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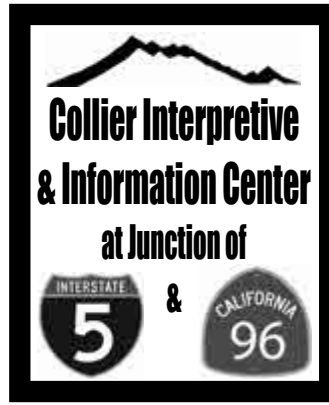
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Cover Image:
 Cruising North up I-5 at Mt. Shasta City,
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BUTTE VALLEY HISTORY

"Hotel Macdoel and The Star Inn"

Story By Miss Emily P. Taylor

Butte Valley Historical Society, Dorris, California



Above: The Hotel Macdoel, front view. Image property of the Butte Valley Museum and Historical Society.

If a group of people can obtain food, water and shelter, then they can survive. Once a group has survived for a while, it wants to thrive. When a group begins to thrive, they develop a culture. Culture is made of many elements, and the element that most clearly defines the difference between 'survive' and 'thrive' is entertainment. So when you add entertainment to the equation, well, then you have civilization.

While Butte Valley is a far cry from the origin of civilization, we love entertainment. Currently, there are few options for entertainment in Butte Valley, aside from outdoor activities. But in the early 1900's, Butte Valley was one jumping joint!

One of Butte Valley's hallmarks was The Star Inn, which stood at the base of Dorris Hill. The Star Inn was owned by a lady by the name of Wilma Fenwick in the mid 1930's. The Inn was known for its lavish parties; well, lavish by Butte Valley standards. The Star Inn stayed open and functioning until the early 1990's.

More information will be provided in an article dedicated specifically to The Star Inn which will be in next month's edition of Jefferson Backroads.

Another one of Butte Valley's attractions was the Hotel Macdoel. As mentioned in earlier articles, Butte Valley is not a single solid town, but rather a union of four small towns: Dorris, Mt. Hebron, Macdoel, and Tennant. The Hotel Macdoel, aside from its entertainment value which will be explored in a moment, was at the heart of the founding of Macdoel.

The Hotel Macdoel was built in 1909 by the Butte Valley Land Company and had a significant association with the Church of The Brethren, also known as the "Dunkards." The Dunkards colonized Macdoel as a branch-off of Dorris, and they played a huge role in the agricultural roots of the town.

The Hotel Macdoel, while under the influence of the Dunkards, operated as a hotel for hunters, loggers, and traveling salesmen. The Hotel also housed the office of the Butte Valley Land Company as well as the offices of a traveling doctor and dentist who serviced the county. In addition, it was used as a general community center, courthouse, and indoor farmers market. After the Dunkards left the Valley, parties, dances, and box socials were also held regularly.

The Hotel was later sold to the C. I. and L. Railroad of Chicago for \$10 an acre, under the name of their president, William H. McDole. Interestingly, the name of the town was originally going to be McDole, but the spelling was changed to Macdoel due to a postal error.

Note: There will be another article that will go in-depth on Macdoel and the Hotel Macdoel. Be sure to check back next month! ♦

The State of Jefferson is Alive and Well . . .



Image property of the Butte Valley Museum and Historical Society, Image from a Star Inn postcard, compliments of Susan Moore.



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Backroads Adventures

by Ralph Fain



“Running The Backroads Rivers”

Quote: “It’s spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you’ve got it, you want - oh, you don’t quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!”

Mark Twain



Photo by M.Fain of Catarafter on the Cal-Salmon in 2011

March: “In like a lion, out like a lamb!” So goes the old saying about our spring weather. Yet, as far as the rivers go, it may be more like “in like a lamb, out like a lion!”

In early March the rivers are generally mellow as the snowpack is still frozen in the high country. Late winter rains can dramatically raise the river levels but it will be the late March thaw and spring rains that will generally herald the arrival of high, consistent water levels in all our rivers.

March 10th is the start of daylight savings time this year, giving us another hour in the afternoon for hitting the rivers. Daylight savings time always makes me think of an American Indian observation of this event, comparing the time change to a blanket. “Only a white man would cut off the bottom of a blanket and then sew it to the top of the same blanket to make it longer.” So it goes with the daylight hours. As with the blanket there is no real change in the amount of daylight. We have not lengthened the day by one second, we simply get our lazy butts outta’ bed an hour earlier and knock off work an hour earlier (by daylight hours, not clock hours). We change the clock to ease our mind. Also March 20th is the spring equinox, which means equal hours of daylight and darkness, the first day of spring! So, combine daylight savings time with days that are truly enjoying more sunlight than dark, throw in the spring thaw on the snowpack and a nice fat spring rain and you have all the ingredients for a great whitewater adventure on any one of the rivers along our backroads.

This time of year is for the truly experienced whitewater enthusiast. Rivers will be at muddy, high flows, and will be carrying logs, limbs and whatever debris that has accumulated all winter along the banks of the river. This is the spring cleaning of our rivers which should only be run with those having experience in such conditions. For those who hit the rivers you will find a surprising multitude of choices in the rivers you can run within a short distance of the Yreka and Mount Shasta area. The Upper Klamath, Middle Klamath, Scott River, the Cal-Salmon also called the “Slammin’ Salmon” with its North, South and Middle fork runs, the Upper Sacramento River (one of my favorites) the Trinity River and just to the north in Oregon there is the Rogue and Illinois River. All of these rivers will provide more

than enough of an adrenaline rush for even hardcore boaters. Several of these rivers boast solid class IV and class V springtime rapids, certainly not for the faint of heart or inexperienced boater. For those without boats or experience but still want to partake, simply contact one of the local rafting companies who will be happy to get you wet!

Spring time is here! Set aside the cell phones and computers and get outside! Hit the “Jefferson Backroads!” ♦

Quote: “It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.”
Charles Dickens,
Great Expectations



State of Jefferson RMEF BIG GAME 2013 Banquet Schedule

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact Phone</u>
Klamath Falls, OR	3/23/13	(541) 884-3781
Woodland, CA	4/6/13	(530) 681-0804
Fortuna, CA	4/6/13	(707) 733-5916
Weaverville, CA	4/13/13	(530) 778-3437
Yreka, CA	5/18/13	(888) 771-2021

Contact Mike Ford for more info at 888-771-2021
or email at mford@rmef.org. RMEF.org

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SISKIYOU SPORTSMEN'S EXPO

THE BIGGER THE BOY,
THE BIGGER THE TOY!

Have you outgrown your outdoor recreation toys and want to sell them? The PremierWest Bank Siskiyou Sportsman's Expo will give you that opportunity at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds on March 16 & 17, 2013.

The Sportsman's Expo is the perfect venue for sellers and buyers of used outdoor recreation equipment including boats, trailers, ATVs, trucks, etc. For a \$15 fee sellers can purchase a space to park your "toy" at the Expo and put a "for sale" sign on it (one item per space). The fee will include one admission to the 7th Annual PremierWest Bank Sportsman's Expo. You will be coming to the Expo anyway so why don't you try to make a little cash while you are at it! Buyers will be able to browse through the lot and take home a new toy for recreation fun.

The Siskiyou Sportsmen's Expo runs Saturday March 16 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday March 17th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds in Yreka. Admission is \$5 for adults 13 and over and free for anyone under 12! For more information contact the fair office at 530-842-2767 or info@sisqfair.com.

The logo for the 2013 Siskiyou Sportsmen's Expo. At the top is the Premier West Bank logo with a star and horizontal lines. Below it is a large illustration of a deer head with impressive antlers. The deer's face is framed by a circular border with stars. To the left of the deer is a silhouette of a person fishing in a pond, with the text "LIVE TROUT FISHING POND For The Kids". To the right is a silhouette of a person holding a rifle, with the text "GUN SHOW". Below the deer head is a banner that reads "SPORTSMEN'S EXPO SISKIYOU GOLDEN FAIRGROUNDS YREKA". At the bottom of the banner is a silhouette of a person on a bicycle. Below the banner, the dates and admission prices are listed: "MARCH 16 & 17 ADMIT \$5", "Saturday 10 am to 5 pm", "Sunday 10am to 3pm", and "12 & UNDER - FREE".

