

# JEFFERSON BACKROADS



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**The Scott Valley  
Bluegrass  
Music Festival  
Coming to Etna,  
California  
July 17-18, 2010.**

**See Page 2 for  
more details.**

Photo of one of  
this year's  
performing  
bluegrass bands  
from Northern  
California:  
"Bound to Ride"



**Bound to Ride**  
A Bluegrass Band

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## What it is . . .

A fun little publication & website  
sharing the history & events of  
the great communities in  
The State of Jefferson along with  
spotlights on the artists, inns,  
Mom & Pop shoppes, restaurants,  
businesses & organizations proudly  
operating here in Siskiyou County:  
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The Mythical State of Jefferson.  
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**JULY 2010**



**Hit the Backroads!**

**[www.jeffersonbackroads.com](http://www.jeffersonbackroads.com)**

# Scott Valley International Bluegrass Music Festival - Etna, California

Dates: Saturday-Sunday July 17-18, 2010  
Times: Saturday 10 am to 10 pm  
Sunday 10 am to 5 pm  
Place: Etna City Park, Etna, California  
Contact: (530) 467-4144 For tickets & info  
Website: [www.scottvalleybluegrass.com](http://www.scottvalleybluegrass.com)



There is a great outdoor live musical event coming up in Etna on the weekend of July 17-18: The 7th Annual Scott Valley Bluegrass Music Festival. This great festival started in 2004 and is an important scholarship fundraiser for the local high school.

Come over to The Valley - bring your blankets and lawn chairs - and hang out for the weekend. Lots of shade, great food and beverage booths, arts and crafts vendors, activities for the kids, and a ton of musicians playing live bluegrass music! RV parks, motels and camping available also!

See these bands live on stage both Saturday and Sunday:



-Trusting Heart	-G2 from Sweden !
-Donna Hughes	-John & Jerry
-Bound to Ride	-Shades of Blue
-California Borderline	-Susie Glaze & the HiLonesome Band



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## Jammin The Streets of Etna FRIDAY EVENING JULY 16

Come listen to many of the bluegrass bands and local musicians Jammin on the Streets of Etna! Fun low-key atmosphere - meet the musicians. The local restaurants, brew pub, coffee shops and ice cream fountain will be open! Grab some country fun!

### Fun Bluegrass Music History:

America's bluegrass music was inspired by Celtic folk music of immigrants from Scotland, England and Ireland, blended with a unique musical instrument from Africa, the Banjo. Black and white gospel music influenced bluegrass as well. Affectionately called "Hillbilly Music" in the olden days. Traditional bluegrass is based on a small set of acoustic stringed instruments, with or without vocal harmonies. The name "bluegrass" came from the original bluegrass band: Bill Monroe and The Blue Grass Boys of Kentucky. Bluegrass music was a big part of America's rugged history. This foot stomping music tells a story and it will definitely move you!

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## Mt. Shasta Naturally Grown - Montague, California

We met some wonderful people recently, who are running this nice little farm called Mt. Shasta Naturally Grown on the eastern side of our beautiful Shasta Valley. Dave and Kim Stillian have a lovely place and also a quality vision for their farm. They sell natural fruits and vegetables, grown on their farm without pesticides and chemical fertilizers. They use composted materials as well as animal manures to build up their soils. These organic methods produce locally grown fruits and veggies that are delicious and healthy - and, best of all, they are available to all of us!

Some of their specialties are red raspberries, 17 varieties of gourmet garlic, many different varieties of onions, and other home-grown vegetables such as herbs, lettuces, chards, green beans, peppers, tomatoes, squashes and cucumbers. They also have 3 breeds of chickens: Rhode Island Reds, New Hampshires and Production Reds. These chickens - raised without hormones, antibiotics or steroids - are laying dozens of naturally delicious, hearty, free-range eggs, which are also available for sale.

When you come to their farm, you will be treated to a fun little tour of their beautiful oasis on the edge of my favorite juniper trees, sage brush and lava rocks, with Mt. Shasta proudly standing in full view.

A few other items you will find at their little store are Western Lariat Rope Lamps, herb drying racks, iron wood stoves, arts and crafts items, as well as antiques and unique hand-made iron & wood products.

If you would like to take a ride around the backroads of Shasta Valley, Mt. Shasta Naturally Grown is open on the weekends from 10am to 5pm. On week days it's best to call ahead (530) 906-3865. They are located out on Harry Cash Road, east of Montague. Please see their advertisement on Page 14 of this publication for their website and contact info.

