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A Happy Little Publication



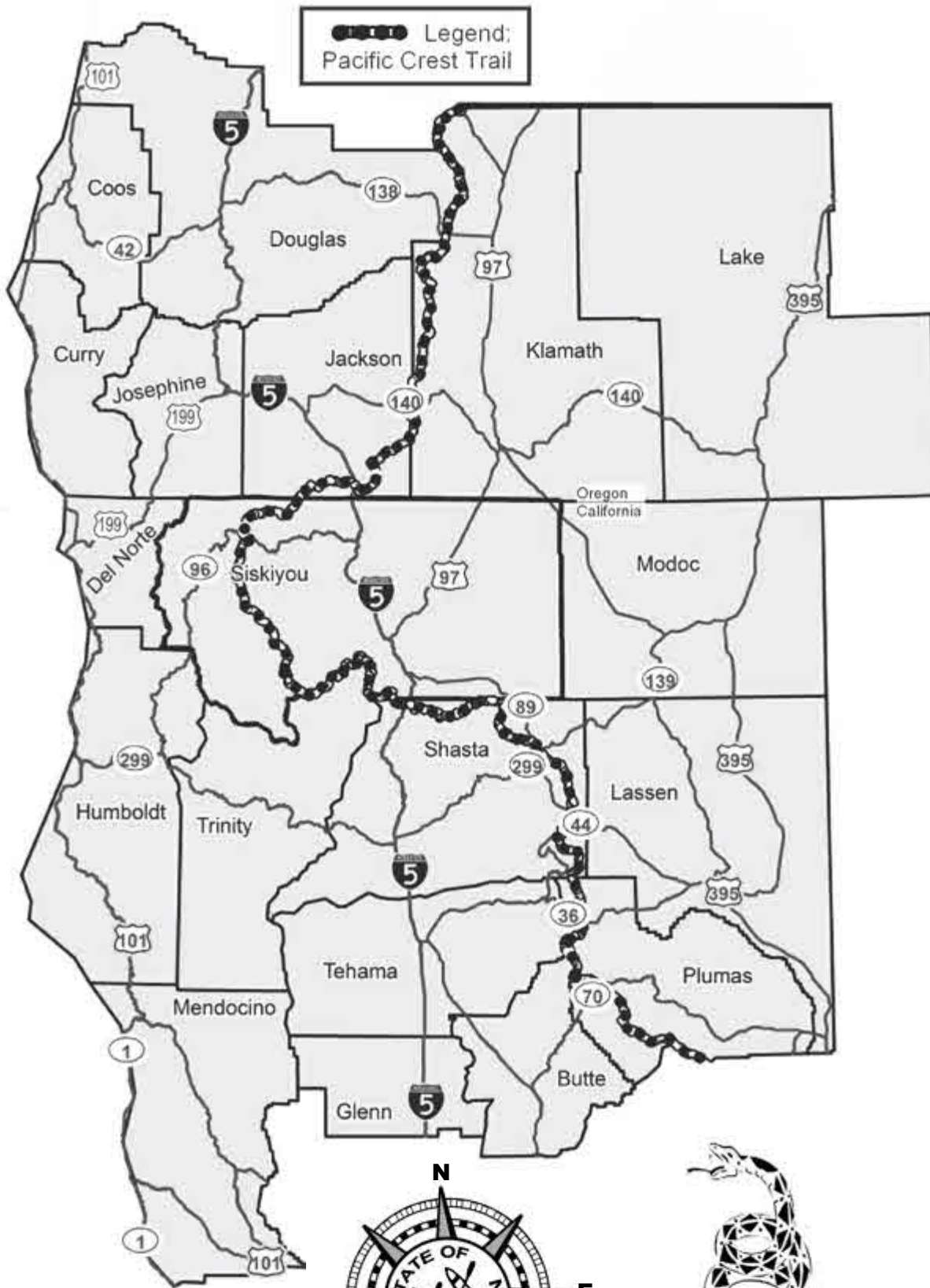
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February 2016**



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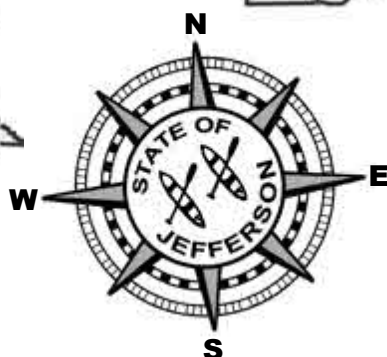
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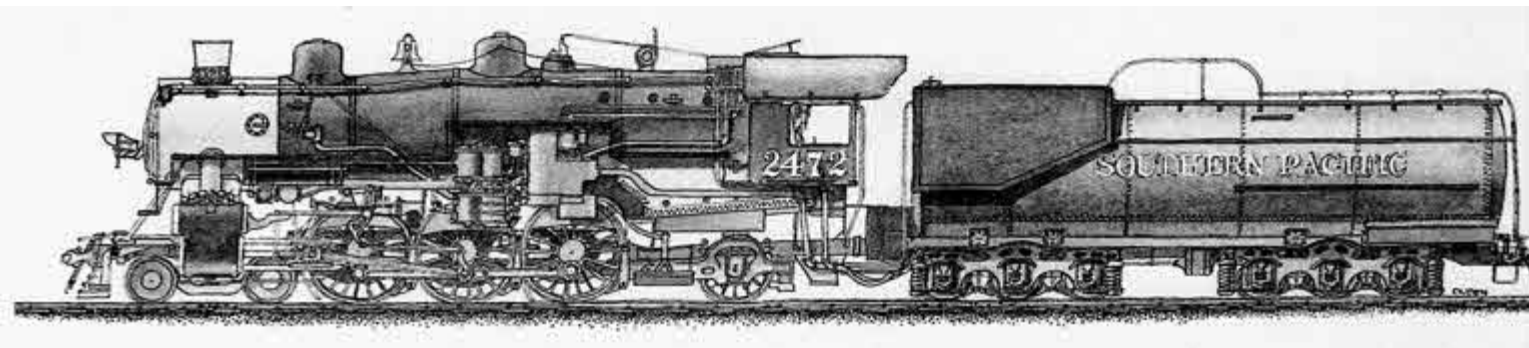
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DUNSMUIR RAILROAD DEPOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Back in the Fall of 2002 Amtrak advised that it would discontinue Dunsmuir service if a heated shelter with a restroom and public phone was not available to passengers by December 1st. Rita Green wrote to the Dunsmuir News stating the possibility of losing the Amtrak Depot.

In December 23 people answered her call to save the Dunsmuir Depot. The group of concerned citizens, working under the auspices of the Dunsmuir City Council volunteered time, energy, skill plus materials to make the Depot meet Amtrak's standards by the deadline. Due to their efforts, the Dunsmuir Depot continues to be the only Amtrak stop in Siskiyou County.

This group of volunteers formed the Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society in April 2004 with Rita as its President. Folks were asked to "Ride its Membership Train" and in 2005 a semi-annual Depot Society newsletter began. Depot improvements continued with the remodeling the restroom, installing an entry ramp plus canopy and decking, and painting the Depot exterior and waiting room.

The Depot Society opened the Railroad Display Room in 2007 in the old railroad dispatch office to feature photos of locomotives that ran through town from 1880's to the present day and railroad memorabilia. And in 2014 the Depot Society reopened the Dunsmuir Museum. The Shasta Division Archives moved into the Dunsmuir Museum, a valuable resource for railroad historians.

The Depot murals include Linda Drager's locomotive mural and Joseph Vella's Window and #1727 Locomotive murals.

Union Pacific has honored Dunsmuir with a TRAIN TOWN USA designation. Robert Church had a book signing for his 2011 STEAM DAYS IN DUNSMUIR in the Railroad Display Room. And a 2012 wedding took place in the Depot. The Depot and Museum have celebrated national Amtrak Day yearly.

