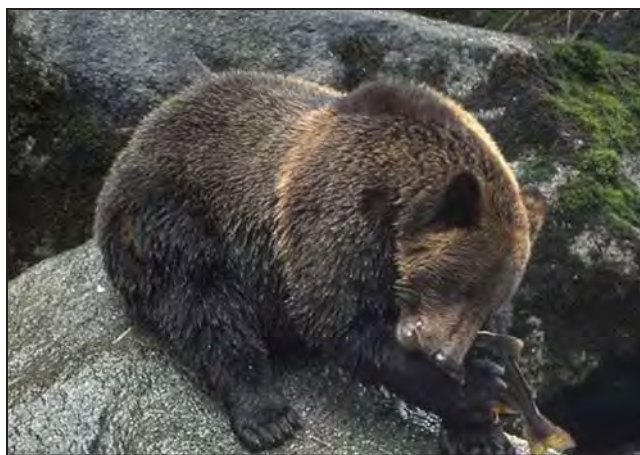




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VOLUME 22 - No. 2 Dutch Flat Community Center · Box 14, Dutch Flat CA 95714 SUMMER 2009



Black bear enjoying a fish

DON'T FEED THE BEARS BY KRISTA WEIDMAN

Most of us who live around here appreciate the fact that we share the woods with lots of furry neighbors. The ability to coexist peacefully with wild animals is one of the many benefits of living in the mountains. Often, however, misconceptions, usually based on fear, arise about the behavior of the larger mammals.

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to train as a volunteer BEAR League responder for the local region. In that capacity, when someone reports an encounter with a bear that prompts law enforcement to respond, I also respond. My duties include chasing the bear away to prevent it from being needlessly killed and educating the public about living safely near bears, for both humans and bears.

As part of that public education about bears and their behavior, I will include regular contributions in the paper, many from the BEAR League archives. I hope we can save bears which would otherwise be killed due to our ignorance about their behavior and needs.

One story I heard stands out, an example of a common mistake we often hear about from friends and neighbors. An hour's drive from here lives a woman who left an apple outside each day for her local bear. The bear took delight in eating it, and she certainly took delight in feeding it. She took cute photos which she shared with her friends and it was a special bond she felt shared with the bear. One day she went on vacation, as most of us do. The apple-a-day routine stopped, presumably to start again upon her return home. The bear, however, did not understand vacations, he only knew there was no apple on the step. So, he went next door to see if maybe the neighbor had an apple. The neighbor was not as gentle a spirit as the kind woman who liked to feed "her" bear. He did not appreciate the bear approaching his house to sniff around for food. The neighbor called the authorities, who shot and killed the

Black bear photograph courtesy Gerald and Buff Corsi (c) California Academy of Sciences.

Continued on Page 10



Thomas the Tank Engine visits Dutch Flat

TURN BACK THE CLOCK... BY SUSAN PRINCE

It's 1852 and Dutch Flat will be filled with pioneers on Saturday, July 4, for the annual 4th of July Parade. It will begin at 10:30 a.m. in front of the Community Center and the Dutch Flat Methodist Church.

This year's theme is *Pioneers of 1852 Dutch Flat*, so get out those history books. Parade participants may begin registering with the parade marshals at 9:15 a.m. and need to be in place no later than 10 a.m.

Festivities include the annual salad luncheon in the Community Center after the parade, all proceeds to benefit the DFCC. Tickets are the same price as last year, \$7 for adults and \$4 for children. Everyone will enjoy the dunk tank, crafts and goods booths, and perhaps a hot dog and soda.

The parade is made possible by many volunteers, and you can help. To contribute a salad for the luncheon or to work during the lunch, contact Eleanor Bridges at 389-2368. To help set up for the parade on Friday, July 3, call Debby McClatchy at 389-2120. To tidy up after the parade, contact James Kolbeck at 389-2363. For a booth, call Robin Reynolds at 389-2304.



Autumn road in Kleine Brogel, Belgium

THE ROADS LESS TAKEN BY MAGGIE MAE SLOVER

"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood..." Alas! Robert Frost belies the fact that he is not a 21st century poet. Two roads to choose from would be really grand ... or four.

Truth be told, I would be willing to face six. But from where I'm standing on the crest of my senior year, it appears there are a thousand paths to choose from. Or are they paths? It seems I am facing something of a maze ... to see where any of them lead is impossible. There is also the chilling fact that I don't hold a ball of magic thread to help me find my way out, just in case I make the wrong turn, or run into any famished Minotaurs. And by the way, these are no scenic rural roads. These are interstates, cement paved, streamlined, and pretty much blackened by tire marks. No hazy yellow foliage in sight.

This is truly a rude antipode from the pleasant path I've trodden until now. Of course they quip that all good things must come to an end, but must they? Must every human being face that proverbial "Y" in the road with such dread, with such pressure ... with such fear? I dare to suggest they don't. Call me naive or simplistic, but I am excited to face the future.

The possibility of the unknown is as tantalizing to me as the next page in a great novel. Of course, if someone were to put my story between bindings, the result would be something very inauspicious, uneventful and slim enough to slip through a mail chute. Consequently, it may seem strange to say that I have no regrets about my life. But I don't. I am enjoying it and the One who has given it to me. I have had a lovely childhood, complete with a condo-sized tree fort, my own dog, rainbow-sprinkled doughnuts, trips to see Minnie Mouse and piano lessons.

My memories are an affectionate scrapbook of time spent at the park or the beach or best of all, sitting in rapt attention as one of my parents read aloud my favorite E.B. White book. It was my parents who introduced me to the world of literature and I owe them tremendously for opening that door for

Continued on Page 18

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This newspaper is published quarterly and distributed to members of the Dutch Flat Community Center and to residents of the Center's service area, from Secret Town to Emigrant Gap, along Interstate 80 in Placer County, California.

We welcome contributions from readers.

Submission due dates for upcoming issues:

Fall 2009 - August 15, 2009
Winter 2009 - November 15, 2009
Spring 2010 - February 15, 2010
Summer 2010 - May 15, 2010

Views expressed in letters and guest opinion pieces and other contributions do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors, the Dutch Flat Community Center, or its Board.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN BY DEBBY MCCLATCHY

Spring and flowers have finally come to our area. We had a number of snow storms this winter, which seemed to always fall on a date when we had scheduled a special event. But the amazing community spirit of our mountain towns came through. The Christmas carol sing-along found a dozen hearty souls joined in song.

St Pats was particularly wonderful. Eight marvelous musicians made it through the drifts, and thirty people joined them in song and food, staying the whole afternoon, clapping and singing, winning the great raffle prizes. We had changed the format from a corned beef dinner to a lavish Celtic buffet, mostly to keep it affordable and different from the other many St Patrick's Day events. All who attended agreed it worked very well. The recipe for the soda bread appears elsewhere in this issue, by popular demand.

The Saturday before Easter, we brought back the Easter Egg Hunt, popular in my childhood. Our Community Children's Fund made it all free, and the children were treated to a fabulous time with prizes galore and a hot dog lunch afterwards. Thanks to all the volunteers who decorated eggs and helped the Bunny.

The DFCC tennis court fence has been enlarged and strengthened, our windows have been cleaned, the building is looking fine!! This fall we will completely refurbish our windows.

The annual DFCC Independence Day celebration will be on July 4th. Please contact me at 389-2120 to volunteer to help or to make a salad for the luncheon. Please contact Robin Reynolds at 389-2304 if you would like to have a crafts or flea market booth. The theme is *Pioneers of 1852 Dutch Flat*.



MONTGOMERY TO HOLD REGULAR DISTRICT MEETINGS

BY PLACER COUNTY PUBLIC
INFORMATION OFFICE

Placer County Fifth District Supervisor, Jennifer Montgomery, will begin regular, informal meetings with constituents next week when she hosts a "coffee" in Foresthill. The meeting will be Monday, April 27, in the Foresthill Veteran's Memorial Hall at 9:00 AM. Future meetings will be held the fourth Monday of each month.

In addition, Sup. Montgomery will begin hosting another coffee on Wed., May 13 at 9 a.m. at Evangeline's Coffee Shop on Main Street in Colfax. Future Colfax coffees will be held the second Wednesday of every month.

"These coffees are another way for my constituents to give me input on important district issues," said Montgomery. "These 'Come Meet With Your Supervisor' functions are less formal than Municipal Advisory Councils. There are no agendas, and they are more conversational. If you want me to know about something that is going on in your community, or discuss a larger issue, this is a perfect forum to be heard."

Coffee meetings in other areas of Sup. Montgomery's district will be scheduled at a later date.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Special Events:

- ▶ Friday, June 19, Forest Stewardship Workshop, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Alta Community Center. Workshop fee \$15. Must register to attend. Call 530-224-4902. For more, visit http://groups.ucanr.org/Forest/2009_Spring_workshops/
- ▶ Saturday, July 4, 10:30 a.m. - The Annual Dutch Flat Independence Day Parade! This year's theme - *Pioneers of 1852 Dutch Flat*.
- ▶ Odd Fellows Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, July 5, 7 to 11 a.m., Odd Fellows' Hall, Dutch Flat.
- ▶ Saturday and Sunday, August 8 and 9, second annual Heritage Trail event. Visit 18 museums in our area absolutely free. See article.

Ongoing Events:

- ▶ Third Thursday of each month, September through June, Dutch Flat Community Center potluck, 6:30 p.m. Bring family and friends, and a dish to share.
- ▶ Dutch Flat Community Center Board Meeting, first Wednesday of the month, times and locations vary. Call Debby McClatchy for details at 389-2120.
- ▶ Dutch Flat United Methodist Church, worship at 9 a.m. every Sunday.
- ▶ Sierra First Baptist Church, Alta, worship service at 11 a.m. every Sunday.
- ▶ Pioneer Union Church, Gold Run, Sunday Service 10 a.m.
- ▶ Bingo at the Alta Community Center the first Friday of each month, 7 p.m. For more information or a reminder call, contact Carol Gilles at 530-389-2601. Free refreshments are provided and all proceeds benefit the Alta Fire Department.
- ▶ Dutch Flat Methodist Episcopal Church Breakfast, the second Saturday of each month.
- ▶ Golden Drift Historical Society Board Meeting 7 p.m. first Tuesday of each month, Golden Drift Museum, Dutch Flat.
- ▶ NFARA board meeting 7 p.m. third Tuesday of each month, locations vary. Contact Jim Ricker, 530-389-8344.



GOLD COUNTRY WEATHER BY MIKE CRUM

Here is the three month weather summary for the West Slope of the Sierra Nevada with data provided at my weather station in Alta. The period provided is from March-May.

The year to date rainfall totals are at 46.95" of precipitation, which is approximately 83% of the season average. The month of May alone provided 5.51" of that total. Northern Sierra Nevada snowpack is around 80% of normal for the year.

The high temperature was 85 degrees and the low temperature was 24 degrees. Climate data for the upcoming summer is showing will be near to slightly above normal temperatures. Enjoy your summer!

For more detailed weather information check out Mike Crum's website at www.goldcountryweather.com.



GOLDEN DRIFT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 SUMMER, 2009
 BY DOUG FERRIER

On May 23rd, we had a very successful museum season opening. The Golden Drift Museum in Dutch Flat will be open now on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon until 4 p.m. though Labor Day weekend. After Labor Day, the museum will be open on Saturdays and Sundays only during September, also from noon until 4 p.m.

The main addition to the museum this year is on the gallery wall, where we have displayed pictures of the founders of each of the five towns that the museum represents: Gold Run, Dutch Flat, Alta, Towle and Baxter. For Gold Run, it is a picture of the hotel owner Orrin W. Hollenbeck, who convinced the townspeople of Mountain Springs to move the town one-half mile northeast to its present location, and to rename the town. For Dutch Flat, it is pictures of the Carl and Elizabeth Dorenback, who along with his older brother Joseph and his wife Catherine were the first families to live in Dutch Flat. For Alta, it is a picture of the Board of Directors of the Central Pacific Railroad, who founded the town in 1866; Towle has a picture of the town of Towle and portraits of the brothers Allen and George Towle above it. Edwin Towle is not shown. For Baxter, we have pictured Joseph and Jane Baxter.

