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Photo of Bob Parry's gorgeous Marble Mountain Bull Elk. See details on Page 19.





DUNSMUIR HISTORY

By Ron McCloud

Dunsmuir's Railroad Days: The Real Story

Dunsmuir loves a celebration and has a long history of festivals with parades, dances, carnivals, patriotic speeches, baseball games and parties. There are records of Independence Day celebrations on July 4 as far back as 1904. The spirit of Dunsmuir really shines however, with its annual Railroad Days.

Norman Green – a railroad conductor and Dunsmuir businessman - is credited with originating the idea in 1941. At a meeting of railroaders and business people, he presented his plan to honor old-timers and to encourage young people to pursue careers with the railroad. In those days of steam powered locomotives, an active railroad yard and repair shops, and the Shasta Division headquarters in Dunsmuir, the railroad was a powerful force in the town. The railroad strongly supported the idea and the town enthusiastically accepted it.

The first event was called the "Southern Pacific Railroad Celebration" and was held June 15-16, 1941. There was a parade boasting three marching bands, a drum majorette contest, the Southern Pacific Band all the way from San Francisco, and a number of smaller events including speeches by some of the top officials of the railroad. Only a few months later however, the country was plunged into the Second World War. There were no events held during the dark war years of 1942 through 1946 but in 1947 folks were ready for some fun. The idea was resurrected and in mid-June of that year the railroad and the town again joined forces to honor the old-timers, celebrate the railroad's role in the war effort, and promote good relations between the Southern Pacific and the town. The Railroad Days tradition had begun.

Southern Pacific was very involved in the early years of the celebration. Even though the words, "Southern Pacific" were dropped in 1951 and the name became "Annual Railroad Days Celebration," the railroad strongly supported the

Continued on Page 3





RAILROAD DAYS 2012 **Dunsmuir Railroad Days** BURGEI **Dunsmuir**, California Friday - Saturday - Sunday June 8-9-10, 2012 **Firefighter's Bucket Brigade** Chili Cookoff "Home of the Barnbuster" **Railroad Movies River Run Vintage Trains Model Trains Burgers, Fries & Great Shakes!** Parade **Try our Famous Philly! Kids Activities** Eat In - Take Out **Craft and Food Vendors** Music & More 5942 Dunsmuir Avenue Shery Larson Dunsmuir, California DUNSMUIR, CALIFORNIA Call (530) 235-2177 for info (530) 235-2902

Page 2

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Dunsmuir History Continued from Page 2

festival. The Railway and Locomotive Historical Society sponsored excursion trips and the railroad opened up its yards for public tours. An annual old-timers picnic was held in conjunction with the event and railroad organizations such as the Railroad Clerks sponsored events and floats in the parade. With that support, the celebration grew each year.

Entertainment was plentiful. There were musical groups such as the Chico Oriental Shrine Band, the Wonderland Accordion Band, the Melodeanns, the Saint Mary's Chinese Girls School Band, Dunsmuir's own Mothersingers and Canyoneers, and the spectacular 175 member musical youth group called the Oakland Weldonians. There were parade entries such as the Oregon Cavemen, the Presidio Drill Team, and Dunsmuir's High School and Elementary School marching bands and drill teams. And there were fun events including talent shows, picnics, dances, Railroad Days Queen Contests, carnivals, variety shows, important speakers, baseball tournaments, and model railroad exhibits. In 1951 a Shrine convention was held along with Railroad Days and an estimated 20,000 people watched the huge parade which started at Oak Street and proceeded north on Florence Avenue all the way to the ball park.

That level of enthusiasm is hard to maintain in a small town with limited resources. The involvement of the Southern Pacific Company in the celebration diminished with the passing years and the celebration became smaller. By 1966 there was virtually no railroad presence and the name of

the event was changed to "Canyon Days" for 1966 and 1967. There was no celebration from 1968 through 1971 but there was an attempt to revive it in 1972. That event was small and for the next two years - 1973 and 1974 there was no Railroad Days. There was still a need for a community festival however, and in 1975 a group primarily made up of business owners organized a mid-June celebration called "River Daze." It had almost no participation by the railroad and while the familiar parades, dances, carnivals and musical events were still a part of the weekend, new events such as river raft races, firemen's competition, the River Run, the Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast, fishing derbies, and the annual t-shirts were introduced. By 1980 there was a growing movement to return to the original name. It has been simply "Railroad Days" every year since then except 1994 when there was no event and 2000 when the "Canyon Days" name was again used but only for one year.

With the coming of the Union Pacific Railroad there has been an increase in railroad involvement while many of the old events have been carried on. The Dunsmuir Rotary Club, Dunsmuir Lions Club, and Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce have provided sponsorship.

The pin-on buttons that have become a Railroad Days tradition have a history of their own. Sold as a fund raiser and to publicize and promote the event, they also have served as admission passes for events and raffle drawing entries. The first buttons - in 1941 - were white with black lettering that said "S.P.R.R. Days" but after that were more colorful. The early buttons (1947 through 1949) did not show the date but referred to "the second annual, third annual or fourth annual Railroad Days." In 1951 through 1955 there were two sizes – large ones for men and smaller ones for women and children. Buttons from 1966 and 1967 show the name "Canyon Days," but with no dates. The 1972 event was called "Dunsmuir Railroad Fun Days" and those from 1975 through 1979 show the name "River Daze." Numbers on the buttons linked to drawings for prizes first appeared in 1977. There were no Railroad Days events from 1942 through 1946, 1968 through 1971, and the years 1973, 1974 and 1994. Of course there were no buttons those years and also there were no buttons in 1961, and 1996 through 2000.

When Railroad Days pulls into Dunsmuir this year it will mark 71 years of a classic small-town festival. It is a remarkable commentary on the hard work of so many people over the years who have kept the tradition going.

You can read more info about Dunsmuir's Railroad History written by Nick Chichizola on Pages 26-27.

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



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May 2012 Page 3





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Shop Local Philosophy By Steu Mann

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An unexpected twist of shopping local: communities are creating their own currencies. These are not fringy either, since all are based on paying taxes. What is the big benefit? Using a local currency makes sure money remains in the area. Under US law, small communities can produce their own currency so long as it does not include coins and does not resemble federally-issued money.



In southern Massachusetts the currency is called the "BerkShares," which is run by a local bank, and values are at about two million right now. Detroit has the "Detroit Cheers" spearheaded by three business men. The money can be used in a dozen stores. In Pittsboro, North Carolina, they have been using the "Plenty" since 2002. You exchange \$9 federal bucks for \$10 of Plenty. One more is In Traverse City, Michigan, where more than 100 businesses accept "Bay Backs."

