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JANUARY 2018



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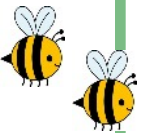
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Jefferson Backroads is always available for Publishing Your ADS for Business & Events. Call or Email us and we will be happy to assist you.

JEFFERSON BACKROADS
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Cover Image - Sunny Photo of our Stunning Shasta Valley by M. Fain

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Jefferson Backroads is proudly created and published for those Independent, Hard Working, Old School, Patriotic American Rebels who live in or travel through our Rugged & Beautiful State of Jefferson Region. The TRUE Independent Nature of The State of Jefferson can be found in Small Towns all across Rural America. We focus on the positive, the fun, the amazing local businesses, the history and The Adventure!!

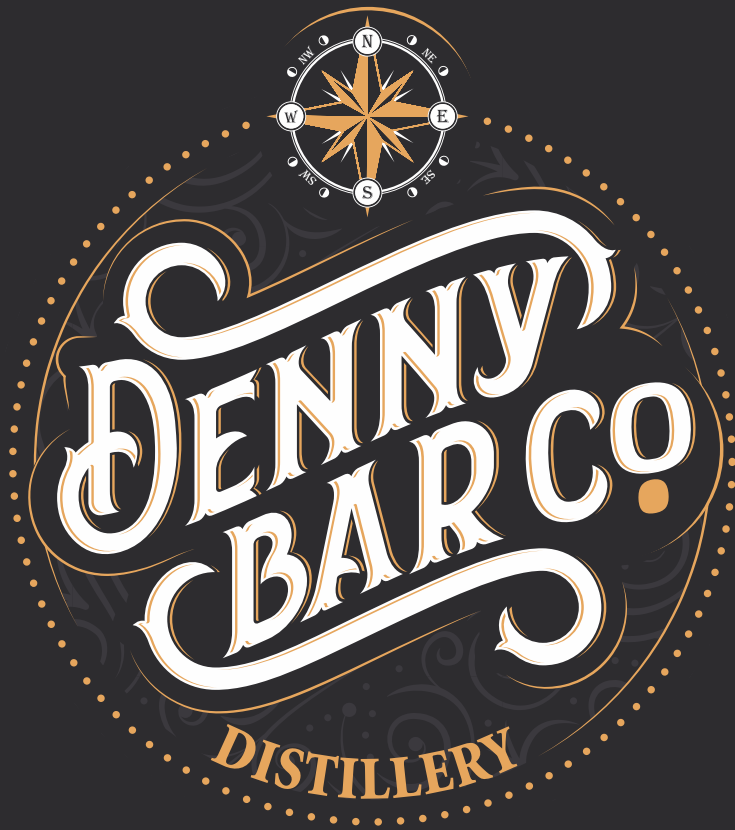
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BITS AND PIECES

Timeline

March 10-11: Valley Quilt Guild, Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds, 442 Franklin Ave., Yuba City

May 19: Scott Valley Quilters Quilt Show, Fort Jones Community Center, contact Michele Estrada, 598-2444.

June: Row by Row Experience begins. Theme: Sew Musical.
rowbyrowexperience.com

June 22: Fiber Arts Show at Snow Creek Studio, juried, entry deadline June 2. Information at Weston's.

June 23-24: Ocean Waves Quilt Guild Show, Fort Bragg

September 1-2: "Quilting Around the Mountain," Mt. Shasta High School Gymnasium: Featured Quilters Mickey Weston and Diana Fogle, Quilts, raffle baskets, boutique, silent auction, and vendors. Contact Sally Eagleman, 859-0656.

September 1-2: Mountain Quail Quilters, McArthur Fairgrounds

October 6: Pacific Flyway Quilters, Colusa County Fairgrounds, Colusa

October 20-21: Ridge Quilters Quilt Show, Elks on Clark St., Paradise

October 27-28: Oroville Piecemakers Quilt Show, Municipal Auditorium, Oroville



If you have upcoming events, projects, classes, needs or info to share about your community organization or business, call us and let Jefferson Backroads pop the information for you into one of our upcoming Happy Little Local Publications...



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Quilts of Valor Corner

February 7:
Next Presentation of
Quilts of Valor by Shasta Lily
Quilt Guild

Stitching in the Ditch

By Judy Sartor of the Mount Shasta Lily Quilt Guild
www.ShastaLily.org

It's 2018. Really? I was just getting in gear with 2017. Now I must start over? Well, I don't know. I may continue to write 2017 on my checks—either deliberately or accidentally.

Post holidays, I tend to slip into the doldrums. You probably know the feeling too. You've wrapped so many presents and cooked so many meals. You've spent so many hours creating homemade gifts that you have hit a wall—maybe even literally.

My friend Charlotte made quilts for all of her grandchildren, but she did not start until November. I heard that totaled nine. I haven't seen her for a while, so I hope that doesn't mean that she is lying unconscious under her sewing machine clutching quilt top number nine. I could probably write lyrics for that.

But let's talk about beginnings, much as I am loathe to face 2018 head on. After all, we must begin somewhere/sometime.

Take, for example, the free PDF download pattern by Christa Davis featured in her latest email post. The quilt is called Modern Puzzle. It's an intriguing pattern. I like it. You can find the pattern at christaquilts.com. (See photo at left on Page 6.)

By the way, I still do not understand the distinction between Modern and Traditional quilting. I capitalize both deliberately. I know the definition of Modern quilting. In my mind Traditional quilters embrace

creativity and color and negative space as much as their Modern counterparts. I see those Traditional quilters all around me. What's the big deal?



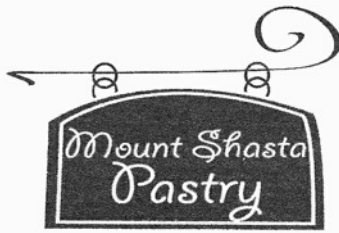
So what else qualifies as a beginning? Let's see what we can find at Weston's, my favorite quilt shop, located conveniently in Mt. Shasta. Be sure to sign up on Mickey's email list to receive updates, newsletters, and flash sale

notices. Mickey has new batiks arriving every few days, several stunning digital print offerings, some lovely Moda peony fabrics designed by Robin Pickens, and the Woof Woof Meow Dog and Cat Panels to sew stuffed animals/dolls. That way you can begin a new project (even if you have not actually ended another one.)