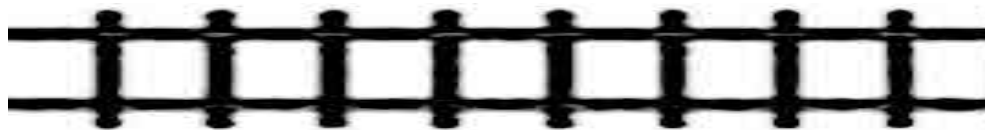
The Dunsmuir Museum is open April through October on the third Saturday monthly from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and for town events such as Dogwood Daze with our Annual PIE SOCIAL, RAILROAD DAYS, and the Art Walk.

Ride our "Membership Train" with a \$10 Depot membership and a \$10 Dunsmuir Museum membership sent to the Depot Society, P O Box 324, Dunsmuir CA 96025. This is vital for the continued Depot maintenance of the Dunsmuir Museum..

Follow us at www.dunsmuirdepot.com, and see you at the Dunsmuir Museum. ♦

2016 Events – Mark your Calendar

- April - Museum reopens
- May 28th - 8th Annual Pie Social
- June - RAILROAD DAYS
- July 16th – Depot Ticket Drawing



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A HAPPY LITTLE PUBLICATION

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Ralph Fain
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Cover Photo taken by Ralph Fain at the Crescent City, California Harbor

JEFFERSON BACKROADS is proudly published for the Hard Working, Old School & Patriotic Rebels who live in or travel through our Rugged & Beautiful State of Jefferson. We focus on the positive, the fun, the amazing local businesses, the history and THE ADVENTURE!!

Our papers are distributed in the first week of each month throughout Siskiyou County and surrounding counties.

Deadline for ads, articles or events: 10th day of the month.

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	Ron McCloud	Jean Nels
	Robert Pasero	Judy Sartor
	Bill Wensrich	Mickey Weston

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CASA of Siskiyou County

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Breakfast on the Mountain

Submitted by CASA of Siskiyou County

On December 1, 2015, a varied group of nearly one hundred caring Siskiyou county residents gathered for a moving breakfast event at Mt. Shasta Resort. What could capture the interest of 20 year old college students, business people, nonprofit and government employees and retirees up to 85 years of age? Discovering the intimate details of how many of our county's most vulnerable children have been separated from their biological families. Learning how many kids' parents are so addicted to alcohol or drugs that they are incapable of properly caring for them.

This is where CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children steps in. CASA recruits, trains and supports community volunteers to become a voice through the court proceedings, a hand and a heart for these abused and neglected children.

The morning kicked off with the world premiere of a short movie entitled, *The Story of CASA Siskiyou*. The film highlighted local dignitaries like Donna White, co-founder of Siskiyou CASA and presiding Siskiyou County Superior Court Judge William Davis speaking about the urgent need for foster children to have a trusted advocate to turn to. The film portrayed volunteer advocates like Denise Wheeler who told how a local family she worked with was deeply enmeshed in drug and alcohol abuse for several generations and with the support of a CASA advocate turned their lives around.

Then, author David Marin from San Jose shared his personal story of the trials and tribulations involved over the three years it took him to adopt three Latino children. We learned how the children's biological mother was often so drunk that her children went unfed. We learned how the oldest 10 year old sister took the safety and care of the younger children upon herself. And we came to understand how these types of circumstances are, unfortunately, quite prevalent throughout the country, and especially here in rural Siskiyou county.

Next Kim Knudsen, now employed by Siskiyou Childcare Council, shared how she grew up as a foster child, lacking stability and bouncing between countless foster homes throughout her childhood. The bright spot in her story was the caring female CASA advocate who remained in Kim's life even though her families and addresses continuously changed.

The morning concluded with an opportunity for community members to partner with CASA in a variety of ways. We now extend this offer to you as a reader of Jefferson Backroads:

Partnering Options with CASA Siskiyou:

- Arrange a private viewing of *The Story of CASA Siskiyou* for any size group. No group is too small.
- Learn more about our CASA Advocate Training class beginning in mid-March.
- Learn more about becoming a CASA office volunteer.
- Get information about serving on a committee.
- Explore joining our Board of Directors.

For any of these partnering opportunities, please contact
CASA Outreach Coordinator Snow Thorner, CASA office
530- 841- 0844 or cell 541- 292-2772,
snow.thorner@msn.com, snow@siskiyoucasa.org

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PIONEER STORIES:

NAME: STEPHEN TAYLOR BURTON

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY PEGGY WHIPPLE, ETNA, TIDBITS OF THE STORE CONTRIBUTED BY PEGGY WHIPPLE AND ORGANIZED BY JENNIFER BRYAN



Photos: Above - Stephen Taylor Burton and Below - Stephen and his children.



Born in New York in 1847, at the age of 6 years Stephen moved to Boone County, Illinois. He lived in Illinois with his large extended family until 1863. At age 16 years he traveled across the plains. Stephen traveled over the plains with the Greene family, working as a livestock handler. Stephen arrived in Oro Fino on August 8th, 1863. Stephen's uncle, Festus Payne, and several cousins had traveled to Scott Valley years earlier and established a saw mill. Stephen went to work on various farms, namely L.S. Wilson's farm and Judge McConaughy's farm, in Cheeseville. He worked hard and saved his money. He was quite interested in Sarah Shelley and courted her for some time. Sarah's father, William Shelley, was not pleased about the idea of his daughter marrying so young and Mr. Shelley didn't like Stephen Burton. Mr. Shelley sent his daughter Sarah to the Catholic Convent School in Yreka to put some distance between the young couple. Stephen Burton was impatient and decided to ride into Yreka and 'kidnap' his bride, while Mr. Shelley (a teamster) was on a trip to Red Bluff picking up supplies for the Quigley Store in Scott Valley. Stephen and Sarah were married June 8th, 1872 in Yreka and then went to Ashland, Oregon for their honeymoon. Mr. Shelley was one of the last people to find out about the marriage. Stephen Burton returned to Quartz Valley with his bride and provided for her by ranching. Mr. Shelley eventually warmed up to Burton and assisted the couple in purchasing a ranch and building a house.

Stephen and Sarah Burton had 8 children. The last child was only a month old when Sarah died in 1887 at age 33 years. Stephen was heartbroken but refused to send his children off to relatives in the East. Although, the youngest child Robert was only a month old, he was raised by the Berry Family, neighbors of Stephen's. The remainder of the children (age 14 years to one year) lived with their father as he remained a single parent for 11 years.

In 1898 Stephen married Annie Hester Murray and they had 4 additional children. Annie passed away in 1913 at the age of 38 years. After Stephen's second wife died, he retired from ranching and rented out his land. He spent the remainder of his years visiting his children and 16 grandchildren. Stephen's birthday was always a grand event held at his son Fred C. Burton's home - the Forest House - near Yreka, California. Stephen Burton was a staunch Republican and admirer of Theodore Roosevelt. He was a member of the Etna I.O.O.F. Lodge for 50 years. He was laid to rest in the Fort Jones Cemetery, IOOF section in 1925, at age 78. ♦

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HISTORIC GRIST MILL BURNS TO THE GROUND



Historic Photo of Butte Creek Flour Mill circa 1890 (above) and the devastating fire photo (below right) submitted by Bill Wensrich.

The Plaques of E Clampus Vitus
 Umpqua Joe No. 1859 & Humbug Chapter No. 73
 by Bill Wensrich
 "If you ain't plaque'n, then you ain't Clampin'"

Glenn Hearrell, Clamper from the Umpqua Joe Chapter in Oregon, telephoned me Christmas morning. He said he received a call from fellow Clamper Mel Hearn early that morning telling him the Butte Creek Grist Mill in Eagle Point, Oregon was on fire. Glenn met Leo Champagne at the mill site as soon as they could get there. Knowing the walls were packed with saw dust, they watched that morning as the local fire Department with overhead snorkel about forty feet in the air full of water tried to douse the fire.