It is interesting that although the five towns are within five miles of each other, they have very diverse backgrounds and/or histories. Gold Run and Dutch Flat were founded as a result of gold mining, and while Dutch Flat was able to survive various economic changes, Gold Run has had a hard time of it. Alta was founded as the end of the line during the winter of 1866 when the Central Pacific Railroad was built, and although it went through some hard times, is now the biggest town in the area. Towle was a Company owned lumber town that managed to survive for over thirty years before slowly fading away. Baxter started out an area meat market and became a highway service area for the old Lincoln Highway and later Highway 40.

In the future, we hope to add a more detailed written history with pictures for each town at the museum. We already have the information, it is just a question of displaying it.

Have a good summer and stop by and visit us at the Museum. I think we have plenty to interest you. Doug Ferrier, Society President

Are you a local photographer or writer? Want to showcase your work? Do you have a story idea? The editors would love to hear from you. Call Krista at 389-2888 or Susan at 389-8344.



Former Honorary Mayors Marybeth Blackinton and Sussy Flanigan

HONORARY MAYOR CONTEST

It's that time of year again to vote for the Honorary Mayor for the Fourth of July, at a buck a vote. The last three years have been an incredible success, raising over \$4,200 for the Community Center! The proceeds from this year's race will help repair the windows in the Community Center.

Candidates will be announced and posted in our local communities and voting will begin in mid-June. Ballots will be available at the Dutch Flat Trading Post, the Monte Vista Inn and the Sugar Pine Deli in Alta. All votes are a donation to the Community Center and are tax-deductible.

Anyone interested in running for mayor, please contact Joanne Blohm at (530) 389-2355. The only requirement is an active fund-raising spirit.

Show your spirit In the grand old tradition of Chicago, vote for your choice of Mayor!

VOTE EARLY! VOTE OFTEN!

In a democracy dissent is an act of faith. Like medicine, the test of its value is not in its taste, but in its effects. -J. William Fulbright, US Senator (1905-1995)



Call Robin Reynolds, 530-389-2304, to reserve a space for a booth during the 4th of July Parade festivities.



FARMERS

After 18 years the Farmers Agency in Colfax has brought a new agent into the office.

Kim Swift is a long time resident of Alta. She has worked as an independent agent for over 8 years and has much to offer our agency and community.

We are happy to introduce Kim to our customers. She has proven to be dedicated and very diligent about giving the best service possible.

Kim would like to invite you to give her a call. She specializes in Property, Casualty, Life, and Commercial insurance. License # oC94160

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FIRE SEASON TUNE-UP CHELSEA FOX, CAL FIRE NEVADA YUBA PLACER UNIT, AND SUSAN PRINCE

In May, we moved into peak fire season, according to CAL FIRE, the state fire agency. That means the state's seasonal firefighting force is rehired and trained, fire response facilities are open around the clock, and operational decisions are made by the Chief in response to local conditions.

Last summer's wildfires charred over a million acres across California in one of the worst years in recorded history. These wildfires destroyed hundreds of homes and burned dangerously close to thousands of others. "Although we never know what the summer months may bring, the destruction that occurred last summer demonstrates the tremendous potential of a wildfire," said CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba-Placer Chief Brad Harris. "I cannot stress enough how important it is for all residents to take action. It is not too late to create defensible space – timing is everything.

Residents should do all yard maintenance that requires a gas or electrical motor before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m., not in the heat of the day or when the wind is blowing."

Here are some tips that can help your home survive a wildfire -

- ▶ Remove all flammable vegetation 30 feet from all structures.
- ▶ In an additional 70 feet, space trees and plants away from each other.
- ▶ Clear all needles and leaves from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.
- ▶ Trim branches six feet from the ground.
- ▶ Use trimming, mowing and power equipment before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
- ▶ Landscape with fire resistant plants.
- ▶ Use fire ignition resistant building materials

For more information on Defensible Space visit the CAL FIRE Web site at www.fire.ca.gov. Local CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Chris Paulus suggests other tips to keep your home fire-safe this summer -

- ▶ Check smoke detector batteries.
- ▶ Check fire extinguishers.
- ▶ Have garden hoses that work.
- ▶ Have first aid kits handy.
- ▶ Have a radio with batteries handy.
- ▶ Be sure your house address is visible from the road.
- ▶ Be especially careful with hand-held and power tools, to prevent spark-started fires.

Chief Paulus also invited the public to stop by the Alta Fire Station, just south of Lake Alta, for more information on creating defensible space and inspections, burn permits, and campfire permits. The station phone number is 530-389-2234

Remember - defensible space is your responsibility.



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References available on request.



Well-known local volunteer Jean Binder sells tickets for the salad luncheon after the parade. Call Eleanor Bridges, 389-2369, to provide a salad for the luncheon. All proceeds support the Community Center. ticket prices are the same as last year, adult tickets at \$7, and children's at \$4.



Three passions, simple but overwhelmingly strong, have governed my life: the longing for love, the search for knowledge, and unbearable pity for the suffering of mankind. - Bertrand Russell, philosopher, mathematician, and author (1872-1970)



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AUTOMATED BUILDING INSPECTION SCHEDULING BY PLACER COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The Placer County Building Department introduces a new automated inspection scheduling system May 18 to make it faster and easier for the public to request building inspections and find out inspection results.

Developers, families building their own homes and everyone else needing to schedule inspections will find a lot to like about the new system," Chief Building Official Bob Martino said. "It will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and will allow us to streamline our operations while improving customer service."

The Interactive Voice Response System can be used by anyone with a touch-tone telephone to schedule, reschedule and cancel inspections and to receive inspection results.

The telephone numbers to call for building-inspection requests remain the same: 530-581-6205 in the Lake Tahoe area and 530-745-3020 for other areas of Placer County.

Currently, callers requesting building inspections are connected to the department's voice mail system and are asked to leave messages. Once a day, staff retrieves the requests from the voice mail system and schedules the inspections.

The new system will schedule inspections automatically, freeing up building inspectors to get in the field earlier and spend more of their days conducting inspections. With the new system, requests must be made by 4 p.m. if the caller wants an inspection to be scheduled for the following day.

Martino emphasized that staff will be available to help callers who have trouble using the automated system.

The new system allows inspectors to call in and post results so they are available more quickly to builders and property owners. There is also an option by which the caller can choose to be automatically notified of the inspection results. Now, inspectors typically post results when they return to their offices near the end of the work day.

The system also will automatically notify utilities such as Pacific Gas & Electric Co. and the Sacramento Metropolitan Utility District via e-mail in cases where buildings must pass inspections successfully before power or gas can be turned on. An automatic notification could mean having power turned on the same day as the inspection, rather than the next day, Martino said.

He and his staff have mailed letters explaining the new system to everyone who holds active building permits, given handouts to builders and property owners and explained the new system on the department's Web site at www.placer.ca.gov/building.

Martino also has spoken to building industry groups to explain the new system.

He said the main challenge created by the switch to the automated system has been notifying everyone who has existing, active building permits.

Anyone holding an existing permit will need a permit identification number to use the new system. Known as a PID for short, the number is different from the building permit number.

The department tried to use the building permit numbers for both purposes, but found the new system would not accept them because they use decimal points to indicate the years the permits were issued.

To use the automated system, the public also will need to enter inspection code numbers indicating what types of inspections are needed. These will be provided with every permit issued.

The complete list of inspection code numbers is available in a brochure produced by the department, on the department's Web site at www.placer.ca.gov/building and at the front counter in the county's Community Development Resource Center. The center is at 3091 County Center Drive in the Placer County Government Center, a North Auburn complex commonly known as the DeWitt Center.

The automated system will help callers identify the right inspection code numbers if necessary.

GETTING STIMULUS FUNDS TO SMALL BUSINESSES BY PLACER COUNTY INFORMATION OFFICE

Local small businesses will find a wealth of information and resources for seeking federal stimulus funding on the Placer County Office of Economic Development's Web site.

The place to look is "Tools for Business Success," an online program the office developed in cooperation with the California Association for Local Economic Development.

The address is placerco.toolsforbusiness.info. "It has been more than three months since the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was approved, and small businesses have been waiting to see benefits from it," said county Director of Economic Development David Snyder.

"Most government agencies have received their funds and are being prodded by the Obama administration to spend dollars quickly. It's a great time for small businesses to explore how they might benefit."

Snyder highlighted some of the issues businesses in Placer County may want to consider where to find approved infrastructure projects. Go to <http://www.recovery.gov> to find approved projects in the area that are ready for bid. Contact the agency for bid information about a particular project.

This website has ARRA projects only. Don't forget that stimulus funds are in addition to regular government spending. Businesses can learn how to find bid opportunities and do business with the federal government at the placerco.toolsforbusiness.info web site.

Further, Placer County's open bids and requests for proposals can be found on the county Procurement Services Division's Web site at www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Admin/Procurement.aspx. Training employees and business owners for the future: The local Workforce Investment Board's One-Stop Career Center is receiving stimulus dollars to train workers for the jobs of the future. Businesses that need workers with specialized skills or want to avoid layoffs by training unskilled workers for higher-skilled positions are encouraged to contact the Golden Sierra Job Training Agency at (530) 823-4631.

For businesses that have failed, training funds and assistance are available for owners and employees through the One-Stop Career Center's Displaced Workers Program.

The California Employment Training Panel also has funds to train existing employees and business owners. For information, visit www.etp.ca.gov or call (916) 327-5640.

Employees whose hours are being

Continued on Page 13



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Chlarson

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**UNVEILED, A NEW MUSEUM
 EXHIBIT**
 BY COUNTY MUSEUM STAFF

Beneath the thin veil, the bride's face is a composition of emotions. The ceremony is over before she can catch her breath, she's married and the veil is lifted. We all remember our wedding day, so if you'd like to rekindle your own wedding memories, please stop by the Gold Country and Bernhard Museums to view gowns and accessories from weddings past. The Placer County Museums wedding dress collection is expansive and spans from the 1860s through the 1940s.

This spring, we will have selections from our collection on display in all three Auburn museums for our new exhibit: Unveiled, the Placer County Museums Wedding Dress Collection. The displays in the Gold Country Museum and the Bernhard Museum are complete. In the Gold Country Museum, our oldest wedding dress, from 1868, is on display in the Gold Rush Theatre. Also on display are unique touches of marriage and courtship during the Gold Rush era. In the Bernhard Museum you will find examples of wedding dresses from the 1880s through the turn of the 20th century.

The exhibit in the Placer County Museum in the historic Courthouse will be installed by April 30th, when the exhibit as a whole will officially open. If you'd like to get an early peek at this groundbreaking exhibit involving all three Auburn museums, please visit the Gold Country and the Bernhard Museums. Both museums are open Tuesday through Sunday and are free! The Gold Country Museum is located at 1273 High Street in the Gold Country Fairgrounds and the Bernhard Museum is located at 291 Auburn Folsom Road.

For more information, call the Museum Department at 530-889-6500.

**Never attribute to malice that
 which can be adequately explained
 by stupidity. - Hanlon's Razor**

TAX TIPS, SUMMER 2009
 BY GREG HERRICK

I had an older fellow stop at my office last week asking for a blank form, which we gave him. Talking with him, we found out his wife had died in 2008 and he was filing taxes for last year. One thing lead to another and he mentioned he sold the stock his wife had purchased over the years and said he was able to calculate the gain because of the records his wife had kept. WHOA. What this fellow did not realize was he was entitled to a stepped-up value based on the value on his wife's date of death (or 6 months later, in certain cases). This increase in value would lower his capital gains on these stocks by a large margin. This is a case where not knowing the law might have cost the taxpayer a lot of tax money. After that, the fellow decided he could use some help completing his taxes for 2008.

Thinking about buying a house in 2009? Great! The economy has certainly worked in your favor. There are some real deals to be had. The Federal Government is helping you if this is your first home owned in five years. There is an \$8,000 tax credit available to qualifying taxpayers. This credit is different from the \$7,500 from earlier years, as it does not have to be repaid if you sell the property.

