Some History - Current Events - Fun & Adventure in The Heart of The State of Jefferson!



WELCOME

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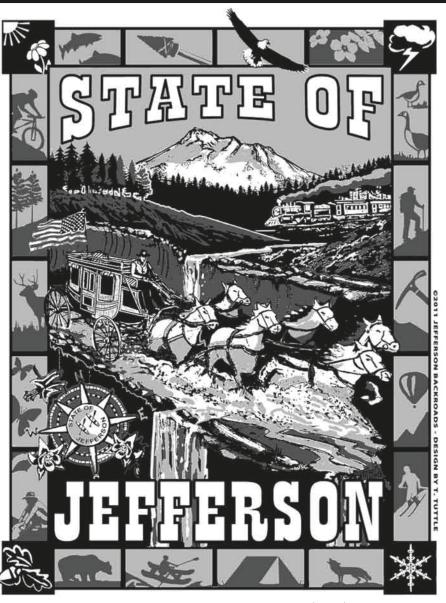
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We now have a couple of fun new designs for T-shirts, Tote Bags and Ball Caps for the Adventure Side of The State of Jefferson. We dreamed up the images and Tracy Tuttle of Mt. Shasta (ad on page 21) did her graphic design magic to bring them to life! Silkscreened and embroidered by Custom Designs (ad on page 26) in Mt. Shasta, we have proudly kept the entire process right here in Siskiyou County! Thank you to everyone who has bought them so far! You can order one too! Please see Page 32 for ordering information.....







DUNSMUIR HISTORY

By Ron McCloud THE LADY IN THE FOUNTAIN

It's a charming story. A wealthy Canadian passing through, enchanted by its scenic beauty, promises to give a fountain to the little railroad town called Pusher if its name is changed to his – Dunsmuir. There are elements of fact in the story, but it may not have been exactly like that.

This time-line shows the contemporary newspaper reports:

- <u>August</u>, 1886 Central Pacific Railroad construction moving north reached Cedar Flat later called Nutglade which became the railroad's south yard. Today this is the area across the river from South First Street. The railroad's station at that time was a mobile unit a boxcar <u>which was called Dunsmuir</u> served as headquarters and telegraph office.
- <u>January</u>, 1887 The mobile station referred to as Dunsmuir was moved north to an area called Pusher now the railroad yard at the foot of Pine Street. There an engine house and turntable were already being built.
- <u>August</u>, 1887 The *Mott North Star* newspaper referred to Dunsmuir, saying it "promises to be quite a large town."
- <u>June, 1888</u> "Honorable R. Dunsmuir" was quoted by the *Mott North Star*, "intimating" that he would give a fountain to the town <u>which was already being called Dunsmuir.</u> There is no mention of him requesting that the town be named Dunsmuir.
- October, 1888 The fountain was delivered, along with \$360.00 to cover installation costs, provided by "Honorable Mr. Dunsmuir."

And here are the questions:

- Why was the boxcar station at Cedar Flat called "Dunsmuir?"
- What was it that moved "Honorable R. Dunsmuir" to promise a fountain?
- If "R. Dunsmuir" (Robert) promised the fountain, why does the plaque say Alexander (his son)?
 - Who actually delivered the fountain; Robert, Alexander, or maybe even Alexander's brother James?

The facts are obscured by time. Both Robert and his son Alexander were involved in the family's coal business and had reason to be in the area. Completion of the railroad connecting the Bay Area with Portland would have been of interest to them as a way to ship coal.



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<u>DUNSMUIR</u> HISTORY



"There are very few photos of the lady in the fountain.
This one, taken in 1896, shows early Sacramento Avenue buildings including the Rostel building which still stands today.

Photo courtesy of Ron McCloud"

continued from Page 2 . . .

The fountain was delivered and assembled in a round concrete basin just south of the depot, clearly visible looking down Pine Street from Dunsmuir Avenue – then known as Florence Avenue. It was an intricate casting. Water supplied by the Hotel Weed sprayed into the top-most saucer which spilled into a larger one mounted on an ornate base. A cast lady about four feet high supported the center shaft and upper saucer. Trout from the nearby Sacramento River were often released into the pool. Folks who remember it often tell of the large fish swimming there.

Early photographs show the lady in the fountain as late as 1896 but newspaper reports tell of the fountain freezing and collapsing in February of 1899. It is believed that the lady in the fountain was damaged at that time and was removed. Perhaps repair was planned. Perhaps she was beyond repair. Perhaps she was stored away for safekeeping and was forgotten. Pictures taken in the early 1900s show the fountain without the lady but with water spraying down from a round ball mounted on top. A guard fence was constructed around the base sometime after 1896 and electric lights were added.

The fountain was a focal point in the active railroad yard, but with time, it suffered from neglect. It was dismantled in the 1960s and scheduled to be scrapped but was rescued by local residents. It was relocated to a quiet and shady spot near the entrance to Dunsmuir's city park where it stands today – without the lady. Someday she may return however, as the Dunsmuir Rotary Club and the Dunsmuir Botanical Garden plan to restore the fountain and replace the lady.

Ron McCloud is co-author with Deborah Harton of a history of the town of Dunsmuir published by the Arcadia Publishing Company in 2010. He is the owner of Dunsmuir Hardware – which dates from 1894.

Certified Public Accountant Management Consultant

ADA Ar

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Pondering Poison Oak by Dr. Adams

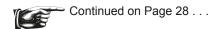
Since summer finally decided to show up in Northern California, so have the poison oak rashes in my office. They range from a little localized mild redness to complete limbs covered in quarter-sized blisters. Nearly everyone is suffering from an intense itching and burning.

"But Doctor, I have never been allergic to poison oak before?" is a common statement from bewildered patients. Well there is a first time for everything. There is no immunity to plant allergens. Every time you expose your skin to the plant, you inch a little closer to becoming allergic. For some it can be in childhood and for others in their senior years; but at some point enough exposure will tip the scales against you. There are probably some truly blessed people that really are immune but I don't how they would ever know. The threshold is different for each of us.

I like to joke with patients: "I appreciate that your rash is driving you crazy, but at least it is a good sign your immune system still works." Sometimes this elicits a laugh. In truth, a remarkable amount of cells in your immune system must work in chorus to produce that itchy red blister. If your immune system is severely depleted from HIV you may not even react to poison oak—but that is not a prevention method I recommend.

People mistakenly believe it is the resin from the plant causing their misfortune. But the plant resins are not caustic themselves in the sense acids or strong alkalis are. It is actually your own immune system that overreacts to the resin. That is why fluid from the blisters does not induce further rashes. By the time you get a blister, the resin is already dissolved deep into the skin. The fluid in the blisters is simply composed of immune system byproduct. Because your skin varies in its thickness from point to point, blisters that develop later on will create the illusion of spreading. Seeing is not believing in this case.

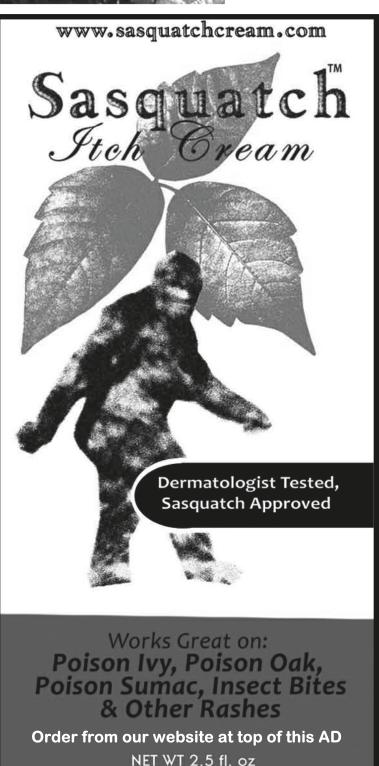
Some evidence does exist that the resin can trigger a body-wide reaction. This is why people will often notice a rash in an area that could not have possibly been exposed to the plant. Of course people touch themselves unconsciously in so many areas throughout the day so it's difficult to say for certain. But once the resin binds to your skin, you cannot spread it to other people (but your clothes can).