By the time Glenn called me, the entire structure was gone, burned to the ground. The mill is a total loss. When you realize this was the only working grist mill west of the Mississippi river, you consider the immensity of the loss, a terrible tragedy for the area and local history.




The cause of the fire at this time is not known. Clamper Bob Russell, owner, who resides across the street from the mill, said that around 4:15 in the morning he was awakened by telephone alerting him to a possible intruder. At that time the mill was fully ablaze.

Situated on Little Butte Creek, the mill was the last water powered grist mill commercially operating west of the Mississippi River. Built in 1872 when Ulysses Grant was president, it began its first year of operation almost 150 years ago. Serving as "community hub," farmers traveled many miles to reach the mill. Waiting to have their grain ground into flour, wagons lined the Old Military Road at Snowy Butte Creek Mill during harvest time.

Old timers say when the mill operated in the nineteenth century, pitchforks were used to spear salmon in the mill raceway. Local Indians and farmers would drive wagons into the creek and shovel salmon into the back. Little Butte Creek, a major salmon and steelhead fishery, was most likely the source of food for bald eagles in the area, after which the town of Eagle Point was named.

Oregon's Umpqua Joe Chapter of E Clampus Vitus erected their first historical plaque commemorating this site in 2006. On the National Register of Historic places, the mill continues to operate its fabulous web site. You can access this site for more information: <http://buttecreekmill.com>.

Owner Bob Russell says he plans to rebuild the mill. E Clampus Vitus was one of the first organizations to step up to the plate and volunteer their help. To learn more about this significant historical site, read the November 2014 historical marker article in Jefferson Backroads. ♦ See Page 24 for more on this Story...



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—Ronald Reagan

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FORT JONES COFFEE CONCERT

The Historic Fort Jones United Methodist Church presents their 14th Annual Coffee Concert



Date: April 16, 2016

Time: 7 to 9:30 pm.

Place: At the Fort Jones Community Center

Info: Call (530) 468-5211 or 598-9191

A donation of \$10.00 will buy you a ticket to enjoy music and refreshments. Tickets available March 15. Limited Seating...



Fresh homemade pies will be sold by silent auction from 6:30 to 7:00 pm.

Fort Jones United Methodist Church will be presenting the 14th annual Coffee Concert on April 16, 2016 at the Fort Jones Community Center.

The evening will start with a silent pie auction at 6:30 pm with program at 7:00. For those who are reading about this for the first time, our pies are home made. Scott Valley women are known for their baking prowess.

Many musicians, from the Valley and surrounding communities will be participating, so you don't want to miss a really good show.

The first Concert was held in the main room of the Church. We stacked pews at the back of the room and set up card tables for our guests. Refreshments were served with glass tea sets on white tablecloths with a centerpiece in the middle. We continued to use the tea sets until we moved to the Community Center and we could not get enough tea sets for everyone. We have tried to set a nice table with really good refreshments.

We would like to thank everyone who has come to these Concerts in the past and we hope many more of you will be coming to this Concert. We appreciate your support of our 142 year old Church. This year we hope to use the profits to replace the roof on the entry/front porch of the Church.

Tickets go on sale March 15th, so buy early as there is limited seating. You may contact Harriet at 468-5211 or Sanova at 598-9191. ♦

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HISTORY OF YREKA

by Claudia A. East

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The Shasta Route

Along the Southern Pacific Railroad

It took from 1850 until December 16, 1887 before the railroad had the last piece of rail connecting San Francisco with Portland. It was with great angst that the railroad decided to bypass Yreka, the county seat, in favor of a different route via Montague. But, with determination and pluck Yreka set out to build a connecting line from Montague to Yreka so our residents could easily access the direct rail line for shipping and travel.

Many Yrekans took advantage of the train routes, but travel from Yreka to San Francisco and back was a mainstay for many Yreka shippers, merchants and travelers. It is interesting to note that special excursions were often advertised about the beautiful Shasta Route and the lovely scenery one could enjoy along this route from San Francisco all the way to Portland. In 1915, during the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco, Southern Pacific had special round trip tickets from Montague to San Francisco. A 9 Day Exposition Rate, good with stopovers was \$17.00 per person for the round trip. A 10 Day rate was on sale for a round trip cost of only \$14.25.

If a person traveled from San Francisco to Yreka on this route their journey would begin at the Ferry Building in San Francisco at the foot of Market Street. The ferry boats of the Southern Pacific would take the traveler across to bay to the Oakland Pier. Boarding the train at Oakland the traveler would ride along the eastern shore of the bay and quickly arrive at Port Costa where the train actually was loaded on a ferry boat and was carried across the Carquinez straits. From there the train would be able to get back on the railroad tracks and head to Sacramento. Once they passed through Sacramento they would head north on the advertised "Road of a Thousand Wonders."




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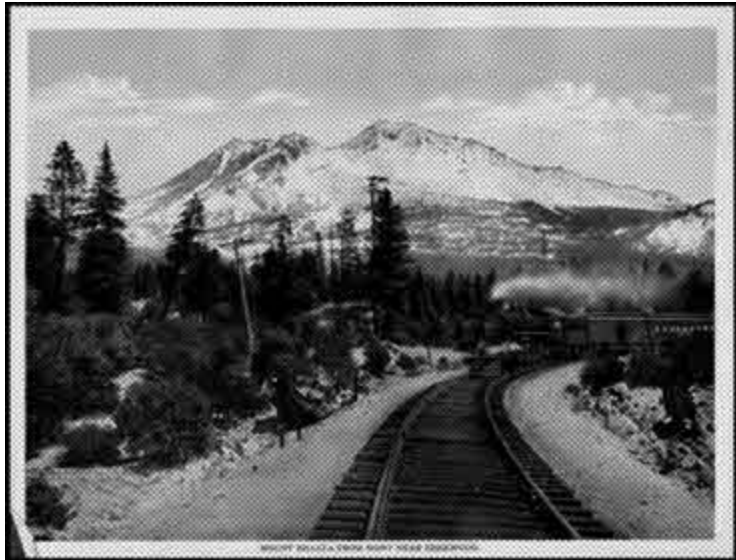
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Shasta Route near Edgewood: A view of the train near Edgewood, circa 1910. Post Card submitted by Claudia East.

The passengers would pass Mt. Lassen, chug through Redding and on up through the Sacramento River Canyon. They would pass Castella, view the beautiful Castle Crags, and arrive at Dunsmuir. Near Dunsmuir they would next pass by the beautiful Mossbrae Falls and stop at Shasta Springs which was known as one of the best all-the-year-round resorts! The passengers were able to stop long enough for a drink of the famous sparkling Shasta water. The view of gorgeous Mt. Shasta would be seen as the passengers wound through the canyon and past the base of the mountain. Black Butte, also known as Muir's Peak, was another advertised site along the way. The train would pass into the Shasta Valley via Edgewood on through Gazelle and Grenada and make its way to Montague. Once at Montague a passenger would either take a taxi service to Yreka or ride the short line to town. The Shasta Route continued as far as Portland.

This kind of service for Yrekans was available for many years, but unfortunately much of the route is no longer easily available for passengers. Those that do ride the train miss most of the beautiful scenery as the time table runs past the most scenic areas in the dark of night. ♦



Shasta Springs: A view of the train stopping at Shasta Springs, circa 1910. Submitted by Claudia East.



Dennis Moore
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- Salmon
- Trout
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A FEW UPCOMING EVENTS & CLASSES

Siskiyou Sportsmens Expo

March 12-13, 2016 - See AD on Page 17

Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds, Yreka, California

Call (530) 842-2767 for all the great information!!

Spring Quilting Retreat 2016

April 15th, 16th and 17th

Running Y Resort, Klamath Falls, Oregon

An opportunity for you to do a little "Spring Cleaning" and finish up a project or two. Call Tater Patch Quilts at (541) 798-5955.

