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NOVEMBER 2019

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JEFFERSON BACKROADS

A Happy Little Publication

PO Box 344 Michelle Fain & Ralph Fain
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FULL PAGE AD	8 1/2 x 10 3/4"	\$205/mo	\$230/mo

*Cube ads display on Community Bulletin Board Page for 3-months.

AD & STORY DEADLINE: 15th of each month.

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Cover Photo taken by Ralph Fain:

Duck Hunting Early Morn in Modoc County, Ca. Autumn of 2019.

Jefferson Backroads is proudly published every single month for the old school law abiding citizens, for our fellow independent, hard working, Patriotic American Rebels who live in or travel through our Rugged & Beautiful State of Jefferson Region. The same true Independent Nature and Old School Essence of our beloved State of Jefferson can be found in Small Towns & Big Cities ALL ACROSS AMERICA. We are proudly keeping the Patriotic American Spirit Alive!

Here at Jefferson Backroads, we focus on the positive, the fun, the amazing local mom & pop businesses, events, history and The Adventure! Our happy little publications are distributed in the first week of each month throughout Siskiyou County, California and in surrounding communities.

Subscriptions are available by mail within the USA for only \$36 per year which covers postage and handling. Please mail check payable to Jefferson Backroads, PO Box 344, Grenada, CA 96038. Please include your full name, mailing address and a phone number or email address.

Our publications can be read ONLINE 24/7/365 from our website. www.JeffersonBackroads.com. Thank you all for your positively amazing support!

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Save the Date! North State Giving Tuesday is December 3rd!

Don't miss an opportunity to support over 170 regional nonprofits on North State Giving Tuesday, December 3rd, at www.northstategives.org! Giving Tuesday is a movement that began in 2012 to promote charitable giving during the Thanksgiving holiday season. It has become an international phenomenon with billions of dollars donated online to nonprofit organizations on the first Tuesday following Thanksgiving Day. Here in our region, participating nonprofits can improve services and projects with donor support pledged on this day each year.

Now in its fifth year in the North State, Shasta Regional Community Foundation hosts the giving platform website with generous support from Merchants Bank of Commerce, Pacific Power Foundation and many local businesses. This online event provides nonprofit organizations the opportunity to gain exposure and start relationships with new donors, and for the people in Shasta, Siskiyou and Tehama counties to come together to raise as much money as possible for participating organizations within a 14-hour period.

"The nonprofit sector is the heart and soul of the region, enriching our communities in immeasurable ways. North State Giving Tuesday is a unique opportunity for the public to learn about the impact these organizations make in our communities and a chance to say thank you by making a donation. You can easily donate online a minimum of \$10 to any number of registered local nonprofits. These organizations are also eligible for a share of over \$50,000 in prizes to make the event even more exciting for our donors, participating nonprofits, and our community," says Community Foundation Program Officer, Amanda Hutchings.

Visit www.northstategives.org for this one day only - 6AM - 8PM secure online giving portal. Donations can be scheduled on the website in advance beginning November 19th. Be sure to follow the excitement on social media on December 3rd via Shasta Regional Community Foundation's Facebook page (ShastaRCF) and by using #NorthStateGivingTuesday.

Shasta Regional Community Foundation impacts the North State region through the power of giving. Since 2000, the Community Foundation has awarded over \$26 million in grants, made possible by the generosity of their fund holders and professional fund management practices. For more information, call Shasta Regional Community Foundation at (530) 244-1219 or visit www.shastarcf.org.



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December 3, 2019

6 A.M. PST - 8 P.M. PST

www.NorthStateGives.org

Support 170+ local participating nonprofits doing great work in our communities

Local businesses and the Knodel Family Endowment Fund of Shasta Regional Community Foundation have generously committed over \$60,000 in prizes and incentive dollars to benefit participating organizations.

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STITCHING IN THE DITCH

Story by Judy Sartor Shasta Lily Quilt Guild



This quilt was pieced by Marilyn Berger and quilted by Christine Engdahl and presented to Sara Sarmiento in 2017.



www.ShastaLily.org

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*Michaela Weston
Owner*

Meet Marilyn Berger. Two adjectives that come to mind when describing Marilyn are “passionate” and “quirky.” Now “quirky” is a plus when matched with Marilyn. She catches you a little off guard in conversations because you are never quite sure what she is going to say or what she might really mean. Exactly which Marilyn are you talking to? Hmm.

Marilyn Berger resides on a small ranch in Edgewood with her 10 year old German Shepherd named Jolie Angeline. She is a long time member of the Shasta Lily Quilt Guild. But there is so much more to Marilyn Berger as a person.

According to Marilyn, “Disintegration of the body means freedom of the soul.” Marilyn is unabashedly Christian, but there is a good bit of American Indian mysticism mixed in. Marilyn completed a three day vision quest with Walking Eagle in the mountains above Stewart Springs. Spirituality is a big part of her life, and she is active with the First Baptist Church in Mt. Shasta.

Marilyn learned to sew in 4H. At one point she was named Betty Crocker Homemaker of the Year. Marilyn eventually learned to quilt through a program at the First Baptist Church. Marilyn has never stopped quilting, and she exhibits annually at the Siskiyou Golden Fair.

I could continue telling stories about Marilyn, like about the time her hot water heater..... (Ok, Marilyn, I can hear you telling me to get to it.)

Marilyn’s greatest continuing passion is welcoming America’s Veterans home with a quilt. She wants all Veterans who have served to know that they are thanked, that they are appreciated for their service, and that they are not forgotten. To that end, Marilyn has dedicated herself to providing every Veteran in Siskiyou County with a quilt. That’s quite an endeavor, now, don’t you think? She has organized quilt drives and sew-ins and invested a tremendous amount of her own time and money into this work. Actually, a better word choice here might be “calling” rather than “work.” Marilyn has donated countless patriotic quilts through the Veterans Assistance Program, run by Ray and Jay Dancer. She is now also involved with Quilts of Valor.

This summer’s Siskiyou Golden Fair, Marilyn entered an exhibit entitled “Man’s Inhumanity to Man.” Now readers, what do you suppose that the answer IS to this dilemma?

