

JEFFERSON BACKROADS



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Photo from 1920 of the Yuba Dredge, Callahan, California. The woman on the left is Marie Piscanter, who later became Marie Jenner. Photo courtesy of Gail Jenner Family Collection. Learn more about this at <http://museumca.org/goldrush/fever19-dr.html>

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What it is . . .

A fun little publication & website sharing the history & events of the great communities in The State of Jefferson along with spotlights on the artists, inns, Mom & Pop shoppes, restaurants, businesses & organizations proudly operating here in Siskiyou County:
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What We Are All About

Hello All. It has been a whirlwind these past few months getting this fun little publication off the ground. Jefferson Backroads is taking a strong hold all over - and the new website is starting to get a lot of attention.

The most fun of all has come from meeting so many wonderful people running small and large businesses alike in our Beautiful State of Jefferson. So many of us are passionate about the whole rugged concept of the State of Jefferson. We are all enjoying our dreams of freedom from the big city suffocation.


Our three simple goals with this publication are to spread good fun news and information, teach everyone something about the history of the State of Jefferson they didn't already know & provide an affordable place to advertise their small businesses. What an awesome community project!

We are honored to have found a few lovely local writers to share their unique and interesting historical research with all of us. Fascinating history from right here in our own backyard!

So, if you are interested in linking arms with the rest of us, you can put in an AD for your cool business. Check out our AD rates on the back page for some of the lowest cost rates around - you will also get a "link" on our website.

We welcome locals and visitors to happily read our monthly publication in paper form throughout Siskiyou County while sipping on hot or cold drinks, snacking on great food from omelettes to biscuits & gravy, to burgers or deli sandwiches to delicious dinners and desserts. The rest of the planet can see us at www.jeffersonbackroads.com 24/7/365.

Anyway, thank you ALL for your wonderful enthusiasm and encouragement! What a great year it's going to be!

Take 'er easy and have fun with your adventures on all those State of Jefferson Backroads !! 



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May 2010 Page 3

Discovering The State of Jefferson: A Brief History of Fort Jones, California by Gail L. Jenner

At the northern end of Scott Valley, Mr. O.C. Wheelock established one of the most important trading centers in the area. According to Harry L. Wells, a cabin, first built in 1851, presumably by Brown & Kelley, was sold to Wheelock and company. It was Wheelock, however, who took over the trading post and house of public "entertainment." This station, also known at other times as Scottville, Scottsburg or Ottitiewa (which was the name of the Scott Valley branch of the Shasta Indians) was renamed Fort Jones in 1860, and was located beside what would become the major trail from Shasta (near Redding) to Yreka.

An interesting structure built in 1851, and still standing, was the Fort Jones House. In 1976, it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. An important stage stop on the California-Oregon stage route, it was also a "pleasure house" used by soldiers garrisoned at the fort. The unique exterior was made to look like stonework.

Not far from Wheelock's stood Fort Jones. Named for Colonel Roger Jones, Adjutant General of the Army from 1825-52, it was garrisoned by Company E 4th U.S. Infantry in October 1852, under Captain (Brevet Major) Edward H. Fitzgerald.



Reichman's Mercantile & General Merchandise Store in Fort Jones, California - Photo Courtesy Jenner Family Collection

In the beginning there were only a couple of log buildings with dirt floors, but by 1854, there were nine structures. General George Crook, who later gained fame during the Civil War, was stationed at Fort Jones. It is said that General Ulysses S. Grant and Phillip Sheridan were also assigned duty at Fort Jones but never arrived.

The fort was dismantled in 1858 (but not officially abandoned until 1866). Today nothing remains of the fort except a house that was moved into town and converted into a residence.

The first church in Fort Jones was the Methodist Church. Built in 1873 on the flat below Dr. Cabiness' residence, it was dedicated in June 1874. The Fort Jones Roman Catholic Church held its first services in a hall under the direction of Father Farley; construction of a church didn't begin until 1881 when Israel S. Mathews, one of Scott Valley's earliest pioneers, donated a piece of land. In 1893, the Fort Jones Episcopal Church was erected on the corner of Main and Sterling Streets. Unfortunately, membership declined and the building was sold to the city. It was later torn down.

Fort Jones prospered as merchants, ranchers, and miners prospered. The Diggles brothers built the first store and the first brick structure in the valley. Then, after parting company, Henry, in company with others, built the first steam flouring mills that serviced the valley and adjoining mining districts. Another enterprising pioneer was A. B. Carlock who established Scott Valley Bank, which remains the oldest continuous independent bank in California.

