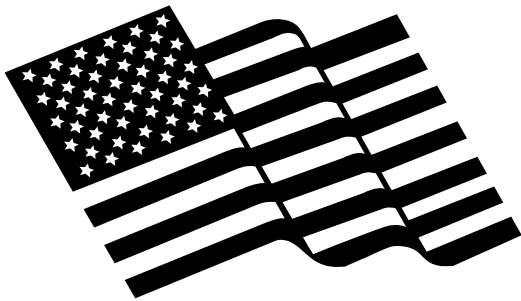


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# JEFFERSON BACKROADS

Some History - Current Events - Fun & Adventure  
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A Happy Little Publication  
October 2012



Locally Produced and  
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The State of Jefferson

Check out our great new monthly  
feature about Fire Lookouts in The  
State of Jefferson.

These fire lookouts, both the  
incredible structures and the amazing  
people diligently staffing them, are some  
of our most majestic bits of local  
history.

The photo at right is the Blue Ridge  
Fire Lookout found on the Salmon  
River Ranger District of the Klamath  
National Forest. It sits above the  
confluence of the North and South  
Forks of the Salmon River. This photo  
was submitted by Jaime Tarne. Read  
story starting on Page 12.



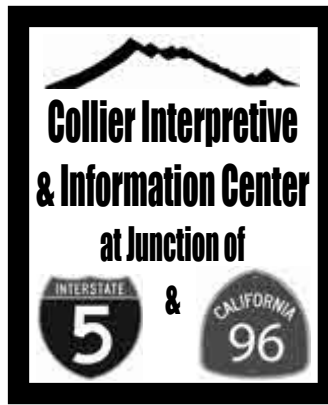
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<p><b>Etna Museum</b> 520 Main Street Etna, CA 96027 (530) 467-5366 <a href="http://www.etnamuseum.org">www.etnamuseum.org</a></p>	<p><b>The People's Center The Karuk Tribe</b> 64236 Second Avenue Happy Camp, CA 96039 (530) 493-1600 <a href="http://www.karuk.us">www.karuk.us</a></p>
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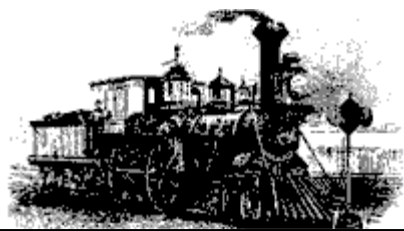
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# DUNSMUIR ART WALK

## OCTOBER 20, 2012, FROM 2-6PM

### IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DUNSMUIR



Dunsmuir R.R Depot Historical Society requests the public to "ride its membership train."

Funds raised continues maintenance of Dunsmuir's Amtrak Depot, as well as the R.R Display Room and Dunsmuir Museum.

Send \$10 check to PO Box 324, Dunsmuir CA 96025. Info: 235-0929.

Oct 20th The Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society's RAILROAD DISPLAY ROOM will be open from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. as part of Dunsmuir's Art Walk.

View historic railroad photographs and memorabilia and view the work-in-progress Dunsmuir Museum.

Refreshments will be served and a local artist will be featured.

The Railroad Display Room will be closed from November 2012 thru March 2013 for the winter.

For information please call (530) 235-0929.

The Dunsmuir Autumn ART WALK will be held October 20, 2012, from 2-6pm in historic downtown Dunsmuir. Approximately 30 artists will host receptions with refreshments in local businesses and in historic buildings in this Victorian railroad town. Some local studios will be open for viewing also. Fall colors will be appearing and weather should be mild. Come enjoy the views in this little town in a canyon on the Sacramento river. All ART WALK events are free of charge. Artists will be present and most work will be for sale. Refreshments will be offered at each venue.

Local Dunsmuir artists exhibiting their work include Fred Gordon, Dick Moon, Shery Larson, Cheryl Petty, Penelope Joy, Janet Crittenden, Tammy Cutting, and Lisa Wood. Mount Shasta, McCloud, Weed and Yreka artists include Joy Price, Dorothea Schoenstein, Linda Vivas, Ron Cooper, Alexander Balos, Lou Wandro, Jack Hoffman, Jack Wilson, Bob McCrillis, Gail Domanski, Cynthia Henderson, Marga Filip, Jenny Purtle, and Amanda Thomas. New additions include Kim Solga, Shastina Simpson, Oscar Codoba, Lindsey Budner, Suzanne Birch from Etna, Cora Bromwell, Tim Seidlitz, and Jeffrey Pessoa.

The Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society's Railroad Display Room as well as the Dunsmuir Museum will be open from 2-6pm also. It is located at the Amtrak Depot on Sacramento Avenue and will host two artists as well. Railroad photographs and memorabilia will be available for viewing. Refreshments for all visitors are free Amtrak paper hats will be given to children.

Kicking off this year's Autumn ART WALK will be the grand opening of the Dunsmuir Siskiyou Arts Museum and Gallery/Gift Store Oct. 12 from 2-9pm. This is one week before ART WALK and will showcase artworks from the artists participating in the 2012 Autumn ART WALK Oct. 20. Come and visit Siskiyou County's newest art gallery and museum and get a taste of the upcoming ART WALK.

During ART WALK, the winners of the Dunsmuir Botanical Gardens third annual Photo Contest will be highlighted in the Boxcar Gallery. The images will be judged in four categories which include wildlife, plants, landscape/scenery, and people in nature. Many photos showcase recreation, plant life, and celebrations held in the Gardens throughout the year. All ART WALK participants can cast their vote for a special People's Choice Award to be announced at 6:15pm in the Boxcar Gallery Oct. 20.

Visitors can plan to dine in one of many fine restaurants in town and stay overnight to enjoy shopping or walking or fishing by the river the next day.

Artists interested in participating are urged to call 859-3599.

Further information can be obtained at the Dunsmuir Chamber at 235-2177, [www.dunsmuir.com](http://www.dunsmuir.com), and Facebook.

Put on by the Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce, the event is also sponsored by Pacific Power, the City of Dunsmuir, and Bombs Away LLC of Dunsmuir.

*ART WALK Committee members are Linda Price, Lauri Sturdivant, and Barbara Cross. For information, please contact Linda Price 235-4050. Lauri Sturdivant 859-3599. Barbara Cross 235-9866. ♦*



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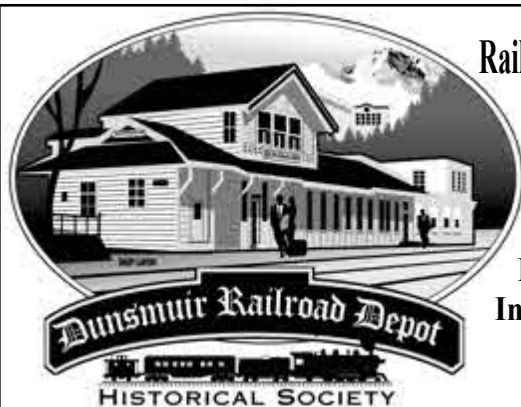
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# SCOTT VALLEY PUMPKIN PATCH

Husband and wife team, Joy and Bradley Isbell, of Fort Jones, California are excited for another pumpkin season. This year they planted 20 varieties of pumpkins, including a PINK pumpkin. This year's Porcelain Doll has been planted in conjunction with Breast Cancer Awareness Month and an organization called the Pink Pumpkin Patch, which raises funds for breast cancer research. A portion of every pink pumpkin sold will go back to this foundation.

