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DECEMBER 2019

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JEFFERSON BACKROADS

A Happy Little Publication

PO Box 344 Michelle Fain & Ralph Fain
Grenada, CA 96038 Owner-Editor Side Kick
(530) 640-0100

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FULL PAGE AD	8 1/2 x 10 3/4"	\$200/mo	\$225/mo

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

AD & STORY DEADLINE: 15th of each month.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	Advertising Rates & Publication Info
15	Breweries and Distilleries in the Region
14	Butte Valley Chamber of Commerce
9	COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD
11	Dunsmuir Railroad Depot News
8	Events: Just a Few Local Happenings
26	Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County Events
10	Maps - Local Region
5	Quilt Guilds & Shoppes around the Region
23	Story by Bruce Duncan
12&20	Story by Byran Duncan, Yreka Elks News
22	Story by Gail Jenner
16	Story by Hank Nelson
6-7	Story by Judy Sartor - Quilting
24	Story by Pamela Weatherby
26	Story by Ralph Fain
18	Story by Steve Pestana
21	Veterans & Senior Citizen Services & Info



Cover Photo taken by Michelle Fain in November 2019:
NICE Lassen County Muley Buck...

Jefferson Backroads is proudly published every single month for our fellow independent, old school, hard working, Patriotic American Law Abiding 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 is still ALIVE, ALL ACROSS AMERICA. We are doing our part to proudly keep this 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 also in many 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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Printed by:	Cascade Printing		Klamath Falls, Oregon
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Jefferson Backroads was started up in April of 2010. We print every month.
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STITCHING IN THE DITCH

Story by Judy Sartor Shasta Lily Quilt Guild



Front right, Harold Barnum, left Tony Ginocchio. Back, R-L: Marla Barnum Garrett, Mark Barnum, presenter Judy Sartor

*It is with deep regret and sadness we must report that
Harold Barnum passed on November 14, 2019, at the age of 93.
We will miss him. And we will always remember...*

Looking back on November while looking forward to December can have a dizzying effect. And since I get enough of forward and backward movements from my Physical Therapy sessions with Joe, I will settle for reminiscing. However, I do not promise to balance on one leg. My reminiscing takes me to a Quilt of Valor presentation which occurred on November 6, 2019.

Harold Barnum was 17 when he enlisted in the Navy during World War II. Barnum was a Petty Officer 3rd Class Aviation Mechanic, and he served in the Navy from 1944 until the war was over. At one point, during the invasion of the Philippines, Harold landed on the island of Cebu and assisted in the construction of an airfield and a base. For that, in a light-hearted moment, Barnum was awarded the title of an Honorary CB. At least, that's the story.

After the war, Harold Barnum served as Police Chief in Weed and then in Mt. Shasta. His four children—Mark, Marla, Jeannie, and Eric—attended and graduated from Mt. Shasta High School. I was privileged to teach all four of them. (Harold quipped, "I'm sorry" at that point.). But they were good kids. In fact, Marla served as my junior bridesmaid a few years ago.

So I am especially vested in this quilt of Valor presentation. Surrounded by family and friends, World War II Veteran Harold Barnum received a Quilt of Valor in a presentation at the Redding Veterans Home. The smiling Harold Barnum, who has not lost his sense of humor, joked about his age, life, and his children. He teared up when he told about his landing in the Philippines and the men who were lost. He was also emotional when he regretted the poor public reception of the Vietnam Veterans when they returned home.

Tony Ginocchio opened the ceremony with personal remarks. I briefly explained the formation of the Quilts of Valor Foundation. The quilt was created by ladies of the Shasta Lily Quilt Guild in Mt. Shasta as part of its outreach program. This particular quilt was pieced by Donna Linebarger of Mt. Shasta and quilted by former Guild President Sally Eagleman. As both a member of the Shasta Lily Quilt Guild and a representative of the State of Jefferson Quilters Chapter of the Quilts of Valor Foundation, I read a Certificate of Recognition as a part of the formal presentation. Harold's daughter, Marla Garrett of Reno, unfolded the quilt and wrapped him in it.

Mark Barnum, Harold's son from Kansas, was afforded the honor of cutting the cake. Harold's daughter, Jeanne Hilton from Mt. Shasta, was unable to attend, as was son Eric Barnum of Oklahoma.



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Malou Shannon, the amateur photographer who documents these presentations, was born in the Philippines. She and Harold Barnum shared some personal moments about her homeland and the effects of the war. Harold was again emotional, but his memories of the war, lost comrades, and life in general were remarkably clear.

This Quilt of Valor presentation was a celebration of the man Harold Barnum, a celebration of his life, and a celebration of his contribution to the United States of America. •

*Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill,
that we shall pay any price, bear any burden,
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--John Fitzgerald Kennedy*



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Our sincere apologies for reporting the wrong date for the Fort Jones Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast and festivities last month. Correct date is Saturday December 14, 2019.

December 5, 2019

Coffee with CASA in Etna, California. Please see Page 29.

December 6, 2019

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

December 7, 2019

Christmas Bazaar and Tree Lighting, Montague, California.

Call for info: (530) 459-3030.

December 7-8, 2019

The Homespun Craft Fair, Shasta District Fairgrounds, Anderson, California. Call (530) 378-6789 for info.

December 13-14, 2019

Holiday Craft Fair, Lassen County Fairgrounds, Susanville, California. Call (530) 251-8900 for information.

December 14, 2019 in Fort Jones, California:

Fort Jones Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast.

Fort Jones Lions Parade and Raffles Info: (530) 598-2162.

Holiday Gifts and Craft Fair... See Pag 28.

March 7, 2020

Sundial Film Festival, Redding, California. Call (530) 255-4911 for info. Accepting Film Submissions until January 3, 2020.

April 16-20, 2020

Ashland Independent Film Festival, Ashland, Oregon.