For another beginning, learning a new-to-you technique could start 2018 off on a positive foot. There. I said it—2018. For me it would be achieving a decent all-machine binding for Linus quilts or other comfort quilts. I've got a block on this. My friend Diana says that Bernina has a binding foot for that. I don't have a Bernina. Just pick what you want to learn and go for it! This might be as simple as getting some advice from a quilt shop or perhaps buying a new tool.

So I guess there is something to say for beginnings, even the beginning of 2018. Well, just maybe. Welcome to 2018! ✂

"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end."
—Seneca




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Photo of a nice drift boat on the Smith River, Hiouchi, California.


Backroads Adventures

by Ralph Fain



“January Along the Backroads”

*“When old Winter puts his blank face to the glass,
I shall close all my shutters, pull the curtains tight,
And build me stately palaces by candlelight.”*
—Charles Baudelaire



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January ushers in the holiday hangover. Christmas started with Halloween clear back in October. November brought Thanksgiving with Christmas still tagging along. And finally, in December Christmas arrived as heralded by all the stores since October. January hits with New Year’s Day and another, different kind of hangover for many revelers.

Now the quiet calm of January descends along the Backroads. Lots of folks start a fire, get a good book and settle in for the cold dark nights of winter. That works for me as I love to read. It seems January and February are the best months for guilt free reading. Check out Gail Jenner’s newest release, *Sourdough Biscuits and Pioneer Pies: The Old West Baking Book*. (See ad bottom of Page 9.)

There are few winter time chores unless you have animals, in that case, you continue to work your behind off in the cold and dark taking care of the critters you love. I spent a couple of winters feeding cattle. I admire and respect the ranchers and farmers in our communities who tend their animals throughout the year. You are the cornerstone of our way of life.

For those who don’t have a book to read or animals to feed there are still plenty of things to do in our Great State of Jefferson even in the dead of winter. One of my favorites is to spend time on the Smith River near Crescent City plunking for Steelhead with friends. The wild fish are some of the largest on the west coast. You don’t catch a lot of fish but the ones you catch launch straight into the air when the hook is set. The river is catch and release for wild fish so once landed and photos carefully taken, the fish is returned to the river to continue its upstream journey of procreation. Closer to Yreka, the Klamath River is well known for the numbers of smaller Steelhead eager to meet you. Great fishing guides are found locally and on the Smith River. Pick one and let them introduce you to our backroads fisheries.



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(530) 340-2954 or email shoegalkim1962@gmail.com.

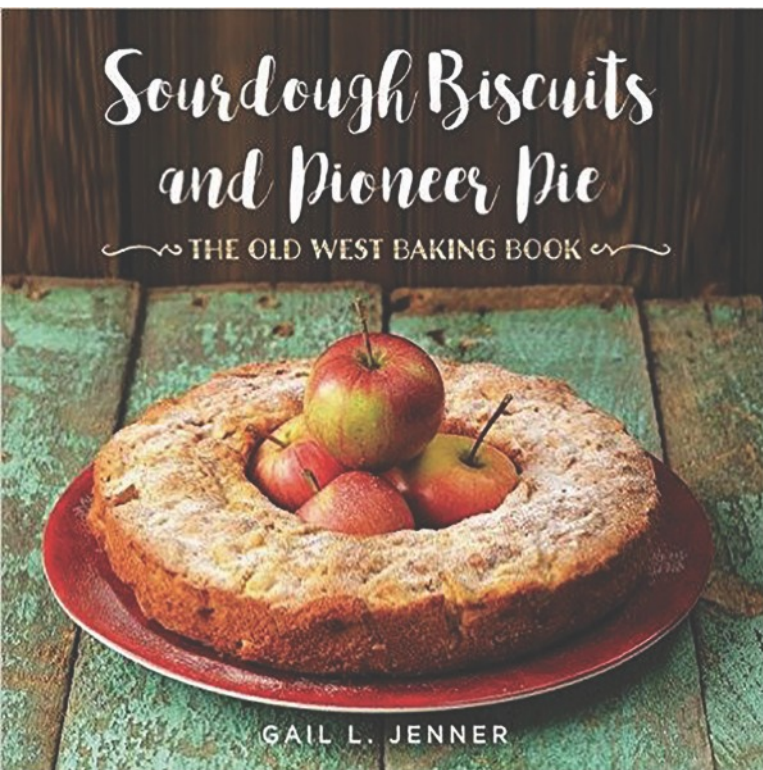


For those who want to fly down snowy mountains on sticks, Mount Shasta Ski Park is just outside the town of Mount Shasta and the Mt. Ashland Ski Area between Yreka and Ashland are just the places to test your skill and bravado. Easy access off of Interstate 5, small crowds and great snow make both of these ski parks pleasurable places to spend the day in the snow. Cross country skiers and those who love to wear themselves out on snowshoes can head to Etna Summit or Callahan Summit to test their skills. In my book, both these activities are just plain work. I am lazy and like to stay warm and dry. My preference when heading to Etna and Scott Valley would be to hit one of the eateries quickly gaining a reputation for good food and libations in Etna. Paystreak Brewing is known for its great beer, food, friendly owners and atmosphere. Denny Bar Co. is a new distillery and restaurant that has been months in the preparation process for a January 2018 opening. Premium Vodka, Premium Gin and Small Batch Bourbon Whiskey will be featured. For those looking for a homestyle diner, Bob's Ranch House also calls Etna home.

One other place I would mention for a January outing would be the Lower Klamath and Tulelake National Wildlife Areas. These refuges are located in eastern Siskiyou County. Although the majority of waterfowl have migrated further to the south, some birds will winter in this area. In turn, Bald Eagles in large numbers will often be found in and around the refuges dining on duck or goose. If you explore a bit and keep your eyes open you may see one of the large mule deer bucks that winter in the area.

Our little piece of the Backroads has four distinct seasons. Enjoy winter and all it has to offer. Eat, drink and be merry for spring is right around the corner! Hit the Backroads!