In addition to various pumpkins, visitors to the patch can also find winter squash, and cornstalk bundles to complete their fall decor.

The patch is open weekends in October from 10 to 4pm and is located in beautiful Scott Valley, just two miles south of Fort Jones, right off of Highway 3.

For more information please visit [www.isbellgardens.com](http://www.isbellgardens.com) or call (530) 598-1188. (Please see their advertisement, below.)

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*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](http://www.fromoverthehill.info).*

# "From Over The Hill"

By Che'usa Wend

A few weeks ago while painting the window trim on the back garage (only 2 years late!), I kept hearing one of those alarms that trucks make when they back up. It sounded like it was coming from not far away and uptown. Then I heard the most wondrous Bell sound . . . just rung once. I haven't heard the ringing of a Church bell in a while, and it was a Monday, so couldn't imagine what it was. Then in the back of my mind I remembered Etna Fire Chief Wayne Drager tell us at a City Council meeting in August that he was working on shining up the old bell. He and a few others were working to get a saddle made for it.

I walked out further in my barnlot and sure enough could see the new addition, high atop the building. After posting a photo of the bell I had taken through the back fence on my barnlot on [www.fromoverthehill.info](http://www.fromoverthehill.info), lots of emails came in about the 'new' Bell.

I sleuthed around and found out that the BIG bell that hangs atop the building, which now houses the Etna Museum, is the original bell from back when the building was the old Fire Hall. So that one wasn't the new bell.

Eb and I paid a visit to Ariel Facey who was Fire Chief for 17 years. When he first began, the Fire Department was in the old building. Later they moved to the building that we all know now as the Fire Hall, and where he finished his career as Chief. Ariel said before they moved to the 'new' building, it housed a Blacksmith Shop. (Note: Bill Balfrey emailed that in an old 'Scott Valley Advance' newspaper, dated January 21, 1904, he found an Ad for N.C. Evans Blacksmith, Main St. opposite Butcher Shop.)

Ariel told us that the bell was originally in the old high school; however, both he and Eb said they don't recall ever hearing it ring! The story goes: when they tore down the beautiful old high school structure about 1960, the Superintendent didn't have any use for the bell as they planned to use the newer electronic 'bells' (more like 'buzzers' as I recall them from high school in Ohio) at the new high school. Soooooo, the Superintendent gifted the bell to a gentleman, who kept it at his property. A few years ago when the gentleman passed, the family gifted it back to the Fire Department.

Emails continued to come in. Bill Balfrey emailed this: "I think I recall hearing the town bell ring once, and cars were honking their horns. I asked my Grandmother (Grace Johnson Balfrey) what was happening and she said that WW II just ended." (My note: That 'town bell' may have been the one on the old Fire Hall/now the Museum.)

An email from Dave Campbell, who grew up in the old Geney house on Main Street (behind my old red barn), said he remembered hearing the bell ring once (about 1954 or 1955) during an earthquake that also cracked the brick mortar in the south wall of the school building! (My note: Each photo I have seen of the old brick high school shows two bell towers, but no bells in them, which may be **WHY** both Ariel and Eb said they don't recall ever hearing the bell ring!



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I am told those bell towers only housed bats, so they were later sealed shut.)

Back to my story . . . I checked the 'Shake Maps' and found that on December 21, 1954, Eureka, California suffered a 6.5 magnitude earthquake, which did \$2.1 million damage in Eureka and was felt from southern Oregon to San Francisco and over to Modoc County. Our friend and amazing researcher, Jen Bryan, of the Siskiyou County Genealogical Society (next door to the Siskiyou County Historical Society) found newspaper clippings for me from December 22nd and 23rd, 1954 about the earthquake that was felt in towns all around Siskiyou County.

Amazingly, while looking for a photo on a totally different subject, I came across a photo postcard (which seemed to be the rage back then) that Joanne Smith Mello had sent me last year of the 'old wooden building of 'Etna Mills High school.' The building burned down in 1913, but in that postcard, there in the belfry you can see an actual bell, which I am going to go out on a limb and say, **IS** the bell that now hangs atop our Fire Hall.

Now, the old Fire Hall building and the present Fire Hall building both have bells. Wouldn't it be fun to hear both bells ring out their wondrous sounds together???

Thanks Wayne and helpers for restoring more of our history. Just another reminder of **why** people love coming here . . . the historical beauty of this sweet place.

-Until soon, Che'usa ♦



Photo of the old Etna High School. Had to have been taken before 1913 when it burned down. It's from the old Postcard collection of Joanne Smith Mello. Submitted by Che'usa Wend.

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# Butte Valley Community

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# DISCOVERING THE STATE OF JEFFERSON BY GAIL JENNER

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

## A Short History on Grazing on Federal Lands

In August, several local organizations, including Siskiyou County CattleWomen, Siskiyou County Farm Bureau, the Siskiyou County Water Users' Association, the Siskiyou Pomona Grange, Scott Valley Protect Our Water, the Shasta Nation, and Siskiyou County Cattlemen, sponsored a Grazing Information Night in Fort Jones, at the Catholic Parish Hall on Main Street. Nearly 100 people came to listen and ask questions.

A panel, made up of five speakers, presented information about the history and the nature of grazing that takes place on public lands in the West. The first speaker was Theodora Dowling, Manager of Legislative Affairs, Public Lands' Council/ National Cattlemen's Beef Association, who is also the daughter of a five-generation ranching family in Siskiyou County. The Public Lands' Council is a national organization dedicated solely to representing public lands' ranchers in Washington, D.C. Ms. Dowling's daily work revolves around what's happening on Capitol Hill, particularly in relation to the regulatory issues ranchers and grazers face from federal agencies.



Cattle being gathered up. Young Ranch in Scott Valley. Photo courtesy Betty Jane Young Collection.

Also present was Stephanie McMorris of the U.S. Forest Service; she shared information from a number of scientific studies and about the permitting process itself. Roy Hall of the Shasta Tribe spoke about the character and issues facing the forests, especially in regards to the accumulated fuel load and fire/disease problems, which have increased substantially in the last few years. Carolyn Pimentel, a cattle rancher and grazing permittee, shared what is involved in grazing on public lands, including the restrictions and stewardship issues every permittee faces. Finally, John Menke, PhD, Rangeland Specialist and retired 25-year UC Berkeley and U.C. Davis professor, shared what constitutes sound rangeland management practices, including grazing.

The earliest grazing in the West and Northwest probably began about 1700. Tribes, like the Shoshone, kept huge herds of horses and allowed them to graze freely. Lewis and Clark reported more than 700 horses tethered in a single village with thousands of horses grazing on the grasslands beyond.

