

FOREWORD

This book is meant to be a tribute to my parents who gave so much of themselves to raise and educate a family and contributed so much to the quality of life of others. Looking back I can see the love and care that went into raising us children and giving us the values and direction that made us successful as adults.

My parents taught us the value of hard work and the need to give back to the community that provides the base of support for your livelihood. I will never forget my mom stressing Christian principles and the need for treating others as you would like to be treated. They taught us thrift and the need to save for a rainy day.

Mom and Dad believed in taking care of the family unit and doing what you could to help any family member in need. Holidays, weddings, graduations, funerals, etc. were usually large family events centered around food, fellowship, and thanksgiving. Grandma and Grandpa or Mom and Dad were always at the center of things with children, brothers, sisters, cousins, nieces and nephews busy at play. When we were young it was children's games and as we got older it was cards or board games like Monopoly or Scrabble.

The importance of quality time built around dinners that were usually many courses was a key to family unity. Meal times were usually conversation times and time to tell stories of the day's and week's events. To this day I miss the large family events and the participation of the extended family.

My prayer is that fast food, television, and the need for instant gratification don't destroy the core values that keep a family unit intact. My hope is that others may get a glimpse of what I have been lucky enough to experience first hand. Believe in God, help others less fortunate and stay positive in all you do. "Believe you can and you will, believe you can't and you won't, but either way you will be right" anonymous.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I want to express my deep appreciation to my wife, Sandy, for editing and designing this document. Without the many hours she spent at the computer inputting data, pictures and documents this book would be a crude collection of notes. I also want to thank my sisters, Marianne and Joan, who contributed pictures and helped edit and correct the copy; and Bonnie Asien, Sally Belford and Judy Skelton from the Cloverdale Historical Society who encouraged me to present information to their group and donate items to the Cloverdale Museum.

Lastly, I am thankful that the papers, pictures, and documents were saved by my parents and not destroyed or lost in the many moves that happen in the evolution of a family.

David Andrew Davini, Jr., Yuba City, California
April 2007

A Family with a Profound Influence On the City of Cloverdale, California

ROOTS IN EUROPE

David Andrea (Andrew) Davini, born in December 1835, immigrated to the United States of America from the Tuscany region of Italy near the walled city of Lucca in December 1867. Census records show him as a farmer living in the 5th township of San Mateo, California in 1880, and as a carpenter in San Francisco, 1889-1901. He married Elena (Helen) Bartello from Italy born January 1847. They had a son, Hugo Joseph Davini, who was born in San Francisco on October 2, 1877. Hugo became a bookkeeper and foreman for the National Biscuit Company in San Francisco. In 1901, Hugo married Georgianna Smith of Scotch-Irish descent born December 28, 1884, and they had a son, David Andrew, Sr. born on March 3, 1902, in San Francisco and a daughter, Antoinette Lillian, born January 28, 1906. The Davini family home in the North Beach area of San Francisco was destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire, and the family moved across the bay to Alameda, California, where David spent most of his early life. After attending schools in Alameda, he entered the luggage manufacturing business.



David Davini Sr. as a Child in San Francisco

Maria Thiessen was born in Sparrau, Molotschna, South Russia on June 29, 1846. Here she spent her youth until March 21, 1866, when she united in marriage with Abraham B. Kroeker. Their marriage was blessed with ten children, eight sons and two daughters. In 1874, they immigrated to America and settled in Reno County, Kansas, near Buhler. Maria Kroeker, one of their daughters born in Buhler, Kansas on February 7, 1877, married Henry T. Epp who was born on August 25, 1873 in Germany. Maria and Henry had five daughters: Marie (1898), Hulda (1900), Kathryn (1902), Maria (1905), and Bertha Louise who was born on August 24, 1907, in Inman,

Kansas.

In 1919 the Kroekers moved to Reedley, California where they farmed. The Epps moved to Kingman, Arizona where Henry had a general store. After a short time in Arizona they moved to Madera, California where Bertha attended high school. The Epp family owned a peach orchard in Madera. Bertha moved to Oakland, California, in 1927, where she worked in food service.



Mary, Bertha, Henry, Maria,
Katherine, and Hulda Epp



MOVING NORTH

Bertha Epp Davini in her 20's

After meeting in Oakland, David A. Davini, Sr. and Bertha Louise Epp married and moved to Alameda. Marianne Gwendoline was born in Oakland on April 2, 1930, and Joan Naomi was born in Alameda on June 19, 1936.

Hugo retired from the National Biscuit Company, and it was time for a change; so the Davinis considered a move to the country to raise

their family in a more rural setting. You can't get more rural than the place they picked—Fort Seward, California, on the Eel River in southern Humboldt County. Crude dirt roads connected Fort Seward with U. S. 101 at Garberville, 17 miles west, and Dyerville, 33 miles northwest. The closest town with a hospital in those days was in Fortuna, 60 miles northwest. The Northwestern Pacific Railroad brought mail to Fort Seward almost daily and sometimes stopped with merchandise, and even more rarely, passengers.



David Sr. & Joan Davini in Alameda, 1938

David Sr. & Bertha Davini on Front Porch of General Store in Fort Seward

David Davini purchased the general store, two homes and the surrounding property, which was most of the town of Fort Seward. He became



postmaster, service station attendant, grocery store manager, and a whole lot more. The school was a one room school, and a teacher with children was hired to be sure the school had enough children to operate. Life in rural Humboldt County was a challenge. Bertha learned to milk a cow, grow a garden, preserve wild berries, and cook most types of wild game. Much business was done with local farmers on a barter or credit basis.

Georgianna & Hugo Davini with Joan and
Cousin Jean Ann Swanson, Fort Seward, 1939

Yes, life was difficult but lessons learned would prove valuable in the future. Hugo, Georgianna, Bertha, and David made Fort Seward a trade center for the southern Humboldt County towns of Blocksburg, Fruitland, Harris, Alderpoint, and Zenia, all less than fifteen miles away on dirt roads.

David Andrew Davini, Jr., was born on December 4, 1939, in Fortuna, California, an exceptionally rainy winter to be traveling dirt roads that washed out frequently as did the railroad to Fortuna and Eureka.



David Davini Sr. and Jr., Fort Seward, 1939

By the time Marianne was ready to attend high school, the Davinis were ready to leave the mountains. The alternative to leaving was to send Marianne to a boarding school which was just not acceptable to the family.

DISCOVERING

CLOVERDALE

Trips from Fort Seward to San Francisco and Alameda were fairly frequent and usually combined business and pleasure. The Fort Seward store carried a wide variety of merchandise from clothing, shoes and household goods to groceries, over the counter medicines, to hardware and auto supplies. It was truly an old fashioned country general store. When customers would find out the Davinis were making a trip to the city, they would ask them to make special purchases.



David Jr. and Maria Kroeker Epp, 1940

While in the Bay area the Davinis would visit relatives, shop for supplies that were hard to find and take advantage of bargains that had high freight handling costs. They had a Chevrolet panel truck that was usually filled to the ceiling before departing on the return trip.

Hugo & David Davini Jr., Fort Seward



Panel Truck in Background

Traveling the 101 Highway in the late 1930's and early 1940's was no easy task. There were many narrow and curvy sections of two lane road, and cars were not what they are today. To make matters worse, winter trips were cold and the roads were subject to flooding and landslides. In the summer it was just plain hot and the mountain grades often caused overheating. The return trips were always worse because the truck was usually loaded to the hilt and passenger space was limited.

Many stops were needed for food, comfort and automotive needs. Not all towns along the route had service stations and restaurants conveniently located on the highway so planning was essential.

Cloverdale Elementary School, Torn down in the 1960's,
9-7-05 *Cloverdale Reville*



Cloverdale was a town of 700-800 people about 80 miles north of San Francisco just before you entered the Russian River canyon and mountains. It had several good cafes, and restaurants were available in each of its four hotels. Cloverdale also had eight service stations and four auto dealers with experienced help capable of trouble shooting

automotive problems, refueling, fixing tires and the like.