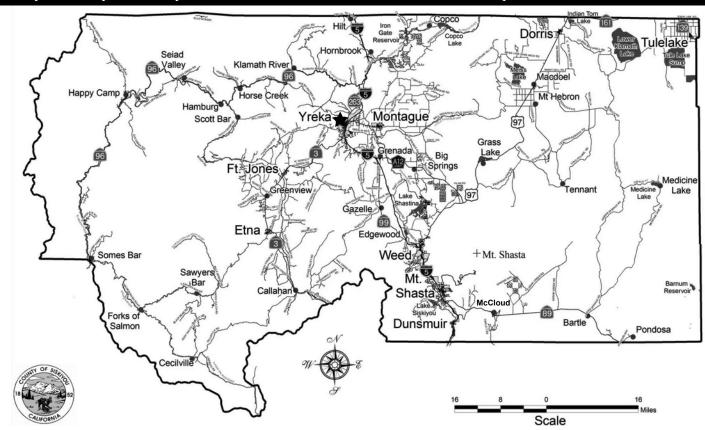




Common in many areas of The State of Jefferson, Poison Oak is a nasty yet common ground cover, vine or shrub.

Tell-tale "Leaves Of 3 - Let it Be!"

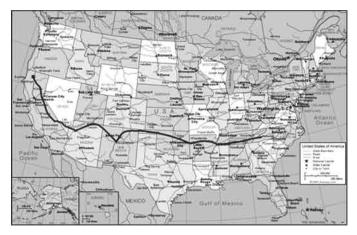




Mileages below are approximate and depend totally on your chosen route. Have fun!

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Mileage Chart	Adin, CA	Alturas, CA	Arcata, CA	Ashland, OR	Bandon, OR	Bend, OR	Bieber, CA	Burney, CA	Chico, CA	Etna, CA	Grenada, CA	Fairbanks, AK	McCloud, CA	Medford, OR	Portland, OR	Reno, NV	Tulelake, CA	Williams, CA	Yreka, CA
	V	Αŀ	\\	Asl	Ва	В	Bi	Bu	С	H	Gre	Fair	Mc	Me	Por	×	Tu]	Wil	X
Brookings, OR	301	295	103	138	83	338	289	276	312	205	186	3106	224	127	344	431	226	342	176
Coffee Creek, CA	172	197	132	106	289	268	144	131	147	39	59	2834	81	119	391	285	136	177	68
Crater Lake, OR	161	159	255	91	186	105	155	202	270	158	133	2949	151	79	247	332	89	299	130
Dunsmuir, CA	93	148	194	85	262	226	81	67	124	68	37	3069	16	96	368	222	95	155	46
Fort Bragg, CA	334	374	141	340	326	509	322	284	183	302	319	3308	299	329	547	318	378	130	328
Fort Jones, CA	154	194	182	58	234	238	127	113	181	11	23	3102	62	69	341	269	107	212	18
Greenview, CA	159	199	178	62	239	242	132	118	186	7	28	3107	67	73	345	273	111	217	22
Happy Camp, CA	196	251	122	97	192	280	184	170	238	72	81	3079	119	104	318	326	164	274	70
Hornbrook, CA	140	170	191	29	202	210	128	115	183	44	25	3071	452	37	309	270	98	214	15
Klamath Falls, OR	102	100	263	64	241	138	95	143	211	112	77	2982	91	76	279	271	29	242	81
Lakeview, OR	93	53	338	160	342	175	106	144	259	208	173	2999	186	172	350	226	124	298	183
Montague, CA	123	178	198	49	221	220	111	97	165	35	6	3090	46	56	328	253	89	197	7
Mt. Shasta, CA	89	144	201	81	253	217	77	64	132	59	28	3061	12	88	360	219	86	163	37
Redding, CA	104	143	140	140	312	277	91	53	73	120	88	3121	68	148	420	199	147	104	97
San Francisco, CA	319	359	280	356	464	493	305	267	171	337	303	3527	284	363	636	218	361	114	312
Seattle, WA	554	552	580	458	420	329	546	596	664	525	506	2590	545	446	173	720	479	695	496
Weaverville, CA	148	189	96	148	277	305	137	99	118	129	96	3149	112	155	428	242	191	148	105
Weed, CA	98	153	193	72	244	209	85	72	140	53	19	3052	21	79	352	225	77	171	29

Kevin Citta - Biking for Wishes Tour 2011



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The map at left shows the route Kevin Citta will be riding his Bicycle to raise funds & promote awareness for the "Make a Wish Foundation." He is riding from Weed, California to Asheville, North Carolina this summer.

Kevin's Blog Site: http://www.kevincitta.blogspot.com There are links for Make-a-Wish AND to FEED KEVIN!! OR you can call the Weed Chamber at 938-4624.

Here are a few words from one of Kevin's recent blog posts...

(July 16 and 17 in New Mexico) Today I awoke to a beautiful sunrise looking out my mesh see through tent roof. The colors were incredible and I looked up at the sky for a while before falling back to sleep. Minutes later I was awoken by a strange loud sound coming from behind my tent. To my surprise it was the burner flame for a hot air balloon! In the open dirt area next to the campground two hot air balloons were being prepared for flight. I spent the next 45 minutes watching as they filled the balloons and lifted off, it was really fun to watch as I have never seen this before. After the balloons disappeared over the rock cliff I packed up camp and fixed another flat tire. Another thorn got me! My first 10 miles of the day were spent biking down historic route 66. It was really nice with almost no traffic and enjoyable desert scenery. The next 15 miles I biked down interstate 40 which was noisy and heavy traffic but a nice wide shoulder. I exited the freeway at the Continental Divide at an elevation of 7,245 feet. The rest of the days ride was back on route 66 and most of the traffic was motorcycles. The headwinds became very strong and it took me all day to reach my destination of Grants, New Mexico. When I arrived in Grants I realized why I had been seeing so many motorcycles as there was a big motorcycle rally called Fire and Ice. I biked around town looking for somewhere to camp when I eventually found a KOA and got a campsite. Took a shower and relaxed in the shade until sundown and then got some sleep. I was exhausted from the strong headwinds and blazing sun all day.

Kevin's super cool photo in New Mexico recently.

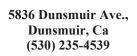


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"Food That's Gold"

By Chef Caroline White Brask from Siskiyou Harvest Please see their AD for Upcoming Cooking Classes on Page 21

"Aioli with Sundried Tomatoes"

One of my favorite dipping sauces is an Aioli. It is relatively easy to make and takes just a few seconds in a food processor or bullet machine. This time of the year the Farmer's Market or your own garden is filled with a variety of herbs and vegetables. Usually the tomatoes arrive with a few to sample and then turn into an avalanche and what to do with all the goodness. A really easy way to preserve your tomatoes to use all year is to dry them. This can be done three different ways.

The easy way is to take an old screen, cut the tomatoes in half, squeeze out the seeds and set them out in the hot summer sun for a couple of days. They will shrivel and dry out kind of semi-leathery. I like to place them in canning jars and cover with a good olive oil. They can be stored for about six months in a cool dark place and use the tomatoes as well as the newly flavored olive oil.

The quick way is to slice the tomatoes, place them on cookie sheet pans lined with parchment paper, sprinkle with a combination of fresh herbs and salt such as: oregano and basil; tarragon and parsley; cilantro and oregano; thyme and Italian parsley. Place in a 200 degree oven for 4 to 6 hours or until they have shriveled and are leathery. Preserve them in plastic bags that can be sealed. Store the sealed bags in a dark cool place.

This summer as I was teaching grilling and smoking classes it refreshed my memory that we used to dry the tomatoes in the smoker as well as in the oven. If you are going to cold smoke with temperatures between 140F to 160F degrees, make a little room for a batch of dried tomatoes. Sprinkle liberally with one of the herb mixtures and line them up like little soldiers on a rack in the smoker. Check them every ½ an hour to make sure they are not getting bitter. This is a really neat way to add a new flavor to your Aioli and salad dressings.