Editor 



### Yreka Committee for Historic Preservation

Join with us to preserve historic buildings, sites and to promote civic prosperity! New members and guests are most welcome. Check out our website for more information or to donate to a wonderful cause: [www.yrekapreservation.org](http://www.yrekapreservation.org).

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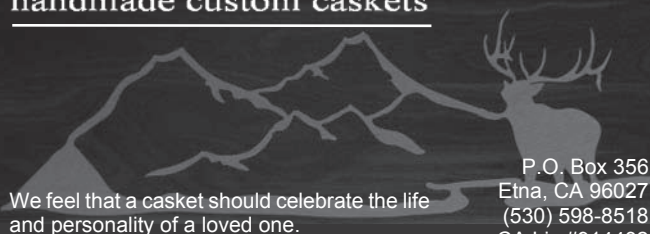
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# Discovering The State of Jefferson by Gail L. Jenner



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Follow along with Gail each month, and enjoy another new story of the many historical towns found anywhere in The State of Jefferson.

## JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

Jackson County was created in January 1852. Carved out of the southwestern portion of Lane County and unorganized areas of Douglas and Umpqua Counties, it was named in honor of President Andrew Jackson. Its original borders ran west to the Pacific Ocean, east to Lane County, north to Umpqua and Douglas Counties, and south to California.

The first recorded gold strike in Oregon was in 1850 on Josephine Creek, near what is now Cave Junction. But the bigger strike occurred in December 1851 or January 1852, on Jackson Creek, in the Rogue River Valley.



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# Discovering The State of Jefferson by Gail L. Jenner



Oldest Bank in Jacksonville, Oregon. Photo courtesy of Gail Jenner.


Jacksonville was first known as Table Rock City and sprang up almost overnight. It began as a makeshift mining camp and tent city, but within weeks, thousands of gold miners crowded the banks of Rich Gulch. By 1852, the small community was a town of over 1,000. Its first brick buildings were erected in 1853, and it soon became the largest city in Oregon; it was also the site of the first Chinatown in Oregon.


This rapid surge of men led to violence against the tribes who had lived in the region for generations. The Takelmas, Shasta and Rogue River tribes, as well as others, suffered terribly as the miners killed off local game and as waves of settlers encroached upon their lands. War would continue for many years, until, in 1855-56, the U.S. Army mounted a major campaign that vanquished most of the native populations.

Transportation and roads were early issues in Oregon and California. Shasta and Takelma people had traditionally used a trail that later became the Siskiyou Trail, or the Oregon-California Trail. Reportedly, it was Indian people who guided the earliest Hudson's Bay Company fur trapper Peter Skene Ogden over the summit between Oregon and California in 1827; that same trail was enlarged when Ewing Young drove a herd of cattle from California to pioneer settlements in the Willamette Valley in the 1830s. The trail would later be used by thousands of settlers who came in the wake of the California to Oregon gold rush.

The Applegate Trail was the southern alternative to the Oregon Trail. The trail is named for the Applegate brothers, Charles, Lindsay, and Jesse, who came along the Oregon Trail in 1843. They looked for a new route by first riding south from the central Willamette Valley into southern Oregon along what today is the Interstate 5 corridor through Douglas County.

There are a few remnants of the trail visible today. One section is at Tubb Springs State Wayside, 18 miles east of Ashland on Highway 66. Wolf Creek Tavern Inn, 20 miles north of Grants Pass off Interstate 5 is right on the trail. The trail runs roughly parallel to I-5 through much of Douglas County including the route along Canyon Creek. ♦

You can find more of Gail's wonderful historical books and stories by going to her website: [www.gailjenner.com](http://www.gailjenner.com). Editor 



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"A Siskiyou County landmark since the 1950's, the Wayside has passed through the hands of many owners, has been repeatedly remodeled, has changed names a few times . . . all seemingly in search of that perfect identity that can meet the desires of the local community, as well as enticing the many visitors who pass through the area," as quoted by one of the new owners, Terry Eilers.

All I know for sure is that my daughters and husband and I have eaten at the Wayside several times in the past two months already . . . and we are constantly thinking of new excuses to go back! I am in love with their amazing sweet potato fries, burgers, wood fired pizzas, the Baja tacos AND THEIR DESSERTS !!!!

New owners of the Wayside Grill, Denise and Terry Eilers and Rich and Elaine Barber, have created a perfect combination of a diverse menu, great food, excellent service and LIVE MUSIC! It is quickly growing into one of THE MOST POPULAR restaurants in Northern California.