In 1792, the first known cattle arrived on Vancouver Island, brought in by the Spanish from the Hawai'ian Islands. The Spanish next imported small herds of cattle to graze the grassy regions along California's coastline. It didn't take long for people to recognize that livestock provided a constant and reliable food source; even when crops failed, cattle and sheep could be relied upon to provide the basic necessities. They provided milk, meat, cheese, fat, and leather for clothes and tack. The animals foraged on grasslands and marginal lands that could not be farmed which provided a sustainable resource that flourished year after year. In addition, the animals provided power for plowing or pulling.

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Gail L. Jenner  
 Bernita L. Tickner

**Gail Jenner**  
**Local Author**

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

**Website:**  
**www.gailjenner.com**



The western range livestock industry continued to flourish after the Civil War. In time, many herds of cattle were moved from Oregon eastward across the Rocky Mountains. The famous drives from Texas north were not the only ones to take place in the Old West. There were few barriers to the movement of these great herds, but with the invention of barbed wire, it became possible for ranchers to contain their herds. Unfortunately, competition between sheepmen and cattlemen led to the rise of the Range Wars, and overgrazing gave rise to more and more conflict.

Still, the government supported the concept of rangeland grazing; cattle, recognizing that when they are managed correctly, cows or livestock act as a natural fire retardant and transform dry, brittle brush and dead matter into a renewable resource. Grazers such as elk, deer, and bison also provided a means to keep grasslands green and lush.

According to Ms. Dowling, settlers went west with the expectation that, as was true for settlers in the East, laws would be established that would give them private ownership of the lands they settled and labored to make productive. Congress passed the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934 to give local, established ranchers the right to exclude others from their range—still with language allowing for the final disposal of those lands into private hands; it was originally thought the lands the ranchers leased from the government would eventually become private lands. The Taylor Grazing Act led to the establishment of grazing allotments, which gave preference rights to forage to the ranchers who owned private “base” property and had a history of using it.

But the final land disposal ranchers expected didn't happen, and in 1976, the Federal Land Management Policy Act changed the federal land policy from one of disposal to one of retention. Still, the Taylor Grazing Act firmly maintained the ranchers' right to the forage. It also made clear that so-called “voluntary” grazing buy-outs are not legal. Lands so designated are to be used for grazing by local ranchers, not for groups like Western Watersheds to buy and remove from use. The Public Lands Council fought and won the court battle over that point in *PLC vs. Babbitt*.

Today, with limited agricultural acres, and encroaching populations, the use of marginal lands by ranchers is of far more significance. Under the direction of the U.S. Forest Service, and managed reasonably and responsibly, ranchers continue to press for their right to use federal lands. These ranchers are taxed on the value of their grazing allotment—which is included in their deeds; they pay an annual fee to graze there; they even pay death taxes on the value of their grazing rights. ♦



Sheep and Cattle grazing in Oregon. Note horseman on far right.  
Photo Courtesy Gail Jenner.



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# FIRE LOOKOUTS OF SISKIYOU COUNTY

by Jaime Tarne, President,

FireSafe Council of Siskiyou County

Forest Fire Prevention Officer (Retired) - Klamath National Forest

## Blue Ridge Lookout Tower

Imagine yourself at a 5960 foot ridge top, in a small 7x7 room, windows all around, no door, just a trap on the floor that accesses a metal staircase, 80 feet up in the air feeling the small breeze sway you back and forth. You can look out and see the Trinity alps to your south, the Marble Mountains to the north, Russian Wilderness to the East, the coast range to the west and then you look down and 5,000 feet to the where the forks of the Salmon River meet. The feeling is staggering, overwhelming and awe inspiring to say the least.

This is what Lookouts saw for almost 50 years as they worked what is known as the Blue Ridge Lookout Tower. It was built in 1934 after the 1933 site detection analysis was done on the Klamath National Forest. In their heyday during the 1930's there were over 8,000 fire lookouts that dotted mountain tops across the United



Photo of the cabin that sits below the tower.

States with over 600 in California alone.

Below the tower, on the edge of the precipice there is a cabin that was the living quarters for the Lookout personnel. The cabin had its own unique and wonderful view as a row of windows looked out to the rivers shore. The cabin nor the tower have been maintained through the years due to lack of funding so the conditions of either are not habitable. The bottom stairs to the tower have been removed for safety reasons. Unfortunately time and vandals have taken their toll on both structures. But what has remained is a tribute to the engineering and stamina of a bygone era. Blue Ridge is listed on the Forest Fire Lookout Association National Historic Lookout Register and has been considered for the National Register of Historic Buildings.

The Tower was built by The Aermotor Company, originally of Chicago IL, the first and leading manufacturer of steel fire towers from the 1920s. These towers have very small cabs, because the towers are based upon Aermotor windmill towers. These towers are often found in the U.S. Midwest or the South, but few have made their way into the mountainous West, with Blue Ridge Lookout being one of the few. Blue Ridge Lookout is unusual in that it is one of only three 80 foot Aermotor towers with 7 x7 foot cabs constructed in the state. The site was used during the Second World War as an Aircraft Warning Station and is still staffed each year for fire detection.

Inside the middle of the small cab sits an instrument called an Osborne Fire Finder. See photo above. The Osborne Fire Finder is a type of alidade used by fire lookouts in order to find a directional bearing (azimuth) to smoke in order to alert fire crews to a wildland fire. The device was invented by William "W.B." Osborne, a U.S Forest Service employee and has been in service since 1915. Mr. Osborne also designed the photo-recording transit for making panoramic records of forest conditions, as well as a collapsible water-bag knapsack for firefighting (U.S. patented in 1935). Many fire finders were manufactured from 1920 through 1935, but the manufacturer, Leupold and Stevens, stopped production of replacement parts after 1975.



Above: photo of the lookout tower and below: photo of the Osborne Fire Finder.



Blue Ridge is located on the Salmon River Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest 3.3 miles ENE of Sawyers Bar and 9.4 miles SSE of Cecilville and 19.9 miles NE of Etna. One of 12 towers still standing on the Forest. Unfortunately the tower is not considered safe any longer and has not been a working lookout since the early 1980's. But the site is still one of the best spots for detecting fires and is utilized during lightning storms.

The FS Road 39N27 from Sawyers Bar road to Blue Ridge is in decent shape though dirt and gravel and if you feel like dedicating a day of travel, I recommend a visit while the weather is still good. Besides the views mentioned above you can see Orleans Lookout, Cecil Point (old lookout site), Forks of Salmon and the whole Salmon River drainage. It is well worth the drive.

The legal location is T39N, R12W, Sec 11 and the Latitude is 41°16'21" N and Longitude is 123°11'14" W.

I ask you please do not try and climb the tower, it truly is not safe. The view from the ridge top is breath taking on its own. Take a picnic lunch, relax in the sun and take in the view at your fingertips. (Editor's Note: See the cover photo.) ♦



View from the lookout.



Fire spotted from Blue Ridge Fire Lookout.

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The two story hotel at Upper Soda Springs in the early 1900s. It stood near what we know today as Tauhindauli Park and was a popular resort from the 1850s to the 1920s. Photo courtesy Ron McCloud.