This is global. Other countries are also active in using community currencies. Magdeburg, Germany has more than 200 businesses accepting the Urstromtaler, which is just one of 16 regional currencies there. East Sussex, England started in 2010 with its own pound. Today there are 31,000 Lewes pounds in circulation with more than 130 stores accepting them.

It sure is a provoking thought, "What would it take to set up a local currency?" Well, you're gonna need some strong community backers: organizational and reputation wise. From the successes out there you don't really need a bank involved to get started. Secondly, you will need some decent currency with a local flavor that can be monitored for authenticity. Lastly, you need community buy in - that folks will use it to do business. So, what are we waiting for - where is the core team who will create the Jefferson Greenbacks? Call me and we will arrange a discussion meeting.



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"From Over The Hill" By Che'usa Wend

Avery Theatre Concert. Photo by Mel Fechter.

Che'usa loves writing stories about the amazing people and places she has discovered in beautiful Scott Valley. You can find more on her website: www.fromoverthehill.info.

This writing started going in one direction and made a wondrous U-turn, as you will soon read. Clarence (previously known as 'Mr. Saxophone', now known as 'Mr. Big Band') announced at Etna's 'Big Band Fun' concert Thursday night that the Band has been approved as a 501(3c) nonprofit organization. 'Big Band Fun' is now, 'Siskiyou Big Band', our very own 'community band' here in Siskiyou County, State of Jefferson!

I mentioned to Clarence on Friday about setting up a simple informational website so people could easily check in and see what new photos Mel had taken and where the Band would be performing. I volunteered my services to get the Domain name for one year and set up a simple website, as within the past week, the 'community band' phenomenon had taken on a life of its own and many of us involved are just running to keep up

Saturday morning there in my inbox was a big 'YESSSSS,

let's do it' message from Clarence on the website idea, night. went 'live' it www.SiskiyouBigBand.org with no bells, no whistles, just basic information you will want to know!

Clarence's first dream of starting and conducting a Big Band became a reality back in December with their concerts in Etna and Yreka. He told me his second dream was to have the old-fashioned low, box-style music stands like ones used during the Big Band era. After Eb and I saw the photos Mel took at the April 19th Etna concert where you couldn't see the band members for the high music stands. I decided to move ahead on my newest idea.

Many of you will remember the low, box-style music stands from the Big Band era, even if only from watching old movies. With those, the band is in full view. I somewhat sneakily (through his wife Cyndi) got the link to a website of a small business owner in St. Louis, Missouri who makes the stands and just happens to play Big Band music too! Made in the USA!

I whispered my plan to Cyndi: I was going to surprise Clarence and the Band by putting out 'the call' for money as a Big Band Fun(d)-raiser to be able to buy the stands.

Live Music on Wednesday Evenings

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"From Over the Hill" Continued from Page 6

I figured when the money came in, then we would present it to the Band and move forward on the ordering. Well, I have said before how 'Lady Synchronicity' seems to always be one step ahead of me . . . (See photo of the olden days stands at right.)

As I began to work on this post . . . shall we call him 'a Patron of the Arts' contacted me and asked, "Is there anything I can do to help the band?" I would be fibbing if I didn't say, 'it was music to my ears.' "Well", I began . . . "I was just now typing up a post for my From Over the Hill website, encouraging the folks to send in donations, of any amount, to the 'Siskiyou Big Band' so we could order these fabulous music stands." He, being 'a man of a certain age,' knew exactly what kind of stands I was talking about. I related to him the cost (almost \$1,000 for the number of stands we would need, the carrying bags, and shipping) and that it would be a stretch to have enough money to purchase them in time for the May 19th concert for the Siskiyou County Armed Forces Day event or the May 21st concert at the Church of the Nazarene; however, *hopefully*, we would have enough collected to order the stands in time for the upcoming summer concerts.

Maybe the encore song, '*In the Mood*' had gotten to him the other night, or 'Lady Synchronicity' had whispered in his ear. All I know is . . . I about fell off the chair when, *without any fanfare*, he said: "How about I front the money so you can order them right away. That way you will have them in time for the May concerts; and the Band can pay me back as the contributions come in?"

Now, any of you who have read my posts for any time at all, know that I always quote what Grandma used to say: "When the cookie tray is passed, take one, as it might not come around again!" It has taken me a number of years to step up and actually do that . . . however, I believe it must have been 'Lady

Synchronicity' whose voice came out when I opened my mouth (as I think my vocal chords had frozen up). For, what I heard myself saying was: "*That would be fabulous! Thank you. The Band will be thrilled!*"

I called Clarence on his cell phone as he was at lunch and asked if he was sitting down. He was, and when I told him the story, all he could say at first was: "It's a good thing you asked if I was sitting down before you told me."

We both got teary-eyed . . . knowing too that within a few hours, Clarence would be at Big Band practice, relating this story to the Band and figuring out exactly what sizes and how many they will need so we can place the order.

Soooooooo we need lots of cookies on the cookie tray to replace the ones being sent off to St. Louis, Missouri!!!!!! None of the band members receive payment for their performance efforts, their gas money to and from practices or the concerts, or any of their expenses ... they joined the Band because they are musicians who have missed playing in a group setting and they love the music and have fun entertaining us! Their concert in December benefitted

the historic Avery Theatre \$1,000 and April's concert added another \$1,000+ to the Theatre.

Now is the time for us to give something back to the Band . . . please send your tax deductible donation payable to: Siskiyou Big Band, c/o P.O. Box 254, Etna, CA. 96027

If it is easier for you to use Paypal to send along moolah, then log in and use etnanews@sisqtel.net for where to send it or call me at 467-5815 and we can figure out the best way to get your contribution here!

Life is sooooooooooo grand . . . when we allow it to flow! In joy! Che'usa \blacklozenge



Photo of Beautiful Olden Days Music Stands



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This is a Fund Raiser to Build a Permanent Outdoor Stage at Hoy Park on the base of Mt. Shasta! Donations can be made to the Lake Shastina Community Foundation, a 501© organization. Sponsored by Wayside Grill, Mt. Shasta Resort, McCloud River Lodge & Sweet Feet.

An annular solar eclipse occurs when the Moon's apparent diameter is smaller than the Sun, causing the Sun to look like an annulus (ring), blocking most of the Sun's light.





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COMING SOON: HEATHENS & THIEVES

by Gail Jenner

Photo at left: Megan Peterson and John Douglas Sinclair, at the Houston World-Fest, where HEATHENS & THIEVES won a Special Jury Award for Best Feature Film. Photo courtesy Laura Trisnadi.

