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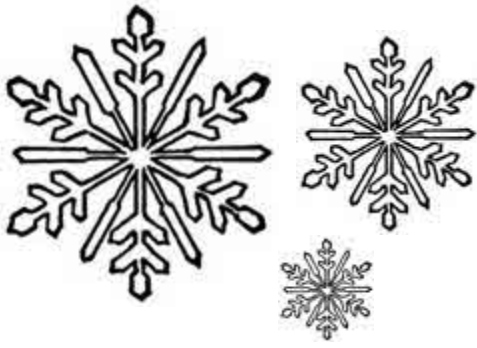
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Cover Image: Photo of Hat Creek this Autumn, along Highway 89 near Old Station, Ca. By M.Fain



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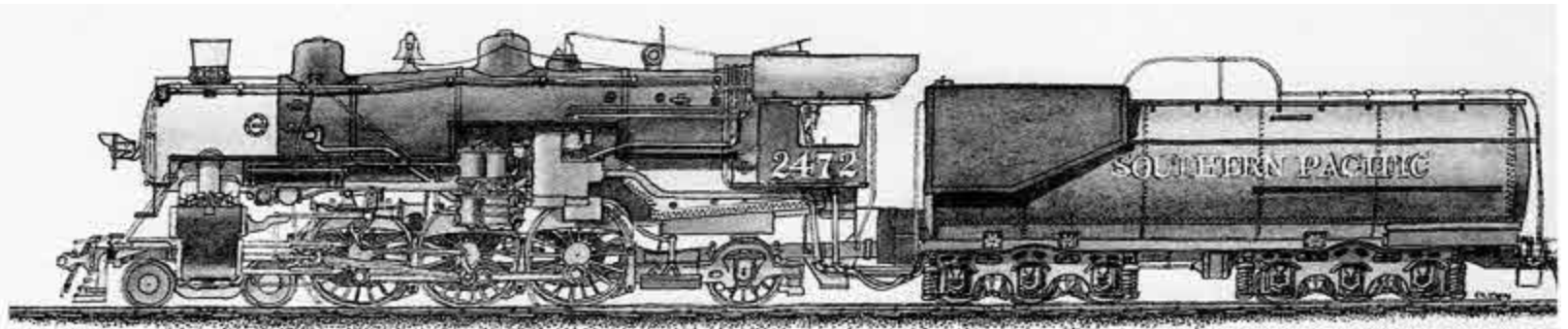
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DUNSMUIR RAILROAD DEPOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

DUNSMUIR MUSEUM & RR DISPLAY ROOM

The Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society has closed the Dunsmuir Museum, located at the Amtrak Depot on Sacramento Avenue and the RR Display Room for the winter months. They will re-open April 2015. You can, however, follow us on www.dunsmuirdepot.com

Folks are asked to ride the Society's "Membership Train." Membership "tickets" are \$10 each for the Dunsmuir Museum and the Depot Society. Checks can be sent to PO Box 324, Dunsmuir CA 96025. We appreciate your continued support.

In the past, town depots were the hub of activity bringing visitors and goods into the community. Do you know the story of the North Platte Canteen in Nebraska? Bob Greene has written "Once Upon a Town, the Miracle of the North Platte Canteen." From December 25, 1941 until April 1, 1946 more than 6,000,000 servicemen and women who traveled through

NOTE: Folks can ride the Depot Society's "Membership Train" by sending \$10 for Depot membership and \$10 for Museum membership to PO Box 324, Dunsmuir CA 96025. Funds raised provide for the continued maintenance of the Amtrak Depot (the only Siskiyou stop), the Dunsmuir Museum and Railroad Display Room.

Nebraska during WWII fondly remember the hospitality of the North Platte Canteen where every troop train was met at the depot by volunteers who prepared and served sandwiches, coffee, cookies, cakes and other homemade "goodies" during stops. Some of the young men were so taken with the experience they moved to the North Platte area after the war.

Do you know about our own local miracle? The "Dunsmuir" book by Deborah Harton and Ron McCloud has a Siskiyou County Museum photograph of local ladies serving food to troops. "In September 1917 more than 18,000 troops moved through on the Shasta Line in five days. ... Towns along the railroad were active in supporting troops; many trains were met with bands and a hot meal." ♦

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Andy Peek Livestock Scholarship Fund Accepting Applications

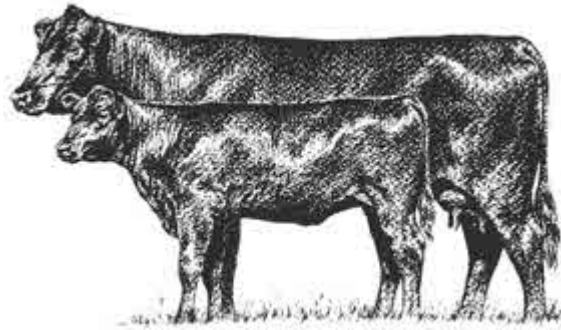
The Shasta Regional Community Foundation is pleased to announce the Andy Peek Livestock Scholarship has joined the Foundation's scholarship program. This fund was established by the Red Bluff Bull and Gelding Sale in honor and memory of Andy Peek.

Andy Peek was president of Western Video Market and also General Manager of Shasta Livestock Auction Yard in Cottonwood, California, a family-owned business where he worked for over four decades. He was a past president of the California Livestock Marketing Association and served as a board member for the National Livestock Marketing Association. Andy was a past chairman of the Shasta District Fair Board in California and in 2007 was named Tehama County (CA) Cattleman of the Year. Andy was a major presence in the U.S. livestock industry.

To continue Andy's support of youth programs, this scholarship will be offered annually to graduating seniors and undergraduate students majoring in Agricultural Studies (with a special emphasis in the livestock industry) who share Andy's desire to work in the industry he dearly loved.

The deadline for applications is December 15, 2014. The application is available for download on our website at www.shastarcf.org/scholarships.