Aioli Recipe (makes about 1 cup)

2 Egg yolks

½ cup olive oil (use the oil that the tomatoes have been swimming in)

Salt and fresh ground black pepper to taste

1 Tablespoon fresh basil

2 Tablespoons fresh garlic minced or pressed

½ teaspoon Dijon Mustard

Juice of ½ lemon

½ cup chopped sun dried tomatoes

Place all the ingredients in a Food processor or bullet and run until it is creamy. Place in serving bowl and add sun dried tomatoes.

This is a great dip for fried ravioli's, fresh shrimp or hot breadsticks. ◆



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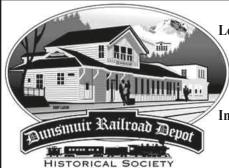
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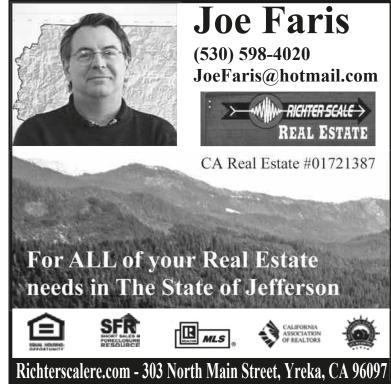
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Boys, Bows, Bucks & Backroads

"Take you kids hunting or you will end up hunting for your kids."
-Ted Nugent "God, Guns, & Rock 'N' Roll"

I have had a bow in my hand for as long as I can remember. As a small boy, while watching cowboys and Indians chase each other on TV, I always wanted to be the Indian. Maybe I came by some of this desire honestly as my great grandmother was full blood Choctaw. Just as likely, it has always been simply a romantic notion.

I was the kid who, when given his first pocket knife immediately cut a tree limb, bowed it as far as I could and tied a string end to end. Cut a couple more small limbs, notch em' and shave the other end to a point and now I had arrows! I spent many hours occupying myself without harm to one living creature. I couldn't hit the broad side of a barn door with this set-up, but dang it was fun!

Then it was a store bought version with the red rubber suction tips on the arrows. You could get the rubber tips wet by licking them which allowed you to shoot glass and metal where the arrow would stick. These were very weak bows, windows were never broken but Mom sure could tell what we had been shooting by the dirty little rings left on the glass from the suction tips.

My friends and I next graduated to 25# - 35# bows with target points. Now we became squirrel hunters stalking the meadows around Susanville. This was a time period where as young boys our sense of adventure almost always outweighed our common sense. I don't remember who first had the idea, and really, don't try this at home, but somebody shot his arrow straight into the air. We all froze until the arrow returned to earth without penetrating any of our thick skulls. We had a new game! A test of nerve, a test of skill! Shooting straight into the air, how close could we get the arrow to "land" near us?! The reasoning of 12 year olds was that the arrow could never come straight back down, therefore, once you shot into the air you must stand very still to be safe. I will guarantee one thing: kids today don't get the same adrenaline rush from their game boxes that we felt in those meadows. Of course, I guess they don't have to worry about getting impaled either. Strange as it may seem, I still get the urge once in a great while to pull back my bow, aim at the stars and let fly. I guess the kid never really leaves us.

Continued on Page 26



Photo of Jeremy Fain and his buck from 2009





Photo of Ralph with his buck from 2009.









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Discovering The State of Jefferson

by Gail L. Jenner

Follow along with Gail each month and enjoy another new story of the many historical towns and areas found scattered throughout The State of Jefferson.

Early Days of Ranching in Western Siskiyou County

Cattle ranching in the early days of Siskiyou County took a hardy breed. The first herds arrived with the early pioneers who crossed the plains on their way to California. A variety of stock was brought west, including Shorthorns and Devonshires, which could be used for either dairy or beef stock.

The Parker Ranch, in Plowman's Valley on the East Fork of Scott River, was one of the largest cattle ranches established in the area. Alexander Parker and his wife Susanna came to Scott Valley in 1854, and in 1856, bought land in Plowman's Valley. The A-P cattle brand is one of the earliest brands of Siskiyou County.

Hurd and Lytle were among the first cattlemen to drive cattle into Scott Valley in the early 1850s, along with Albert and Edgar Denny, aged 17 and 19, who met up with them on the California Trail near the Humboldt River in Nevada. Promising to get the animals to California safely, the two boys joined the herdsmen and ended up in Scott Valley. The Denny brothers were some of the earliest pioneers to settle in the valley.

Israel S. Mathews and John Fairchild are credited with being some of the first pioneers to drive cattle to Tulelake and Deer Mountain. The two men also started up a butcher business, purchasing cows that had to be shipped up to Eureka then driven over the mountains into Siskiyou County.

Meanwhile, John Fairchild also pursued mining and ventured up McAdams Creek to Deadwood, then over to Yreka where he settled. Yreka's hospital, Fairchild Medical Center, was named for John Fairchild.

Mathews moved to Scott Valley in 1852. He homesteaded 160 acres right in the middle of "town", that is, where Fort Jones now sits. He married Ann Elizabeth Coffin, and story has it that with each child he added another 160 acres, creating a sizeable operation. Their ranch, the Star Ranch, was known for its fertile soil and rich production. Mathews and his seven sons eventually opened up five butcher shops around the region.

The Davidson brothers—Dave, Bill, and Jerry—traveled to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama in 1849. As one of Scott Valley's earliest pioneering families, they were among the first cattlemen to graze cattle in the Marble Mountains. They also opened a butcher shop in Deadwood. William Davidson crossed the plains in 1850 and arrived in Yreka in 1851. He mined for a time and opened a store in Deadwood, then moved to Scott Valley to farm. His first son, James Davidson, was the first white child born in Scott Valley, on December 3, 1853.

George Smith, another early Scott Valley rancher, came first to the Salmon River country to mine then turned to farming. He married Miss Cleopatra Fairbrother and they had six children. George's only son, Fred Smith, operated the ranch until his two sons, Ormond and Leland, took over. He was also involved in the construction of the Rough and Ready flourmill.

The Burtons were another Siskiyou pioneering and ranching family. Stephen Burton crossed the plains from Illinois when he was 17 and after working for Squire Wilson and Judge McConaughy in Scott Valley, married Sarah Shelley and homesteaded what would become the Ed Burton Ranch. Sarah's father, William Shelley, who founded "Cheeseville," in Scott Valley, brought the first registered Holstein bull, Percheron stallion, and Duroc hogs into Siskiyou County. He married Martha Polk, a cousin of the President, James Polk.

Fred Burton, who married the daughter of Sergeant James Bryan (one of the first soldiers to come to Fort Jones in 1852), purchased the famous Forest House Ranch in 1909. The great 3-story house, which was also built in 1852, had at that time, the largest apple orchard in California, with 12,000 trees. Apples, cider, and vinegar were shipped as far as New York.

James Bryan served as first sergeant before being discharged at Fort Jones. Having purchased a 607 acre farm in 1853, he quickly became known as a farmer, stockman, dairyman and butcher. In 1859, he also ran a pack train between Red Bluff and Scott Valley and to Weaverville.

One of the earliest Siskiyou County ranching families was the Martin family. Robert M. Martin crossed the plains from Tennessee and was the original settler in Little Shasta. His ranch was established at the base of Table Rock, which is watered by springs and creeks. Robert Martin and Ida Haight Martin had six sons. The ranch continues to be worked by the Martin family.

Some of today's Bogus Ranch has been in the family since 1871. John Bloomingcamp, born in Germany in 1841, immigrated to the U.S. In 1863, he and his wife came to Yreka where they purchased a blacksmith shop from Charles Rogers. The shop was located on Main Street, south of Center Street.

