

Clampers Honor 'Oldest Home'

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Joe and Edna Kimbro's adobe home at the corner of North Branciforte and Goss Street, has been recognized as the oldest home in Santa Cruz and presented with a bronze plaque from Monterey Chapter of E Clampus Vitus.

The home is the only remaining structure of Villa de Branciforte which was established in 1797, and has been much remodeled over the years.

The original portion of the home is thought to have housed the Spanish Comisionado in the early 1800s. Three of the original adobe exterior walls, each two feet thick, remain. An earthquake claimed the fourth wall. A kitchen and additional space were added to the adobe about 100 years ago, according to research conducted by Edna Kimbro.

The Kimbro's purchased the house recently and have added space, at the same time recognizing the need to preserve the historical character of the house.

"Adding space required a lot of thought and attention to detail in order to maintain the simple architectural beauty of the Mission years," Edna says.

Multi-paned windows with carefully milled trim which matches the original existing trim, and a heavy, rustic shake roof echo the original era and blend with the Mission-like front courtyard which is hidden within high adobe walls.

Handmade Mexican tile, quarry tile, beaded wainscoting and high ceilings are planned for the interior, and solid wood, six-panel doors will mark the entry to rooms.

The Kimbro's have received several awards for their refurbishing.

Current addition work is being done by Tom Pohle of Santa Cruz Building.



Sandy Lydon of Cabrillo, left, with Dave Kennedy, E Clampus Vitus head, and bronze plaque at Kimbro home

Birdwatching Class for Beginners

A few spaces are still available in the Beginning Birdwatching Class which is sponsored by Santa Cruz City Museum.

The class will meet Saturday mornings, 9 a.m. to noon, November 1, 8, 15 and 29, at the museum, 1305 East Cliff Drive, with Cheryl Bellrose as instructor.

It is designed for adults with little or no previous experience in birdwatching, and will focus on the basics of observa-

tion and identification.

Each class meeting will visit a different nearby area and students can expect to learn about 50 local bird species. The final meeting will go to the UCSC Predatory Bird Research center to observe live hawks and falcons.

Class fee is \$15 which may be paid at the first meeting. For more information and reservations call the museum at 429-3773.