# DUNSMUIR HISTORY

## “Dunsmuir’s Best Water on Earth” By Ron McCloud

One hundred million years ago. Sounds like a long time! Well – yes it is. Dunsmuir wasn’t on the maps yet, because actually there weren’t any maps. But the Dunsmuir area was somewhat the same as today – rugged mountains and lots of water. As a matter of fact the whole area was completely under water. Geologists tell us that the Pacific plate was entirely submerged and that is why it is possible to find fossil sea shells right here in the Dunsmuir area. Then at a somewhat later date – only twenty-five million years ago – something happened. Molten magma from under the Pacific plate boiled up and the entire Pacific plate was thrust upwards and collided with the North American plate. There was violent volcanic activity and our Mount Shasta and Mount Lassen are remnants of that time – along with the whole Cascade Range.

Things settled down a bit after that and with time the rugged mountains eroded down to the more gentle ridges and formations we now know. Castle Crags was probably about the last of the violent upheavals that took place. The Sacramento River and its tributaries slowly shaped the Sacramento River canyon. Storms, floods, volcanic activity, earthquakes and the never ending action of moving water formed what we now see. A Spanish explorer named Gabriel Moraga (the city of Moraga was named for him), upon viewing the beautiful flowing water in the 1770s, gave it a name – Rio Del Santissimo Sacramento – River of the Blessed Sacramento. We know it today as the Sacramento River.


Our Sacramento River Canyon was carved and shaped by the river and its tributaries and Dunsmuir owes much of its character to the river. The hilly curvy streets of the town reflect the channel of the river and the shape of the canyon. As long ago as 12,000 years, native peoples lived near the river. Small family groups lived in the upper reaches of the tributaries and came to the river for the salmon runs which provided them with food. They followed the animal trails along the river and established a trade and migration route that became the Siskiyou Trail which was used by early explorers and trappers. The trail became a wagon road and a stagecoach route and was roughly paralleled by the railroad. Highway 99 followed the Siskiyou Trail and evolved into the interstate highway.



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The earliest travelers on the Siskiyou Trail delighted in the freshwater springs, mineral water and soda springs. Hudson's Bay trappers in the 1820s told of the waters. One of the crew who drove cattle up the Sacramento River Canyon in 1837, following the Siskiyou Trail, wrote about camping near a spring that was "impregnated with ferruginous matter." This was most likely the soda spring near Tauhindauli Park in Dunsmuir. The gold rush of 1849 and the discovery of gold in Yreka in 1851 brought prospectors and speculators to Northern California. There was a dramatic increase in traffic on the Siskiyou Trail and in 1852 two brothers – the Lockharts – established an inn at that very same soda spring. It was a place for travelers to rest and re-supply, and it was the first non-native settlement in the area that would become Dunsmuir.

The inn was purchased in 1855 by Ross and Mary McCloud. They built a toll bridge in that bend of the river and as traffic increased, the inn – known as Upper Soda Springs – grew and prospered. It evolved into a stagecoach stop, later a railroad stop and tourist attraction widely known for the scenery, the soda water, fishing, and hunting. Yes, there was tourism as early as the 1850s. Visitors came to Upper Soda Springs and the other inns and resorts along the Siskiyou Trail - Shasta Springs, Shasta Retreat, Lower Soda Springs - all of them noted for their water. Soda water, mineral water and pure spring water were in demand as healthy refreshment and were bottled and shipped to far away cities, increasing the fame of the area. The coming of the railroad in the 1880s brought even more tourists and some of them stayed.

As the community of Dunsmuir began to grow, the need for water supply was obvious and in 1888 Levi Van Fossen established the Mossbrae Falls Water and Power Company which piped the first pure spring water to the town from the source we still enjoy today. Forty years later – in 1928 – the California Oregon Power Company (COPCO) which had acquired ownership of the springs and the water system, advertised that "The Best Water on Earth is Supplied by COPCO." It may have been the first use of that phrase – "*The Best Water on Earth.*"

The Castle Rock Water Company has recently begun to bottle our fine water and it is being shipped to far away places where it will again spread the fame of our resource. So in the short time of only a hundred million years or so Dunsmuir has evolved from being under water to being blessed with *The Best Water on Earth.*

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



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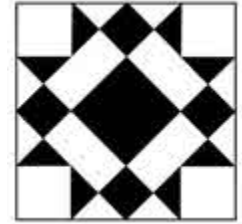
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For Yreka Cooking Classes in October see AD on  
Page 5 or Call Chef Brask at 949-735-7420.

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

We invite you to check out every page of this publication to find many other Community Classes and Events that are happening in our region. Deadline to place items on these pages is the 15th of the month. Call or email us!

Friends of the Etna Library Present their Fall Bake and Bag o' Books Sale at the Etna Library Oct 4th from 9 to 5pm Oct 5th from 9 to 6pm & Oct 6th from 9 to 1pm

October 5-6 9am to 3pm - Yard Sale Fund Raiser  
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Call 468-4075 for info

Mt. Shasta Ski and Board Swap  
Saturday October 6, 2012 from 11 am - 2 pm  
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McCloud OKTOBERFEST German Dinner Saturday  
October 6 from 5-10 pm St. Joseph's Hall McCloud. Info call McCloud Chamber of Commerce at (530) 964-3113

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Sunday October 7 from 1-4pm in Montague at the Montague Community Hall Benefit for Ronald McDonald House. Raffle, Auction, Live Auction, Food Booth, etc.  
For info call Patricia at 459-5000 or 459-5549

Events at Stewart Mineral Springs Resort in October!  
See their AD on Page 13. for more info or call  
530-938-2222.- [www.stewartmineralsprings.com](http://www.stewartmineralsprings.com)



To Find a Great Local Pumpkin Patch During the Month of October Go To the Scott Valley Pumpkin Patch! See Story & Ad on Page 5.

Friday October 12 - Clarity Medical Spa in Yreka is having a Martini Party and unveiling new Sciton Joule Laser Technology ! See Page 17 for all the details . . .

**2nd Annual Dear Mad'm Days**  
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- October 12 Reception and Book Signing with Authors of "Dear Mad'm Who was She?"
- October 13 Symposium with luncheon & evening musical camp fire on banks of the Klamath River
- October 14th is Stella W. Pattersons real birthday and A pancake breakfast will be followed by fieldtrip to the original site of Dear Mad'm cabin.

For more info: Call Happy Camp Chamber  
530-493-2900. Website: <http://www.dearmadm.com>

**BIKE-TOBERFEST IN MCCLOUD, CALIFORNIA**  
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Saturday October 20 - The Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society's RAILROAD DISPLAY ROOM will be open from 2 to 6pm as part of Dunsmuir's Art Walk. See Story on Page 4. View historic railroad photographs and memorabilia and view the work-in-progress Dunsmuir Museum. Refreshments will be served and a local artist will be featured. The Railroad Display Room will be closed from November 2012 thru March 2013 for the winter. For information please call (530) 235-0929.