Marilyn was awarded First Place and Best of Show. The display has been donated to the Northern California Veterans Museum in Anderson, California. (See Photo of Marilyn’s Award Winning Exhibit on Page 7.)



Despite all of these accomplishments, Marilyn considers herself to be a defensive lineman rather than a quarterback. I would beg to differ, and I hope that you do too after this introduction.

Marilyn's favorite color—and also her favorite gem—is turquoise. Just because she likes it. She told me she is making her own coffin. She smiles and says that it will be turquoise as well. •

Editor's Note:

Marilyn Berger is one of my most favorite humans on this entire PLANET (and so is Judy Sartor!!) ... I look up to these amazing LADIES and I constantly wish I had as much talent, creativity, gumption and character as they have! I shall continue to strive to reach that solid bar they have set ON HIGH.....

Marilyn and Judy, I adore you Ladies! Thank you for the incredible continuing contributions you have made to this happy little publication for all these many years in a row.....

Affectionately and Most Sincerely, Michelle Fain

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Marilyn's Exhibit from the 2019 Siskiyou Golden Fair

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November 1, 2019

ROSES AND RUST Vintage Market, Anderson, California. 530-378-6789 for info.

November 9, 2019

Holiday Crafts Faire, Dunsmuir. Call (530) 235-2177 for info.

November 23, 2019

Siskiyou Golden Fair Holiday Gift Fair, Yreka, California. See Page 27 for info!

November 23, 2019

Mt. Shasta Hometown Holiday Light Parade Festival. Call (530) 926-3696.

November 24, 2019

Klamath River Community Hall Old Time Turkey Shoot. See info on Page 22.

November 30, 2019

Dog Pony and Bike Parade in McCloud, California. Call (530) 964-3113 for info.

November 30, 2019

Yreka Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting, Yreka. Call (530) 842-1649 for info!

December 1, 2019

Klamath River Community Hall Holiday Craft Fair and Brunch. See Page 22.

December 3, 2019

North State Giving Tuesday. See Page 5 for story and details.

December 5, 2019

Coffee with CASA in Etna, California. Please see Page 29 for story and details.

December 6, 2019

COS Holiday Craft Fair, Weed, California. Call (530) 938-5555 for info!

December 7, 2019

Fort Jones Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast and Fort Jones Craft Fair Call (530) 468-2261 info!

December 7, 2019

Christmas Bazaar and Tree Lighting, Montague. Call (530) 459-3030 for info!



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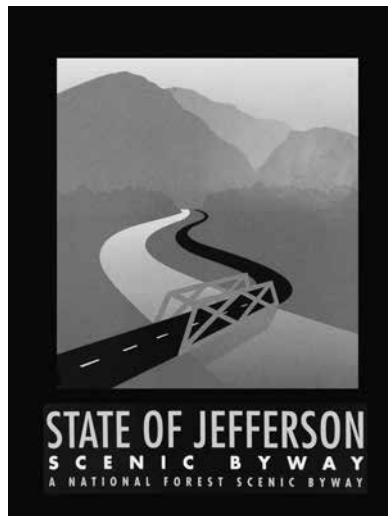
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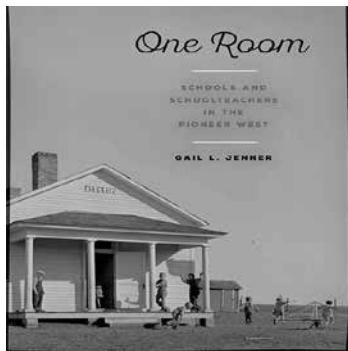
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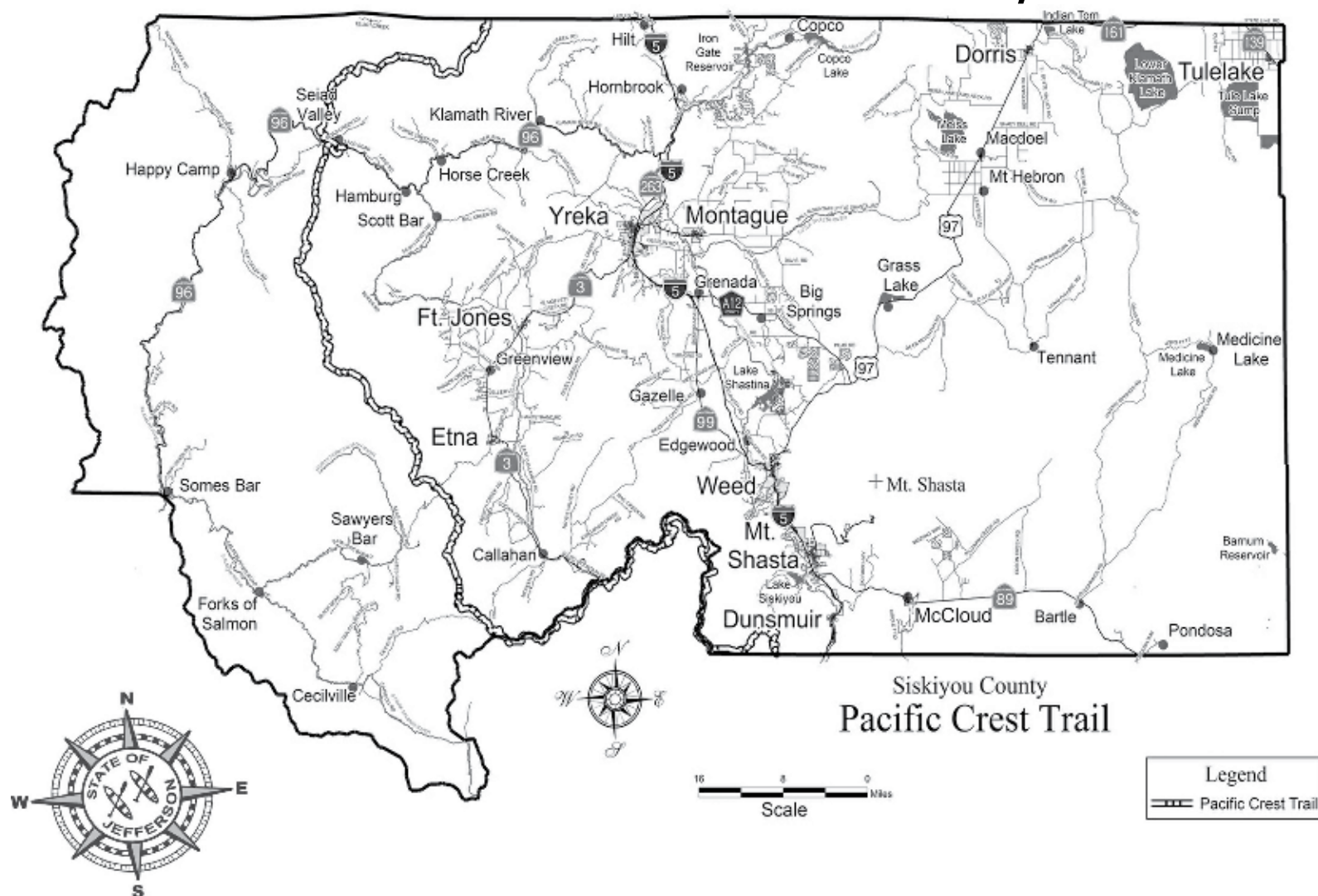
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Each cube ad holds approximately 24 words including a BOLD title. Any regular monthly service or simple information is perfect for this page.

