

DAUGHTER OF FORMER FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT DONALD R. RICHARDSON PUBLISHES LATE FATHER'S BOOK ABOUT SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURE

Tractors, Trains & Shipwrecks – Yesteryear Recollections of Sonoma County

For a variety of reasons, it took many years to bring this collection of vintage tales to fruition. Former Sonoma County Farm Bureau president Donald R. Richardson passed away in 1983, but his daughter, Donna Richardson Robbins was determined, so *Tractors, Trains & Shipwrecks – Yesteryear Recollections of Sonoma County* will now be arriving in local bookstores this month, a collection christened “Tom Sawyer-like” by local historian & Press Democrat columnist Gaye LeBaron.

Spawned by his daughter receiving his handwritten stories recounting his youthful exploits while growing up in the seaside hamlet of Stewarts Point, these originals comprise Part 2 of the book. They are accompanied by vintage black & white photos dating back to Richardson's birth in 1914 which are sprinkled throughout, creating a unique experience for the reader of these step-back-in-time tales set in the 1920s, 30s & beyond.

An article entitled “Don Richardson Honored for Faithful Service to FB” from the Sonoma-Marin Farm News in the late 70's also appears in the book recounting his lengthy years of service to the organization. In addition to serving as president in the late 50's, he was also a delegate to the California Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting a number of times and chaired the Timber Advisory Committee – a duty he was particularly well-suited for in light of his work as a professional forester and association with the SRJC's forestry program, activities he carried out in addition to his primary duties as a rancher. The article also highlights his nearly 50 years of service to the California Wool Grower's Association, both locally and statewide.

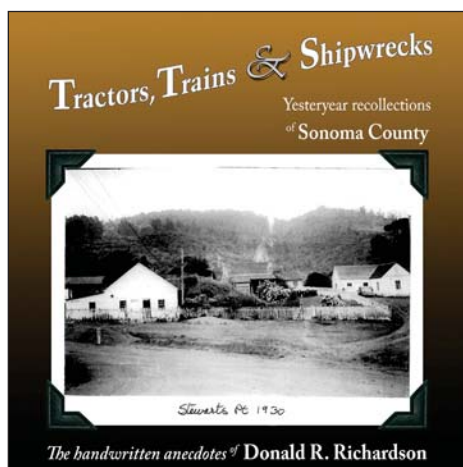
Current Farm Bureau President John Azevedo said, “this memoir of coastal

pioneer Donald R. Richardson provides a nuanced perspective to the phrase ‘the good old days.’ Life was tough in Richardson's rugged and remote corner of Sonoma County, but so too were the folks who worked this beautiful yet challenging terrain.

“The personal stories of this rancher, logger, county supervisor, early conservationist, and Farm Bureau leader offer a unique and fascinating historical snapshot of life in our rural region during the first half of the 20th Century.”

Also paralleling Azevedo's multi-generational roots in the county, the first Richardson arrived here from the east coast in the 1870s. Azevedo's quote and the Farm Bureau tribute article appear on a dedicated “Farm Bureau” page on the book's website: www.DRRpress.com

Tractors, Trains & Shipwrecks – Yesteryear Recollections of Sonoma County will be available at Copperfield's and over 20 other retail locations throughout the county in early August. It's also available on Amazon.com. These “manly” vintage tales provide a truly unique backward glimpse into a bygone era right here in our coastal backyard.



SUPERBOWL 50

Renee Mengali was the lucky live auction winner of the two Super Bowl 50 at Levi's® Stadium tickets at Love of the Land in 2015. She then gave the tickets to friends who were visiting from Italy. Pictured is Jacques Morel from Pisa, Italy is enjoying his first view of Levi Stadium on the day of the big game. A special thank you to the Super Bowl 50 Host Committee who donated the tickets as part of the give back to the community program.



Jacques Morel from Pisa, Italy is enjoying his first view of Levi Stadium on the day of the big game.

MALT PROTECTS 491 ACRES

Owners Walt and Arleen Jacobsen, now both in their 90s, were born and raised in Petaluma, and have owned this cattle ranch since 1950. Having witnessed the open space surrounding Petaluma shrink drastically over the years, they approached MALT concerned about the future of their family land and the risk of development down the road.

“We love our ranch and open space, and we want to keep it this way ... always in agriculture,” Arleen said.

Only 10 minutes from downtown Petaluma, Wilson Hill Road Ranch is home to grazing dairy heifers, several large tracts of mature oak woodlands, a stand of redwoods and nearly 100 broad leaf grasses and wildflowers. The land joins a stretch of 16 MALT-protected properties, filling in a permanent agricultural corridor running from the Marin-Sonoma county line northwest up Chileno Valley and southwest to Nicasio.

Strategic protection of large blocks of farmland and wildlife habitat is the surest way to counter the threats of loss and fragmentation. By protecting the Jacobsens' beautiful ranch, MALT is allowing both farming and wildlife to continue to thrive in our region.

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Not only did our generous community fund half of the easement purchase through private donations to MALT, but back in 2012 Marin voters approved Measure A, creating Marin County's Farmland Preservation Program. The program provides sales tax-funded matching grants to your private donations—allowing MALT to protect more land. MALT is grateful to you, and the Jacobsens, for making the choice to protect these lands forever.



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Sonoma Farm Bureau Members get no hassle Friends & Family Pricing at Hansel Ford Lincoln Mazda in Santa Rosa. Joe can show you a new Ford car, truck or SUV, a new Lincoln or Mazda. Or choose from any one of our more than 500 pre-owned vehicles, all makes and models. Whatever your transportation needs, you'll get great no hassle, personalized service and Hansel Friends & Family Pricing!

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