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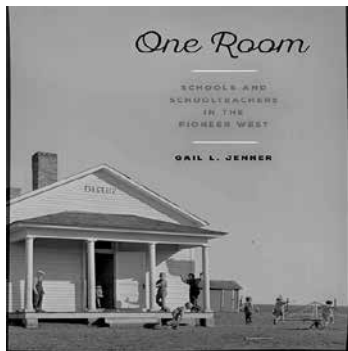
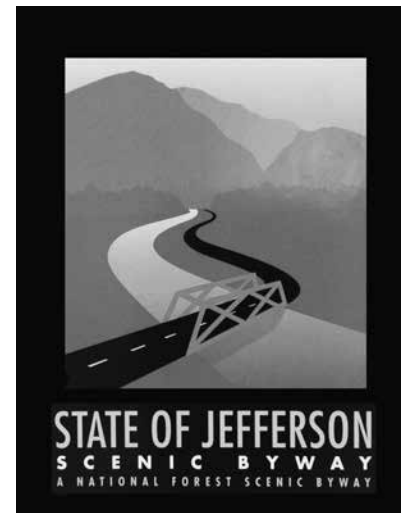
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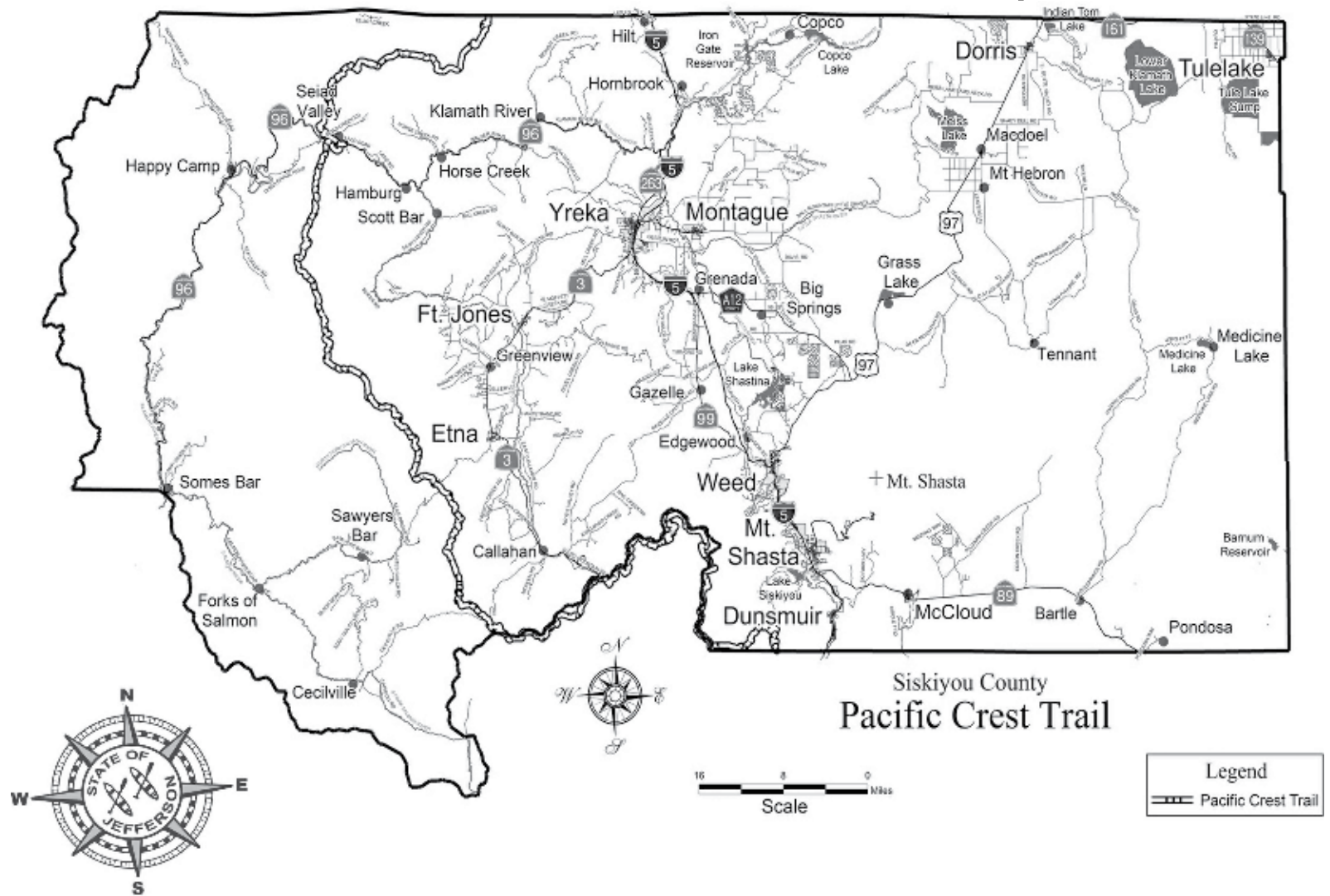
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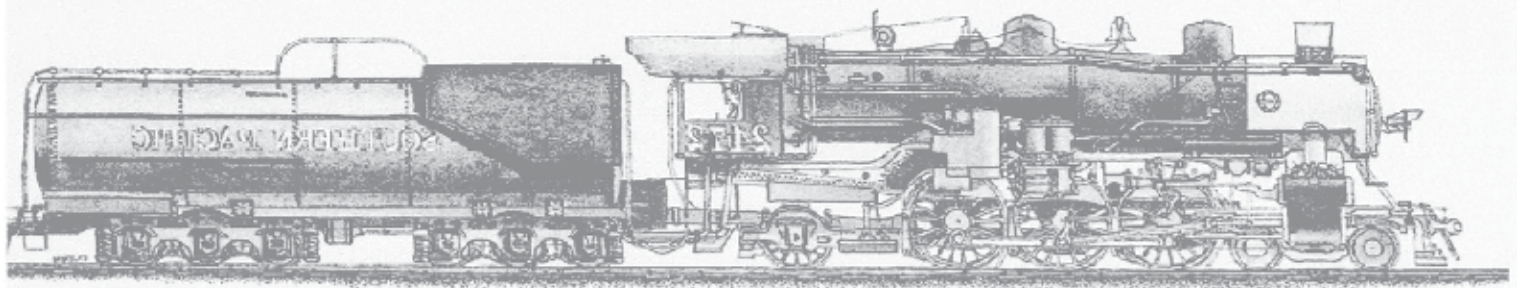
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DUNSMUIR RAILROAD DEPOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The Depot Society closed the Dunsmuir Museum in October for the winter months.