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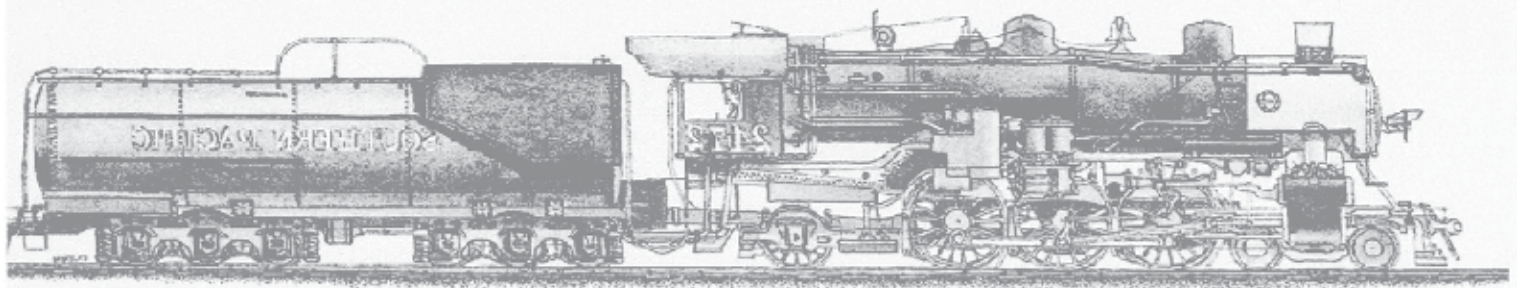


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DUNSMUIR RAILROAD DEPOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

SISKIYOU COUNTY ALMOST SUCEEDED!

Written by Emilie A. Frank in 1986
for the Dunsmuir Centennial Book

It happened about a half-century ago, in 1935, when five counties (including Siskiyou) along the Southern Oregon this and Northern California border planned a serious attempt to secede from the two states and establish a new state which would be named "Jefferson."

The state never materialized, but what a state it would have been! No other state would have equaled it in scenic beauty - Jefferson would have combined the beauty of Oregon's Curry County (77 miles of simply spectacular coastline) with Siskiyou County's forests and rivers. And shining over it all, Mt Shasta.

Its founder and first governor, John L. Childs of Crescent City was "elected" to administer the affairs of the area. The fact that this territory "seceded" was never formally acknowledged by the United States government, nor the states of California and Oregon.

The new state was named in honor of the president who first envisioned the boundaries of the nation extending to the Pacific Coast, covering a territory where Spanish and English cultures met and mingled. (Actually, the state of Jefferson's roots were in a serious movement back in 1851 when there was agitation to form a state called Shasta, which covered much of the same territory.

A bill to form the new state was introduced in the first California legislature in 1852, and died only because of the

pressure of other business at that session.)

Since that day in 1935 when citizens of those "orphan" counties met in Crescent City in their mock-serious attempt to form a new state, most of the very real grievances of that time have been solved through the joint efforts of those very men, and also the great states to which they legally and spiritually belong. Today the citizens of that vast area which would have been the state of Jefferson have excellent highways, progressive programs to conserve the area's abundance of water and rapidly-developing diversified industry.

The descendants of those men who wished to form a new state are now quite happily Californians and Oregonians. But there are a few old-timers around who think about the wondrous almost-state of Jefferson (the attack on Pearl Harbor and the entrance of the United States into World War II put an end to the dream) and they still get a gleam in their eye when they think of a state which would have included the Rogue River, the Umpqua River, Crater Lake, Gold Beach and Brookings, Crescent City, the Alturas area and all of Siskiyou County.

Had it happened, we would have been Jeffersonians instead of Californians.

Article from the Dunsmuir Centennial Book which is available for purchase at the Dunsmuir Library. •



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YREKA ELKS NEWS

Lodge Tour November 3rd:

The last Siskiyou County Historic Society tour for the fall season will be of our Lodge building on November 3rd, 5:00 p.m. Meet in the foyer inside the building. This should be a very special tour, as it is the first one of its kind for this location and is also supported by the Genealogy Society of Siskiyou County and Yreka Historic Preservation.

The tour will explore the ground floor of the building and its spectacular and historic Diamond Bar, where a few steps will be encountered. Then, for those willing and able, a quick view of the projection room on the second and original lodge room of the Knights of Pithia and the Elks on the third floors will be seen, which will take a climb up a flight of steps. People not wishing to climb the stairs can wait on the ground floor for a short time and view historic items.

Special stories will be shared about old time Yreka, construction of the building, interesting people involved in the famous bar, and of course, the real "truth" about the bar and the robbery bullet hole that will be encountered!



Memories of Uncle Victor (AKA Slim) and the Diamond Bar in Hilt, Ca.