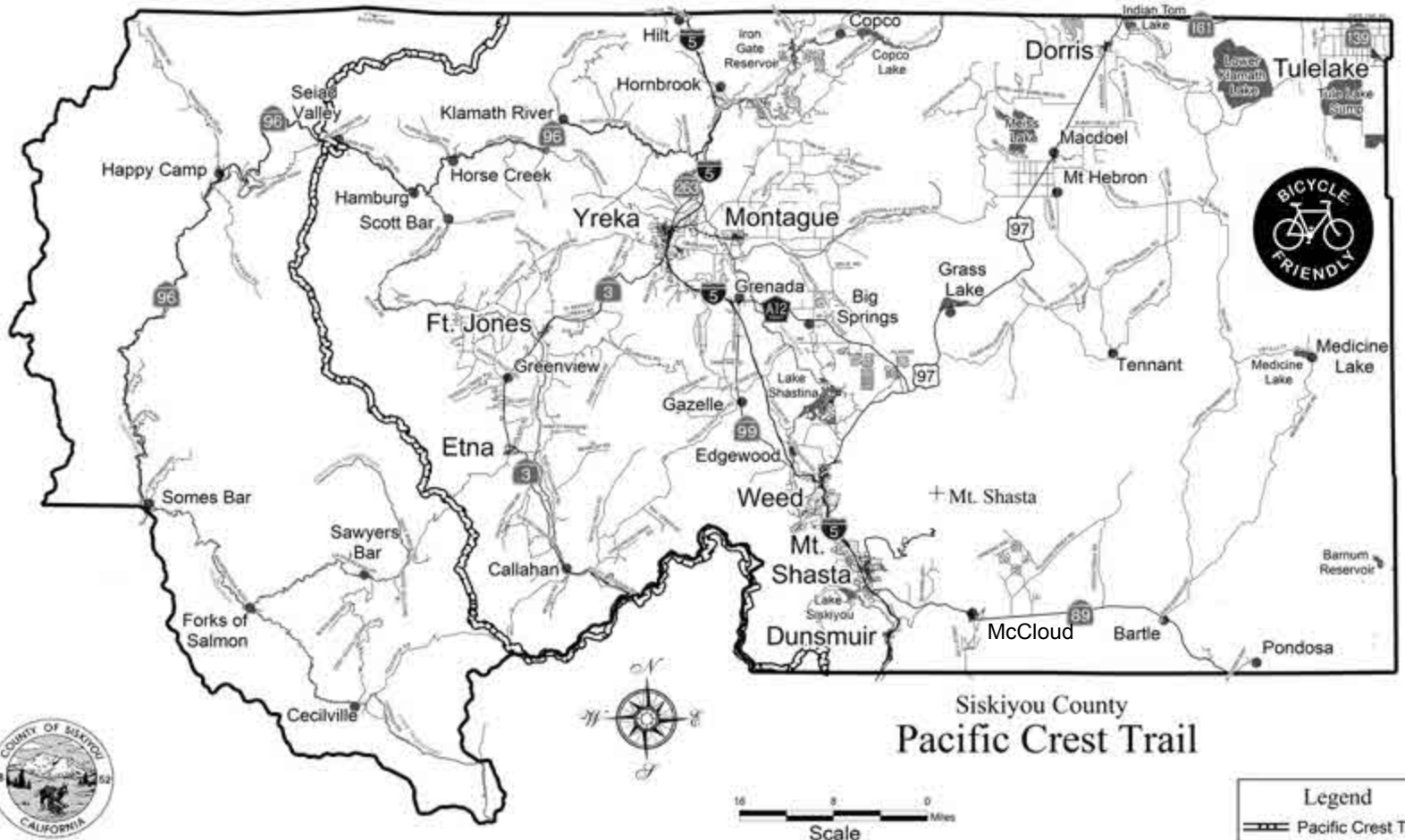
The Peek Family will announce scholarship recipients during the Red Bluff Bull Sale on Saturday, January 31, 2015. The Shasta Regional Community Foundation is a resource building organization in Shasta and Siskiyou Counties dedicated to promoting philanthropy by connecting people who care with causes that matter. Since 2000, the Community Foundation has awarded more



than \$12,000,000 in grants to area nonprofit organizations. For more information call the Shasta Regional Community Foundation at (530)244-1219 or visit www.shastarcf.org. ♦

Map of Siskiyou County, California

The Very HEART of the State of Jefferson Region





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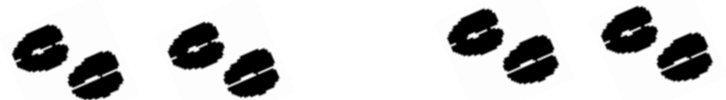


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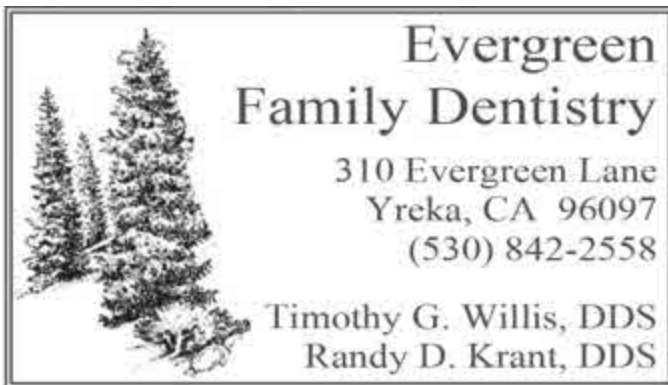
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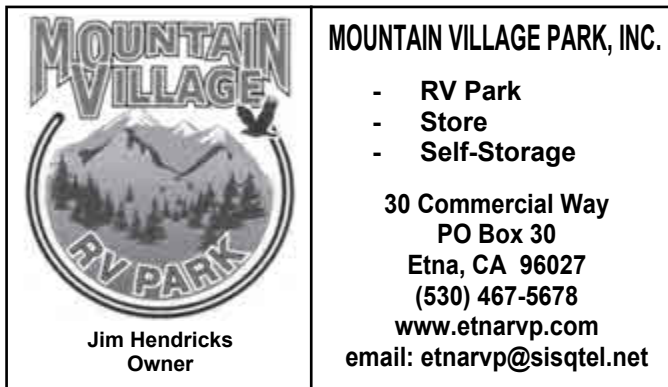
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"On the Road to . . ."

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.

ON THE ROAD TO HAUNTED SISKIYOU Part 2 of 2

Editor's Note: In Bob's own words, his special 'Haunted Siskiyou' stories were originally scheduled to start in October. However the needs of the City of Weed and the families affected by the Boles fire took priority. As a result we will now present Haunted Siskiyou. It is never too late for a good campfire ghost story.

In our first "Haunted Siskiyou" visit, I shared my personal experiences of the "haunting" at the police department/fire department in Dunsmuir. Today, in "Part 2," I thought it might be interesting to explore some other reported paranormal incidents in "Haunted Siskiyou." However, there is one caveat. I am neither an ear witness nor an eye witness to these occurrences so I have no actual "firsthand" knowledge of them. I am simply a messenger with respect to the incidents that I will relate in today's visit. So, perhaps it is time for us to get back On the Road for one final visit to Haunted Siskiyou.

The police and fire department facilities are not the only Dunsmuir structures that are reportedly haunted. A block and a half north of the Fire Department is Dunsmuir's California Theater. The theater is a remarkable building with a history and haunting all its own. Without naming my anonymous source I can share what a former employee of the theater told me. He reported that although he personally did not believe in "ghosts or goblins" some things happened during his employment that he could not explain. Several people reported to him that a nondescript "man" quite often could be seen in Seat 4 of the front row of the theater. However, when approached the man seemed to simply vanish into the darkness of the theater. On the third floor of the theater a small girl in formal wear had been seen several times dancing in what used to be the grand ball room. My informant, although not a "believer," often felt "chills" in his third floor office near the Masonic Lodge. He said that other than those uncomfortable feelings he occasionally felt in the office he did not personally see or hear anything out of the ordinary.