Cloverdale High School, Built in 1937 in Art Deco Style,
9-28-05 *Cloverdale Reville*

Dave Davini would often say, "I could enjoy living in this town some day." He enjoyed his conversations with Cloverdale folks and would ask about business opportunities, property values, schools and churches. Cloverdale High School was built in 1937, and he could see the progress on the new gym/auditorium which was completed in 1941. The high school had less than 100



students and was directly across the street from the grammar school located on the

corner of West (now Cloverdale Blvd.) and School Streets. The grammar school was a large gray stucco building and at the time was considered a modern school. It was surrounded by large oak trees and grass and had a post and bar fence used by students as a jungle gym. Davini liked the wide tree-lined streets and many beautiful homes. He considered shopping in Cloverdale to be good and there was even a small movie theater.

MAKING THE MOVE

In 1944, the Davinis sold their business and made preparations for the move to Cloverdale in time to enroll all three children in Cloverdale schools in the fall. They had purchased the south part of the vacant Carrie-Moulton Building on West Street in Cloverdale (119 Cloverdale Blvd.), next to Oldham's Drug Store and the Town and Country Dress Shop. The vacant store was in bad shape; the floor was rotten and needed to be replaced. During rainy winter storms water would run under the building, pour out vents, and run across the sidewalk in front of the building. The sale was made on June 28, 1944, for \$5,000. The previous tenant was Jackson's Cigar Store and Newsstand. Cloverdale's first chain grocery store was Purity, and it occupied the building before Jackson's. Purity was in business only a short time in Cloverdale. Davini thought the location was excellent for a hardware store because it had a rear entrance and was bordered by an alley next to the Mitchell property. It was in the center of Cloverdale. The sale included the alley and an easement preventing future closure.



South End of Carrie-Moulton Building, 119 Cloverdale Blvd., 1930's,
9-27-06 *Cloverdale Reveille*

Dave Davini thought he could capitalize on his experience in Fort Seward and his many suppliers in the Bay area. He also had the advantage of speaking some Italian and felt that would come in handy when dealing with the many Italian-American families in the area. The Davinis had discussions with Arthur Foster, President of First National Bank, and Tony Galli, Manager of Bank of America, about financing business and private property purchases.

Cloverdale had not yet started to grow as it did following World War II. There were only two small lumber companies, Fraisers' Cloverdale Lumber Company and Triplett Lumber Company, and a number of wineries most of which sold wine in the bulk. The most notable among the wineries with their own labels were Italian Swiss Colony, Seghesios, Bandiera, Rege and Vadon. Cloverdale truly met the description of a small

rural farm community. Dave Davini saw the potential for growth and considered it a great place to raise his family and invest his capital.



210 Third Street, 1st Davini Home in Cloverdale

In addition to the commercial building the Davinis purchased a large Victorian home from George McCabe located at 210 Third Street. Bertha Davini loved Victorian homes and saw the potential this home offered. There were 3 ½ bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and storage area. The Davinis also purchased a large brick home on the southwest corner of Washington and Third Streets (241 Washington Street) for Hugo and Georgianna Davini. The Washington Street home had been occupied by Dr. Muchmor who had his dental practice in the home. The home was large

and would provide guest rooms for company. It was also close to the children and grandchildren, less than one block away.

FROM RETAILER TO PROPERTY MANAGER/DEVELOPER

When word got out that the old Purity building was being remodeled for a hardware store, Mr. Antilla approached Dave Davini about leasing the renovated property for his plumbing business combined with a full line hardware and paint store. After much discussion and planning the Davinis decided to let Mr. Antilla lease the property.

Davinis then negotiated the purchase of the adjacent two stores in the Carrie-Moulton Building occupied by Oldham's Drug Store and Town and Country Dress Shop (123 Cloverdale Blvd.). They purchased the remaining property for \$8,250 on August 31, 1944, which included a north/south right of way for alley purposes. The decision to purchase and lease property would take the Davinis in a new direction.

1975 Photo of Carrie-Moulton Bldg.-1st Building Purchased by Dave Davini in 1944



The purchase of the first commercial property included the purchase of a large iron safe which created several problems. The first problem was to transfer ownership from American-Hawaiian

Steamship Company, then finding the proper combination, and lastly physically moving the safe during construction. See Appendix #1 for details. Hulda and Curt Gaede and their daughter, Aileen, Bertha's sister and brother-in-law, moved from Los Angeles in 1944 to help with remodeling and construction. Curt was a carpenter, but he also owned

a barber shop in Hollywood at the time. After the remodeling Curt Gaede went out on his own doing carpentry and cabinet work and later would own a saw shop south of Cloverdale on the 101 Highway. Aileen Gaede married Ed Matteoli who became Principal of Healdsburg High School. They have two sons, Tom and Ricky.

Dave Davini became active in the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce and began planning for the growth of Cloverdale. He worked with local business men and women to assess the needs of the community and the potential for building a business climate in which the town would prosper. See Appendix #6.

ENTERING LOCAL POLITICS

It didn't take the Davinis long to make friends and become active in community life. Bertha joined the Cloverdale Women's Improvement Club and was active in school activities with the children. Dave Davini became interested in seeing the Cloverdale Citrus Fair grow and provide a vehicle to attract visitors. He became familiar with the needs of local business owners and soon ran for City Council along with O. W. (Bill) Schlueter and Alan Henderson. The April 11, 1946 issue of the Cloverdale Reveille stated, "Incumbents were unseated and three new candidates, running as a group from a stated policy standpoint, were elected...The newly elected members were generally described as the 'progressive' group and announced an eight point policy previous to the election." See Appendix #2.

The City of Cloverdale needed to improve its water supply and sewer system. Also under discussion was the construction of sidewalks in residential areas and needed street repairs. City mail delivery was also an issue and a service desired by many. There was funding in the amount of \$7,400 available from the state of California and \$7,400 in the municipal treasury for matching funds. Projects desired and planned by the city needed to be approved by the State, and the date for consideration was May 1, 1946.

It was easier for the new Council to move forward with the planned projects because they were not hampered by wartime conditions that made it virtually impossible to secure labor and materials that were necessary to carry out civic improvements. City Engineer Walter F. Adams was engaged by the Council and work started soon on the sewer, water and drainage systems.

By August 1946, in anticipation of rapid growth in the business district brought about by the proposed lumber and manufacturing businesses in Cloverdale, the City Council voted to draw up a zoning ordinance setting aside certain areas as commercial and business districts.

Then City Attorney, J. A. Ratchford, drew up the ordinance which included the area from Third Street to Railroad Avenue and applied to buildings fronting on West and Main Streets. The fire zoning was expanded to cover the business and commercial district and would insure construction of fireproof buildings. There was also discussion of the expansion of the city limits.

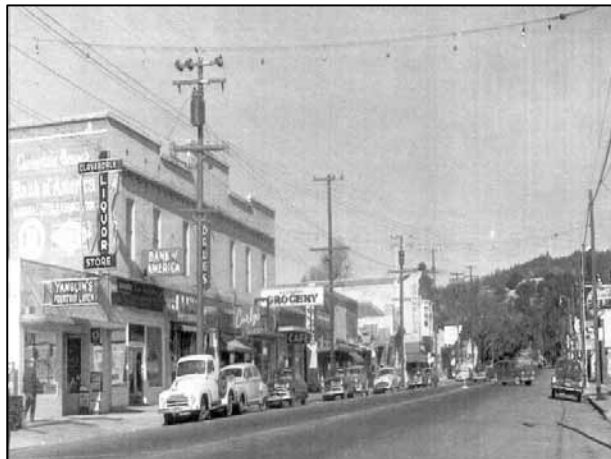
One very important project before the City Council and the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce was the “Russian River, California Proposed Plan of Improvement for Flood Control and Allied Purposes.” The plan outlined problems and proposed solutions. One solution was the building of Coyote Dam in Mendocino County. See Appendix #3.

Dave Davini, Charley Humbert and others, after months of negotiations which began early in 1946, had convinced Coastal Plywood and Timber Company from the state of Washington to locate in Cloverdale. Coastal Plywood was a cooperative organization made up of owners and employees. There was a planned investment of over one million dollars and the ultimate employment of 750 persons. In addition to a lumber mill the project included a plywood factory and a factory for prefabricated houses. Coastal Plywood already had orders for prefabricated homes running into the thousands. Northwestern Pacific Railroad agreed to build spur tracks to the 80 acre area of land owned by Mrs. Louise Batzer, John Caldwell and Stanley Brush. There was a 20 acre mill pond planned with a capacity of 300,000 feet of logs and a building to house the plywood and lumber operations 300 feet wide and 1,000 feet long.