Featuring a full bar, substantial wine and bottled beer list, in addition to 12 beers on tap, the Wayside Grill is a favorite watering hole for locals and travelers alike.

Even before you enter the Wayside Grill you are met with the wonderful smoky aroma of the wood fired brick oven, where gourmet pizzas and specialty dishes are baked at a blazing 600 degrees. In addition to the thin-crust, hand tossed, Italian style pizza, the nicely appointed lunch and dinner menus feature numerous half-pound burgers, steaks, pasta, Baja tacos, salads, fish, chicken and Chipotle BBQ. Other specialty items include Cuban chicharones and roasted red pepper hummus. If you love homemade soups, the Wayside has some award winners including their extraordinary Cajun shrimp and lobster bisque, served every Friday.

Live music is simply the finishing touch of the overall Wayside experience. Local entertainers as well as touring musicians play a wide variety of music. Terry and Denise, usually found happily cooking and serving, occasionally take a break to play and sing a few songs. What a treat!

Situated in a beautiful location with views of Mt. Shasta from the main dining room and the Eddy Mountains from the large outdoor deck and back yard, the Wayside offers indoor and outdoor dining at its best. They are open for lunch and dinner from 11am to 9pm daily, staying open later on the weekends. The bar is open from 11am until closing.

Editor



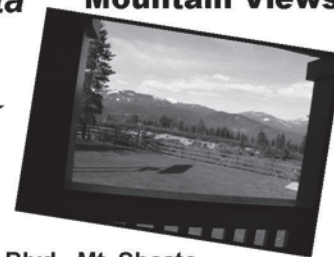
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Artist's Rendering of the Yreka Inn - Photo courtesy of Claudia East

In June of 1924 the ground breaking was underway for The Yreka Inn, and the building was slated to be ready for occupancy by October 1. The Inn was built by L. L. Weaver and his brother, W. J. Weaver ~ entrepreneurs that originally began in the grocery business. They subsequently went into general merchandise, the lumber business, etc. and eventually into the Hotel industry. Architects for this fine hotel were Tourtellotte & Hummel of Portland. This new first class hotel was situated perfectly, right on the "Great Pacific Highway" (later known as Highway 99) midway between San Francisco and Portland in Yreka. At that time all travelers heading north or south, literally drove right by this establishment! The Yreka Inn was located at 117 North Main Street and today there is a small marker that indicates where it once stood.

The Yreka Inn had 102 rooms and was an imposing concrete structure surrounded by landscaping, including towering locust trees and convenient driveways. The building was sometimes described as a "typical mountain city inn." It was reported in the *History of the Sacramento Valley, California* by Jesse Walton Wooldridge in 1931 that "the prices ... are reasonable and the rooms are well filled throughout the year by tourist and commercial travelers." The Inn had an adjoining restaurant and dinner house as well as a ballroom. The local Rotary clubs and other organizations were regulars with the hotel services.

It is interesting to note that originally the building was somewhat smaller, but within a year the Weavers decided they needed additional accommodations and added a 25 room wing to the south and adjoining the hotel. In a newspaper article dated August 26, 1926 in *The Siskiyou News*, they indicated that when the hotel was constructed the future growth of the business had not fully been taken into consideration. L. L. Weaver said that "more tourists were stopping during the height of the summer season than they could currently accommodate."

In a newspaper account from the *Siskiyou Daily News* on December 2, 1941 the Yreka Inn was noted as the place that held the **first official meeting of the secessionists** that began the movement from Northern California and Southern Oregon to form the State of Jefferson. That movement was "tabled" within a few days as a result of the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the beginning of World War II. However, many still hold the dream that someday a State of Jefferson might be formed and others carry on the spirit of independent thinking modeled by these secessionists.

Unfortunately in 1975 the hotel was razed when the property was purchased for a new local bank. The hotel was "older" then and the former Great Pacific Highway (Hwy 99) had been bypassed by the newer, faster, Interstate 5. The building needed updating and its glory days were in the past, but a great many wish the building could have been saved and restored; it would be an extraordinarily valuable asset to the city today if it were still standing! This author, for one, would be eager to stay in a classic refurbished building such as the Yreka Inn could have been. ♦

Visit <http://yrekahistory.blogspot.com> to learn more about the rich history Yreka offers!