Geographically Siskiyou County is enormous. The county, at nearly 6,300 square miles, is larger than 3 states: Rhode Island, Delaware and Connecticut and is just slightly smaller than the land mass of the Hawaiian Islands. There are a number of small towns, communities and mining camps that are now little more than names on 160 year old maps.

Communities like Klamathon, Bestville, Callahan, Cecilville, Fort Goff, Humbug, Hilt, Happy Camp, Forks of the Salmon or the even lesser known ghost towns of Deadwood, Gullion's Bar, Hooperville, Wingate Bar and more dot the landscape in this ruggedly beautiful and picturesque county.



Each one of these communities has its own, sometimes violent story. Four reported murderers were broken out of the Siskiyou County Jail in the 1890s and were lynched. In 1935 Clyde Johnson, the admitted killer of the Dunsmuir Police Chief was broken out of Jail and he too took a long fall at the end of a short rope.



Many have asked, "What might cause a person's 'spirit' to remain on this side of the veil?" If ghosts do exist it has been postulated that their lives may have ended unexpectedly or violently. If that is the case, Siskiyou County would be a good place to find such a wandering soul.

When the sun goes down in Grenada, for example, things that shouldn't move do move and furthermore things that should move don't, almost as if they are being held down by some unseen force. Disembodied voices have been heard to cry out as if in agony in this community of less than 400 people.

But possibly the most haunted community in Siskiyou County is Yreka. With a population of near 8,000 living souls, Yreka is the largest incorporated city in the county. The exact number of disembodied voices, spectral "beings," goblins and other unexplained inhabitants is yet to be determined.

There is this intriguing story told by three young adults. While visiting Yreka's "Green Horn Park" they heard footsteps of someone approaching on the trail behind them. They moved to the side of the

trail in single file in courteous fashion to allow the approaching person to pass. They stopped and the approaching footsteps stopped. When the hikers turned there was nobody behind them. They left the park vowing never to return.

Then there are the spectral blue lights that periodically appear and move about in the Evergreen Cemetery. These have never been fully explained although they have been seen and reported by a number of people.

Admittedly, there could be logical explanations for these sightings and experiences. Light reflections, for example could possibly explain the cemetery's blue lights. Perhaps over active imaginations or audio - echo anomalies could explain the sounds of approaching footsteps. However, neither of those can explain the following incident. It was reported to me at the Chinese Cemetery east of Yreka. Another visitor to the cemetery and I struck up a conversation. He was of Asian descent and explained that he had an ancestor reportedly buried in the cemetery. He had been to the cemetery the previous day and he was inside the display area, reading and "getting a feel," for the cemetery. He heard a conversation in Chinese and somebody crying. Thinking others were there he tried to locate the person or persons. There was nobody around and the parking lot was empty. He told me he was a bit rattled and left immediately. However, after staying the night in Yreka he decided to come back to the cemetery to try and repeat the experience in hopes of discovering who or what had made the sound and who had carried on that conversation in Chinese. I don't know if he ever succeeded. I left immediately after that conversation. I would like to say it was to leave him to his solitude but honestly, I was more than a little bit rattled myself.

There you have it, just some of the tales of "Haunted Siskiyou." I bid you goodbye until we meet the next time we get "On the Road." ♦

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DUNSMUIR HISTORY

by Ron McCloud

Owner of Dunsmuir Hardware, Dunsmuir, California

“The Million Dollar Waterfall”

As waterfalls go, Hedge Creek Waterfall is tiny. The secluded 30 foot cascade has none of the drama of famous falls such as Niagara or even neighboring McCloud River Falls. But it has a story that makes it memorable. The little waterfall was known to Native Americans and early settlers in the area but it was nearly destroyed and lost forever in the early 1970s.

Volcanic activity deep within Mt. Shasta millions of years ago created a lava flow that formed the cliff over which Hedge Creek flows. Erosion and the freezing and thawing of water trapped in cracks in the basaltic rock has caused it to fracture into columns of rock that resemble building blocks. The result is the dramatic little canyon lined with huge boulders and old growth trees and the dark cave behind the waterfall.

Hedge Creek was named for the Hedge family who had a small berry farm at the creek’s headwaters in the late 1800s. Local people knew of the falls and the secluded little forested canyon and then – as now – it was a special place to visit. It is cool on hot summer days, peaceful and tranquil in hectic times, and dramatic in the winter when ice forms fantastic shapes. Native people in the area no doubt knew of the waterfall and there is a story that the trail to the falls was originally made by Chinese railroad workers in the 1880s.

Ross McCloud, who owned Upper Soda Springs – the area we now know as Tauhindauli Park – had built a toll road to Yreka in the late 1850s. That road skirted the Hedge family farm and was used by freight wagons, stagecoaches and travelers. It became part of the Pacific Highway and in 1912 was designated State Highway 99. In 1926 it became U.S. Highway 99. The coming of the automobile increased traffic going past the Hedge farm and when Highway 99 became U.S. Interstate 5, the little farm was taken over by the four-lane Interstate’s right of way. The waters of the creek however, continued to flow to the west, over the cliff and then on down the canyon to the Sacramento River. The Hedge farm was gone but the family name remained with Hedge Creek and the secluded little canyon was undisturbed by the traffic just over the lip of the ravine to the east. The waterfall in its forested canyon remained somewhat a local secret – visited by local people but virtually unknown to outsiders.

Then in 1972 plans were revealed which would widen the four-lane interstate into six lanes. Massive cuts and fills were planned and a frontage road would parallel the freeway on its west side. Excess fill – dirt, rocks and asphalt – would be dumped into the Hedge Creek ravine, burying the waterfall forever. Ownership of the Hedge Creek property at this time was held by two sisters – Marie Reid and Margaret Brennan. The two ladies and their garden club member friends were shocked by the potential loss of the special place. Not willing to sit back and watch the waterfall be destroyed, they circulated petitions and collected hundreds of signatures of others who felt it should be saved.

The petitions were presented to the Dunsmuir City Council along with letters and arguments in favor of saving the waterfall by changing the planned location of the freeway lanes and frontage road. There was virtually



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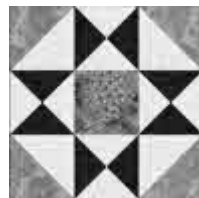
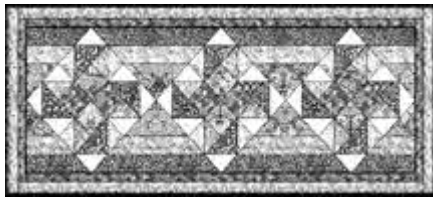
no opposition to the sisters' efforts and the entire community united to back them. A unanimous proclamation from the City Council was forwarded to the California State Highway Department urging that the plans be changed to save the waterfall. Highway Department officials came to see the situation and promised to study possible solutions.