FIRST COMMERCIAL BUILDING AND CLOVERDALE'S FIRST SUBDIVISION



103-105 Cloverdale Blvd., 1st Commercial Bldg.



Cloverdale on the Redwood Highway

Dave Davini built his first commercial building in Cloverdale in 1946 at 103-105 Cloverdale Boulevard, currently the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce Wine and Visitor Center. This was the first commercial building built in Cloverdale's downtown area in 25 years. He had worked with Ralph Warner who opened a soda fountain, café and coffee shop on one side and Frank China who opened a pool hall and liquor store on the other side. The building was the first built of basalt block reinforced with steel and that met the new fire ordinance.

After being constructed in 1946, 103-105 Cloverdale Blvd. was operated as a soda fountain, sandwich shop, liquor store, pool hall, Wine and Visitors Center, and Chamber of Commerce Office. Former owners of these businesses were: Ralph and Ruth Warner; Russell and Eileen Yonglin, Gil and Rose Mossi, Bill and Betty Barton, James and Fay

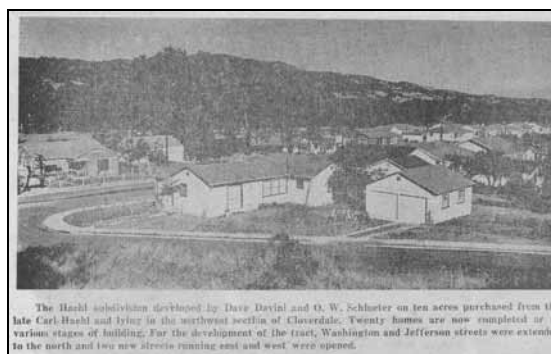
Walls, Stanley Watson, Betty and Floyd Byler, George and Margaret Tillett, Robert and Mai Cook, Phillis Schmidt, and Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce.

During this period of time Davini was working with Bill Schlueter, a retired railroad man, to plan Cloverdale's first subdivision, complete with paved streets, curbs, gutters and sidewalks. The new subdivision was located on ten acres in northwest Cloverdale, purchased from Carl Haehl. The subdivision had 57 lots, many of which were irregularly shaped. The most common lot size had 62 feet of street frontage by 90 feet deep. No lot had an area of less than 5000 square feet or a street frontage of less than 50 feet. No dwelling could cost less than \$4,500 nor include more than 10% builder's profit. No septic tanks would be allowed. It was called the Haehl Tract, and the initial phase called for the construction of 20 homes by the owners. To develop the tract, Washington and Jefferson Streets were extended to the north; Fourth Street and School Streets were extended east west; Haehl Street and Charles Street were added on the west side.



First Federal Housing Authority Homes Built in Cloverdale, 406-422 Jefferson Street

The land was purchased from Carl Haehl on December 2, 1946, at a cost of \$10,500, and was insured by Sonoma Title Guaranty Company for \$76.50. Civil Engineer, Walter F. Adams of Santa Rosa, did the mapping, complete with concrete monuments, stakes, mileage and office calculations for \$21.80 per lot for a total of \$1,242.60-see Appendix #4.



Haehl Subdivision, 7-8-48 *Cloverdale Reveille*

It was necessary to secure an agreement with the City of Cloverdale for improvements in the Carl Haehl Tract. The agreement with the city called for the city, at its expense, to construct water and sewer lines to service all lots including fire hydrants. The owners would construct, at their expense, a four foot by four foot concrete box culvert in Fourth Street, grade and develop all roads, construct 6" x 12" concrete curbs, and concrete

sidewalks. This agreement created a conflict of interest for Schlueter and Davini who served on the City Council.

On April 10, 1947, a letter was sent to Davini and Schlueter from W. Geary, Attorney at Law, from Santa Rosa. The letter stated, "We fully understand that everything done by you has been done with the interest of the city foremost and your individual interests secondary...We believe, however, that because of the very strict inhibitions imposed by law upon persons holding public office (Section 1090 of the Government Code)...It would probably be the wisest course for you to allow your resignations to remain on file with the City Clerk to be acted upon at the next Council meeting." This brought to an end Dave Davini's tenure on the Cloverdale City Council. See Appendix #2.

During the times Dave Davini was doing remodeling of buildings and construction projects, Hugo Davini helped with bookkeeping, kept employee time sheets, and did miscellaneous construction projects; such as, cutting fire blocks and spacers on his table saw. After the subdivision and the buildings on the north side of First Street were completed, Hugo retired. He walked to town every day at about the same time and people along Washington and Second Streets visited with him. He was so regular in his walking it was said people could set their clocks by him.

Hugo Davini Died June 10, 1955
May 20, 1963

Georgianna Davini Died

**UTES HELD FOR
HUGO J. DAVINI**

Private funeral services were held last Monday for Hugo Joseph Davini, 214 Washington Street, at the Fred Young and Company chapel, Cloverdale, with Dr. L. G. Gilmore of the Truth Center officiating. Inurnment was at the Chapel of the Chimes, Santa Rosa.

Mr. Davini, retired package foreman for the National Biscuit Company, San Francisco, and a Cloverdale resident for 11 years, died Friday, June 10, in Healdsburg Hospital. He was 77 years old. He was a native of Pescadero, Calif.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Georgiana Davini; a son, David Davini, Cloverdale contractor and former president of the Citrus Fair Association; a daughter, Mrs. William J. Swanson, Alameda; four grandchildren, David Davini, Jr., and Joan Davini, Cloverdale; Mrs. Marianne Dalke, San Francisco, and Jean Swanson, Alameda, and one great-grandchild.

Mrs. Davini

Funeral services for Mrs. Georgianna Davini, 79, were to be held today at the George W. Murphy mortuary.

Mrs. Davini died here Saturday. She was a 30-year resident of Alameda and a member of the Unity Church.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Antoinette Swanson of Alameda; a son, David A. Davini of Cloverdale; four grandchildren, Marianne Dalke of Chico, Joan Johnson of Sacramento, Jean Follrath of Alameda and David A. Davini Jr. of Chico; and seven great grandchildren.

Interment was to be at the Chapel of the Chimes, Santa Rosa.

Hugo died on June 10, 1955; he was 79 years old. After Hugo's death, Georgianna moved to Alameda to live near her daughter, Antoinette Swanson. Georgianna died at 78 years of age on May 20, 1963.

DEVELOPMENT OF EAST FIRST STREET



North Side of First Street, Looking East, 7-8-48 *Cloverdale Reveille*

Commerce in Cloverdale had mostly taken place on West Street (now Cloverdale Blvd.). The only commercial building not facing West Street was the Telephone Exchange on West First Street. East First Street was vacant land except for Russell Thompson's Richfield Service Station on the northeast corner. The lot on the southeast corner of East First Street was used for the carnival during the Citrus Fair. In June of 1948, Davini completed his second commercial building on the north side of First Street which was occupied by Ralph Warner's Cloverdale Food Center, Fred Conti's Cloverdale Bakery, a barbershop, Harry Tenny's Men's Shop, Simpson's Hardware and Coppo's Liquor. Dr. Frank Sohler built the Cloverdale Clinic in 1948 on land between Coppo's Liquor and the Richfield station. This filled in the north side of East First Street between Main and West Streets.



South Side of East First Street, 1951 Fair Program
Now

East First Street, *Cloverdale Then and*

In 1950 Dave Davini completed his third basalt block commercial building on the southwest corner of First and Main Streets which was occupied by Al Montedonico's Appliance Store, Cloverdale Dress Shop, Otto Crider's Shoe Store and the Blair Theater owned by William and Mary Blair. He also built a small medical building behind Montedonico's facing Main Street which was occupied by Dr. Ives, a dentist, and Dr. Quom, a chiropractor.

Davini finished this block between Main and Cloverdale Blvd. in 1952, in partnership with Arthur Jarvis. Cridders moved to the new building and their store was rented by P.G. and E. Cloverdale Dress Shop moved and was replaced by an expansion of Al Montedonico's. He added television and records. Other tenants between the theater and Cloverdale Blvd. included Gordon Kindall's Variety Store and Henry Parker's Jewelry Store. Joe West of Santa Rosa opened the Rainbow Room, a bar and restaurant, which faced West Street.