October 21 Sunday the Dunsmuir Garden Club presents Candles in the Canyon Concert at the Dunsmuir Community Building from 3pm to 5:30 pm. Enjoy a concert of Romantic Music... Call the Dunsmuir Chamber for info - at 530-235-2217

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See Schedule at:  
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Yreka Tea Party Patriots Meet Tuesdays  
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Pashburg's Store, Circa 1920 at the corner of Miner and Fourth Streets. Photo courtesy of the Siskiyou County Historical Society.



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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 of Yreka, California. Feel free to read & follow Claudia on her blog at: <http://yrekahistory.blogspot.com>.

## Pashburg's Fine Cigars

Gone but not forgotten... The vintage photo (at left) is of the South side of Miner Street in Yreka taken about 1920. The two-story building in the image with the three windows on the second story is the former Pashburg Store. The building is long gone and likely forgotten or unknown by many as this building once sat on a portion of what is now Fourth Street at the corner of Miner Street, right across from the Franco-American Hotel.

John Pashburg was a German immigrant who came to Yreka soon after gold was discovered. For many years John operated a tobacco shop on this site ~ the building was erected sometime between 1856 and 1862. It is reported in old news articles and historical journals that John Pashburg lost his inventory and his building during the great fire of 1871. It is not clear if the building was completely rebuilt or renovated after the fire. Earlier photos of this building show the building to be a single story, and the second story was added sometime around the turn of the century. John had a family and they lived in the rear portion of the building. The store operated as a tobacco shop for many years but at some point expanded to groceries and miscellaneous items.

An article appears in an 1897 newspaper in Yreka that states "John Pashburg...has contracted for the construction of a second story on his building, to be of corrugated iron. It will be extended back 40 feet, with an entrance on Fourth Street.... The work will be commenced next Monday." The building was added on to several times on both the lower and upper levels. Eventually a small addition on the side (that jutted even further into Fourth Street) was built and once served as the local stage office and at another time a saloon. Even though the article appears in an 1897 newspaper, there are photos of the building from the 1901 snow storm and it appears to still be a single story.

It is a curious set of events about this plot of land the building rested upon. In 1862 the City of Yreka sued the original owner, J. B. Rosborough for the "recovery of about one half of the original Fourth Street, between Miner and Center Street" according to an excellent work produced by Mr. Robert Archie Noonan in 1976 titled *Yreka's West Miner Street*. The building and business was actually in the middle of the street until 1931 when the building was razed to widen Fourth Street. Prior to the removal of the building, the road at this section of Fourth Street was just wide enough to get a single wagon or small auto through.





After the building was dismantled, for a few years, the top portion of this building sat on Fourth Street ~ and the photo can be viewed in our Images of America book, *Yreka* on page 45. If one looks at the building currently located at 311 Miner Street, and follows their eye down the side of the building (down Fourth Street) the business in the rear of the building (currently a lovely clock shop, Dave's Clocks), one can view the old metal siding on the exterior of the building. It has been reported that this metal exterior once faced a portion of the Pashburg building.

John Pashburg worked and lived in Yreka from 1854 until his death in 1910. He is listed as one of the Pioneer merchants. Upon his death his son and son-in-law inherited his business. He had a total of nine children with six living to adulthood. His wife was Mary Louise Fiock, and they were married in 1867. ♦



Vintage Historic Photo post-card of Pashburg's Store at the corner of Miner and Fourth Streets in Yreka.

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# "On the Road to Fort Ross"

by Bob Pasero

*Bob Pasero is Orland's retired Police Chief. Orland is in Glenn County which is at the southern end of The State of Jefferson! Bob writes for the Sacramento Valley Mirror and we will be re-printing some of his fascinating articles from his column: "On the Road - Adventures in the State of Jefferson."*

*Bob is also the National Chaplain for an organization called The Missing in America Project, a Veteran Recovery Program. Please go to [www.miap.us](http://www.miap.us) for more info.*

Along the mid and south coast of Jefferson there are a number of beautiful Parks. At the south end is a truly unique Historic Park. The park was, at one time, a resident of the state of Jefferson. The park has not moved, however, the fickle finger of political expediency moved the county lines. Presently this wonderful park lies just outside of our state. Therefore, I unilaterally adopted this park (OK "kidnapped" is the legal term) and moved it back into Jefferson. No other park in Jefferson can claim the pedigree of this park. Very few places on earth could bring one of the world's richest men, the President of a superpower and two cold war adversaries together for the common good. But, such is the case with Fort Ross. To enjoy this marvelous piece of Jeffersonian history we have to get On the Road to Fort Ross.

English colonization of America began in 1620. Spain and France also laid claim to portions of America. While the Russians pushed across the Bering Sea into Alaska. By 1803 they had explored the west coast as far south as Baja California. In 1812 Russia established their claim to the state of Jefferson building a trading center named Fort Ross north of Bodega Bay.

As a trade center Fort Ross lasted just three decades. Russian Emperor Nicholas the First chose to liquidate Fort Ross. When negotiations with France, Spain and Mexico failed the buildings and accoutrements of Fort Ross were sold to private citizen John Sutter in 1841. Sutter's trusted emissary John Bidwell went north to itemize and take possession of the newly acquired holdings. What wasn't known until 1857 is that, in addition to the accoutrements of the fort, Sutter also purchased a tract of land from the Russians extending north from Cape Mendocino to Port Reyes and 12 miles inland including Fort Ross.

Fort Ross became one of California's earliest State Parks in 1906. The fort had fallen into disrepair and many of the buildings had been damaged or converted to ranch use. The 1906 San Francisco earthquake heavily damaged many of the structures, including the Chapel. Through restoration efforts, much of Fort Ross has been rebuilt. Restoration efforts continue at the Fort to return the structures to their original appearance. The only "original" building on site is the Commandment's home, the 'Rotchev House,' located in the northwest corner inside the stockade of the fort. Fort Ross stands as a reminder of the west coast's early history and the colonization efforts of one of the world's superpowers of the time.

The significance of Fort Ross should not be underestimated. Fort Ross was the southernmost outpost in Russia's colonization efforts in North America. It was the site of California's first shipbuilding



efforts as well as its first windmill construction. Russian structures on the site were the first in California to have glass window panes. Today visitors from around the world walk among the buildings inside the stockade of the Fort, and examine the 200 year old cemetery south east of the Fort's stockade and the historic Call ranch adjacent to the stockade.

Visitors to Fort Ross will enjoy some of Jefferson's most rustic and beautiful coastlines while in route to the Fort along Highway 1. There is camping, picnicking, easy access to beautiful beaches, and easy hiking paths in the area. The more adventurous can scuba dive and examine the historic S.S. Pomona shipwreck which sank here more than 100 years ago. However amenities are limited at the park itself. Come prepared with your own refreshments and snacks.

Fort Ross is well restored and the efforts of archeologists and historians are constantly improving those restorations. Developments since the end of the cold war are opening doors that had previously been closed. During the cold war era communications with Russia were, well...cold. Now, 200 year old notebooks, journals, and paintings formerly held behind the iron curtain are available to researchers. Just as research was picking up steam the world wide economic malaise struck and had a negative impact on Fort Ross.