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SISKIYOU WRITERS CLUB

The Siskiyou Writers Club is an informal, fun-loving group of aspiring and accomplished writers from throughout the Siskiyou area, people who enjoy writing for pleasure as well as published professionals. Members can learn the basics and explore more effective ways of sharing their passion for all kinds of writing including poetry, fiction, memoirs, and family history.

The original group was founded in 1980 as the State of Jefferson National Writers Chapter. The club moved from southern Oregon to Yreka in 1986, and the name was changed to the Siskiyou Chapter of the National Writers Association. In 1994, rules necessitated creating a local, independent group, and we became the Siskiyou Writers Club.

SWC offers support and encouragement, monthly meetings, monthly newsletters, informative and inspiring speakers, membership networking, mentoring, and two annual social events (a summer family picnic and a holiday social). We have given scholarships to graduating high-school seniors wishing to go into a writing field. We also present members with a writing challenge each month, using a word, phrase or topic picked the previous month. At the end of the year, these writings are published in the SWC Anthology for members to enjoy.

SWC meets the last Thursday of each month except during November and December when we adjust because of the holidays. Meetings are usually held at the hospitality room at Sierra Vista Retirement Center, 885 Sierra Vista Drive (off Foothill) in Yreka. Social time begins at 6 pm. The program begins at 6:15 pm, followed by readings of our challenges and a brief business meeting for those wishing to stay. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the camaraderie and refreshments and listen to the readings. The yearly dues are \$25.00 which includes the monthly newsletter. For more information or to confirm the meeting place, contact Nancy Ballard at (530) 640-2459 or knballard@cot.net. ♦



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“The Ant and the Grasshopper”

One of Aesop’s Fables

In a field one summer's day a Grasshopper was hopping about, chirping and singing to its heart's content. An Ant passed by, bearing along with great toil an ear of corn he was taking to the nest.

"Why not come and chat with me," said the Grasshopper, "instead of toiling and moiling in that way?"

"I am helping to lay up food for the winter," said the Ant, "and recommend you to do the same."

"Why bother about winter?" said the Grasshopper; we have got plenty of food at present." But the Ant went on its way and continued its toil.

When the winter came the Grasshopper had no food and found itself dying of hunger, while it saw the ants distributing every day corn and grain from the stores they had collected in the summer. Then the Grasshopper knew: "It is best to prepare for the days of necessity." ♦



Portrait of Aesop by Velázquez in the Prado.

Aesop (pronounced EE-sop, Ancient Greek: Αἴσωπος, Aisōpos, c. 620–564 BC) was a fabulist or story teller credited with a number of fables now collectively known as Aesop's Fables. Although his existence remains uncertain and (if they ever existed) no writings by him survive, numerous tales credited to him were gathered across the centuries and in many languages in a storytelling tradition that continues to this day. Many of the tales are characterized by animals and inanimate objects that speak, solve problems, and generally have human characteristics.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Ant_and_the_Grasshopper

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DUNSMUIR HISTORY

by Ron McCloud

Owner of Dunsmuir Hardware, Dunsmuir, California

“The Big Storms”

Tales of “the big storm” are numerous, and like fish stories, they tend to become more dramatic with each telling. In this day of media frenzy over the slightest events, the word “storm” is greatly over-used, with a half inch of rain or four inches of snow often labeled as a storm. But in the history of Dunsmuir and its neighboring communities, there have been some truly memorable storms that aren’t given names like hurricanes, but instead are remembered by year, as in the “storm of ‘38” or the “flood of ’74.”

A common storm pattern for this mountainous area is one of a heavy snowfall followed by a heavy warm rain. The absorbent snow soaks up the rain, the soil becomes saturated, melting run-off turns small streams into torrents and the Sacramento River becomes a violent and often destructive force. One of the earliest storms of this type on record is the winter of 1886-87. The railroad through the Sacramento River canyon was barely a year old and had not had time to season. Numerous wash-outs and slides plagued the railroad. The “granddaddy” of all storms however, was three years later.

On January 3rd of 1890 heavy snow began to fall and continued for the next two weeks, accompanied by extremely cold temperatures. An almost unbelievable sixteen feet of snow was recorded and Dunsmuir was virtually isolated until early February. Daytime thawing, nighttime freezing, rain, and major snowslides brought 100 miles of the Shasta Division to a complete halt. The railroad’s attempt to deal with the storm was dramatic. Snow plows pushed by steam locomotives were unable to cope with the depth of the snow. A southbound train from Ashland was delayed at Sisson (Mt. Shasta) and a plow and pushers attempting to reach it from Dunsmuir derailed and were buried in the drifting snow. A plow and pusher locomotives sent from Ashland to assist could not get through and a train from Redding on January 17 came to a halt at Sims when all three of its engines derailed in ten feet of snow. Passengers on that train – including the distinguished Colonel Crocker in his personal car – survived on short rations since rescuers could not get through for eight days. A relief train from Redding was struck and buried by a snow-slide at Delta. Three more locomotives from Dunsmuir could not get through to rescue the Colonel and the others on the stranded train, and it wasn’t until January 23 that help finally came and pulled it back to Redding. Through traffic south from Dunsmuir was finally restored on Feb. 8 by using wagons to go around bad slides.

After that memorable storm, snowsheds were constructed to protect the railroad line from snowslides and avalanches north of Dunsmuir, and rotary snowplows were introduced to battle the deep snowfalls. In 1895 another storm triggered a series of avalanches on the slopes of Mount Bradley and buried the main line with debris up to 60 feet deep in places. The snowsheds were abandoned in 1915.



Dunsmuir RR Depot Historical Society requests the public to "Ride its Membership Train." Funds raised continue maintenance of Dunsmuir's Amtrak Depot, as well as the RR Display Room and Dunsmuir Museum. Please Send \$10 check to Dunsmuir Railroad Depot, PO Box 324, Dunsmuir CA 96025. Call for more Info: 235-0929.



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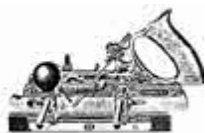
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In February of 1899 the *Mott North Star* newspaper reported a deep snowfall and freezing conditions which caused the famous Dunsmuir Fountain located near the depot to collapse under several tons of snow and ice. It is thought that the “lady in the fountain” disappeared at that time. The fountain was restored and is now located at the entrance to the Dunsmuir City Park – without the lady.

High water – sometimes flood stage – occurs almost every winter in Dunsmuir to some degree, but a few years stand out as more severe than others.

Days of warm rain and runoff from melting snow caused a huge destructive mudslide in February of 1902 that struck Dunsmuir from the west and swept all the way across town, destroying ten homes and causing extensive damage to numerous others.

The winter of 1936-37 comes the closest to equaling the 1890 storm. Continuous snow from December 26, 1936 to February 12, 1937 left over fifteen feet of snow in Dunsmuir accompanied by high winds that blew down telegraph poles. Rain and melting snow turned the Sacramento River into a raging flood that floated houses away and took out bridges and the railroad. Weight of the snow collapsed part of the roof of the roundhouse, and amazingly, deep snow in the railroad yard was cleared by hand. Railroad workers shoveled snow onto more than 180 empty flat cars which were then hauled away to melt.

In the winter of 1939-40 the river canyon was hit hard with high water and railroad washouts. Heavy rains again caused landslides on Mount Bradley in the winter of 1945-46. High water in January of 1955 caused severe erosion in the canyon. Heavy snow again damaged the Dunsmuir roundhouse in 1956. Melting snow and hard rains caused flooding in 1964. Extremely heavy wet snow in 1966 caused several buildings to collapse, including the Methodist Church on Castle Avenue and the Commercial Garage on Dunsmuir Avenue.