See their AD and other quilting info on Pages 14-15.

Fort Jones Coffee Concert

April 16, 2016 in Fort Jones

See Page 11 for all the juicy details.

Scott Valley Quilt Guild - Quilt Show

May 21, 2016 - Etna, California

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER SPECIALS

- Bob's Ranch House in Etna - See Page 8
- Hospitality Dinner House & Pub in Dorris - See Page 9
- Slice of Heaven Cafe & Bakery in Dorris - See Page 9

For More Quilt Shows and Quilting Workshops see Page 15.

Always contact our Chambers of Commerce for ALL the upcoming local events!!



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EVENTS & CLASSES



Old Time Turkey Shoot

Klamath River Community Hall
19716 Hwy 96, Klamath River, CA

Sunday - March 20, 2016
Open at 9AM

50/50 Drawing - Splatter Boards - Dice Games

Be sure to bring **ALL** your guns to compete in every shoot
Black Powder, Pistol (15 & 25 yd), Open Sight,
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Lunch 11:30-3pm



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Redding, CA	2/13/16	(530) 226-3344
Chico, CA	2/20/16	(530) 693-0845
Klamath Falls, OR	2/27/16	(541) 331-1331
Roseburg, OR	3/19/16	(541) 459-8800
Fortuna, CA	4/2/16	(707) 764-3325
Grants Pass, OR	4/2/16	(541) 660-8822
Medford, OR	4/2/16	(541) 878-3699
Weaverville, CA	4/9/16	(530) 515-3321
Yreka, CA	5/14/16	(530) 340-0667
Crescent City, CA	6/4/16	(707) 951-4332

Contact Mike Ford for more info at
888-771-2021

Just a half hour from Yreka on Highway 96 along the scenic Klamath River, the downriver KR Community Hall is preparing to host the annual *Spring Turkey Shoot*.

We feature four canopy covered shooting stations with custom concrete benches that have adjustable seats to accommodate all shooters. Our 50, 75, 100 and 150 yard targets along with the Running Deer and Pistol (15 and 25 yard) areas allow more events to happen at the same time.

This year's Spring Turkey Shoot will take place on March 20, the Sunday before Easter. The shooting starts around 9am. Non-shooters can play dice games and buy splatter boards circles (no shooting skills required) and win the same great prizes as the shooters: turkey, ham, bacon, salami and cheese. Come enjoy a home-cooked breakfast and/or lunch or just hang out by the bonfire and watch the fun. The Community Hall has an enclosed swing set area for children.

The KR Community Hall hosts the Turkey Shoot twice a year, Spring and Fall. The purpose is twofold: to provide a safe and fun outlet for people who enjoy shooting competitively and to raise funds for our non-profit Community Hall. We rely on donations and our fundraising events to keep us afloat!! The local Turkey Shoot tradition that began in the 1940s continues with us into the 21st century and we are growing and getting better every year.

Check us out on Facebook: Klamath River Old Time Turkey Shoot.



Quilt Shows of 2016

April 22-24: Quilters Sew-ciety of Redding, "Feather Your Own Nest with Quilts," Shasta District Fairgrounds, Anderson

May 21: Scott Valley Quilt Show, Etna, Featured Quilter Kathy Durret

August 12-14: Hayfork Log Cabin Quilters, Trinity County Fairgrounds, Featured Quilter Angenett Taft

September 3-4: Shasta Lily Quilt Guild, "Quilting Around the Mountain," Mt. Shasta High School Gymnasium, Featured Quilter Don Linn

October 1: Pacific Flyway Quilters, "Farm + Fabric = Family," Colusa County Fairgrounds

Meet Jan Simmons

Meet Jan Simmons, a special somebody in the north state quilting community. On January 16, Jan Simmons was honored for the totality of her quilting work and achievements with a luncheon sponsored by the Siskiyou Country Quilters. More than 40 quilters and friends gathered for this celebration. Now, what's better than a potluck luncheon with all of your friends on a rainy Saturday? And to make it even more special, the guest of honor received autographed friendship blocks in the ever popular churn dash design. After the luncheon, Jan shared a trunk show of wallhangings and quilts that span the years from 1993 to the present. Congratulations, Jan!

Scholarships, Anyone?

The Shasta Lily Quilt Guild is offering a \$1000 scholarship to a graduating senior of any Siskiyou County high school who is pursuing a career in the fields of quilting, fabric art, fiber art, graphic design, studio art or related fields. Scholarship forms are available from any of the county high schools or from me sartor@nctv.com. Completed applications and portfolios must be postmarked by March 30.

Super Bowl Sunday Fabric Mania

Super Bowl Sunday is an important day for Siskiyou County quilters. That's when we gather at Weston's in Mt. Shasta for Mickey's special sale, complete with snacks. What better way to celebrate the day. Go, Quilters!

Shasta Lily Quilt Guild

**Project Linus - Quilting Workshops
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www.ShastaLily.org**

STITCHING IN THE DITCH

By Judy Sartor of
Mount Shasta Lily Quilt Guild

Row by Row quilts are a fast growing phenomenon in the quilting world. Would anyone believe that quilting could have a phenomenon? Well, this is it.

For sake of definition, row quilts are constructed in rows. That is pretty obvious. However, while a traditional quilt might be constructed in rows, those rows are similar to each other and coordinate together. A row quilt has rows that are not the same, either in colors or design. Now let's add a social element to the row quilt phenomenon. Quilters are social creatures. The art demands it. The Row by Row Experience, which began in 2011 with a few stores, has spread across this country and Canada. Here's how it works. During the summer months, member quilt shops--and they are advertised--distribute free patterns (and sell kits) to shop visitors. Quilters enjoy traveling in packs--that increases the excitement and can lead to more frenzied shopping. It takes 8 rows to make a quilt, so that is only 8 quilt shops. There are prizes, but the real prize is in the fun.

Pictured below is the quilt created last summer by Barbara Hegdal. The first row is from Weston's Quilt Shop in Mt. Shasta, and the rest are from places that the Hegdals visited on the Oregon Coast, including Cloverdale, Port Orford, Westport, Wheeler, Newport, and Bandon.



Last year's theme was H2O. This year's theme is Home Sweet Home, and this year's dates are June 21-September 6. You can get more information at rowbyrowexperience.com.

Quilt shops, including Weston's in Mt. Shasta, Tater Patch in Merrill, Oregon and Fasturn in Medford, Oregon are gearing up for this year's version of a Shop Hop. And I'm told that Weston's row will again include a custom panel.

So, do you like row quilts so far? Then you might want to design your own, perhaps around a theme to make it a memory quilt. Have fun!

✂

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One BADASS Musher!!

Stories by April Cox

A "season" for sleddog training and racing usually starts in early September – to early October. It depends on the weather and when it starts to cool down. As a general rule, mushers don't run their dogs unless it is below 50F. The colder it is, the better the dogs perform. One of the wonderful things about living up here is the micro-climate. Weathermen are never sure just what kind of weather we are going to get here. Often, in the last 5 winters I have been here, I have been able to start training my dogs sooner than other mushers in other parts of the country... even sooner than those up in Alaska! There are sometimes days in the winter here that it has been colder than in Alaska. Many people associate sleddogs and mushing with that state, yet do not realize that there is almost as long of a history of sleddogs and mushing in the lower 48 states.

Early in the training seasons, my friend and I have two super fun activities we participate in. We belong to a club called Sierra Nevada Dog Drivers. This club dates back to the early 1960's with a rich history of sled dog races and other events. Yes, right here in California! It is based in the

historic town of Truckee, which will be in our great State of Jefferson!