Siskiyou County and the Old West are finally hitting the big screen. *HEATHENS & THIEVES*, produced and filmed in and around Scott Valley and Yreka, in 2009, is making its mark in a variety of film festivals.

The film was written and co-directed by John Douglas Sinclair, of Los Angeles, and co-directed by Megan Peterson, of Chico and Etna. Director of Photography was Pyongson Yim and the producer is Peter H. Scott. Set director was Kyle Peterson, of Chico and Etna, and the sound engineer was Darrell Mitchell,

Megan's husband and partner. Executive producer, Steven Riley, whose credits include 8mm, Gran Torino, Letters From Iwo Jima and Pearl Harbor, also helped oversee the film's special effects.

The movie's list of stars features Don Swayze (*True Blood*, *C.S.I., The Young and the Restless*), Gwendoline Yeo (*Broken Trail, Desperate Housewives*), and newcomer Andrew Simpson. Roy Hall, Jr., J. J. Lewis-Nichols, and Bernard Dowling, all of Scott Valley, got to step into minor roles.

Described as a western noir drama, *HEATHENS & THIEVES* is set in California when the riches associated with the 1849 Gold

Rush, the fallout of the Civil War, and the impact of Chinese immigration were fresh in people's minds.

The film was shot around Scott Valley, while the "town of Orofino" was filmed at Siskiyou County Museum's Discovery Park, in Yreka.

The movie adventure began when Megan Peterson, working as a producer/writer/director, decided to collaborate with writer/director John Douglas Sinclair and Director of Photography Pyongson Yim on "their own project." Peterson's family - including her parents, Todd and Pat Peterson, and her aunt and uncle, Doug and Gail Jenner, of Etna – encouraged the group of filmmakers to film in the North State. Filming began in the spring and was completed in October-November, 2009.

The long process of post-production began in 2010. According to Peterson, "Filming is only the beginning of getting a movie made." She added, "We could never have completed such a project without the incredible assistance provided by the entire community. There are just too many people to thank in so small a space."

HEATHENS & THIEVES had its U.S. premiere on April 20, 2012, as an Official Selection at **WorldFest-Houston International Independent Film Festival**.



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Discovering The State of Jefferson Continued from Page 10

As one of the three oldest international film fests, this year WorldFest celebrated its 45th anniversary.

Over the years WorldFest has given many directors their first filmmaking awards, including Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, Ang Lee, Oliver Stone, The Coen Brothers, Spike Lee, and David Lynch.

At the Awards Ceremony in Houston, *HEATHENS & THIEVES* won two coveted awards: first, it won the **Special Jury Award for Best Feature Film;** second, Gwendoline Yeo won the

Remi Award for Best Actress. More than 30 countries were represented at **WorldFest-Houston**.

On April 26, *HEATHENS & THIEVES* was screened at the **Sacramento International Film Festival**, again to a packed audience and enthusiastic reviews. A centerpiece for film arts in the North State, the **Sacramento International Film Festival (SFF)** has been around since 1995 and has hosted a number of award winning films, including *JULIE AND JULIA, SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE AND YOUNG VICTORIA.*

HEATHENS & THIEVES will have its international premiere in September 2012 as an Official Selection at the **Almeria Western Film Festival in Almeria, Spain**—where Sergio Leone, Clint Eastwood, and others shot many of their classic "Spaghetti Westerns". Each year the festival presents films in the Western genre, from small independents to big-budget hits like the Coen Brothers' *TRUE GRIT*.

In addition to the festivals, Orofino's international sales agent, Multivisionnaire, will officially launch the film at the CANNES MARKET on May 17. Orofino is also in negotiations with a domestic distributor.

Meanwhile, Megan Peterson continues to work as a field producer for a number of television stations and will begin work as a producer on another feature film. For more on Orofino, visit: www.heathensandthieves.com,

or info@orofino.com.



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Thomas Jefferson 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.

He Lived April 13, 1743 to July 4, 1826.



John Fitzgerald Kennedy was our 35th President. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was awarded the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism for leading his men back to safety after the

Patrol Torpedo Boat he commanded was sunk by the Japanese.

He was born May 29, 1917 and was assassinated on November 22, 1963.

Quote:

"Today, we need a nation of Minutemen, citizens who are not only prepared to take arms, but citizens who regard the preservation of freedom as the basic purpose of their daily life and who are willing to consciously work and sacrifice for that freedom."

John F. Kennedy

State of Jefferson in a Nutshell 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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Map of The Oregon and California Counties that Make Up The State of Jefferson





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HISTORY OF YREKA by Claudia A. East

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

Yreka - A Major Destination

Today with the interstate cutting part of our town nearly in two many folks whiz by without ever having the opportunity to know what they are missing in our charming little burg. Before the railroad and even after, for over a century, Yreka was considered a major hub in the transportation world of Northern California. We are situated half way between San Francisco and Portland and for many years we were the major beginning and ending point for many towns and villages for a great many miles. Stage routes brought many important things to our community to give it the status of a "destination" city. In earlier days mail was one of the most important! Miners would come to Yreka to wait for the mail, near the stage stop folks met and talked over all the news of the day. Being half way between major ports also gave Yreka substantial status and it was a good resting spot before heading up the next difficult mountain terrain route. For a bit of reference, it took about 52 hours by stage to get to Yreka from Sacramento. In Yreka the main stage stop was along Miner Street right near the Franco-American Hotel. [The Franco-American Hotel is the large brick building on Miner Street at the terminus of Fourth Street.] For the years the stages operated the Post Office was always situated close nearby. SEE PHOTO ON PAGE 15.

The stage office (often called the express office) was a thriving business. There were big steel strapped boxes often filled with gold dust that were lifted up into the front boot under the driver's seat and secured by lock and chain to the floor. This was a security measure so if some enterprising thief wanted to hold up the stage for gold they would have to wrangle this off themselves. On board the stage was an Express

messenger that carried a sawed-off shotgun loaded with buckshot. The cost of running the stage company was no little amount, estimated to be an annual expense of \$40,000 in addition to paying tolls over many of the roads they traveled. This could amount to another \$12,000 a year for the rights to use the roads.

