

forward, intelligent, and generous with his time and knowledge.

"He's done so many things, and he's so good at all of them," said friend and *Davenport Cement Centennial* co-author Alverda Orlando. "He's very precise, very accurate — and isn't afraid to tell you when you've done something wrong."

Piwarzyk is "a no-nonsense kind of guy," adds Daniel Williford, lead interpreter at Henry Cowell. "He tells the story, but doesn't sugarcoat it. I think he gives us the straight scoop about what has gone on around here."

### More History to Unlock

And what has gone on in the Santa Cruz Mountains is enough to keep any historian — even one as proficient as



Remnants of a lime kiln in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and (inset) two bricks from "Brick Bat Bob's" collection. Snowball was an English brick manufacturing company of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Piwarzyk — busy for years to come.

"I don't know of anyplace that's so small where so much — logging, making leather, limestone and brick — happened in so little time," Piwarzyk said. "It was an explosive time here, [during] the creation of [Santa Cruz County] after the Gold Rush."

Despite his numerous accomplishments, Piwarzyk never expected to be named Historian of the Year. "I'm totally awed, it's just an honor, it's delightful," he said.

He thinks he understands why so many local residents are interested in the history of their communities.

"History," he added, "not only brings understanding, it instills pride and a sense of belonging to something greater than oneself — and that has really made my life here in Santa Cruz and Bonny Doon." ■