Yreka's devastating fire, on July 4, 1871, destroyed shop, stable and home. John also lost several teams of horses and wagons. In October 1871, he purchased property on Bogus Creek from James Laferty for \$2100 in gold coin.

The couple lived in a cabin then built a two-story house where they raised twelve children. John also built a school at the fork of Bogus and Cold Creeks; teachers at Bogus School boarded at the Bloomingcamp home. The Bloomingcamps also built a barn and acted as a stage stop and post office on the road between Ager and Linkville.

The Prather Ranch dates back to 1885 when three brothers bought 3,200 acres of land at the site of today's Montague. When the Southern Pacific Railroad began laying out a site for the new town, the Prathers donated half a section of land to help form the town. C. C. Webb gave another section of land.



These books available at the Siskiyou County Museum & at Yreka Preservation.



http://yrekahistory.blogspot.com

Find us on Facebook

The "first" Sam Jackson came to Siskiyou County after gold but settled in Edgewood in 1851 after purchasing the land from a sailor. He built the house in 1860 for his new bride. The Jackson brand is the oldest recorded brand in Siskiyou County and dates back to 1852. It is known as the triangle dot brand.

Continued on Page 22







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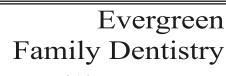
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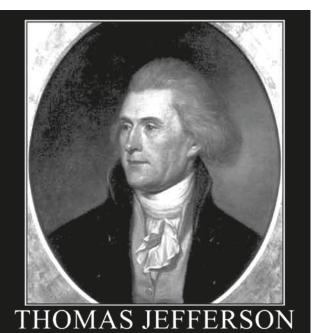
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Thomas Jefferson lived from 1743 to 1826. He was the 3rd President of the United States, principal author of the Declaration of Independence, and an amazing inventor and avid gardener. He lived an amazing life.

"There is an option still left to the United States of America, that it is in their choice and depends upon their conduct, whether they will be respectable and prosperous or contemptible and miserable as a Nation."

-George Washington

What IS The State of Jefferson? By Gail Jenner

Today's State of Jefferson refers to portions of Southern Oregon and Northern California. Originally this region represented the "second half" or "northern mines" of the famous gold rush of 1849-50, but it never received the kind of historical reference that the Sierra Mother Lode did, even though it contributed as much, if not more, to the coffers of the two states. Moreover, the region was easily overlooked after the gold rush, since it continued to be less populated and more rural than the remainder of the two states.

The name Jefferson was selected after Yreka's local paper, The Siskiyou Daily News, ran a contest. J. E. Mundell of Eureka, California, submitted the winning name. A seal was created: a gold mining pan etched with two Xs to signify the double-cross by Salem and Sacramento politicians. Today the seal is still used on flags, banners, and State of Jefferson memorabilia.

Because the people who have settled along the northern boundary of California and the southern boundary of Oregon have always been of an independent nature, it seems fitting that this region has attempted, on numerous occasions, to create a new state, not just in name or principle, but in reality as well.

Even today, the dream lives on for this unrealized, some might even say, mystical State of Jefferson. With majestic Mt. Shasta at its heart, and the Cascades forming its backbone, the region's wild rivers and rugged peaks both isolate and, at times, insulate its residents from the more populated outside world. Ranching, mining and logging have been its traditional source of wealth, but now recreation and tourism compete as major industries.

It is the people who reside here that make the greatest contribution to the character of this region we love, proudly called The State of Jefferson. ◆

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A photo I took at my very first Montague Balloon Fair in 2006. I love the flame Shooting up Into the balloon! So incredible! M. Fain

Gail Jenner, Local Author

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Gail is a contributor to NPR's Jefferson Public Radio series, "As It Was: Tales From the State of Jefferson." At left is her newest book, coauthored with Bernita L. Tickner.

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History of Hot Air Ballooning

Article Courtesy of the www.eballoon.org website

On the 19th September 1783 Pilatre De Rozier, a scientist, launched the first hot air balloon called 'Aerostat Reveillon'. The passengers were a sheep, a duck and a rooster and the balloon stayed in the air for a grand total of 15 minutes before crashing back to the ground.

The first manned attempt came about 2 months later on 21st November, with a balloon made by 2 French brothers, Joseph and Etienne Montgolfier. The balloon was launched from the centre of Paris and flew for a period of 20 minutes. The birth of hot air ballooning!!!

Just 2 years later in 1785 a French balloonist, Jean Pierre Blanchard, and his American co pilot, John Jefferies, became the first to fly across the English Channel. In these early days of ballooning, the English Channel was considered the first step to long distance ballooning so this was a large benchmark in ballooning history.

Unfortunately, this same year <u>Pilatre de Rozier</u> (the world's first balloonist) was killed in his attempt at crossing the channel. His balloon exploded half an hour after takeoff due to the experimental design of using a hydrogen balloon and hot air balloon tied together.

The next major pivotal point in balloon history was on January 7th 1793. Jean Pierre Blanchard became the first to fly a hot air balloon in North America. George Washington was present to see the balloon launch.

Now a large jump in time, of over 100 years: In August of 1932 Swiss scientist Auguste Piccard was the first to achieve a manned flight to the Stratosphere. He reached a height of 52,498 feet, setting the new altitude record. Over the next couple of years, altitude records continued to be set and broken every couple of months - the race was on to see who would reach the highest point.

In 1935 a new altitude record was set and it remained at this level for the next 20 years. The balloon Explorer 2, a gas helium model reached an altitude of 72,395 feet (13.7 miles)! For the first time in history, it was proven that humans could survive in a pressurized chamber at extremely high altitudes. This flight set a milestone for aviation and helped pave the way for future space travel

The Altitude record was set again in 1960 when Captain Joe Kittinger parachute jumped from a balloon that was at a height of 102,000 feet. The balloon broke the altitude record and Captain Kittinger, the high altitude parachute jump record. He broke the sound barrier with his body! ◆



Wicked balloons landing - 2006 Montague Balloon Fair photo by M. Fain

HISTORY OF YREKA

by Claudia A. East

Greenhorn School

Join us each month for Claudia East's fascinating historical stories of the town of Yreka, California. Feel free to read and follow Claudia on her blog at: http://yrekahistory.blogspot.com. -Editor

Sitting at the edge of Lower Greenhorn Park one will find the old Greenhorn School. This building stands near the Grange Building on the south entrance at the end of Ranch Lane. The story of "Greenhorn" is rather interesting; during the gold rush a newcomer came to Yreka and asked where he might mine for gold. In jest some old timers sent him on what they thought would be a "wild goose chase" up to Race Creek where it was thought gold would never be found. However, in a twist of fate, the area along Race Creek wound up to have a good deal of gold and the newcomers struck it "rich"! Since that time the area has been known locally as "Greenhorn".

The Greenhorn School District was first established in 1859. The photo shown is the last school building that was used in the local Greenhorn District. The last year school was in session here was during the 1949-50 school year. The building clearly looks like the traditional old fashioned school building and the red color gives it a certain kind of dignity, however, there isn't any visible marker telling of its history that one sees when driving by. The building has been used as a club house for the local "Trailriders" organization for many years.

The original school building (unfortunately, no longer in existence) was first built near where Greenhorn Creek (formerly Race Creek) and Yreka Creek met. This location isn't visible any longer as changes to Yreka Creek and Greenhorn have been made due to freeway construction and flood control.

The Greenhorn area was considered to be a separate community from Yreka for some time as it was actually quite a distance from town in the early days. In 1868 the Greenhorn School District was merged with the Yreka School District, only to re-establish its own district again in 1878. It apparently continued to function as a separate district until 1927 when Greenhorn District combined with part of the former Rose School District. (The small Rose School District was actually just up Greenhorn Road about 3 miles straight up from Interstate 5. There is nothing left of the building that once stood for Rose School District, and according to records it began around 1901 and functioned about 15 years.) It wasn't until 1951 that the Greenhorn District was fully absorbed into the Yreka Union School District permanently.