In 1974 record breaking rainfall and melting snow-pack caused flooding in Dunsmuir that made national news. Twenty-five homes were destroyed and over 200 people were evacuated. The South County Bridge and several large stretches of railroad track were washed out and the entire railroad yard was under water. Damage estimates exceeded four million dollars.

In 1993, just after a busload of elementary school students had left the shelter of the Belnap Fountain on Dunsmuir Avenue, the structure collapsed under the weight of heavy snow. The students narrowly missed being buried under tons of snow and rubble. The fountain was rebuilt however, and stands today in the same place.

New Years Eve of 1997 is memorable as the most recent severe river flood. Many Dunsmuir residents say it was the equal to that of 1974. Water level in the Sacramento River rose so high that Butterfly Avenue which runs along its east bank virtually became part of the river. Homes along the river were evacuated. There was a great deal of property damage and numerous railroad washouts in the canyon.

There are many stories about these and other storms – and there will no doubt be others in the future as we are again reminded of the powerful forces of our mountainous climate.

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



The 1936-37 storm dumped massive amounts of snow on Dunsmuir. This view up Pine Street from Sacramento Avenue shows what fifteen feet of snow probably looked like. Photo courtesy of Ron McCloud.

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- (4) Share the magical history of our Region.
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The Siskiyou County Historical Society invites all Jefferson Backroads readers to become members! For \$30 or more, membership includes a copy of our annual historical publication, special book discounts, newsletters, and special event invitations. Stop by the Siskiyou County Museum and join us! Or join via our website.

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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>.

Yreka vs. Deadwood The Fight for the County Seat

It had been a little over a year from the discovery of gold in 1851 on the flats that Yreka had grown to over 2,000 inhabitants. Siskiyou County was formed in March of 1852 from parts of Shasta and Klamath Counties and was named after the Siskiyou Mountain Range. It wasn't long before a county seat needed to be determined for this new county of California. At the time there were two towns vying for the title: that of Yreka and neighboring Deadwood. Deadwood was second only to Yreka in population and was located over Greenhorn down towards the Fort Jones area near McAdams Creek.

Deadwood was one of the most important business centers in the county; it was a mining town as well and had three stores, two hotels, a drug store, a butcher shop, three saloons, a bakery, two stables and a dairy. The first bank to ever open in Siskiyou County was opened in Deadwood according to historical writings. Many well known local pioneers had businesses in Deadwood and among them were A. B. Carlock, Daniel Ream and M. Rosenberg.

Early Yreka was also vibrant with stores, a stage office, brewery, hotels, meat market, hardware store, blacksmith, barbershop, saloons, a church and other places of business. Unlike Deadwood, Yreka also had permanent residences while most of the miners in the Deadwood area lived in tents and shacks or at the boarding houses.

When it came time to choose a County Seat the competition between the two towns was fierce. It was not readily predictable who would win as it was a large county and folks would have to travel many miles from one part of the county to the other to actually visit the County Seat and take care of government matters, many of them relating to property ownership, court matters and the like. A story from a local newspaper following the county convention to elect a county seat reported the following:

"The people have spoken, and Yreka has been voted to hold the title of County Seat for the newly formed County of Siskiyou recently named by the California Legislature. The campaigns were strong and neighboring Deadwood came very close behind Yreka. There are still rumbling accusations of underhanded dealings during the elections. Apparently Etna had a lower voter turnout and some say it is because of the whisky party that was carried on the night before the election. Plans will soon be underway for officers of the county and a place to hold official meetings."



According to some historical information, (whether speculated or accurate it is not entirely known...) Etna being closer to Deadwood would vote in that direction along with others and the whiskey delivered to the voters in Etna was from Yreka. Some reports tell of the deciding vote to be only 'one,' and other reports simply say it was a very close election.



Deadwood Plaque: The Historical Marker at the town site of Deadwood photo by Claudia East.

In 1861 the majority of the town of Deadwood was burned to the ground in a fire. Following that fire there were a few buildings remaining and a few residents, but it wasn't long before the town faded from existence. Deadwood was vibrant for only 10 years, but adds a significant story to the history of our county. Today the only thing that remains to mark the town site are a few very old fruit trees and one of the first historical monuments placed by the Siskiyou County Historical Society in 1948. One can visit the site by traveling one of two ways. Travel Highway 3 towards Fort Jones and turn on McAdams Creek Road before entering the town limits of Fort Jones. Simply following this road will eventually take one to Forest Service Road 45N49 - turn and travel a few car lengths to the monument. The second route would be to simply travel up Greenhorn Road from Yreka and continue over the mountain and back down and look for Forest Service Road 45N49. The monument is visible from the road if you know where to look, but the most identifiable marks will be the open flat area where the town site was located and a few ancient fruit trees on the side of a hill.

Note: This author is sad to report that this historic monument has been the recent target of vandals. The monument was restored a few years ago with the help of E Clampus Vitus, Humbug Chapter, along with the Siskiyou County Historical Society to repair earlier damage, but again it has been targeted by vandals shooting bullets at the bronze plaque. ♦

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Yreka Tea Party Patriots Meet Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at the
Decision Life Church in Yreka - Corner of Main and Oberlin

**PREMIER WEST BANK 2013 SISKIYOU
SPORTSMENS EXPO** at the Siskiyou Golden
Fairgrounds in Yreka Sat-Sun March 16-17.
See AD and Story on Page 9.

Shasta College Annual Spring Plant Sale (3 days)

Thursday, April 11, 2013: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Friday, April 12, 2013: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Saturday, April 13, 2013: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Held at Shasta College Farm/Horticulture Area,
11555 Old Oregon Trail, Redding

In addition to the vegetables and other plants available at the
College, the Shasta Chapter of the California
Native Plant Society will also have over 2,000 California native
plants for sale. Admission free.
Contact: Jay or Terri Thesken at 530/221-0906.

Saturday April 13, 2013 We will be having a
Fashion Show fund-raiser at the
Siskiyou County Museum in Yreka.
Call (530) 842-3836 for information.

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See Pages 30-31 for story about Ravenswood
Celtic Gathering and Market Faire
in Anderson May 4-5, 2013

St. Mark's Preservation Square Upcoming Events & Workshops

Sculptor Workshop Wednesday Evenings: 7 to 9pm. Each session \$4 plus materials. Beginners to Advanced welcome! Join at any time! For info call (530) 340-5587.

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See Page 24 for story about the 66th Annual
Scott Valley Pleasure Park Rodeo
Sunday May 5, 2013 in Etna

See Pages 19 for story about the
11th Annual Kids Fishing Derby
in Yreka on Saturday May 4, 2013

Butte Valley Community Resource Center
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- AA Meetings Wednesdays at 6:00PM
- Video Led Exercise classes Tuesdays at Noon
- Tai Chi class on Thursdays at Noon

- 3/7 Family Movie Night - Starts at 6:00PM
- 3/11 Parenting Class "Relatives raising Kids" starts at 5:00PM @BV Montessori. Dinner and Child Care provided.
- 3/18 Senior Bingo and Potluck 1:00PM
- 3/19 Kids Cooking Class AT 3:15PM
- 3/20 BVCRC Food Bank starts at Noon
- 3/20 Harvest of the Month at BV Montessori and BV Elementary School.
- 3/25 Senior Game Day at BVCRC 1:00PM
- 3/28 Siskiyou Co. Veteran's Services at BVCRC.

Schedule is subject to change without notice.

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March 23:rd - "I like My View"

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Economic Growth Group Inviting Bicycle Tourism to Siskiyou County



THE ECONOMIC GROWTH GROUP - THE E.G.G.
Our Mission: "Identify and develop economic growth opportunities by facilitating collaborative efforts of business and community based organizations throughout Siskiyou County to increase our "Collective Vitality."