FIRST DAUGHTER OFF TO COLLEGE

Marianne G. Davini, oldest daughter, made a smooth transition from Fort Seward's one room school to Cloverdale High School. She was active in student body clubs and was a cheerleader.



Queen Marianne Davini, 1948 Citrus Fair Court

She graduated from high school in 1948, and was queen of the Cloverdale Citrus Fair in February of that year. She attended Fresno State College where she lived with Al and Mary Perry, Bertha Davini's sister and brother in law. Their son Howard and Marianne had spent many summers together in Fort Seward.

Marianne at Fresno State College



Dalke Wedding-1950

Marianne married James C. Dalke of Fresno in 1950; they now live in Chico, California. Jim was owner of an electronics firm and Marianne was office manager for Hall-Van Hook and Lambert Funeral Homes before they retired. They have two children: Lori Blankenship, who has two sons, Brian and Jeremy; and Bill. He and wife Cathy have

Jim & Marianne



a daughter, Mary.

CLOVERDALE CITRUS FAIR

David Davini, Tony Galli, Charley Humbert, Ralph Warner, Frenchie Boucher, Fred Oster and others were instrumental in reopening the Citrus Fair after World War II. There was no state money available for at least three years, and all the funding was raised locally including exhibit prizes and entertainment. The Fair Pavilion had a large auditorium in the rear, with an office on the right front as you entered and a small meeting room on the left. Citrus exhibits occupied most of the front half of the building, and the stage, dance floor and seating occupied the back half. There was a balcony on both sides with three-tier bleachers for viewing activities on the floor below. In those days there were at least nine citrus exhibits and many commercial exhibits. Entertainment included vaudeville acts on stage, the Citrus Fair Queen Coronation, carnival, dances, food booths and a parade.



Chamber of Commerce Meeting, 7-11-48 *Cloverdale Reveille*

To raise money for the event, organizations sponsored the citrus exhibits, businesses rented exhibit space, tickets were sold, and sponsors advertised on the program and interior walls of the building. It took a lot of effort to organize and plan for a fair, and without local business leaders taking a lead role, without pay, the fair would not have prospered.



On July 11, 1948, the Press Democrat stated, "There's none of the 'Let George do it' attitude in Cloverdale. Its civic organizations are working organizations in every sense of the word. When they want something done that will benefit their community Cloverdale folks literally roll up their sleeves and go to work." Dave Davini was Vice President of the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce on February 6, 1948, when they passed a resolution offering Mrs. E. Seghesio of Geyserville \$15,000 for six acres of land that is the present Fairgrounds in Cloverdale. In 1950, they got approval from the State Division of Fairs and Expositions for a grant of \$65,000, and Charlie Humbert bought the old pavilion for \$22,500 which enabled them to contract with Dave Davini to build a new pavilion. Charlie Humbert turned the first shovel of dirt and construction began in September of 1950. See Appendix #5.

President's Message, 1951 Citrus Fair Program

Dave Davini Says

As this is written, we are in the midst of last-minute rush to finish your Citrus Fair Pavilion.

Building a \$175,000 structure for \$93,000 would not have been easy, even if we had not been plagued with one difficulty after another.

There were delays before we got the approval of the State Department of Finance, Division of Fairs and Expositions, without whose grant of \$65,000 the pavilion could not have been built. We ran into difficulty procuring structural steel. Actual construction wasn't begun until September and this was the rainiest autumn in years.

We have a precedent: the old pavilion was not completed until 4 days before the opening date of the 1910 Citrus Fair.

More than once, we thought it couldn't be done, but the dogged persistence of the committee carried on.

It couldn't have been done, except for the hard work of a lot of people. Bert Petersen, who, with the assistance of his brother Bruce did an expert job of supervising construction. Bill Schleuter, who, without salary, put in regular hours, checking figures, keeping time records, preparing payrolls. The crew who put everything they had into the job, even to working in all kinds of weather, and especially the boys who came down at 10:30 one night to trowel a cement floor which was slow drying.

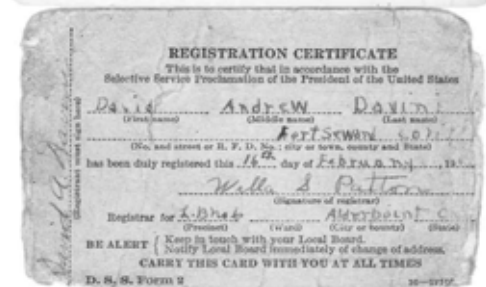
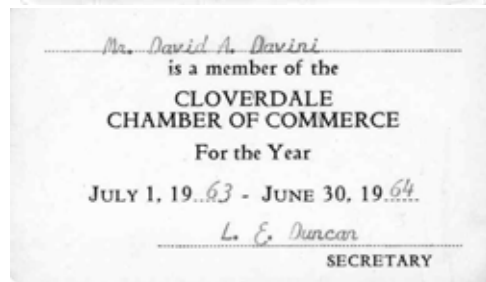
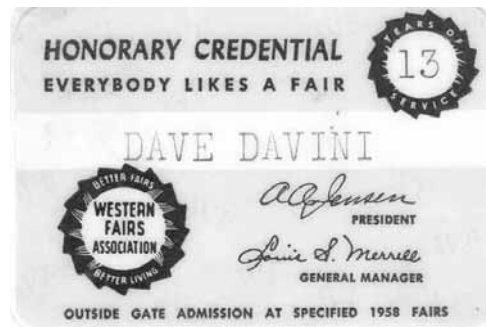
Charlie Humbert turned the first shovel of dirt. That's a sort of a symbol. If he hadn't bought the old pavilion for \$22,500 we couldn't have started.

One face is missing in the photograph on page 15. The late Fred Oster, whose dream of a Citrus Fair Pavilion and a community center inspired us all.

Working together has made possible a new Citrus Fair Pavilion. We in the Chamber of Commerce believe that working together we can build a better Cloverdale. It is our hope that as we use the Pavilion to play together, we may also learn new ways of cooperation, and by keeping our eye on our goal and overlooking petty disagreements, accomplish even greater things for our community.



DAVE DAVINI



Marie Vadon Hill in her book, **Cloverdale Memories**, writes, "Due to a very rainy autumn and difficulty procuring structural steel, this building was not completed until February 1951, just in time for the Citrus Fair. The hard work of a lot of people had succeeded in building a \$175,000 structure for \$93,000, among them Bert and Bruce Peterson, Fred Oster, Bill Schlueter and Dave Davini. In 1954 the balcony of the auditorium was added and in 1956 the commercial room." Dave Davini regarded being Cloverdale Citrus Fair Board President and constructing the main buildings of the present Fair property his single most important lifetime accomplishment.

Dave Davini became a member of the Western Fairs Association and represented the Cloverdale Citrus Fair in Sacramento on several occasions. He was effective in securing additional funding for future fairs. He and Bertha loved to attend the Sonoma County Fair in Santa Rosa, Humboldt County Fair in Arcata, and the State Fair in Sacramento. They both liked the horse races and other festivities.



Dave Davini Welcoming Governor
Citrus Queen
Earl Warren to 1952 Citrus Fair



Dave Davini Crowning the

Dave Davini bought the old pavilion located on West Street from Charlie Humbert and converted it to commercial building space. Nells Jensen opened a used furniture store in the main auditorium and added new furniture in the front half after a remodel which included a ceiling and office space in what used to be the pavilion office and meeting room. Dr. Leane Gerber, Optometrist, had an office in one of the small commercial spaces and the local Justice Court occupied the other space. For a short period of time Bert McPherson partnered with Jensen to run an antiques business in the old pavilion. Dave Davini remodeled the old building on several occasions replacing the old wooden floors with cement, adding commercial space to the front along with facade improvements, building a ceiling and second story floor space on the front half. The old building burned in 1968, before full utilization could be achieved, leaving what is now a large central city parking lot.

Consideration was given to building additions to Cloverdale High School in December of 1951. Because of the Citrus Fair project and several other ventures, Dave Davini did not submit a formal bid for the project. See Appendix #7.

BUILDING THE DREAM HOME



Having had success in the construction business, building commercial buildings and many custom homes, it was time for the Davinis to build their dream home. The first chore was to find the perfect location, which was a view lot within easy walking distance to schools and town. The Davinis purchased a strip of land north of School Street which was a long hill including the old Carl Haehl Winery with eight large eucalyptus trees next to it. They constructed Hillside

Drive and divided the ridge of the hill into lots. The lot selected for their home was the site of the winery which was then torn down. Part of the winery's foundation still exists under the 506 Hillside Drive home.

