



# The Cupola

## Newsletter of the Pardee Home Museum

Spring / Summer 2014

Oakland City Landmark  
1975

National Register of Historical Places  
1976

Alameda County Historical Society Landmark  
1985

California Historic Landmark  
1998

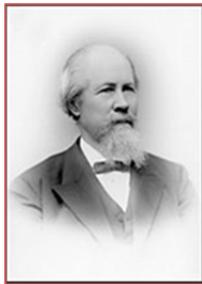
### Elias Samuel Cooper, Levi Cooper Lane, Enoch, and George Pardee, The Doctors Four

By Ronald Bachman, M.D.

Dr. Elias Samuel Cooper (1822-1862) touched the lives of both Enoch and George Pardee. He was a pioneer surgeon and entrepreneur who started the first medical college in the West that later became the Cooper Medical School, the forerunner of Stanford Medical School.



Elias Samuel Cooper  
(1822-1862)



Levi Cooper Lane  
(1828-1902)

In Enoch's early days in San Francisco we believe that he knew and respected Dr. Cooper. There was even a mention that they considered practicing together. George Pardee's middle name is Cooper and it is thought that he was named after Elias showing the friendship and respect that both Mary and Enoch had for him. Later George attended Cooper Medical School in San Francisco after graduating from the University of California at Berkeley in 1879. George left after two years of study to complete his medical education at the University of Leipzig Medical School in Germany considered the best teaching center in the world. George graduated in 1885 and returned to Northern California to join his father in practice and to wed Helen.

Dr. Cooper arrived in San Francisco in 1855 just three years after Enoch came to the West. He began the first medical college in 1858. It was named the Medical Department at the College of the Pacific (now University of the Pacific). It was connected with the University in

order for it to award a medical degree (M.D.). In 1864 just two years after he died, the school was absorbed into the Toland Medical College due to financial problems. This school was established in 1864 by Hugh Huger Toland and in 1873 became the University of California Medical School at San Francisco (UCSF).

Dr. Cooper's nephew, Levi Cooper Lane (1828-1902), was on the faculty of the Medical Department at the University of the Pacific and then the Toland Medical College. In 1870 he left this position and established the Cooper Medical College which was again part of the University of the Pacific. It was this school that George attended for two years. After Lane's death in 1902 the school was deeded to Stanford University and became the Stanford Medical School in 1912. It continued at the facility that had been Cooper Medical School in San Francisco (Clay and Webster Streets). Stanford also acquired the Lane Medical Library (Sacramento and Webster Streets). In 1959 the contents of the library and the medical school were moved to new facilities on the Stanford Campus in Palo Alto.

The influence of both Dr. Cooper and Dr. Lane influenced both Enoch and George. They were colleagues, friends, and educators of both of the Pardees.



Cooper Medical College – 1882

### Family Fun on July Fourth

Pardee Home Museum will host its annual July 4th Family Fun Day from Noon to 4:00pm on Friday, 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 corn on the cob and many other tasty treats will be served. Also, guests will be able to enjoy lawn games of badminton and croquet. A craft table with activities geared to the children will be featured, plus a raffle of prizes will be held. In addition, 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 **510-832-3456** to make reservations or simply show up at our entry way.

Please enter through 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 as we get closer to the Family Fun Day, check the Pardee Home Museum website at [www.pardeehome.org](http://www.pardeehome.org)

## Stan Stidham's Recollections of the Pardee Family

Transcribed by Cynthia Foster

Stan Stidham, the son of Miss Helen Pardee's good friend from Mills College, Maxie Sample Stidham and Life Trustee of the Pardee Home Foundation, recently recorded some memories of his experiences with the Pardee Family. What follows is a portion of his recollections.

As a little boy, Stan was told to call Miss Helen "Auntie Helen," except when she became the substitute teacher at his kindergarten at Wildwood School in Piedmont. He was then under strict orders to only refer to her as "Miss Pardee."