Do follow us at www.dunsmuirdepot.com

The Dunsmuir Museum was open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays, for RAILROAD DAYS and for town events this year. Depot Society volunteer members staffed the Museum and appreciate their staffing. Please email the Depot Society if you are interested in staffing the Museum next year. Listen to our visitors' Dunsmuir stories and add your Dunsmuir stories.

The Museum had visitors from all over the USA, Australia and England. The 2019 Outdoor Writers Association of California visited during their county Spring Conference. During RAILROAD DAYS, Dunsmuir's own Robert Morris held a book signing for his PHOTOBOP'S ESPEE book. Pat O'Conner had three Road Scholar Tour groups visit; grandparents and their grandchildren saw U.P. crew changes too. Museum visitors were encouraged to purchase a PASSPORT for the fourteen Siskiyou County Museums.

The Shasta Division Archives, previously housed in two Museum rooms, have relocated to a larger Dunsmuir building. They continue to be part of the Museum and can be reached at www.shastadivision@snowcrest.net.

See you all in April 2020 at the Dunsmuir Museum.



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YREKA ELKS NEWS

ELKS IN THE COMMUNITY:

The Yreka Elks Lodge #1980 was able to obtain a \$2,000 grant from the Elks National Foundation for SNIP (Siskiyou Spray-Neuter Incentive Program) and Pets and Crisis Services (PACS), which was recently presented by Exalted Ruler Brian Favero.

SNIP is known in the community for their low cost spray and neuter program, re-homing and foster care, low cost micro chipping, and temporary safe haven in emergency, such as evacuations, death of owner and abandonment. Recently SNIP partnered with Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center to form PACS. The PACS indoor/outdoor facility will soon be fully operational for housing pets of domestic victims for free, providing their owners' peace of mind while they are getting the assistance they need.

These caring services are also offered when pet owners have passed away, and even for firefighters and other emergency personnel who are being deployed to fires and other disasters. The Elks grant will be used to purchase a heating and cooling unit in the new PACS building, along with paying for part of the flooring. The building is located on the east side of I-5, near the old "Blue Goose" railroad station and was purchased using donations, fund raisers and another grant.

SNIP is still located in the old Ellis Brooks Motor Company building on Main Street in Yreka. Mrs. Brooks still owns the building and graciously allows SNIP to use it.



Those interested in making a donations to SNIP and PACS can visit them on www.siskiyousnip.org, or call Alisa Fraser at (541) 531-1086 or stop by.

This past year the Yreka Elks Lodge, #1980, has donated more than \$25,000 to local charitable causes, such as youth sports, scholarships, Veteran organizations, law enforcement organizations, and for drug awareness. Also, the Lodge recently received a note from Grand Lodge stating that since the inception of the Lodge in August of 1955, the charitable giving to our community has been in excess of 1.3 million dollars to present.

Those interested in joining a volunteer fraternal organization that does a lot of local charitable fundraising for our community are encouraged to contact the Yreka Elks Lodge at (530) 842-1980.

Photo Above: Pictured are some of the SNIP crew members and Yreka Elks, from left to right: Annie Vuyla, SNIP Foster Volunteer; Meg Silva, SNIP Volunteer/Secretary, Alisa Fraser, SNIP Volunteer/President (also an Elks Member), Brian Favero, Yreka Elks Exalted Ruler, Leslie Blankenship, SNIP Volunteer/Board Member (also an Elks Member)

Elks Bingo supports YHS Vocal Club to perform at Carnegie Hall. The Yreka Elks Lodge held a charity bingo to benefit the Yreka High School's Vocal Club on October 13th. The YHS Vocal Club is to perform at Carnegie Hall on November 24th. The Vocal Club has attended this event before and was asked back. The bingo night was well attended and brought in \$5,275.00 for the event to directly benefiting YHS Vocal Club's trip the event in midtown Manhattan, New York.

Photo Below: pictured are Elk member Omer Owen; YHS Vocal Club parents Jennifer and Marcus Issoglio, Dave Johnston and YHS VC student Aidan Issoglio made the cook team.





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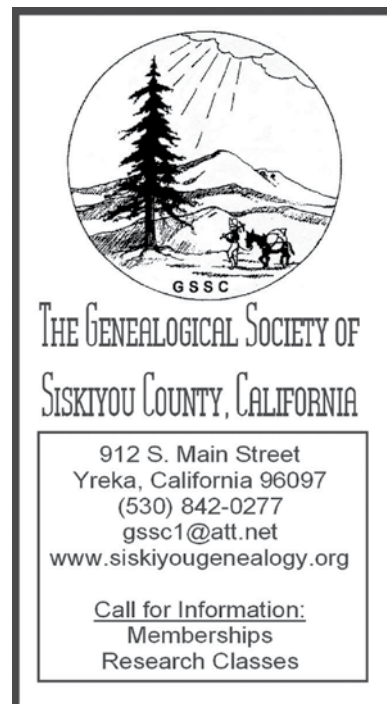
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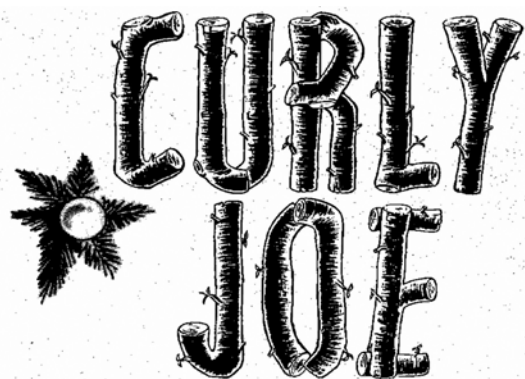
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INSPIRATIONS FROM THE FOREST



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

(Reprinted with permission from NEW ALASKAN, December 1986.)