Have a 401(k) where you work? This is still a great way to save for the future. If your employer offers any sort of matching of your contributions, you should contribute at least enough to earn all your employer's matching funds. The new limits for employee contributions are \$16,500 for younger workers and \$22,000 for those over 49. In spite of the last few quarters, mutual funds are usually the best way to increase your nest egg.

Thinking about buying a new car? This year the sales tax may be deductible on your federal tax return. A taxpayer can claim a full deduction for the sales or excise tax on a new car if (1) the car costs \$49,500 or less and (2) the taxpayer's income doesn't exceed \$250,000 on a joint return or \$125,000 on a single return. If the car costs more than \$49,500 a partial deduction is allowed. If income exceeds \$250,000/\$125,000 the deduction is phased out. This is only good on new cars, not used ones, and the purchase must be made by December 31, 2009. With the new "improved" sales tax rates in California, this can really help. Note: don't forget your license fees are deductible in excess of the registration portion.

Do you have IRA account where you need to take a Required Minimum Distribution in 2009? Here's some good news – you can skip the RMD in 2009. In December 2008 Congress passed a law which allows IRA holders, including those with inherited IRAs, to skip the 2009 distribution. The 2008 distribution still had to be made by April 1, 2009, and the 2010 RMD will be back in full force. By holding off the 2009 distribution, however, it may allow additional time and money for your IRA to recover from recent declines.

Are you withholding enough this year? The IRS issued new withholding effective April 1, 2009 and guess what? You may be in for an unpleasant surprise next April 15th. The new tables will not withhold enough taxes to cover your tax liability for 2009. You should do one of two things: Increase your withholdings at your job by filling out a new W-4 form or save the additional money you got from the withholding change (this is usually the harder of the two choices). Check your withholding now!

Going green? In 2009 there are enhanced credits available for home energy efficiency improvements. Many of the limits from prior years are

Continued on Page 9



**Happiness is an imaginary
 condition, formerly attributed
 by the living to the dead, now
 usually attributed by adults to
 children, and by children to adults.**
 - Thomas Szasz, psychiatrist
 and academic (1920 -)



Obedience Dog Training



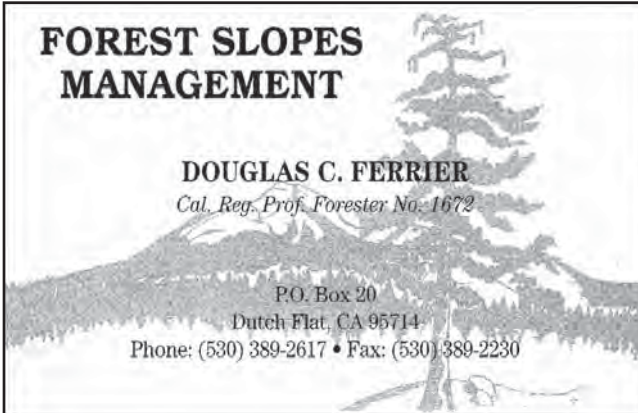
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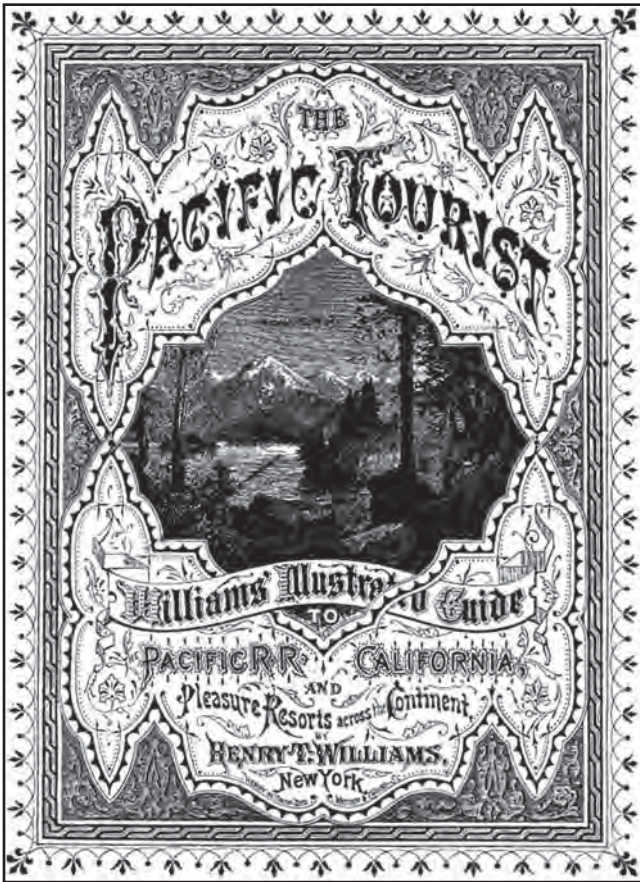
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THE PACIFIC TOURIST
 – EXCERPTS
 BY HENRY T. WILLIAMS

Editor's note – This tour book, published in 1879, provided highlights along the Central Pacific route to California. The book was illustrated with engravings by noted artist Thomas Moran, including his well-known image of Giant Gap.

Emigrant Gap – 223 Miles from San Francisco, another day and night telegraph station is almost one vertical mile above San Francisco, the altitude being 5221 feet. Just before reaching this station, the Yuba turns abruptly to the north, and just west of the turning place, with an elevation barely perceptible to one rushing by, Bear River heads in a valley of the same name, clothed in summer with a delightful green. At Emigrant Gap the divide is crossed by means of a tunnel, and the old Emigrant Road crossed the Gap here, and is crossed by the railroad, just a few rods west of the tunnel. Here the old emigrants let their wagons down the steep mountain side by ropes, with which a turn or two were taken around the trees at the Gap. How much better are iron rails than the rugged rocks, and atmospheric breaks than treacherous cords!

On the right we have now the headwaters of the Bear River, but of the valley one can have only a glimpse except by ascending the rocks above the railroad.

Once over the divide, there are on the left, the headwaters of a branch of the North Fork of the American River, and the road follows Wilson's Ravine, and the valley of the same name is in sight for some distance. A number of little ravines may be noticed emptying into Wilson's, the largest of which, called "Sailors," is crossed where the road doubles Lost Camp Spur, from which one may look across the ravine and see tunnel No. 1 on Grizzly Hill, and continuing he will pass along and around Blue Canon.

Blue Canon – 217 miles from San Francisco, at the crossing of which, 5.2 miles from Emigrant Gap, is the hotel, a store, a shipping point for six saw-mills, and a day and night telegraph station.
Continued on Page 19



IT'S ALL ABOUT ME, ALL THE TIME
 BY CLAUDIA MCCAFFREY

Today's young people are earning the reputation as the most self-centered and egocentric generation to date. Our nickname is Generation Me—because it's all about me, all the time. High self-esteem and individuality is encouraged and talked about constantly, and although these were not meant to lead to selfish people, being led to believe that we need to put our personal needs first has created a very selfish and vain generation indeed. We have high expectations and many needs, and if reality can't cater to those needs and expectations, we will come crashing down.

I don't disagree that we are the most narcissistic generation, nor do I feel like it's a good thing. However I do firmly believe that it is not solely our fault for becoming so self-absorbed. And, that if any generation were given the same opportunity, they would take it. I feel like society has managed to outline, discern and cater to our behavior flawlessly, but fails to recognize why.

For the most part, we should be accountable for our behavior. But, we can't help being given too much "love" from our parents. In many cases, they felt bad from their own childhood, and hoped to give us more than they themselves were given or had the opportunity to grasp. We can keep ourselves in check, but somewhere, deeply rooted in our psyches is the innate need as human beings to be a self-interested species.

Societal pressure and norms, along with the increased ability and acceptance for our generation to do exactly what we need to do to become whomever we wish, has pushed old norms out of the way. No longer do we have to work at the same company as our father to provide for the family, simply because it's expected of us and we really don't have any other choice. Before now, even if we did have another choice, it wouldn't have seemed right to grasp it. Now, however, we have many opportunities, and we feel entitled to take them. That's perfectly acceptable in today's world. If this phenomenon had occurred with our parents' generation, they would have evolved into Generation Me too.

After reading an article that summarized the specifics of the behavior of Generation Me, I pondered the quote of one young woman. She said "I don't think it's a problem, having most people love themselves. I love me."

I do think that our generation has become confused as to what loving oneself means. There is a difference in loving/accepting the person you are and doing whatever you want at the possible expense of "loving yourself". The main step to alleviating our bad reputation should be to give back some of what we are given. We could accomplish a lot and truly succeed in loving ourselves enough to realize that giving to another is what truly makes us lovable.

Editor's Note - Ms. McCaffrey is a senior at Colfax High School, graduating in June. She will attend San Diego State University in the fall.



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Dutch Flat miner, 1864

**THE ADVENTURES OF
ARCHIBALD GWATHROP**
A FICTION
BY RICK SIMS
PART 21

Daniel W. Strong stood about five feet four inches tall, weighed in the neighborhood of 185 pounds, was bald, and sported a pair of bushy muttonchop sideburns that were turning a salt-and-pepper color. He was a man of good humor, who loved to laugh, which was a good thing, because he encountered so many people who were not feeling well.

The town of Dutch Flat, which then had the largest voting population in Placer County, featured a general store, a post office, three hotels, and eight saloons. But only one drug store. It was owned and operated by Daniel W. Strong. Because he not only sold potions but also diagnosed the causes of upset stomachs, itchy eyes, swollen feet, and intestinal grievances (“Knock off the booze a little and take one of these with each meal”), Daniel W. Strong was also called “Doc” Strong by the citizens of Dutch Flat.

Like Archibald Gwathrop and Michael Murphy, “Doc” Strong had soon learned that there were easier and smarter ways to make a living in Dutch Flat than wielding a pick and shovel in the hot sun. He had taken the proceeds from his drug store and had invested shrewdly in a number of mining ventures and in the Dutch Flat Water Company in its early days. Archibald Gwathrop and Abigail Wardwell Murphy knew “Doc” to be both honest and smart.

And so when Archie and Abigail received a printed invitation to attend a “Special Closed Reception” at “Doc’s” drugstore that could “Improve One’s Financial Prospects,” they accepted almost immediately. Archie ran into “Doc” outside the Dutch Flat Store (which was just down the hill on Main Street from the drug store) and tried to pry out of him what the topic of the meeting would be. “I’ll not spoil your fun,” said “Doc” with a twinkle in his eye. “Just bring your brains with you, and, if you can’t do that, just send Abigail.”

The next evening, when Archie and Abigail arrived at the drug store, “Doc” was waiting at the door with a brandy for each of them. The drug store was small--about half the size of the Dutch Flat store--and Archie and Abigail knew everyone there. The proprietors of the Dutch Flat hotels were there. So was Sal Ascalon, the owner of the Dutch Flat store, along with the controlling owners of the major producing mines in the area. Apparently, they were interested in what “Doc” had mind, too. Archie noticed that his brother, John, was not there, but then John was new in town.

Promptly at eight o’clock, “Doc” called the

meeting to order. Everyone sat in chairs that had been arranged. “Doc” was standing in front of the room with a large, powerful man who looked vaguely familiar to Archie. Next to the man stood another slender, youthful fellow whose face had sharp, delicate features not unlike Archie’s. Just as Archie was racking his brain to remember where he had met the large, powerful man, “Doc” spoke up.

“Well, welcome everyone,” bellowed “Doc,” who then realized the room was small enough so that it was unnecessary to shout. “The reason I asked you here is to give each of you a thousand dollars.” And Doc laughed at his own little joke. “Actually, folks, the truth is I want each of you to give US a thousand dollars--or more if you’re smart. And to tell you why, I would like you to meet my friend, Mr. Ted Judah. Ted is an engineer with experience in building railroads in the East.”

“And in Mexico, actually,” interjected the youthful Ted Judah.

“Yes, of course, in Mexico,” added “Doc.” “Take the floor, Ted, and tell these people how to get rich.”

“Ladies and gentlemen, we are all going to get rich by building a railroad across the country,” said Judah rather matter-of-factly.