Prologue by Byran Duncan

Some stories should start with "Once upon a time . . ."
The following may be such a one, but it is not a fairytale by any means. In a dark corner of the Yreka Elks Lodge, forgotten for a decade, we found a small binder with fond childhood memories of a vibrant lady nearing her twilight years. She was niece to Victor E. Warrens, a person who helped shape local history and who even affects our lives today. He was entrepreneur in the State of Jefferson and especially in the Yreka area. Victor was also the original owner of the beautiful neo-classic three arched cherry wood back bar and 30 feet long mahogany bar which is still in regular use today at the Yreka Elks Lodge.

Elizabeth (Warrens) Claypool was born in Montana in 1924, and lived in Hilt when she was in her preteens. Her family finally settled in Durham. Betty fulfilled a career in fashion, buying for Weinstock's Department Stores. She traveled the world extensively, was an avid reader, and was a proponent for higher education. She passed away in 2011. She visited the Yreka Elks Lodge in October of 1999 to see her once uncle's bar of her Hilt childhood. For the next few months she compiled photos and information on her uncle for the Yreka Elks Lodge history archives which she sent to the Lodge in March 2000. It was enjoyed then and we hope the stories and photos will capture your interest, and maybe even inspire some of you to submit similar stories and photos to this publication. So, with no further ado . . .

Opening Letter to the Yreka Elks Lodge Treasurer, dated March 15, 2000, from Elizabeth Warrens Claypool of Durham, California, shall set the stage.

Dear Mr. Meek,

As I promised you when I was in Yreka in October of last year, I have some important Warrens family and early Yreka pictures duplicated for your use at the Lodge.



BING



Wednesdays at 7pm - Early bird starts at 6:30

Yreka Elks Lodge #1980 - 332 West Miner Street
Yreka 96097 - (530) 842-1980

YREKA ELKS NEWS

Continued from Page 12

Keeping in mind that I was five years of age when we came to Hilt in 1929 and 11 when we moved to Durham, the situations I remember involving my Uncle Victor Warrens are sketchy. Victor paid his workmen every night after work. He did not want to owe any man. His handshake was his word, and all who knew him respected him. He died on September 19, 1944, and the newspaper carried the story on its front page.

Victor built and developed South Broadway and owned land on Main Street that he sold for development. The Warrens Building was on the western side of South Broadway, and it burned. It had housed a bank on its North side and the Post Office on the South Side, with merchants' stores in the space between. There was a family office on the Mezzanine, and offices were rented on the Mezzanine and third floors. I do not know the date the building burned, but the Yreka newspaper or Historic Society might be able to tell you.

In the next block, on the East side, was the J.C. Penny building that Victor built. It's now Black's Furniture. He built the Ward Building, and it stands empty as a thrift shop.

The theater was built by my Aunt Bernice Warrens. She installed a large redwood support beam to protect patrons from a ceiling collapse in case of fire. I remember frequenting that theater on Saturdays. Although admission was ten cents, my brother and I had passes from Aunt Bernice.

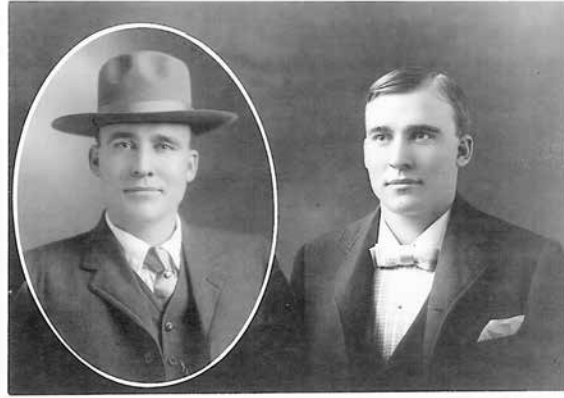
The building on the East side of South Broadway now occupied by Alpine Business was built by Bernice, and it housed the newspaper until the paper moved across the street. The building on the East side of Lane and South Broadway was a Post Office built by Bernice, and it now houses Cowboy Corner.

The pictures are enclosed along with brief descriptions of each. I hope they will add to the enjoyment of your members as they gather at Uncle Victor's old Diamond Café mahogany and cherrywood bar, which is now owned by your Lodge.

As we had discussed, I would appreciate your issuing three passes for me: One to Wade Patterson Warrens and family of San Francisco, One to Grant Edward Warrens and family of Portland, and One to Elizabeth Warrens Claypool and guests.

This would enable my late brother's sons and their families to see Uncle Victor's bar at the Lodge.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Warrens Claypool

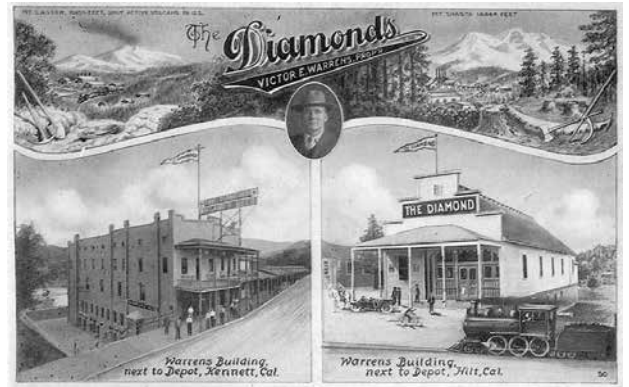


Victor Eugene Warrens:

My Uncle Victor had ten brothers and sisters, all of whom he helped throughout his life. His father, August Warrens, was born in Prussia, May 16, 1837, and died November

23, 1910. His mother, Amanda Kessler Warrens, was born in Craig County, Virginia, March 5, 1850 and died May 29, 1913, in Kennett, California. They are buried at Grandview Cemetery in Albany, Missouri. Victor Eugene Warrens born in Maysville (Missouri), February 14, 1876, and died in Yreka, September 19, 1944, and is buried with his parents at Grandview Cemetery. (There is a complete list of the other siblings, with births in Missouri and Kansas in the late 1800s. Most are buried in Grandview Cemetery, two in Modoc County and one lost in the Alaska, during the Gold Rush.) •

*to be
continued*



Local News Is:

- About issues in your community
- Information that affects your life
- Election coverage
- High school sports
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- Your accomplishments
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INSPIRATIONS FROM THE FOREST



A Continuing Saga ... Real Life Logging Stories by Hank Nelson of Wasilla, Alaska

"The Ribald Days"

"Oh—I gaze out the window at the second growth wood—and high on the ridge top where the spar tree once stood"

The logging show that began when a few of the boys got together out behind the bunkhouse one day "to see who the best logger was" had come a long way. Soaring to new heights of success and popularity, unprecedented in the annals of timber sports, the Show was completely authentic-- and at it's core, had boundless enthusiasms that energized and kept it going. The first recorded show was held at Moller Park in Sitka. The year was 1959 and coincided with the Alaska Lumber and Pulp Company's start-up operation in southeast Alaska.