It was hard to believe that another year had rolled by and here it was, just a few weeks before Christmas. For guys like me, though, loggers and mill hands who follow timbered trails and the sound of a mill whistle... the year is divided into seasons.

I had just put in eight months logging out on the northern tip of Prince of Wales Island. It was a good camp, but wintertime in southeastern Alaska can be a cold and lonely place during camp shut-down... when you have nothing to keep your mind occupied.

I know, from firsthand experience, just how lonely you can get. A few years back I had put in a winter as camp watchman in the logging camp up near Port Fredrick. With just me and old Felix, the camp cat, to keep back the doldrums, I learned my lesson well. So, when the company I worked for shut down for the winter and made arrangements for me to work for a few weeks in Ketchikan, I jumped at the chance.

It gets dark early in S.E. Alaskan winters. As I walked back to my room from the job at the mill, I could see a few stars through the snow flurries. The moon was full. Cold air stung at the unprotected prominence of my face and my breath rose into the night air, like little clouds of smoke. The ground was covered with crusty, white snow and it crackled beneath my boots.

As I hurried along I noticed that where the wind had blown the snow up in drifts it clung to the sides of the buildings along Front Street. Nearing my room, the lights from the hotel flickered through the falling snow. Off, in the distance, I could hear the sounds of a fiddle playing, "Amazing Grace." "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me."

Another shift and it would be Friday and the weekend... and then Christmas. A big dinner was planned down at the Ketchikan mission again this Christmas. They put on a good feed and some of the boys down on their luck, or maybe just lonely and no place to go, could spend the day and enjoy a good meal. That sounded like the place for me too... this Christmas.

As I closed the hotel door, the warmth from inside the lobby enveloped me. The fire crackled in the fireplace and the odor of spruce boughs filled me with a longing for something that over the years I'd seemed to have forgotten and lost. Each year, the hotel's decorated tree and warm fire in the fireplace had become welcome sights for weary souls, tramp loggers, and mill hands.

I began climbing the stairs to my room and heard loud talking and laughter. It seemed that I had heard that voice someplace before. A third of the way up the stairs angled to the right and leveled off into a small square before resuming their ascent. Here, a man stood talking to perhaps a half dozen or so curious and amused people. I remembered seeing him somewhere before.

Let me describe him to you. He was a rather tall man, lean and raw-boned. He looked mean and tough. His teeth-- why, they looked just like a row of broken

glass... or an old saw blade. He hadn't shaved for some time and the black stubble gave him a sinister appearance. He acted like he had a chip on his shoulder... or a chicken bone stuck crossways in his craw.

I stopped and listened. In true logger's style, he glanced my way quickly, to catch the lay of the land I suppose. He hacked a couple of times to clear his voice.

"Curly Joe," he says, "we need ya down here in Roseburg right away. Got a tree to rig and logs to git? Why... I sez... c'n I do 'er Bub? Shore. Hi't wuz me who run ol' man Skinner's outfit fer him back on the square agin, an' right when he had one foot on a banana peel an' the other, slidin' downhill towards chapter eee . . . levan. Why, man alive... I c'n spit further, jump higher, run faster then the average man an' I niver been whupped."

I smiled. It seemed like I'd heard that line plenty of times before.

"I wuz born 'neath a hemlock stump an' raised by an ol' mamma polecat. I'm mean an' nasty, but I c'n be sweet too, when I wanna." He was really laying it on thick and the crowd was lapping it up like a cat on milk.

"I run the first chain saw that hit the woods, don outa Grays Harbor. Steam? Why I ran the las' steam pot fer ol' man Vaughn and the first diesel? I ran that too. One of them big twins on a sled down outa Coos Bay, Oregon."

Curly Joe was really on a roll now.

"Say... see this here? Whut do you think it might be?" He held up a fist and with his thumb and forefinger, formed what appeared to be, at least to me, some kind of rigging apparatus, or something.

"Whut I got here?" he demanded again.

His face turned crimson. "Nobody here know whut this blue-blaming thing I got in my hand is?"

Since he was a logger and an old-timer at that, and I was a logger too, but a mere sapling compared to his years of experience, I thought, perhaps, we were on the same wave length and so... I decided to jump into the fray. "Mister.."

He turned and looked at me for a moment.

"Curly Joe, Bub. There ain't no 'Mister' around here thet I c'n see."

"Okay, Curly Joe. Is it a choker and a nubbin with... a... a... an eye?"



Inspirations from the Forest

Continued from Page 16

I knew this was a desperate and imaginative shot in the dark. It could be almost anything, and only Curly Joe knew for sure. Curly Joe scrunched his mouth around and glared at me contemptuously.

"A whut! You... you idiot! You milksop... mamma's boy. Scissorbill green-horn! A choker hole and a nubbin, ya say! Look! This here look lak a dadbum nubbin ta you, numbskull?"

Curly Joe was as mad as a Bald-Faced Hornet. He wasn't just slobbering mad, he was foaming at the mouth kind of mad and on the brink of a classic rigging fit, to boot! I know the score. I've seen them before and can spot one coming a mile away. Then, much to my surprise, Curly Joe turned and held up a battered hard hat. It looked like it had been run over a couple of times by a D-9 tractor.

"Look, look. Whut's this? Does this tin lid look lak a dadburn, blue blamin' nubbin an' eye ta you? Humpf!"

"Greenhorns! Whut's the woods cornin' ta? Me an' this ol tin lid have been 'round, sonny. I've logged from Alaska an' the North Pole all the way south ta Mexico, an' from Aberdeen, Washington ta Maine."

"This ol hard hat saved my life, too. Take the time a widow maker fell on me, I didn't even git a headache."

"Then, there wuz the time a top came out of a 180 foot spar tree. Exploded jes' lak a packsack full o' dinamite. Cables an' riggin' wuz fallin' 'round my noggin lak a big handful of confetti. A guy-line slapped me alongside the head. I wuz standin' off ta one side, in a patch of muskeg, as luck would have it, mind ya... an' it drove me down 'til jus' my eyeballs wuz level with the swamp."