The Economic Growth Group (EGG) and Siskiyou County Bicycle Tourism Partnership (SCBTP) are joining forces with several cycling event organizers to man an information booth at the Sportsmen's Expo at the Siskiyou County Fairgrounds March 16th and 17th. Members of JMBA (Jefferson Mt. Bike Association, a local chapter of IMBA), Mt. Shasta Summit Century, Castle Crag Century, Siskiyou Century, and the Humbug Hurry Up race are joining forces to promote their individual events and cycling in Siskiyou County as a tourist attraction and healthy recreational lifestyle for local residents. The event groups plan to have race applications be available to answer questions, will provide prizes and swag from their events as available. We will conduct a raffle for prizes donated by each of the events. Prizes include jerseys, Century race paid entries, T-shirts, along with free items at the booth.



Come by the booth and sign up for chance to win while you talk with us about the many cycling events we are proud to present in Siskiyou County.

The EGG and SCBTP hope to have the website online by the printing of this article at www.cyclesiskiyou.com and encourage you to "Like" us on Facebook at "CycleSiskiyou." Many thanks must be given to all the volunteers who have donated thousands of hours to date to make this community and county wide effort of putting Siskiyou County on the cycling map a reality!

Three projects continue to consume most of the volunteer efforts: (1) Mapping routes and events with plans for a 18X24 map out by June and a larger map containing county wide cycling opportunities. (2) Writing and downloading content to the website. (3) The upcoming training for businesses called "Train the Trainers." All three projects are nearing implementation and we will talk more about them in future articles. If you have a talent for writing, have a favorite cycling route, or wish to lend expertise or participate to the business training be sure to drop us an email at siskiyouegg@gmail.com and we will be happy to update you. Remember we meet monthly on the last Thursday of the month from 3:30 to 5:00 across the county. Send us an email and we will send you the list of meeting locations for you to attend. ♦

CYCLE SISKIYOU

George Jennings,
The EGG and SCBTP
Coordinator
530-598-8887 cell

The EGG and SCBTP
PO Box 342
Fort Jones, CA 96032

jennjenn01@sbcglobal.net - Personal Email
siskiyouegg@gmail.com - Project Email
www.facebook.com/CycleSiskiyou

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Since 2002 your local Yreka Chapter of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus has been sponsoring the Kid's Fishing Derby. Brain child of former club president, Tommy Wyman, the Derby provides a day of fun, free food, and prizes to over 200 local youth ages 1 to 15 years.

Humbug Chapter is soliciting donations for this event. Your help would be most appreciated for this worthy cause. Events like this help foster good citizenship and a sense of belonging to the community.

Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the day. For more information on how to participate in the Derby or make a donation please call James Ordway on 1-530-905-0650. ♦




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"On the Road to . . ."

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 for more info.

"Them Thar Hills"

If you listen carefully you can almost hear a grizzled old 49er, looking suspiciously like Gabby Hayes yelling, "Thar's gold in them thar hills." OK...maybe not. I am quite sure no gold miner ever really said that, but rest assured there was, and is, gold in the foothills above Chico.

Being a native son of the State of Jefferson, whose ancestors came west during the rush for gold, fuels my interest in the gold rush. I am also a trivia buff and enjoy the lesser known tidbits of gold rush history. Today we will travel to a gold rush relic and we will literally, "cross that bridge" between history and trivia "when we get to it" as we get "on the road to...them thar hills."

The discovery of gold was instrumental in establishing Butte County. Before the crush for gold was over nearly 3,300,000 ounces of 'placer' and 'lode' gold was harvested in Butte County. Most of the communities in Butte County, large, small, thriving community or ghost town, can trace their roots to the discovery of gold.

John Bidwell discovered gold near the settlement of "Hamilton" in Butte County shortly after John Marshall's discovery at Coloma. Hamilton would become Butte County's County Seat in 1850 when Statehood was granted. Hamilton was located 15 miles south of present day Oroville. The remnants of a long abandoned bridge and a cemetery,

over grown and slowly being reclaimed by the land, are all that remain of Hamilton. The gold discovery caused a population boom in Butte County. The town of Ophir (now Oroville) was the most important supply point for the mines and in 1856 Oroville became Butte County's permanent County Seat. Miners flocked to the Feather River tributaries moving into the surrounding foothills.

"Butte Mills," named for a water-powered saw mill, was a prominent but small mining community first settled in 1849. The town was later renamed "Dogtown" and eventually, due to the civilizing influence of the women residents, was given its permanent name, "Magalia." On April 12, 1859, on a ridge across the river from Dogtown an hydraulic mine in Willard Gulch made an astonishing discovery. The discovery would change the face of Butte County forever. Up until that spring day in 1859 Dogtown, although producing good quantities of gold was virtually unknown outside of Butte County. That would change when the "Dogtown Nugget" was washed from the hillside. The nugget tipped the scales at a whopping 54 pounds and led to a miner's exodus to the ridge.



Argonauts swarmed into the area and the surrounding country side. However, reaching Dogtown and the rest of the ridge presented a problem. Roads and bridges into the region had to be hastily constructed. The critical area was the crossing of Butte Creek heading up to the town of Paradise on the ridge below Dogtown. In 1886 Butte County Supervisors posted the specifications and solicited bids to build a bridge across Butte Creek. By January of 1887 the 240 foot bridge was complete and opened to the public. The bridge was rebuilt in 1894 after being washed out. It would not be covered until 1901.

It is impossible to know how many people have crossed the Bridge. It was a well used and much traveled bridge well into the automotive era. Even after the Skyway opened in 1951 and became the primary route from Chico to Paradise and the ridge beyond, the Honey Run route was still a scenic and much traveled route. A friend whose great grandparents were early Magalia and Paradise residents vividly recalls crossing the bridge as a child in the early 1960s.

In 1965, ironically also on April 12th, a truck hit the bridge. The eastern 1/3 of the bridge collapsed in the collision and the bridge was closed to further vehicular traffic. A new concrete and steel bridge was constructed upstream from the Honey Run Bridge to safely handle automobiles. While the new bridge was under construction some dedicated ridge residents banded together to save this wonderful piece of history.

They successfully lobbied for the bridge. It was reconstructed and opened to the public as a pedestrian bridge in 1972. It has since become a landmark that bridges three centuries of regional history. The 19th, 20th and 21st centuries all have their tales to tell of the Honey Run Covered Bridge.

On your next trip east of Chico on the Skyway take a few minutes to drive the 5 miles up to the Honey Run Covered Bridge. It is well worth the drive. Covered Bridges are being lost. With each one that disappears a bit of our heritage disappears as well. Today only 10 historic covered bridges remain in California.

When visiting the bridge take note that it is the only existing three span covered bridge in the Nation. The bridge is 240 feet long - only slightly shorter than the covered bridge at the South Yuba State Park at Bridgeport. The Bridgeport Covered Bridge, at 251 feet, is the longest such structure in America. On June 23, 1988 the Honey Run Covered Bridge was listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Throughout the year there are events and activities held at the Honey Run Covered Bridge. Two of my favorites have made it to my 'must return to' list. In November each year the Honey Run Covered Bridge plays host to an "Artisan Faire" that is held on the bridge itself. The second event is held on the first Sunday in June. The nonprofit Honey Run Covered Bridge Association hosts a full day of fun that kicks off with a pancake breakfast. Both events are open to the public. The funds raised by these events go to protect and preserve this treasured bridge.

There is gold in the foothills above Chico. It is the gold of our history and our heritage. Perhaps one day soon I will see you on the road to "them thar hills." ♦



Honeyrun Bridge - Photo courtesy Bob Pasero.