The California and Oregon Stage system alone is reported to have used about 430 miles of roadway and its branches alone served from Redding to Roseburg, via Yreka, Ashland and Jacksonville; Redding to Yreka, via Shasta, Tower House, Trinity Center, Callahan's, Etna and Fort Jones and others. This operation alone utilized nearly 400 horses with 20 drivers in the summer and 26 in the winter. There were 50 stablemen, 6 mechanics and horse-shoers in addition to the clerks in the offices. They ran 16 stages in the summer and 21 in winter besides 2 large sleighs over Scott Mountain during snow season. Horses had to be changed every 12 miles and a new driver took the reins each 10 hours. And, this was only one of many stages lines that came through Yreka. It has been said that at one time there were 35 stage lines that listed Yreka as a destination or were home to Yreka

By 1927 the last stage in the county was left, and it was not driving. Most of the old stage coaches had been sold off to Hollywood, used for parts, or abandoned. The Siskiyou News told of the last stage existing in the area and in a January 13, 1927 article explained that local merchants got together and saved the last stage. They paid \$250 for the Yreka to Etna Stage coach.



CA Lic #914432 Email: nbranson@sisqtel.net



2004 Builder's Choice Award for Outstanding Cabinetry from the Washington Tri-Cities Parade of Homes



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May 2 thru May 18 at the Art Gallery of the Learning Resources Center at COS

Each year COS Photography instructor James Gilmore and his photography students transition into the world of professional artists through co-curating and showing work in a collaborative student show. This year's show, Visual Alternatives, draws its title from seeing with the mind's eye rather than relying on the impassive eye of the camera, and uses both contemporary and traditional methods of making images.

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SCULPTOR WORKSHOPS

Wednesday Evenings from 7-9 pm at St. Marks Preservation Square in Yreka. Call Don at (530) 340-5587 for more info.

> For Butte Valley Info & Events Please visit Page 21.

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

We invite you to check on every page of this publication for many other Community Classes and Events that are happening. Deadline is 20th of the month for upcoming events.

CAL-SALMON 2012 NORDHEIMER RACE MAY 4-5-6 - GNARLY RAFTS & KAYAKS CALL PAUL FOR INFO 707-407-9500

Siskiyou County Consignment Auction Saturday May 5 from 10am - 5pm at Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds. For more info: call 842-2767

E. Clampus Vitus Chapter Humbug 73 10th Annual Kids Fishing Derby May 5, 2012 Info: 530-842-4984.

65th ANNUAL ETNA RODEO !! Sunday May 6 from 4 to 11 pm at the Pleasure Park Rodeo Grounds in Etna

15th Annual Senior Services Fair Wednesday May 9, 2012 from 9am-1pm Yreka Community Center. See Pages 28-29 details!

WOLVES IN CALIFORNIA: GET THE FACTS! Siskiyou Co. Dept. Of Agriculture is putting on a FREE presentation on Thursday May 10 at 6:30 pm at the Miner's Inn Convention Center in Yreka. Learn what you can expect if wolves become established in Southern Oregon and Northern California. Call 841-4112 for info.

The Yreka Institute for the Arts is Putting on Another Season of Yreka Art Walks. May 11 & June 29 from 5pm-8pm. Details: 530-598-0075.

Brave Heart West Coast Man Fest - Saturday May 12 at COS. For more info See AD on Page 8.

Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society's NATIONAL TRAIN DAY Saturday May 12th at 10am & 4th ANNUAL PIE SOCIAL at 10am on May 26th Call Dunsmuir Chamber for more info: 235-2177

A Special Mother's Day Tea Party Saturday May 12, 2:00 - 4:30pm. Presented by Dunsmuir Garden Club. Fancy teas, beautiful tea sandwiches, dainty sweets and live harp music. Bring your favorite Mom! \$10/person. Reservations required: 530-235-2177

Saturday May 19 "A Little Bit of Italy" Italian Dinner Fund Raiser For Seniors. See Page 28 for more info!



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ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION



by Ralph Fain

Siskiyou Chapter Million Dollar RMEF Banquet

HOLY GHOST FESTIVAL & PORTUGUESE PICNIC

When: Sunday June 3, 2012 Where: Hawkinsville, California Queen's Parade: 11 am Mass of Thanksgiving: 11:15 am Pit Barbecue Beef Dinner: 12:30 to 2:30 pm Times are Approximate. Delicious Food, Games, Bingo, Drawings & Auctions! Everyone is Welcome !

-

Call (530) 842-3997 for info.



"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, November 1939

Be quick if you want to attend the upcoming May 19, Siskiyou Chapter Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet! Tickets are limited and going fast! Call Denise Weikert at 530-842-2021 to get yours before they are gone! The dinner/auction will be held at the Yreka Community Center with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. and continuing until the celebration is over! Donation of items and merchandise for the banquet are still being accepted, contact Denise or us, here at Jefferson Backroads, to make arrangements for someone to pick up your generous donation!

This year's event is the Siskiyou Chapter's 16th annual banquet which will be celebrating Siskiyou County's \$1 Million Fund Raising milestone. "Congratulations!" and "Thank You!" to all the supporting businesses, vendors, RMEF members, banquet attendees, donors and hard

> working committee members who have contributed to make this banquet a grand success!! You are some of the finest hunter/conservationists on the planet!

> Scheduled to join the fun will be founding RMEF members Bob Munson and Charlie Decker! Other highlights include a Rocky Mountain Bull Elk Tag donated by Roseburg Resources with access to 27,000 acres of Roseburg land near the old town site of Pondosa, which will be up for auction, a Siskiyou County Bull Elk Tag donated by Jerry and Donna Bacigalupi, which will be awarded by drawing and of course the Les Schwab, Early Bird and Progressive drawings. Don't forget all the live/silent auction items and general raffle items!



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Continued from Page 18

Do you want to know more about what the RMEF has done for elk and other wildlife right here in Siskiyou County? Watch for the informational handout at the banquet with facts about the work RMEF has accomplished right here in Siskiyou County. Just a teaser though, with \$1million raised locally here in Siskiyou County, RMEF has spent \$1.4million back into our county and wildlife.

So plan on a great time, with great friends, for a great event and a great cause! Get your tickets now!!

This month's Jefferson Backroads cover photo is a dandy Roosevelt Bull Elk taken in the Marble Mountains of Siskiyou County by Bob Parry, Owner of Parry's Market in Happy Camp - a great place to stop for supplies when you are down river. The bull's rack green scored 316+ netting 307+. The Bases are 14 1/2'' in dia. and the crowns are 16+'' This is a beautiful 7x7 bull taken right here in our neck of the woods! The mount will be on display at the banquet!



WOLVES IN CALIFORNIA: GET THE FACTS!

Siskiyou Co. Dept. Of Agriculture is putting on a FREE presentation by Carter Niemeyer, an expert in wolf biology and a leading authority on wolves on Thursday May 10 at 6:30 pm at the Miner's Inn Convention Center in Yreka. Learn what you can expect if wolves become established in Southern Oregon and Northern California. Call 841-4112 for info.