### JACQUELIN LEARY

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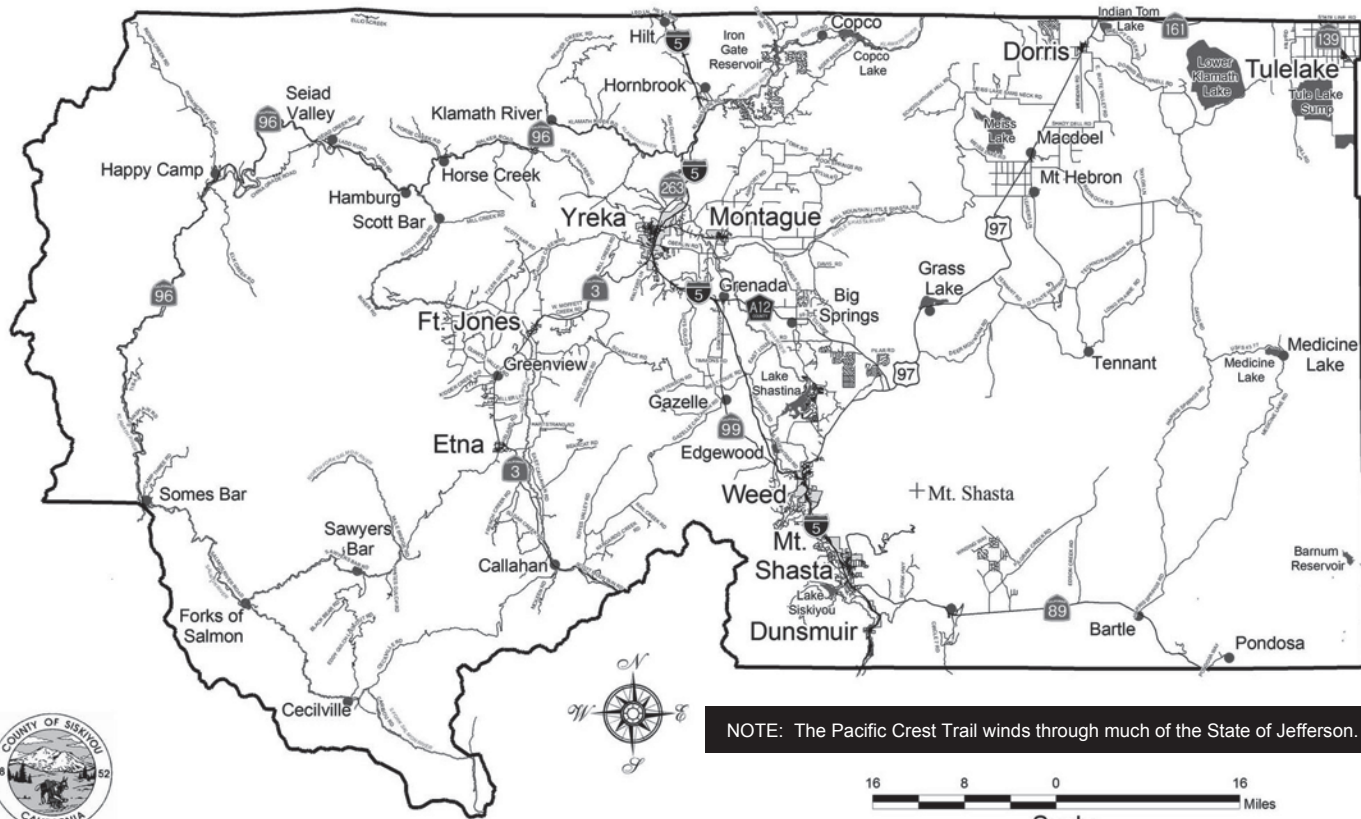
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# Detail Map of Siskiyou County & Map Showing the Counties in The Mythical State of Jefferson



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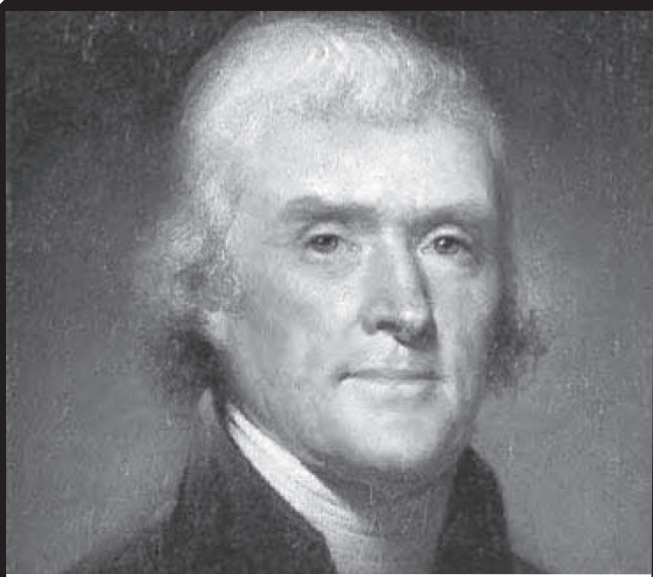
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Principal Author of the Declaration of Independence

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.