Along with a number of historic buildings along Main Street, such as the photo above, the flavor of Fort Jones' past continues to resonate for residents and visitors alike. Today Fort Jones remains one of the two principal towns in Scott Valley, and in 2010, will celebrate its "official" 150th Anniversary on Homecoming weekend in September. The Fort Jones' Museum will participate in the celebration and for those looking for more information on the museum, there is a new website: www.fortjonesmuseum.com.

Also, those looking for details on the upcoming 150th celebration, there will be details and information coming up in JEFFERSON BACKROADS, as well as in the local newspapers. It should be a great time to reconnect with Fort Jones and its history!

Note: Go to www.gailjenner.com for Gail's historical books.



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Local Restaurant Review: Capps' Speakeasy, Yreka, California



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Capps' Speakeasy

West-Mex Cuisine & Hooch

Stroll into a delightful restaurant in Yreka called Capps' Speakeasy. Found on historically famous West Miner Street, Capps' is a place you can go to enjoy the historic atmosphere, the yummy food and of course the drink.

We wandered in on a Friday early evening to beat the crowds. Nice music tinkling in the background (which in my mind is a MUST for E V E R Y good restaurant we like to frequent) set the stage for our fun evening.

We started out with a nice cocktail and chips and salsa, seated where we could enjoy some of the historic photographs and articles adorning the many walls of the establishment. This building has been around since 1854!

Jeff Capps, Chef and Owner of Capps' Speakeasy, was born in the State of Jefferson, Grants Pass, Oregon to be exact. He moved to Yreka when he was a kid and ended up graduating high school here. He has been back and forth for a decade or two between Portland and Jacksonville, Oregon and also to Washington, D.C. Through those years, he attended Portland's Western Culinary Institute and ran a Bed & Breakfast too. It's fortunate for us that he landed back here to open Capps' Speakeasy in the summer of 2009.

Ooops, back to dinner . . . I ordered the Prohibition Fettuccini with charbroiled chicken, while my husband had the Combination with Chile Relleno and Enchilada. Imagine a place I can have pasta and my hubby can have Mexican food! Another plus!

My loaded plate full of pasta had an amazing balance of sauteed mushrooms, crunchy pecans and tomatoes in a tasty Bourbon cream sauce. The parmesan cheese and green onions perfected the dish. My hubby's Mexican combination plate was plum overflowing with deliciously flavored bliss. Happily, we had leftovers and sadly we were



SHHHH...

too full for dessert.

One of the most interesting pieces of history here took place on the brick patio out back. This is a fantastic place to sit and enjoy dinner and drinks on your pleasant summer evenings. Apparently during prohibition days, the brick building located on this patio was used as a sugar shack, which was a place they locked up sugar to keep the bootleggers from getting it to make moonshine! Fascinating!

Another venture that Jeff dabbles in is his famous Chili Butter! Reading the label just now, since I have a container of it in the fridge because it is DEELICIOUS, it is made of a smooth & sassy blend of creamy butter and zesty chilies. You can melt this chili butter onto popcorn, slather it on corn on the cob, or use it to finish off some grilled chicken, seafood, steaks or veggies. He uses all natural ingredients and creates it here locally. You can pick it up right at the restaurant!

We highly recommend you come out to Capps' Speakeasy for lunch or dinner sometime soon. You can even hire out the restaurant for private functions.

Keep your eyes open for announcements of upcoming summer cooking classes Jeff will be putting on right here at the restaurant. Check out a Capps' locally designed T-shirt (design above) or their website: www.cappsspeakeasy.com.

Editor's

Gail Jenner, Local Author



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

Contact information:

Website: www.gailjenner.com

Email: gforini@sisqtel.net

HISTORY OF YREKA by Claudia East



Yreka City Park Archway circa 1930. Photo submitted by Claudia East

The Yreka City Park at the west end of the Historical District (corner of Miner and Gold Streets) has a bit of surprising history! Early on this parcel of land was used as the "Fairgrounds" when fairs and similar events were held in downtown. Referencing maps from the 1900s one finds there were corrals located at the area of the stone park entrance for livestock displays. In addition, during fairs and events, empty store fronts would also be used for fair displays. Circa 1910, a large Agricultural Hall and community center was built at the corner of Center and Fourth Streets and was also home to many of the fair events.