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May 2012 Page 19

BUTTE VALLEY AREA





Howdy All! We are here to report we have found a pretty amazing new little restaurant in downtown Dorris, California right on Highway 97 called A Slice of Heaven Delicatessen. The two guys running it, Mike Craddock and Andy

Scrumptious Black Berry / Cheese Marble Cake

Roberts, have a great sense of how to create beautifully DELICIOUS FOOD and they do JUST that! They opened up in September of 2011 and have been going strong ever since! They update Facebook daily with their specials!

To start, the atmosphere is charming and quaint. A Slice of Heaven Delicatessen is located inside one of the majestic historic buildings in downtown Dorris. As soon as you walk in the door, you can feel their creativity and attention to detail. Every restaurant owner has the ability to pay attention to those "special little details" that speak volumes of the character of the people running it and I gotta say: "Mike and Andy definitely GET it!"

These guys take great pride in preparing and serving delicious homemade food. They use locally grown Prather Ranch beef for their burgers. They have amazing breakfast and lunch specials every day. They display and sell fabulous locally homemade jams and jellies, pickled beets and locally grown honey. And this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Their bakery case is bulging each morning with mouth watering treats such as homemade scones, donuts, muffins, cookies, pastries, apple fritters and cream puffs. They also make fresh from scratch pies, cakes, brownies, and incredible specialties such as blackberry/cheese marble cakes. An early morning trip to sample their goodies for breakfast is in order and I guarantee you will be glad you did.

Open every day but Thursdays now, from 7am to 7pm for the spring and summer, they create amazing meals all day long starting with anything from pancakes to waffles to French toast, sunny breakfast sandwiches, omelets, biscuits and gravy to breakfast burritos. Lunch and dinner can be anything from sandwiches, wraps and burgers to fresh made soups, quiches and cabbage rolls, to salads, meatloaf and chili with homemade cornbread. Andy makes a delightful homemade cream of mushroom soup, cheddar broccoli soup and creamy clam chowder that are all delectable! It's a good idea to call ahead to find out what their specials are each week and then make the journey. It will be well worth your trip!

Ralph and I ate there recently and tried two of their amazing hot sandwiches for dinner. Ralph had the Philly Steak and Cheese Sub and I tried the Toasty Meatball Sub. Andy grilled up our sandwiches right before our eyes! We also had some of their unique hot German potato salad on the side. Our sandwiches



Fun and Colorful Cake Pops!

were fully loaded and out of this world! Lots of tasty meat and cheese and grilled veggies on the Philly, and the giant meatballs and marinara sauce and cheeses on my Meatball sub were extremely delicious! I almost didn't let Ralph try a bite, it was that good! The hot German potato salad, which Gene at Lane's Market highly recommended, was wonderful!

I hear these guys do an old fashioned heavenly Magical Monte Cristo sandwich. I have never had one before but NEXT TIME I GO over to A Taste of Heaven, I plan to try one!

A couple of FUN specials they do for desserts that your kids would LOVE to have at their next birthday party are Frosted Cake Pops on a Stick and Fluffy Decorated Cupcakes in a Cone!

Give Mike and Andy a call if you want to set up a little party in their restaurant, if you need some special cakes or pies for an upcoming event or if you would like a large quantity of any of their many special creations. They would LOVE to whip up some amazing food for you and your gang!

In closing, one of the pies I plan to try next is their famous Cherry Chocolate Chip Pie.... That's all I can say for now... my mouth is watering already...... ◆

-MFain, editor

See AD on Page 21 A Slice of Heaven Delicatessen 322 S. Main Street Dorris, CA 96023 (530) 397-5493 Open Fri. thru Wed. 7am-7pm

Page 20 Check out the Local Links Page on our Website for TONS of cool websites !!

BUTTE VALLEY AREA

Butte Valley Community Resource Center 232 S. Oregon Street - Dorris, CA (530) 397-2273

UPCOMING EVENTS

Butte Valley Citizen of the Year Honoree for 2012 is Sandy Hamilton. Come to the Celebration on Friday May 18 at 12:30 pm at the Hospitality Dinner House in Dorris. RSVP at 530-398-4586!

Friends of NRA Prime Rib Dinner Friday May 25. Call for more info and tickets (530) 397-4770.

Butte Valley Farmer's Market is starting up in June. If you are a local vendor of agricultural products, please call us at (530) 397-2273 for more info.

> Antiques Faire Set for August 3!

MEALS ON WHEELS FOR ELDERLY & DISABLED CALL (530) 397-2273

SISKIYOU CO. VETERAN SERVICES Thursday May 24 at 10:00 am at BVCRC



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Now taking reservations for the beautiful new Rustic Lodge at the Butte Valley Community Park in Dorris for weddings, seminars, meetings, trainings, holiday parties, etc.

> Please contact Bob Campbell, Reservation Coordinator at (541) 892-1636 or Email: beverlynbob@yahoo.com



Open Friday through Wednesday 7am-7pm

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Golden opportunity, gorgeous Class A commercial building on busy Churn Creek Road. Two levels with elevator. High tech design with quality furnishings. Long standing tenants. Great 1031 exchange. \$1,850,000.



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Spring Round-up on the Modoc

"There are three kinds of men: The ones that learn by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence." Will Rogers

The bawling of cows and calves as they approached alerted me to the fact I had better get my lazy behind outta' bed. I had been listening for them as I lay in my nice comfy blankets. About six travel trailers of us who were invited guests and out of area family had parked near the corrals. With a loaded hay wagon in the lead and several riders on four wheelers bringing up the rear, the herd was slowly heading for the corrals.

It was just last month and I was on the Hagge Ranch in Modoc County to help with the spring ritual of vaccinating cows and branding, dehorning, vaccinating and ear notching the calves, oh, and cutting bull calves who suddenly found themselves to be steers!



Photo of Willie Hagge Branding with some help...

Once in the corrals, the cows were separated from the calves. A group of us vaccinated cows while in another corral everybody else worked the calves. There were two calf tables in operation, both with a crew of several people, (including wives, sons, daughters and friends) each with a specific job. One person notching an ear, one performing the branding, one giving vaccinations and one cutting the bull calves. A couple of the wives were running the calves from the corral thru the chute to the tables. One of them was my daughter- in- law Nicole who would grab the bewildered calf by the tail and head down the chute. I was never quite sure if she was pushing and guiding the calf or if the calf was just pulling her thru the chute. Either way, she was getting em' to the table!