Up through the 1950s it was not uncommon for small schools to be located throughout the county and countryside. Rapid transportation and good roads were not always available. Children usually attended schools relatively close to their homes especially in rural areas for accessibility.





Historic Greenhorn School, Yreka, California.

The Siskiyou County Office of Education has a wonderful addition to their website providing historical school information. There are many photographs that are very interesting. You can access the information online at: www.sisnet.ssku.k12.ca.us

Click on the Instructional Media Center > Resources > School History Collection, look around and one can find a page listing the names of all schools former and current within the county. One can spend hours surfing their offerings! Give it a try!

* Information for this article was gleaned from the History of the Schools of Siskiyou County, Compiled and Edited by Stanley J. Balfrey, published by the Siskiyou County Schools.









Volcanic Geology Courses this Fall

This fall, COS is offering short-courses that will introduce students to the geologic histories and potential hazards of two of the region's best-known volcanoes: Crater Lake (Mount Mazama) and Lassen Peak.

Crater Lake Field Geology – CRN 7521 (August 26 and 27) will explore the caldera that formed when Mount Mazama erupted catastrophically 7,700 years ago, and give students an opportunity to take the lake tour if they wish (additional fee).

Lassen National Park Field Geology – CRN 7522 (September 16 and 17) will explore the geology of the Lassen Volcanic Center—which last erupted in 1917—and include a short hike to the boiling springs and mudpots of the Bumpass Hell geothermal area

Go to the website or ontact the instructor, Bill Hirt, at (530) 938-5255 to sign up.

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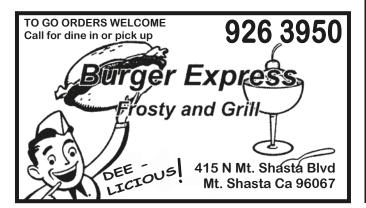


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Where to Go - What to See - When to Do It

Call by the 20th of the month to publicize your upcoming event. We normally distribute between the 5th and 10th of each month.

<u>Saturday August 6 at 2 pm</u> at the Siskiyou County Museum, a program will be presented on the History of Hilt by Terry Tallis. Members and the public are invited! Call 842-3836 for more info.

<u>August 10th thru 14th Siskiyou Golden Fair</u> Yreka, Annual County Fair, livestock, home arts, fine arts, floral & horticultural competitions, rodeo, talent show, destruction derby. Great Home town feeling! Info 530-842-2767. See AD on Page 21.

<u>Saturday August 13 CDFG 2011 Kids Fishing Day</u> 8:45am – 3:00pm at Mt. Shasta Fish Hatchery, in Mt. Shasta. Three ponds will be stocked with trout. People will help with your questions about fishing. Free bait and a limited number of loaner tackle available. Limit 2 fish per child. Registration: 8:45 am. Fishing: 9am to 3pm. 15 years or younger. Must be able to hold a rod and reel. For info call Monte Currier, Dept. Fish & Game 530-225-2368.

August 20-21 McCloud Heritage Days, McCloud. Take a stroll back in time and relive McCloud's unique heritage. We will have a melodrama and street faire with arts, crafts, antiques, specialty items & displays of McCloud heritage & families, homes & business tour, classic car show, antique tractor show, live entertainment, community church service, delicious food and family activities. Sponsored by the Heritage Junction Museum. For Info call: 530-964-3113.

Saturday Aug 27, 2011 Rollin' Weed Annual Show and Shine, Street Fair. Come enjoy a day of cars, bikes, and trucks in the annual Show & Shine in downtown Weed. There is a street fair, live music, and great food all day long! Check out the downtown shops for specials during the day and our local pubs for night time entertainment! For booth information or to pre-register for the event call the Weed Chamber of Commerce at 530-938-4624. See Ad on Pg 8.

Friday Sept 30 Mt. Shasta Rotary "Celebrity" Golf Tournament.

9am shotgun start at the Mount Shasta Resort, a four-play scramble for \$75.00 per player. Join us for a fun-filled day of golf, lunch, lots of prizes and a chance to win \$10,000.00 for any "hole in one" on 17. An awards banquet will follow at 3 pm. If not a player, you may sponsor a hole for \$100.00. To sign up and get more information, call Rod Sims at 530-926-3052.

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Where to Go - What to See - When to Do It

<u>Labor Day Weekend Dunsmuir City-Wide Yard Sales</u> - call the Dunsmuir Chamber for more info at 530-235-2177.

Labor Day Weekend Happy Camp, The Bigfoot Jamboree is held annually on Labor Day weekend at River Park. Join in for three days of entertainment, fun, and festivities. This event includes food, crafts, vendors, parade, a dance and lots of good old-fashioned fun along the banks of the wild and scenic Klamath River. For info call 530-493-5106. Labor Day Weekend - Cool Mountain Nights, Tinman Triathilon & Blackberry Festival - Mt. Shasta. Classic Car Show n' Shine; enjoy 50's & 60's DJ music and the street fair on Castle St. with food & vendors. Tinman Triathlon at Lake Siskiyou, the annual Blackberry Music Festival at City Park. Rotary Club BBQ lunch, desserts, beverages and event t-shirts. Blackberry pies! Call Mt. Shasta Chamber at 530-926-6004

<u>Labor Day Weekend - 93rd Annual Intermountain Fair</u> in McArthur, California. Come enjoy this most amazing small town FAIR! Please call 530-336-5695 for information or visit their website at www.inter-mountainfair.com.

September 8-11 60th ANNUAL TuleLake/Butte Valley Fair Tulelake. 530-667-5312 With fun for the whole family, this year's events include carnival rides, 4H barns, live music and vendor and food booths. Call for info: 530-667-5312. www.tbvfair.com

Sept 9-11, 2nd Annual Sundial Music Festival & Rib Cook-off, Redding Convention Center, Redding. Free General Admission. Awesome bands such as Mark Chestnut, Nuthin Fancy - Tribute to Lynyrd Skynyrd and Journey Unauthorized will perform. Tons of entertainment, dancers and music, 100 indoor and outdoor vendors, and amazing BBQ competitions. For more info call 530-638-5493 or go to www.sundialmusicfestival.com.

September 23-25 Montague Balloon Fair, Montague Industrial Park. The Montague Balloon fair is an annual event that attracts pilots and crews, fun-seekers and nature enthusiasts from all over the United States. For info call 530-905-4692. See AD on Page 26.



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Saturday August 20, 8 am Siskiyou County Museum in Yreka.

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We will all be leaving from the museum promptly at 8:30 a.m. Many interesting points along the way.

Contact the Siskiyou County Historical Society at (530) 842-3836 for more information.

* * Members and the Public are Invited!



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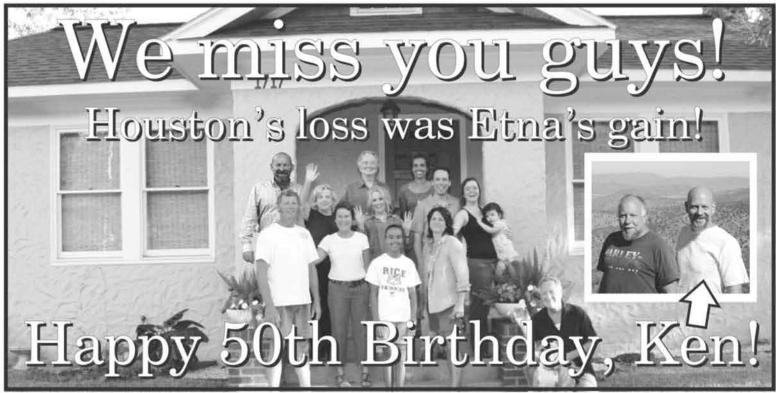
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On the Road to Castle Lake

By Bob Pasero

Welcome to Bob Pasero, our newest writer. He was a former Police Officer in Dunsmuir from 1978 to 1983, and recently retired as Orland's Police Chief. Orland is in Glenn County, which is at the southern end of The State of Jefferson!