"It all started when a bunch of the boys — got together out behind the bunkhouse — to see who the best logger was."

-- Clarence Kramer

Dressed in hickory shirts, frayed and stagged-off trousers held up by sets of extra wide red suspenders, caulked boots and tin hats, the loggers really knew how to put on a show. It was an immediate hit. That year, Stan Lyons was named "BEST ALL-AROUND LOGGER." With help from A.L.P. Company officials and the backing of Sitka's Baronof Jaycees, the show was off and running.

In 1959 Porky Bickar was falling and bucking timber in the Katlian Bay Basin for Barton & Reynvaan Logging Company. Porky eagerly participated as a logging contestant that first year. He entered the axe-throwing, obstacle bucking, log-birling, and the power saw bucking events, and right away he was a smash hit with the crowds. The following year, Porky was invited to join the show as a full-time member, serving as ringmaster, field judge and all-around hand. It was a marriage made in heaven. His boundless energy and enthusiasm was contagious and set the pace until the show ended in 1995.

By the end of the 1960's the Sitka show, running on all 12 cylinders, had earned a reputation as one of the most colorful, entertaining shows of its kind anywhere. Word soon got out about how much fun everyone was having "way up north in Sitka." The All-Alaska Logging Show attracted loggers right out of the woods, but it wasn't long 'til loggers from "Outside" began to take note of the Big Show. For the contestants who couldn't wait to catch a plane and head way up north to participate in the All-Alaska Logging Championships... the welcome sigwas always out. Contestants from as far away as New Zealand, Australia, Europe and Canada began competing. The prize money was "top-drawer" but it was really the laid back, friendly atmosphere that most attracted the participants and kept them coming back.

"OLD GLORY" flies high

For the past two years, a garrison-sized U.S. Flag has been raised up the spar tree at the opening of the show. The flag, belonging to the Elks Lodge, requires several men to carry it unfurled and is too large for most flag poles. Raising the flag is a tradition that we hope continues.



The show's close proximity to downtown Sitka was made to order for the tourist crowd. They could gaze up Lincoln Street, past St. Michael's Cathedral, see the row of spar-trees rising up back of town, hear the cacophony of chainsaws and the roar of the crowd. They couldn't wait to see for themselves just what all the fuss was about. From Moller Park, the show moved to the Alaska Lumber and Pulp Company's mill-site, then to the McGraw Sawmill site on Sawmill Creek Road, and finally-- in 1963 -- to the Baranof School grounds.

The All-Alaska Logging Championships were also a big favorite with Alaska's governors, who seldom missed a show. Senators and congressmen occasionally dropped by for a look-see too. There were no political axes to grind here. Those were checked in at the gate, to be picked up later on the way out. Everyone came to have a good time-- and "Let the tail go with the hide and the devil take the hind-most".

Porky and "The Boys" -- Herb Eliason, the show's spark-plug and his brother, Vern; Ted Larsen, Clarence Kramer, Newt Cutler, and the show's quintessential side-kick, Leo Evans -- were irrepressible.

The running of a successful show was in and of itself serious business. "The Boys," however, were certainly not above a dab of good-natured chicanery, hatching new pranks here and there, polishing off old ones and adding a new twist now and then. What one didn't think of, there was always another Johnny-On-The-Spot to come to the rescue.

The audiences were hooked and they couldn't get enough of the fun-loving antics and high voltage acts put on by the loggers. Logging shows and timber sports began popping up everywhere. In the beginning many of the shows were merely added into already existing holidays, such as the 4th of July and Labor Day, or incorporated into celebrations



and local traditions. In time, as the shows continued to grow in ever-increasing popularity -- THE BIG SHOW -- soon took center stage with a popularity and flavor all its own.

THE BIG HOOT

Downtown, a parade usually preceded the logging show. A hillbilly band cranked it up between the logging acts going on inside the bark & sawdust arena... Hotdog and hamburger stands, ice cream and cold pop concessions lined the parameters behind the bleachers. A nearby cow pasture was the scene for a scheduled game of soft ball between the pee-wees, and later a game of horseshoes for the more sedate crowd. A huge outdoor barbecue was planned for the evening, followed by a barn dance at the local grange ball, all of which substantially rounded off the festivities.

Neatly printed brochures were printed up heralding coming events. Homespun newspapers tabulated the results, including resumes and photographs extolling the prowess and virtues of local favorites. Radio played it up big too-- and why not? A little "hype" never hurt anyone. The business community and civic leadership came together. A planning committee was formed and rules and guidelines were drawn up, all of which proved invaluable to the success and perpetuation of timber sports. Saw companies, tool manufacturers and equipment dealerships lined up behind the loggers too, sponsoring certain events and underwriting the cost of promotions. The Logging Show was authentic, reflecting the drama of the dangerous occupation of the loggers. Although fiercely competitive, the loggers appreciated and respected each other and a spirit of friendship and camaraderie held sway. They really knew how to put on a show and since it came but once a year the loggers showed up, the community turned out, and everyone did their best to make the show all it could be.

Bye and bye, "household names" began to emerge, attaining star status and attracting a loyal following. High climbers like Stanley, Kramer, Lyons, Harper, Johnson, Downing, Huddleston and Sailor, along with blue-chip, world class choppers and sawyers like Wiebel and Lentz. Contests pitting the local champs against those from rival communities only succeeded in heightening public interest and curiosity.

From Quebec to Ontario, the State of Maine to the Great Lakes region, across the "Hump" to the Pacific Northwest, clear into British Columbia, all the way NORTH TO ALASKA-- the "IDEA" had really caught on BIG!