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“An Unforgettable Party”

Story by Marilyn Kilpatrick of Siskiyou Writers Club



I arrived at the Budapest hotel at three p.m. after an eight hour bus trip. By three-thirty I had settled into a room and was ready to explore the city. I went to the hotel desk clerk and asked where I could catch a bus to the American War Memorial.

I followed the clerk's directions and waited on a corner watching for bus number fifty-two. Bus after bus came and went but no number fifty-two appeared. I asked a couple of people if I was at the correct bus stop and they smiled politely and shrugged. I realized they didn't speak English and remembered rule number two of traveling in a foreign country, "to find someone who speaks English, look for a younger person." (Rule number one is, "Never carry a purse in a crowd.")

I noticed a young woman two blocks away as she was dressed differently. She wore a blue suit, white blouse and high heels. Other women were dressed in 1940's style house-dresses and sensible shoes. When the lady arrived at the bus stop, I asked her where I could catch a bus to the American War Memorial.

She took my elbow as though I was ninety-years old, and reversed the path she had just taken. We turned a corner and waited at a bus stop. In a matter of two minutes, bus number fifty-two arrived. The professionally dressed woman said something to the driver and let go of my elbow. She had previously counted out coins in my hand and I now handed those to the driver.

I smiled at the tired looking people on the packed bus. Rush hour meant no seats were available. Men and women packed the aisles. Almost immediately a man stood and offered me his seat. I thanked him, greeted the woman sitting next to the window, and sat down.

I watched workers rushing to and fro on the sidewalk. I admired the architecture, orderliness and cleanliness of the city. Suddenly, a magnificent building came into view.

"What is that?" I asked my seat partner. She smiled, nodded, and said nothing. I spoke loudly and slowly to my seat benefactor who was standing in the aisle beside my seat, "What - is - that - building?"

He smiled, nodded in agreement, and said nothing. I spoke even louder and slower, "Does-anyone-on-the-bus-speak-English?" I heard a small voice toward the back say, "Mickey Mouse." A second timid voice said, "Hollywood." And a third said, "McDonalds."

I repeated my question about the amazing building. A man said something to me in Hungarian. I repeated what I heard. A snicker was heard behind me. My benefactor said the word very slowly. I repeated it slowly. Half a dozen people laughed.

Of course, by now we were well past the building in question, so I pointed to my chest and said, "Marilyn."

Then I asked the woman next to me her name, using more gestures than words.



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Ken Joling & Earl Joling

She responded, and I repeated what she had said. A dozen people laughed out loud. The woman repeated her name, breaking it up into what I can only assume were syllables.

I attempted to repeat her word. The whole bus joined in the fun and were pointing to themselves or objects and saying words. I entertained the crowd by repeating what my foreign ears heard. We had a party going on and everyone was invited. It was a jovial group that bounced along the streets of Budapest on a private party bus.

We were having such a good time I didn't notice the bus had been sitting still for two or three minutes. Finally, the driver faced me and pointed to the wonderful American War Memorial outside the bus window.

Reluctantly, I arose and left my new friends amid waves and cheery words and even a couple of shy hugs from older women.

I'll never forget my Hungarian party among friends. ♦

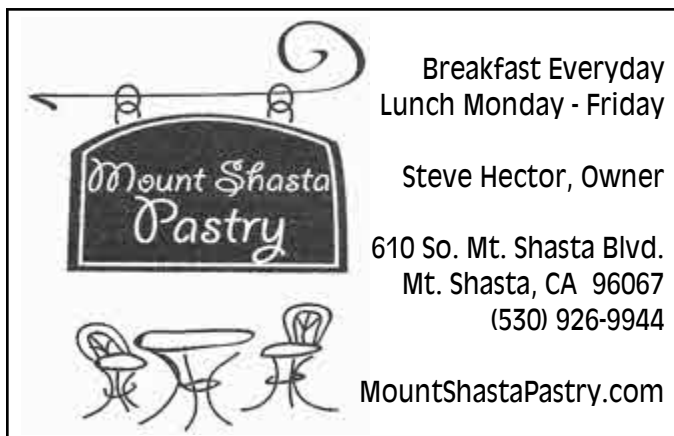


Hungarian/American War Memorial. Photo
Courtesy Marilyn Kilpatrick.



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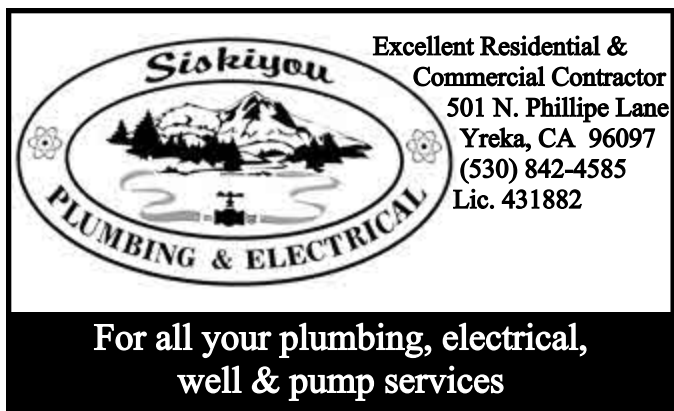
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DISCOVERING THE STATE OF JEFFERSON

By Gail Jenner – Enjoy another new story of the many historical towns and areas scattered throughout The State of Jefferson.



Photo: Jake Hayden on a Saddle Bronc. Photo by Liz Bowen.

66th Annual Scott Valley Pleasure Park Rodeo Etna, California - Sunday May 5, 2013

This year will mark the 66th Annual Scott Valley Pleasure Park Rodeo, to be held in Etna, California, on Sunday, May 5. The traditional event marks the opening of spring activities for Scott Valley and the rodeo is a unique blend of professional rodeo and local rodeo events.

Prior to the rodeo is the annual Pancake breakfast, held at the Masonic Hall in Etna (just across from the Scott Valley Drug Store), followed by the May rodeo which winds its way through the streets of Etna. Horse groups, floats, old cars and tractors, family and club groups, bands and walking mountain man groups will hit Main Street at 11:00. This year's Grand Marshall is John Growney, long-time rodeo stock sponsor. For more on the parade, contact Chair Drew Travis, at 530-598-9802. All entries are welcome.

From Etna's Main Street it's only a half-mile down the road to the Scott Valley Pleasure Park Arena, located right off Highway 3 on Island Road. This year is the 66th annual rodeo, which began in 1947 under the direction of "Dad" Dillman who encouraged the youth of the valley to play polo and ride – for fun. That grew into the rodeo now celebrated by locals and visitors every year. The May 5 rodeo is one of the first rodeos of the 2013 California rodeo season.


The youth events, which start off at noon, include such hair-raising events as muttin' bustin'; the stick horse barrel race; and kids' calf riding, with junior steer riding to follow. Cowgirls and cowboys aged 7 and under and 8 and over are as energetic and determined as the oldest competitors.

The official rodeo begins at 1:00 with the Grand Entry. Bareback riding, Bull riding, Calf Roping, Barrel Racing are offset by exciting local events, including Wild Cow Milking, the Saddle Cow

Race, and the Cowhide Race. Winners win money as well as buckles and even a chance to compete at the Siskiyou Golden Fair Rodeo in August. Local events are especially popular and families from all over Siskiyou County look forward to participating in these raucous events.

For anyone interested in competing, the Call-in for signups will take place on April 19, from 6-9 pm, or April 20, from noon to 6 pm, and again on April 21, from noon to 6 pm. Call 530-340-5527. Call backs are scheduled for April 24, from 6 to 9 pm.

Kids' events are also call-in only this year. For more info call 530-340-5527.

Story continues on page 25... 

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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.