I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt; and perhaps it says "Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again." - Lewis Carroll



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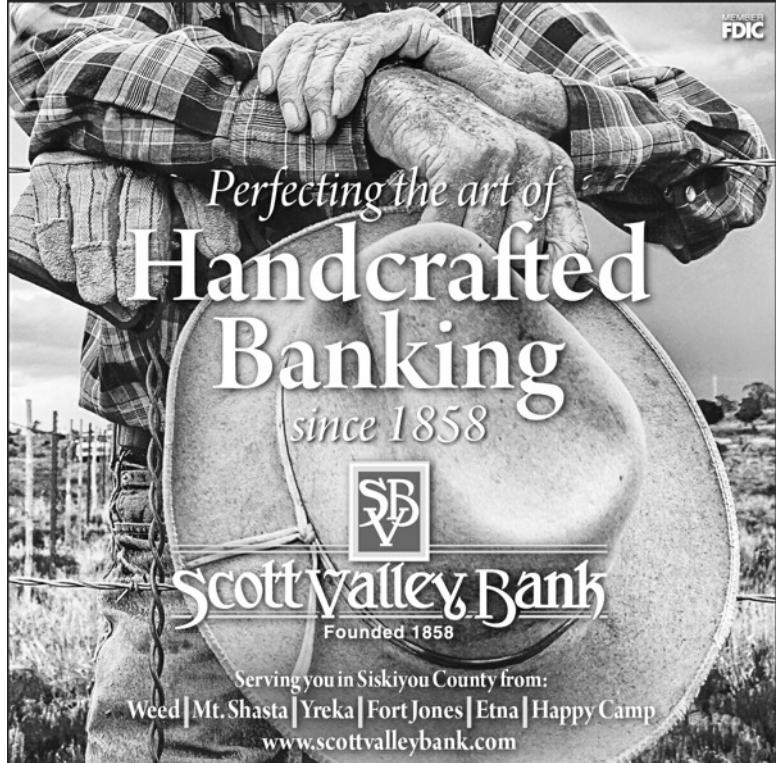


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TAWANDA FARMS




As I write this, just before Christmas, we are getting ready to shear the pregnant ewes in early January... January 5th to be exact. There is much to do: make sure the shearing floor and boards are clean; sheets to wrap the fleeces in case they are damp; food prepared for lunch for the crew; id cards to match the ewe to her fleece; invitations out to anyone who wants to help. Just this past week, we evaluated the fleeces on the girls: commercial, hand spinning, aged out.

We have a core group of friends, mostly hand spinners, who come to help. They work hard for a whole day. The men who are here push the ewes into the chute inside the barn so the shearer can easily catch them. The helpers sweep the shearing floor. They pick up the fleece and hand it off to some other helper to take to the skirting table where all of the tags, dirty edges are taken off. Then they put the identification in a bag with the fleece and the whole fleece is weighed. It is then carried to another part of the barn to be transported at a later date to the wool mill to be baled or sold to other hand spinners.

People ask me why do you shear their warm wool off in the middle of the winter? The big answer is that it is better for the ewe and better for the babies if we shear just before lambing. The babies tend to stay in utero for 1 to 3 or 4 days longer, giving the baby that much extra growth before birth. Mothering is not usually a problem with Romneys but if the mother and baby are cold, they tend to snuggle a little more if the mom is without wool. Then, without all that wool, the babies can find the nursing mechanism much easier. All in all everyone benefits.

Romney fleeces are beautiful and one of the easiest to spin. They are wonderful for a new spinner just learning to spin. Most of our fleeces are baled and sent to a woman who has them spun into a breed specific yarn, Heirloom Romney. That is where about 85% of the clip is sent. The other 15% is skirted, picked clean and sold to hand spinners around the country. We all work hard, but we have so much fun. Tawanda Farms is so grateful for the people who come every year. They are THE BEST! You know who you are. ■

Photo Above Left submitted by Tawanda Farms.



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See Pages 4-5 for more info...

February 10-11, 2018
4 Course Dinner & Wine Pairing.
Special Dining Event at Bob's Ranch House,
Etna, California. See Page 14 for more info...

February 17, 2018
Sons of Italy Crab Dinner in Weed, California
See Page 27 for all the info...

March 24-25, 2018
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See Upcoming Quilting Events on Pages 6-7...



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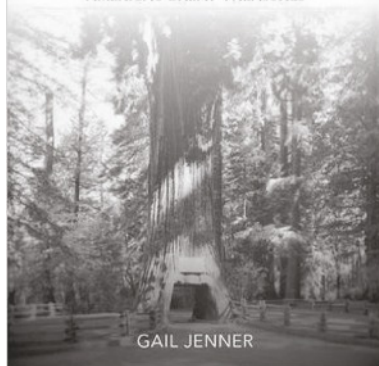
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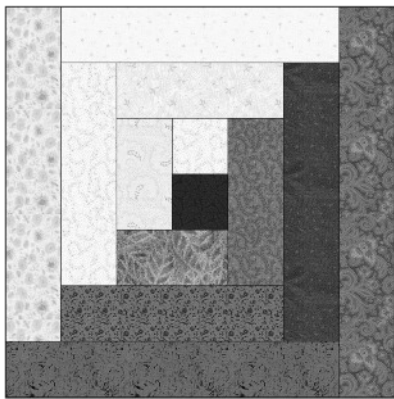
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DISCOVERING THE STATE OF JEFFERSON

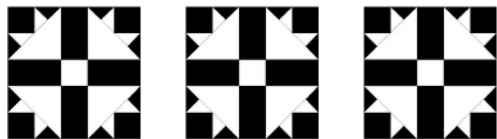
By Gail Jenner - Enjoy another new story of the many historical towns and unique realms which can be found scattered about The State of Jefferson.

“Some Firsts in Trinity County, California”

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With the 'FIRST' of every January, we celebrate a new year, and for many of us, it is the day we begin over – or at least a second chance to start over, in other words, a new 'FIRST.'

In celebration of 'firsts', I found these interesting tidbits of 'FIRST' events in Trinity County history.....

In 1850, Mrs. Walton reputedly became the first white woman and lady miner in Trinity County. In 1852, Mrs. Henrietta Ewing, was the first white woman to settle in Hayfork Valley, but was the second in the county.

In 1851, the first sermon was preached in Trinity County by the Methodist preacher, Reverend Hill. And in 1852-53, the Chinese Joss Hose was built on Chimney Point in Weaverville. This was actually the first permanent house of worship in Trinity County.