During the 1920s the county set aside money to purchase the land at the current site of the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds. There was a horse race track in the area and it was a HUGE event to have horse races during the fair for many, many years. It was one of the highlights of the day, and one of the main reasons the "fairgrounds" were purchased. The Gold and Miner Street fair area later turned into Yreka's Athletic Park.

On August 10, 1921 an article appears in the *Yreka Journal* explaining about an "Archway Going Up for Fair Ground" ~ this archway is what we see in this photo and on the corner of Gold and Miner. The Journal description gives information that was in the original design, but the actual finished entrance was less in overall size. Below is a portion of the article written about this archway.

An excerpt from the *Yreka Journal*, page 1, August 10, 1921:

"The fair ground entrance on the corner of Gold and Miner is progressing nicely. It will be in the form of a quarter circle, with a cobble stone wall three feet high, and a lawn fence wire four feet higher, and two cobble stones at each side of the center arch, the arch to be made of the building stone exhibited in an arch at the Panama Pacific Exposition in 1915. The stone having been gotten out in the Marble Mountain country and various sections of the county by Mr. J. B. Russell; who also polished the stone and went to San Francisco and built the notable arch that attracted universal attention and took the gold medal for the largest and best stone exhibit from any state or county. It is made up of marble, gray and black granite, onyx, jade, red rock sandstone, rhodennite, and various other stone....The first top stone will be engraved "SISKIYOU," above this is a coping and above that is a top pile on which will be chiseled, "YREKA PARK 1921."

The next time a visit to the park is in order, stop and examine this interesting structure and think about the history behind its origins! It is actually made up of stones from throughout the county of Siskiyou and portions exhibited at the Panama Pacific Exposition in 1915!

Holy Ghost Festa Portuguese Picnic

Date: Sunday June 6, 2010
Place: Hawkinsville, California just north of Yreka on Highway 263
Time: Parade & Mass of Thanksgiving at 11 am
Deep-Pit BBQ Dinner 12:30 to 2:30 pm
Cost: \$8 donation for adults requested

Following dinner there will be bingo, games for the children, a silent auction and a live auction

Everyone is invited. For information call Francis Stidham at 530-842-3268, or Dr. Don Solus at 530-842-5533.



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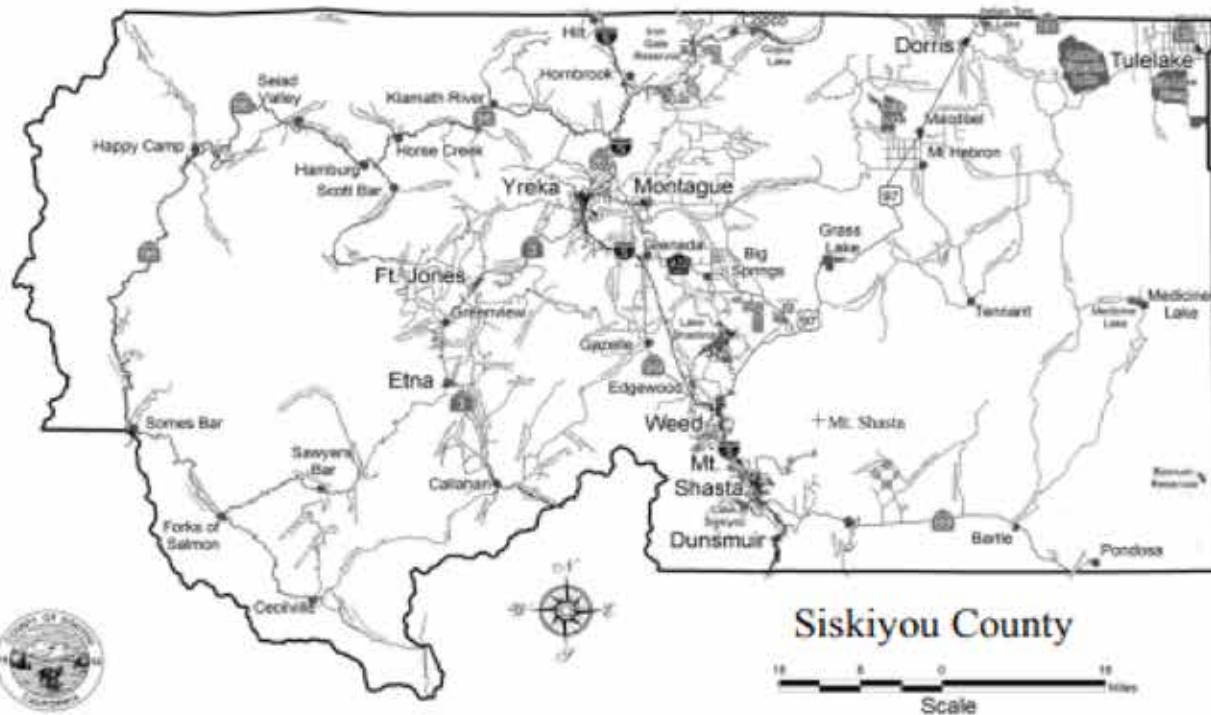