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's the people who reside here that make the greatest contribution to the character of the region called The State of Jefferson.

We welcome you to learn more about the history of our area, visit our museums, seek out the books written by local writers, and fall in love with this most amazing part of the Pacific Northwest. -Editor 

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

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★ July 2 - 4 July 4th Celebration - Downtown Mt. Shasta, California. Craft & Street Fair on Mt. Shasta Blvd & Castle Street. Live music, food and fun! Runs Friday, Saturday and Sunday in 2010. "Mt. Shasta Mountain Runners" fun-run/walk at 8:30 am on Sunday, parade at noon. "Mt. Shasta Fourth of July Fireworks" over Lake Siskiyou at dusk. A big celebration for a small town! Call the Mt. Shasta Chamber for more info: 1-800-926-4865.

★ July 2-3 Hasta-B-Shasta, Mt. Shasta Ski Park, Mt. Shasta. Mountain Bike Races (Bigfoot Mountain Biking). Downhill races. COURSE: It drops over 1100 feet! Call for Info: 530-926-8600

★ Friday July 9 Scott Valley Bank Summer Concerts in the Parks at 6:30 pm, Miner Street Park, Yreka, Band: The Essentials - Funk, Rhythm & Blues.

★ July 9-10, Volcano Run - Classic Car Show and Shine, Golf and Potluck. McCloud Dance Country RV Park, McCloud, California. Golden Valley Street Rodders proudly presents 35th Annual Rod Run-Car Show. Raffle drawings all day long, car show open to all vehicles thru 1969, BBQ Saturday at 6 pm at the RV Park. For more info go to [www.gvsvr.com](http://www.gvsvr.com). Call 530-275-5371 or 275-4833.

★ July 9 to 11 Ride in the Light Motorcycle Rally and Poker Run. Yreka, California. Info: [www.rideinthelightrally.com](http://www.rideinthelightrally.com) or call 530-598-2277.

★ Saturday July 10 at 5 pm, Miner's Inn Convention Center, Yreka. Fund Raiser, catered dining, wine and hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auction. Call 530-842-3082 for more info or go to [www.stablehands.org](http://www.stablehands.org).

★ July 15-18 56th Annual Carnevale, Weed, California. Wonderful weekend of family fun at Weed's Bel Air Park. Carnival rides, food, refreshment and vendor booths, parade Wednesday July 14 at 7 pm in downtown Weed, Junior Bocci Ball tournament, music and dancing. Call for info: Weed Chamber of Commerce at 530-938-4624 <http://weedchamber.com/>.

★ July 17-18 Scott Valley Bluegrass Festival, Etna, California. Website: [www.scottvalleybluegrass.com](http://www.scottvalleybluegrass.com). Call 530-467-4144 for more info. Also come to Etna on Friday evening July 16 where the Bluegrass bands will be set up and jamming in the streets starting at 6:00. See article and info on Page 2.

★ Saturday July 17 Kids Fishing Day at Mt. Shasta Fish Hatchery, 8:45am to 3 pm. Three ponds will be stocked with trout and there will be people to help with fishing questions. Free bait and limited loaner tackle available. Must be 15 or younger and be able to hold a rod and reel. For info call 530-926-2368.

★ Saturday July 17 - Siskiyou Motorcycle Association 18th Annual "Outta Weed, Round the Mountain" Benefit, Poker Run & Barbeque in Weed, California. Join the SMA for a 140-mile organized pack run around Beautiful Mt. Shasta. Then party the night away, must be 21 to attend, McCloud American Legion Hall, 232 Broadway Avenue, McCloud. \$25 per person donation includes poker run card, 2010 Run Pin and Tri-tip BBQ dinner. T-shirts for a small price. Sign in starts Saturday at 9 am, and run leaves promptly at 11. Call 530-925-4575 or 938-4226 for info or go to <http://weedchamber.com/>.