Fort Ross is not as well known nor as heavily visited as some other parks. That translates to fewer dollars. Fort Ross costs nearly a million dollars more to operate than it brings in each year. As a result, park hours have been severely curtailed. Currently the park is open only on the weekends and major holidays. The park itself is open sunrise to sunset but the visitor's center and the buildings at the fort are open only between 10:00 AM and 4:30 PM. Due to dwindling resources, Fort Ross was set for closure under former Governor Schwarzenegger. However, outside sources of revenue and influence have preserved this park for all of us. That is the



Photo by Bob Pasero: Peace through Superior Fire Power

next chapter in the history of this historic State Park.

"The Russians Are Coming" was a 1966 comedy. The coming of the Russians in 2010 saved Fort Ross for all of us. Viktor Vekselberg, one of the world's richest men and President of the "Renova Group," entered into an agreement with the State of California. Vekselberg agreed to provide "substantial financial support" for continuing upkeep and operations at Fort Ross. In 2010 Vekselberg travelled to San Francisco with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. They met with Governor Schwarzenegger and signed a contract in an unprecedented show of cooperation between the United States and Russia.

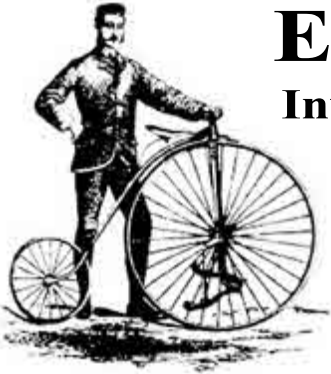
The final chapter in the history of Fort Ross is yet to be written. Fort Ross is an historic gem. A visit to Fort Ross is a journey 200 years back in time. It allows us to see how a different culture sought to establish a foothold in America and shows how small the world is. This year marks the bicentennial of Fort Ross and a number of observances are planned. Perhaps we will run into each other at this Russian outpost on the shores of Jefferson as we get on the road to Fort Ross. ♦

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These are just some of the steps in a countywide volunteer effort to bring bicycling tourism to Siskiyou County. Expect much more to come !!

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# Poem: "State of Jefferson"

by George Steen

He was sittin' on a bar stool, kind of short and square,  
through the foam on his mustache his voice filled the air.

I'm bettin' on a state of mind, son.

I'm bettin' on the State of Jefferson.

It's the wave on a dusty road. It's the loggers' heavy load.

It's the cattle on the hills. It's the ridge full of thrills.

It's the way of life that settles in your soul.

A century of dreams that bonded loggers and cowboys,  
double crossed by old Sac and Salem.

They drove rough roads cursing their loads  
but they did their best to deliver them.

It's the wave on a dusty road.

It's the loggers' heavy load. It's the cattle on the hills.

It's the ridge full of thrills.

It's the way of life that settles in your soul.

The beauty of the sunsets never gets old

The winding rivers are filled with gold.

The pines stand tall and sway

And the coast takes your breath away.

It's the wave on a dusty road. It's the loggers' heavy load.

It's the cattle on the hills. It's the ridge full of thrills.

It's the way of life that settles in your soul

So, you see young man, there is a greater plan.

It's so easy to see, there's a revolt a brewin'  
from the mountains to the sea.

I'm bettin' on a state of mind, son

I'm bettin' on the State of Jefferson.

It's the wave on a dusty road. It's the loggers' heavy load

It's the cattle on the hills. It's the ridge full of thrills.

It's the way of life that settles in your soul.

I'm bettin' on the State of Jefferson.

I'm bettin' on the State of Jefferson.

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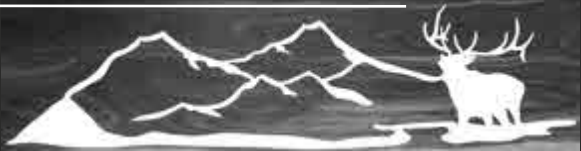
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## Scientific Proof the Existence of BIGFOOT

by Robert Schmalzbach

Email: javabob@inbox.com

Is there actually any hard scientific proof that **BIGFOOT** really exists? Not yet, but we are very close to an answer. The answer may be coming from some breakthrough discoveries with collected DNA samples!

For many years, researchers have been doing basic DNA testing on materials that were reportedly from Bigfoot encounters. Those materials always came back as either human or contaminated materials. However, due to a major breakthrough, discovered by my friend and associate, Richard Stubstad, we may finally have the answer for which we have been searching! To understand this latest discovery, I will try to explain, in simple terms, the basics of DNA testing.

An organism's complete set of DNA, is referred to as its genome. Virtually every single cell in the body contains a complete copy of the approximately **3 billion DNA base pairs**, or letters, that make up the human genome. Each DNA strand is made of four chemical units, called nucleotide bases, which comprise the genetic "alphabet." The bases are adenine (A), thymine (T), guanine (G), and cytosine (C).

There are two basic types of DNA available for us to test. The first is mitochondrial, (**mtDNA**), which always comes from the mother's side. The second type is Nuclear DNA, (**DNA**), which is a combination of both the father and mother's DNA.

Mitochondrial DNA, (**mtDNA**), is widely used to determine species and identity of an individual person. This type of testing has become the standard used as a quick, simple, and inexpensive test by most DNA testing facilities to determine known species and individual identity. The mtDNA test need only check about **740 base pairs**, (*of ~ **3 billion***) to get reliable results as to species and individual identity. However, nuclear DNA, whose genes are rearranged in the process of recombination of both the mother and father, is a much more difficult and precise test to perform, and therefore may cost more than many 10's of thousands of dollars.

When dealing with a known species, a mtDNA test is virtually 100% accurate, but when dealing with an unknown species, a mtDNA test may not give us a complete picture of what we are testing.

What Richard Stubstad discovered was mtDNA samples from reported Bigfoot materials repeatedly had two pair of the ~740 pair tested that did not show up in the GenBank. The **GenBank**® is the National Institute of Health's genetic sequence database. It maintains a collection of all publicly available DNA sequences. However, the anomaly of these same two pair repeated in multiple samples. This is a statistically significant find!

Because of this breakthrough, there is currently a race on to get the nuclear DNA tested and a scientific paper written, (subject to peer review). Even **Oxford University** has joined the fray and is asking for additional samples for testing!