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We are happy to publish your upcoming community events. Contact us by the 15th of each month. We distribute by the 10th of the next month. Call (530) 640-0100 or email us at jeffersonbackroads@gmail.com.

Wednesday May 12th Pink & Black Fund Raising Party, Mt. Shasta.
6pm – 10pm. Mt. Shasta Ranch Bed & Breakfast, 1008 W.A. Barr Rd., Mt. Shasta, CA 96067. Join Dr. Lu and Nancy Driscoll as they again prepare for the Climb Against the Odds 2010 in support of The Breast Cancer Fund. Tickets are \$25 per person at Village Books, \$30 at the door. **CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:** Black & White or Pink. Includes: Appetizers, Chinese dumplings with special sauce, desserts with "unique names & shapes", organic wines (\$5 per glass cash bar), ballroom dancing option with free instruction by Nuria, Silent auctions donated by fabulous local businesses. Call 530-926-1000 for info.

Friday May 14: Mt. Shasta Mercy Medical Center Golf Tournament.
Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta Auxiliary's annual "Spring Into Spring" golf tournament will take place at the Mt. Shasta Golf Resort. To reserve a spot in the tournament call 530-926-9358

Saturday May 15: Artisan Street Festival, Fort Jones
Time: 10 am to 4 pm, next to Scott Valley Bank. Lots of live music including Clarence Barger, Etna's Own Mister Saxophone; Greg Lindholm, Keyboard; Flipside, a new Scott Valley Rock Band; Panther Creek Band, Bluegrass; and Jim Roy & Larry Eaton, Blues; arts, crafts, food. 10x10 foot space is only \$40 for this juried show. Free booth spaces may be available for local schools, community clubs and charities. Call Tina at the Marble Rim Gallery at 468-5442 for more info.

Saturday May 15: Siskiyou Armed Forces Day at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds. All Veterans and Active Duty Military personnel and their families are invited, as well as the general public. It's a morning to come say "Thank you for your service!" and "Welcome Home!". It's a morning to just come swap stories and meet old friends or make new friends. The event starts @ 0800 with a free breakfast for Veterans. A small charge for civilians. From 0900-1400 is the Resource Fair where a number of organizations who provide services for Veterans will be on display. There will be both VA health care facilities (Redding/White City), Cal-Vet Home Loan, the Vet Center, Horses for Heroes, Human Services, Mental Health, the Family Resource Center, and many others who assist Veterans. Local talent will provide entertainment on the "midway" from 0900-1100. There will be historical military vehicles on display and will include a Vietnam Huey helicopter. The Patriot Guard Riders (motorcycle club) will escort the Huey from Redding to our event. This is worth seeing if you can get to the freeway in time to see them arriving. The appreciation ceremony will start @ 1100 and will feature Dave Lawes singing the National Anthem, there will be an Air Force flyover with two jets provided by the Oregon NG out of Kingsley Field, Klamath Falls, and two guest speakers. A free lunch @ 1200 will be provided for Veterans and civilians will pay a small charge. The local group, Tulsa, will provide the post ceremony entertainment and that will be pretty much it. We will have transportation available for Veterans and their families to bring them to the event and take them back home. Call Tim Grenvik at 842-8010 or Michael Noda at 841-2761 for more information.