“That’s impossible,” cried a voice from the back of the room.

“No, no, to the contrary,” said Judah. “I’ve spent the past several years studying various possible routes, and, although there will be some challenges, it is not impossible. To the contrary, from an engineering standpoint, it is doable. And the time is ripe. You have all seen the wagons coming West, across the plains. There are more to come. And those families who are established here, in California, will want relatives to visit, and they will want to visit the East themselves. We are just starting to see the beginnings of a great national commerce, from coast to coast. It will not decrease; it will increase. And a railroad is essential to the commerce that is inevitable.”

“You’ll never get over the mountains to Nevada,” said a loud voice. “The grade is too damn steep for a railroad.”

“When I started my investigations, I, too, thought that the western terminus of the railroad would have to be located on the eastern side of the Sierras--probably in Reno,” said Judah. “But, after careful study, I have concluded that a viable path does lie for a railroad. I’m sure that virtually all of you have taken the Dutch Flat Wagon Road over the mountains to Nevada. I’m confident that, with a few modifications here and there...”

“Moving a couple of mountains, you mean,” joked “Doc” Strong.

Ted Judah smiled. “As I was saying, with a few modifications, the natural bed of the railroad lies almost entirely along the Dutch Flat Wagon Road.”

The owners of the Dutch Flat Wagon Road turned abruptly and looked into each other’s eyes. They did not have to say a word. Both Archie and Abigail realized instantaneously that if this railroad came to pass, the trains would be running on rights-of-way owned by their company. Neither said a word. But each of them made their eyes go wide in recognition. It would mean a fortune for them.

Ted Judah continued with his engineering summary for about an hour. It was clear that he had investigated the engineering prospects thoroughly. And then “Doc” Strong said, “Now, I’d like to introduce my other friend, who is going to share with you how the railroad will be financed and how you can participate in the subscription.”

As the large, powerful man stepped forward, Archie remembered where he had met him. It was Charlie Crocker, who had been the proprietor of the general store in Sacramento, where Archie and Michael Murphy had bought their mining provisions when they had first arrived in California some 15 years earlier.

Abigail leaned over to Archie and whispered, "I'm going in for five thousand dollars, how about you?" But Archie's mind was hardly on her question. Rather, he was enraptured with the wondrous perfume smell of his business partner's hair.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



2008 Parade Wagon Entry

...Tax Tips, continued from Page 6 increased and the credits and savings may be worth the expenditure. Talk with your power provider and your tax consultant – **don't** take the salesman's word for it. If it is a good deal today, it will be a good deal tomorrow and you will be wiser to check things before signing a contract. There are some great building contractors out there, so find one for your projects.

Are you helping your parents with their medical bills? You may be able to deduct the costs on your itemized deductions (Schedule A) if you qualify. Be sure to pay the medical expenses directly to the providers. Do not merely reimburse your parent for their expenses.

Ponzi schemes are in the headlines and hopefully you weren't a victim. If you were, see your tax consultant as quickly as possible as there are steps you take which will allow deduction of up to 95% of your losses. If you were a beneficiary due to early participation in the process, you should talk with an attorney.

Have you been laid off or are about to be laid off? You may be eligible for a 65% reduction in COBRA health insurance premiums. Check with the insurance provider or your employer's HR department. Keep track of your premium payments as they can be deducted on your Schedule A.

Hopefully you are fully employed, your 401(k) has recovered and you think Ponzi is a character on the Muppet Show.

Have a question? You can reach me at Greg@HerrickCPA.com or at (916) 787-4040.

**Life's most urgent question is:
what are you doing for others?
- Martin Luther King, Jr., civil-
rights leader (1929-1968)**

THE FOOLISH WOMAN

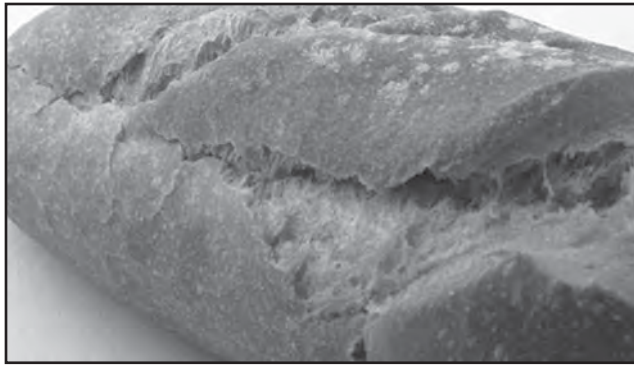
BY AMBROSE BIERCE

A Married Woman, whose lover was about to reform by running away, procured a pistol and shot him dead.

"Why did you do that, Madam?" inquired a Policeman, sauntering by.

"Because," replied the Married Woman, "he was a wicked man, and had purchased a ticket to Chicago."

"My sister," said an adjacent Man of God, solemnly, "you cannot stop the wicked from going to Chicago by killing them."



DUBLIN SODA BREAD

BY DEBBY MCCLATCHY

In 1969 I had the incredible honor and adventure of living in Dublin for six months, while I worked for a music agency, playing yearly parish concerts throughout both Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Upstairs from me lived Moira Collins, a sweet young lass from Wexford, come to the Big City in search of fun, work, and a husband. In those days, most of the young men of Ireland immigrated to other countries to find work. These days, because Ireland has joined the European Union, times are better and the population is more stable.

This is Moira's recipe for soda bread. We served it at our March St. Pat's Party, and received a lot of requests for the recipe.

Ingredients -

- ▶ 4 cups flour
- ▶ 1 teaspoon salt (optional)
- ▶ 2 teaspoons baking soda
- ▶ 1/2 cup sugar
- ▶ 1 egg
- ▶ 1/2 cup cold butter
- ▶ 1/2 cup golden raisins
- ▶ 1/2 cup currents
- ▶ 1 Tablespoon caraway seed
- ▶ 1 1/2 cups buttermilk

Directions

- ▶ Sift flour, salt, baking powder and sugar into a large mixing bowl.
- ▶ Beat egg in a 2 cup measuring cup and add buttermilk. Mix.
- ▶ Cut the cold butter into the flour mixture and quickly reduce the pieces to size of small peas, using your hands or a pastry cutter.
- ▶ Mix in the raisins, currents, and caraway seed.
- ▶ Make a hole in the center of this mixture and pour in the liquids.
- ▶ Mix gently with a wooden spoon until just mixed. Any further mixing will break down the gluten in the flour and make your breads tough.
- ▶ Form into two round loaves and bake at 375 degrees until browned and hollow-sounding, probably about 35-45 minutes, depending on your oven.

A BOOK

BY EMILY DICKINSON

He ate and drank the precious words,
His spirit grew robust;
He knew no more that he was poor,
Nor that his frame was dust.
He danced along the dingy days,
And this bequest of wings
Was but a book. What liberty
A loosened spirit brings!



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DUTCH FLAT POOL NEWS

BY JOHN SEITHER

On Saturday, May 23rd 50 or more local volunteers held the annual pool clean-up. The volunteers' work, over 175 man hours of labor, means the Dutch Flat pool looks better than it has in several years. Beside the usual grounds keeping work, the pool got two coats of paint and some patching on the pool and deck. As a thank-you, the Dutch Flat Pool Committee held a barbeque for the volunteers.

There has been some confusion recently about the process of hiring lifeguards to work at the pool during the summer. Since the mid 1960s Placer County has contracted with the Dutch Flat Pool Corporation to run the pool. Placer County hires

lifeguards as temporary personnel during the pool season, which traditionally runs from the day school is out until Labor Day.

These are the requirements necessary to be hired by the county as a lifeguard:

- ▶ Be entering the senior year of high school, or older
- ▶ have a current Red Cross lifeguard certificate
- ▶ Have a current "CPR for the professional rescuer" certificate
- ▶ Have a current "Title 22" certificate

Once these necessary certificates and training have been acquired, an individual may apply at the county personnel office when the lifeguard position is opened. This year the county didn't take applications since there were still enough qualified personnel from last year to fill all the available positions. This is unusual, however, and most years it is necessary for the county to hire a few new lifeguards.

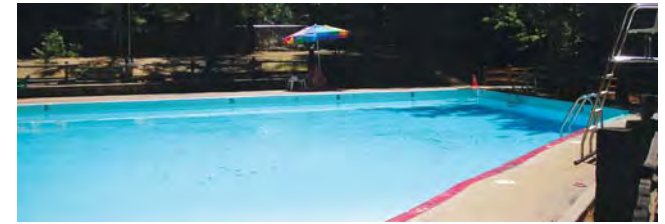
Pool funding is also a bit confusing. About 30 years ago, community residents voted to create County Service Area #9 and collect a tax on property within that area to fund pool operation and grounds maintenance at the Dutch Flat Community Center. The current tax is \$25.00 per parcel. Since the service area was created there has been a lot of development outside the area. You can check the sign board next to the stairs at the pool entry to see if you live within the pool service area.

Local volunteer efforts save the pool operating budget thousands of dollars each year and keep the pool open when it might otherwise have to close due

to lack of funds. Indeed, a few years ago the pool committee was informed that the pool would only be able to operate for eight weeks due to lack of funds. That was the year we began our annual clean-up and since then the county has graciously allowed us to use volunteer help for many jobs that used to be done by county employees in order to stretch our operating budget far enough to operate all summer.

The Dutch Flat pool is the only pool in the county parks system and we couldn't operate the pool without the help we receive from Placer County. Please consider sending a note of thanks to Andrew Mill, our County Parks Superintendent.

Editor's note – In the recent past, it has taken active support from our District Five Supervisors to keep the Dutch Flat Pool open, because it does not meet state standards for a public pool. In addition to County Parks staff, we also owe thanks to former Supervisors Rex Bloomfield and Bruce Kranz, and to current Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery for their help.



Bears, continued from Page 1



bear. I do not know the woman's reaction when she returned home and learned of what had transpired. The woman, while meaning well, ultimately did the bear a huge disservice and got him killed.

Please don't feed the bears, however well-intentioned it may seem. If we know someone who is feeding bears, please tell this story and you might save a bear's life, and perhaps damage to your or a neighbor's home. Also, as an added incentive, there's a fine for feeding bears of \$1,000. If you want the best current information on living with bears, please visit www.savebears.org.



Frolicking Bear at Lake Lola Montez Meadow, by Joan Chlarson

Placeholder



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THE COMMUNITY GARDEN AT THE HEARSE HOUSE, DUTCH FLAT BY JULIANNE SMITH

What a relief!! It looks as though Heidi Johnson and I *may* have beat the weeds back that took over, covered the garden, and flourished this spring. One can see bare ground between the plants this season! Round Up is a marvel!! Now we can concentrate on nurturing the actual plants.

The original plan in selecting plants for the Community Garden was to use varieties that would naturalize and soon almost take care of themselves. That seems to be happening. Look closely for the small johnny-jump-ups that proliferate and return in more places every spring. The candy tuft is doing very well, having just completed its first bloom. The columbine and iris are colorful and gorgeous and the California poppies are profuse. Next up are the peonies, whose buds are about to pop open.

The Community Center is very grateful to Roy Fulmer of Roy's Tree Service, in Colfax. Roy spent several hours last September pruning the hawthorn tree in the Community Garden. It was desperately in need of a good "hair cut," a very difficult and precarious job due to its thorns and the dramatic slope on its downhill side.

Now Heidi and I must deal with the euphoric euphorbia. The plant is aptly named. It is spreading all over the garden with great euphoria. Some executive decisions must be made as to what will be pruned and/or removed. The Shasta daisies and lupine also need separating and replanting. Heidi and I would be delighted to have help on this project. Anyone who would like to get a little "down and dirty" with us please call me, Julianne, at 389-2325. Heidi and I will get going on dealing with the euphorbia and separating other plants in June. This small corner of color is a beautiful introduction for visitors to Dutch Flat, our historical four-town area. It's a bright spot very much appreciated by all local residents.