The first event is a fun run and a bunch of the club members meet at a special site to camp out, run dogs together, sit around campfires (when permitted) and share stories with each other. This is a great time to reconnect with each other and often make new friends with people that come and want to learn



more and get involved. The second event is the club's annual mushing clinic. For a small fee, people can come and spend a weekend with knowledgeable mushers and learn how to train their dog to be a better puller or learn the ropes of mushing. Often, attendees become members of the club and come back for repeats as well as enter our local races we have later in the winter.

The first fall, after moving here, my friend and I decided we were tough now and were going to camp at the fun run instead of staying at the hotel. So we loaded up our gear, the dogs, the quads, and the only tent we had. It was 27F that first night and the tent was not exactly a winter camping tent... we thought we were going to freeze to death and halfway through the night, we ended up in the cab of the truck with the engine running and heater full blast! Lesson learned. We needed a better tent. Daybreak came and we ran our dogs with others that showed and later that evening decided we needed a campfire. Let me just say that I built the fire and am banned from building future campfires as it was a little large. No, I didn't burn down the forest and it didn't get out of hand. But it would have been great for search and rescue to spot us, had we been lost. To be continued..... ♦

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Butter Creek Ranch Vineyard, Trinity Co., Ca.

Dogwood Cellars, Mendocino Co., Ca.

Handley Cellars, Mendocino Co., Ca.

Matson Vineyards, Shasta Co., Ca.

Melrose Vineyards, Douglas Co., Or.

Merlo Family Estate Vineyards, Trinity Co., Ca.

Misty Oaks Vineyard, Douglas Co., Or.

Moonstone Crossing Winery, Humboldt Co., Ca.

New Clairvaux Vineyard, Tehama Co., Ca.

One Maple Winery, Trinity Co., Ca.

Pacific Star Winery, Mendocino Co., Ca.

Ringtail Vineyards, Tehama Co., Ca.

River's Edge Winery, Douglas Co., Or.

RoxyAnn Winery, Jackson Co., Or.

Schmidt Family Vineyards, Josephine Co., Or.

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Shasta Daisy Vineyard, Tehama Co., Ca.

Shasta View Vineyards, Siskiyou Co., Ca.

Stringer's Orchard Wild Plum Winery, Modoc Co., Ca.

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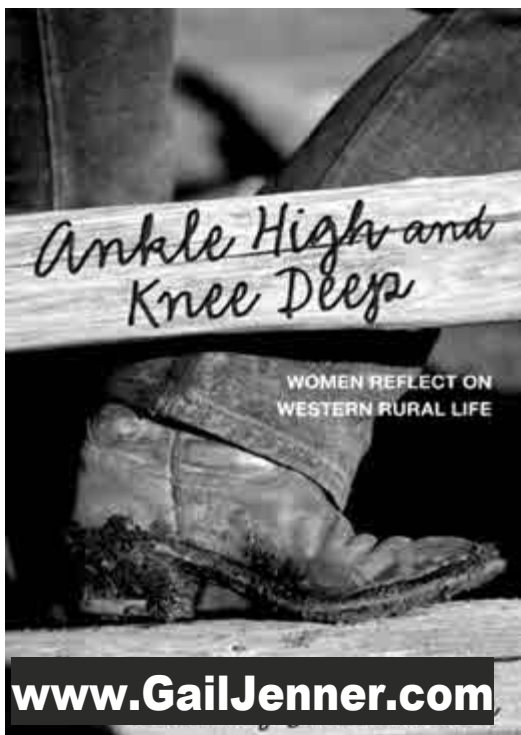
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** See Page 2 for map of
The State of Jefferson Region to locate the Counties.



DISCOVERING THE STATE OF JEFFERSON

By Gail Jenner – Enjoy another new story of the many historical towns and areas scattered throughout The State of Jefferson.

THE HURDY GURDY GIRLS IN EARLY SISKIYOU COUNTY HISTORY

Working with the Siskiyou County Museum and Director Lisa Gioia has been a lot of fun. For January, we worked on an exhibit on Saloons and the Hurdy Gurdy Girls of Early Siskiyou County. I was able to put together a power point/slide show and the following is part of that presentation.

The hurdy-gurdy is a string instrument that produces sound by a crank-turned, resined wheel that rubs against the strings. The wheel works much like a violin bow and single notes sound similar to those of a violin. It has a “sound board” to amplify the vibration of the strings.

Most hurdy-gurdies have multiple strings, which accompany the melody note and sounds much like a bagpipe. This is an old instrument, dating back to the medieval days of Europe. Many folk musicians continue to use the hurdy-gurdy even today.

Hurdy-gurdy houses developed all over the West, during the mining days. Like a saloon, these houses featured women—many of them immigrants (many from Germany)—who served drinks and “kept the wet goods moving.” These women also danced with the patrons. Often called “honky-tonk gals, beerjerks, box rustlers, or pretty waiter girls, most were not prostitutes (although some undoubtedly served as prostitutes).” They were considered a cut above “fallen angels” or “soiled doves,” and many took lovers or lived openly with their paramours.

In many of the first hurdy-gurdy “houses,” a hurdy-gurdy musician provided the only music. Pianos or groups were hard to come by.



Public Domain Photo provided by Gail Jenner.

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These were one-man musicians. San Francisco is credited as being the Western birthplace of the hurdy-gurdies, although these same kinds of houses or establishments were common in cities like New Orleans and New York, where “concert saloons” operated as early as 1830s. In the West, many were little more than tents supported by a framework of timbers. The floor was little more than tamped earth. After dancing with a selected hurdy-gurdy girl, the patron was expected to buy her a “fancy” drink—at outrageous prices.

One patron described a hurdy-gurdy girl this way: “She is of middle height, of rather full and rounded form; her complexion is as pure as alabaster, a pair of dangerous looking hazel eyes, a slightly Roman nose, a small and prettily formed mouth. Her auburn hair is neatly banded and gathered in a tasteful, ornamented net, with a roll and gold tassels at the side... See how nicely her scarlet dress, with its broad black bound round the skirt, and its black edgings, set off her dainty figure. No wonder that a wild mountaineer would be willing to pay, one one dollar, but all that he has in his purse—for a dance and an approving smile from so beautiful a woman.” In reality, perhaps one out of twenty seems to have been pretty, and many were described more as dressed like farm girls going to church on Sunday.

When hurdy-gurdy girls first appeared in Siskiyou County is not fully known. According to the Yreka Journal of October 1861, “The Hurdy Gurdy girls, so called, opened the Challenge Saloon on Tuesday evening, and proved a great attraction, being crowded to excess. When we looked in a quadrille was in progress, and we would suppose the entertainment was to coax bar patronage. The Dutch girls look very well and manage to catch a great many partners.”

At Scott Bar, in September, “Gurdies were sojourning... blandishing a charm and grace so captivating that every evening, seven days a week, revellings such as never before had been experienced. Disgruntled folk called the parties ‘swillies.’ According to one account, ‘business at the bar must have been good, for twenty-seven ‘Dutch Graces’ were in attendance. Nightly they wore several varying ‘shades’ of seductive perfume while performing dulcet gyrations.’

In May, the Challenge Saloon advertised a “Circe-like enchantment by Hurdies.” The Yreka Journal reported in June 1862 that “the young ladies in the Challenge must be doing well, as we noticed in walking on the opposite side of the street, that the house was crowded for several evenings.”

A troupe of girls arrived at Oro Fino in July 1862, enjoying “all night exercise.” The Yreka Journal also reported that “Next week they migrate towards Deadwood and Scott Bar devouring the small change as easily as crickets do a garden patch. One-horse shows are nothing in comparison.”

In October 1862, it was announced that “the Hurdy Gurdy girls have once more favored Yreka with their presence and are nightly capering nimbly at the astonishingly low price of two bits a dance, exclusive of whiskey or zwi lager. The fun which they excited on their first visit is somewhat abated, but their soirees are still attended by an admiring and appreciative though somewhat diminished audience.”



Public Domain image of Hurdy Gurdy submitted by Gail Jenner.