Bob writes for the Sacramento Valley Mirror and we will be re-printing some of his fascinating articles from his column: "On the Road - Adventures in the State of Jefferson."

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

I enjoy the solitude of the mountains and high mountain alpine lakes. Water has a marvelous affect on the human condition. Some may wax poetic about it and have all sorts of theories as to why that is. I don't know, and frankly, I don't care about that. What I do know is that it has a calming affect on me and allows my mind to wander and wonder at the beauty of the world around me. Over 30 years ago I found just such a spot and I return to it frequently. The spot has few amenities. If you are looking for a meal on a stick, carnival rides, loud music, or garish flashing lights, this is not the place for you. If, however, you want to see some of the most beautiful glacial lakes anywhere I invite you to visit one of my favorite places. Having said that, let's get on the road to Castle Lake.

From Glenn County to Redding Interstate 5 is boring. From Redding north however, Interstate 5 takes on a different personality. The drive up through the Sacramento River Canyon is beautiful during the spring and early summer months. It is stunning if you take the time to look rather than simply whiz past at 70 miles an hour. Small rivulets of water cascade from the hillsides along side of the freeway. Pink hued Redbud is in bloom to be followed by the larger white blossoms of the Dogwood. Towering evergreen trees frame beautiful views of Mt. Shasta and Castle Crags. Mt. Shasta is one of the defining landmarks in northern California. It has always intrigued me that the municipal seal of the City of Redding incorporated depictions of Shasta Dam, Shasta Lake and Mt. Shasta; none of which are within the Redding city limits. Mount Shasta isn't even in the same county. But, such is the dominance of Mt. Shasta to the Northern California landscape.

Continued on Page 25





Photo of Castle Lake courtesy of Bob Pasero.





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	_
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(530) 397-5831	(530) 459-3385
www.buttevalleymuseum.homestead.com	
Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Museum	Open Year Round
Pine Street and Sacramento Avenue AMTRAK	The People's Center - The Karuk Tribe
Station	64236 Second Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA 96025	Happy Camp, CA 96039
(530) 235-0929	(530) 493-1600
http://www.dunsmuir.com/visitor/railroad.php	www.karuk.us/peoples center/peoples center.php
Etna Museum	Open Year Round
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Etna, CA 96027	910 Main Street
(530) 467-5366	Yreka, CA 96097
www.etnamuseum.org	(530) 842-3836
	www.siskiyoucountyhistoricalsociety.org
Fort Jones Museum	Sisson Museum
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www.fortjonesmuseum.com	
	www.mountshastasissonmuseum.org
Heritage Junction of McCloud	Open Year Round
320 Main Street	Tulelake Museum of Local History
McCloud, CA 96057	800 South Main Street
(530) 964-2604	Tulelake, CA 96134
	(530) 667-5312
	www.tulelake.org www.visittulelake.com
Open Year Round	Weed Historic Lumber Town Museum
Klamath Basin NWR Visitor Center	303 Gilman Avenue
4009 Hill Road	Weed, CA 96094
Tulelake, CA 96134	(530) 938-0550
(530) 667-2231	www.siskiyous.edu/museum
www.fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges	
Open Year Round	Open Year Round
Lava Beds National Monument	WWII Valor in the Pacific National
1 Indian Well Headquarters	Monument
Tulelake, CA 96134	800 South Main Street, Tulelake, CA 96134
(530) 667-8100	(530) 260-0537
www.nps.gov/labe	www.nps.gov/tule
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Fort Jones Museum, Fort Jones



The People's Center, The Karuk Tribe, Happy Camp



Sisson Museum, Mt. Shasta City



Siskiyou County Museum, Yreka - Capital City of the State of Jefferson



Weed Historic Lumber Town Museum, Weed

Also check out the Yreka Fire Department's Ley Station & Museum in historic downtown Yreka. Call the Yreka Chamber of Commerce at (530) 842-1649 for hours of operation.



Most Saturdays all Summer 8am - 2pm at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds, Yreka, CA For Info or Vendor Application: Office (530) 842-5000 OR Cell (530) 905-0908 WWW.yrekaswapmeet.com



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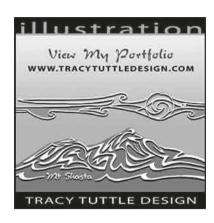
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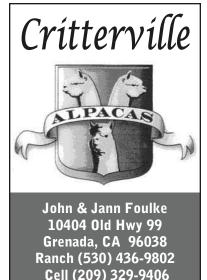
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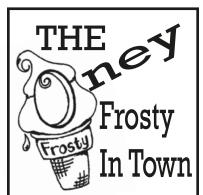


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Discovering The State of Jefferson continued from Page 11

Another early ranching family in Shasta Valley was the Fiock family. The Fiocks first arrived in 1852 and settled between Montague and Yreka near the Shasta River. Norman Fiock was named Cattleman of the Year in 1986 and Everette Fiock was the 1994 Cattleman of the Year.

The Hart Cattle Ranch in Little Shasta Valley, was also settled in the early pioneering days. Ed Hart was named the 1985 Siskiyou County Cattleman of the Year.



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The Zwanziger ranch dates back to Abner Weed, founder of the city of Weed. Abner's daughter Abby Married an Albee and her daughter Camille married a Zwanziger. Roger Zwanziger purchased the ranch from his uncle in 1950.

The Ellis Louis ranch was homesteaded by Ellis' grandfather in 1859. Initially the ranch was a truck farm and produced row crops that were trucked by horse and wagon around the county. In the early nineteen hundreds, the ranch grew and Durham cattle became the selected breed. The ranch has an abundance of water and has been home to many waterfowl.

The Kuck Ranch was established by Diederich Kuck in 1877. It originally produced sheep and was also known for its apple orchard. His two sons went into the cattle business in 1901 after his death; they operated as the Kuck Brothers. As time went on, they purchased additional valley and mountain land; they raised Durham cattle and also Percheron horses. J. D. "Jiggs" Kuck was named Siskiyou County Cattleman in 1983.

The Sylva family has resided in Siskiyou County since 1869, when Manuel Sylva homesteaded on Willow Creek. Jess, Edward, and Francis Sylva followed in 1889. In 1986, the newest generation of Sylva brothers were named Range Men of the Year by the Klamath National Forest, and in 1993, were awarded an Outstanding Stewardship of Public Lands from the Forest Service, as well as Siskiyou County Cattlemen of the Year.

Henry Levi Davis crossed the plains in 1852 and headed to California to mine for gold. Recognizing that Siskiyou County was ideal for livestock, they returned to Ohio to put together a herd of cattle and horses and re-crossed the plains in 1856. They established their ranch at the base of Goose Nest Mountain in the foothills of Shasta Valley. In 1861, Henry married Henrietta Deter, daughter of David Deter, another early Little Shasta pioneer. They had six children.

continued on Page 30



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What a treat we have right here in our own Rugged and Beautiful Siskiyou County: Shasta View Vineyards. With their many award winning wines, it would be wise to check this place out! One of their many recent awards was graciously received in 2009 when Shasta View Vineyards won the Harry and David Invitational Wine Competition! (see photo above right)

A quaint, self-run, family owned and operated winery, Roger and Gail Rogers started planting their grapes in 1996 and have been delicately caring for their vines ever since. Together with winemaker David Hook from New Zealand, they handcraft and prepare their wines in the old world ways, in small lot fermentations, oak barrel aging, with minimal intervention. Growing grapes in a climate very similar to that of the wineries in France, it is not surprising that Shasta View Vineyards is making quite a tasty name for itself.

Roger and Gail are about to embark on something new: they are offering private wine tastings by appointment on their lovely deck overlooking their vineyards! Imagine . . . delightful little gatherings of your family and friends sharing the fresh air, incredible mountain views and some of the most delicious wines on the planet!

Their winery and vineyards are located in Montague, California, in the majestic Shasta Valley with a stunning view of Mt. Shasta and the surrounding mountains. Producing 1,000 cases of wine a year, Roger and Gail are obviously very proud of their efforts. Every bottle is hand-numbered, making each one a limited edition. We are fortunate to have such unique and classy wines produced right here in our own front yard! See their AD on Page 24.