Throughout the history of the All-Alaska Logging Championships the Alaska Lumber and Pulp Company was a major contributor, providing tools, equipment, resources, sponsorship and supplying the spar-trees for each show. The spar-tree was handpicked from logging camp operations by ALP engineers and top timber cruisers. After it was felled, limbed and bucked by professional timber fallers it was yarded, hauled and towed by tugboat into town. Eventually, the spar-tree ended up at the show-grounds in Sitka.

The raising of the spar-tree was the first thing to go up and the last to come down. The raising energized the whole community, heralding the coming of the loggers, and by the time the 4th of July shut-down in the woods rolled around the boys were primed and loaded for bear. The loggers sawed, chopped, romped, and vaulted into the stratosphere, where eagles soar and only angels dare to tread. Porky Bickar, patriarch of the All-Alaska Logging Championships, had a hand in more than a few spar-tree raisings.

In 1983 the All-Alaska Logging Championships celebrated its silver anniversary by dedicating the Show to Alaska Lumber & Pulp Company for its help during the fledgling years of its existence. Donating equipment-- logs, spar trees-- and timely funding during slack years. The decade of the '80's was a period of immense prosperity. The Logging Show was robust, riding high and at the top of the heap -- and yet, all the while, somber clouds and troublesome winds had been gathering on the horizon. Finally, in 1994, like a great grandfather's clock who's inner workings, the complex assortment of pinion gears, shims and bearings, had worn down. Unable to stem the tide of outside public sentiment about environmental impacts, the Mill closed its doors. As the wail of the shut-down whistle echoed for the last time across Silver Bay and beyond, the ribald days of the Logging Show had wound down as well.

"But—in the end, the carbon memories
Of the past—still linger in the mind—and
Cannot be erased by whatever means"
—Wesley George Washington Cronk

more next time... •



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"The Enchanting Temple of the Forest Beneath the Clouds"

While many people know that thousands of Chinese worked and lived in northern California during the gold rush, most do not know that the enchanting Weaverville Joss House, a Taoist Temple of Worship, is the oldest continuously operating Chinese Temple in California. It sits in the heart of Weaverville, which is 50 miles west of Redding, California. Note that the population of Chinese in Weaverville reached at least 3,000 before the Exclusion Act forced many to return home.


Displayed inside the nearby visitor's center are art objects, mining tools, even weapons used in the infamous 1854 Tong War that took place in Weaverville. As the visitor enters the Temple, a series of steps and a door leading nowhere are encountered; Taoist followers believe these obstacles will prevent evil spirits from entering, as they cannot walk around doors or over steps. Once inside the Temple is resplendent with banners, drums, gongs, flags, candles, food and paper money and other altar offerings.

The Joss House was built in 1874, replacing earlier structures destroyed by fire. The colors used inside and on the Joss House are quite symbolic. This color theory is also based on the five elements of Metal, Fire, Water, Wood, and Air. In Chinese culture, red symbolizes luck, joy, happiness—as well as celebration, vitality, and fertility. It is the traditional color worn by brides, as it is believed to ward off evil. Red also represents the summer and the element of fire. Yellow represents royalty, power, and prosperity; it is an imperial color in Chinese history. It also symbolizes the late summer season and the earth. White symbolizes purity and innocence and represents the element Metal. At the same time, it is associated with death and is a color often worn at funerals.

Blue symbolizes immortality and advancement and the season of spring. It also represents the element of Wood. Within the Joss House, the ceiling is painted blue for sky but can be interpreted to symbolize immortality as well. Green stands for cleanliness and purity. Gold, as in nearly all societies, represents wealth and riches. Purple represents divinity and immortality. Interestingly, kings, queens, and nobles of Europe have used purple as a sign of nobility and royalty.

Most interestingly, the element of Water is represented by black. However, it is not the most positive color in Chinese culture as it symbolizes destruction, evil, cruelty, and sadness. The Chinese word "hei" – black – indicates bad luck, irregularity, and illegality.

In 1934, thieves stole many important artifacts from the Joss House's interior, many of which had been shipped from China to San Francisco before making their way north. Among those stolen was a pair of Lion Dogs, called "Dogs of Foo" or "Foo Dogs." Incredibly, in 1989, one of the original Foo Dogs was left outside the Joss House Visitor's Center. The second one was never

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recovered, but new ones were designed to replicate the original pair and are now displayed inside the temple.

As a way of protecting the property, in 1938, a descendant of one of Weaverville's early Chinese settlers—Moon Lee—became the official trustee for the Temple. In 1956, Mr. Lee and his wife Dorothy donated "The Temple of the Forest beneath the Clouds," to the California State Parks. Except for electric lights and railings, the interior has been preserved just as it was one hundred years ago. Then, in 1983, Moon Lim Lee (the last Chinese caretaker) established the Weaverville Joss House Association. Today the association assists the State Park in preserving the historical Temple. The grounds have been preserved, as well, and a pool of Koi was installed.

According to Trinity County's visitor's website, "The true historical significance of the Joss House is that during China's Cultural Revolution, many of the old rural-style temples were dismantled or destroyed. The Weaverville Joss House is an intact and complete temple of that era, which no longer exists in many parts of China."

As of this writing in late October, 2019, the California State Parks Department has stated that, "Due to the red flag warnings and PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), the visitor center is closed until further notice." •