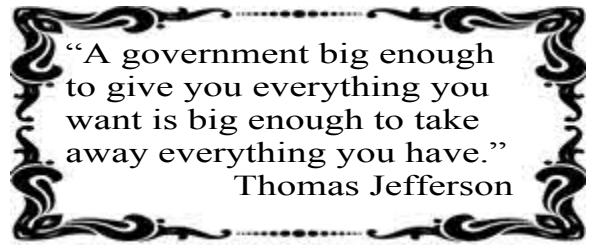
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www.gailjenner.com



The annual May rodeo is a time of community: local groups, such as the Lions' Club, Job's Daughters, Boy Scouts,



Photo at left: Father and son, Nick and Doug Jenner, of Etna, racing with the saddle in the Saddle Cow race. Photo by Liz Bowen.



Junior Pleasure Park Drill Team, and high school clubs, who provide a variety of food choices. A Rodeo Queen will be selected, along with a runner-up Princess and they will award winners and ride in the parade. Competition for rodeo queen takes place in April and the contestants are judged on both their skills as a horsewoman and on appearance and style. This is an opportunity for young women aged 14-18 to ride and compete for recognition. Also, the Junior Pleasure Park Drill Team features younger riders who also participate in the parade and the rodeo. For more about the queen contest, contact daws83@hotmail.com.

In an effort to bring more attention to and increase funding for the annual event, Scott Valley Pleasure Park sponsored a NEW Chili Cook Off during its annual potluck, on February 23 at the Etna Masonic Hall. At this writing, the winner is unknown, but the event promises to be fun. In the meantime, the association is accepting donations for increased purse money for the upcoming rodeo; for anyone interested in joining the association, please mail rodeo membership to P.O. Box 337, Etna, CA 96027. Memberships are: \$50 Family, \$35 Couple, \$20 Single, \$15 Sr. Couple, \$10 Seniors. Moreover, for anyone wanting to use the Scott Valley Pleasure Park arena, they must have a current SVPP membership; this is a liability if they are not a member.

Scott Valley Pleasure Park Association also supports high school rodeo, FFA, and 4-H members. This year's District 1 California High School Rodeo Finals will be held at the arena days before the annual May rodeo weekend: May 3 and 4. Events start at 2:00 pm on Friday and 10:00 am on Saturday. Admission to this 2-day event is free. ♦

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Afterglow

“Northern California’s Long, Lost Band” is Found;
PBS television to air documentary about Afterglow:
The Story: Part II of II (continued from Feb 2013)



Afterglow, October 1967

By the time Larry Alexander was ready to explore what, to him, was a new technology, it was 2007 and eBay had been around for several years. When he sat down at the desk of one of his employees to find out if the technology was something he wanted to utilize in his natural resources consulting company, his employees had only known that he had once been the drummer in a rock and roll band for a couple of months. One of the employees had found the album, bright orange and psychedelic, on the shelf in his office amongst the biology and hydrology books and asked why it was there.

To say they were surprised at the answer is a real understatement. “Afterglow was something that I didn’t mention to many people,” Alexander said. “I am proud of the music, but the overall memory is one of incompleteness. We just never heard anything about what happened, whether any sold or what. It really became something that was hard to describe, so I just didn’t mention it.”

That didn’t stop the employees from bringing in a turntable and playing the album for his arrival one morning. “It had been a long time, but it still held up,” remembers Alexander. One of the employees, a rock musician from a more contemporary era and a sound engineer, noted that the production was of very high quality for its time. “That is what makes it so hard; I know the music on the album is well written, well performed and well made, so it was always hard to understand why it never received any support from the label.” Alexander explained why few people knew about this part of his life. “We were very young, very removed from the music scene, and didn’t know the first thing about dealing with a company the size of MTA Records.”

So when, in the course of explaining eBay to the boss, the employee suggested they do an internet search for Afterglow’s album, he thought it might be interesting, but certainly wouldn’t lead to where it did. “You know, we were sitting there while the site loaded,” Alexander remembers “and when it popped up on the screen, for sale in stores around the world, re-released twice on compact disc and vinyl, and reviewed and bought by the thousands, I practically fell out of my chair.”

A quick call to Sundazed Music was met with a “We’ve been looking for you guys for fifteen years!” Subsequent internet searches revealed that the band was indeed considered “long, lost” and the album, both the cover art and music, “groundbreaking psychedelia”.

Earlier in the decade, Stephen Thomas Erlewine of All Music Guide, wrote for Billboard Magazine:

“Afterglow starts with “Morning,” a gentle folk-rock song that finds the middle ground between the Byrds and Jefferson Airplane. Although there are a couple of tracks similar to “Morning” on the album, it is no more an indication of what’s to follow as any other song on the record. Each song on Afterglow sounds as if it could have been written by different bands -- sure, there is the sighing “Mend This Heart of Mine,” but it follows the downright bizarre “Susie’s Gone,” which, with its dissonant Farfisa organs and slide guitars, sounds like a space voyage gone bad. It’s not particularly coherent but its sampler nature makes Afterglow a charming psychedelic relic.”

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The review on the "Lost in Tyme" web site indicates the level of appreciation aficionados had for the album as well as the level of mystery surrounding the group:

"Extremely Organ/Keyboard driven album with a few catchy pop songs and the aforementioned Pscyh-out "Susies Gone." "Recorded in 1966-67, this Oregon group's sole release is notable for two serious 60s pop classics ("Morning" and "Afternoon"), a 2:29 gem of farfisa, slide guitar, and vocal dementia worth snagging for a "freaky 60s" comp ("Susie's Gone"), and another outstanding pop cut only a step behind the two monsters ("Love"). As the remaining cuts are quite solid and satisfactory, it's an album that holds up well to a full play and repeat plays. The basic sound is dominated by thin, corny, effusive farfisa organ lines and fleshed out with electric guitar, bass guitar, and drumkit. The multi-part male vocals are very clean, pretty, and generic to the era."

The news that the album had reached a level of worldwide appreciation, that it was available for sale around the world and considered a hard to find jewel, was news to the rest of the band members as well. Alexander was soon on the phone with his fellow band members. Though they still considered themselves friends, it had been decades since they spoke. Each had followed his own path, yet each expressed the same sentiments as Alexander had when discussing the album. "It is a bittersweet thing for me," states George when discussing the album. "I have fond memories of the effort and the people involved, but the feeling around the album as the years went on was very disappointing."

Resler recalls his disbelief when he saw the album for sale in stores and on the internet. "Though I don't know how it got there, I know that you don't get on sites like Amazon and Wal-Mart if no one is interested. I bought six copies right away; I was afraid it might go away!"

The band scheduled a reunion in Fort Jones, California, at the location where they had rehearsed that summer of 1967. They were pleased when Sundazed Music sent Jud Cost to conduct an interview. The reunion was filmed by a professional production crew and the band even played a couple of songs. All the band members made the trip, except Tecumseh, whose health prohibited his attendance. Tecumseh phoned in and sat down for an interview at a later date.

The band is now ready for their long delayed close-up. "It is, to me, a great American story," says Patrick Desmond, producer of the film. "It is a story of five honest, dedicated young musicians who set their mind to it and produced a classic piece of art. Together, they and their families did what it took to deliver the goods. That is harder than most people think; particularly from rural Northern California and Southern Oregon in the mid sixties."

"I want to tell this story because it is, at its core, a story of validation and delayed gratification. These five guys knew they had done a good job forty years ago and to find out now that they succeeded, thirty years later and fifteen years without a clue as to what was happening around them, is as interesting a story as I have seen in quite a while. I also see that there is a fan base out there who wants to get to know these guys better. It is going to be a great film."

Unfortunately, Tony Tecumseh passed away before receiving any of the deserved royalties for his songs. In March 2011, however, Tony's daughter Dee and grandson Douglas accompanied him to a ceremony at the Klamath Falls City Hall to receive the Native American Music Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. The Mayor of Klamath Falls, Todd Kellstrom, and the Chairman of the Klamath Tribes, Gary Frost, presented the award.