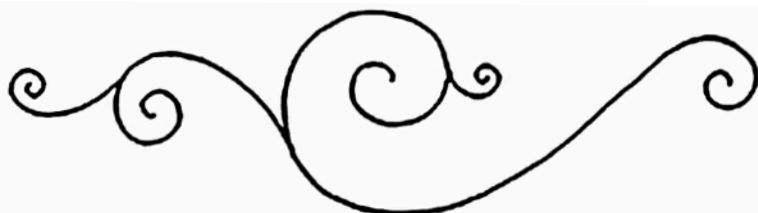
Unfortunately, the Temple of the Clouds and Forest was destroyed by fire June 28, 1873, and had to be rebuilt.

In 1852, William Spencer Lowden built the first mule bridge over Trinity River, near Lewiston. Also in 1858, on June 7, the first telegraph line was completed, linking Weaverville, Shasta, Trinity Center, and Yreka.

The first apple was reportedly raised by R. C. Dungey, Esquire, who plucked it out of his garden on Taylor Street in July 1857. It was noted that Dungey would be harvesting a large quantity of apples AND peaches in the fall.

The first stage arrived in Weaverville on April 29, 1858. William Lawrence, the driver, arrived at 5:00 p.m. sharp. The local agent for the California Stage Company was Frank Wheeler; the 'general agent' was Sam Hanson.

The first freight wagon/teams arrived the next month, on May 10, 1858. Two-horse teams were driven by John Lytle and S. W. Allen, and a four-mule team was driven by Thomas F. Sargent. Between them they hauled in four thousands pounds of freight. A six-mule team was driven by J. C. Tyner, who alone hauled in four thousand three hundred pounds of freight.



Other firsts included:

The first "big flood" occurred in 1861. It took out flumes and water wheels; as a result, many miners left for other areas rather than rebuild. Of course, floods and fires were major disasters for the early pioneers and their prevention was a difficult task. Early disastrous fires included those that occurred in 1853, 1855, 1863, early 1870s, 1897, and 1905.

In 1870, the first "giant" – used in hydraulic mining – was brought to Trinity County. Hydraulic mining began at Douglas City, according to the Trinity Journal, February 19, 1870. By 1873, hydraulic mining was being conducted throughout Trinity County. The first dredger arrived in 1896 by the Kise Bros. at Lewiston, as noted in the Trinity Journal, of August 17, 1898.

The first bicycle into Trinity County was 1894; many at this time simply labeled the bicycle as "wheels" or "wheelers." The first automobile arrived on a Sunday evening, as reported in the Journal, July 13, 1901: "Last Sunday evening the first automobile ever used or seen in Northern California came 'skyhooting' up Main Street at a 2:40 clip and after making a few graceful turns stopped in front of the Union Hotel, amid cheers of the large crowd assembled. The reception was a hearty one and neither sex nor race was barred. Among those present was a 'Chinaman' whose eyes fairly hung on his cheeks as the machine made its graceful evolutions. It was too much for him, and he hurried back to Chinatown."

In 1878, Weaverville's two-story grammar school was built, coming in at a cost of \$5,850. The first high school was built in 1911.

The first county fair in Trinity County took place in 1921. And the first state highway to reach into the county was in 1925; such a first was of significant importance and value to the people of the county as it made travel easier and accessible.

In 1926 the radio came to Trinity County. Again, this was an important event as it meant communication could take place between counties as well as up and down the state and over state lines. Finally, the first plane arrived in 1929, an event that certainly propelled Trinity County into the Twentieth Century. ■



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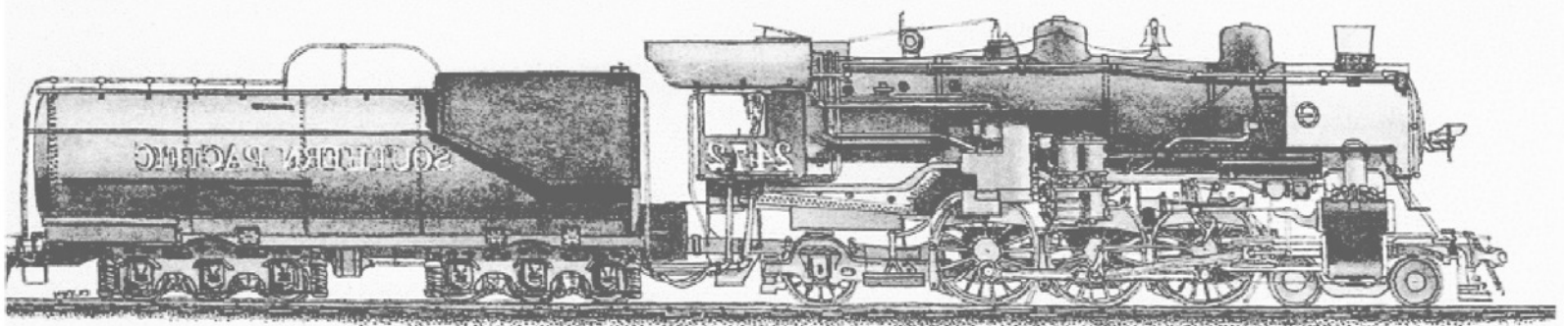
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LOOKING BACK AT 2017 DUNSMUIR MUSEUM

The Dunsmuir Museum had over 500 visitors last year from across the United States and a number of countries. Visitors were interested in the town's rich railroad history and also wanted to tell their Dunsmuir stories. Thanks to sixteen Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society members, the Museum was open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 10-2. Should you wish to help staff the Museum, please contact us at www.dunsmuirdepot.com

Last year the Museum reopened April 1st with bunting surrounding the Museum and the Amtrak Depot. Featured in the Railroad Display Room was the 1886-1986 Dunsmuir Pharmacies display. The 9th Annual PIE SOCIAL in May was another success thanks to 57 bakers who baked 41 kinds of pies for a total of 132 pies! In addition, three Pie Crust Classes were held. The Museum was open during June's RAILROAD DAYS three day event. Union Pacific displayed ex-SP rail cars from an old fire train used in the mountains and showed how the water cannon fought fires! Pat O'Connor, a former Dunsmuir teacher, led three Road Scholar groups in June and July (consisting of grandparents and grandchildren) through the Museum. October's ticket drawing saw Melanie Brannigan winning a lovely donated quilt. The Museum then closed for the winter months on October 21st.