★ Sunday July 18, SHASTARAMA, Mt. Shasta Ski Park, Mt. Shasta, California. 2nd Annual Mountain Bike Downhill. Live music, free camping for all competitors and spectators. Coyote Cafe and bar will be open. More info: email [info@shastabasecamp.com](mailto:info@shastabasecamp.com) or call (530) 926-2359.

★ Friday July 23 Scott Valley Bank Summer Concerts in the Parks at 6:30 pm, Miner Street Park, Yreka, Band: Karen Lovely Band, Lady Sings the Blues.

★ July 23-25 Lumberjack Fiesta, McCloud, California. Join in old-fashioned fun in the sun all weekend. Main Street Parade, vendor booths, nightly dances with live music, baseball tournament, children's events, horseshoe tournament, amateur and business person's logging competitions, food, family games and more. Sponsored by McCloud Community Recreation Council. Local lodging and RV - tent camping available. For info call 530-964-2718.



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

★ Saturday July 24 5th Annual Mossbrae Music Festival, Dunsmuir, California. Gates open at 3:30. Dunsmuir City Park, by the beautiful Sacramento River in the Dunsmuir Botanical Gardens. The Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce announces the John Lee Hooker Jr. Band as the headliner. A style he calls "two parts Rhythm and Blues and one part Jazz and Down Home Blues," Hooker Jr. Is carrying on a century-old family musical heritage - that he learned from his father John, Sr. Preceding the John Lee Hooker Jr. Band are local musicians Allison Scull and Victor Martin with Grant Levin on piano, along with a rhythm section. Tickets are \$27.50 pre-sale and \$33 at the gate. Food, beer, wine, water and soda available. No coolers or picnic baskets. This event is a fundraiser for the Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce. Children 16 and under FREE WITH PARENTS. Event T-shirts will be available at the concert or through the chamber office. For info: call 530-235-2177 or go to [www.dunsmuir.com](http://www.dunsmuir.com).

★ Friday July 30 Scott Valley Bank Summer Concerts in the Parks at 6:30 pm, Miner Street Park, Yreka, Band: Gimme Shelter, Classic rock. Special for the kids: Siskiyou Arts Bus - arts and crafts. Also: Siskiyou Arts Council presents art demonstrations and poetry.

★ Saturday July 31 Mt. Shasta Rotary Brewfest at Mt. Shasta Ski Park. 12 to 5 pm. SEE AD BELOW. For info call 530-926-8600.

★ Saturday, July 31 Shasta Yama Taiko Drum Festival, Gates open at 5 pm, Shastice Park, Mt. Shasta, California. In the alpine beauty of Mt. Shasta, a cultural phenomenon has taken hold. Taiko Japanese drumming is gaining popularity worldwide. Last year's festival attracted over 1,000 concert-goers. Lawn seating, bring blankets, lawn chairs, warm clothes and flashlights. Food and refreshments available. No pets, no glass. Information and tickets call 530-859-8686 or go to: [www.shastayama.org](http://www.shastayama.org).

★ Sunday August 1 Summit Century Bike Ride, Mt. Shasta City Park, Mt. Shasta, California. Why not ride the prettiest and toughest century in California? Four different rides, each distinct with many challenges. Various rest stops with food and refreshments, lunch and dinner at the City Park finish. Info: call 1-800-926-4865

★ Saturday August 7 Kids Block Party, Broadway Street, Yreka, California. Siskiyou Arts Bus, bike rodeo, face painting, games and more. Call Kris for info and times at 530-842-1993

★ Wednesday August 11 through Sunday August 15: The Siskiyou Golden Fair, Yreka, California. 2010 Theme: "Country Roots and Cowboy Boots!" For more information call 530-842-2767 or go to [www.sisqfair.com](http://www.sisqfair.com). See ad on Page 13 of this publication for specific events and details.