"The boys whut seed hi't happen had a good chuckle. Sed I looked jes' lak one of them ol' rhinos. You know how they's always swimmin' 'round in the swamps, lookin' fer weeds an' setch lak, ter eat?"

"Well, the wust time of all, though, wuz down in St. Joe, Id'eeho. Big Olaf. He hit me a haymaker that shook my timbers. Lordy! But his knuckles begin ter swell up 'til his fist looked lak a basketball, an' he wuz down ta one arm, dontcha see? I kept circlin' an' finally wore him down to a frazzle. Boy! Did I clean his clock! I should say!"

Well, since I had just worked the night shift, I headed on up to my room. The graveyard crew was sawing lumber down at the mill, south of town. It sounded pretty, as it sang through the logs. I could still hear Curly Joe too and remember wonderin' how a guy with a head that resembled a billiard ball go by the name of Curly. I drifted off to sleep.

Early in the morning, I walked downstairs for breakfast. It was still dark and cold and there curled up in a corner of the hotel floor was Curly Joe. An empty jug lay close by. The crowd he had attracted the night before had drifted off and he was alone.

I went back upstairs to my room and took the extra blanket off my bed. Curly Joe needed it worse than I did. I covered him up and laid his hard hat across his chest. He snored loudly and smacked his lips a couple of times. Then he went back to sleep. During the night he had probably rigged every tall tree this side of Eureka, California and logged and sawed a billion board feet of timber. In a few hours Curly Joe would probably be out on the streets but for now at least he was snug and warm.

I started to go and then for some reason (why, I do not know) I reached down and picked up Curly's old hard hat. Something caught my eyes. I turned it over and glued to the inside was an old photograph and a little wooden cross. I smiled and felt a lot better now about Curly Joe.

A man is never really alone in this world when he has his memories and a few good friends. How are we to know, really know another man unless we walk in his shoes?

Curly Joe was but one of a million vagabonds and tramps drifting through life. Curly Joe had been a logger once, probably a pretty good one and that old hard hat of his had saved his hide many a time.

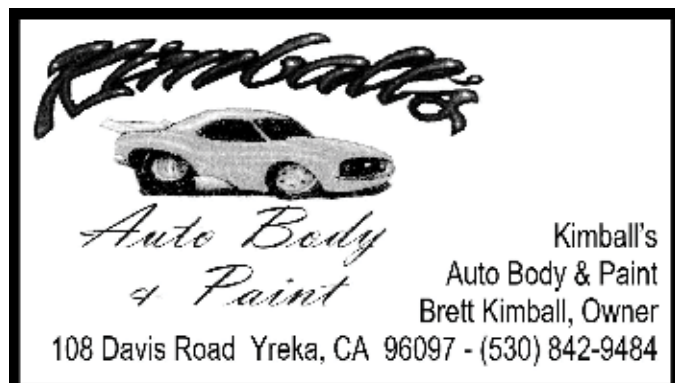
Some line from an old childhood hymn came to mind. "Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weariness, take it to the Lord in prayer." I'm inclined to think Curly Joe had a little help from a Friend... Aren't you? •

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SISKIYOU COUNTY MUSEUM

NEW EXHIBIT AT SISKIYOU COUNTY MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS LOCAL AVIATION HISTORY

Story by Steve Pestana of Fort Jones, California



When reflecting on the rich history of Siskiyou County, what naturally comes to mind are visions of indigenous peoples, trappers, loggers and gold miners of the 19th century. Recently a small group of enthusiasts delved into our county's participation in and contributions to a 20th century development: Aviation. The results of their study are now on display in an exhibit at the Siskiyou County Museum.

The project was conceived of about two years ago by Terry Weathers of Quartz Valley who was a flight instructor, pilot examiner, and aviation business owner for some 40 years. Weathers enlisted the assistance of six other key individuals to research, design and construct six exhibit display windows covering topics that include aerial firefighting, airports and aids to navigation, sport flying, general aviation, distinguished local aviators, and two local World War II-era plane crashes. The exhibit was officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on November 12, 2019.

In one of the five museum displays, four aviators who have roots in Siskiyou County are celebrated with photos and descriptions of their aerial exploits. One is Major Robert C. "Bob" Alexander (1924-2001) who is still fondly remembered by local family, friends and fellow pilots. Alexander spent his boyhood in Scott Valley. In 1939, at the age of 15, he lied about his age to join the the Army Air Cadet program. After primary pilot training he received advanced fighter training in the Lockheed P-38 Lightning. During the duration of World War II, Alexander flew the P-38 in a reconnaissance role throughout the Pacific Theater of Operations. During the 1950-52 Korean Conflict he flew the B-26 bomber, and during the Cold War years of the late 1950s and early 1960s he flew the F-86 jet fighter in a continental defense role. Following retirement from the Air Force he continued flying by piloting several aircraft types for Montague Aviation and Siskiyou Flying Service including the Grumman F7F Tigercat forest fire retardant "bomber." He finished his professional flying career in 1980 as a "fire attack" pilot out of Scott Valley airport flying the Cessna 337.

Robert E. "Bob" Trimble (1924-61) is another pilot who made significant contributions to aviation in Siskiyou County. Following service as an Army Air Corps instructor pilot during World War II, Trimble became a licensed as a civilian helicopter pilot. During the early 1950s he was based mostly in Southern California, flying a wide variety of operations including power-line patrol, wildfire support, rescue operations and USGS mapping. In 1954 he flew wildfire patrols in Northern California, and liked the region so much that he moved himself and his family to Scott Valley and began a helicopter business, Aetna Helicopters, along with partners Bill Matthews Erling Hjertoger and Dr. Granville Ashcraft. Trimble conducted all manner of helicopter jobs such as search and rescue, supply delivery and firefighting support. He soon became a recognized expert in flying at high altitudes and mountainous terrain, training helicopter pilots from around the world. Sadly, Robert Trimble and a passenger were killed near Etna, California in 1961 due to a mechanical failure of his helicopter.