It may take more than a year to get the final answer, but we may find that Bigfoot is actually an extant human that has bred with modern women, (about 10 thousand years ago, as far our limited tests indicate at this time). **Only time will give us the final answer!** ♦



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Dunsmuir, CA	148	194	85	262	226	81	124	68	37	3069	16	96	368	222	718	155	46
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Fort Jones, CA	194	182	58	234	238	127	181	11	23	3102	62	69	341	269	774	212	18
Happy Camp, CA	251	122	97	192	280	184	238	72	81	3079	119	104	318	326	835	274	70
Klamath Falls, OR	100	263	64	241	138	95	211	112	77	2982	91	76	279	271	803	242	81
Lakeview, OR	53	338	160	342	175	106	259	208	173	2999	186	172	350	226	782	298	183
Las Vegas, NV	617	784	738	921	845	605	611	724	690	3316	651	750	1022	449	332	631	700
Mt. Shasta, CA	144	201	81	253	217	77	132	59	28	3061	12	88	360	219	724	163	37
Redding, CA	143	140	140	312	277	91	73	120	88	3121	68	148	420	199	665	104	97
San Francisco, CA	359	280	356	464	493	305	171	337	303	3527	284	363	636	218	502	114	312
Seattle, WA	552	580	458	420	329	546	664	525	506	2590	545	446	173	720	1256	695	496
Weaverville, CA	189	96	148	277	305	137	118	129	96	3149	112	155	428	242	709	148	105
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# MT. SHASTA HORSEMEN'S CLUB: "A LOOK BACK"

WRITTEN BY GEORGE STEEN

The year was 1940. Hitler and Mussolini joined forces against France and Britain. Europe was in the first stages of WWII as Finland fell to Russia. In America, "Gone with the Wind" was winning Oscars and Joe Louis was winning fights. In a small town at the base of Mt. Shasta a group of horsemen were gathering for the first time. It was a typical Siskiyou spring evening with the mercury dipping to below freezing. The group gathered at the City Hall of Mt. Shasta, March 6, 1940 at 7:30 pm.

The group "assembled for the purpose of forming an organization interested in horses and horsemanship and activities pertaining thereto" according to the club minutes. The meeting was called to order by Mr. L.E. McGonagle. An election of officers was held and the first officers were: W.A. Douglas-President, D.E. Bray- Secretary/Treasurer. They also elected a Board of Directors: Betty Wales, Irma McGonagle, Ray Beekley, Bob McGonagle and Frank Hohnecker. During the second meeting of the club it was decided, by vote, to set the yearly dues at \$1 per member. It was also during this meeting, Joe Wales suggested the name for the club and 'Mt. Shasta Horsemen' was selected. A committee of Bob McGonagle, Bent Johnson and Jim Stone was appointed to develop coming activities for the club. It was decided to hold a race in Yreka in May. The club also sponsored rodeos and a dance, 50 cents per couple. The club consisted of 200 members.

The summer of 1940 saw several rodeos and ropings. However, as fall set in, the horses were put up for the winter. Then the war in Europe escalated. Soon the United States had troops placed all over the globe. Everything at home was focused on the war. Extra activities came to a standstill. But, with the end of the war the club was back up and running.



Photo of Dale Payne and his mules.



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Photo of Donna Wheat on her horse.

In 1948, Joe Lemas donated a registered colt and Ron Manary donated a registered bull to raffle off. With the added proceeds the club purchased 20 acres on Deer Creek Road for \$15 dollars an acre. By 1953 they built their own club house. Unfortunately, they ran out of shakes for the roof and had to buy more from Dr. Hoyt for 16 dollars. In 1961 electricity was added. The club continued to stay active involving themselves with such things as: parades, they road in Dunsmuir for the opening of the new highway in 1960, they traveled to Sacramento to lobby for riding trails, they had a drill team, they participated in the "Pony Express Ride" from Gazelle to McCloud, they hosted many square-dances, and as early as 1969 supported the horse class at the Siskiyou Golden Fair. They were avid trail riders; their many excursions led them to places like: Ash Creek Falls, Tangle Blue Lake, Shackelford, Deadfall, McBride Springs, Toad Lake and Bear Springs. The horses were brought to the rides in trailers or trucks. Some of the rides were breakfast rides and some were great get-togethers and potlucks. Today, the clubhouse, arena and cattle shoots lie at the bottom of Lake Siskiyou.

Presently, the Mt. Shasta Horsemen's Club continues to carry on the tradition of sponsoring rides and enjoying potlucks. This spring they had a wonderful ride at Deer Mountain with a barbeque. They meet the third Monday from March through October.

If interested in any future activities you may call: 530-459-3075, or contact a member. Current members are: George Steen-President, Donna Wheat-Vice President, Carol Steen-Secretary, Kristin Lea-Treasurer, Dale and Mida Payne-trail ride coordinators, Eugene and Susan Spencer, and our special long time members: Adeline Cardoza, Vera Clement, Jeanne Eiler, and Bruce and Blanch Mohr. Bruce served on the Board of Directors in the 1960's and 1970's and was the designated trail boss. Blanch served as Treasurer from the early 1960's through the mid 1970's and is a past President. ♦



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# HISTORICAL MARKERS OF THE STATE OF JEFFERSON

## “Frogtown”

41 degrees 45 minutes 30.17 seconds north latitude 122 degrees 37 minutes 27.70 seconds west longitude

The Plaques of E Clampus Vitus--Humbug Chapter No. 73

The fourth in a continuing series of articles prepared by Bill Wensrich

“If you ain’t plaque’n, then you ain’t Clampin’”



Frogtown was important for Don “feathers” Biss to plaque because he lived in the area. Passing to the Golden Hills earlier this year, Biss was active in E Clampus Vitus and community events. Frogtown’s historical marker was his plaque and the fourth erected by the Siskiyou County ECV Chapter. Built Friday before the dedication, Don was responsible for getting the rock monument completed. Clampers helping build the monument included Don’s neighbors: Jim Ragsdale, Bill Haas, and Bill Wilson. Fifth Humbug of the Chapter, Don’s Clamper nickname, “feathers,” derived from his auto body repair business where one “feathers” bodywork paint.

ECV plaque dedications are usually held in conjunction with a Clamper function called a “Doins;” a party held where new members are taken into, or perhaps taken by, the Ancient and Honorable Order. Held at the Hawkinsville Community Center on the weekend of September tenth and eleventh 40 plus Redshirts attended the Doins’ along with 28 prospective new initiates. The plaque says it was dedicated on September third. When the Chapter had the bronze plaque cast they probably didn’t realize that was Labor Day weekend; the dedication actually took place a week later.

Following Yreka’s 1851 gold discovery, three miles of miner’s cabins were built along Yreka Creek from Greenhorn to Frogtown. Located down on the creek,

Frogtown became a center of commerce. Sometimes called Lower Town, the area had a staggering population for the time of five thousand people. They say the original town got its name from fall rains when all the tree frogs migrate west up the hill away from the creek. Thousands of frogs can cover the road during heavy rains.

Located 1.4 miles north of Yreka’s Tebbe Street, the plaque stands on the east side of Highway 263 before the turnoff to Hawkinsville. ♦

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**Tuesdays & Fridays:** Etna United Methodist Church  
137 Diggles Street, Etna - 467-3612

**Wednesdays:** S.V. Family Resource Center  
11920 Main Street, Fort Jones - 468-2450

**Thursdays:** Scott Valley Berean Church  
134 Church Street, Etna - 467-3715

## Madrone Hospice Senior Center - Yreka, Ca

### Senior Services

A variety of services are provided at no charge to individuals 60 years of age or over.

Meals & Rides  
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Info & Assistance  
Call 842-3907

### Senior Center Hours:

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## Butte Valley Meals on Wheels

For elderly and disabled. Call  
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## Butte Valley Veterans Services

Call 530-397-2273.