After agonizing months of waiting for a decision, word came that the route of the frontage road would be changed to bypass Hedge Creek Waterfall. The result is the kink that we see today in the path of Dunsmuir Avenue as it transitions into the frontage road. The cost of the change was rumored to be a million dollars.

Today there is a parking area for visitors to the falls and signs point the way to the path that descends into the little canyon. The short downhill walk winds through old growth forest and the gentle sound of the falling water can be heard before it becomes visible through the trees. The cascading water completely masks the sound of the trucks on the nearby freeway and visitors are moved to sit quietly and absorb the sight, sound, and peaceful setting. The path continues on – behind the waterfall and then follows Hedge Creek a short distance to the viewing platform over the Sacramento River. A million dollars was a small price to pay to save such a pretty and tranquil place.

Ron McCloud is the 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 traces its history to 1894. ♦

At right, see the waterfall that came close to being buried under freeway rubble and lost forever. Dunsmuir citizens' actions changed the freeway and saved Hedge Creek Waterfall for generations to come. Photo - Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce.



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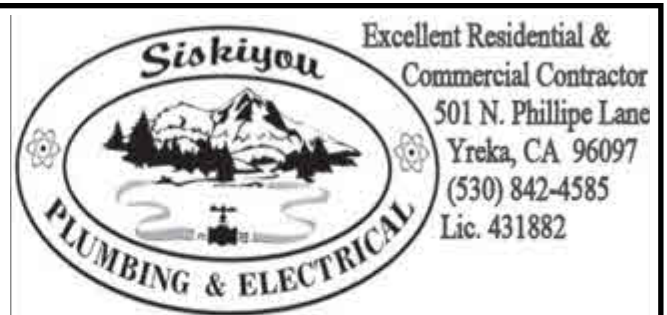
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Photo above of the Gillis Mansion in Yreka, the "home" of the local cattle Baron in the film. Photo copyright: Claudia East. Photo below of Lake Siskiyou as seen in the last few years, the site of some of the filming in the movie.



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>.

"Standing Tall" in Yreka

In September of 1977 the Quinn Martin Company (who produced full length TV movies) came to Yreka and the surrounding area and filmed what was to be titled "Legend at Sundown" entirely in Siskiyou County. Later during the editing the name of the film was changed to the title of "Standing Tall." It was a movie that depicted the depression-era times of Montana. The story line of the film was about a young rancher, Shasta, who is given a rough time by the reigning cattle baron. One individual, Leeland Cook, who appeared in the movie was a former Yrekan and went on to appear in many western movies.

Also starring in the movie was Linda Evans, then most known for her roles in the TV series, Big Valley. In addition Robert Forester plays the hero, Luke Shasta and was opposite the villain in the script with the ruthless cattle baron, Chuck Connors of "The Rifleman" fame. The role Connors played was described by the Siskiyou Daily News as "a villain who has absolutely no redeeming traits."

Below are interesting tidbits regarding the making of this film:

In the film a scene was filmed at the Ft. Jones Community Hall and the building was turned into the Benteen Community Hospital.

Rodeo scenes were shot at Pleasure Park Area in Etna and local residents dressed up in 1930s style clothing to become part of the rodeo crowd.

The Gillis Mansion on the corner of North Oregon and Yama Streets was used for interior scenes. The home (in the movie) belonged to the "evil" cattle baron (Chuck Connors). The filming was done during daylight hours, but the windows were draped with black curtains on the outside to simulate nighttime.

The "first voice" one hears when the movie begins is the voice of Ron Lillard. Ron, a local man, was the manager of the Siskiyou Golden Fair at the time. During the opening credits he is heard as a country-western disc jockey on a car radio.

Some of the places to look for in the film, as they were known when the film was made in 1977, include: Lake Siskiyou, the former Siskiyou Stockyards, Little Shasta's Johnson Ranch, Edgewood's Gagnani Ranch, the town of Callahan as the town of Benteen, the Park Motel in Yreka and the City Hall at Fort Jones. Filming for the movie also took place at the line shack at the Ben Brazie Ranch, mountain scenes at the Fred Burton Ranch (Forest House Ranch), party scenes at the Gillis Mansion (then the Gordon Dunlap Home) and a kitchen scene at the Roland Dexter home in Montague. ♦



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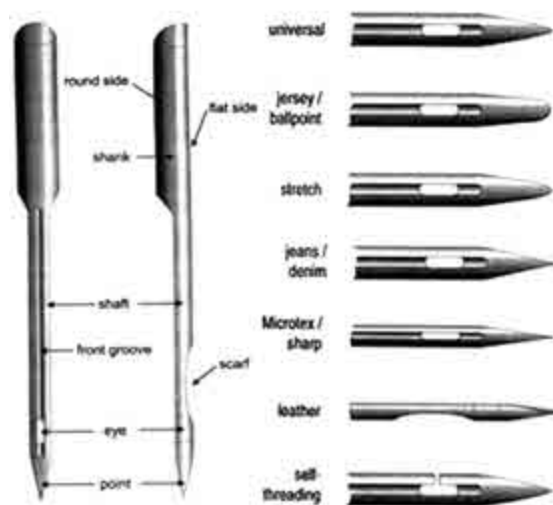
"Needles, Needles, Needles" by Mickey Weston

With so many different needles and so many different threads to choose from, AAAH! It can seem overwhelming. But fear not, all regular sewing machines and most longarm machines and sergers take a class 130/705, also known as class 15x1, needle. This denotes the shape of the top of the shaft, and the length of the needle. We carry Schmetz needles because they are surgical steel and last a bit longer than some of the other brands. (This may, or may not, have been a good thing the two times I sewed my index finger! Don't sew late at night, it will save you grief!)

So, a brief description of needle types, sizes and uses. All needles come in sizes 60/9, 70/10, 75/11, 80/12, 90/14, 100/16, and sometimes larger. However, most machines won't take a needle larger than 100/16.

Now what size needle with what size thread? A size 60/9 for instance, is so small that only a size 60 thread will fit. This is perfect for silk or chiffon, as both the needle marks and the thread hardly show, making a very dainty seam. Other sizes are much more versatile, 70/10 and up will take the most common size 50 threads, size 90/14 and up will take 40 weight or even 30 weight thread, as well as the 50 weight thread. The size of the needle should match the thickness of the fabric, smaller needles for thin fabrics, thicker for heavier. A 70/10 is a good choice for light weight cottons, but a bad choice for denim. I prefer a 80/12 UNIVERSAL for most of my garment sewing, as this size and type works well on the light to mid weight fabrics I use the most.

The most common needle is a UNIVERSAL needle. This needle has a semi-ball point tip. What this means is that the tip of this needle is rounded; this is so that the needle will slip between the fibers on both wovens and knits. If a sharp tip is used on knits, it will poke a hole and cause a run. Or if a sharp tip is used on chiffon, it could cause a pull. The UNIVERSAL needle works well for most mending or garment sewing jobs.