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Jim Hendricks
Owner

Siskiyou County Museum
Continued from Page 18

In recognition of his accomplishments, he is listed on the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum's WALL OF HONOR. Additionally, the Helicopter Association International annually presents the Robert E. Trimble Memorial Award to recognize an outstanding helicopter pilot.

The "Distinguished Aviators" exhibit also features details about Yreka-native Brian Favero, who has had an exceptional career as military and civilian jet pilot for fifty years and counting. Another pilot profiled in the exhibit is Leo Purinton (1911-1995), former airport manager of both the Montague and Siskiyou County Airports, who enjoyed a flying career that stretched from the 1920s through the 1990s.

Siskiyou County Museum staff and volunteers hope that the new aviation history exhibit will not only preserve and highlight a little known topic of local history, but might also inspire young visitors to reach for the stars. •

The Siskiyou County Museum is located at 910 S Main Street, Yreka, CA and is open Tuesday thru Saturday, 9am-3pm.



Photos:

(top of Page 18)

The exhibit design team at the opening of Aviation History display at the Siskiyou County Museum. November 12, 2019. In the photo are L to R: Steve Pestana, Patricia Lord, Keith Franc, Jim Kepford, Linda Kepford, John Atchison and Terry Weathers. (Missing is Tak Murakami) (Photo by Carol Pestana)

(above)

Takeshi "Tak" Murakami in front of the exhibit that he designed and built about Aerial Firefighting. (Photo by Steve Pestana)

(top of Page 19)

Portrait – Major Robert C. "Bob" "Alex" Alexander. (Photo courtesy of the Alexander family) Suggested caption; "Major Robert Alexander of Scott Valley flew combat aircraft in World War II and Korea, and flew firefighting aircraft in the 1960 and 70s."

(at right)

Portrait – Robert E. "Bob" Trimble (Photo is courtesy of the Trimble Family) Suggested caption: "World War II veteran Robert Trimble became a world renowned helicopter pilot in the 1950s and 60s."



YREKA ELKS NEWS

Memories of Uncle Victor (AKA Slim) and the Diamond Bar in Hilt, Ca. Part 2 of 3

Victor Eugene Warrens



Story by Elizabeth (Warrens) Claypool

Continued from November 2019 issue of Jefferson Backroads...

Photo (top left) probably was taken when Victor was in his late twenties or early thirties.

It shows his famous diamond stickpin. The diamond was never set as a ring. I don't know the size, but it was said to be over five carats and perfect. The ring he was wearing had one large, one to two carat diamond, with two smaller three-quarter carat stones.

The stickpin diamond was sent to Shreeve and Company jewelers in San Francisco to be sold after Victor lost his money in the 1929 stock market crash. He had asked for \$6,000.00. When the jewelers had not responded by 1935, he wrote them asking for the money or the diamond. They immediately sent the \$6,000.00. Family lore tells of a thief with a gun coming after Victor at Kennett, California, demanding the diamond stick pin. Victor pulled it from his tie and threw it on the floor. He then pulled his gun and they shot it out. I don't know if the thief was wounded, but Victor was not. The holes in the office glass (partition) at the Elks Lodge may have resulted from this shoot out.

(Side note: We plan to follow this series with a short story of the November 15, 1912 robbery of The Diamond Bar in Hilt by two masked gun toting robbers and the shoot-out bullet hole in the partition).

Photo (left center) is of the The Diamond Bar & Cafe in Kennett, California.



Victor Warrens is seventh from the left. His long legs earned him the nickname "Slim." Seated on the porch are family members; no other women were allowed upstairs. Prior to coming to Kennett, Uncle Victor was manager of the El Monte Hotel in Sisson (Mount Shasta City), California.

Probation closed all saloons from 1920 to 1933, so Victor took all of his bonded liquor to Cuba and sold it there. I do not know when the business in Kennett was closed, but when I went to the town as a small girl, it was closed. That would have been between 1929 and 1935.

Victor took care of his brothers. My father, Alva P. Warrens, was manager at Kennett prior to World War I, and my Uncle Orion A. Warrens, managed the Diamond at Hilt.

Photo (left bottom) is of The Diamond Café in Kennett, California (interior).



The Diamond Saloon's Bar is said to have been built by Brunswick in England in the early 1850's. The back of the bar is made of cherry wood and the top is solid mahogany. The grape lights behind the bar were grape cluster globes with bulbs inside. A shoe-shine stand was prominent (on the left) as were the spittoons on the floor throughout. The cash register was centered behind the bar. The bar was salvaged from the Kennett building before the new Shasta Dam flooded the town in 1945. The bar was stored at Hilt and from there was purchased in 1958 by the Yreka Elks Lodge, where it remains in service to this day.

The bar ceiling was covered with painted canvases. When Kennett was to go under water, the canvases were removed for storage at a warehouse in Redding. They were later stolen from the warehouse. •

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Christmas in the Country

by Gail Jenner

During the late 1800s and early 1900s, Christmas was an important time of year, especially for children. According to Ethel Porter, who spent several years as a child with her father at a Trinity mine, "Christmas was a cherished memory of life at the mine. For many weeks ahead preparations were under way. Each mail brought many mysterious packages from Weinstock and Lubin in Sacramento and from Montgomery Ward in Chicago. The children wore the catalogues out looking at them and trying to decide what would be the very best thing to have for Christmas...Then men went out into the woods and cut a beautiful, big, symmetrical tree which was set up in one of the boarding houses, or mess hall...For days ahead corn was popped and strung, as were cranberries, and even a few 'store' ornaments came out of hiding for the tree... On Christmas Eve the tree was lit, with candles, of course, and all presents were dragged out of hiding to be placed under the tree."

Attending small one-room schools, holiday programs were also an important part of country life, not only for the children, but also for communities at large. Reportedly, at one school, the classroom was so crowded with people that the gas lamps around the room would not burn because there was too little oxygen left in the room! But it did not deter the enthusiasm.