"Tony was, from the moment I met him in 1964, an inspiration to me musically and a great friend to me personally," said Larry Alexander, fellow member of Afterglow. "I know he was happy to see that the world appreciated his music as much as we did and that he was pleased to see the story and the music will live on."

"Tony was certainly a pioneer and, considering that he wrote the song 'Love' as early as 1963, he very well may be the first Native American rock and roll composer ever," noted the producer of the documentary, Desmond.

The band is thrilled to be back in business and supports the film 100%. "We are really happy that PBS sees the story as something they want to tell," says Alexander. "The band is rehearsing again and looks forward to promoting their follow-up album, Afterglow Unearthed."

Now that Alexander understands the power of the internet and the level of appreciation for Afterglow's music, the band has a web site (www.afterglow1968.com) and is pleased to be corresponding with the fans who have always wondered, "Who are these guys?" ♦

For more information contact Patrick Desmond at Afterglow Productions by phone at 530-468-2888 or email at patdesmond@sisqtel.net.

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Siskiyou County Historical Society & The Siskiyou County Museum

By Claudia East

The Siskiyou County Historical Society officially began in October of 1945 as a result of an interest in placing historical markers on various sites throughout Siskiyou County to promote and educate about our fascinating history. Prior to this date there was no organized effort to gather historical information for future generations. Within a short time this led to the organization of a historical society with the moral support of the Board of Supervisors. The first official member, at his own request, was Senator Randolph Collier who contributed \$10 for membership dues. Subsequently, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, officers were elected in November 1945, and the society was off to an energetic start.

Historical Markers were some of the first orders of business, but as the collection of information, photos, and artifacts began to grow it was the dream of the newly formed Historical Society to have a museum to house the growing collection. Working with the County Supervisors in 1949, funds were allocated for the construction of the Siskiyou County Museum and it became a reality in 1950 when the building was completed and dedicated. In keeping with the historical theme, the actual design of the new museum was designed specifically to resemble an important historic structure in the county: The Callahan Hotel. Both the society and museum are dedicated to the purpose of collecting, preserving, and disseminating Siskiyou County history.

Today the Siskiyou County Museum serves as the flagship of the museums located within the County. Since its inception both the museum and the historical society have had a unique partnership that has allowed them to fill the role as the keepers of our county's history. When financial times have been difficult the historical society has stepped up to help keep the doors open to the museum when county funds were scarce, to complement the county supervisors who have helped in the past with both their moral and financial support. With the continued cooperation between the society and county it is delightful to announce that the Siskiyou County Supervisors have most recently established an endowment for the museum's perpetuity.

As we travel forward from the past 60 plus years to the future we are pleased to know the mission of the society and museum will be preserved. We urge everyone to stop by the Siskiyou County Museum and enjoy the exhibits, utilize the extensive research library, and to become members and enjoy the benefits that it can bring to individuals and families.

Please visit us at: www.siskiyoucountyhistoricalsociety.org. ♦

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* Learn about local and Migratory Songbirds at the next walk on April 17th from 9 to 11am at Greenhorn Park.

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Wildwood Crossing Coffee Shop and Cafe in Etna, California has new owners. This delightful cafe has been purchased by longtime local couple, Tammy and Andy Dean.

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Wildwood offers a full espresso coffee bar, which also includes fresh fruit smoothies and chai tea. Their cafe menu offers both breakfast and lunch items ranging from organic oatmeal, breakfast croissants, bagels and bakery items, to house sandwiches with meat, cheese and bread of choice, wraps and a variety of fresh-made salads. They also offer a daily soup and special of the day. In addition, they have a variety of artwork and cards for sale by local artists, and an array of gifts to choose from.

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It's coming It's Coming! It's Just around the corner. May 4th & 5th come and attend the Ravenswood Upon ~The ~ Gleann Celtic Gathering & Market Faire at Hawes Farms, 21923 Dersch Road, Anderson, California, 96007. This event will take place on Saturday May 4th from 10am to 11pm and Sunday May 5th from 10am to 5pm.

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Be on site Saturday May 5th around 5:00 pm to view a real Handfasting! *Note: A Handfasting Ceremony is an ancient marriage ritual made popular in Ireland and Scotland during the Early Christian period. This symbolic lashing together of the couple's hands is the origin of the familiar expression, "tying the knot."*

Some of The Encampments this year will include The Encampment of De Horton, St Andrews Noble Order of Royal Scots, Castlewood & MORE!

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Why Market Faire? Because for the people of the time, at the beginning of spring there is new life. The Faire is a time to enjoy all the extra goods and crafts that are bought to town for sale, to celebrate the end of a long hard work period. Performers and entertainers come to ply their trade and add to the festivities.

What is the time period? We are portraying a very long span of history from the 5th to the 15th century. This period followed the fall of the Western Roman Empire in 476, and preceded the Early Modern Era. It was during this time the legends of King Arthur, Robin Hood, and the Great Crusades were brought to life.

The Faire also incorporates Fantasy tales and Folklore into the mix to make for a more entertaining venue for the patrons. Sir Walter Scott's 'Ivanhoe' took place in this time period and Wandering Gleeman told stories of dragons, trolls and ogres.

Why is this time period special? During the High Middle Ages (c. 1000-1300), Christian-oriented art and architecture flourished. The codes of chivalry and courtly love set rules for proper behavior. The Crusades brought about new knowledge and ideas in everything from warfare to architecture.

What are the Faire dates and times again? May 4th & 5th, @ Hawes Farms, 21923 Dersch Road in Anderson, California 96007. Hours: Saturday from 10am to 11pm and Sunday from 10am to 5pm.

On-line tickets: <http://ravenswood-efbevent.eventbrite.com>. See full page AD with some of the vendors at right. ♦

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HISTORICAL MARKERS OF THE STATE OF JEFFERSON

The Plaques of E Clampus Vitus--Humbug Chapter No. 73. This is the 7th in a continuing series of articles prepared by Bill Wensrich. "If you ain't plaque'n, then you ain't Clampin'"

ECV Humbug Chapter's eighth Humbug, Mac McKellar, was instrumental in the placement of this historical marker. Mac worked with the county historical society, and gets the credit for the erection of the Chapter's seventh monument. Using standard railroad rail technique for marking trails, it illustrates what a typical trail marker looks like.

For over thirty years Augustus Meamber, master packer of local renown, led pack trains supplying Scott Valley mining camps, agricultural communities and Scott River Canyon settlements.

A tidal wave onslaught of people populating western Siskiyou County after the 1851 gold strike required massive amounts of merchandise. The best way to supply goods to this remote country was via steam ship out of San Francisco docking at newly established ports along the northern California coast. Towns like Paragon Bay (now called Crescent City) and Union (Arcata) became hubs of commerce for supplies and materials bound for the interior mining communities of southern Oregon and northern California. By the mid-1850s, using a variety of funding sources, the completed Kelsey trail connected coastal wharves with western Siskiyou County mining camps.

Gus is best remembered for packing supplies and materials across this and other routes. He also did some path finding and route optimization of his own during those early days. From his ranch ten miles west of Fort Jones, it took Gus and his pack train nineteen days to transport supplies over the Marble Mountains and back using the old Kelsey Creek trail.