If you are elderly or disabled and are interested in this service, please call us at (530) 397-2273.

Butte Valley Community Resource Center & Madrone Hospice

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40th President of  
The United States  
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Siskiyou County Veterans Service Office  
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**WE BELIEVE AND WE WILL NEVER FORGET.**

# What IS The State of Jefferson? By Gail Jenner

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

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.* ♦

We started printing Jefferson Backroads in April of 2010. This happy little publication has proudly become the Quality Local Business Directory for our region.

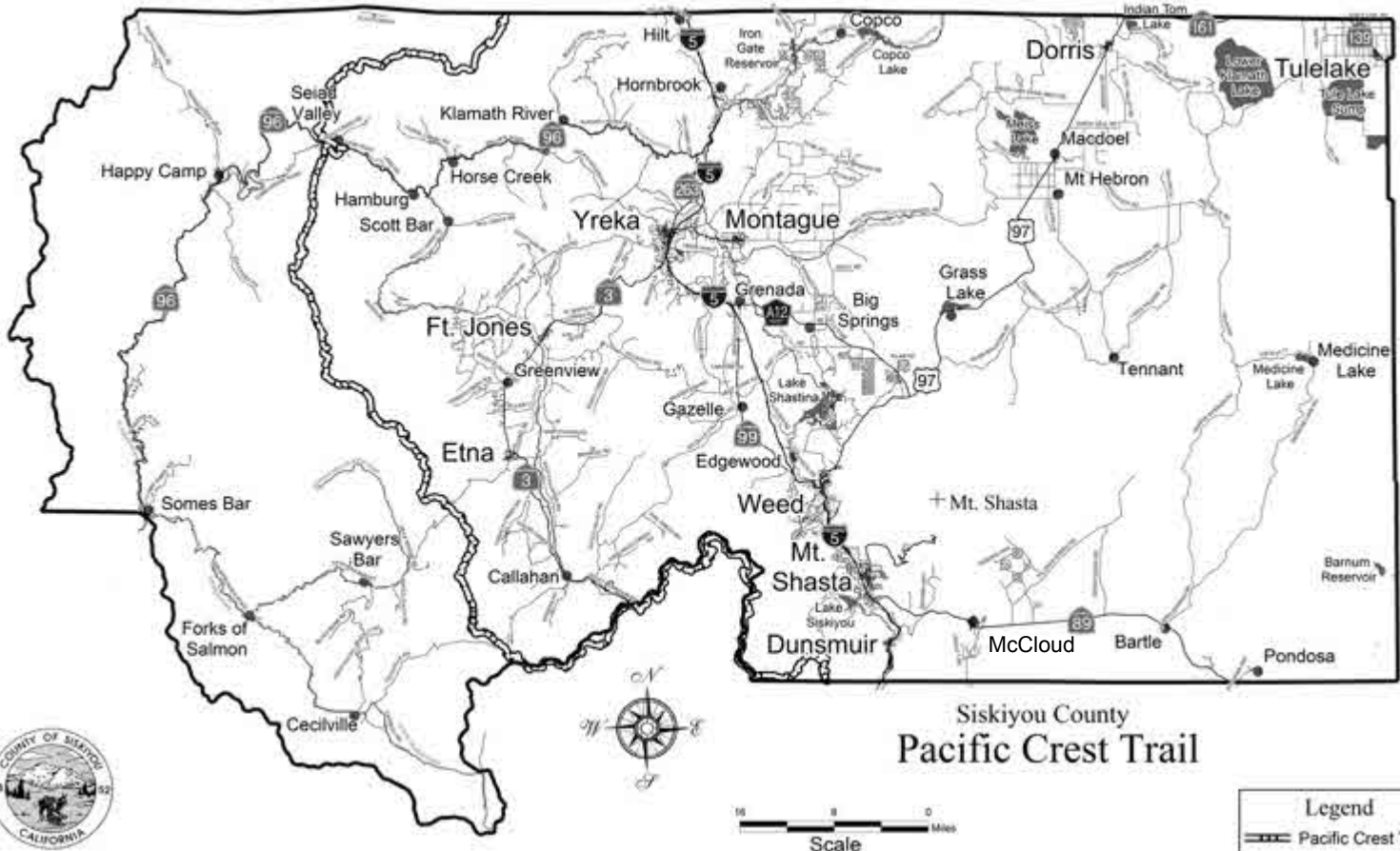
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Thank You!

## Map of Siskiyou County - The Heart of The Great State of Jefferson



# JEFFERSON BACKROADS

A Happy Little Publication

PO Box 344  
Grenada, CA 96038  
(530) 640-0100  
email: JeffersonBackroads@gmail.com

Michelle Fain  
Owner-Editor  
www.JeffersonBackroads.com

Ralph Fain  
Side Kick

This crazy happy little publication is made up of a bunch of wonderful "old school" hard working business people, community organizations, advertisers, readers, writers & subscribers. Every single one of us takes on his or her own unique part in its production & success.

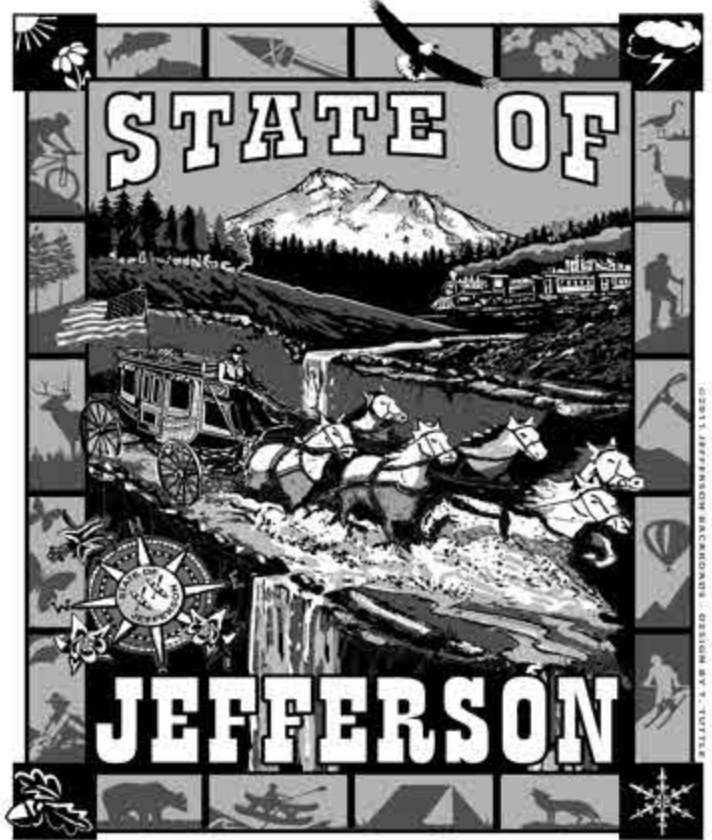
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It is distributed around the first week of each month throughout Siskiyou County and surrounding areas.

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