More than eight decades ago, in 1913, Cal Poly's enrollment was 194 students. At that time a handful of women were pursuing an education in home economics, or "household arts," and, of course, experiencing college life. Among them were Annie Mendenhall Bergman (HA '14) and Leona Stenner (HE '13): Bergman celebrates her 102nd birthday on September 10 and Stenner only recently passed away in June.

Bergman came from a ranching family, married in 1916, and raised a family of five on a ranch in Aguanda, where she was the city's long-time postmistress until her retirement at 65. She spent the next 20 years traveling the world, which, according to her daughter-in-law, is one of her favorite things to do. Her fondest memories of Cal Poly were playing on the women's basketball team (see photo below, where she is shown beside the coach) and riding the train to and from school. Bergman's brother, George Mendenhall (MECH '10), was also a Cal Poly alum. Today, Bergman lives in Hemet.

After leaving Cal Poly, Stenner taught first and second grades for 32 years in many cities, including Nacimiento, Templeton, San Miguel, Bee Rock, and Hawthorne. Later, she taught piano for 15 years throughout San Luis Obispo County and performed at the keyboard for many years at Cal Poly's Homecoming events. According to her sister, Stenner spoke highly of her days at Cal Poly, where she made lasting friendships and also played basketball (front row left in photo above, from the 1912 Polytechnic Journal). She lived in Templeton until her death.