Dave Sr., 506 Hillside Drive-1951
Background Now Holds High School Athletics Field,

an Extension of Jefferson Street, and a Row of

Houses

Most of the other lots were sold. The two lots to the south were sold to J. Grant Carnegie, Police Chief; and Sam Bean, a mill owner, built to the north. There was a prune orchard and vineyard between the ridge and the high school, and also between Hillside Drive and the mountains. The view both east and west was spectacular. In order to finance the land purchase and initial home constructions costs, the Third Street Victorian house was sold and the Davinis moved in with Hugo and Georgianna Davini who lived at 420 Washington Street. It was only going to be for a short time, but since Dave Davini was building the Citrus Fair Building at the time as well as other projects, three generations lived in the Washington Street home for almost two years.

506 Hillside Drive-Front and
Rear Views

The Sunday, June 17, 1951 issue of the **Santa Rosa Press Democrat** describes the home in detail, *"The new home which David Davini, Cloverdale builder, planned for his family, took second priority to the new Citrus Fair Pavilion, but last week, when Mrs. Davini and their two children started moving in, it seemed well worth waiting for.*

This is a house planned with younger members of the family in mind. Joan has just completed her first year in high school. Like her younger brother, David, she is enthusiastic, gregarious. The new home will permit each child to have a group of his own friends without disturbing the other's privacy.

The huge knotty pine playroom has its own shower and lavatory. It opens into a wide patio with its fireplace and barbecue pit, and is easily accessible to the kitchen. The two living room doors which open on the patio on either side of the fireplace offer no hazard to the wall-to-wall carpet. The patio end of the living room is one wide hearth of Arizona flagstone, which forms a walk from the bedroom wing to the kitchen, and which will do away with the necessity of continually reminding children to wipe their feet.



The bedrooms, removed from the main part of the house, have asphalt tile floors. David's room is practical and masculine looking, with brown floors, monkscloth drapes and spread. A build-in desk and bookshelves over the twin beds should facilitate homework.

Joan's room will be in pink, gray and blue. The walls are delphinium blue, and the woodwork and floor gray. Rose drapes and spreads will set off the gray furniture.

Color is rampant in the kitchen-breakfast room. The cabinets in the compact work center are pale gray, with yellow tile tops to match the sunny yellow walls. Accents of dubonnet in the tile finish are repeated in the grape and leaf border of the dishes, and in a lighter shade in the rubber tile floor where it is combined with pearl gray. Mrs. Davini plans clear plastic curtains on the wide windows which give a view of the valley from two sides of the breakfast room.

In the living room and dining room, Mrs. Davini chose to disregard the present vogue for dark colors. Under the muted gray of the plaster, a hint of the undercoat of pale pink can be seen, repeating the pinkish cast of the Sonoma stone fireplace.

Bertha & Dave Davini at Home



Mr. Davini directed the building of the home, with Bert Peterson and Bruce Peterson carpenters in charge. Tom Williams was the decorator; the fireplaces were constructed by Ulysses Mersifield who also did the plastering and brick exterior trim.

The landscaping, to be begun at a later date, was planned by Bert 'Cluny' McPherson as a classroom project at the University of California at Davis."

The landscaping eventually included two fish ponds, one with a fountain and the other smaller one with twin bridges. A two-bay carport was built by Dave Davini and his son. The carport was flat roofed and "L" shaped.

It featured two of the old Citrus Fair Pavilion lanterns on the side facing Hillside Drive. The driveway circled around the house with planters on both sides.

Not mentioned in the newspaper article was the quality of the construction itself. Everything used in the construction was high quality. The framing was extra strong and the house was sheathed with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch fir sheeting before the brick veneer and siding were added. The roof was asbestos tile which was supposed to last a lifetime. There was a laundry chute from the bathroom to the playroom so dirty clothes could be dropped through the wall to the washing machine. There was also a garbage chute in the kitchen by the sink so garbage could be dropped directly into the garbage can.

Extended family events were important to Dave and Bertha. Hugo and Georgianna happily celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1951. Most of Hugo's family was present at

the Petri wedding in San Francisco in the early 1950's. Jim and Marianne Dalke could not attend due to Jim's military assignment.



Hugo & Georgianna Davini
1950's
Celebrating 50th Anniversary



Petri Family Wedding,

SECOND DAUGHTER OFF TO COLLEGE

Joan Naomi Davini graduated from Cloverdale High School in 1954. She was very active in the high school band and choir. She loved music and played the piano. In band she worked her way up to first clarinet with Stephen Connolly, Cloverdale High School Band Director's guidance. Joan was Queen of the Cloverdale Citrus Fair in 1953, as a junior in high school. She went to Santa Rosa Junior College for a year and then transferred to Chico State College where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education and an elementary teaching credential. During her junior year in college



she married James Arthur Johnson of McCloud, California on May 25, 1958.

Queen Joan Davini, 1953 Citrus Fair

Upon graduation, they moved to Sacramento where Joan began teaching first grade. Over the next several years, she taught kindergarten and first grade in the California system—including Sacramento and Merced. The family traveled to several areas of California as Jim pursued a career in finance. In 1976, they moved to Oregon and Joan continued her teaching career that included home teaching of elementary and high school students and finally a permanent classroom containing "at risk"

students at the high school level. She retired from teaching in 2000, and they now live in the Empire area of Coos Bay, Oregon.



Joan & Jim Johnson Wedding, 1958
Marianne, 1955



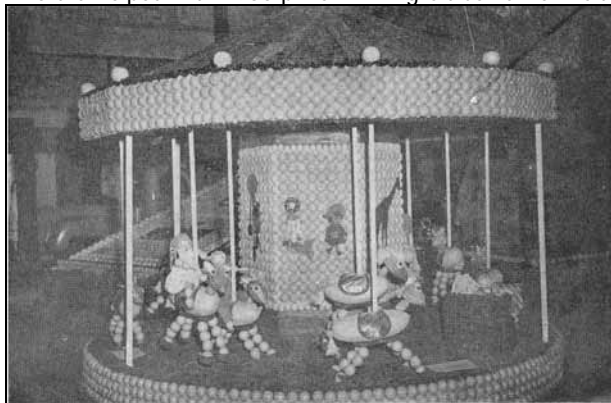
Sisters Joan &

Joan and Jim have two daughters, Jennifer who is a banker and lives with her husband Jack Hibbs in Florence, Oregon; and Julie, a homemaker who lives with her husband Jason Bazen and daughter Jamie in Medford, Oregon.

BERTHA DAVINI POLITICALLY ACTIVE

Bertha Davini joined the Cloverdale Women's Improvement Club shortly after moving to Cloverdale. She felt it was important to support the schools and the public library that meant so much to the education of her children. She served as president and secretary of the local club and went on to become president of the Sonoma County Federation of Women's Clubs.

Bertha helped with 1950 prize-winning Citrus Fair exhibit



First prize-winner in the 1950 Fair was the Merry-Go-Round built under the direction of Mrs. William G. Oldham for the Sonoma County Fair Assn. Prize money, \$250, gave impetus to a community-wide movement which yielded \$1800 in less than six months for the purchase of uniforms for the High School Band. Swen Gummer built the frame, Tony Ottoboni, Vaile Taylor, Louis Ottoboni, Albert Ottoboni, Gordon Oldham covered it with oranges, and Mrs. Oldham, Mrs. Frank Pierce, Mrs. D. A. Davini, Mrs. M. A. Allen and Mrs. A. E. Galli made the little figures and the murals on the central shaft built by Fred Gummerson.

In 1951 Bertha was appointed to the California State Republican Central Committee by then Senator Presley Abshire, who was born in Cloverdale in 1892. He lived in

Geyserville and was Senator from Sonoma County. She served on the Republican Central Committee for many years. She and Dave often made commercial space available rent free to Republican candidates for use as their local campaign headquarters. They were both very active in the Presidential campaigns for Dwight David Eisenhower, Barry Goldwater, and Richard Nixon. See Appendix #8.