This trail marker plaque is located approximately nine miles west of Fort Jones on Scott River road. Placed in the front yard of a private residence, it can be viewed from the road. I presume it is located on the old Gus Meamber Ranch or very near it. There were many professional packers of the day; why Mac chose to mark this site as the Gus Meamber Pack Train Trail remains a mystery. Perhaps it's because Gus began and ended many pack trips from this location, which is either on or near where his ranch was located. It probably didn't hurt any that Mac and Gus were both Fort Jones residents. ♦



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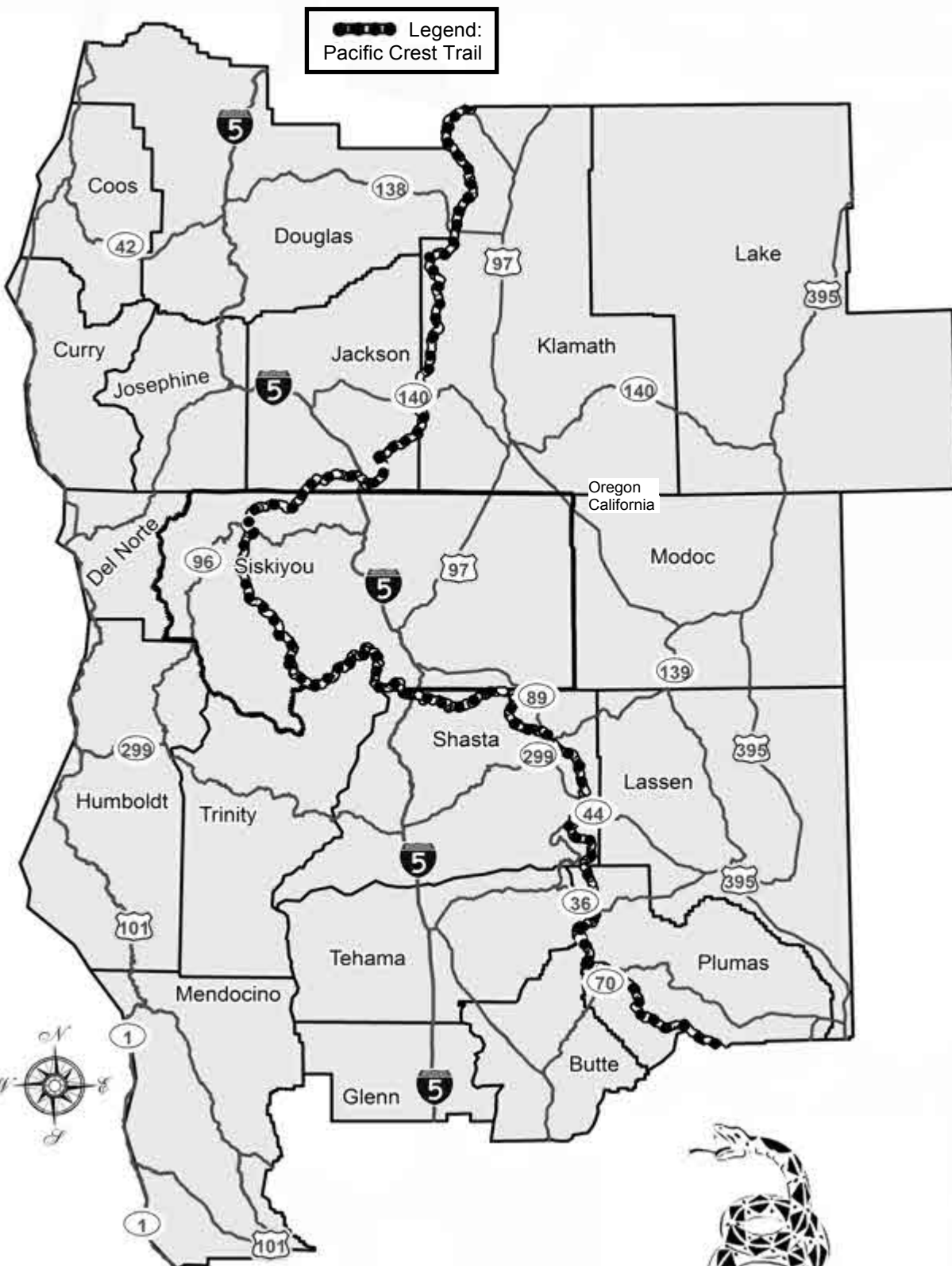
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"The strongest reason for We The People to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government."
Thomas Jefferson



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.

The dream lives on for this unrealized 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 Information & Business Directory for our region.

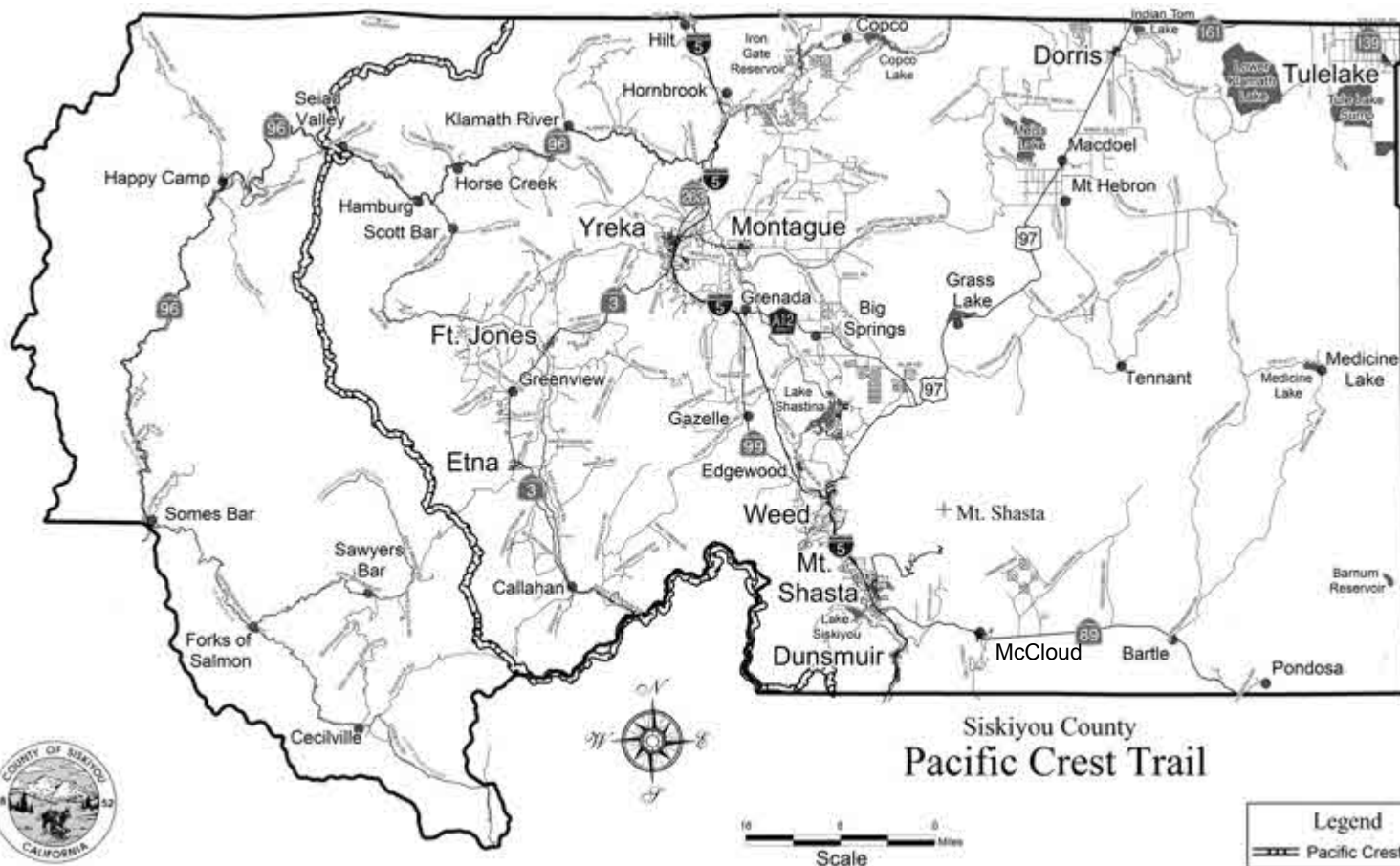
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Map of Siskiyou County - The Heart of The Great State of Jefferson



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