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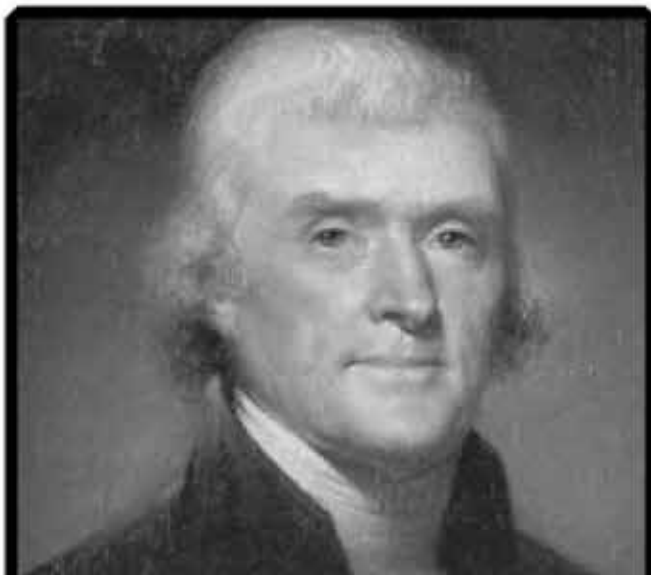
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Where to Go, What to See & When to Do It



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Thomas Jefferson
1743 - 1826
3rd President of the United States



Please visit:

Siskiyou County Camping at
<http://siskiyoucountycamping.blogspot.com>

- Campground information with photos
- Things to do and see
- Services available

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Wednesday May 17 at 7 pm Harlem Ambassadors Basketball Game against the Yreka Golden Nuggets. Portion of funds raised will go to the Jackson Street School Athletic Programs. To become an event sponsor or for more info, contact the Chamber at 530-842-1649. Advance tickets available. \$9 for adults and \$7 for students and Seniors.

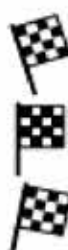
Friday May 21 Dinner, Music & Cowboy Poetry, Yreka Elks Lodge. 6-10 pm, Tri Tip dinner by D&D Catering, also Live Music by The Wednesday Night Band. Tickets \$15. Call Pat Connelly at 530-842-1850 or the lodge at 530-842-1980 for info.

Saturday May 22 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet, Yreka Community Center, 4:30 till 10:00 pm (see ad and article in this issue for more info) or www.events.rmef.org

Saturday May 22 Customs & Classics Car Show, Lake Shastina, Lake Shastina Police Dept. presents 2010 Hot Rods by the Lake Customs & Classic Car Show. For more information please contact Community Service Officer Tammy Baker at 530-938-2226.

May 20 to May 23: Kaiser-Frazer Owners Club International Car Meet, Miner Park, Time 10 to 3 pm, Yreka. This club was formed in 1959 for the purpose of sharing interest in and knowledge about the various cars that were produced by the Kaiser-Frazer Corporation between 1947 and 1955 as well as Willys and Jeep models produced after Willys-Overland was purchased by Kaiser-Frazer in 1953. For more information about these beautiful antique cars and this historic weekend event in Yreka, visit their website www.kfclub.com.

Saturday May 29 Dogwood Daze, City Park, Dunsmuir. Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce is celebrating the planting of over 52 dogwood trees in Dunsmuir. Merchants will hold sidewalk sales and offer special attractions. Dress up in costumes of Dogpatch. Events include dogwood tree drive, garden tour, doggie parade and pet adoption, pie social, tri-tip sandwiches at ball park, Dunsmuir High School's Sadie Hawkins Race and Marriage Booth, kids costume contest and prime rib street dinner. For more info call 530-235-2177. See ad on Pg. 11 for info about the Prime Rib Dinner on May 29.



2010 Siskiyou Motor Speedway tentative races scheduled at the fairgrounds in Yreka

Saturday Night Races.

Gates open at 5 - Races at 7

- | | |
|---------|---|
| May 15 | Speedway Economic Stimulus Package \$2.00 off all admission tickets. Mini Stocks, Super Stocks, Pro Stocks & IMCA Modifieds |
| May 22 | Dwarfs, Mini Stocks, Super Stocks, Super 4 and IMCA Modifieds |
| May 29* | John Amberg Memorial 50 lap \$1000 to Win IMCA Modified - Mini Stocks and Super Stocks |
| June 5 | Mini Stocks, Super Stocks, IMCA Modifieds & Run-What-U-Brung |
| June 12 | Bring Report Card - get \$3.00 off admission. Dwarf Blowout 50-lap \$300 to Win. Mini Stocks, Super Stocks, Pro Stocks & IMCA Modifieds |