This whole operation lasted only an average of 3-4 minutes per calf. Calves have an amazing constitution. They are released from the table with a "what the heck just happened?" look, and then run off looking for their

Continued on Page 23

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Backroads Adventures Continued from Page 22



Photo of John Hagge

mom. Now if you put me in a squeeze chute, turned me sideways laying on a table, branded my butt cheek, notched my ear, stuck me with needles and castrated me, I don't think I would be able to even crawl away, it makes my knees weak just watching the work and imagining myself going thru this process!

These cattle are not just the Hagge's livelihood, they care for their animals. Their cattle are worked in a manner that is quick and efficient with minimal stress placed on the cows and calves. Each animal is inspected several times as it goes through the process, making sure there is no sickness or injury which needs attention.

I have known the Hagge's since the late 80's when our kids grew up together near Alturas. The family has owned the ranch for several generations and now all the kids have grown into great adults who gather from near and far to help work their cattle each spring. Willie and Nancy, John and Robin, and now Bryce and Shannon, live on the ranch, taking on the day to day working responsibility that comes with a seven day a week operation. Every year they irrigate, grow, cut and put up their own hay. Their beef is now "Certified Organic."

The Hagge's are wonderful "salt of the earth" folks, honest, hardworking and the true fabric of our Country, especially here in the State of Jefferson. We can proudly say we also have many of these hard working ranchers right here in Siskiyou County, including the Jenners of Scott Valley, Scott River Ranch Organic Grass Fed Beef and many others. These ranchers deserve our full support!

Thanks Willie, John and Bryce for inviting me to take part in your operation and lives!! *Photos and story by Ralph Fain.* ◆

"Never approach a bull from the front, a horse from the rear, or a fool from any direction." Author Unknown



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Page 24 Check out the Local Links Page on our Website for TONS of cool websites !!

BICYCLE TOURI&M IN &I&KIYOU COUNTY

We invite you to attend our Siskiyou Cycling and Trails Tourism Forum on May 16 & 17. This is a rare learning and working opportunity for indviduals. businesses and organizations to MAKE OUR AREA ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO RIDE A BICYCLE NORTH IN AMERICA. Together we can elevate Siskiyou County to a bicycle travel friendly destination



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and help local businesses to benefit from visiting cyclists.

Join the Economic Growth Group (EGG) in planning efforts, learn about the growing cycling tourism market, foster key connections with regional, state and national organizations and focus community energy on the development of necessary infrastructure, business services and marketing. See both days' locations and times below.

This exceptional event is made available to Siskiyou County through the generosity of The Ford Family Foundation and Mt. Shasta Ski Park. There is no charge for the event, although donations will be accepted to help fund the development of a countywide cycling map!

Siskiyou Cycling & Trails Tourism Forum

Day 1 - Wed. May 16 from 9am-4pm General Session at Mt. Shasta Ski Park in Mt. Shasta - includes lunch

Day 2 - Thur. May 17 from 8:30 to Noon Let's Make it Happen Session at the United Methodist Church 502 N. Fairchild in Yreka

Please RSVP for Day 1 or Day 1 and 2 to siskiyouegg@gmail.com



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For more information about the Siskiyou County CattleWomen, go to www.siskiyoucountycattlewomen.com.

than 75% of waterfowl are protected by private, not public, land.

DUNSMUIR RAILROAD HISTORY By Neil Chichizola

DUNSMUIR RAILROAD SHOPS

When the railroad reached Dunsmuir in 1886, it was decided that the narrow flat area in Dunsmuir was an ideal spot to build the shops for the care and repair of steam locomotives. Besides the extensive roundhouse, where more minor repairs were made, a large shop building for heavier repairs and machine work was built alongside. Here locomotive driving wheels could be removed to turn or replace the tires. Many of the appliances on a steam locomotive could also be repaired or replaced along with the piping and many fittings and valves. Extremely heavy repairs, like retubing boilers and rebuilding running gear, were done at either Roseville or Sacramento.

Steam locomotives were extremely labor intensive machines due to the need for constant maintenance. This meant Dunsmuir was home to a large contingent of mechanics, machinists, pipefitters and general laborers employed in the large shop and roundhouse. Also next to the shops and roundhouse was a steam power house which supplied steam heat via a network of piping to the shops and roundhouse as well as the depot and centralized traffic control (CTC) offices.

Locomotives coming into Dunsmuir on through trains would be noted for any equipment faults. The roundhouse foreman would assign the repair work to roundhouse personnel or to the machine shop for more extensive work. In 1950 Dunsmuir had 5,000 residents, most of which worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad either in train service or maintenance work.

By 1948, diesels began to arrive in numbers, thus slowly displacing expensive steam power. They were serviced and fueled at first from tank cars spotted alongside the shops uptown. Despite this servicing, they

Railroad Display Room Located at the Amtrak Depot Corner of Pine & Sacramento Dunsmuir, Ca Info (530) 235-0929 Visit us from 10 am - 2 pm on the 3rd Saturday of the Month!



Courtesy FCIT, Florida State University

Published with Pride in the old Mineshafts of Historic Downtown Yreka !

Dunsmuir Railroad History Continued from Page 26

didn't require the high level of service that steam power required. To load the sand hatches on diesels, a bucket of sand was used simply by manually pouring it into the sand boxes. This very labor intensive method was soon changed and upgraded to sanding towers built to do this more efficiently.

By 1955, steam power was essentially gone from the Shasta Division and Dunsmuir. This probably impacted Dunsmuir more than the Interstate 5 Freeway coming through town and thus impacted the population count negatively. From this time on, the population steadily declined until present day.

The year 1961 saw the construction of diesel service facilities at the north end of the south yard. You can still see remnants of this today. Facilities in the upper (up town) yard were abandoned, and most shop buildings were demolished then. The lower yard still saw much switching activity at this time.



There were tracks (rip tracks) which were used to repair freight cars in place. With the advent of the larger second generation

of diesels, with larger fuel tanks, the need for these facilities ended. Locomotives could now run through from Roseville to Klamath Falls without refueling. Now the only need was to simply change crews in Dunsmuir as we see today.

The lower yard was finally closed in 1968 with no further need of the servicing facilities for refueling and sandbox refilling. This all disappeared in a mere seven years. Changes came faster in 1971 with the CTC Annex being used as the AMTRAK Depot, which is still used today.

Sadly, the original wooden Southern Pacific Depot was demolished in 1973. Today, all that remains are the turntable, the CTC Annex and the vault. The south yard is down to a mere five tracks sometimes used to hold trains waiting for fresh crews.

Come to visit Dunsmuir; there is still a lot of railroad history to take in and some old timers who still spin old railroad stories. The train still comes through Dunsmuir day and night and changes crews on every train.