The volunteers of the Shasta Division Archives continue to sort and arrange Station Names files. Photos, negatives, and maps were scanned and identified. Three research requests were completed. The archives email address is shastadivision@snowcrest.net

Membership in the Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society is \$20 a year which supports the Dunsmuir Museum and Dunsmuir Depot (the only Siskiyou County stop); your check may be sent to the Depot Society, P O Box 324, Dunsmuir CA 96025.

See you April 7th, 2018 when the Dunsmuir Museum reopens.



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**Revisit the past in this historic railroad town. Come
visit our Museum and Railroad Display Room from
April through October, every 1st and 3rd Saturday
from 10am to 2pm.**

One BADASS Musher!!

“December 8, 2017 Run” by April Cox

Today's run with the dogs was not a long one as the temps were a bit warmer than they had been... but certainly not too warm to not go out.. I was harnessing my team, I had 4 dogs left (my leaders and swing dogs) when suddenly all of them and the rest of the yard were going BONKERS! Not because we were getting ready to run, but because SOMETHING had passed by the backside of the yard. I have no idea what it was (I did look but I am not as keen as the dogs are, though many times I wish I were)... I did not see anything. It wasn't deer or any normal wildlife as they don't act like this with those. I finally got them refocused (sort of) to getting harnessed to run. I proceeded to hook them up. I had one dog left out of the twelve when I looked up just in time to see Convict chomp his neckline! URGH! He hasn't done that since I first started running him about 3 years ago. I hooked up the last dog, grabbed a spare neckline, attached it to Convict and the gangline and headed up to open the gate. I could tell that the team dogs were still looking for whatever it was that had passed by. As I got on the quad, I prepared myself for the possibility that we might be going off-roading.... This might be a bumpy ride...

Fortunately, for me and whatever was out there, the dogs went down the trail, but way faster than our usual take-offs. As we rounded the bend to go back up past the horse pasture and down the driveway, I could see them looking around, hoping for a glimpse of the visitor... I am sure they knew what it was.... or maybe they didn't and that is why they were so crazy!..... That was just the beginning of our run today!

The energy and excitement kept my team going as we cruised at a pretty good pace up through the draw. I figured Hugo's team wasn't too far behind us as some of the dogs would look behind us periodically. His dogs are a bit faster than mine and usually they catch up by the time we get to the gate, or sometime thereafter. We continued up the hill at a pretty good speed. I turned them left to a little side route we use and ran them on up to the top of the hill. I love having a variety of routes to use to change things up here and there as it can be a little monotonous using the same trails over and over.

As we got to the top I was trying to decide where I was going to take them from there. Instead of going to the left and on down the other side of the hill, I turned them slightly to the right and went along the ridgeline. When we go this way, we are usually going to go over and down another hill and from there we can



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go over to another set of trails, or down a little path we call Christmas Tree lane. But instead, today, I took them only a short distance and turned them around using a small loop. We headed back the way we had just come from. The dogs flew around the turns and shot off like rockets! As we topped a small hill I suddenly knew why!

There was Hugo and his team, hot on our heels. He had just stopped his team to water them. I stopped mine for a second and then took them past his team. I stopped for a minute to say hi and see what he was planning. He said he was going to just go over to Christmas Tree lane and head home. I decided since it was a little warm (high 30's) that I would do the same. So I told him I was going to go over to the usual turn around and then follow him on home.

I took my team back up to another small loop and turned them around. But instead of going all the way back to Hugo and his team, I stopped mine just out of sight. I offered my dogs some water, but they were more interested in why we stopped back there. We could easily hear the other team dogs barking to go. Soon they left and mine wanted to go too... I made them wait a few more minutes. Then picked up the dishes and off we went.... The dogs were now in race mode, hell bent to catch the other team!

We flew along the ridgeline and around the corners. As we neared the top of the descent I stopped them, put the quad in neutral and let them go. We flew down the hill! The few inches of snow made it a much smoother ride than normal. Down Christmas Tree Lane we went. I love that trail! We crossed the road and entered the draw, or as we call it, the canyon. This section is always chilly. You could be warm up on top of the hill, but I guarantee that you will get cold coming down through here. I got the team to a spot to stop for a minute. Just a short break and they wanted to go again. This time I shut the motor off and with the quad still in neutral we flew down through the canyon all the way to the forest gate. NOW THAT IS A THRILL RIDE! We were hitting speeds of 15 mph and more! WAHOOO!

I shut the gate, put the quad back in gear, started it up and off we went again, just 2.5 miles to home. The dogs were very excited and I figured that maybe we weren't very far behind Hugo and his team.

We quickly reached the driveway and my dogs loped up the steep hill (I can barely walk up it). We went past the trucks, past the horses and on around. I didn't see Hugo's team in the yard so I figured he was out back coming up to the gate. I got to the gate and no sign of Hugo. As I was opening the gate, I suddenly heard dogs barking, behind me.... WHAT THE HECK? I turned around and there was the other team, behind us... How did I get in front of him? Then I realized he had went past the drive and up to another little loop we do. LOL. Well he needs to go in the yard ahead of me and once inside there isn't much room for passing. So, I quickly grabbed my leaders and took them off to the left to our side trail that I mostly use to go over and feed the horses after unhooking my team. I got them straightened out and went back to the quad. I gave them a little, "Lets go!" and we took off. My intent was to take them over toward the horses, turn left and loop back around to the gate. My leaders were fully ready to go to the right and back down the driveway... LOL..... I love it! I told them, "No, HAW!" They did and we made it around and into the yard to unhook.

WHAT A FUN RUN!



An advertisement for Northbound Coffee Roasters. It features a large, detailed illustration of a vintage-style coffee roaster. The word "HANDCRAFTED" is written in a large, stylized font above the roaster. Below the roaster, the text reads: "in tiny batches on our vintage 1936 roaster and delivered weekly to finer cafes and groceries in the North State." At the bottom, it says "NORTHBOUND COFFEE ROASTERS" and "www.northboundcoffee.com".