Call 530-598-1656 or go to www.scmasspeedway.com

Where to Go, What to See & When to Do It

May 29 - 30, 2010 McCloud Mushroom, Music & Wine Faire - On Main Street McCloud, Mushroom Vendors, Wine Tasting, Special Mushroom Delicacies, Cooking Demonstrations, Musical Entertainment, Live Band & BBQ. Info, call: 530-964-2431

Sunday May 30 Etna 5th Annual Jr. Rodeo. Championship Saddles will go to the Sr. All-Around Boy and Sr. All-Around Girl. Buckles to all first places. Check-in at 10 a.m. Rodeo starts at 10:30 a.m. Events: Sr. Boys ages 14-18: Saddle Brone, Bareback Brone, Bull Riding, Tie-down Roping, Steer Wrestling. Sr. Girls ages 14-18: Breakaway Roping, Goat Tying, Barrel Race, Pole Bending. Jr. Boys ages 8-13: Breakaway Roping, Goat Tying, Chute Dogging, Team Roping. Also Steer Riding for ages 12-14 and Calf Riding 8-11. Jr. Girls ages 8-13: Breakaway Roping, Goat Tying, Barrel Race, Pole Bending, Team Roping. Age 7 and under: Mutton Bustin', Goat-tail Tying, Dummy Roping. Open Ribbon Roping is a Jack Pot. A Jackpot Team Roping will be held by Holland Cattle Company, an American Cowboy Team Roping Association event on Monday, May 31, 2010 at 9 a.m. For more info, call Bob or Wendy Johnson at 530-468-2730. Look on their website at www.etnarodeo.com or on Facebook at etna rodeo.calif.

Monday May 31 Memorial Day. www.usmemorialday.org/backgrnd.html

Saturday June 5 Car Tour for Siskiyou County Historical Society, open to members and other interested persons. A Siskiyou County Historical Society car tour will depart for Trinity Center. We will tour in our own vehicles (with possible historic stops along the way) to have lunch (on your own) at Trinity Center. At 2:00 p.m. We will attend a presentation of the Dorlaska Mine at the Odd Fellows Hall. Contact the Siskiyou County Museum for further details. Call (530) 842-3836 or email hismus@att.net

Sunday June 6 Portuguese Festa Picnic, Hawkinsville. Delicious Deep Pit BBQ dinner, \$8 donation for adults requested. All are welcome to attend. Parade and Mass of Thanksgiving start at 11 am. Dinner from 12:30 to 2:30 and afterwards there will be bingo, games for the kids, and a silent and live auction as well. For more info call Francis Stidham at 530-842-3268 or Dr. Don Solus at 530-842-5533. Also see separate ad on Page 7.

Friday June 11 Summer Concerts in the Park by Scott Valley Bank. 6:30 pm at Hoy Park, Weed. The Cheeseburgers - Shrimpboat Rock. Info: 530-842-6141. See full summer schedule at www.scottvalleybank.com.

Saturday June 19 4th Annual Gold Rush Days and Antique Peddlers Street Faire. Activities include historic home tour, chili cookoff, horseshoe tournament, gold rush history storyteller, antiques, vendors and music. Street dance from 6 -9 pm with live music from Dan Daniella & Oregon Rain. Call the Chamber at 530-842-1649 for vendor applications or for information on volunteering for a committee to help with this fantastic historic event.

Saturday June 19 Humbug Hurry-Up Mountain Bike Race, Greenhorn Park, Yreka. 6 to 8 mile circuit multi-loop courses depending on race category. Race registration starts at 7 am. 9 am racing begins. 12 noon Awards Presentation. For information on Race Fees, prizes and details, call 530-842-9622. Visit the website at www.humbughurry-up.com.

Saturday June 19 Kids Fishing Day at Mt. Shasta Fish Hatchery. Three ponds will be stocked with trout. People will be there to help with questions about fishing. Free bait and limited loaner tackle available. Registration at 8:45 a.m. Fishing 9-3 pm. Must be 15 years or younger and able to hold a rod and reel. Info: 530-926-2368.