Bertha worked very hard to bring home postal delivery to Cloverdale and was active in other community service projects. She, like Dave Davini, loved the Cloverdale Citrus Fair and worked hard to help it grow and prosper after World War II. She spent countless hours building Citrus Fair exhibits each year. She even enlisted the help of her children whenever possible.

Bertha was always there to help Dave by providing support and assistance. She hosted many dinners for the groups and organizations they belonged to and she always had time for school events and projects that involved her children.

Bertha encouraged her sister and brother-in-law, Al and Mary Perry, to move to Cloverdale to help with home construction. Al was an excellent finish carpenter. They lived next to Hugo and Georgianna Davini at 237 Washington Street. Their son Howard, his wife Joan, and their sons Todd, Ted, and Mike moved from Fresno to San Jose where Howard owned a successful construction business.

SON OFF TO COLLEGE



David Davini, Jr., #37, Cloverdale Eagles Varsity Football Team, 1957-58

David A. Davini, Jr., graduated from Cloverdale High School in 1958. He played football all four years. He also worked various part time construction jobs for his father, Nels Sundeen and Cloverdale Ready Mix.



David Jr., CHS Class of '58
& David

Bertha

Davini at David Jr.'s
Wedding, 1962



Dave Jr. attended Chico State College where he obtained a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration in 1962 and a Master of Arts in Business Education in 1966. He married Jean Fehring of Carmel, California in 1962 and they had three children: Deborah, Andrea, and Theodore "Ted". In 1978, David was remarried to Sandra Hamlin of Marysville, California who had a son, Jeffrey, from a previous marriage.

David Jr. was a high school teacher, community college instructor and school administrator. During his career in teaching he often spent summer vacations, holidays and weekends in Cloverdale working on family-owned property. David has been active in civic and educational organizations throughout his career. He retired in 2000 and lives in Yuba City with his wife, Sandy.

David Jr. on a Work Project in 1979



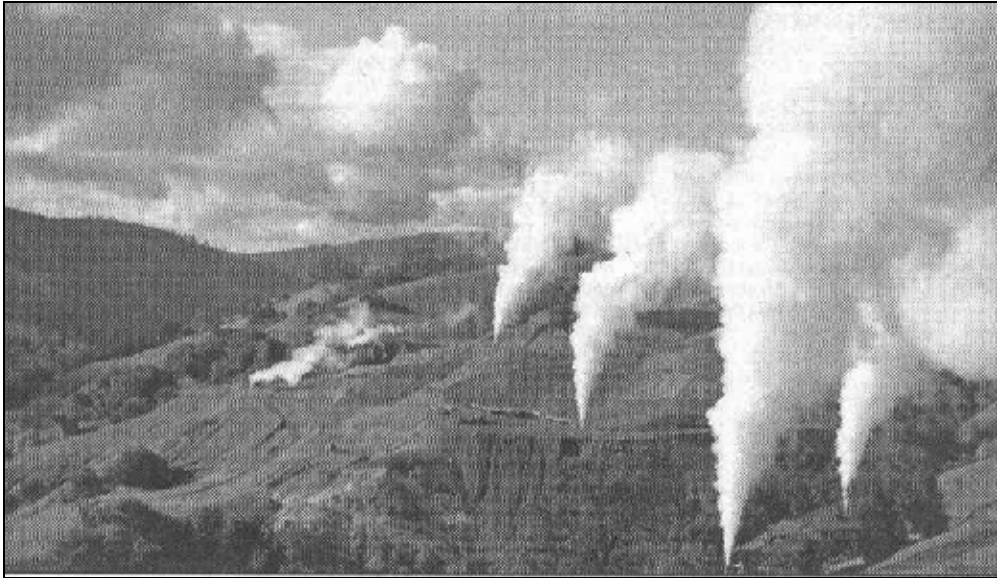
Deborah, now a school teacher, married Phil Barbaccia of Marysville, California, and has twin children: Michael and Christina. Andrea, now owner of Curves for Women in Willows and Orland, married Kraig Rumiano of Vina, California. Ted, now an engineer for the City of Sacramento, married Jenny Landrum of Sacramento and they have three children: Marisa, Angela, and David. Jeff, now a high school teacher in Fairbanks, Alaska, married Ginger Gough of Yuba City and they have three children: Mikayla, Kiana, and Ethan.

Cloverdale High School Class of '58



PROJECTS THAT COULD HAVE BEEN

Geysers State Park



Geysers around 1950, Before Power Plants Constructed, 7-13-05 *Cloverdale Reville*

Dave Davini, Sr., and others in the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce developed a proposal for the Geysers State Park. The proposed park was 52 square miles. Its northern boundary would have been the county line between Sonoma and Mendocino Counties, running eastward into Lake County; and its southern limit the township line six miles south of the northern county line of Sonoma County. The proposal included the following description, "The proposed park abounds in places of great scenic beauty—mountains, canyons, glens, streams and meadows. Within its boundary is Cobb Mountain covered with a splendid body of pine timber—giant trees that rival any of this species...and finally the Geysers, spouting their columns of fine steam into the surrounding atmosphere—not occasionally, but always—the most astonishing sight to be found anywhere on the American continent."

The total cost of the purchase was estimated to be \$225,000 because there were 15 to 20 square miles of government land included in the project. The proposal concluded with the statement, "Because of all these reasons the State of California in selecting the Geysers as one of the system of State Parks would make a very wise choice." Obviously the proposal was not accepted; on the other hand think of what the people of California lost. See Appendix #9.

California State College, Asti



Tasting Room at Italian Swiss Colony Winery, 6-23-04 *Cloverdale Reveille*

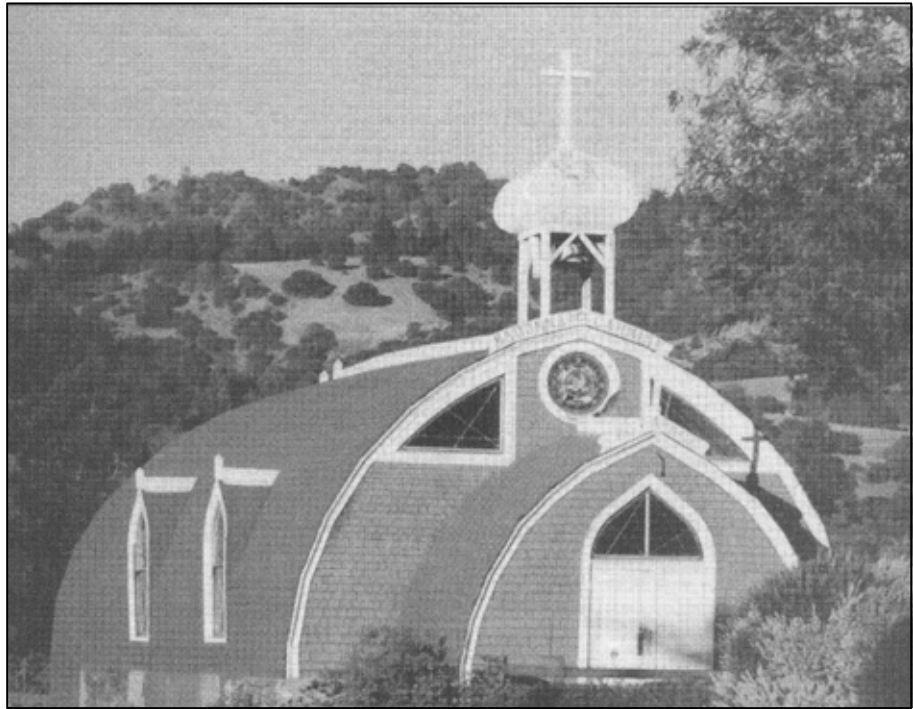
Cloverdale was in the running as a site for a branch of California State College, now located at Cotati near Santa Rosa. Dave Davini and Tony Galli, Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce President, in 1958 organized a campaign to site a campus at Asti, California near Cloverdale. These two men gained the support of Chambers of Commerce in Mendocino, Lake, and northern Sonoma Counties to favor Asti. On August 28, 1958, Tony Galli wrote Mr. T. H. Mugford, Director of Finance for the State of California, stating, "You are probably aware that I have had the privilege of submitting an offer of a site to the State Public Works Board for the proposed four year college to serve the four counties of Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma. The location is in northern Sonoma County...Many citizens of Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake Counties who are interested in the proposed college are pleased to learn of your intentions to meet with citizens of the respective areas."