Lupine on the river near Codfish Falls

NORTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER ALLIANCE UPDATE BY JIM RICKER

Get Back to the Canyon, Winter's Over! Special Event

NFARA's kick-off-to-Spring event, held April 18 at the Dutch Flat Community Center, was a grand success. Over 50 people were in attendance. After initial introductions, updates on current NFARA projects were presented. A short question and answer period followed. Then everyone sat back to enjoy the film, *They Crossed the Mountains*, which traces the history of the Western States Trail. The evening ended with lots of socializing around the dessert table.

We look forward to more events in the future.

Remembering Rena

Rena Ferreira, local veterinarian and a founding board member of NFARA, passed away in February after a long illness. This is a great loss for the community. Dr. Rena, as she was known, was part of the core group of folks who started NFARA. She participated in the earliest organizational meetings and stepped forward to serve on the board of directors. I once asked her what her qualifications were. She replied that she didn't have many except a love for the North Fork and a desire to be part of something important.

Rena's council and advice, to me personally and to the board in general, was invaluable. During the first year or so of existence, NFARA found itself in turmoil. There were ugly, heated arguments over the direction NFARA should take. I grew very weary of it and was ready to quit, several times. Rena talked me out of it. She said that what we were doing was important and that people depend on us. Her exact words escape me now but I remember they were both comforting and, at the same time, a kick in the butt. Rena truly was an animal whisperer.

Rena's subsequent battle with cancer prevented her from continuing on the NFARA board as an active member. However, we decided to make her an honorary board member. Her never-give-up attitude was an inspiration and she was forever the optimist. A couple years ago she expressed the desire that as she healed she hoped to once again become active with NFARA. Sadly, it was not to be.

Dr. Rena will be remembered for many things; for her music, her friendships, and of course her compassion for all creatures great and small. She will also be remembered as a defender of the North Fork. It was an honor to know her and work with her.

Donner Summit

NFARA and seven other conservation groups, homeowners associations, and civic organizations

released a joint document on May 14 outlining a vision for the Donner Summit area. In the three page "An Economic and Conservation Vision for Donner Summit", the eight organizations commit to twelve principles designed to shape a healthy future for the region. The principles were developed in a series of meetings, conferences, and surveys held on the Summit over the past three years and are designed to provide a framework for planning decisions that affect the region.

"This vision is a starting point for bringing people together to preserve the unique natural, cultural and historical features of Donner Summit for future generations" states Kaitlin Backlund, Executive Director of the Mountain Area Preservation Foundation.

NFARA, Donner Summit Area Association, Mountain Area Preservation Foundation, The Palisades, Sierra Club, Sierra Watch, Serene Lakes Property Owners Association, and South Yuba River Citizens League signed on to the document.

Visit www.nfara.org to view the document and to learn more about NFARA. For further information on NFARA's goals and activities contact Jim Ricker at 530-389-8344 or email jvricker@prince-ricker.net.



Girl Scouts, 2008 parade

LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS

BY SUSAN PRINCE

Every Saturday morning, 8 a.m. to noon, a feast is spread before your eyes. Ripe tomatoes, strawberries, fresh cheeses and breads, local olive oils, soaps, and organically grown meats are all available at the Farmers' Market. It's held in the Courthouse parking lot, off Auburn-Folsom Road, with plenty of parking available near the Historic Courthouse in Old Town Auburn. There's usually music, and fresh flowers, and vendors handing out samples. It's a fine way to start the weekend.

On Wednesdays from May to October, you can find many of the same vendors in Colfax, behind the old railroad depot, at the Colfax Farmer's Market. Bolster your supplies with the best in local fruits, vegetables, herbs, and other delights. Don't miss these wonderful resources!



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LOLA MONTEZ: THE SPIDER DANCER

PART 1 OF 2
BY MARK MCLAUGHLIN

The allure of Sierra Nevada gold was a siren call for many women in the mid 19th century. A significant number of wives and daughters joined the stampede, but others were independent, entrepreneurial women with other goals in mind. At a time when American females had no civil rights, could not vote, own property, serve on juries, or hold public office, the California Gold Rush offered some women an escape from domestic drudgery, servitude, and a life with few options.

The most famous woman to try her luck in California during the gold rush era was Lola Montez, an internationally known, Irish-born dancer and stage actress who had previously shocked critics and audiences in Europe with her risqué personal behavior and seductive stage performances. She was beautiful, sexy and liberated, and therefore controversial amid the highly conservative social mores of the Victorian Age. One admiring French critic wrote, "The dance of Lola Montez is poetry in motion, sometimes fantastic, often lascivious, always attractive."

After Lola Montez conquered the European stage and concert halls, she was ready to take on the United States. Her manager worried if the more conservative American audiences would be receptive to her extraverted on-stage sexuality, but there was little to be concerned about. Theater-goers in the big cities along the Atlantic Coast generally reactively favorably to Lola's acting ability, as well as to her exotic, self-created "Spider Dance" performances. But not all were impressed and some were downright shocked. After her dramatic opening performance at Philadelphia's Chestnut Street Theater in 1852, one angry critic complained: "The 'Spider Dance' was performed by Mlle. Lola Montez to the ribald delight of sensual misfits, and to the disgust of all persons of refinement. Persons [in the audience] rose up and denounced the woman and her shamelessness. They were hurried away by police. Gentlemen who had brought ladies to the theater got up in the middle of the exhibition and hurried their fair charges from the building."

The polarized reaction by American audiences didn't surprise Lola Montez. She had seen it all before in Europe and would see it in other countries around the globe. Lola Montez had always blazed her own path, no matter how controversial. Historian Bruce Seymour wrote, "Her will was as great as her charm and her ego was as impressive as her beauty." In her 20-year, self-made career, she became the most talked about woman of her time and is the inspiration for the timeless expression "Whatever Lola wants, Lola gets."

Lola Montez was born Elizabeth Rosanna Gilbert in Grange, County Sligo, Ireland, on February 17, 1821. Her father, Edward Gilbert, was an officer in the British army and her mother was the illegitimate daughter of a wealthy and powerful Irish politician. When "Eliza" turned three years old, the family moved to India where her father died of cholera just a few months after their arrival. Within a year her mother remarried and Eliza was sent to live with relatives in Scotland. When she reached the age of 11 she was enrolled in an English boarding school where she received an education in the liberal arts.

Eliza was a precocious teenager and she often claimed, the "chief agitator against adult



Miss Lola Montez

authority among the students" at the academy. By the time she was 16, she had blossomed into an attractive young woman. At that time, her mother arrived from India and proposed that it was time for Eliza to marry. Mrs. Gilbert suggested that they return together to India where she knew a few eligible bachelors, all of them much older than Eliza. Her mother's matrimonial plans left Eliza cold so she rebelled and eloped with a handsome, 30-year old army lieutenant named Thomas James, an "admirer" of Mrs. Gilbert who had traveled from India with her. The following year Lt. James returned to India with Eliza, but after a few years together she grew unhappy with the marriage and she returned to Scotland alone.

Mrs. Eliza James was only 19 years old, but her reputation was already soiled by her elopement with an older man and she had no chance at an honest relationship as long as she was still married to Lt. James who remained stationed in India. These became minor details to the young and spirited Eliza and within ten days of boarding the London-bound ship she was flirting with a 20-year-old officer named George Lennox. Before long the couple was spending time together alone in their cabins and once again Eliza's inappropriate behavior shocked those around her. The relationship between Lennox and Eliza continued for a while in London until concerned family members pressured Officer Lennox to end it. When news of the adulterous affair reached Lt. James, he charged Eliza with adultery and sued for divorce. It was the end of Eliza's childhood dreams of a conventional life and the beginning of a wild career as an internationally known entertainer and seductress extraordinaire.

Eliza escaped the shame of appearing in an English divorce court by traveling to Spain to create a new persona for herself. While in Spain, Eliza took acting classes, learned traditional Spanish dances, and began smoking cigarettes and cigars. She also added Marie Delores to her name to support her new stage billing as the beautiful daughter of a noble Spanish family who had been exiled by civil war. Upon her return to England in 1842, she hit the stage as "Lola Montez, the Spanish Dancer." Over the next two decades, she would become the most notorious of 19th-century courtesans and her adventures and affairs became the subject of worldwide gossip. Wherever Lola Montez went, heads turned and tales of scandal flourished. Her striking beauty garnered

immediate attention from everyone she met, with her fair skin, jet-black hair and large, deep-blue eyes. Everyone knew that she had captivated the hearts and minds of famous and powerful men as she danced seductively on stages throughout Europe. Among her notable lovers were the Hungarian composer and piano virtuoso Franz Liszt, as well as King Ludwig I of Bavaria.

During Lola's sensational performance tour of Germany, the aging King Ludwig was so enamored that he showered her with gifts and jewels. But the real trouble started when he awarded Lola the title of Countess of Landsfeld and asked her to help him rule the country. When the people of Bavaria discovered the royal privileges given their king's new mistress, they revolted and rioted in the streets, chanting slogans condemning Countess Montez. The angry crowds forced Ms. Montez to pack up a strongbox filled with treasure and flee, while the disgraced King Ludwig abdicated his throne. Stay tuned for Lola's arrival in California next issue.

Mark McLaughlin is a Tahoe resident and nationally published author and photographer. His award winning books are available at local bookstores or at www.thestormking.com



LOCAL AUTHOR'S NEW BOOK

Author and part-time Dutch Flat resident Wendy Bartlett has just published her second novel, a mystery titled *Cellini's Revenge*. Here's a teaser –

Cellini's Revenge

Who killed Catherine Evans' husband, David, in 1956? To fight the injustice of her being accused of his murder and serving twelve years in Holloway prison for it, Catherine returns to England from Vermont at sixty-five in 1995 to find the real murderer, thinking she would use DNA, but instead, inventing a very unusual way to catch the murderer. Cellini's Revenge is the story of the four-hundred-year history of the twelve silver, astrological cups which are stolen from Benvenuto Cellini in 1527 in Italy as he is riding his horse to deliver them personally to the famous Italian family, d'Este, and a fearless Catherine who takes up the fight for justice, searching for the priceless cups and the murderer. We meet many fascinating characters of different classes who play a part in this history, at sea, in Rome and Cornwall, in Brick Lane, Portabello Road and The Old Bailey.

Wendy's book is available through Amazon (amazon.com), and you can learn more at her website, wendybartlett.com



It goes fast! 2008 parade

Small Business, continued from Page 5 reduced at local businesses can apply for partial unemployment insurance through the California Employment Development Department's Work Sharing Program. For information, see Employer Assistance at placerco.toolsforbusiness.info.

Small Business Administration American Recovery Capital Loans: Many businesses are waiting for the \$35,000, SBA-guaranteed loans to cover business loan payments during the economic crisis. These are five-year loans to viable businesses, with no payments due for the first year. The loans are for existing businesses and funds cannot be used to pay existing SBA loan payments.

"This is one of the few new programs authorized by the ARRA, so it has taken longer to set up than other stimulus programs," Snyder explained. Guidance on these emergency bridge loans is expected to be available on June 8, with loan packages accepted from lenders on June 15.

Snyder noted that businesses can take steps to be prepared. The funds are for viable businesses only – so business owners interested in applying probably will need to have income tax statements plus budgets for the next two years demonstrating that they can make profits once the economy begins to turn around. The loans will be made by banks – probably the banks that currently do SBA lending – although each bank may choose whether to participate in this program.

Had a business loss? Get a refund of past taxes; ARRA allows a five-year operating loss carryback, which means that a business owner whose personal taxable income for 2008 was negative because a business loss exceeded other income can deduct the loss from taxable income for prior years and recalculate prior-year taxes to get refunds. IRS Form 1045 should be used for each year included in a refund request.

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JOHN RUNCKLE
 BY JANET DUNBAR FONSECA
*Excerpted from Dutch Flat: A Collection
 of Anecdotes and Photographs*

Lois Kempster recalled that it was John Runckle's chore to transport travelers to and from the train. John, it seems, was a very religious man and was often referred to as the Rev. John Runckle, although it is not known if he ever was actually ordained. He did preside at funerals and the like.

He was friendly and pleasant as he met the train or sent visitors on their way when they departed, except for the show people whom he regarded as evil. In those days traveling troupes visited Dutch Flat where they presented variety shows, East Lynne or Uncle Tom's Cabin, at the opera house, usually staying at the hotel for a week.

