

# *Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation*

*(nonprofit 501(c)3 – Tax ID #87-1825043)*

July Newsletter, 2023

## **Spirit of Community and Generosity Demonstrated by the Sutter Creek Native Daughters of the Golden West**

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While many of you may be passingly familiar with this organization (for brevity sake, N.D.G.W.), most folks aren't aware of their local roots. This non-profit organization for native-born California women had their first meeting on September 11, 1886 in the basement of Pioneer Hall in Jackson.



The site of the Pioneer Hall may be where the first Spinetti Plumbing shop was on Main Street.



Registered California Historical Landmark #34 is located on the building currently occupied by Jackson Cleaners and Coldwell Banker Real Estate. This bronze plaque was installed on the building face in 1932 and commemorates the event and original charter roll signers.

## Pioneer Hall

### Inscription. ↵

The Order of Native Daughters  
of the Golden West  
was organized on these premises  
The site of the  
**Pioneer Hall**  
on September 1, 1886.

This tablet is placed  
In memory of  
the founding of the order  
by  
Ursula Parlor No. 1, N.D.G.W.  
The Mother Parlor  
April 12, 1932  
**Charter Roll**

The thirteen original signers (Sept. 11, 1886)

Lilly O. Reichling (Dyer), Founder  
Ellen Boarman (Farrington) • Maggie Stasal •  
Rose Stasal • Nellie Fontenrose • Emma

Boarman (Wright) • Amy Badere (Crittenden) • Kitty Murray • Agnes Leonard • Celia Murray  
• Hettie Greenhalgh (O'Neill) • Flora Dunning (Podesta) • Rose Genaro (Carley)

Additional Signers To Closing of Charter, Oct. 29, 1886

Tina L. Kane, Past Grand President

Ella E. Caminetti, Past Grand President



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Olga Reichling (Obert) • Christina Rickert (Charleston) • Nellie Sanborn  
(Rutherford) • Flora Seymour • Mary Webb • Clara Kent Agard • Kate  
Delahide • Mattie L. Freeman • Annie Fullen (Magee) • Mary W. Folger  
(Bowers) • Mellie Peek • Rose Kelley (Huey) • Amy Kent • Lizzie Lindley •  
Helena McGee (Inch) • Maggie McDonald • Alma Olmstead (Goerecke) •  
Alice Peek (Jones)



Photographed By Syd Whittle, February 21, 2010

### 1. Pioneer Hall Marker

**Erected** 1932 by Ursula Parlar No.1, Native Daughters of the Golden West. (Marker

It was decided that meeting places would be called "Parlors", and at a second meeting on September 25, the distinctive name "Ursula" was selected over "Minerva". Thus was born "Ursula Parlor No. 1". Minerva was instituted as Parlor No. 2 in San Francisco. Ursula Parlor No. 1 is also referred to as the "Mother Parlor".





On June 10, 2023, the N.D.G.W. Amapola Parlor #338, presented new interpretative displays to the Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation (SCCBF) at the Historic Sutter Creek Grammar School.

## HISTORIC SUTTER CREEK GRAMMAR SCHOOL



The Historic Sutter Creek Grammar School was built in 1870, on land donated by the Wildman Mining Company. The community raised \$10,000 for its construction. The original design included two large classrooms, and its exterior was unpainted brick and mortar. While the weather vane has been lost to time, the metal ball below it currently resides in the school's museum, replete with bullet holes. The arch over the entry door is still visible today under the front porch roof.

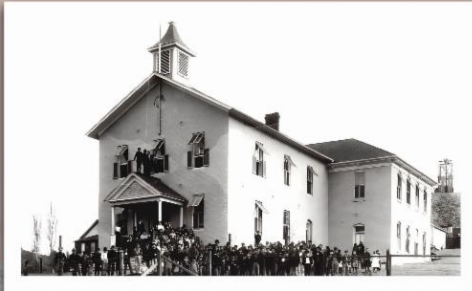
The lower picture was taken at the time of the celebration of the new flag pole in 1890. The original flag measured 41 feet in length, and was paid for in large part by donations from the school children. It is believed that the original flag pole broke off. It was eventually replaced by the current pole, which is only half as tall as the original.



This display was generously donated by the Native Daughters of the Golden West, Amapola Parlor #338.