On September 30, 1958, hearings were held at Santa Rosa Junior College at 10:00 a.m. and closing at 4:00 p.m. Presentations were made in favor of the following sites beginning with Rohnert Park, Cotati, then Petaluma, Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Sonoma, Asti (Cloverdale) and others. There were eleven sites presented and as expected all had their good points. After the hearings the political process began. On February 16, 1959, in a letter to L. M. Bianchini, Chief Executive Officer of Italian Swiss Colony in San Francisco, Tony Galli states, "Dave spent two or three days in Sacramento visiting with certain Senators and Assemblymen and he is convinced that there is sentiment to assist Senator Gibson." On March 13, 1959, Mr. Galli writes Mr. Bianchini stating, "There is no number one site so far as sites are concerned under AB 4 and the only selection that will be made will be that achieved as a result of efforts among legislators at Sacramento."

Even though the efforts to site the college at Asti were unsuccessful the City of Cloverdale formed alliances with neighboring counties and chambers of commerce that would prove valuable to business and commerce in the future. See Appendix #9.

Asti Motel

Our Lady of Mt.
Carmel Church,
Asti, 6-23-04
*Cloverdale
Reveille*



While working with the Italian Swiss Colony administrative staff to site a campus of California State College at Asti, Dave Davini was


also pursuing a dream he had of building a large motel and restaurant in the vineyard between Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church (circa 1909) and the main entrance of Italian Swiss Colony Winery. On November 23, 1959, L. N. Bianchini of Italian Swiss Colony informed Dave Davini that Italian Swiss Colony had been sold to Allied Grape Growers and that they would not sell any land which is part of the Asti property. See Appendix #9.

Italian Swiss Colony Vineyard at Asti



BERTHA CARRIES ON AFTER DAVID DAVINI, SR.'S DEATH FEBRUARY 2, 1964

David Davini, Sr. Obituary



MR. DAVINI

Cloverdale Leader Succumbs

By Staff Correspondent

CLOVERDALE—Funeral services will be conducted for David Andrew Davini, 61, of 506 Hillside drive at the Fred Young Mortuary 2 p.m. tomorrow.

Mr. Davini died Sunday in San Francisco after a short illness. He came to Cloverdale in 1944, was very active in civic affairs and served several terms as a city councilman. He was general contractor for the building of the Citrus Fair Building. He also helped bring about the incorporation of the Citrus Fair Association. He was a native of San Francisco.

Surviving are his wife, Bertha L. Davini, of Cloverdale; two daughters, Mrs. James Johnson, Sacramento; Mrs. James Dalkey, Chico; one son, David Andrew Davini Jr., Yuba City and one sister, Mrs. Antionette Swanson of Alameda. Also surviving are four grandchildren.

Entombment will be at the Chapel of the Chimes, Santa Rosa.

When Dave Davini, Sr., died February 2, 1964, Bertha was instantly placed in the position of managing their investments. She had never balanced the checkbook, collected rents, signed leases, etc. The need to learn was present, and learn she did. She was soon arranging for repairs, leasing buildings and otherwise managing her property. She enlisted help from her children and friends when necessary, but most will tell you she was an excellent landlady. She truly enjoyed collecting rents and visiting with her tenants. She would try her best to please everyone by keeping her buildings painted and well cared for.

Even though Dave Davini, Sr. served as Postmaster for more than five years in Fort Seward, California, neither he nor Bertha ever collected a civil service retirement. See Appendix #10.

After her husband's death Bertha became very active in the Cloverdale Duplicate Bridge Club. She helped to manage the club and made her home available to the club as a meeting place for several years. She traveled to many parts of the world with her friends, usually aboard freighter ships that stopped in ports to unload cargo. She and her traveling companions would enjoy bridge games and dinners with the captain while at sea. She also made several trips with her grandchildren which she enjoyed very much.

Bertha & Cassie at Home, 1984

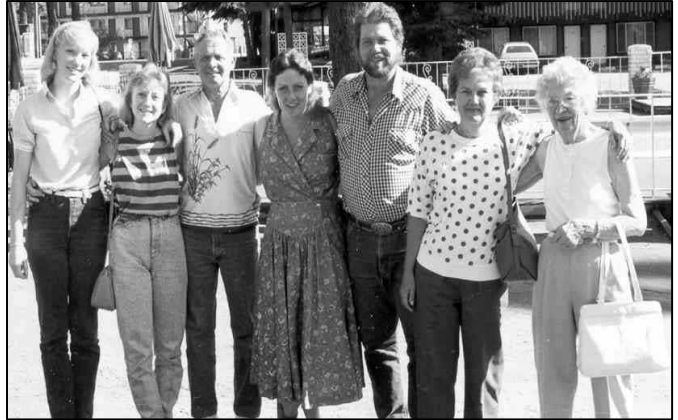
Gary and Lynn Hoelbl built a house on Hillside Drive on the south side of Bertha's and they became very close friends. Gary looked after the house when Bertha was gone and helped with problems as they arose. R. B. Southard was always available to keep her cars running, and she

did love to travel to Santa Rosa, Sebastapol, and Healdsburg to visit her sisters, Hulda and Mary. Health concerns caused Bertha to move to Chico near her daughter, Marianne, in 1987.





Epp Sisters: Bertha Davini, Mary Perry, Hulda Gaede
1987



Davinis & Hoelbls Meet at Lake Tahoe,

at a Family Gathering in 1985

DAVINI PROPERTIES, INC.

On January 1, 1971, Davini Properties, Inc., a California Corporation, was formed in accordance with the laws of the State of California. The purpose of the corporation was to purchase income producing property and otherwise deal in real property as the directors determined beneficial.

The preliminary meeting to set up Davini Properties, Inc., was held on December 12, 1970, at 506 Hillside Drive, Cloverdale, California. Those attending the meeting were: Bertha Davini, Bud Groom, Joan Johnson, Jim Johnson, David Davini, Jr., Jean Davini, Marianne Dalke and Jim Dalke. The formation meeting was held on January 26, 1971, and by unanimous vote Bertha L. Davini was voted Corporation Manager and Bud Groom was appointed Corporation Accountant. The Johnsons, Davinis, and Dalkes would each begin with a capital investment of \$3,000 and own 3,000 shares of Davini Properties, Inc., at one dollar per share par value. David A. Davini, Jr. was named President of the Corporation; Joan N. Johnson, Vice President; and Marianne Dalke, Secretary. See Appendix #11.

The first purchase of property by the corporation was 112-138 East First Street and 103-105 Cloverdale Boulevard. The purchase price was set at \$74,000 covered by a first mortgage paid at a rate of 5% simple interest over a period of 15 years.

Davini Properties, Inc., purchased all the commercial property owned by Bertha Davini in the ensuing years, and as management became increasingly difficult for Bertha. Because she enjoyed collecting rents and making deposits for the corporation, she continued that task until she moved to Chico in May of 1987.

Bertha's children (officers of Davini Properties) became increasingly involved in management and operation of the properties. There were bookkeeping problems and taxes, delinquent rents, vacancies, repairs, etc. All would pitch in and do their part. The person who did most of the repairs, painting and physical work was David Jr. because he had many years of experience. Management required trips to Cloverdale on a

frequent basis, and all the owners of the corporation had careers and families in other communities.

One example of the management problems that plagued Davini Properties, Inc., was the operation of the theater on First Street. When the Blair Theater opened in 1950, it was state of the art with a large lobby and snack bar. It even had a “crying room” upstairs for families with babies to enjoy a movie without disturbing others. The Blairs moved to Santa Rosa in 1979, and closed the theater. After that problems arose on a constant basis.



Clover Cinema Reopens July 1981, *Cloverdale Reville*

Thomas W. Gaffey tried to take over in May of 1981, followed by Philip Tocchini in October of 1982. In 1985 David Corkill made his first attempt to operate the theater followed by Redwood Empire Theaters in September of 1987. Amed Bhumbla tried his hand in February of 1988 and Imagori, Inc. in April of 1989. During this string of ownership changes the theater got very run down and needed extensive cleaning and repairs.