Speaking of sharp points, a JEANS needle has one. This needle comes in sizes 70/10 to 100/16 and larger, although larger won't fit most machines. The sharp tip makes this needle for wovens only, for reasons already stated.

The advantage of a JEANS needle is the even stitch that it makes. A UNIVERSAL needle will not make as even a stitch. This makes the smaller size 70/10 to 80/12 (my favorite.) perfect for Quilting. The larger sizes are good for canvas, denim or multi-layered projects that might bend another needle.

We also have needles labeled QUILTING. These are also a sharp tipped needle, and come in sizes 75/11 and 90/12. They are basically the same needle as a JEANS needle, but with a higher price tag. Enough said.

Next we get into specialty needles, that is needles made for more specific uses, such as STRETCH needles. These are ball point needles that are coated to make them slide through knits easily. These are especially good for lycras or slinky knits, as these have a tight weave. Again 70/10's light weight knits, 90/14's heavy knits such as ski pants.



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Another coated needle is the MICROTEX needle. This is a extra sharp coated needle made for synthetic microtex fabric. Thanks to modern technology we have fabrics that have fibers so small and so packed together (think moleskin), that it takes a special needle to go through them. This needle also works wonders when Quilting on silk or other specialty fabrics due to its very sharp tip and coating.

LEATHER needles: this needle is used only on leather, vinyl, and coated fabrics, such as Moda's vinylized cottons. These needles come in 90/14 and 100/16 or larger. They have a wedge shaped razer blade tip. This tip cuts through, leaving a hole. A regular needle will get stuck in these fabrics. I use the 90/14 on Moda's coated cottons.



EMBROIDERY needles: again a coated needle, this one with a larger coated eye to accommodate larger embroidery threads. The coated eye helps specialty threads slide through without breaking. This needle comes in sizes 75/11 or 90/14. This needle works well for decorative thread work and thread painting. This is also the needle used in embroidery machines.

One step up from this is the topstitch needle. This is another coated needle, with a coated eye. This is the needle I use for thread painting. 90/14 is the most common size as this needle is made for larger threads, with a larger eye, and might more easily break on a smaller size. I also like this needle for metallic threads as they can break, stretch and tangle without extra care. This needle's large coated eye keeps the thread flowing as you quilt. This is the needle that would be used to do Big Foot fur. Yes, Big Foot is stuck in my head: my husband collects all the Jefferson Backroads articles on Big Foot!

So there's a little bit about needles. Hope you find it helpful! Happy Quilting!

Check out Mickey's ad above right: *Weston's Quilting & Crafts!* ♦

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Yreka Computer Offers A New Service to Help New Computer Owners Get Up and Running Quickly and Easily

Yreka Computer is now offering a service for new computer owners, Computer Set-up, which will help new computer owners have all they need to get started using their computers without delay.

"We started noticing that people were coming into the store and asking us to help them figure out what computer to purchase," says Mark Donahoo, store owner. "We were happy to help, but we realized they needed more services once the system arrived."

Yreka Computer decided that the solution would be to offer a "New Computer Set-Up" service. For \$95.00, Yreka Computer will transfer the data from the customer's old computer to the new one. But, that is only the beginning. The customer will fill out a form which will ask for information to personalize the system. For example, the customer will provide a preferred User Name and Password, and e-mail address. Yreka Computer will implement that information into the computer so the customer can get in, and be protected. Also, a Microsoft Account may be made for the customer upon request.

Yreka Computer will evaluate the anti-virus programs that come with the computer. For example, HP computers often come with McAfee Anti-Virus, which unfortunately does not provide the best protection. To help, Yreka Computer will install an anti-virus program and an anti-malware program. This means that the computer will be better protected from day one.

Google Chrome, Adobe Reader and Java will be installed. The computer does come with Internet Explorer, but most customers like having Google Chrome as an alternative for browsing the internet. The customers can also have the programs they frequently use reinstalled on the new computer. One example is Microsoft Office. "If the customer has Office 2007 or later I can reinstall it on the new computer," adds Mark. "Or if the customer has purchased the new Microsoft Office, I will install that."

Once the computer is ready to go, the customer will receive a quick overview of the new system. This is important for customers purchasing computers with Windows 8.1 because it is very different from previous Microsoft operating systems. Jean Sylwanowicz, store manager, will provide the overviews which cover logging in, accessing programs, and searching for files. If the customers would like more detailed instructions, they can sign up for one of the workshops offered at the store.

To promote this new service, Yreka Computer will give customers purchasing the Computer Set-up a free mouse pad made by Cliff's Trophies of Yreka - while supplies last.

Yreka Computer is located at 1107 S. Main Street, next to the Klamath Motor Lodge. The phone number is (530)842-5423. The store offers computer repair services, tune-ups, IT support, data transfer and computer classes. More information may be found at the website, www.yrekacomputer.com, and on Facebook. Customers are invited to bring their computer towers or laptops in without an appointment. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm. ♦

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Saturday Dec. 6 - SEE PAGE 18



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Photo: Early trails through the region were rugged and rough. Courtesy Betty Jane Young Collection.

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.

“The Siskiyou Trail, Part 1”

Until the late 1820s, the area between San Francisco and the Columbia River to the north was an unknown entity. Even after Lewis and Clark made their memorable trek in 1804-05, the region was often pictured as a scrambled, ill-defined version of itself.

The Canadians, British, and Russians were likely responsible for the earliest exploration. Fort Vancouver, established by Hudson’s Bay Company, eventually became the kick-off point for those moving south into the unknown. On the hunt for beaver – which had been exploited in the Rocky Mountain region – trappers, hunters, and then explorers were searching out new rivers and their tributaries. Although the famous trapping era was declining in other parts of the West and Northwest, this virgin territory abounded with wildlife. Fur companies, funded independently and/or underwritten by investors, sent out men to negotiate with the many tribes living in the region. Unfortunately, a number of early skirmishes led to continued resentment and conflict, although some tribes were willing to work alongside some of the early trappers.

One of the most famous men to open the region to future settlement was Dr. John McLoughlin. Born in Quebec, in 1784, he was of Irish, French-Canadian, and Scots descent. At 14, he was apprenticed to a doctor and by 19, was licensed to practice surgery, medicine, and pharmacy. He joined the Northwest Company in 1803 and after a short time, exchanged his scalpel for a skinning knife. After a number of years in the fur business, he was given the opportunity to venture west.

Taking fourteen men with him, McLoughlin traveled west where he established a headquarters on the Columbia River (Fort Vancouver). Although assigned to establish a fort near the mouth of the Columbia, McLoughlin found that location unappealing and hard to fortify. Instead he selected a site that would become self-sustaining and easily fortified, 100 miles from the sea and 6 miles past the mouth of the Willamette River.



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Gail Jenner
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.

www.GailJenner.com

As it turned out, the Willamette River was actually the waterway that led into southern Oregon and eventually the route that would come to be known as The Siskiyou Trail.