Come and also enjoy RAILROAD DAYS June 8, 9 and 10 in Dunsmuir. Read more history about Dunsmuir Railroad Days written by Ron McCloud on Page 2. \blacklozenge

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Siskiyou County District Attorney Elder Abuse Advocacy & Outreach Program 311 Fourth St. P.O. Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097 530-842-8102



<u>Weekly Activities:</u> Zumba Classes, Tai Chi Classes, Needlecraft Group, Bingo, ETC !!

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5941 Sacramento Avenue - Dunsmuir, CA 96097

E Clampus Vitus - Our Purpose and Roots

Retold by Bill Wensrich in the Reckoning of Our Order 6017

The Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus is a fraternal organization founded in 4005 B.C. On second thought, maybe it was around 1845. ECV's commission may have come from the Emperor of the Celestial Kingdom. More likely, it evolved and was expanded upon during the California gold rush. No one knows for sure. It appears much of the historical record regarding the exact origin of ECV will remain forever murky. As all Clampers know and like to recall, "No one present was in any condition to take minutes, and after a meeting, no one could be found who remembered what happened."

We do know that ECV then, as well as today, includes taking care of widows and orphans. Clampers also enjoy a hearty drink while carrying out practical jokes and regaling each other with tales of the Trans-Mississippi west and other history. More importantly, modern day activities carried out by 40 Chapters, all nonprofit organizations, also include:

(1) On-going preservation of Western US history through the erection of historical plaques; (2) Raising awareness and monies for worthy historical and educational activities; (3) Public help programs such as the Yreka Kid's Fishing Derby; and (4) Participating in local parades, community events, charities and harmless levity.

Decades of dedication to local history by ECV has resulted in the placement of over 2,000 plaques commemorating significant historical buildings and stories of interest. These diverse monuments erected by ECV Chapters across the West remember individuals, places and events. Discovering and preserving the truth from the past is important to learning and knowing who we are. Your local ECV organization established in 1973, Humbug Chapter, has partnered numerous times with the Siskiyou County Historical Society in the research and placement of historical plaques. To date, the chapter has erected 40 plaques commemorating Northern California and Southern Oregon history.



ECV is said to have been started about 1845 by one Ephraim Bee, a tavern keeper, surveyor, blacksmith and state legislator from what is now West Virginia. The organization's roots germinated in California when a man named Joe Zumwalt, traveling to the 1849 gold rush, brought an eastern lodge ritual book with him. Taking hold in 1851, Mokelumne Hill became recognized as California's first official ECV Lodge. The organization, by nature, was a spoof on more dignified and straight-laced fraternal orders of the day such as the Freemasons. Those orders took themselves too seriously and looked down on the mining working class.

Evolving from pure burlesque and serious drinking to a worthy organization with a penchant for local history, ECV has undergone growth, decline and rebirth over the last 167 years. With the decline of mining and depopulation of camps in the diggins, ECV also declined. The old E Clampus Vitus ran out of steam by the turn of the twentieth century. By 1915, there was only one lodge left. A lawyer named Carl Wheat and two friends, Leon O. Whitsell and George Ezra Dane, revived ECV in the early 1930s. Together they guided the organization to devote itself to the subject of preserving California and Trans-Mississippi Western history.





Please join Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office botanists Nadine Kanim and Sheri Hagwood, and Twyla Miller of the Siskiyou Arboretum for a FREE 2-hour Guided Nature Walk to see the Yreka phlox in bloom.

Directions from I-5: take Yreka Exit 776, turn east onto Hwy 3 towards Montague for 0.60 mile to a kiosk on the left at the Chinese Cemetary parking lot, just before Juniper Way.

Come see more wildflowers in bloom at the next walk on Wednesday June 20 from Noon to 2pm at Greenhorn Park in Yreka.

For more information, please call Sheri at (530) 842-5763 or visit our website at: http://www.fws.gov/yreka/cpwn.html

E Clampus Vitus Continued from Page 30

By the mid-1930s the revivified ECV had established four chapters as well as made claim to the ECV recognized "territory of New Mexico" for another chapter. Today, Humbug Chapter No. 73 serves California's Siskiyou County and is part of the larger E Clampus Vitus organization. From four California Chapters in 1936, ECV has grown to 40 Chapters and two Outposts located in nine western states.

Reminding us to retain the original spirit of ECV, Al Shumate, one of the Order's past Sublime Noble Grand Humbugs, wrote a vignette on ECV which included the following four points. "First, what does E Clampus Vitus mean? Well, that is the greatest mystery of all, because none of us know what it means! Second, what is the purpose of the society? There is a description of the society that all of you have heard. It is claimed ECV is a historical drinking society; others claim it to be a drinking historical society. The debate continues; it has never been solved. Third, the objectives of ECV are well known: Members swear to take care of the widows and orphans — especially the widows. Fourth, the governing authority of the Clampers is equally as explicit: All members are officers and all offices are of equal indignity."

NOTE: Watch for the new Monthly Feature in Jefferson Backroads about the many Historical Markers.





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Yreka, CA 96097

(530) 841-1210





Here is the initial 2012 List of active Farmer's Markets going on throughout Siskiyou County.

Thank You for Supporting Your Local Growers, Food Producers, Artists & Crafters!

Butte Valley - Dorris City Hall Lawn 2nd and 4th Thursdays in June, July & August Time to be determined. (530) 397-2273

Dunsmuir - Certified Market Saturdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Children's Park on Dunsmuir Ave July through the last weekend in September

Etna Farmers Market - Certified Market Fridays 4 pm - 7 pm @ Dotty's Parking Lot Friday May 25th through October

> Happy Camp Farmers Market Days and Times to be Determined

Miner Street Market - Certified Market Fridays 3:30 pm - 6 pm 300 Block of Miner Street, Yreka June through October

Mount Shasta - Certified Market Mondays 3:30 pm - 6 pm 2nd week of June through October Mount Shasta Blvd

Montague Saturdays 9 am - Noon @ Railroad Park June through October

McCloud Market - Certified Market Saturdays 11 am - 3 pm McCloud General Store parking lot June through October

Scott Valley Farmers Market - Certified Market Tuesdays 5:30 pm - 7 pm Baseball field parking lot Hwy 3 July through October

> Yreka - Certified Market Wednesdays 11 am - 2 pm A-1 Auto parking lot June through mid October

Check out the Local Links Page on our Website for TONS of website LINKS!!

Armed Forces - Veterans Appreciation Day

Come to support and celebrate our Siskiyou County Veterans. This year's annual event is put on by the Siskiyou County Veterans Service Office and the Siskiyou County Human Services Agency.