One evening as John was preparing to pick up one such group at the hotel, his horse shied and the wagon overturned. John sustained a serious head injury. Convinced that the mishap was a heavenly retribution for his association with such people and he was never again to transport them.

Eventually he became Justice of the Peace in Dutch Flat. His court dockets reveal something of the prevailing attitudes of the day insofar as justice was concerned. "The defendant pled (e.g.) 'Not Guilty' and was found guilty by the Court," the docket often read. All cases were signed "Case Dismissed, John Runckle Justice of the Peace," which, while he must have intended that the cases be closed, today use of the word "dismissed": has an entirely different connotation.

Apparently the judge's salary depended upon the fines he collected which were his to keep, for John often would show visitors a supply of ladies dresses he had put away in a closet. A lifelong bachelor, he never had any use for them. He said that one day a drummer for ladies wear came through and presented a speeding ticket. He felt sorry for the man, who had no money to pay his fine, so the judge took the dresses in payment.

Musically inclined, the judge played the zither, violin and a horn. It was not uncommon to see a strange car in front of the court and hear the tones of one of the judge's instruments issuing from within. A San Francisco friend told me that he had passed this way one day and obtained a ticket for speeding. Driving into Dutch Flat he made his settlement with the judge and prepared to leave but was restrained until the judge entertained him. "I didn't mind the fine so much," he told me, "but I was late in the first place which is why I got the ticket, and I had to sit there for an hour and a half while he played on his zither!"

The judge presided at Buster Sharon's funeral held in one of the lodge halls. Never the best of friends, since the judge regarded Buster's saloon enterprise as an evil undertaking, and Buster generally ignored him, he was hard pressed to deliver a eulogy and, although Buster was among one of the best loved of all Dutch Flat personages and a truly good and honorable person, the judge seemed tongue tied as he thrust about trying to find something to say. Confining his talk to only the barest of vital statistics, suddenly, his eye fell on Buster's window and his face lit up, "Well," he announced, "there's one thing you can say for George Sharon, he never had a case of divorce!"

I find that principles have no real force except when one is well-fed. - Mark Twain, author and humorist (1835-1910)



**TIME TO SHAKE OUT THE
 HOUSE - BUT MIND YOUR
 WILD NEIGHBORS**

BY HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

It's that time again. Winter has gone and it's time to prepare your house and garden for the new season. But don't be surprised if you come face to face with your wild neighbors because spring means baby season in the wildlife world.

"Wild animals, particularly babies in dens and nests, can be accidentally injured or orphaned when people trim trees, mow lawns, clean chimneys, or set traps for those 'nuisance' wild animals around the house," said Laura Simon field director of urban wildlife for The Humane Society of the United States. "Taking just a few simple precautions can prevent injuring or orphaning wildlife when you clean and make basic repairs to your house."

Windows: Prevent birds from hitting windows by dangling 3 foot strips of Mylar tape or party balloons (the shinier the better) from the top of the glass outside the window.

Lawns: Always walk over lawns before you mow to check for wildlife such as turtles and nests of baby rabbits. Turtles may be gently moved, but nests of baby rabbits should be left alone "and the mowing near them delayed" so that the mother can come back to nurse them. Wait until they are gone to mow, or better yet, start a little meadow in that part of the lawn.

Trees: Check for bird nests before trimming trees. If you accidentally knock a bird's nest out of a tree, retrieve it and the young and re-nest them in the same location. If the nest is destroyed, use a nest sized wicker basket (the kind plants come in) and secure it firmly where the original nest was. Watch for the parents to return: it's a myth that birds will reject their young if touched by humans.

Chimneys: From a wild animal's perspective, open chimneys are cozy accommodations for raising young. If you discover such guests, tolerating their presence is always the best option until they leave on their own. However, be aware that some animals (squirrels for example) may get trapped in chimneys. If you suspect an animal is trapped call your local animal control agency or a wildlife rehabilitator for advice.

Never try to smoke any animal out of a chimney! The results can be disastrous, since young mammals cannot get out on their own. Once you're absolutely sure all the animals are gone have the chimney capped to permanently prevent further problems.

Scrap the Trap: This is the time of year when wild animals den and nest around people's homes. If you're experiencing a "nuisance" wildlife conflict, resist temptation to set a trap. Chances are you'll trap a nursing mother animal, leaving the young behind to starve.

Clean Closets: Donate fur and fur-trimmed apparel. The Humane Society of the United States' Coats for Cubs program sends donated fur items to wildlife rehabilitators, who use them as bedding and nesting material for animals. The fur becomes a "surrogate mother" to the orphaned or injured animal, reducing stress and giving comfort: <http://www.hsus.org/furfree/campaigns/c4c/>

For more tips on living humanely with wild animals, visit humanesociety.org/wildneighbors.

**EPIGRAMS OF A
 CYNIC, EXCERPTS**
 BY AMBROSE BIERCE

If every hypocrite in the United States were to break his leg to-day the country could be successfully invaded to-morrow by the warlike hypocrites of Canada.

To Dogmatism the Spirit of Inquiry is the same as the Spirit of Evil, and to pictures of the latter it appends a tail to represent the note of interrogation.

"Immoral" is the judgment of the stalled ox on the gamboling lamb.

In forgiving an injury be somewhat ceremonious, lest your magnanimity be construed as indifference.

True, man does not know woman. But neither does woman.

Age is provident because the less future we have the more we fear it.

Reason is fallible and virtue invincible; the winds vary and the needle forsakes the pole, but stupidity never errs and never intermits. Since it has been found that the axis of the earth wobbles, stupidity is indispensable as a standard of constancy.

In order that the list of able women may be memorized for use at meetings of the oppressed sex, Heaven has considerably made it brief.

Firmness is my persistency; obstinacy is yours.

A little heap of dust,
 A little streak of rust,
 A stone without a name--
 Lo! hero, sword and fame.

Our vocabulary is defective; we give the same name to woman's lack of temptation and man's lack of opportunity.

"You scoundrel, you have wronged me," hissed the philosopher. "May you live forever!"

There was never a genius who was not thought a fool until he disclosed himself; whereas he is a fool then only.



"Dr. Rena," October 24, 1957 – February 18, 2009

DR. RENA FERRIERA

BY SUSAN KLEINFELD-FERRERIA

On February 18, as the rays of sunlight shone across her, Dr. Rena passed into a peaceful new journey. She left behind a vast community of friends and a great family. She was a brilliant, compassionate, fun-loving, strong woman who was a fantastic inspiration to so many and will continue to be for so many more. Rena was born in upstate New York and grew up in Hollywood, California where she started drumming in a band. She also played the piano, guitar and violin. Between her trips to go SCUBA diving or hiking, or snowboarding or motorcycle riding, she continued drumming. Rena could not get enough of what life had to offer, even skydiving for her 50th birthday!

From a young age she always knew that she wanted to be a veterinarian. Even though she was dyslexic, Dr. Rena put herself through school and graduated at UC Davis in 1994 to realize that dream. Dr. Rena was an incredibly gifted alternative, allopathic, chiropractic and traditional Chinese medicine veterinarian for both large and small animals. She worked in many clinics in the Auburn area. And in 1998 she opened Sierra Animal Wellness Center in Gold Run.

Dr. Rena is survived by her very, very special partner, Debi Jo Smith, and their family of critters including her dogs Bruce (he four-legged soul mate of 17 years) and Blue, four horses (her Winsome at 30 years), her cat Zane, along with two llamas Amethyst and Ashley.

She is also survived by her very attentive father, Harold A. Kleinfeld and his wife Raquel, her two precious sisters Naomi Maddux and her husband Rick, and Leslie Kleinfeld and her husband Jon Lockart. Other family members include her two step-brothers, Abe Kleinfeld and his wife Jan Marie, Jaime Katchler-Winter and his wife Marie Olga and their children, as well as her Aunt Marilyn Freedner, her cousin Jeffrey and her partner in "fun", cousin Jody Beamer. She was preceded in death by her loving and supportive mother, Dolores Zadock-Kleinfeld.

Rena's life was specially touched by Joe Zorichak, her soul brother, and his wife Bev, along with their children, Stacy, Krista, Heather and Ryan.

Rena left these words, "...and there are so many others full of love and compassion. I would like to thank everyone for their love, support and prayers. Thank you for sharing in my life's journey, Blessings to one and all."

After a four year life-altering experience with ovarian cancer her body finally succumbed.

Dr. Rena's tenacious spirit and

compassionate nature will be remembered and dearly missed by all two-legged and four-legged lives she touched far and wide.

Please sign the online guest book at www.auburnjournal.com.

Dr. Rena

Animal whisperer
Oh, great adventurer
Diver, lover of the sea
Biker, lover of the wind
Drummer, music coursing through
Brilliant Spirit
Now shining, limitless light
You will reside, Resplendent Joy
Within our Hearts
Forever



ANNUAL HERITAGE TRAIL EVENT

BY PLACER COUNTY MUSEUM STAFF

18 participating museums from Roseville to Tahoe will host the second annual Heritage Trail event on Saturday, August 8 and Sunday, August 9, 2009. All the museums will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both days and admittance is free. The theme this year is *A-Tisket A-Tasket*, so bring your picnic basket. We encourage Trail Travelers to bring a picnic and eat at one of the museums designated for picnics.

This is a family-friendly event with hands-on activities for all ages. Bake biscuits in an 1890s wood stove, jump to the finish line in an old fashioned sack race, explore the wonders of a granite quarry, view the world from a 19thc stage coach, pan for illusive flakes of gold, and listen to Native American stories. Trail Guides will be available at every museum in July and on our website. For the most current information visit <http://theheritagetrail.blogspot.com/>

The museums are easy to reach from I-80.

Valley Museums - located in South Placer

- ▶ Roseville Historical Society Carnegie Museum
- ▶ Roseville Telephone Museum
- ▶ Maidu Interpretive Center (Roseville)
- ▶ Rocklin History Museum
- ▶ Griffith Quarry Museum (Penryn)
- ▶ Fruitvale School (Lincoln)

Auburn Museums - within one mile of the Historic Courthouse

- ▶ Placer County Museum
- ▶ Bernhard Museum Complex
- ▶ Gold Country Museum
- ▶ Joss House Museum
- ▶ Gold Country Medical History Museum
- ▶ The Benton Welty School Room

Foothill Museums - located higher in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada

- ▶ Forest Hill Divide Museum



Novice goldpanners hone their skills.

- ▶ Colfax Area Heritage Museum
- ▶ Golden Drift Museum

Mountain Museums - located at the crest of the Sierra Nevada and Lake Tahoe

- ▶ Western SkiSport Museum (Boreal)
- ▶ Gatekeeper's Museum (Tahoe City)
- ▶ Watson Cabin (Tahoe City)

For more information call the county Museum Department toll-free at 800-488-4308, ext.6500, or visit theheritagetrail.blogspot.com/.

OF REVENGE

BY FRANCIS BACON

Revenge is a kind of wild justice; which the more man's nature runs to, the more ought law to weed it out. For as for the first wrong, it doth but offend the law; but the revenge of that wrong, putteth the law out of office. Certainly, in taking revenge, a man is but even with his enemy; but in passing it over, he is superior; for it is a prince's part to pardon. And Solomon, I am sure, saith, It is the glory of a man, to pass by an offence. That which is past is gone, and irrevocable; and wise men have enough to do, with things present and to come; therefore they do but trifle with themselves, that labor in past matters. There is no man doth a wrong, for the wrong's sake; but thereby to purchase himself profit, or pleasure, or honor, or the like. Therefore why should I be angry with a man, for loving himself better than me? And if any man should do wrong, merely out of ill-nature, why, yet it is but like the thorn or briar, which prick and scratch, because they can do no other. The most tolerable sort of revenge, is for those wrongs which there is no law to remedy; but then let a man take heed, the revenge be such as there is no law to punish; else a man's enemy is still before hand, and it is two for one. Some, when they take revenge, are desirous, the party should know, whence it cometh. This is the more generous. For the delight seemeth to be, not so much in doing the hurt, as in making the party repent. But base and crafty cowards, are like the arrow that flieth in the dark. Cosmus, duke of Florence, had a desperate saying against perfidious or neglecting friends, as if those wrongs were unpardonable; You shall read (saith he) that we are commanded to forgive our enemies; but you never read, that we are commanded to forgive our friends. But yet the spirit of Job was in a better tune: Shall we (saith he) take good at God's hands, and not be content to take evil also? And so of friends in a proportion. This is certain, that a man that studieth revenge, keeps his own wounds green, which otherwise would heal, and do well. Public revenges are for the most part fortunate; as that for the death of Caesar; for the death of Pertinax; for the death of Henry the Third of France; and many more. But in private revenges, it is not so. Nay rather, vindictive persons live the life of witches; who, as they are mischievous, so end they infortunate.