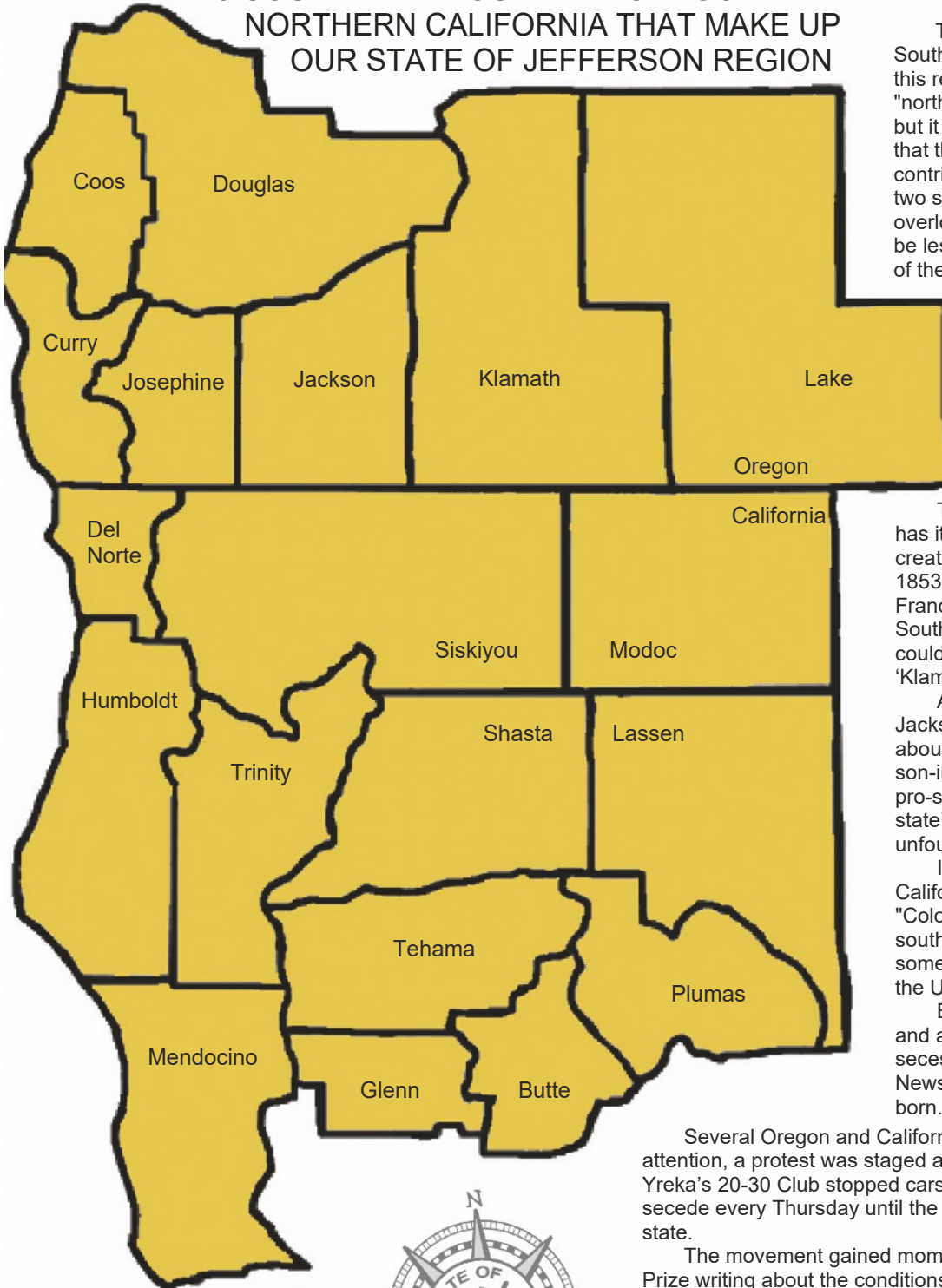
An advertisement for Eagle Creek Electrical Design Services, Inc. The top part of the ad shows a black and white photograph of a snow-capped mountain range. Below the photo, the company name "Eagle Creek Electrical Design Services, Inc." is written in a bold, serif font. Underneath, it lists services: "Computer Aided Design - Drafting & Detailing" and "Full Service Electrical Design". At the bottom, it provides contact information: "Michael Ash - (530) 468-2671 - www.eceds.com".

An advertisement for Noah's Ark Feed Barn. The top part of the ad features a circular illustration of Noah's Ark with various animals (horses, sheep, a dog, a cat) and Noah. Below the illustration, the text reads: "Noah's Ark Feed Barn", "Food & Supplies for Your Pets", "Toys for Your Pets", and "PET TAGS While you Wait". At the bottom, it provides the address and hours: "925 Lassen Lane - Mt. Shasta, CA 96067", "Open Mon-Fri 9:30 to 5 - Saturdays 10 to 2", and "(530) 926-6562".

(Photos on Pages 16-17 by April Cox.) ☺

Our Historic State of Jefferson Regional Map

19 COUNTIES IN SOUTHERN OREGON AND
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA THAT MAKE UP
OUR STATE OF JEFFERSON REGION



A Brief History of The State of Jefferson
Written 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.

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 principle is not a new one, however, but has its roots in the area's history. In 1852, a bill to create a new state died in committee. On Dec. 19, 1853, THE DAILY ALTA OF CALIFORNIA of San Francisco suggested that Northern California and Southern Oregon could both benefit if a 'new state' could be created. Some suggested it be called 'Klamath.' Others suggested the name "Jackson."

At a meeting held on January 7, 1854, in Jacksonville, Oregon, Lafayette F. Mosher spoke about a state of 'Jackson.' Unfortunately, as the son-in-law of General Lane, with well-known pro-slavery and anti-Indian beliefs, the proposed state's identity was tainted by prejudice and unfounded fear.


In 1854-55, the State Assembly tried to split California into three states: "Shasta" to the north, "Colorado" in the middle, and "California" to the south. But the Senate let the bill lapse. In 1877-78, some again pushed for "Shasta" in the north, but the U. S. Congress vetoed the proposal.

By the fall of 1941, most communities in and around the region were behind the idea of secession. In a contest held by the Siskiyou Daily News, the name "State of Jefferson" was officially born.

Several Oregon and California counties joined in. In order to garner attention, a protest was staged along Highway 99 near Yreka. Members of Yreka's 20-30 Club stopped cars and passed out a declaration and pledged to secede every Thursday until the State of Jefferson became recognized as a state.