Transportation to this event is available FREE of CHARGE for Veterans and their families.

The Siskiyou Striders are sponsoring the 1st Annual Armed Forces Day 5K Walk/Run Event.

Please see the schedule of events in the AD at the bottom of this page. Breakfast will be available to Veterans at no cost. Raffle tickets are on sale for a logging truck load of firewood.

A Clarence Barger Big Band Concert is scheduled as part of the entertainment!! God Bless Our Veterans.

Siskiyou County Armed Forces Day Saturday May 19, 2012 from 8am-2pm Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds - Winema Hall

The community of Siskiyou County has planned this county-wide event to Honor our Military Personnel. The public is invited to come and express their Support of our Service Men and Women as we provide a venue of displays, resource booths, entertainment and a Ceremony to Honor Their Service to Our Country.

Schedule:

| 8-10am | Breakfast |
|--------|--|
| | |
| 9-11am | Entertainment includes Clarence Barger's |
| | Big Band Performance |
| 9 am | 1st Annual Armed Forces Day Walk/Run |
| 9-2pm | Resource Fair |

- 11am Appreciation Ceremony
- Noon Lunch

Call Tim Grenvik at (530) 842-8010 or Lori Fleck at (530) 841-4796 For More Information



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"On the Road to Mt. Mazama" by Bob Pasero

Bob writes for the Sacramento Valley Mirror and we will be re-printing some of the 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 information.

The state of Jefferson combines the most beautiful regions of Northern California, Southern Oregon and one of the 12 most beautiful lakes in the world. In a column for "Budget Traveler" in 2011 Beth Collins listed the "12 most beautiful lakes in the world." Only one is in the United States and, it is here in Jefferson. To see and experience this truly beautiful lake we need to get on the road to Mount Mazama.

Historically Mount Mazama was inhabited by 4 Native American Nations; The Klamath, Takelma, Upper Umpqua, and Molala. During the summer of 1980, encamped on the east side of Mount Shasta, a friend and member of the Klamath Nation shared some of the ancient legends of his people. With campfire smoke curling toward the stars he told the story, passed from

> father to son for 7,000 years, of two Spirit Chiefs; Llao of the underworld and Skell, the Spirit Chief of the sky. Llao fell in love with a Klamath princess who rejected him. The angry Llao showered the Klamath Nation with fire and burning rocks. The Klamath nation turned to Skell for help. Skell came to earth and established himself on Mount Shasta to the south. A furious battle between the two Spirit Chiefs ensued with each hurling fire and stones at the other. Eventually Skell killed Llao. Llao's home, Mount Mazama, collapsed in a cataclysmic, volcanic eruption. All that remained of Llao's kingdom was a massive caldera that filled with water from rain and melting snow forming beautiful Crater Lake. According to Klamath legend the top of Llao's head is still visible. Today we know it as "Wizard Island" near the western shore of the lake. This ancient Klamath legend is not lost. Between Wizard Island and the west shore of this magnificent lake is a channel of water named "Skell Channel," "Llao Rock" is along the northwest edge of the lake, and "Skell Head" is on the east side of the lake.

> Geologists studying the volcanoes of the Cascades confirm that Mount Shasta and Mount Mazama erupted at the same point in geologic history 7,700 years ago. Mount Mazama collapsed following one of the most powerful volcanic eruptions in the lower 48 states. While the outcome of the battle proved fatal for Llao, it was a blessing for the rest of us. Today we know the home of Chief Llao as Crater Lake National Park.

> According to the US Geological Survey the eruption at Mount Mazama was 42 times more powerful than the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. The caldera formed when the top 5000 feet of the crater collapsed.



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"On the Road to . . . " Continued from Page 34

Minor lava flows subsequently sealed the bottom, allowing the caldera to fill with an estimated four and a half trillion gallons of water. All of the water in Crater Lake is either from rainfall or snow melt there are no inlets to the lake. Hydrologists estimate that it took 750 years to fill the lake. Furthermore there is no outlet to the lake. Water is lost through evaporation and by being absorbed through the porous lava that forms the caldera.

There are two routes to Crater Lake National Park. The southern route is by way of Klamath Falls and the northern route is through Medford. The northern route is longer and the north entrance to the Park is often closed well into the summer months due to high snow accumulations. Check the Crater Lake website (http://www.nps.gov/crla/index.htm) for the status of the north entrance before taking this route.

There is much more to Crater Lake than the obvious esthetics. Crater Lake, at nearly 2,000 feet deep, is the deepest lake in the United States (300 feet deeper than Lake Tahoe), it is also the deepest in the western hemisphere. The majority of sources list Crater Lake as the 7th deepest lake in the world and Crater Lake is the cleanest large body of water in the world. The water purity and the depth of the lake give the lake its hallmark emerald blue appearance.

During the summer months a leisurely 33 mile drive around the entire lake is possible following the Rim Drive. Every twist and turn in the road offers ever more stunning views of the surrounding mountains and the lake. There are over 90 miles of one way or loop hiking trails in the park. However, lake access is permitted on only one trail, the Cleetwood Cove trail. The trail is over a mile in length and drops 700 feet to the lake. It is a very strenuous trail. Only hikers in good physical condition should attempt it. Think of it this way, hiking back up from the lake is like climbing 65 flights of broken and uneven stairs. Seven

hundred feet is one and a half times the height of the Washington Monument at a mile and a half above sea level. Having said that, for the properly prepared hiker the Cleetwood Cove Trail offers the opportunity to take an excursion boat trip that circumnavigates the Lake offering close up views of the "Phantom Ship," and "Wizard Island." For those who seek the unique, there are also hiking trails on Wizard Island that offer the exclusive opportunity to climb a volcano within a volcano. If you are very lucky on your boat tour around the lake you may even see, the "Old Man of the Lake." The "Old Man of the Lake" is a ghostly white 4 to 5 foot





Crater Lake Photos by Bob Pasero

portion of a much longer mountain hemlock tree that has floated upright in Crater Lake for over 100 years.

Crater Lake is widely known for its intense blue color. Often people believe that the blueness of the water is a photographic trick created in a dark room or by digital manipulation. The fact is that Crater Lake is, quite simply, the bluest body of water you will ever see. A trip to Crater Lake is steeped in the legend and lore of the State of Jefferson. It also calls you back and again. I have been to Crater Lake three times; once as a child, once many years ago on a motorcycle trip and one recent trip. On our recent trip I spoke with a tourist from England. He and his family have visited Crater Lake 4 times. I can't let that British tourist beat me, I must return to Crater Lake. Perhaps I'll see you on the Road to Mount Mazama. ◆





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