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Public Domain Historic Image of Hurdy Gurdy Girls submitted by Gail Jenner.

Discovering The State of Jefferson
Continued from Page 21

Editor Nixon wrote in the winter of 1862 that, as one “passed down the street during the snow storm, he heard above the raging of the storm the ‘melancholy vibrations’ of the machine which grinds the music.” In March he wrote, the girls were “nightly capering nimbly at the astonishingly low price of two bits a dance, exclusive of whiskey and zwei lager.”

According to one observer (who called himself Teutonic), “It is diverting to observe the sighs and soft glances of the boys, and the smiles of recognition and nods of assent vouchsafed to them in return by the hurdy-girls. But it is still more diverting at the end of the dance, after each dancer has paid his partner, and treated her and himself to ‘zwei glas lager’ and seen his money vanish like snow meeting the river, how the shade of displeasure mounts to his face, when he sees that the girl of his choice smiles just as sweetly upon her next partner...”

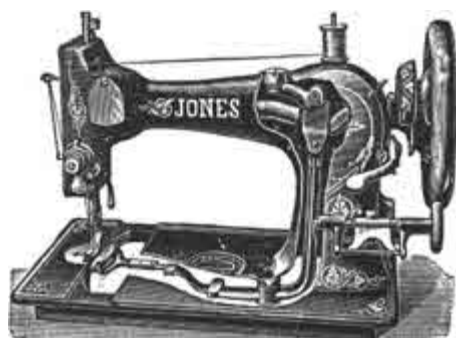
In 1864, Teutonic reported that “two sets of hurdies were ordered to leave lest a complaint be lodged in the justice’s court.” He wrote, Gurdies had been the “life and soul of this place for three months...and all they leave behind will be a ‘green spot in memory’s waste’ and plenty of woefully empty purses.”

Sons of Temperance and others won a limited victory over the Hurdy-Gurdies although the traveling troupes continued to visit Yreka even into the 1880s. The Yreka Journal reported in June of 1863 that “a law was passed by last legislature prohibiting Hurdy Gurdy dancing under penalty not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 fine, or by imprisonment in county jail not exceeding 3 months, or by both.” In the next issue, it was recorded that “the law suppressing Hurdy Gurdys goes into effect on June 12, 1863.”

In January 1865, the county grand jury indicted one group of them “for dancing, promenading, and exhibiting themselves for hire, etc, in a place where liquor is sold, contrary to the law in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the people of the State of California.”

The Yreka Journal in January 1866 reported, “The Hurdy Gurdies, after a short run in this place, and finding that the swains had but little cash and were not on the marry, became disgusted with Yreka and took their departure on Thursday on stages for San Francisco.”

NOTE: Next month Siskiyou County Museum will be highlighting Black History Month with an exhibit that focuses on the African-American history of Siskiyou County, in particular, Weed and the surrounding areas. Stop in and visit the museum and support the history of our region! ♦



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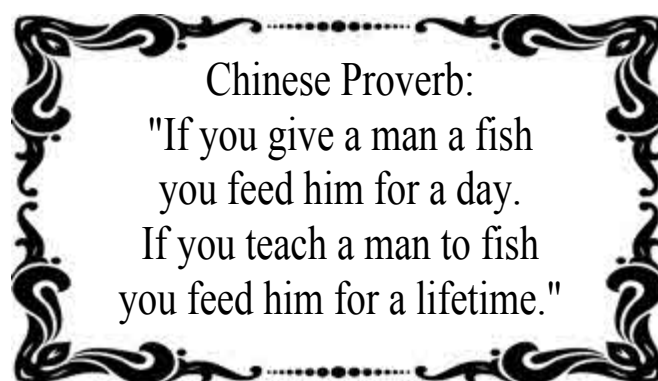
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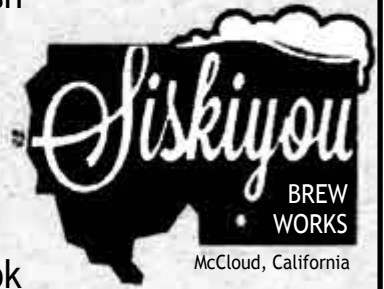
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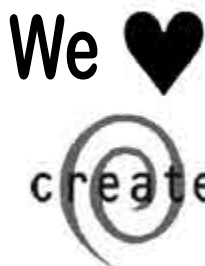
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"On the Road to . . ."

by Bob Pasero

Bob Pasero is Orland's retired Police Chief. Orland is in Glenn County which is at the southern end of The State of Jefferson! Bob writes for the Sacramento Valley Mirror and we will be re-printing some of his fascinating articles from his column: "On the Road - Adventures in the State of Jefferson."

Bob is also the National Chaplain for an organization called The Missing in America Project, a Veteran Recovery Program. Please go to www.miap.us for more info.

"ON THE ROAD TO A TRAGIC LOSS"

In 2014 my wife and I made a road trip to Southern Oregon and visited a number of different communities. In early 2015 we ran a series of "On The Road" Columns in this publication and in May 2015 we featured a story on the community of Eagle Point. We had stopped in Eagle Point, a picturesque hometown feeling community outside of Medford because Eagle Point is the home of the National Cemetery for Southern Oregon.

While there we visited the beautiful covered bridge and a small Veteran's park commemorating Southern Oregon's Veterans who served in America's wars past to present. Until that very day I had never heard of the Butte Creek Flour Mill. While at the park I struck up a conversation with a local who, quite rightly, was proud of his community. In answer to a question about other sights to see in the area he pointed out a large imposing structure a block away and suggested we visit there. He guaranteed that we would not be disappointed.

Just down the road a hundred yards or so from the Veteran's monuments and the covered bridge was our last stop in Eagle Point and as the old saying would have it...we saved the best for last. This was the Butte Creek Flour Mill. There is much history to tell about the mill and its continuous operation. And today we will examine this mill, its place in history and its possible future when we get ON THE ROAD TO A TRAGIC LOSS.

The Butte Creek Flour Mill was placed on the National Historic Registry in 1976. It was the only fully water powered flour mill west of the Mississippi River that was still functioning exactly as it did when it was built in 1872. The main structure was essentially in original condition with only a few minor changes. The grain for milling was transferred down to the milling room via chutes where it was ground on the "burr stones." The burr stones and other milling equipment were specially purchased in France. The stones and mill equipment were then shipped around the horn to Crescent City on California's north coast. From Crescent City the stones were brought over land in wagons to the banks of Little Butte Creek in Eagle Point and installed in the mill. These same stones were in place and functioning at the mill, much as they did 143 years ago when they were first installed.

Visiting the Butte Creek Mill was like stepping back over a century in time. In our times of "planned obsolescence" I marveled at craftsmanship in a facility and structure that was designed to stand the test of time and function correctly for over a century. The mill, the museum and the store were a unique experience. And, as if that were not enough the Butte Creek Mill played host to a number of annual community fund raising events, giving back to the community that has been its home for nearly a century and a half.



There is much to see in and around Eagle Point Oregon, the “Gateway to the Lakes” (Crater Lake and Diamond Lake). The Butte Creek Flour Mill was a must see. Learn the story of this mill steeped in the history of the region.

You may have noticed the use of the past tense in retelling my first experience to the Mill. That is because on Christmas Day 2015, just over a month ago, Eagle Point awakened to an unfolding tragic loss. On that Christmas morning smoke and flames were spotted billowing up from the grand old structure of the mill. Over the next few hours, despite the tremendous efforts of the fire department, the mill was consumed by the flames. This is not a loss simply for Eagle Point or even for Southern Oregon... This is a tragic loss of the history and heritage of the region of Southern Oregon and Northern California that we call the State of Jefferson.

