan

Lois Flood says on her website (<http://www.diablodancetheater.com>): "The house [PHM] is actually in the nearby neighborhood to where Isadora grew up in Oakland. It is one block from the still existing Oakland Unitarian Church where Isadora first performed."

After the performance the guests were treated to a grand buffet of appetizers, sweets and champagne punch. A sincere thank you to everyone who attended or were involved.

It was a wonderful event!

**Tom Doctor**

We are saddened to announce that Thomas H. Doctor, 81, died Thursday, May 14, 2015 after a long illness. Tom was a Trustee at the Pardee Home Museum for many years. He will be missed.

**It's Not Just For Tea Time**

By Cynthia Foster

Although the Pardee Home Museum is renowned for its fabulous high teas (*Chowhound* and the *East Bay Express* have declared High Tea at the PHM to be the best in the Bay Area), the Pardee Home Museum offers many other opportunities for entertaining. Garden teas for up to 40 can be held in the spring, summer and fall, offering the same exceptional fare as the Dining Room High Teas. A garden tea could be the venue for a birthday party, bridal or baby shower or an organization's meeting. The Pardee Home will be hosting a wedding in the garden in July.

Consider having an event for up to 40 in the dining room and front parlors, with an hors d'oeuvres buffet on the dining room table catered by PHM volunteers. The Golden Gate Association of Home Inspectors held such an event for its holiday party in December, 2014 (pictured). Or an event in the carriage house, such a birthday dinner or other celebration. A 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party was held in the carriage house recently to much acclaim. And why not go right to the top and have an intimate dinner for 2 or 4 in the Cupola.



***Membership Application***

**YES!** I want to become a member of the Pardee Home Museum.

- Student \$15
- Individual \$35
- Family \$50
- Benefactor \$75
- Patron \$100 - \$249
- Sustaining \$250 - \$499
- Sponsor \$500 - \$999
- Visionary \$1,000 & up
  
- New Member     Renewing

Please make check payable to  
**Pardee Historic Home Museum**  
and mail to

**Pardee Home Museum**  
672 11<sup>th</sup> St,  
Oakland, CA 94607-3651

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

1<sup>st</sup> Member's Name (or Gift Name)

2<sup>nd</sup> Member's Name (if applicable)

Address

City                                  State                                  Zip

Home Phone                                  Work Phone

E-mail

**Thank You for your Help!**



**Pardee Home Museum**  
**672 11<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Oakland, CA 94607-3651**



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### **The Cupola**

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The Pardee Historic Home Museum, Inc. is a private non-profit organization originally established in 1981 as the Pardee Home Foundation to preserve, interpret, and keep the historic home and gardens of the Pardee family open to the public.

#### **Pardee Historic Home Museum, Inc. Directors**

Ron Bachman  
Kay Cheatham, Secretary  
Sue Coffin, Treasurer  
Darlene Dawson, Vice Chair  
Cherie Donahue  
Cynthia Foster, Chair  
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Karen Silberstein, Recording Secretary  
Russell Nelson, Editor & Newsletter Production

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### **GIFT SHOP BLOOMS WITH NEW ITEMS**

The Poppy Gift Shop has new merchandise and new artists' wares for sale. Gail Lamotte designs and donates her beautiful cards using stamps, ribbons, buttons and her artistic flair. In addition we have lovely floral watercolor cards made by Anne Kasdin for sale. Another new line includes poppy decorated mugs and other useful poppy themed items. Tins of teas, mother/daughter aprons, decorative tea towels, jewelry and useful, colorful zippered pouches are all available in the sunny gift shop. Stop in the next time you are down at the house to check out the new merchandise.