Gail and Roger Rogers winning the Gold at the 2009 Harry and David Invitational Wine Competition in Medford, Oregon.



A lovely sample of Shasta View Vineyards' Awards.





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Shasta View Vineyards - 5100 Ager Road - Montague, CA 96064 - (530) 598-6676 Website: www.shastaviewvineyards.com Email: gail@shastaviewvineyards.com On the Road to Castle Lake - continued from Page 19

Heading north from Redding is an historic trip as well. While driving north on I-5 take time to note the I-5 Memorial Bridges dedicated to Shasta County Undersheriff Earl Sholes and Deputy Dan Hereford. Both were killed in what has been called the darkest day in Shasta County Law Enforcement history. On May 25, 1950 the officers were overpowered and killed by two young men they were transporting to Redding for trial along what was then Highway 99 through the canyon.

For those who like nature photography the entire trip up the canyon is a paradise. There are the obvious points of interest, Castle Crags and Mt. Shasta; but there are also the lesser known opportunities for great photos along the upper Sacramento River. Many vantage points just off the freeway offer wonderful views of railroad trestles as they cross the Upper Sacramento. Farther north Castle Crags has its own history and lore. It is said that a military payroll was secreted in the Crags and has never been found.

Castle Crags State Park leads quite naturally to the subject of today's column. With those granite spires reaching 6500 feet into the blue skies the Crags are hard to miss. But, have you ever wondered what is on the back side of the Crags? Well, wonder no more. Castle Lake lies on the northwest side of Castle Crags and that is today's destination.



Photo taken At Castle Lake on May 1, 2010 by M. Fain confirming the insanely deep snowbanks Bob mentions In this article.

Castle Lake is easy to find and easy to get to. Although it is nearly due west of Dunsmuir, in order to get there one must first go to Mount Shasta City. Take the Central Mount Shasta off ramp (exit 738) and turn left. Cross the freeway and continue to "Old Stage Road." Turn left on Old Stage Road and follow the signs to Lake Siskiyou. In approximately 2.4 miles you will cross the Box Canyon Dam. Just after crossing the dam you will see a sign for Castle Lake Road. Turn left onto Castle Lake Road and follow it up the hill for 7.4 miles to parking lot at Castle Lake.

During the spring and early summer take layered clothing. Castle Lake is over a mile above sea level. For that reason a visit to the lake is best left until later in the summer. On a recent trip there were steep banks of snow along the road and, although the parking lot was clear, there were 8 to 10 foot banks of piled snow around the parking lot making access to the lake and the hiking trails difficult. During the winter months Castle Lake freezes over and ice fishing offers a fun winter diversion. The adventurous may try ice diving at Castle Lake, but a word of caution is due here. Ice diving is a dangerous avocation. It should never be attempted without proper equipment, proper preparation and never alone. A group of very experienced scuba divers from Redding were ice diving at Castle Lake during the late 70s or early 80s. The day ended tragically when one member of the party drowned in the lake.

Continued on Page 27





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Continued from Page 9

I now hunt with a state of the art compound bow with all the bells and whistles. I also own a custom made Black Widow recurve bow which I shoot bare bow for pleasure. I shoot better with the compound bow and feel I owe it to the animals I hunt to use the bow with which I achieve the greatest accuracy. But dang, shooting that recurve brings me back to the days of shooting for fun!

"Some people ask why men go hunting. They must be the kind of people who seldom get far from highways. What do they know of the tryst a hunting man keeps with the wind and the trees and the sky? Hunting? The means are greater than the end, and every ... hunter knows it."

- Gordon MacQuarrie, Field & Stream, Nov. 1939

It is August, hot dry and time for bow season. We did not draw our X zone tag but did get our second C zone choice. Last year we went one for three with the bows My son scored on opening morning and I should have had my buck but missed.

The first scouting trip this year revealed snow drifts in the shadows on top of the north facing slopes we hunt. Nice! We also spotted several bucks, three of which will be dandies when the time comes. Also nice! It looks promising for this year.

If you take a buck this time of year, field dress it asap. Get it to camp or home and remove the hide asap. Then get your venison to a meat cooler asap. The meat must be cooled down quickly to prevent spoilage. Stop and see Glenn Bowman at Shasta Valley Meats or Bob Dean and Jim Hauser at Siskiyou Distributing. Both outfits are happy to hang your venison in a cooler for a modest fee, with full butchering available if you wish.

With the rapid changes in society, who knows how long our hunting heritage will be recognized as a way of life. The State of Jefferson contains great country to bow hunt. Get out and partake. "HIT THE BACKROADS!" The Jefferson Backroads.

"I do not hunt for the joy of killing but for the joy of living, and the inexpressible pleasure of mingling my life however briefly, with that of a wild creature that I respect, admire and value."

- John Madson



On the Road to Castle Lake - continued from Page 25

Castle Lake is a great getaway that offers picnicking along its shore line, swimming and fishing as well as a small campground within easy walking distance. For the angler the lake is kept stocked with hungry trout. The real draw of Castle Lake, for me, is threefold. First; it has an interesting history, second; from a photographic standpoint it offers astonishing opportunities to capture the lake in the 'alpenglow' made famous in photos of Yosemite National Park, and third; there are trails branching from Castle Lake that lead to other, smaller, lesser known, pristine, glacial lakes in the region. Castle Lake, the largest of these lakes at 47 acres, reaches a depth of 110 feet on the south end of the at the base of Castle Crags.

Historically the area around Castle Lake was inhabited by the peaceful Okwanuchu Native Americans. They shared a common linguistic tie with the Shasta Indians to the north; they both spoke what anthropologists call the "Hokan family of languages." Their neighbors to the northeast were the sometimes quarrelsome Modocs. In August of 1855 the Modocs and local white settlers became embroiled in a conflict that came to be called, "The Battle of Castle Crags." At the end of the battle the white settlers reportedly threw at least two seriously wounded Modocs off of the cliffs on the northwest side of the Crags to die on the rocks below or in the cold waters of Castle Lake. The best known account of this battle was written by Joaquin Miller and is quite an interesting read.

There are a number of hiking trails that take off from Castle Lake. The first one is the trail that leads around the northwest side of the lake for views that are simply spectacular. Walking around the west shore you will come face to face with a modern scientific research facility. It is the UC Davis' Limnology Research Station. Limnology is the study of freshwater, as I learned from a researcher I encountered there many years ago. UC Davis has been studying the waters of Castle Lake for over a half century.

Other hikes leading from Castle Lake include trails to Heart Lake due south of Castle Lake, Little Castle Lake to the south east and at least one 'tarn' near Little Castle Lake. Tarn: a depression carved out by a glacier that often has no terminal moraine or inlet but seasonally will fill with water and become a pond or small lake.

A trip to Castle Lake is well worth taking. The solitude, the beauty, the hiking trails, the fishing and all of it within just a few miles of modern motels, restaurants, and other conveniences in either Mount Shasta City or Dunsmuir. Perhaps one day I'll see you on the road to Castle Lake. ◆



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Pondering Poison Oak . . . continued from Page 4

Poison oak is a tremendous cause of worker's compensation claims in fire fighters, telephone line workers, and landscapers due to direct exposure and also contaminated equipment. And a dead plant is not any less dangerous than a living one. The resins remain on the stalks and woody parts of the plant long after it has died. The burning of brush can even aerosolize it. Our good Cal Fire folks tell grizzly tales of this. Animals, especially hunting dogs and horses, are notorious for passing it along to the loving hands of their owners. The animals are spared the rash because the resin sits atop their fur and does not elicit any immune response.