I first learned of the loss in an e-mail I received from a friend in Southern Oregon who sent me some photos of the fire in progress and the devastation left in its wake. To this point the cause of the fire has not yet been determined. However, as with any mill, be it grain, wood, etc., the extremely fine particulates generated by the milling process settle on virtually every surface. Those particles, if somehow dislodged are extremely combustible - even explosive. The accumulated particles of a century and a half of milling flour may well have been the culprit in the fire.

On our 2014 visit to the mill I was honored to have had the opportunity to meet and speak with the mill’s owner Bob Russell. The mill is truly a family operation and one that the Russell family is exceedingly proud of. Following up on the fire story I was quite pleased to see that before the last wisp of smoke lifted and the last ember was extinguished, Mr. Russell strongly announced, “We will rebuild!”

In an interview Mr. Russell indicated that the basement area of the mill seemed to be essentially intact. The basement is where the historic mill stones and the machinery were located. If that is the case over 30% of the historic of the facility may be intact. That number is critical. Thirty percent appears to be the magic number with the National Historic Registry. That is the cutoff. If more than 30% is still intact there may be federal funds available to assist in the rebuilding of this treasured mill site.

When the Butte Creek Flour Mill is rebuilt and, like the mythical Phoenix, rises from the ashes of destruction, we will plan another road trip. You are invited and we can all GET ON THE ROAD TO THE BUTTE CREEK FLOUR MILL. ♦



Photo of Butte Creek Flour Mill submitted by Bob Pasero.

See Page 10 for more on this Story...



Tragic photo of recent fire’s devastation submitted by Bob Pasero.

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History of The Mount Shasta Region

Stories by Jean Nels of the
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"Toilet Paper Fire Finder"

Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum will be opening in April with a new exhibit on fire entitled "Fire! Fire! – The Many Faces of Flame."

In the Mount Shasta area, a fire lookout station is very important. A fire lookout is a person assigned the duty to look for fire from atop a building known as a fire lookout tower. These towers were located on high elevations with a good view of the surrounding terrain, to spot smoke caused by a wildfire.

Bob Gray, a forest ranger from 1942 to 1976, wrote a book, "Forests, Fires, and Wild Things," telling about many experiences, including the difficulty of finding some fires.

"Most man-caused fires are easy to find because they're on roads or in places of easy access, but a typical lightning fire can be a problem. Especially difficult are those in dense forests on flat ground.

"Before departing for a lightning fire, the fireman must know the location, taking care to know which side of the hill, mountain, or creek the fire is on. If possible, the fireman must be equipped with all necessary tools to find the fire and communicate with the fire lookout. These include a radio, map, protractor, signal mirror, and flashlight.

"When a lookout says the smoke is faint, or intermittent, it is essential that the fireman knows exactly where he is, and the direction of travel he is to take. Typically, the fireman will leave his vehicle at a predetermined location on the map and road, taking a compass bearing as determined by the protractor and map. He will walk on this bearing for a predetermined time or estimated distance. Usually, this will lead him to the fire.

"If he has not found the fire, he will find a high point to look over the area. On flat ground, he may have to climb a tree. From these points, if the fire is not sighted, he possibly can see a lookout that can help him find the fire. A signal mirror flash will show the lookout where the fireman is in relation to the fire. With this information, the lookout tells the fireman the direction to travel and approximate distance.



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“In the forties and early fifties, airplanes were more of a luxury in assisting the fireman in locating small fires, but even then, a system was developed to help the fireman. Recon planes were used after lightning storms to assist lookouts in locating fires.

“There are about 300 feet of toilet paper on a roll, and by folding about a five-foot long tail into the palm of your hand, the roll can be tossed out the window of a plane, unrolling into a 300-foot very visible white ribbon. It drapes itself over trees and flutters in the breeze for hours before breaking up. A little practice and a toilet paper bomber can mark an area around a fire that no one can miss. It really works and is quite effective.” ♦



Above: The Black Butte Lookout was constructed in 1931 and remained there for 44 years. Below: A lookout's daily work was monotonous. After the chores were completed, it was difficult to stay alert hour after hour just looking for smoke, which might not show for days or even weeks. Photos Courtesy Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum.





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Fort Vannoy

The Plaques of E Clampus Vitus
Umpqua Joe Chapter No. 1859

The forty second in a continuing series of articles
prepared by Bill Wensrich
“If you ain’t plaque’n, then you ain’t Clampin’”

Oregon’s E Clampus Vitus Umpqua Joe Chapter installed their second Humbug, Robby “Fosdick” Robinson, on January 1, 2012, ClampYear 6017 in the reckoning of our Order. Robby had it in his mind to put up three plaques, each one in a different county while in office. With help from Old Prospector Glenn Hearrell, the Chapter selected the historic Fort Vannoy location in Grants Pass, Oregon to be the first plaque that year.

Plaquing Fort Vannoy was Glenn’s idea. As a member of the Josephine County Historical Society, Glenn previously spearheaded repairs for the old wooden plaque back in 2007 on behalf of the Historical Society; they were overseers for the Fort’s old wooden marker. Torn up again and in disrepair, the Chapter authorized Robby to replace the old plaque partnering with the Historical society. A brand new historical marker to be built in the ECV tradition was planned.

Utilizing chapter and JCHS funding, Robby bought a granite sheet from West Coast Monuments in Myrtle Point. Glenn was ramrod on the plaque wording. With a few minor tweaks from the JCHS, the proposed wording was approved. Robby had West Coast Monuments engraved the granite. After receiving permission from Fort Vannoy Farms, Glenn’s erection crew went to work pouring the concrete monument. With help from Vice Noble Grand Humbug Matt Perkins, Robby, Glenn and Reuben Robles poured the concrete and installed the plaque, constructing a very nice historical monument.

The Chapter decided to host a one day function. On Saturday, April 21, 2012 the Historical Society and Umpqua Joe Chapter dedicated the plaque. About 20 Redshirts attended as well as many JCHS members. The Grants Pass newspaper covered the event. Lunch was served at the nearby County Park. Two new initiates were “taken in” by the Chapter: Bob Crouse, owner of Vannoy Farms and 95 year old Joe Hallouer, a WWII bomber gunner. Joe later claimed he hadn’t been “taken in” by the Chapter, but rather was “taken by” the Umpqua Joe Chapter. All around had a good laugh.