After returning from Sacramento, George Pardee was always referred to as "Dr. Pardee," not "Governor Pardee." He would have his breakfast in the master bedroom and then dress. He would then go down to the first floor and head straight for his automobile for the day's outing. If the girls and Mrs. Helen wanted to go with him, they had to be ready because he never stopped until he got to his car. If the girls got curious about where they were going, they would ask and he would reply, "I'm going to the fat woman's house." When they asked where was this fat woman's house, he would say, "It's next to the lean woman's house." This would go back and forth and he would never really tell them. Stan remembers going with Dr. Pardee as a little boy and asking the same question. Dr. Pardee said to the fat woman's house. I asked, "Where does the husky lady live?" Dr. Pardee had a great laugh.

Miss Helen received notification from Sacramento that a replica of Governor Pardee's office was to be installed in the capitol and invited her to attend. She asked Stan to drive her to Sacramento to view the restoration. She also wanted to see the new Governor's mansion on which Ronald Reagan had insisted; Miss Helen was not pleased that Governor Reagan did not want to live in the old mansion where she had lived.

Later they went to dinner but the restaurant was full. Stan spoke to the maître d' and told him that Miss Helen was the daughter of Governor Pardee and she was up here visiting the capitol. He promptly gave them a wonderful table for dinner. Helen later found out that Stan had told him that she was the former Governor's daughter and that disturbed her; she did not like to be above anybody else. So Stan said he was in the doghouse a little bit.

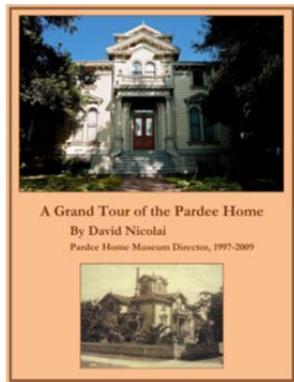
## PHM's Cupola Gets A Facelift By Sue Coffin



### View from the "New" Cupola

Recently the distinctive cupola on the top of the Pardee Home Museum was refurbished. The entire room and the staircase leading up to it was sanded, prepped and repainted. The room had peeling paint and windows that were not functioning correctly. Now the top of the home is in beautiful shape again. In addition, one of our docents, Kerry Jones, spent hours choosing photos from the family collections, copying the pictures and framing them. Now we have a photo essay of events from the Pardee family on the walls of the cupola. A few highlights of the photos are a picture of the little girls riding their pony, Snowball, and George next to a gigantic fish that had just been caught. The new cupola is now definitely worth the climb.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of *A Grand Tour of PHM* by David Nicolai Is Now Available



An updated soft cover 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of this wonderful book by our previous Museum Director, David Nicolai, is now available in our gift shop for \$20. Please come by to get your copy now.



## Meet Our New Trustee – Michael Henn By Kay Cheatham

Michael actually became involved with the Pardee Home Museum through his wife Nancy. Nancy, a nutritionist, has been a valuable addition to the tea committee.

Michael's career has been in city planning and land use. He has worked for several East Bay communities in this role until he retired in 2009. He is a long time resident of Piedmont and served on the Piedmont Planning commission for 6 years.

He was born in Youngstown, Ohio but at the age of five his family moved to Southern California, first to Los Angeles and then to Lakewood. He attended Long Beach State and earned his B.A. in history and English. He moved to San Francisco and attended San Francisco State where he earned a master's degree in city planning. He became interested in this area when as a young person he watched the orange groves disappear in Orange County.

Michael and Nancy married in 1978 and have two grown children. He enjoys hiking, bird watching, growing vegetables, travel and Michael is always ready to go catch a fish or two.

The Board of Trustees welcomes Michael.

### Meet Our New Docent – Mavis Perry By Kay Cheatham

Mavis and her husband Mark have recently relocated to Oakland from London thanks to Yahoo. Mavis has been interested in history and historical homes since childhood. California history immediately became a major interest when she arrived here. Her enthusiasm shows as she guides guests through the Pardee Home Museum.