WEAVERVILLE JOSS HOUSE. Courtesy Gail L. Jenner



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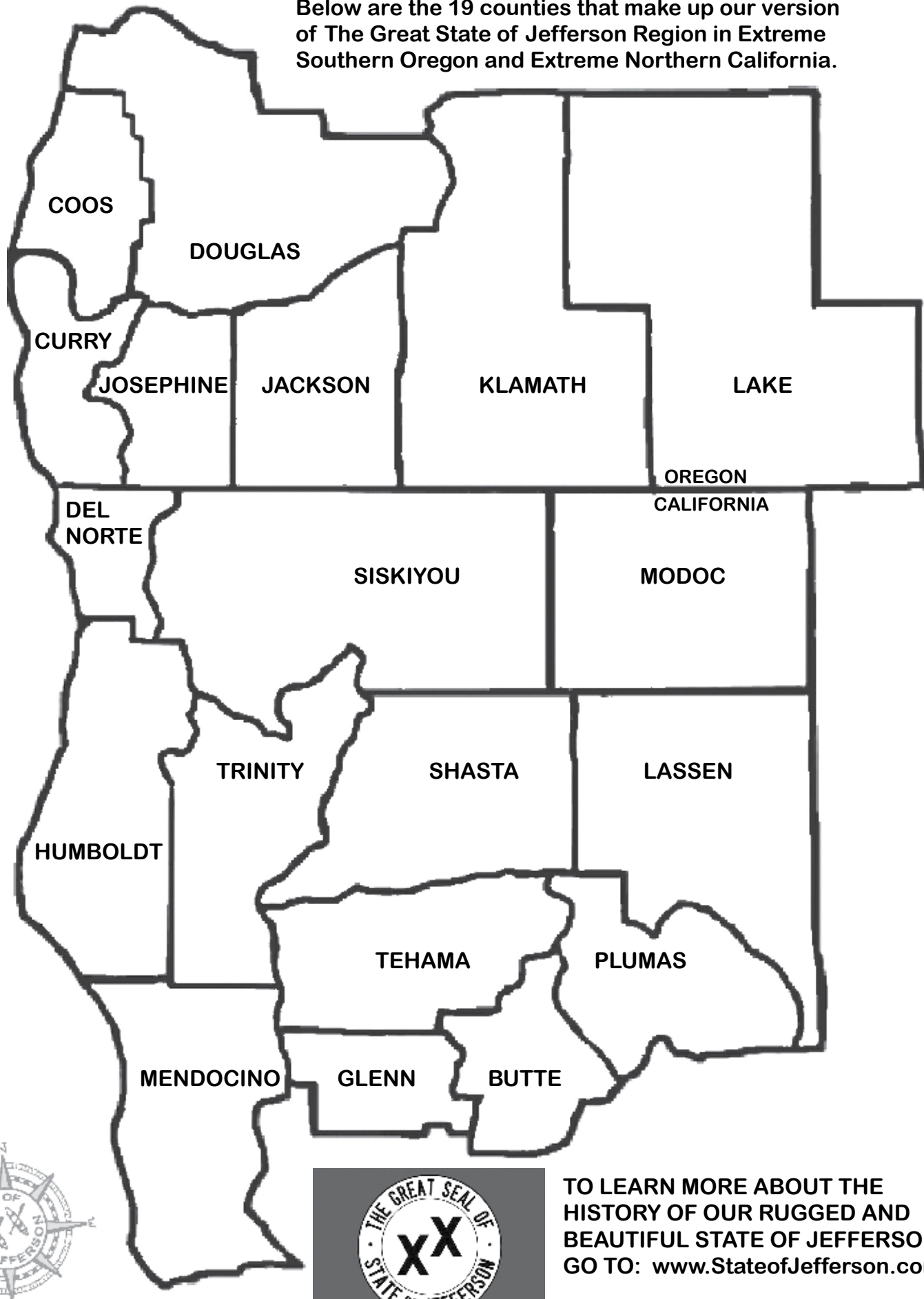
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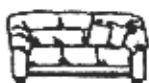


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The Dunsmuir Railroad Turntable (s)

By Bruce Duncan, Edgewood, California

The present day Dunsmuir turntable is a third generation railway marvel. It is a section of track which rotates a locomotive or piece of equipment to face the opposite direction. Typically a wye track is used to turn locomotives, but requires a fair amount of flat land. It is also less expensive to maintain than a turntable. But Dunsmuir's steep Sacramento River Canyon did not afford enough needed flat land. The Dunsmuir turntable's other uses in its heyday included guiding locomotives for servicing onto the correct track in the former large Dunsmuir roundhouse and sending locomotives and equipment to the engine house and RIP (repair in place) track for repairs.

The first turntable was installed in 1887 and was a timbered structure. At 70 feet in length it lasted until 1920. A 100 foot turntable replaced it in 1920 and served the Southern Pacific until 1939. Finally, the current turntable was installed in 1939. It is 120 feet in length in a concrete lined pit. As technology improved and locomotives grew in length and tonnage, the need for a bigger and better turntable necessitated the upgrades. The present turntable was built to handle Southern Pacific's rather unique Cab Forward 4-8-8-2 steam locomotive like #4294 found at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento.

As one of last operating turntables left in the country, the Union Pacific continues to use it to turn "helpers" around for trains for the steep grade up to Black Butte summit. •



Photo - Dunsmuir Turntable during the Winter Rail Fair Feb 1994



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CAN YOU IMAGINE?

Stories by Pamela Weatherby - Edited by Terry Weatherby
Previously from Yreka, California



Can you imagine being a child growing up in a large luxurious home surrounded by servants? It would have been impossible to predict that, later in life, circumstances would cause you to live in a bowery and sleep in a wagon box! These were just two of the places my pioneer grandmother, Emily Teresa Hodgetts Lowder, lived during her long and eventful life.

Emily's parents, Joseph Hodgetts and Ann Walcroft, were orphans. Little is known about how her father became wealthy, but in her memoir Emily mentions that he owned a great deal of land. He also owned a terrace of houses in Worcester, England. Emily attended a prestigious private boarding school where she learned to read and write proficiently. The family had servants and a full time cook. Undoubtedly, she had her own room and all the beautiful furniture and clothes that money could buy.

Even though the family was well to do, Emily's mother longed for a religion that met her spiritual needs. Mormon missionaries visited the Hodgetts home in 1849. The family, with the exception of Emily's father, became members of the Mormon church. Emily's conversion dramatically changed the course of her life.

If you have been following the saga of my pioneer grandmother in Jefferson Backroads, you have read how she crossed the ocean on the clipper ship, Enoch Train in 1856. The living conditions, even for the wealthy voyagers, must have been cramped and confining. After arriving in Boston, Emily traveled by train to Iowa. She camped for twenty one weeks in Iowa City before joining a wagon train and leaving for Utah. Living conditions traveling across the great plains in a covered wagon could only be challenging at best.

Once she arrived in Salt Lake, Emily lived in a boarding house until she married John Lowder on May 25th, 1860. John and Emily were able to live comfortably in Salt Lake until John's parents asked them to move to the small settlement of Parowan in southern Utah. After spending a year in Parowan, John and Jesse Lowder, plus a few other hardy pioneers, were called by Brigham Young to establish a settlement at Panguich Lake. There were no houses for the families to live in, so, once again, Emily was camping. She cooked in a bowery and slept in a wagon box.