The movement gained momentum and Stanton Delaplane won the Pulitzer Prize writing about the conditions leading up to The State of Jefferson's "official" secession. A gubernatorial race was held, complete with a parade and speeches and even a dancing bear, but then, on December 7th, 1941, the bombing of Pearl Harbor took precedence over the region's rebellion.

Even today, the dream lives on for this unrealized, some might even say, mystical State of Jefferson. With majestic Mt. Shasta at its heart, and the Cascades forming its backbone, the region's wild rivers and rugged peaks both isolate and, at times, insulate its residents from the more populated outside world. Ranching, mining and logging have been its traditional source of wealth, but now recreation and tourism compete as major industries.

But it's the people who reside here that make the greatest contribution to the character of this region we call The State of Jefferson. 



**UNITED WE
STAND**

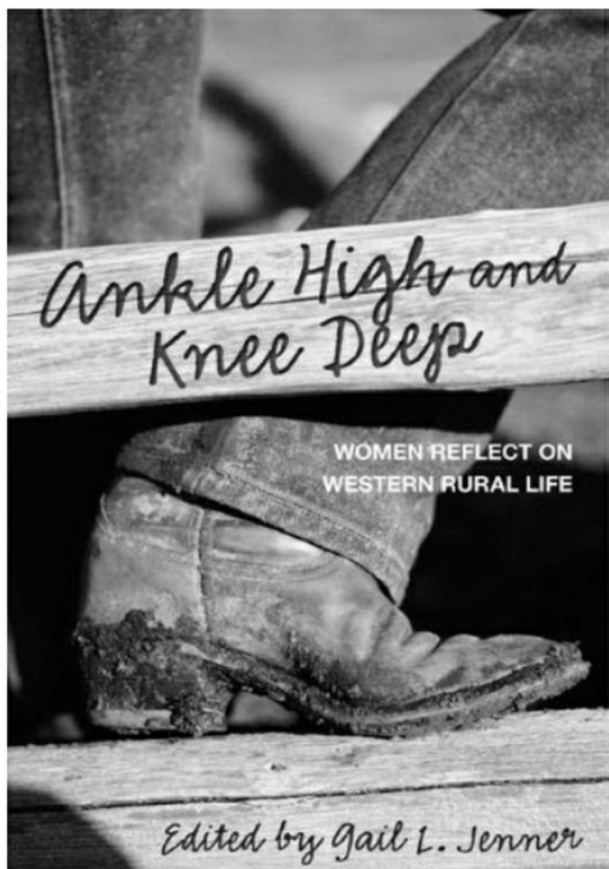
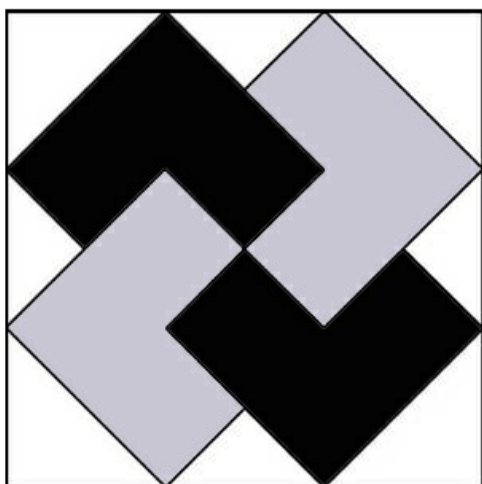


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Northern Klamath County Oregon History & Events

By John C. Driscoll
Johncdriscoll1068@gmail.com

“Gilchrist Mill Pond”

The Gilchrist Mill, located to the west of Highway 97, is one of Gilchrist’s most scenic features. In addition to its mill pond function, it has been used for fishing, swimming, swimming lessons, sailing and, along the shores on its south end, bird hunting. Gilchrist’s history begins with the mill pond. A geologic feature that is relatively uncommon on the upper Little Deschutes, (a narrow canyon with substantial rock wall), determined the location for the dam which, in turn, is what decided the location of the mill pond and, in consequence thereof, that of the town and the mill.

The history of the mill pond begins in 1919 when Frank Dushau reported on the site to Ralph Gilchrist. Negotiations to purchase the site stretched over more than fifteen years. Dr. Winnard, the owner of the mill pond’s location, appreciated the site’s unique characteristics. A preliminary sketch of the millpond was sent to Frank W. Gilchrist by B. V. Wright with a letter dated December 12, 1936. The pond was seventeen feet at its deepest point which was at the dam. The pond covers 50 acres and approximately 3,000 feet long. The embankment for the Klamath Northern Railroad, located on the pond’s west side, does additional duty as a levee. Some filling was required on the northwest end of the bank where the mill is located. In the letter, dated December 12, 1936, B. V. Wright described having to clear trees in order to establish the site lines he needed to survey the site for the millpond.

The Gilchrist Timber Company awarded a \$19,168.00 contract to build the dam and millpond to Kern & Kibbe. No price was included for the cost of the grouting, since it was impossible to determine the magnitude of the grouting work until the construction of the dam commenced. Kern & Kibbe dispatched their equipment to Gilchrist, Oregon, on August 3, 1937. Their employees began arriving on the jobsite on August 5, 1937. A separate contract was entered into for the clearing the millpond site of timber, brush, and stumps. The cost for clearing each acre of the millpond’s 50-acre area, including removal of the stumps, varied from \$70 to \$80 an acre. Prior to the beginning of October 1937, Ora F. Blay of Crescent entered into a contract for \$1,1888 to clear the mill pond’s bottom.



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October 26, 1937 B. V. Wright wrote a letter to F. W. Gilchrist in which he reported:

I have a call from Mr. Applewhite this morning telling me that the foundation for the other section of the dam is in shape now for final inspection which I understand to mean that Kern & Kibbe have dug down to a solid rock foundation and that all they have to do now is clear off and wash the rubbish away from the foundation and start pouring concrete.

I am going over early in the morning and take the engineer for a final inspection. This I understand to mean that there is no reason why the dam will not be completed within a very short time now.

The winter of 1937-1938 was very mild. Highs for half the days that winter were in the 40s or 50s. Construction work, because of the mild weather, continued through the winter.