DOGWOOD



DAZE

Date: Saturday May 29, 2010

Time: 6 pm

What: Prime Rib Dinner with
Music Outside

Where: Brown Trout Cafe, Dunsmuir

Info: 530-235-0754
Reservations suggested



Saturday June 19 Dunsmuir Botanical Gardens presents 20th Anniversary Tribute to the Trees Fundraiser Concert. Gates open at 4 pm, dinner at 5, concert starts at 6:30 pm. Each year the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra graciously performs for the town of Dunsmuir in the most beautiful concert setting in Northern California along the banks of the Upper Sacramento River in Dunsmuir's City Park. This year's theme is Rhythms Del Rio. From the sunny shores of the Caribbean to the dark alleys and 'tango joints' of Argentina, our musical journey travels through the Americas, south and north. Sponsor tickets are \$75 which includes dinner, reserved seating, complimentary glass of wine in a commemorative wine glass, a gift for you to take home. \$40 for unreserved seats, includes dinner. Concert only tickets are \$20 with open lawn seating. Call 530-235-4740 for info.

Sunday June 20 Father's Day Breakfast, History Faire and Car Show at Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds Armory Building, sponsored by the Genealogical Society of Siskiyou County. Books, etc. will be for sale at some of the booths. Hours are estimated to be from 8:00 - 2:00. Yreka Preservation Corporation, Siskiyou County Historical Society, and Yreka Community Television will all have a booth. Info 530-842-6018.

Days Gone By... By Gail L. Jenner

If you were to read a local newspaper from 60 Years Ago, printed in the Western Sentinel, from Etna, California, on Friday, January 2, 1948 you would find the following movies playing:

You can learn and research about lots of fun historical information by going in and visiting your local libraries and museums.

It's Fascinating Fun!

Showing at the Etna Theater
(for the week of January 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10)

Susan Hayward, Lee Bowman,
Marsha Hunt and Eddie Albert in
"Smash UP: The Story of a Woman"

Charles Bickford and Irene Rich in
"Queen of the Yukon"

And Joel McCrea and Veronica Lake in
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BEAVER VALLEY TRADING COMPANY, ETNA



When I first heard of Beaver Valley Trading Company in Etna, California, I didn't even know that Scott Valley used to be called Beaver Valley way back when. Charming. I was instantly intrigued by the whole concept that this group of young people has begun to build its new business on.

Imagine, a small town shop that sells only goods that are either grown, raised or built within a 50 mile radius of Etna, California. This is as the crow flies, mind you. It encompasses a great circle that spans most of our great Siskiyou County.

Instead of finding items made in far away factories or food raised or grown on farms hundreds and even thousands of miles away, you will find things that your very own friends and neighbors have either built by hand, raised or grown right here in your own homeland.

Part of the concept of Beaver Valley Trading Company is that we as individuals can start locally to make a global change. We can all try different ways of accessing the things we want and need.

David Waymire and Peter Thamer, amazing young men raised right here in Scott Valley, California, are two of the co-founders of the Beaver Valley Trading Company. Each of them is friendly, intelligent and bubbling over with enthusiasm, positive energy and creative ideas. Each is willing to put out new concepts and new ideas for all of us to ponder. Together, they are taking solid steps to bring about positive changes in this Great State of Jefferson. It really is time for changes in many areas of life here in our own little piece of Rugged Rural America, don't you think?

Some of what is being sold at this cool little shop are delicious tamales, home canned foods and beverages, eggs and meats raised just down the road, fresh baked breads, awesome tie-dyed T-shirts and flags, soaps, knitted goods, jewelry, even hand-made guitars! Also on display for sale are beautiful local framed photographs, paintings and many other unique arts and crafts items. It is a very fun place to shop, indeed!

Another concept this company believes in is to utilize our skills, hobbies and talents to help inspire and educate others. There are knitting and jewelry classes being taught, blacksmithing classes, and upcoming canning and food preservation classes as well. All summer long they will hold regular Farmers Markets. Watch for the schedules in the upcoming issues of Jefferson Backroads or give them a call to find out more! Want to teach your artistic and fundamental life skills to others? Here's your chance.

There are now over 175 members who have joined Beaver Valley Trading Company. Membership entitles you to buy and sell locally grown, raised or prepared food items along with the other members, exclusively. Arts and crafts items (non-food items only) are for sale to the general public. This encourages people who want to get involved in the food end of the company to become members.

The essence of their vision is: "At the Beaver Valley Trading Company we believe that (practically) everything our communities need can be provided by local businesses, farmers, ranchers, artisans and teachers. By the community, for the community! The problem is distribution and we are ready to change that!" These young people have an incredible concept!