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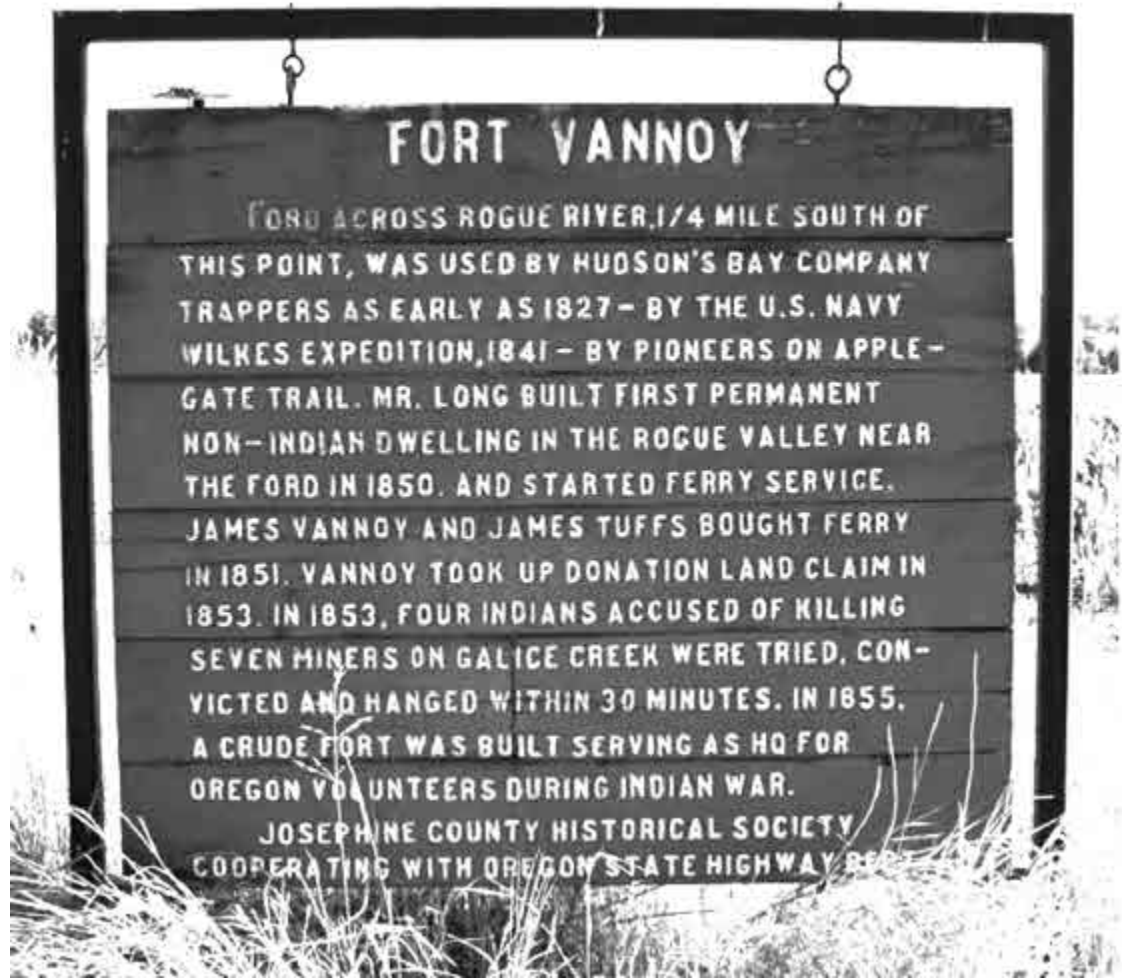
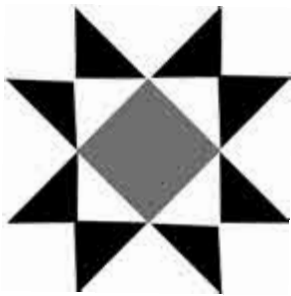


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Established in October or November of 1855, Fort Vannoy became one of the most important posts of the Oregon Volunteers during the Rogue River Indian war of 1855-1856. Serving as headquarters camp for the volunteers, the site was located on the north bank of the Rogue River four miles west of present day Grants Pass, Oregon. Known as Camp Vannoy, it is possibly named for the family on whose land it was located. Margaret Vannoy has been identified as the land claim holder, possibly spelling her last name as Vannoy. The Fort ceased to operate after the conclusion of the Rogue Indian War.

The Historical Marker is located at the entrance to Fort Vannoy Farms, Grants Pass, Oregon at 5791 Lower River Road. ♦



The old wooden plaque before it came to be in a state of disrepair.

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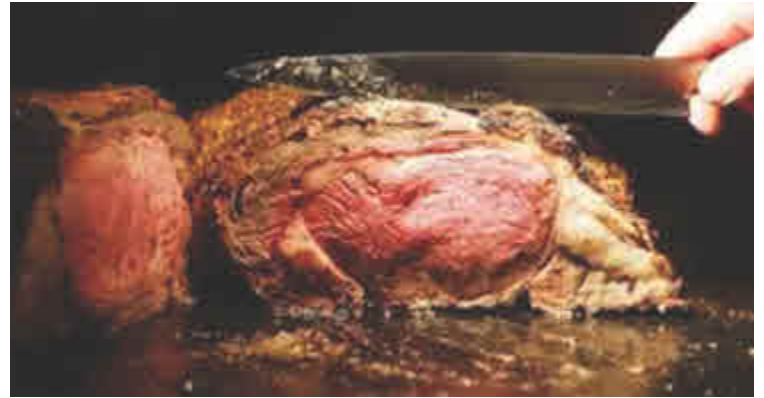
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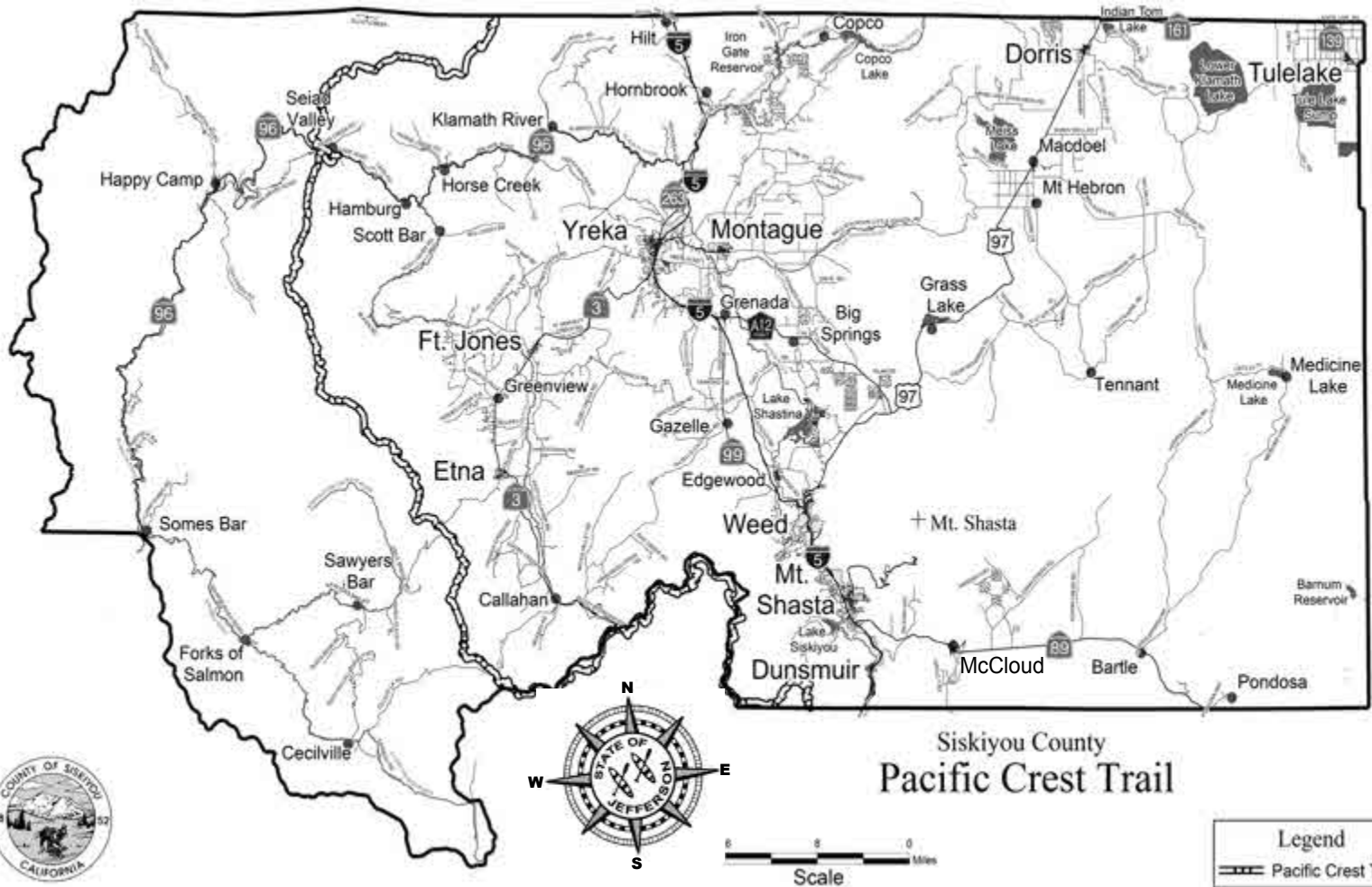
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