## HISTORIC SUTTER CREEK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

After raising an additional \$5,000, a four room expansion of the school was built in 1896. This photo was taken shortly after the new construction was completed. The original portion of the building, which was completed in about 1870, is painted with the darker red paint. The rear portion, which was unpainted, clearly shows the new bricks used in its construction. Also in this photo are the outhouse restrooms that can be seen on the left side behind the school.



This photograph, taken between 1900 and 1910, features the building sporting a new coat of white paint. The shutters can be seen clearly, and the Emerson Shaft of the Wildman Mine is visible on the far right of the school. Today a stone structure still stands at that location. You might also notice the boys standing on the catwalk on top of the porch. At the time of this photo the catwalk was used on a daily basis to raise and lower the American Flag.



This display was generously donated by the Native Daughters of the Golden West, Amapola Parlor #338.

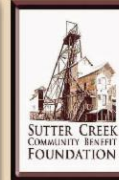
## HISTORIC SUTTER CREEK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The grammar school served its last students in 1956 when it was closed due to earthquake safety standards. Over the span of 86 years, the school served thousands of children from Sutter Creek and the surrounding communities.

After closing, the building fell into dire disrepair. Fortunately, the Sutter Creek Woman's Club took on the task of the building's first renovation from 1976 to 1986, which saved the school.



The Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation began their restoration and preservation efforts in 2014. Just as with the original building project in 1870, the renovations were made possible by private donations and volunteer labor. The school is now available for community use and houses a museum celebrating local history.



For much more information on SCCBF and local history, visit [sccbf.org](http://sccbf.org).



Did you attend the Sutter Creek Grammar School? Register at [sccbf.org](http://sccbf.org).



[ndgw.org](http://ndgw.org)

Native Daughters of the Golden West works to preserve California's history.

This display was generously donated by the Native Daughters of the Golden West, Amapola Parlor #338.

These museum-quality displays and their bases were made possible by a generous donation from the N.D.G.W.





Amapola Parlor President Sheryl Harmston, N.D.G.W. members, and guests including N.D.G.W. Grand President Nina Coffenberry, dedicated the displays and gave a thoughtful presentation about the importance and duty to preserve such significant pieces of local history.



These displays chronicle the history of the schoolhouse, how it served the children of Sutter Creek and surrounding areas, and how the community has taken care to preserve its historic legacy throughout the last 150 years. These displays are located on the outside of the building to educate passersby and visitors of this

community treasure.



SCCBF has been in the process of restoring and renovating the schoolhouse for the last ten years. They have worked diligently to restore the entire building and make it available for public use. All work has been done through donated labor and funds.

Additionally, the Foundation has created a museum in one room inside the schoolhouse, which showcases the town of Sutter Creek and features rotating exhibits highlighting intriguing elements of Amador County's past.





The building is available to tour by contacting SCCBF at [info@sccbf.org](mailto:info@sccbf.org). Information about events, such as lectures, and our newsletters are sent via email. Contact us at [info@sccbf.org](mailto:info@sccbf.org) to be added to our distribution list. Please consider making a donation or become a volunteer to support preservation efforts.

The Historic Sutter Creek Grammar School has space available to use for events, meetings, classes, etc. through the City of Sutter Creek website <https://cityofsuttercreek.org/how-do-i-rent-city-facility/>



# Sutter Creek Fire Department Dinner Dance

with Darin Sexton & Highway 49

SEPT. 2, 2023 • 5:30 -- 10 PM

Doors open: 5:30

Dinner: 6:30 Tri-tip and Spaghetti

Dancing: 7:30-10:00

Adults: \$40, Under Age 12: \$15

Tickets at [SutterCreekFoundation.org](http://SutterCreekFoundation.org) or at The Fire Station



SUTTER CREEK  
COMMUNITY BENEFIT  
FOUNDATION



Sutter Creek  
Volunteer Fire Department

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SCCBF's current renovation project is the Historic Sutter Creek Grammar School which is rich in Gold Rush history. This beautiful building is California's second oldest two-story brick schoolhouse. There are four rooms within the Historic Grammar School that can be rented.



Contact the City of Sutter Creek for information on rates and availability - (209) 267-5647 ext. 230 or email [info@cityofsuttercreek.org](mailto:info@cityofsuttercreek.org) / [website - cityofsuttercreek.org](http://website-cityofsuttercreek.org)

The Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation (SCCBF) is dedicated to the restoration, preservation, and development of the community's historic assets both now and for future generations. (nonprofit 501(c)3 – Tax ID #87-1825043)

## DONATE TODAY

SCCBF a Nonprofit, 501(c)(3) | PO Box 24, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

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