After a long period of being vacant Photo Graphix leased the building in 1992, hoping to put in a performing arts center for the community; however, problems with the City Use Permit process killed that plan. In 1999 David Corkill, who had become very successful in the theater business returned to Cloverdale and offered to purchase the theater and adjoining property, and the owners of Davini Properties said yes. Over the next few

months Corkill remodeled the building into a modern four plex theater and returned the property to its former productive state. The Davini family had entertained offers to convert the theater to other uses, but when approached by David Corkill felt the community would be better served by having a beautiful new theater complex.

Clover Cinema as a Photolab, April 1992



Properties continued selling property after Bertha's death on August 12, 1994, and officially dissolved the corporation on February 2, 2004.

Died August 12, 1994

Bertha Davini

Realizing that managing property from hundreds of miles away was a real chore, the officers of Davini

Bertha Davini

A funeral for Bertha Louise Davini, 86, of Chico, will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Newton-Bracewell Chico Funeral Home.

She died Friday, Aug. 12, 1994, at a Paradise convalescent hospital.

Mrs. Davini was born Aug. 24, 1907, in Inman, Kan., to Henry and Maria Epp. With her family, she moved to Arizona at a young age, and later to Madera and Oakland.

In July 1935 she married David Davini and the couple moved to Alameda. They later lived in Fort Seward.

In 1944 they moved to Cloverdale, where Mrs. Davini was active in the Cloverdale Duplicate Bridge Club and served as president and secretary of the Cloverdale Women's Improvement Club and president of the Sonoma County Federation of Women's Clubs.

She was also active in the Cloverdale Citrus Fairs and was a member of the Congregational Church.

In 1951 she was appointed to the California State Republican Central Committee. She was also instrumental in bringing home postal delivery to Cloverdale.

Following her husband's death in 1964, she ran the family business of managing commercial property in Cloverdale.

She enjoyed traveling, including Europe, the Orient, South Pacific and Canada.

In 1988 she moved to Chico.

Survivors include a son, David Jr. of Yuba City; two daughters, Marianne Dalke of Chico and Joan Johnson of Coos Bay, Ore.; a sister, Mary Perry of San Jose; and eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Private inurnment will take place at Chapel of the Pines Cemetery in Santa Rosa.

Memorial contributions may be made to the North Valley Chapter Alzheimer's Disease Association in care of the funeral home, which is handling arrangements.

THE NEXT GENERATIONS

The Davini children all have fond memories of Cloverdale, and their children can still remember family get togethers on holidays and special occasions. David Davini, Sr. died before most of the grandchildren were born, but Bertha was special to all of them. She loved having her family visit. Bertha continued the tradition of hosting Thanksgiving weekend dinners for the extended family.

Ted Davini Continues Family Tradition Working on Buildings, 1985



Bill Dalke helped Gary

Hoelbl with the rock work in Hoelbl's yard. David's sons, Ted and Jeff, spent many weekends helping with repair projects on Davini properties, while Debbie and Andrea, helped with yard work and cleaning the fish pond.

The great grandchildren did not have the chance to meet Dave and Bertha. This section is included to recognize the families of the Davini children and to tie their roots to Cloverdale.

Marianne Davini Dalke Family



Lori, Marianne, Bill & Jim Dalke, 1960
Jim & Marianne, 1993



4 Generations: Marianne, Bertha,
Lori & Brian Blankenship, 1985



Brian & Jeremy Blankenship, 7 & 4 Yrs.
Lori & Jeremy, 2003

Brian,



Cathy & Bill Dalke Wedding, 1991 Newlyweds, Bill & Cathy Dalke

Bill & Daughter Mary Dalke, 2000



Mary Dalke & Brandy, 2004



Dalke Clan at Jim Dalke's Birthday, 2005

Joan Davini Johnson Family



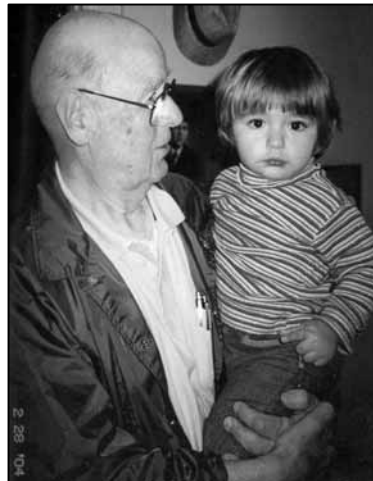
Jim, Joan & Julie Johnson Visiting Bertha in
Stories with
Cloverdale, 1985
Johnson, 1988



Uncle Bob Gray Swapping
Jennifer



Bertha Davini at Julie's Wedding, 1988
Bazen, 2004



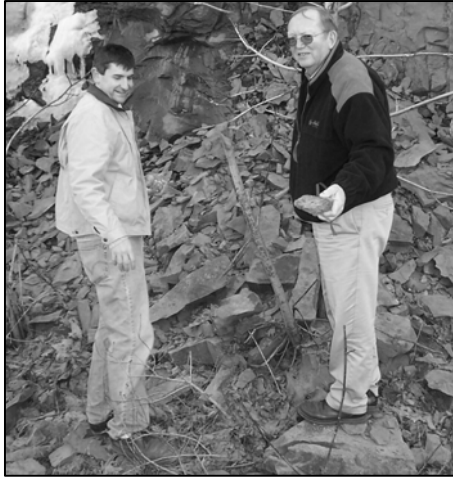
Grandpa Jim & Jamie Bazen, 2004



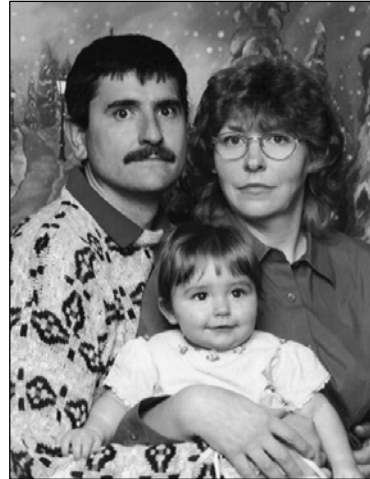
Jamie



Joan & Jim
Hiking, 2006



Jason Bazen & Dave Davini Rockhounding, 2006
Jamie Bazen, 2002



Jason, Julie &



Jennifer & Jack Hibbs Relaxing at an Inn, 2006

David Davini, Jr. Family



Ted, Andrea & Debbie Davini, 1972
Debbie, 1980



Jeff, Ted &



Bertha, Dave & Debbie, 1987



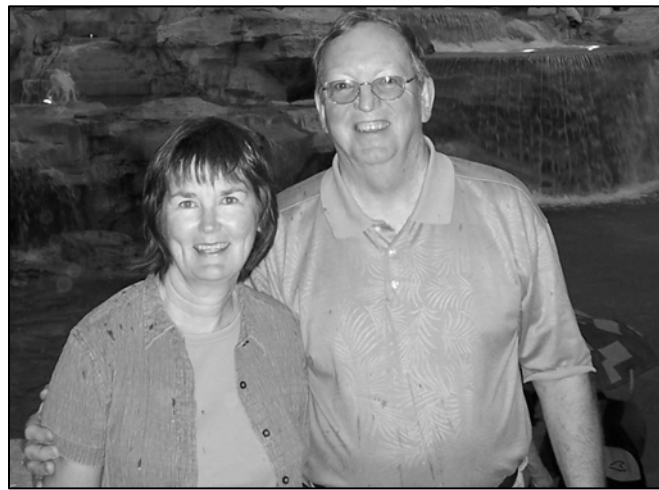
Andrea,
Bertha &
Debbie, 1987



Ted & Bertha Davini, 1987



Andrea, Ted & Debbie Davini,



Dave & Sandy Davini, 2005

The Davinis, 2006
 Back: Kraig & Andrea Rumiano;
 Ted, Marisa & Jenny Davini; Phil & Debbie Barbaccia; Jeff, Ginger & Mikayla Hamlin.
 Middle: Angela, Sandy & Dave Davini; Ethan Hamlin.
 Front: Christina Barbaccia, David Davini, Mike Barbaccia, Kiana Hamlin





Christina, Debbie, Mikey & Phil Barbaccia, 2006



Andrea & Kraig Rumiano, 2006



Back: Ginger & Jeff Hamlin
Davini
Front: Mikayla, Ethan & Kiana Hamlin, 2006



Back: Ted, Marisa & Jenny
Front: Angela & David Davini, 2006