She was born and raised in Somerset England. Before college she took a "time out" year to teach English as a second language in Spain. In college she earned a degree in Latin American Literature which included studying in Chile for a year. Her interest then turned to Organizational Development. She earned her master's degree in that area and obtained a job in Organizational Development after graduation.

Mavis met her husband at the University of London and they eventually both worked for Yahoo. She is happy to be actively involved in California history. Her other interests include sewing, reading and being the household "handy lady" fixing things. Welcome to Mavis.

## “Let It Be White Again”

By Ron Bachman

The obelisk Pardee Family grave marker was returned to its original white color. A hard working group of Board Members, Docents, and their spouses used a combination of elbow grease, wash brushes, and recycled water to clean the monument that had turned greenish-brown from the growth of lichens.

In researching the cleaning of grave stones, it was discovered that the best way to preserve marble was by not using any chemical substances. A novel approach to this which we may use in the future is using snails that eat lichens.

This may be tried since it would prevent an annual cleaning ritual, although it would be necessary to collect the army of snails from our gardens and gain approval from the cemetery staff.

The cleaning was followed by a Mountain View Cemetery tour of some of the well-known neighbors of the Pardee Family. The event concluded with a picnic lunch. It was a group consensus that this be made an annual event.



Pardee Obelisk Before Cleaning



Pardee Obelisk After Cleaning

## Marianne Robison Retires from PHM Board

Marianne Robison joined the Pardee Home Museum Board of Trustees in April, 2001. Since that time she has given generously in many areas. She has been the lead person for many of the events. Her commitment to the annual 4th of July party and the Halloween party for children emphasizes her interest in connecting the PHM to the neighboring community. She has written the annual appeal letter and mailed it as well as mailing our Cupola newsletter, generously assisted by Van Lam and Ethel Lee Miller, two of the staff at her business, Buttner Properties.



Marianne Robison

Her first position on the board was secretary and later she took the job of Treasurer, which involved financial administration of the Pardee home. Every month she's provided the board with the financial status and advice on investments and donations. With major assistance from Van Lam and Ethel Lee Miller, she was able to complete David Nicolai's State Grant for accessible facilities. Grant funds combined with a generous donation from the estate of Marian Wegener made possible the purchase and installation of a lift from our rear garden to the main floor of PHM.

Marianne was born in Oakland and has always had an interest in California history. She graduated from Stanford, raised two children and has three grandchildren. For many years she taught history at Piedmont High School. Marianne has been a long time community volunteer. She served on the board of the Oakland Museum of California and is currently also on the board of the Boys and Girls Club of Oakland. For years she has been a member of the Piedmont League of Women Voters. Marianne enjoys golf and will have more time for it now.

The Board is grateful to Marianne for all of her efforts as a Trustee of the PHM. We hope she will continue as a volunteer and we know she will always be a friend of the PHM. **Thank You Marianne!**



## 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 Home Foundation**  
and mail to

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

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
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Home Phone                      Work Phone

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**Thank You for your Help!**



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### **The Cupola**

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

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## **Upcoming Events at the Pardee House Museum**

- July 4:** **Our traditional Fourth of July event** will be held once again in our beautiful backyard garden area from Noon to 4pm. Prices are \$15 for adults (12 and older), \$5 for those 5 – 11 and Free for children under 5. Please see the front page of this Cupola for more information.
- Oct 5:** **Plans are being made for a garden music event** to be held on this date starting at 10:30 with various tasty food items being offered for brunch. Please reserve this date and check our website for further news.
- Oct 18:** **We are planning for our 7<sup>th</sup> Public Ghost Investigation** to be held from 7pm to Midnight. Please join Karen Zimmerman, a professional ghost investigator and author, and her fellow investigators in searching for evidence of spirits within the Pardee Home Museum. Linda Grindel, a fifth-generation psychic medium who traces her talent to her Great, Great, Great Grandmother Sen-O-Ya, a Comanche psychic, will lead a spirit circle. Our volunteers will serve a wonderful array of food and drinks to the participants midway through the event.