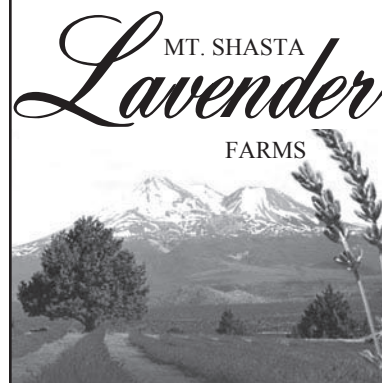
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# The 14 Museums of Siskiyou County, California

Butte Valley Museum and Historical Society  
(Under Development)  
Dorris, CA 96023  
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[www.buttevalleymuseum.homestead.com](http://www.buttevalleymuseum.homestead.com)



**\*\* Siskiyou County Museum**  
910 Main Street  
Yreka, CA 96097  
(530) 842-3836  
[www.siskiyoucountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.siskiyoucountyhistoricalsociety.org)

Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Museum  
Pine Street and Sacramento Avenue - AMTRAK  
Station  
Dunsmuir, CA 96025  
(530) 235-0929  
<http://www.dunsmuir.com/visitor/railroad.php>



**Make sure to call museum to check for time and dates of operation. \*\* Denotes Open Year Round**

Etna Museum  
520 Main Street  
Etna, CA 96027  
(530) 467-5366  
[www.etnamuseum.org](http://www.etnamuseum.org)



**\*\* Lava Beds National Monument**  
1 Indian Well Headquarters  
Tulelake, CA 96134  
(530) 667-8100  
[www.nps.gov/labe](http://www.nps.gov/labe)

**\*\* The People's Center - The Karuk Tribe**  
64236 Second Avenue  
Happy Camp, CA 96039  
(530) 493-1600  
[www.karuk.us/peoples center/peoples center.php](http://www.karuk.us/peoples%20center/peoples%20center.php)

Fort Jones Museum  
11913 Main Street  
Fort Jones, CA 96032  
(530) 468-5568  
[www.fortjonesmuseum.com](http://www.fortjonesmuseum.com)



**\*\* Tulelake Museum of Local History**  
800 South Main Street  
Tulelake, CA 96134  
(530) 667-5312  
[www.tbvfair.com](http://www.tbvfair.com)

Heritage Junction of McCloud  
320 Main Street  
McCloud, CA 96057  
(530) 964-2604

Montague Depot Museum  
230 South 11th Street  
Montague, CA 96064  
(530) 459-3385



Weed Historic Lumber Town Museum  
303 Gilman Avenue  
Weed, CA 96094  
(530) 938-0550  
[www.siskiyou.edu/museum](http://www.siskiyou.edu/museum)

**\*\* Klamath Basin NWR Visitor Center**  
4009 Hill Road  
Tulelake, CA 96134  
(530) 667-2231  
[www.fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges](http://www.fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges)

Sisson Museum  
1 North Old Stage Road  
Mt. Shasta, CA 96067  
(530) 926-5508  
[www.mountshastasissonmuseum.org](http://www.mountshastasissonmuseum.org)

**\*\* WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument**  
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Saturday  
Tuesday  
Thursday  
Sat-Sun  
Thursday  
Saturday  
Saturday  
Mon & Thurs  
Wednesday

## TIME

2:30 to 6 pm  
9:30 to 12:30  
5:30 pm  
4 to 6 pm  
9 am - Noonish  
2:30 to 6 pm  
10 am to 1 pm  
9 am to Noonish  
3:30 to 6 pm  
11 am to 2 pm



Most Farmers Markets will normally have started up by about the 1st of July.

We recommended you call local chambers before you drive long distances in case of crazy summer mountain weather.

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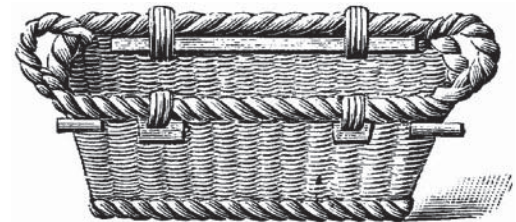


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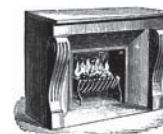


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## Backroads Day Tripper by Ralph Fain



Photo of Scott River & Marble Mountains by Ralph Fain

### Cruisin' the Backroads!

by Ralph Fain

*Only a biker knows why a dog sticks his head out of a car window.*

Author Unknown

And if you ever noticed, every dog with his head in the wind is smiling, bugs and all.

As I was riding down Highway 96 towards Happy Camp I was thinking of how to explain what it feels like to have a bug kiss your face at 70 umm....55 mph. With the stinging snap of something quite large to my face, I had a vision. A rubber band pulled back to its breaking point and snapped to my lips, nose, cheeks and right between the eyes. It stings, it makes your eyes water, it makes you wonder why you didn't wear the full helmet with a face shield. Yet just as quick the sting is gone and so are the thoughts of a full helmet. Heck, if a dog can keep on smilin', so can I!