Hula dancer and band at Waikiki

THE MERRIE MONARCH FESTIVAL BY RICK SIMS

The hula is an ancient native Hawaiian dance. When missionaries came to Hawaii in the 18th century, they thought the dance was too erotic and effectively banned it for 70 years.

In 1874, King David Kalakaua became King of the Hawaiian Kingdom and reigned until 1891. King Kalakaua was a patron of the arts and brought the hula back to its place of honor in Hawaiian culture. As a consequence, he was given the appellation, "The Merrie Monarch."

The largest hula dance celebration and competition in the world is now the annual "Merrie Monarch Festival," which takes place in April in a covered tennis stadium in Hilo, Hawaii. Tickets are cheap, \$25 for three nights, but they're scarce and distributed by a lottery. You enclose a cashier's check in an envelope, deposit it in the mail on December 26, and cross your fingers.

My wife, Linda Wallihan, and I have gone to the Big Island of Hawaii often over the years. We love Hilo, so going to the Merrie Monarch Festival was a no-brainer. In this endeavor, we enlisted my old friend and law partner, Mark Himmelstein, and his wife Nancy. Mark's cousin, Becky, lives in Hilo and teaches at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. We sent separate envelopes to Becky, with certified checks for Merrie Monarch tickets, and she deposited the envelopes in the mail in Hilo on December 26. In the lottery, we got tickets and the Himmelsteins didn't, so we agreed to share the tickets.

The first night of the Merrie Monarch Festival was a Thursday, the night of an individual hula competition to determine who would be "Miss Aloha." For reasons that need no explanation, it was decided that Mark and Rick would attend the "Miss Aloha" night, and Linda and Nancy would go Friday night to see the traditional group hula competition.

Early Thursday evening, Mark and I drove to Becky's house, located about four blocks from the Merrie Monarch competition. We parked in her front yard and walked in a light rain to the Merrie Monarch Festival. We had general admission tickets, so we got there early and got pretty good seats on ground level.

The festival started with a ceremonial entrance by the current Acting King and his court, followed by a sextet of handsome young men who blew into conch shells.

The first contestant for Miss Aloha was one of the most beautiful creatures I have ever seen. She was dressed in a green forest glade costume (yes,

a grass skirt), and she sported a crown of flowers. She brought her own ensemble of musicians, as did the other contestants, and she moved to the music the way you would imagine a hula girl would move, except she was more graceful and beautiful.

At the conclusion of her performance, about 15 minutes, I decided, no matter what would come later, she would be Miss Aloha in my book.

The second contestant was very good, but not as good as my Miss Aloha.

After the second contestant, I realized I was very thirsty and left my seat to go outside the tennis pavilion, where a refreshment stand was set up. I got a diet Pepsi and was delighted that it was ice cold.

On my way back into the pavilion (where Mark was saving my seat), I noticed that there was a long line waiting to get in to the general admission area. I thought, "We were cool to get here early."

As I started through the opening into the pavilion, I was stopped by a stout, middle-aged woman, who said, "You have to get in line."

I showed her my ticket and my soft drink, and I said, "No, you don't understand. I have a seat inside. My friend, Mark, is there. I just came out to get a soft drink."

"You have to get in line," she said. "No exceptions."

I repeated my explanation of the circumstances. She shook her head from side to side and said, "You have to get in line. It's the rule."

Now I make my living dealing with rules, and this one seemed very unfair to me. I told her so. She said, "It's just like that."

Oh.

I must admit that I was beginning to get a little miffed, but I obeyed her instructions. My diet Pepsi and I got in line, now about a city block long.

While in line, I was able to hear the performances of two other Miss Aloha contestants. During this time, the city-block line moved about 20 feet. I was utterly disgusted.

I called Mark's cell phone and left the following message: "Hi Mark. This is Rick. They won't let me back in the arena. I know it sounds nuts, but I have been waiting in line for 45 minutes and the line is going nowhere. I'm leaving. I'll meet you at the car at Becky's."

So I walked out of the celebrated Merrie Monarch Festival. It was raining, but I had a rain jacket. I walked back to Becky's house, which was dark. It rained harder, and I took refuge under a little overhang at the top of Becky's front stairs. I got only half wet.

After about an hour, Mark called and he got the full story. He said he would come to Becky's and showed up about half an hour later. He is an old friend and a great guy, so he was not too mad at me for leaving.

He asked, "Why didn't you sit in the car? It was unlocked."

Oh.

Linda and Nancy attended the Merrie Monarch Festival the next night and had a fine time.

My favorite contestant for Miss Aloha didn't win. The winner was a very large woman whose hand movements were exceedingly graceful.

I will go back to Hilo, but I do not have to go the Merrie Monarch Festival again.

America is great because she is good. If America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great. - Alexis de Tocqueville, scientist (1805 – 1859)



PAUL REED RUBENDALL
6/10/1918 – 3/2/2009

Paul was born June 10, 1918 in Freeport, Illinois. He married his wife, Frances Woods, in 1944, and they lived in their hometown of Freeport, Illinois where their two daughters, Judy and Trudy were born. In Freeport, Paul was a commercial and industrial contractor. The family moved to Palo Alto, California in 1956, where Paul built custom homes. He semi-retired to Sacramento and Alta, where he built room additions, did remodels and built two custom homes in Alta, and one in Dutch Flat.

Paul was a devoted husband and father. He built a cabin near Wisconsin Dells and later in the Delta area of California. In both places the family enjoyed fishing, boating and other water sports together. Paul loved building and enjoyed woodworking. His friends and family will remember him as a great conversationalist with a wonderful sense of humor. He enjoyed keeping up with politics and current events. He had an inquiring, analytical mind, and a deep sense of fairness and justice. People valued what he had to say.

Paul had been a member of the Masonic and Elks Lodges in Illinois and was a long time member of the Dutch Flat Odd Fellows. He was an Alta Volunteer Fire Department Commissioner for eight years. Paul was a member of the Episcopal Church most of his life. He had a strong faith that gave him confidence and peace in this life and about the hereafter.

Paul is survived by his wife Frances Jane Rubendall of Alta, his daughter, Judith Lynne Bell of Fair Oaks, his daughter, and son-in-law Trudy Jane and Evans Barbieri of San Luis Obispo, his grandsons, Alan Henry Barbieri of London, and Patrick Reek Barbieri of San Luis Obispo, and his sister Ethel Lolling of Sunnyvale.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward Irvin and Renetta Lattig Rubendall, his brother Edward Rubendall and his sister Mary Jane Ruehle.

A memorial service was held on March 28 at the Sierra Baptist Church in Alta. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be sent to Sierra Baptist Church, P.O. Box 659, Alta, CA 95701.

Please sign the online guest book at www.auburnjournal.com.



PREFACE TO NORTH FORK TRAILS - HIKING TRAILS OF THE NORTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER CANYON BY RON GOULD

Drawn by the wild and scenic beauty, rich mining history and being local, I began hiking and exploring the canyons of the North Fork American River about 8 years ago. Also about that time, I was fortunate to meet Catherine O'Riley and Russell Towle who became constant hiking companions. Russell shared his broad knowledge of the North Fork, its history and many hidden adventures and places to explore. Russell was also a well known champion for preserving the old historic trails in the canyon, often leading others on hikes clearing the old trails. Sadly, Russell died in 2008 and this guide is in part inspired by Russell's passion and dedication to preserving the old trails of the North Fork. Profits from this guide will be donated to the North Fork American River Alliance, a nonprofit organization Russell helped create to protect and preserve the natural, cultural and historic beauties of the North Fork American River Canyon.

Many of the trails in this guide are described in other guides, websites, and other publications. This guide is an attempt to provide a more comprehensive guide focused on the North Fork American River watershed. But it is also realized that there is abundant information on the lower part of the canyon and this guide will focus on the canyon above Lake Clementine. One excellent guide for the lower part of the canyon and confluence area is American River Canyon Hikes by Jim Ferris, Michael Lynch, and Sheila Toner. Also see the Additional Resources section for more information on hiking in the canyon.

Ron Gould, June, 2009

Editor's note - Ron Gould is a founding member of the North Fork American River Alliance, NFARA. He's just completed a booklet listing many hikes in the North Fork. We look forward to sharing many of these hikes and maps with you, with many thanks to Ron. In the future, we'll also provide information on where you can get a copy of Ron's book.



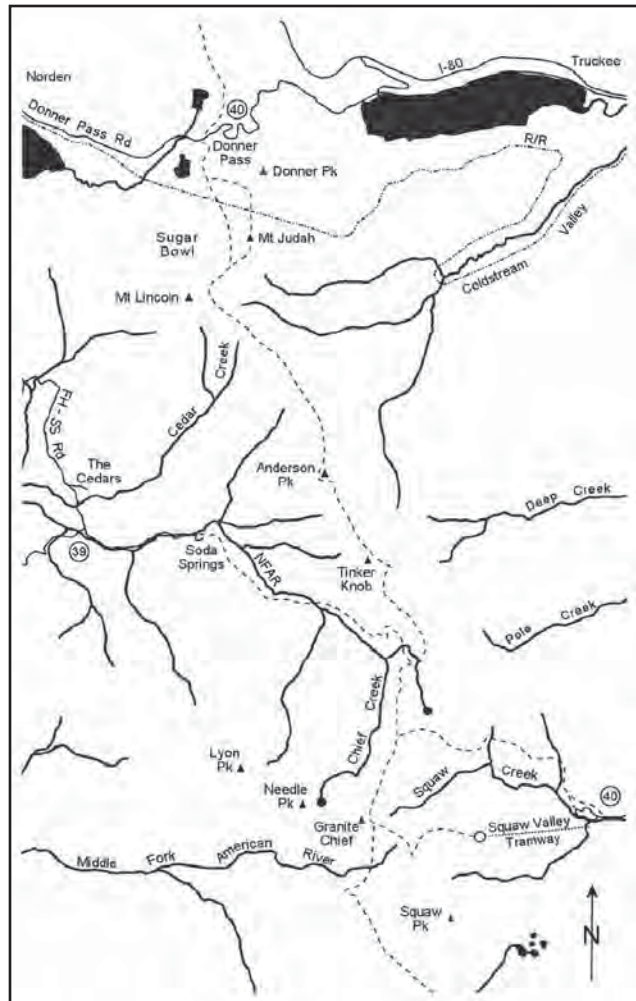
PACIFIC CREST, DONNER PEAK TO SQUAW VALLEY BY RON GOULD

Difficulty - 14 miles, +3600'/-2800' elevation change

Trailhead Coordinates - 10S E 0738 671 N 4342 500

Hiking in the North Fork would not be complete without a hike of the Pacific Crest Trail as it traverses the upper basin between Granite Chief and Mt. Lincoln. As with a lot of hikes on the PCT, the views are fabulous and there is no exception with this section of the PCT. Also, there are several easy to climb peaks along the way that provide 360 degree views. This hike is best done with a shuttle and may be done in either direction. This description of the hike starts from the southern end in Squaw Valley where there is the option of starting the hike at the top of the Squaw Valley USA tram.

The traditional way to start this hike is to use



the Granite Chief Trail to climb from Squaw Valley up to the PCT near Granite Chief. Follow the trail from behind the fire station as it heads up into Shirley Canyon. In about .5 miles carefully watch for the trail turning off to the right just a little ways before a small stream crossing. Continue on up the trail for about 3 miles to where it intersects the PCT.