Temporary quarters were established, made up of tents, skin lodges, and bark huts. A few permanent buildings were begun. According to McLoughlin's lieutenant and later successor, James Douglas, the doctor also chose the site because of its beauty. In 1825, it was written that "the scenery from this place is sublime – high, well-wooded hills, mountains covered with perpetual snow, extensive natural meadows and plains of deep, fertile, alluvial deposit covered with a rich sward of grass and a profusion of flowering plants." The location had three names—Jolie Prairie, Belle Vue Point, and the Klickitat name that translated as "Place of the Mud Turtles."

The stockade was set back from the shore, which did occasionally flood, on a site high and dry. The prairie was soon planted with potatoes and other crops. Supplies that had been stored at the abandoned Astorian Fort George were transported to Fort Vancouver. By 1825, Fort George was already falling into ruin.

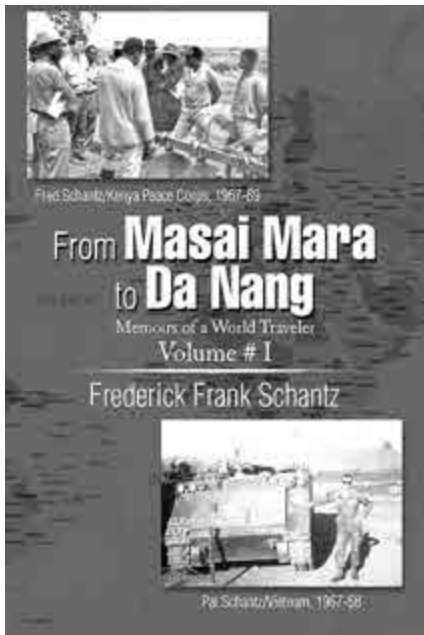
George Simpson, who had been made Governor-in-Chief of Rupert's Land (all of Hudson's Bay Company territory in Canada) approved of the new Fort Vancouver. He, in fact, was the man who believed McLoughlin would make the new fort a success and wanted a permanent settlement. It was he who appointed and encouraged the doctor to travel west and establish a new outpost.

McLoughlin came to be known to the local tribes as the White-Headed Eagle. At six-feet-four inches, he was well muscled and sometimes impulsive, but also energetic and good-hearted. Simpson described him as "such a figure as I should not like to meet (him) in a dark night in one of the bylanes in the neighbourhood of London...his beard would do honor to the chin of a grizzly bear...loaded with arms, and his own Herculean dimensions forming a 'tout ensemble' that would convey a good idea of the highwayman of former days."



McLoughlin was charged with avoiding violence. He was to use his skills as a trader to secure pelts by paying the Indians and/or "free trappers" (those not associated with any fur company) more than those competing for furs. He was also commissioned to sell supplies and equipment to those same trappers and/or tribes at cheaper rates than the competition.

McLoughlin also planted grain fields, apple trees and grape vines. The first harvest at Fort Vancouver was cause for a great celebration. It was reported he collected nine and a half bushels of peas and nine hundred barrels of potatoes. In 1826 he planted the first wheat in the Pacific Northwest, along with oats, barley, corn, and timothy. In truth, John Sutter, after seeing Fort Vancouver in 1838, took McLoughlin's ideas south to his own "New Helvetia," or Sutter's Fort. *To be continued...* ♦



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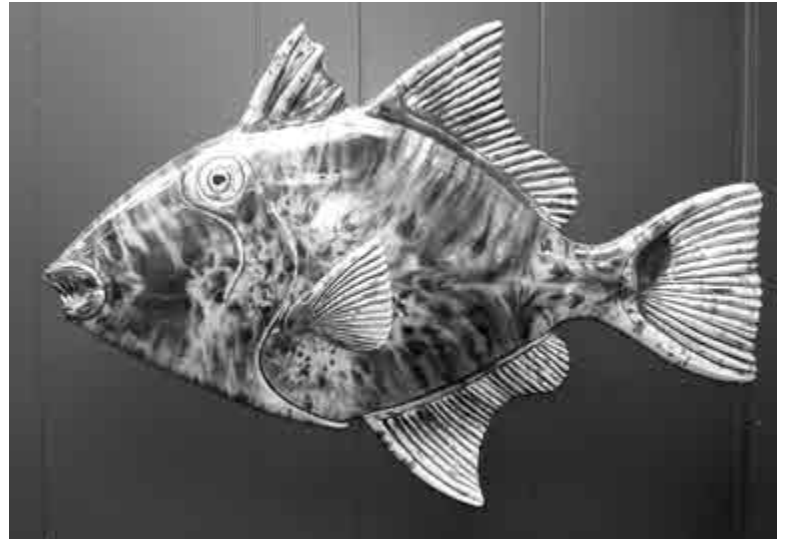




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1. **CHOOSE A CAREGIVER WITH CAUTION:** Do not assume that by hiring a caregiver through a bonded agency you are guaranteed to get someone who has been checked. There is no current law requiring mandatory background checks for in-home caregivers in California.
2. **KEEP AN INVENTORY OF ALL JEWELRY:** Jewelry is the number one item that is stolen from homes occupied by elders. Not only should your jewelry be kept in a locked drawer, you should have photographs of rare, valuable or sentimental items in a separate location. In the event of theft, such photographic evidence will be useful in tracking down the missing jewelry at a pawn shop.
3. **EVERY HOME SHOULD HAVE A SHREDDER:** Every piece of mail containing your name, address and any other identifying information should be shredded before being discarded. The most effective type of shredder is the criss-cross cut shredder. Even envelopes with our name and address should be shredded. Never throw away old checkbooks from closed accounts or bank credit card application forms. There is no danger in over shredding!
4. **PROTECT YOUR INCOMING AND OUTGOING MAIL:** Never allow incoming mail to sit in an unsecured mailbox where the public has access. Mailbox theft is rampant. Never leave outgoing mail in an unsecured mailbox with the red flag raised as this is an easy alert to the thief cruising the street. Consider purchasing a locked mailbox or post office box.
5. **EVERY TELEPHONE SHOULD HAVE CALLER I.D.** All modern telephones are equipped with Caller I.D. capability and the minimal cost of this extra service is well worth it. By seeing if the incoming call is classified as “private” or “unknown” this will allow you to be immediately on guard. Crooks love the telephone. It is now their weapon of choice.
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7. **OBTAIN A CREDIT SEARCH ON YOURSELF AT LEAST TWO OR THREE TIMES A YEAR:** Identity theft is rampant. The only way to have peace of mind is to periodically obtain a credit search on yourself from one of the three major credit bureaus—Experian, Equifax and Trans Union. This will enable you to discover whether someone has applied for or obtained a credit card in your name.
8. **ALLOW YOUR BANK TO SEND A COPY OF YOUR MONTHLY STATEMENT TO A TRUSTED FAMILY MEMBER OR ADVISOR:** Sadly, most financial elder abuse cases are only reported or discovered six to nine months after the initial losses have occurred. Elders whose sight is failing are at greater risk since they may rely upon the very person who is stealing from them to insure that financial transactions are in order. An independent pair of eyes that is able to look over bank statements every 30 days will be able to catch suspicious activities in the early stages.
9. **DON’T ASSUME THAT FRIENDLY HANDYMAN IS LICENSED OR QUALIFIED:** Before committing to any work on your home, always obtain at least three estimates in writing and check on the name of the contractor with both the Better Business Bureau and the Contractors State License Board. Just because someone gives you an impressive business card with a contractor’s license number on it, this does not mean that the person is qualified. The license number may have been stolen. Additionally, never pay more than 10% of the contract price up front.
10. **ALWAYS HAVE A SECOND LINE OF DEFENSE AT YOUR FRONT DOOR:** You should either have a locked screen door or a security chain guard at your front door. Crooks will attempt to gain entry to your home by using excuses such as a fake emergency or false uniforms and badges. By having a second line of defense, you will be able to communicate with the stranger on the doorstep without exposing yourself to the possibility of a forced entry. **Never allow any stranger into your home even if the emergency seems real. Instead, tell the stranger that you will call 911.**