Highway 96 is a great run. You can ride for a couple hours, half day, full day or overnight and still come right back to Yreka, never traveling the same road twice unless you choose. A word of caution to those on motorcycles, watch for dirt, rocks and gravel debris that have fallen onto the roadway. You are going to encounter them all when you least expect.

The State of Jefferson Scenic Byway begins in Yreka and continues to Happy Camp. Begin at the south Yreka stoplight and head north on main street which becomes Highway 263. Travel 11.1 miles (all given mileage begins at the stoplight) and you will cross the Klamath River - with a left turn, you are on Highway 96.



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# Backroads Day Tripper by Ralph Fain



At mile 27.4 you will see Quigley's Store on the left. Mile 44.2 brings you to the confluence of the Scott and Klamath Rivers. Scott River Road also meanders south here and 33 miles later you will be in Fort Jones. This road is paved with windy, narrow one lane sections. Go slow, enjoy the ride and keep it on the pavement!

Mile 46.5 brings you to Hamburg and the Rainbow Resort. Seiad Store and Café will appear at mile 55.6. The café, featured on the Travel Channel as the 3rd best place to pig out in the USA, is the spot for breakfast. Stop and take the pancake challenge! The Pacific Crest Trail crosses Highway 96 through Seiad Valley and many of the hikers stop for the pancake challenge. Also in Seiad is one of the few places along the river for fuel. There is a cardlock gas pump on the right just past the café.

Thompson Creek Lodge will be down river a way on your right. Here you will find cabins and a swimming pool. Thompson Creek is also known for a sighting of Bigfoot by a group of Chinese miners during the early gold rush in our area.

Back on Highway 96 you will arrive in Happy Camp at mile 75. A great statue of Bigfoot will greet you on the right and another of the cardlock gas stations will be on your left. It is down the bank below the highway, don't miss it. Your next chance for gas will be in Orleans 45 miles down river.

If you are ready to eat while in Happy Camp, there is a hamburger joint "Our Place" on the left, a pizza joint "The Pizza House" on the right and a small café "Frontier Café and Saloon" on the right as you drop down the hill toward the river.

The Jefferson State Scenic Byway now heads north up Indian Creek over Grayback Summit to O'Brien and Highway 199. Heading down river, you continue along the Klamath and you are now on the Bigfoot Scenic Byway. Just beyond Somes Bar you can turn east up the Salmon River Road 58 miles to Etna. This route takes you along the Salmon River on a narrow, winding, one lane paved road. Again, go slow, pay attention and keep it on the pavement. This is rugged, remote country. Make sure you have plenty of fuel and are self sufficient before heading up this road. You will be well rewarded with the country on this route. After reaching Etna you can head north to Yreka or south towards Mount Shasta.



Photo of Bigfoot in Happy Camp, Ca. By Ralph Fain

If you continue down Highway 96 and the Klamath River, you will pass through Witchipec and Hoopa, coming out at Willow Creek on Highway 299. Head west on 299 and you will hit Highway 101 at Arcata; head north to Crescent City, take Highway 199 to Grants Pass and I-5, then south back to Yreka. Head east on 299 and you will hit Weaverville where you can take Highway 3 back to Scott Valley, Etna and Yreka. Or continue on 299 and you arrive in Redding and I-5. Backroads upon backroads - all leading back to Siskiyou County! ♦

*Four wheels move the body. Two wheels move the soul.*  
Author Unknown

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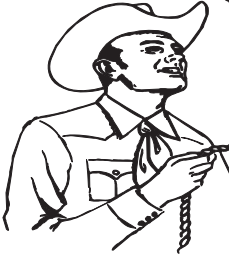
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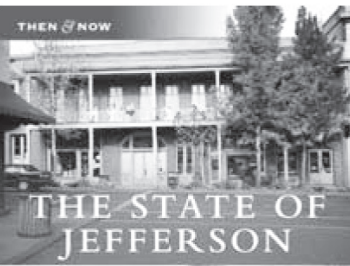
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## Gail Jenner, Local Author




Gail writes a historical column  
for THE PIONEER PRESS and  
is a contributor to NPR's  
Jefferson Public Radio series,  
"As It Was: Tales From the  
State of Jefferson." At left is  
one of her books, coauthored  
with Bernita L. Tickner.  
Enjoy!

Contact information:

Website: [www.gailjenner.com](http://www.gailjenner.com)

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MEDIUM 4 x 6 ¼	\$160	\$100
LARGE 5 x 8	\$200	\$150
FULL PAGE 8 x 11	\$325	\$225



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