The chemical urushiol is poison oak's resin and responsible for all this misery. Spelling urushiol is worth eleven points in Scrabble. Getting urushiol often costs you a trip to the doctor. It is insoluble in water and takes about 15 minutes to bind to the skin. A landscaper friend of mine pulls an Indian Soap Root plant out of the earth and wipes it vigorously on the area, swearing it washes it off immediately—I've never tried it. Urushiol can last for years on your boots, gloves, and work tools. Wipe down tools with a

disposable rag, hot water and dish soap. Hand soap doesn't work well as anyone who has tried to wipe pine pitch off their hands knows. I also recommend a second wipe down with rubbing alcohol or a petroleum based product. For clothing, regular detergents are fine but wash at the highest recommended water temperature. Don't overload your machine and it's good to let the clothes agitate freely. The urushiol will then be suspended in the water and not transferred to other clothes in the load. If someone else does your laundry, give them a head's up they are about to handle nasty stuff.

Poison oak is a remarkably resilient plant and can live in harsh environments. It will grow in full sun or partial shade, as a creeping vine, a bush, or ground cover. Watch out especially around fence lines and telephone poles. Everyone knows it famously has three leaves on a single stalk and that is the quickest method of recognizing it. Its leaves are typically bronze as they open, green in the spring, chartreuse or red in the summer and brilliant red or pink in the fall. Frankly, at a distance, I find it a dazzling plant to behold. Poison oak's white flowers bloom in the spring and grow into greenish-white or tan berries. Birds consume the berries and bees buzz about the blooms unharmed.





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Pondering Poison Oak . . . continued from Page 28

Being a deciduous plant, the stems are leafless and bear only the occasional cluster of berries in winter. A leafless poison oak stem may sometimes be identified by black marks where its milky sap may have oozed out and caked on. Boy Scouts are taught to carefully wipe a piece of paper across a broken plant and watch for the ensuing black streak to confirm it is poison oak. Don't feel stupid if you mistakenly come in contact with this chameleon though. I've misidentified it myself as it often mimics the size and shape of the plants it is growing amongst. Scientists tell us we can look forward to only more poison oak if predictions of rising CO2 levels hold true; in labs the plant reportedly thrives with higher CO2 concentrations.

The treatment of poison oak consists of putting the



brakes on the i m m u n e cascade once the resin has been bound to your skin cells.

Typically topical cortisones and a 1 antihistamines alleviate majority cases. Calamine, menthol, cold packs. and oatmeal baths are just a few of the many

soothing treatments that help make life more bearable. Several other topical preparations like pramoxine and diphenhydramine (benadryl) are good. When people are miserable and can't get to me, I sometimes recommend an OTC benzocaine preparation to just completely numb the area. It is the same stuff you would buy to soothe bad sunburns and is usually mixed with some aloe. My favorite treatment is Sasquatch Itch CreamTM if the rash has already erupted. (Please see AD on Page 4.) Even if you are not in an austere location, it is worth applying because it may save you a trip to the ER. Sometimes however, the rash of poison oak is too advanced and one needs a good old-fashioned injection of cortisone from the doctor.

Occasionally the allergic cascade will brew into a serious allergic tsunami that causes asthma symptoms and low blood pressure necessitating a trip to the local ER. Lesions also can become secondarily infected. Biotech companies have been working on a vaccine for sensitive

individuals for the last twenty years. Of course if you can wash urushiol off in the first 10-15 minutes that is the best treatment. Technu is such a product (Of interest, Technu was first formulated to wash off radioactive dust particles at nuclear test sites.) But remember, once the resin has set in, you are dealing with your hyperactive immune system rather than the resin.

In the early days of anthropology it was reported that Native Americans were less sensitive to urushiol. It is now believed that the children had a greater awareness and were more "in tune" with avoiding it. There is probably a great gap in our understanding of how Native Californians interacted with this plant. Supposedly, they were able to wrap cooked food in the leaves and weave baskets with the stalk and apparently not suffer. They did recognize its blister-inducing properties could treat warts, and was also used for rattlesnake bites in some fashion. The only real racial factor known is that Asians may be slightly less likely to get a rash due to early exposure in life to mangos and Japanese lacquer, which chemically resembles urushiol. Botanists usually agree poison oak and poison ivy are New World plants, as Capt. John Smith is credited with the first formal description of the plant by a non-native person.

Poison oak has been and will be here long after us. Like rattlesnakes and mosquitoes, you'll eventually run into it if you spend time outdoors here. Educate yourself and your family on it but don't forget to live life and enjoy this wondrous outdoor paradise we all call home. •

Please see AD on Page 4 for <u>Sasquatch Itch Cream</u>. Dr. Adams lives and works in The State of Jefferson. This authentic & reliable product can be ordered from their website.

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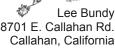
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Original Wagner Ranch, outside Etna, built in 1859. Photo Courtesy Of Jenner Family Collection.

Discovering The State of Jefferson continued from Page 22

Nerva M. Hayden, who became the first celebrated "Siskiyou County Cattleman (1955)," was the son of Richard M. Hayden, who came to California in 1863 by walking across the Isthmus of Panama. He spent a year in Hayward, California, which was only a lumberyard at the time and which was then named in honor of his uncle. Richard then joined his brother Charles Hayden who had already settled in Noyes Valley, near Callahan, after sailing around the Horn in 1849. James and Frank Hayden, uncles to Nerva, also settled in Callahan in 1852 and 1865. Besides farming and ranching, Richard and Charles purchased the Callahans' Ranch in 1873.

Nerva married Gladys "Toots" Jenner who also descended from two old Scott Valley ranching families, the Jenners and the Wagners. Her father, Frank S. Jenner, arrived in Etna to join his uncle, E.P. Jenner, who first arrived in 1849. Today the fifth generation of the Jenner family has joined with grandfather John T. (Jack) Jenner, Jr., and operate as Jenner Cattle Co., Inc.

There were five Hammond brothers who came from England to settle in Scott Valley during the gold rush. Charles Frederick Hammond, born in England, came to California in 1866. The Hammond clan has expanded and continued to ranch. They have become known for their superior cattle and provide livestock for many 4-H and FFA projects. Cliff Munson, a member of the sixth generation of Hammonds, is the Siskiyou Co. Fair Manager.

In 1856, Enos Young, left Alsace, France, to make his fortune in California. He established a meat market trade in Rough and Ready (Etna), then purchased what became known as the home ranch in 1892. Fred Young, born in 1867, helped his father with the meat trade until 1893 when he moved onto the home place. He made a trip on the Callahan-Cecilville road three times a week in his butcher wagon to furnish meat to the more than 500 Chinese miners working there.

Today, although many old ranches have changed hands and there were many others not included here, many of these original operations have remained in their original families. Those still operating are now entering into their sixth and seventh generations; you may see many of their children and grandchildren exhibiting livestock at this year's annual Siskiyou County Golden Fair.

Park Project Grand Opening Celebration Saturday August 20, 2011 From 6 - 10 pm Dorris, California

By Lion's Club Member Kay Scholer

Our Lion's Club members, and numerous community volunteers, started this log building project over a year ago. We started literally from the ground up! We endured the snow and blow of the winter weather...... we spent every day at lunch time in a 20x40 army tent where we enjoyed hot lunches and desserts provided by community volunteers, and warmed up and dried our gloves next to a homemade "elk camp" stove.

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We will be happily celebrating our Grand Opening on Saturday August 20th from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm and would like to invite everyone who would like to share in this wondrous occasion to come by and take a tour of this new community park. This grand building and facility will be available to hold many different occasions......weddings, proms, quinceaneras, zumba classes, art shows, Fish and Game presentations, rodeos, rifle range shoots....and much, much more! This is a "dream come true" for this community! Somehow, all the work and comradery has become one of our greatest rewards.....what a great feeling.



Jefferson Backroads new Stage Coach Tote Design. See Page 32 for ordering information.





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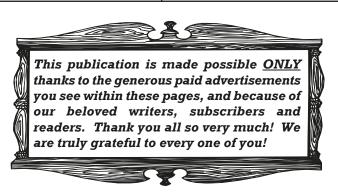
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