Many children witnessed their first sight of a Christmas tree or Christmas decorations at school programs. Even when winter storms made travel to and from the school difficult, parents crowded into the schoolroom for events. If too dangerous to find their way home after an event, whole families might sleep on the floor of the school.

According to one oldtimer, "How thrilling the Christmas tree was—towering far above our heads. It was so much larger than any tree we had at home, with its branches covered with REAL candles. . . . Our own Christmas tree was a little more than a bush, which Mother covered with sparkling starch."

Miss Minerva Starritt who taught along the Klamath River, had to pack into the mountains on horseback, and the trip often took more than a day. She wrote that she taught seven years "on the Klamath River." In 1935, "When school opened in September, I had fifty-two children and all eight grades." The community was always ready to help; for example, they came to help her clear off a hillside to build a playground, and even the state road crew did their part. One student's father was an excellent pianist and came to school twice a week in the afternoons to help with music. As she noted, "School programs were important. . . . The entire community far and wide would come to school plays and sports' games."

One event, however, did not go quite as planned! "We were preparing a gala for Christmas. . . . We had built a stage at the end of the room, six inches off the floor and put candle footlights on the stage. I was wearing a long white polka dot dress. In the middle of the program, I was standing too close to one of the footlights, and my dress caught fire. . . . one of the parents grabbed me and put the fire out. The show went on."

According to another one-room school graduate, "Holidays were always observed. Every Christmas we put on a program, which

Page 22



included a play for our parents, and the best part was singing Christmas songs."

Eugene French wrote in his memoir, *Reminiscences of the Past of Siskiyou County*, "In 1919, I began first grade in the little red schoolhouse in Klamathon [California]. It had survived all the various catastrophes to hit that town. . . It stood alone on the hill, the surrounding buildings having been burned in a big fire or having fallen down in the passing years . . . In the back of the school, there was a woodshed flanked on each end by the two 'restrooms.' On the west side of this building, a lean-to shed was built by the parents of the school children to shelter the horses we rode to school."

But sadly, he wrote, "Somewhere between 1924 and 1926 the little red schoolhouse burned to the ground. It happened at the beginning of Christmas vacation on the eve of our school Christmas play . . . The cause of the fire was never determined as far as I know, but we had a large, potbellied stove in the classroom and I think the grate in the front of the stove was accidentally left open and coals or sparks flew out and set the fire." A sad Christmas that year, no doubt. •



McCloud River Railroad's Depot

By Bruce Duncan, Edgewood, California

McCloud River Railroad's two story log cabin style siding depot was built during the summer of 1929. The siding was a main stay product of Shevlin Pine Sales. The depot replaced an earlier one story depot built in 1902. This two story was an eye catching large structure at 36' x 97', costing about \$18,000. It had a two story brick records vault, residences for company officials and a steam heating system. During its service the Railroad's offices would move in upstairs. In 1931 pneumatic tubes were installed between the depot, company store and lumber company offices. Along side the depot in the same log cabin style siding was the Railway Express Agency.

The depot would serve the Railroad well until that fateful day, December 22, 1990, when it burned to the ground in a fire due to faulty electrical wiring. Only the brick vault remains.

Photo - Above: East side of the McCloud River Depot - July 1987

Photo - Below: North end of the McCloud River Depot with Bruce - July 1987



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CAN YOU IMAGINE?

Stories by Pamela Weatherby - Edited by Terry Weatherby
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Can you imagine living to be 100, even in this day and age? If you have been reading the stories I have written about my pioneer grandmother, Emily Teresa Hodgetts Lowder, you know that she faced many hardships and trials during her lifetime. She also developed skills and talents that helped her survive and prosper throughout her long life. With the help of the volunteers at the Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County (GSSC) in Yreka, I was able to create a free account with FamilySearch. I have discovered that I have pioneer heritage on both sides of my family. I continue to find genealogy fascinating and hope to do more research into my family history.

Instead of writing another narrative about Grandma Lowder, I am including a copy of the celebration of her long life her family planned and participated in. She actually lived to be 102, but experienced declining health during her last two years in Parowan, Utah.

This is the last story I am writing for Jefferson Backroads, that is not only a happy little publication, but it also has given me the opportunity to share my stories. Thanks so much Michelle and Ralph! •



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Below are excerpts from a newspaper clipping Pamela supplied for us to share about her grandmother's 100th Birthday Celebration:

Parowan, Utah. January 25--Yesterday hundreds of Iron County residents joined here in paying tribute to a very esteemed woman, who can boast of experiences that very few living people have had, Mrs. Emily Teressa Hodgetts Lowder, affectionately known as "Grandma Lowder."

On that day she was 100 years old and she was honored at an "open hosue" held in the East Ward chapel at 2 o'clock by the Iron County Chapter of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers and the Iron County officials.

During the afternoon a wonderful program was given including singing of her favorite song, "Come, Come Ye Saints," and prayer by her son Logan Lowder.

A social tea was served to all descendants and adults while the remaining program was carried on. Musical numbers from the local camps of County D.U.P., Paragonah, Parowan, Cedar City and Kanarra, sentiments from friends. The high school band was also there to play.

Mrs. Lowder is the first resident of Iron County to have lived a century. She is the only mother of her age that we know of to have her entire family of nine children still alive. She has a son nearly 80, three daughters and a son over 70. She has a posterity of 182 and is greatly concerned for the welfare of each one. Her memory and mental faculties are keen and alert. She has been a member of the Church for 92 years.

She is one of a very few living who crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, a journey lasting six weeks and four days. She is also one of a very few people who made that historical trek across the plains, a real Mormom Pioneer. "Grandma" Lowder lived in a fort, a dugout, a wagon box and in one of the finest homes in England.

She was educated in a fashionable ladies' seminary and was wife of a captain in the Indian wars. She wore the same black satin at the Christening of each of her nine children. This satin was purchased by her father in Paris, France and carried across the plains in a blue chest, her only remaining old English treasure.