You can find them at www.bvtradingco.org or on Facebook. Give them a call and make a difference (530) 467-5224.

Editor 



Photo of David Waymire and Peter Thamer by M. Fain



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Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation: Projects in Jefferson County

by Ralph Fain

We residents of the State of Jefferson are well aware of, and look forward to, the RMEF Banquet held each spring in Yreka. The Siskiyou Chapter Committee for the RMEF is a hard working, dedicated group of volunteers who takes great pride in presenting a quality evening of fun, food, raffles and auctions. The Siskiyou Chapter's first banquet was held May 10th, 1997. Since that day they have had great support from the local community and particularly, the local businesses who donate to this cause year after year!

Folks are not quite as aware of the work that has been accomplished by the RMEF and its Partners here in Siskiyou, Trinity, Del Norte and Modoc Counties. After all, we do have a healthy number of elk right here in our backyard!

From 1998 thru 2008, RMEF has been a central figure in providing and enhancing wildlife and elk habitat on 68 projects mostly in Siskiyou County. Project costs funded by the Elk Foundation total \$1,451,256.00 with another \$5,264,343.00 provided by the Foundations partners. That is a whopping \$6,715,599.00 invested in our area for wildlife habitat improvement!!

A big "Thank You!" to the Siskiyou Committee, volunteers, local businesses, and all the folks who attend or donate to the banquet each year! And "Thanks" to the RMEF for investing in our wildlife! Nice job!

During 1990 Fish and Game transplanted 187 head of elk from Jewell Meadow in Oregon to the Marble Mountains. Later transplants were made from Davis Creek in Oregon to Trinity Center in Trinity County. This practice has since slowed due to concerns for the potential of spreading Chronic Wasting Disease within the herds.

Since 1990, local elk have been captured, collared then released back in our area. The first collars had a GPS system tracking elk movement. These collars had to be recovered at a later time as all information gathered was maintained on the collar. Today these collars periodically upload their information to satellite where it is retrieved by wildlife officials. A couple of interesting facts were discovered about our elk. Seven elk were collared in the Shasta Valley. A small bull traveled 90 miles into Oregon and returned. A cow traveled to the Tululake area, down to Canby, finally arriving on the north edge of the Madeline Plains between Alturas and Susanville. Fourteen months and 1700 miles later, she returned to the Shasta Valley! Additionally, it was discovered that Shasta Valley elk were using an area near Grass Lake for calving in the spring. This year four elk were collared near Happy Camp. There is limited wintering range in the Klamath River drainage and the interest is in discovering where these animals spend their time wintering.

In 1997 Siskiyou Chapter Volunteers worked at Orr Lake. In conjunction with RMEF, Ducks Unlimited, USFS and the California Wildlife Conservation Board, many things were accomplished. Existing fences were taken down, a small campground with pit toilets was developed and dikes and ditches were installed for proper water management.



Backroads Adventures

There are a variety of ongoing projects in the area. They range from prescribed burns, invasive weed control, habitat improvement, installation of water guzzlers, habitat mapping and modeling, riparian fencing, winter range assessment and others. These projects can be found in the Marble Mountains, Klamath River drainage, Salmon River drainage, Cecilville, Petersburg, Shasta Valley, Scott Valley, Butte Valley, Trinity Center and Modoc County on the Devils Garden and the Warner Mountains. Remember these projects enhance habitat for all wildlife, not just elk!

Mark your calendar for May 22, 2010 4:30 p.m. at the Yreka Community Center! Support the Siskiyou Chapter of the RMEF and our local wildlife! Partake with our outdoor community and enjoy the quality artwork with a chance to win or buy one of the many guns and wonderful prizes to be raffled and auctioned!



Local RMEF volunteers Dale & Mida Payne and Virgil & Linda Hardy constructing an elk corral at Dillon Creek
Photo Courtesy of RMEF



Photo of elk corral at Petersburg, California. Courtesy of RMEF

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Virgil Hardy & Larry Dancer at the 2010 Sportsmen's Expo in Yreka
Photo Courtesy of RMEF



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Siskiyou Chapter Banquet

When: Saturday May 22, 2010
Doors Open at 4:30

Where: Yreka Community Center
810 N. Oregon Street
Yreka, CA 96097

For info or tickets, please contact

Tickets available online at
<https://events.rmeff.org>

Doug Kaufner at (530) 340-0667
Denise Weikert at (530) 842-6113



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