To report suspected elder abuse call:

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The Downtown businesses want to wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday Season! See the lovely colorful advertisement on Page 18.



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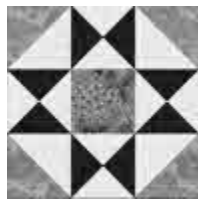
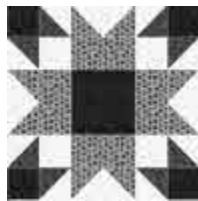
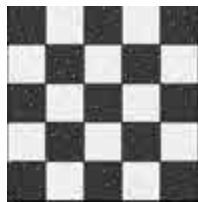

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HISTORICAL MARKERS OF OUR REGION

Grave Creek

The Plaques of E Clampus Vitus—
Umpqua Joe No. 1859 &
Humbug Chapter No. 73

The thirty first in a continuing series of articles prepared by Bill Wensrich
“If you ain’t plaque’n, then you ain’t Clampin’”



Clampers in their Wagons, photo courtesy E Clampus Vitus.

“Step up now, step up. Step geeeeeee! Step Haaawwww!” The strong soothing voice of Tom Marquette commanded his Belgian mare and Belgian mule, as they pulled a covered wagon load of Clampers around the grounds of the Applegate Trail Interpretive Center in Sunny Valley, Oregon on October 14, 2006.

Earlier in the day 35 Redshirts joined numerous civilians celebrating Oregon history during the Interpretive Center’s eighth annual wagon train reenactment. Rolling into the Interpretive Center around 2 p.m. to the melody of *Ghost Riders in the Sky* and welcoming cheers from Redshirts, civilians and gawkers, the reenactment wagon train completed its journey. Tom Marquette, a group of three or four wagons and numerous equine riders decked out in authentic 1840s garb traveled 14 miles over one of most challenging segments of the original Applegate Trail. Starting on the south side of Mount Sexton, the wagon train climbed the steep grade arriving at the Interpretive Center a bit behind schedule minus one rider who had been thrown from her horse.

Then it came time for E Clampus Vitus to show their colors. Sponsoring Humbug Chapter 73 brought local historian and Redshirt, Dan Weimers, to share anecdotes about the connection between the Yreka, California area and southern Oregon history. An interesting fact he discussed was how natural landmarks in the area once had different names. The Sacramento River used to be called the Pitt River, and Mt. McLoughlin used to be called Mount Pitt.

Following all the speechifying, Umpqua Joe Outpost and their ECV Sponsor got down to business at hand, a plaque dedication. On the front porch of the Applegate Trail Interpretive center Humbug Chapter president, Noble Grand Humbug Jim McConnell along with Outpost Wagon Master, Glenn Hearrell, and Old Prospector Leo Champagne, unveiled Umpqua Joe’s second plaque. Commemorating somber events endured by the first wagon train traveling the Applegate Trail, the plaque tells a heartbreaking story.

In the fall of 1846, the first wagon train to travel the southern route to the Oregon’s Willamette Valley, camped on the north side of what was then referred to as Woodpile Creek, later named Grave Creek. Born in 1830, Martha Leland Crowley, just 16 years old died of typhoid fever during their encampment.

In 1851 James Twogood laid out his land claim. Filing on his claim in 1852 he named his property Grave Creek Ranch in her memory.

During the reenactment Redshirt “Pipeline” Pat Gasaway and I tried the Buffalo Stew served by event organizers. Ummmmmmmmmm good! Not to be outdone, Glenn Hearrell and Ralph Fredregill served up some of the best New York steaks, beans and garlic bread for dinner. Wow! Combine that with micro brewed Wild Horse beer Wagon Master Steve “Zeke” Van de Bogart acquired for the function and you had 35 satisfied Clampers. “What sayeth the Brethren” was called out numerous times resulting in the authentic and validating reply of “Satisfactory.”



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After dinner, author Bill Emerson joined Clampers around the camp fire and shared details of his research while writing his book about the Applegate Trail.

Sunday morning was greeted with strong coffee provided by the Lewis and Clark Outpost Hawker, coupled with buckwheat flapjacks, sausage and eggs served by ClampChef Hearrell. With both bellies and rigs loaded and ready for beer (oops, I meant to say "bear"), Umpqua Joe's Clampers began jumping off for home on the Oregon-California stage road.

To visit this plaque as well as the Applegate Wagon Trail Interpretive center take Interstate 5 to southern Oregon Exit 71 about 14 miles north of Grants Pass. Travel east one mile on Lariat Drive/Sunny Valley Loop Road and the Museum building will be on your right. The plaque is mounted on the front porch. ♦



Photo Grave Creek Covered bridge courtesy E Clampus Vitus.



How GRAVE CREEK got its name:

In 1846 the Crowley Family arrived in this valley with the first wagon train over the Applegate Trail. Martha Leland Crowley, a daughter, succumbed to typhoid fever at the age of 16. She was buried here in a casket made of timber boards from some of the storage boxes on the wagons. Her grave, being so near the creek, gave the creek its name.

Dedicated Oct. 14, 2006, by Umpqua Joe Fledgling Outpost of Humbug Chapter #73 of E Clampus Vitus. Photo courtesy E Clampus Vitus.