She was an acquaintance of Brigham Young and one of the first paid-up life members of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

The Century in which "Grandma" has lived is the century of scientific miracles. She has witnessed the greatest changes the world has ever known.

The people of Parowan and Iron County, Utah congratulated her on her remarkable life. •



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“TRADITIONS”

“Tradition is not the worship of ashes, but the preservation of fire.”

--Gustav Mahler

What is a tradition? An annual tradition, a family tradition, a time honored tradition, a holiday tradition, a religious tradition? A tradition can be a myriad of things. A sight, a smell, a memory. Performing the same act, in a same manner, at the same time. Maybe a tradition is simply a memory set in motion by a sight, smell, holiday, birth, death or anniversary. Maybe traditions are what make us part of a family, community, organization or nation. Maybe traditions are the glue that binds us to others. Maybe a tradition creates the personal bond between yourself and whatever higher power you communicate with during quiet moments.

Traditions set us apart from one family to another family, one tribe to another tribe, one geographic region to another region, nation to nation and religion to religion, etc.

I believe we are on the verge of losing our traditions. I don't mean they will disappear and no longer be practiced. They are being driven into hiding by the intolerance of others on a world wide scale. There are those that don't understand the traditions of others, who don't care to learn or respect the ways of people who are not like them. There is a complete lack of respect and lack of tolerance today by many people who try to cram all folks into the same box. Anger, resentment and withdrawal ensue.

It's time to regain our respect and tolerance of others. We don't have to always agree. We all know and understand: that will never happen. As a matter of fact, it wouldn't be healthy for mankind. Disagreeing makes people think. Sometimes people need to think. There needs to be a little (a lot) more thinking in today's world.

So, this Christmas Season practice your traditions openly, honestly and with pride. Teach your kids and family members YOUR family traditions. Pass them on to the next generation. Teach them whatever religious traditions you follow. Teach them to bake the family pie, cake, ham or roast beast. Provide the kids with the sights, smells and comradery that develop with traditions.

Teach them tolerance and acceptance of others and their traditions. It really is ok for other folks to have different traditions than our own, to think and act differently from each other. Everyone has the right in this country to openly and proudly display their time honored traditions without fear of reprisal or belittlement and without having someone make make them feel they are less than others.



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Imagine what would happen within your own family if you continue and openly display your time honored traditions. It's the glue that binds. Imagine what would happen in your own community if you continue and openly display the community's time honored traditions. It's the glue that binds. Imagine what would happen in our Nation if we continue and openly display this Nation's time honored traditions. It's the glue that binds. Imagine what would happen if we are tolerant and respectful of others traditions. It also is the glue that binds.

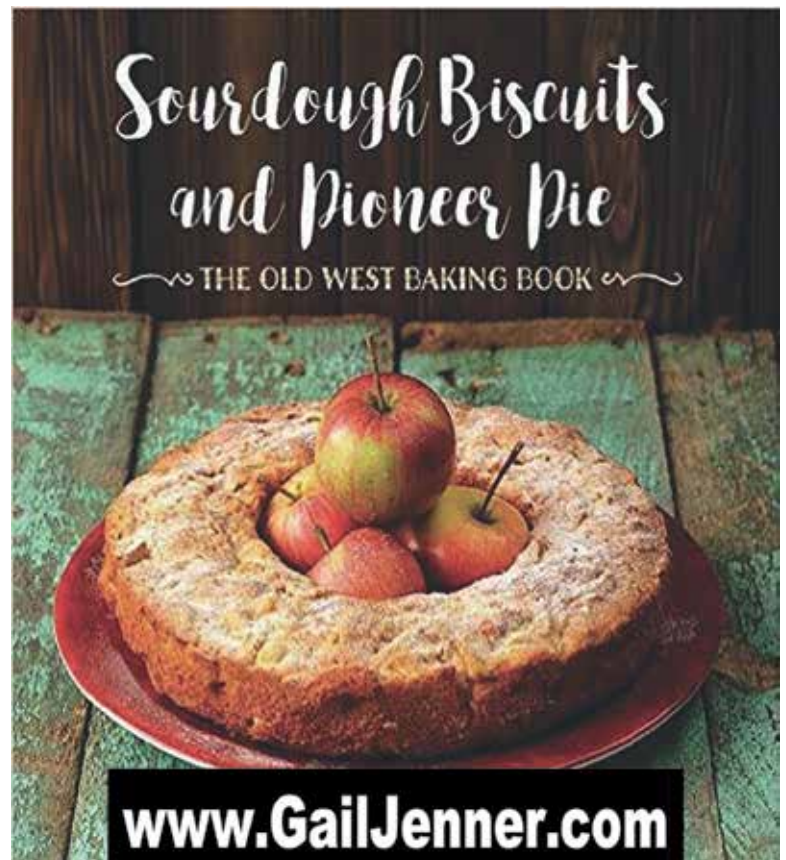
We are a Nation of countless time honored traditions. We should all continue, proudly, openly and respectfully.

Merry Christmas All!! Ralph

"Tradition contributes a sense of comfort and belonging. It brings families together and enables people to reconnect with friends. Tradition reinforces values such as freedom, faith, integrity, a good education, personal responsibility, a strong work ethic, and the value of being selfless. Tradition provides a forum to showcase role models and celebrate the things that really matter in life. Tradition offers a chance to say "thank you" for the contribution that someone has made. Tradition enables us to showcase the principles of our Founding Fathers, celebrate diversity, and unite as a country. Tradition serves as an avenue for creating lasting memories for our families and friends. Tradition offers an excellent context for meaningful pause and reflection."

--Frank Sonnenberg

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COFFEE WITH CASA

Coffee with CASA on
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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:

Lori Keyser-Boswell, Program Director

CASA of Siskiyou County

(530) 841-0844

Email:

lkeyserboswell@siskiyoucasa.org

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THE CARR FIRE COOKBOOK PROJECT

THANK YOU
TO THOSE WHO
HAVE ALREADY
SUBMITTED
RECIPES!!



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
THE RECIPES GATHERED TO
PUBLISH OUR COOKBOOK
IN THE FALL OF 2019.

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