By the August of 1939, when the mill commenced operation, Gilchrist Timber Company had spent in excess of \$2 million building its mill, dam, mill pond, railroad, and town. It was the largest construction project undertaken by the productive sector in Oregon during 1938 and 1939. The location of every other aspect of the project was determined by the location of the dam and the mill pond. ■



Photos submitted by John Driscoll:
(1) Above top: Front of Gilchrist Mill Pond dam, 1937.
(2) Above: Gilchrist Pond, 1939.
(3) Below, left: mill seen from south of the pond, recent.





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Paystreak Brewing Menu & News

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Sides

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Small spring mix salad	1/2 of Caesar salad
	Cup of soup

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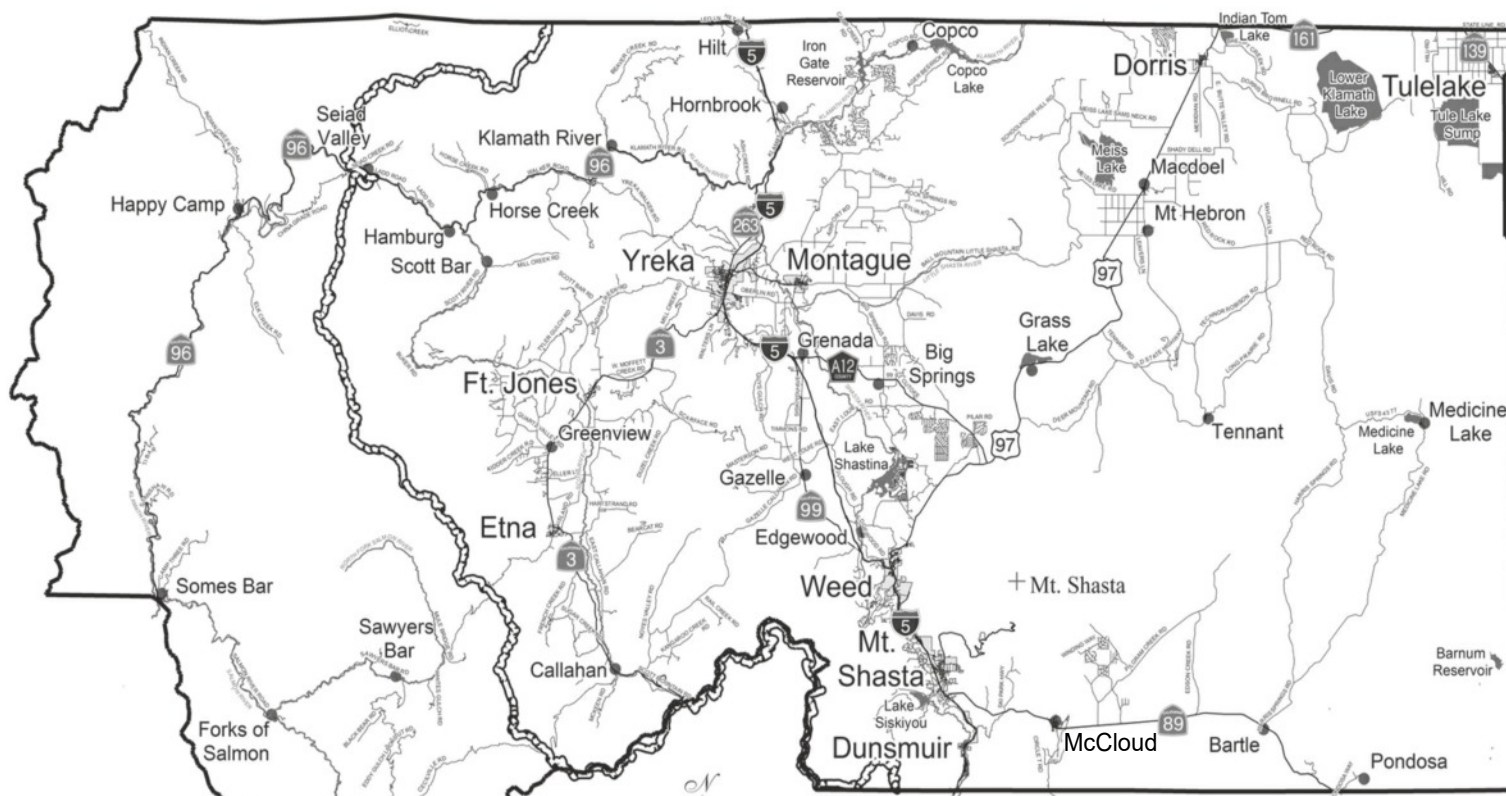
State of Jefferson Locations !!



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Map of Siskiyou County in Extreme Northern California



Siskiyou County
Pacific Crest Trail



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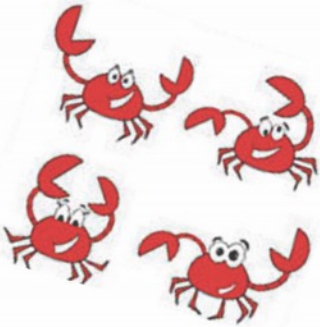
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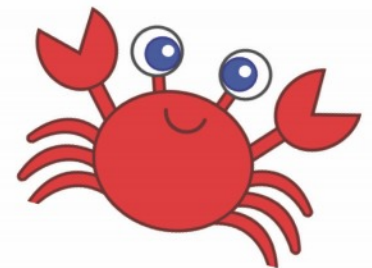
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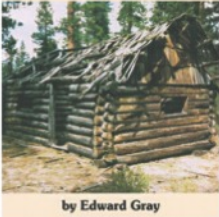
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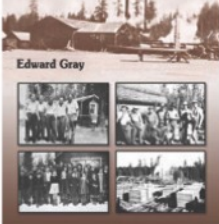
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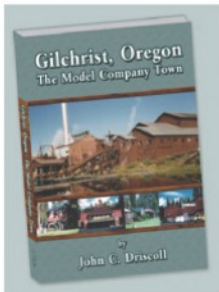
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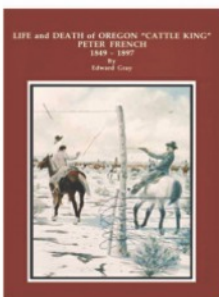
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