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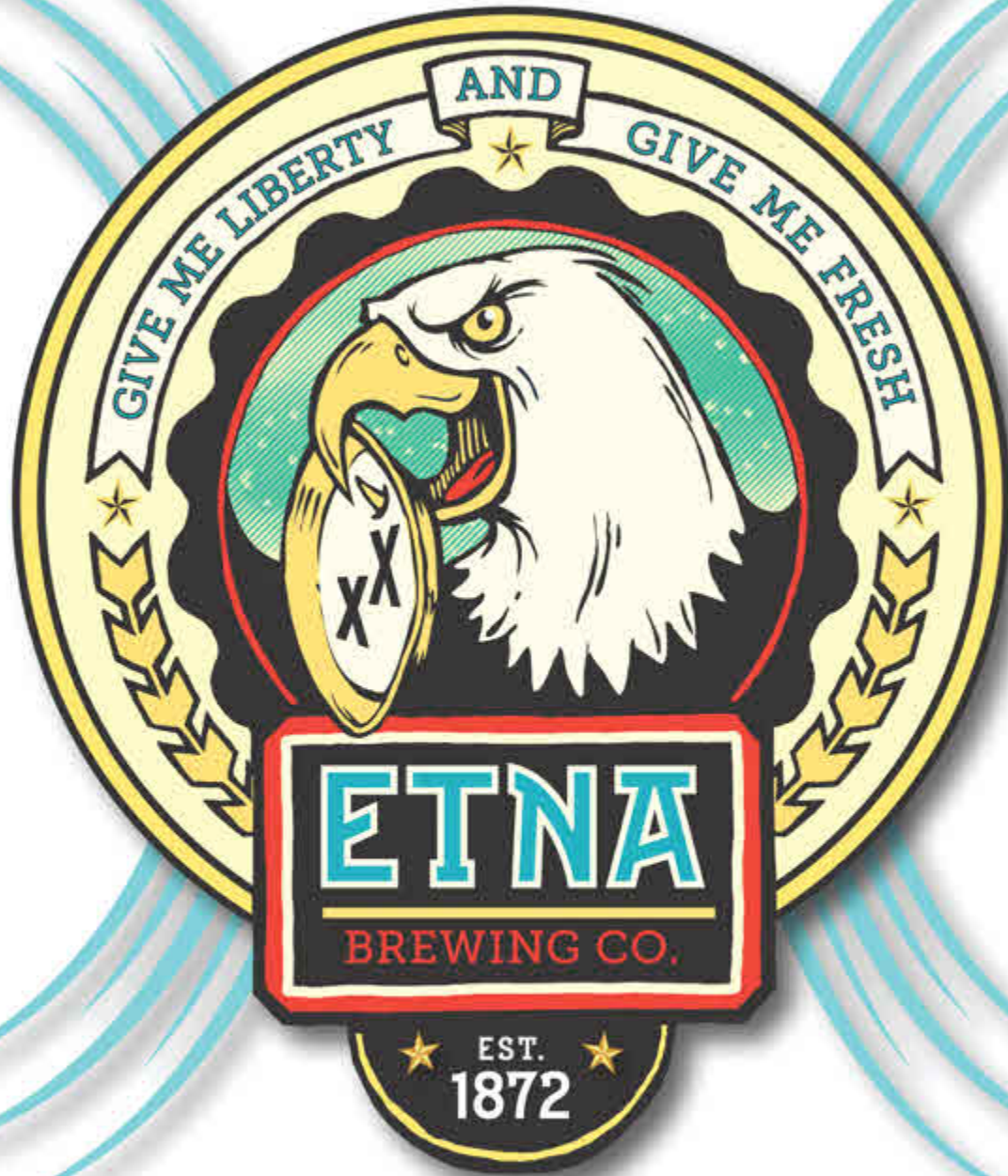
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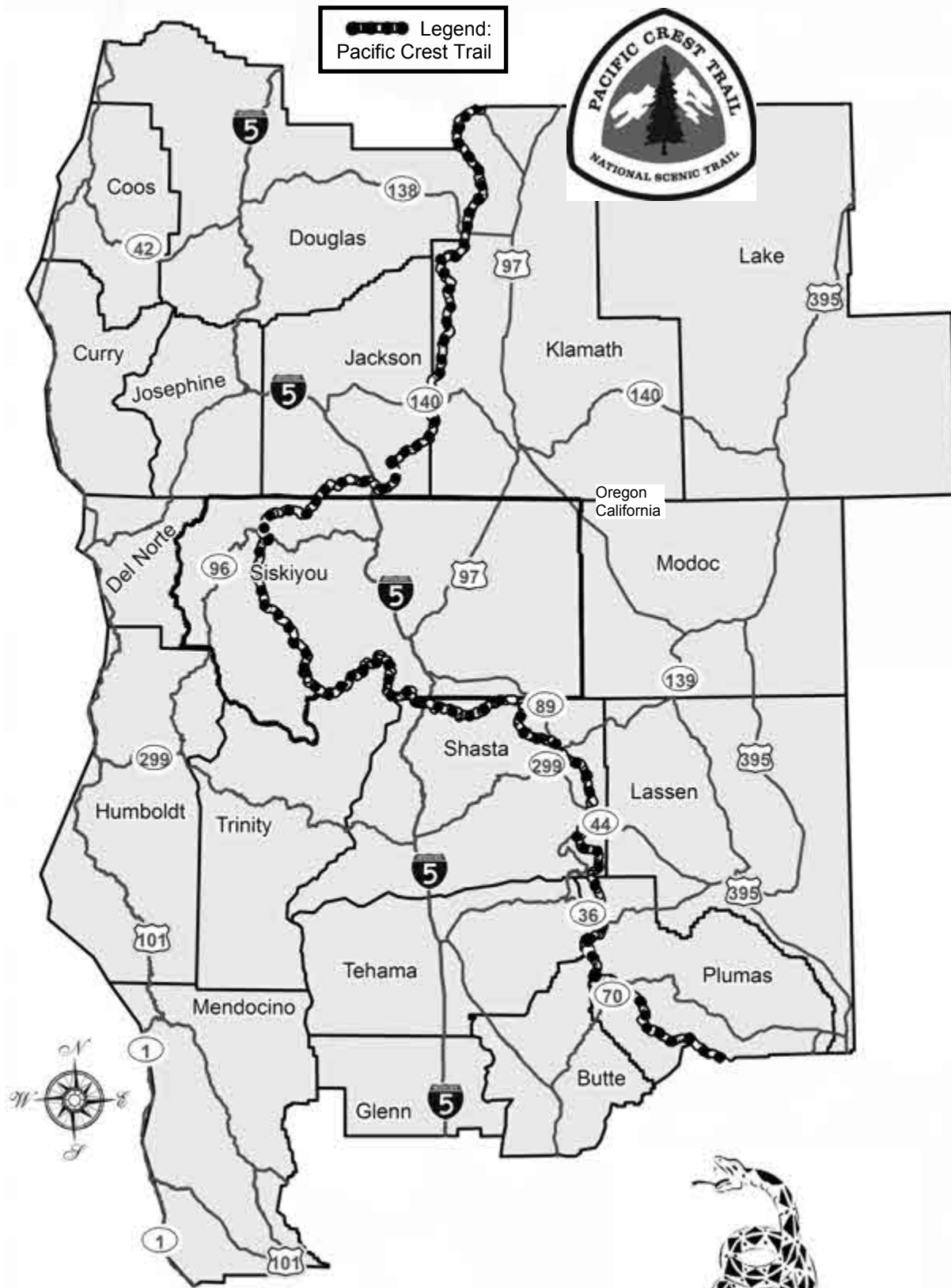
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