If you take the tram, it is about 1.5 miles to the PCT at Granite Chief. From the tram, hike on roads up to Emigrant Pass where in 1852 the Placer County Emigrant Road crossed the crest. Here in 1931 Bob Watson built a monument in dedication to the memory of the emigrant travelers. From the pass continue on to the saddle just east of Granite Chief and climb a little ways up to meet the PCT. Continue north on the PCT down the switchbacks and about 1.3 miles to the junction with the Granite Chief Trail.

From the PCT junction with the Granite Chief Trail it is a little more than a mile to the junction with the Painted Rock Trail. Along the way you will have nice views of the upper basin. Just past the junction with the Painted Rock Trail you will cross the outlet stream from Mountain Meadow Lake. In about 2 miles the trail gains the crest and passes the Cold Stream Trail junction just before reaching Tinker Knob. Now on top of the crest, the hiker is rewarded with additional wide open views to the east side of the crest for nearly the next 5 miles to Mt. Lincoln. As the trail passes the north side of Tinker Knob there is a well used trail leading a short distance to the top. It is well worth the extra little hike for the spectacular 360 degree view. From Tinker Knob it is a nice 1.5 mile hike down the crest to Anderson Peak where the trail traverses the west slope of the peak before regaining the crest on the north side near the Benson Hut. For another 2.5 miles the trail follows close to the crest before reaching Mt. Lincoln. Here the trail leaves the North Fork drainage and enters the Truckee River drainage for a short distance as it traverses across the east slope of Mt. Lincoln to Roller Pass where the Overland Emigrant trail crossed the crest. Now in the South Yuba River drainage you will come to the junction with the Mt. Judah Loop Trail. The PCT



Heidi Johnson leads hikers on Donner - Squaw Valley hike.

stays left at this junction and traverses the west slope of Mt. Judah as it heads to Donner Pass. If you still have enough energy and want to follow the crest across Mt. Judah, take the Mt. Judah Loop Trail as it goes up over Mt. Judah and rejoins the PCT about 1 mile before Donner Pass. As the PCT drops down to Donner Pass it will intersect a road, take this road to the right for about 300 yards to Donner Pass Rd.

Getting There: To hike the PCT using a vehicle shuttle you will want to leave a vehicle at Donner Pass. Take the Soda Spring/Norden exit off I-80 and go east on Donner Pass Rd. for 3.8 miles and park on the side of the road just west of the pass. To get to the trailhead at Squaw Valley, get back on I-80 and take the Highway 89 exit in Truckee. Take Highway 89 south for 8.5 miles and turn right on Squaw Valley Rd. Follow Squaw Valley Rd. for 2.2 miles. As the road turns left to go to the ski resort, bear right toward the Olympic Village Inn and look for the fire station on the right. The Granite Chief Trail starts on the right side of the fire station. If you take the option of riding the tram, head over to the tram building at Squaw Valley USA.

Life consists in what a man is thinking of all day. - Ralph Waldo Emerson, writer and philosopher (1803-1882)

THE POLITICIANS

BY AMBROSE BIERCE

An Old Politician and a Young Politician were travelling through a beautiful country, by the dusty highway which leads to the City of Prosperous Obscurity. Lured by the flowers and the shade and charmed by the songs of birds which invited to woodland paths and green fields, his imagination fired by glimpses of golden domes and glittering palaces in the distance on either hand, the Young Politician said:

"Let us, I beseech thee, turn aside from this comfortless road leading, thou knowest whither, but not I. Let us turn our backs upon duty and abandon ourselves to the delights and advantages which beckon from every grove and call to us from every shining hill. Let us, if so thou wilt, follow this beautiful path, which, as thou seest, hath a guide-board saying, 'Turn in here all ye who seek the Palace of Political Distinction.'"

"It is a beautiful path, my son," said the Old Politician, without either slackening his pace or turning his head, "and it leadeth among pleasant scenes. But the search for the Palace of Political Distinction is beset with one mighty peril."

"What is that?" said the Young Politician.

"The peril of finding it," the Old Politician replied, pushing on.

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Roads, continued from Page 1

me. Since my father often worked late, he had the ingenuity to create audio books for us. It must have been a hundred times that I fell asleep listening to "Make Way For Ducklings" or "The Very Hungry Caterpillar." (He was brilliant with the sound effects, too.)

Mother read to my brother and me every single day. We made so many trips to the library, I knew exactly where my favorite books were long before I had even heard of the Dewey decimal system. (I still have my first library card, signed with my uncertain four-year-old hand).

My parents' enthusiasm about the written word was contagious. I am an avid reader. This last year has kept me sampling a broad spectrum of genres; from Homer to Herriot, from Dostoevsky to Dickens from Sophocles to Shakespeare. It's been like meeting the representatives of every culture and ideology, and then getting to spend undivided time with them. Of course, reading the thoughts of a now-decomposed Greek dramaturge would hardly outfit a person for the real world. Yet, the real world is exactly what my parents wanted us to be armed and ready for. Hence the truth of the scripture was constantly imparted to us.

When they set out to educate us at home, my parents often told us that their goal was not to fill our minds, as if they were empty water pails, but to spark them as if they were fires waiting to burst into existence. They wanted to send us out into the carnival of humanity not as weak, sheltered sponges ready to soak up the first convincing idea that came along, nor as helium heads, boastful in our knowledge yet completely devoid of direction.

Instead, they desired to equip us with tools of

discernment, a strong worldview and values that we would be willing to fight for. Of course the path we've chosen has not always been paved evenly. Going against the current often felt like a plan for failure. We've had to overcome many obstacles, the biggest being self-motivation. We also learned that there is a lot of self-sacrifice involved in keeping harmony among siblings (ahem, ahem). But the rewards have, without a shadow of a doubt, outweighed the trials. One of the best things about having your parents as your teachers is that you get to soak up the things that come naturally to them.

Mom is a stunning artist. I knew the small motor skills involved in painting a bird's beak long before I had even attempted to write my name. It was a mother's joy to instill her passion into the two of us by giving us art journals, assigning us picture studies, letting us experiment with every available medium and teaching us to appreciate the artists themselves by bringing us face to face with their masterpieces. And I nearly cried the first time I saw a real Rembrandt.

She has taught us to listen to poetry with our souls, to write with fresh perspective and, above all, to revel in the discovery of truth. My father has been our financial and spiritual support. When I turned thirteen, I decided I wanted to play the cello. Instead of buying me a piece of varnished balsa wood from Beijing, Dad opened up his wallet and told me to pick the one that made me happy (I'm no relation to Veruca Salt). He wanted to give me something that would last me my whole life, that would afford me joy and expression and order in a tumultuous world. I still play my first instrument which, by the way, is dark and handsome and German. I'm just as enamored

Continued on Page 19

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Roads, continued from Page 18

with it as I was the day I first laid eyes on it. I have a fabulous teacher and have participated in various groups, including the Sierra College Symphony and our church orchestra.

I am grateful for parents who have never pressured us to reach an unattainable educational or meaningless social status. "Do what you like to do," is my Dad's maxim. What he means is that the point of life is not to finish high school with good grades so you can go to a good college to get a good degree to get a good job to make good money. Not every step you take has to be followed by a preposition. Youth comes but once. It is a season for figuring out what you love doing and then pursuing it (unless being an organic farmer to you means growing pot).

The college ads and peer pressure make it seem as if your next step will either set you on stable ground or throw you off a cliff. In reality, all of life is full of decisions, some with heavier consequences than others, but all with equal potential to be perplexing. Unlike the game of Life where you can only go right - get a loan and go to college - or left - get married and fill your car with babies - the options are endless.

As if the unknown weren't already daunting, every high school graduate is expected to find his way around an obstacle course of no-brainer facts. Without a scholarship, you'll spend the next quarter of your life paying off your college loan, jobs are few and rare, unless you like charbroiling burger patties, and the chances of being discovered on American Idol are slim.

I think I'm going to silence the terrifying voices of marketing and manipulation for now and take a step in faith. I'm probably going to college in the fall. I may teach an English class to children. I might go to Sweden as a missionary next year. Why do I say such things with uncertainty? Simply because I do not know what the future holds. But I do know Who holds the future. I am unafraid, eager and ready to go where the signs of providence point. Two thousand paths diverge from my senior year. I am taking the road less traveled by. And that will make all the difference.



If a man walks in the woods for love of them half of each day, he is in danger of being regarded as a loafer. But if he spends his days as a speculator, shearing off those woods and making the earth bald before her time, he is deemed an industrious and enterprising citizen. - Henry David Thoreau, naturalist and author (1817-1862)



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Pacific Tourist, continued from Page 7

The elevation is now 4693 feet. The snow sheds are unfrequent and shorter, and the traveler will become more interested in the scenery now growing most wonderfully until it becomes the grandest on the line of the road across the Continent.

A little mining is carried on in Blue Canon, but on too small a scale to interest a stranger.

Blue Canon is the limit of the snow which remains during the winter. It is noted for the best water on the mountains – water so esteemed by the railroad men that it is carried to supply their shops at Rocklin and Sacramento.

Flumes and ditches are almost constantly in sight. The canon grows deep rapidly and seems to fall away from the railroad so that one instinctively wonders how he is to get down so far. This portion of the railroad has the steepest grade on the while line – 116 feet to the mile.

China Ranche – About two miles west of Blue Canon, a side track is pass3ed where the close-tilling Celestial gardened prior to and at the location of the road – and the fact lingers in the name, China Ranche. Mountains may be seen as far as the eye can reach. After passing the ranche, there is a very deep cut through Prospect Hill, the name suggesting the loss of the passenger in the cut. On the west side of Prospect Hill is Little Blue Canon, where Shady Run, a pretty lithe creek, is seen on the left. It was so named by engineer Guppy at the time the road was located, in honor of the good camping ground it afforded.

Shady Run – 212 miles from San Francisco is a side trac, but not even a flag-station 4.7 miles from Blue Canon. Near it the railroad passes around

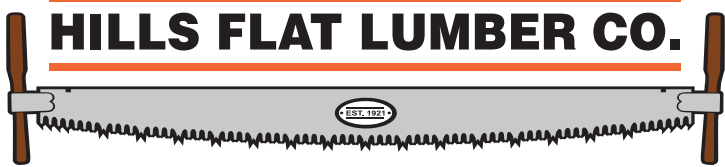
Trail Spur and, on the left is one of the finest views on the line of the road, the junction of Blue Canon Creek and the North Fork of the American River; there the great chasm, worn by glaciers to a depth of about 2,000 feet, extending a mile to the junction of the South Branch, the precipitous sides narrowing to the water's edge and forbidding ascent even on foot, through the narrow gorge – and mountain upon mountain, back toward the snow peaks left an hour and a half ago – and eastward for fifty or more miles, till they are mingled in the eye as the stars of the milky way, add to the impressiveness of the view which is enhanced by its suddenness.

Just west of Trail Spur, and after passing Serpentine Ravine, one may look down the Great American Canon into Green Valley and Giant's Gap, beyond. The view is sublime, with the bright emerald green of the pastures; the terraced and rounded, black, gloomy forests, overhead, and the frowning approach of the majestic mountains, stopped where the icy torrent slowly rent the very frame-work of the Continent.

For a time the tourist will be compelled to leave the main slope of the American River and be carried across the ridge or divide at Hog's Back, across Canon Creek to

To Be Continued

***We have not passed that subtle line
between childhood and adulthood
until we move from the passive
voice to the active voice - that is,
until we have stopped saying 'It got
lost,' and say, 'I lost it.' - Sydney
J. Harris, journalist (1917-1986)***



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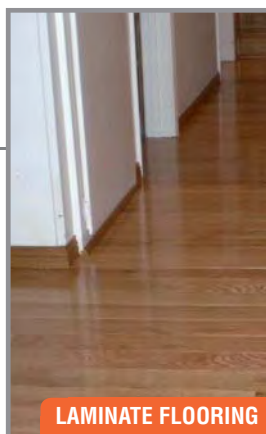
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