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Emily "took sick" living in these primitive conditions. Thankfully, she recovered after John was able to hire a young woman to help with the chores. John and the other men built a fort and some sturdy log cabins. Even though John and Emily's cabin was small, it was well chinked and had a big fireplace to keep them warm during winter. Unfortunately, the fort was abandoned after only two years because of the threat of an Indian uprising.

The Lowder family moved back to Parowan and there they began to thrive. John built a big house on Main Street that was able to accommodate his family which would eventually include nine children. John and his sons were also able to homestead a ranch in an idyllic location in the mountains above Parowan.

In her old age, Emily moved into a hotel owned by her daughter, Ida Maria. After all the difficulties and hardships of pioneer life, it must have felt good to be settled in a comfortable hotel. Emily wasn't living in luxury surrounded by servants, but she was adored by her family and friends who visited her often. The hotel continues in business to this day and is called "The Victorian Rose Country Inn." •





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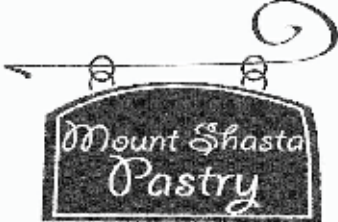
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Stories by Carol Pasheilich

“Siskiyou County”

This time I am not going to talk about the animals at Tawanda Farms. I want to tell you about the wonderful place, Siskiyou County and its people. The month of September 2019 was particularly difficult at Tawanda Farms. One of the two people who own and work the farm became very ill and ultimately disabled.

In spite of good attitudes and willingness to work, we are both ‘of an age’. So doing the work of two people is not always possible. Enter, good friends and neighbors. Friends brought food for lots of meals. Cards came in with wishes for quick healing and offers to help. Emails came offering to help with the animals or to grocery shop or run errands. Prayers came from all directions. One friend dropped everything to build ramps and revamp the bathroom. Even the equipment provider rushed orders to get new equipment here in a timely manner.

We are not pioneers here. We’ve only been here 20 years, but those who know us pitched in. And some of the people who volunteered their help and time are people who have just moved here in the last year or so. There is something about Siskiyou County that attracts kind, caring people.

To every one of them, thank you. It is hard to express the gratitude and warm feelings we have for this outpouring of support.

In addition to the actual people who live here, we are very blessed to live in close proximity to excellent health care. We only have to travel an hour to find some of the best medical facilities in the country. Thank you to all of the providers and workers at Asante.

Despite a life changing situation, we are optimistic and going forward as before. The rams are in the breeding groups making babies for February and March 2020. Aren’t we fortunate to live in such a wonderful place? •



COFFEE WITH CASA

Coffee with CASA on
Thursday December 5, 2019 at the
Southfork Baking Company
in Etna, California

What is a CASA? CASA is the acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocates for foster children. CASAs are volunteers who build one-on-one relationships with foster children to help them through the difficult time of being separated from their parents and overwhelming dependency court process. Interested in learning more?

Please join CASA at the Southfork Baking Company in Etna from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on December 5, 2019 for complimentary coffee, pastries and conversation about joining CASA in ensuring every foster child in Siskiyou County has a voice in court they trust. The Southfork Baking Company has generously donated gift certificates and other delectables for the door prize. No purchase necessary.

CONTACT:

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CASA of Siskiyou County
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Email:
lkeyserboswell@siskiyoucasa.org

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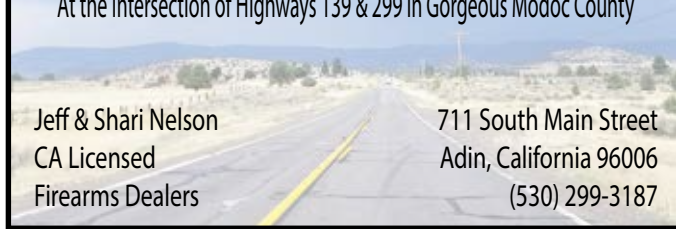
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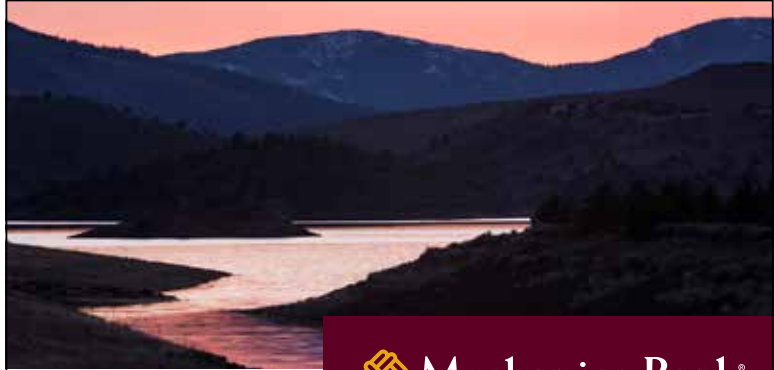
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Wildfires ravaged the communities many of us call home. A year-long project is underway. We are gathering delicious recipes to create a uniquely personal cookbook dedicated to our fellow citizens who have lost all their worldly possessions in the recent tragic fires. These cookbooks will be presented to those who have lost everything and will also be available for sale to the public. Proceeds will be used to rebuild!

A dear young lady went looking for her grandma's banana bread recipe recently and it struck her

hard that all their family recipes were lost when her momma's house burned in the Carr Fire. The realization is tough that all the family recipes many of these people had that have been passed down from generation to generation are now, sadly, gone. We cannot replace what has been lost... But together, we can create something new.

If you are interested, please email or mail us your favorite delicious recipes: breads, rolls, main dishes, soups, casseroles, desserts, sauces, breakfast dishes, salads, snacks, drinks, etc. Let us know your name and the city/state you are mailing recipes from. Our hope is that, together, we can create something AMAZING to unite and help heal our communities... We all thank you, very much!!

Mailing Address:

**Carr Fire Cookbook Project
PO Box 344
Grenada, California 96038**

**WE WILL COMPILE ALL
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